

### **October 3**

**1804** The St. Louis Post Office was established. The first Post Office was located at Third and Elm, in the home of Rufus Easton. Thomas Jefferson appointed Easton as the first postmaster.

**1809** The District Court of Common Pleas approved a citizen's petition, and St. Louis was incorporated as a town. The court authorized greatly expanded town limits, which now stretched for six miles along the riverfront.

**1853** The first Missouri State Fair opened in Booneville. The Missouri State Agricultural Society, created by the legislature, staged the first one. In 1899, a state law created the state fair as we know it in Sedalia. The first fair there was in 1903.

**1867** The largest funeral procession ever in St. Louis was held in honor of a man who fought against the Union. Sterling Price, former congressman, governor and commander of the pro-southern state militia during the Civil War, was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery.

**1871** Several St. Louis papers commented on President Grant entering some of the cattle from his Gravois farm in the St. Louis Fair. The writers said it showed a "lack of presidential dignity." They questioned the propriety of him leaving Washington to attend. One editorial said, "Even Andy Johnson didn't do that."

**1899** John Thurman of St. Louis patented the first motorized vacuum cleaner. Thurman ran a door-to-door vacuuming service that was priced at \$4 per visit. His vacuum was gasoline powered. The huge horse drawn unit was parked outside the building and hoses were run inside.

**1901** Army Commander General Nelson Miles approved a request by the World's Fair Commissioners for a special MP squad to keep order at the fair site during construction and the run of the fair. The commissioners said the special force would be "Free of any local influence, whatever they may be."

**1902** According to an article in the *Watchman-Advocate*, "Automobiles took over Clayton." The paper said the cars sped out along Clayton and Manchester Roads, leaving a trail of flustered farmers and nervous livestock in their path. The cars were on an endurance test by the St. Louis Auto Club.

**1909** St. Louis was celebrating the 100th anniversary of its incorporation with a week long bash. The centennial week celebrations were held in conjunction with Veiled Prophet Week.

**1926** For the first time ever, the Cardinals won a World Series game. They beat the Yankees 6-2, in game two of the series. Groover Cleveland Alexander got the win. Billy Southworth became the first Cardinal to ever hit a World Series home run.

**1927** The Board of Education announced plans for accommodating the 6700 students of nine schools wrecked by the tornado. They would be transferred to the undamaged school nearest to them. Car fare would be provided for students who had to travel over a mile to their new school.

**1931** Blues great Glenn Hall was born in Humboldt, Saskatchewan. “Mister Goalie” came to the expansion club in the twilight of his great career, talked out of retirement. He led the team to the 1968 Stanley Cup finals in the team’s first season. The combo of Hall and Jacques Plante also put the team in the finals the next two seasons. Hall hated playing goal, and threw up before nearly every game.

**1934** In the opening game of the 1934 World Series, the Gashouse Gang Cardinals beat the Tigers 8-3. Joe Medwick went four-for-four.

**1946** The Cardinals beat Brooklyn 8-4 at Ebbets Field to win an unprecedented playoff and advance to the World Series. The Cardinals and Dodgers had finished the season tied for first.

**1954** - Dennis (Lee) Eckersley (baseball: pitcher: Cleveland Indians [all-star: 1977], Boston Red Sox [all-star: 1982], Chicago Cubs, Oakland Athletics [World Series: 1988, 1989, 1990/all-star: 1988-1992/Cy Young Award: 1992/Baseball Writers’ Award: 1992], SL Cardinals)

**1959** Jack Wagner was born in Washington, Missouri. He rose to fame as Frisco Jones on the soap opera *General Hospital*. Wagner hit number two on the charts with “All I Need” in 1985. He also starred as Doctor Peter Burns on *Melrose Place*.

**1959** It was announced that the new downtown ballpark would be named Civic Center Busch Memorial Stadium in honor of the brewery. Anheuser-Busch put up the first \$5 million of the \$20 million necessary to start construction.

**1960** Huge crowds greeted Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy during a campaign swing across Southern Illinois. Kennedy made 14 speeches on a day that took him to Alton, Granite City, Venice, National City, East St. Louis, Belleville, Scott Air Force Base and Carbondale. Over 5,000 heard Kennedy speak in the Belleville Square.

**1964** The Cardinals were pounded by the Mets 15-5. The second loss in a row for the Birds dropped them into a first place tie with the Reds.

**1967** The federal government announced it was abandoning a controversial plan to tear down the Old Post Office at 8th and Olive, to make way for a new federal building. The government said public outcry had influenced the decision.

**1968** Tigers pitcher Mickey Lolich evened the World Series at one game apiece. Lolich tossed a six-hitter as the Tigers beat the Cardinals 8-1 in game two.

**1984** Powerful St. Louis Democratic politician, Sorkis Webbe Senior, was sentenced to three years in prison. He was convicted of failing to report income tax on kickbacks he received on expansion of the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas. Authorities said Webbe ran the Aladdin for mob interests.

**1984** Crestwood Plaza re-opened after a multi-million dollar renovation as the "Ultra-Mall." The shopping center was the most modern in the area when it opened on Route 66 back in 1957.

**1987** The Cardinals passed the three million mark in home attendance for the first time. The team had clinched the NL East just two days earlier. The Redbirds would draw three million or more eight more times before moving to the new ballpark in 2006.

**1995** Reaction was split along racial lines in St. Louis, as O. J. Simpson was acquitted in the murders of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend, Ronald Goldman. The *Post-Dispatch* greeted the news with an extra edition and the headline "Not guilty."

**1995** A fifth grade student took control of a runaway school bus and brought it to a stop on busy Highway 40. Larry Champagne III took action when the bus driver apparently suffered a stroke. Five of the 20 children en route to Bellerive School in the Parkway District suffered minor injuries.

**1999** Mark McGwire won the home run title for the second season in a row. McGwire hit his 65th home run of the season in the first inning of a game at Busch Stadium. Sammy Sosa of the Cubs finished the season with 63. McGwire also moved into tenth place on the all-time home run list.

**1999** The new Family Arena in St. Charles opened with a concert by John Cougar Mellencamp. The biggest complaint on opening night concerned the long lines of traffic getting in and out of the arena parking lot.

**2000** Cards manager Tony LaRussa threw fans a curve by announcing that rookie pitcher Rick Ankiel would start Game One of the Divisional Series that night against the favored Atlanta Braves. Ankiel tossed five wild pitches and gave up four walks in a single inning, but the Redbirds would sweep Atlanta in three games.

**2004** Ray Lankford slugged a pinch hit home run, giving him 123 career dingers at Busch Stadium. That stands as the all time record, surpassing even Mark McGwire. A 9-4 win over Milwaukee gave the Cardinals 105 wins for the season, the most since 1944 and second most in team history.