

## **March 7**

**1808** Wayman Crow was born in Kentucky. Crow became a successful merchant in St. Louis, and founded the seminary that became Washington University. Crow donated a fortune in money and land for the school. He also served as the first president of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce, as a state senator, and helped charter two railroads and the Mercantile Library.

**1815** James Callaway and three of his men were massacred by Indians along the Loutre River near present day Mineola. Callaway was from St. Charles County, and was the grandson of Daniel Boone. Callaway County is named after the Indian fighter.

**1849** Mayor John Darby and a group of prominent citizens established Rural Cemetery on a 138-acre site at the Hempstead Farm on Bellefontaine Road. It wasn't long before the name was changed to Bellefontaine Cemetery. During the cholera epidemic of 1849, 30 burials a day were taking place there. Famous names buried there include William Clark, Thomas Hart Benton, James Eads, Adolphus Busch and the Lemp Family.

**1861** Adolphus Busch, a former brewery supply salesman, married Lilly Anheuser, daughter of Eberhard Anheuser. Anheuser owned the Bavarian Brewery. After the Civil War, Adolphus went to work for his father in law, and soon attained controlling interest in the brewery. He introduced the Budweiser brand in 1876. When Eberhard died in 1880, Busch renamed the firm the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association.

**1862** Missouri Militia combined with rebels under General McCullough and 1,000 Indians from the Oklahoma Territory were fighting the Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas. Their defeat by Federal General Samuel Curtis in the three-day battle assured control of Missouri for the Union and saved St. Louis from invasion, for a while. It also sealed the doom of Missouri's pro-Confederate governor, Claiborne Jackson.

**1865** Civil law was restored in St. Louis. The city had been under martial law since August of 1861. The Army commander, General John C. Fremont declared martial law in order to stamp out Confederate sympathizers in the city. He also ordered the slaves of rebel sympathizers freed. Abraham Lincoln rescinded the order and had Fremont removed from command.

**1872** After months of debate, the Missouri Legislature approved a bill creating Forest Park. The bill was the result of a campaign by Hiram Leffingwell, a developer who just so happened to own huge tracts of land near the site. Taxpayers successfully challenged this bill. But in 1874, a new bill made changes required by the court, and Hiram got his park.

**1901** Thousands of St. Louisans and five brass bands welcomed former governor David R. Francis at Union Station. Francis was returning from Washington D.C., where he led a successful bid to win passage of a bill granting \$5 million for government participation in the fair. It was the first such federal appropriation ever.

**1911** “The most elaborate golden wedding anywhere in the world” included \$500,000 in gifts for Mr. and Mrs. Adolphus Busch. That included gifts from President Taft, former President Roosevelt, The Kaiser, and a set of solid gold dinner plates from the Bush children. The brewery was closed for the day, and St. Louis employees sent a gold telegram of congratulations.

**1942** St. Louis was plunged into darkness in the city's first war time blackout. It lasted three minutes, and was declared a great success by city officials.

**1949** Former Cardinal pitchers Max Lanier and Fred Martin were suing organized baseball for \$2.5 million. The suit was over their five-year suspension for playing in the Mexican League. It challenged the "reserve clause" as a violation of anti-trust laws.

**1960** Village Square Shopping Center opened at Highway 66 and 140. (Now 270 and Lindbergh) The center employed a concept unique to the St. Louis area. All the stores faced each other across an open "mall." The center featured fountains and even piped in music.

**1963** The police department reported that the crime rate in the Pruitt-Igoe and Vaughn Housing Projects was 52% lower than in the city as a whole. Crime had been cut in half since a prevention program was implemented in 1960.

**1967** St. Louis voters overwhelmingly approved a \$2 million bond issue for completion of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. The bond issue was necessary to gain matching federal funds for landscaping and other work.

**1980** Workers wrapped a giant yellow ribbon around the planetarium in Forest Park in honor of the American hostages in Iran. Marine Sergeant Rocky Sickmann of Krakow, Missouri was among the hostages. The planetarium is traditionally wrapped in a red ribbon over the holidays.

**1988** The Blues made one of the better deals in their history. They swapped Rob Ramage and Rick Wamsley to Calgary for Steve Bozak and a young winger named Brett Hull. Hull would spend the next ten seasons in St. Louis, notching 100 points four consecutive times from 1989-1993. His greatest season in St. Louis came in 1990-91, when Hull racked up 86 goals and 45 assists.

**1991** The great James "Cool Papa" Bell died in St. Louis at the age of 87. During his career in the Negro Leagues with the St. Louis Stars and other teams, he hit .400 several times. In 1939, he stole 175 bases. He was named to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1971.

**1993** Christine Busalacchi died at the age of 22. When she was 17, an auto accident left her in a vegetative state. Her father fought state officials all the way to the Missouri Supreme Court for the right to remove her feeding tube.