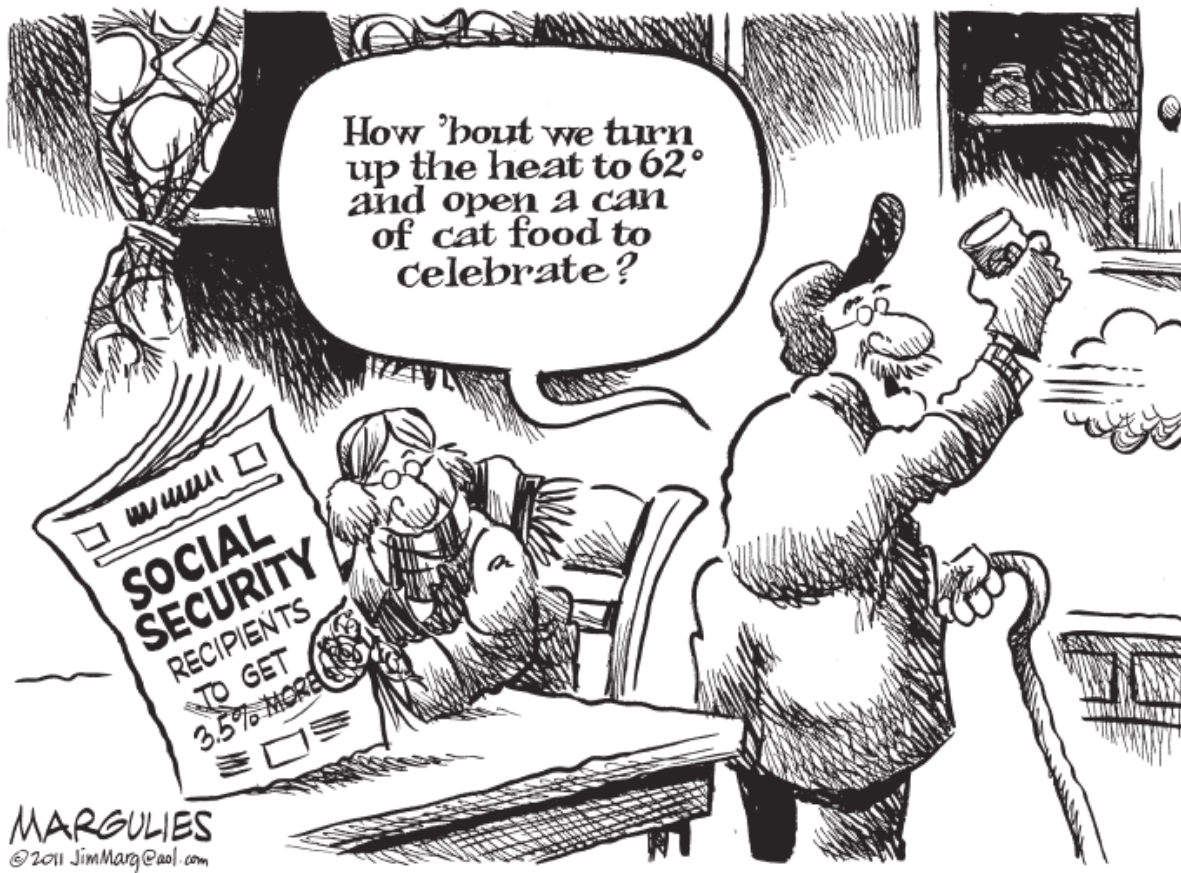


Social Security Benefits Increase Answer Key

Directions: Answer the following questions in a complete sentence.



by Jim Margulies, politicalcartoons.com

- Who are the individuals in the cartoon?
They are retirees; specifically, elderly Americans dependent on Social Security.
- Why is the man ready to "celebrate"?
Social Security recipients are scheduled to get a 3.5% increase in benefits (see the paper the woman is reading at the table).
- What point is this artist making about Social Security?
The artist is pointing out that the increase is not enough to maintain a decent standard of living. The retirees are wearing coats and it's cold enough to see their breath. They are going to turn the heat up to 62 degrees (still very low) and plan to eat cat food because it is less expensive.