On This Date

1940 – France signed an armistice with Nazi Germany agreeing to German occupation. The ceremony took place in the same rail carriage in which the accord ending World War I was formalized in 1918.

1941 – Nazi Germany invaded the Soviet Union in Operation Barbarossa.

1942 – A Japanese submarine shelled Fort Stevens, which protected Oregon at the mouth of the Columbia River. Most rounds struck a nearby baseball field.

1959 – The first major Canadian jazz festival opened in Toronto, starring headliners Oscar Peterson, Maynard Ferguson, and special guest Louis Armstrong. The event lasted four days and also featured 30 local and international bands.

You Don’t Say!

Forrest Mars, the creator of Peanut M&Ms, was allergic to peanuts.

Quote of the Day

“I love silent films. The future is unwritten.”
~ Jim Jarmusch

Happy Birthday!

Dorothy Devore (1899–1976) was a stunning silent film actress and comedian who began her career as a nightclub performer and vaudeville singer. The dark-haired, five-foot, one-inch ingénue was discovered by prominent director and film producer Al Christie, who was known for his comedic movies. Devore soon became a star with such films as Know Thy Wife (1918), 45 Minutes from Broadway (1920), Who Cares (1925), and Señor Daredevil (1926). Devore made many of her own comedies but never successfully transitioned to “talkies” and retired in 1930.