

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO HARDY L. BROWN

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the lifetime of achievement of Hardy L. Brown. His story is a true American success story and he stands today as a leader in his community.

Hardy L. Brown was born in Trenton, NC, in 1942, the son of a sharecropper. After graduating from high school, Hardy Brown relocated to California where he found work as a laborer for Kaiser Steel in Fontana. He did not remain a laborer for long, and, in time, he took a management position with Kaiser Steel. During this same time, he also became actively involved with many community projects, always with a focus on community service.

Hardy Brown was elected to the San Bernardino City Unified School District's Board in 1983 and served for 12 years. He served as president of the board and was the first African-American male to hold this position. During his tenure as board president, he was responsible for the re-opening of and the changing of names of two schools on the west side of San Bernardino.

The banner of The Black Voice News, a weekly news publication focusing on issues surrounding the African American community, claims, "The Black Voice News, serving the Inland Empire for 30 years." Cheryl and Hardy have, in fact, owned and operated the newspaper and served the Inland Empire for 28 of those successful years. He has also served on the board of the West Coast Black Publishers Association and has been active in the National Newspaper Publishers Association, which named him Publisher of the Year in 2000. He also has served as president of the California Black Media Association, an advocacy alliance for Black-owned newspapers, magazines, and radio stations.

Hardy L. Brown has had a lasting impact on southern California both through his public service and through his weekly publications. His advice and counsel are often sought by leaders in education, and by civic leaders and by Members of Congress. In fact, Hardy served on the staff of the late Congressman George E. Brown, Jr. in the Inland Empire. He and his wife, Cheryl, provide an important and reliable progressive voice and insight to the community. I applaud Hardy L. Brown for his lifetime of public service and community leadership and I am pleased to honor him as he celebrates his 63rd birthday. Please join me in honoring a great American and a true community hero, Hardy L. Brown.●

TRIBUTE TO ALBERT CASEY

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, one of my longtime friends, Patricia Patterson, and I were recently discussing the life and service of a great American, and I wanted to take a moment and bring to the attention of my colleagues this American success story.

Al Casey passed away on July 10, 2004, after a lifetime of contributing strong leadership and a gregarious disposition to numerous companies, communities, and organizations from across the country.

After putting himself through Harvard, Al enlisted in the Army during World War II. Following his military service, he returned to Harvard business school, earning a graduate degree in finance. Al loved Harvard, and his friendships there opened doors and enriched his life throughout his long career.

Al's first job was in New York for Railway Express. He and Ellie, his wife of more than 40 years, then moved to San Francisco with the Southern Pacific Railroad. Al later worked as President of the Times Mirror Company and the Los Angeles Times for 8 years, before moving to possibly his most visible corporate assignment—CEO of American Airlines. His philosophy, "you don't have to be mean to be tough," carried him to success in most of his professional endeavors, especially with American, where Al provided aggressive leadership. When he came to American Airlines, he had already established a reputation of high ethical behavior. This, combined with his ability to laugh at himself, secured for him the cooperation and loyalty of his employees.

Following his retirement from American Airlines, Al began a relationship with SMU's Cox Business School as a faculty member. His teaching career was interrupted to rescue First International Bankshares as it emerged from bankruptcy. Later, he served as Postmaster General of the United States under President Reagan. Al enjoyed this tour immensely, even signing letters to close friends as "Big Stamp." He returned to teaching, only to be tapped in 1991 by President George H.W. Bush and Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank, to pilot the Resolution Trust Corporation—which was charged with disposing of financial and real estate assets left behind in the wake of failed savings and loan companies in the 1980s. It was a massive undertaking that no one thought could be done. Al worked for 18 months and was able to lead the RTC in disposing of almost all of the assets by the time the Clinton administration took office.

Al had a positive outlook on life and genuinely desired to know about the triumphs and tribulations in the lives of friends and coworkers. He supported countless community and civic organizations and was committed to improving the cities and neighborhoods where he lived and worked.

The effects of his steady guidance and endless enthusiasm for life have been felt in major corporations, in professional associations, in government organizations, and in the personal lives of many Americans. Albert Casey coined "Casey's Law," which holds that "if anything could go right, it

should." I was honored to know Al, and I thank you, Mr. President, for the opportunity to commemorate such a fine man. He is certainly missed and fondly remembered.●

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL O. HILL

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I want to pay tribute today to Michael O. Hill, superintendent of Assateague Island National Seashore. Mike is retiring after a long and distinguished career in the National Park Service, and I want to thank him for his service to our Nation and especially for the outstanding job he did in managing and enhancing Assateague Island National Seashore since coming to Maryland in 2000.

Throughout his 33-year career with the National Park Service, Mike Hill has distinguished himself through his commitment and dedication to managing and protecting some of our Nation's most precious treasures. Beginning as a seasonal employee at Sequoia National Park in 1973, Mike's career quickly took him through a variety of increasingly challenging posts, from his first permanent position as a horse patrol ranger at Petrified Forest National Park to management positions in parks all over our country including Channel Islands National Park, Shenandoah National Park, VA, and Biscayne National Park, FL. In 1990, he was selected for the 2-year Bevinetto congressional fellowship program, where he worked with the National Park Service and Congress to better manage our national parks. In 1993, he became superintendent of Petersburg National Battlefield, and in 2000 he was selected for his present position at Assateague Island National Seashore.

Over the past 5 years, I have had the opportunity and privilege to work closely with Mike on several initiatives to protect the natural resources at Assateague and to enhance visitors' experiences at the seashore. I know firsthand the great leadership and expertise he brought not only to these initiatives, but equally important, to supporting and encouraging one of the finest staffs of park professionals in the country—at a time when all our parks are operating with only two-thirds of the needed funding and personnel. Under Mike's direction, the integrity of the northern 7 miles of the National Seashore has been restored after decades of unnatural erosion, plans have been advanced to develop a new barrier island visitors center to accommodate the increasing number of visitors to the park, and partnerships with the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, the Maryland Coastal Bay Program, and the State and local governments have been strengthened.

Mike's dedication to the stewardship of the National Park System has earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues, park visitors, and community residents, alike. His passion for Assateague was evident even in