Trivia

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The French Poodle is widely believed to have first been bred in Germany, not France. In fact, the word "poodle" comes from the German word "pudelhund," a combination of words meaning "dog" and "to splash."

Over the last 12,000 years erosion of the resistant rocks that cap Niagara has allowed the Falls to migrate about 7 miles upstream, and form the highwalled Niagara Gorge along its former path. Even today, Niagara Falls is estimated to be migrating upstream, on the order of one foot per year.

The higher the sun is in the sky, the smaller the arch of the rainbow above the horizon. If the sun is more than 42° above the horizon, no rainbow will be visible.

There are many words that have no rhyme in the English language. "Orange" is only the most famous. Other words that have no rhyme include: silver, purple, month, ninth, pint, wolf, opus, dangerous, marathon and discombobulate.

Coca Cola's original contour bottle was green, thanks to sandstone quarried from the Root Glass Company's Fern Cliffs quarry in Putnam County, Indiana. The Coca-Cola Company and the Root Glass Company contracted with six glass companies across the United States to use the bottle shape, which was colored "German Green" and later renamed "Georgia Green". The bottles also had the name of the city that ordered the glass embossed on the bottom.

Born in Hortonville, Wisconsin, Charles Nagreen, also known as Hamburger Charlie, was a 15 year old vendor at the 1885 Seymour Fair. After not experiencing success selling meatballs, he had an idea. Knowing that the visitors to the fair would be hungry after gazing at the exhibits but would not be able to walk and eat, he smashed a meatball and placed it between two slices of bread. This ended up becoming the original modern hamburger. His idea was a success, and he returned every year until his death in Appleton, Wisconsin, in 1951.

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Dates in History

378 AD

On August 9th, in one of the most decisive battles in history, a large Roman army under Valens, the Roman emperor of the East, is defeated by the Visigoths at the Battle of Adrianople in present-day Turkey. The decisive Visigoth victory at the Battle of Adrianople left the Eastern Roman Empire nearly defenseless and established the supremacy of cavalry over infantry that would last for the next millennium. Emperor Valens was succeeded by Theodosius the Great, who struggled to repel the hordes of Visigoth barbarians plundering the Balkan Peninsula.

On August 27th, one of the most powerful 1883 volcanic eruptions in recorded history occurred on Krakatoa, a small, uninhabited volcanic island east of Sumatra and west of Java. Krakatoa exhibited its first stirrings in more than 200 years on May 20th, 1883. A German warship passing by reported a seven-mile high cloud of ash and dust over Indonesia. Four eruptions, beginning at 5:30 a.m.. proved cataclysmic. The explosions could be heard as far as 3,000 miles away, and ash was propelled to a height of 50 miles.

> On August 18th, celebrated Boston Celtics forward Larry Bird retired. Bird entered the NBA in 1979 and had an immediate impact on the league, winning Rookie of the Year after leading the Celtics to a 61-21 record and first place in the Atlantic Division just one year after they went 29-53 and finished in last place. NBA commissioner David Stern released a statement that read in part, "Quite simply, Larry Bird has helped to define the way a generation of basketball fans has come to view and appreciate the NBA. In the future, great players will be judged against the standards he has set, but there will never be another Larry Bird."

On the Lighter Side

What do you call a lion who is feeling dandy? A Dandelion.

It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally.

What's the difference between in-laws and outlaws? Outlaws are wanted.

Know why the skeletons are so calm? Because nothing gets under their skin.

I'm terrified of elevators...

...so I'm going to start taking steps to avoid them.

Why was the broom late for work? It over-swept.

Why didn't the marketing couple get married? They weren't on the same landing page.

Why can't sales reps see live musicals? They keep trying to capture the leads.

Why did the marketer dump her boyfriend? Lack of engagement.

Do you know where you can get chicken broth in bulk? The stock market.