

August 7

1846 The birthdate of the St. Louis Police Department. The Board of Aldermen passed an ordinance organizing the old City Guard, the City Marshall, Day Police and the "Keeper of the Calaboose" together into a City Police Department.

1854 Anti-Irish rioting swept St. Louis. The three-day riot would claim ten lives. Area toughs roamed the Irish neighborhoods to prevent foreign-born residents from voting against the nativists candidate for mayor.

1861 The Union awarded a contract to St. Louis engineer James B. Eads to build seven new iron clad gunboats. The contract required the boats to be finished by October 5th, with Eads forfeiting \$200 per boat for each day past the deadline! It was a nearly impossible task under wartime conditions. The first ship was launched on October 12th.

1869 Frederick Kreismann was born in Quincy, Illinois. Kreismann was the 35th Mayor of St. Louis, from 1909-1913. The fight for construction of the long-awaited "Free Bridge" dominated his administration. Work was begun on the Municipal Courts Building and the Central Library Building was also completed during his term.

1905 The new city hospital at 14th and Lafayette opened its doors. 360 patients were moved from the dilapidated building at 17th and Pine that had served as city hospital since the 1896 tornado. The 1905 building still stands, although it has been abandoned and stripped by vandals.

1915 With a rookie pitcher on the mound, Cardinals manager Miller Huggins was coaching third base. Huggins called for the ball. As the pitcher tossed it to him, Huggins stepped aside. The ball flew into foul territory and a run scored. The rules were quickly changed to prevent such treachery in the future. The Cardinals won the game.

1924 Talking motion pictures were exhibited here for the first time. The process for synchronizing pictures and sound was developed by Lee DeForrest. One viewer of the films of vaudeville acts described the effect as "ghost-like" and "uncanny."

1928 St. Louis voters overwhelmingly approved a \$2 million dollar bond issue for the city to develop Lambert Field into a first-class municipal airport. The vote came about a year after the city said it had no interest in the purchase. Albert Bond Lambert developed the land and held it for the city to buy at cost, about \$650 an acre.

1952 Stuart Symington was hailed as the newest political superstar in Missouri, as he won the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senator. Symington upset established politicians, including President Truman, who has supported state attorney general J.E. Taylor.

1960 Ike and Tina Turner's first single, "Fool in Love," debuted on the *Billboard* charts. It rose to #2 R and B and #27 on the pop chart. The first Ike and Tina record came about

by accident, as the session singer hired to sing with Ike didn't show. Tina stepped in. Ike and Tina followed "Fool in Love" with four more top ten hits over two years. By then, Tina was plainly the star.

1961 Stix, Baer and Fuller opened its lavish new store in the River Roads Shopping Center at Jennings Station and Halls Ferry. It was the first unit of the ultra modern shopping center that even boasted a monorail indoors. River Roads now sits largely vacant, the victim of changing times and traffic patterns.

1967 Developer R.T. Crowe acquired 3,000 acres for a new development in St. Charles county. He planned to build homes around his "Lake St. Louis," as well as a golf course, shopping center, and other planned amenities. Crowe patterned the project after planned communities he had visited at Reston, Virginia and Columbia, Maryland. He ended up bankrupt.

1968 Election returns showed that Missouri would probably elect its first black congressman in November. William Clay won the Democratic primary and Curtis Crawford won the Republican nomination for the seat in the First District.

1972 Yogi Berra was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Berra grew up on "The Hill" across the street from Joe Garagiola. The Yanks catcher played on a record ten World Series championship teams. He may be best known for his odd quotes. In 1947, the Cardinals honored him with "Yogi Berra Night." Berra told the crowd: "I want to thank everyone for making this night necessary."

1975 Cardinals shortstop Edgar Renteria, was born in in Barranquilla, Colombia

1987 A Blue Silverado pickup truck rolled off the assembly line, the last vehicle built at the General Motors plant on Union in North St. Louis. The GM plant had built 13,873,983 vehicles since 1920. The plant was replaced by the Wentzville facility, and is now an industrial park.

1994 The Fans Incorporated group announced that they had received a "wish list" form the Los Angeles Rams of things they wanted in order to move to St. Louis. The list included such items as revenue from licensing.

1984 St. Charles County voters passed a measure allowing stores to open on Sunday. One week later, a St. Louis Alderman introduced a bill to put a similar measure on the ballot in St. Louis.

1995 St. Louis TV viewers made a big switch. KTVI left the ABC network for Fox. KDNL became the new St. Louis ABC affiliate. Channel Two's new owners set the deal in motion as part of a 1994 deal with Fox.

2005 Edgar Renteria hit the last walk off grand slam at Busch Stadium. The shot off Chris Reitsma gave the Cardinals a 5-3 win over the Braves.

