

TODAY'S MUST READS – MARCH 19, 2013

ALLIANCE MENTIONS

KORTKAMP POSTHUMOUS RECIPIENT OF HUMANITARIAN AWARD BEARING HIS NAME

The Labor Tribune
March 23, 2013

The late Robert O. Kortkamp was named the first recipient of an award bearing his name at the Missouri Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA) Education Fund's first Robert O. Kortkamp Humanitarian Awards luncheon February 28 at Christy's Banquet Center in south St. Louis.
<http://labortribune.com/kortkamp-posthumous-recipient-of-humanitarian-award-bearing-his-name/>

SEND US YOUR SEQUESTRATION RALLY PHOTOS

Federal News Radio
March 18, 2013

Federal employees across the country will participate in as many as 100 different rallies protesting sequestration on Wednesday, March 20. The rallies are part of the National Day of Protest being organized by the American Federation of Government Employees, with help from the AFL-CIO, Americans for Tax Fairness and the Alliance for Retired Americans.
<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/204/3254921/Send-us-your-sequestration-rally-photos>

SENIORS CITIZENS TO UNITE UNDER GOLD DOME

Hartford Courant
Bette Marafino
March 15, 2013

The Connecticut Alliance for Retired Americans is hosting Senior Day at the Capitol on Tuesday, May 14th. The day-long event is an opportunity to celebrate the contributions older adults have made and will continue to make to the State of Connecticut.
http://articles.courant.com/2013-03-15/community/hcrs-72124hc-statewide-20130311_1_senior-citizens-senior-day-gold-dome

CONYERS EXPECTED TO DELIVER ANTI-SPENDING CUT SIGNATURES TO BOEHNER'S OFFICE

The Detroit News
March 14, 2013

U.S. Rep. John Conyers, D-Detroit, is expected to join liberal activists Thursday to deliver more than 250,000 petition signatures to Republican House Speaker John Boehner's office to protest the sequester. The Alliance helped organize the petition drive.

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130314/POLITICS03/303140400>

POLITICS

A JUSTICE DEPT. OFFICIAL IS NAMED TO LEAD LABOR

New York Times

Peter Baker and Steven Greenhouse

March 18, 2013

With a few confirmation victories in his pocket, President Obama decided Monday to press ahead with another cabinet nominee in defiance of Republican opposition as he tapped an assertive civil rights regulator to be his next labor secretary.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/19/us/politics/obama-nominates-thomas-e-perez-as-labor-secretary.html?ref=politics>

CONGRESS WORKS ON BUDGET FOR BOTH 2013 AND FUTURE; PASSAGE OF CATCHALL SPENDING BILL LIKELY

Washington Post/Associated Press

March 18, 2013

Congress is finally cleaning up its unfinished budget business for the 2013 budget year with a bipartisan government-wide funding bill. But even as that measure heads toward approval, the House and Senate are gearing up for divisive votes that will underscore sharp differences on a bigger problem: how to fix the nation's long-term deficit woes.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/catchall-spending-bill-advances-in-senate-likely-to-clear-congress-this-week/2013/03/18/c547aeb2-9031-11e2-9173-7f87cda73b49_story.html

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

U.S. DRUG COSTS DROPPED IN 2012, BUT RISES LOOM

New York Times

Katie Thomas

March 18, 2013

Spending on prescription drugs nationwide has been slowing for years because of the increasingly widespread use of low-cost generics. But in 2012, something unheard-of happened: money spent on prescription drugs actually dropped.

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/19/business/use-of-generics-produces-an-unusual-drop-in-drug-spending.html?emc=tnt&tntemail0=y&_r=0

SEEKING PROFIT FOR TAXPAYERS IN POTENTIAL OF NEW DRUG

New York Times
Jonathan Wiseman
March 18, 2013

With automatic spending cuts cascading through the government, lawmakers are calling for a review of federal policies they say have allowed businesses to profit on government research with limited return for taxpayers or consumers.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/19/business/questions-for-public-private-pact-that-led-to-xeljanz.html?emc=tnt&tntemail0=y&r=0>

SENIOR HEALTH

ALZHEIMER'S 'EPIDEMIC' NOW A DEADLIER THREAT TO ELDERLY

March 19, 2013
NPR
Jon Hamilton

Alzheimer's is now the sixth leading cause of death in the U.S., and figures released Tuesday by the Alzheimer's Association show that deaths from the disease increased by 68 percent between 2000 and 2010.

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/health/2013/03/19/174651566/alzheimers-epidemic-now-a-deadlier-threat-to-elderly>