

to be used in future war crimes trials. Wiesenthal also came to the aid of refugees who survived the war by serving as the head of the Jewish Central Committee of the United States Zone in Austria. This marked the beginning of a long career dedicated to pursuing those who helped perpetrate the Holocaust.

While the world tried to forget the tragedy that had unfolded through much of Europe, Wiesenthal was determined to keep alive the memory of its victims. He soon abandoned his previous life as an architect when the Allies lost interest in prosecuting war criminals. Wiesenthal himself led the campaign for justice from his own apartment in Vienna, tracking down Nazis around the globe attempting to escape prosecution. Over 1,100 war criminals were brought to justice with Wiesenthal's help, including the architect of the "Final Solution," Adolf Eichmann.

Wiesenthal's tireless hunt for Nazi war criminals stemmed from his belief that the world must never forget the scope of human suffering endured during the Holocaust, lest such a conflagration take place again in the future. He declared:

The history of man is the history of crimes, and history can repeat. So information is a defense. Through this we can build, we must build a defense against repetition.

And so he managed to transform the most tragic event into a learning experience for all of humanity. The Simon Wiesenthal Center based in Los Angeles was established to—through interactive workshops, exhibits, and videos—explore issues of prejudice, diversity, tolerance, and cooperation in the workplace and in the community. His idea was that teaching respect for people of different race, religion, color would be a way of preventing history from repeating itself.

Though Wiesenthal is no longer with us, his legacy will be felt for generations to come. In addition to fighting racism, anti-Semitism, and genocide, the center that bears his name continues to investigate hundreds of surviving war criminals who have escaped justice. And of course, he reminded us to never forget.

NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG
ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, as September is National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, I would like to share the story of a resident of the Fourth Congressional District, Walter Ginter, who is recovering from a drug addiction.

I recently met with Mr. Ginter and heard of his struggle to overcome his addiction. In addition to wanting to call attention to the plight of recovering addicts, he was particularly concerned that as we consider the plight of many victims of Hurricane Katrina, we ensure that we pay particular attention to those recovering from dependency. Since many are in treatment programs, interruption from these programs can result in setbacks. This is one of the many, many things that we need to consider as we go forward in rebuilding the lives of those affected in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

Our country has improved greatly, but we still have work to do in providing access to treatment and eliminating the stigma surrounding chemical dependency. I hope this month of awareness will help us accomplish this worthy goal.

The following is Mr. Ginter's story:

My name is Walter Ginter. I am 56 years old. I own a house in Westport CT. I participate in civic activities, have a subscription to the Westport Country Playhouse, and I am a registered Republican. Most days, along with hundreds of other Westport residents, I commute on Metro North Railroad to NYC. I am indistinguishable from the other commuters and completely typical in every way but one. Each day I take medication for a chronic medical condition. Taking a maintenance medication is hardly atypical, I am sure that other commuters take maintenance medications. The difference is that I take a medication to treat my opiate dependence.

I first became opiate dependent in 1971, when I was in the army. I spent much of the next 20 years in and out of various treatment programs in my effort to stop using heroin. For me, the only treatment that was effective was methadone maintenance. While on methadone I got my life together and attained the goal promised by the SAMSHA matrix, "a life in the community for everyone."

However, every few years, no matter how well my life was going I felt pressured to leave methadone treatment. Sometimes the pressure came from well meaning friends but mostly from myself. I felt inadequate, weak; even cowardly. . . . I tried again and again . . . but each time I left methadone treatment I relapsed.

Eventually, through advocacy, I learned that opiate addiction wasn't a moral issue or a matter of strength or weakness but primarily a brain disorder. The reason I did well on methadone was because it restored my normal brain function.

Today, I am Director of Training for the National Alliance of Methadone Advocates. Through training and education we are trying to end the stigma experienced by patients on medication. Some methadone advocates like to say, "Methadone is Recovery." They are wrong! Methadone is not Recovery. Recovery has nothing to do with taking medication or not taking medication. Recovery is living a sober, happy, productive lifestyle. However, thousands of methadone patients are living that life and haven't been taught anything about recovery.

That is what recovery advocacy is for me. Teaching and training so that my brothers and sisters who take medications can start enjoying life as recovering persons.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 15, 2005, I was unable to vote on agreeing to H. Res. 437, to Establish the Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina (rollcall vote 475). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DESTROY OUR NATION'S STOCKPILE OF DEADLY CHEMICAL WEAPONS BY APRIL 2007

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about our responsibility to destroy our Nation's stockpile of deadly chemical weapons by April 2007, while also being forthright about the costs and time required to comply with this obligation. This is a commitment that we made to both the American people and the world when the Senate ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in 1997. As outlined by statute, Congress retains a continuing oversight role in the CWC's implementation.

So far, we've destroyed 37 percent of our total stockpile of chemical weapons. Without a doubt, the destruction of these chemical weapons is a complicated and costly process. No one is under the illusion that we will meet the 2007 deadline for complete destruction. Unfortunately, civilian officials in the Department of Defense have managed, and continue to manage, much of this program in a way that has guaranteed that we will not meet our treaty obligations by the deadline. In fact, we will be hard pressed to meet the five-year extension that we will be forced to apply for in April of 2006. More importantly, the Department of Defense continues to mislead Congress and the public about the true financial cost of, and time requirements for, complete destruction of the remaining two-thirds of our chemical weapons.

I have become intimately involved with this issue because the Army has proposed to send four million gallons of VX hydrolysate from Newport, Indiana to a DuPont facility in New Jersey where it would be treated and then dumped into the Delaware River. I've joined with many of my colleagues from New Jersey and Delaware to shine a brighter light on this illogical proposal. I believe that our involvement has provided people who live near the Delaware River and people in Newport with much more information about this proposal than they would have received otherwise. But we have a long way to go.

At our urging, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are taking a much closer look at this proposal. In April of this year they issued a report that could not recommend proceeding with the treatment and disposal at the DuPont facility until EPA's noted deficiencies are addressed. EPA's ecologic analysis indicated that there are too many unknowns to determine whether the ecologic risk from the discharge of treated VX hydrolysate to the Delaware River is acceptable.

As decisions are being made about how to deal with hydrolysate at other chemical weapon sites, specifically the Blue Grass Depot in Kentucky and the Pueblo Depot in Colorado, I find it insightful to juxtapose findings by the Department of Defense related to those sites with proposals made regarding the hydrolysate at Newport. The Department of Defense agency responsible for destroying the weapons at Blue Grass has determined that shipping hydrolysate off-site isn't worth the trouble. While