WASHINGTON, DC--U.S. Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-Springfield) will be in Lane County on Thursday, October 14, 2010. At 12:30 pm at RiverBend Pavilion DeFazio will be joined by the Chief Medical Officer for PeaceHealth Dr. Tom Ewing, Dr. Leo Cytrynbaum, and other local doctors and nurses to announce increased Medicare reimbursements for Oregon doctors. For months seniors have been getting conflicting information about the status of Medicare reimbursement rates. Doctors from throughout the Lane County medical community will clarify recent changes and recognize DeFazio's efforts to secure increased Medicare reimbursement rates, which will improve access to health care for 137,000 seniors on Medicare in Southwest Oregon.

Later in the afternoon DeFazio will attend the unveiling of a mural created by students from three Springfield area high schools as a part of the Arts Matter initiative. The mural, located in downtown Springfield, will reflect the city's history and commemorate its 125th anniversary. DeFazio worked with his colleagues to provide $143,000 in funding for the Arts Matter initiative.