

By: Gooden

H.R. No. 246

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Pauline Bond Baxter has been named the grand marshal  
2 of the 2011 Fourth of July parade in Kaufman by the board of the Keep  
3 Kaufman Beautiful organization; and

4           WHEREAS, A 1939 graduate of Kaufman High School who went on to  
5 earn a degree from Baylor University in 1943, Mrs. Baxter came of  
6 age as the tumultuous events of World War II began to unfold, and  
7 she soon found herself playing an important role in the war effort;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, Beginning in 1941, the No. 1 British Flying Training  
10 School was established at Terrell in order to train aspiring  
11 military pilots from the United Kingdom so that they could assist in  
12 their country's fight against Nazi Germany; Mrs. Baxter took a job  
13 teaching the students how to operate the navigation equipment on  
14 the Spitfire fighter aircraft used by the Royal Air Force, and her  
15 efforts helped prepare many aviators for their duties in aerial  
16 combat; and

17           WHEREAS, After the war, she was hired by Tom Braniff of  
18 Braniff Airways in Dallas to train pilots for his airline; over the  
19 decades, she has stayed in touch with her military students by  
20 attending reunions for the British pilots held at the No. 1 British  
21 Flying Training School Museum at the Terrell Municipal Airport; she  
22 also married, and she and her husband, Turner, raised two children,  
23 David and Paula; and

24           WHEREAS, The remarkable contributions of Pauline Baxter

1 helped one of our nation's closest allies at a crucial juncture in  
2 world history, and her selection as grand marshal provides fitting  
3 recognition of her patriotic actions while also focusing attention  
4 on a fascinating yet little-known chapter in the history of the Lone  
5 Star State; now, therefore, be it

6       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
7 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby congratulate Pauline Bond  
8 Baxter on being named grand marshal of the 2011 Fourth of July  
9 parade in Kaufman and extend to her sincere best wishes for another  
10 memorable day in a truly remarkable life; and, be it further

11       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
12 prepared for Mrs. Baxter as an expression of high regard by the  
13 Texas House of Representatives.