

than any inherent efficiencies in most organizations—costs seem to rise at about the same rate as the industry as a whole.

A second irony is that the major underlying reasons for cost increases in the American health industry have little or nothing to do with either managed care or fee for service medicine. Rather, they depend on such factors as the large and ever-growing numbers of uninsured, continuing advances in expensive technology on both the outpatient and inpatient fronts, and the fact that no one has effectively cured most Americans from demanding the most and the best no matter what health plan they enroll in. (It cannot escape the Committee's notice that the so-called "point of service" managed care plans—the most costly and least controllable—are the plans that usually score highest in consumer satisfaction among HMOs.)

The third, and perhaps greatest, irony is that the steps which clearly could reduce health costs over time—prevention, wellness and public health services—are the last services added and the first ones on the chopping block when the primary goals are short term cost containment and profit-taking.

Certainly, there is no disagreement about the importance of preventive measures aimed at improving both individual and community-wide health status. Preventive health can minimize both the potential for excessive care in the fee for service environment and the potential for providing too few services in the managed care environment. Moreover, the assignment of patients to primary care gatekeepers who are able and willing to manage the full continuum of a patient's care, also improve a patient's health, and thus hold down long term health costs, even if more services are needed in the short run. But these features must be fully integrated into HMO's not just grafted onto the surface. Of course, many managed care organizations and employers do try to emphasize wellness and prevention, or at least pay lip service. The problem is, we cannot demonstrate that these services will reduce health costs overnight. In fact, in the short run their effective use is likely to increase services and costs, especially for low income elderly patients historically deprived of such services.

Ultimately, of course, if "managed care" is seen only as a tool for cutting costs, the result will be a health system that is neither "managed" nor "care." We all know that there are more than a few dirty little secrets about the explosive growth in Medicaid managed care over the last several years. I will agree that some managed care organizations have developed elegant, sophisticated MIS and case management systems that emphasize prevention and wellness. Some plans may also have adequate and well-rounded networks of providers that are reasonably reimbursed even as they are given rational incentives to change wasteful practice patterns. However, many other organizations have simply grown too fast to take the time to develop such systems or incentives. Rather, they devote their efforts to enrolling mostly people who are young or healthy (or both), invest as creatively as possible the enormous cash flow generated by capitated payments, ratchet down payments to providers wherever they can, keep support staff to a minimum, erect subtle and not-so-subtle barriers to access, and pray no one needs a liver transplant before they can cut a deal to sell out.

Now it may sound from these statements that I am cynical—perhaps even that I oppose managed care. But nothing could be farther from the truth. I belong to an HMO. NAPH has been working rapidly to help both public and private health systems develop or

expand managed care capacity all over the country. Together with my associate, Bill von Oehsen, I have even published a new book—a 1000 page "How To" manual for Medicaid Managed Care and State Health Reform. Managed care is not problematic in itself—especially for the poor and disenfranchised. Done properly, managed care can result in genuine improvements in health status and expansion of access for some of our most vulnerable patient populations. It is just that, done poorly, implemented too rapidly, or for the wrong reasons, it could be a setback, not an improvement, both for patients and for entire communities.

We need only look at the TennCare Medicaid debacle to see some of the problems we face when cost becomes the only issue. With TennCare, the state of Tennessee dumped all Medicaid and many uninsured patients overnight into ill-prepared managed care plans with inadequate provider networks, only to pay them premiums that were originally found to be 40% below acknowledged actuarial soundness. As recently as last month, TennCare rates were determined by Governor Sundquist's own TennCare Roundtable to remain 10-20% below costs. And in fairness to the Governor, who was not responsible for developing TennCare, he and his staff have now publicly committed themselves to implementing needed reforms.

I do not believe it is inevitable that TennCare represents the future of managed care—but if we hope to expand such programs to include a substantial proportion of Medicare beneficiaries, we must act quickly, together, to set tough standards for equity, fairness, access, quality and fiscal integrity in managed care plans.

"STO LAT" ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIETY
OF PALMER ON YOUR 100 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, on August 12, 1995, the St. Joseph's Society of Palmer, MA, will celebrate its 100-year anniversary. Located in the village of Thorndike, the St. Joseph's Society has served generations of Polish-Americans as a social, spiritual, and athletic organization.

Upon the occasion of its 100-year anniversary, I proudly take this opportunity to enter the complete history of the St. Joseph's Society into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. May St. Joe's continue to flourish in the years to come.

HISTORY

The Nineteenth Century found people leaving their respective homelands for many and varied reasons to start life over in the New World. The first Poles to arrive in the Town of Palmer came in 1888.

In 1891 the Rev. Chalupka of Chicopee was instrumental in getting the Polish settlers of Thorndike and the other three villages of the town of Palmer to unite and form a society. It took nearly four years, and in April of 1895 the St. Joseph's Society was founded; its first purpose was to establish a fund to help the members in case of illness and to help form a Polish-speaking parish for the increasing number of Poles in the area.

The first governing committee consisted of: President—Joseph A. Mijal, Vice-President—Grzegorz Wisnowski, Treasurer—Thomas Kruszyna, Secretary—Stanley

Ziamba. The next three years were trying for the society and their meeting places were the homes of the various members. At times, it looked as if the society would break up. Then, in 1898, the St. Joseph Society was given new blood by the joining of new members. In that year the society started to flourish under the committee of: President—Stanley Ziamba, Vice-President—Paul Pietryka, Treasurer—Symon Jorczak, Secretary—Michael Pelcarski, Marshall—Frank Salamon.

During 1898 the society chose Stanley Ziamba, Symon Jorczak, John Bielski, Michael Pelczarski, Frank Salamon, Marian Wlodyka, Albert Kolbusz, and Walter Krolik to explore the possibility of a Polish-speaking church. In the meantime, individuals traveled to Chicopee when their needs necessitated ministry in their native tongue. Occasionally, visiting priests of Polish descent ministered to their spiritual needs.

The firsts site chosen for the proposed Polish-speaking church was on Main Street in Thorndike, directly across from Four Corners Cemetery. In 1902, Bishop Thomas Daniel Beavar D.D. appointed Rev. Wenceslaus Lenz as the pastor of the first, Polish-speaking, St. Peter and Paul Parish. The site was later changed to a more central location for the town of Palmer—"Four Corners".

In 1902 the St. Joseph's Society was incorporated as an Insurance Aid Society in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The membership grew quickly and all the villages were well among the membership of the society. Under the Insurance Aid Society all the members received weekly benefits of three dollars for thirteen weeks when sick.

In 1908 a lot was purchased by the society on High Street, Thorndike, and the following year a building was bought and moved by members of this lot. This was the first home of the society. In 1912 the society replaced the first home on High Street with a new and larger building, one which had more room for larger Polish gatherings. It was now that the Polish of this area could have a place for dances, weddings, and plays, as well as a central location for its members.

In 1940 the society purchased the Ducey Home on Commercial Street, Thorndike. After months of remodeling and improvements made to the home and grounds, the society opened the new home on May 10, 1940. This new society quarters maintained a library of Polish books and daily newspapers, a sports room of pool tables, ping pong, plus a bar and lounge for members, guests, and their families.

In 1952 an addition was added to the society home consisting of two floors. The top floor was to be used as a ballroom for banquets, dances, and society meetings. The lower section was to be used for serving food and refreshments for all affairs held in the new addition. Three air-conditioning units were installed for the new addition, also for the bar and lounge patrons comfort.

In 1967 the society voted to remodel the interior of the bar and lounge. After several months of improvements the society now had a horseshoe bar for at least eighteen patrons, and a beautiful lounge with a 16 x 16 highly polished dance floor. The buildings old windows were removed in front and replaced by two large picture windows with drapery, colonial style.

The St. Joseph's Society has been well represented in the sports field. The St. Joseph's Club Ball Teams won the Quaboag Baseball Championships in 1937, 1939, and 1940; softball champions in 1944. The club Bowling Team has also won its share of trophies.

In 1948 the Self Locking Carton Co., now known as Diamond National Corp., Thorndike, deeded land to the society on Upper Pine Street for the purpose of building a

baseball park and a park for children. Through the efforts of the Self Locking Carton Co. and society members hard work, a wonderful and beautiful park/playground was realized. A shelter for picnics and dancing was built on the grounds. Today, just about everyone uses the St. Joseph's Ball Park; Palmer High School, jay-vees, local elementary leagues, the Sandlot team, pee-wees, and the St. Joseph's A.A. Baseball team. The Palmer Lion's Club has a big field day every Labor Day at the park.

In 1966, under the guidance of William Buck Hurley, the St. Joseph's Club Baseball Team finished second in standings in the Tri-County League of Springfield. Many fine college boys from the surrounding towns played hard for the St. Joseph's Ball Team. Pete Beynor, pitcher from Palmer for the St. Joseph's Ball Team, won the most valuable player award for the 1966 Tri-County League. A great honor for Pete Beynor and the St. Joseph's Ball Team.

On October 22, 1972, the society's chaplain, Rev. A.A. Skoniecki, retired and was replaced by Rev. Robert J. Ceckowski.

In October of 1975 Society members participated in a "Week of Remembrance" in commemoration of Poles annihilated during World War II. Activities of the week included: a parade, memorial mass, and the dedication of a wooden shrine which stood outside of St. Peter and Paul Parish.

On May 2, 1976, the society actively participated in the Town of Palmer's Bicentennial Parade.

On October 16, 1978, Poles throughout the world were elated and honored when Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, Archbishop of Krakow, Poland, was elected as the Vicar of Christ to become Pope John Paul II.

To commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the dedication of St. Peter and Paul Parish, the society purchased a hand carved, wooden statue of the Resurrected Christ. This statue is carried by society members during the Easter Resurrection Mass at St. Peter and Paul Parish.

The society continues its athletic association by supporting its A.A. Baseball team as part of the Tri-County League. To commemorate the one hundredth anniversary, the society has financed the erection of a lighting system for night baseball and football at St. Joseph's Field on Pine Street. This coming season, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School will use St. Joseph's as its home field.

Several years ago, the last member of the first immigration to this area from Poland died. Today, the society consists of Polish-Americans from the first, second, third, and even the fourth generation. The constitution, which was written entirely in the Polish language, has been re-written into English. Still, many of the original Polish traditions are observed by the society such as, taking part in the Corpus Christi Procession and the blessing of food for the Easter Sunday breakfast after Resurrection Mass.

For the past twenty-five years the society has been under the capable leadership of Fred S. Tyburski. Longtime treasurer Alphonse Lasota has been the guardian of the society's treasury. The society still maintains a sick benefit and a death benefit. Throughout all the years of its existence the society has made charitable contributions to a number of worthy causes.

St. Joseph's Society, 1885-1995, 100 YEARS!
"STO LAT."

IN HONOR OF COL. JOHN SATTLER

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly outstanding Marine corps Officer and to ask all of my colleagues to join me in bidding farewell to Col. John Sattler. John has served with distinction in the Navy and Marine liaison office to the U.S. House of Representatives during the last 4 years. His service to the House and to the Nation as a whole, has always been characterized by selfless devotion to duty and unflagging dedication to country and Corps. It is a privilege for me to recognize the many accomplishments John has achieved during his 24 years of military service.

A native of Pittsburgh, John earned a bachelor of science degree in economics from the United States Naval Academy. Upon graduation in June 1971, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. After graduating from the Basic School in Quantico, VA, John was assigned to the Fleet Marine Force, where he served as a rifle platoon commander, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines in Okinawa, Japan. He subsequently served in numerous leadership and staff billets to include two tours at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; infantry tactics instructor at the Basic School in Quantico, VA; operations and executive officer for the 2d Battalion, 4th Marines in Okinawa, Japan and commander of the ground combat element for Marine Air Ground Task Force 4-88.

In addition to his service with the Fleet Marine Force and Headquarters Marine Corps, John also enhanced his professional education while attending numerous service schools. He attended and graduated with honors from the USMC Amphibious Warfare School and the USMC Command and Staff College. He was also a distinguished graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University. John's professional accomplishments are numerous, and certainly understandable in light of the personal leadership and dedication he brings to everything he does. John continues to be a role model to countless thousands of young men and women serving in our Nation's Armed Forces.

During his tenure as the Marine Corps Liaison to the House, John has served the Members and staff of this institution, especially those of us who serve on the National Security Committee, in an exemplary manner. His ability to present and explain Marine Corps programs and issues to members of the House has contributed greatly to sustaining the Nation's premier expeditionary force—"a Corps of Marines that is most ready when the nation generally is least ready."

Mr. Speaker, John Sattler and his lovely wife Ginny have made many sacrifices during their 24 years of service with the Corps. During the past 4 years that I have had the privilege of working with John, his efforts have significantly improved the readiness and wellness of the Corps, and thus the military preparedness of the nation. Knowing John as I do I have no doubt that the same can be said about his entire career. John's presence and professionalism will be missed.

John, congratulations on your return to where you came from—the Fleet Marine Force. I wish you well as you assume command of the 2d Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division in Camp Lejeune, NC. Good luck and God Speed, Marine—Semper Fidelis.

THE OP-ED THEY REFUSED TO PRINT

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, July 23, readers of the Florida Today were treated to a classic case of misinformation by a newspaper that still has not gotten over the results of the 1994 election.

The charges leveled against me in the newspaper's open letter with respect to the veteran's hospital and the space program are a gross distortion of facts.

Regarding my efforts in support of the space program, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD speaks louder than any words I could offer: Full funding for the space station; an actual increase in funding for the shuttle program; introduction of more stable, multiyear funding for space station; and an innovative, first-ever \$10 million authorization in the NASA budget for investment in our Nation's developing spaceports.

Contrast this with the facts not reported by the Florida Today about my predecessor's record: He voted in each of his 4 years to fund the shuttle program below the President's budget request. This year the Republicans, including myself, voted to support the President's budget level for shuttle operations; less than 1 year ago, he voted to cut \$400 million from the shuttle program—KSC derives two-thirds of their budget from this account; since 1992, my predecessor voted to reduce actual shuttle program dollars by \$1 billion. This year Republicans are proposing to increase it.

Selective reporting and journalism does little to foster a real debate on ideals and public policy and can seriously undermine morale at KSC.

A July 20, Florida Today editorial, stated: "Brevard county did pretty well in a congressional vote Tuesday on space and VA spending * * * veterans were relieved after the vote because U.S. Rep. Dave Weldon managed to salvage \$17.2 million for a veterans clinic in Viera."

I see this clinic as the first step in the process of keeping the VA hospital alive and so, apparently, did the Florida Today, until its turnabout in its open letter. So much for consistency.

Florida Today mentioned being baffled these past 8 months. If by that they mean they are baffled about a vision for space that goes beyond today's paradigm of Government run programs; baffled as to why so many cherished liberal enclaves such as NEA, NEH, and countless ineffective Government programs are on a collision course with a fiscally responsible Congress; then being baffled is simply a euphemism for being desperate. Such desperate reporting takes place frequently inside the beltway. It's unfortunate to see it here in Brevard as well.

I support our space program and our veterans. But balancing our budget is crucial if we