

# James “Chef JR” Robinson

Celebrity Chef; Owner of KitchenCray

New York, New York



James Robinson is taking healthy food experiences on the road. Known as “Chef JR,” Robinson is the founder of KitchenCray, an innovative catering and event company that takes five-star dining experiences and recreates them to cater to its clients’ lifestyles.

“This means that one day we might do a pop-up kitchen for a celebrity event,” Robinson said. “The next day, we might take over a shelter and feed hundreds of homeless people. Or we might go into the community to teach parents to cook healthy meals for their families.”

It’s all part of KitchenCray’s total commitment to the community. The company’s initiatives include the Community Chef Experience, which

connects KitchenCray with various organizations to help feed the homeless. Its culinary arts program for children, called KitchenCray Kids, not only teaches youth about healthy eating, but also inspires them to pursue their passions.

“These initiatives are close to my heart. When I was young, I spent time without a home, living out of my car,” Robinson said. “So one of the first things I did when I had the means was to cook at a shelter for the homeless.”

He began cooking at age 11, inspired by the talents of the grandmother who raised him and his six siblings. This joy for cooking led him to culinary school. After much professional success, he became a popular contestant on the cooking competition show *Hell’s Kitchen*.

“When I was young, I had to inspire myself. I had to learn how to work on my own without the support of others. That’s why I want to be the one who shows support for others today,” he said.

One of KitchenCray’s goals is to change how the world views the chef profession – to bring chefs out of the kitchen and put them at the center of the culinary experience. “I started a catering company instead of a restaurant so that I could have the flexibility and the power to show the community love,” Robinson said. “Because in order to build healthy communities, you need to build a healthy relationship with the community.”



## JR’s Fisherman Soup

Warm up with James Robinson’s savory version of fisherman soup, a hearty stew of shrimp, clams, mussels, lobster and crab.

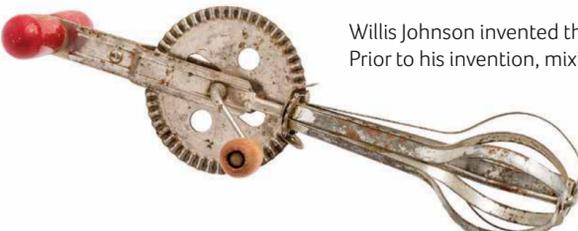
For recipe, visit [AAHCalendar.com/recipes/july](http://AAHCalendar.com/recipes/july).



# July 2016

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 2014: Michelle Howard becomes U.S. Navy’s first woman four-star admiral. As Vice Chief of Naval Operations, which she began that same day, Howard becomes first woman and first African American to hold that post.	<b>2</b> 1872: Elijah McCoy patents first self-lubricating locomotive engine. The quality of his inventions helped coin the phrase “the real McCoy.”
<b>3</b> 1688: The Quakers in Germantown, Pennsylvania, make first formal protest against slavery.	<b>4</b> 1900: Traditional birthdate of Louis “Satchmo” Armstrong, jazz pioneer.  Independence Day	<b>5</b> 1991: Nelson Mandela elected president of the African National Congress.	<b>6</b> 1957: Althea Gibson wins women’s singles title at Wimbledon, first African American to win tennis’s most prestigious award.	<b>7</b> 1948: Cleveland Indians sign pitcher Leroy “Satchel” Paige.	<b>8</b> 2000: Venus Williams wins women’s singles championship at Wimbledon.	<b>9</b> 1893: Dr. Daniel Hale Williams performs first successful open-heart operation.
<b>10</b> 1943: Arthur Ashe, Jr., first African American to win the U.S. Open and men’s singles title at Wimbledon, born.	<b>11</b> 1905: W.E.B. DuBois and William Monroe Trotter organize the Niagara Movement, a forerunner of the NAACP.	<b>12</b> 1949: Frederick M. Jones patents cooling system for food transportation vehicles.	<b>13</b> 1965: Thurgood Marshall becomes first African American appointed U.S. solicitor general.	<b>14</b> 1951: George Washington Carver Monument, first national park honoring an African American, is dedicated in Joplin, Missouri.	<b>15</b> 1867: Maggie Lena Walker, first woman and first African American to become president of a bank, born.	<b>16</b> 1822: Violette A. Johnson, first black woman to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, born.
<b>17</b> 1959: Billy Holiday, American jazz singer and songwriter, dies.	<b>18</b> 1918: Nelson Mandela, South African anti-apartheid revolutionary and first black president of South Africa, born.	<b>19</b> 1925: Paris debut of Josephine Baker, entertainer, activist and humanitarian.	<b>20</b> 1950: Black troops (24th Regiment) win first U.S. victory in Korea.	<b>21</b> 1896: Mary Church Terrell elected first president of National Association of Colored Women.	<b>22</b> 1827: James Varick, first bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion (A.M.E.Z.) Church, dies.	<b>23</b> 1962: Jackie Robinson becomes first black baseball player in the major leagues inducted into baseball’s Hall of Fame.
<b>24</b> 1807: Shakespearean actor Ira Aldridge born in New York City.	<b>25</b> 1916: Garrett Morgan, inventor of the gas mask, rescues six people from gas-filled tunnel in Cleveland, Ohio.	<b>26</b> 1948: President Harry S. Truman issues Executive Order 9981, ending segregation in armed forces.	<b>27</b> 1880: Alexander P. Ashbourne patents process for refining coconut oil.	<b>28</b> 1868: 14th Amendment, granting African Americans full citizenship rights, becomes part of the Constitution.	<b>29</b> 1895: First National Conference of Colored Women Convention held in Boston.	<b>30</b> 1822: James Varick elected first bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion (A.M.E.Z.) Church.
<b>31</b> 1874: Rev. Patrick Francis Healy inaugurated president of Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.	 <p>Willis Johnson invented the eggbeater in the late 1880s. Prior to his invention, mixing was done entirely by hand.<sup>7</sup></p>					

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