Written by Sharon Hill
Tuesday, 22 January 2013 09:00

So many wild and wonderful stories in the news this week. Here is a rundown of the top stories in pseudoscience, anomalies and the paranormal that will make you laugh, cry and pull your hair out from the past week courtesy of Doubtful News .

A few stories related back to topics, people and items you will find here at the JREF site.

A new episode of Consequence (an official podcast of the JREF) featured Dr. David Gorski and Bob Blaskiewicz on the Burzynski clinic.

If you don't know about this topic, you really should. There is far more to hear than the "success" stories put out their by the clinic's PR machine. And it's not pretty.

Don't forget to donate to the Crowdrise for St. Jude's cancer research.

You can also donate to fund the James Randi biopic . This looks fantastic and is a very worthwhile way to support getting recognition for the decades of work Uber-skeptic Mr. Randi has done.

I write an editorial about why paranormal proponents dislike those who expose a rational explanation for their pet mysteries.

If you listened to a previous episode (actually two-parts) of a Consequence podcast , you'd remember the story of the cult of Ramtha. It's difficult to forget. Well, the "school of enlightenment" issued a press release this week telling the world that remote viewing training can win you some big bucks in the lottery.

There were multiple stories about vaccines this week. Some were good examples of what harm the media can do in warping the message. The Huffington Post does a bang up job with one of their notorious writers.

"Health Day" piece uses Barbara Loe Fisher of the anti-vax National Vaccination Information Center as an "expert" in this piece that reports that the vaccination schedule is safe .

But some good can come out of a bad situation. Parents regret not getting their son vaccinated as he faced serious illness.

This piece highlights the reach and damage done by ridiculous websites masquerading as "health" information .

Not only do people fall for misleading medical info, they are crazy over conspiracy nonsense these days.

At least some outlets look to some knowledgable resources to explain what we are seeing with the latest wave of conspiracy paranoia.

Sports hoaxes were a theme this week.

The media stepped in this juicy story but it was revealed that a Satanist rally was actually a hoax .

Media in southeast Asia latched onto this story of a UFO which turned out to be an application to manipulate photos from your smart phone . Never believe ANY cell phone photos.

Fringe media outlets jumped on a claim of a **fossil in a meteorite**. Nonsense. Click to see why. http://doubtfulnews.com/2013/01/fossil-claims-from-the-fringe-life-in-a-meteorite-not-likely/

We can laugh a bit over this story of a pair of rather disturbed men who need an excuse for why they crashed their car . I'm not saying it's aliens…but they are.

And I'm not saying it's Sasquatch either, but Native American residents in Oregon are wondering what is screaming in the night.

We grasp a little hope out of these two stories. The Atlantic pulls Scientology-sponsored content after an outcry from its readers.

It's a good feeling when you realize that some young adults take education and science seriously enough to stand up and say so.

In the most laugh out loud funny but brain scrambling, story of the week, the "real" astrologers in India want to put the squeeze on the "fake" ones.

Join us over at Doubtful News for more stories, updated every day.

And, we have leftover links of interest posted every night at midnight.

We love getting news tips. Send us YOUR tips and feedback. Mail to editor@doubtfulnews.com

The BEST way to follow us is on Twitter. All the links are posted there immediately and additional comments and stories are also included. Go to @Doubtfulnews on Twitter.

You can also find us on Facebook .

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