

ScoopUSA Black History Corner

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AQUARIUS - January 20 - February 18



Aquarius – The Sweetheart

Optimistic and honest. Sweet personality. Very independent. Inventive and intelligent. Friendly and loyal. Can seem unemotional. Can be a bit rebellious. Very stubborn, but original and unique. Attractive on the inside and out. Eccentric personality.

Amethyst is the stone for the month of February

In the Middle Ages Amethyst was thought to encourage celibacy, and as a result became important in the ornamentation of churches. Amethyst, according to Leonardo Da Vinci, is able to increase intelligence and dissolve evil thoughts. Catherine the great was very fond of amethysts. They adorn the British Crown Jewels and were coveted by Egyptian royalty. Rosaries in Tibet are often made from amethyst, a gemstone considered to be sacred to Buddha. Ancient Greeks believed amethyst would protect against drunkenness (“amethystas” is a Greek word meaning “not drunken”) and therefore carved wine goblets from it. Amethyst is believed to purify the mind, increase tranquility and alleviate anxiety.

February 7

Be self-confident and trusting; it will make you enjoy your home and friends more. You have a good judgment and a fine sense of character, but should not let it by predominate your friendships by constantly analyzing them..

1887 (James Hubert) Eubie Blake, pianist and composer (I'm Just Wild About Harry), is born in Baltimore, MD.

1893 P. W. Cornwell is awarded patent 491,082 for a draft regulator.

1903 Roy Hawkins, pianist and songwriter (Why Do Everything Happen to Me), is born in Jefferson, TX.

1906 ZerNona Steward Black, founder of senior citizen daycare centers, is born in Muskogee, OK.

1912 Edward Wilmot Blyden, educator and diplomat “father of pan-Africanism”, dies in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

1922 Leon Collins, tap dancer, is born in Chicago, IL.

1934 Franklin Clarke, National Football League player, is born in Beloit, WI.

1934 (Earl Silas Johnson, IV) Earl King, blues singer (Those Lonely, Lonely Nights), is born in New Orleans, LA.

1934 King Curtis (Ousley), saxophonist (solo in Yakety Yak), is born in Fort Worth, TX.

1939 (Rafael) Ray Taliaferro, radio host and political commentator is born.

1947 (Theodore Henry) Ted Ford, Major League Baseball player, is born in Vineland, NJ.

1953 Robert Lorenzo Brazille, Jr., National Football League player, is born in Mobile, AL.

1956 André Rosey Brown, actor (Space Jam), is born in Rockford, IL.

1957 Sonny Parker, singer, dancer and drummer, dies in Valenciennes, France.

1961 Allen Bernard West, US Representative from Florida, is born in Atlanta, GA.

1962 Marlon Chopper Young, actor (The Hard Times of RJ Berger), is born in Hampton, SC.

1965 (Christopher Julius) Chris Rock actor, comedian and producer (Everybody Hates Chris), is born in Andrews, SC.

1968 (Antoinette Marie Wright) Free, rap artist and first host at BET 106 & Park, is born in Dorchester, MA.

1972 Essence Uhura Atkins, actor (Half and Half), is born in New York, NY.

1974 (James Dewitt Yancey) J. Dilla, rap artist (Fuck the Police), is born in Detroit, MI.

1979 (Herbert Lee) Peanuts Holland jazz trumpeter, dies in Stockholm, Sweden.

1987 Cynthia Jane Barboza, volleyball player, is born in Long Beach, CA.

1987 Michael D. Johnson, National Football League player, is born in Selma, AL.

1990 Dalilah Muhammad, track and field athlete in the 400-meter hurdles, is born in Jamaica, Queens NY.

1990 Vincent Smith, National Football League player, is born in Pahokee, FL.

2000 (Christopher Lee Rios) Big Pun rap artist (Off The Books), dies in White Plains, NY.

2012 Danny Clyburn, Jr., Major League Baseball player, dies in Lancaster, SC.

2012 Patricia Stephens Due, civil rights activists and author (Freedom of the Family: a Mother-Daughter Memoir of the Fight for Civil Rights), dies in Florida.

February 8

It is easy for you to absorb a universal knowledge without much effort because of you keen memory. You are very practical and not inclined to take things for granted in you home, business or in love. You are capable of a deep and lasting love but hesitate to accept others at their apparent worth.

1831 Rebecca Davis Lee Crumpler, first African Amer-



James Anderson DePreist

ican woman to become a physician in the US, is born.

1887 Elijah McCoy is awarded patent 357,491 for a lubricator.

1898 O'Connor and Turner are awarded patent 598,572 for an alarm for coast containing vessels.

1898 Alvin L. Rickman is awarded patent 598,816 for a rubberized shoe to act as covering to prevent feet from getting wet. This was a forerunner of modern rubbers.

1899 (Alonzo) Lonnie Johnson, singer (Tomorrow Night), guitarist and songwriter, is born in New Orleans, LA.

1924 Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher, the first African American woman to attend an all white school in the south, is born in Chickasha, OK.

1924 Joe Black, Major League Baseball player and the first African American pitcher to win a world series game, is born in Plainfield, NJ.

1928 Eddie ‘Guitar’ Burns, blues guitarist and harmonica player, is born in Belzoni, MS.

1933 (Harold Edward) Hal Davis, record producer and songwriter (I'll Be There), is born.

1937 Oris Leavill, songwriter and singer (Let Her Love Me), is born in Dewey Rose, Elbert County, GA.

1938 (Edward) Ray Sharpe, guitarist and rockabilly singer (Linda Lu), is born in Fort Worth, TX.

1938 Prentice Gault, first African American football player at the University of Oklahoma and National Football League player, is born in Oklahoma City, OK.

1938 Bessie Banks, singer (Go Now), is born in New Bern, NC.

1939 Harvey Alfred Branch, Major League Baseball player, is born in Memphis, TN.

1940 (Stephen Alexander Chambers) Talib Rasul Hakim, composer (Mutations), is born in Asheville, NC.

1943 (Robert Lee) Bob Oliver, Major League Baseball player, is born in Shreveport, LA.

1946 (Charles) Chuck Beatty, National Football League player, executive of the Boy Scouts of America and mayor of Waxahachie, Texas, is born in Midlothian, TX.

1947 Josephine Bakhita, born a slave, became a Roman Catholic nun and declared a saint in 2000, dies in Schio, Veneto Italy.

1948 Diana Bajoie, first woman to take the oath as the President Pro Tempore of the Louisiana State Senate, is born in New Orleans, LA.

1948 Ron Tyson singer with the new Temptations, is born in Philadelphia, PA.

1949 Will Allen, National Basketball Association player and urban farmer, is born in Rockville, MD.

1950 Peggy Pettitt, teacher, playwright (The Spirit Factor) and actor (Black Girl), is born in St. Louis, MO.

1962 Lisa Perez Jackson, chemical engineer environmental director at Apple, Inc., is born in Philadelphia, PA.

1964 Arlie O. Petters, founder of mathematical astronomy, is born in Dangriga, Belize.

1965 Ray Brown, Negro League Baseball player, dies in Dayton, OH.

1967 Bobby Harden, National Football League player, is born in Pahokee, FL.

1968 Samuel Hammond, Jr., Henry E. Smith, South Carolina State University students and Delano H. Middleton a high school student are fatally shot when police fire on demonstrator in Orangeburg, SC

1968 Gary Coleman, actor (Different Strokes), is born in Zion, IL.

1970 Alonzo Harding Morning, National Basketball Association player, is born in Chesapeake, VA.

1973 (Patrick Houston) Project Pat, rap artist (Mista Don't Play: Everythangs Workin'), is born in Memphis, TN.

1977 (Marion H.) Pooch Hall, Jr. actor (The Game), is born in Brockton, MA.

1982 Eric Vonkey Alexander, National Football League player, is born in Tyler, TX.

1990 Cassius Marcellus Clay, Sr., father of Muhammad Ali (boxer), dies in Louisville, KY.

1991 Aris T. Allen first African American chair of the

Maryland Republican Party, dies in Annapolis, MD.

1995 May Miller, educator and the first African American student to attend Johns Hopkins University and playwright (The Bog Guide), dies in Washington, DC.

1996 Mercer Kennedy Ellington, bandleader and son of Duke Ellington, dies in Copenhagen, Denmark.

2002 William Draffen, singer and founding member of Bloodstone (Natural High), dies.

2005 Jimmy ‘Oscar’ Smith, organist, dies in Scottsdale, AZ.

2006 (Larry Jeffery) Mutt Black, winner of the gold medal relay and silver medal at the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, dies

2008 Ruby Garrard Woodson, educator, chemistry teacher and founder of the Cromwell Academy, dies in Sarasota, FL.

2013 James Anderson DePreist, first African American conductor on the world stage, dies in Scottsdale, AZ.

February 9

Both the strongest and the weakest physically are born in this month. All have great possibilities, which, in some, attain high spiritual order. Study yourself and find your inclinations; then practice and apply yourself to them faithfully. You are loyal to your friends and constant in your love.

1811 John C. Bowers, organist and vestryman at St. Thomas African Episcopal Church and founding member of the first Grand United Order of Odd Fellows for African Americans in Pennsylvania, is born in Philadelphia, PA.

1900 Walter Sylvester ‘Big Un’ Page, jazz multi-instrumentalist and bandleader, is born in Gallatin, MO.

1902 (Juanita Jewel Shanks) Juanita Craft, first African American woman in Dallas County to vote in a public election and member of the Dallas “City Council in Texas, is born in Round Rock, TX.

1902 Blanche Dorothea Calloway, singer and bandleader (sister of Cab Calloway), is born in Rochester, NY.

1906 Paul Lawrence Dunbar, poet (Ode to Ethiopia), dies in Dayton, OH.

1907 (Charles Alfred) Chief Anderson, “Father of Black Aviation” and Tuskegee Airman, is born in Bryn Mawr, PA.

1910 (Herbert Lee) Peanuts Holland, jazz trumpeter, is born in Norfolk, VA.

1913 Erskine Butterfield, pianist, singer, bandleader and composer (Lover Man), is born in Syracuse, NY.

1917 Arbee Stidham, blues singer is born in De Valls Bluff, AR.

1927 Richard A. Long, historian and author (Black Americana) is born in Philadelphia, PA.

1943 Barbara Lewis, singer (Hello Stranger), is born in Salem, MI.

1944 Alice Walker, author (The Color Purple), is born in Eatonton, GA.

1947 Major Harris, singer (Love Won't Let Me Wait), is born in Richmond, VA.

1951 Eddie Solomon, Jr., Major League Baseball player, is born in Perry, GA.

1951 Dennis ‘Dee Tee’ Thomas, musician with Kool & the Gang, is born in Jersey City, NJ.

1953 Gary Franks, the first African American Congressman from Connecticut, is born in Waterbury, CT.

1954 Christopher Paul Gardner, motivational speaker whose book of memoirs (The Pursuit of Happyness), was published and made into a movie is born in Milwaukee, WI.

1956 (William Hayward) Mookie Wilson, Major League Baseball player and coach, is born in Bamberg, SC.

1960 I.O. Carter is awarded a patent for a nursery chair.

1963 Cindy L. Jefferson, actor (Madea's Big Happy Family), is born in Harlem, NY.

1972 Jason Winston George, actor (Eve), is born in Virginia Beach, VA.

1974 Montego Glover, stage actor (Memphis), is born in Macon, GA.

1977 Dondre A. Gilliam, National Football League player, is born in Baltimore, MD.

1977 Woodrow ‘Buddy’ Wilson Johnson, pianist, composer (Since I Fell For You) and resident bandleader at the Savoy Ballroom in New York, dies in New York, NY.

1979 Brenda Taylor, track and field athlete who specializes in the 400-meter hurdles, is born in St. Louis, MO.

1980 (Jackiem Joyner) Lil Man Soul, saxophonist and flute player, is born in Norfolk, VA.

1985 Nigel Dawes, National Hockey League player, is born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

1987 Michael Bakari Jordan, actor (The Wire), is born in Santa Ana, CA.

1990 Jeremy Jermaine Gallon, National Football League player, is born in Apopka, FL.

1990 Camille Winbush, actor (The Bernie Mack Show), is born in Culver City, CA.

1991 James Cleveland, pianist, arranger, choir director and gospel singer, dies.

1997 Jack Owens, blues singer and guitarist, dies in Yazoo City, MS.

2005 Tyrone Davis (Fettson), singer (Turn Back The Hands Of Time), dies in Chicago, IL.

Know your History and Culture. If you do not know where you come from, you cannot and will not know where you can go.