

that of non-Hispanic Whites. In addition, 60 percent of the population in Puerto Rico depend on Government health care programs.

The proposed cuts in funding for Medicaid and Medicare therefore pose a disproportionate threat to the health of the Puerto Rican population. Although President Clinton, in budget negotiations, has forced them to moderate their demands, the Republican leadership in Congress still proposes to slash the funding for Medicaid by \$132 billion and Medicare by \$270 billion. These cuts will force the elimination of health care services, such as dental care, physical therapy, and nursing facilities for children.

In addition, because Puerto Rico is a commonwealth of the United States, it does not receive funding at full parity in Government programs. Funding for Medicaid is at one-tenth the amount that Puerto Rico would receive if it was treated equally. This is not a statement in opposition to the commonwealth status, nor an expression in support of statehood or the independence of Puerto Rico. But it is a fact of disparity. Although Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens, they receive a much lower share of Federal funding for Government programs than that which is allocated to programs for U.S. citizens who live in the United States. Reductions in funding would further jeopardize access to health care for Puerto Ricans.

The high incidence of HIV/AIDS infection among heterosexual drug users is a growing epidemic that requires special assistance in our community. In addition to the growing need to increase the access to medical services is the urgent need to provide culturally sensitive services to our community. Many providers do not have bilingual personnel or programs that identify with the culture of our community.

In short, low utilization rates of medical services, lack of prenatal and post partum care, low birth weights for infants, high infant mortality, and inadequate child immunization, are all indicators of a community that it is highly underserved.

We need to pursue a pro-active health care agenda which would provide coverage for the vulnerable population, the elderly, the poor, pregnant women, children, the medically disabled, and the working uninsured. We also need more effective outreach efforts to inform our community of the availability of health care services.

Community-based organizations which already provide culturally sensitive medical services could be one of the catalysts for increasing the access to adequate health care in our community. In addition, we need to increase the participation of the Puerto Rican community in the medical field by providing Federal scholarships and other programs that would enable our students to pursue careers in health professions. We should also provide incentives to educational institutions to develop scholarships for our medical students.

Slashing the funding for Government programs that are often the only source of health coverage for the poor will pose higher health risks to a population, such as ours, which is already disproportionately lacking access to medical services.

I would like now to ask the members of the panel to talk more in detail about the health issues which are afflicting our community.

TRIBUTE TO THEODORE ZUBAR

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the outstanding contributions of Theodore Zubar to the Boy Scouts Organization and his community during his 60 years of service.

As a strong advocate for the Boy Scouts and the Philadelphia community, Theodore Zubar has greatly influenced the lives of many people who have been fortunate enough to know and work with him during his remarkable career.

In 1929, at the young age of 12, Ted began his long and prosperous career with the Boy Scouts. Six years later, Ted became the assistant Scoutmaster and by the time he was 24 years old he was appointed Scoutmaster. With his hard work and loyalty, Ted continued to move up the ladder with the Boy Scouts. In 1947, he was elected Neighborhood Commissioner and held that position for 12 years.

By 1955, Ted organized the Troop Committee which operated various committees in North Central and Woodland Districts of Pennsylvania. As the Boy Scouts continued to strengthen and grow, Ted became the assistant district commissioner of the Scout Roundtable until 1963 and then presided over the Troop Committee for the next 20 years. Continuing his commitment to the Boys Scouts Organization, Ted took on the responsibility of Scouting Coordinator until becoming a member of the Frontier District Advancement Committee and the Frontier District Dean of Merit Badges where he still is a member today.

Ted's work for the Boy Scouts not only extends here in the United States but throughout various parts of the world as well. He has spent much of his life as an ambassador of Scouting for the Boy Scouts and has visited Scout organizations in Zimbabwe, Australia, and Europe. For over 60 years this man has epitomized the Scouting spirit in Philadelphia and throughout the world.

Although Ted's vision and loyalty with the Boy Scout Organization summarizes his excellent accomplishments, he also extended a helping hand to those unfortunate children in the Philadelphia community as well. Being active in his community for over 50 years, Ted became a Lu Lu Temple Shriner and a member of the Quaker City Shrine Club—Hospital Committee for the Crippled Children in 1977. As a member of the Greater Philadelphia Stamp Club, he distributed stamps to the Benjamin Franklin Stamp clubs in Philadelphia's Public Schools. These are only a few examples where Ted has brought joy to hundreds of unfortunate children and people within his Philadelphia community.

For these accomplishments, and most importantly, for the positive effects that these accomplishments have had on the people associated with the Boy Scout Organization and his community, I would like to recognize and thank Theodore Zubar.

CORA SWEATT, 1996 TENNESSEE MOTHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mrs. Cora Sweatt for being named as the 1996 Tennessee Mother of the Year. This indeed is a great honor and one which Mrs. Sweatt should be very proud to receive.

I believe that if we are going to remain a strong country in years to come, we must strengthen the American family.

Mothers are special individuals who sacrifice a great deal for their families and especially their children, and often times they are not recognized for their hard work and devotion. I am proud to see that my home State of Tennessee has taken the time to honor a woman like Mrs. Sweatt. She has had great success at balancing many critical responsibilities for the family and even has taken time from a very busy schedule to serve the community as well.

I believe that true success is achieved by those who strive for excellency. I want to extend my congratulations to Cora Sweatt for receiving this honor.

I request that a copy of the article that appeared in the Daily Post-Athenian on Friday, March 22, 1996 honoring Mrs. Sweatt as 1996 Tennessee Mother of the Year be placed in the RECORD at this point so that I can call it to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

CORA SWEATT NAMED TENNESSEE MOTHER OF THE YEAR

(By Anissa Hicks)

A local woman has achieved one of the highest honors in Tennessee.

Cora Beasley Sweatt of Athens has been named the Tennessee Mother of the Year by the Tennessee Mothers Association of American Mothers, Inc.

The selection was made from portfolios received by the Tennessee Mothers Association from organizations, churches and civic groups across the state in response to a statewide appeal for groups to nominate worthy mothers.

Sweatt was named Athens' Mother of the Year during a Chamber of Commerce Banquet in January. The award was sponsored by the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce and the chamber sent information they compiled on Sweatt to the state.

The people nominated for state Mother of the Year had to exemplify the qualities of the ideal mother, based on activities, character, and achievements and success in rearing her children, as evidence of a happy home with a loving husband by her side, reaffirming the importance of spirituality as a key to strengthening family life.

From these portfolios of the life of the mother, a jury composed of leaders in religion, education, business, government and child rearing select the 1995 Tennessee Mother of the Year, who then represents Tennessee in Nebraska at the American Mothers Annual Conference in April.

"It's hard to believe I was chosen for this," Sweatt said. "To say the least, I'm deeply honored and very happy."

"I'll do my best to represent the state of Tennessee as Mother of the Year," she said. "I hope and pray I'll represent the state in a positive manner and carry out the purpose of American Mothers, Inc."

Sweatt said she's looking forward to going to Nebraska at the end of April for the national conference.

At the conference, the American Mother of the Year will be announced from all the portfolios of the mothers representing each state and from the appearance and personality of each mother there.

Sweatt is the sixth Mother of the Year who has come from the Athens area. The only city in the state that has more is Memphis, said Peggy Arterburn, president and CEO of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce. Athens and Knoxville now are tied at the same number.

"We are fortunate to have Mrs. Sweatt selected to join with five former Athens honorees, Mary Anne Long, Dixie Liner, Mary Jane Hewgley, Grace Webb and Jean Edgar," Arterburn said.

A Tennessee Mothers Honor Luncheon will be held April 18 in Athens, hosted by the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce and First Baptist Church, honoring the new 1995 Mother of the Year and Merit Mothers also selected.

The state chairman for the mother of the year committee will be at the luncheon, as well as Merit Mothers (runners-up), past mothers of the year, the state's Young Mother of the Year, and special friends of Sweatt's.

The city, the state legislature and the governor's office will be presenting Sweatt with proclamations.

"This is a real honor for her and we want to make this special for her," Arterburn said. "This is certainly an honor for the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce and also our community."

Arterburn said each mother of the year is special and deserves recognition.

"We are very honored that we're always able to submit these great portfolios of local mothers," Arterburn said. "There are very competitive nominations from other parts of the state and it is a great honor for us to say the state mother of the year is also the Athens mother of the year."

It takes a lot of work on behalf of the Mother of the Year Committee, she said. There is also a lot of written materials the recipient has to get together for her portfolio that has to be submitted.

"There is a lot of work for a lot of people in order for this to happen," Arterburn said. "But we're always willing to do the work when we have the positive results we've had."

Sweatt expressed her appreciation to the Chamber of Commerce for its support.

"I'm so grateful we have an ever wonderful Chamber of Commerce," Sweatt said. "They do so much hard work to provide us with the services they provide."

"I just want to thank all the people who've written letters of recommendation," she said, "and I have to thank my friends and family for their support. I am indeed grateful to them."

HONORING THE GASSAWAY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Gassaway Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

EXPOSING THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ADVERTISING ON CHILDREN

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, ask a child what these frogs say. Most of the fifth graders who were recently surveyed answered, "Bud-Weis-Er."

The California-based Center on Alcohol Advertising is releasing a study today that exposes the harmful effects of alcohol advertising on children. In this study, 221 fourth and fifth grade students were shown still, color images of characters from TV, including a picture of the frogs from a Budweiser television commercial. The students were asked to recall the slogan that they associated with each pictured character.

The results of the survey are astounding. The children demonstrated better recall of the Budweiser frogs' slogan, with 73 percent responding, "Bud-Weis-Er," than of the slogans associated with other characters, including Tony the Tiger, Smokey Bear, and Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. Only Bugs Bunny elicited more accurate responses, with 80 percent saying, "Eh, what's up Doc?"

What's more, 81 percent of the children identified beer as the product promoted by the frogs. Why is this dangerous, you ask? If you think children don't drink beer, listen up: The inspector general estimates that junior high and high school students consume 1.1 billion cans of beer each year. Based on Anheuser-Busch's market share, these students purchase more than 70 million six-packs of Budweiser and other Anheuser-Busch products, producing revenues of more than \$200 million. Without question, these commercials influence our children's choices.

A 1991 alcohol-industry-funded poll found that 73 percent of the population believe that alcohol advertising is a major contributor to underage drinking, and a majority believe that

the alcohol industry is on the wrong track in part because its advertisements target the young.

I will soon be introducing legislation that deals with a variety of alcohol abuse prevention issues, including the problem of alcohol advertising that appeals to children. I hope my colleagues will consider joining me in this effort.

Today is the annual Anheuser-Busch shareholders meeting. A group of shareholders for advertising reform have introduced a proposal requiring the company to produce a beer marketing report that analyzes the effects of their company's commercials on children. I certainly hope that the shareholders do the responsible thing today and vote to accept this proposal.

NATIONAL PUERTO RICAN AFFIRMATION DAY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, National Puerto Rican Affirmation Day was held on March 29, 1996, and I would like to share with my colleagues the remarks I made at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Ladies and gentlemen. We are here today in front of one of the most emotional tributes that Americans have erected to our soldiers. It is the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in honor of the thousands of men and women who served and lost their lives in the service of this nation.

On a day just like today, thousands of Puerto Ricans and Hispanics were called to serve in the Vietnam war and to fight as part of the American forces. When they were called to duty, Puerto Ricans were ready to serve valiantly.

What many people do not know and many history books do not tell us is that Puerto Ricans have fought in all foreign wars that this country has been involved in, from the War of Independence and World War I and II, to most recently, the Persian Gulf War, and the current peace keeping effort in Bosnia.

Puerto Ricans fought alongside a military force of Cuban, Mexican Indian, mulatto and Mestizo soldiers in what is now Louisiana during the War of Independence. In the Korean War, the 65th Infantry Regiment of Puerto Rico fought bravely, and to honor them, a highway in Puerto Rico was named after the regiment. Today, I have cosponsored two pieces of legislation introduced by Congresswoman NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, which would commemorate the heroic efforts of the 65th Infantry Regiment of Puerto Rico. One of the bills would authorize the minting of a coin and the second one would recognize the regiment with a plaque to be placed at the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

During the Persian Gulf War, as in many other wars, Puerto Ricans were among the first to be sent to fight and among the last to leave. Former Bronx residents Capt. Manuel Rivera and Marine Cpl. Ismael Cotto were both killed in action in the Persian Gulf. Like many other Puerto Ricans who continue to join the service, both had entered military life with the hope of advancing themselves and improving the quality of life for their families. How very sad that they found death where they had once hoped to improve their lives.