



Photos by Andrea Burns and Rachel Chandler-Worth

Dear Secretary of State Powell:  
I applaud your approval of the treaty to remove or destroy unexploded mines in lands that we control after a war. I urge you to work towards the ratification of this treaty as soon as possible. I also urge you to work towards the United States' discontinuing the use of landmines, including cluster bombs. One million tons of unexploded mines in Iraq is enough.

## take action!

**On November 28, 2003, ninety-two world governments approved a treaty requiring countries to remove or destroy unexploded mines and other munitions in territories they control after a war. Until now, no nation has been obligated to clean up after a war. This treaty must now be ratified by each government. Write Secretary of State Colin Powell and voice your support for the land mine treaty.**

*"History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again."*

—Maya Angelou

👉 Ask a student, teacher or member of your faith community if they would like a copy of this calendar.

👉 Challenge yourself to be courageous; speak out for justice at your work place, school or faith community.

👉 Ask a child how they feel when they are courageous.

👉 Black History Month is celebrated in February. Start to plan a commemoration to honor historic or current African American leaders. If you need ideas, phone AFSC, 413.584.8975

# J e A n N e U r A o R Y

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

## Getting sensitive to language

The words we use say something about how we see the world. They also have an impact on the world around us. We all use language without thinking about it much, and sometimes we unintentionally convey meanings that are hurtful to others. The words we use are like habits, and we can help each other understand and learn to change the language habits that are hurtful to others. It's not about being PC, it's about being intentional and thoughtful in the way that we speak. It is in this spirit that every month of the calendar highlights specific words to think about and address in our language.

*"When I dare to be powerful—to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."*



—Audre Lorde (1934-1992), Black lesbian, mother, warrior, poet

4 5

Three Kings Day / Dia de los Reyes (Epiphany). (Christian). Commemorates the Three Wise Men who followed the star to Bethlehem, bringing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. It is celebrated in many places, including Puerto Rico, the US, Europe, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

6 7

Birthday, Zora Neale Hurston (1891–1960), author and African American folklorist



New Year's Day (1994) Zapatista uprising in response to the North American Free Trade Agreement  
Last day of Kwanzaa (African American) (see December 26). Imani (Faith): Faith in our ability to struggle with confidence in the face of obstacles.

1

(1773-1779) Enslaved Africans in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Connecticut petition for their freedom and for an end to slavery.

2

(During 1831) Prudence Crandall, a Quaker, opens a boarding school for the girls of local wealthy families in Canterbury, CT. When she admits a Black girl in 1832, white parents call for the girl's removal. Prudence Crandall abruptly dismisses all of her white students and reopens the school for Black girls.

3



(1912) African National Congress (ANC) founded to unite the South African people and lead the struggle against racism and oppression, organizing mass resistance, mobilizing the international community and taking up the armed struggle against apartheid. The ANC achieves a decisive democratic breakthrough in the 1994 elections, where it is given a firm mandate to negotiate a new democratic Constitution for South Africa. The new Constitution is adopted in 1996.

8

The Western Massachusetts Department of Mental Health's (DMH) Cultural Diversity Committee meets this month. This committee works to educate the DMH community about the many cultures in the WMA region. Information: 413.587.6200

10

(1825-1869) People of the Underground Railroad coordinate an escape system of hundreds of safe "stations" to help enslaved Africans escape to Canada and Mexico.

11

(During 2002) The National Park Service recognizes the Florence home of Austin Ross, a member of the Northampton utopian community (1842–1846, the Northampton Association of Education and Industry), as a site on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

12

The Second Wednesday of every month, at 7pm, the Zen Center on Main Street in Northampton holds a meditation on the monthly themes of this calendar, followed by discussion and tea. Beginning meditation instruction offered. Everyone welcome. Sponsored by the Zen Center on Main Street and the Buddhist Peace Fellowship Pioneer Valley, 78 Main Street, Suite 209, Northampton, MA. Information: 413.586.8222 hondorp@comcast.net

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14

Birthday, The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929–1968), Civil Rights leader

*"Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed."*

15

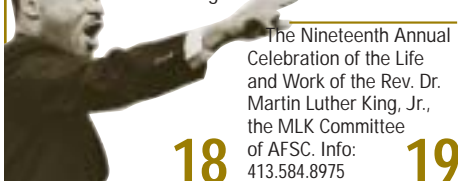
Greenfield Community College celebrates Dr. King's birthday on January 19. President Robert Pura will present the college's first annual *Living the Dream* award.

16

(1970) Chicano activists begin La Raza Unida Party  
*The Struggle Continues: A Dialogue for Truth, Justice, and Peace* Amherst MLK Commemorative Breakfast. Info: 413.256.6765

17

We often celebrate Dr. King for his famous "I Have a Dream" speech about people of all races living in harmony. Let us also remember that Dr. King made connections between many different types of oppression. For example,



18 19

The Nineteenth Annual Celebration of the Life and Work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the MLK Committee of AFSC. Info: 413.584.8975

(1956) Martin Luther King is indicted on conspiracy charges resulting from the Montgomery bus boycott.

20

21

(4701) Chinese New Year, Year of the Monkey  
*"...for the problem of the Twentieth Century is the problem of the color-line."* —Dr. W.E.B. DuBois (1868–1963), author, educator, sociologist, raised in Great Barrington, Massachusetts  
The University of Massachusetts W.E.B. DuBois library has a DuBois archive with over 100,000 articles, letters and manuscripts. Open Mon.–Fri., 10am to 3pm. Info: 413.545.2780

22

23

Third Annual Anti-Racism Film Festival All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, Greenfield. Three films followed by discussion, pot luck supper. Info: Angela, 413.648.9845 or Molly, 413.772.0003

24

*"To love someone deeply gives you strength. Being loved by someone deeply gives you courage."*

—Lao-Tzu, Chinese philosopher, founder of Taoism, author of the Tao Te Ching

25

Unitarian Universalist Society of Greater Springfield Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Team begins the 2004 Fourth Tuesday Video Series, 7 to 9pm with *The Way Home*. Information: uusgs@uuspringfield.org 413.736.2324

26

(1973) U.S. withdraws from Vietnam with the signing of the Paris Peace Accord. The Vietnamese people continue to suffer an estimated 2,000 casualties each year from the remaining 3.5 million "unexploded ordinances" left in the country.

27

Holyoke Community College begins the semester-long course, The Civil Rights Movement, Information: www.hcc.edu

28



Birthday, José Martí (1853–1895), Cuban author, activist

29

The Jones Library English as a Second Language (ESL) Center offers a winter volunteer tutor training and tutoring. Information: 413.256.4090 joneslibraryesl@hotmail.com

30

Eid Al-Adha / Feast of Sacrifice (Muslim). Begins at sundown.

Note: The Islamic calendar is lunar based. Therefore it is not possible to cite the exact day of Eid until Dhu al-Hajj commences. For up-to-date info: www.islamicfinder.org/

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