Public Issues Report 1st Quarter 2009

Public File 2009 – 1st Quarter

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January 2
A city wide smoking ban in Pueblo, Colorado reduced the number of heart attacks by more than 40 percent.
Bank of America is now the largest bank in America after it bought Merrill Lynch.

January 5
Married couples can now combine their last name in the state of California.
U.S. album sales slid for a seventh time in eight years in 2008 as growth in the digital arena, one of the few bright spots in the ailing music industry, slowed.

January 6
Advocates for same-sex marriage want the state's top court to overturn the recent voter approved ban on gay marriage. Those against gay marriage say if the state Supreme Court overturns the vote it would gut the people's right to make law.
More than half of teens mention risky behaviors such as sex and drugs on their Myspace accounts.
According to a new report from the Seattle Children's Research Institute, young peeps who use Myspace don't realize how public the pages are and the risk they're taking.

January 7
The company says it's selling refurbished i-phones at its stores, which were returned within 30 days.
Researchers say that drinking coffee lowers the risk of developing oral and throat cancer.
American millionaires have seen their assets shrink by 30% during the economic crisis, a report said on Tuesday, with only 36% of them pleased with the performance of their financial advisers.

January 8
Women who are deeply in love struggle to recognize the body odor of male friends, but their ability to distinguish their partner's smell is unaffected.
The state of Mississippi known for its magnolias is now known for having the highest teen birth rate in the U.S. New Mexico was 2nd, while Texas was 3rd.
The Centers for Disease Control says salmonella food poisoning has made 388 people sick across 42 states. To make matters worse the CDC does not know the source of the outbreak, which began in September.

January 9
2008 was the second-best on record for air safety, with a 25% decline in the number of fatalities from aircraft accidents.

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On January 14th.. Marvel comics will release a special issue of amazing Spiderman #583 with president-elect Barack Obama depicted on the cover.

January 12
The New York Police Department wants to be able to shut down cell phones, in case of a terrorist attack.

January 13
Elective Caesarean-section deliveries can increase problems for a newborn if done too early -- even when the baby has technically reached full term.
A handful of colleges across the country are now offering out-of-state students reduced or in-state tuition rates.
Researchers found that applying the cold remedy Vicks VapoRub directly under the child's nose can cause the airways to swell and increase in mucus, obstructing airflow.

January 14
One million cribs are being recalled in the U-S and Canada. Stork Craft manufacturing says there's a possibility babies could suffocate in the cribs because the metal support brackets can break, creating a gap.
Cribs under the recall were sold between May 2000 and this month at J-C Penney, K-Mart, and Wal-Mart Stores.
A new study published in the "Archives of Internal Medicine" says that people who get seven or fewer hours of sleep a night are about three times more likely to get a cold than people who get eight or more hours per night.
Dieticians with the cancer project named the junior bacon cheeseburger from Jack in the Box, the worst fast food meal. Although it only costs a buck, it packs in 23 grams of fat and 860 milligrams of sodium. Taco Bell's cheesy double beef burrito was next with 460 calories and 20 grams of fat.

January 15
A new study from the "New England Journal of Medicine" says the number of patients who die from surgery would drop by 40% if surgeons & nurses would make a checklist of "basic" safety measures to run through beforehand. Researchers already tried it out at eight hospitals across the country & say if hospitals followed suit...tens of thousands of lives would be saved as well as 20 billion dollars in medical costs each year.

January 16
Dr. Turk suggests when choosing a Plastic Surgeon, the most important things to look for are:
1. A surgeon board-certified by the american board of plastic surgery.
2. Be sure to check the surgeon's record.

January 19
Add little debbie to the list of recalled snack foods due to a salmonella outbreak. Six people have died, more than 470 people have gotten sick. The Tennessee-based company that sells Little Debbie snacks announced the recall Sunday of peanut butter crackers.
And the f-d-a says don't eat any cookies, cakes, ice cream or other foods with peanut butter until they figure what the heck is going on. The f-d-a has also asked food companies who may have bought peanut butter or peanut paste from a Georgia facility owned by Peanut Corp of America to test their products.

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