

with other organizations to reach and assist the residents of Long Branch. Its "Success Starts at Home" fundraiser honors its community partners for the work they do to strengthen the community.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating St. James' Church and Beatriz Oesterheld for their contributions to the community and thank the Long Branch Concordance for hosting tonight's "Success Starts at Home" event.

CONGRATULATING FRANCIS GIUNTA

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Francis Giunta for being inducted into the Dubuque Area Labor Hall of Fame. Francis has been an active member of the Communication Workers of America (CWA) for over 40 years.

Francis has been an active member of the Dubuque labor community. In 1975, he was elected Chief Union Steward for his CWA local. In 1977, Francis was elected President of his CWA local which is a position he continues to hold today. Francis has served many different roles in the Dubuque labor community. He served as President of the Dubuque Federation of Labor in the 1980s and has sat on various labor boards such as the United Labor Participation Committee and the Dubuque Area Labor Management Council.

Francis has also seen a lot of change throughout his career. When Francis began his career in telecommunications, many Americans were using "party lines" which were shared telephone lines used by multiple households. When he retired, he worked in a digital subscriber age dealing with DSL and Broadband lines. I congratulate Francis on his induction into the Dubuque Area Labor Hall of Fame and wish him all of the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING MR. DANNIEL J. PETRO, RECIPIENT OF THE FIRST INAUGURAL DANNIEL J. PETRO—"THE BRIGHT FUTURE OF WEST ORANGE" AWARD

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to recognize a close friend of mine and a highly accomplished leader in the electrical contracting field. Mr. Danniel J. Petro is a co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Bright Future Electric, LLC, and he is a devoted servant to the Central Florida community.

Dan began his electrician career as an Apprentice Electrician for Indiana University in the early 1960's. In 1965, after completing his training and passing his journeyman qualifications test, Dan became supervisor of his father's company, Petro Electric.

Relocating to Florida in 1970, Dan began working for Orange County Schools as an

Area Lead Electrician until 1973 when he acquired his Florida Master Electrician License and joined the Local 606 while working with Fishbach & Moore. Continuing his education, Dan earned his Florida Teaching Certificate in 1975 and started an electrician program for Westside Vo-Tech. After several years of teaching others, Dan took his talent and founded Amber Electric in 1979.

Amber Electric became known for its quality and reliable service, and under his leadership, grew into a multi-million dollar company which was sold in 1998 to Integrated Electrical Services, IES, based out of Houston, Texas. In the Amber Electric and IES merger, Dan joined IES as one of their Founding Partners and as the Regional Operating Officer for the State of Florida.

After 17 years of partnership, Dan resigned from his post as President of Eastern Operations for IES in 2005. In 2006, Dan, Roger Scroggins and Allen McMain founded Bright Future Electric, LLC, with offices located in Florida and Alabama.

Throughout his long career, Dan has established an impressive and storied history of involvement in the Central Florida community. He has served many boards and committees, including the Florida State Department of Education Advisory Committee and the West Orange Chamber of Commerce, where he formally served as Chairman and currently serves as a trustee. Due to his leadership in the community, he has also received many awards and recognitions for his efforts including the Florida Association of Electrical Contractors, FAEC, Lifetime Achievement Award and on several occasions the FAEC Man of the Year Award.

Dan has been a constant source of support for our community. He has promoted an array of community associations including, the Florida Department of Community Affairs, West Orange Boys and Girls Club, Friends of Lake Apopka, Oakland Nature Preserve, Health Alliance Family Care Center, the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation, and Winter Garden Rotary Club. His generous spirit is an example of the life-changing impact a dedicated leader can have on individual lives and a community.

On February 7, 2013, the West Orange Chamber of Commerce will be honoring Mr. Petro with the first inaugural Danniel J. Petro—"The Bright Future of West Orange" Award at the Annual Big Orange Awards Reception in West Orange County. Through his investment in the community, he has created opportunities and served others in our community in a way that keeps our futures bright. There is no doubt that this prestigious award deserves to bear Dan's name.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am honored to recognize Dan for the devotion with which he serves our community. His commitment to excellence, leadership and service is to be admired, and his example inspires others to follow in his footsteps.

DR. PETER R. BETZER HONORED FOR HIS VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the leaders of the science and edu-

cation community of the Tampa Bay area who are honoring Dr. Peter R. Betzer of St. Petersburg, Florida this Saturday with the 2013 ARCS STEM Visionary Catalyst Award for his life-long work to inspire generations of students to pursue the study of science, technology, engineering and math, STEM.

There is no more appropriate award with which to honor Peter than one that pays tribute to his vision because he has brought vision and strong leadership to every area in which he has been involved over the more than 40 years he has lived and worked in our community.

Peter found his way to St. Petersburg in 1971 after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Rhode Island. He taught chemical oceanography at the University of South Florida's Department of Marine Science. By 1982 he became Chairman of the Department and in 2000 he was named Dean of the newly established College of Marine Science. I still remember my first meetings with Peter as the Department and College grew. We agreed at the time that we would do all we could to make the University of South Florida in St. Petersburg a world-class center for the study of marine science. With Peter's vision and his passion we have done just that.

Under Peter's guidance, the College became an important partner of the United States Navy in developing systems to protect our nation's ports and waterways as well as those of our allies. The technology and systems developed there have proven extremely useful to our nation's homeland and environmental security agencies. These include an underwater mass spectrometer and an underwater mapping system that have created tremendous commercial opportunities and were critical to monitoring the impact of oil from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

The development of these systems only enhanced the growth of the University's reputation as a world-class center for the study of marine science, and strengthened Peter's efforts to bring other agencies and businesses to St. Petersburg: this to create a true marine science hub in the southeast U.S. Together, the community developed an innovative plan to bring the United States Geological Survey to campus and established an office of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service in downtown St. Petersburg. Along with the city, we developed a public/private partnership to bring the world-renowned SRI International to the port and to bring nearby a new division of Draper Labs. Peter was at the center as the architect of all these developments. With each one, the opportunities to study the sciences grew along with the interests of local, national and international students.

It is Dr. Peter Betzer's ability to provide the vision and act as the catalyst that the ARCS Foundation, which stands for Achievement Rewards for College Scientists, will be honoring at a dinner to raise funds to support Tampa Bay area students pursuing the study of science, technology, engineering and math.

As a leader in Marine Science education at the University of South Florida, Peter recognized early-on the importance of promoting the broad spectrum of STEM to USF's students. Back in the early 1990's, a bright marine science student named Mike Morris started with an idea born of studying ocean chemical processes and created a company worth tens of millions of dollars in a few short years—

Ocean Optics. Peter is quick to recognize that the success took a team led by Mike Morris, but it would not have happened if not for Peter's leadership, mentorship and behind-the-scenes support.

In the world of business, Ocean Optics was just the beginning. Other companies, like Claro Scientific, came to St. Petersburg because of Peter's efforts. And, Peter's behind-the-scenes support for the "STEM-business" connection was ultimately a deciding element in both SRI International's and Draper Lab's decisions to locate in St. Petersburg. Those organizations brought dozens of high-paying knowledge jobs to the region and thus helped to establish an emerging regional technology cluster.

While Peter has always understood the importance of developing new businesses, for him an emphasis on education has been his highest priority. While leading the world-class ocean research programs at the College of Marine Science, Peter spearheaded the creation of the Oceanography Camp for Girls to inspire them to consider career opportunities in the sciences, with nearly 1000 "teenaged scientists" attending the camp so far. He also established a marine science-based remote learning program which televises informative middle-school marine science lessons across the country reaching tens of thousands more.

When Peter retired from academic life, he decided to push the throttle further forward. Leading the St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership as its President and CEO, Peter continued to perform miracles. From providing vision for the downtown waterfront, to making international connections with world-class groups such as Cousteau Divers to securing businesses like LumaStream for St. Petersburg, his many accomplishments seem to have no end. Most noteworthy is Peter's passionate championing of the SunBay Digital Math program for Pinellas County middle schools. The SunBay math program, through a collaborative partnership of SRI International and the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, has positively impacted more than 2500 students by enhancing their understanding of the principles of algebra—a crucial element in the future success of anyone in a STEM-related career.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when this Congress and our nation are doing all we can to encourage our youth to consider careers in math and science, let there be no doubt of Dr. Peter Betzer's life-long passion in this regard. For Peter, it has been a multiplier effect as the students he has inspired throughout his career have in turn passed along Peter's passion to their students and coworkers to bring more interest and more focus to STEM education and careers. There is clearly no one more deserving of the ARCS STEM Visionary Catalyst Award than Dr. Peter Betzer and I am proud to say to him thank you for a job well done.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF CAROL HAFNER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Carol Hafner for her service, as

she prepares to retire from her position as Fresno County's Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures. Carol will be leaving the Fresno County Department of Agriculture after more than 34 years of service.

Born into a farming family, Carol has a deep understanding of agriculture—the lifeblood of California's San Joaquin Valley. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences, with an emphasis in botany from California State University, San Jose. In 1979, she was offered a job as an agricultural biologist/inspector at the Fresno County Department of Agriculture and immediately formed an attachment with the community. After 10 years as an agricultural biologist/inspector she was hired as a deputy and served in that position for 19 years. Carol then worked as assistant commissioner for nine months before becoming the Agricultural Commissioner. She held that position for over four years.

Carol has made many outstanding contributions during her time at the Fresno County Department of Agriculture. The methyl iodide application and the European grapevine moth (EGVM) quarantine was a challenge that Carol encountered. Even though it created an obstacle for the department, she ended the chaos and fixed the problem in a short period of time. Also, while other departments in the County were facing tough budget challenges, Carol found the money to fill four positions in her department. In addition, Carol developed great relations between the Fresno County Department of Agriculture and growers in the surrounding area.

The Agricultural Commissioner plays a vital role in Fresno's multi-billion dollar agriculture industry. Carol's hard work and dedication to our Valley made her perfect for the position, and she served the County of Fresno proudly.

Carol plans to stay active in the agricultural community when she retires. She will serve on the Specialty Crop Block Grant Review Committee, and she will resume her involvement in California Women for Agriculture (CWA). In addition, Carol and her husband, Tye will both be retiring, so they can spend much needed time with their sons and prize winning miniature schnauzers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Ms. Carol Hafner. The work she has done for Valley agriculture will have a lasting impact on Fresno County and the entire State of California.

#### THE EVAN AMENDMENT BY HOLLY SCHEUREN

**HON. MARK POCAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following by Holly Scheuren:

It was 4 years ago and it still feels like it was yesterday.

Our daughter Maia was 2 years old and we were halfway through our second pregnancy. I could feel our baby moving. I had my "20 week ultrasound" when I was actually 21 weeks pregnant. We were so excited.

At the ultrasound, the technician told us that we're having a baby boy! I thought "A boy? I know nothing about raising a boy!"

The technician joked with us that he must have his legs tucked up under him. Then she

just got really quiet, finished the ultrasound and led us into the waiting room. We called our moms to tell them that we are having a BOY! They were equally excited.

Minutes later, we were called back. The nurse practitioner was VERY serious. I asked if there was something wrong. And she said "Well, yes. Your baby's limbs are measuring in the 5th percentile and you need to have another ultrasound with another doctor." My mind was blank . . . what do you mean, his limbs are in the 5th percentile? Is that dwarfism?" I asked. She said the physician would answer my questions. She said don't go on-line looking for answers, but of course that's what I did.

I could not be seen for 3 days. In those 3 days I researched what is meant when a fetus has short limbs . . . it must be some form of dwarfism. I read how it may be associated with Down's syndrome. I was preparing to have a baby with Down's syndrome or dwarfism. I started researching support groups in Madison. I started thinking about how we would eventually have to remodel our kitchen to accommodate a person with dwarfism. I was crying and wondering what kind of life my boy would have. Would it be better to have Dwarfism or Down's syndrome? . . .

When I called my Dad and told him that the baby probably has dwarfism. In his best job to comfort me, he said "well, them are nice people, too." (that actually made me laugh). I knew that both my family and I were ready for this.

We had no idea.

The 3 days until my ultrasound were torture. The day of, I was dizzy with anticipation. I tried to crack jokes but soon, the room was filled only with clicks on the computer. At one point, they turned the screen to show me my baby! They got a shot of my baby giving the "I love you" in sign language! He was telling me he loves me. They printed a picture of my baby. He looked peaceful. He looked normal.

After a long wait, the genetic counselor came in and wrote 2 long words on a piece of paper and turned it towards us and slowly read out loud "Thanatophoric dysplasia". "What's that???" I interrupted.

She said it is a rare form of dwarfism. "Oh, so our baby will be a dwarf." The air was so thick. Pointing at the first word she said "thanatophoric" means "imminent death". WHAT?? What do you mean??? My head was screaming, even though the room was completely silent.

She explained our baby's long bones were short. His skull is strawberry shaped. His jaw is deformed. His brain has a lot of fluid in it. If he was born, he would not be able to breathe because his lungs could not expand in his tiny rib cage. I pleaded "maybe his bone growth will catch up with the rest of his body!! Maybe he will just be very small!!" She said that the baby would not survive much past birth.

I felt like I couldn't breathe. The doctor came back into the room. I showed her the ultrasound picture "But he looks normal and peaceful!"

They then told us that we have two options. We can choose to terminate the pregnancy, or carry the baby to term, and the delivery staff would be ready with ventilators and pain management until the baby died. My regular doctor happened to be on call that day; she came into the room and hugged me. She said she also looked at the ultrasound, and the baby was not going to live.

We were devastated. What would we do?? Part of me wanted to give birth to him, just so I could hold him. But I knew that the image of seeing him suffer would haunt me for the rest of my life.