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STRANGE BUT TRUE

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- Dark hair may turn red or blond in cases of severe protein deficiency.

- In the first half of the 20th century, cigarette makers touted the weight-loss aspects of their products, with one 1929 advertisement proclaiming, "Light a Lucky and you'll never miss a sweet that makes you fat."

- To escape predators, some sea cucumbers can eject their internal organs. Fortunately, they can also regrow them.

- The word Islam is often translated as "peace through submission to God."

- In 1980, Shakuntala Devi earned a Guinness World Record for fastest multiplier when she correctly multiplied two 13-digit numbers in 28 seconds.

- After a few people showed up to conventions nude in the 1970s and 1980s, cosplay organizers created the "No Costume is No Costume" rule, under which attendees must have complete coverage equivalent to a standard swimsuit over their private areas.

- Mozart's sister Maria Anna was a talented pianist in her own right, but after she reached marriageable age, she was not allowed to perform in public.

- In 2010, a NASA astronaut took a piece of Newton's apple tree aboard the space shuttle Atlantis to celebrate the 350th anniversary of The Royal Society, a scientific organization Newton once led.

- The universe has no known center.

- Hungary's post-WWII monthly inflation increased by 41,900,000,000,000,000% in July 1946. In other words, prices doubled every 13.5 hours.

- In 1759, Methodist founder John Wesley published a treatise advocating the use of electricity for medicinal purposes. He also regularly electrified participants at the Methodist church headquarters.

- Paul McCartney agreed to do a voice-over on "The Simpsons" if Lisa became a vegetarian for the rest of the series.

Thought for the Day: "I have seen what a laugh can do. It can transform almost unbearable tears into something bearable, even hopeful." — *Bob Hope*

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