

could serve both in the military and as pilots, regardless of gender.

Madam Speaker, the Women Airforce Service Pilots were remarkable women that gave unselfishly and wholeheartedly for their country. I ask my fellow colleagues today to join me in honoring their accomplishments and celebrating their legacy for future generations of women.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRUELIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Truelight Baptist Church in East St. Louis, Illinois.

In 1910, a small congregation was formed under the leadership of the Reverend James Alfred Lampley. This was the founding of Truelight Baptist Church in East St. Louis, Illinois. Serving with Pastor Lampley as the original church officers were Deacons John Wright and Charles King, Clerk Mary King, and Treasurer Frank Settles.

Originally located at 14th Street and Baker Avenue, Truelight Baptist Church would move several times as the requirements and size of the congregation grew, while always staying within the same East St. Louis neighborhood. When the current, brick church at 1535 Tudor Avenue was under construction, the congregation met for a time at the funeral home of one of its members. When the first floor of the church was completed, the congregation marched from the funeral home to the new church building.

Upon the death of founding Pastor Lampley in 1956, Reverend Henry Nicholson was chosen as pastor at the very young age of 23. Pastor Nicholson continues to serve as pastor to this day. It is a rare blessing that Truelight Baptist Church has had only two pastors in its 100 year history.

Truelight Baptist Church has grown and expanded since its humble beginnings. Several parishioners have moved but continue to return for services. The congregation has started several ministries and has developed an active participation in social, political and educational issues while remaining rooted in its spiritual foundation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100th Anniversary of Truelight Baptist Church and to wish the congregation the best for many years to come.

JENNIFER ROBINSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jennifer Robinson. Jennifer is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of the USA and earning the high honor of the Gold Award.

Jennifer's outstanding achievement reflects her hard work and dedication. Jennifer has exhibited unique and creative examples of service that have made a difference in her community. I am confident that she will continue to hold herself to the highest standards in the future. This is an accomplishment for which Jennifer can take pride in for the rest of her life.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jennifer Robinson for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of the USA and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

A TRIBUTE TO TOM A. CURTSINGER

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom A. Curtsinger of Owensboro, Kentucky for his service both to his country and the Commonwealth.

Born in Graves County, Mr. Curtsinger grew up working on his family farm and honorably served in the US Air Force during World War II. After his service, Mr. Curtsinger received his bachelor's degree in agriculture and his master's degree from the University of Kentucky.

Tom and his wife Rose were married in 1954, and they have five children, ten grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. In 1968, when Mr. Curtsinger was hired as Daviess County's 2nd Extension Agent, the Curtsinger family moved to Owensboro, where they still reside today.

During his work in Daviess County, crop yields improved by nearly 100 percent, an accomplishment that greatly benefited his community.

For all his hard work and dedication, Mr. Curtsinger received the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation's Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award on December 12, 2000. He also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Rural Life Celebration Committee recognizing Mr. Curtsinger's commitment to promoting the agriculture industry and helping his community.

As a leader in Daviess County, Mr. Curtsinger has been involved with many organizations, including serving as Treasurer and Secretary of the DC Lions Club and past president of the Kentucky Agriculture County Extension Agent Association. Mr. Curtsinger has also served as an honorary board member of the DC Farm Bureau and is the founder and organizer of the Annual Agriculture Farm Expo.

I want to thank Mr. Curtsinger, along with Rose and their family, for serving as role models for all Kentucky families, especially those within the rapidly changing farming industry. I wish them nothing but the best, and I hope their success continues for many years to come.

HONORING MR. JACK JONES JR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. Jack Jones Jr. Mr. Jones served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as the Supervisor for the Town of Carroll.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Jones served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Jones is one of those people and that is why Madam Speaker I rise to pay tribute to him today.

HONORING WILSON COUNTY, TEXAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wilson County, Texas on its sesquicentennial year. It was 150 years ago when Wilson County was founded in South Texas by an act of the state legislature. The area is rich in culture and history and serves a great part to the state of Texas.

Before the founding of the county, the first Spanish explorers traveled the area in the early eighteenth century and used the land mostly for ranching. Most notably, the birthplace of ranching took place at Rancho de las Cabras. This was a ranching outpost for Mission San Francisco de la Espada where the first ranches and cowboys settled near Floresville in Wilson County. By the 1800s, Mexicans, Anglo American, German and Polish settlers began moving into the area. Soon after, the state Legislature founded Wilson County on February 13, 1860. The county was named after James Charles Wilson, who was an early settler of Texas and a state legislator.

Throughout the years, Wilson County has played a significant role in South Texas history. After the Civil War, Wilson County's population underwent the greatest growth due to the completion of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railway, which reached Floresville in 1886. By the early nineteenth century, farmers who were once known for cotton crops as the most important cash crop, then diversified into a wider range of like peas, watermelons, and peanuts. Today, some call Floresville the "Peanut Capital of Texas." Wilson County residents have served valiantly in combat from the Civil War to today's conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. One hundred and fifty years has shaped the county and development of Texas through its rich culture and history and of a diversified economy that includes farming, ranching, and even oil discovery.

Wilson County includes towns and cities such as, Floresville, La Vernia, Pandora, Poth, Stockdale, Sutherland Springs, and communities such as Carpenter, Calaveras, Canada Verde, Grass Pond Colocy, Kicaster, Doseido Colony, Sasameo and Sandy Hills. It totals 809 square miles and has a population of more than 40,000.

From a legacy in ranching, to its honorable natives and rich historical culture, Wilson County celebrating its sesquicentennial year is a milestone for the county and for Texas. I am honored to have had this time to recognize Wilson County on its sesquicentennial year.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,544,389,439,808.45.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,905,963,693,514.65 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MRS.
HERTA ADLER

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Herta Adler, known to Memphians as the "matriarch of the local Jewish community." She was born to Adolf and Mathilde Arfeld on September 27, 1915, in Diez, Germany.

Herta Adler was 24 when she witnessed the burning of her synagogue on Kristallnacht, or Night of Broken Glass. That night rioters burned or destroyed 267 synagogues; thousands of homes and businesses were vandalized or destroyed; at least 91 Jewish people were killed, and 25,000 to 30,000 Jews were sent to concentration camps, including many who were friends or family of Herta Adler.

In 1940, Mrs. Adler was permitted to move to Lisbon, Portugal, where her brother was in business, because the government granted residency to family members of established residents. From Portugal, Mrs. Adler made her way to New York City, where she met her husband, Dr. Justin H. Adler. They married in 1943 and relocated to Memphis not long after.

Herta and Justin Adler were well-known as avid collectors of art and Judaica. Mrs. Adler, in particular, was known as a philanthropist who supported all kinds of artistic and cultural organizations, reminding others that "charity is the gift that we give for having a good life." In the early 1990s, the Adlers donated a large collection of Jewish ritual art to Temple Israel, which is located in Memphis, TN, helping to

create the only Judaica museum in the region. In 1992, the Adlers also contributed their extensive pewter collection, which spans 400 years, to Dixon Gallery and Gardens, where it is part of the permanent collection.

Even greater than Mrs. Adler's passion and appreciation for art was Mrs. Adler's interest in the people around her and her dedication to her synagogue. She befriended and supported several young Memphis artists and centered much of her life on Temple Israel, where she was a member for more than 60 years. Mrs. Adler and her husband were also founders of Beth Shalom Synagogue, a Conservative Synagogue in Memphis.

Mrs. Herta Adler passed away on Friday, February 12, 2010, and was laid to rest on Monday, February 15, 2010. She was 94 years old. She is survived by her daughters Hedda A. Schwartz, a residential and commercial real estate executive, and Susan Adler Thorp, a respected journalist, and her son Michael Adler, an accomplished attorney—all of Memphis. I will always remember Mrs. Adler for her devotion to shaping the cultural and Jewish life of Memphis, Tennessee.

CONGRATULATING HUGH DUGAN
ON HIS SELECTION TO SERVE AS
GRAND MARSHALL FOR THE 2010
CARBON COUNTY ST. PATRICK'S
DAY PARADE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Hugh D. Dugan, who was named Grand Marshall for the Carbon County St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Mr. Dugan was born in Coaldale, Pennsylvania, July 29, 1943, a son of the late Dennis and Margaret Hogan Dugan. Mr. Dugan was raised in Jim Thorpe with his older brother, John.

He attended Immaculate Conception Elementary School and graduated from Jim Thorpe High School in 1961.

Mr. Dugan enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in 1962 and served for 22 years until his retirement as a Master Chief Petty Officer in 1984. During his military service, he was stationed in New Jersey, New York, Washington, D.C., New London, Connecticut, and London, England. During that period, Mr. Dugan was awarded two Coast Guard Achievement Medals as well as numerous other citations.

Mr. Dugan was also employed by the U.S. Post Office in Jim Thorpe, where he worked for 20 years.

Mr. Dugan and his wife, Fran, have resided in Jim Thorpe since 1977. They have been married for 45 years and have three daughters, Theresa, Denise and Maureen, and a son, Michael. They also have nine grandchildren. They are members of the Immaculate Conception Church in Jim Thorpe.

Mr. Dugan is a charter member and co-founder of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He served as its first vice president and two terms as president. He is currently financial secretary of that organization. He has also served as co-chairman of the St. Patrick's Day Parade for the past several years.

Mr. Dugan also served as Division Representative for the Children's Friendship Project for Northern Ireland, a program that brought teens from Northern Ireland to the United States to live with host families for six weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Dugan served as host for four Irish teens over the years.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Dugan on this auspicious occasion. His commitment to his family, his community and his Nation is exemplary and inspirational. Clearly, he has improved the quality of life throughout northeastern Pennsylvania.

HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE,
AND WORK OF MAJ. GEN. HUGH
G. ROBINSON

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of a great American, Maj. Gen. Hugh G. Robinson, who passed away on March 1, 2010 at the age of 77.

General Robinson was an outstanding civic leader in the Dallas community, and as a decorated Vietnam War veteran who served in the Army from 1954 to 1983, he was an inspiration to countless individuals across the city. Born in Washington, D.C., he attended the United States Military Academy at West Point where he received a bachelor's degree before completing graduate studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. During his time in Vietnam, he received an Air Medal, a Bronze Star, the Legion of Merit, and an Army Commendation Medal for his work commanding the 39th Engineer Battalion and serving as an executive officer of the 45th Engineer Group. He later returned to Washington, D.C. where he served at the Pentagon and in President Lyndon B. Johnson's White House where he became the first African-American Army aide to a President.

After leaving the military in 1983, General Robinson settled in Dallas where he served on the board of directors of several corporations including Southland Corp. and Belo Corp. He was active in the New Way Christian Outreach Church in Dallas, and along with his wife, adopted 13 foster children.

Madam Speaker, Maj. Gen. Robinson was regarded as a true hero in the Dallas community, and I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in honoring his life and service. He was an inspiration to us all and will be truly missed.

HONORING PATRICK R. BYRNE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patrick R. Byrne, the 2010 Honorary Chairman of the 38th Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon being held at the Buffalo Irish Center this March 12th.

Pat's Irish roots certainly run deep; his father Mike is a native of County Offaly while his