

August 3

1763 Pierre Laclede left New Orleans to establish a trading post near the confluence of the Missouri and the Mississippi. At Fort Chartres in Illinois, he told French settlers that England now controlled the land east of the Mississippi. He invited them to settle near his trading post, which he said would become a great city. He chose the site in December 1763. His men wanted to name the site Laclede, but he named it for King Louis the IX.

1878 Thornton Grimsley was born in Kentucky. In 1833, the St. Louis saddle maker's design was made the official saddle of the US Army. The Army changed designs in 1859, but St. Louisans Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman preferred their Grimsley saddles. Grimsley fought to set aside land in South St. Louis for a public park, a plan dubbed "Grimsley's Folly." But that land is now known as Lafayette Park.

1882 The Municipal Assembly was considering an ordinance to settle the question of whether bicycles should be allowed on the public streets. The bill would ban bikes from the streets, sidewalks, parks and public parks. Violators would be fined \$50.

1901 A delegation of automobile owners called on Mayor Rolla Wells to protest two proposed ordinances. One would set an automobile speed limit of eight miles per hour on city streets, six in the parks. They told the mayor autos could travel safely at speeds of up to 15 miles per hour. The other proposed ordinance would have set an auto tax of \$10.

1902 The plans for the world's fair to be held in 1903 suffered a setback. A severe thunderstorm severely damaged several of the partially completed buildings on the fairgrounds. Hardest hit was the newly completed Varied Industries building. Its two 185-foot tall towers were sheared off.

1932 Work began on the Municipal Auditorium. The cornerstone was laid on November 11, 1932. The auditorium was dedicated on April 14th, 1934. It was later named for Mayor Henry Kiel, whose firm built it. In 1992, the convention hall was torn down to make room for Kiel Center. The auditorium remains.

1937 The Berkeley School District was created from the Kinloch District. It came about because of a dispute over the location of a new black high school between the largely black area of south Kinloch and the white area to the north.

1938 The Art Museum announced the purchase of a \$14,000 Egyptian bronze sculpture of a cat. The cat purchase ignited a controversy that captured national attention, at a time when the city was still suffering the effects of the depression. The papers were bombarded with letters to the editor, and the city threatened to cut the museum tax rate in half.

1943 All business in St. Louis was halted for one minute at two p.m., the hour of the funeral for Mayor William Dee Becker. Becker and nine other people died on August 1, in the crash of an Army glider at Lambert Field. Inspectors found that a defective fitting

holding one of the wings to the fuselage had snapped. Major Albert Bond Lambert had missed the flight because he made a stop on the way to the field.

1960 The *Globe-Democrat* reported that CBS had applied for a construction permit for an FM Station to present the same programming as KMOX. The article said that permits had been granted for WIL-FM and KPLR-FM.

1961 The architect of the Arch, Eero Saarinen, announced that plans for the memorial were nearly complete. He outlined some of the unique solutions to the engineering problems presented by the Arch, including how to keep the structure stable during a high wind.

1961 The Cardinals were pounded by the Pirates 19-0, the most lopsided shutout in modern major league history. The Cubs had set the previous record back in 1906.

1968 Frank "Buster" Wortman died at the age of 68. He ran the gambling, slot machines, pinball machines, and horse parlors on the East Side. Wortman & two associates were indicted for tax evasion in 1962. Before the sentencing, one of the partners and his bodyguard were shot to death. Wortman's conviction was overturned and he retired to a house in Collinsville surrounded by a moat.

1971 KMOX traffic reporter Officer Don Miller was injured in a freak accident while his chopper was still on the ground. The pilot landed too close to a second copter on the river front pad. The blades of the two copters met, and Miller was bounced out of the copter.

1976 A private plane carrying U.S. Representative Jerry Litton and his family crashed after take-off from his home town of Chillicothe. All six people on board were killed. The Littons had been bound to Kansas City for a victory party. Litton was leading in his bid for the Democratic nomination for U-S Senate.

2004 Missouri became the first state to pass a constitutional amendment defining marriage as between a man and a woman. The gay marriage ban lost in St. Louis, but attracted an overwhelming majority in the rural areas. Voters also rejected a proposal for a casino in Rockaway Beach and gave Auditor Claire McCaskill a win over Governor Bob Holden in the Democratic primary.

2004 It was announced that the name Busch Stadium would live on. Anheuser-Busch purchased naming rights for the new stadium.