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**Sent:** Tuesday, December 01, 2009 8:07 PM

**To:** Martha Lanuez

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**Subject:** FCC REPORTS- DESPIERTA AMERICA NEWS - NOVEMBER 2009-  
PART 1

**FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA NOVEMBER 1-15 PART I**

**11/02/09**

**FLU VACCINE SAFETY**

**VO :21**

Independent health advisers will begin monitoring the safety of the swine flu vaccine Monday. Specialists aren't expecting problems with the shot, because it's made the same way as the regular winter flu vaccine. But the government is taking extra steps to track the health of millions of Americans, to spot any problems quickly and explain false alarms when common disorders coincide with inoculation. The specially appointed group of experts will hold private meetings to raise the red flag if the government misses anything. The group Monday will hear government and manufacturers' data from studies of the vaccine in more than 10,000 people.

**11/03/09**

**UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**VO :263**

The Senate is moving toward approving a major economic relief bill that extends benefits to the jobless and expands a first-time home buyer tax credit. The legislation to give those exhausting their unemployment benefits up to 20 weeks of additional federal aid cleared a procedural hurdle Monday, setting up a vote to pass the bill later in the week. The measure also extends and expands the \$8,000 first-time home buyer tax credit, which is set to expire at the end of this month, through next June and provides tax relief to companies that have been running in the red.

**HALF OF US KIDS WILL GET FOOD STAMPS**

**VO :26**

A new study finds a growing number of American children end up on food and that the recession is making things even worse. An analysis of three decades-worth of national data finds that nearly half of all U.S. children will be on food stamps and 90 percent of black children at some point during their childhood. A Department of Agriculture report released last month says more than 28 million Americans received food stamps in an average month last year, and about half were younger than age 18. The new analysis is in the November issue of Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine.

**HEALTH REFORM & SMALL BUSINESS**

**VO :24**

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and Small Business Administration Administrator Karen Mills will hold a briefing on the impact of health insurance reform with small business owners from across the country. Sebelius and Mills

will give a legislative update and discuss the impact of health reform on small businesses before taking questions from the group of business owners.

### **CENSUS IN SCHOOLS**

**FERNANDO PIZARRO / WASHINGTON, DC**

**PKG 1:45**

Federal government launches national campaign to reach 56 million students in kindergarten through 12th grade in 118,000 schools and teach them on the importance of the 2010 Census and to tell their parents to participate in it.

### **A FREE CREDIT SCORE FOLLOWED BY A MONTHLY BILL**

**VO :28**

On television it's hard to miss the wildly popular band of slackers singing ruefully from a shabby apartment or while waiting tables in pirate regalia . The ruined credit that led to their financial misfortune might have been sparkling if only they'd tracked their status on freecreditreport.com. The Federal Trade Commission is not amused. It has long believed that the company that owns freecreditreport.com is deliberately diverting people from a government-mandated site where consumers can get free credit reports by law, and using the reports as a lure for a \$14.95 monthly service that alerts subscribers to important changes in their credit status.

### **1 DOSE OF FLU VACCINE WORKING IN PREGNANT WOMEN**

**VO :19**

Federal health officials say pregnant women get good results from just a single dose of swine flu vaccine, but young children still need two treatments. Dr. Anne Schuchat of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, told the same briefing Monday that the flu is currently widespread in 48 states and hospitalizations and deaths continue to increase. She said 30 million doses of the vaccine were available as of Monday. There will be continued challenges, she said, but the supply is expected to catch up with demand.

### **GROUND BEEF RECALL**

**VO :18**

An outbreak of food-borne illness, linked to dangerous bacteria in ground beef, sickened 28 people and may have caused two deaths in the U.S. Northeast, health officials said on Monday. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said all but three of the illnesses were in the Northeast and 18 were in the six New England states. A common strain of E. coli bacteria was involved so tests were under way to see if all of the reported cases have the same cause.

### **TV WATCHING LINKED TO AGGRESSION IN KIDS**

**VO :20**

The more TV a 3-year-old watches, the more likely he or she is to behave aggressively, a new study shows. Just having the TV on when the child wasn't watching it was also linked to aggressive behavior, although the relationship wasn't as strong, Dr. Jennifer A. Manganello of the University at Albany, State University of New York, Rensselaer, and her colleagues found.

### **SCHOOL LUNCHES**

**VO :21**

An Agriculture Department report says schools are generally doing a better job of identifying students who are eligible for free or reduced-price school lunches. But the

report also notes there's a wide difference among the states. The report to Congress says that in 2008-2009, 78 percent of schools identified eligible students by using government records of households already getting aid. Use of the so-called direct certification method was up 11 percentage points from the previous year. Direct certification helps eliminate lengthy applications. The report says the top four states, Alaska, Delaware, New York and Tennessee, directly enrolled more than 90 percent of eligible students. But the bottom four, the District of Columbia, Idaho, Missouri and New Hampshire -- directly enrolled only 50 percent or fewer.

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**11/04/09**

### **CONGRESS POISED TO KEEP HOMEBUYERS' TAX CREDIT**

**VO: 22**

The Senate and House are poised to agree on a compromise measure to extend unemployment benefits that also would expand a popular \$8,000 tax credit for homebuyers, despite a recent government report on extensive mistakes and suspected fraud in the program. The Senate might pass its version as early as Wednesday, and aides to Congressional leaders say the House could accept it this week, sending the bill to President Obama to sign into law. After weeks of partisan delay in the Senate, Democrats are eager to show progress before Friday, when the October jobless report is again expected to show high unemployment.

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**11/05/09**

### **JOBLES BENEFITS - HOMEBUYERS**

**VO: 18**

Congress is one vote away from sending the president legislation that continues aid to more than a million jobless people and extends tax breaks to hundreds of thousands of prospective homebuyers and struggling businesses. The legislation, recognizing the lingering distresses of the recession, passed the Senate Wednesday on a 98-0 vote and could come up in the House as early as Thursday, sending it to President Barack Obama for his signature.

### **HEALTH CARE IMMIGRATION**

**VO/SOT 1:00**

A House Democrat is accusing President Barack Obama of dehumanizing illegal immigrants with his hard-line stance against allowing them to benefit from pending health overhaul legislation. Congressman Luis Gutierrez, from Obama's home state of Illinois, said Wednesday the approach is "nonsense" and would ultimately cost taxpayers more money when illegal immigrants end up in emergency rooms.

### **CONGRESS-CREDIT CARDS**

**VO: 26**

The House has voted to impose tough new rules for credit card companies unless lenders agree to freeze interest rates and fees. The bill, approved 331-92, would

accelerate the February enactment date of legislation already passed by Congress that limits when and how banks can charge credit card customers. The bill would become effective when President Barack Obama signs it, but prospects of Senate passage are dim.

### **UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

#### **VO: 16**

The Senate decided late Wednesday to offer up to 20 additional weeks of unemployment benefits to millions of jobless Americans. Legislators also agreed to extend a tax credit which allows first-time home buyers an \$8,000 return. The vote now moves to the House, where it could be voted on as soon as today.

### **CERTAIN ANTIBIOTICS MAY UP BIRTH DEFECT RISK**

#### **VO: 24**

Some of the antibiotics used to treat urinary tract infections during pregnancy may increase the risk of several birth defects if a woman uses them early in pregnancy, a new study in the Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine shows. Researchers found an increased risk for two classes of antibiotics: sulfonamide (example: Bactrim) and nitrofurantoin (example: Macrobid). But the antibiotics pregnant women are most likely to be prescribed, the penicillins and erythromycins, appeared to be safe. "Most of the commonly used antibiotics do not seem to be associated with most of the birth defects we studied," study co-author Dr. Krista S. Crider, of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, told Reuters Health. "This should be helpful for pregnant women and their health care provider as they're trying to make decisions on treatment of infections during pregnancy."

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**11/06/09**

### **JOBLESS ECONOMY**

#### **VO: 29**

The US unemployment rate has broken through 10% for the first time since the early 1980s in a fresh sign of financial misery at grassroots level in the world's biggest economy. Monthly figures from the US department of labour revealed that employers cut a higher-than-expected 190,000 jobs in October. The unemployment rate rose to 10.2% from September's 9.8%, reaching its highest level since April 1983.

### **OBAMA SIGN BILL HOMEBUYERS**

#### **VO: 34**

President Obama signed H.R. 3548 this morning, enacting into law an extension, and adjustment, of the \$8,000 tax credit for first-time buyers. Among other things, the extension adds money for certain move-up buyers; creates one deadline for signing a contract and a later deadline for closing; changes income requirements; and limits a purchased home's cost to \$800,000.

### **HEALTH OVERHAUL-OBAMA**

#### **VO: 27**

House Democrats are scrambling to secure enough support to pass President Barack Obama's historic health overhaul initiative, working to soothe rank-and-file Democrats ahead of a make-or-break vote. Voting is set for Saturday on the 10-year, \$1.2 trillion

legislation that embraces Obama's goals of extending health coverage to tens of millions of uninsured Americans and putting tough new restrictions on insurance companies. Obama was set to make a personal appeal to the Democratic rank and file in a visit Friday to Capitol Hill. That was called off late Thursday after the shootings at Fort Hood, Texas, and rescheduled for Saturday.

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**11/09/09**

**HEALTHCARE REFORM  
LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC  
PKG 2:04 & VO :27**

The glow from a health care triumph is fading quickly for President Barack Obama as Democrats realize the bill they'd fought so hard to pass in the House will have a tough time in the Senate. The government health insurance plan included in the House bill is unacceptable to a few Democratic moderates who hold the balance of power in the Senate. They don't like the idea of the government competing with private insurers. Sen. Joe Lieberman, the Connecticut independent whose vote Democrats need to overcome GOP filibusters, tells "Fox News Sunday" that if a so-called "public option" is part of the bill, he will not allow it to come to a final vote.

**IMMIGRATION ACCELERATES CITIZENSHIP PROCESS  
VO :29**

Immigration authorities are processing citizenship requests much more faster than before, fulfilling the promise to process migratory documents in six months or less. On august 31st, according to numbers available, the time of processing average for requests of citizenship in Miami was of five months compared with an average of about 12 months in september of the 2008. But immigration lawyers thought that the processing is faster because the prices are higher and therefore are less requests.

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**11/10/09**

**H1N1 PAID SICK TIME  
VO :22**

Americans infected by the H1N1 flu virus would be guaranteed paid sick lead under emergency legislation U.S. Senator Chris Dodd plans to unveil Tuesday in response to the swine flu pandemic. Dodd's measure is similar to one already introduced in the House intended to ensure that sick employees do not spread the virus to others. Dodd's office said the bill he is preparing would help people who have to chose between losing a day's pay or possibly infecting co-workers. Dodd, a Connecticut Democrat who chairs a Senate subcommittee on children and families, will announce the proposal at a hearing on Tuesday, according to the statement. California Representative George Miller last week proposed emergency legislation that would require employers who tell workers to stay home when they are sick to give them paid time off for up to five days.

**PLAVIX WORKS IN MEN AND WOMEN, WITH DIFFERENCES  
VO :23**

The popular blood-thinner Plavix prevents heart attacks and strokes in both women and men, but the benefits differ slightly by gender, U.S. researchers said on Monday. They found that women with dense breasts who have had lumpectomies for breast cancer are at a higher risk of a recurrence, according to a new study. However, the increased risk is for recurrences near the original cancer. The higher risk was also only seen in women who were not treated with radiation after their surgeries.

### **MORE MUSCLE POWER MEANS LOWER ALZHEIMER'S RISK**

**VO :27**

Older people with stronger muscles are at reduced risk of developing Alzheimer's disease compared to their weaker peers, a new study shows. Dr. Patricia A. Boyle of Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center in Chicago and her colleagues found that the greater a person's muscle strength, the lower their likelihood of being diagnosed with Alzheimer's over a four-year period. The same was true for the loss of mental function that often precedes full-blown Alzheimer's.

### **TO EAT LESS, YOUR BODY MAY WANT YOU TO EAT SLOWLY**

**VO :17**

Your mother's advice to slow down at meal time may have been wise after all: a new study suggests that shoveling down your food blocks the body's natural appetite-control process. "Most of us have heard that eating fast can lead to food overconsumption and obesity, and in fact some...studies have supported this notion," Dr. Alexander Kokkinos, the lead researcher on the study, said in a written statement.

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**11/11/09**

### **SANCTUARY CITY**

**VO: 24**

The Tennessee state legislature cleared a bill (SB 1310) for the governor's signature that would prohibit local governments from enacting "sanctuary city" ordinances or policies that make it difficult for law enforcement and other local government employees to comply with federal immigration law. The bill, which was sponsored by Rep. Joe Carr and Sen. Jim Tracy, also requires local law enforcement officials to inform federal immigration authorities when they have probable cause to believe an arrestee is an illegal alien.

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**11/12/09**

### **OBAMA & ECONOMY**

**VO: 29**

President Barack Obama says he's organizing a wide-ranging White House jobs summit to "talk about how we can work together" to create jobs. Obama said at the White House that a report Thursday showing fewer claims for jobless benefits is "a hopeful sign" but he also said that finding jobs for the millions without them remains one of his administration's greatest challenges.

### **HEALTH CARE OVERHAUL**

**VO: 21**

Democratic officials say Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid is considering higher payroll taxes on the wealthy as part of a bill to overhaul the health care system. These officials say Reid has been evaluating a proposal to raise the Medicare portion of the payroll tax on incomes over \$250,000. Under current law, individuals pay a tax of 1.45 percent on their income to help fund Medicare, and employers do the same. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity, saying they were not authorized to discuss the options under review. Reid's spokesman declined comment and said the Nevada Democrat has made no final decisions on the bill he will introduce in the Senate.

**FORECLOSURES RATES****VO:22**

A new report shows the number of homeowners on the brink of losing their homes fell last month. The RealtyTrac numbers show the third straight monthly decline. The drop comes as foreclosure prevention programs have been coming to the rescue of more borrowers. Even so, foreclosure filings are up 19 percent from a year ago. And continued job losses continue to threaten the stabilizing trend. More than 332,000 households -- or one in every 385 homes --received a foreclosure-related notice last month. Those include a notice of default or trustee's sale. That's down 3 percent from September. Banks repossessed more than 77,000 homes last month, down from nearly 88,000 homes in September.

**SWINE FLU DEATHS ESTIMATES****VO: 19**

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization stopped trying to count actual cases months ago, once it became clear that H1N1 was a pandemic that would infect millions. There are nowhere near enough diagnostic tests to give to everyone with flu-like symptoms to see if they really have swine flu, and autopsies have shown that some people who have died had H1N1 and no one even knew it. So the death figures will be based on models, calculated by looking intensively at small groups of people, gathering data on overall reports of sickness and death, and reconciling the two. This is also what happens every year with seasonal influenza, which WHO says kills 250,000 to 500,000 people a year globally and which CDC says kills 36,000 Americans in an average year.

**RETAIL SALES-OCTOBER****VO: 20**

Americans may be settling into low-spending habits. They spent about the same amount in October as they did in August and September. That's according to pendingPulse, a service of MasterCard Advisors. U.S. retail sales rose 1.5 percent in October compared to a year earlier. The sales include everything from toys to food, but exclude cars and gasoline. Compared with the month before, however, sales fell 2.3 percent in October. That's the biggest month-to-month decline since December 2008. A parade of earnings reports due Thursday will offer a more textured read on consumers' recent spending.

**SMOKING TIED TO SUICIDE RISK IN BIPOLAR DISORDER****VO: 17**

Efforts to help smokers kick the habit have stalled in the United States, with hardly any recent change in smoking rates, federal researchers reported Thursday. Just over 20 percent of the adult population smoked in 2008, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and 1,000 people take up the habit every day. "Overall

smoking prevalence did not change significantly from 2007 to 2008," CDC researchers wrote in the weekly report on death and disease.

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**11/13/09**

### **SWINE FLU DEATH & ILL TOLL**

**VO: 18**

Estimates of deaths caused by the swine flu have grown to nearly 4,000 since April, roughly quadrupling previous estimates. But that doesn't mean swine flu suddenly has worsened. Instead, the federal numbers made public Thursday reflect a long-awaited better attempt to quantify the new flu's true toll. Most cases still don't require a doctor's care. Swine flu has sickened about 22 million Americans since April and killed about 540 children. And it's still early in the season.

### **REPUBLICANS-ABORTION INSURANCE**

**VO: 28**

chagrined GOP Chairman Michael Steele has told Republican National Committee staff to immediately stop providing RNC employees with insurance for elective abortions - an option that Republicans strongly oppose as Democrats try to pass a health care overhaul bill. "Money from our loyal donors should not be used for this purpose," Steele said in a statement late Thursday after learning of the abortion coverage from a news report. "I don't know why this policy existed in the past, but it will not exist under my administration. Consider this issue settled."

### **ANTIVIRALS KEY TO PREVENTING SEVERE H1N1 DISEASE: WHO**

**VO: 15**

Antiviral medicines can prevent H1N1 flu deaths and should be given quickly to pregnant women, very young children and people with underlying medical problems who fall ill, the World Health Organisation said on Thursday. Announcing a change of its guidance to doctors, the United Nations health agency said the drugs should be administered even before tests conclude that an at-risk patient has the pandemic virus and not something else.

### **US REPORTS LARGEST MUMPS OUTBREAK IN 3 YEARS**

**VO: 26**

U.S. health officials say the largest U.S. outbreak of mumps in three years is occurring in New York and New Jersey. About 180 cases were identified in those two states from the time an investigation began in August through the end of October. Another 15 cases tied to the same outbreak have been reported in Canada. Three people have been hospitalized but no deaths were reported. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the outbreak was first reported at a boys camp in Sullivan County, N.Y. It may have been triggered by an 11-year-old boy from the United Kingdom, where an ongoing mumps outbreak has sickened about 4,000. Mumps is spread by coughing and sneezing with the most common symptoms being fever, headache and swollen salivary glands under the jaw. It sometimes lead to serious problems such as hearing loss, meningitis and fertility-diminishing swollen testicles.

### **STUDIES SUGGEST OVERWEIGHT KIDS ARE CORONARY TIME BOMBS**

**VO: 20**

Russell Pate was driving through a neighborhood one late afternoon when he noticed something odd. He couldn't hear the sounds of children playing. No jump rope patter. No squeals of a bike's brake. No crack of a bat -- just silence. The streets were deserted because the neighborhood kids were cocooned in their homes, Pate says. It was a scene he's seen over and over again. "Now you can drive through entire neighborhoods where you know there are a lot of young kids there and hardly see any of them out," says Pate, an American Heart Association spokesman. Pate's story reinforces what numerous medical studies say: American youths are getting less active and fatter. Medical experts say many of these couch-bound youths are becoming coronary time bombs -- they're more liable to suffer from heart disease as adults.

### **DOES CATARACT SURGERY MAKE EYE DISEASE WORSE?**

**VO:19**

Cataract surgery does not appear to worsen the course of age-related macular degeneration (AMD), a progressive loss of vision due to deterioration of nerve tissue in the retina, a new study shows. The finding, however, does not yet settle the long-standing controversy over the appropriateness of cataract surgery in eyes with this disorder, an editorial warns. AMD is the most common cause of blindness in adults 55 years of age and older.

### **ACETAMINOPHEN COULD UP ASTHMA, WHEEZING RISK**

**VO: 21**

An analysis of 19 studies provides additional evidence of increased asthma risk in children and adults given acetaminophen. The study's lead author told Reuters Health, while this type of study isn't the best way to prove that the medication actually causes the illness, it does show that the relationship should be investigated further. "We know acetaminophen affects inflammatory cells in the airway," said Dr. J. Mark FitzGerald of the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute in British Columbia. But even if the medication does boost asthma risk, he added, it's likely only one factor in the rise in asthma prevalence seen in recent years.

**=====END OF PART 1 =====**