

Don's Senior's News

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HHS Admits: You Might Not Be Able to Keep Your Doctor Under Obamacare

The Weekly Standard

As Obamacare was being pushed through Congress in 2010, the Obama administration and its allies were unequivocal in two claims: If you like your doctor and you like your current health care plan, you can keep them both. HHS Secretary Kathleen Sibelius and then-House speaker Nancy Pelosi backed the president fully in this regard. While there has been sniping back and forth between the administration and its detractors about the real-world application and implementation of Obamacare, the new Healthcare.gov website has taken some of the mystery out of the controversy. And President Obama and his administration do not fare well in this latest "reality check." [Among the questions](http://bit.ly/15sF7P6) that HHS recently added to the website: "[Can I keep my own doctor?](http://bit.ly/15sF7P6)": <http://bit.ly/15sF7P6>

Businesses claim Obamacare has forced them to cut employee hours

NBC News

Employers around the country, from fast-food franchises to colleges, have told NBC News that they will be cutting workers' hours below 30 a week because they can't afford to offer the health insurance mandated by the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare. "To tell somebody that you've got to decrease their hours because of a law passed in Washington is very frustrating to me," said Loren Goodridge, who owns 21 Subway franchises, including a restaurant in Kennebunk. "I know the impact I'm having on some of my employees." <http://nbcnews.to/17no8P1>

15 Pictures of Ridiculous Government Spending Guaranteed to Make You Mad

Heritage Foundation

In 2013, federal spending approached \$3.5 trillion. Now that's hard to wrap your brain around. It's about \$27,700 for every American household. All across America, families balance their budgets, rein in spending, and pay down their debts. If Americans can do it, why can't the federal government?

<http://herit.ag/16ZkoDm>

The Real Truth Behind "Reality" Real Estate Shows

As reality programming continues to dominate the television world, real estate shows have proven to be a real hit among viewers. Shows such as *Million Dollar Listing*, *Love It or List It*, *House Hunters* and *Property Virgins* all depict the experiences of real people looking for real homes.

As it turns out, however, those experiences are not always so real. The process of buying a home – in real life – isn't quite as simple, and the houses aren't as well designed, so television must find a way to exaggerate, sugarcoat and package the story so viewers will want to watch.

Take the example of *House Hunters*. In 2012, a Texas family who appeared on the show revealed its inner workings. It is said that two of the houses the family apparently considered actually belonged to friends, and were not even on the market. The homes were chosen because they were attractive and clean. HGTV released a statement that cleverly avoided confirming or denying the family's claims.

Most shows glaze over the details of buying a home beyond tours and making an offer. You will never see buyers applying for a mortgage, or real estate lawyers going over paperwork. In addition, TV buyers never seem to walk away from a home – something that often happens in reality when a home inspection reveals deal-breaking problems.

However, the goal of these shows is not to depict real life, despite their claim to be reality television. Instead, they serve as a pleasant distraction from everyday life. At their best, perhaps they inspire viewers to take better care of their own homes.

Important information for Seniors

Seniors Cheer Medicare Reform Proposals

60 Plus Association

(Alexandria, Virginia) -- Several proposals have emerged on Capitol Hill this week addressing the looming budgetary shortfalls of Medicare, an important and promising development in the often rancorous halls of Congress. On Wednesday the House Energy and Commerce Committee chaired by Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI) passed by unanimous vote (51-0) a bill that changes Medicare reimbursement formulas by rewarding high-quality care over quantity of care, a change considered a watershed by members from both sides of the aisle.

<http://bit.ly/11zwRNP>

Ben Carson: Obamacare has 'taken the joy' from doctors

Washington Times

President Obama's signature legislation, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, has stolen the joy from being

a physician or hospital administrator, Dr. Ben Carson said. On Fox News on Monday, Dr. Carson called Obamacare a killjoy -- and a financial disaster. "We've had three years now to see what's in it," he said, "and the level of enthusiasm has not gone up. In fact, it is going down as people are finding out what's happening."

<http://bit.ly/1cGe4Fh>

Lower Tax States Proving Less Really Is More

CBN News

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, Tenn. -- A new look at data from the Internal Revenue Service shows that Americans are fleeing states with higher taxes for states with low tax rates. Economists have spent decades researching the effects of income taxes, including the national federal income tax, which turned 100 years old on Feb. 3.

<http://bit.ly/168c7dv>

Are You Wondering How Much Your Home Is Worth?

Do you want to know how the price of your home has changed in today's market? Do you want to know for how much other homes in your neighborhood are selling?

If you're wondering what's happening to prices in your area, or you're thinking about selling your house, I can help.

Either call 404-939-1309 or [email](mailto:donzahnle@gmail.com) me for a no-obligation, professional evaluation.

I won't pressure you into listing with me or waste your time. [Read about how I feel about pressure!](#) I'll just give you the honest facts about your home and its value.

I'll also give you the "inside scoop" on what's happening in the housing market near where you live!

Call me at 404-939-1309 or email me at donzahnle@gmail.com and we will arrange a time to get together.

Worth Reading

The Genius of Getting it Wrong

By Carl Zimmer

Want to sell a newspaper or magazine? Suggest Albert Einstein made a mistake. That's what Mario Luvio does in *Brilliant Blunders*. In it, he shows how five scientific greats each made mistakes. If they provided much of the foundation for modern science, then it's a discipline built on a flawed foundation at best. But as Carl Zimmer points out, Luvio's treatment isn't perfect either. But that hasn't kept Einstein out of textbooks, so it shouldn't keep this book off your shelves. **More:**

<http://tinyurl.com/geniuswrong>

The Last Word: He Said She Was Leaving. She Ignored Him

By Laura Munson

Parenting experts often say ignoring your child's temper tantrum will make them stop. But does the same tactic work with spouses who want a divorce? Laura Munson tried. In this thoughtful essay, the woman who can handle her own chainsaw and recover from a Caesarean section without medication talks about the long, slow process of helping her husband come home. **More:**

<http://tinyurl.com/sheignored>

Do Unpaid Internships Lead to Jobs? Not for College Students

By Jordan Weissmann

It's a common scenario. A new student is asked why they enrolled in their particular program of study. They answer quickly -- it includes an internship. Well, they may want to pause. This article uses recent data to show students who had unpaid internships are not more likely to receive job offers than their cohorts who had no internships at all. The only question left to answer is why.

More: <http://tinyurl.com/unpaid12>

Quick Quiz

Each month I'll give you a new question.

Just email me at donzahnle@gmail.com for the answer.

The Matterhorn is on the border of what two countries?

Why Not Pass Me to a Friend?

If you've enjoyed this newsletter and found its information useful, please pass it to a neighbor, friend or co-worker.

And if you have any comments about it, don't forget to give me a call or send me an [email](mailto:donzahnle@gmail.com)!

How an Aging Population is Changing our Cities

Local and national governments have long focused on making communities good places for families, children, young adults and the disadvantaged. But as America ages – by 2050, it is estimated that more than 32 million Americans will be over the age of 80 – there is a demand for national planning on how to best care for seniors and the elderly while avoiding a national debt crisis.

Chronic disease, disabilities, and the need for personal care will place a financial stress on governments. And as retirement takes place *en masse*, fewer workers will be left to fill in the gaps and pay for pensions.

Many are calling on national

governments to face the music when it comes to the growing population of seniors. KPMG's recent Global Healthcare Practice Report says that without a national agenda, the healthcare systems of many countries could become overwhelmed.

Local governments will also need to plan for the aging population in their own communities. According to Richard Florida, managing editor of *The Atlantic* magazine, American seniors are mobile, willing to move long distances, and attracted to urban centers. Cities hold the same appeal for older people as they do for younger; amenities and attractions such as transit, museums, restaurants, and parks are desirable. These communities will need

to plan accordingly for aging populations, insuring they are prepared to take care of them.

But it's not just governments that need to be planning; it's individual citizens, too. A recent poll of Americans over 40 by the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that two-thirds have done little or no planning for their future as they age. Three in ten say they would rather not think about it; only a quarter think it's very likely that they will require assistance in caring for themselves. Not so. Figures show that close to 70 percent of Americans will require a form of long-term care at some point after turning 65.

Going Away? Be Smart With Your Phone

Your bags are packed, airline tickets have been booked and you're off to the airport...it's vacation time! You have spent so much effort planning for this exciting experience and making sure your belongings are safe, but do you always think about your phone?

Here are a few tips that, according to McClatchy-Tribune News Service, will help keep your cellphone and your personal data information safe on while you are on vacation:

- Hide it – if your phone can't be seen, it's less likely to be stolen.
- Password-protect it – a password lock on your phone can help prevent people from finding out personal information should your phone go missing.
- Back it up – if your phone goes missing, but you have backed it up at home, your information will be safe.
- Be wary of connecting it – some Wi-Fi hotspots and Bluetooth connections can actually help thieves access your personal information. If you are not using the services, turn them off.

Airport Dogs Relieve Traveler Stress

Some American airports have started using canines to help relieve visitor anxiety. Airport visitors spend time with these animals marked by special bandanas or coats. They cuddle and play with the animals.

A whole variety of dogs can be used for this job, as long as they are comfortable with the crowded, smelly, noisy airport atmosphere. But like any staff or visitor, they need to clear security. Increased

airport security may be one of the reasons this job exists – some airports began using these canines to help passengers cope with the added stresses brought on after the September 2011 terrorist attacks caused airports to increase security. The dogs also help travelers handle more personal tragedies such as sicknesses, divorces and death. They have even helped prepare passengers with autism for trips.

Ask the Agent: This Month's Question

How do we find our dream home?

Don't let the media determine your dream home.

Chances are you already know what you want and what you can afford. Find a respected agent and trust them.

But also trust yourself – your home will only be a dream if it fits your life's reality.

Picture how you would paint the walls, and where you'd put furniture. Take pictures and keep good notes. Make lists about what you want – the size of the yard, how the house faces the sun, whether the layout suits your family's lifestyle.

Consider what you will need if, for instance, you or family members age in the home. Compare your lists with potential properties, and consider if any necessary changes can be made easily.

Because it can only be a dream home if, you can really live in it.

**To search for listings online click
here**

www.AtlantaHomesOnline.com

7						4	1	
	3			4			7	8
6					9			
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Sudoku instructions: Complete the 9 × 9 grid so that each row, each column and each of the nine 3 × 3 boxes contains the digits 1 through 9. Contact me for the solution!

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To discontinue receiving this Newsletter just reply to this email with "REMOVE" in the subject line.

Recipe: Honey Orange Lamb Chops

The perfect recipe for national honey month!

Serves 4

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 4 lamb chops, about ¾ inches thick
- ½ cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon dried tarragon
- 2 tablespoons honey
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard

Heat oil in a 12-inch skillet, add lamb chops and cook for about five minutes on each side. Remove the chops to a platter.

Add the next three ingredients to the skillet and scrape up any brown bits stuck to the bottom. Bring to a boil and reduce to about half for about three minutes. Reduce heat to low and add honey, salt, pepper and mustard.

Mix thoroughly, then return chops to skillet and heat through.

