

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

University and the Department of Nursing and Health Studies were proud to recognize its first class of graduates from the Masters of Science in Nursing. Later that year, the Department of Nursing and Health Studies was renamed the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies. Marjorie K. Unterberg was a long-time advocate for the field of nursing and was active in the nursing scholarship program at the University. She also served as former President of the School of Nursing and Vice President of the Board of Governors at Monmouth Medical Center, where she established the Center for Nursing Excellence.

The Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing proudly received its accreditation by the New Jersey State Board of Nursing and the Commission of College Nursing Education in February 2000 and in the Spring of 2000, respectively. Monmouth University is the first institution in New Jersey to offer the forensic nursing concentration. The success of the Nursing school lead to the expansion of various programs, including the addition of the forensic nursing at the Masters level and the health studies major for students pursuing their Bachelors degree. Most recently, the University was proud to announce the addition of their Doctor of Nursing Practice and began holding classes for matriculating students in June 2011. Today, over 600 students are enrolled in various nursing and health studies programs at the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies. They also proudly boasts over 900 alumni.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in recognizing Monmouth University's Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing & Health Studies for their thirty years of service. Their continued efforts to provide a well-rounded education remain a valued and important entity to the students and the Monmouth University community.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2012, PART II

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4348) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chair, the transportation infrastructure needs of our nation are urgent and unprecedentedly large. Addressing those needs must be at the center of our economic recovery. This transportation bill does not address those needs. Instead, it forces approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline, which will undermine the recovery by driving up gas prices across the U.S., with the largest increases in Midwestern states like Ohio.

This is not just my conclusion. That is what TransCanada, the company that wants to build the Keystone XL Pipeline, told the Canadian government in its permit application. Canadian oil companies will be able to use the Keystone

XL pipeline to increase America's fuel bill by up to 4 billion dollars per year, by reducing the supply of Canadian crude to Midwest refineries and by re-routing that crude around its current delivery point in Cushing, Oklahoma and on to Gulf Coast refineries.

Through manipulation of U.S. oil markets, the Keystone XL Pipeline will increase U.S. gas prices by 10 to 20 cents per gallon across the U.S., according to energy economist Philip Verleger. The greatest price increase will occur in 15 Midwest states (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin). Adding insult to financial injury, oil from the pipeline will be sold overseas instead of being used to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

The bill's \$4 billion gift to the oil industry, which already gets tens of billions of dollars every year in subsidies, comes only one day after the President announced efforts to try to rein in gas prices and the excesses of the oil industry.

We should be considering either an unencumbered motion to go to conference or the Senate's transportation package, which passed with an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 74–22.

HONORING ROBERT LANTHORN

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the public service career of Robert Lanthorn. Robert is a teacher of American History, American Government, Economics, and Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics. Robert has served as an educator at Hamilton Township High School for the past five years.

Robert is being honored as The Educator of the Year by Kids Voting USA. The Educator of the Year award is a national award presented to a teacher who motivates their students to be civically active both through teaching and example.

Robert has used innovative teaching methods and gained the trust of his students keeping them engaged and interested in learning. His outstanding teaching methods have earned him many awards throughout his teaching career. Robert has been named Kids Voting Educator of the Month, Ohio Lottery's Teacher of the Month, and Ohio's Outstanding Teacher of American History by Ohio State Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

Robert's desire to motivate his students to not only learn but also engage in civics has had a positive effect on his students and the community alike. His students have participated in the political process and an amazing 83 percent of students participated in Hamilton Township High School's mock election.

Robert has inspired many students to become involved in their community and instilled life lessons of civic responsibility. I thank Robert for all that he has done to serve our community and educate our youth and congratulate him on being named Educator of the Year.

HONORING JEWELL FRANCES
WELLS GOLDEN ON HER 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor and pleasure to wish a very happy birthday to Mrs. Jewell Frances Wells Golden of Bagdad, Florida on the occasion of her 100th Birthday and to congratulate her on her many achievements. Mrs. Golden reached the century mark, an incredible milestone, on April 16 of this year.

Jewell Golden is no stranger to the Northwest Florida community. Alongside her husband, the late Albert Golden, they shared many successes and business ventures, which have made a lasting impact along the Gulf Coast. One factor that always remained constant was their love for each other, their family, and their strong faith in God. In fact, in 1977, Mr. and Mrs. Golden helped establish the Church of the Living God, now known as Heritage Chapel.

Mrs. Golden is beloved and cherished by all—her family, including her three children, eleven grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren, and a grateful community. Her greatest joys, which she shares in her autobiography, are spending time with her family and “making memories.” Those who have the pleasure of knowing Mrs. Golden have been blessed by her charisma and presence. Her life serves as an inspiration to many and demonstrates that hard work and strong morals will lead to much success and happiness.

My wife Vicki joins me in wishing Mrs. Jewell Frances Wells Golden a joyous birthday. May God continue to bless her, her family and friends with wonderful memories for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICK LAUBSCHER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Rick Laubscher who today is receiving the 2011 Silver Spur Award from San Francisco Planning and Urban Research (SPUR). This award recognizes a lifetime of civic achievement of a San Franciscan.

Cable cars and streetcars are quintessential symbols of San Francisco. If you have ridden in one of the historic cars of the famous F-Market & Wharves streetcar lines on Market Street and The Embarcadero, you owe a big thanks to Rick Laubscher, President of Market Street Railway, a volunteer, non-profit organization founded in 1976 by three transit preservationists who wanted to save a vintage Municipal Railway trolley bus that was about to be scrapped.

Today Market Street Railway has 1,200 members from San Francisco, the Bay Area, and throughout the world. The organization has helped Muni acquire 20 historic transit vehicles, including streetcars, cable cars, trolley coaches, and motor coaches and the volunteers have actively restored fifteen of them.