

The Fortnightly Rant

A Fascist By Any Other Name...

Is it ever appropriate for a newspaper to state that a fascist is a fascist? If so, when? If not, why not? These questions have been plaguing us of late.

Perhaps more recent editions of the *Associated Press Stylebook* hold the answer. Alas, our copy was published in November of 1990—midway through the “kinder, gentler” George Herbert [Hoover] Bush administration. House Minority Whip Newt Gingrich had just teamed up with pollster Frank Luntz to distribute a memo to members of the Republican Party. Titled, “Language, a Key Mechanism of Control,” a key passage in that memo read:

“The [vocabulary] list is divided into two sections: Optimistic Positive Governing words and phrases to help describe your vision for the future of your community (your message) and Contrasting words to help you clearly define the policies and record of your opponent and the Democratic party.”

Two things about that sentence seem startling, in retrospect. Though it appears in an official GOP document, it speaks in favorable terms about governing. Also, it contains a reference to the opposition which respectfully uses the correct name of the Democratic Party. Conspicuously absent is the “Democrat Party” slur, heard so often nowadays. A Republican talking like that these days would be denounced as a RINO. These are minor quibbles, though—mere distractions.

As the cartoon strip “Doonesbury” noted in 2008, the Gingrich/Luntz memo served as “The Magna Carta of Attack Politics.”

The Republican Party was “active, building, candid, caring, common sense, confident, courage(ous), (for the) family, (and) freedom,” and so forth and so on, ad nauseam, right through to its “unique vision.”

The insidious Democratic Party,

on the other hand, stood for “abuse of power.” It was anti-flag, anti-family, anti-child, and anti-jobs. How it escaped being anti-pet we’ll probably never know. Democrats would “betray” you in their “bizarre” compulsion to serve the “bosses [and the] bureaucracy.” They would “cheat” you, using “coercion.” The “consequences” of their “corruption” would include “criminal rights, crisis, cynicism, [and] decay. The state of the nation would sink ever “deeper” as Democrats indulged their urge to “destroy.” Their “destructive” ways would “devour” the nation, leaving us all in “disgrace.” Yadda yadda yadda. Nearing the end of their list of pejoratives, Gingrich and Luntz had the gall to include the term “traitors.” Dare we suggest that in light of recent events, this seems just a tad ironic?

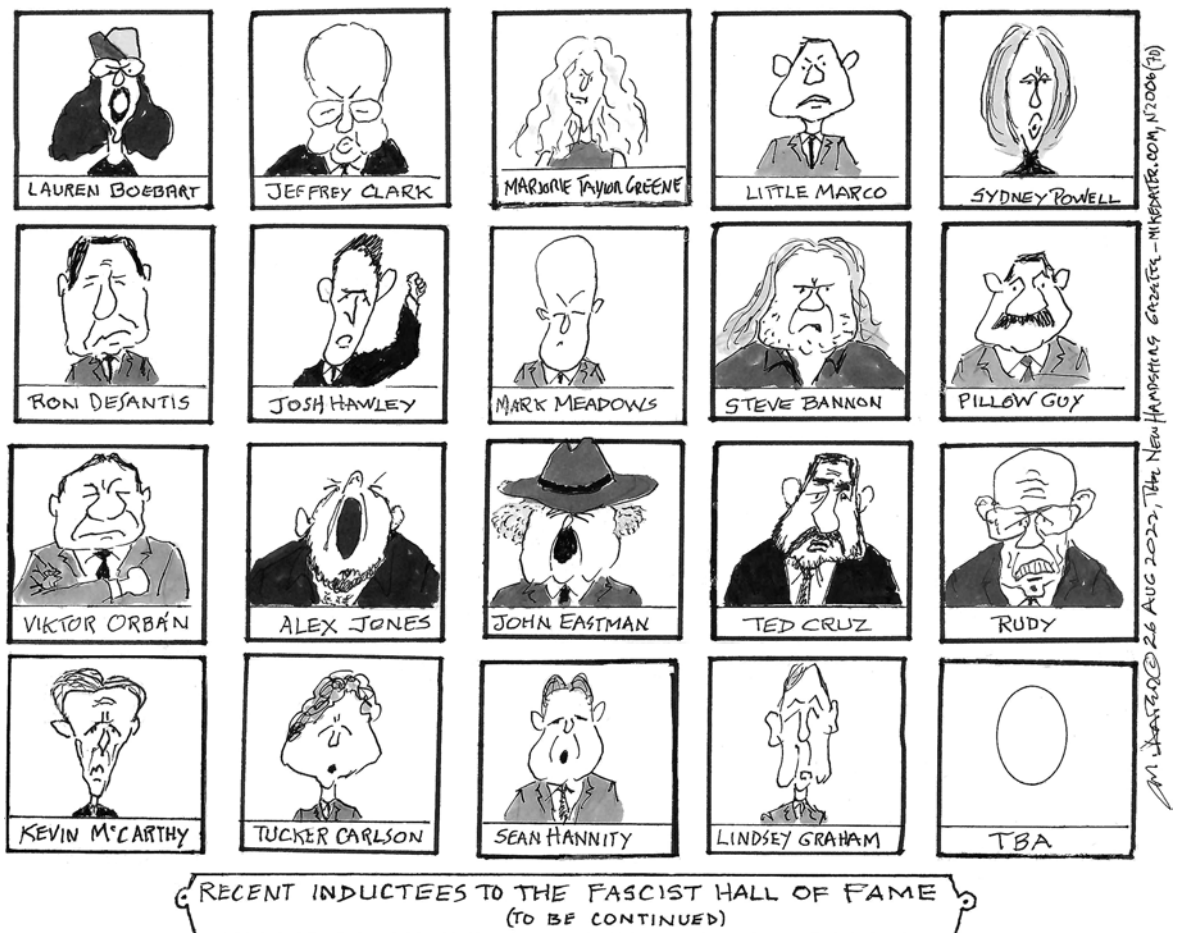
It’s been more than thirty years since the Republican Party issued this litany of invective. How has the country changed?

It is as if the Overton window which defines the limits of acceptable political expression had been chained to the bumper of a coal-rolling pickup truck and dragged to a Ku Klux Klan rally.

As we look back over that last sentence, though, we begin to worry a bit. Many respectable news organizations have reported lately that the public, sick of rancor, wants to see more civility and bipartisanship.

Under these circumstances, what right do we have to make such an inflammatory statement? Do the facts on the ground bear out that assertion? Perhaps we might find some characteristic sign....

How about brownshirts? Brownshirts seem to be everywhere these days. We refer, of course, not to some sartorial choice, but to individuals whose commitment to right wing authoritarianism transcends ballot boxes and embraces violence.



For example, on August 9th, Michelle, aka @LivingBlueTX posted a *Twitter* thread of 70 brief videos. In each one an individual declares, in his or her own special way—and we do mean special—that they are looking forward to finally shooting it out with the FBI, IRS, U.S. Army, Marines, Space Force, or, we suppose, the Postal Service if it comes to that. “I’d report them all to the @FBI,” Michelle tweets, “but I literally don’t have time to...report the hundreds of videos like this I’m seeing on my alt tiktok.”

That’s just one person’s random collection of lone gunpersons with itchy trigger fingers. Far more organized, and arguably more of a threat, is Pastor Sean Moon’s Rod of Iron Ministries, who wears a crown made of AR-15 cartridges. Gun fetishism runs in the family. Sean’s brother manufactures semi-automatic versions of the iconic Tommy gun, and multiple versions of the inevitable

AR-15. Their father was Reverend Sun Myung Moon. He wrote in 1969, “All Unificationists must take an interest in guns.... Why am I involved with guns? The satanic world has done its conquering with guns.... This year we also sent five hundred guns to the United States.... America is a golden market; it is virgin soil.”

Tim Dickinson recently wrote about this bunch for *Rolling Stone*. Among those who have associated themselves with Rod of Iron Ministries have been Steve Bannon and the Trump brothers, Beavis and Butthead.

So, yeah, after giving the matter some thought, we’re going to stick our editorial neck out: this country is in fact chock full of fascists, they’re trying to take over the joint, and no one seems ready to stop them. For that matter, few seem prepared to call them what they are.

Sunday morning talk show host

Brian Stelter ended his August 21st show on CNN by saying “We must make sure we don’t give platforms to those who are lying to our faces.” That’s a laugh, if your sense of humor is sufficiently dark.

Former CNN boss Mark Zucker, more than any other single person, tripped America into the gutter of fascism. While he was running NBC, Zucker gave the green light to one of the dumbest TV shows ever. Over umpteen seasons it allowed a certain bankrupt has-been to build a brand amongst no-information voters. When that dolt ran for president, Zucker’s CNN gave his campaign approximately a bazillion dollars worth of free advertising.

Now Trump donor John Malone has bought CNN, Stelter’s been fired, and, as someone tweeted, “the very next hour Jake Tapper let Dan Crenshaw lie to his face with no fact-checks or pushback. Journalism at CNN is dead.”

The Alleged News®

Tax Dodger Donates \$1.6 Billion to the Guy Who Owns the Supreme Court

by Jake Johnson

A right-wing dark money group controlled by Leonard Leo—a legal activist who has played an outsized role in packing the U.S. Supreme Court with conservative ideologues—was the beneficiary of a massive, possibly unprecedented donation of \$1.6 billion from a shadowy electronics mogul with ties to the Koch network.

The enormous infusion of cash, first reported Monday by the *New York Times*, could bolster and embolden right-wing efforts to drag the U.S. judicial and political systems even further to the right for decades to come, imperiling the climate, what’s left of abortion rights, the franchise, and other freedoms

that have come under growing threat from the GOP and conservative judges.

According to the *Times*, the donation to the Marble Freedom Trust from former Tripp Lite CEO and longtime Republican benefactor Barre Seid is “among the largest—if not the largest—single contributions ever made to a politically focused nonprofit.”

The *Times* reports how the gift, based entirely on funds generated by the sale of Tripp Lite, “was arranged through an unusual series of transactions that appear to have avoided tax liabilities” for both Seid and Leo’s nonprofit.

Citing tax records and an unnamed source with knowledge of the matter, the *Times* explained that

“rather than merely giving cash, Mr. Seid donated 100 percent of the shares of Tripp Lite to Mr. Leo’s nonprofit group before the company was sold to an Irish conglomerate for \$1.65 billion.”

The Marble Freedom Trust “then received all of the proceeds from the sale” last year, the *Times* found.

“For perspective,” the newspaper added, “the \$1.6 billion that the Marble trust reaped from the sale is slightly more than the total of \$1.5 billion spent in 2020 by 15 of the most politically active nonprofit organizations that generally align with Democrats.”

Seid is a major but relatively low-profile donor to Republicans and right-wing causes, including to organizations that attack climate

science. The Center for Media and Democracy (CMD) notes that Seid is “closely allied with the Koch network and funnels dark money through the same groups used by the Kochs, including Donors Trust and Donors Capital Fund.”

Jane Mayer, the award-winning *New Yorker* investigative journalist who has closely covered the Koch network for years, called the *Times* story on Seid’s donation to Leo’s group “huge.”

Brendan Fischer, deputy executive director of the money in politics watchdog project Documented, wrote in response to the *Times* reporting that Leo “now controls an astonishing \$1.6 billion that he can use to reshape our political system.”

“With this fortune,” Fischer add-

ed, “Leo can maintain and even grow his singular influence in near perpetuity.”

Leo has exerted much of his influence on U.S. politics through the Federalist Society, which has established a pipeline of far-right judges that have filled the benches of lower courts and the Supreme Court in recent years. Leo is currently co-chair of the Federalist Society’s board of directors.

As he looks to spend his new group’s huge windfall, Leo will benefit from recent Supreme Court decisions—including the infamous *Citizens United* ruling—that opened the floodgates to unlimited

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from page one

ed and secretive election spending from dark money groups just like the Marble Freedom Trust.

“After stacking the federal courts with conservative friends and allies, Leonard Leo has single-handedly amassed a \$1.6 billion dark money slush fund that will dwarf Democratic spending for years to come,” wrote Mark Joseph Stern, *Slate’s* court reporter. “[It is an] extraordinary manipulation of loopholes in tax and campaign finance law.”

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Thanks to Manchin, IRA’s Methane Fee on Big Oil Is Riddled With Massive Holes
by Jake Johnson

The newly enacted Inflation Reduction Act contains the world’s first-ever fee on methane, a powerful greenhouse gas believed to be responsible for roughly 30 percent of global temperature rise since the Industrial Revolution.

But analysts and climate advocates fear that the fee, which is aimed at incentivizing U.S. fossil fuel companies to stop deliberately spewing the gas into the atmosphere, will

have a muted impact on rapidly rising methane emissions given that 60 percent of the oil and gas industry is exempt from the penalty.

Reuters reported earlier this month that thanks to carveouts won by Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.)—the fossil fuel industry’s top ally in the Senate Democratic caucus and the chamber’s leading recipient of oil and gas donations—the fee “only applies to companies that emit 25,000 metric tons of CO2 equivalent per year,” including “a small number of the largest oil companies and independent producers.”

“In another concession made to Manchin, oil and gas companies that comply with the Environmental Protection Agency’s forthcoming methane rules due later this year would also be exempted from the fee. The rules require companies to upgrade equipment, monitor leaks, and clean them up,” the outlet noted. “The bill would also exempt distribution facilities that bring natural gas to homes and businesses, offer exemptions to some pipelines and gathering facilities that sell volumes of gas below a certain threshold, and give industry nearly \$1.5 billion in financial incentives to clean up their methane.”

Responding to the slew of ex-



emptions in the law, Peter Hart of Food and Water Watch tweeted that “a certain type of climate wonk gets really excited about things like a ‘methane fee.’”

“The one in the IRA was weakened so that it applies to basically no one,” he observed.

E&E News pointed specifically to Cheniere Energy’s Sabine Pass facility, the largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in the U.S. by volume, as an example of the IRA’s shortcomings on methane.

“Sabine Pass reported methane emissions equivalent of nearly 30,000 tons of carbon dioxide in 2020,” *E&E News* noted. “At first glance, the Southwestern Louisiana terminal would appear to be subject to the fee, which would only apply to facilities with annual emissions in excess of 25,000 tons.”

“But a second provision could potentially allow the Sabine Pass to avoid paying a penalty,” the publication added. “Only LNG facilities with a leakage rate in excess of .05 percent of total gas sales are subject to the fee.”

Methane is more than 80 times more potent at heating the planet than carbon dioxide over a 20-year

period, and experts have characterized reining in emissions of the gas as “the biggest opportunity to slow warming between now and 2040.”

But it’s an opportunity that world leaders, particularly those of the rich nations most responsible for the climate crisis, have yet to seize. According to figures released by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in April, 2021 saw a record annual increase in atmospheric methane levels—beating the previous record set just a year earlier.

“Our data show that global emissions continue to move in the wrong direction at a rapid pace,” NOAA Administrator Rick Spinrad said at the time. “We can no longer afford to delay urgent and effective action needed to address the cause of the problem—greenhouse gas pollution.”

Because of its severe limitations, the IRA’s methane fee is unlikely to put a serious dent in U.S. methane emissions, which are fueled primarily by pipelines and other oil and gas industry operations.

The fee begins in 2024 at \$900 per metric ton of methane and rises to \$1,500 by 2026.

Writing for *The American Prospect* last week, Robert Hitt noted that the fee “only covers 40 percent of the methane emissions produced by the oil and gas industry, and the companies that are covered report their own emissions.”

“Many firms already undercount their emissions to greenwash their operations; the fee gives them another reason to fudge numbers,” Hitt warned.

Hitt went on to emphasize that “an IRA provision requiring revision of EPA emission reporting requirements, and new EPA rules already in the works, may be able to address these shortcomings to give the fee real teeth.”

“But as things stand, many smaller players in the oil and gas industry won’t have to pay any excess methane fee,” Hitt wrote. “It will only apply to facilities that self-report more than the equivalent of 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide, leaving the majority of methane emissions untouched.”

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A debonair dude, a beautiful girl, an elegant gown, a motor scooter, a “Just Married” sign, and a few tin cans.... For a little while last Sunday, Bow Street could have been mistaken for the set of a Fellini movie.

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Sometimes Old is Good

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**Digitization of
Town Reports Nears Completion**
By Annmarie Timmins

In 1891, the town of Acworth returned \$3.96 to two residents who'd been charged too much in property taxes. Berlin reported 123 marriages, 443 births, and 202 deaths in 1916. And in 1940, the city of Concord planted 565 shade trees along city streets and paid \$100 to settle a lawsuit involving a minor injured at Kimball playground.

This and similar information for 214 of New Hampshire's 234 towns is available—and easily searchable—in the University of New Hampshire's Scholar Repository of town reports. Soon, reports from the missing 20 towns will be available too under a contract between the university and the New Hampshire State Library. Those include Mont Vernon, Windham, Lebanon, and Randolph.

If there's any question about the \$242,000 contract being worthwhile, consider that people from 136 countries have downloaded 25,000 of the existing records since December 2020. Each town report is a time capsule of a community's most pressing issues and expenditures—for everything from new sidewalks and aid for the needy to tax abatements. Some even hint at statewide concerns.

For example, in 1927, many towns debated employing female married teachers, according to Dover's town report that year. Dover's policy called for terminating any female teacher married after May 12, 1927—unless the school committee decided otherwise.

And in 1966, 395 acres of the state's 4.39 million acres of forest burned, according to Fremont's 1967 report. Today, the state has more forest land—4.8 million acres—but on average sees fewer acres burn, about 250. The prime cause remains the same, however: human carelessness.

And sometimes, the reports serve as a fact-check, said Michael York, state librarian. "People use them all the time at town meetings," he said. "Very often ... someone will say, 'We tried that back in (19)55 and it didn't work. Well, if you go back to '55, you can find out if that guy knows what he's talking about or doesn't know what he's talking about.'"

The state had hoped to have reports from the final towns scanned by the end of August. At the request of the Department of Cultural and Natural Resources, the Executive Council agreed to extend that to November.

The project, paid for with federal funds, wasn't a small undertaking. There were 1.69 million pages to



scan from 14,720 reports, each averaging 155 pages. Some records date back to the mid-1800s.

Each town must send its annual report to the state library, per state law. Those paper versions are available to the public, if they can get to Concord. This project extends that access considerably—to historians, genealogists, and those just curious about New Hampshire then and now.

York said increased interest in genealogy, which he called the fastest growing hobby in the country, has prompted more people to research the records because they often contain the names of people married and born each year.

Going forward, York expects more towns will digitize their own reports and even cease printing them.

The library used some of its federal American Rescue Plan Act funding for the project. "We love spending money, but it's hard work," York said. "It's hard work to spend

money in a responsible and meaningful way that's not a flash in the pan." This project, York said, will have a lasting impact.

Originally published at <https://newhampshirebulletin.com/briefs/effort-to-digitize-town-reports-close-to-completion/>. Reprinted here under Creative Commons License CC BY-NC-ND 4.0.

Barry Goldwater, Prophet

Barry Goldwater—who lost the presidency in 1964 for saying, "Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice"—speaking in 1994, quoted by John Dean in *Conservatives Without Conscience* (2006), published in *The Atlantic*, November 24, 2006:

"Mark my word, if and when these preachers get control of the [Republican] party, and they're sure trying to do so, it's going to be a terrible damn problem. Frankly, these people frighten me. Politics and governing demand compromise. But these Christians believe they are acting in the name of God, so they can't and won't compromise. I

know, I've tried to deal with them...

"There is no position on which people are so immovable as their religious beliefs. ... The religious factions that are growing throughout our land are not using their religious clout with wisdom. They are trying to force government leaders into following their position 100 percent. If you disagree with these religious groups on a particular moral issue, they complain, they threaten you with a loss of money or votes or both. I'm frankly sick and tired of the political preachers across this country telling me as a citizen that if I want to be a moral person, I must believe in A, 'B,' 'C,' and 'D.' Just who do they think they are? And from where do they presume to claim the right to dictate their moral beliefs to me? And I am even more angry as a legislator who must endure the threats of every religious group who thinks it has some God-granted right to control my vote on every roll call in the Senate. ... I will fight them every step of the way if they try to dictate their moral convictions to all Americans in the name of conservatism."



Late summer down at the docks: amazing how normal everything seems.

Murph's Fortnightly Quote

"Most people do not really want freedom, because freedom involves responsibility, and most people are frightened of responsibility."

— Sigmund Freud (1856-1939)

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— Red Green's grandfather

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**"We hang the petty thieves and
appoint the great ones to public office."**

— Aesop

— Not-So-Random Thoughts from an Oregon Subscriber

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About Those “Unborn Children”
To the Editor:
According to my dictionary, a “child” is a young human being below the age of puberty or under the legal age of majority.”

So, what exactly is an “unborn” child?
Turns out, it is a highly presumptive contradiction in terms describing something that doesn’t exist. You can’t be unborn and be a child.

Framers of the right-to-life movement know this distinction but use the term anyway, so we’ll envision a happy giggling baby rather than a collection of non-viable cells. An embryo or fetus may become a “child” at some point, but an awful lot needs to happen in the interim.

In fact, calling a fetus an “unborn child” is the rhetorical equivalent of calling a healthy adult an “un-deceased corpse.” You may wish to envision them dead, but they’re still walking, talking, and taking nourishment.

The popular use of “unborn child” is just one example amid hundreds illustrating how propagandists mix metaphors to frame political issues disingenuously. There’s going to be a lot of that happening between now and November, so be on the lookout lest the wrong un-deceased corpses get elected.

Rick Littlefield
Barrington, N.H.
Rick:
*A most excellent point.
This perfectly illustrates the challenge we face, forced as we are to write in a language which has been colonized for so long by propagandists.*

It takes vision and effort to penetrate the lies, understanding to express the inherent contradictions, and wit to make it stick.
Thanks for bringing them all to bear.
The Editor

=====
Republicans Back Death Panels
To the Editor:
Ever wonder what the Republican Party stands for these days? Well, your wait for an answer is over.
The skyrocketing cost of insulin has made the headlines for months.

It was also made clear that there was no reason for the big increases in insulin’s cost except price gouging. This is a drug diabetics must have to live! And there are 37 million diabetics in the U.S. Many families have to choose between food or electricity and insulin.
This week the Democrats brought a bill to the floor of the Senate that would cap the monthly cost of Insulin at \$35. Big Pharma was against it! Big surprise. But, so were 43 Republican Senators! They were able to block the legislation. Big Pharma is happy.

So, now you know what the Republican Party stands for: Big Pharma! They also stand for Big Oil, Big Coal, Big Guns—but we won’t go into that here. And while they scream “socialism” for every piece of legislation Democrats propose and promote to help citizens, they are willing to let people die who can’t afford the jacked-up prices of their medicine!

Michael Frandzel
Portsmouth, N.H.
Michael:
Republicans claim to be conservative. That would seem to indicate a preference for sticking to the tried and true ways of the past. And, to some extent, that’s true.

They’re generally in favor of capital punishment—a pretty serious example of government intervention, in our view, but they don’t see it that way. They don’t like laws regulating workplaces. Apparently it’s an imposition to prevent an employer from locking workers into the sweatshop.
Callous disregard for human life does seem to be baked into all their policies.
The Editor

=====
Warrants, Affidavits, and Evidence
Dear Editor,
The former Oval Office Occupant [fOOO], and hyenas echoing him, are braying that the warrant-approved FBI search was unwarranted. The former OOO is calling the FBI’s legal confiscation of unspecified materials a “break-in.” His enablers spew fear to those who follow their fantasies, that this FBI raid could happen to any of them.
The FBI needs very compelling reasons, backed by evidence, to obtain a

legal search warrant. FBI’s standing policy is not to comment on ongoing investigations. That leaves the hyenas unchallenged when pretending the raid is baseless. If true, then the fOOO could verify his claim by revealing the warrant to the public. He has a copy; it’s only the FBI that can’t reveal the warrant.
The fOOO should put up or shut up. If his past behavior does not warrant a legal search warrant, then show us the warrant! Let’s see the FBI’s reasons for obtaining legal approval.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.
Bruce:
As we write this, the warrant has been released. Of course the fOOO was spewing nonsense—that’s all that ever comes out of his ugly pie-hole.
Now the fight is over the affidavits that led to the issuance of the warrant. He’s trying to get them released so he’ll know who betrayed him. Apparently there’s room for more, next to Ivanka.
The Editor

=====
The Greasy Old Party
To the Editor:
The National Archives and Records Administration has been trying to retrieve government documents Donald Trump took with him after he was no longer president for over a year. His lawyers turned over 15 boxes containing confidential papers in January, 2022 and claimed that was everything. It wasn’t. In response to a grand jury subpoena Trump’s lawyers turned over more boxes, including ones containing classified documents, this June. They did not hand over everything, as we now know from the boxes of classified documents removed from Mar a Lago after an FBI execution of a search warrant this August.

Donald Trump is now claiming he is a victim. He says the warrant was not necessary and all the government had to do was ask to get the documents. The National Archives and Re-

cords Administration asked, followed by a grand jury subpoena, and finally a warrant. Donald Trump only cooperates as a last resort.
The government information a president receives while in office is property of the government, not the president. If anyone else took home so many classified documents and lied in court about not possessing them they would be sitting in a jail cell awaiting trial. One has to ask why did Trump take classified, secret, top-secret and super top-secret papers to Mar-a-Lago? What country was he sharing our nation’s secrets with? Was it Putin’s Russia or China, North Korea or the Arab country that gave his son in law billions to play with after Trump left office?

Why are politicians in his party threatening the FBI for retrieving our nation’s secrets instead of the culprit who endangered national security by taking them? It seems the GOP is no longer the party of law, order and patriotism. Under Donald Trump it has become the party of defunding the FBI, insurrection, espionage and treason.
Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth N.H.
Walter:
Our money—about \$1.37, for the record—is on Saudi Arabia as the likely intended customer.

People are asking how a formerly-serious political party could get taken over so quickly by such a transparent blowhard. There was nothing quick about it. The Republican Party has been in the tank for a century and a half.
The Editor

=====
The “Sig Experience Center”
To the Editor:
Summer is flying by, and it’s an election year in New Hampshire, where every other year is Election Year, lucky

us!
Primaries for a host of state and national offices will be held at your local voting place on Tuesday, September 13th. Early voting options will soon be clarified for those who can’t vote in person. The service of all who make casting our votes is respected and appreciated.

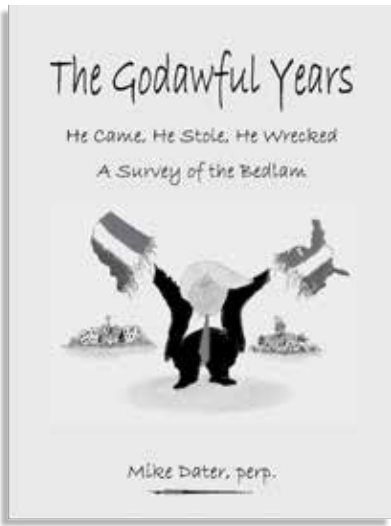
This is an opportunity to ask those who are seeking your vote what they plan to accomplish if elected. Certainly, there are challenges facing our state: we’ve read many letters and articles covering education funding, access to health care, lack of affordable housing to rent or own, developing a long range plan for managing trash disposal, the many impacts of tourism on our towns and public services, and supporting local businesses.

The last issue: business development, has been on my mind after reading a news report on the proceedings of the N.H. Executive Council, which approves all sorts of state level appointments, contracts, and expenditures. At the March 23, 2022 meeting, Item #6 on their agenda was approving a financial package through the N.H. Business Finance Authority (BFA), for the amount of 16 million dollars to Sig Sauer Inc, to develop the “Sig Experience Center.” According to company representatives, this is a “... new state-of-the-art, 40,000 square foot facility that brings the Sig brand to life in an exciting, hands-on, immersive way...” all to benefit jobs and tourism. The Council voted to accept the proposal, and the Experience center opened in July, 2022.

This loan package, to be clear, is not a loan from state funds. The state however, does guarantee these loans (Sig Sauer has benefited in the past, as well). And it’s good for the state of N.H. to support projects that ben-



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efit the people of New Hampshire, as well as helping local businesses to grow. My concern is: Sig Sauer is a multi-million dollar internationally connected industry in its own right, which happens to manufacture and sell an array of weaponry. If it wants to create a Sig Experience Center with a Flagship Store, a Shooting Center, a Museum, and a conference center on their own dime, that's its prerogative. But it should self fund such a project, not with the help and blessing of the state of New Hampshire, especially at a time when there are serious questions about aggressive marketing of firearms, and the equally aggressive lobbying to protect that.

Are there no other small ventures wanting to offer goods such as food, clothing, housing, and toys? Or services, such as child care, tutoring, music instruction, home health care, art lessons, and counseling? Or activities for tourists and residents of New Hampshire to enjoy such as walking trails, fishing clubs, community sports? Please ask the candidates for Governor and Executive Council, as well as other offices, these questions!

Beth McCarthy
Tamworth, N.H.
Beth:
We, too, are surprised at the way the Executive Council chose to back Sig Sauer. Not for the same reasons, though.

Granted, we are not fully acquainted with all the details. From what we have read so far, though, several vitally important elements appear to be missing from this purportedly "exciting, hands-on, immersive" Experience Center. Frankly, we are shocked that the Executive Council did not immediately perceive their opportunity to demand more verisimilitude. Surely the following items ought to be considered as essential components, particularly considering Sig Sauer's huge and

no doubt profitable Pentagon contracts: first aid, triage, mortuary affairs, grief counseling, and treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.
The Editor

Privatizing & Christianizing Public Schools
Editor,

If this Republican and "Free Stater" trend, to privatize and Christianize public education at the American taxpayer's expense (estimated at \$8 million to \$12 million to date) continues, America as we now know it will *no longer exist*. Education is the cornerstone of our unique Democracy!

Democrats, Independents (undeclared), and shell-shocked Republicans...get off the couch and do something to support Democrats at every level of government to reclaim our Democracy. You can do it by: Writing Letters to the Editor; sending candidates donations; telling your friends and families why you are supporting such candidates; putting up lawn signs; sharing your political support philosophy on social media; making phone calls for candidates; knocking on doors, and canvassing your neighborhood!

At every level of government, national and local, for every candidate up and down the ballot, the September 13th Primary and November 8th General Elections will largely help set a corrective course that will blunt and hopefully demolish authoritarian efforts in New Hampshire and our country, and get us back on a path to: civility in our discourse; community focus in our lives; making sure every vote counts; and fairness and equality in our legislation.

Doing these things will reinforce our Constitutional principles, as Abraham Lincoln alluded in his Gettysburg Address: "that government of the people, by the people, for the people,

shall not perish from the earth."
Herb Moyer
Exeter, N.H.
Herb:
This ongoing attack on our system of public education is as bizarre as it is dangerous.
The Editor

All Reasonable Hands On Deck
To the Editor:

Dozens of court cases as well as several recounts and audits have made it crystal clear that there was no large scale voter fraud in the 2020 presidential election. A reasonable person will conclude that Republican claims that the election was stolen are false. The recent House investigation of the January 6th invasion of the Capital has produced volumes of evidence indicating that Trump and his minions plotted to overturn a valid national election. A reasonable person would conclude that there was an illegal effort to deny Biden his rightful claim to the presidency. Given these facts, rational voters would deduce that Trump and his sycophants are unqualified to hold elected office and send them into the disgrace that they deserve.

The problem, of course, is that there are few rational voters among Trump supporters. Approximately 70 percent of Republicans maintain the false belief that the 2020 election was stolen from Trump. Disturbingly, 56 percent of those Republicans justify their misplaced loyalty through belief in fantastical conspiracy theories promulgated through crackpot web sites such as QAnon. These conspiracy theories create bizarre alternative realities that make rational discussion of issues impossible.

The loyalty of the Republican base is unlike most modern political parties. It is not based on a reasonable advocacy of policy outcomes or support for common political values. Rather, it is tribal, founded on blind allegiance to a perceived in-group and authoritarian

leaders and a visceral mistrust of outsiders. Characteristic of tribal groups, the Republican base sees the current political struggle not in terms of reasoned debate over policy but as an existential battle between us and them, good and evil.

The Trump tribe is comprised largely of resentful white working class voters who believe that their economic and cultural identities are under threat. Economically, they have experienced the loss of millions of low skill blue collar jobs to globalization and automation. As a result, working class incomes have either declined or stagnated while the incomes of educated coastal elites have skyrocketed. Health care costs have persistently increased so that even middle class families find they cannot afford the cost of drugs for chronic diseases such as diabetes. The truly astounding cost of even a brief hospital stay can bankrupt a working class family. The social structure of many working class communities has disintegrated as relative income declines and opioid-inspired addictions disable or kill community members.

On the cultural front, while working class incomes and opportunities decline, radical Progressives accuse them of flaunting "white privilege," demonizing them as agents of racism and sexism. Hollywood characterizations of working class whites are indicative of a sea change. John Wayne was long ago replaced by Archie Bunker and a succession of clueless white men who are portrayed as either corrupt or hopeless dupes.

The fundamentalist Christian values of the white working class are perceived as under attack from cultural elites. The promotion by Progressives of policies supporting gay marriage, abortion rights and expanded gender identities are seen as immoral and an affront to long-held religious beliefs.

These factors and others have coalesced under Trump to create a radical core of aggrieved white working class Republicans who fear a loss of their core identity. They perceive themselves as victims of uncaring elites. They will not be swayed from their tribal loyalties by arguments based on

fact or rationality. Rather, they will find "alternative facts" no matter how ludicrous their source and condemn the purveyors of accurate information as "fake news." Their elected representatives will oppose any initiative no matter the benefit if it is proposed by their Democratic "enemy." Most seriously, they will attempt to seize the levers of political power to ensure their ascendancy even if democratic governance is destroyed in the process.

In sum, the Republican base has evolved into an existential threat to democratic government. Perhaps wiser policies in past decades could have prevented the current cultural war but now all hands on deck are required to avoid the destruction of democratic government. The midterm elections of 2022 and the presidential election in 2024 are critical. Effective Democratic candidates need to be identified and supported. Legal action must be pursued against the radicals that violated laws leading up to and during the January 6th insurrection no matter what their position. Otherwise, the great experiment that is democratic governance may be at an end. It is time for reasonable voters to take charge.

Robert D. Russell, Ph.D.
Harrisburg, Pa.
Robert:
As we read your letter we kept hoping you'd come up with a "magic bullet." Sadly, that was just magic thinking.
Ah, well; there's plenty of value in a lucid depiction of the state we're in, and the magnitude of the problem.
Steve

An Old Salt Remembers...
Dear Editor:

An ancient adage was spoken frequently during my youth and promoted throughout my Navy career: "It's amazing how much you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit." It has occurred to me in recent years how far our nation has deviated, how far we have strayed, from that antiquated axiom.

Senator Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.),
Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.
to page six

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from page five

following Barack Obama's election to the presidency in 2008, stated (and not in a roundabout way) that his aim in life was to make Obama a one-term president. That is the undisguised antithesis of proper governing, but the GOP seems to have embraced brazen obstruction practices as the foundation of party doctrine.

Unwilling or unable to govern, the Republican Party clings precariously to power through chaos, dysfunction and building barriers, willingly surrendering their honor, sacrificing democracy, and relinquishing our nation's global standing and reputation in the process.

Senator McConnell has also gained the dubious distinction of bestowing on the Republican Party control of the Supreme Court, that branch of government which, since its creation by authority of the Judiciary Act of September 24, 1789, and its organization on February 2, 1790, was intended to be, and most Americans presume to be, above politics.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1981), in a lecture on "Public Trust as a Dimension of Equal Justice," stated, "We all rely on public confidence and trust to give the courts' decisions their force." The Republican Party has shattered that trust.

As the House January 6th Committee continues to reveal alarming details on former President Trump's coup attempt, a new analysis provided to *Common Dreams* by the watchdog organization *Accountable.US*, shows that corporate trade groups and Fortune 500 companies donated more than \$819,000 to Republican members of Congress who voted against certifying the 2020 election results. *Accountable.US* has been tracking corporate contributions to the so-called "Sedition Caucus" (a group of 147 Republican lawmakers who voted to overturn the 2020 election results).



Accountable.US unveiled that since January 6, 2021, corporate trade organizations and the political action committees of top individual companies have donated a total of \$21.5 million to Sedition Caucus members including House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), Rep. Steve Scalise (R-La.), and Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas).

An updated donation tracker by *Accountable.US* discloses that the National Beer Wholesalers Association PAC, the American Bankers Association PAC, Home Depot's PAC, the National Automobile Dealers Association PAC and Boeing's PAC have been the top contributors to seditious Republicans since the January 6th attack.

Not that it matters to Trump loyalists or the Republican base, but patriotic, thinking Americans (especially veterans who remember and value what the oath we took, the uniform we wore, and truth stand for) want to see businesses detached from corrupted politicians and more engaged in the defense of democracy and the redeeming of our national integrity.

David L. Snell

Franklin, N.C.

David:

Big business has always tended to support those politicians on the right. Generally it was a symbiotic relationship: legalized bribes to the lawmakers resulted in favorable legislation.

Our brilliant industrialists think they're still operating on the same principle. They're wrong. The right lost its collective mind and the relationship became parasitical.

Now we're just waiting to see how long it takes for the parasite to kill its host.

The Editor

=====
Reject Extreme Republicanism
To the Editor:

Soon voters in New Hampshire will be asked to decide on candidates

in primaries and in the November general election. Since the Republican Party has now embraced the extremism of the Free State wing of their party, they actually no longer have a real party platform. It is time for voters to be patriots and defend our Constitution. In my opinion, this means voting for Democratic candidates for Federal, State and Local offices.

Here in Portsmouth two or more Republican candidates are running for State Representative by attempting to confuse voters on their positions. Alan Forbes is telling us that the Supreme Court decision on abortion is "returning that issue to the people." However, I guess he does not believe that women are people, because that decision allows states to decide, instead of women. Sue Polidura is lamenting that President Biden is destroying our country, even more than she had believed possible. Really? Does she still remember the chaos, racism, hateful speech, and incompetence of President Trump, who did not even believe that the Covid virus was spreading in our country (and who is now responsible for at least 600,000 deaths from that disease)? This is the same president who communicated by Twitter with an unsecured phone, held almost no press conferences, lies about the results of the 2020 elections, and claims to be a genius.

As a state representative for the past 5 1/2 years, I have seen reasonable Republicans join a movement to help destroy government services (e.g., defunding education in Croydon, and creating chaos at Gunstock), and be afraid to push back against bills such as seceding from the United States and restricting women's rights to control their own reproductive choices. I have also seen Governor Sununu disagree with them, only to be overruled by the Republican lawmakers in Concord, whether on vaccinations, school decisions, renewable energy or gun violence safety. He wants to be on both sides of every issue.

Regardless of the candidate involved, please take the time to ask

them some basic questions: Do you support Mr. Trump for President in 2024? Do you agree that the 2020 election was fair and legitimate? Would you support seceding from the U.S.? Will you support and trust women to make their own decisions about reproductive issues? Do you support action to slow and reverse Climate Change? Will you support NATO and the U.S. to defend Ukraine? Do you support efforts to strengthen our democracy? Answers to these questions should make it easy to decide how to vote in the primaries and the general election.

State Rep. Peter Somssich

Portsmouth, N.H.

Peter:

Surely you remember House Speaker Bill O'Brien—the fire-breather whose reign of dumb-ass had the New Hampshire GOP on the ropes for a while. Who'd have thought that they could bounce back so strongly—especially under the thrall of these Free Staters.

It's not that we long for O'Brien's return—no one wants that. An absence of lunacy is all we ask.

The Editor

=====
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"Pro-Life" is Anti-Troop

Dear Editor and other Gentle Beings:

I enjoy your paper very much. I sent a subscription to the second Bush FLOTUS.

The lack of complete care for veterans, but especially for female and non-white male veterans, is a continuing outrage to their families and the many, many charities set up to help them.

From injuries on the job, exposure to radiation to chemicals, to assault from fellow servicemembers, to the back-and-forth policies of single females found pregnant being expelled from the military (in the 1970's), to a choice of out or stay—with little support and much harassment—members of our military forces have had to suffer silently in the cause of "pro-life" politics. Women in service and families all suffer overseas with an unwanted pregnancy regardless of abortion law in the U.S., if the party in power chooses. The go/no-

go record of U.S. international funding for Planned Parenthood and World Health Organization seems a curse of moral inconstancy in our foreign policy.

To allow soldiers to refuse lawful orders, (vaccination) for basic safety and prevention of harm to the public is the most shameful display of the "freedom for me, not for you" mentality of the "new patriots."

I'm not surprised that recruitment is down. It is all at the feet of our Congressional members that would rather perform on a stage than govern. When they do pass laws, they should have used the restroom in many states. In Congress, they have yet to get off the throne.

Thank you so much for letting me vent. Bastet Bless!

Diane M. Starkey
Rochester, N.H.

Diane:

The U.S. has gone to the well too often. For a nation that denies it has issues with class, the way our all-volunteer military has worn out a certain demographic is pretty telling.

Bastet bless to you, too. Give the cat a scratch for us.

The Editor

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Executive Council Neglects Women
To the Editor:

In an editorial in the August 10th edition of the *Portsmouth Herald* and *Foster's Daily Democrat*, Donata Luz eloquently described the need for women's health care services for New Hampshire women from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. She correctly sees these services as an investment which "plays a vital role in ensuring that women and girls realize equal health rights, economic independence and labor market participation." She lamented the vote of the Executive Council to defund reproductive health care providers which meet the health care needs of this vulnerable population and asked "Why are we doing this in our very own state of New Hampshire?"

The answer to that heartfelt question becomes clearer when one realizes that the one vote for the funding was by Democrat, Cinde Warming-ton, Concord. The four votes against were by Joe Kenney Wakefield, David Wheeler, Milford, Janet Stevens, Rye and Ted Gatsas, Manchester, all

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Trumpster Nation

by W.D. Ehrhart

Recently, I had occasion to drive the length of the Pennsylvania Turnpike all the way to the Ohio border. Western Pennsylvania is beautiful and mountainous. It is also, for the most part, solid Trump Country. Indeed, aside from Philadelphia and its suburban counties, and less dependably Pittsburgh, the entire state is as red as a male cardinal.

I did not see a single billboard supporting Democrat John Fetterman's bid to win a U.S. Senate seat. And the only billboard mentioning current Democratic state attorney general Josh Shapiro's run for the governorship was sponsored by his Republican opponent and Trump-endorsed Doug Mastriano, that said, "If You Love Higher Murder Rates, You'll Love Josh Shapiro," and included huge photos of Shapiro and Joe Biden with a big grin giving a thumbs-up.

But my favorite was a highly visible tractor-trailer perched on a hillside along the highway with TRUMP in huge red block letters

painted on it. Below that, in smaller black block lettering, were the words GOD, GUNS, FREEDOM, and NO SOCIALISM.

This is not just a Pennsylvania phenomenon. Trumpism has taken hold across the length and breadth of this nation. And as I drove along on my way to Detroit, hours and hundreds of miles away, I had plenty of time to think. Why would anyone imagine that Number 45 has anything to do with "God," this man who holds a Bible he's never read upside down and brags about grabbing women by their genitals?

"Guns" I kind of get, though I don't agree with it. If you're steeped in gun culture, I suppose it's possible to believe that "guns don't kill people," and maybe the guy with that trailer likes to hunt deer (I hope he eats what he kills) or shoot varmints around his farm. But "freedom"? Does he mean the freedom of #45 to play by his own rules, turn lying into an art form, cheat on everything from his wives to his taxes, thumb his nose at the Constitution, and foment insurrection?

And as for "No Socialism," that

one just drives me bugfuck. What does the guy with that trailer think Social Security is? And Medicare? I don't know who that guy is, but I know a lot of Trumpsters who are all on Social Security and Medicare, and don't even know such programs are socialism-in-action.

How does that guy and others like him think they get drinkable water when they turn on their taps? That the crap they flush down the toilet gets treated and disposed of? That their roads get plowed when it snows, and paved when they get too full of potholes? That someone will pick up the phone when they dial 911, and send police or an ambulance if they need help?

All of these things, and a whole lot more, are socialism-in-action. Everyone pays into a common fund, and that money is then used for the common good.

Indeed, the biggest socialist organization in this country is the United States military. Everyone with the same rank gets pretty much the same pay, regardless of their jobs, whether you're a private or a general. Everyone gets free housing, free

clothing, free medical care, free dental care, and free food.

We're not talking Communism here. We're not talking Karl Marx or Joseph Stalin and Mao Zedong: "you will work in a steel mill, and you will go to the country and grow rice, and this factory had better produce 500 tractors a month or you will be shot for treason." That's not what socialism is.

I don't suppose that guy with the trailer ever stopped to think about it, but Jesus Christ himself was a socialist. He healed the sick and didn't even charge them for His services. He provided counseling and advice for free. He got really angry with the greedy financiers who had taken over the temple. He criticized the Pharisees and their "holier-than-thou" elitism, and stood up for the poor and the outcast and the down-trodden.

That's what I found myself thinking about as I whiled away the hours driving to Detroit. What would Jesus think of Donald Trump. Or Mitch McConnell, or Lindsey Graham, or Kevin McCarthy, or even Joe Manchin? Which model of rifle

would Jesus buy? Who would Jesus vote for in November 2022?

Don't get me wrong. I don't have a very good opinion of Democrats, either. To a very large degree, the foibles and corruption and incompetence of the Democrats over the past forty years have a lot to do with how we've all ended up in this mess. And I could go on at length about the Democrats' willingness to lock up whistle blowers, and toss around drone missiles like they're handing out American flags at a 4th of July parade, and genuflect to Big \$\$\$\$ like they were, well, Republicans.

But I hope the guy who put that trailer out there along the Pennsylvania Turnpike doesn't get the future he's wishing for. He may not like it as much as he thinks he will. And I'm damned sure I won't like it at all.

==~==

W. D. Ehrhart, PhD, is a former Marine Corps sergeant and veteran of the American War in Vietnam. He is the author of a memoir trilogy: Vietnam-Perkasie, Passing Time, and Busted.

==~==

Billionaires Playing Cowboys...At Our Expense

by Jim Hightower

Let's all gather 'round the campfire, Buckaroos and let Ol' Cactus Jim here tell you about some of today's hardy, hard-working cowboys. Yes, those manly men who live free-spirited, yippy-ti-yi-yo, cowboy lives out in the rustic ranch country of the Rocky Mountain West.

Oh, wait—that was a century ago. The "cowboys" who're now hum-

ming "Home On The Range" across Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming are multimillionaire and billionaire corporate titan and celebrities like Rupert Murdoch, Bill Gates, and Bruce Willis. They don't really live there nor mix with locals, no do they actually "ranch" their spectacular 300,000-acre spreads, since they don't know how.

So they hire real ranching outfits to bring in some cattle, sheep, and

other ranching accruements, then they fly in on private jets occasionally and strut around like John Wayne. They are in a word, pathetic.

But they surely are land barons, spending up to \$200 million each for their vast spreads. Indeed, these dilettantes rule the availability of ranchland and scenic wilderness, pricing out people who really want to ranch and locking out families who want to experience some of

nature's most majestic rivers and mountains. Fifteen years ago, the biggest private landowners held 27 million acres; now they've grabbed 42 million acres for themselves.

Well, say apologists for wealth concentration, they bought the land with their money, so it's fair and square. But hold on slick. They don't come just for the views, hunting, and exclusivity—their ranches get generous land subsidies, plus, states like

Wyoming provide no-tax hideaways for their wealth.

So, even though you and I are shut out of these gated land baronies, at least we can take pride in knowing that it's our tax dollars that help the rich buy them... and lock the gates.

==~==

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Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.
from page six

Republicans whose votes were consistent with their party's historical lack of respect for women and their indifference to citizens struggling with limited resources.

What kind of state do we want to be?

Cynthia Muse
Rye, N.H.
Cynthia:

You ask what kind of state we want to be. That all depends on what your definition of "we" is.

Thanks to cutthroat gerrymandering, we're getting the kind of state the Republican National Committee

thinks we ought to have.
The Editor

==~==

More...Whatever from Planet Don
To the Editor:

[Note: Mr. Ewing writes to us frequently. His letters repeatedly present the same set of editorial problems. Disregarding his letters altogether would be the simplest solution. Doing so, however, would deprive our readers of a view into a pervasive mindset which, if left unchecked, ultimately will reduce mankind's chances of survival. It would also deprive the editor of his fun, and we can't have that. Therefore we advise our readers that by publishing Mr. Ewing's letters, we do not endorse his views. Nor do we accept any asser-

tions he presents as if they were facts. Further, we remind our readers that Mr. Ewing has been known to parrot lines of argument originally spewed by notorious propagandists in service to a depraved political and economic order. —The Ed.]

Democrats, including Hassan, Shaheen, Kuster and Pappas, apparently think that middle income and poorer Americans are not suffering enough. Their votes for the misnamed Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) will increase our suffering now; any benefits will be later.

[Note: What the IRA does is provide the IRS with funding to increase enforcement of taxes on the rich. In a deceptive effort to buttress his lie, Don

provides a link to Tucker Carlson's Daily Caller—a veritable Vesuvius of untruth. —The Ed.] Food prices haven't been this high since 1979 [Note: A link to Breitbart is deleted. We don't provide links to fascists. —The Ed.] and we already see some of the shortages that Biden promised.

[Note: Two more links to Breitbart and an unsupported allegation deleted. —The Ed.]

The \$80 billion IRS funding targets middle and lower income Americans who can't afford specialists to find loopholes and negotiate deals. [Note: A link to Fox Business claiming that the IRS is going to target those with incomes under \$75,000—exactly the opposite of what real news

outlets are saying. —The Ed.]

Votes for Democrats in November are votes to drive many middle income Americans into poverty.

Don Ewing
Meredith, N.H.
Don:

Sorry we had to 86 so much of your letter. It's really your own fault, though. You pass along the most absurd claims, put forth by known liars, interspersed with unsupported ad hominem attacks—what do you expect us to do? We hope you're merely deluded, and that your basest instincts are being manipulated by the professional propagandists of the oligarchy. Any other explanation would be even more disheartening.

The Editor



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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, AUGUST 28	MONDAY, AUGUST 29	TUESDAY, AUGUST 30	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
2005—Hurricane Katrina hits New Orleans and the levees break. 1969—Judith Love Cohen completes the Abort Guidance System—later used to bring Apollo 13 back to Earth—while in labor in the maternity ward, then gives birth to Jack Black. 1968—Police preserve disorder at the Democratic Convention in Chicago. 1963—At the Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. calls for freedom to ring from the prodigious hill-tops of New Hampshire 1955—During a visit to family in Money, Miss., fourteen-year-old Chicagoan Emmett Till is murdered by whites for speaking to a white woman. 1951—Killed in Korea, John R. Rice is denied burial at a Sioux City cemetery because he’s a Native America. 1947—In Linares, Spain, the fifth bull of the day helps even the score a little by fatally goring Manolete. 1921—Ten thousand coal miners and two thousand hired goons start trading lead on Blair Mountain, W.Va. 1919—Resigning as mayor of Seattle, Ole Hanson, the survivor of an assassination attempt, says “hang or incarcerate all anarchists for life.” 1918—Fifteen Wobblies get 20 years in prison for draft obstruction. 1869—The Mount Washington Cog Railway opens for business. 1831—Rep. Robert Potter [D-N.C.] castrates two men he suspects of having sex with his wife. One, a minister in his 50s, is her cousin.	2013—Americans learn, thanks to Edward Snowden, that the annual “Black Budget” of the “Intelligence Community” is \$52.6 billion a year. 2007—Due to careless accounting, an Air Force B-52 at Minot AFB in North Dakota is loaded with six live nukes, then left unguarded overnight. 1996—President William J. Clinton wins re-nomination, but loses advisor Dick Morris. His \$200-an-hour prostitute’s-toe-sucking habit is too taboo. 1977—Memphis cops nab three people trying to steal Elvis’s corpse. 1970—A 23-member band of Native Americans scale Mount Rushmore and re-name it for Crazy Horse. 1968—A week-long rebellion erupts at the Long Binh Jail in Vietnam. 1957—Despite a 24 hr., 18 min. filibuster by Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.)—father, at 22, of a mixed-race child by his family’s 16-year-old maid—the Civil Rights Act passes. 1956—Jesus Christ “GG” Allin, the most depraved punk rocker in history, is born in Lancaster, New Hampshire. 1921—Coal companies use hired airplanes to drop bombs on miners at Blair Mountain, West Virginia. 1787—Though dropped the day before when two objected, on this day The Framers agree: fugitive slaves “shall be delivered up to the person justly claiming their service or labor.” 1786—Farmers in Northampton, Mass.—many Revolution vets—close the courts to prevent foreclosures.	2011—The Federal Election Commission awakens and OKs an investigation of Rep. Frank Guinta [R-N.H.]. 2007—Unbeknownst to the pilots, a B-52 takes off from N.D. with six live nukes onboard. In La., it sits unguarded from noon to 10:00 p.m. 2004—To milk 9/11 for all it’s worth, the RNC convenes in New York City. Attendees mock John Kerry and wounded vets in general by wearing “Purple Heart” band-aids. 1979—Deftly wielding a canoe paddle, President Carter fends off a de-ranged swamp rabbit. 1979—For the first time, astronomers observe a comet hitting the sun. 1967—Thurgood Marshall becomes the first Black Associate Justice. 1964—At the Democratic Convention, an all-white delegation from Mississippi is seated while a Black protest delegation is not. 1963—The White House and the Kremlin get connected by “Hot Line.” 1950—At a closed Senate Appropriations hearing, Sec. of State Dean Acheson takes a swing at Sen. Kenneth Wherry (R-Neb.) but is restrained by a State Dept. lawyer. 1918—Fanya Kaplan shoots Lenin, who’s badly wounded but lives. Days later she’s shot dead. 1893—Huey “The Kingfish” Long is born in Winnfield, La. 1813—Drunken officers are playing cards when 800 Creeks attack Ft. Mims, Ala.; of 500 whites, 15 survive.	2019—Portsmouth’s Daniel Street Post Office closes for good. Thanks a lot, Councilor, Congressman, Governor, and Senator Judd Gregg. 1973—The Gainesville Eight, anti-war veterans charged with conspiracy to riot at the 1972 Republican National Convention, are acquitted. 1965—President Johnson signs a bill making draft card burning illegal. 1963—Robert Bork publishes an article in <i>The New Republic</i> opposing the Civil Rights Act. 1954—Hurricane Carol slams New England; 65 die. 1948—An LAPD setup bears fruit: Robert Mitchum is busted for pot. 1939—German operatives conduct Operation Himmler, 21 false flag attacks along the Polish border, to justify the next day’s invasion. 1925—After an 11-year occupation, U.S. Marines depart from Haiti leaving a dictatorship behind. 1921—President Harding orders a cease-fire in the W.Va. Mine War under threat of Federal intervention. 1919—The American Communist Party is formed in Chicago. 1895—Julius A. Wyland founds <i>An Appeal to Reason</i>, an independent socialist weekly. Its peak circulation, in 1910, is over half a million. 1869—In Ireland, Mary (King) Ward is thrown from a steam-powered automobile and run over: she’s the first person to be killed by a car. 1803—Lewis and Clark go west.	2019—Meteorologist-in-Chief Donald J. Trump tweets that Hurricane Dorian will hit Alabama hard. 2005—New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin calls for George W.[MD] Bush and FEMA to “get off your asses and do something” about his flooded city. 1989—Narcs trying to score crack near the White House for a George H.[H.]W. Bush presidential photo-op get the drug on their third try but not the film—their camera operator gets mugged by a homeless person. 1989—Bible-thumping huckster Jim Bakker’s fraud trial is briefly interrupted when, professing that he’s hallucinating, he’s taken to a mental institution in handcuffs and leg shackles. 1983—The USSR shoots down KAL Flight 007. Among the victims: John Birch Society President and Congressman Larry McDonald (R-Ga.). 1982—The U.S. Air Force Space Command becomes operational. 1970—“This [Senate] chamber reeks of blood,” says George McGovern. 1952—A freak wind hits Carswell AFB in Texas knocking two-thirds of SAC’s B-29s out of commission. 1894—Thomas P. “Boston” Corbett, the self-castrating Cavalryman who shot John Wilkes Booth, dies in Hinckley, Minn. along with 800 others in a four-hour firestorm. 1862—“The Rebel bullet that can kill me has not yet been molded,” boasts General Philip Kearney. Some Rebel worked fast: he’s KIA this day.	1983—Mississippi’s execution of Jimmy Lee Gray goes poorly; executioner T. Berry Bruce is drunk. Officials clear the witness room after eight minutes, as Gray gasps, moans, and bangs his head on a steel pole. 1945—VJ Day—Japan surrenders to General “Dugout Doug” MacArthur aboard a battleship named after Harry S Truman’s home state. 1945—Cribbing freely from the U.S. Declaration of Independence, Ho Chi Minh declares Vietnam to be sovereign and independent. 1939—G-Man J. Edgar Hoover creates a “Custodial Detention Index,” a list of left wingers to detain without trial in case of “national emergency.” 1935—Recently rousted from Washington, D.C. by General Douglas MacArthur, 259 veterans working on the Overseas Highway are among those killed by the Labor Day Hurricane when it hits the Florida Keys. 1921—Two battalions of U.S. troops finally convince miners on Blair Mtn., W.Va. to begin disarming. 1898—At Omdurman, British Maxims firing Dum-Dums kill 15,000 spear-wielding Sudanese in one day. 1885—White railroad workers rioting in Rock Springs, Wyo. massacre 28 Chinese railroad workers. 1864—One day after Confederate troops bug out, Union forces enter and occupy Atlanta, Georgia. 1666—The Great Fire of London begins; 10,000 buildings in three days.	2003—Because life is sacred, Florida poisons Paul Hill, who shotgunned Dr. John Britton and his bodyguard because life is sacred. Rinse & repeat. 1991—Locked doors, dead phones, and a lack of fire alarms kill 25 workers in a North Carolina chicken plant. 1971—As Richard Nixon speaks at a Milk Producers’ convention in Chicago, an aide pockets his fee: a \$5,000 bribe, which will pay the Plumbers who are, this day, breaking into the office of Daniel Ellsberg’s psychiatrist—at Nixon’s behest. 1955—Mamie Till Mobley holds an open-casket funeral for her murdered and mutilated son Emmett. 1950—American advisors arrive in Saigon to support NATO: France wants Vietnam, so the U.S. helps it fight Vietnamese anti-colonialists. 1948—Duval County officials “find” 200 votes, making LBJ a Senator. 1925—On a PR tour of the Midwest, ordered by Navy brass over the objections of its Commander, an Ohio native who knows its summer storms, the airship <i>U.S.S. Shenandoah</i> crashes in Ohio in a summer storm; 14 die. 1923—Milo, Maine holds a Centennial Parade. Marchers include 75 Klansmen in full, hooded regalia. 1903—Griffith J. Griffith, the closeted drunk who gave Los Angeles Griffith Park in 1896, shoots his kneeling wife for conspiring with the Pope to poison him. She loses an eye but lives, he gets two years in San Quentin.
12:30 12:56	1:04 1:28	1:40 2:02	2:18 2:39	3:01 3:21	3:48 4:08	4:42 5:03
6:43 6:50	7:15 7:27	7:49 8:07	8:26 8:50	9:06 9:37	9:52 10:30	10:43 11:29
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

2019—Proving that his Hurricane Dorian prediction was perfect, Donald J. Trump displays a fake map.

1992—Ex-South Vietnamese fighter pilot Ly Tong hijacks an Air Vietnam Airbus out of Bangkok. As it flies low and slow over Ho Chi Minh City, he drops revolutionary propaganda, then safely parachutes—but into captivity.

1976—George W.[MD] Bush is arrested for DUI in Kennebunk, Maine.

1973—R. Nixon’s flunkies John Ehrlichman and G. Gordon Liddy are indicted for felonious burglary.

1967—“I just had the greatest brainwashing . . . [in] Vietnam,” says Gov. George Romney (R-Mich.).

1957—Ford’s Edsel debuts.

1957—Gov. Orval Faubus [Dem.] orders the Alabama National Guard to keep nine Black children from entering Little Rock Central High school.

1949—In Peekskill, N.Y., after a Paul Robeson concert, a mob, including cops, beats the audience, including Eugene Bullard, a Black WWI flier.

1942—*The Washington Post* reports that an anti-aircraft gunner has accidentally hit the Lincoln Memorial with three .50 caliber rounds.

1918—U.S. troops land at Archangel, Russia, to “protect American interests.”

1886—Apache chief Geronimo surrenders at Arizona’s Skeleton Canyon.

1875—Whites in Clinton, Miss. slaughter 50 Blacks at random.

1833—*The* [N.Y.] *Sun* hires Barney Flaherty, 10, America’s first newsboy.

2005—Barbara Bush says Hurricane Katrina was “working very well” for thousands of homeless refugees.

2002—Portsmouth loses Jay Smith, creator of the Press Room, Patron Saint of The Music Hall, &c. RIP.

1991—The D.C. home of Sen. Jesse Helms [R-N.C.] is covered by a giant condom, courtesy of ACT UP.

1990—L.A. Police Chief Darryl Gates tell the Senate Judiciary Committee that “casual drug users should be taken out and shot.”

1934—N.C. Gov. John Ehringhaus [Dem.] calls out the National Guard to break a textile strike. Other states follow with pro-plutocracy actions.

1931—Consolidated Edison worker George Metesky is injured on the job. Denied Workmen’s Compensation, “The Mad Bomber” plants 32 bombs over 16 years before he’s caught.

1930—Carl Panzram to Leavenworth’s hangman: “Hurry it up you Hoosier bastard. I could hang a dozen men while you’re screwing around.”

1925—Colonel Billy Mitchell blames the recent crash of the *Shenandoah* on the “almost treasonable negligence” of the Navy & War Dept.’s top brass.

1917—The Justice [Hah!] Department raids Socialist Party and IWW offices nationwide and shuts down the newspaper *American Socialist*.

1905—The Treaty of Portsmouth ends the Russo-Japanese War.

1877—Crazy Horse, while in U.S. Army custody, is fatally bayoneted.

2010—Alabama prison officials ban the reading of a Pulitzer-winning history of Black forced labor.

2006—Entering her Portland, Ore. home, Susan Kuhnhausen is attacked by a man with a hammer. She chokes Ed Haffney—custodian at her husband’s porn shop—to death. Her husband is convicted and dies in prison.

2002—George W.[MD] Bush Chief of Staff Andy Card says, “From a marketing point of view, you don’t introduce new products [i.e., wars based on false premises] in August.”

1978—The U.S. House opens hearings on the assassinations of JFK & MLK. On Dec. 30th they conclude that conspiracies were likely.

1964—Thousands of white kids riot in Hampton Beach, N.H., causing extensive property damage. Bill Loeb’s *Union Leader* blames it on the pinks.

1949—World War II vet and devout churchgoer Howard Unruh kills 13 of his N.J. neighbors in 12 minutes.

1939—FDR OKs FBI investigation of “subversive activity.” Oops. . .

1901—Pres. Wm. McKinley is assassinated by anarchist Leon Czolgosz.

1872—Rather than pay his deputy a \$10 fee, Erie County Sheriff and future 22nd and 24th President Grover “Big Steve” Cleveland hangs mother-murderer Patrick Morrissey.

1835—Esther Sumner, 21, weds Revolution vet Noah Damon, 75, in Vermont. She collects his pension from 1853 until her death in 1906.

2003—Warren Zevon sleeps.

2000—[“When I am President, we] will not have our veterans standing in line waiting for benefits that they’ve been promised,” George W.[MD] Bush falsely asserts.

1996—Two women walk into the Norfolk (Va.) Naval Base with a banner reading “Love Your Enemies.” They’re promptly arrested.

1988—“Today is Pearl Harbor Day,” says George H.[H.]W. Bush.

1974—R. Nixon, irate that G. Ford is demanding a show of contrition, issues a threat: if Ford doesn’t pardon him, he’ll accuse Ford of promising a pardon in exchange for the Presidency.

1970—“Plant one, plant two [Secret Service agents] on [Ted Kennedy],” Richard Nixon says to aides. “We might just get lucky and catch this son-of-a-bitch—ruin him for ’76. It’s going to be fun.”

1964—Lyndon Johnson’s infamous “Daisy Ad,” airs, once.

1914—French generals send 6,000 infantrymen from Paris to the Battle of the Marne in taxicabs. They hold the line and save the city.

1737—Thomas Penn’s “Walking Purchase” swindles the Lenni Lenape out of an area the size of Rhode Island.

1676—Major Richard Waldron invites 400 natives to a mock battle with his militia. Once the natives have discharged their guns they’re taken prisoner, sent to Boston, and executed or sold into slavery.

2018—Secretary of the Army Mark Esper posts an anti-suicide message on Facebook. It features a photo of Army SSGT. Robert Bales, then doing life for murdering 16 Afghan civilians.

2002—*The NY Times* publishes lies about tubes based on a White House leak; the White House cites that story as proof Iraq plans to build nukes.

1988—Dan Quayle says, “Republicans understand the importance of bondage between parent and child.”

1978—The Shah uses U.S.-made weapons to crush Tehran riots; 89 die. In six months the Ayatollah is boss.

1974—Ford pardons Nixon [see 9/7].

1972—As the Federal Price Commission OKs a previously-denied price hike for MacDonalds’ quarter-pounders, the Nixon re-election campaign gets a \$200,000 contribution from MacDonalds’ owner, Ray A. Kroc.

1964—Concord, N.H.-born “Rebel Girl” Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is given a state funeral at the Kremlin.

1935—One bullet kills Sen. Huey P. Long [D-La.]. Carl Weiss is shot 60 times by Long’s bodyguards—one of whom might have actually shot Long.

1934—In a nor’easter off New Jersey, its captain dead of a heart attack, the *Morro Castle* catches fire. The blazing hulk runs aground with 137 passengers and crew dead.

1923—Poor navigation leads a squadron of 14 new Navy destroyers astray off the California coast. Seven ships run aground and 23 sailors are killed.

2013—Two out of of three lanes to the George Washington Bridge are closed without warning in Fort Lee, N.J., delaying commuters and emergency personnel.

2009—As President Obama addresses Congress, Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) yells at him, “You lie.”

2008—Lehman Bros., the nation’s fourth largest investment bank, loses 45 percent of its value.

2005—“You know,” says Glenn Beck, “it took me about a year to start hating the 9/11 victims families. . . . When I see a 9/11 victim family on television. . . I’m just, like ‘Oh, shut up.’”

1999—Louis T. “Moondog” Hardin, American composer, street musician, and blind, Viking-helmet-wearing eccentric, dies at 83 in Germany.

1988—Dan Quayle, who got into law school via an “equal opportunity” program for disadvantaged minorities, says the process was “fair and square.”

1971—Rioting prisoners take nine guards hostage at the Attica Correctional Facility near Buffalo, N.Y.

1949—Canadian Albert Guay becomes the first person to destroy an airliner with a bomb. His recently-injured wife was on board, he was not. He’s hanged 16 months later.

1919—Boston cops go out on strike.

1739—In South Carolina, 20 enslaved Black people kill two storekeepers, steal guns and powder, recruit allies, kill about 20 whites, and march towards Florida.

2008—Lehman Brothers execs say the firm has all the capital it needs, five days before it declares bankruptcy.

2001—Donald Rumsfeld admits the Defense Department can’t account for about \$2.3 trillion dollars. One day later, no one remembers—or cares.

1980—“Approximately eighty percent of our air pollution stems from hydrocarbons released by vegetation,” says GOP candidate Ronald Reagan.

1977—One-legged Tunisian pimp Hamida Djandoubi is the last man to die by a French guillotine.

1969—The AEC fires off a nuke beneath Grand Valley, Colo., to “liberate large quantities of gas.” It worked, but no one wanted radioactive natural gas.

1945—In Fruita, Colo., Lloyd Wilson chops the head off “Mike,” a young rooster which then goes on to enjoy an 18-month career as “The Headless Wonder Chicken.”

1939—B&M Railroad Engineer John Beattie and Fireman Charles Towle are killed when the Old Piscataqua Bridge, damaged during construction of the Mildred Long Bridge, dumps their locomotive into the river.

1939—*HMS Oxley* becomes the first British sub sunk in WWII. It was torpedoed by the sub *HMS Triton*.

1897—A posse massacres 19 strikers and wounds 36 at a Latimer, Pa. coal mine; most are shot in the back.

1739—South Carolina militiamen overpower and kill the participants of the Stono Rebellion.

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