

February 12

1804 Robert Campbell was born in Ireland. Arriving in St. Louis in 1824, he became involved in the fur trade. He founded the Rocky Mountain Fur Company with William Sublette and became one of the richest men in St. Louis by investing in real estate. His home at 1508 Lucas Place is now a museum.

1809 Abraham Lincoln was born in a log cabin in what is now LaRue County, Kentucky. Lincoln came to the St. Louis area several times, most notably for the final Lincoln-Douglas debate in Alton. He spent the night in the National Hotel on his way to Washington to become a Senator in 1848. As a plaque in the lobby attests, the site is now home to KMOV TV and KMOX radio.

1857 The name of Washington Institute, the former Eliot Seminary, was changed again. The school was renamed Washington University.

1893 "The G-I General," Omar Bradley, was born in Clark, Missouri. He rose from a frustrated employee of the Wabash Railroad to Commander of the Army during the invasion of France in World War Two.

1898 Despite opposition from several of the city's wealthiest businessmen, Mayor Henry Ziegenhein signed a bill widening 12th street to 150 feet. He predicted that someday it would become a "magnificent boulevard, lined on either side with tall and stately buildings."

1903 Charles James Hafey was born in Berkeley, California. "Chick" Hafey played outfield for the Cardinals from 1924 to 1931. In 1931, his .3489 average edged out Bill Terry's .3486 and Jim Bottomley's .3482 in the closest batting race in NL history. In 1929, he tied the National League record with ten hits in ten at bats. Hafey was named to the Hall of Fame in 1971.

1904 A company made up several prominent St. Louis businessmen unveiled their plans for a huge tent city near the fairgrounds. They said it would help alleviate a projected housing crunch during the fair.

1924 Spurred by the gang war in the streets of St. Louis, city police were working overtime. About 1,000 people were arrested on "suspicion" in a single day. The next day, 670 more were arrested. A total of 14 police captains were on probation, told to clean up their districts or be replaced.

1926 Joseph Henry Garagiola was born in St. Louis. He grew up at 5446 Elizabeth Avenue. "Yogi" Berra lived across the street at 5447 Elizabeth. The Cardinals decided not to sign Berra, and brought Garagiola to the big leagues in 1946. Garagiola joined Harry Carey and Jack Buck on the KMOX broadcasts in 1955. He went on to become a broadcaster for the Yankees and a host of the *Today Show*.

1929 It was announced that Colonel Charles Lindbergh was to wed the daughter of the US Ambassador to Mexico. Ambassador Dwight Morrow said his daughter Anne first met Lindbergh after a non-stop flight from Washington, DC to Mexico a year earlier.

1930 William Grant, Secretary of the American Hockey Association, announced that professional hockey would come to St. Louis for the 1931-32 season. The first game was a minor league contest between the St. Louis Flyers and the Chicago Shamrocks on December 26, 1931.

1948 The Cardinals announced tentative plans to sell the site of their proposed stadium at Grand and Chouteau for a housing project. The Birds planned to take up their option of renting Sportsmen's Park from the Browns through 1960.

1952 Michael McDonald was born. He grew up in Ferguson and played with The Majestics and Jerry Jay and the Sheratons before joining Steely Dan. He joined the Doobie Brothers in 1977, writing and singing hits like "What a Fool Believes" and "Taking it to the Streets." He went solo in 1982. His duet with Patti LaBelle, "On My Own," reached number one in 1986.

1955 A new federal grand jury investigation opened in the case of the missing half of the \$600,000-thousand dollar Greenlease ransom. The money disappeared the night St. Louis Police arrested Carl Austin Hall and Bonnie Lee Heady for the murder of the six-year old boy in October 1953.

1959 KMOX raised \$45,000 for tornado victims in just 24 hours. Sophie Tucker, Ted Lewis, the Ames Brothers and Frankie Laine were among the celebrities who called in pledges.

1960 The House appropriations committee turned down a request for more federal money for the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. Officials said it would delay construction at least a year behind the planned 1964 completion date and could threaten plans for the new downtown stadium.

1963 The very first stainless steel triangle that forms the first section of the Arch was moved into place. The first section was put in place at the south leg.

1966 *Corky's Colorama* became the first locally produced color television program. Channel Five weatherman Cliff St. James played "Corky". Corky had actually made his TV debut back in 1956.

1984 Aloys P. Kaufmann died. As Mayor from 1943-1949, he led the push for a bond issue for Post-War Improvements. The bond issue provided funds for eleven major projects, including the expansion of Lambert Field from 350 to 1400 acres. After leaving office, he served as the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis.

1987 Seven firefighters were injured, one seriously in a spectacular general alarm fire at the Gateway Hotel. It took 300 firefighters from the city and county six hours to bring the blaze under control. An 80-year old associate of the late Alderman Sorkis Webbe Senior was charged with setting the blaze as part of an insurance scam.