FACT OR FICTION: EASTER EDITION

1. Good Friday is an official state holiday in all but 6 states. (FICTION – it is an official holiday in 12 states – Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Tennessee & Texas)

2. The largest chocolate Easter egg is taller than a giraffe and weighs more than an elephant. (FACT – the egg is 34’ tall & weighs 15873lbs)

3. Americans buy more than one billion marshmallow peeps during the Easter holiday. (FICTION – but we do buy more than 700 million!)

4. The White House hosts an Easter Egg Roll on the front lawn each year. The tradition was started by Abraham Lincoln in 1863. (FICTION – Rutherford B Hayes started the tradition in 1878)

5. Jelly beans were a popular snack for those fighting in the Civil War. (FACT – Candy maker, William Schrafft, started the craze by urging people to send jelly beans to soldiers)

6. Before Easter egg hunts, children used to search for pretzels. (FACT – hundreds of years ago, pretzels were strongly associated with Easter, with many noting that the twists of the pretzel resembled arms crossing in prayer)

7. The popular Easter game of egg-throwing or “egg-tossing” originated in the church. (FACT – the priest would throw a hard-boiled egg to one of the choir boys, who would then toss it to the next choir boy and so on; when the clock struck 12, the person holding the egg was the winner)
8. If you dye chicks Easter colors in Florida, it could land you in jail. (FACT – in 2012, repealed a law prohibiting the dying of chicks, but by 2013, they reinstated the law, which carries a maximum sentence of 60 days in jail)

9. It is estimated that 76% of people eat the ears off a chocolate bunny first. (FACT – yes, they actually did a study!)

10. Americans eat enough jelly beans to circle the earth three times. (FACT – over 16 million jelly beans!)

11. After Halloween & Valentine’s Day, Easter is the biggest candy consuming holiday. (FICTION – it ranks second behind Halloween, but ahead of Valentine’s Day)

12. Easter is the fourth largest holiday for exchanging cards. (FICTION – it actually ranks at number 5, behind Christmas, Valentine’s Day, Mother’s Day & Father’s Day)

13. 70% of all Easter candy purchased is chocolate. (FACT)

14. At one time, Easter eggs substituted as birth certificates. (FACT – in the 1880’s, some Germans dyed an egg a solid color and placed a design with the child’s name and birth date; they were actually honored by courts as evidence of identity and age!)

15. The most popular chocolate egg in the world is the Cadbury Crème Egg. (FACT – if all the crème eggs were piled on top of each other, it would be 10x higher than Mount Everest!)

TIE-BREAKER
Q: How many chocolate bunnies are produced each year in America?

A: 90 million