

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 LIFE-CIRCLE 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

the U.S. Marine Corps for six years. He and his wife Barbara, who reside in Hamburg, NY, are the parents of two sons, Dylan and Tyler.

Dan Veranjes, also a Marine, served our country for eight years including duty during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Dan has been on the UPS team for 13 years. He is known for his customer skills and is always there to help out new employees. Dan is married to wife Erika and together they live in Hamburg, NY with their four children: Isabella, Griffin, Caleb and Zoe.

Mike Burns is not only a veteran of the Marines; he is a 26-year veteran with UPS. Mike served as a Reservist for six years out of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Center on Porter Avenue in Buffalo and received military training in Norway. Mike has an exemplary record at UPS with 16 years of safe driving and an injury-free career. Lancaster residents Mike and his wife Jennifer are the parents of 10-year-old-Madelyn.

UPS is one of the largest employers of reservists and returning veterans. On any given day UPS has about 3,100 employees who are on military leave and there are nearly 25,000 additional UPS employees working today who have served in the military at some point in their lives.

In fact, Erie County Department of Veterans Director MAJ Carlos M. Benitez, a retired veteran of the New York Army National Guard, also previously worked for UPS.

We commend UPS for their commitment to our active-duty and returning veterans and recognize these Western New York employees for extending the same dedication and leadership in the UPS workplace as they did in the U.S. Armed Forces.

A TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT
CLINT JOHN CARTON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Clint J. Carton of Earlville, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about 5 percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Clint chose to construct five separate exercise stations on the Heritage Trail near Dyersville. Clint's project required extensive coordination with the Dubuque County Conservation Board to account for the lack of water and electricity. In total, this project took more than 110 hours of hard work to complete. The work ethic Clint has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates

the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Clint and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

RECOGNIZING WHEELER'S JANITORIAL SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT, INC. FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a determined and self motivated business owner, Rev. Tommy Wheeler of Copiah County, Mississippi for his commitment in keeping Wheeler's Janitorial Supplies & Equipment, Inc. a vital part of the business community.

Rev. Wheeler was born on August 23, 1949, to James and Wilma Wheeler. He attended school at Shady Grove School and William H. Holtzclaw Memorial School in Copiah County, Mississippi. After graduating from high school he attended Hinds Community College. In 2004 he received a Certificate of Biblical Studies from Mississippi Baptist Seminary and later in 2010, attended Bethel Christian University, Hazlehurst Campus and he is presently enrolled at the Copiah County Ministerial Alliance in Hazlehurst, Mississippi.

Rev. Wheeler's entrepreneurial spirit was inspired early in life by his father, who instilled in the basic principle that, "you can do anything you put your mind to" this principle with his desire to be his own boss led him to his path of success, when in 1997, he and a friend selling janitorial supplies to customers throughout Copiah County.

A year later, Wheeler's Janitorial Supplies & Equipment was established. From the beginning Rev. Wheeler used every resource he had to ensure the success of his business, including utilizing his garage as storage for his supplies and cutting overhead by solely selling, ordering and delivering supplies.

In 2007 Wheeler's Janitorial Supplies & Equipment officially became certified as a Minority-Owned and Operated Business Enterprise and received Central Contractor Registration. The notion of hard work and striving to be your own boss is something that Rev. Wheeler continues to believe and it has led to great success. Currently, Rev. Wheeler has expanded his business that started as a team of one in his garage going from door to door to a team of six with dealings with multiple companies within the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rev. Tommy Wheeler, owner of Wheeler's Janitorial Supplies & Equipment, Inc. for his entrepreneurial spirit and dutiful service to the community.

ON WAIVING SECTION 907 OF THE
FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on October 24, 1992, President George H.W. Bush signed the FREEDOM Support Act into law. This legislation provided for monetary assistance to be provided to the countries of the former Soviet Union to aid their transition to democracy and build-up their civil societies.

Included in the legislation was Section 907, a provision which precluded the Republic of Azerbaijan from receiving any assistance through the FREEDOM Support Act. Azerbaijan was the only country to be singled out in the statute from receiving assistance.

Since then, cooperation between the United States and Azerbaijan has expanded beyond recognition—encompassing military, intelligence, economic, business, academic, and cultural ties. This has resulted in increasing the security and prosperity of both countries.

Given Azerbaijan's strong partnership with allies such as Israel, and its proximity to Iran, the extent of their contribution to our security cannot be overstated. For this reason, Section 907 has been waived by Executive Order every year since 2001 by Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

While these Executive Orders have largely mitigated the practical effects of Section 907, its lingering presence as a part of U.S. law is offensive to Azerbaijan and its people. As American companies prosper from helping access and transport Azerbaijan's rich natural resources, and as Azerbaijani troops stand side-by-side with America's heroes against international terrorism, it is disingenuous to single out our ally as a pariah state.

Every Secretary of State over the past two decades and many prominent members of the American business community support the repeal of Section 907. Twenty years after it was signed into law, Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act has become a relic of a previous era and a slap in the face to America's closest ally in the Caspian Region, and I call on my colleagues in Congress to help stand up in support of our friend, Azerbaijan, and repeal Section 907 as expeditiously as possible.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MILTON FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to recognize the centennial anniversary of Milton First Assembly of God, in Santa Rosa County, Florida.

Milton First Assembly of God traces its roots back to the early Pentecostal movements of the 20th century, when a small group of fervent believers came together during a tent revival meeting in 1912 and formed the Pentecostal Assembly of God Church. The enlightening sermons given by Reverends Sherman