

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 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.

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 Gautt, 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: Everythings 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 Amer-



Leymah Roberta Gbowee

ican 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 teach 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.

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

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find your inclinations; then practice and apply yourself to them faithfully. You are loyal to your friends and constant in your love.

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 Air Man 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.

1958 (Michael Bailey) Kabaka Oba, public transportation worker and radio host who was shot is born in Cincinnati, OH.

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, com-

poser (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.

February 10

Practice self-reliance and concentration and you will be successful, prosperous and happy. You make and break engagements easily, if they interfere with your convenience. You are energetic, kind, affectionate and your love will be constant.

1837 Alexander Sergeevich Pushkin, Russian Black poet dies in St. Petersburg, Russia.

1874 Latimore and Brown are awarded patent 147,363 for water closets for railway cars.

1887 Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, founder of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is born in St. Louis, MO.

1905 (William Henry) Chick Webb, drummer and bandleader is born in Baltimore, MD.

1907 Grace Towns Hamilton, first African American woman elected to the Georgia General Assembly is born in Atlanta, GA.

1920 Ezzrett ‘Sugarfoot’ Anderson, Canadian Football League player is born in Nashville, AR.

1927 (Mary Violet) Leontyne Price, opera singer who has won 13 Grammy Awards is born in Laurel, MS.

1929 Priscilla Joyce Ford, schoolteacher and mass murderer is born.

1931 James Edward Maceo West, Inventor and acoustician (developed the foil electret microphone) is born in Prince Edward County, VA.

1932 Vivienne Malone-Mayes, fifth African American woman to receive a Ph.D. in mathematics is born in Waco, TX.

1937 Roberta Flack, singer and composer is born in Black Mountain, NC.

1940 Cornell Green, National Football League player is born in Oklahoma City, OK.

1940 Jimmy Merchant, original singer with Frankie Lymon & the Teenagers (Why Do Fools Fall In Love) is born in New York, NY.

1949 Harold Sylvester, actor (Married... with Children) is born in New Orleans, LA.

1954 (Gary Cole) Abdul Qadir Jeelani, National Basketball Association player is born in Bells, TN.

1955 (Lusia) Lucy Harris-Stewart, Women’s National Basketball Association player is born in Minter City, MS.

1956 Kenny Leon, Broadway director (A Raisin in the Sun) is born in Tallahassee, FL.

1961 Velma Middleton, vocalist dies in Sierra Leone.

1962 Russell Edmonds Carter, Jr., National Football League player is born in Philadelphia, PA.

1965 Leonard Irell Webster, Major League Baseball player is born in New Orleans, LA.

1968 Ryan Eugene Bowen, Major League Baseball player is born in Hanford, CA.

1969 (Nichaelo Dio Crayton) Jazzmun, actor and nightclub performer is born in San Diego, CA.

1971 Kathrynne Dora Brown, actor (The Reading Room) is born in Los Angeles, CA.

1972 Jason Lawrence Olive, actor (Tyler Perry’s For Better or Worse) is born in Los Angeles, CA.

1979 Mel Mitchell, III, National Football League player is born in Rockledge, FL.

1978 Minnie Buckingham Harper, first African American woman to serve as a member of a state legislative body (West Virginia) dies in Winfield, WV.

1984 Courtney Brown, National Football League player is born in San Francisco, CA.

1987 Devon Alexander, welterweight boxer is born in St. Louis, MO.

1988 Don Patterson, jazz organist dies in Philadelphia, PA.

1992 Alex(ander Murray Palmer) Haley, author (Roots) dies in Seattle, WA.

2000 Yara Sayeh Shahidi, actor (Alex Cross) is born in Minneapolis, MN.

2001 (George Holmes) Buddy Tate, saxophonist and clarinetist dies in Chandler, AZ.

2006 (James Dewitt Yancey) J. Dilla record producer and rap artist dies in Los Angeles, CA.

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