

did you know that ...

Alexander Graham Bell refused to have a phone in his study - the ringing drove him nuts.

Al Capone's older brother, Vince, was a policeman in Nebraska.

Most frequently landed-on squares in Monopoly are Illinois Ave., GO and B&O Railroad.

A jellyfish is 99% water and a group of jellyfish is known as a "smack".

Cyndi Lauper's 1984 hit "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" was written by a man.

Fish can get seasick.

The average American buys 17 yards of dental floss each year.

Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name was Moon.

The spots on dice and on dominoes are called pips.

French marigolds and African marigolds both come from North America.

Pigs can get swine flu from humans.

There are 635,013,559,599 possible hands in a game of bridge.

There is no rice in rice paper.

Alfred Hitchcock never won an Academy Award.

Today more people live in the United States (321 million) than lived in the entire world in A.D. 100.

In the Middle Ages, having ants in the house was a sign of good luck.



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- Star-Spangled Banner author Francis Scott 1779 Key was born August 1st in Maryland. After witnessing the British bombardment of Fort McHenry on the night of September 13-14, 1814, he was enthralled to see the American flag still flying over the fort at daybreak. He then wrote the poem originally entitled Defense of Fort McHenry which became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.
- 1896 While salmon fishing near the Klondike River in Canada's Yukon Territory on August 16th, George Carmack, Skookum Jim and Tagish Charlie reportedly spotted nuggets of gold in a creek bed. The lucky discovery sparks the last great gold rush in the American West. Rabbit Creek was renamed Bonanza, and even more gold was discovered in another Klondike tributary, dubbed Eldorado.
- Shane, considered by many critics to be the 1953 greatest western movie, was released. Based on Jack Schaefer's 1949 novel of the same name, Shane was a new type of western. After World War II, Americans began to crave books and films that offered more realistic and complex characters. Simple twodimensional heroes like Hopalong Cassidy no longer seemed believable to adults who had lived through the hardships of World War II. Schaefer's book, and the movie based on it, created a western hero for a more mature and sophisticated America.
- On August 1st, sprinter Michael Johnson 1996 breaks the world record in the 200 meters to win gold at the Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Three days earlier, Johnson had also won the 400 meters, making him the first man in history to win both events at the Olympics.

On the Lighter Side

A man was driving down the road when a policeman stopped him. The officer looked in the back of the man's truck and said, "Why are these penguins in your truck?"

The man replied, "These are my penguins. They belong to me."

"You need to take them to the zoo," the policeman said.

The next day, the officer saw the same guy driving down the road. He pulled him over again. He saw the penguins were still in the truck, but they were wearing sunglasses this time. "I thought I told you to take these penguins to the zoo!" the officer said.

"I did," the man replied. "And today I'm taking them to the beach."

The first time I got a universal remote control I thought to myself, "This changes everything".

Four men are in the hospital waiting room because their wives are having babies. A nurse goes up to the first guy and says, "Congratulations! You're the father of twins." "That's odd," answers the man. "I work for the Minnesota Twins!"

A nurse says to the second guy, "Congratulations! You're the father of triplets!"

"That's weird," answers the second man. "I work for the 3M company!"

A nurse tells the third man, "Congratulations! You're the father of quadruplets!" "That's strange," he answers. "I work for the Four Seasons hotel!"

The last man is groaning and banging his head against the wall. "What's wrong?" the others ask. "I work for 7 Up!"

