

October 11

1700 Catholic priest Father James Gravier and his group killed a buffalo on the west side of the Mississippi below the mouth of a river he had mentioned in his journal the previous day. He called it the River Miramequoua, from an Indian word meaning "catfish." The killing of the buffalo is the first record of white men in what is today Jefferson County.

1809 Meriwether Lewis was found dead at Grinder's Stand on the Natchez Trace. Ailing, and in financial trouble, he was headed from St. Louis to Washington to ask the government for help with expenses from the famous expedition. One bullet entered his body from the back, but the death was ruled a suicide.

1864 Federal forces arrived at Washington, Missouri. The rebels under Sterling Price had pillaged the town. Union General E.C. Pike took over the Methodist Church on Fifth Street to use as a hospital. The troops burned pews and broke the windows. The general provided funds to fix the church.

1871 City officials called a meeting to devise some means of dealing with the refugees pouring into St. Louis from Chicago. Nearly all of them were destitute.

1882 The first foreign born mayor of St. Louis died. George McGuire was born in Omagh, Ireland and served as the eighth mayor of St. Louis from 1842-1843. During his term, the city comptroller began presenting a semi-annual budget and street inspectors began looking for city ordinance violations.

1904 It was Missouri Day at the St. Louis World's Fair. Four regiments of Missouri National Guardsmen took part in a grand procession observed by Governor Alexander Dockery. It was one of the best-attended days of the fair.

1910 Former president Theodore Roosevelt became the first president to ride in an airplane. He flew in a bi-plane piloted by Archibald "Arch" Hoxey, who was taking part in the International Aviation Meet at Kinloch Field. Roosevelt described the four-minute flight at an altitude of 50 feet as "bully," and said he wished they could have stayed in the air for an hour.

1926 A huge crowd gathered at Sportsmen's Park to welcome the world champion Cardinals. 15 members of the team addressed the crowd through loudspeakers. Roger Hornsby could not attend. He was on his way to Texas for his mother's funeral. She had died just before the World Series began.

1929 The National Dairy Show opened at the Arena, the first event at the new building. The Arena was intended to be the permanent home of the show. But the stock market crash a few weeks later bankrupted the promoters, and the "Old Barn" became an expensive white elephant.

1943 The Cardinals lost Game Five 2-0 and lost the World Series to the Yankees, four games to one. Ten Redbird errors took them out of the series.

1946 The town of Centreville, Missouri (west of Rolla on Route 66) was renamed "Doolittle" in honor of the retired general who had led the first U.S. bombing raid on Tokyo. Jimmy Doolittle was a former pilot for Shell Oil in St. Louis.

1954 St. Charles County officials were elated over the announcement that two thousand more jobs were coming to the county. The Atomic Energy Commission announced plans to build a \$33 million uranium processing plant at Weldon Spring and a \$6.5 million expansion of existing facilities owned by Malinkrodt.

1954 Frankie Mae Raglin and her four orphaned nephews and nieces became the first to move into the new Wendell Pruitt Homes. The facility was hailed as state of the art. Housing officials said 1700 families were expected to occupy the 20 high-rise buildings.

1958 St. Louis was down to just six operating street car lines, as the last car to travel Jefferson made its run. The Public Service Commission was forced to abandon the line and switch to bus service, rather than pay over \$1 million to relocate tracks to accommodate widening of Jefferson.

1964 With the Cards down two games to one in the World Series, and trailing in Game Four, Ken Boyer turned it around with one swing of the bat. Boyer's grand slam off Al Downing of the Yankees gave the Cards a 4-3 win, evening the series.

1967 The Blues played their very first regular season game, tying Minnesota 2-2 at the Arena. Arthur Godfrey, Anna Maria Alberghetti and Guy Lombardo's Royal Canadians Orchestra all took part in the pre-game festivities. Larry Keenan scored the first Blues goal, at 3:22 of the first period. The Blues went all the way to the finals in their first season, but were swept by the mighty Montreal Canadiens.

1967 The Red Sox sent the 1967 world series to a 7th game. Powered by consecutive homers by Carl Yastremski, Reggie Smith and Rico Petrocelli, the Sox won 8-4 at Fenway.

1991 Red Foxx died of a massive heart attack during a rehearsal for an episode of the TV series, "The Royal Family." At first, the cast and crew thought it was a joke and laughed at him. Born Elroy John Sanford in St. Louis in 1922, he is best remembered for his role in TV's "Sanford and Son."

1992 President George Bush met candidates Bill Clinton and Ross Perot in the first presidential debate of the 1992 campaign. The debate was held in St. Louis at Washington University. Lim Jehrer, co-anchor of the "MacNeil-Lehrer NewsHour," and a panel of three journalists posed the questions.