

## July 1

**1826** Mayor Lane persuaded the Board of Trustees to adopt the Philadelphia system of naming streets for trees. Market Street was the only one to keep its original name. The new names were, Olive, Locust, Vine, Laurel, Prune, Oak, Hickory, Pear, Willow and Walnut. The north-south streets had already been assigned numbers.

**1857** Roger Connor was born in Waterbury, Connecticut. The greatest power hitter of the dead ball era played for the Cardinals from 1894 to 1897. He managed the team briefly in 1896. Connor held the Major League career home run record with 136, which stood until Babe Ruth arrived. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1976.

**1859** John LaMountain, O.A. Gager, John Wise and reporter William Hyde took off from St. Louis in a balloon bound for New York. They made it as far as Henderson, New York, a distance record that stood for 50 years. A small amount of mail they carried was then put on a train for New York City. Some historians consider it the very first airmail flight.

**1863** Provisional Governor Hamilton Gamble signed an ordinance freeing the slaves in Missouri as of July 4, 1870. General John C. Fremont ordered the slaves of Confederate sympathizers freed here in August 1861. But political considerations forced President Abraham Lincoln to rescind the order.

**1878** It was announced that professional baseball was coming back to St. Louis. The Indianapolis Blues announced that they would play the remainder of their home games here because of lack of attendance in Indy. Only about 500 people would show up for the next three games here before the Blues folded.

**1904** The first competition between nations at 1904 Olympics began. The games were not truly international. Due to the distances involved and the Russian-Japanese war, only 13 nations sent athletes. Over 500 of the 687 competitors were Americans. The games were the first in which gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded.

**1916** The most famous restaurant in St. Louis closed forever. Anthony Faust, a plasterer from Russia opened his first restaurant in 1862. In 1871, Tony Faust's Restaurant and Oyster Bar moved to Broadway and Elm and became the center of the city's downtown activity. It was the first building in St. Louis to be equipped with electric lights. The Faust name lives on at the restaurant in the Adam's Mark.

**1917** Whites in a speeding car fired into homes in a black neighborhood of East St. Louis. When two detectives arrived, the crowd mistook them for the gunmen and opened fire, killing them. White residents went on a rampage when they heard the news of the shootings. At least 39 blacks and eight whites died in the riots. Thousands of blacks fled East St. Louis.

**1920** The Cardinals played their first game at Sportsmen's Park since vacating Cardinals Field at Natural Bridge and Vandeventer. Cardinals Field was the last wooden ballpark in the Major Leagues. A crowd of 20,000 saw the Birds lose to Pittsburgh 6-2 in ten innings. At that time, the Browns were the better team and owned Sportsmen's Park. The Redbirds paid rent.

**1925** The St. Louis Flying Club announced the line-up for their annual stunt flying show to be held at Lambert Field on July 4th. The only man to have survived a mid-air collision with another aircraft was scheduled to appear. Charles "Lucky" Lindbergh had parachuted to safety after the crash over a San Antonio army base.

**1937** Mayor Bernard Dickmann signed a bill authorizing the city to turn the old courthouse over to the National Park Service for inclusion in the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

**1954** Redbird rookie Joe Cunningham slugged two home runs against the Milwaukee Brewers. He homered three times in his first two days in the majors. No other rookie has equaled his feat.

**1955** The newly created St. Louis County Police Department took over law enforcement duties from the politically dominated County Sheriff's Department. The first call was for a robbery at a Food Center Store on Page at Hanley.

**1959** The new \$50 million Chrysler Assembly Plant on Highway 66 in Fenton began operation. The first models produced there were Plymouths, Dodge Darts and Chrysler's compact Valiant model. At the time, St. Louis was the second largest producer of automobiles in the nation.

**1968** A wild pitch allowed a Dodger run to score, ending Bob Gibson's streak of 47 and two-thirds innings of shutout pitching. Gibson would throw another 23 innings before he gave up a second run.

**1979** Mark Littell became the last Cardinal pitcher to win both games of a double header. He entered the first game with the score tied 7-7 in the 8<sup>th</sup>. The Cards took the lead in the 9<sup>th</sup> and Littell struck out the side. In the nitecap, he got the last out of the 8<sup>th</sup> and set down Philadelphia in order in the 9<sup>th</sup> before the Cards scored in the bottom of the inning to win 2-1 at Busch.

**1980** The temperature hit 105 degrees at Lambert Field, the hottest reading since July 14, 1966. The heat would not relent until July 20th. By then, 144 people had died. The toll from the heat wave of 1980 would reach 110 in the city of St. Louis alone.

**1991** A train derailment on the Merchant's Bridge forced a partial evacuation of a 75-block area of downtown and caused a massive traffic jam. The Eads and Poplar Street bridges were shut down, as were parts of I-55/70 and 70. The tourist attractions on the riverfront were also evacuated.

**1994** The U.S. Olympic Festival got underway in St. Louis. Over 3,000 athletes competed in some 37 events over the next ten days. The USOC called it “the best festival ever. The St. Louis Sports Commission estimated that the games had an economic impact of \$54 million. The Olympic Festival hockey final was the last ice hockey game played at the Arena.

**1998** An era ended for St. Louis Blues fans, as Brett Hull became a free agent at the stroke of midnight. Two days later, Brett would sign with the Dallas Stars. Hull holds the team record for career goals with 527. He shattered team records with 86 goals and 131 points during the 1990-91 season.

**2003** Three people were killed and five others were injured when a worker opened fire inside the Modine Manufacturing Plant in Jefferson City. The gunman, 25-year-old Jonathan Russell, later killed himself after exchanging shots with a police officer outside the Jefferson City Police Department.