

UAW NEWS



Local 1853's Official Union Paper

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Every year, March is designated Women's History Month by presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history.

Women's History Month began as a local celebration in Santa Rosa, California. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women planned and executed a "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978. The organizers selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. The movement spread across the country as other communities initiated their own Women's History Week celebrations the following year.

In 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians—led by the National Women's History Project (now the National Women's History Alliance)—successfully lobbied for national recognition. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the Week of March 8th 1980 as National Women's History Week.

"From the first settlers who came to our shores from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well." President Jimmy Carter's Message designating March 2-8, 1980 as National Women's History Week

Subsequent Presidents continued to proclaim a National Women's History Week in March until 1987 when Congress passed Public Law 100-9, designating March as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, each president has issued an annual proclamations designating the month of March as "Women's History Month."

The National Women's History Alliance, announced the women's history theme for 2023, "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories."

From the earliest storytellers through pioneering journalists, our experiences have been captured by a wide variety of artists and teachers. These include authors, songwriters, scholars, playwrights, performers, and grandmothers throughout time. Women have long been instrumental in passing on our heritage in word and in print to communicate the lessons of those who came before us. Women's stories, and the larger human story, expand our understanding and strengthen our connections with each other.

We as a Local Union celebrate the contributions that women throughout history to the present have given us from the Labor movement accomplishments to Civil Rights activities. Please take time to read the stories included in this issue.



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH





Dr. Antonia Novello

Dr. Antonia Novello was the first woman and the first Hispanic to serve as Surgeon General of the United States. Novello received her M.D. from the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine and did her residency in nephrology at the University of Michigan Medical Center. In 1978 Novello joined the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps where she made significant contributions to the creation of the Organ Transplantation Procurement Act of 1984. Novello was appointed Surgeon General in 1990. She focused on improving the health of women, children, and minorities.

Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu

Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu was the first female instructor in the Physics Department at Princeton University. Wu was born in 1912 and grew up in Liuhe, China. She decided she wanted to continue her education at a level higher than was possible in China. In 1936 Wu was accepted to the University of California, Berkely. Wu earned her Ph.D. in physics for her work in nuclear fission in 1940. She first taught at Smith College and then a Princeton University. During World War II Wu worked on the Manhattan Project. She developed a process to enrich uranium to produce large quantities of fuel. In 1956 Wu and two of her colleagues disproved Parity Law. For their work Wu's male colleagues won a Nobel Prize in 1957, Wu did not.



Dr. Helen Taussig

Dr. Helen Taussig founded the field of pediatric cardiology. She overcame opposition to become a preeminent cardiologist and physician. Despite severe dyslexia and gender discrimination. Taussig obtained her medical degree from Johns Hopkins in 1927. Suffering from hearing loss due to a childhood illness, Taussig mastered non-stethoscope ways to monitor the heart. Using these innovative techniques, Taussig discovered the cause of "blue baby syndrome" and helped design a surgery to correct it.

Dolores Huerta

Dolores Huerta became an activist in 1955, fighting for Latino's economic improvement and civil rights. In 1965 Huerta co-founded the United Farm Workers (UFW) with Cesar Chavez. During the 1965 Delano Grape Strike, Huerta organized a strike of over 5,000 grape workers and a wine company boycott. This led to a three-year contract between California and the UFW. She continued to represent workers for decades by advocating for workers' unemployment and healthcare benefits, protesting the use of harmful pesticides, and bargaining for improved working conditions. She was honored by the NWHM in 2012.



Ruby Hurley

Ruby Hurley was on the front lines of the modern Civil Rights Movement as a National Association for the Advancement of Colored People executive. Hurley became the NAACP's National Youth Secretary in 1943. Over the next decade she organized youth councils and college chapters, building a base of 25,000 youth members. NAACP Youth Council members launched the 1960s sit-in movement, proving the value of the foundation Hurley laid down. Hurley was promoted to regional director in 1952 and engaged in each major event of the Civil Rights Movement. She was the rare woman to hold a senior leadership position in a national civil rights organization.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Local 1853 Union Meeting

The next Union meeting will be held April 30, 2023 at 2pm in the Banquet Hall. Please remember that elected and appointed members are required to attend two out of three Union meetings. Make plans to attend, your voice matters!

Local 1853 Retirees Chapter Meeting

Local 1853 Retirees Chapter will hold their next Meeting at the Banquet Hall Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10am.



Retirement Planning Class

This month's Retirement Planning workshop will be on: Maximizing Social Security: Transforming Social Security into a Winning Strategy! It will be offered at the Union Hall on 4/5/23 at 12:30pm, 2pm & 4pm. RSVP @ 615-349-2160 ext 3 or ted.macri@ampf.com. Spouses are welcome.

