

Wiesenthal, a hero to everyone who believes in truth and justice.

Simon Wiesenthal's dedication to the capture of the vicious Nazi murderers touched millions who wanted justice for their pain, suffering and loss. He was a survivor who spent years in Nazi death camps, until 1945 when he was liberated by American soldiers. Rather than live in fear or permit the perpetrators behind those terrible atrocities live free, he hunted down Nazis that murdered innocent Jewish men, women, and children during the Holocaust so that they could be prosecuted. According to some accounts, his hard work led to over 1100 criminals being brought to justice.

Simon Wiesenthal's fight to ensure justice brought to light many of the grave problems that remained after World War II that many did not want to acknowledge. At a time when some may have wished to sweep the past under the rug, Simon Wiesenthal would not allow it. He changed history, by forcing all of us to confront history. For that we owe him a debt of gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, today, I ask my colleagues to rise and pay tribute to this great man and his efforts for justice and truth. We will never forget the 6 million Jews who died and we will never forget Simon Wiesenthal.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF THOMAS L. ORTOSKY FOR HIS HEROIC ACTIONS AND SELFLESS DEEDS AS A LETTER CARRIER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Thomas L. Ortosky, as he receives the National Association of Letter Carriers' Regional Hero Award. His sincere, heroic and selfless act saved the lives of two young girls from his beloved community.

Mr. Ortosky was working from his delivery vehicle when he noticed two young girls on their bikes and a pack of dogs chasing after them. With no hesitation, Mr. Ortosky ran from his vehicle and fearlessly began to distract the dogs even though he was risking his own safety and perhaps his life. His good-hearted action worked. The girls rode off to safety while Mr. Ortosky bravely held off the dogs. The pack of dogs began nipping at him but Mr. Ortosky never hesitated. It was not until the dogs were captured by the animal warden that Mr. Ortosky was out of harm's way. And ever so dutifully and good-natured, Mr. Ortosky continued on his delivery route without ever notifying anyone about the incident and his heroic deed.

However, Mr. Ortosky's valiant and honorable deed did not go unnoticed. His grateful patrons reported the incident. With thanks from his community and the National Association of Letter Carriers' it is with great pride that as his representative I can recognize this great American.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Thomas L. Ortosky. Mr. Ortosky is truly a hero. He is a selfless and genuine human being and a role model for the people of his community as well as the country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday September 6 through Thursday September 8, I was unable to attend for vote Nos. 456 through 464 due to a death in my family. Had I been present on rollcall vote No. 456, I would have voted, "aye"; on rollcall vote No. 457, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall vote No. 458, I would have voted "nay"; on rollcall vote No. 459, I would have voted "nay"; on rollcall vote No. 460, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall vote No. 461, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall vote No. 462, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall vote No. 463, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall vote No. 464, I would have voted "aye."

I ask that the appropriate mentions be made in the RECORD.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JENNY BLAU

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Jenny Blau, a dedicated, intelligent and compassionate woman whom I have been fortunate to have as part of my staff for the past two and a half years.

Since Jenny's first day in the office, she has approached each and every task I have given her with dedication. Jenny joined my office in February 2003 as an unpaid fellow and quickly assumed a role as a Legislative Assistant. As a Legislative Assistant, Jenny has been the point person for the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues and has overseen legislation dealing with domestic violence, senior issues, and the murders of women in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Her extensive knowledge of women's issues and health care has proved invaluable. Jenny has played a pivotal role in raising awareness about women in the military, violence against women, and other issues that affect women.

Jenny's understanding of the challenges facing the Latino community has been particularly important to me. Jenny has organized numerous briefings and events to heighten awareness about the murder of women in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, and domestic violence. She has also overseen successful events sponsored by Lifetime Television, the Oxygen Network and the Democratic Women's Working Group. These projects have left a lasting impact on the lives of women in the 32nd Congressional District of California and nationwide.

Jenny's kindness, work ethic, and professionalism have earned her the trust and respect of her colleagues and women's groups. I am very proud that she will follow her passion of medicine at the Georgetown University Medical School. I wish Jenny the best of luck in life and in all of her endeavors. Le deseo la mejor de las suertes a Jenny. Un dicho popular dice: "El que persevera, alcanza." Estoy segura que Jenny logrará todas sus metas.

THE MICROBICIDE DEVELOPMENT ACT: AN OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE MILLIONS OF LIVES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join today with my colleagues Representative CHRIS SHAYS and DANNY K. DAVIS in introducing the Microbicide Development Act, along with twenty seven of our colleagues. This bipartisan legislation recognizes the need to coordinate and accelerate federal microbicide research and development programs in order to provide a new and effective tool in fighting the HIV/AIDS pandemic here and around the world. At the 15th International AIDS Conference in Bangkok last year, microbicide development was listed at one of the "10 most promising biotechnologies for improving global health." It is time that we turn that promise into reality.

Microbicide products that can be applied topically—like gels or foams—are being developed today to help prevent the spread of HIV and other sexually-transmitted diseases in women. Microbicides would block infection by creating a barrier between the pathogen and its target cells. A computer modeling study by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine found that if an effective microbicide were used by 20 percent of women in just 73 low-income countries, it would prevent 2.5 million HIV infections over three years.

The Microbicide Development Act would help us realize the life-saving potential of microbicides. It would require development and implementation of a federal strategic plan to coordinate ongoing activities among the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the United States Agency of International Development (USAID). Through this increased emphasis and annual reports to Congress, we can ensure that the United States moves forward effectively and quickly as part of the global effort to stop AIDS.

The need to act to cut HIV infections and AIDS deaths is overwhelming and immediate. Most of us are aware of the stark figures. In the last 25 years, 40 million people around the world have been infected with the disease. Nearly 3 million lives are lost each year. In Africa alone, it is projected that 80 million people will die by 2025 unless we act decisively to stop the spread of AIDS.

Not as many are aware of the changing face of HIV/AIDS—the growth of infection rates among women. Over 14,000 people are infected with HIV each and every day—about 7,000 of them are women. Many of these women live in monogamous relationships but, because they are unable or too afraid to ask their husbands or partners to use condoms, they have no prevention tools at their disposal.

In fact, as Dr. Zeda Rosenberg, director of the non-profit International Partnership for Microbicides, points out, "For women, in many parts of the world, being poor, young and married are the most significant risk factors for acquiring HIV infection." Microbicides—products like gels or foams that can be applied topically—would provide an effective prevention tool that women can use to protect themselves, without having to rely on their partners.

Microbicides hold particular promise in Africa, where, as UN Secretary General Kofi Annan said in 2003, women must be placed at the center of the HIV/AIDS strategy. "If you want to save Africa, you must save the African woman first," he said. "It is they who nurture the social networks that help societies share burdens." Yet, as Lesotho's Minister of Health and Social Welfare Deborah K. Raditapole describes, many African women have little ability to protect themselves or their children: Having sex with her husband is considered a wife's duty, even when she knows that her husband has had other partners and wishes to protect herself. If she insists that he uses a condom or refuses to have sex with him, she may be beaten or abandoned. Even if a woman suspects that her spouse may have been exposed to HIV, she has nowhere to turn for support, and there are no laws to protect her.

That is why Ilene Wong, a Stanford Hospital physician, calls microbicide development a "lifesaving safety net." In The Washington Post last summer, she wrote: In my nightmares, I see the women we have failed to protect from AIDS. . . . I despair for my sisters in Africa, who know that abstinence is rarely an option for the powerless and poor. Rather, it's a luxury for those confident that they will eat tomorrow. A truly comprehensive and farsighted global AIDS program would recognize that women need their own weapons against HIV. They need microbicides.

In the Gleneagles statement issued last July, the G8 recognized the need for a greater commitment to global health and joined the chorus of respected health organizations calling for expedited microbicide development. Other organizations that have recognized the potential of microbicides include the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the National Institutes of Health, the National Women's Health Network and the Alan Guttmacher Institute.

Microbicide development is not just a life-and-death matter for women in other countries, it is equally crucial for women in the United States. In Illinois, over 30,000 AIDS cases have been reported and we have suffered 16,400 deaths since 1981. As in other parts of the world, women and especially women of color represent a growing proportion of new infections in Illinois. The AIDS Foundation of Chicago has been a leader in calling for expanded microbicide R&D as part of their comprehensive efforts to address the AIDS epidemic. David Munar, Jim Pickett and others at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago have been instrumental in helping to design this bill and in bringing attention to the need to put prevention tools against HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases directly into women's and men's hands.

I also want to thank the many women who, infected themselves, have come forward to push for microbicide development in order to protect other women. Women like Chicagoan Debra Fleming, an African American woman who has lived with HIV for 20 years and says, "I know plenty of women who really don't have a choice when it comes to using protection with their partners. Condoms are just an option for them because a lot of these women are battered. With a microbicide, a woman can protect herself from both HIV and a black eye."

And I want to thank my constituent, Patrice Dean, who has been HIV+ for 15 years, who

is also part of the fight for prevention. "If microbicides would have been available to me, I may never have become infected," she says. "They are important for all women, especially women of childbearing age who want to have a child but not risk infection. They are also important for married couples, where it may be difficult for a woman to negotiate condoms. Men don't like condoms, never have, never will. That is always an issue."

Women will soon comprise over half of the world's HIV/AIDS-infected people. They need HIV-prevention tools that they can use themselves, without having to rely on reluctant and sometimes even abusive partners. The Microbicide Development Act will spur development of those tools. I hope that my colleagues will join us in cosponsoring this bill and in pushing for its enactment.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF SIMON WIESENTHAL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleagues in mourning the loss and honoring the life of Simon Wiesenthal.

Simon Wiesenthal died this week in Vienna at the age of 96. He was a survivor of the resistance movement and lived through internment in Nazi concentration camps. He became the most famous Nazi hunter when he returned to Vienna after World War II. Mr. Wiesenthal devoted his career to exposing and documenting Nazi atrocities and bringing perpetrators to justice.

After World War II and the Holocaust, Mr. Wiesenthal became the permanent representative of Holocaust victims, determined to bring the perpetrators of one of history's greatest crimes to justice and punishment. He took the job no one else wanted, and he charged himself with the task that few sought.

He was a voice of conscience for all humanity and he inspired world leaders and individuals to fight anti-Semitism and intolerance. Mr. Wiesenthal is best known for his instrumental investigative research that contributed to the capture and conviction of more than 1,100 Nazi war criminals, including Adolf Eichmann, the architect of the "Final Solution." Through the Simon Wiesenthal Center, he also promoted Holocaust remembrance, the fight against racism and anti-Semitism, and the monitoring of neo-Nazi and other extremist groups worldwide.

Simon Wiesenthal's message, mission and courage will not die with him. He has shown us all what it means to fight the fight, whether unpopular or difficult, whether lonely or tedious. Because of Mr. Wiesenthal's courageous, gutsy and earnest work, we have learned as a country what it means to stand up for what is right. As a Member of Congress, I will always follow Mr. Wiesenthal's precedent, and will continue to lead my colleagues in Congress to fight anti-Semitism and intolerance wherever it may be.

CONGRATULATING THE O'LEARY COMPANY ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the O'Leary Company, an engineering, planning and construction company from western Massachusetts that is celebrating its 50th Anniversary of building excellence this month. Simply put, the company is the one of the most experienced design-build commercial contractors in the northeast region.

From humble beginnings, Edward J. O'Leary started his own construction business in Holyoke, Massachusetts in 1955. With an emphasis on quality workmanship and customer service, the company quickly began to grow. A relationship with the Kansas City based Butler Manufacturing Company was a defining point for the company. Working with Butler, a leader in the marketing, design and production of systems for commercial and industrial buildings, enabled Ed O'Leary to take on larger construction projects. That partnership has created hundreds of jobs, successfully completed 1,200 projects and sold more than \$40 million dollars in Butler steel.

But the O'Leary Company's history is more than just sales and completed projects. Strong corporate values have long been the key to their success. They have a reputation in the community for integrity, reliability and quality. And their contribution to the local economy cannot be minimized.

Whether it is aircraft hangers at Westover Air Reserve Base, the Quill Corporation Building in Agawam, MA, the Ludlow Technical Products property, or the state-of-the-art WWLP TV-22 studio in Chicopee, MA, the O'Leary Company has helped make our region a better place to work and do business. They truly have made a difference in the quality of life in western Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join with me in wishing Randy Conklin, Brian Hill and the employees of the O'Leary Company another 50 years of success. I am confident that they will remain an invaluable builder, employer and corporate partner in western Massachusetts for many years to come.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES JUNIOR GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and honor the United States Junior Girls' Soccer Team, winners of the Gold Medal at the World Maccabi Games held in Israel this summer. The World Maccabi games are an Olympic-style competition that is among the top sporting events in the world. Participants in the games are Jewish athletes from countries all over the world. The National team was chosen from a group of 65 girls nationwide who were selected to try out