



Wilma Rudolph

June 23, 1940 – November 12, 1994

- In 1960, became the first American Women to win 3 gold Olympic metals.
- Was known as “the fastest woman in the world”.
- She retired from track and field and became an educator & coach.



Claude McKay

September 15, 1890 – May 22, 1948

- A poet and novelist, he was a central figure in the Harlem Renaissance.
- In 1919, wrote the poem "If We Must Die" response to mob attacks by white Americans upon African-American communities during the Red Summer.



Ruby Bridges

September 8, 1954

- She became a civil rights activist at age 6.
- Was the first African American student to integrate an elementary school in the South.
- Wrote an autobiography titled "Through My Eyes".



Emma Rochelle Wheeler

(February 7, 1882 - September 12, 1957)

- She was an influential African American physician in the city of Chattanooga.
- Was known for opening and operating Walden Hospital.
- She was the first female, African-American physician in the city of Chattanooga..



Lester Blackwell Granger

September 16, 1896 – January 9, 1976

- African American social worker, and civic leader who headed the National Urban League
- He was elected the first African American president of the National Conference of Social Work.



James Arthur Baldwin

August 2, 1924 – December 1, 1987

- He wrote numerous novels, essays, and plays that vividly depict the struggle of Blacks in white America.
- He is best known for his debut novel, 'Go Tell It on the Mountain', and his semi-autobiographical novels and plays that center on race, politics, and sexuality.



Shirley Chisholm

November 30, 1924 – January 1, 2005

- Was the first black woman to be elected to the United States Congress.
- She was the first woman and African American to seek the nomination for president of the United States from one of the two major political parties (1972).



Howard High School Sit In

February 19, 1960

- On February 19, 1960 this peaceful protest against segregation at four businesses on one block in Chattanooga, Tennessee
- The demonstrators demanded equality at department store lunch counters in S. H. Kress & Co. and Loveman's.



Bessie Smith

April 15, 1894 – September 26, 1937

- She was a blues singer widely renowned during the Jazz Age.
- She was among the highest-paid Black performers of her time with hits like "Downhearted Blues."
- She now has a cultural arts center named after her in Chattanooga.



Carter G. Woodson

December 19, 1875 – April 3, 1950

- Writer and historian known as the 'Father of Black History.'
- He penned the influential book 'The Mis-Education of the Negro.'
- the second African American to receive a doctorate from Harvard

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