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March Birthdays

In astrology, those born between March 1–20 are Pisces. Fish are compassionate, gentle, intuitive, and artistic. Known for their wisdom, Pisces are not judgmental and are very forgiving. Those born between March 21–31 are Rams of Aries. As the first sign of the zodiac, Aries are energetic initiators. They jump head first into life, confident that they can overcome any challenges.

Ronald Kennedy	March 2 nd
Audrey Scott	March 3 rd
Richard Jordan	March 15 th
Jack Zachary	March 23 rd
Sherry Bright	March 27 th

Winning Women *cont. from pg. 1*

in 1864. Laundresses worked long days for low pay in sweltering conditions, giving rise to the term *sweatshop*. Mullany led a six-day strike that helped improve pay and working conditions. A century later, in 1962, the New York Stock Exchange did not allow women on the trading floor. Norma Yaeger completed the stockbroker training program at Hornblower and Weeks, Inc., demanded the right to accompany male trainees on the floor, and went on to enjoy a successful Wall Street career. In 1979, Lilly Ledbetter discovered that she was being paid thousands of dollars less than her male counterparts for her work as a supervisor at Goodyear. She fought the company to receive equal pay for equal work. These daring women have changed the lives of women everywhere.



International Ideas Month

Women's History Month

Mad for Plaid Month

Write a Letter of Appreciation Week

March 1–7

International Bagpipe Day

March 10

Button Week

March 19–25

World Storytelling Day

March 20

As Young as You Feel Day

March 22

Mothering Sunday

March 26

Renaissance Terrace

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History's Winning Women

The month of March is now celebrated throughout the world as Women's History Month, but it all began as a school celebration in Sonoma, California, in 1978 honoring International Women's Day on March 8. Students spent the week learning about women's contributions to culture and society and were asked to write an essay on what it meant to be a "Real Woman." The week culminated with a parade through downtown Santa Rosa.

Two years later, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the week of March 8 National Women's History Week. By 1986, fourteen states had declared March Women's History Month, and one year later, Congress made it a national designation.

The theme of Women's History Month this year is "Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business." It has been widely reported how women experience inequalities in working

conditions, opportunity, and pay in the workplace, and 2017 highlights many women who have striven to make gains in these areas.

Take Kate Mullany, a labor organizer who founded one of the first women's unions, the Collar Laundry Union,

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All Thumbs

Humans are unique from other animals in lots of ways, but our opposable thumbs and two-pincer grip led the way for some of our most important evolutionary advances. It's a wonder that more animals do not have thumbs. But what if they did? Consider the astounding possibilities on March 3, If Pets Had Thumbs Day.

Many animals have opposable thumbs, such as apes, opossums, pandas, koalas, and tree frogs. What do these animals do with their thumbs? They use them mostly to climb and to eat. Chimps use their thumbs to the greatest advantage: using tools, foraging for food, building shelters, and fighting. If cats had

thumbs, would they learn to use a can opener? Would dogs throw a ball for themselves? Would hamsters build their own tube tunnels? Would rabbits punch with their feet and fists? Of course, the burning question is whether any of our pets would use their thumbs to help us around the house.

Off the Menu



This March 17, your St. Patrick's Day celebration may not feel complete without a meal of corned beef and cabbage. However, many Irish would be appalled to learn that March 17 is Corned Beef and Cabbage Day, for no self-respecting Irishman eats this dish.

In Ireland, beef was a food historically reserved for kings. Pork, not beef, was the country's common meat. It wasn't until the beef-loving English conquered Ireland that beef cows were imported. Ireland eventually grew influential in the cattle industry and began curing its beef for export, using massive salt crystals the size of corn kernels. This meat came to be known worldwide as Irish "corned beef."

Despite the wealth of Ireland's corned beef trade, common Irish could still not afford the dish and relied on bacon as their staple meat. It wasn't until they emigrated to America and found good-paying jobs that they were able to afford corned beef. Even then, the corned beef eaten by the Irish in America was not Irish corned beef but Jewish corned beef, boiled with cabbage and potatoes, sold by kosher butchers. Irish Americans transformed St. Patrick's Day from a religious feast day to a celebration of Irish culture and in so doing adopted Jewish corned beef and cabbage as their favorite dish. Corned beef never made it back to Ireland. The Irish continue to eat their traditional bacon or lamb on St. Patrick's Day.

*Thank You John Parrott & Musical Friends
We Loved The Music!*



The Pilots of Tuskegee

On March 19, 1941, the U.S. War Department established the 99th Pursuit Squadron, which became famously known as the Tuskegee Airmen. America's first African American pilots made up the squadron. African Americans had hitherto been banned from high-ranking military positions, but President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized the enlistment of these black aviators, which led to an all-black fighter pilot unit, trained at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. The pilots confronted racism at home and put their lives on the line abroad, but their success record was exemplary during World War II, paving the way to President Truman's desegregation of the military.



Notable Quotable

"All the world's a stage and most of us are desperately unrehearsed."

~ Sean O'Casey, playwright

For the Record

On March 15, Everything You Think Is Wrong Day, we must take time to clear up some common misconceptions. It's a day for us to wake up and smell the coffee. Speaking of coffee, many believe that *espresso* is pronounced "expresso," perhaps because it gives us a fast jolt of caffeine. In truth, a shot of espresso contains less caffeine than the average-sized cup of coffee.

Vikings did not wear horns on their helmets. This depiction became popular thanks to the

operas of German composer Richard Wagner, where his villains wore such silly headpieces. Archaeological evidence shows that Vikings took great pains to comb and wash their hair, beards, and mustaches.

Napoleon was not short! He was five feet two inches tall in French feet, which equals five feet seven inches in English measurements, making him taller than the average Frenchman. His nickname of "The Little Corporal" was not a jab at his small size,

but a term of affection held for him by his soldiers.

Albert Einstein did not fail math. He even wrote, "I never failed in mathematics... Before I was fifteen I had mastered differential and integral calculus." He did, however, fail his first entrance exam into the Swiss Federal Polytechnic School, which he took two years early, despite excelling on the math and science sections. Like Einstein, take this day to correct some common wrongs that many think are right.



Notable Quotable

"There are only two mistakes one can make on the road to truth; not going all the way, and not starting."

~ Buddha

Tale of the Tea Leaves

Tasseography is the art of reading tea leaves for divination or fortune-telling purposes. The fortune-telling begins by putting a pinch of tea leaves into the cup, pouring the boiling water, letting it steep for three minutes, and drinking it down. The cup is spun so that the tea leaves cling to the sides of the cup. It is these leaves that are "read," with their position in the cup dictating whether events may occur in the near or distant future.

A Spot of Tea

Keep your afternoon open on the third Tuesday in March for Tea for Two Tuesday. Afternoon tea was invented in England by the seventh Duchess of Bedford, who always grew hungry for a snack around four in the afternoon. Her solution

was an afternoon tea. "Low" tea is a fancy affair typically served around four o'clock, long before dinner, complete with finger sandwiches and walks in the garden. "High" tea was often for the middle and lower classes. It was served later in

place of dinner, with tea and a much heavier meal. The terms *low* and *high* come from the height of the tables the tea is served on. Low tea is served in a parlor or drawing room on a low table. High tea was served on a high-legged dinner table.

