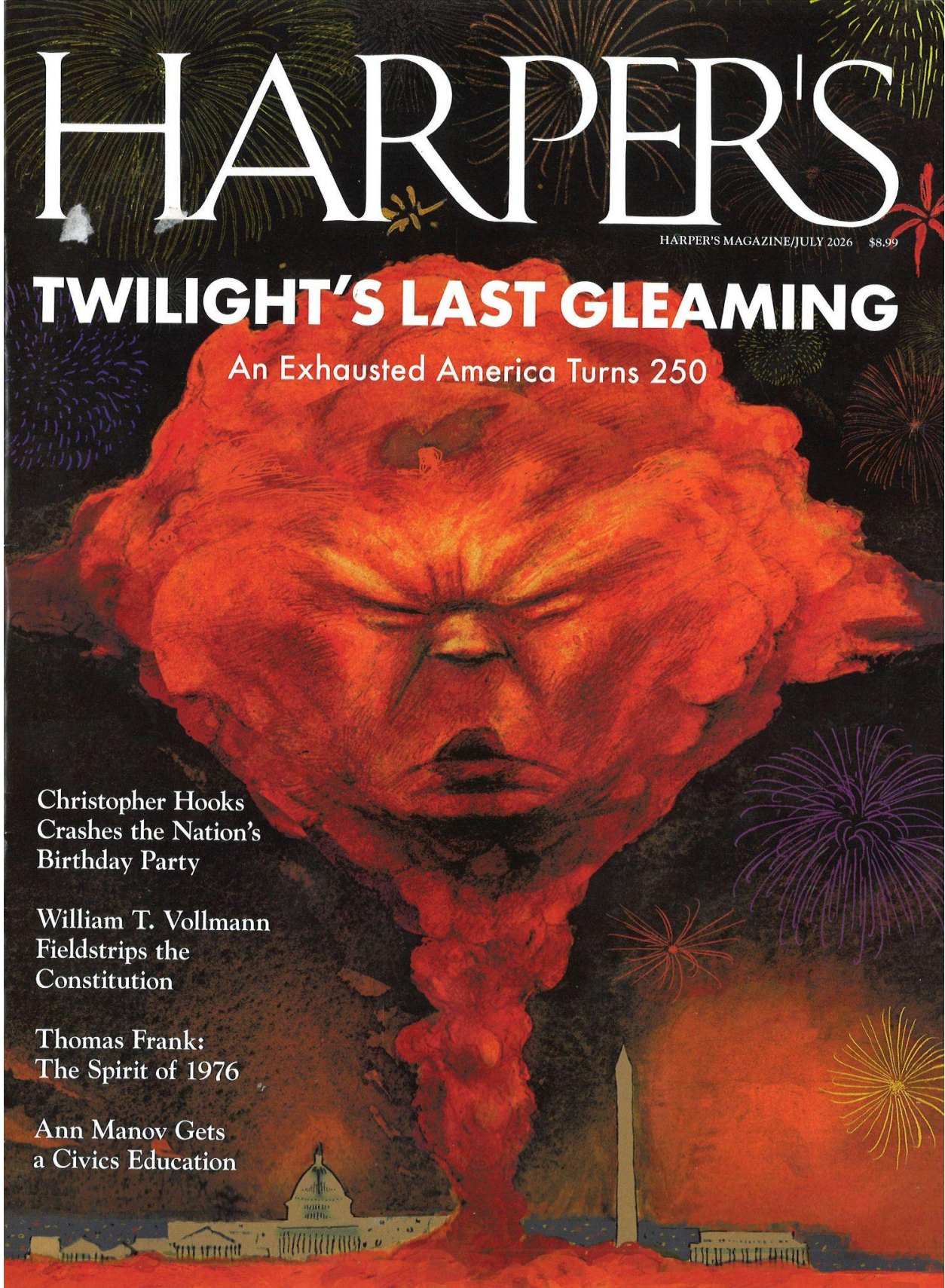


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TWILIGHT'S LAST GLEAMING

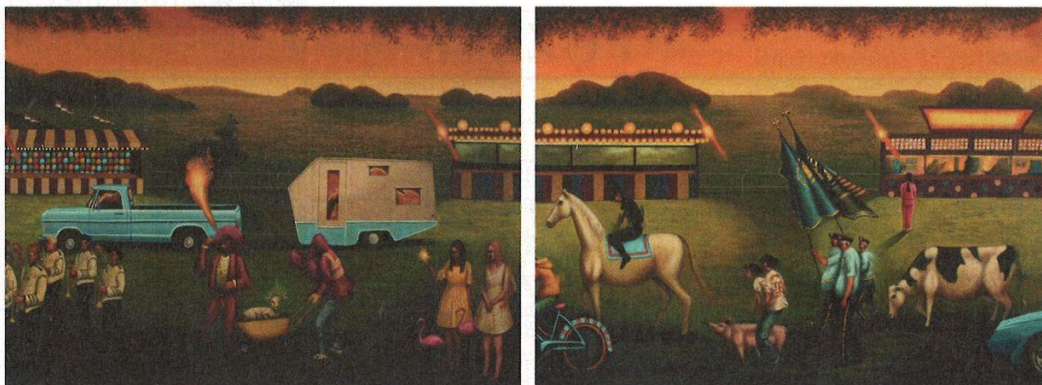
An Exhausted America Turns 250

Christopher Hooks
Crashes the Nation's
Birthday Party

William T. Vollmann
Fieldstrips the
Constitution

Thomas Frank:
The Spirit of 1976

Ann Manov Gets
a Civics Education



FINDINGS

Farmland abandoned during the Syrian civil war has been rising, Neolithic decline and associated population replacement occurred in the Paris Basin, and the deliberate quarrying of stone began as early as 220,000 years ago in South Africa. Accelerating human evolution coincident with the development of agriculture increased redheadedness and decreased male-pattern baldness. Cleft palates appear not to have been treated as shameful under the Qing dynasty. Buried asunaro trees, along with the diaries of the courtier and poet Fujiwara no Teika, allowed for the dating of a solar proton event to between the winter of 1200 and the spring of 1201. Japan's meteorological agency debuted the new category of *kokushobi* ("cruelly hot") days. Between 1990 and 2023, summers lengthened by roughly six days per decade. The vegetation line is creeping up the Himalayas. Westerly winds in the Tasmanian Gateway and the Drake Passage gave rise to the Antarctic Circumpolar Current. Atmospheric warming is diminishing wildfires' nighttime lulls. The Flammability of Materials on the Moon experiment announced its intention to burn various materials on the moon.

The rise of the handshake did not precipitate the loss of hat-doffing. People have been losing an annual average of 338 daily spoken words for the past fifteen years. Large language models consistently prefer CVs written by other large language models, and specifically those written by themselves. Chatbots tend to not recommend voting for right-wing parties. In civil wars, intragroup conflict may be

worse for mental health than out-group conflict. Social conservatism among men, but not women, was negatively correlated with intellectual giftedness. Cisgender Canadian gynephilic men were found to prefer naked pictures of cisgender women to those of cisgender men and of transgender women. Excessive solitary masturbation decreases intimacy between couples in long-distance relationships. Heat alone does not drive hornification. A Utah philosopher argued that a meaningless universe does not necessitate nihilism. Ninety-two antiprotons were transported six miles by truck. Negative time was experimentally confirmed.

Tobacco plants were engineered to produce bufotenine, DMT, psilocin, psilocybin, and 5-MeO-DMT. Researchers discovered a mu-opioid receptor superagonist with weak addiction and withdrawal symptoms and high overall safety that also reduces heroin self-administration. PFAS were detected in dolphin milk, in the silicone leg tags of 90 percent of Argentine Magellanic penguins, and, at rapidly rising levels, in the livers and muscles of Svalbard reindeer. The Atlantic mangrove fiddler crab is expanding beyond mangroves. The sideways walk of true crabs originated with a single ancestor. Gibraltar macaques are eating dirt to help digest junk food. Obesity-fostering bacteria were found to represent a plurality in the gut microbiomes of American black bears. Male Japanese pygmy octopuses avoid using their third right arm, which transfers sperm from their penis to a female, to reach into dark holes for shrimp. ■

Parade (Dusk), by Rafael Francisco Salas, whose work is on view this month as part of the exhibition The American Landscape: Beyond the Horizon, at the Museum of Wisconsin Art, in West Bend © The artist. Courtesy the Museum of Wisconsin Art