

November 26

1828 The Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent DePaul opened the first hospital west of the Mississippi. Bishop Rosati had asked the sisters to come here and John Mullanphy donated a tract of land at Fourth and Spruce for the three-room log cabin. The hospital moved several times and has been known by several names. Today, DePaul Hospital stands in Bridgeton, the oldest hospital west of the Mississippi.

1898 A Missouri Historical Society committee proposed a celebration be held among the states of the Louisiana Purchase to commemorate the centennial of the purchase in 1903. The proposal was forwarded to Missouri Governor Lon V. Stephens, recommending that delegates from the states meet in St. Louis to decide where to hold the festivities.

1904 President Theodore Roosevelt visited the world's fair. He met Geronimo and was entertained by Will Rogers. Fair officials presented a football game between two United States Indian Schools for the president, a big sports fan. Carlisle beat Haskell 38-4 before 12,000 fans at the Olympic Stadium, now Francis Field. It marked the first time that Indian players from government schools met as opponents. Roosevelt never actually made it to the game.

1921 A group of parents formed a committee to organize a "Country Day" school for their daughters. Mrs. George Gellhorn and Ernest Stix urged the committee to form a co-ed school. Land was purchased a year later on Price Road at the railroad right-of-way. The school would be named after naturalist John Burroughs.

1939 Anna Mae Bullock was born in Brownsville, Tennessee. She moved to St. Louis in 1955 and attended Sumner High School. She met Ike Turner at the Club Manhattan in East St. Louis. Ike's group, the Kings of Rhythm, were mainstays on the R and B scene. When a session singer failed to show, she stepped in to handle vocals on "Fool in Love." Released in 1960, it would be the first hit for Tina Turner. Tina was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1991.

1941 Over 9,000 striking machinists returned to their jobs, ending a three-day strike that crippled production at 400 defense plants here. An Army Air Corps labor relations expert was able to bring about a settlement in a jurisdictional dispute between three unions.

1942 Former mayor Henry Kiel died. He served three terms as mayor, from 1913 to 1925. On Election Day in 1913 the man who would become one of our greatest civic leaders left St. Louis for a construction job in Texas, thinking he had lost. He woke up the next morning on a train in Arkansas, to be told he had won by the narrowest of margins.

1947 Mayor Kaufman offered the use of the Columbia Bottoms site for a proposed world's fair in 1953. The city had bought the land for a new airport. The fair idea

fizzled, and the airport was never built. The world's fair never came off either.

1959 Clayton Mayor F. William Human Junior pledged his city would cooperate with efforts to extend the Forest Park/Rock Island Expressway west from Millbrook. The mayor suggested using the abandoned Rock Island right of way to its intersection with the proposed Innerbelt Expressway.

1962 The Missouri Highway Department announced construction was underway on the first section of the proposed interstate highway loop around St. Louis. The first section of Interstate 244, between 44 and Manchester, would take two years and cost 14-million dollars. The four-point-seven-mile roadway would eliminate a terrible bottleneck on Kirkwood Road in the Kirkwood business district.

1965 Commuters were disappointed to learn it would be some time in 1966 before the new 270 bridge north of the Chain of Rocks was would be ready. It was to have been open by November 18th, but fell behind because of labor troubles. The new Poplar Street Bridge was also running a year behind schedule.

1972 For the first time, holiday lights decorated Busch Stadium. A total of 4,500 lights covered each of the 96 arches and 96 columns, beginning a holiday tradition. But the lights were not used for the next four years, due to the energy crisis.

1997 15-year-old Vincent Greer shot and killed his mother and wounded his father at the family home in St. Ann. A retrial was ordered in the case in 2000 due to the testimony of a surprise witness, Vincent's girlfriend. He was convicted in a second trial in September 2003 and sentenced to life in prison. Stanley Greer said he forgave his son.

1997 Chuck Berry performed on opening night for the "Duck Room" downstairs at Blueberry Hill on the University City Loop. Since then, he has played regularly at Blueberry Hill, in a room that holds just 350 people.