



AdChoices

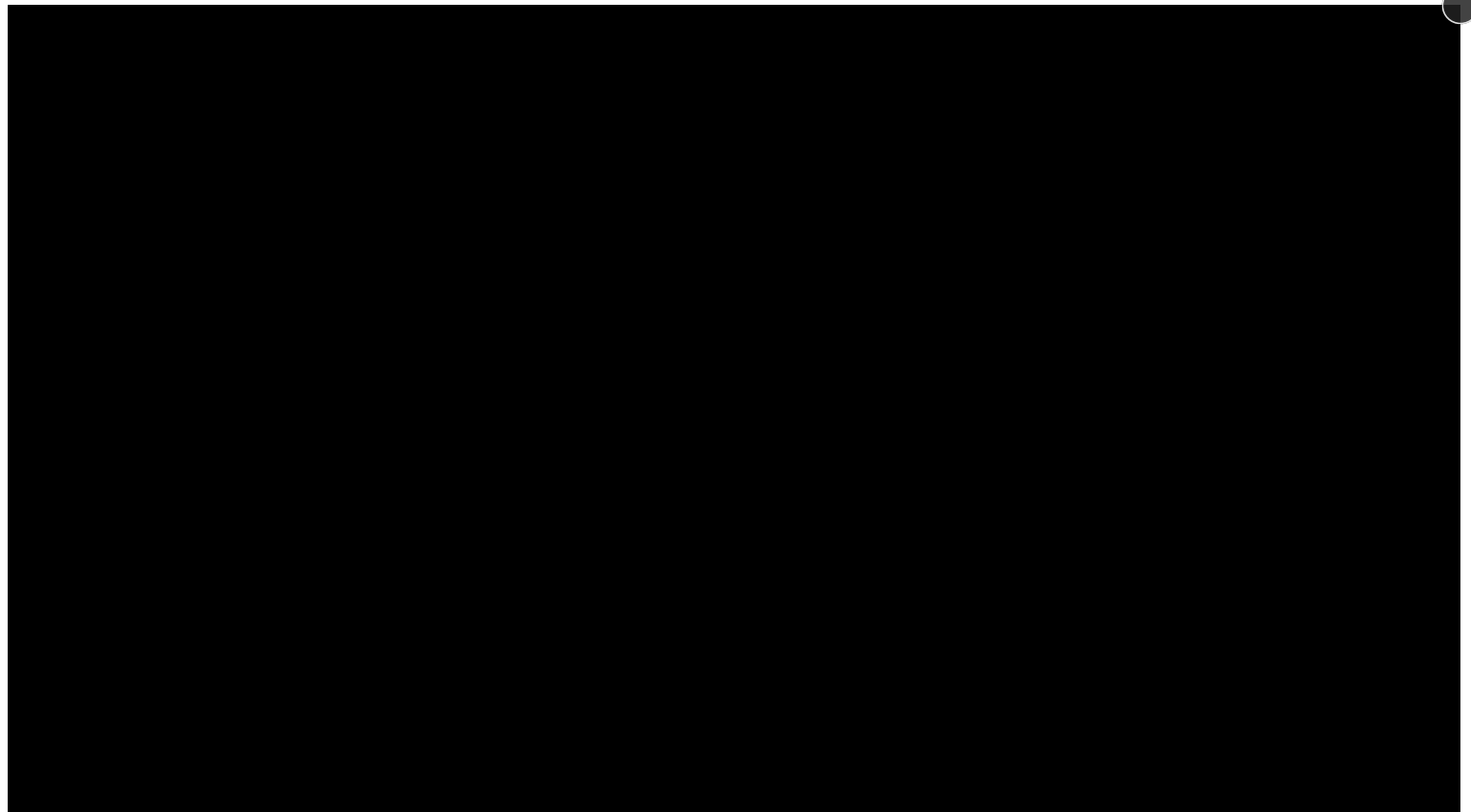
*ENVIRONMENT* 01/16/2019 08:17 pm ET

# Massive Great White Shark Takes Lunch Break In Oahu As Divers Watch In Awe

Some consider Deep Blue to be one of the biggest great white sharks ever filmed.



By Carla Herreria



People in Hawaii were mesmerized by the sight of a decaying whale surrounded by tiger sharks last week — until a celebrity crashed the party.

Deep Blue, considered one of the biggest great white sharks ever caught on camera, was spotted on Sunday off the southern coast of Oahu where other sharks have been feeding on the carcass of a dead sperm whale.

Some experts estimate that Deep Blue is over 50 years old.

oceanramsey  
Oneoceandiving.com

[View Profile](#)

[View More on Instagram](#)

77,346 likes

oceanramsey

Beyond magic! Please #helpsavesharks !!!!  
Incredible swimming with maybe "Deep Blue" one of the largest great white s for over and hour! Just using our @oneoceandiving boat as a scratching post, so mellow and beautiful. Help ban the purposeful killing of sharks and rays with @oneoceanconservation this year & in your local/international community  
AHHHHHHMAZING!!!! #Beyondwords still out to sea/going back in vid shot by @oneoceandiving Shark specialist & my amazing #seaster @mermaid\_kayleigh out with @juansharks @forrest.in.focus @camgrantphotography @oneoceanresearch

view all 4,463 comments

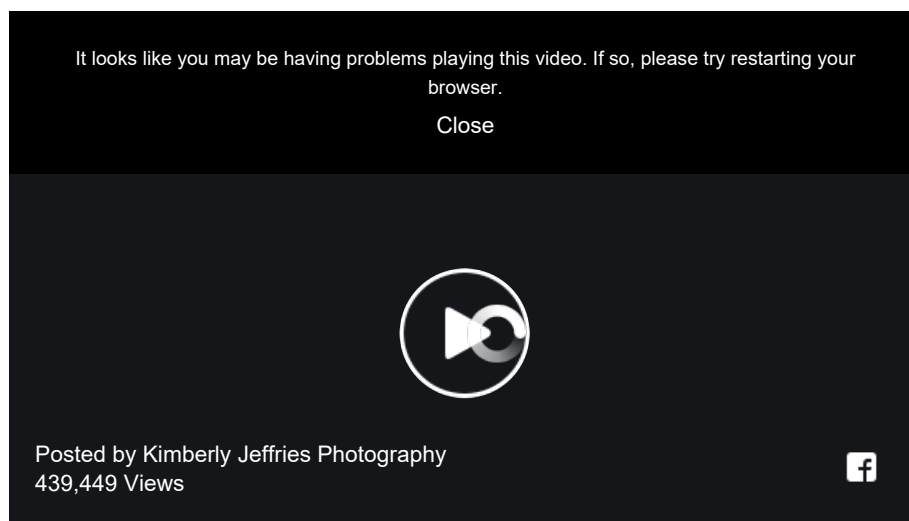
Add a comment...



At an estimated 15 to 20 feet long, Blue's sheer size captivated divers and underwater photographers who were swimming around the carcass on Sunday.

The shark dwarfed Kimberly Jeffries, a Hawaii-based wildlife photographer who is 5 feet, 1 inch. Jeffries said she was by the carcass on Sunday to check out what kind of wildlife it had attracted. Deep Blue stopped by for a bite, and Jeffries filmed her as she munched on the dead whale.

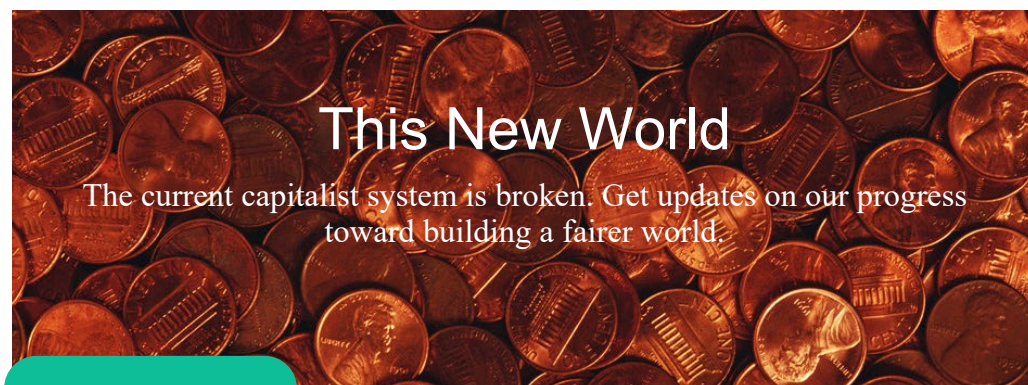
Jeffries described the scene with one word: "Breathtaking."



While these types of shark sightings are rare, great white sharks are no strangers to Hawaiian waters.

"White sharks are not uncommon in Hawaii," Kim Holland, a shark researcher at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, told HuffPost in an email.

Melanie Hutchinson, who also works at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, told KHON2 that 20 percent of the great white shark population in California and Mexico migrates to Hawaii nearly every year, typically in the winter.





Deep Blue, however, is an especially notable shark.

The pudgy shark became an overnight sensation after she was featured on an episode of “Jaws Strikes Back” for Discovery Channel’s Shark Week in 2014. In that episode, researchers suggested that Deep Blue could be over 20 feet long, though some researchers have since expressed that that measurement may have been exaggerated. Though she is a hefty animal, she is not the biggest great white shark in the world, according to Holland.

Deep Blue got an extra popularity boost on Sunday.

Shark activist and Instagram influencer Ocean Ramsey had an impromptu photo shoot with the apex predator and shared the footage with over half a million followers.

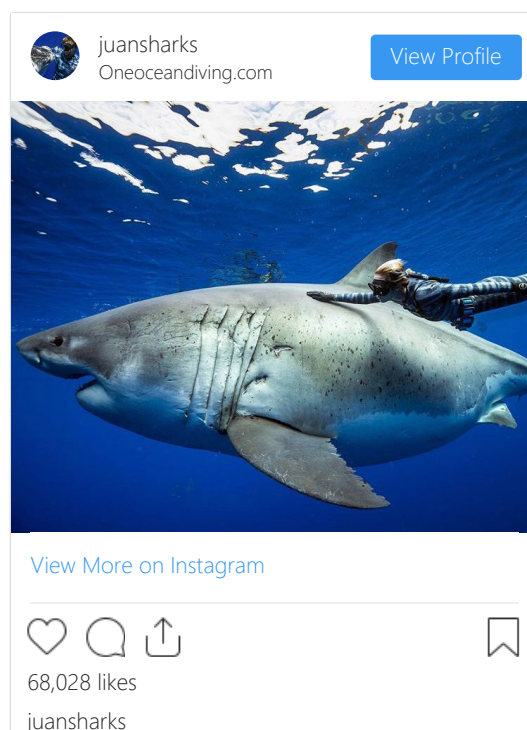
Ramsey, who frequently dives with sharks and runs a shark tour in Oahu, called Deep Blue “the gentlest grandma great #white shark” she’s ever met.

But not everyone was thrilled with Ramsey’s photos. David Shiffman, a marine biologist who specializes in shark research, accused Ramsey of trying to “grab” and “ride a free-swimming animal.”

For her part, Ramsey warned her fans against re-enacting her photo opp.

“I do not encourage people to do this,” she wrote on Instagram. “I’ve been working with sharks for over 15 years, over 30 species including white sharks all around the world.”

Ramsey did not immediately return HuffPost’s request for comment.



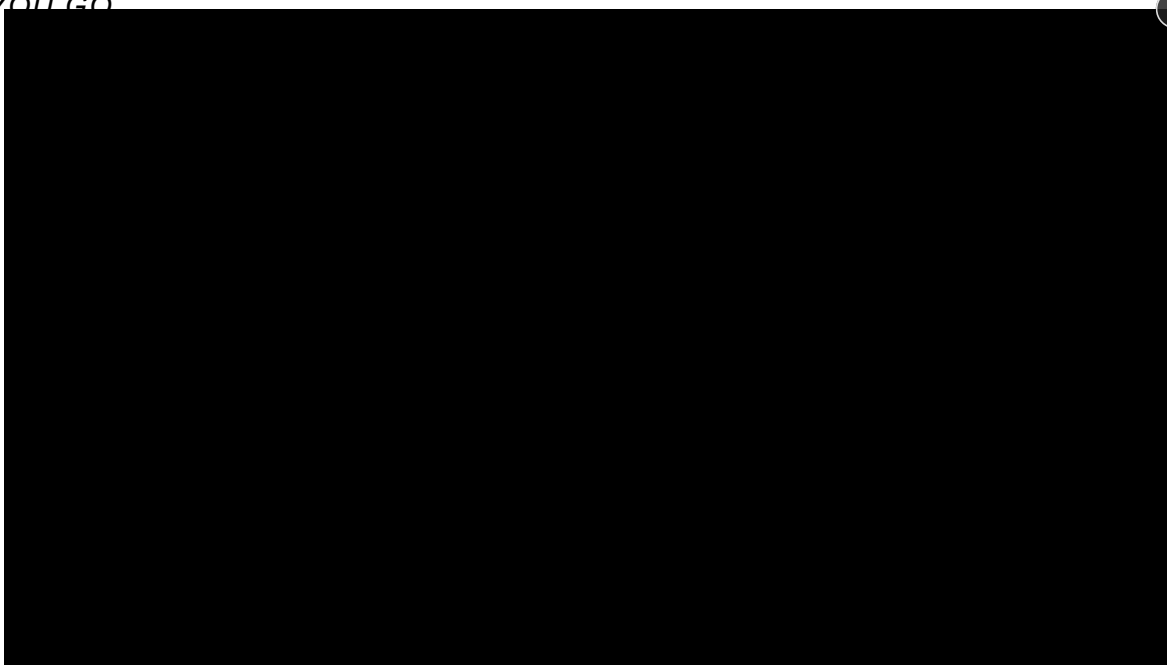
[@oceanramsey](#) gently guides one of the largest documented [#GreatWhiteSharks](#) away from our [@oneoceandiving](#) shark research boat in [#HAWAII](#) [#Oahu](#) The first great white shark I ever swam with was in 2005 off my home [#Haleiwa](#) with a similarly large great [#whiteshark](#) who also rocked the boat I was on at the time working with sharks. I guess I am lucky that history repeats and not much has changed which made me confident but not complacent during this encounter but what has changed is shark populations are severely declining but for the first time ever I've seen this huge shift in perception in the last 5 years mostly due to imagery and the work that [@oceanramsey](#) and the team at [#oneoceandiving](#) and [@oneoceandiving](#) program and conservation and research division does (with people like [@mermaid\\_kayleigh](#) and [@forrest.in.focus](#) ). I hope my conservation images like this help people to question their perceptions and realize the beauty, and importance of sharks and I hope that they inspire the kind of compassion and connection we need to have with nature and sharks, to help protect them and [#coexist](#) along side them. You don't have to love them but they do need to exist, they are absolutely critical for the health of marine ecosystems which all life relies on. Yesterday I filled up 500gb with just photos so many more videos and photos to share from this incredible encounter that lasted al day. [#grateful](#) [#helpsavesharks](#) [#savesharks](#) [#sharks](#) [#shark](#) [#discoversharks](#) [#greatwhiteshark](#) [#sealegacy](#) [#oneoceanconservation](#) [#greatwhiteshakhawaii](#) [#whitesharkhawaii](#)

[view all 2,480 comments](#)

Add a comment...



BEFORE YOU GO



Carla Herrera



Reporter, HuffPost

[Suggest a correction](#)

**MORE:**

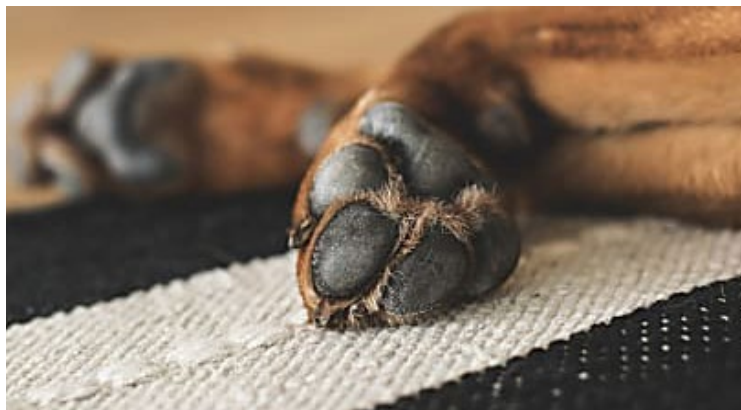
Take A Break

Shark

Oahu

Great White Shark

Deep Blue



**If Your Dog Licks It's Paws (Do This Every Day)**

Ultimate Pet Nutrition Nutra Thrive Supplement |

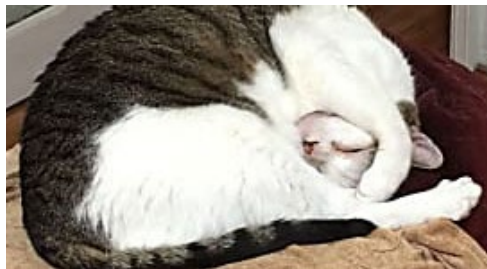
Sponsored



**Top Cardiologist: It's Like Giving Your Body A New "Battery"**

Gundry MD | Supplements |

Sponsored



**3 Ways Your Cat Asks For Help**

Dr. Marty |

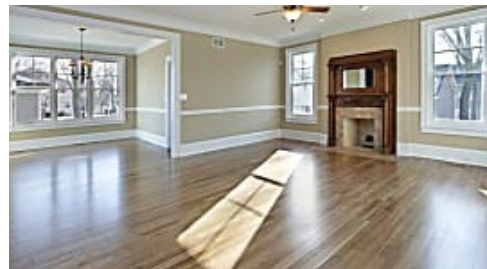
Sponsored



**Seniors With No Life Insurance May Get Up To \$250,000 If They Do This**

National Family |

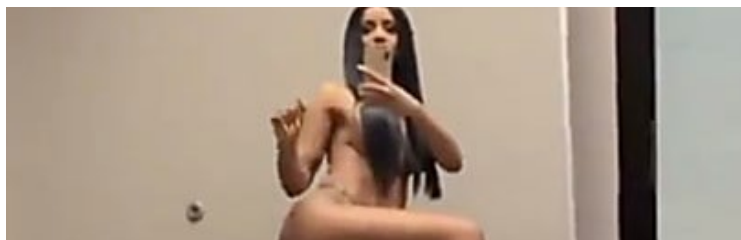
Sponsored



**Don't Do It Yourself - Hire a Kapolei Handyman for Your Home Projects**

HomeAdvisor |

Sponsored







### Cardi B Says Her 'Fat A\*\*' Was What Fans Saw In Photos, Not Her Vulva

HuffPost



### Twitter Points Out A Glaring Issue With Kate Upton's SI Cover

HuffPost



### Seniors With No Life Insurance Should Do This Before May 15

Finance Daily |

Sponsored



### How To: Boost Prostate Health (Do This Daily)

Prostagenix Supplement |

Sponsored



### Hawaii Will Pay Homeowners to Install Solar

Smart Life Weekly |

Sponsored



### Seniors with No Life Insurance should do it before May 15

National Family |

Sponsored



### Constant Fatigue Is A Warning Sign – See The Simple Fix

Gundry MD Vital Reds Supplements |

Sponsored



### Adele Posted A Meme About Her Split And Oh My God It's So Good

HuffPost



### Diane Keaton Knows Why She's 'Been A Single Woman All Her Life'

HuffPost



### Hunter McGrady Is A Breath Of Fresh Air In SI's Swimsuit Edition

HuffPost

## MOST SHARED

Fox News' Tucker Carlson Slams White House For Stephen Moore 'Weakness'



Remodeling Soon? Don't Make These Mistakes

Advertisement by Amazon





### Sophie Turner Faced Pressure To Lose Weight During 'Game Of Thrones'



### Peter Mayhew's Family Shares A Tearful Moment With Harrison Ford On Twitter



### Blake Lively And Ryan Reynolds Appear To Be Expecting Their Third Child





## WHAT'S HOT

'Weird Al' Yankovic Reveals The Really Terrible Song Idea Paul McCartney Gave Him



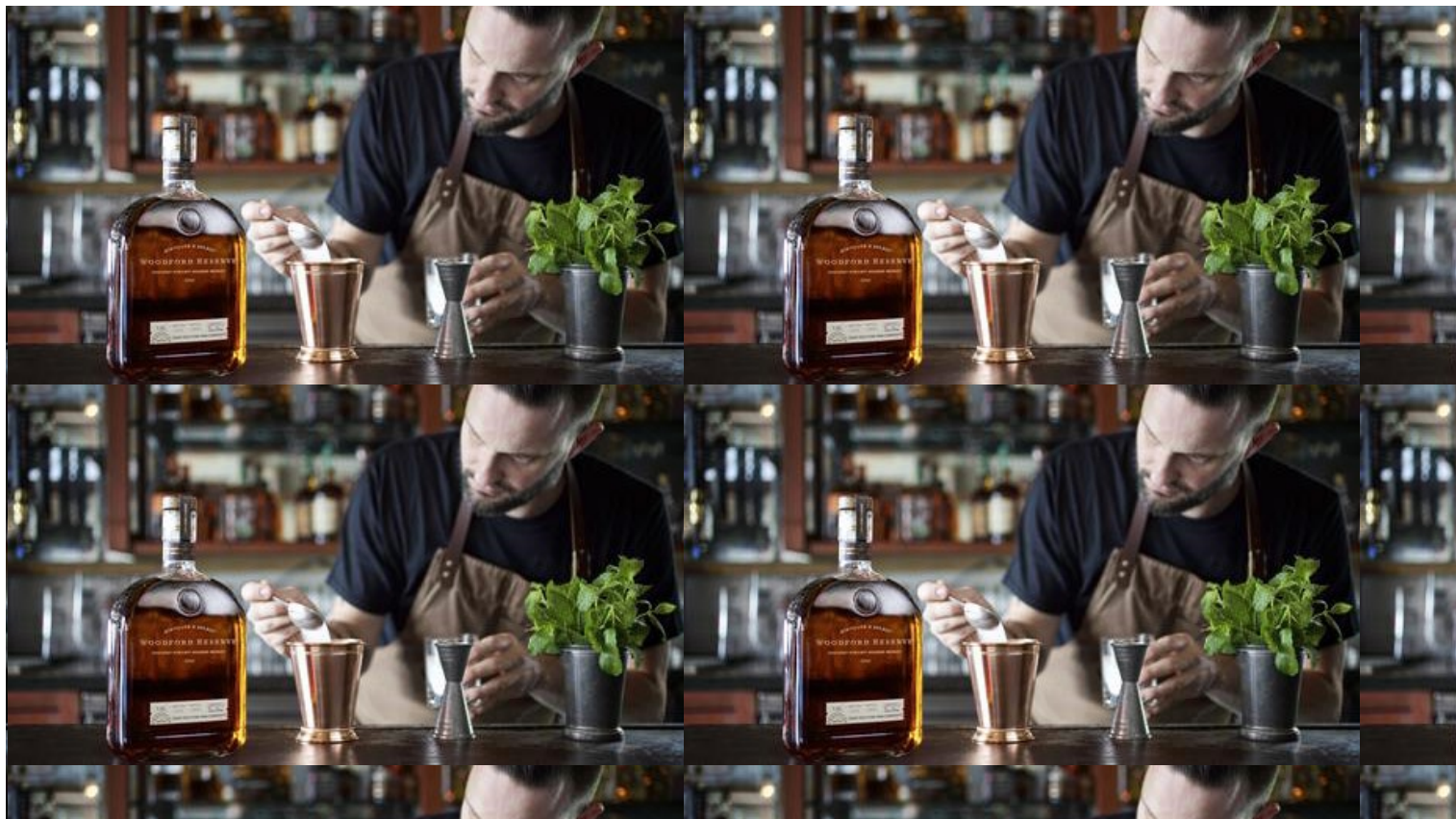
A New Discovery That Helped Me Bond With My Kids



Advertisement by Amazon



This Is The Mint Julep Recipe Served At The Kentucky Derby



Kelly Clarkson Has Appendix Removed Hours After Hosting Billboard Music Awards

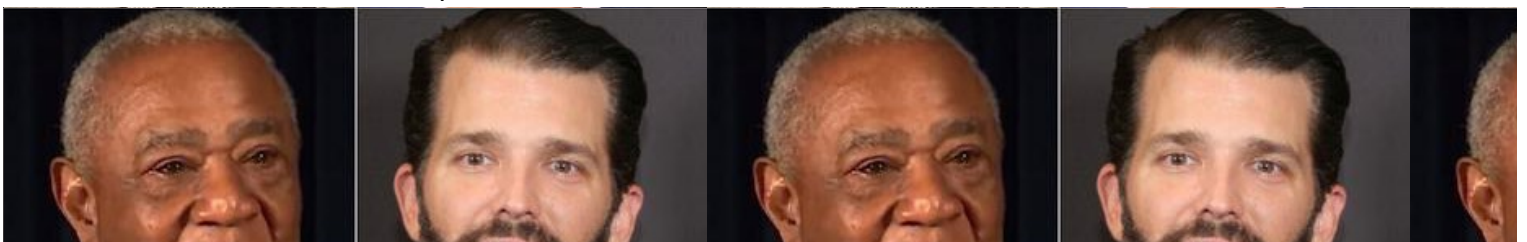




'Medicare For All' Isn't The Only Way To Get To Universal Coverage



Alabama Democrat: Donald Trump Jr.'s Mother 'Should Have Aborted Him'







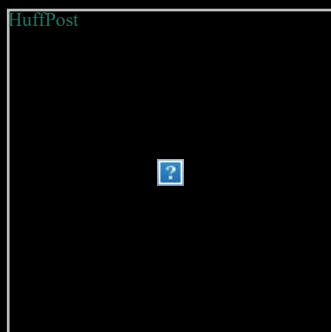
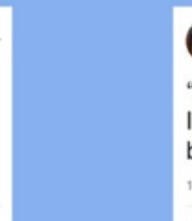
### Hawaii Veterans are Getting a Huge Reward

Advertisement by Fetcharate



### The Funniest Tweets From Parents This Week (April 27-May 3)





[ABOUT US](#)

[ADVERTISE](#)

[About Our Ads](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[RSS](#)

Part of HuffPost News. ©2019 Verizon Media. All rights reserved.

[FAQ](#)

[Careers](#)

[Archive](#)

[User Agreement](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Comment Policy](#)

[HuffPost Press Room](#)