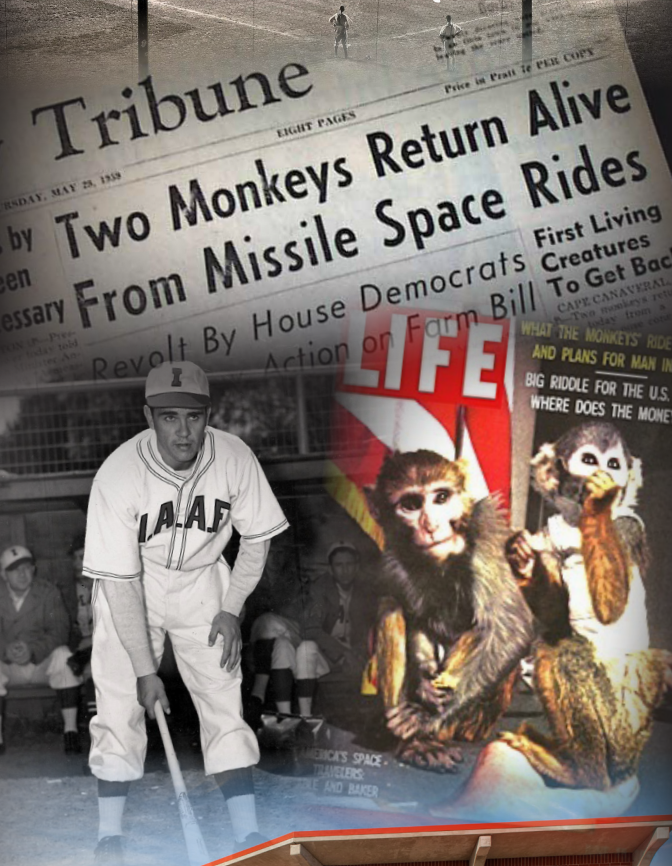


INDEPENDENCE, KANSAS

MAKING HISTORY

Baseball & Miss Able



Independence
Chamber
of Commerce

Making history on the national and global scene

You may be surprised to learn that among its other claims to fame, the city of Independence, Kansas, has made significant contributions to the development of two important American and global institutions...**Baseball** and **Space Travel**.

BASEBALL

Shulthis Stadium in Independence was the site of the first night game in organized baseball played under lights on April 28, 1930.

What's more, our city was home to baseball legend Mickey Mantle, who hit the first homerun of his professional career in that same stadium on June 30, 1949, while playing for the Independence Yankees.



“MISS ABLE”

Another notable Independence resident made world history on May 28, 1959, as the first animal to journey to outer space and return alive. “Miss Able,” a 2-year-old rhesus monkey from Riverside Park’s

Monkey Island, and her companion, “Miss Baker,” were launched 300 miles into space on a Jupiter rocket at speeds of more than 10,000 miles per hour. They returned alive and paved the way for human space exploration. Today, their journey is chronicled in an exhibit at the Smithsonian Institute-National Air & Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

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