

August 29

1769 Rose Phillipine Duchesne was born in France. As a sister of the Order of the Sacred Heart, she came to St. Louis in 1818, and founded the first school for Indian girls in the country. She founded the convent school that still bears her name today. She was canonized in 1988.

1833 John Mullanphy died. The first millionaire in St. Louis made his fortune cornering the cotton market during the War of 1812. A beloved philanthropist, he financed the first hospital west of the Mississippi, donated the land in Florissant for St. Ferdinand's church, and in St. Louis for the Sacred Heart Convent. His son Bryan became Mayor of St. Louis and carried on his father's charitable tradition.

1872 The government picked the block bounded by Sixth and Seventh, Olive and Pine, as its first choice for the site of the new Post Office and Customs House. The city was asked to make up the \$196,000 difference in the value of the land and the amount of money allocated by the government. A large meeting of citizens would vote for a site bounded by Locust and Olive, Eighth and Ninth.

1896 A large crowd at the St. Louis County fair watched in horror as celebrated aeronaut Mademoiselle Victoria LeRoy fell to her death from a gaily-decorated balloon. The accident brought the fair to an early end.

1904 The track and field events began before a crowd of 10,000 at the Olympic stadium. The U.S. took home 23 of the 25 gold medals. Ray Ewry, Archie Hahn, Jim Lightbody and Harry Hillman won three medals each. But Irishman Thomas Kiely won the event now known as the decathlon, which made its debut at the St. Louis games. Georg Coleman Poage of Milwaukee became the first black man to compete in the Olympic games when he lost a heat race. Poage would win a bronze in the 220 and 440-yard hurdles. He stayed in St. Louis after the fair, and became a coach and teacher at Sumner High School. Another African American, Joseph Stadler, would also win two medals.

1927 Mayor Victor Miller said the city would never be interested in the generous offer of Albert Bond Lambert to sell the flying field he had developed to the city at his cost. Miller said the airport was too far away to ever be worth the cost.

1932 James Haislip of Ferguson set a new record for transcontinental flight. He made the trip from L-A to New York in ten hours and 19 minutes. That broke the old record set by St. Louisan James Doolittle in 1931.

1946 Adolphus Busch the Third died after a brief illness. August A. Busch Junior, "Gussie," took over the brewery.

1955 The *Globe-Democrat* printed the serial numbers of the tens and 20's from the missing half of the Greenlease ransom. The paper urged readers to check their bills. Two bills had turned up recently in banks in St. Louis and in South Dakota.

1958 The first traffic rolled across the new four lane Mark Twain Expressway I-70 bridge at St. Charles. Only one westbound lane was open at that time. All lanes would be opened on September 5th. The bridge had been dedicated on August 16th.

1959 St. Peters was incorporated as a fourth-class city, with a population of less than 500. At the time, the city covered 88 acres and was surrounded by farmland. The population of St. Peters stood at 486 in 1970. It mushroomed to 15,700 by the end of the decade. Over 53,000 people call St. Peters home today.

1963 A golden spike was driven signifying completion of the Zoo Line Railroad.

1970 McDonnell-Douglas hailed the successful completion of the maiden flight of its newest airliner. Six American airlines and four foreign lines had already ordered the new DC-10. A crash at Chicago in 1979 doomed the DC-10 line.

1971 Nine people, including three policemen, were injured in a melee at a Kiel Auditorium concert featuring the group "Ten Years After." Local promoters were predicting the death of concerts in St. Louis because "the crazies" were getting out of hand.

1977 Lou Brock broke Ty Cobb's career stolen base mark, swiping his 893rd in a game at San Diego. The record breaker came off Dave Freisleben. The game was halted while Brock was mobbed by his teammates and Randy Jones of the Padres presented Lou with second base. Brock stole two bases in the game, but the Cardinals lost 4-3. Rickey Henderson broke Lou's record on May 1, 1991.

1977 St. Louis became the first major city without an amusement park as the "Chain of Rocks Fun Fair" park closed. The park on the bluff overlooking the Route 66 Chain of Rocks Bridge opened in 1924. It was a favorite site for school picnics in the 60's and 70's. The park faded after Six Flags Over Mid America opened in 1971.

1980 The Cardinals fired GM John Claiborne and promoted Whitey Herzog to the general manager's position. Red Scheondienst took over as interim manager. Herzog called the 1980 team "sorry human beings" and overhauled the club with a series of blockbuster trades during the winter meetings in December.

1980 The "godfather" of the St. Louis mob, Anthony Giordano, died of cancer at his South St. Louis home. He was 67. Just days before his death, members of the underworld met at the Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge at I-44 and Hampton Avenue to choose a successor. John Vitale would emerge as the new leader. Vitale would turn informant in 1981, and blow the whistle on the warring Leisure and Michaels families.

1985 Marching bands, speeches and fanfare marked the re-opening of a St. Louis landmark. After a \$150 million renovation, Union Station was re-born as a retail center.

After the last train departed in 1978, the station fell into disrepair, its gloomy interior a haven for the homeless.

2001 The Cardinals beat San Diego 16-14, the highest scoring game in Busch Stadium history. Ryan Klesko of the Padres slammed the longest home run ever by an opponent at Busch, a 472 foot shot.