serving. Serving two separate terms as the President of the Soroptimist International of Dixon, Mary Lou Batchelor has worked tirelessly to advance the status of women and girls, continually advocating for equality and opportunity. She also served as chair of the Soroptimist’s community events, programs, local projects, and fundraisers. She has been instrumental in bringing positive and significant changes to her community. She is especially devoted to generating financial support for cancer survivors and for the families of those who have lost their battle with cancer. Mary Lou was sworn in as President and is the current Treasurer of the Women’s Improvement Club of Dixon, and as an active member of Dixon Advocates for Seniors, Mary Lou was recognized as the 2017 Dixon Senior Citizen of the Year. Her passion for volunteerism in the community is evident in her role at the League of Women Voters, helping to encourage and engage women in the community to become informed voters. She currently is involved in the city of Dixon’s Volunteer Program in which she will be assisting agencies such as the Police Department, Fire House, or City Hall when needed. Mary Lou is hard-working, responsible, compassionate, and an effective community leader who truly cares about her community and embodies all the qualities of a true public servant.

IN MEMORY OF BENJAMIN MARIO BELTRAMO

HON. ERIC SWALWELL
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Ken Arnold, on his retirement from the Illinois State Police.

On October 8, 2018, Benjamin Beltramo’s family, the citizens of Alameda County and everyone touched by Ben’s life, suffered a tremendous loss. Despite this loss, we are made better by having known Ben.

Ben was the middle child of five born to Mario and Linda Beltramo. He grew up in Fresno where his parents owned and operated a shoe store. Despite his lower education, Ben went on to graduate from University of Notre Dame, where he majored in Business Administration and raised in the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas. In 1983 he graduated from Napa Valley College with two Associate of Science degrees in Law Enforcement and Private Security.

Chief Arnold earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Saint Mary’s College of California in 1991. From 1979 to 1997 he served in the Army Reserve and was honorably discharged as a Sergeant First Class.

Chief Arnold has served Napa Valley College as Chief of Police since 1990. He also is the head of parking services and emergency management, among many other responsibilities that are essential to keeping the students and college safe. Chief Arnold is an adjunct professor at the Napa Valley College Criminal Justice Training Center. He teaches first aid for law enforcement, cultural awareness, emergency management and campus law enforcement, among other courses. In addition, Chief Arnold coordinates the Napa Valley College police academy and in-service training programs. Since 1989, he has also taught emergency preparedness and trained other instructors for the Napa County Community Emergency Response Team training program.

During the October 2017 wildfires, Chief Arnold displayed incredible leadership and greatly assisted our community. He set up a temporary shelter at Napa Valley College for fire evacuees when the fire first broke out and included a kennel for displaced animals. At the college, Chief Arnold led the coordination of emergency operations, community donations, distribution of food and clothing, staff shift management and volunteers.

Chief Arnold has held numerous leadership roles. He is the former president of the California College and University Police Chiefs Association and Napa and Solano County Training Managers Association and was Board Chairman of the Napa chapter of the American Red Cross. He has also served on the board of Saint John’s Lutheran School.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Arnold is an admirable leader who is dedicated to serving and protecting our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Chief Ken Arnold here today.

CONGRATULATING DAN ROACH ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 19, 2018

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dan Roach, who is retiring from the Illinois State Police. Mr. Roach has a diverse background in police work, and has been an asset to the community.

Mr. Roach has served as an Illinois State Police law enforcement professional for 26 years, including over 21 years of investigations, patrol, and administrative leadership experience, retiring as Captain. Mr. Roach served as the Deputy Chief of the Schaumburg Police Department for the last 4 years, where he oversaw the Patrol Division, the Investigations Division, and the Special Operations Division. Mr. Roach has accrued extensive experience in team-building, and interpersonal and management skills such as employee development, training, and networking with diverse groups of people at all levels. I commend Mr. Roach on an outstanding career of public service and wish him
the best as he begins to enjoy a well-earned retirement. It is because of dedicated leaders such as Mr. Dan Roach that I am especially proud to serve Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Mr. Dan Roach for an exceptional career and thank him for all of his contributions and service to the community.

HONORING VERNEAL BRUMFIELD WITH CALIFORNIA’S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI OF CALIFORNIA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Verneal Brumfield as a woman of the year. She is committed to serving her community and devotes her time to help further the development of Solano County. She retired as a Correctional Administrator with 28 years of service to the State of California, where she was responsible for thousands of inmates and staff over the years. She has gone on to become actively involved in many community service organizations where she advocates for causes she believes in. She has served in leadership positions with the National Council of Negro Women, the Tri-City NAACP, the Solano County Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, and Democratic Women in Action. During her time as President of the Solano County Chapter of Links, Inc., she worked to secure a large grant which funded a STEM collaboration benefiting Solano County students. She also worked with the National Council of Negro Women and Campfire Girls of America to put on an event providing a holiday meal and gifts to underserved children in her area. Throughout her years of service to her community, Ms. Brumfield has been an integral part of many such projects benefiting the people of Solano County. She is always willing to serve wherever there is need and consistently does so with kindness and compassion.

CONGRATULATING LTC(RET) NICHOLAS M. LIAIACONA ON RECEIVING THE 2018 VETERAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK OF NEW YORK IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate LTC(Ref) Nicholas Laiacona on receiving the 2018 Veteran of the Year Award.

LTC Laiacona entered the Army in 1966 and served in Vietnam as a Platoon Leader and Company Commander in the Mobile Riverine Force, 9th Infantry Division in the Mekong Delta. After returning home, he transferred to the Ordnance Corps, fulfilling assignments in the United States, Germany, and Korea. In 1985, he was selected as one of the first certified U.S. Army Material Acquisition Managers and became the first Army officer in the Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering. He also remains active in several veterans organizations, including the AUSA where he served as President of the Capital District Chapter and continued to serve on its Executive Committee.

On behalf of New York’s 21st District, I want to congratulate LTC(Ret) Nicholas Laiacona on his well-deserved award of 2018 Veteran of the Year. We are thankful for his service and dedication to both his country and community.

TRIBUTE TO WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. BRENDAL. LAWRENCE OF MICHIGAN IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Representatives DEBBIE DINGELL, PAUL MITCHELL, MIKE BISHOP, SANDER LEVIN, DANIEL KILDEE, FRED UPTON, JOHN MOOLENAAR, and JACK BERGMAN to recognize Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan as our next 150 years. Its 150th anniversary is a milestone, and we eagerly look forward to what the University accomplishes in its next 150 years. Wayne State University has been, is and will always be Warrior Strong.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. IRENE WHITLEY MARCUS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER OF MISSOURI IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a civil rights hero in the greater Kansas City area for her dedication and determination to ensuring the success of the African American community through equality and opportunity. Since the mid-twentieth century, Ms. Irene Whitley Marcus has worked feverishly to demolish anti-Black sentiments and discriminatory policies, in order to create accessible housing in the Kansas City community. During a time when segregation laws disproportionately afflicted Black Americans and civil unrest persisted, Ms. Marcus held firm to her belief that all of America’s children were deserving of the liberties and rights guaranteed under the constitution, regardless of their skin tone. Through her memories and experiences, the history of the Black community in Kansas City is preserved and respected. World War II provided many Black families an opportunity for upward social mobility in the workforce and created opportunities to purchase homes. Ms. Marcus tells of a time when Black businesses were rare and social life existed only in Black American homes due to