

September 25

1792 The first recorded marriage in St. Louis County took place as John Baptiste Provost married Angelique Savaugers.

1843 Joseph Rosati, died at the age of 59. The first Bishop of St. Louis became ill while returning here from France. Buried in Rome, he was returned to St. Louis for burial 111 years later. Peter Richard Kenrick took over as bishop upon Rosati's death.

1864 Business was suspended here, and all men not drafted were put to work building defenses, as rebels under Sterling Price advanced towards St. Louis. His army was encamped near Pilot Knob, preparing to attack Fort Davidson. But resistance by outnumbered federals there convinced Price he could never take St. Louis.

1868 The eccentric Doctor Joseph Nash McDowell died. He founded the first medical college west of the Mississippi here. When his son and daughter died, he had their bodies suspended in containers and suspended from the ceiling of a cave in Hannibal, to test the petrifactive qualities of water dripping from the ceiling. Local youth, including Samuel Clemens often visited the spooky site, now known as Mark Twain Cave.

1909 The first automobile ambulance in St. Louis was delivered to the city dispensary. The new Pierce ambulance with its 60 horsepower engine could hit 40 miles per hour. Five or six of them were expected to replace the 17 horse-drawn units now in use.

1912 O'Fallon, Missouri was incorporated as a city. 107 householders signed the petition for incorporation. Today, over 40,000 people live there.

1925 A committee of the national highway officials met at the Jefferson Hotel to assign numbers to the new federal highway system. The route from Chicago to LA was designated as Route 60, and Missouri printed up thousands of maps with that designation. But the governor of Kentucky wanted the more important sounding 60 to run through his state. After a long fight, Missouri and Oklahoma officials agreed to change the Chicago to LA route to "66."

1925 Despite a drenching rain, a crowd of 9,000 turned out for opening night at the new Fairmount Race track on the Collinsville Road.

1949 The entire nation was intrigued by the repeated visits to St. Louis by vice-president Alben Barkley. He was here for a birthday visit with a St. Louis widow, Mrs. Carlton Hadley. Rumors were swirling that an engagement announcement was in the offing.

1955 The *Globe-Democrat* reported that early model "Demon" jets built at McDonnell Aircraft were grounded because their engines were too small to fly safely. A congressional inquiry found that \$300 million had been spent on the program. It was a

humiliating scene as the jets were towed down city streets to be loaded on a barge and shipped east.

1963 The Cardinals announced that Stan Musial's number would be retired. In addition to Stan's #6, the retired Cardinal numbers are; Ozzie Smith's #1, Red Scheondienst #2, the #9 worn by Enos Slaughter, #14 belonging to Kenny Boyer, Dizzy Dean's #17, #20 for Lou Brock, #45 for Bob Gibson and #85 in honor of Gussie Busch. The Cardinals also honored Jackie Robinson by retiring #42.

1965 Big Red quarterback Charlie Johnson tied an NFL record with six touchdown passes in one game. The Cardinals defeated the Browns 49-13 before a stunned crowd in Cleveland.

1966 Redbird rookie lefty Larry Jaster shut out the Dodgers for the fifth straight time, tying a record for most shutouts against a single club in a season. But Jaster was the first to reach the mark in five consecutive starts. He would hurl just seven shutouts in his seven-year career.

1974 Charles Merritts Senior, the president of the scandal-ridden East St. Louis school District 189, was indicted for conspiracy to murder a board member. The intended victim had been critical of district policy in the media.

1975 The St. Louis Playboy Club closed its doors. The three-level club at 3914 Lindell featured a hanging "Playpen" that was used for private gatherings. The club would produce six "Playmates of the Month" and one "Playmate of the Year." It is now a club called Kearbey's..

1980 South side dentist Glennon Engelman was convicted of a second car bombing murder. He was convicted of planting the bomb that killed Sophie Marie Barrera, a nurse who owed him thousands of dollars in lab fees. Over 22 years, Engleman had killed seven people for their insurance money or unpaid bills. He was sentenced to three life terms.

1989 St. Louis became a two-newspaper town again--briefly. The "St. Louis Sun," a tabloid style paper, made its debut amid much fanfare. The paper folded in the spring of 1990.

1995 St. Louis Comptroller Virvus Jones pleaded guilty to income tax fraud. He entered the plea agreement after being charged with scheming to steal the 1993 Democratic primary. Prosecutors said the Jones campaign backed a "stalking horse" candidate to draw votes away from his opponent.

1998 Sammy Sosa hit his 66th home run of the season. It came in a game at the Astrodome. Just 45-minutes later, Mark McGwire answered with his 66th, a blast off Shayne Bennett of Montreal at Busch Stadium.