

October 18

1847 Boatmen's Bank opened for business. George K. Budd, who had served as the city's first school superintendent and comptroller, founded Boatmen's. He conceived the idea of a bank for individuals and small depositors. At the time, banks were for the wealthy. Boatmen's merged with NationsBank in January, 1997. Bank of America swallowed up NationsBank in 1998.

1897 The first game of the St. Louis Football (soccer) Association turned into a melee. The referee mistakenly called the end of the game when there was still 18 minutes left. Spectators and players mobbed the field and the referee fled for his life. The game resumed and the Shamrocks beat the St. Theresa's 1-0.

1904 Miss Helen Keller, "the celebrated blind and deaf signer" was the guest of honor on Helen Keller Day at the World's Fair. Keller was the only living person to be honored with a special day at the fair. Keller said she "saw" the sights of the fair through the eyes of her companions.

1908 The cornerstone was laid for the magnificent "new" cathedral on Lindell. The first mass to be held there would take place six years later to the day. The cathedral would not be formally dedicated until June 29, 1926.

1921 Mayor Henry Kiel's unemployment commission of 17 prominent St. Louisans was appealing to President Harding to amend prohibition, and allow the sale of beer and wine. The commissioners said the move would create 10,000 jobs in St. Louis.

1926 Charles Edward Anderson Chuck Berry was born. His family lived on Goode Street, which is why Chuck's autobiographical song was called "Johnny B. Goode." Goode Street is now known as Annie Malone Drive. Berry learned to play guitar while attending Sumner High School. After serving time for armed robbery, he worked at the Fisher Body Plant and trained as a hairdresser at the Poro Beauty School before scoring his first hit with "Maybelline" in 1955. In 1986, Berry was among the first performers to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

1953 The St. Louis Police Board began an inquiry into the missing half of the Greenlease ransom money. The arresting officers claimed they had brought all of the money to the station the night kidnapper Carl Austin Hall was arrested.

1958 The Missouri Highway Department approved the controversial route for the proposed Interstate 44. The plan called for a 14-mile route between the Third Street Expressway and US 66 at Sylvan Beach on the Meramec River in St. Louis County. The proposed route paralleled Lafayette then followed the Frisco tracks through Shrewsbury and Webster Groves.

1958 The Army Corps of Engineers broke ground for a \$43 million dam on the Kaskaskia River at Carlyle, Illinois. The Corps said the dam would create the largest man-made lake in Illinois.

1958 KMOX became the first station to broadcast complete baseball games from outside of the continental United States. Joe Garagiola was behind the mike for broadcasts of Cardinal games during a good will tour of Japan.

1959 Central Hardware announced plans for "Central City," on the 66 by-pass at Halls Ferry. Russell, Mulgardt, Schwarz and Van Hoefen designed the distinctive ultra-modern store. The store were shoppers found "Everything from Scoop to Nuts" was torn down for a Home Depot in September 1997.

1960 Three black Vashon High School students were arrested for refusing to leave Pope's Cafeteria on Washington Avenue. The cafeteria refused to serve the students. It marked the first of several "sit-ins" here.

1962 Bi-State Development Company finalized an agreement to buy out the old Public Service Company, which ran the city busses and street car. Bi-State was buying up all of the area's transit lines, to take a regional approach to solving transit problems.

1972 Mayor Cervantes abandoned his plan to turn the River des Peres into a "green belt." Residents derided the \$14 million plan as the "River des Peres Yacht Club." Cervantes envisioned inflatable dams at Landsdowne and Morganford to provide an area for boating and a marina.

1978 The Cardinals fired General Manager Bing Devine. John Claiborne was named Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Devine served as GM from 1958 until 1964. He built the Cardinals into World Champs, but resigned after a dispute with Gussie Busch. Devine returned in 1978.

1980 GOP presidential nominee Ronald Reagan spoke on a chilly night at the Arch. The crowd cheered as he said A recession is when your friend loses their job; a depression is when you lose your job; and "recovery is when Jimmy Carter loses his job."

1982 Facing elimination, the Cardinals survived two rain delays, pounding the Brewers 13-1 in Game Six of the World Series.

1983 After 110 years, the Owens-Corning glass plant in Alton closed its doors.

1987 The Twins took a two-nothing lead in the World Series. The Twins scored seven runs in the fourth to beat the Cards 8-4 at the Metro Dome.

1999 The teens of Webster Groves were in the national spotlight once again. Webster Groves High School was the focus of a *Time* Magazine article called "A Week in the Life of an American High School."

2000 At one am, Roger Wilson took the oath as Missouri's 52nd governor. The ceremony took place moments after the Jefferson County medical examiner certified that Governor Mel Carnahan died in the October 16th plane crash.