

October 16

1698 Louis St. Ange de Bellerive was born in Montreal. He was the first French commandant at St. Louis and played a vital role in the early growth of the village. He moved his command to St. Louis in 1765 after the British took over the east bank of the Mississippi. Many French settlers, leery of British rule, followed. A park, a boulevard, a country club and a St. Louis County municipality is named in his honor.

1849 Missouri Senator Thomas Hart Benton made a speech that helped open the west. Speaking at the Old Courthouse before a group interested in developing a western railroad, Benton pointed westward and cried, "There is the east! There is India." The speech electrified the audience and strengthened the case for the railroad. The words are engraved on Benton's statue in Lafayette Park.

1900 Cardinal President Frank Robison ripped his team for their mediocre finish after the owners lavished 30 thousand dollars on "supposed baseball stars." He blamed a fifth place Redbird finish on "Late hours, general debauchery and incessant gambling." He warned next year's salaries would be based on this year's performance.

1941 Tim McCarver was born in Memphis. McCarver was an important part of the 1960's pennant winning Cardinal teams. The catcher was traded to Philadelphia in 1969, returned here as a pinch hitter in 1973-74, then ended up with the Phils again. He was a part of three pennant winners before moving to the broadcast booth in 1980.

1950 Eddie Dyer resigned after five seasons as manager of the Cardinals. Marty Marion replaced him.

1957 The Missouri Highway Commission proposed a 15.4 expressway between the Meramec River and downtown. The route for the \$47 million project was the same as the proposed "Ozark Expressway" until it called for I-55 to separate near Green Park and Union. The Ozark would then continue west to U.S. 66 at Sylvan Beach.

1959 "Dick Clark's Caravan of Stars" came to Kiel Auditorium. Paul Anka topped the bill, along with Lloyd Price, Annette, Duane Eddy, Jimmy Clanton, Laverne Baker, the Coasters, Drifters and Skyliners, Bobby Rydell and Phil Phillips!

1961 Red Schoendienst's playing days came to an end. The Cardinals announced he would become a full time coach under manager Johnny Keane.

1962 The Playboy Club of St. Louis opened its doors. The club at 3914 Lindell was the only venue built by Playboy specifically for a club. It featured a hanging "Playpen" used for private parties. It closed on September 25, 1975. The building still stands and is now a bar called Kearbey's.

1964 One day after the Cardinals won the World Series, Johnny Keane stunned a press

conference here by announcing he was stepping down as manager of the Cardinals. That same day, the Yankees fired Yogi Berra. A few days later, Keane took over the Yankees job. Keane was upset that Gussie Busch had been searching for a new manager when the Cardinals were struggling early in the season.

1966 A truck loaded with 3 ½ tons of shotgun powder exploded in the heart of the Alton business district. Two people were killed, and two hurt. The fire leveled three buildings. The truck was delivering the powder to a store that sold ammunition.

1966 Busch Stadium was sold out for a football game for the first time. The Big Red had won their first five games and faced the undefeated Dallas Cowboys before a crowd of 50,673. The game ended in a 10-10 tie. The Big Red had a dismal second half of the season after quarterback Charlie Johnson was injured and ended up finishing fourth.

1974 Even though Busch Stadium is made mostly of concrete, officials were concerned about termites. They had caused thousands of dollars in damage to the offices of WEW radio and an advertising agency inside the park at Spruce and Broadway. Experts warned the critters could munch on the outfield wall and the Astro turf.

1981 A car bomb killed George "Sonny" Faheen in the Mansion House Hotel garage. He was the nephew of Jimmy Michaels Senior, killed by a car bomb in 1980. It was the latest bloody episode in a battle between the Leisure and Michaels families over control of a labor union. Michael Kornhardt would be charged with Faheen's murder, but he was gunned down in July 1982. The key members of the Leisure gang would be convicted in the Kornhardt case, and the gang was finished.

1982 An error by Dave Lapoint opened the floodgates, and the Milwaukee Brewers won Game Four of the World Series, 7-5.

1985 The Cardinals clinched the 1985 National League pennant in dramatic fashion. Jack Clark homered off Tom Niedenfuer of the Dodgers in the ninth inning to give the Cardinals the win, and set up the "I-70 Series" between the Cardinals and the Kansas City Royals. Niedenfuer had given up the home run by Ozzie Smith that won Game Five.

1986 A special Chuck Berry concert was held at the Fox Theatre. The show, organized by Keith Richards, was filmed for the documentary "Hail, Hail Rock and Roll." Eric Clapton, Linda Ronstadt, Julian Lennon and others joined Chuck on stage to celebrate his 60th birthday.

1998 Engineer John Forsythe was killed when the Zoo Line train left the tracks. The passengers jumped to safety as the train ran out of control. It was the first fatal accident in the history of the Zoo Line Railroad.

2000 Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan, his son Randy, and top aide Chris Sifford died when their small plane crashed in Jefferson County. The NTSB would find that pilot Randy Carnahan became disoriented when a key instrument failed in bad weather. Mel

Carnahan was running against John Ashcroft for the US Senate. Carnahan won the November 2000 election posthumously, and his wife Jean was appointed to serve in his place.

2000 The New York Mets defeated the Cardinals 7-0 at Shea Stadium, taking the National League Championship series four games to one.

2005 After 19 seasons in the NHL, former Blues great Brett Hull announced he was retiring. Hull scored 741 career goals, including 527 with the Blues. He ranked third on the all-time scoring list.