

## Alliance News and Press Clips for October 13, 2011

### **Alliance Mentions**

Protest shuts down Wells Fargo  
Marilyn Bechtel  
October 14, 2011  
People's World

A mass of protesters surrounded Wells Fargo's headquarters on Oct. 12, turning the oft-chanted slogan "Shut it Down!" into a reality. Joining the protest were many participants in Occupy San Francisco and surrounding Occupy movements, infants, and the California Alliance for Retired Americans. As 50 people blocked the main entrances, the bank was forced to close for the morning. Demonstrators were at side doors, too, including a group across from the employees' entrance, greeting bank workers as they walked in. Eleven were arrested; they were charged with trespassing and later released.

<http://peoplesworld.org/protest-shuts-down-wells-fargo/>

Speakers to address Social Security, Medicare at free event  
Christina Kauffnam  
The York Dispatch  
October 14, 2011

Retirees are invited to a 9 a.m. gathering Tues., Oct. 18 to hear from speakers on Social Security and Medicare. The event, sponsored by the retirees of IAM Local 98, UAW Local 1872 and the Pennsylvania Alliance for Retired Americans, is being held to update people about legislative considerations that could impact benefits. The free event will be held at IAM District 98 Hall, 3200 East Prospect Road in Windsor Township.

[http://www.yorkdispatch.com/news/ci\\_19113289](http://www.yorkdispatch.com/news/ci_19113289)

Town Hall Highlights Local Benefits of American Jobs Act  
October 14, 2011  
WCTV.tv

The Capital Area Community Action Agency today hosted a town hall forum to inform local citizens about the Obama administration's American Jobs Act and how it will benefit Florida and the local economy. The forum was sponsored by the agency along with Commissioner Andrew Gillum and representatives from Tallahassee NAACP, Florida NOW, AFSCME, Florida Alliance for Retired Americans, Progress Florida, Big Bend Central Labor Chapter, People for the American Way, Tallahassee Move On Council, and Florida Education Association.

[http://www.wctv.tv/news/headlines/Town\\_Hall\\_Highlights\\_Local\\_Benefits\\_of\\_American\\_Jobs\\_Act\\_131839348.html?ref=348](http://www.wctv.tv/news/headlines/Town_Hall_Highlights_Local_Benefits_of_American_Jobs_Act_131839348.html?ref=348)

### **Medicare**

Medicare open enrollment starts tomorrow

Deborah Kotz  
Boston Globe  
October 14, 2011

Open enrollment for Medicare plans starts about a month earlier this year. Beginning tomorrow, October 15, you'll have the chance to join, drop, or switch a Medicare Advantage or prescription drug plan for 2012. The open enrollment periods ends on December 7 instead of New Year's Eve.

<http://www.boston.com/Boston/dailydose/2011/10/medicare-open-enrollment-starts-tomorrow/MMKttMCGjIvhSyI6nOJUUpK/index.html>

## **Politics**

Democrats want supercommittee to reject more federal worker cuts

Joe Davidson  
Washington Post  
October 13, 2011

In a 28-page set of recommendations, Democrats on the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform urged the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction to reject additional cuts targeting federal employees. In a letter to members of the joint committee, Rep. Elijah E. Cummings, the ranking Democrat on the House panel, said the recommendations "are being submitted only by Democratic Members because the Committee as a whole failed to develop proposals, hold hearings, or adopt an official Committee report with recommendations to the Joint Select Committee."

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/democrats-want-supercommittee-to-reject-more-federal-worker-cuts/2011/10/13/gIQAfUdYiL\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/democrats-want-supercommittee-to-reject-more-federal-worker-cuts/2011/10/13/gIQAfUdYiL_story.html)

Supercommittee Democrat Van Hollen says it's 'still unclear' if panel succeeds

Washington Post  
Associated Press  
October 14, 2011

A Democrat serving on a "supercommittee" responsible for recommending more than \$1 trillion in deficit cuts says it's "still unclear" that the panel will succeed. Rep. Chris Van Hollen said he's absolutely convinced that members of the bipartisan 12-member committee are trying to reach agreement by a Thanksgiving deadline. But differences over raising new tax revenues and cutting popular benefit programs like Medicare have thus far kept the panel from making a breakthrough.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/supercommittee-democrat-van-hollen-says-its-still-unclear-if-panel-succeeds/2011/10/14/gIQA7Dn4jL\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/supercommittee-democrat-van-hollen-says-its-still-unclear-if-panel-succeeds/2011/10/14/gIQA7Dn4jL_story.html)

## **Social Security**

GOP senators want debt panel to overhaul tax code, Medicare, Social Security, welfare  
Associated Press  
Washington Post  
October 14, 2011

In a letter written by the Finance Committee, a group of Senate Republicans urged the Congressional deficit reduction “supercommittee” to overhaul the tax code and revamp Social Security, Medicare and a host of programs for the poor. The GOP senators suggest eliminating tax loopholes while lowering the top personal and corporate income tax rates to 25 percent, down from 35 percent. They also suggest that the supercommittee consider gradually raising the Medicare eligibility age from 65 to an unspecified level.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/health-care/gop-senators-want-debt-panel-to-overhaul-tax-code-medicare-social-security-welfare/2011/10/14/gIQAH7V5jL\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/health-care/gop-senators-want-debt-panel-to-overhaul-tax-code-medicare-social-security-welfare/2011/10/14/gIQAH7V5jL_story.html)

Social Security's Shifting Role in Retirement Plans  
USA Today & World Report  
October 14, 2011

Fears about shaky Social Security finances often cause people to change their retirement plans, some financial advisers say. Experts generally support financial plans that are successful even with worst-case declines in Social Security benefits. But they caution consumers that concerns about future benefits should not lead them to make bad decisions about when to begin taking Social Security or how to invest their retirement nest egg.

<http://money.usnews.com/money/blogs/the-best-life/2011/10/14/social-securitys-shifting-role-in-retirement-plans>