

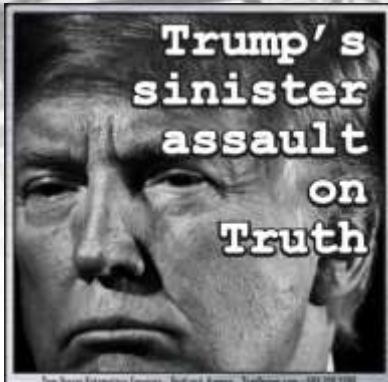
"Your Car Matters"

Tom Dwyer Automotive Services Monthly Newsletter for June, 2019



We don't sell stuff you don't need

Here's what we do to make sure it NEVER happens



Trump's Sinister Assault on the Truth

A Republican policy wonk sums it up perfectly



Sellwood MEANS Summer!

Here are some of summer's biggest events in our neighborhood



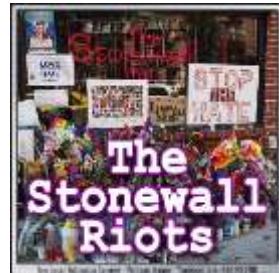
Japanese Concentration Camp pix of Dorothea Lange



Pledge drives are agonizing, but the inside story is amazing



43%



Another shot heard round the world

Our Monthly Columns

Tom's Tidbits- We've waited forever for Mueller. Good. Very good.

What NOW?!! Toons Tucker's Toon for June

Drew's Kitchen- Salmon and Lettuce Toss

Shop Talk- Carwash Coupon Season is back!

Health Notes- How Your Looks Shape Your Personality

Book Spotlight- "The Folly of Fools" by Robert Trivers

Humorousness- The joy of the artful insult

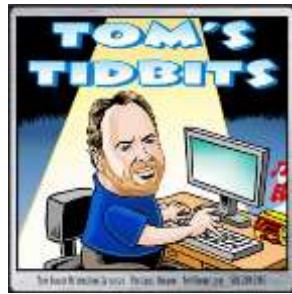
News To Make You Furious- "Somali pirates gave me toothpaste and soap"

Tom's Tidbits

We've waited forever for Mueller. Good. Very good.

Greetings,

We've waited a long time to read Mueller's Report and to hear from The Man himself, and Wednesday's subpoena means the wait is almost over. It's been a painful time for those of us who want the stain laundered from the Oval Office and the pain is far from over. But Mueller's grim and silent resolve have been more than a pointless frustration, they have been and remain a last hope for a crumbling American system. In Trumpworld unspoken norms are for losers, laws are either obeyed for convenience or used as bludgeons, and even basic standards of humanity are teetering. But the power of a single individual's reputation still has value as it always has, and it may even be enough to save us now....



Humans have an almost cellular revulsion to lying because as a social species our survival depends on the trustworthiness of our tribe. And while of course everyone lies sometimes, not everyone is a "liar". "Liar" means more than just lying, or even lying often, but lying often about Things That Matter. People see a difference between lying to a spouse about a bad haircut and lying to them about massive ongoing drug use. We're not judged as much on *how many* lies we tell but for *which* lies we tell, about *what*, and most importantly, *why*. We don't build our own reputations; our tribe does it for us. We may *want* to be seen as honest (or hardworking, or generous, or whatever) and may even *try* to be seen that way, but our reputation is made of others' evaluations of us over a long period of time.

Robert Mueller earned his reputation for integrity and level-headedness among those he served, those he served with, and those who served under him, from across the political spectrum for over 50 years. It's one of the primary reasons he was appointed as Special Counsel. Trump partisans were sure to attack any inquiry at all, so it was absolutely essential that any investigation not only *be* thorough and non-partisan, but also *look* thorough and non-partisan. Mueller's reputation for integrity and loyal service in both Republican and Democratic administrations would be critical for both the reality and image of fairness.

That foresight was tested every day since Mueller's appointment. Few if any argue the content of Mueller, and then it's only a token argument. The onslaught has focused on the presumed bias of the investigation and the investigators, a bias so far only supported by slander and innuendo. "Witch Hunt" and "Angry Democrats" are just the tip of the iceberg. Listen to Trump talk about the "lovers" Strock and Page, turning basic human emotion into something salacious and evil with only the power of slander. Cringe as Hannity screeches about the DNC roots of the Steele Dossier while ignoring the RNC seed it actually sprouted from. Thrill as FAUX News wonder why no one takes the President at his word and why The Media isn't telling us about his glorious achievements... which they themselves seem at a loss to find. No, the Trumpets know they can't argue the facts OR the law... they're left with only the mud.

That's why all Mueller's methodical quiet is worth the frustration. If, during the investigation, he had given the Reps ANY indication of impropriety it's all we'd be hearing about now. A slip at a press conference or a bungle on a Sunday Show could have derailed the entire thing. Even after the report was out, rebuking the lies of Barr could have given the appearance (but not the reality) of partiality so Mueller was painfully silent. He could have immediately complied when Congress asked him to testify but that could (and would) have been twisted into eagerness to help the Dems. Instead, he waited for a subpoena, defanging that argument as well.

Though Mueller's "report is his testimony", in three weeks the man himself will matter quite a bit as well. He'll lay out the facts again but most of us still won't read the report itself, and America's been inoculated against the facts with a toxin of groundless doubt. We'll still be left to believe either Robert Mueller or the actual President of the United States. And that's why Mueller is about to shine. On one hand we'll have a man with a demonstrated track record of courage, selflessness, service, integrity, and honesty... a man whose *reputation* says he doesn't lie much, and not about the important things. On the other we'll have... well, technically a man, but with a demonstrated track record of cowardice, selfishness, predation, corruption, and deceit... a man whose *reputation* says he lies indiscriminately on everything from petty personal embarrassments to issues of life and death.

Most post-Mueller-report Americans minds are made up one way or the other, and for the group that's sure Trump's guilty Mueller is unlikely to give them reason to doubt. But there is a narrow swath that's still undecided, and an even narrower swath that's sure Trump is not guilty but could change their mind. In July, two men will try to convince America about the complicated truth of a complicated situation and will have to rely on the power of their lifetimes' reputation to do it. We'll all watch, all compare and contrast... and all decide.

Make a great day,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom".

Digging Deeper...

[Mueller to testify publicly on July 17 following a subpoena](#), Jeremy Herb and Manu Raju on CNN, June 2019

[The Two Travelers: Truth and Falsehood](#), folktales of Aarne-Thompson-Uther selected and edited by D.D. Ashliman, 2008-2014

[Honesty varies significantly between countries](#), University of East Anglia, Nov 2015

[Science Has Confirmed That Honesty Really Is the Best Policy in the Workplace](#), Jon Levy in Entrepreneur, Apr 2018

[Moral Tales With Positive Outcomes Motivate Kids to Be Honest](#), Association for Psychological Science, June 2014

[Where The Truth Lies Across Cultures](#), Carol Kinsey Goman in Forbes, Aug 2013

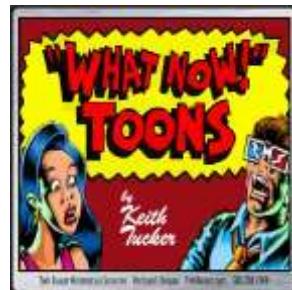
[The 27 best moral stories to read with your kids](#), by Kate Ward on Care.com, Oct 2018

[Why does society value honesty?](#) Forum on Quora

[Robert Mueller Wikipedia page \(bio\)](#)

What NOW?!! Toons

Keith Tucker's What NOW?!! Toon for June



"WHAT NOW?!!"

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www.whatnowtoons.com

We don't sell stuff you don't need

Here's what we do to make sure it NEVER happens



We leave Comment Cards in the front seat of every vehicle after service so you can tell us your thoughts while they're fresh in your mind. There's some basic yes/no questions (and we're very proud to tell you these show [98.89% On-Estimate, 98.63% On-Schedule, and 99.73% Satisfied with Service](#)) but they also have spaces for any comments you'd like to make. Tom and our Service Advisors read every card, but one popped up recently we thought we'd share with you too. Our client was happy... "great service, great people, good values", but as a new client she was "slightly anxious" that we might recommend unnecessary repairs in the future. WE know we won't, but how could SHE be reassured? We explained that she had more to go on than just our promise; that our company is structured to prevent exactly that kind of abuse. Here's the letter we wrote...

Hi,

Thanks for filling out our Comment Card after your recent service. You said, "I do have friends that formerly used your service that warned me that you recommend unnecessary repairs, so I'm slightly anxious". I'm glad there wasn't any specific repair you thought was unnecessary, but NOT recommending unnecessary repairs is one of our defining features as a shop! Integrity has been the cornerstone of Tom Dwyer Automotive for over 30 years, and the idea that we would make any unnecessary recommendations goes against everything we've built. We don't ever want you to be 'anxious' in dealing with us, so I want to explain precisely how we protect you from that kind of abuse.

One of the biggest worries people have in auto repair is being taken advantage of in an expensive and complex situation they don't understand. That's a very valid worry, because it's the actual business model of some companies! But I don't want any part of it. We will NEVER make a recommendation for anything our clients don't need, and ALL our service advice puts our clients' interests first! This isn't an empty promise or idealistic goal; I designed our company to make sure it's what happens in reality...

Tom Dwyer AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES

What's on your mind?

We rely on your feedback to know if we're providing the service you expect. Please take a moment to tell us what you think.

Was your service completed within the estimate? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> N	Were our personnel courteous and professional? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> N
Was your service completed on schedule? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> N	Was your vehicle returned as clean as you left it? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> N
Did you understand the repairs we recommended? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> N	Were you satisfied with your service experience? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> N
Was the work performed explained to you? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> N	Would you recommend our company to a friend? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> N

First Time Client? How did you learn about us?
Why do you choose our service? *Great Service, Great people, good values (polite)*

What can we do to improve?
I do have friends that formerly used your service that warned me that you recommend unnecessary repairs.... so I'm slightly anxious.

What else would you like to tell us? *Thank you!*

Good or bad, your honest opinion matters! We read every one of these cards and use the answers to improve our service for all our clients. And remember you can always talk to our Service Advisors at 503-230-2300 or reach us by email at TomDwyer@TomDwyer.com. We always want to hear from you!

Tom

- **Our pay structure discourages exactly the kind of abuses you're anxious about.** Our Service Advisors are NOT paid on commission (as they are in virtually every other shop in the industry) so they have no incentive to make inappropriate sales of any kind. Our Technicians are paid hourly (instead of Flat Rate) to encourage craftsmanship and attention to detail, and to eliminate any incentive to rush through your service.
- **We don't use the mileage-based "service menus" you'll find at most shops,** where they perform all the 'scheduled' services (needed or not) before telling you about any other (possibly more important) work that may need to be done as well. Instead, we base our recommendations on detailed inspection and evaluation of your vehicle's condition. We won't tell you what a list says it SHOULD need in an IDEAL world, we'll tell you what it actually DOES need in the REAL world.

- **Our Technicians make the service recommendations to our Service Advisors**, which is rare in the industry. Our Service Advisors prioritize and review the recommendations with you, but they're passing on our ASE-Certified Technician's professional, informed evaluation of what you need for your vehicle to be safe and reliable... not what we need for our shop's bottom line.

Our method of thorough, hands-on inspection and evaluation can find a long list of issues with almost any vehicle. This might have even given your friends the mistaken idea we 'recommend unnecessary repairs', because we definitely tell you about everything we find! But not all those issues will be equally important, we almost never recommend doing everything on a list of 'possibles', and there will almost always be services we recommend putting off. One of the most valuable things our Service Advisors do is prioritize your vehicle needs according to...

- **Safety concerns**- If an issue makes your vehicle dangerous to drive we'll 'recommend' you fix it IMMEDIATELY. We take our role in your safety very, very seriously so we'll 'push' any safety-related services very, very hard.
- **Breakdown prevention**- Some issues may be safe to drive with but are likely to leave you on the side of the road if they fail. For example, a small oil leak may not be an immediate problem at all but can grow to a major concern over time, so we'll tell you it's happening and monitor the leak on your future visits. That way, we won't have to do the repair until it's actually needed, and it won't be a surprise to your budget when it happens. We'll strongly recommend an immediate fix for anything on the brink of failure, but if it can wait then we'll tell you.
- **Maintenance needs**- Things that aren't breakdown threats can still impact the long-term reliability and value of your vehicle. Maintenance services like oil changes and fluid flushes must be done on a regular basis to be most effective, so we'll tell you when those services are needed or if they may be needed soon. Again, we won't 'push' the services unless they're necessary, but knowing they're coming up allows you flexibility in both your budget and schedule.

If you're not confident our advice is prudent then our first line of reassurance is the Service Advisors. They'll explain the 'what' and 'why' of all repairs, but if you still have concerns then make them explain again... and again and again if necessary! We believe the more clients understand the reasons behind our advice, the more confident they'll be we're recommending the right things. If you're still not sure then getting a second opinion from another shop could help and we'll even refer you to one if you'd like. We stand behind our advice because we know it can stand up to the most rigorous professional review.

For over 30 years I've told our Service Advisors to give our clients the same advice they'd give their friends and family, and for over 30 years they have. We sleep very well knowing we're delivering real value for the hard-earned money our clients spend. If we do that then clients will stay with us, they'll refer their friends, and our company will prosper. No grifting necessary! I appreciate that you tried us despite your 'anxiousness', and I'm glad you took time to tell me about it. Looking at your records I see you're still a fairly new client with us so maybe the sting of past shops is still with you, and for good reason. But I'm confident the sting will fade as you get to know us better and find **THROUGH EXPERIENCE** that we're caring for your vehicle with **YOUR** needs, not ours, in first place.

Make a great day,



Tom Dwyer
Owner and ASE Master Mechanic
Tom Dwyer Automotive Services

Trump's Assault on the Truth

A Republican policy wonk sums it up perfectly



Tom Dwyer Alternative Services - Portland, Oregon TomDwyer.com 503 330 2380

the existence and importance of objective reality, we completely agree. Wehner's recent article in *The Atlantic* did such an eloquent job examining Trump's (and his enablers') attacks on basic reality that we just had to share it...

Trump's Sinister Assault on Truth

The president appears committed to destroying the very idea of facts.

*By Peter Wehner, Contributing editor at *The Atlantic* and senior fellow at EPPC*

Like many writers I know, I've had a passion for words for almost as long as I can remember. I've admired those who use words well, who have shaped my imagination and given voice to things I wanted to express but didn't feel like I adequately could. That is why they have to be protected against assault and degradation.

At an early age I recognized their power to convey deep emotions and longings, knowledge and understanding, hopes and fears. "Words can be polluted even more dramatically and drastically than rivers and land and sea," one of my favorite writers, Malcolm Muggeridge, once wrote. "Their misuse is our undoing."

Eventually, we all come to understand that words are the means by which we teach and inspire, defend truth, and seek justice. (Those of us of the Christian faith don't consider it an accident that the first sentence in the Gospel of John is, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.") So words have extraordinary power—in our daily lives most of all, but in politics as well.

Democracy requires that we honor the culture of words. The very idea of democracy is based on the hope that fellow

What makes Donald Trump different? He's racked up a long litany of sins, some mortal and some venial, but nothing he's done is completely new in politics. One could argue that no one else has wrapped up all these sins into the same ugly bag before (and they'd be right) but still... is it ONLY a matter of degree? We think not. While it can seem Trump's attacks are random, at their base they all have the same idea... there is no reality, truth is not sometimes but ALWAYS subjective, and no matter what your eyes and ears tell you, the Truth™ comes to you exclusively from Big Brother. Don't believe us? Good. Then listen to conservative, Christian, Republican policy wonk Peter Wehner. He served three Republican presidents and is a member of a conservative think tank, so there's probably very few policy issues we'd agree with him on. But on the deeper issues like

citizens can reason together and find a system for adjudicating differences and solving problems—all of which assumes there is a shared commitment to the integrity of our public words. If you believe words can ennoble, you must also believe they can debase. If they can elevate the human spirit, they can also pull it down. And when words are weaponized by our political leaders and used to paint all opponents as inherently evil, stupid, or weak, then democracy's foundations are put in peril. Which brings us to the dismal, demoralizing Donald Trump era.

The debasement of words has reached a zenith with the coming of America's 45th president, who dominates discourse in this country in ways perhaps no other president ever has. And if we hope to repair the damage that's been done, we need to understand what it is about Trump's misuse of words that is pernicious and dangerous.

The least problematic part is the sheer banality of Donald Trump's words. During his presidency, Trump has uttered no beautiful and memorable phrases. His inaugural address, which is a speech normally meant to inspire the citizenry, is remembered, if at all, for the phrase American carnage and Trump's description of a dystopian nation, broken and shattered. More worrisome is that many of Trump's utterances are an incoherent word salad. If you read the transcript of many of his interviews and extemporaneous speeches, you often find that Trump is not only unable to lay out a coherent argument; at times he's unable to string together sentences that parse.

But that's hardly the worst of Trump's misuses of words. When it comes to dealing with those who oppose him, he consistently uses words to demean, belittle, bully, or dehumanize. He has mocked former prisoners of war, the disabled, and the appearance of women. He has perpetuated conspiracy theories. He has attacked Gold Star parents and widows. And he has engaged in racially tinged attacks. The number of his targets is inexhaustible because Trump's brutishness is inexhaustible.

Many other presidents have been viewed as divisive figures, but none have taken as much delight as Trump in provoking acrimony, malice, and bitterness for their own sake; in turning Americans against one another in order to turn them against one another. He seems to find psychic satisfaction in doing so.

The banality and weaponization of Trump's words are bad enough, but the greatest cause for concern is his nonstop, dawn-to-midnight assault on facts, truth, reality. That places Trump in a sinister category all his own.

Many politicians are guilty of not telling the full truth of events. A significant number shade the truth from time to time. A few fall into the category of consistent, outright liars. But only very few—and only the most dangerous—are committed to destroying the very idea of truth itself. That is what we have in Donald Trump, along with many of his aides and courtiers. We saw it at the dawn of the Trump presidency, when he insisted—and sent out his press secretary to insist—that the crowd size at his inauguration was larger than that of Barack Obama's, despite photographic evidence to the contrary. And that behavior has continued virtually every day since.

According to The Washington Post, Trump has made more than 10,000 false or misleading claims as president, roughly 12 a day. The Trump presidency is notable for the number and velocity of his falsehoods and misleading statements. They have been made in speeches and tweets, on matters significant and trivia, about others and about himself—and he virtually never apologizes or issues corrections. He says what he wants, when he wants, regardless of the reality of things.

In a 2018 speech to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Trump said, "And just remember: What you're seeing and what you're reading is not what's happening." In other words, who are you going to believe—me or your lyin' eyes?

"The man lies all the time," writes Thomas Wells, an attorney Trump once hired. In Bob Woodward's book *Fear*, Trump's former personal lawyer John Dowd describes the president as "a f*****" liar," telling Trump he would end

up in an "orange jump suit" if he testified to Special Counsel Robert Mueller. And the former White House aide Anthony Scaramucci, when asked whether he considers Trump a liar, admitted, "Okay, well we both know that he's telling lies. So if you want me to say he's a liar, I'm happy to say he's a liar." (In a later interview Scaramucci put it this way: "He's an intentional liar. It's very different from just being a liar-liar.")

Trump is not simply a serial liar; he is attempting to murder the very idea of truth, which is even worse. "The point of modern propaganda isn't only to misinform or push an agenda," according to the Russian dissident and former world chess champion Garry Kasparov. "It is to exhaust your critical thinking, to annihilate truth."

This is an urgent matter, and it makes this a dangerous moment because without truth and a common factual basis for our national life, a free society cannot operate. And right now, for a significant number of Americans—including many people on the right who long defended the concept of objective truth and repeatedly rang the alarm bell about the rise of relativism—truth is viewed as relative rather than objective, malleable rather than solid; as instrumental, as a means to an end, as a weapon in our intense political war. A depressingly large number of Trump supporters—again, many of whom have for years agreed with the conservative political philosopher Allan Bloom that relativism was impoverishing our souls—now seem to relish this "post-truth" political moment.

Friedrich Nietzsche coined a term, perspectivism, to describe the idea that there is no objective truth; we all get to make up our own reality, our own script, our own set of facts, and everything is conditioned to what one's own perspective is. We saw this illustrated in the 2016 campaign, when Newt Gingrich insisted during a morning-show interview on defending Trump's claim that crime rates were soaring. When the host, CNN's Alisyn Camerota, cited FBI data to support her claim that we are safer and crime is down, Gingrich responded, "No. That's your view."

When Camerota countered that this wasn't simply a subjective matter and once again cited FBI crime statistics, Gingrich responded, "As a political candidate, I'll go with how people feel, and I'll let you go with the theoreticians." In other words, facts be damned; my feelings will create my own reality. (By the way, those who assemble crime statistics are not "theoreticians." They are documenting empirical data.)

Destroy the foundation of factual truth, and lies will be normalized. This is what the Czech dissident (and later president) Václav Havel described in the late 1970s when he wrote about his fellow citizens making their own inner peace with a regime built on hypocrisy and falsehoods. They were

The book cover for "The Death of Politics" by Peter Wehner. The title is in large, serif capital letters. Below the title is a subtitle "How to Heal Our Frayed Republic After Trump". The author's name "PETER WEHNER" is at the bottom in red, with "Op-ed Contributor for the NEW YORK TIMES" in smaller text below it. A small note at the bottom left says "This article was adapted from "The Death of Politics" by Peter Wehner".

“living within the lie.” In such a situation life becomes farcical, demoralizing, a theater of the absurd. It is soul-destroying.

The United States is still quite a long way from the situation Havel found himself in. But to keep it that way—to keep civic vandalism from spreading—we all have a role to play, including calling out lies, including the lies of Trump, in every way we can.

The most obvious thing Americans can do is to vote for men and women who prize integrity and are, in the main, truth-tellers. It doesn’t seem too much to ask that we not vote for those who are chronically dishonest and corrupt. Americans can also end their financial support for parties that are aiding and abetting compulsive liars.

There are also plenty of ways constituents can exert pressure on their members of Congress to speak out and act against those who are duplicitous and disgracing the profession of politics. Congress has a lot of tools in its kit, from censure to holding hearings to blocking nominations and legislation to impeachment. But those efforts will only happen if public pressure is applied. If it is, politicians will respond. People who are a corrupting influence have been voted into office; they can be voted out of office.

The United States government needs to step up our efforts to stop the misinformation and disinformation campaigns by foreign powers who are influencing our elections, including learning from countries like Ukraine, which has experienced this and taken steps to defend itself. We know that social-media platforms such as Facebook, Google, Reddit, and Tumblr were weaponized over the past several years; they need to be held accountable and need to be fixed, including regulating these industries if they can’t correct themselves and end this wild-west show.

The American press has to redouble its effort to get its facts right and resist jumping to premature conclusion. “Our facts need to be squeaky clean and uncorrupted,” in the words of CNN’s Jake Tapper, who is an exemplary journalist.

Each of us can refuse to become complicit in lies. We can refuse to defend them, refuse to believe them, and refuse to spread them, including lies that might help our political causes. We can also venture outside of our ideological silos, listen to other sources of information, and take into account other perspectives. (Think about how often we listen not to understand but in order to refute.) All of us can do better to remind ourselves that the main point of gathering information isn’t to reaffirm the views we already hold; it’s to better ascertain the truth.

Beyond that, we can all do better to model truthfulness, temperance, decency, and integrity in our daily lives, among our family, friends, and colleagues. One person acting alone can’t change much; a lot of people acting together create a civic and political culture.

The temptation is to think that if we simply flip the right policy switches, if we implement the right laws, we will put an end to this disorienting “post-truth” era. But there is no set of policies we can pull off the shelf to deal with our present political malady. Ultimately what will be decisive is whether enough Americans commit (or recommit) themselves to defend truth and fight falsity. That has to happen in our individual lives and in how we manifest that commitment in the political realm. There’s no getting around the fact that much of what needs to be done lies in the realm of attitudes, in shaping our sensibilities in a way that respects truth and aligns with the reality of things. As Havel put it:

In its most original and broadest sense, living within the truth covers a vast territory whose outer limits are vague and difficult to map, a territory full of modest expressions of human volition, the vast majority of which will remain anonymous and whose political impact will probably never be felt or described any more concretely than simply as part of a social climate or mood. Most of these expressions remain elementary revolts against manipulation: you simply straighten your backbone and live in greater dignity as an individual.

We cannot give up on the belief that human beings are rational and reasonable, that evidence and logic matter, and that persuasion is possible. The human condition is such that things are rarely all of one and none of the other, and certainly in this case, the pendulum swings from moments of collective trust and calm reason to collective mistrust, emotivism, and rancor.

A lot of different factors—internal and external, domestic and international, economic and social— influence a nation’s political and civic culture. And we all know, deep in our bones, that political leadership and rhetoric do, too. We need to stand with women and men in public life who believe, as Abraham Lincoln did, that words can

be instruments of reason and justice, repair and reconciliation, enlightenment and truth. Who are willing to challenge not just their adversaries but their allies, not just the other political tribe but their own. And who are willing to make a compelling case for truth, deliberative democracy, and persuasion.

Ours is a remarkable republic, if we can keep it.

“In the end the Party would announce that two and two made five, and you would have to believe it. It was inevitable that they should make that claim sooner or later: the logic of their position demanded it. Not merely the validity of experience, but the very existence of external reality, was tacitly denied by their philosophy. The heresy of heresies was common sense. And what was terrifying was not that they would kill you for thinking otherwise, but that they might be right. For, after all, how do we know that two and two make four? Or that the force of gravity works? Or that the past is unchangeable? If both the past and the external world exist only in the mind, and if the mind itself is controllable what then?”

-George Orwell, “1984”

Sellwood MEANS Summer!

Here are some of summer's biggest events in our neighborhood



Got your thesaurus handy? Look up "Sellwood", and you'll see the first synonym is "summer"... Sellwood MEANS summer! Our neighborhood goes all-out with concerts, sales, festivals, and markets, so we want to tell you about some of the biggest Sellwood Summer events for 2019. There's some new events on the calendar and some important changes to some old favorites, so put on the tanning lotion and start marking your calendar NOW... from the Summer Concerts to Summerville to the Portland Picnic and more, you won't want to miss any of these happenings!

Sellwood Summer Concerts- July 8, 15, 22, 29 (Mondays in July)

For an amazing 110 years Portland Parks and Recreation has put on free concerts in parks across the city, and the July concerts in Sellwood Park have consistently been some of the biggest and best-attended. There's a **BIG CHANGE FOR THIS YEAR'S SHOWS**... say goodbye to picnics in dog poop, because they're MOVING from Sellwood Riverfront Park dog park up the hill to Sellwood Park, at the corner of SE 7th and Sellwood Blvd, right by Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. All the food, drink, and excitement you're used to will still be there (including Tom Dwyer Automotive and our Magic Buttonizer) but in a shadier, nicer setting. Oh, who's playing? We can tell you that...

- July 8- **Moody Little Sister**- New folk of the American West
- July 15- **Rae Gordon**- Female-fronted blues & soul
- July 22- **Grupo Masato**- High energy tropical/Andean Chicha
- July 29- **Miller & Sasser**- Upbeat originals & country classics

We've been proud sponsors of the Sellwood Concerts for more than 10 years and it's something we look forward to year round. If you haven't made it to one of the shows, stop cheating yourself... make it a point to join us this year!



Portland Picnic- July 13

This is only the 3rd year for the Portland Picnic but this day-long wine tasting festival is already making a splash. It's a family-friendly event with something for everyone including food, beer, live music, and activities for the kids like drawing and face painting. Look for it in the south end of Westmoreland Park, down toward the baseball fields.



Summerville- August 3

In Summerville, the businesses of Sellwood and Westmoreland entertain all ages with games, crafts, music, classes, art, demonstrations, food, drink, and one-of-a-kind sales. A free double-decker trolley will let you explore every nook and cranny at your leisure. Some businesses (like Tom Dwyer) are a little off the beaten path, so we'll be getting together at the SMILE Station on SE 13th and Tenino for our own little party... see you there!



Sundae in the Park- August 4

Sundae in the Park, an annual fundraiser for Meals on Wheels, is held in Sellwood Park on the first Sunday in August — the most unfailingly sunny weekend of the year, according to Oregon weather statistics! This fun event is sponsored by the Sellwood-Moreland Improvement League (SMILE) and features inexpensive ice cream sundaes and hot dogs, old-fashioned live entertainment, and displays featuring historic topics related to the neighborhood. There are plenty of fun activities for both children and adults. You won't want to miss this one!



Sellwood Pool- June 18-August 25

Nothing says summer like a pool, and Sellwood's pool turns 110 years old this year! According to an [Oregonian article on the pool's 100th anniversary](#), "It replaced the Jefferson Street natatorium, a 6-foot-deep wooden tub that floated in the Willamette River until the city's exploding population polluted the waterway." Also, "Men and women bathed on alternate days, shielded from public view by a 10-foot fence." Today, the Sellwood Pool is open to all M-F from 1-330p and 730-850p, and Sat and Sun from 1-5p.



Moreland Farmers Market- May 8-October 9

One of the best Farmers' Markets in the City happens in Sellwood at the corner of SE 13th and Bybee across from Wilhelm's Funeral Home. Every WEDNESDAY, May 8 thru October 9, 2p-7p.

Shop Talk

Carwash Coupon Season is back!



Comment of the Month



This month's Comment is a pretty common one. You may have even made this Comment yourself, in one form or another...

"It would be great if you could wash or vacuum my car."

This seems like a natural part of the fanatic customer service we're known for, and we'd gladly do it... if we could. Because we're so close to the river there are City restrictions for water runoff that prevent car washes, and client privacy concerns that make vacuuming a bad idea. [If you want the details we have a full article about it here.](#) So if WE can't wash or vacuum your car, what do we do instead? We leave it to the pros...



During the dusty summer months we offer coupons for a FREE CAR WASH at [WashMan Car Wash](#), an [Portland Pollution Outreach certified EcoBiz](#) that's made the investment to clean your car spectacularly with minimum environmental impact. We can't do it for every purchase so you won't get a coupon for just an oil change, but for most things beyond that you can have your vehicle washed on us!

SCHEDULING REMINDER!



Summer is the busy season at Tom Dwyer, so keep that in mind when you're scheduling for summer service. [If you have a trip coming up it makes sense to get your vehicle checked before you go, but in our busy times it can be hard to accommodate last-minute appointments.](#) Please try to schedule as far in advance as possible to make sure you get the service YOU need, on YOUR schedule!

Referral Reward Program



Our Referral Reward Program is how we say "thank you" to the clients who recommend our shop to their family and friends. When a new client comes in and gives your name as a Referral Source we'll make a donation to the non-profit group of your choice, and all selections are eligible for our \$1,000 Yearly Award as well. It couldn't be easier!

**We've made 13 donations for \$553 since our last count; a total of
614 donations totaling \$26,573 since the program began!**

Here's who our clients chose to help in June...

Oregon Humane Society by Michael O.	Doernbecher Childrens Hospital by Leslie V.
REAP, Inc. , by Jeremy R.	GreenPeace by Katie M.
Multnomah County Library Fndn by Diane T.	Family Dogs New Life Shelter by Dennis L.
Pixie Project by Karrie R.	Outside In by Geo K.
Dzogchen Shri Singha of Portland by Brian L.	
Friends of Columbia River Gorge by Maureen S.	
Natural Resources Defense Council by Elizabeth L.	
Planned Parenthood of Columbia/Willamette by Paula C.	
Oregon League of Conservation Voters by Rocco J.	

Current Special Offers



Take advantage of these special Tom Dwyer offers!



Get a FREE Car Rental with purchases over \$350!

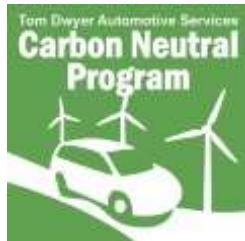
Some of our maintenance and repair services can be done in a couple hours and most can be done in less than a day, but then there are the others... some big services force us to keep your vehicle overnight or even for a couple days. Being without a vehicle can be a huge inconvenience and can cripple your Summer travel plans, but a rental car can make everything go smoothly. If one of those big jobs is waiting for you, then this special offer on rental cars may be just what you need!

You must tell us you want this offer WHEN YOU SCHEDULE YOUR SERVICE!

Offer is VOID AFTER SERVICE IS COMPLETE!

Maximum value \$150; Offer expires 7/19/19

We also have a couple ongoing offers you might find valuable...



Carbon Neutral Program- Our company's commitment to the environment led us to partner with Bonneville Environmental Foundation to create our Carbon Neutral Program in 2007. **Client members offset the carbon production of their vehicles for one year AND save 10% on Labor Charges here at the shop!** It's a win for you AND our environment and it's been very successful... since we instituted the program our members have prevented over 1.9 MILLION POUNDS of carbon from being dumped into our air!



Referral Reward Program- Year after year, referrals from our existing clients are our greatest source of new clients, so we've tried hard to think of some way to appropriately reward people for their referrals. Our solution is our Referral Reward Program, where **we make donations to the non-profit group of your choice to say 'thanks' for your generous referrals.** Here's how it works...

Your reviews and referrals matter



We are constantly grateful for the supportive and loyal clients we have developed over the years. Your comments and appreciation keep us on the right road to providing the superior automotive service you deserve. Your reviews and referrals are not only the highest compliments we can receive, but they're the lifeblood of our new business. If you like what you've found at Tom Dwyer Automotive Services, please tell a friend or take a minute to write a review on [Yelp](#), [Angieslist](#), [Google](#), or the review site of your choice. Thank you!

Latest Automotive Recalls



Automobiles are just like any other product; occasional flaws in manufacture or design can cause problems once they leave the factory. When an issue is identified the manufacturers and government work hard to bring the vehicles back in for refit or repair, but not all recalls make the front pages. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration maintains a [constantly updated list of recalls from every manufacturer](#). The last month's recalls are below, but clicking the button at right will take you to the full list at the NHTSA website.

Drew's Kitchen

Salmon and Lettuce Toss



Heat... intolerable. Need... simple. Drew... shortest recipe... ever. Light... cool. Eat. Good. Aaahhhhh.

Ingredients:

- Romaine lettuce
- Red leaf lettuce
- Bibb lettuce
- Chunks of cold cooked salmon
(1/4 cup per person)
- Bacon bits
- Grated Parmesan cheese
- Italian dressing

Preparation:

1. Break up lettuce into a chilled salad bowl. Toss with salmon and bacon bits. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese. Toss lightly with dressing.

Health Notes

How Your Looks Shape Your Personality



How Your Looks Shape Your Personality

By Dr. Christian Jarrett on BBC Future, Jun 2019

We tend to think of our looks as separate from who we are. But it turns out that physical traits like height or attractiveness may shape our personalities, behaviors, even politics.

The boarding school where I was a pupil in the 1990s provided the perfect microcosm for anyone interested in how “survival of the fittest” plays out among humans. In a boarding house of 50-plus rambunctious boys, all of us employed various strategies to avoid becoming isolated and bullied, from forming coalitions to gaining popularity by selling cheap batteries (my own deterrent-based approach involved cultivating a reputation as a karate fanatic).

Then there was the minority of larger-than-average boys whose sheer size meant they had little to worry about. These chaps had an understandable swagger and confidence about them – their outgoing, assertive personalities seemed to reflect their physicality.

Was that correspondence between their body and character traits a chance correlation, or had their personalities developed in response to their physiques? One theory holds that it could be the latter. Known as “facultative personality calibration”, this is the idea that our personalities develop in a way that best suits the other genetic cards we’ve been dealt, including our size, strength, and attractiveness.

Evidence supporting facultative personality calibration is growing – not only in terms of how one’s looks influence our personality traits, but even our approaches to finding romantic partners and our political beliefs. (It’s worth noting that the theory remains tentative thanks to a dependence so far on mostly correlational and inconsistent data, and because there are alternative explanations for the findings, such as that our personality traits can shape our bodies).

Consider trait extroversion, which involves not only being more sociable, but also more adventurous and willing to take risks. In evolution, it would make strategic sense if stronger, more physically capable people exploited their bodily advantages by being more extroverted.

That’s exactly what some research has found. One study out of Germany’s University of Göttingen recently reported that of more than 200 men, those who were physically stronger and who had more “macho” bodies – including larger chests and biceps – also tended to be more extroverted, especially in the sense of being more assertive and physically active. The same strength-extroversion association was not found among the women in the study.

Other research has found that physically more formidable men also tend to be more prone to aggression and less neurotic (as in, less fearful and worrisome). Again, this makes sense if you see personality as an adaptive strategy. If you are physically weak, then being cautious and wary of danger is likely to lengthen your lifespan. But if you are physically formidable, you can afford to be more of a risk-taker.

There are intriguing parallels to these ideas among behavioral ecology scholars studying animals. These researchers have noticed how, in many species, the animal’s “personality” (their tendency toward boldness or timidity) varies adaptively in response to their bodily state – for instance, one study showed that larger jumping spiders were bolder in the face of a potential predator than their smaller counterparts.

It’s noticeable that a lot of the human research on the association between physical strength and extroversion and aggressiveness has focused on men. This is because, according to evolutionary theory, physical strength and fighting ability is more of an asset to men who must compete with each other for mates. One study out of the University of California, Santa Barbara looked at both men and women and found the usual association between physical strength and trait extraversion, but the link was noticeably more robust among men.

The same study measured participants’ attractiveness, another physical attribute that could, in theory, make it advantageous to develop an extroverted personality

style. Results showed that for women as much as for men, greater attractiveness tended to go hand in hand with being more extroverted – thus suggesting that some of these body–personality trait dynamics can play out for women too.

“The present findings demonstrate that a surprisingly large fraction of the between-person variance in extraversion can be predicted from physical strength and physical attractiveness,” the researchers wrote.

What’s more, their findings could not be explained entirely by differences in a key gene related to androgen function (likely to influence strength, attractiveness and aspects of personality). That bolstered the idea that physical attributes increase extroversion, rather than the body–personality associations merely reflecting shared genetic effects.

It’s not just people’s extroversion and neuroticism that are associated with their physical attributes. Other research has suggested that your approach to hooking up with relationship partners may also be a strategic adaptation influenced by your bodily and facial features, especially if you are male. For instance, in their research involving hundreds of undergrads, Aaron Lukaszewsk at Loyola Marymount University and colleagues, including Christina Larson and Kelly Gildersleeve at the University of California, found that the men (but not the women) who were stronger – based on a weight-training test – and more attractive were more likely to say that sex without love is okay, and that they could happily have sex with someone without being close to them.

This pattern of findings is consistent with the idea that among our male ancestors, those in better physical shape had more reproductive success by engaging in lots of casual sex and that such a sexual strategy has since evolved as a response to being physically capable. “The current findings support the hypothesis

that stronger and more attractive men have more sex partners in part because these men are calibrated toward the pursuit of uncommitted mating opportunities,” the researchers wrote.

Just how far-reaching are the ties between how you look and who you are? For men, even political views could be implicated. In a study published this year, a pair of political scientists reported evidence from 12 countries, including the US, Denmark and Venezuela, suggesting that stronger, more muscular men were more likely to be against political egalitarianism. The rationale is that in our ancestral past, such men were more likely to thrive in a society where it was everyone for themselves. The findings for women were mixed, with some studies finding strength correlated with a greater endorsement of egalitarianism and others showing the opposite pattern.

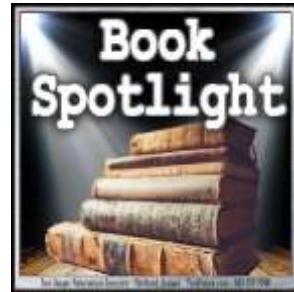
“Just as physical strength shapes the conflict behavior of other animals in the domains that are important to them (e.g., mating and territorial contests), physical strength appears to shape the behavior of the political animal in this key conflict domain,” the researchers wrote.

We often think of our personalities and beliefs as reflecting the essence of who we are – whether shy or outgoing, commitment-phobic flirt or devoted partner, left-wing or right-wing. And we like to think that these traits derive from cerebral, moral or even spiritual sources.

The idea that these aspects of ourselves might instead, at least in part, reflect a strategic adaptation to our physical size and appearance remains for now a controversial theory. But it’s one that, like a boarding house full of boisterous children, provides a humbling reminder of our animalistic roots.

Book Spotlight

"The Folly of Fools" by Robert Trivers



Not all lies we hear come from others... all too many come from ourselves.

"The Folly of Fools" by Robert Trivers

Publisher Comments

Whether it's in a cockpit at takeoff or the planning of an offensive war, a romantic relationship or a dispute at the office, there are many opportunities to lie and self-deceive—but deceit and self-deception carry the costs of being alienated from reality and can lead to disaster. So why does deception play such a prominent role in our everyday lives? In short, why do we deceive?

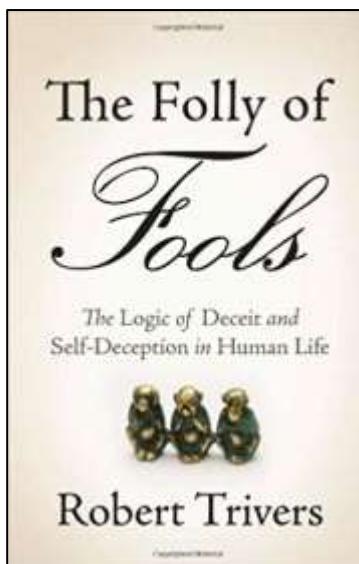
In his bold new work, prominent biological theorist Robert Trivers unflinchingly argues that self-deception evolved in the service of deceit—the better to fool others. We do it for biological reasons—in order to help us survive and procreate. From viruses mimicking host behavior to humans misremembering (sometimes intentionally) the details of a quarrel, science has proven that the deceptive one can always outwit the masses. But we undertake this deception at our own peril.

Trivers has written an ambitious investigation into the evolutionary logic of lying and the costs of leaving it unchecked.

Wikipedia article

The Folly of Fools: The Logic of Deceit and Self-Deception in Human Life (2011, Basic Books, ISBN 0465027555) by Robert Trivers is a book that examines the evolutionary explanations for deceit and self-deception. Trivers focuses primarily on humans but he includes examples from many other organisms as well. Trivers' starting point is to illustrate that self-deception is something of an evolutionary puzzle. While the evolutionary benefits to deceiving other organisms are obvious at first glance it seems highly counter intuitive to think that it could ever be in the evolutionary interest of an organism to deceive itself.

In the book Trivers discusses the evolutionary reasons for animals engaging in self-deception. He provides numerous examples of this both at the individual level and at the societal level, eventually discussing examples of self-deception in the history of the United States and Israel.



The essence of his analysis is that "the primary reason we fool ourselves is to fool others". Humans are exceptionally good at picking up various verbal and physical cues (e.g., speech intonation, eye movements,...) that indicate when another human is practicing deception. There are many situations such as playing "chicken" and seeing who will back down first, where it can actually benefit an organism to deceive itself, by so doing the organism can better deceive others.[1][2]

Reception

Richard Dawkins greeted the book with great praise, saying... "This is a remarkable book, by a uniquely brilliant scientist. Robert Trivers has a track record of producing highly original ideas, which have gone on to stimulate much research. His Darwinian theory of self-deception is arguably his most provocative and interesting idea so far. The book is enlivened by Trivers' candid personal style, and is a pleasure to read. Strongly recommended."

Other reviewers were more moderate. John Horgan in the New York Times was mostly positive in his evaluation of the ideas and evidence that Trivers put forward but said of Trivers' writing style... "Trivers is not an elegant stylist like Dawkins, Wilson or Pinker. His technical explanations can be murky, his political rants cartoonishly crude."

Humorousness

The joy of the artful insult



In an age of tribalism and incivility insults are the coin of the realm, but if you're gonna spend, don't nickel-and-dime the object of your disgust... pull out the folding money! Here are some really wonderful insults we've pulled from around the web. We've given you a few (maybe more than a few) of our favorites, but if you like these than go check out the sites because we were laughing out loud...

[The 32 Most Brutal and Hilarious Comebacks Ever](#)- BlazePress

[The Most Brutal and Totally Clever Comebacks of All Time](#)- TwentyTwoWords

[73 Of The Most Brutal Comebacks Ever You'll Be Glad Weren't Said To You](#)- Bored Panda

[26 of the greatest political insults in history](#)- MSN

[From Churchill to Corbyn: the 40 most brutal British political insults](#)- The Telegraph

Like the lady in the checkout line who was criticized for speaking a "foreign" language on her cell phone. A rude person standing behind her, told her this is America and she should speak our "native language." To which the cell phone lady replied, "I was... I was speaking Navajo".

Heard a good one about Muhammad Ali - when he was on a plane once the Stewardess politely asked him to put his seatbelt on, to which he said "Superman don't need no seatbelt!"
"Superman don't need no plane" she replied.

A really shy kid was getting picked on by this mean girl when the teacher tells her "be nice to him, he might be your boss someday," without missing a beat he replies "no thanks, I don't want to be a pimp when I grow up."

My crazy neighbor's crazy daughters, who are identical twins, are having a massive argument:

Twin 1: "F--- you you ugly b---!" Twin 2: "We're twins you F---ing moron!"

They heard me laughing.

Working as a bouncer years ago when we refused to let some drunk guy in the club, he popped the douchey 'Do you know who my Dad is?' as if it meant something but quick as a flash my colleague replied 'Does your Mum?'

I was at a bar when a guy said to a stranger "You know, smoking kills." The stranger replies "you know My grandma lived to the age



101." Guy goes "smoking?" Stranger immediately replies with "minding her own F---ing business."

My friend asked our teacher "In 20 years, when you see me at our reunion, what will you say to me?"

She replied, "how was prison?"

Two motorists are angling for the same parking spot. One growls, "I never back down for idiots!" "Really? Well," the other replies, shifting his car into reverse. "I always do!"

Heckler: My mum died of cancer!

Comedian: I'm really sorry to hear that, but how is that relevant?

Heckler: It was funnier than your act.

Winston Churchill on Prime Minister Lord Rosebery: "He was a great man in an era of small events."

Commentator Jim Hightower on George HW Bush: "If ignorance ever goes to \$40 a barrel, I want drilling rights on George Bush's head."

John Montagu (after a heated exchange with John Wilkes): "Sir, I do not know whether you will die on the gallows or of the pox!" John Wilkes: "That, sir, depends on whether I first embrace your Lordship's principles or your Lordship's mistresses."

Bob Dole on Carter, Ford and Nixon: "History buffs probably noted the reunion at a Washington party a few weeks ago of three ex-presidents: Carter, Ford, and Nixon -- See No Evil, Hear No Evil, and Evil."

Former Australian Prime Minister, Paul Keating on John Hewson: "He's like a shiver waiting for a spine."

Barney Frank on George W. Bush: "People might cite George Bush as proof that you can be totally impervious to the effects of Harvard and Yale education."

Former British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli on Former British Prime Minister William Gladstone: "If Gladstone fell into the Thames, that would be a misfortune. If anybody pulled him out, that, I suppose, would be a calamity."

Winston Churchill on Prime Minister Clement Attlee: "An empty cab pulled up to Downing Street. Clement Attlee got out."

Adlai Stevenson on Richard Nixon: "The kind of politician who would cut down a redwood tree and then mount the stump to make a speech for conservation."

Texas Governor Ann Richards on George W. Bush: "Poor George, he can't help it. He was born with a silver foot in his mouth."



 The Daily Caller [@DailyCaller](#)

Millennials Are So Helpless
They're Taking 'Adulting Classes'
To Learn How To Do Things Like
Sew A Button trib.al/gTADaHy



 Millennial Review
[@MillReview](#)

We figured taking a class was
more polite than bombarding our
kids and grandkids with mundane
questions like, "how do I delete my
emails my computer is so slow" or
"what's a gif"



[#HeartlandDEW](#) [@frankiemuniz](#)
@frankiemuniz or adding to just awful, sorry but, it is.

[@frankiemuniz](#) [@frankiemuniz](#)

@iHeartMtnDEW Yeah, but being retired
with \$40,000,000.00 at 19 has not been
awful. Good luck moving out of your
moms house before you're 35.

Lees Summit Police replied 
Seco @
Hey guys my parents are out of town
party at my house this weekend
@LSPDPIO can't come tho

Lees Summit Police  8h
We are actually pretty cool people to
hang out with. But we get it. If nothing
illegal is going on and no one calls us,
we won't come. But based off the
number of likes/comments so far, it
doesn't look like anyone else is going
either... 



13 hours ago [mean \[REDACTED\]](#) [Humble](#) • 88
I'm not a bloody taxi service, if you want a lift I expect money.
[Like](#) • [Comment](#)
 5 people like this.

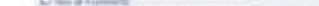
13 hours ago [mean \[REDACTED\]](#) [Humble](#) • 88
That would make you a taxi service.
[13 hours ago](#) [Unlike](#)  93

I've just written a book on difficultly working class kids have breaking into the professions because of proliferation of unpaid work...
Huffington Post contacted me saying it sounded interesting. They asked me to write something...
Unfortunately they wouldn't be able to pay me, however – despite being a multi-billion dollar company.
So here's my article: 'You are part of the problem, @HuffingtonPost'. The End.

Like Comment
[REDACTED] likes this.
[REDACTED] Aren't mom's great?

so my 14 year old brother responded to my snapchat story.....what

7/3/18, 3:40 PM

<input type="checkbox"/>	Area: <input type="text"/>
Where 2 days, I want my cockpit to read: "Maintenance notice made"	
Like this: 	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/> and 4 others the day. <input type="checkbox"/> Area of Attention: <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Every 2 days, I want to see that on screen the value <input type="text"/> (Maintenance notice made) is <input type="text"/>	



Jesse Kelly
@JesseKellyDC

I'm at a Lego robotics tournament for my oldest and you've never seen this many depressed fathers in one place. We're all thinking, "Other kids play football..."

4:27 PM · 19 Jan 19 · Twitter for iPhone

922 Retweets 8,320 Likes

 **Jesse Kelly**  @JesseKellyDC · 1d They have a play by play announcer. On my life, I'm not making that up.

 **Bond, Andrea Bond** @Blondiegrl · 7h Replying to @JesseKellyDC

Hey! This is just like that time when my daughter attended art and writing competitions and I made fun of her on Twitter because she didn't play sports. Except I didn't do that, because I'm not a terrible parent. I'm proud of my kid's accomplishments.

Mike Drucker @MikeDrucker 7h
Replying to @JesseKellyDC
I, too, hate the idea of my children one day having valuable career skills

Clint Bundrick @Atheris · 7h
Right? Who wants that when they can double major in CTE?

Brandon McCarthy  @BMcCa... - 2h
Replying to [@JesseKellyDC](#)
the world is full of people who succeed
in life despite having a shitty father

1 more reply

Jawn Wudders @FanSince09 · 5h
Replying to **@JesseKellyDC**
nobody is gonna hold your hand when
you die

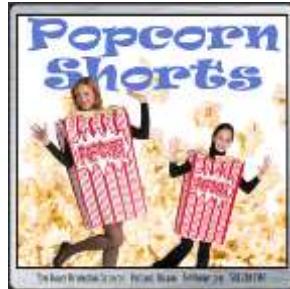
LoveNotFear @NcHardee - Sh
They can hand him a football to hold

Amusing to watch Dems get upset over Trump's \$54B defense hike, when they had no problem w/ the Sanders \$75B/per year free college plan.

Amusing to watch my wife get upset over my \$54 samurai sword when she had no problem spending \$75 on groceries

Popcorn Shorts

Cool stuff that's too small for a big article



Just like it says, Popcorn Shorts is about the kind of things we think are really interesting, but don't really need a large article to explain them. From the sublime to the ridiculous, check in here for crunchy bits of info you'll love to munch. By the way, much (but not necessarily all) of our delicious Popcorn comes from articles we've posted on [our Facebook page](#). If you're on Facebook, please stop by and "Like" us and we'll keep a fairly-constant-but-not-frequent-enough-to-be-annoying stream of these coming to your virtual door!



[Dorothea Lange's Photographs of FDR's Japanese Concentration Camps](#)



AOC called the kiddie prisons "concentration camps", and Trumps chose to insist 'ours aren't as bad as Hitler's' rather than admit and correct their latest stain on America. Of course this wasn't America's first flirtation with cultural corraling. [Dorothea Lange was contracted by the US Government to document the evacuation and relocation of Japanese Americans in 1942](#). Her pictures were impounded until the war's end and stayed largely unseen until 2006. We were of course struck by the similarities to today's abominations, but even more so by the differences... Lange's photos show families detained together and an attempt to make the detention as gentle as possible, niceties totally absent today.

[Pledge drives are agonizing, but their inside story is amazing](#)



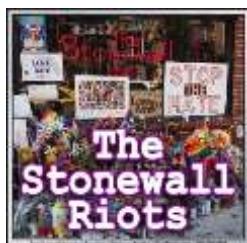
We like to imagine that the Tom Dwyer audience is filled with Public Radio fans, and if so there's one thing we all have in common... hatred of the Pledge Drive. You know who else hates it? Public Radio. America's public radio networks have always presented themselves as solid, reliable, neutral sources of information; well above the fray of common commercial radio. But as governmental funding has waned they've been forced to depend more heavily on corporate donors and other sources and all the dirt they bring. ["Pledge" is an inside look at the universe of public radio funding](#) and the palace intrigue, financial arm twisting, over-modulated egos and passive-aggressive meltdowns that go with it.

43%



What is 43%? It's Trump's average job approval rating since 2018, but that's just coincidence. It's also the current [percentage of Americans in favor of an impeachment inquiry](#). That's a national number; 76% of Dems and even 6% of Reps favor impeachment (also 17% of 'conservatives'). Support for impeachment is growing toward a tipping point, but if it isn't growing fast enough for you, remember this... when the Senate began Watergate hearings in 1973, only 19% supported impeachment. And when the blow-dried tumor says he's "too popular to impeach" remember that Nixon started his 2nd term with a 67% approval rating while Trump's was 51% at its highest. Sleep well!

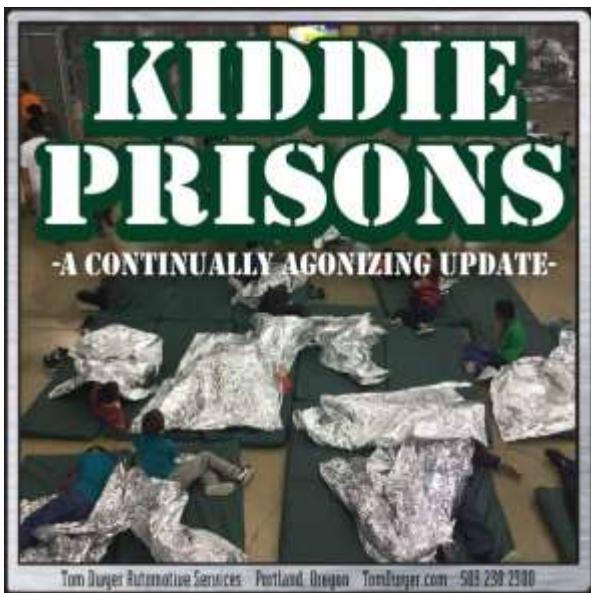
[The Stonewall Riots](#)



The LGBTQ rights movement has been making amazing progress in recent years. Granted, it's slow, geographically spotty, and under constant threat, but it's progress. The fight for gay rights has been waged for centuries by individuals, but in America the organized LGBTQ movement began at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York. [2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots](#), and it seemed a good time to look back at the 'shot heard round the world' for the gay rights movement. We've all heard the name, but do we know the history? Here's a great chance to learn...

News To Make You Furious

“Somali pirates gave me toothpaste and soap”



We started [News To Make You Furious](#) on the 20th anniversary of the Exxon Valdez disaster in an attempt to draw attention to an infuriating yet overlooked news story. We've tried to keep that focus on the under-served and under-reported, but this month we just couldn't do it. Trumpworld reliably vomited its treasure trove of horrors for us to choose from, but even in this carnival of monstrosity one abuse is still eclipsing all the rest. Surprising absolutely no one, the ongoing, intentional, illegal, inhuman, barbaric, petty, callous, abhorrent separation of families and imprisonment of children at the border is getting worse, and got significantly more so this week. It can be all too easy for the news about this to become a drone of accusations, lies, and dissembling, so this month we're bringing you the latest happenings in Trump's most flamboyant display of psychopathy (to date). Pop those anti-nauseal pills, double up on the Valium, and then realize it won't help at all as we take a trip to the southern border for a look inside Donald Trump's Kiddie Prisons...

The ongoing torture of children

[What Separating Migrant Families at the Border Actually Looks Like](#), Meredith Hoffman on Vice.com, May 2018

[Doctor compares conditions for unaccompanied children at immigrant holding centers to 'torture facilities'](#), Marshall, Zak, and Metz in ABCNews.com, June 2019

[The horrifying conditions facing kids in border detention, explained](#), by Dara Lind on Vox, June 2019

["Somebody Is Going to Die": Lawyer Describes Chaos, Illness & Danger at Migrant Child Jail in Texas](#), Amy Goodman interview with Prof Warren Binford, June 2019



In some ways this is one of the most jaw-dropping part of the whole nightmare. Listen to a Trumpet, an actual lawyer for the US Justice Department, paid by us, [try to make the case that sleep is not necessary for safety or sanitation](#).

['Children Were Dirty, They Were Scared, and They Were Hungry'](#), Lizzie O'Leary in The Atlantic, June 2019

[Number of Children in Immigrant Detention Facilities Explodes to Record Levels](#), Julia Conley on MintPressNews.com, September 2018

[Inside a Texas Building Where the Government Is Holding Immigrant Children](#), Isaac Chotiner in The New Yorker, June 2019

[Migrant children at the border – the facts](#), Graham Kates on CBSNews.com, June 2018

[A Brief History of US Concentration Camps](#), Brett Wilkins in Counterpunch, June 2019

[Migrant children are suffering at the border. But reporters are kept away from the story.](#) Paul Farhi in Washington Post, June 2019

Fixing it... sort of

[Border officials had to be forced into hospitalizing four toddlers that were dying on their watch,](#) Gabe Ortiz in DailyKOS, June 2019

[Migrant Children Moved From Border Patrol Center After Outcry,](#) Richard Gonzales on NPR, June 2019

..and then immediately Unfixing it

[Over 100 migrant children returned to 'horrific' border station,](#) BBC.com, June 2019

[Border Patrol Moves 100 Children To 'Appalling' Texas Facility,](#) Gabe Gutierrez and Adiel Kaplan on NBCNews, June 2019

The ongoing torture of reality

[Trump Justice Department Lawyer trying to make the case that sleep is not necessary to 'safe and sanitary conditions'.](#) Video, June 2019

[Law Professor Describes Poor Conditions Where Migrant Children Are Held,](#) NPR Weekend Edition Sunday interview with Prof Warren Binford, June 2019

[Trump defends conditions for detained migrant kids, blames Obama for family separations; fact checkers call foul,](#) William Cummings in USA Today, June 2019

"Somali pirates gave me toothpaste and soap."

-Michael Scott Moore, held captive by Somali pirates for 977 days.

[Conditions at migrant detention centers are 'horrendous.'](#) Trump, Pence blame Democrats. Meagan Flynn in Washington Post, June 2019

Who gets the 30 pieces of silver?

[Detaining Immigrant Kids Is Now a Billion-Dollar Industry,](#) AP on Snopes.com, July 2018

[Who is Profiting from Incarcerating Immigrant Families?](#) By Gott, Seidman, and Armstrong on LittleSis.org, June 2018

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[U.S. company making \\$750 per day, per child to keep immigrant children in 'prison-like' conditions,](#) Tod Perry on Good, June 2019

No, it's not Obama's fault

[Immigrant Detention Conditions Were Atrocious Under Obama. Here's Why They're So Much Worse Under Trump.](#), Bea Bischoff on Slate.com, June 2019

Those inconvenient fact-checks



I've seen several tweets comparing this to Nazis / The Holocaust and saying things like "this is how it begins." I teach Holocaust Literature so let me be clear - this ISN'T how it began. This is already several stages along the way.

Aviva Dautch

[Did President Obama Oversee the Separation of 89,000 Children from Their Parents?](#), Dan Macguill on Snopes.com, June 2018

[Was the 'Law to Separate Families' Passed in 1997 or 'by Democrats'?](#), Kim Lacapria on Snopes.com, June 2018

[Fact Check: Did Democrats Pass a Law Separating Children and Adults at the Southern Border?](#) By Holmes Lybrand on The Weekly Standard, June 2018

[GOP rep: Children are free to leave migrant camps at 'any time'](#), Morgan Gstalter in The Hill, June 2019

[F&F's Host Defends Trump Camps For Kids: Can't Have A Hyatt At The Border,](#) John Amato on Crooks&Liars, June 2019

[Were These Children Separated From Their Parents Under Obama?](#) Kim Lacapria on Snopes.com, June 2018

[\(False\) Leaked Images Reveal Children Warehoused in Crowded U.S. Cells, Border Patrol Overwhelmed,](#) Brandon Darby on Breitbart, June 2014