Answers

Chronology of Women in Tech

1758
Nicole-Reine Lepaute began her calculations work as a "human computer." On this date she and her team predicted the return of Halley's Comet. She also calculated the timing of a solar eclipse and constructed a group of catalogs for the stars.

1815
Augusta Ada King was born. She published the first algorithm intended to be carried out by a computer. Also otherwise regarded as the first to recognize the full potential of a "computing machine" and one of the first computer programmers.

1875
Anna Winlock became the first "human computer" for the Harvard Observatory. Many other women were then hired and despite working for much less than they deserved, they cataloged ten thousand stars, discovered the Horsehead Nebula and developed the system to describe stars.

1941
Mavis Batey's work as a cryptographer enabled the Allies to break the Italian's naval code before the Battle of Cale Matapan.

1961
Dana Ulery became the first female engineer at NASA when she started working at the agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California. Ulery studied computer science, and worked to develop algorithms for NASA's Deep Space Network while at JPL. The Deep Space Network uses antennas around the world to communicate with spacecraft.

1965
Sister Mary Kenneth Keller became the first American woman to earn a doctorate in computer science.

1969
Elizabeth Feinler made the first Resource Handbook for the ARPANET. The ARPANET and another technology became the technical foundation for the Internet.

1984
Dubbed "The Year Women Stopped Coding." Prior many computing pioneers were women. So what happened? There are theories. The gaming industry marketed primarily to boys. Families bought computers for boys more than girls. A plethora of boy tech geniuses suddenly appeared in movies (perpetuating the idea that you can't be it if you can't see it).

1995
The year Laurie Swanson took the plunge and started her own technology recruiting firm, The Laso Corporation. Rebranded as InspiHER Tech in 2018, InspiHER Tech continues to help companies find and hire the best IT professionals, now also offering career and job strategy for women in tech who are building careers and lives they love.

1994
Anita Borg co-founded the Grace Hopper Celebration (GHC) with Dr. Telle Whitney. Inspired by the legacy of Navy Rear Admiral Grace Murray Hopper — and tired of attending conferences with almost no other women — Anita and Telle created GHC to offer women the chance to improve their technical skills and connect with each other.

2007
The year that Karen Spärck Jones, a British computer scientist who was responsible for the concept of inverse document frequency, a technology that underlies most modern search engines, died.

2014
The White House gets its first Chief Technology Officer, former Google VP Megan Smith. Smith served as CTO under President Obama and got them off the floppy disk...finally!