

Alliance Clips and Retiree News November 8, 2011

Alliance Mentions

Occupy Chicago Stands with Seniors to Challenge Essential Social Program Cuts
ENews Park Forest
November 6, 2011

Occupy Chicago is planning a protest outside of Senators Dick Durbin and Mark Kirk offices to voice their anger of possible cuts to Medicare and Social Security. "We are fighting for our elders, for our children, and for our future. Their welfare is our priority. We demand our elected leaders, like Durbin, Kirk and 'Mayor 1%' Emanuel, choose to serve the people, and protect the programs that ensure our futures," said Rachael Perrotta, an office worker and participant in Occupy Chicago. The Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans is mentioned as an ally to the Occupy Chicago movement.

<http://www.enevspf.com/latest-news/latest-local/28591-occupy-chicago-stands-with-seniors-to-challenge-essential-social-program-cuts.html>

Alliance People

43 Occupy protesters cited for blocking roadway
ABC Local News
Leah Hope
November 7, 2011

Seniors are not happy about the potential cuts to Medicare and Social Security. In Chicago many seniors took to the streets with the Occupy Chicago movement. "Their proposal reaches directly into the pockets of the 99 percent," said Katie Jordan, representing Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans. The protestors were so angry they walked a block away from the park and demonstrated in the middle of an intersection, bringing traffic to a standstill. They were ushered away by the police and given citations for disrupting the flow of traffic, but gained the attention they wanted.

Watch the video here: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local&id=8421961>

Social Security

Risks Seen in Perry Plan for Switch to Pensions
The New York Times
Michael Cooper and Mary Williams Walsh
November 5, 2011

GOP candidate Rick Perry has gained fame throughout his campaign for referring to Social Security as a 'Ponzi scheme.' Last month he released a plan for Social Security reform that would allow workers to opt of Social Security. He says he wants to make Social Security more like the program was before the 1983 law, when public employees could opt in and out. His other plans are common ideas shared by a majority of other Republican candidates such as raising the retirement age, and allowing younger workers to open private accounts for their retirement savings.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/06/us/many-see-risk-in-rick-perrys-plan-for-social-security.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=risk%20seen%20in%20perry%20plan&st=cse

New formula would reduce Social Security increases

Associated Press

Stephen Ohlemacher

November 7, 2011

Deficit reduction is a major issue in Washington these days. The scramble to get the US out of the red has led to some sneaky tactics by Congress to raise revenue. The latest one is to make a change to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This change has become known as a 'Chained CPI,' and it will have huge ramifications for seniors and young people alike. If the CPI is changed that means that the COLA seniors recently received would decrease by 0.03% a year. This change would be felt mostly by those with a lower income, and could result in a 14.5% increase on taxes for people making between \$10,000 and \$20,000, but for people making over \$1 million their taxes will only go up 0.1%. This is a change lawmakers are trying to slip in without the public noticing because the changes will be slight at the beginning, but they will amount to a huge burden on seniors and low income families over time.

<http://news.yahoo.com/formula-reduce-social-security-increases-201418202.html>

Politics

Romney: Overhaul Medicare and Social Security to reduce debt

The Washington Post

Philip Rucker

November 4, 2011

GOP candidate Mitt Romney unveiled his plan to balance the budget in front of 1,000 tea party activist last Friday. Central to his plan is making cuts to Social Security and Medicare. He plans on raising the eligibility age of Medicare and turning it into a voucher program. Under his plan seniors would have the choice to either stay on traditional Medicare or take vouchers for private coverage. It is Romney's belief that this will make the system more competitive. Another part of Romney's plan is to turn Medicaid over to the states along with cutting \$100 billion from the

overall program. While Romney has not released more concrete details of his plan, it is clear that Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security will not be the same if he is elected.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/romney-overhaul-medicare-and-social-security-to-reduce-debt/2011/11/04/gIQAgUHUmM_story.html

Occupy Chicago Protest

Occupy Protestors Ticketed

WGN TV

Geri Hearne, Muriel Clair

November 7, 2011

Senior's joined the Occupy Chicago movement to voice their concern with the possible cuts Medicare and Social Security are facing. They took their protest to the street and were given citations for blocking traffic. Many say they were hoping to get arrested, but gained the attention they wanted to the issue.

Watch the video here: <http://www.wgntv.com/news/wgntv-occupy-seniors-chicago-nov7,0,1494990.story>

Dozens of Senior Citizens Arrested Protesting Social Service Cuts

FOX Chicago News

November 7, 2011

Seniors gathered with the Occupy Chicago movement to protest cuts to Social Security and Medicare. The protestors marched from Dearborn and Adams to Jackson and Clark, where they blocked the intersection. About 50 protestors were cited. Organizers believe that about 1,000 people were present for the protest.

<http://www.myfoxchicago.com/dpp/news/metro/senior-citizens-occupy-chicago-protests-arrests-social-service-cuts-20111107>

Seniors and Occupy Chicago unite: UPDATE

Examiner.com

Scott Paulson

November 7, 2011

Seniors joined Occupy Chicago to protest outside of Senator Dick Durbin's and Senator Mark Kirk's offices. Seniors are demanding the Washington keep their hands off of Social Security and Medicare. During the rally both Sen. Durbin and Representative Danny Davis made brief appearances in support of the senior's cause. Jane Addams Senior Caucus, an advocacy group for senior issues, brought a number of seniors out to the protest. According to their website this

march was ‘calling on the United States Congress to fight and support a budget plan that protects and preserved vital social safety net programs.’

<http://www.examiner.com/conservative-in-chicago/seniors-and-occupy-chicago-unite-for-rally-today>

43 ticketed in protests against cuts in federal spending for senior citizens

Chicago Tribune

Staff Reporter

November 7, 2011

Seniors protesting with the Occupy Chicago movement were ticketed for impeding traffic near Federal Plaza. They were protesting possible cuts to Social Security and Medicare. A number of seniors were present representing the Jane Addams Senior Caucus. Organizers estimate that there were about 1,500 people attended the rally.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-43-arrested-in-protests-against-cuts-in-federal-spending-for-senior-citizens-20111107,0,2132118.story>