

HAIL VISITOR

FROM AN UNCAGED

UNIVERSAL MIND [NOVOS] !!!

BY: LEON ZRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

NEW YORK STATE OF MIND

P. 114, 115, 116, 117, (BACK-
SIDED) (INJUSTICE FOR
ALL)

P. 118, 119, 120, 121, 122,
123

ONE COPY OF
EACH
THANK YOU;

"UNCHAINED MIND"

"MAN IS GOD'S MARVELOUS CREATION, CROWNED WITH GLORY AND HONOR, AND BECAUSE OF THIS YOU CAN'T QUITE HEM HIM IN. YOU CAN PUT HIM IN... PRISON, BUT SOMEHOW HIS MIND [IMINATION] WILL BRAK/BREAK OUT THROUGH THE BARS TO SCRATCH ACROSS THE PAGES OF HISTORY."

—MLK, JR.

[CAPITLIZATION MINE]

BY: LEON ZRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

WHY YOUR VOTE
COUNTS

COPY

P. 36

A MESSAGE TO THE UNIVERSE NOBOS
[IS THERE ANYBODY OUT THERE]??
WILL YOU RECEIVE THIS MESSAGE!!!

TO: THE UNIQUE AND ILLUSTRIOUS
VISITOR(S) TO THIS SITE:

NOW AND HERE IS THE NECESSARY TIME TO BE
REMINDED, ESPECIALLY IN THIS REPRESSIVE"
"THOUGHT POLICE" (PC) TIME (S), THAT THROUGHOUT
THE ANNALS OF HUMAN HISHERSTORY:
PROFOUND "TRUTH" HAS ALWAYS COME OUT OF
THE PRISON":

ST. PAUL

SIR THOMAS MORE (1478-1535)

MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

GALILEO (1564-1642)

HENRY DAVID THOREAU (1817-1862)

GANDHI (1869-1948)

NELSON MANDELA (1918-2013)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (1929-1968)

"SEGREGATION NOW"

P.P. 68; 69; 70; 71; 72;

73; 74; 75; 76; 77;

78; 79; 80; 81

ONE COPY OF P.P. (69-81)

THANK YOU! L.I.

BOOK: [LETTERS FROM BIRMINGHAM JAIL]

GEORGE JACKSON

BOOK: [SOLEDAD BROTHER: THE PRISON LETTERS
OF GEORGE JACKSON, BY GEORGE JACKSON
LAWRENCE HILL BOOKS...]

WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSAL TRUTH FORUM

#THE TRUTHTELLER !!

BY: LEON IRBY 2 of 2 DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

PLAYING WITH PLATO

P. 36

37 (BACKSIDE)

38

ONE COPY OF EA.
3-pages
THANK YOU

IGNORANCE

NOTHING IN THE WORLD IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN
SINCERE IGNORANCE AND CONSCIENTIOUS
STUPIDITY.

SOURCE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (1929-1968),
UNIVERSAL PREACHER, AND CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER.
STRENGTH TO LOVE, pt. 4 Ch. 3 (1963)

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: OCTOBER 30, 2015

~~THE GLAM~~

~~LEGENDARY LADIES~~

~~MEET THE WOMEN WHO~~

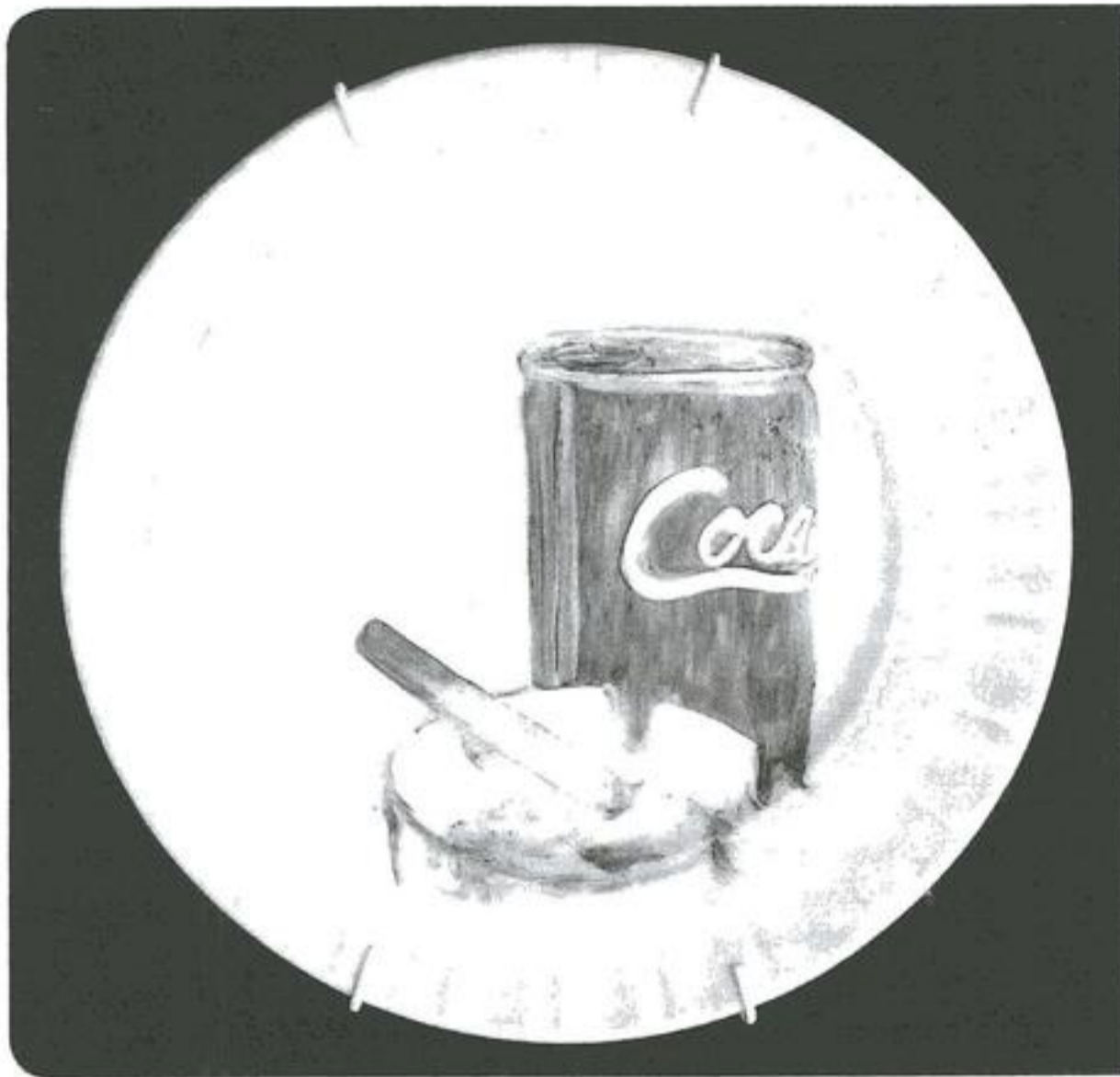
~~CHANGED PRIME TIME~~

~~P.P. 238, 239~~

~~ONE COPY OF 2 (238,~~
~~239) = 2~~

~~THANK YOU!~~

~~GL~~



GHOSTS OF MEALS LAST

Over the last 15 years, Julie Green has painted images of death row inmates' final meal requests onto ceramic dinner plates. Her ongoing project, titled *The Last Supper*, now features 600 plates, each of which illustrates a final meal in delicate blues reminiscent of historic porcelains. A plate from an Illinois execution in 1998 shows a can of Coke and a Camel cigarette. The singularity of every depicted meal is in sharp contrast to the mass of death row statistics: 1,411 people executed in the U.S. since 1976. Green has committed to painting 50 plates a year as long as executions persist. The plates are on display at the Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art in Evanston, Illinois, through August 9.

— AVA TOMASULA Y GARCIA

DEATH ROW "SOULS ON ICE"

By: LEON IRBY OCTOBER 30, 2015

A MESSAGE TO THE UNIVERSE

[IS THERE ANY BODY OUT THERE] ??
WILL YOU RECEIVE THIS MESSAGE !!!

UNIVERSAL COMMUNE, Please Allow me to
Introduce and commend to you ALL a shining
Stella Star:

A friend to those who have No friend !!
Attorney extraordinaire ... — JUDY CLARKE
Who fights to save "LIFE" from the Patently
UNfair "DEATH PENALTY" !!

She Manifest the likes of the Greats:
Clarence Darrow; Thurgood Marshall, Ramsey
Clarke, and Such Bigger than Life "HUMAN-
WOMANITY" !! SEE BELOW, P.P. 2-3

The Signs, even from Justices on the
Supreme Court — are she is now on the
WINNING SIDE OF HISTORY.

Please give her some LOVE!!!

XoXo

THE WOMAN WHO SAVES
THE WORST PEOPLE
AMONG US

ALONG WITH THE BOSTON BOMBER,
ATTORNEY JUDY CLARKE HAS DEFENDED TED
KACZYNSKI, ZACARIAS MOUSSADUI, ERIC
RUDOLPH, AND SUSAN. BY SAVING THE WORST
AMONG US, CLARKE BELIEVES SHE'S SAVING
ALLOF US.

WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT.

— BY JENNIFER PERCY, P. 96

EQUIRE.COM JUNE/JULY 2015



Prisoners without Prisons

Incarceration is important, but sometimes alternatives work better

BY STEPHANOS BIBAS

AMERICA has the highest incarceration rate in the world, outstripping even Russia, Cuba, Rwanda, Belarus, and Kazakhstan. Though America is home to only about one-twentieth of the world's population, we house almost a quarter of the world's prisoners. Since the mid-1970s, American prison populations have boomed, multiplying sevenfold while the population has increased by only 50 percent. Why?

Liberals blame racism and the "War on Drugs," in particular long sentences for nonviolent drug crimes. This past July, in a speech to the NAACP, President Obama insisted that "the real reason our prison population is so high" is that "over the last few decades, we've also locked up more and more nonviolent drug offenders than ever before, for longer than ever before." The War on Drugs, he suggested, is just a continuation of America's "long history of inequity in the criminal-justice system," which has disproportionately harmed minorities.

Two days later, Obama became the first sitting president to visit a prison. Speaking immediately after his visit, the president blamed mandatory drug sentencing as a "primary driver of this mass-incarceration phenomenon." To underscore that

point, he met with half a dozen inmates at the prison, all of whom had been convicted of nonviolent drug offenses. Three days earlier, he had commuted the federal prison terms of 46 nonviolent drug offenders, most of whom had been sentenced to at least 20 years' imprisonment.

The president is echoing what liberal criminologists and lawyers have long charged. They blame our prison boom on punitive, ever-longer sentences tainted by racism, particularly for drug crimes. Criminologists coined the term "mass incarceration" or "mass imprisonment" a few decades ago, as if police were arresting and herding suspects en masse into cattle cars bound for prison. Many blame this phenomenon on structural racism, as manifested in the War on Drugs.

No one has captured and fueled this zeitgeist better than Michelle Alexander, an ACLU lawyer turned Ohio State law professor. Her 2010 book, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, is, as Cornel West put it, "the secular bible for a new social movement in early twenty-first-century America." She condemns "mass incarceration . . . as a stunningly comprehensive and well-disguised system of racialized social control that functions in a manner strikingly similar to Jim Crow." Ex-felons, like victims of Jim Crow, are a stigmatized underclass, excluded from voting, juries, jobs, housing, education, and public benefits. This phenomenon "is not—as many argue—just a symptom of poverty or poor choices, but

*Mr. Bibas, a University of Pennsylvania professor of law and criminology and a former federal prosecutor, is the author of *The Machinery of Criminal Justice* (Oxford).*

rather evidence of a new racial caste system at work," like Jim Crow and slavery before it. She even implies that this system is just the latest manifestation of whites' ongoing racist conspiracy to subjugate blacks, pointing to the CIA's support of Nicaraguan contras who supplied cocaine to black neighborhoods in the U.S.

Like President Obama, Alexander blames mass incarceration on the racially tinged War on Drugs. "In less than thirty years, the U.S. penal population exploded from around 300,000 to more than 2 million, with drug convictions accounting for the majority of the increase." And the War on Drugs was supposedly driven by coded racial appeals, in which elite whites galvanized poor whites to vote Republican by scapegoating black drug addicts. The fault, she insists, does not lie with criminals or violence. "Violent crime is *not* responsible for the prison boom. . . . The uncomfortable reality is that convictions for drug offenses—not violent crime—are the single most important cause of the prison boom in the United States," and minorities are disproportionately convicted of drug crimes.

Alexander's critique is catnip to liberals. *The New Jim Crow* stayed on the *New York Times* best-seller list for more than a year and remains Amazon's best-selling book in criminology. And it dovetailed with liberal and libertarian pundits' calls to legalize or decriminalize drugs, or at least marijuana, as the cure for burgeoning prisons.

PRESIDENT OBAMA's and Alexander's well-known narrative, however, doesn't fit the facts. Prison growth has been driven mainly by violent and property crime, not drugs. As Fordham law professor John Pfaff has shown, more than half of the extra prisoners added in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s were imprisoned for violent crimes; two thirds were in for violent or property crimes. Only about a fifth of prison inmates are incarcerated for drug offenses, and only a sliver of those are in for marijuana. Moreover, many of these incarcerated drug offenders have prior convictions for violent crimes. The median state prisoner serves roughly two years before being released; three quarters are released within roughly six years.

For the last several decades, arrest rates as a percentage of crimes—including drug arrests—have been basically flat, as have sentence lengths. What has driven prison populations, Pfaff proves convincingly, is that arrests are far more likely to result in felony charges: Twenty years ago, only three eighths of arrests resulted in felony charges, but today more than half do. Over the past few decades, prosecutors have grown tougher and more consistent.

Nor is law enforcement simply a tool of white supremacy to oppress blacks. As several prominent black scholars have emphasized, law-abiding blacks often want more and better law enforcement, not less. Harvard law professor Randall Kennedy emphasized that "blacks have suffered more from being left unprotected or underprotected by law enforcement authorities than from being mistreated as suspects or defendants," though the latter claims often get more attention. Most crime is intra-racial, so black victims suffer disproportionately at the hands of black criminals. Yale law professors Tracey Meares and James Forman Jr. have observed that minority-

neighborhood residents often want tough enforcement of drug and other laws to ensure their safety and protect their property values. The black community is far from monolithic; many fear becoming crime victims and identify more with them than they do with victims of police mistreatment.

Black Democrats, responding to their constituents' understandable fears, have played leading roles in toughening the nation's drug laws. In New York, black activists in Harlem, the NAACP Citizens' Mobilization Against Crime, and New York's leading black newspaper, the *Amsterdam News*, advocated what in the 1970s became the Rockefeller drug laws, with their stiff mandatory minimum sentences. At the federal level, liberal black Democrats representing black New York City neighborhoods supported tough crack-cocaine penalties. Representative Charles Rangel, from Harlem, chaired the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control when Congress enacted crack-cocaine sentences that were much higher than those for powder cocaine. Though many have come to regret it, the War on Drugs was bipartisan and cross-racial.

More fundamentally, *The New Jim Crow* wrongly absolves criminals of responsibility for their "poor choices." Alexander opens her book by analogizing the disenfranchisement of Jarvis Cotton, a felon on parole, to that of his great-great-grandfather (for being a slave), his great-grandfather (beaten to death by the Ku Klux Klan for trying to vote), his grandfather (intimidated by the Klan into not voting), and his father (by poll taxes and literacy tests).

But Cotton's ancestors were disenfranchised through violence and coercion solely because of their race. Cotton is being judged not by the color of his skin, but by the content of his choices. He chose to commit a felony, and Alexander omits that his felony was not a nonviolent drug crime, but murdering 17-year-old Robert Irby during an armed robbery. All adults of sound mind know the difference between right and wrong. Poverty and racism are no excuses for choosing to break the law; most people, regardless of their poverty or race, resist the temptation to commit crimes. Cotton is *not* a helpless victim just like his ancestors, and it demeans the free will of poor black men to suggest otherwise.

So the stock liberal charges against "mass incarceration" simply don't hold water. There is no racist conspiracy, nor are we locking everyone up and throwing away the key. Most prisoners are guilty of violent or property crimes that no orderly society can excuse. Even those convicted of drug crimes have often been implicated in violence, as well as promoting addiction that destroys neighborhoods and lives.

BUT just because liberals are wrong does not mean the status quo is right. Conservatives cannot reflexively jump from critiquing the Left's preferred narrative to defending our astronomical incarceration rate and permanent second-class status for ex-cons. The criminal-justice system and prisons are big-government institutions. They are often manipulated by special interests such as prison guards' unions, and they consume huge shares of most states' budgets. And cities' avarice tempts police to arrest and jail too many people in order to collect fines, fees, tickets, and the like. As the Department of Justice found in its report following the Michael Brown shooting in Missouri, "Ferguson's law enforcement

practices are shaped by the City's focus on revenue rather than by public safety needs." That approach poisons the legitimacy of law enforcement, particularly in the eyes of poor and minority communities.

Conservatives also need to care more about ways to hold wrongdoers accountable while minimizing the damage punishment does to families and communities. Punishment is coercion by the state, and it disrupts not only defendants' lives but also their families and neighborhoods. Contrary to the liberal critique, we need to punish and condemn crimes unequivocally, without excusing criminals or treating them as victims. But we should be careful to do so in ways that reinforce rather than undercut conservative values, such as strengthening families and communities.

Historically, colonial America punished crimes swiftly but temporarily. Only a few convicts were hanged, exiled, or mutilated. Most paid a fine, were shamed in the town square, sat in the stocks or pillory, or were whipped; all of these punishments were brief. Having condemned the crime, the colonists then forgave the criminal, who had paid his debt to society and the victim.

Even though wrongdoers may deserve to have the book thrown at them, it is not always wise to exact the full measure of justice.

That was in keeping with the colonists' Christian faith in forgiveness, and it meant there was no permanent underclass of ex-cons. Preachers stressed that any of us could have committed such crimes, and we all needed to steel ourselves against the same temptations; the message was "There but for the grace of God go I." The point of criminal punishment was to condemn the wrong, humble the wrongdoer, induce him to make amends and learn his lesson, and then welcome him back as a brother in Christ. The punishment fell on the criminal, not on his family or friends, and he went right back to work.

Two centuries ago, the shift from shaming and corporal punishments to imprisonment made punishment an enduring status. Reformers had hoped that isolation and Bible-reading in prison would induce repentance and law-abiding work habits,

it didn't turn out that way. Now we warehouse large numbers of criminals, in idleness and at great expense. By exiling them, often far away, prison severs them from their responsibilities to their families and communities, not to mention separating them from opportunities for gainful work. This approach is hugely disruptive, especially when it passes a tipping point in some communities and exacerbates the number of fatherless families. And much of the burden falls on innocent women and children, who lose a husband, boyfriend, or father as well as a breadwinner.

Even though wrongdoers may deserve to have the book thrown at them, it is not always wise to exact the full measure of justice. There is evidence that prison turns people into career criminals. On the one hand, it cuts prisoners off from families, friends, and neighbors, who give them reasons to follow the law. Responsibilities as husbands and fathers are key factors that tame young men's wildness and encourage them to settle down: One longitudinal study found that marriage may reduce

reoffending by 35 percent. But prison makes it difficult to maintain families and friendships; visiting in person is difficult and time-consuming, prisons are often far away, and telephone calls are horrifically expensive.

On the other hand, prison does much to draw inmates away from lawful work. In the month before their arrest, roughly three quarters of inmates were employed, earning the bulk of their income lawfully. Many were not only taking care of their children but helping to pay for rent, groceries, utilities, and health care. But prison destroys their earning potential. Prisoners lose their jobs on the outside. Felony convictions also disqualify ex-cons from certain jobs, housing, student loans, and voting. Michigan economics professor Michael Mueller-Smith finds that spending a year or more in prison reduces the odds of post-prison employment by 24 percent and increases the odds of living on food stamps by 5 percent.

Conversely, prisons are breeding grounds for crime. Instead of working to support their own families and their victims, most prisoners are forced to remain idle. Instead of having to learn vocational skills, they have too much free time to hone

criminal skills and connections. And instead of removing wrongdoers from criminogenic environments, prison clusters together neophytes and experienced recidivists, breeding gangs, criminal networks, and more crime. Thus, Mueller-Smith finds, long sentences on average breed much more crime after release than they prevent during the sentence. Any benefit from locking criminals up temporarily is more than offset by the crime increase caused when prison turns small-timers into career criminals. So conservatives' emphasis on retribution and responsibility, even when morally warranted, can quickly become counterproductive.

ANOTHER justification for prison is that the threat of punishment deters crime. The problem with deterrence, however, is that we overestimate prospective criminals' foresight and self-discipline. At its root, crime is generally a failure of self-discipline. Conservative criminologists such as the late James Q. Wilson and Richard Herrnstein pin primary blame for crime on criminals' impulsively satisfying their immediate desires. They are short-sighted gamblers; who else would risk getting shot or arrested in order to steal \$300 and a six-pack of beer from a convenience store?

Impulsiveness, short-sightedness, and risk-taking are even more pronounced among the very many wrongdoers whose crimes are fueled by some combination of drugs, alcohol, and mental illness. But those very qualities make it hard to deter them. We naively expect to deter these same short-sighted gamblers by threatening a chance of getting caught, convicted, and sent to prison for years far off in the future. Of course, optimistic, intoxicated risk-takers think they will not be caught. And if they have cycled through the juvenile-justice system

and received meaningless probation for early convictions, the system has taught them exactly the wrong lessons.

To deter crime effectively, punishment must speak to the same short-sighted wrongdoers who commit crime—not primarily through threats of long punishment far off in the future, but more through swift, certain sanctions that pay back victims while knitting wrongdoers back into the social fabric. If we make punishments immediate and predictable, yet modest, even drug addicts respond to them. Hawaii's Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (HOPE) is an intensive-probation program that has the hardest-core drug users face random urinalysis one day each week; violators immediately go off to a weekend in jail. Though the Left paints drug addiction as a disease requiring costly medical intervention, drug addicts can in fact choose to stop using drugs. Under HOPE, even habitual drug users usually go clean on their own when faced with the immediate threat of two days in jail. Well over 80 percent stop using drugs right away and remain clean, without any further treatment.

The contrast with ordinary probation is stark. Probation officers juggle hundreds of cases, rarely see their clients, and routinely ignore multiple violations until they unpredictably send a client back to prison at some point in the future. Probation thus teaches probationers exactly the wrong lesson: that they are likely to get away with violations. It is no wonder that HOPE succeeds where ordinary probation fails.

Applying the same insight to prisons could revolutionize them. UCLA professor Mark Kleiman notes that most inmates could be released early and watched round the clock with webcams, drug and alcohol testing, and electronic ankle bracelets via GPS. They could live in government-rented apartments, see their families, and work at public-service jobs, all at much less expense than prison. These surveillance methods could enforce rules such as strict curfews, location limits, and bans on drug and alcohol use, with swift penalties for noncompliance. But the Left hates the idea, in part because its critics blame crime on society rather than on wrongdoers who need to be held accountable, disciplined, and taught structure and self-control.

States like Texas and Georgia have already been experimenting with alternatives to endlessly building more prison cells. They have dramatically expanded inpatient and outpatient drug treatment as well as drug courts, diverted more minor offenders out of prison, kept juveniles out of state prison, and set up cheaper diversion beds for inmates who do not need to be in regular prison. For instance, Texas has begun creating special substance-abuse cells, so that repeat drunk drivers can get treatment instead of being housed with murderers and rapists. Risk-assessment tools can help to identify the sliver of recidivists and predators who pose the greatest danger and need long-term confinement.

Most of all, the government needs to work on reweaving the frayed but still extant fabric of criminals' families and communities. Both excessive crime and excessive punishment rend communal bonds, further atomizing society. The more that punishment exacerbates the breakdown of families and communities, the more the overweening state and its social services and law enforcement grow to fill the resulting void.

The cornerstone of a conservative criminal-justice agenda should be strengthening families. More than half of America's

inmates have minor children, more than 1.7 million in all; most of these inmates were living with minor children right before their arrest or incarceration. Inmates should meet with their families often. They should be incarcerated as close to home as possible, not deliberately sent to the other end of the state. Visitation rules and hours need to be eased, and extortionate collect-call telephone rates should come down to actual cost.

We should also pay more attention to the victims of crime. Victims are often friends, neighbors, or relatives of the wrongdoers who must go back to living among them. Though victims want to see justice done—including appropriate punishment—that does not generally mean the maximum possible sentence. In surveys, victims care much more about receiving restitution and apologies. So prison-based programs should encourage wrongdoers to meet with their victims if the victims are willing, to listen to their stories, apologize, and seek their forgiveness. Having to apologize and make amends makes most wrongdoers uncomfortable, teaching them lessons that they must learn.

Another important component of punishment should be work. It is madness that prisoners spend years in state-sponsored idleness punctuated by sporadic brutality. It is time to repeal Depression-era protectionist laws that ban prison-made goods from interstate commerce and require payment of prevailing-wage rates to prisoners (making prison industries unprofitable). All able-bodied prisoners should have to complete their educations and work, learning good work habits as well as marketable skills. One could even experiment with sending able-bodied prisoners without serious violent tendencies to enlist in the military, as used to be routine (think of the movie *The Dirty Dozen*). Some of prisoners' wages could go to support their families, cover some costs of incarceration, and make restitution to their victims.

Finally, inmates need religion and the religious communities that come with it. Most prisoners are eventually released, and we do almost nothing to help them reenter society, simply providing a bus ticket and perhaps \$20. But faith-based programs like Prison Fellowship Ministries can transform cell blocks from wards of idleness or violence to orderly places of prayer, repentance, education, and work. After inmates are released, these faith-based groups can also perform much of the oversight, community reintegration, fellowship, and prayer that returning inmates need. Inmates must accept their responsibility, vow to mend their ways, and have fellow believers to hold them to those promises. Having a job, an apartment, and a congregation waiting for them after release from prison offers ex-cons a law-abiding alternative to returning to lives of crime.

American criminal justice has drifted away from its moral roots. The Left has forgotten how to blame and punish, and too often the Right has forgotten how to forgive. Over-imprisonment is wrong, but not because wrongdoers are blameless victims of a white-supremacist conspiracy. It is wrong because state coercion excessively disrupts work, families, and communities, the building blocks of society, with too little benefit to show for it. Our strategies for deterring crime not only fail to work on short-sighted, impulsive criminals, but harden them into careerists. Criminals deserve punishment, but it is wise as well as humane to temper justice with mercy. NR

BY: LEON IRBY

4 of 4 NOVEMBER 01, 2015

SHE DIDN'T SHAKE IT OFF !!!

WHAT'S UP WITH
SUPERSTAR TAYLOR SWIFT

UPDATE:

ON Taylor Swift's Court Cases Battles...

It's Reported on Thursday October 29, 2015, (a) Kevin Fraiser ET.com and on OKTVUS.com, that Taylor filed a Counter Suit in DJ's Law Suit, in which she claimed he pulled up her dress and groped her.

However, there was No Police Report.

Friends, what fool in our universe would believe any jury would find a verdict against "America's Sweetheart"?

This must be one of the fools who sued MS. Oprah over Beef! LOL!

#IMAGINE JUSTICE FOR ALL

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 01, 2015

A POLITICAL BATTLE - FIELD

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THANK YOU!

EVERYBODY TALKING

— WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2015

DECODING AUSSIE ACTRESS
REBEL WILSON

CBS.COM/THE TALK 1: A.M. CST "HOT TOPICS"
Talked about Rebel's Radio Interview, in
which she so rudely dissed our American "
Sweet Hearts" Kendall and Kylie Jenner
[Kardashian]... Exclaiming at the VMA awards
show, she unkindly refused to present with
them!!

RATIONALIZATION?

She went to Acting School [Learning to
Read Written Scripts; Follow Directions; DO
RETAKE AFTER RETAKE...!!!!!!] She has Talent!
They have None!

No doubt... She also offended and belittled
Past Box office Superstar Cassie [Who could
Not even Read!!]... Bow wow!

Rebel! Shame on your LYING MIRROR!

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

POSED REBELL BETWEEN KENDALL
AND KYLIE

Evidently, Your REAL REASON is Kendall and
Kylie would show you: Your Fat ugly and mean-
spirited self !!

WHODUNIT!?

No doubt, Hollywood in outing your REAL Age
meant to RUN YOUR FAT A__ out of town!

By the way, Tell Six Years old Box Office
Champion Superstar Shirley Temple how you
define "TALENT"!!!!

All you ever do is make fun of your FAT
A__ ! BY ACTING NATURALLY!

Rebell, you slyly Rob the Kardashian
BRAND NAME to get humongous PUBLICITY and to
Sale your PLUS SIZE CLOTHING LINE!!!

STOP ZN THE NAME OF LOVE!!!

Don't Hate Kendall and Kylie, because
They're So genuinely within and without

B-E-A-U-T-I-F-U-L !!!!!

"HATING THE BEAUTIFUL" (PITY THE PRETTY?
THE BACKLASH AGAINST BEAUTIFUL WOMEN)"

— BY REBECCA MEAD

ALLURE DECEMBER 2011, P. 172, COVER STORY
WWW.allure.com

XOXO

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 04, 2015

3 of 3.

RACISM IS NOT FUNNY

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 5, 2015

SHOUT-OUT

TO: PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

Thank you for your historic FEDERAL LAW
EXECUTIVE ORDER
BANNING "THE BOX" IN JOB APPLICATIONS, ASKING
Whether or not one has a Criminal Record

Moreover, Making Grant [GRANT MONEY]
Available To Aid Released EX-CONVICTS to
Re-integrate back into Society [Their
Community] as productive citizens!!!!!!

You'll be in history side by side
with President George Washington!

SOURCE: THOM HARTMAN, PROGRESSIVE RADIO FM 92.1. COM
8:30 P.M. HOUR-ONE THURSDAY NOVEMBER 05, 2015
ABC.COM / THE VIEW "HOT TOPICS 10:00 A.M. THURS-
DAY NOVEMBER 05, 2015

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 06, 2015



PHOTOS BY SAUL LOEB, AFP/GETTY IMAGES

OBAMA PUSHES FOR 'SECOND CHANCES'

President Obama tours the El Reno Federal Correctional Institution in El Reno, Okla., on July 16. He was the first sitting president to visit a federal prison.

Will announce new measures to help offenders

Gregory Korte
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON Stephanie Luna pleaded guilty in June to conspiring in methamphetamine — a charge that could have netted her up to 20 years in prison.

Instead, she's getting drug treatment at a New Jersey halfway house, where President Obama will visit Monday in an effort to highlight efforts to reintegrate offenders back into the community rather than impose long, expensive prison sentences.

"Every year, we spend \$80 billion in taxpayer dollars to keep people incarcerated," Obama said in his weekly radio address Saturday. "Many are non-violent offenders serving unnecessarily long sentences. I believe we can disrupt the pipeline from underfunded schools to overcrowded jails. ... And I believe we can help those who have served their time



SAUL LOEB AFP/GETTY IMAGES

and earned a second chance get the support they need to become productive members of society."

Obama will use his visit to Integrity House, a halfway house and drug-treatment center in Newark, to renew his call for Congress to pass a bipartisan bill reducing mandatory minimum sentences. But he'll also announce a number of executive actions to help give more offenders a second chance.

Those include new measures making it easier for convicted criminals to work for the federal government, clarifying federal

A prison cell at the El Reno Federal Correctional Institution. On Monday, Obama will visit a halfway house in Newark.

policy on eligibility for subsidized housing for people with arrest records, and establishing a National Clean Slate Clearinghouse to help expunge old criminal records.

Many of those policies come out of Obama's My Brother's Keeper Task Force, which is tackling problems unique to minority young men. But they also reflect a renewed emphasis on criminal justice issues during what Obama has described as the "fourth quarter" of his presidency.

In the past few weeks and months, Obama has visited a federal prison in Oklahoma, highlighted the heroin epidemic in Charleston, W.Va., and addressed a police chief's conference in Chicago.

Monday, he brings his campaign for a criminal justice overhaul to Integrity House, which began in 1968 as a residential drug-treatment facility and now gets 85% of its referrals through the courts.

Luna, 37, said she's been sober for one year and two days and is working on a program that would allow her to reinstate her nursing license.

"I believe we can disrupt the pipeline from underfunded schools to overcrowded jails."

President Obama

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 06/2015

A CONNECTION STORY

We at Companions believe we were called to connect people: people living in prisons and jails with their children and other family members; people in the free community with those living behind bars; people who care and those who need a listening ear.

For several years, a group of women have prepared Christmas cards for us to mail always signing them "The Women of Highland Presbyterian Church." Among the thank you notes and letters from recipients of the Christmas cards each year is always a couple addressed to these women. Last year I was able to mail back to the Highland Women a beautiful scroll that Ricky had prepared for them expressing his gratitude. One of the members of the group attached the scroll to some felt and hung the banner in the church. A picture of this banner was sent to Ricky.

Ricky recently wrote that he had lost family members so I contacted the church and asked for their prayers. The church not only answered with prayer, but they also wrote notes and signed cards for Ricky. A church has been inspired by Ricky's words and work. They see that banner every time they come to church. I can only imagine what it is meaning to Ricky to receive all of that mail.

IL STATE COMMISSION ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE & SENTENCING REFORM

Hats off to Governor Rauner for establishing a major initiative to look at how we can cut prison population in Illinois by establishing the IL State Commission on Criminal Justice & Sentencing Reform. This commission comprised of 28 members including state legislators, people with correctional, social service and not for profit backgrounds or positions, lawyers and college professors, have worked quite hard this year listening to anyone who wanted to contact them about concerns they have about our Criminal Justice System and seeking ideas about programs and projects that work to keep offenders out of prisons and to reduce recidivism rates. There is a growing awareness in this country of the tremendous costs of our tough on crime policies which have led to ballooning prison populations. (Did you know that our country has 5% of the world's population and 25% of the world's prison population?) Many are realizing that these costs hamper our abilities to fund educational, health, treatment and social service programs that could be much more effective in decreasing crime.

The mid-year report of this group gave those of us working for prison reform some hope. Join us in watching for their final report at the end of 2015. The question then will be how many of their suggestions will be implemented.

You

You have the seed for the fullness of life; love; light; strength; wisdom. Joy.

You

You are a Co-Creator.

You

You were created to be a child of God, loving sincere, unselfish.

- Mr. Willie, Freelance Writer

BOARD PROFILE: JEFF

As a new Board member at CJT, can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

I live in Oak Park with my wife and two young kids. Personally, I'm a die hard Chicago Bulls fan. I like to play music and goof around with my family and friends. Professionally, I'm an in-house attorney for a large Catholic healthcare corporation, dealing with corporate matters such as commercial litigation and intellectual property matters.

What inspired you to join the Board?

CJT's mission is important. This country inappropriately incarcerates generations of families and communities. CJT's programming can help incarcerated people stay connected with their families or make a human connection outside of their current condition.

What do you hope to accomplish during your term as a Board member?

I hope to be useful in supporting CJT's mission.

AMSB Updates

Companions has been hard at work! For the past few months, we have been serving the women at the Will County Jail in Joliet, Illinois. We asked one of our volunteers, Joyce, to share with you her reflection:

Volunteering with this program has so very many positive outcomes for people incarcerated, their children, and society. Aunt Mary's Storybook Project allows women in the criminal justice system to do something positive for their children while improving their own self-confidence and self image. It allows them to believe they can have a positive influence on their children and be present to them in the recorded story-telling. Some are painfully aware of their poor reading skills. The project entices them to improve themselves academically, to continue to study and learn for the sake of their children. It also encourages them to do "good" time, learn to handle their anger, sadness, negative emotions well so they can have a shorter time away from their families.

My observations include: the care with which each person chooses the best book for her son or daughter, the compassion each woman has for the other women helping them choose selections appropriate to the ages and interests of their children. I wish the criminal justice policy, lawmakers, employers, and other persons in society, who "write them off," could see what I have witnessed. Then stereotypes would diminish and restorative justice policy and practice would grow and bear fruit.

THANKS & HELP NEEDED



OUR BOARD SENDS A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

The Well at the Mother House of the Sisters of St. Joseph, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Naperville and the Presbyterian Church of Western Springs for hosting our board meetings this year.

And a very special thank you to Mary Ellen and her husband, Jack, who provided their dining room table for our meetings for several years. It is so helpful to have a comfortable space in which to do our planning.

FUNDRAISERS:

Thanks to many many people we had two successful fundraisers this past summer. We express our gratitude as we begin preparations for our annual Christmas Gift Wrapping Event.

GARAGE SALE:

The saying goes that one person's junk is another person's treasure. We have been proving that truth for several years. This one was no exception. Early in May, I put out a plea for items to sell and did people ever respond. In mid-June several volunteers helped us prepare for a 3 1/2 day sale. What a lot of work! But we made money. Lots of people went home with bargains and items they will treasure. And all for our Aunt Mary's Storybook Project and our Parenting Classes. Thanks so all who helped.

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING AT CHICAGO RIDGE MALL

We will be wrapping gifts again at the Chicago Ridge Mall this Christmas season for donations for our Aunt Mary's Storybook Project. There are many ways you can help.



By donating gift boxes, tissue paper, pretty wrapping paper, bows, rolls of tape for tape dispensers, gift tags, scissors, tape dispensers.

By making copies of handouts we will be giving people.

By volunteering a couple hours or more to help wrap. We plan to wrap on the following dates:

Saturday, Dec. 5 & Sunday, Dec. 6th

Saturday, Dec. 12 & Sunday Dec 13

Saturday Dec 19th thru Thursday, Dec. 24 (when we will need the most help)

Some additional times may be added.

This is a great way to give to others while you participate in the Christmas season. Please contact Jenny at auntmarysvolunteers@gmail.com or (630) 481-6231 if you are interested in helping.

2 of 3

KINDRED SPIRITS WINE AND BEER TASTING EVENT

by: Phil, Board Member

This summer, Companions Journeying Together hosted an event at the Vino Cellar in Lombard, Illinois. A capacity crowd turned out to encourage our work and enjoy an evening of fellowship. This gathering was not merely a fundraiser, it was an opportunity to inform people about the importance of our mission and provide supporters of Companions with a chance to get to know one another.

The event was a success. It provided a forum for Companions to express who we are and convey the importance of why we do what we do. The gathering also furnished crucial material support for our work. We raised over \$3,000 dollars. These funds will help our organization to provide meaningful programming to incarcerated persons, so that they may foster stronger bonds with their children and realize the good qualities that they possess.

Men and women that are being held in jails are human beings. These people have made mistakes. Like any person, they are worthy of a chance at redemption. We of Companions Journeying Together do everything possible to facilitate this. The spiritual and financial support from everyone that contributed to the July 23rd event, and our mission is appreciated. Thank you.

Insidenotes

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Garage Sale	pg. 2
Christmas Gift Wrapping	pg. 2
A Connection Story	pg. 3
IL State Commission	pg. 3
Board Profile	pg. 4
AMSB Updates	pg. 4 & 5
Parenting	pg. 5

NEEDS

- ◆ Postal Stamps.
- ◆ Large manila envelopes for mailing books to children.
- ◆ Packing tape.
- ◆ CDs
- ◆ Opportunities to speak at your civic or church group.
- ◆ People willing to organize a pen pal club of volunteers who would correspond with prisoners.

AMSB UPDATES & PARENTING



In addition to our work at the Will County Jail, we are approaching nine months of serving the women in Division 3 at the Cook County Jail. Sr. Marlene, one of our volunteers who has helped us several times at the Cook County Jail, shares her experience:

I was first introduced to this wonderful storybook project by Jana a few years ago. I was touched by its mission to provide a way for mothers and their children to be in a closer personal relationship through reading a storybook together. My experience has been most pleasant. I stand in awe of the women who select the "perfect" book for their child and I am aware of what this does to the moms. They seem pleased, with their selection of a book, happy, to know a CD is being made, and proud, of their accomplishment. A sweet message ends their reading to the child. My favorite was, "Tamara, be a good girl, say your prayers, and remember mommy will be home to tickle your toes hopefully very soon."

We have also recently started to expand our offering at the DuPage County Jail. In addition to serving the women, we are now serving the men twice each month.

Finally, we are making lots of progress on our online audio delivery system for the Aunt Mary's Storybook project. Because of the shift in technology, some computers are not coming with CD players anymore, and an increasing number of people are using mobile devices and tablets instead of computers. We want to make sure that these families can still receive the recording of their imprisoned parent reading to his or her children. To that end, we have engaged two volunteers - one from Norway and another from Tennessee - who have been working diligently to build an online system where families can log in and access their recording. The families will still receive the books in the mail, but instead of a CD, they will have a unique username and password where they can privately listen and download the recording that was made for them.

As always, we want to thank all who have donated and volunteered with our project. We continue to be touched by the many people who we serve, and are continually reminded by the imprisoned parents that this project is impactful. We look forward to serving more children and families in the coming months and years!

PARENTING UPDATE

Our newly designed parenting program has been going very smoothly throughout the year. So far, we have taught three classes: One at the DeKalb County Jail in Sycamore, Illinois, and the other two at the Kane County Jail in St. Charles, Illinois. Before the end of the year, we will be offering another session at the DeKalb County Jail.

This is the first time since we started our parenting program that we have taught at the Kane County Jail, and from all accounts, the program was a great success. Likewise, our offering at the DeKalb County Jail was successful as well. An overwhelming majority of the participants agreed that their attitudes, communication style, and problem solving skills have improved since taking the class.

We wish to extend a big thank you to Rhonda and Julie, our talented instructors, and everyone who has contributed to the success of our parenting program.

BY: LEON IRBY

3 of 3 DATED: NOVEMBER 09, 2015

journeynotes



Companions, Journeying Together, Inc.

P.O. Box 457

Western Springs, Illinois 60558-0457

Nonprofit org
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CAROL STREAM, IL

OUR GOALS ● OUR VISION ● OUR COMMITMENT

- ◆ To bridge the gaps between the free and the unfree worlds in our society.
- ◆ To implement programs that foster the personal growth of incarcerated people and their families.
- ◆ To promote family literacy, lifelong learning and positive parenting techniques
- ◆ To recruit and educate volunteers about the criminal justice system and restorative justice.

*Journeynotes is a publication of
Companions, Journeying Together, Inc.
Visit us at www.cjtinc.org*



25 YEARS OF COMPANIONS!

The Companions staff would like to hear from you.

Scott@cjtinc.org (Executive Director)

Jana@cjtinc.org (Founding Director)

Call at (630) 481-6231

[facebook.com/cjtinc](https://www.facebook.com/cjtinc)



An electronic version of our *JourneyNotes* publication is now available! Please visit our website at www.cjtinc.org to sign up!

NEEDS

- ◆ Postal Stamps.
- ◆ Large manila envelopes for mailing books to children.
- ◆ Packing tape.
- ◆ CDs
- ◆ Opportunities to speak at your civic or church group.
- ◆ People willing to organize a pen pal club of volunteers who would correspond with prisoners.

SWEET SMELL !!

THERE SOMETHING IN THE AIR TODAY!

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

NOVEMBER 09, 2015 ...

BLACK LIVES MATTER....

OCCUPY WALL STREET !!!

WHAT GOES AROUND
COMES AROUND !!!

GO'S SPIRIT !!!

I M A G I N E : O N E L O V E

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 09, 2015

WHAT HE SAID?!!

Rapper and T.V. Executive Producer 50 CENT; reportedly exclaimed Fox SMASH HIT EMPIRE lost viewers in its second season due to Advocating GAYS issues!

WHAT SHE SAY?!!

Actress and Former 50 CENTER'S "LOVER"... VIVICA FOX, slyly implied he was himself "gay" ... in Retort! #TMZ TMZONTV.COM
MONDAY NOVEMBER 09, 2015.

NO!!! BLACK GENOCIDE!!!!!!!

MY TAKE: Black Women Need Good HUSBANDS
To Propagate The RACE!!! and PROSPER!!!

XOXO

#IMAGINE: YOUNGGIFTEDANDBLACK

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 09, 2015

FREE THE INNOCENT SOUL!!!

SOUTH CAROLINA: ON December 17, 2014, Judge CARMEN MULLINS exonerated 14-year old George STINNEY, who had been executed seventy years earlier for murdering two young girls with a railroad spike. STINNEY, who was black, was the youngest person in modern times to receive the death penalty. His trial by an all-white jury lasted just three hours and it took only 10 minutes to reach a guilty verdict. There was no appeal and STINNEY was electrocuted around three months later. Judge Mullins found "fundamental, constitutional, violations of due process" in the case. The victims' families opposed the posthumous exoneration.

— END QUOTE

SOURCE: PLN NOVEMBER 2015, P. 66
NEWS.ORG

WWW.PRISONLEGAL

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 13, 2015

SOMETIMES I JUST CAN'T
HELP BELIEVING THIS WHOLE
WIDE WORLD'S JUST BIG -
JUST BIG PRISON YARD... — DYLAN

UNITED STATES: According to a report released ON March 9, 2015 by the International Centre for Prison Studies, the United States incarcerates nearly 1/3 of all female prisoners worldwide. Women represent 8.8% of the American prison population, while women are incarcerated in China at the rate of 5.1% of Nations overall prison population. The U.S. out-jails Russia as well; only 7.8% of Russia's prison population is female. The Report found that 625,000 women and children being held in lockups worldwide, and that the female prison population continues to grow on five continents.

— END QUOTE

SOURCE: PLN NOVEMBER 2015, p. 67 WWW.PRISONLEGALNEWS.ORG

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 13, 2015

FOOL! DID YOU THINK YOU COULD BE A "WINNER"!!

TAYLOR SWIFT

COURT CASE "WHOSE LYRICS"!!

UPDATE:

(A female Judge issued a Decision in favor of Taylor Swift in a court case by a Plaintiff, a Black male, claiming Taylor stole the lyrics from his own song. She used them in her Mega Hit "Shake It Off"... Haters gonna hate, etc....

I am writing only to discuss a glaring bias appearing in her Judgment apparently DISMISSING his Lawsuit for Damages and Declaratory Judgment. She cited Taylor Lyrics per se from various hit songs.

Apparently, she went from Impartial Judge to Taylor's #6. The Rise of #GIRISQUADS: A Glamour DO, p. 88 DECEMBER 2015 glamour.com/2015 DO'S & DON'TS

This must be Appealed seeking LAW over Passion. #DISNATION FRIDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2015

I am a certified Paralegal.
BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 13, 2015

POWERFUL, PORTABLE,
AND AFFORDABLE ROBOTIC EXO-
SKELETON, P. 049 [BACK-
SIDE]

SEAL COMBAT WOUNDS
IN 15 SECONDS

INVENTION X-STAT

P. 052

ONE COPY

THANK YOU!

DECODING REBEL WILSON ... MORE!

UPDATE

KEEPING-UP WITH KENDALL JENNER !!

5 The Dos & Don'ts of the Holiday Season, by
Rebel Wilson

How to win at Christmas Wanzika (or whatever
you choose to celebrate), according to Pitch
Perfect Star and newly minted fashion designer

— glamour.com / 2015 DO's & DON'TS
GLAMOUR DECEMBER 2015, P. 86

DO'S & DO'S !!

ON CBS. ON DECEMBER 8, 2015, MUST
SEE: NEW ANGEL Kendall Jenner, 20,
strut her youth Spectacular UP, down and
around VICTORIA'S SECRET FASHION SHOW WALK
OF GOLD!

SEE:

ALSO ONLY at ELLE.COM / VS at 20

DON'TS

OVEREAT YOUR HEART OUT!

BY: LEON ZRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 15, 2015

SHOUT-OUT

TO: CAN'T BE TAMED

MILEY CYRUS

UPDATE:

Wild Thing!!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

23, NOVEMBER 23...

SEE PHOTO OF SUPERPERSON JANE Fonda "KISS MY ABS!" JANE FONDA and Miley Cyrus were both honored by the Los Angeles LGBT CENTER NOV. 7.

—END QUOTE

KISSING MILEY'S ABS.

SOURCE: US WEEKLY NOVEMBER 23, 2015 USMAGAZINE.COM, P. 18

XOXO WITHOUT END!!

By: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 18, 2015

HELLO DARKNESS,
MY NEW FRIEND

P.1

ONE COPY

THANK YOU!

A MESSAGE TO THE UNIVERSE
[IS THERE ANY BODY OUT THERE]??
WILL YOU RECEIVE THIS MESSAGE !!

UPDATE: A PLEA TO "BLACK LIFE MATTER
MOVEMENT" !!

PLEASE SUPPORT AND PATRONIZE HIS MOVIES
AND PRODUCTS TO PROTECT HIM FROM UNFAIR PRACTICES
! BOYCOTT AND POLICE STATE TACTICS.

PEOPLE POWER KEEP IN YOUR COLLECTIVE HEARTS
HOW HONORABLE QUENTIN TARANTINO, PUT HIS BODY,
PURSE AND FREEDOM IN REAL JEOPARDY BY STAND-
IN SOLIDARITY! WITH "BLACK LIFE MATTER" !!

SEE ABC.COM/THEVIEW WEDNESDAY 10:AM, CST NOV-
EMBER 19, 2015

JUST LIKE BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN'S "41 BULLETS" PREVAILED
SO TOO MUST HON. TARANTINO AND "BLACK LIFE
MATTER" (US) !!

SCALIA V. SCALIA

Pages

48

49 (BACKSIDE):

50

ONE

Copy

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS!!!

EIGHT DEADLY STRANGERS

The Hateful Eight

.....

When casting his ninth film (December 25), director Quentin Tarantino had in mind a specific motley crew - including Samuel Jackson [...] and Kurt Russell. "I was writing for those guys," he has said of his post-civil war Western. "They fit... like a glove."

— END QUOTE

SOURCE: US WEEKLY NOVEMBER 16, 2015, P. 60
USMAGAZINE.COM

SEE YOUR PEOPLE POWER AT THE MOVIES!!

BY: LEON ZRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

You deserve
Good things!



*Your
beautiful
future is
ahead, just
waiting
for you!*

In a slump? Down
in the dumps?
Things going
wrong? They
won't be for long!
Everybody
experiences dips
and blips and
times when they
feel like they're
spinning their
wheels. That's
only natural—but
positively,
absolutely, totally
temporary!



We Must Learn To Understand Each Other

Conflicts always occur
It is in the resolution of conflicts
that human beings stand out
Every conflict can and should be calmed
by talking about and understanding
one another's needs
and by acting with compassion
to solve the differences
This is how all people should get along
This is how we must get along

To dream the impossible dream,
To fight the unbeatable foe,
To bear with unbearable sorrow,
To run where the brave dare not go.

To right the unrightable wrong,
To love, pure and chaste, from afar,
To try, when your arms are
too weary,
To reach the unreachable star!

This is my quest, to follow
that star,
No matter how hopeless, no matter
how far,
To fight for the right without
question or pause;
To be willing to march into hell
for a heavenly cause!

And I know, if I'll only be true
to this glorious quest,
That my heart will lie peaceful
and calm when I'm laid to
my rest.

And the world will be better
for this,
That one man, scorned and
covered with scars,
Still strove with his last ounce
of courage,
To reach the unreachable stars!

The Man of La Mancha

*"Unexpected
kindness is the
most powerful,
most underrated
agent of human
change. Kindness
that catches us
by surprise brings
out the best
in our natures."*

BOB KERREY, former
governor of Nebraska and
Vietnam War veteran

*With each dream
accomplished, bigger
ones are put in their place."*

Golden-Globe-winning actress **GINA RODRIGUEZ**

*"To sing from the heart and to sing
from the soul is like catching
a glimpse of heaven here below."*

singer and cast member of the original *Sound of Music*
on Broadway, **KAAREN MILS**



BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

THE FIRST BLACK PRESIDENT!
AKA FIRST GAY PRESIDENT?

UPDATE: AUGUST 24, 2014

As Bill Clinton was dubbed "The First BLACK PRESIDENT", President Barack H. Obama is "THE FIRST GAY PRESIDENT" !!!

When it comes to gay issues President Obama is AKA DONALD TRUMP "WRECKING BALL" !!

SO NOW WHAT?

President Obama Plans to Nominate Eric Fanning, first openly gay, Secretary to The ARMY #GMA goodmorningamerica.com NEWS TICKER ABC NEWS.COM SEPTEMBER 19, 2013, WEEKEND SUNDAY/SATURDAY 7: A.M. CDT. USA

TELL MORE!

Moreover, President Obama invited an openly gay priest to the White House Ceremony for Pope Francis on September 23, 2014.

WHAT DID REP. (D. CA.) MAXIZINE WATERS 'SAV

Rep. (D. CA.) Maxizine Waters told PBS.org/TAVIS SMILEY President Obama would not meet with the Black Congressional Caucus (CBC), but instead tell them: 'He is not the Black People President.

KEEP TALKING!!!

Plus, if the Black Caucus members dared to constructively criticize his benign neglect of his Black constituents, the alleged Black folks would forcefully attack them, AKA, The Messengers.

WHAT MORE CAN BE SAID

The current issue of the Gay OUT MAGAZINE, for the first time has picture of a President, namely, Barack H. Obama, on its cover with CAPTIONED C... [Black] He is Ours!

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Mr. Obama is bound for glory! History shall place him up there next to President Washington.

BY: LEON IRBY

2 of 2 DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

A MESSAGE TO THE UNIVERSE
[IS THERE ANY BODY OUT THERE]??
WILL YOU RECEIVE THIS MESSAGE !!

SHOUT OUT
TO: RHONDA RHIMES

Monday, November 09, 2015, Ms. Rhonda Rhimes,
The Creator and Executive Producer of such Specta-
cular Blockbusters ABC.com TV Shows as Grey's
Anatomy and Scandal - Made the NETWORK ROUNDS
Promoting her New Book "YEAR OF YES" with
November 10, 2015 Release Date...

ON A PLANE SEAT BELT TOO SMALL TO FIT
AROUND HER BODY

Ms. Rhimes candidly ADMITTED... exclaimed of
an "AHA MOMENT" "ON THANKSGIVING DAY 2013" when
she accepted to herself - thus abandoning her
self-DENIAL -; SHE WAS TOO FAT "... AND CON-
SEQUENTLY, the First Year "lost 100 LBS."

— THANK YOU... SOUL SISTA !!

NOW, PLEASE SEND COPIES OF YOUR POWERFUL BOOK
TO EACH AND EVERYONE OF THOSE FAT BLACK WOMEN

strewed all over T.V. Like ms. Oprah; ABC.com /
THE VIEW / WHOOP!; CBS.com / THE TALK Sheryl Under-
wood; PBS.org / THE NEWS HOUR GWENIFILL ;
#THE REAL (a) LONNIE LOVE ; #Fightthisminute ;
Medredith VEIRA SHOW.com "WHAT'S HOW NOW"
(Roaring) and without END ..

Check OUT: Rhimes and Winfrey, on
Oprah Winfrey, ON DOWN, 7p.m, Tuesday 11/17
[SEE ENCORE]

SEE ALSO below pp. 3-4

MY TAKE: HOLLYWOOD WHITE MALE SHOW THEIR
ENSE MALICE TOWARDS BLACK FOLKS BY PRO-
JECTING REFLECTIONS OF PREDOMINATE FAT WOMEN
THROUGHOUT OUR UNIVERSE !!

#FIGHTTHEBATTLEOF

OPRAH

The brand, which is based in Maranello, in northern Italy, has grown over the years to become an emblem of high performance and wealth. It has a record number of constructors' world championships in Formula One and its coveted street cars sell for hundreds of thousands of dollars. Here's a look at what's behind the move to float the shares.

WHY TAKE FERRARI PUBLIC?

The move will raise cash for Fiat Chrysler, the world's seventh largest automaker, to fund its ambitious plans to expand the Alfa Romeo brand and its other higher-margin luxury cars, such as Maserati.

Spinning off a part of Ferrari will also help relieve Fiat Chrysler of some of its debt, as the parent company will receive 2.25 billion euros (\$2.55 billion) from Ferrari before the spinoff.

Another key reason: Fiat Chrysler and Ferrari as separate companies are worth much more on the market than as combined entities. And that's good for shareholders, including the biggest one, the Agnelli family.

HOW'S THE TIMING?

While the Ferrari public offering comes at a time of slowing economic growth, analysts say the company's cachet and aura of exclusivity should bolster investor interest in the shares.

Just 9 percent of the company is on the market, with another 1 percent reserved for underwriters. It's a rare opportunity for investors to get a piece of Ferrari.

Fiat Chrysler, which will retain an 80 percent share in Ferrari, said it will distribute Ferrari stock to its shareholders next year. The remaining 10 percent belongs to the Ferrari family.

HOW MUCH IS FERRARI WORTH?

Fiat Chrysler said the initial public offering will price Ferrari at between \$48 and \$52 per share, with the company expected to set a definite price later Tuesday.

That would value Ferrari at around \$9.8 billion.

Some experts had estimated the company's value is only half that. But Pierluigi Bellini, analyst with IHS Automotive, said the relatively low number of shares being floated makes it likely that valuation will be reached and could be even 20 percent higher.

In presentations to investors in recent weeks, Fiat Chrysler has been trying to cast Ferrari as not just a carmaker but as a luxury goods company, which tend to have a higher valuation per share.

Fiat Chrysler wants to cash in on Ferrari's racing and supercar cachet along with its lifestyles appeal. Besides cars, Ferrari has an extensive range of branded fashion items as well as a Ferrari World theme park in Abu Dhabi, with another set to open in Barcelona.

HOW IS FERRARI'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE?

White Sergio Marchionne, the CEO of Fiat Chrysler CEO and chairman of Ferrari, has lamented the brand's Formula One

performance over recent seasons, he can't complain about its financial track record. Even when Ferrari didn't win on the racing circuit, it has been cashing in profits. Ferrari reported a net profit of 265 million euros (currently \$300 million) last year, up 7 percent from the previous year. Its net revenues have grown by 7 percent annually from 2005 to 2014.

It could be Ferrari's moment, with fortunes turning around even on the race track. After being shut out of the winner's circle in 2014, the Scuderia Ferrari Formula One team has won three Grand Prix races this year.

WHO BUYS FERRARI?

With coupes costing over \$250,000 and a special edition hybrid La Ferrari commanding 1 million euros (\$1.13 million) — and only available to those who already own a Ferrari — it's no surprise that the market is the wealthiest segment of the population.

The United States is Ferrari's No. 1 market, with about one-third of sales, equal to that of Britain, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and France combined. Greater China is around 8 percent of sales. Ferrari aims to expand in the Middle East as it continues to wean its dependence off its core U.S., German and Italian markets, which just 20 years ago comprised 90 percent of sales.

Ferrari has capped production at around 7,000 units to maintain exclusivity, but analysts expect that to expand gradually as the number of people who can afford a Ferrari is growing globally.

Ferrari prices IPO at \$52, near top of range

Ferrari has priced its initial public offering at \$52 a share in New York, Renaissance Capital reports.

That would put it at the top of expectations, which were \$48 to \$52, and would raise \$893 million. It will trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol RACE.

The Italian maker of some of the world's most famous exotic sports cars is being spun off from Fiat Chrysler Automobiles.

Oprah Winfrey goes on diet, gains Weight Watchers deal

NEW YORK (AP) — Oprah Winfrey, who has publicly struggled with her weight for decades, is going on a diet again. But this time she stands to gain a lot of money from her efforts.

Weight Watchers said Monday that it signed a five-year deal with the former talk show host. Winfrey, a co-owner of OWN: The Oprah Winfrey Network, is paying about \$43.2 million for a 10 percent stake in the weight loss company.

The deal is already paying off: Weight Watchers shares more than doubled after the partnership was announced, earning Winfrey about \$45 million on paper.

Winfrey will use the Weight Watchers mobile app and work with a personal coach, the company said. She has also agreed to let Weight Watchers use her name, image and likeness for its products and services.

Additionally, she will make appearances on the company's behalf.

"Weight Watchers has given me the tools to begin to make the lasting shift that I and so many of us who are struggling with weight have longed for," Winfrey said in a statement. "I believe in the program so much I decided to invest in the company and partner in its evolution."

Weight Watchers is no stranger to celebrities. It has paid singers Jessica Simpson and Jennifer Hudson to promote its plan. But the deal with Winfrey is a shift to focus on overall health and wellness, rather than just dropping pounds.

"We are expanding our purpose from focusing on weight loss alone to more broadly helping people lead a healthier, happier life," said Weight Watchers President and CEO Jim Chambers said in a statement. The company has been hurt by the popularity of fitness trackers and other health apps. MyFitnessPal lets users track steps, workouts and the amount of calories they eat for free on its app. Buying a FitBit tracker unlocks similar free online tools. Weight Watchers charges for its online food tracking, and weekly meetings and weigh ins have been a hallmark of its plan. Its shares were down 73 percent for the year through Friday. The company's earnings have fallen every year since 2011. To boost its earnings, the company announced \$100 million in cost cuts earlier this year.

Winfrey's weight has yo-yoed over the years, and she's been very open publicly about her struggles with dieting.

In fact, weight was a frequent subject of her talk show, which ended nearly five years ago after 25 years on the air. In 1988, a thin Winfrey famously walked out on stage wheeling 67 pounds of fat in a wagon, representing the weight she lost. But her weight has fluctuated over time.

Her weight was still an issue as "The Oprah Winfrey Show" came to an end. She told the TV interviewer Barbara Walters that one of her goals was to "make peace with the whole weight thing."

Since then, Winfrey has talked about being uncomfortable with being the subject on the cover of her magazine because of her weight gain.

Winfrey can now trade weight loss tips with her best friend, Gayle King. The host of TV news program "CBS This Morning" told her Instagram followers five weeks ago that she joined Weight Watchers. Last week, King indicated in an Instagram post that she had lost more than seven pounds on the plan. Representatives for Winfrey and King did not respond to requests for an interview. Meanwhile, Weight Watchers is hoping to tap into Winfrey's ability to turn ordinary products into the latest trend.

A stamp of approval from Winfrey during her talk show was powerful. Books she recommended skyrocketed up best seller lists and products shown on her holiday gift guide episodes would sometimes sell out.

3 of 4

Before the uprising erupted, Assad had cultivated an image of himself as a nationalist hero fighting Western imperialism and ensuring stable, secular rule in a turbulent region wracked by sectarian wars. That allowed him to rally support that stretched beyond his minority Alawite base. He still retains a significant amount of support from Alawites and other minority sects who view him as a bulwark for ensuring their survival in the face of the Sunni-led rebellion.

FRIENDS LIKE THESE

The fact that Assad has survived the war is largely due to powerful allies Iran and Russia, which have used political, financial and military means to shore up his forces. Their unswerving support is in sharp contrast to the muddled response by the U.S. administration, and has injected a self-assurance that Assad would not be allowed to fall like other Arab dictators who were either imprisoned or killed.

Assad flashed wide smiles as he shook hands with Putin and other officials in Moscow on Tuesday. "We thank you for standing by Syria's territorial integrity and its independence," Assad told Putin.

The two allies have gradually ramped up their support of Assad throughout the conflict, especially at times when his forces appeared to be nearing collapse.

Iran has devoted millions of dollars' worth of aid to propping up the Syrian army and funding Iranian-backed militias, especially Lebanon's Hezbollah, to fight alongside Assad. It also sent military experts and advisers to the country and recently began deploying hundreds of Revolutionary Guards to fight alongside government forces.

Russia has consistently used its veto power at the U.N. Security Council to shield Assad and last month began airstrikes in Syria following significant territorial losses by government forces to the rebels. That has allowed the government to launch multiple offensives on several fronts and make small but steady advances in several areas across the country.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS DEAL

The agreement reached by the U.S. and Russia in September 2013 under which Assad would give up his chemical weapons arsenal gave a major boost to the Syrian leader. The last minute agreement averted U.S.-led strikes against the Syrian government as punishment for a deadly chemical weapons attack in Damascus on August 21, 2013, something that President Barack Obama had declared would be a "red line."

The deal provided that Assad would declare and hand over Syria's chemical weapons stockpile for destruction. Although he has done that, Assad's forces have been blamed for dropping barrel bombs containing chlorine and other toxic agents on civilian areas. Critics say the deal encouraged Assad to continue carrying out chemical attacks which are harder to prove, and to continue acting with impunity.

ISLAMIC STATE ADVANCES

The rise of Islamic extremists in Syria, including the Islamic State group with its spectacular atrocities, has eclipsed the wider civil war and shifted attention away from Assad. By reducing the discourse on Syria to the battle against IS, many charge that the West has served Assad's interests and reinforced his narrative about the conflict being driven by Islamic extremists. Many critics also charge that Assad purposely facilitated and fueled the extremist surge to cling to power, by releasing Islamist prisoners in the early days of the war. If that was the plan, it succeeded in convincing many observers that his remaining in power is the least-bad option.

Typhoon leaves 11 dead, Filipino villagers saved from flood

CABANATUAN, Philippines (AP) — Army, police and civilian volunteers rushed Monday to rescue hundreds of villagers trapped in their flooded homes and on rooftops in a northern Philippine province battered by slow-moving Typhoon Koppu, officials said. The typhoon blew ashore into northeastern Aurora province early Sunday, leaving at least 11 dead, forcing more than 65,000 villagers from their homes, and leaving nine provinces without electricity. By Monday afternoon, Koppu had weakened into a tropical storm over Ilocos Norte province with winds of 105 kilometers (65 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 135 kph (84 mph). Several of the affected provinces, led by Nueva Ecija, were inundated by floods that swelled rivers and cascaded down mountains, trapping villagers in their homes, said Nigel Lontoc of the Office of Civil Defense.

"There were people who got trapped by the flood on their roofs, some were rescued already," Vice Mayor Henry Velarde of Nueva Ecija's Jaen town told The Associated Press by telephone, adding that about 80 percent of 27 villages in his farming town of more than 45,000 people were inundated by flood.

When a flooded river swamped the villages, residents scrambled to safety but many failed to save their poultry and farm animals. Out of more than 5,000 ducks, for example, only about 1,000 were saved and many rice crops ready to be harvested in a few weeks turned into a muddy waste, he said.

"Our rice farms looked like it was ran over by a giant flat iron," Velarde said. "All the rice stalks were flattened in one direction."

Hundreds of soldiers, police and volunteers have converged on Nueva Ecija, a landlocked, rice-growing province in the heart of Luzon island, to help villagers whose homes had been flooded, said Lontoc.

Erwin Jacinto, a 37-year-old resident of Nueva Ecija's Santa Rosa town, said the flooding turned his farmland into "nothing but mud."

Jacinto spoke from atop a high bridge where dozens of farmers stayed in the open overnight with their families, and their pigs, goats and chickens.

At least 11 people have died. One man was buried by a landslide while checking his farm on Sunday in the mountain town of Bakun in Benguet province. Two men drowned in Nueva Ecija, while a 14-year-old boy was killed when a tree branch fell on his family's shanty in suburban Quezon city in metropolitan Manila.

Seven people died when a passenger motorboat capsized in bad weather in the central Philippines, but the government's disaster-response agency has not included the deaths in the typhoon toll because the central region was not directly affected by the storm. President Benigno Aquino III, who flew to Nueva Ecija to check the flooding and distribute food packs in an emergency shelter, said the typhoon's unusually slow speed allowed it to batter the north for about three days instead of just a few hours. Rain dumped by the typhoon in the north may rampage through rivers late Monday to Tuesday and put at risk about 800 downstream villages, where residents have been urged not to return home. "They think it is safe already to go back to their communities but we are preventing them right now," Aquino told reporters.

Koppu, Japanese for "cup," is the 12th storm this year to hit the Philippines, which averages 20 storms and typhoons each year. In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan leveled entire towns in the central Philippines and left more than 7,300 people dead or missing.

Hershey's doubling size of Kisses with new hazelnut product

HERSHEY, Pa. (AP) — Pennsylvania's most iconic chocolate maker is doubling-down on one of its most popular treats.

The Hershey Company on Tuesday announced its Hershey Kisses Deluxe. The new Kisses, on sale Nov. 5, will be twice the size of a normal Kiss — the oversized, chocolate chips wrapped in silver foil — and feature a hazelnut center and rice crisps in the chocolate.

The bigger Kisses are wrapped in gold foil and, according to the company's website, will be packaged in quantities ranging from 3 to 75. The three-Kiss box will cost \$1; the 75-piece gift box will be \$32.

Company officials tell USA Today the innovation is the biggest since the central Pennsylvania company added almonds to the Kisses 25 years ago.

Ferrari for sale: Legendary brand races toward share listing

MILAN (AP) — Ferrari is racing toward a public share offering this week, making it possible for investors to buy a piece of the legendary maker of luxury sports cars and Formula One racing machines.

The parent company, mass-market carmaker Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, will float almost a tenth of the company's shares on Wall Street on Wednesday under the stock name RACE.

Fiat Chrysler is hoping the listing will value the company founded in 1929 by Italian sports driver Enzo Ferrari at \$10 billion.

But it might be harder to get her message across now. "She has less contact with people on a daily basis," said Craig Garthwaite, an assistant professor of strategy at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. In 2012, for example, Winfrey relaunched her book club, but it doesn't hold the same power. "Most people don't know that it exists," said Garthwaite.

Besides the OWN network, Winfrey reaches fans through O, The Oprah Magazine and Oprah.com. She also has a strong social media following with more than 29 million followers on Twitter, 11 million on Facebook and 4 million on Instagram.

The Weight Watchers endorsement is a departure for Winfrey. Throughout her talk show reign, Winfrey did not make money off endorsements, Garthwaite said. Since leaving the talk show, she has also lent her name to Starbucks Corp., which sells Oprah-branded tea drinks.

Winfrey is buying about 6.4 million shares of Weight Watchers at \$6.79 per share. She will also receive options to buy an additional 5 percent of the company's fully diluted shares. She is also joining the company's board. Shares of New York-based Weight Watchers International Inc. soared \$7.13, or 105 percent, to close at \$13.92 Monday.

In U.S., Toyota recall will include 2 million cars

The worldwide recall that Toyota has ordered over a power-window switch will include 2 million vehicles. And that comes on top of a previous recall over the same issue that can lead to fires.

The recall in the U.S. is part of 6.5 million vehicles being recalled worldwide.

The issue involves the driver's side power window master switch, which the automaker says may not have been sufficiently lubricated when it left the factory.

If it didn't get enough grease, the switch can possibly develop a short circuit. If that occurs, the switch could overheat, then melt and catch on fire. Previously, Toyota recalled 2007 to 2009 models, and it just added one more model from the era, the Camry and Camry Hybrid. But the expanded recall now includes 2009 to 2011 models.

They are the Corolla, Matrix, Sequoia, Tundra and Scion xB. The rest of the models vary in the years under recall. They are the 2008 to 2011 Highlander and its hybrid version; 2006 to 2011 RAV4; 2009 to 2011 Scion xD; and 2006 to 2010 Yaris.

Amazon to hire 100,000 people for the holidays

NEW YORK - Amazon (AMZN) plans to hire 100,000 people for the holidays, a 25% jump from last year that reveals a shift in the way we shop.

The online retailer said Tuesday that it will be hiring across the country for jobs in its fulfillment and sorting facilities. The Seattle company recently hired more than 25,000 people for regular, full-time positions. It

hired 80,000 workers last year for the holidays.

Amazon stands out among retailers, with holiday hiring expected to remain largely unchanged, according to a report from Challenger, Gray & Christmas.

"It used to be that the bulk of holiday hires would be in customer-facing positions on the sales floor and behind the cash register, said CEO said John Challenger. "These extra workers would also help pick up the slack in the backroom, helping to receive and stock increased deliveries. Now, as more and more shopping is completed online, the holiday hiring is shifting away from stores and into the warehouses."

A mixed hiring picture from retailers is emerging during a dicey period for the U.S. Labor Department reported earlier this month that a sharp slowdown in hiring occurred in September. Average hourly wages slipped by a penny and have risen a tepid 2.2 percent in the past year.

Wal-Mart is hiring 60,000 holiday employees, Target about 70,000 and Macy's 85,000, which are all about flat compared with last year. Kohl's is hiring about 2,000 additional workers. J.C. Penney and Toys R Us are hiring fewer, while GameStop is hiring about 12 percent more workers.

Amazon.com has more than 90,000 full-time employees at its more than 50 fulfillment centers and 20 sorting facilities in the U.S.

New Chevrolet Camaro droptop on the way

Chevrolet acknowledged the inevitable Monday — a convertible of the 2016 Camaro is on the way.

"One of these days we may add this beautiful looking convertible," said Al Oppenheiser, chief engineer for the sixth generation of the classic muscle car, at a dinner Monday evening at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit. About 50 auto journalists will start a cross-country drive of the new Camaro. Collectively the drive will cover 160,000 miles through 48 states, with events scheduled in 15 cities to draw attention to the car.

While the Camaro is the trip's center of attention, Chevrolet is bringing five redesigned cars — the Volt, Spark, Malibu, Cruze and Camaro — to market during the strongest U.S. new vehicle market in more than 10 years. But much of that strength is fueled by low gas prices and consumers' affinity for pickup trucks, large SUVs and crossover models.

In addition to the redesigned cars, General Motors' bowtie brand has introduced a diesel engine option in its Colorado midsize pickup and tweaked its Silverado fullsize pickup for the 2016 model year. Earlier this year Chevy began offering Android Auto and Apple CarPlay to its connectivity menu, which is built around in-vehicle 4G LTE wireless access.

Alan Batey, Chevrolet's global president, plugged the freshened pipeline as tangible

evidence of the "Find New Roads" marketing line.

"We are delivering on our promise to move people's hearts and their minds," Batey said. "It's about technology not for the super-rich but for all the people."

'Star Wars' tickets are already on sale — if you can get them

The Force may be awakening, but movie ticket websites are crashing.

Star Wars: The Force Awakens isn't in theaters until the evening of Dec. 17, but fans quickly nabbed seats for the first shows, which went on sale just before 8 p.m. ET Monday. They were originally announced to be available just after the trailer launch at halftime of ESPN's *Monday Night Football*. There was so much interest that sites such as Fandango.com,

AMCTheatres.com, MovieTickets.com and others slowed to a crawl, if they worked at all.

Arelight and Fandango right now

pic.twitter.com/hquLpAmwfw

— Eric Goldman (@TheEricGoldman)

October 20, 2015

Not surprisingly, folks took to social media to complain about this disturbance in the Force. Got my @Drafthouse tickets for a "Star Wars" sequel called "Database Error Occurred." Sounds dark.

— Omar L. Gallaga (@omarg) October 20, 2015

The internet, when I try to get Star Wars tickets, and the horrifying result of not being able to see it. pic.twitter.com/9oV9heOCUW

— Russ Fischer (@russfischer) October 20, 2015

Trying to buy Star Wars tickets li-

pic.twitter.com/g7woWTvhPz

— BuzzFeed (@BuzzFeed) October 20, 2015

'Goosebumps' cracks to No. 1 at box office When it came to this weekend's box office, it would have been wise to bet on black. Jack Black.

Goosebumps, starring Black as children's horror author R.L. Stine, stormed its way to \$23.5 million at the box office and No. 1 in a crowded field of quality film openings, according to studio estimates.

Families turned out for the pre-Halloween tale, which Black tirelessly promoted — from singing on late-night TV with Stephen Colbert to performing a

Goosebumps-themed rap on the Internet.

"Jack Black was everywhere with his bigger-than-life personality," says Rentrak box office analyst Paul Dergarabedian. "He really was the best marketing resource, a

tireless showman and a large part of the number one opening."

Goosebumps scored 71% positive reviews from critics on RottenTomatoes.com and received an A from audiences on CinemaScore.

The Martian and Matt Damon continued to play strong, taking second place with \$21.5 million after the Ridley Scott-directed film won the past two weekends for a box-office total of \$143.8 million.

BY: LEON IRBY

4 OF 4 DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks' real-life Cold War drama *Bridge of Spies* opened surprisingly strong with \$15.4 million and third place. The drama scored powerfully with critics, with a 92% approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes, and earned an A grade on CinemaScore.

"The Cold War is especially not an easy sell. So this was a good start," says Jeff Bock, box-office analyst for Exhibitor Relations. "And Spielberg will have a long run in theaters, especially with any awards considerations. This could play through the year."

Guillermo del Toro's Gothic love story *Crimson Peak* underperformed in fourth place with \$12.8 million. The all-star cast, which includes Tom Hiddleston, Jessica Chastain and Mia Wasikowska, earned a 68% critical approval rating and failed to score with audiences, who gave it a B-.

The tepid opening by the admired director hurts *Crimson Peak* "because it has a short shelf life," Bock says. "This was disappointing because horror films traditionally gross most of their money in their opening weekends."

Animated *Hotel Transylvania 2* rounded out the top five, continuing to pull in audiences in its fourth weekend with \$12.3 million (\$136.4 million total). With Adam Sandler voicing Dracula and Mel Brooks as his vampire father, the comedy is benefiting from seasonal family interest.

Room, the drama starring Brie Larson and newcomer Jacob Tremblay as a mother and son escaping a trapped life in a single room, had a strong limited opening in four New York and Los Angeles theaters for \$120,000, a \$30,000 per-screen average. The film festival darling and early awards favorite has a 95% critical approval rating and an A from audiences.

Steve Jobs, directed by Danny Boyle and starring Michael Fassbender as the iconic Apple co-founder, opened in 60 additional theaters ahead of next weekend's wide release. The drama earned \$1.5 million (\$2.3 million total) in its second weekend. **IMDb Announces Top Movies of the Past 25 Years**

Once upon a time, when movies opened in theaters they were allowed to stick around for a few weeks and develop a following. Word of mouth—the kind of advertising money can't buy—was the foundation for many a cult hit, and the brightest discoveries would stay on screens for months. Blockbusters like *The Godfather* or *Doctor Zhivago* might be playing in the same theater for a year.

Today, not so much. As pre-release buzz floods social media channels, by opening night a film's fate is all but set in stone. If a movie doesn't develop traction in its first weekend—even a critically acclaimed one—it can easily disappear off everyone's radar. For that reason, we celebrate IMDb's newly curated list of the top films for each of the last 25 years. It not only gives us a chance to

toast movies with huge fan bases, but also to rediscover some gems we might have overlooked when they first hit screens. IMDb's Top 25 is a place where billion-dollar hits like 2008's *The Dark Knight* can strut alongside an underdog like 1992's *Reservoir Dogs*. Though well-reviewed at the time, Quentin Tarantino's first movie barely made a dent during its 1992 art house release, grossing just \$2.8 million. Today, *Reservoir Dogs* is justly celebrated as the film that launched the career of a daring new filmmaker.

The Top 25 is also where Christopher Nolan's films get major props. From 2000 (*Memento*) through 2014 (*Interstellar*), IMDb users found five slots for the director's works.

Leonardo DiCaprio's fan base definitely has a home at IMDb. The actor is represented by no fewer than four titles from the last 25 years.

Mainstream hits like *Saving Private Ryan*, *The Departed*, and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy all find a slot. But there's still room for the French blockbuster *Intouchables*, which—for IMDb users—topped 2011's *Hugo*, *The Artist*, and *Midnight in Paris*. (Gee, who thought 2011 was such a French year?)

Who created the list?

Launched with little fanfare in 1990, the Internet Movie Database (IMDb) has since grown to become the internet's foremost community of filmmakers, movie nerds, fanboys and fangirls, and Hollywood insiders—both behind the scenes and abroad. They're as large and varied a group of movie lovers as you are likely to find on the interwebs, ranging from cineastes who attend film festivals and see hundreds of movies a year, to regular folks who sit next to you and me at the local multiplex on opening night. Users rate movies on a scale of 1 to 10, but the final number is not a strict average of the scores. There's a filtering system designed to minimize ballot stuffing, and the scores are weighted to favor the ratings of the site's most frequent users.

Although IMDb has long published a list of the Top 250 rated movies—*The Shawshank Redemption* edges *The Godfather* on that list—in celebration of its 25th anniversary this year, IMDb has also curated a list of the top film from each of the 25 years it has been in existence.

Now, without further ado, may we have the envelope, please?

1990: *Goodfellas*

1991: *The Silence of the Lambs* | Netflix

1992: *Reservoir Dogs*

1993: *Schindler's List*

1994: *The Shawshank Redemption*

1995: *Se7en*

1996: *Fargo* | Netflix, Hulu Plus

1997: *Life Is Beautiful*

1998: *Saving Private Ryan*

1999: *Fight Club*

2000: *Memento*

2001: *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship*

of the Ring

2002: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*

2003: *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*

2004: *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*

2005: *Batman Begins* | Netflix

2006: *The Departed*

2007: *Into the Wild*

2008: *The Dark Knight*

2009: *Inglourious Basterds* | Netflix

2010: *Inception*

2011: *Intouchables*

2012: *Django Unchained* | Netflix

2013: *The Wolf of Wall Street* | Hulu Plus, Epix

2014: *Interstellar* | Epix

Tracy Morgan to embark on national comedy tour

Tracy Morgan is getting ready to bring on the laughs as he crosses the country in a nationwide standup comedy tour.

Hot on the heels of a busy weekend for the comedian, which included a stint

hosting *Saturday Night Live* and a

touching appearance to salute his

friend Eddie Murphy at the Kennedy Center, Morgan has announced he'll embark on his *Tracy Morgan: Picking Up the Pieces* tour on Feb. 5 at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Ind.

Heading back out on the road to bring the funny. Come see me:

<https://t.co/4fBhXf3CoB#pickingupthepieces> — Tracy Morgan (@RealTracyMorgan)

October 20, 2015

Stops include the Wilbur Theater in Boston on Feb. 20, the Grand Theater at Foxwoods in Mashantucket, CT, on March 19, and a return to the Kennedy Center on April 22. The last date listed on his website is May 28 in Westhampton Beach, NY, but a note reads that more dates are coming soon. "It's just like falling off a bike and getting back on, that's all — you don't forget where the pedals are," Morgan says in a statement about getting back to touring. "People can expect more of what I did before. It's me, funny + truth = Tracy Morgan. I can't wait to get back to ya'll; city to city, state to state, watch me operate."

Eddie Murphy receives top US humor prize at Kennedy Center

WASHINGTON (AP) — A star-studded lineup of comedians including Chris Rock, Dave Chappelle, George Lopez, Kathy Griffin and Arsenio Hall honored Eddie Murphy as an "American icon."

The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts presented the comedian Sunday with the Mark Twain Prize, the nation's top prize for humor.

The evening's most emotional tribute came from "Saturday Night Live" alum Tracy Morgan, who received a standing ovation from the audience. He called Murphy his "comedic hero."

Morgan survived a serious car crash last year that left him in a coma. Morgan said Murphy was the first person to call him on the phone

SHOUT-OUT

TO: PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

UPDATE:

MR. President thank you - Sir! - for at too long last adopting the Realpolitik clear-eyed vision and correct language to describe these feeble and, in some cases, old and out-dated GOP Presidential contenders, like [John McCain (R. AZ.)] Sen. Lindsey Graham, Donald Trump all talk and NO "Profile IN COURAGE" action - as this blogger has candidly posted since 2013...

They make us look cowardly and weak instead of the "Land of the Brave"!

They shall miss you when you're gone - Sir (2017).

Your country need your wise leadership!

God bless you!

God bless us (UNIVERSE) ALL!

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

Tracking the nation's conversation

TOON TALK



ROB ROGERS, PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE, UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 2015

November 19, 2015

Between the Bars
P.O. Box 425103
Cambridge, MA. 02142

RE: [http://betweenthebars.org/
blogs/275\('URL'\)](http://betweenthebars.org/blogs/275('URL'))

Dear Friends!

Always, I wish to keep in your "HEART"
"TEAM" ... how grateful I remain for your
gratis priceless allowing me (US) access
to the Universal "Notes"!!! Heb. 13:1-3

Accordingly, I have enclosed 41
Pages and 27 Post for Posting!!

Thank you!

ENC.

41-pages

PAUSE

Acem

LEON IRBY

(DOC #033802A)

Columbia Correctional Institution

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Portage, WI. 53901-0900