1996 South Carolina African-American History Calendar
Dear Students and Friends:

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

Seven years ago, we began producing these special calendars to feature one of the many different cultures which have 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.

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 medicine, community service, athletics, art, politics, civil rights, education, photography, journalism, law enforcement, farming, and business.

This year WIS Television has produced an exciting video which highlights the lives of the 12 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 1995 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 WIS Television, the South Carolina Department of Education, and BellSouth. If you have any comments or questions about the calendar, please send them to Calendar, P.O. Box 752, Columbia, S.C. 29202.

The 1996 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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Greenville, South Carolina

Curtis Franks
Avery Research Center
Charleston, South Carolina

Thomas N. McLean
The State Newspaper

Dr. Matthew Bruccoli
Bruccoli Clark Layman, Inc.
Publisher of A True Likeness

Joy Barnes
The Middleton Agency
Orangeburg, South Carolina

Jessie T. Hill
Etta Trottie
Columbia, South Carolina

Dr. Thomas Johnson
Caroliniana Library
Columbia, South Carolina

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Take Ten Productions
WIS Television

Willie Harriford
South Carolina Department of Education
Columbia, South Carolina
Richard Samuel Roberts was one of South Carolina's most famous photographers in the 1920's and 1930's. However, for more than 40 years after his death in 1936, this most accomplished of photographers remained virtually unknown to all but his family and those who had been his closest friends.

A self-taught photographer, Roberts operated his own studio in Fernandina, Florida, where he gained a reputation as a portrait maker. Success was achieved as a result of long hours of study which could only be done after he had finished his day's work as a stevedore and later as a fireman-laborer. He read books and magazines on photography, becoming familiar with the nuances of lighting, angles, shadows and backgrounds. His dream was to become a master portrait-maker, with every image a true likeness of the subject.

Roberts and his wife moved to Columbia, South Carolina in 1920. Employed as a post office custodian, he rented a studio on Washington Street in 1922. For the next 14 years, the thousands of pictures that Roberts took comprise a stunning visual history of every aspect of the African-American community in South Carolina's capital city. He frequently took his camera into the heart of the segregated black district of Columbia and also to other towns and cities in the state. He did not, however, restrict his photographs to African-Americans. He made portraits of all people, regardless of race or economic conditions.

Roberts was an innovator and a perfectionist. Because his small studio had only limited floor space and poor natural light, he was forced to improvise in his use of equipment and background. He prided himself on the quality of his work. "No other gift causes so much real and lasting joy as the gift of your photograph," he wrote in a leaflet publicizing his activities in the 1920's. To have "a true likeness" of oneself was just as necessary as every other necessity in life. After his death in 1936, his children stored these negatives in a cool, dry space beneath the family home in the Arsenal Hill section of Columbia.

The quality and scope of Roberts' work came to light in 1977 when researchers at the University of South Carolina's South Caroliniana Library contacted his children who were able to retrieve more than 3,000 negatives. All of the pictures were more than 40 years old. According to Caroliniana's Dr. Thomas Johnson, "their clarity, their meticulous but natural composition, and the dignity of the subjects were readily apparent." The discovery of the glass negatives initiated a major research and preservation project.

Johnson, with the invaluable cooperation of the Roberts family and a field archival team at Caroliniana, interviewed numerous people throughout the Columbia area to identify the people on the portraits. Dr. Phillip Dunn, a University of South Carolina art professor with a specialty in photography, began an arduous two and a half year task of cleaning and restoring the plates. The culmination of their work was a display of Roberts' photographs at the Columbia Museum in 1986 as part of the city's bicentennial celebrations.

Many of Roberts' portraits have been collected and published in a book, A True Likeness—The Black South of Richard Samuel Roberts: 1920-1936. The pictures are the most realistic collective images of South Carolina's African-American life in the 1920's and 1930's, especially the rise of the economically secure middle class.

An outstanding photographer, Roberts showed that self-determination is often the key to success. He shares his time in history with those whose lives he documented through photography.
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<tr>
<td>Emancipation Proclamation issued in 1863</td>
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<td>Marian Anderson's debut at the Metropolitan Opera House in 1955</td>
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<td>Butterfly McQueen, actress, born in 1911</td>
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<td>Fisk University established in 1866</td>
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<td>Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957</td>
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Ronald McNair, astronaut, died in Challenger explosion, 1986
Oppon Winfrey, entertainer, born in 1954
Some people wait for things to happen while others are determined to make them happen. Walker Emanuel Solomon, Sr. makes things happen! He is a born leader possessing extraordinary skills which he has used to influence social, economic, political, educational and religious developments in South Carolina.

After working as a teacher in Georgia and serving in the United States Army, Solomon arrived in South Carolina in 1946. Selected as Field Executive for the Boy Scouts of America in Columbia, Solomon was responsible for finding sponsors for black scout troops. The Boy Scouts adhered to the policy of de jure segregation which was prevalent throughout the South at that time. Working principally with African-American rural churches, Solomon trained men to become scout leaders. The children who became Boy Scouts were taught morals and civic responsibility. "They developed a sense of purpose," Solomon said. "Many of them later went into the military and the discipline that they learned as Boy Scouts had a very positive effect on them."

Recognizing the need for a camp for young African-American men, he raised money to purchase, develop and equip a 188-acre site which became known as Camp Brownlee in Lexington County. In 1949, he was the recipient of the Boy Scout Statuette for distinguished professional service to the movement.

An educator by training, with degrees from Morris Brown College in Atlanta and Atlanta University, Solomon in the 1950's turned his efforts to securing equality for South Carolina's African-American teachers. In 1950, he was chosen Executive Secretary of the Palmetto Education Association (PEA), a parallel organization to the South Carolina Education Association (SCEA), which barred black teachers from membership. Under his leadership, the PEA represented teachers at school board hearings and in the courts. Solomon worked with NAACP Legal Defense Attorney Thurgood Marshall, who became an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court to get the NAACP to represent the state's black teachers. The PEA linked with other African-American teachers' associations to contribute funds to the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. This entity supported local groups against unfair practices, such as disparities that existed between black and white teachers' salaries.

When integration occurred in 1968, the PEA and the SCEA merged. For the next 12 years, Solomon served as the SCEA's Associate Executive Director responsible for membership, teacher rights, political action, economic benefits, higher education and human relations. Appropriately, on his retirement, the SCEA established the Walker E. Solomon Human Relations Award and the Walker E. Solomon Scholarship.

The 1980's brought on fresh challenges, this time in the political arena. In 1984 and 1988, Solomon was the South Carolina chairperson of the Jesse Jackson for President Committee. His energetic leadership helped Jackson to carry the state in 1984 and 1988. Solomon became the first African-American to chair a delegation to a national political convention when he led the South Carolina delegation to the Democratic National Convention in 1988.

Solomon has been a prominent lay leader of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and has helped to make the church more responsive to the social and economic needs of the community it serves. He is an active member of the National Council of Churches. From 1962-1974 he served as General Secretary of the Board of Lay Activities of the CME Church.

Solomon has received numerous awards for his work, including selection as one of Ebony magazine's Most Influential Black Leaders in 1968, the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest award in 1980, and the Whitney Young Award for Service to Youth in 1978. In 1995, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity established the Walker E. Solomon Lifetime Achievement Award.

This great educator and public servant advises young people, "You must strive to be better than anyone else in order to succeed in this world."
February 1996

SUNDAY  MONDAY  TUESDAY  WEDNESDAY  THURSDAY  FRIDAY  SATURDAY

4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870
Ernest Finney appointed Chief Justice of South Carolina Supreme Court

11  12  13  14  15  16  17

Abraham Lincoln born in 1809
Congress enacted first fugitive slave law in 1793
NAACP founded in 1909
Valentine's Day
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
Michael Jordan, basketball player, born in 1963

18  19  20  21  22  23  24

President's Day
Ash Wednesday
Frederick Douglass died in 1895
George Washington born in 1732
W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868

25  26  27  28  29

Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won World Heavyweight crown in 1964
Leaving Orangeburg, South Carolina with her parents in 1955, at the age of eight, Vivian Glover and her family removed themselves from the threats made against them because of her father's involvement in the civil rights movement. Thirty-five years later, she returned, a successful television producer and an internationally acclaimed author.

After relocating in the North, the Glover family lived in Philadelphia and later Camden, New Jersey. Glover's parents encouraged their children to get a good education which led to Vivian Glover's love of reading and her early determination to become a writer. Subsequently, Glover earned a degree in mass communications from Temple University in Philadelphia. As a student, Glover worked part-time with young people in a high crime area of Philadelphia. She directed recreational, cultural, and educational activities as alternatives to delinquency and involvement in street gangs. After graduating from college in 1970, she began work with the NBC television network in Washington, D.C. Two years later, she was producer of the 7:00 evening news.

Glover's career choice has given her the opportunity to indulge in her aspiration to travel, first realized in 1970 when, as a graduate student, she studied international communications at Universidad de Las Americas in Pueblo, Mexico. In 1973, with her future husband, Glover traveled to the newly independent nation of Botswana. At the request of the Botswana government, she organized and managed the country's first radio news department broadcasting daily news reports in both the English and Setswana languages. During her four years in Botswana, Glover traveled extensively in Europe and Africa, where, in South Africa, she witnessed first hand the injustices and social restrictions of the apartheid regime and the inhumane nature of the system.

In 1977, Glover moved to England where she lived for the next 15 years. While in England, she honed her literary skills. In 1986, her first manuscript was accepted for publication by Methuen Press. The book, *The First Fig Tree*, received favorable reviews and was nominated by the publishers for the prestigious Booker Prize in the first novel category. In the United States, the novel was a Book-of-the-Month Club alternate selection.

*The First Fig Tree* reveals that Glover had not forgotten her origins. Set in Orangeburg during the Second World War, the book is an account of the relationship between an old woman born into slavery and her great-granddaughter. "While the prose incorporates my observations as a writer, I used scenery and settings from memories of my childhood in Orangeburg," explained Glover.

Perhaps it was no surprise that Glover should eventually come back to her childhood home. In 1992, she returned to Orangeburg, where she has taught at both South Carolina State University and Claflin College, thus continuing her involvement with young people. At Claflin, she was responsible for researching and writing a pictorial history to commemorate the college's 125th anniversary.

Glover's return to South Carolina also rekindled her work with NBC. She has produced stories on Shannon Faulkner and the Citadel, the closing of the Charleston Naval Base, and the U.S. Troops in Somalia. She views the Susan Smith trial as her most challenging story.

She plans to continue to use her skills as a producer, author, journalist and teacher at home. "I feel rooted here," she says of Orangeburg. "My parents and other family members are here. There is something in the air that makes me feel content—at home."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Carole Gish crowned first black Miss USA in 1990</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1875</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Harriet Tubman died 1913</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Lorraine Hansberry play, <em>Raisin in the Sun</em>, opened on Broadway in 1959</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>St. Patrick's Day</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Freedom's Journal, first black newspaper, published in 1827</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>AME Zion Church organized in S.C. in 1867</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972</td>
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When he was still just a baby, Willie Randolph moved from Holly Hill, South Carolina, with his family to Brooklyn, New York, an area steeped in the history and traditions of baseball. More than 30 years later, Randolph was one of the best second basemen in the game.

Willie Larry Randolph, Jr. comes from a sporting family. His brother, Terry Randolph, played professional football for the Green Bay Packers and the New York Jets. Willie's choice of sports was baseball, in which he had an outstanding career at Samuel Tilden High School in New Jersey. Selected by Pittsburgh in the 1972 draft, he spent four years in the minor leagues and was called up to the majors after hitting .339 for Charleston in the 1975 season. Later that year, he was traded to the New York Yankees for whom he made his debut in 1976.

To play in Yankee Stadium before fans who expected their team to win the World Series every year could have been extremely daunting for a 21-year-old. Randolph responded to the challenge and became the first rookie to be placed on the All-Star ballot, the first of six occasions on which he was selected to the All-Star game. For the next 16 seasons, Randolph's average dipped below .250 only twice.

It was as a defensive second baseman that Randolph endeared himself to the Yankee faithful. In his first season with the team, he tied a major league record for most assists by a second baseman in an extra-inning game. The following year, he set an All-Star game record for most assists by a second baseman. By 1979, Randolph had mastered his craft to such a degree that he led American League second basemen in put outs, assists and double plays.

Randolph's greatest assets were his tremendous speed and his sound judgement. At the always hazardous tactic of stealing bases, he ranked second in Yankee history. In games played, at-bats, runs and hits, Randolph ranks very high on a Yankee list which includes some of the greatest players in baseball. The greatest honor a Yankee player can receive is to be appointed team captain, a status which Randolph achieved at the start of the 1986 season. When he left the club after the 1988 season, Randolph had played more games, 1,688, at second base than any previous Yankee.

Free agency and trades kept Randolph on the move for the last four years of his playing career. In 1989, with the Los Angeles Dodgers, he enjoyed one of his most productive batting seasons. After a short spell at Oakland, he transferred to Milwaukee where, in 1991, he hit a career high .327, third best in the American League. In 1992, his final season, Randolph played for the New York Mets. In his major league career, he played in five World Series, accumulated more than 2,200 hits and established a .276 batting average.

Randolph's career in baseball was far from over. In 1993, he became assistant general manager for the Yankees and the following year was appointed their third base coach. Always appreciative of the advice and support he had received from more experienced players like Reggie Jackson, Randolph saw the appointment as "the chance to reach and give something back to the younger kids growing up."

His major goal, however, is to return to the front office as a general manager for a baseball organization. "There are not many blacks in top administrative positions in baseball," he says. "Everything I am doing now is preparing me for the time when I have to decide which players to hire and keep and to make good business decisions." With his experience and knowledge of every phase of baseball, Willie Randolph is ready to contribute even more to the game he has graced.
It was risky business to say the least. How could a black barber hope to succeed in selling insurance and real estate in Orangeburg, South Carolina, in the 1950's and 1960's? Through a combination of determination, hard work and positive attitude, Earl Matthew Middleton persevered with his dream of economic progress to become the head of the largest real estate agency in Orangeburg.

One of the reasons for Middleton's success is his willingness to look beyond racial boundaries. Half of the customers of Middleton and Associates Realtors are white and so too are half of his employees. Middleton hired his first white real-estate agent in 1972. Ten years ago, the company became the first black-owned affiliate of Sears Roebuck and Company's Coldwell Banker, this country's biggest real estate brokerage. "I just like people," Middleton explains. "Black or white, it doesn't matter to me. It never did."

Born in Orangeburg, South Carolina in 1919, Middleton was the youngest of six children. His father was a carpenter, and his mother, an educator, was a member of South Carolina State College's first graduating class in 1903. Middleton himself graduated from Claflin College with a degree in sociology and was class president for each of the four years he spent there.

After graduation, Middleton went to Tuskegee Institute in Alabama in 1942 to embark on a career as a pilot. Tuskegee offered the only facility in the United States where African-Americans could train as pilots for military service. Middleton joined the 99th Pursuit Squadron, becoming the first South Carolinian to train with this all-black unit. He completed 65 hours of pilot training but was not selected for the final group of "Tuskegee Airmen," scheduled to be the first group of black pilots in the nation's armed forces. Undeterred, he joined the U.S. Army's ground forces and served in the Pacific Theatre during the Second World War.

Returning to Orangeburg, he was determined to control his own destiny. He opened a barber's shop and began selling real estate and insurance.

An active civic and political leader, Middleton was a member of the Republican Party, traveling to San Francisco in 1952 for the party's nominating convention as a member of an all-black delegation from South Carolina. After the state's Democratic Party dropped its racial barriers and Democratic administrations of the 1960's passed important civil rights legislation, he changed his affiliation. He was elected to the South Carolina General Assembly in 1974, as a Democrat, and served until 1984.

As a member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, he was closely involved with events in the aftermath of the infamous 1968 "Orangeburg Massacre," in which three students were killed and 27 more were wounded by state patrolmen as they protested against the segregation policy of a local bowling alley. The tragedy strengthened his resolve to work to bridge the gap that existed between the races and to show that people of all races can live harmoniously together.

Today, Middleton, a lifelong Methodist, is still an active member of his community. He is involved in the daily affairs of his business, and with the help of his son and partner, Kenneth, the company continues to expand.
From an early age, Hattie Logan Duckett felt that her mission in life was to help uplift those people who were less fortunate. The fruits of her remarkable efforts can be seen today in the activities of the Phillis Wheatley Association, which has played a vital role in providing welfare services to the people of Greenville, South Carolina, for more than 75 years.

Duckett was only 23 when she founded the Phillis Wheatley Center in 1919. Born in 1896, she attended school in Greenville before beginning her higher education at Claflin College, South Carolina, and Hampton Institute, Virginia. She also attended Chicago Recreational School, New York School of Social Work, Northwestern University and Columbia University. Upon completing her studies she moved to Florida with her husband and, after his death, she returned to Greenville to teach.

Duckett’s initial concern was to find a way to offer African-American girls in Greenville the opportunity to develop and grow into good citizens. She began by offering classes on self improvement, on Bible studies and on sewing from a small six-room house in Greenville. Her work began to attract attention and with the financial assistance of Thomas Parker, a prominent local mill executive, the Phillis Wheatley Center was created. Within a short time, Duckett had 30 young girls as students. The first venture of the center was a dinner which yielded a net profit of 35 cents.

A large building was erected in 1924 and Duckett was able to expand her horizons. This new facility, containing a library and a nursery, offered the African-American community of Greenville a wide range of activities, including sewing classes, scout troop meetings, choral groups and the YMCA and the YWCA.

The Phillis Wheatley Center has been indispensable to the city of Greenville during times of crisis and change. In the depression years of the 1930’s, it housed the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, which was established to distribute welfare relief to the poverty-stricken and needy. During the Second World War, it became a recreation center for servicemen stationed at the nearby Donaldson Air Force Base. The center changed its name to the Phillis Wheatley Association because of the broader outreach of the association.

Duckett died in 1956 but the movement that she created continued to diversify. As segregation’s barriers crumbled in the 1960’s, the association provided classes and seminars to help African-Americans to prepare to enter job markets that had previously been closed to them. When Greenville County’s schools were desegregated in 1970, the executive director of the association worked closely with school officials to make desegregation as smooth as possible. The center also offered the first Big Brothers/Big Sisters program in Greenville.

Having moved to a new building with more modern facilities in 1977, the Phillis Wheatley Association offers programs in senior citizen nutrition, general recreation, primary prevention of alcohol and drug abuse, leadership development, mental health, and job skills development and training.

It has become a multipurpose human service agency which has touched the lives of thousands thanks to the pioneering efforts of Hattie Logan Duckett.

Hattie Logan Duckett
Social Worker
June 1996

- 1: Sojourner Truth began anti-slavery activist career in 1843
- 2: T. Thomas Fortune, journalist, died in 1928
- 3: Congress of Racial Equality founded in 1942
- 4: Flag Day
- 5: Supreme Court banned segregation in Washington, D.C. restaurants in 1953
- 6: Thurgood Marshall appointed to U.S. Supreme Court in 1967
- 7: Father's Day
- 8: Joe Louis became youngest world heavyweight boxing champion in 1937
- 9: Black soldiers fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775
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- 11: Joe Louis became youngest world heavyweight boxing champion in 1937
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At a time when the actions and behavior of law officers in the United States are coming under increasing scrutiny from the media, Reuben M. Greenberg receives more publicity than most, and for all the right reasons. Chief of Police of the Charleston Police Department since 1982, Greenberg’s innovative methods of combating crime have been of enormous benefit not only to the historic port city of Charleston, South Carolina, but also to the nation as a whole.

Greenberg’s formula for success and his message is that “someone cares.” This is easier said than done but it works in Charleston, according to Greenberg, because the city council has given a high priority to public safety and because the police force itself is a highly visible unit.

Constant police surveillance of businesses reassures people that their buildings are secure after hours. Graffiti is removed from walls and pathways as soon as it is detected and domestic disputes are routinely recorded. Recognizing that most criminals are under the age of 35, Greenberg has created a young and energetic police force, equipping his officers with running shoes so that they have a better chance of apprehending suspects who are caught in criminal acts.

Greenberg has a powerful message for felons. “People who are most likely to commit violent acts are those who have done it before. This is our turf, not yours,” he warns criminals.

A firm believer in the formation of strategies for crime prevention, Greenberg’s philosophy on crime fighting has been expressed through his writings and his appearances on national television. His book, Let’s Take Back Our Streets, published in 1989, is a reference for police forces across the nation. He has explained his tactics and strategies on television programs like 60 Minutes, Larry King Live, The Phil Donahue Show, The Today Show and Both Sides with Jesse Jackson.

His credentials for the job of city police chief are impressive. In 1967, Greenberg received a B.A. degree from San Francisco State University and he has two masters degrees, one in public administration and the other in city planning, both from the University of California at Berkeley. He has taught sociology at California State University, political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and criminal justice at Florida International University.

His career in law enforcement spanned three states before he arrived in South Carolina in 1982. While in California, he served as the undersheriff of the San Francisco County Sheriff’s Department. At Savannah, Georgia, he was a major with the city’s police department. In Florida, he was chief of police at Opa-Locka and chief deputy sheriff of Orange County, rising to deputy director of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Greenberg holds memberships in many law enforcement organizations such as The National Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and an officer of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers’ Association. He has received numerous honors and awards, such as the 1989 Achievement Award from the Foundation for Improvement of Justice. Two years later, he was named Justice Professional of the Year by the Southern Criminal Justice Association. For distinguished success in fighting crime, the Freedom Forum presented him with its 1994 Free Spirit Award.

The city of Charleston’s decision to make Reuben Greenberg its top law enforcement officer has paid immense dividends. His strategies have made Charleston’s citizens safer in their homes and on their streets.

Reuben M. Greenberg
Police Chief
**JULY 1996**

- **Sunday, July 1**: Canada Day (Canada)
- **Monday, July 2**: Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed, Carl Lewis, athlete, born in 1961
- **Tuesday, July 3**: Independence Day, Thurgood Marshall born in 1908
- **Wednesday, July 4**: Tuskegee Institute established in 1881, Slavery abolished in New York in 1827
- **Thursday, July 5**: Ali Nece Gibson won Wimbledon in 1957
- **Friday, July 6**: Francis L. Candozzo installed as South Carolina's Secretary of State in 1868
- **Saturday, July 7**: 14th Amendment ratified in 1868, National Association for Colored Women founded in 1896
- **Sunday, July 8**: Billie Holiday, singer, died in 1959
- **Monday, July 9**: Lemuel Haynes, first black Congressional minister, born in 1753
- **Tuesday, July 10**: Patrick Francis Healy, first African-American awarded a Ph.D in 1865
- **Wednesday, July 11**: President Truman banned discrimination in the armed services in 1948
- **Thursday, July 12**: Mary Church Terrell, educator, died in 1954
- **Friday, July 13**: National Association for Colored Women founded in 1896
The rich harvests produced by Bennettsville farmer Jonas Thomas Kennedy have helped to enrich the field of education on two continents thousands of miles apart. One of South Carolina’s most successful farmers, Kennedy is also a generous philanthropist. Claflin College in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and Africa University in Zimbabwe have both named buildings after Kennedy and his wife, Odette, for their contributions to the development of those institutions.

Born in Bennettsville, South Carolina, Kennedy’s parents and his two sisters were all Claflin College graduates. Kennedy entered Claflin in the 1930s, but he transferred to South Carolina State College where he studied agriculture. After he graduated from college in 1938, Kennedy combined teaching and farming. While serving as a teaching principal in McBee, South Carolina, he also found the time to raise chickens and turkeys on the side. He later taught agriculture in Clio and Spartanburg and worked as a soil conservationist in Greenville.

In 1939, Kennedy began to manage the family farm on which he quickly mastered turkey farming. Recognized internationally as an expert in turkey production, Kennedy has served as a farming consultant to countries throughout Africa. He has traveled to every continent except Australia to observe farming techniques. In the 1960’s he was the only South Carolina farmer invited by President Lyndon Johnson to attend a national farm policy conference. He was voted Farmer of the Year in 1977 and has been featured in Ebony magazine, Turkey World and Progressive Farmer. In 1989, he received the Administrator’s Service Award for Service to the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. His 1,200 acre farm has also produced major crops such as corn, soybeans, wheat, barley and rye.

In addition to being a farmer, Kennedy is a generous philanthropist. His donations to Claflin College made possible the construction of the Jonas T. Kennedy Health and Physical Education Center. From 1969 to 1983, he was a trustee of the college. In 1975, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree, and he is a member of the college’s Hall of Fame.

“An education in an environment where moral values are nurtured along with intellectual growth is to be highly prized in today’s world,” says Kennedy. “Claflin’s church-related heritage has been an impetus for active service to a diverse constituency. Students leave the campus with their horizons brightened and a commitment to service.” He has sponsored the education of two African students at Claflin.

His commitment to the development of education in Africa has helped Zimbabwe to establish its ‘School of Dreams.’ Africa University has been the recipient of three major donations by Kennedy, including a $250,000 gift to build a dormitory, which is named in honor of Odette Kennedy. The Kennedys have traveled to Zimbabwe several times and were presented with the first flag to fly over the university.

The United Methodist Church has been a leading sponsor of Africa University and the church has always been very important to Kennedy. He is a member of Bennettsville’s Level Green United Methodist Church. Also, Kennedy has served the community in which he lives in several capacities. For 11 years he was president of the Marlboro County NAACP and he has also been a member of the county’s highway commission and general hospital board.

“I believe that there is an obligation to make the world a better place for all people to live in,” is his philosophy of life. “Each must find his or her way to meet this calling.” Through his contributions to progress, Jonas Kennedy has fully met that challenge.
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<td>Benjamin E. Mays born in 1895</td>
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<td>Voting Rights Act signed by President Johnson in 1965</td>
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<td>Jesse Owens won four Olympic gold medals in 1936</td>
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<td>Thaddeus Stevens, abolitionist, died in 1868</td>
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<td>Ernest Everett Just, scientist, born in 1883</td>
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<td>Marcus Garvey born in 1887</td>
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<td>Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters organized in 1925</td>
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<td>W.E.B. DuBois died in 1963</td>
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<td>March on Washington in 1963</td>
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Matilda Arabelle Evans was a pioneer in the true sense of the word. The first African-American woman to be licensed as a physician in South Carolina, Dr. Evans was ahead of her time in spreading the importance of good health and adequate sanitation in the state. She opened the first hospital for African-Americans in Columbia and introduced the idea of providing free medical examinations for children in the public schools of the city.

The oldest of three children born to Harriet and Andy Evans, Matilda was born in Aiken County, South Carolina, in 1870. As a student at the Schofield Normal and Industrial School, she became a protégé of the school’s founder, Martha Schofield, an outstanding educator about whom Evans later wrote a book. As a result of Schofield’s encouragement, Evans attended the prestigious Oberlin College in Ohio before enrolling at the Women’s Medical College of Pennsylvania to earn a medical degree. She then returned to South Carolina to practice medicine in the fields of surgery, gynecology, and obstetrics.

Dr. Evans opened her medical practice in Columbia, which, at that time, offered no hospital facilities for African-American people. With a generosity that was typical of her, Evans took patients into her own home until she could establish a hospital for them. In 1901, she established the Taylor Lane Hospital, which was both a hospital and a training school for nurses. The hospital building was later destroyed by fire.

Undaunted, she started another hospital before moving to a larger facility which was named the St. Luke’s Hospital and Training School for Nurses. In 1918, she became a registered volunteer in the Medical Service Corps of the United States Army. She also founded the Good Health Association of South Carolina to help convince people that they could improve their own health by following sound health practices and safe sanitary habits.

Charity, compassion and a love of children were the hallmarks of Dr. Evans’ career. Aware that many of her patients were extremely poor, she charged only nominal fees. She rode bicycles, horses and buggies to visit the sick who were unable to go to her surgery. Her efforts to provide for school physical examinations and immunizations saved the lives of countless young children. In 1930, she operated a clinic which was free for black children who needed medical treatment and vaccinations.

Incredibly, Dr. Evans found the time to raise 11 children who needed a home. In addition to becoming a “mother” to some of the children who were left at her practice, she brought up five children from relatives who had died. She taught the children respect, cleanliness and manners and provided them all with the opportunity for a college education. People, both young and old, enjoyed the facilities that she willingly shared at a recreational center which she developed on her twenty-acre farm.

Evans lived life to the fullest. She was an active member of St. Luke’s Episcopal Church and, in her spare time, she loved to swim, dance, knit and play the piano.

For Matilda Evans, a woman of remarkable dedication and integrity, her profession as a doctor was truly a labor of love. Appropriately, Richland Memorial Hospital in Columbia has named an award in her honor. She died in 1935.

Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown.


Yom Kippur begins at sundown.

Ralph Bunche awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.

United States Constitution signed in 1787.

Memphis Blues published in 1912.

Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World published in 1929.
In 1966, he was the second fastest man of all time and, in the three decades since, Richard Kerns has shown no sign of slowing down. That has to be good news for hundreds of young Greenville children who want to accomplish something in the world of sports. They receive excellent coaching but also much more when they come into contact with Kerns, whose philosophy is not simply to help young people develop their athletic skills but also to give them a sense of purpose and a new outlook.

Kerns is the founder of Greenville’s Quick Striders Track Club, a non-profit organization which trains children from the ages of 8 to 18. “If I look at a kid and I see that I might be able to help him, not just with track but with his studies or other problems he may be having, I’ll take him on,” says Kerns. With his group of volunteer assistants, Coach Kerns is emphatic that running should not be the principal goal for the young people who join the track club, but that they should see their involvement in training and track meets as an important stepping stone in their quest to become good, well educated citizens.

“We teach them about self-esteem and self-worth and that they are somebody and they can make a difference,” he says. Members of the club are required to maintain good grades in school, to show respect for other people, and to attend church, as well as participate regularly in the sporting activities of the Quick Striders.

For Kerns, the greatest reward of his work is to see young people overcome their disadvantages to acquire a college education. This program has helped many youths to obtain college scholarships. If sporting achievements are secondary to Kerns, they are nevertheless impressive, as one might expect from a first class coach.

Kerns himself was one of the greatest track athletes of his day. Born in Greenville, he ran track and played football for Sterling High School, earning a scholarship to Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina. He was a college track sensation, sweeping all before him until he came up against Bob Hayes, of Florida A and M University. “That Hayes was a miracle,” recalls Kerns, “only man I never did beat.”

Hayes later played professional football with the Dallas Cowboys, a team which had also offered Kerns a contract. Kerns though was drafted into the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. When the Army realized that it had a track star, Kerns became a member of the Special Service Track and Field Team. In 1966, he competed in Nuremberg, Germany. In this track event, he ran the 100-yard dash in 9.2 seconds, just one-tenth of a second slower than the world record held by none other than Bob Hayes.

Returning to Greenville after military service, Kerns became an investigator for Legal Services Agency of Western Carolina. Aware that his sporting prowess had provided him with the means to secure a college education and a good job, Kerns quickly decided that he could help others follow the same path. In the late 1970s, he started taking small groups of children to track meets at Furman University. Coached by Kerns, many of these young men and women went all the way to the nationals of the Junior Olympics. Shortly afterwards, he founded the Greenville Quick Striders Track Team.

Kerns has received numerous awards for his services to young people, including a citizenship award for commitment to the youth of Greenville in 1991 and the Black Heritage Award for Community Service a year later.
October 1996

SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY

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13 Columbus Day observed
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27 Daylight Saving Time ends
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31 Halloween

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
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
Capital Savings Bank opened in Washington, D.C. in 1888
United Nations Day

B. O. Davis, Jr. became first African-American general in the Air Force in 1954

Jackie Robinson died in 1972
Once described as “a one-person social service agency with a sweet demeanor and a will of steel,” Marjorie Amos-Frazier has spent her life breaking down barriers. The first woman to be elected to the Charleston County Council in 1974, she went on to even greater triumphs six years later when she was elected to the position of commissioner on the South Carolina Public Service Commission. Until that time, the commission had been a bastion of the state’s white male legislators. Amos-Frazier became the first woman, the first African-American and the first non-legislator to hold a position on that body.

Born in 1926 in Manning, South Carolina, Marjorie Amos relocated to Charleston where she married and had five children. She faced the burden of raising them alone when she and her husband divorced after 16 years of marriage. “Times were hard but I was determined to make it,” she admits. Working at the American Tobacco Company’s plant in Charleston gave Amos-Frazier the foundation for her later involvement in local and state politics. As a shop steward, she negotiated contracts and solicited memberships to the union.

A strong civil rights campaigner, Amos-Frazier encouraged Charleston’s African-Americans to register to vote during the 1940’s and 1950’s. As financial secretary of the NAACP, she worked to desegregate the restaurants, theaters and other public places of the city. As director of the Alliance of Concerned Citizens for Better Government between 1972 and 1976, she focused her attentions on providing better conditions for the poor.

Concern for the plight of poor Charlestonians motivated Amos-Frazier to run for public office. “You had to find a way to get on the inside,” she said, “to know what was available to help people.” She beat seven other candidates to win a seat on the Charleston County Council in 1974. “I had seen so much wrongdoings and I felt there needed to be a change.”

As a member of the council for six years, Amos-Frazier concentrated her efforts on securing better services for the poor and needy. As chairperson of the Human Services Committee, she spearheaded the negotiations between the county and the Medical University of South Carolina for indigent health care. She was instrumental in establishing a senior citizens’ center in Charleston County and in creating new facilities for substance abuse programs.

In 1980, Amos-Frazier was unanimously elected by the General Assembly to represent the First Congressional District on the South Carolina Public Service Commission, an institution which regulates utilities such as gas and electric companies, telephone utilities and water systems. In 1988, she became vice-chairperson of the Commission and two years later she became chairperson. Retiring from the Commission in 1993, Amos-Frazier expressed the hope “that I have been fair to all concerned and have made good utility service for the less fortunate.”

Amos-Frazier’s passion for politics and concern for the welfare of the underprivileged have always gone hand in hand. Between 1971 and 1975, she served as vice-chairperson of Charleston’s Democratic party. When Governor Richard Riley created a task force on critical human needs, she was an obvious choice as a member.

She has received countless awards, including an honorary doctorate degree from Allen University, the NAACP’s “Women of the Year” in 1973, and in 1993 a portion of I-26 was named in her honor. She is the only African-American to have been installed into the Charleston Federation of Women’s Club Hall of Fame—yet another first for a dedicated public servant.
NOVEMBER 1996

SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY

1. First issue of Ebony published in 1945
2. First issue of Crisis published in 1910

3. James Clyburn, first S.C. African-American elected to U.S. Congress after reconstruction
4. Election Day
5. Carol Moseley Braun first African-American woman elected to U.S. Senate in 1992
7. Absalom Jones, minister, born in 1746
8. David Dinkins elected first black mayor of New York City in 1989
9. Benjamin Banneker, surveyor, born in 1731

10. Veterans Day
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27. Thanksgiving Day
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Scott Joplin, composer, born in 1868
Luther "Bill" Robinson, dancer, died in 1949
Sojourner Truth, evangelist, died in 1883
Richard Wright, author, died in 1960
Nobody could accuse Larry Francis Lebby of being unoriginal. Using a ball-point pen which cost four cents, he crafted a finely detailed portrait of the former United States president Jimmy Carter which hung in the White House during the Carter administration. He has also worked in such unorthodox mediums as Worcestershire sauce, tea and berry juice. Lebby boils the berries of his choice, adds vinegar, then brushes on the hue as he would a water color. His use of the common ball-point pen in his artistic creations has helped to establish him as an internationally renowned artist.

Lebby, the third of five sons of Irene Barbara Johnson Lebby and Edward Emerson Lebby, Jr., was born in Dixiana, South Carolina in 1950. As a youth, he entertained himself by drawing in the sand while his two older brothers parted off to play. "I did not have a playmate, so I drew in the sand," said Lebby. "That was the beginning of my artistic interest. I cannot recall ever making a conscious decision to become an artist, as the choice always became obvious to me."

The segregated schools that he attended could not afford qualified art teachers and he did not receive formal training until he was able to move to an integrated school, Airport High. He developed and honed his artistic skills at Allen University in Columbia and the University of South Carolina, earning a B.A. in 1973 and a Master of Fine Arts degree in 1976.

Success in the field of art was not inevitable. Warned by one of his professors that "there's no way you can get any subtleties with a ball-point," Lebby persisted with his experiments until he perfected his unique style. He also works in more conventional media such as watercolors, oils, acrylics and lithographs.

Lebby's southern roots are evident in many of his works, especially his paintings of the people, the architecture and the landscape of his native South Carolina. "Art to me is a response to nature," says Lebby, "a personal statement about life. My statement is about people and places, time and nature."

In 1973, his first art show was sponsored by USC professors Drs. John and Grace Jordan McFadden, who were early collectors of his art. Since then his work has been displayed throughout the United States in places such as the White House, the Smithsonian Institute, the United Nations and the United States Senate. In 1989, his work was displayed at the Vatican in Rome. Politicians such as the South Carolina Senator Strom Thurmond and the former mayor of Atlanta Andrew Young have selected collections of Lebby's work as do people in the entertainment world like Eddie Murphy, Gregory Peck, James Earl Jones and Roberta Flack. His portraits of the noted South Carolina educator and theologian Dr. Benjamin Mays and the outstanding civil rights advocate Medgar Evers hang in the South Carolina State House.

Exposing young people to the cultural wealth and diversity of the United States is very important to Lebby. He believes that schools must provide the facilities, supplies and instructors to teach and motivate young minds. "I have taught, demonstrated, and encouraged our youth to the importance of developing his or her special talents or gifts, cultivating them and sharing them with others," he says.

Lebby is affiliated with the United Negro College Fund Action Committee. He has served on the board of the South Carolina National Diabetic Association, the South Carolina Arts Commission, and the Governor's Task Force for the Arts.
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<td>Hanukkah begins at sundown</td>
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<td>American Anti-Slavery Society organized in 1833</td>
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<td>Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus in 1955</td>
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<td>First issue of <em>North Star</em> newspaper published in 1847</td>
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<td>Joseph H. Rainey (S.C.) first African-American elected to Congress in 1870</td>
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<td>Maggie Lenu Walker, banker, died in 1934</td>
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<td>PUSH founded in 1971</td>
<td>Carter G. Woodson, historian, born in 1875</td>
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<td>13th Amendment ratified in 1865</td>
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