Women's History Month Guide

Newspaper In Education

By Elizabeth Elosua Dysart

Edited By Patricia Houk, Manager Educational Services and
Barbara Duncan, Assistant Manager Educational Services

Newsday/NLE
NEWS PAPER IN EDUCATION
Dedicated To:

Dr. Juan Elosua
(1920-1991)
Educator & Author

His gentle, nurturing soul touched and enriched his students’ and his family’s lives in every way.

His social consciousness and his dedication to those he served and his respect for all people was an inspiration.
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Foreword

As our NIE program has expanded to include *Celebrate Black History Month* in February, we felt it also important to highlight the national celebration of Women’s History Month in March.

To celebrate either one of these groups with a designated month is to slight the importance of their contributions to society. Selection of persons to be included was a necessity and is in no way to be considered all-inclusive. NIE established goals of including women of all races, of many nations, cultures and professions.

The women chosen are ones who we felt were important today. If we waited another year to include more individuals we might have had more women but delayed the celebration of Women’s History Month.

NIE is looking to expand the curriculum and welcomes your recommendations, research and activities. All entries submitted will be evaluated and edited, with credit to the class, teacher and school. The additions will be mailed to all teachers who subscribed to Women’s History Month 1993 and will be included with the book when it is offered again in 1994.

The author of this book hopes to stimulate further thought and discussion and that all readers of the biographies can find someone with whom to identify.

*Patricia Houk*

*Manager Educational Services*
Biography: Bella Abzug was born in New York on July 24, 1920. As a lawyer during the 1950's, she defended civil rights cases in the south, as well as writers accused of un-American activities. In the 1960's she was active in the peace, anti-nuclear and women's movements. Abzug was the founder and chairperson of the National Women's Political Caucus and co-chaired the President's National Advisory Committee on Women in the late 1970's. In 1970 she won a seat in the House of Representatives as a Democrat representing the nineteenth district in Manhattan. She was one of twelve women in the House and the first Jewish woman ever to be sent to Capitol Hill. She became known as “Battling Bella” – a powerful speaker and aggressive legislator who pressed for welfare reform, mass transit improvement and women's rights. In 1976, she left Congress to run against Daniel Patrick Moynihan for a Senate seat, but lost by a small margin. Later, she also lost a bid for the New York City mayoralty. Abzug was a commentator and writer on politics and women's issues as well as the author of Gender Gap: Bella Abzug's Guide to Political Power for Women, which she wrote in 1984.

"Congress is a middle-aged, middle class, white male power structure...No wonder it's been so totally unresponsive to the needs of the country"

ACTIVITY: CONFLICT RESOLUTION

1. Bella Abzug was a powerful and aggressive politician. She was involved in many controversial issues. Look through today’s newspaper and select three issues that might have interested Abzug.

2. Every story has two sides. From the articles selected identify the conflict, the “side” you agree with, and an idea of your own that could resolve the conflict.

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<th>AGREE WITH</th>
<th>RESOLUTION</th>
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(1920 - 1998) Lawyer, Politician, Writer
Jane Addams

(1860 - 1935) Social Worker, Reformer, Pacifist, Lecturer

“If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain: If I can ease one life the aching, Or cool one pain, Or help one fainting robin Unto his nest again, I shall not live in vain.”
Emily Dickinson, Poet

Biography: Jane Addams was born in Cedarville, Illinois on September 6, 1860. According to Addams, intelligent middle-class women were educated, but society often dictated a life of uselessness. Searching for an outlet for her skills and spirit, she visited England and found Toynbee Hall, a famous settlement house. She decided to bring the ideas discovered in London home to Chicago and form Hull House. Although Hull House, located in one of Chicago’s worst slums, was originally conceived as a service to young middle-class women wanting more than a homemaker’s life, it soon developed into a center for the poor people of the neighborhood, giving them an introduction to different cultures. It became a home for working girls, a boys’ club and provided numerous other services. Thousands visited it, and Hull House was the motivation for many similar settlement houses in other cities. The success of Hull House thrust Addams into the national spotlight, and she spoke and wrote on numerous reform issues, from women’s suffrage to pacifism. She received honorary degrees from many universities and was an adviser to several presidents. In 1931, she became the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

ACTIVITY: GOOD PEOPLE

1. Jane Addams helped people by giving them a place for hope called the Hull House. Find a news article or a feature story in today’s newspaper about someone helping another person.
2. Name the person or group that helped another. Find local heroes in your neighborhood and interview them. Share your findings with your class.

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Biography: Marian Anderson was born on February 27, 1902 (according to her birth certificate), in Philadelphia. Since she displayed a gift for singing when very young, local supporters provided money for her to study with private tutors. When Anderson was 23 years old she entered and won a vocal competition, competing against 300 other singers. This resulted in sponsorships which enabled her to continue her studies. In 1930 she toured Europe, singing in London, Scandinavia, and Germany. In 1935, with her international reputation established, she gave a triumphant recital, singing for the first time in New York City. Anderson won recognition at home and abroad for black artists, but a national controversy flared in 1939 when she was refused the use of Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). This controversy did much to focus public attention on racism. In protest, Eleanor Roosevelt resigned from the DAR and arranged for a concert at the Lincoln Memorial. Anderson later sang at the White House, and in 1955, at the age of 53, became the first black singer to appear at the Metropolitan Opera. In 1957, as an emissary of the State Department, Anderson made a concert tour of India and the Far East, and in 1958, President Eisenhower appointed her a delegate to the 13th Assembly of the United Nations. Anderson retired from her concert career in 1965. Her honors include the 1963 Presidential Medal of Freedom and the first Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award. In 1972, Anderson established the Marian Anderson Fellowship for Young artists and won the National Medal of Arts in 1986.

“Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them, but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them, and try to follow where they lead.”
Louisa May Alcott, Writer

ACTIVITY: THAT’S ENTERTAINMENT

1. Marion Anderson was an entertainer at a time when African Americans were not free to perform in many places. Look through today’s newspaper entertainment pages for sites where Marion Anderson might be asked to perform.

2. List the locations and different types of entertainment centers.

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<tr>
<th>ENTERTAINMENT CENTER</th>
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Susan B. Anthony

(1820 - 1906) Suffragette, Abolitionist, Writer, Lecturer

“The true republic — men, their rights and nothing more; women their rights and nothing less.”

Biography: Susan B. Anthony was born February 13, 1820 in Adams, Massachusetts. In 1852, Anthony met Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and together they campaigned door to door, in legislatures and in town meetings for abolition of slavery and women’s rights. After the Civil War her friends in the abolitionist struggle brushed he aside saying the time was just not ready for women’s suffrage. From 1865 until the end of her life she worked solely for women’s suffrage, organizing the National Woman Suffrage Association with Stanton. In 1869 she became chairwoman of the association’s executive committee, and in 1892 was elected President, a post she held until her retirement at 80 years old. In the 1872 presidential race, Anthony and her allies become the first women ever to vote in a national electing; however, they were arrested, prosecuted, and lost their case. Conscious of the nearly total neglect of women in historical literature she and her colleagues published multiple volumes entitled History of Woman Suffrage between the years 1881 through 1902. Anthony attended her last Suffrage Convention in Washington, D.C. and celebrated her 86th birthday there. She closed her last speech with the words, “Failure is impossible.” When she passed away on March 13, 1906, only four states had granted the vote to women. Fourteen years later, women were granted the right to vote when the 19th Amendment was added to the Constitution.

ACTIVITY: EQUAL RIGHTS

1. Susan B. Anthony fought for women to have the right to vote in the United States. Look at today’s newspaper and find examples of people fighting for equal rights.

2. For each example found, identify the person/group, rights involved and the “where” of the story.

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<tr>
<th>PERSON/GROUP</th>
<th>RIGHT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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Women’s History Month Guide / Elizabeth Elosua Dysart
Corazon Aquino

**Biography:** Corazon Aquino was born January 25, 1933 in Tarlac, Philippines. She attended college in New York, then enrolled in law school in Manila. In 1954, while in law school, she met and married Benigno Aquino. One year later he was elected mayor of the city of Concepcion. In 1973, he was considered a favorite to unseat Ferdinand Marcos as president. Corazon believed in and supported her husband's political career, but did not play an active role. The Aquinos’ lives were almost shattered when President Marcos, under civil attack, declared martial law and arrested most of his political opponents, including Benigno Aquino. For the next eight years, Corazon was her husband's link to the world. In 1980, he was released for medical reasons, and for three years the Aquino family lived in a Boston suburb. In 1983, the opposition to Marcos was growing, and supporters encouraged Aquino to return to the Philippines. He agreed to return and on August 21, after arriving from the United States, he was killed at the Manila airport. Despite Marcos’ claims of denial, Corazon and her husband’s supporters blamed him for this murder. The crime touched off rioting and demonstrations and led to Corazon Aquino’s first political action, a press conference condemning the murderers of her husband. Within weeks of her husband’s death she became the focal point of the nation. By 1984 she had become the most influential figure in the opposition to Marcos, and in 1985 she agreed to run for president. She called for a democratic constitution and vowed not to live the lavish life of Marcos. During the voting on February 7th it seemed apparent that Aquino was winning until the voting process was affected by violence, fraud and ballot theft. Both Marcos and Aquino declared themselves winners of the election. Marcos’ victory was not recognized by the people, and when his close associate resigned, Marcos fled to Hawaii. As president, Aquino released political prisoners, abolished the government’s power to imprison people at will and pledged that “the basic freedoms of speech, assembly, thought and non-violent action would flourish.”

**ACTIVITY: NON-TRADITIONAL ROLES**

1. Corazon Aquino was the Philippine President from 1986 to 1992. In her country a woman political leader is extremely untraditional. Look through several day’s newspapers for women in “non-traditional” roles. These women have various responsibilities and pressures because of their positions.

   Complete the chart below.

   **NAME OF PERSON**
   **ROLE**
   **RESPONSIBILITY**

   

2. Make a class list of women you would like to have in various political roles. Consider people for president, Secretary of Health, Labor and Education, governor, mayor, etc.
Biography: Clara Barton was born on December 25, 1821 in North Oxford, Massachusetts. In 1850 she went to teach at Bordentown, New Jersey, where state tradition required families to pay for their children’s education. Barton established the first Free School in New Jersey and raised enrollment in the Bordentown Free School from six to six hundred. Later, she obtained an appointment as a copyist in the Patent Office in Washington, D.C., becoming the first woman in America to hold such a government post. She continued this work until 1861, when the Civil War began, and she decided to serve the federal troops. Barton’s mission was not chiefly that of a nurse. She was adept at obtaining and passing out supplies, but her courage and humanity made her presence everywhere essential, earning her the nickname, “Angel of the Battlefield.” In 1865 she set up the Bureau of Records in Washington to locate missing soldiers. Barton suffered from poor health, and in 1869 went to Geneva, Switzerland for rest and a change. During her visit the Franco-Prussian War began. Barton distributed food and clothing and offered her assistance in the military hospitals. In 1873 she was awarded the Iron Cross of Merit for her services. While in Switzerland, the officials of the International Red Cross urged her to seek the United States’ agreement to the Geneva Convention, recognizing the work of the Red Cross. On May 21, 1881, Barton created the American Branch of the Red Cross.

“I may be compelled to face danger, but never fear it, and while our soldiers can stand and fight, I can stand and feed and nurse them.”

ACTIVITY: PROBLEM SOLVING

1. Clara Barton was the founder of the American Red Cross. Find three articles in today’s newspaper about places that have received or need to receive aid from an agency like the Red Cross.

2. For the articles chosen, list who received help and describe the help received. Suggest ways the people/countries can try to help themselves.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>HELP RECEIVED</th>
<th>SUGGESTIONS</th>
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Mary McLeod Bethune

(1875 - 1955) Educator, Civil Rights Reformer, Federal Government Official

“If our people are to fight their way up out of bondage we must arm them with the sword and the shield and the buckler of pride.”

Biography: Mary McLeod Bethune was born in Mayesville, South Carolina on July 10, 1875. She was the fifteenth of seventeen children of freed slaves. With the help of a scholarship, she entered college and graduated in 1894, qualified to teach. In 1904 she opened a school for black girls in Daytona Beach, Florida. The school began with five girls and her son. With Bethune’s business skills and strong personality, the school soon grew and prospered. Within twenty years, the school employed a staff of twenty-three and enrollment was at three hundred. She transformed her school into a college which merged with a boys’ school in 1923 to form Bethune-Cookman College. Bethune served as its president until 1942. In 1935 she received the NAACP’s Springarn Medal for high achievement. That same year, she founded the National Council of Negro Women and served as its president until 1949. The council focused on issues of segregation, discrimination against black women, and other national liberal causes. From 1936 – 1944 she was director of the Division of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration. Bethune was appointed to several other government positions and was the first black woman to head a federal agency.

ACTIVITY: CAN THE GOVERNMENT HELP!

1. Mary Bethune served as President Roosevelt’s special adviser on Minority Affairs. Find an article in today’s newspaper where a person might need to seek help from someone like Bethune.

2. Complete the chart below. Brainstorm with classmates about problems the Division of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration could help today’s teenagers solve.

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<th>PROBLEM</th>
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Biography: Elizabeth Blackwell was born in Counterslip, England on February 3, 1821, but immigrated to the United States when she was eleven years old. She began her working career as a teacher in Kentucky, but at a friend's suggestion studied medicine in her spare time. In 1847, after numerous medical school rejections, she was finally accepted to Geneva College in New York. Her graduation was publicized in the United States and Europe since she became the first American woman to receive a medical degree. (Soon after graduation she became a naturalized citizen). Since no American hospital would admit her, she went to Europe for further study. Handicapped by partial blindness, Dr. Blackwell gave up her ambition to become a surgeon and began practicing at a small hospital in London. In 1851 she returned to New York City, but was unable to secure a position as a physician because of her gender. Instead, she established a private practice in a rented room, where her sister Emily, who had also pursued a medical career, soon joined her. In 1868 their clinic later became the New York Infirmary and College for Women, operated by women for women. In 1869, Dr. Blackwell set up practice in London and continued her efforts to open the medical profession to women. In addition, she authored a number of books, including an autobiography, Pioneer Work in Opening the Medical Profession to Women.

“My whole life was) devoted unreservedly to the service of my sex. The study and practice of medicine is, in my thought, but one means to a great end…the true ennoblement of woman, the full harmonious development of her unknown nature, and the consequent redemption of the whole human race.”

ACTIVITY: MEDICAL ADVANCES

1. Elizabeth Blackwell was the first American woman to receive a medical degree. Look through your newspaper and find pictures, advertisements and/or articles that show examples of modern medical technology.

2. Describe the medical items found in the newspaper. What did doctors do before this new invention? Are there any controversial issues concerning any of these medical advances?

COMMENTS:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

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__________________________________________________________________________
Rachel Carson

(1907 - 1964) Writer, Biologist, Conservationist

“Entire species of animals have been exterminated, or reduced to so small a remnant their survival is doubtful. Forests have been despoiled by uncontrolled and excessive cutting of lumber... We have much to accomplish before we can feel assured of passing on to future generations a land as richly endowed in natural wealth as the one we live in.”

Biography: Rachel Carson was born on May 27, 1907 in Springdale, Pennsylvania. In 1936 Carson served as an aquatic biologist with the United States Bureau of Fisheries and also was a writer of a radio show called “Romance of the Waters.” After her first book, Under the Sea Wind (1941), she became editor in chief of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior. In 1951, the Sea Around Us brought her instant fame. At the top of the best-seller list for thirty-nine weeks, it was translated into thirty languages and received several awards. The following year Carson left the government to devote time to her writing and research. When Silent Spring appeared in 1962, the poetic pen and logical mind of Carson left an unparalleled mark. She inspired an entire nation! This book dealt not only with the damages of the insecticide, DDT, but also with other chemicals poisoning earth, air, and water. The pesticide industry responded with a campaign to discredit Carson and her discoveries but was unsuccessful. As a direct result of the revelations of this book, President Kennedy formed the Science Advisory Committee to study the effects of pesticides on the environment brought to light by the “Mother of the Environmental Movement,” Rachel Carson.

ACTIVITY: MOTHER EARTH

1. Rachel Carson is known as the mother of conservationists. In today’s newspaper find four examples of air, water, land or noise pollution.

2. Using the articles, list the cause and type of pollution and any measures that are being used to rectify the situation. If there are no solutions listed, can you come up with any answers?

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<th>CAUSE(S)</th>
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Biography: Shirley Chisholm was born in Brooklyn on November 30, 1924. She attended Brooklyn College and Columbia University. From 1946 to 1956 she worked at a child care center, then opened her own nursery school. In addition, she directed the Hamilton-Madison Child Care Center in New York and advised the city on day care. Chisholm received many awards for her early work in childhood education. In 1964 she was elected a New York State Assemblywoman for the 55th District. From 1968 to 1983 she was a congresswoman for the 12th District in Brooklyn. She was the first black woman to serve in the United States Congress. In the Assembly and in Congress she was a promoter of women’s and minority rights and sought the improvement of education policies. In 1972, she made history when she campaigned for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States. Chisholm was a pioneer for blacks and women in politics and was the first black candidate for president. Chisholm is also an author of two books, Unbought and Unbossed, her 1970 autobiography, and The Good Fight, published in 1973.

“Social science affirms that a women’s place in society marks the level of civilization.”
Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Suffragette

ACTIVITY: DARING WOMEN

1. Shirley Chisholm has said she wants to be remembered as a “daring, determined woman.” Find three examples of women who fit that description in today’s newspaper.
2. Complete the chart below.

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<th>HEADLINE ARTICLE</th>
<th>NAME AND OCCUPATION</th>
<th>EXAMPLE OF DETERMINATION</th>
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Ada Deer

(1935 - ) Native American Activist and Leader

“Women’s issues are all our issues. We all need to understand we are all people on this planet. We have much more in common than we have differences among us.”

Biography: Ada Deer was born on the Menominee Reservation in Wisconsin on August 7, 1935. She grew up in a one-room log cabin with no running water or electricity. She was the first person from her tribe to graduate from the University of Wisconsin, and she received her master’s degree from Columbia University in New York City. When Deer was working as a teacher in the Minneapolis public schools she had an opportunity to repay her tribe for sending her to college. Because of an old law, the Menominee were in danger of losing their land. Deer worked hard lobbying in Washington for passage of a law to protect her people. In December of 1972, President Richard Nixon signed the Menominee Restoration Act which was then passed into law by the United States Congress in 1973. It returned their land and restored their right to live as a tribe. In that same year she became the first woman chief of the tribe. In addition, Deer has held several different positions, including community service coordinator for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and school social worker. She has been involved in politics on national, state, and local levels. In 1978 and 1982, Deer ran for the Democratic nomination for Wisconsin’s Secretary of State. Although she did not win, Deer received a very impressive showing of support both times. Her involvement with politics and education have generated several achievement awards and honors. In 1993 she was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, the first woman to every head that department. Deer travels throughout the country speaking to groups about American Indians and women’s rights. In her speeches she says, “One of our precious rights as American citizens is to speak up...to speak out...and to work for change within the system.”

ACTIVITY: GREAT LEADERS

1. Ada Deer is a leader who has worked hard to protect Native American civil rights. Look through today’s newspaper and find groups of people who you feel would benefit from a strong leader.

2. Let these questions guide you in writing an editorial about one particular group’s plight. What problems or conflicts does this group face? How could a leader help? Should the United States government get involved? Remember, an editorial includes your opinion and facts.
Elizabeth “Liddy” Dole

Biography: Elizabeth Dole graduated from Harvard Law School in 1965. She was one of twenty-four female graduates in a class of five hundred fifty. After law school, Dole went to Washington, D.C., where she became executive director of the Presidential Committee for Consumer Interests and deputy director of the United States Office of Consumer Affairs. In 1973 Dole was nominated to be one of five commissioners on the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). Once appointed, she became known for her enforcement of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1975 and the investigation of nursing home abuses. Although raised as a Democrat, Dole became an Independent and then a Republican. In 1975 she married Robert Dole, Republican senior senator from Kansas. Following Robert Dole’s entry into presidential primaries in 1979, she resigned as FTC commissioner to campaign for him. In 1983 President Reagan appointed Dole Secretary of Transportation. She became the first woman in American history to hold that cabinet position and the seventh woman to serve in a presidential cabinet. As Secretary of Transportation she was responsible for highways, bridges, mass transit, air traffic control, shipping, Conrail, and the Washington, D.C. public transportation system. In addition, the Secretary of Transportation is the director of the United States Coastguard, which made her the first woman to command an armed service in the United States. While Secretary of Transportation, Dole initiated regulations calling for increased production of automobile air bags and safety belts. She led the crusade against drunk driving and reorganized the aviation safety inspection process. Appointed Secretary of Labor by President Bush (the first); she was his chief adviser on labor and workplace issues and a key adviser on economic policy. In 1988, when Robert Dole again announced he was running for president, Elizabeth Dole resigned as Secretary of Transportation. She also served as president of the American Red Cross from 1991 – 1998 and again in 1991 and in the year 2000 she was in the running for the Republican nomination for president. She is still considered one of the country’s most powerful women.

“If you ever have a new idea, and it’s really new, you have to expect that it won’t be widely accepted immediately. It’s a long hard process.”

Rosalyn Yalow, Physicist

ACTIVITY: GETTING THERE IS HALF THE PROBLEM

1. Elizabeth Dole was the first woman Secretary of Transportation. Scan through today’s newspaper and find articles dealing with transportation problems.
2. Brainstorm with a partner original ideas for solving these problems.

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<th>ARTICLE HEADLINE</th>
<th>TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM</th>
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Women’s History Month Guide / Elizabeth Elosua Dysart
Biography: Amelia Earhart was born on July 24, 1897 in Atchison, Kansas. During World War I, Amelia began her working life caring for the injured in Toronto and then went to medical school in 1919 at Columbia University. While she was in medical school, however, she took a trial flight at an air show. Determined to become a pilot, she began taking lessons from a woman flyer, Neta Snook. In 1928 Earhart achieved instant fame when, as a passenger and log-keeper, she became the first woman to cross the Atlantic. She began lecturing and writing, as well as flying, in an effort to advertise the aircraft industry and encourage independence for women. On May 20, 1932, she flew from Newfoundland to Ireland, becoming the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Over the next five years, Earhart continued as an aviation pioneer. She was the first person to fly across the ocean more than once, the first to fly solo from Hawaii to California, and the first to attempt a round-the-world flight. Her round-the-world flight began in Florida where she began her official journey around the world on June 1, 1937 with California as her first stop. On July 2, she and aviator Fred Noonan left New Guinea, disappeared, and have never been found. Although rumors still circulate as to Amelia Earhart’s fate, no concrete proof has yet been found to solve the mystery of her disappearance.

ACTIVITY: WOMEN IN THE NEWS

1. Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Look through the newspaper and find news, features and editorials about other famous women.

2. Complete the chart below.

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<th>OCCUPATION</th>
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Women’s History Month Guide / Elizabeth Elosua Dysart
Biography: Sandra Feldman was born October 14, 1939 in New York City. A long-time civil rights activist, she was arrested during the Freedom Rides and other protests in the 1960’s. She became an elementary school teacher from 1963 – 1966 at P.S. 34 on New York’s lower east side. While there she organized a union chapter of the United Federation of Teacher (UFT). Soon afterwards, Feldman was made a field representative, handling grievances. Her skills helped her rise through the union ranks, eventually becoming executive director and then president in January, 1986. She is the third president since the union was founded in 1969 and the first woman in that role. Feldman has served as a vice president of the New York State AFL-CIO, as well as, vice president of the New York City Central Labor Council. She is recognized as an expert on urban education and an advocate for children. United States presidents, governors, and mayors have appointed her to many committees that are involved with educational, economic, child-welfare, labor, and other social issues.

“Genuine learning has ever been said to give polish to man; why then should it not bestow added charms on women.” Emma Hart Willard, Educator

**ACTIVITY: LET’S DISCOVER UNIONS**

1. Sandra Feldman is the first woman president of the UFT, the union that helps teachers protect their rights, receive correct pay and handle grievances. Look through the classified advertisements and make a list of jobs that you think may be union jobs.

2. Take your lists home and see if your parents agree with you. Ask them if they belong to unions and if they do, which unions. Discuss with your parents the pros and cons of belonging to unions. As a class, create a list of all the unions and compare your findings.
Geraldine Ferraro

(1935 - ) First Woman Candidate for the Vice Presidency of a Major Political Party

“I have long felt that the trouble with discrimination is not discrimination per se but rather that the people who are discriminated against think of themselves as second-class.”
Rosalyn Yalow, Physicist

Biography: Geraldine Ferraro was born on August 26, 1935 in Newburgh, New York. Between 1961 and 1974 Ferraro practiced law, had three children, and worked in her husband John Zaccaro’s real estate business. From 1974 - 1978 she agreed to serve as an assistant district attorney in Queens County. In 1978, Ferraro won a seat in Congress and was easily re-elected in 1980. Ferraro continued her active role within the Democratic Party and in 1982 was elected secretary of the Democratic Caucus. She was later named chairwoman of the Democratic Party Platform Committee for the 1984 national convention. After many interviews and the most thorough vice presidential search in history, Geraldine Ferraro was chosen by presidential nominee Walter F. Mondale as the first woman candidate for the vice presidency of the Democratic party. The choice was made sixty-four years to the day that American women won the right to vote. Because President Reagan’s popularity with the voters resulted in a Republican re-election victory, Ferraro did not have the opportunity to become vice president. After her term as congresswoman expired in January 1985, she wrote a book about her vice presidential campaign.

ACTIVITY: FIRSTS

1. Geraldine Ferraro was the first woman to be nominated to serve as vice president on a major political ticket. Whenever someone does something new, unique or unexpected there are benefits and risks involved. Using today's newspaper, find articles or pictures of people meeting new challenges.

2. Write a hard news story about one of the people you discovered. Who is the person? What are the risk/benefits of their endeavor? When and where are these new things taking place? Remember this type of story must include the five w’s.
Betty Friedan

Biography: Betty Friedan was born in Peoria, Illinois on February 4, 1921. She was a journalist and a psychologist before marrying Carl Friedan and leaving the world of work to become a suburban housewife. In 1963, her book, *The Feminine Mystique*, was published. The book defined, “the problem that has no name,” societal pressure on American women to conform to the role of housewife and mother. To be anything else was not acceptable. Friedan’s book received enormous positive response from women, and Friedan has since been called, “the mother of the new feminist movement.” In 1966 she organized the National Organization for Women (NOW), which remains a powerful lobbying group for women’s rights in the United States. She was its first president from 1966 until 1970. Friedan also helped found the National Women’s Political Caucus in 1971, led the National Women’s Strike for Equality, convened the International Feminist Congress in 1973, and helped found the first women’s bank the same year. She became increasingly radical in her outlook during the 1970’s and in 1976 edited an anthology of articles on the movement called *It Changed My Life*. Since the late 1970’s she has campaigned for the Equal Rights Amendment. Her more reformist voice in *The Second Stage* (1981) called for a shift in the feminist movement, one that would address the needs of families and would allow both men and women to break from the gender-role stereotypes of the past.

“I think that implicit in the women’s movement is the idea that women will share in the economic burden, and men will share more equally in the home and the family.”

ACTIVITY: CHANGE AGENTS

1. With her book, *The Feminine Mystique*, Betty Friedan started a “revolution.” She has been called a “change agent” and is an example of one person making a change. Using today’s newspaper, locate examples of other people who have made a difference.

2. Complete the chart below.

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<th>NAME OF PERSON</th>
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**Indira Gandhi**

(1917 - 1984) Former Prime Minister of India

"When indeed shall we learn that we are all related one to the other, that we are all members of one body? Until the spirit of love for our fellowmen, regardless of race, color or creed, shall fill the world, making real in our lives and our deeds the actuality of human brotherhood — until the great mass of the people shall be filled with the sense of responsibility for each other's welfare, social justice can never be attained."

_Helen Keller, Author, Teacher_

**Biography:** Indira Gandhi was born November 19, 1917 in Allahabad, India. She was only twelve when she began working to rid her country of British rule. Her efforts progressed throughout her years as a student at Oxford University and ultimately led to her arrest for subversion in 1942. After the British withdrew from India, Gandhi’s father, Jawaharlal Nehru, became Prime Minister, and Gandhi served as his aide. In 1959, she was elected president of the Congress Party and when her father died in 1964, she was elected to the Upper House of the Indian Parliament. In 1966, Gandhi was elected Prime Minister of India, the third person to head the government of the South Asian nation since its establishment as an independent republic in 1947. As president she instituted new policies such as population control and space and nuclear research. In 1975, in the midst of economic troubles she came under civil attack. She responded by declaring a state of emergency, censoring the press and jailing thousands. After two years Gandhi called for elections. She lost to her rival Mararji R. Desai, but after reorganizing her supporters, she won the 1980 election and was restored as Prime Minister. Because of governmental policies, intensified tensions, and violence between the Moslem, Hindu and Sikh sects, Gandhi was assassinated on October 31, 1984. Following the attack, her son, Rajiv Gandhi became Prime Minister.

**ACTIVITY: MY SPEECH**

1. Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister of India from 1966-77 and 1980-84. As Prime Minister she had to make many difficult and painful decisions, such as censoring the press and jailing her countrymen. Imagine that you were the President of the United States. Write a list of some problems you might face and how you would solve them.

2. Skim through copies of the newspaper for a week. Identify five major national issues or problems. Imagine that as President, you must deliver a “State of the Nation” speech including these issues. In your address to the nation list the five issues, why they are included, and your recommendations.
Ruth Bader Ginsburg

(1933 - ) 107th Justice Of The Supreme Court of the United States

“That a lawyer could do something that was personally satisfying and at the same time work to preserve the values that have made this country great,... was an exciting prospect for me.”

Biography: Ruth Ginsburg was born on March 15, 1933 in Brooklyn, New York. She attended Harvard and Columbia Law Schools and graduated in 1959 at the top of her class. At that time, she could not find a position with any New York law firm or a clerkship at the Supreme Court. Later she wrote about this event, “...the traditional law firms were just beginning to turn around on hiring Jews. But to be a woman, a Jew and a mother to boot – that combination was a bit too much.” Eventually she clerked for the Honorable Edmund L. Palmieri, United States District Court. As a volunteer at the Civil Liberties Union in the 70s, Ginsburg was responsible for litigating many cases that changed gender-based laws. From 1963-1972 she was a professor at Rutgers University. She was nominated by President Jimmy Carter to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and took the oath of office on June 30th, 1980. Thirteen years later she was nominated by President Clinton as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and took the oath of office on August 10, 1993. She became the 107th Justice and the second woman to sit on the Supreme Court. Justice Ginsburg replaced Justice Byron R. White, who retired. Ginsburg is the co-author of Civil Procedure in Sweden and Text, Cases, and Materials on Sex-Based Discrimination and numerous articles on civil procedure, conflict of laws and constitutional law.

ACTIVITY: CONSTITUTION IN THE NEWS

1. Justice Ginsburg and the Supreme Court work on upholding and interpreting the Constitution and its Amendments which are the basic principals and laws governing our country. Locate and read a copy of the Constitution.

2. Look through the newspaper for several days. Find articles that relate to protections guaranteed under the constitution.

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>ARTICLE HEADLINE</th>
<th>CONSTITUTION SECTION/AMENDMENT #</th>
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**Biography:** Martha Graham was born in May, 1894, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. When she was ten the family moved to Santa Barbara, California where she attended her first dance recital. She became a student teacher at the Denishawn School in California, which in 1920 relocated to New York. She made her professional debut the same year, dancing the leading role in Ted Shawn’s Xochitl. She left the school to dance in the Greenwich Follies in 1923 and in 1926 made her choreographic debut. She established the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance in 1927, becoming the first major dance troupe to include African-American dancers. Her groups gave yearly recitals in New York and later toured Europe and Asia. At times, during the years of experimentation in dance, she received scorn rather than support from a confused public used to the traditions of ballet. However, as her teaching became famous and her choreography became even more creative, she attracted dancers from all over the world. Graham created a form of movement that avoided the typical balletic influences. Her works were based on and inspired by different cultures, mythology, and literature. She taught at the Neighborhood School of the Theatre and the Julliard School of Music and was a skilled lecturer. Her film, “A Dancer’s World,” was based on her life, lectures and demonstrations and was a prize winner at several film festivals. Graham was in her sixties when she stopped dancing, but she continued to think of herself as a dancer. Martha Graham died on April 1, 1991 in her upper east side home after introducing a new work several months before.

“Either you have it or you don’t have it…. it’s your job to see that you have enough strength, enough soul, enough spirit, enough feeling to endure.”

**ACTIVITY: WHY THIS STORY**

1. Why do you think articles concerning Martha Graham appeared in the newspaper? Every day editors select which stories make the newspaper. The elements that make an event newsworthy are: the timeliness of the event, its location, its importance, its indication of progress or conflict and its uniqueness or indication of human interest. Select several different types of articles from today’s newspaper. Decide which elements from those listed above explain why the article appeared in the newspaper.

2. Complete the chart.

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Women’s History Month Guide / Elizabeth Elosua Dysart
Mother Clara McBride Hale

(1905 - 1992) Founder of Hale House, Humanitarian

“"If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them,”
Sojourner Truth, Suffragette, Abolitionist

Biography: Mother Clara McBride Hale was born in 1905 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After finishing high school she married and moved to New York City. When her husband died at an early age, Clara Hale was left to care for her two children. At the time, the only kind of work open to her was domestic, cleaning other people's homes. Rather than do that, she took in the children of women who spent all week working away from their homes and families. Often parents gave her an additional dollar and she kept the children over the weekend. She adopted on child and became the foster mother of forty. In 1969, Lorraine Hale, her daughter, saw a young drug-addicted woman holding a baby. She would nod off and drop the baby. Lorraine told the young mother about her own mother and the next day the woman arrived on Mother Hale's doorstep. "When they first came to see me, I had never seen any child addicts before. They are pitiful to see. They scratch themselves and keep nodding off. Whatever we could do to get them off (drugs) we had to do, while they were young. I just give them love and plenty of food. I sing to them, walk the floor with them, and in a month's time, it's all over." Within two months she had twenty-two babies in her five-room apartment. She founded Hale House in 1975, a place where children born to addicted mothers could detox from drugs. She received contributions and city assistance to support her work. In 1985, President Reagan cited her as an American hero, one who had to overcome adversity. Most of the babies she cared for were unwanted, drug addicted, and AIDS infected. Hale stated that she looked forward to the day when there would no longer be a need for Hale House. Mother Hale died on December 18, 1992 and the house was renamed Mother Hale House.

ACTIVITY: ISSUES AND CHILDREN

1. Mother Hale is an example of a person who overcame difficulties and changed her life. Furthermore, she dedicated her life to helping children and their families overcome their own problems. Children face situations in today's world that are new and dangerous. Scan through today’s newspaper for issues that affect children and for people who are attempting to change those situations. Have you faced any of these problems yourself?

2. List your findings and personal experiences on the chart below.

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Women’s History Month Guide / Elizabeth Elosua Dysart
Biography: Fannie Lou Hammer was born in Mississippi on October 6, 1917. She was the granddaughter of a slave and the youngest of twenty children. She was sharecropping cotton on a plantation when the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) began working in Mississippi in 1961. She was not interested in the work of the committee until she entered a hospital to have a small tumor removed. When she awoke from the surgery she found an additional procedure had also been done without her permission. Her anger about the operation prompted her to try to register to vote in 1962, which resulted in her being thrown off the plantation she had worked on for nineteen years. By this time she had become involved with the SNCC and was becoming one of the most dedicated movement activists. In 1963 she assisted in setting up a network of political organizations throughout black areas in Mississippi. This network was the forerunner of the Freedom Democratic Party. Hammer first came to the nation’s attention when in 1964 the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party challenged the all-white regular delegation to the Democratic National Convention. Although the challenge was not sustained, there was a walkout of the all-white delegation. In addition, Hammer ran against Congressman Jamie L. Whitten in the primary but lost. Some Freedom Democratic Party delegates were seated in 1968 and in 1972 they won all the seats. In 1971 Hammer was elected to the steering committee of the National Women’s Political Caucus. Because of her commitment to freedom for black people, she endured many threats, jailings, beatings, gunshots into her home, and other actions. Hammer became a symbol of determination to overcome laws and practices of segregation.

“...lives within a nation, as colored Americans are living inside America. A nation cannot live confident of its tomorrow if its refugees are among its own citizens.” 

Pearl Buck, Author

ACTIVITY: WHERE DO THEY LEAD?

1. Fannie Lou Hammer was a person who became involved in causes in which she strongly believed. Look through today’s newspaper and list politicians mentioned. Underline the names of politicians you think Hammer would have supported or helped.

2. Categorize the list into national/state/local and place the names accordingly. Are any of the politicians strong supporters of women’s rights? What issue is their current focus?

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Dolores Fernandez Huerta

(1930 - ) Union Executive, Civil Rights Leader

“The delights of self-discovery are always available.”
Gail Sheehy, Author, Journalist

Biography: Dolores Huerta was born in 1930 in Dawson, New Mexico, but moved to Stockton, California as a young child. In 1955 she became involved in voter registration drives and education within the Mexican-American community of California. She met Cesar Chavez and in 1962 assisted him in organizing the Farm Workers of America in Delano, California. As the result of years of lobbying by Huerta in Sacramento and Washington, migrant workers were granted disability insurance, pensions and unemployment insurance, all previously unavailable to them. Huerta played an important part in the negotiations of contracts that brought about an end to the five year Delano grape strike and the long on-and-off lettuce strike in Salinas Valley. In 1973 Huerta served as vice president of the United Farm Workers. She is on leave from her job with the farm workers after thirty years of boycotts, organizing workers, and lobbying in Washington and California. She is currently working with political groups to get more women and members of minority groups elected to office.

ACTIVITY: IMAGINATION AT WORK

1. Dolores Huerta helped organize migrant farm workers who travel from place to place looking for work. Imagine you and your family lived as migrant workers. Write a feature story about the conditions you might live under. Remember, a feature story is factual, but the reporter includes descriptive material. This type of writing entertains and provides human interest reading in the newspaper.

2. Look through your newspaper for feature stories about lifestyles different from yours. List the similarities to and differences from your own way of living.
Biography: Jackie Joyner-Kersee was born in East St. Louis, Illinois on March 3, 1962. Her parents were very young when she was born, and family life was an economic struggle. As a young child she had already begun to show her potential as an athlete, and her parents encouraged her. While attending high school, she became known as the best athlete in Illinois. After graduating in 1980 in the top 10 percent of her class, she was recruited by the University of California for a basketball scholarship. In the summer before college, Joyner qualified for the 1980 Olympic track and field team. Unfortunately, the United States pulled out of the games because of a Soviet Union attack on Afghanistan. With the assistance of her coach, Bob Kersee, whom she later married, Joyner agreed to concentrate specifically on training for the heptathlon. The heptathlon includes seven events instead of just one. In 1984, she qualified for the United States team selected for the summer Los Angeles Olympics, but came in second by 6 seconds. She won two gold medals in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul Korea. One was for the heptathlon and one was for the long jump. Joyner, whose heptathlon gold medal at the Barcelona Olympics was her third gold, is only the second American woman with consecutive gold medals in the same event. In addition to Olympic records, she is also the four-time world record holder in her event. There is no woman in history better at this than Joyner. She is looking forward to the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, especially because she would love to end her career on American soil.

ACTIVITY: ONE FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS

1. Jackie Joyner-Kersee is a world class athlete and is the holder of many track and field records. Study the writing style in the sports pages. Notice that many adjectives are used. Examine the sports pages of the newspaper and clip any articles that report the setting of a new record.

2. Complete the questions below for the articles selected. If you didn’t find a new record write a sports article. You may want to focus on a school team or individual. Be sure you evaluate the role of women in your sports article.

What sport was this new record in?

Describe the record and explain the significance of this record.

What were the commitments required to break the record (training, money, risks, etc.)?

List some colorful descriptive words used in the article.
Helen Keller

(1880 - 1968) Crusader for the Physically Handicapped, Lecturer, Author

"Any teacher can take a child to the classroom, but not every teacher can make him learn. He will not work joyously unless he feels that liberty is his...he must feel the flush of victory and the heart-sinking of disappointment before he takes with a will the tasks distasteful to him and resolves to dance his way bravely through a dull routine of textbooks."

Biography: Helen Keller was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama on June 27, 1880. Though she was born a normal child, at the age of 18 months she contracted an illness that left her blind and deaf. When Keller was six, Anne Sullivan, a teacher doing pioneer work with deaf and blind people, came to serve as her teacher. One month after her arrival, Sullivan opened a new world for her young student. By the time Keller was sixteen, she enrolled in Radcliffe College and graduated in 1904. She lectured throughout the world and lobbied in Congress to improve the welfare of the handicapped. She authored such books as Out of the Dark, The Story of My Life, and The World I Live In. Ann Sullivan served as friend and guide until her own death in 1936 after which Polly Thompson assumed the role of companion. By the time Keller died on June 1, 1968, her achievements exemplified what the human spirit could accomplish despite severe physical limitations.

ACTIVITY: NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE

1. Helen Keller was a woman with disabilities who overcame many obstacles to achieve her goals. Look through the newspaper for information about people who have overcome physical limitations in their lives. As a class, discuss your feelings toward the disabled.

2. Interview a local person who is physically challenged and write a feature story about that person.
Wilma P. Mankiller

Biography: Wilma Mankiller was born on November 18, 1945 in a Rocky Mountain community in Oklahoma. She was born in an Indian hospital, was one of eleven children, and understood poverty because she witnessed and experienced it. When she was twelve her family moved to California as part of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Relocation Program. Mankiller was active in Indian and community causes in California and began working for the Cherokee people when she returned to Oklahoma with her two daughters. She worked with Principal Chief Ross Swimmer promoting Native American empowerment. In 1983 she was the first woman elected deputy chief, and in 1986 she became the first woman to be elected principal chief. Her goals for the Cherokee people are unity, empowerment, and self-sufficiency enabling the self-governing Cherokee Nation to enter the 21st century on its own terms. Mankiller has received many honors including being named Woman of the Year by Ms. Magazine and one of the Ladies Home Journal's 100 Most Important Women in America. She has also been inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame.

(C1945 - ) Cherokee Nation Principal Chief

“Censorship, like charity, should begin at home; but unlike charity, it should end there.”
Claire Boothe Luce, Diplomat, Politician

ACTIVITY: NAMES AND NEWS

1. Wilma Mankiller is the principal chief of the Cherokee Nation. Different cultures and nations name their offspring in various ways. As a class, discuss all the different sir names and given names that make up your classroom. Look through the newspaper for interesting names. See if you can determine from which heritage these names are derived.

2. Look through the newspaper for the different nations mentioned in news stories. What nations are involved? What can you learn about them from these news items? Where are they located? Look in the dictionary for the definition of nation. Discuss how the Indian Nation differs from those you found in the newspaper.
Biography: Vilma Martinez was born in San Antonio, Texas in 1945. Discriminated against because she was a Mexican-American woman, she left Texas and went east to New York City to obtain a degree from Columbia Law School. Upon graduation she took a job with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund as an attorney and later worked for a large Wall Street law firm. Associated with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) since its beginnings in 1968, Martinez became its president in 1973 and moved to California. In 1974 she won a case guaranteeing the right to bilingual education for non-English speaking children in public schools. In 1981 she left the post of president of MALDF and began working in a law firm in Los Angeles. Martinez has served on many different committees and panels. Among her honors is a Medal of Excellence from Columbia University, presented to her as a major figure in civil rights.

ACTIVITY: SPORTS RESEARCH

1. Vilma Martinez is a Mexican-American woman who worked to promote bilingual education. Look at the sports section of the newspaper. Think about these questions below:
   a) Which sports do you think are played in other countries?
   b) Which ones are popular in other countries but not in the United States?
   c) Can you think of reasons why one sport is more popular in a particular location?
   d) Do you read names that could be from other areas such as Asia, Canada, Puerto Rico?
   e) How do you think players from non-English speaking countries feel when they come to the United States?
2. You might want to do research using additional materials. Prepare an oral report on foreign sports and athletes to share with your class.
Biography: Sharon Christa McAuliffe was born September 2, 1948 in Framingham, Massachusetts. She was a high school teacher of social studies in Concord, New Hampshire. McAuliffe was chosen from among 11,000 candidates to be the first private citizen in space. NASA believed this decision would regenerate the public's interest in the space program. During the five months of training, McAuliffe was highlighted as representative of the future of the space program, everyday people living in space. McAuliffe realized there was risk involved, but said she was not frightened. On January 28, 1986, after many days of delays because of poor weather, McAuliffe and the other crew members, Mission Commander Francis Scobee, Pilot Michael Smith, Shuttle Payload Specialist Gregory Jarvis, and Astronauts Ronald McNair, Ellison Onizuka, and Judith Resnick boarded Challenger for their flight. Seventy-four seconds into the launch, with McAuliffe's friends and family watching, the Challenger exploded. McAuliffe was going to keep a journal of her flight and compared herself to the women who pioneered the West in covered wagons. She intended to conduct lessons from space via a television hook-up with classrooms across the nation. After this tragedy, President Reagan remarked during a speech to school children who had followed McAuliffe through her training and watched her final moments: “I know it’s hard to understand, but sometimes things like this happen. It’s all part of the process of exploration and discovery. It’s all part of taking a chance and expanding man’s horizons. The future doesn’t belong to the faint-hearted. It belongs to the brave.”

ACTIVITY: AN ADVENTURE

1. Christa McAuliffe was a brave adventurer and an inspiring educator. She loved to experience new and exciting things. Look through the newspaper for exotic and interesting locales. Imagine that you could travel somewhere mentioned in the newspaper.

2. Write a feature story about your wonderful adventure. Make a list of what you would need to prepare for your journey. Include your methods of transportation, what you saw people doing and what was of most interest to you.
Biography: Vilma Martinez was born in San Antonio, Texas in 1945. Discriminated against because she was a Mexican-American woman, she left Texas and went east to New York City to obtain a degree from Columbia Law School. Upon graduation she took a job with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund as an attorney and later worked for a large Wall Street law firm. Associated with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) since its beginnings in 1968, Martinez became its president in 1973 and moved to California. In 1974 she won a case guaranteeing the right to bilingual education for non-English speaking children in public schools. In 1981 she left the post of president of MALDEF and began working in a laws firm in Los Angeles. Martinez has served on many different committees and panels. Among her honors is a Medal of Excellence from Columbia University, presented to her as a major figure in civil rights.

ACTIVITY: WE ARE THE WORLD

1. Margaret Mead was an anthropologist who traveled all over the world exploring and recording information of other cultures. Look through several days’ newspapers for articles on different people and their cultures.

2. Create a collage of the people and cultures that are different from yours. Compare the ways these people are different and similar to you. Consider behavior, foods, holidays, etc.
Golda Meir

Biography: Golda Meir was born as Golda Mabovitch on May 3, 1898 in Kiev, Ukraine, Russia. In 1906, to escape persecution, the family emigrated to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1917, she graduated from Milwaukee Teachers' Training College, but she abandoned teaching to take a job with Poale Zion, a socialist Zionist group. Zionism advocates the right of Jewish people to have a nation of their own. The same year she married, and convinced her husband to move to Palestine to try living on a kibbutz, which is a collective settlement. When her husband’s health began to suffer, they moved, and with two children to care for, Meir quit her job with the Jewish labor league, the Histadrut, and began to take in laundry. These years were among the worst for her until she rejoined the Histadrut as women’s labor secretary. In 1933 Meir separated from her husband. She continued to work for the Zionist cause through the 1930s and the 1940s, raising money for Palestine and heading the political office of the Histadrut. On May 14, 1948 she saw Zionist goals realized when she and other Jewish leaders signed Israel's Declaration of Independence. In that same year she became Israel’s minister to the Soviet Union, and in 1949 she was elected to parliament, where she remained for the next twenty years. She held many posts in the new government. By the time Meir was elected Prime Minister in 1969, she had experienced more than forty-five years in politics. In 1974, she resigned, though she remained a strong voice in the Labor Party. Strong and determined, she sought peace rather than war. She was awarded the Freedom of Jerusalem, an honor that she says was probably her greatest. Among the Israelis she was affectionately remembered as “Our Golda.”

(1898 - 1978) Former Prime Minister of Israel

“We don’t want wars even when we win. We do not rejoice in vicories. We rejoice when a new kind of cotton is grown and when strawberries bloom…”

ACTIVITY: DÉJÀ VU

1. Golda Meir was the Prime Minister of Israel, and in this position was responsible for resolving varied types of conflicts ranging from internal to external. History often repeats itself. There are some fundamental issues and conflicts that seem to occur over and over again. Read several days’ newspapers and identify stories involving conflicts of people-vs-people, government-vs-government, people-vs-government. Indicate another period in history when similar conflicts occurred.

2. Use the information you have gathered to complete the chart below.

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<tr>
<th>CURRENT CONFLICTS</th>
<th>OPPOSITION</th>
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Biography: Antonia Novello was born August 23, 1944 in Fajardo, Puerto Rico. She studied at the University of Michigan (UM) Medical Center in Ann Arbor, and in 1971 was the first woman to receive the UM Pediatrics Department Intern of the Year award. Novello worked in a Washington, D.C. hospital and earned her master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University in 1982. From 1986 until her appointment as Surgeon General, Novello served as deputy director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and was also a clinical professor of pediatrics at Georgetown University Hospital. When she was appointed in 1990 as the Surgeon General, she was the first woman and the first Hispanic to hold the position. As head of the 5,700 commissioned officers of the Public Health Service, she has promised to focus her energies on AIDS-infected children, smoking, women's issues, drunk driving and mental illness. Several months after she was sworn in, Novello stated, “I’m for the people who need help...I think that as a woman, as a Hispanic, as a member of a minority...I bring a lot of sensitivity to the job.”

ACTIVITY: MEDICAL ETHICS

1. Antonia Novello is a physician and the Surgeon General of the United States. As a doctor, she had to sign the Hippocratic oath. With your class, discuss what this oath means.

2. In addition to many years of medical training, compassion for other people and their needs should be a prerequisite for people choosing the medical profession. Can you find people in today’s newspaper who show unusual compassion for others? Write a letter to them sharing your thoughts and feelings about their efforts.
**ACTIVITY: A DAY “O’CONNOR” IN COURT**

1. Sandra Day O’Connor is the first woman to serve on the United States Supreme Court. The Supreme Court is the final court for any appeal on a major judicial decision. Look through the newspaper for articles that contain Supreme Court decisions and issues the Supreme Court might have to consider.

2. Complete the chart below.

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<th>ARTICLE</th>
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<th>YOUR OPINION ON WHAT COURT RULING SHOULD BE</th>
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"I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashions."
Lillian Hellman, Author
Georgia O’Keefe

(1887 - 1986) Artist

“Nobody sees a flower — really — it is so small — we haven’t time — and to see takes time like to have a friend takes time.”

Biography: Georgia O’Keefe was born November 15, 1887 on a farm in a small settlement called Sun Prairie in Wisconsin. She decided as a young child that she would be an artist; however, after studying at the Art Students League in New York City, she felt she didn’t have anything new to contribute and quit the field. For four years she was the supervisor of art in the public schools of Amarillo, Texas. In the summer of 1915, while teaching at Columbia University, her interest in art came back to life. That fall she became head of the art department of a college in Texas and returned to painting and drawing. She began a correspondence of letters and art work with a friend in New York, who showed the work to Alfred Stieglitz. Stieglitz was a famous photographer and art gallery owner whom O’Keefe later married. He was very impressed with her work and included her work in his gallery show. She attracted attention with her unique experimentation and style. In 1918 she left teaching, moved to New York and devoted her time to painting. She had many gallery showings, and eventually her paintings were purchased by the Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City plus over forty additional museums. O’Keefe is best known for her paintings of the terrain, buildings and bleached animal skulls of New Mexico. She also created hundreds of flower paintings in both realistic and abstract styles. She received many honors, including the annual Creative Arts Award from Brandeis University and installation as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. O’Keefe once said that her paintings were like her children. Explaining the importance of art in her life she said, “Painting is like a thread that runs through all the reasons for all the other things that make one’s life.”

ACTIVITY: ART FOR THE FUN OF IT

1. Georgia O’Keefe used art to express how she felt about life’s joys and sorrows. Her paintings embraced many styles and forms. Study the newspaper for several weeks and choose a topic/theme/issue that has appeared numerous times.

2. Clip the articles and summarize the main ideas. Think about how these stories make you feel. Express the emotions your theme evokes by creating an original drawing. This art work can be abstract or realistic. Use your imagination!
Alicia Patterson

**Biography:** Alicia Patterson was born on October 15, 1906 in Chicago, Illinois, to a newspaper family whose roots could be traced to her great-grandfather, the founder of an Ohio weekly in 1819. Her father, who was first an editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, founded the *New York Daily News* in 1919. After she finished her schooling, she decided to travel to Indochina to hunt and learn to fly, and eventually became a transport pilot. In 1930, she set two women's speed records for intercity flights. Patterson worked as a journalist and on July 1st, 1939 Patterson's life took a definite turn, when she married millionaire Harry F. Guggenheim, a captain and ambassador to Cuba. Patterson called him “the man who emancipated me from purposelessness.” As a wedding present, he bought her the remnants of a short-lived newspaper, the *Nassau Daily Journal*, with a plant in Hempstead, Long Island. They renamed the newspaper *Newsday*, a name selected from entries in a contest. The first issue appeared on September 3, 1940 with circulation of 15,000. The first years of running the newspaper were costly. It took seven years for the paper to break even, although the lean years prepared *Newsday* for the postwar population explosion in Nassau and Suffolk. Modern, intelligent, lively, but serious-minded coverage of local news, aggressive circulation policies, an able staff and leader all contributed to its success. The paper expanded to a larger plant in Garden City in 1949, and by 1954 its circulation was over 200,000. Under Patterson’s hand *Newsday* became the largest suburban newspaper in the country and the twelfth largest evening newspaper in the United States. When Patterson died at age 57 her husband took control of the paper. In her will, Patterson provided a million dollar endowment, the Alicia Patterson Fund, for the encouragement of young journalists. Harry Guggenheim, in May 1970, sold *Newsday* to the Times Mirror Company. *Newsday* has two main buildings in Melville, the printing plant and the Alicia Patterson Building.

**ACTIVITY: COUNT THE ROLES**

1. From the 40s through the 60s Alicia Patterson was a newspaper editor and publisher. Look at various newspapers and see how many women’s names are on their mastheads. (The masthead lists the names of officers of the newspaper.)

2. Look through the newspaper for at least 20 titles or roles women hold. Include the comics in your search. Complete the chart below. You may use the back of your sheet to complete your chart.

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<th>NAME OF WOMAN</th>
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“We want to grow bigger, but far more we want to grow better and wiser and stronger. We want to slay the evil dragons and rescue ladies in distress. We want to keep our ideals always shined up and our courage high. And we want to remember that even the best mousetrap can be improved.”
Janet Reno

(1938 - ) First Woman Attorney General of the United States

“I want to remember the countless citizens who have touched my life, who believe so deeply in and yearn for justice. If you confirm me, I would consider it such an honor and privilege to serve the people of this nation as their lawyer.”

Biography: Janet Reno was born on July 21, 1938 in Miami, Florida. She attended Cornell University and Harvard Law School and graduated in 1963. At Harvard she was one of sixteen women in a class of more than 500. Since she was a woman, she faced problems in obtaining a position, but in 1967 she joined a small firm in Miami. Reno received her first political appointment in 1971, when she was named staff director of the Judiciary Committee of the Florida House of Representatives. In 1973, she became an Assistant State Attorney in Dade County. In 1978, the State Attorney in Dade County stepped down and she was appointed to the position. The following year Reno was elected and became the first woman to head a county prosecutor’s office in Florida. Although a Democrat in a Republican town, she was re-elected to serve four terms as State Attorney. As State Attorney, she concentrated on and was successful fighting for children’s rights and reforming the juvenile justice system. After some controversy concerning President Clinton’s two earlier choices for Attorney General, Reno was confirmed unanimously by the Senate and was sworn in as the Attorney General of the United States on March 12, 1993. In her political career, Reno has encountered problems with several cases. In 1980, a section of Liberty City in Miami, Florida exploded in one of the worst race riots when Reno failed to get a conviction against police officers charged with the death of a black insurance agent. In April 1993, as Attorney General of the United States, Reno made decisions that led to the deadly standoff at the Branch Davidian Compound in Waco, Texas. Reno dealt with the people of Florida and then the country honestly and with deep-felt regret and anguish over the loss of lives. Even though she has made controversial decisions, her candor has gained her the respect of many people.

ACTIVITY: COMIC CAPERS

1. As the first woman Attorney General, Janet Reno is the chief law officer of the nation and represents the government in legal matters. Many times these matters are controversial and involve differences of opinion. These two elements occasionally provide the factors of conflict in comic strips. Look at the comics in the newspaper for five days and identify and examine the ones that include political and legal issues.

2. Complete the chart.

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>COMIC STRIP NAME</th>
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Women’s History Month Guide / Elizabeth Elosua Dysart
Sally Kristen Ride

(1951 - ) First American Woman Astronaut in Space

“As a woman I can’t go to war, and I refuse to send anyone else.”
Jeannette Rankin, First Woman Elected to Congress

Biography: Sally Ride was born on May 26, 1951 in Encino, California. Although as a teenager she was ranked 18th nationally in tennis, she decided on a career in science and studied physics at Stanford University. She received her Ph.D. in 1978 in x-ray astronomy and free electron lasers. On an impulse, she applied to the NASA program. Previously, this institution had only recruited from all-male military test pilots, but Ride was one of six women chosen. After training, which included getting her pilot's license, she became an on-orbit capsule communicator for Space Shuttles Two and Three. On June 18, 1983 she became the first woman in space. She stressed her presence there as a scientist rather than as a woman. After the flight Ride commented, “I’m sure it was the most fun that I’ll ever have in my life.” She began doing liaison work for NASA after 1983 and was a member of the Presidential Commission investigating the explosion of the shuttle, Challenger. The space shuttle exploded after take-off in January 1986 and all aboard were killed, including teacher Christa McAuliffe, who was chosen to be the first civilian in space.

ACTIVITY: BEYOND OUR UNIVERSE

1. Sally Ride was the first American woman in space. Keep a newspaper file of clippings about astronomy and our solar system. After reading each article, add one new fact and vocabulary word you learned to an ongoing list which is kept in your file.

2. Write down questions that come to mind as a result of the article. Trade questions with a classmate
Anna Eleanor Roosevelt

Biography: Anna Eleanor Roosevelt was born in New York City on October 11, 1884. By the time she was ten, both her parents had died and she was living with her grandmother. She had an unhappy childhood until the age of fifteen, when she enrolled at Allenwood, a girl’s school in London, England. For three years Roosevelt traveled and lived with Marie Souvestre, who presided over the school. Souvestre instilled in Roosevelt the love and passion for working for unpopular liberal causes using a strong mind and personality to bring about change. She returned to New York at the age of seventeen to debut into society, and began working in settlement houses and other charitable institutions. These early involvements were the seeds of later social-reform activities. She married her cousin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) in 1905, and for the next few years her public activities were curtailed by family obligations. During those years, FDR became politically active, however in 1921 he was paralyzed by polio. Eleanor’s public life expanded as she became her husband’s representative in the political arena. By 1928 she became a political leader in her own right and was instrumental in her husband’s elections to Governor of New York State and eventually President of the United States. As first lady she toured the country inspecting conditions in coal mines and relief centers and speaking out for human rights and minorities. Through her newspaper column, My Day, and radio broadcasts, she communicated to millions her compassion for the disadvantaged. In addition, she brought these views and ideas to the attention of the White House. Also, by supporting and working for civil rights legislation, Eleanor raised the consciousness level of the President concerning the issue of rights for Black Americans. With the onset of World War II, she continued her efforts for women and minorities, but her energies focused primarily on Jewish refugees. When Jews were seeking escape from persecution, Eleanor Roosevelt was their advocate. When FDR died in 1945, Eleanor told a reporter, “The story is over.” However, because she was such an effective leader and was involved in many causes, she was named by President Truman to be a United States delegate to the United Nations. There, she fought for the passage of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which finally did pass the general assembly. In 1953, she resigned her United Nations post, but she continued to travel throughout the world as a “good will ambassador,” and in 1961, in her last official position, she chaired President Kennedy’s Commission on Women. Despite disappointment and tragedy in her personal life, Eleanor Roosevelt gave people hope who had none, and touched and improved the lives of many people throughout the United States and the world.

ACTIVITY: FIRST LADIES

1. Eleanor Roosevelt served her country in many different ways. As First Lady she was an outspoken, strong and effective leader in her own right. Using the newspaper for a week, compare this past first lady with the new first lady, Hillary Clinton. Let the following questions guide you in your comparisons. Are they interested in the same types of causes? Is Mrs. Clinton as persuasive and determined as Mrs. Roosevelt was? Do you think their accomplishments can be compared? Are there other first ladies who you feel made their own political presence felt while in the White House?

2. Using the newspaper, find other national leaders who have wives with strong commitments. Look at Europe, the Far East, the Near East, and North, South and Central America.

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<th>NAME</th>
<th>OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS</th>
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Elizabeth Cady Stanton

(1815 - 1902) Reformer and Leader in The 19th Century Women’s Rights Movement

“All things are possible until they are proved impossible — and even the impossible may be so, as of now.”
Pearl S. Buck, Novelist

**Biography:** Elizabeth Cady Stanton was born in Johnstown, New York on November 12, 1815. She was a very good student but since no colleges accepted women, she was educated at the Troy Female Academy. She spent summers at her cousin’s home in Peterboro, N.Y., where she became dedicated to anti-slavery and other reforms. There she met the abolitionist lecturer, Henry Stanton. They married in 1840 and the word “obey” was omitted from their wedding ceremony. In 1846, they settled in Seneca Falls, New York with their three children. Stanton felt alone and overwhelmed as a middle-class housewife in this small country community. She longed for the urban life she had experienced in other places. On July 13, 1848, she met with her friends to discuss her unhappiness. The group decided to form a convention to discuss the status of women and drafted a “Declaration of Sentiments,” which demanded change. The first convention was held on July 19-20, 1848 in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Seneca Falls. This gathering launched the women’s rights movement, of which Stanton became a leader. She spent most of her time writing about women’s rights but could not travel to promote the cause because of family obligations. In 1851, Stanton and Susan B. Anthony became friends and partners in the crusade for reforms for women. As a single woman, Anthony was able to travel and deliver speeches written by Stanton about women’s rights. These speeches included changes regarding woman suffrage, dress reform, equal wages and employment. As her children grew up, Stanton began to travel and lecture more. She spoke before legislative and congressional committees and at other conventions throughout the country. In May 1869, the National Woman Suffrage Association was founded and Stanton was elected president. In 1890 the association was united with another organization to form the National American Woman Association, of which she was also elected president. She wrote an autobiography, *Eighty Years and More*, the *Woman’s Bible* and helped write the three-volume *History of Woman Suffrage*. Stanton continued to write on women’s rights until her death on October 26, 1902 in New York City.

**ACTIVITY: LET’S PROMOTE IT**

1. Elizabeth Cady Stanton helped form the Seneca Falls convention. She “got the word out” about this event by writing articles, speeches and petitions. Another effective method of communication could have been an advertisement in a newspaper. Look through the newspaper for examples of different ads. Notice the layout, the headline, dominant elements, information included and the graphics used.

2. Design an advertisement for the first women’s rights convention held in Seneca Falls. Be sure to include all important information.
Gloria Steinem

**Biography:** Gloria Steinem was born in Toledo, Ohio on March 25, 1934. Most of her childhood was spent caring for her mother. In 1952 she was accepted to Smith College, and free from the demands of her earlier years, became an excellent student. Following graduation she spent two years in India studying. When she returned to the United States, she decided to become a journalist. She became popular after publishing "I Was a Playboy Bunny," an expose on the Playboy Club. During the 1960's she emerged as a prominent figure in the women's movement and was also involved in other protests. Capitalizing on her fame, Steinem became a spokesperson for the feminist movement and lectured around the country. It was not until 1968 that Steinem began combining her personal and professional interests in the feminist movement through her writing of a weekly column for *New York Magazine*. In 1971 she helped establish the Women's Action Alliance, a group which motivated minority people to work against social and economic discrimination. In 1971 Steinem, with other feminist leaders, announced the formation of the National Women's Political Caucus, an organization committed to placing women into powerful positions at all levels of government. In the same year she founded *Ms. Magazine* with Patricia Carbine, as a supplement to *New York Magazine*. It went solo in 1972 and within a year reached a circulation of 350,000. The magazine reports on issues such as day-care and legal rights for women as well as more personal topics and profiles of prominent figures. In 1977 she was appointed to the National committee on the Observance of International Women's Year by former President Carter. Steinem continues to be one of America's leading feminists. In January 1992 she published a best-selling book entitled *Revolution from Within*.

**“Now, we are becoming the men we wanted to marry. Once women were trained to marry a doctor, not be one.”**

**ACTIVITY: CHART THE NEWS**

1. The gathering and sharing of news and ideas is very important to Gloria Steinem. It is one of the reasons she became a journalist and the founder of a magazine. She writes on various subjects, but much of her writings deal with women's issues. The first eight pages of the *Newsday/NY Newsday* contain hard news stories. For two weeks, read these pages and chart how many photos and articles deal primarily with women or women's issues.

2. Keep a count of how many stories appear on each page and how many of them relate to women and/or women’s issues. Figure out the percentages of women’s stories in the main news section. Create a line or bar graph to track the results of your research. Do the same with the pages in the Part II section.
Mother Teresa

(1910 - 1997) Humanitarian

“For all kinds of diseases there are medicines and cures. But for being unwanted, except there are willing hands to serve and there’s a loving heart to love.”

Biography: Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu on August 27, 1910 in Macedonia. She revealed little about her childhood except to say that it was happy. She attended a Catholic school and at twelve years old knew that she wanted to be a missionary serving the poor. Six years later she went to India and joined the Sisters of Loreto in a Calcutta mission teaching high school girls. In 1964 she received a calling, “to leave the convent and help the poor, while living among them,” and two years later she received permission from the Vatican to begin a school for destitute children. Others joined her and their religious order was known as the Missionaries of Charity. Distressed to see homeless people dying in the streets, she founded Nimrul Hriday, a hospice where the dying could find medical care and a feeling of self-worth. That same year, the sisters who had started to treat lepers from the slums, organized a colony for them using money from the auctions of a limousine given to Mother Teresa by Pope Paul VI. Though Mother Teresa never asked for funds donation allowed the mission to work in more than thirty countries around the world. The missions provide shelter for orphans, lepers, the terminally ill, drug addicts, and alcoholics. In 1979 she agreed to accept the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the poor, as long as all financial awards were given to the poor. She countered mentions of her actions by explaining that she was motivated only by her special devotion to Jesus Christ. Mother Teresa was hospitalized for treatment of a heart condition in 1989 at which time more than forty thousand people were serving her cause in ninety-two countries. In 1992, she won the UNESCO Peace Education Prize.

ACTIVITY: SPECIAL PEOPLE

1. Mother Teresa has been referred to as a “living saint.” She has devoted her life to others and has accomplished remarkable deeds. Study the neighborhood profiles or feature stories about people who do good deeds.

2. Think about people who do things for other people in your neighborhood or school. Create your own profile about this individual. Share it with your classmates and send one to your local newspaper.
Margaret Thatcher

Biography: Margaret Thatcher was born October 13, 1925 in Grantham, Lincolnshire, England. Before entering politics, she attended Oxford University and from 1947 – 1951 worked as a research chemist. Thatcher practiced law in the early 1950's and was a member of Parliament (House of Commons) in 1959, representing the town of Finchley. She held a number of government positions until May 4, 1979, when she became the fiftieth Prime Minister of England. She was not the first woman to lead a modern country, but she was the first to lead a major western power. She was the first British Prime Minister in one hundred sixty years to win three consecutive terms and was the longest serving English leader since the early nineteenth century. Amid rising inflation, unemployment, and revolt from other political parties, Thatcher announced her resignation on November 22, 1990. Thatcher then held a seat in Britain's upper chamber, the House of Lords.

“It’s better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.”
Eleanor Roosevelt, Humanitarian

ACTIVITY: MY EDITORIAL CARTOON

1. Margaret Thatcher is a political figure who has had a prominent place in the news and in editorial cartoons. Editorial cartoons rely on symbols, pictures and words to get their messages out. Look through several weeks of the newspaper, examining the editorial cartoons. Notice the symbols and their meanings, the labels used, the issues or people addressed and the opinions of the cartoonists.

2. Develop your own cartoon based on a political figure who has been prominent in the newspaper. Put to use the methods employed by the newspaper cartoonists.
**Harriet Tubman**

(1820 - 1913) Underground Railroad Conductor

“I had reasoned this out in my mind, there were two things I had a right to, liberty and death. If I could not have one, I would have the other, for no man would take me alive.”

**Biography:** Harriet Tubman was born a slave on a plantation in Bucktown, Maryland around the year 1820. She married John Tubman, a freed slave in 1844. She escaped from slavery in 1849 and went to Philadelphia via the “underground railroad,” which was organized by people who wanted to help slaves escape to free states or Canada. She promised to return to Maryland to help others escape slavery. Harriet spoke of her accomplishments and the intense loneliness that led her resolve to free her family and other slaves: “I had crossed the line of which I had so long been dreaming. I was free, but there was no one to welcome me to the land of freedom.” Tubman is believed to have made nineteen trips to Maryland. Estimates of the number of slaves she delivered to freedom have ranged from sixty to three hundred. At one time slaveholders advertised a $40,000.00 reward for her capture. Tubman assisted the Union Army during the Civil War. After the war she continued to serve others by opening the Harriet Tubman Home for Indigent Aged Negroes.

**ACTIVITY: DEAR MRS. TUBMAN**

1. Harriet Tubman provided advice and guidance to many people. Imagine you were an African-American child in the time of slavery. What questions/problems would you want her to answer for you?

2. Following the format of advice columns, such as “Dear Ann” or “Dear Abby,” create a class advice column. Half the class can ask the questions, as the others try to answer them.
Ida B. Wells-Barnett

Biography: Ida B. Wells was born a slave in Holly Springs, Mississippi on July 16, 1862. Orphaned at fourteen and determined to care for her younger siblings, she became a school teacher. In 1884, in Memphis, Tennessee she was involved in a lawsuit because she refused to give up her seat in a railroad car designated for whites only. This incident sparked her career in journalism. She became part owner and reporter for Free Speech and Headlight, a Memphis-based newspaper. In 1892 she revealed in print who was responsible for the killing of three of her friends and began to write about lynchings and other types of violence perpetrated against blacks. After a mob demolished her printing press and office, Wells fled to New York City and launched an anti-lynching campaign. The anti-lynching cause took her on lecture tours across the country. Later she settled in Chicago and married Ferdinand L. Barnett, a lawyer and journalist. In 1895 she led a delegation to President William McKinley to protest lynchings and that same year became secretary of the National Afro-American Council. The city of Chicago named a housing project after her and in 1950 cited her as one of the twenty-five outstanding women in the city's history. She also worked for the national campaign to give women the right to vote. Her publications include Southern Horrors, A Red Record, and The Autobiography of Ida B. Wells.

"Deliver me from writers who say the way they live doesn’t matter. I’m not sure a bad person can write a good book. If art doesn’t make us better, then what on earth is it for?"

Alice Walker, Author

ACTIVITY: BYLINE BRAVERY

1. Ida B. Wells-Barnett was an outspoken journalist who suffered for bringing attention to racial injustice. Choose three articles from today's newspaper that deal with issues that could cause the journalist trouble from certain groups.

2. Complete the chart below.

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<th>ARTICLE/BYLINE</th>
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“You grow up the day you have your first real laugh — at yourself.”

Ethel Barrymore, Actress

**Oprah Winfrey**

(1954 - ) Actress, Talk Show Host

**Biography:** Oprah Winfrey was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi in 1954. Her parents separated after her birth, and she lived with her mother in a Milwaukee, Wisconsin housing project. It was a difficult time for Winfrey because she became a victim of sexual abuse for the first time at the age of nine. She never spoke about the subject until it became a topic on her T.V. talk show in 1986. Faced with living in a juvenile detention center at fourteen, Winfrey chose to live with her father in Nashville, Tennessee. He was a disciplinarian who helped channel her strong personality and drive her to positive goals. She attended Tennessee State University on a school scholarship, and there began her broadcasting career. Oprah has the distinction of being the first woman and the first black to appear before the camera in the Nashville market. She hosted a Baltimore interview show called *People Are Talking*, from 1977 until 1983. In 1984, she began a new show entitled A.M. Chicago, which later was renamed the Oprah Winfrey Show. The show is now syndicated, and is broadcast to 128 stations across the United States. Winfrey has been in several dramatic films and was nominated for an Oscar for her role in the movie, *The Color Purple*. In addition to her television, movie and production projects, Winfrey takes part in several social projects. She hosts slumber parties for girls from Chicago’s poverty-stricken areas and she uses the same discipline with them that her father successfully used with her.

**ACTIVITY: I AM A TELEVISION PRODUCER**

1. Oprah Winfrey hosts a successful talk show that deals with a variety of issues. Often T.V. producers use today’s news for their ideas and themes. Look through today’s newspaper and select three articles or people that could make an interesting television show for Oprah. Complete the chart below.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>REASON WHY ARTICLE/PERSON WAS SELECTED</th>
<th>GIVE TV SHOW NAME</th>
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2. Have you ever seen a television talk show based on news you read or heard about? What subject would you like Oprah to discuss? Write her a letter stating where you read about the issue and why she should make it into a show.
Sarah Winnemucca

**Biography:** Sarah Winnemucca was born as Thocomtony, the daughter of Winnemucca II, chief of the Paiute tribe, about 1844 at Humboldt Sink in what is now Nevada. During part of her life she lived in California where she learned to speak both English and Spanish. Returning to Nevada to live with a Caucasian family, she adopted the name Sarah. During the Paiute War of 1860 and during the recurring conflicts between Native Americans and Caucasians, she attempted to be a peacemaker. In 1871 she was and interpreter at Camp McDermitt and from 1875-1876 she was the interpreter for her tribe at their reservation in the southeastern section of Oregon. During the Bannock War in 1878 she volunteered to enter Bannock territory to free her father and others being held prisoner. She returned with information for General Howard and became a scout, aide, and interpreter to him during the campaign against the Bannock Tribe. In 1878 she also lectured in San Francisco on the troubles of her tribe. Winnemucca gained the attention of government officials and was invited to speak to President Rutherford B. Hayes. She toured, lectured, and alerted people to the plight of the Paiutes. She secured thousands of signatures on a petition for the promised allotment of reservation lands to individual Paiutes. In 1884 Congress passed a bill guaranteeing the allotment, but it was never carried out. The Paiutes continued to fight for their land for almost fifty years before some of their land was returned. During the last years of her life, Winnemucca continued to help her people by teaching at a Paiute school in Nevada.

**ACTIVITY: HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD**

1. Sarah Winnemucca is a historic Native American activist. There have been many movies made in Hollywood pertaining to the history of Native Americans. Some have been realistic and others have been based on fiction. Study the movie advertisements in several days’ newspapers.

2. Create a movie advertisement for a film based on the life of Sarah Winnemucca. Think about these questions while designing the poster. What do you want to stress and emphasize about her? Who would you cast in the starring roles? Who would direct the movie? Will the movie be based on fact or fiction? What type of artwork should you include in your advertisement? What rating will you give your movie? Why?
Chien-Shiung Wu

(1912 - 1997) Chinese-American Nuclear Physicist

“Science is not static, but ever-growing and dynamic...It is the courage to doubt what has long been established.”

**Biography:** Chien-Shiung Wu was born May 31, 1912 in Liu Ho, in the Kiamgsu province in China. In 1936, at twenty-four, she immigrated to the United States to study science at the University of California. After earning her PH.D. degree in 1940, Dr. Wu taught at several universities. In 1944 she joined the science staff at Columbia University. Her specialty was studying the movement of atomic particles. Her most famous experiment changed the accepted view of the structure of the universe. She proved that one of the basic laws of physics, the law of parity, which states that identical nuclear particles always act alike, was not true. The results of her experiment radically altered modern physical theory. Her male co-workers, theorists Lee and Yang, who had first suggested that the parity principal was unacceptable and had invited her to conduct the experiments, were later awarded the Nobel Prize for physics based on the discovery. Wu has been the recipient of both the Woman of the Year Award and the National Medal of Science. She was the first woman to receive the Research Corporation Award, given annually to an outstanding scientist. It was probably the first time, as Dr. Wu remarked in her acceptance speech, “that the award was made not for establishing a law, but for overthrowing it.”

**ACTIVITY: MY FILE**

1. Chien-Shiung Wu is a nuclear scientist whose research discoveries at Columbia University changed modern atomic theory. Start an ongoing clipping file of science news events.

2. Summarize each article chosen using the following guidelines. To which area of science does the research apply? Are there any government agencies or universities mentioned? List them. What findings/conclusions are described in the article? Do you believe the results are valid? Why? Is the information important to scientists or average people? Is it of local, national or global interest? Are there any new vocabulary words in the article?
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Write A Biography About A Woman You Know

Biography:

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Create a newspaper activity:

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Write A Biography About A Woman You Admire

Place Photo Here

Biography:

Create a newspaper activity: