

## Alliance Clips and Retiree News January 18, 2012

### Alliance Mentions

Governor Who Took On Unions May Face a Closely Watched Recall Election  
Monica Davey  
January 15, 2012  
New York Times

Petitioners in Wisconsin have turned in plenty of signatures demanding a recall election to oust Republican governor Scott Walker. Within this article, several activists and supporters are spotlighted, including active WIARA member Marlene Ott.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/16/us/scott-walker-recall-drive-is-closely-watched.html>

\*Update: As of January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1 million signatures have been turned in asking for the recall of Gov. Walker.

<http://tpmdc.talkingpointsmemo.com/2012/01/democrats-emerging-to-run-against-walker-in-recall.php>

Keymar Resident Elected As Vice-President of Alliance Group  
January 17, 2012  
Carroll County Times  
Keymar, MD

William Stevens of Keymar, MD, was elected Vice-President of the MD/DC Alliance for Retired Americans. His victory was confirmed in November at the National Labor College in Silver Spring, MD.

[http://www.carrollcountytimes.com/news/neighborhoods/people/keymar-resident-elected-as-vice-president-of-alliance-group/article\\_714d1259-bb9d-5355-b0a4-5e159913b55f.html](http://www.carrollcountytimes.com/news/neighborhoods/people/keymar-resident-elected-as-vice-president-of-alliance-group/article_714d1259-bb9d-5355-b0a4-5e159913b55f.html)

“Retirement Heist” Shows How They Stole the Retirement Pension  
Bruce Bostick  
January 11, 2012  
People’s World

The article’s author is an Alliance member. A new book has emerged detailing a behind the scenes look into the politics of big business and how they used accounting tricks and loopholes to destroy retirement security from working Americans. *Retirement Heist: How Companies Plunder and Profit from the Nest* by Ellen Schultz is packed with stories of regular people and how they have been affected by the retirement crunch facilitated by corporations that want to decrease or eliminate programs that help retirees and seniors. Within the article, the ARA is mentioned along with other labor coalitions and efforts in the struggle to protect Social Security and other financial benefits for which retirees have worked.

<http://peoplesworld.org/retirement-heist-shows-how-the-y-stole-the-pensions/>

## **Health Care**

Video: Romney Calls Health Law “Fourth Entitlement”

January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Kaiser Health News

Included in this article is a video clip of Mitt Romney discussing his views on healthcare as well as a transcript of Romney, Santorum, and Gingrich answering questions about health care and Social Security.

<http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Multimedia/2012/January/GOP-Debate-South-Carolina.aspx>

Living on Social Security and Medicare: The Reality

Andrew Reinbach

January 16, 2012

Huffington Post

Journalist Andrew Reinbach breaks down the state of Social Security and health care, specifically Medicare, with facts and figures and what it means for retirees and seniors.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/andrew-reinbach/living-on-social-security\\_b\\_1207974.html?ref=social-security](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/andrew-reinbach/living-on-social-security_b_1207974.html?ref=social-security)

U.S. Launches National War on Alzheimer’s

Janice Lloyd

January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

USA Today

Last January, President Obama signed the National Alzheimer’s Project Act (NAPA) into law. During Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, Health and Human Services officials and other medical experts will be meeting in Washington to outline the first national plan to battle Alzheimer’s. The primary goal is to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer’s by the year 2025; however, several individuals hope to get the ball rolling a bit faster. Many officials hope that research monies will reach levels of those for cancer and heart disease. Studies show that out of all the diseases that are top killers, Alzheimer’s is the only one with no prevention, cure or treatment that will slow its progression.

<http://yourlife.usatoday.com/health/medical/alzheimers/story/2012-01-16/US-launches-national-war-on-Alzheimers/52603476/1>

States, Other Foes Tell President Obama to Strike down The ACA

David Nather  
January 6, 2012  
Politico

Twenty-six states and the National Federation of Independent Business are the official challengers to President Obama's healthcare reform law. The entities have taken the issue to the Supreme Court in hopes of striking down the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Opponents argue that if the Supreme Court declares the ACA to be unconstitutional, then the entirety of the healthcare reform law will have to be invalidated. Additionally, 36 Republican senators filed an amicus brief outlining similar points with hopes of getting the health care law eventually struck down.

<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0112/71175.html>

## **Social Security**

Gingrich and Santorum Face Off On Social Security  
Jennifer Rubin  
January 17, 2012  
Washington Post

During the South Carolina GOP debate on Monday night, Rick Santorum called Newt Gingrich "irresponsible" in reference to his plan for privatizing Social Security.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/right-turn/post/gingrich-and-santorum-face-off-on-social-security/2012/01/17/gIQA4UbM5P\\_blog.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/right-turn/post/gingrich-and-santorum-face-off-on-social-security/2012/01/17/gIQA4UbM5P_blog.html)

Laid Off, With Retirement in Sight  
Tara Siegel Bernard  
January 6, 2012  
New York Times

For individuals whom may find themselves concerned with financial security after retirement, here are a few tips that may help you maximize your opportunities in the midst of transitioning into this new life stage.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/07/your-money/laid-off-with-retirement-almost-in-sight.html?ref=pensionsandretirementplans>

## **Politics**

Pennsylvania Republican Rep. Todd Platts to Retire  
Aaron Blake  
January 17, 2012  
The Washington Post

Rep. Todd Platts will not be seeking reelection this year. He currently represents the York County based 19<sup>th</sup> district (now known as the 4<sup>th</sup> district after redistricting). Rep. Platts becomes the sixth Republican to announce retirement with no desire to seek higher office.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-fix/post/pennsylvania-republican-rep-todd-platts-to-retire/2012/01/17/gIQA75LD6P\\_blog.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-fix/post/pennsylvania-republican-rep-todd-platts-to-retire/2012/01/17/gIQA75LD6P_blog.html)

## **Economy**

Americans Raid Savings to Get through Stop/Start Recovery

Jillian Mincer and Jonathan Spicer

January 17, 2012

Huffington Post

Increased withdrawals from college and retirement funds and boosts in credit card usage are leading policymakers to think more Americans are using these accounts for more day-to-day living four years after the initial recession. Loans taken from retirement savings accounts leapt anywhere from 20-60% and 27% of workers are “not at all confident” that they will have enough funds for a comfortable retirement.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/01/17/americans-savings-recovery\\_n\\_1210073.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/01/17/americans-savings-recovery_n_1210073.html)

AFSCME Eyes Dual Chairman/CEO Roles

January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Reuters

Huffington Post

The AFSCME has filed proposals calling for the separation of the Chairmen/CEO roles at various large corporations including but not limited to, JP Morgan Chase and Co. and Goldman Sachs. The move seeks to require big business to strengthen corporate oversight and allow for more non-board members and stockholders to have a stronger voice. Additionally, the AFSCME has requested that the companies also create a role for an independent chairman to aid in corporate management.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/01/17/afscme-chairman-ceo-roles\\_n\\_1209924.html?ref=business](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/01/17/afscme-chairman-ceo-roles_n_1209924.html?ref=business)