

Medicaid Cuts

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doctor's office or their neighborhood pharmacy." The added cost is not immediately visible. "It comes when hospitals, to recoup the money that used to come from Medicaid, raise their rates for rooms and other services. Then the companies providing hospital insurance have to pay more for their clients using the hospital.

"This can only result in continually increasing rates for families that carry hospital insurance—and for business firms that pay all or part of the premiums for their employees. So this puts the Medicaid cuts on the back of people who pay their own hospital and medical bills."

The Democratic chairman urged "a better approach to containing the rise in medical expenses. The 'meat axe' approach is not the answer."



CONVENTIONAL TILLAGE — The above photo shows severe wind erosion on a field recently planted in corn using conventional tillage methods. This photo, taken along Mexico Road, was taken the same day as the other photo.



NO-TILL PLANTING — John Wood and Earl White observe how successfully no-till planting is preventing wind erosion in this field recently planted in corn. The photo, taken within hours of the other photo, was taken at Hayes Plantation.

Good Conservation Tillage Systems Protects Against Soil Erosion

The contrasting pictures above clearly show the value of good conservation tillage systems. Both of these pictures were taken on the same day during the period of gale force winds which shifted tons of sandy

topsoil from unprotected croplands across Chowan County. It is important to note there is no significant difference between the two fields shown. Both fields are mapped in the Chowan-Perquimans Soil Survey as State fine sandy loam and both fields were planted in corn several days before these pictures were taken. The field losing ground to the wind was cultivated using the conventional clean tillage method where very little crop residue is left to protect the topsoil. In parts of this field the wind has shifted the topsoil so much

the corn seeds are left bare. The herbicides already applied to this field will not provide adequate weed control. In short a great deal of time, labor and money invested in this field is gone with the wind.

The field holding its own has been planted in corn using the conservation tillage method (also called no-till). Conservation tillage insures maximum

protection for the soil against all types of erosion and helps to protect the environment and thereby the public health. Where conservation tillage is used heavy rains do not carry valuable topsoil from cropland to pollute our streams and rivers, and high winds do not turn into dust storms which dirty our homes, and leave us gasping for breath.

Citizens Can Help Control Acid Rain

A "primer" on acid rain - its formation, its impact, and how citizens can help pass legislation controlling it - is available free of charge from the National Wildlife Federation. The publication discusses, in language that the non-scientist can understand, how acid precipitation has come to destroy the fish and aquatic life in hundreds of lakes across the country.

It also summarizes statistics on where acid rain (formed when sulfur dioxide emissions combine with moisture in the air) is doing

the most damage. For example, 212 Adirondack lakes in upstate New York are already fishless because of acid rain and more than 10,000 lakes in Michigan are susceptible to acidification. The publication points out that acid precipitation isn't always in the form of rain; in Los Angeles, it's "acid fog," with an acidity like that of vinegar, that blankets the city.

Finally, for the citizen who wants to support the Federation's efforts to enact legislation controlling acid rain, the booklet explains

how he can help. To get the publication, write the National Wildlife Federation, Department No. 1412 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

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30. Epoch
33. Foundation
34. Ahead
35. Reimburse
37. Skill
38. Famous actors
39. Misrepresent
41. Slight color
42. Wrath
43. Is profitable
44. Afternoon receptions
DOWN
1. French explorer
2. Perial
3. Unit of work

ANSWERS
4. Color, as eggs
5. Largest sea bird
6. Look askance
7. Unite
8. Minute groove
9. A cheer
11. Without (L.)
15. Crowd
17. Firm
18. Public vehicles
21. Exclamation
22. Genus of jelly
25. Overhead train
26. Piano keys (slang)
27. Core
29. Weak-en
30. Previously (archaic)
31. Re-form a point upon (W. L.)
36. Carousal
37. Seaweed
39. Nocturnal mammal
40. Compass point (abbr.)

Letter To Editor

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physicians let nurses out of the closet to live up to their potential as nurse-practitioners. Nurses can be expected to refuse to stay invisible, underpaid, and patronized as "doctors' handmaidens". Modern nursing, with its many avenues for advanced training, has the potential to vastly improve health service delivery, with huge benefits to a public ever more beset by health problems stemming from the environment, the work place, poor diets, poverty, and the like. But first it will be necessary to get the self-serving American Medical and American Hospital associations off their backs. If unreasonable restrictions are not eased, the medical profession may wake up some day to find that it has painted itself into a corner labeled "Socialized Medicine".

For the Albemarle Family Health Service, the damage has been done. It has been a sad affair for many people, and one hopes that in the future our medical community will rise above such vicious, economically-based jealousies.

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