

2/22/15: 7:00am: WATCHING LITTLE BUNNIES IN THE SNOW

GOODMORNING EVERYONE. I SIT HERE IN MY CELL, LOOKING OUT MY LITTLE WINDOW, SEEING HOW MUCH SNOW WE GOT LAST NIGHT AND THERE ARE 2 LITTLE BLACK & WHITE BUNNY RABBITS HOPPING AROUND. I'M AN ANIMAL LOVER SO I ENJOY THE TIMES WHEN I GET TO SEE THEM. I WAS WATCHING SHARK TANK, AND THEN I HAPPENED TO READ A MAGAZINE SOMEONE GAVE ME AND IN THEM BOTH THEY SPOKE ABOUT A PHONE "APP" CALLED "SCHOLLY". IT IS AN APP FOR 90¢. YOU CAN USE THIS APP TO FIND OVER 10,000 DIFFERENT COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS. THE CREATOR SAID HE USED DESIGNED THIS APP BECAUSE OVER 10,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ARE NOT USED EVERY YEAR BECAUSE PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT THEM. HE SAID USING THIS, HE HAS HELPED ALOT OF PEOPLE FIND SCHOLARSHIPS THEY ARE ELIGIBLE FOR. ONE PERSON GOT THE BILL GATES SCHOLARSHIP (A FREE 4 YEAR RIDE TO THE COLLEGE OF YOUR CHOICE). SO ANYONE LOOKING TO GO TO SCHOOL, THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY. I KNOW MY COUSIN JUST RETURNED TO COLLEGE AT 30 YEARS OLD, I'LL HAVE TO BE SURE TO TELL HIM ABOUT SCHOLLY.

WELL I WAS GIVEN NEWS ON THE PUPPY FRONT. I APPLIED FOR THE PUPPY TRAINING PROGRAM HERE, AND WAS DENIED. THEY TOLD ME I WOULD HAVE BEEN A GREAT CANDIDATE BUT I HAVE SINGLE CELL STATUS AND ONE OF THEIR RULES IS NO ONE CAN HAVE THAT STATUS. SO NO PUPPY TRAINING FOR ME): IT'S A SHAME, I KINDA HAD MY HOPES UP FOR IT.

JUST GETTING TO THIS PRISON, I DON'T KNOW ANYONE BUT WHAT SURPRISED ME IS A STAFF MEMBER WHO READ MY FILE TOLD ME SOMETHING THAT HAS STUCK WITH ME, HE SAID, ROBERT, YOU ARE MORE THAN THE SUM OF YOUR WORST MISTAKE OR THE LENGTH OF YOUR SENTENCE. PLEASE CONTINUE TO REMAIN ON THE PATH YOU ARE ON AND YOU WONT GO WRONG. HE SAID WHEN HE READ MY FILE, HE SAID TO HIMSELF, HERE WE GO, ANOTHER TROUBLE MAKER. BUT THEN AFTER MEETING ME AND TALKING, HE SAID MY FILE DOES NOT REFLECT WHO I HAVE GROWN TO BECOME. I KNOW THIS CHANGE IS NOT ENOUGH, I HAVE SUCH A LONG WAY TO GO

I TRIED CALLING MY DAUGHTER LAST NIGHT, SHE STILL WONT SPEAK TO ME. WISH SHE WOULD ATLEAST TELL ME WHY SHE IS MAD AT ME. PART OF ME WANTS TO GIVE UP. SHE HASN'T SPOKEN TO ME IN MONTHS. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET THROUGH TO HER.

MY MOM HAS TO BE RESCHEDULED FOR MORE CHEMO. SHE SAID SHE WENT TO THE HOSPITAL AND WAITED ALL DAY FOR A ROOM TO BECOME AVAILABLE, AT THE END OF THE DAY SHE BECAME FRUSTRATED AND WALKED OUT. SO SHE NEEDS TO CALL AND BE RESCHEDULED. GOD FORBID THEY JUST RESCHEDULE HER ON THEIR OWN AND TELL HER THE DATE BUT THEY NEVER DO. WELL I MUST STOP FOR NOW. TIME FOR WORK. I'LL FINISH LATER. CIAO.

I'M BACK & I HOPE I'M DOING BETTER WITH MY PARAGRAPHS. I ASKED TO ATTEND SOME SORT OF SCHOOL HERE OR MAYBE SOME TYPE OF REFRESHER COURSES BUT WAS TOLD THAT I HAVE A G.E.D. SO I DO NOT QUALIFY FOR FREE SCHOOL. IT'S WEIRD, IF YOU HAVE AN 8th GRADE EDUCATION AND 300 HOURS OF SCHOOL, YOU ARE DONE. THIS IS ALL THANX TO FORMER GOVERNOR

TOM RIDGE, WHO ELIMINATED THE PELL GRANTS AND FURTHERING YOUR EDUCATION FOR FREE. THE DAYS OF PRISONERS EARNING COLLEGE DEGREES ARE OVER. WELL THEY CAN STILL DO IT IF THEY PAY FOR IT THEMSELVES BUT AT 19¢ AN HOUR, NO ONE CAN AFFORD IT.

TODAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT. I HAVE TO GO TO MASS VERY SOON. PRIEST WILL HAVE MY HEAD IF I GET LAZY & SKIP.

OUR PRISONER ORGANIZATION HERE CALLED THE S.I.O., I WENT TO THE FIRST MEETING AS A MEMBER. THEY ARE RUNNING A BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT IN THE GYM AND ALL PROCEEDS ARE GOING TO S.K.I.P. (SUPPORTING KIDS OF INCARCERATED PARENTS. WE HAD A GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE, \$4 A BOX. NO IDEA IF THATS A GOOD DEAL OR NOT BUT THE GIRL SCOUTS SURELY MADE GOOD MONEY. THE S.I.O. WILL MATCH ALL DONATIONS MADE TO THESE OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS. I AM ALSO ASKING THE STAFF IN CHARGE OF THE PUPPY TRAINING PROGRAM TO RECONSIDER & ALLOW ME TO BE A PART OF IT. I WAS TOLD NO BUT MAYBE THEY WILL MAKE AN EXCEPTION. I DOUBT IT BUT IT NEVER HURTS TO ASK. I'LL TELL YOU THE SAME THING I TOLD THEM. I AM MORE THAN JUST MY CRIME, I AM MORE THEN JUST A LIFER, I AM MORE THAN JUST A 38 YEAR OLD MAN IN PRISON. SO I SEARCH FOR THE RARE OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW MY WORTH. TO SHOW PEOPLE IN HERE & OUT THERE THAT I AM NOT A LOST CAUSE. I THANK YOU FOR READING WHAT I WRITE. TAKE CARE, STAY OUT OF THIS BITTER COLD AND GOD BLESS. CIAO.