MAY 21, 1937

A speed limit of 70 mph is imposed; originally there was no speed limit.

Act 211 is signed to establish the Turnpike Commission.

Philadelphia & Western Extensions open. Traffic volume grows to 11 million vehicles.

The Delaware River Bridge opens. It is the longest bridge on the PA Turnpike (6,571 ft.).

1960s

The Turnpike becomes known as the “Tunnel Highway” because of the seven tunnels built to cross through Pennsylvania.

Turnpike initiates cellular-phone emergency number (*11).

PA Turnpike is opened to traffic. America’s First Superhighway was originally 160 miles long and now spans more than 550 miles.

The 70s was a time of upgrades and improvements for a safer highway.

Oakmont-Plum, the first of 17 service plazas being reconstructed, opens.

Turnpike launches E-ZPass.

The turn of the century brings a new focus to the Turnpike — intelligent devices to monitor travel conditions. Development of Turnpike expansion projects continues.

Turnpike introduces a smartphone app.

The Turnpike moves ahead with plans to convert to All-Electronic Tolling.