

condominiums and San Onofre State Park would be a paved toll road.

Mr. Douglas is one of the fiercest defenders of open space and he is not afraid to speak truth to power. For example, this year some landowners wanted to build "environmentally friendly" mansions along a bluff overlooking Malibu. Speculation persisted that the commission would approve the project until Peter Douglas stated he had "never seen a project as environmentally devastating as this." The commission voted against it.

Mr. Douglas took on the Jonathan Club and the Olympic Club, private men's clubs in Santa Monica and San Francisco respectively. He urged the commission to vote against their expansion arguing that it would be a travesty if a state agency gave it's good housekeeping seal to a club on public land that discriminates against Jews, African Americans, Latinos, Asians and women. He ignored the advice of the Attorney General's office, the case went all the way to the Supreme Court and the commission won. Mr. Douglas succeeded in righting a grievous constitutional wrong with the Coastal Act.

In 1987 he refused an order by Governor Deukmejian to close the commission offices in Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz. He argued the commission could not implement the Coastal Act without offices in those critical areas. The commission backed him on the basis that the Governor did not have authority over and independent commission and the offices remained open.

His upbringing gave him the tools and mindset to deal with adversity and conflict. Peter Douglas was born into a Jewish family in Berlin in 1942. They immigrated to the United States from Mexico in the early '50s. He received both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from UCLA.

Among a long list of additional professional accomplishments, Mr. Douglas is one of the original members of the NOAA Science Advisory Board, was appointed by President Clinton of the U.S. Panel on Ocean Exploration, and is a Member of the National Academy of Sciences.

As Mr. Douglas is handing over his Coastal Commission responsibilities to Senior Deputy Director Charles Lester, he is looking forward to spending more time with his family and friends, especially his grandchildren, on his beloved coast. To quote him, "If we want it to be there for our children, we have to keep fighting to protect it. In that way, the coast is never saved, it's always being saved."

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the life's work of Peter Douglas who has preserved the natural beauty of the California coast and my belief that an individual can change the world.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize the Exchange Club of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, as it celebrates 75 years of serving the Fond du Lac

community. Established in 1937 by some of the city's most prominent leaders, the Exchange Club was viewed by its founding members as a chance to develop an entirely new type of service organization in the area, with an emphasis on helping those less fortunate while working to make life better for all area citizens.

It is a commitment Fond du Lac Exchangites have been fulfilling for 75 years. In the process, they have made innumerable contributions to the quality of life in the Fond du Lac area.

For 75 years, members of the Fond du Lac organization have met to exchange ideas about how to better serve the community while working to advance the National Exchange Club goals of benefiting and developing youth, promoting crime prevention, recognizing military and public safety service providers, fostering Americanism and preventing child abuse.

In its early years, the Exchange Club of Fond du Lac underwrote Christmas parties for the community's underprivileged children and held programs to recognize the area's high school sports teams. In the late 1940s, the Exchange Club was instrumental in convincing city officials that an underutilized city-owned building designated as a community center could be converted to a gathering place for area youth, something many felt the city badly needed. Thus, the Hamilton Community Building near downtown Fond du Lac was extensively remodeled in 1947 and used for decades as the Fond du Lac Youth Center.

In 1957, the club achieved one of its proudest moments by raising the funds needed to purchase a cutting-edge piece of medical equipment, called a Flame Photometer, for Fond du Lac's St. Agnes Hospital. At the time, only two other, much larger, medical facilities in Wisconsin had this particular life-saving equipment.

Another signature Exchange Club accomplishment was the furnishing of grounds supervision, maintenance and support for many years for Camp Tiwaushara, a large Girl Scout Camp located in Redgranite, Wisconsin, and operated by the former Wau-Bun Girl Scout Council. Members of the club went to Redgranite annually to clear brush and prepare the grounds for the camping season and to build structures needed for the camp.

More recently, Exchangites in Fond du Lac have been active in running a petting zoo for the community at Fond du Lac's Lakeside Park, distributing flags to children during the annual Fond du Lac Memorial Day Parade, and erecting numerous Exchange Club Freedom Shrines, permanently mounted reproductions of the most important documents in American history. Also in recent years, club members have purchased a walk-in cooler for a local food pantry and have funded numerous public safety initiatives, as well as supporting countless other local causes and nonprofit organizations in the Fond du Lac area.

I am proud to join with the Fond du Lac community in recognizing the invaluable contributions and outstanding service of the Exchange Club of Fond du Lac, and in congratulating the club on its 75th anniversary. In addition, I extend my best wishes to all club members for continued success in the future.

IN HONOR OF NURSES FOR
NEWBORNS

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Nurses For Newborns Organization, as they celebrate their 20th anniversary.

Since 1992, Nurses For Newborns has served our most vulnerable citizens—newborn babies. As a nurse home visiting agency, volunteers help provide a safety net for families most at risk to help prevent infant mortality, child abuse, and neglect through home based programs that provide education, healthcare, and positive parenting skills. Services also include programs for teen moms and moms that are mentally and physically challenged, as well as referrals to medical, social or government services.

Nurses visiting new mothers for whom poverty is the primary risk factor provide maternal depression, risk for domestic violence and child abuse and neglect screenings in the home. "Medically fragile" babies—those born prematurely, diagnosed with Down Syndrome or other genetic disorders, or who have been exposed to drugs or alcohol are afforded extra special care by volunteer nurses.

Moms with intellectual or physical disabilities who need assistance with routine tasks like formula preparation and feeding; administration of medications or managing appointment schedules will receive support from Nurses For Newborns with more frequent home visits.

Our citizens have rallied around this worthy organization. Churches, school groups, and businesses, and community members routinely donate clothes, toys, diapers, blankets, car seats, baby beds, and formula to the Nurses For Newborns organization, for families in need.

Evidence based outcomes of the hard work of Nurses For Newborns staff and volunteers are impressive. Ninety-nine percent of babies whose parents are enrolled in the program do not suffer from abuse or neglect; 89 percent are current with immunization schedule; 99 percent have established a medical home for their babies, and 99 percent are not unnecessarily hospitalized.

I thank Chief Executive Officer Melinda Ohlemiller, her staff, and all of the volunteers who have made Nurses For Newborns the effective and vitally important organization that it is today. Because of their compassion and hard work, all St. Louis area babies can have the best possible start and the brightest possible future.

HONORING H. MICHAEL WEITZMAN

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor the memory of H. Michael Weitzman, who passed away on April 16, 2012 and whose absence is felt deeply in his community and in the hearts of all who knew him.

Born August 19, 1929, H. Michael Weitzman was an alumni of Case Western University

and the Ohio State University's School of Optometry. He served his country as a line officer in the Navy and continued to work as an optometrist until just over a year before his death.

Dr. Weitzman was an immensely caring person with a poignant and selfless dedication to serving his fellow man. A deeply spiritual person, he lived out the Jewish ethic of loving-kindness until his dying day. As an established Optometrist in the San Pedro community, Dr. Weitzman was known for his attention to his patients, often seeing people at no charge.

Not only was Michael Weitzman generous in his own practice, his philanthropy extended to several charities and non-profits including the Lions Club Vision Programs, fINdings Art Center, and the California Vision Foundation which provides free eye care for the needy.

I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, his two sons, Gregg and Dan, his daughter, Dr. Debra Gierut, and his seven grandchildren. Though Dr. Weitzman is no longer with us, his legacy lives on in the lives of the loved ones he has left behind and in the community he served tirelessly throughout his life.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,661,574,232,598.82. We've added \$5,034,697,183,685.74 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
GRETCHEN VANNATTER

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to rise and pay tribute to Gretchen VanNatter, a dedicated civil servant, a loving mother and truly great Hoosier. Gretchen is being honored this week for her 37 years of public service with the Social Security Administration. Gretchen is a second generation Social Security Administration employee, as her mother is a retired Claims Representative for the Administration. Gretchen began her career with the Social Security Administration in 1975 as an Administrative Aide to the District Manager. From there she worked her way up the Social Security Administration's ladder, attaining positions as Claims Representative, Management Support Specialist, Operations Supervisor and finally in her current position as District Manager of the Marion, Indiana office. Gretchen has been a tireless supporter and ambassador of the Social Security Administration, and has been a valuable resource not only to countless numbers of Hoosiers throughout the Marion area,

but as a resource to members of my staff in Marion as well. Throughout her career Gretchen has delivered countless speeches to local organizations, attended fairs to educate the community on administration services, and has worked tirelessly with senior citizens' organizations to ensure that they are properly receiving their Social Security benefits.

The pride in public service Gretchen has exhibited during her career is only eclipsed by her dedication to her family. Gretchen is a loving and devoted wife to her husband Bob VanNatter. The VanNatters are proud parents of 3, along with 3 wonderful grandchildren.

It is my distinct honor to congratulate Gretchen VanNatter for her dedicated public service to the Social Security Administration. She will always have a special place in the hearts of all those who have had the opportunity to work with her over the years, and especially the countless lives she has touched through her unwavering commitment to the Social Security Administration and the citizens of the great state of Indiana.

Congratulations Gretchen!

IN RECOGNITION OF RANDY
ROYCE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Randy Royce, a member of the San Carlos City Council for four years and a resident of this wonderful community for over 30 years. Randy has served San Carlos with distinction both on the council and before becoming a member.

When people think of Randy they think of community and even global service. As a member of the Sister Cities Association, Randy has strengthened the ties between San Carlos and its sister cities around the world. In 2007, Randy travelled to Pass Christian Mississippi, a town adopted by San Carlos after the 2005 devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Both through his on-site effort to reconstruct that city and through his encouragement of donations to the community, Randy helped to raise structures and the spirits of his fellow Americans.

In his earliest years in San Carlos, Randy could be found coaching soccer, and urging the development of the hearts, bodies and minds of the youth of San Carlos. As a man of many talents, he has also boosted the love of local history by serving as a volunteer with the San Carlos History Museum, and he volunteered for many years to organize the Summer Concert Series in Burton Park. On behalf of the less fortunate within our Peninsula Community, Randy has served on the Board of Directors of the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART). He served on the San Carlos Arts and Culture Commission, the city's Economic Development Advisory Committee, the Planning Commission and the Residential Design Review Committee. He has also served as Mayor of San Carlos.

Of course, if you really want to see Randy hustle for two days non-stop, you can spot him helping from dawn until dusk during the annual Hometown Days celebration, a charming small-town event that celebrates family,

community and country. In short, Mr. Speaker, from his own backyard in San Carlos to places around the globe, Randy has extended his heart and his talents in service to the health, safety and welfare of tens of thousands of human beings.

It should therefore not be surprising that Randy has also helped to build our local community college district's curriculum and programs as a member of the Cañada College Presidential Advisory Committee. His service in senior management positions at Hewlett Packard, Agilent and three Silicon Valley startups demonstrated to him that talented employees are first molded through education, then invited to be further educated in the enterprises of our nation. Our community was fortunate to have his insights available to its students.

Through his own education in finance, and his life's experiences, Randy was able to offer steady counsel to his colleagues on the City Council of San Carlos. He was often a voice of reason amidst a passionate outcry, a role that is difficult for any public servant, but an essential role within any democracy.

Of course, no public servant is capable of such great accomplishments without the support of family members. Randy has been supported at all times by his talented wife, Yvette, and his two sons Roger and Todd.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor Randy Royce for a life and career dedicated to public service on the occasion of his retirement on December 12, 2011. Randy Royce is an American who thinks reflexively about the well-being of us all. As a result, his contributions to San Carlos and to our nation over these many decades are legion, and will surely last for generations yet to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY MARJORIE K. UNTERBERG SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTH STUDIES 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Monmouth University's Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing & Health Studies' 30th Anniversary. The School of Nursing continues to provide its students, from the Baccalaureate through the Doctoral level, with an exceptional education. Throughout its tenure, the School of Nursing has demonstrated tremendous growth and is worthy of this body's recognition.

Monmouth University's Department of Nursing and Health Studies began in April 1981 with the expansion of the Upper-Division of the Bachelor of Science Nursing program by Dr. Marilyn Lauria. The inaugural class began with 72 students. The successes of this program lead to the launch of the Masters of Science in Nursing program. The curriculum met the demands for students seeking advanced degrees in specializations including Adult Nurse and Family Nurse Practitioners, Adult Psychiatric & Mental Health Advanced Practice Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Education as well as School Nursing and Forensic Nursing. In 1998, Monmouth