

## This Week In Doubtful News

Written by Sharon Hill  
Tuesday, 15 January 2013 09:00

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Here is a rundown of the top stories in pseudoscience, anomalies and just plain oddball stuff from the past week courtesy of [Doubtful News](#)

Celebrities were being very ridiculous this week. National Football League ex-player [Bernie Kosar hypes a mysterious brain treatment](#)

Former actress, now turned health "advocate" [Suzanne Somers spouts complete nonsense about toxins](#)

These stories have a common thread, the idea that toxins are affecting your brain. I wouldn't consider this health advocacy.

Sandy Hook conspiracies and fringe ideas were running rampant on the internet this week. There is a [movement of Sandy Hook "truthers"](#) (a poorly descriptive work) who are convinced something nefarious is going on.

A professor is [at the forefront](#) .

The DNA of the shooter is undergoing complete mapping. To find what? [The mass shooter gene](#) ? This could be problematic.

CNN decides that the man who never met a conspiracy he didn't like, Alex Jones, would be a good person to talk about [gun control](#) .

Several studies out this week in the press did a craptastic job with science. Serious skepticism was needed in this piece that [linked sweetened drinks to depression](#) .

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Several headlines reporting a study was suggestive that a [poor diet contributed to allergies](#) , but again, it was correlation, not causation.

And, the media and marketing companies LOVE the word "antioxidant" and consider it [synonymous with "healthy"](#) . That's not accurate.

Media outlets went wild with speculation about these [curious structures that appeared suddenly](#) in the Gobi desert in China. They really weren't that interesting but add the word "mystery" to the story and suddenly it's newsworthy.

A story appeared promoting another mystery triangle myth without foundation: [the Los Roques curse](#).

In other media news, the fall of the house of the Australian Vaccination Network continues as they cease publishing their magazine and [president Meryl Dorey leaves](#) . I suspect that's not the last we shall see of her though as we might expect such an ideological base to regroup.

An [anti-vaccination, pro-measles kids book faced serious scrutiny](#) . That's right. I said PRO-MEASLES as if measles is a good thing to catch.

In another facepalm moment, a man is arrested, accused of attempted harm to his friend, when he gives her an alternative treatment that is marketed as a MIRACLE but is [really industrial bleach](#) . Yep, you read me correctly there too.

The most ridiculous story of the week was the [Wyoming legislature honoring the jackalope](#) - a jackrabbit with antlers. The real story behind the jackalope is FAR more interesting.

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Finally, you can do your part against pseudoscience and to actually HELP legitimate research for childhood cancer by donating to the St. Jude's Hospital in this [skeptical activism charity drive](#)

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***Sharon Hill runs Doubtful News, a unique feed of news stories about the paranormal, pseudoscience, the weird and the unexplained with questioning commentary.***□