

# THE HANCOCK COUNTY DEMOCRAT



## HANCOCK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

### Musings of a stable genius on COVID testing

By Glenn Kessler , Washington Post Fact-Checker; edited by Bruce Workman

**“Anyone who wants a test can get a test,”**

**March 6, 2020**

This statement was so blatantly incorrect that Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar felt the need to issue a correction the following day.

**“We are way ahead on testing. We are the best in the world on testing. We’ve tested much more than anybody else, times two — or every country combined. We’ve tested more than every country combined.”**

**April 28, 2020**

Not even close and even worse per 1,000 people.

**“I’ve told you that we inherited a very broken test — a broken system and a broken test, and within a short period of time, we were setting records.”**

**April 28, 2020**

Since this was a new virus, there wouldn’t be a test in place, would there? He was probably referring to a plan that called for the CDC to take the lead on testing. In a January 28 Wall Street Journal article, two former Trump administration officials

warned that this would be too large a task for the CDC alone. We know that Trump does not read, but maybe we can assume someone in the White House does.

Two former Trump administration officials had warned Jan. 28, in a Wall Street Journal article, that the CDC was not up to task and the private sector needed to be engaged. But the Trump administration waited another month before it fast-tracked the development of tests by private companies. Many of the tests produced by the CDC were contaminated. From mid-January until Feb. 28, fewer than 4,000 tests from the CDC were used out of more than 160,000 produced, The Washington Post reported.

Both South Korea and the United States reported the first case on the same day — Jan. 21.

(But South Korea rapidly developed a test and conducted massive testing — 10,000 people a day — while the United States did not.

This graphic illustration shows how quickly South Korea (orange-yellow) (continued on page 4)

### Introducing Nick Rubando

by Team Rubando

*My name is Nick Rubando, and I am the Democratic Nominee for Ohio’s 5th Congressional District. I am running for Congress because we need Universal healthcare, strong environmental protections, and corruption-free governance. I have watched working-class people in this District struggle since I was a kid. My mother was unable to find affordable health insurance for years because of her preexisting condition. My dad battled to*

*keep his small business afloat. Today, Ohio is #2 in opioid related deaths, Lake Erie’s water is undrinkable because of the rampant toxic algal blooms, family farms are being crushed by factory farms and trade wars, unions are being threatened by right-to-work legislation, and everyday people struggle to get by. In this district we have lost the MITEC plant, displacing 220 manufacturing jobs, and First Solar, the largest manufacturer of solar panels in the Northern Hemisphere, is (continued on page4)*

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## Two whistleblower memos detail Trump administration's haphazard coronavirus response by Gabe Fleisher, Wake Up to Politics.

Dr. Rick Bright, who was ousted last month as director of the Health and Human Services Department office leading the search for a coronavirus vaccine, filed a whistleblower complaint Tuesday alleging that the Trump administration failed to take early action to combat the coronavirus.

In his [89-page complaint](#), Bright described a public health process that was driven by politics, claiming that his early attempts to respond to the coronavirus "encountered opposition" from top officials and that he was pushed out of his position because of his "efforts to prioritize science and safety over political expediency."

Bright also accused administration officials of ignor-

ing "scientific merit and expert recommendations" to award lucrative drug contracts to "companies with political connections to the administration."

He also said his ouster came about in part because he refused to "fall in line with the administration's directive to promote the broad use of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine" after President Trump was repeatedly pushed by political allies to promote the class of drugs as a "game-changer" in combatting coronavirus despite limited scientific evidence.

But Bright's was not the only whistleblower memo that came to light on Tuesday: the [Washington Post](#) also reported on a complaint filed with the House Oversight Committee (continued on page 4)

## I Don't Believe Tara Reade by Bruce Workman

### THE HANCOCK COUNTY DEMOCRAT

I found the headline from a recent article (Nate Silver's 538) perplexing: "Tara Reade's Allegations Put Establishment Democrats In A Bind: Believe Women Or Back The Nominee."

So, doubting Tara Reade's conveniently timed (read her Tweets) statements is the same as doubting all women? That may be the most misogynistic headline ever. One woman does not represent all women any more than one man represents all men. I would deeply resent the implication that Donald Trump represented me in any way,

shape, or form.

One of Ms. Reade's star witnesses forgot the alleged incident until coaxed by her to come forward. I believe the statements of many women on many topics, but I am not gullible enough to believe there are no women or men who lie.

The "Me too" movement brought to light the misbehavior of many men and is commendable in that regard. I am concerned about the lack of applicable rules of evidence. To this day, (continued on page 5)

## Attack of the Bernie Bros by Bruce Workman

I should begin with a brief disclaimer: This is an opinion piece base solely on anecdotal evidence obtained from social media

Bernie Sanders is the worst thing to ever happen to the Democratic Party. I am not referring to the man, who seems like a genuinely nice person, or the politician, who appears more sincere than most. I am referring to many of the supporters he attracts. Like Bernie, they do not identify as Democrats. Unlike Bernie, they are not linked in any manner to Democrats.

During contacts on social media, I have had many

"Bernie progressives" express the belief that democrats are only slightly less corrupt than republicans. "Progressives vs everyone" has become a familiar meme on Facebook and other social media platforms. "#BelieveTaraReade" is another.

I challenged one young man who posted the former in the chat area of a Joe Biden Facebook event. I believe my exact response was "that is the most asinine post I have ever seen anywhere." The young man responded that the meme was essentially (continued on page 3)

## **Halloween Parade by Cathy Weygandt October 30, 2019**

What a wonderful Halloween Parade that passed my way. I observed so many delightful groups coming together to promote family fun. Eight Marching Bands that were terrific! I witnessed so many costumed children and people out to enjoy the pretty fall evening. There were all kinds of creative floats and displays to remember.

But wait, what was that? A float observed on a huge flatbed truck, with a facsimile "Trump" building his wall? Really? In the "family-oriented event" that the Hancock Leadership Alumni Association promoted, was this really appropriate? The H.L.A.A. website rules for parade admissions stated, "Make sure your message and actions are appropriate for all audiences."

A quick call to Northwest Masonry confirmed what business was behind this disappointing abuse of free speech. Certainly not a great business plan in my book! Even the Pope has decried against the horrible policy of separating innocent children from their families and the way we are treating the immigrants seeking legal asylum.

Walls create division, in our great country and now even in our city. We most certainly do not need more division!



## **Attack of the Bernie Bros. (continued from page 2)**

### **THE HANCOCK COUNTY DEMOCRAT**

essentially true because democrats are also corrupted by monied interests and must earn his vote. When I replied that our most urgent task right now is defeating Trump, he said that it was not as urgent as ensuring Bernie's platform was adopted and things were made better for everyone. Since I assume, I am included in everyone and I have a serious problem with people who claim to know what is best for me, the discussion deteriorated from that point.

I have "heard" many others in the Bernie camp express similar sentiments. Distilled, what they are attempting is extortion. Threatening us with reelection of Trump is a bridge too far for me. These

"progressives" are the true monsters in this election season.

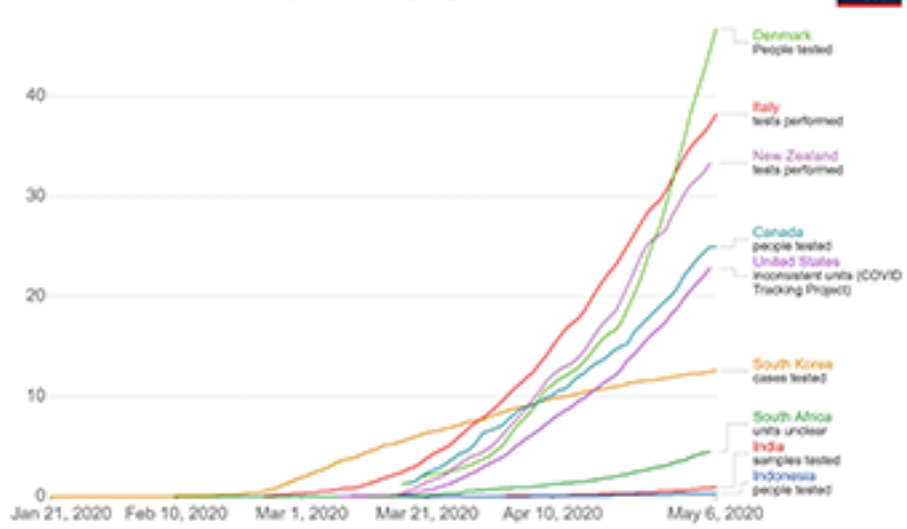
## Stable genius

(Continued from page 1)  
ramped up testing compared to the United States (purple)

“Well, it will increase it and it’ll increase it by much more than that [5 million tests a day] in the very near future. We’re way ahead of everyone on testing. ... Well, we’re going to be there very soon. If you look at the numbers, it could be that we’re getting very close.”

April 28, 2020

Total COVID-19 tests per 1,000 people



Source: Official sources collated by Our World in Data  
Note: For testing figures, there are substantial differences across countries in terms of the units, whether or not all labs are included, the extent to which negative and pending tests are included and other aspects. Details for each country can be found at the linked page.

## Nick Rubando (continued from page 1)

*threatened by COVID-19 economic impacts. I think we could be doing better, and that starts with representatives that fight for the people they represent.*

*Bob Latta has held office since 2007. In that time, he has not held one in-person town hall to meet with constituents and hear our needs. He has accepted thousands of dollars from oil and gas industries and pharmaceutical companies—industries he is meant to regulate through his seat on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. When we see little to no movement on issues like clean drinking water, the opioid epidemic, and manufacturing adaptability and growth, Bob*

*Latta is responsible.*

*The people of Ohio’s 5th District are ready for change. That is why my campaign has been endorsed by Brand New Congress, UFCW Local #75, Cement Masons & Plasterers Local #886, Communication Workers of America #4319, Ohio Students for Gun Legislation, and local elected officials. I won the Democratic Primary with 51% and in Hancock county we nearly doubled Democratic voter turnout. I am so excited to get to work for this district. On the campaign trail I have had the opportunity to listen to Ohioans, and there is real passion for change. My campaign is centered on advocating for the even in that process. Together we can turn Hancock County, Ohio, and the nation blue.*

**“Bob Latta has held office since 2007. In that time, he has not held one in-person town hall to meet with constituents and hear our needs.”**

## Whistleblower (continued from page 2)

by a volunteer who has departed a coronavirus response team led by White House senior adviser Jared Kushner.

A lengthy [New York Times](#) piece, based on the complaint and numerous interviews with other sources, offered more details about Kushner’s team of “young, inexperienced workers” scrambling to sort through tips in order to find sorely-needed equipment to fight the coronavirus.

According to the Times, the search — much like Bright

alleged with drug contracts — showed the extent to which “personal relationships and loyalty are often prized over governmental expertise” in the Trump administration “and private interests are granted extraordinary access and deference.”

The Times cited one instance in which Kushner’s group passed a tip from a Silicon Valley engineer claiming he could provide more than 1,000 ventilators to senior officials in New York.

## Stable Genius (continued from page 4)

A Harvard University study had said 5 million tests a day by June — and 20 million a day by July — would be necessary for a return to normal life. Trump made these remarks in response to a question about the Harvard study from a reporter, but it turned out he did not know what he was talking about.

Unfortunately for Trump, Brett Giroir, the assistant secretary of health, had told Time magazine earlier in the day: “There is absolutely no way on Earth, on this planet or any other planet, that we can do 20 million tests a day, or even 5 million tests a day.”

**“Individual states were doing in cooperation with the federal government. But originally, it was, ‘Oh, 40,000 people came in.’ What they don’t say — what the news doesn’t say is they happen to be American citizens. How do you keep American citizens — you say they’re coming in from China, they want to come back to their country. There is a tremendous problem in**

**China; they want to come back. Are we supposed to say to an American citizen, ‘You can’t come back into your country?’ And we did do testing, and individual states did testing or were supposed to have.”**

April 28, 2020

Trump has bragged about the restrictions he imposed Feb. 2 on some non-U. S. citizens traveling from China ((continued on page 6)

## Whistleblowers (continued from page 4)

**"Not a single ventilator was delivered, and New York is now seeking to recover the money," the Times said.**

The New York officials assumed the engineer had been vetted and awarded him a \$69 million contract. "Not a single ventilator was delivered, and New York is now seeking to recover the money," the Times said.

## I Don't Believe (continued from page 2)

I believe a great Senator and women's rights advocate, Al Franken, was railroaded from office without a fair hearing and I continue to resent Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand for her role in this injustice.

The same "preponderance of evidence" requirements of a civil case should apply to allegations that have the

potential to destroy a person's career and reputation. No more 'she said and her neighbor agreed/he said' convictions. Otherwise we may re-create the vengeance-stoked witch hunts of the past where the mere allegation of child sexual abuse was enough to destroy an ex or an entire childcare facility.

In general, I find women to be as credible, if not more so, as men. I just have serious doubts about what this woman is saying, and her motives. And I refuse to believe that make me a terrible man.



## Stable Genius (conclusion)

, but 40,000 people in February and March — a figure disclosed by the New York Times — managed to travel from China.

**“The only reason the U.S. has reported one million cases of CoronaVirus is that our Testing is sooo much better than any other country in the World. Other countries are way behind us in Testing, and therefore show far fewer cases!”**

April 29,2020

**“The reason [for 1 million cases] is because of testing, be-**

**cause other countries don't test. So, if you don't test, you're not going to find cases.”**

April 29,2020

Many countries with significant caseloads are testing, often at greater rates than the United States. The United States has such a huge case load because it failed to ramp up testing at the speed of other countries, so the virus spread silently before

Trump finally took the problem seriously and advocated mitigation and social distancing efforts.

Having 1 million cases of covid-19 is nothing to brag about.



**In front of the Governor's office in Lansing, MI  
Imagine if these were African-Americans. Would the  
Lansing police kill them or would the National  
Guard?**

**Serving all residents of Hancock County**

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*Our mission is to support, promote, build and perpetuate the Democratic Party in Hancock County, Ohio, by recruiting, screening, and training qualified Candidates, raising funds, registering voters, distributing literature, advertising, and doing other such appropriate activities.*

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB**

<https://hancockcountydems.org>

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