



## History

**January 2, 1840** First settler, McBain Jameson, comes to Plano.

**1841** The Congress of the Republic grants large amounts of land to immigrants on the condition that they establish colonies in Texas. The petition of W.S. Peters of Louisville, KY is one of those granted. He is authorized to establish an empresario reserve in north central Texas which becomes known as Peters Colony and later as the Texas Emigration and Land Company. Heads of families coming from outside the state will receive 640 acres if married and 320 if single. Settlers are expected to live on the land three years, build a cabin, and fence and cultivate at least 15 acres.

**1842** Jeremiah Muncey settles his family in Plano.

**1844 – 1846** Collin McKinney guides 11 trips for people coming from Kentucky and Tennessee to settle in North Texas.

**Fall 1844** An Indian raid kills Jeremiah Muncey's family and McBain Jameson in what is later called the Muncey Massacre.

**December 28, 1845** Texas becomes a state.

**1846** The Texas Emigration and Land Company appoints Henry Oliver Hedgcoxe as its agent. He begins to oversee surveying the new county lines.

**April 3, 1846** Collin County is carved out of Fannin County.

January 13, 1847 Baccus Cemetery (originally known as Cook Cemetery) is established by Henry Cook. It contains the oldest marked grave in the Plano area and possibly in the county.

**Fall 1846** William Forman and his family purchase the Peters Colony head-right of Sanford Beck on which Plano is located, fourteen miles south of McKinney and sixteen miles north of Dallas.

**1847** George White of Iowa is asked to move to Peters Colony to supply his services as a surveyor.

**1847** Joseph Russell, Daniel, and Samuel Klepper take up their head-rights at the present site of the city of Plano. Sanford Beck builds a small house near the Clint Forman home. Capt. Wm. Beverly settles on a site two miles south. John Vance places his family on Spring Creek. Dr. Henry Dye moves to the area and becomes the first medical doctor in the settlement.

**February 1847** Young Cemetery is started with the burial of Patience Ann Young. The Young Cemetery includes not only the Young family, but neighbors as well.

**November 15, 1847** First Methodist "class" organizes at the log cabin home of Joseph and Elizabeth Russell. This marks the beginning of First Methodist Church.

**1848** McKinney is established as the county seat of Collin County.

**1848** Silas Harrington arrives in Plano.

**1848** Rowlett Creek Baptist Church is organized.

**1849** McKinney is incorporated.

**February 16, 1850** Liberty Baptist is constituted. It is the earliest Baptist church in Collin County which is still active.

**1850** One of the earliest schools is started by Clay Thomas in his log home on Rowlett Creek.

**June 10, 1850 – May 8, 1851** James G. Vance is appointed and serves as postmaster.

**May 8, 1851** Spring Creek is discontinued as an official post office.

**June 6, 1851** Routh Cemetery (also known as the Spring Creek Burying Ground) is established. Early graves are from the Beverly family and then the Routh family.

**November 15, 1851** Semi-weekly postal service is instituted for Plano. A private post office is located in the William Forman home.

**1852** First grave in the Plano Mutual Cemetery. This cemetery includes the old Forman Cemetery which was located on the corner of the Forman farm. Land for this cemetery is donated by the four men whose land came to a corner there.

**October 9, 1852** William Forman becomes the first official postmaster and his home is designated as the official post office of the community.

**1853** A school is established on Spring Creek by Jacob Routh. This school is discontinued in 1871 when Routh and his neighbors build the larger Mont Vale School.

**August 1853** Spring Creek Baptist is constituted in a schoolhouse two miles south of Plano in a log cabin.

**April 29, 1854** Robert Burney of Bonham, TX accepts the post of carrier for stage and mail services with a two horse coach.

**July 1, 1854** First stage route established through Plano.

**1855** Registry System established at the post office

**1856** John Haggard comes to Plano with his son Clinton S. Haggard.

**1857** First recorded meeting of First Christian Church of Plano.

**1857** G.W. Barnett organizes a school on Spring Creek.

**1858** The Haggard schoolhouse is established on White Rock Creek. It exists until 1882, but moves a number of times.

**1859** Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas formed.

**1859** John Haggard, father of Clinton S. Haggard passes away.

**1859** Clinton Shepard Haggard marries Nannie Kate Lunsford. They have nine children. Mr. Haggard serves in the Civil War and later becomes one of the largest landowners in Collin County. His interest in education leads to the establishment of Add Ran College, which later becomes TCU.

**1860** Andy Drake comes to Plano as an ox driver. He leaves and returns to Plano in 1864 accepts Si Harrington's offer to stay in Plano. Andy Drake becomes the forefather of one of Plano's largest African-American families.

**November 26, 1860** Wm. B. Blalack buys a one acre lot and builds his home and livery stable where he houses a post office and stage stop.

**1861 – 1864** Growth of Plano at a standstill during the Civil War.

**September 8, 1861** Collin McKinney dies.

**1861** Rowlett Creek Cemetery is founded adjacent to the Rowlett Creek Baptist Church with the burial of Alfred Harrington.

**1864** Money Order System established at Plano post office.

**February 1, 1864** Post Office at Plano is closed to save money for the Confederate Government. Mail is sent to McKinney.

**1866** Thomas Finley Hughston arrives in the area to start a new life after the Civil War. He is a charter member of the Plano City Council and later serves as a County Commissioner.

**Fall 1866** Collin County is the leading producer of mules west of the Mississippi because of the breeding efforts of Clint Haggard. J.W. Shepard, a Haggard son-in-law, also plays a large role in the breeding of mules. His J.W. Shepard Mule Barn raises and sells mules all over the United States.

**1867** The Forman House at 1617 Avenue K is constructed. This is one of the oldest homes in Plano. The Forman's operate a sawmill and a grist mill.

**1868** Leach-Thomas Cemetery is founded.

**September 5, 1868** Bowman Cemetery is begun by John Davis Bowman.

**1870** – Plano population is 155.

**1870** Plano's first public school is established in the Christian Church. It moved a number of times.

**1870** Probable beginning of the I.O.O.F. Lodge. Its records are later destroyed in a fire.

**1871** Jacob Routh and neighbors open the Mont Vale School.

**September 11, 1871** First Presbyterian Church is organized as the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Plano.

**1872** Railroad comes through Plano linking McKinney and Dallas.

**March 1872** New building erected for First Methodist Church.

**December 1872** Houston & Texas Central railroad comes to Texas.

**1873** The Plano News is established by publishers J.C. Son and E.K. Randolph

**1873** Building erected for First Christian Church of Plano.

**June 2, 1873** Plano is incorporated.

**1873-1874** New building is erected for Plano Presbyterian Church.

**1873- 1878** Economic downturn in Plano.

**1874** Plano population numbers over 500.

**1874** Barnett's Spring Creek School moves to a new site and continues to operate for several decades.

**1875** New building erected for First Baptist Church of Plano.

**1876** Bethany Christian Church is started by Capt. R.W. Carpenter and Captain W.N. Bush.

**1876** The Plano News goes out of business.

**January 4, 1877** The Bethany Cemetery is started by R.W. Carpenter adjacent to the First Christian Church of Bethany.

**1878** First train robbery in the state of Texas takes place 6 miles north of Plano.

**1878** Fred Schimelpfenig comes to Plano and establishes one of the first dry goods businesses.

**Early 1880s** The Plano Review newspaper began publication.

**1880** Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of Plano is organized in the Schimelpfenig home.

**1880** Plano Academy , a private school, is founded.

**1880** Stinson school, a private school, opens and serves 90 students.

**1881** Silas Marion Harrington opens Harrington Pharmacy.

**1881** Old City Cemetery's earliest marked graves are from this date.

**1881** City assumes responsibility for what is known today as the Plano Independent School District, ending the days of Plano being served by private schools.

**April 22, 1881** City Council, Mayor's Office and City Court locat in back room of Mayor C.J.E. Kellner's saddlery shop. Meetings are devoted to payment of bills and enactment of ordinances for the peace and order of the community are set for the first and third Tuesdays.

**June 15, 1881** Mayor and aldermen make mandatory the levying and collecting of an annual occupation tax from every person, association of persons, firm or company doing business in Plano.

**August 27, 1881** Destructive fire burns part of the city ordinances in C.J.E. Kellner's back room. The entire business section of Plano (52 buildings) except for a saloon burns to the ground.

**1882** Plano population reaches 800.

**1882** Plano's most important private school, the Plano Institute (on the site of the modern Cox Administration building) is opened by W.F. Mister.

**January 17, 1882** Mayor Kellner resigns and Joseph C. Hudson becomes Mayor Pro Tem.

**April 19, 1882** George F. Thomas, attorney is elected mayor.

**April 10, 1883** W.B. Blaylack elected mayor.

**October 1883** Earliest reference to Plano having a telephone line.

**November 12, 1883** First sidewalks authorized along Mechanic and Main. The sidewalks are constructed of lumber.

**1884** The weekly newspaper, The Plano Review is established by R.J. Ridgell, an attorney.

**1884** Shiloh Baptist Church organizes. A school operates in this church for many years.

**1884** Earliest library service provided by L.E.R. Schimelpfenig who lends her personal book collection to the community. She forms the Juvenile Missionary and Aid Society for girls with the objective of entertaining themselves through reading, reciting and singing.

**March 19, 1884** Mayor put under \$300 bond. He begins receiving salary of \$6 per month.

**Pre-1885** Temperance Hall is established for those interested in ridding the town of saloons and liquor.

**1885** Special Delivery Service established at Plano post office.

**May 8, 1886** Mayor W.B. Blalock adopts the Act of 1875, an act for the benefit of towns to assume more civic responsibilities.

**June 9, 1885** Enactment of first Blue Law controlling the sale of merchandise on Sunday.

**1886** Plano population reaches 1,000

**1887** St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Railway Company of Texas and the Texas and St. Louis Railway Company of Texas begin construction through Plano on its route between Commerce and Greenville and Fort Worth.

**1887** James Monroe Brent builds his home near what is now Preston Rd. This home known as Brent Place houses his large farm family and includes outbuildings such as a granary and outhouse. It is eventually relocated to Old City Park in Dallas.

1887 J.H. Gullledge operates one of the largest dry good stores in Collin County.

**June 14, 1887** First fire department on record for Plano is known as "The Eclipse Fire Company."

**July 7, 1887** Plano National Bank is organized and is chartered July 28, 1887.

**September 13, 1887** Hand-drawn hook and outfit is purchased for fire fighting.

**1888** Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas disbanded.

**1888** Renner School is constructed at Renner Road and Coit. It is unique because it has two stories. The school lasted for 31 years and is eventually moved to Old City Park in Dallas.

**January 1888** First building is erected for storage of fire equipment.

**April 2, 1888** J. B. Klepper becomes mayor of Plano.

**June 10, 1888** Council gives permissions to the St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Railway Company to establish a depot and railway station on South Main Street.

**July 10, 1888** The Sunday Blue Law is expanded to close places of public amusement on Sunday.

**October 10, 1888** City purchases its first motor vehicle, an America Champion Road Machine.

**1888-1890** Mathews home is constructed at 901 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

**1889** Henry and J.M Carlisle arrive in Plano and open a grocery store.

**April 1, 1889** W.B. Blalack becomes mayor again.

**June 16, 1889** Another fire consumes the buildings at the southeast corner of Main and Mechanic.

**1890** Plano becomes the agricultural center of South Collin County, shipping cotton, oats, wheat and corn.

**1890** Construction begins on the Olney Davis House at 901 E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street. Davis is a prominent businessman, civic leader and mayor in Plano who also serves the Plano schools.

**1890** Plano population is between 1200-1500.

**April 8, 1890** First ordinances adopted providing for a street commission, with an ordinance appointing the city marshal as supervisor of all city work, an ordinance regulating speed of railroad trains, and an ordinance to publish future ordinances in the newspaper.

**September 9, 1890** A 30 foot cistern is built at intersection of Main and Mechanic for use of city for fire protection. It is completed about December 1, 1890.

**1891** Farrell-Wilson Farmstead is constructed. This later becomes the Heritage Farmstead Museum.

**1891** Women of Plano decide it is their responsibility to keep the cemetery clean. They form the Mutual Cemetery Association which later becomes known as the Plano Mutual Cemetery Association.

**January 13, 1891** Hand-operated fire pump mounted on a two-wheel cart and hose is ordered.

**June 9, 1891** Voters approve proposition that COP through mayor and aldermen should acquire exclusive control of all public free schools within the city.

**June 22, 1891** Proposition for additional tax valuation of .50 for each \$100 valuation to be used for purchasing a public school site.

**July 21, 1891** First bond issue recorded is approved for the purpose of raising funds for school building improvements.

**August 18, 1891** Ordinance 84 is enacted which acknowledges the City Council as “board of directors” of the school system.

**September 19, 1891** School District 65 petitions Council for consolidation with Plano Schools and is accepted.

**December 4, 1891** Plano Institute founder W.F. Mister moves to Dallas and sells the Institute and campus to Mayor W.B. Blalack for the sole use of the public free schools in Plano. City Council pays \$3000 in school bonds for the facility and appoints W.D. Love superintendent and George Brown as principal. They also approve Plano’s first school bond issue for \$7000.

**1892** New Plano High School graduates its first class.

**April 1892** E.O. Harrington purchases furniture business from Andrew Wetsel. An undertaking business operates in connection with the furniture store.

**April 5, 1892** Olney Davis elected mayor of Plano.

**April 11, 1892** City Council organizes itself into officers, and various committees.

**1893** David George and George Philpott open their hardware store in Plano

**February 14, 1893** City Council grants Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Co. the right to erect telephone poles in downtown Plano.

**March 25, 1893** Fire burns several businesses on Mechanic Street

**March 27, 1893** Ordinance 923 passes defining the Fire Limits of Plano and the class of structures which will be allowed to be erected within these limits.

**May 25, 1893** Council votes to purchase new chemical engine for fire-fighting and 200 feet of hose. This equipment is put in use in November 1893.

**December 9, 1893** Plano National Bank is robbed of \$15,000 -20,000. Newspaper accounts speculate it is the Dalton gang. No robbers are ever apprehended.

**1894** Plano Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas is rechartered.

**1894** Community votes out saloons.

**1894** A new church is built for the First Methodist Church.

**February 14, 1894** Ordinance prohibiting steam corn shellers, steam mills, steam cotton gins, steam threshers or any other steam machinery that might cause fires is passed.

**February 19, 1894** Council purchases land on East Mechanic for a new City Hall. This land will hold the calaboose, city pound and fire department.

**March 20, 1894** Plano Fire Department forms when six young men are elected to form the department.

**April 16, 1894** Bills for the new city hall are approved for payment.

**May 7, 1894** Fire destroys school building.

**June 1894** The Plano Milling Company, a flour mill, is established near the railroad tracks.

**June 12, 1894** City-wide vote on prohibition drives saloons out of Plano one more time.

**June 19, 1894** Plans for a new school building are approved and \$8000 in bonds are issued to cover construction costs.

**1895** The Collinworth graves are located in a pasture near Parker and Preston roads. It is reserved for members of the Collinworth family. The earliest grave is dated 1895 when smallpox strikes the family. The deaths of a number of family members results in a strict quarantine in west Plano near the Collier home.

**February 12, 1895** Concrete sidewalks are authorized to be built within city and are to be paid for by the property owner.

**May 4, 1895** Smallpox scare in Plano. Vaccinations are required and a guard posted to enforce the quarantine. This turns into a county quarantine.

**July 25, 1895** All able-bodied males between 21 and 45 are required to work on repair of public streets and sidewalks.

**October 26, 1895** Great Fire of 1895 destroys the west half of both sides of Mechanic Street, 51 businesses in all.

**1896** Construction of Plano National Bank/Oddfellows Lodge building (1001 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St.).

**1896** Plano Colored School has a separate building on Ave. I and offers education for students between grades one and seven. This school originally is located in Shiloh Baptist Church.

**1896** J.W. Shepard establishes Second Monday or Trades Day which become an established custom in Plano for half a century.

**1896** Rural Free Delivery Service established with Plano post office.

**1896** Community votes saloons and liquor back in.

**April 7, 1896** W.B. Blaylack becomes mayor for the third time

**July 14, 1896** Sale of spirits and liquors is regulated by the passage of Ordinance 109 by City Council.

**November 10, 1896** First recorded resolution of City Council to observe Thanksgiving and to dismiss school that day.

**1897** A bell is purchased to sound a fire alarm.

**February 11, 1897** Fire burns nineteen buildings in downtown Plano. After this fire the people of Plano petition for the formal organization of the Plano Fire Department.

**March 9, 1897** J.O. Thatcher, a civil engineer is given the go-ahead with survey work and plans for new water works plant. Ordinance 93, the Fire Code is amended so that no more wooden awnings can be built in the downtown area.

**May 11, 1897** Committee is assigned to select a suitable site for a water works dam on Spring Creek. City Council is presented a petition to recognize a number of citizens as "The Plano Fire Company."

**June 8, 1897** Plano Fishing Club is organized for recreation and civic purposes. They present the deed to their property on Spring Creek to the City Council to serve as a reservoir for the Plano Water Works.

**July 1897** Fire Boys place an alarm bell on the top of city hall.

**July 31, 1897** First water mains authorized to offer water service to residents.

**August 1897** First Baptist church erects their third church building

**September 14, 1897** Council passes Ordinance 116 to regulate the fire department.

**1898** Construction of the Moore House, a hotel catering to railroad travelers at 1414 Avenue. This later becomes the Masonic Lodge.

**1898** Construction of the Carpenter-Edwards house (1211 E. 16<sup>th</sup> Street).

**April 5, 1898** W.D. McFarlin is elected mayor.

**December 12, 1898** New church is dedicated for Plano Presbyterian Church.

**Late 1800s** Plano begins hosting the Old Settlers Reunion Picnic and Barbecue, a tradition which continues into the mid 1900s.

**1899** Voters approve the establishment of an independent Board of Trustees separate from the City Council to manage the public school system.

**1899** J.F. Dickerson Grain Co. erects a new grain elevator and corn sheller in north Plano.

**1899** Two horses are purchased to replace hand-drawn fire equipment.

**March 1899** Council decides to build a new dam for the water works system on Spring Creek.

**April 11, 1899** City Council approves the erection of a cotton gin despite objections of homeowners. It changes hands throughout the years, but is always tied to the economic prosperity of the community.

**May 1899** New church building is erected for First Christian Church.

**May 10, 1899** Sewers are authorized for installation on Mechanic Street.

**May 11, 1899** J.D. Stark, makes application to erect an electric light plant to serve the citizens of Plano. Permission is granted unanimously.

**September 22, 1899** First corporation court is formed to hear criminal cases arising out of violation of ordinances.

**1900** David George builds his wife, Verner McPherson, a home (the George House) as a wedding present. It is located at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Avenue L, the site of the current Municipal Center. It is slated to be demolished, but is moved to Old City Park in Dallas.

**1900** Plano's population decreases to 1,304, possibly due to the fact that many residents and businesses had no insurance and could not afford to rebuild after the fires.

**1900** Plano schools experience overcrowding.

**1900** Public colored school closes and the building is sold.

**1900** Plano's first football team is organized by Ernest Peoples, who also serves as the captain.

**June 9, 1900** Southwest Telegraph and Telephone Company is granted the right to construct poles and string wire along the streets of Plano.

**October 31, 1900** The new dam for the water works on Spring Creek washes out in a flood.

**1901** Construction of the Roller House (1413 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street)

**1901** W.J. Carpenter moves into Plano and builds the W.J. Carpenter House at 708 E. 16<sup>th</sup> Street.

**January 25, 1901** Farmers and Merchants National Bank opens for business, later its name changes to Farmers National Bank.

**September 10, 1901** Office of city scavenger is created to check on cleanliness of outhouse facilities.

**1902** The Plano Star and the Plano Courier merge to form the Plano Star-Courier.

**1902** Community resoundingly votes liquor and saloons out of Plano for the next 80 years.

**April 1, 1902** Fred Schimelpfenig elected mayor of Plano.

**Summer 1902** First artesian water well for the city is dug.

**Fall 1902** City reservoir is built.

**October 28, 1902** Ordinance 93 is amended to allow Houston & Texas Central Railroad Company to erect a new frame depot.

**May 12, 1903** City school building is destroyed by fire. The city votes \$3000 in bonds for rebuilding. School meets in the Opera House. The Spanish School, as it is known because of its vaguely Mediterranean style is completed for the fall 1903 term. It is built for \$11,330 and all students primary through high school are housed in this building until Mendenhall Elementary opens in 1952.

**October 9, 1903** Fannie Harrington Chapel is organized.

**1904** "44 Club" is organized. It is made up of 8 men living in and around Plano who are Confederate veterans born in the year 1844.

**January 12, 1904** Council agrees that all requirements of the Texas Fire Prevention Association for the city to maintain its second class rating for insurance purposes should be met.

**April 1, 1904** Artesian water is turned on.

**February 1905** PISD opens a colored school with a three month term. This is conditional upon maintaining an average attendance of 20 students. This school moves a number of times. Several years pass before a seven month term is approved for black students.

**March 1904** City engineer installs meters.

**April 11, 1905** Council decides to elect a water works manager.

**1907** The Aldridge home is constructed at 1615 Avenue H.

**February 12, 1907** Council passes an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds for extending and improving the water works system of Plano and for providing the levying of a tax to be collected to pay the interest and to create a sinking fund to retire these bonds.

**February 16, 1907** City Council grants Texas Traction Co. a fifty-year franchise for the operation of the Interurban Railway which runs from McKinney to Dallas.

**August 20, 1907** Texas Company is created to construct and maintain a telephone and telegraph line through the city of Plano.

**September 10, 1907** City is notified by the Texas Fire Prevention Association that further improvements are needed in the city fire fighting equipment to maintain its second class rating for fire insurance purposes.

**October 8, 1907** Motion is made and passed that the notes of the Plano National Bank will be renewed.

**1908** School board votes to allow the city to build an auditorium on the grounds of the school with the condition that the schools be allowed to use it.

**April 7, 1908** J.M. Willis is elected mayor.

**July 1, 1908** The interurban line, known as the Texas Electric Railway, linking Denison and Dallas is placed in operation.

**1909** Civic auditorium is constructed. It is funded by subscriptions pledged by Plano citizens.

**January 16, 1909** Privately held electric light plant offered for sale to the city by Mr. Stark for \$6000.

**March 9, 1909** City begins trash collection from residences.

**May 14, 1909** Time for a sewerage system in Plano. Council unanimously grants J.H. Bowman a permit to install the system for the city. New concrete sidewalks are being constructed along Mechanic Street, one half paid for by the homeowner and the other half by the city.

**July 13, 1909** First ordinance regulating the speed of automobiles is enacted limiting speed to 7 miles per hour. This is raised to 8 mph in 1910.

**September 14, 1909** Council ordains water meter rates with a minimum of \$1.25 per month. The city uses water wells for its water supply. Streets are still not paved.

**1910** Plano population reaches 1,258.

**1910** S.B. Wyatt House is constructed for one of Plano's early doctors at 807 E. 16<sup>th</sup> St.

**March 21, 1910** Guaranty State Bank is established.

**April 19, 1910** City and school combined taxes are set for the year at \$1.15 per \$100 valuation. Of that .50 is for public schools.

**January 4, 1911** Fire destroys the Plano Star-Courier as well as almost all the early records of the Plano Fire Department.

**1912** Plano residents receive electric service through the Wilcox Light and Power Company.

**1912** Construction of the Carlisle House at 1407 E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

**April 2, 1912** J.D. Harris elected mayor.

**1913** Plano High School boasts both football and baseball teams.

**1913** Parcel post system is established at the Plano post office.

**1914 – 1915** Plano population is 1,200.

**April 1914** R. H. Crawford is elected mayor.

**October 1914** Thursday Club is organized. This women's organization is largely responsible for the construction of Haggard Memorial Park in downtown Plano.

**1915** Fire department donates \$350 to the city and sells a team of horses and wagon to purchase a Thomas Flyer automobile as a chassis on which to build the city's first fire truck, "Big Tom".

**January 16, 1915** Another fire sweeps through Plano's downtown. Plano Fire Department changes from horse drawn vehicles to motorized equipment. Plano's population hovers at 1,200 the same as in 1890.

**April 30, 1915** J.D. Cottrell steps in as mayor

**July 13, 1915** Texas Power & Light is granted its first franchise which extends until June 1, 1965.

**April 1916** J.R. Dickerson elected mayor.

**1917** Ownership of the Civic Auditorium is transferred to P.I.S.D.

**January 23, 1917** Plano's two telephone companies merge.

**July 1917 – May 1918** Plano's streets are oiled and graveled for the first time.

**1917 – 1919** Local men and boys leave to join the armed forces during World War I.

**1918** Shiloh Baptist Church is rebuilt.

**1918** Air mail service is established at Plano post office.

**May 27, 1919** J.F. Harrington becomes mayor.

**1920** Plano population is 1,715.

**February 28, 1920** Plano National Bank is robbed. The city night watchman is shot and fatally wounded by two robbers who are never apprehended.

**May 11, 1920** Plano joins the League of Texas Municipalities.

**May 11, 1920** J. F. Harrington resigns as mayor.

**May 25, 1920** Joe Bradshaw becomes mayor.

**1921** Plano Lions Club is organized.

**1921** Suggestion is made for a municipal park. The Star-Courier and the Lion's Club invite citizens to make donations to make this a reality.

**1921** E. A. Sigler organizes the first Scout troop in Plano with two patrols of sixteen boys each.



**1921** PISD board brings in E.A. Sigler as high school principal, science teacher and coach.

**July 20, 1921** City Council approves the results of an election for the issuance of \$10,000 in bonds for the purpose of water works improvements.

**October 6, 1921** Mrs. C.S. Haggard passes away.

**1922** PISD is informed that the Spanish School is inadequate and unsatisfactory and a new structure is needed.

**1922** Order of the Eastern Star is chartered.

**1922** Wildcat name and mascot enter the picture.

**April 4, 1922** G.E. Carpenter is elected mayor.

**1923** A \$65,000 bond issue is passed for the construction of a new high school.

**April 24, 1922** City Council votes unanimously that the city issue \$40,000 in sewer bonds in order to purchase the property of the Sewer Association of Plano.

An election passes for street improvement bonds to be issued. In 1925 – 1926 Plano paves its main streets.

**January 8, 1923** Council approves the report of a committee which divides the work of the city as follows:

City Marshal \$50/mo.  
City Engineer \$200/mo  
Commissioner of Streets, Water and Sewerage \$100/mo

**1923** A two story brick building is constructed to serve as city hall, fire station, and jail.

**April 8, 1924** J.T. Horn is elected mayor

**October 1924** Completion of the new Plano Public School.

**1925** The Plano Wildcats complete their season undefeated.

**1925** Rice Field is completed one block north of the school.

**1925** Dirt streets are mostly paved by this time. Paving continues throughout 1925-26 and is considered very progressive. Plano is one of the first towns of its size to pave its streets in Texas.

**May 21, 1925** Plans are announced by the Plano Lions Club to secure a park site in the downtown area. Because of a sizeable donation by the Haggard family, the park will be known as Haggard Memorial Park.

**November 4, 1926** Community Natural Gas Company receives a franchise from the City Council to begin operating a natural gas distribution plant to supply light, heat, and power to Plano.

**1927** J.N. Andrews leaves his job as PISD superintendent. E.A. Sigler is named superintendent of the Plano School System.

**April 15, 1928** Dedication of Haggard Park.

**1928** The Plano Mutual Cemetery Association is incorporated.

**1929** Black students move to a nine month school term.

**1930** Plano population reaches 1,554.

**1930** New commercial classes are offered in school.

**December 17, 1930** First National Bank takes this name when the Plano National and the Farmers National Banks merge.

**July 1931** Water continues to be a problem and the Well Committee reports that more water is needed and recommends an additional artesian well be drilled.

**March 4, 1932** New well begins operation.

**June 28, 1930** Clinton S. Haggard dies.

**April 12, 1932** Art Schell is elected mayor. During his term of office, new water mains are laid along Main Street, the East Disposal Plant is built, he appoints the first Planning and Zoning Commission, he and the City Council hire the first professional property appraisers, the first industry comes to Plano, and he is instrumental in the development and acquisition of Lavon Reservoir as the source of water for Plano.

**1933** Bethany Christian Church is dissolved.

**1934** Rice Field is lighted.

**1935** PISD purchases its first school buses.

**1936** Black-and-white Art Deco façade is added to old Plano National Bank/Oddfellows Lodge.

**1937** Plano Civic Auditorium is torn down for a new gymnasium.  
**1938** Gym is built next door to school.  
**November 13, 1938** Fire destroys most of Plano Presbyterian Church.  
**1938** Vocational classes are now offered in school.  
**1939** Modern stadium is built at Rice Field.  
**1940** Plano population is 1,582.  
**1940s** The Hunt family begins buying farm land to develop in Plano and surrounding areas.  
**1945** Plano Rotary Club comes to town.  
**1945** City of Plano purchases a Dodge fire truck.  
**1946** Plano Chamber of Commerce is incorporated.  
**1946** Plano Garden Club is reorganized.  
**1948** Fire destroys the warehouse belonging to the Farmer's Gin Company.  
**April 6, 1948** Odise J. Todd elected mayor  
July 1, 1948 door to door mail delivery begins with two carriers.  
**December 31, 1948** Closing of the Interurban Railway due to competition from automobiles.  
The tracks are removed in 1949.  
**July 10, 1949** Cornerstone is laid for a new church building for First Baptist Church of Plano.  
**1950** Plano population is 2,126.  
**1950** PISD contracts to build a new Plano Colored School.  
**April 1950** Voters approve the first major bond issue, \$225,000 to finance rebuilding and extension of sewer and water facilities, resurfacing streets and improvement of fire and city hall facilities.  
**April 2, 1950** Clyde E. Landers, member of the Plano Fire Department, gives his life fighting a house fire.  
**April 11, 1950** Fred H. Miers is elected mayor.  
**1951** Eastman Products Corp., a manufacturer of tube fittings and plumbing connections opens in Plano.  
**1951** North Texas Municipal Water District is organized. Art Schell serves as a Plano's representative until his death in 1964.  
**1952** Plano Elementary School opens.  
**1952** Carter Craft Company, a processor of solid and sheet copper into decorative items moves to Plano.  
**1954** Texas Wire & Cable Co. opens a large Plano plant.  
**1955** Gladys Harrington and the Federation of Church Women set up the first lending library in Plano in the Plano Community House.  
**1956** Precision Manufacturing Co opens a new plant in Plano.  
**April 9, 1956** David McCall is elected mayor.  
**August 27, 1956** First zoning ordinance draws boundaries between appropriate land uses within the city.  
**January 1, 1957** Plano Police Department is organized to replace the city marshal. Otho J. Nitcholas is appointed first chief of police. Two men serve with him, a marshal and a patrolman.  
**1957** Lavon water begins coming to Plano.  
**1957** The extension of North Central Expressway from Campbell Road to Plano is completed.  
**1958** Joe Marchman is hired as the city administrator.  
**October 2, 1958** North Central Expressway is completed through Plano to McKinney. This is considered to be the single-most important factor contributing to Plano's growth.  
**1959** Ordinance passes creating the position of Plano's first corporation court judge, Attorney Byron Schaff.  
**1959** 15<sup>th</sup> Street is widened over the protest of homeowners who want to save their trees.  
**1959** Wells Brothers Farm Store is founded by William & John Wells.  
**1960** Plano population is 3,695, making Plano the fastest-growing city in Collin County.  
**1960** Marvin Springer is hired as city planner to oversee the city's master plan.  
**1960** Plano High School Wildcat's are named co-champions in district football.

**early 1960's** Plano is led by City Manager Elmo C. Drumb.

**January 29, 1960** Construction begins on the \$2 million Lone Star Boat Plant.

**February 26, 1960** City passes an ordinance calling for Charter Commission to draft Home Rule Charter.

**April 1, 1960** New lighting is installed along 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

**April 7, 1960** A.M. Stranz is elected mayor

**May 12, 1960** City receives a federal grant for a new sewage plant.

**September 23, 1960** Voters approve the Charter Commission for Home Rule.

**October 13, 1960** Work begins on one of the largest residential subdivisions on the west side, Dallas North Estates, located south of FM 544. This new addition will accommodate several hundred new single-family homes.

**December 15, 1960** Plano is third in per capita construction in the state of Texas.

**1961** Lone Star Boat Company donates a boat to the Fire Department for rescue purposes.

**February 2, 1961** Plans are announced for the Plano Hospital Center.

**1961** Plano Elementary School is renamed Mendenhall Elementary in honor of teacher Aline Mendenhall.

**1961** Dr. H. Wayne Hendrick becomes school superintendent succeeding E. A. Sigler who has completed 47 years of service in the Plano schools. Enrollment in 1961 is approximately 900 students.

**1961** Former Plano High School is renamed E.J. Cox Junior High School in honor of E.J. Cox a janitor, athletic trainer and band leader of winds at the school. This would later be known as the Cox Administration Building.

**June 10, 1961** Plano discards its general law city status, when voters adopt a home rule City Charter. Voters approve changing the city charter from the commission form of government to the Council-Manager structure.

**June 21, 1961** J.B. Toler is promoted to Chief of Police.

**1962** Fannie Harrington Chapel church dissolved.

**1962** Talk of new municipal building as well as the need for more space for the central fire station begins.

**1962** City Council begins reviewing parts of the city's master plan including studies on economics, land use, population, thoroughfares, storm drainage and water and sewer use.

**April 3, 1962** J. Alton Allman, Jr. is elected mayor.

**1963** Businessmen form Plano National Bank with assets of \$3.2 million and eight employees.

**1963** Business district receives a facelift. Three new industrial plants complete their buildings, Home Metal Products Company, Nelson Electronics and Biometrics Instruments Corporation.

**1963** Plano records \$5.25 million in building permits, a record high.

**1963** City Council begins involving more citizens in the planning process by forming a 31 member Capital Improvement Committee to make recommendations for a \$2.14 million, five-year Capital Improvement Program.

**1963** The Plano Colored School is renamed for Frederick Douglass and improvements to it are included in the bond election.

**1963** Fannie Harrington Chapel is torn down.

**September 1963** This marks 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Plano Star-Courier.

**1964** Plano population reaches 11,597.

**1964** Plano welcomes Luminator, Inc. Mirrolab, Inc. Kay Chemicals, Inc. also moves in shortly after the first of the year. Atlantic Refinery Company purchases a 20 acre site in the Dallas North Research Park for a future development laboratory.

**1964** A \$2.14 million, five-year capital improvement program is approved by the voters.

**1964** New building constructed for Shiloh Baptist Church.

**1964** Additional work is completed on the City of Plano master plan, namely the approval of a new zoning ordinance and a map for the city to control future development. City Council reviews the final recommendations on future city parks and proposed school sites, completing the master plan in 1965.

**1964** Enrollment of 2,300 students increases need for classroom space. Meadows and Sigler elementary schools are completed along with a new athletic plant on the east side of the new high school campus.

**1964** Construction begins on the new municipal building.

**April 7, 1964** R.L. Harrington, Jr. is elected mayor.

**August 1964** PISD School Board votes to give students at Douglass High School the option to shift during the 1964-65 school year to Plano High, the first move toward desegregation in Plano. The students chose to move, while Douglass continues to house grades 1 – 8. Douglass continued as a primary school for another year then students are transferred to Cox Junior High. Douglass closed after the 1967-68 school year.

**1965** Plano population reaches 13,097.

**1965** Police department moves into City Hall at 1117 15<sup>th</sup> Street. They remain in this location until 1974.

**1965** Construction begins on the new central fire station.

**May 1965** Atlantic Refining Company announces plans to build a multi-million dollar petroleum research center in the Dallas North Research Park in Plano.

**June 1965** 790 acres of land is designated for the University of Plano.

**October 17, 1965** The Plano Story airs. This film is produced by KTVT features Plano, its industries and the visit of John Connelly to open the new Municipal Center.

**1966** Increased enrollment requires expansion of Meadows, Sigler, and Mendenhall elementary schools as well as plans for a new elementary school, Memorial which opens late in the year.

**1966** Building permits top \$9 million, the highest in history.

**April 2, 1966** The Malaysian Building given to the University of Plano from its former NY World's Fair location is dedicated. This date marks the dedication of the University of Plano.

**April 16, 1966** Lt. Col. Sam Johnson of Plano is shot down over North Vietnam.

**1967** Plano National Bank converts to a state banking charter, moving locations and changing name to Plano Bank & Trust

**1967** Aldridge Elementary opens.

**August 27, 1966** Newly built Central Fire Station is dedicated.

**September 9, 1967** Bond election passes providing \$175,000 to be matched by LSCA funds for library construction.

**1968** Ken Lambert becomes City Manager.

**1968** Partnership formed between the city and PISD to provide recreational and leisure facilities for citizens.

**1968** Establishment of Plano Parks & Recreation department.

**1968** Establishment of the Planning & Engineering department.

**1968** Plano North Shopping Center opens at Avenue K and 18<sup>th</sup> Street.

**1968** City issues \$16 million in building permits.

**1968** George W. Bowman Junior High is completed. Plans made for an addition to Plano High School.

**April 2, 1968** Harry G. Rowlinson is elected mayor.

**April 22, 1968** City Council passes resolution to name the new library the Gladys Harrington Library.

**1969** City Council votes to expand the Fire Department to include emergency ambulance service on a full time basis following the announcement that the local funeral home is discontinuing ambulance service.

**1969** City purchases land and buildings adjacent to FM544 East for the Public Works Service Center.

**1969** Plano Star-Courier previously published only on Wednesdays adds a Sunday edition.

**1969** Creation of the Plano Arts Association formed under the umbrella of the Plano Fine Arts League.

**1969** P.I.S.D. enrollment tops 5,400 students.

**1969** Custer Road is completed between the Dallas North Parkway (now Plano Parkway) and FM

544.

**June 2, 1969** Gladys Harrington Library opens its doors to the public with a book collection of 15,033 volumes.

**1970** Plano launches the Community School Program in three schools that become recreation centers after hours.

**1970** The Plano Chamber of Commerce celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**1970** United Fund of Plano is founded.

**January 1970** Plano population is 17,872, an increase of 384% since 1960.

**February 15, 1970** The University of Plano adds a tank from the Red River Arsenal to the items at its campus museum.

**April 4, 1970** Conner Harrington is elected mayor.

**May 1970** Hunt Properties presents a gift of 6,865 acres of land in the scenic Spring Creek area in the Dallas North addition for use as parklands.

**June 1, 1970** Connor Harrington dies in office.

**July 11, 1970** Norman F. Whitsitt is elected mayor in Special Election.

**July 19, 1970** Herbert Hunt announces plans for a new \$500 million, 3,959 acre business-residential development in North Texas with the majority of the property involved lying within the city limits of Plano.

**Early 1970s** \$5 million school bond election passes to support increasing enrollment in Plano schools.

**1970-71** City and school district re-evaluate property for tax purposes and raise the values on farmland. Farmers protest and file a class action suit against the PISD.

**1971** Plano Wildcats win state championship in football.

**1971** Youth curfew ordinance is established in Plano.

**1972** Ken Lambert ends tenure as City Manager.

**1972** City and school district jointly hire a consultant to develop a master plan locating existing schools and park facilities.

**1972** Ammie Estelle Wilson passes away.

**1972** Plano Chamber of Commerce establishes a Women's Division.

**1972- 1973** Forman and Shepard elementary schools open.

**1973** Outdoor swimming pool converts to a natatorium for year round use.

**1973** Plano population is estimated at 27,000.

**1973** David Griffin becomes City Manager.

**1973** Plano enters its largest contract ever, \$3 million for the expansion of its own sewage treatment plant.

**1973** Plano celebrates its 100-year birthday.

**1973** Plano Civic Chorus is founded.

**1973** Christie and Davis elementary schools open and construction begins on Plano Senior High School.

**February 12, 1973** Sam Johnson is welcomed home after his release as a POW in Vietnam.

**August 31, 1973** Time capsule is buried in Haggard Park as part of the Centennial celebration.

**1974** Plano Chamber of Commerce breaks ground for its new building on 15<sup>th</sup> St.

**1974** Prairie Creek Village, Plano's largest shopping center to date opens.

**1974** Los Rios Country Club opens.

**1974** Haggard Middle School and Weatherford elementary schools open. A \$25 million school bond package passes.

**August 1974** Plano Police Department moves into new police and courts building on 14<sup>th</sup> Street.

**September 1974** Chief Toler resigns and Assistant City Manager Alan Ratliff is appointed acting chief of police.

**1974-75** Housing start-ups at an all time low during the economic recession.

**1975** Plano General Hospital opens its doors.

**1975** Plano Senior High School opens with record enrollment.

**1975** Plano Community Theatre (now Plano Repertory Theatre) is formed.

**1975** A report indicates that only 1.5% of Plano's 44,423 citizens are needy.

**1975** Last cotton gin closes its doors.

**January 16, 1975** Duane Kinsey is appointed Chief of Police.

**1976** Founding of the Junior League of Plano

**1976** Hunt Properties transfer the deed of the Ammie Wilson home to the Plano Heritage Association.

**1976** Plano voters approve a \$25 million city bond election with \$790,000 earmarked for a second library facility.

**1976** Plano school enrollment tops 17,000 students. Vines High School and Armstrong Middle Schools open.

**1976** The University of Plano closes.

**1977** Talks begin about constructing a mall at Central Expressway between Dallas North Parkway (Plano Parkway) and 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

**1977** Norman Whatsitt makes a deal with the Texas Highway Department to complete the Parker Road overpass at Central Expressway and begins concentrating on getting SH 190 approved.

**1977** Voters approve a \$1.8 million bond sale for the city to build a new city hall. City Council approves a \$6.4 million capital improvements program for a new west side library to be named Schimelpfenig, a fourth fire station, a second natatorium and street improvements.

**1977** Clark Field opens at a cost of \$2.75 million.

**1977** Plano Information and Referral, a United Way agency is organized as a clearinghouse for referrals to social services, agencies and resources.

**September 1977** Plano's population is estimated at 53,150.

**October 1977** voters approve the largest PISD bond issue, \$38.5 million to provide funds for building eight schools, including a second senior high.

**December 30, 1977** A three acre site is purchased for a second library on Custer and Country Place Drive.

**1978** Plano population exceeds 65,000. City officials realize this is a critical point regarding a water and sewer plan.

**1978** Plano Parks and Recreation Department receives the Outdoor Recreation Achievement Award from the U.S. Department of the Interior for unique city/school approach to park sites.

**April 10, 1978** James W. Edwards elected mayor

**1978 -79** Four new schools are completed, Thomas, Harrington, and Wells Elementary Schools, and Carpenter Middle School. Enrollment reaches the 20,000 mark.

**1979** Plano Parks and Recreation Department receive the National Gold Medal from the National Recreation and Park Association.

**1979** Voters approve plans for the Stadium Pump Station. City Council commits to a pay as you go philosophy with the users of city services paying the actual costs of the services they require.

**1979** Schimelpfenig Library under construction.

**1979** Maurice Barnett Geriatric Wellness Center is founded.

**1979** City has won 23 industrial projects and more than 100 businesses valued at \$9.3 million make Plano their home.

**1979** Plano adopts Historic Landmark Preservation ordinance.

**January 1979** Plano population reaches 66,150.

**February 12, 1979** City Council endorses a "super-regional" mall for Plano.

**June 26, 1979** The George House is sold to the Dallas Country Heritage Society for \$5000 to be incorporated into Old City Park.

**June 29, 1979** Ross Perot announces that EDS has purchased nearly 2000 acres of land that could signal the relocation of its corporate headquarters to Plano.

**August 1979** City Council votes to change the name of the Dallas North Parkway to Plano Parkway.

**November 8, 1979** A 1.4 million square foot regional mall is announced for Plano.

**1980** Plano population reaches 72,331 an increase of 304% since 1970.

**1980** Dallas North Parkway becomes known as Plano Parkway alleviated confusion with the

Dallas North Tollway.

1980 DART begins public bus service to Plano.

**1980** Plano schools predict enrollment of more than 21,000 students. In actuality enrollment surpasses this estimate and by the end of 1979 enrollment reaches 22,389 students. The total campus count for PISD includes 17 elementary schools, five middle schools, three high schools including the newly opened Clark High School.

**March 28, 1980** Perot confirms that EDS will move its national headquarters to Plano.

**June 2, 1980** L.E.R. Schimelpfenig Library opens to the public with a collection of 25,000 volumes.

**September 1980** Plano Hot Air Balloon Festival begins with 45-50 balloons lifting off from the Willow Bend Polo and Hunt Club. The slogan, Plano – the Balloon Capital of Texas is proposed and adopted by the Plano Chamber's Women's Division.

October 1980 New Municipal Center opens.

**December 1980** Mayor James Edwards formally welcomes EDS to Plano.

**December 29, 1980** Plano City Council approves the annexation and zoning of EDS's 2,656 acre tract in Plano.

**1981** Plano population is 76,400.

**1981** Connemara Conservancy, a natural preserved landscape, opens to the public.

**1981** Plano East Senior High opens its doors.

**1981** Jack Carter pool opens to the public.

**1981** Restoration process begins on the former Ammie Wilson house.

**July 1981** Collin Creek Mall opens.

**1982** Construction begins on Huffman Elementary and Shepton High.

**1982** Frito-Lay announces plans to move to Plano.

1982 Police Department is expanded by 20,000 square feet.

**April 3, 1982** Jack Harvard is elected mayor.

**Late 1982/early 1983** Frito-Lay begins construction of its campus-style corporate complex.

**1983** 15<sup>th</sup> Street is landscaped and widened to four lanes from US75 to Avenue G.

**1983** Plano enters into a Sister City relationship with Enfield, a city in South Australia.

**1983** Plano Chamber Orchestra is formed.

**1983** Plano Community Choir is formed.

**1983** RepublicBank Plano's 13-story tower opens.

**1983** Collin County voters approve a \$59.6 million bond program for roads, bridges and the county's Open Space program and Youth Park.

**1983** Schell and Willowcreek Parks are improved and additional property is purchased for new parks and the expansion of Haggard and Oak Grove parks.

**February, 1983 - May, 1984** Plano schools receive national attention after the suicide deaths of eight Plano teenagers.

**August 1983** Thirty citizens are selected for the first Leadership Plano class.

**August 13, 1983** Voters in Dallas and suburban cities approve the formation of Dallas Area Rapid Transit funding it with a 1% sales tax.

**October 17, 1983** City purchases the First National Bank building and it is named Municipal Center South and will house the Parks and Recreation department.

**1984** Volunteer Center of Collin County is founded.

**1984** Carlisle Elementary opens in far north Plano.

**1984** Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**1984** United Fund of Plano becomes United Way of Plano, Inc.

**1984** Plano Senior Center finds a new home when Park and Recreation department vacates building.

**1984** New athletic fields are built at Meadows and Old Shepard Place during the summer and a third recreation center at Clark High School is added.

**June 1984** Municipal Center South is ready for occupation by the Parks and Recreation department.

**August 1984 – October 1984** Six additional teenage suicides in Plano.

**September 25, 1984** DART board formally selects light rail as the mode for the DART rail system.

**November 1984** EDS breaks ground for their corporate headquarters.

**November 1984** City Manager David Griffin announces his resignation.

**November 17, 1984** Bond election passes with funding for the acquisition of three sites for the library, construction for a third facility and a library collection upgrade for existing libraries. This bond election also includes the construction of Plano Centre as well as expansion of the Municipal Center offices and downtown streetscape improvements and the expansion of Haggard Park.

**November 18, 1984** Dedication of Plano Senior Center.

**1985** Voters approve the expansion of Collin County Community College to Plano.

**1985** Plano General Hospital celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and becomes HCA Medical Center of Plano.

**1985** Plano Service League renames itself Junior League of Plano.

**1985** Announcement made by PISD about plans for a third senior high school to serve student's on the far west side.

**1985** City upgrades its bond rating and establishes special reserve funds to cover any city liability and replace capital.

**1985** Plano Community Choir breaks up.

**1985** City Council lowers the tax rate a full penny from the previous year's rate.

**1985** Voters approve two bond packages totaling \$220 million - \$53.6 for schools, and \$172 for capital improvements.

**1985** 911 emergency service comes to Plano and the city completes its sixth fire station.

**1985** State Highway department announces two major transportation projects: the widening of Central Expressway to four lanes in each direction and a commitment to construct SH 190. In addition DART approves a rail plan with a line along Central Expressway to Plano.

**January 1985** Bob Woodruff succeeds David Griffin as City Manager.

**May 1985** EDS moves into its first building – IPC-1.

**August 1985** Frito-Lay begins moving employees in their new facility and it is fully staffed by October.

**September 1985** League of Women Voters host first Arts and Crafts Faire in conjunction with the Plano Balloon Festival.

**September 16, 1985** DART begins first suburban service to Plano.

**1986** Texas Sesquicentennial is celebrated and Haggard Park is expanded and improved for Sesquicentennial activities. Original brick streets restored in Plano's downtown area. The Interurban Railway Station is restored and a bandstand is constructed in Haggard Park.

**1986** City of Plano renames east-west thoroughfare Carpenter Road – Legacy Drive.

**1986** EDS files for trademark registration for the name Legacy.

**1986** Texas economy staggers under falling oil prices and a stagnant real estate market. Plano is affected and its unemployment rate reaches 7%.

**1986** City Council has to reverse its action of 1985 and implement a tax rate increase.

**February 1986** Plano enters into a Sister City agreement with Gumi, Korea.

**October 1986** Heritage Farmstead, the Ammie Wilson house opens as a living museum after restoration by the Plano Heritage Association.

**December 1986** First Dickens in Downtown Christmas celebration is sponsored by Parks and Recreation department and Downtown Merchants.

**December 8, 1986** City acquires land from the Haggard family for the site of the city's third library on the west side of Coit between Park and Parker.

**1987** Plano Metropolitan Ballet is founded.

July 18, **1987** City Manager Bob Woodruff is killed in an automobile accident. The city honors his memory by naming Oak Grove Park for him.

December **1987** Thomas Muehlenbeck assumes the position as Plano's City Manager.

**1987** HCA Willow Park Hospital opens and Charter Medical Corporation receives approval for a



psychiatric hospital.

**1987** Douglass Community Center is completed.

**January 1987** Southland Life opens new headquarters in Legacy.

**June 1987** Charles Rohre is named Plano Police Chief.

**July 2, 1987** JCPenney announces its plans to move from New York to Plano's Legacy business park.

**November 16, 1987** DART breaks ground on the West Plano Transit Center at 15<sup>th</sup> and Coit.

**1987-88** Hendrick, Mathews, and Brinker Elementary Schools open and Williams High School is renovated. Total number of schools in Plano = 36, serving more than 28,000 by the end of the decade.

**January 1988** Voters vote to add two seats to the Plano City Council in a special charter amendment election.

**January 1988** Commerce Bank of Plano is the first bank to fail in the city's history.

**July 1988** Regulators declare First RepublicBank Corp., the state's largest bank-holding company, insolvent. Regulators take over all its subsidiaries including First RepublicBank-Plano. NCNB Corp. takes over all subsidiaries.

**December 1988** Texas Bank of Plano is declared insolvent. The deposits are acquired by Plano East National Bank.

**1988** EDS receives trademark registration for the name Legacy.

**1988** Plano Community Choir re-forms.

**May 1988** Plano City Council adopts a new sign ordinance restricting real estate signs.

**June 1988** City Council issues \$20 million in general obligation bonds to fund construction of a civic center.

**1989** Southland Life vacates their Legacy office building after they are purchased by Georgia S Corp.

**1989** Plano receives its first designation as Tree City U.S.A. by the National Arbor Day Foundation.

**1989** DART survives recall election in Plano. A site is selected for the East Plano Transit Center, on Archerwood Street, north of Park Blvd.

**1989** John B. Anthony Theatre opens at CCCC Spring Creek Campus.

**1989** Directors hired for the Plano Economic Development Board and the Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

**1989** Opening of the Spring Creek Campus of CCCC.

**1989** Groundbreaking for Plano Civic Centre (Plano Centre), Haggard Library and Plano Community Center.

**1989** Regulators declare Hallmark Savings Association and Plano Savings & Loan Association insolvent. Plano banking subsidiary Texas American Bancshares is closed by federal regulators. Later in the year City National Bank of Plano and United National Bank of Plano are declared insolvent. Both are subsidiaries of Plano-based United City Corp. a bank holding company.

**February 1989** Muratec moves into their national headquarters in Legacy.

**May 1, 1989** W.O Haggard, Jr. Library opens to the public with a collection of 41,000 volumes.

**May 13, 1989** Dedication of Enfield Park.

**December 1989** Construction begins on Collin Creek Crossing (later known as Collin Creek Mall).

**1990** Plano population is 128,713 a 78% increase since 1980.

**1990** Complete restoration of the Interurban Railway building in downtown Plano.

**April 1990** Plano Centre opens.

**May 5, 1990** Florence Shapiro is elected mayor.

**July 1990** Frito-Lay submits plans for expansion.

**late fall 1990** EDS breaks ground on their 1.6 million square foot headquarters with a proposed opening date of January 1, 1993.

**November 1990** JC Penney breaks ground on their 125 acre headquarters site in Legacy.

**1991** Avenue K and L are reworked in downtown Plano to create two one-way streets to improve

north-south traffic flow.

**1991** Dr. James Surratt is selected as P.I.S.D.'s new superintendent.

**1991** City implements a recycling program for aluminum, glass, newspaper and some plastics.

**Spring – summer 1991** A sub-committee of the Plano Planning and Zoning Commission prepares a plan to guide downtown development.

**January 1, 1991** Children's Presbyterian Healthcare Center opens.

**January 26, 1991** Citizens vote against 9 out of 15 proposals in a bond package. Expansion of Harrington, Schimelpfenig and Haggard libraries is approved. A new justice center is also approved.

**February 25, 1991** City Council approves the purchase of the Downtown Center for additional parking.

**March 1991** Youth curfew ordinance is repealed due to concerns over possible constitutional issues.

**March 25, 1991** Plano Rehabilitation opens.

**June 14, 1991** Construction begins on Dallas North Tollway extension from Briargrove Lane to SH 121.

**July 1991** Plano Municipal Reference Library opens in the Plano Municipal Center.

**August 1991** Voters deny a \$36.8 million revenue bond proposal for water and sewer improvements.

**September 1991** Plano enters into a Sister City agreement with the city of Ivanovo in Russia.

**September 11, 1991** The Downtown Development Plan is approved by City Council.

**October 1991** ARCO announces layoffs for many workers in Dallas and Plano in cost-cutting measures.

**October 2, 1991** Plano Children's Medical Clinic is founded by Operation HeadStart physician Dr. Allan deVilleneuve and nurse Carla Bateman.

**November 11, 1991** Dedication of the newly expanded Plano Municipal Center.

**July 1992** Frito-Lay begins construction on their expansion.

**1992** Plano population is 142,000.

**1992** Razor and Mitchell Elementary Schools open.

**1992** Florence Shapiro is elected to the Texas Senate.

**1992** Preservation Plan is updated.

**February 1992** Plano City Council passes ordinance to regulate the display of sexually explicit materials.

**February 1992** Collin Creek Mall expansion is announced.

**April 1993** East Plano Transit Center opens.

**May 2, 1992** James Muns is elected mayor.

**October 1992** EDS moves into their corporate headquarters.

**1993** Capital improvement projects include a new central fire station, new police and courts building, a senior citizens community center, another municipal golf course and another natatorium.

**1993** Collin Country Children's Advocacy Center opens.

**1993** Bethany and Robinson Elementary Schools are completed.

**1993** Dallas North Tollway extends farther north with frontage roads to Legacy Drive.

**1993** DART service plan is revised.

**January 1993** J.C. Penney moves into their corporate headquarters.

**January 1993** ARCO eliminates more workers.

**February 1993** Ordinance passes regulating sexually oriented businesses.

**March 1993** Presbyterian and Children's Healthcare Center change their name to Presbyterian Hospital of Plano.

**July 1993** Countrywide Credit buys old Southland Life Building for a regional loan production and servicing center.

**July 1, 1993** Ground is broken on expansion for Gladys Harrington Library.

**September 4, 1993** Ashley Estell is abducted from Carpenter Park and her body is found

several days later.

**September 15, 1993** Michael Blair is arrested for the abduction and murder of Ashley Estell.

**October 1993** Atlantic Richfield Co. discloses a restructuring plan eliminating hundreds of local jobs and its Dallas headquarters.

**1994** Plano population is 160,000.

1994 P.I.S.D. moves its main administrative offices from Cox High School in downtown Plano.

**February 1994** Countrywide Funding moves into their new facilities in Legacy.

**April 1994** Plano is selected as a finalist for the designation of All-America City.

**June 1994** Plano earns title of "All-America City" from the National Civic League recognizing Plano for the Police Department's crime prevention efforts, PISD's Practical Parent Education program and the Plano Children's Medical Clinic.

**August 15, 1994** Renovated and expanded Gladys Harrington Library opens.

September 1994 Phase II of Dallas North Tollway extension through Plano opens.

**September 1994** Plano delegation awarded the National Civic League's All-America City Award by President Clinton in the Rose Garden.

**October 1994** Michael Blair is sentenced to death for the abduction and murder of Ashley Estell.

**October 1994** Teen curfew ordinance is approved by Plano City Council.

**1995** Dr. Douglas Otto is hired as PISD's superintendent.

**1995** Restaurant smoking ordinance

**1995** Plano acquires a new Sister City – San Pedro Garza Garcia in Mexico

**1995** Dallas Business Journal reports that Collin County ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in the nation for overall economic strength.

**1995** Official dedication of SH 190 which becomes known as the President George Bush Highway.

**May 6, 1995** Bond election passes providing funds for the construction of a fourth library. Funds for a new senior citizens center are also approved.

**June 1995** Plano's revised smoking ordinance is implemented.

**August 1995** City Council passes ordinance requiring Plano property owners to remove graffiti from their buildings.

**September 28 – October 8, 1995** Celebrate Plano arts festival is held.

**October 1995** Plano Arts Festival is poorly attended and plans for future events are subsequently cancelled.

**September 30, 1995** ArtCentre of Plano opens.

**October 1995** Fire destroys five homes and damages 17 others in the Whiffletree subdivision in Plano.

**December 1995** Plano City Council approves ordinance requiring wood decking beneath wood shingle roofs on new homes and additions.

**December 1995** Harrington Pharmacy closes in downtown Plano.

**1996** Plano issues more residential building permits than in any previous year.

**1996** Plano wins National Recycling Excellence Gold Award.

**1996** Plano Parks and Recreation department receives National Arbor Day Foundation's designation as a Tree City USA and the Texas Recreation and Parks Society's Texas Gold Medal Award.

**1996** Ridgeview Ranch Golf Club opens.

**1996** Skaggs and Barksdale Elementary Schools and Jasper High School open.

**January 1996** City Council approves purchase of 14 acre tract on Independence and Caravan for a joint use facility for the fourth library and a police sub-station.

**January 1996 – November 1997** A series of heroin deaths (eleven) among young people in Plano receives national attention.

**March 11, 1996** Haggard Library's basement expansion opens to the public.

**March 29, 1996** Dedication of the Raymond Robinson Justice Center, with a city jail, two municipal courtrooms and law enforcement offices.

**May 4, 1996** John Longstreet is elected mayor

**July 1996** Dr Pepper announces plans to construct a campus style headquarters in Legacy.

**July 1996** PageNet Inc. announces plans to build a corporate office in Legacy.

October 1996 Southwestern Legal Foundation announces plans to build new headquarters in Legacy.

**October 1996** Plano City Council approves 3 sign ordinance revisions

**December 1996** Groundbreaking for Dr Pepper/Seven Up Inc. headquarters in Legacy.

**1997** Plano's population passes the 200,000 mark.

**1997** Betty Haun Elementary School opens

**1997** Dallas North Tollway extends frontage roads to SH 121

**1997** North Central Expressway/ SH 190 overpass is completed.

**1997** Plano Chamber of Commerce's 4,200 square foot expansion opens.

**1997** DART designates a full service stop in downtown Plano for its light rail service.

**January 1997** Fina announces plans to build new headquarters in Legacy.

**June 1997** EDS announces plan for new urbanism project on Legacy Drive and North Dallas Tollway to be known as Legacy Town Center.

**June 4, 1997** Groundbreaking takes place for the fourth library, to be named the Maribelle M. Davis Library.

**July 1997** Presbyterian Hospital announces plans for \$86 million dollar expansion.

**July 1997** Fina breaks ground for their headquarters in Legacy.

**September 1, 1997** Senate Bill 46 known as Ashley's Laws take effect targeting sexual offenders.

**September 29, 1997** Renovated L.E.R. Schimelpfenig Library opens to the public.

**October 1997** Official opening of SMU-in-Legacy.

**October 1997** Legacy Bank of Texas (formerly Plano Bank & Trust) purchases acreage in Legacy to house headquarters.

**October 1997** Council agrees to reduce the boundary separations between private clubs and schools or churches in the business/government district.

**October 21, 1997** Grand Opening of Plano Senior Center.

**November 27, 1997** Plano police announce the arrest of the city's biggest heroin supplier.

**January 1998** Plano City Council approves tree ordinance.

**March 1998** Dr Pepper moves into their corporate headquarters in Legacy.

**May 1998** Extensive reorganization of municipal staff divides operations into four business centers.

**May 2, 1998** Bond election passes providing funds for a fifth library.

**May 11, 1998** Council approves new urbanism project to create a high-density mixed use project adjacent to the DART platform downtown.

**June 8, 1998** Plano Bank & Trust takes on the name Legacy Bank of Texas to reflect its expanded scope of services.

**August 10, 1998** Interlocal agreement is approved by the city and DART for properties and improvements near the DART platform.

**August 17, 1998** Maribelle M. Davis Library opens to the public.

**1999** Plano West Senior High School opens.

**January 14, 1999** City grants Amicus Partners an opportunity to negotiate an agreement as project developer of downtown development. Plans reviewed and accepted on May 4, 1999.

**February 1999** Ericsson announces plans to consolidate its operations on 35 acres in Legacy.

**July 1999** Collin County's Children's Advocacy Center moves to new larger location.

**July 2, 1999** Bush Turnpike opens between Coit Road and Preston in Plano.

**September 1999** Wellness International moves their headquarters to Legacy.

**October 1999** Ceremonial groundbreaking for the Legacy Town Center.

**November 1999** Fina announces relocation of workers from Plano to Houston.

**2000** Plano population is 222,030 a 72% increase since 1990.

**2000** Plano becomes a Sister City to Brampton, Ontario in Canada.

**May 6, 2000** Jeran Akers is elected mayor.

**October 9, 2000** Construction begins on Eastside Village I.

**November 2000** Beal Bank moves into former Fina headquarters.  
Computer Associates announce plans to move into regional headquarters in Legacy.

**2001** Plano Conservancy is founded.

**January 2001** Plano and Zoning Commission approves amendments to ordinances concerning permanent cosmetics and tattooing.

**January 2001** City and Amicus Partners join together for undertake a second redevelopment project in downtown Plano.

**March 2001** Doubletree Hotel opens for business in Legacy Town Center.

**March 15, 2001** Construction begins on the Courtyard Theater.

**March 26, 2001** City Council approves preliminary development plan for Eastside Village II.

**April 1, 2001** Christopher A. Parr Library opens to the public.

**April 13, 2000** Demolition of the Downtown Center.

**May 5, 2001** Bond election passes providing funds for expansion of the Haggard Library.

**August 2001** The Shops at Willow Bend open.

**August 2001** Intuit Inc. moves into its Legacy offices. Crossmark decides to keep its headquarters in Plano and announces plans to build a second building in Legacy.

**September 2001** Ericsson opens its \$115 million campus style headquarters in Legacy.

**September 2001** Grand opening of new Legacy Bank of Texas headquarters.

**September 1, 2001** First units in Eastside Village I are ready for occupancy.

**September 28, 2001** Construction begins on Eastside Village II.

**March 2002** Network Associates and Crossmark begin construction of new offices in Legacy.

**April 2002** Stores and restaurants open in the new Legacy Town Center.

**April 2002** Opening of the Courtyard Theater.

**May 4, 2002** Pat Evans is elected mayor

**October 2002** Haggard Memorial Park reopens after a six month renovation and grooming.

**December 2002** A new plaza/park, Biggerstaff Plaza, is dedicated in honor of Jim Biggerstaff a longtime florist and civic activist.

**December 2002** DART light rail service begins in Plano.

**February 12, 2003** Service road for the Dallas North Tollway is completed to US Hwy 380.

**March 19, 2003** Jim Biggerstaff passes away.

**April 2003** Plano City Council bans fake guns in public places.

**September 2003** Plano signs Sister City agreement with Hsinchu, Taiwan.

**September 2003** The Interurban Museum opens in downtown Plano.

**January 2004** Plans for a luxury townhome and condominium development to be known as 15<sup>th</sup> Street Village are announced.

**January 2004** Money Magazine names Plano the #1 hottest city in the West for cities with a population over 100,000.

**February 2004** Plano signs the Arts of Collin County interlocal agreement with Frisco and Allen.

**May 2004** Collin County Adoption Resource Center opens.

**June 2004** City bans alcohol from sexually-oriented businesses.

**June 27, 2004** Gladys Harrington passes away at the age of 103.

**December 2004** Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano opens for business.

**July 2005** Ericsson announces plans to establish research center at its Plano headquarters.

**September 2005** Plano activates the Emergency Operations Center to aid in relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina evacuees. Over 2500 people from Katrina, and 400 from Hurricane Rita, were processed/sheltered.

**October 2005** 1<sup>st</sup> Plano International Festival is held at Haggard Park.

**December 2005** Haggard Library reopens after major renovation.

**March 2006** Plano begins enforcing Red Light Camera law at four intersections.

**April 2006** City Council recognized the demographic milestone of reaching our 250,000<sup>th</sup> resident.

**April 2006** The Amphitheater at Oak Point Park opens with a concert by the Derailer.

**December 2006** Fire Station #11 opens.

**March 2007** Collin County Community College is renamed "Collin College".

**May 2007** First Live Green in Plano Expo

**June 2007** Plano's Smokefree regulation goes into effect.

**November 2007** Tom Muehlenbeck Center opens.

**2008** Children's Medical Center Legacy opens.

**January 2008** The new Genealogy, Local History, Texana, and Archives department opens in the basement of Haggard Library.

**May 2009** Phil Dyer elected Mayor/

**July 2009** Oak Point Nature Preserve Grand Opening

**Late 2009** Cigna opens its regional headquarters, Cigna Pointe, a LEED-certified facility.

**January 2010** Director of Libraries Joyce Baumbach retires, Cathy Ziegler becomes Library Director.

**August 2010** Fire Station #13 opens.

**October 2010** Fire Station # 12 and Emergency Operations Center open.

**December 2010** Single Point Urban Interchange at Parker Rd. and U.S. 75 opens, and is first of its kind in Texas.

**January 2011** City Manager Tom Muehlenbeck retires.

**February 2011** Bruce Glasscock becomes City Manager.

**June 2011** Atmos Energy opens its Vaughn Center training facility and lab.

**October 2011** Wireless Internet for the public available at Plano Public Library locations.

**December 2011** Plano ranked the Safest City in the country, by Forbes magazine.

**February 2012** Council passes the Safe Passing ordinance to promote safety for cyclists on our streets.