

### **June 3**

**1770** Edward Hempstead was born in New London, Connecticut. He came to St. Louis in 1804 and rose to Attorney General of the territory, then became the first man to represent the territory of Missouri in Congress. The Hempstead farm later became Bellefontaine Cemetery.

**1806** The first legislative body in what is now Missouri was summoned to meet in St. Louis. They assembled eight days later. The legislature consisted of one house with only four members.

**1812** Persistent earthquakes fanned rumors that the end of the world was near. Following a terrible storm, St. Louis was shrouded in fog. Terrified townspeople heard the church bell ringing at midnight. They fell on their knees when they saw no human hand touched the rope. When the fog cleared, they learned pranksters had tied a rope from the bell across the street.

**1859** St. Louis was shocked by the murder of one of its most prominent citizens. Joseph Charless Junior's father had founded the first newspaper west of the Mississippi. Joseph Junior became a civic leader in his own right. A man Charless testified against in a trial killed him.

**1866** The cornerstone of Sacred Heart Church in Florissant was laid. The church was built by German Catholics, who grew tired of having to attend services in French at St. Ferdinand.

**1875** Business was suspended in St. Louis as residents attended church services and spent the day in fasting and prayer. Governor Charles Hardin had declared a statewide day of prayer for divine intervention to halt a devastating plague of grasshoppers. Within a few days, heavy rains arrived and drove the critters into Iowa.

**1895** Coadjutor Bishop John J. Kern was appointed to replacing the retiring Peter Kenrick as Archbishop of St. Louis. Kern was born in Virginia, making him the first native-born American to become Archbishop of St. Louis. He led the diocese for eight years.

**1895** Roger Conner became the Major League's all-time home run leader, passing Harry Stovey with his 4th round-tripper of the season, and the 112th of his career. This historic homer drove in the only St. Louis runs in a 5-2 loss to Brooklyn.

**1902** Cards pitcher Mike O'Neill, one of four O'Neill brothers in the big leagues, hit the first pinch grand slam ever in the majors. The inside-the-park homer off Togie Pittinger at Boston drove in Mike's brother Jack. O'Neill became the first pitcher in the NL to hit a grand slam in the new century.

**1904** On a hot day at the World's Fair Ceylon Pavilion, Englishman Richard Blechynden was having a hard time getting people to drink his tea. Blechynden poured the tea over ice, and folks were soon lining up. Blechynden is often credited with inventing iced tea, but he merely was the first to popularize the beverage. Iced tea appeared on menus in the 1880's.

**1906** Josephine Baker was born Freda Josephine Carson in St. Louis, the daughter of a washerwoman and a vaudeville drummer. She would become the highest paid entertainer in Europe, beginning with her exotic performances in *La Revue Negre* in 1925. During World War Two, she served the French Resistance, smuggling secret messages written on her music sheets. Baker returned to the U.S. in the 50's and 60's to fight racism, but she seldom came back to St. Louis.

**1927** In a British plane, Charles Lindbergh returned to France for a farewell visit before coming home. "The Spirit of St. Louis" had already been crated up and packed onto the cruiser "Memphis" at Cherbourg.

**1927** The Lindbergh Reception Committee announced that \$50,000 was the amount needed to provide a proper welcome. The committee planned to ask the city for \$10,000. It counted on civic organizations, wealthy St. Louisans and businesses to make up the rest. In a British plane, Charles Lindbergh returned to France for a farewell visit before coming home. "The Spirit of St. Louis" had already been crated up and packed onto the cruiser *Memphis* at Cherbourg.

**1937** Dynamite charges sent the old Wabash Railroad bridge at St. Charles into the Missouri River. When it was built in 1871, it was the longest bridge of its type in the nation. The bridge was the scene of several disasters, including a construction accident that killed 18.

**1937** The US Supreme Court refused to hear the case of 37 property owners who were displaced by the proposed riverfront memorial. The move cleared the way for condemnation proceedings to acquire 37 blocks on the riverfront.

**1950** The Cardinals defied a new National League rule and booked a Sunday night game with the Brooklyn Dodgers. It would be the first Sunday night game in Major League history. The Cardinals later gave in to pressure from Commissioner Happy Chandler and rescheduled the game as part of a Sunday afternoon doubleheader.

**1955** Stan Musial belted his 300th home run. The blow came in Brooklyn off Johnny Podres in a game the Cardinals lost 12-5.

**1956** Democratic Representative Frank Kasten of St. Louis launched a drive to secure federal funding for the Arch. Congress had authorized money for the park, but said no federal money could be spent on the Arch. Congressional critics labeled it as too modernistic and "a useless piece of construction."

**1973** Charles Ashman resigned from KMOX. He brought the era of big name guests to St. Louis radio. He convinced 29 U.S. Senators, the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland and even Lassie to appear on his program. But it turned out that he was a former mental patient who once spent three years in prison for passing bad checks.

**1983** Ralston Purina turned the Blues over to the National Hockey League "to operate, to sell, or otherwise dispose of in whatever manner the league desires." Ralston sued after the NHL Board of Governors refused to approve the sale of the Blues to interests in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

**1995** A parade and lighting ceremony marked the restoration of a roadside landmark in Collinsville. The world's largest catsup bottle was restored to its original glory after a two-year effort raised \$75,000 to save it from demolition. The water tower was constructed in 1949 for the G.S. Suppiger Catsup Bottling Plant, bottlers of Brooks Catsup.

**1997** The Cardinals banged out 21 hits in a 15-4 win over Colorado at Busch Stadium. That equaled the Cardinal record at Busch, originally set in a 14-0 win over the Cubs on May 30, 1977.

**2004** The Kurt Warner era officially ended, as the former Rams quarterback signed with the New York Giants. In 2005, he signed a deal with the Arizona Cardinals.