Public Issues Report 2nd Quarter 2009

Public File 2009 – 2nd Quarter

News at		
6:01am	7:01	8:01
6:15	7:15	8:15
6:31	7:31	8:31
6:45	7:45	8:45

April 1
Cyber security experts are warning that Conficker, a fast-spreading computer worm also known as Downadup, could attack millions of computers

April 2
The Labor Department's report on the number of Americans filing for unemployment will be released this morning and it's not looking to good.

Experts predict more than 600-thousand peeps filed last week for bennies for the ninth straight time.

April 3
The Senate is getting its hands on a bill for the FDA to have power to oversee the tobacco industry's advertising and marketing campaigns.

April 6
The incidence of tonsil cancer has tripled in the city of Stockholm since the 1970s and doctors at the world-famous Karolinska Institute there think they know why. Oral sex - or perhaps French kissing. And changes in sexual behavior that took place 20 or 30 years ago.

April 7
More than half of net savvy kids are friends with someone they don't know online! Online safety expert Parry Aftab has tips to help you out!

April 8
Birth-control pill lands Fairfax, Virginia high school girl 2-week suspension.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has launched an investigation this morning to see if there's a link between dirty equipment at the VA and a veteran's positive H-I-V test.

April 9
Bank of America just announced it will start raising interest rates this summer on the four million credit-card customers who carry a balance.

U.S officials are scrambling to patch up holes hackers used to break into the U.S. electrical grid and leave software programs that could disrupt the system.

April 10
The banks have to take the stress tests as part of the bailout plan to make sure they'll survive. But get this... The Treasury Department wants the banks to keep their "stress tests" results on the d-l for now so it won't shock the market.

April 13
June first is the deadline for GM to file for bankruptcy.
The U.S. treasury department is ordering the struggling American auto giant to get its act together...
Despite some g-m insiders saying they might try and reorganize outside of court.

April 14
President Obama has agreed to lift all travel restrictions that limited Cuban Americans one trip every three years.

April 15
Only about 60% of Americans search their homes for foods recalled because of contamination, researchers reported on Tuesday.

Sales at U.S. retailers unexpectedly fell in March after two months of increases, a government report showed on Tuesday, dimming hopes the recession was close to hitting bottom.

April 16
Foreclosure tracking company, Realty Track.com is releasing a report today showing home foreclosures jumped 17% from February to March.

April 17
A South Dakota urology clinic is contacting thousands of patients this morning who may have been exposed to hepatitis and HIV.

State health officials say since 2002, the clinic reused medical products on more than five thousand people.

April 20
Energy giant Exxon Mobil Corp beat discount retailer Wal-Mart Stores Inc to regain the top of Fortune magazine's list of the 500 biggest publicly traded companies, based on revenue.

April 21
The Treasury Department is sending the troubled automakers five point five billion dollars. Chrysler is getting 500 million through the end of this month as it tries to merge with Fiat. And GM is getting five billion through May to help it restructure outside of bankruptcy.

April 22
Want to reduce breast cancer risk? Eat walnuts. By eating walnuts, women could reduce their risk of breast cancer, researchers said on Tuesday.

April 23
The Army is scrambling this morning to find missing vials of a dangerous virus from a lab at Fort Detrick in Maryland. Inside the vials was... "Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis." It makes horses sick and can spread to humans through mosquitoes. But the Army says there is a vaccine, but it hasn't been used in the United States since 1971.

April 24
A South Bend, Indiana homeless shelter is starting to charge to stay ($ 1/day for stay, $5/day for food.)

April 27
Verizon and Apple are discussing the possible development of an iPhone for Verizon.

April 28
Cablevision Systems Corporation just announced it plans to roll out super-fast web connection that will allow you to download a full-length h-d movie in less than 10 minutes.

April 29
Fox is being punished for a pair of colorful live billboard music award broadcasts.

U.S. health officials have confirmed the first death in the u-s from swine flu. They say a 23 month old child in Texas has died... it's the first death outside of México.

April 30
Vice president Joe Biden said just moments ago - in response to the swine flue pandemic level being raised yesterday.

The suburban mom convicted of driving a 13 year old girl to commit suicide after bullying her on myspace will be sentenced this morning.

Talks broke down between Chrysler's lenders and the Treasury Department to cut the automaker's debt.

May 1
China is ramping up its efforts to fight human trafficking...they are announcing this morning their plans to set up a network of more than 200 DNA centers to help trace missing children. Thousands of children in China are stolen or sold each year and traded for a few hundred dollars and a few are ever found.

Investigators in LA believe they have cracked a cold case this morning thanks to DNA. Cops believe John Floyd Thomas raped and murdered dozens of women decades ago because of a match of his DNA to evidence from two killings in the 1970s. They say he may have started killing back in 1955. If that's true, he could be one of the worst serial killers in United States history.

May 4
The number of cases of the swine flu in the US is skyrocketing this morning as federal health officials scramble to catch up with testing. There are 226 cases and counting.

Tragic news from the Dallas Cowboys camp...A scout is permanently paralyzed from the waist down this morning...after the team's indoor practice facility collapsed. 33-year old Rich Behm's spinal cord was severed...Special teams coach Joe DeCamillis also broke his back, but it didn't cause paralysis.

May 5
The skies are turning friendly again. US Airline companies had been hurting for cash...but during the month of April, they all seemed to lift out of their economic tailspin thanks to deep discounts in a bid to fill seats. But it's bittersweet...because they're still charging for checked baggage!

More than 286 cases of swine flu have been confirmed in the US. But the CDC think that numbers may jump to 700...officials are still testing possible cases. Yet, health officials across the world believe the spreak of the H1-N1 may be slowing down.

May 6
Today is International No Diet Day. It's an annual celebration of body acceptance and body shape diversity.

While Pakistan's President is in DC, almost 500 thousand of his people are expected to head to safety today. The government ordered them to evacuate because they're preparing to launch a big time military offensive against the Taliban who has dominated the swat valley. Dozens of people have been hurt, caught in the crossfire.

May 7
Conservative groups are gearing up this morning to fight against Maine's new same-sex marriage law. The Governor became the first in the country to sign a gay marriage bill into law yesterday, without being forced into action by a court decision. With his signature, five states in New England back gay marriage. The Vatican has given an internationally known catholic priest, sometimes called "Father Oprah," his walking papers after some steaming pics of him making out with a woman on a Florida beach.

May 8
A famous "munchkin" ... Is now on the yellow brick road to the great unknown. Mickey Carroll one of the last remaining munchkins from "The Wizard of Oz" died last night in his sleep in St. Louis. He was 89 years old. "Oz" was Mickey's only movie, but after it debuted on TV in the 60's... He made a career out of "Oz"-related events.

Fire crews out west are battling more than a raging wildire...they have to fight the winds fueling the blaze. So far, the Santa Barbara fire has charged 27-hundred acres and forced thousands to evacuate.

May 11
Accused Nazi John Demanyek is packing his bags this morning because he's expected to be deported to Germany tomorrow. He faces charges there for being an accessory to the murders of 29,000 Jews at a Nazi death camp. He has always denied the allegations.

Keep your eye on the stock market this morning as the Head of the Justice Department's "Anti-trust" Division hits the airwaves. President Obama's anti-trust leader will announce plans to go "old school" by restoring tough restrictions against corporations that use their market dominance to squeeze out competitors.

It will cost you two more pennies to send the one you love a card through snail mail. Starting today, stamps will go up to 44 cents. Mailing a postcard will cost 28 cents. The post master says the price increase is due to rising production costs.

May 12
The Iranian-American journalist who's been held in Iran for the last few months...Should be back on US soil within days! Roxana Saberi was released yesterday after being convicted of spying four months ago and sentenced to eight years in prison. But President Obama and other international officials got her sentence reduced, and she was put on probation.

If you're feeling a little more pinch at the pump, it's because gas prices have risen 16 cents in the last two weeks! The average price per gallon right now is $2.24...according to the energy department, that's the highest in 6 months. Drivers in the windy city are paying the most where it's $2.52 a gallon.

May 13
US officials are rushing emergency aid to Pakistan to the tune of $5 million. The money will be spent to help peeps uprooted by the fighting against extremists. The US has been urging the Pakistanis to fight back against the Taliban who has driven hundreds of thousands of people from their villages.

If you're shopping for a new car, you may want to head to Colorado-- Where a dealership is poised to give away cars if it rains on Memorial Day. A General Motors dealership in Greeley is offering a full refund to buyers if it rains at least one inch on May 25th between 7 a-m and 7 p-m.

Medicare and Social Security are on life support this morning. A new federal study finds medicare will be depleted by 2017 because its paying out more in benefits than its getting from taxes and other revenue. And Social Security will be tapped out by 2037.

May 14
GM and Chrysler are running hundreds of car dealerships out of business. The former big two are expected to cut-off as many as 9 thousand dealerships "today"... That could mean 200-thousand people will be pink slipped. Chrysler is already in bankruptcy and trying to restructure. GM may file June 1st.

Today is the last day the national transportation safety board will be holding hearings on the Buffalo commuter crash that killed 50 people. The board says the pilot and co-pilot weren't paid much, had to commute hundreds of miles to work and were probably very tired as they flew from Newark to Buffalo in February.

The ACLU is hot this morning over the President's "about face" on releasing pics showing detainee abuse. This comes less than a month after he said he would release them. The Administration says military leaders advised against it, worried about the backlash in the middle east against our troops.

May 15
Right now lawmakers on Capitol Hill are working on a bill that would reform the credit card industry and curb interest rates. They hope to pass it by the end of this month!

A new report from a travel website out today says 35 percent of Americans don't take all of the vacation they receive in a year. And experts say you shouldn't let the economy stop you. They say when you don't take time off you hurt yourself and your company. Because you get sick more often.

Desperate to woo back travelers who cancelled trips in the wake of Mexico's swine flu outbreak, more than 20 coastal resort hotels in Cancun have launched a "flu-free guarantee." If you catch the H1N1 virus in Mexico and have the blood test to prove it...the resort will give you three vacations for free. This comes as the country's tourism industry tries to rebound from the outbreak.

May 18
So Cal peeps are waking up on solid ground this morning, after a 4.7 earthquake shook the area near LAX. Peeps say china fell off shelves, but there were no reports serious damage or anyone getting hurt. Cops say the quake was intense but over in about 10 seconds.

One more spacewalk to fix the hubble telescope is all that remains for the shuttle Atlantis crew this morning. The crew had a tough time yesterday when it took longer than expected to replace a part. It took them 8 hours and 2 minutes, to fix the telescope's back hole hunter which broke five years ago.

May 19
President Obama is speeding up his effort to tighten fuel economy. In a landmark move, the Prez will announce tough new gas-mileage standards today. The new policy - worked out between federal and state governments and the auto industry – will require automakers meet a minimum fuel-efficiency standard of 35 and a half miles a gallon by 2016. That's 30% more fuel-efficiency than they get now.

Privacy advocates want the Feds to help them cover peeps up at airport security. The electronic privacy information center is leading the charge online to get Homeland Security to stop using "whole-body imaging." Some critics say it performs "a virtual strip search" and produces "naked" pictures of passengers.

May 20
Cops are desperately looking for a Minnesota teen and his mom, who refuses to get her son the chemo treatments he needs. A Minnesota judge issued an arrest warrant for Colleen Hauser for failing to show up to a court hearing yesterday about her son's medical condition. Daniel was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma in January, but his parents are denying him chemo based on their religious beliefs.

It'll be harder to get in and out of the US starting June 1st. That's when Americans and Canadians will have to present their passports or other approved documents before crossing the border. The Feds have been going back and forth delaying the deadline to enforce the rule.

The FBI is trying to figure out this morning what happen to a computer hard drive swiped from the national archives containing sensitive info from the Clinton administration. The info includes Social Security numbers and addresses of millions of people, including former Vice President Al Gore's daughter. It also contained Secret Service and White House operating procedures.

May 21
Five Birmingham cops, one black, four white are looking for new jobs this morning after beating a suspect, who's black.. after he led them on a high speed chase. At the end of the chase, the suspect's van flips over, ejects him, knocking him unconscious. That's when the cops beat him.

President Obama will speak today on the future of Guantanamo Bay. He'll address the controversial proposal to hold detainees indefinitely without trial and beef up his argument that closing prison would help US security. It'll be an uphill battle because a new Pentagon report says one in seven freed detainees returns to terrorism.

American Idol delivered a surprise Wednesday as voters chose Kris Allen for the title over Adam Lambert, who had been considered the favorite for much of the show's eighth season.

May 22
There are new details coming out about the four men accused of plotting to bomb two New York synagogues and shoot down US military planes. Prosecutors say three US suspects claimed they were actually disappointed the world trade center wasn't around to bomb. A lawyer for The fourth suspect, a Haitian citizen, says his client suffers from schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.

Fresh off their massive hubble overhaul, the crew of space shuttle Atlantis is scheduled to come home today.

May 26
President Obama has chosen federal Judge Sonia Sotomayor as his nominee for the US Supreme Court. He's expected to formally make the announcement at 10:15 ET this
morning. She will replace Justice David Souter, who is retiring. The 54-year-old would also be the first Hispanic in history picked for the high court.

The death toll is rising this morning on the number of people who didn't survive cyclone Aila after it hit India and Banglagesh. Forty people are now confirmed dead...and thousands of others are trapped in their flooded villages. Right now, soliders are heading to that part of the country to help stranded villagers.

Rapper T.I. will "live his life" from a jail cell for the next year. T.I. AKA Clifford Harris is scheduled to start serving a 366 day sentence today in connection with federal weapons charges.
Sunday night T.I. performed in front of a packed house in Atlanta for a final farewell concert.

May 27
The new credit card reform laws won't go into place until july 2010. But until then you have to do what you can to keep your score up. Just to recap: under the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act that president obama just signed into law.

Cops say there was no foul play in the death of boxing legend Mike Tyson's four-year old daughter. Exodus Tyson was taken off life support Tuesday, a day after she was accidentally strangled by a cord connected to a treadmill at her home in Phoenix. About 1,000 children under 14 die from accidental strangulation each year...88% of those are younger than 4 years old.

OJ Simpson's lawyers are appealing his robbery and kidnapping conviction to the Nevada Supreme Court. They want the 2008 conviction overturned...Saying the juice got squeezed and didn't get a fair trial. Laywers specifically blame the behavior of the judge and the lack of diversity on the jury. The court may hear the case in the fall.

May 28
AT&T Confirms Their Employees Helped Kris Allen Fans Text Votes During 'Idol' Final

A Pennsylvania mom who called 911 claiming she and her daughter were kidnapped is sitting behind bars this morning. Cops say she "faked" the whole thing and they found the two at a Disney resort in Orlando, Florida last night! Right now, the daughter is in state custody waiting on her father to pick her up.

Richmond, Va., began charging inmates $1 per day April 15. The city hopes to raise between $60,000 and $200,000 a year.

May 29
Kansas is the new home of the Scripp's National Spelling Bee champion. 13-year-old Kavya Shivashankar beat out 10 other finalists last night to take home more than $40,000 in cash and prizes and a huge champion's trophy. Her next challenge...the International Brain Bee.

President Obama will announce today he's creating a "cyber czar" positional that will protect government and private computers from hackers, criminal gangs, terrorists and spies. The czar will work with the Pentagon's new cyberspace military command that allows the military to step up both offensive and defensive computer warfare.

June 1
Nevada is legalizing domestic partnerships for straight "and" gay couples. The state assembly voted last night to override the Governor's veto of a domestic partner bill. So starting October first, Nevada will extend most of the rights given to married couples to couples in domestic partnerships, including those of the same sex.

It's official, Nadya Suleman (AKA: "Octomom") has signed a TV deal. People magazine reports she signed on with a British production company to begin filming a reality show about her and her 14 children. Her attorney says Suleman doesn't want camera crews around 24 hours a day, so they'll only shoot on birthdays and other special events.

An Air France passenger plane with 228 people on board is missing. An official from Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris says the plane dropped off the radar over the Atlantic shortly after taking off from Rio De Janeiro just a few hours ago. No word yet on whether any Americans were on board. We'll bring you any developments as they happen.

June 2
Navy officials are searching for $30,000 that went MIA while they were busy rescuing an American captain from Somali pirates! Pirates had forced Captain Richard Phillips to take the money from the ship's safe, but it disappeared after special forces killed the pirates.

Brazilian Air Force jets are still combing the Atlantic Ocean looking for Air France flight 447. They're checking out reports from the pilot of a Brazilian airliner who reported seeing fire in the ocean along the Air France jet's route. 228 people, including two Americans, vanished in the middle of a lightning storm off Brazil's coast. It could be the world's worst commercial air disaster since 2001.

Overhauling the Healthcare system could be a boost to the ecoomy...that's according to a White House report out today. Healthcare spending accounts for about 18% of our country's economy...The report says it would reach 34% BY 2040 if not fixed. Digging the federal deficit even deeper.

June 3
The world health organization says it's still a major threat. In fact, it's considering raising the pandemic alert level to phase 6. Phase 6 would mean the virus has lead to a "global pandemic." WHO officials say there have been almost 19 thousand reported cases of the H1N1 virus in 64 countries, and 117 deaths.

The number of detainee suicides at Guantanamo Bay is up this morning. The military says a 31 year old Yemeni detainee was found in his cell during a routine walk through...making him the 5th detainee to kill himself at the offshore prison. He had been held at Gitmo, without ever being charged, since 2002.

June 4
There's even more mystery surrounding the crash of Air France flight 447 this morning. Brazil's Air Force now says that debris and oil slicks spotted in the ocean yesterday, did not come from the doomed flight! Not only that, the airplane seat and orange float found Wednesday were not from the plane either. The plane vanished on Monday with 228 people abroad...survivors have been found.

An EMT in New York has pleaded not guilty to posting murder scene photos on Facebook. They say Mark Mussarella snapped pictures of a woman found strangled with her hair dryer on his cell phone, then uploaded them to the social networking site. Mussarella's lawyer says his client accidentally uploaded the pics when he uploaded other photos from his phone. He's facing a year in jail.

Dozens of never-published pics taken by Hitler's personal photographer are now available online. You can see Hitler and his closest advisors in public "and" private moments between 1936 and 1945. His Photographer Hugo Jaeger, sold the pics to LIFE magazine in 1965.

June 5
Stateside Authorities are searching high and low for a man who they say has at least eight guns and has threatened to kill President Obama. That's a federal offense! They say Daniel James Murray withdrew thousands of dollars from a bank in Utah, then told the teller he was on a mission to kill the president.

There's more mystery surrounding the crash of "Air France" Flight 447 this morning. Brazil's Air Force now says that debris and oil slicks spotted in the ocean yesterday, did not come from the doomed flight! Not only that, the airplane seat and orange float found Wednesday were not from the plane either. The plane vanished on Monday with 228 people aboard...no survivors have been found.

June 8
It's summer time and gas prices are starting to sizzle. They've risen sharply in last few weeks... and are now hovering around $2.60 a gallon for regular. That's a 27% increase in the past seven and a half weeks. Officials say the increase is due to a higher demand.

The verdict is in for 2 American journalists on trial in North Korea: twelve years in a labor camp. That's the sentence handed down to Laura Ling and Euna Lee who were arrested while shooting a story on the country's border with China. Although reports of the women being convicted has hit the airwaves...the US State Department says it was trying to confirm it with Korean officials.

Today is the 30-day deadline for banks to show us their money plans on staying strong during the recession. Meanwhile, JP Morgan Chase, Goldman Sachs, and American Express hope they'll get the green light to start paying back $65 billion dollars of taxpayers' money. They're anxious to pay back the money so they can run their businesses without the Feds looking over their shoulders.

June 9
The Treasury Department will announce today that the banks will start repaying $50 billion of the tarp money. The payees include American Express, Bank of New York, Capital One, Goldman Sachs, and JP Morgan Chase. If everything goes well, we could start seeing some of the money this week!

Smoking cigarettes is one step closer to becoming a real drag. As early as today, the Senate could pass a bill that would require larger health warnings on cigarette packs. Ban candy flavorings, ban the use of claims such as "light," "mild," and "low tar," and add more restrictions on tobacco advertising. President Obama, who's been trying to stop smoking, says he'll sign it.

June 10
Two people are dead and another is still missing this morning after a plan explosion and roof collapse at a "slim jim" beef jerky factory in North Carolina. Thirty-eight people have been taken to the hospitals. Four in critical with severe burns. Still no word on the cause of the explosion.

Pregnant with a boy or girl? At-home test may tell you. Expecting moms can determine whether they're carrying a boy or a girl as early as 10 weeks after conception, according to makers of an over-the-counter gender prediction test.

North Korea is threatening to use nuclear weapons as part of a "merciless offensive" to defend itself. This as Russian officials say the Communist country plans to launch a ballistic missile but does not know when it will take place. The news comes as the United Nations figures out how to punish Pyonyang for missile launches, threats to attack the south and a nuclear test.

June 11
President Obama will be in the "Cheese State" this morning for a town hall meeting in Green Bay. The President is expected to talk about the economy and health care, especially as it related to families and small businesses. The costs of healthcare in the US is one of the contributing factors to poverty. According to families USA at least 80 million people in the US are living without healthcare insurance.

The office of Miss California USA is under new management this morning. The Donald gave the boot to Carrie Prejean for "contract violations," including missing scheduled pageant events. Her firing comes on the heels of the controversy surrounding her comments on gay marriage and topless photos. Runner-up, Miss Malibu, will immediately assume the Miss California USA title.

The Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C will be closed this morning as cops investigate what happened. They say 88 year old James Von Brunn walked into the museum opened fire and killed a security guar before guards fired back.

June 12
Just after midnight, stations across the country switched from analog to digital TV. For millions of people who weren't ready, the switch meant going from a clear signal to static.

The Lakers took game three last night, beating the Magic 99 to 91 in over-time. Kobe Bryant was nearly flawless, scoring 32 points for LA. Poor free throw shooting and a couple of clutch "three's" from Derek Fisher sealed the deal for the Lakers.

June 15
The 90-thousand strong US and NATO troop force in Afghanistan is under new management this morning. President Barack Obama named General Stanley McChrystal to succeed General David McKiernan, who was removed last month from command. His top priority in the country is to limit civilian deaths while hunting the Taliban.

While Congress works out the details of his major healthcare reform plan, President Obama will try to woo the American Medical Association today in Chicago. In a speech at its annual meeting, he'll lay out his

vision for a public system that can compete with private plans, and ask for help in getting the job done. Critics are worried a public plan would push private insurers out of the picture completely.

It looks like the Lakers had all the magic last night. Beating the Orlando Magic 99 to 86 to clinch the title. Fans went nuts over Kobe Bryant's first win without Shaq. But Kobe wasn't the only one that got something extra out of this win. This marks Laker's head coach Phil Jackson's tenth title making him the winningest coach in Finals history.

June 16

Transcripts from Gitmo just released...show accused terrorists admitted they lied to stop the enhanced interrogations. That includes Khalid Sheik Mohammad, the alleged mastermind of the 9-11 attacks. Mohammad says when he was asked about Osama Bin Laden location. He would say he didn't know. But after being tortured, he made up a location.

And the Minnesota boy who ran away with his mother last month to avoid court ordered chemotherapy, is responding well to his treatments. Doctors say the tumor in Daniel Hauser's chest shrank after two treatments. His family had refused chemo, for alternative treatments based on religious beliefs. But get this, his parents credit his recovery to the alternative treatments they're also giving him.

June 17

Nasa scrubbed space shuttle Endeavor's launch just a few hours ago...for a second time ...because that pesky liquid hydrogen leak. That kept endeavor grounded last Saturday. It was supposed to go up at 5:40 this morning for a 16-day mission at the ISS. They'll try again in July.

President Obama is also boosting gay rights today. He will sign a memo giving major health and other benefits to same-sex partners of federal workers. This comes just a week after the justice department filed a motion supporting the defense of marriage act...which opposes same-sex marriage. Gay advocates say "the don't ask don't tell policy" should go next!

If you have any Zicam products, check your medicine cabinet this morning. Some of them are being yanked off the shelves because more than 130 peeps who used the intra-nasal versions said they lost their sense of smell. Now Zicam's maker has to get FDA approval to get back on the market.

June 18

Now to the latest news on what went wrong on Air France flight 447. Experts say, based on autopsies, it looks like the plane broke up mid-air. Many of the victims had broken arms, legs, and hips...and the large chunks of debris strewn 50 miles apart suggests a mid-air break-up. Search crews have recovered 50 of the 228 bodies, and 400 pieces of debris.

Sammy Sosa is in hot water this morning after a report in the New York Times surfaced showing he tested positive for steroids in 2003. Now, a Congressional committee is looking into Sosa's testimony from '05 when he swore up and down he never juiced! The Chairman of the Committee says it'll review the issue, then decide where to go from there.

$68 billion are back in the government's hands today as banks race to pay back bailout money. So far, ten banks have paid up...including JP Morgan Chase with $25 billion, and Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley with $10 billion each. Once a bank has paid back all of its tarp money, it will no longer have to follow government rules on pay for top suits.

June 19

We may be on the brink of war! Defense Secretary, Robert Gates, is sending more ammo to Hawaii this morning after word that North Korea may launch a missile towards the island. Meanwhile, US Intelligence is keeping a close eye on a North Korean ship believed to be carrying illegal weapons.

And Carrie Prejean is threatening to sue the Miss California USA Executive Director, Keith Lewis, for defamation. Her lawyer sent a letter to Lewis saying that he set up her to be fired because of what she said about same sex marriage. Lewis says facts are facts, and we stand by them.

The Senate just used the defibrillator on the ailing car industry by passing the cash for clunkers bill. The new bill will give rebates to new car buyers who turn in older, less fuel-efficient models and that supporters are hopeful will kick-start the anemic car market.

June 22

Archaeologists have uncovered the largest underground cave ever discovered in the West Bank. The two thousand year old cave, near the city of Jericho, dons Christian writings on the walls and is so big it may become the biggest tourist attraction in the Holy Land.

The new Sandra Bullock flick, "The Proposal" took in $34.1 million at the box office over the weekend to take the top spot. It's the biggest opening weekend of Bullock's career.

Hundreds of formerly Episcopal parishes are meeting this morning to create a new National Church – excluding women or gays as bishops. The Anglican Church in North America says it represents 100,000 believers, and the worldwide Anglican Communion – the largest Christian denomination. The Episcopal church has been in turmoil for years over gays or women being clergy or bishops.

June 23

It's official: TV's Jon and Kate have filed for divorce. Kate cried, and Jon took responsibility.

We're following a developing story from Hollywood... Ed McMahon has passed away. His representative is confirming the 86 year old's death - but no word on how it happened. We'll keep an eye on this story and bring you the latest.

Docs say grey hair may actually protect you from cancer. Japanese researchers say melanocytes produce the pigments that color hair and their numbers are topped by stem cells. Hair goes grey when the number of stem cells in the follicles reduce. That has cancer researchers thinking that as the stem cells go down, so does your risk for cancer.

June 24

Investigators are still piecing together the details this morning of the DC metro train crash that killed 9 people Monday. They say it looks like the train was in auto mode and the onboard computer system didn't stop it like it was supposed to. Critics say the train was too old... It was made in 1974.

Your next number this morning...hold your breath for this one...2.2 million. The EPA reports almost 2.2 million Americans live in cities where the air pollution is bad enough to impose an extra risk of developing cancer. The worst single neighborhood was in Cerritos, California – just outside of LA. In that city, the EPA estimated an extra cancer risk of more than 1,200 people for every million. That's 34 times the national average!

June 25

Students, teachers, fans, and players are all mourning the loss of one of the most well-known and respected high school football coaches this morning. Ed Thomas from Iowa was shot and killed in the high school's weight room yesterday. Cops say a former player, Mark Becker was the shooter. They arrested him a little while later in his parent's driveway.

If you're like many other Americans, you aren't planning on going far for your 4th of July celebration. AAA predicts US travel over the holiday weekend will drop about 2% this year because of high gas prices and economic worries!

June 26
People all around the world are mourning the death of Michael Jackson. Autopsy results are expected today. Jackson was rushed to a hospital yesterday after suffering cardiac arrest. His brother, Jermaine, told reporters doctors tried to resuscitate him for more than an hour after his heart stopped. The famed singer was 50 years old.

Fans are not only mourning the death of "MJ" today...they're also remembering Farrah Facett. The 62 year old actress and former start of "Charlie's Angels" succumbed to anal cancer yesterday in Los Angeles...something she had been battling off and on for three years. Fawcett's long-time lover, Ryan O'Neal, and her friend, Alana Stewart, were at her side when she died.

June 29
President Obama will host a reception at the White House today to honor lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender month.

Iraq is stepping up security this morning as US troops prepare to pull out of the capital and other major cities tomorrow. Despite the increased security, a roadside bomb in Baghdad hurt 6 bystanders and a car bomb exploded killing one and hurting 6 others.

People of Honduras are waking up to a new President this morning. On Sunday, Robert Micheletti was sworn in as provisional president, just hours after the military overthrew sitting president, Jose Manuel Zelaya.

June 30
CNN is confirming that a young child was the lone survivor in a plane in the Indian Ocean. The child was found floating in the water among several bodies. 153 people were onboard the airbus 310that was in route from Yemen to Comoros early this morning. That makes it the second airbus crash in a month!

15% of teens think they'll die young. New research by the University of Minnesota sata teenagers think they're going to die young, leading many to drug use, suicide attempts, and other unsafe behavior. This changes the thought that teens go wild because they think they're invincible.
The Golden State is in the red to the tune of $24 billion. Things are so bad the state may stop paying its bills this Thursday, and issue IOU's! Cali is home to the world's eighth largest economy; if it goes down, it will create fallout for businesses from Texas to Michigan.