

From: Rossyris Silva-Nazario
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2010 5:26 PM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC REPORTS-DESPIERTA AMERICA NEWS-OCTOBER 2010-PART 1

FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA OCTOBER 1-15 PART I

10/01/2010

FINANCIAL REGULATION

VO: 21

A computer-driven sale worth \$4.1 billion by a single trader helped trigger the May flash crash, setting off liquidity crises that ricocheted between U.S. futures and stock markets, regulators concluded in a report. Reuters, citing internal documents obtained from futures exchange operator CME Group Inc, identified that trader as money manager Waddell & Reed Financial Inc. The report by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission did not identify the trader by name.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

LOURDES MELUZA - WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:22

Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy filed the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2010. America's Voice is issuing a three page and one page summary of the legislation. According to Frank Sharry, Executive Director of America's Voice: "With the introduction of omprehensive immigration reform legislation, Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT) are signaling that omprehensive immigration reform remains a top priority, helping to put the movement fighting for immigration reforms back on offense, and challenging Republicans to lead, follow or get out of the way."

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10/04/10

US SUPREME COURT OPEN

VO: 18

The Supreme Court is starting its New term with a new justice, Elena Kagan, and bad news for hundreds of parties trying to get their cases heard at the high court. The justices are expected to start work Monday by denying many of the nearly 2,000 appeals that piled up in recent months. The court also is hearing argument in a bankruptcy dispute and an appeal by criminal defendants seeking shorter prison terms. Kagan replaced Justice John Paul Stevens, who retired in June after more than 34 years on the court. For the first time, three women are serving together on the nine-justice court. Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sandra Sotomayor are the others.

GULF OIL SPILL

VO:20

Federal investigators will be looking for key information about pressure tests, decision making and BP's safety culture when the next round of hearings begins Monday to determine the cause of the Gulf of Mexico rig explosion and oil spill. The weeklong hearings near New Orleans will be the fifth series held by the joint U.S. Coast Guard-Bureau of Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement investigative panel.

SEX IN AMERICA

VO: 29

Researchers say the largest, most comprehensive national survey of Americans' sexual behavior since 1994 suggests everything looks pretty normal. Filling 130 pages of a special issue of the Journal of Sexual Medicine, the study offers detailed findings on how often Americans have sex, with whom, and how they respond. The researchers said they were struck by the variety of ways in which the subjects engaged in sex. Among the findings was a high rate of condom usage among 14- to 17-year-olds.

IMMIGRATION KILLINGS

VO: 27

Jury selection is slated to start in a federal hate crime case against two Pennsylvania men involved in the fatal beating of an illegal immigrant two years ago. Brandon Piekarsky and Derrick Donchak face hate crime charges in the death of 25-year-old Luis Ramirez. The Mexican immigrant died after brawling with a group of high school athletes in July 2008 in the mining town of Shenandoah.

REUSABLE BAGS

VO:30

What may be good for the environment, may, in fact, be bad for you. Those reusable grocery bags, meant to spare landfills from the plastic alternative, are often a breeding ground for germs-- germs that can transfer easily to the food you've just bought. Recent Lab Tests Show Uncleaned Reusable Grocery Bags Have Extremely High Levels of Bacteria, Yeast and Mold

TERROR THREAT

VO :36

The State Department is telling Americans traveling in Europe to be careful. But Americans, by and large, are shrugging off the warning of potential terrorist threats. The alert advises hundreds of thousands of U.S. citizens living or traveling in Europe to take more precautions about their personal security. Officials say terrorists may be plotting attacks in Europe with assault weapons on public places, along the lines of the deadly 2008 shooting rampage in Mumbai, India. Without a specific threat, however, American visitors aren't letting the alert disrupt their travels.

ECONOMY TOPS OBAMA'S AGENDA ON MONDAY

VO: 21

Home from a weekend at the Camp David mountain retreat, President Barack Obama will sit down with his Economic Recovery Advisory Board. The board is headed by Paul Volcker, the former chairman of the Federal Reserve. Among the Cabinet members expected to attend Monday's session are Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke and Education Secretary Arne Duncan. Jill Biden, wife of the vice president, will also attend

TRAVEL ADVICE FROM FORMER HOMELAND SECURITY CHIEF

VO: 36

Former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff says Americans planning trips to Europe need to pay close attention to the security alert for Europe. Chertoff, who headed the agency during the Bush administration, tells ABC's "Good Morning America" that the State Department's alert means tourists should take commonsense precautions, such as knowing where they are and identifying an exit strategy if necessary. Chertoff was interviewed in the wake of the Obama administration's decision to release a travel alert Sunday in response to reports of a possible terrorist threat against Britain, France and Germany.

LAPTOP TOASTED SKIN

VO: 25

A medical report says people who work with computers on their laps for long periods could suffer from "toasted skin syndrome." In one case, a 12-year-old boy developed a sponge-patterned skin discoloration on his left thigh after playing computer games a few hours every day for several months. The danger has been highlighted by Swiss researchers in an article Monday in the journal *Pediatrics*. The condition is generally harmless but can cause permanent skin darkening. In very rare cases, it can cause damage leading to skin cancers.

US CARTER

VO:18

Former President Jimmy Carter says he's recovered from a "bout with a virus" and has resumed his relatively hectic schedule at the age of 86. Carter tells CBS's "The Early Show" that "I feel fine." He says he had "one day of intensive hospital care and I've been out working ever since." Carter has been among America's most active former presidents, and he was in the capital Monday to look after a Habitat for Humanity project. The Democrat was president for one term, losing to Republican Ronald Reagan in 1980.

HEALTH -DEPRESSION

VO: 27

New depression treatments favor a tailored approach and include recommendations for the use of shock therapy and other alternatives, including exercise when people fail to get relief from drugs. The guidelines, issued on Friday by the American Psychiatric Association, are the first update on depression treatment in more than a decade. "The five-year process of intense review, discussion and thoughtful revision-making has led us to today's release of new guidelines that we believe will improve patient care," Dr. Alan Gelenberg, an Arizona-based psychiatrist who led the group that drafted the guidelines, said in a statement.

HEALTH ACCESS FOR HISPANICS

VO: 20

Hispanics from New York with health insurance will receive free care from today until the 15 of this month due to the week called bi-national health. This event is from the year 2000, including among other things, vaccination

campaigns, detection and analysis basic information campaigns on access to health and health insurance.

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10/5/10

OBAMA-COMMUNITY COLLEGES

VO:26

President Barack Obama is kicking off a daylong White House summit on community colleges Tuesday. The president sees the two-year colleges as a resource pool where companies can find workers with increasingly specialized skills. He's already announced a new program to expand college partnerships. In today's meeting, which brings together educators and officials from across the country, Obama will say America needs its two-year colleges to up their game, and Washington needs to help.

OBAMA IS GOING GREEN

VO:16

Solar power is coming to President Barack Obama's house. The most famous residence in America plans to install solar panels for the first time atop the White House's living quarters. The solar panels which will be installed by spring 2011 -- will heat water and supply some of the first family's electricity.

IMMIGRATION IN THE SUPREME AGENDA

VO: 34

Some 50 cases are listed in the high court's calendar for the judicial year which began yesterday with claims that frame critical issues such as immigration and freedom of expression. But before discussing the case, one of the problems they face is that nearly half of them are only eight judges, instead of nine, who will review with the possibility of that being an even number there is a tie and not reach a majority decision is maintained by the lower court.

WHEN MOMS GET FLU SHOTS, BABIES REAP BENEFITS

VO:30

Newborn babies whose mothers got a flu shot while pregnant are less likely to get the flu or to be admitted to the hospital with a respiratory illness in the first six months of life, U.S. researchers said on Monday. During most

flu seasons, babies under six months tend to have fewer cases of flu-like illnesses than those who are 6 to 12 months old, most likely because they are protected by their mothers' natural antibodies.

SCIENTISTS FIND WAY TO REFINE BOTOX FOR NEW USES

VO: 25

British scientists have developed a new way of joining and rebuilding molecules and used it to refine the anti-wrinkle treatment Botox in an effort to improve its use for Parkinson's, cerebral palsy and chronic migraine. Researchers at the Medical Research Council's Laboratory of Molecular Biology said their results also open up ways to develop new forms of Clostridium botulinum neurotoxin, commonly known as Botox, which may be used as long-term painkillers.

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10/06/10

AP POLL-WORKING CLASS WHITES

VO: 20

An Associated Press-GfK poll suggests working-class whites are flocking to Republican candidates in this fall's elections. Whites without four-year college degrees prefer GOP candidates by twice the margin of the last two elections, when Democrats made significant gains in the House and Senate. The poll, conducted last month, found this group favoring GOP hopefuls 58 percent to 36 percent -- a whopping 22 percentage-point gap. Compared with better-educated whites, working-class whites tend to be older and more conservative. They traditionally lean Republican and have been disproportionately hurt by a prolonged economic funk.

RETAIL SALES

VO: 26

Americans kept spending carefully last month, buying electronics and back-to-school clothes but holding back on luxuries. Erratic weather and tepid economic news dampened sales, according to data released Wednesday by MasterCard Advisors' SpendingPulse, which includes transactions in all forms including cash. But pockets of growth during the five weeks between Aug. 29 and Oct. 2 point to a modestly more robust holiday season this year than last. Clothing sales rose 3.8 percent, driven

by children's and family clothing, which includes teen retailers, as stores offered back-to-school discounts.

IMMIGRATION ARIZONA LAWSUIT

VO: 22

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer is opposing a court ruling that lets other countries file a friend-of-the-court brief in her appeal of a decision that put parts of the state's new immigration law on hold. Mexico and 10 other Latin American countries were granted permission by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to present their viewpoints. Brewer's lawyers told the appeals court that the opinions of foreign countries have no bearing on whether the law is constitutional. The governor says she was offended that foreign governments were meddling in a domestic legal dispute. Mexico was joined in its brief by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru.

FORECLOSURE FUROR RISES; MANY CALL FOR A FREEZE

VO: 27

The uproar over bad conduct by mortgage lenders intensified Tuesday, as lawmakers in Washington requested a federal investigation and the attorney general in Texas joined a chorus of state law enforcement figures calling for freezes on all foreclosures. Representative Nancy Pelosi the House speaker, and 30 other Democratic representatives from California told the Justice Department, the Federal Reserve and the comptroller of the currency that "it is time that banks are held accountable for their practices." In a request for an investigation into questionable foreclosure practices by lenders, the lawmakers said that "the excuses we have heard from financial institutions are simply not credible." Officials from the federal agencies declined to comment. Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, a Republican, sent letters to 30 lenders demanding they stop foreclosures, evictions and the sale of foreclosed properties until they could provide assurances that they were proceeding legally.

ONE IN 4 STUDENTS, YOUNG ADULTS BINGE DRINK: CDC

VO: 24

One in four high school students and adults ages 18 to 34 engaged in binge drinking in the past month, putting themselves and those around them at risk, U.S. government researchers said on Tuesday. They said that among high school students who drink, 60 percent say they binge drink, which the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines as four

or more drinks for women and five or more drinks for men over the span of a few hours.

STUDY SHOWS LIMITS OF CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

VO: 19

The Child Protective Services system in the United States "has outlived its usefulness," and should be scrapped in favor of other approaches to protecting at-risk kids, according to a leading expert on injury prevention. Law enforcement personnel should investigate abuse allegations, public health nurses should help at-risk families before abuse or neglect occurs, and social workers should be involved in counseling and helping families, but not investigating crime, Dr. Abraham B. Bergman of Harborview Medical Center in Seattle writes in an editorial in this month's issue of Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine.

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10/7/10

PRIMARY ELECTION EARLY VOTERS UP 50%'

VO: 21

The number of voters who cast early ballots in this year's primary elections increased 50% over the 2006 midterm, a USA TODAY review of key states shows, the latest uptick in a trend that is reshaping political campaigns. Nearly 6 million people took part in early voting during this year's primary elections in the 13 states reviewed, including California Florida and That's up from just over 4 million voters in those same states during the 2006 primary election. The growth in early voting, which is driven in part by state laws that make casting a ballot before Election Day easier, is forcing campaigns and advocacy groups to readjust their calendars as they reach out to voters in advance of the Nov. 2 election.

WELLS FARGO SETTLES OVER 'PICK A PAYS'

VO: 29

Wells Fargo has agreed to spend an estimated \$772 million modifying mortgages for borrowers in eight states to settle claims that it used deceptive marketing to sell loans that were too complicated to understand and left customers with crippling debt. The settlement announced Wednesday with a group of state attorneys general covers 8,715 borrowers who owe more than their homes are worth, a situation known as being

"underwater." The affected homeowners live in states that have been hit hard by the plunge in housing prices, including Arizona, Florida and Nevada.

SHOPPERS MAY HAVE THE UPPER HAND THIS CHRISTMAS

VO: 28

The Christmas shopping season doesn't kick off for another six weeks, but retailers already are signaling they're prepared to discount aggressively if needed to entice shoppers still skittish about spending. Stores expect gift buyers to scrutinize every purchase, from \$20 toys to \$1,000 designer jackets, and to limit how many stores they visit. Most forecasters aren't expecting shoppers to spend much more than they did during last year's tepid season, when sales rose only 0.4 percent after slumping 3.9 percent a year earlier, according to the National Retail Federation's calculations.

POOR HEALTHCARE MAY SHORTEN AMERICAN LIVES: STUDY

VO: 23

Americans die sooner than citizens of a dozen other developed nations and the usual suspects -- obesity, traffic accidents and a high murder rate -- are not to blame, researchers reported on Thursday. Instead, poor healthcare may be to blame, the team at Columbia University in New York reported.

FOOD STAMPS-SUGARY DRINKS

VO: 24

New Yorkers on food stamps would not be allowed to spend them on sugar-sweetened drinks under an obesity-fighting proposal being floated by Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Gov. David Paterson. Bloomberg and Paterson planned to announce Thursday that they are seeking permission from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the nation's food stamp program, to add sugary drinks to the list of prohibited goods for city residents receiving assistance. If approved, it would be the first time an item would be banned from the federal program based solely on nutritional value. The idea has been suggested previously, including in 2008 in Maine, where it drew criticism from advocates for the poor who argued it unfairly singled out low-income people and risked scaring off potential needy recipients.

MORNING SICKNESS MAY SIGNAL HEALTHIER PREGNANCY

VO: 21

New research confirms that women plagued by morning sickness in early pregnancy are less likely to miscarry. But women who don't experience nausea and vomiting during their first trimester shouldn't be alarmed, Dr. Ronna L. Chan of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, one of the study's authors, told Reuters Health.

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10/08/10

OBAMA ECONOMY - JOBS

VO: 22

President Barack Obama is bracing for Friday's jobless report. The president knows the unemployment rate being announced Friday is the one that'll linger in voters minds as they decide how to vote next month. And he knows voter anger isn't going away as the jobless rate has stubbornly stuck just under 10 percent for much of the year, a level the White House says explains much if not most of the current voter angst. And economic forecasters think the announcement by the Labor Department will find the rate went up from 9.6 to 9.7 percent. Patience is Obama's main political message. He says that as tough as times are, putting Republicans back in charge will revive the very blueprint that set America's economy up to crash.

CENSUS-MARRIAGE GAP

VO: 25

An analysis of census data shows there's been a reversal of a long-time marriage trend. The Pew Research Center analysis says young adults with college degrees are now more likely to be married than those who are less educated. The reversal comes as the struggling economy pushes weddings to all-time lows. About 62 percent of college-educated 30-year-olds were married or had been married, compared with 60 percent of those without a bachelor's degree. That is a significant shift from the 1990s. Then, young adults who didn't finish college were more likely to have wed than their better-educated counterparts, 75 percent to 69 percent.

DOBBS UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS

JAIME GARCIA / LOS ÁNGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:04

Today, The Nation magazine published the results of its year-long investigation that found that Lou Dobbs, the former CNN anchor known for his anti-immigrant views, had relied on undocumented labor for the upkeep of his estate and his daughter's show horses. Dobbs devoted so much time to railing against undocumented people that he managed to skew the national debate on immigration reform. While he off-handedly would acknowledge their hard work, he devoted the bulk of his radio and TV air time to made-up stories of diseases and invasions.

MOST DOCTORS PLAN TO GET FLU SHOTS, SURVEY FINDS

VO: 18

Almost all U.S. doctors in a survey released on Thursday said they plan to get vaccinated against flu this season, a finding that heartened disease experts frustrated by low vaccination rates. "Now we need to get other health care professionals to move in this same direction," said Dr. William Schaffner of Vanderbilt University in Tennessee and president of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases.

GUM DISEASE TREATMENT RECOMMENDED DURING PREGNANCY

VO: 21

Gum disease can be safely treated during pregnancy and appears to significantly reduce the risk of premature birth associated with periodontal disease, Pennsylvania researchers report. "The present study has potential implications" for the calculations dentists make when deciding whether to treat gum disease during pregnancy, they write in the British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

FISH-FILLED DIET MAY CUT PROSTATE CANCER MORTALITY

VO: 20

Eating lots of fish may not protect men from developing prostate cancer, but it could reduce their risk of dying from the disease, a new review of the medical literature suggests. "In the United States, one in six men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer over their lifetime," Dr. Konrad M. Szymanski of McGill University Health Center in Montreal, one of the study's authors, told Reuters Health. "One in six of these men will die of prostate cancer. Our study findings suggest that the number of men who die once diagnosed is lowered by more than 50 percent among men eating lots of fish."

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10/11/10

OBAMA PREVIEW

VO: 18

President Barack Obama is pitching more support for education and infrastructure improvements while also campaigning fiercely for Democratic congressional candidates. Obama starts his week at the White House, discussing highway and bridge improvements with his Cabinet and former secretaries of transportation. Before flying from the capital for a pair of political appearances in Miami, the president will meet with students from The movie "Waiting for Superman," a sober examination of the problems in America's system of public education.

GANG HATE CRIME

VO: 28

Gang members used an anti-gay slur to ask two teen boys and a 30-year-old man about their sexuality before brutally torturing and beating them last week in a working-class Bronx neighborhood, authorities said in court, where eight suspects stood with drooped heads at their first appearance as their relatives wept behind them. During the proceeding Sunday, Assistant District Attorney Theresa Gottlieb said that each victim was asked prior to being beaten in the Oct. 3 attacks: "Is it true that you're a fag?" The defendants did not enter pleas to charges that include robbery, assault, sexual abuse and unlawful imprisonment as hate crimes. The most serious charge carried a potential 25-year prison term. Police were looking for a ninth suspect, who had been expected to turn himself in but didn't show.

FORECLOSURE FREEZE-OUTLOOK

VO: 21

Allegations of possible mortgage fraud against major financial institutions are forcing government officials to weigh options, including a possible freeze on foreclosures. Housing analysts have watched as the once-staid world of back-office bank procedures has spawned a scandal that threatens to further unhinge the housing market. Senior White House adviser David Axelrod acknowledges it's a "serious problem" but questions the need for a blanket halt to all foreclosures but the idea has gained traction in some quarters. There are allegations many foreclosures have

been accompanied by forged documents, phantom titles, disappearing paper trails and faked Social Security numbers.

SOCIAL SECURITY GLANCE

VO: 24

As if voters don't have enough to be angry about this election year, the government is expected to announce this week that more than 58 million Social Security recipients will go through another year without an increase in their monthly benefits. It would mark only the second year without an increase since automatic adjustments for inflation were adopted in 1975. The first year was this year.

TOUGHER JOBS

VO: 25

The jobs crisis has brought an unwelcome discovery for many unemployed Americans: Job openings in their old fields exist. Yet they no longer qualify for them. During the recession, companies became more productive by doing more with fewer workers. Some asked staffers to take on a broader array of duties -- duties that used to be spread among multiple jobs. Now, someone who hopes to get those jobs must meet the new requirements. Human resources specialists have given the nickname "purple squirrels" to the kinds of employees being sought.

COLLEGE DROPOUT COSTS

VO: 31

College dropouts cost taxpayers billions. Students dropping out of college after just one year are costing taxpayers billions of dollars, a new report says. States appropriated almost \$6.2 billion to four-year colleges and universities between 2003 and 2008 to help pay for the education of students who did not return for year two, the report released Monday says. The federal government also spent \$1.5 billion and states spent \$1.4 billion on grants for students who didn't start their sophomore years, according to statistics compiled by the nonprofit American Institutes for Research. The figures are meant to advance the argument that college completion rates need improvement, but could give ammunition to critics who say too many students are attending four-year schools at great cost to taxpayers.

OBESE? APPLE OR PEAR SHAPED? IT MAY BE YOUR GENES

VO: 28

Scientists have found more than 30 new gene variations linked to obesity and fat in research they say could help explain why some people get so overweight, and why some are apple shaped and some shaped like pears. An international team of more than 400 scientists from 280 research institutions said their results give more insight into the biological processes that can lead to obesity and may in future help in developing new ways to treat or prevent it.

NEW MELANOMA DRUG MAY SHRINK BRAIN TUMORS

VO: 17

An experimental melanoma drug from GlaxoSmithKline managed to shrink secondary tumors in the brains of nine patients with advanced disease, according to results of a small clinical trial on Sunday. The development is encouraging because secondary tumors, or metastases, in the brain are a major problem in the deadly form of skin cancer.

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10/12/10

GOV HOUSEKEEPER NV

VO:22

Republican candidate Brian Sandoval, who is running for Nevada governor is now facing similar accusations. According to CBS news, Ana Padilla, a Guatemalan immigrant, has come forward with a claim that she was employed by Sandoval as a housekeeper during the 1990s, before she gained legal status. Padilla, who illegally immigrated to the States from Guatemala in 1986, said she was never asked to prove she was a legal resident.

SUPREME COURT-VACCINE LAWSUIT

VO: 23

The U.S. Supreme Court began hearing arguments on Tuesday as they prepare to determine whether or not vaccine makers can be sued for alleged side effects caused by their products. At the heart of the case is the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, which was passed in order to protect vaccine makers from liability and to encourage them to remain in the industry, producing the much-needed drugs to protect kids from dangerous illnesses.

PRIME HEALTHCARE INVESTIGATION

VO: 27

The owner of four Orange County hospitals is under state and federal investigation for high infection rates that could indicate Medicare fraud or an alarming health concern, The 13 hospitals owned by Prime Healthcare Services of Victorville have the nation's highest rate of septicemia a serious blood infection. That's according to an analysis done by Service Employees International Union-United Healthcare Workers West.

GERON-STEM CELL

VO:26

U.S. doctors have begun treating the first patient to receive human embryonic stem cells, but details of the landmark clinical trial are being kept confidential, Geron Corp said on Monday. Geron has the first U.S. Food and Drug Administration license to use the controversial cells to treat people, in this case patients with new spinal cord injuries. It is the first publicly known use of human embryonic stem cells in people.

US FOOD

VO:19

Texas Fair Offers A Wide Range Of Fried Food Including Cookie Dough, Caviar And Even Fried Butter. But Food That Clogs The Arteries More Than Any Other Is Fried Beer , Made With Heavy Mass Of Biscuits, Which Are Fried In Hot Oil For 20 Seconds, Enough To Hold Your Power Alcoholic.

ONLINE HEALTH SERVICES "NEED TIGHTER RULES"

VO:20

Online health information and disease-risk tests can mislead, confuse and create needless anxiety, and governments should do more ensure the people who use them know what they are buying, experts said on Tuesday. A report by a British medical ethics group said private DNA tests may be "medically or therapeutically meaningless" and could give false results or information that is "unclear, unreliable or inaccurate."

JAUNDICE AT BIRTH MAY BE LINKED TO AUTISM

VO: 25

Babies diagnosed with jaundice may be more likely to later receive a diagnosis of autism, suggests a large new study. However, the Danish researchers caution that many questions remain unanswered, making it too early to say for sure if there is a true cause-and-effect relationship between

the conditions. Environmental exposures prior to, during and shortly after birth are emerging as important risk factors for the development of autism, in addition to genetic factors.

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10/14/10

MEDICARE FRAUD

VO :23

A vast network of Armenian gangsters and their associates used phantom health care clinics and other means to try to cheat Medicare out of \$163 million, the largest fraud by one criminal enterprise in the program's history, U.S. authorities said Wednesday. Federal prosecutors in New York and elsewhere charged 73 people. Most of the defendants were captured during raids Wednesday morning in New York City and Los Angeles, but there also were arrests in New Mexico, Georgia and Ohio.

FORECLOSURES RATES

VO :17

New figures show lenders seized more U.S. homes this summer than in any three-month stretch since the housing market began to bust in 2006. Industry group RealtyTrac says more than 288,000 properties were lost to foreclosure in the July-September quarter. That's up from nearly 270,000 in the second quarter, the previous high point in the firm's records dating back to 2005. Banks have seized more than 816,000 homes through the first nine months of the year, and had been on pace to seize 1.2 million by the end of 2010. But fewer takeovers are expected now that several major lenders have suspended foreclosures and sales of repossessed homes until they can sort out the foreclosure-documents mess.

OBAMA ELECTIONS

VO :18

President Barack Obama is taking his message to young people in a televised town hall meeting Thursday. The president will appear before about 250 young people with a cross-section of backgrounds and political views. He'll answer questions from those in the audience and from viewers submitting questions on Twitter.

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10/15/10

ELECTIONS PRESIDENTIAL IMPLICATIONS

VO :33

House and Senate contests are getting much of the attention in next month's elections, but governor races could have longer term implications for the Democrats. At least a dozen governors could be ousted by Republicans, including some in battleground states that President Barack Obama won two years ago. Next year, the once-a-decade redistricting process begins, over which governors have significant influence. That will likely affect how districts are redrawn, and who gets elected from those districts. Democrats are at risk of losing governorships in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Oregon, New Mexico and Maine, among others. Obama is campaigning hard, but so far his results seem mixed.

BUDGET DEFICIT

VO :25

Another \$1 trillion budget deficit could give administration critics more to talk about just ahead of the November midterm election. The Obama administration is set to report Friday that the federal budget deficit exceeded \$1 trillion for the second straight year. The Congressional Budget Office is projecting that the deficit for the 2010 budget year that ended Sept. 30 will total \$1.29 trillion. That's down by \$125 billion from the \$1.4 trillion in 2009 -- the highest deficit on record. Soaring deficits have become a problem for Democrats in an election year focused on the weak economy. Republicans have tapped into voter angst over the deficits, using the \$814 billion economic stimulus and \$700 billion Wall Street bailout to paint President Barack Obama and his party as big spenders.

CVS TO PAY \$78 MLN TO SETTLE METH INGREDIENT PROBE

VO :32

CVS Caremark Corp has agreed to pay \$77.6 million to settle an investigation that its drugstores allowed widespread sales of cough medicines used to manufacture the illegal stimulant methamphetamine. CVS Pharmacy Inc, a subsidiary, admitted it sold pseudoephedrine to criminals who used it to make meth, the U.S. Attorney in Los Angeles said on Thursday. The chemical is used in various cough and cold medicines, and federal law limits the amount that can be bought at one time.

PROTEIN URINE TEST MAY SIGNAL PROSTATE CANCER

VO :22

A protein in urine could be a strong indicator of prostate cancer risk, according to British scientists who say their findings could one day be developed into a quick and simple test for the disease. Scientists from the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Research Institute and the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) said the protein, called microseminoprotein-beta or MSMB, is found at reduced levels in men diagnosed with the disease and are also lower in men with more aggressive forms of the cancer

TRAFFIC POLLUTION TIED TO INCREASED EMPHYSEMA RISK

VO :23

People who spend years living near high-traffic roadways may be more likely to develop emphysema and related lung problems than those who live in less-traveled areas, a new study suggests. Research has shown that air pollution can exacerbate symptoms in people with lung diseases like asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), a group of serious lung conditions that includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis.

MEDITERRANEAN DIET MAY TRIM DIABETES RISK

VO :17

Older adults who stick with a traditional Mediterranean diet rich in plant-based fats may help lower their risk of type 2 diabetes -- even without counting calories or shedding weight, new research hints. In a study of 418 older Spanish adults, researchers found that those instructed to follow a Mediterranean diet were less likely to develop diabetes over four years than those instructed to follow a low-fat diet -- about 10 percent developed the disease, versus 18 percent in the low-fat group. And weight loss did not appear necessary to gain the benefit.

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