

Project to serve young girls who are “ethnically underrepresented in the college system” by bringing in the best community resources to help them. She personally mentored many of the girls herself.

Susan also found the time over the years to take leadership roles in the local chapter of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, the Women’s Justice Center (Roseland), Worth our Weight (for kids timing out of foster care), and Friends of Graton Rancheria (support of a Native American tribe).

Her upbringing in Port Arthur, TX, and a background as a teacher likely contributed to both Susan’s resolve and her understanding that education is the path to a better life. She also counted on the support of the No Name Women’s group, formed in the 1980s with other strong local women who wanted not only to network and support each other, but also to promote progressive candidates and causes. Susan was always willing to make the phone calls to urge the group forward, and today she still makes the calls to an expanded group addressing a broad range of issues, from the Governor’s race to astrophysics. I am proud to have had the group’s support over the years as we addressed the same causes.

Susan Moore cannot be described without mentioning how much fun she is to work with. When her name is mentioned in a group, you will hear chuckles and someone will always say, “Did you hear about the time Susan . . . ?” Although she doesn’t take “no” for an answer when she has an issue in her sights, Susan makes people feel that they are willingly joining her in a great adventure. She even learned tap dancing with a group of women who worked on a routine to tap for women’s rights in a Santa Rosa Rose Parade.

Mr. Speaker, Susan Moore is an inspiring role model who makes our community a better place. Please join me in congratulating her on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Volunteer Award from Roseland School District.

HONORING GARLOUGH ENVIRONMENTAL MAGNET SCHOOL ON RECEIVING A 2012 GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS AWARD FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the teachers, administrators and students of Garlough Environmental Magnet School in West St. Paul, Minnesota which has been named a recipient of the first annual U.S. Department of Education’s Green Ribbon Schools Award. On behalf of the families in Minnesota’s Fourth District, I am proud to extend my sincere congratulations to Garlough Environmental Magnet School.

The Fourth Congressional District of Minnesota is fortunate to be home to many schools that deliver high quality environmental education. For the past five years, Garlough Environmental Magnet School has been a leader, setting the standard for environmental excellence, winning high praise and numerous accolades throughout the State and Nation while nearly doubling its enrollment in the process. Part of their success is due to out-

standing community partnerships that enable students to get out-of-classroom learning experiences. One of the cornerstone partnerships is with the Dodge Nature Center. Starting in 2007, Garlough teamed up with the conveniently located community nature center to provide students outdoor learning opportunities. The nature sanctuary serves as a 320-acre living science lab where students can participate in field studies, use scientific equipment in biological measuring, and study the sanctuary’s beehives and farms. Garlough’s combination of a targeted curriculum with outside learning opportunities has produced natural experiences that have enhanced students’ intellectual, social, emotional and physical development.

Garlough Elementary is a natural choice for the first-ever round of the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools Awards. In September 2011, in coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Education initiated a new federal-recognition program that honored schools implementing environmentally-friendly policies. The selection process targets schools that exercise a comprehensive approach to creating green environments though reducing environmental impact, promoting health, and ensuring high quality environmental and outdoor education. The Green Ribbon Award highlights the necessity of educating our students in preparation for the 21st century global economy, an economy that will rely more on green industry and technology.

As our Nation continues on into the 21st century, our global competitiveness will be tied into jobs that center on technology, science, math, and renewable energy development. To ensure that the United States continues to be an international leader, schools must create engaging curriculum that focuses on preparing students for success. Garlough Environmental Magnet School sets a great example for this strategy.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in honor of Garlough Environmental Magnet School’s recognition as a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School.

HONORING BISHOP H. H. BROOKINS

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Bishop H. H. Brookins, who passed away on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at the age of 86.

Bishop Brookins was a giant in the Los Angeles community and in the African Methodist Episcopal, A.M.E. Church both nationally and internationally. He was a leader among leaders who had a knack for creating historic “firsts.” Bishop Brookins is credited for identifying former LAPD Lieutenant Tom Bradley as the preferred candidate to run for Los Angeles City Council in 1963, and for spearheading Bradley’s victory as Los Angeles’s first African-American Council member, and again 10 years later as the city’s first African-American Mayor.

Another Brookins “first” was the co-founding of the United Civil Rights Council, organizing

75 groups to help the Black community recover from the 1965 Watts Riots. Bishop Brookins served as the first President of UCRC, and later was a founding Board Member of Rev. Jesse Jackson’s People United to Serve Humanity, also known as Operation PUSH.

Born Hamel Hartford Brookins in Yazoo City, Mississippi on June 8, 1925, the seventh of 10 children of sharecroppers, he first attended Campbell College in Jackson, Mississippi. There he became pastor of his first church with fewer than 20 members. By 1954, H. H. Brookins was a minister in Wichita, Kansas, where he was elected the first black president of the 200-member Interracial Ministerial Council and led religious and civic leaders in uniting communities following the Supreme Court’s order to desegregate the Topeka, Kansas public schools. Bishop Brookins also was famous for his leadership in the struggle to end Apartheid in South Africa.

The H.H. Brookins legend in Los Angeles centers around his extraordinary accomplishments as Pastor of First A.M.E. Church, whose storied multi-million dollar sanctuary lies in the historic West Adams district, having started with an \$8 building fund. First A.M.E.’s congregation now has nearly 20,000 members, a community development corporation, senior housing, and much more. Although he has passed from this life, Bishop H.H. Brookins lives on in the ministries of First A.M.E., and in all of us who loved and admired him.

I offer my sincere condolences to Bishop Brookins’ wife, the Rev. Rosalynn Kyle Brookins, his two sons, Sir-Wellington Hartford Brookins and Steven Hartford Brookins, and his daughter, the Rev. Francine A. Brookins.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA GREEN

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to pay tribute to an outstanding philanthropist and entrepreneur, Martha Green. On June 9, 2012, Martha will be honored with the Tzedakah Award from the Congregation Emanu El for her commitment to charity and passion for bettering her community.

Martha was born and raised in Greenville, South Carolina, where she learned to love cooking. Martha moved to California, where she has owned several cooking schools and kitchen stores in Redlands, Las Vegas, and San Bernardino.

In 1974, Martha began her first cooking class the back of her husband’s mattress store, where she taught a class on microwave cooking. In 1978, she expanded her cooking classes and opened a cooking equipment store in Redlands, California. Since beginning her first cooking classes, Martha has opened the bakery, Dough’Lectibles and the restaurant, The Eating Room in downtown Redlands.

Martha’s expertise and creativity in cooking has helped her gain widespread recognition throughout the Inland Empire. Martha has combined her passion for cooking with her drive for helping the local community by hosting approximately 30 fundraising cooking

classes annually. Additionally, Martha is known for her celebrity auctioneering in the community, where she has been able to raise over \$2 million to support local charities.

Martha has not only dedicated her life to cooking, but also has generously assisted many local organizations such as SOS Read, the Children's Fund, the Redlands Bowl Association, the Loma Linda University Children's Hospital and Sacred Heart Church. Her genuine spirit and high energy has contributed immensely to these organizations.

On top of her cooking classes, restaurants, and philanthropic events, Martha is a realtor, and also hosts a radio cooking show, which airs on weekdays at 8:33 a.m. and 4:32 p.m. on KVCR 91.9 FM. Additionally, Martha is the author of Martha Green's Cooking Things, a cookbook that offers over 300 recipes.

Martha's generosity and culinary passion has impacted Inland Empire immeasurably. Her bright personality and dedication to charitable events has made a lasting impact in our community. I extend my congratulations to Martha Green as she is honored with the Tzedakah award by the Congregation Emanu El on June 9th 2012.

TRIBUTE TO VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to our Veterans of the Vietnam War and to reflect upon their courage, strength, and love for the United States of America.

March 29, 2012, has been proclaimed Vietnam Veteran's Day in the State of New York, but it is important that we recognize our Veterans of the Vietnam War throughout this great Nation.

During the Vietnam War, of the more than 3.4 million Americans that were deployed, over 58,000 were killed, 153,000 were wounded, and over 2,000 remain missing in action.

In April of 1975, the Vietnam War came to a close with the fall of Saigon, but the war will go on forever in the hearts and minds of our Veterans and their families. It is important that we remind our Veterans that they are greatly appreciated for their service to this great Nation and that they will never be forgotten. It is because of our service men and women that the United States of America remains the Greatest Nation in the History of Mankind.

The men and woman who served our country in the Vietnam War are shining examples of patriotism, strength, courage, and decency. It is with great honor that I pause and reflect upon their sacrifice and thank our Vietnam Veterans for their dedicated service to the United States of America.

HONORING KAREN L. MACON

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, thirty-eight years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Educational System; and

Whereas, Mrs. Karen L. Macon began her educational career in teaching in South Bend, Indiana at Muesel Elementary School in 1974 and this year she retires from teaching at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Theme School in Lithonia, Georgia, she has served the DeKalb County Public Schools System well and our community has been blessed through her service; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a Teacher, Educator and Motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader, a devoted scholar and a servant to all who want to advance the lives of our youth; and

Whereas, Mrs. Macon is formally retiring from her educational career today, she will continue to promote education because she is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Karen L. Macon on her retirement from the DeKalb County Public Schools System and to wish her well in her new endeavors;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 18, 2012 as Mrs. Karen L. Macon Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF RUTHERFORD "BUD" GASTON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Rutherford "Bud" Gaston, who passed away on May 16, 2012 at the age of 91. Bud will be remembered for his groundbreaking work in education, his loyalty to his friends, family, and students, as well as his role as one of Central California's most visionary leaders.

Bud was born in Georgia and spent his childhood in Pennsylvania, where he attended elementary school and high school. His commitment to service was evident early in his life. Bud served our Nation proudly in the United States Army during World War II and ended his service as a second lieutenant.

Bud and his wife made their way to Fresno in the late 1940s. In 1953, he graduated from California State University, Fresno and began his educational career. His remarkable 33-year educational career was marked with milestones. As Fresno Unified School District's first African-American principal, Bud became an inspiration and source of pride for an entire community.

Bud consistently maintained a positive attitude and worked tirelessly to ensure the success of his students. As a teacher, his gentle spirit and big heart put his students at ease and encouraged them to pursue success. In 1963, Bud was named principal of Teilman and Emerson schools. He retired in 1986 after serving as principal at Bethune Elementary School for 14 years. Throughout his impres-

sive career, he served as a mentor to countless students.

Bud's service to our community did not end in the classroom; he also served on a number of boards and commissions. He served as President of United Black Men of Fresno for ten years and was active on the boards of the Chaffee Zoo, Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno, St. Agnes Medical Center, and the Kiwanis Club of Fresno. His hard work and innovative nature made him a respected member of our community and he served as an example to many.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Rutherford "Bud" Gaston, one of Fresno's most distinguished leaders, a trailblazer for education, and a true champion for the people of Central California. His leadership made him a role model and an asset to our community. His caring nature and vibrant spirit will be sorely missed, but his legacy will live on in the lives of those he touched.

HONORING STEVE SIMON THORNTON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a friend and constituent, Steve Simon Thornton, who has devoted the last 31 years to serving the children of eastern North Carolina. In a few days, Steve will be retiring as Assistant Superintendent of the Wilson County Public Schools.

Steve Thornton is a native of Halifax County, North Carolina. He was born on November 1, 1959 to Stonewall and Garteon Davis Thornton who were role models and inspired Steve to give of his time and talent to disadvantaged children. His parents believed in the power and opportunity offered by an educated mind and from a very early age ingrained in Steve and his three older siblings the importance of education.

Steve was a product of the Halifax County Public School System, having attended T. S. Inborden Elementary School and graduating in 1978 from Enfield High School. Throughout his formative years, Steve learned that education was key to breaking the cycle of poverty that can so often plague traditionally southern communities. He was determined to give back to the community that gave him so much. And so he attended East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina and in 1982 received a Bachelor's Degree in Intermediate Education.

After receiving his undergraduate degree, Steve chose to become an elementary teacher at Benvenue Elementary School in Nash County, North Carolina. He was so highly respected by his colleagues that he was named grade chairman and was also honored as the 1986 Teacher of the Year. The following year, Steve saw a new opportunity to help shape young minds and began serving as Assistant Principal at Carver Elementary School in Edgecombe County, North Carolina.

In 1989, after earning a Master's Degree in School Administration, Steve returned to his