

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

FROM KING FEATURES WEEKLY SERVICE,

300 W. 57th STREET, 15th FLOOR, NEW

YORK, NY 10019

CUSTOMER SERVICE: (800) 708-7311 EXT.

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- The first animal ever cloned, the famous sheep Dolly, was named for singer-songwriter Dolly Parton.

- According to a study, dancers and choreographers reported the highest divorce rates.

- Students are more than four times more likely to drop out of school if they are unable to read proficiently by the third grade.

- Early hairspray formulas often used shellac, a resin secreted by female *Kerria lacca* bugs.

- Some scientists have speculated that a zombie apocalypse may not be impossible because humans are vulnerable to neurotoxins, parasites and viruses such as rabies, which can alter behavior and brain function. Prions, the proteins behind mad cow disease, can remain active in deceased tissue, while hypothetical nanobots could raise similar questions.

- Holes in crackers allow steam and gas to escape so the product will remain flat and crisp.

- According to Gallup, Inc., more people recognized the term "UFO" than remembered the name Gerald Ford in a poll taken just six months after Ford left the presidential office.

- The Wizard of Oz's full name is Oscar Zoroaster Phadrig Isaac Norman Henkel Emmannuel Ambroise Diggs. He called himself OZ because the other initials spelled P-I-N-H-E-A-D.

- Frida Kahlo is the only Mexican woman to have a major solo exhibition at the Louvre.

- In many early Northern European tribes slaves were forbidden from hunting since they were not allowed to own weapons or bear arms.

- The first pet insurance in America was purchased in 1982 to protect the dog playing the title role in "Lassie."

- Archaeology suggests that belt buckles were developed during the Bronze Age.

- The longest poem in the world is the "Mahabharata," an Indian epic dating from the 4th century B.C. or earlier and containing about 1.8 million words.

Thought for the Day: "A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing." — *Emo Philips*