

James A. Blake • Arthur Clement • Allen L. Code • John R. Harper • Jean Hopkins • Eddie C. McGirt • Frieda Mitchell Perry Palmer • Paul L. Ross • Willie T. Smith • Shirley Tyus • Geraldyne Zimmerman



Dear Students and Friends:

BellSouth is pleased to present the tenth edition of the South Carolina African-American History Calendar.

Ten years ago, we began producing these special calendars to feature one of the many different cultures which has influenced the growth and development of the Palmetto State. BellSouth wanted to assist the South Carolina Department of Education in meeting the Educational Improvement Act mandate, which calls for the inclusion of African-American history in the social studies curriculum. The response from students, educators and the general public has indicated that the calendar has filled a gap in the history books, and that it has helped to build a better understanding of African-American culture. With the help of co-sponsors, a scholarship fund has been established to award scholarships to rising college seniors majoring in education. A website featuring all honorees is available via the internet and a traveling exhibit will be available to schools upon request by contacting the South Carolina State Museum.

The individuals highlighted in this year's calendar have excelled in their respective fields and are role models for all of our children. They have succeeded in the areas of athletics, aviation, business, civil rights, community service, education, law, medicine and military service.

Each year, WIS Television produces an exciting video which highlights the lives of the twelve people in the calendar. WIS is providing copies of the video to the South Carolina Department of Education for use in classrooms. Teachers can borrow a copy of the 1999 African-American History Calendar Video from the Audio-Visual Library of the South Carolina Department of Education by writing to AV Library, 513 Gervais Street, Columbia, S.C. 29201.

Your opinion about this educational program is valuable to BellSouth, The Department of Education and WIS-Television. If you have any comments or questions about the calendar, please send them to the BellSouth African-American History Calendar, P.O. Box 752, Columbia, South Carolina 29202.

The 1999 African-American History Calendar is a testimonial to the superb strength, hard work, and dedication of the people featured. We hope that their stories will inspire you and the children of South Carolina!

Sincerely,

Joe M. Anderson, Jr.

President

BellSouth-South Carolina

BellSouth thanks those individuals and organizations who provided input and photographs used in the creation of portraits, historical perspectives and facts of interest and significance to this calendar. We gratefully acknowledge the following:

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Take Ten Productions
WIS Television

To order a videotape of the 1999 African-American History Calendar, call or write:

Telemedia, 153 Grace Drive, Easley, South Carolina 29640 1-800-768-4336, Fax: (864) 269-7618

Price: \$24.50 (Includes sales tax and shipping and handling)

Additional copies of the calendar are available for purchase (on a cash-in-advance basis) through R. L. Bryan Company at (803) 343-6744.

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Jean Sanders Hopkins Nurse Nurses often touch the lives of their patients with their expert knowledge, kind words, and empathic gestures. Jean Sanders Hopkins is an example of such a nurse. She was born in Lyklesland, S.C., on April 19, 1931, and grew up in the Waverly and Saxon Homes communities of Columbia. From her early years to her devoted career in nursing, she has always been a high achiever and a firm believer in excellence and accomplishment.

Mrs. Hopkins has more than thirty years of professional nursing experience. She retired from her position as Assistant Chief of Nursing at Dorn Veterans Administration Hospital in Columbia on January 29, 1993. Prior to then, she had worked as a nurse at several other hospitals and health care facilities in South Carolina and Georgia. Not content to rest after her retirement, she continues to share her nursing skills. Hopkins is a member of the Palmetto Health Alliance and an at-large member of the Board of Trustees of Palmetto Richland Memorial Hospital. Additionally, she is Director of Health Services at Allen University. Her background also includes past employment as a senior public health nurse with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, nursing instructor at South Carolina State University, and a school nurse with Richland District I.

Nurse Hopkins earned her registered nursing (R.N.) diploma in 1950 from the then segregated Columbia Hospital School of Nursing. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from the University of South Carolina in 1976. Since then she has earned numerous education credits at USC and has facilitated and/or attended a variety of nursing related workshops, seminars and conferences around the United States. In 1997, Hopkins was a member of the inaugural Amy V. Cockcroft Nursing Leadership Development Class. As her final project, she produced a video, "Let Everybody Listen To A Nurse," a five minute program highlighting the nurses' influence on the community.

Health issues facing African Americans have motivated Hopkins to promote positive projects. She is co-founder of the Greater Columbia Council on the Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy. She is also a participant in numerous health awareness seminars, blood pressure appraisals, and sickle cell anemia screenings throughout the community.

Complementing her role as a nurse, Mrs. Hopkins has authored and co-authored several publications on healthcare and nursing practice, including the acclaimed article, "Cultural Diversity in Nursing Practice," and "Teenage Sexuality - Risky," co-authored with Delores Roberts. She also initiated the format for "The Memoirs of Sadie F. Nickpeay," the life of an African American nurse midwife in South Carolina.

Mrs. Hopkins has received many awards, including: The Columbia Housing Authority Wall of Fame, 1995 Trumpeteer Gala Award, 1995 Distinguished Service Award from the National Council of Negro Women, and 1988 Nurse of the Year from the Delta Eta Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the United Black Fund of the Midlands, Inc. She also is a member of Chappelle Memorial A.M.E. Church and participates on many auxiliaries.

Nurse Hopkins serves as a role model for others by enhancing the image of nurses as competent professionals. One of her favorite sayings is, "If your mind can conceive it, if your heart can believe it, then you can achieve it." Always stressing good health care, Hopkins admonishes, "In order to be truly successful, one must first be healthy in mind, body, and spirit."

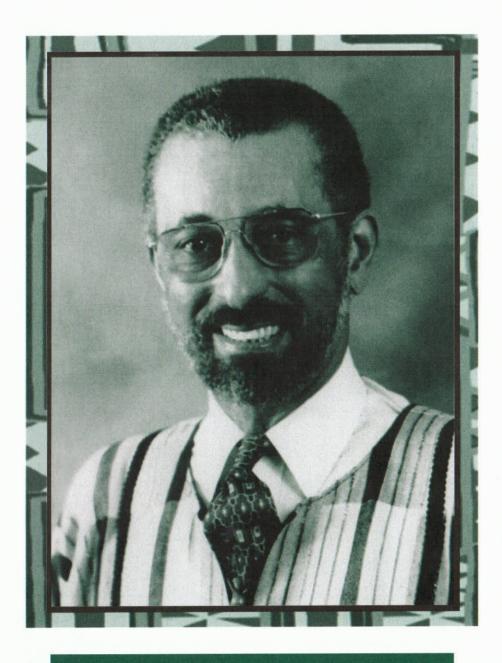
JANUARY 1999



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

FRIDAY SATURDAY

					New Year's Day 1	2
					Emancipation Proclamation issued in 1863.	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. elected chairperson of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor in 1961.				Marian Anderson's debut in the Metropolitan Opera House in 1955.	Butterfly McQueen, actress, born in 1911.	Fisk University established in 1866.
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957.					Martin Luther King, Jr. born in 1929.	
17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Observed)	19	20	21	22	23
Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) born in 1942.	(
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Coach Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines won record 800th college basketball game in 1990.				Ronald McNair, astronaut, died in Challenger explosion, 1986.	Oprah Winfrey, entertainer, born in 1954.	



John Roy Harper II
Attorney

John Roy Harper II is a people's advocate and social engineer. He has practiced law in Columbia for the past 28 years, focusing on civil rights and Constitutional law, and specializing in voting rights law. Attorney Harper has handled many criminal and civil matters, counseling and representing more than 4,000 individual clients and hundreds of thousands in class action suits. During most of this time he has engaged in complex federal litigation in the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court.

The acquisition of knowledge was always a part of Harper's environment. He was born in Greenwood, S.C., on September 2, 1939. His first 14 years, however, were spent on the campus of Mather Academy in Camden, S.C., where his parents, John Roy Harper and Mary Frances Smith Harper, were teachers. At age 14, while in 10th grade, he took the College Entrance Examination and scored high enough to be awarded a scholarship to attend Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn. He earned his AB degree in history, with honors, at the age of 19.

At age 20, Harper attended Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Mass., for a year, and then worked in Boston for two years before serving in the U.S. Army in Europe for three years. In 1964 he was the first black junior executive hired by Shell Oil Company. He earned his J.D. degree from the University of South Carolina in 1970, the second African American to complete three years at the USC Law School since Reconstruction, and the first black member and officer of the Law Review. For three years, thereafter, he was an Earl Warren Fellow of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. From 1970-71, he worked with the Chambers, Stein, Ferguson and Lanning Law Firm in Charlotte, N.C., where he was involved with many precedent-setting civil rights litigations, including Swann et. al. v. Charlotte Mecklenberg Board of Education, which upheld school busing as a remedy for segregation.

Since beginning his private law practice in 1971, Attorney Harper has been involved as a counsel or plaintiff in many voting rights cases, helping to achieve single member election districts, voting representation, and adherence to federal law and policies at all levels of government in South Carolina. These cases include his being lead counsel in NAACP v. Hampton County Election Commission, which led to a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court decision that set a precedent resulting in the adoption of new U.S. Justice Department regulations for submission of changes in voting for preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

In 1976 Harper was one of the first African Americans elected to Richland County Council. Since 1982 he has been a Commissioner-at-large of the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District and is the only county-wide African American elected official. Since 1968, Harper has been a leading propagator of African centric thought and action. He has helped found many organizations, such as the United Citizens Party of S.C. (1969), Black American Law Students Association (1969), South Carolina Black Lawyers Association, Columbia Lawyers Association, USC Association of African American Students and USC Black Alumni Caucus, from which he received its first Distinguished Alumnus Award.

His many honors include induction into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame and the NAACP William Robert Ming Advocacy Award. His biography appears in *Who's Who In American Law, Who's Who In American Politics, Biographies of Twentieth Century Black Leaders*, and *Who's Who Among African Americans*.

This eminent jurist firmly believes in the credo: "Knowledge Is The Key To Unity And Unity Is The Key To Liberation And Progress!"

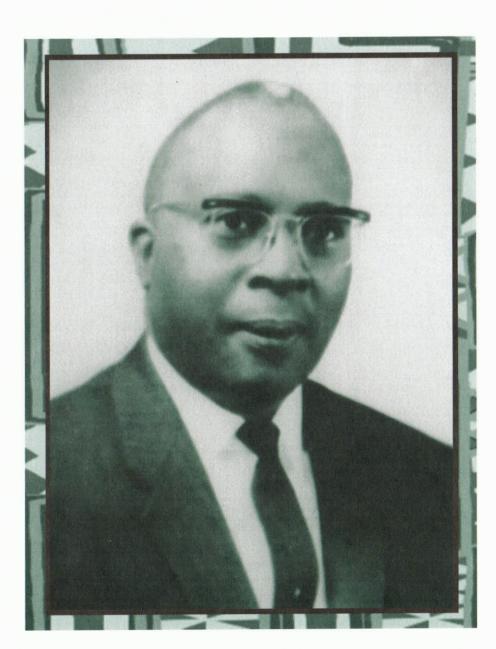
FEBRUARY 1999

NationsBank

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

*		Langston Hughes, author, born in 1902.	2	3	4	5	Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870. Ernest Finney appointed Chief Justice of South Carolina Supreme Court.
	7	8	9	10	11	Abraham Lincoln born in 1809. Congress enacted first fugitive slave law in 1793. NAACP founded in 1909.	13
Valentine's Day 12		President's Day 15 Henry Lewis named director of the New Jersey Symphony in 1968. Nat King Cole died in 1965.	Joe Frazier became World Heavyweight Boxing Champion by a knockout in 1970.	Ash Wednesday 17 Michael Jordan, basketball player, born in 1963.	18	19	Frederick Douglass died in 1895.
2		George Washington born in 1732.	W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868.	24	Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won World Heavyweight crown in 1964.	26	27
26	8						

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Allen Louis Code, Sr.
Educator

Allen Louis Code, Sr., the ninth child of P.A. and Hester Code, was born in Pinewood, S.C., on November 26, 1911. His parents believed in cultivating the land and maintaining African American farms. As a youth, he would not have envisioned being chosen as one of a "Thousand Points of Light" by President George Bush or of receiving The Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest honor. Because of his life's work, however, he truly deserved these recognitions.

Code graduated from the high school department at Morris College in Sumter, S.C. He then earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Benedict College in 1936, and his Master of Arts Degree in Educational Administration from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1955. His education, dedication and skills aided his becoming one of South Carolina's exceptional educators. His administrative and teaching development was meteoric.

His work experience and education began in 1935. He became a science teacher, coach, and assistant principal at the all-black Oconee County Training School. His outstanding achievements netted him positions as principal and coach at Blue Ridge High School. At Blue Ridge, he was one of the most successful girls' basketball coaches in South Carolina, winning numerous conference championships and several state championships. Code later became Superintendent of Seneca Negro Schools, State Supervisor of Adult Education, and Director and Visiting Professor of Adult Education at South Carolina State College.

Affectionately known as "Fessor Code" by his students, he always wanted to be referred to as a teacher.

Code became affiliated with St. James United Methodist Church in 1930 and served the church in many capacities throughout his life. He was also a member of the Seneca Masonic Lodge No. 204.

He volunteered for the armed services in 1948 and participated in the Korean War. During his tenure with the U.S. Army, he was a Master Sergeant, Battalion Sergeant Major, and acting Chaplain of the 360th Port Battalion.

This outstanding educator was a public servant and a leader in the effort to guarantee a smooth transition from segregation to desegregation in South Carolina. As Chairman of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission, 1977-1980, he used quiet diplomacy and gentle persuasion to generate racial harmony. During his life, Code served on many regional and national boards, including the Negro Review, Phillis Wheatley National Foundation, Columbia College Advisory Board, and Wofford College Board of Trustees. A prolific writer, he contributed to books on African American history, economics, and adult education. Code was the recipient of many awards and honors, among them, the Service to Mankind Award by the Seneca Sertoma Club, the Blue Ridge School Outstanding and Dedicated Service Award, the Benedict College Education and Research Clinic Award, the South Carolina State Department of Adult Education Hall of Fame, the Seneca Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award, and an Honorary Doctorate from Wofford College. In recognition of his outstanding leadership in Oconee County, the former Blue Ridge High School where he taught was renamed Code Elementary School.

"Fessor Code" died on November 7, 1995, but his legacy of leadership in public education will remain as a result of the indelible imprint which he left on his state and nation.

MARCH 1999



		1	2	3	4	5	6
			Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972.	Carole Gist crowned first black Miss USA in 1990.		Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1875.	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			w w	Harriet Tubman died in 1913.	Lorraine Hansberry play, "Raisin in the Sun," opened on Broadway in 1959.		
	14	15	16	St. Patrick's Day 17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				AME Zion Church organized in S.C. in 1867.	Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966.	William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937.	
Palm Sunday	28	29	30	31			
			"Freedom's Journal," first Black newspaper, published in 1827.				



Frieda Mitchell Administrator A tireless worker for the improvement of life among African Americans, especially children, Frieda Mitchell has received national and international recognition for her work in child care reform and civil rights. Mrs. Mitchell overcame many obstacles before embarking on her life's mission.

Born in Sheldon, S.C., her parents were farmers who took on odd jobs so that their four children could attend private school. There was no school bus transportation for African-American children, so Mitchell and her siblings could not attend the segregated high school in Beaufort. The only option beyond elementary school was Mather School, a private boarding school for girls. Mitchell studied business education and excelled at Mather with a perfect 4.0 average. Even though she received a four year scholarship to Spelman College in Atlanta, her parents felt that she should attend Allen University, an African Methodist Episcopal school supported by her church. From 1944-1945 she was a student at Allen, but had to withdraw because her parents did not have the financial resources to continue to support her. She then taught first grade.

In 1945, Mrs. Mitchell went North to pursue a better life. After seven years, she returned home and accepted a position at a Beaufort County school. Observing the dismal living conditions, lack of political savy and civic responsibility of many of the residents in her community, she was determined to make a difference. She organized a massive voter registration campaign. Her efforts resulted in the unseating of a magistrate in her township, who had held the position for fifty years, and in electing the first African American to Beaufort County Council. In 1965 she was the organizer and chairperson of the Beaufort County Education Community (BCEC), the central force for school desegregation. The committee's efforts led to a landmark election in 1968 when Mitchell and Mrs. Agnes Sherman were the first African Americans elected to a school board in South Carolina.

As a co-director of a community development project at Penn Community Services Center in the late 1960's and early 1970's, Mrs. Mitchell realized the magnitude of poverty and neglect of many of the rural children. She addressed daycare needs for poor working families, with emphasis on nutrition and health. In 1970 she convened an historic meeting. Thirty-seven pre-school programs, the Children's Defense Fund, the National Black Child Development Institute and a number of other state agencies came together to organize United Communities for Child Development (UCCD), a private, non-profit federation established to assist and promote community-controlled child care centers in South Carolina. Mitchell resigned from Penn Center and became the first Executive Director of UCCD. Within two years, the UCCD model was replicated in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and Mississippi.

The program received national attention and Frieda Mitchell became a central figure in major daycare policy discussions. By 1974, the UCCD was recognized as a valid method of funding legally constituted non-profit organizations throughout the state.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation recruited Mrs. Mitchel in 1992 to conduct an international tour of five southern states in the U.S. and three townships, Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg in South Africa. Touring with her were citizens from Mutare, Zimbabwe, who sought direction in establishing child care programs in their own country. After completing the tour, the Kellogg Foundation funded their project.

In 1995, Mitchell retired from her position with UCCD. By 1996, however, another dream was fulfilled. She secured a \$500,000 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the construction of a modern childcare facility. The center serves eighty children, and is named in her honor.

Among her numerous awards are the Marian Wright Edelman Award for Service to Children. She is one of seven recipients of the prestigious John D. Rockefeller, III, Public Service Award.

APRIL 1999



				Passover 1	Good Friday 2	3
				Hampton Institute opened in 1868.		
Easter 4 Daylight Savings Time begins	5	6	7	8	9	10
Maya Angelou, author, born in 1928.	Colin Powell born in 1937.	Robert E. Perry and Matthew Henson reached the North Pole in 1909.		Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run in 1974.	Civil Rights Bill granting citizenship passed in 1866.	Richard Allen made Bishop of the AME Church in 1916.
Orthodox Easter 11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Free African Society organized in 1787.	Thomas Jefferson's Birthday.		Jackie Robinson made Major League debut in 1947.	Founding of Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in 1960.	
18	19	20	Secretaries Day 21	22	23	24
					National Urban League founded in 1913.	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
		-				



The Honorable Willie T. Smith, Jr.
Attorney/Judge

In 1977, Willie T. Smith, Jr. was elected Family Court Judge for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of South Carolina by unanimous vote of the General Assembly. The position was well-deserved!

For many years the Honorable Willie T. Smith was at the vanguard of legal issues that promoted human and civil rights in South Carolina. He was born in Sumter, S.C., on January 17, 1920, the son of Willie T. Smith, Sr., and Mary Moore Smith. He was reared in Columbia where he attended public schools. His college education, which began at Benedict College in Columbia, was "put on hold" when he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He served in North Africa, Italy, and Sicily during World War II. He was also sent to the Philippines and Japan prior to returning home. The army provided him with G.I. benefits with which he could pursue his education. He enrolled at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C., and earned his baccalaureate degree in 1948. Interest in law and in influencing change in his native state, resulted in his attending the South Carolina State College School of Law from which he was awarded his J.D. degree in 1954. He re-entered the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Smith began the private practice of law in 1954 and served as cooperating attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. He handled such civil rights cases as Whittenberg vs. School District of Greenville County, the case that desegregated Greenville's Public Schools. He was also responsible for the outstanding sit-in case, Peterson vs. City of Greenville, that led to the repeal of all ordinances in the City of Greenville requiring the segregation of the races.

An outstanding jurist, Smith participated in numerous other cases including <u>Harvey Gantt vs. Clemson College</u>, and the defense of numerous young people during the sit-in movement. He was co-chairman of the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce Bi-Racial and Community Relations Committee, which was responsible for the desegregation of all public accommodations in Greenville County. He later served as senior attorney for Legal Services for Greenville and as its Executive Director.

A true public servant, The Honorable Judge Smith has served on numerous boards including PUSH, Phillis Wheatley Association, Greenville Urban League, Community Council of Greenville, a charter member and treasurer of the Greenville County Redevelopment Authority, and the Greenville Chamber of Commerce. As District Marshal of the Sixth District, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., he conducted the historic 1964 meeting in Greenville, when public accommodations were made available to African Americans for the first time. This eminent jurist's current affiliations are with the Boards of Greenville Technical College Foundation, American Red Cross, Roper Mountain Science Center, and the Board of Directors of the Peace Center for the Performing Arts.

The Honorable Judge supports his profession by maintaining memberships with the American Bar Association, the S.C. Bar Association, the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association, the Greenville County Bar Association, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. He is also active with the Rotary Club of Greenville, American Legion Post 23 I, Phi Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and Delta Beta Boule - Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He is a member of Mattoon Presbyterian Church where he serves as an Elder.

Smith has received many awards for his jurisprudence and community service, among them Omega Psi Phi Man of the Year, Humanitarian Award - Greenville County Human Relation Commission, Johnson C. Smith Outstanding Alumnus Award, Order of the Palmetto, and the Alpha Phi Alpha Martin Luther King Freedom Award. He was elected to the S.C. Black Hall of Fame in 1994, and received the Columbia Lawyers Association Matthew J. Perry Medallion in 1996.

Judge Smith's outstanding career has been chronicled in *Who's Who Publications* in the South and Southwest, in *American Law* (all editions), *International, In the World, In America*, and *Among Black Americans*. One can also read about his life in *Personalities of the South and Black Leaders of America*.

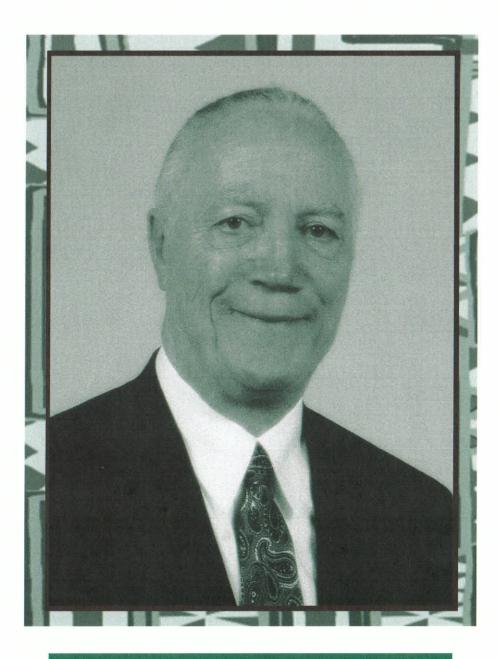
MAY 1999



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

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	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Freedom Rides began in 1961. Plessy vs. Ferguson upheld "Separate But Equal" doctrine in 1896.		Civil Rights Act signed by President Eisenhower in 1960.		Rev. Henry McNeal Turner died in 1915.
Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13	14	Armed Forces Day 15
					Robert Smalls seized Confederate warship in 1862.		
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Brown vs. Board of Education made "Separate But Equal" in public schools unconstitu- tional in 1954.		Malcolm X born in 1925.	Robert N.C. Nix elected to U.S. Congress in 1958.		Claude McKay, poet, died in 1948.
	23	Victoria Day (Canada) 24	25	26	27	28	29
Memorial Day Musical "Shuffle Alo opened in New Yo	30 ong" rk in 1921.	Memorial Day Observed 31	Madame C. J. Walker, entrepreneur, died in 1919. Miles Davis, jazz musician, born in 1926.				



E. (Edmund) Perry Palmer Businessman/Philanthropist

As a young child, E. Perry Palmer's parents instilled in him social responsibility. "My parents and grandparents passed along the ethic that if you are blessed with the wherewithal, you must serve your fellow man." With his quiet demeanor, always shunning the limelight, Mr. Palmer has done just that! He is the President and Director of Palmer Memorial Chapel in Columbia. His success as a businessman, philanthropist, and humanitarian is intertwined with his devotion to mankind. His roots in his native state are deep. His paternal grandfather, Robert John Palmer, and maternal grandfather, Eugene Harriott Dibble, served in the South Carolina Legislature during Reconstruction.

Palmer, the son of Edmund Perry Palmer and Ellie Naudin Dibble Palmer, was born on August 9, 1935, in Sumter, S.C. His father was a funeral director and embalmer, so, young Perry was born into the funeral profession. He would later marry Grace Justine Brooks, of Aiken, S.C., a funeral director's daughter, who is now deceased. They are the parents of two children, Brooks Naudin Palmer and Ema Pinn Palmer. He prepared himself for his life's work by obtaining an outstanding education.

He was educated at Mather Academy in Camden, S.C., Monson Academy in Mass., and North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro. He earned his professional service degree from the American Academy of Funeral Services in New York.

Active in his profession, Mr. Palmer has been President of the South Carolina Mortician's Association, Secretary of the Board, Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Board of Directors, and District Governor of the National Funeral Directors and Mortician's Association, as well as 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and President. In each position, he has endeavored to give leadership in every aspect of the funeral service profession. His efforts have earned many honors, including a citation from his former professional school, the American Academy.

Palmer has touched the lives of many as a philanthropist and humanitarian. In 1998, he received the United Way of the Midlands Humanitarian Award, the first African American to receive the award since its inception in 1984. It was well deserved! Throughout the years, this gentle man has served on boards such as Columbia Urban League, Indian Waters Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Benjamin E. Mays Academy for Leadership Development, James R. Clark Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation, Columbia Museum of Art, South Carolina State Museum Foundation, United Way of the Midlands and Heathwood Hall Episcopal School.

As a community servant, he has personally sponsored six adopt-a-school programs and six youth and adult recreation programs. He has provided scholarships for students to attend the Benjamin E. Mays Academy for Leadership Development. He has been an avid supporter of African American business development.

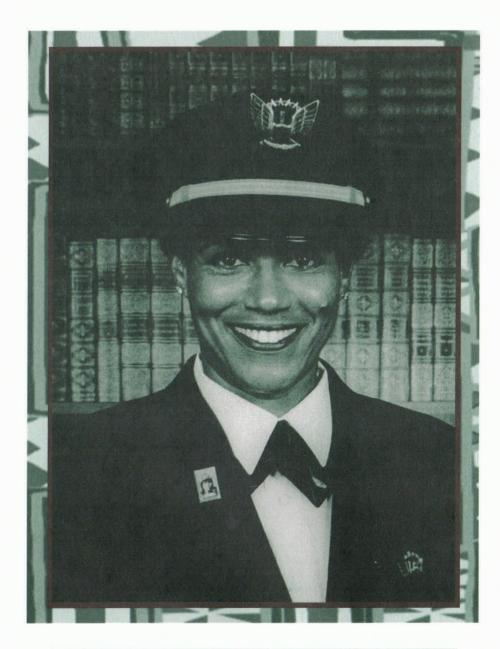
Among his awards are a Joint Concurrent Resolution from the South Carolina Senate and House of Representatives for his humanitarian efforts, and induction into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame. He is an active member of Wesley United Methodist Church.

Palmer is an example of a business leader who has devoted his time and energy to serving his community and to helping the less fortunate.

JUNE 1999

Roche Carolina Inc.

		1	2	3	4	5
		Sojouner Truth began anti-slavery activist career in 1843.	T. Thomas Fortune, journalist, died in 1928.			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Congress of Racial Equality founded in 1942.		Supreme Court banned segregation in Washington, DC restaurants in 1953.				
13	Flag Day 14	15	16	17	18	19
Thurgood Marshall appointed to U.S. Supreme Court in 1967.				Black soldiers fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775.		
Father's Day 20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		Joe Louis became youngest world heavyweight boxing champion in 1937.				
27	28	29	30			
	Organization for Afro- American Unity founded in 1964.					



Shirley Tyus
Pilot

Shirley Tyus, the daughter of Martin Bullock and Marcelle Suber, was born on June 28, 1950 in Spartanburg, S.C. She is the first African American female pilot to fly for United Airlines, a distinction which makes her a trailblazer in aviation history. She is currently a First Officer on a United Airlines Boeing 727. Her life is the manifestation of someone who not only dreamed but also worked hard to fulfill her dreams.

Officer Tyus' aviation career began as a United Airlines Flight Attendant in 1972. She soon realized that her real desire was to become an airline pilot. In 1977, she embarked on her mission by enrolling in flight training at the Professional Flight School in Friendly, Md. In August, 1979, she acquired her commercial pilot's license.

Now a pilot, Tyus balanced the demands of being a United Flight Attendant by day with piloting cargo aircraft for the African American owned Wheeler Airlines, based in Raleigh, N.C., by night. During this time, she also managed to enroll in the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Her efforts demonstrated motivation, organization, and determination. In 1985, she earned her Airline Transport Pilot Rating.

In 1987, her dream was further fulfilled when United Airlines hired her as a pilot. She continued training at United Airlines' state of the art Flight Training Center. It was after completing this advanced training that Tyus began flying for United Airlines.

Officer Tyus is vice president of the Bessie Coleman Foundation, Inc. BCF was founded in 1995 by a group of African American women involved in the aviation industry. One of the goals of BCF is to encourage young men and women to pursue aviation related careers.

Tyus has appeared on several television programs and has been featured in numerous newspaper and magazine articles, including *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, *Ebony*, *Jet*, and West African publications. Numerous organizations have honored her for contributions to aviation and for her interest in the advancement of women and Black Americans in the field of aviation.

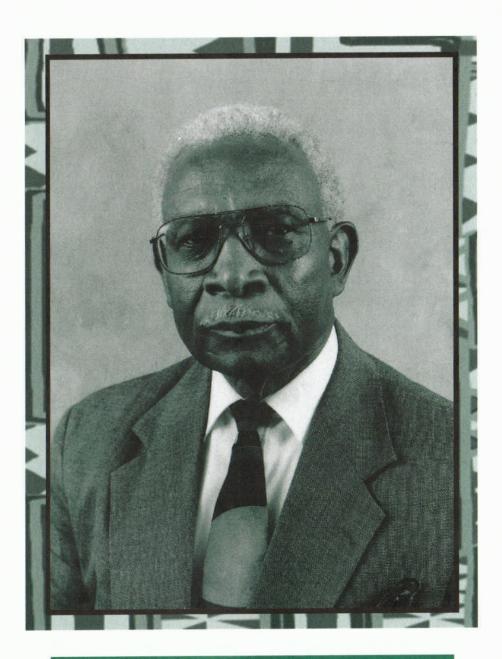
Among her cherished memories are her grandfather's words that, of all of his grands, she was the only one who thought that she was a bird; of taking her father up for his airplane ride in a Cessna 172; and, the memory of landing a Boeing 737 airliner at the Baltimore-Washington International Airport, on a runway that her father had helped build. Tyus also credits her stepfather, Will Munn, for his tremendous influence and support of her dreams.

Officer Tyus adheres to the philosophy that "If we stand tall, it is because we stand on the backs of those who have gone before us." She firmly believes that we must keep our backs strong for those behind us and our hands united for those in front of us.

JULY 1999



				Canada Day (Canada)	2	3
				Carl Lewis, athlete born in 1961.	Civil Rights Act of 1964 Signed. Thurgood Marshall born in 1908.	
Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9	10
Tuskegee Institute established in 1881. Slavery abolished in New York in 1827.		Althea Gibson won Wimbledon in 1957.			Francis L. Cardozo installed as South Carolina's Secretary of State in 1868.	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
						Billie Holliday, singer, died in 1959.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Lemuel Haynes, first Black Congregationalist minister, born in 1753.			14th Amendment ratified in 1868. National Association of Colored Women founded in 1896.			Mary Church Terrell,educator, died in 1954.
25	Patrick Francis Healy, first African-American awarded a Ph.D. in 1865.	27	28	29	30	31
	President Truman banned discrimination in the armed services in 1948.					



James A. Blake, Sr. Educator In 1970, at the beginning of South Carolina's efforts to desegregate its schools, James A. Blake, Sr., was the first African American to be appointed to the South Carolina State Board of Education. He served on the board for six years, becoming the first African American chair of the board in 1974. As a result, his signature appears on the high school diploma of every student graduating from the public school system in 1974, and on the certificate of every teacher certified in 1974 in South Carolina.

James A. Blake, Sr., the fourth child of Frank Blake, Sr. and Willie Mae Montgomery Blake, was born in Marion, S.C., on August 2, 1930. He was educated in the public schools of Marion County and graduated valedictorian from Marion County Training School. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Allen University in 1951. After pursuing graduate work at North Carolina Central University in Durham, he continued his studies at South Carolina State University from which he was awarded a Master of Science degree in 1961.

He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951-1955, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. He was also an Air Force instructor. Upon his discharge from the Air Force in 1955, Sgt. Blake began his teaching career as a teacher of chemistry and mathematics at Finklea High School in Loris, S.C. His keen perspective, administrative skills, and knowledge of his subject landed him teaching and administrative positions at Johnakin High (formerly Marion County Training School) and Marion High School. He taught college preparatory mathematics at Marion High School for a year before desegregation and remained in that position until 1974 when the new Marion High School was completed. In 1979, he was named Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Marion County School District One and later served as Assistant Superintendent/Mathematics Supervisor until his retirement in 1988.

Blake's numerous positions in professional organizations and agencies, and on educational boards and committees have shown how his broad range of knowledge and pursuit of excellence influenced and helped structure educational policy. Memberships and offices have included Association of S.C. Mathematics Teachers, National Association of State Boards of Education, Advisory Committee on S.C. Senior Mathematics, S.C. Basic Skills Advisory Committee, and the S.C. Mathematics Curriculum Framework Writing Team.

A firm believer that one motivates change in a community by becoming involved, Blake's honors and affiliations are a testament to such commitment. They include being a founder of Colonial State Bank, Life Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Trustee Board of St. John A.M.E. Church, American Heart Association National Committee, Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity, American Heart Association Lifetime Achievement Award, first recipient of the Marion Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award, Marion Bicentennial Citizen Award, Martin Luther King Award for Excellence in Education, Allen University Doctorate of Humane Letters degree and numerous awards for his contributions to mathematics education in South Carolina.

Blake's hard work, self-preparedness, and quiet but firm diplomacy helped yield viable changes as South Carolina moved from a segregated to a unitary public school system. He has not rested on his laurels and currently chairs the Marion Community Relations Committee and serves on the Advisory Board of the Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault.

AUGUST 1999



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Whitney Young named executive director of National Urban League in 1961. Benjamin E. Mays born in 1895.				* .	Voting Rights Act signed by President Johnson in 1965.	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Jesse Owens won four Olympic gold medals in 1936.		Thaddeus Stevens, abolitionist, died in 1868.			Ernest Everett Just, scientist, born in 1883.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Marcus Garvey born in 1887.				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	National Negro Business League founded in 1900.		Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters organized in 1925.		W.E.B. DuBois died in 1963.	March on Washington in 1963.
29	30	31			-	



Geraldyne I. Pierce Zimmerman Educator/Community Leader

Geraldyne Inez Pierce Zimmerman has dedicated her life to inspiring hundreds of young men and women to understand and appreciate mathematics and to become productive members of society. The second of four children of James Arthur Pierce and Hazel Tatnall Pierce, she was born on March 5, 1911 in Orangeburg, S.C. She attended elementary school at Claflin College and graduated from the high school department at South Carolina State University. She then enrolled at Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., earning her B.S. degree in mathematics in 1932. Cognizant of her effective teaching skills and comprehension of her field of study, South Carolina State University initially hired her from 1932-1935, after which she took an hiatus to marry and start her family. In 1948 she received her M.A. in mathematics from South Carolina State University. That year, Mrs. Zimmerman returned to South Carolina State University as a mathematics instructor.

For thirty-one years, 1932-1935 and 1948-1976, Zimmerman taught at South Carolina State and motivated students not only to appreciate mathematics, but also to become public servants. While teaching, she authored *The Predictive Study of Freshmen Success in Mathematics at South Carolina State College.* She also wrote and produced for the South Carolina Department of Education three acclaimed Educational Television videotapes on contemporary mathematics for elementary school teachers.

While she is an outstanding educator, it is apparent that Mrs. Zimmerman's greatest contribution lies in her community involvement and work with young people. For the past 50 years, she has worked with the Girl Scouts as a Troop Leader, Board Member, Association President, Troop Consultant, and Service Unit Chairperson. In 1963, she organized the Helen Sheffield Girls' Club, a community service club for high school girls.

Through her community efforts, with the citizens of Orangeburg and the City Council, a recreational community center for the city's youth and citizens was erected in 1963. In honor of her, it was named the Zimmerman Community Center. In 1984, Zimmerman took on the project of refurbishing and cleaning the historic Orangeburg Cemetery on Bull Street. Over 100 years old, the cemetery is the resting place of many prominent African Americans of Orangeburg, including John Whittaker, who was the first African American to attend the U.S. Military Academy. She organized a committee of five interested persons who solicited funds to clean the cemetery and keep it clean. The project received recognition and awards from Reader's Digest Foundation, Keep American Beautiful, and the Colgate Palmolive, Inc. Community Service Foundation. The cemetery is listed in the National Register for Historic Places and the City of Orangeburg now oversees the project.

Mrs. Zimmerman is a very active member of St. Paul Episcopal Church, works with the Salvation Army, and supports the United Way in a number of capacities. Other community involvement has included Orangeburg County Literary Association, Orangeburg City Beautification Advisory Council, and the Orangeburg County Red Cross Board. She has received numerous awards and recognitions, and among them are City of Orangeburg Citizen of the Year, Notable Americans of the Bicentennial Era, Outstanding Educators of America, Sertoma International - Local and District Award for Service to Mankind, Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Claffin College, and the SCSU Distinguished Alumna Award.

This outstanding and highly motivated public servant has affiliations with numerous organizations, such as Kappa Mu Epsilon National Honorary Mathematics Society, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Girl Scouts of America, NAACP (Life Member), and LINKS, Inc.

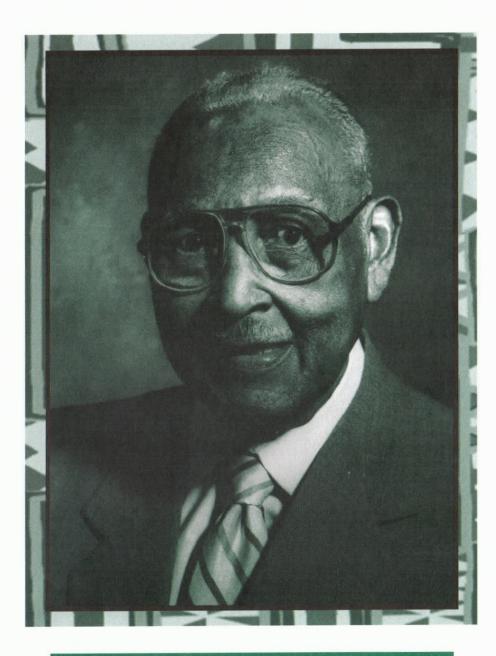
Mrs. Zimmerman is a doer. She not only has served as a role model for youth, but also has been actively involved in constructive programs that enhance their development.

SEPTEMBER 1999



			1	2	3	4
			General Daniel "Chappie" James, Jr. named Commander-In-Chief of North American Air Defense Command in 1975.			
5	Labor Day 6	7	8	9	10	Rosh Hashanah 11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Vanessa Williams crowned Miss America, 1983.	Dr. Mae Jemison first African American female astronaut in space in 1992.		United States Constitution signed in 1787.	
19	Yom Kippur 20	21	22	23	24	25
	First episode of "The Cosby Show" aired in 1984.		Ralph Bunche awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.			
26	27	28	29	30		
	"Memphis Blues" published in 1912.	"Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World" published in 1929.				





Eddie McGirt Athlete/Coach From as far back as he can remember, Eddie C. McGirt always wanted to be a football coach. What an outstanding coach he was! Coach McGirt trained some of the nation's most outstanding athletes. He admonished his players that scholarship and community service were essential to success in athletics. "Everyone will not become a professional athlete, and, for those who make it, athletics will not remain forever. You must be well-rounded as a human being and share in the building of your community," he maintained.

Eddie McGirt was born on January 31, 1920 in Camden, S.C. He attended Mather Academy, a school noted for academic excellence, where he starred in football, basketball, and track. Mather required that all of its athletes be proficient students. Throughout his later years as a coach, this ideal became an integral part of McGirt's coaching program.

In 1940, McGirt enrolled at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C., where he established himself as one of the school's greatest athletes of all time. In 1940 and 1941, as a star fullback, he was an All-CIAA (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association) selection. His college career was interrupted in 1943 when he entered the U.S. Army and served during World War II. Following his military service, he returned to JCSU and earned his baccalaureate degree in 1947. Armed with academic and athletic preparedness, McGirt set out on his life's mission: to coach.

He assumed his first coaching position at his alma mater, Mather Academy. During those years, five of his high school basketball teams won South Carolina Athletic Conference championships. In 1958, McGirt's college alma mater was seeking a new coach. Coach McGirt's hard work and commitment to excellence paid off. In September 1958, he was selected as Johnson C. Smith's eleventh modern-day head football coach.

JCSU's football team had been struggling for years. Coach McGirt had the major responsibility of lifting the university's football fortunes "from the cellar of Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association mediocrity to a place of respectability in CIAA circles." McGirt was ready for the task! He accomplished his goals in three seasons. In 1961, he coached the "Golden Bulls" to an 8-1-0 and a second place finish in the CIAA. Throughout his years at JCSU, he generated one of the most exciting football teams in the conference, and his teams were never out of the first division in the final CIAA standings.

In 1978, after 20 years as JCSU's head football coach, McGirt retired. He remained, however, as Athletic Director and Head of the Department of Health and Physical Education until June 30, 1985. During his tenure as coach, his teams won one championship and two divisional championships, and were runners-up twice. His overall record was 118 wins and 73 losses. This "Dean of CIAA Coaches" was named CIAA Coach of the Year in 1969, and NAIA Coach of the Year twice.

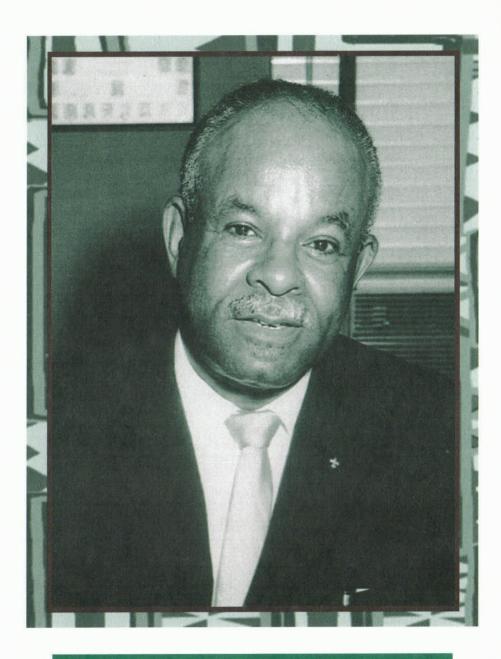
Many of the men whom McGirt coached are now in leadership positions throughout the nation. He maintains that his primary mission was to inspire young people to be the best that they can be and to share in building a better future for all mankind.

Coach McGirt has received numerous awards and honors. He has been President of the Southern Division of the CIAA. Among his many affiliations are Phi Delta Kappa Professional Education Fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, American Football Coaches Association, and National Athletics Directors Association.

OCTOBER 1999



					1	2
					Colin Powell appointed first African-American Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1989.	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Fisk Jubilee Singers began national tour in 1871.	Toni Morrison became first African American to win Nobel Prize in literature.	Jesse Jackson born in 1941.	
10	Columbus Day 11 Observed	12	13	14	15	16
				Martin Luther King, Jr. awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.	Clarence Thomas confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1992.	John Brown led attack on Harper's Ferry in 1859.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Capital Savings Bank opened in Washington, D.C. in 1888.				Dizzy Gillespie born in 1917.		
United Nations Day	25	26	27	28	29	30
Daylight Savings Time Ends Halloween Jackie Robinson died in 1972.			B.O. Davis, Jr. became the first African-American General in the Air Force in 1954.			



Arthur J. H. Clement, Jr. Business Leader

Promoting positive race relations, spurring community development, and enhancing business incentives in his hometown of Charleston, S.C., were goals and achievements of businessman and community leader Arthur J. H. Clement, Jr. Born in Charleston, S.C., in 1908, his life later became a beacon for business savvy, political skills, and philanthropic support as he worked to promote goodwill among the citizens of his state. Upon Clement's death in 1985, Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr., cited him as a pioneer among African American business leaders, "during a time of changing attitudes of the white race toward race relations." Riley credited Clement with helping to hasten "this positive change which improved our community."

Clement prepared himself academically by attending Charleston's Avery Institute, which was founded in 1865 via the philanthropic support of Charles Avery and the American Missionary Society, to provide elementary through ninth grade education. He then attended Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C., earning his high school diploma from its high school department in 1926 and his baccalaureate in 1930.

Highly motivated and determined to excel, Clement's work experience began with North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, founded by John Merrick in Durham, N.C., in 1885. He soon moved up the ranks. His hard work, continuous acquisition of knowledge, and positive disposition resulted in his being named manager of the Savannah, Ga. district in 1937. In 1942 upon his father's retirement, he became manager of the Charleston, S.C. district. His outstanding achievements led to his opening new district offices as manager in Newark, N.J. in 1955 and Los Angeles, Calif., in 1961. He returned to the East coast as district manager in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1963. Clement's outstanding career with North Carolina Mutual ended in 1967 when he accepted an appointment as Director of Admissions and Career Counseling at Voorhees College in Denmark, S.C., a position he held until 1973.

Arthur Clement had a basic interest in politics, which was closely allied to his enduring concerns for racial equality and social justice. He was an active member of the South Carolina Progressive Democratic Party. It was organized in 1944 to provide African Americans with an opportunity to participate in state and national elections, which were then controlled by the all-white South Carolina Democratic Party. In 1950 Clement opposed incumbent Rep. L. Mendel Rivers in South Carolina's First Congressional District, becoming the first African American in South Carolina to run for Congress as a Democrat. In his later years he was involved with the South Carolina Republican Party.

An avid writer, and collector of copious records on race relations, politics, and community issues, Clement's vast array of papers is housed at the University of South Carolina's Caroliniana Library.

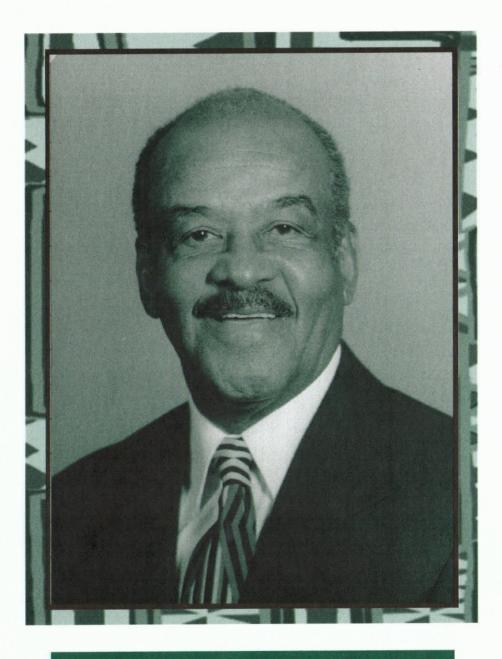
As a public servant and community organizer, Clement's extensive civic activities included the Board of Trustees of Johnson C. Smith University, Board of Visitors of Clemson University, Advisory Council of South Carolina State University, the Charlestowne Montessori School, Porter Gaud Academy and the M.U.S.C. Area Health Education Center. He was president of the Charleston Branch of the NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and local district chairman of the Boy Scouts of America. Among his extensive honors and awards is the Boy Scouts of America's Silver Beaver Award. He was an active member of the Rotary Club of Charleston.

A true philanthropist, upon his death in 1985, Arthur J. H. Clement, Jr., bequeathed money for the creation of a trust fund which makes annual gifts to the YWCA of Charleston, the Coastal Carolina Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Hospice of Charleston, the Charleston Salvation Army, and the Hope Service, Inc.

NOVEMBER 1999



	First issue of "Ebony" published in 1945. First issue of "Crisis" published in 1910.	Election Day 2	James Clyburn, first S.C. African-American elected to U.S. Congress after Reconstruction. Carol Moseley Braun first African-American woman elected to U.S. Senate in 1992.	4	Walter E. Washington elected Mayor of Washington, D.C. in 1974.	Absalom Jones, minister, born in 1746.
David Dinkins elected first black mayor of New York City in 1989.	8	Benjamin Banneker, surveyor, born in 1731.	10	Veterans' Day 11	12	13
Booker T. Washington died in 1915.	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	Scott Joplin, composer, born in 1868.	Thanksgiving 25 Luther "Bill" Robinson, dancer, died in 1949.	Sojourner Truth, evangelist, died in 1883.	Richard Wright, author, died in 1960.
28	29	30				



Paul L. Ross Army Lt. Colonel Paul L. Ross has always believed in helping people. He was born on August 15, 1925, in High Point, N.C. As a youngster, he spent many summers on his grandfather's farm in Williston, S.C. He observed how his father and grandfather always extended a hand to aid those in need. These traits remained with Ross. In addition to being a humanitarian, Ross enjoyed a long and illustrious military career, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943 and obtained the rank of Sergeant during three years of active duty in World War II. He joined the Army Reserves in 1946 and then re-entered the Army as an officer in 1951. This was during the Korean War. In 1949, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant following his success with the North Carolina A.&.T. State University Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC), a program in which he enrolled in 1947 during his freshman year at N.C.A.&.T. He eamed his B.S. degree in Business Administration in 1951. He received another baccalaureate degree from the University of South Carolina in Columbia in 1974.

Col. Ross served his country with distinction and honor. In the early 1950's, the armed services had recently been desegregated through the efforts of the Truman administration. As an officer, Ross served in many leadership positions, including Company Commander, Battalion and Brigade Staff Officer, and Senior Advisor to the New Jersey National Guard. He had foreign service tours in Guam during World War II, Korea, and two tours in Germany and Vietnam. He retired from the military in 1970.

Ross became a State of South Carolina employee in 1970. He served as Assistant Director of Planning for the Office of Economic Opportunity, 1970-1977, and as Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Labor from 1978 until his retirement in 1985. During this time he traveled throughout the state and observed that many homes occupied by the elderly were in desperate need of repair. Many were unsuitable for habitation. Col. Ross maintained that if the windows were sealed better, the cold air would be minimized and some of the health problems would be limited. Ross consulted with the Director of the Commission on Aging and recommended that a weatherization program be started and financed through that department and the Office of Economic Opportunity. The proposal was approved and the first weatherization program in South Carolina was started.

Col. Ross has also been active in his community. In 1953, he organized a Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troop at Reid Chapel AME church to provide discipline for his two sons and other boys in the community. He served as Boy Scout and Cub Scout Master. In 1971, he started a Columbia Alumni Chapter of North Carolina A.&.T. State University and served as its president for eight years. The chapter recruits students to attend the university and awards many scholarships. He has been Post Commander and District Commander and has held other district and state level positions in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is a weekly volunteer at Watkins Elementary School, where he assist students in reading and writing.

This outstanding community leader was a member of Sertoma International, having been elected Governor of the Sertoma Wade Hampton District (consisting of eleven Sertoma clubs) in 1993. Other organizations and boards include National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Baptist Medical Center Cancer Institute, Omega Psi Phi Fratemity, NAACP, Korean War and Vietnam War Monument committees and Retired Military Officers Association.

He has received twenty-eight community awards, among them the Alexander English Humanitarian Award, the Sertoma International Service Award, and the Columbia Urban League Service Award.

He is a member of Second Calvary Baptist Church where he served as a deacon for 20 years, chairperson of the Board of Missions and numerous other positions.

DECEMBER 1999



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

FRIDAY SATURDAY

			1	2	Hanukkah begins at Sundown	Hanukkah 4
			Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus in 1955.		First issue of "North Star" newspaper published in 1847.	American Anti-Slavery Society organized in 1833.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Joseph H. Rainey (S.C.) first African-American elected to Congress in 1870.			Maggie Lena Walker, banker, died in 1934.			PUSH founded in 1971. 13th Amendment ratified in 1865.
19	20	21	22	23	Christmas Eve 24	Christmas Day 25
Carter G. Woodson, historian, born in 1875.						
Boxing Day (Canada) 26	27	28	29	30	New Year's Eve 31	