

Last St. Louis Corvette Is Rolling Off Line

The last St. Louis-made Chevrolet Corvette is rolling off the assembly line this afternoon, ending 27 years of Corvette production in St. Louis.

To mark the event, officials of General Motors Corp. scheduled a small ceremony at the GM Assembly Division plant at Union Boulevard and Natural Bridge Avenue, which has been

the sole site of Corvette production since the sports car was introduced in 1953. Almost 700,000 Corvettes have been produced.

The final Corvette, bound for a dealer in Detroit, was to be driven off the assembly line by Alphonse H. Juergensmeyer, a utility auto repair mechanic who has been with GM for 33

years. It will be Juergensmeyer's last assigned task; he's retiring at the end of the day.

GM says it is closing the St. Louis plant because it cannot meet the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act without extensive modifications. Corvette production has been moved to a new plant in Bowling Green, Ky.

More than 500 St. Louis workers have transferred to jobs there, and more are expected to transfer when a second production shift is added, a GM spokesman said. Six hundred workers will be idled by the closing.

Chevrolet Caprice and Impala models also were produced at the Union Boulevard plant until 1½ years ago.

Trucks still are being produced there, but the truck line will be shut down when GM's new plant at Wentzville opens, probably in early 1983.

At the peak of production at the Union Boulevard plant, 10,000 people were employed. At full production, the Corvette line alone had a \$20 million payroll annually.

GM and St. Louis officials are searching for a new tenant for the plant.

James Hughes, a GM spokesman, said that the Corvette workers who do not transfer to Bowling Green are eligible for state unemployment insurance and supplementary unemployment benefits that will provide them with as much as 95 percent of their wages.

Women Charged In 2 Motel Robberies

Four St. Louis women were charged Thursday with first-degree robbery of a guest at a Bridgeton motel on Wednesday. Three of the four also were charged with the attempted robbery Monday of two employees of a Florissant motel.

Charged in the robbery at the Ben Franklin Motor Hotel, 4645 North

Lindbergh Boulevard, Bridgeton, were Maria Thomas, 26, of the 3800 block of Windsor Place, Rebecca Stevenson, 22, of the 3100 block of Goodfellow Boulevard, Cindy Watkins, 19, of the 3000 block of Lawton Place, and Victoria Williams, 18, of the 5800 block of Cabanne Avenue.

All, except Ms. Williams, also were

charged with attempted second-degree robbery in the Florissant incident.

In the Bridgeton robbery, four women took \$18, credit cards, keys and the trousers of Edward W. Griffin, 47, of West Plains, Mo. Griffin later identified the women.

In the Monday robbery attempt, three women demanded money from two employees of the Red Roof Inn, 307 Dunn Road, Florissant, but fled when the employees said they had none.

Police are investigating a red Mustang used in the Florissant robbery. The car was reported missing from a rental agency at Lambert Field,

Phillips Backers Assail Plan For Hospital Study

Members of the Campaign for Human Dignity object to a plan for what they call "yet another study to see if the city should be in the hospital business." said

Center, 2601 Whittier Street, as a full service hospital rather than City Hospital, 1515 Lafayette Avenue.

Amusa spoke at a news conference