

into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame. I am happy to represent three of them in Congress. Manuel Michael Cardoza Jr. of Preston, Paul Francis Dillon of Gales Ferry, and Herbert Thomas Schacht of Quaker Hill have all served their country with distinction both in and out of uniform and each is well-deserving of their recent induction.

Manuel Cardoza served in the United States Army from 1951 to 1953, including eight months stationed in Korea. Since returning home over fifty years ago, Manuel has actively assisted his fellow veterans. He served as a commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars posts in Norwich and Preston, as well as the American Legion Post 4. As a corporal medical technician in Korea, Manuel showed his commitment to public health through the organization of numerous health screenings throughout the state. He also served as President of the Connecticut Sickle Cell and New London Chapter Disease Research Foundation and sat on the Backus Hospital Board of Directors.

Paul Dillon is a retired Navy master chief radioman who served from 1956 to 1980. During his service in the Vietnam War, Dillon and many of his shipmates fell ill with diseases related to Agent Orange. Paul was troubled by the treatment and lack of care received for some of his colleagues. This inspired him to devote countless volunteer hours with veteran and military groups and to become a leader in the National Association for Uniformed Services. Even while he was battling prostate cancer, Paul worked hard to ensure that other Vietnam veterans received the benefits and treatments that they needed. He continues to assist retired service members and their families each Wednesday at the Retired Activities Office on the submarine base in Groton.

Herbert Schacht spent three years as a medical/surgical tech in during World War II, working stateside in Army hospitals. Upon leaving the military in 1946, Herbert returned home to work at the Waterford Country School. Although he intended to stay for a few short months, Herbert spent the next forty years aiding children with special needs and mental health issues. After retiring as the school's director, Herbert continued to dedicate much of his free time to volunteer work. He worked as a SCORE counselor where he assisted small businesses get off the ground, participated in AIDS work in Africa, and assisted an adoption service in Guatemala.

As veterans return home from serving abroad, they bring valuable skills and strength back to their communities and continue their services to the country. Their induction into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame is a powerful statement of their service to our country both in active duty and as veterans. It is a small elite who receive this honor, and they will be forever remembered at the State Capitol in Hartford as true leaders and examples for future generations. I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing and congratulating these extraordinary veterans.

HONORING SALVATORE CIARAMITARO

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor the memory of Salvatore "Sam" Ciaramitaro, who passed away on November 27, 2012, at 73 years of age. Sam was born on March 22, 1939, in his native town of Terrasini, Sicily. He was a long-term resident of San Pedro, where he was married and raised his children. During his time in San Pedro, he worked as a commercial fisherman and was known for having the sharpest eyes on the ocean.

Sam was a master of many trades. He poured his heart into any task and completed each and every one with perfection and precision. He was his happiest when spending time with his children and grandchildren who were his pride and joy.

Sam Ciaramitaro is survived by his wife Grace; his daughter Geralyn and her husband, the recently elected Los Angeles Councilman Joe Buscaino who represents the 15th Council District in the City of Los Angeles; his daughter Mary Cammareri and her husband Mike Cammareri; his son Donny Ciaramitaro and his wife Sandra Ciaramitaro; his daughter Anna Moore; and his seven grandchildren, Paola, Gracelyn, Sammy, Brandon, Matteo, Gia, and Lucas. He will be truly missed by his friends and loved ones.

HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN JACK BROOKS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former Congressman Jack Brooks, the renowned Member of Congress from Beaumont, Texas. Congressman Brooks served the American people in the U.S. Congress for 42 years of his life. He was 89 years of age when he passed away last night.

Congressman Brooks was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1952. Almost immediately, Congressman Brooks turned his attention to increasing government transparency and efficiency, and this devotion became a guiding principle of his career. Congressman Brooks was pivotal in the passing of legislation that established the independent Offices of Inspector General, which oversee federal agencies in an effort to prevent fraud and waste. Congressman Brooks also crafted the standard by which the government must award federal contracts in an openly competitive process. By the end of his career, he was attributed with saving the American taxpayer billions of dollars by curbing government excess, and streamlining operations within the Executive and Legislative branches of the U.S. Government.

Congressman Brooks was also a renowned leader of social justice. Defying most of his colleagues in the Texas delegation, Congressman Brooks saw a greater future for America

through equality, and helped draft the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. As a true public servant devoted to the pursuit of the greater good, Congressman Brooks earned the support of labor unions, minorities, and pro-choice activists in a region that otherwise lacked the unified support for such progressive views at the time.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman Brooks was a leader among leaders, and was well regarded for his uncompromising character and integrity. As a fierce advocate for the American people, Congressman Brooks has left a lasting legacy and the indelible mark of progress in U.S. history. A true statesman, he set the bar to which all Members of Congress should aspire. I wish to extend my appreciation for his contributions to this body and to his country.

CONGRATULATING PROFESSOR TODD PAGANO OF THE NA- TIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF ON BEING NAMED U.S. PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my esteemed honor to congratulate Dr. Todd Pagano, an associate professor and director of the Laboratory Science Technology program at Rochester Institute of Technology's (RIT) National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID), for being named the 2012 U.S. Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The U.S. Professors of the Year Awards Program, created in 1981, is the only national initiative specifically designed to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring. Todd was selected from more than 300 applicants for this award. He is the first RIT faculty member to receive this award.

The world's first technological college for deaf students, NTID provides a world-class college education leading to jobs and career advancement for deaf and hard-of-hearing students from all 50 states. Though not deaf or hard-of-hearing, Professor Pagano's conviction to learn American Sign Language (ASL) in record time after receiving his Doctorate in Chemistry from Tufts University was already a feat in itself. His ability to effectively communicate with and inspire his students—who have a near 100 percent employment rate after graduation—is unparalleled.

While serving as Director of the Laboratory Science Technology Program and teaching a full-time class load, Professor Pagano has made it his personal mission to provide mentorship and opportunities for deaf and hard-of-hearing students to excel in the study of chemistry. He has championed the advancement of deaf and hard-of-hearing students attending NTID and witnessed the betterment and employment of countless students. As Dr. Pagano has said, "Knowing my students have acquired knowledge that can make a difference in their lives by helping them obtain a job is truly rewarding."

I am so proud of Professor Pagano and NTID and am grateful to have had the privilege to congratulate Todd and his wife—also

an educator at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)—personally for this prestigious recognition when they came to Washington, DC last month to accept the award.

Today, on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, I congratulate Professor Todd Pagano of the Rochester Institute of Technology's National Technical Institute for winning the highly celebrated 2012 U.S. Professor of the Year Award. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebration of this momentous honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 614, 615, 617, 618, and 619, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

WAYNE ROBERTS

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Wayne Roberts, for his 50 years of service in Upper Jay, NY.

In his various capacities with the Upper Jay Volunteer Fire Department, Mr. Roberts served his community with dedication and tireless effort. Last year when the Town of Jay was severely affected by Hurricane Irene, Mr. Roberts spent countless hours toward the relief and recovery effort. Currently, as the Fire Department's Commissioner, he serves Upper Jay and remains integral in the rebuilding effort from Hurricane Irene.

Again, I congratulate Mr. Roberts on his 50 years of service. I cannot thank him enough for his commitment to his community and wish him all the best in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, December 4, 2012, I was inadvertently detained and thus missed rollcall votes Nos. 614, 615, and 616. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all rollcall Nos. 614 and 615 and "nay" on rollcall No. 616.

RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S SUPPORT FOR HURRICANE SANDY VICTIMS

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Sandy was an unprecedented storm that left a dev-

astating impact on our communities in New Jersey—damaging homes, businesses, and leaving millions without power. Hudson, Essex, Middlesex, and Union counties, were hit particularly hard by Sandy. We have been fortunate to have a large team of federal, state, and local responders to assist in recovery efforts.

Beyond, the recovery and assistance efforts led by federal, state, and local responders, fellow American citizens from all over the country donated their time and money to aid Sandy victims. In addition, international aid also poured into our communities. Worthy of particular mention is the assistance provided by the government of The Republic of China (Taiwan).

On November 16, Taiwan announced that it had decided to donate \$1.3 million in relief and reconstruction aid to the United States. One million dollars will be given to United Way International and Habitat for Humanity International, charities based in Washington, D.C. These two organizations are addressing near term and long term recovery needs of communities most affected by Sandy. The rest of the funds will be distributed to the states of New Jersey and New York. A special ceremony marking the transfer of the funds to those organizations will be held in Washington, D.C. on December 6.

We are grateful to the people of Taiwan and the ROC government for extending a helping hand during this difficult time. The people of Taiwan and their government have always been charitable and generous during our times of need. Taiwan gave generously in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and it was a major international donor to the Twin Towers Fund, as well as the Pentagon Memorial Fund. Taiwan was also a heavy contributor to humanitarian aid in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On behalf of my constituents and fellow Americans, I say "thank you" to our friends in Taiwan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, I was detained and missed rollcall vote No. 610, H.R. 915. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 610.

TRIBUTE TO: MRS. PETRA "PAT" PENA

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Petra "Pat" Pena who is retiring after a 34 year career with the United States Marshals Service.

Throughout her tenure with the Marshals Service, Mrs. Pena worked as a member of the finance department. As a result of her exceptional work, she received the distinguished honor of serving as Administrative Officer Mentor for Guam. Throughout her tenure with

the Marshals Service, she displayed leadership, professionalism and dedication.

She ends her career as a public servant, while continuing the chapter of her personal life as a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She has been married to her husband Daniel for 31 years, and they have three children and two grandchildren. Please join me in recognizing her career of distinguished service and contribution to our great country.

HONORING LAWRENCE THOMAS GUYOT, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Lawrence Thomas Guyot who stood as the ideal example of a politically-engaged activist with a relentless desire to change history. Mr. Guyot's noble contributions to the Civil Rights movement gained him notoriety as one of the great champions for justice and equality in this country.

Born July 17, 1939 in Pass Christian, Mississippi, Mr. Lawrence Thomas Guyot Jr. earned his high school diploma in 1957 from Randolph High School where he was a member of the debate and basketball teams. He later attended Tougaloo College, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Philosophy in 1964.

Mr. Guyot's interest in social justice issues developed while he was a student at Tougaloo College which, at that time, stood for many as a safe haven during the Civil Rights movement. Mr. Guyot, along with several other students took an active role in combating the mistreatment and exclusion of African Americans who were pursuing their right to vote; demonstrating their adamant objection to these social ills.

Mr. Guyot became an original member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) where he served as a field secretary working on voter education and registration throughout Mississippi. Mr. Guyot was repeatedly challenged, jailed and often beaten as he helped lead fellow members of the SNCC and student volunteers from around the nation in organizing African Americans to vote. His works impacted many of the state's counties where no African Americans were ever registered.

Through the difficult times and constant opposition, Mr. Guyot courageously continued his work in civil rights. In 1964, Mr. Guyot served as director of the 1964 Freedom Summer Project which brought thousands of young people to the state to register African Americans to vote in opposition to the state's traditional habits of excluding most African Americans from voting through acts of violence and intimidation by authorities. In the same year, Mr. Guyot further pushed the campaign for greater African American participation in politics by serving as chairman of the integrated Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. It lost its challenge to the established Mississippi party at the Democratic National Convention in 1964, but its efforts were seen as paving the way for the landmark passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Later that year, Guyot was