

To: BETWEEN THE BARS  
Friends:

Please consider these 62  
Page would no doubt amount to  
No more than 30 Typed Pages.

My Last Blog was Last  
Month! GC!

Thank you!  
Jenna

9-05-2016

September 05, 2016

Between The Bars  
2885 Sanford Ave NW  
Granville, MA 49418

RE: <http://betweenthebars.org/blogs/275/> ("URL")

Dear Friends:  
ZZZ JHN, 1:2

Thank you ALL there for this price  
less gratis gift which allows  
MY MIND ( - NOBS) to gracefully  
ESCAPE THIS NOXIOUS... TOXIC Solitary  
EXISTENCE!!! HER. 13:14

Accordingly, I have enclosed 62  
pages and 23 blogs requesting  
they be POSTED!

And Thank you!!!

ENC.  
62 pages

PAUSE  
~~LEON~~  
LEON ZRBY  
DOC # 033802-A7  
Columbia Correctional Institution  
PO Box 900  
Portage, WI, 53901-0900

## Birds of a Feather

Troubles, dear Lord, have cast us loose from assumptions and certainties, and we are bobbing along like rudderless boats on a stormy surf.

When all hope is gone, we spot doves on the horizon. Doves like you sent Noah to assure him the Flood was nearly over. Such doves are in phone calls from friends; in the smile of a neighbor; in the wisdom of a caregiver and counselor; in a hearty laugh or good, cleansing tears; in the flash of a new idea, a goal, and a dream.

We recognize landmarks now and can see our way through the storm, guided by your love-winged messengers.



"Humans may be social beings, but solitude has been shown to have great societal value. Jesus was a great healer and teacher, but he took time to rest and pray. Solitude is essential for our spiritual experience—it is where we hear the still, small voice."

"Frequently people think compassion and love are merely sentimental. No! They are very demanding. If you are going to be compassionate, be prepared for action."

ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU,  
Nobel Peace Prize winner



*Miss Me But Let Me Go ...*

*When I come to the end of the day  
And the sun has set for me*

*I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.*

*Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little, but not too long*

*And not with your head bowed low.*

*Remember the love we once shared -*

*Miss me, but let me go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take*

*And each must go alone.*

*It's all a part of the Maker's plan,*

*A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick at heart*

*Go to the friends we know*

*And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds -*

*Miss me, but let me go*



## WAKE-UP CALLS



**A bad habit never disappears miraculously.  
It's an undo-it-yourself project.**

*Abigail Van Buren*

**My barn having burned to the ground,  
I can see the moon.**

*Chinese proverb*

**The ultimate test of a friendship is to  
disagree, but to hold hands.**

*Alexandra Penney*

**Always leave time in your life to do  
something that makes you happy, satisfied, even joyous.  
that has more effect on economic well-being  
than any other single factor.**

*Paul Hawken*

### **A GRIN OR TWO!** *(from the Internet)*

What do Eskimos get for sitting on the ice too long? Polaroids.

What do you call four bullfighters in quicksand? Quatro cinco

Why do gorillas have big nostrils? Because they have big fingers.

Why don't blind people like to skydive? Because it scares the dog.

What's the difference between roast beef and pea soup? Anybody can roast beef.

How are a Texas tornado and a Tennessee divorce the same? Somebody's gonna lose a trailer.

Now admit it.....at least one of these made you smile!!



2017

PRISON CONFERENCE TO BE  
HELD IN OHIO AND CALIFORNIA

IN COLUMBUS, OHIO, FROM AUGUST 26-29  
TITLED "BEHIND THE BARS 2016"

AND AT THE UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW IN  
LOS ANGELES FROM SEPTEMBER 23-24,  
2016...

AMONG "HOT TOPICS" SEPTEMBER 9,  
2016 - THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTICA  
REBELLION, AND THE U.S.C.A 13TH AMEND-  
MENT CLAUSE WHICH LEGALIZE "SLAVERY"  
AND "INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE" FOR PUNISH-  
MENT FOR CONVICTED CRIME...

SOURCE: <https://behindthebarsnoblogs.org>,  
<https://inocnoblogs.org>, <https://supportprisonerresistance.org>, <https://law.ucla.edu> [PLN, August 2013, p. 36]

Info (a) PrisonLegalNews.org  
WWW.PrisonLegalNews.org

POSTED BY: LEON Z RBY AUGUST 20, 2016

(2 of 2

WWW. PRISONLEGALNEWS.ORG

IN CA

If I had the chance,  
I'd ask the world to dance  
I'm dancing with myself

— BILLY IDOL

“DANCING IN THE DARK”  
— THE BOSS



# SEPARATION ANXIETY

SEVENTEEN.MAGAZINE.COM

## UNIVERSAL FRIENDS,

Let's Share...

I LIVE MY LIFE IN HIGH ANXIETY!!!

Mr. Paul C. March 15, 2015, wrote me and an unkind and hurtful blog taking sick pleasure in heckling at me that though I'd been blogging since 2012 - NO cares to read them!!!

Those like Mr. Paule could never relate to my deep pain and outrage when confronted with the Establishment's "Mouth piece" [e.g. REPORTERS! "EXPERTS"! ABC.COM / THE VIEW! PBS.ORG / CHARLIE ROSE! NBC.COM / MEET THE PRESS at NBC.com] telling me what I think and what I shall do or not do... along

With 7-BILLION OF US !!

Mr Paul don't understand he like they dare to Presume to speak for me !!!

Unlike King Elvis --- Reputedly ---  
I can't shoot out my "TV SCREEN" [CHATTER BOX].

This blog allows me to SCREAM  
AND CURSE OUT AT THE SKY !!!

WITH MY OWN DAM "VOICE" !!!

I LIVE IN HIGH ANXIETY  
THAT I MAY LOSE HEREIN MY OWN

VOICE !!!

### Hot Topic

## Avoiding a Bad Rap

A lot goes into preserving your online image since it says so much about who you are (or want to be).

**Hope:** "I'm simply not going to post a picture I don't want my friends seeing because I don't want to harm my reputation."

**Kiana:** "That's what's annoying about social media! I get frustrated that I have to find just the right picture and post it on just the right platform. There's so much unnecessary pressure, and people take it so seriously, including me. Sometimes I'll just be like, 'Why am I doing this? It's an app! Now I've started to share only if it's to spread something happy going on.'"

**Kirsten:** "Not only do I care what my friends think about each individual post, but I also find that what your profile looks like as a whole matters, too. I like maintaining a nice flow and color palette. I look back at the entire thing every so often just to make sure everything looks great as a whole."

**Simone:** "OMG. I went through this obsessive phase with the app Whitagram, where I needed all my pics to have the white bars on top and bottom. But then I decided I didn't like that, and I spent hours taking down all of the photos—they

went back to freshman year!—and started a new theme, without the borders."

**Kiana:** "I'll look back over my profile to be sure I didn't post pics with the same girls too many times in a row. I also make sure I vary the length of my captions. I don't want to look one-dimensional."

**Ariana:** "I go in and edit out photos that don't get at least 20 likes. I don't need a record to be out there that my picture wasn't popular!"

**Kirsten:** "It's fine if you only want to show the highlights, but people go over-the-top with editing and doing things that are fake and not really them. I've become known as the Caption Queen, and followers who I'm not even close to have texted me, asking to come up with something clever to say for *their* photos. I started to say yes, but it's so weird. Shouldn't it be your own thing?"

**Yudi:** "I agree. The person I was on social and the person I was in reality used to be totally different! I realized that if I'm going to post photos of my life, they might as well be real ones. I don't want to portray myself as someone different."

### Hot Topic

## Separation Anxiety

**Nomophobia n.:**  
The irrational fear of not having mobile access to check social media.

**Kiana:** "If I realize I left my phone at home and I have to be gone for an extended amount of time, I feel depressed. I just think about all the Snapchat stories I'm missing that I will have to spend so much time watching later that day."

**Hope:** "It has gotten to a point where I won't check my social media accounts until the end of the day because I don't want to get caught up during my day worrying about what my friends are doing, who's liking my photos, and what I'm not invited to."

**Yudi:** "I have to have my phone with me if I'm with my friends! How else am I going document and share everything that's happening?"

**Ariana:** "I would get totally freaked out if I didn't have a phone. I hope I would get used to it, but I'm sure it would take some time."

**Kirsten:** "I've given it a try! I recently went on a trip and kind of went off the grid. It was difficult at first, but it was so great when I got home and I actually had stories to tell everyone, since I didn't broadcast them while I was away."

### Hot Topic

## More Followers, More Problems

Like for Like. Follow back. CWD. Complicated AF.

**Kirsten:** "People pay for fake followers. When Instagram did that anti-spam thing, a bunch of really 'popular' people at school saw their numbers drop from the thousands to below 500. It was kind of embarrassing for them. No one wants to admit that they try that hard to be popular."

**Simone:** "Exactly! As a joke, my friends bought me followers for my birthday

without telling me, and it was kind of really sad because they all kept going away, and I didn't want people thinking I'd bought them. They'd make fun of me! If I want more likes, I just ask my friends to do it."

**Kirsten:** "Many of my friends and I all have finstas, so there's also this unspoken expectation that we have to like each others' photos from *all* of our accounts."

# 39%

of Seventeen readers polled believe that the more followers they have, the more popular they are.

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

UNIVERSAL FRIENDS:

Let us sign and start a Petition  
To our Hon. President Barack H. Obama  
To WELCOME HOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE  
FOR A COMMAND PERFORMANCE:

THE DIXIE CHICKS !!!

Let us ALL HELP TO HEAL THIS  
GREAT NATION !!!

ONE LOVE !!!

# ZMAGINE/YOKOJOHN

KEEPING - UP WITH KENDALL JENNER,  
2013 AUGUST 24, 2016 WEDNESDAY  
c. 11:20 P.M. CDT (10:35 P.M. EDT)  
START TIME...]

UPDATE!

Just seen Kendall ON ABC.com/  
JIMMY KIMMEL SHOW, first Gaze & ON  
TV. She is talking about: her CAP  
SEPTEMBER 2016 VOGUE COVER.

JUST ONE LOOK!!!

See AN GOD CREATED PERFECTION!!

She earned her TOO MANY COVETOUS  
AND ENVIIOUS HATERS... The Natural Way!!

SHE WAS BORN THAT WAY!!!

(A) Ms. Kendall's Superbad, Intelligent  
and Talented [AN EYE FULL!!!]!!!  
Natural born GLAMOUROUS SUPER-SUPER  
MODEL!!!

I can't wait to get MY OWN UP-  
COMING (as) VOGUE MAG. IN THE MAIL!!!

XOXO

SUPER FAN !!!

#@KENDALL IS #1

# DON'T HATE @KENDALL BECAUSE SHE IS  
BEAUTIFUL "Hating the beautiful" BY  
REBECCA MEAD WWW.ALIVE.COM

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: AUGUST 24, 2016

2 of 2

"YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT"!!!

UPDATE:

TRUMPISM!!!!!!  
AND TRUISM!!!

UNIVERSAL FRIENDS:

I Need to Share with You this  
SUNDAY A.M. (August 28, 2016):

REVELATION!!

The "Tea Party" exclaims Washington  
doesn't work

The Latinos (HISPANICS / LATINOS  
!!!) Claims Washington doesn't work  
for them.

RUSH LIMBAUGH

Rush Limbaugh hectoringly  
Screams - out Washington doesn't work  
for the white people.

The Grassroots Protest Washing-  
ton doesn't work for America - Peoples

The Blacks Demonstrate Washington doesn't work for their community

SEN. (R, AZ.) JOHN MCCAIN'S CAMPAIGN Slogan is: "Washington for you!?, Does Not Work!"

SEN. (Z, VT.) BERNIE SANDERS'S so-called "POLITICAL REVOLUTION" 2016 Pro-claimed: Washington doesn't work for "The Middle Class"

IRONICALLY THEY REALLY DON'T WANT THAT "CHANGE" WHEN IT'S PRESENTED: "TRUMPISM" !!!

However - Irrationally Vigorously they ALL turned on a dime - to forcefully defend the same ole "Status Quo" from the only one in modern American History who can "CHANGE IT" !!! MR. DONALD TRUMP "WRECKING BALL"

TRICKED AGAIN!!!!!!

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: AUGUST 28, 2016



SHOUT-OUT

TO: PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

THANK YOU! MR. PRESIDENT  
FOR COMMUTING 110 FEDERAL  
PRISONERS SENTENCES ON  
AUGUST 29, 2016...

WITH FOUR MORE MONTHS TO GO  
JANUARY 20, 2016 IN YOUR PRESIDENCY,  
IT'S REPORTED THIS BRINGS YOUR ABOVE  
TOTAL 620 THUS FAR. SEE PBS.ORG/  
NEWS HOUR AUGUST 30, 2016 TUESDAY  
6:00 P.M. CDT.

THANK YOU!!!

#JUSTICE FOR ALL

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: AUGUST 30, 2016

"INNER CITY BLUES" !!!

— MARVIN GAYE

PROLOGUE:



*First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church*



my friend nam is center front in white.  
our choir is really excellent!

1 of 2

# Why Black Lives Matter?

## A BRIEF HISTORY

---

The Black Lives Matter movement is most known for vocal protests against racial discrimination in community policing and the justice system. However, it is not only that.

It is a movement led by people of color, calling for an end of race based oppression in its many forms and contexts. White allies of the movement are asked to take on supporting roles in order for people of color, who have lived experiences of these forms of oppression, the opportunity to be heard and given a chance to express their needs to a wider community.

The phrase "Black Lives Matter" was created following the death of Trayvon Martin and the acquittal of his killer in 2013. It gained national attention after the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014. Black Lives Matter has also been at the forefront of drawing attention to other incidents, such as the death of Eric Garner in New York in 2014 and the killing of Tamir Rice, a twelve year old who brandished a toy gun and was shot by police in 2014.

While the Black Lives Matter movement has gained the most attention for protests against police brutality and concerns about the justice system, it is also active in a number of other issues that disproportionately effect communities of color.

## WHY NOT SAY "ALL LIVES MATTER?"

---

Black Lives Matter was the rallying call of black people. To change this to say "All Lives Matter" co-opts the powerful language of the movement, while simultaneously diminishing the voices of color that have for so long gone unheard. It changes the focus in such a way that the lived experiences of people of color are negated, downplayed and readily ignored. The Black Lives Matter movement has specifically asked allies to not change this language.

First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church  
1959 Sandy Lane Ft. Worth, TX 76112  
817-451-1505 firstjefferson.org

2 of

Our First Principle says: That we affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person. As Kenny Wiley, a Director of Religious Education of color from Colorado said in an address to the 2015 UUA General Assembly, "This is an unrealized promise."

The reality lived by people of color in our country is that their lives matter LESS. Decades after the end of the civil rights movement, inequality abounds. There are significant disparities in community policing and in the justice system. Discriminatory housing practices are the norm, and until the recent Supreme Court ruling, considered legal. There is unequal access to quality education due to disparate school funding and overcrowding – schools are more segregated today than immediately following desegregation. On top of all that, there are numerous overt and covert racist behaviors still displayed by individuals. When these issues are disproportionately affecting communities of color, it is hard to see people of color being included in "All Lives" because that is not the lived experience.

## THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FIT

---

The 2015 General Assembly adopted an Action of Immediate Witness to stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement. While AIW's are only binding to the Assembly that adopted them, it bears note.

If, as Unitarian Universalists, we believe in our first principle of each person's inherent worth and dignity....

If, as Unitarian Universalists, we believe in our second principle, of justice, equality, and compassion in human relation....

Then we must stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter movement. We also must be willing to listen to those firsthand accounts of oppression. We must not co-opt language in order to make white people a bit more comfortable. Discomfort with the language is nothing compared to the injustices that are finally being discussed.

First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church  
1959 Sandy Lane Ft. Worth, TX 76112  
817-451-1505 firstjefferson.org

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: ~~April 2016~~ Sept 5, 2016

STOP! FORBIDDEN "N" WORD WRITTEN HEREIN.

GOD DAMN MISSISSIPPI !!!!!!

DOWN IN THE MISSISSIPPI

THEY SAY:

"IT'S A MATTER OF MIND OVER MATTER

DON'T PAY A NIGGER NO MIND

CAUSE A NIGGER

DON'T MATTER" !!!!!!!!

— END QUOTE

# REAL POLITIK !!!

"BLACK VOTES MATTER"

BY D.R. TUCKER, BELOW, P.

BLACK LIVES DO NOT MATTER !!!

↳ U.S. Rep. D-CA NANCY PELSKI,  
MINORITY LEADER...

HIDDEN NEFAARIOUS AGENDA EXPOSED!!!

House Minority Leader had hidden Agenda pertaining to "BLACK LIVES MATTER"... Telling her [D] House Members to consider it as a RADICAL MOVEMENT and to give out NO SPECIFIC Policy promises to them. CHECK-OUT

OUR UNIVERSAL FRIEND AMY GOODMAN AND CO-HOST JUAN GONZALEZ FOR REAL WORLD NEWS AT [DEMOCRACY NOW.COM](http://DEMOCRACYNOW.COM) SEPT. 2016



## Speaker's Corner

### Black Votes Matter

by D.R. Tucker

**M**ARCH 3 WILL MARK THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE videotaped beating of Rodney King in South Central Los Angeles—an event that history may regard as the unofficial commencement of what we now call the Black Lives Matter movement. The video surprised many white Americans, but very few African-Americans. (Seventeen years earlier, comedian Richard Pryor had lamented police brutality and the refusal of many white Americans to accept the reality of anti-black aggression in law enforcement.) The acquittal of the four white officers who nearly killed Rodney King precipitated the notorious Los Angeles riots—and the still unresolved conflict between law enforcement and communities of color.

In August, representatives of the Black Lives Matter movement released Campaign Zero—a 10-point plan to dismantle the culture of police brutality. Among the campaign's demands are: an end to the "broken windows" police practices that fixate on minor offenses (i.e., the philosophy that killed Eric Garner); strengthening community oversight over law enforcement; elimination of high-speed chases and false justifications to use force; expansion of independent investigations and prosecutions of police brutality; implementation of policies to diversify an overwhelmingly white male police force; expansion of the use of body cameras and the elimination of laws that discourage videotaping of police by private citizens; and the improvement of police training (with a focus on an anti-bias program).

It's hard to see how Campaign Zero's proposals would not pass a common-sense test; whether they will be implemented on a wide scale is another matter. For example, diversifying big-city police departments might require the elimination of irrelevant written exams for candidates—especially when those exams have been exposed as exclusionary. As for the public filming of misbehaving cops, two federal appellate courts have recognized that right, but the Supreme Court has yet to rule—and, depending on the outcome of the 2016 presidential election and the judges the next president appoints to the High Court, may never do so.

In fact, it's hard to see how any of these reforms would be implemented broadly without a voter-mobilization effort aimed at communities of color. Remember the stories of unusually low African-American voter turnout in Ferguson, Missouri, which may have led to the lack of police accountability there? A recent increase in African-American voter turnout in Ferguson

is beginning to deliver much-needed reforms.

Such reforms won't happen if African-Americans are victimized by voter-suppression. To that end, Black Lives Matter and Campaign Zero must also call for the elimination of unverifiable touch-screen voting systems nationwide, returning to the gold standard of determining who has won and lost an election: the monitored hand-counting of paper ballots. Electing candidates willing to rein in lawless cops is literally a life-or-death matter for communities of color.

Campaign Zero and Black Lives Matter must also place greater emphasis on restoring voting rights to rehabilitated felons. As Brent Staples of *The New York Times* observed, laws preventing convicted felons from voting were intended to sabotage voting rights of African-Americans. In his famous "The Ballot or the Bullet" speech, Malcolm X explained why reactionary whites fear black voting power:

[W]hen white people are evenly divided, and black people have a bloc of votes of their own, it is left up to [black people] to determine who's going to sit in the White House and who's going to be in the dog house.

What more efficient way to reduce black voting power than by a) over-policing black communities, b) killing young black men before and during their early voting years, c) locking up the black men you haven't killed, and d) preventing them from voting after they are released from prison?

Only by pushing for increased voter turnout in communities of color in every election and ensuring that unverifiable voting systems are retired can the goals of Black Lives Matter and Campaign Zero become reality. Mayors and district attorneys who realize that tolerating police violence would mean the abrupt end of their political careers will become more forceful about removing racist rookies and vicious veterans from the force, and reforming police hiring so that borderline—not to mention over-the-borderline—sociopaths aren't given bullets and badges.

As *The Washington Post* recently observed, the power of the vote is ultimately the only force that can reduce police racism:

Elected officials have also taken note of the changing mood. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) was elected in 2013, in part for his promise to end 'stop and frisk' tactics. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) earlier this year signed an executive order requiring special prosecutors to review the cases of any deaths at the hands of police officers. And California Attorney General Kamala Harris (D) has published a searchable database of a decade's worth of police-shooting data.

It's simply not enough to declare that black lives matter; black votes must matter, too. ■

*D.R. Tucker is a Massachusetts-based freelance writer and contributor to The Washington Monthly blog.*

**Only by pushing for increased voter turnout in communities of color and ensuring that unverifiable voting systems are retired can the goals of Black Lives Matter and Campaign Zero become reality.**

POSTED BY LEON IRBY DATED: 3 OF 5

**TED CRUZ**, *continued from page 1*

George Corley Wallace, Jr. was a genuine son of the Confederacy. Rafael Edward Cruz, a genuine heir to Wallace's politics of white working-class resentment, is not. The jeans, boots and western-cut shirts are part of a sartorial makeover intended to turn an Ivy League law school graduate into the leader of pitchfork-bearing blue-collar insurgents.

Born in Canada, of an American mother and a Cuban immigrant father, his parents' careers took him to a Houston suburb where he attended a non-denominational Christian elementary school and a Baptist high school.

Cruz left Texas after high school and didn't return until Rick Perry appointed him solicitor general in 2003, when he was working for a small politically connected law firm in Washington. His only other employment in the state was as a partner at a Houston law firm, where he earned \$1 million and \$1.57 million in the two years prior to his Senate campaign. In 2001, he married Heidi Nelson, who had worked for the George W. Bush campaign in 2000; she later became a Goldman Sachs executive.

Unlike Bush, who built an oil business in Midland then bought into the Texas Rangers, or John Cornyn, who held two statewide elected offices before running for the U.S. Senate, Cruz has no political roots in the state he represents.

As a solicitor general, Cruz had a big job but no name recognition. To voters, he was an unknown, polling from 1 to 3 percent when he filed for the open Senate seat in 2012. The favorite was incumbent Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, a telegenic, bilingual, former Air Force officer and CIA agent, who had built a company worth \$400 million and roped calves at rodeos on weekends.

But Dewhurst was damaged goods. As lieutenant governor, presiding over the Senate, he had cut a few deals with Democrats. \$16 billion in tax cuts and shrinking state agencies wasn't enough to satisfy a Republican electorate primed by a Tea Party movement and an animus toward Barack Obama that was inflamed by the rhetoric of elected leaders like former governor Rick Perry and current governor Greg Abbott.

Dewhurst was unaware of his vulnerability. Cruz wasn't.

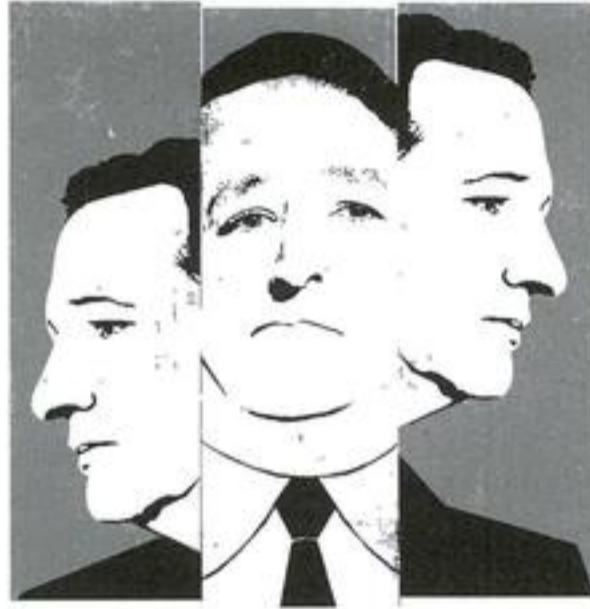
As Cruz tells it he defeated a popular incumbent rich enough to finance his own campaign. Dewhurst spent more than any other candidate in the nation running for statewide office in 2012: \$45 million to Cruz's \$15 million.

He had the backing of Rick Perry and the business community, the establishment Republicans who once considered the state their personal fiefdom.

Cruz had the support of today's Republican Party: policy huckster (and magazine editor) William Kristol, Rick Santorum, Mike Huckabee, Congressman Ron Paul and Senator Rand Paul, and

Sarah Palin.

The no-growth, anti-government Club for Growth spent \$5 million on ads that defined Dewhurst as an unprincipled centrist who failed to cut taxes enough and accommodated Senate Democrats. FreedomWorks, a Tea Party organization, trained and coordinated Cruz campaign volunteers.



Cruz ran in a pack of primary candidates and forced the frontrunner into a runoff. The Republican presidential race had been decided three months before the July 31 runoff, and runoff elections generate low turnout and attract ideological voters. Cruz won 56.8 percent of the vote. Turnout was so low that he was elected to the United States Senate by 4 percent of the state's eligible voters.

To put Cruz's "upset" in perspective, two years after losing to him, Dewhurst was easily turned out of the office he had held for 12 years by a Republican Senator—another right-wing extremist supported by the state's hardcore Republicans

and Christian "values voters."

In Texas, Cruz bet heavily on the two constituencies that win statewide and national Republican primaries—Tea Party Republicans and evangelicals. He barnstormed the state, speaking to local and regional Tea Party gatherings. His father, an evangelical preacher (albeit of largely fabricated pastoral credentials), preached the Cruz gospel to the Christian community.

Now the senator is doubling down on evangelicals. Since he was elected to the Senate, Cruz or the Rev. Rafael Cruz have appeared at every major regional and national gathering of Christian activists. He is now polling ahead of ordained Baptist minister Mike Huckabee among evangelicals. Focus on the Family founder James Dobson is supporting Cruz, as is Brian Brown of the National Organization for

Marriage, Bob Vender Plaats of the Iowa Family Leader, and the Family Research Council's Tony Perkins.

On the Monday after Christmas, Cruz was the headliner at the Cisco, Texas, ranch of billionaire brothers Dan and Farris Wilks, Christians who've gone so far around the bend they're considered extreme by Texas standards. One of the brothers is the pastor of a local Assembly of Yahweh (7th Day) congregation, a sect that according to Reuters considers being gay a serious crime. Joining the Wilks brothers at the West Texas fly-in were 300 pastors representing the Christian fringe.

By Cruz's calculation, between mid-February and mid-March evangelical Christians will provide him the votes he needs to secure the Republican nomination. Yet the only general election he has won was in a state that hasn't elected a Democrat to statewide office since Ann Richards left the governor's office in 1992.

"The giant difference is that America is not Texas," pollster Larry Sabato said when handicapping Cruz as a presidential candidate. "That's his problem. ■"

**The turnout was** so low that Cruz was elected to the United States Senate by 4 percent of the state's eligible voters.



# "N. WORD ON BLACK GENOCIDE

"SINCE 1980, MORE THAN 260,000 BLACK MEN HAVE BEEN KILLED IN AMERICA NEARLY FIVE TIMES MORE THAN... AMERICANS THAN IN VIETNAM WAR; MITCH LANDRIEU, THE MAYOR OF NEW ORLEANS, IS ON A CRUSADE TO STOP THE KILLING AND BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE."

A  
MATTER  
OF BLACK  
LIVES

BY: JEFFREY GOLDBERG

PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILLIAM WIDER

THE ATLANTIC.COM SEPTEMBER 2015,  
P. 70

"THE BLACK ESTABLISHMENT BLANK CHECK FOR HILLARY." — BY JAMES THINDW,  
IS A MEMBER OF [IN THESE TIMES .COM  
SEPTEMBER 2016, P. 14] IN THESE TIMES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND LOCAL  
LABOR COMMUNITY ACTIVIST [CHICAGO  
ZL.]...

"THE PARADOX OF BERNIE  
AND THE BLACK VOTER."

— BY SALIM MUWAKKIL  
IN THESE TIMES .COM MAY 2016, P. 17

5 of 5

BY: LEON IRBY

DATED: SEPT. 01, 2016

A SUPERSTAR AT 50

ACTOR HALLE BERRY

ACTOR Halle Berry at her 50<sup>th</sup>  
BIRTHDAY gave US a Beautiful,  
Sexy, Charming and confident...

PRESENT

PICS of her mahogany Delight  
Clad in revealing, albeit Tasteful  
Brief BIKINI... Posing.. Present-  
ed to the FULL GAZING EYE BALLS  
OF THE UNIVERSE !!!

THANK YOU MS. BERRY!!!

XOXOXO !!!!!! EYES!

#LOVINGEYES

#HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO XA!!!

9-2-2016



## A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23

By W. Phillip Keller

*“He guides me in paths of righteousness  
for His name’s sake.”*

Jesus never made light of the cost involved in following Him. In fact, He made it painfully clear that it was a rugged life of rigid self-denial. It entailed a whole new set of attitudes. In brief, seven fresh attitudes have to be acquired. They are the equivalent of progressive forward movements onto new ground with God. If one follows them, he will discover fresh new pasturage; new abundant life; and increased health, wholeness, and holiness in his walk with God.

- (1) Instead of loving myself most, I am willing to love Christ best and others more than myself.
- (2) Instead of being one of the crowd, I am willing to be singled out, set apart from the gang.
- (3) Instead of insisting on my rights, I am willing to forgo them in favor of others.
- (4) Instead of being “boss”, I am willing to be at the bottom of the heap. Or to use sheep terminology, instead of being “top ram”, I am willing to be a “tail-ender.”
- (5) Instead of finding fault with life and always asking “Why?” I am willing to accept every circumstance of life in an attitude of gratitude.
- (6) Instead of exercising and asserting my will, I am willing to learn to cooperate with His wishes and comply with His will.
- (7) Instead of choosing my own way, I am willing to choose to follow Christ’s way: simply to do what He asks me to do.



## DAILY INSPIRATIONS OF STRENGTH



What does it mean to be strong? Does it mean physical prowess or control over others? God has given us many kinds of strength, but the most important is the strength that comes from having a steadfast faith and a resilient spirit. With a foundation that is unshakable, we can overcome any obstacle, challenge, or situation that comes our way.



God gives us just what we can handle, and he also gives us the courage, abilities, and skills to deal with those challenges that often, at the time, seem insurmountable. When we feel that our own strength is about to fail us, we can always call upon God, knowing that we are not alone and that we have “backup” to help us. Just as a police officer or soldier relies on his or her backup to assist in dangerous situations, God is our partner, working in invisible silence but with us nonetheless. Just understanding this provides us with amazing strength and courage.



*“The highest levels of performance come to people who are centered, intuitive, creative and reflective — people who know to see a problem as an opportunity.”*

— Deepak Chopra

20f2



## **What Makes A Dad**

**God took the strength of a mountain,  
 The majesty of a tree,  
 The warmth of a summer sun,  
 The calm of a quiet sea,  
 The generous soul of nature,  
 The comforting arm of night,  
 The wisdom of the ages,  
 The power of the eagle's flight,  
 The joy of a morning in spring,  
 The faith of a mustard seed,  
 The patience of eternity,  
 The depth of a family need,  
 Then God combined these qualities,  
 When there was nothing more to add,  
 He knew His masterpiece was complete,  
 And so, He called it ... Dad**



**Author Unknown**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

O God, we thank you for this earth, our home;  
 For the wide sky and the blessed sun,  
 For the salt sea and the running water,  
 For the everlasting hills  
 And the never-resting winds,  
 For trees and the common grass underfoot.  
 We thank you for our senses  
 By which we hear the songs of birds,  
 And see the splendor of the summer fields,  
 And taste of the autumn fruits,  
 And rejoice in the feel of the snow,  
 And smell the breath of the spring.  
 Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty;  
 And save our souls from being so blind  
 That we pass unseeing  
 When even the common thornbush  
 Is aflame with your glory,  
 O God our creator,  
 Who lives and reigns forever and ever.

By Walter Rauschenbusch- From *Living God's Justice:  
 Reflections and Prayers*, compiled by The Roundtable  
 Association of Diocesan Social Action Directors

"Learn to love people for who they are  
 and forgive them for who they are not."  
 Anonymous

"He who stands for nothing will fall for  
 anything."

"To live by love is to go through life  
 sowing peace and joy in hearts."

- St. Thérèse, the Little Flower



**Once you have...**

Once you have smiled at someone you can't take it back.

Once you have seen a sunrise and a sunset, you know that God has kept His promise and has every day of your life. Have you kept yours?

Once you have said "I will" then you must follow through. "I will" is your word, not a "maybe."

Once you have more, you must give more to those who have less.

Once you have anything, you must give thanks.

Once you have nothing, you must give thanks, too. It's not just in having that we should be grateful. Just being alive is a gift, too.

Once you have stood in awe looking at the stars you realize how incredibly special you must be. For in all the universe there is only one "you." But realize that the universe is looking back in awe at you, too. All of God's creation is "Awe-some!"

Once you have heard the old man tell the story for what seems like the "hundredth" time, be happy if he lives to tell it to you a hundred more times. One day you will wish he were there to tell it again.

Once you have faith, you can never give into the power of doubt. Faith builds, doubt destroys.

Once you have love, you always will... Love always and all ways.



**AWAKENING TO WISDOM by Sue Patton Thoele**

*"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart." Helen Keller*

*"Gratitude is heaven itself." William Blake*

*"When sleeping women wake, mountains move." Chinese Proverb*

2 of 2

# KEEPING UP WITH THE KENDALL KARDASHIAN WEST JENNER

## KENDALL JENNER SUPER → SUPER MODEL

"EVEN WHEN I SAY 'HIM OR HER'  
ABOUT SOMEONE WHO IS CLEARLY  
A GUY OR CLEARLY A GIRL...

I SECOND GUESS IT NOW."

ON RETHINKING GENDER LABELS  
AFTER CAITLYN [BRUCE JENNER]  
JENNER TRANSITION"

← US MAGAZINE.COM / LOOSE TALK  
SEPTEMBERS, 2016, P. 10



## DOUBLE THE BLESSINGS !!!

ON Friday, September 02, 2016, the Co gave my anticipated September 2016 VOGUE ISSUE with "ZT COVER GIRL" SUPER-SUPERMODEL Kendall, 20,

But even more ... JIMMY KIMMEL presented ENCORE Show with guest SUPERSTAR Kendall later that Night.

SUPERMODELS hating on the "New breed" young supermodels ... Eat your damn September 2016 FROM COVER to A -- !!! LOL!

### PERSONAL TAKE!!

While reading Kendall's VOGUE cover story, on p. 784 (794) -

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

DECODING PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA  
AND THE BLACK VOTE:

UPDATE:

It's Reported that 66 Per Cent of the  
Black Vote is "BLACK LADIES !!!

TELL IT LIKE IT IS !!!

NOW PRESIDENT OBAMA SINGS LIKE  
AL GREEN !!!

He is as Handsome as Harry  
Belafonte !!

Preaches Like Rev. ZKE !!!

AND AS ONE YOUNG BLACK LADY  
excitedly exclaimed he looks like "Michael  
Jackson. PBS.ORG/NEWS HOUR AUGUST 31

2016, WEDNESDAY, 6:00 P.M. CDT.

XOXO

#JOBS AND SAFE HOODS!!!

BY: LEON I RBY DATED: SEPTEMBER 02, 2016

"The Black Establishment's Blank Check for Hillary" - BY JAMES THINDWA,  
IS A MEMBER OF [ IN THESE TIMES.  
COM SEPTEMBER 2016, P. 14 ] IN THESE  
TIMES BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND A LABOR  
COMMUNITY ACTIVIST.

"THE PARADOX OF BERNIE AND THE  
BLACK VOTER"!!  
- BY SALIM MUWAKKIL

IN THE SETIMES.COM MAY 2016, P. 17

# Kleefisch half right on cost of inmates

07-08-16

By ALISON DIRR

USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

How much it costs to detain an inmate in each state prison system for a year sounds like a relatively easy question to answer.

It isn't.

Appearing on the "Jerry Bader Show" in April, Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch responded to criticism Bader said he had received from listeners after he read on the air an opinion piece that ran in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

The piece discussed machining classes offered to inmates.

Bader told Kleefisch that he had received a number of emails from listeners who felt that her opinion piece on former inmates' re-entry to society gave deference to people who got into trouble rather than people who stayed out of prison.

Kleefisch responded that the vast majority of people who go to prison will return to their communities.

"Right now, our corrections department charges taxpayers between \$30,000 and \$40,000 a year per person we lock up," she said. "That's actually cheap when you compare us to the rest of the country."

She followed that statement by asking rhetorically whether it's better for taxpayers to return people to the community "ready to succeed and become a taxpayer themselves" or let them depend on government programs or commit another crime and go back to prison at a cost to taxpayers.

We wondered if she was right on the numbers and how Wisconsin compares to other states.

Kleefisch's statement can be divided into two parts:

- That the Wisconsin Department of Corrections charges taxpayers between \$30,000 and \$40,000 per year per inmate.

- That Wisconsin is "cheap" compared to the rest of the country.

## On Wisconsin's cost per inmate per year

We asked Kleefisch's office for evidence of this claim



## PRISONS

Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch, Republican

## THE STATEMENT

"Our corrections department charges taxpayers in between \$30,000 and \$40,000 a year per person we lock up. That's actually cheap when you compare us to the rest of the country."

## THE VERDICT

Data to compare states limited.

First, it cited a fact sheet from the Wisconsin Department of Corrections that lists the cost for adult male inmates at \$32,394.71 and the cost for adult female inmates at \$39,724.00 in the year July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015.

The Department of Corrections told us it calculates this number by adding the direct facility costs, including staff salary and benefits; food; utilities; clothing; repair and maintenance costs; other infrastructure costs; and "allocated central office costs."

On a basic level, the numbers from the DOC fall within the range Kleefisch cited.

## How Wisconsin compares

Things get more complex when you try to compare prison costs between states.

This is primarily because budgeting practices are not uniform and, as far as we found, there are few organizations that do an apples-to-apples comparison.

Finally, the one study we were repeatedly directed to uses data from 2010.

Kleefisch's office and other sources

study from the Vera Institute of Justice, a nonprofit group that says it seeks to build and improve justice systems.

The study looks at corrections department data from 40 states, including Wisconsin, that responded to the organization's surveys.

The Vera Institute included in its analysis the costs associated with corrections systems that fall outside the corrections budget in each state.

Those additional costs can include underfunded contributions to retiree health care for corrections employees, state contributions to retiree health care on behalf of their corrections department workers, employee benefits and more.

Including those, Vera researchers found that "the total price to taxpayers was \$39 billion, \$5.4 billion more than the \$33.5 billion reflected in corrections budgets alone."

Wisconsin had relatively few costs that fell outside the DOC budget in 2010 but that wasn't true of all states.

Kleefisch's office argued Wisconsin fares better than other states, since the department fully funds its employee retirement while other states do not.

Vera says estimates of underfunded retiree pension and health care benefits are included in the total per-inmate costs.

If you rank the states from highest average annual per-inmate cost to lowest using the Vera Institute's numbers, Wisconsin comes in 14th from the top at \$37,994.

Wisconsin comes in higher than 26 of the 40 states in the study but lower than some of the top-spending states, including New York, which came in first at \$60,076.

Kleefisch Chief of Staff Daniel R. Suhr noted in an email that his boss meant "cheap compared to other states, not cheap compared to a particular mean or median" and noted that Wisconsin comes in lower than New York, California and Illinois.

Kleefisch's statement, however, compared Wisconsin to "the rest of the country."

That said, the study itself, one of its

## PolitiFact on TODAY'S TMJ 4

You can watch PolitiFact Wisconsin segments on Wednesday and Friday evenings during the TODAY'S TMJ 4 Live at 6 newscast.

against comparing the states.

First, the fact that 10 states are not represented in the study is a "big limitation," Chris Henrichson, research director for the Center on Sentencing and Corrections at the Vera Institute, said in an email.

In addition, the information is a bit dated. Experts disagreed on whether it could accurately be applied to today.

Henrichson said he expected "rankings" to shift somewhat, most likely in states where the inmate populations have changed the most.

That said, he did not expect a state at the bottom of the chart to move to the top.

Experts also questioned generally whether it is possible to account for all the differences between state corrections systems and their budgeting practices.

## Our rating

Kleefisch said that the state Department of Corrections "charges taxpayers between \$30,000 and \$40,000 a year per person we lock up. That's actually cheap, when you compare us to the rest of the country."

The annual per-inmate cost from DOC does fall within the range she cited.

While Kleefisch labeled Wisconsin as cheap compared to other states, the best available numbers suggest the state, at best, is more in the middle of the pack than close to the bottom.

For a statement that is partially accurate but leaves out important details or takes things out of context, our rating is Half True.

Alison Dirr is a reporter for the USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin and a contributor to PolitiFact Wisconsin. She can be reached at

# Spending on prison rises faster than on education

Report shows state and national trends

By ANNYSJA JOHNSON

anjohanson@journalssentinel.com

Over the past three decades, state and local expenditures on prisons and jails have increased more than three times as fast as spending on elementary and secondary education, according to a new brief released Thursday by the U.S. Department of Education.

While overall spending on education dwarfs that of corrections, it said, expenditures on public prekindergarten through 12th grade education rose by 107% to \$534 billion between 1979 and 2013, compared with a 324% spike in corrections spending to \$71 billion.

In Wisconsin, over the same period, it said, expenditures on education rose 72% to \$9.8 billion, while spending on corrections rose 351% to \$1.4 billion.

The report comes as the nation examines its dramatic rise in incarceration rates since the 1970s, and state and federal policymakers attempt to disrupt what is derided by many as the school-to-prison pipeline — both of which numerous studies have shown disproportionately affect the poor and young people of color.

Like other reports before it, it notes that the United States has just 5% of the world's population but accounts for more than 20% of the world's incarcerated.

"Budgets reflect our values, and the trends revealed in this analysis are a reflection of our nation's priorities that should be revisited," U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr. said in a conference call with journalists Thursday arranged to discuss the report.

"For far too long, systems in this country have contin-

ued to perpetuate inequity," King said. "We need to invest more in prevention than in punishment, to invest more in schools, not prisons."

The report, described by King as the first of its kind, draws on data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Center for Education Statistics, the U.S. Census Bureau and other sources.



King

Among the findings:

■ Over the 33-year period, the percentage increase in spending on corrections varied among the states, from 149% in Massachusetts to 850% in Texas.

At the same time, K-12 expenditures rose from 18% in Michigan to 326% in Nevada.

■ Among the states, Wisconsin ranks 32nd in terms of its increase in per-pupil spending, which rose 69% to \$11,186 over the three decades.

It had the 13th highest percentage increase in per capita spending on corrections, up 241% to \$323.

■ The report notes similar trends in higher-education funding.

On average, it said, state and local expenditures on higher education per full-time-equivalent student fell by 28% between 1989 and 2013, while per capita spending on incarcerations rose 44%.

Wisconsin's higher-ed funding fell by 12% to \$1.45 billion, while spending on incarceration rose 192% to \$1.43 billion.

■ The U.S. spends about \$80 billion annually on corrections.

The number of people incarcerated in state and local facilities more than quadrupled from about 490,000 in

1980 to more than 2 million in 2014 — even as crime rates have fallen — due in part to the enactment of lengthy, mandatory-minimum sentencing laws.

■ In exploring the link between education and incarceration, it said two-thirds of state prison inmates did not finish high school and that young black men ages 20 to 24 who lack high school diplomas or an equivalent have a greater chance of being incarcerated than being employed.

It asserts that investing in education, and particularly early childhood education, can reduce criminal activity by altering student behavior, improve access to jobs and lower incarceration rates.

Efforts to reach Wisconsin Legislative leaders — Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester), Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau) and Senate Minority Leader Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse) — were unsuccessful.

Milwaukee Public Schools declined to comment.

Wisconsin has about 22,000 inmates, and it incarcerates more black men as a percentage of the population than any other state.

A coalition of faith and community leaders launched a campaign in 2012 to halve the prison population, but it has not made a significant impact.

Joe Ellwanger, a retired Lutheran minister who has helped lead the campaign, said the national figure "unfortunately also reflects our state's spending priorities."

"Each biennial budget in Wisconsin, for the past 10 years, has increased spending on incarceration and decreased spending on K-12 public education," said Ellwanger. "Such spending priorities have clearly stoked the school-to-prison-pipeline."

## MORE REAL POLITIK

TEAM IN 2008 THE CLINTON  
[ HILLARY ] WERE'  
Racist per Now President Obama  
Team and some in The Media.  
REALLY !!! CHECK-OUT: C-SPAN 1

## IN 2016

" TRUMP WANTS TO MAKE GOP HOME  
TO AFRICAN-AMERICANS AGAIN "  
CHECK-OUT GOOD MORNING AMERICA SUNDAY  
NEWS TICKER AUGUST 28, 2016 7: A.M. CDT

" WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU GOT  
TO LOSE " !!!

CHECK-OUT: MR. MARC MORIAL,  
PRESIDENT ; " NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE [ LEAGUE ]  
ANNUAL REPORT ON BLACK AMERICA " 2016  
ON PBS.ORG / NEWS HOUR MAY 17, 2016 TUESDAY

6:00p.m. CDT,

# YOU SAY YOU WANT A REVOLUTION!!!

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: SEPTEMBER 02, 2016

2 of 2

3 of 1



VISIT [washingtonspectator.org](http://washingtonspectator.org)

The Washington Spectator  
P.O. Box 241  
Oregon, IL 61061

PERIODICALS CLASS  
Postage Paid at New York, NY

**The WASHINGTON SPECTATOR**  
Give a gift today – just \$10 each!

GIFT FOR \_\_\_\_\_ GHG311A

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

- I am renewing my subscription (\$18 for 12 issues) RHG311A
- Check enclosed, payable to The Public Concern Foundation
- Please bill me

Call toll-free (866) 949-5290, code GHG311A, or mail this coupon and your payment to: The Public Concern Foundation, P.O. Box 241, Oregon, IL 61061

BXNRCCV  
#5484 0491 0772 7837# TWS CH# 54840491 EXP DEC 2016

LEON IRBY  
PO BOX 900  
PORTAGE, WI 53901-0900



WHAT THE HECK !!! LOVE GOTTA DO WITH IT

**End Page**

**A Trump a Liberal Could Love**

Donald Trump's first tentative run for the presidency (1999–2000) ended almost as fast as it began. Video clips of interviews at the time reveal a progressive corporate executive, unlike the caricature Trump has devolved into. In excerpts from a February 24, 2000, interview with NBC News's Matt Lauer, and an October 24, 1999 interview with "Meet the Press" Moderator Tim Russert, Trump comes off as a cautious center-left candidate who had hoped the Reform Party could gain a foothold. Lauer, questioning Trump as he was leaving the race, asked if it wasn't all a publicity stunt.

...

**Tim Russert:** Do you think gays ought to be allowed to marry?  
**Trump:** I haven't given it a lot of thought. I live in New York, there's a tremendous movement going on to have and allow gay marriage, it's just something that is too premature for me to comment on.  
**Russert:** How about gays serving in the military?  
**Trump:** It would not disturb me. Again, I'd want to talk to lots of experts within the military. I mean, hey, I lived in New York City, in Manhattan all my life, so my views are a little bit different than if I lived in Iowa, perhaps. But it's not something that would disturb me.  
**Russert:** . . . Would President Trump ban partial-birth abortion?  
**Trump:** Well look, I'm very pro-choice. I hate the concept of abortion. I hate it. I hate everything that it stands for. I cringe when I listen to people debating the subject. But you still—I just believe in choice. And again, it may be a little bit of a New York background, because there was some different attitude in different parts of the country, and I was raised in New York. And grew up and work and everything else in New York City. But I am strongly for choice, and I hate the concept of abortion.

**Russert:** But you would not ban it? Or ban partial-birth abortion?  
**Trump:** No, I am totally pro-choice in every respect, and as far as it goes, but I just hate it.

...

**Trump:** I'm not going to be running. The [Reform] party is as you know self-destructing. Jesse [Ventura] has left the party.  
**Matt Lauer:** What do you see as the biggest problem with the Reform Party right now?  
**Trump:** Well, you've got David Duke just joined, a bigot, a racist, a problem. I mean, these are not exactly the people you want in your party. [Pat] Buchanan is a disaster, as we've covered . . . I've always said, Matt, I would run if I knew I could win.  
**Lauer:** Not only the nomination but the presidency?  
**Trump:** The whole thing. I don't want to get 20 percent of the vote, and I know I could. And I know I could get the nomination. I mean, New York wants me, Texas wants me. . . . Many of the states want me . . . I've always said, and I said to you, if I could win the whole thing, you could only win the whole thing with a totally unified party.  
**Lauer:** You're sure this isn't, and your critics are going to say, this is a great excuse for Donald Trump to back out now, they're going to say, because first of all you're thrown off the ballot here in New York . . . It's undeniable that you've achieved an enormous amount of attention and publicity out of this. Again, your critics are going to say, "that's what this was all about."  
**Trump:** That's wrong. I mean, it's wrong. It's totally wrong. Most people that are into this thing and really into it and know me know that I'm totally serious about it. I have enjoyed it. I have had a lot of fun. It's been a lot of fun. ■

POSTED BY LEON IRBY 4 of 7 DATED SEPT. 5, 2016

in the presence of my children.”) The scholar Zeynep Tufekci revealed the extent to which his followers treat Trump as the sole source of truth and authority—and that “every unpleasant claim about Donald Trump is a fabrication by a cabal that includes the Republican leadership and the mass media.” They know, for example, because Trump told them, that Congress funded ISIS. So why would you trust Congress to write laws? Although, there is one example I can think of where Trump mentioned the necessity of Congress (re) writing laws: after someone, apparently very high in the military firmament, told him that generals will not follow his illegal orders. So he adjusted, slightly. As he put it March 30 in Appleton, Wisconsin: “We can’t waterboard, but *they* can chop off heads. I think we’ve got to make some changes, some adjustments.”

So what kind of people does a man like this appoint to the Supreme Court? In another recent interview, he became the first presidential candidate to announce as his litmus test for these preeminent protectors of the Constitution their willingness to prioritize his crushing of a political rival: “I’d probably appoint people who would look very seriously at [Hillary Clinton’s] e-mail disaster, because it’s a criminal activity, and I would appoint people who would look very seriously at that to start off with. . . . What she’s getting away with is absolutely murder.”

When I heard that, I thought, again, of Nixon. When Charles Manson was put on trial in 1970, President Nixon offhandedly told a group of reporters in Denver that Manson was “guilty, directly or indirectly, of eight murders without reason.” Given that the Constitution guarantees the accused “the right to speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury,” what was described as Nixon’s “blunder” became an immediate scandal dominating the news for days. The judge considered declaring a mistrial, the president was immediately forced to backtrack, insisting he didn’t intend to speculate about Manson’s guilt or innocence. Trump says such things now, and it’s hardly a blip. Who, after all, can keep count of every one of Trump’s

**“Because I understand life. And I understand how life works. I’m the Lone Ranger.”**

dictatorial bleats?

Trump is a radical personalist. Why don’t women have to worry about his anti-woman statements? “No one respects women more than I do.” Why won’t we need worry about his pledge to exclude Syrian refugees? “I have a bigger heart than anybody in this room.”

I, I, I; me, me, me.

Our wise founders were radical *impersonalists*. When they wrote arguments for publication in newspapers, they preferred to do so anonymously, using pseudonyms like “Publius”—lest the attachment of a distinguished name distract the reader from the content and quality of the argument. Trump’s personalism, on the other hand, is how he pushes away the protection of constitutional principle with every fiber of his being

Costa of the *Washington Post*: “Maybe I’m mishearing you, but I feel like you’re almost comfortable being the Lone Ranger.”

“I am. Because I understand life. And I understand how life works. I’m the Lone Ranger.”

As Gabriel Sherman wrote in *New York* magazine, Trump employs “no pollsters, media coaches, or speechwriters. He buys few ads, and when he does, he likes to write them himself . . . college-newspaper offices have more robust infrastructure than his national campaign headquarters.” Which is a marvelous mode of operation, to govern by fiat. It abets, in fact, a constitutive feature of the fascist appeal: pure, frenetic action. It’s quite the rebuke of the sclerotic nature of our poor, old, beaten-down system of constitutional checks and balances. Which, to use a very old-fashioned phrase, only exist, after all, to safeguard our American liberties. Can checks and balances work with Trump as the officer atop the system?

It’s time for us, together, to start thinking about what happens next. ■

*Rick Perlstein is The Washington Spectator’s national correspondent.*

## TRUMP’D, continued from page 5

be no gambling because the banks lacked casino licenses.

The commission’s action was extraordinary because state law provided for such a circumstance, allowing the commission to seize financially unstable casinos and keep them going with the existing staff until a new buyer could be found. Instead, the state of New Jersey took sides, favoring Trump over the interests of his bankers and the people who had put their money in those banks.

Four months later, as Christmas 1990 approached, Trump was again running out of cash. “Donald will need \$180 million more from the banks to make it,” a source intimately familiar with the details of Trump’s finances told me back then.

It was the beginning of Trump having to relinquish his stakes in a host of enterprises—and by 1991 the Trump Taj Mahal was in Chapter 11 bankruptcy, the first of what would become four business bankruptcies. He later sold stock in his casinos,

where investors not only lost their shirts, but during the fourth bankruptcy case creditors successfully demanded that Trump get lost. These days Trump licenses his name for much of his revenue.

Today Trump shrugs off the four bankruptcies, saying it’s a standard business tactic to restructure debt. But back in 1990 he was as afraid of that word as he is today of taking another tough question from Hugh Hewitt or Megyn Kelly. And but for government saving Trump by taking his side against his bankers, his business would have been tied up in years of litigation and we almost certainly would not be imagining the prospect of Donald Trump living at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Because Trump would have been sunk beneath a sea of red ink. ■

*David Cay Johnston is a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter. His most recent book is an anthology, Divided: The Perils of Our Growing Inequality.*

bodies found as Ace Kimberly and his daughter Rebecca. His two teenage sons remain missing.

### **Deadlocked Supreme Court deals big blow to Obama immigration plan**

In a crushing blow to the White House, the Supreme Court announced Thursday it was evenly divided in a case concerning President Barack Obama's controversial executive actions on immigration.

The one-sentence ruling, issued without comment or dissent, means that the programs will remain blocked from going into effect, and the issue will return to the lower court. It is exceedingly unlikely the programs will go into effect for the remainder of the Obama presidency.

Obama, speaking at the White House, lamented the ruling.

"For more than two decades now our immigration system, everybody acknowledges, has been broken," Obama said. "And the fact that the Supreme Court wasn't able to issue a decision today doesn't just set the system back even further, it takes us further from the country that we aspire to be."

The ruling will impact the more than 4 million undocumented immigrants seeking to be able to come out of the shadows and apply for these programs to stay in the United States. Immediately after Obama announced them in late 2014, Texas and 25 other states challenged the plans and they were blocked nationwide by a federal district court the next year.

Immigration has already been a prominent and highly charged topic of the 2016 election already this year, and this ruling guarantees it will only be more so.

Presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton criticized the ruling, saying it is evidence not only of why the Supreme Court needs a ninth justice, but also that the delay of Obama's immigration programs adds importance to putting a Democrat in the White House to continue the fight to put them in place.

"Today's deadlocked decision from the Supreme Court is unacceptable, and show us all just how high the stakes are in this election," Clinton said in a statement Thursday morning. She later tweeted, calling it "heartbreaking."

Hispanic Americans are also becoming an increasingly influential electoral demographic in key swing states that Democrats hope they can turn blue by painting Republicans as backward on immigration. Already liberal groups were putting out statements seeking to tie the Republican Party to Trump's comments in light of the ruling.

Obama used his statement to hit Trump as well, saying, "Immigration is not something to fear. We don't have to wall ourselves off from those who may not look like us right now or pray like we do or have a different last name because being an American is about something more than that."

### **Impact of Scalia's death**

The 4-4 split on the court is also more evidence of the long shadow of Justice Antonin Scalia's death this February. "This is a ruling that affects millions of American families, but because the Supreme Court does not have its full complement of nine justices, the court was unable to deliver a definitive ruling a case of such national importance," said Elizabeth Wydra, president of Constitutional Accountability Center. While Scalia likely would have voted with the conservatives on the court against Obama, resulting in the same overall outcome of the policies remaining blocked, legal experts say the lack of a definitive answer is harmful to the courts.

"The resolution of the immigration case -- or lack thereof -- underscores how handicapped the Supreme Court can be when it's not fully staffed," said Steve Vladeck, CNN contributor and professor of law at American University Washington College of Law. "Although proponents of President Obama's immigration plan might prefer this result to a 5-4 loss, which would have set a nationwide precedent, rulings like these create uncertainty for the courts and the country going forward -- uncertainty that, at the end of the day, puts more pressure on the political branches and dilutes the role of the Supreme Court."

### **Congressional Republicans: 'Slap down' to Obama**

Texas was supported at the Supreme Court by the GOP-led House of Representatives, who said that the programs went forward after the President failed in his attempts to persuade Congress to revise immigration laws.

"This is a slap down to the President," Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-South Carolina, told CNN. "It shows there are limitations on the President's actions and the only way to resolve this problem is through the Congress."

"Today, Article I of the Constitution was vindicated," House Speaker Paul Ryan said in a statement. "The Supreme Court's ruling makes the President's executive action on immigration null and void. The Constitution is clear: The president is not permitted to write laws -- only Congress is. This is another major victory in our fight to restore the separation of powers."

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott called Obama's action "an unauthorized abuse of presidential power that trampled the Constitution." In a statement, he added, "as the President himself said, he is not a king who can unilaterally change and write immigration laws."

### **Legal limbo**

Thursday's ruling essentially perpetuates indefinitely a legal limbo that undocumented immigrants who were potentially eligible for the program have been living since the first court ruling blocking the President's programs.

Millions had readied applications for the deferred action, only to enter a holding pattern as the court cases played out. Thursday's ruling was not a final decision in the matter, it only continues an injunction preventing the programs from going into effect. The question of the constitutionality of the program still remains before the lower courts. The roughly 4 million undocumented Americans who were awaiting Thursday's decision find their situations largely unchanged, though the ruling guarantees their undecided status will continue likely through the end of Obama's presidency.

Vladeck said the undocumented immigrants do not face a serious threat of deportation. "But so long as the lower court's ruling remains intact, they also won't be able to take advantage of the benefits that the President's initiative was intended to provide," he said. FWD.us, an immigration advocacy group with roots in Silicon Valley, called the ruling a "devastating loss" for millions.

"Today is a very tough, disappointing day," FWD.us President Todd Schulte said in a statement. "This morning, a few million United States citizens with undocumented parents, hundreds of thousands of DREAMers, and millions of their family and friends received devastating news. The hope that they would benefit from DAPA and expanded DACA and be able to live their lives in ways so many of us take for granted, such as driving to work without the fear that a broken taillight will end in our family being torn apart, remains out of reach."

Mi Familia Vota pledged to continue the political battle as well as the legal one, blaming Republicans for inaction.

"Let's be clear, our community will never forget that it was Republican elected officials and politicians who stood in the way of the well-being of our families and have blocked any solutions to fix our broken immigration system," Executive Director Ben Monterroso said in a statement. "While this is a setback in our fight, we are fully committed to find a fix to our broken immigration system through a comprehensive immigration reform with a pathway to citizenship. The solution is in the hands of our community, and we will demonstrate the power of our vote come November."

### **What Obama's plans do**

The White House announced the programs in November 2014, issuing a five-page guidance memo enabling qualifying undocumented workers to receive temporary relief from the threat of deportation and to apply for programs that could qualify them for work authorization and associated benefits.

The Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) targets the nearly 4.3 million undocumented parents of citizens and lawful residents, and the second program expands the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), initiative aimed at non-citizens who came to the country as children.

"We'll bring more undocumented immigrants out of the shadows so they can play by the rules, pay their full share of taxes, pass a criminal background check and get right with the law," Obama told an audience in Nevada after the programs were announced.

The challengers -- mostly Republican governors and attorney generals -- said the unilateral actions were unconstitutional and they violated a federal law that sets forward how agencies can establish regulations. In 2015 a federal judge sided with the states and blocked the programs from going forward. A divided federal appeals court later upheld the preliminary injunction.

Obama's lawyers argued in court papers that the lower court rulings threatened great harm, "not only to the proper role of federal courts and to federal immigration law, but also to millions of parents of U.S. citizens and permanent residents, aliens who are the lowest priorities for removal yet now work off the books to support their families."

As a threshold issue, Solicitor General Donald Verrilli said that the states didn't have the legal right to be in court, because the Constitution "assigns the formation of immigration policy exclusively to the National Government precisely because immigration is an inherently national matter."

He stressed that the guidance from the government does not provide any kind of lawful status under immigration law as the aliens remain removable at any time.

Texas Solicitor General Scott Keller argued that the states had standing to bring the challenge in part because DAPA would create a new class of recipients for state subsidized driver's licenses in Texas. He says that Texas would stand to lose millions of dollars if even a small fraction of DAPA eligible aliens applied.

"DAPA is an extraordinary assertion of executive power," Keller wrote in court papers. "The Executive has unilaterally crafted an enormous program -- one of the largest changes ever to our Nation's approach to immigration," he said. "In doing so, the Executive dispensed with immigration statutes by declaring unlawful conduct to be lawful."

He pointed to the guidance and said that the eligible undocumented immigrations would be permitted to be "lawfully present in the United States," which would make them eligible for work authorization and some types of Social Security and Medicare benefits.

### **Supreme Court strikes down Texas abortion access law**

*Washington (CNN)* In a dramatic ruling, the Supreme Court on Monday threw out a Texas abortion access law in a victory to supporters of abortion rights who argued it would have shuttered all but a handful of clinics in the state.

The 5-3 ruling is the most significant decision from the Supreme Court on abortion in two decades and could serve to deter other

states from passing so-called "clinic shutdown" laws.

In joining with the liberal justices, perennial swing vote Justice Anthony Kennedy helped deliver a victory to abortion rights activists and signaled the court's majority in their favor could continue regardless of the presidential election and the filling of the empty seat on the bench left by the death of conservative Justice Antonin Scalia.

Justice Stephen Breyer wrote the majority opinion, which was joined in full by Kennedy. Breyer wrote that despite arguments that the restrictions were designed to protect women's health, the reality is that they merely amounted to burdening women who seek abortions.

"There was no significant health-related problem that the new law helped to cure," Breyer wrote. "We agree with the District Court that the surgical-center requirement, like the admitting-privileges requirement, provides few, if any, health benefits for women, poses a substantial obstacle to women seeking abortions, and constitutes an "undue burden" on their constitutional right to do so."

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg joined Breyer's opinion and wrote a brief concurring opinion, which focused on what she called women in "desperate circumstances."

"When a State severely limits access to safe and legal procedures, women in desperate circumstances may resort to unlicensed rogue practitioners, *faute de mieux*, at great risk to their health and safety," she wrote.

### **Delta flier gets entire 160-seat jet to himself**

Sitting next to an empty seat has become a rare luxury for air travelers these days. But one lucky Delta passenger got more than an empty adjacent seat on his Tuesday flight from New Orleans to Atlanta. He got the entire plane.

Steven Schneider was flying home to Atlanta on Tuesday evening when he arrived to an empty gate area for his flight at the New Orleans airport.

"I was so nervous," Schneider told [WSB TV of Atlanta](#). "I couldn't believe it. I felt like I missed my flight!"

The flight was still there, but Schneider was the only passenger. Apparently all of the flight's other passengers had been rebooked onto different flights because of a delay. Delta attempted to contact Schneider to see if he also wanted a different option home, but the airline couldn't get through because it did not have the correct phone number for Schneider.

So, when he arrived to the gate, Schneider was given the option of taking another flight or sticking to his original booking. He opted for the latter and ended up being the only passenger on the 160-seat MD-90.

"At first I felt really bad, because I didn't want the plane to only make the trip because of me," Schneider told [WSB](#). "But after talking to a flight attendant at the gate, she

said the plane needed to go back to Atlanta anyway."

Delta acknowledged Schneider's situation to [WSB](#).

"We're glad this customer enjoyed a somewhat rare solo experience," the airline said in a statement. "Other customers were accommodated on an earlier departure. The reason we operated the flight was ... so it could be in place for a departure the next day."

### **Scientist Finds Tallest Mountain in US Arctic— and a Surprise**

It's been the subject of a half-century-long debate. But thanks to a new mapping technique, mountain experts have identified the tallest mountain in the US Arctic and uncovered a bit of a surprise as well. Using fodar, a technique he invented to map terrain using airborne photography, glaciologist Matt Nolan created a high-resolution topographic map of the Brooks Range in Alaska, which reveals Mount Isto to be the tallest mountain in the US Arctic, standing 8,975 feet tall, reports [Live Science](#). But though scientists have long thought that Mount Chamberlin, located about 30 miles away, was Isto's biggest competition, Nolan says it actually falls short of another peak. At 8,914 feet, Mount Hubley stands about 16 feet taller than Chamberlin, he explains in *Cryosphere*.

Nolan was actually using fodar to observe glacier volume change when he realized he was flying over the highest mountains in the US Arctic—only scientists couldn't decide which should wear the crown. That's when Nolan decided to put his technology to the test to find out. As he flew over the Brooks Range in a Cessna 170B equipped with a DSLR camera linked to a GPS unit, skier and mountaineer Kit DesLauriers climbed up and skied down the mountains with her own GPS unit, allowing the pair to chart elevations from the air and ground simultaneously to provide a "measure of accuracy." The resulting maps are accurate to about 8 inches, according to a release. Nolan notes his technology is much like lidar but costs \$30,000 rather than \$500,000 and can measure coastal erosion, glacier melt, and landslides. "The possibilities are truly unlimited," he says

### **A Less-United Kingdom: 'Brexit' Vote Revives Talk Of U.K. Breakup**

The United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union was historic, significant, unprecedented and decisive — but it wasn't uniform.

It was split by age: Young people overwhelmingly voted to stay, while older generations preferred to leave. It was split by education, with university-educated voters far more likely to be pro-EU.

It was split by choice of preferred newspaper — for instance, readers of *The Guardian* were inclined to "remain," by 91 percent to 9 percent; readers of *The Express* wanted to go, by 77 percent to 23 percent, according to a YouGov poll.

# #AT BORDER, ARIZ VOTERS NOT WILD ABOUT BUILDING WALL

At border, Ariz. voters not wild about building Trump's wall

NOGALES, Ariz. — Border security is more than just a political issue for Dan Bell.

It's a reality he faces every day as a third-generation southern Arizona cattle rancher. The 35,000 acres of land he ranches share 10 miles of border with Mexico just west of Nogales.

When he's out working on his ranch on horseback, the 47-year-old rancher never knows when he might run into a group of undocumented migrants, or worse, drug smugglers.

Twice in the past 13 years or so he's come face to face with drug smugglers — once when he rounded a corner in a remote canyon and encountered 10 men hauling packs of marijuana on their backs. Two of the men were armed with rifles, one of which appeared to be an AK-47 assault rifle. Bell and the ranch hand he was riding with immediately turned their horses and headed in another direction.

"It's a big issue of safety and concern for us," Bell said Tuesday, recalling the incident as he drove his pickup through some of the same remote canyons.

Even so, when Bell got up early to vote Tuesday, driving over to the polling station at 6:15 a.m., the longtime Republican did not vote for Donald Trump, the GOP front-runner, who has made building a giant wall and getting Mexico to pay for it a cornerstone of his campaign.

"I ended up voting for (John) Kasich," Bell said. But the Ohio governor lost to Trump on Tuesday night, according to the Associated Press projection, and also was trailing Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas in the Arizona primary. Bell said he believes that as a governor, Kasich has the better experience to run the country.

And while he says many southern Arizona ranchers like Trump's idea of building a wall, Bell believes building a wall along the entire border would be both impractical and expensive.

What's needed, he said, is a combination of fencing, surveillance technology and, above all, building roads that give Border Patrol agents better access to remote areas so they can reach illegal border crossers who invariably will climb over any wall.

"If you have all the pieces of the puzzle, you might have areas where a wall might be effective and other areas where other things might be more effective," Bell said.

His comments were echoed by many other voters interviewed Tuesday in Nogales. Residents of this city, which sits across the border from Nogales, Sonora, have been on the front-lines of the nation's challenge with illegal immigration for many years.

Even so, it was hard to find any who voted for Trump or thought building a giant wall along the border with Mexico was a good idea.

"If you have all the pieces of the puzzle, you might have areas where a wall might be

effective and other areas where other things might be more effective."

Dan Bell, Arizona cattle rancher Registered Democrats in Santa Cruz County, which includes Nogales, outnumber Republicans 3-1, according to election officials. A majority of residents here are Mexican-Americans who trace their roots to Mexico. About 95% of Nogales' population is Hispanic, according to Census records. "Let me say this," said Rafael Rodriguez, a 68-year-old retired truck driver, after casting his vote for former secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Clinton was the winner of the Arizona primary Tuesday night, according to the AP.

"No matter how high, how thick or how good you build a wall, the Mexicans will find a way to come across. I will bet anyone they do," Rodriguez said.

"Besides that," he added, "the Mexican government is not going to pay for it. It doesn't concern them. Trump just talks senseless."

What's more, Rodriguez said, a border wall would foment resentment on the Mexican side of the border, and businesses on the U.S. side depend heavily on shoppers from Mexico.

Zulema Mercado, a 40-year-old insurance claim analyst, said residents who live near the border tend to understand that many of the people coming across are looking for a better life and come to work. Her own grandparents came to the U.S. illegally from Mexico years ago.

"We live here with the problem of illegal immigration, but we don't want a border wall. That's not going to solve anything," she said, pointing out that in Nogales, migrants often enter the country illegally by going under the wall through tunnels.

She said her 24-year-old daughter, a University of Arizona student, inspired her to vote for Bernie Sanders, the U.S. senator from Vermont running against Clinton for the Democratic nomination.

"No matter how high, how thick or how good you build a wall, the Mexicans will find a way to come across. I will bet anyone they do."

Rafael Rodriguez, Arizona voter Sanders and Clinton both support immigration reforms that include providing a pathway to citizenship for the nation's estimated 11.3 million undocumented immigrants.

Gerardo Bostick, 68, who retired last year as an agricultural inspection supervisor for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, said he likes Sanders but voted for Clinton because he said he would like to see a woman become president.

He said there is no question building a wall along the entire length of the border would prevent people from crossing illegally.

He pointed toward the fencing that already stretches along the border, dividing Nogales, Ariz., from Nogales, Sonora.

But he still doesn't think it's a good idea.

"They don't need to do that," he said. "If they want to decrease illegal immigration, put more agents on the border, or the military." A wall, he said, "is not practical. It costs too much money."

**Scott Walker: Vice president talk 'premature'**

GREEN BAY — Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker said he's not interested in a potential Cabinet post if a Republican is elected president, but he wouldn't rule out a possible run for the vice presidency.

Walker, in Green Bay on Tuesday to sign three bills related to Alzheimer's patients, was quick to say no when asked if he'd be interested in a Cabinet post. But he was much less definitive when asked whether he would be interested in the No. 2 spot on the ticket this fall.

"That's just way too premature," he said, smiling.

After Walker ended his presidential campaign in September, multiple media outlets had speculated that the Wisconsin governor could be an attractive running mate, particularly for a presidential hopeful looking to increase his appeal to the conservative base. Slate's Reihan Salam wrote that Walker's "occasional flashes of blue-collar charisma," could serve as a useful balance to an "outsider" candidate such as Donald Trump.

Also Tuesday, Walker said he could make a presidential endorsement next week. And he hinted that it won't be controversial front-runner Trump.

"We'll probably make a decision in the next week or so," he said. "There are two candidates who are probably more aligned with where I stand than with ... the front-runner."

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz and Ohio Gov. John Kasich are the other two Republicans remaining in the race.

A number of factors typically are considered when choosing a running mate, including balancing the ideology of the presidential candidate, said Charley Jacobs, an assistant professor of judicial process and American politics at St. Norbert College. For example, Dick Cheney was thought to have greater appeal to the far right, while George W. Bush was viewed as more moderate.

Walker also has a leg up on other potential vice presidential candidates because he exited the race earlier. People such as Marco Rubio and Jeb Bush, who campaigned until recently, received so much criticism from Trump — the presumptive nominee — that it would be almost impossible for them to be considered as VP candidates.

"Walker's early out may work to his advantage," Jacobs said. "The campaign has been scorched earth recently, but Walker wasn't around long enough to be Trump's piñata."

Slate had speculated that Walker would be a good balance on a ticket with either Bush or Rubio, saying he would increase appeal to working-class white voters because of "his

## Obama says top priority is to defeat Islamic State

BUENOS AIRES — President Obama expressed sorrow for the victims of the Brussels attacks and vowed Wednesday to fight the Islamic State until it is destroyed, speaking at a news conference with Argentinian President Mauricio Macri. "We will continue to go after ISIL until it's removed from Syria and Iraq and destroyed," Obama said, using an acronym for the Islamic State.

Macri also voiced his country's support for Brussels. "I would like to convey my solidarity with the families of the victims," he said. "Argentina once again condemns this kind of terrorist attack."

Obama, on his first visit to Argentina to strengthen ties with South America's third largest economy, said his top priority is to defeat the Islamic State.

"There's no more important item on my agenda than going after them and defeating them. The issue is how do we do it in an intelligent way," Obama said.

He added that "carpet-bombing" the Islamic State would not defeat the terrorists, but instead could serve as a recruitment tool for the militant group.

Obama also announced during the news conference that U.S. intelligence agencies will declassify documents that shed light on the United States' role during the Argentine military's infamous "dirty war" from 1976 to 1983.

"We are grateful for this gesture," Macri said. Later in the day, Obama laid a wreath at the Buenos Aires Metropolitan Cathedral, where Pope Francis had served as archbishop. At a town hall meeting with students and professors, Obama said that despite the terrorist menace of the Islamic State, "the world is far less violent than it was 20 or 50 years ago."

### Photos: Obama in Argentina

To bring about further progress it's important "that we listen to each other and understand our differences," Obama said at the town hall. That means "treat somebody the same as you would want to be treated."

Obama attempted to speak Spanish, awkwardly, saying at one point, "Somos un equipo" (we are a team) twice. He then added, "I've got to practice my Spanish." The discussion also covered academic collaboration between Argentina and the United States, plus health issues such as the Zika virus and other diseases that Obama said could be prevented with small investment and economic development.

Macri, who took office in December, is a center-right politician who has instituted reforms friendly to investments to expand economic opportunity, a change from his more leftist predecessors.

"President Macri is a man in a hurry because he has moved rapidly on so many of the reforms that he has promised," Obama said. Macri hosts a state dinner for Obama Wednesday night with 400 guests.

In addition to signing an agreement to bolster trade, the two presidents discussed efforts to fight climate change. Both nations agreed to reduce hydro-fluorocarbons, cut aviation emissions and increase the use of renewable energy.

Obama on Thursday is scheduled to visit Bariloche and Patagonia, as thousands plan to protest in Buenos Aires on the 40th anniversary of the 1976 military coup that the U.S. initially supported. Resentment still lingers over the tens of thousands of people who disappeared or were killed under military dictatorship.

### Couple finds Purple Heart Medal at Goodwill store

MESA, Ariz. — Laura Hardy and her husband, Jake, were shopping at a Goodwill store Saturday when something caught Jake's eye at the jewelry counter.

The purple and gold medal was unmistakable. It was a Purple Heart. Pinned to a \$4.99 Goodwill retail tag, the couple knew the medal belonged somewhere else. They bought it and started to do some digging.

A Google search revealed that the medal was awarded to a World War II veteran named Eaul H. Whiteman. Whiteman died in 1991, and is buried in a veteran's national cemetery near Portland, Ore.

Laura Hardy posted a plea on Facebook, and soon help poured in. Tina Durnil Cook's group Veteran Buddy Finder was able to solve the mystery.

"Who knew what this man did to earn this medal?" said Laura Hardy. "It must have been something pretty important, because this is a very important medal to earn."

Hardy's post has been shared nearly 100,000 times. A number of the people commenting on Facebook wondered how such a prestigious award wound up on a secondhand jewelry counter.

"For it to just be lost in the shuffle and show up at Goodwill at that price, you can't put a price on a medal," Laura Hardy said. "I'm really lucky that this lady found it, she solved it all in one morning."

The medal, which belongs to Whiteman's nephew, was inadvertently donated to another Goodwill location. A Goodwill spokesperson said this was an oversight on their part. They said they are always looking out for military honors like these and will work with local veterans' groups to see that they are returned to family members.

The Hardys are returning Whiteman's medal to his nephew's family in Missouri.

### Supporters, protesters clash outside Trump rally in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY — Protesters clashed with supporters of Donald Trump after he gave a speech in Utah on Friday, ending a day full of presidential candidate appearances that also saw Mitt Romney intensifying his criticism of the GOP front-runner.

Hundreds of people chanted "Dump Trump" and "Mr. Hate Out of Our State" as police in riot gear blocked the entrance to the Salt

Lake City building, after protesters tried to rush the door and got into dozens of screaming matches with Trump supporters who didn't make into the venue.

Trump said he loves Mormons in his first public appearance of the campaign in Utah. He had critical words, though, for former presidential candidate and Utah resident Mitt Romney, who said he was supporting Texas Sen. Ted Cruz in the state's upcoming caucuses.

"Are you sure he's a Mormon? Are we sure?" he jokingly asked his crowd at the Infinity Event Center.

The announcement from Romney, the faith's most visible member, dealt a blow to John Kasich as he campaigned in the heart of Mormon country.

Kasich brushed off the endorsement, telling reporters Friday in Orem that Romney is entitled to his opinion that voting for Cruz could deny Trump the GOP nomination. But the Ohio governor said the election "is not a parlor game," and he contends that he is the Republican best suited to defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton in November.

Romney, who has made Utah his adopted home, said Friday that he plans to vote for Cruz in the state's Tuesday caucuses. He made the announcement on his official Facebook page as Kasich was speaking to about 600 people during a town hall at Utah Valley University.

Romney has campaigned with Kasich in other states but stopped short of endorsing him. In addition to his position as a prominent member of Utah's dominant faith, Romney is also revered in the state for leading a turnaround of the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics.

It's unclear to what degree his endorsement of Cruz may sway GOP voters in the Tuesday caucuses. The Texas senator was already expected to have a leg up on the other Republican contenders because of his emphasis on religious liberties and backing from Utah Republican Sen. Mike Lee. Kasich's Friday town hall was one of four events he has planned in the state over two days as part of his attempt to win over Utah's GOP voters next week.

Bernie Sanders and GOP contenders Donald Trump and Ted Cruz were all scheduled to make campaign appearances in the Beehive State on Friday and Saturday.

Fueled by a strong turnout of young supporters, thousands attended Sanders' rally and speech Friday afternoon in Salt Lake City. The Democratic presidential candidate reiterated the cornerstone issues of his campaign, including promises to address a "rigged economy" and broken criminal justice system. Many of his supporters wore T-shirts with the campaign slogan, "Feel the Bern."

Sanders will square off with Democratic front runner Hillary Clinton in Utah's caucus on Tuesday. Clinton has a lead of more than 300 pledged delegates.

## Ten Commandments Removed from State Capitol per Oklahoma Supreme Court

In a 7-2 ruling, the Oklahoma Supreme Court overturned a lower court ruling and decided in favor of the ACLU in June, stating, "the monument at issue operates for the use, benefit or support of a sect or system of religion," and therefore "violates Article 2, Section 5 of the Oklahoma State Constitution it is enjoined and shall be removed."

That section of Oklahoma's constitution states:

No public money or property shall ever be appropriated, applied, donated, or used, directly or indirectly, for the use, benefit, or support of any sect, church, denomination, or system of religion, or for the use, benefit, or support of any priest, preacher, minister, or other religious teacher or dignitary, or sectarian institution as such.

According to NewsOK, the six-foot granite monument was removed and is being installed instead outside the offices of the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs.

Brady Henderson, legal director for the ACLU said the Oklahoma legislature's approval of a bill in 2009 that favored placing the monument on the grounds of the state Capitol was not based on sound legal analysis.

"They didn't really think this through, or look carefully at how court precedent works," he said.

Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin (R) called for a constitutional amendment to restore the monument on Tuesday, NBC News reports.

"It's not a Republican, Democrat or independent issue," Fallin, said at a press conference in Oklahoma City. "The Ten Commandments is a historical monument. We brought it to this location. We felt it was a good place to be able to display it properly so people could see it."

"We're going to let the people of Oklahoma decide this issue," she added.

In a statement sent to Breitbart News, Hiram Sasser, deputy chief counsel for Liberty Institute, who worked with Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt, said, "We are disappointed the Oklahoma Supreme Court declined to follow the United States Supreme Court, the United States Courts of Appeal for the Tenth, Ninth, Eighth, and Fifth Circuits and the Colorado Supreme Court."

Sasser continued:

Indeed, Judge Alfred P. Murrah ruled in 1973 that an identical monument bearing the Ten Commandments was perfectly constitutional where it stood in Salt Lake City. The Oklahoma Supreme Court has taken the most radical position on removing the Ten Commandments of any court in this Nation's history. It is my hope the legislature and the governor take appropriate actions to repeal this action of the Oklahoma Constitution in hopes

of restoring the appropriate legal analysis forged by Judge Murrah decades ago.

State Rep. Mike Ritze (R) said the Ten Commandments monument was "identical to many others upheld as constitutional by courts across the country, including the United States Supreme Court."

"We will focus our efforts on restoring the monument to its rightful place," he added.

In addition, former state Rep. Mike Reynolds (R) said the removal of the monument should be a wake up call for voters.

"I think that today is an excellent day to expose the hypocrisy in our state government, whether it's the Supreme Court, the attorney general or the governor's office making bad decisions, it's time for citizens to start looking for ways to change the process," he said

### Donald Trump takes 'credit' for shaking up House GOP

The two leading Republican presidential candidates — real-estate mogul Donald Trump and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson — had very different reactions to the mavhem in Washington on Thursday.

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-California) was expected to easily have the speaker's race sewn up.

But instead, McCarthy suddenly exited the race and threw the legislative chamber into disarray.

Trump, the Republican front-runner, said McCarthy made the right decision because he wasn't tough enough.

"Great, Kevin McCarthy drops out of SPEAKER race. We need a really smart and really tough person to take over this very important job!" Trump tweeted. "Washington (D.C.) is such a mess - nothing works! I will MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN! It's not going to happen with anyone else."

Later in the day, Trump gave a campaign speech in Las Vegas, Nevada, where he said unnamed people were giving him "a lot of credit" for McCarthy's exit because he publicly called for House Speaker John Boehner's (R-Ohio) replacement to be a tough negotiator.

"Kevin McCarthy is out," he told his cheering audience. "They're giving me a lot of credit for that because I said, 'You really need somebody very, very tough. And very smart.' You know smart goes with tough. ... I know tough people, they're not smart, that's the worst, OK? That's the worst. You've got to be smart."

Trump added that McCarthy was a "nice guy."

Meanwhile, Carson said McCarthy was "unselfish" by prioritizing the Republican conference ahead of his own political ambitions.

"I say kudos to Rep. McCarthy for putting others before himself," Carson told CNN's

Wolf Blitzer. "This is not something we see very often in Washington."

## MICHIGAN FACTORY SUPERVISOR WINS \$310.5M POWERBALL TICKET

LANSING, Mich. (AP) -- A 50-year-old supervisor at a Michigan fiberglass factory is the winner of a \$310.5 million Powerball jackpot.

Julie Leach of Three Rivers says she was having a "bad night" at her third-shift job when she took a lunch break. She checked the numbers while waiting in a McDonald's drive-thru.

Leach says she is in "disbelief." She quickly quit her "nasty, dirty" job and plans to build houses in Michigan for her and her partner of 36 years, their three children and 11 grandchildren.

Leach chose a lump sum of \$197.4 million, or \$140 million after taxes. It's Michigan's second-largest lottery prize.

## US GOVERNMENT DEPORTS FEWEST IMMIGRANTS IN NEARLY A DECADE

The Obama administration deported fewer immigrants over the past 12 months than at any time since 2006, according to government figures obtained by The Associated Press.

Deportations of criminal immigrants have fallen to the lowest levels since President Barack Obama took office in 2009, despite his pledge to focus on finding and deporting criminals living in the country illegally. The share of criminal immigrants deported in relation to overall immigrants deported rose slightly, from 56 percent to 59 percent.

The overall total of 231,000 deportations generally does not include Mexicans who were caught at the border and quickly returned home by the U.S. Border Patrol. The figure does include roughly 136,700 convicted criminals deported in the last 12 months. Total deportations dropped 42 percent since 2012.

The Homeland Security Department has not yet publicly disclosed the new internal figures, which include month-by-month breakdowns and cover the period between Oct. 1, 2014, and Sept. 28. The new numbers emerged as illegal immigration continues to be sharply debated among Republican presidential candidates, especially front-runner Donald Trump. And they come as Obama carries out his pledge from before his 2012 re-election to narrowly focus enforcement and slow deportations after more than a decade of rising figures.

The biggest surprise in the figures was the decline in criminal deportations. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson last year directed immigration authorities anew to focus on finding and deporting immigrants who pose a national security or public safety threat, those who have serious criminal records or those who recently crossed the Mexican border. The decline suggests the administration has been failing to find criminal

POSTED BY: LEON IRBY ← 1 OF 7 DATED: SEPT 5, 2016

IRBY

immigrants in the U.S. interior or that fewer immigrants living in the U.S. illegally had criminal records serious enough to justify deporting them.

"With the resources we have ... I'm interested in focusing on criminals and recent illegal arrivals at the border," Johnson told Congress in April.

Roughly 11 million immigrants are thought to be living in the country illegally.

Obama has overseen the removal of more than 2.4 million immigrants since taking office, but deportations have been declining steadily in the last three years. Removals declined by more than 84,000 between the 2014 and 2015 budget years, the largest year-over-year decline since 2012.

The Homeland Security Department has been quick to attribute the steady decline to changing demographics at the Mexican border, specifically the increasing number of immigrants from countries other than Mexico and the spike in unaccompanied children and families caught trying to cross the border illegally in 2014. The majority of the children and tens of thousands of people traveling as families, mostly mothers and children, came from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.

The Border Patrol historically sends home Mexican immigrants caught crossing the border illegally, but U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement must fly home immigrants from other countries. That process is more expensive, complicated and time-consuming, especially when immigrants fight their deportation or seek asylum in the United States.

Arrests of border crossers from other countries also dropped this year, along with the number of unaccompanied children and families. As of the end of August, the Border Patrol arrested about 130,000 immigrants from countries other than Mexico, about 34,500 unaccompanied children and roughly 34,400 people traveling as families.

More than 257,000 immigrants from countries other than Mexico were apprehended at the border during the 2014 budget year, including more than 68,000 unaccompanied children and tens of thousands of family members. It was the first time that immigrants from other countries outnumbered those from Mexico.

## DESPITE SUNNY FORECAST, SOUTH CAROLINA ORDEAL FAR FROM OVER

South Carolina was expecting sunshine Tuesday after days of inundation, but it will still take weeks for the state to return to normal after being pummeled by a historic rainstorm.

Even as the rain tapered off, officials warned of the likelihood of new evacuations - such as one ordered Monday afternoon in one of two towns east of downtown Columbia where two dams were breached.

The governor warned communities downstream that a mass of water was working its way through waterways toward the low-lying coast - bringing the potential for more flooding and more displaced residents.

"This is not over. Just because the rain stops does not mean that we are out of the woods," Gov. Nikki Haley said Monday.

South Carolina's geography and poor spending on infrastructure left several town and cities like islands after roads washed out and creeks topped bridges.

One of those cut-off communities was Manning, the county seat of Clarendon County, about 60 miles southeast of Columbia.

"I fear the worst is to come. We have a power substation under water. No telling when that thing gets fixed," Clarendon County Sheriff Randy Garrett said.

At least 11 weather-related deaths in South Carolina and two in North Carolina were blamed on the vast rainstorm, including those of six people who drowned in their cars in Columbia alone. A solid week of rainfall also sent about 1,000 to shelters and left about 40,000 without drinkable water.

Much-feared Hurricane Joaquin missed the East Coast, but fueled what experts at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration called a "fire hose" of tropical moisture that aimed directly at the state. By Monday, the heaviest rains had moved into the mid-Atlantic states, but not before making history in South Carolina.

The 16.6 inches of rain that fell at Gills Creek near downtown Columbia on Sunday made for one of the rainiest days recorded at a U.S. weather station in more than 16 years.

John Shelton of the U.S. Geological Survey says flooding can be a concern for any urban area, with an abundance of concrete covering soil that would otherwise act as a sponge for excessive rains.

But the multitude of waterways in Columbia also makes the city a prime target for flooding, as rainwater seeking to flow into a creek or river gets waylaid on the city's roadways.

"The fact is that we're getting six months' worth of rain in two days that's falling in an urbanized area," Shelton said. "This was kind of the perfect storm."

The governor has said the deluge is the kind of storm seen only once in 1,000 years.

The state Department of Transportation said nearly 500 roads and bridges were still closed Tuesday morning. Many of those were in the Columbia area. A 90-mile stretch of Interstate 95 was still closed between Interstates 20 and 26 due to flooding and overall poor road conditions.

Officials warned residents not to try to drive through or around standing water and debris that have covered many roadways.

Complicating the problem is that the infrastructure was already in bad shape in places. According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, 1,048 of the 9,275 bridges were structurally deficient before this storm.

Power had been restored to thousands of residents. South Carolina Electric and Gas said less than 1,000 residents were without power early Tuesday morning. Duke Energy said only a handful of its customers were still waiting for electricity to come back on.

The flooding forced hundreds of weekend rescues and threatened the drinking water supply for Columbia, with officials warning some could be without potable water for days because of water main breaks. The capital city told all 375,000 of its water customers to boil water before drinking.

Officials brought in bottled water and portable restrooms for the 31,000 students at the University of South Carolina, and firefighters used a half-dozen trucks and pumps to ferry hundreds of thousands of gallons of water to Palmetto Health Baptist Hospital.

In another downstream area, Lake City, the flooding left a brown four-door sedan bobbing with its hood angled down at the road leading to Lake City High School, the site of a Red Cross shelter that housed more than 100 people Monday. Lisa Singletary, 34, trudged past the waterlogged car through water about 4 feet deep to reach the shelter after her sister's ground-floor apartment was inundated.

Singletary grabbed her three children, ages 1, 4 and 16, and her sister's three children, ages 9 to 18, and pushed through the grimy water after sunset Sunday, she said. She and her sister, Mary Singletary, then returned for everything they could carry.

"We had to really wade in the water. ... We had to hold the kids up from really getting wet and everything," said Singletary, who was visiting for the weekend from nearby Johnsonville.

The two women filled plastic trash bags with "toothpaste, toothbrush, wash cloths, towels, blankets, pillows, clothes, socks, shoes," Singletary said. "We brought everything that we could have brought."

Back in the Columbia area, James Shirer saw the dam along Rockyford Lake in the town of Forest Acres fail Monday, causing the 22-acre lake to drain in 10 to 15 minutes.

"It just poured out," Shirer said.

The lakes and ponds got so high, the dams couldn't take it anymore, Shirer said. Speaking of the rains, he said, "They've wrecked the dams; they've ruined all of the bridges. This one lake has already gone from topping over this bridge to where it's emptying out."

As he spoke, water rushed through where the dam once was and a military helicopter circled overhead.



# TRUMP - 20 - 2015

Greece, what they are they going to do on China?" Cannon asks.

The response to uncertainty in the Chinese economy is falling sales. Luxury automakers have been offering discounts of up to 30%, Bloomberg News found recently.

After years of shaping new models around China's consumer preferences first, and the U.S. and Europe's second, automakers are seeing what had been the world's hottest auto market rapidly cooling. Bentley Motors CEO Wolfgang Durheimer says Europe has bounced back as China has weakened, now outselling it when it comes to his super-luxe brand.

That's okay, he says. As much as Bentley would like all regions to be prosperous, Durheimer says he recognizes they will rise and fall. Expecting "perfect conditions in every market would be foolish," he says.

While luxury buyers often have enough wealth to ride through tougher times, they know fancy cars aren't necessities. "You don't buy a Lamborghini because you need one," said Lamborghini CEO Stephan Winkelmann as he showed off a new, lustrous blue \$530,075 supercar Friday at the Quail Motorsports Gathering near here. "It's a dream."

Lately, the safe haven for luxury automakers has been the U.S. because of a surging economy, the shale-oil boom and emerging affluence among Millennials and Gen Xers while Boomers look to comfortable retirements. Low gas prices are helping, too.

"Conditions in the U.S. are as good as they get," says Mike Jackson, CEO of AutoNation, the country's largest auto dealer chain. "I've never seen a period where I can't see a cloud on the horizon."

Instead, he says, the challenge has been getting enough luxury vehicles to be able to offer for sale. Americans lately have wanted more luxury SUVs and trucks, among the most profitable vehicles on the dealer's lot. We "can't get enough," and part of the reason has been because automakers were shifting more to China and overseas market. Now, he says, that's changing.

Some of the automakers who were taking some of their best product overseas are now paying far more attention to their U.S. sales outlets, says Robert DiStanislao, whose RDS Automotive Group sells Porsches, Maseratis and McLarens in greater Philadelphia.

Having been "tempted to take the quick dime instead of the smart nickel," DiStanislao says automakers are becoming more pragmatic about catering to their best customers.

## Report: Trump pursued Princess Diana

LONDON — Donald Trump pursued Princess Diana after the breakup of her marriage to Prince Charles, "bombarding" her

with flowers, a journalist claims in Britain's Sunday Times.

The claim was made by Selina Scott, a TV presenter in the United Kingdom who has had a long-running feud with the Republican presidential hopeful.

"He bombarded Diana at Kensington Palace with massive bouquets of flowers, each worth hundreds of pounds," after she and Prince Charles divorced in 1996, Scott wrote in the Sunday Times. "Trump clearly saw Diana as the ultimate trophy wife."

Scott said Diana, who confided in her over dinner, grew increasingly concerned about what to do as flowers sent by the tycoon piled up in her apartment.

Scott said Diana asked her: "What am I going to do? He gives me the creeps," to which Scott replied "Just throw them in the bin."

"Diana laughed," she added.

The feud between Trump and Scott began in 1995, when Scott questioned Trump's business dealings in a TV documentary, leading him to brand her "insecure", "obnoxious", and "dishonest".

In 2009, the dispute reignited after councilors in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, where Trump wanted to build a golf resort, were anonymously sent a DVD of the documentary in the post. The package was accompanied by the words: "Know who you are dealing with." It is not known who sent the DVD, but Trump called Scott "a third-class journalist" who "faded into obscurity where she belongs."

Scott claimed in the newspaper article that when Diana died in a car crash in Paris in 1997, "Trump told friends his biggest regret was that they hadn't dated."

She added: "He said that he always thought he had a chance of romance and would have had a 'shot' with her."

Scott added that said Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly "had it easy" in her dealings with Trump. Earlier this month, Kelly questioned Trump about past insults to women during a debate, after which the tycoon told CNN: "You could see there was blood coming out of her eyes. Blood coming out of her wherever."

Trump's spokesman told the Sunday Times: "(Trump and Diana) had a great relationship, liked each other a lot, but nothing ever came of it."

## 'Compton' raps \$56.1M at weekend box office

Straight Outta Compton and into the history books.

The N.W.A. biopic broke records with its \$56.1 million haul at the weekend box office, more than doubling expectations set by

Universal earlier in the week, according to tracking firm Rentrak. The sprawling hip-hop epic, which tracks the rise and rift of rap group N.W.A., had the biggest August opening ever for an R-rated film, ahead of American Pie 2's \$45.1 million start in 2001.

It's also the best opening ever for a music biopic, according to Box Office Mojo, leaping past Johnny Cash drama Walk the Line's \$22.3 million launch in 2005, and performing on par with Eminem's semi-autobiographical 8 Mile (\$51.2 million) in 2002. It comes in just under the take of another music-driven summer hit, Pitch Perfect 2, which kicked off with a massive \$69.2 million in May.

"From the very beginning of the summer, (Compton) was on pretty much every moviegoers' must-see list," says Rentrak senior analyst Paul Dergarabedian. "Not only did it over perform in terms of box office, but it also received high marks from critics and created a conversation," boosted by its savvy use of social media (including a viral #StraightOutta meme).

Produced by Dr. Dre and Ice Cube and starring Corey Hawkins and O'Shea Jackson Jr. as their counterparts, Compton was enthusiastically received by critics (88% on review aggregate site RottenTomatoes.com) but even more so by audiences (96% approval rating).

Its topical stand against police violence, an emphasis in the movie's promotion, may have piqued the interest of moviegoers, who were mostly men (60%) ages 25 and up (52%). There was also a wave of interest in Dre after the surprise release of his companion album, Compton, late last week. The star-studded album, his first in nearly 16 years, could sell as many as 300,000 copies in its first week, Billboard predicts.

The film continues a winning streak for Universal, which has reached a record-shattering \$5.5 billion worldwide so far this year, thanks to other massive openings and sturdy holdovers in Furious 7, Jurassic World, Minions and Fifty Shades of Grey.

Compton "is just the latest example of Universal perfectly executing and distributing a movie this year," Dergarabedian says. "It's proof that a film can be a hit at any time of the year."

Meanwhile, the weekend's only other wide release, The Man from U.N.C.L.E., was essentially a non-starter. The European spy caper, based on the '60s TV show of the same name, took in \$13.5 million for third place. With a budget estimated at roughly \$80 million, Warner Bros. will have to hope for a robust international take, similar to those of director Guy Ritchie's popular Sherlock Holmes adaptations with Robert Downey Jr.

Starring Henry Cavill, Armie Hammer and Hollywood "It" girl Alicia Vikander,

"There is an entry time coming in the energy patch, no question. In our view, it isn't here yet," Kotok said.

### **BMW brings superhot special M4 coupe to U.S.**

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. -- Americans are finally going to get a shot at owning one of Europe's hottest sports coupes.

For the first time, BMW is going to bring one of the special performance versions of its already hot M4 to the U.S. In Europe, BMW has already made seven of these special performers spanning back to 1988, including both the M3 sedan and the M4 coupe.

Bringing one to the U.S. is no simple matter, given the emissions, safety and other requirements necessary for what, in the end, will be a relatively low-volume model. But BMW thinks the timing is right.

"The BMW Concept M4 GTS previews an emotionally powerful and exclusive special model conceived with an eye for trailblazing technology and a keen focus on the race track," says Frank van Meel, chairman of the board of management in a statement. "Despite its outstanding track ability, it is still fully road-legal."

M3 and M4 are performance versions of the 3 Series and 4 Series cars already so well known to up-and-coming stock brokers, medical school graduates and airline pilots. The special versions, like the BMW Concept M4 GTS revealed here at a reception ahead of the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, take performance to racing levels.

That means employing every possible tweak to lower weight, improve cornering and coax more power out of the engine.

There is, for instance, a manually adjustable front splitter and rear wing made of carbon fiber, along with a carbon fiber hood.

The engine uses a unique water injection system, a mist that cools down air going into the engine for a boost of up to 60 horsepower -- and lots more torque.

It arrives on American shores by next year.

### **Ferrari creates cool pop-up paradise for owners**

MONTEREY, Calif. -- The goal in the car business is to follow the money, and cashing in lately has meant chasing the high end of the market -- luxury cars all the way up tootics and so-called supercars

As simple as that sounds, the model is under great. The dip in China's stock market and continuing trouble in Russian are causing automakers to reevaluate, putting their hopes gain on the U.S. and a recovering Europe, markets that before seemed so humdrum.

What brought a bevy of them to greater Monterey, to one of California's richest enclaves over the weekend, where they could

appeal directly to potential buyers turning out for a week of car events culminating Sunday with the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.

Whether it was a chance to test drive a Tesla Model S or kick the tires of Acura's new NSX super sports car, automakers pulled out the stops to try to make a case on why their brand is worth the extra money.

The consensus is that these have been golden times in the luxury auto business. Not only do luxury vehicles have far thicker profit margins, executives say the growth rate for luxury in a booming U.S. economy has been running at about twice the 3.9% rate overall that Autodata reports for cars and trucks overall in the first half of the year.

But as good as times are with fundamentals that point to continued growth in luxury, "there will be blips along the way," says Steve Cannon, CEO for Mercedes-Benz in the U.S.

For the moment, China is one of those blips where automakers are being forced to hedge their bets on what had been the world's most robust auto market. "If markets can fall on Greece, what they are they going to do on China?" Cannon asks.

The response to uncertainty in the Chinese economy is falling sales. Luxury automakers have been offering discounts of up to 30%, Bloomberg News found recently.

After years of shaping new models around China's consumer preferences first, the the U.S. and Europe's second, automakers seeing the what had been the world's hottest auto market rapidly cooling. Bentley Motors CEO Wolfgang Durheimer says Europe has bounced back as China has weakened, now outselling it when it comes to his super-luxe brand.

That's okay, he says. As much as Bentley would like all regions to be prosperous, Durheimer says he recognizes they will rise and fall. Expecting "perfect conditions in every market would be foolish," he says.

While luxury buyers often have enough wealth to ride through tougher times, they also are keenly aware they are interested in automotive baubles. "You don't buy a Lamborghini because you need one," said Lamborghini CEO Stephan Winkelmann as he showed off a new, lustrous blue \$530,000 supercar Friday at the Quail Motorsports Gathering near here. "It's a dream."

Lately, the safe haven for luxury automakers has been the U.S. A surging economy, the shale-oil boom, emerging affluence among Millennials and Boomers looking for comfortable retirements, and low gas prices have combined to create a vibrant market for luxury.

"Conditions in the U.S. are as good as they get," says Mike Jackson, CEO of AutoNation, the country's largest auto dealer

chain. "I've never seen a period where I can't see a cloud on the horizon."

Instead, he says, the challenge has been getting enough luxury vehicles to be able offer for sale. Americans lately have wanted more luxury SUVs and trucks, among the most profitable vehicles on the dealer's lot. We "can't get enough," and part of the reason has been because automakers were shifting more to China and overseas market. Now, he says, that's changing.

Some of the automakers who were taking some of their best product overseas are now paying far more attention to their U.S. sales outlets, says Robert DiStanislaio, whose RDS Automotive Group sells Porsches, Maseratis and McLarens in greater Philadelphia.

Having been "tempted to take the quick dime instead of the smart nickel," DiStanislaio says automakers are becoming more pragmatic about catering to their best customers.

### **Luxury car makers look to U.S. as China teeters**

MONTEREY, Calif. -- The goal in the car business is to follow the money, and cashing in lately has meant chasing the high end of the market -- luxury cars -- especially in emerging markets like China.

But the dip in China's stock market is causing automakers to reevaluate, pinning their hopes again on the U.S. and a recovering Europe, markets that before seemed so humdrum to them.

The pursuit of wealthy Americans brought a bevy of automakers here to one of California's wealthiest enclaves over the weekend for a week of car events culminating Sunday with the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.

Whether it was a chance to test drive a Tesla Model S or kick the tires of Acura's new NSX super sports car, potential buyers got to see automakers pull out the stops to try to make a case on why they should pay more for luxury.

Automakers aren't holding back when it comes to wooing customers. These are golden times for them. Not only do luxury vehicles have far thicker profit margins, executives say the growth rate for luxury in a booming U.S. economy has been running at about twice the 3.9% rate overall that Autodata reports for cars and trucks overall in the first half of the year.

But as good as times are with fundamentals that point to continued growth in luxury, "there will be blips along the way," says Steve Cannon, CEO for Mercedes-Benz in the U.S.

For the moment, China is one of those blips where automakers are being forced to hedge their bets on what had been the world's most robust auto market. "If markets can fall on

## Military families to Trump: Apologize for comments to Khans

Karen Meredith holds a photograph of her son, Army 1st Lt. Kenneth Michael Ballard, who died in... Read more

Their sons were killed in Iraq about a week apart.

So when Karen Meredith heard the grieving parents of a decorated Muslim Army officer being belittled by Donald Trump, she cried. Meredith said she hadn't wept over her son's death for a long time, but the Republican presidential nominee "ripped the wounds right open again."

"You don't attack one Gold Star family, because if you do, you're attacking a lot of us," Meredith, 62, of Mountain View, California, said Monday.

Trump has been engaged in an emotionally charged feud with Khizr and Ghazala Khan, whose son, Capt. Humayun Khan, was killed in Iraq by a suicide bomber on June 8, 2004. Trump stoked outrage by implying that Ghazala Khan did not speak while standing alongside her husband at last week's Democratic convention because of their Muslim faith. And he disputed their right to question his grasp of the Constitution. Some of America's Gold Star families, or those who lost loved ones in war, have demanded that Trump apologize.

Meredith organized a letter to Trump that has been signed by 23 families so far. She said she did so after seeing so much "hurt and anger" among Gold Star families on social media.

Trump refused to back down Monday, complaining anew that he has been "viciously attacked" by the Khans.

Meredith's son and only child, Army 1st Lt. Kenneth Michael Ballard, was killed during a firefight in Iraq on May 30, 2004, at age 26. "Most people in this country, before this, did not know what a Gold Star family was, let alone what our sacrifice was," Meredith said. "For him to attack a Gold Star family and not understand the grief that Mrs. Khan was going through and why she wouldn't have spoken, just validated my feelings toward Mr. Trump as an unfeeling, empty person."

The letter was released publicly on Monday by VoteVets.org, a left-leaning group dedicated to electing liberal veterans to Congress. Meredith is a Democrat but said... this is a nonpartisan issue.

Celeste Zappala, who also signed the letter, said the grief that Gold Star families suffer earns them the right to say whatever they want. Zappala's son, Army Sgt. Sherwood R. Baker, was also killed in Iraq in 2004. She said she cried after hearing Trump's comments, too.

"Mr. Trump has made a firestorm happen that didn't need to happen and that insults everybody who served," said Zappala, of Philadelphia. "Nobody should say anything other than 'Thank you for your service.'" Both Zappala and Meredith stressed that they aren't speaking on behalf of all Gold Star

families, and that there are others who back Trump.

Ryan Manion Borek, a Republican from Doylestown, Pennsylvania, said she is happy the Khans got to share their son's story and hopes the backlash prompts both candidates to address Gold Star issues. Her brother, Marine 1st Lt. Travis Manion, was killed in Iraq in 2007.

Gold Star families represent such a small fraction of the population, "it's super important that the people making the decision to send men and women off to war understand what that means," said Borek, who hasn't decided which candidate she will vote for.

Prominent Republicans spoke out Monday against Trump. Arizona Sen. John McCain, a prisoner of war in Vietnam, said that while the party has bestowed upon Trump the nomination, "it is not accompanied by unfettered license to defame those who are the best among us."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars said it won't tolerate anyone berating a Gold Star family member for exercising his or her right to free speech.

President Barack Obama addressed the Disabled American Veterans' annual conference in Atlanta on Monday. He didn't mention Trump by name but implicitly rebuked him for criticizing the Khan family. "No one — no one has given more for our freedom and our security than our Gold Star families," Obama said. "They continue to inspire us every day, every moment."

Ami Neiberger-Miller, of Purcellville, Virginia, knows the Khans because her brother is buried near their son at Arlington National Cemetery. Army Spc. Christopher Neiberger was killed in Iraq in 2007.

She said she emailed the Khans after the Democratic National Convention speech, telling them how brave they were. As for Trump's response, Neiberger-Miller said she found it "very disturbing and distasteful."

"The comments about Mrs. Khan because she didn't speak on stage, that seemed very cruel," she said. "I actually saw her standing there as a kind of strength. As a bereaved parent, that might be what she could do that day."

Neiberger-Miller said the one positive thing to come out of this may be that Americans are learning more about Gold Star families. "We're the families who really live with the price of war, who live with the price of service and honor and duty to country, and all of the things that go with it," she said. "There is a sense of disconnect at times between us and the rest of the country."

## Trump's refusal to back House speaker angers Republican Party chief

Donald Trump's White House campaign was in turmoil on Wednesday after he angered senior Republican Party leaders by criticizing a dead soldier's family and refusing to back the re-election campaign of House of Representatives Speaker Paul Ryan.

On Tuesday, Trump denied both Speaker Ryan and Senator John McCain support in their coming primary contests, hitting back at critics in the Republican leadership who have taken him to task for his insistent public dispute with the parents of the soldier, a Muslim U.S. Army captain killed in the Iraq war.

Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus was furious over the failure to endorse Ryan, who is the most senior elected Republican, and over Trump's feud with the Khan family, two Republican sources said. "He feels like a fool," a Republican source familiar with the situation said of Priebus. More than any other major figure in the Republican establishment, Priebus worked to bring Trump into the party's fold despite the New York businessman's status as an outsider. Trump, who had never previously run for public office, beat 16 rivals to become the Republican presidential nominee for the Nov. 8 election.

Ahead of last month's Republican Party Convention, the RNC chairman sought to rally the fractured party behind Trump. Priebus feels burned by Trump's string of self-inflicted wounds and his refusal to observe basic decorum by giving Ryan his support.

But in what appeared to be an effort to soothe ruffled feelings, Trump's vice presidential running mate, Mike Pence, said on Wednesday he endorsed Ryan as "a strong conservative leader," and was doing so with Trump's blessing.

The Indiana governor told Fox News it takes time to build relationships in politics and that was exactly what Trump and Ryan were doing.

Trump has had a running dispute with the parents of Army Captain Humayun Khan since they took the stage at last week's Democratic National Convention. Khizr and Ghazala Khan cited the sacrifice of their son, who was killed by a car bomb in 2004, and criticized Trump's proposal to combat terrorism by temporarily banning Muslims from entering the United States.

Many Republican leaders, including Ryan and McCain, have criticized Trump's subsequent attacks on the parents. Even his longtime ally, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, said it was inappropriate to attack the Khans.

Trump, who made his comments about Ryan and McCain in an interview with The Washington Post, shrugged off the backlash. "There is great unity in my campaign, perhaps greater than ever before. I want to thank everyone for your tremendous support. Beat Crooked H!" he wrote on Twitter early on Wednesday, referring to his Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton.

Campaign manager Paul Manafort told Fox News the campaign was moving in a positive direction, with the candidate himself in control. "The campaign is in very good shape. We are organized. We are moving forward," Manafort said.

However, a Republican source said Manafort was struggling to get the candidate back on message.

#### RECENT TURMOIL

Trump's always unruly campaign has been hit by disorder in recent days. On Monday, he fired Ed Brookover, a senior adviser hired as a liaison between the campaign and the RNC. Ryan, who is favored to win next week in his race against primary challenger Paul Nehlen, appeared to be trying to ignore the snub from Trump. The speaker would not have time to meet Trump later this week, when Trump is expected to be campaigning in Wisconsin, Ryan's home state, an aide to Ryan said.

The aide did not indicate whether anyone had requested a get-together of Trump and Ryan, but in response to a query as to whether they might meet to patch things up, the aide told Reuters, "The speaker has a full schedule — can't back out of previous commitments in the (congressional) district."

A Republican congressional aide said there was deep frustration on Capitol Hill that Trump keeps engaging in "petty spats." The aide said congressional offices that support Trump got two sets of talking points on Monday from the campaign about the Khan situation but have not heard anything from the campaign about Trump's Ryan comments. The dispute over Trump's treatment of the Khans was the latest rift in a party frayed by dissent over the candidate.

Late on Tuesday, Meg Whitman, a prominent Republican fundraiser and chief executive of Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE.N), endorsed Clinton's White House bid, calling Trump an "authoritarian character" and a threat to democracy.

In better news for Trump, his campaign and the RNC jointly raised \$80 million for his White House bid in July, the campaign said on Wednesday. That was less than the \$90 million Clinton raised along with the national Democratic Party the same month, but it was a substantial bump from past months.

A former reality TV star with a propensity for free-flowing insults, Trump has won support particularly from white blue-collar workers who feel neglected by the political establishment. His plans have included the ban on Muslims, building a wall along the Mexican border to keep out illegal immigrants and renegotiating trade agreements.

On Tuesday, Democratic President Barack Obama unleashed his strongest attack yet on Trump, calling him unfit for the presidency and asking Republican leaders why they continued to endorse him given their repeated criticisms of his actions.

Opinion polls have shown Clinton benefiting from a boost after her party's convention last week. The RealClearPolitics average of recent national polls put her 4.5 percentage points ahead of Trump, at 46.5 percent to 42 percent.

#### DC transit police officer charged with aiding ISIS

*Washington (CNN)* In the first case of a US police officer charged with aiding ISIS, a Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority cop was arrested Wednesday for providing material support to ISIS, the Justice Department announced.

Nicholas Young was arrested by the FBI on Wednesday but was on law enforcement's radar since 2010, according to an affidavit released with Young's arrest.

There was no evidence of any threat to the DC Metro system. Young will make his first appearance in court later Wednesday, according to two law enforcement officials. He would be the first police officer in the United States arrested and charged with supporting ISIS.

Young has been in contact with undercover law enforcement officers and informants since 2011 and was interviewed as early as 2010 about his relationship with a friend, Zachary Chesser, who pleaded guilty to supporting a foreign terrorist organization, according to court documents.

#### Read More

In addition, Young allegedly met several times with Amine El Khalifi before el Khalifi was arrested in 2012 for plotting to carry out a suicide bombing at the US Capitol building. In 2014, Young also began meeting with an informant who convinced Young he was traveling overseas to join ISIS in Syria, according to the FBI. Once Young believed that had happened, the FBI began communicating directly with Young electronically, posing as the informant. The core charge of material support came from Young allegedly buying gift cards to support ISIS through mobile messaging accounts. He sent the gift card codes to the person he believed to be in Syria in late July. Young also traveled to Libya in 2011 and tried to go a second time, telling law enforcement he was working with rebels to overthrow Moammar Gaddafi, according to the court documents. Numerous times he allegedly expressed desires to stockpile weapons, attack law enforcement and warned others about being watched.

Young was a Metro police officer since 2003 but was fired Wednesday morning after his arrest, according to Metro Transit Police. "This investigation began with concerns that were reported by the Metro Transit Police Department, and it reinforces that, as citizens, we all have a duty to report suspicious activity whenever and wherever it occurs," Metro Transit Police Chief Ron Pavlik said in a statement.

Metro General Manager and CEO Paul Wiedefeld called the case "profoundly disturbing," saying the agency has been working "hand-in-glove" with the FBI throughout the investigation

#### Air Force declares F-35A fighter jets ready for combat

WASHINGTON — The Air Force on Tuesday declared its first squadron of F-35As ready for battle, 15 years after Lockheed Martin won the contract to make the plane.

The milestone means that the Air Force can now send its first operational F-35 formation — the 34th Fighter Squadron located at Hill Air Force Base, Utah — into combat operations anywhere in the world. The service, which plans to buy 1,763 F-35As, is the single-largest customer for the joint strike fighter program, which also includes the Marine Corps, Navy and a host of governments worldwide.

The Air Force, which follows the Marine Corps in approving F-35s for operations, had a five-month window between Aug. 1 and Dec. 31 to proclaim initial operational capability (IOC) for the aircraft. After notifying Congress, Air Combat Command head Gen. Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle signed off on the declaration on Tuesday.

In a briefing with reporters Tuesday afternoon, Carlisle stressed that although the F-35A is not perfect, the aircraft has significantly improved from the early days of the program. More importantly, its stealth, electronic warfare and sensor capabilities are urgently needed for future conflicts.

"Given the national security strategy, we need it," he said. "You look at the potential adversaries out there, or the potential environments where we have to operate this airplane, the attributes that the F-35 brings — the ability to penetrate defensive airspace, the ability to deliver precision munitions with a sensor suite that fuses data from multiple information sources — is something our nation needs."

The service's top leaders also sounded off in support of the declaration. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein and Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James both labeled it "an important milestone."

"The F-35A brings an unprecedented combination of lethality, survivability and adaptability to joint and combined operations, and is ready to deploy and strike well-defended targets anywhere on Earth," Goldfein said in a statement.

F-35 program executive officer Lt. Gen. Christopher Bogdan said Tuesday's declaration sends a message to U.S. friends and foes: "The F-35 can do its mission." To reach the IOC milestone, Hill Air Force Base needed at least 12 combat-ready jets capable of global deployment. Also required were enough pilots, maintainers and equipment to support the squadron. Todd Harrison, a defense analyst with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said declaring IOC is a sign the F-35 program has moved beyond the well-known cost overruns and development issues that marked so much of the fifth-generation fighter's development.

"I'm sure there will still be kinks that come up in the system in the coming years, but for the most part I think this means the program has stabilized, they're on a good trajectory, (and) most of the potential for major cost overruns and technological challenges are now behind us," he said.

SHOUT-OUT

TO: LARRY WIGMORE  
COMEDY CENTRAL  
SHOW CANCELLED...

UPDATE: THANK GOD!!!

"HI TECH" LYNCHING

DR. WILLIAM H. COSBY, PH.D.

CALLING OUR FIRST BLACK PRESIDENT  
BARACK H. OBAMA THE "N.-WORD"!!!

IN THE WHITE [That's one for the Hist-  
ory books!!!]

HEY!!! YOU NO LONGER USEFUL!!!

BACK TO THE OLE COTTON FIELDS!!!

AMEN

#LARRYWLMOREX'EDOUT!!!

# HARRIET TUBMAN HONORED ON UPCOMING \$20 BILL !!!

"He thinks we just trust him because he says so?"

Flint's water became contaminated with lead in April 2014 when the city, while under the control of a state-appointed emergency manager, switched its drinking water source from Lake Huron water treated by the Detroit water system to Flint River water treated at the Flint Water Treatment Plant. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality officials have acknowledged a disastrous mistake when they failed to require the city to add corrosion-control chemicals as part of the treatment process.

The corrosive water caused lead to leach from pipes, joints and fixtures. Although Flint reconnected to Detroit water in October, after state officials acknowledged the lead-poisoning problem after months of denials, the risk remains because of damage to the water infrastructure system.

Officials also are exploring possible links between the river water and outbreaks of Legionnaires' disease tied to 12 area deaths. The state and city are now treating the pipes with higher levels of phosphates to build up a protective coating that will prevent lead from leaching. Having more water flowing in the system would help that process, and that's one reason Snyder and other state officials want Flint residents to start using their taps again.

Officials says the more Flint residents run water through their pipes, the quicker the distribution system will heal. That's one of the reasons Snyder said he encouraged residents Friday to start using more filtered water, instead of bottled water.

Snyder's comments, however, may have spurred fears that the free distribution of bottled water will soon be cut off.

William Harris, a team support leader at the water distribution station Snyder visited Monday, said some residents are stockpiling so much water that the foundations of their homes are shifting. He said residents are able take as much free bottled water as they want when they visit water distribution stations in Flint. There are no plans to stop distributing the water and no need to stockpile, Harris said.

Snyder agreed. "We have no plans to end the water distribution system," he said. "It's basically indefinite at this point. We're doing this based on science."

## Treasury official says Harriet Tubman will go on \$20 bill

Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew has decided to put Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill, making her the first woman on U.S. paper currency in 100 years, a Treasury official said Wednesday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in advance of Lew's official announcement, said that the 19th century abolitionist and a leader of the Underground Railroad, would replace the portrait of Andrew Jackson, the nation's seventh president.

Lew's announcement is expected to provide details on other changes being made to the \$20, \$10 and \$5 bills.

The decision to place Tubman's portrait on the \$20 likely means that Lew has decided to keep Alexander Hamilton on the \$10 bill, a victory for those who had opposed his initial plan to remove Hamilton.

An online group, Women on 20s, said it was encouraged that Lew was responding to its campaign to replace Jackson with a woman. But it said it would not claim victory unless Lew also committed to issuing the new \$20 bill at the same time that the redesigned \$10 bill is scheduled to be issued in 2020.

The \$10 bill is the next note scheduled to be redesigned to introduce updated protections against counterfeiting. That redesign was scheduled to be unveiled in 2020, which marks the 100th anniversary of women getting the right to vote. Lew had often cited that connection as a reason to put a woman on the \$10 bill.

However, the effort ran into strong objections from supporters of Hamilton, who is enjoying renewed interest with the hit Broadway musical "Hamilton."

The expectation is that Lew will propose replacing the Treasury building, now on the back of the \$10 bill, with a mural-style depiction of the suffrage moment.

## Exiled scientist: 'Chernobyl is not finished, it has only just begun'

Yury Bandazhevsky detailed Chernobyl's devastating impact on people's health, particularly that of children, in Belarus. Now he lives in exile while the government insists "Everything's OK."

*Yury Bandazhevsky, 59, was the first scientist in Belarus to establish an institute to study Chernobyl's impact on people's health, particularly children, near the city of Gomel, about 120 miles over the border from Ukraine. He was arrested in Belarus in 1999 and sentenced to eight years in prison for allegedly taking bribes from parents trying to get their children admitted to his Gomel State Medical Institute. He denied the charges. The National Academy of Sciences and Amnesty International say he was detained for his outspoken criticism of Belarus' public health policies following the nuclear disaster. He was released in 2005 and given French citizenship, after rights groups took up his case along with the European Union, Britain, France and Germany. He now runs a medical and rehabilitation center outside Kiev dedicated to studying and caring for Chernobyl's victims.*

*Bandazhevsky has not returned to Belarus for fear that his family there could be persecuted or arrested by authorities.*

*Here are his words, edited and condensed for clarity:*

KIEV, Ukraine — If you were told that a lot is already known in Ukraine and Belarus about what Chernobyl has done to these countries, than I can tell you that you are wrong. How can I put it? It is only after 30

years that we are starting to see the real impact. We can say for sure that Belarus was affected more. There was more radioactive fallout there. The doses the general population received were huge. My students and colleagues and I observed it when I arrived in Gomel in 1990 to organize the medical institute (now a university).

At the first, we were observing the effects of the large doses because Gomel was located in the epicenter of this high level of contamination. Then we started to look at the accumulation of radioactive elements in internal organs at lower doses, children's in particular. We were already seeing a complex pathology affecting the endocrine system (which produces hormones), the cardiovascular system and almost all the internal organs. This was work that had never been done in Belarus and has not been done since.

When I arrived in Ukraine in 2009, I did not find any serious objective source of information about the state of health of the children and people in the Ivankiv and Poleskiy regions (two areas that neighbor Chernobyl). There was no interest. We have now examined about 4,000 second-generation children and most of them have serious problems with their cardiovascular systems. I was starting to see the same thing in Belarus before I left. I am especially disturbed by irregularities I see in teenagers, in particular boys ages 12-17.

Around 80% of them have much too high a level of (an amino acid) called homocysteine, which is a recognized marker of heart disease. We have found very serious changes to the hormone levels of 45% of the children. Some Western scientists don't agree with this because there is no specific marker to prove that this is an impact from Chernobyl. Yet these scientists come here only in small expeditions and they don't have access to any sources.

Several million people in Ukraine live on land contaminated by radiation, so we need to evaluate a very large number of people. But there are no such projects. You have to live among the people here to truly understand what is happening, because the problem is very complicated. I have even tried to send interested people to the cemetery in Ivankiv so they can see for themselves how many graves are there — many who died at a very young age. None of this is in the official statistics.

I don't have any objective information about what is happening now with the health of children in Belarus. Everything is closed. The government says, 'Everything's OK, everything's OK.' But I get telephone calls from people in Gomel and they tell me that many of the children we were observing before I left have died. They were of different ages: 6, 12, 14. I will never forget appearing on television in Belarus with the president (Alexander Lukashenko). I was saying we were seeing very serious problems in children because of radiation, while he was

POSTED BY: LEON I RBY DATED: SEPT. 5, 2016

saying 'Everything's OK.' But I can't touch this, because I can't go there, or work there. For me, the problem of Chernobyl is not finished, it has only just begun.

I am very much afraid that in one or two generations from now, the (descendants) of the population of Belarus and Ukraine that were affected by Chernobyl will vanish. I am afraid of that very much. I don't want my countrymen to perish. It's possible that help from the international community to understand what is going on is needed now, just as much as it was immediately after the accident.

#### **246 killed, hundreds hurt in Ecuador's 7.8 earthquake**

The most deadly earthquake to hit Ecuador in nearly two decades has left at least 246 dead, and leaders of the Andean nation cautioned on Sunday that the death toll could still rise. The magnitude-7.8 earthquake, which also injured more than 2,500, struck Saturday night, toppling buildings, damaging roads and impacting cities hundreds of miles away from its epicenter near the small fishing village of Muisne. More than 135 aftershocks have been felt, according to Ecuador's seismological institute.

President Rafael Correa, who was traveling abroad on official business, declared a national emergency and urged Ecuadoreans to stay strong.

"Everything can be rebuilt, but what can't be rebuilt are human lives, and that's the most painful," he said in a phone call to state TV before departing Rome straight for the coastal Ecuador city of Manta.

The Ecuador quake comes after two powerful earthquakes hit Japan last week, killing at least 41 people with 11 others still missing Sunday.

Landslides in Ecuador

complicated emergency workers efforts to reach some areas hardest hit. Many survivors were trapped beneath the rubble of collapsed buildings, as rescue workers try to pull them out.

"These are very difficult moments," said Vice President Jorge Glas, who had taken charge of recovery efforts until Correa returned from a Vatican conference. "We have information that there are injured people who are trapped (under rubble) in different districts and we are getting ready to rescue them."

The quake caused damage as far away as 300 miles south of the epicenter. In the port city of Guayaquil, an overpass collapsed on a car, killing the driver and seriously injuring the passenger, Colombian broadcaster Noticias Caracol reported. Several other buildings were damaged, and the roof of a shopping center in Guayaquil collapsed.

Correa on Twitter described Pedernales, a city of about 40,000 near the epicenter, as "destroyed."

After the tremor, residents slept in the streets while men using car headlights tried to rescue survivors who could be heard trapped

under the rubble, the Associated Press reported.

"We're trying to do the most we can, but there's almost nothing we can do," said Pedernales Mayor Gabriel Alcivar.

The government has deployed 10,000 armed forces plus an additional 3,500 national police officers to the regions that were hit. Glas, in a televised address, said the death toll would likely rise.

"No Ecuadorian is alone," he said in a message on Twitter. "We are a strong ... nation that is united and will emerge stronger from this disaster."

Pope Francis, addressing the faithful in St. Peter's Square on Sunday, asked them to pray for those suffering in the aftermath of the Ecuador and Japan earthquakes. "May the help of God and of neighbors give them strength and support," he said.

The National Polytechnic Institute's Geological Institute said the Ecuador earthquake is poised to become the strongest in that country since 1979, when a magnitude-8.0 quake occurred near Tumaco, Colombia, and triggered a tsunami. It's the deadliest quake to effect Ecuador since a magnitude-7.2 quake in March 1987 left about 1,000 dead, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Since 1900, there have been seven magnitude-7.0 quakes within 155 miles of the epicenter of Saturday's massive earthquake, according to the geological survey.

Saturday's earthquake could also be felt in northern Peru and southern Colombia. No injuries were reported there. A tsunami warning was issued Saturday night for the coasts of Ecuador, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama and Peru, but that threat has mostly passed, the National Weather Service's Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said.

"There had been some small tremors going on for about two or three months, and I thought it was one of those but after about 20, 30 seconds it started to get really strong," Cristian Ibarra Santillan in Quito told the BBC. "And I grabbed my dog and I hid under the table. But then I realized that it wasn't going away so I just ran with him outside."

David Rothery, a professor of planetary geosciences at The Open University, northeast of London, told the AP that the total energy released by the magnitude-7.8 quake in Ecuador was "probably about 20 times greater" than the magnitude-7.0 quake in Japan early Saturday.

The Ecuador earthquake began deeper underground than the recent Japan quake, which would have lessened the shaking on the ground. But Ecuador is experiencing a greater loss of life and greater damage to property than Japan, because of its less stringent construction codes.

Rothery added that "there is no causal relationship between the earthquakes in Ecuador and Japan," the AP said.

**New quake near Ecuador coast follows weekend temblor**

Another strong coastal earthquake rocked Ecuador on Wednesday as officials raised the death toll to 525 from a powerful weekend temblor.

The latest quake, measuring magnitude-6.1, struck at 3:33 a.m. local time and was centered offshore, about 15 miles west of Muisne, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. There were no early reports of injuries or damage. A magnitude-5.5 tremor also hit the area Tuesday.

The quake Wednesday follows a devastating magnitude-7.8 earthquake Saturday in the South American country. Ecuador's National Prosecutors Office, in raising the death toll, said at least 11 foreigners are among the dead. At least 15 victims have not been identified.

The Cuban Public Health Ministry said three of its doctors died in the quake when a building they were in collapsed in the city of Pedernales, according to the Associated Press.

Speaking Tuesday, Ecuador's Defense Minister Ricardo Patiño said: "It's the worst tragedy in 60 years," CNN reported. "We're facing the most difficult phase right now, which is rescuing victims and recovering bodies," he added.

**Air campaign shifts to ISIL's cash and oil**  
WASHINGTON — The U.S.-led coalition has ramped up its air campaign on the Islamic State's finances, launching 15 strikes against cash depots and more than 125 attacks on oil infrastructure over the past six months, according to U.S. military statistics. "We've been able to identify and strike strategic targets that place increased pressure on their ability to recruit and sustain operations," Air Force Lt. Gen. Charles Brown, who oversees the air war, said in a statement.

The Islamic State cut pay to its fighters by as much as half, after much of the terror group's cash literally went up in smoke, according to the Pentagon. Revenue from oil, the militants' principal source of income, has also taken a hit.

Such a strategy is not new. "Targeting an enemy's economy is almost as old as air power," said Richard Muller, a military history professor at the Air Force's School of Advanced Air and Space studies at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala. "This is an explicit return to something that hasn't been at the forefront for many years."

The Islamic State is viewed by the military as a hybrid terror organization that set itself apart from al-Qaeda and other groups by controlling large swaths of territory and governing people. That made the Islamic State, also known as ISIL or ISIS, vulnerable to air attacks since running an economy forces the organization to be more visible. The coalition launched Operation Tidal Wave II last year, an air campaign targeting the Islamic State's oil refineries, collection points and other facilities. It was named after the 1943 allied operation against oil refineries that fueled the Nazi war machine.

" HE WHO PASSIVELY ACCEPTS EVIL IS AS MUCH INVOLVED IN IT AS HE WHO TO PERPETRATE IT. HE WHO ACCES WITHOUT PROTESTING AGAINST IT IS CO-OPERATING WITH IT. —



"PROFILE IN COURAGE"  
21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

AT LAST ONE OF A FEW WORTHY OF  
OUR ADMIRATION AND EMULATION IN  
ALL SEASONS!!!

UNIVERSAL FRIENDS!!!

NOW PLEASE ALLOW ME TO INTroduce  
YOU ALL TO THE: HON.

TED RALL

" Ted Rall is a cartoonist and writer whose  
books include SNOWDEN a biography of  
NSA whistleblower Edward J. Snowden  
in graphic novel form, BERNIE about  
Democratic Presidential candidate  
Bernie Sanders and the TRUMP: A  
GRAPHIC BIOGRAPHY.

Write him c/o his website (rall.com)

HIS ON POINT MIGHTY SOWN  
SWORD PLAY:

He wrote the brave and ILLUMINATING:  
"Khizr Khan and the Trump of Democratic Militarism."

Published in "THE PROGRESSIVE POPULIST, P. 19  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2016, progressivepopulist,  
blogspot.com, facebook.com/progressivepopulist

For Lack of Space and means I'm unable to  
Reproduce in whole his brilliant piece for you!

I shall excerpt just a Taste to hopefully  
to compel your interest to read the whole!!!

"Against the wishes of her New York Democratic  
Constituents, Hillary Clinton Voted with Senate  
Republicans to invade Iraq. [It was a pivotal vote  
without Democratic support, George W. Bush request  
for this war of aggression would have failed.]  
[The resolution was approved 77-23.]

Humayun Khan, 27, was an Army Captain  
who got killed during that invasion.

Eight years later, the ~~dead~~ soldiers  
parents appeared at the 2016 Democratic National  
Convention - Not to protest, but in order to  
endorse one of the politicians responsible  
for his death: Hillary Clinton.

EVEN MORE STRANGELY, CLINTON'S OPPONENT DONALD TRUMP IS THE ONE WHO IS IN POLITICAL TROUBLE - NOT BECAUSE HE SENT KHAN TO WAR, BUT BECAUSE TRUMP COMMITTED A RELATIVELY MINOR SLIGHT, ESPECIALLY COMPARED TO THE NUMEROUS OUTRAGEOUS UTTERANCES TO HIS NAME. TRUMP DIDN'T DENIGRATE THE HUMAYUM KHAN NOR DID HE DIRECTLY INSULT HIS [THE] PARENTS. LAMELY TRYING TO SCORE A FEMINIST POINT CONCERNING RADICAL ISLAM, TRUMP INSINUATED THAT MR. KHAN DIDN'T ALLOW MRS. KHAN TO ADDRESS THE CROWD BECAUSE AS A MUSLIM, HE DOESN'T RESPECT WOMEN!

END QUOTE: READ THE REST OF THE REVEALING STORY:

THE LIBERAL MEDIA SWITCHED LIGHT OFF HILLARY TO TURN THE HEAT-UP ON TRUMP!!!

' STILL, YOU GOT... [SIC] HAVE TO GRUDGELY ADMIRE TRUMP FOR FIGHTING BACK AGAINST A GUY YOU ARE OFFICIALLY NOT ALLOWED TO SAY ANYTHING MEAN ABOUT!! Zed

POSTED BY: LEON IRBY DATED: AUGUST 30, 2016  
3 of 3

"BALL OF CONFUSION

THAT'S WHAT THE

WORLD IS TODAY "!!!

- TEMPTATION

PROLOGUE:

" PROFILE IN COURAGE "

21st CENTURY

" A FEW GOOD MEN ARE HARD TO FIND " !!  
A TRUE HERO IMPOSSIBLE !!!!!!!

HON. COLLIN KAEPERNICK

AKA ALI !!!

AKA "MAN OF LA MANCHA !!!

AKA 100. MILLION DOLLAR MAN !!

A UNIVERSAL REAL MAN HERO !!!

TO: HIS UNKIND CRITICS

" ONLY THE MANWOMAN IN THE ARENA  
COUNT. " !!! — Teddy Roosevelt

PERSONAL NOTE

When a Lad (School boy) in class doing  
[and standing for] MY Pledge Allegiance  
TO THE FLAG !!

It was to the "USA. CONSTITUTION"  
Not some damn "MILITARY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX"

1 of 85

- DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER...

Now Critics Can You See Why Your ALL  
ASININE Proclamations like OUR HERO IS DIS  
LOYAL TO THE TROOPS " expose YOUR OWN  
blatant "BRAINWASHING"!!!

GO! Critics to Petition Republican  
Senate [Congress] to VOTE TO FUND THE  
MEDICAL [PUBLIC HEALTH] FIGHT AGAINST  
"ZIKA" Spread!!!

IN other words: get some  
"PURPOSE" [MEANING!!!] INTO YOUR LIFE [LIVES]!!!  
- PASTOR RICK WARREN...

"YOU CAN'T REASON WITH THEM"!!!

Your Critics utterings are Potently Nuts  
[e.g. "Leave my country"!!!]!!! Your brave  
Demonstrations Stir-up [within their  
Head ] their own Reactive MENTAL  
ISSUES!!!

YOU ARE "US"!!!

Like Ali, Ignore them !!! ANY FOOLS  
KNOW AMERICA IS NOT THE ROMAN EMPIRE.  
OUR GOVERNMENT (REPUBLIC) IS OF THE PEOPLE  
AND FOR THE PEOPLE [NOT OF THE MILITARY !!!  
- LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS !!!

"AIN'T WE AMERICANS TOO" !!!

THIS LAND IS OUR LAND !!!

A SUPERHERO:

YOU SAT [ON KNEE !!! ETC !!!] FOR  
US [VOICELESS MILLIONS !!!], AND I  
SAT WITH YOU !!!

# I SAT WITH KAEPERNICK !!!

# NFL: KAEPERNICK KNEELS FOR NATIONAL ANTHEM SEPT. 1, 2016

## Titans 27, Raiders 14

In Oakland, Calif., Marcus Mariota and Derek Carr look ready for the season to start after a successful preseason dress rehearsal. Mariota led Tennessee to scores on all four drives he played and Carr threw two touchdown passes for Oakland and the Titans beat the Raiders.

Smith nearly intercepted a pass to Tajae Sharpe on the opening drive and safety Nate Allen jumped in apparent celebration. But Sharpe caught the ball and got by the unsuspecting Allen for a 60-yard gain that set up DeMarco Murray's 1-yard run. After settling for field goals on Tennessee's next two drives, Mariota led one more TD drive late in the half before calling it a night. He finished 9 for 16 for 170 yards and ran for 20 more.

## NFL ROUNDUP: Jaguars, Texans, Vikings win preseason games

### JAGUARS 26, BENGALS 21

The Cincinnati Bengals were so sharp against Jacksonville that Andy Dalton and several teammates were done long before halftime. Dalton led the Bengals to two touchdowns in three possessions, earning him a little extra rest in a 26-21 loss to the Jaguars in the preseason Sunday night.

"It was a good outing for us," Dalton said. "Two touchdowns in the first half of a preseason game is pretty good, and we got them both ways. ... It's a good feeling to do it both ways."

The Bengals (2-1) felt good on both sides of the ball, too. Dalton found Giovani Bernard for a 19-yard score on a third-down play, and then Jeremy Hill capped a 9-minute drive with a 1-yard scramble to the pylon. Defensively, the Bengals held Jacksonville to just 90 yards in the first half. Jacksonville's first three drives: turnover, three-and-out and three-and-out. Safety Tashaun Gipson (bruised knee) was Jacksonville's only injured starter.

The Jaguars (0-3) had bigger problems — the offense and defense both failed to show — that raised questions about what's supposed to be the franchise's most talented team in nearly a decade.

### TEXANS 34, CARDINALS 24

Brock Osweiler threw for 146 yards and a touchdown and Houston intercepted two of Carson Palmer's passes in the Texans' 34-24 exhibition victory over the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday.

Osweiler led the Texans to scores on three of his four drives. He connected with first-round pick Will Fuller on a 26-yard touchdown pass that extended Houston's lead to 24-10 before sitting down with about three minutes left in the first half.

It was Osweiler's second successful outing after he and Houston's starting offense struggled in the team's first preseason game. The expectations for Osweiler are high after the Texans signed Peyton Manning's former backup to a \$72 million contract this offseason.

While Osweiler was solid, Houston's starting defense starred. Andre Hal intercepted Palmer's second pass of the day to set up

Houston's first score, a 1-yard touchdown run by new running back Lamar Miller.

Palmer's second drive was his only clean one, and it ended with a 3-yard touchdown run by David Johnson.

Fuller finished with 67 yards receiving and fellow rookie Braxton Miller, the former Ohio State star quarterback, added three receptions for 29 yards. The Texans chose Fuller in the first round this year to take pressure off Pro Bowler DeAndre Hopkins, who was third in the NFL with 1,521 yards receiving last season despite facing near constant double teams. He had two receptions for 31 yards on Sunday.

### VIKINGS 23, CHARGERS 10

Teddy Bridgewater was sharp in his return from a sore arm, completing 12 of 16 passes for 161 yards and a touchdown in the first half for the Minnesota Vikings in a 23-10 exhibition victory Sunday over the San Diego Chargers in the official unveiling their new stadium.

After sitting out last week, Bridgewater found Kyle Rudolph for a 27-yard score to cap a crisp 2-minute drill and led the Vikings to points on three of five possessions.

Bridgewater even juked strong safety Adrian Phillips to further a 22-yard run that set up one of three field goals by Blair Walsh.

"The shoulder's feeling great," Bridgewater said. "I had some fun out there playing with the guys, and I can't wait to get back out there."

Melvin Gordon, aiming to rebound from a rough rookie season, cruised through the middle of Minnesota's starting defense for a 39-yard touchdown after Philip Rivers audibled to a run upon sensing a blitz. San Diego lost running back Branden Oliver, though, to an Achilles tendon injury on his right leg that required a cart to take him off. The loss of Oliver, the primary kickoff returner and a contributing backup behind Gordon and Danny Woodhead, left the Chargers in a somber mood.

"I went up there as a friend and just prayed for him," Woodhead said. "That's the only thing you can do in that situation."

With sunlight streaming in from the floor-to-ceiling glass on the west side and through the translucent, space-age roof, the Vikings enjoyed a gleaming debut for U.S. Bank Stadium in front of a sold-out crowd of 66,143.

"It's a beautiful place," coach Mike Zimmer said, as purple-clad fans watched his postgame press conference from a lounge area the team walks through to reach the field. "It's just getting used to everything."

## NFL roundup: Kaepernick kneels for national anthem

SAN DIEGO — Colin Kaepernick and San Francisco 49ers safety Eric Reid knelt during the national anthem Thursday night, continuing the quarterback's preseason protest of American racial injustice and minority oppression.

Kaepernick and Reid dropped to one knee while a naval officer sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" and dozens of military members

unfurled an oversized flag at Qualcomm Stadium.

Kaepernick received scattered boos when he dropped to a knee, but the protest was otherwise unremarked by the San Diego crowd. The 49ers' visit coincided with the annual Salute to the Military exhibition game for the Chargers, who have strong fan support in their city's extensive armed forces community.

Kaepernick got much heavier boos when he took the field to start the game for the 49ers. • In Oakland, Seahawks defensive back Jeremy Lane sat for the anthem.

THE NFL IS expected to pick up most of the cost to stage the 2017 draft in Philadelphia. City officials said they don't expect the NFL's 82nd event to come at taxpayer expense, but instead expect to raise about \$5 million of the \$25 million budget, with the league paying for the staging and infrastructure.

## THURSDAY'S GAMES

**LIONS 31, BILLS 0:** Dwayne Washington likely secured a spot on the season-opening roster with a 58-yard touchdown run and Jake Rudock boosted his chances with three touchdown passes, leading Detroit to a victory at home.

**PANTHERS 18, STEELERS 6:** Running back Cameron Artis-Payne made a case for more playing time, rushing for 77 yards on 18 carries, and Graham Gano kicked six field goals as Carolina won at Charlotte, North Carolina.

**COLTS 13, BENGALS 10:** Stephen Morris' 25-yard touchdown pass to undrafted rookie Tevaun Smith with 40 seconds left lifted Indianapolis at Cincinnati.

**EAGLES 14, JETS 6:** New York quarterback Bryce Petty threw a 44-yard TD pass to Robby Anderson before injuring his shoulder, but a pair of big plays helped Philadelphia at home.

**FALCONS 17, JAGUARS 15:** Terron Ward ran for two TDs, possibly clinching a roster spot, and Atlanta won at home.

**VIKINGS 27, RAMS 25:** Jared Goff, the first overall pick in the draft, committed two turnovers and had one touchdown pass at Minneapolis in his first exhibition start for Los Angeles.

## Packers: Rookie QB Joe Callahan finishes preseason strong in loss to Chiefs

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Green Bay Packers coach Mike McCarthy got everything he wanted out of the preseason.

Two series for Aaron Rodgers and a bunch of work for his backups.

That includes rookie Joe Callahan, who capped a strong preseason by throwing for 143 yards and a touchdown as the Packers lost to the Kansas City Chiefs 17-7 in their preseason finale Thursday night.

"I thought it was a quality training camp. I thought like we accomplished a lot," said McCarthy, who like Chiefs counterpart Andy Reid played almost entirely backups on Thursday night.

Callahan played almost the entire way in a game featuring second- and third-teamers on both sides. The product of Division III Wesley College has been trying to earn the No. 3 job

4 of 5



behind Aaron Rodgers and Brett Hundley, who has been sidelined by an ankle injury this preseason.

"You try not to think about things too much," Callahan said of making the team. "When it's out of your hands it's always hard. But I've been confident since I've been here."

In fact, the only first-stringers to see much of the field were specialists.

They needed some practice, too.

After the Chiefs' third straight three-and-out in the first quarter, Dustin Colquitt's punt was blocked by Green Bay wide receiver Ty Montgomery. The Packers (3-1) only needed two plays for Callahan to hit tight end Jared Cook for the game's opening touchdown.

The game also featured the debut of Green Bay punter Jacob Schum, who was claimed off waivers from Tampa Bay this week. Schum replaced veteran punter Tim Masthay in a surprising roster move.

"The coaches didn't want to fill my head too much," said Schum, who punted eight times for a 45.5-yard average with a long of 57 and three inside the 20. "But we're professionals and we're kind of expected to know how to do things."

Kansas City running back Knile Davis, who could be traded by the weekend, ran 15 times for 58 yards and a touchdown. The former third-round draft pick also caught a pass out of the backfield.

Darrin Reaves also had 63 yards rushing and a touchdown for Kansas City (2-2).

"I just wanted to have a clean game, you know?" Davis said. "I wanted to hit my holes, catch a couple of balls, and just fine tune."

#### **New York beats South Korea to win first LLWS title for U.S. since '11**

**SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa.** -- As Ryan Harlost stepped to the mound on Sunday, he took it all in.

Chants of "U-S-A, U-S-A!" droned over his left shoulder as he dipped it to deliver a warm-up pitch. South Korean arms and flags waved furiously to his right. Little kids who asked for his autograph earlier in the week used makeshift sleds to slide down the hill toward most of the 22,000-plus fans who packed Lamade Stadium.

The Endwell, New York, pitcher admitted it made him uneasy. He sure didn't show it. Harlost led New York to the Little League World Series title, striking out eight and limiting South Korea to five hits in six innings in a 2-1 victory. He scored the deciding run on a passed ball in the fourth inning.

"Endwell snapped a five-year championship drought for U.S. teams on Little League's biggest stage and gave New York its first title since 1964. Huntington Beach, California, won in 2011 and Mid Island from Staten Island won New York's last World Series championship.

Conner Rush had the New York team's only RBI to give Endwell a lead it wouldn't relinquish in the bottom of the fourth. Harlost (2-0) scored the deciding run on a passed ball a batter later.

"I was just thinking get it in play any way you can," Rush said. "Once that happens, you never know what can happen."

For a while, it didn't look like New York hitters would be able to hit anything.

Junho Jeong (1-2) gave up two runs on four hits and struck out nine for South Korea (4-2).

He was unflappable for most of the afternoon, working the outside of the plate masterfully for 3 1/3 innings of no-hit ball before Jude Abbadessa broke through in the fourth.

Most of New York's players had been on other teams together before. More than half of them were on the team that fell to last year's World Series runner-up Red Land in the Mid-Atlantic Region Championship, leaving them one win shy of qualifying for a trip to South Williamsport.

"It was all of our last years of Little League," Rush said. "So it's just awesome to know that we all came together to be the best team in the world."

#### **MLB roundup: Orioles close gap in AL East**

Matt Wieters hit a two-run home run in the bottom of the eighth inning, giving the Baltimore Orioles a 5-3 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays in the middle game of a crucial three-game series Tuesday night.

The Orioles (72-60) pulled within three games of first-place Toronto (75-57) in the American League East race. Baltimore snapped the Blue Jays' four-game winning streak with the key victory, as a loss would have left the Orioles five back with only 30 games left.

Jonathan Schoop started the game-winning rally with a two-out walk off Jason Grilli (4-2). Wieters then crushed the first pitch for a two-run homer to right that snapped a 3-3 tie.

#### **Rangers 8, Mariners 7**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** -- Rougned Odor was 3-for-5, including a walk-off, two-run home run in the bottom of the ninth, in Texas' comeback victory over Seattle.

Odor hit a 2-2 pitch from Edwin Diaz that drove in Adrian Beltre for the Rangers' sixth walk-off win of the season.

Texas has won four consecutive games and remained 7 1/2 games up on Houston in the AL West. Seattle fell to 9 1/2 back.

#### **Indians 5, Twins 4**

**CLEVELAND** -- Jason Kipnis and Rajai Davis homered and the bullpen pitched seven scoreless innings as Cleveland beat Minnesota at Progressive Field.

The loss is the 12th in a row for the Twins, the third-longest losing streak in team history.

Cleveland trailed 4-1 in the second inning as starter Josh Tomlin only recorded five outs before being removed from the game. But the Indians offense clawed its way back into the lead, and the bullpen made it stand up.

#### **Rays 4, Red Sox 3**

**BOSTON** -- Evan Longoria did it to the Boston Red Sox again.

The Tampa Bay third baseman hit his 30th career home run -- his third in the last week -- against Boston to snap a 3-3 tie in the eighth inning, and the Rays came from behind to stun the Red Sox in the second game of a three-game series.

After Luke Maile tied the game with a two-run shot off Boston starter Drew Pomrean with two outs in the seventh, Clay Buchholz (5-10), relieving for the second consecutive night, served up Longoria's 21st homer of the year. It was the 16th long ball of Longoria's career at Fenway Park.

#### **Braves 7, Padres 3**

**ATLANTA** -- Julio Teheran got some rare run support from his Atlanta teammates and took advantage, winning his first game at home this season and first overall since June 19.

Teheran, the Braves' All-Star Game representative, struck out eight and walked none over seven innings in a victory over San Diego that ended an eight-start winless streak for the right-hander.

#### **Tigers 8, White Sox 4**

**DETROIT** -- JaCoby Jones had two hits and knocked in two runs in his major league debut and Ian Kinsler drove in four runs, powering Detroit to a victory over Chicago at Comerica Park.

Jones, whose contract was purchased from Triple-A Toledo earlier in the day, drove in the go-ahead run with a sixth-inning double and added an RBI single the following inning.

#### **Mets 7, Marlins 4**

**NEW YORK** -- Jose Reyes collected four hits and Curtis Granderson hit two homers -- one as a pinch-hitter and one after remaining in the game as the right fielder -- as New York beat Miami in a battle of National League wild-card contenders at Citi Field.

The Mets have won the first two games of this four-game series and eight of their last 10 overall to move ahead of the Marlins in the NL East for the first time since July 25. The two teams began play Tuesday 2 1/2 games behind the St. Louis Cardinals in the race for the second NL wild-card spot.

#### **Nationals 3, Phillies 2**

**PHILADELPHIA** --- Trea Turner, a July call-up, collected two more hits Tuesday, and helped back a strong outing from starter Max Scherzer in Washington's win over Philadelphia.

Turner posted his 15 multi-hit game in August alone. He also raised his average for the month to .357 (45-for-126). Turner is two hits from tying the Nationals/Expos franchise record for a month, a mark shared by Daniel Murphy (May 2016), Marquis Grissom (June 1994) and Al Oliver (August 1982).

Coming off one of his most dominant performances of the season, Scherzer (15-7) was near-untouchable early and merely terrific late.

#### **Astros 3, Athletics 1**

**HOUSTON** -- Colby Rasmus made a triumphant return from the disabled list and Evan Gattis blasted a home run in support of Colin McHugh, who pitched six scoreless innings in the Houston's victory over Oakland at Minute Maid Park.

Rasmus, sidelined since Aug. 5 following surgery to remove a cyst in his right ear, smacked his 13th home run and added his 17th outfield assist while Gattis blasted his 22nd home run to carry the Astros to a series victory over Oakland.

ROSA PARK

On a bus  
Seat  
Died October 24<sup>th</sup> 2005  
92-years  
On that bus seat!  
Barber Shop  
Comedy  
In the stepin fletchit  
Stand up  
way  
Men don't sat,  
They on feet  
That failed us!  
Again  
Rest Rosa  
Not from tireness,  
Never!  
But fly now  
You earned our wings

By Leon Irby

BY: LEON IRBY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 01, 2016  
S O F S

Reply ID: V3Yd

POSTED CIRCA MAY 21, 2013

Hi IrishKitchen 24

## UPDATE

Maybe you are interested in latest info on "MY 4-18-2013 Posted" "Heads-up News Flash" on Democrats making GUN LEGISLATION a major Campaign Issue 2015-2016!!!

Though it must be told - Their President candidate is associated with too much louder noises (e.g. E-MAILS) for the "GUN Laws" issue to be heard through currently!!!

Later!!!

# IMAGINE YOKO JOHN

1 of 6 8

## Russia hacks Democratic National Committee, Trump info taken

WASHINGTON — Russian hackers penetrated the Democratic National Committee's computer network, stealing a raft of information including opposition research on presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump, officials confirmed Tuesday. "The security of our system is critical to our operation and to the confidence of the campaigns and state parties we work with," said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Fla., the DNC chairwoman. "When we discovered the intrusion, we treated this like the serious incident it is and reached out to CrowdStrike immediately. Our team moved as quickly as possible to kick out the intruders and secure our network."

CrowdStrike, a cyber security firm, also confirmed the hack Tuesday, saying that its origins pointed to the Russian government.

Shawn Henry, the firm's president and a former FBI cyber chief, told MSNBC the intrusion was traced with "a high degree of confidence" to the Russian government.

## High court to consider whether to hear assault weapons ban challenge

WASHINGTON — Fresh off the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history, the Supreme Court will consider whether to hear a challenge to the assault weapons ban passed in Connecticut after the Newtown elementary school massacre of 2012.

A petition from gun rights groups is on the high court's list for consideration at Thursday's private conference, but the justices are unlikely to take the case. Just last December — five days after a terrorist attack killed 14 people in San Bernardino, Calif. — they refused to hear a challenge to a Chicago suburb's ban on such semi-automatic weapons.

The Connecticut law was signed by Gov. Dannel Malloy in April 2013, four months after 20 students and six educators were gunned down at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Expanding on an earlier assault weapons ban in the state, it banned more than 100 types of firearms along with magazines that can hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

Assault weapons bans are in place in six other states: California, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maryland and Hawaii. The federal government had such a ban for 10 years, but it expired in 2004. Ever since, Congress has defeated proposed bans, most recently in 2013.

Since its landmark 2008 decision upholding the right to possess guns at home for self defense, the Supreme Court also has refused to strike down lesser state and municipal restrictions. Those include bans on carrying guns in public, requiring them to be disabled or locked when not in use, limiting ownership by those under age 21 and restricting interstate gun transfers.

In March, however, the court said Massachusetts likely went too far in banning

non-lethal stun guns. The justices did not strike down the ban itself, but they unanimously reversed a state court ruling upholding it and ordered a rehearing. Federal courts have ruled that statutes such as Connecticut's and the one in Highland Park, Ill., are not at odds with the Supreme Court's rulings in 2008 and 2010 permitting handguns to be kept at home for self-defense. Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in the first case, *District of Columbia v. Heller*, that the court was not upholding "a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose." However, Scalia and Justice Clarence Thomas wanted to hear the Illinois case — an indication that Thomas, following Scalia's death in February, might again dissent from the court's expected refusal to hear the Connecticut case.

"Roughly 5 million Americans own AR-style semiautomatic rifles," Thomas wrote in December. "The overwhelming majority of citizens who own and use such rifles do so for lawful purposes, including self-defense and target shooting. Under our precedents, that is all that is needed for citizens to have a right under the Second Amendment to keep such weapons."

## Democratic senators stage 'filibuster' to demand action on gun bills

Senate Democrats led by Chris Murphy of Connecticut ground the Senate floor to a halt Wednesday, vowing to speak as long as necessary to force the Senate to take action to address gun violence.

"I am prepared to stand on the Senate floor and talk about the need to prevent gun violence for as long as I can. I've had #Enough," he tweeted. For nearly 15 hours, Murphy and other Democratic senators took turns demanding the Senate take up a variety of gun control measures, though it is not clear any of them would have the votes to pass. In the end, Murphy said via Twitter the Senate will vote on whether to ban gun sales to suspected terrorists and enact universal background checks.

I am proud to announce that after 14+ hours on the floor, we will have a vote on closing the terror gap & universal background checks — Chris Murphy (@ChrisMurphyCT) June 16, 2016

Murphy listed off mass shootings and talked about expanding background checks for gun buyers and banning gun sales to people on terror watch lists. He said the failure of Congress to pass such measures has been particularly disappointing to him and other residents of Connecticut, where a shooter gunned down 20 children and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary in 2012.

"I can't tell you how hard it is to look into the eyes of the families of those little boys and girls who were killed in Sandy Hook and tell them that almost four years later, we've done nothing, nothing at all to reduce the likelihood that that will happen again to another family," Murphy said.

Democrats have renewed their push for legislation to toughen gun laws since the shooting at Pulse nightclub in Florida Sunday that killed 49 people, plus the shooter and injured 53 others. They have focused on a measure proposed by Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., that would allow the attorney general to ban gun sales to suspected terrorists, including those on watch lists, if there is "reasonable belief" the weapons may be used to carry out an attack.

Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has said he and his GOP colleagues are open to legislation that would ban such sales but only if it includes due process protections for individuals listed to appeal their gun ban. McConnell spokesman Don Stewart said Murphy's tying up the Senate floor had delayed legislative action on guns and other issues, although there were no votes scheduled Wednesday afternoon.

"Sen. Murphy's effort today prevents the Senate from processing any amendments, including amendments he supports, as well as efforts proposed by Republicans to help prevent terrorist attacks here at home," Stewart said.

The Feinstein legislation could come up for a vote as a proposed amendment to legislation the Senate is expected to take up funding the Department of Justice, including the FBI, for the next fiscal year. Republicans likely would agree to a vote on Feinstein's amendment but would also demand a vote on legislation they favor sponsored by Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, that would require the Justice Department to go before a judge and prove probable cause before banning someone from buying a gun.

The chances of passage for either are slim. The Senate already voted both down in December after the mass shooting in San Bernardino, Calif.

The Republican presumptive presidential nominee, Donald Trump, jumped into the fray Wednesday, saying he will be meeting with the National Rifle Association "about not allowing people on the terrorist watch list, or the no fly list, to buy guns." Chris Cox, executive director of the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action, said the group is "happy to meet with Donald Trump" though its position on the issue hasn't changed. Cox said the NRA supports delaying a sale until an investigation is completed and blocking a sale only after a court hearing.

"At the same time, due process protections should be put in place that allow law-abiding Americans who are wrongly put on a watchlist to be removed," Cox said.

Presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton also weighed in, tweeting, "Some fights are too important to stay silent. Preventing gun violence is one of them." She urged Murphy to "Stand strong." **Eight-member Supreme Court faces three hot-button issues**

WASHINGTON — For nearly four months, the most important number at the

2 of 8

Supreme Court has been eight. Now in the waning days of a most unusual term, the numeral to watch is three.

Eight is the number of justices struggling to decide cases following Justice Antonin Scalia's death in February. The difficulties posed by that even number have dominated the court's business — prompting several tie votes, some compromise rulings on divisive issues and more caution in granting cases for next term.

But not all cases can be dismissed, delayed or denied, and the court now faces three issues of huge social importance: Abortion, immigration and affirmative action.

Those are the highlights from among 19 cases left to be decided before the end of June. They include a second tier of closely watched cases, including one that could set a higher bar for public corruption, another that could help ease Puerto Rico's crushing debt and a third that could affect drunk drivers who refuse breath or blood tests.

The justices could rule in any of the Big Three cases as early as Monday:

**Affirmative action.** A former white student's challenge to the University of Texas' use of racial preferences in admissions dates back the longest. The case was heard in early December, after being returned to the Supreme Court for a second go-round. In 2013, the justices demanded tougher judicial scrutiny of the school's use of race, but an appeals court again sided with UT.

Unlike the other cases, this one will be decided by just seven justices, because Justice Elena Kagan has recused herself after working on it as U.S. solicitor general. Without the risk of a tie, advocates and opponents of affirmative action anticipate a ruling for or against the policy — perhaps with repercussions for other universities as well. The betting line tilts slightly against UT.

**Abortion.** Another case from Texas challenges a state law that imposed major restrictions on abortion clinics, ostensibly to protect women's health. The law requires clinics to meet the same standards as ambulatory surgical centers and forces doctors to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals — rules that threaten to leave only nine fully functioning abortion clinics in a state with 5.4 million women of reproductive age.

Two lower federal courts have upheld the law, but abortion rights proponents say it places too great a burden on women seeking abortions, without a justifiable health benefit. They may have a winning hand if Justice Anthony Kennedy joins the court's four liberals against one or both restrictions. A substantive ruling could represent the most significant abortion decision by the court since 1992.

**Immigration.** Case number three from Texas is President Obama's effort to overturn lower court rulings that have blocked him from offering more than 4 million undocumented

immigrants a chance to remain in the country without fear of deportation. It represents his last chance to help the parents of those brought to the country as children who have already won such a reprieve.

Texas led a group of 26 states against the plan, complaining that it would have to pay for driver's licenses if the parents dodge deportation proceedings. Obama's best chance appears to be the hope that a majority of justices will decide the cost of licenses does not give Texas sufficient standing in court. Otherwise, a 4-4 tie would uphold the verdict of the lower courts, and the program would be dead.

#### **Pennsylvania wants to sue Delaware in U.S. Supreme Court**

Pennsylvania officials have asked a judge to transfer its federal lawsuit against Delaware to the U.S. Supreme Court. If approved, it would be the second lawsuit brought in the U.S. Supreme Court against Delaware by other states.

Both cases revolve around the millions of dollars in money orders that go unclaimed each year. Delaware argues federal law permits it to collect unclaimed property from financial services companies incorporated in the state, including MoneyGram, the nation's largest provider of money orders. Dallas-based Moneygram earned \$1.4 billion in total revenue for 2015, according to a company announcement.

Abandoned property, including money orders, accounts for about 15 percent of Delaware's annual income, according to a task force that studied how the state collects revenue. That makes abandoned property the third largest source of revenue for the state. But other states contend federal law requires unclaimed money orders to return to the state where the transaction occurred, not the company's state of incorporation. Those states have initiated legal battles to access those funds.

In February, Pennsylvania sued Delaware in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, alleging it wrongly seized more than \$10 million in unclaimed money orders. Wisconsin followed in April with a separate lawsuit against Delaware in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin. That lawsuit contends Wisconsin taxpayers are owed more than \$13 million in unused money orders.

The biggest suit was filed last week when 21 states, led by Texas and Arkansas, raised similar allegations against Delaware in the U.S. Supreme Court. The states are asking for a combined \$150 million in unclaimed money orders that have been remitted to Delaware.

Delaware countered last month against Pennsylvania and Wisconsin by filing a lawsuit in the Supreme Court. In court papers, Attorney General Matt Denn argued that the Supreme Court was the appropriate venue because it was a dispute among states. On Monday, Pennsylvania filed a motion concurring the case should be moved to the

U.S. Supreme Court. State officials agreed with Delaware in court filings that the nation's highest court should resolve interstate arguments.

"Given that this is a dispute between states, the U.S. Supreme Court is an appropriate venue and we look forward to arguing the merits of our case," said Pennsylvania State Treasurer Timothy A. Reese in a statement. "We feel strongly that this is money that belongs to Pennsylvania and are pleased to lead this effort that nearly two dozen other states have joined."

Scott Sloat, a spokesman for the Pennsylvania Treasury Department, said the lawsuit filed by 21 states did not influence the Keystone State's transfer motion. He added that it is unclear when the Middle District judge will issue a decision.

It is not known if Wisconsin also plans a venue change. Messages left in a general voice mailbox for Wisconsin Treasurer Matt Adamczyk were not immediately returned. Delaware Finance Secretary Tom Cook did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

#### **Scherpa Fire Explodes to 1,100 Acres Overnight**

The Scherpa "Sherpa" Fire in Refugio Canyon has "blown up," according to Santa Barbara County Fire Captain Dave Zaniboni. In the late hours Wednesday night into Thursday morning, the out of control wildfire exploded to 1,100. As of early Thursday morning, containment was at zero percent and flames continued to march southeast toward the ocean.

All campgrounds in the area are under evacuation orders, as are ranches in the hills above Highway 101. This includes Refugio Canyon, Venadito Canyon and Las Flores Canyon. Evacuation orders also include Ocean Mesa at El Capitan, El Capitan Campground, and El Capitan State Park. The freeway is closed in both directions between Winchester Canyon Road and Buellton.

Evacuees, particularly those from the Refugio Campground, are urged to head north on Highway 101 then east on Highway 246 to Santa Ynez High School, located at 2976 E. Hwy 246 in Santa Ynez for shelter.

A second evacuation shelter is open at the Wake Center, located at 300 N. Turnpike in Santa Barbara. Small animals are accepted. Equine Evac is helping owners and boarders in the area evacuate horses and large animals to Earl Warren Showgrounds.

By 10:30 pm the fire was burning in Las Flores Canyon and "very close" to the ExxonMobile facility, according to Santa Barbara County Public Health officials. However, Zaniboni says the refinery has a good brush clearance surrounding the facility and firefighters inside the grounds "feel safe" and are doing all they can to keep the flames away.

**Gnome invasion baffles Texas city**  
WICHITA FALLS, Texas — Police Sgt. Howard McClure investigates home

# OBAMA THRUST GUN CONTROL DEBATE INTO FOREFRONT OF 2016 RACE

The group claims to target those supporting Islamic State, and said that the BBC attack was merely "a test of its capabilities," according to the BBC's technology correspondent Rory Cellan-Jones.

In a tweet to Cellan-Jones, the group said: "We are based in the U.S., but we strive to take down Isis (Islamic State) affiliated websites, also Isis members."

It added: "We realize sometimes what we do is not always the right choice, but without cyber hackers... who is there to fight off online terrorists?"

"The reason we really targeted (the) BBC is because we wanted to see our actual server power."

The group said it hadn't planned to take the BBC site down for "multiple hours."

A member of the group — known as Ownz — told BBC reporter Leo Kelion that New World Hacking consisted of 12 people, eight men and four women. They formed the group in 2012. Their other activities have included a cyber attack on the Ku Klux Klan, and the #OpParis campaign to close IS social media accounts following the Paris terror attacks.

A BBC source has admitted that the cause of the website's crash was a "distributed denial of service" attack, where the site is bombarded by traffic until it falls over.

Officially, the BBC has not said that it was the victim of a cyber attack, preferring to blame its problems on technical difficulties.

## Obama thrusts gun control debate into forefront of 2016 race

With his emotional plea for America to embrace some gun control, President Barack Obama on Thursday thrust the contentious issue to the forefront of the 2016 presidential campaign just weeks from the Feb. 1 Iowa caucuses.

Speaking in the East Room at the White House Tuesday, Obama defended his executive actions to tighten criminal background checks. The president was moved to tears in an unusually emotional display during his announcement, saying "it gets me mad" every time he thinks about the 20 first-graders who were killed in the mass shooting at a Connecticut elementary school in December 2012.

While Republicans and Democrats are deeply divided on the issue, both parties see Obama's actions as an opportunity to generate enthusiasm among primary voters.

But in a general election, the gun debate becomes a blurrier political proposition.

Public opinion polls show Americans overwhelmingly support expanding background checks for gun purchases, but are more divided on the broader question of stricter gun laws. The gun-control advocacy movement has gained wealthy backers, including former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, but the National Rifle Association remains one of the most dominant forces in American politics.

"It's an issue that both (sides) are really going to want to talk about for the next couple of

months, but I don't know how much they're going to want to talk about it in the fall," Matthew Dowd, a former political adviser to President George W. Bush, said of the eventual presidential nominees.

For now, Obama's gun actions are a central topic as candidates crisscross Iowa, New Hampshire and other early voting states. GOP contenders promise that if they get elected, they'll swiftly repeal Obama's actions, which include steps to expand background checks for gun purchases. GOP front-runner Donald Trump vowed to "un-sign" the president's measures. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio said that on his first day in the Oval Office, "those orders are gone." Texas Sen. Ted Cruz said that while Obama may currently hold the power of the pen, "my pen has got an eraser."

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush said the president is acting unlawfully and showing disregard for the Second Amendment with his actions on gun control. Bush addressed Obama's plan in an op-ed in Iowa's Cedar Rapids Gazette. In it, he compared the gun actions to Obama's executive action on immigration, saying Obama is flouting the proper constitutional process for lawmaking. On the Democratic side, front-runner Hillary Clinton has unveiled her own proposals for gun-control executive actions and enthusiastically endorsed Obama's measures even before the president's official announcement.

In a Twitter post Tuesday, Clinton thanked Obama "for taking a crucial step forward on gun violence. Our next president has to build on that progress, not rip it away," she wrote. The cornerstone of Obama's executive actions is a background check requirement for guns purchased from dealers even if they're bought online or at gun shows. The new federal guidance aims to narrow the so-called gun show loophole that allows some purchases to occur without a background check.

In announcing the actions in the early days of 2016, Obama is purposely thrusting the issue into the center of the presidential campaign. As he foreshadowed his executive orders last fall, Obama said addressing gun violence is "something we should politicize."

The emphasis on gun issues marks a shift for Democrats, who have shied away from the subject in recent presidential elections, not only because of the NRA, but also due to competing views within the party. Clinton and Obama both treaded carefully on guns when they faced off in the 2008 Democratic primary, and the president didn't attempt to pass congressional legislation until the shooting of elementary school students in Newtown, Connecticut, which occurred about a month after his 2012 re-election.

Democratic losses throughout the South, however, have narrowed the number of elected officials in the party who oppose gun restrictions. Gun-control backers also point to shifts in public opinion and the rise of well-

funded advocacy groups as reasons Democratic candidates can campaign on the topic with fewer electoral risks.

Actions to expand background checks, for example, have broad public support. A CBS/New York Times poll conducted in October found that more than 90 percent of Americans favor requiring background checks on all potential gun buyers.

Bloomberg has pumped millions of dollars into gun-control advocacy efforts, including donations to candidates who support more restrictive measures. An organization founded by former Arizona Rep. Gabby Giffords, who was badly wounded in a 2011 shooting, also has raised millions to promote gun control measures.

"There's more organization, there's more capacity, there's more money," said Kristin Goss, a public policy professor at Duke University who has studied gun-control advocacy groups. But asked whether the new organizations can succeed in matching the energy and organizational power of the NRA in a general election, Goss said, "That's an open question."

Surveys have shown that gun-control supporters lag those who favor fewer restrictions on most measures of political activism. During the failed legislative efforts in 2013, the NRA mobilized its members to flood Capitol Hill with phone calls and letters urging lawmakers to oppose the White House-backed measures.

Still, Republicans know that while opposing nearly all restrictions on gun laws may be the only acceptable position for many GOP primary voters, it could be less attractive in a general election. Associated Press-GfK polls conducted in October and December found 58 percent of Americans favor stricter gun laws. That's up slightly from 52 percent two years ago.

## Republican 2016 candidates bash Obama's gun plan

Republican presidential candidates quickly denounced President Obama's gun announcement Tuesday, saying his plans undercut the Second Amendment and stretch the limits of executive power.

"It's part of a broader narrative," Florida Sen. Marco Rubio told Fox News. "And that is that this president is obsessed with undermining the Constitution in general, but the Second Amendment in particular."

Former Florida governor Jeb Bush said Obama's call for enhanced background checks and other new restrictions "shows an utter disregard for the Second Amendment as well as the proper constitutional process for making laws in our nation."

In his remarks at the White House, Obama said he supports the constitutional right to bear arms. The president said the Republican candidates, in concert with the National Rifle Association and other members of the "gun lobby," have distorted his plans, and that his proposals do not represent a "slippery slope" toward mass confiscation of firearms.

3 of 8

## 17 miners rescued from 80 stories underground

LANSING, N.Y. — After an 10-hour effort, 17 workers, trapped 80 stories down in a salt mine's broken elevator were rescued Thursday, authorities said.

The workers at Cayuga Salt Mine, owned by Minnetonka, Minn.-based Cargill Inc., weren't in danger but were stuck in the shaft since 10:20 p.m. ET, Ithaca Fire Department officials said. The operation, on the shores of Cayuga Lake about 40 miles southwest of Syracuse, N.Y., supplies salt to de-ice roads that is used throughout the Northeast.

The men huddled together to keep warm and told each other stories to keep their spirits up, they told their rescuers as the last of them were returned to the surface around 8 a.m. They didn't go hungry, and they weren't in the dark.

"All 17 miners carry with them at all times their personal equipment, and that includes their own cap lamp for illumination," said Shawn Wilczynski, mine manager. "They also had their full compliment of food they'd bring down for their dinners. There's one individual, ... he brings a lunch bucket full of food every time."

The miners, men who range in age from their 20s to 60s, got stuck while descending to the floor of Cargill's 2,300-foot-deep mine, the deepest salt mine in North America, company spokesman Mark Klein said.

Rescuers were able to communicate with the miners stuck in an elevator about 800 feet below the surface and managed to get them blankets, heat packs, and other supplies. Temperatures on the ground were down to 19 degrees early this morning.

"We will not go back to work until all our infrastructure is back in 100% safe operating conditions."

Shawn Wilczynski, Cayuga Salt Mine  
A crane lowered a basket to pull the men toward the surface in batches of around four people.

Company officials don't know why the elevator malfunctioned, Wilczynski said. A shift on its way home had just used the lift about 5 minutes before.

"We will not go back to work until all our infrastructure is back in 100% safe operating conditions," Wilczynski said. "We will take whatever time is necessary."

Cargill has reported 21 problems with hoists — elevators and other vertical conveyances — at the Cayuga salt mine since the start of 2013, according to data from the federal Mine Health and Safety Administration. Most incidents involved electrical problems that interrupted power to the hoist.

A newer mine, American Rock Salt in Mount Morris, N.Y., and the only other active salt mine in New York, has reported only four hoist-related accidents during the same period, federal data show.

The mine has been in operation since 1921 as the Rock Salt Corp., according to the company's website. Cargill has operated it since 1970.

The most recent incident at Cayuga occurred five days ago. A hoist known as #3 lost power when an electrical breaker tripped and would not reset, according to federal records. It took 45 minutes to repair. No one was working underground in the mine at the time. Elevators have gone down numerous times while miners were at work. Workers were forced to evacuate the mine five times in 2014 and five times in 2013 after one of the elevators failed.

By law, underground miners must have two separate means of egress, said Ellen Smith, owner and managing editor of *Mine Safety and Health News*, The independent publication is based in Pittsford, N.Y. If one way to leave is out of service, the mine must be evacuated, she said.

It was not clear Thursday which hoist at the Cayuga mine had stalled. Federal data noted past problems with hoists #1, #2 and #3, though #3 had by far the most reported problems.

No injuries were reported in connection with the incidents, and the reports have no mention of workers being stranded on a stalled elevator in the past three years.

In March 2010, a contract truck driver on the surface was killed at the mine when a 150-ton salt bin collapsed.

### Michigan governor: State to help Flint in water crisis

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Michigan's governor pledged additional state assistance Thursday for the southeastern Michigan city of Flint as it deals with elevated lead levels in its drinking water, but he provided little detail about what additional help and money would be provided.

Also Thursday, a professor who has investigated the Flint situation posted online an email obtained through a public records request that shows a top aide to Gov. Rick Snyder warned the state in July that Flint residents were "basically getting blown off." Snyder met with Mayor Karen Weaver two days after declaring an emergency for Flint and Genessee County. Both described the discussion as productive and said they agreed to establish a group of state and local agency officials that will consider future steps. Among them could be stepped-up efforts distribute filters and provide health care for affected people, Snyder said. His spokesman, Dave Murray, added the possibility of helping test children's blood and the water supply for lead.

"I really appreciate the mayor's attitude and this is about solving problems, improving the water situation in Flint, and actually trying to improve all of Flint for the longer term," Snyder said.

Flint switched its drinking water source from the Detroit system to the Flint River in April 2014 to save money while the cash-strapped

city was led by an emergency manager appointed by the Republican governor. But the city returned to Detroit water in October after testing detected increased lead levels in residential water supplies and in children's blood. Lead can cause permanent brain damage, leading to behavior problems and learning disabilities.

A state investigation found the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality was largely to blame. Its director, Dan Wyant, resigned last month. Snyder apologized for state government's role in the crisis.

The state helped pay to return Flint to the Detroit water system and for filters that can be used in homes, schools and elsewhere to remove lead, Murray said. No timeline has been set for determining additional measures or how much funding the state will provide, he added.

"That process just started in earnest," Murray said.

The Detroit News reported that Weaver said at the news conference that replacing the aging water pipes could cost from "millions up to \$1.5 billion."

The State Emergency Operations Center was activated this week following Snyder's emergency declaration. Its director, Captain Chris Kelenske of the Michigan State Police, said a primary goal is to provide every household in Flint with a water filter, which can remove nearly all lead from water when properly used.

He also said damage assessments are taking place and more information is needed to determine whether a request for a federal disaster declaration will be needed.

The email posted by Marc Edwards, an environmental engineering professor at Virginia Tech, was written by Chief of Staff Dennis Muchmore, Murray confirmed Thursday. He said Muchmore sent the email July 22 to Nancy Peeler, head of the childhood lead poisoning prevention program in the state's Department of Health and Human Services.

"I'm frustrated by the water issue in Flint. I really don't think people are getting the benefit of the doubt," Muchmore wrote after several meetings in Flint, adding later, "These folks are scared and worried about the health impacts and they are basically getting blown off by us (as a state we're just not sympathizing with their plight)."

Peeler responded that, after a review, "we don't believe our data demonstrates an increase in lead poisoning rates that might be attributable to the change in water source for Flint."

That assessment was later shown to be wrong, Murray said.

### U.S. Hacking Group Claims Responsibility for BBC Attack

LONDON — A group of American hackers, New World Hacking, has claimed responsibility for the cyber attack on the BBC website, which took it down for three hours on New Year's Eve.

"This is not a plot to take away everybody's guns," Obama said.

Gun rights are always a big issue in Republican primary contests, including the current one.

Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, campaigning in Iowa, repeated his pledge to rescind Obama executive orders on gun control, saying that "when you live by the pen, you die by the pen."

Former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee called Obama's announcement a "blatant, belligerent abuse of power," and said that "I will never bow down and surrender to Obama's unconstitutional, radical, anti-gun agenda."

Retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson tweeted that Obama's "actions have everything to do with advancing his political agenda & little to do with actually protecting American citizens."

The President's actions have everything to do with advancing his political agenda & little to do with actually protecting American citizens.

— Dr. Ben Carson (@RealBenCarson) January 5, 2016

Democratic presidential candidates, meanwhile, voiced support for the president's actions.

The party's front-runner, Hillary Clinton, tweeted that Obama had taken "a crucial step forward on gun violence," and his successor "has to build on that progress — not rip it away."

Thank you, @POTUS, for taking a crucial step forward on gun violence. Our next president has to build on that progress—not rip it away. -H

— Hillary Clinton (@HillaryClinton) January 5, 2016

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders also endorsed the Obama plan, saying in a statement that "a vast majority of the American people, including responsible gun owners who are sickened by the deaths of so many innocent people, agree with the common sense reforms announced today."

### Record-tying El Nino's storms hitting parched California

Forced by drought to become miserly with water, Californians were warned against reverting to old habits Tuesday as the first of several storms spawned by a record-tying El Nino began drenching the state.

A series of storms lining up over the Pacific Ocean was welcome news in parched California, despite their potential for causing flash floods and mudslides.

But authorities cautioned that even the wettest of winters can't replenish depleted reservoirs and aquifers unless everyone keeps pitching in.

California's water deficit is so deep after four years of drought that a "steady parade of storms" like these will be needed for years to come, said Mike Anderson, climatologist for the state's Department of Water Resources.

"We're at least on a good trajectory," he said. "We've got to keep it going."

The current El Nino — a natural warming of the central Pacific Ocean that interacts with the atmosphere and changes weather worldwide — has tied 1997-1998 as the strongest on record, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center said, citing statistics that go back to 1950.

El Ninos usually bring heavy rains to California, although it remains to be seen whether people should expect anything like a repeat of 1997 and 1998, when storms killed 17 people, wiped out crops, washed out highways and pushed houses down hillsides.

"DarthNino may finally have California in its sights," said Jeff Masters, meteorology director of the private Weather Underground.

"A parade of strong Pacific storms characteristic of a strong El Nino event will batter the state this week and will likely bring damaging flooding by the time the second storm in the series rolls through on Wednesday," Masters said.

However, Masters and meteorologist Ryan Maue of the private WeatherBell Analytics don't believe this first storm is as powerful as some other Pacific storm systems, and they caution that the storms now following it may land elsewhere.

The current forecast calls for a "kind of a nice level of bombardment" over the next two weeks — probably not enough to cause the tremendous flooding of 1998, but then again, that year's floods didn't peak until February, Masters said.

As much as 15 inches of rain could fall in the next 16 days in Northern California, with about 2 feet of snow expected in the highest points of the Sierra Nevada, said Johnny Powell, a forecaster with the National Weather Service.

In Southern California, between 2 and 3.5 inches of rain is predicted to fall across the coastal and valley areas, and up to 5 inches falling in the mountains.

The first in the line of storms also drenched the desert Southwest on Tuesday and was aiming for the Gulf Coast, but should weaken to no more than a couple inches of rainfall by the time it reaches the Southeast, Masters added.

Flash flooding and flows of mud and debris were a concern, especially in places left barren by last year's wildfires. Residents of the Silverado Canyon burn area in Orange County and the Solimar burn area in Ventura County were urged to consider evacuating.

"The best time to prepare is before a weather event happens, but there is still time to prepare at least a basic emergency kit for your home, your car or your place of work," said Brad Alexander, spokesman for the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

In Orange County, south of Los Angeles, a homeless man in his 40s was swept off his feet by swift waters and washed nearly a mile down Brea Creek in Buena Park before he

pulled himself out, county fire Capt. Steve Concialdi said. He was treated at a hospital for scraped feet and arms.

Rocks fell on the roadway through Malibu Canyon, damaging four vehicles and clogging a heavily traveled commuter route through the steep Santa Monica Mountains, and Los Angeles police were rousting the homeless from normally dry riverbeds.

As steady and sometimes heavy rains fell, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti urged people to clear gutters and anything in their yards that might clog storm drains, and to stockpile sandbags if their home is susceptible to flooding.

Garcetti also said that the city's homeless encampments have been mapped for the first time, and he promised shuttles to bring people to shelters with 6,000 beds.

Los Angeles Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas said swift-water rescue teams are ready, but he'd rather not deploy them. Authorities hope to avoid a repeat of last September's rescue of a homeless man who scrambled up a tree with his dog when the Los Angeles River quickly grew to a torrent.

The storms are whipped up large ocean-swells that could generate hazardous breaking waves at west-facing harbors. Ventura's Harbor Boulevard was closed Tuesday by flooding about a foot deep, police there said.

Altogether, the storms hold the potential for massive amounts of precipitation for a very parched state, but water managers won't be able to fully estimate this year's snowmelt until April 1, when the snowpack is typically at its deepest.

"Mother Nature has a way of surprising or disappointing us," Department of Water Resources spokesman Doug Carlson said, insisting that conservation must continue. Californians used 20 percent less water this past November than they did in November 2013, before Gov. Jerry Brown declared the state's water emergency, the Water Resources Control Board announced Tuesday.

That falls short of Brown's 25 percent conservation mandate for a second straight month, although board chairwoman Felicia Marcus said the state remains on track to meet his overall goal.

"The fact that per-person water use dropped to 75 gallons per person per day on average is proof that Californians are clearly thinking twice before turning on the tap," Marcus said in a statement.

Despite these storms, Shawn Coburn says growers like him, working thousands of acres in the western San Joaquin Valley, expect no water this year from the federal government's vast system of reservoirs and canals. He blames strict environmental laws designed to protect endangered fish.

"I hope that it rains so much that Noah and his ark are flowing down the San Joaquin River," he said. "The people that run the system are telling us to be prepared for zero."

04 of 8



# DEMOCRATS DEBATE GUNS, ETC., BELOW

Rare January hurricane forms in Atlantic, threatens Azores

MIAMI (AP) — A rare January hurricane formed far out in the Atlantic on Thursday, and U.S. officials said it was the first hurricane to form in the month of January since 1938. Hurricane Alex's maximum sustained winds were near 85 mph (140 kph). A hurricane warning was issued for Portugal's mid-Atlantic Azores Islands, where the Civil Protection Service issued a weather red alert, the highest of four warnings that indicates extreme risk, for five of the archipelago's nine islands. It said residents should expect waves up to 18 meters (60 feet) high and wind gusts up to 160 kph (100 mph). The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said in a Facebook post that there hasn't been a hurricane present during the month of January since 1955, when Alice formed in late December 1954 and carried over into the next month. The hurricane was centered about 415 miles (670 kilometers) south of Faial Island in the central Azores and was moving north-northeast near 20 mph (31 kph). Alex was expected to move near or over parts of the Azores on Friday, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said. The Azores government on Thursday advised kindergartens to stay closed and told residents to ensure drainage systems aren't blocked. The archipelago, which has a population of around 250,000, has been threatened by hurricanes before, but they usually lose their strength as they move into colder northern water. Alex formed only days after a rare event in the Pacific. An El Niño-related tropical storm formed southwest of Hawaii last week. Tropical Storm Pali, only the third such system to develop in January in over 40 years, had weakened to a depression by Thursday and was expected to dissipate in the next day or so. It never made landfall and was no threat to land. However, Alex's formation has nothing to do with El Niño, according to NOAA Climate Prediction Center deputy director Mike Halpert. NOAA researcher Jim Kossin said the water Alex formed in was about 3 to 4 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than normal, still barely warm enough for a storm to form.

## Florida Tornado Kills 2, Destroys Homes

The publication confirmed that the two people who died were husband and wife. As identified by Dave Bristow via USA Today, the man was named Steven Wilson and was pronounced dead at the scene, while his wife died at a local hospital. Furthermore, the EF2-rated tornado, or what The National Weather Service (NWS) reportedly categorized as a "strong" twister, had winds reaching 127 mph. The said twister damaged businesses and several homes. Not only that, it also destroyed the whole nine-mile stretch of Manatee County. According to the news agency, there was also a widespread power outage as reported by Florida Power and Light (FPL). "Crews are responding safely and as quickly as possible to restore power," FPL said in a statement obtained by the news

agency. We've added resources to help speed restoration efforts. There were 17,000 homes and businesses that reportedly lost power in nearby Sarasota County, which also experienced an EF2 category storm with winds reaching 132 mph. The news didn't come as a surprise since Florida is used to experiencing tornadoes, according to the publication. "Particularly when you are dealing with an El Niño, where the jet streams drop farther south, it's conducive to having some wild storms," weather service meteorologist Richard Rude told the news agency. Meanwhile, at a press conference, Manatee County Sheriff Brad Steube was surprised of the number of casualties, which is lower than expected. "I'm amazed to see anybody got out of this alive," he said as quoted by the Associated Press.

This was also confirmed by Rodney Wynn, a meteorologist from NWS who told the publication, "It does happen, especial in an El Niño year. It's not common, but it's very possible." The publication further reported that the injured individuals were the children and grandchildren of the married couple who died. Their ages range between six and 10 years old, and the survivors incurred non-life threatening injuries. Meanwhile, USA Today reveals that the damages are still currently being estimated. Condominiums in Siesta Key, several private homes, mobile homes and some trees were affected. Not only that, the county's Emergency Operations Center assessed that 45 properties suffered a total of more than \$3 million in damage.

## Five planets — Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn — are all visible at once

Morning skywatchers will get a special treat over the next few weeks as five of the solar system's other eight planets will all be visible at once with the naked eye in the chilly, pre-dawn sky, weather permitting. The five bright planets that will be lined up in a diagonal line, from left to right, are Mercury, Venus, Saturn, Mars and Jupiter. Only distant Uranus, Neptune and Pluto won't be in on the show. (While Neptune and Pluto can only be seen with a telescope, Uranus can occasionally be spotted with a sharp eye in a dark sky). The stars Antares and Spica will also twinkle in the same part of the sky. This is the first time that the five planets will appear in the same sky together since January 2005, according to EarthSky.org. All five bright planets will appear together in the morning sky from about January 20 to February 20. The waning crescent moon will also make an appearance toward the end of January. Of course, bundling up will be crucial, as this celestial spectacle occurs during what are typically the coldest hours of the day during some of the coldest weeks of the year. You can check if the sky will be cloudy or clear over the next few days on this [National Weather Service forecast page](#). At the left under forecast element, click on "Sky Cover" and hit play (blue means clear skies and gray means cloudy skies.)

Some good news for folks not wanting to brave the cold: These five planets will be in the evening sky later this year, from about Aug. 13 to 19, according to EarthSky.org. However, Mercury and Venus will be low in the west at dusk and not that easy to spot.

## Democrats debate guns, health care as voting nears

With Hillary Clinton and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders in a near dead heat in the election season's first two contests, the leading Democratic presidential candidates Sunday engaged in heated exchanges over firearm policy, health care and income equality in their last meeting before the Iowa caucuses. The Charleston, S.C., debate, which also featured lower-polling candidate and former Maryland governor Martin O'Malley, opened just hours after the first of five Americans freed following a dramatic prisoner swap with Iran stopped over in Europe on Sunday on their way back to the United States.

The five Americans, including *Washington Post* correspondent Jason Rezaian, who had been held since July 2014, were released in exchange for seven Iranian citizens who had been held on sanctions-related offenses. Clinton and Sanders both said they were encouraged by the developments, which came as Iran began dismantling its nuclear program. "We have had one good day over 36 years," Clinton said of the U.S.'s long-troubled relationship with Iran and the need to continue monitoring Tehran's nuclear compliance. From the debate's opening moments, the candidates sought to stake out sharp differences with Clinton, emphasizing her long experience in government as preparation for the presidency, while Sanders began defending his reversal on legislation that provided gun makers and dealers immunity from lawsuits filed by victims of violent crime involving firearms. "I am pleased to hear that Sen. Sanders has reversed his position on immunity," Clinton said, adding that "no other industry" had been provided such protection. O'Malley, meanwhile, highlighted his own record of supporting some of the strictest gun legislation in the country during his tenure as Maryland governor. Through much of the debate, however, O'Malley was a forgotten candidate who was often forced to plead for more time to talk as the debate focused on Clinton and Sanders. The quick attention to guns came as the candidates gathered in Charleston, where just seven months earlier nine worshipers were killed in an attack on a Bible study session at the iconic Emanuel AME Church. From guns, the candidates quickly pivoted to criminal justice reform, police brutality and the scourge of heroin addiction and health care policy. Clinton was sharply critical of Sanders' Medicare-style health care plan, saying that such a proposal would thrust the government back into yet another contentious fight that could endanger the Affordable Care Act, President Obama's signature health care law.

The former secretary of State described the Obama program as "historic" and in need of

AS of 8

expansion along with stronger political support. Just two hours before the debate's start, Sanders unveiled the long-awaited details of his plan that would be supported by a mix of taxes on employers, middle-class workers and wealthiest Americans. Responding to Clinton's criticism, Sanders said his proposal would lower health care costs for average Americans by \$5,000. "To tear it up," Clinton said of Obamacare, "is the absolute wrong direction." Sanders found an ally in O'Malley when the discussion turned to proposals to strengthen enforcement on Wall Street financial institutions, suggesting that Clinton had been compromised by taking hundreds of thousands of dollars in speaking fees from New York's Goldman Sachs.

"I have put forward a plan that would put cops back on the beat on Wall Street," O'Malley said. Clinton and Sanders have been turning up the rhetoric on guns, health care, taxes and other issues as polls showed the Vermont senator surging in Iowa and New Hampshire in the initial rounds of a campaign that Clinton had long appeared to have secured. A new poll released earlier Sunday showed that Clinton was well ahead of Sanders among Democrats nationally. The NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll put the former secretary of State at 59%, while Sanders registered 34%. O'Malley had 2%.

On taxes, Clinton renewed her pledge not to raise taxes on middle-class Americans, while Sanders acknowledged that funding his health care plan would require some tax increases that he said would be offset by savings in actual health care costs. The candidates appeared to find the most common ground, though, on difficult foreign policy challenges facing the country. All three said they would oppose the deployment of ground troops in Syria to confront the brutal Islamic State. Clinton said the "political and diplomatic course" offered the best path to success, while continuing to contest ISIL's strong online recruiting efforts across Europe and reaching into the United States. To send troops into Syria, Sanders said, would fail to acknowledge the lessons offered by America's experience in Iraq, which the senator called a "unmitigated disaster." Clinton has increasingly sought to separate herself from Sanders, especially on gun policy, criticizing the senator for his past support of manufacturer and dealer immunity. Sanders has said he opposed liability in the past because they may have made small retailers vulnerable to lawsuits over gun violence. He now says he will support a plan to hold large gun manufacturers liable and will look at other ways to close loopholes on the sale of firearms at gun shows and other venues. Clinton has vowed to prohibit the sale of firearms at licensed dealers until the FBI can complete background checks. Current law allows dealers to proceed with sales even if background checks are not completed within three days.

The Vermont senator seemed to draw a harsher line between the former secretary of State more than a week ago when he criticized former president Bill Clinton's behavior in the White House for an affair with an intern. But Sunday, Sanders said he was bothered by the line of questioning. While he found the former president's conduct "deplorable," Sanders said he would not make it an issue in the current campaign.

#### Proposed law would allow warrantless cell-phone searches

BARRE CITY, Vt. - On a cold, sunny Thursday afternoon, Deputy Jean Miguel Bariteau of the Orange County Sheriff's Department spots the driver of a red hatchback using his cell phone. When Bariteau pulls him over, it's a straightforward call to write a ticket. He saw the driver use his phone, and the young man behind the wheel admits it.

If the man behind the wheel had denied violating Vermont's distracted driver law, checking the phone records would have helped the deputy make his case. But a search like that requires a warrant. Lawmakers want to make it easier for officers like Bariteau to enforce Vermont's 2014 ban on using hand-held devices while on highways. They're asking Vermonters to give up some of their privacy in exchange for safer roads. But even the chief sponsor of the bill said he hasn't "really thought about" what, exactly, would be fair game for a warrantless search under his bill. H.527, introduced by Rep. Martin LaLonde, D-South Burlington, would allow law enforcement officers to see a driver's phone or other electronic device, to see if it was being used. LaLonde said he doesn't intend for police to be able to take a person's phone back to his squad car and rummage through it. "Essentially, it's 'show me your text log,'" he said. But opponents say the proposal goes too far, and even LaLonde said he isn't sure if the bill can "thread the needle" between giving law enforcement better tools and protecting privacy. LaLonde's bill is an amendment to the 2014 ban, and like that act, it refers to "portable electronic devices." Opponents worry this could lead to searches of tablets and laptops as well as phones. LaLonde said he's primarily concerned about texting, but cares more about the "activity" of distracted driving, no matter what the device.

**Unprecedented move** No other state allows warrantless searches to combat phone use while driving. This dramatic expansion of implied consent comes with serious problems, said Allen Gilbert, executive director of the Vermont chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. "It's hard to believe this won't be found unconstitutional," he said, calling the bill "vague and over-broad." The bill also is vague when it comes to the justification for the stop. A person could be sneezing, he said.

Computers and cell phones have become devices that hold tons of personal information. A police officer could pull over someone who had glanced down momentarily, demand to search his or her phone, and discover private medical information, Gilbert said. In 2014, the U.S. Supreme Court held that searching the contents of a phone without a warrant is unconstitutional. LaLonde said he looked at the precedent of breathalyzer tests. Anyone who drives a vehicle on a highway in Vermont is implied to have given consent to take a breath test if an officer suspects him of driving drunk. Refusing to do so can be introduced as evidence in a criminal proceeding. Under LaLonde's bill, a driver who refuses police access to his phone would get the same penalty he'd get if he was, in fact, texting. The bill also expands the definition of texting to include voice-activated texting, which is no less distracting than texting by hand, according to the Vermont Highway Safety Alliance. In Gilbert's view, there's also a significant difference between a breathalyzer and a phone search: Alcohol metabolizes, and drunkenness doesn't last. Phone data doesn't get digested, so police can easily get a warrant if they want to look inside a phone. "There's no need to break down one of the most fundamental protections we have in our lives," he said. LaLonde's bill is not the only one that tackles the issue of implied consent as it relates to driving. Another proposed bill would amend the implied consent provision of Vermont's existing drunk driving law so that a test would be required of a driver who was involved in a collision that caused a serious injury or death. As the law reads now, police need reasonable suspicion that the driver has alcohol or drugs in his system to administer a breathalyzer.

**Legislative theme** Highway safety is becoming a "theme" the House is tackling this year, LaLonde said. According to the Vermont Highway Safety Alliance, distracted driving causes 24 percent of crashes. There were over 50 fatal accidents on the state's roads last year, and close to 2,000 injuries. The House Judiciary Committee is scheduled to hear testimony about the bill on Tuesday. Even if his bill goes nowhere, expanding implied consent could remain on the table. Distracted driving is one of the biggest public safety issues facing Vermont, LaLonde said, and detection and enforcement are proving difficult. LaLonde said he ran his bill by the Legislative Counsel's office and David Cahill, who at the time was the executive director of the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs. Cahill was recently sworn in as a state's attorney. Cahill said he hadn't seen the most recent language in the bill.

6 of 8

# Principles and practicalities on guns

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Unlike many who recently have joined the debate about gun rights, I have a long history with guns, which I prefer only in the interest of pre-empting the "elitist, liberal, swine, prostitute, blahblah-blah" charge.

January 13, 2013

I grew up in a home with guns, lots of them, and was taught early how to shoot, care for firearms and treat them respectfully. My father's rules were simple: Never point a gun at someone unless you intend to shoot them; if you intend to shoot, aim to kill.



Kathleen Parker

*Blacks needed guns to protect themselves in a country that wasn't quite ready to enforce civil rights.*

Dear ol' dad was a law-and-order guy — a lawyer, judge and World War II veteran who did everything by the book — except when it came to guns. Most memorable among his many lectures was a confidence: "There is only one law in the land that I would break," he told me. "I will never register my guns." I suppose if he hadn't also opposed bumper stickers, he might have attached the one about "cold dead fingers" to his fender. He also might have liked a slogan I read recently: "With guns, we are citizens; without them, we are subjects."

By today's standards, my father would be considered a gun nut, but his sentiments were understandable in the context of his time. Like others of his generation, he had witnessed Germany's disarming of its citizenry and the consequences thereafter. Thus, the slippery slope of which gun rights advocates speak is not without precedent or reason.

But the history of gun control laws is not without contradictions and ironies that belie the current insistence that guns-without-controls is the *ipso facto* of originalist America. In fact, the federal government of our founders made gun ownership mandatory for white males, while denying others — slaves and later freedmen — the privilege.

Today, the most vociferous defenders of gun rights tend to be white, rural males who oppose any regulation. But theirs was once the ardently held position of radical African-Americans. Notably, in the 1960s, Black Panthers Bobby Seale and Huey Newton toted guns wherever they went to make a point: Blacks needed guns to protect themselves in a country that wasn't quite ready to enforce civil rights.

In one remarkable incident in May 1967, as recounted in *The Atlantic* by UCLA law professor Adam Winkler, 24 men and six women, all armed, ascended the California capitol steps, read a proclamation about gun rights and proceeded inside — with their guns, which was legal at the time.

Needless to say, conservatives, including then-Gov. Ronald Reagan, were suddenly very, very interested in gun control. That afternoon, Reagan told reporters there was



REUTERS

Vice President Joe Biden holds a meeting at the White House Thursday on gun violence.

"no reason why on the street today a citizen should be carrying loaded weapons."

The degree of one's allegiance to principle apparently depends mainly on who is holding the gun.

While black activists were adamant about their right to protect themselves, the National Rifle Association wasn't much interested in the constitutional question until the mid-'70s when an organizational split produced a new leader, Harlon Carter, who was dedicated to advocacy and determined to dig a deep line in the Beltway sand.

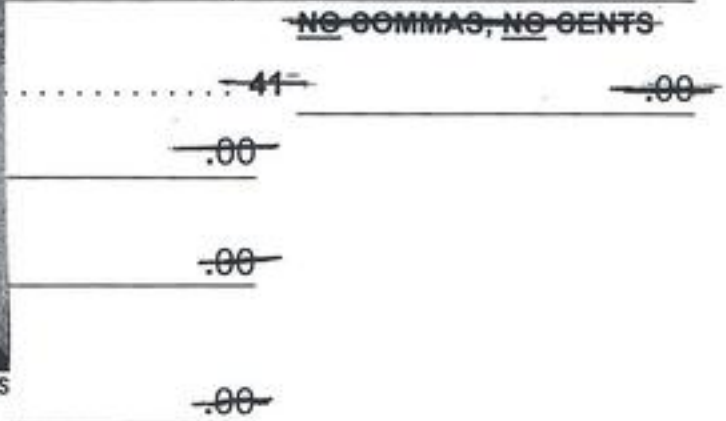
The Second Amendment debate about what the founders intended was clarified in 2008 when the U.S. Supreme Court in *District of Columbia vs. Heller* determined that the right of the people to keep and bear arms included individuals, not just a "well-regulated militia."

However, as Winkler pointed out, Justice Antonin Scalia's opinion left wiggle room for exceptions, including prohibitions related to felons and people with mental illness. Scalia was not casting doubt, the justice wrote, on "laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms."

This still leaves open the loophole of private sales that do not require background checks, which President Barack Obama wants to close. We will hear more about this in coming weeks, but the call meanwhile to ban assault weapons or limit magazines in the wake of the horrific mass murder of children and others at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut is hardly draconian.

It won't solve the problem of mentally disturbed people exacting weird justice from innocents, but it might limit the toll. Having to stop one's rampage to reload rather breaks the spell, or so one would imagine.

One also imagines that the old Reagan would say there's no reason a citizen needs an assault weapon or a magazine that can destroy dozens of people in minutes. He would certainly be correct and, in a sane world, possibly even electable.



## Act of treason

Any person carrying a loaded gun of any type is, in reality, carrying a weapon of deadly force.

Weapons of deadly force are usually carried by the men and women of our armed forces, the police forces in our communities and myself and other hunters in the field; in these venues, there are rules, regulations and restrictions that not only protect those carrying these weapons from each other but also apply to the common good and safety of all of our citizens in the community.

If it can be shown that unrestricted sales of certain types of weapons of deadly force are a threat to the common good and safety of our citizens, then this is an act of treason against the American people — and our political community should take a closer look at restricting these sales.

Frank E. Urban  
Dousman

## Common-sense regulation needed

"Have you no sense of decency?" was the question Joseph Welch posed to Sen. Joe McCarthy in 1954. It now should be posed to Wayne La Pierre, head of the National Rifle Association. I suppose we should be glad that he resisted the urge to call for rocket-propelled grenade launchers in every home ("NRA vows gun restrictions fight," Dec. 24).

The real solution to gun violence is common-sense regulation modeled after Australia's 1996 law. During the 18 years prior to 1996, 13 mass shootings occurred in Australia. None have occurred since. Gun homicides have dropped by over 50%. Yet Australia has not become a police state. Australians continue to own guns — just not semiautomatic people-killers with massive magazines.

NRA leaders are blind to the "well regulated" portion of the Second Amendment. They equate registration with confiscation. Their jaundiced fear of tyranny ignores a government of, by and for the people.

NRA leaders reveal themselves to be carved out of a monolithic block of single-minded ignorance, content to continue prying semiautomatic assault rifles from the cold, dead hands of suicidal mass murderers.

The question now is whether NRA members will continue to follow their radical leadership. Sometimes the best way to change an organization is to leave it.

Tom Schoen  
Wauwatosa



7 of 8

# Let's change the way state picks high court justices

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

January 15, 2013

Here we go again. Another year. Another contentious state Supreme Court race. At least that's our concern. This time, it's Justice Patience Roggensack who is up for election. A frequent member of the conservative majority, she is running for a second term. She and her opponents, Marquette University Law School professor Ed Fallon and attorney Vince Megna, will meet in a primary on Feb. 19. The top two candidates will face each other in the April 2 race. As the Journal Sentinel's Patrick Marley noted in an article Sunday, a number of important decisions are at stake for a court now often divided 4-3. And that may mean big money pouring into this race from both sides.

**OUR VIEW**

We believe these contentious elections are one reason the current court has often appeared to be so dysfunctional. Wisconsin should consider a different way of choosing its state Supreme Court. A proposal advanced in the past by state Sens. Dale Schultz (R-Richland Center) and Tim Cullen (D-Janesville) would have required state Supreme Court justices and appeals court judges to be appointed by the governor and approved by the state Senate. More than half of the states already use some form of appointment system for their high courts.

After a series of poisonous contests that has helped bring the reputation of the court low, we think Wisconsin should do the same.

In the last race, outside interest groups spent more than \$3.5 million on television ads, a new record for Wisconsin, according to the Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University Law School. Four conservative groups that backed sitting Justice David Prosser outspent the single liberal group backing challenger JoAnne Kloppenburg. That bitter 2011 race became a proxy battle over Gov. Scott Walker's move to neuter public employee unions and Walker's own recall fight last year. Prosser won narrowly.

This race could be every bit as contentious. The court likely will have to address Walker's limits on collective bargaining and the state's stalled voter ID law among other issues.

A pair of Dane County circuit judges have blocked the voter ID law, arguing that it disenfranchised voters and that the Legislature didn't have the authority to adopt it. Those cases seem likely to be decided by the Supreme Court eventually.

In September, a Dane County circuit judge struck down parts of Act 10, the 2011 law that curtailed collective bargaining for public workers. That case also seems certain to reach the court.

While it can be a bad bet to put money on how any particular judge will rule on any particular case, Roggensack has been a consistent member of the conservative wing of this court. As a result, she's likely to attract the backing of conservative and business interests.

on-Gred

After a series of poisonous election campaigns, Wisconsin should move to an appointment system for justices.

Fallon and Megna, on the other hand, will likely attract the backing of liberal groups. Megna, in fact, is running as a partisan in this nonpartisan race and has said that the other candidates should state their political affiliations as well.

"I think that there is an agenda, and I believe she's going to go with that agenda," Megna told Marley in referring to Roggensack. "And it is a Republican agenda."

Roggensack disputed that: "I'm not real fond of labels. 'Conservative' and 'liberal' is always difficult for us to apply to anybody on the court," she said.

Unfortunately, whatever is in the heart of the candidates, they will be pegged by the outside interests, which may spend millions of dollars to ensure that their interests are served.

We think there is a better way. Wisconsin should change its state constitution to allow the appointment of Supreme Court justices.

admitted to the hospital," Wall told reporters.

He said he could not discuss the incidents because of medical privacy laws and said he did not have time to answer other questions.

Wall addressed the committee a day after the state Senate confirmed him as corrections secretary. He has been running the agency since Oct. 27, after being appointed by Gov. Scott Walker.

Wall's predecessor, Gary Hamblin, reported in August that staff assaults appeared to be up significantly, but the department had not determined why. A review he conducted found there were 84 assaults in

Tribune Washington Bureau, Associated Press  
**Washington** — The U.S. Postal Service announced plans to end Saturday mail delivery starting in August, while maintaining six-day delivery of packages, in a move to stem its financial losses in a world radically reordered by the Internet. The move faces an unclear future in Congress, though.

# Debate over prison assaults

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel  
 January 31, 2013

(B) SPOUSE

New corrections chief, union leader disagree on severity of guard attacks

By PATRICK MARLEY  
 pmarley@journalssentinel.com

**Madison** — The head of the state prison system told legislators Wednesday there have been no major staff assaults on his watch, despite a string of incidents that include an inmate stabbing an officer in the face with a pair of scissors.

"Myself and my deputy secretary, if we have a serious assault, we're coming. We're going to the hospital and we're going to be there with our staff. Fortunately, we haven't had one since I've been here since October, but we need people to understand that we care for them, that we're going to make sure they're taken care of and we're going to do everything for their health and well-being," Corrections Secretary Ed Wall told the Assembly Corrections Committee.

Marty Beil, executive director of the Wisconsin State Employees Union, disputed Wall's testimony, telling the committee there have been seven serious assaults against prison workers since Christmas Eve. They include the incident with scissors at the Waupun Correctional Institution, as well as one in which an inmate tried to hold an officer hostage at the Wisconsin Secure Program Facility in Boscobel, he said.

"He apparently doesn't know what's going on," Beil said of Wall in an interview after both men testified. Wall acknowledged the recent incidents to reporters in a brief interview after he testified but downplayed them. "I'm aware of all those incidents, and no one was

the first four months of 2012, up from a known 55 assaults in the same period in 2011.

William Pollard, the Waupun warden, said inmate Abdishakur Muddey stabbed an 11-year veteran in the face Dec. 24 with a pair of safety scissors similar to the kind used by schoolchildren. The 47-year-old officer was treated at a hospital and returned to work later that day, Pollard said. The prison was in lockdown for part of the day.

He called the matter serious. "Any time it's in the facial area, there's a propensity for the eye or the neck (to be hit)," Pollard said. "You don't want to mess with that."

Muddey has not been charged, according to online court records. Pollard said all the information has been submitted to law enforcement. Dodge County District Attorney Kurt

FROM AN UNCAGED UNIVERSAL MIND

TRAYVON MARTIN'S MURDER AND STAND YOUR  
GROUND LAW AND WHAT'S TO BE DONE?

Sanford Florida, on July 13, 2013, the six person jury acquitted Mr. George Zimmerman in Mr. Trayvon Martin's unprovoked murder.

Since then, the Rainbow Peoples' Nationally, in our cities, through peaceful protest, are demanding justice for Trayvon, a Black child.

On July 21, 2013, President Barack Obama made some uttering on this Hot Topic.

This blogger will speak to the 26 states "Stand Your Ground Law", which are mala en se.

We look to our country's history for an exemplary resolution found in the 1960's. "The Secret History of Guns", by UCLA Law Professor, Adam Winkler. Sept 2011, The Atlanta.com, and "Principles and Practicalities on guns", by Kathleen Parker, columnist. And The Washington Post, January 13, 2013.

In May 1967, The Black Panthers legally, peacefully and non-violently, used non-concealed rifles to make a political point.

Needless to say, the conservatives, including then Governor Ronald Reagan, were suddenly, very, very interested in gun control.

This illustration indicates that in each of the 26 "Stand Your Ground Law" states: One hundred upstanding, law abiding, employed, and of "Good Character" African Americans, men lawfully obtained and publicly displayed their lawful guns.

This creative Petition for change in the Stand Your Ground Laws must adhere strictly to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's non-violent principles.

IT IS TIME TO DO  
By Leon Irby, dated July 2013.

POSTED: BY: LEON IRBY 8 of 8 DATED: SEPT. 8, 2016