dry goods department store carrying shoes, clothing, suits and specializing in shoe repairs and orthopedic corrections.

Vasile and his sons, George, Nick and Michael are proud American veterans, having served in WWI and Korea. They continue to be involved in the local American Legion and never open for business without first displaying the American flag in front of their building.

Throughout the generations, the Faklis family's store evolved with the times and provided services with excellent professionalism. The family business has passed from Nikita and Vasile down to Vasile's sons George and Michael, and down again to Vasile G. Faklis, the current operator and namesake of one of the family's patriarchs. Serving the greater Tampa Bay area from their location in Tarpon Springs, the Faklis family has been able to merge old world craftsmanship and warm customer service with the orthotic technology of today and the future.

Mr. Speaker, for 100 years the Faklis family has represented the best of the American entrepreneurial spirit. They came to America seeking a better life and have become a pillar of the local community. Their economic success and ability to adapt with the changing times exemplify the strength of this country's business community, and I commend them for their contributions to our area.

TO RECOGNIZE THE 2012 LIFECIRCLE ALLIANCES KUDOS FOR CAREGIVERS HONOREES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the winners of the 2012 LifeCircle Alliances Kudos for Community Caregivers Awards. LifeCircle Alliances, a non-profit organization based in Fairfax County, Virginia, is a leader in promoting and enabling independent living for older adults with developmental, intellectual, or physical disabilities, including our Wounded Warriors.

LifeCircle Alliances has formed public-private partnerships to create innovative long-term care solutions, enhance existing programs, and address workforce, mobility and transportation issues. The goal of these efforts is independence for life; ensuring that our older adults and adults with disabilities are able to live independently and with dignity in their communities of choice.

The LifeCircle Alliances Kudos for Community Caregivers Award celebration recognizes the efforts of six outstanding caregivers, who tirelessly provide dedicated care, day in and day out. The recipients of the 2012 Kudos Awards are:

Stephanie Mensh—Stephanie Mensh has been a caregiver for Mr. Paul Berger for 25 years. Additionally, she has volunteered her time supporting stroke and TBI survivors and their families. She also provides support and advice to other caregivers by hosting a support group as well as providing individual support by phone, email, and in person.

Liza Ruiz—The loving mother of two daughters, Mrs. Ruiz has been caring almost daily for her 65 year old daughter, Cynthia, who was brain injured at birth and her husband who has been diagnosed with dementia. For many years, she did this while working as a full-time employee of the federal government. Mrs. Ruiz was instrumental in helping to establish the Northern Virginia Training Center, which opened in 1973.

Maureen Renault—A dedicated and tireless caregiver, Maureen Renault has taken on the daunting task of caring for her mother, a resident at Herndon Harbor Adult Day Health Care Center. During this time Maureen has been actively involved in her mother's care at the center in addition to her needs at home.

Steven Nehl—Care-giving is an around the clock job for Mr. Nehl. He cares for his autistic son, Michael, and wife, Joanne, who is continuing to recover from two brain aneurysms. Since the time of her illness in 2008, Joanne is unable to work and Mr. Nehl may only maintain short-term positions due to the tremendous requirements of his time at home.

Cecilia Ortega-Shew—For almost two decades, Cecilia Ortega-Shew has given selflessly to individuals living with HIV/AIDS. In her role as a mental health clinician and program clinical manager for Inova Juniper Group, she helps pregnant women have healthy, HIV-free babies and continues to counsel people on the difficulties of living with HIV. She inspires young staff to be better clinicians and instills in them a passion for caring for those with HIV.

Natascha Dixon Edelin—Passionate and dedicated to helping women and children in need, Natascha Dixon Edelin tirelessly works to assist the battered women of Fairfax, Virginia and honor them for their strength, courage and commitment. She partnered with the co-founders of the Duffy House in 2011 to organize the ''Duffy House Day of Pampering'' for victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse which provided, at no charge, a much needed day of respite for approximately 50 women and 80 children. Her continued work with the Duffy House brings joy into this special community.

I congratulate this year's winners and recognize each of them for their dedication and personal sacrifices. These individuals are examples of the many caregivers who put the needs of their families, friends and colleagues above their own. Mister Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the 2012 LifeCircle Alliances awardees and in thanking the volunteers, staff, and partners of LifeCircle Alliances for their efforts in providing assistance to not only those in need of care, but to those who provide the care here in our community.

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2012

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, throughout our nation's history, individual Americans have voluntarily joined together to meet important needs in their communities. This generosity and willingness to work together toward a common goal is a trademark of the American character.

Today, private voluntary associations across the country make substantial contributions to our nation's well-being in areas such as health care and social services, education and the arts, economic development, and environmental protection. Many of these associations are community foundations—charitable organizations formed to attract and distribute endowment funds.

The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington is a successful private sector economic and social support system that helps meet specific needs in our region. They have far-reaching benefits for anyone interested in philanthropy and are an example of the spirit of generosity and service that helped build America and continues to make it great.

Directed by volunteers, the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington has community partnerships that run deep. The longstanding relationships they have built in the community help them meet current needs, while enabling the Foundation to address future challenges and opportunities. They provide effective leadership in our community, often complementing or assisting in the coordination of public programs and other private services. They facilitate one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy in the United States.

Today I rise to congratulate the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington on obtaining their National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board. Achieving confirmation and reconfirming compliance with National Standards is a rigorous process, demonstrating that the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington has adhered to excellent philanthropic practice. This program requires community foundations to document their policies for governance, donor services, investments, grant making, community leadership, and administration.

The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington of Vancouver, Washington has obtained its National Standards accreditation through a commitment to operational quality, integrity, accountability, transparency and adherence to the highest standards for grant making.

On behalf of the residents of our region, I congratulate the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington on receiving its National Standards accreditation and commend the foundation's dedicated service to Vancouver and communities in Southwest Washington.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO UPS EMPLOYEES AND U.S. VETERANS TIM PFOHL, DAN VERANJES AND MIKE BURNS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I along with Congresswoman KATHY HOCHUL would like to pay tribute to several Western New York UPS employees who have delivered outstanding service for the company and for the country.

Tim Pfohl has been with UPS for 23 years. He is a member of the UPS Safety Committee, a mentor to new drivers and has 14 years of accident-free driving. Tim served in