

TODAY'S MUST READS – FEBRUARY 15, 2013

ALLIANCE MENTIONS

FRANK STELLA: COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS MUST BE SLASHED

The Gazette

February 15, 2013

Maryland/DC Alliance President Frank Stella writes an op-ed advocating for the government to cut Medicare costs by negotiating with drug companies to cut prescription drug prices.

<http://www.gazette.net/article/20130215/OPINION/130219380/1033/frank-stella-cost-of-prescription-drugs-must-be-slashed&template=gazette>

WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

The Frontrunner

February 14, 2013

Rep. Jan Schakowsky will join the Alliance for Retired Americans for a press conference to send a message to Congress: Have a Heart: NOW is the time to protect Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. Location: 234 Cannon.

(link unavailable)

SOCIAL SECURITY BILL REINTRODUCED

Alaska Business Monthly

February 15, 2013

“The Alliance for Retired Americans strongly endorses the Protecting and Preserving Social Security Act. This vital bill not only protects and improves the benefits of seniors and the disabled, but also strengthens the long-term fiscal solvency of the program,” said Ed Coyle, Executive Director of the Alliance for Retired Americans.

<http://www.akbizmag.com/Alaska-Business-Monthly/February-2013/Begich-Reintroduces-Social-Security-Bill-Pleased-Companion-Bill-Dropped-In-House/>

ORGANIZATIONS LOOKING OUT FOR ZANESVILLE

Whiznews

February 14, 2013

Ohio Fair Share has teamed up with the Ohio Alliance for Retired Americans to increase the protection of the health and economic security of older Americans.

<http://www.whiznews.com/content/news/local/2013/02/14/organizations-looking-out-for-zanesville>

GROUPS REPRESENTING PENNSYLVANIA LOTTERY BENEFICIARIES DIVIDED OVER KANE'S CONTRACT DECISION

The Patriot-News
February 14, 2013

Jean Friday, president of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Retired Americans...said keeping the lottery under public management and expanding it in the ways Camelot had proposed (keno and online access to lottery games) would be a way for all of the profits to aid seniors, rather than having some of the money end up in Camelot's pocket.

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2013/02/groups_representing_pennsylvan.html

ALLIANCE PEOPLE

LOOPHOLE SURVIVES

The Times Tribune
February 14, 2013

Pennsylvania Alliance member Robert D. Dougherty writes a letter to the editor protesting the recent Pennsylvania State House vote against overturning the "Delaware Loophole", a loophole which helps big corporations

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/opinion/letters/letters-to-the-editor-2-14-2013-1.1444162>

NORTH CAROLINA AFL-CIO TO TALK IMMIGRATION REFORM

WRAL-TV (CBS)
February 6, 2013

The North Carolina AFL-CIO held a press conference on Feb. 6th in Raleigh to discuss its support of comprehensive immigration reform. North Carolina Alliance members were at the event.

<http://www.wral.com/north-carolina-afl-cio-to-talk-immigration-reform/12070903/>

MEDICARE

UPHILL ROAD FOR PLAN TO CUT GOVERNMENT'S DRUG COSTS

New York Times
February 14, 2013

In just a handful of words in his State of the Union address, President Obama renewed a proposal to lower the amount that the federal government pays for drugs taken by low-income seniors — a measure that supporters say would save the government more than \$150 billion over the next decade.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/15/business/ uphill-road-for-plan-to-cut-governments-drug-costs.html?emc=tnt&tntemail=y&r=0>

HOUSE REPUBLICAN AIMS TO REPEAL MEDICARE DOCTOR PAY CUTS

Reuters

February 13, 2013

Republicans in the House of Representatives will seek a permanent solution to scheduled steep cuts in physician payments from the federal Medicare health insurance plan for retirees and disabled people

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/02/13/us-usa-healthcare-doctors-idUSBRE91C1FL20130213>

POLITICS

OBAMACARE DEADLINE LOOMS FOR HOLDOUT STATES

Politico

February 13, 2013

Friday is the day when states are due to declare whether they'll partner with the White House to build Affordable Care Act health insurance exchanges

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/02/obamacare-deadline-looms-for-holdout-states-87635.html#ixzz2KylsDAEs>

TREASURY PICK FOCUSES ON TAXES, SPENDING

Wall Street Journal

February 13, 2013

Jacob Lew, the Treasury secretary nominee, told lawmakers Wednesday he would work to overhaul the tax code and reduce costs of programs such as Medicare, but largely avoided delving into specifics about how he would tackle such tasks.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324162304578301863829395852.html?KEYWORDS=medicare>