

By: Casteel

H.R. No. 71

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, With the passing of "Sue" Blackwell Bock on August  
2 1, 2003, at the age of 89, the citizens of New Braunfels have lost a  
3 respected civic leader and friend; and

4           WHEREAS, Born Ruth Margaret Blackwell on March 2, 1914, in  
5 Lockhart, she was a descendant of two pioneer Texas families;  
6 during her childhood, she lived in towns in Texas and throughout the  
7 nation while her father served as pipeline superintendent for  
8 Atlantic Pipeline during the construction of the "Big Inch"  
9 project, which ran from Texas to Pennsylvania; and

10           WHEREAS, "Sue," as she was nicknamed in the fifth grade, was a  
11 popular young woman and cheerleader at Lockhart High School, one of  
12 13 schools she attended in Texas; named Miss Lockhart in 1932, she  
13 graduated from Allentown High School in Pennsylvania that same  
14 year; and

15           WHEREAS, In 1939, while employed as a beautician in Lockhart,  
16 she married Bennie W. Bock, her fifth-grade boyfriend, on August 8;  
17 five years later, she and her husband moved with their 2-year-old  
18 son to New Braunfels, where her husband took over the Ford  
19 dealership during a difficult period when car manufacturing had  
20 ground to a halt at the height of World War II; and

21           WHEREAS, Over the course of the next 50 years, Mrs. Bock  
22 served as her husband's strongest supporter as together they built  
23 Bock Motor Company, New Braunfels Ford Mercury, and Seguin Ford  
24 Mercury into thriving enterprises; and

1           WHEREAS, This gracious lady came from a family devoted to  
2 public service, and she greatly enjoyed being a hostess and a  
3 helpmate to her husband during his involvement in state and  
4 national politics; moreover, she was a dedicated community  
5 volunteer with such organizations as United Fund, Easter Seals, the  
6 PTA, and First United Methodist Church; and

7           WHEREAS, Education was another priority for both Mrs. Bock  
8 and her husband; they took pleasure in assisting young people and  
9 for many years opened their home to contestants competing in the  
10 Texas Junior Miss Contest while the competition was held in New  
11 Braunfels; as a fitting tribute to the lives of this remarkable  
12 couple, the Bock family has established the Sue and Ben W. Bock  
13 Scholarship Fund for graduating senior women at New Braunfels and  
14 Lockhart high schools; and

15           WHEREAS, Mrs. Bock continued her involvement with community  
16 affairs throughout her life, and in 1998 she was named Volunteer of  
17 the Year by the Hummel Museum and Most Outstanding Volunteer for  
18 Community Service in the Historic Preservation Field by the New  
19 Braunfels Chamber of Commerce; an officer of the Hummel Club and the  
20 Gay 40's Club, a social club founded in 1940, this high-energy  
21 individual counted the Sophienburg Museum and Archives among her  
22 interests as well as card-playing and creating her own Christmas  
23 cards and tree ornaments; and

24           WHEREAS, Those who were fortunate enough to know "Sue" Bock  
25 will long miss her passion for life and her generous spirit, and she  
26 will long be remembered with affection in the hearts and minds of  
27 the countless people whose lives she touched; now, therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
2   Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
3   Ruth Margaret "Sue" Blackwell Bock and extend sincere sympathy to  
4   the members of her family: to her son, Bennie W. Bock II, and his  
5   wife, Kathy; to her granddaughters, Lucretia Carole Bock and  
6   Suzanne Carterette Badger and her husband, Brian; to her  
7   great-grandchildren, Rachel Carterette Badger and Benjamin Neal  
8   Badger; to her sister, Caroldean Blackwell Foster; and to all those  
9   who mourn the passing of this beloved woman; and, be it further

10           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11   prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
12   Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of "Sue"  
13   Blackwell Bock.