

June 10

1702 Jesuit missionary Father James Gravier landed at the mouth of the a river emptying into the Mississippi, south of what is now St. Louis. He established a mission, the first European settlement in what is now Missouri. The mission only lasted about a year. But the stream became known as “River Des Peres,” or “River of the Fathers.”

1878 St. Louis County was considering an offer by the Robert Forsyth family to donate a 60-foot right of way across their land for a road to the new county seat. The road from Union Boulevard to the eastern end of the Hanley farm would provide easy access.

1890 The pitcher for the St. Louis American Association team, Jack Stivetts, hit two home runs and struck out ten. He also hit two homers on August 6, 1891, and on June 12, 1896, making him the first pitcher with three multiple home run games. Wes Ferrell (who did it five times) and Don Newcombe are the only other pitchers to match the record.

1900 The most violent day yet in the St. Louis street car strike. Four strikers were killed and nine were wounded as members of the citizen's police force appointed by the sheriff opened fire on strikers trying to stop a car at Sixth and Washington. The clash brought the death toll in the strike to seven.

1919 A St. Louis circuit court approved the establishment of the Municipal Theatre Association. Productions were to be financed by subscription. Since the opera was a public enterprise, 1700 free seats were set aside.

1922 St. Louis Parks Commissioner Frederick Pape responded to a suit by Albert Howard, seeking desegregation of the golf course in Forest Park. Pape offered to build a separate course for blacks if there was enough demand. Beginning in 1923, Blacks would be allowed to use the course from 6 a.m. until noon each Monday. A whistle blew to notify them when the time was up.

1927 The USS *Memphis* steamed into Chesapeake Bay, carrying Charles Lindbergh and "The Spirit of St. Louis." St. Louis Mayor Victor Miller declared that June 18th would be a public holiday. That was the day Lindbergh was scheduled to return to St. Louis.

1950 President Harry Truman dedicated the site of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial on the riverfront. The ceremony followed a parade of Truman's old World War One outfit through downtown. The Korean War and a controversy over who would pay to remove the elevated railroad tracks on the riverfront delayed groundbreaking on the Arch for 12 years.

1952 The Browns fired Rogers Hornsby as their manager, replacing him with coach Marty Marion. Hornsby blamed owner Bill Veeck's interference for his poor record. Veeck, meanwhile, concocted a ceremony where he had the players present him with a trophy for freeing them of Hornsby.

1954 Five people were killed and 32 injured in an explosion at a chemical plant in the 4100 block of Chippewa. Five firemen were hurt in the ensuing blaze. The plant had been making pellets for Army flamethrowers.

1967 The visitors center beneath the Arch opened. Visitors could take in a few historical displays. But they still couldn't travel to the top. The unique trams to the top were not finished until July 1967.

1967 Cardinal Joseph Ritter died of a heart attack at the age of 77. He had served as Archbishop of St. Louis for 21 years. In 1947, Ritter ordered desegregation of the Catholic schools. He was named a Cardinal in 1960.

1999 Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan signed a bill naming part of Interstate 70 in St. Louis in honor of Mark McGwire. A five-mile stretch in the city limits was designated as the "Mark McGwire Highway."

2002 Suspected serial killer Maury Travis hanged himself with a torn bedsheet in the brand new St. Louis County Jail. Travis is believed to be the worst mass murderer in city history. He was charged in the brutal murders of two prostitutes and was suspected to have murdered up to 18 more in the basement of Ferguson home. He videotaped some of the murders.