

## July 24

**1800** Henry Shaw was born in Sheffield, England. He came to St. Louis at the age of 18, and turned a few pieces of his father's Sheffield cutlery into a hardware business that amassed him a fortune by age 40. On a trip to Europe in 1851, he visited the gardens at Chatsworth and decided to create a garden on his country estate, soon to be known as "Tower Grove."

**1897** A group of 19 soldiers with the 25th U-S Infantry regiment arrived in St. Louis from Missoula, Montana. They rode here on bicycles, to prove the feasibility of using bikes to move troops. They made the 19-hundred mile trip in 34 days.

**1905** The Development Corporation of St. Louis announced it had bought the historic "Whitehaven" Estate and planned to convert it to an amusement park. The Dent family land, where Ulysses S. Grant met his wife, was saved from such a fate when real estate dealer Albert Wenzlick bought it.

**1911** Governor Herbert Hadley was in St. Charles, leading a delegation to ascertain the best route for a highway from St. Louis to Kansas City. Pressure was mounting for the marking of the "Boone's Lick Trail." The Daughters of the American Revolution began marking the route in 1913. It was designated state highway number two in 1923, and U.S. Highway 40 in 1926.

**1930** Illinois gang leader Carl Shelton was arrested as part of a campaign to rid East St. Louis of undesirables. His brother, Ernie, was ordered to stay out of town for six months. Police were searching for his other brother, Earl. The Sheltons were central figures in a recent gang war.

**1933** Cards pitcher Dizzy Dean received a half-dozen neckties as a gift from bandits who had held up a St. Louis drugstore the previous week. Ol' Diz had walked in on the holdup and was lined up with the rest of the victims. According to Dean, the robber told called him, and said he would send the neckties to show it was nothing personal.

**1933** Frankie Frisch was named manager of the Cardinals, replacing Gabby Street. "The Fordham Flash" would lead the Gashouse Gang to the World Championship in 1934. After he left the Cardinals in 1938, Frisch would manage for ten more seasons in Pittsburgh and Chicago.

**1934** In the midst of the worst heat wave this area had ever seen, the mercury hit 110.2, the highest reading ever recorded to that date. That mark would be topped in 1954.

**1950** Cardinals second-baseman Red Scheondienst played in his 52nd straight game without an error, a National League record for second basemen. Red had set the previous record in 1948-49.

**1967** A St. Louis landmark closed its doors forever. Scruggs, Vandervoort and Barney had operated a huge department store on the block between Ninth and Tenth, Locust and Olive since 1907.

**1967** The unique trams that take visitors to the top of the Gateway Arch were dedicated, nearly two years after the arch was finished. The trams are operated by Bi-State. Financial difficulty, and administrative bickering within the agency delayed completion of the system.

**1969** Hundreds of people stood shoulder to shoulder in the television department at the Famous-Barr downtown and cheered as the Apollo 11 astronauts returned safely to earth. McDonnell-Douglas built the Apollo 11 SVB One booster, the third stage of the Saturn Five rocket. The astronauts left behind a moonquake detector, built by Monsanto.

**1980** Thunderstorms brought an end to five consecutive days of 100-degree-plus heat. The highs had reached at least 90 for 16 straight days. Forty-five people died. The worst heat wave in St. Louis history was in 1936, when at least 421 people died. 149 people died in the 1966 heatwave, and 118 died in 1980.

**1984** The Admiral returned to St. Louis. It had been sold to Pittsburgh businessman John Connelly in 1981. He removed the engines and sold it back to the city. A \$26 million facelift was planned to convert the Admiral to an entertainment center.

**1985** The last Route 66 signs came down in Missouri. Without ceremony, Highway Department workers removed the shields from a 14-mile stretch from the 44 turn-off at Scotland, west of Joplin, to the Kansas line.

**1991** Brendan Shanahan became a Blue, signing as a free agent. Because of a notorious arbitrator's ruling, the Blues would end up having to send Scott Stevens to New Jersey as compensation for signing Shanahan.

**1998** Russell Weston Junior of Valmeyer was accused of shooting and killing two police officers at the Capitol in Washington, D-C. Weston was seriously wounded in the shootout. He was a diagnosed paranoid-schizophrenic. His parents said their son thought the federal government was watching him through the television.