



Rockland Buzz

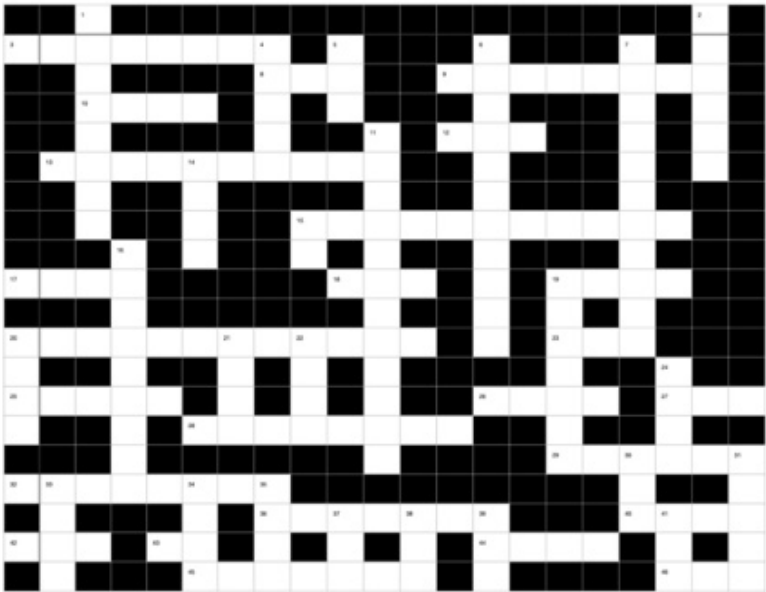
Rocklacentric Pluralism

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The Old School
Fellowship Education

The Buzz Words on Main Street
By Maggie Hirshland



Across

- 3. A tavern not to be mistaken with a Carolina beach town
- 8. Filler of The Strand?
- 9. Clan shared by Scotland and Rockland?
- 10. Pottery oven
- 12. Palindrome found on Main Street
- 13. How you might answer the phone, or where you might go to buy a book on Main Street?
- 15. Insect found on Main Street?
- 17. To ____ their own
- 18. You often learn them in Pre-K, or where you may stop for a pastry on Main Street?
- 19. Frogs and February 29th both do this
- 20. Pocket sized navigation tool on Main Street?
- 23. Sounds angry fans and ghosts make
- 25. Animal resembling a crossword
- 26. Palindromic Pizza chain not found on Main Street
- 27. A month that brings flowers?
- 28. Nickname for Cleveland, maybe, or where you might go for coffee on Main Street?
- 29. Hubbub, or where you will soon be able to go for donuts on Main Street
- 32. Antonym for bad seabird, or where you might go to pick up fresh produce on Main Street?
- 36. Portland neighborhood with a Promenade
- 40. Rhyming with 42 across and 41 down, days of ____
- 42. Homophone for 41 down
- 43. 9 point scrabble word
- 44. ____ of March
- 45. Main Street home for a Seagull?
- 46. Animal that moved from St. Louis to LA in 2016?

Down

- 1. Rockland teen travelers?
- 2. America runs on it
- 4. Lake in California and Nevada
- 5. He gets rings in February, often
- 6. If these hills had eyes, they would have a nice view of Penobscot Bay
- 7. Group of islands on Main Street?
- 11. Where your dog might stop for a treat on Main Street?
- 14. Common crossword cookie
- 15. Command telling you to start in Monopoly
- 16. Not to be confused with the New York City indie bookstore
- 19. Trap Tree Topper
- 20. Sounds heard in a hive, or what you’re looking at right now
- 21. Norway’s capital
- 22. Mt. Megunticook is the tallest ____ in 6 down
- 24. An adverb that can run (but you don’t want it to)
- 30. Shy
- 31. Sail, Power, and ____
- 33. Vegetable often served fried at Mardi Gras
- 34. Word used to describe something cool, or a long poem
- 35. Main Street home for a Puffin?
- 37. Body of water for Hemingway’s “Old Man”
- 38. Palindromic before, in old times
- 39. God, en España
- 41. You need two to row

An uncivil society

by Glen Birbeck

I've traveled the world at times in my life. Immersing myself in new cultures. Experiencing my native culture by contrast with the one I'm immersed in. Takes years to slough off the cultural conditioning to the extent we ever can. So I stay years in one place. I also travel in time. We all do. Time travel is similar in that it exchanges one culture for another. You could stay in one place and travel in time. Most folks do that. You can tell you've crossed the border when the young speak a slightly different language. In times new country the young start their sentences saying "So". Being on the road of time for 76 years I have seen the scenes. The language, slang, words re-made, trends become "mems". Civil rights becomes human rights and morphs into BLM. In my house some mornings have a song. The coffee perks, the computer boots, and I have a song playing in my head. I find it on the computer and crank up the volume. One day last week the song was Marvion Gaye's "Whats going on". An atmospheric motown ballad with the stamp of its time, 1970. Protest demanding racial equality and getting brutal response. War as a national sport and litmus for patriotism. Things don't change much. Only seem to. As with life, genes are reused in different but familiar ways. War still isn't the answer but love hasn't conquered hate. The battles are not around Que Son and Kent state. They're inside the capitol in DC and in Syria. The song lyric, "talk to me, so you can see, what's going on, What's going on? I'll tell you what's going on. It's a lament. Another song that never ends. In these terms the virus is an uptick, a big deal but not much different than the wars. The chief difference is that now WE are suffering. Not just foreigners...no, now it's THEIR fault. Chinese Communism replaced with Chinese Viruses. So what is going on? Business as usual and the usual results...up to a point. What is new is population growth and technology. The result of business as usual will soon show a qualitative difference in result. The population of the world has doubled since that song was on Billboard's top twenty. The number of players in the nuclear weapons game has at least doubled. The means of delivery of these massive killing machines has also advanced. So (see I'm doing it too!) So, the result of what's going on puts the flame ever nearer to the fuse. There is not even the pretense of understanding the need to put the breaks on. No comprehension of "what's going on" before our eyes. Oh, we'll muddle thru, we always have! No, WE never have, WE are not the people we were. This time, 2021, is a different place where things happen for local reasons not due to precedent or habit. We must, for survival, become civil, civilized, citizens of a community. The virus is getting our attention but the recent riot in DC is a symptom of an infection much worse. It's an illness with the potential to kill far more of us than Corona. It spreads virally thru the pathways for lies and the exploitation of divisiveness for profit. The masks and social distancing it responds to are compassion, understanding, humility, dialog and compromise. Being civil to one another. Ya, you can hear people saying...."you can't make me wear that mask". Arguments for the greater good through our being civil don't seem to engage any more than advice to wear PPE does. When people die, when horned idiots walk the halls of the congress, we step back...but not enough. When things quiet down we return to the risky behavior, the nasty rhetoric, the proud refusal to compromise. The death rate rises and again we step back. The danse macabre. A waltz to the cliff edge. So, what is going on? You tell me. Not my problem anymore. I can hear the maid in the hall pushing her cleaning cart. For me It's almost check out time.



A conversation on accessory dwellings

The topic of whether the City should focus on broadening the definition of accessory dwelling units in town continues and will be discussed next Wednesday afternoon from 5 to 6 PM on the Rockland Metro program broadcast live over Maine Coast TV channel 7 and on WRFR-FM 93.3. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, our discussions are carried on remotely over the zoom platform. We have invited various members of the community to join in on our conversation both for and against and we hope you will allow your voice to be heard as well. WRFR will send you a link to our zoom meeting if you request.

On February 8th the Rockland City council voted unanimously to approve a preliminary version including several amendments and scheduled a public hearing and possible final vote on the matter at a meeting on March 8th.

Opposition to the proposal seems to center on concern over stormwater runoff affecting adjoining properties, sidewalks, and streets. No matter what your feelings are on the topic of accessory dwelling I hope you will join in on our conversation next Wednesday, Feb 24th from 5 to 6 on WRFR-FM. I will be your host.

Steve Carroll



Ask the Ages

Tues 9-11 p.m.

Hosted by Aaron Britt and Josh Builder.
Jazz, ambient, new age, krautrock, contemporary classical and even the furthest reaches of Dylan—Ask the Ages is the Midcoast's home for far-out music. Join Josh and Aaron for two hours of cosmic sounds
On WRFR: 93.3 & 99.3 fm, & wrfr.org



Feezable Tracks

Thursdays 11 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Born out of my love for radio and music along with bringing my vinyl records and turntable to Maine on summer holidays. This concept became a glorious opportunity to preserve the era of college radio and mixtapes by creating this show. Thanks very much for listening.

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Sponsoring your local all-volunteer radio station is community service, public relations, and advertising - all for just \$360 a year. We will record a 20-second announcement describing your business or organization and letting our listeners know how to find you. Your message will play at least once a day, every day of the year.

To learn more, email Amie Daniels and Ryan McGlashing: sponsorwrfr@gmail.com.



The Vinyl Hour

Sunday 8-10 p.m.
Thursday 2-4 p.m.

The program showcases a variety of musical genres including the Blues, Jazz, Rock and Pop, Country, the Big Band era and more. Kyle plays only vinyl records from his extensive collection, broadcasting live. With turntables spinning, he travels back in time, “letting the tone arm gently ride the groove.”



WEEK FORTY-NINE

COVID-19 RANDOM NOTES WHILE SHELTERING IN PLACE

by Phyllis Merriam

A brilliant blue cold February day is a reminder of the seasons we treasure in our mid-coast. A neighbor’s eave secures a five-foot icicle that glistens like a Star Wars Light Saber. (Later in the day I noticed it had crashed to the ground, split in pieces.)

I just read about a new word: coronaphobia, i.e. fear of the covid virus. If someone has the sniffles or a cough, they immediately worry its Covid-19. I have had some of that health anxiety and think I’m not alone in this worry.

February is the mid-winter month where dirty snow banks slump in embarrassment and a popular topic is “surviving cabin fever.” I prefer the optimist’s view; we’re halfway through winter and there’s a lot to do and amuse.

4 degrees outside; ocean is 40 degrees. It’ll be warmer to take a dip, as long as you stay submerged, jump out then wrap in warm quilts and run like heck back inside.

No surprise that Trump was acquitted. Mitch twisted himself into conflicting opinions: guilty but acquitted. Sen. Susan Collins came through, along with six GOP colleagues. My 5-cent prediction: Trump’s mounting legal problems will render him legally inchoate for any future political campaigns. People are tired of the noise.

Foiled the seagulls this a.m. with early morning crow breakfast of chicken wings. Crows use their feet to hold down the bones as they pick the meat. Then they fly away with the bones. What do they do with the bare bones? Crack them open?

My fascination with, but no real knowledge about, a bird was satisfied with a new Netflix film, “Penguin Bloom” based on the true story of an Australian family and a Magpie. It’s a good mid-winter interlude.

I go around our house checking out the need for some spackling here and there, some paint touch-ups here and there. I have the time but lack the motivation.

Its almost one year now of sheltering-in-place. I don’t think I’m the person I used to be before the virus pandemic. But no one is the same person year-to-year anyway. At my age, one year can make all the difference in the passage of time. I do feel tired from time to time and would like to think that will lift when the virus is subdued. Maybe that’s merely self-deception. Sometimes I feel indifferent toward the virus. Other times, usually at night, I suddenly am overwhelmed with frightening what-ifs. But, so far, I haven’t had any sleep difficulties. Maybe sleep is a welcome unconscious escape from the invisible virus. If any of us had known how long our worlds would be so constricted, we likely would have rebelled in far worse ways than refusing to wear masks and get vaccinated. How much longer will this last? As the poet, William Butler Yeats wrote, “Things fall apart; the center cannot hold.”

Meat & Potatoes

Saturday 8-9 am on WRFR

This show is about the basics of what, who and where’s even the occasional why. But what does that mean? Topics to be discussed can be anything; how about some practical tips on modern etiquette? Ecology? When to clear your yard in the spring for optimum overwintering creature survival. How about a better understanding of the mysteries of property appraisal?

This is educational with a bit of humor, so we can all have a better understanding of the world around us via the little things. I came up with this idea because for me the day to day practicalities just weren’t there. We need to know more about the world around us with out headlines and sound bites or a sales pitch. I will not pretend to be an expert or have a degree in the topic but I do promise to have done my homework. The format is not fully developed now, it will be a work in progress, there will be some music mixed in, a random thoughts section and a central topic to start.

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