

TODAY'S MUST READS – FEBRUARY 12, 2013

RECENT ALLIANCE MENTIONS

LOZEAU, BUSINESS LEADERS TALK DEBT AND DEFICIT AT SAINT ANSELM TALK

The Telegraph

February 12, 2013

New Hampshire Alliance President Charlie Balban attended a forum discussion on the national debt and spoke, opposing cuts to Social Security.

<http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/business/993365-464/lozeau-business-leaders-talk-debt-and-deficit.html>

D. BERRY AND T. LOCHHEAD: CUT BENEFITS? THERE'S A BETTER WAY TO
REDUCE THE DEFICIT

Sun Journal

February 10, 2013

Maine Alliance President Don Berry and senior field organizer Terry Lochhead write an op-ed opposing cuts to Social Security.

<http://www.sunjournal.com/news/columns-analysis/2013/02/10/d-berry-and-t-lochhead-cut-benefits-theres-better/1316184>

CHEERS & KUDOS

Nevada Appeal

February 10, 2013

The Executive Board of the Nevada Alliance for Retired Americans held its first quarterly meeting for 2013 in Carson City.

<http://www.nevadaappeal.com/article/20130210/NEWS/130209778/1028>

KRMC TRAUMA CENTER CHALLENGED BY JACKSON HEALTH

Kendall Gazette

February 9, 2013

“In some areas where there is greater demand, like Miami, some hospitals are now actively trying to prevent more trauma centers,” observed Tony Fransetta, president of Florida Alliance for Retired Americans, a non-profit representing 200,000 retirees.

<http://www.communitynewspapers.com/kendall-gazette/krmc-trauma-center-challenged-by-jackson-health/>

ALLIANCE PUBLICATIONS

LETTER FROM STATE PRESIDENTS

Rhode Island ARA News
February 8, 2013

The 33 state presidents and the national officers of the Alliance write a letter to President Obama urging him to renew the nation's commitment to the Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid programs during the State of the Union Address next week.

<http://www.ri-ara.org/On%20February%208.pdf>

RETIREMENT

IBM 401(K) PARTICIPANTS NEED THEIR OWN "SHADOW" FIDUCIARY TO GUARD RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Forbes
February 11, 2013

Do not allow your fiduciary, or guardian organization to amount to little more than an on-line employee benefits complaint center. Providing empowering expert counter-intelligence to workers, keeping the employer in check, should be the mission—not disempowering venting of gripes.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/edwardsiedle/2013/02/11/ibm-401k-participants-need-their-own-shadow-fiduciary-to-guard-retirement-benefits/?partner=yahootix>

SOCIAL SECURITY

CHAINED CPI: AN ECONOMIC, MORAL DISASTER

The Hill
February 11, 2013

In an op-ed, Sen. Bernie Sanders outlines the disastrous impact that switching to a chained CPI would have on seniors, veterans, and middle class taxpayers.

<http://thehill.com/special-reports/state-of-the-union-february-2013/282395-chained-cpi-an-economic-moral-disaster>

HEALTH CARE

SLOWER GROWTH OF HEALTH COSTS EASES U.S. DEFICIT

New York Times
February 11, 2013

A sharp and surprisingly persistent slowdown in the growth of health care costs is helping to narrow the federal deficit, leaving budget experts trying to figure out whether the trend will last and how much the slower growth could help alleviate the country's long-term fiscal problems.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/12/us/politics/sharp-slowdown-in-us-health-care-costs.html?emc=tnt&tntemail0=y&r=1&>

POLITICS

OBAMA ADDRESS TO FOCUS ON ECONOMY, SOCIAL ISSUES

Wall Street Journal

February 12, 2013

President Barack Obama is expected to prod Congress to take steps to spur the economy, in a State of the Union address that is also set to include immigration, gun control, climate change and education as key themes.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324196204578298622007826836.html?KEYWORDS=medicare>

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA OPPOSES HIGHER AGE FOR MEDICARE IN ANY BUDGET TALKS

Washington Post

February 11, 2013

The White House says President Barack Obama opposes raising the eligibility age for Medicare, an idea he once was willing to consider in budget negotiations with House Speaker John Boehner.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/health_care/white-house-obama-opposes-higher-age-for-medicare-in-any-budget-talks/2013/02/11/d1d8d39e-7494-11e2-9889-60bfcbb02149_story.html