

HONORING NIELS CHEW

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 4, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Niels Chew of Sonoma County, California, who passed away February 25, 2013 with his family at his side.

Mr. Chew was a loving husband of 58 years to his wife, Susan Wetherby Chew. He was a devoted father to his four children and a doting grandfather to his nine grandchildren.

He was a successful businessman, taking a small one-person operation and building it into a thriving small manufacturing company employing more than 40 people, including those with developmental disabilities.

Mr. Chew was also active in civic affairs. He was a trustee of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District Board where he served as Board Chair. He was also on the boards of the Sonoma Valley Hospital Foundation, Operation Youth, the Sonoma Overnight Shelter, El Nido Teen Center, and Stand by Me, Sonoma Valley's flagship mentoring program.

He and his wife generously supported Friends in Sonoma Helping, an organization providing assistance to residents down on their luck, with both their time and their financial resources.

In recognition of his work in the community, Mr. Chew received Sonoma's top service award in 2010 when he was named Alcalde, or honorary mayor.

Mr. Speaker, Niels Chew was proof that one man can make a difference. The legacy he leaves will be felt in the Sonoma Valley for decades to come. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to him today and honor his memory.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Senate-passed Violence Against Women Act and in opposition to the watered down version offered by House Republicans that omits key provisions to protect all victims of domestic violence. I am pleased that after nearly a year of delay and unnecessary partisan positioning, a comprehensive, inclusive VAWA is poised to be enacted into law.

This legislation, S. 47, received overwhelming bipartisan support in the Senate, passing by a vote of 78–22, and is supported by law enforcement officials, health care providers, community providers, and millions of domestic violence survivors. Unlike the alternative House Republican version, the Senate bill includes critical provisions to protect vulnerable populations including LGBT individuals, Native Americans, immigrants, and victims of rape.

Specifically, the Senate bill ensures the availability of services to all victims of domes-

tic and dating violence, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity. The measure also provides authority to Native American tribes to prosecute non-Indian perpetrators of domestic violence-related offenses. Finally, the Senate measure adds stalking to the list of crimes for which victims can receive protection through the U-Visa program. All of the changes are vital and, unfortunately, absent in the House Republican bill.

Twice over the last 20 years, Democrats and Republicans, working together, have been able to reauthorize VAWA to continue and expand protections for all victims of domestic and sexual violence. A recent tragedy involving one of my constituents underscores the importance for this body to continue that bipartisan tradition.

On February 18, 2013, Jenny Lynn Pearson was brutally murdered by her husband of less than a year at her apartment in Reston, Virginia. Jenny was five months pregnant with her unborn son, whom she had named Aiden. A native of Fairfax County, Jenny is described by friends and family as humble and beautiful, a lover of nature and animals, a kind and generous soul. Her life, and that of her unborn son, was snuffed out far before its time.

Unfortunately, this type of severe domestic violence is an all-too-common reality in the United States. Approximately 2.3 million people each year are raped or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend. Three women are killed by a current or former intimate partner each day in America. And the cost of intimate partner violence exceeds \$5.8 billion annually, including \$4.1 billion in direct health care expenses.

While we still have much work to do, VAWA has helped address these startling levels of partner violence. Since it was first enacted in 1994, reporting of domestic violence has increased by as much as 51 percent, while the number of individuals killed by an intimate partner has decreased 34 percent for women and 57 percent for men. Reauthorization of VAWA will ensure that our nation's mothers, sisters, daughters, and friends continue to receive federal resources that can help keep them safe from harm.

Now is the time for the House to remove ideological roadblocks and send to the President a comprehensive VAWA bill that includes protections for all Americans. I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in favor of the Senate-passed Violence Against Women Act.

RECOGNIZING CHASKA HIGH
SCHOOL'S CHAMPION GIRLS
JAZZ AND HIGH KICK DANCE
TEAM**HON. ERIK PAULSEN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 4, 2013

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the Chaska High School Girls Jazz and High Kick dance teams.

The Chaska High School Dance teams—both High Kick and Jazz & Funk—took home repeat championship titles earlier this month with victories at the 2013 State Girls Dance Team Tournament.

Coach Kryz Rydland complimented her team's drive to constantly improve as key to

their success this season and at the state tournament.

Special congratulations to captains Amanda Stelten, Sammy White, and Emily Pulvermacher.

This team's ability to combine art with athleticism has returned quite impressive results.

All of these athletes and their coaches deserve praise for their dedication and determination.

It's an honor to be able to represent, and recognize, such all-star athletes. Congratulations.

IN RECOGNITION OF CLARK E.
GUINAN**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 4, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Clark E. Guinan, better known as Gus, who is retiring after a remarkable legal and public service career that spanned over three decades. Gus was the City Attorney of the City of Burlingame for the last four years. His devotion to justice and the Bay Area are reflected in his work and passion for life.

Gus, a native San Franciscan and third generation Californian, was raised in Los Altos. He enrolled in the seminary in Menlo Park at the young age of 13 and studied there through high school and college until he was 24 years old. He received his B.A. in Philosophy from St. Patrick's College.

After eleven years in the seminary, Gus realized that he had a different calling. He wanted to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather who was his hero and a prominent attorney in the California Attorney General's office. Gus started law school and earned his J.D. from the University of Santa Clara.

Upon earning his degree, Gus became a deputy public defender in San Joaquin County from 1974–1984. Then he accepted the position of Senior Assistant City Attorney in Palo Alto where he served for five years.

In 1989, he faced a difficult decision. He and his wife Signe Harnett had adopted infant twin girls. They still lived in Stockton and the daily commute to Palo Alto would prevent Gus from seeing his two babies grow up. He left public service and became a litigation attorney with the law offices of Rishwain, Kakim and Ellis in Stockton from 1989–1991. Gus' love for San Francisco drew the family back to the Bay Area and in 1991 they moved to Berkeley and he joined the law office of Barry Balamuth in Orinda.

In 1993, Gus returned to public service and accepted the position of Assistant City Attorney for the City of San Rafael where he stayed until 2008 when he was appointed to his most recent position of City Attorney of Burlingame.

Gus is a member of the Public Law Section of the California State Bar Association, the Bay Area City Attorneys Association, the Marin Public Agency Attorneys and an alternate board member of the California Joint Powers Risk Management Authority. In the past, he served as a delegate at the State Bar Convention in Sacramento, as a section editor of the Municipal Law Handbook of the League

of California Cities and as a member of the board of governors of the San Joaquin County Bar Association. Gus has also lectured at the Delta Community College in Stockton and in the "Bridging the Gap" program. Last but not least, he has been a proud member of the San Rafael Elks Club since 2006.

In his well deserved retirement, Gus is looking forward to spending more time with his wife of 25 years, their now 24-year-old twin daughters Kate and Lindsey and their stepson Chris. He will finally have more time to lose himself in his passion for California history, hiking, travel, photography, reading and swimming.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representative to rise with me to honor Clark E. Guinan, a man with a brilliant legal mind and a big heart who has protected the rights and safety of the residents of Burlingame and other Bay Area communities.

RECOGNIZING ANN THOMPSON AS
THE 2014 SANTA ROSA COUNTY,
FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE
YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 4, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Ann Thompson as the 2014 Santa Rosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. Ms. Thompson has been an inspiration to her students, her colleagues, and her community, and I am honored to recognize her success and her many achievements.

The best teachers are those who not only educate, but those who strive every day to actively engage their pupils. Ms. Thompson embodies this spirit—she is an educator, a mentor, and a role model to those she serves. As a founding parent of West Navarre Intermediate, Ms. Thompson has played an integral role with the school for more than 14 years, the last 7 of which as an educator.

Throughout her career, Ms. Thompson has served in various capacities. Before joining West Navarre Intermediate, Ms. Thompson had a successful medical career for 25 years. However, she recognized that her true calling was teaching. With the goal of ensuring all children leave school reading at least on grade level in mind, Ms. Thompson earned the required teaching certification from the University of West Florida. Wanting to work in the very school that she helped build, Ms. Thompson has seen her dreams come true as a third grade teacher at West Navarre Intermediate.

The perspectives she gained from raising three children and serving in the medical field give her a unique experience base to better enrich her students education. Ms. Thompson's instructional techniques are calculated, research-based, and focused on the needs of the individual student by using exhaustive data analysis as well as daily observation. In doing this, Ms. Thompson recognizes the reality that each student is different, and she tailors her instruction to her pupils resulting in enhanced academic achievement.

Ms. Thompson's greatness extends well beyond her title as Teacher of the Year—it lies in the hearts and minds of the students who have been deeply affected. and I am proud to

recognize the accomplishments that place her among the best of Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Ms. Ann Thompson as Teacher of the Year and thank her for her exemplary service in the Santa Rosa County School District. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Thompson, and we wish her all the best for continued success.

ALLEGANY COUNTY ADMINIS-
TRATOR RETIRES AFTER 21
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 4, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 21 years of dedicated service that John E. Margeson provided to Allegany County as County Administrator. Mr. Margeson began serving the Allegany County government over thirty years ago in 1977 as a probation officer. In 1982, he was appointed to be the administrative assistant to the chairman of the board and held that position until 1992 when he was appointed the county's first administrator. Mr. Margeson recently announced his retirement as Allegany County Administrator to be effective at the end of March 2013.

As the first county administrator in Allegany County, he spent over two decades making changes and updates as new federal and state mandates emerged. As a result of these mandates, the role of the Allegany County government has grown and reacted to the issues at hand. Mr. Margeson also helped oversee some of the largest capital projects in the county's history, including a new jail and a court annex. Making it a priority to attend every committee and full board meeting, Mr. Margeson provides extensive and invaluable knowledge to the board members.

Following his many years of dutiful work, Mr. Margeson looks forward to spending his retirement with his wife, two kids and his grandchildren. He also intends on playing many rounds of golf and his favorite card games in his hometown of Scio, New York.

I wish Mr. Margeson the very best in retirement and thank him for his public service.

HONORING ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA
SORORITY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 4, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, each year we celebrate March as Women's History Month, and I wanted to take this opportunity to honor the women of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority for their decades of service and commitment to empowering their communities.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1908. AKA is the oldest Greek organization established by African American college-educated women. From its humble beginnings, AKA has grown to 260,000 members with chapters in the U.S.,

the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Caribbean, Canada, Japan, Germany, Korea, and on the continent of Africa.

AKA membership is comprised of distinguished women who have excelled academically, and utilized the organization to promote our mission of "Service to All Mankind." Through AKA's human rights outreach, the organization works to raise awareness of human trafficking and domestic violence. The sorority also works to promote social justice through voter empowerment, civic engagement, and expanding access to education in minority communities. Through the organization's global poverty initiatives, AKA has focused its efforts to end hunger throughout the world, and to promote sustainability and independence through women-owned businesses and sustainable agriculture practices.

Mr. Speaker, I am a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, and I am proud to highlight the many accomplishments of the organization. Throughout the years, AKA's outreach has expanded as it strives to promote high academic standards, mentorship, global health services, and the advancement of human and civil rights.

CONGRATULATIONS MONTANA
SPECIAL OLYMPIANS

HON. STEVE DAINES

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 4, 2013

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, two Montana athletes recently competed in the Special Olympics 2013 World Winter Games in South Korea, and I want to recognize them for their efforts.

Dan Hazen of Great Falls and Kathy Rose of Kalispell made Montana proud when they were chosen to represent our state on a national stage. Of the 2,300 other athletes from 110 countries in PyeongChang, South Korea, they were the only two from Montana.

But it's been a long journey, filled with hard work and perseverance.

Their tireless dedication to their sport paid off when they placed first in their events at the 2012 Special Olympics Montana State Winter Games at Whitefish Mountain Resort. Then, they were chosen from a field of other gold medal athletes as Montana's representatives to the Games.

Hazen competed in the slalom, giant slalom and super G, alpine skiing events.

And Rose competed in the 100-meter, 200-meter and 4 x 100-meter relay snowshoe races.

These events require a lot of work and a lot of commitment—and I'm happy that their efforts were rewarded when they were chosen to compete in South Korea.

These athletes are true examples of what makes Montana great—their positive attitudes and tireless dedication exemplifies the characteristics that we value in our state.

Thank you for your hard work, thank you for making Montana proud, and congratulations.