

January 3

1735 The village of Ste. Genevieve was founded by French trappers. Ste. Genevieve is the second-oldest European-settled city in Missouri. The area had actually been settled in 1732.

1787 Legendary mountain man Bill Williams was born in North Carolina. He settled in what is now North St. Louis County in 1794. He was instrumental in negotiating treaties for the Santa Fe Trail in 1825. Williams spent the next 21 years in the mountains, and served as a guide to John Fremont. The Route 66 town of Williams, Arizona and a nearby mountain are named after him.

1836 Anthony Edward Faust was born in Prussia. In 1862, he opened a small restaurant at Broadway and Chouteau. He later moved to Broadway and Elm. In 1878, the restaurant became the first building in St. Louis with electric lights. During the 1890's, Tony Faust's Oyster House, or "Tony's," was the place where the elite in St. Louis met. Faust's closed in 1916.

1838 The first issue of the St. Louis *Gazette* was published. The *Gazette* was the forerunner of the *Post-Dispatch*.

1844 The wreck of the steamboat *Sheperdess* killed 40 people. The boat hit a snag, three miles south of Market Street. The hull of the boat was ripped open.

1885 John How died. How was the 16th Mayor of St. Louis, serving from 1853 to 1855. He was elected again in 1856 and served another one-year term. During How's administration, the city acquired the land for Hyde Park and Lucas Park. Part of the old County Poor farm was set aside, and today is known as Marquette Park.

1899 A huge crowd turned out for the opening of the new "Ice Palace," the city's artificial ice rink. It was one of only five indoor skating rinks in the country.

1903 World's fair officials announced that the fairgrounds would feature lavish bathhouses for the convenience and refreshment of weary fairgoers. The plans called for the bathhouses to range from "Ancient Greek and Roman to modern Turkish and Russian."

1905 The World's Fair Company announced that all but 20,000 of the commemorative gold dollars minted for the fair would be returned to the government and melted down. Only 40,000 of the 250,000 coins had been sold. Officials said the \$3 price may have been too high.

1921 Streetcar service was curtailed after a fire leveled the United Railways car shed at DeBaliviere and Delmar. A total of 45 streetcars were lost. Damage was put at \$250,000.

1923 The city was in an uproar over the New Year's raid and riot at the Chase Hotel. A judge and the manager of the Chase questioned whether a warrant obtained by chief federal agent Gus O. Nations was valid. The Missouri Association Against the Prohibition Amendment called for a grand jury investigation. The Board of Police Commissioners was also calling a special meeting.

1946 A new survey showed that St. Louis was saving \$20 million annually in smoke damage costs since the tough anti-smoke ordinances had become effective. County municipalities that had eased restrictions during the war were being urged to join the city in a campaign to end the smoke problem forever.

1957 TWA became the first airline to offer passengers freshly-brewed coffee in flight.

2000 The Y2K Bug was nowhere to be found on the first business day of the millennium. Master Card began scaling back operations at its Y2K command center in Maryland Heights.