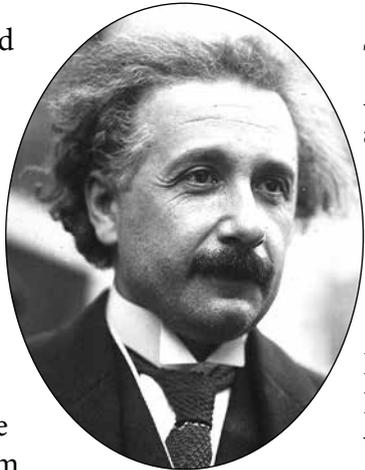


100 Years Ago

NOTABLE EVENTS

Albert Einstein received the 1921 Nobel Prize in Physics, although it was not actually announced until 1922. It was awarded for "his services to theoretical physics, and especially for his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect," which helped the development of quantum theory. Einstein made his first visit to the United States in April. He published an essay in July, "My First Impression of the U.S.A.," observing, "What strikes a visitor is the joyous, positive attitude to life...The American is friendly, self-confident, optimistic, and without envy." He emigrated to the U. S. in 1933. Photograph of Albert Einstein, 1921, courtesy of the Library of Congress.



On March 4, **Warren G. Harding** was sworn in as the 29th President of the United States. **Calvin Coolidge** became the Vice President. Harding died in office two years later of cardiac arrest.

The **first radio baseball game** was broadcast on April 5. Harold Arlin, an engineer and part-time announcer, called the Pirates-Phillies game from Forbes Field over Westinghouse's KDKA in Pittsburgh. Most of the KDKA staff thought it was an ill-fated experiment—"baseball is too boring." The Pirates beat the Phillies 8 to 5.



Franklin D. Roosevelt was a New York lawyer on vacation at the family's leisure home on Campobello Island, off the coast of Maine, in August. Roosevelt was an athletic 39-year-old fond of sailing. After a strenuous day of physical activity on Monday, August 10, including sailing and fighting a fire on a small island with Eleanor and five

children, a dirty and tired FDR and the children took a dip in a small tepid pond back at Campobello. He then took a plunge in the cold waters of the Bay of Fundy. Instead of feeling reinvigorated, he was totally exhausted and went to bed. The next morning he ran a high fever and his legs refused to support him. He did not improve and by the end of the week he was paralyzed from the chest down. He was diagnosed first as having a blood clot in the lower spinal cord, requiring massage. He did not improve and on August 25, Dr. Robert Williamson Lovett of Harvard, the nation's leading expert on infantile paralysis, made a visit to Campobello and declared that FDR had poliomyelitis. There was no known treatment or cure. Roosevelt faced his condition with a calm determination to achieve his goals despite his affliction. Photograph of FDR in 1921 courtesy of the Library of Congress.



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Births

Lana Turner was born Julia Jean Turner on February 8 in Wallace, Idaho. Certainly not considered one of the most talented movie actresses of her era, she was a favorite pinup, a wall adornment invented by soldiers in 1941.



Nancy Davis, born Anne Frances Robbins on July 6 in New York City, was a film actress who gained world-wide fame as Nancy Davis Reagan, the first lady of the United States from 1981 to 1989.

Born on July 18, **John Glenn** (his real name) became the third American in space and the first to orbit the earth, three revolutions in 1962. He served four terms as a United States Senator from Ohio (1974-1999). While still a senator in 1998, he became the oldest person to fly in space at age 77 on a space shuttle mission. At right, Glenn's space capsule on display.



Alex Haley was born August 11 in Ithaca, New York. Alex withdrew from college in 1929 and joined the Coast Guard, initiating what became a 20-year career. He began as a mess attendant. Alex had a flair for prose and other sailors paid him to write letters to their girlfriends. He ended his career as a Chief Petty Officer and a position as the first chief journalist of the Coast Guard. After retirement he



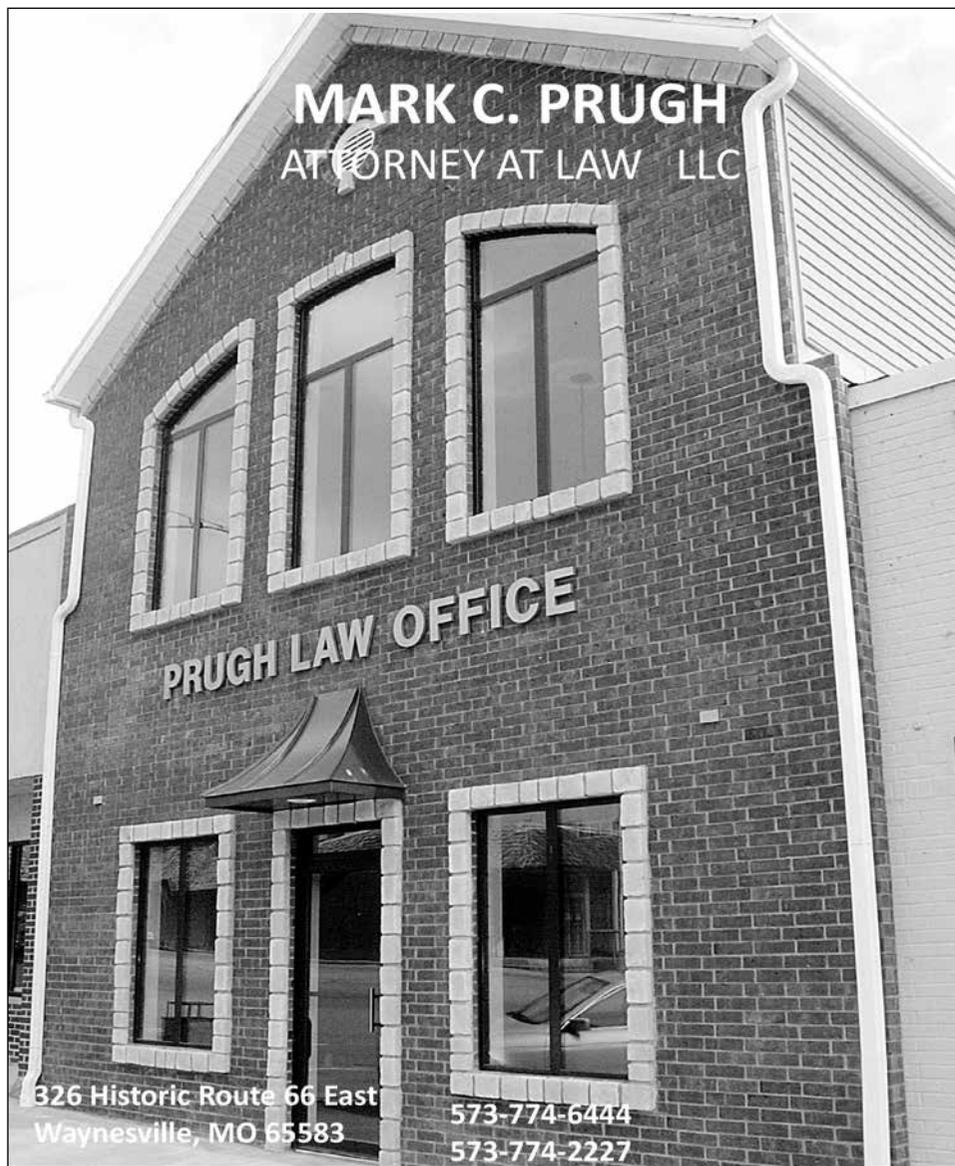
pursued a career in journalism, conducting the first interview in *Playboy* magazine with Miles Davis in 1962. In 1965, he ghostwrote *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, a gigantic best-seller. His 1976 book *Roots: The Saga of an American Family*, brought fame and fortune. Haley died of a heart attack in 1992 on his small farm near Clinton, Tennessee.

Death

Bat Masterson was born in 1853 in Quebec but as a young man moved to our western frontier states. He pursued work as a buffalo hunter, civilian army scout, and became famous as a gun-fighter and then sheriff of Dodge City, Kansas. His friendship with President Theodore Roosevelt landed him a well-paying job as a deputy U. S. Marshal from 1905 to 1909 in New York. He then pursued a journalistic career by writing a column about sports, particularly boxing, for the *New York Morning Telegraph*. Masterson died of a heart attack sitting at his newspaper office desk on October 25, 1921.



Bat Masterson in 1900. Courtesy of the Library of Congress.



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