

History Trivia Description

The purpose of the “History Trivia” activity is to be more than recalling a once learned event, but rather to help in learning the skill to recall and to develop a new memory. To ensure that you have the attention of the participants it’s suggested that at the beginning of the activity to tell the participants that the trivia items **will** be revisited later on in the session. This advanced knowledge of a memory recall requires the participant to pay more attention and to concentrate as to be able to correctly answer any questions later related to the given history events of the day. Three historical events are presented for each day of the year. As always, be cognizant of the functioning level of your group. Also, be flexible enough to allow any short interjection by a participant if they have a personal experience on the subject that they want share. All the provided history trivia events are intended to be somewhat unique in order to facilitate the embedding of the information to help elicit the memory recall.

For the **History Trivia Recall** activity ask questions that are prefaced with “Who”, “What”, “When” or “Where” or “How”. Whereas some of the trivia items may only lend themselves to one or two questions, you may be able to utilize three or four questions for others. For example: On June 6th, 1944, known as D-Day, 160,000 Allied troops landed on Normandy in Operation Overlord during WWII. You may ask; What happened on June 6th 1944? “When was Operation Overlord? How many troops were involved? Where did the Allies land on D-day?

History Trivia

Jan. 1

- 1853 The first practical horse drawn fire engine in the U.S. enters service.
- 1907 U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt shakes a record 8,513 hands in one day.
- 1934 Alcatraz officially becomes a federal prison.

Jan. 2

- 1899 Willis Carrier receives a U.S. patent for the world’s 1st air conditioner.
- 1910 The first junior high school in the U.S. opens in Berkeley, CA.
- 1960 John Reynolds sets the age of the solar system at 4.495 billion years.

Jan. 3

- 1899 The first known use of the word “automobile” appears in an editorial in the NY Times.
- 1938 The March of Dimes is established to fight polio.
- 1959 Alaska is admitted as the 49th U.S. state.

Jan. 4

- 1863 Four wheeled roller skates are patented by James Plimpton of NY.
- 1887 Thomas Stevens is the first man to bicycle around the world starting and ending in

San Francisco, CA. He actually wheeled a distance of 13,500 miles.
1965 One of the 20th century's major poets, Nobel Prize winner, T. S. Elliot dies at the age of 76.

Jan. 5

1643 The first record of a legal divorce in the American colonies is granted to Anne Clarke from her absent and adulteress husband Denis Clarke.
1914 Henry Ford announces a wage increase for his employees from \$2.40 for a 9 hr. workday to \$5.00 for an 8 hr. workday.
1930 Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow meet for the first time at a friend's house in West Dallas, TX.

Jan. 6

1907 Dr. Maria Montessori open her first Montessori school in Italy which emphasizes individuality and independence in learning.
1929 Mother Theresa arrives in Calcutta at the age of 19 to begin her work among India's poorest for the next 68 yrs.
1963 Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom, Marlin Perkins begins on NBC airing on Sundays.

Jan. 7

1822 The Republic of Liberia is settled through the American Colonization Society with over 15,000 American blacks who believed they would face better chances for freedom and prosperity in Africa than in the United States.
1927 The Harlem Globetrotters play their first game in Hinckley, IL, then known as the Chicago Globetrotters
1929 Buck Rogers and Tarzan first appear in newspaper comic strips.

Jan. 8

1815 The Battle of New Orleans, fought near Chalmette, was led by Andrew Jackson over the British two weeks after the signing of the Treat of Ghent.
1835 The U.S. National debt is zero for the first, only, and last time.
1856 Dr. John A Veatch discovers large deposits of borax in Tuscan Springs, CA, that is used in household products such as Team Borax.

Jan. 9

1493 Christopher Columbus first sights manatees near the Dominican Republic thinking they are mermaids.
1947 Betty Short, the "Black Dahlia" is last seen alive and her unsolved murder becomes one of the first major crimes of post WWII.
1956 Abigail Van Buren's [Pauline Phillips] "Dear Abby" advice column first appears in newspapers.

Jan 10

1776 Thomas Paine publishes the pamphlet "Common Sense" advocating for American Independence and a democratic republic.

- 1901 Oil is discovered at Spindletop salt dome near Beaumont, TX marking the start of the Texas oil boom.
- 1956 Elvis Presley records the No. 1 hit single “Heartbreak Hotel”.

Jan. 11

- 1813 Pineapples are introduced and planted in Hawaii having been imported from Paraguay.
- 1838 The first public demonstration of the telegraph using dots and dashes by Samuel Morse is performed at Morristown, NJ.
- 1964 U.S. Surgeon Gen. Luther Terry announces the first government report warning that smoking may be hazardous to your health.

Jan. 12

- 1812 The first cargo transported by a steamboat travels from Natchez, MS to N.O. LA aboard the steamboat “New Orleans.”
- 1943 The U.S. office of Price Administration announces the hot dog or frankfurter would be replaced by the lighter meat and soy substitute called the “Victory sausage.”
- 1967 Dr. James Bedford is the first person to be cryogenically preserved with the intent of future resuscitation and to this day remains preserved at the Alcor Life Extension foundation.

Jan. 13

- 1794 Congress changes the U.S. flag to 15 stars and 15 stripes. Immortalized by Francis Scott Key in the Star Spangled Banner.
- 1930 The Mickey Mouse comic strip first appears and depicts him being inspired to build an airplane.
- 1404 The Act of Multipliers is passed by the English Parliament forbidding alchemists to use their knowledge to create precious metals (it was thought it would bring ruin upon the state).

Jan. 14

- 1784 The U.S. Revolutionary War officially ends with the U.S. Congress of the Confederation ratifying the 1783 Treaty of Paris.
- 1794 Dr. Jesse Bennet of Edam, Virginia performs the first successful Cesarean section operation in the U.S. (on his wife!)
- 1943 FDR travels from Miami to Morocco to meet with Winston Churchill becoming the first American president to travel by airplane (on official business.)

Jan. 15

- 1831 The first U.S. built locomotive the “Tom Thumb” to pull a passenger train makes its first run in Baltimore, MA.
- 1870 The donkey is first used as a symbol for the Democratic Party in Harpers Weekly. It is derived from the word jackass as a play on Andrew Jackson's name.
- 1919 Two million gallons of molasses flood Boston, MA in the “Great Molasses Flood” when a storage tank burst, drowning 21 and injuring 150.

Jan. 16

- 1917 The Zimmerman Telegram is intercepted and deciphered stating that Germany will allow Mexico to recover Texas, Arizona, and NM in an exchange for a military alliance.
- 1939 Superman debuts in daily newspaper comic strips peaking with over 300 daily and 90 Sunday newspapers.
- 1941 U.S. Rear Admiral Patrick Bellinger warns of an assault on Pearl Harbor. Eleven months later he gives the first radio alert saying, "Air Raid - Pearl Harbor- This is not a drill."

Jan. 17

- 1821 Moses Austin is awarded the first land grant to settle 300 Anglo-American families in Spanish Texas. Contingent upon their allegiance to the Spanish Crown. Upon his death in June his son Stephen F. continues.
- 1920 The first day of prohibition comes into effect in the U.S. as a result of the 18th Amendment.
- 1932 Joseph P. Kennedy becomes the 44th U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom until Nov.1940 with the publishing of his controversial remarks suggesting that democracy is finished in England.

Jan. 18

- 1644 Perplexed pilgrims in Boston report Americas' first UFO sighting
- 1788 The first fleet carrying 736 convicts from England arrives at Botany Bay, Australia to set up a penal colony.
- 1944 The Metropolitan Opera House in NYC hosts a Jazz concert for the first time. The performers included among others, Louis Armstrong, Benny Goodman, Lionel Hampton and Artie Shaw.

Jan. 19

- 1883 The first municipal electric lightning system employing overhead wires built by Thomas Edison begins service at Roselle, NJ.
- 1935 Coopers Inc. sells the world's first men's briefs in Chicago and calls it the "Jockey."
- 1939 Ernest Hausen of Wisconsin sets the single chicken plucking record in 4.4 seconds.

Jan. 20

- 1945 FDR is sworn in for an unprecedented and never to be repeated 4th term as U.S. President.
- 1953 The first coast to coast live broadcast of the inauguration address of the 34th U.S. President, Dwight D. Eisenhower is conducted.
- 1981 U.S. diplomats and citizens that are held hostage at the U.S. embassy in Tehran are released after 444 days.

Jan. 21

- 1880 The first U.S. sewage disposal system separate from a storm drain system is completed in Memphis, TN.
- 1968 A nuclear bomb aboard a U.S. B-52 bomber, crashes into sea ice in the North Star Bay of Greenland causing radioactive contamination known as the “Thule Accident”.
- 1974 Gold hits a record of \$161.31 per ounce.
- 2020 \$1559 per ounce

Jan. 22

- 1908 Katie Mulcahey is arrested for lighting a cigarette violating the one day old “Sullivan Ordinance” and is fined \$5, Mayor George C. McClelland vetoed the public smoking ban two weeks later.
- 1947 The first commercial TV station west of the Mississippi opens in Hollywood, CA.
- 1973 The Roe vs Wade decision of the U.S. Supreme court legalizes most abortions.

Jan. 23

- 1916 Temperature falls from 44 F to -56 F (100) overnight in Browning, MT.
- 1943 Jazz Musician Duke Ellington plays at Carnegie Hall in NYC for the 1st time
- 1957 Wham-O company produces the “Pluto Platter” and changes its name to the “Frisbee” in 1958

Jan. 24

- 1848 While building a sawmill, James Marshall finds gold, triggering the California Gold Rush of 1849
- 1935 The first canned beer, “Kruger's Cream Ale” is sold by American company Kruger Brewing Co of Newark, NJ
- 1952 The NY Yanks move to Dallas, TX and become the first NFL team in Texas, The Dallas Texans.

Jan. 25

- 1858 Felix Mendelssohn's “Wedding March” is first played at the wedding of Queen Victoria's daughter, Princess Victoria.
- 1890 Nellie Bly beats Jules Verne’s, Phileas Fogg’s time of 80 days around the world by 8 days. (72)
- 1959 American Airlines Boeing 707 flies from LA to NY in 5 hours becoming the first transcontinental jet flight in the U.S. and costing \$301.00 in airfare.

Jan. 26

- 1564 The Council of Trent issued its conclusions in the Tridentinum, establishing a distinction between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism.
- 1905 The world’s largest diamond, the 3,106 carat Cullinan is found in South Africa. (now worth \$400 million)
- 1926 John Baird gives the first public demonstration of a television in his laboratory in London, England.

Jan. 27

- 1918 Tarzan of the Apes is the first silent film shown that is based on Edgar Rice Burroughs novel and premieres at the Broadway Theater in NYC.
- 1941 Peruvian ambassador Ricardo Rivera-Schreiber warns the American Ambassador of a Japanese assault on Pearl Harbor.
- 1967 A fire in the Apollo 1 command module kills astronauts Gus Grissom, Ed White, and Roger Chaffee during a launch rehearsal at Cape Kennedy, Fl.

Jan. 28

- 1754 Horace Walpole coins the word “serendipity” in the fairy tale “The Three Princes of Serendipity” where the heroes were always making discoveries by accident.
- 1813 Jane Austen’s “Pride and Prejudice” is published by Thomas Egerton in the UK.
- 1986 The Space Shuttle Challenger explodes 73 seconds after takeoff, all 7 crew members are killed, including Christa McAuliffe, the first teacher in space.

Jan. 29

- 1595 William Shakespeare's infamous and tragic play “Romeo and Juliet” is first performed in London at the Globe Theater.
- 1892 The Coca - Cola Company is founded in Atlanta, GA.
- 1919 The 18th Amendment is ratified prohibiting alcohol starting the next year on Jan. 17th and ultimately ending on Dec. 5th 1933.

Jan. 30

- 1835 Richard Lawrence’s gun misfires at Pres. Andrew Jackson in Washington, DC in the first attempted assassination of a U.S. president.
- 1873 The book “Around the World in 80 Days” by Jules Verne is first published in France.
- 1946 The Franklin Roosevelt silver dime is first issued, with the reverse side having pictures of a torch, olive branch, and an oak branch.

Jan. 31

- 1856 Texan, Gail Borden starts the first production of condensed milk under the Eagle Brand name.
- 1928 Scotch tape is first marketed by the 3-M company.
- 1961 “Ham”, a chimpanzee is NASA’s first primate in space aboard the Mercury/Redstone 2 rocket. It traveled a total of 158 miles.

Feb. 1

- 1865 Abe Lincoln signs a joint resolution to propose the 13th amendment abolishing slavery, now commemorated by National Freedom Day.
- 1949 Perry Como singing “You're Adorable” is the first single 45 rpm record released by RCA.
- 1953 Walter Cronkite hosts “You Are There” in the historical recreation of the Hindenburg disaster on CBS television

Feb. 2

- 1848 The treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo end the Mexican-American War: US acquires

- Texas, California, New Mexico, and Arizona for \$15 million
- 1887 In Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, the first Groundhog Day is observed when “Phil” sees his shadows foretelling 6 more months of winter
- 1964 GI Joe debuts as an action figure for boys from Hasbro.

Feb. 3

- 1863 Samuel Clemens uses the pen name Mark Twain for the first time in the Virginia Newspaper, “Territorial Enterprise”
- 1913 The 16th Amendment to the US constitution is ratified and authorizes Federal Income Tax
- 1959 A plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa kills musicians Buddy Holly, Richie Valens, J.P. Richardson (The Big Bopper) and pilot immortalizing the phrase the “Day the Music Died”

Feb. 4

- 1866 Mary Baker Eddy cures her spinal injury by opening her bible to Matthew 9:2 leading her to establish the Church of Christian Scientist
- 1957 1st electric portable typewriter is placed on sale in Syracuse, NY
- 1974 Patricia Hearst (age 19) granddaughter of publisher William Randolph Hearst is kidnapped by the Symbionese Liberation Army in CA.

Feb. 5

- 1869 The world’s largest gold nugget, the “welcome Stranger” is discovered in the root of a tree in Australia weighting 97.14 kg, (214 lbs.) now valued at over \$5 million.
- 1922 The magazine, Reader Digest magazine is first published
- 1972 US airlines begins mandatory inspection of passengers and their baggage

Feb.6

- 1894 The bottle opener is patented by William Painter
- 1935 The Monopoly Board game goes on sale for the first time by Parker Bros.
- 1952 Queen Elizabeth II (Queen Mum) succeeds her father King George VI to the British Throne

Feb. 7

- 1914 Charlie Chaplin debuts the character “The Tramp” in the silent film “Kid Auto Races of Venice”
- 1943 Leather shoe rationing begins in the U.S. where you are only permitted to purchase 3 pairs of shoes per year
- 1945 Gen Douglas MacArthur “returns to Manila in the Philippians”
- 1970 Pistol “Pete Maravich of LSU scores 69 points in a 106-104 loss to Alabama

Feb. 8

- 1928 The “Stars and Stripes” weekly us armed forces newspaper 1st published
- One year after its first demonstration in London, the first transatlantic transmission of images are received in Hartsdale, NY

1965 Pres. Johnson deploys the first U.S. combat troops consisting of 3500 Marines to South Vietnam, to protect a key U.S. airbase near DaNang

Feb. 9

1861 Jefferson Davis and Alexander Stephens are elected President and V.P. of the Confederate State of America

1964 73.7 million viewers watch the first appearance of the Beatles on the Ed Sullivan Show

1969 The first flight of the Boeing 747 Jumbo jet with Pan American World Airways is successful.

Feb. 10

1933 The first delivery of a singing telegram is performed by the Postal Telegram Co. of NYC.

1940 The Tom and Jerry cartoon created by William Hanna and Joseph Barbera is debuted by MGM.

1942 Glenn Miller is awarded the first ever Gold record for selling one million copies of “Chattanooga Choo-Choo”.

Feb. 11

1809 Robert Fulton patents and develops the first commercially successful steamboat.

1945 The Yalta Agreement is signed by FDR, Churchill and Stalin setting up the reorganization of Europe.

1906 Pumping begins to start the construction of Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay for the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition.

Feb. 12

1879 The first artificial ice rink in North America is assembled at Madison Square Garden, NYC

1935 The first secret demonstration of radio detection and ranging, now known as RADAR to detect aircraft is given by Robert Watson Watt

1973 The first US POW’s are released from N. Vietnam and begin being flown to the Philippines.

Feb. 13

1633 Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei arrives in Rome for trial before the Inquisition for professing belief that the earth revolves around the sun

1866 Jesse James holds up his first bank, stealing \$15,000 from the Clay County Savings Association in Liberty, Missouri

1932 George “Spanky” McFarland is introduced in the “Our Gang” episode “Free Eats” and remains for another 11 years.

Feb. 14

1849 In New York City, James Polk, the 11th President becomes the first serving U.S. President to have his photograph taken

1929 The St. Valentine’s Day Massacre in Chicago where 7 gangsters are killed allegedly on the orders from Al Capone

- 1971 Richard Nixon installs a secret taping system in the White House
- Feb. 15**
- 399BC Philosopher Socrates is sentenced to death by the City of Athens for corrupting the minds of the youth of the city and for impiety (a lack of reverence for God or sacred things)
- 1898 The USS Maine blows up in Havana Harbor killing 260 sailors thus precipitating the Spanish-American War
- 1903 The first teddy bear is sold in America by the Ideal Novelty and Toy Co. made by Rose and Morris Michtam
- Feb. 16**
- 1883 The “Ladies Home Journal” begins publishing and becomes the first American magazine to reach one million subscribers
- 1923 At 2pm in the Valley of the Kings Egypt, Howard Carter opens the sarcophagus of the Pharaoh Tutankhamun
- 1968 The first 911 phone system in the US goes into service in Haleyville, Alabama
- Feb. 17**
- 1876 Sardines are first canned by Julius Wolff in Eastport, Maine
- 1933 The first issue of the American news magazine, “Newsweek” is published by Thomas J. C. Martyn in NYC
- 1964 The US Supreme Court rules “One-Person-One-Vote” which gives an individual the voting weight that is roughly equivalent to another’s within the same state
- Feb. 18**
- 1673 John Bunyan’s “Pilgrim’s Progress” is published in London becoming one of the most significant works of literature having never being out of print
- 1885 Mark Twain publishes “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” in the US
- 1930 U.S. astronomer, Clyde Tombaugh discovers the planet Pluto (which loses its designation in 2006 to become a dwarf planet)
-
- Feb.19**
- 1906 Will K. Kellogg and Charles D. Bolin start the Battle Creek Toasted Corn Flake Company in Battle Creek, Michigan now doing business as Kellogg’s.
- 1910 Mary Mallon, a cook in New York infects at least 53 people becoming the infamous “Typhoid Mary”
- 1913 For the first time a prize is inserted into a Cracker Jack box, a small baseball card
- Feb. 20**
- 1809 The US Supreme Court rules that federal power is greater than any state
- 1952 The film “African Queen” directed by John Huston starring Humphrey Bogart and Katherine Hepburn is released in the US
- 1962 John Glenn becomes the first American to orbit the earth aboard the Friendship Seven
- Feb. 21**
- 1931 The Dr. Miles Medicine Co. of Elkhart, Indiana introduces Alka-Seltzer

1947 The first instant developing camera, The Polaroid Land camera Model 95 is demonstrated by Edwin Land in NYC

1972 Richard Nixon becomes the first US President to visit China

Feb. 22

1878 Frank Woolworth borrows \$800 to open a Five cent store in Utica, NY. It fails within weeks.

1935 The film “The Little Colonel” premieres starring Shirley Temple (age 7), Lionel Barrymore and Bill Robinson featuring their famous stair dance, Hollywood’s first interracial dance.

1980 The “Miracle on Ice” occurs as the US Olympic Ice Hockey Team beats heavily favored Soviet Union 4-3 at Lake Placid.

Feb. 23

1455 Johannes Gutenberg prints his first bible in Bamberg, Germany

1836 The Alamo is besieged for 13 days by the Mexican army under General Santo Anna, where the entire garrison is eventually killed

1954 The first mass inoculation against polio with the Salk vaccine is held in Pittsburgh.PA

Feb. 24

1582 Pope Gregory XIII announces the new style “Gregorian” calendar

1868 The US House of Representatives vote 126 to 47 to impeach President Andrew Johnson

1938 Du Pont begins commercial production of nylon toothbrush bristles

Feb. 25

1751 The first performing monkey in America is exhibited in NYC with an admission fee of one cent

1862 The First Legal Tender Act is passed by the US Congress to finance the American Civil war authorizing into circulation as the first paper money called “greenbacks” that was legal tender not backed by gold or silver

1964 Cassius Clay now known as Muhammed Ali, TKO’s Sonny Liston in the 7th round for his first World Heavyweight championship title

Feb. 26

1732 The first Roman Catholic Mass is celebrated in America at St. Joseph’s Church, Philadelphia, PA

1962 The US Supreme Court disallows race separation on public transportation

1977 The first flight of a space shuttle, the “Enterprise” was completed atop of a modified Boeing 747

Feb. 27

1827 New Orleans holds its first Mardi Gras celebration

1935 The movie “It Happened One Night” starring Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert

1974 win seven Academy Awards
"People" magazine begins sales with a cover price of 35 cents.

Feb. 28

1849 The first boat load of gold rush prospectors arrive in San Francisco from the east coast.

1915 During WWI, the French try to drive the Germans back into the Champagne region and gaining only a few hundred yards at the cost of 50,000 casualties

1983 The final episode of M.A.S.H. airs on CBS with a record 125 million US viewers

Feb. 29

1692 Sarah Good, Sarah Osborne and Tituba, a West Indian slave are the first people accused of witchcraft in Salem, MA,

1940 The movie "Gone with the Wind" wins 12 Oscars including Hattie McDaniel becoming the first African-American woman to win the award

1972 Hank Aaron becomes the first baseball player to sign for a \$200,000 a year salary

Mar. 1

1872 Yellowstone becomes the World's First National Park with nearly 3500 square miles between Montana and Idaho

1932 "The Lindberg Kidnapping" 20 month old son of Charles and Anne Lindberg is kidnapped from their home in East Amwell, NJ

1961 U.S. president John F. Kennedy establishes the Peace Corp with executive order 10924

Mar. 2

1933 King Kong starring Fay Wray premieres at Radio City Music Hall and the RKO Roxy in NYC

1949 The Lucky Lady II (a USAF B-50 Superfortress) completes the first non-stop round the world flight at Fort Worth, TX covering 23,452 miles in 94 hours

1962 Wilt Chamberlain of the Philadelphia Warriors scores an incredible 100 points in a NBA game

Mar. 3

1887 Anne Sullivan begins teaching 6 year old blind and deaf Helen Keller

1931 The "Star Spangled Banner" officially becomes the U.S. National Anthem by Congressional resolution

1955 Elvis Presley makes his first TV appearance on a broadcast of the radio show "Louisiana Hayride" in Shreveport, LA

Mar. 4

1801 Thomas Jefferson is the first U.S. President to be inaugurated in Washington DC (a total of 20 presidents have also been inaugurated on this date)

1841 William Henry Harrison gives the longest U.S. Presidential inauguration speech (8,443 words) lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes on a cold and wet day without a hat or overcoat, leading to getting pneumonia and dying 31 days later

1924 "Happy Birthday to you" is published by Clayton Sunny becoming the most

recognized song in the English language

Mar. 5

- 1558 Smoking tobacco is introduced into Europe by Spanish physician Francisco Fernandez.
- 1770 The Boston Massacre: British soldiers kill 5 men in a crowd that are throwing snowballs, stones and sticks at them. Crispus Attucks of African and Native American descent is considered the first casualty of the American Revolution with the incident galvanizing anti-British feelings
- 1841 The first continuous filibuster in the US Senate begins, lasting 6 days until March 11

Mar. 6

- 1836 Battle of the Alamo: After 13 days of fighting, 1500 Mexican soldiers under Gen. Santa Anna overwhelm the Texan garrison of around 200 that included Wm. Travis, Jim Bowie and Davy Crockett
- 1899 Aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid) is patented by Felix Hollmann at the Bayer Company
- 1950 Silly Putty goes on sale in the U.S. in single one ounce portions into plastic eggs and sells over 250,000 eggs after a New Yorker article mentions it

Mar. 7

- 321 Roman Emperor Constantine I decrees that the Dies Solis Invicti (meaning the Sun-day) is to be the day of rest in the empire
- 1939 Guy Lombardo and the Royal Canadians first record "Auld Lang Syne"
- 1955 Peter Pan is televised on NBC starring Mary Martin as the first full-length Broadway production on color TV

Mar. 8

- 1934 Edwin Hubble's photo shows that there are as many galaxies in the universe as the Milky Way galaxy has stars
- 1936 The first sanctioned stock car race is held on a beach road course in Daytona Beach, Florida with the city eventually losing \$22,000 on the event
- 1948 The US Supreme Court rules in *McCullum vs Board of Education* that religious instruction in public schools is unconstitutional

Mar.9

- 1562 Kissing in public is banned, punishable by death in Naples, Italy
- 1959 Barbie makes her debut at the American International Toy Fair in New York and is used as her official birthday.
- 1974 The last Japanese soldier, a guerrilla operating in the Philippines surrenders 29 years after WWII has ended.

Mar.10

- 1876 After spilling battery acid, the first telephone call is made with Alexander Graham Bell saying "Mr. Watson come here, I want to see you."
- 1896 After Bob Fitzsimmons KO's the much larger "Gentleman Jim" Corbett to win the

world heavyweight championship, he coins the phrase “The bigger they are, the harder they fall”.

1945 “Operation Meetinghouse” begins with the fire-bombing of Tokyo at night by B-29 bombers. The mission becomes the single deadliest air raid of WWII with more than 100,000 people killed, mostly civilians.

Mar. 11

1918 The first confirmed cases of the Spanish flu in the U.S. are reported at Fort Riley, Kansas, killing 675,000 and ultimately 50 million worldwide.

1927 The first armored car robbery ever recorded is committed by the “Flatheads” gang in Bethel, PA with the theft of over \$104,000.

1958 Charles Van Doren finally loses on the TV game show “Twenty One” after winning \$129,000 and is later revealed to have been fixed.

Mar. 12

1894 Coca-Cola is sold in bottles for the first time in a candy store) in Vicksburg, MS

1912 Girl Guides (now the Girl Scouts) forms in Savannah, GA by Juliette Gordon Law

1951 The comic strip “Dennis the Menace” first appears in the British comic magazine “The Beano”

Mar.13

1877 American Chester Greenwood patents “Ear-mufflers” or “ear muffs” for short after inventing them at the age of 15

1925 The Tennessee Butler Act makes it unlawful to teach evolution in public schools resulting in the Scopes Monkey trial in July of 1925

1930 Clyde Tombaugh announces the discovery of the 9th planet from the sun at Lowell Observatory and is called Pluto

Mar. 14

1592 On this day at 6:53 AM is the largest correspondence of Julian calendar dates and Pi 3.141592653 becoming the Ultimate Pi Day (Pi is ratio of a circles diameter to its circumference)

1933 The CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) begins for men 17-29 years of age and becomes a popular New Deal Program

1973 Future Arizona US Senator John McCain is released after spending over 5 years in the North Vietnamese POW camp “Hanoi Hilton”

Mar. 15

44 Julius Caesar is stabbed to death by Brutus Cassius and several other Roman Senators making the “Ides of March” a turning point in Roman history

1916 General Pershing and 15,000 troops are unsuccessful in capturing Poncho Villa after his raids into the US

1960 The John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, located in Key Largo, FL is established as the first underwater park in the U.S.

Mar. 16

1802 The first US Military Academy at West Point, NY is established through a

- Congressional Act (opening later on July 4, 1802)
- 1867 The first publication of an article authored by Joseph Lister outlining the discovery of antiseptic surgery in "The Lancet"
- 1968 The My Lai Massacre occurs when American soldiers kill between 347 and 500 Vietnamese civilians in one of the most controversial incidents of the Vietnam War

Mar. 17

- 432 Saint Patrick, at 16 years of age is captured by Irish pirates from his home in Great Britain and taken as a slave to Ireland. Today is celebrated as the date of his enslavement and with his death in 460 (interestingly, he was never actually canonized by a pope)
- 1912 Camp Fire Girls, the first non-sectarian multicultural organization for girls in America is announced by Dr. and Mrs. Luther Halsey Gulick of South Casco, Maine
- 1845 The rubber band is patented by Stephen Perry of London, England

Mar. 18

- 1541 Hernando De Soto observes the first recorded flood in America and discovers the Mississippi River two months later.
- 1881 Barnum & Bailey's first combined "Greatest Show on Earth" opens at Madison Square Garden in NYC.
- 1965 Cosmonaut Alexey Leonov, leaves his spacecraft Voskhod 2 for 12 minutes and 9 seconds, becoming the first person to walk in space.

Mar. 19

- 1918 U.S. Congress authorizes time zones and approves daylight saving time.
- 1965 The wreck of the SS Georgiana, valued at over \$50,000,000, said to have been most powerful Confederate cruiser, is discovered by teenage diver and pioneer underwater archaeologist E. Lee Spence exactly 102 years after its destruction.
- 2003 A U.S. led coalition launches a ground invasion of Iraq after an ultimatum for Saddam Hussein and his sons to leave Iraq expires.

Mar. 20

- 1930 American fast food restaurant chain "KFC" [Kentucky Fried Chicken] is founded by Colonel Harland Sanders in North Corbin, Kentucky.
- 1942 General Douglas MacArthur vows with the famous quote "I came through and I shall return" after escaping Japanese-occupied Philippines.
- 1954 The first newspaper vending machine goes into the operation in Columbia, Pennsylvania.

Mar. 21

- 1965 Martin Luther King Jr. begins his march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.
- 1963 Alcatraz prison in San Francisco Bay is permanently closed.
- 1980 On the TV show "Dallas", J.R. is shot.

Mar. 22

- 1903 Niagara Falls runs out of water because of a drought.
1941 James Stewart is inducted into the Army, becoming the first major American movie star to wear a military uniform in World War II.
1944 American movie star Jimmy Stewart flies his 12th combat mission, leading the 2nd Bomb Wing in an attack on Berlin.
1981 U.S. 1st class postage is raised to 18 cents from 15 cents.

Mar. 23

- 1775 Patrick Henry proclaims "Give me liberty or give me death" during a speech in favor of Virginian troops joining the American Revolutionary war movement.
1839 The first recorded use of the term "OK" is published in the Boston's Morning Post. The letters may have originated as an abbreviation for "oll korrekt," but in this case the letters stood for the birthplace of President Martin Van Buren - Old Kinderhook, N.Y.
1972 Evel Knievel breaks 93 bones after "successfully" clearing 35 cars.

Mar. 24

- 1882 German scientist Robert Koch discovers and describes the tubercle bacillus which causes tuberculosis.
1958 Elvis Presley joins the army (serial number 53310761).
1980 ABC's nightly Iran Hostage crisis program is renamed "Nightline" to continue covering the Iranian students loyal to Ayatollah Khomeini after having seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, taking 90 hostages for 444 days.

Mar. 25

- 1882 The first demonstration of pancake making is held at a department store in NYC.
1945 The Allied forces led by the U.S. Marine Corps secure the island of Iwo Jima from the Imperial Japanese Army, after 18,000 Japanese and 6,000 Americans are killed.
1954 RCA manufactures the first color TV set with a 12½" screen costing \$1,000.
1970 The Concorde makes its first supersonic flight going 700 MPH (1,127 KPH).

Mar. 26

- 1945 U.S. Marines raise the American flag on top of Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima. Joe Rosenthal takes the famous iconic photo which inspired the Marine Corps War Memorial sculpture.
1945 Dr. Jonas Salk announces a vaccine to prevent polio.
1970 The 500th nuclear explosion by the U.S. since 1945 is announced.

Mar. 27

- 1513 Explorer Juan Ponce de León, the first known European to reach Florida claims the region for Spain.
1860 M. L. Byrne patents the "covered gimlet screw with a 'T' handle" which is now known as a corkscrew.
1980 Mount St. Helens in Washington State, becomes active after 123 years erupts 2 months later causing the largest landslide in history, killing 57 people and costing

\$1 billion in damage.

Mar. 28

- 1796 The Bethel African Methodist Church of Philadelphia is the first African – American church founded in the U.S.
- 1881 "The Greatest Show on Earth" is formed by P.T. Barnum and James A. Bailey.
- 1885 The U.S. Salvation Army is officially organized.

Mar. 29

- 1806 Construction is authorized of the Great National Pike, better known as the Cumberland Road, becoming the first United States federal highway.
- 1951 American citizens Julius and Ethel Rosenberg are convicted and sentenced to death for conspiracy to commit espionage for the Soviet Union. US Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas stays their executions for the next day on their 14th wedding anniversary.
- 1974 Chinese farmers discover the Terracotta Army near Xi'an. 8,000 clay warrior statues are buried to guard the tomb of China's 1st emperor, Qin Shi Huang.

Mar. 30

- 1858 The pencil with an attached eraser is patented by Hyman L Lipmann of Philadelphia.
- 1867 The U.S. buys Alaska from Russia for \$7,200,000 (2 cents an acre - Seward's Folly).
- 1981 U.S. President Ronald Reagan is shot and wounded in an assassination attempt by John Hinckley Jr.; three others are also wounded.

Mar. 31

- 1880 Wabash, Indiana is the 1st town to claim to be completely illuminated by electric lighting.
- 1889 Eiffel Tower officially opens in Paris. Built for the Exposition Universelle, at 300m high it retains the record for the tallest man made structure for 41 years.
- 1923 Alma Cummings sets a record of 27 hours for the 1st dance marathon held in New York City.

Apr. 1

- 1778 New Orleans businessman Oliver Pollock creates the "\$" symbol.
- 1889 The first dishwashing machine is marketed in Chicago.
- 1905 "SOS" first adopted as a Morse distress signal (· · · — — — · · ·) by the German government.
- 1976 Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs found Apple Computer in the garage of Jobs' parents' house in Cupertino, California.

Apr. 2

- 1513 Explorer Juan Ponce de León claims Florida for Spain as the first known European to reach Florida.
- 1877 The first Easter egg roll is held on the White House lawn.

1917 U.S. President Woodrow Wilson asks Congress to declare war against Germany.

Apr. 3

1860 The Pony Express begins with its first run between St. Joseph, MO and Sacramento, CA

1882 American outlaw Jesse James is killed by Robert Ford at his home in St. Joseph, MO

1953 The magazine "TV Guide" publishes its issue, which features on the cover the newborn baby of actors Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz Jr.

Apr. 4

1958 Cheryl Crane 14, daughter of actress Lana Turner, stabs to death organized crime figure Johnny Stompanato, her mother's boyfriend, in self-defense. The crime was later ruled a "justifiable homicide".

1968 U.S. civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. is assassinated in Memphis, TN.

1975 Microsoft is founded as a partnership between Bill Gates and Paul Allen to develop and sell BASIC interpreters for the Altair 8800.

Apr. 5

1923 Firestone Tire and Rubber Company starts producing inflatable tires.

1927 Anne Sullivan teaches "water" to 6 year old blind and deaf Helen Keller

1943 After the British ship SS Benlomond is torpedoed by German U-boat, Chinese steward Poon Lim is found off the coast of Brazil by a fisherman family after being adrift 133 days.

Apr. 6

1722 Peter the Great, Tsar of Russia, ends the tax on men with beards.

1896 The first modern Olympic Games open in Athens, Greece. America's James Connolly wins the first Olympic gold in modern history, is also awarded a silver medal and an olive branch.

1930 Hostess Twinkies are invented by bakery executive James Dewar.

Apr. 7

1830 Joseph Smith and five others organize the Church of Latter-Day Saints in Seneca, New York.

1909 Americans Robert Peary and Matthew Henson become the first men to reach the North Pole.

1945 Japanese battleship Yamato the greatest battleship in the world, is sunk by Allied forces drowning 2,498 of its crew.

Apr. 8

1879 Milk is sold in glass bottles for first time.

1975 Frank Robinson debuts as the first African-American Major League baseball manager (Cleveland, beats New York 5-3).

1983 In front of a live audience of 20 tourists, David Copperfield makes the Statue of Liberty disappear.

Apr. 9

- 1865 Confederate General Robert E. Lee and 26,765 troops surrender at Appomattox Court House to U.S. Lieutenant General Ulysses S Grant to end the American Civil War.
- 1872 Samuel R. Percy patents dried milk.
- 1965 In the first baseball game in the Astrodome, the Houston Astros beat the Yankees 2-1 in an exhibition as Mickey Mantle hits the first indoor homerun.

Apr. 10

- 1815 Mount Tambora in Dutch East Indies experiences a cataclysmic eruption, one of the most powerful in history, killing around 71,000 people, and causes a global volcanic winter.
- 1849 The safety pin is patented by Walter Hunt of NYC and sells then sells the rights for \$400.
- 1925 Scribner's publishes "The Great Gatsby" by F Scott Fitzgerald.

Apr. 11

- 1900 The first modern submarine designed and built by John Philip Holland is purchased by the U.S. Navy.
- 1968 U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson signs 1968 Civil Rights Act.
- 1970 Apollo 13 is launched to Moon; after major mechanical problems is unable to land, and returns in back to Earth in 6 days.

Apr. 12

- 1938 The state of NY is the 1st state in the US requiring medical tests prior to getting a marriage license.
- 1945 U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt dies in office and Vice President Harry Truman is sworn in as 33rd US President.
- 1961 Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becomes the first person to orbit Earth (Vostok 1).

Apr. 13

- 1742 George Frederic Handel's oratorio "Messiah" is performed for the first time at the New Music Hall in Dublin, Ireland.
- 1860 The first Pony Express dispatch reaches Sacramento, CA. from St. Joseph, MO. covering over 1900 miles in 10 days.
- 1861 After 34 hours of bombardment, Fort Sumter surrenders to the Confederates becoming the first battle of the US Civil War.

Apr. 14

- 1828 Noah Webster registers the First American Dictionary for publication.
- 1841 Edgar Allan Poe's "Murders in Rue Morgue" is considered the first detective story published.
- 1865 U.S. President Abraham Lincoln is shot by John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theater in Washington, DC

1912 The RMS Titanic hits an iceberg at 11.40pm off Newfoundland, sinks at 2:27 am, with the loss of between 1,490 and 1,635 people.

Apr.15

1892 Arranged by J.P. Morgan, the General Electric Company is formed by a merger of Thomas Edison's General Electric Company with Thomson-Houston Electric Company.

1923 Insulin becomes generally available for diabetics.

1924 Rand McNally publishes its first road atlas.

Apr. 16

1881 In Dodge City, Kansas, Bat Masterson fights his last gun battle.

1900 The U.S. Post Office issues its first book of 6 postage stamps.

1922 Annie Oakley sets the women's record by shooting and breaking 100 clay targets in a row.

1947 A massive petrochemical explosion and fire kills 522 in Texas City, TX.

Apr.17

1924 Metro Pictures, Goldwyn Pictures and Louis B. Mayer Co. merges to form Metro – Goldwyn - Mayer (MGM).

1961 1,400 Cuban exiles land in the Bay of Pigs in a doomed attempt to overthrow Fidel Castro.

1964 The Ford Mustang is formally introduced with a \$2,368 base cost.

Apr.18

1775 Paul Revere, William Dawes and Samuel Prescott begin their ride from Boston to Concord, MA to warn John Hancock and Sam Adams of their impending arrest. Although Paul Revere warns that the "regulars are coming" he is captured by British troops.

1924 The first crossword puzzle book is published by Simon & Schuster.

1952 The first "Walk"/"Don't Walk" lighted street signals are installed in NYC to decrease the number of pedestrian accidents.

Apr.19

1775 The American Revolution begins in Lexington, MA with the "Shot Heard Round the World" taking place in Concord later that day.

1932 President Herbert Hoover suggests 5 day work week.

1971 Charles Manson is sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Sharon Tate.

Apr.20

1611 The first known performance of Shakespeare's tragedy "Macbeth" is held at the Globe Theatre, London.

1862 The first pasteurization test is completed by Frenchmen Louis Pasteur and Claude Bernard.

1918 Manfred von Richthofen, aka "The Red Baron", shoots down his 79th and 80th victims marking his final victories before his death the following day.

Apr.21

- 1836 With the Battle of San Jacinto, Texas wins its independence from Mexico.
1855 The first train crosses the Mississippi River from Rock Island, Illinois to Davenport, Iowa.
1903 The first Texas A&M Aggie Muster is held as a remembrance for fellow Aggies who had died in the previous year.

Apr.22

- 1692 Edward Bishop is jailed for proposing flogging as a cure for witchcraft in Salem, MA. 20 are eventually hanged during the witch trials.
1864 The U.S. mints a 2 cent coin with the first appearance of the words "In God We Trust".
1915 The first military use of chlorine gas is done by Germany in WW I.

Apr.23

- 1516 The German Beer Purity Law (Reinheitsgebot), is enforced across all of Bavaria by Wilhelm IV, Duke of Bavaria, stating beer should be brewed from only three ingredients ... water, malt and hops.
1900 The first known occurrence of word "hillbilly" is used in the NY Journal.
1992 McDonald's opens its first fast-food restaurant in China.

Apr.24

- 1898 The Spanish-American War begins as Spain declares war after rejecting the U.S. ultimatum to withdraw from Cuba.
1908 Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Murdock become the first couple to travel across U.S. by car. They leave LA in their Packard and arrive in NYC in 32d-5h-25m.
1913 The Woolworth Building, in New York City is opens. At 60 stories, it is the world's tallest building until 1930.

Apr.25

- 1792 The "Guillotine" is first used in France, executing highwayman Nicolas Pelletier
1901 New York becomes the first state requiring automobile license plates with a \$1 fee.
1954 Bell labs announces the first solar battery made from silicon. It has about a 6% efficiency.

Apr.26

- 1514 Copernicus makes his first observations of Saturn.
1941 A tradition begins at Chicago's Wrigley Field with the first organ to be played at a baseball game.
1986 The world's worst nuclear disaster: the 4th reactor at Chernobyl nuclear power station in USSR explodes, killing 31, with radioactive contamination reaching much of Western Europe.

Apr.27

- 1865 The Steamboat "SS Sultana" explodes in the Mississippi River at Memphis,

- killing 1259 of the 2,137 passengers in one of the greatest maritime disasters in United States history. Most were paroled Union POWs on their way home.
- 1937 The first U.S. Social Security payment is made.
- 1943 Witold Pilecki escapes from Auschwitz after having voluntarily been imprisoned there to gain information about the Holocaust.

Apr.28

- 1942 As result of a Gallup Poll, "WW II" is titled to be the name of the war.
- 1947 Thor Heyerdahl and the crew on the "Kon-Tiki" set sail from Peru to Polynesia.
- 1967 Muhammad Ali refuses induction into the Army and is stripped of his Heavyweight boxing title for 31/2 years.

Apr.29

- 1852 The first edition of Peter Roget's Thesaurus is published.
- 1945 The U.S. Army liberates 31,601 from the Nazi concentration camp in Dachau, Germany.
- 1975 The U.S. begins to evacuate its citizens from Saigon in Operation Frequent Wind in response to advancing North Vietnamese forces, bringing an end to the U.S. involvement in the war.

Apr.30

- 1789 George Washington is inaugurated as the first President of the United States of America.
- 1803 Thomas Jefferson tasked Robert Livingston and James Monroe with the signing of the Louisiana Purchase Treaty in Paris at a cost of 15 million dollars, doubling the size of the USA.
- 1900 Casey Jones is immortalized in the "Ballad of Casey Jones" when he dies heroically in a train wreck at Vaughn, MS while driving the Cannonball Express.

May 1

- 1939 Batman first appears in Detective Comics #27.
- 1941 Considered by film critics as one of the greatest films ever made, "Citizen Kane" is directed by and stars Orson Welles, Joseph Cotton and Dorothy Comingore, premiering at the Palace Theater in New York City.
- 1955 American golfer Babe Didrikson-Zaharias wins the Peach Blossom LPGA Tournament in Spartanburg, SC. Her final victory before her death the following year of cancer.

May 2

- 1885 "Good Housekeeping" magazine is first published.
- 1908 The song, "Take me out to the Ball Game" is registered for copyright.
- 2011 Osama bin Laden, the suspected mastermind behind the September 11 attacks and the FBI's most wanted man is killed by US Special Forces in Pakistan.

May 3

- 1948 The first broadcast of "CBS Evening News" which becomes the longest running

- network news show in the US.
- 1978 The first unsolicited bulk commercial e-mail ("spam") is sent by a Digital Equipment Corporation marketing representative to every ARPANET address on the US west coast.
- 1997 Garry Kasparov begins his chess match with IBM supercomputer Deep Blue in which he is defeated.

May 4

- 1893 Cowboy Bill Pickett invents bulldogging, the skill of grabbing cattle by the horns and wrestling them to the ground.
- 1932 Al Capone is incarcerated at Atlanta Penitentiary for 7 yrs. convicted of income tax evasion.
- 1979 Margaret Thatcher becomes the first woman to be elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

May 5

- 1891 Music Hall, now known as Carnegie Hall opens in New York, Tchaikovsky is guest conductor.
- 1893 The "Panic of 1893" on "Black Friday" causes a large crash on the NY Stock Exchange which causes the U.S. into a depression until 1897.
- 1947 The Pulitzer Prize is awarded to Robert Penn Warren for "All the King's Men".

May 6

- 1937 The German airship Hindenburg explodes in flames at Lakehurst, NJ killing 36.
- 1941 At California's March Field, Bob Hope performs his first USO show.
- 1954 Roger Bannister of the UK becomes the first person to run a sub 4 minute mile, recording 3:59:4 at Iffley Road, Oxford.

May 7

- 1718 The city of New Orleans founded by Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville.
- 1824 Ludwig van Beethoven's 9th (Chorale) Symphony, premieres in Vienna, often regarded as his greatest work.
- 1846 The first printed copies of "Poems" by Emily, Charlotte and Anne Brontë is received and published under the pseudonyms of Acton, Currer and Ellis Bell (2 copies sold).

May 8

- 1919 Edward George Honey first proposes the idea of a moment of silence to commemorate The Armistice of World War I, which leads to the creation of Remembrance Day.
- 1945 V-E Day: WWII ends in Europe after Germany formally signs an unconditional surrender to the US, UK, France and the Soviet Union.
- 1980 World Health Organization announces smallpox has been eradicated.

May 9

- 1914 U.S. President Woodrow Wilson proclaims the second Sunday in May as

Mother's Day "as a public expression of love and reverence for the mothers of our country."

- 1941 British intelligence with Alan Turing at Bletchley Park breaks German spy codes after capturing an Enigma machine.
- 1944 Country singer Jimmie Davis becomes Governor of Louisiana.

May 10

- 1752 Benjamin Franklin tests his lightning conductor with a kite-flying experiment.
- 1869 Completing the first U.S. Transcontinental Railroad at Promontory Summit, Utah, the Golden Spike is driven, connecting the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific Railroads.
- 1960 The first submerged circumnavigation of Earth is completed in 60 days and 21 hours by the submarine, USS Triton.

May 11

- 1310 Fifty-four members of the Knights Templar are burned at the stake in France for being heretics.
- 1928 General Electric opens its first TV-station in Schenectady, NY.
- 1947 BF Goodrich at Akron, Ohio announces the development of a tubeless tire.

May 12

- 1888 The crouching start is first used in a track event by Charles Sherrill of Yale.
- 1897 A 16 year old girl's well preserved body is found in a peat bog near Drenthe, Netherlands. The 1800-1900 year bog body fossil is named the "girl of Yde".
- 1941 Konrad Zuse presents the Z3, the world's first working programmable, fully automatic computer, in Berlin.

May 13

- 1865 The Battle of Palmetto Ranch, near Brownsville, Texas is the final engagement of the American Civil War. Private John Jefferson Williams of B Company, 34th Regiment Indiana Infantry is the last man killed.
- 1917 Three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal report the appearance of the Virgin Mary to them.
- 1981 Pope John Paul II is shot and critically wounded by Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca in St Peter's Square, Vatican City.

May 14

- 1607 English colonists establish the first permanent English settlement in America at Jamestown, Virginia. Unknown to them they have landed amidst the worst drought in 800 years.
- 1804 The Meriwether Lewis & William Clark expedition which is commissioned by Thomas Jefferson sets out from St. Louis for the Pacific Coast.
- 1945 Dr. Joseph G. Hamilton of the Manhattan Project injects misdiagnosed cancer patient Albert Stevens with plutonium without his knowledge. Stevens lives another 20 years, surviving the highest known accumulated radiation dose in any human.

May 15

- 1869 Founded by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the National Woman Suffrage Association forms in New York.
- 1928 Mickey Mouse makes his first ever appearance in the silent film "Plane Crazy".
- 1940 The McDonald brothers opens their first McDonald's restaurant in San Bernardino, California.

May 16

- 1866 Charles E. Hires invents "Hires Root Beer".
- 1868 The U.S. Senate fails to impeach President Andrew Johnson by one vote.
- 1903 The first transcontinental motorcycle trip begins in San Francisco by George A. Wyman and arrives in New York City on July 6.

May 17

- 1620 The first merry-go-round is demonstrated at a fair in Philippopolis, Turkey.
- 1883 William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody opens the Buffalo Bill's Wild West show in Omaha, Nebraska.
- 1900 "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" is first published by L. Frank Baum in Chicago.

May 18

- 1869 Robert Tanner Freeman is the first African American to graduate from Harvard Dental School.
- 1897 "Dracula", by Irish author Bram Stoker is published by Archibald Constable and Company in London.
- 1933 The Tennessee Valley Authority Act (TVA) is signed by FDR, to tackle important problems, such as flooding, providing electricity to homes and businesses, and replanting forests by building dams.

May 19

- 1536 Anne Boleyn, second wife of English King Henry VIII, is beheaded at the Tower of London on charges of adultery, incest and treason.
- 1885 The first mass production of shoes is done by Jan Matzeliger in Lynn, MA.
- 1895 Oscar Wilde is released from Reading Gaol after 2 years of imprisonment for gross indecency.

May 20

- 1873 Levi Strauss and Jacob Davis patent the first blue jeans with copper rivets.
- 1899 Driving an electric car, the first speeding infraction by a New York cabbie is recorded for going 12mph down Lexington Street.
- 1927 At 7:40 am, Charles Lindbergh takes off from New York to cross the Atlantic for Paris, aboard the Spirit of St Louis and becoming the first non-stop Trans-Atlantic flight.

May 21

- 1881 The American Red Cross is founded by Clara Barton.
- 1914 The Greyhound Bus Co. begins in Minnesota.

1932 After flying for 17 hours from Newfoundland, Amelia Earhart lands near Londonderry, Ireland, becoming the first Trans-Atlantic solo flight by a woman.

May 22

1892 Dr. Washington Sheffield invents the toothpaste tube.

1933 The first modern sighting of the Loch Ness Monster” Nessie” is reported by Aldie and John Mackay saying they "something resembling a whale".

1961 The Top of the Needle in Seattle, WA opens becoming the first revolving restaurant.

May 23

1903 The first automobile trip across U.S. leaves San Francisco for New York arriving on July 26.

1934 American outlaws Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow are killed in a barrage of 167 bullets by police in an ambush near Sailes, Louisiana.

1958 Published in Nebraska as a series of study guides, Cliff’s Notes are first used in U.S. schools.

May 24

1738 John Wesley is converted, launching the Methodist movement which is celebrated annually by Methodists as Aldersgate Day.

1844 Samuel Morse taps out "What hath God wrought" in the world's first telegraph message.

1954 The first rocket to attain 150 mi. (241 km) altitude, is conducted at White Sands, New Mexico.

May 25

1932 Goofy, aka Dippy Dawg, first appears in 'Mickey's Revue' by Walt Disney.

1961 JFK announces the U.S. goal of putting a man on the Moon before the end of decade.

1977 The Original "Star Wars" movie (Episode IV – A New Hope), directed by George Lucas and starring Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher and Harrison Ford is released.

May 26

1647 Else Young becomes the first person executed as a witch in the American colonies, when she is hanged in Hartford, Connecticut.

1896 Dow Jones begins an index of 12 industrial stocks and closes at 40.94.

1927 Henry Ford and the Ford Motor Company produce the last (and 15th million) Model T Ford known as the “Tin Lizzie”.

May 27

1930 The 1,046-foot (319-meter) Chrysler Building in New York City opens to the public, the tallest man-made structure at the time, until the Empire State Bldg. opens in 1931.

1958 Ernest Green becomes the first African-American to graduate from Little Rock's Central High School.

1995 Actor Christopher Reeve is paralyzed from the neck down after falling from his horse in a riding competition in Culpeper, Virginia.

May 28

1892 The Sierra Club is formed for the conservation of nature by John Muir and others in San Francisco.

1923 U.S. Attorney General says it is legal for women to wear trousers anywhere.

1972 White House "plumbers" first break in at the Democratic National Headquarters at the Watergate Complex in Washington D.C.

May 29

1849 Abraham Lincoln makes his famous quote, "You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time."

1942 Bing Crosby records the song "White Christmas", becoming the world's best-selling single with an estimated 100 million copies sold.

1953 Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay are the first to reach the summit of Mount Everest as part of a British Expedition.

May 30

1431 During the Hundred Years' War, 19 year old Joan of Arc is burned at the stake by an English-dominated tribunal in Rouen, France for witchcraft, heresy and dressing like a man.

1896 The first accident involving a car occurs when Henry Wells hits a cyclist in NYC.

1922 The completed Lincoln Memorial is dedicated by U.S. Chief Justice William H. Taft in front of 50,000.

May 31

1879 Madison Square Garden opens in New York, named after the 4th President James Madison.

1884 Dr. John Harvey Kellogg patents "flaked cereal".

1949 Charley Lupica begins his stay on a 4 foot square platform atop a 60' pole, vowing to stay until the Cleveland Indians clinch the pennant. (They don't, and he stays 117 days).

June 1

1813 Captain John Lawrence utters the famous Navy motto "Don't give up the ship".

1845 A homing pigeon completes a 11,000 km trip from Namibia to England in 55 days.

1974 The Heimlich maneuver for rescuing choking victims is published in the journal Emergency Medicine.

June 2

1910 Pygmies are discovered in Dutch New Guinea.

1924 President Calvin Coolidge signs the Indian Citizenship Act, declaring all Native Americans to be American citizens.

1933 FDR authorizes the first swimming pool to be built inside the White House.

June 3

1851 The first baseball uniforms are worn by the NY Knickerbockers including the wearing of a straw hat, white shirt and blue long trousers.

1888 "Casey at the Bat" is published by the SF Examiner and becomes one of the best-known poems in American literature.

1925 The Goodyear airship "Pilgrim" makes the first flight with an enclosed cabin.

June 4

1876 An express train called the Transcontinental Express arrives in San Francisco, California, via the First Transcontinental Railroad in only 83 hours and 39 minutes after having left New York City.

1927 Johnny Weissmuller set swim records in the 100-yard and 200-yard free-style.

1942 The Battle of Midway begins becoming Japan's first major defeat in WW II.

June 5

1876 Bananas are introduced in U.S. at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia.

1967 The Six-day war begins between Israel and the neighboring Arab states of Egypt, Jordan and Syria. With the ceasefire Israel had seized the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank of the Jordan River (including East Jerusalem), and the Golan Heights.

1968 At 12:16am PST, Sirhan Sirhan shoots Bobby Kennedy, who dies next day.

June 6

1882 The electric iron is patented by Henry W. Seely, of NYC.

1933 The first drive-in theater opens in Camden, New Jersey.

1944 Operation Overlord: D-Day begins as a 150,000 Allied Expeditionary Force lands in Normandy, France to begin the liberation of Europe from Germany.

June 7

1769 Daniel Boone begins exploring the Bluegrass State of Kentucky.

1917 Melvin Jones and a number of other Chicago businessmen found Lions Clubs International, now the largest service organization in the world.

1955 The "\$64,000 Question" game show premieres on CBS TV.

June 8

1786 Commercially made ice cream is first advertised by Mr. Hall of 67 Chatham St. NYC.

1968 Martin Luther King Jr's assassin James Earl Ray is captured.

1988 Nippon Airways announces that painting eyeballs on its jets cut bird collisions by 20%.

June 9

1856 500 Mormons leave Iowa City, Iowa, and head west for Salt Lake City, Utah, carrying all their possessions in two-wheeled handcarts.

1909 Alice Ramsey, a 22-year-old housewife from Hackensack, New Jersey, becomes the first woman to drive across the US, in a Maxwell 30. She makes the 3,800 mile trip from Manhattan to San Francisco in 59 days.

1978 1 of the 21 complete versions of Johannes Gutenberg's 1455 Bible, the first book produced using the printing press, sells for \$2.4 million in London.

June 10

1845 Andrew Jackson's African Grey parrot "Poll" is removed from his Hermitage home in Tennessee for swearing during Jackson's funeral.

1905 The first forest fire lookout tower is placed in operation in Greenville, Maine.

1933 John Dillinger robs his first bank taking \$10,600 in New Carlisle, Ohio.

June 11

1742 Benjamin Franklin invents his Franklin stove, known as a "circulating stove" or the "Pennsylvania fireplace".

1905 Penns Railroad debuts the fastest train in the world making it from NY to Chicago in 18 hrs. Today, it still that amount of time to travel from NY to Chicago.

1939 King George and Queen Elizabeth of England eat "hot dogs" for the first at FDR's party.

June 12

1859 The Comstock Silver Lode in Nevada discovered, becoming the first major silver discovery in the U.S.

1923 Harry Houdini frees himself from a strait jacket while suspended upside down, 40 feet (12 m) above ground in NYC.

1935 Senator Huey Long of Louisiana speaks continually for 15½ hours reading the U.S. Constitution.

June 13

1920 The U.S. Post Office says children cannot not be sent by parcel post after various attempts.

1922 Charlie Osborne gets the hiccups and continues for 68 years, dies 11 months after it stops becoming the longest recorded attack of hiccups.

1966 The U.S. Supreme Court's makes the Miranda decision saying that law-enforcement officers must warn a person taken into custody that he or she has the right to remain silent and is entitled to legal counsel.

June 14

1777 The U.S. Continental Congress adopts the Stars & Stripes flag, designed by Francis Hopkinson, replacing the Grand Union flag.

1951 The first commercial computer, UNIVAC 1, enters service at the Census Bureau.

1954 President Eisenhower signs order adding the words "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.

June 15

- 1667 The first fully documented human blood transfusion is performed by French physician, Dr. Jean-Baptiste Denys, when a small amount of sheep blood is transfused into a 15-year old boy, who survives the procedure.
- 1878 The world's first moving pictures are caught on camera by Eadweard Muybridge using 12 cameras to see if all 4 of a horse's hooves leave the ground at any point in time. (They do).
- 1911 The Tabulating Computing Recording Corporation, now known as IBM is incorporated.

June 16

- 1858 Abraham Lincoln says "A house divided against itself cannot stand" accepting Illinois Republican Party's nomination for the Senate.
- 1884 The first roller coaster opens at Coney Island, NY.
- 1929 Otto E. Funk, 62, ends a marathon walk of 4,165 miles from NY to SF, in 183 days averaging over 22 miles per day.

June 17

- 1631 Mumtaz Mahal dies during childbirth. Her husband, Mughal emperor Shah Jahan I, then spends more than 20 years building her tomb, the Taj Mahal.
- 1947 Pan Am Airways is chartered as the first worldwide passenger airline.
- 1994 O.J. Simpson doesn't turn himself in on murder charges of his wife Nicole and Ronald Goldman. L.A. police slowly follow his Ford Bronco for 1½ hours after which he eventually surrenders, as seen on live TV.

June 18

- 1682 English Quaker William Penn founds Philadelphia after receiving a charter from Charles II, making him sole proprietor of the colonial American territory Pennsylvania.
- 1928 American aviator Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean landing at Burry Port, Wales.
- 1983 The 7th Shuttle Mission-Challenger 2 launches Sally Ride as first U.S. woman in space.

June 19

- 1910 Father's Day is celebrated for the first time in Spokane, Washington.
- 1952 The show, "I've Got A Secret" debuts on CBS-TV with Garry Moore as host.
- 1981 The heaviest known orange (2.5 kg or 5.5lbs) is exhibited in Nelspruit, South Africa.

June 20

- 1893 Lizzie Borden is acquitted of the 1892 axe murders of her father and stepmother in Fall River, Massachusetts.
- 1837 18 year old Queen Victoria ascends to the British throne following death of her uncle, King William IV. She rules for 63 years till 1901.
- 1966 Sheila Scott completes the first round-the-world solo flight by a woman.

June 21

- 1939 The NY Yankees announce Lou Gehrig's retirement after doctors reveal he has amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).
- 1893 The first Ferris wheel premieres at the Chicago's Columbian Exposition.
- 1948 The 33 1/3 RPM LP record is introduced and 78's are planned to be phased out by Columbia Records.

June 22

- 1874 The modern game of lawn tennis is introduced in England by Major Walter Wingfield of the British Army.
- 1934 John Dillinger is informally named as America's first Public Enemy Number One.
- 1937 Joe Louis KO's James J. Braddock for his first heavyweight boxing title, remaining champion for 12 years.

June 23

- 1713 The French residents of Acadia are given one year to declare allegiance to Britain or leave Nova Scotia, Canada.
- 1888 Frederick Douglass is the first African-American nominated for U.S. President.
- 1961 The Antarctic Treaty, ensuring that Antarctica is used for peaceful purposes; for international cooperation in scientific research; and does not become the scene or object of international discord, is enacted.

June 24

- 1901 The first major exhibition by Pablo Picasso at age 19, perhaps the most famous and influential artist of the 20th Century opens at a gallery on the prestigious Paris rue Lafitte street.
- 1916 Mary Pickford becomes the first female film star to get a million dollar contract.
- 1938 A 500 ton meteorite lands near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

June 25

- 1876 Battle of the Little Bighorn: The U.S. 7th Cavalry under Lt. Colonel George Armstrong Custer is wiped out by Sioux and Cheyenne warriors led by Chiefs Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull in what has become famously known as "Custer's Last Stand".
- 1900 The Diamond Sutra, the world's oldest surviving dated printed book, is discovered by a Daoist monk in China.
- 1977 Roy C. Sullivan of Virginia is struck by lightning for 7th time!

June 26

- 1900 U.S. Army physician Walter Reed leads the team that confirms the theory that yellow fever is transmitted by a mosquito, rather than by direct contact.
- 1974 The Universal Product Code is scanned for the first time to sell a package of Wrigley's chewing gum at the Marsh Supermarket in Troy, Ohio.
- 1977 Elvis Presley sings in Indianapolis, making it the last performance of his career (he dies on 8/17/1977).

June 27

- 1929 The first color TV demo, is performed by Bell Laboratories in NYC.
- 1955 The first automobile seat belt legislation is enacted in Illinois.
- 1957 Hurricane Audrey, kills 526 in Louisiana and Texas.

June 28

- 1820 The Tomato is proven to be non-poisonous by Colonel Robert Gibbon by eating one on the steps of the courthouse in Salem, New Jersey.
- 1914 Franz Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria and his wife Sophie are assassinated in Sarajevo by a young Serb nationalist helping trigger the start of World War I.
- 1935 FDR orders a federal gold vault to be built at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

June 29

- 1613 Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, England, burns down during a performance of "Henry VIII".
- 1956 The U.S. Federal Aid Highway Act is signed by Pres. Eisenhower to authorize the construction of 41,000-miles of interstate highways.
- 1967 Jayne Mansfield, American actress, dies in a car crash on U.S highway 90 in Slidell, LA.

June 30

- 1936 Margaret Mitchell's novel "Gone with the Wind" is published.
- 1937 The world's first emergency call telephone service is launched in London using the number 999.
- 1955 The "Johnny Carson Show" debuts on CBS-TV.

July 1

- 1898 Theodore Roosevelt on his horse and his Rough Riders on foot charge up San Juan Hill.
- 1904 The Third modern Olympic Games opens in St Louis, becoming the first held in the U.S.
- 1943 The "Pay-as-you-go" income tax is the first withholding tax made from paychecks.

July 2

- 1881 President James Garfield is shot by Charles J. Guiteau at the Baltimore and Potomac railroad station in Washington D.C. and dies 79 days later on Sept. 19th.
- 1937 Amelia Earhart attempts to make a circumnavigation flight of the globe, but she goes missing over the Pacific Ocean and is never found.
- 1962 The first Walmart chain store opens by businessman Sam Walton in Rogers, AR.

July 3

- 1863 The Battle of Gettysburg ends with 51,000 casualties becoming the largest battle ever fought on the American continent, ending in a major victory for the Union during the U.S. Civil War.
- 1913 A Common Tern banded in Maine and found in 1919 in Africa is the first bird

known to have crossed the Atlantic.
1920 Bill Tilden, becomes the first American male to win at Wimbledon beating defending tennis champion Gerald Patterson of Australia.

July 4

1803 The Louisiana Purchase with the cost of 15 million is announced to the American people by President Thomas Jefferson.
1845 Henry David Thoreau moves into his shack on Walden Pond.
1944 The first recorded Japanese kamikaze attack on the U.S. fleet is done near Iwo Jima.

July 5

1946 French automotive engineer Louis Réard introduces the "bikini" in Paris adopting the name from the Bikini Atoll in the Pacific Ocean where the first public test of a nuclear bomb had taken place only four days before.
1865 The Salvation Army is founded in London by one-time Methodist circuit-preacher William Booth and his wife Catherine as the East London Christian Mission.
1996 "Dolly" the sheep, named after Dolly Parton was the first cloned mammal. She had 6 lambs and died in 2003.

July 6

1189 Richard the Lionheart is crowned King of England and remains until his death at the age of 41 in 1199.
1785 The U.S. Congress unanimously resolves to make the "dollar" the official name of U.S. currency.
1885 Louis Pasteur successfully tests an anti-rabies vaccine.

July 7

1891 Marcellus F. Berry, an American Express employee is granted four copyrights for what he called "the travelers cheque".
1928 The first automatically sliced commercial bread loaves were produced, in Chillicothe, Missouri, using a machine invented by Otto Rohwedder, a jeweler.
1931 Construction begins in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River, on the Boulder Dam, now Hoover Dam creating Lake Mead.

July 8

1800 Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse gives the first cowpox vaccination in the US to his son to prevent smallpox.
1913 Alfred Carlton Gilbert's patent for the Erector Set is issued, becoming one of the most popular toys of all time.
2011 The Space Shuttle Atlantis is launched in the final mission of the U.S. Space Shuttle program.

July 9

- 1869 The corncob pipe is invented by Dutch immigrant woodworker Henry Tibbe of Washington, Missouri.
- 1948 Leroy Robert "Satchel" Paige, 42, one of the most famous and successful players from the Negro leagues, debuts for Major League Baseball, pitching 2 scoreless innings for the Cleveland Indians.
- 1956 Dick Clark's makes his first appearance as host of American Bandstand on ABC in Philadelphia, PA.

July 10

- 1040 Lady Godiva rides naked on horseback through Coventry, according to legend, to force her husband, the Earl of Mercia, to lower taxes.
- 1892 The first concrete paved street is built in Bellefontaine, Ohio.
- 1938 Howard Hughes flies around the world in 91 hours in a Douglas DC-1

July 11

- 1804 Vice President of the United States Aaron Burr mortally wounds former Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton in a pistol duel, and dies the next day.
- 1864 Confederate forces led by General Jubal Early begin their invasion of Washington, D.C. The battle is noted for the personal presence of President Abraham Lincoln observing the fighting.
- 1914 19 yr. old Babe Ruth debuts as a pitcher for Boston Red Sox, beats the Cleveland Indians 4-3.

July 12

- 1679 Britain's King Charles II ratifies the Habeas Corpus Act allowing prisoners the right to be examined by a court, to determine whether the detention is lawful.
- 1909 The 16th Amendment is passed by Congress granting the government the power to tax incomes.
- 1933 Congress passes the first minimum wage law to a rate of 33 cents per hour.

July 13

-
- 1865 Horace Greeley, founder and editor of the "New-York Tribune" reputedly advises his readers to "Go west young man".
- 1923 The "Hollywoodland" sign is officially dedicated in the hills above Hollywood, Los Angeles. The four last letters are dropped after a 1949 renovation.
- 1939 Frank Sinatra makes his first commercial record with the Harry James band singing "From the Bottom of My Heart".

July 14

-
- 1850 The first public demonstration of ice made by refrigeration is performed by Florida physician John Gorrie.
- 1881 Wm. A. Bonney aka "Billy the Kid" is killed by Sheriff Pat Garrett in Fort Sumner, NM.
- 1951 CBS broadcasts the first color television coverage of a sporting event, the Molly Pitcher Handicap horse race from Monmouth Park Jockey Club, Oceanport, N.J.
-

July 15

- 1099 The City of Jerusalem is captured and plundered by Christian forces during the First Crusade.
- 1799 The Rosetta Stone is found in the Egyptian village of Rosetta by French Captain Pierre-François Bouchard which leads to the translation of the Egyptian hieroglyphics.
- 1912 American athlete Jim Thorpe wins the Decathlon and the Pentathlon gold medals at the Stockholm Olympics. (His medals are stripped in 1913 for playing pro baseball but reinstated in 1982).

July 16

- 1935 The first automatic parking meter in the United States is installed in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- 1945 The first test detonation of an atomic bomb at Trinity Site, Alamogordo, New Mexico being part of the U.S. Manhattan Project.
- 1951 The novel "Catcher in Rye" by J. D. Salinger is published by Little Brown and Company.

July 17

- 1938 Douglas "Wrong Way" Corrigan leaves NY flying for LA, winds up in Ireland after a 28 hour flight supposedly by mistake.
- 1955 Disneyland televises its grand opening in Anaheim, California.
- 1867 The first U.S. dental school, Harvard School of Dental Medicine is established.

July 18

- 64 The Great Fire of Rome begins while Emperor Nero was actually 35 miles away and not playing a fiddle.
- 1936 Charles "Lucky" Luciano is sentenced to 30 to 50 years in state prison for pandering. His sentence being commuted in 1946 for his wartime cooperation (on the condition that he does not resist deportation to Italy).
- 1969 Mary Jo Kopechne is killed when she and Sen. Ted Kennedy plunge off the Chappaquiddick Bridge.

July 19

- 1941 British PM Winston Churchill launches the two finger "V for Victory" campaign.
- 1941 Tom and Jerry first appear under their own names in cartoon "The Midnight Snack" by William Hanna and Joseph Barbera.
- 1961 The first in-flight film shown, "By Love Possessed" starring Lana Turner on a TWA flight from New York to Los Angeles.

July 20

- 1942 The first contingent of 800 members of the Women's Army Auxiliary

Corps (WAC's) begin basic training at Fort Des Moines Provisional Army Officer Training School, Iowa.

1969 Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin make the first lunar landing and then step out from the Eagle three hours later on July 21st while 530 million watches live on a global broadcast.

1976 The U.S. Viking 1 makes the first Martian landing at Chryse Planitia,

July 21

1865 In the market square of Springfield, Missouri, Wild Bill Hickok shoots and kills Davis Tutt in what is regarded as the first true western showdown.

1873 Jesse James and James Younger gang's carry out their first train robbery in Adair, Iowa.

1978 The World's strongest dog, a 176 lb. St. Bernard, pulls a 6413 lb. load for 27 miles.

July 22

1893 Katharine Lee Bates writes "America the Beautiful" while she was teaching English at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

1933 Landing at Floyd Bennett Field in NYC, Wiley Post completes the first solo flight round the world in 7days 18 hrs. and 49 min.

1934 Outside Chicago's Biograph Theatre, "Public Enemy No. 1" John Dillinger is mortally wounded by FBI agents.

July 23

1829 William Austin Burt patents America's first "typographer" now known as the typewriter.

1904 According to some accounts the ice cream cone is created during the St. Louis World's Fair by Charles E. Menches.

1967 The first successful liver transplant, on 19 month old Julie Rodriguez by Dr. Starzl is performed at the University of Colorado.

July 24

1824 The Harrisburg Pennsylvanian newspaper publishes the results of the first public opinion poll, with a clear lead for Andrew Jackson over John Quincy Adams. In a popular vote deadlock, the House votes for Adams.

1847 Brigham Young and his Mormon followers arrive at Salt Lake City, Utah.

1911 American explorer Hiram Bingham discovers Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas in southern Peru.

July 25

1871 The carousel is patented by Wilhelm Schneider of Davenport, Iowa.

1897 Writer Jack London sails to join the Klondike Gold Rush where he will write his most famous works including The Call of the Wild and White Fang.

1946 At Club 500 in Atlantic City, New Jersey, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis perform their first show as a comedy team. After 16 films they end their partnership in 1956.

July 26

- 1775 The U.S. Continental Congress creates the United States Post Office in Philadelphia with Benjamin Franklin as the first Postmaster General.
- 1903 The first automobile trip across the United States from San Francisco to New York is completed by Horatio Jackson and Sewall K. Crocker.
- 1990 U.S. President George H. W. Bush signs the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
-

July 27

- 1586 Sir Walter Raleigh brings the first tobacco to England from Virginia.
- 1940 The Warner Bros. cartoon character, Bugs Bunny first debuts in Tex Avery's Oscar-nominated film "A Wild Hare".
- 1965 President Lyndon B. Johnson signs a bill requiring cigarette makers to print health warnings on all cigarette packages about the effects of smoking.
-

July 28

- 1900 The hamburger is first served by Louis Lassing at his diner in New Haven, Connecticut.
- 1914 The Foxtrot dance is first performed at the New Amsterdam Roof Garden, in NYC by vaudeville actor, Harry Fox.
- 1945 A U.S. Army B-25 crashes into the 79th floor of the Empire State Bldg. killing 14.
-

July 29

- 1914 Theodore Vail, the president of AT&T, makes the first successful transcontinental phone link between New York City and San Francisco.
- 1927 The first iron lung for use in treating patients with polio is installed at Bellevue hospital, NY.
- 1954 "The Lord of the Rings", the 1st volume of "The Fellowship of the Ring" trilogy by J. R. R. Tolkien is published. (17 years after the publication of The Hobbit").
-

July 30

- 1935 The first Penguin book, "Ariel" by André Maurois is published starting the paperback revolution.
- 1945 After delivering the Atomic Bomb across the Pacific, the cruiser USS Indianapolis is torpedoed and sunk by Japanese submarine I-58. 880 of the crew died, many after being attacked by sharks, the inspiration for the movie Jaws.
- 1975 U.S. Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa disappears in suburban Detroit, he is legally declared dead in 1982.
-

July 31

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- 781 The oldest recorded eruption of Mt. Fuji, Japan occurs.
1922 Water skiing is invented when 18 year old Ralph Samuelson uses a pair of boards as skis and a clothesline as a towrope on Lake Pepin in Lake City, Minnesota.
1970 Chet Huntley retires from NBC ending the Huntley- Brinkley Report after 14 years.
-

Aug. 1

- 1961 The first Six Flags Amusement Park opens in Arlington, Texas.
1958 First class postage increases to \$.04, it had been \$.03 for 26 years
1966 Charles Whitman climbs the Uni. of Texas tower and shoots 12 dead

Aug. 2

- 1776 The Thirty six members of the Continental Congress finish signing the Declaration of Independence
1990 Kuwait is invaded by Iraq which kick starts U.S. Operation "Desert Storm"
1904 The first Lincoln head penny is minted
1790 The first U.S. Census is conducted with an official population of 3,939,214

Aug. 3

- 1933 Hitler becomes Fuhrer of Germany
1492 Christopher Columbus begins his 1st voyage across the Atlantic
1914 The first seaworthy ship passes thru the Panama Canal

Aug. 4

- 1930 The first U.S. supermarket called "King Kullen" opens in Queens, NY
1693 Dom Perignon, a Benedictine monk "invents" champagne
1892 Lizzie Borden is arrested in Fall River, Mass for the axe murders of her parents and is acquitted

Aug. 5

- 1932 Clyde Barrow and two associates kill Sheriff C.G. Maxwell and his deputy, Eugene C. Moore, marking the first time the Barrow gang kills a lawman
1891 The world's first traveler's cheques are issued by American Express
1861 President Lincoln signs the first U.S. personal Income Tax into law (3% of incomes over \$800)
-

Aug. 6

- 1926 "Don Juan", is the first feature length film that has no spoken dialogue but a synchronized musical score and sound effects, starring John Barrymore is released
1945 The "Little Boy" Atomic bomb is dropped on Hiroshima by B-29 "Enola Gay"
1965 President Lyndon Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act which outlaws discriminatory practices against Women and African Americans

Aug. 7

- 1878 The Hatfield and McCoy feud starts in dispute over the ownership of a hog (maybe a chicken!)
- 1944 Harvard Uni. receives the IBM built Mark 1, the first major punch card computer in the world.
- 1947 Thor Heyerdahl and his crew of the Kon-Tiki, aboard a balsa wood raft reach French Polynesia after 101 days crossing the Pacific from Peru

Aug. 8

- 1898 Will Kellogg invents Corn Flakes cereal
- 1876 Thomas Edison patents the mimeograph
- 1918 Sgt. Alvin York and six U.S. soldiers shoot 20 Germans and capture 132 more

Aug. 9

- 1173 Construction of the Tower of Pisa begins, taking two centuries to complete
- 1969 The Manson family commits the Tate / La Bianca murders
- 1974 Nixon resigns as president of the U.S.
- 1975 The Louisiana Superdome hosts its first NFL game – The Houston Oilers vs The New Orleans Saints. The Saints lost 13-7

Aug. 10

- 1519 Ferdinand Magellan and crew sails from Seville, Spain to become the first ever to circumnavigate the globe, although he is killed during the voyage.
- 1921 FDR is stricken with polio
- 1948 Allen Funt's "Candid Camera TV" series debuts on ABC

Aug. 11

- 1866 The world's first roller rink opens in Newport, RI
- 1856 A hurricane hits Isle Derniere (Last Island) in Terrebonne Parish, LA. killing more than 400 in a tidal wave,(also at Bayou LaFourche, a mysterious sea creature is sighted)
- 1909 The SOS is first used by an American ship, the Arapahoe, off Cape Hatteras, NC (Save our Ship, Save our Souls)

Aug. 12

- 1877 Thomas Edison completes his first model for the phonograph, a device that recorded sound onto tinfoil cylinders
- 1930 Clarence Birdseye is granted a method patent for quick freezing food
- 1972 The last American combat ground troops leave Vietnam

Aug. 13

- 1914 Carl Wickman of Minnesota begins Greyhound, the first bus line, transporting iron ore miners from Hibbing to Alice at 15 cents a ride.
- 1981 The last broadcast of the family TV series "The Walton's" airs on CBS
- 1942 Disney's movie "Bambi" opens in Radio City Music Hall in New York City

Aug. 14

1935 FDR signs the Social Security Act
1945 V-J Day – Japan surrenders unconditionally to end WWII
1880 Construction of the Cologne Cathedral in Germany is completed after it began in 1248 (the largest Gothic Cathedral in Northern Europe)

Aug. 15

1936 The Wizard of Oz movie premieres at Grumman's Chinese Theatre
1969 The Woodstock Music and Art Fair opens in NY state and is attended by 400,000 from the 15th -18th
1911 Proctor and Gamble introduces Crisco vegetable shortening

Aug. 16

1896 Gold is first discovered in Klondike, Alaska
1977 Elvis Presley dies at Graceland, his Memphis home from heart failure at the age of 42
1954 Sports Illustrated magazine hits the newsstand for the first time
1898 The roller coaster is patented – a single loop, the loop with no seat belts!

Aug. 17

1859 The first airmail (in a balloon) takes off from Lafayette, Indiana
1915 A hurricane strikes Galveston, TX, killing 275
1969 Hurricane Camille strikes Biloxi, MS and kills 259

Aug. 18

1872 The first mail order catalog issued by A.M. Ward
1956 Elvis Presley's "Hound Dog" and "Don't be Cruel" reach #1 on the music charts
1920 The 19th Amendment is ratified giving women the right to vote. (It is first introduced in Jan 1878)

Aug. 19

1934 The first All-American Soap Box Derby is held in Dayton, Ohio with 362 kids (the event is now held in Akron)
1950 ABC begins its first 30 minute Saturday morning kid show with Animal Clinic and Acrobat Ranch
1960 The Soviet Sputnik 5 rocket carries 2 dogs, 2 rats, 40 mice, 1 rabbit and fruit flies into orbit, they are the first animals to return alive from orbit

Aug. 20

1866 President Andrew Johnson formally declares the U.S. Civil War over
1896 The telephone is patented by Alexander Graham Bell
1913 The first pilot to successfully parachute from an aircraft is demonstrated in France

Aug. 21

1959 Hawaii becomes the 50th U.S. State
1911 The Mona Lisa is stolen from the Louvre and becomes famous due to the theft
1841 The Venetian blind is patented
1935 The Swing Era begins with Benny Goodman's Palomar Ballroom performance

Aug. 22

- 1902 President Theodore Roosevelt becomes the first U.S. chief executive to ride in a car
- 1906 The first Victor Victrola is manufactured
- 1950 Althea Gibson becomes the first African-American on the U.S. Women's tennis tour
- 1864 The International Red Cross is founded through the Geneva Convention (The American Red Cross is founded later by Clara Barton in 1881)

Aug. 23

- 1926 Silent movie star Rudolph Valentino dies in NY, at age 31
- 1869 The first ever trainload of freight (consisting of boots and shoes) arrive in San Francisco
- 1814 Dolley Madison saves a portrait of George Washington from the White House before being looted by the British during the war of 1812

Aug. 24

- 1456 The first printing of the Gutenberg Bible is completed
- 1853 The first potato chips are prepared by Chef George Crum at Moon's Lake House restaurant, near Saratoga Springs, NY
- 1891 Thomas Edison patents the motion picture camera
- 1932 The first transcontinental non-stop flight by a woman is achieved by Amelia Earhart

Aug. 25

- 325 The Council of Nicaea ends with the adoption of the Nicene Creed which establishes the doctrine of the Holy Trinity
- 1609 Galileo demonstrates his first telescope
- 1718 New Orleans is founded when Louisiana governor Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville and hundreds of French colonist arrive
- 1958 Momofuku Ando markets the first package of pre-cooked instant noodles (Chicken Ramen)

Aug. 26

- 1873 The first free kindergarten in the U.S. is started by Susan Blow in Carondelet, MO (a suburb of St. Louis)
- 1858 The first news dispatch is completed by the Atlantic cable telegraph and is headlined on the NY Times
- 1952 The fluoridation of the municipal water of San Francisco, CA begins to help combat tooth decay

Aug. 27

- 1859 The first successful oil well is drilled near Titusville, PA by Edwin Drake
- 1912 "Tarzan of the Apes" is published by Edgar Rice Burroughs
- 1955 The Guinness Book of World Records is first published

Aug. 28

- 1963 Martin Luther King delivers his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial
- 1830 The first locomotive in the U.S. named "Tom Thumb", runs from Baltimore to Ellicott Mills
- 1565 St. Augustine, FL, the oldest city in the US of European origin, is established by the Spanish admiral, Pedro Menéndez de Avilés.

Aug. 29

- 1896 Chop Suey is invented in NY city by a chef of a visiting Chinese ambassador
- 2005 Hurricane Katrina hits the Gulf Coast killing 1,833
- 1898 The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co is founded in Akron, OH

Aug. 30

- 1901 Hubert Cecil Booth perfects the vacuum cleaner
- 1956 The Lake Pontchartrain causeway opens in Louisiana
- 1836 The City of Houston is founded by Augustus and John Allen

Aug. 31

- 1951 The first 33 1/3 LP record is introduced in Dusseldorf, Germany
- 1888 Mary Ann Nichols, considered to be Jack the Rippers first victim is found murdered in London
- 1997 Princess Diana is killed in a car accident in Paris, France

Sept. 1

- 1876 Emma Nutt of Bartow, MA starts work as the first female telephone operator and continues for 37yrs (because boys' attitudes and behavior was not acceptable!)
- 1972 Bobby Fischer of the U.S. defeats Boris Spassky of the USSR for the World Chess championship
- 1921 A devastating earthquake strikes the Japanese cities of Tokyo and Yokohama. Nearly 150,000 killed and more than 2 million left homeless
- 1939 Germany invades Poland starting WWII

Sept. 2

- 1798 The Bank of Pennsylvania is robbed of \$162,821 at Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia becoming the first bank robbery in the U.S.
- 1901 Theodore Roosevelt advises "Speak softly and carry a big stick" regarding foreign diplomacy
- 1969 The first automatic teller machine in the U.S. is installed in Rockville Center, New York.

Sept. 3

- 1939 WWII: Britain declares war on Germany after the invasion of Poland on Sept. 1st, followed by France, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Canada
- 1833 The first daily newspaper, the NY Sun begins publishing

1940 CBS resumes its television transmissions with the first demonstration of high definition color TV, by W2XAB, transmitting from the Chrysler Building in NYC

Sept. 4

1833 The first newsboy is hired (10 yr. old Barney Flaherty for the NY Sun)

1885 The first cafeteria opens in NYC

1951 President Truman makes his speech officially ending America's last WWII occupation of Japan (the first time a TV program is broadcast coast to coast)

Sept. 5

1522 Ferdinand Magellan's expedition is the first to circumnavigate the world, returns to Spain without its lead ship "Victoria" and its captain who is murdered in the Philippines)

1916 "Piggly Wiggly" becomes the first true supermarket when it opens in Memphis, TN

1885 The first gasoline pump is delivered to a grocery store owner in Fort Wayne, IN

Sept. 6

1901 President William McKinley is shot and dies on Sept. 14th, (VP Theodore Roosevelt is sworn in)

1909 It is reported that Robert Peary had discovered the North Pole four months earlier on May 6th

1972 Palestinian group Black September kidnaps nine Israeli athletes from the Olympic Village in Munich, Germany. All the athletes are killed in addition to the five terrorists

Sept. 7

1936 Boulder dam (now Hoover Dam) begins operation

1813 The U.S. gets the nickname "Uncle Sam". It's linked to Samuel Wilson, a meat packer, who supplied beef to the army in War of 1812. He stamped the barrels of the grub as "Uncle Sam's"

1921 The first Miss America Pageant is held in Atlantic City, NJ

1979 The sports network ESPN debuts on cable television for the first time with 30,000 viewers

Sept. 8

1853 Abraham Lincoln is reported to say this famous quote in a speech, "You may fool all of the people some of the time, you can even fool some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of time".

1892 The Pledge of Allegiance is first published in the children's magazine "The Youth's Companion"

1900 8000 residents are killed when a hurricane and tidal wave strikes Galveston, TX

1935 Huey P. Long is shot by Dr. Carl Weiss in the Louisiana State Capitol

Sept. 9

1776 The Continental Congress authorizes the name "United States", this replaced the

- term United Colonies
- 1839 John Herschel takes the first glass plate photograph
- 1942 The first aerial bombing on continental U.S. soil is done by a Japanese aircraft at Mt. Emily, OR
- 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signs the National Traffic & Motor Safety Act into law which begins to set safety standards for cars, (one of which was the seat belt)

Sept. 10

- 1913 The Lincoln Hwy. opens as the first paved coast to coast highway now mostly used as U.S. Route 30 and Interstate 80
- 1953 Swanson sells its first "TV dinner" consisting of a Thanksgiving meal of turkey, cornbread dressing, peas and sweet potatoes packaged in a tray like those used at the time for airline food service.
- 1955 The TV western "Gunsmoke", set in Dodge City, Kansas premieres on CBS, lasting 20 years. Notable characters: Marshall Dillon, Miss Kitty, Festus and Doc Adams

Sept. 11

- 1946 The first mobile long distance car to car telephone conversation is demonstrated
- 1954 The first Miss America pageant is broadcast on TV with Miss California, Lee Meriwether winning
- 2001 The World Trade Center in NYC is attacked by the Islamic terrorist group, al-Qaeda killing 3000 and injuring 6000

Sept. 12

- 1959 The TV western "Bonanza" premieres on NBC centering on the wealthy Cartwright family and lasts for 14 years until 1973
- 1953 John F. Kennedy marries Jacqueline Bouvier
- 1895 Annie Londonderry completes the first round the world trip by a woman on a bicycle in 15 months and collects a \$10,000 prize

Sept. 13

- 1961 TV sitcom Car 54, Where are you? premieres on NBC lasting two seasons
- 1936 17 year old Bob Feller of the Cleveland Indians strikes out 17 against the Philadelphia Athletics
- 1922 The Straw Hat riot begins in NYC as people protest the right to wear straw hats beyond the acceptable date of Sept. 15th

Sept. 14

- 1814 Francis Scott Key is inspired to write "The Star Spangled Banner"
- 1899 Henry Bliss of New York City becomes the first automobile fatality
- 1901 President William McKinley dies from gangrene after being shot twice from an anarchist on Sept. 6th
- 1741 George Frederic Handel finishes his "Messiah" oratorio after working on it non-stop for 23 days

Sept. 15

- 1949 "The Lone Ranger" premiers on ABC and is its first hit series. The show airs until 1957.
- 1835 Charles Darwin aboard the HMS Beagle reaches Galapagos Islands, which among other sites, helped him formulate his thesis regarding evolution "On the Origin of Species" 1859
- 1989 Robert Penn Warren, the first Poet Laureate of the U.S. dies among his volumes of poetry and novels - "All the Kings Men" is considered the most famous

Sept. 16

- 1620 The Mayflower departs from Plymouth, England with 102 pilgrims and eventually lands in Cape Cod harbor on Nov. 11th.
- 1630 The Massachusetts village of Shawmut changes its name to Boston
- 1920 The Wall Street Bombing at Wall Street, NY occurs at 12:01 when a horse drawn wagon explodes killing 38 and injuring 143

Sept. 17

- 1911 The first transcontinental airplane flight from NYC to Pasadena, CA taking 82 hours and 4 minutes to complete
- 1908 Lt. Thomas Selfridge, a passenger on a plane piloted by Orville Wright, becomes the first airplane fatality when the craft crashes
- 1787 The drafting of the U.S. Constitution was completed by the delegates of the Philadelphia Constitutional Convention having started on May 26 (it has since been amended 27 times)

Sept. 18

- 1789 The first loan ever made by the U.S. to done to pay the salaries of the President and Congress
- 1895 Daniel David Palmer of Davenport, Iowa gives the first chiropractic adjustment
- 1951 The movie, "A Streetcar Named Desire" based on Tennessee Williams 1947 play is released starring Vivien Leigh, Karl Malden, Marlon Brando, and Kim Hunter

Sept. 19

- 1849 The first commercial laundry is established in Oakland, CA
- 1934 Bruno Hauptmann is arrested for the Lindbergh baby kidnapping/murder
- 1827 Jim Bowie kills a banker in Alexandria, LA with an early version of his Bowie knife that was invented by his brother, Rezin Bowie

Sept. 20

- 1973 Billy Jean King beats Bobby Riggs in the Battle of the Sexes tennis match
- 1881 Chester Arthur is sworn in as the 21st President of the U.S. succeeding James Garfield who was assassinated on July 2nd
- 1859 George Simpson patents the electric range
- 1891 The first gas powered car debuts in Springfield, MA by Frank Duryea

Sept. 21

- 1981 Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first female Supreme Court Justice
- 1897 The NY Sun publishes its famous editorial, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus"
- 1937 "The Hobbit" by J.R.R. Tolkien is first published

Sept. 22

- 1789 The U.S. Post Office is established
- 1903 Italo Marchioni is granted his patent for the ice cream cone
- 1692 The last eight people are hanged for witchcraft in the United States. Twenty overall were hanged during Salem witch trials

Sept. 23

- 1962 ABC's first color TV cartoon series "The Jetsons" premieres
- 1875 Billy the Kid is arrested for the first time after stealing a basket of laundry
- 1846 The planet Neptune is discovered as the eighth planet from the Sun

Sept. 24

- 1952 KFC opens its first franchise in Salt Lake City, Utah by Colonel Harland Sanders (not Louisville, KY)
- 1968 "60 Minutes" premieres on CBS TV with a novel introduction of no music, with just a ticking watch
- 1961 After 9 years on CBS, the last episode of "I Love Lucy" airs; starring Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz

Sept. 25

- 1956 The first underwater telephone service from the U.S. to Europe occurs by using 2,250 miles of cable under the Atlantic Ocean
- 1926 Henry Ford announces an 8 hr. /5 day work week
- 1949 Billy Graham rises to celebrity status when he begins his "Los Angeles Crusade" that is held in a circus tent erected in a parking lot

Sept. 26

- 1945 Lt. Col. Peter Dewey, a US Army officer is shot and killed in Saigon becoming the first casualty of the Vietnam conflict (ending with a total of 59,000 being killed)
- 1820 Daniel Boone dies in his son's home near present day Defiance, MO at the age of 86
- 1960 The first ever presidential debate is televised on CBS with Richard Nixon and John Kennedy

Sept. 27

- 1908 The first factory Ford Model T is built, which becomes affectionately known as the "Tin Lizzie"
- 1954 The Tonight Show premieres with Steve Allen on NBC (Jack Paar and Johnny Carson follow)
- 1964 The Warren Commission find that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in assassinating JFK

Sept. 28

- 1785 Napoleon Bonaparte at the age of 16 graduates 42nd in a class of 51 from the Military Academy in Paris
- 1901 Ed Sullivan is born on this day in Harlem, NY, He later MC's the show "Toast of the Town" in 1948. It is renamed the Ed Sullivan Show in 1955 until its final season in 1971
- 1918 The Spanish Flu epidemic, an estimated 30 million die worldwide. Philadelphia, PA is the hardest hit U.S. city with 12,000 dead

Sept. 29

- 1916 American oil tycoon John D. Rockefeller becomes the world's first billionaire
- 1966 The Chevrolet Camaro is introduced to compete against the Ford Mustang. It is originally called the "Panther"
- 1962 Dept. of Labor statistics show an average weekly take home pay of factory workers with three dependents is \$88.38 and as of 2019 is \$392.64

Sept. 30

- 1452 Johannes Gutenberg Bible is the first book published using a printing press
- 1955 James Dean at the age of 24 is killed in a car crash in CA.
- 1868 The first volume of Louisa May Alcott's beloved children's book "Little Women" is published

Oct. 1

- 1971 Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL opens
- 1896 Yosemite becomes National Park
- 1985 Rock Hudson dies at the age of 59 from AIDS
- 1958 NASA is formed (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)

Oct. 2

- 1967 Thurgood Marshall is sworn in as the first black associate justice of the US Supreme Court
- 1950 The cartoon Peanuts is first published in nine newspapers around the US
- 322 Aristotle dies of indigestion
- 1971 A homing pigeon averages 133mph in a 685 mile race in Australia

Oct. 3

- 1789 George Washington proclaims the first National Thanksgiving Day on Nov. 26
- 1863 President Lincoln declares the last Thursday in Nov. as Thanksgiving Day, a national Holiday
- 1913 Congress signs into law the Federal Income Tax at 1%

Oct. 4

- 1957 The Soviet Union launches Sputnik, the first satellite put into orbit around the earth, ushering in the space age
- 1927 Work on Mount Rushmore, in the Black Hills of South Dakota begins and takes 12 yrs. to complete showing four presidents. (G. Washington, T. Jefferson, A.

Lincoln and T. Roosevelt)
1931 The comic strip Dick Tracy by Chester Gould debuts in the Chicago Tribune New York News Syndicate newspapers

Oct. 5

1947 In the first televised White House address with President Truman urging Americans to refrain from eating red meat on Tuesdays and poultry on Sundays to help starving people in other countries.
1970 PBS becomes a U.S. network (and sells its first CD/DVD combo for a donation☺)
1961 The film “Breakfast at Tiffany’s is released based on the novella by Truman Capote, starring Audrey Hepburn and George Peppard.

Oct. 6

1927 The “Jazz Singer, the first full length talking picture starring Al Jolson, debuts
1866 The first train robbery in the U.S. is committed by 4 brothers of the Reno gang in Coffeerville, Kansas.
1889 Thomas Edison shows his first motion picture

Oct. 7

1806 Carbon paper is patented in London, England by inventor Ralph Wedgwood
1952 The first broadcast of “The Bandstand” is shown in Philadelphia on WFIL-TV. Dick Clark joins in 1956 and the show becomes “American Bandstand” in 1957
1737 A cyclone kills over 300,000 in Calcutta, India, in addition to over 20,000 water going vessels being destroyed. One of deadliest disasters of all time.

Oct. 8

1871 Patrick and Catherine O'Leary’s cow allegedly kicks over an oil lantern in their barn that starts the Great Chicago fire lasting two days and killing 300.
1918 American soldier Cpl. Alvin York single-handily attacks a German gun nest, killing at least 25 and capturing 132 Germans.
1927 Stan Laurel (thin) and Oliver Hardy (large) first appear as a team in the silent film “The Second Hundred Years”.

Oct. 9

1000 Leif Erickson discovers “Newland” in Canada reputedly becoming the 1st European to reach North America.
1855 American inventor Isaac Singer patents the sewing machine.
1936 Hoover Dam begins transmitting electricity to Los Angeles through 266 miles of mountains and deserts from the Colorado River.

Oct. 10

1886 The Tuxedo dinner jacket makes its debut at a ball in Tuxedo Park, NY.
1933 “Dreft” is introduced by manufacture Proctor and Gamble as the first synthetic detergent for home use.
1973 V.P. Spiro Agnew resigns due to charges from the U.S. Justice Dept. for tax evasion and accepting bribes.

Oct. 11

- 1968 Apollo 7 is launched becoming the first manned mission to transmit a live broadcast from orbit.
- 1991 Anita Hill testifies that Clarence Thomas had sexually harassed her during testimony for confirming him as a U.S. Supreme Court Justice.
- 1991 Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart is implicated in a 2nd scandal involving a prostitute in Indio, CA.

Oct. 12

- 1492 Christopher Columbus reaches Watling Island in the Bahamas thinking he had reached the East Indies after leaving Palos, Spain on August 3rd.
- 1850 The Women's Medical College of Penns opens becoming the first medical school for women.
- 1892 The Pledge of Allegiance is first recited in public schools as part of Columbus Day celebrations.

Oct. 13

- 1847 The Republic of Texas approves a proposed constitution that when accepted by Congress will make Texas the 28th state.
- 1860 The first aerial photo taken in the U.S. from a hot air balloon is done near Boston, MA.
- 1947 Kukla, Fran and Ollie premieres on NBC starring "Fran" Allison and puppets "Kukla" and "Ollie", a one toothed dragon

Oct. 14

- 1947 U.S. Air Force captain Chuck Yeager flies the X-1 becoming the first person to fly faster than the speed of sound.
- 1962 The Cuban Missile Crisis begins as a 13 day political and military standoff between the U.S. and Cuba over the installation of Soviet nuclear armed missiles.
- 1912 Theodore Roosevelt is shot at close range by saloon keeper John Schrank. The .32 caliber bullet is stopped by his eyeglass case and a speech manuscript.

Oct. 15

- 1917 Mata Hari, the archetype of the seductive female spy is executed for revealing details of the Allies new weapon, the tank. She refused a blindfold and was shot to death by a firing squad in France.
- 1965 David Miller, a young Catholic pacifist becomes the first U.S. war protester to burn his draft card. He was sentenced to two years imprisonment.
- 1860 11yr old Grace Bedell writes to Abraham Lincoln telling him to grow a beard, he later takes her advice.

Oct. 16

- 1793 Marie-Antoinette is beheaded on the guillotine in France after her husband King Louis XVI is also beheaded. She is alleged to have callously replied "Let them eat cake" referring to the French peasantry having no bread to eat.

- 1950 C.S. Lewis, author and theologian first edition of “The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe” is released in London, England.
- 1816 Charlotte Bronte’ under the pen name “Currer Bell” publishes “Jane Eyre”.

Oct. 17

- 1931 Gangster, Al Capone, is sentenced to 11yrs in prison for tax evasion, spending time in Alcatraz. He finally dies of syphilis at the age of 48 in 1947.
- 1973 OPEC announces a decision to cut oil exports to the U.S. causing a gallon of gasoline to rise to .55 cents.
- 1979 Mother Theresa of Albanian heritage is awarded the Nobel peace prize for her missionary work in Calcutta.

Oct. 18

- 1767 Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon complete their survey of the boundary between the colonies of Pennsylvania and Maryland. The Mason-Dixon Line was eventually used as the separation of the Free and Slave holding states.
- 1776 In an Elmsford, NY bar decorated with bird tails, a customer request a glassful of those “cock tails” from bartender Betsy Flanagan.
- 1962 James Watson (U.S.), Francis Crick (U.K.), Maurice Wilkins (U.K.) win the Nobel Prize for medicine for determining the double helix structure of DNA. Rosalind Wilkins (U.K.) was excluded as she died in 1958.

Oct. 19

- 1781 British Army General Cornwallis surrenders to the American Revolutionaries of Yorktown prompting Britain to seek an end to the American Revolutionary War.
- 1879 Thomas Edison successfully demonstrates the electric light.
- 1987 The stock market crashes on what becomes known as “Black Monday”. Stocks drop 508 pts or 22.6% topping the drops on Oct.28th 1929 that ushered in the Great Depression.

Oct. 20

- 1818 After the War of 1812, America and Britain decide on the 49th Parallel as the definitive border between the US and Canada. To date, over 75% of Canada's population lives within 100 miles of this line.
- 1968 Jacqueline Kennedy marries Aristotle Onassis
- 1944 Gen. Douglas McArthur goes to the Philippines and says “I have returned”

Oct. 21

- 1918 Margaret Owen sets a world typing speed record of 170 wpm. The current record on an electric typewriter is 216 wpm accomplished in 1946.
- 1797 The USS Constitution (Old Iron Sides) is launched from Boston harbor.
- 1917 The American soldiers of the 1st Infantry Div. “The Big Red One” are the first to see action on the front lines of WWI.

Oct. 22

- 1836 Sam Houston is inaugurated as the first elected president of the Republic of Texas.

- 1861 The first telegraph line, linking the west and east coasts of the U.S. is completed.
1879 Thomas Edison perfects the carbonized cotton filament light bulb.
1938 Chester Carlson demonstrates the first Xerox copying machine.

Oct. 23

- 1941 Walt Disney's movie Dumbo is released.
1964 The U.S. performs an underground nuclear test at Hattiesburg, MS.
1977 Paleontologist Elso Barghoorn announces the discovery of a 3.4-billion year old one-celled fossil in South Africa, considered earth's earliest life form.

Oct. 24

- 1836 The phosphorous friction match is patented by American Alonzo Phillips
1938 The U.S. forbids child labor in factories.
1939 Nylon stockings go on sale for the first time in Wilmington, DE.

Oct. 25

- 1965 60 yr. old Satchel Paige of MLB's Kansas City A's pitches 3 scoreless innings.
1870 U.S. Gov. approved "Postal Cards" are first used with a postage stamp costing 1cent.
1924 The first appearance of the Little Orphan Annie comic strip.

Oct. 26

- 1662 The lead pencil is first manufactured in Nuremberg, Germany.
1881 The gunfight at the OK Corral in Tombstone, AR involving the Clanton Bros, against Doc Holiday and the Earp Bros. occurs, lasting only 30 seconds
1901 The first use of a "getaway car" occurs after the holding up a shop in Paris, France.

Oct. 27

- 1938 DuPont announces that its new synthetic fiber will be called "nylon".
1947 "You Bet Your Life" with Groucho Marx premieres on ABC radio.
1919 The Axe man of New Orleans claims his 12th and last victim. The song "Don't Scare Me Papa" was written about the Mar. 19th date when Jazz music was played throughout the city so he would spare the N.O. residents.

Oct. 28

- 1886 The Statue of Liberty is dedicated in NY Harbor by President Grover Cleveland followed by the first ticker tape parade in NYC
1538 The first university in the new world, the Uni. of St. Thomas Aquinas is established on Hispaniola, present day Dominican Republic/Haiti
1965 The Gateway Arch (630 ft. high) is completed in St Louis, MO

Oct. 29

- 1929 The NY Stock Exchange crashes on "Black Tuesday" precipitating the Great Depression.
1956 Chet Hundley and David Brinkley team up for the first time on NBC News.

1998 John Glenn, after becoming the first American to orbit the earth in 1962 returns to space for 9 days at 77 yrs. old.

Oct. 30

1888 John J. Loud patents the ballpoint pen.

1938 The radio broadcast of The War of the Worlds starring Orson Welles causes alleged nationwide panic among its listeners.

1945 The U.S. Government announces the end of shoe rationing.

Oct. 31

1846 The Donner party which had departed from Independence, MO. are unable to cross Sierra Nevada due to mistakes and an early winter. Ultimately, having to resort to cannibalism to survive.

1918 Within a week, the Spanish flu virus kills 21,000 in the U.S.

1913 The Lincoln Hwy, the first U.S. paved highway is dedicated which runs from Times Square in New York City west to Lincoln Park in San Francisco.

1941 Begun in 1927 to promote tourism in the region, work on Mt. Rushmore in the Black Hills of SD is completed. The faces of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln are displayed.

Nov. 1

1348 The Black Death plague reaches London, England. It is estimated to have killed 30-60% of Europe's total pop.

1542 Michelangelo's "The Last Judgment" fresco on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City is shown to the public for the first time.

1938 Sea biscuit beats 1937 Triple Crown winner War Admiral by three lengths at Baltimore's Pimlico track to win \$15,000, in what is regarded as one of the greatest match races in horse racing history.

Nov. 2

1867 The women's fashion magazine "Harper's Bazaar" is first published.

1947 Howard Hughes flies the "Spruce Goose", the world's largest wooden airplane for the first and only time.

1948 Harry S Truman defeats Thomas E. Dewey to the surprise of pollsters and newspapers in the greatest political upset in history.

Nov. 3

1796 John Adams is elected as the 2nd president of the U.S.

1917 1st Class U.S. mail is raised to a cost .03 per ounce.

1952 Clarence Birdseye markets frozen peas.

1957 The Soviet Union sends the first animal, a dog, named "Laika" into space aboard the sputnik II, "Laika" dies in orbit.

Nov. 4

1924 Nellie T. Ross of Wyoming is elected the U.S. first woman governor to serve out the term of her husband who died.

1841 The Bartleson–Bidwell Party of 69 is the first wagon train from Missouri to arrive in CA.

1873 Dentist John Beers of San Francisco, CA patents the gold crown.

Nov. 5

1872 Susan B. Anthony was fined \$100 for trying to vote in the presidential election. (She was trying to vote for Pres. Grant)

1940 Pres. Franklin Roosevelt won an unprecedented 3rd term in office when he defeated Wendell L. Willkie.

1895 George B. Selden is granted the first U.S. patent for the gasoline driven car

Nov. 6

1500 Astronomer Copernicus observes a lunar eclipse in Rome.

1928 Colonel Jacob Schick patents the first electric razor.

1814 The saxophone is invented by Adolphe Sax.

1952 The U.S. explodes the world's first Hydrogen bomb at Eniwetok Atoll.

Nov. 7

1944 President Franklin D. Roosevelt wins a 4th term in office defeating Thomas E. Dewey

1874 The first cartoon depicting an elephant as the Republican Party symbol is drawn by Thomas Nast

1932 The first broadcast of "Buck Rogers in the 25th Century" is aired on CBS-Radio

Nov. 8

1739 Bourbon whiskey is first distilled from corn by Elijah Craig in Bourbon, Kentucky.

1960 John F. Kennedy becomes the youngest elected President of the U.S. by defeating Richard Nixon.

1965 The "Days of Our Lives" soap opera premieres on TV making famous the opening words of the show, "like sands through the hourglass, so are the days of our lives".

Nov. 9

1888 Jack the Ripper kills his 5th and last victim, Mary Jane Kelly.

1620 After two months at sea, the Mayflower spots what is now Provincetown on Cape Cod.

1799 Napoleon Bonaparte pulls off a coup and becomes the Dictator of France.

Nov. 10

1871 Journalist and explorer Henry Stanley finds the missing David Livingstone in Central America and make his famous comment, "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"

1619 Rene Descartes has the dream that inspires his "Meditations on First Philosophy" that includes "I think, therefore I am".

1908 The first ever Gideon Bible is placed at the Superior Hotel in Superior, Montana.

Nov. 11

- 1918 The Armistice is signed by the Allies and Germany which ends WWI on “The 11th hr. of the 11th day of the 11th month”.
- 1921 U.S. Pres Warren Harding dedicates the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery in Virginia.
- 1939 Kate Smith sings Irving Berlins “God Bless America” for the first time.

Nov. 12

- 1847 Sir James Young Simpson, a British physician is the first to use chloroform as an anesthetic.
- 1859 Jules Leotard performs the first flying Trapeze circus act in Paris, France and debuts the garment that bears his name.
- 1954 Ellis Island closes after 64 years where the 3rd class immigrants were submitted to medical and legal inspections

Nov. 13

- 1789 Ben Franklin writes, “Nothing is certain but death and taxes”.
- 1933 The first modern sit down strike is conducted by Hormel meat packers in Austin, MN.
- 1954 Dr. Fred Slack, a dentist, patents the artificial fingernail which were first sold by the Patti Nails Co.
- 1942 The minimum draft age is lowered from 21 to 18 in the U.S.

Nov. 14

- 1851 Moby Dick by Herman Melville is first published by Harper and Bros in the U.S.
- 1883 Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson is first published as a book by Cassell and Co.
- 1910 The first airplane flight from a deck of a ship is demonstrated at Norfolk, VA.

Nov. 15

- 1492 Christopher Columbus notes the first recorded reference to tobacco.
- 1806 Zebulon Pike sights Pikes Peak in Colorado for the first time.
- 1969 Wendy's Hamburger open in Columbus, OH named after Dave Thomas's 4th daughter. Melinda Lou “Wendy” Thomas.

Nov. 16

- 1939 The Social Security Administration approves the first unemployment check.
- 1966 Dr. Sam Sheppard is freed after 9yrs for the murder of his wife in 1954. The case was the basis for the 1963 TV series the Fugitive and the 1993 film of the same name.
- 1963 The Touch Tone telephone is introduced.
- 1864 Union Gen. Wm. T. Sherman begins his march to the sea starting from Atlanta, GA and ending at the port of Savannah, GA.

Nov. 17

- 1973 President Richard Nixon tells the AP news service “people have to know whether or not their president is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook.”

- 1934 Lyndon B Johnson marries Claudia Alta “Lady Bird” Taylor. Her nickname was given by her nursemaid who said she was “pretty as a lady bird”.
- 1558 Mary Tudor Queen of England dies. She is remembered for the restoration of the Roman Catholic Church, 300 executions and the drink “Bloody Mary”.

Nov. 18

- 1978 In Jonestown, Guyana, 918 members of the Peoples Temple are murdered or commit suicide under the leadership of cult leader Jim Jones.
- 1902 Brooklyn toymaker Morris Michton names the “teddy bear” after U.S. Pres. Teddy Roosevelt.
- 1307 William Tell reportedly shoots an apple off his son's head on orders from the German King for not bowing to him.

Nov. 19

- 1805 The Lewis and Clark expedition reaches the Pacific Ocean. They are the first European-Americans to cross the west.
- 1863 U.S. President Abraham Lincoln delivers his Gettysburg address which consisted of only 10 sentences and 286 words.
- 1965 Kellogg’s creates the Pop Tart pastry.

Nov. 20

- 1914 The U.S. State Dept. starts requiring photographs for passports.
- 1947 Meet the Press makes its TV network debut on NBC.
- 1962 Pres. John F. Kennedy agrees to lift the American blockade of Cuba, ending the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Nov. 21

- 164 BC During the Maccabean revolt Judas Maccabeus recaptures Jerusalem and rededicates the 2nd temple, which is commemorated as the Jewish festival Hanukkah
- 1871 The first human cannonball, Emilio Onra, is fired from a cannon.
- 1922 Rebecca L. Felton of GA is sworn in as the first female U.S. Senator.

Nov. 22

- 1955 RCA records pay \$35,000 to Sun records for Elvis Presley's contract.
- 1963 JFK is assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas, TX.
- 1906 S-O-S is adopted as a distress signal at the International Radio Telegraphic Convention in Berlin, Germany.

Nov. 23

- 1921 U.S. Pres. Warren Harding signs the Willis Campbell Act (Anti-beer bill) forbidding doctors from prescribing beer or liquor for medical purposes
- 1936 Henry R. Luce publishes the first issue of the “picture” magazine Life.
- 1960 Hollywood CA dedicates its Walk of Fame at Hollywood Blvd and Vine St. It now consists of 2600 “Stars”.

Nov. 24

- 1963 The first live murder on TV is captured – Jack Ruby shoots Lee Harvey Oswald.
1971 DB Cooper parachutes from a Northwest Airline 727 with \$200,000 and is never found.
1859 Charles Darwin's book “On the Origin of Species by means of Natural Selection” is published.

Nov. 25

- 1867 Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel patents dynamite. After reading a premature obituary which condemned him for profiting from the sales of arms, he bequeaths his fortune to institute the Nobel Peace Prize.
1920 Gimbel's Dept. store sponsors the first Thanksgiving Parade in Philadelphia, PA.
1949 Gene Autry sings “Rudolph the Red nosed Reindeer” for the first time.

Nov. 26

- 1789 The first National Thanksgiving is observed in America.
1942 The movie “Casablanca” starring Ingrid Bergman and Humphrey Bogart premieres at Hollywood Theater.
1956 The Price is Right debuts on NBC, with presenter Bill Cullens and Don Pardo as narrator.

Nov. 27

- 1911 The first recorded time that an audience throws vegetables at actors in the U.S., occurs in Boston, MA.
1924 The first Macy's Thanksgiving parade is held in NYC.
1948 Honda opens it first dealership in America selling motorcycles.

Nov. 28

- 1729 The Natchez Indians massacre 138 Frenchmen, 38 French women, and 56 children at Fort Rosalie near Natchez, MS.
1895 The U.S. first auto race is organized by the Chicago Times – Herald. The race is from Chicago to Evanston and back. It consisted of 6 cars, 55 miles with the winner averaging 7mph.
1948 Hop-along Cassidy premieres as the first Western Television series.

Nov. 29

- 1942 The US Office of Price Administration rations coffee for everyone to 10 lbs. a year.
1944 John Hopkins Hospital performs the first open heart surgery to correct “Blue Baby” syndrome.
1965 Dale Cummings performs 14,118 consecutive sit ups at the age of 17.

Nov. 30

- 1886 The first commercially successful AC electric power plant opens in Buffalo, NY.
1954 Ann Hodges is bruised by a meteor at Sylacauga, Al in the first modern instance of a meteorite striking a human.

1959 Heisman Trophy winner Billy Cannon of LSU is selected as the first draft pick by the LA Rams.

Dec. 1

1943 FDR, Churchill, and Stalin meet for the first time in Tehran and agree to Operation Overlord (D-Day).

1955 Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to move to the back of the bus and give her seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, AL. (becomes an important symbol to modern civil rights movement).

1959 The first color photo of earth taken by satellite explorer VI from outer space.

Dec. 2

1901 King C. Gillette begins selling disposable safety razor blades.

1927 The first Model A Ford is sold for \$385.

1967 The first human heart transplant is performed in S. Africa by Dr. Chris Barnard on Louis Washkansky. (He lives for 18 days before succumbing to pneumonia)

Dec. 3

1586 Sir Thomas Herriot introduces the potato to England from its country of origin, Columbia.

1931 Alka-Seltzer goes on sale by the Dr. Miles Medicine Co. of Elkhart, Indiana.

1950 Paul Harvey begins his national radio broadcast on ABC.

Dec. 4

1927 Duke Ellington, legendary Jazz musician and composer opens at the Cotton Club in Harlem for his first initial run of 5yrs.

1952 A killer fog overtakes London, England, and the term “smog” is coined from combining the words smoke and fog.

1931 The movie *Frankenstein* opens at the Mayfair Theater in NYC bringing in \$53,000 for its first week.

Dec. 5

1893 Dixon carriage works of Toronto, Canada builds the first electric car and is able to go 15 miles between charges.

1908 The first football uniforms in the U.S. with numerals on the jerseys are worn by the University of Pittsburg.

1945 Five U.S. Navy Avenger torpedo bombers take off from Fort Lauderdale Naval Air Station. Flight 19, “the lost squadron” helps cement the legend of the Bermuda triangle.

Dec. 6

1768 The first edition of “Encyclopedia Britannica” is published in Scotland.

1947 The Everglades national park is dedicated in Florida.

1964 Rudolph the Red-Nosed reindeer first airs on NBC TV.

Dec. 7

- 1909 Inventor Leo Baekeland was granted a patent for the first thermo-setting plastic, “Bakelite” sparking the birth of the plastics industry.
- 1941 The Imperial Japanese Navy with 353 planes, attack the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbor Naval Base, Hawaii, killing 2403.
- 1972 Apollo 17, the final NASA manned lunar mission is launched, the crew takes the famous “blue marble” photo of the entire earth.

Dec. 8

- 1947 U.S. Pres Franklin Roosevelt delivers his “Day of Infamy” speech to the U.S. Congress a day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.
- 1963 Frank Sinatra Jr. 19, is kidnapped and held for 54 hrs. Sinatra Sr. paid \$240,000 for his release.
- 1913 A temperature of 129.2 degrees F is recorded as the highest in the U.S. in Dec. at La Mesa, CA.

Dec. 9

- 1793 Noah Webster establishes New York's first daily newspaper, the “American Minerva” (his American dictionary follows in 1828).
- 1851 The first Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in North America is set up in Montreal, Canada.
- 1941 China declares war on Japan, Germany, and Italy.

Dec. 10

- 1869 Wyoming is the first territory to grant suffrage (providing women the right to vote).
- 1889 The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain is first published.
- 1898 The Spanish-American War formally ends with the Treaty of Paris. (the U.S. acquires the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam)
- 1903 The Nobel Prize for Physics is awarded to Pierre and Marie Currie.

Dec. 11

- 1620 102 Mayflower pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock, MA where they would form the first permanent settlement of Europeans in New England.
- 1936 King Edward VIII announces in a radio broadcast that he is abdicating the British throne to marry divorcee Wallis Simpson.
- 1975 A U.S. 1st class postage stamps rises from .10 to .13 cents.

Dec. 12

- 1901 Gugliemo (Goo-gle-mo) Marconi sends the first trans-Atlantic radio signal, with the use of Morse code.
- 1925 Arthur Heinman opens The Motel Inn in San Luis Obispo, Ca and coins the term “Motel”.
- 1946 Proctor and Gamble introduces Tide as the first heavy duty laundry detergent.

Dec. 13

- 1577 Sir Francis Drake carries out the 2nd circumnavigation of the world and claims

what is now California for England.
1978 The U.S. Mint begins stamping the Susan B. Anthony dollar, the first coin honoring a woman.

1928 The clip on tie is created in Iowa.

Dec. 14

1799 George Washington dies at the age of 67 of acute laryngitis at his estate in Mount Vernon, Virginia.

1901 The first table tennis tournament is held at the London Royal Aquarium.

1961 Jimmy Dean's "Big Bad John" is the first country song to get a gold record (1 million sold).

Dec. 15

1939 The movie "Gone with the Wind" premieres in Atlanta, GA.

1944 Swing bandleader, Major Glenn Miller is lost over the English Channel.

1791 Virginia becomes the last state to ratify the bill of rights making them the first Ten Amendments to the Constitution, law.

Dec. 16

1773 Boston Tea Party – The Sons of Liberty disguise themselves as Mohawk Indians and dump 92,000 lbs. of tea into Boston Harbor.

1908 The first credit union in the U.S. forms in Manchester, NH to serve the local mill workers.

1956 Shirley Temple announces her retirement from films at age 22 due to being typed casted and a lack of quality films.

Dec. 17

1903 The first sustained motorized aircraft flight at 10:35 am is piloted by Orville Wright at Kitty Hawk, NC.

1936 Ventriloquist Edgar Bergen and his dummy Charlie McCarthy appear on TV for the first time on Rudy Vallee's program.

1965 The Astrodome opens in Houston, TX and the first event is a Judy Garland and Supremes concert.

Dec. 18

1892 Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Nutcracker Suite" premieres in St. Petersburg, Russia.

1917 The 18th Amendment authorizing prohibition of alcohol is approved by the U.S. Congress and is sent to the states for ratification.

1957 The world's first full scale nuclear power plant begins to generate electricity at Shippinport Atomic power station in PA.

Dec. 19

1686 Robinson Crusoe leaves his island after 28 yrs. as per the novel written by Daniel Defoe in 1719.

1732 Benjamin Franklin under the name Richard Saunders begins publication of "Poor Richard Almanac."

1843 "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dicken is published and sells 6,000 copies by Christmas Eve.

Dec. 20

1803 The French flag is lowered in New Orleans to mark the formal transfer of the Louisiana Purchase from France to the U.S. for purchase price of \$27 million.

1812 Grimm's Fairy Tales or earlier known as "Children's Household Tales" by Jacob Wilhelm Grimm is first published although they were not regarded as suitable for children.

1920 Bob Hope is born in London, England and later becomes an America citizen at the age of 17.

Dec.21

1913 The first crossword puzzle including 32 clues is published in the NY Word newspaper.

1914 The first feature length silent film comedy "Tillies Punctured Romance" starring Charlie Chaplin is released.

1937 Walt Disney premieres its first full length animated feature film, the classic "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs".

Dec. 22

1882 The first string of Christmas tree lights is created by Thomas Edison.

1932 With a budget cost of \$196,000 and a running time of 73 minutes, the movie "The Mummy" starring Boris Karloff is released.

1969 "Pistol Pete" Maravich sets a NCAA single game record of hitting 30 and 31 foul shots while averaging 44.5pts a game for LSU.

Dec. 23

1888 Vincent Von Gogh cuts off his left ear with a razor and then sends it to a prostitute for safe keeping.

1968 Frank Bormann, Jim Lovell, and William Anders of Apollo 8 become the first men to orbit the moon.

1823 The poem "A visit from St. Nicholas ("Twas the night before Christmas") was published in the Troy Sentinel of NY.

Dec. 24

1818 The Christmas carol "Silent Night" composed by Frank Gruber is sung for the first time at St. Nicolas parish church in Oberndorf, Austria.

1814 The War of 1812 between America and Britain ends with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent.

1920 Famed Italian opera tenor Enrico Caruso gives his last performance at the Metropolitan Opera in NY at the age of 48.

Dec. 25

353 The first definite date Christmas was celebrated on Dec. 25th.

- 1776 George Washington crosses the Delaware River, surprises and defeats 1400 Hessians at the Battle of Trenton.
- 1914 The legendary “Christmas Truce” takes place on the battlefields of WWI between British and German troops. Instead of fighting, soldiers exchanged gifts and play football.

Dec. 26

- 1799 George Washington (who had died on Dec. 14th) is eulogized by Colonel Henry Lee and makes his famous quote: he is first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.
- 1908 Jack Johnson TKO's Tommy Burns in 14 rounds to become the first black heavyweight boxing champion of the world.
- 1951 The movie “The African Queen” directed by John Huston starring Humphrey Bogart and Katherine Hepburn opens at the Fox Wilshire Theatre in Beverly Hills, CA.

Dec. 27

- 1845 Ether is first used in the U.S. for childbirth in Jefferson, GA.
- 1900 Carrie Nation's first public smashing of a bar is done at the Carey Hotel in Wichita, KS.
- 1947 The Howdy Doody show debuts on NBC.

Dec. 28

- 1844 M. Jolly Berlin discovers dry-cleaning as he accidentally tips over a lamp containing turpentine and oil on his clothing and sees a cleaning effect.
- 1860 Harriet Tubman arrives in Auburn, NY on her last mission to free slaves with the Underground Railroad having eluded capture for 8 yrs.
- 1945 Congress officially adopts the name “The Pledge of Allegiance” as an expression of allegiance to the flag of the United States and the republic of the United States of America

Dec. 29

- 1852 Emma Snowgrass is arrested in Boston for wearing pants.
- 1930 Fred P. Newton completes the longest swim ever at the time (1826 miles) when he swam the Mississippi river from Ford Dam, MN to N.O., LA
- 1952 The first transistorized hearing aid is offered for sale in Elmsford, NY.

Dec. 30

- 1703 Tokyo is hit by an earthquake causing 37,000 deaths.
- 1953 The first ever NTSC color analog TV set goes on sale for \$1,175 by RCA.
- 1963 “Let's make a deal” hosted by Monty Hall debuts on NBC-TV.

Dec. 31

- 1907 For the first time, a ball drops in Times Square to signal in the New Year.
- 1890 Ellis Island in NYC opens as a U.S. Immigration depot.
- 1945 The United Nations charter is ratified whose goal is to promote international

peace and security.

