

February 11

1805 While serving as a guide for the Lewis and Clark expedition, Sacagawea gave birth to a baby boy. He was named Jean Baptiste Charbonneau, but called “Pomp” or “Pompey” by William Clark. Pompey’s father returned to trapping after the expedition and left the child in the care of Clark back in St. Louis. He is featured on the obverse of the \$1 Sacagawea coin, carried on a cradleboard by his mother.

1835 The Missouri General Assembly passed an act to establish a state road from St. Louis to Jefferson City by way of Manchester and Union. Manchester thus became the first state road in St. Louis County. In 1926, it was designated US 66 and US 50, because it was the only improved road headed west. Route 66 moved to the new Watson Road in 1932.

1839 Gravois was made a state road. In 1914, Gravois would become the first road in St. Louis County to be paved with concrete. A 6,000 foot stretch from the city limits to the Busch Estate at Grant's Farm was paved, with August Busch picking up half the cost.

1856 The United States Supreme Court began hearing the case of Dred Scott. Scott sued for his freedom in St. Louis after his owner took him into Illinois, a free state. The Supreme Court would rule that slaves were not citizens and therefore could not sue. The case further divided the country on the slavery issue.

1857 The history of Florissant goes back at least to 1786, but this is the date the town charter was granted by the state. The population of Florissant was still under 1,000 as late as World War Two. It exploded in the 50's and 60's to nearly 70,000.

1876 The city two mayors again. Henry Overstolz had been declared the winner of last May's special election by the city council. Overstolz declared he was ready to take office. But James Britton refused to give up the office. Britton was sworn in after election officials certified that he had won. Overstolz supporters were threatening to march on city hall.

1899 The general committee in charge of the proposed World's Fair was officially enlarged to 200. Pierre Chouteau was named chairman. William H. Thompson was placed in charge of finances.

1899 Officials at Washington University announced plans for a new campus west of Forest Park. Robert S. Brookings, Samuel Cupples, Adolphus Busch and Steven Ridgely had donated four buildings. The L.P.E.C. would lease those during the fair for \$750,000. The money would be used to construct other buildings, including Francis Field and the Gymnasium.

1901 The St. Louis Post-Dispatch Weatherbird appeared for the first time, the oldest continuous cartoon in American journalism. Staff artist Harry B. Martin drew the first Weatherbird, who at first had nothing to say. Six artists have drawn him, with Amadee

Wohlschlaeger handling the duties from 1932 to 1981. The bird appeared without a “bird line” only after the deaths of Franklin Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Junior, August Busch Junior, and the Challenger disaster and after 9/11.

1903 The International Olympic Committee announced that the 1904 games would be held in St. Louis, instead of Chicago as previously planned. The games would be held in conjunction with the World's Fair. The financially strapped city of Chicago raised little objection to the move.

1924 Spurred by four killings in the past week in the war between the Eagan and Hogan gangs, St. Louis police launched an all-out war on crime. Some 267 people, ranging from known gangsters to petty criminals, were rounded up and arrested on "suspicion."

1925 Virginia Eshelman Johnson was born. In 1957, she teamed with William Howell Masters to study human sexuality at Washington University. Their book *Human Sexual Response* was originally targeted for the medical community, but became a best seller in 1966. They opened the Masters and Johnson Institute in 1964 and were married from 1971 to 1993.

1930 Prohibition agents seized the largest still ever found in St. Louis. The entire basement of a building in the 3300 block of Easton had been converted into a huge vat, holding over 33,000 gallons of mash. It was estimated the still could produce 400 gallons of illegal booze per day.

1934 Mel Carnahan was born in Birch Tree, Missouri. He was elected governor in 1993. Carnahan was on the campaign trail in a race for United States Senate against John Ashcroft when his plane crashed in Jefferson County on October 17, 2000. Carnahan won the election posthumously, and his widow Jean was appointed to serve in his place.

1944 In a sermon at St. Louis University, Father Claude Heithaus, S.J. called for an end to racial segregation. The sermon spurred St. Louis University to admit five blacks in the summer of 1944. St. Louis University became the first university in any of the former slave states to admit blacks.

1959 Clean-up work was underway in the area devastated by the tornado. The death toll was put at 21. Over 1,700 buildings were listed as damaged, 41 destroyed. President Eisenhower designated St. Louis as a federal disaster area. Damage was put at \$12 million dollars.

1959 The tornado damage to the Arena imperiled two major sports events. The Midwest Sports and Boat Show would have to be cancelled or postponed. The Welterweight title fight between St. Louisan Virgil Akins and Don Jordan set for May 6th was in doubt. Twelve of the 48 lanes at the Arena Bowl could not be used until repairs were made.

1961 Excavation began on the foundations of the Gateway Arch, nearly 30-years after the monument was first proposed. The first excavation work was begun on the South Leg of the Arch. Excavation work would be finished late in 1963.

1961 Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ceries signed KSHE-FM on the air from the basement of their home at 1035 Westglen Lane in Crestwood. The call letters stood for "The Lady of FM." The station offered drama and fine arts features, as well as classical and "time tested" lighter music.

1962 Sheryl Crowe was born in Kennett, Missouri. She went to school at Mizzou, then taught at Kellison Elementary in the Rockwoods District. She sang backup for local group PM and did commercial jingle work here before heading to California in 1986. She sang backup for Michael Jackson, Don Henley and Rod Stewart before her breakthrough came with 1993's "Tuesday Night Music Club."

1966 The football Cardinals announced they had signed former Washington University halfback Charley Winner as coach.

1972 Stan Musial became the first foreigner to receive Communist Poland's highest sports honor. Musial was presented with the Merited Champions Medal during an eight-day visit as a guest of the Polish Olympic Committee.

1972 Mayor A.J. Cervantes appointed a 30-member civic center task force to push for a new downtown convention center. In March 1971, voters had turned down a \$20 million bond issue for the center. They would change their mind in 1972. Ground was broken in 1974.

2000 Just hours after they went up, the second set of signs marking the KKK's participation in the state's Adopt-A-Highway program were stolen off Interstate 55. TV cameras were rolling as Christopher Bellers of South County cut one of the signs down.