

International Women's Day  
March 8, 2022



Holocaust and Genocide Research Center  
Kittatinny Regional High School  
&  
Historical Society of Stillwater Township

# Dedicated to the Courageous Women of Ukraine



# Our Goals Today



- Encourage an interest in local history/women's history
- Learn more about and celebrate women's accomplishments past and present
- Create an ongoing relationship between HSST and KRHS

# Our Agenda

- HSST Overview
- History of the Women's Movement
- Focus on Lenape Women
- Gender Equality for a Sustainable Tomorrow



# What is History all About?



- **Change**
  - Change is the only constant in life
- **Agency**
  - Actions of both great leaders and everyday people
- **Choice**
  - Nothing is inevitable
- **Relevance**
  - Past is prologue, seeking solutions to current problems

# HSST Overview



The mission of the Historical Society of Stillwater Township is to:

- foster and promote an interest in the Stillwater area history
- maintain a historical and genealogical library and museum.

# In the Room Where it Happened



Who are the men in this painting?

What document are they signing?

What is missing in this painting?



# Quick Question



True or False:

Thomas Jefferson's original draft of the Declaration of Independence contained a section condemning slavery

# Familiar Words



We hold these truths to be self-evident,  
that all men are created equal, that they  
are endowed by their Creator with  
certain inalienable **Rights**, that among  
these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of  
happiness

# Turning the promise into Law



- US Constitution and the Bill of **Rights (First ten Amendments)**
- Focus on **the law to achieve rights** via **Constitutional Amendment**

# Women's Rights-Early America



- A legal tradition called Coverture
- Based in English law
- Developed starting around 1500
- Coverture meant that a married women was “covered” by a man and had no separate legal existence

# Practical Implications



- Married women could not own real property
- Married women had no legal rights to their children
- Married women had no legal right to their bodies
- Married women could not make contracts or own a business
- Wages generated by a woman belonged to her husband

# Casper Schaeffer's Will-1786



“I give unto my beloved wife Catherine her choice of any two rooms on the lower floor...two rooms above, and as much beds and bedding and household furniture ...one riding horse or mare, side saddle, and two ...privileges of the orchards to use as much apples as she stands in need of at her discretion...my son or sons to make as much cider as she wants for her own use, and as much of the garden as she shall think necessary.”

# Early American Women Abigail Adams and Eliza Schuyler



Remember the  
Ladies...

Remember, all  
men would be  
tyrants if they  
could..."



I've been reading "Common Sense" by  
Thomas Paine  
So men say that I'm intense or I'm insane  
You want a revolution? I want a revelation  
So listen to my declaration  
"We hold these truths to be self-evident  
That all men are created equal"  
And when I meet Thomas Jefferson  
I'ma compel him to include women in the

# New Jersey allows Women to Vote (Temporarily)



- 1790-1807
- Voting allowed for any person holding a certain value of property; male and female (unmarried women only), Black and White
- Losing candidates blame women voters for their losses



# Women's Education Increases



“You educate a man, you  
educate a man. But if you  
educate a woman, you  
educate a generation.”

Brigham Young

# Women in Education



- Dames Schools in private homes
- Towns begin to establish their schools (HSST is in an academy)
- 1826 First public high schools open to girls in New York City and Boston
- 1871 First female college President (Mistress degrees??)
- By 1900, 34 states had compulsory schooling laws
- By 1930, every state required students to complete elementary school.

# International Reaction



A reading from *Marie* (Gustave de Beaumont, 1831)  
reveals how a French visitor feels about American women and education



# Quick Question



- What was a common requirement of female teachers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century?
  - They remain unmarried
  - They wear red, white and blue to school each day
  - They be fluent in at least three languages

# Seneca Falls-1848



It advertised itself as "a convention to discuss the social, civil, and religious condition and rights of woman"

Over 300 women attend

# Seneca Falls Unity



# Quick Question

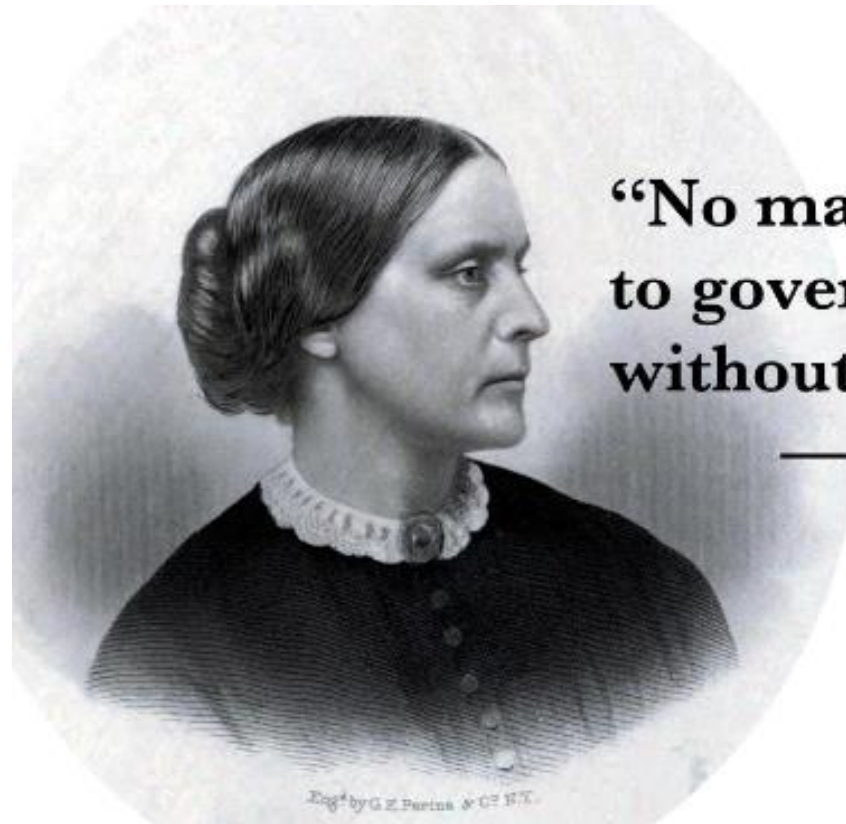


What famous suffragette was honored on a \$1 coin?

# Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B Anthony



The best protection any  
woman can have is courage  
-Elizabeth Cady Stanton



**“No man is good enough  
to govern any woman  
without her consent.”  
— Susan B. Anthony**

# Pace of Change-1850-1900



*“The bicycle has  
done more to  
emancipate women  
than anything else  
in the world.”*

--- Susan B. Anthony

Quick Question:  
What does that mean?

# Women's Right to Vote Begins



- Women get the right to vote first in WYOMING in 1869
- This is followed a 25 year gap until Colorado (1893), Utah (1896), and Idaho (1896).



[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT.]

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, No. 1

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 13, 1920.

By Mr. MACKAY.

Referred to Committee on Education.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ratifying an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of New Jersey, the General Assem-  
2 bly of the State of New Jersey concurring:

1 1. The amendment to the Constitution of the United States proposed at the  
2 sixty-sixth Congress by resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of  
3 the United States of America, in Congress assembled, to the several State Legisla-  
4 tures, be and the same is hereby, upon the part of this Legislature, ratified and made  
5 a part of the Constitution of the United States, said amendment having been approved,  
6 and is in the following words, to wit:

ARTICLE XIX.

7 The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or  
8 abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

9 Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

1 2. That certified copies of the foregoing concurrent resolution be forwarded  
2 by the Governor of the State of New Jersey to the President of the United States,  
3 the Secretary of State of the United States, the President of the Senate of the  
4 United States and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United  
5 States.

Passed Senate 18 to 2  
" House 34 to 24  
House vote Feb. 9. 1920

# 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Becomes Law



New Jersey becomes 29<sup>th</sup> state  
to ratify the amendment; 36  
were needed