

## *Women of History*

Every year during the entire month of March we remember and salute the many women who have stepped forward for democracy, peace, social justice, equity and inclusivity.

Beginning in 1980, a specific period of time has been set aside in the United States for national recognition that honors the accomplishments of women. And annually since 1995, the President has issued a proclamation for Women's History Month that encourages reflection and aspiration regarding women in our society.

The National Women's History Alliance (<https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/>) chooses a unique theme every year, and this year's theme is "Healers and Inspirers of Hope". The Alliance invites us to pay tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers providing necessary services, hope and healing during the pandemic and throughout history. We appreciate our mothers, grandmothers, doctors, nurses, teachers, artists and writers who listen, instruct, ease distress and provide words of hope and encouragement.

Women's History Month serves to focus our attention on both historical and contemporary female role models. Those that come to mind first might include Eleanor Roosevelt, Harriet Tubman, Mother Teresa, Margaret Sanger, Rachel Carson, Jane Goodall, Tom Morrison, Maya Angelou, Alice Paul, Ida B. Wells, Florence Nightingale, Joan of Arc, Shirley Chisholm, Kamala Harris, and Stacey Abrams.

Certainly, we must also cite those women of today whose names might not be household words but who constantly strive to keep strong the fabric of a vibrant and empathetic society. We hold in high esteem the women nurses and doctors, caregivers, grocery workers, transportation workers, service providers, and countless others.

Closest to home, our Ypsi Food Co-op has been here for our community and has grown and greatly benefited under the leadership of our General Manager, Corinne Sikorski. Most recently, during the COVID pandemic, Corinne has used her skills to expertly navigate our Co-op through challenging times and provide leadership and encouragement to our YFC staff.

Her efforts during this time have made all our lives more hopeful and less stressful. Thank you, Corinne!