

# Snooping on Snopes

## A magical site to answer your questions

*Is this e-mail forward for real? I cannot really see Bill Gates giving away free laptops, but the forward says it is "NOT A HOAX."...*

This debacle will no longer plague the thoughts of society.

In 1995, an internet site called Snopes, or Urban Legends Reference Pages, was created to stifle the worries of any person who has felt concerned about a rumor, wives-tale, photograph, forward or the like. It has since escalated to cyber stardom by becoming one of the most reliable myth-busting sites on the net.

The site is completely run by a married couple in the comfort of their California home. Barbara and David Mikkelson have been debunking all of the rumors the site receives from the beginning.

In the kingdom of online myth-busting this site reigns supreme. Snopes has been referenced by CNN, MSNBC, Fox News Channel and many

others.

Not only does it tell one if something is true or false, it also explains and goes into the details of why a certain statement was stated or circulated and gives evidence to prove statements falseness.

All of the legends submitted are organized into categories. These categories include; Disney, aliens, wivestales, fauxtos and so many more.

The site is great for checking facts or just perusing the countless pages of both the interesting and the hilarious.

Snopes has only grown in popularity throughout the years with over 300,000 hits a day and it is no small wonder why. You can even find Snopes on Facebook.

Snopes.com has become one of the most trusted hoax-busting sites out there today. It is a wonderful place where anyone may confirm or deny any rumor they may have picked up. It is the perfect place to Snope out the truth.

By Gracen Dunn

**Still searching for answers? Try these other sites...**

**WolframAlpha.com**  
Lists as a site that brings "broad, deep, expert-level knowledge to everyone... anytime, anywhere." Provides answers for math and science related questions.

**PolitiFact.org**  
Run by reporters from the *St. Petersburg Times* this site works to validate commentary from all politicians, lobbyists and special interest groups.

**TruthOrFiction.com**  
The site provides internet users with the truth behind warnings, offers, requests, virus warnings and other stories sent through email.

**FactCheck.org**  
Checks political players and their commentary in ads, speeches and interviews to increase public knowledge.

**OpenSecrets.org**  
This site focuses on politics and money as well as how policies affect the average voter.

Did you hear Facebook will start charging your account for usage?

I can't believe it's not butter!

OMG! Wes Phelps is going to shave all of his hair off!

Did you hear about the missing possums?

I heard we were changign the school colors. True story.

Did you know Tasha Tedrow is graduating midterm? Going to the Army...

I can't believe that frogs cause warts!

I can't believe that Paoli, Valley and Orleans are consolidating!

# Local Urban Legends

Snopes could not help our staff with these local legends. In honor of Halloween we compiled some stories from around our area that might give you chills.

**Cry Baby Bridge:**  
Supposedly a long time ago there was a couple with their child who wrecked their carriage on the bridge in French Lick and on the anniversary of the night they wrecked you can hear the sound of the baby's cry.

**Devil's Pit:**  
It is said that Devil's Pit on Base Line Road is haunted, used for devil worshipping and pagan activities.

**Tunnelton:**  
The train bridge has been said to have the dead bodies of lost workers left in the tunnel. It is said that the spirits of the men haunt the tunnel and are trying to find their way out.

**The Lost River Bridge:**  
On a full moon at midnight if someone takes their vehicle and blocks the way of the bridge then the ghost carriage that comes through will move your vehicle so that it may pass through the bridge.

**Bonds Chapel:**  
At Bonds Chapel there is a headstone with the impression of chains wrapped around it. Every year on the same day a new link mysteriously is added. If you count the links it is said that is how many years you have left to live.

**Halfmoon Bridge:**  
A couple is said to have wrecked on the bridge in their carriage a long time ago and the carriage was never seen again along with the passengers.