

March 4

1849 Missouri Senator David Rice Atchison was president for a day. The traditional inaugural date of March 4th fell on a Sunday. President Polk's term expired on March 3rd. The vice-president resigned two days earlier, and Zachary Taylor would be inaugurated the next day. As President Pro Tem of the Senate, Atchison technically was in charge for 24 hours.

1861 Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as the 16th President of the United States. In St. Louis, there was a near riot at the headquarters of the secessionist "Minute Men" at the Berthold Mansion. A flag sewn by Louisa Gibson McCoy flew defiantly over the home at 5th and Pine and one had been placed atop the Courthouse. The South had yet to adopt a flag, so this crude banner was the first rebel flag to fly over Missouri.

1869 Edward Garner Lewis was born in Connecticut. The fast talking Lewis tried a variety of get rich quick schemes before he purchased a magazine in 1899. The *Woman's Magazine* became one of the most popular in the nation. By 1902, his publishing empire had outgrown its headquarters in St. Louis, and Lewis decided to create a planned city that he would govern. Giant lions soon stood along dusty Delmar Boulevard in his "University City."

1878 The St. Louis County Court met at its temporary seat of Mount Olive and ordered a site be cleared for the new county seat. It ordered the site called "Clayton," after the man who donated much of the land. The town was not incorporated until 1913, and only then to thwart a plan by University City to annex the area.

1878 The County Court ordered one thousand maps made up showing the site of the new county seat. The maps were to show streets named after the townships in the county, Central, Meramec, Carondelet, Bonhomme and St. Ferdinand. St. Ferdinand later became Forsyth, after the family that owned the land along its borders. Bemiston was named for Justin Bemis, who owned the land north of Clayton.

1896 Archbishop Peter Richard Kenrick died at the age of 89. He took over as bishop upon the death of Bishop Rosati in 1842. When St. Louis was made an Archdiocese in 1847, he was appointed the first Archbishop of St. Louis. John J. Kain succeeded him.

1901 The Cardinals named right fielder Patsy Donovan as manager. He came to the Cardinals in 1900, amid criticism back east that he failed to engage in "roughhouse tactics." But the change from the "rowdy-scrappy" style of play to "straight forward, honest ball" was welcomed in St. Louis.

1906 The *Globe-Democrat* reported that a catcher recently acquired by the Browns was making a good impression at spring training camp near Dallas. Branch Rickey had been released by Cincinnati, reportedly because he refused to play on Sunday to keep a promise to his mother.

1909 Congress authorized the world's Fair Company to utilize assets left over from the fair to construct a monument to Thomas Jefferson. The memorial was to be built on the site of the former main entrance to the fair at Lindell and DeBaliviere.

1926 A 3,422 mile long transcontinental footrace, dubbed the "Bunion Derby" began in Los Angeles. Cyrus Avery, who was promoting a transcontinental highway through his native state of Oklahoma, organized it. The highway would become Route 66. Andy Payne of Claremore, Oklahoma won the race, and the resulting publicity established Route 66 in the minds of the public.

1932 Ground was broken for the "new" terminal building at Lambert Field, on the northwest corner of the airport off Bridgeton Station Road. (Now Lindbergh) At the time, one city politician was nearly impeached over the plans. Many thought the huge building, which could load or unload four planes at once, would never be used to capacity. It was replaced by a modern terminal in 1956 and torn down in 1978.

1942 The St. Louis newspapers first reported on the exploits of the city's first war hero. Lieutenant Commander Edward O'Hare shot down six Japanese planes singlehandedly while protecting his carrier on February 20th. Chicago's O'Hare Airport was named in his honor.

1948 The Board of Police Commissioners voted to retire the last of the Police Department's 15 horses. They were to be replaced by more economical motorcycles.

1950 The newly-formed Bi-State Development Agency issued its report on what St. Louis needed to do to remain a great city. The report said mass transportation, rapid transit, and a second major airport were the area's biggest needs.

1957 Dr. Evarts Graham died. At Barnes Hospital in 1933, he performed the very first lung cancer surgery. He removed a lung from a Pittsburgh gynecologist who would outlive Graham by six years. With his student, Ernst Wynder, Graham would prove the link between tobacco and lung cancer. Ironically, Graham died of lung cancer.

1960 The Board of Aldermen declared the area for the downtown stadium to be blighted, a major step towards advancing the \$89 million project. Civic Center Redevelopment said it would immediately begin steps to secure financing.

1960 A federal jury convicted Chuck Berry of a Mann Act violation, for bringing a 14-year-old girl across state lines for "immoral purposes." The verdict was overturned because the judge made racist remarks. Berry was convicted in a second trial, and sentenced to three years.

1962 Mayor Tucker formally awarded the contract for construction of the Arch to McDonald Construction Company.

1966 Astronauts Charles Bassett and Elliott See were buried at Arlington National Cemetery. They died on February 28th, when their jet trainer crashed into a building at McDonnell Aircraft here. It was the very building they were to have visited to inspect their Gemini Nine spacecraft.

1974 A survey of police departments by the Globe-Democrat found that the streaking fad sweeping college campuses had not taken hold in St. Louis. One cop said, "We're hoping to get a female." 30 to 40 streakers had been sighted at the University of Missouri at Columbia.

1992 Robert Hyland, Senior Vice-President of CBS Radio and General Manager of KMOX and KLOU, died at the age of 71. Hyland is credited with inventing what we now know as talk radio with the advent of *At Your Service* in 1960. He was one of the most influential and powerful men in St. Louis.

1997 Former Police Chief Clarence Harmon defeated incumbent mayor Freeman Bosley Junior to win the Democratic nomination for mayor. Harmon served with the police force for 26 years, including four as the first African-American appointed police chief. He became the city's second African-American Mayor.

1998 The first store opened at the new Promenade at Brentwood Shopping Center. The development at I-170 and Highway 40 was the center of controversy for many years. It was heavily subsidized with tax dollars and an entire neighborhood was leveled to make room for it.

2007 Statesman Thomas Eagleton died at the age of 77. He served 18 years in the US Senate and was chosen as George McGovern's vice-presidential candidate in 1972. Just 18 days later, Eagleton was dropped following reports of his treatment for depression. In 1995, he was a major factor in bringing the Rams to St. Louis. The federal courthouse downtown is named in his honor.