

This day in history: August 27

- 1665 The first theatrical performance in the colonies, a play called *The Bare and the Cubb*, is given in Accomack, Virginia.
- 1776 British forces defeat the Patriots at the Battle of Long Island.
- 1859 Edwin Drake drills the first successful commercial oil well at Titusville, Pennsylvania.
- 1908 Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th U.S. president, is born near Stonewall, Texas.
- 1962 NASA launches *Mariner 2*, the first probe to fly by and gather data on another planet (Venus).

This day in history: August 28

- 1609 English explorer Henry Hudson discovers Delaware Bay.
- 1845 *Scientific American* magazine publishes its first issue.
- 1922 The first radio commercial airs on WEAJ in New York City with a ten-minute ad by the Queensboro Realty Co., which it paid \$100.

This day in history: August 29

- 1776 Having lost the Battle of Long Island, Patriot troops escape over the East River to Manhattan.
- 1869 John Westly Powell's expedition floats out of the Grand Canyon.
- 1944 American troops march down the Champs-Élysées in Paris in celebration of the city's liberation from the Nazis.
- 1957 Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina ends the longest filibuster in Senate history (24 hours 18 minutes) against a civil rights bill.
- 2005 Hurricane Katrina hits the Gulf Coast, causing massive damage in Louisiana and Mississippi, destroying much of New Orleans, and killing 1,800 people.

This day in history: August 30

- 1682 William Penn sets sail from Deal in Kent, England, for Pennsylvania.
- 1781 A French fleet arrives at Yorktown, Virginia, with 3,000 troops to help stop the British army there.
- 1836 Brothers Augustus Chapman Allen and John Kirby Allen found Houston, Texas.
- 1862 Confederate forces defeat the Union troops at the Second Battle of Manassas, Virginia.
- 1967 The Senate confirms Thurgood Marshall as the first black justice on the Supreme Court.
- 1983 Guion S. Bluford Jr. becomes the first black American astronaut to travel in space when the shuttle *Challenger* lifts off.

This day in history: August 31

- 1842 Congress establishes the U.S. Naval Observatory, one of the nation's oldest scientific agencies.
- 1886 An earthquake centered near Charleston, South Carolina, destroys much of the city, kills scores of people, and is felt in distant places such as Boston and Chicago.
- 1920 Station 8MK (later WWJ) in Detroit broadcasts the first news program on a U.S. radio station, an announcement of local election results.

1955 General Motors Corporation demonstrates the world's first solar-powered car in Chicago.

This day in history: September 1

1821 William Becknell begins his journey from Arrow Rock, Missouri to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

1916 Congress passes the first federal child labor law.

1972 Bobby Fisher defeats Boris Spassky of the USSR, to become the first American to win a world chess championship.

This day in history: September 2

1789 The U.S. Treasury Department is established.

1864 Union general William T. Sherman's forces occupy Atlanta.

1935 The Labor Day Hurricane slams the Florida Keys, killing more than 400 people.

1944 Navy pilot George H.W. Bush, later the 41st U.S. president, is shot down and rescued in the Pacific.

1945 Japan formally surrenders aboard the battleship USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay, ending World War II.