

November 8

1226 The future St. Louis became King of France at the age of eleven. Known as "The Crusader King," Louis the Ninth made two crusades to capture Jerusalem from "the infidels." He also made great strides in caring for the poor and worked for the political unification of France. He died of the plague at Tunis while on his second crusade in 1270.

1838 The first locomotive in Illinois made its run. The line consisted of a short section of tracks near Meredosia. The line would evolve into the Wabash Railroad.

1849 The cornerstone of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis was laid. Concordia was the first seminary building ever in St. Louis. A new building was built in 1882. The present seminary site was dedicated in 1926.

1856 Etienne Cabet died in St. Louis at the age of 68. Cabet dreamed of a communist utopia. He led his followers, known as Icarians, here to establish a colony. Two years after he died, the colony was established at Cheltenham, six miles west of St. Louis. (Near the present day Dogtown neighborhood) It failed after a couple of years.

1867 The Woman's Suffrage Association of Missouri here in St. Louis. It marked the beginning of the suffrage movement in Missouri.

1868 The Missouri *Democrat* reported that the landmark which gave St. Louis the nickname "Mound City" was being destroyed. The Big Mound had been bounded by Broadway, Second, Mound and Brooklyn Streets. Its owners used it as fill for a railroad bed, destroying an untold number of Indian artifacts. Today, a plaque marks the site.

1879 The railroad bridge at St. Charles was the scene of a second disaster. The bridge gave way as a freight train crossed, sending the train into the river. Six crewman died. The bridge was repaired, but collapsed again in 1881. Several men had also died in an accident while the bridge was under construction.

1881 The city parks commissioner unveiled plans to make Lindell Avenue "The Boulevard of the City." He called for trees to be planted along the entire length of the street, from Grand to Forest Park. He also wanted infrastructure put in place to encourage people to build fine homes there.

1927 St. Louis became the aviation capitol of the Midwest, with the announcement of the merger between Robertson Aircraft and the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company of New York. The main plant would be located at Lambert Field, and was expected to turn out 350 "Robins" in the first year of operation.

1932 St. Louis breweries were getting their plants in shape to produce "real" beer and hotels and restaurants were advertising for waiters with experience in serving alcohol.

Franklin Roosevelt was expected to win the election that day. He was expected to repeal prohibition soon after he was inaugurated.

1934 NHL hockey came to St. Louis, as the St. Louis Eagles opened the season with a 3-1 loss to the Chicago Blackhawks. The Eagles only lasted one season. But the Flyers of the AHL did very well, until the demise of the league in 1958. The Flyers often drew bigger crowds than the baseball Browns.

1945 The U-S Employment Service predicted there would be 55,000 jobless in St. Louis by the first of the year. There had been just two thousand in May. The rise was blamed on returning servicemen and the discontinuance of war plant work.

1945 The first post-war automobiles to reach St. Louis were presented to 13 veterans in a ceremony at Forest Park. The Ford dealers of St. Louis, East St. Louis and St. Louis County presented them.

1971 A county judge ruled that a Jennings High School student could not be ordered to cut his shoulder-length hair. The lawyer who represented Lawrence Kraus compared cutting his hair to cutting the American flag.

1972 33-year-old Christopher "Kit" Bond was elected as the first Republican governor of Missouri in 28 years and the youngest governor in state history. Bond was born in St. Louis in 1939 and grew up in Mexico, Missouri. Bond served two terms as governor, before being elected to the Senate in 1986.

1983 Readers of the *Globe-Democrat* were disappointed to learn the paper was shutting down. A joint operating agreement with the *Post* failed to save the paper, and some say it contributed to its demise. Jeffrey Gluck would revive the *Globe* in 1984, but it folded for good on October 29, 1986.

1984 Aldermanic President Thomas Zych, Alderman Sorkis Webbe Junior, Sorkis Webbe Senior, Eugene Slay and two others were indicted by a federal grand jury. They were accused of attempted extortion in the awarding of city cable television franchises.

1999 Grandpa's stores President Tom Holley announced that the chain would be sold to Columbus, Ohio based Value City. All 15 Grandpa's locations would be closed. Holley's grandfather, Tom Pidgeon, opened the first store in 1954 at Natural Bridge and St. Charles Rock Road. It was called Grandpa Pidgeon's Roost.

2000 "BUSH WINS A THRILLER" proclaimed the headline in the *Post-Dispatch*. It proved to be accurate, if quite a bit premature. The late Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan had become the first deceased candidate to win election to the Senate. His wife Jean would be appointed to serve in his place. Returns showed that Bob Holden would become the next Governor of Missouri.

2004 Former Blues player Mike Danton was sentenced to 7 ½ years in prison and an \$850 fine for plotting to have his agent killed. Danton used 19-year-old Katie Wolfmyer of Florissant to recruit a Columbia, Illinois police dispatcher to kill David Frost.