

the preference of the Program Manager for Chemical Destruction under the Department of the Army for baseline incineration. Now that the Defense Department is committed to the neutralization approach, and given the numerous GAO reports and testimony to Congress stating that effective management of the chemical demilitarization program has been hindered by the complexity of its management structure, it appears to make sense to pursue the transfer. Still, I've asked Chairman HUNTER to follow this move closely to ensure that this proposed change in oversight of the project doesn't change the path forward for the development of the neutralization technology.

I'm glad that both Democratic and Republican members of the Colorado delegation understand the importance of getting the job done right at Pueblo. I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure this happens.

For the benefit of my colleagues, I've attached a May 18 editorial from the Pueblo Chieftain.

[From the Pueblo Chieftain, May 18, 2005]

TRUST, BUT VERIFY

There appears to be bureaucratic wrangling over control of the chemical weapons destruction program at Pueblo Chemical Depot, and Representative John Salazar is pledging to keep a close eye on developments.

Representative Salazar reports that the Army approached him directly with information that the Pentagon wants the job under the direct oversight of the Army, rather than the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternative program, or ACWA. ACWA has been the agency favored by local critics of the Army, which originally planned to build an incinerator to demilitarize the weapons.

Representative Salazar, taking note of recent developments in Congress to get the work back on track after numerous delays, said the Army's track record warrants close monitoring to see that nothing else gets derailed. It was this long series of delays which earlier this month prompted Congress to approve provisions in a supplemental budget bill that included \$327 million and explicit language requiring the Pentagon to destroy the weapons at Pueblo and the Blue Grass Chemical Depot in Kentucky. This week the Senate Armed Services Committee added \$20 million.

The demilitarization provision was co-sponsored by Colorado's two senators, Wayne Allard and Ken Salazar, and Representative Salazar.

Ross Vincent, a member of the local Citizens Advisory Commission and a supporter of ACWA, is wary of having the Army take direct control of the project. The Army may realize it needs to mend fences, because Representative Salazar made a point of noting that the Army volunteered the information that the Pentagon now wants that military branch to be in direct control.

Representative Salazar has sized up the situation quickly since his House induction in January. We are pleased that has given the chemical depot his considerable attention.

We also would encourage the congressional delegation to press the Pentagon to do all of the demilitarization work here. There has been some discussion of perhaps shipping explosives and the neutralized mustard agent known as "hydrolysat" off site for final destruction at other plants.

It's estimated that such transfers would mean the loss of about 200 jobs that otherwise would be created at Pueblo Chemical Depot. But at what cost?

The Pentagon is looking at one cost factor, though. Last week officials said they may

use some recycled parts from a similar system that has finished its work at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. If that could be a net savings to taxpayers, we're all for it.

Delays and mismanagement have skyrocketed the cost of destroying this Nation's chemical weapons. The sooner the job gets done, the better.

CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR  
WOMEN'S ISSUES RECOGNIZES  
DRILL SERGEANT JENNIFER R.  
FOWLER

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Congresswomen BROWN-WAITE, SOLIS, CAPPS and the entire Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues to recognize the 8th Annual Women in the Military Wreath Laying Ceremony hosted by the Caucus at Arlington National Cemetery. The purpose of this event is to honor our nation's servicewomen and female veterans for their courage and achievements, and to remember women who have died in service to the United States.

Today, we have the opportunity to recognize five outstanding female servicewomen, one selected from each branch of the military. These women serve their respective branches with honor, dignity, and courage. These highly decorated leaders chose to defend our freedom and embody the spirit of those that served before them.

From the United States Army, we will honor Drill Sergeant Jennifer R. Fowler. Drill Sergeant Fowler has served in the Army in a variety of duty stations and capacities. Her deployments include: Operation Distant Haven-Suriname, and Operation Safe Haven Panama.

Drill Sergeant Fowler's awards and decorations include the joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Army Overseas Service Ribbon.

Drill Sergeant Fowler has repeatedly demonstrated outstanding performance, leadership, and devotion to the U.S. Army as is evidenced by the fact that she was recently selected as the 2004 RC TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year.

Drill Sergeant Fowler continues to distinguish herself as an invaluable leader in the Army, and it is an honor for each Member of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues to recognize the courage and commitment of Drill Sergeant Fowler and all women in the military.

CROSBY MILNE: WINNER OF LABOR'S  
"OUTSTANDING DEDICATION AWARD"

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, today I acknowledge a great friend of labor, Crosby Milne—

recognized with the "Outstanding Dedication Award" by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Crosby Milne's early upbringing was unfortunately marred by frequent moves and arbitrary acts of discrimination. As a result, Crosby became fundamentally opposed to any forms of discrimination. He used those early childhood experiences as a barometer to make good choices throughout life and guide his actions. Crosby served five years in the United States Navy, and in those years, he played many roles. He spent 29 years working his way up to become a top manager. Throughout his work he discovered that following a set of values is the best way to manage. He has used this concept ever since. In 1974, he began work as a management consultant for commercial firms and for dozens of nonprofit organizations, including the United Farm Workers and Cesar Chavez.

For the past several years, Crosby has been a volunteer for the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, generously dedicating his time and ideas for the betterment of workers throughout San Diego and Imperial Counties. He has facilitated various staff retreats and meetings as well as sat on various committees. He provides wonderful insight and assessments. Crosby was also very instrumental in forming the Center on Policy Initiatives. Crosby's opinion is highly revered, as he speaks from life experience.

We congratulate Crosby for receiving this year's "Outstanding Dedication Award" from the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK COUNTY LAWYERS ASSOCIATION'S HOME OF LAW

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New York County Lawyers Association (NYCLA), and the 75th anniversary of its building, located at 14 Vesey Street in New York City. This location, in the heart of both my District and Lower Manhattan, has been the home of NYCLA and its many charitable and educational programs, all of which further its primary purpose of serving the public interest.

Tonight's celebration will feature many of New York City's most esteemed scholars. They include the Hon. Judith Kaye, Chief Judge of the State of New York, Hon. John M. Walker Jr., Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, Michael Cardozo, Corporation Counsel for the City of New York, and Paul Goldberger, architecture critic for The New Yorker.

The Home of Law was designed by legendary American architect Cass Gilbert, designer of the Woolworth and U.S. Supreme Court Buildings, and consulting architect for the George Washington Bridge. The groundbreaking for the Home of Law took place in 1929 and construction was completed just five and a half months later, on May 26, 1930, exactly 75 years ago today. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was attended by such notable figures as then Court of Appeals Chief

Judge Benjamin N. Cardozo, Judge Samuel Seabury, John W. Davis, and City Bar President Charles C. Burlingham. Then-NYCLA President William Nelson Cromwell chose 14 Vesey Street for the Home of Law because, with St. Paul's Chapel across the street, no building would ever block the view.

NYCLA, in its 97-year history, has proven to be a visionary and inclusive organization, pioneering some of the most far-reaching and tangible reforms in American jurisprudence and playing an active role in legal developments and public policy. NYCLA also bears the mark of distinction of being the first major bar association in the United States that admitted members without regard to race, ethnicity, religion or gender. NYCLA and its Home of Law serve New York with distinction, and I am pleased to honor them today on the 75th anniversary of their historic building.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LAFAYETTE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2005*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building in honor of the contributions and sacrifices of past, present, and future Contra Costa County veterans for the freedoms we enjoy in our personal lives and for the security we value as a nation.

When we look around at our homes, neighborhoods, and institutions like our churches and schools, we see evidence of the valor and sacrifice of our veterans. We feel safe and protected in the ordinary and extraordinary activities of our daily lives because our veterans have made us safe. We are free to believe and speak what is in our hearts because veterans have fought for our freedoms to do that.

The Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building honors the contributions of veterans today, on Memorial Day, and every day to come. It is a living memorial, created in the heart of this vibrant community at the center of community life. It is intended to serve veterans and their families throughout Contra Costa County, and it is designed to accommodate the broadest possible range of needs of veterans as well as those of the community.

The Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building is also remarkable for being the collaborative achievement of Lafayette War Veterans, Inc., the City of Lafayette, the City of Walnut Creek, and Contra Costa County. Over a number of years, these project partners have come together to create this magnificent tribute to those who serve. They have blessed the community with an outstanding example of joint leadership and cooperative decision-making, as well as with the building itself.

Mr. Speaker, the Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building stands as a fitting monument to our veterans whom we honor on Memorial Day and in our hearts all year long. It takes its part in our community as a reminder of the glories of past, present, and future veterans and of the work of smart, persevering, and dedicated community leaders who have brought their dreams to reality.

CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES RECOGNIZES SENIOR CHIEF JENSEN

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2005*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Congresswomen BROWN-WAITE, SOLIS, CAPPS and the entire Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues to recognize the 8th Annual Women in the Military Wreath Laying Ceremony hosted by the Caucus at Arlington National Cemetery. The Purpose of this event is to honor our nation's servicewomen and female veterans for their courage and achievements, and to remember women who have died in service to the United States.

Today we have the opportunity to recognize five outstanding female servicewomen, one selected from each branch of the military. These women serve their respective branches with honor, dignity, and courage. These highly decorated leaders chose to defend our freedom and embody the spirit of those that served before them.

From the United States Coast Guard Reserves, we will honor Senior Chief Jensen, who currently has an Extended Active duty contract with the Coast Guard and is assigned to Coast Guard Headquarters, Office of Command and Control Architecture.

Senior Chief Jensen enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserves on July 11, 1990 as a Third Class Yeoman. Her first unit was Coast Guard Reserve Unit Pensacola, Florida, where she served for five years. In November of 1995, then a Second Class Petty Officer, she reported to the Gulf Strike Team in Mobile, AL. During this period she was sent on special assignment for 6 months to the National Drug Intelligence Center, Johnstown, PA where she was one of only five enlisted members to ever serve. Her second special assignment came when she was requested for support of the joint agency drug operation, "Operation Gulf Shield" in South Texas for a period of seven months.

Senior Chief Jensen has repeatedly demonstrated outstanding performance, leadership, and devotion to the U.S. Coast Guard, as is evidenced by the awards she has received, which include a Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon with Operational distinguishing device, both Active Duty and Reserve Good Conduct Medals, the 911 Ribbon, Reserve Forces Medal, Rifle and Pistol Shot Ribbons at the Marksman level.

Senior Chief Jensen continues to distinguish herself as an invaluable leader in the US Marine Corps, and it is an honor for each Member of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues to recognize the courage and commitment of Senior Chief Jensen and all women in the military.

JEF L. EATCHEL: WINNER OF LABOR'S "SOLIDARITY AWARD"

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2005*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, today I acknowledge a great friend of labor, Jef L. Eatchel—recognized with the "Solidarity Award" by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Jef L. Eatchel has served as Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Executive Officer for UNITE HERE, Local 30 (formerly, Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 30) of San Diego since he was first elected in 1985. Jef began his career at Local 30 as a cook at La Costa Resort & Spa, where he was appointed Shop Steward by International Vice-President, Herbert "Pinky" Schiffman. He was appointed as Business Representative at Local 30 in 1982. After representing the employees for three years, he was elected Secretary-Treasurer in 1985. He continues to serve as its Chief Executive Officer. Jef does a great deal of work beyond UNITE HERE Local 30. He serves as the Treasurer to the California Culinary Alliance; he was elected a voting director of the International Foundation of Employee Benefits for the West Coast and has served as a Trustee and member of the Educational Program Committee. He also serves on the Executive Committee for the Council of Institutional Investors and is National Vice President for District 9 for the UNITE HERE International.

As chairman of the San Diego Health & Pension Plan, he founded the Labor Union 401K in 1997 which now has forty different unions participating. He is also the co-founder of the San Diego Hospitality Training Trust. In these capacities, Jef works tirelessly to assure that the hard working union members who fall under these plans have a safe and secure financial future. Jef's innovation, enthusiasm and insight bring so much to the working families of San Diego.

People like Jef Eatchel perpetuate these qualities and that is why the San Diego Imperial Counties Labor Council recognize and honor him with the 2005 "Solidarity Award."

TRIBUTE TO THE SCOTT COUNTY AMERICAN LEGION POST 24

**HON. BEN CHANDLER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2005*

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Scott County American Legion Post 24. This Sunday, May 29, they will begin their annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage.

Beginning at 8 a.m., these dedicated veterans, along with family and friends, will depart from the Scott County Courthouse and travel to nine cemeteries to honor and show respect to our many departed veterans. They will arrive at the Georgetown Cemetery between 4:30 and 5 p.m. At this time they will also dedicate the stunning new 22 ft. marker honoring all branches of service.

The history of this important organization dates back to the end of World War I, when