

TODAY'S MUST READS – MAY 9, 2013

## **ALLIANCE MENTIONS**

**SUMMIT DRAWS TOGETHER SUPPORTERS OF SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE, MEDICAID, VETERANS BENEFITS**

VT Digger

Press Release

May 8, 2013

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) hosted a summit meeting today on Capitol Hill with seniors, veterans and other grassroots groups united to protect Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and veterans from budget cuts. The Alliance for Retired Americans, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare and the Strengthen Social Security Campaign were among the organizations participating in the event.

<http://vtdigger.org/2013/05/08/summit-draws-together-supporters-of-social-security-medicare-medicaid-veterans-benefits/>

## **POLITICS**

**MCCONNELL: GOP WON'T VOTE TO RAISE DEBT LIMITS WITHOUT CONCESSIONS**

The Hill

Alexander Bolton

May 7, 2013

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) said Tuesday that Republicans will not vote to increase the nation's debt limit this summer if it is not attached to legislation to reduce the federal deficit.

<http://thehill.com/homenews/senate/298289-mcconnell-gop-wont-vote-to-raise-debt-limits-without-concessions#ixzz2SnzCsv2O>

## **HEALTHCARE**

**U.S. SPENDING ON MEDICINES FELL FOR FIRST TIME IN 2012**

Reuters

Deena Beasley

May 9, 2013

Patent expirations on big-name drugs such as Lipitor and Plavix has resulted in modestly less spending on medicines in the United States for the first time in at least 55 years, according to a report released on Thursday.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/05/09/us-drugs-us-spending-idUSBRE94804W20130509>

**SOME 2 MILLION U.S. SENIORS REFUSE MEDICARE PART D FREE MONEY**

UPI

May 9, 2013

Low cognition hinders U.S. seniors' Medicare choices and it calls into question potential effectiveness of a Medicare voucher system, researchers say.

[http://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2013/05/09/Some-2-million-US-seniors-refuse-Medicare-Part-D-free-money/UPI-15691368094632/#ixzz2SnuaH9Pv](http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2013/05/09/Some-2-million-US-seniors-refuse-Medicare-Part-D-free-money/UPI-15691368094632/#ixzz2SnuaH9Pv)

## **SCAMS**

### **SUBTLE WAYS SCAMMERS TARGET SENIORS**

NPR

May 7, 2013

It's no secret that scammers have been targeting senior citizens - some you can spot from a mile away, but others are not so obvious. Host Michel Martin speaks with Stacy Canan of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, about how some bogus financial advisors are using the art of confusion to drain cash from unsuspecting seniors.

<http://www.npr.org/2013/05/07/181914435/subtle-ways-scammers-target-seniors>

## **SOCIAL SECURITY**

### **SOCIAL SECURITY: IMMIGRATION BILL WOULD BOOST ECONOMY**

USA Today

Alan Gomez

May 9, 2013

The Social Security Administration estimated Wednesday that a Senate bill to overhaul immigration laws and legalize 11 million unauthorized immigrants would boost the retirement program's trust fund and help the economy.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/05/09/social-security-report-on-immigration/2144831/>

### **UNEMPLOYMENT HAUNTS SOCIAL SECURITY RECIPIENTS**

CNN Money

Tami Luhby

May 7, 2013

Losing your job is a nasty shock at any age, but for older Americans nearing retirement, there's an extra kick: A late stretch of unemployment will haunt them throughout their Golden Years in the form of lower Social Security payments.

<http://money.cnn.com/2013/05/07/news/economy/social-security-unemployment/>

MARKEY BLASTS OBAMA'S PROPOSED SOCIAL SECURITY CUT AS 'WRONG-HEADED'

May 7, 2013

The Hill

Alexandra Jaffe

Rep. Ed Markey, the Democratic Senate nominee in Massachusetts, on Tuesday distanced himself from President Obama's proposed cuts to Social Security.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/senate-races/298151-markey-distancing-himself-from-obama-on-chained-cpi>