

Trivia

did you know that ...

On average, you breathe 23,000 times a day.

On average, people can hold their breath for about one minute. The world record is 22 minutes 00 seconds, by Stig Severinsen.

The tallest nation of people in the world is the Watusis of Burundi: 1.98 m (6 feet 6 inches) tall.

Before the year 1000, the word "she" did not exist in the English language. The singular female reference was the word "heo", which also was the plural of all genders. The word "she" appeared only in the 12th century, about 400 years after English began to take form. "She" probably derived from the Old English feminine "seo", the Viking word for feminine reference.

The oldest continuous trophy in international sports is the America's Cup. It started in 1851, with Americans winning for a straight 132 years until Australia took the Cup in 1983.

The Motorola DynaTAC 8000X was the first cell phone sold in the US; launched on April 11, 1984, it was designed by Rudy Krolopp and weighed 2 pounds.

The Library of Congress, the largest library in the world, stores 18 million books on approximately 530 miles of bookshelves. The collections include 119 million items, 2 million recordings, 12 million photographs, 4 million maps and 53 million manuscripts.

When Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre in 1912, 6 replicas were sold as the original, each at a huge price, in the 3 years before the original was recovered.

The Statue of Liberty is the largest hammered copper statue in the world.

The first animal in space was the female Samoyed husky named Laika, launched by the Soviets in 1957.

(didyouknow.org)

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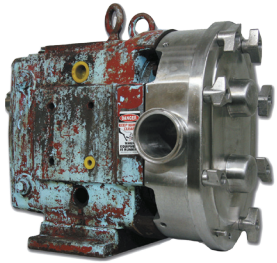
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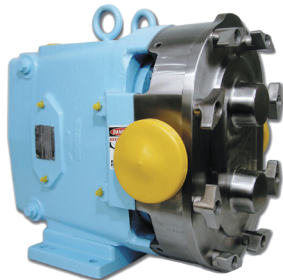
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Dates in History

1792 On April 5th, George Washington exercised the first presidential veto of a Congressional bill. The bill introduced a new plan for dividing seats in the House of Representatives that would have increased the amount of seats for northern states. After consulting with his politically divided and contentious cabinet, Washington, who came from the southern state of Virginia, ultimately decided that the plan was unconstitutional because, in providing for additional representatives for some states, it would have introduced a number of representatives higher than that proscribed by the Constitution.

1897 On April 19th, John J. McDermott of New York won the first Boston Marathon with a time of 2:55:10. A measured distance of 24.5 miles from the Irvington Oval in Boston to Metcalf's Mill in Ashland. Fifteen runners started the race but only 10 made it to the finish line. John J. McDermott, representing the Pastime Athletic Club of New York City, took the lead from Harvard athlete Dick Grant over the hills in Newton. Although he walked several times during the final miles, McDermott still won by a comfortable six-minute, fifty-two-seconds. (2012 winner finished with a time of 2:12:40)

1959 On April 9th, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) introduced America's first astronauts to the press: Scott Carpenter, L. Gordon Cooper Jr., John H. Glenn Jr., Virgil "Gus" Grissom, Walter Schirra Jr., Alan Shepard Jr., and Donald Slayton. The seven men, all military test pilots, were carefully selected from a group of 32 candidates to take part in Project Mercury, America's first manned space program. NASA planned to begin manned orbital flights in 1961.

On the Lighter Side

Several weeks after a young man had been hired, he was called into the personnel manager's office. "What is the meaning of this?" the manager asked. "When you applied for the job, you told us you had 5 years' experience. Now we discover this is the first job you've ever had." "Well," the young man said, "in your ad you said you wanted somebody with imagination."

The navy psychiatrist was interviewing a potential sailor. To check on the young man's response to trouble, the psychiatrist asked, "What would you do if you looked out of that window right now and saw a battleship coming down the street?"

The navy sailor said, "I'd grab a torpedo and sink it." "Where would you get the torpedo?" "The same place you got your battleship!"

A worker who was being paid by the week approached his employer and held up his last paycheck. "This is two hundred dollars less than we agreed on," he said. "I know," the employer said. "But last week I overpaid you two hundred dollars, and you never complained." "Well, I don't mind an occasional mistake," the worker answered, "but when it gets to be a habit, I feel I have to call it to your attention."

An artist asked the gallery owner if there had been any interest in his paintings on display at that time. "I have good news and bad news," the owner replied. "The good news is that a gentleman inquired about your work and wondered if it would appreciate in value after your death. When I told him it would, he bought all 15 of your paintings." "That's wonderful," the artist exclaimed. "What's the bad news?" "The guy was your doctor..."