

December 13

1816 The first bank in St. Louis opened for business. The Bank of St. Louis failed after just three years, mostly due to bickering among its directors.

1837 The newly-created Board of Education advertised for teachers for a public school to be established in St. Louis. The ad called for four males, to be paid \$900 per year. Four females would also be hired, at \$500 annually.

1855 The Missouri Legislature incorporated the Christian Brothers Academy and the Academy of the Visitation. The Academy of the Visitation was founded here in 1844, after the sisters fled flood-ravaged Kaskaskia Island.

1873 Enterprising downtown merchants had organized a "ferry" service--across the street! The first boat was launched at Third and Washington, "where the current of mud ran deepest and most rapid." The boat, which could hold several people, was pulled across the street by ropes.

1898 Missouri Governor Lon V. Stephens called for a convention with the governors of the states of the Louisiana Purchase, to be held in St. Louis in January, 1899. The convention would decide on a site for a fair to mark the centennial of the purchase in 1903.

1911 For the first time in baseball history, a woman attended a Major League meeting. Mrs. Helene H. Britton became the first female owner of a pro sports team when Cardinals owner Stanley Robison died on March 24 and left the team to his niece. "Lady Bee," let club president Edward Steininger handle the voting at that first NL meeting. But she later took a very active role in running the Cardinals.

1916 Archibald "Archie" Lee Moore was born in Mississippi. He grew up in St. Louis and began his boxing career at the Pine Street YMCA in 1934. Moore held the light heavyweight title from 1952 to 1961. Moore nearly won the heavyweight title in 1955. In 27 years in the ring, he scored a record 131 knockouts. After he retired to San Diego, Moore worked with disadvantaged youth and helped train George Foreman.

1921 The bloody war between the Hogan and Eagan gangs had spread to St. Louis County. "Little Joe" Cammaratta was killed by the Eagan Gang as he drove down Ballas Road. He was murdered in revenge for the killing of Ben Millner. Millner was gunned down by the Hogans at the Rigoletto Inn in November, 1920.

1926 The first auto manufacturer in St. Louis announced it was closing. Officials with the Dorris Motor Car Company said they could no longer compete with the financial giants now prevalent in the auto industry. The plant was located at 4100 Laclede.

1930 The Mayor of Kirkwood presided over ceremonies marking the dedication of the newly-named "Lindbergh" Boulevard. Formerly known as Denny Road, the new highway had just been paved between Lemay Ferry and St. Charles Rock Road.

1949 Ceremonies marked the completion of the new St. Louis County courthouse in Clayton. The keys to the \$1,065,000, five-story structure was turned over to the county court.

1950 Doctor Robert F. Hyland, "The surgeon general of baseball," died at the age of 64. He was the team doctor for the Cardinals and the Browns for 35 years. He began to work with injured players at a time when most injuries were ignored and players played through the pain. He was the father of KMOX executive Robert Hyland.

1964 Carpenters working on the Poplar Street Bridge walked off the job to protest what they called "hoodlum tactics" by the laborer's union. One laborer had been murdered. The bridge project was delayed by the violence and labor troubles.

1973 A spokesman for a dealers association said President Richard Nixon's fuel allocation order would close 300 gas stations in the St. Louis area within a month. He predicted 1,200 people would be out of work. He also forecast long lines and prices as high as 50 cents per gallon.

1986 Michael Shanahan and a group of local investors bought the Blues from Harry Ornest. Ornest had saved the Blues franchise and General Manager Ron Caron helped him make the team competitive again. Caron remained on board under Shanahan. He soon stole Brett Hull from Calgary, and brought Adam Oates and Curtis Joseph on board. Caron would also land players such as Brendan Shanahan and Al MacInnis.

1987 The football Cardinals played their last game at Busch Stadium. They beat the Giants 27-24 before 29,623 die-hard fans. Vai Sikahema returning a punt 76 yards for a touchdown highlighted the game.

2003 The Cardinals shipped injury prone outfielder J.D. Drew and outfield/catcher Eli Marrero to the Atlanta Braves in return for some much needed pitching. The Cardinals picked up Jason Marquis, reliever Ray King and prospect Adam Wainwright. The Braves had given up on Marquis and removed him from the starting rotation.