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HARTFORD,
CONNECTICUT

JANUARY

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ADMINISTRATION

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Assistant Warden-Operations

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THE WEEKLY SCENE IS A WEEKLY PUBLICATION
PRODUCED BY THE INMATES OF THE CONNECTICUT
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION AT SOMERS, CONN.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE INTENDED TO BE
THOSE OF THE CONTRIBUTORS, WITH SUPERVISION OF
THE STAFF ADVISORY BOARD, AND DO NOT NECESSARILY
REFLECT THOSE OF THE PRISON ADMINISTRATION, OR
THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS.

PROJECT P/PREP AGENCIES

IF YOU HAVE GONE TO THE PAROLE BOARD AND IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED A PAROLE RELEASE
DATE YOU SHOULD CONTACT THE VOCATIONAL COUNSELOR CONCERNING P/PREP AGENCIES...
IF YOU NEED HELP WHEN YOU ARE GETTING OUT, HE WILL CONTACT A P/PREP AGENCY FOR
YOU.....

WHAT DO P/PREP AGENCIES DO????????????????P/PREP AGENCIES CAN HELP YOU:

1. FIND A JOB
2. FIND A JOB TRAINING PROGRAM
3. FINISH YOUR EDUCATION
4. FIND A SUTABLE LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

HOW CAN P/PREP AGENCIES HELP YOU, AND HOW DO YOU GET THAT HELP????????????????

1. If you are at the Correctional Center in Somers contact your counselor and he will contact the proper and appropriate agency.
2. Within three (3) weeks, you will be visited by a counselor from a P/PREP agency.
3. If any new developments occur prior to your release, (for example a change in your release date, an enrollment or completion of a Course or program, a transfer, etc.) contact your P/PREP agency counselor by mail immediately.
4. After the interview, your P/PREP agency counselor will keep you informed of his or her progress by personal visits or by mail.
5. Once you have met with the P/PREP agency counselor, if you have any further questions or concerns, it is your responsibility to contact your P/PREP counselor by mail and tell them about it.

Jesse DeLoach
Vocational Counselor

Entering yet another year in a lifetime of years. What is the difference this time? This time I bless Life, taste a new dimension to life, respect Life far more than ever before, and have learned to share love and find new truths to live. What the big difference is that I have discovered that I am as Free and Alive as I allow myself to be.

In a very recent letter I wrote that....
LOVE IS THE GREATEST CELEBRATION OF LIFE.
Just thought I would throw that in for what it may say to YOU.

Prison Realities, New Year's Thoughts... a good meal, better than usual on New Year's day. A holiday movie, just about what we usually see.....a date marked in red on the wall signifying another year closer to physical freedom. A day off work. A day sitting in a prison cell trying to write a cheerful letter to a woman who knows damn well that you are frustrated, angry, lonely and hungry to taste freedom. Resolutions? Ha. Forget it. Some may resolve not to get caught the next time. Others may resolve not to anything to get caught for. A few may even resolve to seek salvation in some church or another, yet never quite get inside.....

More realities....frowns on the faces of some of the staff who would rather be someplace else with their own people.... well, so would I, brother, so would I... During the day it isn't too bad. We've got enough meaningless things to do..... walk around the yard exchanging lies, or sitting in the card room killing time with dominoes, cards and still more lies. Some wander into the Jaycee classes or groups trying to find something to grow with, others play their music, talk of dreams, or sleep the day away. Night is the killer....night when you are locked in with yourself, the pictures on your walls, trying to write long, naked love letters you know damn well you'll never send....and sometimes weeping for stupid paths taken that helped lock you in all your prisons....night, and hungers to be free, to taste love-sharing, to just for once, look into the mirror and see someone you can love and respect looking back.

A few resolve to dedicate their lives to the loved ones and families that they hurt by hurting themselves....to love.. to taste life....to be. But they rarely speak such revolutionary thoughts out loud.

Then there are those in the hospital, in various segregation units who have much heavier loads to carry into the night.. And they have no voices telling them WE DO CARE, WE ARE BROTHERS.....

As for me, the big mouth, the Cockroach and poet, as for me, I celebrate another day, another night, another moment of tasting life, sharing with my people, of being able to express some of myself... Happy New Year? You better believe it! I am alive, and I still care, so it is a Happy New Year.....for me.

My woman walks with me, shares her love with me, and gives me the source of hope and strengths. Yes, it is a happy and hope-filled new year.....

Holiday visits. Beautiful, yet sad..... Never quite say what we want to say and we all wish the prison was a bad dream. Ill at ease, our visitors know that we must stay while they leave to enjoy a sharing that we cannot at this time.... I still think that our people do harder time than we do, and they are not guilty of anything worse than loving us. That is something to think about. I sometime wish that I had the courage and dimensions my woman has. She puts aside all the heavy burdens of day to day survival, the children, the struggle, fears, and manages to wear a beautiful loving smile when she reaches for me on a visit. Some tough guy I am, I can't equal that and all too often I carry my frowns out to the visiting room.

Night. Winter. The New Year cometh..... Soft music teasing through a radio, the smoke from a dying cigarette dances into the shadows of my cell. Another wasted year behind me, doing half of what I should and could have. Happy New Year. What are you looking at? Haven't you ever seen a grown man cry?

COMMENTS FROM THE PEOPLE.....

The following comment was submitted by a member of our community:

On Christmas Eve, Reverend Johnson of St. Mary's Episcopal Church was good enough to come in to hold a Christmas service. He went out of his way for the last twelve years to bring us these services. The service was announced at eight o'clock as a Protestant Service and the Episcopal Church is considered a protestant denomination. So, as a Christian and an Episcopalian, I was glad I had an opportunity to worship that evening. We ended up with a large turnout.

My whole attitude toward some people was changed that night into one irritated individual. During the course of the service, chatter, interruptions, and laughter plagued the Chapel.....Father Johnson could not get most people's attention, or their participation in the Mass. I sat in the front row and I could distinguish several separate conversations and joking going on. I overheard several individuals say that they had come only to get out of their cells or expecting a gift.

I felt this was very rude to Father Johnson and made a mockery of the Mass. Even if a person did not understand the service, at least you could have given those individuals who wanted to participate in the Mass the courtesy of letting the service go on smoothly. I do not think I have to say anymore about the subject except, some of us were disappointed in what happened.

P.B.B. POISONING

By

Yusef Lateef (Marc Manns)

For those of us who want to live a long life I suggest that we eat that which will prolong life, not that which will destroy life.... The Government and the Farm Bureau Services, Inc. have now admitted that Beef, Swine, and Chicken contain a poison chemical which is called POLYBROMINATED BIPHENYLS, or P.B.B. This poison makes the person suffer with headaches, dizziness, sore joints. Especially you (Swine) eater. I'm not saying don't eat meat because one must look at his environment. But, I am saying: THINK BEFORE YOU EAT.

For more references on meat:

And God said, I have given you every herb bearing seed which is upon the face of the earth and tree which is the fruit of the tree yielding seed to you, it shall be for meat. You Just witness that God Himself prohibits the eating of meat. (Gen: I:29.....

THE WEEKLY SCENE TEAM WISHES TO EXTEND A HEART-FELT THANKS TO THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE PITCHED IN TO HELP WHEN THEY WERE MOST NEEDED. AND TO ALL THOSE WHO TAKE THE TIME, CONCERN AND GIVE FORTH THE EFFORTS IN SUBMITTING MATERIAL, AND TRYING TO HELP BUILD THIS INTO A PAPER REFLECTING THE THOUGHTS AND CONCERNS OF OUR COMMUNITY. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING AND GROWING IN THESE DIRECTIONS, AND YOUR COMMENTS, IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS ARE MOST WELCOME, AS IS YOUR MATERIAL. SHARE THESE WITH US, AND WE SHALL IN TURN TRY TO GET AS MUCH MATERIAL OF MERIT AS IS POSSIBLE INTO OUR PAPER...

Harvey Lerner, Editor
Mike Train, Assistant Editor

FUGUE By Stanley Hasan Harrisen LIFE STRUGGLE by George Richards

we laughed
joked
and i forgot
my misgivings.

we cut it
up,
and i forgot
action is the measure of things.

creased to the
hub
greased to the
bone
i forgot
people went hungry
others wore rags.

talking slick
parking hogs in 11 x 15 cells
i forgot
i used to ride
in the back of the bus.

struggling over
big six
the iron pile,
i forgot
Struggle meant getting out of
prison.

THE PROMISE By Chico

You said our love should be a thing of
joy
And last forever. May the words, I pray,
Be promise pledged in truth without
alloy,
And your own heart confirm the words you
say;
That so through life we travel hand in
hand
Together joined by affection's golden
band.

PASSING THOUGHT submitted by "Doc"

Tails do not wag dogs, although two
generations of earth's people are
nearing exhaustion from following
leaders who think they can prove the
opposite.

When a trout rising to a fly gets hooked
on a line and finds himself unable to
swim about freely, he begins a fight
which results in a struggle, and some
times---escapes.

Often, of course, the situation is too
tough for him.
In the same way the human being strug-
gles with life. And the hooks that
catch him.

Some times he masters his difficulties-
some times they are too much for him.
His struggles are for all the world to
see and it naturally misunderstands him.

It is hard for a free fish to under-
stand what is happening to a hooked one.

WHITE MIRICLE by Charles Phillips

I sit at my eall window for an hour on
end.....
just to watch the snow flakes fall.
They blow about in a unique way.....
unlike the rain they round every bend.

Some flakes are large and some not so..
but each has a special place to fall.
They roll about like billowing waves...
As I watch, they dance to and fro.

Each one looks so white, so pure & free
and I am spellbound as they float about
I watch the snow first flutter then
swirl.....
and thank God I have eyes that see.

I sit in my prison home, cozy and warm
and the image burns clean in my mind.
I am sitting at home in front of my
picture window.....
watching the Miricle of a White Snow
Storm.

Estos puntos de "Transaccion De Analisis" seran publicados semanalmente por el grupo de Terapia Hispano dirigido por el, Sr. Paul Martin y el, Sr. Cabrera en el "Weekly Scene".

"Continuacion A Transaccion De Analisis"

Puedes aprender a determinar rapidamente cual parte en ti generalmente esta en control. Hay cuatro formas de averiguar:

- 1/ Observa tu comportamiento, esto incluye tu postura, la manera en que te paras, te sientas, y caminas; tu voz y las palabras que usas. Por Ejemplo: Escucha las siguientes palabras: Lindo, Maravilloso, Terrible, Asqueroso. Por lo general estas son palabras de los Padres. Util, Practico y Correcto generalmente son palabras del Adulto. Expresiones como, No lo hare y No puedo, son frases comunes del Nino.
- 2/ Observa como te comportas con las personas, si el Padre o Madre en ti es dominante, o cree que lo sabe todo, muchas veces molestara el Nino en los demas. Si el Nino en ti es amante a la diversion y es feliz, a otras personas les gustara estar contigo y divertirse contigo. Cuando te comportas como un Adulto, es probable que las personas alrededor tuyo actuen en forma Adulta hacia ti.
- 3/ Recuerda tus primeros anos, tu Ninez. Tal vez recordaras como hablabas cuando eras pequeno y como hablaba tu, Padre y tu Madre. Algunas veces te daras cuenta que estas hablando exactamente como acostumbrabas hablar cuando eras Nino. Entonces sabras que tu Nino esta hablando. Algunas veces te oiras diciendo cosas exactamente como tu Padre o tu Madre las decian, entonces estas hablando como tus Padres o las personas que te criaron.
- 4/ Observa tus propios sentimientos. Esta es la prueba mas importante. Verdaderamente puedes sentir el estado o parte de ti que esta activa en un momento dado.

Recuerda, tu eres estas tres (3) personas. Todas las tres son importantes, pero el Nino es tal vez el mas importante. No puedes eliminar el Nino en ti mismo. Ademas el Nino es lo mas divertido. Es la obligacion del Adulto en ti satisfacer las necesidades de tu Nino sin meterse en problemas. Es la obligacion de tus Padres o personas que te criaron tratar el Nino en ti con respeto y amor. Este folleto puede ayudarte a mirar adentro de ti mismo: Primeramente; para observar cual de las partes de ti controla tu comportamiento; Segundo; para escuchar lo que tu estas diciendo sobre ti mismo, adentro de ti mismo.

Lo siguiente es un ejemplo de una conversacion interna entre el Nino y tus Padres:

Nino: "Algun dia sere rico".

Paciente: "Espero que si lo seas--pero el dinero no es todo en la vida. Es mas, viendo en la forma en que tu lo gastas, a lo mejor algun dia estaras en Welfare".

Con estos mensajes tan confusos, el joven nunca se decide firmemente a ganar dinero, hasta que su Adulto separe los nechos de la confucion.

Continuara La Proxima Semana:

PARDON BOARD

SPRING SESSION MEETS ON THE FIRST MONDAY IN APRIL AND FIRST MONDAY IN MAY.

APPLICATIONS: All inmates who are planning for appearance at the next sessions are encouraged to submit their requests to SUPERVISOR OF RECORDS, at CCI SOMERS.

Their request should be submitted immediately, if possible, and inmates are reminded that the last day for receiving requests is February 25, 1977.

APPLICATIONS RESULTING IN A STARRED (*) CASE: Under the established rules of the Pardon Board, cases cannot be heard if the petitioner has:

- (1) Appeared within the year.
- (2) Served less than one year. This one year cannot include jail-time.
- (3) Appeared or was eligible for parole.

The Department of Corrections nor the Pardon Board will assign Attorneys. Each inmate must retain his own council.

A starred case in one of these categories is very rarely heard. By therefore waiting for a regular session, not only are inmates saved the labor of preparing required letters, but friends, lawyers, prison staff, State's Attorney and the board is spared the effort which should be given the regular petitioners.

It is suggested that before undertaking the task of a starred petition, an inmate should seek the advice of the prison staff which is readily given.

JUNTA DE PERDON

LA SESION DE PRIMAVERA SE REUNIRA EN EL PRIMER Y FIRST MONDAY IN APRIL AND THE FIRST MONDAY IN MAY.

APLACIONES:

Todo recluso que esta plananado haser aplicaciones a la junta del Perdon para aparecer en la sision de Primavera deben someter sus petitions (request al Supervisor de Records, lo mas pronto posible).

Estas petitions deben ser sometidas inmediatamente, si es posible, y se le recuerda a todos que el ultimo dia de enviar estas petitions es February 25, 1977.

APLICACIONES RESULTANTES ENUN CASO MARCADO (*):

Bajo les reglas extablecidas de la Juanta del Perdon, no se oiran casos se el petitionario ha: (1) Aparecido frente a la juanta en un ano. (2) Servido menos de un ano. Es e ano no incluye tiempo de carcel. (3) Aparecio o fue eligible para el parole.

La Juanta ni el Deptt de Corecciones asignara abogados, cada recluso tendra que conseguir su propio abogado.

Un caso maracada en cualquiera de estas catagorias esraramente escuchado.

Por lo canto, esperando por una sesion regular, no solo se ahorran los recluso el labor de preparar cartas requeridas, pero sus amigos, abogados, personal penal, los Fiscales del estado la ahorran los esfuerzos que se la deben de dar a los petitionarios regulares. Se le sugiere que antes de empreder la tarea de un caso marcada, interesado debiera de buscar el consejo de algun personal de la prison, que la sera prontamente brindado.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14th 1977 Suspense....
ST. IVES PG 94 Minutes
STARS: Charles Bronson, Jacqueline Bisset
Maximilian Schell, Harry Guardino.....

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15th 1977 Action....
THE GUMBALL RALLY PG 107 Minutes
STARS: Michael Sarrazin, Susan Flannery
Raul Julia, Norman Burton, Tim McIntire.

An action-drama of the special style of Charles Bronson. Violence, killings and plots within plots. As a novelist, an ex-crime reporter, and a private investigator, Bronson gives one of his best roles the dimensions of his skills. With one of the better casts assembled, and some good pacing, although the story-line gets a bit confused at times, this is a fairly decent picture, for those that like their entertainment on the violent planes.....

Outracing "Ol' Smokey" along the interstate highways and back roads, a mute and somewhat screwball cyclist gone on a rampage, a hillbilly mechanic, sexy Ms. Tricia O'Neil besieged by Bikers, and many other characters, action and comedy-relief sets the tone for the new film. A well-done farce, and acted with vibrant action. It has enough to even carry the picture despite a weak plot that really has no ending.....

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16th 1977 Western....
THE OUTLAW JOSEY WALES PG 136 Minutes
STARS: Clint Eastwood, Chief Dan George
Sondra Locke, Paula Trueman, Geraldine Keams, John Vernon.....

Clint Eastwood's return to the Western is enjoyable entertainment. Although not into the usual anti-hero role, Clint plays one of the most believable characters he has ever had the chance to play, as well as a chance to direct himself in a good vehicle. Farmer turned outlaw, an Indian riding with him on the trail of vengeance, and love, hate and flavors of violence mark this film.

NOTICE

NIGHT HIGH SCHOOL COURSE:

If you are interested in attending a High School Math Course, during your recreation hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in preparation for the High School GED exams, contact Mr. Charles Jones, in the Education Department.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Weekly Scene is in the process of laying out a format that would better reflect the interests and concerns of our community and people. Your interest, and active participation is desired. If you have ideas, thoughts, suggestions of a constructive nature, and/or material of general interest, please share it with us.

The Weekly Scene Team

***** RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES*****

CATHOLIC SERVICES:

Mass: Every Sunday and all Holy days during the year, at 8:10 A.M.
Also, on Holidays and First Fridays.
Daily Mass in the Chapel may be offered up for anyone's personal request.

Retreats: An Annual Retreat is conducted in the Chapel at some time in September
Also, an Annual Mission is held sometime in January.

Prayer Groups: Each month a Prayer Session is conducted by the Sisters as a follow up to the Annual Retreat.

Spanish Services:

On the 1st and 3rd Fridays, at 6:45 P.M. outside groups visit both Institutions to conduct religious services. On Saturdays, a Spanish group from Hartford conducts a Service at 9:30 A.M.

Protestant Services:

Services: Outside groups visit each week to conduct a Service at 8:45 A.M. on Sundays.

Episcopalian Service:

Every First Saturday of the month at 8:15 A.M. in the Chapel.

Bible Classes:

Religious Discussion Classes:

These are held each Sunday Morning at 9:30 A.M. in the School Area.
They are non-denominational.

Jewish Services:

Weekly Jewish Services are held in the Jewish Chapel. For schedule, contact the Clerk of the Jewish Chaplain.

ANNUAL MISSION

Father John Renehan, a Redemptionist Priest, will conduct a Mission for us, this year starting on Monday morning, the 10th of January 1977.

After Mass at the Osborn division, he will celebrate Mass here in our Chapel at 8:15, followed by a Conference.

There will be another Conference and Prayer session in the Chapel at 5:15 in the evening. The Mission will last through the 12th of January 1977.

NOTE: Information concerning all institutional activities, events, groups, and other such items of interest to the general population is needed by the Weekly Scene. Please submit such items accurately, and with as much total information as is possible.

WEEK OF JANUARY 9th 1977

MENU

WEEK OF JANUARY 9th 1977

SUN

JAN 9 Fresh Fruit
Hot Cereal
Pastry
Milk-Coffee

Pot Roast of Beef-Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Whole Kernel Corn
Ice Cream

Grilled Franks-Rolls
Fried Cabbage
Oven Brown Potatoes
(or Potato Chips)
Peach Betty

MON

JAN 10 Orange Juice
Cold Cereal
Griddle Cakes-Syrup
Milk-Coffee

Soup of the Day
Meatball Grinder
Pickles
Fruit Jello

Grilled Beef Liver
Whipped Potatoes
Onion Gravy
Mixed Vegetables
Pastry

TUES

JAN 11 Apple Juice
Hot Cereal
Pastry
Milk-Coffee

Grilled Ham Steak
Candied Sweet Potatoes
Seasoned Lima Beans
Pastry

Vegetable Soup
Corned Beef Hash
Fried Egg
Cole Slaw
Chilled Peaches

WED

JAN 12 Tomato Juice
Cold Cereal
French Toast-Syrup
Milk-Coffee

Cheeseburgers-Catsup
Home Fried Potatoes
Sweet Peas
Pudding

Baked Chicken-Gravy
Spanish Rice
Wax Beans
Pineapple Slices

THURS

JAN 13 Blended Juice
Hot Cereal
Pastry
Milk-Coffee

Corn Chowder
Baked Kielbasa
Boston Baked Beans
Cole Slaw
Fruit Cocktail

American Chop Suey
Grated Cheese
Tossed Salad-Dressing
Pastry

FRI

JAN 14 Fresh Fruit
Cold Cereal
Boiled Eggs-Toast
Milk-Coffee

Minestrone Soup
Fried Haddock-Sauce
Pan Fried Potatoes
Green Beans
Ice Cream

Cube Steak-Gravy
Baked Potato
Buttered Corn
Jello

SAT

JAN 15 Grapefruit Sections
Hot Cereal
Pastry
Milk-Coffee

Seasoned Meat Loaf
Buttered Noodles
Butternut Squash
Pastry

Hot Turkey Sandwich
Whipped Potatoes-Gravy
Mixed Vegetables
Butterscotch Pudding

*****MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE*****

This week's winners in the C.C.I. Somers Inmate Sweepstakes are:

Edward Chevrette	#26371	G-54
Jose Rosa	#37822	Q-2-50
Benjamin Goodman	#50815	C-27
Kenneth White	#64042	Q-3-32