

Steve - You were too young to remember!

## THIS WAS THE YEAR...1945

**U.S. PRESIDENT:** Harry Truman takes office after Franklin Roosevelt dies unexpectedly on April 12<sup>th</sup> at age 63.

**U.S. VICE PRESIDENT:** There was no Vice President from 1945-1949.

**HEADLINES:**

- Horrified Soviet Troops Liberate Prisoners at Auschwitz
- 6 Million People Die in German Concentration Camps
- World War II Ends with Germany's Unconditional Surrender
- Hitler Commits Suicide in Underground Berlin Bunker
- Mussolini Shot, Hung Upside Down
- Iwo Jima Falls to U.S. Marines
- General George Patton Survives War, Dies from Car Accident Injuries
- U.S. Army Bomber Crashes into 79<sup>th</sup> Floor of Empire State Building - 15 People Killed, 11 Floors Set on Fire
- Grand Rapids, MI is 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Community to Fluoridate Water
- Ball Point Pens, Tupperware® & Frozen Orange Juice Introduced
- First Issue of *Ebony* Magazine Published by John H. Johnson

**PULITZER PRIZE WINNER:** *A Bell for Adano* by John Hersey

**NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER:** Cordell Hull (American Secretary of State instrumental in establishing the United Nations)

**COST OF LIVING:**

- New House - \$4,625
- New Car - \$1,025
- Gasoline - 15¢ per gallon
- Movie Ticket - 50¢
- Average Income - \$2,390 per year
- Average Rent - \$60 per month
- Tuition to Harvard - \$420 per year
- U.S. Postage Stamp - 3¢

**COST OF FOOD:**

- Granulated Sugar - 75¢ per 10 pounds
- Ground Coffee - 50¢ per pound
- Eggs - 22¢ per dozen
- Fresh Bread - 9¢ per loaf
- Vitamin D Milk - 62¢ per gallon
- Bacon - 45¢ per pound
- Ground Hamburger - 35¢ per pound

**MUSIC:** *Accentuate the Positive* (Johnny Mercer), *Candy* (Johnny Mercer & Jo Stafford), *Chickery Chick* (Sammy Kaye), *Dream* (Pied Pipers), *It's Been a Long, Long Time* (Harry James), *Rum and Coca-Cola* (Andrews Sisters), *Sentimental Journey* (Les Brown), *There, I've Said It Again* (Vaughn Monroe), *Till the End of Time* (Perry Como), *White Christmas* (Bing Crosby)

**MOVIES:** *And Then There Were None* (Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Huston), *The Bells of St. Mary's* (Bing Crosby, Ingrid Bergman), *The Lost Weekend* (Ray Milland, Jane Wyman), *Mildred Pierce* (Joan Crawford, Eve Arden), *Spellbound* (Ingrid Bergman, Gregory Peck), *State Fair* (Jeanne Crain, Dana Andrews), *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* (Dorothy McGuire, Joan Blondell)

**SPORTS:**

- Champions include the Detroit Tigers (World Series Baseball), Cleveland Browns (Pro Football), Toronto Maple Leafs (Stanley Cup Hockey), and Army (College Football).
- National Football League requires players to wear long stockings.
- Athletes of the Year are Byron Nelson (golf) and Babe Didrikson Zaharias (golf).