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**Postcard Party #92 October 26, 2018**

**National**

**Mitch McConnell pushing to gut Medicaid and Social Security**

Recently, GOP Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said that “...Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare need to be cut to reduce the growing deficit.” This growing deficit is entirely the result of unrestrained defense spending on top of a multi-trillion dollar tax cut for millionaires and corporations. Apparently, the poorest and neediest in America are supposed to suffer so the 1% can have their yachts and additional vacation homes.

**Protect our most vulnerable citizens. Write Senator McConnell, (317 Russell Senate Office Building,Washington, DC 20510) and demand that he pledge to preserve the safety nets that millions depend upon to survive.**

**Trump Wants to Eliminate Transgender as a Category**

According to the New York Times, “The Trump administration is considering narrowly defining gender as a biological, immutable condition determined by genitalia at birth, the most drastic move yet in a government wide effort to roll back recognition and protections of transgender people under federal civil rights law.

ALL members of society deserve protection to live as they choose without fearing discrimination, harm, or outright contempt.

**Write HHS Secretary Alex M. Azar II (The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201) to demand that he halt his department’s efforts to discriminate against transgenders.**

**State**

**Republicans tout their support for pre-existing conditions - BUt it’s a lie**

In the General Assembly, dozens of North Carolina Republicans voted to undermine coverage for pre-existing conditions by supporting legislation which would allow nonprofits to offer ‘health benefit plans’ that would be exempt from nearly all state and federal regulations that govern health insurance, including those requiring coverage for pre-existing conditions.

Both Cody Henson and Chuck Edwards voted to undermine pre-existing conditions by supporting this legislation

**Write to Rep. Henson and Sen. Edwards and request that they promise to support a requirement that all health care plans in NC cover preexisting conditions. Also write to Rep. McGrady and thank him for refusing to support the shady health plan legislation.**

**Local**

**Convention Center More Important Than Parking?**

An article in the Lightning on October 11th reported that Hendersonville is seeking a developer to eliminate the Dogwood parking lot, and replace it with a boutique hotel and event center. While the RFP supposedly mandates that replacement parking be addressed, we all know the sad history of compromise and giveaways when it comes to development locally.

We already have an ongoing parking problem, and adding 80-120 hotel rooms on top of that is a sure way to erode the small-town beauty we have all come to love.

**Write to Mayor Barbara Volk, and each member of City Council (Mayor Pro Tem Ron Stephens, Council Members Steve Caraker, Jerry Smith, and Jeff Miller) to demand that downtown lose no parking spaces and that developments pay their own way without taxpayer subsidies.**

City Hall

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