

FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA MAY 1-15 PART I

5/02/2011

BIN LADEN MOST WANTED

VO: 28

Almost ten years after he masterminded the September 11th attacks that killed thousands of people and shattered many Americans' sense of security, the U.S.'s most wanted man is dead. Bin Laden's entry on the FBI's Most Wanted Criminal's list has been updated. The word "deceased" has been added to the Al Qaeda leader's entry on the list. He was killed in a U.S.-led operation involving helicopters and ground forces in Pakistan on Sunday (May 2) ending a nearly 10-year worldwide hunt for the mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks. U.S. officials said bin Laden was found in a million-dollar compound in the upscale town of Abbottabad, 60 km (35 miles) north of the Pakistani capital Islamabad. A source familiar with the operation said bin Laden was shot in the head. President Barack Obama made the announcement in a , late-night White House speech. Leaders worldwide praised the killing as a dramatic success in the war against al Qaeda, although many analysts cautioned it was too soon to say bin Laden's death would mark a turning point in the battle against a highly fractured network of militants.

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05/03/2011

BIN LADEN-HUNT FOR BIN LADEN

VO: 29

When one of Osama bin Laden's most trusted aides picked up the phone last year, he unknowingly led U.S. pursuers to the doorstep of the world's most wanted terrorist. A U.S. official says the monitored call ended a years-long search for bin Laden's personal courier. It was the key break in a worldwide manhunt. The courier, in turn, led U.S. intelligence to a walled compound in northeast Pakistan, where a team of Navy SEALs shot bin Laden to death. Inside the CIA team hunting bin Laden, it always was clear that bin Laden's vulnerability was his couriers. He was too smart to let Al-Qaida foot soldiers, or even his senior Commanders, know his hideout. But if he wanted to get his messages out, somebody had to carry them, someone bin Laden trusted with his life.

OBAMA - HISPANICS CAUCUS

VO: 15

President Barack Obama will meet Tuesday with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to discuss immigration. He'll also honor the 2011 national Teacher of the Year and state Teachers of the Year in a Rose Garden ceremony. The president also is scheduled to meet separately with his senior advisers, his Cabinet and Defense Secretary Robert Gates.

SENATE TO DECIDE IMMIGRATION BILL

VO: 23

When Sen. JD Alexander ran into a throng of ubiquitous immigration advocates in the halls of the Florida Senate on Monday, he made an unusual admission: He plans to vote against a provision in an immigration bill he has been tasked with handling but doesn't much like. "Can you vote against the bill?" a protester asked the powerful Senate budget chief. "Probably not," Alexander said. "But I'm against e-Verify." Alexander, a Lake Wales Republican, opposes requiring employers to use the federal government's e-Verify system to check a prospective hire's work status. He uses e-Verify himself as a citrus grower - and, Alexander has said, the system is expensive and glitchy. The fate of SB 2040, which was scheduled for a vote Monday and then was pushed back to Tuesday, hangs in the balance in the Senate, where leaders must weigh conflicting interests exemplified by the very senators who have tried to shepherd the bill through the chamber. Last week, Senate President Mike Haridopolos dropped the bill on Alexander's lap after yanking it from Sen. Anitere Flores, a Miami Republican who had initially put forth the measure

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05/04/2011

HEART BYPASS SURGERY RATE IS DECLINING

VO: 30

There has been a dramatic drop in the rate of heart bypass procedures performed in the U.S. over the last decade, even though more hospitals are offering the open-heart surgery. One-third fewer coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgeries were performed in 2008 compared to 2001, while the rate of less invasive angioplasty procedures remained largely

unchanged, according to a study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. More than a million coronary revascularizations, involving either CABG or angioplasty with or without stenting, are performed in the U.S. each year to fix blocked arteries that supply blood to the heart. In 2008, three out of four revascularization patients had angioplasties instead of CABG, compared to two out of three patients a decade ago, Peter W. Groeneveld, MD, of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine tells WebMD. "This is a problem, because it does actually matter which of these surgeries patients get," he says, adding that many patients who would be expected to have better outcomes with CABG may not be offered the surgery.

IS MORNING COLONOSCOPY BETTER?

VO: 26

Studies have found that colonoscopies done in the afternoon are less likely to catch abnormal growths than those done in the morning. Now new research shows that the gap disappears when doctors work a half-day rather than a full one. The findings, reported in the *American Journal of Gastroenterology*, support the idea that doctor fatigue helps explain why afternoon colonoscopies tend to catch fewer polyps. Polyps are growths in the colon that are usually harmless but can sometimes become cancerous.

GRAPE TOMATO PRODUCTS RECALLED FOR SALMONELLA RISK

VO: 17

A supplier of grape tomatoes for Taylor Farms Pacific, Inc. has recalled the product for possible salmonella contamination, the government said late on Monday. Products using the recalled tomatoes were sold in Albertsons, Raley's, Safeway, Savemart, Sam's Club and Walmart stores in Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Utah, according to a statement from the Food and Drug Administration. The recalled tomatoes were used in a variety of products from prepared and packaged salads, to products sold at the stores' deli counters. The products have sell-by dates between April 27 and May 9. Young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems are particularly at risk for the possible fatal effects of Salmonella, the USDA said. Even healthy people may experience fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain. Consumers can return the products for a full refund.

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05/06/2011

BORDER INSPECTION EXPANSION

VO: 30

Federal authorities on Friday opened seven new inspection booths for commercial traffic heading north to the U.S. from Mexico, nearly doubling capacity at the bridge that's the busiest commercial port on America's southwestern border - and a prime smuggling corridor for drug gangs. U.S. Customs and Border Protection says the new posts will ease wait times on Laredo's World Trade International Bridge, where more than 4,800 18-wheelers rumble into American territory daily, or one about every 18 seconds.

GAS PRICES SLOW JOB GROWTH

VO: 23

A brightened outlook for job growth may dim this spring as rising gas prices weigh on companies and prompt some to rethink their hiring plans. Analysts' consensus forecast is that the economy added 185,000 jobs in April and that the unemployment rate remained at a two-year low of 8.8 percent. That would be down from the 216,000 jobs added in March but still solid. Still, just a few weeks ago economists were confident that private companies would add more than 200,000 jobs for the third straight month. Some now worry that the job figures could be weaker than expected, based on the most recent economic data. "There are risks out there that job growth could slow sharply," said economist Chris Rupkey at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ. For now, Rupkey is sticking with his forecast that a net total of 170,000 jobs were created in April. He predicts that private employers added fewer than 200,000 jobs, while local governments shed positions.

POLL AMERICANS THINK ECONOMY IS IN BAD SHAPE

VO: 23

Americans aren't feeling too good about the economy, according to a new poll. The CNN/Opinion Research poll found that 8-in-10 Americans think the economy is in bad shape. Forty-four percent said conditions are "somewhat poor," while 38 percent called the situation "very poor." So who's to blame? By a 2-to-1 ratio, those polled said former President George W. Bush is at fault, rather than President Barack Obama.

COFFEE, EXERCISE, SEX AND STROKE RISK

VO: 14

Having sex, drinking coffee and working out may cause blood pressure to spike and briefly raise the risk of a burst aneurysm in certain people, according to a new study out of the Netherlands. Only about 2 percent of the population is believed to have an aneurysm, a balloon-like swelling in a brain artery that results from a weak spot in the artery wall. But while the overall risk of a rupture is small, even brief activities that raise blood pressure can temporarily boost the risk of aneurysm. Coffee and vigorous exercise were the most commonly-noted aneurysm triggers, followed by nose blowing, sex, drinking soda, being startled and experiencing anger. However, researchers said people should not stop drinking coffee or having sex. The study, which has been published in the journal Stroke, simply shows that the activities are triggers.

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05/09/2011

ARIZONA'S GOVERNOR TO REVEAL PLANS FOR IMMIGRATION LAW

VO: 25

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer and Attorney General Tom Horne will announce Monday what legal steps, if any, they're prepared to take following an injunction of the state's controversial immigration law, which is opposed by the Obama administration. Among other things, the legislation would have required local law enforcement in Arizona to apprehend and help deport illegal immigrants. The Justice Department sued, arguing that only the federal government has that authority.

AUTISM STUDY

VO: 23

In the first large-scale study of its kind, U.S. and South Korean researchers report that the rate of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) may be significantly higher than previously thought, affecting as many as 1 in 38 children. The findings suggest that many youngsters may be going undiagnosed and untreated for the developmental disorder. In a study that involved students in both special needs and regular elementary schools in the Ilsan district of Goyang, South Korea, scientists led by Dr. Young Shin Kim at Yale University School of Medicine found that among 55,266 children aged 7 to 12, the rate of ASDs was 2.64% (or one case of ASD for every 38 youngsters). That percentage outstrips the current U.S estimate of 1 in 110 eight-year-olds - around 1% - a rate that has itself risen in recent years.

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05/10/2011

UTAH-IMMIGRATION

VO: 29

A federal judge will hear arguments today to decide whether to block a new Utah immigration law that lets police check the citizenship status of anyone they arrest. U.S. District Judge Clark Waddoups is set to hold hearing on the matter in Salt Lake City hours after the law goes into effect. Two civil rights groups sued to stop the law and want an injunction. They contend the law is modeled after an Arizona law currently before the federal courts and its implementation could lead to racial profiling. Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff says the law is constitutional and will be upheld. The law requires police to verify a person's U.S. immigration status if they are arrested for a serious crime. Immigration checks are optional for lesser crimes.

ARIZONA BORDER TUNNEL

VO: 33

Authorities in Arizona say they've found a 250-foot-long unfinished smuggling tunnel underneath the U.S.-Mexico border that has electricity, water pumps and ventilation. Agents have found dozens of smuggling tunnels in Nogales since the 1990s, but Chief Border Patrol Agent Randy Hill says this tunnel is more sophisticated than other recently discovered tunnels, saying that those who were building it chiseled through solid rock and installed lighting and other equipment. The Border Patrol said Monday that they initially discovered the tunnel May 2 and confirmed it with the Mexican government three days later.

TEXAS HOUSE APPROVES 'SANCTUARY CITIES' BAN

VO: 20

After taking the unusual and controversial strategy of cutting off debate, the Texas House late Monday voted 99 to 47 in favor of a ban on "sanctuary cities," despite objections that the measure was unnecessary and will increase racial profiling against Hispanics. House Republicans voted to end debate by calling for an immediate vote on the bill, shutting down debate on amendments after four hours of sometimes heated discussion. Democrats

roundly criticized the tactic almost as emotionally as the underlying legislation, and faulted House Speaker Joe Straus for allowing the maneuver. "Is this the intended course that the chair intends to exercise as we proceed?" asked State Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston. "If the chair along with the super-majority - if they will simply let the rest of us know - which bills they intend to have proceed regardless of debate and points of order - they will save us a lot of time and effort. No question the super-majority can pass any bill at any time."

NAVY TO ALLOW SAME-SEX CEREMONIES

VO: 20

A preliminary plan outlines some big changes in the military. Navy chaplains will be cleared to perform same-sex marriages in military chapels. This will begin when the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is officially lifted. And only in states that recognize same-sex marriage. But, chaplains will have the power to choose to do the service or not, based on their own religious beliefs. Pentagon officials are expected to sign off on the new rules in a few weeks.

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05/11/2011

IMMIGRATION BILLS SIGNED AMID ARRESTS

VO: 22

Gov. Mitch Daniels signed two immigration-related bills Tuesday, the day after six students were arrested at the Statehouse while protesting the legislation.

The students were cleared for release by Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials when detention orders were lifted Tuesday, but it was still uncertain whether ICE would seek deportation. Meanwhile, the students began hunger strikes Tuesday while they were in custody to protest their arrests. While Daniels "appreciates the sincerity of their viewpoint," spokeswoman Jane Jankowski said, the governor backed Senate Bill 590, which would penalize businesses for knowingly hiring illegal immigrants, and House Bill 1402, which would deny undocumented students lower in-state tuition fees. Five undocumented immigrant students who would be affected by HB 1402 -- Uriel and Erick Gama, 20; Ana Ruiz-Toyar, 23; Guadalupe Pimentel, 18; and Sayra Perez, 19 -- were arrested on trespassing charges Monday, after slipping into Daniels' office during a student-led protest against those bills. A sixth student, Idamarie Collazo,

didn't enter the office but was arrested and charged with resisting law enforcement. She is not suspected of being an illegal immigrant.

MD ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS IN STATE TUITION

MARIA ROSA LUCHINNI - MARYLAND

PKG 1:50

Gov. Martin O'Malley has signed a bill allowing illegal immigrants to pay in-state college tuition, if they meet certain conditions. O'Malley signed the bill on Tuesday in Annapolis, where the Democratic governor posed for five sets of photographs to accommodate supporters during a signing ceremony.

US SENATORS TO REVIVE DREAM ACT TO EASE IMMIGRATION

VO: 26

Senate Democrats including majority leader Harry Reid are to revive the long-stalled DREAM act proposal to ease immigration to the United States, the politicians said Tuesday in a statement. The bill would allow a 'select group' of foreign students 'with great potential to contribute more fully to America,' they said. A formal announcement is to be made Wednesday. The move came just hours after President Barack Obama, a fellow Democrat, called for reform of the US immigration system as he stood on the US-Mexican border. He demanded that Congress act on the long-simmering issue.

TEXAS GROUP'S LAWSUIT: CENSUS UNDERCOUNTED HISPANICS

VO: 23

A Texas civil rights group filed a lawsuit in federal court in San Antonio charging that the 2010 Census failed to count as many as one-tenth of the Hispanics living in the state. The Mexican American Legislative Caucus asked a federal judge to order the Texas Legislature to draw political boundaries based on the assumption that there are more Hispanics living in the state than the Census shows. Lawyer Jose Garza, who represents the caucus, said the lawsuit against Governor Rick Perry and other key state leaders is likely to become the basis of similar suits in other states demanding increased Latino representation in Congress, state legislatures, and on political boards and commissions. Garza said Texas is not the only state where Hispanics are likely to have been significantly undercounted, in part because the U.S. Census Bureau has cut back on outreach efforts.

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05/12/2011

CALIFORNIA CENSUS

VO: 23

Californians saw the rate of empty homes and rental apartments in the state increase during the past decade, census data showed on Thursday in the latest news on the state's battered housing market. The Golden State's homeowner vacancy rate shot up from 1.4 percent to 2.1 percent, while the rental vacancy rate rose from 3.7 percent to 6.3 percent, according to data from the 2010 census. At the same time, the average household size in owner-occupied and rental units increased across the state. Since the economy tumbled, Californians have left the state in search of jobs or doubled up with family members to ride out the storm in the housing market, real estate experts said.

CYBERSECURITY

VO: 26

Improving the security of the computer networks that direct the nation's crucial infrastructure systems - such as electricity, finance and transportation - is the goal of proposals that the Obama administration announced Thursday. "Our nation is at risk," declared an information sheet that the White House published along with the proposals. "The cybersecurity vulnerabilities in our government and critical infrastructure are a risk to national security, public safety and economic prosperity." Cyber crime - attacks on computer systems by hackers, identity thieves, terrorists or hostile governments - has increased dramatically in recent years. Members of Congress introduced more than 50 separate bills to deal with this in the last legislative session. Senate Democratic leaders asked the Obama administration to help meld a coherent approach, and that's what the White House rolled out Thursday.

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05/13/2011

SOCIAL SECURITY REPORT TODAY

VO: 24

Congress is putting off changes to Social Security, but the massive retirement and disability program still faces long-term financial problems from an aging population and an economy that has been slow to rebound. Those problems are getting new attention Friday as the trustees who

oversee Social Security and Medicare release their annual reports on the programs' finances. Medicare is in worse shape than Social Security because it is also being hit by rising health care costs. But both programs will become insolvent in the coming decades, unless Congress acts, according to the trustees.