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Randalls to close three Houston-area stores



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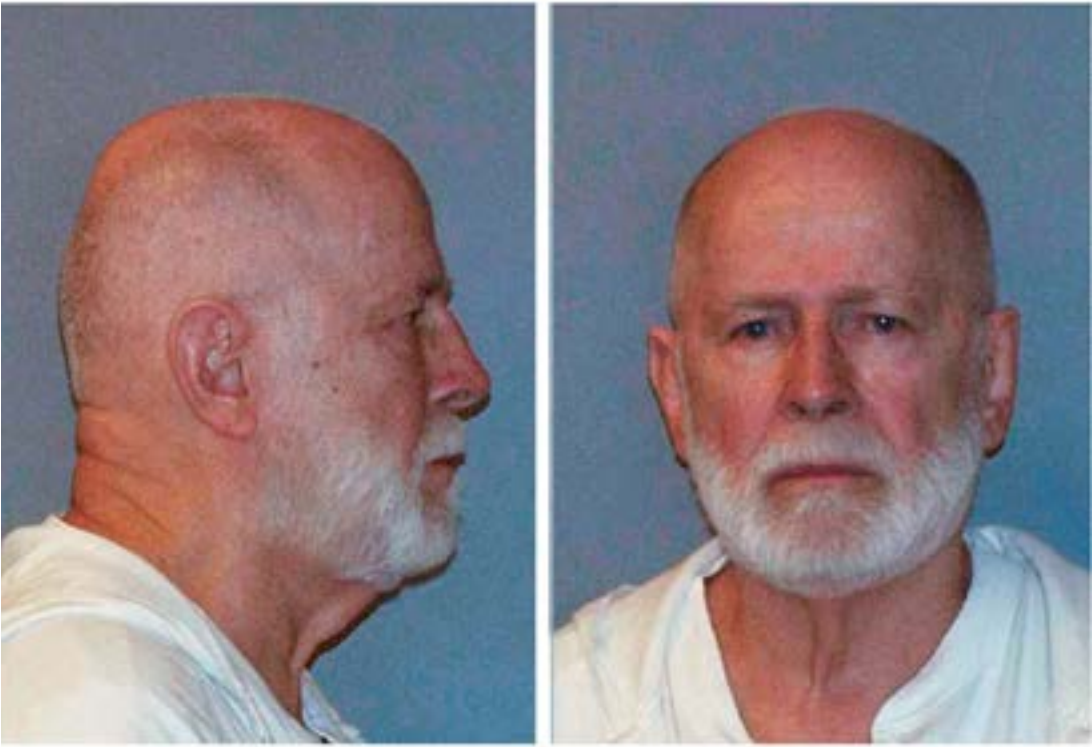
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## Boston gangster James ‘Whitey’ Bulger found dead in prison

(Reuters) - James “Whitey” Bulger, who lived a double life as one of Boston’s most notorious mobsters and as a secret FBI informant before going on the run for 16 years, was found dead at a federal prison in West Virginia, the Federal Bureau of Prisons said. The Federal Bureau of Investigation was looking into Bulger’s death, the Bureau of Prisons said in its statement. Bulger’s death at age 89 came a day after he was transferred to the high-security prison. Federal officials did not give a cause of death but the Bureau of Prisons said no other inmates or staff were injured. CNN and the Boston Globe reported that Bulger was killed without giving further details. Henry Brennan, a defense lawyer for Bulger, said in an email he could not confirm or deny the reports. Bulger was convicted in August 2013 of 11 murders, among other charges including racketeering, and sentenced to two consecutive life terms plus five years. Prison had been something Bulger had gone to great lengths to avoid - killing potential witnesses, cultivating corrupt lawmen and living as a fugitive for 16 years. It all ended when a tip from a former Icelandic beauty queen led to his capture in June 2011 in Santa Monica, California, where he was living with a long-time girlfriend.

Bulger and his Winter Hill gang had operated for more than two decades in the insular Irish-dominated South Boston neighborhood, engaging in loan sharking, gambling, extortion, drug dealing and murder. They did so with the tacit approval of an FBI agent who looked the other way when it came to Bulger’s crimes so that he would supply information on other gangsters. Bulger, portrayed by Johnny Depp in the 2015 film “Black Mass,” was feared for his short temper and brutality. Prosecutors said he strangled two women with his hands and tortured a man for hours before shooting him in the head with a machine gun. “We took what we wanted,” Kevin Weeks, a former Bulger lieutenant who would eventually testify against him, wrote in “Brutal,” his memoir. “We



FILE PHOTO: Former mob boss and fugitive James “Whitey” Bulger is seen in a booking mug combination photo

made millions through extortion and loansharking and protection. And if someone ratted us out, we killed him. We were not nice guys.” Bulger was born Sept. 3, 1929, and grew up in South Boston. He was called “Whitey” because of his light blond hair but was said to detest the nickname and preferred being called Jimmy. As a teenager he joined a gang known as The Shamrocks, compiled an arrest record for assault and armed robbery and ended up in a juvenile reformatory

Bulger was a bank robber early in his criminal career, which landed him in prisons such as the infamous Alcatraz, located on an island in San Francisco Bay. Upon his release in 1965, he eventually fell in with the Irish mob in South Boston and worked his way through the ranks as a bookie and loanshark. He survived a gang war between two Irish mobs and was a leading figure in Boston’s underworld by the early 1970s.

## U.S. consumer confidence at 18-year high; house price gains slow

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. consumer confidence rose to an 18-year high in October, driven largely by a robust labor market, bolstering expectations that strong economic growth would continue through early 2019. But a weakening housing market and tightening financial market conditions are casting a shadow on the economic expansion that is in its ninth year, the second longest on record. Home price gains slowed further in August, other data showed, another sign that higher mortgage rates were weighing on housing demand. “We don’t know how long this is going to hold up, but the consumer is bullish on the outlook and this means the economy is going to continue to advance in this long economic expansion from the last recession,” said Chris Rupkey, chief economist at MUFG in New York. The Conference Board said its consumer confidence index reading rose to 137.9 this month, the highest since September 2000, from a downwardly revised 135.3 in September. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast the consumer index slipping to 136.0 from the previously reported 138.4 in September. Consumers’ assessment of current business and labor market conditions improved despite a sharp stock market sell-off and jump in U.S. Treasury yields, which have tightened financial market conditions. The stock market’s S&P 500 index has dropped more than 8 percent this month.

The Conference Board survey puts more emphasis on the labor market. The survey’s so-called labor market differential, derived from data about respondents saying jobs are scarce or plentiful, was the most favorable since January 2001. This measure closely correlates to the unemployment rate in the Labor Department’s employment report. Economists said it raised the possibility that the unemployment rate could drop further from a near 49-year low of 3.7 percent. The government will publish its October employment report on Friday. “At the end of the day, it is the job market, or the security of having a job with a regular paycheck, that supports confidence and spending,” said Jennifer Lee, a senior economist at BMO Capital Markets in Toronto. “So far, so good.” Consumer confidence at multi-year highs bodes well for spending in the upcoming holiday season. More consumers planned to buy automobiles and houses over the next six months, but the share of those intending to purchase major appliances slipped. The dollar was near a 2 1/2-month high against a basket of currencies, while stocks on Wall Street were higher. U.S. Treasury yields rose. The economy grew at a 3.5 percent annualized rate in the third quarter and is considered on course to achieve the Trump administration’s target of 3.0 percent annual growth this year.

Growth has been spurred by a \$1.5 trillion tax cut. Economists estimate the tax cut stimulus peaked in the third quarter and expect growth to gradually slow from the second half 2019, restrained in part by higher interest rates. The Federal Reserve has increased borrowing costs three times this year and in September removed a reference to monetary policy remaining “accommodative” from its policy statement. The U.S. central bank is expected raise rates gain in December. Higher borrowing costs have cooled housing demand; sales and homebuilding declined in September. A separate report on Tuesday showed the S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller composite home price index of 20 U.S. metropolitan areas rose 5.5 percent in August from a year ago after increasing 5.9 percent in July. Growth in house prices has slowed from as high as 6.8 percent in March. Prices had been boosted by a shortage of properties on the market, but now mortgage rates have risen to seven-year highs. “The sharp gain in mortgage rates thus far in 2018 continues to weigh on home sales as well as home prices,” said Brent Campbell, an economist at Moody’s Analytics in West Chester, Pennsylvania. “With the Fed continuing to tighten monetary policy through the rest of 2018 and into 2019, mortgage rates are likely to rise even more, resulting in less housing demand and modest house price growth in 2019.”

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The Randalls at 2075 Westheimer was remodeled in 2007. Now it's scheduled to close.

The stretch of Milam was at one time a row of car dealerships, ushering in Houston's stubborn car-minded psyche that exists to this day. According to Fox, Frank Gillman Pontiac was the last car dealer to occupy the Shelor Building, remaining until 1967.



Editor's Choice



Women dressed in Tang-dynasty costumes perform at a show by designer Chu Yan at China Fashion Week in Beijing, China, October 30, 2018. REUTERS/Jason Lee TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Central American migrants walk through the Suchiate river, the natural border between Guatemala and Mexico, in their bid to reach the U.S., as seen from Tecun Uman



KCNA picture of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un inspects Samjiyon County



A relative of a passenger on the crashed Lion Air flight JT610 cries at Bhayangkara R. Said Sukan to hospital in Jakarta



Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, meet actors in costumes during a visit to Courtenay Creative, in Wellington



Mercedes' British driver Lewis Hamilton celebrates after winning his fifth drivers' title during the F1 Mexico Grand Prix at the Hermanos Rodriguez circuit in Mexico City



Chelsy Montserrat Maldonado, a four-year-old migrant girl from Honduras, wears a U.S. flag themed dress as she stands in a makeshift camp as they take rest in Tapanatepec



Social Democratic Party (SPD) top candidate Thorsten Schaefer-Guembel and Nancy Faeser, General Secretary of SPD Hessen, react after first exit polls following the Hesse state election in Wiesbaden, Germany, October 28, 2018. REUTERS/Thorsten Wagner TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY





The area where the wall is proposed to be built is a refuge for 19 federally threatened and endangered species and 57 state protected species, including the ocelot and other species. A wall could have a serious, and possibly deadly, impact on these species.

The prospect of a border wall between Mexico and the U.S. is now real. President Trump has requested \$1.6 billion for fiscal year 2018 to build three segments totaling 74 miles. The Department of Homeland Security is planning to test the eight prototypes it built this summer in San Diego over the next 30 to 60 days.

There's a long debate over whether physical barriers on the border actually curb the illicit flow of people and drugs. The Border Patrol, which is backing Trump's plan, says they're a "vital tool" in their operation. Migration experts say they're more symbolic than effective.

But what is undeniable is that the 654 miles of walls and fences already on the US-Mexico border have made a mess out of the environment there. They've cut off, isolated, and reduced populations of some of the rarest and most amazing animals in North America, like the jaguar and ocelot (also known as the dwarf jaguar). They've led to the creation of miles of roads through pristine wilderness areas. They've even exacerbated flooding, becoming dams when rivers have overflowed.

Now, DHS is eyeing unfenced areas in two Texas wildlife refuges that conservationists consider some of the most ecologically valuable areas on the border — home to armadillos and bobcats. If a wall were to slice through these ecosystems, it could cause irreversible damage to plants and animals already under serious threat.

"We've been dealing with all these negative environmental impacts of fences on the border for more than a decade," says Dan Millis of the Sierra Club Borderlands project. "And Trump's proposal would make it worse."

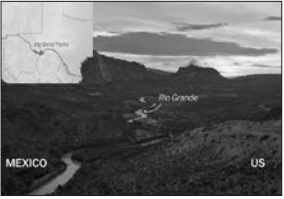
The border region is ecologically rich because a lot of it has been federally protected. The political boundary between the US and

## Wall Could Cut Off A Texas Wildlife Refuge And The Habitat Of Big, Beautiful Cats

### Trump's Border Wall Could Be An Ecological Disaster

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Mexico stretches 2,000 miles from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean. Along the way, there are three mountain chains, the two largest deserts in North America, vast cattle ranches, a handful of cities and their sprawling suburbs, and the Southern section of the mighty Rio Grande river.



Much of the region has never been heavily populated, and over the years, several large swaths of land have been designated as protected areas. Today there are 25 million acres of protected US public lands within 100 miles of the line. That includes six wildlife refuges, six national parks, tribal lands, wilderness areas, and conservation areas — all of them managed by various federal agencies and tribal governments.

On the Mexican side, meanwhile, sit protected areas like El Pinacate y Gran Desierto to Altar, which abuts the US Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge and parts of the Organ Pipe National Monument and Barry M. Goldwater Range in Arizona.

These protected areas have been established, in part, to protect wildlife and plants that span both countries. In the case of the El Pinacate and Cabeza Prieta, desert species like the Sonoran pronghorn (an antelope relative) have been able to migrate back and forth. But in recent years, that's gotten harder with the construction of long sections of vehicle barriers and fences, as you can see from the map.

"People think of deserts as barren lands and flat sand dunes with nothing there," Sergio Avila, a conservation scientist at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, says. "But deserts are very diverse and rich in life."

**Saguaro cacti, or "giant cacti," and ocotillo cactus (in bloom)**

**in the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument park in the Sonoran Desert. (Photo Urterra / UIG via Getty Images)**

### The protected areas on the border harbor an incredible array of wild-life and plants

When you trace the border from west to east (as this Story Map project by Krista Schlyer did), you find shrinking pockets of remarkable biological abundance. At the far west is the Tijuana Estuary, a key salt marsh habitat for some 400 species of migrating birds. At the far east, birds and butterflies stop through the Lower Rio Grande Valley, which is also a permanent home for colorful mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.

"There are tropical animal species in some of these canyons that are not found anywhere else," says Jesse Lasky, a biologist at Penn State who has studied the impact of border fences on border species. "They inhabit these little slices of tropical ecosystem that creep up into the US near the Gulf coast."

Not many scientists have measured the border's biodiversity in its totality — or the full impact of fences. One of the few studies to tackle these questions was written by Lasky and co-authors in 2011. They estimated that 134 mammal, 178 reptile, and 57 amphibian species live within about 30 miles of the line. Of those, 50 species and three subspecies are globally or federally threatened in Mexico or the United States. And they survive only because people on both sides have worked hard to conserve them.

### Border fences have been terrible for wildlife and plants

Since 1994, the US government has been erecting barriers to keep people and drugs from Mexico and beyond out. By 2010, about one-third of the border had been fenced with materials ranging from barbed wire to steel, bollard to wire mesh, and chain link. In addition, the Department of Homeland Security has built hundreds of miles of roads to allow the Border Patrol to access remote regions, both fenced and unfenced.

All of this construction has sliced and diced a lot of protected land along the border. And ever since the passage of the Real ID Act of 2005, DHS has had the power to waive

most environmental reviews in the name of national security.

So, unlike most federal infrastructure projects, these fences have received little or no input from the public, land managers, conservation groups, or other agencies. Experts had no chance to assess beforehand what impact the fence might have on wildlife, plants, and rivers. Only after the fact have researchers documented instances where fences have interrupted wildlife corridors, and caused erosion and other damage to fragile ecosystems, as well as flooding.

But what evidence we do have is alarming. For instance, Lasky and his co-authors found that the biggest risk comes when fences bisect the range of a small population of a species with a specialized habitat, leaving the majority of the population on one side and the others adrift. His paper found 45 species and three subspecies that the current fence has affected this way.

Cutting off animal populations in this fashion leads to reduced gene flow and inbreeding — leading to a greater risk of extinction. Conservation groups are particularly worried about the Mexican gray wolf; in 2016, there were just 113 in the US and about three dozen south of the border. A wall between them could make the recovery of the population unsurmountable.



Mexican gray wolves are the most endangered wolf in the world. In 2016, there were just 113 in the US and about three dozen south of the border. Don Bartletti / Los Angeles Times via Getty Images

Fences also can restrict animals' access to water sources — particularly problematic in the drought-prone Southwest. And they can make it harder for animals to adapt to climate change. "A lot of species do best in Northern Mexico, but with changes in precipitation patterns, they would need to disperse across the border," says Lasky. "This is something we should be thinking about a lot more — how fast organisms are

responding to climate change."

The wall structures hurt animals and insects in other ways too. Some sections have lights that attract and zap pollinators, like the monarch butterfly, that migrate across the border. And the taller the fence, the more impassable it is for some bats and birds, like the cactus ferruginous pygmy owl.

### Trump's proposed wall could have a big impact on still-pristine areas

About two-thirds, or 1,350 miles, of the border remains unfenced. Trump said on July 13 that he intends to build a total 700 to 900 miles of new wall, which will be exceedingly difficult to do. (Cost estimates for walling off the entire border range from \$21 billion to \$40 billion, and 700 miles would cost at least \$12 billion.)

But it's plausible that Congress will give US Customs and Border Patrol, the division of DHS in charge of border security, at least some of the \$1.6 billion that Trump requested to build three segments totaling 74 miles for fiscal year 2018. That would reportedly include "28 miles of new levee wall system in Rio Grande Valley, 32 new miles of border wall system in the Rio Grande Valley, and 14 miles of replacement secondary barrier in San Diego," according to a DHS spokesperson.

San Diego is a sprawling urban center, but just south of it is the Tijuana Estuary, where the Tijuana River meets the Pacific Ocean. It's one of the most biodiverse areas in the entire state of California, according to Millis of the Sierra Club, and has already been impacted by fences. Replacing the fences there could mean more habitat destruction in the estuary.

Activists in Texas who've been tracking fence construction over the years say they think part of the new levee walls CPB would build if Congress allocates the money for them will bisect the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge — a collection of dozens of tracts of habitat stretching from Brownsville by the Gulf of Mexico to Rio Grande City, about 100 miles west.

This area is a refuge for 19 federally threatened and endangered species and 57 state protected species, including the ocelot and other species in the illustration below. And a wall could have a serious, in some cases deadly, impact on these species: (Courtesy <https://www.vox.com>)



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# President Trump: U.S. Is Economic Envy Of The World

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



President Donald Trump stands with Vice President Mike Pence after delivering remarks about the economy on the South Lawn of the White House, Friday, July 27, 2018, in Washington DC. (AP Photo)

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Friday celebrated the release of new economic data, claiming the U.S. is now the “economic envy of the entire world.” Trump was responding to new growth numbers announced on Friday that show the U.S. economy surged in the April-June quarter to an annual growth rate of 4.1 percent — the fastest pace since 2014.

“We’ve accomplished an economic turnaround of historic proportions,” Trump told reporters during hastily arranged remarks on the South Lawn of the White House, where he was joined by Vice President Mike Pence and flanked by members of his economic team.

“Once again, we are the economic envy of the entire world,” Trump said, adding that “America is being respected again.”

Trump is predicting that as he renegotiates trade deals, “we’re going to go a lot higher than these numbers.”

Trump said on the South Lawn of the White House that the economic numbers are “very sustainable.”

The president said the GDP reached 4.1-percent in the second quarter, adding, the U.S. is on track to the highest annual growth rate in 13-years.



**Trump said on the South Lawn of the White House that the economic numbers are “very sustainable.”**

He also said 3.7 million new jobs have been added since the election, which is a number that was once “unthinkable.”

Additionally, President Trump said the trade deficit has dropped by more than \$50 billion

Finally, Economic Adviser Larry Kudlow praised the economic boom as long-lasting and sustainable.

The numbers were driven by consumers who began spending the tax cuts Trump signed into law last year and exporters who have been rushing to get their prod-

ucts delivered ahead of retaliatory tariffs.

Trump, who has repeatedly attacked the economic record of his predecessor’s administration, pledged during the 2016 campaign to double growth to 4 percent or better. And he has been trying to highlight economic gains ahead of the midterm elections.

But Trump, ever the salesman, predicted even higher growth as he renegotiates the nation’s trade deals, saying, “We’re going to go a lot higher than these numbers.”

And he insisted the economic numbers are “very sustainable” and not “a one-time shot.”

Private forecasters cautioned that the April-June pace is unsustainable because, they say, it stems from temporary factors, including a rush by exporters of soybeans and other products to get their shipments out before retaliatory tariffs took effect.

They predicted the rest of the year is likely to see solid, but slower growth of around 3 percent.

The transformation is also not as dramatic as Trump claims — and in many ways the 4.1 percent annualized growth during the second quarter is in line with an economic expansion that just entered its tenth year.



**President Donald Trump stands with Vice President Mike Pence after delivering remarks about the economy on the South Lawn of the White House, Friday, July 27, 2018**

During Barack Obama’s presidency, there were four quarters when annualized growth exceeded the level that Trump praised on Friday. And in 2015, full-year economic growth nearly reached the 3 percent level being targeted by the Trump administration this year when it hit 2.9 percent.

Unlike in 2015, growth has accelerated this year, in part, because of the stimulus from Trump’s deficit-funded tax cuts.

Trump has said he sees annual growth of 3 percent or more as sustainable. But Federal Reserve officials and outside economists don’t expect a permanent upshift.

Their forecasts predict that growth will

return to roughly 2 percent, which largely reflects a demographic change beyond the White House’s control.

Due to declines in birth rates, workers will be joining the economy at a slower pace and this hurts overall growth levels. (Courtesy <https://wgntv.com/>)

**U.S. economy back on track with strong second-quarter rebound**

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The U.S. economy rebounded sharply in the second quarter as consumers stepped up spending and businesses restocked, putting it on course to close out the year on solid footing.

Gross domestic product expanded at a 4.0 percent annual rate after shrinking at a revised 2.1 percent pace in the first quarter, the Commerce Department said on Wednesday.

The government previously had said the economy contracted at a 2.9 percent rate at the start of the year.

The second-quarter expansion was much stronger than the 3.0 percent economists had expected and added to manufacturing and services sector data in bolstering the outlook for the remainder of the year.

“Today’s report shows greater near-term healing and momentum, reducing the downside risks and leaving us comfortable with our forecast for above 3.0 percent growth through next year,” said Michelle Meyer, a senior economist at Bank of America Merrill Lynch in New York.

Despite the pickup, growth in the first half of the year badly lagged the economy’s estimated 2 percent to 2.5 percent potential, a reminder that the nation’s recovery from the worst recession since the 1930s remains the slowest on record.

**Shoppers now hitting the malls as well as shopping online.**

A separate report showed private employers added 218,000 jobs to their payrolls this month, a decline from June’s hefty gain of 281,000. Still, hiring remains solid and consistent with

expectations for a stronger second half of the year.

Federal Reserve officials on Wednesday acknowledged the improvement in the economy, but cautioned that labor market slack remained considerable. The U.S. central bank, following the end of a two-day policy meeting, announced a further reduction to the amount of money it is injecting into the economy through monthly bond purchases.

The Fed is not expected to raise interest rates until next June.

The GDP data buoyed the dollar, lifting it to a 10-month high against a basket of currencies as traders speculated about an early rate hike.

Prices for U.S. Treasury debt fell, with the yield on the two-year note touching its highest level since 2011. U.S. stocks were trading mixed.



**Mall shoppers taking advantage of improved U.S. economy.**

**ECONOMY IN MUCH BETTER SHAPE**

“We do not feel the report calls for pulling forward the Fed rate hike. The first quarter’s bad weather didn’t change the story, but simply delayed when that train gets to the station,” said Tim Hopper, chief economist at TIAA-CREF in New York.

The government also published revisions to prior GDP data going back to 1999, which showed the economy performing much stronger in the second half of 2013 and for that year as a whole than previously reported.

The economy in the second quarter was buoyed by consumer spending and a swing in business inventories.

Consumer spending growth, which accounts for more than two-thirds of U.S. economic activity, accelerated at a 2.5 percent pace, as Americans bought long-lasting manufactured goods, mostly automobiles, and spent a bit more on services.

It had braked to a 1.2 percent pace in the first quarter because of weak healthcare spending.

Despite the pick-up in consumer spending, Americans saved more in the second quarter. The saving rate increased to 5.3 percent from 4.9 percent in the first quarter as incomes rose, which bodes well for future spending. (Courtesy reuters.com)

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# 《柯萊特》女主角凱拉·奈特莉 “我們想展現角色的 雌雄同體，不只在服 裝上”



如果說2002年的《我愛貝克漢姆》讓凱拉·奈特莉嶄露頭角，那麼從第二年開始接連上映的《加勒比海盜》系列電影則讓她成為了國際巨星。從那以後，她既出演過獨立電影，也出演過大片，她演過各種各樣的角色，同時也保持著工作與私生活之間的平衡，現在她定居在英國（她與英國音樂家詹姆斯·萊頓在2013年結婚，並於2015年誕下壹女）非常保護自己的私人生活。

在最新作品《柯萊特》中，奈特莉飾演曾獲得過諾貝爾文學獎提名的20世紀著名法國女作家茜多妮·加布裏埃爾·柯萊特，大家壹般稱她“柯萊特”。電影講述了柯萊特非傳統式的婚姻生活，當時的女性普遍遭到歧視，得不到正當的工作機會，也無法在職場中獲得相應的尊重，而她則給丈夫亨利·高蒂爾·維勒斯（多米尼克·威斯特飾）當了槍手作者。

記者：妳的母親是壹位劇作家兼小說家，妳的成長過程中應該也沒少讀書吧。妳以前讀過柯萊特的作品嗎？現在妳的閱讀習慣是怎樣的？

凱拉·奈特莉：我讀沒讀過柯萊特的作品？是這樣，我大概22歲的時候讀過《謝莉》和《謝莉》的續集，因為當時我的男朋友在做電影版《謝莉》，我覺得很有意思。在那之前，我知道我母親非常喜歡柯萊特，她經常在家裏提及柯萊特，我知道這位作家，但並沒有真正對她感興趣。我看過歌舞片《琪琪》，小時候我就很喜歡那部片子。

至於我現在的閱讀習慣，目前我什麼都沒讀。（大笑）不過這個夏天我其實還讀了挺多書的。但妳要是問我我究竟讀了哪些書，最喜歡哪本，天吶，我壹本都不記得了！（大笑）這種現象也挺有意思的，其實這就說明這個夏天讀過的書裏沒有我真正喜歡的。不過我發現只有周圍環境非常好的時候我才会讀書——比如所有事都井井有條，孩子也睡著了，因為只有這種情況下我才足夠清醒，能看進書去。

記者：這部電影探討了社會層面中的性別認同是什麼以及起到了怎樣的作用——如果妳是男性應該符合怎樣的行為標準，是女性又如何等等。很顯然，由於性別的原因，柯萊特在她生活的那個時代很難得到機會。探討這樣的內容對妳來說有意思嗎？妳生活中是否遇到過僅因性別而對妳產生的偏見或要求？

凱拉·奈特莉：我覺得性別問題在我所有的作品以及我感興趣的內容中都有所體現，甚至早在《我愛貝克漢姆》裏就有了——那是個關於女孩子踢足球的故事，人們好像認為女孩子天生不該喜歡足球，對吧？而在《加勒比海盜》中，她本來應該是個普通的落難少女，但她沒有認命，戰鬥力還挺強的。所以，我壹直認為性別這個問題跟我自己有著深深的連結。

說到這部電影裏的性別，人們對柯萊特的評價很有意思，都說她雌雄同體。我們也想體現出這壹點，而且不只是在服裝上面，我們在她的言行舉止方面下了很大功夫，並且試圖表現出女人在坐下來時候總是雙腿並攏，雙臂交叉，盡量占最少的地方，而男人們坐著的時候總是把腿伸出來，是吧，而且要占盡可能大的地方。我們非常努力地把她如何為自己爭取更多的空間這個過程表現出來了，我喜歡她的這種做法，這種“爺們兒”的感覺，比如，“嘿，我有權利呆在這兒。我不會為此道歉的。我不會為做自己而

道歉。我也不會為自己的需求和欲望道歉，我還要讓這個世界接納這樣的我。”我真的很喜歡這樣的做法。

記者：服裝也表現出了這壹點對嗎？

凱拉·奈特莉：是的，她的服裝很明顯更加男性化，領帶、高領在當時都是男裝的設計。她真的穿過男裝，不管妳信不信，當時這是違法的，我們是實實在在地表現出了性別角色這個概念的，有這樣壹番探討的好處在於，我們發現有更多人在說，“妳看，我們都認為自己應該符合那樣的行為模式——但很少有人適合這些所謂的模式，不論男女，對吧？”

記者：妳是壹位母親，也是壹位妻子，這無疑是性別使然的角色。妳的人生受這兩個角色影響有多少？

凱拉·奈特莉：沒錯，這是角色，但也是選擇，這對我來說非常重要。我選擇生下我的女兒，我選擇跟我的伴侶在壹起，他是我愛的人，我想跟他在壹起。如果感情不好了，我會選擇離開，妳懂嗎？我的意思是，我認為人生是由選擇構成的，而至於做母親，這不是壹個角色，我就是壹個母親。而且我會盡力做到最好。我會犯很多錯，經歷起起伏伏，但不管怎樣，我都是她的媽媽，所以我不覺得自己在扮演母親這個角色，對吧？

電影裏，柯萊特說她在扮演妻子的角色，扮演母親的角色，這種說法很有意思，因為我自己並不覺得我是在扮演，我覺得我就是母親，就是妻子。

記者：柯萊特逐漸增加對作品和對自己本身的信心的過程是電影中比較重要的壹個方面。妳是天生就比較有自信，還是花了壹段時間才獲得了自信的？

凱拉·奈特莉：我認為自信是壹個過程。我父母壹直在給予我和哥哥極大的信心，我覺得有可能是因為我倆都有閱讀障礙，我們壹直隱約覺得生活對我們來說可能不會那麼壹帆風順。工作也經常會有些輕微的不如意之處。但相應的，妳會從這些經歷中有所收穫。

我並不認為柯萊特是無所畏懼的，我喜歡她是因為我覺得她有勇氣，這是更打動我的地方，我們中的大多數都不是無所畏懼的，如果妳是，那妳很幸運。而勇氣意味著妳敢於直面自己的恐懼，並且戰勝它，我喜歡她這壹點。我自己害怕很多東西，我想教給我女兒的是去勇敢面對自己人生當中的選擇。這也是我對這部電影最認同的地方，也是我最喜歡的地方。

記者：在拍攝《柯萊特》的過程中，妳有聽哪些特定的音樂來幫助自己進入角色嗎？

凱拉·奈特莉：沒有，我倒還挺希望自己這樣做的。我壹般不依賴音樂。（停頓）有時候我也會聽。不過我總聽同樣的音樂，都是拉赫瑪尼諾夫的作品，但拍這部電影的時候我沒有聽。很奇怪，我覺得聽音樂不是適合進入這個角色的方式，我也不知道為什麼。有時候我會選擇聽壹些古典音樂。我不是很喜歡有歌詞的音樂，因為我覺得歌詞限制了妳所感受到的東西，而聽古典音樂，我可以選擇讓自己有不同的感受，這對我很有助益。

記者：妳們是在布達佩斯進行拍攝的，休息的時候妳都做了些什麼？看了哪些風景？

凱拉·奈特莉：我女兒很喜歡那裏。布達佩斯有最好的遊樂場。我們已經帶著孩子去過世界各地很多不同的地方了，所以我對各地的遊樂場很了解，特別是歐洲的，我要說布達佩斯在兒童遊樂場這方面是最好的。（大笑）如果妳有小孩，需要遊樂場讓孩子們玩耍，去那兒就對了。真的，他們做的非常棒——器械都是木質的，而且還有遮陽棚。這個很重要，其他地方，抱歉了，比如法國或者意大利，那邊就沒有遮陽的地方，所以早上九點鐘之後妳就無法帶著孩子在那兒玩了。布達佩斯還有很棒的浴場。好像歷史很悠久？有圓頂的那個？（停頓）我去的是Király Baths浴場，感覺很好。

記者：最後壹個問題，《胡桃夾子和四個王國》很快就要上映了，出演這部電影妳有什麼感受？

凱拉·奈特莉：我還沒看過電影呢。我的角色看起來像是個粉色大蛋糕，很不錯。（大笑）我很喜歡做壹個粉色大蛋糕，因為之前我已經拍過很多非常嚴肅的作品，情感很真摯的那種，所以我很想拍壹個傻傻的，異乎尋常的作品。這部電影就是這樣的，但因為沒看過成片，所以我也不知道該說些什麼。（大笑）

我很喜歡（原作）這部芭蕾舞劇——第壹次去看這部芭蕾舞劇的時候我還是個三歲的孩子，我被裏面的老鼠嚇壞了，躲到了座位底下。後來大概六七歲的時候，我媽媽又帶我去看，那時候大家都喜歡糖梅仙子，但我卻想做老鼠，而且我討厭死糖梅仙子了。（大笑）這部電影裏糖梅仙子這個角色會有反轉，但我不能告訴妳具體是怎樣的，妳得等電影上映後自己去看。

## 西格妮韋弗透露 《阿凡達》系列 新消息



日前，演員西格妮·韋弗在接受外媒採訪時向透露了壹點點關於《阿凡達》系列的新信息。

首先，西格妮·韋弗透露，《阿凡達2》、《阿凡達3》的拍攝部分已經殺青。電影中包含大量水下戲份，為此劇組在洛杉磯進行了大量的水下拍攝。

另外，在2009年的電影《阿凡達》中，西格妮·韋弗曾飾演格蕾絲博士，但這壹角色已經受傷去世。西格妮·韋弗透露，在《阿凡達2》中她將飾演壹個全新的角色，這個角色與格蕾絲博士沒什麼關係，但這個角色在《阿凡達》四部曲中將是壹以貫之的。

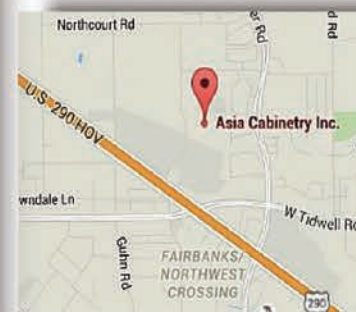
最後，西格妮·韋弗還透露了壹點點關於《異形5》的信息。早前，《異形5》導演尼爾·布洛姆坎普曾暗示《異形5》開拍的可能性微乎其微。作為《異形5》原定演員之壹，西格妮·韋弗透露尼爾·布洛姆坎普目前手上項目很多，《異形5》被推遲也是正常的，而她和詹姆斯·卡梅隆都很看好這個項目。

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