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RECENT COMMENTS

PRESIDENT REED TWITTER

- Mary Stahl on [Epiphany Race for the Stars: 1/2 Mile Fun Walk Video](#)
- Cheryl Means on [Clang, Clang, Clang: One Step Closer to Trolleys in St. Louis](#)
- Will Roth on [Clang, Clang, Clang: One Step Closer to Trolleys in St. Louis](#)
- Steve on [Clang, Clang, Clang: One Step Closer to Trolleys in St. Louis](#)
- Maria on [Epiphany Run for the Stars](#)
- Gina Hart on [Epiphany Run for the Stars: 5K Run](#)
- Lisa on [Epiphany Run for the Stars](#)

- I have been working on Kiel Opera House this morning. I have been working on Kiel for years. Board bills are in HUDZ meeting this morning 6 mins ago
- With @pubdef Headed to meet @shaneconh going to absolutely goosed 12 hours ago
- Just leaving Mokabes great day for coffee on the patio. 2009/05/18
- @pubdef that's good news a great deal to wade through on the budget this year 2009/05/18
- Rep Jones with her son Aden and my Alderwoman KC Star Triplett in Limo at Annie Malone on the way to parade route 2009/05/17

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MAY 20

# Mary Meachum Freedom Celebration

By The Core Editor

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## ARCHIVES

Select Month

## NPR HEADLINE NEWS

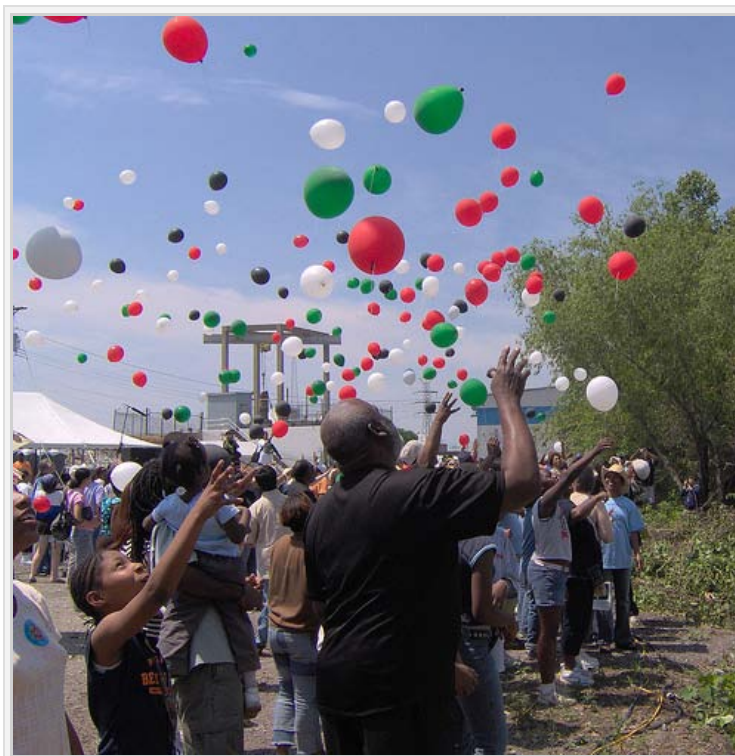
- Sex Offenders Forced To Live Under Miami Bridge**  
May 20, 2009  
Sex offenders with few resources who want to stay in Miami have just one option: an encampment of tents and shacks under a causeway. What began as a stopgap solution to a city ordinance limiting where offenders can live has become de facto public policy.
- Judge OKs Indefinite U.S. Hold On Some Detainees**  
May 20, 2009  
A federal judge has ruled that the United States can continue to hold some prisoners in military detention indefinitely without any charges, but limits the definition of who can be held.
- Report: Thousands Abused In Irish Reform Schools**  
May 20, 2009  
A fiercely debated, nine-

[Movie Listings and Trailers](#)



## CATEGORIES

- Animals & Pets (2)
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From Confluence's Flickr Page

St. Louis has a long and storied history. Celebrating our history is a way to not only remember the past, but to connect with it.

This Saturday, May 23rd from 11:00am to 3:00pm is an opportunity to remember the Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing.

year investigation into Ireland's Roman Catholic-run institutions says priests and nuns terrorized thousands of boys and girls in workhouse-style schools for decades — and that government inspectors failed to stop the chronic beatings, rapes and humiliation.

**Michael Vick Leaves Prison For Home Confinement** May 20, 2009

The former Atlanta Falcons quarterback had been serving a 23-month sentence for financing a dogfighting ring. He will spend the last two months of the term on electronic monitoring at his five-bedroom home in Hampton, Va.

**Indonesian Military Plane Crash Kills Nearly 100** May 20, 2009

An Indonesian C-130 Hercules carrying troops and their families crashed into a row of houses and burst into flames Wednesday, killing at least 98 people, the latest in a string of accidents plaguing the country's beleaguered air force.

The [History](#) Behind the Event:

*"In the early morning hours of May 21, 1855 a small group of people, including three runaway slaves, crossed the Mississippi River at St. Louis in an attempt to reach safety in Illinois. Accompanying them was Mary Meachum, a free woman of color and the widow of a prominent African American clergyman. Even today The activities of the Underground Railroad remain largely shrouded in mystery. this event is remarkably different because the group was apprehended and, since the slaves belonged to the prominent St. Louisan Henry Shaw, a detailed story of the escape was covered in local newspapers. Thus was preserved for posterity a rare example, with exact location, of an Underground Railroad event in Missouri — in fact, the first documented site in our state. In late 2001, the Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing was dedicated as a National Park Service historic site."*

This Underground Railroad site is the first site in Missouri to be recognized as a site on the National Park Service's [National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom](#) and is only accessible via the St. Louis Riverfront Trail.

Event:

According to [Grace Hill](#):

*The annual celebration of this historic event is marked by community presentations and festivities. The event culminates with the reenactment of the 1855 event portraying urban slaves that have left the City to meet on the riverbanks to seek freedom across the River. After expressing their hopes and fears through oratory and song, the actors are confronted by the sheriff and his men. Shots are fired. Some freedom seekers' brief brush with liberty is crushed. The audience is stunned by the drama but quickly rejoice when they become part of the balloon launch symbolizing freedom. Gathering at the River's edge, participants release hundreds of environmentally-friendly, multi-colored balloons which drift over the Mississippi toward the north.*

Future Plans:

Several organizations are seeking to improve the site including: Great Rivers Greenway District, Grace Hill Settlement House, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office, and National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program



RECENT POSTS

- ▶ [Mary Meachum Freedom Celebration](#)
- ▶ [Smart Grid 101](#)
- ▶ [Kim Massie @ McDonald's May Day Bluesfest](#)
- ▶ [2009 Annie Malone Parade](#)
- ▶ [McDonald's May Day Bluesfest Pictures](#)
- ▶ [Annie Malone Parade 2009](#)



- ▶ [Transportation](#) (11)
- ▶ [Uncategorized](#) (11)

CARDINALS BASEBALL SCHEDULE

- May 20 6:15 pm 9:15 pm [Chi Cubs at St. Louis](#)
- May 21 6:15 pm 9:15 pm [Chi Cubs at St. Louis](#)
- May 22 6:15 pm 9:15 pm [Kansas City at St. Louis](#)
- May 23 11:10 am 2:10 pm [Kansas City at St. Louis](#)
- May 24 12:15 pm 3:15 pm [Kansas City at St. Louis](#)
- May 25 12:05 pm 3:05 pm [St. Louis at Milwaukee](#)
- May 26 6:05 pm 9:05 pm [St. Louis at Milwaukee](#)
- May 27 11:05 am 2:05 pm [St. Louis at Milwaukee](#)
- May 29 8:15 pm 11:15 pm [St. Louis at San Francisco](#)
- May 30 7:05 pm 10:05 pm [St. Louis at San Francisco](#)

[Upcoming events by anmari](#)

BORN ON THIS DAY

- May 21
- 1688 Alexander Pope
- 1904 Fats Waller
- 1909 Baron Guy De Rothschild
- 1931 Desmond Wilcox
- 1941 Ronald Isley
- 1942 Hilton Valentine
- 1948 Leo Sayer
- 1952 Mr. T
- 1957 Judge Reinhold

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- ▶ [US President Lincoln Signs Homestead Act into Law \(1862\)](#)  
The Homestead Act was a federal law that sought to shape the American West by populating it with farmers. The act provided for the transfer of 160 acres of unoccupied public land to each homesteader at \$1.25 an acre after six months of residence or for a nominal fee after five years. Unfortunately, the generous law became subject to fraud and corporate abuse [...]
- ▶ [Anne Boleyn Beheaded for Adultery \(1536\)](#)  
Anne Boleyn was the second queen consort of Henry VIII and mother of Elizabeth I. When Anne

- Pictures
- ▶ [Developing St. Louis' Future Leaders: SLIP and Dr. Farrah Gray](#)
- ▶ [Events Around Town](#)
- ▶ [Men's Summit of St. Louis: Featuring Kurt Warner and Pastor Aeneas Williams](#)
- ▶ [Clang, Clang, Clang: One Step Closer to Trolleys in St. Louis](#)
- ▶ [Less Than 30 Days Until the Rabbit Ears Become Obsolete](#)
- ▶ [Bike to Work Day: Friday May 15](#)
- ▶ [Tracking Unemployment in Missouri with GeoFRED](#)
- ▶ [Latest from Metro Press Conference: Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder, MOSES, Rep. from Metro](#)
- ▶ [What is St. Louis Core?](#)

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failed to produce male heirs, she was brought to trial on charges of adultery and incest. Under great pressure, a court headed by her uncle, the Duke of Norfolk, condemned her, and she was beheaded. Anne's marriage to Henry and her subsequent execution were part [...]

▶ ["Separate but Equal" Ruled Constitutional \(1896\)](#)

In this case, the US Supreme Court upheld a Louisiana statute mandating racially segregated railroad cars, ruling that the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment dealt with political and not social equality. This provided constitutional sanction for the adoption of the Jim Crow laws. Justice Henry Billings Brown wrote the majority opinion, stating tha [...]