



March Is Women's History Month

celebrating the achievements of American women throughout the history of the United States

Women's History Month honors and celebrates the struggles and achievements of American women throughout the history of the United States.

Women's History Month had its origins in 1981. As requested by Congress, President Reagan issued Presidential Proclamation 4903 proclaiming the week beginning on March 7, 1982 as the first "Women's History Week" and recognizing the vital role of women in American history.

Since 1995, Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have issued a series of annual proclamation designating the month of March as "Women's History Month." These proclamations celebrate the contributions women have made to the United States and recognize the specific achievements women have made over the course of American history in a variety of fields. In 1999 President Clinton issued Presidential Proclamation 7170 which celebrated women from journalist Nellie Bly to Fannie Lou Hamer a leader in the Civil Rights movement to Rachel Carson. In 2008 President Bush issued Presidential Proclamation 8225 declaring the Month of March 2008 as "Women's History Month." This proclamation recognized the achievements of women as diverse as Amelia Earhart, physicist Chien-Shiung Wu and Harriet Tubman who risked her life on the Underground Railway.



(left to right: Fannie Lou Hamer; Harriet Tubman; Rachel Carson; Amelia Earhart, Chien-Shiung Wu; and Nellie Bly.)

College Day Scandinavia 2015 - The Nordic Tour

College Day is an education fair that brings together representatives from American colleges with students interested in studying in the US. If you're interested in studying in the U.S., this is one event you won't want to miss!

College Day Helsinki on Tuesday, March 17th, 2015 from 13:00 - 16:00 at the International School of Helsinki. Admission is free. For more information please visit <http://www.collegedayscandinavia.org>.

WebPicks

collected by the ARC staff

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American Life

Burn After Reading by Gabriel Thompson. Harper's Magazine, February 27, 2015.

In 1971, William Powell published *The Anarchist Cookbook*, a guide to making bombs and drugs at home. He spent the next four decades fighting to take it out of print.

<http://harpers.org/blog/2015/02/burn-after-reading/>

Don't Be Like That by Kelefa Sanneh. The New Yorker, February 9, 2015.

Does black culture need to be reformed? "The Michael Brown debate became a proxy for our ongoing argument about race: where some seek to expose what America is doing to black communities, others insist that the real problem is what black communities are doing to themselves."

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/02/09/dont-like>

Labor Pains by Rebecca Traister. New Republic, February 3, 2015.

More women than ever are having babies at the peak of their careers. When will we stop punishing them for it?

<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/120939/maternity-leave-policies-america-hurt-working-moms>

Microsoft in the Age of Satya Nadella by Jessi Hempel. Wired, February 2015.

Jessi Hempel profiles Satya Nadella and his warm, fuzzy, and slightly bonkers plan to make you care about Microsoft.

<http://www.wired.com/2015/01/microsoft-nadella/>

People on Food Stamps Make Healthier Grocery Decisions Than Most of Us by Tom Philpott. Mother Jones, March 9, 2015.

Which is why we shouldn't tell them what to buy.

<http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2014/03/junk-food-stamps-snap>

Some Different Ways of Looking at Selma by Darryl Pinckney. The New York Review of Books, February 19, 2015.

<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2015/feb/19/some-different-ways-looking-selma/>

Economy & Politics

America The Relatively Beautiful by Peter Coy. Bloomberg Businessweek, January 29, 2015.

Calling the U.S. the world's strongest economy is akin to naming it the winner of the Least Ugly Contest.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-01-29/u-s-economy-after-recovery-needs-rest-of-world-to-grow-too>

The Billionaires at Burning Man by Felix Gillette. Bloomberg Businessweek, February 5, 2015

Historically, Burning Man was "a great leveler"—nobody in Black Rock City cared who you were. The prevalence of costumes allowed the rich and famous to mingle with the masses.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-02-05/occupy-burning-man-class-warfare-comes-to-desert-festival>

A Massive Social Experiment On You Is Under Way, And You Will Love It by Parmy Olson. Forbes, February 9, 2015.

With and without our consent, websites, wearables and apps are running millions of experiments on us every day to make them more money and make us healthier, happier and smarter.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/parmyolson/2015/01/21/jawbone-guinea-pig-economy/>

This Long-Lost Constitutional Clause Could Save the Right to Vote by Richard Kreitner. The Nation, February 9, 2015.

With the exception of the early 1960s, the right to vote in the US is arguably more embattled today than at any time since Reconstruction. In a quick succession of rulings in October, voter-ID laws, residency requirements, and the curtailment of early voting hours and same-day registration were upheld or overturned in states across the country.

<http://www.thenation.com/article/195705/any-way-abridged>

The Republicans: Divided & Scary by Elizabeth Drew. The New York Review of Books, February 19, 2015.

<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2015/feb/19/republicans-divided-scary/?insrc=to>

Global Challenges

The U.S. will be the Chair of the Arctic Council from May 2015 through May 2017. We will be highlighting Arctic issues in the Global Challenges section of the WebPicks.

2014 Was the Biggest Year For Solar Power Ever by Tim McDonnell. Mother Jones, March 10, 2015.

We've noted here before the many ways in which solar power is blowing up in the United States: Adding tons of jobs, driving progressive policies, and attracting millions of dollars in investment from major corporations. It's not slowing down anytime soon: New data from market

analysis firm GTM Research finds that 2014 was solar's biggest year ever, with 30 percent more photovoltaic installations installed than in 2013.

<http://www.motherjones.com/blue-marble/2015/03/2014-was-biggest-year-solar-power-ever>

Arctic Issue: Arctic Sea Ice Could Set an Ominous New Record This Year by Chris Mooney. Washington Post, March 5, 2015.

The record to beat here is the year 2011, when the sea ice maximum was only 14.63 million square kilometers (5.65 million square miles). Last month the extent was 14.41 million square kilometers. So unless the ice grows more this March – certainly a possibility, as NSIDC says this has happened in past years — there will be a record low for this winter. We'll probably know in early April.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/03/05/arctic-sea-ice-could-set-an-ominous-new-record-this-year/>

Is Recycling Worth It? by Joanna Poncavage. Mother Earth News, February/March 2015.

You know to "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle." But when it comes to disposing of your electronics, paper, plastics, glass and other waste, is recycling worth it?

<http://www.motherearthnews.com/nature-and-environment/is-recycling-worth-it-zmoz15fmzsor.aspx>

The Largest Chinese Bike Share Program Is 12 Times the Size of NYC's (And 22 other numbers that will help you understand our world)

by Miles Schneiderman and Peter D'Auria. Yes! Magazine, February 20, 2015.

<http://www.yesmagazine.org/issues/together-with-earth/the-page-that-counts>

Latest Trends in Religious Restrictions and Hostilities by Pew Research Center. February 26, 2015.

Worldwide, social hostilities involving religion declined somewhat in 2013 after reaching a six-year peak the previous year, but roughly a quarter of the world's countries are still grappling with high levels of religious hostilities within their borders, according to the Pew Research Center's latest annual study on global restrictions on religion.

<http://www.pewforum.org/2015/02/26/religious-hostilities/>

Arctic Issue: The Remote Alaskan Village That Needs to be Relocated Due to Climate Change by Chris Mooney. The Washington Post, February 24, 2015.

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell wants to help tiny Kivalina, which is directly threatened by a warming world.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/02/24/the-remote-alaskan-village-that-needs-to-be-relocated-due-to-climate-change/>

For more Arctic related issues please check our **Scoop.it** site at <http://www.scoop.it/t/arctic-by-americanresourcecenter>. The site includes curated content that concentrates only on the Arctic.

International Relations

The Crime of the Century by Casey Michel. New Republic, March 4, 2015.

The first time Russia annexed the Crimean peninsula, under the expansionist regime of Catherine the Great in 1783, Russia stood ascendant. Pushing west, south, and east simultaneously, covering steppe and coastline alike, imperial Russia swallowed territory at will. At the time, Crimea was but another jewel in the empress's crown. Claiming it fortified Black Sea security, chipped at the Ottoman Empire's former territories, and guaranteed, as adviser-and-lover Grigory Potemkin told Catherine, "the security of the population of Novorossiya"—the Ukrainian territory whose deep Russian roots separatists claim legitimizes Russia's current incursion into eastern Ukraine.

<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/121222/one-year-after-russias-annexation-world-has-forgotten-crimea>

The Dressing Up of Bibi's Speech by Paul R. Pillar. National Interest, March 7, 2015.

There was so much that was improper about one political party giving a foreign leader a privileged platform in the U.S. Congress for the purpose of undermining U.S. foreign policy, and so much understandable criticism of this improper action, that what now sounds like a responsible and "sober" thing to say, as Shai Feldman presents himself as saying at The National Interest, is that we should not get distracted by all the commotion over how Benjamin Netanyahu came to give his speech, even though there may be grounds for criticizing his strategy in giving the speech, but instead should take seriously the substance of what he said.

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/pillar/the-dressing-bibis-speech-12378>

Foreign Policy by Map by John Hillen. National Review, February 23, 2015.

In its approach to the world, the U.S. must have an unapologetic and muscular posture, but one that attracts and inspires followers and delivers results. American leadership may grate on many, even among its manifest beneficiaries, but current events show that a world without global American leadership is more unstable and dangerous than any alternative.

<https://www.nationalreview.com/nrd/articles/413255/foreign-policy-map>

The Long War: Sustainability Should Guide America's Strategy against Islamic Extremism by Ronald Brownstein. The National Journal, March 7, 2015.

Over its history, the United States has only rarely faced a foreign threat that persisted for a generation or longer. Conflict with Great Britain flared for roughly four decades after the Revolutionary War. The Cold War with the Soviet Union lasted nearly 45 years.

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/political-connections/the-long-war-20150306>

What ISIS Really Wants by Graeme Wood. The Atlantic, March 2015.

The Islamic State is no mere collection of psychopaths. It is a religious group with carefully considered beliefs, among them that it is a key agent of the coming apocalypse. Here's what that means for its strategy—and for how to stop it.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/features/archive/2015/02/what-isis-really-wants/384980/>

New York State of Mind

Tervetuloa viettämään New York -matkailuita tiistaina, 31.3. Kaisa-kirjaston auditorioon (Fabianinkatu 30, 7. krs) klo 17-19!

Matkailuita on Nuorten aikuisten Amerikka-verkosto NAME:n, Helsingin Suomi-Amerikka Yhdistyksen ja ARCin yhteistilaisuus.

Lisätietoja NAME:n Facebook-sivulta
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1555684991363074/>

Tervetuloa!

World Water Day

World Water Day, held on Sunday, March 22, is a day to celebrate water. It's a day to make a difference for the members of the global population who suffer from water related issues. It's a day to prepare for how we manage water in the future.

For water-related resources that contribute to solutions for global water challenges please visit H2info: <http://www.h2info.us/>

Through this portal, you will find a wide range of water information resources from raw data to reports, and technical guidance to blog posts. H2info is powered by the U.S. Water Partnership, which seeks to mobilize U.S.-based knowledge, expertise, and resources to improve water security around the world.



Did You Know?

“Spring Forward, Fall Back”

Effective Sunday, March 8, 2015 Eastern Standard Time, the United States will begin Daylight Saving Time. Helsinki will be six hours ahead of Washington, D.C. between March 8 and March 29, 2015.

Finland will begin Daylight Saving Time on Sunday, March 29, and will once again be 7 hours ahead of Washington, D.C.



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