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 ''Thanatoporic 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.