

September 3

1848 The St. Louis *Republican* became the first paper here to print a Sunday edition. After the great fire of 1849 and the cholera epidemic, some ministers said God had visited St. Louis with fire and pestilence because the newspaper was violating the Sabbath.

1856 Architect Louis Sullivan was born in Boston. Considered the dean of American architects, Sullivan believed that form should always follow function. The "Father of the Skyscraper" designed the Wainwright Building, constructed here in 1890-91 and now used for state offices.

1900 A power line carrying 3200 volts crossed over the police box circuit at 8th and Carr. One by one, as Fourth District officers called in, they received a terrible jolt of electricity. Two officers died, and 13 were seriously injured.

1900 Sally Benson was born in St. Louis. She wrote a series of autobiographical short stories in *The New Yorker* under the title "5135 Kensington" in 1941-42. Benson compiled them into a book. In 1944, those stories about the Smith Family (Benson's maiden name) became the basis for the movie *Meet Me in St. Louis*. She went on to pen screenplays such as *National Velvet*, *Bus Stop* and *Anna and the King of Siam*.

1901 Treasurer William H. Thompson drove the first stake for the construction of the world's fair. The formal ground breaking ceremonies did not take place until December 2nd.

1903 The contract to construct the bird cage at the St. Louis World's Fair was awarded to the St. Paul Foundry Company for \$14,634. Frank Baker of the Smithsonian's National Zoo designed the cage. The cage is 228 feet long, 84 feet wide and 50 feet high. After the fair, the Smithsonian made an effort to send the cage to Washington, D.C. But the city purchased it for \$3,500. The purchase led to the establishment of the St. Louis Zoo in 1916.

1904 The Olympic games in St. Louis came to a close. The U-S won 24 of the 26 events in the first games ever held in the United States. Canada and Mexico won the other two gold medals.

1921 Ernest Hemingway married Hadley Richardson of St. Louis. They were divorced in 1927. All three of Hemingway's wives had St. Louis connections. Second wife Pauline Pfeiffer attended Visitation Academy. Third wife Martha Gellhorn was also from St. Louis. The journalist and novelist was the only one of Hemingway's wives to leave him.

1927 A huge crowd attended the grand opening of the Reptile House at the St. Louis Zoo. It was renovated in 1978, and re-opened as the Herpetarium.

1948 Demolition was underway on the oldest hotel in St. Louis. The old National Hotel, later Scott's, had hosted such notables as Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee and Daniel Webster. A parking lot occupied the site until 1968, when the Gateway Tower was built. A plaque in the lobby of the home of KMOX and KMOV proclaims, "Abraham Lincoln slept here."

1959 Plans were unveiled for three, 36-story apartment buildings near the St. Louis riverfront. The Mansion House Redevelopment Project called for \$45 million in construction in a five-block area bounded by Chestnut, Washington, Fourth Street and the Third Street Highway.

1970 The St. Louis Housing Authority announced plans to close 16 buildings at the troubled Pruitt-Igoe complex to reduce costs. Only 17 of the original 43 buildings were still in use. About 300 families would be moved.

1975 Bob Gibson made his last career appearance on the mound. He entered the game in the sixth inning at Busch Stadium, walked three and gave up five runs, including a grand slam by pinch hitter Pete LaCock of the Cubs. Bob said "I knew it was time to go when Pete LaCock hit a grand slam against me."

1977 South St. Louis County was shocked by the abduction and murder of 18-year-old Pamela Sue Wright of Oakville. Her body was found eight days later, and Robert Bullington was charged with the crime.

1980 Some 15,000 students boarded the busses on the first day of court ordered desegregation in St. Louis. It was a peaceful first day for most of the 62,750 students. There was some racial tension at Cleveland High School.

1984 Bruce Sutter of the Cardinals broke the National League record for saves in a season. His 38th clinched a 7-3 Cards win over the Mets. Three hurlers had previously held the record, Clay Carroll, Rollie Fingers and Sutter, with 37 saves.

1988 The former Chairman of the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners, Anthony Daniele, took board member John Frank hostage at gunpoint in Frank's office in the 1010 Market Building. Daniele had just been sentenced to eight years in prison for defrauding the pension funds. He released Frank after a 25-hour standoff when authorities agreed not to prosecute him for the hostage incident.

2001 Cards rookie Bud Smith tossed a no hitter against the Padres in San Diego. It was just Smith's 11th big league start. The 4-0 win made Smith the 16th rookie in Major League history to throw a no-hitter. He once threw two no-hitters within a month in the minor leagues.