I want to save Medicare so that all Americans can have good health care like the Democrats provided for 30 years since 1965.

COMPARING APPLES AND ORANGES

(Ms. PRYCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, let us talk about apples and oranges. The Republican Medicare plan will increase funding for each Medicare beneficiary from $4,800 today to $6,700 in 2002. Let us call that fact our apple. House Republicans have also promised to provide tax relief to American families. Let us call that fact our orange.

The Democrats are comparing apples and oranges. The point is these two issues have nothing to do with each other. The tax cuts from working families are more than set off by reductions in discretionary spending and program savings. Medicare would still be broke in 2002 even if we did not provide those tax cuts.

Why are the Democrats trying to confuse things? To scare the American people. They have no plan, just scare tactics. It is shameful and, as the Washington Post said, it is just plain wrong.

REPUBLICAN MEDICARE PLAN DETAILS DELAYED UNTIL COLUMBUS DAY

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Well, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. PRYCE] can call it broccoli if she wants to, but it is still a cut and the Republicans are still unwilling to level with the American people on these cuts. Now they come forward and tell us they will delay all the way to Columbus Day before they give us any details. It is incredible, but maybe it is not inconsistent. After all, Columbus set out on a voyage not knowing where he was going. He did not know where he was when he got there , and he did it all with somebody else's money.

Our Republican friends are a little like that, using money for seniors to pay for a tax break cruise for the rich. As they dismantle Medicare to fund their tax breaks for the rich, there is one thing that is not similar, they have not discovered middle America. They have abandoned it. With the havoc they are wreaking with Medicare, maybe they should wait from Columbus Day to Halloween or perhaps, better yet, how about April Fool's Day?

VOTE FOR MEDICARE REFORM

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, Medicare is a 1965 Blue Cross/Blue Shield program that was started by Lyndon Baines Johnson and is frozen in time. According to the President's board of trustees, it is going broke by 2002 and it does not matter if we had a balanced budget and we had no tax cuts, the plan is still going broke by 2002.

Now, health care in the private sector has improved in the last 30 years, but Medicare is frozen in time. We have a plan not only to preserve and protect Medicare, but we are also going to allow additional options to seniors. We also have a increase in spending from $4,800 per year to $6,700 per year.

Mr. Speaker, I think we not only need to have Medicare reform, but I think we need to have remedial math, too, because going from $4,700, excuse me $4,800 to $6,700 per year per beneficiary is an increase in spending and not a cut. I urge my fellow Congressmen to vote for Medicare reform.

SENIORS ABOUT TO TAKE A DOUBLE HIT

(Mr. WATT of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the seniors in our country are about to experience what we call in North Carolina a double hit. Not only are the Republicans cutting Medicare by $270 billion, they are cutting Medicaid right behind it $182 billion. Medicare is for the elderly, Medicaid is for the poor, but 69 percent of the money in Medicaid goes to the elderly also, even though they represent only 28 percent of the people who are served. Sixty-nine percent. A double hit they will be taking.

Medicare cuts on the one hand, Medicaid cuts on the other hand. It is un-American to be mean to our poor and our elderly and we should stop it right now before we get too far down the line.

KEEP HANDS OFF STOCK CAR RACING

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday I was in Martinsville, VA, enjoying the Goody's 500 stock car race with 60,000 hard-working, law-abiding fans, drivers, and promoters. They sent a loud and clear message to the White House and the FDA: ''Bill Clinton, keep your hands off racing.''

As you know, Mr. Speaker, millions of race car fans are up in arms about Bill Clinton's plan to destroy auto racing by unconstitutionally banning legal, tobacco-based advertising at sporting events. Mr. Speaker, enough is enough. One driver summed it up before the race, ''* * * until they did this I really didn't know what the difference was between a conservative and liberal. Now I know. If we let big government get away with this, next they will ban Hardees' and McDonald's hamburgers and Coca-Cola, then they will be bashing down my door to take my guns.''

Mr. Speaker, America's race car fans really do know what separates liberals from conservatives. If Bill Clinton had been in Martinsville with real America instead of partying through the night with his left wing buddies in Hollywood maybe he would realize that difference also.

WOMEN STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, time is running out to move the statue of women suffragettes from the Capitol crypt to the Capitol rotunda. Despite the unanimous support of the Senate and wide bipartisan support from the House, no action has been taken. Is that where women's rights have been relegated this Congress, to the basement?

This Congress has already waged numerous assaults on women. During the appropriations process, choice opponents succeeded in restricting a woman's constitutional right to choose, and they threaten to take us back to the days of dangerous back alley abortions.

Congress has broken its promise to take violence against women seriously. Last Congress we passed the Violence Against Women Act, yet this year its funding was substantially reduced.

Education is one of the best ways to increase opportunities for women. Congress, however, recently eliminated the Women's Educational Equity Act and reduced job training programs for women. The refusal to move the statue of Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony is symbolic of this Congress' assault against women. If women cannot gain a reasonable place in the Capitol rotunda, what can we expect legislatively?

Women gained the right to vote 75 years ago, but we still have a long way to go, even to get out of the basement.

HIGHER TAXES, MORE GOVERNMENT, AND MORE REGULATION

(Mr. WHITFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, over the past 40 years the National Democratic Party has shown without question they sincerely believe that higher taxes, more government, and more regulation can best solve the problems of the American people.

In 1993, the Clinton administration, with help from the Democrats on that