

Alliance Clips and Retiree News January 19, 2012

Alliance Mentions

Don't Take the Vote Away From Seniors

Barbara J. Easterling

January 19, 2012

Huffington Post

Barbara J. Easterling, President of the Alliance for Retired Americans, brings to light the issue of GOP-controlled state houses requiring government-issued photo identification in order to vote. Proponents of the laws suggest that they will help to reduce voter fraud; however, opponents argue that the true intent is to keep voters at home. Studies show that 18% of seniors and 25% of African Americans do not have any type of government ID, and several individuals have to jump through unnecessary hurdles to obtain one. Easterling urges you to check your state laws and continue to fight for our right to vote.

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/barbara-j-easterling/dont-take-the-vote-away-f b 1214205.html>

Romney Blasts Obama, Ignores GOP rivals at West Palm Beach Rally

George Bennett

January 12, 2012

Palm Beach Post

GOP Presidential candidate Mitt Romney gained great support from conservatives during a rally in West Palm Beach, Florida, right before the January 31st primary. After the rally, the Romney campaign held a fundraiser at the home of Stephen Ross, the owner of the Miami Dolphins. Six hundred people were expected to attend the fundraiser. Afterwards, smaller groups of donors, who raised at least \$50,000 for Romney's campaign, dined with the presidential candidate at the home of Jose "Pepe" Fanjul, owner of the Florida Crystals Sugar Co. In a sign of protest, the Florida Alliance for Retired Americans held a "Regular Man's Picnic" with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in order to highlight the sharp contrast between the high rolling donors and middle class.

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/romney-blasts-obama-ignores-gop-rivals-at-west-2097811.html>

Income Gap Grows As Safety Net Frays

Charlie Williams

January 18, 2012

Rancho Bernardo Patch

Charlie Williams, chairman of the field mobilization committee for the ARA, penned an article for the Rancho Bernardo Patch calling attention to the ever-growing income disparity throughout the country. In respect to the issues of job creation and poverty, Williams declares that the coming election on Tuesday November 6th will be one of the most crucial in deciding what

direction we want our country to take in combating the income gap. Also, he warns against unnecessary measures taken by elected officials, mostly Republican governors, who seek to hinder voters with new rules such as demanding photo identification.

<http://ranchobernardo.patch.com/articles/opinion-income-gap-grows-as-safety-net-frays>

Politics

Iowa Caucus Count Unresolved

Jennifer Jacobs

January 19, 2012

The Des Moines Register

GOP presidential candidate Rick Santorum has a 34 vote lead over Mitt Romney after calculating the Iowa caucus. The totals come after finding 131 inaccuracies – some of which did not affect either candidate – and omitting the votes from eight precincts because they have not been and more than likely will not be reported. However, many sources have not declared this a victory for neither Santorum nor Romney due to the many gaps and lack of eight reporting precincts. This comes on the heels of the upcoming South Carolina primary and tonight's GOP debate.

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/politics/story/2012-01-19/iowa-caucus-count/52662346/1>

Perry Ends Presidential Bid, Backs Gingrich

Catalina Camia

January 19, 2012

USA Today

Texas Gov. Rick Perry has decided today that he will drop out of consideration for the GOP presidential nomination. Gingrich and Romney are left as the primarily conservative candidates while Ron Paul is still in the running with his more libertarian approach. Perry has decided to endorse Gingrich as the GOP presidential nominee.

<http://content.usatoday.com/communities/onpolitics/post/2012/01/rick-perry-end-campaign-/1>

House Members Still Trying to 'Go Big'

Daniel Newhauser and Jessica Brady

January 19, 2012

Roll Call

Over 150 legislators have united to form the "Go Big Coalition," a bipartisan group dedicated to creating a bill out of the recommendations set forth by the president's 2010 deficit reduction commission. Various cross-sections of the House are represented such as the Congressional Black Caucus, The Democratic Blue Dog Coalition, and the Republican Study Committee. The

ultimate goal is to cut more than \$4 trillion from the deficit and present the bill on the floor this spring.

http://www.rollcall.com/issues/57_81/House-Members-Still-Trying-to-Go-Big-211593-1.html

Labor

AFL-CIO's Trumka Slams Obama Job Council

Josh Gerstein

January 18, 2012

Politico

AFL-CIO president penned a 1635 word dissent to the "Road Map to Renewal" plan adopted by the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness despite not being present at the meeting.. Trumka believes that strides made by the council will not solve the matters of job creation and competitiveness. Additionally, he writes that representation on the council is not varied enough to constitute submitting policy proposals to the president. Change-to-Win labor federation chairman Joe Hansen, along with Trumka, expressed dissatisfaction with the council's report and announced publically that he abstained from the vote.

<http://www.politico.com/politico44/2012/01/aflcios-trumka-slams-obamas-jobs-council-111295.html>

Statistics Bureau: Nigeria Lost \$1.3B on Strikes

January 18, 2012

Associated Press

USA Today

A six day nationwide union strike has netted a loss of \$1.3 billion dollars to the country of Nigeria. The labors unions of the country called for the strike after gas prices rose to \$3.50 after January 1st. The increase was due to a prior government subsidy that kept the price of gas low. The strike was called off Monday once President Goodluck Jonathan ordered soldiers onto the streets of major cities. However, the government did agree to decrease the gas price to \$2.50.

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/story/2012-01-18/nigeria-strikes/52635470/1>