



# The Mini Page

Next Week:  
Math = Music

Issue 10, 2016

Founded by Betty Debnam

## Meet Hattie Caraway



photos courtesy Library of Congress

### Mini Fact:

Hattie (left) and Thad had three sons, all of whom went to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

If you've been paying attention to election news, you know that two women have entered the 2016 race for president: Hillary Clinton and Carly Fiorina. They are not the first women to run for president; Clinton ran eight years ago, and Michele Bachman joined the race in 2012. And others came before them.

These modern female candidates are following in the footsteps of earlier American women who have run for public office since the 19th century.

### A first from Arkansas

When U.S. Sen. Thaddeus Caraway from Arkansas died in November 1931, the governor of Arkansas appointed his widow, Hattie Caraway, to fill his seat in the Senate. Asking a widow to step in temporarily was a common practice at that time.

But in a special election in January 1932, Hattie won a seat in the Senate for the remainder of her husband's term. She became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate.

### Hattie and Thad

Hattie grew up in Tennessee and attended the Dickson Normal College there, where she received a teaching degree. She also met her husband at Dickson.

After their wedding, they moved to Jonesboro, Arkansas, and Thad started a law practice. Thad was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1912 and later became a U.S. senator representing Arkansas.

### A sense of usefulness

When Hattie arrived in the Senate chamber, she observed that other senators spent a lot of time debating and making speeches. She decided she would spend her time as a senator helping people.

As the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl devastated the Midwest, Hattie received many letters from Arkansans about their problems. She focused her attention on education and military veterans. She believed education was a way out of poverty, and she had seen returning soldiers from World War I and knew the challenges they faced.

### Re-election

As soon as Hattie won the special election, she started thinking about the next election, which would take place in November. On May 10, when Vice President Charles Curtis could not preside over, or run, the Senate, he asked Hattie to stand in his place. She made a surprise announcement to her fellow senators: She would run for re-election.



Hattie Caraway was the first woman to preside over the U.S. Senate.

### Help from Huey Long

Sen. Huey Long of Louisiana had met Hattie when they were both seated at the

back of the Senate chamber. Long had worked with Thad Caraway, and he and Hattie became friends. Long agreed to campaign for Hattie. She won the August primary and the November election and began her first full term as a U.S. senator.

### 'Silent Hattie'

Hattie Caraway became known as "Silent Hattie" because she seldom spoke on the Senate floor. But she served on Senate committees including Agriculture and Forestry and Commerce. She was one of four Senate sponsors of the G.I. Bill, which still helps military veterans returning from war. She was a supporter of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal, which put people back to work during the Depression.

### A long career

Hattie served for 14 years as a U.S. senator. She had to overcome being a woman and being older (she was 53 when she became a senator). But through her service, she proved her theory that women could hold office and make a difference.



Hattie in her Senate office in 1940.

March is National Women's History Month. Using the resources below, find out more about how women have made history.

## Resources



### On the Web:

- [tnhistoryforkids.org/people/hattie\\_caraway](http://tnhistoryforkids.org/people/hattie_caraway)
- [1.usa.gov/1P8SqO6](http://1.usa.gov/1P8SqO6)

### At the library:

- "A Woman in the House (and Senate)" by Ilene Cooper

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## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of Hattie Caraway are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ARKANSAS, CARAWAY, COMMITTEE, DEBATE, DEPRESSION, ELECTION, HATTIE, LONG, PRESIDE, PRESIDENT, REPRESENTATIVE, SENATOR, SERVICE, SPECIAL, TENNESSEE, TERMS, THAD, WIDOW, WOMEN.

C	S	G	K	B	N	O	I	S	S	E	R	P	E	D
O	A	N	E	M	O	W	H	Y	L	E	S	E	L	T
M	S	O	J	M	I	A	A	E	D	E	S	A	H	E
M	N	L	Z	D	T	W	C	I	N	S	I	A	T	C
I	A	V	O	T	A	T	S	A	E	C	D	A	L	I
T	K	W	I	R	I	E	T	N	E	H	B	V	N	V
T	R	E	A	O	R	O	N	P	T	E	R	M	S	R
E	A	C	N	P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	Q	E
E	V	I	T	A	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	E	R	S

## Cook's Corner

### Mini Fruit Pizza

#### You'll need:

- 2 English muffins (4 halves)
- 3 tablespoons fat-free strawberry cream cheese
- 1/2 cup strawberries, cut in small pieces

- 1/3 cup red or green grapes, quartered
- 1/2 medium banana, sliced



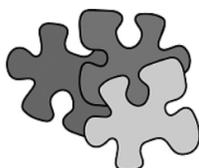
#### What to do:

1. Toast English muffin halves.
2. Spread strawberry cream cheese evenly on muffins.
3. Top with strawberries and grapes.
4. Place sliced bananas on top.
5. Cut muffin halves in half for easier eating.

\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

## Puzzling

Unscramble the words below that remind us of elections.



deaanctid \_\_\_\_\_  
 agmiancp \_\_\_\_\_  
 toev \_\_\_\_\_  
 eshecp \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: candidate, campaign, vote, speech.

## Mini Jokes



**Ryan:** My fish doesn't like getting caught in the net.

**Ralph:** Don't let it go online!

## Eco Note



Some apes have shown the need to trust their friends, much like humans do. Scientists in Germany set up a "trust rope." Chimps could pull the rope to send treats to a friend they believed would send some back their way. They were more likely to deliver treats to partners they trusted.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

## Thank You



The Mini Page thanks Nancy Hendricks, author of "Senator Hattie Caraway: An Arkansas Legacy," for help with this issue.

## Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: [bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching\\_guides.html](http://bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html)

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