

a friend and a dedicated volunteer and resident of Buffalo, New York. Yuri's tireless service is recognized today by None Like You/ We Care Outreach and the City of Buffalo.

Yuri is a South Buffalo resident who has been a committeeman for the Erie County Democratic Committee, a member of the Buffalo Cooperative Federal Credit Union and the Buffalo Central Terminal, and has worked for the Erie County Department of Social Services.

Mr. Hreshchyshyn has worked with multiple community partners including None Like You/ We Care Outreach, Buffalo State College, the University at Buffalo and Canisius College. He worked on many projects in the West Side and East Side communities planting trees, helping to build community gardens and cleaning city lots. Yuri has given his time and talents to the community youth by teaching them how to cut grass and trim trees and bushes. Yuri has dedicated much of his time to maintain the building and grounds of the Buffalo Central Terminal. During the holiday season, Yuri has been a tremendous help with the Thanksgiving Dinner and Christmas giveaway for over 12 years.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Mr. Yuri Hreshchyshyn and his admirable dedication to the City of Buffalo and the aesthetics of our community. Yuri's commitment to his City is exceptional, and he is most deserving of this recognition by None Like You/We Care and the City of Buffalo.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for roll call votes 86 and 87 on Monday, February 13, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on roll call votes 86 and 87.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, on February 13, 2017, I missed the voting session. If present, I would have voted as follows:

YES—H.R. 244—HIRE Vets Act, as amended

YES—H.R. 974—BRAVE Act

JIM AND KATHLEEN CURTIS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim and Kathleen Curtis for being honored by the West Chamber of Commerce with the Steve Burkholder Diamond Legacy Award.

Both Colorado natives, Jim and Kathleen (Kate) met at Colorado National Bank and

went on to marry in 1972. After leaving the bank in 1994, the couple purchased The Village Roaster, a specialty coffee business in Lakewood. At the time, it was the only store in the Colorado area that roasted specialty coffee in-house. Today that tradition continues with roasted whole bean coffee as their number one selling product. They also provide catering services and have a mobile espresso bar they can set up for any type of event in the Denver metro area. In addition, The Village Roaster strives to make sustainability a focus and preserving the environment a priority.

Jim and Kate support the community that supports them. Jim served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the West Chamber in 2013, is a past president of the Kiwanis Club of Lakewood, is a sponsor for the Catch a Calf program with the National Western Stock Show, and volunteers for the Lakewood Police Department. Jim was selected for the Real Men Who Wear Pink recognition by the American Cancer Society in 2016.

Kate serves as the Foundation Chair for St. Anthony Hospital, sits on the board for the Alameda Gateway, and as the Secretary for the Alameda Corridor Business Improvement District. She was recognized at the West Chamber's Celebrate Women event in 2011. Both Jim and Kate serve as deacons for St. James Presbyterian Church.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jim and Kathleen Curtis for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I missed roll call vote No. 86 and 87 on the floor of the House of Representatives. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on both bills.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on roll calls No. 86 and No. 87. Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 86, I would have voted Aye. Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 87, I would have voted Aye.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Vote 77 to H.J. Res 40 which took place on February 2, 2017, I was not present. It was my intention to vote No on that resolution.

DANIEL D. BIGANDT AGENCY WITH AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Daniel D. Bigandt Agency with American Family Insurance for being honored as the Small Business of the Year by the West Chamber of Commerce.

The Daniel D. Bigandt Agency with American Family Insurance was established in 2002 in Lakewood. The agency now serves more than 2,000 households in the Denver metro area, with a majority in Jefferson and Denver counties.

At the beginning of 2016, the agency started the year with one full-time employee and 4 part-time employees at one location in Lakewood. At the end of 2016, the agency had grown to 4 full-time and several part-time staff members with two locations, one in Lakewood and one in Englewood. Over the last 15 months, the agency has been awarded many sales and service awards.

Dan Bigandt is deeply involved in the community and has been an active member of the West Chamber for the last nine years. Dan is also involved in the leadership of other organizations in Jefferson County, serving as the Board Vice Chair for the Sooper Credit Union and as a Board Member of the Panorama Ridge Homeowners Association. Recently, Dan finished serving for 12 years on the Board of Directors for Front Range Christian School in Littleton.

I extend my deepest congratulations to The Daniel D. Bigandt Agency with American Family Insurance for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber of Commerce.

RECOGNIZING MARY ROSS FOR HER COMMITMENT TO SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mrs. Mary Ross, a dedicated volunteer and resident of Buffalo, New York. Mary's tireless service is recognized today by None Like You/We Care Outreach and the City of Buffalo. Mary is the proud mother of six children and four grandchildren who reside in Buffalo.

Mary has worked as a counselor for eleven years for the Buffalo Public Schools. She is also an active member of the Women and Children's Foundation Board, Bison Fund Board, Olmstead Parks Conservancy Board, None Like You/We Care Outreach and the Bison's Children's Scholarship Fund. Mary is instrumental in various projects throughout the city of Buffalo including Thanksgiving Dinners, Christmas Giveaways and community garden projects.

Mary has a strong passion for the youth of Buffalo and is always willing to help them in regards to furthering their education, athletics, and employment. She is always eager to help

them by driving them places, feeding them, making sure they have warm clothing. Mary also advises students and youth for court matters. Her dream is to see every child have the opportunity to be successful in whatever they want to do in life and it is clear in her day to day actions that she is dedicated to this dream.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Mrs. Mary Ross and her admirable dedication to the City of Buffalo and the youth of our community. Mary's commitment is exceptional, and she is most deserving of this recognition by None Like You/We Care Outreach and the City of Buffalo.

RECOGNIZING THE WOMEN POR-
TRAYED IN HIDDEN FIGURES—
DR. KATHERINE GOBLE JOHN-
SON, DOROTHY VAUGHAN, AND
MARY JACKSON

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Representatives ROBERT WITTMAN, DONALD MCEACHIN, and SCOTT TAYLOR to honor Dr. Katherine Goble Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, an extraordinary group of women from Hampton Roads, Virginia recently featured in the critically acclaimed and Oscar-nominated film *Hidden Figures*. Tomorrow evening, Senators WARNER, KAINE, and BROWN are joining me in hosting a screening of *Hidden Figures* here at the United States Capitol. I would like to take a moment to recognize the accomplishments of the remarkable women depicted in this film.

Breaking down barriers of both gender and race at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, these women, and many like them, laid the groundwork for John Glenn to become the first American to orbit the earth, and for Neil Armstrong to walk on the moon. I am proud that their stories are reaching a wider audience.

Though she began her career as an educator, in her 28 years working for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (the forerunner to NASA) Dorothy Vaughan helped pave the way for the diverse workforce and leadership NASA enjoys today. Beginning at NACA Langley in 1943, Mrs. Vaughan was assigned to an all-black computer pool. By 1949, she was the Section Head of her group, becoming NACA's first black supervisor and one of NACA's first female supervisors. Mrs. Vaughan was one of the first to master computer programming and said that she felt like her work at NASA Langley put her on "the cutting edge of something very exciting."

While she broke barriers at NACA, Mrs. Vaughan also took an active role in her community as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and a longtime member of St. Paul AME Church of Newport News.

Early on, Dr. Katherine Goble Johnson showed that she was an exceptionally bright young woman. Graduating high school at 14 and college at 18, Dr. Johnson worked as an educator before relocating to Newport News where, in 1953, she began her work at NASA Langley. She too was assigned to an all-black

computer pool. Within weeks of her entry in the NASA ranks, Dr. Johnson was asked to temporarily assist in the Spacecraft Dynamics Branch in the Flight Dynamics and Control Division. She never left. There, she became known for her knowledge, accuracy and contributions in providing trajectories necessary to successful spaceflight.

Dr. Johnson has been the recipient of numerous awards throughout her 33 year career with NASA, and was recently awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama. A leader in her community, Dr. Johnson has served as President of the Lambda Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and as a Trustee and Elder at Carver Memorial Presbyterian Church in Newport News, Virginia, where she continues to be a dedicated member.

Mary Jackson was born and raised in Hampton, Virginia, and attended the Hampton Institute, now Hampton University. She too was an educator prior to joining NASA, and after a circuitous journey found her way to NASA Langley working as a mathematician in 1951, reporting to Dorothy Vaughan. Following additional math and physics work at previously segregated Hampton High School, Mrs. Jackson became NASA's first black female engineer in 1958.

An accomplished mathematician, she remained committed to ensuring that NASA's female professionals had the opportunity to succeed and finished her 34 year career as Langley's Federal Women's Program Manager working to hire and mentor NASA's next generation of leaders.

Mrs. Jackson kept active in her community, as a member of Bethel AME Church in Hampton, the Newport News-Hampton Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc., and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Margot Lee Shetterly, author of *Hidden Figures*, for shining a spotlight on the remarkable story of these women. As the daughter of a NASA Langley scientist, Mrs. Shetterly was surely steeped in the accomplishments of these great women growing up. I would also like to thank Theodore Melfi, director of the film, actors Octavia Spencer, who played Dorothy Vaughan, Janelle Monae, who played Mary Jackson, and Taraji P. Henson, who played Katherine Johnson, and all others who played a part in telling these women's stories on the silver screen.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that the stories of these exceptional women are no longer hidden. It is my hope that this film will help inspire the next generation of leaders to challenge themselves and to strive to break through any barriers they may face.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LOUDOUN
ABUSED WOMEN'S SHELTER

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to use this time to recognize a local non-profit organization in Virginia's 10th Congressional District that has strengthened our Loudoun community for over 30 years by helping families in need. The Loudoun Abused

Women's Shelter (LAWS), founded in 1984 under the name Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice, Inc., opened as a shelter where women and children fleeing domestic violence could find refuge. Since then, LAWS has grown immensely and now provides a plethora of different services to victims of sexual and domestic violence.

Aside from providing emergency shelter, LAWS now also offers counseling, a 24-hour hotline, legal services, support groups, community outreach, and even operates a thrift store in Leesburg called the Resourceful Woman. LAWS now has 30 employees, 75 volunteers, and a diverse Board of Directors, led by my constituent Nicole Acosta, from Purcellville, Virginia, all dedicated to eliminating personal and societal violence. Ms. Acosta started as a volunteer many years ago and her vision and dedication led to her employment by the organization in 2012 as the Executive Director. Since joining the board, she has championed efforts to not only expand the organization but also enhance its governance and oversight operations to the great benefit of Loudoun County.

In 1984, three women founded LAWS with a total of \$3,000 of donations, but today the organization, hosting several annual fundraisers and events, has morphed into a multi-million dollar non-profit. One reoccurring event which has garnered a great deal of popularity as a result of diligent staff and volunteering planning is the yearly Martini Matters event. It is fun, forward thinking community events, like Martini Matters, that have helped the organization thrive tremendously over the years.

Each year LAWS helps over 1,000 women and children lead better lives without fear and anxiety through their various services, and I am grateful to have such a prominent and resourceful organization in the 10th district. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding LAWS for its dedication to serving our community for so many years. I wish Ms. Acosta and the entire organization the best in their future endeavors.

CITYWIDE BANKS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Citywide Banks for being honored as the Medium Business of the Year by the West Chamber of Commerce.

Citywide Banks is an independent, family owned business that has been focused on moving the Front Range community forward for more than 50 years. With client needs as their focus, they have created a unique banking culture that continues to benefit their clients as well as their employees and the broader Colorado community.

This local focus means their customers' deposits stay in Colorado and get reinvested to help our community move forward. They work to help Colorado companies grow, ensure Coloradans' financial assets are protected, and give a hand-up to our neighbors in need. Citywide Banks provides local businesses equipment financing, lines of credit, construction loans and treasury management products to help simplify cash flow operations, strengthen fraud protection and maximize the earning power of their deposits.