

FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA NEWS APRIL 16-30 / PART 2

04/17/2012

IMMIGRANT TEEN CHARGES

VO: 20

A 15-year-old boy was in court Monday to face charges in a deadly accident. Police say he was driving a van full of illegal immigrants that crashed last week. The teen is facing nine counts of murder and 17 counts of human smuggling. His attorney told the judge his client was smuggling humans because his family was threatened.

EMBARGOS HIPOTECARIOS ACORRALAN A LOS HISPANOS

VO: 30

An 18-billion dollar national mortgage settlement program is proving more of a frustration than a help to California residents, who are anxiously waiting for the program to go into effect. The program was negotiated by California Attorney General Kamala Harris and attorneys general from several other states. But according to bankruptcy attorney Pete Macaluso, the funds are not yet available to those who need them... and time is running out. Two months ago Harris sounded confident when announcing the program. But homeowners holding out hope help will come soon are still waiting. The Attorney General says she's appointed a special monitor to track the banks' progress in her state, but it's still too early to know.

=====

04/18/2012

CONGRESS-BUDGET

VO: 28

Republicans controlling the House are targeting food stamps, federal employee pensions, tax breaks for illegal immigrants and subsidies under President Barack Obama's health care law in a multifaceted drive to swap cuts to domestic programs for big Pentagon cuts scheduled next year. Several committees are meeting Wednesday to vote on the cuts, which would be bundled together for a vote by the entire House next month as a follow-up to the more sweeping GOP budget plan approved last month. That measure is nonbinding but instructed six House committees to come up with spending reductions as an alternative to across-the-board cuts scheduled to slam both the Pentagon and domestic agencies in January. Those cuts were required after the budget "supercommittee" failed to agree on a deficit-reduction plan last year.

USA-COLLEGE/ONLINE

VO: 25

Five prestigious U.S. universities will create free online courses for students worldwide through a new, interactive education platform dubbed Coursera, the founders announced Wednesday. The two founders, both professors of computer science at Stanford University, also announced that they had received \$16 million in financing from two Silicon Valley venture capital firms. Coursera will offer more than three dozen college courses in the coming year through its website at coursera.org, on subjects ranging from Greek mythology to neurology, from calculus to contemporary American poetry. The classes are designed and

taught by professors at Stanford, Princeton, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Michigan. Coursera joins a raft of ambitious online projects aimed at making higher education more accessible and affordable. Many of these ventures, however, simply post entire lectures on the web, with no interactive component. Others strive to create brand-new universities from scratch.

=====

04/19/2012

DANGERS OF THE 'CHOKING GAME'

MARIA ROSA LUCCHINI - WASHINGTON, DC

PKG: 2:08

Approximately 5 to 11 percent of children and adolescents have participated in an activity commonly referred to as the "choking game," in which blood and oxygen to the brain is cut off with a belt, rope or other item in order to get high or achieve a euphoric feeling once pressure is released. Not only is this activity dangerous, it can also be associated with additional risky behaviors, according to a study in the May 2012 issue of Pediatrics, "Health Risks of Eighth-Grade Participants in the 'Choking Game': Results From an Oregon Population-Based Survey" (published online April 16). Researchers examined data from the 2009 Healthy Teens survey, which questioned 5,348 eighth-graders on choking game awareness, lifetime prevalence and participation. Among Oregon youth, 6.1 percent have participated in the choking game. Participation was closely linked to increased sexual activity and substance use among both genders, along with poor nutrition and gambling among females, and increased violence among males. Black males were more likely to participate than white males, and Pacific Islanders had significantly higher participation rates (both males and females).

JOSE GODINEZ SAMPERIO MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PRACTICE

INTERVIEW - WASHINGTON, DC

3:00

Jose Godinez-Samperio, 25, graduated at the top of his class at Florida State University's College of Law. But the aspiring lawyer may not get to practice what he worked so hard to achieve. Godinez-Sampeiro is an undocumented immigrant and based on his legal status the Florida Board of Bar Examiners denied him entry into the state Bar. Godinez-Samperio, originally from Mexico, entered the U.S. legally with his parents when he was 9 years-old on a tourist visa but the family overstayed their allowed period of visitation. Since his time in the U.S. Godinez-Samperio became the valedictorian of his high school class in 2004, an Eagle Scout which is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and graduated from Florida State University College of Law. His case is now being reviewed by the Supreme Court to determine whether the Florida Board of Bar Examiners can accept someone who is not in the country legally, the Orlando Sentinel reports.

STUDY-TESTOSTERONE MAY HELP HEART PATIENTS

VO: 29

Patients suffering from heart failure may benefit from testosterone treatment, according to a new study.

Researchers found that people who took testosterone supplements could exercise longer than those who didn't. About five-million Americans have heart failure and it's a leading cause of hospitalization for people over the age of 65 in the U-S. Testosterone occurs naturally in both men and women but levels go down with age. The study appears in the journal Circulation.

WANT TO LOWER ALZHEIMER'S RISK? GET MOVING

VO: 30

A new study indicates keeping your body active is just as important as exercising your brain when it comes to warding off Alzheimer's disease. The research published in the journal Neurology and reported on by USA Today showed study participants who scored in the bottom 10 percent of physical activity were more than twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's. Researchers say "physical activity" encompasses more than just exercise - it includes chores, cooking and even gardening. They say

OPTIMISM HELPS HEART HEALTH

VO: 21

When it comes to heart-health-- it pays to be happy. New research out of Harvard finds optimists less likely to have heart attacks, heart disease or strokes. Scientists reviewed more than 200 studies and found that factors such as optimism and life satisfaction could offer protection against cardiovascular disease. And it held true regardless of a person's age, education, weight, or family history of heart

disease. Those who were the most optimistic had about a 50% reduced risk of having a heart attack or stroke compared to those who were less satisfied with their lives. Scientists don't know all of the reasons why optimists have healthier hearts but they suggest that part of it has to do with better handling of stress. People with a positive outlook were also more likely to live a healthier lifestyle: To exercise, eat a healthy diet and to get the proper amount of sleep. Scientists know that depression, and using negative emotions such as hostility, anger and anxiety to deal with issues or suffering can be harmful to the heart.

=====

04/20/2012

SNAP CUTS

MONICA NAVARRO - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

PKG: 1:42

When one in five Oregonians is enrolled in the program formerly known as food stamps, it's big news when a congressional committee suggests sweeping cuts to the program. It happened this week in the U.S. House of Representatives. Fifth District Rep. Kurt Schrader, D-Oregon, sits on the House Agriculture Committee, which voted this week to recommend cutting the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) by \$36 billion in the next 10 years. That's in line with the GOP budget mandates to reduce spending, although the committee cut even deeper than the \$33 billion goal. The panel also chose to cut only SNAP rather than trimming smaller amounts from other ag-related programs. For the Oregon Food Bank Network, the vote amounts to "political showmanship," according to Jeff Kleen, its public policy advocate.

MORE THAN QUARTER OF U.S. ADULTS LACKED HEALTH INSURANCE

VO: 22

In 2011, study finds By Noam N. Levey Tribune Co. Washington Bureau The Denver Post Posted:DenverPost.com WASHINGTON - With the future of the health care law emerging as a major campaign issue this fall, a new survey has found that more than a quarter of adults ages 19 to 64 in the United States lacked health insurance for at least some time in 2011. And the vast majority of those people, nearly 70 percent, had been without coverage for more than a year, according to the study by the nonprofit Commonwealth Fund, a leading authority on health policy.

TEXTING & DRIVING

MARIA EUGENIA PAYAN - SATELLITE ROOM

VO: 35

We've all heard about the dangers of texting while driving. Yesterday, prosecutors in Missouri charged a teenager with manslaughter for allegedly causing a deadly crash last year. They say she was busy with her phone and not looking at the road.

PROOF GUM DISEASE LEADS TO HEART PROBLEMS

VO: 22

Chew on this: the American Heart Association says the link between gum disease and heart disease is a little hard to swallow. The organization says while keeping teeth and gums healthy remain important, directly linking it to heart attack and stroke is the wrong message. One doctor says the statement can distort facts, alarm patients and divert attention from the more prevalent risk factors. The new statement was reported in the journal Circulation. An expert panel analyzed about 600-studies over a three-year period.

=====

04/23/2012

NOTHING TO REPORT

=====

04/24/2012

FEDERAL RESERVE

VO:34

The Federal Reserve will have plenty to say about the economy Wednesday, when its two-day policy meeting ends with a statement, updated forecasts and Chairman Ben Bernanke's latest news conference.

Whether all that information will signal any shift in its outlook or the prospect of further steps to boost the economy is far from clear. The Fed will likely repeat its plan to keep short-term interest rates at record lows through 2014. It may also signal that it won't likely launch any new program to lower longer-term rates unless the economy weakens. That would be a switch from three months ago, when Bernanke and his colleagues ended their January meeting with hints that they were edging closer to a third round of bond buying. The Fed's bond purchases have been intended to drive down long-term rates to encourage borrowing and spending. But since then, signs have suggested that the U.S. economy has strengthened. And the European debt crisis looks less dire than when the year began, though France's presidential race has muddied the outlook. Those developments make a further round of Fed bond buying less likely, many economists say. "This will be a wait-and-watch meeting," said David Jones, chief economist at DMJ Advisors. "Despite all the theatrics with a Bernanke press conference and new economic forecasts, I think we will get a very predictable outcome -- no change in policy."

=====

04/25/2012

ICE DEPORTATION REVIEW

LILIANA ESCALANTE - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG: 1:56

Immigration officials have offered to shelve 7.5 percent of deportation cases under a massive review of the backlogged U.S. system aimed at focusing on deporting more criminals, authorities said Tuesday. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has offered to temporarily suspend the deportation cases of roughly 16,500 people after reviewing more than 70 percent of the immigration cases pending as of mid-April, according to statistics released by the agency. ICE officials said 2,700 cases have been shelved. The rest still require paperwork and background checks. It was not immediately clear how many immigrants had been told of the offer or how many had accepted it. The Obama administration announced in August that roughly 300,000 deportation cases would be reviewed and non-criminals and those illegal immigrants who posed no public safety or national security threat would likely have their cases put on hold indefinitely.

POSTAL PROBLEMS

VO: 20

The Senate offered a lifeline to the nearly bankrupt U.S. Postal Service on Wednesday, voting to give the struggling agency an \$11 billion cash infusion while delaying controversial decisions on closing post offices and ending Saturday delivery. By a 62-37 vote, senators approved a measure which had divided mostly along rural-urban lines. Over the past several weeks, the bill was modified more than a dozen times, adding new restrictions on closings and cuts to service that rural-state senators said would hurt their communities the most. The issue now goes to the House, which has yet to consider a separate version of the bill. "The Postal Service is an iconic American institution that still delivers 500 million pieces

of mail a day and sustains 8 million jobs," said Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., a bill co-sponsor. "This legislation will change the USPS so it can stay alive throughout the 21st century." The mail agency, however, criticized the measure, saying it fell far short in stemming financial losses. Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said if the bill became law, he would have to return to Congress in a few years to get emergency help.

MORE UNIVERSITIES CHARGING MORE TUITION FOR HARDER MAJORS

VO: 21

A growing number of public universities are charging higher tuition for math, science and business programs, which they argue cost more to teach - and can earn grads higher-paying jobs. More than 140 public universities now use "differential tuition" plans, up 19% since 2006, according to research from Cornell's Higher Education Research Institute. That number is increasing as states cut higher-education spending and schools try to pay for expensive technical programs. "It's been a lifesaver," said Donde Plowman, who charges business and engineering majors \$50 more a credit. "We can be excited for the future." The money at Nebraska paid to create a career center, renovate a student lounge and hire an additional academic adviser. The college is also hiring new faculty.

BOTOX INGREDIENT HAS LIMITED EFFECT ON HEADACHES

VO: 29

Patients who started out having headaches almost daily reported two fewer headaches per month when they were given injections of botulinum toxin A. They also had more side effects, including weak muscles and a stiff neck. The medication is marketed under multiple brands, but Allergan's Botox is the best known. Botox is used to treat a range of conditions, including migraines and excessive sweating. "The effect these appear to be having on migraine headaches is small -- it only reduces headaches by a couple of days a month," said Dr. Jeffrey Jackson, the study's lead researcher, from the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. That's "really, really modest," he told Reuters Health. Still, it's possible that some chronic migraine patients will benefit from injections much more than others, he said.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE ABETTED BY FAMILY, FRIENDS: STUDY

VO: 22

More than 70 percent of people who abuse prescription pain relievers obtain the drugs from friends or relatives, usually with permission and for free, according to a government study released on Wednesday. The study, based on an ongoing national survey of nearly 70,000 Americans aged 12 and over, offers a snapshot of a growing health and safety problem that is already responsible for more fatal overdoses than cocaine and heroin, combined, and has begun to spawn other crimes including gang violence. "This is one of the greatest drug threats we have ever faced," Michele Leonhart, who heads the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, told reporters as the study was released. An estimated 7 million Americans abuse pharmaceutical drugs. Prescription drugs account for about 75 percent of all drug-related U.S. overdose deaths, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And three of every four deaths from pills involve opioid pain relievers including oxycodone.

BAKERSFIELD THE COUNTRY'S MOST POLLUTED CITY

VO: 25

Four Valley cities are named in the American Lung Association's latest list of the most polluted in the country. In the agency's state of the air report, Bakersfield is listed as the most polluted city because of its high pollution and ozone levels. Hanford is number two on the list, in the year-round particle pollution category. Visalia took the fourth spot, while Fresno was ranked fifth. Los Angeles was also included in the list. The good news is, the report shows the US has made significant progress in cleaning the air. Ozone levels dropped 13 percent and particle pollution decreased between 2001 and 2010.

=====

04/26/2012

STUDENT LOAN RATES

VO: 26

A nearly \$6 billion dollar GOP proposal that would prevent interest rates on federal students loans from doubling will be up for a House vote on Friday. The bill is a response to Democrats daily calls to prevent the current 3.4 interest rates on subsidized Stafford student loans from automatically increasing to 6.8 percent on July 1. Republicans want to offset the cost by cutting funds from the president's health care overhaul.

POSTAL PROBLEMS

VO: 26

The Senate has passed overhaul legislation that would allow the financially strapped U.S. Postal Service to avert immediate bankruptcy, giving it a cash infusion while delaying decisions on closing post offices and ending Saturday delivery. The bill passed on a 62-37 vote. Under the measure, the postal service would get an \$11 billion refund of overpayments made to a federal fund to pay down debt and finance buyouts to 100,000 postal employees. At the same, it would halt the closing of more than 100 mail processing centers, bar any shutdowns before the November elections and protect rural post offices for one year.

MARCO RUBIO ON DREAM ACT

VO: 31

Gaby Pacheco, a vocal immigrant activist, accepted a tantalizing invitation last week from an unlikely source: Republican Sen. Marco Rubio wanted her to help craft a bill that could legalize the children of some illegal immigrants. Two hours later, Pacheco and other activists got a different pitch from their more familiar White House allies. Be wary of Rubio and his plan, two of President Obama's top advisers told them in a meeting. It wouldn't go far enough and wasn't likely to succeed. The group was polite but noncommittal. "We're not married to the Democratic or Republican parties," said Pacheco, 27. "We're going to push what's best for the community."

BULLYING AGES CHILDREN PREMATURELY

VO: 27

Violence can prematurely age children, by as much as seven to 10 years. That's according to a study published in Molecular Psychiatry and written about in U-S-A Today. The study looked at children's D-N-A sequences and found they shortened faster than normal in kids exposed to violence. Researchers say that may make children more likely to get diseases associated with aging -- like heart attacks -- seven to 10 years before their peers. The study looked at children who faced three types of violence: domestic violence against their mother, bullying and being the target of mistreatment from an adult.

GPS HELPS STUDENT LOCATE STOLEN IPAD

VO: 21

A University of Texas student uses technology to track down her stolen items. Sunday's band rehearsal started off like any other for university of texas music student natalie smith. thieves had taken off with nearly 5,000 dollars worth of stuff. She immediately called u-t police, and then realized her ipad was also missing but it happened to have a g-p-s tracking system on it. using a friends computer she couldn't believe what she saw.

=====

04/27/2012

DC:SENATE PASSES VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

VO: 27

The U.S Senate renewed the Violence Against Women Act with a 68 to 31 vote Thursday. The measure is designed to crack down on stalking, rape and domestic violence against women This new version of the law gives protection to gays, lesbians and undocumented immigrants. Senate Republicans were initially against expanding the bill to include the groups, but 15 Republicans voted in favor of the

reauthorization. House Republicans are expected to press for changes to the legislation when negotiators from the House and Senate meet to merge their competing bills.

WOMEN CANCER MEDICINE

MARIA E. PAYAN - SATELLITE ROOM

PKG: 1:13

Hormone therapy originally taken to ward off chronic diseases may be linked to an increased risk of breast cancer in older Chinese women, but it does not seem to raise their risk of heart attacks or heart-related deaths, a new study suggests. The findings expand upon the landmark Women's Health Initiative study of 2002, which found that a common estrogen-plus-progestin treatment increased a woman's risk for heart attacks, breast cancer and strokes. "In our study, we found the same increased risk of breast cancer, but we didn't find an increased risk of heart disease " said Dr. Irene Su, an assistant professor of reproductive medicine at the University of California, San Diego and the study's lead author.

CANCER, DIET, WORKING OUT

VO: 24

A cancer diagnosis often inspires people to exercise and eat healthier. Now the experts say there's strong evidence that both habits may help prevent the disease from coming back. New guidelines issued Thursday by the American Cancer Society urge doctors to talk to their cancer patients about eating right, exercising and slimming down if they're too heavy. That's not something most doctors do, said Dr. Omer Kucuk, an Emory University oncologist who has researched the effect of nutrition on prostate cancer. They're focused on surgery, chemotherapy or other treatments for their patients, he added. "Usually the last thing on their mind is to talk about diet and exercise," Kucuk said. Cancer society officials have long encouraged healthy eating and exercise as a way to prevent certain cancers. They and others have tried to spread that gospel to cancer survivors as well. Indeed, the cancer society has a certification program for fitness professionals who work with cancer survivors. But until now, the group didn't think there was enough research to support a strong statement for cancer survivors

FRUITS AND HEALTH

VO: 20

People who get a range of fruits and vegetables in their diets may have a somewhat decreased risk of type 2 diabetes a new study suggests. The findings, reported in the journal Diabetes Care, do not prove that eating your fruits and veggies will ward off type 2 diabetes -- a disease closely associated with obesity and old age. But researchers say the findings should give people yet more incentive to eat the way our mothers always told us. The study of over 3,700 UK adults found that those who downed the most servings of fruit and vegetables in a week had a lower risk of developing type 2 diabetes over 11 years, versus people who ate the fewest.

=====

04/30/2012

GAS PRICES CONTINUE TO FALL

VO :19

According to the company AAA the cost of gasoline has been decreasing. It decrease a few cents last week reaching \$3.88.

=====END OF REPORT=====