

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 benefitting 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 benefitting 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. LAIACONA 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(RET) Nicholas Laiacona on receiving the 2018 Veteran of the Year Award.

Each year, the Friends of the NYS Military Museum and the Capitol District of NY Chapter, Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) recognize an outstanding veteran from the local community. This year's awardee, LTC Laiacona, has made distinguished contributions to his country as a soldier and to his community as a veteran.

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 one of the first officers in the Army Acquisition Corps. LTC Laiacona retired in 1991 with over 24 years of service and numerous awards and decorations, among them the Purple Heart and Vietnam Service Medal with 4 stars.

After retiring, LTC Laiacona continued to contribute to the Army by applying his expertise to several corporations in support of U.S. 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 continues 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. BRENDA L. 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, on the occasion of its 150th—or sesquicentennial—celebration. Located in the heart of Detroit, Wayne State University is ranked among our nation's best research institutions, educates over 27,000 students among 13 schools and colleges, and is the eighth-largest employer in the city of Detroit.

In addition to educating and training leaders in research, the arts, law, and medicine, Wayne State University has for over 150 years, consistently served the people of Detroit, the great state of Michigan, and our nation. Wayne State University began, and has remained, in Detroit—a city that has seen the highest heights and the deepest depths, and is now reinventing the very definition of the great American city.

Through the tireless work and effort of its first university president, Dr. Edward W. Jenks, to the current president Dr. M. Roy Wilson, Wayne State University is the embodiment of public service and access to education. Under the direction of Dr. Wilson, Wayne State University has dramatically increased its overall six-year graduation rate, with African American graduation rates double what they were just a few years ago. Today, Wayne State University attracts, and is composed of, many of the best and brightest students and researchers, with an excellent team of administration, faculty, and staff professionals. They remain firmly rooted in the community while preparing their diverse student body to impact locally and globally making the university a thriving hub of innovation and academia.

Wayne State University has also cemented its status as a leading research institution and a champion for women and children in our nation. In fact, Wayne State University is the only site outside of Bethesda, Maryland, that houses a branch of the National Institutes of Health. Thanks to the Perinatology Research Branch, over 20,000 women, children, and families have received access to world-class prenatal health care that they might not have otherwise been able to access.

Through the Integrative Biosciences Center (IBio), the University is reimagining the way science approaches urban health issues. IBio was named the 2017 Renovated Laboratory of the Year by R&D Magazine and Laboratory Design. This 127,000-square-foot, \$90 million facility is dedicated to studying and eliminating the many health disparities that plague residents of Detroit and communities across the country. IBio includes faculty with expertise in environmental sciences, bio and systems engineering, heart disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and bio-behavioral health. Opened this fall, the Mike Ilitch School of Business, further expands the Wayne State campus into The District Detroit while adding academic programs in the business of sports and entertainment.

The mission of Wayne State University is to create and advance knowledge, prepare a diverse student body to thrive, and positively impact local and global communities. We congratulate and thank Wayne State University's student body, Board of Governors, President M. Roy Wilson, faculty and administrators for living out the passion and principle of their mission statement. Reaching their 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 the opportunity for minorities 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

segregation laws that prohibited Blacks from eating at restaurants, attending clubs, and seeing movies in theatres.

In an era when Black Americans worked twice as hard for subpar housing and employment, Ms. Marcus never gave up the fight for equality and opportunity. After a long day of work in 1958, she could be found amongst protesters, picketing the racist segregation policies that were commonplace during the time. For two months, she continued to challenge the current system as a member of the Twin Citizens Social Club alongside the Community Committee for Social Action, until three establishments caved into their demands and banned segregation. The butterfly effect of this united front had begun. Many more establishments followed suit to remove such policies, and in 1963 Black activists in the city pushed to pass an ordinance effectively banning discrimination practices in all establishments available to the public.

Ms. Marcus's vigilance opened doors for job-seeking Black Americans and allowed her to build the home she still lives in to this day. The Kansas City ordinance banning discrimination predated the Civil Rights Act, though it was not until the Act was passed that hundreds of Black Americans truly began to exercise their newly granted rights.

She has seen her neighborhood, community, and city progress and continues to provide first-hand knowledge of the hardships many Black Americans endured and continue to face. Currently, Ms. Marcus is in possession of the largest photo collection of historic Black Kansas City. Her noteworthy contributions to establishments such as The Black Archives of Mid-America, the Kansas City Star, and the State Historical Society of Missouri have immortalized the hard work of countless Black civil rights activists. The entire district, myself included, is grateful to have such a devoted and determined social justice advocate in our community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in honoring Ms. Irene Whitley Marcus for her commitment to social justice and her historic contributions to the Black community both in Kansas City and nationwide. It is with great respect that I urge all my colleagues and fellow citizens across the country to join me in showing our appreciation to Ms. Marcus for her unwavering dedication to protect Black history and civil rights.

#### HONORING MARYAH STOOTS 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 Maryah Stoots as a woman of the year. She is a parent advocate with a heart of service and a strong desire to help others. She is Vice President of the Williams Parent Teacher Organization where she fundraises for school spirit wear and educational programs. She was instrumental in the introduction of Learning Dynamics, an early learning reading program designed to promote childhood and family literacy. She is also a parent

representative on the elementary school Site Council, a coalition of teachers, parents and employees who work closely with the school principal to develop, review, and evaluate school improvement efforts. She has been successful in securing funding from the Colusa Board of Supervisors for playground improvements and bringing the National Archery in School Programs to Williams Unified Schools. Above all, Ms. Stoots played a very important role in advocating for the implementation of a bullying prevention program to the elementary school in Williams. Outside of work, she volunteers for the Little League where you will often find her working the snack bar, pounding nails on the bleachers, or assisting with maintenance efforts. In 2016, Ms. Stoots was elected President of Citizens for a Better Williams, a non-profit focused on promoting community improvements. Whether she is fundraising for childhood education programs or volunteering in the community, Maryah Stoots exemplifies the qualities of selfless service and embodies the qualities of a public servant.

#### HONORING THE EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF RICHARD MAHACEK

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 19, 2018*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and achievements of Richard Mahacek, a longtime Merced resident. His 35 years of shaping the character of the Merced County 4-H community as well as his national leadership in developing curricula for 4-H youth have earned him a spot in the 4-H Hall of Fame. Mahacek's lifelong commitment to instilling values such as working together and experiential learning has made immeasurable positive impacts on our Merced community.

Beginning when he was 10 years old, Mahacek's involvement as a 4-H youth member included participating in projects in electricity, woodworking, and raising cattle. He also worked on his family farm and managed a 120-home newspaper route for six years. Using money made from his paper route, Mahacek earned a bachelor's degree in industrial arts at San Jose State University in 1974. Following graduation, he chose to pursue a career that allowed him to give back to the 4-H community that had given him so much. In 1976, Mahacek was named the 4-H Youth Development Advisor for Merced County.

Mahacek made his most notable contributions to 4-H in the field of science. His engagement with the youth and his development of curricula and activities in science processes, robotics, computers, GIS/GPS, bio-security, and environmental issues have played a critical part in the development of 4-H. He was a member of the team that developed the 4-H Science Experiences and Resources for Informal Educational Settings (SERIES) curriculum. SERIES was the first science education curriculum to join 4-H's traditional projects. In 2004, Mahacek served on the national leadership team for 4-H Science, Engineering, and Technology (SET), a project which aims to stoke young people's interest in developing the knowledge and skills necessary for the 21st Century's technically-oriented careers.

Mahacek has received distinguished service awards from the state and national 4-H associations. The Merced County Farm City Ag Business Committee presented him with its "Agri-Education Award" in 1992. In addition, Mahacek received the "Hands-On Heroes Award" at the Merced County Children's summit. On October 19, Mahacek was inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame in recognition of his outstanding citizenship, leadership, character, and career accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Richard Mahacek for his dedication and service over the past 4 decades. He has made a real difference and left a remarkable impact on Merced County and the congressional district I have the honor of representing. I wish Richard and his family continued health and happiness.

#### RECOGNIZING MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK 2018

#### HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 19, 2018*

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to observe Malnutrition Awareness Week which was September 24 through 28, 2018.

Access to proper nutrition is critical for all Americans, especially our seniors. Every 60 seconds, ten hospitalized patients with malnutrition go undiagnosed, and many of these patients are older adults. The malnutrition awareness outreach effort is a step in the right direction to defeat this problem that plagues vulnerable populations.

Malnutrition Awareness Week is a multi-organizational, multi-pronged effort created by the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition to: educate healthcare professionals to identify and treat malnutrition earlier; educate consumers and patients about the need to discuss their nutrition status with healthcare professionals; and increase awareness of nutrition's role in patient recovery.

The Malnutrition Awareness Week campaign also highlights the need to focus on common-sense solutions that can close the care gap, thereby helping to reduce premature morbidity and mortality as well as hospitalizations, re-admissions and other variables that may increase the cost of care. We can begin by measuring the scope of the problem and by adding metrics for older adult malnutrition to national dietary guidelines. I believe increasing awareness will help our nation educate families and help seniors live healthier lives for years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY AND HER NEW PRESIDENT, DR. LISA C. FREEMAN

#### HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 19, 2018*

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about one of my alma maters, Northern Illinois University, and her new president, Dr. Lisa C. Freeman.