

The July 14th, 2016 Edition of THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY!

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Welcome to the July 14th, 2016 Edition of THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY!

LibertyCon is over and I am tired and still trying to unbury my desk of all the paperwork associated with a successful convention. When I opened my email on Tuesday, I had over 300 emails and most of them were registrations for next year. You see, I keep the backup database and see all the online registrations. And that didn't even include the 90 or so paper registrations that Matt took on Sunday of the convention. As a matter of fact, I am still getting in online registrations for next year from the fans who attended LibertyCon 29. Now if that doesn't blow your mind, I am getting in memberships for next year from a bunch of new people. Matt just said on Facebook over 300 people have registered for LibertyCon 30 and he thinks it's a record. Oh yes, it's a record alright. Holy Smokes Batman!

And yes, this was one of the best LibertyCon in years. But, don't take my word for it, just talk to someone who went. I admit that I am biased, but I took great pride in listening to the fans and their praises for the event. I think that the funniest thing was that on Sunday night after the Chattanooga Choo Choo was already over 70% booked for the LibertyCon 30 weekend next year.

I guess I am getting older because I am taking longer every year recovering. But I do feel very happy that we raised over \$8,700 for our charity this year. We won't know the final figure until Melvin does the books in October and I'll report on it when I get the news.

I can't praise the LibertyCon Staff enough for all of their work last weekend. Everything pretty much worked like clockwork for the convention. It was kind of funny, since we sold out on preregistration there were damn few delays at registration getting into the convention. It worked out so well, I think I am going to try to pick on Matt and get him to open registration for a few hours next year on Thursday night before the convention to make it even easier for the early birds. Who know, it might work. Then Rich started programming early on Friday at 1:00 pm so that the early birds had plenty to do. Definitely no complaints there from the fans. Vonn put on a hell of a consuite and everyone seemed to have plenty of bheer, soft drinks and munchies for the weekend. Davey, our new head of Gaming, evidently was packed with people because the Norfolk Room was packed all weekend. It was kind of funny because some of the gamers were surprised that Steve Jackson, of Steve Jackson Games, was running tournaments on different games throughout the weekend.

Now behind the scenes, John Trieber and his engineering staff were the stars of the show. It's kind of funny because when they excel at their jobs, the fans don't really notice. But trust me they really did one hell of a job. I occasionally would peak into the Art Show and I can tell you that they were busy all weekend. Derek had designed a new program that Ann and her cohorts were using to keep track of the art paperwork. From what Ann said, the new program worked like a charm. The Huckster Room is located next to the Art Show and from all reports, everyone seemed to enjoy the mix of material on display to entice the fans from their money. I guess that the Hucksters did pretty good because most of them has signed up to come back next year. I know that I have overlooked a ton of other things to report to you but everyone did so well this year that the whole weekend was an honest blur to me. All I can say is that all of the staff and fans who attended this year's LibertyCon were simply MARVELOUS!

I was even on my best behavior this year. A lot of the old farts were have a great time baiting me because I normally love to talk politics and gossip. Since the presidential election is on everybody's mind, that was the big topic this year. I have thought about it very carefully and came up with a simple answer for this political year. I decided that I wouldn't talk about any political party because the presidential choice comes down to one question. Who is the new president going to pick to fill the vacancy in the Supreme Court. That and only that will be the important issue ahead of this country to decide. I figure that congress will keep him/her under control throughout their term. If you are conservative you will pick one way and if you are liberal you will pick the other. I am a fiscal conservative so you can guess which way I will go. ;^).

So on that "Inscrutable Note", why don't y'all sit back and relax because here's the best in gossip, jokes and science for your reading pleasure!

Uncle Timmy

<G>~<O>~<S>~<S>~<I>~<P>~<S>~<T>~<A>~<R>~<T>~<S>~<H>~<E>~<R>~<E>~<I>

ANOTHER LIBERTYCON IN THE HISTORY BOOKS

From: Tedd Roberts Facebook Posting July 11 at 11:37pm

What was my favorite event? Hmm. Hard to say - teasing Science GoHBen Davis? Dinner with Tom Kratman? Spending time with my twin-sister-from-another-mother-Sarah A. Hoyt? Introducing Jason Cordova to Brazilian BBQ? For that matter, how about Jonathan LaForce's BBQ?

Perhaps walking with Toni, Joelle, Melonie, Patty, Michael (to name a few) - or - sharing walking/running/5K/marathon stories with Bridget Litchford Correia - not to mention just having pleasant conversation!

Maybe it was the range trip with James Cochrane and Baen Barflies?

How about an Awesome First Contact Improv with Todd McCaffrey, Daniel M. Hoyt, Ben Davis and Larry Correia? Then again, this is the third year in a row that Todd and I have spent part of Saturday dinner talking brain science! A little planning and plotting transpired, as Les Johnson and I discussed a potential project.

Les' Mad Science Roundtable was great fun (even if I did get called out by a phone call!). For fellow not-really-mad-just-a-bit-annoyed Scientist James Beall (and his lovely wife Chris Oakley) - we've still got more fun coming up at ConGregate!

Absolutely awesome was being in the company of John Ringo, Gary Poole, Jody Lynn Nye, Sarah A. Hoyt, Michael Z. Williamson, Michael ("Beefcake") Massa, Jason Cordova and good friends KC "Hot Chick" Seville, and Chris Smith for the Black Tide Rising roundtable and my first-ever autograph signing. I must confess to sharing giggles and asides with Michael Massa and Jody Lynn Nye during the panel, and John infected me with yet another story idea right in the middle of the hour (not to mention the inspiration of seeing John and Mike sign a contract with Baen's incomparable Toni Weisskopf right there on stage!).

Finally, it was just so darned comfortable relaxing with "chosen family" like the Hoyts, Miriam, Philip Wohlrab, Chris, KC, Cathe Smith, Eudyptes Diabolicus (he's not *really* evil, that's just his name...) and Jeremy Cubby's Handler Levitt.

There are many of you that I have not named. LibertyCon is the best family reunion ever, and Brandy & Derek Spraker, "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo, Rich and Tish Groller, Ken Roy, Matt Fanny, Fritz Ling and the LC29 board, staff and volunteers (like Gerry Martin, Jonny Minion, John Trieber) do a wonderful job.

For the many people I talked with and who had questions, comments or even just shared a fist-bump - I confess that even if I spent all night, I could not name you all - and will *still* miss someone. So, let me say thank you for coming, for encouraging me in this little articles and stories, and for making this a wonderful time. For ConGregarate friends - see you in a week; for DragonCon friends, it's just under 8 weeks - but who's counting?

On the drive home, I even got to stop and visit with Remy, Jaime and Christopher DiNote in a "drive-by hugging."

I'm tired, yet energized all at once.

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From: David B. Coe's Facebook Page, July 11 at 11:46am

Had a great weekend at LibertyCon and had the opportunity to hang out and catch up with more people than I could ever hope to thank in a post (without leaving out someone important). So I will simply say a heartfelt thank you to the great people who put the con together every year: Brandy Spraker, Derek Spraker, Tim Bolgeo, Linda Vannucci Bolgeo, Richard Groller, and all the terrific volunteers who make sure that everyone is having a safe, fun weekend. Thank you!!

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TIM MEETS A FRIEND

From: Arlan Andrews Facebook Page

At LibertyCon. Tim Bolgeo and Ben Yalow.

The last time Ben and I had met, probably around D.C., we both had dark hair. (And more of it.)

(Little known fact: Ben's mother, Dr. Rosalyn Yalow, won the 1977 Nobel Prize for Medicine. Ben said her doctorate was in physics, and that she hadn't had a biology course since high school. Google her for fascinating details.) — with Tim Bolgeo.

I HAVE BEEN AN ADMIRER OF BEN YALLOW FOR 30 PLUS YEARS AND HAVING HIM COME TO LIBERTYCON WAS A GREAT HONOR FOR ME. HE IS ONE OF THE NICEST PEOPLE AND AN OLD FASHIONED FAN. THANK YOU BEN. BUT ARLAN, YOU COULD HAVE GOTTEN A BETTER PICTURE OF ME. ;^) UT



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MASSIVE BOOK SALE OF THE COLLECTION OF KLON NEWELL JULY 22 and 23, 9 am to 5 pm

From: "Jack Gonzalez" jgonzo001@gmail.com

Klon Newell, retired Director of LibertyCon and Rare Book Dealer, is now in assisted living and doing well. We are planning a book sale at Klon's home on July 22 and 23, 9 am. to 5 pm. to help pay his expenses in the assisted living facility to benefit Klon. There will be almost 6,000 books to choose from at some very affordable prices.

Klon will there at the sale to shoot the breeze and say hello. His address is below and phone no. remains the same. Thanks for your help.

**Klon Newell
305 Stoneland Drive
Athens, GA. 30606**

I PLAN ON GOING DOWN THERE TO BUY A BUNCH OF BOOKS. I HOPE THAT I SEE A BUNCH OF Y'ALL DOWN THERE. UT

<L>~<I>~~<E>~<R>~<T>~<Y>~<C>~<O>~<N>

GREG MATLOFF'S NEW BOOK - STARLIGHT, STARBRIGHT: ARE STARS CONSCIOUS?

From: "NEIL SHUTTLEWOOD" neilshuttlewood@btinternet.com

Greg Matloff's new book, Starlight, Starbright: Are Stars Conscious? has just been published.

Both Greg and I, the book publisher, would like to invite you to purchase a copy of his book from either <http://www.curtis-press.com/> or at Amazon.com.

Thank you for supporting the publication of Greg's new book.

<L>~<I>~~<E>~<R>~<T>~<Y>~<C>~<O>~<N>

Re: About that "Catholic men and women" jokes.

From: "Christina Cowan" cowanc1028@earthlink.net

Ahem. As a retired member of the Sea Services (the Navy and the Marines, although I'm sure you all know that already and Coast Guard to be pedantic), I must remind you that the original version went:

Four Catholic women are having tea....

yadda yadda "My son is a priest..."

yadda yadda "My son is a monsignor..."

yadda yadda "My son is a bishop..."

And then the three looked expectantly at the fourth woman, who hadn't said anything yet. She put down her teacup and quietly said, "MY son is a 6 foot tall, fit and trim, United States Marine. When he walks into a room, all the women say "My God!"

Knowing the traditional version matters!

<T>~<H>~<E>~<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<S>~<T>~<A>~<R>~<T>~<H>~<E>~<R>~<E>

From: "Karen Boyd" abtale@comcast.net

SECURITY UPGRADE

I took down my Rebel flag (which you can't buy on eBay any more), tossed the 'Don't Tread on Me' flag and peeled the NRA sticker off the front door. I gave the pit bull to my mother-in-law and stored my AK-47. I disconnected my home alarm system and quit the candy-ass Neighborhood Watch.

Instead of all that silly stuff I bought two Pakistani flags and put one at each corner of the front yard. Then I purchased the black flag of ISIS (which you CAN buy on eBay) and ran it up the flag pole. Now, the local police, sheriff, FBI, CIA, NSA, Homeland Security, Secret Service and other agencies are all watching my house 24/7. I've NEVER felt safer and I'm saving \$69.95 a month that ADT used to charge me.

Plus, I bought burkas for my family. When we shop or travel, everyone moves out of the way and security can't pat us down. Hot Dang! Safe at last! Is America getting greater every day or what?

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Jim Woosley" Jimwoosley@aol.com

MUSLIM NEIGHBORS COMPLAIN ABOUT DOG

She lives next door to a mosque. She bought a husky. He is very nice and does not bite.

She is now getting complaints from the Muslim imam next door. She doesn't know why.

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/Vogp-n1-JPA>

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

Here's a cute little story about a young child...

Recently, while I was working in the flower beds in the front yard, my neighbors stopped to chat as they returned home from walking their dog. During our friendly conversation, I asked their 10-year-old little girl what she wanted to be when she grew up.

She said she wanted to be President someday.

Both of her parents, Democratic Party members, were standing there so I asked her, "If you were President what would be the first thing you would do?"

She replied... "I'd give food and houses to all the homeless people."

Her parents beamed with pride! "Wow...what a worthy goal!"

I said..."But you don't have to wait until you're President to do that!"

"What do you mean?" she replied.

So I told her, "You can come over to my house and mow the lawn, pull weeds, and trim my hedge, and I'll pay you \$50. Then you can go over to the grocery store where the homeless guy hangs out, and you can give him the \$50 to use toward food and a new house."

She thought that over for a few seconds, then she looked me straight in the eye and asked, "Why doesn't the homeless guy come over and do the work, and you can just pay him the \$50?"

I said, "Welcome to the Republican Party."

Her parents aren't speaking to me anymore.

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Ray Beloate" beerman@rittermail.com

JEWISH COMEDIANS

Some of us miss the good old Yiddish humour. Not a single swear word in their comic routines, as shown below:

A car hit an elderly Jewish man. The paramedic says, "Are you comfortable?"
The man says, "I make a good living."

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I just got back from a pleasure trip. I took my mother-in-law to the airport.

~~~~~

I've been in love with the same woman for 49 years. If my wife finds out, she'll kill me!

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Someone stole all my credit cards, but I won't be reporting it. The thief spends less than my wife did.

We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.

~~~~~

My wife and I went to a hotel where we got a waterbed. My wife calls it the Dead Sea.

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My wife and I revisited the hotel where we spent our wedding night. This time I was the one who stayed in the bathroom and cried.

~~~~~

My wife was at the beauty shop for two hours. That was only for the estimate. She got a mudpack and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.

~~~~~

The Doctor gave a man six months to live. The man couldn't pay his bill, so the doctor gave him another six months.

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The Doctor called Mrs. Cohen saying, "Mrs. Cohen, your check came back."

Mrs. Cohen replied, "So did my arthritis."

~~~~~

Doctor: "You'll live to be 60!" Patient: "I AM 60!" Doctor:

"See! What did I tell you?"

~~~~~

A doctor held a stethoscope up to a man's chest. The man asks, "Doc, how do I stand?
The doctor says, "That's what puzzles me!"

~~~~~

Patient: "I have a ringing in my ears. "

Doctor: "Don't answer!"

~~~~~

A drunk was in front of a judge. The judge says, "You've been brought here for drinking.
The drunk says, "Okay, let's get started."

~~~~~

A man called his mother in Florida . "Mom, how are you?"

"Not too good," said the mother. "I've been very weak."

The son said, "Why are you so weak?"

She said, "Because I haven't eaten in 38 days."

The son said, "That's terrible. Why haven't you eaten in 38 days?"

The mother answered, "Because I didn't want my mouth to be full in case you should call."

~~~~~

A Jewish man said that when he was growing up, they always had two choices for dinner -
Take it or leave it.

~~~~~

A Jewish boy comes home from school and tells his mother he has a part in the play.

She asks, "What part is it?"

The boy says, "I play the part of the Jewish husband."

The mother scowls and says, "Go back and tell the teacher you want a speaking part"

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Michael Townsend" [mtown3721@gmail.com](mailto:mtown3721@gmail.com)

#### OLD IRISH CATHOLIC JOKES

A married Irishman went into the confessional and said to his priest, 'I almost had an affair  
with another woman.'

The priest said, 'What do you mean, almost?'

The Irishman said, 'Well, we got undressed and rubbed together, but then I stopped.'

The priest said, 'Rubbing together is the same as putting it in. You're not to see that woman  
again. For your penance, say five Hail Marys and put \$50 in the poor box.'

The Irishman left the confessional, said his prayers, and then walked over to the poor box.

He paused for a moment and then started to leave.

The priest, who was watching, quickly ran over to him saying, 'I saw that. You didn't put any money in the poor box!'

The Irishman replied, 'Yeah, but I rubbed the \$50 on the box, and according to you, that's the same as putting it in!'

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### Lemon Squeeze

There once was a religious young woman who went to Confession. Upon entering the confessional, she said, 'Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned.'

The priest said, 'Confess your sins and be forgiven.'

The young woman said, 'Last night my boyfriend made mad passionate love to me seven times.'

The priest thought long and hard and then said, 'Squeeze seven lemons into a glass and then drink the juice.'

The young woman asked, 'Will this cleanse me of my sins?'

The priest said, 'No, but it will wipe that smile off of your face.'

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### Catholic Dog

Muldoon lived alone in the Irish countryside with only a pet dog for company. One day the dog died, and Muldoon went to the parish priest and asked, 'Father, my dog is dead. Could ya' be sayin' a mass for the poor creature?'

Father Patrick replied, 'I'm afraid not. We cannot have services for an animal in the church. But there are some Baptists down the lane, and there's no tellin' what they believe. Maybe they'll do something for the creature.'

Muldoon said, 'I'll go right away Father. Do ya' think \$5,000 is enough to donate to them for the service?'

Father Patrick exclaimed, 'Sweet Mary, Mother of Jesus! Why didn't ya' tell me the dog was Catholic?'

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### Donation

Father O'Malley answers the phone. 'Hello, is this Father O'Malley?'

'It is!'

'This is the Taxation Department. Can you help us?'

'I'll try!'

'Do you know a Ted Houlihan?'

'I do!'

'Is he a member of your congregation?'

'He is!'

'Did he donate \$10,000 to the church?'

'He will!'

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#### **Confession**

An elderly man walks into a confessional. The following conversation ensues:

Man: 'I am 92 years old, have a wonderful wife of 70 years, many children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Yesterday, I picked up two hitch-hiking college girls. We went to a motel where I had sex with each of them three times.'

Priest: 'Are you sorry for your sins?'

Man: 'What sins?'

Priest: 'What kind of a Catholic are you?'

Man: 'I'm Jewish.'

Priest: 'Why are you telling me all this?'

Man: 'I'm 92 years old . . . I'm telling everybody!'

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#### **Brothel Trip**

An elderly man goes into a brothel and tells the madam he would like a young girl for the night. Surprised, she looks at the ancient man and asks how old he is.

'I'm 90 years old,' he says.

'90?' replies the woman. 'Don't you realise that you've had it?'

'Oh, sorry,' says the old man. 'How much do I owe you?'

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### **Senility**

An elderly man went to his doctor and said, 'Doc, I think I'm getting senile. Several times lately, I have forgotten to zip up.'

'That's not senility,' replied the doctor. 'Senility is when you forget to zip down.'

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### **Pest Control**

A woman was having a passionate affair with an Irish inspector from a pest-control company. One afternoon they were carrying on in the bedroom together when her husband arrived home unexpectedly.

'Quick,' said the woman to the lover, 'into the closet!' and she pushed him in the closet, stark naked.

The husband, however, became suspicious and after a search of the bedroom discovered the man in the closet. 'Who are you?' he asked him.

'I'm an inspector from Bugs-B-Gone,' said the exterminator.

'What are you doing in there?' the husband asked.

'I'm investigating a complaint about an infestation of moths,' the man replied.

'And where are your clothes?' asked the husband.

The man looked down at himself and said, 'Those little bastards! '

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### **Marriage Humour**

Wife: 'What are you doing?'

Husband: Nothing.

Wife: 'Nothing . . . ? You've been reading our marriage certificate for an hour.'

Husband: 'I was looking for the expiration date.'

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Wife: 'Do you want dinner?'

Husband: 'Sure! What are my choices?'

Wife: 'Yes or no.'

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**Stress Reliever**

Girl: 'When we get married, I want to share all your worries, troubles and lighten your burden.'

Boy: 'It's very kind of you, darling, but I don't have any worries or troubles.'

Girl: 'Well. that's because we aren't married yet.'

---

Son: 'Mum, when I was on the bus with Dad this morning, he told me to give up my seat to a lady.'

Mum: 'Well, you have done the right thing.'

Son: 'But mum, I was sitting on Daddy's lap.'

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A newly married man asked his wife, 'Would you have married me if my father hadn't left me a fortune?'

'Honey,' the woman replied sweetly, 'I'd have married you, NO MATTER WHO LEFT YOU A FORTUNE!'

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A wife asked her husband: 'What do you like most in me, my pretty face or my sexy body?'

He looked at her from head to toe and replied: 'I like your sense of humour!'

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**Husbands are husbands**

A man was sitting reading his papers when his wife hit him round the head with a frying pan.

'What was that for?' the man asked.

The wife replied, 'That was for the piece of paper with the name Betty on it that I found in your trouser pocket.'

The man then said 'When I was at the races last week, Betty was the name of the horse I bet on.'

The wife apologized and went on with the housework.

Three days later the man is watching TV when his wife bashes him on the head with an even bigger frying pan, knocking him unconscious.

Upon re-gaining consciousness the man asked why she had hit him again.

Wife replied, 'Your horse phoned!'

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

Why?

1. WHY: Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?

BECAUSE: When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Since most people are right-handed, it is to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! And that's where women's buttons have remained since.

2. WHY: Why do ships and aircraft use 'mayday' as their call for help?

BECAUSE: This comes from the French word 'm'aidez' – meaning 'help me' - and is pronounced, approximately, 'mayday'.

3. WHY: Why are zero scores in tennis called 'love'?

BECAUSE: In France, where tennis became popular, the round zero on the scoreboard looked like an egg and was called 'l'oeuf', which is French for 'the egg'. When tennis was introduced in the US, Americans (naturally), mispronounced it 'love'

4. WHY: Why do X's at the end of a letter signify kisses?

BECAUSE: In the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed using an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfill obligations specified in the document. The X and the kiss eventually became synonymous.

5. WHY: Why is shifting responsibility to someone else called 'passing the buck'?

BECAUSE: In card games, it was once customary to pass an item, called a buck, from player to player to indicate whose turn it was to deal. If a player did not wish to assume the responsibility of dealing, he would 'pass the buck' to the next player.

6. WHY: Why do people clink their glasses before drinking a toast?

**BECAUSE:** In earlier times it used to be common for someone to try to kill an enemy by offering him a poisoned drink. To prove to a guest that a drink was safe, it became customary for a guest to pour a small amount of his drink into the glass of the host. Both men would drink it simultaneously. When a guest trusted his host, he would only touch or clink the host's glass with his own.

**7. WHY:** Why are people in the public eye said to be 'in the limelight'?

**BECAUSE:** Invented in 1825, limelight was used in lighthouses and theatres by burning a cylinder of lime which produced a brilliant light. In the theatre, a performer 'in the limelight' was the center of attention.

**8. WHY:** Why is someone who is feeling great 'on cloud nine'?

**BECAUSE:** Types of clouds are numbered according to the altitudes they attain, with nine being the highest cloud. If someone is said to be on cloud nine, that person is floating well above worldly cares.

**9. WHY:** In golf, where did the term 'Caddie' come from?

**BECAUSE:** When Mary Queen of Scots went to France as a young girl, Louis, King of France, learned that she loved the Scots game 'golf'. He had the first course outside of Scotland built for her enjoyment. To make sure she was properly chaperoned (and guarded) while she played, Louis hired cadets from a military school to accompany her. Mary liked this a lot and when she returned to Scotland (not a very good idea in the long run), she took the practice with her. In French, the word cadet is pronounced 'ca-day' and the Scots changed it into caddie.

**10. WHY:** Why are many coin collection jar banks shaped like pigs?

**BECAUSE:** Long ago, dishes and cookware in Europe were made of dense orange clay called 'pygg'. When people saved coins in jars made of this clay, the jars became known as 'pygg banks'. When an English potter misunderstood the word, he made a container that resembled a pig. And it caught on.

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Mike Waldrip" [waldripk@gmail.com](mailto:waldripk@gmail.com)

### THE PREACHER'S SON

A preacher had a teenage son, and it was getting time the boy should give some thought to choosing a profession.

Like many young men his age, the boy didn't really know what he wanted to do, and he didn't seem too concerned about it.

One day, while the boy was away at school, his father decided to try an experiment. He went into the boy's room and placed on his study table four objects...

1. A Bible...
2. A silver dollar....
3. A bottle of whiskey...
4. And a Playboy magazine...

'I'll just hide behind the door,' the old preacher said to himself. When he comes home from school today, I'll see which object he picks up.

If it's the Bible, he's going to be a preacher like me, and what a blessing that would be!

If he picks up the dollar, he's going to be a business man, and that would be okay, too.

But if he picks up the bottle, he's going to be a no-good drunken bum, and Lord, what a shame that would be.

And worst of all if he picks up that magazine, he's going to be a skirt-chasing womaniser.'

The old man waited anxiously, and soon heard his son's foot-steps as he entered the house whistling and headed for his room.

The boy tossed his books on the bed, and as he turned to leave the room he spotted the objects on the table.

With curiosity in his eye, he walked over to inspect them. Finally, he picked up the Bible and placed it under his arm. He picked up the silver dollar and dropped into his pocket. He uncorked the bottle and took a big drink, while he admired this month's centrefold.

'Lord have mercy,' the old preacher disgustedly whispered.

He's going to run for parliament !

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

This morning I was sitting on a bench next to a homeless man.

I asked him how he ended up this way.

He said, "Up until last week, I still had it all!!

A cook, my clothes were washed and pressed, I had a roof over my head, I had TV, the internet, went to the gym, the pool, the library, medical and dental, I could still continue my education ..."

I asked him, "What happened man? Drugs? Alcohol? Divorce? Tell me what??"

"Oh no, nothing like that" he said. "No, no... I got out of prison."

<YOU>~<>~<JUST>~<>~<CAN'T>~<>~<MAKE>~<>~<THIS>~<>~<STUFF>~<>~<UP!>

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Tim Bolgeo" [tbolgeo@comcast.net](mailto:tbolgeo@comcast.net)

VIDEO: 'Hotel California' Played On Traditional Chinese Instruments Sounds Just Lovely

<http://digg.com/video/hotel-california-chinese-instruments>

The video might be a bit pixilated but the song sounds peachy.

THIS IS BEAUTIFUL AND FANTASTIC! UT

<YOU>~<>~<JUST>~<>~<CAN'T>~<>~<MAKE>~<>~<THIS>~<>~<STUFF>~<>~<UP!>

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Keith A. Glass" <[salgak@comcast.net](mailto:salgak@comcast.net)>

SURE it's just for training. . .

**PENTAGON NURSES TAKE 'ZOMBIE PANDEMIC' COURSE TO TRAIN FOR REAL LIFE OUTBREAKS**

Published time: 5 Jul, 2016 21:56

<https://www.rt.com/usa/349599-pentagon-zombie-apocalypse-nurses/>



© Paulo Whitaker / Reuters

The US Department of Defense is using an animated online course about a zombie pandemic to teach active-duty military nurses about population health. There are actual Pentagon guidelines for a zombie outbreak as well. Do they know something we don't?

Military nurses studying for their doctorate at the Uniformed Services University of the Healthcare Sciences (USU) have to take a course on population health. Because many of the students are deployed around the world, the course has to be available online. It is not all PowerPoints and reading, however: the course features an animated storyline revolving around a zombie pandemic in Washington, DC.

The course was developed by Dr. Catherine Ling, assistant professor and family nurse practitioner at USU's Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing, earning her the prestigious Teaching with Sakai Innovation Award in 2015.

"We use the narrative device of a zombie pandemic in animations and assignment to help engage students in content," Ling explained in a USU release about the course. Students have to apply the theories and models of public health that they learned in the course to the case of the zombie apocalypse.

A still from the "animated zombie pandemic scenario" used by the USU to teach nursing students about public health © Department of Defense/USU

The zombie story "keeps the material interesting," and the theme helps the lessons be more cohesive, Ling said. That narrative cohesion makes it easier to remember the material, and later apply it in a real-life health emergency such as outbreaks of Ebola, Zika or swine flu.

Students are assigned to a fictional – at least one hopes so – division of the Defense Department, called HHIT, and have to deal with the zombie apocalypse by enacting quarantines, administering vaccines, and obtaining international resources while adhering to actual Pentagon guidelines, Ling explained.

A training document imagining the military's response to a zombie apocalypse was actually released by the Pentagon in May 2014. Title CONOP 8888, the scenario was used by US Strategic Command as a teaching tool, with STRATCOM explaining that it "elected to use a completely impossible scenario that could never be mistaken as a real plan."

While the USU only made a screenshot from one of the animations available – depicting a zombie inside the National Museum of Natural History – the release says the course includes video clips featuring the president making a "State of the Zombie Pandemic" address, and the consequences of the zombie virus, including "anti-zombie posters strewn all over cities."

Students who have taken the course seem to like it, USU said, citing one Air Force officer who happens to be a big fan of the zombie TV show *The Walking Dead*.

"I thought it was a wonderful, fun twist to this course," Air Force Captain Marcie Hart is quoted as saying. "The videos are very tastefully done," Hart added, noting that "the 'infected' can be cured later in the scenario, so the characters are not using deadly force, and it is not overtly violent."

*The July 14th, 2016 Edition of THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY!*

*Page 18 of 49*

Previously abbreviated as USUHS, the USU was established in 1972 and graduated its first class in 1980. The school's campus is located in Bethesda, Maryland, just outside of Washington, with a total budget of \$146.3 million in 2015.

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From: "Tim Bolgeo" <tbolgeo@comcast.net>

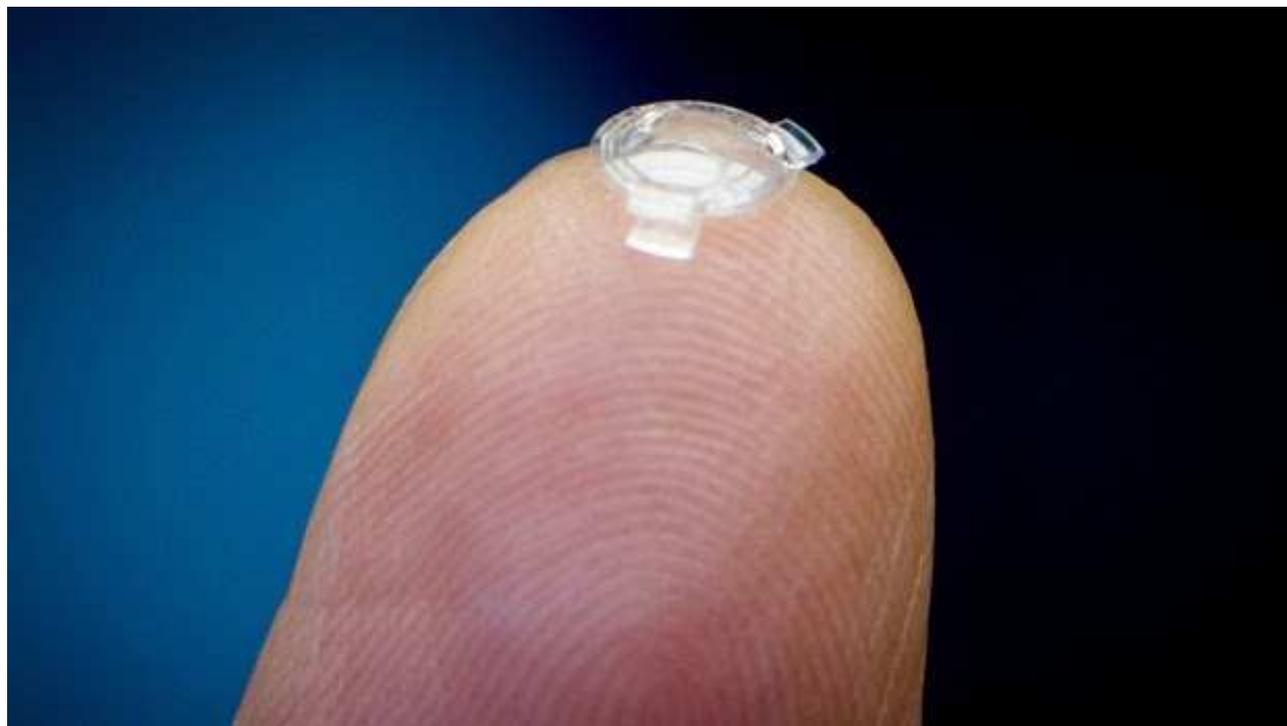
**A BIONIC LENS CAN BE INSERTED IN A PROCEDURE LIKE CATARACT SURGERY CAN GIVE VISION THREE TIMES BETTER THAN 20-20 STARTING IN 2017**

The objective of Ocumetics™ Technology Corporation is to offer better than 20/20 vision for a lifetime.

<http://nextbigfuture.com/2015/05/a-bionic-lens-can-be-inserted-in.html>

Employing state-of-the art materials and production techniques, Ocumetics™ Technology Corporation is pleased to announce the development of one of the world's most advanced intraocular lenses, one that is capable of restoring quality vision at all distances, without glasses, contact lenses or corneal refractive procedures, and without the vision problems that have plagued current accommodative and multifocal intraocular lens designs.

Cataract surgery is the most common and successful procedure in medicine. It is a painless and gentle procedure. Utilizing standard surgical techniques, augmented by the accuracy of femtosecond laser incision technology, ophthalmic surgeons will be able to implant the Ocumetics™ Bionic Lens to enable patients to achieve their visual goals.



The tiny Bionic Lens, which looks like a tiny button, would be inserted into the eye during an eight-minute surgery where the patient's sight would be corrected instantly. The device would be folded like a taco in a saline-filled syringe, and then it would be implanted into the eye, where it would be placed in position within 10 seconds. The surgery would be available only to patients of at least 25 years of age, since people that age have eyes that fully matured.

Dr. Garth Webb and his team worked on the technology for eight years, spending \$3 million on research and development.

"This is vision enhancement that the world has never seen before," he said. "If you can just barely see the clock at 10 feet, when you get the Bionic Lens you can see the clock at 30 feet away."

Even though the Bionic Lens sounds very exciting, the product will require additional testing before becoming commercially available. The device will undergo trials on animals and then blind human eyes at first. The final product could be available as soon as 2017.

As the natural crystalline lens develops into a cataract, not only does visual acuity and quality of vision deteriorate, there may also be a release of toxic agents from the lens into the anterior chamber of the eye. These substances could damage the endothelial cell layer of the cornea, which is necessary for the cornea to remain clear. The Ocumetics™ Bionic Lens is constructed of inert biocompatible polymeric materials that do not cause adverse biophysical changes within the eye.

The Ocumetics™ Bionic Lens is the product of extensive research and development, and is a trademark that applies to a host of intraocular lens designs incorporating one or more patented concepts to produce an intraocular lens that auto-regulates within the eye after being inserted through a sub-2.7 mm incision. Wavefront correction for higher order aberrations can be sculpted within the Ocumetics™ Bionic Lens for enhanced visual function.

The human brain is conditioned to interpret visual information that is initially formatted by the eye's optical apparatus. Any disturbance of the exquisite interaction of physics, anatomy and neurophysiology is perceived by the observer as foreign.

#### **Camera Optics Headset vision system**

Ocumetics™ Camera Optics preserve this delicate interaction by providing focus and prismatic change coincident with the nodal planes of inanimate optical systems. The optical images produced are naturally formatted for the human visual system without need for digital processing. Viewers will enjoy three dimensional visual landscapes projecting seamless hyper-real simulations and replications of an entire Human Visual Experience (HVE)™ without eyestrain or headache typical with conventional 3-D systems.

Ocumetics™ Camera Optics can shift focus from optical infinity to very close range more rapidly than the perceptual limits of the human brain. The result is super wide-field videos that can change perspective or viewing distances without perceptible time delay. This capability, in conjunction with the geometric properties described above is essential for integrating digital visual information with real-world experiences. Bio-mechanical systems must operate using the same principles found in physiological systems if they are to work efficiently together.

**SOURCES - Ocumetics, Boy Genius Reports**

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**EYE DROPS FOR DISSOLVING CATARACTS WORKS IN DOGS AND IN THE LAB ON HUMAN TISSUE**

**Reddit, November 07, 2015**

<http://nextbigfuture.com/2015/11/eye-drops-for-dissolving-cataracts.html>

A chemical that could potentially be used in eye drops to reverse cataracts, the leading cause of blindness, has been identified by a team of scientists from UC San Francisco (UCSF), the University of Michigan (U-M), and Washington University in St. Louis (WUSTL).

Identified as a “priority eye disease” by the World Health Organization, cataracts — caused when the lenses of the eyes lose their transparency — affect more than 20 million people worldwide. Although cataracts can be successfully removed with surgery, this approach is expensive, and most individuals blinded by severe cataracts in developing countries go untreated.

Reported November 5 in Science, the newly identified compound is the first that is soluble enough to potentially form the basis of a practical eye-drop medication for cataracts.

The research group used a method known as high-throughput differential scanning fluorimetry, or HT-DSF, in which proteins emit light when they reach their melting point. At the U-M Life Sciences Institute’s Center for Chemical Genomics, the team used HT-DSF to apply heat to amyloids while applying thousands of chemical compounds.

Because the melting point of amyloids is higher than that of normal crystallins, the team focused on finding chemicals that lowered the melting point of crystallin amyloids to the normal, healthy range.

The group began with 2,450 compounds, eventually zeroing in on 12 that are members of a chemical class known as sterols. One of these, known as lanosterol, was shown to reverse cataracts in a June paper in Nature, but because lanosterol has limited solubility the group who published that study had to inject the compound into the eye for it to exert its effects.

Using lanosterol and other sterols as a clue, Gestwicki and his group assembled and tested 32 additional sterols, and eventually settled on one, which they call “compound 29,” as the most likely candidate that would be sufficiently soluble to be used in cataract-dissolving eye drops.

In laboratory dish tests, the team confirmed that compound 29 significantly stabilized crystallins and prevented them from forming amyloids. They also found that compound 29 dissolved amyloids that had already formed. Through these experiments, said Gestwicki, “we are starting to understand the mechanism in detail. We know where compound 29 binds, and we are beginning to know exactly what it’s doing.”

The team next tested compound 29 in an eye-drop formulation in mice carrying mutations that make them predisposed to cataracts. In experiments conducted with Usha P. Andley, PhD, professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences at WUSTL School of Medicine, they

found that the drops partially restored transparency to mouse lenses affected by cataracts, as measured by a slit-lamp test of the sort used by ophthalmologists to measure cataracts in humans.

Similar results were seen when compound 29 eye drops were applied in mice that naturally developed age-related cataracts, and also when the compound was applied to human lens tissue affected by cataracts that had been removed during surgery.

Gestwicki cautions that slit-lamp measures of lens transparency used in the research are not a direct measure of visual acuity, and that only clinical trials in humans can establish the value of compound 29 as a cataract treatment. He has licensed the compound from U-M, however, and Makley, a former graduate student and postdoctoral fellow in the Gestwicki laboratory, is founder and chief scientific officer of ViewPoint Therapeutics, a company that is actively developing compound 29 for human use.

Dogs are also prone to developing cataracts. Half of all dogs have cataracts by nine years of age, and virtually all dogs develop them later in life. An effective eye-drop medication could potentially benefit about 70 million affected pet dogs in the United States.



**Science - Pharmacological chaperone for  $\gamma$ -crystallin partially restores transparency in cataract models**

Cataracts reduce vision in 50% of individuals over 70 years of age and are a common form of blindness worldwide. Cataracts are caused when damage to the major lens crystallin proteins causes their misfolding and aggregation into insoluble amyloids. Using a thermal

stability assay, we identified a class of molecules that bind  $\gamma$ -crystallins (cryAA and cryAB) and reversed their aggregation in vitro. The most promising compound improved lens transparency in the R49C cryAA and R120G cryAB mouse models of hereditary cataract. It also partially restored protein solubility in the lenses of aged mice in vivo and in human lenses ex vivo. These findings suggest an approach to treating cataracts by stabilizing  $\gamma$ -crystallins.

Cataracts are the most common cause of vision loss, especially in our ever-increasing elderly population. Cataracts arise when crystallin, a major protein component of the eye lens, begins to aggregate, which causes the lens to become cloudy. Makley et al. explored whether small molecules that reverse this aggregation might have therapeutic potential for treating cataracts, which normally require surgery (see the Perspective by Quinlan). They used a screening method that monitors the effect of ligands on temperature-dependent protein unfolding and identified several compounds that bind and stabilize the soluble form of crystallin. In proof-of-concept studies, one of these compounds improved lens transparency in mice.

#### **Abstract - Lanosterol reverses protein aggregation in cataracts**

The human lens is comprised largely of crystallin proteins assembled into a highly ordered, interactive macro-structure essential for lens transparency and refractive index. Any disruption of intra- or inter-protein interactions will alter this delicate structure, exposing hydrophobic surfaces, with consequent protein aggregation and cataract formation. Cataracts are the most common cause of blindness worldwide, affecting tens of millions of people<sup>1</sup>, and currently the only treatment is surgical removal of cataractous lenses. The precise mechanisms by which lens proteins both prevent aggregation and maintain lens transparency are largely unknown. Lanosterol is an amphipathic molecule enriched in the lens. It is synthesized by lanosterol synthase (LSS) in a key cyclization reaction of a cholesterol synthesis pathway. Here we identify two distinct homozygous LSS missense mutations (W581R and G588S) in two families with extensive congenital cataracts. Both of these mutations affect highly conserved amino acid residues and impair key catalytic functions of LSS. Engineered expression of wild-type, but not mutant, LSS prevents intracellular protein aggregation of various cataract-causing mutant crystallins. Treatment by lanosterol, but not cholesterol, significantly decreased preformed protein aggregates both in vitro and in cell-transfection experiments. We further show that lanosterol treatment could reduce cataract severity and increase transparency in dissected rabbit cataractous lenses in vitro and cataract severity in vivo in dogs. Our study identifies lanosterol as a key molecule in the prevention of lens protein aggregation and points to a novel strategy for cataract prevention and treatment.

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#### **SCIENTISTS FIGURED OUT HOW TO REGENERATE TEETH AND ELIMINATE ROOT CANALS**

By Chris Smith, Published July 06, 2016

<http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2016/07/06/scientists-figured-out-how-to-regenerate-teeth-and-eliminate-root-canals.html?intcmp=hpbt3>

Root canals are always fun, right? In reality, word that you need a root canal is some of the worst news most people get at the dentist. Whenever your dentist tells you that's the next procedure you're going have to go through, two things are clear beyond the pain you're about to endure: One, that your throbbing will finally soon go away, and the second is that the tooth that's getting the root canal is dead.



However, researchers have come up with a new kind of biomaterial that not only encourages the natural regeneration of teeth, but also might eliminate root canal procedures for good.

So how do we get root canals in the first place?

File photo - A dentist demonstrates on a dental patient robot at its unveiling ceremony at Showa University in Tokyo March 25, 2010. (REUTERS/Kim Kyung-Hoon)

It all starts with a cavity that needs to be filled with either porcelain, a tooth-colored filling material, gold or other metal alloys. But as soon as that filling fails, the pain returns. That usually means the nerve and vascularization of the tooth are infected and need to be removed. Their place is taken by a special compound that is then cemented into the tooth. All that is done via a root canal procedure. The tooth is saved, but it's no longer served by nerve or blood vessels. And over time, the tooth might be lost because of that.

Researchers from the University of Harvard and Nottingham have come up with a biomaterial for fillings that is regenerative, according to Popular Science. The material stimulates the growth of stem cells in the pulp, which could prevent further tooth decay. Because fillings wouldn't fail as often, root canal procedures could be virtually unnecessary.

The team took home the second prize in the materials category during the Royal Society of Chemistry's Emerging Technologies competition. That said, we likely still have quite a long wait until this new synthetic biomaterial becomes widely available.

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**VIDEO: THE FUTURE OF FARMING WILL INVOLVE NO SOIL, 95% LESS WATER, AND TRIPPY LED LIGHTS**

<http://digg.com/video/vertical-farming-future>

Vertical farming might just be the solution to our agriculture problems — this indoor farm grows greens using a special process called "aeroponics," relying only on air and mist.

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**JAPAN SAYS YES TO MIRRORLESS CARS**

Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 3:01 pm | Posted by Bogdan Zoltan

<http://www.carscoops.com/2016/07/japan-says-yes-to-mirrorless-cars.html>

As car designers went to great lengths in order to hide or eliminate the need of wing mirrors in concept cars(throughout the years), in the real world, things evolved differently.

As opposed to the unobtrusive camera lenses that replaced the conventional elements in show cars, manufacturers began to offer bigger and bigger side mirrors in order to help the driver see better behind and to the sides of the vehicle, while respecting safety standards.



It's clear that, at one point, glass mirrors will be a thing of the past, as companies will drop them in favor of video screens, but until then, they'll have to wait for the legislation to change.

Last month, however, the idea came closer to reality in Japan, which became one of the first countries to allow vehicles to use cameras instead of mirrors, as AutoNews reports.

“Video mirrors” will (probably) evolve into a huge marketplace for tech businesses and suppliers, as the Land of the Rising Sun gave Japanese companies a head start by allowing mirrorless vehicles.

Apart from becoming a profitable industry, camera-based systems have many real-world advantages as well. They can reduce drag, improve fuel efficiency and even improve the looks of a vehicle; all this while capturing a wide angle view that can see blind spots. They can also improve visibility by digitally compensating for glare, darkness or even rainy weather.

Ichikoh will be one of the first suppliers to offer digital mirrors, as its first product will be an interior rear-view mirror that has a double function. Named the Smart Rear View Monitor, it

entered production June 28 for a customer that will use it in a vehicle that goes on sale in Japan in August, although Ichikoh identified the customer only as a Japanese carmaker with plans to use the video monitor in a mid-range, low-volume nameplate.

**YOU WOULD THINK THAT THEY COULD MOLD THE SHAPE OF THE CAMERAS MORE GRACEFULLY INTO THE CAR FENDERS. UT**

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**SAMSUNG'S BLAZING-FAST UFS STORAGE COULD REPLACE MICRO-SD CARDS ONE DAY**

Samsung introduces the first ever UFS removable storage cards, but devices with slots for the media aren't available yet

Agam Shah, IDG News Service, Jul 7, 2016 5:57 AM

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/3092436/storage/samsungs-blazing-fast-ufs-storage-cards-could-replace-micro-sd-media.html>



Samsung's 256GB UFS removable card could replace Micro-SD storage, Credit: Samsung

Samsung has announced super-fast removable data storage cards that could one day replace the slower micro-SD cards in devices.

The UFS card, based on the Universal Flash Storage 1.0 Card Extension standard, will come in capacities from 32GB to 256GB. The storage media could be used in cameras, drones, robots, virtual reality headsets and ultimately, even mobile devices.

There is a need for faster and high-capacity removable storage in electronics, and UFS media fits that requirement. UFS cards can blow away micro-SD media in performance by moving data in and out of the card much faster.

Users will be able to read 5GB of data—or a full high-resolution movie file—in 10 seconds from a UFS card, Samsung claimed. A UHS-1 micro-SD card would take 50 seconds to do the same.

Cameras are now shooting 4K video, and UFS cards can be as fast as internal storage, with the ability to extract and write video without lagging. That is something micro-SD cards struggle with, especially in top-line cameras.

But UFS cards will fit only in specific slots, which aren't in devices yet. Samsung couldn't say when UFS card slots will reach devices, but it could take time. Device makers will have to design UFS slots into products and chipmakers will have to make circuits and controllers.

Questions remain on how successful UFS will be as storage media. The faster speed may give device makers a reason to put UFS slots over the ubiquitous micro-SD. However, micro-SD cards today offer more storage, with capacities up to 512GB.

Samsung claims the 256GB UFS card has a sequential read speed of 530 megabytes per second (MBps), similar to that of some SATA-based solid state drives. The random read speed is 20 times faster than a micro-SD card.

The sequential write speed is about 170MBps, which Samsung estimates is two times faster than micro-SD cards. The random write speed is 350 times faster than micro-SD, Samsung claimed.

The cards are based on the Universal Flash Storage (UFS) 1.0 Card Extension standard, which was approved in March. It is an offshoot of the UFS 2.0 standard for internal flash storage, which was finalized in 2013. That standard is intended to replace the eMMC standard, which is used in low-cost laptops and Chromebooks.

Samsung did not provide pricing or availability information for the new UFS storage cards. Toshiba also makes UFS storage, but hasn't released cards based on the UFS 1.0 Card Extension standard.

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## NASA DISCOVERS A SECOND MOON CIRCLING EARTH

By: Nidhi Goyal | July 8th, 2016

[http://www.industrytap.com/nasa-discovers-second-moon-circling-earth/37318?utm\\_source=Industry+Tap&utm\\_campaign=b65fafbb85-Industry\\_Tap\\_Volume\\_3287\\_11\\_2016&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_05d6224fe0-b65fafbb85-44103165](http://www.industrytap.com/nasa-discovers-second-moon-circling-earth/37318?utm_source=Industry+Tap&utm_campaign=b65fafbb85-Industry_Tap_Volume_3287_11_2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_05d6224fe0-b65fafbb85-44103165)

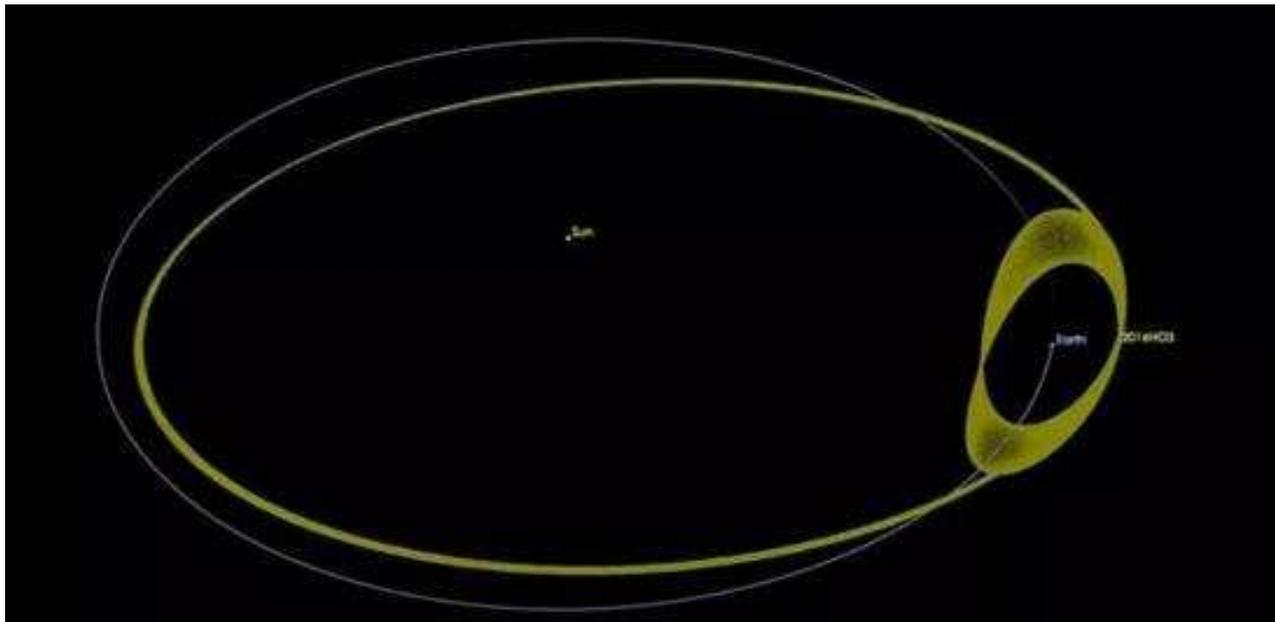


Image courtesy NASA

Astronomers have detected a small asteroid in Earth's orbit, and the tiny celestial body has earned NASA's recognition as Earth's new "mini moon." Dubbed as "2016 HO3," this small second moon is very far away, and it orbits irregularly.

Here are a few things to know about Earth's second moon:

- \* It was first spotted on April 27, 2016.
- \* Asteroid 2016 HO3 measures somewhere between 40-100m (120 to 300 ft) across and has probably been around for about 100 years.
- \* Like our moon, 2016 HO3 isn't actually orbiting Earth but is taking a path around the sun which overlaps with our own.
- \* NASA scientists called it a 'quasi-satellite' or near-Earth companion as it is far too distant to be considered a true natural satellite of Earth.
- \* This tiny cosmic dancer spends about half of the year in front of us and the other half trailing behind. However, it never goes farther than about 100 times the distance from the Earth to the moon, and never comes closer than about 38 times the distance of the moon, or about 14 million km.
- \* As per scientists, this little asteroid is expected to stick with us for centuries to come.

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## BELL UNVEILS NEXT-GEN V-280 TILTROTOR

Lara Seligman | Aerospace Daily & Defense Report, Jul 12, 2016

[http://aviationweek.com/shownews/bell-unveils-next-gen-v-280-tiltrotor?NL=AW-05&Issue=AW-05\\_20160712\\_AW-05\\_354&sfvc4enews=42&cl=article\\_6&utm\\_rid=CPEN1000001477803&utm\\_campaign=6415&utm\\_medium=email&elq2=2312f6bdcdfa47cc8dc6bfea99104c6b](http://aviationweek.com/shownews/bell-unveils-next-gen-v-280-tiltrotor?NL=AW-05&Issue=AW-05_20160712_AW-05_354&sfvc4enews=42&cl=article_6&utm_rid=CPEN1000001477803&utm_campaign=6415&utm_medium=email&elq2=2312f6bdcdfa47cc8dc6bfea99104c6b)

FARNBOROUGH—As part of an effort to market its new tiltrotor technology to potential foreign customers, Bell Helicopter unveiled a full-size mockup of its V-280 Valor on the first day of the Farnborough International Airshow July 11.

Bell is partnered with Lockheed Martin on a rotorcraft flight demonstrator for the U.S. Army's Joint Multi-Role (JMR) program, designed to gauge the art of the possible for the next-generation of vertical lift capabilities. JMR is the precursor to the Future Vertical Lift (FVL) program, a Pentagon effort to buy a new, state-of-the-art family of helicopters in the 2030s.

The V-280 builds on the tiltrotor technology of the Bell-Boeing V-22, used by the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force, and will fly twice the range at double the speed of existing helicopters, Steve Mathias, Bell's director global business development for advanced tiltrotor systems, told Aviation Week in front of the full-size mockup here.

Due to the increasingly expeditionary nature of warfare today, Bell is seeing a lot of interest from abroad on medium-lift FVL, Mathias said.



**“Any country with a UH-60 or an H-1 down the road would want this kind of speed and range capability,” Mathias said. “Because of the expeditionary [nature of combat], everyone needs the time to react. You need this kind of speed and range. So there will be, I believe, a great deal of interest.”**

**Bell has seen interest from militaries that already fly UH-60 Black Hawks and H-1 attack and utility helicopters, particularly Australia, and NATO allies such as Canada and the U.K., Mathias said.**

**Despite the \$70 million price tag of the V-22, Mathias believes the V-280 will be significantly cheaper than its predecessor because of major advances in tiltrotor technology. For example, the V-280 is equipped with a straight wing, which takes about 50% less time and money to build than the V-22’s swept wing. “If you were a tailor and I came to you and said build me a suit, here’s a big ball of thread, and build me a suit out of that, or if I came to you and said here’s some cloth and said build me a suit out of that, it’s going to be much quicker and cheaper to build out of cloth,” Mathias said.**

**In another major difference between the two tiltrotors, the Valor’s engines remain in place for transition to forward-flying position, while the rotors and drive shafts tilt. Unlike the Osprey, the V-280 will have a forward-firing capability, and will incorporate an advanced glass cockpit that uses technology similar to the F-35’s.**

**Mathias estimates Valor will be comparable to a UH-60 in terms of price, or about \$20 million.**

**The aircraft gets its name from its anticipated cruise speed of 280 kt., and has an estimated 500-800 nm combat range, Mathias said. V-280 will be able to self-deploy with internal fuel tanks for a 2,100 nm range with two stops to gas up, and is capable of aerial refueling. This capability makes it much easier for the armed forces to strategically deploy and quickly respond to threats all over the world, he stressed.**

Bell and Lockheed are 60% finished with the build, and the Valor will fly for the first time in September 2017 as part of the JMR tech demonstrator program, Mathias said.

FVL will eventually replace the Army's UH-60 Black Hawk, AH-64 Apache, CH-47 Chinook and OH-58 Kiowa aircraft. The U.S. Navy will likely join as the service retires its aging MH-60 SeaHawks, as well as the U.S. Marine Corps' UH-1Y utility and AH-1Z attack helicopters.

Boeing and Sikorsky's coaxial helicopter, the SB-1 Defiant, is also competing as part of the JMR program.

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## LASERS SLICE COSTS, REPLACE LCDS IN NEW LARGE-SCREEN TV

Leigh Stark July 12, 2016

[http://www.gizmag.com/hisense-4k-uhd-laser-projection-tv/44299/?utm\\_source=Gizmag+Subscribers&utm\\_campaign=840e81bc8e-UA-2235360-4&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_65b67362bd-840e81bc8e-91341709](http://www.gizmag.com/hisense-4k-uhd-laser-projection-tv/44299/?utm_source=Gizmag+Subscribers&utm_campaign=840e81bc8e-UA-2235360-4&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_65b67362bd-840e81bc8e-91341709)



Hisense announced the world's first 4K wide-angle laser cinema television in Paris today (Credit: Hisense)

According to analytics company IHS, most televisions in the world over 50 inches will be Ultra High Definition by the end of next year. Many of those will have LCD panels, but China's Hisense believes lasers are better. The company has today debuted a 100-inch 4K laser projection TV that's reported to be significantly cheaper than equivalent-sized 4K LCD televisions.

Laser projection entertainment systems rely on laser diodes as a light source, often pairing the technology with a short throw projector. That was certainly the case with LG's HD laser projector from 2013, though that model could only manage 1080p at 100 inches.

The Hisense wide-angle laser cinema system, which is claimed to be a world's first, is reported to make use of 217 patented technologies alongside a high-resolution lens and optical engines to create a projector capable of delivering the 4K UHD resolution.

The reason Hisense unveiled its new projection system in Paris on the eve of the UEFA Euro 2016 soccer final this week has to do with big screen UHD TVs, specifically the cost of them. According to the company, 100-inch 4K LCD televisions can typically hit around US\$90,000 per unit, no easy cost if you feel like installing a massive bright cinema screen in your home. The laser projection entertainment system from Hisense is being pitched at the \$10,000 mark.

Though we have a price, we don't have any availability information. The good money is on availability sometime around IFA in early September, but here's hoping Hisense's unveiling now means a release is even closer.

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#### DARPA-DEVELOPED NEXT-GENERATION BIONIC ARM HITS THE MARKET

Eric Mack July 10, 2016

[http://www.gizmag.com/darpa-deka-luke-prosthetic-arm-mobius/44267/?li\\_source=LI&li\\_medium=default-widget](http://www.gizmag.com/darpa-deka-luke-prosthetic-arm-mobius/44267/?li_source=LI&li_medium=default-widget)



The LUKE arm will become available from medical providers later this year (Credit: Mobius Bionics)

The next generation in prosthetic arms will soon be helping amputees get a grip in the real world. The LUKE arm, which was previously known as the Deka Arm, was developed under DARPA's Revolutionizing Prosthetics program by DEKA Research & Development Corp. It received marketing approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2014 and is now set to hit the market later this year.

As we've reported previously, the DEKA arm is the first prosthetic arm set approved for commercial markets that translates signals from a patient's muscles into complex motions. Rechristened the LUKE (Life Under Kinetic Evolution) arm by medical device maker Mobius Bionics, which will bring it to market with Universal Instruments Corporation as contract manufacturer, the prosthetic will be the first in a new product category for integrated prosthetic arms.

The LUKE arm's central control technology, whereby electromyogram (EMG) electrodes are used to pick up electrical signals from the patient's muscles, has been around for decades. The key innovation is just how much movement, control and strength the new system is able to translate from those signals to the arm which boasts up to 10 powered degrees of freedom.

According to Mobius Bionics, the LUKE arm will deliver a number of new capabilities to amputees, including a powered shoulder joint that can reach overhead or behind the back; an elbow strong enough to lift a bag of groceries from floor to tabletop; a wrist with enough range of motion and fine dexterity to hold a glass of water overhead or at waist level without spilling; and a complex hand with four motors that can hold heavy items and delicate ones like an egg without dropping or breaking either.



The system has a sensor that also returns "grip-force" information back to the patient, giving feedback about how firmly something is being grasped. Another new innovation is the use of foot-mounted inertial measurement sensors connected wirelessly to the arm that offer an alternative means of control.

The goal of an advanced upper limb prosthetic with near natural control is something DARPA began working on a decade ago. The LUKE arm is the result of years of research and development by DARPA, the U.S. Veterans Administration and private companies, including over 10,000 hours of testing involving nearly 100 amputees.

Mobius Bionics is now accepting names of people interested in owning one of the first LUKE arms.

The original DEKA arm is demonstrated in the video [AT THE WEBSITE](#).

Source: Mobius Bionics

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**COULD PLANES BE INSULATED WITH SUPER-BURNED BREAD?**

[Michael Franco](#) July 13, 2016

<http://www.gizmag.com/bread-turned-into-carbon-foam/44329/>



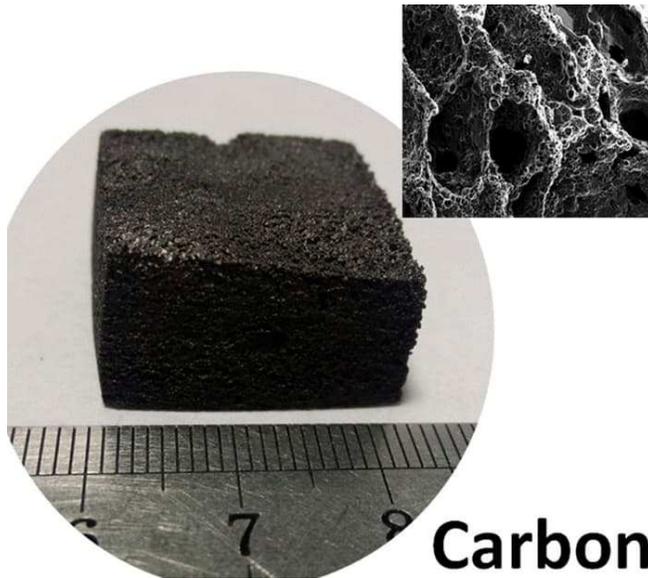
That burnt toast might not be such a loss after all Credit: [Akash Kurdekar](#)/Flickr/Creative Commons)

While most cooks would be dismayed if their bread burned while it was baking, researchers from China's Harbin Institute of Technology have been busy torching their loaves to create a material known as carbon foam. The lightweight material serves as a thermal insulator, electromagnetic shield and electrical conductor, and it costs, well, just about as much as a loaf of bread.

Carbon foam itself is nothing new. Because of its mix of low weight and high performance, it's been of special interest in the aerospace industry as an insulating material but currently, many methods of producing it can be costly.

Making carbon foam from food also isn't new. Previously, the material has been made from such edibles as bananas and watermelons. But in those cases, it was difficult to finely tune the end result to produce the foam with exactly the right characteristics for the job, as the size of the cells inside the material were inconsistent.

The new method begins with a simple loaf of bread. But once the initial loaf is made and dried in an oven for 18 hours at 80 °C (176 °F), it is put into a special furnace that uses argon gas to blast it into the carbon foam.



## Carbon

The resulting foam was found to have the same characteristics as other carbon foams. It was strong, a good temperature insulator, lightweight and it provided shielding from electromagnetic waves. It was also more flame-resistant than current carbon foams, so it could make a fine insulation for planes, spacecraft or even homes. The process is also, obviously, low cost considering the ingredients used.

What's especially interesting about the bread-based process though, is that based on the amount of water and yeast the researchers introduced into the dough, they were able to change the pores inside the foam, meaning that the process was tunable. In other words, it was possible to

create foams with different pore sizes based on different needs.

The results of the process were published today in the American Chemical Society journal, *Applied Materials & Interfaces*.

Source: [Applied Materials & Interfaces](#)

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From: Stephanie Osborn

VIRGINIA TEAM FINDS POSSIBLE CONNECTION BETWEEN PLANT FOSSILS AND ANCIENT DRAGON LORE

By TIM THORNTON • JUL 5, 2016

<http://wvtf.org/post/virginia-team-finds-possible-connection-between-plant-fossils-and-ancient-dragon-lore#stream/0>

According to research coordinated by a pair of Roanoke College professors, fossils common to coal seams may be responsible for dragon tales all around the world.

Three years ago, Dorothybelle Poli saw a dragon. She was part of a team collecting fossils for the Virginia Museum of Natural History in a quarry in West Virginia.

“I looked up, saw what looked like a partially covered dragon in the rock and said, ‘Hey, does everybody see the dragon?’ kind of like you see puppies in a cloud.”



CREDIT MELKIAD / CREATIVE COMMONS

What she saw was an ancient tree trunk, a fossil of a plant that, three hundred million years ago, grew one hundred feet tall and twenty feet across.

“And the pattern on that trunk is this gorgeous scale pattern that looks very serpent-like, very reptilian. If you see smaller branches, they look like legs. They look like tails. They look like neck structures. When a branch of this plant fell off, it leaves a three-dimensional structure that looks very much like an eye. And you could see them. The root structure of this organism also has something that looks very talon-like.”

These scaly, taloned fossils can be found anywhere there's coal.

“These plants are basically your coal seam, along with some others. When you find this seam you can’t help but find them, which again would suggest that anybody around the world, if they found that dark layer, they were going to find their dragons.”

Near those dragons they might find the modern version of the plant, lycopodium.

“Lycopodium is about six to eight inches tall. It’s tiny. It’s an understory plant that most people ignore. But in Appalachia, specifically, this plant was used to make wreaths. The powder from the spores was used as poor man’s talcum powder. This is all very exciting because that same poor man’s talcum powder, if you ignite it, blows up.”

That explosiveness is something the modern plant seems to have in common with its ancient ancestor.

“The spores have not changed, evolutionarily. The plants have shrunk in size, but their spores don’t appear to have changed. Also, the fact that these plants blow up and they tend to grow in areas that are dark or near caves again, would suggest if you found this giant fossil and the modern plant was somewhere nearby, you could start linking that concept.”

All that interested Lisa Stoneman, a folklorist who teaches at Roanoke College.

“She wanted to know more about the dragons. I said, ‘Dragons aren’t real and I’m a scientist and that’s a real issue.’ And her response was, ‘I don’t care. Tell me more about these dragons.’”

Stoneman’s excitement overcame Poli’s trepidation.

“I wasn’t that concerned about people thinking it was a joke or that it was weird to deal with magic and folklore. She’s like, ‘This is really cool, but I don’t know if it’s going to be well received by the scientific community.’ So we decided to build our own community.”

For the past two years, Poli and Stoneman have coordinated the Dragon Research Collaborative, a project that found dragon stories do seem to originate near these fossils. Their students have produced books, paintings and sculpture. One documented commerce in dragon parts.

“Believe it or not, there were really trade routes for dragon products – dragon’s blood, dragon’s teeth. And he found primary documents related to that. So ended up tracking those dragon products over six hundred years.”

That’s an example of how students have driven the project, according to Poli and Stoneman. And the students have taken the DRC in interesting directions.

“The students have picked things that at first to us seem maybe a little off in the distance. But what they really wind up doing is tying our whole hypothesis together, so that’s been very exciting.”

“We keep directing a little bit and we ask questions and we feel like we’re more facilitators, I think, than teachers at this point. But I think those are the same things, so I like that.”

“We really want to educate people on how science and culture can interact and the power in that and the beauty in multidisciplinary questions.”

An exhibit of some of the products of the DRC's research will be at the Wilson Hughes Art Gallery in Roanoke every Friday and Saturday through August 1.

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**ANTARCTIC OCTOPUSES DISCOVERED WITH SUB-ZERO VENOM**

**AUTHOR: JESS MCNALLY. JESS MCNALLY, DATE OF PUBLICATION: 08.02.10.08.02.10**

**<http://www.wired.com/2010/08/antarctic-octopus-gallery/>**



**Antarctic Octopuses Discovered With Sub-Zero Venom \***

A research expedition to Antarctica to study the region's octopus life has returned with descriptions of four new species, and the first known sub-zero venoms.

“Antarctic octopus venom works at temperatures that would stop other venoms in their tracks,” said biochemist Bryan Fry of the University of Melbourne, who led the expedition.

Antarctic octopuses eat a wide variety of animals, from clams to fish. They catch their prey with their tentacles and use their venom to kill them, much like snakes.

The venoms are being studied as potential sources of pain-killers, Fry said, because they work on the nervous system. So far, analysis of the venom has revealed two toxins that are new to science.

The scientists still don't know what biochemical tricks the octopuses use to keep their venom working at freezing temperatures.

The octopus doesn't have a real name yet and is going by the temporary moniker, Parledone species 1. Image: Samuel Inglesias

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From: "William Green" [wilgreen@gmail.com](mailto:wilgreen@gmail.com)

## HISTORY IN 2 MINUTES

This is worth the two minutes A quick lesson in History!  
Seventeen year old Joe Bush got a high school assignment to make a video reproduction.

He chose history as a theme and tucked it all into two minutes.  
Joe took pictures from the internet; added the sound track "Mind Heist" by Zack Hemsey and came up with this.

Incredible work for a 17-year old. Just finding the pictures was a formidable task.

Hold on to your seat. This moves fast.

Don't blink -- not even for a second -- & sound on

<http://marcbrecy.perso.neuf.fr/history.html>

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From: "Keith A. Glass" [salgak@comcast.net](mailto:salgak@comcast.net)

## ACCELERATING RESEARCH INTO DARK ENERGY

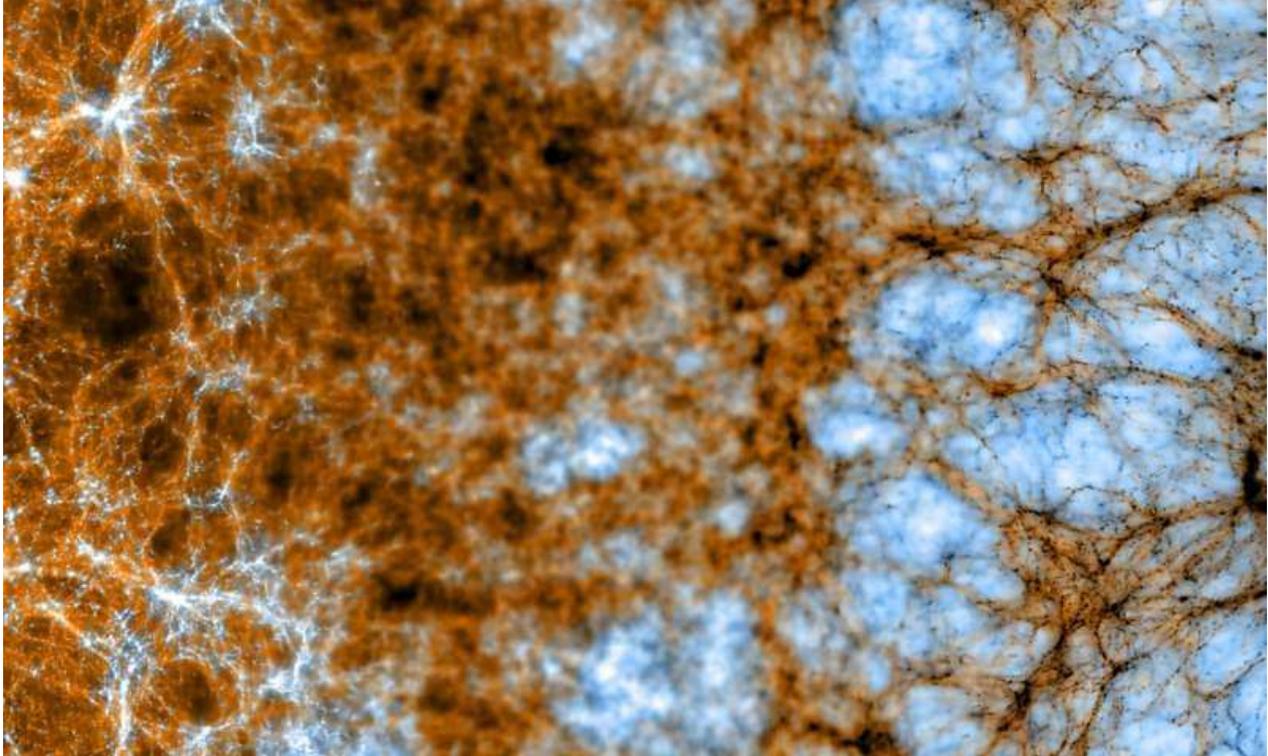
Phys.org, July 6, 2016  
<http://phys.org/news/2016-07-dark-energy.html>

This false-colour image of the large-scale structure in a computerized Universe reveals the process behind the new technique. On the left, a regular virtual universe has the locations of galaxies highlighted in blue, showing how they cluster together. In the early Universe (center) the relationship between these blue regions and the orange regions that expand into empty voids was symmetric. This allows a reverse version of the cosmos to be built (right) where the galaxies now inhabit the very regions that used to be empty voids. The latest results show how combining results from the original and reverse virtual Universe is a quick way to make accurate predictions for the real cosmos. Credit: Andrew Pontzen UCL

A quick method for making accurate, virtual universes to help understand the effects of dark matter and dark energy has been developed by UCL and CEFCA scientists. Making up 95% of our universe, these substances have profound effects on the birth and lives of galaxies and stars and yet almost nothing is known about their physical nature.

The new approach, published today in Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society and funded by the Royal Society, is twenty-five times faster than current methods

but is just as accurate, allowing scientists more computer power to focus on understanding why the universe is accelerating and galaxies are positioned where they are.



"To uncover the nature of dark energy and the origin of our 14 billion year old accelerating universe, we have to compare the results from big studies to computational models of the universe," explained Dr Andrew Pontzen, UCL Physics & Astronomy.

"Exciting new ventures, including the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope and the Javalambre Physics of the Accelerating Universe survey, are on the horizon, and we want to be ready to do the best possible job of understanding them", added joint author Dr Raul Angulo, CEFCA, Spain.

Dr Pontzen continued: "But every computer simulation we run gives a slightly different answer. We end up needing to take an average over hundreds of simulations to get a 'gold standard' prediction. We've shown it's possible to achieve the same model accuracy by using only two carefully-constructed virtual universes, so a process that would take weeks on a superfast computer, can now be done in a day."

The scientists say their method will speed up research into the unseen forces in the universe by allowing many model universes to be rapidly developed to test alternate versions of dark energy and dark matter.

"Our method allows cosmologists to run more creative experiments which weren't feasible before due to the large amount of computer time needed. For example, scientists can now generate lots of different models of dark energy to find the one which best explains real-world survey data. We could also use this approach to see how individual galaxies look and

fit inside the overall structure of the universe by spending the freed-up time on computing the virtual universes in much greater detail," said Dr Pontzen.

The new method removes the biggest uncertainties in the model universe by comparing its properties with an 'inverted' version. In the inverted model universe, galaxies are replaced by empty voids, and the empty voids of space with galaxies. The scientists tried this approach after noticing a mathematical symmetry linking the two seemingly different pictures.

When they compared the output of the paired universes to that of the gold standard method - which averages 300 virtual universes to remove uncertainties - they found the results to be very similar. The new approach showed less than 1% deviation from the gold standard, suggesting the new approach makes predictions that are accurate enough to use in forthcoming experiments.

"In addition to the reversal process, we also adjust the ripples of the early universe to carefully-chosen values, to further eliminate inaccuracies" added Dr Angulo.

The team now plan on using the new method to investigate how different forms of dark energy affect the distribution of galaxies through the universe. "Because we can get a more accurate prediction in a single shot, we don't need to spend so much computer time on existing ideas and can instead investigate a much wider range of possibilities for what this weird dark energy might really be made from," said Dr Pontzen.

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From: "Jim Woosley" [Jimwoosley@aol.com](mailto:Jimwoosley@aol.com)

## ISRAEL FIND MAY HELP SOLVE MYSTERY OF BIBLICAL PHILISTINES

By YANIV ZOHAR, Associated Press, Monday, July 11th 2016

<http://www.waff.com/story/32409782/israel-find-may-help-solve-mystery-of-biblical-philistines>



(AP Photo/Tsafrir Abayov). This Tuesday, June 28, 2016 photo shows archeologists excavating an ancient Phillstine cemetery near Ashkelon, Israel. The recent archaeological discovery in Israel may help solve a biblical mystery of where the ancient Philistines ASHKELON, Israel (AP) - An archaeological discovery announced on Sunday in Israel may help solve an enduring biblical mystery: where did the

ancient Philistines come from?

The Philistines left behind plenty of pottery. But part of the mystery surrounding the ancient people was that very little biological trace of them had been found - until 2013.

That's when archaeologists excavating the site of the biblical city of Ashkelon found what they say is the first Philistine cemetery ever discovered. They say they have uncovered the remains of more than 200 people there.

The discovery was finally unveiled Sunday at the close of a 30-year excavation by the Leon Levy Expedition, a team of archaeologists from Harvard University, Boston College, Wheaton College in Illinois and Troy University in Alabama.

The team is now performing DNA, radiocarbon and other tests on bone samples uncovered at the cemetery, dating back to between the 11th and the 8th centuries B.C., to help resolve a debate about the Philistines' geographical origins. The archaeologists have not announced any conclusions, saying they are taking advantage of recent advances in DNA testing to get the most accurate results.

"After decades of studying what Philistines left behind, we have finally come face to face with the people themselves," said Daniel M. Master, professor of archaeology at Wheaton College and one of the leaders of the excavation. "With this discovery we are close to unlocking the secrets of their origins."

A few human remains at Philistine sites had been discovered in past years, but they provided too small a sample to draw conclusions, he added.

The archaeologists kept the discovery a secret for three years until the end of their dig because of a unique hazard of archaeology in modern-day Israel: they did not want to attract ultra-Orthodox Jewish protesters, Master said.

"We had to bite our tongues for a long time," Master said.

In the past, the ultra-Orthodox have staged demonstrations at excavations where human remains are found, arguing that the remains could be Jewish and that disturbing them would violate a religious prohibition.

The Leon Levy Expedition itself faced ultra-Orthodox demonstrators in the 1990s, during the excavation of a Canaanite burial site.

In the Bible, the Philistines are depicted as the ancient Israelites' archenemy, a foreign people who migrated from lands to the west and settled in five main cities in Philistia, in today's southern Israel and the Gaza Strip.

The most famous Philistine was Goliath, the fearsome warrior who was slain by a young King David. The Philistines' legacy lives on in the name Palestine, the term the Romans gave to the region in the 2nd century, and which is used today by Palestinians.

Archaeologists and biblical scholars have long believed the Philistines came from the Aegean region, based on pottery found in excavations of Philistine sites. But scholars have

debated where exactly in the Aegean region the Philistines came from: mainland Greece, the islands of Crete or Cyprus, or even Anatolia, in modern-day Turkey.

The bones might hold the answers, said archaeologist Yossi Garfinkel, an Israeli expert on the period who did not participate in the dig. He called the cemetery find "a very significant discovery indeed."

The excavation of the cemetery has also shed light on Philistine burial practices.

The Philistines buried their dead with perfume bottles, placed near the face. Near the legs were jars that likely held oil, wine or food. In some cases, archaeologists found the dead were buried wearing necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and even toe rings. Some were buried with their weapons.

"This is how Philistines treated their dead, and it's the code book to decoding everything," said archaeologist Adam Aja, a participant in the dig.

Finds from the cemetery went on display Sunday in an Israel Museum exhibition held at the Rockefeller Archaeological Museum in Jerusalem.

Associated Press writer Daniel Estrin in Jerusalem contributed to this report.

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## THE ARMY IS TESTING GENETICALLY ENGINEERED SPIDER SILK FOR BODY ARMOR

BY PATRICK TUCKER, JULY 12, 2016

<http://www.defenseone.com/technology/2016/07/army-testing-genetically-engineered-spider-silk-body-armor/129814/>



Inserting spider DNA into silkworms yields a tough fabric that's far more flexible than Kevlar.

Spider silk is one of nature's toughest substances, similar in strength to the Kevlar plastic found in bulletproof vests but much more flexible. Kraig Biocraft, a company out of Ann

*The July 14th, 2016 Edition of THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY!*

*Page 42 of 49*

Arbor, Michigan, genetically altered silkworms to produce a fiber that's similar to pure spider silk. Today, they announced an Army contract to test this so-called Dragon Silk for possible use in body armor.

There's a reason that silk from worms is cheap but you can't buy pajamas made from spider fabric: spiders are territorial and cannibalistic, which makes farming them for fabric production almost exorbitant.

Enter the brave new wonder that is genetic engineering. In 2000, researchers first isolated and sequenced the key proteins that create spider silk (ampullate spidroin-1, spidroin-2, etc.) That let scientists reproduce spider silk proteins in yeast, E coli bacteria, and other substances in somewhat the same way as pharmaceutical companies produce proteins for drugs. But these methods didn't yield a lot of spider fabric.

The technology behind Dragon Silk is based in part on the work of Malcolm J. Fraser, Donald L. Jarvis, and their colleagues. As they explain in this paper, they introduce specific pieces of spiderDNA into silkworm eggs, creating an entirely new type of silkworm that can spin spider silk.

<http://www.pnas.org/content/109/3/923.full>

Yeah.

The Army's Soldier Protection and Individual Equipment, or PM-SPIE office, will give Kraig \$100,000 to test a series of "shoot packs" to see how the material stands up to abuse.

"We are going to provide them a series of different thread counts, thicknesses, construction techniques that they will test against standard material performance specifications," said Kraig chief operating officer Jon Rice. If the material performs well, the Army may increase the award to \$1 million.

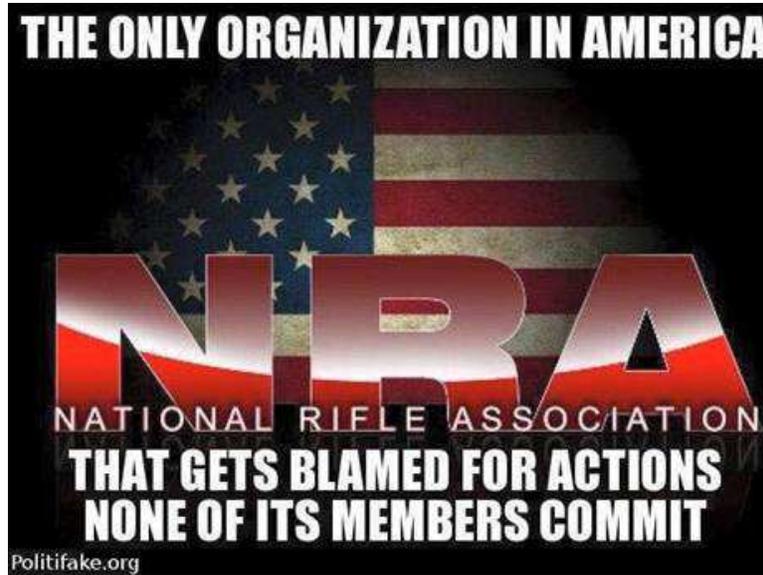
Rice doesn't anticipate that Dragon Silk will be a direct replacement for Kevlar, which has a strength of 3 gigapascals. Spider silk has a strength of 2 gigapascals, only about two-thirds as strong.

"But Kevlar has an elasticity of 3 percent," says Rice. "If you have a Kevlar fiber, it's not going to move at all. Our fibers have a 30 to 40 percent elasticity before they break."

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**ABSOLUTELY & TOTALLY POLITICALLY INCORRECT & AS FAR TO THE RIGHT AS YOU CAN GO!**

From: "Jim Woosley" [Jimwoosley@aol.com](mailto:Jimwoosley@aol.com)



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**ABSOLUTELY & TOTALLY POLITICALLY INCORRECT & AS FAR TO THE CENTER AS YOU CAN GO!**

From: "J Roye" [jayroye@yahoo.com](mailto:jayroye@yahoo.com)

**STATE OF IOWA CLAIMS RIGHT TO CONTROL HOW CHURCHES PREACH, TEACH, AND OPERATE THEIR FACILITIES—FIRST LIBERTY DEMANDS EXEMPTION**

First Liberty, July 7, 2016

<http://firstliberty.org/newsroom/state-of-iowa-claims-right-to-control-how-churches-preach-teach-and-operate-their-facilities-first-liberty-demands-exemption/>

In a move that First Liberty attorneys call a “massive violation” of the First Amendment, the Iowa Civil Rights Commission (CRC) claims churches are generally not exempt from the state’s sexual orientation and gender identity law.

The Iowa CRC requires places of public accommodation, which includes most churches, to:

Allow patrons and congregants to use living facilities, locker rooms, and restrooms based on gender identity (the gender a person considers themselves to be), rather than their biological sex. Biological males could use facilities now reserved for biological females.

Use specific pronouns when referring to certain “gender identities,” and expand the definition of harassment to encompass “verbal, physical, or written conduct.”

Forbid “hostility” and “unwelcom[ing]” speech, which could be interpreted as restricting a church’s ability to teach its religious beliefs.

These requirements could be enforced regardless of a church’s sincere religious beliefs on these issues. Through its broad language, Iowa CRC’s interpretation of the Iowa Civil Rights Act targets anything that is not related to a “bona fide religious purpose,” giving the government license to determine whether a church or religious organization’s actions qualify as “religious” or not. That’s not a misprint. The government now gets to decide whether a church qualifies as “religious.”

These regulations open the gateway for greater government interference into the realm of faith, including everything from church services to child daycare services in church buildings. First Liberty charged Iowa with issuing “a government mandate that [a] church violate its sincerely held religious beliefs under penalty of law.”

#### **FIRST LIBERTY DEMANDS IOWA BACK DOWN**

First Liberty sent a demand letter Tuesday to the Iowa CRC on behalf of Cornerstone World Outreach, a church in Sioux City, Iowa. The letter requests retraction of all prior statements regarding the ability of the state to interfere with churches’ doctrine and operation, and that it grant full exemption to the church.

The letter is the first time any church has taken this type of legal action against the government over a sexual orientation and gender identity law.

Cornerstone World Outreach is a nondenominational church pastored by Cary Gordon.

“I am deeply concerned that the State of Iowa would try to tell us, as a church, what we can teach about matters of sexuality and how we are allowed to ensure the safety and privacy of our children,” said Gordon, father of five.

#### **OFFICIAL DOCUMENT UNDERCUTS FREEDOM**

The problematic claims appeared in a brochure entitled “Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity – A Public Accommodations Provider’s Guide to Iowa Law,” published by Iowa CRC.

In the brochure, Iowa CRC defines churches as places of public accommodation, subjecting them to state regulations regarding gender and sexual orientation and facility use.

“This is a clear case of the state violating the sanctity of the church. It should send chills down the spine of every congregation in Iowa,” Chelsey Youman, Chief of Staff & Counsel for First Liberty Institute, said. She continued:

“The State of Iowa claims it has the power to regulate what churches can teach about human sexuality and how they operate their facilities. The government has absolutely no authority to force a church to violate its religious beliefs. This is a massive violation of the First Amendment.”

#### **UNCONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE**

The Iowa law, as outlined by the Iowa CRC’s brochure, requires that any institution determined to be a place of public accommodation is required to implement and adopt the same practices and view points on gender and sexuality as the state.

By defining churches as places of public accommodation, Iowa CRC has made it unlikely for churches to receive religious exemption from such laws. This leaves churches like Cornerstone subject to the state’s dictation of how it can operate and how it teaches and talks about gender and sexuality.

The brochure requires that places of public accommodation—now including churches—divide bathrooms, locker rooms, and other segregated living facilities based on gender identity, and not on biological sex.

It further regulates what pronouns regarding gender identities can be used, and that any form of harassment is extended to include, “verbal, physical or written misconduct.” The definition of harassment within the brochure is taken so far as to include prohibiting speech that comes across as “unwelcoming.”

#### **NO SAFETY IN THE SANCTUARY**

This sweeping language implies that even discussing certain traditional religious beliefs about sexuality and marriage could be deemed “unwelcoming,” and therefore

harassment. Such regulations restrict Cornerstone—and other churches—from being able to teach in accordance with their Christian doctrine.

In a section of the brochure entitled, “Does this law apply to churches?” the Iowa CRC answers:

“Sometimes. Iowa law provides that these protections do not apply to religious institutions with respect to any religion-based qualifications when such qualifications are related to bona fide religious purpose. Where qualifications are not related to a bona fide religious purpose, churches are still subject to the law’s provisions. (e.g. a child care facility operated at a church or a church service open to the public.)”

First Liberty’s demand letter states in response:

“Such emphasis highlights the Commission’s intention to not only heavily scrutinize the validity and sincerity of the religious doctrines of our client and other religious institutions, but also the very legitimacy of the church as a religious body.”

Kelly Shackelford, President and CEO of First Liberty Institute, says that the state has no right to tell a church what they must believe or how they must teach it to their congregation.

“Religious freedom is nowhere more protected than within the walls of a church,” Shackelford said. “This is a direct attack by the state upon the religious doctrine and beliefs of the Church.”

“The First Amendment was written to protect the rights of churches to teach and live out their faith without fear of government intrusion,” he added.

First Liberty attorneys asked the CRC to grant Cornerstone an exemption and promise not to enforce the law against the church by August 4. If not, the attorneys say they are prepared to pursue “all available legal options.”

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**ABSOLUTELY & TOTALLY POLITICALLY INCORRECT & AS FAR TO THE LEFT AS YOU CAN GO!**

From: “Tim Bolgeo” [tbolgeo@comcast.net](mailto:tbolgeo@comcast.net)

**IN BASHING DONALD TRUMP, SOME SAY RUTH BADER GINSBURG JUST CROSSED A VERY IMPORTANT LINE**

By Aaron Blake July 11

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2016/07/11/in-bashing-donald-trump-some-say-ruth-bader-ginsburg-just-crossed-a-very-important-line/>

The Notorious RGB isn’t backing down from her negative comments about Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, and now he’s calling for her resignation from the Supreme Court. Here’s a quick rundown of what the two have said. (Jenny Starrs/The Washington Post)



Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in her Supreme Court chambers in Washington in July 2014. (Cliff Owen/AP)

It's a political cliché at this point to joke about moving to another country if a certain presidential candidate doesn't win. Gobs of Americans were headed to Canada if George W. Bush was reelected in 2004. A similar contingent threatened to flood across our northern border when Barack Obama was elected and reelected.

Generally, though, you don't hear a Supreme Court justice talking like this. In fact, you generally don't hear a

Supreme Court justice talking at all — much less about the big political issues of the day.

Most justices aren't Ruth Bader Ginsburg, though. And in a new New York Times interview, Ginsburg doesn't hold a thing back when it comes to the 2016 election.

“I can't imagine what this place would be — I can't imagine what the country would be — with Donald Trump as our president,” Ginsburg told the Times' Adam Liptak. “For the country, it could be four years. For the court, it could be — I don't even want to contemplate that.”

Ginsburg also recalled something her late husband said about such matters: "Now it's time for us to move to New Zealand."

This appears to be a joke, but Ginsburg's sentiment here is crystal clear: She thinks Donald Trump would be a dangerous president. And in saying it, she goes to a place justices almost never do — and perhaps never have — for some very good reasons.

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From: “Keith A. Glass” [salgak@comcast.net](mailto:salgak@comcast.net)

. . of course, if the Second Amendment only covers muskets, then the First only covers Press printed via hand-set type on Gutenberg-style presses. . . .

LAWMAKER: SECOND AMENDMENT APPLIES TO MUSKETS, SO ELIMINATE ASSAULT WEAPONS

By [Nicholas Ballasy](#) July 13, 2016

<https://pjmedia.com/news-and-politics/2016/07/13/lawmaker-second-amendment-applies-to-muskets-so-eliminate-assault-weapons/>



(LEE SNIDER PHOTO IMAGES / Shutterstock.com)

**WASHINGTON – Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-N.C.) joined other Democrats to call for the reinstatement of the federal assault weapons ban, arguing that the Second Amendment only applies to muskets.**

**“This is something as a non-lawyer that I have had trouble with from the very beginning. When the framers of our Constitution considered the Second Amendment, they were talking about muskets,” Coleman said during a news conference outside of the Capitol Building on Tuesday.**

**“There are so many gun laws we need to impose that would protect our communities more and more and more and eliminating assault weapons is definitely at the very top, as well as limiting who can get ammunition and whether or not you can buy it online. It’s something I have supported and I sponsored,” Coleman added.**

**Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-Ariz.), who attended the press conference with Coleman, told PJM the Democrats “absolutely” missed an opportunity to bring back the assault weapons ban when the party controlled Congress from 2009-11 with President Obama in the White House.**

**“I think we had an opportunity four years after 2004 under Bush where it was undone - that was my first year,” he said. “In 2009, during that period which we had the majority all around, there was an opportunity to incrementally, if not all at once, reinstate the ban. We didn’t, and hindsight is all it’s worth — hindsight. I think it’s something we should have done.”**

**A [MoveOn.org](http://MoveOn.org) activist attended the press conference with the lawmakers and presented them with a petition that he said was signed by 1.2 million individuals.**

*The July 14th, 2016 Edition of THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY!*

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Coleman said the “only reason you have an assault weapon is because you want to kill quickly and you want to create as many fatalities as possible.”

“These are weapons of war and they have no place in a civil society,” she said. “So we will stand here with the 1.2 million people and even more who didn’t sign onto this petition but believe wholeheartedly that assault weapons should be banned.”

Rep. Peter King (R-N.Y.) told PJM he would vote for the reinstatement of the assault weapons ban.

“I voted for it in ’94, yeah,” he said. “It should be reinstated. I would vote for it.”

When asked about opposition to the ban from conservative lawmakers and NRA members, King said, “They feel it doesn’t work and they have their honest differences.”

Last year, President Obama announced a ban on the federal transfer of some military style weapons to police departments, including firearms and ammunition of .50 caliber or higher.

PJM asked Grijalva if a federal assault weapons ban should be extended to police departments.

“No, well, that’s kind of like a ‘did you stop beating your wife question.’ I’m not going to bite,” he replied.

Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-Ill.) said she had not talked to law enforcement personnel to see if there are any “occasions or riot situations” where they might need an assault weapon.

“That has not been an issue. I don’t know. The kind of police violence — police misconduct has not really been an issue of assault weapons. I don’t know if it ought to be extended. The only use of assault weapons is to shoot as many people as possible in the shortest period of time,” she said. “I haven’t really thought of the role of police in that.”

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLO9WuogyAg>

YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, KEITH’S OPENING COMMENT DOES MAKE AS MUCH SENSE AS THIS ARTICLE. UT

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