

Historical Society of Michigan

Michigan History Calendar

Day	Year	Events
1 JAN	1837	Michigan was allowed \$95,000 from the U.S. Treasury when Congress distributed the federal surplus (from tariffs and land sales) among the states.
1 JAN	1867	Railroad carferry service began on the Detroit River with the first crossing of the <i>Great Western</i> between Windsor and Detroit.
1 JAN	1879	The present state capitol building in Lansing was dedicated.
1 JAN	1888	Railroad tracks crossed the Upper peninsula when the Minneapolis, Saulte Ste. Marie & Atlantic Railway, later the Soo Line, reached Saulte Ste. Marie.
1 JAN	1895	C.W. Post created the first batch of Postum as a coffee substitute.
1 JAN	1900	The Chicago & West Michigan, the Flint & Pere Marquette, and the Grand Rapids & Western were consolidated to form the Pere Marquette Railroad.
1 JAN	1919	Edsel Ford succeeds his father, Henry Ford, as president of the Ford Motor Company. When Edsel Ford, Henry's only son, died of stomach cancer in 1943, Henry returned to the presidency of the company for two years before being replaced by his grandson, Henry Ford II in 1945.
1 JAN	1925	Detroit's Bonstelle Playhouse opened in the former Temple Beth-El designed by Albert Kahn. It was owned and operated by actress and producer Jessie Bonstelle who produced about 300 plays on its stage before her death of cancer in 1932. It is operated today as the Bonstelle Theater by Wayne State University.
1 JAN	1972	The age of majority (adulthood) was lowered from 21 to 18.
1 JAN	1994	The North American Free Trade Agreement went into effect and as a result many of Michigan's manufacturing jobs were lost.
2 JAN	1837	The first regular session of the Michigan state legislature convened in Detroit.
2 JAN	1902	Michigan defeated Sanford, 49–0, in the first Rose Bowl game. Michigan also defeated Southern Cal, 49–0, in 1948, California, 14–6, in 1951, Oregon State 34–7, in 1965, Washington, 23–6, in 1981, and Washington again, 38–31 in 1993. Michigan State defeated UCLA, 28–20, in 1954, and again in 1956, 17–14 and Southern Cal, 20–17, in 1988.
2 JAN	1920	In a nation-wide raid led by U.S. Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer, the "Palmer Raids," 500 Detroiters were seized and held for deportation hearings. They were accused of being Communist subversives and plotting to overthrow the government.
2 JAN	1930	New York Central acquired a 99-year lease of the Michigan Central Railroad.
2 JAN	1970	Clifton Wharton became president of Michigan State University, the first Black president of any major US college.
2 JAN	1974	Coleman Young took office as Detroit's first Black mayor. He served 20 years.
2 JAN	2004	Using 14 categories of statistics including, health clubs, sporting goods stores, fast food places, and doughnut shops, <i>Men's Fitness</i> magazine lists Detroit as the "King of Flab," the fattest city in the United States.

3 JAN 1814	Court Martial convened to try former governor William Hull on charges of cowardice and neglect of duty for surrendering Detroit to British in 1812. He was found guilty and sentenced to death. President Madison commuted his sentence because of his Revolutionary War record.
4 JAN 1843	Michigan's first governor, Stevens T. Mason, died in New York at age 31..
4 JAN 1918	Production began at Ford's River Rouge plant.
4 JAN 1922	Henry Ford purchased the Lincoln Motor Company from Henry and Wilfred Leland.
5 JAN 1861	The Amboy, Lansing & Traverse Bay Railroad was the first Michigan railroad to qualify for a federal land grant by building 20 miles of acceptable track.
5 JAN 1914	Henry Ford raised factory workers to five dollars per day so they could afford to buy the cars they were building.
5 JAN 1924	The Chrysler Six, the first car to bear Walter Chrysler's name was shown to the public for the first time at the New York Automobile Show. The car with its advanced standard features like hydraulic brakes, a high compression engine, and balloon tires was an immediate success.
6 JAN 1863	The Emancipation Proclamation was read for the first time in Michigan at the Second Baptist Church in Detroit.
7 JAN 1832	The Orchard Lake Scotsmen formed the state's first curling club and played their first match.
7 JAN 1840	William Woodbridge took office of governor replacing, Michigan's first governor, Stevens T. Mason, who had been defeated in large part because of the state's financial distress arising from the disastrous internal improvements program.
7 JAN 1971	An unarmed B-52 bomber crashed into Lake Michigan just missing the Big Rock Point nuclear power plant near Charlevoix.
8 JAN 1838	Governor Mason called out the state militia to keep the Patriots, Canadian rebels, from using Michigan as a base to attack the British government in Canada. Patriot sympathizers had raided the arsenal in Detroit and seized the schooner <i>Ann</i> for an invasion of Canada.
8 JAN 1948	WDTR-FM, Michigan's first educational FM radio station went on the air.
9 JAN 1911	In a very important victory for the automobile industry, a court ruling declared that automobile manufacturers did not have to pay royalties on the Selden patent for a gasoline engine.
9 JAN 1997	29 people died when a Comair commuter plane crashed 18 miles before reaching Detroit Metropolitan Airport.
10 JAN 1945	In a speech in the Senate, Arthur Vandenburg of Grand Rapids, a leading Republican isolationist, announced a dramatic change in his thinking—He was now convinced that in the wake of World War II, the United States must play a leading role in world affairs. He later became a delegate to the conference to organize the United Nations, supported the Marshall Plan, and made the motion in the Senate that led to the formation of NATO.
10 JAN 1964	William Clay Ford bought the Detroit Lions.
11 JAN 1805	Territory of Michigan was established with Detroit as its capital.
11 JAN 1913	The first American sedan-type automobile went on display at the 13th Automobile Show in New York. It was built by Hudson in Detroit.

11 JAN 1945	State senator, Warren G. Hooper of Albion was found murdered in his car one day before he was to testify against Grand Rapids political boss, Frank McKay, before a grand jury investigating political corruption.
12 JAN 1904	Henry Ford set the world speed record at 91.37 MPH driving the "999" on ice covered Lake St. Clair.
13 JAN 1851	Asa Whitney's proposal to build a transcontinental railroad was debated and killed in Congress. He proposed to build the line without government money. His line would have crossed the continent from Lake Michigan to the Pacific Ocean. If passed, Michigan would have been a major link in cross-country transportation.
13 JAN 1977	Joan L. Wolfe became the first woman to chair a major state commission when she became chairperson of the Natural Resources Commission.
14 JAN 1914	Production began using the first moving automobile assembly line at Ford's Highland Park plant.
15 JAN 1890	Progressive Detroit shoemaker, Hazen "Potatoes" Pingree, became mayor.
15 JAN 1965	Dearborn mayor Orville Hubbard was charged by the Michigan Civil Rights Commission for failing to act in good faith because he persisted in posting "anti-Negro" clippings on the city hall bulletin board.
16 JAN 1888	Don Dickinson became Postmaster General in the cabinet of President Grover Cleveland.
16 JAN 1948	Ford builds the first in a long line of F-series pickup trucks.
17 JAN 1854	Rail service between Michigan and New York became possible when the Great Western Railway of Canada reached Windsor.
17 JAN 1956	Stock in Ford Motor Company is sold to the public for the first time
17 JAN 1983	Last business day for downtown Detroit's J.L. Hudson Department Store.
18 JAN 1802	Detroit was incorporated as Michigan's first city.
18 JAN 2002	The first Snow House, or Lumitalo, in the United States was built in Hancock during the Mid Winter Heikinpaiva (Henry's Day) Celebration. It was designed and built by Finnish architect Seppo Makinen.
19 JAN 1841	The <i>Western Farmer</i> , Michigan's first journal for farmers, published its first issue.
19 JAN 1868	Frederick Baraga, first bishop of Saulte Ste. Marie died. He had served in the Upper Peninsula for 30 years.
19 JAN 2002	Skiers made the last jumps at the Suicide Bowl in Ishpeming. Skiers had used the site since 1926. The site was closed because Cleveland Cliffs, the mining company that owned the hill, needed the land to expand its mining operations.
20 JAN 1880	World's first international telephone line opened between Detroit and Windsor.
20 JAN 1936	Edsel Ford started the Ford Foundation.
21 JAN 1670	Rouge River (St. Anne's River) was discovered by French explorer, Robert de LaSalle.
21 JAN 1757	In the Battle on Snowshoes, Michigan Indians led by Charles Langlade ambushed Robert Rogers and his Rangers along the shore of Lake Champlain. In this French and Indian War skirmish, Rogers was wounded but was able to escape with most of his men because they had snow shoes and the French force didn't.
21 JAN 1915	The first Kiwanis Club was founded in Detroit.

21 JAN 1961	Ford president Robert McNamara resigned to become Secretary of Defense serving under both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. He became the architect of American policy in Vietnam.
21 JAN 1987	Motown singer Aretha Franklin became the first female vocalist to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.
22 JAN 1813	In the bloodiest battle ever fought in Michigan, British troops with strong Indian support surprised American troops at Frenchtown (Monroe) on the Raisin River. Major George Madison was convinced to surrender after he was promised his men would be protected.
22 JAN 1857	Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad was chartered to provide service between Flint and Lake Michigan.
22 JAN 1969	Governor George Romney resigned to serve as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President Richard M. Nixon. Lieutenant Governor William G. Milliken of Traverse City served the rest of the term and was subsequently elected in 1970.
22 JAN 1971	A man holding a hatchet and claiming to have a bomb forced a plane to land at Detroit and refuel before taking him to Cuba. This was Michigan's first airplane hijacking.
22 JAN 2002	Troy based K-Mart filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy making it the biggest retailer to ever seek bankruptcy protection.
23 JAN 1813	One day after the Americans surrendered at Frenchtown, British officers left the wounded behind to be massacred. "Remember the Raisin" became the battle cry in the west for the remainder of the War of 1812.
23 JAN 1915	Supreme Court Justice, Potter Stewart was born in Jackson.
24 JAN 1906	The Smithsonian Institution accepted the art collection of Charles Freer who had made his fortune as a partner in Detroit's Michigan-Peninsular Car Company, a builder of railroad cars. His collection of Asian and American art is housed in the Freer Gallery on the Mall in Washington, D.C. It opened in May 1923.
24 JAN 1982	Super Bowl XVI was held at the Pontiac Silverdome. The San Francisco 49ers defeated the Cincinnati Bengals 26–21.
25 JAN 1945	Grand Rapids became the first city in the country to add fluoride to its water supply in order to reduce tooth decay among children.
25 JAN 1956	Hank Greenberg of the Detroit Tigers became the first Jewish player inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.
26 JAN 1837	Congress formally accepted Michigan as a state after Michigan reluctantly agreed to the Enabling Act thus giving up its claim to the Toledo Strip. In exchange Michigan acquired the western part of the Upper Peninsula.
26 JAN 1847	Slave catchers arrived at Marshall hoping to capture the Adam Crosswhite family who had escaped from slavery in Kentucky. Their neighbors spirited them away to safety in Canada. Led to passage of the Fugitive Slave Law.
26 JAN 1875	G.F. Green of Kalamazoo patented the first dental drill.
26 JAN 2004	Governor Granholm introduced the Michigan Quarter, the 26th quarter in the U.S. Mint's 50 States Quarter Program.
27 JAN 1883	The first electric lights in Michigan were installed at Metcalf's dry goods store in Detroit.
27 JAN 1967	Roger Chaffee of Grand Rapids along with astronauts Gus Grissom and Edward White II died in a flash fire aboard the Apollo I module.

28 JAN 1877	Michigan's first logging railroad, the Lake George & Muskegon River railroad, began operation in Clair County.
28 JAN 1958	Ozzie Virgil became the first Black player for the Detroit Tigers. He was acquired by trade from the San Francisco Giants.
28 JAN 1973	Lt. Col. William Nolde of Mt. Pleasant was the last American killed in the Vietnam conflict. A cease-fire went into effect 11 hours after he had been hit in an artillery barrage.
29 JAN 1796	Last session of the English Court of General Quarter Session met for the last time as the British began to give up control of Michigan under terms of Jay's Treaty.
29 JAN 1900	Detroit Tigers became 1 of 8 charter members of the new American League
30 JAN 1933	First broadcast of the Lone Ranger on Detroit's WXYZ.
30 JAN 1962	Two members of the <i>Great Wallendas</i> fell to their deaths while attempting a human pyramid on the high-wire at the Detroit State Fairgrounds Coliseum during a Shrine Circus performance.
31 JAN 1945	Pvt. Eddie Slovik of Hamtramck was executed. He was the only American soldier to be executed for desertion since the Civil War.
1 FEB 1813	After Detroit was captured in War of 1812, Colonel Henry Proctor, the British commander, declared martial law and ordered prominent Americans to leave Detroit.
1 FEB 1832	The Western Immigrant, an Ann Arbor newspaper, printed the first published proposal for a transcontinental railroad.
1 FEB 1967	Michigan became the first state to have a border-to-border interstate freeway when the last link of I-94 was completed.
2 FEB 1704	The Marie Therese Cadillac was the first child to be baptized in Detroit.
2 FEB 1846	The first regular train service between Kalamazoo and Detroit began on the Michigan Central Railroad.
2 FEB 1870	Elizabeth Stockwell from Kalamazoo was the first female to attend the University of Michigan. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in June 1872.
2 FEB 1921	Electric streetcars began operation in Detroit.
2 FEB 1936	The first players selected to the newly formed Baseball Hall of Fame included former Detroit Tiger Ty Cobb as well as Babe Ruth and Honus Wagner.
3 FEB 1838	Passengers rode the Michigan Central Railroad for the first time, Detroit to Ypsilanti.
3 FEB 1862	Thomas Edison began selling a one-page newspaper, the Weekly Herald, on a train between Port Huron and Detroit.
3 FEB 1889	Michigan's first skyscraper the 10-story Hammond Building in Detroit was completed.
3 FEB 1956	Highway speed limits of 65 miles per hour by day and 55 by night went into effect. Prior to this motorists could determine what was safe and reasonable.
4 FEB 1813	Colonel Henry Procter, British commander of Detroit after surrender of the town in the War of 1812, ordered a number of leading citizens to leave Detroit because of their criticism of his rule and his failure to control his Indian allies especially after the Raisin River Massacre 23 JAN 1813
4 FEB. 1902	Charles Lindberg, the first pilot to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, was born in Detroit.

4 FEB 1922	Ford Motor Company purchases the Lincoln brand.
4 FEB 1948	Vincent Furnier was born in Detroit. He became better known as rock star, Alice Cooper.
5 FEB 1838	Detroit's militia company, the Brady guards, was mustered into service during the Patriot War in Canada.
6 FEB 1924	The first highway signs were installed on Michigan roads.
7 FEB 1812	An earthquake shook Michigan.
8 FEB 1880	The Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway completed its line between Port Huron and Chicago.
8 FEB 1985	The Stroh Brewery announced it was closing its Detroit plant.
8 FEB 2004	Senator John Kerry won the Democratic presidential nominating caucus, the first to allow online (internet) voting. More than 46,000 Democrats took advantage of this new way to record their choices.
9 FEB 1847	Dutch immigrants fleeing religious persecution and economic distress followed their leader Rev. Albertus Van Raalte to West Michigan and founded Holland.
9 FEB 1864	Elizabeth "Libbie" Bacon married Brigadier General George Armstrong Custer in Monroe's First Presbyterian Church. Custer was born in Ohio but came to consider Monroe his hometown.
9 FEB 1934	Record for coldest temperature (-51°) the in state was set at Vanderbilt.
9 FEB 1942	Production of automobiles for civilians ceased for the duration of World War II. Michigan became known as the "Arsenal of Democracy."
9 FEB 1951	A state employee, fearing he would be drafted to fight in Korea set a fire in the Lewis Cass Building in Lansing. He went to prison but much of the state library and archival collection was destroyed.
10 FEB 1763	As part of Treaty of Paris, 1763, ending the French and Indian War, France ceded Canada to the British thus giving England formal control of Michigan.
10 FEB 1922	The Detroit Symphony was the first orchestra to have a concert broadcast on the radio.
11 FEB 1937	After a three-month sit down strike, General Motors recognized the United Auto Workers Union.
12 FEB 1781	A party of Spanish, French, and Indians, seeking revenge for an earlier British attack on a Spanish post at St. Louis, captured Fort St. Joseph (Niles) giving the community its nickname, "City of Four Flags"– French, English, Spanish, and American.
12 FEB 1835	The Michigan territorial legislature passed a law making it unlawful for anyone who was not a citizen of Michigan to carryout any official functions within the territory. The law was aimed at Ohio engineers building locks for the Maumee Canal within the disputed Toledo Strip.
12 FEB 1855	A new state law required that workers on passenger trains wear a badge on their hat or cap to indicate their title or office.
12 FEB 1966	Well-known scholar, Rabbi Morris Adler was shot trying to protect a young boy during a Bar Mitzvah service at Shaarey Zedek synagogue in Southfield. He died a month later.
13 FEB 1855	Reacting to the passage of the Fugitive Slave law, the Michigan legislature prohibited using county jails to hold escaped slaves.
13 FEB 1926	The first dial telephones became available for residential use.

14 FEB 1933	In the midst of the Great Depression, it appeared the Union Guardian Trust Company would default and that would lead to a rush on Michigan's banks. After meeting with banking officials, Governor William A. Comstock declared a two-week banking holiday. The holiday was extended and Michigan's banks were still closed when President Roosevelt declared an indefinite federal bank holiday in March.
15 FEB 1921	25 citizens of Michigan were deported to Russia in the Red Scare.
16 FEB 1819	Residents in the Territory of Michigan voted in a congressional election for the first time electing William Woodbridge as a non-voting member of the US House of Representatives.
16 FEB 1897	<i>Pere Marquette 15</i> , the first all steel carferry, made it's first crossing between Ludington and Manitowoc, Wisconsin.
16 FEB 1926	The first ski jumping competition was held at Ishpeming Ski Club's Suicide Hill.
16 FEB 1940	Sonny Bono, songwriter, actor, and Congressman, was born in Detroit.
17 FEB 1863	The First Michigan Colored Infantry was mustered into service against the Confederacy.
18 FEB 1839	The Detroit Boat Club, the oldest continuously operating yacht club in the country, was organized.
18 FEB 1842	The legislature approved the organization of a public school system in Detroit.
18 FEB 1895	George Gipp was born at Laurim on the Keweenaw Peninsula. He became a football star at Notre Dame was immortalized in a 1940 movie about Knute Rockne, "Win one for the Gipper."
19 FEB 1970	Baseball's last thirty game winner, Detroit Tiger pitcher, Denny McLain, was suspended because of his involvement with gamblers. He was later sent to prison for racketeering.
20 FEB 1763	With the signing of the Treaty of Paris, 1763, Britain gained formal control of all lands in the Northwest Territory including Michigan's two peninsulas.
20 FEB 1852	The Michigan Southern Railroad reached Chicago.
21 FEB 1904	National Ski Association was organized at Ishpeming, now home of the National Ski Hall of Fame.
21 FEB 1965	Black nationalist leader, Malcolm X who had been raised in Lansing was assassinated.
21 FEB 1965	Black spiritual leader and civil rights activist, Malcolm X, was assassinated in New York by rival Black Muslims. He was born in Nebraska, but raised in Lansing and Mason as Malcolm Little. His father was murdered in Lansing.
22 FEB 1855	The first common carrier railroad in the Upper Penninsula, the Iron Mountain Railroad, was chartered by the state legislature.
22 FEB 1973	Hermus Millsaps became Michigan's first winner of a million dollars in the state lottery.
23 FEB 1973	The ex-wife of Hermus Millsaps sued for a share of his winnings as the first lottery millionaire. She lost.
24 FEB 1844	Olivet, Michigan's first co-educational college was established. It was chartered 15 years later.
24 FEB 1906	Detroit's Tommy Burns became the first heavyweight champion.
24 FEB 1928	The use of marijuana was outlawed in Detroit. There were no state or federal restrictions at that time.

25 FEB 1779	American Revolutionary War leader, George Rogers Clark tricked Detroit's Lieutenant Governor, Henry "Hair Buyer" Hamilton, into surrendering himself and Vincennes by making him think the Rebels had a much larger military force.
25 FEB 1976	State attorney general ruled that State Corrections Department could not make a profit through manufacture of automobile license plates.
26 FEB 1809	Judge James Witherell drew up an education bill for the Territory of Michigan.
26 FEB 1906	The nation's first Shrine Circus opened in Detroit.
26 FEB 2004	James Minder resigned as CEO of Smith & Wesson, the country's second-biggest handgun maker, when it was revealed he worked his way through the University of Michigan as a stick-up man. Minder spent 15 years in Michigan prisons for armed robberies and an attempted prison escape.
27 FEB 1702	A large white comet frightened Indians and French traders.
27 FEB 1902	The first Detroit automobile show was held in the Detroit Light Guard Armory.
27 FEB 1942	A KKK cross was burned near the Sojourner Truth Housing Project one day before the families of Black war industry workers were to move in.
28 FEB 1832	Congress established the Detroit Arsenal in Dearbornville.
28 FEB 1908	The electric locomotives made their first trip through the St. Clair Tunnel. Steam locomotives proved to be too dangerous in the confined space of a tunnel.
28 FEB 1952	Coleman Young took on the House Un-American Activities Committee in Detroit, charging southern members with racism and defending his efforts to secure equality for African-Americans. Young was elected mayor in 1973.
29 FEB 1948	In a number of cities, policemen began experimenting with radar as a way to catch speeders.
29 FEB 2000	Former Detroit Tiger manager, Sparky Anderson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.
29 FEB 2000	Six-year-old, Kayla Rolland was shot to death by a fellow first grader at Buell Elementary School in Mount Morris Township near Flint.
1 MAR 1784	Virginia ceded her claims to all territory north of the Ohio River including Michigan to the United States. This was a prerequisite for the smaller states to approve the Articles of Confederation.
1 MAR 1847	Michigan became the first government in the English-speaking world to outlaw capital punishment.
1 MAR 1848	The first telegraph message was sent between Detroit and Buffalo, NY.
1 MAR 1915	Majestic Theatre offered the first motion pictures in Detroit.
1 MAR 1954	Representative Alvin M. Bentley was shot when members of a radical Puerto Rican independence movement opened fire from the gallery of the US House of Representatives.
1 MAR 1961	President John Kennedy established the Peace Corps. The idea was first proposed at the University of Michigan during the 1960 campaign.
1 MAR 1965	S.S. Kresge Company, the dime store chain, opened the company's first K-Mart store in Garden City.
2 MAR 1819	The Saginaw Treaty is signed. In the treaty negotiated by territorial governor, Lewis Cass, Native Americans gave up about six million acres or more than a quarter of the Lower Peninsula.

2 MAR 1824	In his only recorded speech as territorial representative to Congress, Father Gabriel Richard asked for funds to build a road from Detroit to Chicago.
2 MAR 1877	Rutherford B. Hayes was declared winner of the 1876 election by a special committee set up by Senator Thomas White Ferry from Grand Haven who was serving as President Pro Tempore of the US Senator and acting Vice President of the United States.
2 MAR 1974	In order to comply with federal legislation aimed at reducing energy consumption highway speed limits were reduced to 55 miles per hour.
3 MAR 1801	Mail service to Michigan began. Mail was carried from Washington every 3 months.
3 MAR 1803	As Ohio moved toward statehood, Michigan became part of Indiana Territory.
3 MAR 1846	Upset by discrimination at First Baptist Church, Detroit Blacks establish the Second Baptist Church.
3 MAR 1875	Just 3 years after creation of Yellowstone National Park, Congress created the nation's second national park, Mackinac Island National park. When the military left the island 20 years later, the park was given to the state to become Michigan's first state park.
3 MAR 1931	Congress authorized the creation of Isle Royal National Park.
4 MAR 1831	The state law allowing drunks and disorderly persons to be whipped was repealed.
4 MAR 1947	WWJ-TV aired Michigan's first daily television broadcast.
4 MAR 1964	Teamsters' President Jimmy Hoffa was convicted of jury tampering. He was later also convicted of misusing the union's pension fund. He entered prison in 1967.
5 MAR 1829	John P. Sheldon, editor of the Detroit Gazette was fined for writing articles critical of territorial courts. He was jailed when he refused to pay.
6 MAR 1863	Michigan's first race riot. After hearing Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and conscription orders, a mob swept through a Black neighborhood burning homes and beating Blacks.
6 MAR 1877	First telephone message to Detroit. Businessmen listened to music transmitted from Chicago.
6 MAR 1896	Charles B. King became the first person to publicly drive on a Michigan street. During his test drive the car broke down.
6 MAR 1930	The Communist Party organized a massive demonstration in Detroit in support of unemployed workers.
6 MAR 1997	William Clinton spoke to the state legislature becoming only the second sitting U.S. President to address Michigan's lawmakers. Theodore Roosevelt was the first in 1907.
7 MAR 1932	Police and Ford guards fired on 3000 unemployed autoworkers as they marched toward Ford's River Rouge Plant. They were seeking relief for laid-off workers and union recognition. 4 were killed.
8 MAR 1918	Draftees at Fort Custer (Battle Creek) were given two dog tags as they prepared to leave for Europe in WWI. One for the neck and one for the wrist to make identification of body parts easier in case a shell hit them.
8 MAR 1942	Blue Star Mothers of America, an organization of women whose sons and daughters served in the armed forces, was formed in response to an article printed in the <i>Flint Journal</i> .

9 MAR 1901	R.E. Olds moved his plant to Lansing after fire destroyed the Olds plant in Detroit.
9 MAR 1925	The VFW National Home for Children near Eaton Rapids accepted its first family, the survivors of WWI veteran Edward Pollett.
9 MAR 1932	Ford introduced the first V-8 engine.
9 MAR 1945	The Detroit Industrial Expressway, designed so traffic could move safely at 100 miles per hour was dedicated giving access to Ford's aircraft facility at Willow Run. It is now part of I94.
9 MAR 1976	Hot-air balloon flights over the state became legal. They had been outlawed in 1931.
10 MAR 1707	Antoine de Lamothe Cadillac gave the first known grants of land to French settlers in Detroit.
10 MAR 1902	Henry Ford quit the Henry Ford Company in order to spend time building a racing car. The company's name was changed and under the leadership of Henry Leland began building Cadillacs, cars named for the founder of Detroit, Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac.
11 MAR 1967	State acquired its first helicopter. It was built in Menominee by R.J. Enstrom Company and used by Conservation Department.
12 MAR 1965	The first NCAA indoor track and field championship was held in Detroit's Cobo Hall. Won by Missouri.
12 MAR 1972	Detroit Red Wings retired Gordie Howe's uniform number (9). He tired of retirement and went on to play in the WHL and NHL with his sons until 1979.
13 MAR 1952	In Holland, Parke Davis opened its first factory to exclusively produce a synthetic antibiotic.
14 MAR 1914	Clarence Burton donated one of the nation's finest archival collections to the Detroit Public Library.
14 MAR 1967	Four of the first eight men selected in the NFL-AFL draft came from Michigan State University. Bubba Smith, George Webster, Gene Washington, and Clint Jones.
14 MAR 1994	President Clinton opened the G-7 Conference of leaders of the world's industrial nations, at the Fox Theatre in Detroit.
15 MAR 1861	Almost a month before Confederate forces fired upon Fort Sumter, the Michigan legislature gave Governor Blair power to supply men to the federal army in case of a Southern rebellion.
15 MAR 1867	University of Michigan became the first university in the nation to be supported by a direct property tax.
15 MAR 1887	Michigan hired the nation's first salaried fish and game warden, William Allen Smith of Grand Rapids.
15 MAR 1994	Michigan voters passed Proposal A that changed school funding from reliance on property tax to dependence on sales tax revenue, a tax that declines during periods of economic difficulty.
16 MAR 1912	Operations in the mill town of Deward in Crawford County shut down because there were no more logs to saw. In 12 years the company that had built the town cut over 90,000 acres, the last major stand of timber in the Lower Peninsula. In one year they had produced 52 million board feet of lumber.

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- 16 MAR 1939** Governor Frank D. Fitzgerald died soon after starting his second term and was succeeded by Luren D. Dickinson. Fitzgerald is the only governor to have died while still in office.
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- 17 MAR 1808** First St. Patrick's Day celebration in Detroit.
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- 17 MAR 1847** State legislature met for last time in Detroit before moving to Lansing.
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- 17 MAR 1977** In the nation's worst outbreak of botulism, 59 people became ill after eating improperly home-canned peppers at a Mexican restaurant in Pontiac. All survived because of quick identification of the toxin.
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- 18 MAR 1837** University of Michigan was given permission by legislature to move from Detroit to Ann Arbor.
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- 19 MAR 1897** The state supreme court ruled that Hazen Pingree could not serve both as mayor of Detroit and governor of Michigan. He resigned as mayor so he could serve in Lansing.
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- 19 MAR 1925** The end of free fishing. A law was passed that requiring fishermen to buy a license
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- 20 MAR 1680** Robert Cavalier de la Salle began a trek across Michigan's lower peninsula. He became the first European to cross the state.
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- 20 MAR 1802** The state's first public market was established in Detroit.
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- 20 MAR 1836** Michigan borrowed money for the first time, \$36,000 at 6% annual interest from Robert Hollingsworth of New York.
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- 20 MAR 1837** An ill-fated public improvements act was approved. Michigan would borrow five million dollars to build 3 railroads and 2 canals across the state. After Panic of 1837 and failure of the state's bonding agent, the state was broke and its credit was ruined. Two railroads were sold to private investors and the other projects were abandoned.
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- 20 MAR 1837** In a move more successful than the internal improvements plan, Governor Mason signed a comprehensive school plan for Michigan with free public schools based upon the Prussian system.
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- 20 MAR 1881** Saginaw's Bancroft Hotel turned on the first incandescent lights used commercially in the state.
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- 20 MAR 1919** Women served as jurors for first time in Wayne County.
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- 20 MAR 1955** The Detroit Red Wings won a seventh consecutive National Hockey League championship by defeating the Montreal Canadiens 6-0 led by Ted Lindsay's 3 goal hat trick.
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- 21 MAR 1822** The first Methodist Episcopal Society in Detroit was organized
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- 22 MAR 1954** Northland, the country's first regional shopping mall, opened in Southfield.
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- 22 MAR 1966** During a Senate hearing, General Motors President James Roche apologized for hiring private detectives to investigate the personal behavior, beliefs on Semitism, and political views of auto critic Ralph Nader.
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- 22 MAR 1999** Jack Kevorkian went on trial for murder after a videotape of a death he assisted in was shown on the CBS news program "60 Minutes." Kevorkian acted as his own lawyer. He was convicted of second-degree murder.
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- 23 MAR 1835** Territorial legislature granted a charter to Methodist Episcopal churchmen who sought to start a "literary school in the wilderness." Since 1861 it has been known as Albion College.
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- 23 MAR 1984** A woman from Hazel park gave birth to the state's first "test-tube" baby.
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- 24 MAR 1888** America's oldest collegiate athletic conference, The Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) was founded. Schools included Albion, Olivet, Michigan Agricultural College (MSU), and Hillsdale College. Michigan schools in the league today are Adrian, Albion, Alma, Calvin, Hope, Kalamazoo, and Olivet.
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- 24 MAR 1917** Detroit Northwestern High School won the first state basketball championship.
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- 24 MAR 1924** Thomas Dewey was born in Owosso. He became governor of New York and made two unsuccessful runs for the presidency against Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944 and Harry S Truman in 1948.
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- 24 MAR 1965** Four Klansmen on the road between Selma and Montgomery, Alabama killed Viola Liuzzo, a white civil-rights marcher from Detroit. An FBI informant with the Klansmen Failed to protect her.
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- 24 MAR 1977** Attorney General ruled hypnosis to cure fears, unwanted habits, and obesity was a medical practice and so could only be done by licensed doctors.
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- 25 MAR 1922** 40 hour work week was adopted by Ford Motor Company.
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- 25 MAR 1926** Letters were included on license plates for the first time.
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- 26 MAR 1777** John Coutincinau and Ann Wyley were hanged for larceny.
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- 26 MAR 1804** The first United States land office was opened in Detroit. In addition to distributing land, it had to settle disputes arising from French and British deeds.
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- 26 MAR 1836** Legislature created the first state supreme court.
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- 26 MAR 1933** *Detroit Free Press* reported on clerical criticism of controversial murals depicting industrial workers by Mexican artist Diego Rivera in the Detroit Institute of Art.
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- 26 MAR 1966** In testimony before Congress, General Motors officials admitted they had hired private detectives to probe into auto critic, Ralph Nader's, private life in hopes of being able to disgrace and discredit him.
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- 26 MAR 1979** Michigan State University Spartans, led by Ervin "Magic" Johnson, became the first school in the state to win a NCAA Division I national championship by beating Larry Bird's Indiana State team 75-64.
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- 26 MAR 1999** Dr. Jack Kevorkian, proponent of physician-assisted suicide, was convicted of second-degree murder for death of Thomas Youk.
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- 27 MAR 1871** Amanda Sanford (medicine) and Sarah Killgore (law) became the first two women to graduate from the University of Michigan.
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- 27 MAR 1960** The last regularly scheduled steam powered passenger train in the United States completed its run between Detroit and Durand..
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- 28 MAR 1836** Treaty of Washington was signed in which the Ottawa gave up West Michigan from the Kalamazoo River to the Straits of Mackinac in exchange for annuities for 20 years and payment of debts owed to traders.
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- 28 MAR 1859** Adrian College was chartered.
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- 28 MAR 1946** Walter Reuther was elected president of UAW.
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- 28 MAR 1955** Professional bowler Steve Nagy became the first athlete from Michigan to be featured on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*.
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- 29 MAR 1815** Citizens of Detroit invited their former enemies, British citizens of Canada, to a "Pacification Dinner" in hopes of resuming friendly relations with their neighbors.
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- 29 MAR 1929** Michigan became the first state to ban the use fireworks by the public.
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29 MAR 1933	It was revealed that the "Radio Priest," Father Charles Coughlin of the Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak who had been railing against Wall Street gamblers, had lost thousands of dollars by speculating with money listeners had contributed to charities he promoted in his broadcasts.
30 MAR 1998	Detroit's Museum of African American History was named for its founder, Dr. Charles H. Wright.
31 MAR 1818	Society of Methodists erected a log building near the Rouge River, It was Michigan's first Protestant church.
31 MAR 1975	State banned the use of snow tires with metal studs because they were wearing out the roads.
31 MAR 1976	Traffic laws were changed to allow right turns after stopping at a red light.
1 APR 1840	The Morris Canal and Banking Company defaulted on payments on Michigan's internal improvement bonds. Michigan's fiscal reputation was ruined when it refused to honor bonds that had been sold, but for which the state had not received payment.
1 APR 1889	The Moiles brothers of De Tour avoided foreclosure of their sawmill by loading all the machinery on 2 barges and taking it to Canada.
1 APR 1901	The last known mastodon to live in Michigan died at the John Ball Zoological Park in Grand Rapids.
1 APR 1906	The state's first yellow-pages directory was issued by the Michigan State Telephone Company in Detroit.
1 APR 1963	Voters approved Michigan's fourth state constitution. It replaced the 1908 constitution, changing the terms of the governor and state senators to 4 years.
1 APR 1976	Conrail, a government corporation taking over bankrupt Eastern railroads, began operations in Michigan. The state offered subsidies to private lines operating some former Penn Central and Ann Arbor Railroad lines.
2 APR 1881	Grand Opening of J.L. Hudson's men and boy's clothing store in the Detroit Opera House. At start of the Great Depression Hudson's with its 25 story building was the largest in Michigan and the third largest department store in the country.
2 APR 1966	The first of 850,000 Coho salmon were planted in the Platte River in Benzie County. Salmon stimulated fishing and helped the state deal with alewives that had entered the lakes through the Saint Lawrence Seaway.
2 APR 1977	A new anti-smoking law banned smoking in grocery stores and required no smoking areas in restaurants.
3 APR 1837	In Michigan's first strike, Carpenters left their jobs in Detroit hoping to get a ten-hour day and 2 dollars a day in pay.
3 APR 1838	Construction began on Michigan's first prison at Jackson. In time it became the largest walled prison in the world.
3 APR 1853	First issue of the <i>Daily Free Democrat</i> . This predecessor of the <i>Detroit Free Press</i> started a year earlier as a weekly anti-slavery paper.
3 APR 1869	The legislature authorized the governor to send an immigration commissioner to Germany to recruit immigrants to come to the state. He would be paid \$2,500 per year, a high salary for that time. By 1880, about 20% of Detroit's population had been born in Germany.
3 APR 1869	Tax supported, tuition-free schools were established by the legislature.

3 APR 1871	Nannette B. Gardner, a wealthy Detroit widow, became the first woman to vote in a Detroit election. She had convinced an alderman that she should be registered as a voter because she had no husband to protect her interests. It would be nearly half a century before another woman would be allowed to vote.
3 APR 1933	Michigan became the first state to repeal federal prohibition.
4 APR 1825	John R. Williams was elected Detroit's first mayor.
4 APR 1971	Gordie Howe played his last game as a member of the Detroit Red Wings.
5 APR 1778	Daniel Boone brought to Detroit as a prisoner of war by the Shawnee Indians. Later escaped in time to warn the people of Boonseboro of a planned attack.
6 APR 1898	William Jennings Bryan delivered an address in Detroit.
6 APR 1900	James J. Jeffries won the world's first heavyweight fight in Detroit by knocking out his opponent, James Finnegan, in the first round.
6 APR 1909	General Motors bought Oakland Motors. It became part of the Pontiac Division in 1932.
7 APR 1947	Henry Ford died at the age of 83.
7 APR 1956	Last streetcar ran in Detroit.
7 APR 1970	Detroit board of education approved a plan to desegregate 11 of Detroit's 22 high schools.
8 APR 1931	The robin was designated as the state's official bird.
8 APR 1943	Detroit Red Wings won their third Stanley Cup beating Boston in 4 games.
9 APR 1865	Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia surrendered Confederate arms and battle flags to 2 Michigan Regiments. 90,000 Michigan men had fought in the Civil War and 14,000 died.
9 APR 1949	Former governor Chase Osborn, aware that he was nearing the end of his life, had the adoption of his daughter, Stellanova annulled and on the same day he married her. Osborn died two days later.
9 APR 1997	Chrysler announced plans to build 6 new factories in Michigan.
10 APR 1922	Detroit's last horse drawn fire engine was retired.
10 APR 1969	Auto designer Harley Earl died. He put tail fins on the Cadillac and created the Corvette.
11 APR 1803	Zebulon Pike, who later discovered Pike's Peak, became commander at Detroit when John F. Hamtramck died.
11 APR 1881	5,000 German brown trout were planted in the Baldwin River near Baldwin.
11 APR 1912	Conflict between Taft and Roosevelt supporters at the state Republican Convention held in Bay City became so heated that police and the state militia were called in to stop the fighting.
11 APR 1936	Detroit Red Wings defeated Toronto to win their first Stanley Cup.
11 APR 1943	10,000 people attended a joint UAW and NAACP rally calling for improved race relations in Detroit.
11 APR 1965	Palm Sunday tornados blew through central and southern Michigan killing 49 people.
11 APR 2000	Comerica Park, the new home of the Detroit Tigers opened.
12 APR 1780	British Captain Henry Bird left Detroit with 1200 Indians to attack American rebels in Kentucky.

12 APR	1858	Detroit hosted the world's first international billiards tournament. Mike Phelan of New York City defeated John Seereiter of Detroit to win the \$15,000 purse.
12 APR	1865	4 th Michigan Cavalry led by Benjamin Pritchard of Allegan captured Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy.
12 APR	1955	The successful field trials of the Salk polio vaccine were announced at a press conference at the University of Michigan.
12 APR	1999	Tigers lost to Minnesota in the last home opener in Tiger Stadium.
13 APR	1827	Law passed requiring all Blacks in Michigan to register at county clerks office. If they did not meet requirements for residence they would have to leave the territory.
13 APR	1861	News arrived about the attack on Fort Sumter.
13 APR	1925	Henry Ford started a commercial airline service between Detroit and Chicago.
13 APR	1954	Ernie Harwell working for the Baltimore Orioles made his first broadcast from Briggs Stadium (later Tiger Stadium).
14 APR	1931	Henry Ford drove the 20,000,000 th Ford off the assembly line and to the Ford Museum and parked it next to the first Ford built in 1893.
14 APR	1933	First issue of the <i>Detroit Tribune</i> , an important Black newspaper.
14 APR	1941	Ford recognized the UAW after a 10-day strike.
14 APR	1960	Motown Records incorporated. Made first recording in 1959.
14 APR	1977	Renaissance Center opened in downtown Detroit.
14 APR	1982	J.L. Hudson announced the closing of its downtown store.
14 APR	1986	<i>Detroit News</i> and <i>Detroit Free Press</i> requested federal approval of a "joint operating agreement" to help both newspapers survive.
15 APR	1876	Arbor Day, a tree-planting holiday, was recognized in Michigan for the first time.
15 APR	1886	Edison Illuminating Company was organized in Detroit.
15 APR	1977	Mayor Coleman Young and Henry Ford II dedicated the Renaissance Center on Detroit's waterfront. The structure later became home to General Motors Corporation.
15 APR	1986	Detroit's two newspapers, the <i>Free Press</i> and the <i>News</i> ask the government to approve a joint operating agreement to save money and the ailing <i>Free Press</i> , Michigan's oldest newspaper.
15 APR	2003	The longest win streak in history, 241 straight MIAA dual meets, was broken as Hope College defeated Kalamazoo College in a men's dual tennis match. In 68 years, from 1935 to 2003, Kalamazoo College's men's tennis record was 397-2.
16 APR	1861	Responding to President Lincoln's call to arms, Governor Austin Blair arrived in Detroit to help mobilize Michigan's first troops for service in the Civil War.
16 APR	1895	Detroit's baseball club called the Tigers for the first time in an article by Phil Reed in the <i>Detroit Free Press</i> .
16 APR	1927	Legislature passed a ban on the sale of fireworks.
16 APR	1996	General Motors buys the Renaissance Center from Ford.
17 APR	1802	The first city tax was collected in Detroit, \$150.00. Every adult was taxed 25¢.
17 APR	1861	Detroit Light Guard met at armory to offer services at start of the Civil War.
17 APR	1893	A 6-foot high seiche or tidal wave struck St. Joseph.

17 APR 1963	In a betting scandal, Detroit Lions star Alex Karras and Green Bay Packers' Paul Horning were suspended from the NFL for betting on the Green Bay–New York Giant game. NFL commissioner, Pete Rozelle also fined 5 other Lion players and team management..
17 APR 1964	The Ford Mustang was introduced. It was the brainchild of Lee Iacocca who became president of Ford Motor Company six years later. He was fired in 1978 and moved on to help lift Chrysler Motors from bankruptcy.
17 APR 1979	Law signed by Governor William G. Milliken to end bounty on coyotes.
18 APR 1815	Alexander Holmes was hired to layout an east-west baseline so a survey of the state could begin. A baseline all the way across the state was not completed until 1827.
18 APR 1816	Peace treaty with Indians signed ending fighting related to War of 1812. Tecumseh's brother the Prophet was present.
18 APR 1894	Five Polish laborers striking against the Detroit waterworks were killed by sheriff's officers who opened fire after the sheriff was knocked down in a scuffle with strikers.
18 APR 1927	Wonder Bread is introduced.
18 APR 1943	Tom Lamphier of Detroit, a pilot in the U.S. navy shot down Japan's top military leader, Admiral Isoruko Yamamoto.
18 APR 1951	Senator Arthur Vandenberg, former editor of the <i>Grand Rapids Herald</i> , died of cancer. When appointed to the Senate in 1928 to complete the unexpired term of former Governor Woodbridge Ferris, he was a leading isolationist and an opponent of FDR's New Deal. His positions changed dramatically after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He helped organize the United Nations and NATO and he sponsored legislation establishing the Marshall Plan.
19 APR 1851	Wayne County officers took a special train to Jackson to arrest Abel Fitch and other protesters charged in the "Great Railroad Conspiracy."
19 APR 1864	Rebel spy, Charles H. Cle tried to drug officers of the <i>USS Michigan</i> as part of a plot to try to free Confederate prisoners of war on Johnson's Island in Lake Erie.
19 APR 1898	First Michigan soldiers leave for Cuba in Spanish-American War.
19 APR 1927	Ty Tyson made the first radio broadcast of a regular season Detroit Tiger game, an 8-5 win over Cleveland Indians.
19 APR 1973	Hundreds of craters and geysers mysteriously appeared around the town of Williamsburg near Traverse City. Geologists later determined they had been created by a natural gas leak.
20 APR 1769	Pontiac who had been the principal leader of the Indian uprising in 1763, was killed by Peoria Indian near Cahokia in Illinois.
20 APR 1836	The territory of Wisconsin was separated from Michigan in preparation for Michigan's statehood.
20 APR 1909	Wayne County Road Commission began work to pave Woodward Avenue between Six and Seven Mile roads. This was the nation's first mile of concrete highway.
20 APR 1912	26,000 spectators watched the Detroit Tigers defeat the Cleveland Indians 6–5 in 11 innings in the first game played in Detroit's new ballpark, Navin Field, predecessor to Tiger Stadium.

20 APR 1940	Detroit Tiger, rookie, George Vico hit a home run in the second inning of Chicago's home opener on the first pitch in his first major league at bat.
20 APR 1948	Walter Reuter, president of the United Auto Workers was wounded when a would-be assassin fired a shotgun blast through the window of his home.
20 APR 1952	A bloody riot began at Southern Michigan Prison in Jackson. Eleven guards were held hostage. In the struggle to regain control of the prison, one convict was killed, 10 others were wounded and 4 state policemen were injured.
20 APR 1988	1200 protestors circled Tiger Stadium hoping to convince Tiger management to keep the historic ballpark.
21 APR 1806	The territorial governing council authorized plans to create a new city plan to rebuild Detroit following the 1805 fire.
21 APR 1851	Temple Beth El, Michigan's first Jewish Reformed Congregation was organized in Detroit.
21 APR 1976	In order to reduce its deficit, the city of Detroit held the "world's largest garage sale" at Cobo Hall. More than 75,000 shoppers paid \$100,00 for surplus city equipment.
22 APR 1833	The Michigan and Huron Institute, a Baptist college, was chartered. In 1855 the school changed its name to Kalamazoo College.
22 APR 1833	Detroit city charter was amended to allow city property taxes.
22 APR 1938	Briggs Stadium was dedicated. Later renamed Tiger Stadium.
22 APR 1974	The first suicide on the Mackinac bridge occurred when a young man from Royal Oak stopped his vehicle at the middle of the bridge and jumped to his death.
23 APR 1849	The Michigan Central Railroad, the first railroad to build a line across the state, opened service between Detroit and New Buffalo.
23 APR 1859	The first patient was admitted to the Michigan Asylum for the Insane in Kalamazoo.
23 APR 1891	Workers on the Detroit City Railway Company went on strike shutting down the city's streetcars. A riot broke out when the company attempted to run the horse drawn streetcars.
24 APR 1864	Michigan's first draft to supply men for the Union Army was held in Detroit..
24 APR 1898	Governor Hazen Pingree called up the Michigan national guard for service in the Spanish-American War. While only 3 Michigan men died in combat in Cuba, 698 died of diseases including malaria and yellow fever.
24 APR 1918	Women were first hired as mail carriers in Detroit.
24 APR 1941	The first Chrysler built M-3 General Grant Tank rolled off the assembly line. By the end of WWII Chrysler had built more than 25,000 tanks.
25 APR 1835	A posse led by the sheriff of Lenawee County arrested surveyors from Ohio who were trying to run a line through Lenawee and Hillsdale counties in order to establish Ohio's claim to the Toledo Strip. The governor of Ohio gathered 500 militiamen to invade Michigan.
25 APR 1901	The Detroit Tigers defeated the Milwaukee Brewers 14-13 at Bennett Park in the first American league game ever played.
25 APR 1959	The St. Lawrence Seaway opened. This 400-mile waterway connected Michigan to the Atlantic Ocean bringing trade and foreign marine species.
26 APR 1775	In Michigan's first regulations on the distribution of liquor, Detroit merchants could sell no more than one glass of liquor at a time to Indians.

26 APR 1837	Detroit Anti-Slavery Society was organized.
26 APR 1927	In a paper presented to the Women's Literary Club in Holland, biology teacher, Lida Rogers proposed that residents of Holland plant tulips and take a day to celebrate the flower associated with the city's Dutch residents. This marked the start of Holland's annual Tulip Time festival.
26 APR 1982	The Ann Arbor Railroad ceased all carferry service.
27 APR 1763	At a secret council of the Ottawa, Huron, and Pottawatomie held just south of Detroit, Pontiac reminded them of their grievances against the British and won their support for a plan to seize Detroit.
27 APR 1764	A charter for the first Masonic Lodge west of the Alleghenies, "Zion Lodge of Masons, No. 1," was granted to Masons in Detroit.
27 APR 1833	The luxury, passenger steamboat <i>Michigan</i> was launched at Detroit.
27 APR 1865	The steamer <i>Sultana</i> , exploded near Memphis, TN. It was carrying men recently released from Confederate prisoner of war camps. Many of the 1400 men killed were from Michigan.
27 APR 1907	African-Americans in Detroit sought to stop the production of the play "The Clansman" based on Thomas Dixon's racist novel of the same name that promoted the Ku Klux Klan by portraying Blacks as beasts.
27 APR 1915	The wood bridge to Detroit's Belle Isle burned stranding 1000 people. They were rescued by cross-river ferry boats.
27 APR 1933	Being short of cash because of the Great Depression, Detroit issued \$8,000,000 in scrip to city employees.
28 APR 1851	Trial begins in the "Great Railroad Conspiracy." Abel Fitch was accused of being the leader of a group of disenchanting farmers who destroyed railroad property.
28 APR 1897	The apple blossom was chosen as the state's official flower.
28 APR 1910	The Flint Police Department ordered the first "paddy wagon," a truck with a cage to hold prisoners, from the Buick Motor Company.
28 APR 1915	Wood bridge to Detroit's Belle Isle burned stranding 1000 people on the island. Detroit & Windsor Ferry boats left their cross-river runs to aid the stranded.
28 APR 1941	Among the 24 men found guilty of gambling, racketeering, and prostitution in Detroit were Wayne County prosecutor Duncan Mc Crea, sheriff Thomas Wilcox, and president of Gross Point Park Alfred Garska.
28 APR 1976	The Attorney general ruled that the state did not have to pay for a sex-change operation for a prison inmate.
29 APR 1817	The Rush-Bagot Agreement was signed between England and the United States limiting each nation to just 2 small naval vessels on the Upper Lakes. This was the first step toward creating the world's longest unfortified international border.
29 APR 1898	The John Phillip Sousa Band played his new march, Stars and Stripes Forever at the corner of Larner and Brush streets in Detroit.
29 APR 1911	Michigan's official state flag with the state seal on a blue field was approved by the legislature.
29 APR 1924	Cornerstone laid for the Detroit Institute of Art.
29 APR 1956	The <i>Aerotrain</i> , an experimental high-speed passenger train began operating between Chicago and Detroit.

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- 29 APR 1959** John S. Lappo an Air Force pilot, from Muskegon, with a distinguished career in World War II, Korea, and flying spy planes over Russia flew a B-47 bomber under the Mackinac Bridge at 425 miles an hour. There is 150 feet of clearance between the bridge deck and the water and the plane was 38 feet from belly to the top of the tail. The daredevil stunt went unreported at the time, but when the Air Force learned about it, Lappo lost his pilot's wings.
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- 29 APR 2004** Workers at the General Motors plant in Lansing built the last Oldsmobile. Oldsmobile had been the oldest auto name in continuous production.
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- 30 APR 1824** Congress appropriated \$10,000 to survey a road between Detroit and Chicago. The Territorial Road or Great Sauk Trail is now US12.
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- 30 APR 1942** The first Black families moved into the hotly disputed Sojourner Truth housing project for defense workers.
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- 30 APR 1954** The first passenger flight left Detroit's Metro Airport.
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- 30 APR 1971** Passenger rail service ended in most Michigan communities as Amtrak took over passenger rail operations.
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- 30 APR 1980** The government loaned the nearly bankrupt Chrysler Corporation \$150,000,000 in an attempt to save the jobs of thousands of Chrysler workers. With union cooperation and new designs including the K-car and the minivan, Chrysler returned to profitability and repaid all its state and federal obligations.
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- 1 MAY 1903** Followers of "King" Benjamin Purnell opened the House of David in Benton Harbor. This religious community was best known for its amusement park and its traveling bearded baseball team.
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- 1 MAY 1910** Optometrists were required to pass an examination for the first time.
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- 1 MAY 1918** Michigan became "dry" before national prohibition became effective. Michigan voters approved a prohibition amendment to the state constitution. It seems while voters approved the change, many did not follow the law. Homebrew and "Speakeasies" were popular and many Michiganians made frequent trips to Canada where alcohol was still sold legally.
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- 1 MAY 1981** Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for the General Motors plant on what had been Poletown one of Detroit's oldest neighborhoods. About 3,500 residents were forced to move along with business, schools, and churches.
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- 2 MAY 1844** The Detroit Board of Education opened the state's first high school in a building that had housed the University of Michigan.
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- 2 MAY 1939** New York Yankee Lou Gehrig, the iron man of baseball, removed himself from the lineup at a game at Briggs Stadium (later Tiger Stadium) after 2,130 consecutive games. He was suffering from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, an incurable degenerative disease of the nervous system known to many as "Lou Gehrig's Disease."
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- 3 MAY 1881** Leonidas G. Woolley of Mendon patented the first electric headlight for railroad locomotives.
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- 4 MAY 1846** The Michigan legislature passed an act banning capital punishment. Michigan was the first English speaking government to stop executions.
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- 4 MAY 1980** Forest Service employees failing to note high fire danger warnings set a fire near Mio to improve habitat for the Kirkland Warbler. The fire quickly got out of control and burned 25,000 acres and 33 homes.
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5 MAY 1710	French settlers Jean Baptiste Turpin and Margaret Fafard were married in St. Anne's Church in Detroit. They were the first couple of European ancestry to be married in Michigan.
5 MAY 1769	Native chiefs, Okitchewanog, Couttawyin, and Ottowachkin transfer Hog Island (Belle Isle) to British army Lieutenant George McDougall. Belle Isle is now a park administered by the City of Detroit.
5 MAY 1831	The <i>Democratic Free Press and Michigan Intelligencer</i> now the <i>Detroit Free Press</i> published its first issue. It started as a 4 page weekly and became a daily in 1835.
6 MAY 1867	The U.S. Supreme Court terminated the only French <i>seignior</i> y in Michigan, the land granted at Saulte Ste. Marie to Louis le Gardeur de Repentigny by Louis XV in 1751.
6 MAY 1968	<i>Detroit Free Press</i> won a Pulitzer Prize for its coverage of the 1967 race riot in Detroit.
7 MAY 1763	Pontiac and 60 Ottawa warriors tried to capture the British fort at Detroit. Henry Gladwin had been warned of the attack. Pontiac withdrew when he realized he could not surprise the garrison. He and his followers laid siege to the stockade but the British resisted. Detroit was the only British fort west of Pittsburgh that did not fall to the Indians in 1763.
8 MAY 1820	The Michigan Territorial legislature imposed the first Michigan tax on personal property and land. The sheriff could arrest anyone who did not pay.
8 MAY 1917	Governor Alfred Sleeper signed the Damon-Flowers Bill that put a referendum on the ballot to allow women to vote in presidential elections. It passed the following November.
8 MAY 1959	Little Caesars, Michigan's first pizza chain opened its first store in Garden City.
8 MAY 1973	Carolyn King of Ypsilanti took the field as a member of the Ypsilanti Orioles baseball team. She was the first girl to play in the Little League. Little League officials took away the local charter. The city of Ypsilanti filed a sex-discrimination suit. The U.S. Division of Civil Rights ordered the Little League to drop its boys-only policy.
9 MAY 1970	UAW President Walter P. Reuther, his wife and four other individuals were killed when their plane clipped treetops, crashed, and exploded near the Pellston airport.
10 MAY 1865	The Fourth Michigan Calvary led by Lt. Colonel Benjamin Pritchard of Allegan captured Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, near Irwinsville, GA.
10 MAY 1921	A law passed by the Michigan legislature made it illegal to "fix" any sporting event by bribing an athlete.
10 MAY 1933	Julius Stroh of the Stroh Brewing Company poured the first legal glass of beer after repeal of prohibition at an American Legion convention in Detroit.
10 MAY 1980	U.U. Treasury Secretary William Miller announced approval of a 1.5 billion dollar bail-out plan to help save Chrysler Corporation and the jobs of its employees..
10 MAY 1980	U.S. Secretary of the Treasury G. William Miller announced the approval of a 1.5 billion dollar loan guarantee for the ailing Chrysler Corporation.
11 MAY 1835	A Constitutional Convention convened in Detroit, it compiled the state's first constitution, but Congress would not recognize Michigan's statehood until 1837.

11 MAY 1978	Margaret Ann Brewer of Durand became the female first brigadier general in the U.S. Marine Corps.
12 MAY 1781	Chippewa Indians sold Mackinac Island to the British for £5,000. The British under Patrick Sinclair built Fort Mackinac on the island because he did not think Michilimackinac (Mackinac City) could be defended if American rebels attacked the old wood stockade.
13 MAY 1857	The nation's first state land grant college for farmers, Michigan Agricultural College opened in East Lansing. The school name was changed to Michigan State College and is now Michigan State University.
13 MAY 1913	Theodore Roosevelt arrived in Marquette for the libel trial of Ishpeming Editor, George Hewitt, who had publicly called the former president a drunk and a liar. When Hewitt admitted his stories were false, TR settled for 6 cents in damages, "the price of a good newspaper."
13 MAY 1954	President Eisenhower signed a bill authorizing construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway. This was a joint project with Canada.
14 MAY 1866	Hope College was chartered. It started as the Holland Academy created by Dutch immigrants in Holland in 1851. The college is affiliated with the Reformed Church in America.
15 MAY 1756	After 4 years of fighting in America, much of it by Michigan Indians, England declared war on France. The French and Indian War was the North American phase of the Seven Years' War, the first worldwide conflict. When the war ended Michigan was transferred from French to British control.
15 MAY 1863	The Brotherhood of the Footboard, later the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers was organized in Detroit.
15 MAY 1912	Detroit Tiger star Ty Cobb was suspended for beating up a New York Yankee fan that had heckled him. Three days later his teammates went out on strike, the first strike in professional baseball. The strike lasted two days.
16 MAY 1861	The First Michigan Infantry marched into Washington, D.C. at the start of the Civil War. President Lincoln who wondered if the west would support the war was said to say "Thank God for Michigan."
16 MAY 1927	Andrew Kehoe, school treasurer in Bath, killed his wife then set a timer that detonated explosives under the school while he blew himself up in his pick-up truck. 45 people including 38 students were killed in Michigan worst mass murder.
16 MAY 1956	The General Motors Technical Center was dedicated near Detroit.
17 MAY 1673	Louis Jolliet and Father Jacques Marquette left the mission at St. Ignace to explore the Mississippi River.
17 MAY 1915	The Detroit Athletic Club was founded.
17 MAY 1920	The Ford Motor Company blast furnaces at the River Rouge Plant began producing steel.
18 MAY 1675	Father Marquette returning from visiting with Indians in Illinois died near Ludington although the citizens of Frankfort would disagree.
18 MAY 1802	Father Gabriel Richard began his illustrious career as parish priest at St. Anne's in Detroit. He brought the first printing press to the state, published the state's first newspaper, helped start the University of Michigan and he was the first priest to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.
18 MAY 1929	The first Tulip Festival opened in Holland, MI.

18 MAY	1929	Members of the Purple Gang were arrested for arms violations and protecting Detroit drug dealers.
19 MAY	1722	Louis XV, King of France, conceded to Cadillac all the land he had cleared in Detroit.
19 MAY	1926	Sebastian S. Kresge, dime store magnate, contributed 25 million dollars to start the Kresge Foundation.
20 MAY	1774	The Quebec Act which American colonists considered one of the Intolerable Acts made Michigan and the Ohio River Valley part of Quebec. Most residents of Michigan were French Catholics and the act protected their right to worship and allowed them a voice in government.
20 MAY	1785	Congress under the Articles of Confederation passed the Land Ordinance of 1785 that provided for rectangular surveys, dividing the land into townships and sections. One section in each township was set aside for schools.
20 MAY	1835	The Detroit Common Council approved the construction of the first underground sewer to replace smelly and unsanitary open ditches.
20 MAY	1942	At the Victor Studios in Hollywood, Glenn Miller recorded what might be the best-known song about a Michigan city, "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo."
21 MAY	1813	Colonel Henry Procter, British commander in Detroit during the War of 1812, arrested Father Gabriel Richard for publicly criticizing his rule. The priest was held under house arrest in Windsor for a month before being released.
21 MAY	1852	Michigan Central Railroad ran its first train between Detroit and Chicago.
21 MAY	1937	<i>My Michigan</i> written by Giles Kavanagh and H. O'Reilly Clint of Detroit was named an official song of the State of Michigan.
21 MAY	1941	After years of bitter and sometimes violence resistance by Henry Ford, workers of the Ford Motor Company voted to have the United Auto Workers represent them. Ford was the last of the Big Three automakers to be organized.
22 MAY	1938	E.S. Votey of Detroit patented the world's first pneumatic player piano.
22 MAY	1972	Henry Ford II identified the 32-acre waterfront site including the Grand Trunk's Brush Street depot as the site for the Renaissance Center, a major attempt to revitalize downtown Detroit.
23 MAY	1893	A man accused of murder was dragged out of the jail in Corunna by an angry mob and hung from a nearby tree. The rope used in the lynching was cut into little pieces and handed out as souvenirs.
23 MAY	1920	Pennsylvania Railroad began running trains to and from Detroit.
23 MAY	2002	Governor John Engler signed a bill making the Historical Society of Michigan, the state's official historical society.
24 MAY	1825	Survey began on the Chicago Road, a military road between Detroit and Chicago. It followed the Old Sauk Trail now U.S. 12.
25 MAY	1670	Sulpician priests Fathers François Dollier de Casson and René de Brehan de Galinée arrived at Saulte Ste. Marie after leaving Robert de la Salle. Galinée drew the first map of the upper lakes showing the St. Mary's, St. Clair and Detroit Rivers.
25 MAY	1763	In the 1763 Indian uprising led by Pontiac, Pottawatomie from Detroit captured Fort St. Joseph and killed nine soldiers. The post commander Ensign Francis Schlosser and six survivors were brought to Detroit where they were exchanged for some Indian prisoners.

25 MAY	1820	Territorial Governor Lewis Cass started out on expedition to explore and secure American authority over the Upper Peninsula. Henry Schoolcraft went along as geologist and reported on the presence of iron and copper deposits.
25 MAY	1935	In just one hour, at the Western Conference (now the Big Ten) track and field championships held at the University of Michigan, a sophomore from Ohio State set world records in the 220-yard dash, the 220-yard low hurdles, and the long jump while also tying the mark in the 100 yard dash. His name? Jessie Owens
26 MAY	1768	In the first election held in Detroit, Phillippe de Jean was elected judge.
26 MAY	1824	Congress passed an act establishing the first federal road in Michigan. It took until 1829 to complete the United States Road between Detroit and Toledo.
26 MAY	1927	Henry Ford and his son Edsel drove the fifteen-millionth Model T off the assembly line. Later that day production of Model T's was terminated in order to retool the factory for production of the Model A.
26 MAY	1937	In the Battle of the Overpass goons from Harry Bennett's Ford security force beat Walter Reuther and Richard Frankensteen who were passing out leaflets urging workers to join the UAW at a bridge leading to the River Rouge plant.
26 MAY	1967	Kay E. Whitfield of Pontiac and Noreen E. Hillary of Grand Rapids became the first two women sworn in as officers in the Michigan State Police.
27 MAY	1942	The S.E. Overton Company of South Haven made its first shipment of walnut gunstocks for the M1 Carbine, the standard rifle for U.S. troops in WWII. By the end of the war the company had produced 2,661,054 gunstocks.
27 MAY	1947	Legislature passed a bill requiring lobbyists to register before they attempted to influence legislators.
28 MAY	1851	Trial of Abel Fitch and 43 co-conspirators in the Great Railroad Conspiracy began in Detroit. They were charged with burning the Michigan Central Railroad freight depot in Detroit. 12 men were convicted but Fitch died in prison during the trial.
29 MAY	1848	Lewis Cass former territorial governor and U.s. Senator was nominated as the Democratic candidate for president. He lost to Whig candidate Zachary Taylor in part because many northern votes were drawn to the Free Soil party.
30 MAY	1703	The first French women, Madame Cadillac and Madame de Tonty, arrived in Detroit. Their arrival indicated that Detroit was to be a permanent settlement.
30 MAY	1846	The Jackson Mining Company opened Michigan's first iron mine near Teal Lake, now Negaunee.
30 MAY	1928	Chrysler Corporation bought the Dodge Brothers automobile company. Chrysler became the third largest automobile company behind General Motors and Ford.
30 MAY	1930	A memorial to the men of the Polar Bear Expedition was dedicated in White Chapel Cemetery north of Detroit. Many of the Polar Bears who invaded Russia during World War I came from Michigan.
31 MAY	1855	The Soo Locks at Saulte Ste. Marie opened. It took two years and almost a million dollars to construct the two locks that helped ships cover the 22-foot drop between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. It would be over two weeks (18 June) before the first ship passed through the locks.

31 MAY 1941	The last truck for civilian use was built as Michigan's auto plants converted all their resources to war materials.
1 JUN 1838	Governor Stevens T. Mason made an unfortunate agreement with the Morris Canal and Banking Company to sell state bonds for internal improvements. \$1,500,000 in bonds was sold, but the company went out of business without sending the money to the state. Michigan's credit was damaged when the state repudiated those bonds.
1 JUN 1879	Michigan women were employed as telephone operators for the first time in Grand Rapids. They replaced boys who had neglected the switchboards in order to play marbles.
1 JUN 1933	In an attempt to reduce to state debt, the Michigan legislature eliminated the state property tax and instituted a 3% sales tax. Many state residents blamed Governor William Comstock and accused him of profiting from the tax.
1 JUN 1967	There were demonstrations of fear and distrust as the first Soviet freighter entered the Detroit River.
2 JUN 1763	Chippewa and Sac Indians attacked and massacred most of the garrison at Michilimackinac in the general Indian uprising popularly known as Pontiac's Conspiracy. They had suggested playing a game of baggitaway (lacrosse) in honor of the king's birthday. When the ball flew over the stockade wall, the Indians rushed into the fort and seized control.
2 JUN 1853	Led by the Ship Canal Company organized by Charles T. Harvey, work began on the first Soo Locks at Saulte Ste. Marie. The first vessels passed through the locks in 1855.
3 JUN 1850	A convention convened in Lansing to write a new constitution. Work on the state's second constitution was completed on 15 August.
3 JUN 1856	Congress approves giving 19 million acres of land to 8 states including Michigan to promote railroad construction.
3 JUN 1895	Central Michigan Normal School (Now Central Michigan University) was taken over by the state. It had been established as a private institution.
3 JUN 1964	Governor George Romney signed into law a bill requiring that Michigan operator's licenses include driver's photos.
3 JUN 1965	Astronaut James McDivitt from Jackson became the first Michigianian to orbit the earth in outer space.
4 JUN 1853	Construction began at Saulte Ste. Marie on the canal and locks that would allow ships to pass between Lake Superior and Lake Huron.
4 JUN 1896	Henry Ford test drove his quadricycle around the streets of Detroit.
4 JUN 1910	President William Howard Taft dedicated a boulder honoring the formation of the Republican Party under the oaks in Jackson fifty years earlier.
4 JUN 1982	Mike Ilitch, owner of Dominos Pizza, purchased the Detroit Red Wings.
4 JUN 1990	Dr. Jack Kevorkian helped Janet E. Adkins commit suicide at a campsite in Oakland County. This was the first of a series of suicides that involved Kevorkian who became known to many as "Dr. Death."
5 JUN 1866	About 100 doctors met in Detroit to adopt a code of ethics and organize the Michigan State Medical Society.
5 JUN 1885	A state law was passed requiring automatic couplers on all railroad cars.
5 JUN 1998	<i>Muslim American</i> , a free monthly newspaper for the Detroit area's large Islamic community, began publication.

6 JUN 1822	Alexis Ste. Martin, a fur trapper was accidentally shot in the stomach on Mackinac Island. Army doctor William Beaumont treated him. The wound failed to heal allowing Beaumont to observe and conduct experiments on the process of digestion.
6 JUN 1925	Chrysler Corporation was incorporated.
6 JUN 1944	The first glider to land in France on D-Day was built in Greenville by the Gibson Refrigerator Company.
6 JUN 1947	The Pere Marquette Railroad was consolidated into the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway.
6 JUN 1953	The Ford Motor Company and UAW Local 1250 reached the earliest agreement dealing with issues related to automated production lines in the automobile industry.
6 JUN 1975	A convicted hog thief and bad check writer escaped from Jackson Prison in a hijacked helicopter. A friend forced the pilot to land in the prison yard where the prisoner was hiding. He was arrested the next day at a bar in Leslie.
7 JUN 1824	The first legislative council met in Detroit for its first session. Under provisions of the Northwest Ordinance, Michiganians could elect a legislative council when 5,000 free male residents lived in the territory.
7 JUN 1978	In a carefully planned sting operation, federal agents and Flint police told thieves who had fenced stolen goods with a fictitious Stewart Fine that Fine had died and his funeral procession would be an opportunity to move stolen cars to Detroit. As suspects lined-up cars behind the hearse they were arrested.
8 JUN 1677	Père Marquette was reburied in St. Ignace by Indians who had located his grave along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan.
8 JUN 1953	A tornado hit Beecher, north of Flint killing 116 people and injuring hundreds. More than 500 homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed.
9 JUN 1845	St. Vincent's, the first hospital in Michigan, was opened in a log building by the Sister's of Charity. It was later renamed St. Mary's Hospital.
9 JUN 1913	14,000 residents of northeastern Michigan turned out for a "good roads bee" and completed improvements to open a passable road along the northern shore of Lake Huron. Route is now part of US23.
10 JUN 1919	Michigan became the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment that gave women the right to vote.
11 JUN 1805	Detroit was completely destroyed by a fire that reportedly was started by sparks from a smoker's pipe. Detroit was rebuilt on a plan developed by territorial judge Augustus Woodward and patterned after Pierre L'Enfant's layout of Washington, DC.
11 JUN 1888	The Minneapolis, Saulte Ste. Marie & Atlantic and 3 other railroads merged to form the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Saulte Ste. Marie Railway. It is popularly known as the Soo Line and is now controlled by the Canadian Pacific Railway..
11 JUN 1961	Norm Cash, in a game against the Washington Senators, became the first Detroit Tiger to hit a ball out of Tiger Stadium. Ted Williams and Mickey Mantle had hit balls out of the park for visiting teams.
12 JUN 1973	US Court of Appeals in Cincinnati ruled that students should be bussed between Detroit and its suburbs in order to achieve racial integration.

13 JUN 1903	The Ford Motor Company was formed by nine investors who put up \$28,000 in cash and promised to invest another \$21,000. Henry Ford was vice president and general manager. He had failed in other car making ventures, but this time he had the capable assistance of James Cousins who deserves much of the credit for the company's success.
13 JUN 1920	The first Baltimore & Ohio passenger train to serve Michigan left Detroit's Fort Street Station for a run to Washington, DC.
13 JUN 1923	1000 men joined the Ku Klux Klan in a cross burning ceremony held in Oakland County. About 8,000 Michigan Klan members attended the rally.
13 JUN 1929	"Belly Bombers" became available when Detroit's first White Castle opened on East Jefferson.
13 JUN 1943	The <i>Escanaba</i> , a Coast Guard cutter stationed in Grand Haven but serving in the Atlantic to protect convoys, was torpedoed by a German submarine off the coast of Greenland. It sank in 3 minutes with a loss of 101 lives. The only two survivors were picked-up by a Coast Guard tug, the <i>Raritan</i> , which was later stationed in Grand Haven, the "Coast Guard City."
13 JUN 2002	The Detroit Red Wings won their 3rd Stanley Cup in 6 years. In his last game as coach, Scotty Bowman won more Stanley Cups than any hockey coach in history.
14 JUN 1671	French officer, Simon Francois, Sieur de St. Luson, raised a cross at the mission at Saulte Ste. Marie and claimed most of North America for France.
14 JUN 1833	A riot kept slave catchers from returning Thornton Blackburn, a runaway slave, to Kentucky. He was helped to escape to Canada.
14 JUN 1923	The <i>Detroit Free Press</i> offered a \$1,000 reward for anyone who would give information on the whereabouts of "King" Benjamin Purnell of the House of David. Purnell was sought by state authorities on a charge of statutory rape.
15 JUN 1836	President Andrew Jackson signed a bill to admit Michigan and Arkansas, its paired slave state, into the Union. Statehood was delayed until 1837 because Michigan rejected the proposed border with Ohio.
15 JUN 1905	The Michigan branch of the National Red Cross was organized. The first significant activity was to collect donations for victims of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.
15 JUN 1948	In the first night baseball game in Detroit the Tigers beat the Philadelphia Athletics (4-1) under the lights at Briggs Stadium (later Tiger Stadium).
16 JUN 1820	Territorial Governor Lewis Cass lowered a British flag flying over Sault Ste. Marie. It was the last foreign flag to assert sovereignty over any part of Michigan.
16 JUN 1856	James Jesse Strang, the Mormon king on Beaver Island, was assassinated by two former followers after being drawn into a trap by the commander of the US Navy ship, <i>Michigan</i> . The murderers escaped to Mackinac Island on the <i>Michigan</i> .
16 JUN 1903	The Ford Motor Company was organized.
17 JUN 1866	Lewis Cass died at Detroit. Cass had served as governor of Michigan Territory, US Senator, Secretary of War under Andrew Jackson and as Secretary of State under James Buchanan. He ran for the presidency of the United States in 1848. Cass helped organize the Historical Society of Michigan in 1828.

17 JUN 1940	The Nancy Brown Peace Carillon was dedicated on Belle Isle. She wrote an advice column in <i>The Detroit News</i> and her readers provided most of the money for the tower.
17 JUN 1958	Ozzie Virgil, the first Black player on the Detroit Tigers, played his first home game.
18 JUN 1812	Congress declared war on England with the hopes of invading Canada through Michigan.
18 JUN 1855	The steamship <i>Illinois</i> became the first ship to sail through the newly completed Soo Locks.
18 JUN 1898	The Detroit, Belle Isle and Windsor Ferry Company opened Bob-lo Island Amusement park.
18 JUN 1977	Joan Heneveld was ordained as the first woman priest in the Episcopal Church. In 1983 she became the first full time female chaplain in the Veterans Administration and in 1992 she was the first woman canon (priest serving a cathedral) at Detroit's Cathedral Church of St. Paul.
19 JUN 1879	Speaking to 7 graduating cadets of the Michigan Military Academy in Orchard Lake, General William Tecumseh Sherman declared, "War is Hell."
19 JUN 1982	Chinese-American, Vincent Chin, was beaten to death by two unemployed autoworkers using a baseball bat. They thought he was Japanese and that they had lost their jobs because of Japanese successes in automobile production.
20 JUN 1945	A race riot erupted on the bridge to Detroit's Belle Isle in which 34 people, 25 of them Black, died and 700 were injured during three days of conflict. A force of 4,000 National Guardsmen was called in to restore order.
21 JUN 1752	Charles Langlade led a party of 240 Ottawa from the Grand River Valley to attack the Miami at Pickawillany (Picqua, Ohio). The Miami led by La Demoiselle threatened French control of the Ohio River Valley by switching their loyalty to the British. The village was destroyed and La Demoiselle was killed and eaten. This attack started the French and Indian War.
21 JUN 1972	Pinball machines were allowed in bars for the first time.
22 JUN 1774	British Parliament passed the Quebec Act which made Michigan part of Quebec. American opposition to this act, its lack of democratic government, and protection of Roman Catholics, became a cause of the American Revolution.
22 JUN 1835	The official Michigan state seal was adopted.
22 JUN 1903	The carferry <i>Grand Haven</i> was christened. It was built for E.G. Crosby to carry Grand Trunk railroad cars between Grand Haven and Milwaukee.
22 JUN 1933	Greenfield Village allowed visits by the general public for the first time.
22 JUN 1937	Joe Louis, the "Brown Bomber," won the title as heavyweight champion of the world by knocking out James Braddock. Louis remained undefeated and retained his title until 1949
22 JUN 1938	Heavyweight champion Joe Louis knocked out Nazi hero and supposed symbol of Aryan superiority, Max Schmeling in the first round of their rematch in Yankee Stadium. Louis floored the German champion 3 times in 2:04 minutes.
22 JUN 1943	The destroyer <i>Rich</i> was launched at a shipyard in Bay City. This was one of the largest warships built on the Great Lakes.

23 JUN 1828	The Historical Society of Michigan was organized.
23 JUN 1903	Henry Ford sold his first automobile.
23 JUN 1963	125,000 activists joined in the March to Freedom down Woodward Avenue in Detroit. Martin Luther King, Jr. led the march that was organized as an act of solidarity for the move toward legal and social equality of the races.
23 JUN 2003	In a 5-4 vote, the United States Supreme Court in <i>Grutter v. Bollinger</i> , upheld affirmative action in supporting the University of Michigan Law School's admission policy that promoted ethnic diversity. At the same time the court ruled against an undergraduate school policy that gave bonus points to every minority applicant.
24 JUN 1826	The "First Grand Lodge of Michigan Masons" was organized in Detroit.
24 JUN 1930	34 physicians at Detroit's Harper Hospital founded the American Academy of Pediatrics.
24 JUN 1937	Construction began on the Blue Water Bridge connecting Port Huron with Sarnia in Canada.
24 JUN 1980	Chrysler Corporation received the first installment of a \$1.5 billion loan guarantee. The loan helped save the company and it was repaid in its entirety.
25 JUN 1866	The Jackson, Lansing & Saginaw Railroad was completed between Jackson and Lansing.
25 JUN 1876	Lt. Col George A. Custer from Monroe and his Seventh Cavalry were wiped out by Sioux and Cheyenne Indians led by Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse in the Battle of the Little Big Horn in Montana. The Indians were trying to protect their hold on the Black Hills. They considered the Black Hills to be sacred and they had been promised that land in a treaty with the United States government.
25 JUN 1902	Union Station in Lansing opened by the Michigan Central and Pere Marquette railroads. The depot now houses Clara's Restaurant.
25 JUN 1930	Amelia Earhart set an airspeed record in the skies over Detroit.
26 JUN 1959.	The St. Lawrence Seaway was opened to ship traffic. 70% of the cost was paid by Canada.
26 JUN 1992	South African anti-apartheid activist, Nelson Mandela spoke to a crowd of 49,000 in Tiger Stadium.
27 JUN 1898	The first Michigan troops to see active duty in the Spanish-American War, the Thirty-third regiment of the Michigan National Guard, arrived at Baiquiri, Cuba aboard the <i>Yale</i> . 209 Michiganians died in the war, but only 20 died in battle most of the rest died from diseases.
27 JUN 1947	Ford Motor Company became the first automobile manufacturer to fund a pension program for its employees.
28 JUN 1703	At the invitation of Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, 30 Huron arrived from Mackinac to settle near Detroit.
28 JUN 1898	The <i>U.S.S. Yosemite</i> , a converted merchant ship, attacked and burned the <i>Antonio Lopez</i> , an armed blockade runner near the harbor at San Juan, Puerto Rico. The <i>Yosemite</i> was manned by the Michigan Naval Brigade a group of young Michigan volunteers including 46 University of Michigan students along with Professor Mortimer Cooley, dean of the College of Engineering.

29 JUN 1835	Detroit & St. Joseph Railroad was chartered. It later became part of the Michigan Central Railroad.
29 JUN 1863	George Armstrong Custer was given command of the Michigan Calvary Brigade.
29 JUN 1928	Michigan's Conservation Department and Department of Health started a joint program to eliminate human and industrial waste in Michigan's waterways. The joint program was necessary because the Conservation Department had more legal power to protect fish than the Health Department had to protect humans.
30 JUN 1816	Reverend John Monteith, sent by the American Board for Foreign Missions, preached in Detroit for the first time. His efforts led to the Protestant Society an interdenominational church, Michigan's first Protestant congregation.
30 JUN 1934	G.A. Richards purchased a professional football team, the Portsmouth, Ohio Spartans, for less than \$8,000 and renamed it the Lions.
30 JUN 1953	The nation's first sports car with a fiberglass body, the Corvette, was built on a Chevrolet assembly line in Flint. The early Corvettes, equipped with a six-cylinder engine, sold for \$3,250.
1 JUL 1805	Territorial governor William Hull arrived at Detroit and was shocked to find only ashes where he expected the capital to be. Detroit had burned 11 JUN 1805.
1 JUL 1863	At the start of the battle at Gettysburg, the Twenty-Fourth Infantry made up of volunteers from Wayne County suffered heavy casualties as it held up the Confederate advance until George Meade's Army of the Potomac could get into position.
1 JUL 1885	Members of the Knights of Labor went on strike against lumber mills in the Saginaw Valley. They mistakenly thought a new ten-hour a day law went into effect that day. Governor Russell A. Alger sent in the militia to work with the Pinkerton Guards hired by the operators. This was the first time state troops were used against striking workmen. After three months the men got their ten-hour day.
1 JUL 1917	Selfridge Field near Mt. Clemens began operations. It was named for Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, the first military man to die in an aircraft mishap.
1 JUL 1971	For the first time, Michigan drivers could use a personal check to pay for license plates.
1 JUL 2001	Michigan's law went into effect allowing anyone who hadn't been caught for a crime to carry a concealed weapon. Within a year, over 50,000 permits were granted nearly doubling the number of citizens carrying guns.
1 JUL 2002	The state's early retirement program went into effect. Within 4 months over 12% of the state's civil servants retired saving the state money, but with the loss of a lot of institutional memory.
2 JUL 1831	Alexis de Tocqueville arrived in Detroit for a 3-day visit. His observations about America, its people and their attitudes were recorded in his classic study, <i>Democracy in America</i> .
2 JUL 1917	The first Ford truck was manufactured.

2 JUL 1942	Max Stephan of Detroit was found guilty of treason for helping a Nazi prisoner of war escape. He was the first American to be convicted and sentenced to be executed since the Whiskey Rebellion during George Washington's administration. President Franklin Roosevelt commuted his sentenced to life imprisonment.
2 JUL 1972	The first state lottery was established.
3 JUL 1882	The Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad reached Mackinac City.
3 JUL 1919	The first veterans of the Polar Bear Expedition return to Michigan. The 339th Infantry Regiment made up of men from Michigan and the Midwest returned after serving on the Murmask front in Russia.
3 JUL 1936	The Wright brothers' bicycle shop was purchased by Henry Ford to add to his collection of significant buildings at Greenfield Village.
3 JUL 1973	Detroit Tiger pitcher, Jim Perry started against the Indians in Cleveland. The Cleveland Indian starter was his brother Gaylord Perry. This was the first time in American League history that brothers started against each.
4 JUL 1779	British officials held a meeting at the Ottawa village at L'Arbre Croche to rally the Indians to resist the movements by George Rogers Clark and the American rebels. Arent Schuyler de Peyster, commander at Michilimackinac recorded his remarks as a poem, "Speech to the Western Indians," and published it in his <i>Miscellanies of an Officer</i> .
4 JUL 1803	Militiamen from Detroit began the construction of Fort Dearborn (Chicago) under orders from Secretary of War Henry Dearborn.
4 JUL 1832	A boat carrying troops to fight in the Black Hawk War landed at Detroit to unload sick 11 soldiers. They had cholera. The disease spread throughout Detroit and the state.
4 JUL 1833	Black Hawk, who had led an unsuccessful uprising against the United States that led to a smallpox epidemic in Michigan and to Abraham Lincoln's only active military experience, visited Detroit while returning from a trip East where government officials tried to impress him with the futility of any further resistance.
4 JUL 1837	<i>Adrian</i> the first steam locomotive in the state began operating on the Erie & Kalamazoo Railroad.
4 JUL 1843	The Detroit & Pontiac Railroad began service between Detroit and Pontiac.
4 JUL 1858	Scheduled passenger service to Grand Rapids started on the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad.
4 JUL 1863	As the Confederate cavalry force led by Jeb Stuart withdrew from the battlefield at Gettysburg, the Fifth and Sixth Michigan Cavalry led by Brigadier General Russell A. Alger captured his supply wagons and 1500 Confederate prisoners. In 1884, Alger later elected governor of Michigan and in 1867 he became Secretary of War in the William McKinley administration.
4 JUL 1865	The first parade of union workmen was held in Detroit led by Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Iron Molders, Machinists and Blacksmiths, Cigarmakers, Carpenters, and Plasterers.
4 JUL 1866	Civil War soldiers from Michigan rallied in Detroit for one last march. They presented their flags to Governor Henry Crapo.

4 JUL 1876	To help celebrate the nation's centennial, Muskegon madam, "Big Delia" and her employees built a huge pavilion and threw a party with free beer for 1000 lumberjacks.
4 JUL 1894	Five companies of the Fifth Regiment, Michigan National Guard, sent by Governor John H. Rich, arrived in Gogebic County to break a strike by iron miners. They protected scabs and arrested union leaders. They remained on the scene until 30 JUL.
4 JUL 2002	Winifred Quick Van Tongerloo of East Lansing died. She was Michigan's last survivor of the sinking of the <i>Titanic</i> . She was eight years old when the ship sank 10 April 1912 and she was the last survivor who could remember the tragedy for the remaining three survivors were too young to recall what happened.
5 JUL 1812	General William Hull arrived in Detroit with American troops for an invasion of Canada.
6 JUL 1834	Territorial governor, George B. Porter died for Asiatic cholera and young Stevens T. Mason became acting governor until removed in 1835 by President Jackson because of the dispute over the "Toledo Strip."
6 JUL 1954	1,500 Whigs, Democrats, and Free-Soilers opposed to the Kansas-Nebraska Act and the extension of slavery met in an oak grove near Jackson. They organized themselves into the Michigan Republican Party. Although at an earlier meeting in Ripon, WI a group called themselves Republicans, at Jackson, this gathering was the first to approve a platform and nominate candidates.
7 JUL 1845	The first issue of the <i>Detroit Daily News</i> was published.
7 JUL 1916	The Detroit Light Guard, part of the Michigan National Guard arrived in El Paso, Texas to join the expedition against Pancho Villa.
7 JUL 1927	Henry Ford apologized to American Jews, admitting that anti-Semitic articles published in the <i>Dearborn Independent</i> , which he controlled, were false.
7 JUL 1933	Governor William A. Comstock signed the Old Age Assistance Act. Individuals over 70 who had lived in the state for 10 years could receive a pension of \$30 per month.
8 JUL 1850	James J. Strang who settled on Beaver Island with a group of Mormon followers was crowned King James in his capital, St. James.
8 JUL 1909	The first regularly scheduled night game in baseball was played in Grand Rapids between Grand Rapids and Zanesville of the Central Baseball league.
8 JUL 1938	Anthony Chebatoris was hung at the Federal Correctional Institution in Milan for killing a bystander during a failed bank robbery in Midland. He was the last person executed in Michigan and the first person to be executed under the National Bank Robbery Act of 1934.
8 JUL 1975	Grand Rapids native, President Gerald R. Ford announced that he would seek the Republican nomination for the presidency in 1976.
9 JUL 1755	800 Indians including many Ottawa from Michigan defeated Major General Edward Braddock's 3000-man British army near Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh). Braddock and 1,200 of his men were killed. His aide-de-camp, George Washington, escaped.

9 JUL 1805	Michigan territory's first law, an act adopting a state seal was passed by a legislative council made up of the territorial governor and three judges.
9 JUL 1906	Timothy Murphy, priest at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in St. Joseph issued a directive that women had to wear hats to church. His ultimatum started a statewide campaign to stop a trend in which women were entering church without hats.
10 JUL 1887	The Grand Hotel with the world's longest wood porch, opened on Mackinac Island.
10 JUL 1889	A seventy-pound meteorite landed on a street in Allegan burying itself a foot and a half into the ground.
10 JUL 1967	The state chartered the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA) to improve commuter service between Detroit and Pontiac. SEMTA operated commuter trains on Grand Trunk Western tracks until October 1983.
11 JUL 1796	Captain Moses Porter led a party of American troops into Detroit. The United States flag flew over Detroit for the first time as the British gave up control of Michigan as agreed to in Jay's Treaty.
12 JUL 1812	The Michigan militia led by territorial governor William Hull crossed the Detroit River to invade Canada. Hull failed to attack Fort Malden and when the Canadians resisted his advance he withdrew back to Detroit on 7 AUG 1812.
12 JUL 1812	Governor William Hull led United States forces into Canada hoping to gain control of that British colony. He retreated back to Detroit on 7 August.
12 JUL 1831	Nineteen-year-old Stevens T. Mason is named secretary of the territory of Michigan when the former secretary, his father John Mason, is sent on a mission to Mexico by President Andrew Jackson.
12 JUL 1974	Four Flint-area women joined a Michigan National Guard infantry unit. They became the first females to join a guard combat unit.
13 JUL 1787	The Northwest Ordinance was passed by Congress under the Articles of Confederation providing for government in the territories and eventual statehood for Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois.
13 JUL 1796	Lieutenant Colonel John Francis Hamtramck arrived in Detroit taking command of the fort and providing American civil government.
13 JUL 1885	Governor Russell A. Alger, who was a lumberman, sent in three militia companies to break a strike of sawmill workers in Bay City.
13 JUL 1971	One of the most memorable hits at Tiger Stadium came during the 1971 All-Star Game when Reggie Jackson smashed a Doc Ellis pitch into the light stand above the right field bleachers.
13 JUL 1977	The Tigers sold Tiger Stadium to the City of Detroit then signed a 30 years lease. The city renovated the stadium using a grant from the federal government.
13 JUL 1978	Lee Iacocca, who had developed the Mustang, was fired as President of the Ford Motor Company by Chairman Henry Ford II. Iacocca went on to become president of Chrysler Corporation.
14 JUL 1968	For the first time since prohibition, liquor could be served on Sunday..
14 JUL 1980	The 32nd Republican National Convention opened in Detroit. Ronald Reagan was nominated as the Republican candidate for the presidency.

14 JUL 2003	Former member of University of Michigan's "Fab Five" pled guilty to charge of criminal contempt to avoid trial on obstruction of justice charges. He admitted he did not tell the truth regarding loans given to him by booster Ed Martin.
15 JUL 1862	A patriotic rally in Detroit to help raise troops was broken up by a mob opposed to the Civil War
15 JUL 1914	Ford Motor Company acquired property for the River Rouge Plant.
15 JUL 1917	Construction began on Camp Custer, later Fort Custer, near Battle Creek. Camp Custer became an induction and training facility for World War I troops.
15 JUL 1936	<i>The Mercury</i> , Michigan's first streamlined passenger train began service on the New York Central between Detroit and Cleveland. By November 1938, <i>The Mercury</i> was also operating between Detroit and Chicago.
15 JUL 1975	The state attorney general ruled that when a woman married she did not have to adopt her husband's last name.
16 JUL 1792	Michigan residents voted for representatives to the Provincial Assembly of Upper Canada. Michigan was made part of the United States in the 1783 Treaty of Paris, but Britain refused to give up control of their posts in Michigan until Jay's Treaty was signed in 1796.
16 JUL 1835	Joseph Wood, a Monroe County deputy sheriff, became the only casualty of the Toledo War. While trying to arrest Two Stickney (that was his name—his father expected to have many sons) for resisting Michigan officers, he received a minor stab wound in the left side.
17 JUL 1777	Lieutenant Governor Henry Hamilton sent 15 war parties into Kentucky to attack frontier settlements. They brought back over 500 prisoners. Hamilton paid for the prisoners but he also paid for scalps so became known as the "Hair Buyer."
17 JUL 1812	A British force landed on Mackinac Island to the surprise of the American troops at Fort Mackinac who had not been told the United States had declared war on Great Britain. The English retained control of the fort until the war ended.
17 JUL 1914	Dodge Motor Company was incorporated.
17 JUL 1980	Anna Howard Shaw from Alma became the first woman to be named bishop of a major Christian denomination when the United Methodist Church selected her as Bishop of Wisconsin.
17 JUL 1983	The Michigan Panthers defeated the Philadelphia Stars to win the championship of the United States Football League. This was the first professional football championship for a Michigan team since the Detroit Lions won the NFL championship in 1957.
18 JUL 1927	Detroit Tiger star Ty Cobb collected his 4000 th hit. At the end of his career he had hit safely 4,187 times.
18 JUL 1932	Michigan residents had high hopes for economic benefits as the United States and Canada signed a treaty to build the St. Lawrence Seaway. Because of the Great Depression and wars the St. Lawrence Seaway was not completed until 1959.
18 JUL 1938	Ferry service between Detroit and Windsor was discontinued.

19 JUL 1899	U.S. Secretary of War, former Michigan governor Russell A. Alger, resigned under public pressure because of the poor way the troops were supplied and transported during the Spanish American War. He had been unable to overcome the inertia of a long inactive department manned with political cronies of the McKinley administration.
19 JUL 1909	Neal Ball from Grand Haven playing for the Cleveland Indians made the first unassisted triple play in major league history.
19 JUL 1949	Former governor and US Supreme Court Justice Frank Murphy died in Detroit. As governor, he had refused to use troops to stop the UAW sit-down strikes in Flint. As Supreme Court Justice, he wrote a strong dissent in <i>Korematsu v. U.S.</i> in which he denounced the internment of Japanese-Americans.
20 JUL 1818	Michigan's first union, the Detroit Mechanics Society, was organized.
20 JUL 1838	Michigan's first governor, Stevens T. Mason, ceremonially turned the first shovel full of dirt for a canal to connect the Clinton and Kalamazoo rivers so boats could travel between Lake St. Clair and Lake Michigan. The canal was never completed.
20 JUL 1907	In Michigan's worst train accident, a Pere Marquette excursion train carrying 800 employees on an outing to Detroit smashed head-on with a freight train. 30 people died because someone misread their train orders.
20 JUL 1977	A bill was signed into law requiring hunters to wear fluorescent orange vests, jackets or caps.
21 JUL 1861	The First Michigan Regiment lost 6 men in the Battle of Bull Run, the first major land battle of the Civil War.
21 JUL 1928	Two armed robbers held up an interurban car running between Flint and Saginaw-Bay City, robbing 19 passengers of about \$300.
22 JUL 1930	3 gunmen, probably members of the Licavoli gang, murdered Detroit area radio commentator Jerry Buckley in the lobby of the LaSalle Hotel. Buckley's campaign against corruption had led to the recall of Prohibition era mayor Charles Bowles.
23 JUL 1872	Elijah J. McCoy, an Afro-American inventor raised in Ypsilanti, patented the first automatic lubricator for locomotives and other machinery. His device was so effective "the real McCoy" became synonymous with anything genuine or authentic.
23 JUL 1967	Michigan's worst riot began when rumors spread that Detroit police had beaten some individuals arrested in a raid on a "blind pig" an illegal after-hours bar. 43 people died and thousands were injured and left homeless.
24 JUL 1701	Antoine Laumet de la Mothe Cadillac founded Detroit and started construction of Fort Ponchartrain.
24 JUL 1831	Stevens T. Mason was sworn into office as secretary of the territory of Michigan by territorial governor Lewis Cass.
24 JUL 1913	Governor Woodbridge Ferris ordered out the entire Michigan National Guard including field artillery units to help crush a copper miners' strike in the Upper Peninsula.
25 JUL 1817	Michigan's first successful newspaper, the <i>Detroit Gazette</i> began publication. The weekly paper was published for 13 years.
25 JUL 1959	Because railroad passenger traffic had declined, the Pennsylvania Railroad discontinued its <i>Red Arrow</i> train between Detroit and New York.

26 JUL 1701	St. Anne's church in Detroit held its first service. St. Anne's has held services since that date making it the church with the longest continuous service in Michigan.
26 JUL 1759	Charles Langlade and 400 Ottawa from Michigan were in position to capture or kill British General James Wolfe and a major portion of his army near the Montmorency Falls, but they were badly outnumbered and couldn't attack without the reinforcements French commanders failed to send them. Wolfe escaped and went on to defeat the French on the Plains of Abraham.
27 JUL 1818	Detroit passed an ordinance providing for public whipping of drunkards, disorderly persons, petty thieves, and wife-beaters.
27 JUL 1917	Ford introduces its first truck, Model TT.
28 JUL 1763	22 small boats carrying 260 men under the command of Captain James Dalyell, arrived at Detroit to relieve the fort during Pontiac's siege.
29 JUL 1971	A bill allowing "no-fault" divorces was signed into law. Prior to this law an individual seeking a divorce had to prove their partner was an abuser, a drunk, an adulterer, or had deserted.
30 JUL 1928	Chrysler Corporation and Dodge Brothers merge to form the third largest automobile company. W.P. Chrysler was to head the new company.
30 JUL 1938	Adolph Hitler sought to honor Henry Ford for his anti-Semitism by naming him to the Supreme Order of the German Eagle on his 75th birthday.
30 JUL 1975	Former teamster president Jimmy Hoffa disappeared after leaving a Detroit area restaurant. His body was never found nor has anyone been charged with his murder.
31 JUL 1763	Being warned by French residents of Detroit, Pontiac was able to turn back an attack led by Captain James Dalyell. Dalyell had hoped to break Pontiac's siege of the stockaded town, but Dalyell was killed and 57 other British troops were killed or wounded.
31 JUL 1830	The territorial legislature granted the Michigan's first railroad charter to the Pontiac & Detroit Railway. This was just one year after the Rainhill Trials, the first successful demonstration of steam locomotives. The railroad was not built until it was reincorporated as the Detroit & Pontiac.
31 JUL 1923	The state began operation of carferry service at the Straits of Mackinac to carry automobiles between Michigan's two peninsulas. By the time service ended with construction of the Mackinac bridge in 1957 about 20 million cars had been carried.
31 JUL 1925	Ford enters the aircraft business by purchasing the Stout Metal Airplane Company. This led to the production of the Ford Trimotor.
31 JUL 1987	Detroit People Mover began operation.
31 JUL 1988	The bunny waitresses were no more as the last Playboy club in the United States closed its doors in Lansing.
1 AUG 1809	<i>The Childs Spelling Book or Michigan Instructor</i> , a 12 page booklet was issued it was the first book published in Michigan.
1 AUG 1833	Territorial secretary, 19-year old Stevens T. Mason became acting governor after Lewis Cass left the state to serve as Secretary of War under Andrew Jackson. The "Boy Governor" served until the new territorial governor, George B. Porter arrived on 17 September 1833.

1 AUG 1861	Michigan's first prison facility for women opens as a wing of the Detroit House of Correction. Women had been held at Jackson, a facility designed for men. The state built its first prison for women at Ypsilanti in 1977.
1 AUG 1878	The Pontiac State Hospital for the Insane opened.
1 AUG 1888	<i>Attikumaig</i> or <i>Whitefish</i> , the first fish car, a railroad car to haul young fish stock, was commissioned by the state's Fish Commission. Fish cars were used by the state until 1935.
1 AUG 1926	Stout Air Services starts the nation's first scheduled air passenger service with daily round-trips between Grand Rapids and Detroit.
1 AUG 1928	The Detroit Zoological Park, with its barless exhibits opened.
1 AUG 1929	Eight Eagle Scouts boarded a Detroit & Cleveland Navigation Company boat for a trip to Mackinac Island. They were the first of thousands of scouts to serve as guides and honor guards at Fort Mackinac. S
2 AUG 1861	After completing their three-month enlistment, the First Michigan Infantry returned to a heroes welcome at the Detroit & Milwaukee depot in Detroit. They had distinguished themselves in the First Battle of Bull Run.
3 AUG 1795	In the Treaty of Greenville, negotiated between Anthony Wayne and tribes defeated a year earlier at Fallen Timbers, in addition to most of Ohio, the United States gained control of Mackinac Island and a strip of land along the Detroit River.
3 AUG 1863	Streetcars drawn by horses began to operate on Jefferson and Woodward Avenues in Detroit.
3 AUG 1937	Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit is created.
3 AUG 1960	The Detroit Tigers traded their manager, Jimmy Dykes, to Cleveland for the Indians' manager, Joe Gordon. This was the only time two major-league managers were traded.
4 AUG 1814	American forces attempted to recapture Fort Mackinac Island. The attack was repulsed and Major Andrew Holmes was killed. The British held the fort until it was returned in the Treaty of Ghent.
4 AUG 1841	Congress appropriated \$50,000 for the construction of Fort Wayne.
4 AUG 1928	The De Soto automobile, named for Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto who discovered the Mississippi River. The name was said to symbolize "travel, pioneering and adventure."
4 AUG 1929	The <i>Water Lily</i> , a small passenger ferry started operating from Copper Harbor to Isle Royale. This was the first regular service from Michigan. Prior to this visitors came from Minnesota or Ontario. Isle Royal National Park was authorized in 1931.
5 AUG 1812	Tecumseh and 24 Indians ambushed 200 Michigan militia led by Major Thomas B. Van Horne. The Michiganians panicked, fleeing with the first shots. The first Michigan casualties of the War of 1812 included 18 dead and 12 wounded.
5 AUG 1899	The Detroit Automobile Company was incorporated to build delivery wagons designed by a mechanic working at the Edison Illuminating Company, Henry Ford. The company lasted a little more than a year dissolving in January 1901.
5 AUG 1917	The Michigan National guard was drafted into the United States Army for service in World War I.

6 AUG 1831	George B. Porter, a gentleman farmer, was named governor of the territory of Michigan. He spent little time in Michigan so 19-year-old territorial secretary, Stevens T. Mason, was left in charge as acting governor.
6 AUG 1845	In the first recorded University of Michigan graduation ceremony, 11 men received bachelor-of-arts degrees at the Ann Arbor Presbyterian Church.
7 AUG 1903	Two sections of the Wallace Brothers Circus train collided at Durand killing 23 members of the circus troupe.
7 AUG 1904	American diplomat, Ralph Bunche was born in Detroit. Bunch helped found the United Nations and in 1950 he became the first African-American to win the Noble Peace Prize.
7 AUG 1926	Grand River Avenue was opened to traffic as the first paved road across the state. Much of the work between Lansing and Farmington was done with prison labor.
8 AUG 1933	Colleges of the City of Detroit, later Wayne State University, was organized.
8 AUG 1970	200,000 rock fans gather at Goose Lake in Michigan's "Woodstock." Many of the young attendees went hungry when the free food tent ran out of food.
8 AUG 1978	Former President Gerald Ford dedicated the Ford Freeway, a 79-mile segment of I-196 between St. Joseph and Grand Rapids. When Ford an alumni of the University of Michigan lifted the U of M flag covering the road sign, he found that a green and white Michigan State flag still covered the sign.
9 AUG 1757	After the surrender of Fort William Henry, Indians including those from Michigan massacred unarmed prisoners including the sick in a hospital. The Indians contacted small-pox creating an epidemic that kept them out of the fighting in 1758 when the British were able to advance against the French.
9 AUG 1945	The Kaiser-Frazer Corporation was organized to build automobiles.
9 AUG 1975	Grand Rapids resident Gerald R. Ford became President of the United States when Richard Nixon resigned to avoid being impeached for his role in trying to cover-up the Watergate burglary. Ford had been appointed vice-president when Spiro Agnew resigned in a bribery scandal so he was the only person to become president without being elected to a national office.
9 AUG 2000	Bridgestone/Firestone announced a recall of six and one-half million tires that were prone to failure. Ford sales were hurt and litigation costs increased as many of these tires were mounted on the popular Ford Explorer.
10 AUG 1679	The <i>Griffin</i> , built by Robert de La Salle, became the first sailing ship to reach Michigan when emerged from Lake Erie and entered the Detroit River. It disappeared a little over a month later.
10 AUG 1918	A riot broke out when the Detroit United Railway increased in streetcar fares from 5 to 6 cents.
10 AUG 1946	The <i>Pere Marquette</i> , first new streamlined passenger train to enter service after World War II, began operation between Grand Rapids and Detroit with a scheduled running time of 160 minutes.
11 AUG 1971	In an operation at Detroit's Mount Sinai Hospital, Haskell Shanks became the first American to receive a mechanical heart pump.
12 AUG 1863	Henry Barnes, editor of the <i>Detroit Tribune and Advisor</i> , was authorized to raise and command a regiment of Black soldiers, the First Michigan Colored Infantry.

13 AUG 1796	General Anthony Wayne arrived in Detroit where he received a warm welcome from Native Americans and a formal military review by American troops led by Colonel John Hamtramck. Wayne remained in Detroit until November when he sought to return to Philadelphia, the nation's capital. Wayne was unable to complete the trip and died at Presque Isle (Erie, PA) in December.
13 AUG 1817	President James Monroe became the first president of the United States to visit Michigan. He stayed in Detroit for 5 days.
13 AUG 1867	The Detroit Baseball Club hosted the "World's Tournament of Baseball." The tournament lasted eight days and drew teams from Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Canada. The Jackson Unknowns defeated the Allegheny Club of Pennsylvania to win the title.
13 AUG 1988	The Palace of Auburn Hills opened.
14 AUG 1881	The Wabash Railroad began operating in Detroit with through service between Detroit and St. Louis.
14 AUG 1919	For the first time, operators of cars and trucks were required have driver's licenses. No written or road tests were required.
15 AUG 1796	Michigan's oldest county, Wayne County was established by acting governor Winthrop Sargent. At that time Wayne County included all of Michigan as well as parts of Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Illinois.
15 AUG 1900	8 people were killed in a head-on collision north of Pierson on the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad.
15 AUG 1940	Chrysler Corporation began construction of a plant to manufacture large military tanks as the nation made preparations to enter World War II.
15 AUG 1960	Cobo Hall in Detroit was officially opened.
15 AUG 1976	200 gang members forced their way into Cobo Hall rock concert and beat and robbed members of the audience.
16 AUG 1812	General William Hull surrendered Detroit to the British led by Isaac Brock. He was court-martialed, found guilty, and sentenced to be executed. President James Madison commuted the sentence because of Hull's heroic record in the Revolutionary War.
16 AUG 1965	George Grady was named Chief of Police for the city of Dowagiac. He was the first African-American to head a municipal police department in Michigan.
16 AUG 1987	Northwest Airlines Flight #255 crashed at Detroit's Metropolitan Airport killing 156 people.
17 AUG 1765	Pontiac formally signed a peace treaty with the British.
17 AUG 1923	Henry Ford's yacht, <i>Sailia</i> , arrived at Escanaba carrying Ford, Harvey Firestone, and Thomas Edison for a camping trip in the Upper Peninsula. During the trip Firestone tested the first balloon tires.
17 AUG 1980	Al Kaline became the first Detroit Tiger to have his uniform number (#6) retired.
18 AUG 1922	Michigan's first educational radio station, WKAR, went on the air from East Lansing. It is now the public broadcasting voice of Michigan State University.
18 AUG 1967	Jack Hall was sworn in as Michigan's first Black state police officer.
18 AUG 1976	After struggle with Ronald Reagan, President Gerald Ford was named the Republican Party candidate for the presidency. The bitter fight for the nomination helped lead to the defeat of Ford and running -mate Senator Robert Dole by Jimmy Carter in the November election.

19 AUG	1951	Owner of the St. Louis Browns, baseball entrepreneur, Bill Veeck sent a midget, 3' 7" Eddie Gaedel, in to bat against the Detroit Tigers. He walked on 4 pitches. Major league baseball quickly passed a rule that all players had to be at least 4' 8" tall.
19 AUG	1959	Kalamazoo closed several downtown blocks to traffic to create the first pedestrian shopping mall in America.
19 AUG	1970	John Collins was convicted for the murder of 18 year old Karen Sue Beineman, one of seven young women killed in a crime spree in the university towns of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.
20 AUG	1794	General Anthony Wayne defeated a British supported Indian force led by Blue Jacket at the Battle of the Fallen Timbers. This ended most Indian armed resistance to the American advance toward Michigan.
20 AUG	1911	Cadillac announced the introduction of a self-starting motor, an engine with an electric starter.
21 AUG	1955	Detroit's Mayor Cobo urged the city council to sell 184 used Detroit street cars to Mexico City for one million dollars.
21 AUG	1984	Railroad carferry service between the Upper and Lower Peninsulas was terminated. The <i>Chief Wawatam</i> was the last hand-fired coal burning boat on the Great Lakes.
21 AUG	2003	A massive power failure starting in Ohio struck much of the eastern United States and Canada. Parts of Michigan including Detroit were without electrical power for three days.
22 AUG	1902	The Cadillac Automobile Company was organized.
22 AUG	1942	The only aircraft carrier to serve on the Great Lakes, the <i>U.S.S. Wolverine</i> was commissioned at Chicago. It was used to train World War II pilots for carrier takeoffs and landings.
23 AUG	1873	James Edmund Scripps published the first issue of <i>The Evening News</i> , predecessor of the <i>Detroit News</i> .
23 AUG	1975	62,094 football fans watched the Detroit Lions beat the Kansas City Chiefs in the first game played in the Pontiac Silverdome.
24 AUG	1915	The state began paying a bounty of 5 cents apiece for dead rats.
25 AUG	1840	Joseph Gibbons of Adrian patented the first practical machine for seeding. His grain drill delivered seed at a controlled volume.
26 AUG	1817	The territorial legislature created the Catholepistemiad, now the University of Michigan. It appropriated \$300 for a building and agreed to pay professors \$12.50 per year.
26 AUG	1889	The last stagecoach robbery in Michigan occurred when Reimund Holzhey stopped a stage moving between Gogebic Station and Lake Gogebic. He shot and killed one of the passengers and was sentenced to life in prison.
26 AUG	1935	The United Auto Workers was officially organized. A little more than a year later it organized a sit-down strike to win recognition from General Motors.
26 AUG	1957	Ford introduces the ill-fated Edsel as a medium priced automobile selling for between \$2,500 and \$4,200.
27 AUG	1818	<i>Walk-in-the-Water</i> , the first steamboat on the Upper Great Lakes, arrived in Detroit from Buffalo amongst great fanfare. It was wrecked in a storm in 1821.

27 AUG 1856	A tall gangly lawyer from Illinois spoke in Kalamazoo on behalf of Republican presidential candidate Charles Fremont. This was Abraham Lincoln's only appearance in Michigan.
27 AUG 1961	The UAW and Chrysler Corporation signed a revolutionary three-year agreement that included profit sharing and a stock plan for production employees.
27 AUG 1982	A group of Japanese banks agreed to give the state a \$500-million line of credit. The state was having trouble borrowing from American banks because its credit rating was the lowest of the 50 states.
28 AUG 1835	Stevens T. Mason was removed as Territorial Governor by President Andrew Jackson. He was replaced by John "Little Jack" Horner who the people of Michigan simply ignored.
28 AUG 1939	The <i>Graf Zeppelin</i> , a 778-foot dirigible, flew over Detroit as part of its round-the-world tour.
29 AUG 1805	The territorial legislature passed an act requiring that deeds to property be registered.
29 AUG 1821	In the Treaty of Chicago, territorial governor Lewis Cass secured most of West Michigan south of the Grand River from the Indians.
29 AUG 1859	Kalamazoo State Hospital opened.
29 AUG 1906	The Northern Michigan Transit Company steamer ran aground off the channel at Charlevoix while trying to race a schooner. Five hundred passengers were brought safely ashore using breeches buoy and lifeboats.
30 AUG 1905	An 18-year-old kid from Georgia played his first game for the Detroit Tigers in a game against the New York Highlanders. Ty Cobb set 25 major league records during his career and became the first ballplayer inducted into the Hall of Fame.
30 AUG 1971	Ten Pontiac school buses used in a program to promote racial balance were bombed. A week later 6 Klansmen including the head of the Michigan KKK, Robert Miles of Howell, were arrested for putting explosives on the gas tanks of the buses.
31 AUG 1809	James M. Miller published the <i>Michigan Essay or Impartial Observer</i> on a press brought to the state by Father Gabriel Richard. Only one 4-page issue of Michigan's first newspaper is known to exist.
31 AUG 1871	The Detroit, Howell & Lansing Railroad was opened between Lansing and Detroit.
31 AUG 1920	A radio station owned by the <i>Detroit News</i> , now WJR, became the first station in the nation to offer regularly scheduled radio programs.
31 AUG 1972	The Detroit Red Wings signed Swedish defenseman Thommie Bergman, the Red Wings' first European hockey player.
1 SEP 1796	The American flag flew over Fort Mackinac for the first time as the British withdrew under provisions of the Jay Treaty, 1794.
1 SEP 1834	At the opening of a special session of the territorial legislature acting governor Stevens T. Mason called for a special census to determine if Michigan had a population sufficient for statehood.
1 SEP 1839	The steamboat <i>Great Western</i> burned at Detroit.

1 SEP 1884	Woodbridge N. Ferris founded the Big Rapids Industrial School at Big Rapids. It later became Ferris Institute and is now Ferris State University. Ferris served as governor, 1913-1916, and U.S. Senator 1923-1928.
1 SEP 1907	State sanatorium opened in Howell for the care and treatment of persons suffering from tuberculosis.
1 SEP 1912	A workman's compensation law was passed that required industries to pay the costs for injuries resulting from industrial accidents.
1 SEP 1939	The nations first degrees in Automotive Engineering were conferred at Lawrence Institute of Technology.
1 SEP 1945	The Ford Motor Company was reorganized when Henry Ford II became president.
1 SEP 1969	The law requiring motorcycle riders to wear helmets went into effect.
1 SEP 1972	Reggie Harding of Detroit, the first player to go from high school to the NBA, was shot in the head in a Detroit home. The Pistons had signed Harding in 1964, but his life steadily declined and he was imprisoned in 1969.
2 SEP 1902	Michigan's first fatal automobile accident occurred when a car struck the carriage of well-to-do Detroit lumberman George W. Bissell.
2 SEP 1914	The last parade of the Grand Army of the Republic was held in Detroit.
2 SEP 1977	Mary Livingston of Manistique became the first woman U.S. Air Force jet pilot in a ceremony at Williams Air Force Base in Arizona.
3 SEP 1783	The land that is now Michigan was granted to the United States in the Treaty of Paris, 1783 ending the Revolutionary War and recognizing American independence. However the British held on to the area and its profitable fur trade until the implementation of Jay's Treaty in 1796.
3 SEP 1877	The University of Detroit started classes with 84 students.
3 SEP 1911	The Wright brothers brought an airplane to Grand Rapids offering fair goers their first chance to fly.
4 SEP 1930	Wayne County Airport, now Detroit Metro Airport, was dedicated.
4 SEP 1957	Ford Motor Company's ill-fated Edsel was officially displayed for the first time in dealer showrooms.
4 SEP 1961	Michigan last summer-only passenger train, Pennsylvania Railroad's "Northern Arrow" operating to Mackinac City, made its final trip.
4 SEP 1979	Jack Laporte of Flint swam 4½ miles across the Straits of Mackinac between the Lower and Upper Peninsulas in 3 hours while 23,000 others made the traditional Labor Day walk across the Mackinac Bridge.
5 SEP 1881	Forest fires started by farmers burning logger's slashings ran through Michigan's thumb area. After three days 282 people had died and 3,400 buildings were destroyed. The survivors were the first people to be helped by the newly organized American Red Cross.
5 SEP 1975	Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a follower of Charles Manson attempted to shot President Gerald Ford, the only president to come from Michigan, while he was visiting Sacramento, CA.
6 SEP 1864	The first steel made in the Western Hemisphere using the Bessemer process was produced at the Eureka Iron Company in Wyandotte.
6 SEP 1901	President William McKinley was shot at the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, NY by Leon F. Czolgosz, a former Michigan farmer and factory worker.
7 SEP 1816	Canadians christened the <i>Frontenac</i> , the first steamship on the Great Lakes.

7 SEP 1835	Ohio officials tried to show legal authority in the disputed Toledo Strip by holding a very brief court session in Lucas County then fleeing before Michigan troops could catch them.
7 SEP 1931	Dock at Detroit's Water Works Park collapses during speedboat races and 100 people are thrown into the water. All are rescued except a 3-year-old boy who drowned.
7 SEP 1959	Governor G Mennen Williams led the first 15,000 hikers across the Mackinac Bridge in what has become a Labor Day tradition.
8 SEP 1760	The last French governor over Michigan, Pierre de Rigaud Marquis de Vaudreuil capitulated, surrendering New France to the British. This ended Fighting in the French and Indian War but the Treaty of Paris was not signed until 1763.
8 SEP 1860	In Lake Michigan, the steamer <i>Lady Elgin</i> collided with the <i>Augusta</i> with the loss of 297 lives.
8 SEP 1896	Suomi College, the first Finnish college in the country opened in Hancock with 27 students. Suomi College is now Finlandia University.
9 SEP 1761	With the demise of French power in North America, British officers tried to reduce expenses by stopping the giving of gifts and selling gunpowder to the Indians. This policy contributed to the Indian uprising in 1763.
9 SEP 1910	Carferry <i>Pere Marquette No. 10</i> sank near Sheboygan, WI with the loss of about 30 individuals.
9 SEP 1925	When a racist mob threatened the family of African-American Dr. Ossian Sweet who had moved into a white neighborhood, a shot was fired from the house that killed an on looker. Clarence Darrow successfully defended the family arguing that the Sweets had the right to defend themselves when their lives were in danger.
9 SEP 1938	The Detroit Lions moved their games to Briggs Stadium, later Tiger Stadium. They continued to play there until moving to the Pontiac Silverdome in 1975.
10 SEP 1805	The territorial legislature passed a law that every male over the age of 16 must pay an annual tax of one dollar. All 525 men in the territory paid the tax.
10 SEP 1813	Captain Oliver Hazard Perry defeated a British fleet in the Battle of Lake Erie at Put-in-Bay. His message to General William Henry Harrison stated, "We have met the enemy and they are ours." His victory gave Americans control of the Great Lakes and made the recapture of Detroit possible.
10 SEP 1942	The first of 8,500 World War II B-24 Liberator Bombers was completed at Ford Motor Company's Willow Run plant.
11 SEP 1800	David Bacon, the first Protestant missionary to minister in Michigan arrived in Detroit. The Congregational Missionary Society of Connecticut had sent him.
11 SEP 1978	A small plane carrying 3 U.S. Marine Corps reserve officers were killed when they crashed into the Mackinac Bridge in a heavy fog.
11 SEP 1982	The <i>U.S.S. Michigan</i> , the country's second Trident submarine, was launched at Groton, Connecticut.
12 SEP 1887	Alma College opened with 95 students. The Presbyterian Synod of Michigan established the school.
12 SEP 1942	Michigan's first expressway was opened. It was a portion of US 12 between Detroit and Ford's Willow Run bomber plant.

13 SEP 1832	The last victim of the cholera epidemic started by soldiers on their way to put down Blackhawk's rebellion died in Detroit. He was Father Gabriel Richard, priest of St. Anne's Church. Richard had helped found the University of Michigan, started the first newspaper, opened a school for Indian children, and served in the U.S. House of Representatives. When doctors and civic leaders fled Detroit during the epidemic, Richard heroically stayed on to care for the sick.
14 SEP 1687	Louis Armand de Lom d'Arce, Baron de Lahontan built a fort at the head of the St. Clair River (Port Huron). This Fort St. Joseph lasted less than a year before the young French nobleman became bored, burned the post, and moved to Michilimackinac.
14 SEP 1875	George B. Pierce of Grand Rapids received a patent for the <i>Pierce Spinner</i> , the fist patent for a fishing lure to be issued to anyone in Michigan. This was the start of an industry in which numerous Michigan companies have produced hundreds of thousands of lures.
14 SEP 1968	Deny McLain won his 30th game of the season. He was the last 30 game winner in major league baseball..
14 SEP 1976	The Plaza Hotel, the centerpiece of the Renaissance Center opened. At the time it was the world's tallest hotel.
15 SEP 1806	The territorial council chartered the Bank of Detroit, Michigan's first bank. The bank printed and sold over a million dollars in bank notes, but was unable to redeem them.
15 SEP 1878	Michigan's first telephone directory was issued in Detroit.
15 SEP 1886	The first classes were held at the Michigan Mining School in the Houghton Town Hall. The school, created to train mining engineers, is now Michigan Technological University.
16 SEP 1908	William C. Durant combining 30 other companies including Oldsmobile, Pontiac, and Cadillac chartered General Motors Corporation.
16 SEP 1931	In a Prohibition-era gangland execution, 4 members of Detroit's Purple Gang killed 3 rivals at the Collingwood Apartments.
16 SEP 1944	A two-day ordeal started for Oscar Johnson of Foster City. He was the only man in his unit that was not killed or wounded during an attack by five Nazi paratrooper companies. In defending his position he killed 20 German soldiers and captured 25 others while also rescuing two American soldiers. He was the only Congressional Medal of Honor winner from the UP.
17 SEP 1833	With the arrival of newly appointed territorial governor, the "Boy Governor," 19 year-old Stevens T. Mason ended his service as acting governor.
17 SEP 1933	The Grand Trunk Western Railroad moved its carferry operations from Grand Haven to Muskegon.
18 SEP 1679	The first sailing vessel on the Great Lakes, the <i>Griffin</i> , sailed away from a Pottawatomie village on Washington Island. It was loaded with furs for Robert de La Salle, but it was never seen again.
18 SEP 1981	Michigan's only presidential museum, the Gerald R. Ford Museum, opened in Grand Rapids.
18 SEP 1987	Pope John Paul II made an historic visit to Detroit.

19 SEP 1806	The Michigan's territorial legislature passed an act to establish a bank in Detroit. It turned out to be a fraud. The bank distributed \$165,000 in bank notes, but was unable to redeem them.
19 SEP 1844	While doing a government survey near Negaunee, William Austin Burt noted that his magnetic compass didn't work right. As he and his men tried to understand the fluctuations, they found deposits of iron ore. Three years later the Jackson Mining Company began mining on the spot.
19 SEP 1864	In a daring attempt to free Confederate prisoners held in Ohio, rebel raiders hijacked the passenger steamer <i>Philo Parsons</i> . The plot failed and the would-be rescuers joined the men they had planned to rescue.
19 SEP 1866	Representatives of car departments of 11 railroads met at Adrian to discuss common problems. They agree to meet again the following spring in Massachusetts, a meeting that led to the founding of the Association of American Railroads.
19 SEP 1876	Melville R. Bissell of Grand Rapids patented the first carpet sweeper. He ran a china shop and the straw used for packaging aggravated his allergies. He built a device to pick-up dirt rather than scatter dust.
19 SEP 1891	The St. Clair tunnel between Sarnia and Port Huron was opened. It was built by the Grand Trunk Railway and it was the first railroad tunnel to connect two countries.
20 SEP 1932	Detroit speedboat racer, Gar Wood set a world record of 124 MPH in his <i>Miss America X</i> , on the St. Clair River.
20 SEP 1940	Father Charles E. Coughlin, the radio priest of Royal Oak's Shrine of the Little Flower, announced he was giving up broadcasting under pressure from powerful men. Coughlin gained popularity as a social activist, but when war broke out in Europe, his radio addresses were violently anti-Semitic, anti-British, and anti-Roosevelt.
20 SEP 2004	Eugene Armstrong, a civil engineer from Hillsdale was beheaded by a militant group headed by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in Iraq. He had been taken hostage by the militants who killed him and another American two days later in an attempt to win release of two Muslim women held prisoner by the American forces that had conquered Iraq.
21 SEP 1835	New territorial secretary John Horner arrived in Michigan to replace Stevens T. Mason, but Michiganians ignored him. Mason was removed as an appointed territorial secretary because as elected governor he pursued Michigan's claim to the Toledo Strip.
21 SEP 1911	President William Howard Taft visited Kalamazoo. He laid the cornerstone for the new YMCA replacing one destroyed by fire. After short speeches at Kalamazoo College and Western State Normal School, he closed the day with a major speech on settling international disputes through arbitration.
22 SEP 1850	Michigan's first Jewish congregation, the Beth El Society was formed by 25 German-Jewish families in Detroit.
22 SEP 1931	American Legion sponsored the longest parade in Michigan's history. The parade in Detroit lasted 8 hours and had 85,000 marchers and a million spectators.

22 SEP 1975	Sara Jane Moore missed when she fired a gun at President Gerald Ford outside of a San Francisco hotel. This was the second assassination attempt within a month on the president who hailed from Grand Rapids.
22 SEP 2003	Detroit Tigers lose to the Kansas City Royals 6 to 12 setting an American League record for most losses in a season. The Tigers finished the season winning five of six games to avoid tying or exceeding the 120-loss record of the 1962 expansion New York Mets. The tigers finished the 2003 season with 42 wins and 119 losses.
23 SEP 1934	The Detroit Lion's played their first NFL game at the University of Detroit stadium. They shutout the New York Giants 9–0.
24 SEP 1817	Cornerstone laid for Catholepistemiad building in Detroit. School is now known as the University of Michigan.
24 SEP 1830	1200 spectators gathered to watch Stephen G. Simmons be hung for the murder of his wife. Bleachers had been erected and a military brass band played. The carnival-like atmosphere involving the taking of a human life, helped turn public opinion against executions and in 1846, Michigan became the first state to abolish capital punishment.
24 SEP 1928	The smallest crowd ever to watch a Detroit Tiger game, 404 fans, saw the Tigers defeat the Boston Red Sox 8–0 in their final game of that season. Only 24 hotdogs were sold.
25 SEP 1849	The first state fair in the nation opened in Detroit.
25 SEP 1905	The rebuilt Durand Union Depot was opened. This depot, perhaps the most photographed in the country, replaced a 1903 depot that had burned earlier in the year.
25 SEP 1926	Detroit businessmen purchased the Victoria Cougars and moved them to Detroit. The team was renamed the Falcons in 1930 and the Red Wings in 1933.
26 SEP 1813	Following the victory of Captain Oliver Hazard Perry winning control of the lakes 10 SEP 1813, the British realized they could not defend their position at Detroit. They burned the public buildings and retreated to Canada.
26 SEP 1896	Michigan Agricultural College, now Michigan State University, played its first football game defeating Lansing High School 10–0.
26 SEP 1963	Registration of freshmen began at Grand Valley State College, now Grand Valley State University, in Allendale. It was the first four-year, state supported, college to open in 60 years.
27 SEP 1925	"The Red Arrow," a popular Pennsylvania Railroad passenger train between Detroit and New York began operation. It was named for Michigan's Red Arrow infantry division in World War I.
27 SEP 1938	Hank Greenberg set the Tiger home run record with 58 homers.
27 SEP 1950	Joe Louis, who had retired as undefeated world heavyweight champion, beset by financial difficulties including unpaid taxes, tried to regain his title, but was beaten by Ezzard Charles in New York City.
27 SEP 1962	Michigan's first nuclear power plant, only the fifth in the nation, the Consumer's Power plant at Big Rock Point near Charlevoix, began operation.
27 SEP 1971	Federal District Court Judge Stephen J. Roth ruled that Detroit's schools were deliberately segregated.

27 SEP 1999	The final game at Tiger Stadium at Michigan and Trumbull. Tigers v. Kansas City.
28 SEP 1763	Charles de Langlade surrendered Michilimackinac to the British. Michilimackinac was the last manned French fort in Canada, so Langlade's surrender marked the end of the French and Indian War. He had started the conflict with his attack on Pickawillany in 1852
28 SEP 1860	Reformer, Dorothea Dix visited the Wayne County Poor House and Asylum and reported that conditions were deplorable.
29 SEP 1813	American troops led by General Duncan McArthur, arrived at Detroit reestablishing American control of most of the Lower Peninsula.
29 SEP 1844	The first iron warship built for the U.S. Navy, the <i>U.S.S. Michigan</i> , was commissioned. It patrolled the Great Lakes until 1911 and was later used as a World War I training ship.
30 SEP 1865	The 102nd United States Colored Infantry from Michigan was mustered out in Charleston, South Carolina.
30 SEP 1977	Kincheloe Air Force Base, built in 1941 to defend the Soo Locks, was closed. Part of the base was converted into a prison.
30 SEP 1991	Ernie Harwell broadcast his first "final" game from Tiger Stadium after being fired by Tiger owner Thomas Monoghan.
1 OCT 1721	Charles-Ange Collet was born at St. Joseph. He was the first person born in Michigan to become a priest.
1 OCT 1836	Michigan's first operating railroad, the Erie & Kalamazoo, began operation between Adrian and Toledo using horse-drawn passenger cars.
1 OCT 1859	The University of Michigan law school opened.
1 OCT 1908	The Ford Model T went on the market.
1 OCT 1917	Production of the Fordson, the world's first mass-produced tractor begins in Dearborn.
1 OCT 1967	Michigan's first state income tax went into effect. Individual incomes were taxed at the rate of 2.6%.
1 OCT 1971	Contracts with the Big Three automakers allowed UAW employees to retire after 30 years of service.
1 OCT 1973	Michigan's "no-fault" auto insurance went into effect requiring all drivers to have insurance and insurance companies to pay medical claims without waiting to determine blame.
2 OCT 1853	The <i>Detroit Free Press</i> became the first Michigan newspaper to publish a regular Sunday edition.
2 OCT 1873	Cornerstone was laid for capitol building in Lansing. Building was completed in 1879 at cost of \$1,510,000.
2 OCT 1900	United States Lifesaving Service station in Charlevoix was formally opened although the crew had been on hand as early as August when they rescued a floundering swimmer.
2 OCT 1975	The fabric roof on the Pontiac Silverdome was inflated for the first time. At the time, it was the world's largest air-supported roof.
3 OCT 1937	The state's first railroad enthusiast group, the Michigan Railroad Club, was formed.

3 OCT 1939	The state health department started a campaign in the public schools to encourage parents to use iodized salt to reduce the risk of developing goiters.
4 OCT 1641	The first Christian religious services in Michigan were held by French missionaries Fathers Isaac Jogues and Charles Raymbault at Saulte Ste. Marie.
4 OCT 1818	Michigan's first Protestant Sunday School began at Detroit. It was supported by various denominations.
4 OCT 1931	Chester Gould's comic strip, "Dick Tracy," first appears in the <i>Detroit Daily Mirror</i> .
5 OCT 1813	The two-day Battle of the Thames began. In the battle Tecumseh was reportedly killed by Richard Johnson. Johnson went on to become elected vice president of the United States.
5 OCT 1835	Voters approved Michigan's first state constitution. It would be two years before Congress would accept Michigan statehood and its constitution primarily because of the dispute over the Toledo Strip.
5 OCT 1852	The first college to train teachers, Michigan Normal School at Ypsilanti, was dedicated. Today it is Eastern Michigan University.
6 OCT 1833	Michigan's first Roman Catholic diocese became a reality when Frederick Rese was consecrated as the first bishop of the Diocese of Detroit.
6 OCT 1975	80,642 people watched the Detroit Lions lose to Dallas, 36–10, in the first game played in the Pontiac Silverdome.
6 OCT 2001	Over 72,000 spectators watched Michigan State and the University of Michigan skate to a 3-3 tie in Spartan Stadium. This was the largest crowd to ever watch a hockey game.
7 OCT 1763	The Proclamation of 1763 closed the western frontier including Michigan to keep settlers from interfering with the Indians. It became one of the causes of the American Revolution.
7 OCT 1917	Henry Ford revolutionized the production of automobiles as the first moving production line started operation at Ford's Highland Park plant.
7 OCT 1935	The Detroit Tigers won their first World Series Championship by beating the Chicago Cubs, 7–3, in the sixth game at Briggs Stadium.
8 OCT 1805	The territorial legislature passed Michigan's first welfare law directing justices of the peace to arrange support for the poor at a cost not to exceed 25 cents per day.
8 OCT 1871	Holland, Manistee, and 90% of the homes in Michigan's thumb were destroyed by fire on the same day Chicago burned.
8 OCT 1925	The first of 125 Ford Tri-Motor Airplanes is completed. This all-metal-three engine plane was used by America's first commercial airlines.
8 OCT 1938	The Blue Water Bridge over the St. Clair River at Port Huron was dedicated.
9 OCT 1917	In the first attempt at traffic regulation in Michigan a tower was built at the intersection of Woodward Avenue and Grand Boulevard so a policeman could see and direct traffic. Michigan's first traffic light was installed at this intersection three years later.
9 OCT 1935	Ionia Reformatory was wired so every inmate could listen to radio broadcasts using earphones they could rent. It was the first prison in the world to make radio available to all prisoners.

9 OCT	1971	An ex-convict from Pontiac used a pistol to hijack an Eastern Airlines plane and force it to fly to Cuba. Four years later he was arrested in South Haven for killing a police officer. How he returned from Cuba remained a mystery.
10 OCT	1879	At Jackson, the wreck of Michigan Central Railroad's "Pacific Express" killed 18 passengers.
10 OCT	1881	Three railroads, the Detroit, Mackinac & Marquette, the Michigan Central, and the Grand Rapids & Indiana formed the Mackinac Transportation Company to operate railroad carferry service across the Straits of Mackinac.
10 OCT	1901	Henry Ford driving a car he had built without brakes defeated Alexander Winton in the first automobile race ever held in Detroit.
10 OCT	1945	The Detroit Tigers won their second World Series Championship beating the Chicago Cubs, 9–3, in the deciding seventh game in Chicago. This was the last time the Cubbies played in a World Series.
10 OCT	1968	The Detroit Tigers won their third World Series as Mickey Lolich pitched three complete games and hit a key home run to help defeat the St. Louis Cardinals in a seven game series.
11 OCT	1869	"Colored" children were admitted into Detroit's schools for the first time.
11 OCT	1973	The first "vanity" automobile license plates were issued.
11 OCT	1997	U-M basketball coach Steve Fischer is fired as allegations begin to surface regarding loans given to student athletes by booster Ed Martin. In May 2003 the NCAA levied sanctions against the school's basketball program.
12 OCT	1852	The Michigan State Teacher's Association was organized. It was the forerunner of the Michigan Education Association.
12 OCT	1973	President Nixon named U.S. Representative, Gerald R. Ford, to replace Spiro T. Agnew as Vice-President of the United States. Agnew had been forced to resign because of charges of corruption and tax evasion.
13 OCT	1921	Detroit's WWJ became Michigan's first licensed radio station.
13 OCT	1960	Cobo Hall was dedicated. At the time it was the world's largest exhibition hall.
14 OCT	1845	Douglass Houghton, the state geologist who mapped much of Michigan, drowned in a storm on Lake Superior near Eagle River.
14 OCT	1960	Presidential candidate John F. Kennedy proposes formation of the Peace Corps during a speech on the steps of the University of Michigan student union.
14 OCT	1968	Dr. John W. Porter became the first African-American to be named as a state superintendent of schools.
14 OCT	1984	The Tigers, led by Kirk Gibson, defeat the San Diego Padres in five games to win their 4th World Series.
15 OCT	1730	Founder of Detroit, Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, died at Castelsarrasin, France.
15 OCT	1880	After leaving Grand Haven, the passenger steamer <i>Alpena</i> sank near Holland en route to Chicago.
15 OCT	1966	Congress authorized Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore protecting cliffs, beaches, sand dunes, waterfalls, and forest along the Lakes Superior shoreline.

16 OCT	1946	Eighteen-year old Detroit Red Wing rookie, Gordie Howe scored a goal in his first appearance at Olympia Stadium. Howe played for 32 seasons in the National Hockey League and in the World Hockey League where he played with his sons.
17 OCT	1899	President William McKinley came to Three Oaks to dedicate a cannon captured by Admiral Dewey in the Battle of Manila during the Spanish American War. The cannon was awarded to Three Oaks as a trophy for its efforts at raising the largest per-capita contribution for a memorial to the men of the <i>Maine</i> , which sank in Havana Harbor.
17 OCT	1983	The last commuter train ran in Michigan. The Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA) ended rail operations between Detroit and Pontiac on the Grand Trunk Western.
18 OCT	1979	NBA history was made during the Detroit Pistons versus the New York Knicks game at the Pontiac Silverdome. It was the first time two teams composed entirely of African-American players played each other.
19 OCT	1875	Zachariah Chandler, former Senator and leader of the Radical Republicans was named Secretary of the Interior by President Ulysses S. Grant. Chandler had been defeated in his attempt at reelection to the Senate and used this appointment to rebuild his political base.
20 OCT	1983	Former slave and women's rights advocate, Sojourner Truth of Battle Creek, became the first individual inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame.
20 OCT	2003	Kirk Jones from Canton Township became the first person survive a plunge over Niagara Falls without a safety device. He later joined the Toby Tyler Circus.
21 OCT	1842	The state's official poet, Will Carleton, author of "Over the Hill to the Poorhouse" was born near Hudson in Lenawee County. His birthday was decreed a state holiday that is to be commemorated by appropriate activities in every school.
21 OCT	1929	The Edison Institute (Greenfield Village and the Ford Museum) was dedicated by President Herbert Hoover and Henry Ford's friend, Thomas Edison.
21 OCT	1977	Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore including massive coastal sand dunes on the Lake Michigan shore and North and South Manitou Islands was established.
22 OCT	1929	Grand Trunk Western carferry <i>Milwaukee</i> was lost in a violent storm with the loss of all hands, at least 42 lives.
22 OCT	1955	The state's first official historic marker was dedicated on the campus of Michigan State University. It commemorated the founding of the first state supported agricultural college in the country.
23 OCT	1965	The last steam locomotive used in regular service dropped its fire in Detroit after a run from Durand. It had been used by the Grand Trunk Western.
24 OCT	1889	Detroit won its first baseball championship defeating the St. Louis Browns to take the American Association title.
24 OCT	1901	A Bay City schoolteacher, Annie Edson Taylor, became the first woman to go over the Niagara Falls in a barrel and live to tell about her adventure.
24 OCT	1998	Michigan's largest department store, Detroit's J.L. Hudson store, was imploded.

25 OCT	1825	The Erie Canal was officially opened. This water connection between the Great Lakes and the Hudson River led to a population explosion. Michigan sought statehood within a decade.
25 OCT	1889	An underwater telephone cable across the Straits of Mackinac made the first permanent connection between Michigan's two peninsulas.
25 OCT	1902	Bicycle racer Barney Oldfield started his auto-racing career after having taken just one week's lessons in driving a motor vehicle. He raced Henry Ford's "999" covering five miles in just five minutes and twenty-eight seconds.
25 OCT	1924	Ty Tyson of WWJ radio in Detroit made the first play-by-play broadcast of a University of Michigan football game.
26 OCT	1843	A convention of African-Americans held in Detroit's Second Baptist Church called for the abolition of slavery and the right to vote.
26 OCT	1866	Duffield, Parke and Company was organized. When joined by George S. Davis in 1871 it became Parke, Davis and Company
27 OCT	1927	Production of the Model A begins as Ford's replacement for the Model T.
27 OCT	1972	Pontiac became the first Michigan city to ban the use of lead-based paint.
27 OCT	1975	Earl Anthony of Battle Creek became the first bowler to win \$100,000 in bowling tournaments in one year.
27 OCT	1992	Congress establishes Keweenaw National Historic Park commemorating the Keweenaw Peninsula's copper mining heritage.
28 OCT	1910	Detroit Rotary Club organized.
29 OCT	1813	Lewis Cass was appointed military and civil governor of the Territory of Michigan by President James Madison.
29 OCT	1924	Both the Lodge and Southfield Freeways were dedicated in Wayne County.
29 OCT	1966	Passenger service on the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway between Grand Rapids and Traverse City ended.
30 OCT	1884	Willie Hernandez became the second Tiger pitcher to win the Cy Young Award. (Denny McLain won the award in 1968 and tied for the award in 1969.)
30 OCT	1941	Britain's Duke of Windsor visited war plants in Detroit.
31 OCT	1701	The Company of the Colony of Canada was given exclusive trading rights in Detroit.
31 OCT	1763	The 7-month siege of Detroit ended when Pontiac and his allies unable to capture or force surrender of the fort simply withdrew. Pontiac moved to the Illinois country where he was killed in a local feud 20 APR 1769.
31 OCT	1921	The <i>Rosa Belle</i> , a two mast schooner used by the House of David to haul lumber from the religious group's lumber mill on High Island was discovered floating upside down in Lake Michigan. It appears it had been struck by a lake freighter. The bodies of the crew were never found.
31 OCT	1926	Harry Houdini died in Detroit's Grace Hospital of peritonitis from a ruptured appendix. A college student in Montreal had punched him in the stomach a week earlier.
31 OCT	1962	The International Bridge connecting Saulte Ste. Marie, Michigan and Saulte Ste Marie, Ontario was officially opened.
1 NOV	1679	Robert Cavalier de la Salle built a fort at the mouth of the St. Joseph River near St. Joseph. It was the first European outpost in the Lower Peninsula.

1 NOV 1815	Michigan Territorial legislature passed an act that decreed that Negro, Indian, and mulatto slaves would be given corporal punishment rather than go to jail for non-capital offenses.
1 NOV 1901	A state statute went into effect requiring the gasoline be sold and stored in red cans.
1 NOV 1923	The bridge to Belle Isle was opened. First named the George Washington Bridge it has been renamed the General Douglas Mac Arthur Bridge.
1 NOV 1928	Ten railroad companies operating in Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois were consolidated to form the Grand Trunk Western Railroad. The Canadian National, owned by the government of Canada, controlled the GTW.
1 NOV 1957	The Mackinac Bridge was opened. Michigan's two peninsulas were connected and automobile car ferry service across the straits ended.
1 NOV 1973	The state's longest expressway, I-75 from the Ohio border near Toledo to Saulte Ste. Marie (395 miles) was formally completed.
1 NOV 1974	It became illegal to paint advertising on barns. The state paid to have 47 barns, most with tobacco ads, repainted.
1 NOV 1978	The Grand Trunk ended carferry operations between Muskegon and Milwaukee. The Grand Trunk was the last railroad to start cross-lake service and the first to abandon it.
1 NOV 1979	A new law went into effect requiring auto owners to renew their license plates on their birthday.
2 NOV 1835	The first session of the state legislature was held in Detroit.
2 NOV 1920	Eva M. Hamilton of Grand Rapids won her race for the state senate. She was the first woman elected to the Michigan legislature.
2 NOV 1927	The first known scheduled interstate passenger service in the country began with Stout Air Service flights between Detroit and Cleveland.
2 NOV 1954	Charles Diggs a Detroit mortician and former state senator was elected to the U.S. Congress, Michigan's first African-American congressman.
2 NOV 1976	Voters approved a referendum requiring a deposit on beverage containers to reduce litter and promote recycling.
2 NOV 1982	Martha Griffiths became the first woman to be elected Michigan lieutenant governor.
3 NOV 1835	Stevens T. Mason became governor of the proclaimed State of Michigan. Congress refused to recognize Michigan as a state until the dispute over the Toledo Strip was settled.
3 NOV 1911	William C. Durant who had been ousted from control of General Motors organized the Chevrolet Motor Company to build cars developed by racecar driver Louis Chevrolet.
3 NOV 1926	Fifty-one miners died in the Barnes-Hecker iron mine near Ishpeming. The mine roof collapsed letting in a wall of water and mud that washed them away.
3 NOV 1926	Ty Cobb retired from baseball.
3 NOV 1930	The Detroit-Windsor tunnel under the Detroit River opened to traffic. It was the first underwater automobile tunnel connecting two countries.
3 NOV 1972	Voters on Mackinac Island approved the use of snowmobiles, the first motor powered vehicles allowed since 1949.

4 NOV 1952	Cora Brown of Detroit was elected to the state senate, the first black woman elected to any state senate.
4 NOV 1979	Fifty-two Michiganians were held hostage when Iranian militants seized control of the U.S. embassy in Teheran. The hostages were held for 444 days.
5 NOV 1912	In the presidential election, Michigan voters gave a plurality to Progressive Party or "Bull Moose Party" candidate Theodore Roosevelt. This was the first time Michigan had not supported the Republican candidate since 1856 when the party first named a candidate.
5 NOV 1918	Suffrage amendment passed the legislature. Michigan was the 7th state to allow women to vote.
5 NOV 1974	Voters repealed sales tax on food and medicines.
5 NOV 2002	Jennifer Granholm became the first woman to be elected governor of Michigan.
5 NOV 2004	The <i>Polar Express</i> , the Tom Hank's digital cartoon film based on the book with the same title by Grand Rapids native Chris Van Allsburg opened with a gala celebration in downtown Grand Rapids. The locomotive used for the film was the former Pere Marquette #1225 owned by the Steam Railroading Institute.
6 NOV 1767	The British commander of Michilimackinac, Robert Rogers, who gained fame leading his Rangers during the French and Indian War, was arrested and charged with treason. The charges were not supported but he was dismissed from the army. During the American Revolution he fought as a Loyalist. After the war he lived and died in poverty and obscurity in England.
6 NOV 1861	Michigan women organized the first Ladies Soldiers Aid Society in Detroit to support Civil War soldiers.
6 NOV 1923	The Ottawa Beach Hotel, the largest resort on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan burned to the ground. The Michigan State Parks Board bought the property and developed it into Holland State Park, the most popular of the Michigan state parks.
6 NOV 1965	Four hundred hunters were given licenses to hunt turkeys in Allegan County. In this, the first modern turkey hunt, 400 hunters killed 82 birds.
6 NOV 1973	State senator Coleman Young was elected. He was the first Black mayor of Detroit.
6 NOV 1998	President Bill Clinton signed an act creating the National Automotive Heritage Area designating 6 corridors in Southeast Michigan as landmarks in the development of the automobile industry.
7 NOV 1950	Michigan voters approved a referendum allowing the sale of colored oleomargarine.
7 NOV 1972	Voters approved daylight savings time adding an extra hour of evening sunlight from the first Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October.
7 NOV 1991	Former Michigan State University basketball star Ervin "Magic" Johnson announced that he had tested positive for the AIDS virus.
8 NOV 1870	For the first time, African-Americans were allowed to vote in a state election.
8 NOV 1886	The Edison Illuminating Company began providing electric service in Detroit.
8 NOV 1895	In one of the state's worst accidents, a boiler exploded in the Journal Building in downtown Detroit killing 37 people. The building engineer was arrested, accused of going to a saloon rather than keeping watch over his post.
9 NOV 1775	Henry Hamilton became British commandant in Detroit. During the Revolutionary War George Rogers Clark captured him at Vincennes.

9 NOV 1913	The most deadly storm in Great Lakes history began and when it ended 40 ships were lost and 235 seamen died.
9 NOV 1962	The Ford Rotunda burned in Dearborn.
10 NOV 1904	Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind opened in Saginaw. It offered instruction and opportunities for employment for blind Michigianians aged 18–60. Courses included broom making, rug weaving, chair canning, and piano tuning.
10 NOV 1975	Twenty-eight men went down with the 587-foot long <i>Edmond Fitzgerald</i> during a storm on Lake Superior.
11 NOV 1918	Armistice Day. At the eleventh minute of the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month soldiers of both sides stopped killing each other in World War I. The 32nd Division, the "Red Arrow Division," made up Michigan and Wisconsin men suffered 2,898 deaths and 10,986 wounded. In total 175,300 Michigianians served.
11 NOV 1929	The Ambassador Bridge between Detroit and Canada was dedicated. Automobiles had to wait as 100,000 walkers crossed the bridge as part of the dedication ceremony.
11 NOV 1997	The first General Motors executives moved into their new offices in the Renaissance Center, a structure built by Ford to revitalize downtown Detroit.
12 NOV 1909	The first mile of paved concrete road was laid on Woodward Avenue (M-1) between 6th and 7 mile roads.
13 NOV 1972	The first Michigan state lottery ticket was sold to Governor William G. Milliken.
14 NOV 1914	John and Horace Dodge built the first Dodge automobile at their facility in Hamtramck.
14 NOV 1929	The Ambassador Bridge linking Detroit and Windsor was opened for traffic.
14 NOV 1977	The state's first prison for women, The Huron Valley Women's Facility in Ypsilanti, opened.
15 NOV 1971	For the first time Michigan motorists could order their license tabs by mail.
16 NOV 1926	State police broke into the House of David at Benton Harbor to arrest its religious leader, King Benjamin Purnell.
17 NOV 1807	In the Treaty of Detroit negotiated by territorial governor William Hull, the Indians ceded much of Southeast Michigan and received \$10,000 in cash and an annual annuity of \$2,400.
17 NOV 1886	American Newspaper Publishers Association was organized in Detroit.
17 NOV 2004	Troy based K-Mart Corporation purchased one of the oldest retail/mail order chains in the country—Sears and Roebuck.
18 NOV 1844	Jonathan Walker was branded by U.S. Marshall Eben Dorr in Pensacola in the Territory of Florida because he tried to help 7 slaves escape. The "Man with the Branded Hand" was immortalized by poet John Greenleaf Whittier and he became a prominent abolitionist speaker. Walker died in Muskegon 30 APR 1878 and is honored there with a marker in Evergreen Cemetery.
18 NOV 1958	The <i>Carl D. Bradley</i> sank near Charlevoix. Only 2 of the 35-man crew survived. Most of the men came from Rogers City.
19 NOV 1850	In the Great Railroad Conspiracy, farmers upset by the practices of the Michigan Central burned its freight depot in Detroit.

19 NOV	1956	The last regularly scheduled passenger train ran on Michigan's first operating railroad, the "Old Road," originally the Erie & Kalamazoo between Adrian and Toledo.
19 NOV	1966	In a game to determine the number-one ranking in college football against the MSU Spartans, Notre Dame coach, Ara Parseghian had his team run out the clock rather than risk a pass and try to win. The game ended in a 10-10 tie.
19 NOV	1988	Detroit's magnificent Fox Theatre reopened after extensive renovation by Mike and Marian Ilitch owners of Little Caesar's.
19 NOV	2004	One of the worst brawls in Michigan sports history occurred a spectator threw a glass on beer at Indiana Pacers star Ron Artest near the end of a basketball game with the Detroit Pistons. A m�el�e ensued when Artest rushed into the stands throwing punches at fans.
20 NOV	1953	Birmingham because the first city in Michigan and just the second in the country to provide direct dialing for long-distance calls.
21 NOV	1847	The <i>Phoenix</i> burned with the loss of over 200 lives. Many of the lost were immigrants from the Netherlands on their way to join relatives in Wisconsin.
21 NOV	1859	The Chicago, Detroit & Canada Grand Trunk Junction Railway began service between Detroit & Fort Gratiot (Port Huron). Thomas A. Edison worked on this line as a "candy butcher" when he was 12 years old.
21 NOV	1945	200,000 UAW workers went on strike against General Motors. After being on strike for 119 days, they received a raise of 18.5 cents per hour.
21 NOV	1977	I-96 between Muskegon and Detroit was completed.
22 NOV	1975	The first MHSSA state high school football championship games were played. Winners were Livonia Franklin in Class A, Dearborn Divine Child in Class B, Ishpeming in Class C, and Crystal Falls in Class D.
22 NOV	1976	Certificates were awarded to auto mechanics for the first time. Under a new state law auto repair facilities had to have at least one certified mechanic for each type of repair being offered.
22 NOV	1997	Charles Woodson of the University of Michigan became the first defensive player to win the Heisman Trophy.
23 NOV	1893	The Detroit Baseball Company, a National League team from 1881 to 1888, joined the Western League, now the American League.
24 NOV	1892	The first car ferry service on lake Michigan began as the <i>Ann Arbor No. 1</i> sailed from Elberta near Frankfort to Kewaunee, Wisconsin.
25 NOV	1819	An elephant was displayed in Detroit for the first time.
25 NOV	1824	Territorial governor Lewis Cass proclaimed Michigan's first official Thanksgiving Day.
25 NOV	1889	The Toledo, Ann Arbor & North Michigan Railroad (Ann Arbor Railroad) began service between Toledo and Frankfort.
25 NOV	1942	The first depressed expressway outside of New York was opened when the Davison Limited Highway was opened across Highland Park. Construction was rushed to provide workers easier access to Detroit defense plants.
25 NOV	1981	An atom was smashed in the world's first super-conducting cyclotron located on the campus of Michigan State University.
26 NOV	1827	For the first time, a Detroit city ordinance required sidewalks.
26 NOV	1867	J.B. Sutherland of Detroit patented the nation's first refrigerator car, a railroad car cooled with ice to carry meat.

26 NOV	1883	Former slave, abolitionist, and women's rights advocate, Sojourner Truth died in Battle Creek.
26 NOV	1910	The first carferry with a seagate to keep out high waves, <i>Ann Arbor No. 5</i> was launched.
26 NOV	1925	The first Hudson's Thanksgiving Day Parade was held.
27 NOV	1901	A head-on crash between 2 Wabash Railroad trains near Seneca killed 23 people.
28 NOV	1929	Motown founder and record producer, Berry Gordy, Jr. was born in Detroit.
29 NOV	1760	French Captain Franoise de Bellestre surrendered Fort Pontchartrain to British officer, Robert Rogers and his Rangers thus ending French control of Detroit.
29 NOV	1847	The first telegraph line in the state was completed between Detroit and Ypsilanti along the Michigan Central railroad right-of-way.
29 NOV	1870	Susan B. Anthony demanded suffrage for women while speaking at the Young Men's Hall in Detroit.
29 NOV	1880	The Detroit Baseball Club was organized. Their first professional game was played at the start of the 1881 season. Became known as the Tigers because of their orange and black stockings.
29 NOV	1934	The Detroit Lions played the first Thanksgiving Day home football game losing to the Chicago Bears 19–16.
30 NOV	1870	Susan B. Anthony addressed a crowd at the Young Men's Association in Detroit comparing bondage of women to the bondage of slaves and calling for voting rights for women.
30 NOV	1885	The Traverse City State Hospital for the Insane opened.
30 NOV	1984	Mazda Motor Corporation built its first American automotive assembly plant in Flat Rock.
1 DEC	1886	Michigan Soldiers Home was opened in Grand Rapids for veterans of the Mexican War, Civil War, and Spanish-American War who were disabled by disease or wounds and were incapable of earning a living. Space was provided for mothers, wives, and widows of veterans.
1 DEC	1953	Former Governor Kim Sigler (1947-1948) was killed when the plane he was piloting crashed into a radio tower near Battle Creek.
1 DEC	1955	Rosa Parks refused to sit at the back of the bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Her arrest started a bus boycott that stimulated the career of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement. She moved to Detroit in 1957.
2 DEC	1830	Elizabeth Chandler organized the state's first antislavery society.
3 DEC	1896	Mail carriers from the post office in Climax started out with horse-draw carts to serve the country's first rural free-delivery routes.
3 DEC	1989	The first joint Sunday edition published by the <i>Detroit News</i> and the <i>Detroit Free Press</i> .
3 DEC	1990	Dr. Jack Kevorkian charged with first-degree murder in the death of Janet Adkins.
4 DEC	1844	Baptists opened Michigan Central College in Spring Arbor. It was the first in Michigan to grant degrees to women. The college was moved and reorganized as Hillsdale College in 1855.

4 DEC 1915	Henry Ford led a group of peace advocates aboard the <i>Oscar II</i> , a Danish ship chartered to carry them to Europe in an attempt to settle the conflict raging there. A peace conference was arranged, but continued German submarine warfare ended any chance for success and the United States was drawn into the war a little more than a year later.
5 DEC 1975	The first special ten-day hunting season for muzzle-loaders opened.
6 DEC 1865	The 13th Amendment to the Constitution ending slavery was ratified. Michigan's Senator Jacob M. Howard drafted the amendment.
6 DEC 1882	A meeting to organize an art exhibition was held in the home of railroad promoter James F. Joy. The meeting was the first step in organizing the Detroit Institute of Art.
6 DEC 1928	The University of Michigan became the first Big Ten School to have an indoor hockey rink.
7 DEC 1914	The first Kiwanis club was organized in Detroit as the Supreme Lodge of the Benevolent Brothers was organized in Detroit. The name was changed on 21 JAN 1915.
7 DEC 1950	Yellow oleomargarine could be sold in the state. Prior to the passage of a citizens' referendum that had been hotly opposed by the dairy industry, homemakers had to mix coloring into white margarine.
8 DEC 1823	Michigan territorial representative Father Gabriel Richard took his seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, the first Roman Catholic priest to serve in Congress.
8 DEC 1919	As a result of a nationwide coal miners strike over a quarter million Michigan workers were idled when the government shut down passenger train service and all non-essential industries. The strike was settled two days later.
9 DEC 1935	The Detroit Lions won their first NFL championship by beating the New York Giants 26–7. The Lions also won championships in 1952, 1953, and 1957.
10 DEC 1887	The state's first cremation was completed at the Detroit Crematorium.
10 DEC 1905	The state attorney general halted the practice of contracting prison inmates to work for private industries.
10 DEC 1950	Ralph Bunch, who had been born in Detroit, became the first African-American to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.
11 DEC 1911	The Detroit Zoological Society was incorporated.
11 DEC 1934	Thirty-four people were killed when fire destroyed Lansing's Hotel Kerns.
11 DEC 1971	Twenty-one construction workers were killed when methane gas exploded inside a water tunnel they were trying to build under Lake Huron near Port Huron.
12 DEC 1922	The Detroit Historical Society was organized.
12 DEC 1940	The Hudson Motor Company and the UAW agreed to a contract supporting the first union shop in a major automotive plant.
12 DEC 1979	A basketball game between University of Michigan and the University of Detroit was the first event held in the Joe Lewis Arena in Detroit.
12 DEC 2000	General Motors announced it would phase out production of Oldsmobile, the nation's oldest automotive brand name. The first Oldsmobile was built by Ransom Eli Olds in 1897.
13 DEC 1819	The Pontiac Road, Michigan's first surveyed road, was laid out in Detroit. Within Detroit, M-1 is Woodward Avenue.

14 DEC 1836	State leaders meeting in "Frostbitten Convention" at Ann Arbor agreed to accept a compromise in which Michigan gained the western Upper Peninsula and recognition of statehood in exchange for giving up claims to the Toledo Strip.
14 DEC 1860	Former governor Lewis Cass resigned as U.S. Secretary of State because he couldn't support President Buchanan's decision not to challenge the secession of southern states.
14 DEC 1964	Grand Rapids became the first city in the country to have 2 freeways intersect in its downtown district when I-196 was officially opened and connected with US 131.
15 DEC 1796	Anthony Wayne who opened up Michigan for settlement and the person for whom Wayne County was named died in Pennsylvania.
15 DEC 1836	In the "Frostbite Convention" held in Ann Arbor delegates voted to relinquish Michigan's claim to the Toledo Strip in exchange for the western part of the Upper Peninsula. Following this action Congress agreed to recognize Michigan as a state.
16 DEC 1913	The Michigan Central depot in Detroit opened. At the time, it was the tallest railroad terminal in the world.
16 DEC 1979	The Detroit Red Wings played their last game at Olympia Stadium tying Quebec 4-4. During 53 years at Olympia, the Red Wings had won 11 season championships and 7 Stanley Cups.
17 DEC 1798	The first American election held in the Northwest voters had 3 days to record their choice for Wayne county's representative to the legislative council. Wayne County included all of Michigan. Solomon Sibley won but opponents charged that his friends supplied liquor to those who voted for him.
17 DEC 1908	The first factory built internal-combustion fire truck went into service in Lansing.
18 DEC 1927	Michigan's highway department became the first to paint solid yellow lines to indicate no passing zones on curves and hills. Signs had to be posted telling out-of-state motorists what the lines meant.
18 DEC 1976	Denise Thal of Huntington Woods, a senior at Harvard University, was named among the first group of women to receive a Rhodes Scholarship for study at Oxford University.
19 DEC 1842	First issue of <i>The Detroit Daily Gazette</i> was published. It was the first successful newspaper in Michigan
19 DEC 1940	General Motors president, William Knudsen became head of the U.S. National Defense Council.
19 DEC 2004	Joseph R. Beyrle, of Muskegon died. Beyrle was the only serviceman to serve in both the US and Soviet armies during World War II. He was one of the first paratroopers to land in Normandy on D-Day and was quickly captured by the Germans. He escaped from a prisoner of war camp in Poland and joined a Soviet tank unit. After being wounded he rejoined the American army.
20 DEC 1948	A Michigan law banning female bartenders was upheld in a 6-3 decision by the United States Supreme Court.
20 DEC 1971	Al Kaline signed a contract making him the first ballplayer in Detroit Tiger history to receive a salary of \$100,000 for a season. He had compiled a career batting average of .300 during his 19 years with the Tigers.
21 DEC 1821	Detroit Lodge of Free Masons was instituted.

22 DEC	1998	Comerica Bank spent \$66,000,000 to have its name on the new home of the Detroit Tigers.
23 DEC	1873	Nattie Pease Lowrie received the country's first bachelor of music during graduation exercises at Adrian College. She majored in vocal and instrumental music.
23 DEC	1978	Michigan's drinking age was again raised to 21 as a result of a constitutional amendment passed by voters concerned about drinking and driving by high school students.
24 DEC	1814	The Treaty of Ghent was signed ending the War of 1812. The treaty provided for the return of captured territory including the return of Fort Mackinac to the United States. The British withdrew to Drummond Island, which they held until 1828.
24 DEC	1847	Senator Lewis Cass, seeking the Democratic nomination for the presidency, wrote the "Nicholson Letter" in which he proposed that the residents of a territory should determine if a state should be slave or free. He was accused of promoting the concept of "popular sovereignty" just to gain support in the South.
24 DEC	1913	Seventy-two people, most of them children, died during a panic driven rush to the door when someone yelled fire into the Italian Hall at Calumet. The children were attending a Christmas Party for the families of striking miners.
25 DEC	1660	Michigan's first known Christmas celebration was recorded by Father René Ménard who honored the occasion near Keweenaw Bay with a few <i>coureurs-de-bois</i> and some Huron converts.
25 DEC	1867	The Jackson Mining Company fired up its first blast furnace to process iron ore at Fayette. Operations at Fayette continued until 1891 when coal-burning furnaces made charcoal smelting obsolete. The village is preserved as Fayette State Park in the Upper Peninsula.
26 DEC	1944	Floyd M. Edwards of Kalamazoo became the first Michigan veteran to take advantage of the "G.I. Bill of Rights" when he purchased a home with a VA Loan.
26 DEC	1991	Despite the fact the British had agreed to give Michigan to the United States in the Treaty of Paris, 1783, Michigan was made part of Upper Canada.
27 DEC	1899	The Copper Range Railroad completed its line between Houghton and McKeever.
28 DEC	1901	The Escanaba & Lake Superior Railway started service between Escanaba and Channing.
28 DEC	1917	To improve wartime railroad efficiency, the government took control of all railroads including those in Michigan and operated them under the United States Railroad Administration (USRA).
29 DEC	1953	Diesel locomotives replaced electric locomotives used in the Detroit River railroad tunnel.
30 DEC	1899	The excursion steamer <i>Tashmoo</i> was launched at the Wyandotte Shipyards. The side-wheeler was the fastest ship on the Great Lakes.
30 DEC	1933	With the repeal of prohibition, Governor William Comstock bought a bottle of Old Taylor, the first bottle of whiskey sold in the state.

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- 30 DEC 1936** The sit-down strike at Flint's Fisher Body plants began. The 44-day strike affected 150,000 workers in more than 60 plants. On 11 FEB 1937 General Motors agreed to recognize the UAW as the bargaining agent for its workers.
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- 30 DEC 1974** The Crestwood School District Board of Education fired 184 teachers because they stayed out on strike hoping for a better contract.
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- 30 DEC 1976** Governor William G. Milliken signed Michigan's law allowing residents to contribute \$2 of their income taxes to the gubernatorial-campaign fund.
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- 31 DEC 1883** The Michigan Central Railroad opened an international railroad carferry service between Detroit and Windsor.
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- 31 DEC 1887** Michigan's only international railroad bridge built across the St. Mary's River between the Saulte Ste. Maries was opened to create a route from the upper Midwest to the Atlantic seaboard.
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