



The Rhode Island Diogenes

Your Weekly Source For Satirical Political Commentary

*OFFENDING RHODE ISLANDERS
ONE READER AT A TIME*

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FORECASTERS PREDICT NUCLEAR WINTER

Providence – While the General Assembly has taken the position that Rhode Island's economy was merely suffering the effects of global warming and El Nino, the Governor's Budgeting Office has long been issuing a warning that the budgetary future was extremely grim.

"We weren't crying wolf on this one. Sure, we haven't given up on blaming El Nino for all our economic woes, it is just that this El Nino is just the tip of the iceberg. El Nino is merely what happens when you create policy that attracts illegal aliens. Our troubles are far more reaching these days" said a spokesperson for the Governor.

Budget revenue predictions indicate a sharp decline in the economic well being of Rhode Island.

"Little Stevie and his friends can say what they want, but the reality is that we are facing a nuclear winter. There is little sunshine and there is a hell of a lot of fallout coming."

"Sure things look dark, but this is Rhode Island and budgetary predictions are rarely correct. Our best lobbyists are telling us not to worry and act out of panic. We can survive if we only have the guts to borrow our way out of debt and simultaneously raise taxes" said one member of the House Finance Committee.

The Lieutenant Governor, serving in her advisory role on the Emergency Management Commission, noted that Rhode Island is poised to face the disaster head on. "We have finally gotten the signage in place to instruct each and every Rhode Islander on evacuation routes. Now everyone knows how to get onto Route 95 to get themselves out of this state before the upcoming disaster."

RAMPAGE BLAMED ON FLASHBACK

Providence – A recent killing spree had authorities perplexed, but it has since been discovered that the shooter, Tony Pepperoni, was a World War II veteran who suffered a flashback while reading a local supermarket flyer.

The flyer with its advertisement of Spam triggered something in the man. Veterans' authorities are now investigating the link between the man's service record and the use of Spam in mess kits during the Second World War.

Spam, a ration staple due to its indestructibility, has been considered as a possible link to several flashback incidents.

"Think of it. You are walking in the supermarket and you see a wall of Spam. You return to the Battle of the Bulge and suddenly you can't control your actions" said one psychiatrist explaining the basis of what has become known as CMS or Canned Meat Syndrome.

"We are seeing more and more of this now that veterans are getting older. For years these men returned to the States, got married and had their wives do the shopping. Now that more and more of them have been widowed, they are now forced to frequent grocery stores, and with pensions the way they are today, they are more and more likely to be forced to face up to their past Spam-induced selves".

The link is just one of many. In the fifties there were several cases of returning troops demanding Spam. These were the original casualties. Most of them became Spamaholics and suffered the tragic effects of eating too much meat-like stuff.

NEW FERRY SERVICE PROPOSED

Warren River – Local authorities announced today that they will be taking bids to provide local ferry service from Warren to Barrington.

"It looks like it will be another twenty years before the Warren to Barrington bridge will be finished and so we decided that it would be in the best interests of everyone to provide a ferry service to the area" said a spokesperson for the Department of Transportation.

There will be no reservations for car service across the span. The idea is to lodge a ferry between the points of Warren and Barrington and then put cars on and off without having to move the ferry itself.

"It's ingenious. Someone should have thought of this ten years ago" said State Representative Jan P. Malik (Warren/Barrington).

The ferry service will be at no cost to the drivers.

Once the ferry is in place, the temporary bridge will become obsolete a mere five years after its intended longevity.

"Sure, it has taken longer to build the permanent Warren-Barrington bridge than it took to build the Golden Gate bridge, but considering the difficulties presented by the wild currents in the Warren River coupled with the extreme winds that frequently befall that area, it's a wonder that any work can get done. This is truly a marvel of construction – a wonder of the world" said the project manager.

"Also, you must consider the safety factor. Several workers have lost their lives building the Golden Gate. We are determined not to have that happen here".

THE AMAZING RACE

Indianapolis - While contestant John McCain was waiting for the others at the local hotel, both Hillary and Barak were spending hours trying to figure out the clue as to where the next journey point.

"The messages are so cryptic. I don't know whether I'm ahead or behind at this point. I only know that I must continue" said an exhausted Obama.

"We have been travelling for months now. I thought I would be doing better than this, but it is a fight to the finish. I want that last spot" said Hillary.

The contestants in the race face several difficulties in a drive to get to the prize. They face seemingly insurmountable challenges as they progress from checkpoint to checkpoint, hoping to best the others in the field.

Along the way they are presented with seemingly simple yet inane situations whereby they are tested by the public.

The challenge also includes being followed constantly by a television crew which documents most of the stupidity being performed by these contestants in order to get to the end of the race.

This race has the candidates paired with their spouses, who also hit the road in an attempt to aid in the process.

The amazing race culminates in a test in November, but the outcome will not be known until the Supreme Court issues its decision. The winner will receive an all-expense trip to Washington D.C. where he or she will enjoy the perks of being the leader of the free world.

Auditions for the next round of 'the race' is already taking place and a contract is in place to renew the show every four years *ad infinitum*.

What Do You Think?

Elections, gambling, The Kentucky Derby, all seem to indicate that we are a society bent on 'winning'. What do you think?

To the losers go the spoiled.
RM - North Providence

It's not whether you win or lose, it's those illegal aliens.
JD - East Greenwich

In gambling, you can't win if you don't play Senator.
TW - Newport

Losing isn't everything. It's the only thing.
RH - Barrington

Hell, if the Sox sweep I get a new bedroom set, sofa, and a bean bag. Legalized gambling on furniture is great.
SM - Woonsocket

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TRAGEDY STRIKES

Charelestown - It was a beautiful day for a circus, but it suddenly grew tragic. As hundreds looked on, a mini-car driven by a circus clown sped along the parameter of the second ring only to lose control and careen into the dressing rooms of several of the performers.

Injured were the Lobster Man, The Rat that Ate Paris, and the Rubber Lady.

The injured were treated at South County Hospital and released, two having suffered from abrasions and one having a broken pincer that required an elastic band.

Circus inspectors, currently assigned to the General Assembly during its sessions, were unavailable for comment.

Local officials did not issue any citations, describing the incident as a "freak accident".

ASK LIZ - Advice on Anything

Dear Liz:

A recent survey of the shareholders of my corporation has indicated that many of them think that my job should be eliminated.

I think much of it has to do with a campaign of disinformation orchestrated by someone who was vying for the job but lost.

While I admit that I have bungled several opportunities to present my role as a viable position in the company, I still don't think it is right to eliminate my office.

Joan - Exeter

Dear Joan:

I assume that you, like myself, have a contract. I would live out the remaining years while keeping an eye out for advancement.

Use your position wisely. Get various special interest groups to support you. Give speeches at rallies. Oppose your boss just for the sake of opposition, after all, that's why you're there.

THE HALLMARK

Charlie Hall



WHO NEEDS A BRIDGE?