

## **October 1**

**1800** Under the secret Treaty of San Idelfonso, Spain ceded the Louisiana Territory back to France. Napoleon planned an empire in North America to challenge Britain. But a slave revolt in Hispaniola (Haiti) and the threat of war another war with Britain soured Napoleon on those plans. Thomas Jefferson saw French control of New Orleans as a threat and sent a delegation to try and purchase the port. He was stunned when the French offered to sell the entire territory.

**1804** All of the Louisiana Purchase area north of the southern boundary of what is now Arkansas became the District of Louisiana, attached to the Indiana Territory. The people of St. Louis resented being governed from Vincennes, and would petition congress to form the Louisiana Territory, with the seat of government here.

**1812** Today is the birthday of St. Louis and St. Charles County. Governor William Clark signed an act dividing the territory into the districts of St. Charles, St. Louis, Ste. Genevieve, Cape Girardeau and New Madrid. The act also called for the election of Missouri's first representative legislature and delegate to congress.

**1823** A three-man commission was named to survey and mark a road from St. Louis through St Charles, and westward to Jefferson City. The route followed the "Booneslick Trail," later U.S. 40 and now roughly followed by I-70.

**1826** Jefferson City was designated the permanent capitol of the state of Missouri. The capitol was moved there from St. Charles.

**1850** David Rowland Francis was born in Richmond, Kentucky. Francis served as the 30<sup>th</sup> Mayor of St. Louis from 1885-1888. He then became the only St. Louis Mayor ever elected Governor of Missouri. He also served as Secretary of the Interior under President Cleveland. But Francis is best remembered for his tireless work as head of the 1904 World's Fair. He later became U.S. Ambassador to Russia.

**1864** The rebels under Sterling Price turned away from St. Louis and moved into Franklin County. Accompanying Price was the famous guerilla, William Quantrill and one of his men--Jesse James. Legend says when Price's troops destroyed a Union gunpowder plant along the Meramec at "Salt Petre Cave," Jesse became familiar with the hideout we now know as Meramec Caverns.

**1878** The West End Narrow Gauge Railroad began service between St. Louis and the sleepy little town of Florissant. Speculators said property values there could rise as much as 50%. The West End Station was saved from the wrecking ball and moved to its present spot in 1971.

**1901** Director of Works Isaac Taylor formally took possession of the western half of Forest Park for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company. In 2 ½ years, they built a city where there had been only woods before.

**1908** The St. Louis Browns announced plans to turn Sportsmen's Park into one of the finest baseball parks in the country. The capacity of the park would be doubled, until it covered nearly the entire block.

**1919** The first St. Louis airline began operation. Southern Aerial Transportation Company consisted of one Curtiss JN "Jenny" type plane. They advertised passenger and freight service anywhere in the country, except during the winter months.

**1926** The first all talking motion pictures were shown in St. Louis. Those first "talkies" were shown at the Capitol Theatre. They included a short selection of music, plus John Barrymore in *Don Juan*.

**1927** Organizers of the Veiled Prophet Ball announced it would be postponed because of the tornado. The police board authorized the hiring of 500 additional officers to relieve members of the Missouri National Guard, which had been patrolling the devastated area.

**1930** The TWA brand name was born. Transcontinental Air Transport merged with Western Air Express. The new airline was called Transcontinental and Western Airlines. The name was officially changed to Trans World Airlines in 1950.

**1944** The city was assured of the only All-St. Louis World Series ever. The Browns clinched the pennant with a 5-2 win over the Yankees. A crowd of 37,815 packed Sportsmen's Park-- the first sellout of a Browns game in 20 years. Oscar Grimes made the final out, a fly ball to George McGuinn.

**1945** Donnie Hathaway was born in Chicago. He spent his childhood in the Carr Housing Project, and attended Vashon High School. In 1970, he collaborated with Roberta Flack. The duet "Where is The Love" went top five. Hathaway also sang the theme from the television show *Maude*. Another duet with Flack, "The Closer I Get To You," was a huge hit in 1978. In January 1979, he apparently jumped top his death from the Essex House Hotel in New York City.

**1956** Woolworths opened its downtown store at 6<sup>th</sup> and Locust. Mayor Raymond Tucker helped cut the ribbon to open the store. The landmark store closed in 1993 and is now a parking garage.

**1960** The new, \$600,000 Climatron at Shaw's Garden was dedicated. The unique geodesic dome houses the garden's tropical vegetation. The first arrivals at the Climatron were some palm trees from Florida.

**1963** Mark McGwire was born in Pomona, California. The Montreal Expos drafted Big Mac right out of high school, as a pitcher! McGwire switched to first base at the urging of Ron Vaughn, an assistant coach in the Alaskan Summer League. Oakland used the 10<sup>th</sup> pick overall in the 1984 draft to take McGwire. He set a Major League record with 49 home runs in 1987. Mark came to the Cardinals on July 31, 1997.

**1973** The Regional Commerce and Growth Association was founded by a merger of the Chamber of Commerce, the St. Louis Development Corporation, and the Regional Development Corporation.

**1975** St. Clair Square shopping center opened.

**1986** A group of investors headed by Michael Shanahan finalized its purchase of the Blues from Harry Ornest for \$19 million. While in the fifth grade at All Saint's School, Shanahan caddied for Sidney Salomon Junior and Sidney III. The Salomons founded the Blues franchise.

**1987** Danny Cox pitched five-hitter, as the Cardinals clinched the National League East with an 8-2 win over Montreal.

**1991** Lee Smith of the Cardinals set a new National League record with his 46th save. That broke the old record set by Bruce Sutter of the Redbirds.