

01/04

- 1 T** **New Year's Day**
1863: Abraham Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation.

- 2 F**
1965: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. calls for nonviolent protests if Alabama blacks are not allowed to register and vote.

- 3 S**
1624: William Tucker, first African child born in America.

- 4 S**
1920: National Negro Baseball League started.
1971: The Congressional Black Caucus organized.

- 5 M**
1943: George Washington Carver, agricultural scientist, dies.

- 6 T**
1831: The World Anti-Slavery Convention opens in London.

- 7 W**
1890: William B. Purvis patents fountain pen.
1955: Marian Anderson debuts as first black to perform at Metropolitan Opera.

- 8 T**
1811: Charles Deslandes leads slave revolt in Louisiana.

- 9 F**
1866: Fisk University founded in Nashville, Tennessee.

- 10 S**
1864: George Washington Carver, agricultural scientist and inventor, born.

- 11 S**
1985: Reuben V. Anderson, first African American appointed to Mississippi court.

- 12 M**
1948: Supreme Court rules blacks have right to study law at state institutions.

- 13 T**
1990: L. Douglas Wilder inaugurated as first African American governor (Virginia) since Reconstruction.

- 14 W**
1975: William T. Coleman named secretary of Transportation.

- 15 T**
1929: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a major voice for civil rights in the 20th century, born.

- 16 F**
1978: NASA names African American astronauts Maj. Frederick D. Gregory, Maj. Guion S. Bluford Jr. and Dr. Ronald E. McNair.

- 17 S**
1942: Three-time heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay) born.

- 18 S**
1856: Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, pioneer heart surgeon, born.

- 19 M** **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observed**
1969: UCLA renames its social science buildings to honor alumnus Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, diplomat.

- 20 T**
1993: Maya Angelou, a great voice of contemporary literature, delivers *On the Pulse of Morning* at the Presidential inauguration.

- 21 W**
1870: Hiram Revels elected first black U.S. senator, replacing Jefferson Davis for the Mississippi seat.

- 22 T**
1949: James Robert Gladden becomes first black certified in orthopedic surgery.

- 23 F**
1891: Dr. Daniel Hale Williams founds Provident Hospital in Chicago, the first training hospital for black doctors and nurses in the U.S.

- 24 S**
1865: Congress passes 13th Amendment, which, on ratification, abolishes slavery.

- 25 S**
1851: Sojourner Truth addresses first Black Women's Rights Convention, Akron, Ohio.

- 26 M**
1954: Dr. Theodore K. Lawless, dermatologist, awarded the Spingarn Medal for research in skin-related diseases.

- 27 T**
1961: Leontyne Price, world-renowned opera singer, makes her Metropolitan Opera debut.

- 28 W**
1998: Sarah "Madam C.J." Walker, first black female millionaire, honored on U.S. postage stamp.

- 29 T**
1926: Violette Neatly Anderson becomes first black woman lawyer to argue a case before the Supreme Court.

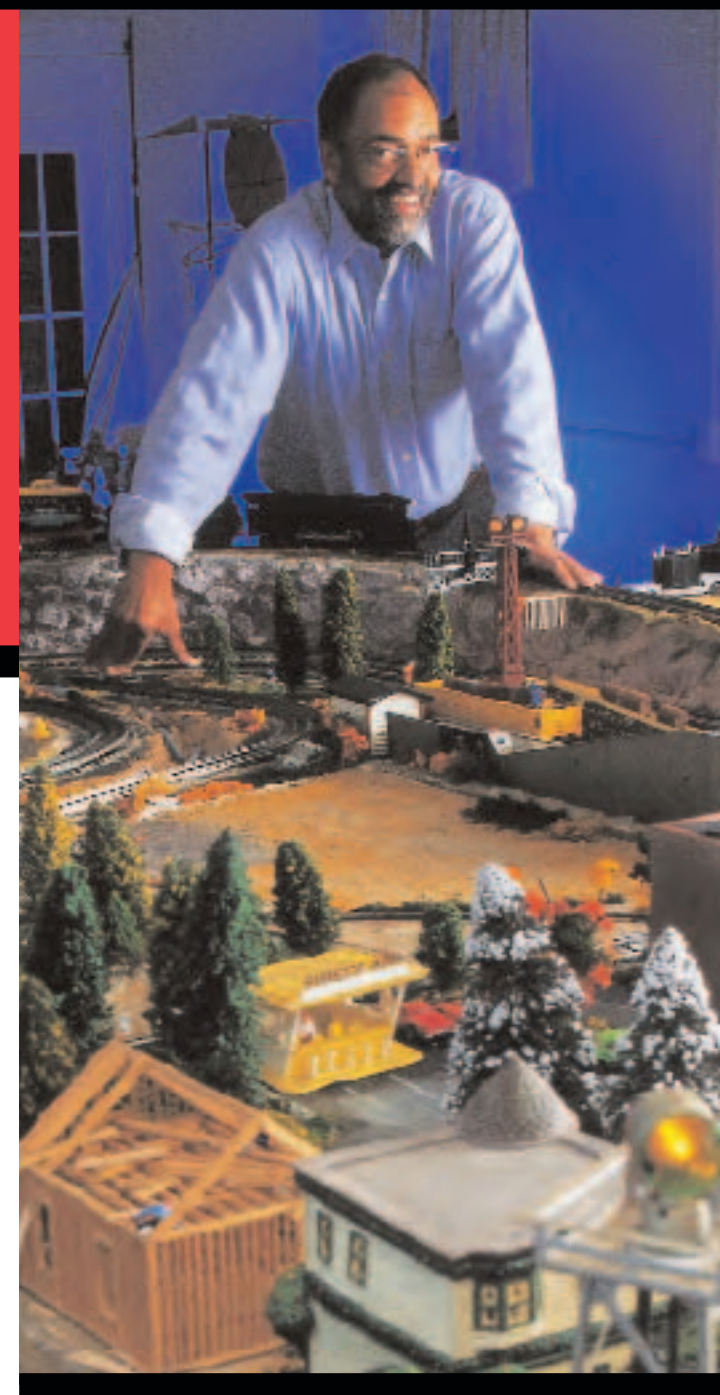
- 30 F**
1979: Franklin Thomas named president of the Ford Foundation.

- 31 S**
1986: August Wilson's *Fences*, starring James Earl Jones, opens at Chicago's Goodman Theatre.



"It's about oral health literacy. The words we speak. The food we eat. Our smile. The emotions we express. Our sense of self. The ability to get a job. These are all intimately connected to oral health."

Caswell A. Evans, Jr., D.D.S., M.P.H.



ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVES/PUBLIC HEALTH

Caswell A. Evans, Jr.

D.D.S., M.P.H. Potomac, MD

Playing stoopball on the streets in Harlem carries bitter-sweet memories for Dr. Caswell Evans. At a young age, while retrieving a ball from the fire escape, he fell and pushed his teeth up into his gums. "It was the rules of 'the hood' to retrieve your own ball, probably to encourage you not to get a home run," laughed Dr. Evans, an avid toy train collector.

After spending many days in the orthodontist's chair to repair the damage, he decided that was how he'd like to spend his future. Fortunate to attend Columbia University dental school, Dr. Evans decided to direct his career path toward public health because he felt prevention was equally as important as treatment. "In dental school, we were taught restorative methods using gold. I knew that was expensive, which got me to thinking there must be methods of prevention that could eliminate the problem in the first place."

While serving as the director of public health for Los Angeles County, California, Dr. Evans was approached to become the project director and executive editor of *Oral Health in America: A Report of the U.S. Surgeon General*. "This document provides a very important message. Oral health is part of general health; it's not an out-of-body experience. While surgeon generals' reports are not intended to be policy, they do help to establish a framework." Dr. Evans also worked on a second report highlighting the actions that need to be taken to address pertinent oral health issues.

"To be part of fashioning that message and to pull all this together has been very rewarding. It's a one-of-a-kind experience. For the U.S. Surgeon General to publish a report on oral health underscores its importance," said Dr. Evans.

The biggest challenge he sees is getting the general public to appreciate the importance of oral health. Dr. Evans believes "it's about oral health literacy. The words we speak. The food we eat. Our smile. The emotions we express. Our sense of self. The ability to get a job. These are all intimately connected to oral health. It affects our entire personality, but unfortunately, for too many people it gets distilled down to a tooth or a hole in a tooth. The issues of oral health far exceed matters of teeth."

The future, he believes, is rich with opportunity. His past is filled with many gratifying experiences, including the opportunity to attend the March on Washington in 1964 to hear Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s unforgettable public address. "To share in that moment makes me proud," said the father of two with wife, Arlene.



Tooth Powders

Fifty years of tooth powder tins, dating from the 1890s through the 1940s.

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January