

2010

*South Carolina*  
**African  
American**  
*History Calendar*

presented by  at&t



*Dear students, educators and friends,*

For 130 years, AT&T has been committed to making a difference in the lives of the people and communities of South Carolina. One of the ways we try to do that is through the South Carolina African-American History Calendar.

Now beginning its third decade, the Calendar was conceived simply as a tool to assist the State Department of Education in meeting the statutory requirement to include African-American history in the curriculum. Over the years, it has evolved into an online information resource used by thousands worldwide, spreading the benefits far beyond the classrooms of our state, and the unveiling of each year's Calendar has become an eagerly-awaited community event. Our community partners have been invaluable in the Calendar's success and we appreciate their continuing commitment and support.

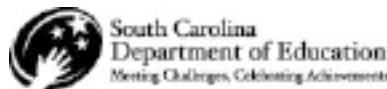
Throughout its history, the Calendar has remained true to its mission of recognizing and honoring the achievements of African-Americans with roots in South Carolina.

In many ways, the evolution of the Calendar parallels the evolution of AT&T. While the Calendar has expanded beyond the printed version, AT&T has embraced new technologies that have opened the door to exciting products and services such as the iPhone and AT&T U-verse<sup>SM</sup> service. Competition has spurred our advancements in wireless, broadband and advanced digital entertainment, bringing choice and innovation to your doorstep. And that means everyone benefits.

The individuals featured on the 2010 African-American History Calendar are shining role models for all our children. They have made a difference in their fields and their communities, excelling in areas as diverse as education, business, entertainment, sports, journalism and public service. This Calendar is a tribute to the honorees' strength, hard work and dedication to excellence. We hope you will enjoy and be inspired by their stories, as we have been.

*Pamela P. Lackey*

Pamela P. Lackey  
President, AT&T - South Carolina



# Resources

Visit the AT&T South Carolina African American Calendar web site at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)

**Abraham, Henry J. and Perry, Barbara A.**

Freedom and the Court – Civil Rights and Liberties in the United States (1994)

**Ayazi-Hashjin, Sherry**

Rap and Hip Hop: The Voice of a Generation (1999)

**Baker, Augusta**

The Black Experience in Children's Books (1971)

**Baker, Augusta and Greene, Ellin**

Storytelling: Art and Technique (1987)

**Collier-Thomas, Bettye and Franklin, V.P.**

My Soul Is a Witness: A Chronology of the Civil Rights Era, 1954-1965 (2000)

**Flanders, Julie**

The Story of Music: Gospel, Blues and Jazz (2001)

**Gardner, Michael R.**

Harry Truman and Civil Rights: Moral Courage (2002)

**Gates, Jr., Henry Louis**

African American Lives (2004)

**Hopkinson, Deborah**

The Band of Angels (1999)

**Igus, Toyomi**

I See the Rhythm (1998)

**Joyson, Sandra E.**

Standing on Holy Ground (2003)

**Kelley, Robin D. G.**

Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination (2003)

**Marable, Manning**

Black leadership in the 20th Century (1998)

**McFadden, Grace Jordan**

The Oral Recollections of Black South Carolinians Videotape Series, University of South Carolina: Instructional Services Center (1980)

**McGill, Alice**

In the Hollow of Your Hand: Slave Lullabies (2000)

**New York Public Library – The Schomburg Center**

African American Desk Reference (2002)

**Ochiai, Akiko**

Harvesting Freedom: African American Agrarianism in Civil War Era South Carolina (2004)

**Painter, Nell Irvin**

Southern History: Across the Color Line (2001)

**Payne, Charles M. and Green, Adam**

Time Longer Than Rope: A Century of African American Activism 1850-1950 (2003)

**Rollins, Charlemae H.**

Christmas GIF: An Anthology of Christmas Poems, Songs, and Stories, Written by and About African-Americans (1993)

**South Carolina Arts Commission**

South Carolina Shared Traditions: 15 Years of the Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage Awards (2002)

**South Carolina Arts Commission**

Traditional Music from the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor. (2002)

To request a copy, contact Craig Stinson: [CStinson@arts.state.sc.us](mailto:CStinson@arts.state.sc.us)

**South Carolina ETV**

Gullah Traditions: Fa De Chillun (1994)

Palmetto Special: Gullah Culture (1990)

Tales from the Land of Gullah For Kids (1999)

**Weatherford, Carole Boston**

The Sound That Jazz Makes (2000)

**Williams, Juan**

This Far by Faith: Stories from the African American Religious Experience (2003)

**Williams, Sheron**

Imani's Music (2002)

# Fannie Phelps Adams

Since her retirement as an educator in 1979, Fannie Phelps Adams' light has continued to shine as a community activist and humanitarian. At the age of 92, she inspires future generations by giving back to the community as a volunteer with the Retired Senior Volunteer Food Co-Op Program. She "bags groceries for the elderly," but allows her daughter to lift the bags.

Adams began her career as an educator in 1938 at Booker T. Washington Heights Elementary School. She later taught and served as guidance counselor, assistant principal and acting principal at Booker T. Washington High School, her alma mater, and as assistant principal at A.C. Flora High School.

As an activist and humanitarian, Adams' lesson to youth and others is that supporting and improving one's community are essential for progress and success. In the late 1970s, she was instrumental in the election of the first three black members of the Richland School District One Board of Commissioners in the board's 96-year history.

Her honors include the Human Relations Award from the Richland County Education Association, the South Carolina Education Association and the National Education Association. She was inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame in 1996 and the Richland One Hall of Fame in 2008. Also in 2008, a commemorative bench was unveiled in her honor at the University of South Carolina Education Museum's pavilion. She founded the Palmetto Cemetery Association, served as a former director of the Wheeler Hill Neighborhood Association, former board member of Palmetto Richland Hospital and a charter member of the Palmetto Richland Children's Hospital. Adams is also a member of the NAACP, Columbia branch of the National Association of University Women, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and the USC President's Community Advisory Committee.

The daughter of Mary and James Phelps, Adams earned a Bachelor's degree from Allen University, and Master's from South Carolina State University. She and her late husband, David King Adams, have a daughter, Mary Suzette Adams-Jenkins, and a grandson, David Edward Adams.



*Adams' lesson to youth and others is that supporting and improving one's community are essential for progress and success.*





# Mac Arnold

Mac Arnold must have known at an early age that his music career would read like a “Who’s Who” of blues and rhythm and blues legends. Prophetically, his high school band J Floyd & The Shamrocks often featured none other than Rock and Roll Hall of Famer James Brown on piano. Arnold later moved to Chicago in 1965 to work with recording artist/saxophonist A. C. Reed.

He was afforded the opportunity of a lifetime to join the Muddy Waters Blues Band and help shape the electric blues sound that inspired the rock and roll movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Arnold expanded his musical horizons as The Muddy Waters Blues Band shared the stage with the likes of Howlin’ Wolfe and several other blues artists. Arnold continued to flourish as a blues musician during this period as he played on John Lee Hooker’s “Live at Café Au Go-Go,” Otis Spann’s “The Blues Is Where It’s At” and Tyrone Davis’ “Turning Point.”

After more than a year with Muddy Waters, Mac formed the Soul Invaders, a group that backed up many artists. He later enjoyed a successful career in Los Angeles working with ABC Television and LAFF RECORDS (Redd Foxx), working on the set of Soul Train, and collaborating with another legendary musician, Quincy Jones.

Arnold returned to South Carolina in 1990. Embracing his blues roots in Pelzer, where he learned to play his brother Leroy’s home-made guitar, Arnold now serves up a mess of Blues with his own band, Mac Arnold & Plate Full O’ Blues. The band consists of Danny Keylon on bass, Austin Brashier on guitar, Max Hightower on keyboard, harmonica, guitar, Mike Whitt on drums, and Mac Arnold on vocals, bass and Gas Can Guitars.



*As part of the Muddy Waters Blues Band, Mac helped shape the electric blues sound that inspired rock and roll.*

# February

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



*South Carolina*  
**African American**  
*History Calendar*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Langston Hughes was born in 1902.	<b>2</b> <b>Groundhog Day</b> Ernest E. Just, biologist, received the Spingarn Medal for pioneering research on fertilization and cell division, 1914.	<b>3</b> Geraldine McCullough won the Widener Gold Medal for Sculpture in 1965.	<b>4</b> Rosa Parks was born in 1913.	<b>5</b> Henry "Hank" Aaron, the home run king of major league baseball, was born in 1934.	<b>6</b> Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870.
<b>7</b> Eubie Blake, pianist, was born in 1883.	<b>8</b> Oprah Winfrey became the first African American woman to host a nationally syndicated talk show in 1986.	<b>9</b> In 1995 Bernard Harris became the first African American astronaut to take a spacewalk.	<b>10</b> Roberta Flack, singer, was born in 1940.	<b>11</b> Clifford Alexander, Jr., became the first African American Secretary of the Army in 1977.	<b>12</b> Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809. Congress enacted the first fugitive slave law in 1793.	<b>13</b> Joseph L. Searles became the first African American member of the New York Stock Exchange, 1970.
<b>14</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b> Frederick Douglass was born in 1817.	<b>15</b> <b>President's Day</b> Henry Lewis was named director of the New Jersey Symphony in 1968.	<b>16</b> Joe Frazier became World Heavyweight Boxing Champion by a knockout in 1970.	<b>17</b> Michael Jordan, basketball player, born in 1963.	<b>18</b> Author Toni Morrison (born Chloe Anthony Wofford) was born in 1931.	<b>19</b> William "Smoky" Robinson was born in 1940.	<b>20</b> Frederick Douglass died in 1895.
<b>21</b> Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965.	<b>22</b> George Washington was born in 1732. Julius Winfield "Dr. J." Erving was born in 1950.	<b>23</b> <b>Fat Tuesday</b> W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868.	<b>24</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> In 1864, Rebecca Lee became the first African American woman to receive an M.D. degree.	<b>25</b> Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won World Heavyweight crown in 1964.	<b>26</b> Singer "Fats" Domino was born in 1928.	<b>27</b> Marian Anderson, opera singer, was born in 1902.
<b>28</b> Hattie McDaniel became the first black (male or female) to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress) for her role as Mammy in Gone With The Wind in 1940.						



# John Bluford, III

John Bluford, III is a native South Carolinian and a trailblazer in hospital and health care administration as one of only a few African-American hospital chief executive officers nationally. Bluford is President and CEO of Truman Medical Centers (TMC) based in Kansas City, Missouri. Truman Medical Center is a two-hospital, non-profit, multi-specialty academic medical center and teaching affiliate of the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Medicine. TMC operates a stand-alone behavioral health unit and a level-one trauma center, has 4,000 employees and generates over \$400 million in annual revenues. In 2005, the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) ranked the TMC system as one of the Top Five Academic Medical Centers in the country.

Bluford has received numerous awards throughout his more than three decades career in hospital and health system administration including: Kansas City Urban League Difference Maker (2006); Modern Healthcare Magazine's 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare (2006); NAACP Special Achievement Award (2004) and Missouri Hospital Association Visionary Leadership Award (2003). He will be granted the Missouri Hospital Association Distinguished Career Award in November 2009, and was recently designated chair-elect of 5000-member American Hospital Association.

Active in civic engagement and community service wherever he works, Bluford is a member of the Board of Trustees, Morehouse College School of Medicine, Past Chair of the Board of Trustees of the National Association of Public Hospitals and Board member of H&R Block Bank and DeCare International.

Bluford is a 1967 graduate of C. A. Johnson High School in Columbia, South Carolina. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Fisk University in 1971 and an MBA in Management from Northwestern University in 1975. In 1981 Bluford received additional training through Harvard University's Executive Program in Health System Management. Bluford is a lifetime member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and Archon of Theta Boulé, Kansas City, Missouri. Bluford is married and has two children. In his free time Bluford enjoys jazz music and plays tennis competitively.



*A trailblazer in  
hospital and health care  
administration.*



# March

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



## South Carolina African American History Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>  Writer Ralph Ellison was born in 1914	<b>2</b>  NBA star, Karl "The Mailman" Malone was born in 1954.	<b>3</b>  AME Zion Church organized in S.C. in 1867.	<b>4</b>  Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966.	<b>5</b>  William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937.	<b>6</b>  Arthur Mitchell, dancer and choreographer, was born in 1934.
<b>7</b>  Slavery abolished in New York in 1799.	<b>8</b>  Pearl Bailey was born in 1918.	<b>9</b>  'Freedom's Journal' founded in 1827.	<b>10</b>  Jackie Robinson made his professional baseball debut with the Montreal Royals in 1946.	<b>11</b>  Charlie Pride, country singer, was born in 1938.	<b>12</b>  Andrew Young was born in 1932. Nat King Cole was born in 1919.	<b>13</b>  'Uncle Tom's Cabin' by Harriet Beecher Stowe was published in 1852.
<b>14</b> <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>  Selma march began in 1965.	<b>15</b>  Marcus Garvey, Black nationalist, arrived in America from Jamaica, 1916.	<b>16</b>  Clifton Wharton is sworn in as ambassador to Norway in 1961.	<b>17</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>  Harriet Tubman died in 1913.	<b>18</b>  Lorraine Hansberry play, "Raisin in the Sun", opened on Broadway in 1959.	<b>19</b>  Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1975.	<b>20</b> <b>First Day of Spring</b>  Fannie Lou Hamer, activist, dies, 1977.
<b>21</b>  Quincy Jones, composer and musician, was born in 1933.	<b>22</b> <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>  'Los Angeles Sentinel' founded by Leon H. Washington in 1933.	<b>23</b>  Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972.	<b>24</b>  Carole Gist was crowned first Black Miss USA in 1990.	<b>25</b>  Garrett A. Morgan, scientist and inventor, was born in 1877.	<b>26</b>  Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1975.	<b>27</b>  Dred Scott decision handed down by Supreme Court in 1857.
<b>28</b>  First cadets graduated from flying school at Tuskegee Institute in 1942.	<b>29</b>  Senate refuses to seat P.B.S. Pinchback of Louisiana in 1876.	<b>30</b>  15th Amendment was enacted in 1870.	<b>31</b>  Jack Johnson, first Black heavyweight champion was born in 1878.			

# Warren Bolton

Warren Bolton's insightful, fair and balanced commentary has been a catalyst for progressive and positive change in the community for almost a decade as associate editor at *The State* newspaper. He is among a small percentage of African Americans in similar roles at daily newspapers in the country.

Bolton began his distinguished journalism career in 1986 as a reporter with the *Columbia Record*. In 1988, he joined *The State* and covered county government for six years, and in more than nine years as a reporter, covered education, police, courts and the Legislature. He served as assistant night news editor as well as an assistant assigning editor before becoming an assigning editor in 1996. He became education editor in April 1997, and a month later, joined *The State's* Editorial Board, its first ever African-American member. He was promoted to associate editor in January 2000.

He has received numerous awards recognizing his accomplishments including the Columbia Urban League's Lincoln C. Jenkins Jr. award for community service and the Community Service Award from the Midlands Association of Black Journalists in 1998, the top column writing award from the S.C. Press Association as well as the Ambrose E. Gonzales Award for excellence in journalism, given by *The State* in 2000, and the 2008 Press Association's E.A. Ramsaur award, given to the top editorial writer in South Carolina.

Bolton is also an associate minister and member at Bethel AME Church in Columbia, where he and his wife, Tanya, co-chair the church's Married Couples Ministry. The Boltons are proud parents of two sons, Alexander and Christopher. Active in the community, he has volunteered at the Department of Juvenile Justice, the United Way and the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands. A Columbia native and University of South Carolina graduate, he is the youngest of 11 children born to the late Bertha Mae Bolton.



*Warren's insightful, fair  
and balanced commentary has  
been a catalyst for progressive  
and positive change...*



# April

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



## South Carolina African American History Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <b>April Fool's Day</b>	2 <b>Good Friday</b>	3
				Hampton Institute opened in 1868.	John Thompson became the first African American coach to win NCAA basketball tournament, 1984.	Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American history, died in 1950.
4 <b>Easter Sunday</b>	5	6	7	8	9	10
Maya Angelou, author and poet, was born in 1928.	Colin Powell was born in 1937.	Robert E. Perry and Matthew Henson reached the North Pole in 1909.	Billie Holliday, blues singer, was born in 1917.	Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run in 1974.	Civil Rights Bill granting citizenship passed in 1866.	Richard Allen was made Bishop of the AME Church in 1916.
11	12	13	14	15 <b>Tax Day</b>	16	17
Spelman College was founded in 1881.	Free African Society organized in 1787.	Thomas Jefferson's birthday	The first abolition society in the U.S. was founded in Pennsylvania, 1775.	Jackie Robinson made his Major League debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.	Founding of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in 1960.	Rev. Ralph David Abernathy died in 1990.
18	19	20	21	22 <b>Earth Day</b>	23	24
Alex Haley won the Pulitzer Prize for Roots, 1977.	Cheyney State College, one of the oldest Black colleges in the U.S., was founded in 1837.	Harriet Tubman started working on the Underground Railroad, 1853.	Pvt. Milton L. Olive, III, was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1966.	Charles Mingus, bassist, composer, pianist and bandleader, was born in 1922.	Granville T. Woods, inventor of over 40 products, was born in 1856.	The United Negro College Fund was established in 1944.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Ella Fitzgerald, singer, was born in 1917.	William "Count" Basie, jazz pianist and musician, died in 1984.	Coretta Scott King, activist and wife of Martin Luther King, was born in 1927.	Samuel L. Gravely became first African American admiral in the U.S. Navy in 1962.	"Duke" Ellington, musician and composer, was born in 1899.	Wallace Saunders wrote the song "Casey Jones" in 1900.	

# Timothy R. McConnell

Timothy R. McConnell was an influential businessman who overcame poverty and racial barriers to achieve many firsts in South Carolina, including founding the first African American-owned and operated certified public accounting firm in South Carolina, T.R. McConnell and Co. As managing partner in the firm from 1976-1988, McConnell was awarded numerous contracts from the U.S. Department of Commerce to establish minority business development centers in Greenville, Columbia and Charleston.

Born in Fairfield County, he attended segregated McCrory-Liston School before entering newly desegregated Winnsboro High, where he graduated in the top five percent of his class. He received the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Master of Accountancy degrees from the University of South Carolina. While at USC, he became the first African American elected to serve as Vice President of the student body at the university. His interest in public service piqued, he served as a legislative aide to former Governor John C. West. He also worked at Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. in Charlotte, N.C. before forming his own company.

McConnell was actively engaged in several community organizations and on various community boards. His honors and recognition include an appointment as Tax Commissioner and recipient of the Order of the Palmetto by former Governor Carroll Campbell. He also served as President and CEO of Victory Savings Bank.

His many accomplishments and accolades not only made him an astute businessman but a driving force in improving race relations in the state. For example, he is credited with spearheading the integration of private country and business clubs in Columbia. Also, in another effort to give back to the community and support future generations, he established a scholarship at USC for African-Americans majoring in business.

His wife, Claudette, and their children survive McConnell.



*A driving force in  
improving race relations in  
the state.*



# May

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



South Carolina  
**African  
 American**  
*History Calendar*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1  Howard University in Washington, D.C. opened in 1867.
2  Elijah McCoy, inventor and holder of more than fifty patents, was born in 1844.	3  James Brown, Godfather of Soul, was born in 1933. Sugar Ray Robinson, middleweight boxing champion, was born in 1920.	4  Freedom Rides began in 1961.	5  <b>Cinco de Mayo</b>  Gwendolyn Brooks became the first Black Pulitzer Prize winner for Annie Allen in 1950.	6  Civil Rights Act signed by President Eisenhower in 1960.	7  J.R. Winters patented the fire escape, 1878.	8  Rev. Henry McNeal Turner died in 1915.
9  <b>Mother's Day</b>  Slaves in Georgia, Florida and South Carolina were freed, 1862.	10  P.B.S. Pinchback, first Black state governor, was born in 1837.	11  Dancer Martha Graham was born in 1854.	12  Robert Smalls seized Confederate warship in 1862.	13  Boxer Joe Louis was born in 1914.	14  In 1804, a slave known only as York accompanied Lewis and Clark on their expedition.	15  Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, founded at Indiana University, was incorporated in 1911.
16  Sammy Davis Jr. died in 1990.	17  Brown vs. Board of Education made "Separate But Equal" in public schools unconstitutional in 1954.	18  Reggie Jackson, baseball player, was born in 1946.	19  Malcolm X was born in 1925.	20  Robert N.C. Nix was elected to U.S. Congress in 1958.	21  Lowell W. Perry was confirmed as chairman of the Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in 1975.	22  Claude McKay, poet, died in 1948.
23  Bob Marley, reggae legend, died in 1981.	24  Hal McRae was named manager of the Kansas City Royals in 1991.	25  Madame C.J. Walker, entrepreneur, died in 1919.	26  Althea Gibson won the French Open, becoming the first Black tennis player to win a major tennis title, 1956.	27  Louis Gossett Jr., actor, was born in 1936.	28  Eliza Ann Gardner, Underground Railroad conductor was born in 1831.	29  Thomas Bradley was elected mayor of Los Angeles in 1973.
30  Countee Cullen, poet, was born in 1903.	31  <b>Memorial Day</b>  NAACP held first conference (as the National Negro Committee) in 1909.					

# William & Michael Dean Perry

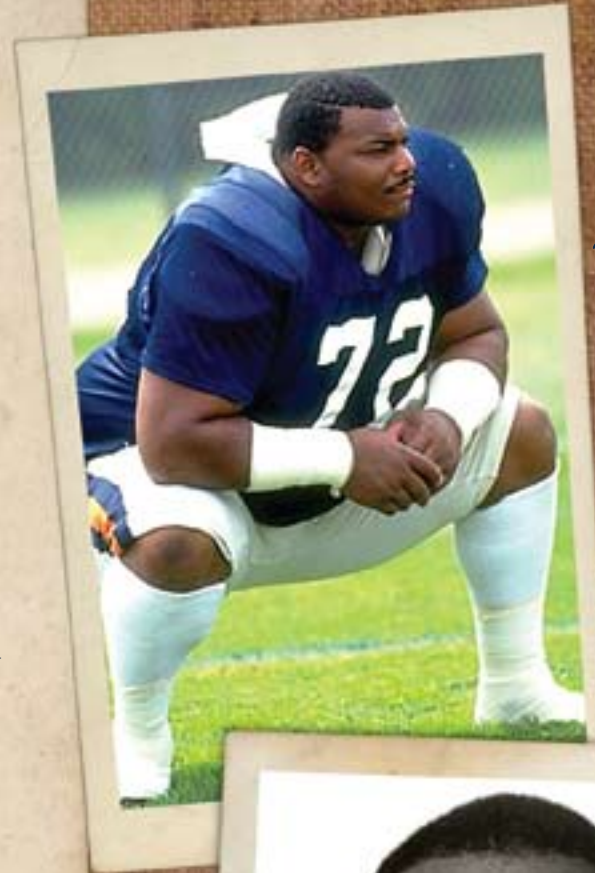
Michael Dean always looked up to his older brother William, so it was not surprising that one would follow the other on a path to success as football superstars. William “the Fridge” Perry rose to stardom as a rookie defensive lineman for the Chicago Bears during the 1985 Super Bowl. In his decade-long professional career, he played in 138 games, recorded 29.5 sacks and recovered five fumbles that he returned for 71 yards. Michael Dean, also a defensive lineman, was a gridiron star in his own right. During his 10-year career, he played for the Cleveland Browns, the Denver Broncos, and the Kansas City Chiefs, and was selected for the Pro Bowl six times.

The Perry brothers grew up in Aiken and played college football at Clemson University. They both will be remembered as much for their athleticism on the field as well as their affability off the field. Michael Dean for his telegenic qualities, after all, he appeared in several McDonald’s commercials and even had a McDonald’s sandwich named in his honor, the MDP. Dean now owns and operates a Subway sandwich store in Charlotte, N.C.

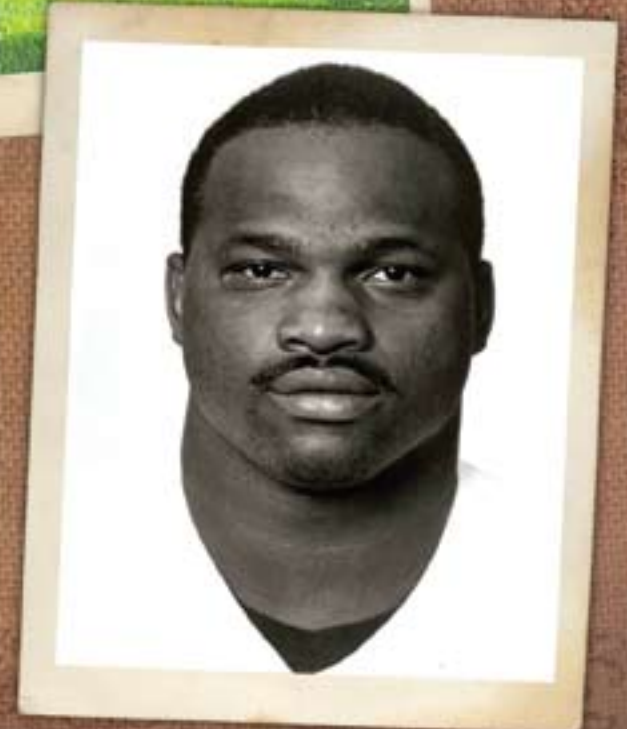
After retiring in 1994, The Fridge has been involved in a number of entertainment and sports ventures, including rap videos and PSA’s, guest appearances on television situation comedies, and has been immortalized as a G.I. Joe action figure. In each, he played on his trademark hefty frame and warm, gap-toothed smile. He also founded his own construction company in South Carolina and was named director of football operations for the Continental Indoor Football League’s Chicago Slaughter.

Today, Michael Dean plays a different role in his brother’s life. Joining his other family, friends, former coaches and fans in William’s quest to tackle a different kind of foe—Guillain-Barre syndrome.

William and Michael are the sons of Hollie Perry Sr. of Aiken and the late Mrs. Inez S. Perry.



*Remembered  
as much  
for their  
athleticism  
on the field  
as well  
as their  
affability  
off the  
field.*





# June

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



## South Carolina African American History Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Sojourner Truth began anti-slavery activist career in 1843.	<b>2</b> T. Thomas Fortune, journalist, died in 1928.	<b>3</b> Wesley A. Brown became the first Black graduate of Annapolis Naval Academy in 1949.	<b>4</b> Arna Bontemps, writer and educator, died in 1973.	<b>5</b> In 1955, Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded his doctorate from Boston University.
<b>6</b> Congress of Racial Equality founded in 1942.	<b>7</b> Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks was born in 1917.	<b>8</b> Supreme Court banned segregation in Washington, D.C. restaurants in 1953.	<b>9</b> Meta-Vaux Warick Fuller, sculptor, was born in 1877.	<b>10</b> Hattie McDaniel, first Black person to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress in 'Gone With The Wind,' (1940), was born in 1898.	<b>11</b> Hazel Dorothy Scott, classical pianist and singer, was born in 1920.	<b>12</b> Medger Evers, civil rights activist, was assassinated in 1963.
<b>13</b> Thurgood Marshall appointed to U.S. Supreme Court in 1967.	<b>14</b> <b>Flag Day</b> Harold D. West was named president of Meharry Medical College, 1952.	<b>15</b> Errol Garner, singer and musician, was born in 1923.	<b>16</b> Denmark Vesey led slave rebellion in South Carolina in 1822.	<b>17</b> Thomas Ezekiel Miller, congressman, was born in 1849.	<b>18</b> Nannie Burroughs founded National Training School for Women, 1909.	<b>19</b> Tennessee University opens as Tennessee A&T State College in 1912.
<b>20</b> <b>Father's Day</b> Dr. Lloyd A. Hall, pioneer in food chemistry, was born in 1894.	<b>21</b> <b>First Day of Summer</b> Arthur Ashe, tennis champion, led UCLA to NCAA tennis championship, 1965.	<b>22</b> Joe Louis became youngest world heavyweight boxing champion in 1937.	<b>23</b> Track star Wilma Rudolph was born in 1909.	<b>24</b> John R. Lynch became first African American to preside over deliberations of a national political party in 1884.	<b>25</b> Joe Louis defeated Primo Carnera at Yankee Stadium in 1935.	<b>26</b> James Weldon Johnson died in 1938.
<b>27</b> Paul Laurence Dunbar, poet and novelist, was born in 1872.	<b>28</b> Organization for Afro-American Unity founded in 1964.	<b>29</b> James Van Der Zee, photographer, was born in Lenox, MA in 1886.	<b>30</b> Lena Horne, actress, vocalist and activist, was born in 1917.			

# Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston

Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston is a visionary, who by example, helps bring about change for the good of others. As Administrator of the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs, she has boldly used her position to improve the quality of life for the good people of South Carolina.

Distinguishing herself as a people's advocate, she successfully implemented innovative consumer programs and championed legislation that protects the interest of consumers, specifically on predatory and mortgage lending. She directed an expansion of the Department's outreach services by opening consumer locations across the state and advancing ongoing dialogue with businesses. Pinkston also led the Department in establishing the Mortgage Fraud Task Force and partnered with the state Attorney General to launch the Mortgage Fraud Hotline. Her influence extends beyond the state as a featured speaker on consumer issues across the United States, in Mexico and Canada.

Pinkston has been honored by the Direct Selling Education Foundation with the prestigious 'Circle of Honor Award' for leadership in the consumer movement; the 'Florence Kelly Leadership Award' from the National Consumers League; the SC NAACP 'Presidential Citation' for protecting consumer rights, and was inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame. Additionally, in 2005, the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators recognized the Department as the National Consumer Agency of the Year.

Her civic engagement includes serving as president, Columbia (SC) Chapter, The Links, Inc.; past board chair, National Consumers League (Washington); past board chair, Center for Cancer Treatment and Research, Palmetto Richland Hospital; and past member, National Executive Board of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. A Hartsville native, she is the daughter of Theodore and Lovis Thomas. She and her husband Jerome L. Pinkston, Jr. have two daughters, Joya and Paula Payton (Tony).



*A visionary, who by example, helps bring about change for the good of others.*



# July

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



*South Carolina*  
**African  
 American**  
*History Calendar*

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 <b>Independence Day</b> 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 Holiday, singer, died in 1959.
18 Lemuel Hayes, first Black Congregation- alist 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.	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.

# Eugene Robinson

Eugene Robinson is a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and associate editor of *The Washington Post* and a commentator for MSNBC. His twice-weekly column on *The Post's* Op-Ed page was launched in February 2005, and within a year it was being syndicated to more than 130 newspapers – making it, by far, the fastest-growing column in the history of the Washington Post Writers Group.

Robinson has been an MSNBC commentator since January 2008, appearing several times a week on shows including “Hardball,” “Countdown with Keith Olbermann” and “The Race for the White House,” as a contributor to the network’s coverage of the presidential campaign and President Barack Obama’s first term. He won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for columns he wrote about the presidential campaign and the election of President Obama.

A 29-year veteran of *The Post*, Robinson began his distinguished journalism career at the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and after joining *The Washington Post* in 1980 as city hall reporter, he served as an assistant city editor, South America correspondent based in Argentina, London bureau chief, and as foreign editor. He is a frequent guest on NBC’s “Meet the Press,” CNN and other media outlets. His essays on politics, culture and events have helped shape the debate on issues such as the war in Iraq, the limits of presidential power and the rebuilding of the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast. Robinson was also a Neiman Fellow in Journalism at Harvard University.

Robinson was born and raised in Orangeburg, S.C, graduated from Orangeburg High School, as one of a handful of black students on the previously all-white campus; and the University of Michigan, where he was the first black student to be named co-editor-in-chief of the award-winning student newspaper, *The Michigan Daily*.

Robinson is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists and has received numerous journalism awards. He is the author of two books: *Coal to Cream: A Black Man’s Journey Beyond Color to an Affirmation of Race* (Free Press, 1999); and *Last Dance in Havana* (Free Press, 2004). Robinson is married, has two sons, and lives in Arlington, Virginia.



*His essays have helped shape debate on issues in politics, culture, presidential power and the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast.*



# August

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



## South Carolina African American History Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>  Whitney Young named executive director of the National Urban League in 1961. Benjamin E. Mays was born in 1895.	<b>2</b>  James Baldwin, writer, was born in 1924.	<b>3</b>  The Congress of African Peoples convention was held in Atlanta in 1970.	<b>4</b>  "Long" John Woodruff won an Olympic gold medal in the 800-meter run in 1936.	<b>5</b>  Edwin Moses and Evelyn Ashford won gold medals in Olympic track & field in 1984.	<b>6</b>  Voting Rights Act signed by President Johnson in 1965.	<b>7</b>  Ralph J. Bunche, diplomat and first African American winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, was born in 1904.
<b>8</b>  Matthew A. Henson, explorer and first to reach the North Pole, was born in 1865.	<b>9</b>  Jesse Owens won four Olympic gold medals in 1936.	<b>10</b>  Clarence C. White, composer and violinist, died in 1880.	<b>11</b>  Thaddeus Stevens, abolitionist, died in 1868.	<b>12</b>  Frederick Douglass' home in Washington D.C. was declared a national shrine in 1922.	<b>13</b>  Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper was founded in 1892.	<b>14</b>  Ernest Everett Just, scientist, was born in 1883.
<b>15</b> <b>Assumption Day</b>  Liberia established by freed American slaves in 1824.	<b>16</b>  Louis Lomax, author, was born in 1922.	<b>17</b>  Marcus Garvey was born in 1887.	<b>18</b>  The first African American admitted to the University of Mississippi, James Meredith, graduated in 1963.	<b>19</b>  Benjamin Banneker published his first Almanac in 1791.	<b>20</b>  Richard Allen chaired the first National Negro Convention in Philadelphia in 1830.	<b>21</b>  William "Count" Basie, jazz pianist and musician, was born in 1904.
<b>22</b>  John Lee Hooker, blues singer and guitarist, was born in 1917.	<b>23</b>  National Negro Business League founded in 1900.	<b>24</b>  Edith Sampson was appointed first African American delegate to the United Nations by Harry S Truman, in 1950.	<b>25</b>  Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters organized in 1925.	<b>26</b>  William Dawson elected Black Democratic Party vice-presidential candidate in 1943.	<b>27</b>  W.E.B. DuBois died in 1963.	<b>28</b>  March on Washington in 1963.
<b>29</b>  Charlie "Bird" Parker, jazz musician, was born in Kansas City in 1920.	<b>30</b>  Lt. Col. Guion S. Bluford Jr. became the first African American astronaut in space in 1983.	<b>31</b>  Eldridge Cleaver was born in 1935.				

# Darius Rucker

With one of the most identifiable voices of the last two decades, Darius Rucker's soulful baritone can be heard across multiple genres of modern music. From his world-wide success as the lead singer of Hootie & the Blowfish to his solo delve into R&B, to crooning along side a big band orchestra, to his current meteoric rise to the top of the Country Music scene, Darius Rucker has sustained a successful music career spanning a quarter of a century.

Born & raised in Charleston, SC, Darius was exposed to a myriad of musical styles that formed the basis of his love for all music. After enrolling at the University of South Carolina in 1984 as a part of the school's song and dance group, Carolina Alive, Darius soon met up with a few fellow classmates who would band together to become a household name in popular music.

Dean Felber, Mark Bryan & Jim Sonefeld joined with Rucker as Hootie & The Blowfish to carve their own notch in rock music. After catching the attention of Atlantic Records by independently selling thousands of copies of their demo cd, *Kootchypop*, the band signed a major-label record deal and headed into the studio to record what would become the 12th best-selling album of all-time, *Cracked Rear View*.

Songs from their debut album earned the group two Grammy's along with a multitude of other awards, countless television appearances, and a fan base that crosses continents. Hootie & the Blowfish released 7 more albums that have collectively sold more than 25 million copies worldwide.

Through the Hootie & the Blowfish Foundation and their annual fundraiser, The Hootie & the Blowfish Monday After the Masters Celebrity Pro-Am Golf Tournament, Darius and his band mates have donated millions of dollars in funding to SC Jr Golf programs and multitudes of public education needs throughout the state.

Darius' success on the music scene changed gears when he followed his passion for country music and recorded his solo debut, *Learn To Live*, released by Capitol Nashville in 2008. Since its #1 debut on the country charts, *Learn To Live* has been RIAA certified platinum and has produced three No. 1 hits to date. Darius' rise to country super-stardom has landed him on the hallowed Grand Ole Opry stage, performances on television shows such as *The Late Show*, *The Tonight Show*, *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*, as well as a star-studded appearance on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. Tours with country heavy hitters, Brad Paisley & Rascal Flatts have since followed.

Darius' commitment to philanthropy, hard work, quality songwriting and energizing performances have afforded him a music career with a longevity that has yet to be determined.



*Rucker's commitment to philanthropy, hard work, quality songwriting and energizing performances have afforded him a music career with longevity yet to be determined.*



# September

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



*South Carolina*  
**African  
 American**  
*History Calendar*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 General Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. named Commander-in-Chief of North American Air Defense Command in 1975.	2 Frank Robinson, professional baseball player, named MVP of the American League, 1966.	3 Charles Houston, NAACP leader, was born in 1895.	4 Louis Latimer, inventor and engineer, was born in 1848.
5 George Washington Murray was elected to Congress from South Carolina in 1895.	6 <b>Labor Day</b> The National Black Convention met in Cleveland in 1848.	7 Integration in public schools began in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore in 1954.	8 Althea Gibson became the first African American athlete to win a U.S. national tennis championship in 1957.	9 Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915.	10 Mordecai Johnson, first Black president of Howard University, died in 1976.	11 "Duke" Ellington won Spingarn Medal for his musical achievements in 1959.
12 Jackie Robinson, first Black baseball player in the major leagues, was named National League Rookie of the Year in 1947.	13 Alain L. Locke, philosopher and first Black Rhodes Scholar, was born in 1886.	14 U.S. Cabinet member Constance Baker Motley was born in 1921.	15 Dr. Mae Jemison became first African American female astronaut in space in 1992.	16 Claude A. Barnett, founder of the Associated Negro Press, was born in 1889.	17 United States Constitution signed in 1787.	18 Booker T. Washington delivered "Atlanta Compromise" address in 1895.
19 Atlanta University was founded in 1865.	20 First episode of 'The Cosby Show' aired in 1984.	21 F.W. Leslie, inventor, patented the envelope seal in 1891.	22 Ralph Bunch awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.	23 <b>First Day of Autumn</b> John Coltrane, innovative and famed jazz musician, was born in 1926.	24 Nine African American students integrated Little Rock High School in 1957.	25 Barbara W. Hancock became the first African American woman named a White House fellow, 1974.
26 Bessie Smith, blues singer, died in 1937.	27 'Memphis Blues' published in 1912.	28 'Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World' published in 1929.	29 Hugh Mulzac, first African American captain of a U.S. merchant ship, launched with the 'Booker T. Washington' in 1942.	30 Johnny Mathis, singer, was born in 1935.		

# O'Neal Smalls

O'Neal Smalls credits his career success to the lessons he learned in culture and character on the farm where his parents raised him in the Freewoods section of Horry County, South Carolina. Smalls attended St. James Rosenwald School, built by black farmers with assistance from the Julian Rosenwald Fund, and later graduated from Whittemore High School in Conway.

Smalls earned his bachelor's degree at Tuskegee University, studying under Dr. Charles G. Gomillion, a fellow South Carolina native and Civil Rights pioneer who inspired Smalls' participation in voter registration drives and sit-ins in the fight against discrimination. Smalls also served as student body president at Tuskegee. He received his Juris Doctorate from Harvard University School of Law and the Master of Laws from the Georgetown University School of Law.

Smalls earned the Bronze Star for his distinguished service to his country during his career as an officer in the United States Army. His tour of duty included an assignment as Administrative Assistant to the Army Provost Marshall in Vietnam.

Smalls launched his academic career at the American University School of Law in Washington, D.C., earning the rank of full professor. He also taught law at George Washington University and the University of South Carolina. During his tenure at USC, Smalls chaired a committee that studied the status of desegregation at the university. He was also active in local bar associations, the National Bar Association, and other civic organizations and published the Manhood Training Manual for Boys 11-14 that is widely used in churches and other organizations in several states.

In his retirement, Smalls would return to his farming roots as founder of the Freewoods Farm, a living farm museum. Located in Myrtle Beach, its mission is to highlight and commemorate the role of farming in African American history, their contributions through farming and the influence of farming on their culture and character. This Freewoods Farms is now his classroom.



*Smalls credits his career success to the lessons he learned in culture and character on the farm.*



# October

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



*South Carolina*  
**African American**  
*History Calendar*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Colin Powell was appointed first African American chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1989.	2 Thurgood Marshall was sworn in, becoming the first African American Supreme Court Justice in 1967
3 Nat King Cole was the first Black performer to host his own television show in 1956.	4 National Black Convention met in Syracuse, N.Y. in 1864.	5 Congresswoman Yvonne Burke was born in 1932.	6 Fisk Jubilee Singers began national tour in 1871.	7 Toni Morrison became first African American to win Nobel Prize in literature.	8 Jesse Jackson was born in 1941.	9 O.B. Clare patented the rail trestle in 1888.
10 Singer Ben Vereen was born in 1946.	11 <b>Columbus Day</b> A. Miles patented the elevator in 1887.	12 Richard ("Dick") Gregory was born in 1932.	13 Arna W. Bontemps, noted poet, was born in 1902.	14 Martin Luther King, Jr. awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.	15 Clarence Thomas confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1992.	16 John Brown led attack on Harper's Ferry in 1859.
17 Capital Savings Bank opened in Washington, D.C. in 1888.	18 Novelist Terry McMillan was born in 1951.	19 The U.S. Navy was opened to African American women in 1944.	20 John Merrick organized North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1898.	21 "Dizzy" Gillespie was born in Cheraw, S.C. in 1917.	22 Clarence S. Green became the first African American certified in neurological surgery.	23 The NAACP petitioned the United Nations about racial injustice in 1947.
24 Jackie Robinson died in 1972.	25 Benjamin O. Davis became the first African American general in the U.S. Army in 1940.	26 Inventor T. Marshall patented the fire extinguisher in 1872.	27 D. B. Downing, inventor, patented his street letter box in 1891.	28 Founder of The Underground Railroad, Levi Coffin, was born in 1798.	29 The Supreme Court ordered end to segregation in schools "at once" in 1969.	30 Richard Arrington was elected the first Black mayor of Birmingham, Ala., in 1979.
31 <b>Halloween</b> Ethel Waters, actress and singer, was born in 1900.						

# James Solomon, Jr.

James Lewis Solomon Jr. blazed the trail for future generations when he enrolled in graduate school at the University of South Carolina in 1963, the first African American to do so since Reconstruction. And for Solomon, that was just the beginning.

He became the first African American to serve in several key state government positions under three governors, as a state agency director under Governor John West, Division Director at the Commission on Higher Education under Governor Richard Riley, and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services under Riley and Governor Carroll Campbell. Solomon drafted the South Carolina Desegregation Plan for Public Colleges and Universities during his service in the Riley administration that has contributed to the successful recruitment of underrepresented students to the University of South Carolina and other state colleges and universities.

His significant public service earned him the Order of the Palmetto, awarded by both Governors Riley and Campbell. Solomon also received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Morris College and Doctor of Laws from Columbia College. He was elected to Sumter District 17 and Richland One School Boards, and to Richland County Council.

Solomon has served as president of the American Public Welfare Association and as Chairman of the Columbia Urban League Board. He also serves as Chairman of the Board of the South Carolina Institute on Poverty and Deprivation and the Palmetto Development Group. Solomon is member of the St. John Baptist Church in Columbia, and he and his wife Helen have four children, eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

A Georgia native, Solomon received his undergraduate degree from Morris College, and a Master of Science degree from Atlanta University. He taught and served as an administrator at Morris College for three years before pursuing further study at USC.



*His significant public service earned him the Order of the Palmetto, awarded by both Governors Riley and Campbell.*



# November

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



*South Carolina*  
**African  
 American**  
*History Calendar*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> First issue of Ebony published in 1945. First issue of Crisis published in 1910.	<b>2</b> <b>Election Day</b> President Ronald Reagan signed law designating the third Monday in January Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1983.	<b>3</b> South Carolina State College was established in 1896.	<b>4</b> T. Elkins patented the refrigerating apparatus in 1879.	<b>5</b> Walter E. Washington elected Mayor of Washington, D.C. in 1974.	<b>6</b> Absalom Jones, minister, was born in 1746.
<b>7</b> <b>Daylight Savings Time Ends</b> David Dinkins elected first Black Mayor of New York City in 1989.	<b>8</b> Edward W. Brooke was elected first Black U.S. Senator (R- Mass.) in 85 years in 1966.	<b>9</b> Benjamin Banneker, surveyor, was born in 1731.	<b>10</b> Andrew Hatcher was named associate press secretary to President John F. Kennedy, becoming the first Black press secretary in 1960.	<b>11</b> <b>Veteran's Day</b> Nat Turner, leader of a Virginia slave revolt, was hanged in 1831.	<b>12</b> In 1775, General George Washington issued an order, later rescinded, which forbade recruiting officers to enlist Blacks.	<b>13</b> Dwight Gooden won baseball's Cy Young Award in 1985.
<b>14</b> Booker T. Washington died in 1915.	<b>15</b> In 1979, the Nobel Prize in economics was awarded to Professor Arthur Lewis of Princeton.	<b>16</b> "Father of the Blues," W.C. Handy, was born in Florence, Ala. in 1873.	<b>17</b> Omega Psi Phi was founded on the campus of Howard University in 1911.	<b>18</b> Abolitionist and orator Sojourner Truth was born in 1787.	<b>19</b> Roy Campanella was named the National League MVP for the second time in 1953.	<b>20</b> Garrett T. Morgan patented the traffic signal in 1923.
<b>21</b> Shaw University was founded in 1865.	<b>22</b> Alruthus A. Taylor, teacher and historian, was born in 1893.	<b>23</b> J.L. Love put patents on the pencil sharpener in 1897.	<b>24</b> Scott Joplin, composer, born in 1868.	<b>25</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b> Luther "Bill" Robinson, dancer, died in 1949.	<b>26</b> Sojourner Truth, evangelist, died in 1883.	<b>27</b> Richard Wright, author, died in 1960.
<b>28</b> Ernie Davis became the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy in 1961.	<b>29</b> Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. was born in 1908.	<b>30</b> Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm was born in 1924.	<b>31</b>			

# Darrin Thomas

Darrin Todd Thomas and his former partner Gerry McCants founded Thomas-McCants Media, Inc., in 1991 to promote minority businesses through Black Pages USA, a print and Internet reference guide, and Black Expo, a series of forums and exhibits that build awareness of minority-owned business products and service among consumers in five southeastern markets.

As president of Thomas Media Group, LLC, Thomas oversees five offices in the Southeast and continues to focus on publishing Black Pages USA directories and hosting Black Expos in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. He received his undergraduate degree in Marketing and Management at the University of South Carolina, and is a former marketing representative for Xerox Corporation in Greenville, South Carolina.

Thomas has received numerous awards honoring his accomplishments as a communication and marketing entrepreneur, including the 1997 Minority Small Business Person of the Year, and 1997 South Carolina Business Person of the Year, the University of South Carolina-Darla Moore School of Business 1998 Distinguished Young Alumnus Award, the 2004 State Newspaper "Top Twenty Under Forty," 2008 Liberty Fellow, and 2008 Black Alumni of the Year Award, the University of South Carolina.

Thomas serves on the board of directors for the local Boy Scouts of America, Wachovia Bank-Midlands Advisory Board, YES Carolina, Coker College Board of Trustees, Palmetto Health Foundation Board, SCANA Corporation Advisory Board, and the USC School of Business Partnership Foundation Board of Advisors. He is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Savannah Chapter-National Association of Guardsmen, Alpha Iota Boule-Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, the Columbia Rotary Club, Vice President of the Indian Waters Council Boy Scouts of America, and a vigil honor member of Santee Lodge 116 – Order of the Arrow.

An active member of Francis Burns United Methodist Church, Thomas and his wife, Kela Evans Thomas are the parents of two sons, Todd Asher and Garrison Ervin. Thomas credits his success to his faith in God, the love of his family and the principle of relationship building.



*Thomas credits his success to his faith in God, the love of his family and the principle of relationship building.*



# December

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at [www.scafricanamerican.com](http://www.scafricanamerican.com)



## South Carolina African American History Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>  Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus in 1955.	<b>2</b> <b>Hanukkah Begins</b>  Historian Charles Wesley was born in 1891.	<b>3</b>  First issue of North Star newspaper published in 1847.	<b>4</b>  American Anti-Slavery Society organized in 1833.
<b>5</b>  Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, founded National Council of Negro Women, 1935.	<b>6</b>  In 1971 Lewis Franklin Powell was confirmed as U.S. Supreme Court justice.	<b>7</b>  Lester Granger was named executive director of the National Urban League in 1941.	<b>8</b>  Entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. was born in 1925.	<b>9</b>  Entertainer Redd Foxx was born in 1925.	<b>10</b>  Ralph J. Bunche becomes the first Black person awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.	<b>11</b>  P.B.S. Pinchback became the first African American governor of an American state, Louisiana, in 1872.
<b>12</b>  Joseph H. Rainey (S.C.) first African American elected to Congress in 1870.	<b>13</b>  First Black women complete officer training for the WAVES, 1944.	<b>14</b>  Congressman John Langston was born in 1829.	<b>15</b>  Maggie Lena Walker, banker, died in 1934.	<b>16</b>  Andrew Young of Georgia named ambassador and chief delegate to the United Nations in 1976.	<b>17</b>  Noble Sissle, lyricist and bandleader, died in 1975.	<b>18</b>  The 13th Amendment was ratified in 1865.
<b>19</b>  Carter G. Woodson, historian, was born in 1875.	<b>20</b>  South Carolina seceded from the Union in 1860.	<b>21</b>  Motown Records established in 1959 by Berry Gordy Jr.	<b>22</b>  Historian, and author of Destruction of Black Civilization, Dr. Chancellor Williams was born in 1898.	<b>23</b>  Alice H. Parker patented the gas heating furnace in 1919.	<b>24</b>  Irwin C. Mollison first African American judge of the Customs Court was born in 1898.	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas</b>  In 1971 Rev. Jesse Jackson organized Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity).
<b>26</b> <b>Kwanzaa Begins</b>  In 1924, DeFord Bailey, Sr. became the first African American to perform on the Grand Ole Opry.	<b>27</b>  Pioneer of blood plasma research, Dr. Charles Richard Drew, established a blood bank in New York City in 1941.	<b>28</b>  Earl "Fatha" Hines, famed jazz musician and father of modern jazz piano, was born in 1905.	<b>29</b>  Thomas Bradley was born in 1917.	<b>30</b>  Blues composer and singer Bo Diddas born in 1928.	<b>31</b> <b>New Year's Eve</b>  Odetta Felious Gordon, folk singer and activist, was born in 1930.	



## connected from ABC to Z.

Success in education today will bring a better, shared future for all of us. Under the guidance of passionate & committed educators, today's successful students will strengthen the economies and communities of tomorrow.

AT&T congratulates all the honorees of the 2010 South Carolina African American History Calendar.

