
"A man is God's marvelous creation, crowned with glory and honor, and because of this you can't quite hem him in. You can put him in...prison, but somehow his mind {imagination} will break out through the bars to scratch across the pages of history."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

UPDATED:

GOD DAMN MISSISSIPPI!!!
- NINA SIMONE

They got an ole saying down in ole Mississippi: "It's a
matter of mind over matter" Don't pat a Nigger [In original]
no mind, cause a Nigger don't matter"!!

Many of our White Sisters and Brothers as well as untold
others, including, To-Nehist Coates, have given indisputable
witness to the self-evident reality that USA police forces
number one job is to maintain and preserve Black Americans
(African-Americans) in a state of permanent oppression and
control (i.e., Idle Slavery)!

Thus, we witness the daily police overkill, "41 Bullets" and
still "shooting" like the Massacre in the ending of the movie
"BOUNTY AND CLADE"

Check-out congressman Frank E. Smith's such witnessing:
Below, p.p. 8-9 v.v.

However, the proper constructive and successful response
must be TWO-Part: One as manifested in "The correct BLACK
LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT" - but half the loaf - won't do here:
The Valid Criticism of the Reactionary with "Black on Black
crime" must be squarely dealt with and fairly "MUTTED".

1967 ICONIC MOVIE:

BONNIE AND CLDYE

STARRING WARREN BEATTY

AND FAYE DUNNAWAY



DEMONIZING BLACKNESS

Making Niggers: Demonizing and Distorting Blackness Through Racist Postcards and Images interrogates "nigger" as a word, as a set of images, and as a social and political position.

The exhibition asks the viewer: How did white people justify their continued subordination of Black people post-emancipation? And suggests the answer: by creating and distributing racist cartoons of Black people on postcards and in advertisements.

"This exhibition illustrates how little Black lives have mattered in this country and speaks to the anti-Black racism that still structures our present," says co-curator Mariame Kaba.

The exhibit runs through January 2016 at Art In These Times, 2040 N. Milwaukee Ave., in Chicago.

The Ferguson shooting

Some signs of healing, hope

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel August 28, 2014

NO COMMAS: PAPER LEXIS

By JAY AMBROSE

We've had plenty of rhetorical villains since the fatal police shooting of a black teen in Ferguson, Mo., grandstanders stirring up fear in vengeful tones, and we've had violence and looting, mostly by non-residents taking advantage of a tragedy to enrich themselves. But we've had heroes, too, and, at the young man's funeral, we had calls for engaged citizenship and a stop to community disruption.

Healing may be on the way.

"Show up at the voting booths," said Eric Davis, a cousin of the slain Michael Brown, addressing Ferguson's blacks at the service. While he said more voting would thus let others know "we have had enough," there is another way of looking at it — namely that it is a mode of self-governance, not just observer-governance, of assuming responsibility, of cooperatively sharing in decisions that matter.

It hasn't been happening. While blacks constitute 67% of Ferguson's population, just 7% bother to vote in local elections, and so it's no wonder that the mayor and most members of the city council and school board are white.

A funeral oration is not enough to change that. There need to be numerous energetic organizers out there, and some note that it would help as well to have the local elections coincide with national elections when the turnout is many times higher.

Even with all of that, it's the quality of candidates that counts, and there's a never-ending need to hold them accountable by paying attention to what they do and speaking up when there's good reason. If the Police Department needs changing, citizens can then make it happen.

Another topic at the funeral was the looting and rioting. Bishop Edwin Bass of the Church of God in Christ has been quoted as saying it was "imperative" to avoid it, powerfully explaining that now was a time "to immerse the family in the warm affection and abiding peace of the beloved community."

What ought to be mentioned, too, is that the Ferguson riots afflicted blacks themselves. African-American poverty activist Robert Woodson has pointed out that the damage has included lost equity in homes, closed businesses, interruptions in bus services and thousands of children missing school for two weeks.

It could have been worse. Someone who has kept the situation more in hand than it might have been is Capt. Ronald Johnson of the Missouri Highway Patrol, a black commander assigned by Gov. Jay Nixon to restore order to Ferguson. He has done such an impressive job that The New York Times



The casket of Michael Brown sits inside Friendly Temple Missionary Baptist Church on Monday.

proclaimed that "he has redefined leadership in crisis: equal parts police official, preacher, mediator and neighbor, unafraid to convey his inner conflict, unafraid to cry." Just seeing him interviewed on TV makes you understand that the Ferguson story has brought us heroes others should do their best to learn from.

For still another heroic healer, look to Gail Babcock, a retired white Ferguson resident who in one sense is not retired at all. Mentioned in several news accounts, she is hard at work with a nonprofit organization that serves young people of all groups by teaching them, helping them have fun, involving them in community life and assisting with such issues as paying off court fines. She is especially concerned at the moment with locating counselors to assist them in coping with the shock of recent events that she herself finds disturbing.

It is through such factors as all of these — political awakening, spiritual calm, character showing itself and civic responsibility — that communities cohere and ultimately thrive. Ferguson and similar communities may need still more, such as increased family stability, improved education and poverty programs empowering the poor to self-rescue, but it is worth our attention that something dreadful already has been followed by signs of hope.

Parks herself would be a little-remembered seamstress.

Colvin, you see, did what Parks did, nine months before Parks did it. In March 1955, the African-American high school girl

refused to surrender her seat on a Montgomery, Ala., bus. Local civil rights leaders had been seeking a test case around which to build their fight against segregation on the buses and briefly considered rallying around her.

But it turned out Colvin had used some pungent language in defending her right to her seat. She cried and struggled against the police who arrested her. Worse, the 15-year-old was pregnant. Knowing white Montgomery would seize upon these things to attack her, civil rights leaders passed on Colvin and bided their time.

Their patience paid off in December when bus driver J.F. Blake demanded the dignified and reserved Parks, 42, give up her seat. She said, "No," then submitted quietly to arrest. Still, most of us would agree Colvin's pregnancy and behavior had



Leonard Pitts

Human rights are not contingent upon character reference and background check.

Michael Brown no angel?

Why should it matter?

You've probably never heard of Claudette Colvin. And yet, had history twisted in a slightly different direction, she might loom as large in American memory as Rosa Parks does now while

no bearing upon the only salient question: Was segregation wrong? Although civil rights leaders had no practical choice but to take those issues into account, they were nevertheless irrelevant to the issue at hand.

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Much as many of the questions being asked about Michael Brown are now. In the days since the unarmed 18-year-old black man was shot and killed by a police officer in Ferguson, Mo., some of us have acted as if the important questions here are: Did he shoplift cigars from a convenience store? Did he strong-arm the proprietor? Was he a bad kid?

Here's a blanket answer: Who cares?

Not to deny those things are newsworthy. But they are also useless in answering or even framing the one question that really matters: Was Brown, as witnesses say he was, standing with hands raised in surrender when he was killed? If the answer to any of those other questions is yes, they justify him ending that fateful day in jail not lying face-down on a street.

We've seen this before. The national dialogue on the shooting of Trayvon Martin came to be dominated by arguments over how he was dressed, his suspension from school and his marijuana use instead of the central question of whether George Zimmerman was justified in following and

Shame on us if that's what it takes. Human rights are not contingent upon character reference and background check. So it is immaterial whether Michael Brown was a bad kid. Or, for that matter, a good one. He was a kid who may not have deserved what he got. And that's the only thing that matters.

Answer isn't guns and tanks; it's building character

By RICHARD R. PIEPER SR.

The chaos in Ferguson, Mo., makes all of us weep. Is there a solution? Yes.

A sad comment was made to reporters by the mother of Michael Brown, the teenager fatally shot on Aug. 9 by a Ferguson police officer. Lesley McSpadden lamented why so many black males do not graduate or find it so difficult to graduate from high school: "Because you bring them down to this type of level, where they feel like they don't got nothing to live for anyway."

Who would make teenage children feel as though they have nothing to live for? Why would they do this? We are all part of our local, state, national and world communities. To diminish one person means to diminish us all. We need each other to be the very best person he/she can be regardless of race, color or creed.

Those involved with the Wisconsin Character Education Partnership understand the virtues of respect and caring for one another. WCEP schools want all people involved with their communities to succeed. They believe when one succeeds, all succeed. They work hard every day to build exciting, peaceable classrooms where every person from the administration to the youngest child is respected and valued. Teachers will flock to schools like these.

The most wonderful process starts to happen. Just like the old song about the wheels on the bus go round and round, so does caring, respect and performance become a circular process at schools imbued with character education.

The answer is not guns, tanks and the National Guard. The answer is building character in every corner of our country. We can start with primary schools where concerned parents, caring teachers, administrators and eager, innocent children build a community where everyone has something to live for. Instead of being impediments to becoming excellent citizens, our schools will show the way.

Never do we want to see a Ferguson again. Our need for each other is much too strong.

Slain trooper laid to rest

Hundreds of state troopers converge in Scranton, Pa., to mourn the death of a Pennsylvania state trooper killed in an ambush. His suspected killer was added to the FBI's most wanted list.

the city in federal court in 2008, claiming police violated their constitutional rights, specifically the fourth amendment's prohibition

against unreasonable searches and seizures. The couple's attorney called it a home invasion.

City Attorney Grant Langley has advised the Common Council to approve the settlement. This week, the council's Judiciary & Legislation Committee unanimously endorsed the proposal. The Finance & Personnel Committee on Wednesday unanimously approved a resolution to borrow the funds.

The officer in the incident, Detective Rodolfo Gomez Jr., got a tip in August 2006 about illegal weapons in the Betker home.

The police then decided to look for a gun because Sharon Betker had a 1982 felony conviction for credit card fraud.

The Betkers were asleep when the SWAT team smashed both doors and a front window after 10 p.m.

When Richard Betker heard the noise, he grabbed his legally owned gun and shouted to ask who was there.

Police shot him in the shoulder and hand after he extended his gun out a doorway to show who he thought were intruders that he was armed and ready to defend himself.

In the search, police seized five rifles, four shotguns and three handguns.

The firearms were returned to Richard Betker, who was arrested on allegations of recklessly endangering safety but never formally charged.

Sharon Betker pleaded no contest to being a felon in possession of a firearm and was fined \$250 and sentenced to five days she had served in the House of Correction.

Gomez implied in the affidavit the Betkers kept weapons as a part of a criminal enterprise even though the tip did not suggest that, according to federal court records.

Gomez was fired from the force in December 2013.



OSAMA BIN LADEN

The shooter, Kerry Joe Tesney, 45, who had been a driver with UPS for 21 years before his recent firing, killed himself.

One month before the federal jury decision, he was charged in October with felony misconduct in public office on allegations of beating a handcuffed suspect in a homicide investigation.



Rosa Parks rides on a bus in Montgomery, Ala., in this file photo. In December 1955, Parks refused to give up her seat and was arrested, but she wasn't the first black female to do so.

Now here's one Linda Chavez writing in the New York Post that it is somehow misleading — too sympathetic, perhaps — to describe Brown as an "unarmed ... teenager," although he was, in fact, exactly that. Meantime, The New York Times observes that Brown "was no angel." But do you need to be an angel not to deserve getting shot while unarmed?

Some of us, it seems, need Brown to be the personification of hulking, menacing black manhood. Others, it must be said, need him to be a harmless teddy bear. But he was, by most accounts, just a middling man of both flaws and promise, challenges and hope who was yet in the process of becoming — not unlike many kids his age, black and white. Not unlike Claudette Colvin.

Has nothing changed since 1955? Must we await the coming of the Rosa-Parks-of-getting-shot-while-unarmed before we can address how the nation's perception of young black men as somehow inherently dangerous too often leads to undeserved suspensions, dismissals, incarceration and death?

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Thousands protest shootings

Extra officers
dispatched
in St. Louis area

St. Louis — Thousands gathered Saturday for a second day of organized rallies and marches protesting Michael Brown's death and other fatal police shootings in the St. Louis area and elsewhere.

Marchers started assembling in the morning hours in downtown St. Louis, where the Cardinals were set to host the San Francisco Giants in the first game of the National League Championship Series.

Spurred by a national campaign dubbed Ferguson October, a diverse crowd joined forces. Vietnam-era peace activists, New York City seminarians and hundreds of fast-food workers bused in from Chicago, Nashville and other cities marched alongside local residents.

Four days of events are planned. They started Friday afternoon with a march outside the St. Louis County prosecutor's office in Clayton. Protesters renewed calls for prosecutor Bob McCulloch to charge Darren Wilson, a white Ferguson officer, in the Aug. 9 death of Brown, a black, unarmed 18-year-old. A grand jury is reviewing the case, and the Justice Department has opened a civil rights investigation.

"We still are knee deep in this situation," said Kareem Jackson, a St. Louis rap artist and community organizer whose stage name is Tef Poe. "We have not packed up our bags, we have not gone home. This is not a fly-by-night moment. This is not a made-for-TV revolution. This is real people standing up to a real problem and saying, 'We ain't taking it no more.'"

The downtown march came hours before the Cardinals game at Busch Stadium, just blocks from the protest route. St. Louis Police Chief Sam Dotson said the city had enlisted extra officers.

Earlier in the week, a small group of protesters verbally clashed with Cardinals fans who support the Ferguson officer outside the stadium.

"What I ask is if people come to have their message heard, that they do it in a respectful way," Dotson said. "And the same thing on the other side (from police supporters). Everybody has a right to have their message



Protesters march near the St. Louis Arch on Saturday in St. Louis. More than 1,000 gathered in downtown St. Louis for a second day of rallies to protest Michael Brown's death and other fatal police shootings in the area.

heard, whether you like it or not."

He said the city also will bolster its police presence when the St. Louis Rams host the San Francisco 49ers in a nationally televised game Monday night, the day that protesters are planning organized acts of civil disobedience.

Saturday's crowd was significantly larger than the ones seen at Friday's protests in Ferguson and Clayton. While the main focus of the march was on recent police shootings, participants also embraced such causes as gay

"This is real people standing up to a real problem and saying, 'We ain't taking it no more.'"

Kareem Jackson,
St. Louis rap artist and community organizer

rights and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Police reported no arrests or violence Saturday afternoon.

"I have two sons and a daughter. I want a world for them where the people who are supposed to be community helpers are actually helping, where they can trust those people to protect

and serve rather than control and repress," said Ashlee Wiest-Laird, 48, a Baptist pastor from Boston.

The situation in Missouri especially resonated with Wiest-Laird. She is white and her adopted sons, ages 14 and 11, are black. "What I see happening here is a moment in time. There's something bigger here," she said.

Organizers said beforehand that they expected as many as 6,000 to 10,000 participants for the weekend's events. Police were not able to provide a crowd estimate Saturday, but organizers and participants suggested that the march's size may have approached as many as 3,000.

Since Brown's death, three other fatal police shootings of black males have occurred in the St. Louis area. The most recent happened Wednesday night on St. Louis' south side when police say an off-duty city officer working for a private neighborhood security patrol shot and killed 18-year-old Vonderrit D. Myers.

The white officer, whose name hasn't been released, fired 17 rounds after police say Myers opened fire. Myers' parents say he was unarmed.

Grand jury assembling in Zimmerman case

Orlando, Fla. — A federal grand jury will meet in Orlando on Wednesday to hear testimony about whether Trayvon Martin's civil rights were violated when Neighborhood Watch volunteer George Zimmerman shot him in the chest, according to court paperwork.

A U.S. Department of Justice attorney from Washington, D.C., Mark Blumberg, has issued at least one subpoena for Wednesday in the case. Blumberg would not comment on the grand jury session.

It's not clear how many witnesses have been ordered to appear, but at least one, Frank Taaffe, Zimmerman's former friend and longtime defender, has been. Following Zimmerman's acquittal on a murder charge, Taaffe has reversed his position and now says that he believes Zimmerman was motivated by race the night he followed and then shot Martin in 2012.

Obama expands U.S. attack on Ebola

He says disease is a global security threat

Atlanta — Calling the Ebola treatment facilities and logistics outbreak in West Africa a threat to world security, President Barack Obama on Tuesday broadly expanded the U.S. response by ordering thousands of troops to the region along with an aggressive effort to train health care workers and build treatment centers.

He called on other countries to quickly supply more helpers, supplies and money.

"If the outbreak is not stopped now, we could be looking at hundreds of thousands of people affected, with profound economic, political and security implications for all of us," Obama said after briefings at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Obama acted under pressure from regional leaders and international aid organizations that called for a heightened U.S. role in confronting the deadly virus, especially in the hardest-hit countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. At least 2,400 people have died, with Liberia bearing the brunt.

Obama described people dying in the streets and health care systems near collapse from this latest outbreak. "In West Africa, Ebola is now an epidemic," he

KEY POINTS

President Barack Obama is sending 3,000 troops to West Africa to:

- Set up a headquarters in Monrovia, Liberia, led by Maj. Gen. Darryl Williams, head of U.S. Army Africa.

- Build a regional transportation and staging base in Senegal where the U.S. will help coordinate the contributions of other allies and partners.

- Provide home health care kits to hundreds of thousands of households, designed to help healthy people caring for Ebola-stricken family members.

- Carry out a home- and community-based campaign to train local populations on how to handle exposed patients.

Source: Associated Press

said. "It's spiraling out of control, it is getting worse."

At the same time, he offered assurances that the chances of an outbreak in the U.S. are "extremely low."

The stepped-up U.S. response includes sending 3,000 troops to the region, including medics and corpsmen for treatment and training, engineers to help build

transportation. Troops would not provide direct care to Ebola patients, White House spokesman Josh Earnest said. A substantial number will be stationed at an intermediate base in Senegal, with others at locations in Liberia, he said.

Margaret Chan, director-general of the World Health Organization, welcomed Obama's announcement, calling the U.S. offer "precisely the kind of transformational change we need to get a grip on the outbreak and begin to turn it around."

Joanne Liu, president of the Doctors Without Borders aid group, told a meeting at the United Nations in Geneva that the global response was falling short. "The window of opportunity to contain this outbreak is closing," she said.

Kent Brantly, an American physician who survived Ebola that he contracted while working in Liberia, met with Obama at the White House Tuesday.

Later, he told a packed hearing of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education: "We must move quickly and immediately to deliver the promises that have been made."

Congress still must vote on an Obama administration request for \$88 million more to help the Ebola fight, including funding CDC work in West Africa through December and speeding development of experimental treatments and vaccines.

UWM Employment and Training Institute. When Mayor Tom Barrett announced 25 jobs filling potholes in the city for people who have been in the criminal justice system or had difficulty finding a job, the city received 330 calls in the next two hours from job seekers, she said.

"We have thousands of people who are desperate for work," she said.

The solutions will require thinking "outside of the box," said the Rev. Willie Brisco, president of MICAH, who proposed building a new arena at the former A.O. Smith/Tower Automotive complex near W. Capitol Drive and N. 27th St.

"That's where it should go if we are serious about lifting the economy of the inner city," he said.



Ebola survivor Kent Brantly talks with Emira Woods before testifying at a hearing Tuesday of a Senate subcommittee in Washington.

Groups address violence

Leaders say focus should be on underlying causes

A dozen nonprofit and civic organizations gathered Tuesday at the NAACP Milwaukee branch to demand accountability of politicians at all levels, calling on them to focus on the root causes of violence.

"Should African-American families be blamed for the violence currently afflicting the central core of the city of Milwaukee?" asked R.L. McNeely, chairman of the Felmers O. Chaney Correctional Center Community Advisory Board.

"Our answer to that question is no," he said. "Our conclusion is that our mayor, our city council... all policy-makers need to stop blaming families and enact proactive policies required to combat the underlying, but often unseen, causes of violence."

In Milwaukee, the police are not the solution to the problem of violence because they are only fighting symptoms of the problem, said Stan Stojkovic, dean of the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

"The political accountability has never been there," Stojkovic said. "The last thing we need is another program. What we need is systemic change in the way we do business in this community."

High rates of poverty, incarceration and unemployment all contribute to violence, he said.

Representatives from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Milwaukee Inner-city Congregations Allied for Hope, the Urban League, the Wisconsin Black Health Coalition, the Social Development Commission and UWM promoted increasing economic opportunities as a method to reduce crime, while the American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin pointed to voting and civic engagement as ways to ensure accountability from politicians.

One immediate step could be supporting Transform Milwaukee Jobs, funded through the state Department of Children and Families, to help long-term unemployed individuals get job training for permanent employment, Ralph Hollmon of the Urban League said.

If an employer provides at least 20 hours per week of job training to an individual, the program will subsidize that individual's wages for up to six months. At the end of that time, that person will have new skills and could be hired permanently by the company, Hollmon said.

"We need more employers who are willing to give individuals the opportunity to develop on-the-job work skills," he said.

Job training programs for young city residents and ex-offenders returning to neighborhoods from prison also are needed — and wanted, said Lois Quinn of the

Milwaukee Bucks owners Wes Edens and Marc Lasry, as well as the mayor, have said they want the new arena downtown. Meanwhile, construction already is underway at Century City, the \$35 million redevelopment of a large portion of the former A.O. Smith/Tower Automotive site into a business park, housing and other new uses.

All lives matter, but some clearly more than others in our nation

BY FRANK HARRIS III
The Hartford Courant

On a recent Sunday morning in my Illinois hometown, I saw a photographer wearing a T-shirt. On the front it asked: "Why did God make me black?"

When he turned, I saw the answer: "Because He knew I could take it - like Jesus."

As I sat through the service at the all-black Baptist church I had attended in my youth, I thought about those words

— God making me black and this notion of black people "taking it."

I could ask, "Why did God make white people white?" Is the answer: "Because He knew they could dish it out?"

That would be unfair because many whites don't "dish it out."

So it also goes that not all blacks can take it. But there should be no shame in not taking it.

I would ask how many whites would trade places with us and "take it."

I find little solace in being morally superior to

those who treat me like "it." My solace comes in getting them to stop "it."

So I ask another way: How many other Americans would be happy if treated the way black Americans are?

Would you take it? Could you take it? Should you take it?

The police are but one element of "taking it." That said, it is not my wish to paint the police with one broad stroke.

Just as our government authorities want Muslims to stop fellow Muslims from committing terror-

ism under the banner of Islam and denounce those who do, so we need our government authorities, namely police officers, to stop their fellow officers from committing terror behind the shield of law enforcement and to denounce them when they do.

Yet, each time another black is captured on video being killed, we receive excuses as to why they were justifiably killed. "If they had done this," "If they had not done that."

Our lives are in jeopardy no matter what we do.

So we get Alton Sterling in Louisiana and Philando Castile in Minnesota killed by police officers on con-

secutive days.

Add to this the five white and Latino officers killed in Dallas by Micah Johnson who, I surmise, saw the repeated killings of black men by white police, heard previous marchers' chants of "Hands up, don't shoot" and "Black Lives Matter," and saw, after everybody went home, too many cops kept shooting and showing black lives don't matter.

And he could not take it.

Not everyone accepts who choose not to take it, not everyone will respond the same.

Some will march. Some will pray. Some will write.

Some will speak. Some will sing. Some will cry. Some will kill and willingly die.

And as tragic as the two days were when two more black men were shown on video being killed by police, it was the third day, when the white and Latino police officers were shot and killed, that the conversation shifted and the nation began to mourn, which shows again that if all lives matter, certain lives matter more than others — particularly white

Frank Harris III is a professor of journalism at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Conn.



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UNT HEALTH
SCIENCE CENTER
UNT SYSTEM COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

7 of 29

CONGRESSMAN FROM MISSISSIPPI
AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY
BY FRANK E. SMITH
(c) 1964 by FRANK E. SMITH
CAPRICORN BOOKS EDITION 1967/
PUBLISHED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
PANTHEON BOOKS
A CAPRICORN BOOK N.Y.

EXCEPTED:

"I prepared an article described in considerable detail (and with substantial evidence) llynching technique which then was being widely used in the south - "Killed while resisting arrest" - by law enforcement officers who in other days would have corporated with lynch mobs. The strongly developing reaction against lynching, at home as well as across the nation, led to the subterfuge of prisoners being filled when first arrested, allegedly attempting to escape when they were being taken to jail. None of the magazines would buy this story, but I believe religious news service used a very brief item about it. Id p.52

I will always remember the account of the murder of one negroe youth that I uncovered while digging up the material for the lynching article: Just before the mop members shot him, the youth shouted into their faces: "Joe Louis." Id P.52

"N. WORD" !!! ON BLACK GENOCIDE"

"Since 1980, more than 260,000 Black men have been killed in America - nearly five times more Americans than died 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

Message to the Community Are You Contributing to the Self Determination or Self Destruction of Black People?



Rahim Islam

Rahim Islam is a National Speaker and Writer, Convener of Philadelphia Community of Leaders, and President/CEO of Universal Companies, a community development and education management company headquartered in Philadelphia, PA. Follow Rahim Islam on FaceBook(Rahim Islam) & Twitter (@RahimIslamUC) **OCTOBER 11, 2014**

I was recently asked a very important question that I think we all should ask ourselves: "Are you contributing to the self determination of Black people or the self-destruction of Black people?"

Democratic AG Candidate Susan Happ: Huge Backlog of Rape Kits in Wisconsin is Unacceptable

Too many, if we were honest with ourselves, are doing very little if anything at all. For those that answer the question and believe that they are contributing to the self determination of Black people, then I have another question for you: Do you think that your efforts will change the conditions facing many of our people?

For example: Will your efforts reduce the massive incarceration of black men; decrease the senseless violence and deaths of our children; raise the

MILWAUKEE COURIER

level of Black men gainfully employed; increase the number of successful and thriving Black-owned businesses in our community; remove the blight and decay that overwhelms many of the neighborhoods where Black people reside; reverse the nearly 60% of Black students who are academically failing in public schools; increase the number of Black children living in stable families; eliminate or make even better the wealth gap between Blacks and Whites; and do you REALLY believe that your efforts will increase and/or restore Black pride at a level that could counter the massive media campaign that has defined Black people as inferior and deserving of the socio-economic position we currently hold? If you're honest, you must answer NO. What, then, do we do?

Our efforts cannot deliver the outcomes we need because all of these issues are interconnected and interrelated.

If we were dealing with normal disparities (statistically normal percentages), maybe organic activity could lead to "moving the needle."

Unfortunately, our community is experiencing alarming disparities (i.e. 20 - 50 point differentials) when acceptable disparities should be 3-5%. Complicating our condition, the disparities are not just in one area - our families are impacted by multiple risk factors.

Correcting these issues will require a unified and comprehensive approach

that if not undertaken, the problems will get worse.

Why? We can't just look at the dismal outcomes (outputs), but when we evaluate the systems and the inputs of these systems (pipeline), there is no way these conditions can change on their own.

Let me ask you another way. Will the legal system, left alone, interrupt and/or stop the school to prison industry using our young boys as its raw product?

Will the public education system, left alone, all of sudden begin to educate our children?

Will the financial system, left alone, begin to distribute its wealth equitably that will benefit Black people? Will the mass media system, left alone, start to portray Black people in a positive fashion and contribute to Black empowerment?

Will the political system, left alone, produce the correct public policies needed to support the plight of Black people? Have I made my point?

These systems will not correct themselves without us making the change.

This is our challenge. In addition to changing our own behavior, we must "fix" these systems.

Today, we don't have to worry about being forcibly kidnapped and placed in the hulls of a ship never to return home again.

Today, we don't have a barbaric, brutal, and cruel slave-owner who would do unspeakable things to us or members of our family - putting the fear of God in us that lives in us today

within our collective DNA.

Today, we don't have to worry about being pulled out of our beds in the middle of the night and hung, tarred, feather, and lit a fire by a terroristic mob called the KKK.

Today, we don't have to worry about dogs attacking us and water blasting against our bodies through high pressured hoses because we, as Americans, wanted to exercise our right to peacefully protest for the right to vote.

Today, our challenge is to establish functional unity.

Today, our challenge is to fight as hard as we can against the disunity, a deep level of hopelessness, fear, and mistrust that has collectively paralyzed our community.

Today, regarding many of our issues, it's not what they are doing to us, it's what we're not doing.

Our glorious ancestors paid a tremendous price for all of us and we dishonor their sacrifice when we don't live up to our challenge today.

We must honor our ancestors by never giving up the fight. We must fight for today's issues and the protection of tomorrow's generation.

We must use the courage, commitment, and sacrifices that our ancestors made for us and do the same for our future Black children who will have it worse than we have it today (this seems impossible but absolutely probable).

We must stand up to our challenge in spite of the obstacles, and there are many, especially those that are self-imposed (what

tuons - and all their employees - who receive significant state government assistance in the form of tax forgiveness and deferrals, as well as the lessening of environmental and safety regulations, to benefit their private business operations. After all, these state tax and regulatory assistance programs cost Wisconsin taxpayers millions of dollars every year in lost revenue and health and environmental cleanup costs.

YOUR VIEWS

It is interesting to read about Gov. Scott Walker's desire to mandate drug testing for those people who receive government assistance ("Governor also wants drug testing for public aid recipients," Sept. 14). Of course, I am sure he will also plan to include drug testing for the CEOs of corporations -

Drug tests for CEOs

MPD is in a state of denial

By CHRIS AHMUTY

The Milwaukee Police Department has conducted nearly 1 million officer-initiated traffic and pedestrian stops mostly in poor neighborhoods since 2008 when Chief Edward Flynn started a patrol-oriented police strategy. His strategy is based on numerous stops for minor traffic offenses. These stops are called *pretextual*, because the department isn't interested so much in traffic safety — the admitted purpose of the stops is to disrupt potential criminal activity or at least get in the heads of the bad guys. The 1 million stops do not include responses to calls for service.

There are other sources of tension between residents and police. In 2012, an ongoing scandal in police District 5 was revealed to the public. Officers had been conducting unauthorized strip searches and illegal body cavity searches for at least two years. Officers were convicted despite apparent efforts to cover up. Also, since 2008 there have been a number of deaths in custody, such as that of Derek Williams, and fatal officer-involved shootings, such as that of Dontre Hamilton. These sorts of deaths have been endemic for decades.

Milwaukeeans should not have to accept second-class police service. We need to dig deeper into the practices of the department — deeper than the department has been willing to do.

The Police Department insists that the public is satisfied with the quality of service it provides. The number of formal complaints to the department or the Fire and Police Commission is down, in part because many people consider complaining useless. Angry citizens and family members of those killed by police are treated sometimes as a nuisance — the leaders of protests are described by the department as opportunistic.

When members of the Milwaukee Common Council made suggestions recently regarding body-mounted cameras, Flynn said the aldermen didn't know what they were talking about. When civil rights groups such as the ACLU of Wisconsin request documents and data under the state open records law, the department stonewalls.

The Police Department is in a state of denial. To deny that tension exists between the police and many residents is not credible.

It is true that in a few neighborhoods the department and community groups and foundations are working together. The outcomes of some of these efforts presumably will be evaluated, as there are federal grants involved.

The Milwaukee Police Department's 2015 budget request is for \$254 million or nearly 40% of the city of Milwaukee's entire operating budget. Presumably, the mayor and Common Council will be evaluating what we get for \$254 million. **To P. 6 AT X**

How should we evaluate the department's current police practices? As I have written before in the opinion section of the Journal Sentinel, residents in every neighborhood deserve high-quality unbiased professional police service. No one should be treated as a suspect because of his or her race or the racial

cials at Atlanta's Emory University who had treated a patient who had contracted Ebola while in West Africa. "I shook hands with, hugged and kissed not the doctors but a couple of the nurses at Emory," he said. "They followed the protocols. They knew what they were doing, and I felt perfectly safe doing so."

The White House is trying to balance increasing concern over Ebola in the U.S. and calls from lawmakers for a sharper response. The increasing pressure from lawmakers will be on display Thursday when CDC Director Tom Frieden and other top health officials will testify before a House committee on the issue. In prepared remarks for the hearing, Daniel Varga, the chief clinical officer for Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital's parent company, said, "We made mistakes."

Rep. Tom Marino (R., Pa.) called Wednesday for Dr. Frieden to resign, saying "the information provided to the public has been cryptic and in some cases misleading." Dr. Frieden, after initially praising the Dallas response, said earlier this week that the CDC could have sent a more robust team to Dallas.

Sen. Sherrod Brown (D., Ohio) pressed the CDC to immediately dedicate resources to track and monitor residents in his state who may have had contact with the second U.S. Ebola patient, a nurse who flew from Dallas to Ohio and back in recent days.

Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, said in testimony for the hearing that the outbreak in West Africa calls for a major increase in efforts to contain the virus and a critical need to develop improved therapy and vaccines. Mr. Obama also said his administration would review the way it handles potential Ebola cases arriving from overseas.

The president canceled two Thursday campaign events, marking the second time in two days he has opted out of public appearances to monitor the Ebola situation.

Thursday, becoming the city's first diagnosed case.

Craig Spencer, a 33-year-old emergency room doctor, was rushed to Bellevue Hospital Center on Thursday and placed in isolation while health care workers spread out across the city to trace anyone whom he might have come into contact with in recent days. A further test will be conducted by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to confirm the initial test.

While officials have said they expected isolated cases of the disease to arrive in New York eventually and had been preparing for this moment for months, the first case highlighted the challenges surrounding containment of the virus, especially in a crowded metropolis.

Even as the authorities worked to confirm that Spencer was infected with Ebola, it emerged that he traveled from Manhattan to Brooklyn on the subway Wednesday night, when he went to a bowling alley and then took a taxi home.

The next morning, he reported having a temperature of 103 degrees, raising questions about his health while he was out in public.

A person infected with Ebola cannot spread the disease until they begin to display symptoms, and it cannot be spread through the air. As the person becomes sicker, the viral load in the body builds, and they become more and more contagious.

Spencer works at New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center, but he had not seen any patients or been to the hospital since returning to New York City on Oct. 14, the hos-

ing to a statement released by the department.

At Spencer's home in Harlem, the apartment was sealed off and workers distributed informational fliers about the disease. It was not clear if anyone was being quarantined.

Spencer had been working with Doctors Without Borders in Guinea, treating Ebola patients before returning to the United States, a city official said.

He told authorities that he did not believe the protective gear that he wore while working with Ebola patients had been breached but had been monitoring his own health.

The first case of Ebola in the U.S. was a 42-year-old Liberian man, Thomas Eric Duncan, who died in a Dallas hospital on Oct. 8. Two nurses who treated Duncan also have been diagnosed with the disease and are recovering.

Four American aid workers, including three doctors, were infected with Ebola while working in Africa and were transferred to the U.S. for treatment in recent months. All have recovered.

Control and Prevention, breaking a quarantine order is a criminal offense. In Texas, it is a third-degree felony, which carries a punishment of as many as 10 years in prison.

The quarantining powers of the federal government are more circumscribed. The CDC, part of the federal Department of Health and Human Services, has no power to tell states or the more than 3,500 local public-health agencies what to do, legal experts said.

The U.S. Supreme Court repeatedly has ruled that the federal government can't commandeer local officials to do the work of the federal government, nor bend states to its will. It can only create incentives.

The federal government, however, does have expansive powers at ports

Doctor in NYC tests positive for Ebola

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
He had been treating patients in Guinea

New York — A doctor in New York City who recently returned from treating Ebola patients in Guinea tested positive for the Ebola virus

pital said in a statement. Spencer's travel history and the timing of the onset of his symptoms led health officials to dispatch "disease detectives" immediately. They were to actively trace all of the patient's contacts to identify anyone who may be at potential risk, accord-

of entry. While citizens traveling abroad have a right to return to the U.S., federal authorities can deny entry to visitors and have broad authority to screen people. The CDC also is authorized to detain people traveling between states who are suspected of carrying certain infectious diseases, though this power is less clear-cut, experts said.

October 24, 2014

VIOLENCE - PLAGUED CHICAGO

He spent several weeks in Kandahar, Afghanistan, and in Quetta, Pakistan in 2011. Quetta is a Taliban stronghold where he married a Pakistani woman, according to CNN.

Flee Jones, 27, who said he'd known Rahami since they were teenagers, said Rahami "got more religious" and dressed differently after a trip to Afghanistan several years ago, the AP reported.

Rahami contacted N.J. Rep. Albio Sires' office from Islamabad in Pakistan in 2014, CNN said. He said he was concerned about his wife's passport and visa and it transpired that her Pakistani passport had expired. Sires said when her passport was renewed, Rahami's wife found out she was pregnant and was told she could not get a visa until she had the baby and that the baby also needed a visa, according to CNN.

Rahami's wife left the U.S. a few days before the Manhattan and New Jersey bombings, CNN reported, citing a law enforcement official.

He's the only suspect so far

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio said Rahami was the sole suspect so far. "We have reason to believe this was an act of terror," he said of the bombing investigation. FBI Special Agent William Sweeney said there was no indication that Rahami was part of a terror cell.

Officials are working to determine whether other people may have assisted in the alleged planning, construction and the selection of targets. Five people were questioned at length, but none have been charged.

1 Air Force pilot dead, 1 hurt after ejecting in California

SUTTER, Calif. (AP) — One American pilot was killed and another injured when they ejected from a U-2 spy plane shortly before it crashed in Northern California on Tuesday morning, the U.S. Air Force said.

The plane crashed shortly after taking off from Beale Air Force Base on a training mission around 9 a.m., military officials said. They did not release the pilots' names or any information about the condition of the surviving airman.

The aircraft, assigned to the 1st Reconnaissance Squadron, crashed in the Sutter Buttes, a mountain range about 60 miles (97 kilometers) north of Sacramento. Col. Larry Broadwell, the base commander, said the flight, including its flight path was routine before the crash. He pledged to support the family of the deceased pilot and said surveillance pilots will mourn the loss. "These incidents, while extremely tragic and hard for us to overcome, they're incidents that we do overcome," Broadwell said. "I am confident that the U-2 squadrons here and the U-2 squadrons around the world are going to come off the mat stronger than they were before."

The U-2 "Dragon Lady" is a surveillance and reconnaissance plane capable of flying above 70,000 feet (21,336 meters), an extremely high altitude that's twice as high as a typical

commercial airliner flies. The U-2 is known as one of the most difficult aircraft to fly at low altitudes due to the characteristics that allow it to travel near space, according to an Air Force fact sheet.

Beale Air Force Base is home to the Air Force's fleet of single-seat U-2s and a double-seat variant used for training pilots to fly the specialized aircraft. It also is the base for the T-38 Talon, a training aircraft, and the RQ-4 Global Hawk, an unmanned surveillance drone. It houses 4,500 military personnel.

"We are saddened by our Airman's death & offer condolences to the family & all who are mourning this tremendous loss," Gen. Dave Goldfein, the Air Force chief of staff, said on Twitter.

Ejection seats allow military pilots to get out of a stricken plane and parachute safely to the ground. After the death in this instance, military investigators will look into whether the chute properly deployed and whether the pilot hit debris after ejecting, said Michael Barr, an aviation safety instructor at University of Southern California who flew fighter missions in Vietnam.

"If the chute didn't properly deploy, that would be fatal," Barr said.

The U-2 is slated for retirement in 2019 as the military relies increasingly on unmanned aircraft for intelligence gathering, though senior U.S. lawmakers from California are pressuring the Air Force to delay the retirement.

A U-2 based at Beale crashed in 1996 and slammed into the parking lot of a newspaper in Oroville, California. The pilot and a woman who had just renewed her newspaper subscription were killed.

Violence-plagued Chicago plans to hire nearly 1,000 more cops

CHICAGO—With the city's homicide rate surging, Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson is expected to announce on Wednesday plans for the city to hire nearly 1000 more cops.

Johnson will detail plans to hire 970 cops over the next two years in a speech scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, said Anthony Guglielmi, the police department's chief spokesman told USA TODAY.

The announcement comes as Chicago is experiencing the most violent year it has seen in decades. The city has already tallied more than 500 homicides in 2016—more than New York and Los Angeles combined—and more than 3,000 non-fatal shootings.

The city is on pace to record well over 600 murders for 2016, a threshold it has not reached since 2003. Chicago regularly recorded more than 700 murders a year in the 1990s as gang violence, driven by the crack-cocaine epidemic, raged.

It is unclear how the city plans to pay for the hiring surge that would cost well over \$100 million in the first-year alone.

A spokesman for Mayor Rahm Emanuel did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The city has seen a significant increase in every violent crime statistic it tracks. Murders are up 46% from last year, criminal sexual assaults have risen 18%, and robberies have increased 27%, according to police department data.

Out of the wild: Police chase bear through Alaska city

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A young black bear led police on a two-hour chase through the streets of downtown Anchorage, Alaska — scurrying down sidewalks and across lanes of traffic and even ducking behind a Pizza Hut along the way.

The Anchorage Police Department said they first received a call about the four-legged suspect around 6 p.m. Thursday. Police followed the bear until after 8 p.m., when the state Department of Fish and Game ended the animal's city tour.

Video of the bear's exploits posted on Facebook by Anchorage police had been viewed more than 1 million times.

No one was hurt during the bear's escapades. Police said wildlife officials relocated the furry tourist.

Anchorage is home to some 300 bears, but police say encounters like this are rare.

Stuntman Eddie Braun successfully launches rocket over Snake River Canyon

He did it! Stuntman Eddie Braun just mimicked the legendary jump across the Snake River Canyon that his role model, Evel Knievel, attempted 42 years ago.

Braun took off at 3:54 p.m. from a property a few miles up the river from the original spot. He launched off a 10-story ramp, flying about 2,000 feet in the air at a speed of 400 mph. This jump mirrored Knievel's in almost every way, including the technology.

He's been preparing for the past three years and spent about \$1.6 million of his own money on the jump. That includes the work of engineer Scott Truax, who is the son of Robert Truax, the engineer who built Knievel's rocket back in 1974.

"Before I could even think I was doing the five-count," Truax said. "I said see you on the other side. Five, four, three, two...one, he didn't hesitate a second, boom! He was gone."

He says it was a moment of redemption for him and his father. If his father was here today, he would be proud to know that his rocket actually worked.

"No question!" Truax said. "Done it! Proved it! So like I said, Evel didn't pull the chute and didn't chicken out and my dad's rocket would've worked, so we cured history 42 years later."

Truax spent the last eight years working on this launch, and he wasn't the only one looking forward to it.

People from all over the country made the trip to watch.

"They announced when they were gonna jump it," said Mark Weinhandl, a Las Vegas resident. "Booked the hotel. Booked the car rental. Told my boss I wasn't gonna be at

Police and fire department responders arrived at the scene moments later, he said. Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer said the Chelsea explosion was not in a dumpster but next to one in the street. The explosion came just after 8:30 p.m. ET at 133 W. 23rd St., between Sixth and Seventh Avenues. None of the injuries appeared to be life-threatening, the New York City Fire Department said.

The cause of the explosion has not been determined. "The investigation is active and at this time an extensive search is being conducted," New York Police Commissioner James O'Neill said at the press conference.

"The area around the explosion site is being treated as a crime scene," O'Neill said. Several injured were transported to area hospitals, assistant commissioner for communication with the New York City Police Department, J. Peter Donald, tweeted. The explosion area occurred a block away from Eataly, a popular Italian market and eatery. The neighborhood has many late-night and after-hours music clubs. At 11 p.m., New York police and news helicopters hovered over the scene beneath a full harvest moon. "Whatever the cause, New Yorkers will not be intimidated, they will not let anyone change who we are," deBlasio said. The White House said President Obama was apprised of the explosion.

News was just trickling out of some kind of explosion in New York City on Saturday night when Donald Trump said a "bomb" was behind the blast in remarks at a campaign appearance at Colorado Springs.

"I must tell you that just before I got off the plane, a bomb went off in New York and nobody knows exactly what's going on but, boy we are really in a time – we better get very tough, folks. We better get very tough. We'll find out."

Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton was more cautious, saying she had been briefed "about the bombings in New York and New Jersey and the attack in Minnesota."

"We have to let this investigation unfold," she said. She added that the nation needs to support its first responders and "pray for the victims."

Pipe bomb at Marine Corps charity race rocks N.J. town

SEASIDE PARK, N.J. — A pipe-bomb-style device detonated in a garbage can at the start of the route of a Marine Corps charity race Saturday morning, injuring no one but sparking a massive law-enforcement response and suspicions of terrorism.

The device went off about 9:35 a.m. ET near the starting point of the Seaside Semper Five 5K, which had been scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m., said Al Della Fave, spokesman for the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office.

At a brief news conference Saturday afternoon, Brad Cohen, the special agent in Charge of the Newark FBI Office, said the agency was taking the lead in investigation, specifically the agency's Joint-Terrorism task

force. Cohen said the agency was working to make sure there was "no stone left unturned" in the investigation.

He declined to take questions from reporters, citing the "active, ongoing" investigation. Della Fave said problems with registration for the race delayed the start and possibly spared people from injury, he said.

"When it went off, there was nobody in the area," Della Fave said.

Della Fave said as many as three explosive devices were enclosed in the trash can, designed to send shrapnel flying, but because only one of the devices detonated, "it appears it didn't do the damage it was supposed to."

Della Fave said there were about 3,000 people assembled at the registration area for the race when the pipe-bomb detonated. A four-block area was evacuated as law-enforcement swept the site for more explosive devices, but none aside from those in the one garbage can were found, Della Fave said.

Traffic across the Mathis Bridge was shut down around 12:30 p.m., but the bridge reopened about an hour later, although people are still restricted from the boardwalk area as state police decide how to handle the explosive devices in the trash can.

The arson unit of the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office initially was leading the investigation into the incident, aided by the New Jersey State Police bomb squad, the Ocean County Sheriff's Office, and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, but Della Fave said the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office will be taking over the probe.

A barbecue festival in Seaside Heights was going on as planned, but the mayor of Point Pleasant decided to cancel a seafood festival because of the day's events, Della Fave said. Gov. Chris Christie was briefed on the incident by Attorney General Christopher S. Porrino, and Col. Rick Fuentes, superintendent of the New Jersey State Police, according to a news release.

Cathy Howath, 50, of Upper Saddle River and her sister Janie Murphy, 52, of Bridgewater were among those who signed up to run in the 5K. But before the race was supposed to get off, the discovery of a backpack near a media tent sent off an announcement over a bullhorn, Howath said. "They kept making the announcement, 'There's an unclaimed, blue backpack by the News 12 tent and the radio station tent. If this is your backpack, please come and claim it.' It was repeated," Howath said.

Eventually, a student claimed the backpack, Murphy said. She and her sister said they believe this also delayed the start of the race and spared participants from injury.

"It was a blessing in disguise, because the pipebomb would have gone off when the 5K was going," Howath said.

What we know about Ahmad Khan Rahami, suspect in NYC-area bombings
Ahmad Khan Rahami, the New Jersey man suspected of planting bombs in the New York

area over the weekend, was investigated by the FBI in 2014 after his father called him a terrorist, federal law enforcement officials told USA TODAY on Tuesday.

The reference came during a domestic dispute, prompting the FBI to review the father's claims, said the officials, who aren't authorized to comment publicly. The matter was closed when authorities found nothing to support any terrorist ties involving Rahami, who had been arrested related to the suspected domestic assault, the officials said. More details about Rahami also continued to emerge Tuesday, painting a contrasting and complex portrait of the suspect. Some friends said he was funny and friendly. But others saw dramatic changes in Rahami after he made trips to south Asia, saying he became more religious and started to dress conservatively.

Authorities also continued to probe Tuesday to see whether Rahami, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Afghanistan, acted alone or had any help. Investigators are seeking to question Rahami's wife, who recently left the country to visit relatives in Pakistan.

Rahami was wounded, taken into custody and charged with five counts of attempted murder of a law enforcement officer after a shootout with police in Linden, N.J., on Monday.

One of the blasts he was sought over injured 29 people in the Chelsea area of Manhattan on Saturday night.

Hours before that explosion, a pipe bomb detonated in a trash can in Seaside Park, N.J., before a 5K charity run. No one was injured.

On Monday, authorities said a device found in a backpack near the Elizabeth train station in New Jersey exploded while a bomb squad robot was trying to disarm it.

Here's what we know about Rahami:

He's a naturalized citizen living in New Jersey

Rahami, 28, first came to the U.S. in January 1995, some years after his father, Mohammed Rahami, sought asylum here, CNN reported. He later became a naturalized U.S. citizen whose last known address was in Elizabeth, N.J.

He attended Middlesex County College in Edison, N.J. between 2010 and 2012 and majored in criminal justice but did not graduate, according to media reports.

His father ran a fried chicken restaurant in Elizabeth since 2002, and Rahami had worked there, customers said.

Things changed when he 'got more religious,' friend says

Rahami made numerous trips to Afghanistan and was questioned each time he returned to the United States, CNN reported, citing law enforcement sources. A law enforcement official told the Associated Press that Rahami wasn't on any terror or no-fly watch lists but had been interviewed by officials for immigration purposes.

SPIKE LEE'S ILLUMINATING "WAKE-UP" MOVIE "Chi-Raq"

spinoff *Creed* in its second weekend, taking the upper hand in what is a virtual tie for third place with \$15.54 million (\$65.1 million total).

Creed is neck-and-neck with Pixar's *The Good Dinosaur*, also in its second weekend. *Dinosaur* took an estimated \$15.51 million (\$76 million total); the Peter Sohn-directed film also crossed the \$100 million mark globally with a worldwide total of \$131.4 million.

Exhibitor Relations box office analyst Jeff Bock says he was surprised to see *Creed* and *The Good Dinosaur* drop to levels that allowed the little-discussed *Krampus* to take second place.

"I thought both of these major films would hold on stronger. They both dropped in a way that was pretty surprising," Bock says. "And *Krampus* took advantage of that. It was the right film at the right time. But, really, all discussion is about *Star Wars* right now." James Bond installment *Spectre* remained in the top five in its fifth weekend with \$5.4 million, bringing 007's domestic total to \$184.5 million.

Spike Lee's *Chi-Raq* opened at No. 13 with \$1.25 million in 305 theaters. The film dealing with gang violence in Chicago scored an 80% critical approval rating and 64% audience approval on Rotten Tomatoes. Likely awards contender *Spotlight* and its ensemble cast, including Michael Keaton and Mark Ruffalo, expanded to 980 theaters, taking an impressive \$2.9 million in its fifth weekend of release and \$16.6 million to date.

'Hunger Games' prequels are planned and will feature arena battles

Hunger Games fans can expect to see prequels for the hit films, even films showing arena battles.

The studio which brought Katniss Everdeen to the screen in four hit movies will travel back to early battles for upcoming editions, Lionsgate Entertainment Vice Chairman Michael Burns said Tuesday, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*.

The current films covered the 74th and 75th *Hunger Games*, which were in elaborate and spread-out terrain. The new films would go old-school with the stadiums, said Burns.

"The one thing that kids say they missed (from the existing *Hunger Games* films) was there was no arenas," he said. "If we went backwards there obviously would be arenas." Burns, speaking at the UBS Global Media and Communications Conference in New York, compared *Hunger Games* to *Harry Potter*, saying it will "live on and on and on." *The Wrap* reported that Burns did not believe the fourth *Hunger Games* opening was disappointing. *Mockingjay, Part 2*, the final film for star Jennifer Lawrence, opened to a \$101 million opening weekend in November, softer than past hits.

"It's a high-class problem when you're complaining about a \$101 million opening," he said.

MTV's list of top musical artists has Adele at No. 7

NEW YORK (AP) — Hello? MTV is out with its list of 2015's top musical artists, and Adele only made it to No. 7 despite selling more than twice as many albums as anyone else this year.

Fetty Wap, whose songs "Trap Queen" and "My Way" established him as a rapper to watch, was named top artist. Drake's booty call groove, "Hotline Bling," was chosen by the network's staff as the best song of the year.

Besides Fetty Wap, MTV judged Taylor Swift, Drake, The Weeknd, Justin Bieber and Kendrick Lamar above Adele for best artist. Adele sold nearly 4.5 million copies of her new album, "25," in the U.S. in just two weeks. The No. 2 album in sales, Swift's "1989," has sold just under 1.8 million copies for all of 2015, the Nielsen company said. "There's a strong argument that (Adele) could be No. 1 and we welcome that back-and-forth," said Eric Ditzian, MTV's senior news director. "We wanted to take into context all of 2015."

Adele's new disc was released Nov. 20, with the "Hello" single out a month earlier. Besides sales, MTV considers streams, impact on pop culture and an artist's contact with fans through social media in its decision. Adele is relatively low key in social media and, thus far, hasn't made songs from "25" available for streaming through sources like Spotify.

Fetty Wap "just absolutely came out of nowhere and blew us away," Ditzian said. MTV is impressed with how the rapper, born Willie Maxwell in Paterson, New Jersey, wasn't held back by a disability. Fetty Wap lost his left eye to glaucoma as a youngster. Adele's "Hello" was everywhere for the past month, but ranked No. 2 to Drake for best song. "Hotline Bling" was "inescapable in a very good way," Ditzian said.

Rounding out MTV's Top Five best songs were "Can't Feel My Face" by The Weeknd, Lamar's "Alright" and "Shut Up & Dance" by Walk the Moon.

MTV said the best movies of 2015 were "Furious 7," "Straight Outta Compton" and "Dope."

Gigi Gorgeous was MTV's first-ever social media star of the year.

MLB news and notes

- The Brewers are in the market for a first baseman, with Pedro Alvarez, Ike Davis, Steve Pearce, Chris Carter and Daniel Nava among the options, reports ESPN's Jerry Crasnick.

- The Diamondbacks are working on persuading Reds second baseman Brandon Phillips to waive his no-trade clause, reports Rosenthal.

- Second baseman Ben Zobrist reportedly chose to sign with the Cubs for four years and \$56 million despite being offered \$60 million over four years from both the Nationals and the Giants, according to multiple reports.

- Following the Walker-Niese trade, the Mets have now stepped up their efforts to re-sign

Bartolo Colon, reports Marc Carig of Newsday.

- The Cincinnati Reds are reportedly shopping third baseman Todd Frazier, reports C. Trent Rosecrans of the Cincinnati Enquirer.

- Teams interested in free agent shortstop Ian Desmond are exploring the option of him playing in the outfield, reports Crasnick.

- The San Francisco Giants are considered the frontrunners to sign left fielder Alex Gordon, reports Olney.

Completed transactions

- The Nationals have traded infielder Yunel Escobar to the Angels, reports Heyman.

- The Padres are close to acquiring catcher Christian Bethancourt from the Braves, reports Rosenthal.

- The Nationals have agreed on a one-year deal with reliever Shawn Kelley, pending a physical, reports James Wagner of the Washington Post.

- The Red Sox have traded third baseman Garin Cecchini to the Brewers for cash, reports Alex Speier of the Boston Globe.

- The Royals have expressed interest in free-agent pitcher Yovani Gallardo, reports SB Nation's Chris Cotillo.

- The Astros have reached a deal with reliever Tony Sipp to keep him in Houston, Evan Drellich of the Houston Chronicle reports. Rosenthal reports the contract is for three years and \$18 million.

- The Pirates have traded second baseman Neil Walker to the Mets for Jon Niese, reports Sherman.

- The Mets have reportedly agreed to terms with free-agent infielder Asdrubal Cabrera.

- The Phillies have reached an agreement with pitcher David Hernandez, pending a physical, reports Rosenthal.

- The Phillies have reportedly traded closer Ken Giles to the Astros in exchange for outfielder Derek Fisher and pitchers Vincent Velasquez and Brett Oberholtzer.

- The Chicago White Sox have acquired infielder Brett Lawrie from the Oakland Athletics for minor-league pitchers Zachary Erwin and J.B. Wendelken, the team announced Wednesday.

- The Washington Nationals have agreed to a one-year deal with pitcher Yusmeiro Petit, reports Sherman.

- The Nationals have acquired right-handed pitchers Trevor Gott and Michael Brady from the Angels for infielder Yunel Escobar and cash.

Iowa, Michigan State grind through epic Big 10 final
The Spartans (12-1) provided plenty of drama on Championship Saturday, with an epic game-winning drive to beat Iowa 16-13 in an old-school Big Ten championship game that was only missing leather helmets.

Here's who is in: No. 1 Clemson, No. 2 Alabama, No. 3 Oklahoma, No. 5 Michigan State.

L.J. Scott kept lunging forward, stretching the ball over the goal line for a touchdown with 27 seconds left and No. 5 Michigan State all but locked up a spot in the College

13 of 29

Golden Globes 2016: The nominations leave the awards-season race wide open
Early awards season favorites "The Martian" and "Carol" made forceful showings in the Golden Globes nominations, but late-breaking entrants "Mad Max: Fury Road" and "The Big Short" also came on strong. In other words, if you were looking to the Globes nods to bring focus and clarity to this year's unusually wide-open race, you were out of luck.

But for those in Hollywood who got the early-morning call Thursday — which arrived on the heels of Wednesday's Screen Actors Guild nominations — the news was welcome, nonetheless.

"Oh, my God, it's crazy nice," said comedian Amy Schumer, who scored a nomination for actress in a comedy or musical for the romantic comedy "Trainwreck," which also earned a best picture nod. "I'm freaking out. I might not even take my Lexapro today." The romantic drama "Carol" led the pack with five nominations, including drama and acting nods for Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara, while the financial crisis dramedy "The Big Short," the bloody western "The Revenant" and the quasi-biopic "Steve Jobs" followed with four nods each.

Globes nominations, which are made by a small group of members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Assn. rather than film industry professionals, are not considered reliable harbingers of future Oscar nods and have often included some out-of-left-field picks. But the nominations can lend some films and performances a sense of momentum as awards season gathers steam.

Several awards contenders that had been shut out from SAG Awards nominations — in some cases because screeners had not been sent to the guild's voting members — found greater traction with the Globes.

Ridley's Scott's sci-fi film "The Martian" picked up nods for best picture in the comedy or musical category, for director Ridley Scott and for the film's star, Matt Damon. The gonzo big-budget action film "Mad Max: Fury Road," which many consider an awards-season dark horse, earned nominations for drama and for its director, George Miller. The four nominations for "Steve Jobs" — which earned acting nods for Michael Fassbender, who played the tech icon, and for costar Kate Winslet, along with nominations for its screenplay and score, were notable considering the film's disappointing performance at the box office.

"I tried very, very hard not to pay too much attention to the buzz and who the front-runners were," Winslet said. "And this moment just feels fantastic. It's an unbelievably packed year in this category with some amazing women — and not just five, so many."

Will Smith earned an acting nomination for the NFL drama "Concussion," a performance that had not made the SAG Awards cut. But Johnny Depp, a favorite of the Hollywood

Foreign Press Assn. with 10 Globes nominations over the years, failed to score a nod for his performance as the notorious mobster Whitey Bulger in "Black Mass." David O. Russell's "Joy" — another SAG Awards shutout — earned nominations for motion picture in the comedy or musical category and for its star, Jennifer Lawrence. Alejandro G. Iñárritu's "The Revenant," which had received only a single SAG nod for star Leonardo DiCaprio, picked up a drama Globes nomination as well as nods for DiCaprio, Iñárritu and the film's score. Quentin Tarantino's murderous western "Hateful Eight" received nominations for screenplay and supporting actress, for Jennifer Jason Leigh, but not for best picture. Leigh was tickled to be the only woman among Tarantino's eight hardscrabble outlaws and antiheroes.

"That is such an incredible group of men to be the only woman with," she said. "I felt immense joy with Quentin [Tarantino] and this group. Being handcuffed to Kurt Russell was fabulous."

Meanwhile, the awards-season train for director Adam McKay's "The Big Short" rolled on, with four Golden Globes nominations — including comedy or musical and acting nods for Steve Carell and Christian Bale — added to its two SAG nominations.

Alicia Vikander received two nominations, one for lead actress in a drama for "The Danish Girl" and another for supporting actress in a drama for "Ex Machina," while Saoirse Ronan scored a nod for the period drama "Brooklyn."

"It means a lot now," said Ronan, who was nominated for an Academy Award at age 13 for "Atonement." "When I was younger, it didn't really phase me that much. To be recognized now, when you've got more work, been working for more than half your life, it means a lot more."

Counterbalancing younger actors like Ronan and Vikander were a number of older veterans. Sylvester Stallone, who was snubbed from the SAG Awards nominations for his return to the role of Rocky Balboa in "Creed," proved a Globes contender — 39 years after his last Globes nod for the original "Rocky." Jane Fonda returned to the roster of Globe nominees after a three-decade absence, earning a supporting actress nomination for "Youth."

"There's the chronological issue [of age]; and chronologically, I could well be dead by now," Fonda said by phone. "I'm older than my father was when he died. But spiritually and energetically, I feel younger than when I was 20 and 30. It all has to do with attitude and how you see life — and that's the theme of the movie."

Widely considered a strong Oscar contender, the newsroom drama "Spotlight" earned a nomination for drama, but its cast was shut out, a sign that awards voters may consider it more of an ensemble piece than a showcase for any individual performers.

Paul Dano earned a nomination for his turn as young Brian Wilson in the Beach Boys singer biopic "Love & Mercy," but John Cusack — who played Wilson at a later stage in his life — failed to score a nod. "Honestly, I feel like we love Brian so much, if one of us doesn't get recognition, to let that be too much of a bad thing wouldn't be fair to the work we got to do and the experience we had," Dano said. "Naturally, I'd love to see everybody from the film get recognized. But I think it's only a good thing if anybody does."

It wouldn't be the Globes, of course, without a few surprises. Though there weren't any howlers on the level of past nominations for duds like "The Tourist," the nomination of Mark Ruffalo for the little-seen indie "Infinitely Polar Bear" rather than for his turn in "Spotlight" had some critics scratching their heads, while a nomination for Al Pacino's performance as an aging rock star in "Danny Collins" surprised many who hadn't had the film on their awards season radar. Though the credibility of the Globes is often questioned, its status as one of the wildest and most unpredictable shows on the awards-season calendar remains secure. This year's ceremony, which will be held on Jan. 16 with the ever-offensive Ricky Gervais returning to hosting duties, will likely be no exception. "I met the Hollywood Foreign Press, and they're, like, the best," said Schumer, a first-time Globes nominee. "I was like, I could get down with these people. Let's go and get [drunk] together and have fun. I just hear these awards are so fun — and no one ever says anything is fun."

'Hunger Games' kills 'Krampus' at box office

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 2 continues to kill competition entering the box office arena as it beat out *Krampus*, the sole new major release, to win the crown for the third weekend in a row.

Mockingjay — Part 2 took \$18.6 million for a three-week total of \$22.1 million, according to studio estimates. Jennifer Lawrence as Katniss is dominating the post-Thanksgiving box office just as its predecessor, *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 1*, did a year ago. "*Mockingjay — Part 2* is taking on all newcomers and then dispatching them, as expected," says Paul Dergarabedian, senior box office analyst for Rentrak. "But we're in the lull of a movie storm before *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* opens in the next two weeks. We're on the cusp of this onslaught of holiday movies, and this picture will change soon."

The new horror film *Krampus*, featuring a boy (Emjay Anthony) who accidentally summons a demonic Santa Claus, scored \$16 million for second place in the slow weekend. With a cast including Toni Collette and Adam Scott, *Krampus* outperformed its tepid 64% approval rating from critics at RottenTomatoes.com and a B- grade from audiences at CinemaScore.

Michael B. Jordan and Sylvester Stallone continued to pull in returns with the *Rocky*

Dissed On The Court

Now let's put all the words mentioned earlier together and see how they relate to one another. We are dis-obedient when we dis-trust or doubt God's Word, so we dis-continue following His Word and when others tell us that we are in sin because we are no longer following the Word of God we dis-agree because of our dis-belief. We are in dis-harmony with others after we dis-embark from the journey and dis-associate ourselves from those still on the journey and dis-miss the journey of obedience as being a waste of time. We then begin to dis-honor our parents by our dis-obedience, which dis-pleases God, who dis-qualifies us for a mansion in heaven as He dis-members us from the body of Christ because we are in a state of dis-order, which is a dis-grace because we are now lost and will be devoured by the sword. Or said another way: when we dis-obey God we will be devoured by the Word of God, which is the sword of God, because God spoke those words with His mouth.

Ok, now let's go back to the scene on the basketball court and see what happened. When we left off Playa #1 was offended by the comments and actions of a spectator, which he took as a personal insult because they had had words before. Being dissed in front of the crowd, including his girlfriend and his son, his pride was wounded so he had to save face by offing the brotha. The crowd scatters because of fear of the ricochet. Playa #1 is left standing there alone with the gun in his hand as the police roll up on the scene and jump out of their vehicles with their guns drawn. So he (Playa #1) is the only one to get hit by the ricochet as he ends up spending the rest of his young life in prison for a senseless crime. With that one incident, two families are destroyed. The family of the spectator who not only has to deal with the loss of their loved one, but also has the task of coming up with the money to bury him. After the public humiliation of his trial, Playa #1's family is destroyed also as they are not only shamed by his actions, but also will be doing time with him. That's one ending. Let's take a look at another possible ending.

Rev. Davidson just happens to be driving pass the basketball court on his way to visit with one of his parishioners who was recently hospitalized. He pulls his car over when he sees Playa #1 standing there holding a gun on the spectator. He gets out of his car and cautiously walks up to the scene and calmly talks to Playa #1 who he has known since he was a child. After much negotiation, Rev. Davidson convinces Playa #1 not to shoot the spectator because Playa #1's son, who is standing in the bleachers with his mother is crying as he watches

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Diddy on #BlackLivesMatter: Black People 'Are Committing Genocide on Ourselves'

In recent weeks Sean "Diddy" Combs has been receiving much praise and adoration for his support of the Black Lives Matter movement, but a recent post on Instagram may have tossed him right back out of the Black community's good graces. Diddy has joined a list of stars that are encouraging the Black community to continue the fight for justice while simultaneously urging those in their own community to stop aiding police forces in their elimination of Black lives. Diddy's message insisted that people in the Black community are assisting in their own "genocide" despite pushing the now international Black Lives Matter movement.

Diddy's Message to the Black Community:

For the last couple of months we have experienced a lot of injustice and wrongdoings to our community. But there is a flip side. Yes BLACK LIVES MATTER, but no one will respect us if we as a people don't have any respect for our own black lives. We are committing genocide on ourselves. We are always looking for scapegoats. We as a people hurt ourselves more than anyone has ever hurt us. That makes no sense. We as a people including myself have to take accountability and do whatever we can do individually or together to stop the madness and realize that we are KINGS and QUEENS AND Must love ourselves and each other. I know I'm rambling a little bit. #BLACKLIVESMATTER SO AS A PEOPLE LETS PRACTICE WHAT WE PREACH!!! MAY GOD BLESS US ALL! I LOVE YOU!!!!!! Needless to say, his commentary didn't go down too well on social media: http://www.theroot.com/blogs/the-grape-vine/2015/05/diddy-on-blacklivesmatter-black-people-are-committing-genocide-on-ourselves.html?wpisrc=newsletter_jer%3Acontent%26

WE AFFECT GENERATIONS TO COME BY THE DECISIONS THAT WE MAKE TODAY!

Editor's Note: I believe the reason why Diddy's comments didn't reach the mark is because he is being hypocritical. How is he being a hypocrite? It's easy to talk a good game, but it's obviously very difficult to put your money where your mouth is. Clearly, Diddy is not the only multimillionaire in the hip-hop music industry. But he along with his cohorts, Dr. Dre [now reported to be a billionaire] Jay Z and countless others have not spent one dime to help to bring any relief in the ghetto communities that helped to make them rich. That being the case, it's hard to take anything they say seriously. Especially when they use their music to glorify and downgrade us to bitches & hoes and pimps & gangsta thugs then they conveniently upgrade us to kings and queens to make a point.

Jay Z also addressed the ongoing issue of black-on-black violence in the community and begged for peace. "We are kings and queens and we're under attack. We say, people, they leave the hood and never wanna come back. When people go to the hood, they get killed. We can't have it both ways. We gotta protect our own." Can somebody please help me understand how you can glorify violence in your music as most hip-hop artist do, but then act so surprised when it actually happens? Since Jay-Z has been criticized in the past for not being an activist in the black community he has hired a publicist to show that protecting his own is something that he has done recently. In a series of tweets, Dream Hampton, author of Jay Z's biography, Decoded, alluded to the fact that Jay Z and Beyoncé both donated money to bail out protesters, not only in Ferguson, Mo., but also in Baltimore. <http://www.theroot.com/blogs/the-grape-vine/2015/05/jay-z-on-black-violence-we-need-to-understand-that-we-re-kings.html>.

While they [Jay Z & Beyoncé] may have donated tens of thousands for bail for protestors, those that were bailed out obviously don't have any jobs in the hood, otherwise they probably wouldn't have been rioting and protesting in the first place. Deuteronomy 32:28-29 "For they are a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them. O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!" While this scripture refers directly to the plight of the Children of Israel, it also applies to us today.

Maybe if those complaining about violence in the hood would practice what they are now preaching as Diddy said, and put their money where their mouths are like Akon, things would be different and people may respect what they do, instead of dissing what they say. Akon a Senegalese-American who when he's not singing or producing music, is busy providing sustainable living options to people in African countries. The singer's initiative, appropriately called Akon Lighting Africa, aims to supply electricity to 600 million people in Africa who lack it with the launch of the Solar Academy.

Located in Bamako, Mali, the Solar Academy will help African engineers and entrepreneurs develop skills that will enable them to produce solar power. According to Akon Lighting Africa, the goal of the academy is to teach people how to maintain solar-powered electricity systems and micro-grids. In a continent that has 320 days of sun a year, roping in its natural resources will be valuable to the solar-energy efforts. "We have the sun and innovative technologies to bring electricity to homes and communities. We now need to consolidate African expertise," said Samba Bathily cofounder with Akon. The organization also hopes to create jobs with its initiative. <http://www.mintpressnews.com/akon-pledges-to-bring-electricity-to-rural-africa-amid-solar-revolution/206278/>

BrothaMan

Excuses only satisfy those who make them

JULY 15, 2005

Amerikkka Practices Its Own Brand of Ethnic Cleansing

By: Ali Khalid Abdullah
Mound Correctional, Detroit MI

In today's super information age there is a crisis taking place that few people have noticed and those who have are of the mind that it is needed. The government and the media have perpetuated and falsely created national hysteria in reporting about crime.

Crime has been used for political reasons to advance an array of agendas and pass a litany of laws that otherwise would not have been accepted by the general public. The government has capitalized from promoting fear and so has the news media, the private and corporate sector.

In Amerikkka, the steady stream of propaganda given to the people is that crime is out of control and they have effectively targeted the young black and Latino male as the enemy. Criminologist and right-wing conservative professors and writers have purposefully used distorted statistics in their predictions and reporting of crime where it has amplified the distrust between whites, Blacks and Latinos by suggesting Blacks and Latinos are disproportionately committing the majority of crimes in Amerikkka.

These government and conservative statisticians systematically worked the numbers (in reporting actual crime) to give the necessary message to middle and upper class whites that urban areas are rife in all manner of deviance, thus creating such fear into the minds of whites that the vast majority of whites have fled the urban area and moved in the metropolitan/suburban areas thinking that they have escaped the criminal mindset in the urban areas where there is a predominance of black and Latino people due to redlining districts, gerrymandering and political maneuverings by banks, real estate agencies and politicians.

The government and media use "code words" in today's politically correct society by using such terms as "war on drugs" or "war on crime", which is meant as a war on Blacks and Latinos with the emphasis being that Blacks and Latinos are responsible for the majority of crimes committed, which is backed up with bogus statistics and false reporting designed to meet the propaganda rhetoric in order to heighten the public fears.

Such false reporting allows the police to view Blacks and Latinos as wild and drug-crazed animals who must be dealt with using deadly force as justification for committing open murder, or mass incarceration and/or both. The media and the public see crime as acts committed by violent, drug crazed young Black and Latino males, even though the corporate sector, Wall Street and bankers commit the most serious of crimes, ala Enron and Global Crossing.

The poor have become the target for an array of attacks. Seen as useless and an inherently criminally dangerous class and undeserving it allows for the disbanding of social programs like welfare and job-creation programs for the more lucrative prison industrial complex, and law enforcement training where there is maximum return from investment as 2 million languish in prisons and jails across the nation.

Today we have a pResident who bought, tricked, lied, schemed and petitioned the Supreme Court for the Whitehouse job as the "Commander and Thief" rather than the Commander and Chief of the country.

The myth lives on by the influence of government, its criminal agencies, and overzealous policing of ghettos that drugs is the major factor of crime and as a result police create situations in Black and Latino neighborhoods to support the overblown myth that young Black and Latino males are destroying the fabric of life with drugs, which is categorically untrue. Pharmaceutical companies are the biggest promoters, pushers and profiteers, but they are government sanctioned so they are allowed to commit their acts. But Black and Latinos are accused of being the major problem with drugs and as a result are sentenced to long prison terms which has fueled a vast and prosperous prison industry where billions of dollars are made from the incarcerated. Revenues of cities and towns have found kapital gain which adds to more money in taxes for the government coffers at the expense of taxpayers, while also guaranteeing reelections for politicians, judges and prosecutors who sell fear to the public and securing for themselves, good paying jobs.

Young Black males make up roughly 6 percent of the total population in the United States, but 40 percent of those arrested for drug possession and trafficking and it is estimated that more than 50 percent of young Black males are convicted of violating drug laws. Yet, the white male population, which is five times greater than the

Black male population, accounts for only 37 percent of those convicted of drug offenses, despite the fact that, as national household surveys indicate, whites are more likely to use illicit drugs than either Blacks or Latinos, with the exception of perhaps marijuana, which is then basically evenly paired. It is estimated that 73 percent of whites use drugs but Blacks are 73 percent of those arrested and convicted for drugs and Latinos are estimated to be in the 45 to 50 percent range of those arrested and convicted for drugs.

Another growing and disturbing problem in Amerikkka is that of black women and juveniles are the hardest hit by the racially inequitable enforcement of drug laws. In the last twenty five years the number of women in state and federal prisons has increased fourfold.

The majority of women prisoners are in prison for drug use or drug related crimes, which has had a devastating impact on the Black family, because figures show that 7.5 percent of Black female prisoners are mothers. Overt discrimination in sentencing for Black juveniles is staggering by all standards, while white juveniles in detention for drugs has declined since 1985, whereas the number of non-white juveniles (mostly black) in detention increased by 259 percent. If the statistics indicated that 75 percent of white females were in prison/jails or that the white, juvenile in detention was up 259 percent Washington D.C. would be besieged by an array of white organizations, white radicals, activists and social workers of all kind, demanding a change in police arrest and the sentencing practice. But, because it is Blacks and other non-whites the cry for equality has fallen deaf ears.

With so many blacks and non-whites locked away this can only be viewed as an ethnic cleansing by way over-policing, over-arrest, over-sentencing and over-murdering (by police and other law enforcement agencies) of young black males especially, and all non-whites, generally.

Sooner or later these rather disturbing problems must be fully and honestly addressed and solutions made for the current trend dealing with the social problems of today. Either we will deal with the problems in an effective manner or we all will sink further and further in social destruction.

POSTED: BY: LEON IRBY DATED: MARCH 27, 2017
15 OF 29

THE NEW ABOLITIONIST
newsletter of
Prisoner's Action Coalition
July 15, 2005

Friends,

As promised in our last newsletter, we have made room for more prisoner writings in this issue. We have also enclosed a piece written by Assata Shakur, living in Cuba since 1979. Which brings to mind two important and under served readerships residing in the Wisconsin prison system, namely, women prisoners and Spanish speaking prisoners. Sister Assata's piece is a call to her sisters, but there is a message in there for all the brothers too. Read and learn.

We have far too many women in prison, and far too few on our mailing list. Women are now the fastest growing prison population in the U.S. and the devastation to family and community is hard to imagine. Planters and slavers of 150 years ago would tear apart families to destroy cohesion and solidarity. Separating mothers from their children is a terrorist tactic used in times many people thought, long gone. The impact of these policies will have repercussions long into the future, but that is of no concern to the politicians riding the wave of tough on crime legislation. When the chickens come home to roost, they will devise other reactionary plans to deal with the horrors they have created.

The perpetual cycles of poverty, ignorance, and prison will never be broken by those who have created the problems. The solutions are in the hands of the people, they just have to take hold, remake society as it should be; as a life affirming, nourishing, loving existence. The trappings of consumer culture are the deadly siren song of the oppressor. The glitter of bling-bling blinds us to the reality of our existence. It lulls us into complacency, dulls our ability to discern right from wrong, drives us to self destructive and community destructive behavior. Now we have no excuses... we know who the oppressor is, if we play along with his game, we are oppressing ourselves. If we reject the siren song, and instead, embrace our family and community we can beat back this nightmare.

To our Latino hermanos y hermanas, bienvenidos ala resistencia y lucha. The struggle for prison abolition is a struggle for community empowerment. It is a struggle against the systemic racist institutions and the oppression of people of color in this country. The struggle for liberation is a struggle for the freedom of all people. Submissions written in Spanish are welcome, but letters to us should be in English... our Spanish skills are rudimentary.

With all this talk of oppression and people of color, our white brothers and sisters are probably asking, "hey what about us?" Please realize, that you come from a position of privilege. Even if you are of the poorest working class, you are privileged. It's not necessarily your fault, being white in America automatically confers privilege. They systemic racism that plagues inner city school districts is not your reality. A white felon has a statistically better chance of finding work than a Black without a record. Many white guards treat white prisoners differently than those of color. That's just reality, the truth. How you deal with that privilege is a different matter. If you use it to better your own situation, that is unacceptable; if you reject it and embrace your brothers in solidarity, you are welcome to the struggle. If you understand that the oppressor is color blind, welcome to the real world. We are truly in this together, start acting that way!

While I'm ranting, where are the families? Are you all so caught up in the miasma of daily life that you don't see the injustice committed to your loved ones? Or does the system seem so big and bad that you are afraid to confront it? No time? Afraid? Pleeeeze. Or, have you bought into the language of the establishment? One thing I never want to hear again, from anyone is "he did the crime, now he's doin' the time". That kind of thinking is accepting the language and false reality of the oppressor. Laws are written by the ruling class, protecting their property. Thomas Jefferson said *"Rightful liberty is unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others. I do not add 'within the limits of the law' because law is often but the tyrant's will, and always so when it violates the rights of the individual."* Yes, we hate to live in violence ridden neighborhoods, but the police, courts and prisons are not the answer. Education, opportunity and, self empowerment are the way out of this dilemma. And don't look for your legislator to provide these things, you have to take them. You have to stop this war against your community. No thugs, no police, no prisons! With a strong and vibrant community none will be necessary.

So, here is an opportunity to step up. Prisoner Awareness Month is October. Prison activists are looking for venues to speak to the issues of Wisconsin's prisons. Is your community center available? Your church basement? Can you gather friends and neighbors together for an evening of solidarity in the struggle? Write back, email us, get active... it's your community, your loved ones and, your future.

Imprisoned artists, if you have artwork that you are willing to donate to the cause, we are working on a display during Prisoner Awareness Month. Send your artwork to PAC. We will display and try to sell your pieces, to help pay the cost of this newsletter and other efforts that we are engaged in. Pieces sent to us, become our property, for our use in the struggle.

In solidarity, PAC

AMERICAN SHOOTINGS

By: Ernesto Rodriguez/ 10/14/15 / 517-204-9278

"You can't handle the truth!" American shootings are generally blamed on "mental illness" When are we going to face the truth? Ferguson riots hand writing on the wall is still ignored. We have known since slavery that "man's inhumanity to man" has collateral consequences.

Consider these abuses: Public insults to men women and children; Abusive police power; criminal politicians; People sodomizing our children; Slave labor and mean bosses; Bullies running rampant; Bank foreclosures; High insurance policies; Ex-offenders ostracized from society; Racism; Mass incarceration; High cost of living and American jobs going over seas; Wounded veterans homeless; And these evil abuses continue and frustrate us all.

Example: Tamir Rice's shooting was wrongfully considered "justified"--we seem to be hiring too many under educated and abusive folks into our job market who contribute to the shooting.

These American shootings can be stopped: If each of us can bring ourselves to be kind and respect each others needs. I assure you, your love and kindness will be appreciated and protected.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'E' or 'R' followed by a long horizontal line.

3
ON

Marlasa Chan Bers (left), with Wisconsin Voices, holds a photo of Michael Brown, a Missouri teen fatally shot by a police officer, as of support during a rally Monday at the federal courthouse in Milwaukee.

Rallies urge U.S. police oversight

Protesters say officer-involved deaths need scrutiny

Another rally in support of a Missouri teen fatally shot by a police officer drew about 100 people Monday to the federal courthouse in Milwaukee, after a similar rally on Friday ended with an impromptu sit-in at the Milwaukee Police Administration Building.

The Missouri victim, Michael Brown 18, was laid to rest Monday.

Rally organizers in Milwaukee called for the U.S. Department of Justice to begin a nationwide investigation of potentially systemic police brutality and harassment in minority communities.

The rally at the federal courthouse began with about 20 people, including Ald. Milele Coggs, Ald. Russell Stamper II and County Supervisor David Bowen, lighting red and white candles and praying for Brown and others who have died in police incidents. Those at the courthouse read a list of demands, which included federal oversight of all investigations into officer-involved shootings.

Meanwhile, at Red Arrow Park, the family of Dontre Hamilton, who was killed by a Milwaukee police officer April 30, and about 70 other demonstrators also called for federal oversight and for such deaths to be investigated as civil rights abuses. The group then marched to the federal courthouse, where the rally continued, and then returned to Red Arrow Park.

The rallies in Milwaukee have focused not on

ly on solidarity with the family of Brown — an unarmed black teen who was shot by a white police officer in Ferguson, Mo. — but also with families of those who have died in police custody in Milwaukee.

Many of the rallies were based at Red Arrow Park, where Hamilton, 31, was shot. Hamilton was shot more than a dozen times by the officer, who is 38 and a 13-year department veteran.

"The community is disappointed, and we as a family are not organizing all these rallies," his brother, Nathaniel Hamilton, said Monday. "We go to these rallies, we participate, we go there for

justice for Dontre. There's a lot of different agendas at these rallies."

Nathaniel Hamilton and other members of his family met with three Milwaukee police officials for about 45 minutes Monday at All Peoples Church, 2600 N. 2nd St. The meeting was a result of an impromptu sit-in Friday at the Milwaukee Police Administration Building.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Nathaniel Hamilton said the family was frustrated that while they did meet with police Monday, Chief Edward Flynn was not

there.

"Our goal was to get the chief to talk to us," he said. He added, "Right now, we feel totally disrespected that he didn't come today to talk to us."

Hamilton's mother, Maria, had tears in her eyes as she spoke.

"I want our community to know that Dontre was a good person and it's very unfortunate that he's gone because of one individual choosing to take his life," she said.

A Police Department spokesman declined to comment Monday evening.

"I want our community to know that Dontre was a good person and it's very unfortunate that he's gone because of one individual choosing to take his life."

Maria Hamilton,
mother of Dontre Hamilton

Ongoing investigation

The investigation into Hamilton's death must follow a new state law that requires a team of at least two investigators from an outside agency to lead reviews of deaths in police custody. The law also requires reports of custody death investigations throughout the state to be publicly released if criminal charges are not filed against the officers involved.

The Milwaukee County district attorney's office received the report from the Division of Criminal Investigation

tion on Aug. 8. Prosecutors have not said when they plan to decide whether to charge the officer.

Hamilton's family called for criminal charges last month after meeting with the district attorney, an assistant medical examiner and several investigators from the state Department of Justice.

Some city officials and protesters have called on the Milwaukee Police Department to release the name of the officer who shot Hamilton. A department spokesman has said that, in keeping with past practice, the officer's name will be released when the district attorney's office issues a charging decision.

Protesters also have invoked the names of James Perry and Derek Williams, who both died in Milwaukee police custody; Darius Simmons, a black teenager who was shot and killed by his 76-year-old white neighbor; and Corey Stingley, a black West Allis teenager who died after he was held down by three white customers at a convenience store after he was suspected of shoplifting. Stingley's father, Craig Stingley, has been a fixture at many rallies, describing what happened to his son as a hate crime.

Although protests in Ferguson were marked by a highly militarized police presence that many observers said escalated the violence, rallies in Milwaukee have not attracted the same police response. The sit-in on Friday was the first time Milwaukee police officers were seen wearing face shields during the solidarity protests.

Much of the police response here has centered on traffic control, and Flynn has said the department's practice is "to give the demonstrators as much room to exert their rights as possible and to not be a source of conflict nor an opportunity for confrontation."

Federal review

Monday marked at least the second time in recent weeks that protesters have demonstrated outside the federal courthouse. It also was one of many stops protesters made Aug. 17 during a four-hour rally and march.

After the death of Williams, who died after gasping for breath and begging for help in the back of a police car in 2011, federal officials began a preliminary review of wheth-



"When cops kill, they need to held accountable like anyone else," Angela Walker (center), an independent candidate for Milwaukee County sheriff, says as she marches at Monday's rally for Michael Brown.



Nathaniel Hamilton, the brother of Dontre Hamilton, talks about Monday's meeting with Milwaukee police at All Peoples Church.

er the U.S. Department of Justice should sue the Milwaukee Police Department for a series of possible civil rights violations, known as a pattern or practice investigation.

No officers were charged as a result of Williams' death.

The federal review is focused on the department as a whole rather than on the actions of individual officers.

Racial profiling, searches and seizures without probable cause, the targeting of minority populations for harassment, a poor citizen complaint process, excessive use of force, or excessive use of weapons or Tasers all could warrant federal intervention.

In addition to the events surrounding Williams' death, a review here could encompass several other incidents, including illegal body cavity searches, the way po-

NEXT MEETING

A community meeting related to the recent rallies will be held at 5 p.m. Friday at 1927 N. 4th St.

lice treated Simmons' mother

after he was shot by his neighbor and the on-duty rape of a woman by then-Officer Lamarald Cates, who had been investigated for breaking the law five times before. Both Cates and his victim are black.

In 2013, Flynn issued his first departmentwide risk management training session, in which he said internal reviews showed changes were needed to make the department less vulnerable to what he called a formal U.S. Department of Justice investigation.

One of the changes was that officers are now required to report any type of force in which a person is injured or claims injury, regardless of whether the injury is immediately visible.

Body cameras

Rally organizers also have demanded that the department implement the use of body cameras for all officers. More than 2,000 people have signed an online petition supporting the proposal.

Common Council members also have weighed in, with Ald. Tony Zielinski last week calling on Mayor Tom Barrett to provide money in the 2015 budget to outfit all officers with body cameras.

The Police Department field-tested several types of body cameras during summer 2013 and has developed a request for proposals to get 50 cameras for a pilot program. The department has more than 1,800 sworn officers.

"It's certainly not a concept alien to us or one we would reject," Flynn said this month when asked by reporters about the issue.

"The balance is always between accountability issues and privacy rights," he said. "For everyone who wants us to have cameras on us all the time, there are people who are worried about what this means for their privacy when we show up to a family dispute or some other life incident. This is something the profession is grappling with. I'd say we're moving in the general direction of seeing more and more departments adopt it."

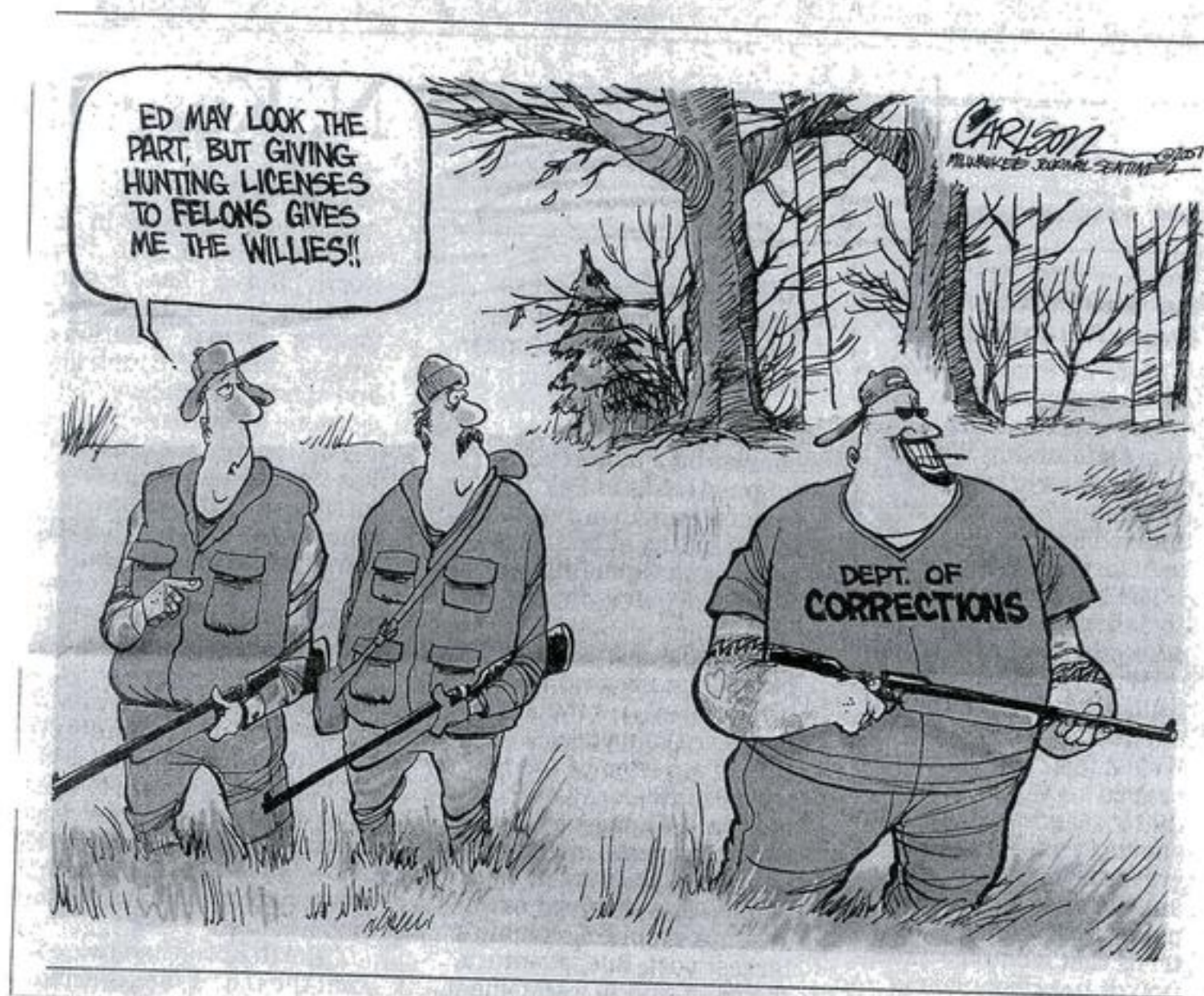
Number of prisoners in U.S. grows slightly

Washington — Breaking three consecutive years of decline, the number of people in state and federal prisons climbed slightly in 2013, according to a report released Tuesday, a sign that deeper changes in sentencing practices will be necessary if the country's enormous prison population is to be significantly reduced.

The report by the Justice Department put the prison

suggested that policy changes adopted by many states, such as giving second chances to probationers and helping nonviolent drug offenders avoid prison, were limited in their reach.

showed a modest drop for the first time in years. But the federal decline was more than offset by a jump in the number of inmates at state prisons. The report, some experts said,



PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

NO. 1907 29

Cop apologizes for minority 'mistreatment'

Head of police chiefs' group says officers must build trust

John Bacon

@jmbacon
USA TODAY

An apology for the role police officers played "in society's historical mistreatment of communities of color" issued by the president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police quickly drew mostly positive reviews from advocacy groups and other law enforcement officials.

IACP leader Terrence Cunningham, speaking Monday at his group's annual conference, said laws adopted at the federal, state and local level in the past required officers to perform "unpalatable tasks" such as ensuring legalized discrimination.

"While this is no longer the case, this dark side of our shared history has created a multigenerational, almost inherited, mistrust between many communities of color and their law enforcement agencies," Cunningham said.

He said most officers had nothing to do with those practices and find it difficult to understand the mistrust felt by many minority citizens. Work must be done to build trust, he said.

"The first step in this process is for law enforcement and the IACP to acknowledge and apologize for the actions of the past and the role that our profession has played in society's historical mistreatment of communities of color," Cunningham said. "At the same time, those who denounce the police must also acknowledge that today's officers are not to blame for the injustices of the past. If either side in this debate fails to acknowledge these fundamental truths, we will be unlikely to move past them."

Al Sharpton, who heads the National Action Network, welcomed the apology. NAN issued a statement saying Sharpton "will urge officers around the United States to back his words up with action and legislation to protect



Terrence Cunningham addresses the International Association of Chiefs of Police meeting Monday in San Diego.

"The first step ... is for law enforcement to acknowledge and apologize for the actions of the past and the role that our profession has played in society's historical mistreatment of communities of color."

Terrence Cunningham, IACP president

communities of color from the onslaught of police misconduct that has disturbed the country."

The NAACP's Legal Defense Fund tweeted: "Good 1st step. Some next steps: require anti-bias training; discipline officers who engage in bias policing."

Delrish Moss, who took over as police chief of Ferguson, Mo., this spring, also was positive. Ferguson made headlines two years ago when officer Darren Wilson, who

is white, fatally shot unarmed black man Michael Brown. The shooting sparked protests across the nation.

Moss, who is black, told the Associated Press he had negative encounters with police when he was growing up.

"There are communities that have long perceived us as oppressors, there are communities that have long perceived us as the jackbooted arm of government designed to keep people under control, and that's one of the things we have to work hard to get past," Moss told AP. "I'm glad it's being addressed (by the IACP) because the only way to get past it is to first acknowledge the existence of it."

Chuck Canterbury, national president of the Fraternal Order of Police, released a statement saying apologies don't address issues such as urban decay, unemployment and homelessness.

Lt. Bob Kroll, head of the Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis, objected to Cunningham's statement.

"Our profession is under attack right now and what we don't need is chiefs like him perpetuating that we are all bad guys in law enforcement," Kroll told the AP.

Yale Grad: My Classmates Are Dying

Graduating from an Ivy League university has not protected us from the higher mortality rate among black men.

By: [Ron Howell](#) | Posted: June 14, 2011 at 12:16 AM

<http://www.theroot.com/views/my-classmates-are-dying?page=0.3>



Clyde Murphy and Ron Howell

For some time now, below the surface of my conscious mind, I've been lamenting the plight of us black men who attended Yale in the 1960s. Too many of us seem to be dying way before our time. My concern has been germinating for some 15 years, and my buddy Charles S. Finch -- physician, fellow member of the class of '70 and author of books on ancient Egypt -- shared my feelings and added a sane professional legitimacy to them. Could it be that we, the civil rights incarnation of W.E.B. Du Bois' Talented Tenth, were being taken down before our time, like outnumbered soldiers on a battlefield?

Last year the answer came to us with undeniable certainty: Yes. Barely a month after the 40th-anniversary celebration of our 1970 graduation, there came word that our close friend Clyde E. Murphy -- the Platter Playin' Poppa of Yale's radio station, WYBC, in the late '60s -- died suddenly of a pulmonary embolism in Chicago, where he had been a hard-charging civil-rights attorney.

Then, in the succeeding months, we lost frat brother Ron Norwood, a lawyer, to cancer, and then Jeff Palmer, also to cancer, like successive awakening slaps to our stunned faces. Toward the end of last year, I did some calculating. By my count, there were 32 African Americans in the original class of 1970, almost exactly 3 percent of the total class. But nine of us had died, more than 10 percent of the total, which meant we were dying at more than three times the rate of our white alumni.

This defies -- makes a mockery of, really -- the expectations that our parents held for us 40 years ago. Personal Commentary: *"The reason it makes a mockery of the expectations of their parents, is because they have forgotten God, and have focused solely on the ways of the world. Even a Yale grad should understand when God is left on the outside, there is something wrong in the inside."* Back in our college days, eager to associate with other blacks confronting similar challenges, I pledged Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity at Yale. There were eight of us on the pledge line that season, our sophomore year, and we called ourselves the Omnipotent Octet. Personal Commentary: *"Omnipotent. Now that sounds like a name reserved for God. No wonder they are dying young, they set themselves up as gods."* With three of us now deceased, we survivors know that omnipotence is a construction of the mind.

It has long been known that black males in America die at rates far exceeding those of other cohorts, including black women. Inner-city black males fare the worst of all groups. Five years ago, physician and demographer Christopher J.L. Murray did a study dividing the nation into "Eight Americas," consisting of Asians, whites of various economic statuses, Native Americans and blacks of various economic statuses. A Sept. 12, 2006, Washington Post article summed up the findings with respect to black men as follows: *A black man living in a high-crime American city can expect to live 21 fewer years than a woman of Asian descent in the United States. The man's life expectancy, in fact, is closer to that of people living in West Africa than it is to the average white American.*

But wait a minute. What about black male graduates of Yale and Harvard? Shouldn't they be expected to live as long as the most privileged of American males? Psychiatrists and health researchers have found, unfortunately, that highly educated African Americans are not shielded from the disparities leading to higher mortality rates.

Goldblatt, who is also a professor of medieval Slavic literature. "My dearest Piersonites from the Class of 2002," Goldblatt wrote in late May. "Unfortunately, I have some tragic news to report. I have been informed ... that your classmate Robert Peace was shot and killed in a robbery late last week in Newark." Peace was a biochemistry major who, after his graduation from Yale in 2002, traveled the hemisphere and also taught biology at his alma mater, St. Benedict's Prep, in Newark, N.J. Police sources told the Newark Star-Ledger that Peace was growing marijuana in a house he was renting. The paper quoted law-enforcement sources as saying the 30-year-old Peace, so ironically named, was "using his knowledge of biochemistry to bring in \$1,000 a day selling marijuana grown in the basement of the Smith Street home where he was killed."

Over the past couple of weeks, I've spoken to black members of '02 (Oh-Deuce, they call themselves), who are crushed at the loss of their brother, described by each as one of the sweetest guys they'd ever known. Among the members of that class of Oh-Deuce is Akua Murphy, film producer and daughter of my dear departed friend and Alpha brother Clyde. How do we make peace with a reality this harsh? Clearly we have to acknowledge that hope and faith are not enough. Those virtues must be accompanied by an active love that is conscientious and determined, that commits itself to self-knowledge and personal growth -- and to changing the world for the better, as my friend Clyde did when he stayed up nights researching cases representing black men and women charging race discrimination in the workplace.

That is a first step, and the true key is given to us when we understand that the journey is about stepping through life with feeling and attention, much as we did on our Alpha pledging line more than four decades ago, as we vowed to help one another and to reach out and care also for those others whom we loved.

Ron Howell, Yale class of '70, teaches journalism at Brooklyn College.

A personal friend of mine whose husband had reached the pinnacle of success, a management position at Novartis, just recently passed at a young age too:

EVANS, Mr. Hugh Allen departed this life, Saturday June 4, 2011 at his home in Woodbury, Minnesota. He was 56 years old. His death was sudden and unexpected. Allen was born on August 30, 1954 in Springfield, Ohio to Charlene Freeman Swain and the late Hugh Walker Evans. He was a 1971 graduate of South High School. He received an undergraduate and graduate degree from Wright State University in Rehabilitation Counseling. Allen began his career in counseling with Goodwill Industries in Dayton, Ohio and later Mercy Mental Health in Springfield. Allen changed his career path in 1982 and entered into the field of Pharmaceutical Sales. He worked for Key Pharmaceuticals and Ayrest Pharmaceuticals before joining Ciba-Geigy currently known as Novartis. He was honored last year to celebrate 25 years with the company. He has held various positions within Novartis. For the last 8 years he has been an Oncology Division Area Sales Manager for the Northern Plains. During the course of his life he and his family have resided in Dayton, Ohio, Mitchellville, MD, Thompsons Station, TN and Woodbury, MN. Allen loved playing golf and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and Progressive Baptist Church in St. Paul, MN. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Patricia Evans of Woodbury, MN, one daughter Teryn Elaine Evans and one son Patrick Allen Evans both of Woodbury, Minnesota. Two grandchildren, Caleb Allen Evans and Veronica Patrice Evans, his mother, Charlene Swain, Three brothers Melvin (Fudgene) Swain Jr. of Lathrop Village, MI, William (Leola) Swain of Columbus, OH, Michael Swain of Stone Mountain, GA, two sisters Hope(Lamar) Evans Embry and Yvette Evans of Springfield, OH and many other nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Service for Hugh Evans will be held Friday June 10, 2011 at Second Missionary Baptist Church 615 S. Wittenberg Ave Springfield, Ohio. Visitation will be 12 noon until time of service which will be at 1:00pm with Pastor Carl Hutching Officiating. Arrangements entrusted to Porter-Qualls Funeral Home.

In fact, there is evidence that black men high up the socioeconomic ladder face special pressures that can result in "myriad chronic medical conditions, including hypertension and cardiovascular disease," according to a June 2004 study published in *Psychology and Health*.

Among the authors of the study was psychiatrist Christopher L. Edwards of Duke University, who is among a coterie of black health scholars studying the effects of a phenomenon called John Henryism, so named after a 19th-century black folk hero. According to legend, John Henry was one of the "steel drivers" who hammered down spikes used in the railroad expansion that made America big and rich. With the coming of the steam-powered drill, the livelihoods of steel drivers like Henry were threatened. Henry, full of bluster, challenged the owner of the railroad to a contest pitting Henry against the new drill. Henry won the contest, but he died from the mental and physical strain.

My buddy Charles Finch, once on the faculty of Morehouse Medical School, now treating emergency room patients, accepts the John Henry explanation. Finch has long been saying that stress must be a culprit in the early deaths of our schoolmates of color.

In a conversation on an electronic mailing list, Finch told us last year:

What is it, the effects of the stressors of unrelenting 'micro-racism'? In [the late 1980s], a gifted black physician named Daniel Savage -- well-known because he was the only black investigator in the famous Framingham Study on hypertension -- detailed the physiologic effects of constant low-level stress, especially that brought on by micro-racism (his term), on black men. Six months later he committed suicide.

A Jan. 24, 1990, Washington Post article reported Savage was 45 at the time of his death. The article said he "jumped from a second-floor window of his Bethesda home" and that the death was officially ruled a suicide. I know that this concern about early deaths of black Yalies goes back at least to 1996. That was when I was attending a special graduation ceremony convened by black graduates of Vassar, including my goddaughter. The speaker was a black minister named Frank M. Reid III, who -- to my shock -- proceeded to talk about black Yale graduates who had died before the age of 40, among them Glenn deChabert, who was in my class of '70 and was the first president of the Black Student Alliance at Yale.

I was stunned. I had been thinking about this but had absolutely no idea that I'd be hearing a speaker at Vassar say the same thing. It turned out that Rev. Reid was a Yale alum himself, from the class of '74, and he was also a half-brother of Kurt Schmoke, former mayor of Baltimore, now dean of Howard Law School and a member of the Yale Class of '71. A couple of weeks ago, having just published a Yale Alumni Magazine article headlined "Before Their Time," I reached out to Rev. Reid and asked him to recall for me his 1996 talk to the Vassar grads. "My personal concern in that message was to say how young, intelligent Black males who had great futures before them were making life choices that led to all too early and tragic deaths -- from disease, violence and even suicide," Reid wrote in an email to me. "My purpose was to encourage the students to be politically vigilant and engaged, and to be equally vigilant with their physical, spiritual, emotional and mental health."

So here we are, 15 years after that Vassar talk. Death is expected to come at a faster clip now, as we who graduated in 1970 move into our 60s. But there is hope. If we are conscientious and fortunate, as Reid counseled -- and as we take heed of Jungian psychologists who advise that this is the stage for serious self-examination and honest reorientation -- we should have a number of good years remaining. According to the latest National Vital Statistics report, life expectancy is 80.6 years for women in America overall and 75.7 for men. For white women, it's 80.9; for black women, 77.4. For white men, it's 76.2; for black men, 70.9.

Ironically, I am more optimistic now than ever about myself and my brothers, trusting that from our losses we become stronger and wiser. But we are continually tested. Two weeks ago, I received a cruel and jolting reminder about the plight of the black male -- whether from the streets of Brooklyn or from Yale's neo-Gothic campus. I opened an email containing a note from the master (administrator) of Yale's Pierson (residential) College, Harvey

23 of 29

The need for active anti-racism

We all do stupid things when we're young. Many of us continue to do them as we age, too. Stupid has no expiration date.

When we're younger, though, it's safe to say that a lot of our poor behavior can be attributed to what's



Emily Mills

Stupid has no expiration date.

been learned at home — from parents, from peers, from our communities. It's why leaving that bubble to attend college or travel or work somewhere else can be so crucial to our personal development. Widened perspective can go a long way toward disabusing us of learned prejudices and ignorance.

Sadly, some of us cling to those learned behaviors more stubbornly than others, and bring the negative effects and consequences along with us to those new people and places. Such seems to be the case on University of Wisconsin campuses, especially in light of the recent uptick in reported cases of racial bias and bigotry at the flagship school in Madison.

Madison, our so-called liberal oasis of higher learning, is after all just as prone to the toxic bigotries of the rest of country. After a string of racially motivated incidents on campus this spring, students of color at UW took to social media to vent their justified outrage and frustration over conditions via the #TheRealUW hashtag.

Stories tell of verbal harassment, physical threats, accusations that they don't have a right to even be at the school in the first place. A healing meeting for Native American survivors of sexual assault was met with stereotypical "war chants" from students in a nearby building. Pictures of Hitler and swastikas were taped to the door of a Jewish student's dorm room. And these are just a handful of the incidents that have been brought to light, largely thanks to the use of social media to highlight them.

The UW administration has released multiple statements and engaged directly with some of the students involved, promising more diversity and sensitivity training, and of investigations into the incidents.

Listening to and acknowledging the experiences of the students (and faculty) speaking up about the issue is important, but it seems those in charge are falling into the trap of doing a lot of talking with very little action. Nor do the consequences for those guilty of perpetrating these crimes seem particularly impactful.

Whereas few charges or arrests or even comprehensive sensitivity training have resulted from the above incidents, police did recently arrest a journalism student who had been tagging anti-racist messages around campus. Graffiti is a crime, yes, but it seems odd that it prompted swifter and harsher action from law enforcement than the incidents that put people's actual safety and well-being in danger. Police spent six months tracking down and arresting a guy for addressing problems on campus that both they and administrative leaders have so far largely failed to address. They pulled him out of class to do it, even. It seems incredibly tone deaf.

Our institutions of higher learning absolutely must work harder to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for all of its students and staff, and that has to include more than just talking about it. Action is required.

The flip side of the problematic coin is that so many of our children are coming to college with such misguided and hateful thoughts in the first place. Lashing out over unrelated things and making dumb comments happens, but that so many default to using racist, homophobic and/or sexualized language when they do is symptomatic of a bigger disease. And too many of us refuse to even recognize that it's a problem in the first place.

It should not be the job of students of color, or people from any minority, to educate others and defend themselves. Like anyone else, they should be able to come to a campus (or workplace, etc.) and simply focus on learning what they came there to learn — especially given how much they're guaranteed to have already been made to put up with just by dint of being a member of a minority in the United States. It is up to us as white people, then, to educate ourselves first and foremost, before our own internalized biases even get the chance to disrupt someone else's life.

If we're not being actively anti-racist, we are part of the problem, no matter how well-intentioned we might be. Being anti-racist means doing the very difficult work of truly identifying and trying to overcome our own internalized prejudices and privileges.

Emily Mills is a freelance writer who lives in Madison. Twitter: @millbot; Email: emily.mills@outlook.com

240829

Rock & Roll



Hip-Hop's Protest Era

ON JULY 7TH, JAY Z DID SOMETHING out of character: He released a protest song. The rapper had reportedly wired tens of thousands of dollars to bail protesters out of jail in Baltimore in 2015, and Tidal donated \$1.5 million to Black Lives Matter-related causes earlier this year. But it was only after the shootings of Alton Sterling and Philando Castile by police officers in Louisiana and Minnesota — as well as the shooting deaths of five Dallas police offi-

As the Black Lives Matter movement reaches a boiling point, artists face a difficult question: How should they respond?

BY DAVID PEISNER

cers at a protest days later — that he finally spoke out. "Just a boy from the hood that/Got my hands in the air in despair/Don't shoot," he rhymed on "Spiritual." He elaborated in a statement: "I'm saddened and disappointed in *this* America. We should be further along."

He was not alone. In the days after the videos of the shootings went viral, Beyoncé released a letter that read, in part, "The war on people of color and all minorities needs to be over." Snoop Dogg and [Cont. on 12]

A History of Pop and Politics

From Bill Clinton's sax to Aretha's hat, a new Rock and Roll Hall of Fame exhibit celebrates music's place in the political revolution

As 50,000 conservatives descended on Cleveland for the Republican National Convention, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame was more crowded than usual. Bill O'Reilly, Caitlyn Jenner and Scott Baio all received private tours, taking in the massive new exhibit "Louder Than Words: Rock, Power and Politics." Spread over two floors, it traces how rock has influenced attitudes about politics, patriotism and race, with items including Jimi Hendrix's Woodstock guitar and the sax Bill Clinton played on *Arsenio Hall* in 1992. After performing outside the RNC with his band Prophets of Rage, Tom Morello woke up early to see the exhibit. He singles out a poster for a segregated Little Richard gig and a listening station for Rod Stewart's



1976 song "The Killing of George" – about a gay friend murdered by a homophobic gang – as the most powerful items. "Each article screams, 'Which side are you on?'" says Morello. "[It] brought into sharp focus how right-wingers have been on the wrong side of history at important junctures." Conservatives didn't seem to mind that most artifacts came from left-leaning acts. "Let's face it," says Rock Hall president Greg Harris, "this isn't a balanced story. Rock & rollers believe in change."

ANDY GREENE

COMBAT ROCK (1) The hat Aretha Franklin wore to Obama's inauguration. **(2)** A letter Alan Freed sent to ABC amid government payola allegations. **(3)** Clinton's sax. **(4)** Elvis' Army jacket. **(5)** Joe Strummer's main Telecaster. "I begged the curator to let me borrow it," says Morello.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

[Cont. from 11] the Game led a march in L.A., and T.I. protested in Atlanta. At least a dozen other artists, from Miguel to Swizz Beatz, released songs in the wake of the shootings.

"You're seeing a new generation of activists being sparked," says Talib Kweli. Beginning with the shooting of Trayvon Martin in 2012, the Black Lives Matter movement has spurred a wave of politically charged hip-hop and R&B, from artists like J. Cole, Kendrick Lamar and Beyoncé. But the recent shootings have provoked a massive response and moved even previously apolitical artists to speak out. "We saw Alton Sterling get murdered," says longtime activist Kweli. "Philando Castile, you watch him die. We've never seen images like that back-to-back." *Love & Hip Hop* star Joe Budden, who referenced Sterling and Castile in a four-minute freestyle over Beyoncé's "Freedom," said he decided to take action "when I heard that little girl" – the daughter of Castile's fiancée – "having to console her mom after he had

been murdered." Kweli contributed a verse to the song "I Can't Breathe" – inspired by the dying words of Eric Garner, choked to death by police in 2014 – and appeared in a video that featured celebrities like Lenny Kravitz and Alicia Keys talking about police violence. "We are in our 'We Are the World' moment," he says.

Kweli warns rappers wading into politics that they need to educate themselves. "If you're not speaking the same language or don't know where the movement is going," says Kweli, "you might end up sounding foolish." Snoop and the Game were criticized by members of Black Lives Matter after the rappers appeared with the mayor and police chief in Los Angeles. ("The celebrities erased the work that we're doing," said activist Jasmine Abdullah. "The mayor is using [them] to divide and conquer our community.") G-Unit rapper Young Buck released two tracks that seemed to advocate meeting violence with violence, drawing fire from conservatives. One of them, "Riot," implores listeners to "get your motherfucking guns" and "start a motherfucking riot." "I'm not encouraging individuals

to take an innocent cop's life," Buck says, "but I'm for those that believe in protecting their own lives in any way necessary."

DeRay Mckesson, one of the most prominent voices in the fight against police brutality, points to Beyoncé as an example of how an artist can make a difference. "Her celebrity works in the function of social justice and does not overshadow the work," he says. "When Beyoncé lists the names of the victims at her concerts, or puts a link to lawmakers on her website, she invites more people into the conversation." Adds Kanye West protégé Vic Mensa, who in June released "16 Shots," about the killing of Laquan McDonald by Chicago police, "What we can do as artists is inspire people to give a fuck."

Chuck D of Public Enemy says the stakes have never been higher. "It's like Grandmaster Flash's 'The Message,'" he says. "Don't push me, 'cause I'm close to the edge/I'm trying not to lose my head.' Melle Mel wrote that shit more than 30 years ago. How can you think that doesn't apply to right now? So many people are close to the edge, and the tipping point is not far away."

FROM LEFT: ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME; CARL HARRIS/ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME, 4

Wake up; democracy in peril

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

April 10, 2014

vote, the idea that we each have an equal say in the doings of our government, comes to feel quaint if not downright naive.

So the politician, though she came to office determined to do right by her constituents, finds she must pay greater attention to the needs of a large donor than to the people she was elected to represent. And you get paradoxes like the one last year where, although 91% of us wanted criminal background checks for all gun sales, somehow that didn't happen, didn't even come close.

It's not the politicians' fault, says Ostrander. "There are some really great people in Congress, honestly. It's the system that's broken. The system needs an intervention."

That won't happen until or unless more Americans wake up from their stupor and recognize this as the clear and present danger it is. Ever feel your government doesn't represent you?

That's because it doesn't.

Accountability board OK'd Walker probe

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

April 16, 2014

By PATRICK MARLEY and DANIEL BICE
pmarley@journalsentinel.com

Madison — Former judges on the state Government Accountability Board voted unanimously last year to authorize the investigation of fundraising and spending by Gov. Scott Walker's campaign and his allies during the recent recall elections, according to a Tuesday court filing.

Dean Nickel, an investigator hired by the accountability board to assist with the investigation, said in the 10-page filing that he believes the substantial evidence gathered in the probe "coupled with the GAB's unanimous approval of the investigation directly refutes plaintiffs' witch-hunt theory."

Nickel's brief is one of a series filed with the federal court on Tuesday in a bid by Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisholm and his aides to get a federal appeals court to intervene in the high-profile John Doe probe.

Chisholm and two other prosecutors filed paperwork Tuesday to have the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals review a decision last week by U.S. District Judge Rudolph T. Randa in Milwaukee refusing to dismiss the lawsuit against them. The prosecutors need Randa's approval to get their case before the appeals court.

They also are asking Randa to

halt the case until the appeals court rules — a move that would prevent prosecutors from getting deposed by the targets of the investigation.

Chisholm and others have been conducting a secret John Doe investigation to look into whether the Wisconsin Club for Growth or others illegally coordinated with any candidates during the recalls. In the most prominent race, Walker defeated an attempt in June 2012 to oust him from office.

John Doe probes are overseen by judges and allow prosecutors to compel people to produce documents and give testimony, as well as bar them from talking publicly.

Evidence, board vote—
disprove witch hunt,
investigator says

about the investigation.

The Club for Growth and one of its directors, Eric O'Keefe, in February sued prosecutors, investigators and the state judge overseeing the probe into their activities. They contend the investigation violates their rights to free speech, free assembly and equal protection.

The prosecutors argue the federal civil rights lawsuit should be dropped because prosecutors are generally immune from lawsuits and federal courts often are not allowed to get involved in state proceedings. Randa rejected those arguments, and Chisholm and the others now want to take it to the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals.

In filings last week, O'Keefe and the Club for Growth indicated the group wanted to start running television ads as the 2014 campaign season ramps up.

They are seeking an injunction to shut the investigation down.

"Defendants' conduct has had its intended effect, pushing the Club and its allies off the air and out of the public square in Wisconsin," wrote their attorney, David Rivkin. "This court's immediate action is necessary and appro-

Least Competent Criminal Dyonta Rose,

29, in police custody the night of Feb. 22 in

DeSoto, Texas, for possession of narcotics,

fled the police cruiser still wearing his hand-

cuffs. Rose was tracked down a short time

later when he called 911 to ask for an ambu-

lance because his handcuffs were cutting off

circulation in his arm.

This is a column about campaign finance reform.

And your eyes glazed over just then, didn't they?

That's the problem with this problem. Americans know that government truly of, by and for the people is unlikely if not impossible so long as the system is polluted by billions of dollars in contributions from corporations and individual billionaires. Half of us, according to Gallup, would like to see public financing of campaigns; nearly 80% want to limit campaign fundraising.



Leonard Pitts

Democracy is being stolen right out from under us.

Yet somehow, the issue seems to lack a visceral urgency in the public mind. William Ostrander understands that all too well.

"There are people that will go nuts over the Second Amendment," he says in a telephone interview. And not to diminish the importance of self-defense, he adds, but "when you look at the practical character of it, what's going on in campaign finance corruption is far more injurious to their lives, their

well-being and their children's lives than anything most people have had to deal with with the Second Amendment."

Ostrander is a farmer in tiny San Luis Obispo, Calif., and the director of Citizens Congress 2014. Its members include a schoolteacher, a small-business man, a firefighter, a general contractor and a doctor — your basic average Americans — who collectively have invested thousands of volunteer hours to set up a summit (June 2 to 5) of lawyers, lawmakers, academics, advocacy groups and other experts.

Their aim: to brainstorm strategies and craft a plan of action to eliminate the influence of big money in politics.

Quixotic? Perhaps. But Ostrander says he has commitments from a number of high-profile individuals including former Labor Secretary Robert Reich, Harvard law professor Lawrence Lessig and Trevor Potter, former chairman of the Federal Election Commission who is probably best known for his appearances on "The Colbert Report," where he helped Stephen Colbert set up a super PAC.

We should wish them success. Because truth is, while many of us watch with eyes glazed, democracy is being stolen right out from under us. Consider that last week, the Supreme Court issued a ruling further loosening the limits on campaign donations. Consider the unseemly way four presumptive presidential aspirants ran to Las Vegas to kiss Sheldon Adelson's ring when the billionaire casino magnate announced he was looking for candidates to support. Consider what billionaire Tom Perkins said in February: Only taxpayers should have the right to vote and the rich should have more votes.

We're already moving in that direction. As new voter ID laws and other restrictive measures cull the electorate of poor people, brown people and young people, as the Supreme Court further tilts the playing field toward the monied and the privileged, the notion of one person, one

184. Making Connections

Help! A gap separates the two sections of the grid! To connect those sections, fill in the gap by writing in letters from the word list that are missing in the grid. When you're done, read those filled-in letters across the gap and you'll find out the name of the connection you've just made.

N A E N A R R E T I D E M W S H O E P O
 E E N N H U D S O N B A Y I C O L N E I
 Z R L U G O M B N I A P R R E I F A R R
 T I R S L L A F A R A G A I N U D S S A
 G O E D N T I E G C I C R Y M R S F I T
 N D O R A T H S I T I C A R I B B E A N
 A E R I E E P F H T R B R A O J E C N O
 Y L T T C H I E C C A U T H A M E S G S
 S A E N O C T R I P H I T R I M O O U P

S L S E A T O A E O R I N O C O E Z F P
 E A A S I N T S K C I A M N C A S F O R
 T T E S D E G D A I O T F I E E D R F N
 A A O S N N M C L O G R T E B L E L A O
 R M B O I I A S R U R N A U L E R E L A
 H B A R E N T S S E A N N L S E G N A G
 P R E P E I N D D L N A G O S E T T S O
 U B B U I L D T T H D E C A A E N A K L
 E N I E S T L A W R E N C E S E A W A Y

ADRIATIC
 AEGEAN
 AMAZON
 ARCTIC
 ARNO
 ATLANTIC
 BARENTS SEA
 BERING SEA
 CARIBBEAN
 CORAL SEA

DANUBE
 DNIEPER
 ELBE
 ENGLISH CHANNEL
 ERIE
 EUPHRATES
 GANGES
 GULF OF ALASKA
 HUDSON BAY
 HURON

INDIAN OCEAN
 LAKE MICHIGAN
 MEDITERRANEAN
 NIAGARA FALLS
 NILE
 ONTARIO
 ORINOCO
 PACIFIC
 PERSIAN GULF
 RED SEA

RHINE
 RIO DE LA PLATA
 RIO GRANDE
 ROSS SEA
 SEINE
 ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY
 TAMPA BAY
 THAMES
 TIGRIS
 YANGTZE

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182. Things That Make You Sweat

F G H W A W A I T I N G A V E R D I C T H I F
I F N S E B R O W I R I S K Y B E T O S E E P
R W I I E D D M A X E L A N I F B V N T A W U
E I N R C E D T H H J T E O N E T S E R V T B
F S T W S N E I E A S O T V H E S E P F Y S L
I A E E R T A N N I N G B O O T H S A N L S I
G W R R H A D D M G E T E I E T R H L I I E C
H T R C U A L A N A N M D L N Y S O A O F K S
T S O L G N I T T E G S A T H T E T J W T Y P
I H G O L E N W O E T A L G N I E B O R I R E
N S A U N A E I L D S I N T G D H R E H N R A
G F T A C E S F N O R T R O P I C S V H G U K
E O I E R A M T H G I N W E S M B N O I D C I
T P O C A Y B R E V O D E L L U P G N I E B N
A T N E M S S A R R A B M E N H Y M T A N W G

AUDIT
AWAITING A VERDICT
BEING LATE
BEING PULLED OVER
BY A COP
BIG GAME
CURRY
DANCING
DEADLINES

DEBTS
DESERT
DETAILS
EMBARRASSMENT
FEAR
FEVER
FINAL EXAM
FIREFIGHTING
FIRST DATES

GETTING LOST
HEAVY LIFTING
HOT STOVE
HUMIDITY
INTERROGATION
JALAPEÑO
JOB INTERVIEW
MISTAKE

NIGHTMARE
PUBLIC SPEAKING
RISKY BET
RUNNING
SAUNA
TANNING BOOTHS
TROPICS
WEDDING

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