

The Weekly *Dome Report*

Week of February 17th, 2020.....Volume 21Space News and Stuff

Upcoming Events:

Monday, Feb. 17th

6pm: Mythology Monday - The Moon (FREE)

Friday, Feb. 21st

7pm: Final Frontier Friday - Size of the Solar System (\$1)

Saturday, Feb. 22nd

2pm: From Earth to the Universe
3pm: New Horizons
7pm: Phantom of the Universe

Saturday tickets are just \$5! Get them online at planetarium.truman.edu, or at the door (cash only)

SIGNALS FROM SPACE

MYSTERIOUS RADIO FREQUENCIES?



Image credit: CHIME

Fast radio bursts (FRBs) were only discovered in 2007, and only a few dozen have been discovered since. Fast radio bursts live up to their namesake, as they are simply radio signals from deep space that occur in short and fast bursts. These bursts are rare and scientists are not entirely sure of what causes them. A prevailing theory was that colliding stars caused them, as the amount of energy needed to get a signal to travel billions of light years is immense. However, a recent paper published using data from the Canadian Hydrogen Intensity Mapping Experiment Fast Radio Burst Project (CHIME/FRB) spotted a FRB in 2019 that gave off some strange readings to challenge this theory.

This FRB goes through four days of regular activity with bursts occurring almost every hour, and then no bursts are recorded for 12 days. It is also prone to skip its 4 day period for activity or only emit a single burst, although this may be in part to the CHIME/FRB only being able to monitor this specific FRB some of the time. Either way the data for this phenomenon completely goes against the current working theories on FRB's, and scientists do not quite know what to make of it. It is still most likely a natural phenomenon, but for now scientists are still very unsure of what could cause such an odd pattern.

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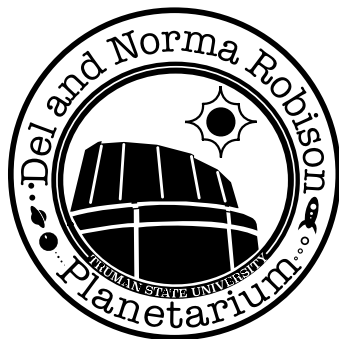
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See you in the Dome!



FREE HUMOR

