

ON-AIR COPY, PUBLISHED ARTICLES & SCRIPTS

AMC NETWORKS – KEEP IT GREEN - PROMO

ONCE YOU OPEN YOUR EYES TO BEING GREEN IT'S A WHOLE NEW WORLD OUT THERE.

I FEEL MORE CONNECTED TO THE WORLD BECAUSE I THINK MORE ABOUT HOW MY DECISIONS IMPACT THE WORLD AROUND ME.

WE HAVE SO MUCH *CREATIVITY*;

WE HAVE SO MUCH *INNOVATION*;

WE HAVE SO MUCH *COMPASSION* - WE CAN REALLY MAKE THIS WORLD A BETTER PLACE

KEEP IT GREEN IS ALL ABOUT *INFORMING* AND *EDUCATING* PEOPLE,

BUT THEN ALSO *INSPIRING* THEM - - - IT'S ABOUT LEAVING THE PLANET AT LEAST AS GOOD, IF NOT BETTER, THEN IT WAS WHEN I GOT HERE.

AMC NETWORKS – KEEP IT GREEN – OPEN

HELLO, I'M MELISSA MANSFIELD. WELCOME TO KEEP IT GREEN WHERE WE TRAVEL ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND AROUND THE WEB SHOWING YOU WAYS TO LIVE A GREEN, SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE.

TO US, GREEN MEANS SUSTAINABILITY – AND HOW SIMPLE CHOICES FROM IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT TO ADDRESSING SOCIAL JUSTICE CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE AND COMMUNITY.

WITH GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS, THE GLOBAL REACH OF THE WEB, AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES – THE RESOURCES ARE HERE FOR YOU TO AFFECT POSITIVE CHANGE. IT'S NEVER BEEN EASIER.

TODAY, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT ISSUE OF TOLERANCE WITH A GUEST FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONERS OFFICE ON HUMAN RIGHTS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS. AND LATER WE'LL HEAD TO NEWARK, NEW JERSEY WHERE I'LL PUT ON A HARD HAT AND GET TO WORK AS A VOLUNTEER WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY.

BUT FIRST, LET'S HEAD TO THE UNCOMMON GROUNDS COFFEEHOUSE IN SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK, WHERE A HEATED CONVERSATION IS BREWING, LET'S LISTEN IN...

A&E NETWORKS – WAKE UP TO BIO – TOSS

HE WAS CALLED 'THE VOICE' - WOMEN SWOONED WHEN THEY HEARD HIM SING.

ON SCREEN, HE USED HIS HUMBLE BEGINININGS TO REACH INSIDE CHARACTERS, AND AUDIENCES, TO EXPOSE THE PAIN INSIDE THE PART.

FROM HIS TEMPESTUOUS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BEAUTIFUL AVA GARDNER, TO HIS SHORT LIVED MARRIAGE TO THE MUCH YOUNGER MIA FARROW. FANS COULD NOT GET ENOUGH OF HIIS VOLATILE LOVE LIFE -- ON AND OFF THE SCREEN

MORE THAN A SINGER; MORE THAN ACTOR; HE WAS AN ICON. THE KID F R O M HOBOKEN WHO MADE GOOD. HE WAS EVERYONE, AND YET THERE WAS NO ONE LIKE HIM.... WAKE UP TO BIO CONTINUES NOW WITH FRANK SINATARA.

A&E NETWORKS – WAKE UP TO BIO – LINE UP

HI. I'M KELLY DEADMON. TONIGHT ON BIOCHANNEL'S "SUMMER OF LOVE" WE'RE LOOKING AT CLASSIC SEX-KITTENS – WOMEN OF THE SILVER SCREEN WHO RAISED MENS MOTORS TO A STEADY PURRRR....

FIRST UP, SHE WAS THE SEX SYMBOL OF THE SIXITES WHO ONCE SAID: 'SEX APPEAL IS FIFTY PERCENT WHAT YOU'VE GOT AND FIFTY PERCENT WHAT PEOPLE *THINK* YOU'VE GOT' WE *THINK* SOPHIA LOREN HAS GOT IT ALL!

THEN – FROM HER VERY PUBLIC AND VERY PASSIONATE LOVE AFFAIR WITH SIR LAWRENCE OLIVIER TO HER STRUGGLES WITH MANIC DEPRESSION AND TUBERCULOSIS, VIVIEN LEIGH'S PERSONAL STORY PLAYS OUT LIKE ONE OF HER OSCAR WINNING PERFORMANCES – FILLED WITH LAUGHTER AND TEARS.

AND OUR FINAL FEMME FATALE IS A BROOKLYN BORN RED-HEADED BEAUTY WHO WAS DETERMINED TO CLIMB TO THE HEIGHTS OF HER PROFESSION AND NOT SETTLE ON PLAYING 'JUST THE PRETTY INGENUE.' HER STRONG RESOLVE PAID OFF WITH FIVE ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS –AND ONE WIN FOR ONE VERY DARK ROLE.

LADIES OF GREAT BEAUTY AND GREAT STRENGTH – THEY KNEW WHAT THEY HAD AND THEY WORKED IT TO THEIR ADVANTAGE. BIOCHANNEL'S SUMMER OF LOVE CONTINUES WITH THE SULTRY SOPHIA LOREN.

CURRENT TV – VIEWPOINT WITH JOHN FUGELSANG – POLITICAL SATIRE/COMMENTARY

WHEN YOU THINK OF GREAT AMERICANS, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE NAMES THAT COME TO MIND: ABRAHAM LINCOLN, JOHN F KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, AND OF COURSE, PAULA DEEN.

JUST TO CLARIFY, THAT'S PAULA DEEN, THE LOVELY LADY WHO WANTED TO PLAN THAT TRUE SOUTHERN PLANTATION STYLE THEME WEDDING WITH' AN ALL-BLACK STAFF, THAT SAME PAULA DEEN WHO APPARENTLY USED THE 'N WORD ABOUT AS OFTEN AS THE KARDASHIANS TAKE SELFIES. YES , THAT VERY SAME PAULA "BUTTER CZAR" DEEN WHO, KNOWING SHE HAD DIABETES AND WAS SCALING BACK HER OWN UNHEALTHY DIET, DIRECTED HER LOYAL FOLLOWING TO KEEP FILLING THEIR ARTERIES WITH LARD AND SUGAR EVERY DAY AS SHE CONTINUED TO COOK DISHES THAT WOULD GROSS OUT JABBA THE HUT.

SO HOW DOES PAULA DEEN GET LUMPED IN WITH GREAT AMERICANS LIKE MARTIN LUTHER KING, WELL, SHE DOESN'T, SHE'S ELEVATED ABOVE HIM.

ACCORDING TO A PUBLIC POLICY POLLING POLL, WHICH IS A DEMOCRATIC LEANING POLLING COMPANY, THE CONTROVERSIAL SOUTHERN COOKING MOGUL HAS A WHOPPING SEVENTY THREE PERCENT FAVORABILITY RATING WITH GEORGIA REPUBLICANS WHILE THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE, GARNERED FIFTY-NINE PERCENT FAVORABILITY AMONG THE SAME SELF-IDENTIFIED REPUBLICANS IN THE GREAT STATE OF GEORGIA. YES WE LOVE GEORGIA.

IT IS INCREDIBLY DISHEARTENING TO THINK THAT *THIS* IS THE BAR SET FOR FAVORABILITY. IT MAKES YOU WONDER HOW THOMAS JEFFERSON AND JONAS SALK WOULD DO IN THAT BIG MATCH UP AGAINST JUSTIN BEIBER IN THE SAME POLL. WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

RUSSO & STEELE CAR AUCTION - PROMO

HOW DOES YOUR CAR RATE? LEARN FROM THE EXPERTS.
WATCH WHAT THE MARKET WILL BARE.

RUSSO AND STEELE'S 'MUSCLE IN MONTEREY AUCTION' –
THE 'MARKET-MAKER' FOR ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC CARS.

TO PURCHASE ONE OR ALL TEN OF THESE EXCITING EPISODES ON HD-DVD AND BLUERAY
DISC – GO TO AMAZON DOT COM - - - MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHERE THE MARKET'S AT!

BARRETT-JACKSON AUCTION - PROMO

CAMMARO, ZEPHYR, FASTBACK... THESE AREN'T JUST FAST CARS; THEY AREN'T JUST COOL
CARS; THEY ARE HIGHLY COVETED - CLASSIC CARS.

TODAY, ON THE BLOCK TAKES YOU TO PHOENIX ARIZONA FOR THE BARRETT JACKSON
CLASSIC CAR PREVIEW AND AUCTION WHERE THE QUALITY OF THE CARS AND THE ENERGY
OF THE AUCTION - ADD UP TO ONE AUTOMATIVE EXTRAVAGANZA.

CLASSIC CAR SPECIALISTS GIVE YOU AN UP CLOSE AND DETAILED LOOK AT SOME TRULY
AWESOME AUTOMOBILES.

FROM MUSCLE CARS TO STREETRODS; EUROPEAN SPORTS CARS TO AMERICAN CARS OF
THE FIFTIES - TODAY, 'CLASSIC CARS' GO 'ON THE BLOCK.'

COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE – PROMO

WHETHER IT'S VINTAGE WINES OR VINTAGE VEHICLES YOU'VE GOT TO - COLLECT SMART!

THERE'S A LOT OF INFORMATION OUT THERE - WE MEAN A LOT - SORT OUT WHAT YOU NEED
TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE COLLECTING AREAS WITH OUR BRAINTRUST OF EXPERTS!

BECAUSE IT'S THE INTELLIGENT COLLECTOR THAT WALKS AWAY WITH THE TRUE TREASURE!

WATCH COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE – ONLY ON TREASURE HD

NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY – PROMOTION

THE FUTURE IS HERE AT THE NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WHERE WE GO BEYOND THE ORDINARY -- GIVING STUDENTS THE TOOLS, THE TEACHERS AND THE ACCESS THAT WILL ALLOW THEM TO SUCCEED IN THIS COMPLEX GLOBAL ECONOMY

OUR 'HANDS ON' FACULTY CREATE AN ACTIVE AND ENTHUSIASTIC ENVIRONMENT FOR LEARNING

THE PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE NYIT ARE DESIGNED TO MEET THE CHALLENGES AND THE OPPORTUNITIES OF THE 21ST CENTURY.

OUR STUDENTS AND FACULTY ARE TRULY CONNECTED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY AT ANYONE OF OUR INTERNATIONAL LOCATIONS. FROM THE BUSTLING CITIES OF ABU DAHBI OR NEW YORK, TO THE HISTORIC AND CULTURAL CAPITAL OF NANJING CHINA; FROM THE BEAUTIFUL COASTAL CAMPUS OF VANCOUVER CANADA TO THE QUIET SUBURBAN STREETS OF OLD WESTBURY LONG ISLAND – NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY OFFER STUDENTS A WIDE VARIETY OF EXPERIENCES AND ENVIRONMENTS TO ENHANCE THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND EXPAND THEIR WORLD.

NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY CREATES OPPORTUNITIES IN A WORLD BEYOND THE CLASSROOM, WHERE THE BENEFITS OF CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY, MULTI-CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING, AND HANDS ON PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WILL PROPEL OUR STUDENTS TO THE TOP OF THEIR FIELDS

NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY A 'GLOBAL' EDUCATION FOR THE TWENTY 'FIRST' CENTURY.

FILMMAKERS FOR HILLARY - "NO REGRETS" DIGITAL, FEATURING DAME HELEN MIRREN

YOU KNOW, I'VE DONE A FEW THINGS I'VE REGRETTED IN MY LIFE AND I'M SURE YOU PROBABLY HAVE TO, BUT I THINK THOSE THINGS WOULD PALE IN COMPARISON TO THE REGRET YOU'LL FEEL AFTER NOVEMBER THE 8TH IF YOU DON'T VOTE.

NO ONE REALLY THOUGHT THAT GREAT BRITAIN WOULD LEAVE THE EUROPEAN UNION, BUT IT DID. THIS WAS NOT JUST A BLOW TO OUR ECONOMY BUT TO OUR HUMANITY; THIS WAS A VOTE CAST IN FEAR RATHER THAN HOPE.

DON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE WE DID.

DON'T HAVE ABSTAINERS REGRET.

MAKE SURE YOU VOTE.

BECAUSE LOVE MUST TRUMP HATE.

FILMMAKERS FOR HILLARY - "SCOTUS9" BI-LINGUAL PIECE DIGITAL VIDEO.

CITIZENS UNITED, ROE V WADE, THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, MARRIAGE EQUALITY, IMMIGRATION & DEPORTATION.

THESE ISSUES *COULD* BE IN FRONT OF THE SUPREME COURT AT ANY TIME.

RIGHT NOW THE COURT IS SPLIT BETWEEN CONSERVATIVE AND LIBERAL JUDGES: FOUR TO FOUR.

THE NEXT PRESIDENT WILL APPOINT THE *NINTH* SUPREME COURT JUSTICE WHICH *WILL* TIP THE SCALES.

YOUR VOTE IS SO IMPORTANT THIS ELECTION.

THAT'S WHY I'M VOTING BLUE, (echoed by all: THAT'S WHY I'M VOTING BLUE)

DEMS DOWN THE LINE.

LET OUR VOICES BE HEARD.

CHYRON: #SCOTUS9

America's \$165 billion food-waste problem

Americans waste 35 million tons of food a year.

Lauren Flick, Writer/Producer

Published: Wednesday, 22 Apr 2015 | 11:05 AM ET **CNBC.com**

Can you afford to throw away \$2,000 a year? If you are the average American, the answer is, apparently, yes—and you may not even be aware of it.

Americans throw away approximately \$165 billion worth of food each year, and for the average American family, that can be up to \$2,200 per household, according to a recent study by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). All that waste adds up to 35 million tons of food each year, according to the Environmental Protection Agency in its most recent estimate. That's 50 percent more than in 1990 and three times more of what Americans discarded in 1960. That's a sad statistic, considering hunger in America. According to Feeding America, right now 1 in 7 Americans—or 46.5 million people—use food banks.

It's a costly trend. "The amount of food Americans waste has increased over 50 percent in the last four decades, one contributor to the staggering 40 percent of all food which goes to waste in this country," according to an excerpt from the soon-to-be-released book "The Waste-Free Kitchen Handbook" by NRDC staff scientist Dana Gunders.

The runaway portion sizes in the American food industry exacerbate the waste issue. "From 1982–2002, the average pizza slice grew 70 percent in calories. The average chicken Caesar salad doubled in calories, and the average chocolate chip cookie quadrupled," revealed the NRDC study.

"This is a cultural phenomenon that needs to change. Before the iconic anti-littering campaigns of the 1970s, littering was a common practice," said JoAnne Berkenkamp, senior advocate for food & agriculture at the NRDC. "Today it isn't acceptable to throw your leftover cheeseburger out the window of your car, but most of us don't think twice about throwing it in the trash."

How to save your \$2,000? Much of household waste is due to over-purchasing, food spoilage and not maximizing the way we use the food we purchase. The NRDC study cites three key ways to tackle consumer waste.

1. *Make a shopping list.* This first step might seem relatively simple. However, the average family wastes about 20 percent of their groceries, according to the NRDC. That's because people impulse-buy at the supermarkets, giving in to the psychological tactics stores use to encourage consumers to shop more, such as strategically placing products at the ends of the aisles or offering product samples. But if you stick to your list, the savings can be big.

2. *Don't put too much stock in the expiration date.* There is a great deal of confusion about expiration dates, and contrary to popular belief, most dates aren't statements about food safety. There are two kinds of dates that commonly appear on food products. A "sell by" date is intended to be a message from the food manufacturer to the retailer so the store knows how long to display an item. It indicates that the product will still have significant shelf life once it reaches a consumer's home. "Best by" dates refer to quality, not safety, and signifies best flavor or peak freshness. A product will still be edible for several days afterward.

Unfortunately, due to the lack of federal regulation about date labeling and confusion among consumers, many retailers and consumers throw food out on or before the date on the package, no matter what the date was intended to mean. "This contributes to enormous food losses at home and in the store," Berkenkamp said.

3. *Learn from the top chefs—they don't waste.* Consumers need to start thinking like chefs. Restaurant chefs try not to waste any food, because they know better than anyone else that food is money. They use every part of the fare, from stalk to stem; no ounce goes to waste.

"Chefs do this every day in their kitchens, using culinary technique to transform 'lowly' ingredients into something delicious because it doesn't make sense—economically or ecologically—to throw them out," said Dan Barber, co-owner and executive chef at Blue Hill Farm and a leader in the sustainable food movement. "That's the real power of good cooking, and it's at the root of the world's great peasant cuisines."

Blue Collar Millionaires

The \$30M empire built on trash

Lauren Flick Writer/Producer

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Maria Rios was born into what can be described as relative affluence for the small town of Mogotillo, El Salvador.

Her parents, Juan Angel and Reyna Romero, were in farming and ranching—better off than most in the community. "I remember my mother sewing school uniforms for the employees' children and my father buying books for the local kids," Rios recalled.

The life of affluence that Maria knew as a child, however, would soon vanish, as a civil war between rebels and a repressive military regime forced the family to flee El Salvador. "When I was around 12, I started seeing and hearing things in the news about war and killing and kidnappings," Rios said. "Many people were leaving to escape the violence, and my parents—without telling me or my two older sisters—decided it was time to go."

In the summer of 1980, the family left their war-torn home on a "vacation" to visit friends in the U.S. Not able to sell their farm or equipment amid the intensifying conflict, they took what money they had and set up a simple life in a small two-bedroom house on the north side of Houston. With no work history and a limited use of English, Maria's mother and father didn't have many work options, so they got jobs cleaning offices. "We lived on a very strict budget," Rios said. "My mom took us to thrift stores. I remember wanting a dress, but my mother said we couldn't buy it because we needed money to buy groceries."

During the summers, Maria would join her mother on the job. "They were high-rise buildings, and I'd sit down in the fanciest offices and pretend that one day I'll be sitting down like this in my own office with my own business."

The family's reduced circumstances—and Rios' marriage at age 18—didn't stop her from accomplishing the most important goal on the way to success. "My parents raised me to get an education first and foremost. That was something that was ingrained in my sisters and I." In fact, a job she found to help fund her education would ultimately become her \$30 million trash empire.

"I had a friend, who was working for Western Waste Industries, and she said there were many opportunities in that field, so I decided to give it a try. As it turned out, since the majority of the drivers were Spanish-speaking and I spoke both English and Spanish, I became incredibly handy," Rios said.

Within three years, Rios rose through the ranks—from phone to dispatch to the accounting department and eventually to the environmental department, where she managed higher-cost and higher-risk materials. And throughout college and the births of her three children, she never stopped working. "I was young and ambitious. I wanted to climb the ladder as fast as I could."

In 1997, Maria graduated from the University of Houston with a BA in business and was determined to put her degree to work and venture out on her own. "Maybe I could have obtained some higher position with a larger salary, but I wanted a business with endless potential, which is what I saw in this trash business."

She noticed that small companies and minorities were not priorities of the existing players in the waste-management space, offering both a business opportunity and an opportunity to service her community.

Rios said her father taught her that you can't accomplish anything by yourself. "Faith, family and community" is what Rios remembers her father saying most often. "It all goes back to the lessons I learned on our farm about running a smart business and paying it forward. If you practice what you preach and give back to your community, you will be enriched and rewarded."

Her husband, who worked in maintenance, didn't embrace the idea of becoming a business owner at first. "It was a big risk, and he just wanted the security of bringing home a paycheck," Rios said. Rios wanted more. She set her sights on two trucks and took her business plan to a bank, hoping for a credit line of \$250,000, which she received, and used it to purchase her first two trucks and launch her company Nation Waste, now valued at \$30 million.

Rios began by soliciting small businesses and minority customers and slowly started to build her business. "In the beginning, I made enough to pay my bills and a small profit, but I kept reinvesting it into the company," she said.

In August 2005, when Hurricane Katrina hit Texas, Rios saw it as an opportunity to again profitably link business to community. She provided services at reduced rates to families and businesses who might not otherwise have been able to afford it. As word spread of her generosity, the Nation Waste brand grew: Business more than doubled between 2005 and 2010. Those initial two trucks became 21 trucks, and Nation Waste expanded to four business units, from compactors and balers to include recycling and portable toilet divisions. Currently, Nation Waste is up to 26 trucks (two more on order) and 41 employees.

"Whoever would have thought that a little girl coming to America from El Salvador could achieve a dream that is purely American," Rios said. "Perseverance will pay off; I am living proof."

Lauren Flick Writer/Producer, CNBC.com

Tune in Wednesday night, July 22, at 10 p.m. for "[Blue Collar Millionaires](#)" on CNBC.

The Future is Female: Leading by Example

One of a series of articles written for the New York Urban League: Mar 2018

In 1957, two anthropologists did a nationwide study to examine how 35,000 high school students from a range of backgrounds viewed a specific occupation, a scientist. Students were asked to draw their idea of what a scientist looked like and guess what? Almost all the boys and girls drew a white male with glasses and a lab coat. Over 60 years later, unfortunately, some might say that very little has changed.

It's become apparent that children need to see someone who looks like them as role models; they need to see someone who reflects their experience to give them a path that they too can follow. Jump now to the 2000s, when psychologist Sabrina Zirkel surveyed 80 sixth and seventh-graders over two-year period of time and concluded that, "Race- and gender-matched role models provide concrete information to young people regarding what is possible for them as members of specific social groups." Kids need to see Misty Copeland dance to know they can be the principal dancer for the American Ballet Theatre or they need to hear the story of NASA mathematician Katharine Johnson to understand that they too can reach for the stars.

The New York Urban League understands the importance of leading by example and that is why for over eight years they have been allowing young women and men to visit leaders in the community and learn from the very best in their fields in what NYUL deems Empowerment Day!

Each year, almost 300 young women and men in high school, visit one of our 'empowerment sites' to explore careers throughout New York City. Arva Rice, President of the NYUL shares its inception, "The idea really is our souped-up version of 'take your daughter to work day,' she continues, "and rather than taking one daughter, or one son, we take 150 girls and 150 boys to these empowerment sites to go to work for the day."

These sites can be in fields including business and government, as well as sports and entertainment. Locations of past visits include Yankee Stadium, NBA, Google, Microsoft, L'Oréal and Viacom. As exciting as the venues have been, the speakers who have stepped up to share their work are just as impressive, including famed TV Producer Mara Brock Akil and comedic actress Kim Cole, as well as Viacom Executive Marva Smalls and the legendary singer Mary J. Blige.

Rice explains, "The idea is that we give these young people an opportunity to walk into doors that they might not normally have access. These aren't the usual places that their parents work, at all, and so this is an opportunity for them to see new places but also see faces that look like their own and thriving in these environments."

The Urban League is hoping to expand this program and many others with their Civil Rights 2.0 initiative which will raise 1.5 million dollars to be distributed to the areas of education, employment and advocacy. Through the education branch of this vital tree, the league plans to open the Empowerment Day program to more participants and with a much more formalized mentoring component. Rice explains their goals for expansion, "First, we would love to have 500 girls take over the City, shadowing not only corporate but more government officials as well. Black women remain underrepresented in elected offices, at all levels, and if young women can see themselves in those roles, then they can be setting the policies that improve the lives of everyone."

Rice also discusses a more one-on-one approach which would allow young women a direct mentor to guide them, "We would pair girls with some of the women they have met during Empowerment Days, as well as members of our Young Professionals, who can help shape their next set of choices and help them meet their goals over the course of the years to come." More than opening the door, NYUL wants to create a map for their participant's journey moving forward.

Rice reflects on the ultimate goal for these young women, "We want girls to feel like they can dream outside of their square block from where they live; that they can see beyond what is familiar and open their eyes to possibilities and opportunities they never dreamed of." Arva Rice reflects on her personal hero inspiration, "I definitely look to Harriet Tubman, because she kept going back. She got her freedom and she kept going back for more and more and more people. And as she said: she would have freed more people if only they had known that they were slaves."

The idea that you are limited only by your experience – by what you know; what you've seen or been taught is prevalent in the mission of the NYUL. The League strives to show people worlds outside their own experience; to open the doors of possibility for as many members of the community as they can manage, but they cannot manage alone. To find out how you can help open more doors go to our [donation page](#) or [become a member](#).

A Tourist Becomes a Witness to History

Published by Yeshiva University

Sion Setton, a fourth year rabbinical student at Yeshiva University, had no idea that during his short vacation to Egypt tracing his family roots, he would witness the beginning of a historic revolution.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, Sion Setton maybe a native New Yorker but his roots are Egyptian. "While Jewish history with Egypt has been long been and often turbulent," Sion says, "A lot of people might not realize the presence and the value Egypt had for the Jewish nations throughout history: Egypt has housed many sages, from Maimonides to Rabbi Yosef Azoulay, known as the Hida, and even Rabbi Ovadia Yosef for several years. There are many synagogues to see and a rich history to learn from." And so for winter break he decided to go from Israel to Egypt to take what he likes to call a 'family heritage trip.' Sion said, "I wanted to see where my parents grew up, the different synagogues they went to and the streets they walked down - I wanted to go and experience that myself. "

When Sion landed in Cairo he immediately got hints of the 'anti-Mubarak' sentiments that flourished in the air. He said, "my taxi driver from the airport was telling us all about the amazing sites to see in Egypt but also pointed to Mubarak's home and expressed - we're not so happy with him.'

Later that night at the hotel Sion was informed of a 'holiday' that would be held the following day to 'honor the police,' as it was explained to him. He was further notified that there might be a few anit-Mubarak protestors and just to 'be careful'. "We didn't think it was such a big deal, you know you're from Manhattan, you think of a protest as peaceful, picket signs, we didn't think it would become something so chaotic," said Sion.

Tuesday was Sion's last evening in Cairo and though he was advised not to go out because the protests 'might accelerate' as he said "It was my last evening in Cairo and I was not going to just stay in the hotel." When he left to go to a concert that evening - all seemed fine: people were gathering and police were present, but everything seemed quiet. It was after the concert when they were returning to the hotel later that night, that things took a turn for the worse. As Sion says, "Coming out of the concert we were greeted by a taxi driver to take us to our hotel. We didn't know at that time he would save our lives... "

Sion recounts the tale of that terrifying taxi ride, "...as we were going through the square we started to see hundreds of people walking around some with masks and batons and we noticed very few cars. Soon we noticed people crowding around our taxi."

At this point the police had used tear gas to contain the riots in the square and the crowds were seeking shelter wherever they could – in Sion's cab. "I was in the front and I locked my door but my friend in the back didn't have his door locked and someone opened the door and was trying to get inside." He continued, "Suddenly the driver just put the pedal to the metal, almost hitting a few members of the crowd and drove as fast as he could away from the square." It was reported that, three people died that night and seventy-four people were injured while Sion and his friends safely got away. "G_d bless this driver – who saved us from that chaotic square," Sion said.

Despite the terrific events of that night, the next morning Sion awoke unfazed and ready to continue to see the sights, he said, "I thought it would be a one day protest but that's all, I didn't expect things to escalate." Sion visited the "The Cairo Museum, the Synagogue of Maimonides, and of course the Pyramids and the Sphinx. "

Sion Setton regards his trip as acts of 'divine intervention.' When Sion originally booked his flight he wanted to return Thursday but could only get a flight for Wednesday, which turned out to be the last day the airport allowed flights to leave. Sion also had the opportunity to see the pyramids and the Cairo museum, again on the very last day before they were closed to the public. Most importantly Sion got out of Tahrir Square safely and without injury and that he feels was truly *Hashgekha Peratit* – Divine Intervention.

Though Egypt's future is uncertain, Sion Setton says, "there is so much beauty that exists in Egypt and there is so much to learn about ancient history, medieval Jewish history and my own family history. I hope in the near future that tourists, along with myself, will be able to return there again one day."

Excerpt From screenplay by Lauren Flick, made into a motion picture, entitled: *Play It By Ear* starring Academy Award © Winner Rita Moreno in the role of Ruth.

INT. RUTH'S APARTMENT — NIGHT

Julia and Ruth are washing and drying dishes.

RUTH

You know when Martin and I got married it was not the wedding I imagined; it wasn't the proposal I imagined. It was the war, and we knew that he'd be going overseas soon - when we didn't know, but soon.

JULIA

So you got married before he shipped out?

RUTH

You'd think right? I mean he was going to be gone for God knows how long and you'd think he'd want to take the vows before he left. It finally got to the point where I had to say 'are we going to get married or what?!' Real romantic. We were in the Automat and I just lost it. I said if you ship out without putting a ring on my finger I won't be waiting for you when you get back.

JULIA

Wow - so then you got married?

RUTH

No! He shipped out. He said he didn't want to make a commitment when he didn't know when he was coming home. But I know the truth - he was scared - hell who wasn't scared then.

JULIA

So, what happened - you waited for him?

RUTH

No, the war ended three weeks later. He came home; I got over being angry and we got married. Not exactly Casablanca but you don't always have Paris.