FINANCIAL SERVICES REPUBLICAN MORNING CLIPS 4.1.2010

Wall Street Journal: "Fed Opens the Books on Bear, AIG Toxic Assets ... The Federal Reserve Bank of New York lifted a veil of secrecy on the troubled mortgage assets it purchased as part of the 2008 rescues of Bear Stearns Cos. and American International Group Inc."

Wall Street Journal: "Straight-Shooting Volcker Takes Aim at Bank Management ... At a session on financial sector governance, former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker said that bank directors weren't mainly responsible for the bad decisions made by financial firms- management was."

Wall Street Journal: "Blinder Weighs In on Debate Over Fed Powers ... What exactly should Congress ask the Federal Reserve do and what should be done by other arms of the government? It's a question Congress is contemplating now as it rewrites the rules of finance in light of the wrenching financial crisis."

Wall Street Journal: "The Permanent Mortgage Crisis ... Last Friday the White House announced its latest plan to prevent mortgage foreclosures, and earlier this week the famous Case-Shiller index found mostly flat home prices in January with analysts warning about a new wave of foreclosures to come."

Washington Post: "Administration seeks to change pay incentives at major firms ... When the Obama administration imposed restrictions on executive pay last year at some of the largest companies the government had bailed out, officials said they were aiming to set a new standard for compensation across corporate America that would discourage risky business practices."

Washington Post: "Geithner asserts 'critical role' of manufacturing ... U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner used a trip to a Pittsburgh metals factory on Wednesday to buff the image of American manufacturing ahead of a key decision on China's currency policy, showcasing the type of heavy industry that can succeed in the United States despite stiff -- and some argue unfair -- competition from abroad."

Washington Post: "SEC may require more details of wrongdoing to be disclosed in settlements ... The Securities and Exchange Commission might end its long-standing practice of letting companies and individuals settle charges of wrongdoing without publicizing the detailed findings of its investigations, according to a senior official, a move that could reshape the enforcement of laws against corporate crime."

NY Times: "Pay of Hedge Fund Managers Roared Back Last Year ... The Lazarus-like recovery of the nation's big banks did not benefit just the bankers - it also created huge paydays for hedge fund managers, including a record $4 billion gain in 2009 for one bold investor who bet big on the financial sector."

LA Times: "As Fed's mortgage purchases end, eyes turn to investors ... The government's $1.25-trillion program to prop up the housing market by purchasing mortgages came to an end Wednesday -- in a small, messy room at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York with four desks and a Nerf basketball hoop."

USA Today: "Geithner: Bailouts were unfair but necessary ... Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said Thursday it's "deeply unfair" that some financial institutions that got taxpayer-paid bailouts are emerging in better shape from the recession than millions of ordinary Americans."

USA Today: "New York Fed to reveal details about what bailout billions bought ... The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is disclosing new details about billions of dollars of securities it bought while rescuing insurance giant American International Group and supporting the sale of failed investment bank Bear Stearns."

USA Today: "Our view on foreclosures: Get out of the business of mortgage modifications ... On an emotional level, many Americans have never come to terms with the $700 billion bank bailout that passed in the waning days of the Bush administration."

USA Today: "Opposing view: Helping everyone ... The housing market is doing significantly better than nearly anyone predicted a year ago, largely due to the Obama administration's comprehensive response: helping to maintain low mortgage interest rates; helping to ensure mortgage credit access; providing tax credits for home buyers; helping families struggling with their mortgage payments modify their mortgages; and helping to revitalize communities overrun with foreclosures."

Washington Times: "JOHNSON: The beach-house bailout ... Congress will soon consider a $200 billion bailout aimed at protecting waterfront real estate owners in Florida."