

- 19 1944 — U.S. Navy (WAVES) opened to black women.
Cassius M. Clay (1810-1903) Kentucky emancipationist, was born.
- 20 Jomo Kenyatta (1891-1978), Mau Mau leader of Kenya's struggle for independence; elected head of Kenya African National Union, 1960; President in 1964; born in Ngenda, Kenya.
1974 — Henry Louis Aaron (Hank Aaron) broke Babe Ruth's home run record.
- 22 1895 — Ernest A. Lyon (1860-1938), educator, was born. He was appointed agent for the Freedman's Aid Southern Education Society. He founded the Maryland Industrial and Agricultural Institution for the Education of Colored Youths.



January 18, Muhammed Ali born in Louisville, Kentucky, 1942.

- 23 Edmonia Lewis (1845-1890), one of the first recognized American women sculptors and artists; born in Greenhigh, Ohio.
- 24 Zambia (Africa) obtained its independence from Britain in 1964. Jackie Robinson (1919-1972) died. Baseball star. His outstanding career in major league baseball (1947-1956) won him a place in baseball's Hall of Fame. He was voted National League's Most Valuable Player, 1949.
- 25 1940 — Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., became the first black general in U.S. Army.
- 26 Mahalia Jackson (1911-1972), world renowned singer of spirituals and gospels, born in New Orleans.
- 27 Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., became the first Black General in the Air Force in 1954.
- 30 Congressman Gus Savage, (b. 1925).
Imamu Baraka (Leroi Jones), poet and playwright, was born in 1934.
1960 — Students lunch counter sit-down strikes in South, protest Segregation.

- 31 Ethel Waters (1896-1977), actress, entertainer, was born in Chester, PA.

NOVEMBER

- 1 1866 — Civil Rights Act passed (vetoed by Andrew Jackson).
1945 — First issue of Ebony magazine published by John H. Johnson.
- 2 1866 — Two Black cavalry units organized, 9th and 10th composed of Civil War veterans.
1930 — Haile Selassie (1891-1975), last reigning monarch of the world's longest ruling dynasty, enthroned as Emperor of Ethiopia.
- 3 1928 — Oscar Depriest of Chicago, Illinois became the first Black elected to Congress since Reconstruction.
1970 — Wilson C. Riles elected California State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 4 1974 — George Brown (Colorado) and Mervyn Dymally (California) became the first Blacks elected to the office of Lt. Governor in the 20th century.
1982 — A total of twenty-one Blacks were elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, the largest number in the history of America.
- 5 1968 — Shirley Chisholm became the first Black woman elected to Congress, representing Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York.
1967 — Carl Stokes, Cleveland, Ohio and Richard Hatcher, Gary, Indiana became the first elected Black Mayors of major cities.
1926 — Negro History Week initiated by Carter G. Woodson.
- 6 1962 — Edith Sampson, first Black Chicago Municipal Judge.
1539 — Estevanico, early Black explorer, discovered Seven Cities of Cibola, now Arizona and New Mexico.
- 7 1967 — Yvonne Braithwaite Burke elected to Congress from California.
Elijah P. Lovejoy — Abolitionist killed by pro-slavery mob at Alton, Illinois.
- 8 1938 — Crystal Bird Fauset, first Black woman to serve in a state legislature (Pennsylvania).
1966 — Edward W. Brooke, Jr., first Black Senator elected in 85 years.
- 9 1731 — Benjamin Bannaker, mathematician, astronomer, and inventor of the first American clock was born.
1789 — Benjamin Franklin signs petition denouncing slavery drawn up by the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting Abolition of Slavery.
1868 — Howard University Medical School opened with eight students.
- 10 1980 — Dr. Samuel C. Coleman of Little Rock, Arkansas, 103 years young was honored as the oldest living Black veteran. He enlisted in the Army in 1898.
1891 — Granville T. Woods patents electric railway.
- 11 1831 — Nat Turner was hanged for his leadership in the August 21 slave revolt.
1975 — Angola gained independence from Portugal.
- 13 1951 — Janet Collins, ballerina, first Black dancer to appear with the Metropolitan Opera Company in Verdi's Aida.

- 14 1915 — Booker T. Washington, statesman, died.
1888 — Crispus Attuck's monument established.
- 16 1903 — Samuel Coleridge Taylor conducted 200 voice choral society in Washington's Convention Hall.
1873 — W.C. Handy, Father of the "Blues" was born in Kentucky.
- 18 1955 — Roy Wilkins chosen to be Executive Director of the NAACP.
1977 — Ku Klux Klan member convicted in 1963 church bombing that killed four young girls in Birmingham, Alabama.



November 5, 1968, Shirley Chisholm became the first Black woman elected to Congress, representing Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York.

- 19 Roy Campanella, most valuable player 1951, 1953, and 1955 as catcher for the Brooklyn Dodgers.
1883 — Sojourner Truth, author, was born.
- 20 1940 — Hattie McDaniel became the first Black actress to receive an Academy Award for her role in "Gone With the Wind."
- 21 1784 — Gen Lafayette wrote tribute to Black soldier, James Armistead commending him on his service as a spy during the Revolutionary War.
- 22 1930 — Black Muslim movement initiated in Detroit.
1956 — Louis Lautier, first Black journalist admitted to membership in the National Press Club.

ODOT

Black Americans Contribute To Science and Engineering

Then and Now

First Traffic Signal

Q: Who invented the first automatic traffic signal?
A: Garnett Morgan, a black man. Born 1875.

Q: Who was the third black woman in the country and the first in the state of New York to become a doctor?
A: Susan McKinney Steward. Born 1848.

Q: Who patented over 50 lubricating devices, 25 other mechanical devices and became the origin of the phrase "The Real McCoy", commonly used to indicate excellence?
A: Elijah McCoy, a black man. Born 1843.

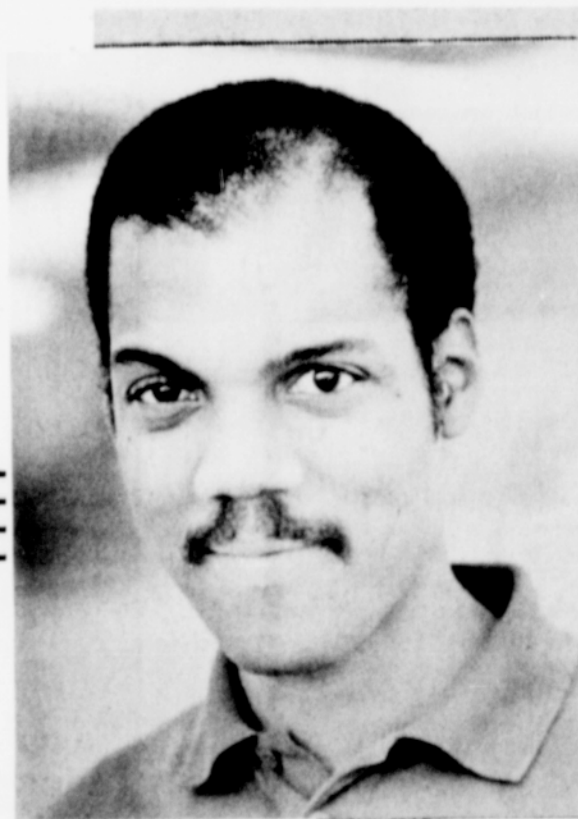
Q: Who is President of California State University at Fullerton?
A: Jewell Plummer Cobb, a black woman. Born 1924, a cancer researcher.

Garnett A. Morgan, 1875-1963

A former sewing machine mechanic and owner of a successful business, Morgan's fame also rests in his invention of the "Morgan Safety Hood", a device which allowed fireman to "enter a smoke-filled house and to breathe freely for some time therein, enabling him to perform his duties of saving life," said Morgan.

Saves Thousands

Morgan improved the Safety Hood. During World War I, it was used as a gas mask and saved the lives of thousands of soldiers. An earlier modification of the device was used to save 24 men trapped under a tunnel in Lake Erie by an explosion.



Vince Jones

And Today

Black scientists and engineers continue to contribute to American society and to the State of Oregon—as do individuals from every other racial group.

Vince Jones, Karen Bell, and George Ejim are three Engineers making their mark today, with the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Do they make a difference? YOU BET. They bring with them a desire to achieve technical excellence and a perspective to direct that skill to meet the needs of people.

This is evidenced in their sharing of time and expertise with others; stepping forward to take on tough jobs and assignments; a belief in their own ability to overcome obstacles; building relationships with individual communities and the general public; and a very genuine desire to contribute at higher and higher levels in the organization and in the community.

The Oregon Department of Transportation and recognizes the outstanding achievements of many, many minority female and male scientists and engineers who have contributed in a variety of ways to our work and solves their "achievement against the odds."

The Oregon Department
of Transportation

