

From the Chair

By: Lindsay Bell



to radically reduce the Medicare benefit for America's seniors, than an "independent" group backed by the Koch brothers flooded the district with slick postcards that thanked Gosar for "voting to protect Medicare". Give me a break! The Ryan plan scraps Medicare as we know it and would replace it with a voucher that seniors would use to purchase health insurance on the open market. The value of the voucher is projected to be approximately \$6000 a year, and folks who couldn't find private insurance at that price would have to make up the difference in cost out of pocket. And it's not just Representative Gosar that thinks this is a good idea, all of the GOP members of Arizona's congressional delegation have voted in favor of the Ryan budget and Medicare plan.

Just evaluating this option against my own situation, it's clearly neither a good deal nor an improvement over the current system. Although I am

retired and a senior by most definitions, I won't be eligible for Medicare for a few more years, so for now I am purchasing my insurance on the open market. My current insurance, a basic major medical policy, costs a little more than \$6,000 year, and I feel lucky to get it at that price. Now, I'm fortunate to be in reasonably good health; I've had no major illnesses for several years, and I haven't been hospitalized for over 30 years. But, realistically, can I count on similar experience going forward? I don't think so. Does the GOP really believe that my health care needs and the associated health insurance costs will go down as I age? Again, I don't think so. Frankly I'm counting the days until I'm eligible to enroll in Medicare. In the meantime I'll be voting for Democratic candidates who will truly protect Medicare and honor the promise made to America's seniors more than four decades ago. I suggest you do the same.

Talk about distortions of the facts! No sooner had CD1 Representative Paul Gosar voted for the Ryan budget, with its provisions

June meeting of the Yavapai County Democratic Party County Committee

Fellow Democrats – this is a very important meeting that will discuss the upcoming redistricting processes for the state of Arizona and for Yavapai County!

- The redistricting processes will have major impact on the 2012 election
- Arizona will add a ninth Congressional District and the 30 Legislative Districts will be redrawn.
- Yavapai County will go from three Supervisory Districts to five.

Mark your calendar and make your reservations at 928- 541- 0413!

Date: Thursday, June 9, 2011
Time: Potluck Dinner at 5:30 PM
 Presentations from 6:15 PM – 7:00 PM, Q and A from 7:00 – 7:45 PM
Place: Prescott Adult Center, 1280 E. Rosser Road, Prescott

Speakers:

- Congressional and Legislative Redistricting – Justin Unga, Director of Political Services, Arizona Democratic Party
- Yavapai County Redistricting – Julie Ayers, Yavapai County Administrator

Also, click on either of these links to see a schedule of Open Houses on Yavapai County Redistricting.

<http://www.co.yavapai.az.us/WorkArea/showcontent.aspx?id=63018> <http://redistricting.co.yavapai.az.us/index.php/calendar/>
