

# MONDAY: BUILD THAT WALL

Poor Ireland. Poor Inishturk. To be forced to consider the onslaught of refugees fleeing political upheaval should one loud-mouthed, bigoted, multi-bankrupt idiot with bad hair win the U.S. presidency. I'm amused at how the Irish in this short film mirror the U.S. albeit in a more placid way. There are some who are ardently against him, some who'd welcome the business, and the rest cover the spread between the extremes though they lean more to the left than the right.

I find it appalling, though, that Trump would install a sea wall \*now\* after the golf course development has already been established, rather than do his homework upfront before investing in real estate which relies on natural dune formation. This kind of thoughtlessness is completely absurd, and the disgust evident in this film is well merited.

Keep your volume control handy; hearing Trump blathering may set your teeth on edge. Mute for a moment and continue.

## Schtuff happens

I couldn't pull a cogent theme out of the stuff crossing my desk today. I'm just laying it down – you see if you can make any sense out of it.

- Ramen can get you killed in private prisons (Guardian) – The federal government may have to do more than simply stop using private prisons for federal criminal incarceration. This report by a doctoral candidate in the University of Arizona's school of sociology suggests

states' prisons operated by private industry may be violating prisoners' civil rights by starving them. Ramen noodles have become a hot commodity for this reason. Not exactly a beacon of morality to the rest of the free world when incarcerated citizens must scrap for ramen noodles to make up for caloric shortfalls.

- World Anti-Doping Agency may have been attacked by same hackers who poked holes in the DNC (Guardian) – “Fancy Bear” allegedly had a fit of pique and defaced Wada after Russian athletes were banned at Rio. This stuff just doesn't sound the same as the hacking of NSA-front Equation Group.
- New Mexico nuclear waste accident among most costly to date (Los Angeles Times) – Substitution of an organic kitty litter product for a mineral product two years ago set off a chemical reaction in an underground waste storage area, contaminating 35% of the surrounding space. Projected clean-up costs are \$2 billion – roughly the amount

spent on Three Mile Island's meltdown.

- Build that wall! Americans blown ashore in Canada by high winds (CBC) – Participants riding flotation devices on the St. Clair River in the annual Port Huron Float Down were pushed by high winds into Sarnia, Ontario. About 1,500 Americans had to be rescued and returned to the U.S. by Canadian police, Coast Guard, and Border Service. Just a test to see if Canada's ready for the influx of refugees should Trump win in November, right?
- Paternity test reveals a father's sperm actually made him an uncle (Independent) – Upon discovering a father's DNA only matched 10% of his child's DNA, further genetic ancestry revealed the 'father' had an unborn twin whose DNA he had absorbed in the womb. His twin's DNA matched his child's. This is not the first time paternity testing has revealed chimerism in humans.

Commute-or-lunch-length reads

- Walmart is a crime magnet

(Bloomberg) – Holy crap. Communities should just plain refuse to permit any more Walmarts until they clean up their act. Bloomberg's piece is a virtual how-to-fix-your-bullshit task list; Walmart has zero excuses.

- It's in your body, what version is it running? (Backchannel) – Before the public adopts anymore wearable or implantable medical devices, they should demand open access to the code running inside them. It's absurd a patient can't tell if their pacemaker's code is jacked up.
- Dirty laundry at Deutsche Bank (The New Yorker) – This you need to read. Parasitic banking behavior comes in many forms – in this case, Deutsche Bank laundered billions.

There, we're well on our way this week. Catch you tomorrow!