

TODAY'S MUST READS – FEBRUARY 6, 2013

ALLIANCE MENTIONS

LAWMAKERS, EXPERTS REACT TO LATEST CORBETT BUDGET PLAN

Public Opinion Online

February 6, 2013

Jean Friday, president of the Pennsylvania alliance, releases a statement opposing Governor Corbett's budget plan.

http://www.publicopiniononline.com/opinion/ci_22525551/lawmakers-experts-react-latest-corbett-budget-plan

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: LOTTERY QUESTIONS LEFT UNANSWERED

GoErie.com

February 6, 2013

Pennsylvania alliance member Judith Jobes writes a letter to the editor opposing the privatization of the state lottery.

<http://www.goerie.com/article/20130206/OPINION02/302069997/Letters-to-the-editor%3A-Lottery-questions-left-unanswered>

SUPPORTERS, OPPONENTS OF VOTER ID REPEAL SPEAK OUT AT HEARING

New Hampshire Union Leader

February 5, 2013

Ron Geoffroy, senior executive vice president of the Alliance, told the committee the repeal "would right a terrible wrong when it comes to New Hampshire seniors."

<http://www.unionleader.com/article/20130205/NEWS06/130209481>

End of Life Care

STUDY: BOOST IN HOSPICE VISITS BY WAY OF THE ICU

Politico

February 6, 2013

More people are getting hospice care — but they are getting it for only a few days and often, only after highly aggressive care near the end of life, including multiple hospitalizations and stays in intensive care units.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/02/study-boost-in-hospice-visits-by-way-of-the-icu-87222.html>

Medicare

MY 5 PROUDEST MOMENTS SIGNING UP FOR MEDICARE

Huffington Post

February 5, 2013

Enrolling in the federal health program for Americans over 65 wasn't easy or quick, but I enjoyed some triumphs along the way.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/02/05/medicare-plans_n_2617380.html

Politics

OBAMA URGES CONGRESS TO ACT TO STAVE OFF CUTS

New York Times

February 5, 2013

President Obama on Tuesday called on Congress to quickly pass a new package of limited spending cuts and tax increases to head off substantial across-the-board reductions to domestic and military spending set to begin on March 1, but his appeal for more revenue was dismissed by Republicans.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/06/us/politics/obama-congress-budget-cuts.html?ref=politics>

LOST VOTES, PROBLEM BALLOTS, LONG WAITS? FLAWS ARE WIDESPREAD,
STUDY FINDS

New York Times

February 5, 2013

The flaws in the American election system are deep and widespread, extending beyond isolated voting issues in a few locations and flaring up in states rich and poor, according to a major new study from the Pew Charitable Trusts.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/06/us/politics/us-voting-flaws-are-widespread-study-shows.html?ref=politics>

REPUBLICANS TRY A SOFTER FOCUS — ON LIFE ISSUES

Washington Post

February 5, 2013

After years in which the Republicans' answer to almost every question was to reduce spending and lower taxes, some of the party's most influential voices are beginning to suggest that it is time to take a broader — and softer — focus.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/republicans-try-a-softer-focus/2013/02/05/4a90cbbc-6fcb-11e2-aa58-243de81040ba_story.html

Prescription Drugs

FDA WARNS OF NEW BATCH OF FAKE CANCER DRUG

Wall Street Journal

February 6, 2013

The Food and Drug Administration said Tuesday it has warned doctors that another counterfeit batch of the cancer drug Avastin has reached medical practices in the U.S.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324900204578286483013578190.html>

POSTAL SERVICE PLANS TO END SATURDAY MAIL DELIVERY BY AUGUST

February 6, 2013

Washington Post

Opposition to significant changes rests mostly with lawmakers from far-flung rural communities, who fear that a change in schedules could jeopardize low-cost delivery of medicines and medical supplies to elderly customers.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/wp/2013/02/06/u-s-postal-service-to-halt-saturday-mail-starting-august-1/>

SENATE TO MULL BAN ON "PAY FOR DELAY" PHARMACEUTICAL DEALS

Reuters

February 5, 2013

Key Democratic and Republican senators reintroduced legislation on Tuesday that would make it illegal for brand-name pharmaceutical companies to pay generic drug makers to keep their cheaper medicines off the market.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/02/05/us-usa-pharmaceuticals-antitrust-idUSBRE91417P20130205>