

Puerto Ricans are coming to grips with how little they can expect from the President and his administration.

They are finding ways to make do, just as the people of Chicago are making do by sending their own help in their own way. It shouldn't have had to come to this, but it has.

Puerto Ricans are learning to make do, just like these two young women who are getting married on the beach in Vega Alta, Cerro Gordo. I met them. They let me take this picture.

Life goes on, even when the government has turned its back on them.

VISITING PREGNANCY RESOURCE CLINIC DURING NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NORMAN). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I had the opportunity to visit the Pregnancy Resource Clinic in State College, Pennsylvania, Centre County, Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District.

The Pregnancy Resource Center is the only community-funded medical clinic in State College that specifically addresses unplanned pregnancy in a Christ-centered atmosphere. Through education and encouragement, the Pregnancy Resource Center empowers both men and women to make informed life choices.

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to meet with Executive Director Jenny Summers and many members of the Pregnancy Resource Center staff to see, firsthand, the important services that it provides to the region.

The Pregnancy Resource Center, importantly, upholds the sanctity of life. It encourages clients to continue the pregnancy to full term rather than choosing abortion for their unborn child.

Mr. Speaker, this is always important, but even more so this month during National Adoption Month. Each year, loving families adopt thousands of children and provide them with the love and support of a family and their forever home.

I commend the Pregnancy Resource Center for the essential services it provides and celebrate the gift of adoption to both children and parents alike.

REBOOT COMBAT RECOVERY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, the Nation celebrates Veterans Day, a day where we honor all those who have served in the Armed Forces.

As we pay tribute with ceremonies and parades, we must remember that freedom is not free. Many of our veterans live with the effects of war long after they have been discharged.

Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to learn about a group that is helping combat veterans heal the wounds of war. REBOOT Combat Recovery is a Christian-based program

structured in a 12-week course for veterans and their spouses to share their struggles and to begin the healing process.

Many of our vets suffer in the form of anger, anxiety, depression, social withdrawal, and, most tragically, too often, suicide.

The REBOOT Combat Recovery program is free. It has more than 50 locations in 23 States and more than 1,600 graduates. REBOOT communities are safe, private, and mostly led by veterans.

As we honor our veterans this weekend, let us remember that every veteran's story is different. Let us help them find the answers to heal and to recover from the effects of war.

HONORING 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDMUNDITE MISSIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Edmundite Missions at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Selma, Alabama.

For 80 years, the Edmundite Missions has faithfully served poor and underprivileged communities throughout the Deep South. The Edmundite Missions is rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and focuses on providing food, clothing, and shelter to poor and marginalized children and families, young adults, and seniors of all faith traditions.

While the Edmundite Missions in Alabama is headquartered in Selma, their outreach area includes the Alabama counties of Butler, Dallas, Lowndes, Monroe, Perry, and Wilcox, as well as New Orleans, Louisiana.

The inspiring story of the Edmundite Missions began with a call to action when, in 1936, Pope Pius XI appealed to the Society of St. Edmund to go minister to the African Americans of the Deep South.

The Edmundites responded by selecting two young priests, Father Casey and Father Paro, to take on the assignment. They wrote to the bishop, Thomas Toolen of Mobile, who invited them to set up a "colored mission" in Selma.

When Fathers Casey and Paro arrived in Selma on July 6, 1937, they discovered thousands of people living in extreme poverty, similar to that of a Third World country. In response, they began their outreach by conducting door-to-door evangelism in the Black community and building a small chapel, St. Elizabeth's Mission. Initially, they were met with skepticism by both the Black and White communities in Selma, but their services to the poor gradually won them the respect of both races.

The work of the Edmundite Missions helped to transform the communities of Alabama's rural Black Belt during some of the most turbulent times of race relations in American history.

In the 1940s, the mission welcomed the Sisters of Saint Joseph from Roch-

ester, New York, who came to Selma to provide education and social ministry. The Sisters of Saint Joseph started St. Elizabeth's School in 1941 and the Holy Infant Inn, a nursing home, in 1943.

In 1944, the Edmundites purchased the Selma Good Samaritan Hospital, a rundown infirmary for African Americans, and the sisters set out to transform that facility into a modern-day one. They established the Good Samaritan School of Nursing, the first medical training program for African-American women in the area.

Then, in 1947, Father Nelson Ziter launched the Don Bosco Boys Club, named after the patron saint of youth work. For the next 19 years, until 1966, the Don Bosco Boys Club helped hundreds of young Black youth prepare and win financial assistance needed to attend college. Father Ziter devoted countless hours and days to ensuring the success of every youth who came into the program.

On a personal note, I can attest to the transformative power of the Don Bosco Boys Club. My dad, Andrew A. Sewell, and many of his close friends credit the support, love, and guidance of Father Ziter for changing the trajectory of their lives. My dad and many of his teammates received athletic scholarships to Historically Black Colleges, becoming the first generation of college graduates in that area.

The club and its ministry helped to break the cycle of poverty for these African-American boys such that they became teachers, doctors, lawyers, and even priests.

The Sewell family is forever indebted for the generous support and assistance the Edmundite Mission has given the communities of Selma and throughout the Black Belt for over 80 years.

The Edmundites found themselves the center of controversy during the 1960s when they were the only Whites in Selma who openly supported the voting rights movement. During the 1950s and 1960s, the mission and its priests and sisters worked with Selma's Black and White leaders, its business community, and its White ministers to open the lines of communication between the races.

During the march from Selma to Montgomery, the Edmundites, led by Father Ouellet, played a very critical role. On March 7, 1965, the brutal confrontation at the Edmund Pettus Bridge caught the attention of the Nation. Scores of wounded marchers poured into the emergency room at Good Samaritan Hospital, where doctors, nurses, and sisters worked around the clock to address their medical needs.

Good Samaritan Hospital won national praise for its treatment of the victims of the infamous Bloody Sunday confrontation, including providing medical treatment, Mr. Speaker, to our beloved colleague, Congressman JOHN LEWIS.

Father Ouellet left Selma in June of 1965 on the orders of the Archbishop of

Mobile. When he left, he was given a standing ovation by his parishioners.

The citizens of Selma and the surrounding Black Belt counties have come a long way since 1937, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Edmundite Mission and in recognizing its many contributions.

May the glory of the Edmundites Mission continue to grow and prosper for years to come.

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HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN YEMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, there is a heartbreaking photo in today's Washington Post showing two small boys, toddler-size, in a hospital in Yemen being treated for cholera. The story says the International Red Cross is now being prohibited by the Government of Saudi Arabia from shipping chlorine tablets into Yemen to treat this disease that has now affected more than 900,000 people there.

This is a humanitarian crisis of the first magnitude and it should not be tolerated. Many people are dying. Most of the victims of this disease are women, children, and senior citizens.

In yesterday's American Conservative magazine, Daniel Larison wrote: "The Saudi-led blockade of Yemen has been starving the population of essential goods for years, but the complete shutdown of all ports threatens to cause massive loss of life if it is not reversed immediately."

The head of the U.N. World Food Programme is warning that hundreds of thousands of children in Yemen will be "on the brink of starvation if the Saudi-led coalition's blockade of air, sea, and land access lasts for even 2 weeks."

David Beasley, of the U.N., told the Associated Press, if access remains shut down, "I can't imagine this will not be one of the most devastating humanitarian catastrophes we have seen in decades."

Mr. Speaker, Saudi Arabia is supposed to be an ally of ours. Those of us in Congress should demand, urge, or at least plead with officials in Saudi Arabia to end this very cruel, inhumane blockade, and allow the Red Cross to get crucial food, medicine, and other supplies in to these people before many more die needlessly.

STATEHOOD FOR WASHINGTON, D.C.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Saturday is Veterans Day. That is the day we set aside to revere those who served in our

Armed Forces, especially today, because all who serve are volunteers.

Only one group of taxpaying volunteers who serve in our Armed Forces serve without a vote, and they are the veterans who reside in the Nation's Capital. They have no final vote on this House floor, though, of course, I vote in committee. They are not fully recognized as American citizens, although the District of Columbia is one of the oldest jurisdictions in the United States.

D.C. veterans, therefore, are at the front of the line, demanding the vote in Congress and other rights granted only to residents of States.

I thank the Members of this body who have cosponsored my bill to make the District of Columbia the 51st State. Each year we have beat last year's record in cosponsors. Today I have introduced a statehood resolution in tribute to the District of Columbia's 30,000 veterans as Veterans Day approaches on Saturday.

The residents of your Capital City have never hesitated to serve or give up their lives in war for their country. They have died for their country without a vote in disproportionate numbers.

World War I, more casualties than three States; World War II, more casualties than four States; Korean war, more casualties than eight States; the Vietnam war, more casualties than ten States of the Union.

There have been three votes to go to war since I have been a Member of Congress: the Gulf war, the Iraq war, the Afghanistan war.

I have gone to Arlington National Cemetery to comfort bereaved families from the District of Columbia who died in those wars. The tragedy of their sacrifice is deepened because these men died securing the vote for others in those nations, while they did not have the vote for themselves in their own nation.

The only remedy to make our veterans whole is to give statehood to their city. The special urgency of our demand for statehood this Veterans Day is particularly pointed up by the fact that, for years now, District of Columbia residents have been number one, per capita, in taxes paid to support the Government of the United States. Understand that, number one above all the other States in taxes paid, all without a vote. That outsize contribution, yet no vote on this House floor, no Senators in the other body.

That is not even a vote on D.C. matters. D.C. matters, some of them, have to come to this floor. The D.C. appropriation, even though D.C. residents raise more than \$7 billion, not \$1 of it is Federal money, yet the city's appropriation comes to this floor.

D.C. laws, sometimes on abortion or guns, are rather controversial matters, but we don't bother the States when they do the same thing, and we certainly should have nothing to say when the residents of the District pass laws of their own.

We almost got the vote on the House floor when we were paired with Utah, a Republican State. And the only reason we don't have that vote on the House floor now is that there was an attachment to the bill that tried to eliminate all the gun laws of the District of Columbia. Absurd. But we had to leave the bill on the table.

The Founders faced a unique situation when they created the District of Columbia as their Capital, but they tried an 18th century remedy that the country has long outgrown. The Nation's Capital must not be under the thumb of the national government, with citizens left without their equal rights.

We must erase the slander that the Framers of our country who went to war on the slogan of "No Taxation Without Representation;" that they would want to leave any Americans who paid taxes without equal representation in the United States, and especially on this floor and in the Senate.

We will bring our statehood bill to the floor as soon as it is allowed. On this Veterans Day, I ask that we bring our D.C. statehood bill to the floor. Do it for District residents. But on this Veterans Day, I ask that you do it for the 30,000 veterans who have served you, who have served their country, and who deserve equal rights in each and every respect.

RECOGNIZING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the men and women of the Nebraska National Guard. Whether it is a natural disaster in Nebraska or elsewhere in the United States, or doing combat operations in the Middle East, the Nebraska National Guard is willing and ready to assist those in need and are poised to fight our Nation's wars.

The Army National Guard has approximately 3,500 soldiers stationed throughout Nebraska, and the Air National Guard has approximately 950 airmen. Joining us today in Washington are 60 of those soldiers and airmen.

The Nebraska National Guard is made up of selfless and courageous men and women who continue to make Nebraska and the Nation proud through their rescue and assist efforts and during times of crisis.

The Army National Guard has over 80 units throughout Nebraska. These guardsmen are also called citizen soldiers and they respond to national disasters in the State and around the Nation.

There are two Air National Guard units in Nebraska: the 155th Air Refueling Wing in Lincoln and the 170th Group located at Offutt Air Force Base. The 155th Wing is responsible for refueling aircraft worldwide, while the