

WILLIE DEREEF

Master boatbuilder, Pawley's Island

Like his ancestors, Willie Dereef makes his living with a skilled pair of hands. Dereef is a master boatbuilder, and his boatbuilding business is part hobby, part science and part art. It is also all about preserving a culture that is still a way of life for many on the South Carolina coast. Most Gullah men fed their families with the sea and along the coastal rivers where they fished and harvested rice. Dereef handcrafts boats in much the same fashion as those ancestors, who brought the tradition from West Africa.

2006

SOUTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY CALENDAR

JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Carl Lewis, athlete, was born in 1961.
2 Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed. Thurgood Marshall was born in 1908.	3 First African American baseball player in the major leagues, Jackie Robinson, was named to Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962.	4 Independence Day Tuskegee Institute established in 1881.	5 Arthur Ashe, won the men's Wimbledon singles championship in 1975.	6 Althea Gibson won Wimbledon in 1957.	7 Margaret Walker, writer, was born in 1915.	8 Venus Williams wins Wimbledon in 2000.
9 Francis L. Cardozo installed as S.C.'s Secretary of State in 1868.	10 Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, was born in 1875.	11 Civil rights activist W.E.B. Dubois founded the Niagara Movement in 1905.	12 Bill Cosby, entertainer, was born in 1937.	13 Continental Congress excluded slavery from Northwest Territory in 1787.	14 George Washington Carver National Monument dedicated in Joplin, MO in 1951.	15 Pompey Lamb, noted spy, aids the American Revolutionary War effort, 1779.
16 V. A. Johnson, first Black female to argue before the U.S. Supreme Court, was born in 1882.	17 Billie Holliday, singer, died in 1959.	18 Lemuel Hayes, first Black Congregationalist minister, was born in 1753.	19 Patricia R. Harris named secretary of health, education and welfare in 1979.	20 First U.S. victory in Korea was won by African American troops in the 24th Infantry Regiment, in 1950.	21 The 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868. National Association of Colored Women was founded in 1896.	22 Abraham Lincoln read the first draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet in 1861.
23 Louis Tompkins Wright, physician, was born in 1924.	24 Mary Church Terrell, educator, died in 1954.	25 Garrett T. Morgan, inventor of the gas mask, rescued six people from a gas-filled tunnel in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1916.	26 President Truman banned discrimination in the armed services in 1948.	27 Inventor A.P. Abourne was awarded patent for refining coconut oil in 1880.	28 The 14th Amendment was adopted in 1868.	29 The first National Convention of Black Women was held in Boston in 1895.
30 Adam Clayton Powell Jr., activist and politician, was elected congressman from Harlem in 1945.	31 Whitney Young, an executive director of the National Urban League, was born in 1921.	   				