Vol. CCLXVI, No. 10
Friday, January 28, 2022

The New Hampshire Gazette

The Nation's Oldest Newspaper™ • Editor: Steven Fowle • Founded 1756 by Daniel Fowle
PO Box 756, Portsmouth, NH 03802 • editors@nhgazette.com • www.nhgazette.com

We Put the Free! in Free Press

The Fortnightly Rant

Choosing Exceptionalism

Considering our history, it was probably inevitable that a significant part of the public would be so vehement in their declarations of our purported greatness.

This nation is certainly great in its extent, covering as it does some 3,796,742 square miles. Of that total exactly 2.3 percent has been set aside for the descendants of the original inhabitants to call their own. Most of the rest was taken from them by force, chicanery, or both.

No matter what one may think when contemplating these numbers, and regardless of how they might make one feel, "that's the way it is," as Walter Cronkite used to say.

Someone out there may be blustering about the absence of European-style development. That was John Wayne's argument: "I don't feel we did wrong in taking this great country away from them, if that's what you're asking. Our so-called stealing of this country from them was just a matter of survival. There were great numbers of people who needed new land, and the Indians were selfishly trying to keep it for themselves."

Besides, recent studies have shown that a huge part of the development thus used to justify the land grab—far more than was ever acknowledged previously—was accomplished through the use of forced labor performed by enslaved Africans and their descendants.

Today's Americans—or USAians, if you would rather not pretend that the rest of the hemisphere is unoccupied—have a choice. We can accept that we live in a nation that was built by stolen labor on stolen land, or we can pretend otherwise.

Choosing the latter is made much easier by means of one simple trick: revert to vague, abstract language, *i.e.*, "American exceptionalism."

A large but insignificant portion of the public is either hostile or indifferent to that phrase. They understand that it's a bit of hollow rhetoric, the appearance of which tends to signify a discussion in which little is actually being said. Perhaps because they are largely unarmed and generally coherent, no one cares what these people think.

On the other hand—you know which one—the term "American exceptionalism" may literally constitute fighting words. A certain school of journalism finds these people to be objects of endless fascination. Early intervention, in the form of a few years spent in the enlisted ranks of the armed forces, or performing unskilled manual labor, might have prevented this, but alas, it is too late.

What American politics need right now is some sort of Holy Grail that could bring these camps together. No, not in some cataclysmic Grand Guignol, you nihilist. We mean in harmony.

Dream on, we hear you saying, thanks to our magical ear trumpet. We mean it, though. Recent events have shown that the old forms and customs are breaking down—being ripped apart—everywhere you look.

There was a time when Senators risked ostracization if they questioned the legitimacy of that grandiose institution. Last week, though, Senator Chris Van Hollen [D-Md.] tweeted, "Under our current rules, 41 Senators representing 11% of the American people can block the vote of 50 senators representing 80% of the country. Think about that…and they don't even have to show up to do it. How crazy is that?"

Meanwhile, those forms and customs which do remain are being put to increasingly perverse uses. For example, take Mitch McConnell—please.

Everyone's heard this by now, but we need to put it on record:

Q—Reporter: "Senator McConnell, what's your message for voters of color who are concerned that without the John L. Lewis Voting Rights Act, they're not going to be able to vote in the midterms?"

A—Sen. McConnell [R–Ky.]: "The concern is misplaced, because if you look at the statistics, African-American voters are voting in just as high a percentage as Americans."

McConnell—an ostentatiously deliberate speaker—later claimed that he misspoke. We say sell us another bridge; we know what dog whistles sound like. [*That ear trumpet does work wonders.*]

Mitch's little shout-out to his racist base was bad enough. What's worse, it served as camouflage for his latest Big Lie.

The Brennan Center for Justice reported last August that, while voters of color turned out in unprecedented numbers in 2020, a significant racial disparity remained:

"70.9 percent of white voters cast ballots while only 58.4 percent of nonwhite voters did. As the graph below shows, 62.6 percent of Black American voters, 53.7 percent of Latino American voters, and 59.7 percent of Asian American voters cast ballots in 2020."

McConnell's not the only one turning the racism dial up to 11—or 12. The former guy held a coronafest in Florence, Arizona two weeks ago tomorrow. Here's what he said about getting treatment for Covid: "…if you're white, you have to go to the back of the line to get medical help. If you're white, you go right to the back of the line." It's a wonder he didn't slip and come right out with "back of the bus."

How, in the face of this grotesque travesty of government, can we possibly think there's a way to move this country forward?

Through an alternative form of American Exceptionalism, that's how. If the government worked for the people, wouldn't that be an exception to the current rule?

Consider the horde of wonks who maintain lists of policies that have broad bipartisan support. Pick one that provides some substantial material benefit across the board, in red states and in blue. There's gotta be something that fills the bill. There's no point in depending on much help from Republicans, but no point either in turning it away.

Then hammer on that one thing as if the world depends on it—because, at this point, it does. Do not, by any means, allow the Democratic Party to indulge its impulse to complicate, means test, and tax rebate whatever it is to death.

So many people in this country are so hard up that if they were to see the government do something right for once, they might be so surprised that they'd actually lift a finger to see it if might happen again.

The Alleged News®

Another Fortnight, Another Nightmare

Only now, after running this operation for a third of a century, do we begin to doubt the wisdom of snatching back this newspaper from its previous operators.

It looked to be such fun: no corporate bosses censoring us, no timid advertisers inhibiting us—to the best of our meager abilities, we'd be free to write the news as it actually happens—a rare opportunity. That's great, right?

Uh…have you heard what's going on out there…? Things are so scary we're tempted to reach for the Thesaurus in search of a few comforting euphemisms; but, we forbear.

[*Cue the portenteous sound effects.*] This fortnight finds the world in an existential crisis….

Yes—just like every other fortnight since the dawn of time. It's just a little more obvious. Enough stalling—come, let us plunge together into the fetid sewer of current events. We're hoping to get at least one more paper out before we're shut down by a Russian cyberattack.

In a nutshell, the 77-year post-war struggle for dominance between the alpha capitalist state and its greatest ideological foe is now threatening to escalate into a direct standoff. President Biden is readying 8,500 U.S. troops for possible deployment in response to Vladimir Putin's buildup of Russian forces around Ukraine. We can almost hear Kubrick's Major T. J. "King" Kong warming up in the wings: "Well, boys, I reckon this is it—nuclear combat toe to toe with the Roosskies." Meanwhile, in D.C. neighborhoods favored by neocon talking heads, popcorn sales are through the roof. John Bolton was reportedly seen walking on air.

In theory—as the cartoon dog said as he sat at the table sipping coffee in a burning house—"this is fine." In practice, we would be more optimistic about the efficacy of heavily-armed diplomacy if we could recall more instances in which it had worked.

Saddam Without the Hair

We can recall, however, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Iraq, each of which began with compliant media accepting as gospel an unhealthy percentage of what they were being fed: "Vladimir Putin—Saddam without the hair!"

To balance our readers' news diet, let's look at this issue from a different angle. It makes us uncomfortable to bring up a point that Tucker Carlson has mentioned, but, as the old adage says, even a blind pig can find an acorn once in a while. Fortunately we can rely on a more authoritative source.

According to his own website, which appears to be legit, John J. Mearsheimer is the R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor in the Political Science Department at the University of Chicago, where he has taught since 1982.

He defines himself as "an international relations theorist. More specifically…a realist, which means that I believe that the great powers dominate the international system and they constantly engage in security competition with each other, which sometimes leads to war."

Mearsheimer's article "Why the Ukraine Crisis is the West's Fault" was published in *Foreign Affairs* in 2014. Judging from headlines everywhere, no one else in the media has read it. In it he employs an oft-overlooked technique to analyze the situation: recalling the facts of the matter.

"According to the prevailing wisdom in the West," he begins, "the Ukraine crisis can be blamed almost entirely on Russian aggression." He dares to refute this, saying, "The taproot of the trouble is NATO enlargement, the central element of a larger strategy to move Ukraine out of Russia's orbit and integrate it into the West."

Elites in the United States and Europe, he says, hold the misguided view that "realism holds little relevance in the twenty-first century and that Europe can be kept whole and free on the basis of such

The Alleged News®

to page two

The Alleged News®

liberal principles as the rule of law, economic interdependence, and democracy.…"

"U.S. and European leaders blundered in attempting to turn Ukraine into a Western stronghold on Russia's border. Now that the consequences have been laid bare, it would be an even greater mistake to continue this misbegotten policy."

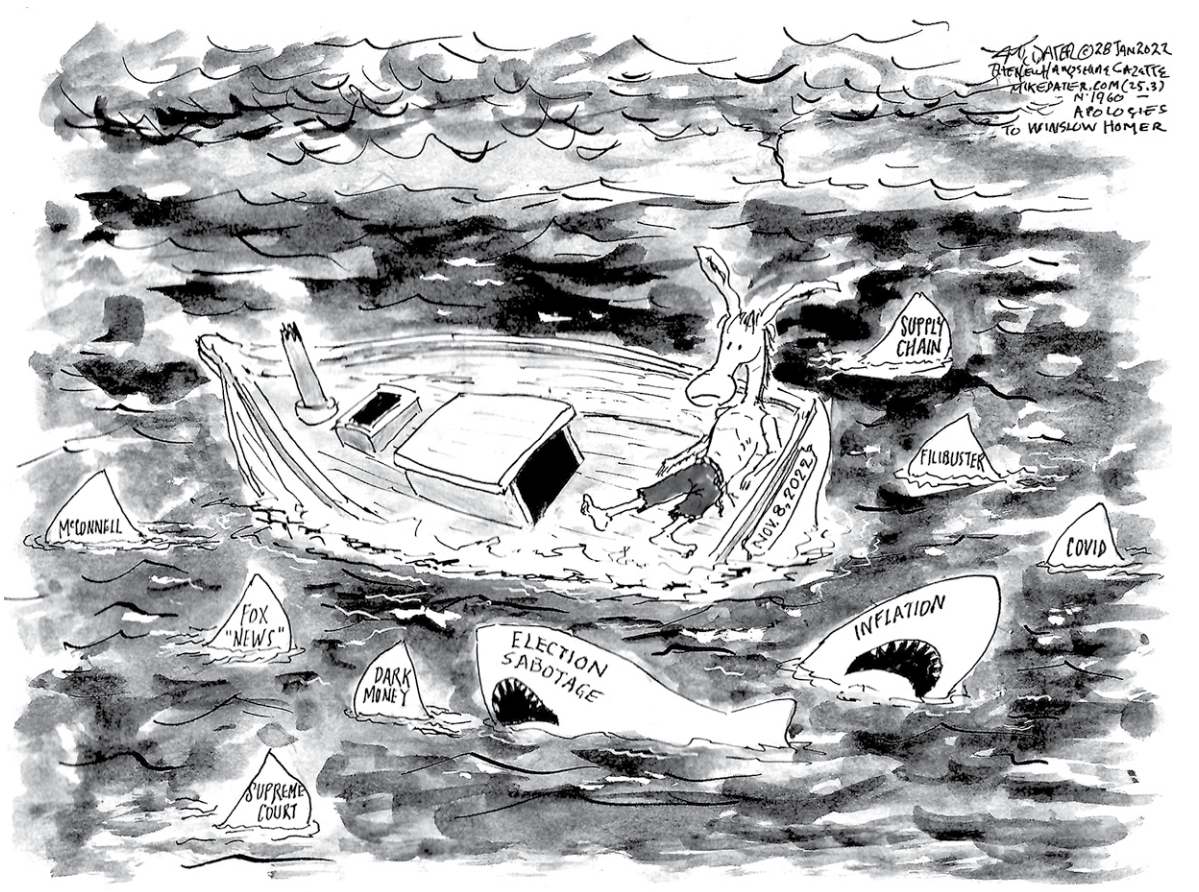
Mearsheimer goes on to detail the process by which the West has incrementally encroached on Russia since the fall of the Soviet Union. It's an open and shut case, which explains why our foreign policy muckety-mucks have had to play the Mighty Wurlitzer of corporate media with such a heavy hand. Their project is fortunate to have such an unsympathetic primary target: a smug, corrupt, ex-KGB goon with god knows how much blood on his hands.

Having, we hope, established that all this war talk is based on a dubious foundation, let's consider whether it's just possible that during the course of this military buildup something might not go exactly according to plan.

The Oops Factor

"Under the cover of an otherwise legitimate life-extension of the W76 warhead," Hans M. Kristensen wrote in 2017, "the Navy has quietly added a new super-fuze to the warhead that dramatically increases the ability of the Navy to destroy hard targets in Russia and other adversaries." Writing for the Federation of American Scientists {FAS], Kristensen says that "rather than simply being a stable retaliatory capability," the U.S.'s nuke subs, "with the new super-fuze increasingly will be seen as a front-line, first-strike weapon that is likely to further fuel trigger-happy, worst-case planning in other nuclear-armed states."

FAS's Kristensen went on to report in 2020 that new W76-2 low-yield nukes have now been deployed in our Trident subs. He dryly notes that, according to Pentagon doctrine, "…Russian low-yield nuclear weapons lower the threshold making nuclear use more likely, [but] U.S. low-yield weapons instead 'raise the nuclear threshold' and make nuclear use less likely."



A week ago last Sunday our Wandering Photographer found himself in the parking lot of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, staring across Middle Road. At first he thought he was having an epiphany. That would have been out of character, though, regardless of the date and location. An hallucination, perhaps? Far more likely, but hallucinations don't register on digital cameras. By Occam's Razor—it must have been Cousin Eddy Johnson, from "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," emptying the septic tank of his RV, which had presumably rolled off somewhere.

Meanwhile, Back on Earth

Another fortnight of environmental degradation has passed, and for all practical purposes we *Homo sapiens* did bleep all about it. Antarctic glaciers are now x amount less stable. An unknown number of unknown species have gone extinct, taking with them an unknown variety of irreplaceable DNA.

Judging from the lack of effective action on these fronts, we could keep the paragraph above in boilerplate and run it in every issue—that is, until conditions deteriorate to the point where we can publish no more.

Small as this paper is, we can still find space to remember this sort of thing. It's not so hard if you can just ignore some of the trivial matters which occupy more superficially-impressive "news" organizations. For example, to date we have not published a word about the phenomenon known as non-fungible tokens, or NFTs.

Our ubiquitous corporate media, their schedules constantly demanding "content," stand ever ready to latch onto any silly notion—provided of course that it doesn't seriously threaten the existing power structure. In our present information ecosystem, mass media attention given to an idiotic novelty has an effect like feeding fertilizer to kudzu. As with a certain virus, even people who take effort to avoid knowing about tripe such as NFTs end up hearing about them anyway.

As we understand them, NFTs are reproducible digital images which are supposedly worth money because they come with a digital certificate claiming that they are the One True Dingbat. In other words, NFTs are Bitcoin by another name, but with some tedious wrinkle that makes them different enough to cause a certain sector of the population to experience the digital version of tumescence.

It was theorized once—and endlessly repeated—that an infinite number of monkeys with typewriters would eventually produce the works of Shakespeare. We have our doubts about that, but we would argue that NFTs were produced by a finite number of geeks with poor social skills and too much time at the computer. How fitting, then, that we now see in our Twitter feed a clip in which a fawning Jimmy Fallon and a vivacious Paris Hilton banter about their recently purchased NFTs, which just happen to be images of cartoon monkeys.

Oh, excuse us. An article on *cnet.com* informs us they're apes, not monkeys:

"The Bored Ape Yacht Club is one of the most prestigious NFT collections in the world. A collection of 10,000 NFTs, each depicting an ape with different traits and visual attributes, Jimmy Fallon, Steph Curry and Post Malone are among their star-studded owners. Right now the price of entry is 52 ether, or $210,000."

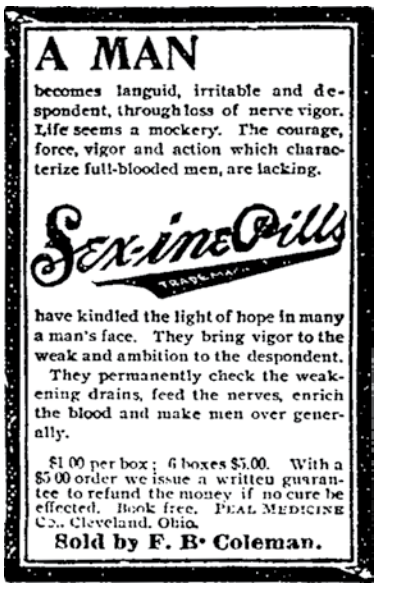
HUMAN speakers
"Music to Your Ears"
Supporting the *New Hampshire Gazette* and
the radical notion of freedom of the press
I also build and repair speakers
Huw Powell
7 Kelsey Road, Lee NH - 603 659 5335

Eat Something You'll Feel Better
Ceres Bakery
CAFE LUNCHES • FINE PASTRIES • DISTINCTIVE BREADS
51 Penhallow Street, Portsmouth, NH 603 436 6518
Check our website for today's specials! www.ceresbakery.com

NATURAL RELIGION
by Neal Ferris
Brimming with ideas and overflowing with feeling, this book is the perfect guide for those who ask themselves life's most profound questions.
Available at RiverRun Books
www.riverrunbookstore.com

The Music Hall
The arts are vital to our vibrant Seacoast community. Please consider supporting your many local arts and culture organizations in this time of crisis.
Gathering together to experience the arts is the heart and soul of what we do here at The Music Hall. We are ever grateful for the unwavering support of our community, and look forward to seeing you when our doors reopen.
/MUSICHALL @MUSICHALL /MUSICHALLNH 603.436.2400 • THEMUSICHALL.ORG
B2W BOX OFFICE AT THE HISTORIC THEATER • 28 CHESTNUT ST • PORTSMOUTH NH

Sometimes Old is Good
The Fechheimer Building, one of the finest examples of a cast-iron facade in Portland, Oregon, was built in 1885. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it was restored in 1981 by Russell Fellows Properties, the principals of which enjoy a subscription to this newspaper.
The Nation's Oldest Newspapers
THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE
1756


A MAN
becomes languid, irritable and despondent, through loss of nerve vigor. Life seems a mockery. The courage, force, vigor and action which characterize full-blooded men, are lacking.
Sex-ine Pills
have kindled the light of hope in many a man's face. They bring vigor to the weak and ambition to the despondent. They permanently check the weakening drains, feed the nerves, enrich the blood and make men over generally.
$1.00 per box; 6 boxes $5.00. With a $5.00 order we issue a written guarantee to refund the money if no cure be effected. Book free. PEAL MEDICINE Co., Cleveland, Ohio.
Sold by F. B. Coleman.

So…[punches calculator]…whoever dreamed up this scheme is now $2,100,000,000 to the good. Our editorial foot. Bitcoin is down 50 percent from a month ago. The "value" of NFTs is as substantial as the snow that just fell on Athens.

NFTs do serve one purpose: they provide further proof that our economic edifice—or artifice—is wobbling around like a inebriate trying to tap dance in someone else's shoes.

But never mind the absurd state of that financial farago. All this folderol has merely been ground work for the real news about NFTs. Like their now old-fashioned cousin Bitcoin, NFTs consume amounts of electricity comparable to small nations. So, far from being harmless, this mindless amusement is holding a blowtorch to the Arctic ice caps.

So, better shut down the coal plants and fire up more nuclear power, right?

Not so fast….

–=≈=–

Nuclear Energy a Climate Solution? Total 'Fiction'

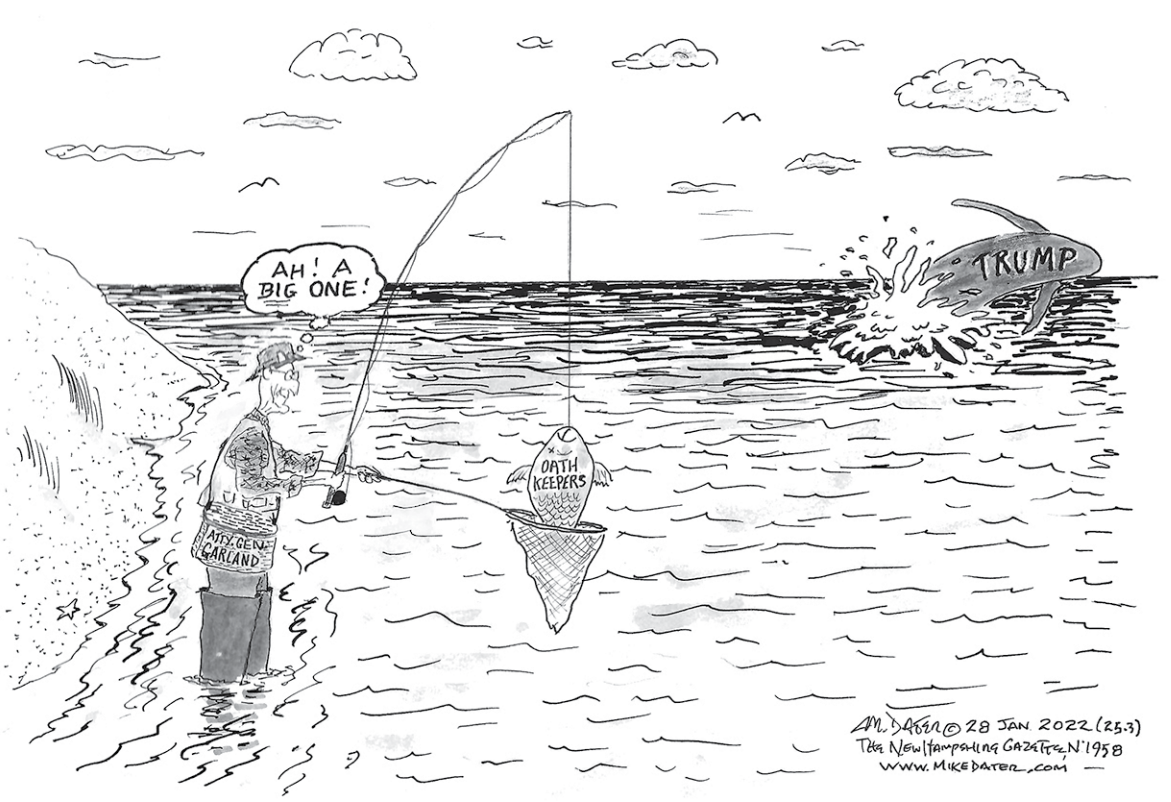
by Jessica Corbett

As global scientists continue to warn of the urgent need to keep fossil fuels in the ground, a quartet of European and U.S. experts on Tuesday made a comprehensive case for why nuclear power should not be considered a solution to the climate crisis.

While the experts recognize in their joint statement that "the climate is running hot," they push back forcefully against those who argue nuclear could be a "partial response to the threat of global heating."

With four signatories—Paul Dorfman, former secretary of the U.K. government's Committee Examining Radiation Risks of Internal Emitters; Greg Jaczko, former chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Bernard Laponche, former director general of France's energy management agency; and Wolfgang Renneberg, former head of the reactor safety, radiation protection, and nuclear waste at Germany's environmental ministry—the statement comes as a direct challenge to a nuclear industry trying to bill itself as a reliable part of the world's transition to a more sustainable energy system.

Poor Ruth Blay. Just 31, and cut down—no, hanged!—at the prime of her life. And for what? Concealing the birth of a stillborn child. Was this child immaculately conceived? Far from it—despite its innocence, the babe was illegitimate. What, then, of the father? What of him, indeed; no need to trouble ourselves. Surely his maker meted out any requisite punishment. Injustice, you say? Mayhap. But this all happened long ago. Now we are more enlightened, are we not?



"As key experts who have worked on the frontline of the nuclear issue," their statement explains, "we consider it our collective responsibility to comment on the main issue: Whether nuclear could play a significant role as a strategy against climate change."

"The central message, repeated again and again, that a new generation of nuclear will be clean, safe, smart and cheap, is fiction," according to Dorfman, Jaczko, Laponche, and Renneberg. "The reality is nuclear is neither clean, safe, or smart; but a very complex technology with the potential to cause significant harm."

"Nuclear isn't cheap, but extremely costly," the statement adds. "Perhaps most importantly nuclear is just not part of any feasible strategy that could counter climate change. To make a relevant contribution to global power generation, up to more than ten thousand new reactors would be required, depending on reactor design."

Given concerns about economic viability, nuclear accidents, and dangerous waste, the former regulatory leaders conclude that nuclear energy is not only "too costly and risky" but also "too unwieldy and complex" to be a feasible strategy to combat the climate emergency.

Progressive climate groups and other critics have long warned against nuclear energy, dubbing it a "false solution" like gas and carbon capture technology, but policymakers around the globe continue to pursue it. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, there are 439 operational nuclear reactors worldwide and another 52 under construction.

In the United States, lawmakers who support climate action are divided on the issue. When running for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2020, Sens. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.)—who now chairs the Senate Budget Committee—advocated for phasing out U.S. nuclear power.

A campaign spokesperson for Sanders told *The Washington Post* in 2019 that the senator "believes that solar, wind, geothermal power, and energy efficiency are proven and more cost-effective than nuclear—even without tax incentives—and that the toxic waste byproducts of nuclear plants are not worth the risks of the technology's benefit. Especially in light of lessons learned from Japan's Fukushima meltdown, we must ask why the federal government invests billions into federal subsidies for the nuclear industry."

Despite such risks, nuclear provisions are included in the U.S. House-approved Build Back Better Act, a sweeping package that is backed by President Joe Biden but has stalled in the Senate due to a pair of corporate-backed right-wing Democrats.

Last year, hundreds of progressive groups urged top Democrats working on the package to "reject gas and other false climate solutions" such as nuclear power, asserting that "as we look to combat the climate emergency, it is crucial that we invest in solutions that support a just energy future."

This work is licensed under Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0). Feel free to republish and share widely.

–=≈=–

Murph's Fortnightly Quote

"If you can't explain it to a six year old, you don't understand it yourself."

– Albert Einstein

"There's no money in poetry, but there's no poetry in money, either."

Robert Graves (1895–1985), English poet, novelist, critic

john@wordpraxis.com

"With a fascist the problem is never how best to present the truth to the public but how best to use the news to deceive the public."

– Henry A. Wallace (1888 – 1965)
33rd Vice President of the United States (1941–45).

— Not-So-Random Thoughts from an Oregon Subscriber

North River Woodworks
Portsmouth, NH — (603) 682-4443
Local Craftsmanship

RiverRun BOOKSTORE
A Constantly-Changing Selection of
New & Used Books
in both
Hard Cover & Paperback
Your Coffee, Ice Cream, Children & Pets Are All Welcome
Store Hours
Mon - Sat: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sun: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
32 Daniel St • (603) 431-2100

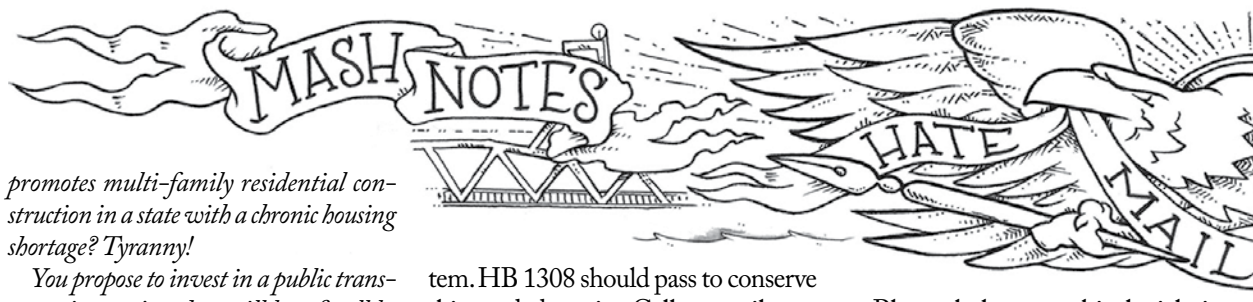
The Oldest American Newspaper. THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE. 1756

The New Hampshire Gazette is the most economical advertising medium on the Seacoast.
This space is available for just forty dollars.
To learn more, call (603) 433-9898,
or email editors@nhgazette.com.

Dear Reader: Thank You
Without you, our paltry efforts
would be without meaning, and void.
To show our appreciation, we have held
our subscription rate to $25 per
increasingly-hellish annum.
Please see the form on the opposite page to
take advantage of our sincere appreciation.

History In Progress
BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL NEW HAMPSHIRE

Raising awareness of New Hampshire's Black History to build inclusive communities today
Give the Gift of History – Come Shop with Us!
Visit blackheritagetrailnh.org
Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire
222 Court Street, Portsmouth NH 03801 | 603-570-8469



Isn't Sedition Against the Law?

To the Editor:

The original plot was supposed to be a bloodless coup committed through scurrilous parliamentary maneuvering—a scheme that would block the peaceful transition of power and throw the election outcome into the courts. Evidence uncovered by the January 6th Committee suggests the plan was conjured up by the GOP nearly a year ahead of time with the support of thinktank advisors, state officials, and private sector megadonors. It might have worked except at the last minute, Vice President Pence refused to overstep his authority and play along.

The insurrection that followed was a crude hail-Mary aimed at blocking the transfer of power through mob violence. All indicators suggest Donald Trump and his inner circle conceived and implemented the plan on short notice in reaction to Mike Pence's refusal to participate. Fortunately for America, both the bloodless coup and the violent insurrection failed to reverse the results of the election.

Despite stonewalling by witnesses, there's plenty of evidence coming from the January 6th Commission to show that highly placed GOP operatives, sitting members of Congress, and the defeated President conspired to commit wholesale election fraud to retain the Republican grip on power. Yet, a full year after the fact, there's been no visible movement by the Biden justice department to indict anyone wearing a necktie at the state level or federal level.

Meanwhile, many of the original players involved in the first coup openly continue to work on strategies to undermine the 2022 midterm and 2024 Presidential election results. And why not? Nobody's stopping them!

Rick Littlefield
Barrington, N.H.

Rick:

It does seem that way, doesn't it? If people of color got as many second, third, fourth, ad nauseam chances as your average Republican politico, the prisons would be empty.

The Editor

—≈≈—

Echoes of Dickens

To the Editor:

Hearings for two important bills are coming up and need your attention! These bills affect EVERY town government and everyone's taxes.

1) Repeal the Housing Appeals Board! (HB 1216) - HB 1216 will be heard before the House Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, 1/12/2022 at 2:30 p.m. in the Legislative Office Building.

Email the committee to ask them to OTP (recommend the bill pass): *HouseJudiciaryCommittee@leg.state.nh.us*

Read the bill: *https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=27643&q=billVersion*

The HAB is a state-level board comprised of three unelected, unaccountable, biased individuals who are allowed to defy ANY of your local boards' decisions. This means your town meeting vote means nothing.

2) Stop commuter rail taxes (HB 1432) - Some people think New Hampshire needs the old bankrupt MBTA to come here. Most do not. Those north of Manchester will be paying sales, income and other taxes to support something they can't use. Let's stop the commuter rail boondoggle before it creates a tax burden that New Hampshire residents will carry for the rest of their lives.

HB 1432 will have a public hearing on 01/13/2022 at 11:00 a.m. in the LOB 201-203

Read the bill: *https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=28328&q=billVersion*

Email the Public Works and Highways Committee and ask them to OTP: *HousePublicWorksandHighways@leg.state.nh.us*

Save the N.H. Advantage!

Jane Aitken
Vice Chair, cnht.org
Bedford, N.H.

Jane:

Charles Dickens should have written a novel about newspapers, in which the letters editor is plagued by a writer who opposes any public policy which benefits… the public.

What? You dare to pass legislation that promotes multi-family residential construction in a state with a chronic housing shortage? Tyranny!

You propose to invest in a public transportation project that will benefit all by reducing traffic congestion and air pollution? Communism!

We suspect that if your letter has any effect, it will be the opposite of what you intend.

Thank you for writing.

The Editor

—≈≈—

Save the Snowshoe Hares, Part I!

To the Editor:

The New Hampshire House Fish and Game and Marine Resources committee is getting mass emails with misinformation from the opposition to the N.H. snowshoe hare protection legislation, HB 1308. These hundreds of emails don't give the N.H. town of residence, leading to the belief that the emails are from out-of-staters. Supporters of the bill are concerned that the reasons for supporting this legislation are lost in the hundreds of emails from non-residents.

HB 1308 is a conservation bill. It keeps snowshoe hares in the wild. Beagle clubs trap and relocate them for dog training. The clubs use the hares in field trials where beagles chase the hares. The best-performing dogs win trophies and ribbons. The hares are not surviving at the clubs. The clubs admit predation is occurring, although hares kept for breeding are required to be protected.

Snowshoe hares are having a rough time of it. Their famous traits are not as valuable to their survival because of our shorter winters with less snowfall. Snowshoe hares change to white as a camouflage effect to avoid predation. The other trait is the enormous back feet that act as snowshoes to bound over deep snow while being chased.

Snowshoe hares are a keystone species. Relocating even one of them for recreational field trials is a waste of a species needed for a healthy ecosystem. HB 1308 should pass to conserve this needed species. Call or email your N.H. Representatives if you agree. Make sure to give your N.H. town of residence.

Linda Dionne
Raymond, N.H.

—≈≈—

Save the Snowshoe Hares, Part II!

To the Editor:

New Hampshire is considering legislation to help conserve our state's wild snowshoe hare population. House Bill 1308 would end the practice that began in 2007 of permitting beagle dog clubs to capture and breed wild snowshoe hares for dog training.

As a "keystone species," snowshoe hares are critical to the survival of other animals and the health of ecosystems. But biologists are worried about their long-term survival in the face of climate change.

As John Litvaitis, emeritus professor of wildlife ecology at UNH, explains in his article "A White Hare in a Brown Forest," shorter winters mean that snowshoe hares are finding themselves conspicuously white against a brown landscape (or the opposite) more often.

HB 1308 seeks to help this at-risk species by lessening the number of snowshoe hares removed from the wild. Yet New Hampshire's beagle dog clubs are concerned that it would make it impossible for them to train its dogs if the bill passed.

Responding to their concerns, Representative Ellen Read proposed an amendment to the bill that would allow the clubs to keep the hares already in their care after years of capturing them from the wild.

This compromise would protect wild snowshoe hare populations from further depletion while allowing the clubs to continue their training activities.

Please help pass this legislation as amended by reaching out to your state representatives and asking them to support HB 1308 with the Read amendment.

Elizabeth Marino
Goffstown, N.H.
Secretary and Board Member, Voices of Wildlife in N.H. (VOW), PO Box 5862, Manchester, N.H. 03108; www.voicesofwildlifeinnh.org, www.facebook.com/VOWNH.

VOW, a registered N.H. non-profit 501(c)(4), works to protect N.H.'s wildlife by advocating for legislation and regulations and conducts research into elected official's positions and voting records regarding these issues and to publicize those results.

Elizabeth:

Believe it or not, from 1990 into 1995, this newspaper was published in prime showshoe habitat. It is appalling to think of those beautiful wild animals, clever enough to winter over in that challenging environment, being sacrificed for the pleasure of a bunch of snooty beagle breeders.

On the other hand, we can't help but wonder what Uncle Fred, and Glen, and Danny would say about this. All three hunted rabbits—and ducks, and pheasants, and deer, and what have you. They, too, were well-adapted to their landscape. They respected it, and the animals they hunted. We cannot bring ourselves to condemn their ways.

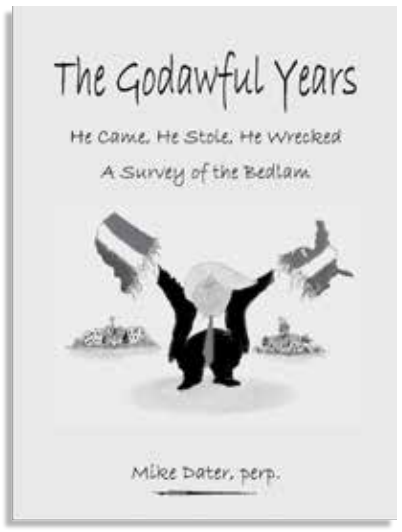
These same men and their ancestors once cut pond ice. Stored as great blocks in a sawdust-filled ice house, cut down to fill the tops of wooden iceboxes, it kept perishable food all through the summer.

The Public Service Company's wires—which Glen helped maintain—eventually did away with ice-cutting (though the tools and the ice house remain).

It seems like climate change will eventually end old-school rabbit hunting. Per-

You Suffered Through Them…

Now Enjoy Them!



a compendium of drawings by Mike Dater
most of which first appeared in
The New Hampshire Gazette
Now Available at RiverRun Bookstore and at MikeDater.com

EST. 2000
JUMPIN' JAY'S
FISH CAFE
THE FINEST IN FRESH SEAFOOD FROM AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER
150 CONGRESS STREET
WWW.JUMPINJAYS.COM | 603.766.3474

VISIT NORTH HAMPTON'S HISTORIC CENTENNIAL HALL
A community center for the arts, club meeting place and host to many.
105 POST RD
NORTH HAMPTON, NH 03862
WWW.CENTENNIALHALL.ORG

War is Theft

BOB'S BROILED CHICKEN
Restaurant, Takeout, & Delivery
We Fill Large Orders
801 Islington St., Gallagher's Pl.
(603) 433-6355
Mon. – Fri 11:30 – 3 & 4:30 – 9
Sat. 11:30 – 9, Closed Sun.

More Exciting News!*

Our grand experiment appears to be working. It may not seem like that big a deal, but in fact it's a revolution.

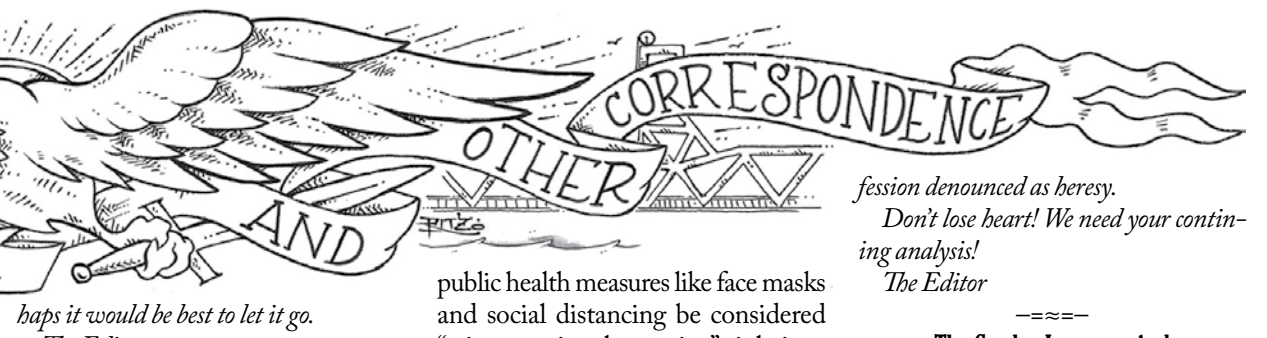
Now we're ready to add another town or two. Our candidates are Durham, Dover, Newmarket, and Rollinsford. The tricky thing here is that each town will require a team.

We need someone who drives regularly between one of those towns and Portsmouth, and someone in that town willing to distribute.

If you think you might be interested, please email us at editors (at) nhgazette.com

* Well, we're excited by it.

The New Hampshire Gazette
is the most economical advertising medium on the Seacoast. This space is available for just twenty dollars. To learn more, call (603) 433-9898, or e-mail editors@nhgazette.com.



haps it would be best to let it go.
The Editor

—=≈=—

America in Wonderland

Dear Sir:

Welcome to *America in Wonderland*, the sequel. Written by Donald Trump and a group of Republican Governors, Legislators, pundits *et al.*, *America in Wonderland* takes us down that famous rabbit hole into a world where truths are lies, facts are fiction, evil is good, reality is distortion, illegal is legal, scientists are quacks, and losers are winners.

Where else but Wonderland would you see a director of a county public health department suspended for encouraging his staff to to get vaccinated against a disease that has killed over 800,000 Americans and sickened millions more? That is exactly what happened in Orange County Florida. As a former director of a local health department my primary mission was to prevent disease. I would have been rightfully terminated if I had taken action to discourage basic public health measures and to help spread disease.

Where else but in Wonderland would a violent insurrectionist mob attacking our nation's Capitol in an attempt to overturn a fair and legal election be considered patriotic; or would people claim they were simply "asking for fair elections," or that they were nothing but a group of tourists visiting their Capital? That is exactly what Republicans and their media allies have been claiming since January 6, 2021. Where else but in Wonderland would eight Republican Senators and 139 Republican Representatives vote to not certify the 2020 election, even after that attack put their lives at risk.

Where else but in Wonderland would respected scientists, physicians, public health officials recommendations of a life saving vaccine, and sound public health measures like face masks and social distancing be considered "crimes against humanity," violations of "my personal freedoms," and government overreach, while many are accepting treatment recommendations from non-scientists including a malaria drug, an animal anti-parasitic, and even drinking your own urine?

Where else but in Wonderland would the teaching of documented historical facts related to slavery, discrimination, segregation, and Jim Crow Laws by teachers in public schools be considered possible reasons for disciplinary action if a parent or student objects to such teachings?

Where else but in Wonderland would a twice-impeached former President who incited an insurrection against our nation, is facing multiple civil and criminal investigations, and is a proven serial liar who used his office for his own personal financial gain, still be considered the leader of the Republican Party and their leading 2024 presidential candidate?

Unfortunately, this new version of *Alice in Wonderland* is not fiction. It represents a real threat to the "American Experiment" in democratic rule that has infected a significant portion of our population with Alice in Wonderland Syndrome (AIWS), a condition characterized by disorientation and distortion of reality and perception. Hopefully America will recover from it's bout with AIWS before it is too late.

Rich DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:

It is excruciating for us, as full-time text-wranglers, to witness the daily defilements this mob heaps upon our shared—yes, shared—language.

We cannot imagine what it's like for a trained public health professional like yourself to see every principle of that profession denounced as heresy.

Don't lose heart! We need your contining analysis!
The Editor

—=≈=—

The Catalan Language And The Architect Antoni Gaudí

To the Editor:

The thousands of tourists who visit the Sagrada Família church in Barcelona every year are unaware that Antoni Gaudí, its architect, was arrested for speaking Catalan. On September 11, 1924, the architect wanted to attend a mass in memory of the Catalans who had fallen in 1714 defending Barcelona against the troops of Philip V, the ancestor of the current king. The police blocked the entrance and threatened Gaudí that if he insisted on speaking Catalan, they would arrest him. Gaudí continued to speak Catalan and was locked up for a night in a dungeon.

Gaudí's story is an example of the three-hundred-year-long struggle over language between Spain and the Catalan people. After defeating the Catalans, Philip V replaced the Catalan institutions with Castilian institutions. The Catalans were left with only their language to survive as a people. During the 18th and 19th centuries, kings, dictators, and presidents wanted to eliminate Catalan from the public sphere: from institutions, from schools, from universities, from the church—and even forbade speaking it on the telephone. During the forty years of Franco's dictatorship, in addition to the prohibitions, compulsory schooling and television had to be in Spanish. At the end of the dictatorship, Catalonia recovered a certain level of self-government, and two measures were taken to recover the language: the creation of public television in Catalan and schooling in Catalan. These were initiatives with a great social and political consensus that achieved a 90 percent knowledge of Catalan. This made Catalan an example for minority languages, without a state behind them, which do not want to disappear.

However, the percentage of people who habitually use Catalan is declining because the Spanish Constitution gives pre-eminence to Spanish as the only official language. Its speakers have the right to use it in all territories and speakers of other languages have the obligation to know it. As all Catalan speakers know Spanish, but not all Spanish speakers know Catalan, Catalan is not so necessary and is losing speakers among newcomers. Although 10 million people speak Catalan (comparable to Danish, Norwegian, Hungarian or Greek), Catalans have far fewer rights because Catalan is subject to policies that diminish it.

The NGO "Plataforma per la Llengua" has documented 52 cases of linguistic discrimination against Catalan speakers in 2020. This figure is only the tip of the iceberg, as many discriminations go unreported, and many Catalan speakers opt to switch to Spanish to avoid problems. Given that a third of discrimination has been perpetrated by the police, things have not progressed as much as they seem from Gaudí's time until now. And although the degree of discrimination and violence has varied over time, the goal of all Spanish governments has always been the same: to achieve a homogeneously Castilian state population. It is therefore not too surprising that so many Catalans have concluded that they need an independent state to survive as a national minority.

For more information, see "The Catalan Language": *https://www.plataforma-llengua.cat/que-fem/estudis-i-publicacions/294/the-catalan-language-2021*

Maria M. Garayoa
Barcelona, Catalonia

Maria:

We've long been entranced by images of the Sagrada Familia. If we ever go anywhere again, it will be to Barcelona.

Now, in addition to the creation of that incredible structure—and many more—we have another reason to admire Gaudí.
The Editor

—=≈=—

Open Letter to Republican Leadership:

Once again, winter months are contributing to the exponential spread of Covid infections, summoning an official health alert. Despite Covid's threats, vaccine and mask requirements via the executive branch are as likely in New Hampshire as snow at Mar-a-Lago. However, Republican leadership has acknowledged the risks to health by conducting business in spacious venues, the house meeting in Manchester, the senate in Concord. Despite improved accommodations, too many legislators refuse to wear masks, adding to the substantial risks imposed upon in-person public participants in governance, 2022.

Business to be considered this session runs the gamut: New Hampshire seceding from the "United" States of America; targeting for recall any state court judge, or any local elected official who serves a three-year term; the intentional rigging of elections by gerrymandering political districts; taxpayer dollars to conduct an Arizona-style "audit" of the 2020 election; diversion of funding from public schools, sure to raise property taxes; repealing New Hampshire's paid family leave plan, and more.

The one-way You Tube channel the legislature currently offers is inadequate. Democracy is a bottom-up, not top-down process. It is incumbent upon leaders of the Republican party to make available the use of the technology successfully implemented for more than a year—remote, interactive video access, which allows for direct, public participation in real time, with legislators sensitive to the presence, albeit virtual, of those who speak and engage in the political process. The technology exists. Democracy demands it be made available again.

Bob Perry
Strafford, N.H.

Bob:

Simple decency would seem to require that the Republican leadership do as you suggest. Good luck with that.
The Editor

Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

Davies
TIRE COMPANY
Call us for a liberal dose of service
93 Islington Street - 433-1328

What do we choose to remember with memorial markers, buildings and community projects?

Open Door
MLK's 1952 sermon at The Pearl, "Going Forward by Going Backward"

To learn more about memorials and what else we choose to remember go to PortsmouthGenome.org
Join the conversation.
A Portsmouth Peace Treaty Forum project.

HUD-VASH HELPS VETERANS GET AND STAY HOUSED. YOU CAN HELP, TOO.

HUD-VASH is a partnership between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the VA's Supportive Housing unit. It helps homeless Veterans with housing, employment, recovery (both mental health and substance abuse) and independent living.

HUD-VASH is no longer accepting donations of used furniture, &c. The Homeland Heroes Foundation in Salem, N.H. does: homelandheroesfoundation.org.

HUD-VASH does have a dedicated fund for purchasing new items veterans may need. Donations to that fund may be sent to The VA Medical Center, 718 Smyth Rd., Manchester, N.H. 03104-7007. HUD-VASH should be included on the subject line. Every penny will go into home goods for veterans.

For more information, contact:

VA Supportive Housing Program Manager
(603) 624-4366 X6883

New Hampshire Gazette Subscriptions
26 Fortnightly Issues, Now Mailed First Class

Mail this form with your check for $25 to:
New Hampshire Gazette, PO Box 756, Portsmouth, NH 03802.
Please print clearly. Offer good in U.S. only.

Supporting Subscribers Only: Please Check Box at Right:
(Supporting Subscribers pay the standard $25/yr, but make their money go twice as far for us by picking up their own papers at one of our many convenient locations.)

Supporting ☐ Subscriber

First Name:

Last Name:

Street Address:

Town, City, or Burg:

State: Zip Code: + 4:

Gift Of: (Where Applicable)

Lessons From a War-Torn Garden

by Melinda Burrell

Walking home from dinner, we heard an explosion. It wasn't close, so we didn't worry. The next morning, we learned a demobilized Serbian soldier had committed suicide in his garage with a grenade. That happened a lot.

Two weeks later, I was walking home by myself. The setting sun gilded the neighborhood. I stopped to admire a bloom-filled garden. Suspicious of me, the baba (grandma) emerged to investigate. In halting Serbian, I complimented her garden. She swooped down, picked an armful of dahlias, and handed them to me with a smile.

I was stunned. How could I reconcile this kindness with the atrocities committed so nearby?

It was April 1997, and I was supporting Bosnia-Hercegovina's first post-war municipal elections. With 20 other volunteers, I had been sent to a Serbian town that had held some of the war's worst concentration camps.

Decades later, I'm still reflecting on that spring. Recent neuroscience and psychology have helped me understand parts of those Bosnian conflict stories—and our new American ones.

Key is the fact that certain social situations trigger the same threat and reward circuits in our brains as do physical situations. Leadership guru David Rock summarizes these social needs as "SCARF": status, certainty, autonomy, relatedness, fairness.

If these needs are met in social situations, our reward circuits light up. We feel relaxed and able to engage constructively with others. By complimenting the Serbian baba, I had affirmed both her status and our relatedness, and she responded generously.

However, our threat circuits go off when the opposite occurs. We feel menace if someone belittles us, keeps us in limbo, or takes away our autonomy. We also sense danger if we feel isolated or treated unfairly.

This happened with the demobilized soldiers. Though out of physical danger, they felt threatened socially. They were not breadwinners, so they felt they had lost status. Their country had changed around them, so uncertainty was high. Their families did not understand their experiences, so they felt disconnected. Those social situations set off the same threat circuits the war had.

Further complicating matters, we are hardwired to react to negative things more than positive.

It makes sense. Which behavior is more likely to keep us alive? Reacting to the growling bear or enjoying the sunset glowing behind it?

This has been extensively studied. Psychologist John Gottman found that, to keep their marriage, couples must have five positive interactions to compensate each negative one. Other studies have found similar ratios for school and work settings.

What does this mean for us, in our angry and divided country? We can use SCARF to create conditions for constructive engagement—in our families, schools, workplaces, and even on social media. Those positive interactions aren't hard: a smile, shared laugh, praise, or thanks. We just need to remember that this "SCARF work" needs to be constant and consistent—five good interactions for every negative one. Happily, research also shows that we feel good ourselves when we support others.

That's a lot of work, paying attention to how we communicate with everyone around us. But I think of the baba's kindness in her war-torn garden, and I know it's a worthwhile start.

–=≈=–

Melinda Burrell, PhD, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is a humanitarian aid worker who studies polarization and trains on the neuroscience of communication and conflict. She is on the board of the National Association for Community Mediation [https://www.nafcm.org/], *which offers resources on cross-divide engagement.*

–=≈=–

from page five

Jesus Loves You…But I Don't

To the Editor:

"Jesus Loves You…But I Don't…."

Biting lyrics from a Rosie Flores country song, but just as easily a serenade from the GOP leadership to their devoted followers.

Yes, even as the Republican leadership is ramming through piles of voter-suppression legislation targeting Democrats, they're also waging an anti-vax campaign that is sickening and killing rank-and-file Republican voters at a record pace. If I were Tucker Carlson, I might parenthetically inquire, "Why would they do that?"

No question, a policy that selectively "eliminates" voters from one party by killing them off is a terrific voter suppression scheme. But why is the GOP inflicting it upon their own? Could it be they believe demonizing Democrats is more important than protecting the wellbeing of the party membership? That's rude!

No matter. If you're a Republican voter, you can find comfort knowing that Jesus still loves you even though your party's leadership finds you conveniently expendable.

Rick Littlefield

Barrington, N.H.

Rick:

We are witnessing the latest iteration of an age-old story. Little more than a century ago, the leaders of many nations induced millions of men to live and die in muddy holes while trying to kill complete strangers. Whoever named us Homo sapiens *("wise man") had a dark, dark sense of humor.*

The Editor

–=≈=–

Oppose Loyalty Oaths for Teachers

To the Editor:

Joe McCarthy brought dishonor on the U.S.A. with his Un-American Activities hearings. We return to those shameful times with Republican calls for teacher loyalty oaths.

Republicans like to oppose problems they create themselves. For years they have supported an expensive but useless wall to stop workers from doing jobs in America nobody on this side of the border wants. For months they have tried to get Americans worried about voting fraud when for all practical purposes it does not exist. Now New Hampshire Republican legislators think teachers cannot be trusted without a Republican loyalty oath.

Realize this is exactly what they want: a Republican loyalty oath. One party promotes it. One party wants to write it. And should it become law, one party will administer it. This oath allows Republicans to select those who may teach. They will use this vetting power to control our schools so they teach children to become obedient little Republicans.

Stop this witch-hunt now! Educators, not legislators, should teach our children.

A loyalty oath for teachers demeans them because it suggests we do not trust them. Teachers are our neighbors who work hard every day trying to educate our children. They are not subversives who must be weeded out with Republican loyalty oaths. We should admire teachers for their insight and dedication. Support our teachers and oppose Republican loyalty oaths. Trust teachers to teach.

J. Michael Atherton

Dover, N.H.

Michael:

For all its flaws—and they are legion—the Constitution was ostensibly designed to create a government which foster freedom of thought.

Instead we're getting this: a lock-step demand for freedom from *thought.*

The Editor

Thích Nhất Hạnh (1926–2022)

"When I was in Vietnam, so many of our villages were being bombed. Along with my monastic brothers and sisters, I had to decide what to do. Should we continue to practice in our monasteries, or should we leave the meditation halls in order to help the people who were suffering under the bombs? After careful reflection, we decided to do both—to go out and help people and to do so in mindfulness. We called it engaged Buddhism. Mindfulness must be engaged. Once there is seeing, there must be acting. …We must be aware of the real problems of the world. Then, with mindfulness, we will know what to do and what not to do to be of help."

– Peace Is Every Step: The path of mindfulness in everyday life (1990)

–=≈=–

"The Natives of the Country now Possessed by the New-Englanders, had been forlorn and wretched Heathen ever since their first herding there; and tho' we know not When or How those Indians first became Inhabitants of this mighty Continent, yet we may guess that probably the Devil decoy'd those miserable Salvages hither, in hopes that the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ would never come here to destroy or disturb his Absolute Empire over them."

– Cotton Mather, *Magnalia Christi Americana* (The New English History), Book III (1702).

The New Hampshire Gazette

The Nation's Oldest Newspaper™

Published Fortnightly on Alternate Fridays

Founder: Daniel Fowle (1715 – 1787)

Enslaved Pressman: Primus X (ca. 1700 – 1793)

PO Box 756, Portsmouth, NH 03802

www.nhgazette.com • editors@nhgazette.com

(603) 433-9898

Subscriptions:

$25 per year for 26 issues

Mailed First Class

See Page Five for Subscription Form

Editor: Steven Fowle • Starving Artiste: Michael Dater

Business (Such As It Is) Manager: Rose Eppard

Columnist: William Marvel • 100 Proof Department: Rose Eppard, Marcia Jebb, and Allen McGee; Jane Porter, *Emerita* • Freelance Instigator & Unindicted Co-conspirators: Win Rhoades & Jack Cleary • Distributor: New England Distribution Network • Downtown Distribution Volunteers: Megan "Moonbeam" Stelzer, Murph, Jon Wyckoff, David Drymon, & Bob Halperin • Subscription Fulfillment: Sally Strazdins, Gail Drobnyk, Rose Eppard, Sharon Churchill, Jan Marx, & Allen McGee

The Music Hall

THE ARTS MATTER.

TICKETS & INFO 603.436.2400 • THEMUSICHALL.ORG

THE ARTS ARE GOOD FOR BUSINESS.

They bring $58 Million per year to Portsmouth.

THE ARTS ARE GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY.

People come together to share an experience that lasts long after the curtain falls.

THE ARTS ARE GOOD FOR THE SOUL.

They break you free from the confinements of your day-to-day.

THE ARTS NEED YOU.

We are proud to be part of an arts-rich community, but we are all being hit hard during this crisis.

Help us ensure that our vibrant arts community is still thriving when all of our doors are open again.

Please consider supporting the arts today.

LOFT • 131 CONGRESS ST // /MUSICHALL @MUSICHALL /MUSICHALLNH

B2W BOX OFFICE AT THE HISTORIC THEATER • 28 CHESTNUT ST • PORTSMOUTH NH

MIKE DATER'S CARTOON ORIGINALS

AND OTHER DRAWINGS BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE'S VERY OWN

STARVING ARTISTE

WWW.MIKEDATER.COM

Visit www.jimhightower.com

√ Personally autographed copies of Jim Hightower's best-selling books

√ Subscriptions to the monthly "Hightower Lowdown" newsletter

√ CD's √ Tapes

√ Videos √ Pamphlets

Memo to NH Lawmakers: If Maine can do it, so can we

by Dan Weeks

This year, our family decided to cross the Piscataqua River and spend the holiday in Maine—a first for me as a committed Granite Stater. Although I maintain that New Hampshire's mountains, moose, and maple syrup are unrivaled anywhere, I have to admit that I was impressed by Maine's recent record on environmental protection. As the new legislative session gets underway, our state would do well to consider three simple policies road-tested by our northeastern neighbor to protect the people and planet we hold dear.

1. Take a pass on plastic

While picking up groceries in Bangor, I was surprised to learn that single-use plastic bags are now a thing of the past under a new state law. A small sign at check-out informed me of my options: buy a sturdy reusable bag for five cents or bring my own and save five cents. Looking around at the other checkout lines, I was amazed that no one seemed to be using any plastic bags at all. I loaded up my groceries in my arms and walked out.

On further investigation, I learned that Maine is one of eight states that limit plastic bags, along with 340 municipalities and sixty nations around the world. The logic of these bans, which have been shown to effectively cut consumption without compromising quality of life, is simple enough. According to *National Geographic*, Americans use some 100 billion plastic bags made from 12 million barrels of oil annually—enough for one new bag per person every day of the year.

In addition to the added consumption of climate-warming fossil fuels, 91 percent of plastics are never recycled in the United States but find their way into landfills, oceans, or strewn across the land. There they take thousands of years to photodegrade into microplastics, which continue to leach toxins and pollute the environment indefinitely. Among the many plant and animal species harmed by their chemical leachates are the marine bacterium *Prochlorococcus*, considered the world's most important microorganism because it provides a tenth of all the oxygen we need to live. If these statistics take your breath away, then join me in urging N.H. legislators to take a pass on plastic bags like our neighbor.

2. A new feat in heat

When checking into our holiday rental in central Maine, our family was astonished to find no furnace or fireplace. Instead, the well-insulated 1890s home was fully heated with a pair of high-efficiency electric heat pumps, also known as mini-splits, and a few electric baseboards in the harder-to-reach rooms. For the duration of our five-day stay, with nighttime temps dipping down near zero, we didn't burn an ounce of fossil fuels onsite. Instead, the heat pump condensers collected warm air molecules from outside and pumped them into the home, delivering a silent stream of pollution-free heating.

As it happens, our heating situation—like the lack of plastic bags—was a direct response to Maine state policies. While New Hampshire's Republican leaders have repeatedly sought to slash energy efficiency funds (a feat recently achieved by the NHPUC), Maine is two years into a 100,000 heat pumps campaign that is adding millions in local investment and thousands of private-sector jobs. For every heat pump system installed, Maine families are expected to save between $300 and $600 per year while also gaining access to air conditioning in summer. Because they operate at two- to three-times the efficiency of conventional heating and cooling technology. The state expects to fully fund the program by cutting electric capacity costs for all ratepayers. Sounds like a Maine no-brainer to me.

But where are all those added electrons coming from as Maine converts not just its heating but also transportation loads from oil to electricity? The answer brings us to the third and most impactful piece of Maine's environmental innovations that New Hampshire leaders would do well to consider in Concord: taking homegrown clean energy to scale.

3. Harness the sun

Driving through rural Maine, we couldn't help but notice a new addition to the landscape: community solar farms. Fields of solar panels, ranging from one acre to twenty, filled decommissioned landfills, gravel pits, and the occasional farmer's field. One offset the municipal needs of the town in which we stayed. Others serve hundreds of homes, schools, and nonprofits in the form of monthly bill credits corresponding to gigawatts of clean electricity fed into the grid.

Most striking of all, none of the solar farms we encountered across Maine existed just two years ago. While both Maine and New Hampshire were slow to harness our region's most abundant and inexpensive source of energy, the inauguration of Maine's Democratic Gov. Janet Mills in 2019 brought a pair of far-sighted policies aimed at slashing carbon emissions while building the clean energy economy. The first set science-based targets to transition the state's electricity mix to 80 percent renewable by 2030 and 100 percent by 2050—a far cry from New Hampshire's 25.2 percent RPS. The second established practical pathways for meeting those targets, including raising the artificial net metering cap from under one megawatt to five for all generators (a change that enjoys bipartisan support in Concord but was repeatedly vetoed by Gov. Chris Sununu).

Although Maine's solar capacity is expected to quadruple in a few short years, the total footprint will likely remain a fraction of one percent of the state's land. When paired with the almost limitless potential of offshore wind, hydropower, and energy storage, the state could well achieve its 100 percent goal ahead of schedule, while adding thousands of well-paying jobs and cutting costs for all.

As a member of New Hampshire's clean energy economy, which is falling far behind Maine and the rest of the region, I hope our leaders will finally declare our state open for business in solving the climate crisis. As a father of three young kids who stand to inherit an uninhabitable earth, I pray they won't delay.

–=≈=–

Dan Weeks is vice president at ReVision Energy, an employee-owned Benefit Corporation. He lives in Nashua with his wife and kids.

*The chicken sh*t lobby for corporate health care*

by Jim Hightower

As Lyndon Johnson used to say about special interests trying to get his support to pass some blatantly self-serving legislation: "They can't make chicken salad out of chicken sh*t."

Yet, chicken sh*t is all that the corporate health complex has to work with as it frantically tries to defend its current system of mass malpractice, known as corporate health care. After all, as most Americans have learned the hard way, the corporatized care of profiteering insurance giants, Big Pharma, and hospital chains grossly overcharge us while constantly trying to shortchange or outright deny care to millions of our families.

So, unable to win public support on their own merit, the corporatists and their hired political hacks are going all out to continue their gouging and keep control of America's dysfunctional system. They're now running a multimillion-dollar PR and lobbying campaign of lies to trash and kill all reforms that would deliver quality, comprehensive care to everyone, at far less cost than they can deliver.

Masquerading as a Partnership for America's Health Care Future, the profiteers warn ominously that such reforms as "Medicare for All" or a "public option" for health insurance would take away people's "choice" and our "control" over health care.

Hello…we presently have no choice or control. Our "care" is managed by a handful of insurance, drug and hospital monopolists whose primary objective is not improving our health, but feathering their own cushy nests. And the undeniable, ugly truth is that they can only continue ripping us off by killing real reform.

That's one reason the American Medical Association and others are dropping out of the Partnership's political front. Honest health care practitioners no longer believe it's in their best interest—or the public's—to be part of its chicken sh*t PR campaign.

–=≈=–

Copyright 2021 by Jim Hightower & Associates. Contact Melody Byrd (melody@jimhightower.com) for more information.

–=≈=–

Acupuncture, Cranial Sacral Therapy, & Shiatsu
Pam Bailey (603) 828-6759

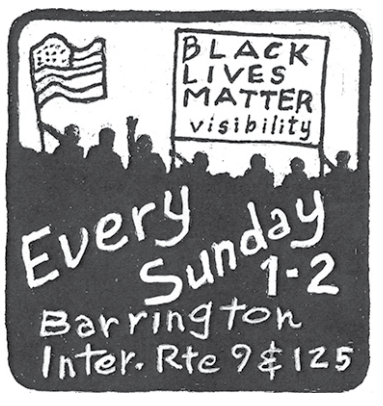
CAFFÉ KILIM
Fresh Roasted Coffees • Espresso Bar
Rug Gallery & Unique Gifts
163 Islington St ≈ 436-7330

This lovely little space could be yours for a mere ten bucks. To learn how, call (603) 433-9898, or e-mail editors@nhgazette.com.

NANCY W. GROSSMAN
EDITING & BOOK DESIGN
Need help self publishing that manuscript in your bottom drawer?
USER FRIENDLY!
nancygrossmanbooks.com

Portsmouth Community Radio
WSCA-LP 106.1 FM

Colin A. McGee
Enrolled Agent
Expert tax preparation, consultation and representation for businesses and individuals
(603) 436-0707 • Colin@klmcgeebiz.com



Granite State Independent Living gsil.org Tools for Living Life Independently
Pay is $10.25 – $10.75/hr.
Please contact Ashley at (603) 568-4930 or atruong@gsil.org for more information.
Granite State Independent Living is looking to add caring and compassionate individuals who are interested in making a difference in people's lives as a Personal Care Attendant. Duties include: personal care, housekeeping, lifting, transfers, errand and grocery shopping. We offer a flexible schedule and paid training.

The Oldest American Newspaper. THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE. 1756
The New Hampshire Gazette **is the most economical advertising medium on the Seacoast. This space is available for just forty dollars. To learn more, call (603) 433-9898, or email editors@nhgazette.com.**

10% Shift
Build Strong Local Economies by Purchasing with Purpose
Join us in making the 10% Shift } seacoastLOCAL.org

First Café Kilim... then Identity... now...
WE'VE MOVED!
Come visit us at our new facility in "WEPO" (West End of Portsmouth).
124 Bartlett St.
black sheep design company
screenprinting embroidery graphic design
603-431-6801

International Subscriptions Now Available
$40/year
email subs@nhgazette.com for details

Outdoor Ice Skating at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond
Enjoy classic New England ice skating at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond at Strawbery Banke Museum.
Daily public skating, Dec. through Feb.
Admission (ages 5+) $12. Skate rentals $6.
Private parties. Skating lessons. Adaptive ice time.
STRAWBERY BANKE PORTSMOUTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
14 Hancock St, Portsmouth, NH
603.422.0600
STRAWBERYBANKE.ORG/SKATE.CFM

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, January 30

2005—A U.S. official reports that $9,000,000,000 is … well … sort of … missing in Iraq.

1981—An FB-111A "Aardvark" based at Pease AFB crashes near homes at Mariner's Village, about 1.25 miles northwest of Market Square. One apartment building is destroyed; no one is injured.

1976—The Supreme Court decides that limiting campaign contributions would unfairly restrict the speech of a privileged minority group: people with unlimited amounts of money.

1972—"Bloody Sunday" in Northern Ireland: British soldiers gun down 14 Catholic civil-rights marchers.

1968—Two hundred colonels in the U.S. MACV staff attend a pool party in Saigon. "Not one … knew Tet was coming" the next day, an analyst says later.

1945—A Soviet sub sinks the *MV Wilhelm Gustloff*; some 9,400 drown, mostly civilians, half children.

1933—Destabilized by austerity, largely self-inflicted, Germany allows the Nazis to seize power.

1798—Rep. Matthew Lyon insults Rep. Roger Griswold on the House floor. Griswold calls Lyon a coward; Lyon spits in Griswold's face.

1661—Oliver Cromwell, two years dead, is exhumed and decapitated. His head spends 20 years on a pike, and goes unburied until 1960.

1649—The limits of divine right finally dawn on Charles I, thanks to Oliver Cromwell and an executioner's ax.

9:04 9:49
2:40 3:23

Monday, January 31

2003—At the White House, George W.[MD] Bush tells Tony Blair he's going to invade Iraq with or without WMDs, and diplomacy will have to fit around the military strategy.

1984—President Reagan alleges the U.S. has a problem with "people who are sleeping on the grates…homeless…you might say, by choice."

1971—In Detroit, Vietnam Veterans Against the War testify about U.S. policies in Vietnam. Few listen.

1968—The Viet Cong and NVA send a message with coordinated attacks from the Delta to the DMZ, including the U.S. Embassy in Saigon: we're not giving up. The U.S. brass don't hear it, but the public does. General "Clueless" Westmoreland says Hue has been retaken. He's off by a month.

1963—"The war in Vietnam is going well and will succeed," says Bob McNamara, Secretary of Defense.

1957—A DC-8 on a test flight over the San Fernando Valley loses a wing when it's hit by an F-89, also on a test flight. Four airmen die. Flaming debris kills three kids on a junior high playground; 74 are injured.

1945—Private Eddie Slovik gets to be the one U.S. deserter out of 21,000 to be executed by a firing squad.

1933—The fascist Silver Legion goes public in Asheville, N.C. Within a few years it claims 15,000 members.

1900—William Goebel is sworn in as Governor of Kentucky a day after being shot. Three days later he dies.

10:01 10:44
3:39 4:27

Tuesday, February 1

2005—Canada OK's same-sex marriage; the world does not end.

2004—Janet Jackson's nipple is briefly bared on TV; the world nearly ends.

2003—The space shuttle *Columbia* disintegrates over Texas.

1974—Richard Nixon meets for twenty minutes with the Messiah, aka Reverend Sun Myung Moon.

1971—"The President is aware of what is going on in Southeast Asia," Ron Ziegler tells reporters. "That is not to say anything is going on in Southeast Asia." Certainly not an invasion of Laos one week later.

1968—In Saigon, AP photographer and former Marine Eddie Adams snaps the anti-Iwo Jima Flag Raising photo of the Vietnam War: General Nguyen Ngoc Loan shooting VC Captain Nguyen Van Lem, whose hands are tied, in the head.

1964—The Kingsmen's incomprehensible song "Louie Louie" is declared obscene by filthy-minded Indiana Governor Matthew E. Welsh.

1963—Fleetwood Linley, the last living person to have looked upon the face of the dead Abraham Lincoln, dies at the age of 75.

1960—Civil rights sit-ins begin at Woolworth's in Greensboro, N.C.

1951—It was inevitable: the first televised A-bomb explosion.

1926—Col. Billy Mitchell—the only U.S. military officer who understands air warfare—is court-martialled for criticizing his "superiors."

10:55 11:35
4:34 5:19

Wednesday, February 2

2015—A week after a two-foot snowstorm, Po'Town gets 18 inches more.

1991—Before Desert Storm ground combat begins, the Pentagon bans the press from the Dover morgue.

1979—Zbigniew Brzezinski advises Jimmy Carter, "We should be careful not to overgeneralize…. Islamic revivalist movements…are not likely to be the wave of the future."

1972—In Dublin, Irish Catholics, irate over "Bloody Sunday," burn the British Embassy.

1970—Capt. Gary Faust bails out after his F-106 goes into a spin over Montana. The pilotless plane lands in a cornfield and is returned to service.

1966—Australians burn their conscription papers in Sydney.

1965—Protesting a protest against the jailing of MLK, Daniel P. Skelley pours water from a can labeled "gas" all over his American Nazi uniform. Cops take him away after a TV cameraman offers him a match.

1952—Winnie Ruth Judd, the "trunk murderess," makes her fifth escape from Arizona State Insane Hospital.

1915—German national Werner Horn bombs the railroad bridge connecting Vanceboro, Maine with St. Croix, Canada. There is little damage.

1848—The U.S. grabs half of Mexico via the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

1819—N.H.'s own Daniel Webster wins *Dartmouth v. Woodward;* corporate charters become capital's #1 tool for crushing democracy.

11:46
5:27 6:07

Thursday, February 3

2012—"Today is the day that in 1924 Woodrow Wilson died, that son of a bitch," radio-active dingbat Glenn Beck says, "and I'm happy."

2006—After Don Rumsfeld likens H. Chavez to Hitler, Venezuela's VP compares the U.S. to the Third Reich.

1959—In Iowa, a plane crash kills Buddy Holly, "The Big Bopper," and Richie Valens.

1956—Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Johnny Cash jam at Sun studio in Memphis.

1933—The Senate fires Sergeant at Arms David S. Barry for writing, "there are not many crooks in Congress…who sell their vote for money, and it is pretty well known who those few are; but there are many demagogues…that will vote [to] help their political and social fortunes."

1931—Arkansas' state legislature votes to pray for the soul of H.L. Mencken after he calls the state "the apex of moronia."

1916—In Zurich, Hugo Ball opens Café Voltaire, hotbed of dadaism.

1870—The 15th Amendment is ratified: Black male Americans are told they can now vote.

1811—Future newspaperman and notable eccentric Horace Greeley is born on a farm in Amherst, N.H.

1793—Shot in the face and bayoneted 13 times by the British at Lexington 17 years earlier, Samuel Whittemore, a farmer, dies of natural causes at 98.

1468—RIP Johannes Gutenberg.

12:23 12:36
6:18 6:54

Friday, February 4

2009—While giving a TED Talk on malaria prevention at Long Beach, Calif., Bill Gates releases a jarful of mosquitoes to feast on the audience.

1976—Lockheed admits to paying $22 million in bribes to sell aircraft.

1974—William Randolph Hearst's granddaughter Patty, 19, is kidnapped by the Symbionese Liberation Army.

1968—Cholon, Saigon's Chinatown, is declared a free-fire zone; South Vietnamese pilots bomb their own capitol.

1968—Ur-beat Neal Cassady, 41, dies alongside railroad tracks in Mexico.

1913—Rosa Louise McCauley Parks is born in Tuskegee, Ala.

1912—Franz Reichelt, an Austrian tailor, tests an experimental parachute/overcoat from the Eiffel Tower. His design is fatally flawed.

1899—Five months after being liberated from Spaniards by Americans, Filipinos begin fighting the liberators.

1887—The ICC is established. A future Union Pacific president calls it "quite harmless…[it] will impress the popular mind with the idea that a great deal is being done, when, in reality, very little is intended to be done."

1875—Eadweard Muybridge, the pioneering photographer who shot Major Harry Larkyns dead for impregnating his wife, is found not guilty by a California jury which says they'd have done the same. He's the last man to enjoy that loophole in America.

1794—The Fugitive Slave Act expands the fugitive-catching racket.

1:10 1:25
7:08 7:39

Saturday, February 5

2021—An inebriated man in a red hat with "mouse ears" spends five hours wandering around Joint Base Andrews, home to Air Force One.

2018—At a rally, D.J. Trump says Democrats who didn't applaud his State of the Union speech are traitors.

2007—Astronaut Lisa Marie Nowak is arrested for attempting to kidnap another astronaut's girlfriend and misappropriating NASA diapers.

2003—Secretary of State Colin Powell tells the UN that Saddam Hussein's Iraq is bristling with WMDs.

1981—For her husband's 70th birthday, First Lady Nancy Reagan flies her manicurist in from Los Angeles.

1958—A B-47 bomber collides with a jet fighter near Tybee Island off the coast of Georgia and jettisons an H-bomb. It's still buried in the mud.

1953—Ike starts a tradition and treads on the First Amendment by speaking at the National Prayer Breakfast.

1937—Roosevelt attempts to "pack" the Supreme Court.

1918—Stephen W. Thompson becomes the first American pilot to down an enemy aircraft.

1897—Marcel Proust meets critic Jean Lorrain for a pistol duel at 3:00 p.m.—the earliest hour decent people are up and about.

1830—The *New York Daily Sentinel*, the first labor daily, begins.

1637—Tulip prices, up 2,500 percent in 33 days, top out in Holland at $40,000 a pound.

1:57 2:14
7:58 8:25

Sunday, February 6

2020—It's 65° Fahrenheit at the Esperanza Base, in Antarctica.

2013—In Seabrook, N.H., Phantom Fireworks sells Tamerlan Tsarnaev 1.5 lbs. of black powder and gives him another 1.5 pounds for free.

1971—Derry, New Hampshire's own Alan Shepherd uses a nine iron to whack a golf ball on the moon.

1968—NVA troops in Soviet tanks overrun Lang Vei; 21 of 24 Green Berets are KIA, WIA, or captured.

1951—Trespassing at Argonne National Laboratory, blowhard Paul Harvey claims it was inadvertant. A script found in his car proves he's lying.

1919—Seattle union leaders get a telegram intended for shipyard owners: "no raises." A General Strike results. Workers run the city for a week, but union bureaucrats intervene. To maintain power they end the strike; workers get called "Bolsheviks."

1858—Galusha Grow [R-Pa.] and Laurence Keitt [D-S.C.] trade blows in the House; 30 Members join in. John "Bowie Knife" Potter [R-Wisc.] and Cadwallader Washburn [ditto] snatch the wig of William Barksdale [D-Miss.]; it all ends in laughter.

1819—In a duel instigated by Gen. Andrew Jackson, Col. John Mason McCarty kills Gen. Armistead Thomson Mason, his second cousin.

1684—Portsmouth's first minister, Reverend Joshua Moody, is jailed by Governor Edward Cranfield over some inane doctrinal foofaraw.

2:44 3:05
8:50 9:11

Monday, February 7

2020—Li Wenliang, a Chinese doctor reprimanded for warning of a new SARS virus, dies of Covid-19.

2013—Mississippi abolishes slavery.

1998—GOP-run Congress names Washington National after the guy who fired all our air traffic controllers.

1991—IRA mortars 10 Downing St.

1968—"It became necessary to destroy [the Vietnamese village of Ben Tre] in order to save it," an American major tells reporter Peter Arnett.

1965—VC attack Camp Holloway near Pleiku killing 9 Americans and wounding 137. The U.S. responds by bombing North Vietnam.

1951—In Korea, Capt. Lewis Millett leads the U.S.'s most recent bayonet charge. This anachronistic victory earns him the Medal of Honor.

1950—Ex-Emperor Bao Dai [1926–1945], ineffectual serial puppet, first of the Japanese, then the French, is recognized by the U.S. as ruler of the bogus State of Vietnam.

1926—Negro History Week, the precursor to Black History Month, is celebrated for the first time.

1919—Michigan's Supreme Court dooms *Homo sapiens* by ruling that corporations must put profits for stockholders above all else.

1873—It's Sheriff and future Pres. Grover Cleveland's 2nd hanging: John Gaffney takes 23 minutes to die.

1848—*Le Représentant du peuple*, the first anarchist paper, is begun by Pierre-Joseph Proudhon.

3:33 4:00
9:44 10:00

Tuesday, February 8

2020—Given a choice between a second term for Trump or "a giant meteor [striking] the earth, extinguishing all human life," a poll says 62% of N.H. Democrats would prefer the meteor.

2015—Another two feet of snow fall on Portsmouth. It's five feet deep now.

1996—The Telecommunications Act gives corporations airwaves worth $70 billion, eliminates ownership limits, deregulates cable rates, and protects licenses against citizen complaints.

1971—ARVN invades Laos in Operation Lam Son 719: a chaotic disaster.

1968—State Troopers fire on Black protestors in Orangeburg, S.C., killing three and wounding 27.

1946—For taking down a sign about Jim Crow laws in a Bessemer, Ala. bus, honorably discharged former Marine Timothy Hood is shot by a streetcar conductor. The Police Chief arrests Hood, then shoots him dead. The Coroner calls it "justifiable homicide."

1942—HUAC recommends concentration camps for some Americans.

1924—Nevada becomes the first state to kill someone in a gas chamber: Gee Jon, a hit man for the Hop Sing Tong.

1923—Coal dust explodes in Stag Canyon No. 1 mine in Dawson, N.M.; 123 die. Many of them were orphaned in 1913 when coal dust exploded in Stag Canyon No. 2, killing 263.

1887—The Dawes Act—enabling the division of Indian reservations into lots suitable for sale to white settlers—becomes what we laughably call "law."

4:26 4:59
10:42 10:54

Wednesday, February 9

2007—A Pentagon report concludes that Douglas Feith's policy office inappropriately manipulated intelligence on Iraq. Punished? Hell, no.

2001—The *USS Greeneville,* demonstrating an emergency ballast-blowing maneuver to 16 "Distinguished Visitors," half with Texas oil and Bush connections, sinks a Japanese high-school fishery training ship off Hawaii, killing five adult crew and four high-school students.

1982—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush denies ever having used the term "voodoo economics." NBC then plays him the tape.

1980—Ted Bundy gets married and is sentenced to die. In Florida, of course.

1971—Satchel Paige becomes the first Negro League player inducted into the Hall of Fame.

1967—NYC cops bust cellist Charlotte Moorman for playing Matthews' "International Lullaby" while topless.

1950—"I have here in my hand," says Sen. Joe McCarthy, "the names of 205 men that were known to the Secretary of State as being members of the Communist Party and who nevertheless are still working and shaping the policy of the State Department." Years later he admits he held a laundry list.

1945—*HMS Venturer*, submerged, torpedoes and sinks *U-864*, also submerged, off the coast of Norway.

1919—Suffragists burn W. Wilson in effigy in front of the White House.

1737—Happy Birthday, Tom Paine.

5:23 6:03
11:44 11:52

Thursday, February 10

2020—"You know, a lot of people think [Covid-19] goes away in April with the heat," predicts Dolt #45.

2014—Donald J. Trump tells Fox "News," "When the economy crashes, when the country goes to total hell, and everything is a disaster, then you'll have riots to go back to where we used to be, when we were great."

2010—Innovative tax protestor Joe Stack flies a fuel-laden Piper into the IRS Field Office in Austin, Texas, killing another person, injuring 13, and causing damage in the millions.

2003—The G.W.[MD] Bush Administration touts plastic sheeting and duct tape as a first line of defense.

1968—General Westmoreland, U.S. commander in Vietnam, sends a cable to the Navy's top admiral in the Pacific. It's a request for tactical nukes.

1964—*HMAS Melbourne* hits *HMAS Voyager*. Cut in half, *Voyager* sinks and 82 die. It's the first of two friendly ships *Melbourne* is destined to sink.

1918—At the Power's gold mine in Arizona's Galiuro Mountains, a four-man posse seeking two draft-dodgers ends up 3/4ths dead. The Power brothers get out of Florence Prison in 1960.

1910—Five Bloomsbury Groupers, disguised as Abyssinian royalty, trick Royal Navy officers into giving them a tour of *HMS Dreadnaught*.

1897—Bradley and Cornelia Martin throw a ball at the Waldorf in NYC. Spending per guest equals 65 times the average workman's weekly wage.

6:23 7:08
12:48

Friday, February 11

2014—An FEC report confirms what his mom and sis said: U.S. Rep. Frank Guinta lied, that $355,000 wasn't his.

2013—Bad news today from KRTV in Great Falls, Mont.: "the bodies of the dead are rising from their graves and attacking the living."

2006—Dick "Dick" Cheney becomes the second sitting Vice President to shoot a man when he "peppers" his pal Harry Whittington in the face.

1992—"I'd like to thank my family for loving me and taking care of me," says Johnny Frank Garrett (IQ under 70), as Texas prepares to poison him, "and the rest of the world can kiss my ass."

1990—Nelson Mandela is released from prison after 27 years.

1963—RIP Sylvia Plath.

1963—The CIA creates a "Domestic Operations Division." What could possibly go wrong?

1937—The Great Flint, Mich. Sit-Down Strike ends in victory for the workers. Good times start to roll.

1926—The Mexican government nationalizes all church property.

1919—Emma Goldman is arrested for the crime of telling women how birth control works.

1861—The House of Representatives unanimously resolves that it will do nothing about slavery in any state.

1812—Massachusetts gets "gerrymandered" by Republican governor Elbridge Gerry.

1790—Quakers petition Congress to emancipate the nation's enslaved.

7:22 8:09
12:52 1:49

Saturday, February 12

2004—*USA Today* reports that former top Texas Air National Guard officers say files were "cleansed" to protect George W.[MD] Bush.

1999—N.H. Senators Gregg and Smith notwithstanding, the Senate finds President Clinton not guilty.

1983—*SS Marine Electric*, a rusted, beat-up hulk whose lying owners faked inspections, sinks off Virginia; three survive from a crew of 34.

1976—The New World Liberation Front bombs Hearst Castle.

1975—Two top Nixon aides, Haldeman and Erlichman, and AG John Mitchell, are sentenced to prison.

1968—LBJ puts the kibosh on Westy's plan to nuke the NVA.

1962—Bill Lancaster is discovered in the Sahara, mummified alongside his biplane, 29 years after disappearing.

1947—Sixty protesters burn draft cards in New York City.

1946—Black combat vet Isaac Woodard gets his honorable discharge and boards a bus in Georgia. Before he can get to N.C., he's beaten and blinded by white cops in Aiken, S.C.

1917—A huge mob in Bisbee, Ariz. herds 1,200 members of the IWW into boxcars to be shipped off and dumped in the New Mexico desert.

1874—Marines and sailors from the *U.S.S. Portsmouth* quell a riot in Honolulu to assure the election of a pro-American King.

1839—The Aroostook War between Maine and New Brunswick begins.

8:18 9:01
1:51 2:43

COLBYS
BREAKFAST & LUNCH
436-3033

LA MAISON NAVARRE
Macarons Paris
MN
French Pastry - Bistro - Wine Bar
121 Congress Street, Portsmouth
603.373.8401

Madore Electric
Residential & Commercial Wiring Service
Serving the Seacoast since 1980
Licensed in Maine, Massachusetts, & New Hampshire
Sid Madore (603) 234-9996

Adelle's Coffeehouse
Next to City Hall in Downtown Dover, NH
3 Hale Street (603) 742-1737

A wise woman puts a grain of sugar into everything she says to a man and she takes a grain of salt with everything he says to her.
— Helen Rowland
SALT CELLAR
PORTSMOUTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
Since 2011
7 Commercial Alley ~ 766-1616
www.portsmouthsaltcellar.com