

## June 30

**1823** Joshua Barton died in a duel on “Bloody Island,” now part of the East St. Louis riverfront. General William Rector, surveyor general of Illinois, shot Barton. Barton was the first Missouri Secretary of State and then became U.S. Attorney here. He had fought a duel with Thomas Hempstead in 1816 and served as a second in the duel between Charles Lucas and Thomas Hart Benton. Barton had publicly charged Rector with corruption.

**1831** The last Indian boy left St. Regis Seminary in Florissant. (Now the Gateway College of Evangelism) St. Regis was the first Catholic school for Indians in the United States. During the seven years it was in existence, about 30 boys were trained there.

**1847** A St. Louis Circuit Court began hearing the case of Dred Scott. Scott was a slave who sued for his freedom on the grounds that his owner had taken him into Illinois, a free state. Scott lost the case, but won a retrial in 1850. The case went to the U-S Supreme Court, which ruled that slaves were not citizens and could not sue.

**1870** The famous steamboat race between the *Robert E. Lee* and the *Natchez* began in New Orleans. On July 4th, the victorious Robert E. Lee arrived in St. Louis. The trip from New Orleans took three days, 18 hours and 14 minutes.

**1903** Robert Hannegan was born in St. Louis. As chairman of the National Democratic Committee, he secured the vice presidential nomination for his good friend, Harry Truman in 1944. Truman made him postmaster general. Hannegan founded the “Knights of the Cauliflower Ear,” a group of businessmen who promoted St. Louis as a sports capitol. He was co-owner of the Cardinals from 1947 until his death in 1949.

**1904** A group of African pygmies arrived for display at the World’s Fair. Anthropology department director W.M. McGee said, “I know nothing about them other than they offer an interesting subject for scientific study.” Ota Benga was in the group. After the fair, he was displayed in the monkey house at the Bronx Zoo. Resentful of being a curiosity, Benga shot himself in 1916.

**1915** The inmates were transferred to the new city jail at 14th and Clark. The new facility was said to be "a club" compared to the 44-year-old jail at 12th and Clark. A new jail recently replaced the 1915 facility.

**1916** A landmark in St. Louis closed its doors. Since 1871, Faust's Restaurant was where the elite in St. Louis met. In 1878, "Tony's" became the first building in St. Louis to have electric lights.

**1933** The last hanging took place at the St. Louis County Courthouse in Clayton. James Kellar was hanged from the “Bridge of Sighs” which extended from the second floor of the old courthouse. He was convicted of murdering a Maplewood woman. A total of six criminals were hanged in Clayton between 1878 and 1933.

**1946** Jefferson Barracks was officially removed from the War Department roles as a military post. In 1950, it became Jefferson Barracks County Park. Jefferson Barracks was established on October 23, 1826 as a training post. Five American presidents served there, as did Robert E. Lee, William T. Sherman and John J. Pershing.

**1949** The General Assembly adopted "The Missouri Waltz" as the official state song. The song was originally released in 1912, but gained popularity after Harry Truman played it. When Truman was asked if the tune was actually his favorite, the White House issued a statement: "President's attitude towards the song? He can take it or leave it. Is it really his favorite? No. Does he play it often? No. What is the President's reaction to song's adoption by Missouri as state song? See answer to first question."

**1953** The first Chevrolet Corvette was built at Flint, Michigan. Production was soon moved to St. Louis, where it continued throughout the heyday of the 'Vette.

**1959** Two balls got into play at once in the Cards game against the Cubs at Wrigley Field. Stan Musial drew a walk. The ball got behind catcher Sammy Taylor and the ump threw another one into play. Taylor threw that ball into center field. Shortstop Al Dark went back and grabbed the first ball, and threw to shortstop Ernie Banks. Banks tagged out a befuddled Musial. Umpire Vic Delmore was fired because of the incident.

**1968** The great Pele was in St. Louis, with his Santos Club of Brazil taking on the St. Louis Stars of the NASL at Busch Stadium. A crowd of 20,116 saw Pele score the winning goal as Santos won 3-2.

**1970** The Fred Harvey Restaurant at Union Station closed. The restaurant had served travelers since 1895. Harvey Restaurants were famous for their good food, cleanliness and extraordinary service by the waitresses known as "Harvey Girls." During the length of their contracts, the girls had to live in a Harvey dormitory, observe strict rules of conduct and appearance, and agree to remain single.

**1979** Mayor Conway ordered Homer G. Phillips hospital closed and consolidated with City Hospital Number One. The move ignited a firestorm of protest in the black community. The last patients were moved in August 1979. Vince Scheomehl was elected mayor after promising to open the hospital. But he changed his mind once he took office.

**1998** Mark McGwire launched home run number 37 into the upper deck at Busch Stadium. The home run broke Reggie Jackson's record for the most home runs before the All-Star break.

**1999** The East-West Gateway Coordinating Council approved a controversial plan to extend Metro Link through Clayton to Shrewsbury. Some residents were upset over plans for the tracks to remain at grade level through Clayton.