

History Committee Data Base

September

<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	
1861	2-Sep	Gen. Thompson, "the swamp fox", reported to his superiors that Union Forces had destroyed Southern property. Thompson reassured his superiors his Confederate command took only supplies needed.
1861	4-Sep	General Fremont, with the help of an unknown black male resident of Sikeston, was able to confirm that Confederate forces had withdrawn from Sikeston. On September 5th, he issued orders to General Grant to capture Charleston and Sikeston.
1908	Sept	The Alfalfa Dairy, owned and operated by Lewis D. Baker, was one of the best sanitary dairies and one of the largest Alfalfa Plantations in the country. It was operated by electric power procured from the Sikeston Ice, Light, and Power company. Fifty cows were milked twice daily. The dairy was purchased by Mr. Baker in 1908, and was located on a farm where Green Meadows is now situated. The Alfalfa land extended from North Kingshighway at Salcedo road to the present Ridge road.
1908	Sept	The first football team, the forerunner of an illustrious line of "Bulldog" teams, was organized by Ralph Bailey as coach.
1909	Sept	The Sikeston Horse Show opened today with a great many people in attendance.
1910	Sept	Tri-County Fair elected the following Directors for coming year: A.A. Ebert, A.J. Matthews, C.F. McMullin, J.M. Klein, E.J. Malone, Sharp Hunter, Jr., Wade Sitzes, W.C. Russell, and H.F. Lindsey. Dates of Fair are September 19- 23.
1911	13-Sep	Bigger and better Tri-County Fair at Sikeston September 19-23. The second year promises even greater success than the first. There will be \$10,000 in premiums. Write A.A. Ebert or J.M. Klein, Sikeston, for details.
1912	Sept	On account of the Tri-County Fair this week, the Frisco railroad is offering special train service and reduced rates to Sikeston. Special trains will leave Cape Girardeau on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings at 8:00 a.m. and go over the Gulf Branch to Sikeston via Brooks Junction. Rates will vary from 50 cents to \$1.15. The Frisco is to be commended for its policy of making the fair a success.
1913	Sept	The Sikeston Hotel offered "the best of beds and meals" for \$1.25 per day. The Hotel is located on West Malone Avenue opposite the Iron Mountain Depot (today's Depot Museum).
1916	Sept	With the additional room afforded by the new building on Tanner Street, two teachers have been added to the high school faculty. There will be eight high school teachers, five of which are University graduated. The other three, besides being graduates of Normal Teacher's College, have all had summer work at the University of Missouri.

- 1917 Sept WWI: With 69 men out of the first 204 called certified for military service, and with 25 out of the second 200 called certified, plus a number of volunteers not drafted for service, the Scott County Exemption Board thinks it will be unnecessary to call more to fill the County's quota of 102 men needed for the new National Army. President Wilson is understood to hold to the opinion that fathers with dependent children, unless they be men of wealth, should be included in exemptions from the military.
- 1918 Sept The Sikeston Schools will open September 2. At the very beginning of the term, members of the Board of Education have taken the only sure step to prevent an epidemic of smallpox this year, as they have had notices published and placed in every home requiring vaccination certificates.
- 1922 Sept The Sikeston Lions Club officially received its charter and recognition by the International Association.
- 1923 Sept 18th Annual Southeast Missouri Fair Association will be held in Sikeston Wednesday through Saturday. All school children of the Sikeston schools will be admitted free the first day.
- 1924 Sept Sikeston now has two troops of Boy Scouts, Troop #41 and #43. These two troops are still in Sikeston today.
- 1929 Sept Dedication of the new concrete pavement on North New Madrid Street and North Kingshighway was celebrated with a lawn party on the beautiful lawn of County Treasurer and Mrs. C.E. Felker Thursday evening.
- 1929 Sept Boys, get your yo-yos here. We have the kind that spins until they make you dizzy. 10 cents at the Sterling Store.
- 1930 Sept Enrollment in the Sikeston Schools surpassed 1,000; high school building 492, 620 in the grade schools for a total of 1,112. Enrollment of the colored school is 100.
- 1934 Sept Equipment for the Bank of Sikeston will be moved Saturday into its beautiful new home on the corner of New Madrid and Center streets. Grand opening will be next week.
- 1935 Sept Half of the right-of-way has been secured for a new farm-to-market gravel road between Highway 60 at Miner Switch and Blodgett.
- 1935 Sept Total cost of proposed paving of Sikeston streets with the aid of the Works Progress Administration will be \$1.10 per foot for the tax payers and property owners, it was announced by C.L. Blanton, Jr., local Director of the WPA.
- 1937 7-Sep St. Francis Xavier Catholic School opened with an enrollment of 53, grades 1-8, and 25 in the Kindergarten.
- 1939 Sept With the flow of Southeast Missouri's "White Gold" well under way, the Sikeston Compress and Warehouse located on the west outskirts of the city is operating day and night as it is daily housing additional loads of baled cotton from gins all over Southeast Missouri. Over 6,500 bales are now stored in the building.
- 1940 Sept The first of the Flying Cadets arrived here Monday night with more coming in every day.
- 1940 Sept "Sikeston's General Hospital" is the name of Sikeston's new medical establishment, it was announced yesterday by Mayor G.W.H. Presnell.

- 1942 4-Sep Due to war conditions, the Board of Education here relaxed its traditional ban against married women teachers.
- 1942 4-Sep Another landmark was destined for discard with the announcement that the iron fence surrounding the property of Mrs. Betty Matthews, 133 East North Street, would be turned in as scrap iron to aid the war effort.
- 1942 25-Sep Misses Bernice Husher and Helen Lee became the first Sikeston young women to enter the Women's Army Corp., (WACS).
- 1942 Sept "Jim the Wonder Dog" is the name of the new book just off the press, complimentary copies of which were received in Sikeston this week. The book, an autobiography of a dog who was truly a "wonder" is of special interest to Sikeston people because the dog and his owner, Sam Van Arsdale, were both well known here. Mr. Van Arsdale is the brother of G.P. Van Arsdale, former operator of the Hotel Marshall.
- 1943 Sept WWII: Ration Boards have no choice in carrying out war effort orders from Washington to cut occupational driving allowances from 720 to 480 miles a month.
- 1944 Sept Only through General Dwight D. Eisenhower can a German peace emissary approach the Western Allies and they will not stop fighting until General Eisenhower gives the order. And he will not give the order until he gets an unconditional surrender from the German High Command. "The battle for Germany has begun," field dispatchers said.
- 1944 Sept Sale of intoxicating liquors and beer will be prohibited within the Sikeston city limits for 36 hours after announcement of the defeat of Germany, the city council declared Tuesday night.
- 1945 Sept It is believed the threat of infantile paralysis may be passing. Only 3 cases of "suspected" polio were diagnosed by Sikeston physicians, and those were determined not to be polio.
- 1946 Sept Officials and attendants of the Sikeston General Hospital were equal to the occasion during last Saturday and Sunday when 15 brand new citizens made their appearance at the hospital. It was a rush season for the stork as the newcomers took over, the boys making the majority by one. All cribs were placed in use, and when these were exhausted, dresser drawers were made ready if needed.
- 1947 Sept Work on laying the outside brick wall of the Lincoln School has begun with two bricklayers on the job. The finished walls will be brick backed by concrete blocks.
- 1948 Sept An automobile drivers' training course, something new at Sikeston High School has been added to the curriculum for this school year. A 1949 custom built Ford with dual controls was delivered as a loan for nine months for Coach Kenneth Knox to use in giving driving lessons.

- 1949 Sept A polio aid unit from the Children's Hospital of Boston stopped in at the Missouri Delta Community Hospital in Sikeston Monday to confer with staff, personnel, and selected laymen on the polio situation in this part of the country. The polio virus (infantile paralysis) destroys cells in the nerve route in the body. Nothing can be done to stop the spread and there is no known cure. The disease spreads from patient to patient and flies are also known carriers of the disease. Lack of sufficiently trained personnel remains as the only factor hindering the opening of the polio ward at Sikeston's hospital.
- 1953 17-Sep The Sikeston Jaycee first annual Bootheel Rodeo begins today.
- 1953 26-Sep The Russ Carlyle orchestra will play for this year's Cotton Carnival Queen's Ball in the Sikeston Armory.
- 1955 Sept The Lair-Nunnelee Mortuary has recently been changed to Nunnelee Funeral Chapel, Inc. John Nunnelee will remain in Charleston, and Gene Nunnelee will be in charge of the Sikeston chapel.
- 1958 Sept With two highly successful blood-typing programs completed, members of the Auxiliary Police of the Civil Defense and Disaster Agency are expressing their gratification for the fine cooperation afforded them. Saturday in Sunset Addition, the second of the blood-typing was conducted with such a throng of applicants that before the crew could take care of all those present, and it was necessary to close up early.
- 1962 Sept More than 100 aviation-minded people attended the first annual Aviation Recognition Day at the Airport Thursday noon to take a look at some of the newest models in business aircraft flown in here by the manufacturers for the occasion.
- 1968 Sept A new system of issuing building permits and a better means of aiding the city in keeping records of inspections will be introduced on all new constructions in Sikeston.
- 1971 Sept The Child Study Center at Lee Hunter School, which serves as a diagnostic facility for children with learning disabilities received more federal grant money to assist in research. While working in the local center with children, Dr. Joe Blanton realized many children were misdiagnosed as mentally retarded. Dr. Blanton contacted educators Wade Bedwell and Dick Giles, who took an interest in children with problems who did not belong in special education classes. Little information locally or nationally was available. Formerly the only place in Missouri to recognize these children was offered by a few courses at the University of Missouri in Columbia. The staff of CSC evaluates referred children before designing a classroom program for a child. Unique to the CSC is the visiting pediatrician, who does a physical examination with emphasis on the neurological areas. (Note: today's language to describe the children examined and referred include: learning disabilities, dyslexia, ADD, ADHD, etc. In the 1970's the child with average or above average ability having problems in school was a new field in education.)

- 1985 Sept The 100th meeting of the Sikeston-Charleston football game is now one for the history books. The 100-game series leaves Sikeston with 67 victories compared to 28 for Charleston. The other five games ended in ties. The rivalry dates back to 1908 with only one year in that time period when the contest was not played.
- 1986 Sept The Sikeston Public Library recently purchased a microfilm reader and printer. Librarian Alice Jackson said the printer was purchased after many area residents had expressed a need for the service.
- 1986 Sept A World War II Army Air Force fighter squadron will meet this week in Sikeston for a reunion.
- 1995 Sept The YMCA of Southeast Missouri celebrated the awarding of its YMCA Charter from the National YMCA and the opening of its new office on Wednesday. Jeff Partridge, local director, cut the ribbon as the charter was presented by Steve Meier, MRC director for the YMCA of Greater St. Louis, to Richard Montgomery, vice president of the local YMCA Board.
- 1996 Sept After nearly 18 months of construction, the O'Bannon Family Care Center, the new obstetrics unit at Missouri Delta Medical Center, is set to open Sunday with a public celebration.
- 2000 8-Sep The Sikeston High School Marching Band will have company on the football field this year, but it won't involve more instruments. Instead, the 2000-2001 school year will be the first time Sikeston Public Schools has had a flag corps. The Sikeston High School Flag Corps will be able to show what they're made of Sept. 8, during the Charleston/Sikeston game to be played in Charleston.
- 2001 11-Sep "It was the day the world forever changed." When the Twin Towers collapsed on Sept. 11, 2001, an estimated 2,794 adults perished, leaving behind approximately 2,500 children. Whether you lost a loved one or not, there are few individuals who weren't affected.
- 2001 20-Sep Students from Sikeston Public Schools gathered early Wednesday morning proving that amid the recent tragedy (9-11) there is still much to be thankful for. About 266 students gathered around the flag pole at Senior High for the annual 'See you at the pole' ceremony.
- 2002 4-Sep Officers with Sikeston Department of Public Safety read the names on Sept. 11 Memorial Wall Tuesday night at Nunnelee Funeral Chapel. Over 3,000 names of individuals that perished at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and on Flight 93 were read. The memorial will be at the chapel through Thursday then be moved to Veterans Park until Thursday night, to the Sikeston Senior High School Field House where a memorial service is set to begin at 10 a.m.
- 2002 25-Sep Two weeks after victims of the Sept. 11 attacks were honored, cards and thank you notes are still tacked on the bulletin board just outside Sikeston Department of Public Safety Director Drew Juden's door. "We had a tremendous request from children and schools to visit them the week of Sept. 11, and that really surprised me," Juden said.

- 2003 17-Sep Located at Bailey School, New Horizons is an alternative school for learning success. "We're offering a chance for kids to succeed who, without our help, wouldn't be able to succeed otherwise," noted Principal Lynn Crader.
- 2004 19-Sep The Christian Academy in Sikeston opened its doors for the first time at the old First National Bank location on S. Kingshighway, and so far the school is proving successful, said Board of Directors President, the Rev. Carl Addison.
- 2005 1-Sep Residents are coming to the aid of victims of Hurricane Katrina who are making Sikeston and Miner their temporary homes. By pooling resources and coordinating efforts, the volunteers hope to better meet the needs of the refugees, such as food, gasoline, shelter, etc.
- 2005 16-Sep Students in the Sikeston R-6 school district, as well as those all over the country, will receive an extra dose of American history today as schools observe the first "Constitution Day." Under a federal law enacted last year, all public schools are required to conduct educational activities relating to the Constitution on Sept. 17, which is the anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787.
- 2006 4-Sep A Sikeston landmark, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post at 709 Smith St., was destroyed by a fire.
- 2006 25-Sep A resolution changing the name of the Sikeston Area Higher Education Center of Sikeston (SAEHC) to Southeast Missouri State University - Sikeston was approved 4-2 during the special City Council meeting.
- 2007 1-Sep Approximately one year after Sikeston was named a "DREAM" city, Gov. Matt Blunt visited to congratulate and comment on Sikeston's participation in the program. Blunt said, "I want to congratulate Sikeston on being selected and the vision and energy you've demonstrated in your selection."
- 2007 28-Sep The Cotton Pickin' Heritage Festival is scheduled for Saturday in American Legion Park, rain or shine. The festival will have food, music, storytelling, crafts, contests such as: owner-pet look-a-like, homemade pies as well as information about what comes from a bale of cotton.
- 2009 Sept Sikeston businesses have the opportunity to step into a game board this fall, as the Sikeston Young Professionals are designing a "Sikestonopoly" game. "This is a way we thought that we, as young professionals, could leave our mark on Sikeston," said Marcie Lawson, steering committee member for the SYP.
- 2009 Sept Parents as Teachers is still doing what it set out to do: support children and families. The national organization, Parents as Teacher, which started in Missouri, is celebrating its 25th year this fall.