

November 27

1809 The citizens of St. Louis submitted a petition for incorporation to the court of common pleas. The court approved it. Citizens had signed a petition for incorporation in June 1808, but Auguste Chouteau and the other town trustees wanted to make sure everything was legal.

1833 Elijah Parish Lovejoy published the first issue of the St. Louis *Observer*. The paper was anti-Catholic and anti-slavery. Amid threats of violence, Lovejoy moved the paper to Alton. Three times, angry citizens destroyed Lovejoy's presses. Lovejoy was killed as he defended another press on November 7, 1837. Today he is remembered as a martyr for freedom of the press.

1834 The Reverend William Greenleaf Elliot arrived in St. Louis. He founded the first Unitarian Church in the city. Eliot also became the foremost Protestant leader in St. Louis and an outspoken opponent of slavery. In 1853, he established Eliot Seminary, the forerunner of Washington University.

1911 David Margulois was born in St. Louis. He moved to New York in 1940 and changed his name to David Merrick. He would become a legend on Broadway, producing such hits as *Hello Dolly*, *42nd Street* and *Gypsy*. Merrick produced nearly 100 shows and won eight Tony awards before he died in 2000.

1922 Promising Cards outfielder Austin McHenry died of a brain tumor at the age of 27. He stayed at his post until midway through the 1922 season, and still managed to hit .303. He was taken out of a game and sent to the doctor by Branch Rickey after he misjudged two fly balls. It was then he learned he had a fatal tumor.

1927 The Red Cross announced that it had spent \$257,000 of the \$900,000 St. Louisans had contributed for victims of the September 29th tornado. About \$57,000 had been spent for temporary relief. The Red Cross said the rest would be spent to rebuild homes and livelihoods for some eight thousand families.

1928 The St. Louis Flyers of the American Association played the first professional league hockey game here. The Flyers beat defending champs Minnesota 3-2. A crowd of 4,500 fans saw the game at the Winter Garden.

1943 St. Louis native Edward "Butch" O'Hare was shot down over Tarawa. In 1942, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for shooting down five Japanese bombers attacking the carrier *Lexington*. On the night he died, O'Hare was taking part in the first navy nighttime attack using fighters from a carrier. Chicago would name its new airport for O'Hare in 1949. Butch's father E.J. worked for Al Capone. E.J. helped the feds put Capone behind bars, hoping to help his son get into the Naval Academy. E.J. got his wish, but paid with his life. Capone's men gunned him down in November 1939.

1946 The city of St. Louis asked the federal government for \$15 million to develop a second airport at Columbia Bottoms, north of the city, and for expansion of Lambert Field. The Columbia Bottoms airport was never built, but the city held onto the land. The state is now turning it into a conservation area.

1956 Outfielder Charlie "The Mule" Peete was killed in a plane crash in Caracas, Venezuela. He had appeared in 23 games for the Cardinals in 1956, and had a good chance to become the first black starter for the Redbirds. He was on his way back from playing winter ball when the plane went down.

1960 Martin Luther King Junior arrived in St. Louis for a speech at the United Hebrew Temple. The Liberal Forum of the Jewish Community Centers invited him. Several other congregations had turned down the chance to host the speech. An exhausted King fell asleep in a chair at the temple just before he took the stage.

1962 Workmen began demolishing the first buildings on the site of the proposed downtown stadium. The first building to come down was the old Lyric Theatre, on Sixth Street, near Pine.

1965 Mayor Cervantes was awarded a Knight Commandship in the Order of Isabel by the Spanish Government for his efforts to bring the Spanish Pavilion here. The award was granted to people who made outstanding contributions to Spanish-American relations.

1974 Bake McBride of the Cardinals was named as the National League Rookie of the Year. McBride hit .301 and stole 30 bases. His next two seasons were plagued by injuries and McBride was traded to Philadelphia in June 1977. McBride is best remembered for scoring the winning run from first on an errant pickoff attempt to win a 25 inning game against the Mets on September 11, 1974.

1982 In an article in the *Globe* nurses at St. John's Mercy Medical Center said they had noticed a marked increase in births nine months after the February blizzard. The babies began arriving on schedule between October 23rd and November 14th.

1984 KMOX personality Jack Carney died of a heart attack at the age of 52. In the late 50's, he was a top deejay at WIL. He was known for his zany stunts. He took a job at W-ABC in New York in 1960, only to walk away a year later because he was disgusted with "teeny bopper" radio. Robert Hyland lured him to KMOX in 1971.

1985 Vince Coleman of the Cardinals became only the fourth player in Major League history to be unanimously elected as Rookie of the Year. (The others were Frank Robinson, Orlando Cepeda and Willie McCovey)

1990 A devastating wind storm swept across St. Charles County. Hardest hit was O'Fallon, where a possible tornado leveled six businesses along the North 70 service road. Damage was set at nearly \$20 million.

1993 A hunter found the body of nine-year-old Angie Houseman tied to a tree in the Busch Wildlife Area in St. Charles County, nine days after she disappeared from her St. Ann bus stop. She had apparently died of exposure. The case has never been solved.

1997 Four children were killed in an early morning fire on Thanksgiving at a home in Bel-Ridge. Cooking left on the stove was blamed for the blaze. The children were between three and eight years old.

2002 After a lengthy on-air farewell, Julius Hunter anchored his final newscast at KMOV-TV. Hunter worked at Channel Five for five years before joining Channel Four. He would spend 28 years as an anchor there. Hunter left to take the job as vice president of community relations.