

Raid the Budget: Unexplainable Federally-funded Objects (UFOs)

Forget Area 51. The real UFOs—unexplainable federally-funded objects— the government is hiding can be found by raiding the budget. The close encounters with Washington’s out-of-this-world spending include:

A Flying Saucer that Abducts Taxpayer Dollars – \$222 Million

While UFO enthusiasts will be disappointed no remnants of recovered UFOs are being held at Area 51, the federal government is, in fact, holding onto the remains of a crashed Martian flying saucer.¹ The NASA spacecraft, known as the Low-Density Supersonic Decelerator, was being designed to land on Mars.² The parachute intended to slow its descent during entry of the red planet’s atmosphere, however, failed during test flights, causing it to crash.³ As a result, the flop of a flying saucer was mothballed after abducting \$222 million from taxpayers.⁴



NASA’s Martian flying saucer abducted \$222 million from taxpayers, but never made it to Mars.

Tickets to a Martian New Year’s Party – \$30,000

NASA sent a manned mission to Mars earlier this year to attend a galactic gathering celebrating the red planet’s new year.⁵ That would be Mars, Pennsylvania, a borough outside of Pittsburgh, not our celestial neighbor.⁶ Since it takes the planet Mars twice as long as Earth to complete a trip around the sun,⁷ the party occurs every two years. The three-day event, which is “much more than just a champagne toast a midnight,”⁸ includes a sci-fi costume contest, live music, fireworks, and a brew fest as well as exhibits and presentations.⁹ The cost to taxpayers for NASA’s attendance at the Martian New Year’s parties since 2015 is about \$30,000.¹⁰ The

agency claims “participation in the Mars Festival in Mars, Pennsylvania, is consistent with both the education part of its mission and its work towards Mars exploration.”¹¹ The next Martian New Year is February 7, 2021.¹²



NASA sends a manned mission to Mars, Pennsylvania every two years to attend the Martian New Year's party.

Interplanetary Pizza Delivery with Alien Toppings – \$125,000

Cheese and pepperoni may be the most popular pizza toppings here on Earth, but a slice served in space could be covered with crushed bugs and grass clippings. These “alternative ingredients” may be alien to Earthlings, but were on the menu for the interplanetary pizza delivery service being planned by NASA using a special 3-D printer.¹³ The space agency spent \$125,000 developing the technology,¹⁴ but the pizza printer was grounded along with the plans for a manned mission to Mars.¹⁵



The alien toppings on NASA's interplanetary pizza pies include crushed bugs and grass clippings.

UFO Roadshow to Roswell – \$15,000

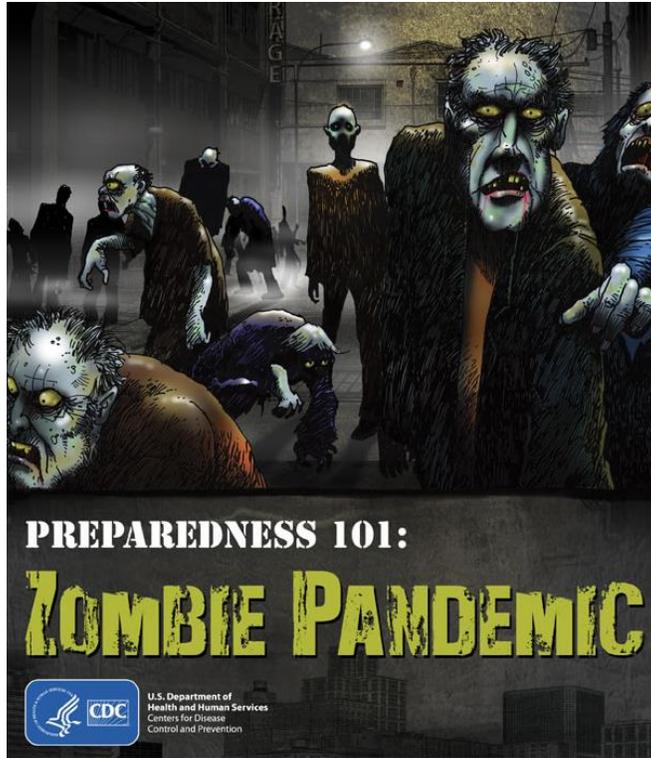
A UFO landed in Roswell, New Mexico. The site of the alleged UFO crash landing in 1947 was just one of the locations “a large-scale UFO sculpture” touched down in 2017 as part of a federally-funded “UFO Roadshow.” The UFO’s “road-trip across the country” was intended “to provoke conversation surrounding public hoax, myth-making, and the absurd.”¹⁶ What’s really absurd is that the project was paid for by taxpayers, with a \$15,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.¹⁷



This UFO landed in Roswell, New Mexico, as part of a “UFO Roadshow” paid for by taxpayers.

Alien Invasion and Zombie Apocalypse Survival Guides – \$???

“In case of an alien invasion, do not attempt to save humankind all by yourself. If an alien asks you to take it to your leader, buy yourself some time by showing it a Lady Gaga music video and dial 9-1-1 while it watches,” the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises in a facetious website post.¹⁸ The public health agency also offers a “Zombie Preparedness” graphic novel,¹⁹ which a CDC official even handed out at the “Zombie Summit: How to Survive the Inevitable Zombie Apocalypse” held at New York Comic Con.²⁰ CDC claims the “tongue-in-cheek campaign to engage new audiences with preparedness messages has proven to be a very effective platform.”²¹ An independent review, however, concluded the CDC’s paranormal propaganda does not increase the public’s knowledge or preparation for emergencies and “may also trivialize the topic.”²² It also wastes taxpayer dollars (the cost to produce and promote these is not yet available).



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has produced paranormal preparation guides, offering tongue-in-cheek advice for surviving an alien invasion and a zombie apocalypse.

¹ “Tech Demo Missions: Low Density Supersonic Decelerator (LDS),” NASA website, August 1, 2019; https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/tmd/ldsd/index.html.

² “Low-Density Supersonic Decelerator (LDS),” National Aeronautics and Space Administration press kit, May 2014; https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/press_kits/ldsd.pdf.

³ Alan Boyle, “Oh, Chute! NASA’s Flying Saucer Test Ends With Only Partial Success,” NBC News, June 8, 2015; <https://www.nbcnews.com/science/space/after-delays-nasa-gets-set-launch-flying-saucer-watch-online-n371671>.

⁴ Information from NASA provided to the Office of Senate Joni Ernst by the Congressional Research Service, August 22, 2019.

⁵ A year on Mars, the amount of time it takes for the planet to make one full revolution around the sun, lasts roughly 687 Earth days.

“Mars Facts,” NASA website, accessed June 5, 2019; <https://mars.nasa.gov/allaboutmars/facts/#?c=inspace&s=distance>.

⁶ “NASA to Land in Mars, Pennsylvania to Celebrate Red Planet with STEAM,” NASA media advisory, May 23, 2019; <https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-to-land-in-mars-pennsylvania-to-celebrate-red-planet-with-steam>.

⁷ “All About Mars: Martian Year,” NASA website, accessed August 1, 2019; <https://mars.nasa.gov/allaboutmars/extreme/martianyear/>.

⁸ Kristy Locklin, “With \$1 million grant, borough of Mars partners with NASA on Mars Discovery Center,” NEXTpittsburgh, August 26, 2019; <https://www.nextpittsburgh.com/latest-news/with-1-million-grant-borough-of-mars-partners-with-nasa-on-mars-discovery-center/>.

⁹ “Save the Date: Mars Exploration Celebration Days,” Mars New Year website, accessed June 5, 2019; <http://marsnewyear.com/>.

SAVE THE DATE



Contact Mars Borough
office for sponsorship
information at
724-625-1858.

Mars Exploration Celebration Days

in downtown Mars, PA

Friday, May 31, 2019, 5:00 PM—10:30 PM
Earth, Wind & Fire tribute band, good food, exhibits,
costume contest, & fireworks!

Saturday, June 1, 2019, 11:00 AM—7:00 PM
Science fair, robotic teams, drones & rockets,
NASA exhibits & presentations, as well as lots of good food!

Sunday, June 2, 2019, 11:00 AM—4:00 PM
NASA exhibits & presentations, lots of food & music,
& Meet the Mars Challenge rewards.

Brew Fest

Grand Avenue & Pittsburgh Street in downtown Mars, PA
Saturday, June 22, 2019, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Visit www.MarsNewYear.com for additional information on events, exhibits,
speakers, schedules, etc. and/or contact us at MarsNewYear@gmail.com.

¹⁰ “NASA’s participation in the Mars Festival in Mars, Pennsylvania, is consistent with both the education part of its mission and its work towards Mars exploration. We estimate that the cost for NASA’s education/outreach efforts associated with the Mars Festival (which occurs every two years) have averaged approximately \$10,000, primarily for the shipment of exhibits and for travel costs of personnel,” according to the agency.

Information from NASA provided to the Office of Senate Joni Ernst by the Congressional Research Service, August 14, 2019.

NASA’s participated in the event in 2015, 2017, and 2019:

“NASA Celebrates Martian New Year in Mars, Pennsylvania,” NASA media advisory, June 15, 2015; <https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-celebrates-martian-new-year-in-mars-pennsylvania>.

“Chief Technologist Celebrates Mars New Years in PA,” NASA website, May 9, 2017; <https://www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/image-feature/chief-technologist-celebrates-mars-new-years-in-mars-pa>.

¹¹ Information from NASA provided to the Office of Senate Joni Ernst by the Congressional Research Service, August 14, 2019.

¹² Kristy Locklin, “With \$1 million grant, borough of Mars partners with NASA on Mars Discovery Center,” NEXTPittsburgh, August 26, 2019; <https://www.nextpittsburgh.com/latest-news/with-1-million-grant-borough-of-mars-partners-with-nasa-on-mars-discovery-center/>.

¹³ Christopher Mims, “The audacious plan to end hunger with 3-D printed food,” Quartz, May 20, 2013; <https://qz.com/86685/the-audacious-plan-to-end-hunger-with-3-d-printed-food/>.

¹⁴ “3D Printing: Food in Space,” NASA website, May 23, 2013; https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/spacetech/home/feature_3d_food.html.

¹⁵ Meredith Rutland Bauer, “NASA’s 3D Food Printer Will Make Pizza at Amusement Parks,” Vice, August 10 2016; https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/aekjnb/nasas-3d-food-printer-will-make-pizza-at-amusement-parks.

¹⁶ “UFO Roadshow,” Dashboard website, accessed August 20, 2019; <http://www.dashboard.us/ufo-roadshow>.

¹⁷ National Endowment for the Arts grant in the amount of \$15,000 to Dashboard Co-op Inc. (aka Dashboard US) of Atlanta, Georgia for the period June 2016 to June 2017 “to support the creation and presentation of work by Atlanta-based visual artists. Michael Oliveri will create the UFO Roadshow, touring a large-scale UFO sculpture to multiple locations across the United States to provoke conversation about public hoax and myth-making,” NEA grant database, accessed August 20, 2019; <https://apps.nea.gov/grantsearch/>.

The image shows a screenshot of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant search results page. On the left is the NEA logo, which includes the text "NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS" and "arts.gov" with a red and blue horizontal line. On the right, the grant details are displayed in a structured layout. At the top right, the phone number "16-4100-7116" is visible. The grant recipient is "Dashboard Co-op Inc (aka Dashboard US)" located in "Atlanta GA 30316-1221". A description of the grant states: "To support the creation and presentation of work by Atlanta-based visual artists. Michael Oliveri will create the UFO Roadshow, touring a large-scale UFO sculpture to multiple locations across the United States to provoke conversation about public hoax and myth-making." Below this, a table-like structure lists the following details: Fiscal Year: 2016; Congressional District: 5; Grant Amount: \$15,000; Category: Art Works; Discipline: Visual Arts; Grant Period: 06/2016 - 06/2017.

¹⁸ “Disaster Movies: Lessons Learned,” Public Health Matters blog, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, posted February 23, 2012; <https://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2012/02/disaster-movies-lessons-learned/>.

¹⁹ “Zombie Preparedness,” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Center for Preparedness and Response website, accessed September 6, 2019; <https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/zombie/index.htm>. Graphic novel available at <https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/zombie/novel.htm>.

²⁰ Caleb Goellner, “Centers for Disease Control’s Zombie Comic Teaches General Emergency Preparedness,” Comics Alliance, October 20, 2011; <https://comicsalliance.com/cdc-zombie-comic/>.

²¹ “Zombie Preparedness,” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Center for Preparedness and Response website, accessed September 6, 2019; <https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/zombie/index.htm>.

²² Marjorie Kruvand PhD, Fred B. Bryant, PhD, “Zombie Apocalypse: Can the Undead Teach the Living How to Survive an Emergency?,” Public Health Reports, Volume 130, Issue 6, November 1, 2015 <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/003335491513000615> or <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4612174/>.