Indiana was the last and 35th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment on January 18, 1977, five years after the amendment was proposed.

Gary: U.S. Representative Katie Hall led the campaign to establish the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., national holiday. President Reagan signed Hall’s bill into law in November 1983.

Logansport: Anna Dunn Noland created the Equal Suffrage Association in 1909. Noland spoke on behalf of women’s suffrage at the United Mine Workers meeting in 1915, and the union endorsed women’s right to vote.

Lafayette: Teacher and newspaper owner, Helen Guigur became the first woman to argue before Indiana Supreme Court in 1895 when she demanded her right to vote.

Covington: Cecil Murray Harden was the first female Republican to serve in Congress from Indiana (1948-1958).

Rockville: A columnist for Ladies’ Home Journal from 1905-1918, Juliet Strouss was a major force in preserving Turkey Run State Park.

Terre Haute: Mother Theodore Guerin, was canonized Saint Theodora in 2006. She left France in 1840 to found the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Virginia Jenkel was the first woman to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from Indiana (1933-1938).

Indianapolis: Dr. R.T. Brown invited women to join his science classes at Northwestern Christian University (later Butler University) in 1875. Madam C.J. Walker became the first black female millionaire with a beauty products company based in Indianapolis in 1920.

Greenfield: Jayie Phelps won a gold medal in the 1996 Olympic Games as part of the “Magnificent Seven.”

Madison: Sarah T. Bolton is known as Indiana’s “pioneer poet.” Bolton wrote poems for the Madison newspaper before moving to Indianapolis. A complete collection of her poems was published in 1886. Bolton was a dedicated advocate of women’s property rights.

South Bend: The South Bend Blue Sox were founding members of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League in 1943. One of only two teams to play every season through 1954, the Blue Sox won two league titles. Indiana was also represented in the league by the Fort Wayne Daisies.

Fort Wayne: Rebecca Hackley, granddaughter of Miami Chief Little Turtle, received 320 acres “where the bend of the river assumes the shape of a horseshoe” in the 1855 Treaty of St. Mary’s. The Hackley Reserve was the section of land that grew to become the city of Muncie.

Peru: Frances Slocum (Maconaquah) was taken from her home in Pennsylvania in 1778 by Delaware Indians at age 5 and discovered by her family in 1837 after living as the wife of a Miami chief.

Muncie: Geraldine Evans Findley was the first black teacher hired in Muncie schools in 1954 with the opening of Longfellow Elementary in the Whitely neighborhood.

Columbus: Laura C. Arnold was a leading campaigner for women’s rights and owned the first newspaper created for and by women, The Lily, in 1854.

Greenfield: Freshman player at Mount St. Joseph University, Lauren Hill scored the first points of the 2014 college basketball season after being diagnosed with a brain tumor. In less than a year, Hill raised over $8 million for cancer research.

Fort Wayne native Carole Lombard was the highest-paid actress in Hollywood in the 1930’s. Pictured here with Indiana Governor Schricker, Lombard was killed in a plane crash after leading a war bond rally in Indiana in 1942.

The Indianapolis Clowns baseball team of the Negro League made history by hiring three women to play for the team beginning in 1953–Toni Stone, Connie Morgan, and Mamie “Peanuts” Johnson.