

TODAY'S MUST READS – MARCH 1, 2013

## **ALLIANCE MENTIONS**

### **WHY SEQUESTRATION HARMS SENIORS AND COSTS TAXPAYERS**

Huffington Post

Barbara J. Easterling and Witold Skwierzynski

March 1, 2013

Alliance President Barbara J. Easterling co-writes an op-ed outlining the harmful effects of sequestration on seniors and taxpayers.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/barbara-j-easterling/social-security-sequester-cuts\\_b\\_2781467.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/barbara-j-easterling/social-security-sequester-cuts_b_2781467.html)

### **ACTIVISTS TO LAWMAKERS: JUST DO MORE ON ELECTION REFORM**

The Florida Current

James Call

February 28, 2013

A coalition of groups, including the Florida Alliance, representing ministers, seniors, students and civil rights activists, gathered Thursday in front of the Leon County Supervisor of Elections office, and called on lawmakers to reinstitute early voting on the Sunday before elections.

<http://www.thefloridacurrent.com/article.cfm?id=31770801>

## **HEALTHCARE**

### **APNEWSBREAK: FED WATCHDOG REPORT SAYS MEDICARE PAID \$5.1B TO NURSING HOMES OFFERING POOR CARE**

Washington Post/Associated Press

February 28, 2013

Medicare paid billions in taxpayer dollars to nursing homes nationwide that were not meeting basic requirements to look after their residents, government investigators have found.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/apnewsbreak-fed-watchdog-report-says-medicare-paid-51b-to-nursing-homes-offering-poor-care/2013/02/27/b4113ea6-812c-11e2-a671-0307392de8de\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/apnewsbreak-fed-watchdog-report-says-medicare-paid-51b-to-nursing-homes-offering-poor-care/2013/02/27/b4113ea6-812c-11e2-a671-0307392de8de_story.html)

## **SENIOR HOUSING**

### **WHY CAN'T I LIVE WITH PEOPLE LIKE ME?**

New York Times

Jane Gross

March 1, 2013

Urban planners, mindful that most Americans live in sprawling, car-reliant suburbs, are designing more elder-friendly, walkable communities, far from “real” cities.

<http://newoldage.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/03/01/why-cant-i-live-with-people-like-me/>

## **SEQUESTER**

**OBAMA STILL BETTING ON A BIG FISCAL DEAL AS AUTOMATIC CUTS KICK IN, BUT ODDS WEIGH AGAINST HIM**

Washington Post/Associated Press

March 1, 2013

A fiscal deadline all but blown, President Barack Obama says he once again wants to seek a big fiscal deal that would raise taxes and trim billions from expensive and ever growing entitlement programs.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/obama-still-betting-on-a-big-fiscal-deal-as-automatic-cuts-kick-in-but-odds-weigh-against-him/2013/03/01/eff6280a-8249-11e2-a671-0307392de8de\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/obama-still-betting-on-a-big-fiscal-deal-as-automatic-cuts-kick-in-but-odds-weigh-against-him/2013/03/01/eff6280a-8249-11e2-a671-0307392de8de_story.html)

**SEQUESTRATION: SO NOW WHAT?**

Politico

Darren Samuelsohn and Ginger Gibson

March 1, 2013

President Barack Obama will meet with House and Senate leaders Friday morning, but nobody expects a last-minute solution. More likely — a month of tense and complicated negotiations with Congress and the White House trying to address the \$85 billion in domestic cuts at the same time they try to fund the government through the rest of the fiscal year before money runs out March 27.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/03/sequester-pain-starts-with-drip-ends-with-torrent-88276.html#ixzz2Mif7j3LA>

**BOEHNER HALTS TALKS ON CUTS, AND HOUSE G.O.P. CHEERS**

New York Times

Ashley Parker

February 28, 2013

Speaker John A. Boehner, the man who spent significant portions of the last Congress shuttling to and from the White House for fiscal talks with President Obama that ultimately failed twice to produce a grand bargain, has come around to the idea that the best negotiations are no negotiations.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/01/us/politics/house-republicans-cheer-boehners-refusal-to-negotiate-on-cuts.html?ref=politics&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/01/us/politics/house-republicans-cheer-boehners-refusal-to-negotiate-on-cuts.html?ref=politics&_r=0)

## SENATE DEMOCRATS NOT READY TO RISK SHUTDOWN

Roll Call

Steven T. Dennis

February 28, 2013

Democratic leaders don't seem willing to risk a government shutdown by insisting that any funding bill block all of the sequester's cuts.

[http://www.rollcall.com/news/senate\\_democrats\\_not\\_ready\\_to\\_risk\\_shutdown-222760-1.html?pos=htmbtxt](http://www.rollcall.com/news/senate_democrats_not_ready_to_risk_shutdown-222760-1.html?pos=htmbtxt)

## 'SEQUESTER' CUTS TO HIT HEALTHCARE HARD

LA Times

Noam N. Levey

February 27, 2013

As the Obama administration begins to implement \$85 billion in cuts to federal spending this year, no part of the budget other than defense will take a bigger hit than healthcare. And the so-called sequester appears likely to have a disproportionate effect on areas of the health system already hobbled by years of retrenchment or underfunding, including public health and medical research.

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-na-healthcare-cuts-20130228,0,3004259.story>

## SOCIAL SECURITY BRACES FOR BUDGET CUTS, FRUSTRATED PUBLIC

Baltimore Sun

John Fritze

February 25, 2013

Checks will arrive on time, but nearly every other task the Social Security Administration performs — from answering phones to determining eligibility for claims — will be delayed.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/politics/bs-md-sequester-ssa-20130225,0,1025723.story>