Trivia

The square most commonly landed on in the game of Monopoly is Illinois Avenue. (The Go space ranks second.)

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world with more than 164 million items on approximately 838 miles of bookshelves in 2017.

The colors of the Campbell's soup label - dark carnelian red and white - were chosen from the colors of the Cornell University football team.

An average penguin can run as fast as an average man.

Celery was once considered a trendy, high-fashion food. It was served in its own vase, which was placed in the middle of the table as a centerpiece.

Not even acid can dissolve a diamond.

The world's widest road is Brazil's Monumental Axis. It could hold 160 cars side by side.

The last letter added to the English alphabet was J.

A *flink* is a group of 12 or more cows - perhaps cattle ranchers and dairy farmers should have been called flinkers.

Entomologists have learned that mosquitoes have 47 teeth. Quite a mouthful for a bug on a liquid diet!

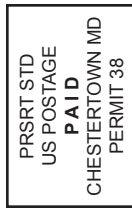One bug has an edge over boneheads: the caterpillar has 248 muscles in its head.

A raisin dropped into a glass of carbonated drink will float up and down continually.

A typical child laughs 26.67 times more per day than a typical adult does.

Peanut butter soup was popular in the 1920's.

Congratulations! You have just practiced neology. (The study of new words.)

(The Book of Bizarre Truths)

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Product Spotlight

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Dates in History

1620 Jean Picard, French astronomer first accurately measured the length of a degree of a meridian (longitude line) and from that computed the size of the Earth on July 21, 1620. His measurement of the Earth was used by Sir Isaac Newton to verify his theory of gravitation. In 1675 Picard made the first recorded observation of barometric light, the light that appears in the vacuum above the mercury in a barometer when the barometer is moved about.

1804 On July 11, 1804 a duel was fought between prominent American politicians Aaron Burr, the sitting Vice President of the United States, and Alexander Hamilton, the former Secretary of the Treasury, at Weehawken, New Jersey. Tensions reached a boiling point with Hamilton's journalistic defamation of Burr's character during the 1804 New York gubernatorial race, in which Burr was a candidate. Although Hamilton fired the first shot, Burr responded with improved aim and Hamilton died the following day.

1843 On July 2, 1843, after a powerful storm, residents of Charleston, South Carolina, came face to teeth with an alligator standing on the corner of Wentworth and Anson, a narrow one-way street on the east side of Charleston near the French Quarter. Editor H. L. Pinckney broke the news in the *Charleston Mercury*.

1933 July 30, 1933 The Monopoly board game was copyright registered. Charles Darrow, became the first millionaire game designer after he sold his patent to Parker Brothers.

1990 On July 11, 1990, Bill Atkinson, the inventor of HyperCard software, left Apple Computers along with Andy Hertzfeld, coinventor of the Apple Macintosh, and started a new company called General Magic.

(onthisday.com and)

On the Lighter Side

My husband is—how should I put this—cheap, once going so far as to reuse the freezer bags our grown daughter Molly left behind after a visit. Needless to say, it gave me a start when, looking through the freezer, I found packages labeled steak, chicken breast, and Molly.

Driving back from Vermont, I stopped at a vegetable stand. It was deserted except for a sleeping German shepherd. I stepped over the dog, helped myself to some corn, then opened the cashbox to pay. Taped to the inside of the lid was this note: "The dog can count."

After finishing our Chinese food, my husband and I cracked open our fortune cookies. Mine read, "Be quiet for a little while." His read, "Talk while you have a chance."

On the morning of her birthday, a woman told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a diamond necklace. What do you think it means?" He replied "Maybe you'll find out tonight." That evening, the man came home with a small package and gave it to his wife. She ripped off the wrapping paper and found a book titled "The Meaning of Dreams."

The flight attendant on our trip was handing out plastic pilot wings to some kids. As I stepped forward, she jokingly offered me one, but I passed. Pointing to the Airborne wings on my Army uniform, I explained, "The last time someone gave me wings, I had to jump out of the airplane."

When our ship stopped in the Atlantic Ocean for a "swim call," the chief boatswain noticed how nervous I was. "Don't worry," he assured me. "You are never more than three miles from land." Then he added, "Straight down."

(rd.com)