

August 13

1801 The "Mother of Kansas City" was born in Kaskaskia, Illinois. Bernice Therese Menard Chouteau and her husband Francois Chouteau came from St. Louis to establish a trading post in 1821. They were the first white settlers of what is now Kansas City. Francis Chouteau was the nephew of August Chouteau, who helped found St. Louis.

1803 Louis Benoist was born in St. Louis. In 1854, the banker hired George I. Barnett to design a distinctive home Benoist called "Oakland." Barnett had designed the mansion and garden at Tower Grove for Henry Shaw. Oakland today is the headquarters of the Affton Historical Society.

1867 William Lemp Junior was born. He became president of the Lemp Brewery after his father committed suicide in 1904. Valued at more than \$7 million before prohibition, the brewery's assets were sold to International Shoe Company for \$588,000 on June 28, 1922. Depressed over the failure of the brewery William Junior killed himself on December 29, 1922.

1904 Secretary of War William Howard Taft was a guest at the World's Fair on "Phillipine Day." Taft once served as governor of the Phillipine Islands. The highlight of the visit was a tour of the native villages, including the home of the Igorrote tribe. The tribe had made headlines here with their diet of dog meat.

1917 A grand jury in Belleville returned indictments against 105 people, including two women, in connection with the East St. Louis race riot. A total of 12 blacks would go to jail for the murder of two white detectives. Nine whites were convicted of murder. Another 41 whites were convicted of misdemeanors. They served short jail sentences or paid small fines for their role in the deadliest race riot in U.S. history.

1921 Jimmy McCracklin was born in St. Louis. He became a respected West Coast blues musician and worked as a professional boxer. He scored a top ten hit in 1958 with "The Walk" and charted again in 1961 with "Just Got To Know."

1934 The Cardinals played an exhibition game in Detroit, a preview of the world series. Paul and Dizzy Dean refused to make the trip, having pitched the day before. Dizzy was fined \$100 and Paul was fined \$50. The next day, they were suspended. Dizzy tore up a uniform, and then ripped up another for the benefit of a photographer who missed it the first time.

1936 Testimony was continuing in one of the most sensational trials in St. Louis history. Nellie Muench, a Central West End socialite, was charged with fraud. She had been acquitted of masterminding the kidnapping of Doctor Isaac Kelley. But she stole a baby from an unwed mother in order to look more sympathetic to the jury. She even convinced another doctor to give her money, telling him he was the father! The child's real mother, Anna Ware, took the stand on this date.

1947 Willard Brown hit an inside the park home run for the St. Louis Browns, the first American League home run by a black player. Brown and his teammate, Henry Thompson, were cut after just five weeks. The Browns hoped the black players would boost attendance, and released them when it didn't work.

1947 The St. Louis County Court incorporated the community of Bel Ridge, the 66th municipality in the county. Today there are 91 municipalities in the county. The city of about 3,000 is probably best known as a notorious speed trap on I-170 and Natural Bridge.

1956 Construction began on a short stretch of Interstate 70 in St. Charles, near the present-day Fifth Street exit. Those few miles of I-70 were the very first of over 40,000 miles of interstate built in the United States. At the time, the population of all of St. Charles County was about 40,000d.

1957 A wildly firing patron shot and killed a spectator and injured two other people during a rock and roll concert at Kiel Auditorium. It happened as four thousand people watched a show featuring Roy Hamilton, the Clovers, the Spaniels, Screaming Jay Hawkins, and others.

1960 Rehearsals began here for the motion picture *Hoodlum Priest*, based on the story of Father Charles Dismas Clark. Parts of the film were shot at Dismas House, the City Jail and Produce Row. Don Murray starred in the film, which also was Keir Dullea's first screen appearance. Irvin Kershner directed. He later directed *The Empire Strikes Back* for George Lucas.

1961 The *Globe-Democrat* reported that "spiraling capsules" would take visitors to the top of the Arch. The capsule trains would revolve in a spiral course up the incline. Des Moines consulting engineer Richard Bowen designed the unusual system.

1963 Controlling interest in Scruggs, Vandervoort and Barney was sold to an East Coast investment firm. Scruggs stores had been a St. Louis tradition since 1850, when Richard Scruggs and MVL McLellan opened a dry goods store at Fourth and St. Charles. The downtown store soon covered an entire city block. It closed in 1967.

1970 State Highway Commissioners approved a study on the possible extension of Page Avenue into St. Charles County. Ground would finally be broken on the project on May 21, 1996 and Rte 364 opened on December 13, 2003, over 33 years after it was first proposed.

1979 Lou Brock of the Cardinals rapped out his 3,000th career hit. It came off Dennis Lamp of the Cubs in the fourth inning of a game at Busch. Lamp had knocked Brock down on the previous pitch. The Cards won the game 3-2. At age 40, Brock became the 14th player in major league history to reach 3,000 hits. Brock would bat .304 and steal 21 bases in 1979, his last season.

1982 Doctor Hector Zevallos, and his wife, Rosalie Jean, disappeared from their Edwardsville home. Zevallos operated a Granite City abortion clinic. They were released unharmed a week later. A group calling itself "The Army of God" claimed responsibility.