

Alliance Clips and Retiree News: February 22, 2012

Alliance Mentions

West County Calendar: Week of Feb. 22
February 22, 2012
STLToday.com

The Missouri Alliance for Retired Americans will host a fundraiser, the Robert Kortkamp Humanitarian Luncheon, on February 28 from 11am–2pm. The program honors Kortkamp's dedication to senior and retiree issues. Contact information can be found within the article.

http://www.stltoday.com/suburban-journals/metro/life/west-county-calendar-week-of-feb/article_6814cb12-7a7e-51da-957a-a82ce4f0fa33.html

Protesters Content Verizon Fails to Pay a Fair Share of Taxes
Camille Bautista
February 21, 2012
The Syracuse Post-Standard

Various organizations have banded together to protest the Verizon building in Downtown Syracuse. Members of the Central New York Alliance for Retired Americans were among the three dozen protesters complaining about Verizon not paying their fair share of taxes. Jerry Lotierzo, Chairman of the CNYARA, wants people to know that “we’re in a fight for our lives here.”

http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2012/02/protesters_contend_veriozon_do.html

Alliance for Retired Americans: Medicare and Health Insurance Reform – Fact & Fiction
Medicade-medicare (blogger)
February 21, 2012
Medicare & Medicaid News From Around the Web

Here is a video of Alliance for Retired Americans President Barbara J. Easterling, AFSCME President Gerald McEntee and Lynda Johnson Robb speaking about Medicare and the truth about the health care reform.

<http://www.bestlongtermcare.org/medicade-medicare/2012/02/21/alliance-for-retired-americans-medicare-health-insurance-reform-fact-fiction/>

Local Commentary: Affordable Care Act

Leon Burzynski
February 22, 2012
Wausau Daily Herald

Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans President Leon Burzynski outlines the purpose of the work that the WARA has been doing around the state along with organization partner Know Your Care. Within the article, Burzynski outlines how the Affordable Care Act has benefited seniors and other populations greatly since its inception.

<http://centralwisconsinhub.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20120222/MAN07/202220661/Local-commentary-Affordable-Care-Act>

Health Care

Seniors Missing Out on Billions in Benefits
Anne-Marie Botek
February 22, 2012
TC Palm

A recent report from the National Council on Aging and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging has revealed that seniors may be missing out on as much as \$20 billion in benefits. Such benefits include the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Medicare/Medicaid, and Supplemental Security Income. According to the report, many seniors fear complicated application processes or lack knowledge of their eligibility status as reasons for not taking advantage of these services.

<http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2012/feb/22/seniors-missing-out-on-billions-in-benefits/>

Social Security

'Protecting Seniors' Forum: Health Care, Social Security Are Hot Issues
Mike Ferguson
February 21, 2012
The Muscatine Journal

Dave Loebsack (D-Iowa) kicked off his "Supporting and Protecting Iowa's Seniors" tour Tuesday, taking questions from seniors about his intentions if he shall be reelected. Although hesitant about his vote about the payroll tax extension, he ultimately voted in favor for it in order to keep taxes from increasing March 1. However, he does express not wanting to raise the eligibility age for Social Security. Loebsack seeks reelection to continue representing the same district he's represented since 2007.

http://muscatinejournal.com/news/local/protecting-seniors-forum-health-care-social-security-are-hot-issues/article_503d62f0-5d02-11e1-a231-0019bb2963f4.html

Politics

Why the Arizona Debate Matters – A Lot

Aaron Blake

February 22, 2012

The Washington Post

Tonight's debate in Arizona is perhaps the most important debate of the GOP candidate race for many reasons. It is the last debate before Arizona's primary on February 28 and Super Tuesday on March 6. Also, this will be the first debate since Rick Santorum's surge in the race, which is sustained with a 36%-32% advantage.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-fix/post/why-the-arizona-debate-matters--a-lot/2012/02/21/gIQAtxBLSR_blog.html

Labor

Unions Gearing Up to Spend Big in 2012

Sam Hananel

February 22, 2012

Yahoo! News

Unions look to raise over \$400 million to spend on President Obama's reelection and the Democratic campaign in the name of labor survival. Many GOP efforts to restrict and deny labor rights and curb union activities have incited many organizations and movements to begin an aggressive fight to cease the attacks. Thanks to a right-to-work measure passage in Indiana and similar efforts in Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, and New Hampshire, unions are no longer staying silent as they hope to speak as loudly with their dollars as they do with their voices.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/unions-gearing-spend-big-2012-080108771.html>