

Elder Granger, M.D.

President/CEO of THE 5Ps, LLC Healthcare Consulting
Former Deputy Director
TRICARE Management Activity
Major General, U.S. Army (Retired)

Centennial, CO

A true leader, Dr. Elder Granger has devoted much of his career to helping others. He conquered numerous obstacles in order to dedicate his life to what he believes is our main purpose on earth: serving one another.

“Assisting each other makes us stronger as a whole. At the end of the day, people are the most important assets we have,” he said.

Granger began serving others in 1971. He joined the then all-white Eastern Arkansas National Guard Unit while working at a local grocery store. As one of the first African American soldiers to integrate, he knew he would have to excel in his training. After proving himself, his mentors encouraged him to pursue a medical role in the military.

“From there, I just kept working. I was leading medical missions and commanding hospitals. Then I was asked to be the deputy director of TRICARE. I couldn’t believe it. I would be the second black deputy director of TRICARE,” he said.

TRICARE provides medical benefits to members of the uniformed services (active and retired) and their families. Through his position as deputy director, Granger was able to further fulfill his desire to serve. By the time he retired, he had provided health care solutions to thousands of military families around the world.

“Through hard work, you can really make a difference in the world. I truly believe that exceptional performance overcomes artificial barriers,” said Granger.



2005

2005

Major Merryll David becomes the first African American woman to fly the Elite U-2 spy plane, one of the Air Force’s most heralded stealth planes.



2009

Retired Marine Corps Major General Charles F. Bolden becomes the first African American administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

DECEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 1955: Rosa Parks arrested for refusing to give her seat to a white man, sparking the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott, marking the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement. Hanukkah Begins (sundown)	2 1884: Granville T. Woods patents telephone transmitter.	3 1847: Frederick Douglass publishes first issue of <i>North Star</i> .	4 1906: Alpha Phi Alpha, first black Greek letter fraternity, founded at Cornell University.
5 1955: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. organizes Birmingham, Alabama, bus boycott, marking beginning of the Civil Rights Movement.	6 1932: Richard B. Spikes patents automatic gearshift.	7 1941: Navy steward Dorie Miller shoots down four Japanese planes during attack on Pearl Harbor. Pearl Harbor Day	8 1925: Entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. born.	9 1872: P.B.S. Pinchback of Louisiana becomes first black governor.	10 1950: Dr. Ralph J. Bunche becomes first black awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.	11 1926: Blues singer Willie Mae “Big Mama” Thornton born.
12 1995: Willie Brown defeats incumbent Frank Jordan to become the first African American mayor of San Francisco.	13 1944: First black servicewomen sworn in to the WAVES.	14 1829: John Mercer Langston, congressman and founder of Howard University Law Department, born.	15 1883: William A. Hinton, first black on Harvard Medical School faculty, born.	16 1976: Andrew Young nominated by President Jimmy Carter to be U.S. ambassador to United Nations.	17 1802: Teacher and minister Henry Adams born.	18 1865: Congress passes 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery.
19 1875: Educator Carter G. Woodson, “Father of Black History,” born.	20 1860: South Carolina secedes from the Union, initiating the Civil War.	21 1911: Baseball legend Josh Gibson born.	22 1883: Arthur Wergs Mitchell, first black Democrat to be elected to Congress, born.	23 1867: Sarah “Madam C.J.” Walker, businesswoman and first black female millionaire, born.	24 1832: Charter granted to Georgia Infirmary, the first black hospital.	25 1907: Cab Calloway, bandleader and first jazz singer to sell 1 million records, born. Christmas
26 1894: Jean Toomer, author of <i>Cane</i> , born. Kwanzaa Begins	27 1862: African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church founded in New Bern, North Carolina.	28 1905: Earl “Fatha” Hines, “Father of Modern Jazz Piano,” born.	29 1924: Author, sportswriter A.S. “Doc” Young born.	30 1892: Dr. Miles V. Lusk publishes first black medical journal for physicians, the <i>Medical and Surgical Observer</i> .	31 1930: Odetta, blues and folk singer, born.	