



# A Hancock County Democrat

Not affiliated with or approved by the Hancock County Democratic Party

## A Crazy Conservative Conspiracy Bruce Workman



Can medical doctors be liars? Can they espouse crazy and irresponsible medical advice? Can they become right-wing political hacks? A group who are known as ‘America’s Frontline Doctors’ has provided a resounding yes to all three of these questions. You may have seen the video of these doctors in front of the Supreme Court spouting dangerous misinformation about the SARS2 pandemic. You can find brief biographies of the six individuals who make up this group in a [“Rolling Stone” article](#).

Let us take a look at who is behind the scenes. FreedomWorks Foundation, American Legislative Exchange Council, Tea Party Patriots, and Committee to Unleash Prosperity in partnership with a coalition of conservative organizations and prominent individuals, launched the Save Our Country Coalition on April 27, 2020. The stated goal of SOCC is to reopen the businesses and restore the US economy. The unstated goal is to accomplish this in time to assure Trump’s reelection. The national leadership council includes Simone Gold, MD, an emergency medicine specialist, a frequent guest on numerous right-wing talk show and YouTube channels, and a major source for Fox News on the ‘danger’ of strict prevention measures.

The other doctors in the group include two pediatricians, an ophthalmologist, a former emergency medical specialist, and an associate professor of medicine at UCLA; which may cause some to ask, “What frontline?” None are epidemiologists, immunologists, or infectious disease specialists.

The “star” of the video and the person to earn the highest praise from POTUS is Dr. Stella Immanuel, a pediatrician who works out of a tiny walk-in clinic in a strip mall and leader of Fire Power Ministries.

(continued on page 2)

### Inside this issue:

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Republicans and Joblessness   | 2  |
| John Lewis’ Final Op-Ed   | 3  |
| This Is the Alleged White Supremacist ‘Umbrella Man’                  | 5  |
| Written Statement of Adam DeMarco on the Protests at Lafayette Square | 6  |
| The Week’s Events   | 11 |
| Just for Fun  | 12 |
| About the Newsletter  | 13 |

## A Crazy Conservative Conspiracy (continued)

She claims she has successfully treated 350 patients, some with serious pre-existing conditions, with hydroxychloroquine—as if a walk-in clinic was the go-to place for someone with COVID symptoms and underlying exacerbating conditions. This drug, while noted as a successful treatment for malaria, had its authorization to use as a treatment for COVID-19 revoked last month by the FDA. The FDA declared it was "no longer reasonable to believe that oral formulations of [hydroxychloroquine] and [chloroquine] may be effective in treating COVID-19, nor is it reasonable to believe that the known and potential benefits of these products outweigh their known and potential risks." Nevertheless, Dr. Immanuel and her 'quack' cohorts continue to tout it as a panacea.

Along with minister and pediatrician, Immanuel also lists "author" on her curriculum vitae. Among her writing she claims that the "Harry Potter" series urges society to "accept demonic activity and witchcraft as normal" and "demonic music has penetrated the souls of our children and

programmed them with an anti-Christ message." She has also claimed that gynecological problems are caused by sexual intercourse with evil spirits, DNA for space aliens is being used in medicine, and the government is run by "reptilians"—and here I thought it was only Facebook. It seems like should add "witch" to her official prefix.

When questioned, after touting her as an expert, on some of the more bizarre statements, Trump responded, "I thought her voice was an important voice, but I know nothing about her". This seems to be the way he vets all of his experts and cabinet members. Normally, I would encourage this type of behavior from the right because it seems like a winning strategy for Democrats, but the potential. The behavior promoted by these right-wing sources is not only crazy but it is also potentially very dangerous. We have already seen the effects of reopening state economies too soon and no amount of magic snake oil is going to change the effects of continuing to reopen before the real experts recommend.

## Republicans and joblessness: can an entire political part become sociopaths?

**Bruce Workman**

The Republican party has never been known for its compassion toward the working class. I assert the last Republican to display any empathy was Abraham Lincoln. They love corporations—this explains why they wanted them declared as people, otherwise it would look weird—but seem willing to disregard the rest of us completely.

Republicans have historically been opposed to anything that might improve the fortunes of most Americans. For decades they have endeavored to destroy programs like

Medicaid, Medicare. Social Security. Labor unions, affordable health care for everyone, and unemployment benefits. In the meantime, they concentrate on making the rich, and themselves richer, while calling the rest of us lazy and unmotivated. The organization the Republican party most resembles today is the Church of Scientology. They blindly follow the lead of a liar, conman, and consummate bullshitter while demanding financial sacrifices from gullible supporters.

(continued on page 3)

## Republicans and joblessness: can an entire political part become sociopaths?

Their latest scheme is to punish the workers who, through no fault of their own, find themselves out of work. Using a sort of Catch-22 logic, Mitch and his comrades claim that the \$600/month unemployment benefits are higher than the average worker's wages after years of anti-labor legislation and other efforts to keep wages low; so they can now claim that higher benefits reduce the motivation to return to jobs that no longer exist. The current COVID unemployment benefit set to expire is \$600/month, which works out to \$31,200/year—above the poverty level for a family of four in every state but Alaska. The \$200/month (or \$10,400/year) benefit proposed by Moscow Mitch and his minions—and equal to the average wage according to Mitch—is below the poverty level for a single individual in all 50 states. What the Republicans are really saying is that the only way to motivate a person in poverty to work is to keep that person in poverty and that

poverty should continue to be the normal state for working people. At the same time, they have no problems enriching business and people—including Mitch's wife—who do not need help by using funds intended for COVID-19 relief.

Issues such as these are what we, as Democrats, should focus on in the coming election. Trump does not have much down-ticket power right now so there is no need to focus on him for local and state elections. Instead, we should be exposing the most Machiavellian tactics employed by Republicans. How did Bob Latta vote on relief bills intended to help those suffering most from this pandemic? What was the extent of Jon Cross's involvement in the FirstEnergy scandal? Since Jon is unopposed at this time we may have to wait for the next election, but at the very least we can assure he will not run unopposed again.



Andrew Hannick/  
Associated Press

**What the Republicans are really saying is that the only way to motivate a person in poverty to work is to keep that person in poverty**

## Letter to the Editor of the New York Times by John L. Lewis

While my time here has now come to an end, I want you to know that in the last days and hours of my life you inspired me. You filled me with hope about the next chapter of the great American story when you used your power to make a difference in our society. Millions of people motivated simply by human compassion laid down the burdens of division. Around the country and the world you set aside race, class, age, language and nationality to demand respect for human dignity.

That is why I had to visit Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington, though I was admitted to the hospital the following day. I just had to see and feel it for myself that, after many years of silent witness, the truth is still marching on.

Emmett Till was my George Floyd. He was my Rayshard Brooks, Sandra Bland and Breonna Taylor. He was 14 when he was killed, and I was only 15 years old at the time. I will never ever forget the moment when it became so clear that he could easily have been me. In those days, fear constrained us like an imaginary prison, and troubling thoughts of potential brutality committed for no understandable reason were the bars.

Though I was surrounded by two loving parents, plenty of brothers, sisters and cousins, their love could not protect me from the unholy oppression waiting just outside that family circle. Unchecked, unrestrained violence and government-sanctioned terror had the power to turn a simple stroll to the store for some Skittles or an innocent morning jog down a lonesome country road into a nightmare. (continued on page 4)



Doug Mills/ The New  
York Times

## Letter to the Editor of the New York Times by John L. Lewis (continued)

If we are to survive as one unified nation, we must discover what so readily takes root in our hearts that could rob Mother Emanuel Church in South Carolina of her brightest and best, shoot unwitting concertgoers in Las Vegas and choke to death the hopes and dreams of a gifted violinist like Elijah McClain.

Like so many young people today, I was searching for a way out, or some might say a way in, and then I heard the voice of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on an old radio. He was talking about the philosophy and discipline of nonviolence. He said we are all complicit when we tolerate injustice. He said it is not enough to say it will get better by and by. He said each of us has a moral obligation to stand up, speak up and speak out. When you see something that is not right, you must say something. You must do something. Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.

Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in what I call good trouble, necessary trouble. Voting and participating in the democratic process are key. The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society. You must use it because it is not guaranteed. You can lose it.

You must also study and learn the lessons of history because humanity has been involved in this soul-wrenching, existential struggle for a very long time. People on every continent have stood in your shoes, through decades and centuries before you. The truth does not change, and that is why the answers worked out long ago can help you find solutions to the challenges of our time. Continue to build union between movements stretching across the globe because we must put away our willingness to profit from the exploitation of others.

Though I may not be here with you, I urge you to answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe. In my life I have done all I can to demonstrate that the way of peace, the way of love and nonviolence is the more excellent way. Now it is your turn to let freedom ring.

When historians pick up their pens to write the story of the 21st century, let them say that it was your generation who laid down the heavy burdens of hate at last and that peace finally triumphed over violence, aggression and war. So I say to you, walk with the wind, brothers and sisters, and let the spirit of peace and the power of everlasting love be your guide

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In this March 17, 1965, file photo, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., fourth from left, foreground, locks arms with his aides as he leads a march of several thousands to the courthouse in Montgomery, Ala. From left are: an unidentified woman, Rev. Ralph Abernathy, James Foreman, King, Jesse Douglas Sr., and John Lewis. (AP)

## This Is the Alleged White Supremacist 'Umbrella Man' Police Suspect of Minneapolis Chaos

Kelly Weill and William Bredderman The Daily Beast



The Daily Beast/YouTube

A man seen breaking windows in a viral video of [Minneapolis protests](#) is suspected to be a known member of a [white supremacist group](#), cops have alleged in a search warrant affidavit. The man in question, Mitchell Carlson, has not been charged with a crime.

The video, filmed on May 27, showed a man dressed in all black methodically smashing windows of an AutoZone in Minneapolis during racial justice protests over the [police killing of George Floyd](#). The man also spray painted “free shit for everyone zone” on the building’s doors. The man appeared to be dressed as an anti-fascist, but was eyed as a possible infiltrator or “outside agitator” when protesters tried to question him over his activities. He became known as “Umbrella Man” on social media alongside debunked theories that he was a police officer attempting to discredit the protests.

Now, in a search warrant affidavit [first reported by The Minneapolis Star-Tribune](#), police say they have received a tip that the man is Mitchell Carlson, “a full-fledged member of the Hell’s Angels” and “a known associate of the Aryan Cowboys. The Aryan Cowboys are a known prison gang out of Minnesota and Kentucky.”

Mitchell did not immediately return a voicemail from The Daily Beast on Tuesday.

The search for Umbrella Man went months without a lead until investigators received a tip that he was a member of the Hells Angels who “wanted to sow discord and racial unrest by breaking out the windows” of the AutoZone, according to the search warrant affidavit.

Although the search warrant does not charge Mitchell with a crime, it stated that investigators were seeking data from cell phone towers that would provide information as to his whereabouts during the incident.

After Floyd was killed in Minneapolis Police custody in late May, elected officials in Minneapolis and elsewhere accused so-called “outside agitators” of inciting violent chaos. Some of these allegations have fallen flat. Despite initial reports that many people arrested in Minneapolis were from out of state, [most were later revealed to be locals](#), prompting activists to cite the “outside agitator” narrative as a means of discrediting their movement. Nevertheless, some of the claims appeared to have a kernel of truth. Leaked law enforcement documents, [reported by journalist Emma Best](#), reveal that white supremacist gangs—specifically the Hells Angels and Aryan Cowboys—had also discussed posing as anti-fascists in Minneapolis to discredit them during the protests. (continues on page 6)

**“32-year-old Mitchell Carlson is not charged with a crime in connection with the George Floyd protests but has a documented history of violence.”**



## This Is the Alleged White Supremacist ‘Umbrella Man’ Police Suspect of Minneapolis Chaos (continued)



Credit: Sophia Rashid

Carlson was implicated in another recent incident, according to the affidavit: He was allegedly present when the Aryan Cowboys were accused of [harassing a Muslim woman](#) in late June.

Mitchell has a litany of previous arrests, many for traffic issues, but some for violent incidents. In February, he was charged with making terroristic threats and domestic abuse by strangulation. He was convicted and sentenced on a misdemeanor level for the threats, but the abuse charges were

dismissed. In a separate case that month, he was convicted of domestic abuse.

A Facebook account that appeared to be his indicated a long sympathy for white supremacist causes, including memes with swastikas and Nazi salutes.

The Minneapolis Police Department did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

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## Written Statement of Adam DeMarco Hearing Before the Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives “Unanswered Questions About the U.S. Park Police’s June 1 Attack on Peaceful Protestors at Lafayette Square”



Adam DeMarco DC National Guard officer and former Maryland congressional primary candidate.

Ballotpedia

Chairman Grijalva, Ranking Member Bishop, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding the events at Lafayette Square in Washington, DC, on June 1, 2020.

I come before the Committee to help ensure that there is a fair factual record of what happened at Lafayette Square, based on what I saw and experienced first-hand. I especially want this Committee, the residents of Washington, DC, and the American people to know that the Soldiers and Airmen of the DC National Guard performed with the utmost professionalism and integrity, faithful to our Constitution, under the most challenging of circumstances.

I regard my testimony today as fulfilling my oath to support and defend the Constitution, and as an extension of my public service -- service that began as a cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point and has continued for over a decade as a commissioned officer both in the Army and the National Guard.

During my five years on active duty, I had the privilege of serving in the 1st Cavalry and 1st Armored Divisions, and the honor of leading America’s sons and daughters in three overseas deployments, including a combat deployment to Iraq. In 2014, after completing my active duty obligation, I elected to continue to serve in uniform by (continued on page 7).

## Written Statement of Adam DeMarco (continued)

joining the District of Columbia National Guard. Through my military service, I have continued a family tradition of public service dating back to my grandfathers, Charles Woodrow Wilson Lohrig and William Holmes.

My paternal grandfather, Grandpa “Woody,” enlisted in the Navy in the 1930s and was assigned to the USS Houston, said to be President Franklin Roosevelt’s favorite ship. On February 28, 1942, the Houston encountered an overwhelming Japanese force in what is known as the Battle of the Sunda Strait. Surviving the initial battle only to be captured by the Japanese, Grandpa Woody and his shipmates endured a brutal 42 months of forced labor, torture, and starvation in captivity until liberated by Allied forces in 1945.

My maternal grandfather enlisted in the United States Marine Corps after the end of World War II. He later fought in the Korean War and received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in combat. He never talked about his time in Korea, but he was a proud Marine until his dying day and always christened his boats with the name, “Semper Fi.”

In the 1980s, my father also engaged in public service -- first as a law enforcement officer in Pinellas County, Florida, and subsequently as a Special Agent at the Department of Defense and the Department of Transportation. His example imparted to me essential core values that I strive to live up to each and every day.

### Events at Lafayette Square on June 1

In March 2020, I was activated by the DC National Guard to assist in the District of Columbia’s response to the coronavirus pandemic. In that capacity, I was selected to

serve as a liaison between the DC National Guard and the DC Government’s Department of Health and local hospitals to facilitate immediate needs requests, surge capacity planning, and emergency events associated with the pandemic.

On the evening of May 29, 2020, I received notification that the entire DC National Guard was to be activated to help respond to ongoing civil disturbances within the District of Columbia, specifically in the vicinity of Lafayette Square.

Over the next two days, the DC National Guard deployed forces to Lafayette Square in support of the U.S. Park Police. During that time, I received reports that six DC National Guard personnel had sustained injuries as a result of violent unrest outside of the White House. I also learned that federal law enforcement officers from the Park Police and the U.S. Secret Service had sustained injuries.

On June 1, 2020, I was tasked to serve as a liaison between the DC National Guard’s “Task Force Civil Disturbance” and the Park Police at Lafayette Square. As events unfolded that evening, I was one of the senior DC National Guard officers within the area of operations.

The Task Force consisted of approximately 250 personnel from the DC National Guard, and its mission was to provide support for the Park Police in the vicinity of the White House and national monuments. DC National Guard personnel were outfitted with standard riot gear, such as face masks, shields, shin guards, and batons for defensive purposes. But no National Guardsmen were armed with lethal or non-lethal munitions that evening.

(continued on page 8)

**“Over the next two days, the DC National Guard deployed forces to Lafayette Square in support of the U.S. Park Police.”**



Arlington County Police

Photo: Alex Brandon/AP

## Written Statement of Adam DeMarco (continued from page 7)



Washington Post  
Photo By Evelyn  
Hockstein

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Staging from the DC Armory, we arrived at the White House complex around 5:35 pm and formed up in front of the Department of the Treasury to minimize our footprint and avoid antagonizing demonstrators positioned along the fence line on H Street on the northern edge of Lafayette Square. Upon arrival, I received a briefing from my liaison with the Park Police and learned that the DC National Guard's task would be to support a Park Police operation to clear demonstrators from the vicinity of Lafayette Square. The Park Police plan was to clear H Street between Vermont Avenue to the east and Connecticut Avenue to the west, and move north on Vermont Avenue, 16th Street, and Connecticut Avenue to extend the security perimeter from H Street to I Street. The immediate objective of this clearing operation, I was told, was to install a larger security barricade on H Street along the northern edge of Lafayette Square.

From a briefing I received from the Park Police, I learned that the Park Police, along with the Secret Service, would conduct an operation to clear demonstrators on H Street between Vermont Avenue and Connecticut Avenue. The DC National Guard was not to be actively engaged in the clearing operation. Rather, our job was to move behind the Park Police as H Street was cleared and the new northern security perimeter was established on I Street, then reinforce and relieve the Park Police on the new perimeter and hold a static line there. I understood that a curfew imposed by the DC Mayor was not going into effect until 7:00 pm, so I was not expecting any clearing operation to commence before then.

I did not know what orders or rules of engagement had been issued to the Park Police concerning the use of force against the demonstrators. I asked my Park Police liaison if tear gas would be used because I had observed tear gas canisters affixed to

Park Police officers' vests, and I knew that tear gas had been used against demonstrators the previous evening. The Park Police liaison told me that tear gas would not be employed.

A few minutes before 6:00 pm, I was standing near the statue of Andrew Jackson in the middle of Lafayette Square as DC National Guard personnel formed up behind Park Police units positioned in a line behind the perimeter fence on the H Street side of the square, facing demonstrators on the other side of the fence. From what I could observe, the demonstrators were behaving peacefully, exercising their First Amendment rights.

At approximately 6:05 pm, after I had repositioned myself close to the line, I observed Attorney General William Barr and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark Milley, walking across Lafayette Square from the direction of the White House toward the security perimeter on H Street. Attorney General Barr walked right up to the line of Park Police and DC National Guard, in front of the demonstrators, then walked down the line of Park Police officers and National Guardsmen. The Attorney General then headed towards the statue of President Jackson where he appeared to confer with Park Police officers.

General Milley walked towards the area where I was standing. As the senior National Guard officer on the scene at the time, I gave General Milley a quick briefing on our mission and the current situation. General Milley asked for an estimate of the number of demonstrators, and I estimated 2,000. General Milley told me to ensure that National Guard personnel remained calm, adding that we were there to respect the demonstrators' First Amendment rights.

(continued on page 9)



## Written Statement of Adam DeMarco (continued from page 8)

At around 6:20 pm, after the Attorney General and General Milley departed Lafayette Square, the Park Police issued the first of three warning announcements to the demonstrators, directing them to disperse. I did not expect the announcements so early, as the curfew was not due to go into effect until 7:00 pm, 40 minutes later.

The warnings were conveyed using a megaphone near the statue of President Jackson, approximately 50 yards from the demonstrators. From where I was standing, approximately 20 yards from the demonstrators, the announcements were barely audible and I saw no indication that the demonstrators were cognizant of the warnings to disperse

At approximately 6:30 pm, the Park Police began the clearing operation, led by Civil Disturbance Units and horse-mounted officers. The Secret Service, and other law enforcement agencies I was unable to identify, also participated in the push. No National Guard personnel participated in the push or engaged in any other use of force against the demonstrators.

By then I had moved to the northeast corner of Lafayette Square near the statue of General Kosciuszko. As the clearing operation began, I heard explosions and saw smoke being used to disperse the protestors. The Park Police liaison officer told me that the explosions were “stage smoke,” and that no tear gas was being deployed against the demonstrators. But I could feel irritation in my eyes and nose, and based on my previous exposure to tear gas in my training at West Point and later in my Army training, I recognized that irritation as effects consistent with CS or “tear gas.” And later that evening, I found spent tear gas canisters on the street nearby.

During the initial push, I had relocated to a

position near the northeast corner of Lafayette Square, next to the Comfort Station that had been burned the previous evening, in order to closely observe the clearing operation. As the horses began to move from east to west along H Street, they stopped in the vicinity of St. John’s Church and the Park Police’s Civil Disturbance Unit then took the lead and pushed the demonstrators further down H Street. From my vantage point, I saw demonstrators scattering and fleeing as the Civil Disturbance Unit charged toward them. I observed people fall to the ground as some Civil Disturbance Unit members used their shields offensively as weapons. As I walked behind the Civil Disturbance Units pushing westward on H Street, I also observed unidentified law enforcement personnel behind our National Guardsmen using “paintball-like” weapons to discharge what I later learned to be “pepper balls” into the crowd, as demonstrators continued to retreat.

About ten minutes after the clearing operation began, the Park Police ordered the DC National Guard to move up behind the Park Police clearing elements pushing north on Vermont Avenue, 16th Street, and Connecticut Avenue to reinforce and relieve the Park Police on the newly established northern perimeter.

I took up a position on 16th Street between St. John’s Church and the AFL-CIO building. By then, H Street had been cleared of demonstrators. Soon thereafter, several black sport utility vehicles pulled up at the intersection of 16th Street and H Street, and uniformed Secret Service officers began to establish an inner security cordon between the SUVs and our perimeter on I Street. At around 7:05 pm, I saw the President walking onto H Street from Lafayette Square, near St. John’s Church, accompanied by his security detail. (continued on page 10).

**“the announcements were barely audible and I saw no indication that the demonstrators were cognizant of the warnings to disperse “**



The Milwaukee Independent

## Written Statement of Adam DeMarco (continued from page 9)

The President's arrival was a complete surprise, as we had not been briefed that he would enter our sector.

As for the new security barrier, whose installation was the stated purpose of the clearing operation, the materials to erect it did not arrive on the scene until around 9:00 pm, and it was not completed until later that night.

### Conclusion

Members of the Committee, the events I witnessed at Lafayette Square on the evening of June 1 were deeply disturbing to me, and to fellow National Guardsmen. Having served in a combat zone, and understanding how to assess threat environments, at no time did I feel threatened by the protestors or assess them to be violent. In addition, considering the principles of proportionality of force and the fundamental strategy of graduated responses specific to civil disturbance operations, it was my observation that the use of force against demonstrators in the clearing operation was

an unnecessary escalation of the use of force. From my observation, those demonstrators – our fellow American citizens -- were engaged in the peaceful expression of their First Amendment rights. Yet they were subjected to an unprovoked escalation and excessive use of force.

As the late Representative John Lewis said, "When you see something that is not right, not just, not fair, you have a moral obligation to say something, to do something."

The oath I swore as a military officer, to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, is a bedrock guiding principle and, for me, constitutes an individual moral commitment and ethical instruction. It is the foundation of the trust safely placed in the Armed Forces by the American people. And it compels me to say something – and do something – about what I witnessed on June 1 at Lafayette Square.

**Andi it was all for this**



AP Photo/ Patrick Semansky

Saturday August 1, 20

Food Drive for the Little Free Pantry 11AM—1PM  
226 Crystal Ave., Findlay

Ohio Democratic Party virtual State Convention 4:30—6PM  
get a ticket at the ODP website

Sunday August 2, 2020

[Battlefield Toledo Phone Banking With Alan Bannister](#)  
Sun 8/2, 3 – 5pm

Monday August 3, 2020

Tuesday August 4, 2020

Wednesday August 5, 2020

Thursday August 6 2020

A Community Conversation—Diversity and Inclusion in our  
Schools Zoom and Facebook Live (Hancock County Democrats and  
the Black Heritage Library and Multicultural Center)

Friday August 7, 2020

## JUST FOR FUN

[Get the digital edition of the Washington Post for \\$29/year](#) the Courier cost 7 times as much and is a crappy newspaper

When the white missionaries came to Africa they had the Bible and we had the land.

They said 'Let us pray.' We closed our eyes.

When we opened them we had the Bible and they had the land.

- *Desmond Tutu*

America is the only country where a significant proportion of the population believes that professional wrestling is real but the moon landing was faked.

- David Letterman



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## ABOUT

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Guest submissions are welcome. Please submit any work you would like to see published here to : [Bruce Workman](#)