

August 21

1809 John Long Junior became the first man in St. Louis County to be sentenced to death for murder. He killed his stepfather at Long's Mill in Bonhomme Township. Long was hanged on September 16, 1809.

1818 Mother Rose Philippine Duchesne and four Sisters of the Sacred Heart, arrived aboard the *Franklin*. They were the first nuns in St. Louis. On September 14th, the sisters opened the first Sacred Heart School for girls in America at St. Charles.

1863 Notorious Missouri guerilla, William Clarke Quantrill, made his famous raid on Lawrence, Kansas. His band burned the town, and killed about 215 people. General Thomas Ewing, who commanded the Union troops along the Missouri and Kansas border, reacted by ordering rural residents of Jackson, Cass, Bates, and part of Vernon County out of their homes. The area was burned and looted.

1866 Work began in earnest on the Eads Bridge. James B. Eads supervised work to construct a cofferdam for the west abutment. A convention of engineers was meeting in St. Louis at the time. They condemned the Eads design as "perilous."

1877 The first recorded use of the telephone here. G.W. Stockley, the manager of a telegraph supply firm, tested the new invention. It was reported that conversations were clearly heard between phones installed in the offices of the *Globe-Democrat* and The *St. Louis Republican*.

1888 - William Burroughs of St. Louis, MO patented his adding machine. It was an invention that bore the name of Burrough's office machine company for many years.

1891 Today could be considered the birthday of the St. Louis Zoo. New Forest Park Commissioner Jonathan Fechter bought a herd of elk, "Clint the dromedary," and several other animals. They were placed with a buffalo and other animals on display in a yard and blockhouse built by the Forest Park Zoological Association. The collection remained small until the city passed an ordinance in 1913 setting aside 77 acres for a zoo.

1902 Leonor K. Sullivan was born. Her husband died in 1952 while serving as a Congressman from St. Louis. In the next election, she defeated Claude Bakewell, the man who replaced her husband. She became first woman from Missouri to serve in the House of Representatives. Sullivan fought for the legislation that completed the Arch. The city renamed Wharf Street in her honor in 1983.

1904 The *Post-Dispatch* Sunday Magazine offered tips on "The Right Way for Women to Walk." The article said high heels, corsets and fashionable clothes had made the American Girl's walk her greatest imperfection." Of course, the writer said, "men are fundamentally at fault for their fascination" with such fashions.

1905 Several workmen demolishing the roof of the Education Building at the world's fair site were injured when two sharp tremors jolted the area. The quakes caused near panic, but only minor damage.

1924 John Francis Buck was born in Holyoke, Massachusetts. He began his radio career at Ohio State, where a professor told him he should find another way to make a living. In 1950, he became the announcer for the Cardinals Triple-A team in Columbus. His first TV job was also in Columbus, where Jonathan Winters was a co-worker. Promoted to Rochester, he auditioned for the Cardinals in 1953. He was number three on the broadcasts, behind Harry Caray and Joe Garagiola. Buck became number two in 1961 and took the top job when Harry Caray was fired in 1969

1924 The biggest stars of Hollywood were here for the gala grand opening of the 3500 seat Leow's State Theatre downtown. The spectacular grand opening was broadcast live over KSD radio, and WHN in New York. The theatre closed in 1977.

1950 Congress passed and sent to President Truman an agreement between Missouri and Illinois creating the Bi-State Development Agency. The new agency would be in charge of planning bridges, airports and other infrastructure in the area.

1951 Just two days after Brown's owner Bill Veeck sent midget Eddie Gaedel up to bat, the major leagues banned midgets. Veeck said "I can only assume the league feels Gaedel provided unfair competition. I humbly suggest that Ted Williams, as far as St. Louis is concerned, is equally unfair competition."

1961 The State Highway Commission unveiled the design for the proposed free bridge at Poplar Street. Planners called for a single-deck eight-lane bridge. The bridge was expected to carry 110,000 cars each day by 1975.

1966 A crowd of 23,143 braved the rain to see the Beatles at Busch Stadium. They took the stage at 8:30 pm, having played a show in Cincinnati that afternoon. The Del-Rays from Mascoutah, Illinois, Bobby Hebb, the Ronettes and the Cyrkle also played. The Beatles appeared third to take advantage of a break in the weather. So the Beatles "opened" for the Ronettes and the Cyrkle that night. They performed 11 songs in 30 minutes. The Beatles would only play four more shows before they stopped touring.

1970 Landscaping finally began on the Arch grounds. In the five years since the Arch was completed, the grounds had become a muddy, rocky wasteland.

2003 The high temperature in St. Louis hit 104 degrees, the highest in 19 years. The record high for the month is 110 degrees, set on August 9, 1934.