

September 12

1861 Hiram Reed of St. Louis became the first slave to be freed by United States government authority. General John Fremont had issued an order freeing the slaves of Confederate sympathizers in Missouri, including Reed's owner, Thomas Snead. President Lincoln would rescind Fremont's proclamation and remove him from command.

1874 City officials dedicated a monument to General Nathaniel Lyon on the old army arsenal grounds here. It marked the site where Lyon began his march on the state militia at Camp Jackson, which ended in violence and death on May 10, 1861. Lyon became the first Union general to die in battle at Wilson's Creek. The army donated the land to the city for Lyon Park.

1875 The former president of the Confederacy was in St. Louis on his way to speaking engagements in Fulton and Kansas City. St. Louisans who sided with the rebels "during the recent unpleasantness" were lining up to see Jefferson Davis at his hotel--The Southern.

1883 St. Louisan Henry Lucas founded the Union Association. The St. Louis team was called the Maroons. Lucas denounced the reserve clause, which bound players to their teams and became embroiled in a bitter rivalry on the diamond and in court with Browns owner Chris von Der Ahe. The Maroons joined the National League in 1885. After the 1886 season, they were sold to Indianapolis and re-named the "Hoosiers."

1889 Herman Dreer was born in Washington, D.C. He became a teacher at Sumner High School in 1914 and helped establish Stowe Teacher's College. He may be best remembered for helping the Shelley family in their case that overturned racial real estate covenants. He also became an important figure in bringing attention to African-American history.

1912 One hundred and seven householders in O'Fallon submitted a petition seeking incorporation as a fourth class city. A charter would be issued on September 25, 1912. The population was about 600.

1920 The Post Office awarded an air mail contract between St. Louis and Pittsburgh, one of only three routes where airlines would be allowed to carry passengers and the mail. The *Globe-Democrat* reported that "palatial airliners with wicker chairs enclosed in glass streamlined bodies" were already under construction.

1921 Following a plane crash in Forest Park in which a paying passenger was killed, Park Commissioner Frederick Pape ordered all planes at the field grounded. He said pilots had flagrantly violated his ban on excursion flights from the field.

1924 John "Black Jack" Pershing retired from the army at the age of 64. He was serving as Chief-of-Staff, and was the army's only full-rank general. A Missouri native, he spent

42 years in the army, and led the American Expeditionary Force in France during World War One.

1952 Mayor Tucker announced that he was taking the advice of top medical and dental experts. He planned to begin fluoridation of the city water supply. Tucker had made a campaign promise to appoint a committee of experts to settle the controversial issue.

1952 A crowd of 12,000 turned out at Oakland Stadium to see the first pro-football game in St. Louis in 15 years. They saw the Giants beat the Colts 10-6 in a game to raise money for the building funds of Fontbonne College and St. Joseph's Academy.

1962 John F. Kennedy made his final visit to St. Louis. At McDonnell Aircraft, he told employees they were engaged in the most important and significant adventure in the history of mankind. Kennedy was scheduled to come to St. Louis again in October 1962. But the trip was cancelled at the last minute and the press was told it was because the president had a cold. The truth was more sinister. Kennedy had just learned of the offensive missile sites in Cuba.

1972 August A. Busch Junior was named head of a committee to save Lambert Field. Busch was charged with getting out the vote for a referendum on November 7th. Voters would be asked to approve a plan to build a new airport at Columbia-Waterloo, Illinois. If it passed, Lambert Field would be turned into a facility for private and business aircraft only.

1975 Amid tight security, President Gerald Ford came to St. Louis to address the National Baptist convention. Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme had tried to kill him a few days earlier. An hour before Ford was to speak at Kiel Auditorium, a man with a .45 pistol was spotted on a catwalk. Ten days later, Sara Jane Moore was foiled in her attempt on his life.

1980 South side dentist Doctor Glennon Engelman was found guilty of the 1976 murder-for-profit of Peter Halm. Engleman would also be convicted of a car bombing that killed a nurse who owed him \$14,000 in lab fees.

1983 St. Louis teachers agreed to return to work and end a strike that had cancelled the first six days of the school year. Thousands of teachers had walked out in a salary dispute.

1999 The Rams opened the season with a 27-10 win over the Ravens at the Trans World Dome. Quarterback Kurt Warner entered the game with just eleven career passes in the NFL. He stunned the Ravens with 309 yards and three touchdowns.

2001 The Arch and Eagleton Courthouse re-opened, but the PGA cancelled the World Golf Championships at Bellerive. Airport officials waited for word on when flights would resume, and blood donors faced waits of up to five hours due to the crowds. At

7:48 am, radio and TV stations observed a moment of silence, followed by “The Star Spangled Banner” by Sandi Patty.