

to his country and his family, and we are eternally grateful. I will especially miss Bill as he and I met in my office just 2 months ago to talk about the RTC and how we could apply those lessons to our current financial and economic crisis. I appreciated his wisdom, guidance, generosity, and the kindness and respect he paid to me.

It is my deepest hope that we can all learn from Bill, in not just his expertise on addressing the current financial crisis, but also in the way he treated others with kindness, humility, honesty, and passion.

Our hearts and prayers go out to his wife Sally, his six children, his many grandchildren and great grandchildren, and to all of his family. I will truly miss him.

It has been my honor today to offer this commemoration on the incredible life of Bill Seidman, and to salute this great American.●

#### REMEMBERING BRIAN O'NEILL

● Mrs. BOXER.: Mr. President, it is with a very heavy heart that I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the memory of an extraordinary National Park Service, NPS, leader, Brian O'Neill. Brian was a legendary conservationist and community builder whose legacy will serve as a source of inspiration for decades to come. Brian passed away on May 13, 2009. He was 67 years old.

Brian was born in Washington, DC, in 1942, where he lived for the first 27 years of his life. During his early years, Brian's family often took camping and road trips to many of our National Parks. It was on these trips that Brian first began to bond with the Great West that would eventually become his home. The deep love and respect for nature that Brian fostered in his youth continued to motivate his professional life and nurture his personal life for the remainder of his years.

Brian never kept his love of the outdoors to himself. From the beginning, he recognized the importance of sharing his enthusiasm for all things wild with his family, friends, and especially with young people. As a freshman at the University of Maryland, Brian and his twin brother Alan worked with their mother Mimi to establish a nonprofit organization that provided urban children with opportunities to visit national parks.

Brian began his career in Government service in 1965, when he was hired by what was then the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, BOR. As Deputy Director of BOR's Office of Urban Park Studies, Brian was a crucial part of the team that persuaded President Nixon to support legislation establishing two major urban parks: Golden Gate in San Francisco and Gateway in New York City. Brian was also instrumental in the inclusion of 2,000 miles of rivers on California's north coast in the national scenic rivers system during the final days of President Carter's administration.

For the past 25 years, Brian O'Neill served as the superintendent of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, GGNRA. Comprised of over 76,000 acres in Marin, San Mateo, and San Francisco counties, GGNRA is one of the largest urban parks in the country. GGNRA hosts over 16 million visitors annually and is home to 1, 250 historic buildings, or 7 percent of all designated historic structures in the country. With ever-growing expertise, Brian led GGNRA's 347 NPS employees and 8,000 volunteers.

Brian had a special skill for connecting people with parks. He understood that in order to garner lasting support for parks, community members must be personally invested and involved every step of the way. Brian's can-do attitude enabled him to create fruitful partnerships with business leaders, philanthropists, and community leaders. He consistently proved skeptics wrong, as he raised more and more money to create additional parklands. NPS recognized Brian's natural aptitude for building partnerships—when NPS created a new assistant director position focused on creating relationships with outside entities, Brian was asked to serve in this role for the first year of its existence.

I had the great pleasure of knowing Brian for many years, and will always remember his bright smile and cheerful optimism. Brian's warmth drew people to him—he was always surrounded by a rich circle of friends and colleagues of all ages. Though he will be deeply missed, Brian has left us with the priceless and timeless gifts of the parks he helped to build. Thanks in great part to Brian, GGNRA provides its visitors with endless opportunities for exploration, education, and getting in touch with life's deepest purpose and most rewarding opportunities.

Brian has no doubt left an indelible mark on our hearts, minds, and the bay area's natural treasures. He was an inspiring and wonderful man. For those of us who were fortunate to know him, we take comfort in knowing that hundreds of thousands of park visitors will continue to benefit from Brian's vision and determination for generations to come.

Brian is survived by his mother Mimi, twin brother Alan, wife Marti, daughter Kim, son Brent, daughter-in-law Anne, and three grandchildren—Justin, Kieran and Sean.●

#### JESUSITA WILDFIRE FIREFIGHTERS

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the brave men and women firefighters who worked tirelessly to protect the residents of Santa Barbara County from the recent Jesusita wildfire.

The Jesusita wildfire has burned nearly 10,000 acres, destroyed and damaged dozens of homes, and at one point forced the evacuation of more than 30,000 local residents.

Firefighters are often called upon to protect our communities while putting themselves in grave danger. This is certainly the case when reflecting on the efforts of Firefighter Robert Lopez, Captain Ron Topolinski, and Captain Brian Bulger from the Ventura County Fire Department. Firefighter Lopez and Captain Topolinski were assigned to structure protection when their position was overrun by a fast-moving wall of fire. Firefighter Lopez and Captain Topolinski utilized their combined 40-years of firefighting experience to survive the initial fire blast and call for help. Captain Brian Bulger responded to the emergency call and risked his own life to ensure the safety of his fellow firefighters. Although all three firefighters suffered injuries due to fire and toxic smoke exposure, all three survived and are now on their way toward recovery. An additional 27 firefighters were injured during this event.

I want to give special thanks to the more than 4,000 Federal, State, local, fire protection district, and volunteer firefighters who have put their lives on the line to fight this fire. Their courage and swift action during this recent wildfire has been truly heroic. They have risked their health and well-being for the benefit of our communities, and we are grateful.

I invite all of my colleagues to join me in commending all men and women firefighters who risk their lives to protect our own.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JANE HAGEDORN

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize the career and contributions of Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails, Inc., chief executive officer, Jane Hagedorn, for her 36 years of service to promoting clean air and preventing lung and air pollution-related diseases.

Jane Hagedorn began her affiliation with The American Lung Association of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails—later becoming Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails—as a volunteer in 1973. During her 3 years as a volunteer, she served as president of the board and then became executive director in 1976.

Under Jane Hagedorn's leadership, Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails, Inc. led the fight to substantially reduce smoking and developed "Thumbs Up! Thumbs Down!" a nationally recognized tobacco research program developed to reduce the negative influence of tobacco use in film. Ms. Hagedorn also led Breathe California's collaboration with the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce to create the Cleaner Air Partnership, which brings elected officials, business leaders and nonprofit organizations together to collaborate on clean air initiatives for the Capital Region. She was also a leader in bringing light rail transit service to Sacramento to provide an environmentally friendly

public transportation alternative to the region.

Ms. Hagedorn's dedication to her community and California has also been demonstrated by her participation on the boards of many government and nonprofit organizations in the region such as, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, the Arden Park and Recreation District, Friends of Light Rail, and the Planning and Conservation League.

As her family, friends and the community gather to celebrate her retirement, I congratulate and thank Jane Hagedorn for her work to maintain clean air for our future generations.●

#### REMEMBERING HARRY KALAS AND CONSTANTINE PAPADAKIS

● Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, the city of Philadelphia lost two of its favorite sons recently. We are all saddened by the passing of longtime Philadelphia Phillies broadcaster Harry Kalas and the loss of Drexel University president Constantine Papadakis. It has been a sad time in Philadelphia with the loss of these two great pillars of the community, and I wish today to honor their memory.

Harry Kalas was the voice of the Philadelphia Phillies for four decades. His signature calls of "Outta Here" following a Phillies' home run and "Struck hiimm out" following a strikeout became fixtures on Phillies' broadcasts. Born in Chicago, Harry grew up the son of a minister in Naperville, IL. He began his broadcasting career in Hawaii and eventually moved to Houston, where he broadcasted Astros games from 1965 to 1970. The Phillies were the Astros' opponent in his first game as a Major League broadcaster.

Harry signed up as the Phillies play-by-play announcer in 1971. He quickly became a popular figure in Philadelphia. Together with Richie Ashburn, the Phillies' Hall of Fame outfielder, whom Harry worked with from 1971 until Ashburn's passing in 1997, the pair formed a memorable team built upon what the Philadelphia Inquirer recently described as "a special rapport in the broadcast booth that won over the fans' hearts."

Fans, players, and sports writers have recounted over the past week just how deeply Harry was loved. One of the most poignant examples of just how beloved Harry was came after the 1980 World Series between the Phillies and the Kansas City Royals. Not a lot of people know that Harry was not permitted to call the Phillies' World Series victory over the Royals due to a Major League Baseball rule in place at the time that prevented local broadcasts of World Series games. The outcry from fans of baseball everywhere, particularly in Philadelphia, was so vociferous that Major League Baseball changed its rules. As a result, fans were treated to Harry's call of the Phillies' appearances in the 1983 and

1993 World Series games and the Phillies' victory in the 2008 World Series. Harry's now famous call of the final out of the 2008 series will forever ring in the minds of fans and players alike.

The Phillies have taken appropriate steps to honor Harry's memory for the rest of the season. Most notably, Harry's signature "Outta Here" will be played over the PA system each time a Phillies' player hits a home run. Thousands of fans paid their respects to Harry during a moving ceremony at Citizens Bank Park last Saturday. The tributes across Major League Baseball are fitting for a man of Harry's stature.

Harry was not only a great broadcaster, he was a great man. I personally will always remember Harry's faithful attendance and participation in the annual Veterans Day parade and ceremony in Media, PA. He loved the city of Philadelphia, and it loved him back.

No matter the score, Harry's passion for the game and unique voice kept the fans captivated for all nine innings. He made the tough seasons easier and the good years even better. To say he will be missed is an understatement. His is the voice that Phillies fans will forever associate with baseball. My deepest condolences go out to Harry's family and the Philadelphia Phillies.

I also wish to honor the life of Constantine Papadakis—known as "Taki"—the longtime president of Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA, who passed away recently after a long and brave battle with lung cancer.

Taki was a creative and dynamic leader at Drexel University for 14 years. He was described by one of his colleagues as identifying himself completely with the university—"there was no Taki that wasn't connected to Drexel." His devotion to Drexel meant that for him, it was not enough to simply preside over the institution. Instead, he threw himself into building, expanding, and extending Drexel's reach, both its academic prowess and its role in the community of Philadelphia. Enrollment grew by more than 130 percent. Freshman applications increased by nearly 700 percent. Research funding went from \$15 million to more than \$100 million in each of the last three years. The size of the faculty doubled and the university is now the seventh largest private employer in the city of Philadelphia. During Taki's tenure, Drexel added both a law school and a medical school. Most recently, he spearheaded the effort to acquire a campus in Sacramento, CA.

Through the sheer force of his personality and his vision, Taki also brought renewed hope and optimism to Philadelphia's leaders and citizens. He established a leading role for Drexel in regional economic development, reaching out to business, academic, and community leaders to show what could be done by investing in growth. He knew that a university is not an isolated institution but a member of a

larger community with the potential to transform a city and a region. He constantly pushed forward, never content, as one colleague said, to rest on the laurels of Drexel's gains, "however meteoric." Government officials, business and community leaders, and ordinary citizens should be inspired by Taki's relentless drive toward improving our communities by strengthening our civic institutions and engaging in public life.

Taki's last year was emblematic of how he lived the rest of his life. His energy and charisma never waned, as he conducted business from his hospital bed, his office, and in board meetings. He had so much to work to finish, which is remarkable for an individual who had already achieved so much. He has been described as "larger than life and taken from us too young," which is undoubtedly true. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife of 39 years, Eliana, and his daughter Maria and hope they will take some comfort in the fact that Taki not only built a well-respected academic institution but also made a city believe in what could be accomplished through hard work, devotion, and passion.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHUCK MACK

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I commend Chuck Mack for his contributions to the labor movement in California and his remarkable 47 years as a Teamster.

Chuck began his career as a Teamster in 1962 and has spent every year since working on behalf of his fellow union members, organizing and ensuring fair treatment and benefits for all.

First elected to a representative position in 1966, he worked as a business agent until 1971 when he briefly moved to Sacramento to lobby the legislature as part of the Teamsters Public Affairs Council.

Returning to the East Bay in 1971, Chuck successfully ran for the position of secretary-treasurer of Local 70, a position he has maintained ever since, which represents 5,000 members in Alameda County.

He was elected to the joint council in 1972, and became president of the council, which represents 55,000 members in San Francisco, in 1982. In 1996, Chuck was elected western region vice president. And, in 2003, he was appointed director of the Teamsters Port Division.

Chuck's responsibilities and leadership roles have steadily increased over the last four decades.

I know him to be a passionate, thoughtful, and committed advocate for all workers.

Whether through his efforts to protect the environment in port communities or preserve wages and benefits for truck drivers, Chuck Mack has always put the needs of his fellow Teamsters first.

Chuck will be stepping down from his Teamsters positions at Local 70, Joint Council 7, and the International Union at the end of this month.