

History Committee Data Base		
July		
Year	Date	Information
1864	9-Jul	Repairs to the roads from Sikeston during the Civil War were nearly completed.
1900	July	One of the early businesses was Yanson Jeweler store, owned and operated by C.H. Yanson, on Front Street.
1900	July	A group of visionaries knew that if the swamps were drained, the soil beneath the water would be as fertile as any in the nation. There were also fortunes to be made from harvesting the timber that covered this land.
		James F. Brooks wrote: "The timber interests of this area are vast. There are immense bodies of oak of every variety, gum, locust, ash, and great cypress brakes. The cypress is sound and of the red variety. It runs from one to three feet in diameter and is very tall and straight and ought to run 10,000 feet of lumber to the acre. There are dense forests of red and white oak, gum, soft maple, honey locust, ash, hickory, and cottonwood. The red oak is magnificent and three, four, and five feet in diameter and free from knots. The white oak is scattered but of great size. The locust runs from 1,000 to 1,500 feet to the tree and there is more of it than I ever saw elsewhere. It is in great demand for wagon hubs. The ash, gum and other timbers are equally good and grow in abundance."
1905	July	Mayor Tanner issued a proclamation that all unsanitary places in the City be cleaned up and ordered that its Board of Health inspect all premises in the City in defense against yellow fever.
1909	July	The Anti-Saloon League of Sikeston is organizing a campaign to have an election to declare Sikeston a "dry" town.
1910	14-Jul	If the women folk in your family have not been taught to use a revolver, teach them, for self protection's sake.
1910	July	Timber cutting in Southeast Missouri reached its heyday during the two decades of 1900 to 1920. Cutting was done for the most part in the dry period of July through November. Many of the timber cutters in those days were hoboes recruited from passing trains. The logging camps where the lumberjacks lived were canvas cities, with a huge circus tent serving as a mess hall surrounded by much smaller lodging tents. As the timber was being harvested farther and farther to the south, the logging camps were periodically moved to a new location. The usual wages were from 20 to 25 cents an hour, plus food and lodging. The workdays were said to be ten hours, but in reality went from dawn to dusk. During the same period of time, Louis Houck was crisscrossing the region with his railroads, hauling the valuable cut timber to the sawmills.
1913	July	The Farmer's Supply offered specials on appliances, such as "fireless cookers" and refrigerators. Coal ranges and cook stoves were priced from \$5.40 to \$57.50 and brass beds were \$12.50 to \$29.00.

1914	1-Jul	A spark from a train caused the stubble field of Grover Baker to become ignited and a nice big straw stack was burned down. The town was in turmoil until it was discovered to be only the straw, instead of a house, as all the noise seemed to signify.
1917	July	The Greer school will hold a special election July 21 to vote on free text books. If the proposition passes there will remain only six schools in Scott County which either select their own text books rather than use those textbooks distributed by the State of Missouri.
1918	July	Sikeston has gone over the top by purchasing and pledging more than her allotment of war bond stamps. The last and finishing effort was made immediately following the public meeting in the Malone Theater, when \$8,575 was pledged and much of it came from small sums.
1918	July	Sugar rationing has begun. Home consumption is limited to three pounds per month for a family of four.
1922	July	Organizers for the International Association of Lions Clubs announced enough prospective members have signed the petition for a charter to begin an organization for Sikeston.
1923	July	Sikeston is well started on a steady, substantial building boom, judging from the number of new homes and other buildings now under construction. A community meeting will be held in Malone Park to discuss ways and means for making Sikeston a bigger city.
1924	July	Sikeston's second Fourth of July celebration will be held when the opening is made at the fair grounds, sponsored by the Sikeston Chamber of Commerce. A crowd far in excess of last year's pace-maker is expected.
1926	July	Among the damage caused by a storm was the frame of the large art glass window in the east side of the Methodist Church which was blown out by the high winds. It has been boxed up and shipped to the manufacturer in Kansas City, and a new window exactly like the old one has been ordered.
1928	7-Jul	Scott County Health United will hold a clinic for crippled children. Dr. Kleinfelter of St. Louis, a specialist orthopedic surgeon, will be present and classify cases so that they may be given the advantage of hospital treatment as soon as possible. All citizens of the county who know of crippled children whose parents are too poor to pay for treatment will do the children an act of mercy by seeing that they get to this clinic.
1931	July	The name of the City of Sikeston is being painted on the city water tower in order to let tourists and visitors know the best name of the "best" city.
1932	July	Miss Hazel Young received from Girl Scout National Headquarters a certificate for having saved the life of Miss Lillian Derris. Miss Young, of slight build, rescued Miss Derris as she was going under for the third time in the Chaney pool. Miss Hazel successfully brought her victim to shore after a hard pull out of nine feet of water.
1933	14-Jul	After a fire caused by lightning started in a storage closet at the Himmelberger Harrison plant, a high pressure pump was used to pump water from Little River about 400 feet away. Spectators were amazed to see eels being forced through the nozzle. Evidently the intake of the pump hose had been placed in a nest of eels when it was placed in Little River.

1934	July	The community canning kitchen, under the auspices of the Sikeston Relief Bureau, opened Monday morning. To date a total of 87 quarts of garden products have been canned to be used for relief this winter. The canning plant is in the building formerly occupied by Potashnick Trucking. Included in the equipment is a 33 quart pressure cooker.
1936	July	The majority of Sikeston retail stores, including all grocery stores will remain open Saturday, July 4, in order that farmers who customarily do their week's shopping on Saturday, may be accommodated.
1940	July	Sikeston's answer to the aviation school and local hospital problem was made this week when business and professional men completed transactions to purchase and transform the J.A. Sutterfield home on the corner of West Gladys and New Madrid to a district infirmary. The large 13-room house was purchased for \$11,500.
1940	July	The huge all-metal bomber bearing U.S. Army Air Corps inspection officials arrived to inspect the Missouri Institute of Aeronautics Pilot Training School facilities. Hundreds of spectators were on hand.
1940	July	When moving to Sikeston in the mid-1940's, Loy Baugher, photographer, worked for and then bought the Dysart Photographic Studio. Baugher used the Dysart trademark on his newspaper pictures of new farm machinery and crops, mass medical inoculations during 1950's polio epidemic, aerial views of town growth, the construction of Interstates 55 and 57 and many other subjects.
1941	July	With prices a little lower than last year, watermelon buying got off to a slow start in this area. To date, only approximately 25 railroad cars of melons have been shipped by rail from here.
1942	3-Jul	Organization of Sikeston Post 3174 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars was announced.
1942	3-Jul	Ralph Mayer, 22 year old German native of Jewish extraction, expressed the hope that the Army would accept him for service despite the fact that he was not a United States citizen. On Nov. 13 he was inducted into the Army after an appeal to President Roosevelt.
1942	10-Jul	Something new was added to the classified columns of the Standard when the Missouri Institute of Aeronautics advertised for the return of a lost parachute.
1942	30-Jul	A federal grand jury in St. Louis which investigated the lynching of Cleo Wright, reported that the "facts disclosed do not constitute any federal offense."
1942	July	The contract for 24,000 pair of Army Shoes for its U.S. Army has been received at the Sikeston factory of the International Shoe Co.
1942	July	Sikeston retail stores have designated "American Heroes Day" to increase efforts to sell more war stamps and bonds than have been sold in Sikeston to date.
1942	July	Drought and hot weather beyond the sizzling stage even are playing havoc with district crops, plus farmers are feeling the "pinch" of the reduction of the labor supply for farming operations.

1943	July	It is the opinion of Sikeston Industrial leaders, that Sikeston industries have a minimum supply of labor, reduction of which will seriously hamper or force closure of operations. The Sikeston Cotton Oil Mill has lost 75% of its workers and are getting along now in the "off" season with 25%. "But when the cotton starts to come in, I just don't see how we can keep operating unless we can get more help," said an official of the Mill at the Sikeston Compress and Warehouse. The Compress has only eight employees and could rise to thirty if they could get more help.
1943	July	Sikeston's first "close-up" of war prisoners, a group of Italians from the Weingarten Prisoner of War Camp, who aid with farm work on the C.F. McMullin Estate north of town, came Sunday morning to attend Mass at the local Catholic Church. The prisoners and officers, numbering 150, are camped about 6 miles north of Sikeston, their tents clearly visible from Highway 61. The prisoners include Italian professional men, and it is reported, some singers of unusual ability, from the Italian National opera are among them.
1952	July	The first Jaycee Bootheel Rodeo was held at the VFW ballpark. The group had such little money they had to "pass around the hat" to rent chutes.
1960	July	The city police added eleven "guests" names to the register at the "Crossbar Hotel" (the jail) over on S. Prairie Street over the long Fourth of July weekend.
1962	July	Leonard Sacks, principal of the O'Fallon Technical School of St. Louis, is in Sikeston today to assist Harold Kiehne and other school officials in planning the Technical-Vocational program which is to be started this fall by the Board of Education.
1963	July	With only a trifle more than five percent of Sikeston's approximately 6,500 registered voters taking the trouble to go to the polls and vote yesterday, the annexation proposal won a "landslide" victory. With the approval, the city today is two square miles bigger than it was with 1,200 acres being added.
1965	July	Mayor Kendall Sikes told the city council last night that the city is doing all that it can to bring a mental health center to Sikeston. "We are contacting all of the state representatives in hopes of getting their support. We have hopes of getting Governor Warren Hearnes backing."
1970	July	City Manager W. Raymert Miller said Monday night he believes the formation of a Community Block Club in Sunset is "something good and will catch on. I will do everything I can do personally to help promote the club."
1976	July	In observance of this nation's 200th anniversary, the Daily Standard is including in today's publication [July 4, 5, 1976] a special Bicentennial Edition. The 36-page edition includes historical information on Bootheel communities, and pictures of historical places and events.
1978	July	SEMO Shriners welcomed horse show guests to the 1978 SEMO Shrine Horse Show Saturday night at the Jaycee Bootheel Rodeo Arena. The show included 13 categories with up to \$75 in prize money being paid to each class winners.
1987	July	The newly formed Sikeston 2000 Committee conducted its first meeting Thursday night at the Sikeston Municipal Building.
1996	July	The Operation Weed and Seed Area Youth Jobs Program is entering its second week. It offers youths 10-15 of the Sunset neighborhood, summer employment.

2000	25-Jul	The Sikeston Depot is being considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, which is the federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation.
2002	15-Jul	The community is asked to help process Dysart-Baugher historical photos of Sikeston. The fate of photos ranging from former presidential visits in Sikeston by Harry Truman and Ronald Reagan, to floods and train wrecks, are in the hands of the Sikeston Depot.
2002	19-Jul	Michael McClure of Willow Springs was commissioned by Sikeston, Missouri Arts (SMARTS) to paint a mural which will depict a time line of Sikeston. Once completed, the educational mural will be a time line collage of pictures starting with the 50th anniversary of the rodeo and dating back to the Mound Builder Indians, who inhabited the ridge area before the settlers arrived but left in the 1700's. The mural will include the Harvey Parks Airport Base which trained 7,000 cadets. It was one of the first civilian training air bases in the U.S. which was unique for the area in 1940.
2004	19-Jul	From July 19 to Aug 5, the Missouri Elks Mobile Dental Program will be bringing primary dental services to handicapped and crippled children as well as mentally retarded/developmentally disabled children and adults throughout Scott, New Madrid, Mississippi, Stoddard and Pemiscot counties. All services are provided at no cost to eligible patients and the unit is staffed by a thoroughly trained dentist and dental assistant.
2005	21-Jul	One of Sikeston's historic homes, which had stood for over ninety years at 411 North Kingshighway and the last twenty-five years housed Green Meadows Retirement Home, burned to the ground this morning. This home had been built around 1912.
2006	13-Jul	City crews and community-minded businesses and individuals have teamed up to renovate Malone Park. The historic bandstand, built in 1912, has a new ceiling and roof, has been painted, new electrical outlets, and new sidewalks.
2007	19-Jul	LCRA is turning attention to commercial properties. "We're getting ready to undertake the largest project we'll have and that is demolition and redevelopment of the Old Federal Compress property on West North. With that demolition and getting it ready for redevelopment, we can guesstimate right now that is going to be a \$300,000 project," Dennis Ziegenhorn said. "It's about a 40,000 square foot building... that is what's left of the Old Compress building; then there are all those concrete walls from what has burnt down over the years; and then I'm told that concrete floor in the building is 6-8 inches thick, so there is just truckload after truckload of concrete to get off that property."
2007	24-Jul	The Hope Life Learning Center, a Division of Youth Services program which gives jobs to troubled youth, offers them the opportunity to give something back to the community, according to Todd Long, the program's coordinator.

2008	17-Jul	"Break out the 2010 calendars: it is time to start mapping out events for Sikeston's Sesquicentennial Celebration." Sikeston Area Chamber of Commerce will spearhead the planning and implementation. Missy Marshall said they are expecting special events to be organized specifically to celebrate the city's 150th anniversary. City officials are asking organizations and groups that already hold annual events to incorporate them in the Sesquicentennial Celebration.
2008	28-Jul	A new cooperative resource council formed to better address the needs of the community. Many of the social services agencies, church and public safety department found they were seeing the same people with the same needs. Participating agencies include Sikeston Department of Public Safety, Miner Police Department, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of SE MO, Bootheel Food Bank, Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation, Guardian Angel Overnight Shelter, Mission Missouri, Department of Social Services-Family Support Division and The Salvation Army.