

From: Yenlys Hernandez
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 11:11 AM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC Reports from Al Punto December 2010

Hi Carole,

These are the FCC Reports from Al Punto of the month of December, 2010

Thank you,

FCC REPORTS for AL PUNTO, DECEMBER 2010

== =12/05/10= = =

Cecilia Muñoz, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House

The Future of the Dream Act

Time: 8:00

The Dream Act has been at the top of the media conversation all week. Negotiations have been ongoing behind closed doors and many hope for possible votes in the House and Senate by next week. As an advisor to President Obama, Cecilia Muñoz will give us the White House perspective on the future of - which some call-the "dreamers." What is President Obama doing to push for the passing of this law? Will Congress come to a consensus regarding the Dream Act before the lame-duck session comes to an end? Also, what is the status of a possible immigration reform before President Obama's term is over?

Carlos Gutierrez, Former United States Secretary of Commerce; Rosario Marin, Former United States Treasurer

Republicans and the Hispanic Vote

Time: 8:00

As two speakers at this week's first Hispanic forum hosted by The Americano, Carlos Gutierrez and Rosario Marin come to Al Punto to tell Jorge Ramos what the main issues will be for Republicans in the coming years. How do they plan to gain back the Hispanic vote? Why do they consider the Dream Act a political game that Democrats are playing to make Republicans look unfavorable?

Roundtable Participants:

Silvia Pisani

Correspondent, La Nacion

Julio Marengo

Correspondent, Prensa Grafica, El Salvador

Wikileaks Scandal, There will be Bipartisan Cooperation?, Nasa: Live on another planet?

== =12/12/10= = =

Gaby Pacheco and Lucina Martinez, Activists and "Dreamers"

"Dream Act"

Time: 7:00

The "dreamers" descended on Washington, D.C. to be present as the House of Representatives voted to pass the legislation, known as the Dream Act, and therefore leave its future in the hands of the Senate. By a vote of 216 to 198 the House gave many undocumented students some hope for a legal future. Gaby Pacheco started the year walking 1,500 miles across the country with other "dreamers" to spread the word while Lucina Martinez went on a hunger strike for 30 days hoping to pressure legislators. Both are undocumented and are willing to risk everything to compel Congress to pass the Dream Act. They see half of their job as fulfilled but have a

tough week ahead to pass the next speed bump in the Senate. What are the chances this legislation will make it through the Senate? What are the next steps for the students before the Senate vote takes place next week?

Otto Reich, Former United States Ambassador to Venezuela and Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs

Wikileaks Controversy

Time: 8:00

The WikiLeaks controversy continues to reveal diplomatic secrets involving several Latin American countries. This Sunday, the former United States Ambassador to Venezuela, Otto Reich, comes to Al Punto to speak about his own documents that were released. He also analyzes other revelations regarding Venezuela, Honduras and Cuba. How can the relationship between countries be affected by this type of exposure? Is the United States in danger because of these leaks or is this actually beneficial? How can this be avoided in the future? Should anything be left in secret? And how should the United States proceed with this investigation?

Rountable Participants:

Carlos Chirinos

Correspondent, BBC

Rebeca Logan

Correspondent, Independent Journalist

Wikileaks Scandal, Dream Act

== =12/19/10= ==

Dream Act Special Segment

Senate vote on the "Dream Act"

Time: 6:00

This weekend, the Senate is likely to vote on the Dream Act legislation that passed the House of Representatives with a vote of 216 to 198 on December 8, which gave many undocumented students hope for a legal future. Last night, Senator Harry Reid filed cloture on the legislation. Will the Senate reach the 60 votes needed to approve this bill?

Adrian Lamo, Former Computer Hacker

Wikileaks Scandal

Time: 6:00

Former computer hacker - who broke into *The New York Times* computer system in 2002 - Adrian Lamo contacted the authorities after army intelligence officer Bradley Manning allegedly boasted to him about his involvement in the WikiLeaks scandal. For some he is a hero and for others a traitor. In an exclusive interview with Jorge Ramos he addresses his decision to denounce Manning to the FBI. He also reveals why he could not risk putting lives in danger by remaining silent. What does he advise individuals and big companies who want to prevent hackers from accessing sensitive data?

Rountable Participants:

Ann Hoyt

Correspondent, Grupo Radio Centro

Manuel Corao

Managing Editor, Venezuela al Dia

Enabling Act in Venezuela, Wikileaks Scandal, Dream Act

== =12/26/10= ==

SPECIAL EDITION- YEAR IN REVIEW

Census 2010

Time: 1:30

The U.S. population grew over 308 million according to the latest Census report. California is the largest state with a population of 37.2 million. How will these new figures affect the presidential and congressional elections in 2012? Which political party will benefit from the redistricting process? How is the Hispanic population reflected in the new face of America?

Congressman-Elect Francisco "Quico" Canseco, (R-TX); and Congressman-Elect David Rivera, (R-FL)
New Hispanic Republican Representatives

Time: 4:00

The 112th United States Congress will convene in Washington, D.C. on January 5th with five new Hispanic Republican Representatives and one new Hispanic Republican Senator. After the midterm elections, Jorge Ramos interviewed two of the new faces who will be part of this congress, Francisco "Quico" Canseco and David Rivera. What will their agendas reflect in the next two years? Will immigration be part of their priorities?

Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez, (D-CA); and Congressman Raul Grijalva, (D-AZ)

Heated Races

Time: 5:00

These two Democrats made headlines because they were involved in heated races to maintain their seats in congress. They were both incumbents with years of experience and felt the pressure of the Republicans during the November elections. Congressman Raul Grijalva and Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez fought arduously for every vote and succeeded specifically with the Hispanic community's help. This Sunday on Al Punto, watch a recap of the most outstanding portions of their interviews. How do they think these next two years will play out with a House of Representatives led by a Republican majority?

Governor Jan Brewer, (R-AZ)

SB 1070 Law

Time: 7:00

Without a doubt, the enactment of SB1070 was among the most controversial news of 2010. The signing of this legislation in April by Governor Brewer made Arizona ground zero for people on both sides of the issue. She granted her first Spanish media interview to Univision's Al Punto in September and expressed her sentiments on being called a racist. What were her reasons for signing the law?

Roundtable Participants:

Luis Megid

San Francisco Correspondent, Noticiero Univision

Ricardo Arambarri

Correspondent, Primer Impacto

Haiti Earthquake, SB 1070 Law, Chile Miners Rescue

=====END OF DECEMBER REPORTS=====

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From: Rosyris Silva-Nazario
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 7:12 PM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC REPORTS-NOTICIERO UNIVISION 6:30 PM-DECEMBER 2010- PART 1

FCC REPORTS NETWORK NEWS 6:30PM

DEC.1 - DEC. 15 PART 1

12/01/10

DREAM ACT, WHAT'S GOING ON LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC PKG 2:30

Late last night, Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) filed a new version of the DREAM Act with the aim of attracting broader support for DREAM to get the requisite 60 votes to pass the Senate. With the filing of this new bill, the anticipated date for bringing DREAM to a vote will be delayed. The earliest Reid could file a cloture motion on the new bill would be this coming Thursday. After waiting out the requisite 30 hours post-cloture, it could "ripen" over the weekend, and effectively come up for a vote on Monday at the earliest. The new version addresses many of the concerns raised by Republicans and tightens the restrictions on eligibility in several respects. Among other changes, the new version does the following: Excludes from eligibility those with certain criminal convictions, such as for offenses punishable by a maximum term of more than 1 year (felony) or 3 misdemeanors.

DREAM ACT SIDEBAR JAIME GARCIA / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA PKG 2:08

A new report from the Center for Immigration Studies examines the costs and likely impact of the DREAM Act currently being considered by Congress. The act offers permanent legal status to illegal immigrants up to age 35, who arrived in the United States before age 16, provided they complete two years of college. Under the act, beneficiaries would receive in-state tuition. Given the low income of illegal immigrants, most can be expected to attend state schools, with a cost to taxpayers in the billions of dollars. As both funds and slots are limited at state universities and community colleges, the act may reduce the educational opportunities available to U.S. citizens.

FLORIDA LAW SIMILAR TO SB1070 VO: 24

A port security initiative has led to the indictment of 10 people in an international drug smuggling ring, including six Miami longshoremen who used their access to unload the cocaine, heroin and marijuana, federal officials said Wednesday. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton said the case serves to highlight the

work of 21 multi-agency task forces around the country, led by ICE, focused on disrupting large-scale criminal activity at seaports and border entry points nationwide. It's particularly important, he said, to root out corrupt employees and government officials who help smugglers, illicit arms dealers, money launderers and possibly even terrorists move around the world. "The system must have integrity. Internal corruption of any kind cannot be tolerated," Morton said at a news conference with other South Florida law enforcement officials. "Our ports are open for business, but only for legitimate business."

UNEMPLOYMENT EXT IN STALEMATE
LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
PKG 2:07

Members of the president's deficit commission will begin weighing in on a controversial plan being presented by the panel's co-chairmen today. It suggests reducing Social Security benefits, raising the retirement age, curtailing tax breaks and other politically explosive ideas for getting the national debt under control. Concern over the national debt means millions of out-of-work Americans are losing unemployment benefits, which expired at midnight after Congress failed to pass an extension for another year. The extension would have cost 12 billion dollars---Republicans argued other cuts should make up for the increased spending.

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11/2/10

DREAM ACT LATEST
LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC
PKG 2:16

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano is urging Congress to allow certain foreign-born young people who were illegally brought to the U.S. as children to become legal residents. She says it would help her department focus on deporting immigrants with criminal records. The Senate failed in September to pass what's known as the DREAM Act. It's unclear whether Congress will vote on it again before the year ends. The bill would apply to immigrants who arrived in the U.S. before age 16, have been here at least five years and have a U.S. high school diploma or the equivalent. It would let them become U.S. residents after they've spent two years in college or the military.

SCHOOL LUNCH VOTE
LOURDES DEL RIO / MIAMI, FLORIDA
PKG 2:02

The U.S. House of Representatives passed Thursday and sent to President Barack Obama a bill that boosts funding for the school lunch program by \$4.5 billion through 2020 and bans "junk" food from school buildings. Backers said it would be the first real

increase in reimbursement rates for schools in 30 years and a step toward healthier meals. Obama was expected to sign the bill, which the Senate passed in August.

TAX CUT VOTES

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:04

A critical compromise to head off a year-end tax increase for millions of Americans took shape in private talks between the White House and congressional Republicans Thursday, and an extension of unemployment benefits appeared likely to become part of any deal. Democrats sought to expand the package with other provisions that officials said would accelerate the nation's sluggish economic recovery. They included a tax break providing as much as \$400 for individual working people and \$800 for couples -- even if they pay nothing to the IRS.

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12/03/10

CAMERAS FOR CARS

LOURDES DE RIO / MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:00

Backup cameras could become more common in future vehicles. The government is proposing new rules aimed at improving rear visibility standards for cars. The Transportation Department is concerned about children being backed over by unsuspecting drivers. Most carmakers will meet the requirements by installing rear-mounted video cameras and in-vehicle displays. The plan is expected to be completed next year and will be phased in during the 2012- 2014 model years. The government estimates nearly 300 people are killed and 18,000 injured each year because of backovers. Nearly half the deaths involve children under age 5.

ACLU HISPANIC DIRECTOR

JAIME GARCIA / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:03

Civil rights attorney Hector Villagra will succeed Ramona Ripston as executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, the organization announced Monday. Villagra, the group's legal director, identified an increasingly anti-immigrant environment as the ACLU's biggest challenge in the defense of individual rights. He is becoming the first hispanic director of that organization. The pkg explained the challenges that ACLU will face, immigration SB1070 in AZ and other similar laws in other states, racial profiling. How are they facing and will face the upcoming problems.

GOP GETTING ORGANIZED

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:13

Hispanics are working to reach hispanis voters through different forms like realizing forums and through websites with info that could help them as immigrants.

AZ DROP HOUSE

VO :19

Authorities in Phoenix say 10 children have been rescued from human smugglers who threatened to rape and kill some of them if their parents didn't pay more money for their safe return. The children range in age from 2 to 17 and were smuggled from Mexico, El Salvador and Guatemala. They were being held against their will at a drop house in Phoenix.

SENATE TAX CUT PLANS

VO :14

Vice President Joe Biden Friday urged the U.S. Senate to extend tax cuts for middle-class Americans, following the example of a politically charged vote by the House of Representatives earlier this week. Biden addressed reporters at the White House during a meeting with Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and budget director Jack Lew, who are leading talks with congressional leaders on a deal to extend Bush-era tax cuts that expire at the end of the year.

NEW JOBLESS DATA

LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:01

U.S. employment increased far less than expected in November and the jobless rate jumped to a seven-month high of 9.8 percent, dampening hopes for a self-sustaining economic recovery. Nonfarm payrolls rose 39,000, with private hiring gaining only 50,000, the Labor Department said. However, overall employment for September and October was revised to show 38,000 more jobs than previously estimated.

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12/4/10 (Saturday 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

MARCH REFORM IMMIGRATION

JORGE HERNÁNDEZ/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:44

Thousands of South Florida residents marched for immigration reform in an event sponsored by South Florida churches.

OBAMA USA-TAXES/SENATE

VO: 32

Democratic measures to extend tax cuts for most Americans, but not additional low rates for the wealthiest, failed in the U.S. Senate Saturday, as Republicans and some Democrats blocked the plans. The two Democratic plans to renew low tax rates for individual income up to \$200,000 and up to \$1 million both failed in procedural votes,

as Republicans argued that low tax rates for the wealthiest should also be extended. "It's not that we want to punish wealthy people," said Democratic Senator Charles Schumer, who had proposed extending the tax rates for those earning up to \$1 million. "But they are doing fine and they are not going to spend the money and stimulate the economy." No Republicans backed the Democratic proposals, and a few Democrats voted against them. The rare Saturday votes were expected to fail, but Democrats wanted to show that they didn't support an extension of the lower rates for higher-income individuals.

KIDS EATING DISORDERS

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ/ NEW YORK, NY

PKG 1:58

At the same time that obesity rates are on the rise, a growing number of children in the US under the age of 12 are also struggling with eating disorders, according to research released Monday by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Between 1999 and 2006, the number of youngsters hospitalized with eating disorders increased by 119 percent, according to the research, authored by Dr. David Rosen, a professor of pediatrics, internal medicine and psychiatry at University of Michigan. The research also showed that the long-held belief that patients suffering from severe anorexia or bulimia are affluent, white and female is changing. Both boys and minorities are experiencing eating disorders at increasing rates. "We are seeing a lot more eating disorders than we used to and we are seeing it in people we didn't associate with eating disorders in the past -- a lot of boys, little kids, people of color and those with lower socioeconomic backgrounds," said report Rosen. "We wanted people to understand eating disorders are equal-opportunity disorders."

BOTOX HEADACHES

VO: 22

According to a recent University Of California, San Francisco study delivered in a presentation at the American Society of Dermatologic Surgery meeting (held November 2-5, 2000), Richard Glogau, MD, UCSF professor of dermatology, reported that 75 percent of patients in his case study experienced four to six months of Migraine relief following injections of Botox® (botulinum toxin A derived from bacteria) to muscles of the face and head. Glogau's small study of 24 patients adds weight to previous reports that botulinum toxin A can relieve Migraines. Since 1992, Botox®, the same bacteria that causes deadly food poisoning, has been used in purified and diluted form to temporarily paralyze the muscles that bring the eye brows together, thereby eliminating wrinkles in this region. practice injected with botulinum toxin A in the upper third of the face for treatment of cosmetic frown lines (who coincidentally suffered from Migraines) have reported the added benefit of Migraine relief.

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12/5/10 (Sunday 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

TAX CUTS McCoNNELL

VO: 28

The Senate Republican leader says it's become clear now that taxes will not be raised for anyone during the current economic downturn. Sen. Mitch McConnell's assessment comes a day after Senate Republicans voted down Democratic efforts to limit any extension of the Bush-era tax cuts for the top-earning Americans. President Barack Obama then signaled a willingness to give in to Republican demands that the tax cuts that expire at the end of the year be extended at all levels. McConnell, R-Ky., tells NBC's "Meet the Press" that the question on tax cuts is how long they might be extended. On the issue of aid to jobless Americans, McConnell says he believes that unemployment compensation will be extended again.

AIRPORT SECURITY BILL

VO: 17

A New York senator wants to make it illegal for anyone to distribute or record images produced by full-body scanners at airports. U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer introduced a bill Sunday that calls for punishing anyone who misuses full-body scan images by up to a year in prison. They could also face fines of up to \$100,000. Privacy advocates say there are insufficient safeguards to ensure that the revealing images produced by the machines remain private. The X-ray scans from the machines can see through people's clothing. The Transportation Security Administration says the images cannot be stored, transmitted or printed and they are deleted after use. Passengers can opt instead for a pat-down that includes the crotch and chest.

CREDIT CARDS USE DURING HOLIDAYS

JAIME GARCÍA/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:22

More shoppers are expected to stop using credit cards this holiday season, paying for their purchases with debit cards or cash. It's a great approach for consumers in a tough economy because they'll spend only what they have on hand, making it easier to stay within a budget. Research shows a mere 16.3% of shoppers paid with a credit card during the past Black Friday weekend. That's nearly half of the 30.9% who did so last year, according to America's Research Group, which tracks consumer behavior.

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12/06/10

TAX CUTS-JOBLESS BENEFITS

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG : 1:47

An outline of a bipartisan economic package is emerging that would temporarily extend the Bush-era tax rates for all taxpayers, while extending jobless benefits for millions of Americans. Differences remained over details, including White House demands for middle- and low-income tax credits. But the White House expressed

optimism Monday, raising the possibility of a deal in Congress by the end of the week. "They are making progress," said White House spokesman Bill Burton. "The president is confident that within the next couple of days or so we'll find a way to extend tax cuts to middle class families and do some other things that the president thinks are important, helping to grow the economy and create jobs." Questions remained about how many concessions Obama could extract from Republicans in exchange for extending current tax rates for high earners, a proposal he opposed. But without action, lawmakers face the prospect of delivering a tax hike to all taxpayers at the end of the year, when the current rates expire and revert to higher pre-2001 and 2003 levels. Negotiations between the Obama administration and a bipartisan group of lawmakers centered on a two-year extension of current rates.

APELATION PROPOSITION. 8

VO: 24

The fight over California's same-sex marriage ban reached the next legal level Monday when it went before a federal appeals court during a nationally televised hearing in San Francisco. A line of questioning at an appeals court hearing over California's gay marriage ban suggested the three judges could issue a decision that would legalize same-sex marriage in that state but leave intact bans in other western states under the court's jurisdiction. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard nearly three hours of arguments Monday during a televised hearing that reached a nationwide audience anxious for a final decision on whether voter-approved Proposition 8 and similar same-sex marriage bans violate the U.S. Constitution. The judges appeared troubled over whether they could recognize marriage as a civil right for all same-sex couples or only those in states that already grant gays the rights of marriage without the title.

OAKLAND NEW ID 4 EVERYBODY

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:47

Oakland will soon be following in San Francisco's footsteps by offering a new municipal identification card to homeless people, immigrants and other residents who might have trouble obtaining a state identification card. But Oakland's ID card will double as an ATM debit card, the first of its kind in the country. The ATM debit card can be used to buy groceries or goods and services wherever ATM cards are welcome, allowing people without bank accounts to avoid high check-cashing fees or walking around with large amounts of cash. Councilmember Ignacio De La Fuente has been trying to get an ID card system for Oakland residents since the state rejected efforts to issue drivers licenses to illegal immigrants in 2004. The City Council voted in June 2009 to issue municipal identification cards and issued a request for proposals. On Nov. 9, the council voted to accept the bid of SF Mexico Services LLC to administer the program and issue the ID/debit cards at no cost to the city.

NEW CENSUS DATA

LOURDES DEL RÍO/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:52

Census surprise? The government provided new estimates Monday showing the U.S. population grew to somewhere between roughly 306 million and 313 million over the last decade, acknowledging uncertainty due to rapid shifts in immigration. The estimates, which are separate from the official 2010 census count, are based on a review of birth and death records as well as calculations of new immigrants as of April 1, 2010. Demographers say the range of numbers offers a rough guide to the official 2010 results that will be used to apportion House seats when they are released later this month. "For the first time, we are providing a series of demographic analysis estimates to more clearly demonstrate the uncertainty in these figures," said Census director Robert Groves.

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12/07/10

TAX CUTS FOLLOW UP

LOURDES MELUZÁ / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:27

The White House on Tuesday urged congressional Democrats to embrace a contentious tax cut plan that President Barack Obama cut with Republicans, arguing that the rank and file need to move on to other issues before the party loses control of the House in January. White House aides said Vice President Joe Biden will ask Democratic lawmakers to swallow their objections to the administration's proposed compromise with the GOP when he attends a closed luncheon with senators at the Capitol. Obama's plan would extend Bush-era tax cuts for all Americans, including the richest, while also extending unemployment benefits and reducing payroll taxes for a year. Before the GOP assumes the House majority next month, the White House wants Congress to take up ratification of a new nuclear treaty with Russia, then address the Dream Act, a measure to give young people whose parents brought them into the U.S. illegally a path to legal status. Democrats also want to vote on whether to repeal the military's policy that prevents gays from serving openly in the armed services.

DREAM ACT LATEST

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:06

Congress is expected to vote on the Dream Act on Wednesday, providing a path to citizenship to millions of illegal immigrant youth. It's a bad precedent that uses kids, costs taxpayers and invites new amnesties. After years of failing to sell mass amnesty to voters, the open-borders lobby has turned to tugging at Americans' heartstrings, presenting treachery stories of illegal immigrants brought here as children who then bettered themselves here. Somehow legalizing this group ahead of all the other people awaiting immigration visas legally is supposed to specially benefit all of us, even though the most obvious beneficiaries are the individuals themselves. But out of guilt,

or because we "owe" them "justice," the case is being made for passing the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act. That act provides a path to citizenship for some 2.1 million illegals who have lived here continuously for five years, avoided felony convictions, came to the U.S. before they turned 16 and completed two years of college or U.S. military service within six years.

WIKILEAKS ARREST

LOURDES DEL RIO/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:55

A British judge jailed WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange on Tuesday, ordering the leader of secret-spilling website behind bars as his organization's finances came under increasing pressure. Assange showed no reaction as Judge Howard Riddle denied him bail in an extradition case that could see him sent to Sweden to face allegations of rape, molestation and unlawful coercion. Assange denies the accusations and has pledged to fight the extradition, while a spokesman for his organization said the U.S. diplomatic secrets would keep on flowing -- regardless of what happened to the group's founder. "This will not change our operation," Kristinn Hrafnsson told The Associated Press ahead of Assange's hearing. As if to underline the point, WikiLeaks released a cache of a dozen new diplomatic cables, its first publication in more than 24 hours. Assange appeared at before City of Westminster Magistrates' Court in London after turning himself in to Scotland Yard earlier Tuesday, capping months of speculation over an investigation into alleged sex crimes committed in Sweden over the summer.

TOP TEST SCORES FROM SHANGHAI STUN EDUCATORS

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ/ NEW YORK, NY

PKG 2:27

The competition among nations when it come to education is strong and wild. The country with best educated people will win in many areas, economy, science, math, etc and the test result from Shangai are a prove of that. That is why education in this country has become more the center of attention and many changes will happen so we can compete with all this nations. "Can you imagine the reaction if we told the students of Chicago that the PISA was an important international test and that America's reputation depended on them performing well?" Mr. Schneider said. "That said, China is taking education very seriously. The work ethic is amazingly strong." Why many Chinese graduates do no better than migrant workers.

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12/08/10

DREAM ACT HOUSE VOTE

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:55

INTERVIEW GABY PACHECO/ DREAMER

APROX 2:30

The House of Representatives approved a controversial measure Wednesday providing a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants who came to the United States before age 16. The "Dream Act" passed by 216-198 after sometimes heated debate. The Senate is scheduled to vote Thursday on whether to begin debate on a slightly different version of the bill. It appears unlikely backers will win the 60 votes needed in the 100-member chamber to advance the measure.

DREAM ACT REACTIONS

LILIANA ESCALANTE / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:07

Students reactin to the Dram Act bill passed on the House of Representatives.

SUPREME COURT AZ EMPLOYERS

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:52

The Supreme Court appeared likely Wednesday to sustain an Arizona law that threatens to take away the licenses of businesses that knowingly hire workers who are in the United States illegally. The justices heard arguments in a case that plunges the court into the nation's contentious debate over immigration, generally the province of the federal government.

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12/09/10

DREAM ACT SENATE VOTE POSPONED

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:25 & LIVER

The Senate moved Thursday to delay a politically charged showdown vote on legislation carving out a path to legal status for foreign-born youngsters brought to this country illegally, putting off but probably not preventing the measure's demise. Facing GOP objections, Democrats put aside the so-called Dream Act and said they'd try again to advance it before year's end. They're short of the 60 votes needed to do so, however, and critics in both parties quickly said they won't change their minds in the waning days of the Democratic-controlled Congress.

ACTIVISTS REACTIONS ON DREAM ACT VOTE

JAIME GARCIA/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:05

Jaime will have the students calling the Senators that are not willing to vote for the Dream Act to try to convence them to do so. Who are their targeting to get them to change their minds and vote in favor of it.

DON'T ASK DONT TELL LATEST

VO :19

Republicans blocked a last-ditch effort in the Senate to lift the military's ban on openly gay troops on Thursday, dealing a major blow to gay rights groups and making it unlikely Congress could repeal "don't ask, don't tell" any time soon. The 57-40 vote fell three short of the 60 needed to overcome procedural hurdles to lift the 17-year-old ban. Sen. Susan Collins of Maine was the lone Republican voting to advance the bill, and Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia was the only Democrat to vote against it.

TAX DEAL NOT A DONE DEAL

LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:59

Senate Democrats Thursday unveiled a tax bill that largely reflects the deal hammered out by President Barack Obama and Republicans earlier in the week, and adds an additional subsidy for ethanol. The measure would broadly extend income tax breaks for two years and also includes an extension of jobless benefits and other tax breaks. It does not include an extension of the Build America bond program that Democrats had sought.

SMOKING STUDY

LOURDES DEL RIO/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:53

The latest US Surgeon General's report, released today, finds that even limited exposure to tobacco or secondhand smoke can lead to cardiovascular and other health problems. The report, the latest update to its first study in 1964 highlighting tobacco dangers, says that even an occasional cigarette or exposure to secondhand smoke is harmful. Surgeon General, Regina Benjamin says the latest research, "substantiates the evidence that there is no safe level of exposure to cigarette smoke." Lourdes will talk to a doctor and smokers that can't stop smoking and why.

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12/10/10

HOUSE REWORKED TAX CUTS

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:07

The U.S. House of Representatives will likely pass next week, with some changes, the framework of President Barack Obama's plan to extend tax cuts, a senior Democratic aide said Friday. The aide said before they vote, House Democrats aim to tighten estate tax provisions that are in a proposed Senate version of the plan. The House will likely begin consideration of the measure within days of its anticipated Senate passage next week, the aide said.

UNDOCUMENTED DRIVERS

LUIS MEGID / OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:57

A estimated 4.5 million illegal immigrants nationwide are driving regularly, most without licenses, according to an analysis by The New York Times. Only three states - New Mexico, Utah and Washington - currently issue licenses without proof of legal residence in the United States. Many states have adopted tough new laws to prevent illegal immigrants from driving, while expanding immigration enforcement by the state and local police. As a result, at least 30,000 illegal immigrants who were stopped for common traffic violations in the last three years have ended up in deportation, DHS figures show.

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12/11/10 (Saturday 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

RACIAL PROFILING

JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:03

LAPD insists it's tough when investigating racial profiling by officers. Responding to criticism from the U.S. Justice Department, the watchdog for the Los Angeles Police Commission, as well as LAPD officials, this week largely defended the handling of racial profiling investigations. Nicole Bershon, the Police Commission's inspector general, is scheduled to present the civilian oversight panel Tuesday with a lengthy report that evaluates how a newly formed LAPD unit investigates claims of racial profiling against officers. The review follows a warning last month from Justice Department officials to Bershon and the LAPD that both were falling short in addressing racial profiling complaints. LAPD Chief Charlie Beck is expected to present a written response to Bershon's report to the commission Tuesday. After completing sweeping reforms ordered by federal officials, the LAPD still remains under federal supervision on a handful of issues, including racial profiling, and must persuade the Justice Department that it can adequately police itself before federal scrutiny can be withdrawn.

MIAMI DREAM ACT PROTEST

ARLENA AMARO/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:36

The DREAM Act will give students brought to the United States at a young age the opportunity to gain citizenship through a college education or military service. DADT, the policy that bars gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military, has resulted in the discharge of over 13,000 service members and college students in ROTC programs for being openly gay or lesbian. "This is the fight of my lifetime, the movement of our generation, bringing equality of access and opportunity to all people," noted David Valk, Community Organizer, at SAVE Dade. "Now is time for our leaders in Congress to put our men and women in uniform ahead of petty, political infighting," adds Walker Burttschell, a USMC Veteran discharged under the DADT policy. Juan

Rodriguez, of the Florida Immigrant Coalition, stated, "No longer can we allow unjust policies in America to divide the pieces of ourselves that comprise the full greatness of who we are and all we have to give. Congress must pass the DREAM Act and Repeal DADT now!" This rally is being organized because the current generation of students and youth demand real systemic change from our leadership by enacting policies based on fairness and equality for all people.

LOS ANGELES DREAM ACT

VO: 23

MALDEF and students from the DREAM Team LA and Orange County as well as the National Day Laborer Organizing Network will hold a news conference and rally to call for the Senate to pass the DREAM Act nextweek. Labor leader Dolores Huerta, Richard Chavez, brother of Cesar Chavez and MALDEF president Thomas Saenz are expected to speak.

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12/12/10 (Sunday 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

TAX CUT SENATE VOTE

VO: 21

The Obama administration on Sunday continued to hold firm on the idea that its framework for a deal on the expiring Bush tax cuts could not be changed in truly tangible ways. "We have a framework, we have an agreement, and I don't anticipate that it's going to change greatly," White House senior adviser David Axelrod told ABC's "This Week." "There have been some changes that folks in the House were concerned about, the absence of an extension of an energy -- renewable energy tax credit. That is now included in the package. But in the main, I don't see major changes." Axelrod's resoluteness was, in part, a response to the continued howls of discontent coming from several corners of the Democratic Party.

DEBIT CARDS & HOLIDAYS

LUCÍA BURGA/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:37

This holiday season, a debit card is best used by those who don't want the perils of credit card debt. However, this does not make them any less safe from debit card fraud as well. While one is all too absorbed with Christmas shopping, fraudster can take their cue and swindle people out of their own debit card funds. To protect them and their debit card accounts from fraud, here are some safety tips to follow: In giving the debit card information, a debit card owner must make sure only the rightful person reads or hears it. It is best to write the information down on a piece of paper and when the other party has listed it down, he can retrieve the paper and keep it. Trashing it is not advisable. Once other people pick up the debit card information, they may use it for fraud. The debit card information must also be exclusive to the owner. Even family and friends must not know of it. He must also be careful as not to share the information to

his children 15 years and younger. They may not realise the importance of a debit card yet and they could carelessly share the information to others or use it themselves unguarded. Should children need to purchase something, the parents must be there to personally pay through the debit card.

GAS PRICES

VO: 29

Visit a gas pump lately? You've likely noticed prices have been rising slowly but steadily. And with people's wallets and pocketbooks already thin this holiday season its got people searching for the cheapest fuel anywhere they can find it. The holiday rush this Saturday meant a lot of shoppers on the move and lots of cars on the road. But making things not so jolly, says AAA, fast rising gas prices, and it's the Grinch for many this holiday season. AAA says prices have rises nearly 30 cents a gallon over just the last year. With the national average at \$2.97 a gallon gas prices are still cheaper in the Upstate than in other parts of the country. We found the average to be \$2.73 a gallon in the Upstate. Gas prices are the highest they've been in two years because oil prices are above \$90 a barrel. Those in the oil industry say the national average per gallon could hit the \$3 dollar mark by the new year. And as much as \$3.50 a gallon by the spring. To check the latest local and national gas price averages, you can go to AAA's special website dedicated to the issue:

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12/13/10

TOYOTA RECALL

VO: 20

Toyota Motor Corp said Monday it would recall about 110,000 of the 2011 Sienna minivans due to a risk that drivers could damage the brake system as they use the parking brake. The Sienna is an all-new model. Toyota said it was not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this issue, and that it would notify owners in January of the problem. But the fix will be delayed until replacement parts are available in February, Toyota said, when it will ask owners to bring the minivans to dealers for installation of new parts. Toyota said that in some cases drivers had damaged a bracket connected to the brake lights by pressing on the parking brake. That could cause the brake lights to stay on, or in some cases cause the vehicle's regular brake to be partially engaged at all times, causing noise and vibration.

TAX CUTS

LOURDES MELUZA- WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:09

The Democratic-led U.S. Congress will move a step closer today toward grudging approval of President Barack Obama's deal with Republicans to extend expiring tax cuts, even for the wealthiest Americans. Backers were expected to muster on the needed 60 votes in the 100-member Senate to clear a procedural hurdle, before

passage on Tuesday or Wednesday. The bill would then go to the House of Representatives for likely passage -- despite complaints from many Democrats that Obama conceded too much to Republicans. The bill would avert a Jan. 1 increase in income taxes for nearly all Americans. The package also would renew jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed and provide a one-year cut in Social Security taxes. In the Senate they start talking around 2:00 pm about the bill and then vote...cloture and final vote. The House could also vote as soon as tomorrow.

HEALTH CARE RULING

LUIS MEGID- SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:55

A U.S. judge in Virginia Monday declared a key part of President Barack Obama's landmark healthcare law unconstitutional in the first major setback on an issue that will likely end up at the Supreme Court. U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson, appointed to the bench by President George W. Bush in 2002, backed the state of Virginia's argument that Congress exceeded its authority by requiring Americans to start buying health insurance in 2014 or face a fine. But he declined to invalidate the entire healthcare law, a small victory for Obama, whose administration will appeal the decision. The law is a cornerstone of Obama's presidency, aiming to expand health insurance to cover millions of uninsured Americans while trying to curb costs. Obama told the Tampa television station WFLA he was confident the courts would uphold the healthcare act. Healthcare insurers, which include companies such as Aetna Inc and WellPoint Inc, largely opposed Obama's reforms but say the individual mandate is critical so additional customers can offset greater industry costs.

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12/14/10

USA HEALTH CARE APPEAL

VO: 24

The Justice Department said Tuesday it intends to appeal to a U.S. appeals court a ruling by a judge in Virginia declaring a key part of President Barack Obama's landmark healthcare law unconstitutional. Department spokeswoman Tracy Schmalzer said the Virginia lawsuit at issue was one of a number of cases concerning the law pending before courts around the country, including four in which challenges were unsuccessful. "Virginia's suit is based on a state statute that is not applicable nationwide, and the department believes this case should follow the ordinary course of allowing the courts of appeals to hear it first so the issues and arguments can be fully developed before the Supreme Court decides whether to consider it," she said in a statement. Some Republican opponents have said the case should go next to the Supreme Court, bypassing the appeals court. By going through the appeals court, it could take more than a year for the issue to end up at the Supreme Court.

TAX CUT LATEST

FERNANDO PIZARRO- WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 1:41

President Barack Obama's tax plan got a boost on Tuesday when a top Democrat in the House , where the plan faces its stiffest resistance, said there were "compelling reasons" to back it. The bullish comments from Democratic Majority Leader Steny Hoyer signaled opposition is dissipating among Democrats who believe that Obama's \$858 billion tax deal, brokered with the opposition Republicans, is too generous to the wealthy. The Senate cleared a key procedural hurdle on Monday, with a bipartisan group of 83 of the 100 members voting in favor of moving the bill forward. A vote in the Senate was expected late on Tuesday or shortly after midnight on Wednesday, with the House taking up the measure during the day Wednesday. The plan extends all Bush-era individual tax rates, prevents a spike in taxes on capital gains and dividends and renews long-term insurance for the jobless, among other measures. Obama and most of his fellow Democrats had pushed for extension of the tax cuts enacted by former President George W. Bush only on household income of up to \$250,000. But Democrats lost control of the House and saw their margins shrink in the Senate in the Nov. 2 elections, pushing Obama to strike the deal before the bolstered Republicans take more power in January.

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12/15/10

SENATE VOTE TAX CUTS

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:13

The Senate Wednesday overwhelmingly passed a sweeping tax package that would save millions of Americans thousands of dollars in higher taxes while also reducing their Social Security taxes and extending jobless benefits. President Barack Obama swiftly urged the House to pass the \$858 billion bill without changes, a slap at Democratic liberals eager to toughen a part of the measure that permits up to \$10 million to pass to heirs estate tax-free. A wide array of tax cuts enacted under President George W. Bush is scheduled to expire on Jan. 1 -- just two weeks away -- affecting taxpayers at every income level. The bill passed by the Senate, 81-19, would extend those cuts for two years. Obama urged quick action in the House. "I know there are different aspects of this plan to which members of Congress on both sides of the aisle object. That's the nature of compromise," the president said. "But we worked to negotiate an agreement that's a win for middle-class families and a win for our economy, and we can't afford to let it fall victim to either delay or defeat."

HOUSE REPEALS "DONT ASK DON'T TELL"

VO: 18

The House has voted to repeal the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that has stifled the service of gays in the military. The strong House vote to end the policy that since 1993 has barred openly gay people from military service shifts the debate to the Senate.

There, Democratic leaders are trying to squeeze in a vote in the final hours of this session of Congress. President Barack Obama and others trying to repeal the policy are anxious to get a vote this year. Their concern is that Republicans, who take over the House and gain strength in the Senate next year, will move the issue to the legislative back burner.

DREAM ACT MOMENTUM

VO: 20

Last night, leaders of the Reform Immigration FOR America campaign, the United We Dream Coalition, their partners and their congressional champions joined on a massive telephone call of more than 10,000 to discuss the prospects for DREAM in the U.S. Senate. Senate Majority Whip Richard Durbin (D-IL) was joined by Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Representative Luis Gutierrez (D-IL), and United We DREAM student leader Gaby Pacheco to highlight the massive organizing that has been accomplished and what the Senate leadership plans to move the legislation forward. In the last two weeks, the Reform Immigration FOR America campaign has generated more than 200,000 calls into Congress. Now, after the House passage, the campaign has pivoted with laser-like focus on the U.S. Senate, the next hurdle for the legislation. This most recent surge of volunteer activism has grown out of new grassroots infrastructure created in the last year through this campaign, which drew more than 200,000 activists to Washington, DC in March 2010, and had a decisive impact in several statewide and congressional races in the 2010 midterm elections

US SUES BP & 7 OTHERS

VO: 19

The U.S. Justice Department on Wednesday sued BP and eight other companies in the Gulf oil spill disaster in an effort to recover (b) billions of dollars from the largest offshore spill in US history. The Obama administration's lawsuit asks that the companies be held liable without limitation under the Oil Pollution Act for all removal costs and damages caused by the oil spill, including damages to natural resources. The lawsuit also seeks civil penalties under the Clean Water Act. "We intend to prove these violations caused or contributed to the massive oil spill," Attorney General Eric Holder told a news conference in Washington. The amount of damages and the extent of injuries sustained by the United States as a result of the Deepwater Horizon Spill are not yet fully known, the lawsuit states. An explosion that killed 11 workers at BP's Macondo well last April led to oil spewing from the company's undersea well - more than 200 (m) million gallons in all by the government's estimate. BP disputes the figure.

STEM CELL BREAKTHROUGH

JAIME GARCIA/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:55

Doctors in Berlin, working with an American patient with both HIV and leukemia, have declared in a peer-reviewed journal that they believe they have cured both illnesses. It would be the first time an HIV patient has been cured. The procedure is creating a

buzz in the HIV academic community in the United States. Experts here call the development encouraging, but warn that years of work remain before the treatment could lead to a general therapy against HIV. 'Cured' is a strong word. But this is very encouraging," said Dr. David Scadden, co-director of the Harvard University Stem Cell Institute. "From all indications, there was no residual virus. It's as good an outcome as one could hope."

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

From: Rosyris Silva-Nazario
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 7:16 PM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC REPORTS- NOTICIERO UNIVISION- DECEMBER 2010- PART 2

FCC REPORTS NETWORK NEWS 6:30PM
DEC.16 - DEC. 31 PART 2

12/16/10

HEALTH CARE REFORM LATEST

VO: 20

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott today appeared in federal district court, where he represented the State of Texas during legal arguments over the constitutionality of the Obama Administration's health care law. Last March, Attorney General Abbott and a bipartisan coalition of state officials from across the country challenged the constitutionality of the controversial Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Today's oral argument was the final court proceeding before U.S. District Judge Roger Vinson is expected to rule on the law's constitutionality sometime next year.

TAX CUT LATEST

LOURDES MELUZA- WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:09

The White House is pushing hard for the House to pass a tax package Thursday that would save millions of Americans thousands of dollars in higher taxes beginning Jan. 1. Some Democratic lawmakers are seeking changes to the package that could derail the bill. Democratic leaders are staying hands-off, leaving it to President Barack Obama to persuade fellow Democrats not to put the package at risk by imposing a higher estate tax than he negotiated with Republicans. The Senate overwhelmingly passed the package Wednesday, with broad bipartisan support. Obama is urging the House to pass it without changes, so he can sign it into law before a sweeping series of tax cuts expire at the end of December. House Democratic leaders plan to pass the bill Thursday evening. But first, they will hold a vote on imposing the higher estate tax, backed by rebellious Democrats who say the package is too generous to the wealthy.

RECESSION IMPACT ON IMMIGRATION
JAIME GARCIA- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
PKG 2:00

During 2009, the U.S. economy was in the throes of the Great Recession, and immigration had become a highly polarized topic of debate, reflected by a rise in anti-immigrant sentiment. Immigration was high prior to the Great Recession which officially commenced in December 2007. While immigration seemed to come to a standstill in 2008, an increase between 2008 and 2009 may be reflective of the first signs of the comeback of the national economy. At the very least, the demand for immigrant workers seems to have reappeared, though immigrant earnings are diminished in the post-recessionary period. Despite the national trend, metropolitan markets have experienced the recession in different ways, causing shifts in immigrant settlement patterns, at least for the time being.

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12/17/10

BANK OF AMERICA FRAUD
VO: 20

Bank of America Corp. violated Arizona's consumer fraud law by misleading consumers who tried to reduce their mortgage payments so they could keep their homes, state Attorney General Terry Goddard said Friday as he filed a civil lawsuit against the bank. The bank also violated the terms of a 2009 consent agreement requiring the bank's Countrywide mortgage subsidiary to implement a loan modification program, the lawsuit alleges. Hundreds of homeowners kept making their mortgage payments because Bank of America repeatedly assured them their loan was being modified, he said. Instead, many lost their homes anyway.

NEBRASKA IMMIGRANT TUITION
VO: 20

A Nebraska judge on Friday threw out a lawsuit challenging a state law that allows some illegal immigrants to pay in-state college tuition. The lawsuit filed in January on behalf of six Nebraska residents claimed their taxes were being used to support the state's immigration-tuition law in violation of federal law. The lawsuit named the University of Nebraska Board of Regents and other state college boards as defendants and asked the judge to prevent schools officials from following the law. Jefferson County District Judge Paul Korslund said in his ruling that the Nebraska residents who filed the suit should have first gone to the federal government to ask it to challenge the law before such a case could be heard in the state courts.

TAX CUT EXTENSION
LOURDES DEL RIO- MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:20

President Barack Obama signed into law a huge, holiday-season tax bill extending cuts for all Americans on Friday, saluting a new spirit of political compromise as Republicans applauded and liberals seethed. The benefits range from tax cuts for millionaires and the middle class to longer-term help for the jobless. The most significant tax legislation in nearly a decade will avert big increases that would have hit millions of people starting in two weeks on New Year's Day. Obama said as a rare bipartisan assembly of lawmakers looked on at the White House. The package retains Bush-era tax rates for all taxpayers, including the wealthiest Americans, a provision Obama and congressional liberals opposed. It also offers 13 months of extended benefits to the unemployed and attempts to stimulate the economy with a Social Security payroll tax cut for all workers.

DREAM ACT LATEST

LOURDES MELUZA- WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 3:27

The U.S. Senate is expected to cast a crucial vote Saturday on the DREAM Act, which would pave the way for possibly hundreds of thousands of undocumented immigrants to legalize their status. And both opponents and supporters of the DREAM Act cranked up their arguments Friday, with Republican congressional leaders sending out a long list of reasons why the measure would be harmful for the country, and Democrats countering that not passing it would be detrimental. Even Department of Homeland Security officials, including the heads of the main immigration agencies, joined the down-to-the-wire blitz, urging the passage of the DREAM Act. Thursday night, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., scheduled the vote on the highly controversial measure, which would make undocumented immigrants younger than 30 years of age eligible for conditional legal status if they meet a strict set of criteria. The so-called cloture vote would not be on the bill itself, but on whether to move toward a debate and then vote on the bill. Also on the schedule for a cloture vote is the bill that would repeal the ban on gays serving openly in the military.

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12/18/10 (Saturday, 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

DREAM ACT BLOCKED BY SENATE

FERNANDO PIZARRO/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:10

Senate Republicans on Saturday doomed an effort that would have given hundreds of thousands of young illegal immigrants a path to legal status if they enrolled in college or joined the military. Sponsors of the "Dream Act" fell five votes short of the 60 they needed to break through largely GOP opposition and win its enactment before Republicans take over the House and narrow Democrats' majority in the Senate next month. President Barack Obama called the vote "incredibly disappointing." "A minority of senators prevented the Senate from doing what most Americans

understand is best for the country," Obama said. "There was simply no reason not to pass this important legislation." Dozens of immigrants wearing graduation mortarboards watched from the Senate's visitors gallery, disappointment on their faces, as the 55-41 vote was announced.

-PKG 2:30REAX TO DREAM ACT - LOS ÁNGELES, CALIFORNIA

-CLARISSA MARTINEZ , NCLR DIRECTOR

3:00 INTERVIEW WASHINGTON DC

-GABY PACHECO / STUDENT, ACTIVIST PRO "DREAM ACT"

3:00 INTERVIEW / WASHINGTON, DC

Dozens of immigrants wearing graduation mortarboards watched from the Senate's visitors gallery, disappointment on their faces, as the 55-41 vote was announced. "This is a dark day in America," said Jorge-Mario Cabrera, a spokesman for the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights in Los Angeles. "The Senate has ... thrown under the bus the lives and hard work of thousands and thousands of students who love this country like their own home, and, in fact, they have no other home." Hispanic activists and immigrant advocates had looked to the bill as a down payment on what they had hoped would be broader action by Obama and the Democratic-controlled Congress to give the nation's 10 million to 12 million illegal immigrants a chance at legal status. It targeted the most sympathetic of the millions of illegal immigrants -- those brought to the United States as children, who in many cases consider themselves American, speak English and have no ties to or family living in their native countries.

DONT ASK, DONT TELL

VO: 19

-- Word that the world's largest military power will allow gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military brought strong and swift reaction Saturday, with supporters declaring a civil rights milestone and detractors insisting it would weaken and divide the armed forces. In New York, home to one of the nation's largest gay communities and a gay pride parade whose grand marshal this year was an openly gay, discharged serviceman, 28-year-old Cassandra Melnikow glanced at a news ticker in Times Square announcing the repeal and said: "Excellent! It's about time." "I don't see what difference (sexual orientation) makes in the fighting military," said Melnikow, a public health researcher. "What's the big deal?" President Barack Obama had made repealing "don't ask, don't tell" a campaign promise in 2008, and rounding up a filibuster-proof majority in the Senate was a historic victory for him. By the time President Bill Clinton proposed allowing gays to serve in the military in 1993, they had been explicitly barred from military service since World War I. Foes of lifting the ban argued that the military shouldn't be used to expand the rights of gays and that allowing them to serve openly would hurt troop morale and a unit's ability to fight -- the same arguments used against women and blacks

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12/19/10 (Sunday , 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

DREAM ACT REAX

LILIANA ESCALANTE/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:37

-- Emboldened by months of phone calls to lawmakers, hunger strikes and sit-ins, a group of college students and graduates in Los Angeles say they plan to take their fight for immigrant rights to the states and the 2012 election after Senate Republicans blocked a key piece of legislation. But it won't be easy. The Senate vote Saturday to toss the Proposal that would have granted young illegal immigrants a route to legal status dealt a harsh blow to student activists who will face an even steeper uphill battle in the next Congress. Immigrants see rough times ahead in the next two years, with many Republicans vowing to push for tougher immigration enforcement, but they also say Latino voters are getting fed up with lawmakers at a time when they are accruing greater political clout. "This is a movement," said Nancy Meza, a 23-year-old illegal immigrant and college graduate who wore a University of California, Los Angeles sweatshirt as she watched the televised vote. "We don't have lobbyists and paid staff. It's a movement by students."

PENTAGON DONT ASK DONT TELL

VO: 22

The debate over gays in the military has been settled with a historic decision to allow them to serve openly, but big questions lie ahead about how and when the change will take place, how troops will accept it and whether it will hamper the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan and Iraq. President Barack Obama is expected to sign into law this week the legislation that passed the Senate on Saturday, an act some believe will carry social implications as profound as President Harry S. Truman's 1948 executive order on racial equality in the military. The new law probably won't go into practice for months. Obama and his top advisers must first certify that repealing the 1993 ban on gays serving openly will not damage U.S. troops' ability to fight. That ban, known as "don't ask, don't tell," has allowed gays to serve, but only if they kept quiet about their sexual orientation.

BIDEN DEFENDS COMPROMISE ON TAX CUTS

VO: 22

Vice President Joe Biden is defending the Obama administration's willingness to extend tax cuts for the top earners despite earlier promises that he and the president would fight against the Bush-era policy. Biden says the White House decided to compromise with Republicans so taxes didn't rise for the middle class. He says the administration will fight to end the upper-income tax cuts in two years, when the extension that President Barack Obama signed on Friday expires. Biden tells NBC's "Meet the Press" that he and Obama still find the tax cuts for upper-income earners "morally troubling."

MEDICAID CUTS

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:57

Across the country, state lawmakers have taken harsh actions to try to rein in the budget-busting costs of the health care program that serves 58 million poor and disabled Americans. Some states have cut payments to doctors, paid bills late and trimmed benefits such as insulin pumps, obesity surgery and hospice care. In California, Medicaid no longer pays for many adult dental services. But it still pays for extractions, that is, tooth-pulling. The unintended consequence: Medicaid patients tell dentists to pull teeth that could be saved. "The roots are fine. The tooth could be saved with a root canal," said Dr. Nagaraj Murthy, who practices in Compton, Calif. "I had a patient yesterday. I said we could do a root canal. He said, 'No, it's hurting. Go ahead and pull it. I don't have the money.'" Murthy recently pulled an elderly woman's last tooth, but Medicaid no longer pays for dentures. "Elderly patients suffer the most," Murthy said. "They're walking around with no teeth." ...

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12/20/10

CALIFORNIA WEATHER

GABRIELA TEISSIER- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:39

A storm walloped parts of California with up to 7 inches of rain and spawned minor flooding, mudslides and road closures Monday, but forecasters warn the bad weather's real impact may be yet to come. More than 3 additional inches of rain expected across the region by Wednesday will hit already saturated hillsides, increasing the possibility of slides and flash floods, said Stuart Seto of the National Weather Service. The relentless rains that pounded California through the weekend smashed rainfall records, caused numerous traffic accidents, downed trees and forced the cancellation of some horse races. The weather service said rainfall accumulation could reach 20 inches in some isolated locations by Wednesday, when the first phase of the storm is expected to pass. After a brief respite, it is forecast to return late Christmas Day.

POLITICAL REDISTRICTING DUE TO CENSUS RESULTS

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ- NEW YORK

PKG 2:34

The 2010 census report coming out Tuesday will include a boatload of good political news for Republicans and grim data for Democrats hoping to re-elect President Barack Obama and rebound from last month's devastating elections. The population continues to shift from Democratic-leaning Rust Belt states to Republican-leaning Sun Belt states, a trend the Census Bureau will detail in its once-a-decade report to the president. Political clout shifts, too, because the nation must reapportion the 435 House districts to make them roughly equal in population, based on the latest census figures. The biggest gainer will be Texas, a GOP-dominated state expected to gain up

to four new House seats, for a total of 36. The chief losers New York and Ohio, each projected by nongovernment analysts to lose two seats were carried by Obama in 2008 and are typical of states in the Northeast and Midwest that are declining in political influence.

DREAM INTERRUPTED: AFTER THE DREAM ACT

LUIS MEGID- SAN FRANCISCO, CA

PKG 1:52

A major immigration reform bill, known as the DREAM Act, failed to gain passage in the Senate on Saturday (12/18). The DREAM Act would have provided American citizenship to people who arrived illegally in the US as minors, have demonstrated good moral character, have been in the US for at least five years prior to the bill's passage, and who have graduated from the US high school system, with an opportunity to gain conditional permanent residency if they complete two years in the military or two years at a four-year institution of higher education. The DREAM Act was originally introduced in the Senate in 2001, and supporters vow it will be brought to a vote again soon

PROPOSALS FOR RESCUING SCHOOLS

JAIME GARCIA-COMPTON, CALIFORNIA

PKG 3:01

Effort to convert Compton school to charter draws fire Some are withdrawing signatures given under the 'parent-trigger' law to make school a charter, saying they were intimidated or misled. By Howard Blume and Teresa Watanabe, Los Angeles Times Tempers flared Friday over the fate of a low-performing Compton elementary school that has become the first target of a new law allowing parents to mandate school shutdowns or charter-school conversions through a petition drive. Some parents are rescinding their signatures to convert McKinley Elementary into a charter school that would operate outside the direct control of the Compton Unified School District. Under the state's new "parent-trigger" law, which is being scrutinized nationwide, the signatures of at least half the parents at a campus are required in order to launch the changes.

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12/21/2010

TERRORISTS THREAT WARNINGS

LOURDES DEL RIO- MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:57

Attorney General Eric Holder says he's worried about terrorist attacks on the U.S. by Americans. And high on his list of concerns is the threat posed by anti-American cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, a U.S. citizen believed to be hiding in Yemen. Holder says al-Awlaki has a familiarity with the U.S. that terrorists usually lack. He says he puts him on the list of people who worry him the most, along with al-Qaida head Osama bin Laden. In

an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America," Holder said the terrorism threat is real and constant. He says he's concerned that the authorities may have missed a signal that an attack is coming. He says Americans have to be prepared for "potentially bad news."

FLOOD ALERT IN CALIFORNIA

VO: 20

Forecasters expected heavy rains across California going into Wednesday, while authorities kept a close eye on the first sign of mudslides in the wildfire-scarred foothills across the southern part of the state. So far, the inconveniences have been relatively minor: Rescuers had to pluck some stranded motorists from rain-swollen creeks. Shoppers dodged puddles while buying last-minute Christmas gifts. Disney resorts canceled a plan to shower visitors with artificial snow.

FLIGHT DELAYS DUE TO WEATHER

VO: 20

Major delays and cancellations disrupted European airports including London's Heathrow, and the Eurostar train link, leaving thousands stranded across Europe as Christmas approached. Three days after a five-inch snowfall, the icy road conditions in much of Britain also raised doubts about the delivery of Christmas gifts because many side roads were hazardous. Currys and many other major businesses have stopped taking online orders for pre-Christmas delivery because of the poor road conditions. Predicted snowfall at Heathrow did not materialize overnight, allowing cleanup crews to intensify their work, but more than half the flights at Europe's busiest international hub were expected to be canceled.

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12/22/10

CONGRESS HEALTH- 911 ATTACKS BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ- NUEVA YORK PKG 1:57

The Senate has passed a package of health care and economic aid for people sickened by dust from the ruins of September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. The measure was passed on a voice vote with no one objecting after Democrats and Republican critics reached a compromise reducing the bill's cost from \$6.2 billion to \$4.2 billion. The bill provides free health care and compensation for lost wages and other economic losses to first-responders for the Sept. 11 terrorist attack and survivors who fell ill after being exposed to toxins from the trade center ruins. New York and New Jersey lawmakers have waged a long, bitter fight for the measure. The House was expected to vote on it later Wednesday before Congress adjourns for the year.

CALIFORNIA WEATHER

LILIANA ESCALANTE- HIGHLAND, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:55

Authorities have closed all downtown Laguna Beach streets due to extensive flooding in the area early Wednesday morning. Along with all downtown Laguna Beach streets, Laguna Canyon Road between Forest Avenue and State Route 73 and PCH between Aster Street and Legion Street are also closed. According to Lt. Jason Kravetz of the Laguna Beach Police Department, downtown Laguna Beach is under several feet of water, adding that those who work in the downtown area should not attempt to go to work.

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12/23/10

HOLIDAY HEART SYNDROME

LUIS MEGID- SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:40

The term "holiday heart syndrome" was coined in 1978 when researchers detected heart rhythm abnormalities in 24 study participants, none of whom had a history of heart disease. What they all did have was too much to drink, too fast. Since then, several studies have confirmed alcohol's heart rhythm-disturbing effects. The most common abnormal heart rhythm, atrial fibrillation, occurs when the upper heart chambers quiver instead of contracting regularly. Although it's often asymptomatic, it can lead to congestive heart failure or stroke. As the moniker suggests, holiday heart syndrome peaks on weekends and at holidays. Although alcohol alone can derail normal heart rhythms, its effects are exaggerated when mixed with caffeine. Rimmerman warned against the popular practice of mixing alcohol with energy drinks, calling it a "very bad combination."

XMASS TRAVELING

LOURDES DEL RIO- MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:57

Fair weather helped make the holiday sojourn a not-so-painful experience in much of the country Thursday, even with more people hitting the roads and skies than last year, but travelers' good luck might be running out. A storm was expected to bring a snow and ice to parts of the heartland Friday, a rare white Christmas to Nashville on Saturday, and perhaps sock swaths of the Northeast on Sunday. The AAA has expected overall travel to rise about 3 percent this year, with more than 92 million people planning to go more than 50 miles sometime between now and Jan. 2. More than 90 percent said they would be driving. The Air Transport Association was expecting 44.3 million people on U.S. flights between Dec. 16 and Jan. 5 -- up 3 percent over the same period a year ago but still below pre-recession travel volume. The average ticket price is \$421, up by 5 percent.

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12/24/10

ALERT ISSUED ON BEVERAGE CONTAINERS ON PLANES

VO:20

The U.S. Homeland Security Department has alerted air carriers to a potential terror tactic involving insulated beverage containers like thermoses. The alert stressed that there is no intelligence about an active terror plot, but travelers may notice airport screeners taking a closer look at empty insulated containers. The Transportation Security Administration "is carefully monitoring information related to terrorist tactics" in coordination with other nations, TSA spokeswoman Sterling Payne said in a statement Thursday. "The possible tactics terrorists might use include the concealment of explosives inside insulated beverage containers, so in the coming days, passengers flying within and to the U.S. may notice additional security measures related to insulated beverage containers."

ONLINE HOLIDAY SHOPPING JUMPS 15 PERCENT

VO: 20

Online spending rose 15 percent during the holidays, new data shows, as more Americans responded to online sales and free shipping offers and shifted more of their dollars online. Total online sales between Oct. 31 and Thursday rose 15.4 percent to a record \$36.4 billion, compared with \$31.5 billion a year ago, according to figures released Thursday from MasterCard Advisors' SpendingPulse, which tracks spending across all transactions including cash. Several categories, including clothing and electronics, gained share of overall category sales as well. "Americans are really changing way that they shop and the way they spend," said Michael McNamara, vice president of research and analysis for SpendingPulse.

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12/25/2010

US FLIGHT CANCELATIONS

VO: 22

A rare white Christmas is complicating life for some travelers after airlines canceled hundreds of flights, while snow is predicted for the nation's Capital and travel authorities are warning of potentially dangerous roads. The National Weather Service said the storm could bring more than 5 inches of snow to the Washington region. Meteorologist Stephen Konarik said the storm could hit the area Sunday morning and end Sunday night or early Monday, with the peak snowfall Sunday afternoon and early evening. Brian Korty at the National Weather Service said travelers in the northern Mid-Atlantic region New England may want to rethink Sunday travel plans. He said they may see "nearly impossible" travel conditions.

GIFT RETURNS AFTER HOLIDAYS

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ- NEW YORK

PKG: 1:39

It's expected that one of every 5 americans return at least one gift after the holidays. Most times is the reasons for a return are very similar, but befor purchasing or exchanging the consumers should lear the different store policies. For example, computers have a very limited time for exchange and electronics and jewlery stores do not have a return policy, most likely the consumer will recieve a store credit for the amount of the gift.

**POLICE CHASE AT THE BORDER
PEDRO ROJAS- MISSION, TEXAS
PKG:2:17**

The police chases are very common in the bordering towns in the state of Texas, and lately the residents of these towns are somewhat alarmed by the situation. The Department of Public Safety of Texas revealed that it's agents are starring in many chases nowdays in the bordering towns, and this agency has also revealed that their figures show from January to August 2010 97 persecutions are registered under the town of Hidalgo by itself versus 29 in the state's major cities.

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12/26/10 Sunday (6:30pm & 11:30pm)

**HEALTH INSURANCE RULES
LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
PKG 1:48**

California will create an Internet-based insurance exchange to let consumers comparison-shop for affordable health insurance coverage under two of the many laws taking effect with the new year. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed bills in September making California the first state to authorize an oversight board for an insurance exchange marketplace since the federal health care overhaul was enacted earlier this year. Massachusetts implemented its exchange before the federal reforms. The Republican governor and Democratic legislative leaders who carried SB900 and AB1602 said the companion bills will drive down costs and give consumers more options by promoting competition between health insurance companies. Republican lawmakers countered that the measures create an expensive new health care bureaucracy even before the federal law takes effect in 2014. Supporters said the five-member board overseeing the California Health Benefit Exchange will need those three years to hire staff, set up the program, select health plans to participate and enroll Californians needing health insurance.

**JANET NAPOLITANO SECURITY
VO: 25**

The use of full-body scanners and invasive pat-downs at airports around the country will not change for the "foreseeable future," Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said in an interview broadcast Sunday. While saying that she is always looking to improve the security systems in place, Napolitano added that the new

technology and the pat-downs were "objectively safer for our traveling public."Napolitano dismissed a recent news report about major airports failing secrets tests designed to get contraband such as guns and knives past security screeners. The report said some airports had a 70 percent failure rate. "Many of them are very old and out of date and there were all kinds of methodology issues with them. Let's set those aside," she said on "State of the Union" on CNN. "We pick up more contraband with the new procedures and the new machinery."Napolitano defended the director of national intelligence, James Clapper, who didn't know about a roundup of terrorist suspects in Britain when asked about the arrests on ABC News earlier this week. The gaffe created an awkward moment for the man in charge of the nation's intelligence community.

BRAIN SOCIAL STUDY

VO 20

If you spend time with a lot of friends, a part of your brain may be unusually large. That part is called the amygdala (uh-MIG'-duh-luh), and it's deep in your brain. Researchers found that among volunteers who got brain scans, those with a bigger amygdala tended to report seeing more friends and family regularly. Lisa Feldman Barrett of Northeastern University reports the work in a paper published online Sunday by the journal Nature Neuroscience. She says the result makes sense because the amygdala is at the center of a brain network that's important for socializing. The study couldn't show whether a bigger amygdala leads to more friends, or vice versa. Barrett says the influence might run in both directions.

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12/27/10

FREEZE WARNING IN FLORIDA

VO: 20

The national weather service in miami has upgraded the freeze warning to a hard freeze warning...which is now in effect from midnight tonight to 9 am est tuesday. a freeze watch also remains in effect from late tuesday night through wednesday morning. The latest short range models are now showing that the winds will be light and variable along with clear skies allowing for very good radiational cooling tonight. the grounds are also very dry due to the couple of freezes that occurred earlier this month...and the lack of rainfall during the the last 3 to 5 months. This will allow for the low temperatures over these areas to fall below 28 degrees for more than 4 hours tonight. therefore...the freeze warning has been upgraded to a hard freeze warning for late tonight into early tuesday morning. There is also a freeze watch in effect for late tuesday night into wednesday morning for the same areas...as temperatures are expected again to fall below the freezing mark.

US WEATHER

ALEX ROLAND- NEW YORK

PKG 1:44

An East Coast blizzard that has forced more than 5,000 flight cancelations will leave many travelers stranded through the end of the week. Runways were expected to reopen this evening at several major airports in the Northeast. Still, hundreds of thousands of passengers missed flights Sunday and Monday into and out of Philadelphia, New York and Boston. Once the airports reopen, people will have a hard time finding room on later flights. Seats are already scarce because of the busy holiday season, and airlines are operating fewer flights than they did before the recession. Airlines have to get their planes back to the Northeast before they can fly stranded travelers. They may also have to ferry pilots and flight attendants into the affected areas. American Airlines spokesman Ed Martelle said if the weather clears by Tuesday, the airline can resume a normal schedule by Wednesday. He declined to say how long stuck passengers might wait for an empty seat.

AT&T DOCUMENTARY ABOUT TEXTING AND DRIVING**JAIME GARCIA- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA****PKG 2:06**

The wireless company planned to release the video today, before New Year's Eve. The timing is aimed, the company said, at showing that texting and driving deserves to be considered as dangerous as drunk driving. The documentary includes intense, sometimes disturbing, images, including that of Ms. West, as she spent her last minutes alive on a breathing tube. Research from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute shows that motorists who text face a 23 times greater risk of crash or near crash. Other wireless carriers, like Verizon Wireless, have in the last year stepped up efforts to warn about the risks of texting and driving. AT&T said it plans to distribute the documentary to schools, safety organizations and government agencies, and is urging people to take a pledge on its Facebook page not to text and drive.

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12/28/10**NEW LAW IN CA FOR MARIJUANA****VO: 21**

Come January first, getting caught with an ounce or less of this in California is the same as getting one of these, and the prediction at Oakland's Oakland University where the curriculum is all things cannabis is that this change in law is just a sign of what's to come. Until now, possession of an ounce of pot was a misdemeanor punishable by a \$100 fine. The new law makes it an infraction that comes with the same price tag.

AIRPORTS START TO RE-OPEN**BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ- NEW YORK****PKG 2:35**

New York's major airports -- John F. Kennedy, Newark Liberty and LaGuardia -- were shut for nearly 24 hours before reopening Monday evening, forcing many passengers

to camp out in terminals. Thousands of additional flights were canceled on Monday, and officials said it would take several days before air travel, especially in the New York area, began to return to normal.

STRAWBERRIES AND CHOCOLATE GENE

VO:20

Strawberries and chocolate go all too well together in fondue, cakes, and any other dessert you can imagine. Now scientists are learning more about the genetic makeup of both of these foods. The journal "Nature Genetics" is publishing studies about the genomes of the cocoa and strawberry plants. Researchers say what they've learned about antioxidants in both could lead to genetically modified versions -- that could be more nutritious, and easier to grow.

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12/29/10

MORE JOBS FOR 2011

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG : 2:10

A new CareerBuilder survey finds that more employers plan to add full-time workers in 2011 compared to 2010. The survey found that new hiring is more likely "in technology and revenue-producing fields." "More than half of employers reported they are in a better financial position today than they were one year ago," Matt Ferguson, CEO of CareerBuilder, said in the survey statement. "2011 will usher in a healthier employment picture as business leaders grow more confident in the economy. Our survey indicates more jobs will be added in 2011 than 2010, but job creation will remain gradual. The year will be characterized by steady, measured gains across various industries." The hiring outlook is different by geographic region, with the West having the best outlook and the Midwest and South having the lowest percentage hiring expectation.

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12/30/10

UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ/ NUEVA YORK

PKG 2:17

The number of people applying for unemployment benefits last week fell to its lowest level since July 2008. New jobless claims dropped 34,000 to 388,000, the fewest since July 2008, the Labor Department said Thursday. The level of applications has either fallen or remained unchanged in five of the past six weeks. Unemployment applications below 425,000 signal modest job growth. But economists say applications need to fall consistently to 375,000 or below to indicate a significant decline in unemployment. Applications for unemployment benefits peaked during the recession at 651,000 in March 2009. The level of applications can be particularly volatile during the holidays.

But a department analyst said no unusual factors affected the report. Analysts said what matters most is the downward trend. "If we can continue this improving trend, we'll likely see stronger job growth in 2011," said Benjamin Reitzes, an economist at BMO Capital Markets. Applications are the closest thing to a real-time snapshot of the job market. They reflect the level of layoffs but can also indicate whether companies are willing to add workers. The four-week average, a less-volatile measure, dropped 12,500 to 414,000 in the week ending Dec. 25. That's the lowest level since late July 2008.

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12/31/10

**STATES IMMIGRATIONS LAWS
JAIME GARCIA/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
PKG 1:51**

Get ready for some states to try for Arizona-style immigration laws. Gov.-elect Nikki Haley, R-S.C., is among the state chiefs who want to crack down on illegal immigration with legislation that is similar or tougher than Arizona's statute, which allows law enforcement to check on legal status if there is reason to believe someone is in the U.S. illegally. A federal judge has blocked full enforcement of the Arizona law. Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer, a Republican who was re-elected last month, is appealing the ruling. The National Conference of State Legislatures predicts there could be a record number of state bills dealing with immigration in 2011, according to a Bloomberg story That would be up from 1,500 such measures filed in each of the past two years.

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

From: Rosyris Silva-Nazario
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 7:37 PM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC REPORTS-DESPIERTA AMERICA NEWS- DECEMBER 2010-PART 1

FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA DECEMBER 1-15 PART I

12/01/2010

JOBLESS BENEFITS NORMA ROQUE. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA PKG 1:42 / VO :23

Unemployment benefits end today for many unemployed, a look at who is looking for work or just benefiting from government money. As many as 32,000 people in Indiana could lose unemployment benefits by the end of December. On Tuesday, Congress failed to extend benefits, meaning next Sunday some will stop seeing an unemployment check. But according to the Department of Workforce Development, those benefits will end gradually for many.

OBAMA IN BIPARTISAN MEETING LOURDES MELUZÁ/ WASHINGTON, DC PKG 2:15

Obama and Republican and Democratic congressional leaders are preparing for their first joint meeting since midterm elections altered the government's balance of power. The president and the House and Senate leaders from both parties will meet today at the White House to engage in talks about the Bush-era tax rates and a U.S.-Russia treaty to reduce nuclear weapons arsenals. The meeting will also help define the interaction between the White House and a divided Congress for the next two years. Republicans will take over control of the House in January and will gain seats in the Senate, weakening the Democrats' grip.

ARMY ON DIET VO: 29

New soldiers expecting Army drill sergeants to bust their chops over poor posture or a wayward gaze may instead want to avoid a more modern military transgression: relying on fast food for sustenance. The U.S. Army plans to get new recruits into better shape with a revamped approach to health, fitness and diet at basic training. The most visible changes will be seen in mess halls, where milk and juice dispensers will replace soda fountains and whole grains will be substituted for white bread and pasta. Army leaders were unveiling the new approach Wednesday morning at Missouri's Fort Leonard Wood. It's the first substantial change to basic fitness training in the Army in 30 years.

SENATE GOP LETTER CALLS FOR BLOCKING MOST BILLS VO: 22

Senate Republicans intend to block action on virtually all Democratic-backed legislation unrelated to tax cuts and government spending in the current postelection session of Congress, officials said Tuesday, adding that the leadership has quietly collected signatures on a letter pledging to carry out the strategy. If carried out, it would doom Democratic-backed attempts to end the Pentagon's practice of discharging openly gay members of the military service and give legal status to young illegal immigrants who join the military or attend college.

STATE BUDGETS-SURVEY

VO: 25

A new report says state lawmakers around the country may have to cut more state services in coming years despite the recession's end. The report says states will have to deal with dwindling help from the federal government as well as a slow recovery in tax revenue. States will spend about \$43 billion in economic stimulus money during the current fiscal year ending June 30. After that, they'll probably have to get by with less federal help. To deal with a sharp decline in tax revenue, most states have undertaken a series of program cuts and tax increases to balance budgets. Of the states that made midyear 2010 budget cuts, 35 reduced spending on elementary and secondary education, and 32 lowered spending on higher education.

REID IMMIGRATION STUDENTS

VO: 25

The top Senate Democrat says he'll force a test vote this week on a measure to give tens of thousands of young illegal immigrants a path to legal status. Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada says he'll move to schedule action on the so-called Dream Act. It would give more than 100,000 young immigrants brought to the United States before the age of 16 a chance to become legal residents if they attend college or join the military. It's unclear whether Reid could muster the 60 votes necessary to move to an up-or-down vote on the measure. It has some degree of bipartisan support, but is opposed by most Republicans and some Democrats who regard it as little more than an amnesty grant for illegal immigrants.

GAYS IN MILITARY

VO :25

The White House says President Barack Obama agrees with a Pentagon survey that overturning the military's ban on gay service members would not disrupt unit cohesion. Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs said Obama continues to believe that the "don't ask, don't tell" policy is divisive and should be overturned through the legislative process. Gibbs says the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" was discussed during Obama's meeting with bipartisan lawmakers Tuesday. Gibbs says Obama believes the ban on gays in the military can be repealed in the lame-duck session of Congress.

AMTRAK LIFTS BAN ON GUNS

VO :29

Amtrak travelers will soon be allowed to check guns and ammunition on some rail cars. The new policy takes effect Dec. 15. Congress passed a law in December 2009 requiring the change in policy as part of a transportation funding bill. A ban was put in place after 9/11 due to concerns that allowing weapons aboard the trains would increase the risk of terrorism. The Transportation Security Administration already allows guns to be transported in checked baggage aboard airplanes under strict guidelines. Amtrak officials said the rail agency spent about \$2 million to implement the new policy, which included changes to its reservation system, the installation of "secure storage at checked baggage train stations" and modification for 142 baggage cars. Officials noted that checked baggage service is not available aboard all Amtrak trains or routes, but it must be available on all trains and at all stations in a person's itinerary if they wish to transport guns or ammunition.

SENATE PASSES BILL TO BOOST FOOD SAFETY

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ/ NEW YORK

PKG 2:16

The Senate has passed legislation to make food safer in the wake of deadly E. coli and salmonella outbreaks, potentially giving the government broad new powers to increase inspections of food processing facilities and force companies to recall tainted food. The \$1.4 billion bill, which would also place stricter standards on imported foods, passed the Senate 73-25. Supporters say passage is critical after widespread outbreaks in peanuts, eggs and produce. Those outbreaks have exposed a lack of resources and authority at the FDA as the embattled agency struggled to contain and trace the contaminated products. The agency rarely inspects many food facilities and farms, visiting some every decade or so and others not at all.

STUDY LINKS FINGER LENGTH TO PROSTATE CANCER RISK

VO :19

Men with long index fingers have a lower risk of prostate cancer, British scientists said on Wednesday, a finding that could be used to help select those who need regular screening for the disease. Researchers at Britain's Warwick University and the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) found that men whose index finger is longer than their ring finger were one-third less likely to develop the disease than men with the opposite pattern of finger lengths.

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12/02/2010

NAPOLITANO & WH DREAM ACT

VO :40

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano urged Congress Thursday to pass legislation allowing some foreign-born young people who were illegally brought to the

U.S. as children to become legal residents. The law would help Napolitano's department focus on deporting immigrants with criminal records, she said. The Senate failed in September to pass what's known as the DREAM Act. The bill is in the pile of legislation awaiting action in the final days of the current Congress and it's unclear whether lawmakers will vote on it again before the year ends. The bill applies to immigrants who arrived in the U.S. before 16, have been in the country at least five years and have a U.S. high school diploma or equivalent. It would let them become U.S.

"DREAM ACT"

LOURDES MELUZA.WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 1:57 AND INTERVIEW 4:00

Late last night, Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) filed a new version of the DREAM Act with the aim of attracting broader support for DREAM to get the requisite 60 votes to pass the Senate. With the filing of this new bill, the anticipated date for bringing DREAM to a vote will be delayed. The earliest Reid could file a cloture motion on the new bill would be this coming Thursday. After waiting out the requisite 30 hours post-cloture, it could "ripen" over the weekend, and effectively come up for a vote on Monday at the earliest. The new version addresses many of the concerns raised by Republicans and tightens the restrictions on eligibility in several respects. Among other changes, the new version does the following: Excludes from eligibility those with certain criminal convictions, such as for offenses punishable by a maximum term of more than 1 year (felony) or 3 misdemeanors.

FLORIDA IMMIGRATION BILL

VO :24

A port security initiative has led to the indictment of 10 people in an international drug smuggling ring, including six Miami longshoremen who used their access to unload the cocaine, heroin and marijuana, federal officials said Wednesday. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton said the case serves to highlight the work of 21 multi-agency task forces around the country, led by ICE, focused on disrupting large-scale criminal activity at seaports and border entry points nationwide. It's particularly important, he said, to root out corrupt employees and government officials who help smugglers, illicit arms dealers, money launderers and possibly even terrorists move around the world. "The system must have integrity. Internal corruption of any kind cannot be tolerated," Morton said at a news conference with other South Florida law enforcement officials. "Our ports are open for business, but only for legitimate business."

FORECLOSURES SALES

VO :24

The worst summer for home sales in decades also put a chill on foreclosure sales, even though average discounts on the distressed properties got bigger compared with other types of homes. RealtyTrac says foreclosure sales plunged 25 percent in the

July-September quarter versus the April-June period. They tumbled 31 percent from the third quarter of last year. The foreclosure listing firm says sales of non-foreclosed properties fell 29 percent from the previous quarter and nearly 31 percent from the third quarter of last year. The decline in sales of bank-owned properties and other homes in some stage of foreclosure is in line with an overall housing market slowdown. That slowdown began after federal homebuyer tax credits expired in April.

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12/03/2010

"DREAM ACT INTERVIEW"

JOSE PARRA FROM WASHINGTON, DC

INTERVIEW 4:00 & VO :31

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano is urging Congress to allow certain foreign-born young people who were illegally brought to the U.S. as children to become legal residents. She says it would help her department focus on deporting immigrants with criminal records. The Senate failed in September to pass what's known as the DREAM Act. It's unclear whether Congress will vote on it again before the year ends. The bill would apply to immigrants who arrived in the U.S. before age 16, have been here at least five years and have a U.S. high school diploma or the equivalent. It would let them become U.S. residents after they've spent two years in college or the military.

OBAMA JOBS

VO :17

President Barack Obama will make a statement on the monthly jobs numbers Friday. Before that, he will meet with senior advisers in the Oval Office. The nation's unemployment rate climbed to 9.8. The nation's unemployment rate climbed to 9.8 percent in November, a seven-month high, as hiring slowed. Employers added only 39,000 jobs last month, a sharp decline from the 172,000 created in October. The weakness was widespread. Retailers, factories, construction companies, financial firms and the government all cut jobs last month. Private companies -- the backbone of the economy -- created 50,000 jobs. That was down significantly from the 160,000 private-sector jobs created in October and was the smallest gain since January. With hiring so weak, the unemployment rate rose from 9.6 percent to 9.8 percent. The jobless rate has now topped 9 percent for 19 straight months, the longest stretch on record.

TAX CUT

LUIS MEGID. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:03

A critical compromise to head off a year-end tax increase for millions of Americans took shape in private talks between the White House and congressional Republicans Thursday, and an extension of unemployment benefits appeared likely to become part of any deal. Democrats sought to expand the package with other provisions that

officials said would accelerate the nation's sluggish economic recovery. They included a tax break providing as much as \$400 for individual working people and \$800 for couples -- even if they pay nothing to the IRS.

EE. UU. NUTRITION

VO :23

The U.S. House of Representatives passed Thursday and sent to President Barack Obama a bill that boosts funding for the school lunch program by \$4.5 billion through 2020 and bans "junk" food from school buildings. Backers said it would be the first real increase in reimbursement rates for schools in 30 years and a step toward healthier meals. Obama was expected to sign the bill, which the Senate passed in August.

ARE JOBS COMING BACK? SIGNS POINT TO YES

VO :23

Could the job market finally be turning a corner? Though millions of workers are still reeling from a battered U.S. labor market, there are some early signs of improvement. Monthly payroll numbers have been rising and fewer people are filing for unemployment. Plus, Americans are working longer hours.

OBAMA BILL

VO :21

The Senate has sent a stopgap spending bill to President Barack Obama that's needed to prevent a government shutdown on Friday at midnight. The bill passed by a voice vote. It gives negotiators in the lame-duck Congress two more weeks to try to pass a bill funding the government for the rest of the budget year, which ends Sept. 30. If that fails, lawmakers would have to pass another stopgap measure to fund agency budgets into next year, when Republicans will control the House.

TAX CUT DEBATE, VOTES AS EARLY AS FRIDAY IN SENATE

VO :23

As early as Friday, the Senate could start debate and hold votes on extending the Bush-era tax cuts, this according to senior Dem and GOP sources. Here is the scenario that exists right now -- but note, this is not yet in stone, GOP leaders have not yet signed off: Votes on tax cuts for families making less than \$250k and on the proposal by Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-Ny, that raises taxes only on families making \$1 million or more. Republicans would get a vote on Senate GOP Leader Mitch McConnell's bill to extend all of the Bush tax cuts permanently. And at that point, when all of those measures fail, as they are expected to, the bipartisan, bicameral negotiating group meeting with Secretary Geithner and OMB Director Lew would come forward with a bill that temporarily extends all of the cuts for two or three years, according to sources.

LATINO AND JOB LEADER

VO :25

By their own reckoning, Latinos living in the United States do not have a national leader. When asked in an open-ended question on a nationwide survey of Latinos to name the person they consider "the most important Latino leader in the country today," nearly two-thirds (64%) of Hispanics said they did not know. An additional 10% said "no one." The survey also explored the subject of leadership in another way. Survey respondents were presented with the names of eight prominent Hispanics and asked if they had heard of each. Those who said they had were then asked if they considered that person to be a leader. Of the eight prominent Hispanics tested in the survey, four were identified as leaders by between 20% and 50% of survey respondents. The other four were seen as leaders by fewer respondents

OBESITY SURGERY MAY BECOME OPTION FOR MANY MORE

VO :27

Weight-loss surgery, once a last resort for extremely overweight people, may soon become an option for those who are less heavy. An advisory committee to the Food and Drug Administration will consider on Friday a request by Allergan, the pharmaceutical company, to significantly lower how obese someone must be to qualify for surgery using the company's Lap-Band device, which restricts intake to the stomach. On Wednesday, the F.D.A. acknowledged that a new study by the company showed that people in the proposed range of obesity who had the band experienced.

HEALTH CARE CUTS AZ

VO :32

The health care cuts proposed by leaders of President Barack Obama's deficit commission would reach virtually every corner of society, making cost curbs in the new overhaul law

look tame by comparison. The plan tackles the unfinished business of Obama's health care remake: how to keep it affordable. An advanced society that guarantees the latest medical technology to nearly all its citizens has to make hard choices about what to pay for and how much. Workers with solid coverage on the job, seniors, drug companies, trial lawyers, hospitals, doctors, state governments and federal employees would all feel the pinch. For Medicare recipients, the biggest change would be an increase in cost-sharing.

OK:KIDS USING NUTMEG TO GET HIGH?

VO :26

Kids are using a kitchen spice to get an unexpected kick. Nutmeg is being used as a drug - snorted, smoked or just straight up eaten to get a high. The right amount of the seemingly innocuous ingredient can give you hallucinations. Oklahoma's poison control center says those who try it often say it wasn't worth it. and it has the attention of Oklahoma law enforcement. although they say there's nothing illegal about it, it's what happens down the road that has them concerned.

CANCER RARE AFTER FERTILITY TREATMENT

VO :17

Fertility treatment drugs may not be tied to an increased risk of developing cancer, suggests a new study of more than 24,000 Swedish women treated with in vitro fertilization (IVF). Some prior studies had hinted at a link between fertility drug use and the development of breast, uterine and ovarian cancers, but the numbers of women followed in these studies were small, lead researcher Dr. Bengt Kallen of the University of Lund, in Sweden, noted in an email to Reuters Health.

OLDER U.S. WOMEN STICK TO HORMONE PILLS: STUDY**VO :28**

Prescriptions for hormone replacement therapy have fallen more than 50 percent in the United States since 2001, but doctors are still inexplicably giving women high-dose pills linked to strokes and cancer, researchers reported on Thursday. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and other groups do not say women should avoid hormone replacement therapy, or HRT, but they recommend taking the lowest possible dose for the shortest period of time.

PREGNANCY-RELATED DEATHS RISE IN THE U.S.**VO :24**

While it remains rare for a woman in the U.S. to die from pregnancy complications, the national rate of pregnancy-related deaths appears to be on the upswing, a new government study finds. Researchers at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that between 1998 and 2005, the rate of pregnancy-related deaths was 14.5 per 100,000 live births. And while that rate is low, it is higher than what has been seen in the past few decades.

DOCTORS ENCOURAGED PREGNANT WOMEN TO GET FLU SHOT**VO :23**

About twice as many pregnant women as usual got flu vaccines last year during the H1N1 swine flu pandemic, most because their doctors urged them to do so, federal government researchers reported on Thursday. But still only about half of the women pregnant during the flu season got immunized, even though they are much more likely to become severely ill, die or lose their babies if they come down with the flu, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found.

AIR POLLUTION TIED TO BABIES' EAR INFECTION RISK**VO :20**

Babies and toddlers who live in areas with moderate air pollution may have a higher risk of middle-ear infection than those breathing cleaner air, a Canadian study suggests. The findings, reported in the journal *Epidemiology*, do not prove that air pollution itself was the cause. But if it is, that would allow parents to influence their kids' risk of infection by moving to a place with better air.

BRAIN SCANS ACCURATE AT SPOTTING AUTISM: U.S. STUDY

VO :20

U.S. researchers are closing in on an accurate test for autism, a finding that could lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment. The test, which uses conventional magnetic resonance imaging or MRI machines, detected 94 percent of individuals with a high-functioning form of autism, they reported on Thursday.

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12/06/10

JOBLESS BENEFITS

VO: 15

As Congress hammers out a deal on extending the Bush-era tax cuts, it's also moving to keep benefits flowing to the unemployed. Both Democrats and Republicans appear to be uniting behind a plan to continue jobless benefits for millions of Americans whose checks have either run out or soon will. Friday's jump in the unemployment rate to 9.8 percent has put pressure on Republicans to agree to the president's demand that Congress extend unemployment insurance for another year

US TAXES

VO:20

A deal to extend expiring tax rates to all taxpayers as well as jobless benefits for millions of Americans could be reached this week. Democrats and Republicans appear to be close to a compromise, but differences remain over the details. The plan that's in the works would temporarily extend expiring tax rates to all taxpayers. Some Democrats continue to object to any plan that would continue Bush-era tax rates at the highest income levels. Without action, however, Congress faces the prospect of letting the tax rates revert to higher pre-2001 and 2003 levels, and delivering a tax hike to all taxpayers.

US GAY MARRIAGE TRIAL CALIFORNIA

VO: 22

The legal fight over California's same-sex marriage ban is reaching the next rung on the judicial ladder. A federal appeals court in San Francisco plans to hear two hours of arguments Monday about the voter-approved ban known as Proposition 8. A trial court judge overturned the measure as a violation of gay Californians' civil rights in August. In the first hour, a three-judge panel will consider if the group that put Proposition 8 on the ballot two years ago is eligible to appeal the lower court decision since its members are not responsible for enforcing the state's marriage laws.

CALIFORNIA REPUBLICANS ARE SPLIT ON POSSIBLE ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION MEASURE

VO: 24

A nascent California ballot measure that seeks to replicate Arizona's controversial crackdown on illegal immigrants is dividing the state's Republicans, with a number of prominent strategists and leaders fearing that it could further harm their party's already fraught relationship with Latinos - the fastest-growing segment of the electorate. It's unclear whether the ballot's backers will have the financial resources to gather enough signatures to place the measure on the 2012 ballot. Several Republicans said that even the effort to do so has the potential to increase the chasm between the party's candidates and the voting bloc whose record-breaking turnout tilted races in November and delivered a clean Democratic statewide sweep in a year in which Republicans celebrated major victories in the rest of the nation.

UNUSUAL METHODS HELPED ICE BREAK DEPORTATION RECORD, E-MAILS AND INTERVIEWS SHOW

VO: 30

For much of this year, the Obama administration touted its tougher-than-ever approach to immigration enforcement, culminating in a record number of deportations. But in reaching 392,862 deportations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement included more than 19,000 immigrants who had exited the previous fiscal year, according to agency statistics. ICE also ran a Mexican repatriation program five weeks longer than ever before, allowing the agency to count at least 6,500 exits that, without the program, would normally have been tallied by the U.S. Border Patrol.

BEATING HEART TRANSPLANTS

VO: 24

Doctors testing warm, beating hearts in transplant "beating heart" transplant to the standard method of stopping the heart and placing it in a cooler to get it to the recipient. Enrolled in the beating heart pilot study in the U.S. will be 128 patients randomly chosen nationwide. Instead of stopping the heart and putting it on ice in a \$35 cooler, the new technology calls for placing the organ in a special \$200,000 box that feeds it blood and keeps it warm and ticking outside the body.

MISCARRIAGE LINKED TO BROKEN HEARTS

VO: 21

Women with more than three spontaneous miscarriages were over five times more likely to suffer a heart attack later in life after adjusting for other factors, according to Dr. Elham Kharazmi of the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg, Germany, and colleagues. Induced abortion, though, appeared to have no link to heart attack risk, the group reported online in *Heart*. The link between recurrent pregnancy loss and cardiovascular disease may lie in common risk factors, perhaps because of the role of vascular health in placental function, they suggested.

ALLERGAN URGES BROADER USE OF WEIGHT-LOSS IMPLANT

VO: 22

An approved stomach band can help people who are less obese than those now considered good candidates for weight-loss surgery, maker Allergan Inc told a U.S. advisory panel reviewing the device on Friday. The manufacturer of Botox, breast implants and other cosmetic products wants approval to promote the surgically implanted Lap-Band device for people with lower body mass indexes (BMI) who are still categorized as obese. Wider approval could push sales higher from the current \$182 million in the first three quarters of 2010.

TX NEW VIRUS

VO: 30

Flu season is here and there are signs it's already showing up. Doctors say there is a new un-named virus that can really linger for several days. The new virus causes high fever, sore throat and nose, fatigue and its effects last between eleven days and two weeks. However, because it is viral, antibiotics will not affect according to doctors, it is best to wash hands often as an effort to prevent

NY: ORGAN DONOR AMBULANCE TEST

VO: 20

A new pilot program could help thousands of people waiting for life-saving transplants. Organ preservation units are hitting the streets in New York. They'll follow ambulances to cardiac arrest calls, hoping to use a patient's organs if they pass away. For the next five months, New York City ambulances could be shadowed if paramedics are responding to a cardiac arrest. A second specially equipped unit, this one, will be on standby to whisk away potential organ donors. There could be an additional 22,000 organ donors a year in the United States if this process was really implemented nationally. The numbers could jump because a donor would not have to die in a hospital. That's the rule now, but not many people know it. Starting only with kidneys.

MA: YOGA HELPS WOMEN BATTLE DEPRESSION

VO: 20

A Boston woman is proving a little bit of Zen can go a long way. She's using yoga to give hope to people who are battling some tough personal demons. Jones Eventually Won Her Battle With Depression And Became A Yoga Instructor. In 2006, She Founded Yogahope-a Non-Profit Organization That Brings Yoga To Places Like Substance Abuse treatment Centers And Homeless Shelters

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12/07/2010

GULF OIL SPILL- INVESTIGATION

VO: 25

A federal panel investigating the cause of the rig explosion that set off the massive Gulf of Mexico oil spill is set to question more BP and Transocean officials about the

disaster. The panel also was expected to hear from two technicians known as mud loggers, who use an assortment of electronic instruments to monitor the drill bit for traces of oil or gas and check for concentrations of hydrocarbons in the drilling mud. Mud loggers are supposed to notify other personnel on a rig when gas levels may be reaching dangerous levels.

GOVERNOR PARDONS SIX IMMIGRANTS FACING DEPORTATION OVER OLD CRIMES

VO: 28

Gov. David A. Paterson announced pardons on Monday for six immigrants facing deportation because of old criminal convictions, including a financial administrator at the City University of New York. The governor said the pardons addressed "shortcomings in our federal immigration laws relating to deportation." Mr. Paterson began a special clemency process in the spring with the principal aim of helping permanent legal residents - green card holders - who were at risk of deportation because of long-ago or minor convictions.

DREAM ACT TODAY / REID & RALLIES

VO: 36

Immigrant Youth and Faith Communities Mobilize for DREAM Act across the Country for a Day of Action Events in 26 States Highlight Moral and Economic Imperative for Congress to Pass the DREAM Act On Tuesday, December 7th, immigrant youth and communities of faith around the country are hosting a variety of events to urge Congress to pass the DREAM Act. In some states, leaders will hold vigils to highlight the moral urgency behind the issue. In Washington D.C., and in district offices in various states, events will feature DREAM Act students delivering over-sized 6ft checks for \$2.3 billion to their members of Congress, highlighting the economic benefit of the DREAM Act to America. The Congressional Budget Office estimated that the DREAM Act would generate \$2.3 billion

SUPREME COURT WILL ACT ON IMMIGRATION, EVEN IF CONGRESS DOESN'T

VO: 19

The Supreme Court this week takes up the national immigration debate that continues to stymie Congress. While immigration advocates and some Democratic lawmakers conjure hopes of legalizing farm workers and students in a lame-duck session, justices on Wednesday confront a real-world immigration enforcement dilemma out of Arizona. The court is sure to do something; Congress is not. The court's hourlong oral argument on Wednesday morning addresses one of Arizona's several controversial laws targeting illegal immigration.

CELL PHONES & PREGNANT WOMEN

VO: 26

There's new evidence cell phones may affect children's behavior -- even before they're born. Researchers found children exposed to cell phones both in the womb and after

birth were more likely to have behavior problems -- than those with less exposure. Their new study looked at 28-thousand children. Researchers say the more frequently a mother used a cell phone, the greater the risk her child would have a behavioral problem. One theory suggests cell phone radiation could interfere with brain development.

TAX CUTS-JOBLESS BENEFITS
LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC
PKG : 1:47

An outline of a bipartisan economic package is emerging that would temporarily extend the Bush-era tax rates for all taxpayers, while extending jobless benefits for millions of Americans. Differences remained over details, including White House demands for middle- and low-income tax credits. But the White House expressed optimism Monday, raising the possibility of a deal in Congress by the end of the week.

INTERVIEW RAUL CISNERO-CHIEF OF MEDIA RELATIONS IN THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE AT THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU.
CENSUS
TIME 3:00

The government provided new estimates Monday showing the U.S. population grew to somewhere between roughly 306 million and 313 million over the last decade, acknowledging uncertainty due to rapid shifts in immigration. The estimates, which are separate from the official 2010 census count, are based on a review of birth and death records as well as calculations of new immigrants as of April 1, 2010. Demographers say the range of numbers offers a rough guide to the official 2010 results that will be used to apportion House seats when they are released later this month.

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12/08/10

TAX CUT EXTENSION
VO: 20

Disappointed Democratic congressional leaders demanded changes in the White House's tax deal with Republicans on Tuesday despite a spirited argument by President Barack Obama that concessions were preferable to higher taxes for millions of Americans. The deal includes an extension of expiring Bush-era tax cuts for all income levels -- not just for lower and middle-income taxpayers, as Democrats wanted. It also contains a renewal of jobless benefits due to expire in a few weeks, and a one-year cut in Social Security taxes paid by workers.

DREAM ACT
JAIME GARCIA- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
PKG 2:01

This evening, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer announced that the House will take up the American DREAM Act on Wednesday, December 8th. Following is a statement from Frank Sharry, Executive Director of America's Voice: The news that the House of Representatives will hold a vote on the DREAM Act on Wednesday is historic. The DREAM Act is supported by educators, the military, small business, organized labor, and religious leaders from across the spectrum. This is the most significant pro-immigrant legislation this chamber will have taken up in a decade. The young people who would benefit from the DREAM Act are patriotic high-achievers who just want a chance to become full citizens of the only country they call home.

WEIGHT LOSS DRUG

VO:20

A federal advisory panel Tuesday endorsed a new weight-loss drug, potentially breaking a string of disappointments in the effort to find the first new pharmacological weapon to fight the obesity epidemic in more than a decade. The Food and Drug Administration advisory panel voted 13 to 7 that the evidence indicates that the potential benefits of the drug Contrave outweigh its risks. Contrave, which is made by Orexigen Therapeutics Inc. of La Jolla, Calif., helped patients who took it for a year lose between 4 and 5 percent more weight than those who took a placebo, the FDA concluded in a review of studies testing the drug. But the drug also increased blood pressure and heart rate, raising fears that it may boost the risk for heart problems, a major concern that has dogged the development of weight-loss drugs. The studies were too short to know whether the drug actually increased the risk for heart attacks or stroke. The FDA is not required to follow the panel's recommendation, but the agency usually does. A decision is expected by January.

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DROPOUTS

VO: 25

The new report illustrates how much trouble California is having in reversing the high school dropout rate, especially for certain minority groups. Overall, the statewide dropout rate went up to nearly 22%. Among Latino students, the numbers are worse. They inched up to about 27% and among African Americans ... almost 37%. The outgoing superintendent of public schools partially blames the \$21 billion in state funding cuts over three years for the rise. Senior Eddie George thought about dropping out at one time because of the pressure to do well ... but he says classes were also too boring.

CELL PHONES AND PREGNANCY

VO: 25

Women who use mobile phones when pregnant are more likely to give birth to children with behavioural problems, according to authoritative research. A giant study, which surveyed more than 13,000 children, found that using the handsets just two or three times a day was enough to raise the risk of their babies developing hyperactivity and difficulties with conduct, emotions and relationships by the time they reached school

age. And it adds that the likelihood is even greater if the children themselves used the phones before the age of seven. The results of the study, the first of its kind, have taken the top scientists who conducted it by surprise. But they follow warnings against both pregnant women and children using mobiles by the official Russian radiation watchdog body, which believes that the peril they pose "is not much lower than the risk to children's health from tobacco or alcohol".

CIRCUMCISION AND HIV

VO: 30

The World Health Organization declared three years ago that circumcision should be part of any strategy to prevent HIV infection in men. The organization based its recommendation on three randomized clinical trials in Africa that found the incidence of HIV was 60 percent lower in men who were circumcised. Although this wrote the WHO panel assigned to the topic, there was little evidence explaining how circumcision might reduce a man's risk of acquiring HIV. Now comes an answer in a new study, published in the January 6 issue of *PLoS ONE*, which found that there are gross changes in the penis's microbiome following circumcision, suggesting that shifts in the bacterial environment could account, in part, for the differences in HIV infection. Families of anaerobic bacteria, which are unable to grow in the presence of oxygen, are abundant before circumcision but nearly disappear after the procedure. The researchers suspect that in uncircumcised men, these bacteria may provoke inflammation in the genitalia, thereby improving the chances that immune cells will be in the vicinity for HIV viruses to infect.

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12/09/10

DREAM ACT PASSES / REACTIONS

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:30

LILIANA ESCALANTE. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:52

The House has passed legislation to give foreign-born youngsters brought to the U.S. illegally a shot at legal status. The vote Wednesday night was 216-198 to approve the so-called Dream Act. In the Senate, however, Democrats are unlikely to muster the 60 votes needed to advance the bill past opposition from the GOP and a handful in their own party who view it as amnesty. A Senate vote is expected Thursday. The bill is aimed at hundreds of thousands of young illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. before the age of 16, who have been in the country for five years and graduated from high school or gained an equivalency degree. They would have a chance to gain legal status if they joined the military or attended college.

CONGRESS-SPENDING

VO :28

House legislation to freeze the budgets of most Cabinet departments and fund the war in Afghanistan faces uncertain prospects as the Senate takes up the measure. The House narrowly passed the budget deal Wednesday night in a 212-206 vote. As it stands now, the bill will cap the annual operating budgets of federal agencies at the \$1.2 trillion approved for the recently finished budget year. It marks a cut of more than 3 percent, \$46 billion, from President Barack Obama's request.

TAX CUTS

VO :27

Liberal anger over proposed changes to the estate tax is emerging as the chief barrier to a grudging Democratic embrace of President Barack Obama's tax cut compromise with Republicans. Many congressional Republicans like the package because it would extend Bush-era tax cuts for the rich and poor alike. It also would set the estate tax at a level preferred by the GOP. Some angry House Democrats say Obama yielded too much ground on the estate tax question.

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

LUIS MEGID. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:52

The Supreme Court appeared likely Wednesday to sustain an Arizona law that threatens to take away the licenses of businesses that knowingly hire workers who are in the United States illegally. The justices heard arguments in a case that plunges the court into the nation's contentious debate over immigration, generally the province of the federal government. Business interests and civil liberties groups are challenging the law, backed by the Obama administration. The measure was signed into law in 2007 by Democrat Janet Napolitano, then the governor of Arizona and now the administration's Homeland Security secretary. Republican Gov. Jan Brewer, Napolitano's successor, was at the court Wednesday to show her support for the law.

EDUCATION POLL-COLLEGE GRAD RATES

VO :28

The public pins most of the blame for poor college graduation rates on students and their parents and gives a pass to colleges, government officials and others. That's one of the findings of a new Associated Press-Stanford University poll. All sectors of American higher education received high marks for quality. That extends to for-profit colleges, despite recent criticism of dubious recruiting tactics, high student loan default rates and other problems at some schools. Michael Kirst, professor emeritus of education and business administration at Stanford, says the belief that students are most at fault for graduation rates is a troubling sign for reformers who have been pushing colleges to improve graduation rates.

"DREAM ACT" INTERVIEW

GABY PACHECO. STUDENT

DURATION: 3:00

Gaby Pacheco just wants everyone to know she is as American as anyone else and she has gone to extraordinary lengths to try and prove it. But until Congress passes the DREAM Act, she won't be able to share her many gifts because people won't look past the fact that she is undocumented. Pacheco was just seven years old when her family moved here from her native Ecuador and settled in Miami. A gifted child, Pacheco, now 25, had a school career any parent would be proud of. She learned English very quickly and in the first grade, tested in the gifted level for math. She excelled in math, in science, music, ROTC, sports. By the 10th grade, she was taking college-level classes, participating and excelling in three sports and was a ranked officer in Navy ROTC.

GEORGIA: IMMIGRATION IS A FEDERAL ISSUE

VO :27

The Georgia Farm Bureau has weighed in on the heated debate over what to do about illegal immigration in the state, saying "it is a federal issue, not a state or local issue." Meeting at their annual convention on Jekyll Island Tuesday, delegates to the bureau adopted a policy that says the organization opposes "any immigration law that discriminates against the farm worker and puts the farmers of Georgia at a disadvantage to farmers in other states." The policy also says "agricultural interests must be considered when immigration legislation is debated." Georgia's \$65 billion agricultural industry relies heavily on migrant workers. The bureau - which represents nearly 400,000 families - staked out its position as a panel of Republican state lawmakers is studying whether to adopt an Arizona-style crackdown on illegal immigration in Georgia.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO RUN OUT SATURDAY FOR 185,000 CALIFORNIANS

VO :24

Applications for unemployment benefits dropped last week to the second-lowest level this year, evidence that companies are cutting fewer jobs. The Labor Department says first-time claims for jobless aid fell by 17,000 to a seasonally-adjusted 421,000 in the week ending Dec. 4. Wall Street analysts had expected a smaller decline. The four-week average of claims, a less volatile measure, dropped for the fifth straight week to 427,500. That's the lowest since August 2008, just before the financial crisis intensified with the collapse of Lehman Brothers. Claims have fallen steadily in the past two months, raising hopes that companies will soon accelerate hiring. Applications dropped to 410,000 two weeks ago, their lowest point in more than two years.

DRUNK DRIVING

VO :19

Millions of Americans drive drunk or drugged according to study. A new federal study finds that about 30-million Americans drive drunk each year and 10-million drive impaired by illicit drugs. Wisconsin had the highest level of drunk driving last year.

Rhode Island topped the list for people driving under the influence of drugs. The one bright spot in the survey is the rate of drunk and drugged driving has dropped slightly in the past few years.

SENATE ACTS TO STOP MEDICARE DOCTORS PAY CUT

VO :18

The Senate on Wednesday agreed to avert a 25 percent pay cut for doctors treating patients covered by the Medicare health program for the elderly. On a voice vote, the Senate approved a one-year "fix" to the doctor's payment formula that would stop a scheduled cut in physicians pay in January that advocates for the elderly said would have made it harder for Medicare patients to get medical care.

INCENSE BURNING TIED TO ASTHMA IN SOME CHILDREN

VO :26

Children from homes where incense is regularly burned have a higher risk of developing asthma, according to a Taiwanese study suggesting that a particular genetic variation could also be involved. Incense has been used for millennia in many cultures' religious and spiritual ceremonies. In parts of Asia, people commonly burn incense in their homes -- a practice that is becoming more popular in Western countries as well.

FOOD-SAFETY OVERHAUL RIDES ON FUNDING BILL

VO :26

The biggest overhaul of the U.S. food safety system in decades took a major step toward becoming law on Wednesday when House Democratic leaders folded it into a must-pass bill to fund the U.S. government. The House passed the spending bill on Wednesday and the Senate was expected to consider it over the next few days as lawmakers push to complete their legislative session by the end of next week.

ULTRASOUND BEFORE MEDICAL ABORTION MAY BE UNNEEDED

VO :23

Women seeking medical abortion, sometimes called the "abortion pill," often first undergo an ultrasound test, but a new study suggests that may be an unnecessary step. In the U.S., medical abortions can be performed within nine weeks of the first day of a woman's last menstrual period. Most medical abortions involve taking the drug mifepristone (Mifeprex) followed by misoprostol, which causes the womb to contract.

NO SAFE SMOKE

VO :19

Just one puff on that cigarette could be the one that causes your heart attack. The surgeon general's 30th annual report on smoking and health says tobacco smoke begins poisoning immediately, as more than 7000 chemicals in each puff rapidly spread through the body to cause damage to nearly every organ. The report warns that

even a bit of social smoking -- or inhaling someone else's secondhand smoke -- could be enough to block the arteries and trigger a heart attack.

SECONDHAND SMOKE TIED TO KIDS' POOR MENTAL HEALTH

VO :24

Kids who breathe secondhand smoke are more likely to struggle with mental health problems, suggests a large new study of British children. The findings add urgency in the push for parents to put away their cigarettes for good, or at least smoke outside of the home, researchers say. However, it's still unclear if tobacco fumes actually take a toll on children's brains, or if something else is at play.

GIRLS WHO WALK, BIKE TO SCHOOL DO BETTER IN TESTS

VO :22

Girls, but not boys, who walk or bike to school instead of getting a ride perform better in tests of verbal and math skills, according to a new study of teens living in Spanish cities. And the longer the commute, the higher the test scores, regardless of how much exercise girls got outside of school.

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12/10/10

DREAM ACT LATEST

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:54

The Senate moved Thursday to delay a politically charged showdown vote on legislation carving out a path to legal status for foreign-born youngsters brought to this country illegally, putting off but probably not preventing the measure's demise. Facing GOP objections, Democrats put aside the so-called Dream Act and said they'd try again to advance it before year's end. They're short of the 60 votes needed to do so, however, and critics in both parties quickly said they won't change their minds in the waning days of the Democratic-controlled Congress.

DONT ASK DONT TELL

VO :26

Republicans blocked a last-ditch effort in the Senate to lift the military's ban on openly gay troops on Thursday, dealing a major blow to gay rights groups and making it unlikely Congress could repeal "don't ask, don't tell" any time soon. The 57-40 vote fell three short of the 60 needed to overcome procedural hurdles to lift the 17-year-old ban. Sen. Susan Collins of Maine was the lone Republican voting to advance the bill, and Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia was the only Democrat to vote against it.

REID SETS UP TAX CUT VOTE FOR MONDAY

VO :36

The U.S. Senate will vote on a landmark tax deal that would preserve low rates for most Americans on Monday at 3 p.m. EST, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said Thursday. The measure faces an uncertain future in the House of Representatives, where Democrats have vowed to block it in its current form.

TAX DEAL NOT A DONE DEAL**LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA****PKG 1:59**

Senate Democrats Thursday unveiled a tax bill that largely reflects the deal hammered out by President Barack Obama and Republicans earlier in the week, and adds an additional subsidy for ethanol. The measure would broadly extend income tax breaks for two years and also includes an extension of jobless benefits and other tax breaks. It does not include an extension of the Build America bond program that Democrats had sought.

UNLICENSED DRIVERS WHO RISK MORE THAN A FINE**VO :24**

An estimated 4.5 million illegal immigrants nationwide are driving regularly, most without licenses, according to an analysis by The New York Times. Only three states - New Mexico, Utah and Washington - currently issue licenses without proof of legal residence in the United States. Many states have adopted tough new laws to prevent illegal immigrants from driving, while expanding immigration.

OBAMA TAXES**VO :36**

Senate Democrats Thursday unveiled a tax bill that largely reflects the deal hammered out by President Barack Obama and Republicans earlier in the week, and adds an additional subsidy for ethanol. The measure would broadly extend income tax breaks for two years and also includes an extension of jobless benefits and other tax breaks. It does not include an extension of the Build America bond program that Democrats had sought.

DREAM ACT REACTIONS**JAIME GARCIA. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA****PKG 2:04**

Jaime will have the students calling the Senators that are not willing to vote for the Dream Act to try to convince them to do so. Who are their targeting to get them to change their minds and vote in favor of it.

CALIFORNIA STUDENTS GET NEW PROTECTIONS AGAINST PUBLIC SCHOOL FEES**VO :33**

ACLU reaches settlement with the state on lawsuit filed over some school districts charging for books, art supplies and other basic educational materials.

Advertisement Under a settlement agreement announced Thursday, California students will have new protections against being charged fees for a public education that is required by law to be free.

US FAA AIRCRAFT

VO :25

The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) aircraft registry is missing key information on about one-third of the private and commercial planes in the US - a gap the agency fears could be exploited by extremist militants and drug traffickers. The records are in such disarray that the FAA says it is worried that criminals could buy planes without the government's knowledge, or use the registration numbers of other aircraft to evade new computer systems designed to track suspicious flights. It has ordered all aircraft owners to re-register their planes in an effort to clean up its files.

U.S. LIFE EXPECTANCY FALLS SLIGHTLY IN 2008

VO :22

American life expectancy slipped slightly in 2008 to 77.8 years, the first dip since 2004, while stroke slid a notch to become the fourth-leading cause of death, U.S. health experts said on Thursday. They said a baby born in 2008 could expect to live about one month less than one born in 2007, falling from a record high of 77.9 years in 2007.

U.S. STUDY HELPS UNRAVEL ALZHEIMER'S MYSTERY

VO :25

Instead of producing too much of a protein, people with Alzheimer's disease appear to have trouble getting rid of it, U.S. researchers said on Thursday. The finding, published in the journal Science, may help explain why people with Alzheimer's accumulate sticky clumps of a protein called amyloid beta, and it may help drug companies hone in on potential treatments.

GENERAL MILLS STEPS DOWN SUGAR IN KIDS' CEREALS

VO :23

General Mills Inc is lowering the amount of sugar in its children's breakfast cereals to no more than 10 grams per serving from 11 grams a year ago, the latest move from a U.S. foodmaker to address childhood obesity. The growing problem of obesity is leading to more children having adult health problems, such as diabetes or high cholesterol.

SMOKING STUDY

LOURDES DEL RIO. MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:53

The latest US Surgeon General's report, released today, finds that even limited exposure to tobacco or secondhand smoke can lead to cardiovascular and other health

problems. The report, the latest update to its first study in 1964 highlighting tobacco dangers, says that even an occasional cigarette or exposure to secondhand smoke is harmful. Surgeon General, Regina Benjamin says the latest research, "substantiates the evidence that there is no safe level of exposure to cigarette smoke." Lourdes will talk to a doctor and smokers that can't stop smoking and why.

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12/13/10

US TAX CUTS

VO 0:27 & INTERVIEW JOSE GABILONDO PROFESSOR FROM FIU AND EXPERT IN FINANCIAL ISSUES TIME: 4:00

Senators get their first chance Monday to vote on the tax-cut deal struck by President Barack Obama and Republicans. Whatever the outcome of the test vote, the White House expects the bill to pass by year's end. Obama adviser David Axelrod says "everybody understands what it would mean for the economy" if it doesn't get done. The No. 2 Senate Democrat, Dick Durbin of Illinois, says a "good cross-section" of senators in his party are ready to accept the deal. It would avert a Jan. 1 increase in income taxes for nearly all Americans. The package also would renew jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed and provide a one-year cut in Social Security taxes.

PAY ROLL TAX HOLIDAY

VO: 26

President Barack Obama's plan to cut payroll taxes for a year would provide big savings for many workers, but makes Social Security advocates nervous that it could jeopardize the retirement program's finances. The plan is part of a package of tax cuts and extended unemployment benefits that Obama negotiated with Senate Republican leaders. It would cut workers' share of Social Security taxes by nearly one-third for 2011. Workers making \$50,000 in wages would get a \$1,000 tax cut; those making \$100,000 would get a \$2,000 tax cut

BLOOMBERG NO 2012

VO: 21

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said "no way" intended to run for U.S. president. During the Meet the Press "on NBC, Bloomberg said yesterday that its directors should be left to "insist "on the idea that he should seek the presidency. The billionaire said that he is concentrating on his job as mayor. Bloomberg has repeatedly been described as a potential presidential candidate. Bloomberg said he wants to finish his task having the reputation of "a very good or better than the mayors of the city. "The mayor, who was elected to a third term in 2009, after persuading the City Council to change the law of terms in their favor, has said repeatedly he does not plan to be president in 2012.

TN:FEDEX EXPECTS BUSIEST DAY TODAY

VO: 19

FedEx Corp expects to handle 16 million packages Monday, its busiest day of the holiday season between Thanksgiving and Christmas, marking a 13 percent increase over a year ago. Overall, FedEx expects to move 223 million shipments worldwide this holiday season, up 11 percent over last year, with more than half its volume from online and catalog retailers. Books, clothing, consumer electronics and luxury goods are driving FedEx's volumes this year, the company said. FedEx's seasonal volume estimate was unchanged from the figure it provided last month, which is included in its earnings forecast.

SUPREME COURT TO DECIDE GENERIC DRUG LABELING ISSUE**VO: 24**

The Supreme Court said on Friday that it would decide whether generic drug companies could be sued under state law over allegations they failed to provide adequate label warnings about potential side effects. The nation's highest court will consider whether federal law preempted such lawsuits because the drug had been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

STUDY PITS LOW-SUGAR CEREALS AGAINST SUGARY BRANDS**VO: 22**

Sugary-sweet cereals aren't necessarily what kids crave in the morning. A study conducted by Yale University found that many children-- when given low-sugar cereals-- enjoyed them and ate a better breakfast when they didn't eat a sugary alternative. Scientists measured 91 children at a day camp. The kids were offered either three kinds of high-sugar cereals or three brands of low-sugar cereals.

STEM CELLS USED TO MAKE PANCREAS, GUT CELLS**VO: 23**

Stem cells can be transformed into the pancreatic cells needed to treat diabetes and into complex layers of intestinal tissue, scientists demonstrated in two experiments reported on Sunday. In one, a team turned immature sperm cells into pancreatic tissue, while another team turned embryonic stem cells into complex layers of intestinal tissue.

MORE TEXANS ARE DYING FROM PILL ABUSE**VO: 25**

Houston remains at the dark heart of the growing prescription drug abuse problem - accounting for a quarter of complaints about doctors' suspect prescriptions and one-sixth of the state's 1,900 annual accidental fatal overdose according to a review by the Houston Chronicle. But an examination of death data and interviews from around the state show the pill-popping problem is growing exponentially across Texas. Deaths by accidental overdoses - including preventable deaths involving prescription drugs - more than doubled from 2000 to 2008, according to the latest statewide death

certificates. In San Antonio, a string of military servicemen's accidental deaths have been blamed on lethal combinations of prescription pills. Overall, Bexar County reported 184 accidental overdoses in 2008 - almost three times as many as in 2000.

INTERCELL KILLS DIARRHEA VACCINE AFTER STUDY

VO: 20

Austrian biotech company Intercell said it won't develop its Travelers' Diarrhea vaccine candidate and will post a much wider than expected 2010 loss, because the drug failed in clinical trials. The company said on Sunday that the patch-based Travelers' Diarrhea vaccine candidate failed to meet efficacy endpoints to protect against enterotoxigenic E. coli mediated diarrheal infections in pivotal, randomized and placebo-controlled efficacy studies.

POPULAR NEW BREAST CANCER TREATMENT LACKS DATA

VO: 24

A new radiation treatment for breast cancer is becoming increasingly popular despite lack of good evidence, at least among well-insured Medicare patients, U.S. researchers say. According to claims data, use of the therapy, which irradiates only a portion of the breast instead of standard whole-breast radiation after lumpectomy, climbed more than 10-fold for those patients between 2001 and 2006.

NOROVIRUS SPREADS

VO: 23

About 200 students living on and off campus recently got the norovirus at point loma nazarene. School officials say there were three new cases this morning. Most of the students at point loma nazarene know someone who was recently sick. Morgan Johnson says her friend got the norovirus last weekend and at first didn't know what hit her. He said a bunch of them all woke up at the same time and started throwing up. About 200 out of the more than 17-hundred students reported feeling similar symptoms. Nausea, vomiting and an upset stomach typically last one or two days. Outbreaks like this are typically found on cruise ships.

DEBIT CARDS & HOLIDAYS

LUCÍA BURGA/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:37

This holiday season, a debit card is best used by those who don't want the perils of credit card debt. However, this does not make them any less safe from debit card fraud as well. While one is all too absorbed with Christmas shopping, fraudster can take their cue and swindle people out of their own debit card funds. To protect them and their debit card accounts from fraud, here are some safety tips to follow: In giving the debit card information, a debit card owner must make sure only the rightful person reads or hears it. It is best to write the information down on a piece of paper and when the other party has listed it down, he can retrieve the paper and keep it. Trashing it is not

advisable. Once other people pick up the debit card information, they may use it for fraud. The debit card information must also be exclusive to the owner. Even family and friends must not know of it. He must also be careful as not to share the information to his children 15 years and younger. They may not realise the importance of a debit card yet and they could carelessly share the information to others or use it themselves unguarded. Should children need to purchase something, the parents must be there to personally pay through the debit card.

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12/14/2010

HEALTH CARE OVERHAUL

VO: 21

President Barack Obama does not appear disturbed by a federal judge's ruling that a key part of his health care law is unconstitutional. The ruling states that Americans cannot be compelled to buy health insurance. Obama, in an interview with a Florida TV station (WFLA), noted that other judges have either found the law constitutional, or dismissed lawsuits against it. He says it's "the nature of these things" for courts to disagree on such matters.

DREAM ACT LATEST

VO:22

Students and their allies dressed in "Grinch" costume will be out in the streets of Hollywood performing skits and educating the community at large about the federal DREAM Act scheduled to be brought up for a vote in the U.S. Senate later this week.

AP POLL TEACHERS

VO: 23

An overwhelming majority of Americans are frustrated that it's too difficult to get rid of bad teachers, while most also believe that teachers aren't paid enough, a new poll shows. The Associated Press-Stanford University poll found that 78 percent think it should be easier for school administrators to fire poorly performing teachers. Yet overall, the public wants to reward teachers -- 57 percent say they are paid too little, with just 7 percent believing they are overpaid and most of the rest saying they're paid about right.

MASSIVE WINTER

VO: 28

Mid-December seems just too early to deal with icy arctic blasts. But that brutal weather system that dumped feet of snow in the midwest is now moving east... dropping temperatures into a deep freeze. Factor in the wind chill and readings are near zero in many areas today.

TAX CUT BILL EXPECTED TO GO TO HOUSE TODAY

VO: 34

Although House Democrats have made their objections known, the tax cut package that was negotiated by President Barack Obama and GOP lawmakers is headed toward passage in the Senate. It advanced yesterday by a vote of 83-15, and could win final Senate approval today. House Democrats are scheduled to meet this evening to discuss it. Several Democratic leaders say they may settle for a change that would impose a higher estate tax. Obama says the Senate vote proves both parties can work together

TAX CUTS**LOURDES MELUZA- WASHINGTON, DC****PKG 2:09**

The Democratic-led U.S. Congress will move a step closer today toward grudging approval of President Barack Obama's deal with Republicans to extend expiring tax cuts, even for the wealthiest Americans. Backers were expected to muster on the needed 60 votes in the 100-member Senate to clear a procedural hurdle, before passage on Tuesday or Wednesday. The bill would then go to the House of Representatives for likely passage -- despite complaints from many Democrats that Obama conceded too much to Republicans. The bill would avert a Jan. 1 increase in income taxes for nearly all Americans. The package also would renew jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed and provide a one-year cut in Social Security taxes. In the Senate they start talking around 2:00 pm about the bill and then vote...cloture and final vote. The House could also vote as soon as tomorrow.

HEALTH CARE RULING**LUIS MEGID- SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA****PKG 1:55**

A U.S. judge in Virginia Monday declared a key part of President Barack Obama's landmark healthcare law unconstitutional in the first major setback on an issue that will likely end up at the Supreme Court. U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson, appointed to the bench by President George W. Bush in 2002, backed the state of Virginia's argument that Congress exceeded its authority by requiring Americans to start buying health insurance in 2014 or face a fine. But he declined to invalidate the entire healthcare law, a small victory for Obama, whose administration will appeal the decision. The law is a cornerstone of Obama's presidency, aiming to expand health insurance to cover millions of uninsured Americans while trying to curb costs. Obama told the Tampa television station WFLA he was confident the courts would uphold the healthcare act. Healthcare insurers, which include companies such as Aetna Inc and WellPoint Inc, largely opposed Obama's reforms but say the individual mandate is critical so additional customers can offset greater industry costs. Health insurers' stock prices initially rose on the ruling before later tapering off as investors saw more uncertainty as the case proceeds. The ruling signaled that changes to the bill rather than a full overhaul are more realistic. Virginia's lawyers argued that the federal government could not regulate someone for not buying a good or service under the

U.S. Constitution's Commerce Clause and could not penalize them for failing to buy health insurance.

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12/15/10

SENATE TAXES

VO :29

The Senate is moving Wednesday to pass a tax package that would spare taxpayers at every income level from a significant tax increase on Jan. 1. The package would then go to the House, where Democrats are fuming over extended tax breaks for the wealthy that President Barack Obama negotiated with Senate Republicans. House Democrats are considering possible changes, and may hold a vote to enact a higher estate tax than Obama negotiated. But even critics of the package say they expect it to pass as is.

¿CURE TO AIDS?

VO : 25

Has an HIV cure been found in stem cell transplants? Timothy Ray Brown ("Berlin Patient") has reportedly been cured of HIV via a stem cell transplant procedure. But the findings and conclusions are prompting debate. Brown underwent the procedure in 2007 to battle leukemia. Named "Berlin Patient", Brown is the subject of a report that claims he was cured because of the stem cell transplant. Brown was an HIV-positive American living in Germany. He had leukemia and was in chemotherapy. During his treatment, Brown underwent a stem cell transplant. Since that 2007 procedure, Brown had been cured of both diseases.

TIGHT ECONOMY BOOSTS APPEAL FOR USED CTS

VO :26

Thrifty hospitals looking to cut health costs increasingly are buying refurbished MRIs, CT scanners and other diagnostic imaging machines that offer bells and whistles comparable to newer equipment, but at a cut-rate price. Makers of diagnostic imaging machines such as Siemens AG Philips Electronics and General Electric Co's. GE Healthcare have been fixing up and reselling machines for more than a decade, but they say the refurbished equipment market is heating up as hospitals look for ways to cut costs.

EPA SAYS SACCHARIN NOT A THREAT AFTER ALL

VO :30

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has dropped the artificial sweetener saccharin from its list of hazardous substances, the agency said on Tuesday. The white crystalline powder used in diet drinks, chewing gum and juice was dubbed a potential cancer-causing agent in 1980. While a review by the National Toxicology

against repeal of rule, "Do not ask do not tell" or "Do not ask do not tell" and had passed to the Senate for confirmation or rejection.

FORECLOSURES RATES

VO :26

New foreclosure figures show the number of U.S. homes repossessed by lenders in November fell to the lowest level in 18 months. It's the result of foreclosure freezes enacted by several banks following allegations that evictions were handled improperly. Lenders have since announced plans to resume foreclosures at a more measured pace. Some 37 states recorded a drop in home repossessions from October to November. The foreclosure listing firm RealtyTrac. Inc. says home repossessions dropped 28 percent from October and 12 percent from November of last year.

AIRLINES FARES

VO :26

Several U.S. airlines have raised fares by up to \$10 per round trip. Rick Seaney, CEO of FareCompare.com, said Wednesday that American Airlines started the increases by boosting prices on flights over 500 miles by \$5 each way or \$10 roundtrip, and by \$3 each way and \$6 roundtrip for shorter trips. American Airlines spokesman Tim Smith confirmed the fare increases. He says fares are dictated by supply and demand and influenced by recent increases in fuel costs. The higher fares were matched by United, Continental, Delta, Southwest, US Airways, Alaska, Frontier and Virgin.

MILITARY ACADEMIES REPORT A 64 PERCENT INCREASE IN SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORTS

VO :21

There were 41 reports of sexual assault at the military service academies this academic year, a 64 percent increase from reported assaults in the 2008-2009 academic year, according to a new report released by the Defense Department on Wednesday. Defense officials estimate fewer than 10 percent of incidents are actually reported at the academies. Cadets and midshipmen participated in the voluntary survey at higher rates than in previous years. Most -- 89 percent -- said they understood key training concepts on how to report sexual harassment or sexual assault.

IMMIGRATION TO U.S., AFTER DIP, IS BACK UP

VO :20

The flow of immigrants to the United States has resumed, after falling to the lowest level in decades during the recession, a new study finds. The number of immigrants in the United States was estimated to have risen by about half a million in the year that ended in 2009, a jump from the previous year, when immigration stopped almost completely during the recession, according to the study, which was conducted by the Brookings Institution and is being released on Thursday. The rise pointed to an increase in demand for immigrant labor in the economy, said Audrey Singer, a demographer and co-author of the report. However, the number is still far below the increases of more than a million a year that took place earlier in the decade. The flow reached a peak in 2006, with a 1.8 million increase in the foreign born population.

IMMIGRATION CRACKDOWN AT CHIPOTLE

VO :23

Dozens of Latino Chipotle employees across Minnesota and Wisconsin have been fired in the last week, and several workers who survived the cuts say they are being asked to train white workers whom they fear will become their replacements once the training is complete, a local blog reports. According to CityPages, an online Minnesota blog, restaurant managers referred all questions to Chipotle's corporate headquarters in Denver. There is no confirmation that all of the released employees have been fired due to their document status.

The number of fired employees -- at least 80, CityPages reports -- could still grow. The Minnesota Immigration Rights Committee has stepped in to condemn the firings and represent the now jobless employees.

SENATE VOTE TAX CUTS

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:13

The Senate Wednesday overwhelmingly passed a sweeping tax package that would save millions of Americans thousands of dollars in higher taxes while also reducing their Social Security taxes and extending jobless benefits. President Barack Obama

swiftly urged the House to pass the \$858 billion bill without changes, a slap at Democratic liberals eager to toughen a part of the measure that permits up to \$10 million to pass to heirs estate tax-free. A wide array of tax cuts enacted under President George W. Bush is scheduled to expire on Jan. 1 -- just two weeks away -- affecting taxpayers at every income level. The bill passed by the Senate, 81-19, would extend those cuts for two years. Obama urged quick action in the House.

REPORT: ABOUT 17% IN U.S. GET SICK FROM FOOD EACH YEAR

VO :25

One in six Americans gets sick from food every year, and about 3,000 die from those illnesses, according to data released Wednesday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The numbers mark the first time since 1999 that the federal government has updated the estimates for food-borne illnesses. The newest figures are lower than those in the 1999 report, which estimated that one in four Americans got sick from food each year and that 5,000 died. But the new data cannot be compared with the earlier figures and should not be interpreted to mean food poisoning is decreasing, according to CDC officials. Among the known food contaminants that can cause illness in humans, the leader is salmonella, which causes 28 percent of deaths from food-borne illness and 35 percent of hospitalizations, according to the report.

WHICH PAINKILLERS ARE SAFEST FOR THE ELDERLY?

VO :25

A type of pain medicine long believed to be relatively safe for older adults appears to come with more risks than other, supposedly riskier, painkillers, new study findings report. The authors found that people on opioids, a class of pain drugs that includes morphine and codeine, had a higher risk of fractures, cardiovascular problems such as heart attack or stroke, hospitalizations, and

death relative to other types of pain medication, including over-the-counter drugs.

YOUNG KIDS WITH ASTHMA MAY LAG IN READING SKILLS

VO :23

Young children who start school with asthma may lag behind their peers in developing reading skills, a new study suggests. The findings, according to researchers, do not

prove that asthma per se is the reason for the gap. But they say it is possible that the lung disease affects young children's ability to keep up with their peers when it comes to reading.

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12/17/10

HOUSE APPROVE TAX CUT MEASURE

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:26

A massive bipartisan tax package that prevents a big New Year's Day tax hike for millions of Americans is on its way to President Barack Obama for his signature. The measure would extend tax cuts for families at every income level, renew jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed, and enact a new one-year cut in Social Security taxes that would benefit nearly every worker who earns a wage. In a remarkable show of bipartisanship, the House gave final approval to the measure just before midnight Thursday, overcoming an attempt by rebellious Democrats who wanted to impose a higher estate tax than the one Obama agreed to. The vote was 277-148.

"DREAM ACT"

VICTOR HUGO RODRIGUEZ, PHOENIX, ARIZONA

PKG 2:00

AND JOSE PARRA INTERVIEW, WASHINGTON, DC

DURATION 3:00

Janet Murguía, President and CEO of NCLR (National Council of La Raza), the largest national Latino civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States, today joined a cross-section of distinguished Latino leaders from across the political spectrum, as well as in business, government, public service, entertainment, and sports, in sending a letter to the leadership of the U.S. Senate urging them to pass the

"Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act." This legislation would allow undocumented youth who have grown up in this country the opportunity to achieve conditional legal status and eventually earn the ability to apply for citizenship if they attend college or serve in the military.

CENSUS DATA: BLACKS AND HISPANICS TAKE DIFFERENT SEGREGATION PATHS

VO :28

Every 10 years the census provides us with a view of racial segregation across America's neighborhoods. We still have a few months before the 2010 census gives us those definitive numbers. However, the recent release of the huge five year data dump of the Census Bureau's American Community Survey for 2005 through 2009, provides us with a clue about what we can expect . To be sure, we are a country that is heavily sorted by race and Hispanic status across the 65,000 census tracts (groupings of neighborhoods of 5,000 to 10,000 persons) that span our nation. Although the U.S. minority population grew at five times the rate of whites since 2000, the average white resident lives in a tract that is 79 percent white.

U.S., STATES SPAR IN FLORIDA COURT OVER HEALTH LAW

VO :31

Attorneys for the Obama administration and 20 U.S. states sparred in court on Thursday over whether the new healthcare law oversteps constitutional limits on federal authority by requiring most Americans to buy medical insurance. Following three hours of testimony, U.S. District Judge Roger Vinson said he planned to make a decision "as quickly as possible, but noted the case will take time to examine. "I cannot give you a date certain."

U.S. AND EUROPE SEEK LIMITS ON ROCHE'S AVASTIN

VO :23

Roche's top drug Avastin should no longer be approved for breast cancer, U.S. health officials said on Thursday in an unusual move that could shave \$1 billion from annual sales. European authorities, meanwhile, recommended restricting the drug in breast cancer so it is given only with one type of chemotherapy.

GENE SCAN SHOWS CHILDHOOD BRAIN CANCER IS DIFFERENT

VO :19

A study of the genetic map of brain tumors in children shows they have many fewer mutations than similar tumors in adults -- meaning it may someday be easier to treat them, researchers reported on Thursday. The study of medulloblastoma, the most common type of brain cancer in children, also turned up some new mutations, the researchers reported in the journal Science.

STROKES SENIORS

VO :28

A new study made by "American Association of Cardiology" indicates that 2 of 3 patients, 65 years old and older, who suffered a brain stroke have no chance to recover. the study was made with more than 90 thousand of patients from Medicare.

PROXIMITY TO FREEWAYS INCREASES AUTISM RISK, STUDY FINDS

VO :25

Children born to mothers who live close to freeways have twice the risk of autism, researchers reported Thursday. The study, its authors say, adds to evidence suggesting that certain environmental exposures could play a role in causing the disorder in some children. Reported cases of autism cases increased by 57% between 2002 and 2006, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, although professionals still debate whether rates have actually risen or a greater proportion of autistic children is being diagnosed. An estimated 1 in 110 children is diagnosed with autism today. There is no cure, although research has shown that various therapies can mitigate some symptoms, especially if begun early in life.

REMOTE EYE SCREENING CAN HELP DIABETICS

VO :20

Eye clinics that screen diabetics who don't make it into a specialist's office may help identify eye problems early on, new study findings report. A review of recent research

found that relatively simple exams by non-specialists who don't dilate the pupils are accurate at spotting early cases of the diabetes-related eye disorder known as diabetic retinopathy.

IVF COST

VO :23

Couples who turn to fertility clinics for help getting pregnant might expect to pay more than \$24,000 out-of-pocket for in vitro fertilization (IVF), California researchers find. Yet success rates hover around only 50 percent, according to data from eight clinics in northern California.

DOES LUNCH IN FRONT OF A COMPUTER MAKE US EAT MORE?

VO :18

Many of us eat lunch parked in front of a computer, but that habit might be boosting our appetite for dessert, a small study suggests. In a lab study of 44 men and women, researchers found that those who ate lunch while playing a computer game ended up eating more cookies 30 minutes later than those who'd had their lunch with no distractions.

EXPERTS CLAIM COLD BODY TEMPERATURES KEY TO WEIGHT LOSS

VO :22

The secret to losing weight may center around manipulating your body temperature to increase your metabolism, a pair of experts told ABC News on Wednesday. The technique is known as 'thermal dieting' and according to Ferriss, people can burn up to 50 more calories simply by forcing their bodies to endure sub-freezing temperatures. Doing so forces a person's system to work harder and burn a type of fat known as brown adipose tissue (BAT) to produce heat. Thermal dieting also has the support of former NASA scientist Ray Cronise, who used the methodology to lose 30 pounds in just six weeks, according to an earlier ABC News report.

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12/20/10

CONGRESS GAY MILITARY + SPENDING

VO: 31

The debate over gays in the military has been settled with a historic decision to allow them to serve openly, but big questions lie ahead about how and when the change will take place, how troops will accept it and whether it will hamper the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan and Iraq. President Barack Obama is expected to sign into law this week the legislation that passed the Senate on Saturday, an act some believe will carry social implications as profound as President Harry S. Truman's 1948 executive order on racial equality in the military. Washington is also gearing up for an epic showdown on the other side of the federal ledger: spending. U.S. Senate leaders have reached a compromise on short-term funding that would keep the government running through March 4, Majority Leader Harry Reid said Sunday. A final vote will likely come on Tuesday.

IMMIGRATION STUDENT

VO: 25

Emboldened by months of phone calls to lawmakers, hunger strikes and sit-ins, a group of college students and graduates in Los Angeles say they plan to take their fight for immigrant rights to the states and the 2012 election after Senate Republicans blocked a key piece of legislation. But it won't be easy. The Senate vote Saturday to toss the proposal that would have granted young illegal immigrants a route to legal status dealt a harsh blow to student activists who will face an even steeper uphill battle in the next Congress.

CONGRESS ATTACKS HEALTH

VO: 23

A group of 9/11 responders plans to gather outside the White House on Tuesday to urge President Barack Obama to get involved in the fight to pass a bill to help people who became sick after working in the World Trade Center dust. Backers of a bill in Congress say they're optimistic the Senate will approve the measure before the lame-

duck session ends. Gillibrand and Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York are offering a less-costly alternative to the original bill, saying they believe it will gain needed support from the GOP. They say the Senate is

expected to consider the new bill once they finish dealing with the U.S.-Russia treaty on nuclear weapons.

CONGRESS FOOD SAFETY

VO: 23

The Senate passed a sweeping bill to make food safer, sending it to the House in the waning days of Congress. The bill would place stricter standards on imported foods and require larger producers to follow tougher rules for keeping food safe. The legislation has enjoyed bipartisan support, and supporters say passage is crucial in the wake of E. coli and salmonella outbreaks in peanuts, eggs and produce. Recent domestic outbreaks of E. coli and salmonella have exposed a lack of resources and authority at the Food and Drug Administration as the embattled agency struggled to contain and trace the contaminated products. The agency rarely inspects many

food facilities and farms, visiting some every decade or so and others not at all. The bill would emphasize prevention so the agency could try to stop outbreaks before they begin. Farmers and food processors would have to tell the FDA how they are working to keep their food safe at different stages of production.

CONTAMINATED WATER

VO: 25

Tap water in 31 of 35 American cities is highly contaminated by hexavalent chromium, otherwise known as chromium-6. That's according to a new study today by the Environmental Working Group. While the dangerous carcinogen may be foreign sounding to most people, perhaps the name Erin Brockovich will ring a bell. After it was discovered that chromium-6 had poisoned the water supply of Hinkley, California, Brockovich helped bring about a lawsuit that ultimately ended in 1996 with the utility company, Pacific Gas & Electric, paying more than \$330 million in damages.

CHILDRENS STUDY

VO: 24

A study says nearly one million kids in the United States live in areas with no local children's doctor. The problem isn't the overall number of children's doctors, but rather, where they are located. Some wealthy areas are oversaturated with pediatricians and family doctors. Other parts of the nation have few or none. By moving doctors, the study suggests, it would be possible for every child to have a pediatrician or family physician nearby. Mississippi had the highest proportion of children, 42 percent, in low-supply regions, defined as areas with more than 3,000 children per children's doctor. Next were Arkansas, Oklahoma, Maine and Idaho.

DREAM ACT REAX

LILIANA ESCALANTE/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:37

Emboldened by months of phone calls to lawmakers, hunger strikes and sit-ins, a group of college students and graduates in Los Angeles say they plan to take their fight for immigrant rights to the states and the 2012 election after Senate Republicans blocked a key piece of legislation. But it won't be easy. The Senate vote Saturday to toss the Proposal that would have granted young illegal immigrants a route to legal status dealt a harsh blow to student activists who will face an even steeper uphill battle in the next Congress. Immigrants see rough times ahead in the next two years, with many Republicans vowing to push for tougher immigration enforcement, but they also say Latino voters are getting fed up with lawmakers at a time when they are accruing greater political clout. "This is a movement," said Nancy Meza, a 23-year-old illegal immigrant and college graduate who wore a University of California, Los Angeles sweatshirt as she watched the televised vote. "We don't have lobbyists and paid staff. It's a movement by students." In the hours after the vote, Meza and about 50 other student activists who had gathered at the UCLA Downtown Labor Center said they would remind Latinos who stood by them -- and those who did not -- in the next election cycle.

MEDICAID CUTS

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:57

Across the country, state lawmakers have taken harsh actions to try to rein in the budget-busting costs of the health care program that serves 58 million poor and disabled Americans. Some states have cut payments to doctors, paid bills late and trimmed benefits such as insulin pumps, obesity surgery and hospice care. In California, Medicaid no longer pays for many adult dental services. But it still pays for extractions, that is, tooth-pulling. The unintended consequence: Medicaid patients tell dentists to pull teeth that could be saved. "The roots are fine. The tooth could be saved with a root canal," said Dr. Nagaraj Murthy, who practices in Compton, Calif. "I had a patient yesterday. I said we could do a root canal. He said, `No, it's hurting. Go ahead and pull it. I don't have the money.'" Murthy recently pulled an elderly woman's last tooth, but Medicaid no longer pays for dentures. "Elderly patients suffer the most," Murthy said. "They're walking around with no teeth." ❖

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12/21/2010

CENSUS 2010 TODAY

VO 0:29 & INTERVIEWS RAUL CISNEROS - CHIEF OF THE 2010 CENSUS OFFICE AND ARNOLDO TORRES POLITICAL ANALIST

Republican-leaning states will pick up a half dozen House seats thanks to the 2010 census, which found the nation's population growing more slowly than in past decades but still shifting to the South and West. The Census Bureau announced Tuesday that the nation's population on April 1 was 308,745,538, up from 281.4 million a decade ago. The growth rate for the past decade was 9.7 percent, a slower pace than the 13.2 percent population increase from 1990 to 2000.

GOVERNMENT CHECKS

VO 0:32

Before too long, the government check will no longer be in the mail. Officials have settled on the dates when millions of people will no longer be able to get their Social Security and other benefit checks by mail. New recipients of benefits will have to accept paperless payments starting on May 1 of next year, three months later than first proposed. Those already on Social Security will have until March 1, 2013 to make the switch to direct deposits or a debit card.

DEATH PENALTY

VO 0:25

The number of executions in the United States dropped 12 percent in 2010, and the number of people sentenced to die is nearing historic lows, a report from an anti-capital punishment group says. The Death Penalty Information Center attributed the reductions to changing attitudes toward capital punishment, but acknowledged there have also been problems with the availability of chemicals used in lethal injections.

TOYOTA RECALL

VO 0:27

Toyota Motor has agreed to pay the maximum fine of \$ 32.4 million on two investigations in the United States over his handling of a series of recalls of cars, which affected sales and beat its reputation for quality. The agreements put an end to a tumultuous year for the world's largest automaker by the retirement of 11 million units in the U.S. and the revelation of problems that security experts blamed for hundreds of accidents and the deaths of dozens of people. The crisis sparked unprecedented scrutiny into complaints of unintended acceleration of vehicles, a total of three costly fines and loss of reputation and consumer confidence in Toyota

HOLDER TERRORISM

VO 0:21

Attorney General Eric Holder says he's worried about terrorist attacks on the U.S. by Americans. And high on his list of concerns is the threat posed by anti-American cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, a U.S. citizen believed to be hiding in Yemen. Holder says al-Awlaki has a familiarity with the U.S. that terrorists usually lack. He says he puts him on the list of people who worry him the most, along with al-Qaida head Osama bin Laden, but adds, "Whether he's one, two, three, four, I don't know." In an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America," Holder said the terrorism threat is real and constant. He says he's concerned that the authorities may have missed a signal that an attack is coming.

AIDS SCREENING

VO 0:20

Expanding screening for the AIDS virus to include every American at least once and the highest-risk people once a year could prevent more than 80,000 infections over the next 20 years, researchers projected on Monday. And if treatment for infected people were integrated into such a program, it would prevent an estimated 212,000 new infections, the team at Yale University in Connecticut and Stanford University in California reported.

COLD REMEDIES ECHINACCEA

VO 0:26

The study of more than 700 adults and children suggests the tiniest possible benefit about a half-day shaved off a weeklong cold and slightly milder symptoms. But that could have occurred by chance. For most people, the potential to get relief a few hours sooner probably isn't worth the trouble and cost of taking the supplement, researchers said. With no cure for the common cold, Americans spend billions on over-the-counter pills, drops, sprays and other concoctions to battle their runny noses, scratchy throats and nagging coughs. Some turn to echinacea a top seller marketed as a product that helps the immune system fight infections.

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12/22/2010

CALIFORNIA WEATHER

JAIME GARCIA

PKG 2:00

It does rain in Southern California, and has been for some time now. Landslides, flooding and downed trees are causing problems in Orange County beach communities, and forced authorities to close downtown Laguna Beach this morning. Part of a busy interstate east of Los Angeles was also closed by a landslide. With the most intense storm yet to hit, heavy rain is causing flood

problems in Arizona, Nevada and Utah.

OBAMA DON'T ASK DON'T TELL

VO 0:21

President Barack Obama has signed a landmark law repealing the ban on gay men and women serving openly in the armed services this morning. Declaring: "This is a good day," Obama said the new law means members of the military will no longer be asked to lie. The service chiefs must complete implementation plans before lifting the old policy and certify that it won't

damage combat readiness

CONGRESS RESHAPING

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ

PKG: 2:08

The census figures show a shift affecting 18 states taking effect when the 113th Congress takes office in 2013. The political power follows the high population growth, shifting toward the south and west and away from the industrial Midwest and northeast. Four seats were gained in Texas and two in Florida. Meanwhile Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina, Utah and Washington are all picking up one new U.S. House seat. Ohio and New York will lose two House seats each. Losing one House seat are Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

CHOCOLATE AND COUGH

VO 0:27

Cocoa products that have increasingly made the news for their multiple health benefits ranging from cardiovascular disease to cancer and other medical conditions may also be a handy cure for persistent cough, claims a new study. The traditional treatment for unrelenting coughing has been opiate-based medicines such as syrups with codeine which tend to make one sleepy and impaired. According to researchers, there is an ingredient found in dark chocolate called theobromine that is as or even more effective than cough syrup containing codeine in getting rid of coughing fit.

FOOD SAFETY

VO 0:25

The House passed a measure to overhaul the nation's food-safety laws by a vote of 215 to 144, and President Obama is expected to sign it into law. The vote marked the final hurdle for a bill that cleared an unusual number of obstacles, despite enjoying bipartisan support and backing from a wide array of groups across the political spectrum, from the Consumers Union to the Chamber of Commerce.

CONGRESS 9/11 BILL

VO 0:22

The Senate is headed for a key test vote on a bill that would provide up \$6.2 billion to aid people who became sick after being exposed to toxins at the World Trade Center ruins. Bill supporters say they're confident they have the 60 votes needed to prevail on the vote expected Wednesday. But they worry that Republicans who oppose the measure could try to stall a final vote as the holidays near and Congress' lame duck session winds down. The bill would provide medical and economic benefits over 10 years to survivors and responders to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. It also would have to be approved by the House. New York lawmakers are pressing the House to remain in session for the vote.

MIAMI DADE MAYOR RECALL

VO 0:31

Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez is facing a recall election. The Clerk of Courts announced Tuesday that the necessary signatures were legally collected to require a vote. County commissioners have 90 days to hold a recall vote. A date has not been set. Car dealer and former Philadelphia Eagles owner Norman Braman was angry over a property tax increase and a growing county payroll. He gathered the signatures needed to call for a referendum on Alvarez. Alvarez would be the first mayor of a major American city or county to be recalled from office in decades. He said in a statement that he "will continue to lead during challenging times" and his office plans to review the legitimacy of the certification process.

ARIZONA HOSPITAL LOOSES AFILIATION

VO 0:29

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix stripped a major hospital of its affiliation with the church Tuesday because of a surgery that ended a woman's pregnancy to save her life. Bishop Thomas Olmsted called the 2009 procedure an abortion and said St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center - recognized internationally for its neurology and neurosurgery practices - violated ethical and religious directives of the national Conference of Catholic Bishops.

TEEN BIRTH DOWN 2009

VO 0:25

The U.S. teen birthrate dropped to its lowest level in the seven decades government researchers have been tracking it, government researchers said on Tuesday. Babies born to American teens aged 15 to 19 fell 6 percent to a record 39.1 births per 1,000, according to preliminary numbers released by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

POOR CLASS GROWS

VO 0:24

Nearly one in three working families in the United States are struggling to meet their most basic needs, according to a new analysis of US Census data by the Working Poor Families Project. Between 2007 and 2009, the share of working families that were low-income-earning less than 200 percent of the official threshold-increased from 28 percent to 30 percent. The ranks of the working poor swelled by another 1.7 million as corporations used the economic downturn to wipe out full-time positions and force ever-larger numbers of workers to take part-time, temporary and low-paying jobs.

NATION ON ALERT

LOURDES DEL RIO

PKG 1:59

Terrorists are a constant threat, but it is the ones born and raised in America the nation should fear most. This dire warning comes from Attorney General Eric Holder, who said on Tuesday the United States' deepest threat is homegrown jihadists willing to attack their own country. In the past two years, 50 of the 126 people indicted on terrorism-related charges were American citizens, he said. There is also Anwar al-

Awlaki, a radical Muslim cleric born in New Mexico who has become one of Al Qaeda's most influential leaders.

LETTERS TO SANTA

LILIANA ESCALANTE

PKG 2:01

For many needy children this year, Santa will slip his gifts into the mailbox instead of sliding them down the chimney. Secret Santas and their donated gifts poured into post offices around the nation after the U.S. Postal Service's Operation Santa received widespread news media attention last week. The Postal Service's Operation Santa matches children's - and their parents'- letters to Santa with anonymous donors who agree to buy some of the gifts on their wish list and return them to the post office for delivery before Christmas. This year, the letters reflected unusual economic hardship as many children requested basic items, such as warm clothes, instead of toys.

ALZHEIMER TESTING

VO 0:24

UK experts say they may have found a way to check for Alzheimer's years before symptoms appear. A lumbar puncture test combined with a brain scan can identify patients with early tell-tale signs of dementia, they believe. Ultimately, doctors could use this to select patients to try out drugs that may slow or halt the disease. Currently there is no single test or cure for dementia, a condition that affects over 800,000 people in the UK. Experts are working hard to find treatments that prevent the disease or at least slow its progression.

LACTEOS REDUCES RISK OF DIABETES

VO 0:23

U.S. scientists discovered a natural substance found in dairy products, they say, would reduce "substantially" the risk of type 2 diabetes. The compound, a fatty acid found in milk fat, cheese, yogurt and butter. Researchers report in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, the substance is not found in the body and can only be obtained through food. The findings, the authors say, could force people to rethink their health recommendations, often advised to reduce consumption of dairy products with high

levels of fat. The study, conducted by researchers from the School of Public Health Harvard University, involved 3,763 people who were followed for 20 years to assess risk factors for cardiovascular disease in older adults.

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12/23/2010

CONGRESS ADJOURNS

VO: 30

The lame duck Congress is history. The Senate followed the House out of session just after 8 p.m. Wednesday, bringing to a close one of the most productive congresses in history. Health care and financial regulatory reform, the repeal of the military's ban on gays serving openly and the Senate's ratification of a nuclear arms treaty with Russia all won approval. The White House and Senate Republicans also struck a deal to extend Bush-era tax cuts for Americans of every income level. When Congress reconvenes Jan. 5, Republicans will be in charge of the House and hold more seats in the Senate.

CONGRESS: IMMIGRATION BILL

VO: 24

President Obama said Wednesday that he will persist in pushing a bill to legalize some illegal immigrants who came to the U.S. as children. But passing the DREAM Act, and any other immigration legislation, will become much harder when the new Congress convenes in January, advocates on both sides predict. When Republican take over the House of Representatives and Democrats lose six seats in the Senate, bills that crack down on illegal immigration will find new life, and those that help legalize any of the country's 11 million illegal immigrants will struggle.

GAYS IN MILITARY

VO: 29

He's won a repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" in Congress. And President Barack Obama is encouraging gays who've been kicked out of the military because of their sexual orientation to try to re-enlist. But at the same time, Obama says his position on another gay rights issue is "constantly evolving. He told reporters today that the question of gay marriages -- which he has opposed -- is one that he will "continue to wrestle with. Obama today signed a landmark law ordering America's armed services to let gay men and women serve openly for the first time.

EMANUEL ELIGIBLE TO RUN FOR CHICAGO

VO: 28

The Chicago Board of Election Commissioners has begun hearing the residency challenge against Rahm Emanuel, after a hearing officer recommended the ex-White House chief of staff's name be allowed to appear on the Feb. 22 ballot for Chicago mayor. Election board hearing officer Joseph Morris said early Thursday that evidence suggests Emanuel had no intention of terminating his residency in Chicago, left the city only to work for President Barack Obama and often told friends he intended to live in Washington for no more than two years.

JOBLESS CLAIM

VO: 19

Fewer people applied for unemployment benefits last week, the second drop in three weeks. The decline was small -- applications dropped by 3,000 to 420,000 -- but the downward trend is a sign that the job market is slowly healing.

CALIFORNIA WEATHER

LILIANA ESCALANTE- HIGHLAND, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:55

Authorities have closed all downtown Laguna Beach streets due to extensive flooding in the area early Wednesday morning. Along with all downtown Laguna Beach streets, Laguna Canyon Road between Forest Avenue and State Route 73 and PCH between Aster Street and Legion Street are also closed. According to Lt. Jason Kravetz of the Laguna Beach Police Department, downtown Laguna Beach is under several feet of

water, adding that those who work in the downtown area should not attempt to go to work

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10/24/2010

LAST MINUTE SHOPPING

LIVER MARIA FERNANDA LOPEZ-MIAMI FL

TIME: 6:00

Holiday procrastinators are preparing to zoom through picked-over stores, grabbing discounted sweaters and can't-go-wrong gift cards. If they can get a parking spot, that is. But you won't hear retailers complaining. For stores, this 11th-hour dash caps the best holiday season since 2007, and possibly the best ever. With Christmas falling on a Saturday this year, Friday is a holiday for most U.S. workers. That allowed shoppers to hit the stores first thing in the morning.

AIRPORT SECURITY-ALERT

VO: 21

U.S. authorities are warning air travelers to expect greater scrutiny of thermoses and other insulated drink containers at security checkpoints after intelligence suggested they could be used to hide explosives. There is "no information related to any specific or imminent threat," Ann Davis, a spokeswoman for the Transportation Security Administration, told Reuters on Friday. A notice on the TSA's website warned about the possibility that explosives might be hidden inside the beverage containers and said the warning was "based on intelligence."

HOLIDAY TRAVEL

VO: 32

Holiday travelers in the Midwest are bracing for snow and ice from a storm that's expected to deliver a rare white Christmas to Nashville before rolling into the Northeast. Several inches of snow were expected across the heartland on Friday, including up to 8 inches in Iowa and 6 inches in Illinois. Winter weather advisories were

posted from North Dakota into Kentucky, with forecasters warning drivers of snow-covered roads and limited visibility.

ONLINE SPENDING INCREASE

VO: 23

Online spending rose 15 percent during the holidays, new data shows, as more Americans responded to online sales and free shipping offers and shifted more of their dollars online. Total online sales between Oct. 31 and Thursday rose 15.4 percent to a record \$36.4 billion, compared with \$31.5 billion a year ago, according to figures released Thursday from MasterCard Advisors' SpendingPulse, which tracks spending across all transactions including cash. Several categories, including clothing and electronics, gained share of overall category sales as well "Americans are really changing way that they shop and the way they spend," said Michael McNamara, vice president of research and analysis for SpendingPulse. The holiday shopping season has been bustling this year, and e-commerce has been a big part of that. The National Retail Federation expects total holiday spending will rise 3.3 percent. Online sales generally account for 8 to 10 percent of the spending pie. This increase this year could push it solidly into double digits.

SUPER SATURDAY EXTENDS LAST MINUTE RETAIL SALES

VO: 31

The number of shoppers rushing to stores on the final Saturday before Christmas was up this year compared to last year, but spending will likely go even higher in the day leading up to Christmas.

Sales in U.S. retail stores on Saturday rose 15.1 percent from 2009 to almost \$7.6 billion as more people finished their gift purchases, according to research firm ShopperTrak. Sales this year were also helped in comparison to the same weekend in 2009 when a major blizzard struck the East Coast, keeping many would-be shoppers at home. This helped sink spending on the so-called "Super Saturday" in 2009 by 16.5 percent to about \$6.6 billion. Spending on the day this year was still below the \$7.9 billion spent by Americans on the day in 2008, ShoperTrak said.

SUDDEN INFANT DEATHS MOST COMMON ON NEW YEAR'S

VO: 24

A new study found that more babies die of sudden infant death in the United States in the New Year's Day, than any other day of the year. The study indicates that is not clear why, but researchers suspect that has anything to do with the parents who drink heavily the night before and put their children in danger ... he believes that the syndrome kills one two thousand-500 babies in the country every year.

VACCINE AGAINST ANAL CANCER

VO: 21

The Food and Drug Administration approves the use of "Gardasil" vaccination against human papillomavirus virus, but this time to prevent cancer and anal cancer other injury caused by this virus. Vaccine that was already approved in 2006 to prevent cervical cancer. The "HPV" is related to approximately 90 percent of anal cancer.

STUDY: STROKE DEATHS HIGHER WHERE FRIED FISH ABUNDANT

VO: 34

High rate of deaths due to stroke in the South of the country may be related to a consumer of fried fish in that region. So suggests a study published today in the journal "Neurology" over the region known as the stroke belt, which includes North Carolina, South Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Virginia. According to research, there more people eat fried fish without frying fish and less than the rest of the country, and eat more blacks than whites fried fish.

PLACEBOS WORK, EVEN WHEN PATIENTS ARE IN THE KNOW, STUDY FINDS

VO: 32

Researchers have good news for people who suffer from irritable bowel syndrome or colon irritable. Scientists at the University of Harvard, conducted a study among at least 80 people suffering from this disease half were given a bottle with the word "placebo", and they said they were as sugar pills another not give them anything. End of study, 59 percent of patients who took the "placebo", said their symptoms had eased properly apparently the deception had its effect.

XMASS TRAVELING

LOURDES DEL RIO- MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:57

Fair weather helped make the holiday sojourn a not-so-painful experience in much of the country Thursday, even with more people hitting the roads and skies than last year, but travelers' good luck might be running out. A storm was expected to bring a snow and ice to parts of the heartland Friday, a rare white Christmas to Nashville on Saturday, and perhaps sock swaths of the Northeast on Sunday. The AAA has expected overall travel to rise about 3 percent this year, with more than 92 million people planning to go more than 50 miles sometime between now and Jan. 2. More than 90 percent said they would be driving. The Air Transport Association was expecting 44.3 million people on U.S. flights between Dec. 16 and Jan. 5 -- up 3 percent over the same period a year ago but still below pre-recession travel volume. The average ticket price is \$421, up by 5 percent.

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12/27/2010

IMMIGRATION NEW YEAR

VO: 24

The end of the year means a turnover of House control from Democratic to Republican and, with it, Congress' approach to immigration. In a matter of weeks, Congress will go from trying to help young, illegal immigrants become legal to debating whether children born to parents who are in the country illegally should continue to enjoy automatic U.S. citizenship. Such a hardened approach -- and the rhetoric certain to accompany it -- should resonate with the GOP faithful who helped swing the House in Republicans' favor. Legislation to test interpretations of the 14th Amendment as granting citizenship to children of illegal immigrants will emerge early next session. That is likely to be followed by attempts to force employers to use a still-developing web system, dubbed E-Verify, to check that all of their employees are in the U.S.

legally.

NAPOLITANO SECURITY

VO: 24

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano isn't giving any ground when it comes to the use of full-body scanners and invasive pat-downs at airports around the country. While some travelers do not like them, Napolitano in an interview broadcast Sunday insisted the practices will not change for the "foreseeable future." The new technology and the pat-downs are "objectively safer for our traveling public," said Napolitano, adding she's always looking to improve the security systems in place. Napolitano also dismissed a recent news report about major airports failing secrets tests designed to get contraband such as guns and knives past security screeners. The report said some airports had a 70 percent failure rate.

HOLIDAY RETURN FRAUD

VO: 29

Retailers are concerned about a practice called "return fraud," where shoppers leave a tag on a piece of clothing, wear it, then takes it back for a refund. It's just one issue stores are battling especially during the holiday shopping season. Maybe that top that Aunt Mary picked out isn't exactly a hit. So, you bring it back for a legitimate refund. But check out these shoppers. The National Retail Federation estimates return fraud losses of 14 billion dollars this year, 4 billion alone during the holidays. Not criminal behavior, but to retailers, it's unethical and costly because they're stuck with damaged or soiled goods they can't re-sell. What is criminal, retailers say, is return fraud that's a form of shoplifting.

CHOLESTEROL AND HEART ATTACKS

VO:25

People who are hospitalized after a heart attack often aren't getting the kind of intensive cholesterol-lowering drugs that could save their lives, a new study suggests. Evidence has shown that after suffering a heart attack, patients are less likely to have another if they start "intensive" therapy with cholesterol-lowering statin drugs. National cholesterol guidelines generally recommend that people who have survived a heart attack be placed on intensive lipid-lowering therapy that uses high doses of certain statins, or a statin combined with ezetimibe (Zetia), to aggressively lower so-called bad cholesterol and raise the "good" version. But those guidelines are often not followed, according to data from more than 65,000 patients treated at hospitals in the U.S.

EMOTIONAL INTELIGENCE

VO: 28

Emotional intelligence -- the ability to assess and control one's emotions -- increases with age and peaks around the age of 60, U.S. researchers found. Researchers led by Robert Levenson of the University of California, Berkeley, found people age 60 and older are better able to see the positive side of a stressful situation and more likely to empathize with others. The study, published in *Psychology and Aging*, found older study participants more often used "positive reappraisal" -- a coping mechanism drawing heavily on life experience and lessons learned. Younger and middle-aged participants usually used "detached appraisal" -- coping by adopting an objective, unemotional attitude. Since emotional intelligence is important at any age, the researchers suggest those in their 60s should enjoy an advantage in the workplace and in personal relationships.

HEALTH INSURANCE RULES

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:48

California will create an Internet-based insurance exchange to let consumers comparison-shop for affordable health insurance coverage under two of the many laws taking effect with the new year. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed bills in September making California the first state to authorize an oversight board for an insurance exchange marketplace since the federal health care overhaul was enacted earlier this year. Massachusetts implemented its exchange before the federal reforms. The Republican governor and Democratic legislative leaders who carried SB900 and AB1602 said the companion bills will drive down costs and give consumers more options by promoting competition between health insurance companies. Republican lawmakers countered that the measures create an expensive new health care bureaucracy even before the federal law takes effect in 2014. Supporters said the five-member board overseeing the California Health Benefit Exchange will need those three years to hire staff, set up the program, select health plans to participate and enroll Californians needing health insurance.

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12/28/10

RETIREMENT CRISIS

VO: 23

Many baby boomers are facing a personal finance disaster just as they're hoping to retire. Starting in January, more than 10,000 baby boomers a day will turn 65 and that pattern will continue for the next 19 years. Olivia Mitchell of the University of Pennsylvania calls the situation "extremely serious." She says baby boomers "have not saved very effectively for retirement and are still retiring too early." There are a number of problems facing the boomers. The traditional pension plan is disappearing and many stock plans have been posting low returns. Also, many boomers who had banked on their homes are finding the crash in housing prices has slashed the value of their home. There are other signs of coming trouble: Many boomers have too high a mortgage debt; Others are receiving less Social Security money because of early retirement; And health care expenses continue to soar.

OBAMA ECONOMIST

VO: 26

President Barack Obama is expected to announce his choice for top economic adviser after he returns from his Hawaiian vacation next week. It's a decision that could signal a new direction for the administration as it struggles to jumpstart the economy and wrestle down unemployment. Potential candidates include investment banker Roger Altman,

Yale President Richard Levin, Treasury Department deficit hawk Gene Sperling and National Economic Council deputy director Jason Furman.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

VO: 26

Holiday shoppers have been in the mood to spend big. MasterCard Advisors' SpendingPulse, which monitors all transactions including cash, says total consumer spending excluding autos, rose 5.5 percent to \$584.3 billion from Nov. 5 through Dec. 24. That compared with the same 50-day period a year ago. It's the biggest increase since 2007, when revenue rose 4.9 percent. Total sales surpassed 2007 holiday spending, which reached \$566.34 billion. The data show clothing sales rose 11.2 percent. Also, jewelry and luxury goods showed strong single-digit gains compared with a year ago. Analysts say shoppers looked for big bargains and when possible handed over cash.

IMPLANT FOR SLEEP APNEA

VO: 29

People who suffer from severe snoring may soon be in luck as researchers are looking into a pacemaker implant that will not only stop snoring, but will also battle sleep apnea in the process. Sleep apnea is something that is developed for those who have a lot of problems in regards to their sleep.

AT&T DOCUMENTARY ABOUT TEXTING AND DRIVING

JAIME GARCIA- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:06

The wireless company planned to release the video today, before New Year's Eve. The timing is aimed, the company said, at showing that texting and driving deserves to be considered as dangerous as drunk driving. The documentary includes intense, sometimes disturbing, images, including that of Ms. West, as she spent her last minutes alive on a breathing tube. Research from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute shows that motorists who text face a 23 times greater risk of crash or near crash. Other wireless carriers, like Verizon Wireless, have in the last year stepped up efforts to warn about the risks of texting and driving. AT&T said it plans to distribute the documentary to schools, safety organizations and government agencies, and is urging people to take a pledge on its Facebook page not to text and drive.

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12/29/10

NEW CONGRESS IN 1 WEEK

VO: 20

The new year will bring a lot of new faces to the first session of the 112th Congress as Republicans take control of the House and increase their number in the Senate. But a lot of old faces will remain. Two of the most recognizable in the House, Nancy Pelosi and John Boehner (BAY'-nur), are switching jobs. Boehner will become the new Speaker of the House, and Pelosi will likely take over as the minority leader.

GULF OIL SPILL COSTS

VO: 23

As the Gulf oil spill gushed out of control, BP's financial liabilities seemed big enough to sink the company. No more. Cleanup, government fines, lawsuits, legal fees and damage claims will likely exceed the \$40 billion that BP has publicly estimated, according to an Associated Press analysis. But they'll be far below the highest estimates made over the summer by legal experts and prominent Wall Street banks, such as Goldman Sachs, which said costs could near \$200 billion. BP will survive the worst oil spill in U.S. history for several key reasons: it has little debt; its global businesses are forecast to generate \$26 billion next year in cash flow from operations; the environmental impact of the spill isn't as bad as feared; and the government seems unlikely to ban BP from Gulf drilling. To bolster its finances, BP has cut its dividend, issued debt and sold more than \$21 billion in assets.

CILANTRO & PARSLEY RECALL

VO: 23

A Texas produce distributor has recalled nearly seven-thousand cases of cilantro and curly parsley after samples in Canada, and Michigan tested positive for salmonella. The latest recall comes days after dozens of people fell sick after consuming bacteria-tainted alfalfa sprouts in an apparently unrelated situation. The recall pertains to cilantro and parsley from J-and-D Produce and was packed between November 30th and December 6th.

NEW MEAT NUTRITION LABEL

VO: 27

Those familiar nutrition labels found on everything from soda to cereal to mayonnaise will also be required on meats beginning Jan. 1, 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announces today. The new labels will list calories, calories from fat, total fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, sodium, protein and vitamins for 40 of the most commonly purchased cuts of beef, poultry, pork and lamb, according to an early look at the labels provided to USA Today. The new rules will be published today in the Federal Register.

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12/30/2010

TRANSIT WOES

VO:21

New York commuters are facing a double-whammy: a blizzard that paralyzed the transit system and fare increases that have left some riders fuming. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority fare hike for riding the city's subways, buses and commuter rails is increasing for the third time in three years. It comes just months after severe cuts to service. Tolls also went up at the MTA's bridges and tunnels, all part of attempts to close a huge budget gap. The monthly unlimited Metrocards went up by \$15 to \$104, and single-ride tickets by 25 cents to \$2.50.

U.S. DEPORTS RECORD NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IN 2010

VO: 20

A record number of immigrants were deported from the United States in 2010 and the year also has been marked by the expansion of the Secure Communities program of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which identifies imprisoned undocumented foreigners. During Fiscal Year 2010, ICE deported 392,862 undocumented foreigners, of whom more than 195,000 were convicted criminals, an increase of more than 23,000 deportations including 81,000 people with criminal records - compared with 2008. In 2009, deportations totaled 389,834 and the goal for 2011 is 404,000.

STATES COULD FOLLOW ARIZONA ON IMMIGRATION

VO: 24

Because Congress was unable to pass any kind of immigration legislation this year and the prospects remain dim when the new Congress is sworn in next month, state legislatures will continue to lead the charge on immigration policy in the new year. For many states, that could mean a crackdown on illegal immigration that mirrors the Arizona law that passed in April and reignited a national immigration debate. After Republican made huge gains in statehouses and governor's mansions in the November election, as many as seven states are "likely" to pass an Arizona-style law

next year, according to a study by the National Immigration Forum, which opposes such legislation.

APPLE SUED OVER APPS PRIVACY ISSUES

Two separate groups of iPhone and iPad users have sued Apple alleging that certain software applications were passing personal user information to third-party advertisers without consent. The lawsuits follow a Wall Street Journal report that said smartphones apps may be sharing personal data "widely and regularly," and that iPhone apps transmitted more data than apps on phones using Google's Android operating system. In the lawsuits seeking class action, filed in a federal court in California, the plaintiffs sought a ban on passing of user information without consent and monetary compensation, according to case documents. At some point, both cases may be consolidated into one by the judges presiding over the cases, said Majed Nachawati, a partner at law firm Fears & Nachawati, one of the attorneys for the complainants.

NEW YEAR SECURITY

VO: 31

It's the biggest public party in the country. Nearly a million revelers will cram into the streets of Times Square to watch the ball drop on New Year's Eve. It's also remarkably crime-free, safe and orderly. In the past decade, there have been few arrests and virtually no major problems funneling people in and out of the confetti-filled streets to ring in the New Year. That's due mostly to what the partygoers don't notice: Throngs of police and counterterrorism officers blanketing the area, working from a security plan specifically tailored for the event. Manhole covers are sealed. Counter-snipers are stationed on secret rooftops. Officers carry beeper-sized radiation detectors. Plainclothes officers are stationed in the pens with the crowds, along with a uniformed presence and undercover officers. Bomb-sniffing dogs are on site. Purses are searched. Checkpoints are set up and perimeters are created using concrete blocks. Passing vehicles are checked for safety. Haz-mat teams are on standby. NYPD brass tweak the plan every year, using lessons learned from previous scares.

PROSTATE CANCER RISK / LONG FINGERS AND CANCER

VO: 22

A new study shows that men who have a longer ring finger could be more likely to have prostate cancer. The study-- out of Britain-- also found that if the index finger was longer, the men were 33-percent less likely to get prostate cancer. One theory is-- in some cases- men with prostate cancer have more testosterone in their bodies. Normally if men have higher testosterone their mothers do too. So the theory is that when a mom has more testosterone-- those babies have ring fingers that are longer. But no matter what length your fingers are, it's important to discuss prostate screening with your doctor.

UNDERAGE DRINKING

VO:27

Hospital emergency visits due to underage drinking are likely to jump on New Year's day, U.S. government researchers said Thursday, hoping to warn parents and young people of the dangers as they ring in 2011. According to the latest statistics, there were an estimated 1,980 visits to emergency rooms in the United States on Jan. 1, 2009 related to underage drinking, nearly four times the 546 such visits on an average day that year.

MORE JOBS FOR 2011

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG : 2:10

A new CareerBuilder survey finds that more employers plan to add full-time workers in 2011 compared to 2010. The survey found that new hiring is more likely "in technology and revenue-producing fields." "More than half of employers reported they are in a better financial position today than they were one year ago," Matt Ferguson, CEO of CareerBuilder, said in the survey statement. "2011 will usher in a healthier employment picture as business leaders grow more confident in the economy. Our survey indicates more jobs will be added in 2011 than 2010, but job creation will remain gradual. The year will be characterized by steady, measured gains across various industries." The hiring outlook is different by geographic region, with the West having the best outlook and the Midwest and South having the lowest percentage hiring expectation. According to the survey, 26% of hiring managers in the West reported they plan to add full-time, permanent headcount followed by 24% in the Northeast and 23% in the Midwest and South. Plans to downsize staffs are trending below the last two years, with 8% of employers in the South expecting to decrease headcount followed by 7% in the Northeast, Midwest and West. Harris Interactive conducted the survey for

CareerBuilder from Nov. 15 to Dec. 2, 2010, with input from more than 2,400 hiring managers and human resource professionals across industries and company sizes.

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12/31/2010

KATRINA END OF TRAILERS

VO: 34

The era of the FEMA trailer -- a symbol of the prolonged rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina -- might be drawing to a close in New Orleans. Citing the remaining 221 trailers as blight, New Orleans officials have told the last remaining residents to be out by the start of 2011 or face steep fines. New Orleans once had more than 23,000 FEMA trailers, and for many people still living in them, they are akin to permanent homes. These residents say they will find it hard to make the city's deadline.

US:CA/NEW MARIJUANA LAW

VO: 21

In California will no longer be a crime to have marijuana for personal use, provided that the amount does not exceed 28 grams, but if you have more you will get a \$ 100 fine. This law is effective in January to allow an act to save tens of millions of dollars in legal proceedings for possession of small amounts of this drug.

MEDICARE FINANCES STUDY

VO: 31

An updated analysis of the financial stability of the Medicare program shows that what people pay into the system doesn't come close to covering the full value of the medical care they can expect to receive as retirees. The new program estimates by economists with the Urban Institute think tank illustrate a disconnect between people's perceptions about Medicare and the hard numbers that document the system's shaky finances. Many workers may believe their Medicare payroll taxes are going for their

own insurance after they retiree. But the money they contribute actually is used to pay the bills of seniors currently on the program.

MEAT RECALL

VO: 25

A California company has recalled 34,373 pounds of organic ground beef over fears of E. coli contamination. First Class Foods Inc. of Hawthorne said recalled packages were produced on December 7 and December 16. They have "EST. 18895" printed on them, federal officials said. Products were shipped to California, New Jersey, North Carolina, New York, Wisconsin and Washington state.

YOUNG MOTHERS

VO:25

A study showed that the rate of teens giving birth in U.S. reached its lowest level in almost 70 years ...however, in the international context the number is worried because the index of young pregnant is quite a lot more than in other countries. the number of pregnancies among mothers is a concern, because it involves several drawbacks, as higher rates of school dropouts, as well as possible and other health problems

====END OF REPORT====

From: Yenlys Hernandez
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 11:11 AM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC Reports from Al Punto December 2010

Hi Carole,

These are the FCC Reports from Al Punto of the month of December, 2010

Thank you,

FCC REPORTS for AL PUNTO, DECEMBER 2010

== =12/05/10= = =

Cecilia Muñoz, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House

The Future of the Dream Act

Time: 8:00

The Dream Act has been at the top of the media conversation all week. Negotiations have been ongoing behind closed doors and many hope for possible votes in the House and Senate by next week. As an advisor to President Obama, Cecilia Muñoz will give us the White House perspective on the future of - which some call-the "dreamers." What is President Obama doing to push for the passing of this law? Will Congress come to a consensus regarding the Dream Act before the lame-duck session comes to an end? Also, what is the status of a possible immigration reform before President Obama's term is over?

Carlos Gutierrez, Former United States Secretary of Commerce; Rosario Marin, Former United States Treasurer

Republicans and the Hispanic Vote

Time: 8:00

As two speakers at this week's first Hispanic forum hosted by The Americano, Carlos Gutierrez and Rosario Marin come to Al Punto to tell Jorge Ramos what the main issues will be for Republicans in the coming years. How do they plan to gain back the Hispanic vote? Why do they consider the Dream Act a political game that Democrats are playing to make Republicans look unfavorable?

Roundtable Participants:

Silvia Pisani

Correspondent, La Nacion

Julio Marengo

Correspondent, Prensa Grafica, El Salvador

Wikileaks Scandal, There will be Bipartisan Cooperation?, Nasa: Live on another planet?

== =12/12/10= = =

Gaby Pacheco and Lucina Martinez, Activists and "Dreamers"

"Dream Act"

Time: 7:00

The "dreamers" descended on Washington, D.C. to be present as the House of Representatives voted to pass the legislation, known as the Dream Act, and therefore leave its future in the hands of the Senate. By a vote of 216 to 198 the House gave many undocumented students some hope for a legal future. Gaby Pacheco started the year walking 1,500 miles across the country with other "dreamers" to spread the word while Lucina Martinez went on a hunger strike for 30 days hoping to pressure legislators. Both are undocumented and are willing to risk everything to compel Congress to pass the Dream Act. They see half of their job as fulfilled but have a

tough week ahead to pass the next speed bump in the Senate. What are the chances this legislation will make it through the Senate? What are the next steps for the students before the Senate vote takes place next week?

Otto Reich, Former United States Ambassador to Venezuela and Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs

Wikileaks Controversy

Time: 8:00

The WikiLeaks controversy continues to reveal diplomatic secrets involving several Latin American countries. This Sunday, the former United States Ambassador to Venezuela, Otto Reich, comes to Al Punto to speak about his own documents that were released. He also analyzes other revelations regarding Venezuela, Honduras and Cuba. How can the relationship between countries be affected by this type of exposure? Is the United States in danger because of these leaks or is this actually beneficial? How can this be avoided in the future? Should anything be left in secret? And how should the United States proceed with this investigation?

Rountable Participants:

Carlos Chirinos

Correspondent, BBC

Rebeca Logan

Correspondent, Independent Journalist

Wikileaks Scandal, Dream Act

== =12/19/10= = =

Dream Act Special Segment

Senate vote on the "Dream Act"

Time: 6:00

This weekend, the Senate is likely to vote on the Dream Act legislation that passed the House of Representatives with a vote of 216 to 198 on December 8, which gave many undocumented students hope for a legal future. Last night, Senator Harry Reid filed cloture on the legislation. Will the Senate reach the 60 votes needed to approve this bill?

Adrian Lamo, Former Computer Hacker

Wikileaks Scandal

Time: 6:00

Former computer hacker - who broke into *The New York Times* computer system in 2002 - Adrian Lamo contacted the authorities after army intelligence officer Bradley Manning allegedly boasted to him about his involvement in the WikiLeaks scandal. For some he is a hero and for others a traitor. In an exclusive interview with Jorge Ramos he addresses his decision to denounce Manning to the FBI. He also reveals why he could not risk putting lives in danger by remaining silent. What does he advise individuals and big companies who want to prevent hackers from accessing sensitive data?

Rountable Participants:

Ann Hoyt

Correspondent, Grupo Radio Centro

Manuel Corao

Managing Editor, Venezuela al Dia

Enabling Act in Venezuela, Wikileaks Scandal, Dream Act

== =12/26/10= = =

SPECIAL EDITION- YEAR IN REVIEW

Census 2010

Time: 1:30

The U.S. population grew over 308 million according to the latest Census report. California is the largest state with a population of 37.2 million. How will these new figures affect the presidential and congressional elections in 2012? Which political party will benefit from the redistricting process? How is the Hispanic population reflected in the new face of America?

Congressman-Elect Francisco "Quico" Canseco, (R-TX); and Congressman-Elect David Rivera, (R-FL)
New Hispanic Republican Representatives

Time: 4:00

The 112th United States Congress will convene in Washington, D.C. on January 5th with five new Hispanic Republican Representatives and one new Hispanic Republican Senator. After the midterm elections, Jorge Ramos interviewed two of the new faces who will be part of this congress, Francisco "Quico" Canseco and David Rivera. What will their agendas reflect in the next two years? Will immigration be part of their priorities?

Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez, (D-CA); and Congressman Raul Grijalva, (D-AZ)

Heated Races

Time: 5:00

These two Democrats made headlines because they were involved in heated races to maintain their seats in congress. They were both incumbents with years of experience and felt the pressure of the Republicans during the November elections. Congressman Raul Grijalva and Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez fought arduously for every vote and succeeded specifically with the Hispanic community's help. This Sunday on Al Punto, watch a recap of the most outstanding portions of their interviews. How do they think these next two years will play out with a House of Representatives led by a Republican majority?

Governor Jan Brewer, (R-AZ)

SB 1070 Law

Time: 7:00

Without a doubt, the enactment of SB1070 was among the most controversial news of 2010. The signing of this legislation in April by Governor Brewer made Arizona ground zero for people on both sides of the issue. She granted her first Spanish media interview to Univision's Al Punto in September and expressed her sentiments on being called a racist. What were her reasons for signing the law?

Roundtable Participants:

Luis Megid

San Francisco Correspondent, Noticiero Univision

Ricardo Arambarri

Correspondent, Primer Impacto

Haiti Earthquake, SB 1070 Law, Chile Miners Rescue

=====END OF DECEMBER REPORTS=====

Yenlys Hernandez

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From: Rosyris Silva-Nazario
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 7:12 PM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC REPORTS-NOTICIERO UNIVISION 6:30 PM-DECEMBER 2010- PART 1

FCC REPORTS NETWORK NEWS 6:30PM

DEC.1 - DEC. 15 PART 1

12/01/10

DREAM ACT, WHAT'S GOING ON LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC PKG 2:30

Late last night, Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) filed a new version of the DREAM Act with the aim of attracting broader support for DREAM to get the requisite 60 votes to pass the Senate. With the filing of this new bill, the anticipated date for bringing DREAM to a vote will be delayed. The earliest Reid could file a cloture motion on the new bill would be this coming Thursday. After waiting out the requisite 30 hours post-cloture, it could "ripen" over the weekend, and effectively come up for a vote on Monday at the earliest. The new version addresses many of the concerns raised by Republicans and tightens the restrictions on eligibility in several respects. Among other changes, the new version does the following: Excludes from eligibility those with certain criminal convictions, such as for offenses punishable by a maximum term of more than 1 year (felony) or 3 misdemeanors.

DREAM ACT SIDEBAR JAIME GARCIA / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA PKG 2:08

A new report from the Center for Immigration Studies examines the costs and likely impact of the DREAM Act currently being considered by Congress. The act offers permanent legal status to illegal immigrants up to age 35, who arrived in the United States before age 16, provided they complete two years of college. Under the act, beneficiaries would receive in-state tuition. Given the low income of illegal immigrants, most can be expected to attend state schools, with a cost to taxpayers in the billions of dollars. As both funds and slots are limited at state universities and community colleges, the act may reduce the educational opportunities available to U.S. citizens.

FLORIDA LAW SIMILAR TO SB1070 VO: 24

A port security initiative has led to the indictment of 10 people in an international drug smuggling ring, including six Miami longshoremen who used their access to unload the cocaine, heroin and marijuana, federal officials said Wednesday. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton said the case serves to highlight the

work of 21 multi-agency task forces around the country, led by ICE, focused on disrupting large-scale criminal activity at seaports and border entry points nationwide. It's particularly important, he said, to root out corrupt employees and government officials who help smugglers, illicit arms dealers, money launderers and possibly even terrorists move around the world. "The system must have integrity. Internal corruption of any kind cannot be tolerated," Morton said at a news conference with other South Florida law enforcement officials. "Our ports are open for business, but only for legitimate business."

UNEMPLOYMENT EXT IN STALEMATE
LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
PKG 2:07

Members of the president's deficit commission will begin weighing in on a controversial plan being presented by the panel's co-chairmen today. It suggests reducing Social Security benefits, raising the retirement age, curtailing tax breaks and other politically explosive ideas for getting the national debt under control. Concern over the national debt means millions of out-of-work Americans are losing unemployment benefits, which expired at midnight after Congress failed to pass an extension for another year. The extension would have cost 12 billion dollars---Republicans argued other cuts should make up for the increased spending.

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11/2/10

DREAM ACT LATEST
LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC
PKG 2:16

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano is urging Congress to allow certain foreign-born young people who were illegally brought to the U.S. as children to become legal residents. She says it would help her department focus on deporting immigrants with criminal records. The Senate failed in September to pass what's known as the DREAM Act. It's unclear whether Congress will vote on it again before the year ends. The bill would apply to immigrants who arrived in the U.S. before age 16, have been here at least five years and have a U.S. high school diploma or the equivalent. It would let them become U.S. residents after they've spent two years in college or the military.

SCHOOL LUNCH VOTE
LOURDES DEL RIO / MIAMI, FLORIDA
PKG 2:02

The U.S. House of Representatives passed Thursday and sent to President Barack Obama a bill that boosts funding for the school lunch program by \$4.5 billion through 2020 and bans "junk" food from school buildings. Backers said it would be the first real

increase in reimbursement rates for schools in 30 years and a step toward healthier meals. Obama was expected to sign the bill, which the Senate passed in August.

TAX CUT VOTES

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:04

A critical compromise to head off a year-end tax increase for millions of Americans took shape in private talks between the White House and congressional Republicans Thursday, and an extension of unemployment benefits appeared likely to become part of any deal. Democrats sought to expand the package with other provisions that officials said would accelerate the nation's sluggish economic recovery. They included a tax break providing as much as \$400 for individual working people and \$800 for couples -- even if they pay nothing to the IRS.

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12/03/10

CAMERAS FOR CARS

LOURDES DE RIO / MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:00

Backup cameras could become more common in future vehicles. The government is proposing new rules aimed at improving rear visibility standards for cars. The Transportation Department is concerned about children being backed over by unsuspecting drivers. Most carmakers will meet the requirements by installing rear-mounted video cameras and in-vehicle displays. The plan is expected to be completed next year and will be phased in during the 2012- 2014 model years. The government estimates nearly 300 people are killed and 18,000 injured each year because of backovers. Nearly half the deaths involve children under age 5.

ACLU HISPANIC DIRECTOR

JAIME GARCIA / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:03

Civil rights attorney Hector Villagra will succeed Ramona Ripston as executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, the organization announced Monday. Villagra, the group's legal director, identified an increasingly anti-immigrant environment as the ACLU's biggest challenge in the defense of individual rights. He is becoming the first hispanic director of that organization. The pkg explained the challenges that ACLU will face, immigration SB1070 in AZ and other similar laws in other states, racial profiling. How are they facing and will face the upcoming problems.

GOP GETTING ORGANIZED

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:13

Hispanics are working to reach hispanis voters through different forms like realizing forums and through websites with info that could help them as immigrants.

AZ DROP HOUSE

VO :19

Authorities in Phoenix say 10 children have been rescued from human smugglers who threatened to rape and kill some of them if their parents didn't pay more money for their safe return. The children range in age from 2 to 17 and were smuggled from Mexico, El Salvador and Guatemala. They were being held against their will at a drop house in Phoenix.

SENATE TAX CUT PLANS

VO :14

Vice President Joe Biden Friday urged the U.S. Senate to extend tax cuts for middle-class Americans, following the example of a politically charged vote by the House of Representatives earlier this week. Biden addressed reporters at the White House during a meeting with Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and budget director Jack Lew, who are leading talks with congressional leaders on a deal to extend Bush-era tax cuts that expire at the end of the year.

NEW JOBLESS DATA

LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:01

U.S. employment increased far less than expected in November and the jobless rate jumped to a seven-month high of 9.8 percent, dampening hopes for a self-sustaining economic recovery. Nonfarm payrolls rose 39,000, with private hiring gaining only 50,000, the Labor Department said. However, overall employment for September and October was revised to show 38,000 more jobs than previously estimated.

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12/4/10 (Saturday 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

MARCH REFORM IMMIGRATION

JORGE HERNÁNDEZ/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:44

Thousands of South Florida residents marched for immigration reform in an event sponsored by South Florida churches.

OBAMA USA-TAXES/SENATE

VO: 32

Democratic measures to extend tax cuts for most Americans, but not additional low rates for the wealthiest, failed in the U.S. Senate Saturday, as Republicans and some Democrats blocked the plans. The two Democratic plans to renew low tax rates for individual income up to \$200,000 and up to \$1 million both failed in procedural votes,

as Republicans argued that low tax rates for the wealthiest should also be extended. "It's not that we want to punish wealthy people," said Democratic Senator Charles Schumer, who had proposed extending the tax rates for those earning up to \$1 million. "But they are doing fine and they are not going to spend the money and stimulate the economy." No Republicans backed the Democratic proposals, and a few Democrats voted against them. The rare Saturday votes were expected to fail, but Democrats wanted to show that they didn't support an extension of the lower rates for higher-income individuals.

KIDS EATING DISORDERS

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ/ NEW YORK, NY

PKG 1:58

At the same time that obesity rates are on the rise, a growing number of children in the US under the age of 12 are also struggling with eating disorders, according to research released Monday by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Between 1999 and 2006, the number of youngsters hospitalized with eating disorders increased by 119 percent, according to the research, authored by Dr. David Rosen, a professor of pediatrics, internal medicine and psychiatry at University of Michigan. The research also showed that the long-held belief that patients suffering from severe anorexia or bulimia are affluent, white and female is changing. Both boys and minorities are experiencing eating disorders at increasing rates. "We are seeing a lot more eating disorders than we used to and we are seeing it in people we didn't associate with eating disorders in the past -- a lot of boys, little kids, people of color and those with lower socioeconomic backgrounds," said report Rosen. "We wanted people to understand eating disorders are equal-opportunity disorders."

BOTOX HEADACHES

VO: 22

According to a recent University Of California, San Francisco study delivered in a presentation at the American Society of Dermatologic Surgery meeting (held November 2-5, 2000), Richard Glogau, MD, UCSF professor of dermatology, reported that 75 percent of patients in his case study experienced four to six months of Migraine relief following injections of Botox® (botulinum toxin A derived from bacteria) to muscles of the face and head. Glogau's small study of 24 patients adds weight to previous reports that botulinum toxin A can relieve Migraines. Since 1992, Botox®, the same bacteria that causes deadly food poisoning, has been used in purified and diluted form to temporarily paralyze the muscles that bring the eye brows together, thereby eliminating wrinkles in this region. practice injected with botulinum toxin A in the upper third of the face for treatment of cosmetic frown lines (who coincidentally suffered from Migraines) have reported the added benefit of Migraine relief.

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12/5/10 (Sunday 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

TAX CUTS McCoNNELL

VO: 28

The Senate Republican leader says it's become clear now that taxes will not be raised for anyone during the current economic downturn. Sen. Mitch McConnell's assessment comes a day after Senate Republicans voted down Democratic efforts to limit any extension of the Bush-era tax cuts for the top-earning Americans. President Barack Obama then signaled a willingness to give in to Republican demands that the tax cuts that expire at the end of the year be extended at all levels. McConnell, R-Ky., tells NBC's "Meet the Press" that the question on tax cuts is how long they might be extended. On the issue of aid to jobless Americans, McConnell says he believes that unemployment compensation will be extended again.

AIRPORT SECURITY BILL

VO: 17

A New York senator wants to make it illegal for anyone to distribute or record images produced by full-body scanners at airports. U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer introduced a bill Sunday that calls for punishing anyone who misuses full-body scan images by up to a year in prison. They could also face fines of up to \$100,000. Privacy advocates say there are insufficient safeguards to ensure that the revealing images produced by the machines remain private. The X-ray scans from the machines can see through people's clothing. The Transportation Security Administration says the images cannot be stored, transmitted or printed and they are deleted after use. Passengers can opt instead for a pat-down that includes the crotch and chest.

CREDIT CARDS USE DURING HOLIDAYS

JAIME GARCÍA/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:22

More shoppers are expected to stop using credit cards this holiday season, paying for their purchases with debit cards or cash. It's a great approach for consumers in a tough economy because they'll spend only what they have on hand, making it easier to stay within a budget. Research shows a mere 16.3% of shoppers paid with a credit card during the past Black Friday weekend. That's nearly half of the 30.9% who did so last year, according to America's Research Group, which tracks consumer behavior.

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12/06/10

TAX CUTS-JOBLESS BENEFITS

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG : 1:47

An outline of a bipartisan economic package is emerging that would temporarily extend the Bush-era tax rates for all taxpayers, while extending jobless benefits for millions of Americans. Differences remained over details, including White House demands for middle- and low-income tax credits. But the White House expressed

optimism Monday, raising the possibility of a deal in Congress by the end of the week. "They are making progress," said White House spokesman Bill Burton. "The president is confident that within the next couple of days or so we'll find a way to extend tax cuts to middle class families and do some other things that the president thinks are important, helping to grow the economy and create jobs." Questions remained about how many concessions Obama could extract from Republicans in exchange for extending current tax rates for high earners, a proposal he opposed. But without action, lawmakers face the prospect of delivering a tax hike to all taxpayers at the end of the year, when the current rates expire and revert to higher pre-2001 and 2003 levels. Negotiations between the Obama administration and a bipartisan group of lawmakers centered on a two-year extension of current rates.

APELATION PROPOSITION. 8

VO: 24

The fight over California's same-sex marriage ban reached the next legal level Monday when it went before a federal appeals court during a nationally televised hearing in San Francisco. A line of questioning at an appeals court hearing over California's gay marriage ban suggested the three judges could issue a decision that would legalize same-sex marriage in that state but leave intact bans in other western states under the court's jurisdiction. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard nearly three hours of arguments Monday during a televised hearing that reached a nationwide audience anxious for a final decision on whether voter-approved Proposition 8 and similar same-sex marriage bans violate the U.S. Constitution. The judges appeared troubled over whether they could recognize marriage as a civil right for all same-sex couples or only those in states that already grant gays the rights of marriage without the title.

OAKLAND NEW ID 4 EVERYBODY

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:47

Oakland will soon be following in San Francisco's footsteps by offering a new municipal identification card to homeless people, immigrants and other residents who might have trouble obtaining a state identification card. But Oakland's ID card will double as an ATM debit card, the first of its kind in the country. The ATM debit card can be used to buy groceries or goods and services wherever ATM cards are welcome, allowing people without bank accounts to avoid high check-cashing fees or walking around with large amounts of cash. Councilmember Ignacio De La Fuente has been trying to get an ID card system for Oakland residents since the state rejected efforts to issue drivers licenses to illegal immigrants in 2004. The City Council voted in June 2009 to issue municipal identification cards and issued a request for proposals. On Nov. 9, the council voted to accept the bid of SF Mexico Services LLC to administer the program and issue the ID/debit cards at no cost to the city.

NEW CENSUS DATA

LOURDES DEL RÍO/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:52

Census surprise? The government provided new estimates Monday showing the U.S. population grew to somewhere between roughly 306 million and 313 million over the last decade, acknowledging uncertainty due to rapid shifts in immigration. The estimates, which are separate from the official 2010 census count, are based on a review of birth and death records as well as calculations of new immigrants as of April 1, 2010. Demographers say the range of numbers offers a rough guide to the official 2010 results that will be used to apportion House seats when they are released later this month. "For the first time, we are providing a series of demographic analysis estimates to more clearly demonstrate the uncertainty in these figures," said Census director Robert Groves.

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12/07/10

TAX CUTS FOLLOW UP**LOURDES MELUZÁ / WASHINGTON, DC****PKG 2:27**

The White House on Tuesday urged congressional Democrats to embrace a contentious tax cut plan that President Barack Obama cut with Republicans, arguing that the rank and file need to move on to other issues before the party loses control of the House in January. White House aides said Vice President Joe Biden will ask Democratic lawmakers to swallow their objections to the administration's proposed compromise with the GOP when he attends a closed luncheon with senators at the Capitol. Obama's plan would extend Bush-era tax cuts for all Americans, including the richest, while also extending unemployment benefits and reducing payroll taxes for a year. Before the GOP assumes the House majority next month, the White House wants Congress to take up ratification of a new nuclear treaty with Russia, then address the Dream Act, a measure to give young people whose parents brought them into the U.S. illegally a path to legal status. Democrats also want to vote on whether to repeal the military's policy that prevents gays from serving openly in the armed services.

DREAM ACT LATEST**LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA****PKG 2:06**

Congress is expected to vote on the Dream Act on Wednesday, providing a path to citizenship to millions of illegal immigrant youth. It's a bad precedent that uses kids, costs taxpayers and invites new amnesties. After years of failing to sell mass amnesty to voters, the open-borders lobby has turned to tugging at Americans' heartstrings, presenting treachery stories of illegal immigrants brought here as children who then bettered themselves here. Somehow legalizing this group ahead of all the other people awaiting immigration visas legally is supposed to specially benefit all of us, even though the most obvious beneficiaries are the individuals themselves. But out of guilt,

or because we "owe" them "justice," the case is being made for passing the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act. That act provides a path to citizenship for some 2.1 million illegals who have lived here continuously for five years, avoided felony convictions, came to the U.S. before they turned 16 and completed two years of college or U.S. military service within six years.

WIKILEAKS ARREST

LOURDES DEL RIO/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:55

A British judge jailed WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange on Tuesday, ordering the leader of secret-spilling website behind bars as his organization's finances came under increasing pressure. Assange showed no reaction as Judge Howard Riddle denied him bail in an extradition case that could see him sent to Sweden to face allegations of rape, molestation and unlawful coercion. Assange denies the accusations and has pledged to fight the extradition, while a spokesman for his organization said the U.S. diplomatic secrets would keep on flowing -- regardless of what happened to the group's founder. "This will not change our operation," Kristinn Hrafnsson told The Associated Press ahead of Assange's hearing. As if to underline the point, WikiLeaks released a cache of a dozen new diplomatic cables, its first publication in more than 24 hours. Assange appeared at before City of Westminster Magistrates' Court in London after turning himself in to Scotland Yard earlier Tuesday, capping months of speculation over an investigation into alleged sex crimes committed in Sweden over the summer.

TOP TEST SCORES FROM SHANGHAI STUN EDUCATORS

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ/ NEW YORK, NY

PKG 2:27

The competition among nations when it come to education is strong and wild. The country with best educated people will win in many areas, economy, science, math, etc and the test result from Shangai are a prove of that. That is why education in this country has become more the center of attention and many changes will happen so we can compete with all this nations. "Can you imagine the reaction if we told the students of Chicago that the PISA was an important international test and that America's reputation depended on them performing well?" Mr. Schneider said. "That said, China is taking education very seriously. The work ethic is amazingly strong." Why many Chinese graduates do no better than migrant workers.

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12/08/10

DREAM ACT HOUSE VOTE

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:55

INTERVIEW GABY PACHECO/ DREAMER

APROX 2:30

The House of Representatives approved a controversial measure Wednesday providing a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants who came to the United States before age 16. The "Dream Act" passed by 216-198 after sometimes heated debate. The Senate is scheduled to vote Thursday on whether to begin debate on a slightly different version of the bill. It appears unlikely backers will win the 60 votes needed in the 100-member chamber to advance the measure.

DREAM ACT REACTIONS

LILIANA ESCALANTE / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:07

Students reactin to the Dram Act bill passed on the House of Representatives.

SUPREME COURT AZ EMPLOYERS

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:52

The Supreme Court appeared likely Wednesday to sustain an Arizona law that threatens to take away the licenses of businesses that knowingly hire workers who are in the United States illegally. The justices heard arguments in a case that plunges the court into the nation's contentious debate over immigration, generally the province of the federal government.

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12/09/10

DREAM ACT SENATE VOTE POSPONED

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:25 & LIVER

The Senate moved Thursday to delay a politically charged showdown vote on legislation carving out a path to legal status for foreign-born youngsters brought to this country illegally, putting off but probably not preventing the measure's demise. Facing GOP objections, Democrats put aside the so-called Dream Act and said they'd try again to advance it before year's end. They're short of the 60 votes needed to do so, however, and critics in both parties quickly said they won't change their minds in the waning days of the Democratic-controlled Congress.

ACTIVISTS REACTIONS ON DREAM ACT VOTE

JAIME GARCIA/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:05

Jaime will have the students calling the Senators that are not willing to vote for the Dream Act to try to convence them to do so. Who are their targeting to get them to change their minds and vote in favor of it.

DON'T ASK DONT TELL LATEST

VO :19

Republicans blocked a last-ditch effort in the Senate to lift the military's ban on openly gay troops on Thursday, dealing a major blow to gay rights groups and making it unlikely Congress could repeal "don't ask, don't tell" any time soon. The 57-40 vote fell three short of the 60 needed to overcome procedural hurdles to lift the 17-year-old ban. Sen. Susan Collins of Maine was the lone Republican voting to advance the bill, and Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia was the only Democrat to vote against it.

TAX DEAL NOT A DONE DEAL

LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:59

Senate Democrats Thursday unveiled a tax bill that largely reflects the deal hammered out by President Barack Obama and Republicans earlier in the week, and adds an additional subsidy for ethanol. The measure would broadly extend income tax breaks for two years and also includes an extension of jobless benefits and other tax breaks. It does not include an extension of the Build America bond program that Democrats had sought.

SMOKING STUDY

LOURDES DEL RIO/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:53

The latest US Surgeon General's report, released today, finds that even limited exposure to tobacco or secondhand smoke can lead to cardiovascular and other health problems. The report, the latest update to its first study in 1964 highlighting tobacco dangers, says that even an occasional cigarette or exposure to secondhand smoke is harmful. Surgeon General, Regina Benjamin says the latest research, "substantiates the evidence that there is no safe level of exposure to cigarette smoke." Lourdes will talk to a doctor and smokers that can't stop smoking and why.

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12/10/10

HOUSE REWORKED TAX CUTS

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:07

The U.S. House of Representatives will likely pass next week, with some changes, the framework of President Barack Obama's plan to extend tax cuts, a senior Democratic aide said Friday. The aide said before they vote, House Democrats aim to tighten estate tax provisions that are in a proposed Senate version of the plan. The House will likely begin consideration of the measure within days of its anticipated Senate passage next week, the aide said.

UNDOCUMENTED DRIVERS

LUIS MEGID / OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:57

A estimated 4.5 million illegal immigrants nationwide are driving regularly, most without licenses, according to an analysis by The New York Times. Only three states - New Mexico, Utah and Washington - currently issue licenses without proof of legal residence in the United States. Many states have adopted tough new laws to prevent illegal immigrants from driving, while expanding immigration enforcement by the state and local police. As a result, at least 30,000 illegal immigrants who were stopped for common traffic violations in the last three years have ended up in deportation, DHS figures show.

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12/11/10 (Saturday 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

RACIAL PROFILING

JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:03

LAPD insists it's tough when investigating racial profiling by officers. Responding to criticism from the U.S. Justice Department, the watchdog for the Los Angeles Police Commission, as well as LAPD officials, this week largely defended the handling of racial profiling investigations. Nicole Bershon, the Police Commission's inspector general, is scheduled to present the civilian oversight panel Tuesday with a lengthy report that evaluates how a newly formed LAPD unit investigates claims of racial profiling against officers. The review follows a warning last month from Justice Department officials to Bershon and the LAPD that both were falling short in addressing racial profiling complaints. LAPD Chief Charlie Beck is expected to present a written response to Bershon's report to the commission Tuesday. After completing sweeping reforms ordered by federal officials, the LAPD still remains under federal supervision on a handful of issues, including racial profiling, and must persuade the Justice Department that it can adequately police itself before federal scrutiny can be withdrawn.

MIAMI DREAM ACT PROTEST

ARLENA AMARO/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:36

The DREAM Act will give students brought to the United States at a young age the opportunity to gain citizenship through a college education or military service. DADT, the policy that bars gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military, has resulted in the discharge of over 13,000 service members and college students in ROTC programs for being openly gay or lesbian. "This is the fight of my lifetime, the movement of our generation, bringing equality of access and opportunity to all people," noted David Valk, Community Organizer, at SAVE Dade. "Now is time for our leaders in Congress to put our men and women in uniform ahead of petty, political infighting," adds Walker Burttschell, a USMC Veteran discharged under the DADT policy. Juan

Rodriguez, of the Florida Immigrant Coalition, stated, "No longer can we allow unjust policies in America to divide the pieces of ourselves that comprise the full greatness of who we are and all we have to give. Congress must pass the DREAM Act and Repeal DADT now!" This rally is being organized because the current generation of students and youth demand real systemic change from our leadership by enacting policies based on fairness and equality for all people.

LOS ANGELES DREAM ACT

VO: 23

MALDEF and students from the DREAM Team LA and Orange County as well as the National Day Laborer Organizing Network will hold a news conference and rally to call for the Senate to pass the DREAM Act nextweek. Labor leader Dolores Huerta, Richard Chavez, brother of Cesar Chavez and MALDEF president Thomas Saenz are expected to speak.

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12/12/10 (Sunday 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

TAX CUT SENATE VOTE

VO: 21

The Obama administration on Sunday continued to hold firm on the idea that its framework for a deal on the expiring Bush tax cuts could not be changed in truly tangible ways. "We have a framework, we have an agreement, and I don't anticipate that it's going to change greatly," White House senior adviser David Axelrod told ABC's "This Week." "There have been some changes that folks in the House were concerned about, the absence of an extension of an energy -- renewable energy tax credit. That is now included in the package. But in the main, I don't see major changes." Axelrod's resoluteness was, in part, a response to the continued howls of discontent coming from several corners of the Democratic Party.

DEBIT CARDS & HOLIDAYS

LUCÍA BURGA/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:37

This holiday season, a debit card is best used by those who don't want the perils of credit card debt. However, this does not make them any less safe from debit card fraud as well. While one is all too absorbed with Christmas shopping, fraudster can take their cue and swindle people out of their own debit card funds. To protect them and their debit card accounts from fraud, here are some safety tips to follow: In giving the debit card information, a debit card owner must make sure only the rightful person reads or hears it. It is best to write the information down on a piece of paper and when the other party has listed it down, he can retrieve the paper and keep it. Trashing it is not advisable. Once other people pick up the debit card information, they may use it for fraud. The debit card information must also be exclusive to the owner. Even family and friends must not know of it. He must also be careful as not to share the information to

his children 15 years and younger. They may not realise the importance of a debit card yet and they could carelessly share the information to others or use it themselves unguarded. Should children need to purchase something, the parents must be there to personally pay through the debit card.

GAS PRICES

VO: 29

Visit a gas pump lately? You've likely noticed prices have been rising slowly but steadily. And with people's wallets and pocketbooks already thin this holiday season its got people searching for the cheapest fuel anywhere they can find it. The holiday rush this Saturday meant a lot of shoppers on the move and lots of cars on the road. But making things not so jolly, says AAA, fast rising gas prices, and it's the Grinch for many this holiday season. AAA says prices have rises nearly 30 cents a gallon over just the last year. With the national average at \$2.97 a gallon gas prices are still cheaper in the Upstate than in other parts of the country. We found the average to be \$2.73 a gallon in the Upstate. Gas prices are the highest they've been in two years because oil prices are above \$90 a barrel. Those in the oil industry say the national average per gallon could hit the \$3 dollar mark by the new year. And as much as \$3.50 a gallon by the spring. To check the latest local and national gas price averages, you can go to AAA's special website dedicated to the issue:

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12/13/10

TOYOTA RECALL

VO: 20

Toyota Motor Corp said Monday it would recall about 110,000 of the 2011 Sienna minivans due to a risk that drivers could damage the brake system as they use the parking brake. The Sienna is an all-new model. Toyota said it was not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this issue, and that it would notify owners in January of the problem. But the fix will be delayed until replacement parts are available in February, Toyota said, when it will ask owners to bring the minivans to dealers for installation of new parts. Toyota said that in some cases drivers had damaged a bracket connected to the brake lights by pressing on the parking brake. That could cause the brake lights to stay on, or in some cases cause the vehicle's regular brake to be partially engaged at all times, causing noise and vibration.

TAX CUTS

LOURDES MELUZA- WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:09

The Democratic-led U.S. Congress will move a step closer today toward grudging approval of President Barack Obama's deal with Republicans to extend expiring tax cuts, even for the wealthiest Americans. Backers were expected to muster on the needed 60 votes in the 100-member Senate to clear a procedural hurdle, before

passage on Tuesday or Wednesday. The bill would then go to the House of Representatives for likely passage -- despite complaints from many Democrats that Obama conceded too much to Republicans. The bill would avert a Jan. 1 increase in income taxes for nearly all Americans. The package also would renew jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed and provide a one-year cut in Social Security taxes. In the Senate they start talking around 2:00 pm about the bill and then vote...cloture and final vote. The House could also vote as soon as tomorrow.

HEALTH CARE RULING

LUIS MEGID- SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:55

A U.S. judge in Virginia Monday declared a key part of President Barack Obama's landmark healthcare law unconstitutional in the first major setback on an issue that will likely end up at the Supreme Court. U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson, appointed to the bench by President George W. Bush in 2002, backed the state of Virginia's argument that Congress exceeded its authority by requiring Americans to start buying health insurance in 2014 or face a fine. But he declined to invalidate the entire healthcare law, a small victory for Obama, whose administration will appeal the decision. The law is a cornerstone of Obama's presidency, aiming to expand health insurance to cover millions of uninsured Americans while trying to curb costs. Obama told the Tampa television station WFLA he was confident the courts would uphold the healthcare act. Healthcare insurers, which include companies such as Aetna Inc and WellPoint Inc, largely opposed Obama's reforms but say the individual mandate is critical so additional customers can offset greater industry costs.

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12/14/10

USA HEALTH CARE APPEAL

VO: 24

The Justice Department said Tuesday it intends to appeal to a U.S. appeals court a ruling by a judge in Virginia declaring a key part of President Barack Obama's landmark healthcare law unconstitutional. Department spokeswoman Tracy Schmalzer said the Virginia lawsuit at issue was one of a number of cases concerning the law pending before courts around the country, including four in which challenges were unsuccessful. "Virginia's suit is based on a state statute that is not applicable nationwide, and the department believes this case should follow the ordinary course of allowing the courts of appeals to hear it first so the issues and arguments can be fully developed before the Supreme Court decides whether to consider it," she said in a statement. Some Republican opponents have said the case should go next to the Supreme Court, bypassing the appeals court. By going through the appeals court, it could take more than a year for the issue to end up at the Supreme Court.

TAX CUT LATEST

FERNANDO PIZARRO- WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 1:41

President Barack Obama's tax plan got a boost on Tuesday when a top Democrat in the House , where the plan faces its stiffest resistance, said there were "compelling reasons" to back it. The bullish comments from Democratic Majority Leader Steny Hoyer signaled opposition is dissipating among Democrats who believe that Obama's \$858 billion tax deal, brokered with the opposition Republicans, is too generous to the wealthy. The Senate cleared a key procedural hurdle on Monday, with a bipartisan group of 83 of the 100 members voting in favor of moving the bill forward. A vote in the Senate was expected late on Tuesday or shortly after midnight on Wednesday, with the House taking up the measure during the day Wednesday. The plan extends all Bush-era individual tax rates, prevents a spike in taxes on capital gains and dividends and renews long-term insurance for the jobless, among other measures. Obama and most of his fellow Democrats had pushed for extension of the tax cuts enacted by former President George W. Bush only on household income of up to \$250,000. But Democrats lost control of the House and saw their margins shrink in the Senate in the Nov. 2 elections, pushing Obama to strike the deal before the bolstered Republicans take more power in January.

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12/15/10

SENATE VOTE TAX CUTS

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:13

The Senate Wednesday overwhelmingly passed a sweeping tax package that would save millions of Americans thousands of dollars in higher taxes while also reducing their Social Security taxes and extending jobless benefits. President Barack Obama swiftly urged the House to pass the \$858 billion bill without changes, a slap at Democratic liberals eager to toughen a part of the measure that permits up to \$10 million to pass to heirs estate tax-free. A wide array of tax cuts enacted under President George W. Bush is scheduled to expire on Jan. 1 -- just two weeks away -- affecting taxpayers at every income level. The bill passed by the Senate, 81-19, would extend those cuts for two years. Obama urged quick action in the House. "I know there are different aspects of this plan to which members of Congress on both sides of the aisle object. That's the nature of compromise," the president said. "But we worked to negotiate an agreement that's a win for middle-class families and a win for our economy, and we can't afford to let it fall victim to either delay or defeat."

HOUSE REPEALS "DONT ASK DON'T TELL"

VO: 18

The House has voted to repeal the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that has stifled the service of gays in the military. The strong House vote to end the policy that since 1993 has barred openly gay people from military service shifts the debate to the Senate.

There, Democratic leaders are trying to squeeze in a vote in the final hours of this session of Congress. President Barack Obama and others trying to repeal the policy are anxious to get a vote this year. Their concern is that Republicans, who take over the House and gain strength in the Senate next year, will move the issue to the legislative back burner.

DREAM ACT MOMENTUM

VO: 20

Last night, leaders of the Reform Immigration FOR America campaign, the United We Dream Coalition, their partners and their congressional champions joined on a massive telephone call of more than 10,000 to discuss the prospects for DREAM in the U.S. Senate. Senate Majority Whip Richard Durbin (D-IL) was joined by Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Representative Luis Gutierrez (D-IL), and United We DREAM student leader Gaby Pacheco to highlight the massive organizing that has been accomplished and what the Senate leadership plans to move the legislation forward. In the last two weeks, the Reform Immigration FOR America campaign has generated more than 200,000 calls into Congress. Now, after the House passage, the campaign has pivoted with laser-like focus on the U.S. Senate, the next hurdle for the legislation. This most recent surge of volunteer activism has grown out of new grassroots infrastructure created in the last year through this campaign, which drew more than 200,000 activists to Washington, DC in March 2010, and had a decisive impact in several statewide and congressional races in the 2010 midterm elections

US SUES BP & 7 OTHERS

VO: 19

The U.S. Justice Department on Wednesday sued BP and eight other companies in the Gulf oil spill disaster in an effort to recover (b) billions of dollars from the largest offshore spill in US history. The Obama administration's lawsuit asks that the companies be held liable without limitation under the Oil Pollution Act for all removal costs and damages caused by the oil spill, including damages to natural resources. The lawsuit also seeks civil penalties under the Clean Water Act. "We intend to prove these violations caused or contributed to the massive oil spill," Attorney General Eric Holder told a news conference in Washington. The amount of damages and the extent of injuries sustained by the United States as a result of the Deepwater Horizon Spill are not yet fully known, the lawsuit states. An explosion that killed 11 workers at BP's Macondo well last April led to oil spewing from the company's undersea well - more than 200 (m) million gallons in all by the government's estimate. BP disputes the figure.

STEM CELL BREAKTHROUGH

JAIME GARCIA/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:55

Doctors in Berlin, working with an American patient with both HIV and leukemia, have declared in a peer-reviewed journal that they believe they have cured both illnesses. It would be the first time an HIV patient has been cured. The procedure is creating a

buzz in the HIV academic community in the United States. Experts here call the development encouraging, but warn that years of work remain before the treatment could lead to a general therapy against HIV. 'Cured' is a strong word. But this is very encouraging," said Dr. David Scadden, co-director of the Harvard University Stem Cell Institute. "From all indications, there was no residual virus. It's as good an outcome as one could hope."

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

From: Rosyris Silva-Nazario
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 7:16 PM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC REPORTS- NOTICIERO UNIVISION- DECEMBER 2010- PART 2

FCC REPORTS NETWORK NEWS 6:30PM
DEC.16 - DEC. 31 PART 2

12/16/10

HEALTH CARE REFORM LATEST

VO: 20

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott today appeared in federal district court, where he represented the State of Texas during legal arguments over the constitutionality of the Obama Administration's health care law. Last March, Attorney General Abbott and a bipartisan coalition of state officials from across the country challenged the constitutionality of the controversial Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Today's oral argument was the final court proceeding before U.S. District Judge Roger Vinson is expected to rule on the law's constitutionality sometime next year.

TAX CUT LATEST

LOURDES MELUZA- WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:09

The White House is pushing hard for the House to pass a tax package Thursday that would save millions of Americans thousands of dollars in higher taxes beginning Jan. 1. Some Democratic lawmakers are seeking changes to the package that could derail the bill. Democratic leaders are staying hands-off, leaving it to President Barack Obama to persuade fellow Democrats not to put the package at risk by imposing a higher estate tax than he negotiated with Republicans. The Senate overwhelmingly passed the package Wednesday, with broad bipartisan support. Obama is urging the House to pass it without changes, so he can sign it into law before a sweeping series of tax cuts expire at the end of December. House Democratic leaders plan to pass the bill Thursday evening. But first, they will hold a vote on imposing the higher estate tax, backed by rebellious Democrats who say the package is too generous to the wealthy.

RECESSION IMPACT ON IMMIGRATION
JAIME GARCIA- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
PKG 2:00

During 2009, the U.S. economy was in the throes of the Great Recession, and immigration had become a highly polarized topic of debate, reflected by a rise in anti-immigrant sentiment. Immigration was high prior to the Great Recession which officially commenced in December 2007. While immigration seemed to come to a standstill in 2008, an increase between 2008 and 2009 may be reflective of the first signs of the comeback of the national economy. At the very least, the demand for immigrant workers seems to have reappeared, though immigrant earnings are diminished in the post-recessionary period. Despite the national trend, metropolitan markets have experienced the recession in different ways, causing shifts in immigrant settlement patterns, at least for the time being.

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12/17/10

BANK OF AMERICA FRAUD
VO: 20

Bank of America Corp. violated Arizona's consumer fraud law by misleading consumers who tried to reduce their mortgage payments so they could keep their homes, state Attorney General Terry Goddard said Friday as he filed a civil lawsuit against the bank. The bank also violated the terms of a 2009 consent agreement requiring the bank's Countrywide mortgage subsidiary to implement a loan modification program, the lawsuit alleges. Hundreds of homeowners kept making their mortgage payments because Bank of America repeatedly assured them their loan was being modified, he said. Instead, many lost their homes anyway.

NEBRASKA IMMIGRANT TUITION
VO: 20

A Nebraska judge on Friday threw out a lawsuit challenging a state law that allows some illegal immigrants to pay in-state college tuition. The lawsuit filed in January on behalf of six Nebraska residents claimed their taxes were being used to support the state's immigration-tuition law in violation of federal law. The lawsuit named the University of Nebraska Board of Regents and other state college boards as defendants and asked the judge to prevent schools officials from following the law. Jefferson County District Judge Paul Korslund said in his ruling that the Nebraska residents who filed the suit should have first gone to the federal government to ask it to challenge the law before such a case could be heard in the state courts.

TAX CUT EXTENSION
LOURDES DEL RIO- MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:20

President Barack Obama signed into law a huge, holiday-season tax bill extending cuts for all Americans on Friday, saluting a new spirit of political compromise as Republicans applauded and liberals seethed. The benefits range from tax cuts for millionaires and the middle class to longer-term help for the jobless. The most significant tax legislation in nearly a decade will avert big increases that would have hit millions of people starting in two weeks on New Year's Day. Obama said as a rare bipartisan assembly of lawmakers looked on at the White House. The package retains Bush-era tax rates for all taxpayers, including the wealthiest Americans, a provision Obama and congressional liberals opposed. It also offers 13 months of extended benefits to the unemployed and attempts to stimulate the economy with a Social Security payroll tax cut for all workers.

DREAM ACT LATEST

LOURDES MELUZA- WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 3:27

The U.S. Senate is expected to cast a crucial vote Saturday on the DREAM Act, which would pave the way for possibly hundreds of thousands of undocumented immigrants to legalize their status. And both opponents and supporters of the DREAM Act cranked up their arguments Friday, with Republican congressional leaders sending out a long list of reasons why the measure would be harmful for the country, and Democrats countering that not passing it would be detrimental. Even Department of Homeland Security officials, including the heads of the main immigration agencies, joined the down-to-the-wire blitz, urging the passage of the DREAM Act. Thursday night, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., scheduled the vote on the highly controversial measure, which would make undocumented immigrants younger than 30 years of age eligible for conditional legal status if they meet a strict set of criteria. The so-called cloture vote would not be on the bill itself, but on whether to move toward a debate and then vote on the bill. Also on the schedule for a cloture vote is the bill that would repeal the ban on gays serving openly in the military.

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12/18/10 (Saturday, 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

DREAM ACT BLOCKED BY SENATE

FERNANDO PIZARRO/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:10

Senate Republicans on Saturday doomed an effort that would have given hundreds of thousands of young illegal immigrants a path to legal status if they enrolled in college or joined the military. Sponsors of the "Dream Act" fell five votes short of the 60 they needed to break through largely GOP opposition and win its enactment before Republicans take over the House and narrow Democrats' majority in the Senate next month. President Barack Obama called the vote "incredibly disappointing." "A minority of senators prevented the Senate from doing what most Americans

understand is best for the country," Obama said. "There was simply no reason not to pass this important legislation." Dozens of immigrants wearing graduation mortarboards watched from the Senate's visitors gallery, disappointment on their faces, as the 55-41 vote was announced.

-PKG 2:30REAX TO DREAM ACT - LOS ÁNGELES, CALIFORNIA

-CLARISSA MARTINEZ , NCLR DIRECTOR

3:00 INTERVIEW WASHINGTON DC

-GABY PACHECO / STUDENT, ACTIVIST PRO "DREAM ACT"

3:00 INTERVIEW / WASHINGTON, DC

Dozens of immigrants wearing graduation mortarboards watched from the Senate's visitors gallery, disappointment on their faces, as the 55-41 vote was announced. "This is a dark day in America," said Jorge-Mario Cabrera, a spokesman for the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights in Los Angeles. "The Senate has ... thrown under the bus the lives and hard work of thousands and thousands of students who love this country like their own home, and, in fact, they have no other home." Hispanic activists and immigrant advocates had looked to the bill as a down payment on what they had hoped would be broader action by Obama and the Democratic-controlled Congress to give the nation's 10 million to 12 million illegal immigrants a chance at legal status. It targeted the most sympathetic of the millions of illegal immigrants -- those brought to the United States as children, who in many cases consider themselves American, speak English and have no ties to or family living in their native countries.

DONT ASK, DONT TELL

VO: 19

-- Word that the world's largest military power will allow gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military brought strong and swift reaction Saturday, with supporters declaring a civil rights milestone and detractors insisting it would weaken and divide the armed forces. In New York, home to one of the nation's largest gay communities and a gay pride parade whose grand marshal this year was an openly gay, discharged serviceman, 28-year-old Cassandra Melnikow glanced at a news ticker in Times Square announcing the repeal and said: "Excellent! It's about time." "I don't see what difference (sexual orientation) makes in the fighting military," said Melnikow, a public health researcher. "What's the big deal?" President Barack Obama had made repealing "don't ask, don't tell" a campaign promise in 2008, and rounding up a filibuster-proof majority in the Senate was a historic victory for him. By the time President Bill Clinton proposed allowing gays to serve in the military in 1993, they had been explicitly barred from military service since World War I. Foes of lifting the ban argued that the military shouldn't be used to expand the rights of gays and that allowing them to serve openly would hurt troop morale and a unit's ability to fight -- the same arguments used against women and blacks

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12/19/10 (Sunday , 6:30pm & 11:30pm)

DREAM ACT REAX

LILIANA ESCALANTE/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:37

-- Emboldened by months of phone calls to lawmakers, hunger strikes and sit-ins, a group of college students and graduates in Los Angeles say they plan to take their fight for immigrant rights to the states and the 2012 election after Senate Republicans blocked a key piece of legislation. But it won't be easy. The Senate vote Saturday to toss the Proposal that would have granted young illegal immigrants a route to legal status dealt a harsh blow to student activists who will face an even steeper uphill battle in the next Congress. Immigrants see rough times ahead in the next two years, with many Republicans vowing to push for tougher immigration enforcement, but they also say Latino voters are getting fed up with lawmakers at a time when they are accruing greater political clout. "This is a movement," said Nancy Meza, a 23-year-old illegal immigrant and college graduate who wore a University of California, Los Angeles sweatshirt as she watched the televised vote. "We don't have lobbyists and paid staff. It's a movement by students."

PENTAGON DONT ASK DONT TELL

VO: 22

The debate over gays in the military has been settled with a historic decision to allow them to serve openly, but big questions lie ahead about how and when the change will take place, how troops will accept it and whether it will hamper the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan and Iraq. President Barack Obama is expected to sign into law this week the legislation that passed the Senate on Saturday, an act some believe will carry social implications as profound as President Harry S. Truman's 1948 executive order on racial equality in the military. The new law probably won't go into practice for months. Obama and his top advisers must first certify that repealing the 1993 ban on gays serving openly will not damage U.S. troops' ability to fight. That ban, known as "don't ask, don't tell," has allowed gays to serve, but only if they kept quiet about their sexual orientation.

BIDEN DEFENDS COMPROMISE ON TAX CUTS

VO: 22

Vice President Joe Biden is defending the Obama administration's willingness to extend tax cuts for the top earners despite earlier promises that he and the president would fight against the Bush-era policy. Biden says the White House decided to compromise with Republicans so taxes didn't rise for the middle class. He says the administration will fight to end the upper-income tax cuts in two years, when the extension that President Barack Obama signed on Friday expires. Biden tells NBC's "Meet the Press" that he and Obama still find the tax cuts for upper-income earners "morally troubling."

MEDICAID CUTS

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:57

Across the country, state lawmakers have taken harsh actions to try to rein in the budget-busting costs of the health care program that serves 58 million poor and disabled Americans. Some states have cut payments to doctors, paid bills late and trimmed benefits such as insulin pumps, obesity surgery and hospice care. In California, Medicaid no longer pays for many adult dental services. But it still pays for extractions, that is, tooth-pulling. The unintended consequence: Medicaid patients tell dentists to pull teeth that could be saved. "The roots are fine. The tooth could be saved with a root canal," said Dr. Nagaraj Murthy, who practices in Compton, Calif. "I had a patient yesterday. I said we could do a root canal. He said, `No, it's hurting. Go ahead and pull it. I don't have the money.'" Murthy recently pulled an elderly woman's last tooth, but Medicaid no longer pays for dentures. "Elderly patients suffer the most," Murthy said. "They're walking around with no teeth." ...

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12/20/10

CALIFORNIA WEATHER

GABRIELA TEISSIER- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:39

A storm walloped parts of California with up to 7 inches of rain and spawned minor flooding, mudslides and road closures Monday, but forecasters warn the bad weather's real impact may be yet to come. More than 3 additional inches of rain expected across the region by Wednesday will hit already saturated hillsides, increasing the possibility of slides and flash floods, said Stuart Seto of the National Weather Service. The relentless rains that pounded California through the weekend smashed rainfall records, caused numerous traffic accidents, downed trees and forced the cancellation of some horse races. The weather service said rainfall accumulation could reach 20 inches in some isolated locations by Wednesday, when the first phase of the storm is expected to pass. After a brief respite, it is forecast to return late Christmas Day.

POLITICAL REDISTRICTING DUE TO CENSUS RESULTS

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ- NEW YORK

PKG 2:34

The 2010 census report coming out Tuesday will include a boatload of good political news for Republicans and grim data for Democrats hoping to re-elect President Barack Obama and rebound from last month's devastating elections. The population continues to shift from Democratic-leaning Rust Belt states to Republican-leaning Sun Belt states, a trend the Census Bureau will detail in its once-a-decade report to the president. Political clout shifts, too, because the nation must reapportion the 435 House districts to make them roughly equal in population, based on the latest census figures. The biggest gainer will be Texas, a GOP-dominated state expected to gain up

to four new House seats, for a total of 36. The chief losers New York and Ohio, each projected by nongovernment analysts to lose two seats were carried by Obama in 2008 and are typical of states in the Northeast and Midwest that are declining in political influence.

DREAM INTERRUPTED: AFTER THE DREAM ACT

LUIS MEGID- SAN FRANCISCO, CA

PKG 1:52

A major immigration reform bill, known as the DREAM Act, failed to gain passage in the Senate on Saturday (12/18). The DREAM Act would have provided American citizenship to people who arrived illegally in the US as minors, have demonstrated good moral character, have been in the US for at least five years prior to the bill's passage, and who have graduated from the US high school system, with an opportunity to gain conditional permanent residency if they complete two years in the military or two years at a four-year institution of higher education. The DREAM Act was originally introduced in the Senate in 2001, and supporters vow it will be brought to a vote again soon

PROPOSALS FOR RESCUING SCHOOLS

JAIME GARCIA-COMPTON, CALIFORNIA

PKG 3:01

Effort to convert Compton school to charter draws fire Some are withdrawing signatures given under the 'parent-trigger' law to make school a charter, saying they were intimidated or misled. By Howard Blume and Teresa Watanabe, Los Angeles Times Tempers flared Friday over the fate of a low-performing Compton elementary school that has become the first target of a new law allowing parents to mandate school shutdowns or charter-school conversions through a petition drive. Some parents are rescinding their signatures to convert McKinley Elementary into a charter school that would operate outside the direct control of the Compton Unified School District. Under the state's new "parent-trigger" law, which is being scrutinized nationwide, the signatures of at least half the parents at a campus are required in order to launch the changes.

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12/21/2010

TERRORISTS THREAT WARNINGS

LOURDES DEL RIO- MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:57

Attorney General Eric Holder says he's worried about terrorist attacks on the U.S. by Americans. And high on his list of concerns is the threat posed by anti-American cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, a U.S. citizen believed to be hiding in Yemen. Holder says al-Awlaki has a familiarity with the U.S. that terrorists usually lack. He says he puts him on the list of people who worry him the most, along with al-Qaida head Osama bin Laden. In

an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America," Holder said the terrorism threat is real and constant. He says he's concerned that the authorities may have missed a signal that an attack is coming. He says Americans have to be prepared for "potentially bad news."

FLOOD ALERT IN CALIFORNIA

VO: 20

Forecasters expected heavy rains across California going into Wednesday, while authorities kept a close eye on the first sign of mudslides in the wildfire-scarred foothills across the southern part of the state. So far, the inconveniences have been relatively minor: Rescuers had to pluck some stranded motorists from rain-swollen creeks. Shoppers dodged puddles while buying last-minute Christmas gifts. Disney resorts canceled a plan to shower visitors with artificial snow.

FLIGHT DELAYS DUE TO WEATHER

VO: 20

Major delays and cancellations disrupted European airports including London's Heathrow, and the Eurostar train link, leaving thousands stranded across Europe as Christmas approached. Three days after a five-inch snowfall, the icy road conditions in much of Britain also raised doubts about the delivery of Christmas gifts because many side roads were hazardous. Currys and many other major businesses have stopped taking online orders for pre-Christmas delivery because of the poor road conditions. Predicted snowfall at Heathrow did not materialize overnight, allowing cleanup crews to intensify their work, but more than half the flights at Europe's busiest international hub were expected to be canceled.

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12/22/10

CONGRESS HEALTH- 911 ATTACKS

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ- NUEVA YORK

PKG 1:57

The Senate has passed a package of health care and economic aid for people sickened by dust from the ruins of September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. The measure was passed on a voice vote with no one objecting after Democrats and Republican critics reached a compromise reducing the bill's cost from \$6.2 billion to \$4.2 billion. The bill provides free health care and compensation for lost wages and other economic losses to first-responders for the Sept. 11 terrorist attack and survivors who fell ill after being exposed to toxins from the trade center ruins. New York and New Jersey lawmakers have waged a long, bitter fight for the measure. The House was expected to vote on it later Wednesday before Congress adjourns for the year.

CALIFORNIA WEATHER

LILIANA ESCALANTE- HIGHLAND, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:55

Authorities have closed all downtown Laguna Beach streets due to extensive flooding in the area early Wednesday morning. Along with all downtown Laguna Beach streets, Laguna Canyon Road between Forest Avenue and State Route 73 and PCH between Aster Street and Legion Street are also closed. According to Lt. Jason Kravetz of the Laguna Beach Police Department, downtown Laguna Beach is under several feet of water, adding that those who work in the downtown area should not attempt to go to work.

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12/23/10

HOLIDAY HEART SYNDROME

LUIS MEGID- SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:40

The term "holiday heart syndrome" was coined in 1978 when researchers detected heart rhythm abnormalities in 24 study participants, none of whom had a history of heart disease. What they all did have was too much to drink, too fast. Since then, several studies have confirmed alcohol's heart rhythm-disturbing effects. The most common abnormal heart rhythm, atrial fibrillation, occurs when the upper heart chambers quiver instead of contracting regularly. Although it's often asymptomatic, it can lead to congestive heart failure or stroke. As the moniker suggests, holiday heart syndrome peaks on weekends and at holidays. Although alcohol alone can derail normal heart rhythms, its effects are exaggerated when mixed with caffeine. Rimmerman warned against the popular practice of mixing alcohol with energy drinks, calling it a "very bad combination."

XMASS TRAVELING

LOURDES DEL RIO- MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:57

Fair weather helped make the holiday sojourn a not-so-painful experience in much of the country Thursday, even with more people hitting the roads and skies than last year, but travelers' good luck might be running out. A storm was expected to bring a snow and ice to parts of the heartland Friday, a rare white Christmas to Nashville on Saturday, and perhaps sock swaths of the Northeast on Sunday. The AAA has expected overall travel to rise about 3 percent this year, with more than 92 million people planning to go more than 50 miles sometime between now and Jan. 2. More than 90 percent said they would be driving. The Air Transport Association was expecting 44.3 million people on U.S. flights between Dec. 16 and Jan. 5 -- up 3 percent over the same period a year ago but still below pre-recession travel volume. The average ticket price is \$421, up by 5 percent.

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12/24/10

ALERT ISSUED ON BEVERAGE CONTAINERS ON PLANES

VO:20

The U.S. Homeland Security Department has alerted air carriers to a potential terror tactic involving insulated beverage containers like thermoses. The alert stressed that there is no intelligence about an active terror plot, but travelers may notice airport screeners taking a closer look at empty insulated containers. The Transportation Security Administration "is carefully monitoring information related to terrorist tactics" in coordination with other nations, TSA spokeswoman Sterling Payne said in a statement Thursday. "The possible tactics terrorists might use include the concealment of explosives inside insulated beverage containers, so in the coming days, passengers flying within and to the U.S. may notice additional security measures related to insulated beverage containers."

ONLINE HOLIDAY SHOPPING JUMPS 15 PERCENT

VO: 20

Online spending rose 15 percent during the holidays, new data shows, as more Americans responded to online sales and free shipping offers and shifted more of their dollars online. Total online sales between Oct. 31 and Thursday rose 15.4 percent to a record \$36.4 billion, compared with \$31.5 billion a year ago, according to figures released Thursday from MasterCard Advisors' SpendingPulse, which tracks spending across all transactions including cash. Several categories, including clothing and electronics, gained share of overall category sales as well. "Americans are really changing way that they shop and the way they spend," said Michael McNamara, vice president of research and analysis for SpendingPulse.

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12/25/2010

US FLIGHT CANCELATIONS

VO: 22

A rare white Christmas is complicating life for some travelers after airlines canceled hundreds of flights, while snow is predicted for the nation's Capital and travel authorities are warning of potentially dangerous roads. The National Weather Service said the storm could bring more than 5 inches of snow to the Washington region. Meteorologist Stephen Konarik said the storm could hit the area Sunday morning and end Sunday night or early Monday, with the peak snowfall Sunday afternoon and early evening. Brian Korty at the National Weather Service said travelers in the northern Mid-Atlantic region New England may want to rethink Sunday travel plans. He said they may see "nearly impossible" travel conditions.

GIFT RETURNS AFTER HOLIDAYS

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ- NEW YORK

PKG: 1:39

It's expected that one of every 5 americans return at least one gift after the holidays. Most times is the reasons for a return are very similar, but befor purchasing or exchanging the consumers should lear the different store policies. For example, computers have a very limited time for exchange and electronics and jewlery stores do not have a return policy, most likely the consumer will recieve a store credit for the amount of the gift.

**POLICE CHASE AT THE BORDER
PEDRO ROJAS- MISSION, TEXAS
PKG:2:17**

The police chases are very common in the bordering towns in the state of Texas, and lately the residents of these towns are somewhat alarmed by the situation. The Department of Public Safety of Texas revealed that it's agents are starring in many chases nowdays in the bordering towns, and this agency has also revealed that their figures show from January to August 2010 97 persecutions are registered under the town of Hidalgo by itself versus 29 in the state's major cities.

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12/26/10 Sunday (6:30pm & 11:30pm)

**HEALTH INSURANCE RULES
LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
PKG 1:48**

California will create an Internet-based insurance exchange to let consumers comparison-shop for affordable health insurance coverage under two of the many laws taking effect with the new year. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed bills in September making California the first state to authorize an oversight board for an insurance exchange marketplace since the federal health care overhaul was enacted earlier this year. Massachusetts implemented its exchange before the federal reforms. The Republican governor and Democratic legislative leaders who carried SB900 and AB1602 said the companion bills will drive down costs and give consumers more options by promoting competition between health insurance companies. Republican lawmakers countered that the measures create an expensive new health care bureaucracy even before the federal law takes effect in 2014. Supporters said the five-member board overseeing the California Health Benefit Exchange will need those three years to hire staff, set up the program, select health plans to participate and enroll Californians needing health insurance.

**JANET NAPOLITANO SECURITY
VO: 25**

The use of full-body scanners and invasive pat-downs at airports around the country will not change for the "foreseeable future," Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said in an interview broadcast Sunday. While saying that she is always looking to improve the security systems in place, Napolitano added that the new

technology and the pat-downs were "objectively safer for our traveling public."Napolitano dismissed a recent news report about major airports failing secrets tests designed to get contraband such as guns and knives past security screeners. The report said some airports had a 70 percent failure rate. "Many of them are very old and out of date and there were all kinds of methodology issues with them. Let's set those aside," she said on "State of the Union" on CNN. "We pick up more contraband with the new procedures and the new machinery."Napolitano defended the director of national intelligence, James Clapper, who didn't know about a roundup of terrorist suspects in Britain when asked about the arrests on ABC News earlier this week. The gaffe created an awkward moment for the man in charge of the nation's intelligence community.

BRAIN SOCIAL STUDY

VO 20

If you spend time with a lot of friends, a part of your brain may be unusually large. That part is called the amygdala (uh-MIG'-duh-luh), and it's deep in your brain. Researchers found that among volunteers who got brain scans, those with a bigger amygdala tended to report seeing more friends and family regularly. Lisa Feldman Barrett of Northeastern University reports the work in a paper published online Sunday by the journal Nature Neuroscience. She says the result makes sense because the amygdala is at the center of a brain network that's important for socializing. The study couldn't show whether a bigger amygdala leads to more friends, or vice versa. Barrett says the influence might run in both directions.

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12/27/10

FREEZE WARNING IN FLORIDA

VO: 20

The national weather service in miami has upgraded the freeze warning to a hard freeze warning...which is now in effect from midnight tonight to 9 am est tuesday. a freeze watch also remains in effect from late tuesday night through wednesday morning. The latest short range models are now showing that the winds will be light and variable along with clear skies allowing for very good radiational cooling tonight. the grounds are also very dry due to the couple of freezes that occurred earlier this month...and the lack of rainfall during the the last 3 to 5 months. This will allow for the low temperatures over these areas to fall below 28 degrees for more than 4 hours tonight. therefore...the freeze warning has been upgraded to a hard freeze warning for late tonight into early tuesday morning. There is also a freeze watch in effect for late tuesday night into wednesday morning for the same areas...as temperatures are expected again to fall below the freezing mark.

US WEATHER

ALEX ROLAND- NEW YORK

PKG 1:44

An East Coast blizzard that has forced more than 5,000 flight cancelations will leave many travelers stranded through the end of the week. Runways were expected to reopen this evening at several major airports in the Northeast. Still, hundreds of thousands of passengers missed flights Sunday and Monday into and out of Philadelphia, New York and Boston. Once the airports reopen, people will have a hard time finding room on later flights. Seats are already scarce because of the busy holiday season, and airlines are operating fewer flights than they did before the recession. Airlines have to get their planes back to the Northeast before they can fly stranded travelers. They may also have to ferry pilots and flight attendants into the affected areas. American Airlines spokesman Ed Martelle said if the weather clears by Tuesday, the airline can resume a normal schedule by Wednesday. He declined to say how long stuck passengers might wait for an empty seat.

AT&T DOCUMENTARY ABOUT TEXTING AND DRIVING**JAIME GARCIA- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA****PKG 2:06**

The wireless company planned to release the video today, before New Year's Eve. The timing is aimed, the company said, at showing that texting and driving deserves to be considered as dangerous as drunk driving. The documentary includes intense, sometimes disturbing, images, including that of Ms. West, as she spent her last minutes alive on a breathing tube. Research from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute shows that motorists who text face a 23 times greater risk of crash or near crash. Other wireless carriers, like Verizon Wireless, have in the last year stepped up efforts to warn about the risks of texting and driving. AT&T said it plans to distribute the documentary to schools, safety organizations and government agencies, and is urging people to take a pledge on its Facebook page not to text and drive.

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12/28/10**NEW LAW IN CA FOR MARIJUANA****VO: 21**

Come January first, getting caught with an ounce or less of this in California is the same as getting one of these, and the prediction at Oakland's Oakland University where the curriculum is all things cannabis is that this change in law is just a sign of what's to come. Until now, possession of an ounce of pot was a misdemeanor punishable by a \$100 fine. The new law makes it an infraction that comes with the same price tag.

AIRPORTS START TO RE-OPEN**BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ- NEW YORK****PKG 2:35**

New York's major airports -- John F. Kennedy, Newark Liberty and LaGuardia -- were shut for nearly 24 hours before reopening Monday evening, forcing many passengers

to camp out in terminals. Thousands of additional flights were canceled on Monday, and officials said it would take several days before air travel, especially in the New York area, began to return to normal.

STRAWBERRIES AND CHOCOLATE GENE

VO:20

Strawberries and chocolate go all too well together in fondue, cakes, and any other dessert you can imagine. Now scientists are learning more about the genetic makeup of both of these foods. The journal "Nature Genetics" is publishing studies about the genomes of the cocoa and strawberry plants. Researchers say what they've learned about antioxidants in both could lead to genetically modified versions -- that could be more nutritious, and easier to grow.

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12/29/10

MORE JOBS FOR 2011

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG : 2:10

A new CareerBuilder survey finds that more employers plan to add full-time workers in 2011 compared to 2010. The survey found that new hiring is more likely "in technology and revenue-producing fields." "More than half of employers reported they are in a better financial position today than they were one year ago," Matt Ferguson, CEO of CareerBuilder, said in the survey statement. "2011 will usher in a healthier employment picture as business leaders grow more confident in the economy. Our survey indicates more jobs will be added in 2011 than 2010, but job creation will remain gradual. The year will be characterized by steady, measured gains across various industries." The hiring outlook is different by geographic region, with the West having the best outlook and the Midwest and South having the lowest percentage hiring expectation.

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12/30/10

UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ/ NUEVA YORK

PKG 2:17

The number of people applying for unemployment benefits last week fell to its lowest level since July 2008. New jobless claims dropped 34,000 to 388,000, the fewest since July 2008, the Labor Department said Thursday. The level of applications has either fallen or remained unchanged in five of the past six weeks. Unemployment applications below 425,000 signal modest job growth. But economists say applications need to fall consistently to 375,000 or below to indicate a significant decline in unemployment. Applications for unemployment benefits peaked during the recession at 651,000 in March 2009. The level of applications can be particularly volatile during the holidays.

But a department analyst said no unusual factors affected the report. Analysts said what matters most is the downward trend. "If we can continue this improving trend, we'll likely see stronger job growth in 2011," said Benjamin Reitzes, an economist at BMO Capital Markets. Applications are the closest thing to a real-time snapshot of the job market. They reflect the level of layoffs but can also indicate whether companies are willing to add workers. The four-week average, a less-volatile measure, dropped 12,500 to 414,000 in the week ending Dec. 25. That's the lowest level since late July 2008.

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12/31/10

**STATES IMMIGRATIONS LAWS
JAIME GARCIA/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
PKG 1:51**

Get ready for some states to try for Arizona-style immigration laws. Gov.-elect Nikki Haley, R-S.C., is among the state chiefs who want to crack down on illegal immigration with legislation that is similar or tougher than Arizona's statute, which allows law enforcement to check on legal status if there is reason to believe someone is in the U.S. illegally. A federal judge has blocked full enforcement of the Arizona law. Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer, a Republican who was re-elected last month, is appealing the ruling. The National Conference of State Legislatures predicts there could be a record number of state bills dealing with immigration in 2011, according to a Bloomberg story That would be up from 1,500 such measures filed in each of the past two years.

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

From: Rosyris Silva-Nazario
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 7:37 PM
To: Carole Bird
Subject: FCC REPORTS-DESPIERTA AMERICA NEWS- DECEMBER 2010-PART 1

FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA DECEMBER 1-15 PART I

12/01/2010

JOBLESS BENEFITS NORMA ROQUE. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA PKG 1:42 / VO :23

Unemployment benefits end today for many unemployed, a look at who is looking for work or just benefiting from government money. As many as 32,000 people in Indiana could lose unemployment benefits by the end of December. On Tuesday, Congress failed to extend benefits, meaning next Sunday some will stop seeing an unemployment check. But according to the Department of Workforce Development, those benefits will end gradually for many.

OBAMA IN BIPARTISAN MEETING LOURDES MELUZÁ/ WASHINGTON, DC PKG 2:15

Obama and Republican and Democratic congressional leaders are preparing for their first joint meeting since midterm elections altered the government's balance of power. The president and the House and Senate leaders from both parties will meet today at the White House to engage in talks about the Bush-era tax rates and a U.S.-Russia treaty to reduce nuclear weapons arsenals. The meeting will also help define the interaction between the White House and a divided Congress for the next two years. Republicans will take over control of the House in January and will gain seats in the Senate, weakening the Democrats' grip.

ARMY ON DIET VO: 29

New soldiers expecting Army drill sergeants to bust their chops over poor posture or a wayward gaze may instead want to avoid a more modern military transgression: relying on fast food for sustenance. The U.S. Army plans to get new recruits into better shape with a revamped approach to health, fitness and diet at basic training. The most visible changes will be seen in mess halls, where milk and juice dispensers will replace soda fountains and whole grains will be substituted for white bread and pasta. Army leaders were unveiling the new approach Wednesday morning at Missouri's Fort Leonard Wood. It's the first substantial change to basic fitness training in the Army in 30 years.

SENATE GOP LETTER CALLS FOR BLOCKING MOST BILLS VO: 22

Senate Republicans intend to block action on virtually all Democratic-backed legislation unrelated to tax cuts and government spending in the current postelection session of Congress, officials said Tuesday, adding that the leadership has quietly collected signatures on a letter pledging to carry out the strategy. If carried out, it would doom Democratic-backed attempts to end the Pentagon's practice of discharging openly gay members of the military service and give legal status to young illegal immigrants who join the military or attend college.

STATE BUDGETS-SURVEY

VO: 25

A new report says state lawmakers around the country may have to cut more state services in coming years despite the recession's end. The report says states will have to deal with dwindling help from the federal government as well as a slow recovery in tax revenue. States will spend about \$43 billion in economic stimulus money during the current fiscal year ending June 30. After that, they'll probably have to get by with less federal help. To deal with a sharp decline in tax revenue, most states have undertaken a series of program cuts and tax increases to balance budgets. Of the states that made midyear 2010 budget cuts, 35 reduced spending on elementary and secondary education, and 32 lowered spending on higher education.

REID IMMIGRATION STUDENTS

VO: 25

The top Senate Democrat says he'll force a test vote this week on a measure to give tens of thousands of young illegal immigrants a path to legal status. Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada says he'll move to schedule action on the so-called Dream Act. It would give more than 100,000 young immigrants brought to the United States before the age of 16 a chance to become legal residents if they attend college or join the military. It's unclear whether Reid could muster the 60 votes necessary to move to an up-or-down vote on the measure. It has some degree of bipartisan support, but is opposed by most Republicans and some Democrats who regard it as little more than an amnesty grant for illegal immigrants.

GAYS IN MILITARY

VO :25

The White House says President Barack Obama agrees with a Pentagon survey that overturning the military's ban on gay service members would not disrupt unit cohesion. Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs said Obama continues to believe that the "don't ask, don't tell" policy is divisive and should be overturned through the legislative process. Gibbs says the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" was discussed during Obama's meeting with bipartisan lawmakers Tuesday. Gibbs says Obama believes the ban on gays in the military can be repealed in the lame-duck session of Congress.

AMTRAK LIFTS BAN ON GUNS

VO :29

Amtrak travelers will soon be allowed to check guns and ammunition on some rail cars. The new policy takes effect Dec. 15. Congress passed a law in December 2009 requiring the change in policy as part of a transportation funding bill. A ban was put in place after 9/11 due to concerns that allowing weapons aboard the trains would increase the risk of terrorism. The Transportation Security Administration already allows guns to be transported in checked baggage aboard airplanes under strict guidelines. Amtrak officials said the rail agency spent about \$2 million to implement the new policy, which included changes to its reservation system, the installation of "secure storage at checked baggage train stations" and modification for 142 baggage cars. Officials noted that checked baggage service is not available aboard all Amtrak trains or routes, but it must be available on all trains and at all stations in a person's itinerary if they wish to transport guns or ammunition.

SENATE PASSES BILL TO BOOST FOOD SAFETY

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ/ NEW YORK

PKG 2:16

The Senate has passed legislation to make food safer in the wake of deadly E. coli and salmonella outbreaks, potentially giving the government broad new powers to increase inspections of food processing facilities and force companies to recall tainted food. The \$1.4 billion bill, which would also place stricter standards on imported foods, passed the Senate 73-25. Supporters say passage is critical after widespread outbreaks in peanuts, eggs and produce. Those outbreaks have exposed a lack of resources and authority at the FDA as the embattled agency struggled to contain and trace the contaminated products. The agency rarely inspects many food facilities and farms, visiting some every decade or so and others not at all.

STUDY LINKS FINGER LENGTH TO PROSTATE CANCER RISK

VO :19

Men with long index fingers have a lower risk of prostate cancer, British scientists said on Wednesday, a finding that could be used to help select those who need regular screening for the disease. Researchers at Britain's Warwick University and the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) found that men whose index finger is longer than their ring finger were one-third less likely to develop the disease than men with the opposite pattern of finger lengths.

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12/02/2010

NAPOLITANO & WH DREAM ACT

VO :40

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano urged Congress Thursday to pass legislation allowing some foreign-born young people who were illegally brought to the

U.S. as children to become legal residents. The law would help Napolitano's department focus on deporting immigrants with criminal records, she said. The Senate failed in September to pass what's known as the DREAM Act. The bill is in the pile of legislation awaiting action in the final days of the current Congress and it's unclear whether lawmakers will vote on it again before the year ends. The bill applies to immigrants who arrived in the U.S. before 16, have been in the country at least five years and have a U.S. high school diploma or equivalent. It would let them become U.S.

"DREAM ACT"

LOURDES MELUZA.WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 1:57 AND INTERVIEW 4:00

Late last night, Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) filed a new version of the DREAM Act with the aim of attracting broader support for DREAM to get the requisite 60 votes to pass the Senate. With the filing of this new bill, the anticipated date for bringing DREAM to a vote will be delayed. The earliest Reid could file a cloture motion on the new bill would be this coming Thursday. After waiting out the requisite 30 hours post-cloture, it could "ripen" over the weekend, and effectively come up for a vote on Monday at the earliest. The new version addresses many of the concerns raised by Republicans and tightens the restrictions on eligibility in several respects. Among other changes, the new version does the following: Excludes from eligibility those with certain criminal convictions, such as for offenses punishable by a maximum term of more than 1 year (felony) or 3 misdemeanors.

FLORIDA IMMIGRATION BILL

VO :24

A port security initiative has led to the indictment of 10 people in an international drug smuggling ring, including six Miami longshoremen who used their access to unload the cocaine, heroin and marijuana, federal officials said Wednesday. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton said the case serves to highlight the work of 21 multi-agency task forces around the country, led by ICE, focused on disrupting large-scale criminal activity at seaports and border entry points nationwide. It's particularly important, he said, to root out corrupt employees and government officials who help smugglers, illicit arms dealers, money launderers and possibly even terrorists move around the world. "The system must have integrity. Internal corruption of any kind cannot be tolerated," Morton said at a news conference with other South Florida law enforcement officials. "Our ports are open for business, but only for legitimate business."

FORECLOSURES SALES

VO :24

The worst summer for home sales in decades also put a chill on foreclosure sales, even though average discounts on the distressed properties got bigger compared with other types of homes. RealtyTrac says foreclosure sales plunged 25 percent in the

July-September quarter versus the April-June period. They tumbled 31 percent from the third quarter of last year. The foreclosure listing firm says sales of non-foreclosed properties fell 29 percent from the previous quarter and nearly 31 percent from the third quarter of last year. The decline in sales of bank-owned properties and other homes in some stage of foreclosure is in line with an overall housing market slowdown. That slowdown began after federal homebuyer tax credits expired in April.

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12/03/2010

"DREAM ACT INTERVIEW"

JOSE PARRA FROM WASHINGTON, DC

INTERVIEW 4:00 & VO :31

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano is urging Congress to allow certain foreign-born young people who were illegally brought to the U.S. as children to become legal residents. She says it would help her department focus on deporting immigrants with criminal records. The Senate failed in September to pass what's known as the DREAM Act. It's unclear whether Congress will vote on it again before the year ends. The bill would apply to immigrants who arrived in the U.S. before age 16, have been here at least five years and have a U.S. high school diploma or the equivalent. It would let them become U.S. residents after they've spent two years in college or the military.

OBAMA JOBS

VO :17

President Barack Obama will make a statement on the monthly jobs numbers Friday. Before that, he will meet with senior advisers in the Oval Office. The nation's unemployment rate climbed to 9.8. The nation's unemployment rate climbed to 9.8 percent in November, a seven-month high, as hiring slowed. Employers added only 39,000 jobs last month, a sharp decline from the 172,000 created in October. The weakness was widespread. Retailers, factories, construction companies, financial firms and the government all cut jobs last month. Private companies -- the backbone of the economy -- created 50,000 jobs. That was down significantly from the 160,000 private-sector jobs created in October and was the smallest gain since January. With hiring so weak, the unemployment rate rose from 9.6 percent to 9.8 percent. The jobless rate has now topped 9 percent for 19 straight months, the longest stretch on record.

TAX CUT

LUIS MEGID. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:03

A critical compromise to head off a year-end tax increase for millions of Americans took shape in private talks between the White House and congressional Republicans Thursday, and an extension of unemployment benefits appeared likely to become part of any deal. Democrats sought to expand the package with other provisions that

officials said would accelerate the nation's sluggish economic recovery. They included a tax break providing as much as \$400 for individual working people and \$800 for couples -- even if they pay nothing to the IRS.

EE. UU. NUTRITION

VO :23

The U.S. House of Representatives passed Thursday and sent to President Barack Obama a bill that boosts funding for the school lunch program by \$4.5 billion through 2020 and bans "junk" food from school buildings. Backers said it would be the first real increase in reimbursement rates for schools in 30 years and a step toward healthier meals. Obama was expected to sign the bill, which the Senate passed in August.

ARE JOBS COMING BACK? SIGNS POINT TO YES

VO :23

Could the job market finally be turning a corner? Though millions of workers are still reeling from a battered U.S. labor market, there are some early signs of improvement. Monthly payroll numbers have been rising and fewer people are filing for unemployment. Plus, Americans are working longer hours.

OBAMA BILL

VO :21

The Senate has sent a stopgap spending bill to President Barack Obama that's needed to prevent a government shutdown on Friday at midnight. The bill passed by a voice vote. It gives negotiators in the lame-duck Congress two more weeks to try to pass a bill funding the government for the rest of the budget year, which ends Sept. 30. If that fails, lawmakers would have to pass another stopgap measure to fund agency budgets into next year, when Republicans will control the House.

TAX CUT DEBATE, VOTES AS EARLY AS FRIDAY IN SENATE

VO :23

As early as Friday, the Senate could start debate and hold votes on extending the Bush-era tax cuts, this according to senior Dem and GOP sources. Here is the scenario that exists right now -- but note, this is not yet in stone, GOP leaders have not yet signed off: Votes on tax cuts for families making less than \$250k and on the proposal by Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-Ny, that raises taxes only on families making \$1 million or more. Republicans would get a vote on Senate GOP Leader Mitch McConnell's bill to extend all of the Bush tax cuts permanently. And at that point, when all of those measures fail, as they are expected to, the bipartisan, bicameral negotiating group meeting with Secretary Geithner and OMB Director Lew would come forward with a bill that temporarily extends all of the cuts for two or three years, according to sources.

LATINO AND JOB LEADER

VO :25

By their own reckoning, Latinos living in the United States do not have a national leader. When asked in an open-ended question on a nationwide survey of Latinos to name the person they consider "the most important Latino leader in the country today," nearly two-thirds (64%) of Hispanics said they did not know. An additional 10% said "no one." The survey also explored the subject of leadership in another way. Survey respondents were presented with the names of eight prominent Hispanics and asked if they had heard of each. Those who said they had were then asked if they considered that person to be a leader. Of the eight prominent Hispanics tested in the survey, four were identified as leaders by between 20% and 50% of survey respondents. The other four were seen as leaders by fewer respondents

OBESITY SURGERY MAY BECOME OPTION FOR MANY MORE

VO :27

Weight-loss surgery, once a last resort for extremely overweight people, may soon become an option for those who are less heavy. An advisory committee to the Food and Drug Administration will consider on Friday a request by Allergan, the pharmaceutical company, to significantly lower how obese someone must be to qualify for surgery using the company's Lap-Band device, which restricts intake to the stomach. On Wednesday, the F.D.A. acknowledged that a new study by the company showed that people in the proposed range of obesity who had the band experienced.

HEALTH CARE CUTS AZ

VO :32

The health care cuts proposed by leaders of President Barack Obama's deficit commission would reach virtually every corner of society, making cost curbs in the new overhaul law

look tame by comparison. The plan tackles the unfinished business of Obama's health care remake: how to keep it affordable. An advanced society that guarantees the latest medical technology to nearly all its citizens has to make hard choices about what to pay for and how much. Workers with solid coverage on the job, seniors, drug companies, trial lawyers, hospitals, doctors, state governments and federal employees would all feel the pinch. For Medicare recipients, the biggest change would be an increase in cost-sharing.

OK:KIDS USING NUTMEG TO GET HIGH?

VO :26

Kids are using a kitchen spice to get an unexpected kick. Nutmeg is being used as a drug - snorted, smoked or just straight up eaten to get a high. The right amount of the seemingly innocuous ingredient can give you hallucinations. oklahoma's poison control center says those who try it often say it wasn't worth it. and it has the attention of oklahoma law enforcement. although they say there's nothing illegal about it, it's what happens down the road that has them concerned.

CANCER RARE AFTER FERTILITY TREATMENT

VO :17

Fertility treatment drugs may not be tied to an increased risk of developing cancer, suggests a new study of more than 24,000 Swedish women treated with in vitro fertilization (IVF). Some prior studies had hinted at a link between fertility drug use and the development of breast, uterine and ovarian cancers, but the numbers of women followed in these studies were small, lead researcher Dr. Bengt Kallen of the University of Lund, in Sweden, noted in an email to Reuters Health.

OLDER U.S. WOMEN STICK TO HORMONE PILLS: STUDY**VO :28**

Prescriptions for hormone replacement therapy have fallen more than 50 percent in the United States since 2001, but doctors are still inexplicably giving women high-dose pills linked to strokes and cancer, researchers reported on Thursday. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and other groups do not say women should avoid hormone replacement therapy, or HRT, but they recommend taking the lowest possible dose for the shortest period of time.

PREGNANCY-RELATED DEATHS RISE IN THE U.S.**VO :24**

While it remains rare for a woman in the U.S. to die from pregnancy complications, the national rate of pregnancy-related deaths appears to be on the upswing, a new government study finds. Researchers at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that between 1998 and 2005, the rate of pregnancy-related deaths was 14.5 per 100,000 live births. And while that rate is low, it is higher than what has been seen in the past few decades.

DOCTORS ENCOURAGED PREGNANT WOMEN TO GET FLU SHOT**VO :23**

About twice as many pregnant women as usual got flu vaccines last year during the H1N1 swine flu pandemic, most because their doctors urged them to do so, federal government researchers reported on Thursday. But still only about half of the women pregnant during the flu season got immunized, even though they are much more likely to become severely ill, die or lose their babies if they come down with the flu, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found.

AIR POLLUTION TIED TO BABIES' EAR INFECTION RISK**VO :20**

Babies and toddlers who live in areas with moderate air pollution may have a higher risk of middle-ear infection than those breathing cleaner air, a Canadian study suggests. The findings, reported in the journal *Epidemiology*, do not prove that air pollution itself was the cause. But if it is, that would allow parents to influence their kids' risk of infection by moving to a place with better air.

BRAIN SCANS ACCURATE AT SPOTTING AUTISM: U.S. STUDY

VO :20

U.S. researchers are closing in on an accurate test for autism, a finding that could lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment. The test, which uses conventional magnetic resonance imaging or MRI machines, detected 94 percent of individuals with a high-functioning form of autism, they reported on Thursday.

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12/06/10

JOBLESS BENEFITS

VO: 15

As Congress hammers out a deal on extending the Bush-era tax cuts, it's also moving to keep benefits flowing to the unemployed. Both Democrats and Republicans appear to be uniting behind a plan to continue jobless benefits for millions of Americans whose checks have either run out or soon will. Friday's jump in the unemployment rate to 9.8 percent has put pressure on Republicans to agree to the president's demand that Congress extend unemployment insurance for another year

US TAXES

VO:20

A deal to extend expiring tax rates to all taxpayers as well as jobless benefits for millions of Americans could be reached this week. Democrats and Republicans appear to be close to a compromise, but differences remain over the details. The plan that's in the works would temporarily extend expiring tax rates to all taxpayers. Some Democrats continue to object to any plan that would continue Bush-era tax rates at the highest income levels. Without action, however, Congress faces the prospect of letting the tax rates revert to higher pre-2001 and 2003 levels, and delivering a tax hike to all taxpayers.

US GAY MARRIAGE TRIAL CALIFORNIA

VO: 22

The legal fight over California's same-sex marriage ban is reaching the next rung on the judicial ladder. A federal appeals court in San Francisco plans to hear two hours of arguments Monday about the voter-approved ban known as Proposition 8. A trial court judge overturned the measure as a violation of gay Californians' civil rights in August. In the first hour, a three-judge panel will consider if the group that put Proposition 8 on the ballot two years ago is eligible to appeal the lower court decision since its members are not responsible for enforcing the state's marriage laws.

CALIFORNIA REPUBLICANS ARE SPLIT ON POSSIBLE ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION MEASURE

VO: 24

A nascent California ballot measure that seeks to replicate Arizona's controversial crackdown on illegal immigrants is dividing the state's Republicans, with a number of prominent strategists and leaders fearing that it could further harm their party's already fraught relationship with Latinos - the fastest-growing segment of the electorate. It's unclear whether the ballot's backers will have the financial resources to gather enough signatures to place the measure on the 2012 ballot. Several Republicans said that even the effort to do so has the potential to increase the chasm between the party's candidates and the voting bloc whose record-breaking turnout tilted races in November and delivered a clean Democratic statewide sweep in a year in which Republicans celebrated major victories in the rest of the nation.

UNUSUAL METHODS HELPED ICE BREAK DEPORTATION RECORD, E-MAILS AND INTERVIEWS SHOW

VO: 30

For much of this year, the Obama administration touted its tougher-than-ever approach to immigration enforcement, culminating in a record number of deportations. But in reaching 392,862 deportations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement included more than 19,000 immigrants who had exited the previous fiscal year, according to agency statistics. ICE also ran a Mexican repatriation program five weeks longer than ever before, allowing the agency to count at least 6,500 exits that, without the program, would normally have been tallied by the U.S. Border Patrol.

BEATING HEART TRANSPLANTS

VO: 24

Doctors testing warm, beating hearts in transplant "beating heart" transplant to the standard method of stopping the heart and placing it in a cooler to get it to the recipient. Enrolled in the beating heart pilot study in the U.S. will be 128 patients randomly chosen nationwide. Instead of stopping the heart and putting it on ice in a \$35 cooler, the new technology calls for placing the organ in a special \$200,000 box that feeds it blood and keeps it warm and ticking outside the body.

MISCARRIAGE LINKED TO BROKEN HEARTS

VO: 21

Women with more than three spontaneous miscarriages were over five times more likely to suffer a heart attack later in life after adjusting for other factors, according to Dr. Elham Kharazmi of the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg, Germany, and colleagues. Induced abortion, though, appeared to have no link to heart attack risk, the group reported online in *Heart*. The link between recurrent pregnancy loss and cardiovascular disease may lie in common risk factors, perhaps because of the role of vascular health in placental function, they suggested.

ALLERGAN URGES BROADER USE OF WEIGHT-LOSS IMPLANT

VO: 22

An approved stomach band can help people who are less obese than those now considered good candidates for weight-loss surgery, maker Allergan Inc told a U.S. advisory panel reviewing the device on Friday. The manufacturer of Botox, breast implants and other cosmetic products wants approval to promote the surgically implanted Lap-Band device for people with lower body mass indexes (BMI) who are still categorized as obese. Wider approval could push sales higher from the current \$182 million in the first three quarters of 2010.

TX NEW VIRUS

VO: 30

Flu season is here and there are signs it's already showing up. Doctors say there is a new un-named virus that can really linger for several days. The new virus causes high fever, sore throat and nose, fatigue and its effects last between eleven days and two weeks. However, because it is viral, antibiotics will not affect according to doctors, it is best to wash hands often as an effort to prevent

NY: ORGAN DONOR AMBULANCE TEST

VO: 20

A new pilot program could help thousands of people waiting for life-saving transplants. Organ preservation units are hitting the streets in New York. They'll follow ambulances to cardiac arrest calls, hoping to use a patient's organs if they pass away. For the next five months, New York City ambulances could be shadowed if paramedics are responding to a cardiac arrest. A second specially equipped unit, this one, will be on standby to whisk away potential organ donors. There could be an additional 22,000 organ donors a year in the United States if this process was really implemented nationally. The numbers could jump because a donor would not have to die in a hospital. That's the rule now, but not many people know it. Starting only with kidneys.

MA: YOGA HELPS WOMEN BATTLE DEPRESSION

VO: 20

A Boston woman is proving a little bit of Zen can go a long way. She's using yoga to give hope to people who are battling some tough personal demons. Jones Eventually Won Her Battle With Depression And Became A Yoga Instructor. In 2006, She Founded Yogahope-a Non-Profit Organization That Brings Yoga To Places Like Substance Abuse treatment Centers And Homeless Shelters

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12/07/2010

GULF OIL SPILL-INVESTIGATION

VO: 25

A federal panel investigating the cause of the rig explosion that set off the massive Gulf of Mexico oil spill is set to question more BP and Transocean officials about the

disaster. The panel also was expected to hear from two technicians known as mud loggers, who use an assortment of electronic instruments to monitor the drill bit for traces of oil or gas and check for concentrations of hydrocarbons in the drilling mud. Mud loggers are supposed to notify other personnel on a rig when gas levels may be reaching dangerous levels.

GOVERNOR PARDONS SIX IMMIGRANTS FACING DEPORTATION OVER OLD CRIMES

VO: 28

Gov. David A. Paterson announced pardons on Monday for six immigrants facing deportation because of old criminal convictions, including a financial administrator at the City University of New York. The governor said the pardons addressed "shortcomings in our federal immigration laws relating to deportation." Mr. Paterson began a special clemency process in the spring with the principal aim of helping permanent legal residents - green card holders - who were at risk of deportation because of long-ago or minor convictions.

DREAM ACT TODAY / REID & RALLIES

VO: 36

Immigrant Youth and Faith Communities Mobilize for DREAM Act across the Country for a Day of Action Events in 26 States Highlight Moral and Economic Imperative for Congress to Pass the DREAM Act On Tuesday, December 7th, immigrant youth and communities of faith around the country are hosting a variety of events to urge Congress to pass the DREAM Act. In some states, leaders will hold vigils to highlight the moral urgency behind the issue. In Washington D.C., and in district offices in various states, events will feature DREAM Act students delivering over-sized 6ft checks for \$2.3 billion to their members of Congress, highlighting the economic benefit of the DREAM Act to America. The Congressional Budget Office estimated that the DREAM Act would generate \$2.3 billion

SUPREME COURT WILL ACT ON IMMIGRATION, EVEN IF CONGRESS DOESN'T

VO: 19

The Supreme Court this week takes up the national immigration debate that continues to stymie Congress. While immigration advocates and some Democratic lawmakers conjure hopes of legalizing farm workers and students in a lame-duck session, justices on Wednesday confront a real-world immigration enforcement dilemma out of Arizona. The court is sure to do something; Congress is not. The court's hourlong oral argument on Wednesday morning addresses one of Arizona's several controversial laws targeting illegal immigration.

CELL PHONES & PREGNANT WOMEN

VO: 26

There's new evidence cell phones may affect children's behavior -- even before they're born. Researchers found children exposed to cell phones both in the womb and after

birth were more likely to have behavior problems -- than those with less exposure. Their new study looked at 28-thousand children. Researchers say the more frequently a mother used a cell phone, the greater the risk her child would have a behavioral problem. One theory suggests cell phone radiation could interfere with brain development.

TAX CUTS-JOBLESS BENEFITS
LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC
PKG : 1:47

An outline of a bipartisan economic package is emerging that would temporarily extend the Bush-era tax rates for all taxpayers, while extending jobless benefits for millions of Americans. Differences remained over details, including White House demands for middle- and low-income tax credits. But the White House expressed optimism Monday, raising the possibility of a deal in Congress by the end of the week.

INTERVIEW RAUL CISNERO-CHIEF OF MEDIA RELATIONS IN THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE AT THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU.
CENSUS
TIME 3:00

The government provided new estimates Monday showing the U.S. population grew to somewhere between roughly 306 million and 313 million over the last decade, acknowledging uncertainty due to rapid shifts in immigration. The estimates, which are separate from the official 2010 census count, are based on a review of birth and death records as well as calculations of new immigrants as of April 1, 2010. Demographers say the range of numbers offers a rough guide to the official 2010 results that will be used to apportion House seats when they are released later this month.

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12/08/10

TAX CUT EXTENSION
VO: 20

Disappointed Democratic congressional leaders demanded changes in the White House's tax deal with Republicans on Tuesday despite a spirited argument by President Barack Obama that concessions were preferable to higher taxes for millions of Americans. The deal includes an extension of expiring Bush-era tax cuts for all income levels -- not just for lower and middle-income taxpayers, as Democrats wanted. It also contains a renewal of jobless benefits due to expire in a few weeks, and a one-year cut in Social Security taxes paid by workers.

DREAM ACT
JAIME GARCIA- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
PKG 2:01

This evening, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer announced that the House will take up the American DREAM Act on Wednesday, December 8th. Following is a statement from Frank Sharry, Executive Director of America's Voice: The news that the House of Representatives will hold a vote on the DREAM Act on Wednesday is historic. The DREAM Act is supported by educators, the military, small business, organized labor, and religious leaders from across the spectrum. This is the most significant pro-immigrant legislation this chamber will have taken up in a decade. The young people who would benefit from the DREAM Act are patriotic high-achievers who just want a chance to become full citizens of the only country they call home.

WEIGHT LOSS DRUG

VO:20

A federal advisory panel Tuesday endorsed a new weight-loss drug, potentially breaking a string of disappointments in the effort to find the first new pharmacological weapon to fight the obesity epidemic in more than a decade. The Food and Drug Administration advisory panel voted 13 to 7 that the evidence indicates that the potential benefits of the drug Contrave outweigh its risks. Contrave, which is made by Orexigen Therapeutics Inc. of La Jolla, Calif., helped patients who took it for a year lose between 4 and 5 percent more weight than those who took a placebo, the FDA concluded in a review of studies testing the drug. But the drug also increased blood pressure and heart rate, raising fears that it may boost the risk for heart problems, a major concern that has dogged the development of weight-loss drugs. The studies were too short to know whether the drug actually increased the risk for heart attacks or stroke. The FDA is not required to follow the panel's recommendation, but the agency usually does. A decision is expected by January.

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DROPOUTS

VO: 25

The new report illustrates how much trouble California is having in reversing the high school dropout rate, especially for certain minority groups. Overall, the statewide dropout rate went up to nearly 22%. Among Latino students, the numbers are worse. They inched up to about 27% and among African Americans ... almost 37%. The outgoing superintendent of public schools partially blames the \$21 billion in state funding cuts over three years for the rise. Senior Eddie George thought about dropping out at one time because of the pressure to do well ... but he says classes were also too boring.

CELL PHONES AND PREGNANCY

VO: 25

Women who use mobile phones when pregnant are more likely to give birth to children with behavioural problems, according to authoritative research. A giant study, which surveyed more than 13,000 children, found that using the handsets just two or three times a day was enough to raise the risk of their babies developing hyperactivity and difficulties with conduct, emotions and relationships by the time they reached school

age. And it adds that the likelihood is even greater if the children themselves used the phones before the age of seven. The results of the study, the first of its kind, have taken the top scientists who conducted it by surprise. But they follow warnings against both pregnant women and children using mobiles by the official Russian radiation watchdog body, which believes that the peril they pose "is not much lower than the risk to children's health from tobacco or alcohol".

CIRCUMCISION AND HIV

VO: 30

The World Health Organization declared three years ago that circumcision should be part of any strategy to prevent HIV infection in men. The organization based its recommendation on three randomized clinical trials in Africa that found the incidence of HIV was 60 percent lower in men who were circumcised. Although this wrote the WHO panel assigned to the topic, there was little evidence explaining how circumcision might reduce a man's risk of acquiring HIV. Now comes an answer in a new study, published in the January 6 issue of *PLoS ONE*, which found that there are gross changes in the penis's microbiome following circumcision, suggesting that shifts in the bacterial environment could account, in part, for the differences in HIV infection. Families of anaerobic bacteria, which are unable to grow in the presence of oxygen, are abundant before circumcision but nearly disappear after the procedure. The researchers suspect that in uncircumcised men, these bacteria may provoke inflammation in the genitalia, thereby improving the chances that immune cells will be in the vicinity for HIV viruses to infect.

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12/09/10

DREAM ACT PASSES / REACTIONS

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:30

LILIANA ESCALANTE. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:52

The House has passed legislation to give foreign-born youngsters brought to the U.S. illegally a shot at legal status. The vote Wednesday night was 216-198 to approve the so-called Dream Act. In the Senate, however, Democrats are unlikely to muster the 60 votes needed to advance the bill past opposition from the GOP and a handful in their own party who view it as amnesty. A Senate vote is expected Thursday. The bill is aimed at hundreds of thousands of young illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. before the age of 16, who have been in the country for five years and graduated from high school or gained an equivalency degree. They would have a chance to gain legal status if they joined the military or attended college.

CONGRESS-SPENDING

VO :28

House legislation to freeze the budgets of most Cabinet departments and fund the war in Afghanistan faces uncertain prospects as the Senate takes up the measure. The House narrowly passed the budget deal Wednesday night in a 212-206 vote. As it stands now, the bill will cap the annual operating budgets of federal agencies at the \$1.2 trillion approved for the recently finished budget year. It marks a cut of more than 3 percent, \$46 billion, from President Barack Obama's request.

TAX CUTS

VO :27

Liberal anger over proposed changes to the estate tax is emerging as the chief barrier to a grudging Democratic embrace of President Barack Obama's tax cut compromise with Republicans. Many congressional Republicans like the package because it would extend Bush-era tax cuts for the rich and poor alike. It also would set the estate tax at a level preferred by the GOP. Some angry House Democrats say Obama yielded too much ground on the estate tax question.

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

LUIS MEGID. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:52

The Supreme Court appeared likely Wednesday to sustain an Arizona law that threatens to take away the licenses of businesses that knowingly hire workers who are in the United States illegally. The justices heard arguments in a case that plunges the court into the nation's contentious debate over immigration, generally the province of the federal government. Business interests and civil liberties groups are challenging the law, backed by the Obama administration. The measure was signed into law in 2007 by Democrat Janet Napolitano, then the governor of Arizona and now the administration's Homeland Security secretary. Republican Gov. Jan Brewer, Napolitano's successor, was at the court Wednesday to show her support for the law.

EDUCATION POLL-COLLEGE GRAD RATES

VO :28

The public pins most of the blame for poor college graduation rates on students and their parents and gives a pass to colleges, government officials and others. That's one of the findings of a new Associated Press-Stanford University poll. All sectors of American higher education received high marks for quality. That extends to for-profit colleges, despite recent criticism of dubious recruiting tactics, high student loan default rates and other problems at some schools. Michael Kirst, professor emeritus of education and business administration at Stanford, says the belief that students are most at fault for graduation rates is a troubling sign for reformers who have been pushing colleges to improve graduation rates.

"DREAM ACT" INTERVIEW

GABY PACHECO. STUDENT

DURATION: 3:00

Gaby Pacheco just wants everyone to know she is as American as anyone else and she has gone to extraordinary lengths to try and prove it. But until Congress passes the DREAM Act, she won't be able to share her many gifts because people won't look past the fact that she is undocumented. Pacheco was just seven years old when her family moved here from her native Ecuador and settled in Miami. A gifted child, Pacheco, now 25, had a school career any parent would be proud of. She learned English very quickly and in the first grade, tested in the gifted level for math. She excelled in math, in science, music, ROTC, sports. By the 10th grade, she was taking college-level classes, participating and excelling in three sports and was a ranked officer in Navy ROTC.

GEORGIA: IMMIGRATION IS A FEDERAL ISSUE

VO :27

The Georgia Farm Bureau has weighed in on the heated debate over what to do about illegal immigration in the state, saying "it is a federal issue, not a state or local issue." Meeting at their annual convention on Jekyll Island Tuesday, delegates to the bureau adopted a policy that says the organization opposes "any immigration law that discriminates against the farm worker and puts the farmers of Georgia at a disadvantage to farmers in other states." The policy also says "agricultural interests must be considered when immigration legislation is debated." Georgia's \$65 billion agricultural industry relies heavily on migrant workers. The bureau - which represents nearly 400,000 families - staked out its position as a panel of Republican state lawmakers is studying whether to adopt an Arizona-style crackdown on illegal immigration in Georgia.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO RUN OUT SATURDAY FOR 185,000 CALIFORNIANS

VO :24

Applications for unemployment benefits dropped last week to the second-lowest level this year, evidence that companies are cutting fewer jobs. The Labor Department says first-time claims for jobless aid fell by 17,000 to a seasonally-adjusted 421,000 in the week ending Dec. 4. Wall Street analysts had expected a smaller decline. The four-week average of claims, a less volatile measure, dropped for the fifth straight week to 427,500. That's the lowest since August 2008, just before the financial crisis intensified with the collapse of Lehman Brothers. Claims have fallen steadily in the past two months, raising hopes that companies will soon accelerate hiring. Applications dropped to 410,000 two weeks ago, their lowest point in more than two years.

DRUNK DRIVING

VO :19

Millions of Americans drive drunk or drugged according to study. A new federal study finds that about 30-million Americans drive drunk each year and 10-million drive impaired by illicit drugs. Wisconsin had the highest level of drunk driving last year.

Rhode Island topped the list for people driving under the influence of drugs. The one bright spot in the survey is the rate of drunk and drugged driving has dropped slightly in the past few years.

SENATE ACTS TO STOP MEDICARE DOCTORS PAY CUT

VO :18

The Senate on Wednesday agreed to avert a 25 percent pay cut for doctors treating patients covered by the Medicare health program for the elderly. On a voice vote, the Senate approved a one-year "fix" to the doctor's payment formula that would stop a scheduled cut in physicians pay in January that advocates for the elderly said would have made it harder for Medicare patients to get medical care.

INCENSE BURNING TIED TO ASTHMA IN SOME CHILDREN

VO :26

Children from homes where incense is regularly burned have a higher risk of developing asthma, according to a Taiwanese study suggesting that a particular genetic variation could also be involved. Incense has been used for millennia in many cultures' religious and spiritual ceremonies. In parts of Asia, people commonly burn incense in their homes -- a practice that is becoming more popular in Western countries as well.

FOOD-SAFETY OVERHAUL RIDES ON FUNDING BILL

VO :26

The biggest overhaul of the U.S. food safety system in decades took a major step toward becoming law on Wednesday when House Democratic leaders folded it into a must-pass bill to fund the U.S. government. The House passed the spending bill on Wednesday and the Senate was expected to consider it over the next few days as lawmakers push to complete their legislative session by the end of next week.

ULTRASOUND BEFORE MEDICAL ABORTION MAY BE UNNEEDED

VO :23

Women seeking medical abortion, sometimes called the "abortion pill," often first undergo an ultrasound test, but a new study suggests that may be an unnecessary step. In the U.S., medical abortions can be performed within nine weeks of the first day of a woman's last menstrual period. Most medical abortions involve taking the drug mifepristone (Mifeprex) followed by misoprostol, which causes the womb to contract.

NO SAFE SMOKE

VO :19

Just one puff on that cigarette could be the one that causes your heart attack. The surgeon general's 30th annual report on smoking and health says tobacco smoke begins poisoning immediately, as more than 7000 chemicals in each puff rapidly spread through the body to cause damage to nearly every organ. The report warns that

even a bit of social smoking -- or inhaling someone else's secondhand smoke -- could be enough to block the arteries and trigger a heart attack.

SECONDHAND SMOKE TIED TO KIDS' POOR MENTAL HEALTH

VO :24

Kids who breathe secondhand smoke are more likely to struggle with mental health problems, suggests a large new study of British children. The findings add urgency in the push for parents to put away their cigarettes for good, or at least smoke outside of the home, researchers say. However, it's still unclear if tobacco fumes actually take a toll on children's brains, or if something else is at play.

GIRLS WHO WALK, BIKE TO SCHOOL DO BETTER IN TESTS

VO :22

Girls, but not boys, who walk or bike to school instead of getting a ride perform better in tests of verbal and math skills, according to a new study of teens living in Spanish cities. And the longer the commute, the higher the test scores, regardless of how much exercise girls got outside of school.

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12/10/10

DREAM ACT LATEST

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:54

The Senate moved Thursday to delay a politically charged showdown vote on legislation carving out a path to legal status for foreign-born youngsters brought to this country illegally, putting off but probably not preventing the measure's demise. Facing GOP objections, Democrats put aside the so-called Dream Act and said they'd try again to advance it before year's end. They're short of the 60 votes needed to do so, however, and critics in both parties quickly said they won't change their minds in the waning days of the Democratic-controlled Congress.

DONT ASK DONT TELL

VO :26

Republicans blocked a last-ditch effort in the Senate to lift the military's ban on openly gay troops on Thursday, dealing a major blow to gay rights groups and making it unlikely Congress could repeal "don't ask, don't tell" any time soon. The 57-40 vote fell three short of the 60 needed to overcome procedural hurdles to lift the 17-year-old ban. Sen. Susan Collins of Maine was the lone Republican voting to advance the bill, and Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia was the only Democrat to vote against it.

REID SETS UP TAX CUT VOTE FOR MONDAY

VO :36

The U.S. Senate will vote on a landmark tax deal that would preserve low rates for most Americans on Monday at 3 p.m. EST, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said Thursday. The measure faces an uncertain future in the House of Representatives, where Democrats have vowed to block it in its current form.

TAX DEAL NOT A DONE DEAL**LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA****PKG 1:59**

Senate Democrats Thursday unveiled a tax bill that largely reflects the deal hammered out by President Barack Obama and Republicans earlier in the week, and adds an additional subsidy for ethanol. The measure would broadly extend income tax breaks for two years and also includes an extension of jobless benefits and other tax breaks. It does not include an extension of the Build America bond program that Democrats had sought.

UNLICENSED DRIVERS WHO RISK MORE THAN A FINE**VO :24**

An estimated 4.5 million illegal immigrants nationwide are driving regularly, most without licenses, according to an analysis by The New York Times. Only three states - New Mexico, Utah and Washington - currently issue licenses without proof of legal residence in the United States. Many states have adopted tough new laws to prevent illegal immigrants from driving, while expanding immigration.

OBAMA TAXES**VO :36**

Senate Democrats Thursday unveiled a tax bill that largely reflects the deal hammered out by President Barack Obama and Republicans earlier in the week, and adds an additional subsidy for ethanol. The measure would broadly extend income tax breaks for two years and also includes an extension of jobless benefits and other tax breaks. It does not include an extension of the Build America bond program that Democrats had sought.

DREAM ACT REACTIONS**JAIME GARCIA. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA****PKG 2:04**

Jaime will have the students calling the Senators that are not willing to vote for the Dream Act to try to convince them to do so. Who are their targeting to get them to change their minds and vote in favor of it.

CALIFORNIA STUDENTS GET NEW PROTECTIONS AGAINST PUBLIC SCHOOL FEES**VO :33**

ACLU reaches settlement with the state on lawsuit filed over some school districts charging for books, art supplies and other basic educational materials.

AdvertisementUnder a settlement agreement announced Thursday, California students will have new protections against being charged fees for a public education that is required by law to be free.

US FAA AIRCRAFT

VO :25

The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) aircraft registry is missing key information on about one-third of the private and commercial planes in the US - a gap the agency fears could be exploited by extremist militants and drug traffickers. The records are in such disarray that the FAA says it is worried that criminals could buy planes without the government's knowledge, or use the registration numbers of other aircraft to evade new computer systems designed to track suspicious flights. It has ordered all aircraft owners to re-register their planes in an effort to clean up its files.

U.S. LIFE EXPECTANCY FALLS SLIGHTLY IN 2008

VO :22

American life expectancy slipped slightly in 2008 to 77.8 years, the first dip since 2004, while stroke slid a notch to become the fourth-leading cause of death, U.S. health experts said on Thursday. They said a baby born in 2008 could expect to live about one month less than one born in 2007, falling from a record high of 77.9 years in 2007.

U.S. STUDY HELPS UNRAVEL ALZHEIMER'S MYSTERY

VO :25

Instead of producing too much of a protein, people with Alzheimer's disease appear to have trouble getting rid of it, U.S. researchers said on Thursday. The finding, published in the journal Science, may help explain why people with Alzheimer's accumulate sticky clumps of a protein called amyloid beta, and it may help drug companies hone in on potential treatments.

GENERAL MILLS STEPS DOWN SUGAR IN KIDS' CEREALS

VO :23

General Mills Inc is lowering the amount of sugar in its children's breakfast cereals to no more than 10 grams per serving from 11 grams a year ago, the latest move from a U.S. foodmaker to address childhood obesity. The growing problem of obesity is leading to more children having adult health problems, such as diabetes or high cholesterol.

SMOKING STUDY

LOURDES DEL RIO. MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:53

The latest US Surgeon General's report, released today, finds that even limited exposure to tobacco or secondhand smoke can lead to cardiovascular and other health

problems. The report, the latest update to its first study in 1964 highlighting tobacco dangers, says that even an occasional cigarette or exposure to secondhand smoke is harmful. Surgeon General, Regina Benjamin says the latest research, "substantiates the evidence that there is no safe level of exposure to cigarette smoke." Lourdes will talk to a doctor and smokers that can't stop smoking and why.

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12/13/10

US TAX CUTS

VO 0:27 & INTERVIEW JOSE GABILONDO PROFESSOR FROM FIU AND EXPERT IN FINANCIAL ISSUES TIME: 4:00

Senators get their first chance Monday to vote on the tax-cut deal struck by President Barack Obama and Republicans. Whatever the outcome of the test vote, the White House expects the bill to pass by year's end. Obama adviser David Axelrod says "everybody understands what it would mean for the economy" if it doesn't get done. The No. 2 Senate Democrat, Dick Durbin of Illinois, says a "good cross-section" of senators in his party are ready to accept the deal. It would avert a Jan. 1 increase in income taxes for nearly all Americans. The package also would renew jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed and provide a one-year cut in Social Security taxes.

PAY ROLL TAX HOLIDAY

VO: 26

President Barack Obama's plan to cut payroll taxes for a year would provide big savings for many workers, but makes Social Security advocates nervous that it could jeopardize the retirement program's finances. The plan is part of a package of tax cuts and extended unemployment benefits that Obama negotiated with Senate Republican leaders. It would cut workers' share of Social Security taxes by nearly one-third for 2011. Workers making \$50,000 in wages would get a \$1,000 tax cut; those making \$100,000 would get a \$2,000 tax cut

BLOOMBERG NO 2012

VO: 21

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said "no way" intended to run for U.S. president. During the Meet the Press "on NBC, Bloomberg said yesterday that its directors should be left to "insist "on the idea that he should seek the presidency. The billionaire said that he is concentrating on his job as mayor. Bloomberg has repeatedly been described as a potential presidential candidate. Bloomberg said he wants to finish his task having the reputation of "a very good or better than the mayors of the city. "The mayor, who was elected to a third term in 2009, after persuading the City Council to change the law of terms in their favor, has said repeatedly he does not plan to be president in 2012.

TN:FEDEX EXPECTS BUSIEST DAY TODAY

VO: 19

FedEx Corp expects to handle 16 million packages Monday, its busiest day of the holiday season between Thanksgiving and Christmas, marking a 13 percent increase over a year ago. Overall, FedEx expects to move 223 million shipments worldwide this holiday season, up 11 percent over last year, with more than half its volume from online and catalog retailers. Books, clothing, consumer electronics and luxury goods are driving FedEx's volumes this year, the company said. FedEx's seasonal volume estimate was unchanged from the figure it provided last month, which is included in its earnings forecast.

SUPREME COURT TO DECIDE GENERIC DRUG LABELING ISSUE**VO: 24**

The Supreme Court said on Friday that it would decide whether generic drug companies could be sued under state law over allegations they failed to provide adequate label warnings about potential side effects. The nation's highest court will consider whether federal law preempted such lawsuits because the drug had been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

STUDY PITS LOW-SUGAR CEREALS AGAINST SUGARY BRANDS**VO: 22**

Sugary-sweet cereals aren't necessarily what kids crave in the morning. A study conducted by Yale University found that many children-- when given low-sugar cereals-- enjoyed them and ate a better breakfast when they didn't eat a sugary alternative. Scientists measured 91 children at a day camp. The kids were offered either three kinds of high-sugar cereals or three brands of low-sugar cereals.

STEM CELLS USED TO MAKE PANCREAS, GUT CELLS**VO: 23**

Stem cells can be transformed into the pancreatic cells needed to treat diabetes and into complex layers of intestinal tissue, scientists demonstrated in two experiments reported on Sunday. In one, a team turned immature sperm cells into pancreatic tissue, while another team turned embryonic stem cells into complex layers of intestinal tissue.

MORE TEXANS ARE DYING FROM PILL ABUSE**VO: 25**

Houston remains at the dark heart of the growing prescription drug abuse problem - accounting for a quarter of complaints about doctors' suspect prescriptions and one-sixth of the state's 1,900 annual accidental fatal overdose according to a review by the Houston Chronicle. But an examination of death data and interviews from around the state show the pill-popping problem is growing exponentially across Texas. Deaths by accidental overdoses - including preventable deaths involving prescription drugs - more than doubled from 2000 to 2008, according to the latest statewide death

certificates. In San Antonio, a string of military servicemen's accidental deaths have been blamed on lethal combinations of prescription pills. Overall, Bexar County reported 184 accidental overdoses in 2008 - almost three times as many as in 2000.

INTERCELL KILLS DIARRHEA VACCINE AFTER STUDY

VO: 20

Austrian biotech company Intercell said it won't develop its Travelers' Diarrhea vaccine candidate and will post a much wider than expected 2010 loss, because the drug failed in clinical trials. The company said on Sunday that the patch-based Travelers' Diarrhea vaccine candidate failed to meet efficacy endpoints to protect against enterotoxigenic E. coli mediated diarrheal infections in pivotal, randomized and placebo-controlled efficacy studies.

POPULAR NEW BREAST CANCER TREATMENT LACKS DATA

VO: 24

A new radiation treatment for breast cancer is becoming increasingly popular despite lack of good evidence, at least among well-insured Medicare patients, U.S. researchers say. According to claims data, use of the therapy, which irradiates only a portion of the breast instead of standard whole-breast radiation after lumpectomy, climbed more than 10-fold for those patients between 2001 and 2006.

NOROVIRUS SPREADS

VO: 23

About 200 students living on and off campus recently got the norovirus at point loma nazarene. School officials say there were three new cases this morning. Most of the students at point loma nazarene know someone who was recently sick. Morgan Johnson says her friend got the norovirus last weekend and at first didn't know what hit her. He said a bunch of them all woke up at the same time and started throwing up. About 200 out of the more than 17-hundred students reported feeling similar symptoms. Nausea, vomiting and an upset stomach typically last one or two days. Outbreaks like this are typically found on cruise ships.

DEBIT CARDS & HOLIDAYS

LUCÍA BURGA/ MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:37

This holiday season, a debit card is best used by those who don't want the perils of credit card debt. However, this does not make them any less safe from debit card fraud as well. While one is all too absorbed with Christmas shopping, fraudster can take their cue and swindle people out of their own debit card funds. To protect them and their debit card accounts from fraud, here are some safety tips to follow: In giving the debit card information, a debit card owner must make sure only the rightful person reads or hears it. It is best to write the information down on a piece of paper and when the other party has listed it down, he can retrieve the paper and keep it. Trashing it is not

advisable. Once other people pick up the debit card information, they may use it for fraud. The debit card information must also be exclusive to the owner. Even family and friends must not know of it. He must also be careful as not to share the information to his children 15 years and younger. They may not realise the importance of a debit card yet and they could carelessly share the information to others or use it themselves unguarded. Should children need to purchase something, the parents must be there to personally pay through the debit card.

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12/14/2010

HEALTH CARE OVERHAUL

VO: 21

President Barack Obama does not appear disturbed by a federal judge's ruling that a key part of his health care law is unconstitutional. The ruling states that Americans cannot be compelled to buy health insurance. Obama, in an interview with a Florida TV station (WFLA), noted that other judges have either found the law constitutional, or dismissed lawsuits against it. He says it's "the nature of these things" for courts to disagree on such matters.

DREAM ACT LATEST

VO:22

Students and their allies dressed in "Grinch" costume will be out in the streets of Hollywood performing skits and educating the community at large about the federal DREAM Act scheduled to be brought up for a vote in the U.S. Senate later this week.

AP POLL TEACHERS

VO: 23

An overwhelming majority of Americans are frustrated that it's too difficult to get rid of bad teachers, while most also believe that teachers aren't paid enough, a new poll shows. The Associated Press-Stanford University poll found that 78 percent think it should be easier for school administrators to fire poorly performing teachers. Yet overall, the public wants to reward teachers -- 57 percent say they are paid too little, with just 7 percent believing they are overpaid and most of the rest saying they're paid about right.

MASSIVE WINTER

VO: 28

Mid-December seems just too early to deal with icy arctic blasts. But that brutal weather system that dumped feet of snow in the midwest is now moving east... dropping temperatures into a deep freeze. Factor in the wind chill and readings are near zero in many areas today.

TAX CUT BILL EXPECTED TO GO TO HOUSE TODAY

VO: 34

Although House Democrats have made their objections known, the tax cut package that was negotiated by President Barack Obama and GOP lawmakers is headed toward passage in the Senate. It advanced yesterday by a vote of 83-15, and could win final Senate approval today. House Democrats are scheduled to meet this evening to discuss it. Several Democratic leaders say they may settle for a change that would impose a higher estate tax. Obama says the Senate vote proves both parties can work together

TAX CUTS**LOURDES MELUZA- WASHINGTON, DC****PKG 2:09**

The Democratic-led U.S. Congress will move a step closer today toward grudging approval of President Barack Obama's deal with Republicans to extend expiring tax cuts, even for the wealthiest Americans. Backers were expected to muster on the needed 60 votes in the 100-member Senate to clear a procedural hurdle, before passage on Tuesday or Wednesday. The bill would then go to the House of Representatives for likely passage -- despite complaints from many Democrats that Obama conceded too much to Republicans. The bill would avert a Jan. 1 increase in income taxes for nearly all Americans. The package also would renew jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed and provide a one-year cut in Social Security taxes. In the Senate they start talking around 2:00 pm about the bill and then vote...cloture and final vote. The House could also vote as soon as tomorrow.

HEALTH CARE RULING**LUIS MEGID- SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA****PKG 1:55**

A U.S. judge in Virginia Monday declared a key part of President Barack Obama's landmark healthcare law unconstitutional in the first major setback on an issue that will likely end up at the Supreme Court. U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson, appointed to the bench by President George W. Bush in 2002, backed the state of Virginia's argument that Congress exceeded its authority by requiring Americans to start buying health insurance in 2014 or face a fine. But he declined to invalidate the entire healthcare law, a small victory for Obama, whose administration will appeal the decision. The law is a cornerstone of Obama's presidency, aiming to expand health insurance to cover millions of uninsured Americans while trying to curb costs. Obama told the Tampa television station WFLA he was confident the courts would uphold the healthcare act. Healthcare insurers, which include companies such as Aetna Inc and WellPoint Inc, largely opposed Obama's reforms but say the individual mandate is critical so additional customers can offset greater industry costs. Health insurers' stock prices initially rose on the ruling before later tapering off as investors saw more uncertainty as the case proceeds. The ruling signaled that changes to the bill rather than a full overhaul are more realistic. Virginia's lawyers argued that the federal government could not regulate someone for not buying a good or service under the

U.S. Constitution's Commerce Clause and could not penalize them for failing to buy health insurance.

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12/15/10

SENATE TAXES

VO :29

The Senate is moving Wednesday to pass a tax package that would spare taxpayers at every income level from a significant tax increase on Jan. 1. The package would then go to the House, where Democrats are fuming over extended tax breaks for the wealthy that President Barack Obama negotiated with Senate Republicans. House Democrats are considering possible changes, and may hold a vote to enact a higher estate tax than Obama negotiated. But even critics of the package say they expect it to pass as is.

¿CURE TO AIDS?

VO : 25

Has an HIV cure been found in stem cell transplants? Timothy Ray Brown ("Berlin Patient") has reportedly been cured of HIV via a stem cell transplant procedure. But the findings and conclusions are prompting debate. Brown underwent the procedure in 2007 to battle leukemia. Named "Berlin Patient", Brown is the subject of a report that claims he was cured because of the stem cell transplant. Brown was an HIV-positive American living in Germany. He had leukemia and was in chemotherapy. During his treatment, Brown underwent a stem cell transplant. Since that 2007 procedure, Brown had been cured of both diseases.

TIGHT ECONOMY BOOSTS APPEAL FOR USED CTS

VO :26

Thrifty hospitals looking to cut health costs increasingly are buying refurbished MRIs, CT scanners and other diagnostic imaging machines that offer bells and whistles comparable to newer equipment, but at a cut-rate price. Makers of diagnostic imaging machines such as Siemens AG Philips Electronics and General Electric Co's. GE Healthcare have been fixing up and reselling machines for more than a decade, but they say the refurbished equipment market is heating up as hospitals look for ways to cut costs.

EPA SAYS SACCHARIN NOT A THREAT AFTER ALL

VO :30

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has dropped the artificial sweetener saccharin from its list of hazardous substances, the agency said on Tuesday. The white crystalline powder used in diet drinks, chewing gum and juice was dubbed a potential cancer-causing agent in 1980. While a review by the National Toxicology

against repeal of rule, "Do not ask do not tell" or "Do not ask do not tell" and had passed to the Senate for confirmation or rejection.

FORECLOSURES RATES

VO :26

New foreclosure figures show the number of U.S. homes repossessed by lenders in November fell to the lowest level in 18 months. It's the result of foreclosure freezes enacted by several banks following allegations that evictions were handled improperly. Lenders have since announced plans to resume foreclosures at a more measured pace. Some 37 states recorded a drop in home repossessions from October to November. The foreclosure listing firm RealtyTrac. Inc. says home repossessions dropped 28 percent from October and 12 percent from November of last year.

AIRLINES FARES

VO :26

Several U.S. airlines have raised fares by up to \$10 per round trip. Rick Seaney, CEO of FareCompare.com, said Wednesday that American Airlines started the increases by boosting prices on flights over 500 miles by \$5 each way or \$10 roundtrip, and by \$3 each way and \$6 roundtrip for shorter trips. American Airlines spokesman Tim Smith confirmed the fare increases. He says fares are dictated by supply and demand and influenced by recent increases in fuel costs. The higher fares were matched by United, Continental, Delta, Southwest, US Airways, Alaska, Frontier and Virgin.

MILITARY ACADEMIES REPORT A 64 PERCENT INCREASE IN SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORTS

VO :21

There were 41 reports of sexual assault at the military service academies this academic year, a 64 percent increase from reported assaults in the 2008-2009 academic year, according to a new report released by the Defense Department on Wednesday. Defense officials estimate fewer than 10 percent of incidents are actually reported at the academies. Cadets and midshipmen participated in the voluntary survey at higher rates than in previous years. Most -- 89 percent -- said they understood key training concepts on how to report sexual harassment or sexual assault.

IMMIGRATION TO U.S., AFTER DIP, IS BACK UP

VO :20

The flow of immigrants to the United States has resumed, after falling to the lowest level in decades during the recession, a new study finds. The number of immigrants in the United States was estimated to have risen by about half a million in the year that ended in 2009, a jump from the previous year, when immigration stopped almost completely during the recession, according to the study, which was conducted by the Brookings Institution and is being released on Thursday. The rise pointed to an increase in demand for immigrant labor in the economy, said Audrey Singer, a demographer and co-author of the report. However, the number is still far below the increases of more than a million a year that took place earlier in the decade. The flow reached a peak in 2006, with a 1.8 million increase in the foreign born population.

IMMIGRATION CRACKDOWN AT CHIPOTLE

VO :23

Dozens of Latino Chipotle employees across Minnesota and Wisconsin have been fired in the last week, and several workers who survived the cuts say they are being asked to train white workers whom they fear will become their replacements once the training is complete, a local blog reports. According to CityPages, an online Minnesota blog, restaurant managers referred all questions to Chipotle's corporate headquarters in Denver. There is no confirmation that all of the released employees have been fired due to their document status.

The number of fired employees -- at least 80, CityPages reports -- could still grow. The Minnesota Immigration Rights Committee has stepped in to condemn the firings and represent the now jobless employees.

SENATE VOTE TAX CUTS

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:13

The Senate Wednesday overwhelmingly passed a sweeping tax package that would save millions of Americans thousands of dollars in higher taxes while also reducing their Social Security taxes and extending jobless benefits. President Barack Obama

swiftly urged the House to pass the \$858 billion bill without changes, a slap at Democratic liberals eager to toughen a part of the measure that permits up to \$10 million to pass to heirs estate tax-free. A wide array of tax cuts enacted under President George W. Bush is scheduled to expire on Jan. 1 -- just two weeks away -- affecting taxpayers at every income level. The bill passed by the Senate, 81-19, would extend those cuts for two years. Obama urged quick action in the House.

REPORT: ABOUT 17% IN U.S. GET SICK FROM FOOD EACH YEAR

VO :25

One in six Americans gets sick from food every year, and about 3,000 die from those illnesses, according to data released Wednesday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The numbers mark the first time since 1999 that the federal government has updated the estimates for food-borne illnesses. The newest figures are lower than those in the 1999 report, which estimated that one in four Americans got sick from food each year and that 5,000 died. But the new data cannot be compared with the earlier figures and should not be interpreted to mean food poisoning is decreasing, according to CDC officials. Among the known food contaminants that can cause illness in humans, the leader is salmonella, which causes 28 percent of deaths from food-borne illness and 35 percent of hospitalizations, according to the report.

WHICH PAINKILLERS ARE SAFEST FOR THE ELDERLY?

VO :25

A type of pain medicine long believed to be relatively safe for older adults appears to come with more risks than other, supposedly riskier, painkillers, new study findings report. The authors found that people on opioids, a class of pain drugs that includes morphine and codeine, had a higher risk of fractures, cardiovascular problems such as heart attack or stroke, hospitalizations, and

death relative to other types of pain medication, including over-the-counter drugs.

YOUNG KIDS WITH ASTHMA MAY LAG IN READING SKILLS

VO :23

Young children who start school with asthma may lag behind their peers in developing reading skills, a new study suggests. The findings, according to researchers, do not

prove that asthma per se is the reason for the gap. But they say it is possible that the lung disease affects young children's ability to keep up with their peers when it comes to reading.

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12/17/10

HOUSE APPROVE TAX CUT MEASURE

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:26

A massive bipartisan tax package that prevents a big New Year's Day tax hike for millions of Americans is on its way to President Barack Obama for his signature. The measure would extend tax cuts for families at every income level, renew jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed, and enact a new one-year cut in Social Security taxes that would benefit nearly every worker who earns a wage. In a remarkable show of bipartisanship, the House gave final approval to the measure just before midnight Thursday, overcoming an attempt by rebellious Democrats who wanted to impose a higher estate tax than the one Obama agreed to. The vote was 277-148.

"DREAM ACT"

VICTOR HUGO RODRIGUEZ, PHOENIX, ARIZONA

PKG 2:00

AND JOSE PARRA INTERVIEW, WASHINGTON, DC

DURATION 3:00

Janet Murguía, President and CEO of NCLR (National Council of La Raza), the largest national Latino civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States, today joined a cross-section of distinguished Latino leaders from across the political spectrum, as well as in business, government, public service, entertainment, and sports, in sending a letter to the leadership of the U.S. Senate urging them to pass the

"Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act." This legislation would allow undocumented youth who have grown up in this country the opportunity to achieve conditional legal status and eventually earn the ability to apply for citizenship if they attend college or serve in the military.

CENSUS DATA: BLACKS AND HISPANICS TAKE DIFFERENT SEGREGATION PATHS

VO :28

Every 10 years the census provides us with a view of racial segregation across America's neighborhoods. We still have a few months before the 2010 census gives us those definitive numbers. However, the recent release of the huge five year data dump of the Census Bureau's American Community Survey for 2005 through 2009, provides us with a clue about what we can expect . To be sure, we are a country that is heavily sorted by race and Hispanic status across the 65,000 census tracts (groupings of neighborhoods of 5,000 to 10,000 persons) that span our nation. Although the U.S. minority population grew at five times the rate of whites since 2000, the average white resident lives in a tract that is 79 percent white.

U.S., STATES SPAR IN FLORIDA COURT OVER HEALTH LAW

VO :31

Attorneys for the Obama administration and 20 U.S. states sparred in court on Thursday over whether the new healthcare law oversteps constitutional limits on federal authority by requiring most Americans to buy medical insurance. Following three hours of testimony, U.S. District Judge Roger Vinson said he planned to make a decision "as quickly as possible, but noted the case will take time to examine. "I cannot give you a date certain."

U.S. AND EUROPE SEEK LIMITS ON ROCHE'S AVASTIN

VO :23

Roche's top drug Avastin should no longer be approved for breast cancer, U.S. health officials said on Thursday in an unusual move that could shave \$1 billion from annual sales. European authorities, meanwhile, recommended restricting the drug in breast cancer so it is given only with one type of chemotherapy.

GENE SCAN SHOWS CHILDHOOD BRAIN CANCER IS DIFFERENT

VO :19

A study of the genetic map of brain tumors in children shows they have many fewer mutations than similar tumors in adults -- meaning it may someday be easier to treat them, researchers reported on Thursday. The study of medulloblastoma, the most common type of brain cancer in children, also turned up some new mutations, the researchers reported in the journal Science.

STROKES SENIORS

VO :28

A new study made by "American Association of Cardiology" indicates that 2 of 3 patients, 65 years old and older, who suffered a brain stroke have no chance to recover. the study was made with more than 90 thousand of patients from Medicare.

PROXIMITY TO FREEWAYS INCREASES AUTISM RISK, STUDY FINDS

VO :25

Children born to mothers who live close to freeways have twice the risk of autism, researchers reported Thursday. The study, its authors say, adds to evidence suggesting that certain environmental exposures could play a role in causing the disorder in some children. Reported cases of autism cases increased by 57% between 2002 and 2006, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, although professionals still debate whether rates have actually risen or a greater proportion of autistic children is being diagnosed. An estimated 1 in 110 children is diagnosed with autism today. There is no cure, although research has shown that various therapies can mitigate some symptoms, especially if begun early in life.

REMOTE EYE SCREENING CAN HELP DIABETICS

VO :20

Eye clinics that screen diabetics who don't make it into a specialist's office may help identify eye problems early on, new study findings report. A review of recent research

found that relatively simple exams by non-specialists who don't dilate the pupils are accurate at spotting early cases of the diabetes-related eye disorder known as diabetic retinopathy.

IVF COST

VO :23

Couples who turn to fertility clinics for help getting pregnant might expect to pay more than \$24,000 out-of-pocket for in vitro fertilization (IVF), California researchers find. Yet success rates hover around only 50 percent, according to data from eight clinics in northern California.

DOES LUNCH IN FRONT OF A COMPUTER MAKE US EAT MORE?

VO :18

Many of us eat lunch parked in front of a computer, but that habit might be boosting our appetite for dessert, a small study suggests. In a lab study of 44 men and women, researchers found that those who ate lunch while playing a computer game ended up eating more cookies 30 minutes later than those who'd had their lunch with no distractions.

EXPERTS CLAIM COLD BODY TEMPERATURES KEY TO WEIGHT LOSS

VO :22

The secret to losing weight may center around manipulating your body temperature to increase your metabolism, a pair of experts told ABC News on Wednesday. The technique is known as 'thermal dieting' and according to Ferriss, people can burn up to 50 more calories simply by forcing their bodies to endure sub-freezing temperatures. Doing so forces a person's system to work harder and burn a type of fat known as brown adipose tissue (BAT) to produce heat. Thermal dieting also has the support of former NASA scientist Ray Cronise, who used the methodology to lose 30 pounds in just six weeks, according to an earlier ABC News report.

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12/20/10

CONGRESS GAY MILITARY + SPENDING

VO: 31

The debate over gays in the military has been settled with a historic decision to allow them to serve openly, but big questions lie ahead about how and when the change will take place, how troops will accept it and whether it will hamper the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan and Iraq. President Barack Obama is expected to sign into law this week the legislation that passed the Senate on Saturday, an act some believe will carry social implications as profound as President Harry S. Truman's 1948 executive order on racial equality in the military. Washington is also gearing up for an epic showdown on the other side of the federal ledger: spending. U.S. Senate leaders have reached a compromise on short-term funding that would keep the government running through March 4, Majority Leader Harry Reid said Sunday. A final vote will likely come on Tuesday.

IMMIGRATION STUDENT

VO: 25

Emboldened by months of phone calls to lawmakers, hunger strikes and sit-ins, a group of college students and graduates in Los Angeles say they plan to take their fight for immigrant rights to the states and the 2012 election after Senate Republicans blocked a key piece of legislation. But it won't be easy. The Senate vote Saturday to toss the proposal that would have granted young illegal immigrants a route to legal status dealt a harsh blow to student activists who will face an even steeper uphill battle in the next Congress.

CONGRESS ATTACKS HEALTH

VO: 23

A group of 9/11 responders plans to gather outside the White House on Tuesday to urge President Barack Obama to get involved in the fight to pass a bill to help people who became sick after working in the World Trade Center dust. Backers of a bill in Congress say they're optimistic the Senate will approve the measure before the lame-

duck session ends. Gillibrand and Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York are offering a less-costly alternative to the original bill, saying they believe it will gain needed support from the GOP. They say the Senate is

expected to consider the new bill once they finish dealing with the U.S.-Russia treaty on nuclear weapons.

CONGRESS FOOD SAFETY

VO: 23

The Senate passed a sweeping bill to make food safer, sending it to the House in the waning days of Congress. The bill would place stricter standards on imported foods and require larger producers to follow tougher rules for keeping food safe. The legislation has enjoyed bipartisan support, and supporters say passage is crucial in the wake of E. coli and salmonella outbreaks in peanuts, eggs and produce. Recent domestic outbreaks of E. coli and salmonella have exposed a lack of resources and authority at the Food and Drug Administration as the embattled agency struggled to contain and trace the contaminated products. The agency rarely inspects many

food facilities and farms, visiting some every decade or so and others not at all. The bill would emphasize prevention so the agency could try to stop outbreaks before they begin. Farmers and food processors would have to tell the FDA how they are working to keep their food safe at different stages of production.

CONTAMINATED WATER

VO: 25

Tap water in 31 of 35 American cities is highly contaminated by hexavalent chromium, otherwise known as chromium-6. That's according to a new study today by the Environmental Working Group. While the dangerous carcinogen may be foreign sounding to most people, perhaps the name Erin Brockovich will ring a bell. After it was discovered that chromium-6 had poisoned the water supply of Hinkley, California, Brockovich helped bring about a lawsuit that ultimately ended in 1996 with the utility company, Pacific Gas & Electric, paying more than \$330 million in damages.

CHILDRENS STUDY

VO: 24

A study says nearly one million kids in the United States live in areas with no local children's doctor. The problem isn't the overall number of children's doctors, but rather, where they are located. Some wealthy areas are oversaturated with pediatricians and family doctors. Other parts of the nation have few or none. By moving doctors, the study suggests, it would be possible for every child to have a pediatrician or family physician nearby. Mississippi had the highest proportion of children, 42 percent, in low-supply regions, defined as areas with more than 3,000 children per children's doctor. Next were Arkansas, Oklahoma, Maine and Idaho.

DREAM ACT REAX

LILIANA ESCALANTE/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:37

Emboldened by months of phone calls to lawmakers, hunger strikes and sit-ins, a group of college students and graduates in Los Angeles say they plan to take their fight for immigrant rights to the states and the 2012 election after Senate Republicans blocked a key piece of legislation. But it won't be easy. The Senate vote Saturday to toss the Proposal that would have granted young illegal immigrants a route to legal status dealt a harsh blow to student activists who will face an even steeper uphill battle in the next Congress. Immigrants see rough times ahead in the next two years, with many Republicans vowing to push for tougher immigration enforcement, but they also say Latino voters are getting fed up with lawmakers at a time when they are accruing greater political clout. "This is a movement," said Nancy Meza, a 23-year-old illegal immigrant and college graduate who wore a University of California, Los Angeles sweatshirt as she watched the televised vote. "We don't have lobbyists and paid staff. It's a movement by students." In the hours after the vote, Meza and about 50 other student activists who had gathered at the UCLA Downtown Labor Center said they would remind Latinos who stood by them -- and those who did not -- in the next election cycle.

MEDICAID CUTS

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:57

Across the country, state lawmakers have taken harsh actions to try to rein in the budget-busting costs of the health care program that serves 58 million poor and disabled Americans. Some states have cut payments to doctors, paid bills late and trimmed benefits such as insulin pumps, obesity surgery and hospice care. In California, Medicaid no longer pays for many adult dental services. But it still pays for extractions, that is, tooth-pulling. The unintended consequence: Medicaid patients tell dentists to pull teeth that could be saved. "The roots are fine. The tooth could be saved with a root canal," said Dr. Nagaraj Murthy, who practices in Compton, Calif. "I had a patient yesterday. I said we could do a root canal. He said, `No, it's hurting. Go ahead and pull it. I don't have the money.'" Murthy recently pulled an elderly woman's last tooth, but Medicaid no longer pays for dentures. "Elderly patients suffer the most," Murthy said. "They're walking around with no teeth." ❖

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12/21/2010

CENSUS 2010 TODAY

VO 0:29 & INTERVIEWS RAUL CISNEROS - CHIEF OF THE 2010 CENSUS OFFICE AND ARNOLDO TORRES POLITICAL ANALIST

Republican-leaning states will pick up a half dozen House seats thanks to the 2010 census, which found the nation's population growing more slowly than in past decades but still shifting to the South and West. The Census Bureau announced Tuesday that the nation's population on April 1 was 308,745,538, up from 281.4 million a decade ago. The growth rate for the past decade was 9.7 percent, a slower pace than the 13.2 percent population increase from 1990 to 2000.

GOVERNMENT CHECKS

VO 0:32

Before too long, the government check will no longer be in the mail. Officials have settled on the dates when millions of people will no longer be able to get their Social Security and other benefit checks by mail. New recipients of benefits will have to accept paperless payments starting on May 1 of next year, three months later than first proposed. Those already on Social Security will have until March 1, 2013 to make the switch to direct deposits or a debit card.

DEATH PENALTY

VO 0:25

The number of executions in the United States dropped 12 percent in 2010, and the number of people sentenced to die is nearing historic lows, a report from an anti-capital punishment group says. The Death Penalty Information Center attributed the reductions to changing attitudes toward capital punishment, but acknowledged there have also been problems with the availability of chemicals used in lethal injections.

TOYOTA RECALL

VO 0:27

Toyota Motor has agreed to pay the maximum fine of \$ 32.4 million on two investigations in the United States over his handling of a series of recalls of cars, which affected sales and beat its reputation for quality. The agreements put an end to a tumultuous year for the world's largest automaker by the retirement of 11 million units in the U.S. and the revelation of problems that security experts blamed for hundreds of accidents and the deaths of dozens of people. The crisis sparked unprecedented scrutiny into complaints of unintended acceleration of vehicles, a total of three costly fines and loss of reputation and consumer confidence in Toyota

HOLDER TERRORISM

VO 0:21

Attorney General Eric Holder says he's worried about terrorist attacks on the U.S. by Americans. And high on his list of concerns is the threat posed by anti-American cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, a U.S. citizen believed to be hiding in Yemen. Holder says al-Awlaki has a familiarity with the U.S. that terrorists usually lack. He says he puts him on the list of people who worry him the most, along with al-Qaida head Osama bin Laden, but adds, "Whether he's one, two, three, four, I don't know." In an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America," Holder said the terrorism threat is real and constant. He says he's concerned that the authorities may have missed a signal that an attack is coming.

AIDS SCREENING

VO 0:20

Expanding screening for the AIDS virus to include every American at least once and the highest-risk people once a year could prevent more than 80,000 infections over the next 20 years, researchers projected on Monday. And if treatment for infected people were integrated into such a program, it would prevent an estimated 212,000 new infections, the team at Yale University in Connecticut and Stanford University in California reported.

COLD REMEDIES ECHINACCEA

VO 0:26

The study of more than 700 adults and children suggests the tiniest possible benefit about a half-day shaved off a weeklong cold and slightly milder symptoms. But that could have occurred by chance. For most people, the potential to get relief a few hours sooner probably isn't worth the trouble and cost of taking the supplement, researchers said. With no cure for the common cold, Americans spend billions on over-the-counter pills, drops, sprays and other concoctions to battle their runny noses, scratchy throats and nagging coughs. Some turn to echinacea a top seller marketed as a product that helps the immune system fight infections.

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12/22/2010

CALIFORNIA WEATHER

JAIME GARCIA

PKG 2:00

It does rain in Southern California, and has been for some time now. Landslides, flooding and downed trees are causing problems in Orange County beach communities, and forced authorities to close downtown Laguna Beach this morning. Part of a busy interstate east of Los Angeles was also closed by a landslide. With the most intense storm yet to hit, heavy rain is causing flood

problems in Arizona, Nevada and Utah.

OBAMA DON'T ASK DON'T TELL

VO 0:21

President Barack Obama has signed a landmark law repealing the ban on gay men and women serving openly in the armed services this morning. Declaring: "This is a good day," Obama said the new law means members of the military will no longer be asked to lie. The service chiefs must complete implementation plans before lifting the old policy and certify that it won't

damage combat readiness

CONGRESS RESHAPING

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ

PKG: 2:08

The census figures show a shift affecting 18 states taking effect when the 113th Congress takes office in 2013. The political power follows the high population growth, shifting toward the south and west and away from the industrial Midwest and northeast. Four seats were gained in Texas and two in Florida. Meanwhile Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina, Utah and Washington are all picking up one new U.S. House seat. Ohio and New York will lose two House seats each. Losing one House seat are Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

CHOCOLATE AND COUGH

VO 0:27

Cocoa products that have increasingly made the news for their multiple health benefits ranging from cardiovascular disease to cancer and other medical conditions may also be a handy cure for persistent cough, claims a new study. The traditional treatment for unrelenting coughing has been opiate-based medicines such as syrups with codeine which tend to make one sleepy and impaired. According to researchers, there is an ingredient found in dark chocolate called theobromine that is as or even more effective than cough syrup containing codeine in getting rid of coughing fit.

FOOD SAFETY

VO 0:25

The House passed a measure to overhaul the nation's food-safety laws by a vote of 215 to 144, and President Obama is expected to sign it into law. The vote marked the final hurdle for a bill that cleared an unusual number of obstacles, despite enjoying bipartisan support and backing from a wide array of groups across the political spectrum, from the Consumers Union to the Chamber of Commerce.

CONGRESS 9/11 BILL

VO 0:22

The Senate is headed for a key test vote on a bill that would provide up \$6.2 billion to aid people who became sick after being exposed to toxins at the World Trade Center ruins. Bill supporters say they're confident they have the 60 votes needed to prevail on the vote expected Wednesday. But they worry that Republicans who oppose the measure could try to stall a final vote as the holidays near and Congress' lame duck session winds down. The bill would provide medical and economic benefits over 10 years to survivors and responders to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. It also would have to be approved by the House. New York lawmakers are pressing the House to remain in session for the vote.

MIAMI DADE MAYOR RECALL

VO 0:31

Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez is facing a recall election. The Clerk of Courts announced Tuesday that the necessary signatures were legally collected to require a vote. County commissioners have 90 days to hold a recall vote. A date has not been set. Car dealer and former Philadelphia Eagles owner Norman Braman was angry over a property tax increase and a growing county payroll. He gathered the signatures needed to call for a referendum on Alvarez. Alvarez would be the first mayor of a major American city or county to be recalled from office in decades. He said in a statement that he "will continue to lead during challenging times" and his office plans to review the legitimacy of the certification process.

ARIZONA HOSPITAL LOOSES AFILIATION

VO 0:29

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix stripped a major hospital of its affiliation with the church Tuesday because of a surgery that ended a woman's pregnancy to save her life. Bishop Thomas Olmsted called the 2009 procedure an abortion and said St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center - recognized internationally for its neurology and neurosurgery practices - violated ethical and religious directives of the national Conference of Catholic Bishops.

TEEN BIRTH DOWN 2009

VO 0:25

The U.S. teen birthrate dropped to its lowest level in the seven decades government researchers have been tracking it, government researchers said on Tuesday. Babies born to American teens aged 15 to 19 fell 6 percent to a record 39.1 births per 1,000, according to preliminary numbers released by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

POOR CLASS GROWS

VO 0:24

Nearly one in three working families in the United States are struggling to meet their most basic needs, according to a new analysis of US Census data by the Working Poor Families Project. Between 2007 and 2009, the share of working families that were low-income-earning less than 200 percent of the official threshold-increased from 28 percent to 30 percent. The ranks of the working poor swelled by another 1.7 million as corporations used the economic downturn to wipe out full-time positions and force ever-larger numbers of workers to take part-time, temporary and low-paying jobs.

NATION ON ALERT

LOURDES DEL RIO

PKG 1:59

Terrorists are a constant threat, but it is the ones born and raised in America the nation should fear most. This dire warning comes from Attorney General Eric Holder, who said on Tuesday the United States' deepest threat is homegrown jihadists willing to attack their own country. In the past two years, 50 of the 126 people indicted on terrorism-related charges were American citizens, he said. There is also Anwar al-

Awlaki, a radical Muslim cleric born in New Mexico who has become one of Al Qaeda's most influential leaders.

LETTERS TO SANTA

LILIANA ESCALANTE

PKG 2:01

For many needy children this year, Santa will slip his gifts into the mailbox instead of sliding them down the chimney. Secret Santas and their donated gifts poured into post offices around the nation after the U.S. Postal Service's Operation Santa received widespread news media attention last week. The Postal Service's Operation Santa matches children's - and their parents'- letters to Santa with anonymous donors who agree to buy some of the gifts on their wish list and return them to the post office for delivery before Christmas. This year, the letters reflected unusual economic hardship as many children requested basic items, such as warm clothes, instead of toys.

ALZHEIMER TESTING

VO 0:24

UK experts say they may have found a way to check for Alzheimer's years before symptoms appear. A lumbar puncture test combined with a brain scan can identify patients with early tell-tale signs of dementia, they believe. Ultimately, doctors could use this to select patients to try out drugs that may slow or halt the disease. Currently there is no single test or cure for dementia, a condition that affects over 800,000 people in the UK. Experts are working hard to find treatments that prevent the disease or at least slow its progression.

LACTEOS REDUCES RISK OF DIABETES

VO 0:23

U.S. scientists discovered a natural substance found in dairy products, they say, would reduce "substantially" the risk of type 2 diabetes. The compound, a fatty acid found in milk fat, cheese, yogurt and butter. Researchers report in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, the substance is not found in the body and can only be obtained through food. The findings, the authors say, could force people to rethink their health recommendations, often advised to reduce consumption of dairy products with high

levels of fat. The study, conducted by researchers from the School of Public Health Harvard University, involved 3,763 people who were followed for 20 years to assess risk factors for cardiovascular disease in older adults.

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12/23/2010

CONGRESS ADJOURNS

VO: 30

The lame duck Congress is history. The Senate followed the House out of session just after 8 p.m. Wednesday, bringing to a close one of the most productive congresses in history. Health care and financial regulatory reform, the repeal of the military's ban on gays serving openly and the Senate's ratification of a nuclear arms treaty with Russia all won approval. The White House and Senate Republicans also struck a deal to extend Bush-era tax cuts for Americans of every income level. When Congress reconvenes Jan. 5, Republicans will be in charge of the House and hold more seats in the Senate.

CONGRESS: IMMIGRATION BILL

VO: 24

President Obama said Wednesday that he will persist in pushing a bill to legalize some illegal immigrants who came to the U.S. as children. But passing the DREAM Act, and any other immigration legislation, will become much harder when the new Congress convenes in January, advocates on both sides predict. When Republican take over the House of Representatives and Democrats lose six seats in the Senate, bills that crack down on illegal immigration will find new life, and those that help legalize any of the country's 11 million illegal immigrants will struggle.

GAYS IN MILITARY

VO: 29

He's won a repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" in Congress. And President Barack Obama is encouraging gays who've been kicked out of the military because of their sexual orientation to try to re-enlist. But at the same time, Obama says his position on another gay rights issue is "constantly evolving. He told reporters today that the question of gay marriages -- which he has opposed -- is one that he will "continue to wrestle with. Obama today signed a landmark law ordering America's armed services to let gay men and women serve openly for the first time.

EMANUEL ELIGIBLE TO RUN FOR CHICAGO

VO: 28

The Chicago Board of Election Commissioners has begun hearing the residency challenge against Rahm Emanuel, after a hearing officer recommended the ex-White House chief of staff's name be allowed to appear on the Feb. 22 ballot for Chicago mayor. Election board hearing officer Joseph Morris said early Thursday that evidence suggests Emanuel had no intention of terminating his residency in Chicago, left the city only to work for President Barack Obama and often told friends he intended to live in Washington for no more than two years.

JOBLESS CLAIM

VO: 19

Fewer people applied for unemployment benefits last week, the second drop in three weeks. The decline was small -- applications dropped by 3,000 to 420,000 -- but the downward trend is a sign that the job market is slowly healing.

CALIFORNIA WEATHER

LILIANA ESCALANTE- HIGHLAND, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:55

Authorities have closed all downtown Laguna Beach streets due to extensive flooding in the area early Wednesday morning. Along with all downtown Laguna Beach streets, Laguna Canyon Road between Forest Avenue and State Route 73 and PCH between Aster Street and Legion Street are also closed. According to Lt. Jason Kravetz of the Laguna Beach Police Department, downtown Laguna Beach is under several feet of

water, adding that those who work in the downtown area should not attempt to go to work

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10/24/2010

LAST MINUTE SHOPPING

LIVER MARIA FERNANDA LOPEZ-MIAMI FL

TIME: 6:00

Holiday procrastinators are preparing to zoom through picked-over stores, grabbing discounted sweaters and can't-go-wrong gift cards. If they can get a parking spot, that is. But you won't hear retailers complaining. For stores, this 11th-hour dash caps the best holiday season since 2007, and possibly the best ever. With Christmas falling on a Saturday this year, Friday is a holiday for most U.S. workers. That allowed shoppers to hit the stores first thing in the morning.

AIRPORT SECURITY-ALERT

VO: 21

U.S. authorities are warning air travelers to expect greater scrutiny of thermoses and other insulated drink containers at security checkpoints after intelligence suggested they could be used to hide explosives. There is "no information related to any specific or imminent threat," Ann Davis, a spokeswoman for the Transportation Security Administration, told Reuters on Friday. A notice on the TSA's website warned about the possibility that explosives might be hidden inside the beverage containers and said the warning was "based on intelligence."

HOLIDAY TRAVEL

VO: 32

Holiday travelers in the Midwest are bracing for snow and ice from a storm that's expected to deliver a rare white Christmas to Nashville before rolling into the Northeast. Several inches of snow were expected across the heartland on Friday, including up to 8 inches in Iowa and 6 inches in Illinois. Winter weather advisories were

posted from North Dakota into Kentucky, with forecasters warning drivers of snow-covered roads and limited visibility.

ONLINE SPENDING INCREASE

VO: 23

Online spending rose 15 percent during the holidays, new data shows, as more Americans responded to online sales and free shipping offers and shifted more of their dollars online. Total online sales between Oct. 31 and Thursday rose 15.4 percent to a record \$36.4 billion, compared with \$31.5 billion a year ago, according to figures released Thursday from MasterCard Advisors' SpendingPulse, which tracks spending across all transactions including cash. Several categories, including clothing and electronics, gained share of overall category sales as well "Americans are really changing way that they shop and the way they spend," said Michael McNamara, vice president of research and analysis for SpendingPulse. The holiday shopping season has been bustling this year, and e-commerce has been a big part of that. The National Retail Federation expects total holiday spending will rise 3.3 percent. Online sales generally account for 8 to 10 percent of the spending pie. This increase this year could push it solidly into double digits.

SUPER SATURDAY EXTENDS LAST MINUTE RETAIL SALES

VO: 31

The number of shoppers rushing to stores on the final Saturday before Christmas was up this year compared to last year, but spending will likely go even higher in the day leading up to Christmas.

Sales in U.S. retail stores on Saturday rose 15.1 percent from 2009 to almost \$7.6 billion as more people finished their gift purchases, according to research firm ShopperTrak. Sales this year were also helped in comparison to the same weekend in 2009 when a major blizzard struck the East Coast, keeping many would-be shoppers at home. This helped sink spending on the so-called "Super Saturday" in 2009 by 16.5 percent to about \$6.6 billion. Spending on the day this year was still below the \$7.9 billion spent by Americans on the day in 2008, ShoperTrak said.

SUDDEN INFANT DEATHS MOST COMMON ON NEW YEAR'S

VO: 24

A new study found that more babies die of sudden infant death in the United States in the New Year's Day, than any other day of the year. The study indicates that is not clear why, but researchers suspect that has anything to do with the parents who drink heavily the night before and put their children in danger ... he believes that the syndrome kills one two thousand-500 babies in the country every year.

VACCINE AGAINST ANAL CANCER

VO: 21

The Food and Drug Administration approves the use of "Gardasil" vaccination against human papillomavirus virus, but this time to prevent cancer and anal cancer other injury caused by this virus. Vaccine that was already approved in 2006 to prevent cervical cancer. The "HPV" is related to approximately 90 percent of anal cancer.

STUDY: STROKE DEATHS HIGHER WHERE FRIED FISH ABUNDANT

VO: 34

High rate of deaths due to stroke in the South of the country may be related to a consumer of fried fish in that region. So suggests a study published today in the journal "Neurology" over the region known as the stroke belt, which includes North Carolina, South Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Virginia. According to research, there more people eat fried fish without frying fish and less than the rest of the country, and eat more blacks than whites fried fish.

PLACEBOS WORK, EVEN WHEN PATIENTS ARE IN THE KNOW, STUDY FINDS

VO: 32

Researchers have good news for people who suffer from irritable bowel syndrome or colon irritable. Scientists at the University of Harvard, conducted a study among at least 80 people suffering from this disease half were given a bottle with the word "placebo", and they said they were as sugar pills another not give them anything. End of study, 59 percent of patients who took the "placebo", said their symptoms had eased properly apparently the deception had its effect.

XMASS TRAVELING

LOURDES DEL RIO- MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:57

Fair weather helped make the holiday sojourn a not-so-painful experience in much of the country Thursday, even with more people hitting the roads and skies than last year, but travelers' good luck might be running out. A storm was expected to bring a snow and ice to parts of the heartland Friday, a rare white Christmas to Nashville on Saturday, and perhaps sock swaths of the Northeast on Sunday. The AAA has expected overall travel to rise about 3 percent this year, with more than 92 million people planning to go more than 50 miles sometime between now and Jan. 2. More than 90 percent said they would be driving. The Air Transport Association was expecting 44.3 million people on U.S. flights between Dec. 16 and Jan. 5 -- up 3 percent over the same period a year ago but still below pre-recession travel volume. The average ticket price is \$421, up by 5 percent.

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12/27/2010

IMMIGRATION NEW YEAR

VO: 24

The end of the year means a turnover of House control from Democratic to Republican and, with it, Congress' approach to immigration. In a matter of weeks, Congress will go from trying to help young, illegal immigrants become legal to debating whether children born to parents who are in the country illegally should continue to enjoy automatic U.S. citizenship. Such a hardened approach -- and the rhetoric certain to accompany it -- should resonate with the GOP faithful who helped swing the House in Republicans' favor. Legislation to test interpretations of the 14th Amendment as granting citizenship to children of illegal immigrants will emerge early next session. That is likely to be followed by attempts to force employers to use a still-developing web system, dubbed E-Verify, to check that all of their employees are in the U.S.

legally.

NAPOLITANO SECURITY

VO: 24

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano isn't giving any ground when it comes to the use of full-body scanners and invasive pat-downs at airports around the country. While some travelers do not like them, Napolitano in an interview broadcast Sunday insisted the practices will not change for the "foreseeable future." The new technology and the pat-downs are "objectively safer for our traveling public," said Napolitano, adding she's always looking to improve the security systems in place. Napolitano also dismissed a recent news report about major airports failing secrets tests designed to get contraband such as guns and knives past security screeners. The report said some airports had a 70 percent failure rate.

HOLIDAY RETURN FRAUD

VO: 29

Retailers are concerned about a practice called "return fraud," where shoppers leave a tag on a piece of clothing, wear it, then takes it back for a refund. It's just one issue stores are battling especially during the holiday shopping season. Maybe that top that Aunt Mary picked out isn't exactly a hit. So, you bring it back for a legitimate refund. But check out these shoppers. The National Retail Federation estimates return fraud losses of 14 billion dollars this year, 4 billion alone during the holidays. Not criminal behavior, but to retailers, it's unethical and costly because they're stuck with damaged or soiled goods they can't re-sell. What is criminal, retailers say, is return fraud that's a form of shoplifting.

CHOLESTEROL AND HEART ATTACKS

VO:25

People who are hospitalized after a heart attack often aren't getting the kind of intensive cholesterol-lowering drugs that could save their lives, a new study suggests. Evidence has shown that after suffering a heart attack, patients are less likely to have another if they start "intensive" therapy with cholesterol-lowering statin drugs. National cholesterol guidelines generally recommend that people who have survived a heart attack be placed on intensive lipid-lowering therapy that uses high doses of certain statins, or a statin combined with ezetimibe (Zetia), to aggressively lower so-called bad cholesterol and raise the "good" version. But those guidelines are often not followed, according to data from more than 65,000 patients treated at hospitals in the U.S.

EMOTIONAL INTELIGENCE

VO: 28

Emotional intelligence -- the ability to assess and control one's emotions -- increases with age and peaks around the age of 60, U.S. researchers found. Researchers led by Robert Levenson of the University of California, Berkeley, found people age 60 and older are better able to see the positive side of a stressful situation and more likely to empathize with others. The study, published in *Psychology and Aging*, found older study participants more often used "positive reappraisal" -- a coping mechanism drawing heavily on life experience and lessons learned. Younger and middle-aged participants usually used "detached appraisal" -- coping by adopting an objective, unemotional attitude. Since emotional intelligence is important at any age, the researchers suggest those in their 60s should enjoy an advantage in the workplace and in personal relationships.

HEALTH INSURANCE RULES

LUIS MEGID/ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:48

California will create an Internet-based insurance exchange to let consumers comparison-shop for affordable health insurance coverage under two of the many laws taking effect with the new year. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed bills in September making California the first state to authorize an oversight board for an insurance exchange marketplace since the federal health care overhaul was enacted earlier this year. Massachusetts implemented its exchange before the federal reforms. The Republican governor and Democratic legislative leaders who carried SB900 and AB1602 said the companion bills will drive down costs and give consumers more options by promoting competition between health insurance companies. Republican lawmakers countered that the measures create an expensive new health care bureaucracy even before the federal law takes effect in 2014. Supporters said the five-member board overseeing the California Health Benefit Exchange will need those three years to hire staff, set up the program, select health plans to participate and enroll Californians needing health insurance.

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12/28/10

RETIREMENT CRISIS

VO: 23

Many baby boomers are facing a personal finance disaster just as they're hoping to retire. Starting in January, more than 10,000 baby boomers a day will turn 65 and that pattern will continue for the next 19 years. Olivia Mitchell of the University of Pennsylvania calls the situation "extremely serious." She says baby boomers "have not saved very effectively for retirement and are still retiring too early." There are a number of problems facing the boomers. The traditional pension plan is disappearing and many stock plans have been posting low returns. Also, many boomers who had banked on their homes are finding the crash in housing prices has slashed the value of their home. There are other signs of coming trouble: Many boomers have too high a mortgage debt; Others are receiving less Social Security money because of early retirement; And health care expenses continue to soar.

OBAMA ECONOMIST

VO: 26

President Barack Obama is expected to announce his choice for top economic adviser after he returns from his Hawaiian vacation next week. It's a decision that could signal a new direction for the administration as it struggles to jumpstart the economy and wrestle down unemployment. Potential candidates include investment banker Roger Altman,

Yale President Richard Levin, Treasury Department deficit hawk Gene Sperling and National Economic Council deputy director Jason Furman.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

VO: 26

Holiday shoppers have been in the mood to spend big. MasterCard Advisors' SpendingPulse, which monitors all transactions including cash, says total consumer spending excluding autos, rose 5.5 percent to \$584.3 billion from Nov. 5 through Dec. 24. That compared with the same 50-day period a year ago. It's the biggest increase since 2007, when revenue rose 4.9 percent. Total sales surpassed 2007 holiday spending, which reached \$566.34 billion. The data show clothing sales rose 11.2 percent. Also, jewelry and luxury goods showed strong single-digit gains compared with a year ago. Analysts say shoppers looked for big bargains and when possible handed over cash.

IMPLANT FOR SLEEP APNEA

VO: 29

People who suffer from severe snoring may soon be in luck as researchers are looking into a pacemaker implant that will not only stop snoring, but will also battle sleep apnea in the process. Sleep apnea is something that is developed for those who have a lot of problems in regards to their sleep.

AT&T DOCUMENTARY ABOUT TEXTING AND DRIVING

JAIME GARCIA- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:06

The wireless company planned to release the video today, before New Year's Eve. The timing is aimed, the company said, at showing that texting and driving deserves to be considered as dangerous as drunk driving. The documentary includes intense, sometimes disturbing, images, including that of Ms. West, as she spent her last minutes alive on a breathing tube. Research from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute shows that motorists who text face a 23 times greater risk of crash or near crash. Other wireless carriers, like Verizon Wireless, have in the last year stepped up efforts to warn about the risks of texting and driving. AT&T said it plans to distribute the documentary to schools, safety organizations and government agencies, and is urging people to take a pledge on its Facebook page not to text and drive.

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12/29/10

NEW CONGRESS IN 1 WEEK

VO: 20

The new year will bring a lot of new faces to the first session of the 112th Congress as Republicans take control of the House and increase their number in the Senate. But a lot of old faces will remain. Two of the most recognizable in the House, Nancy Pelosi and John Boehner (BAY'-nur), are switching jobs. Boehner will become the new Speaker of the House, and Pelosi will likely take over as the minority leader.

GULF OIL SPILL COSTS

VO: 23

As the Gulf oil spill gushed out of control, BP's financial liabilities seemed big enough to sink the company. No more. Cleanup, government fines, lawsuits, legal fees and damage claims will likely exceed the \$40 billion that BP has publicly estimated, according to an Associated Press analysis. But they'll be far below the highest estimates made over the summer by legal experts and prominent Wall Street banks, such as Goldman Sachs, which said costs could near \$200 billion. BP will survive the worst oil spill in U.S. history for several key reasons: it has little debt; its global businesses are forecast to generate \$26 billion next year in cash flow from operations; the environmental impact of the spill isn't as bad as feared; and the government seems unlikely to ban BP from Gulf drilling. To bolster its finances, BP has cut its dividend, issued debt and sold more than \$21 billion in assets.

CILANTRO & PARSLEY RECALL

VO: 23

A Texas produce distributor has recalled nearly seven-thousand cases of cilantro and curly parsley after samples in Canada, and Michigan tested positive for salmonella. The latest recall comes days after dozens of people fell sick after consuming bacteria-tainted alfalfa sprouts in an apparently unrelated situation. The recall pertains to cilantro and parsley from J-and-D Produce and was packed between November 30th and December 6th.

NEW MEAT NUTRITION LABEL

VO: 27

Those familiar nutrition labels found on everything from soda to cereal to mayonnaise will also be required on meats beginning Jan. 1, 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announces today. The new labels will list calories, calories from fat, total fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, sodium, protein and vitamins for 40 of the most commonly purchased cuts of beef, poultry, pork and lamb, according to an early look at the labels provided to USA Today. The new rules will be published today in the Federal Register.

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12/30/2010

TRANSIT WOES

VO:21

New York commuters are facing a double-whammy: a blizzard that paralyzed the transit system and fare increases that have left some riders fuming. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority fare hike for riding the city's subways, buses and commuter rails is increasing for the third time in three years. It comes just months after severe cuts to service. Tolls also went up at the MTA's bridges and tunnels, all part of attempts to close a huge budget gap. The monthly unlimited Metrocards went up by \$15 to \$104, and single-ride tickets by 25 cents to \$2.50.

U.S. DEPORTS RECORD NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IN 2010

VO: 20

A record number of immigrants were deported from the United States in 2010 and the year also has been marked by the expansion of the Secure Communities program of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which identifies imprisoned undocumented foreigners. During Fiscal Year 2010, ICE deported 392,862 undocumented foreigners, of whom more than 195,000 were convicted criminals, an increase of more than 23,000 deportations including 81,000 people with criminal records - compared with 2008. In 2009, deportations totaled 389,834 and the goal for 2011 is 404,000.

STATES COULD FOLLOW ARIZONA ON IMMIGRATION

VO: 24

Because Congress was unable to pass any kind of immigration legislation this year and the prospects remain dim when the new Congress is sworn in next month, state legislatures will continue to lead the charge on immigration policy in the new year. For many states, that could mean a crackdown on illegal immigration that mirrors the Arizona law that passed in April and reignited a national immigration debate. After Republican made huge gains in statehouses and governor's mansions in the November election, as many as seven states are "likely" to pass an Arizona-style law

next year, according to a study by the National Immigration Forum, which opposes such legislation.

APPLE SUED OVER APPS PRIVACY ISSUES

Two separate groups of iPhone and iPad users have sued Apple alleging that certain software applications were passing personal user information to third-party advertisers without consent. The lawsuits follow a Wall Street Journal report that said smartphones apps may be sharing personal data "widely and regularly," and that iPhone apps transmitted more data than apps on phones using Google's Android operating system. In the lawsuits seeking class action, filed in a federal court in California, the plaintiffs sought a ban on passing of user information without consent and monetary compensation, according to case documents. At some point, both cases may be consolidated into one by the judges presiding over the cases, said Majed Nachawati, a partner at law firm Fears & Nachawati, one of the attorneys for the complainants.

NEW YEAR SECURITY

VO: 31

It's the biggest public party in the country. Nearly a million revelers will cram into the streets of Times Square to watch the ball drop on New Year's Eve. It's also remarkably crime-free, safe and orderly. In the past decade, there have been few arrests and virtually no major problems funneling people in and out of the confetti-filled streets to ring in the New Year. That's due mostly to what the partygoers don't notice: Throngs of police and counterterrorism officers blanketing the area, working from a security plan specifically tailored for the event. Manhole covers are sealed. Counter-snipers are stationed on secret rooftops. Officers carry beeper-sized radiation detectors. Plainclothes officers are stationed in the pens with the crowds, along with a uniformed presence and undercover officers. Bomb-sniffing dogs are on site. Purses are searched. Checkpoints are set up and perimeters are created using concrete blocks. Passing vehicles are checked for safety. Haz-mat teams are on standby. NYPD brass tweak the plan every year, using lessons learned from previous scares.

PROSTATE CANCER RISK / LONG FINGERS AND CANCER

VO: 22

A new study shows that men who have a longer ring finger could be more likely to have prostate cancer. The study-- out of Britain-- also found that if the index finger was longer, the men were 33-percent less likely to get prostate cancer. One theory is-- in some cases- men with prostate cancer have more testosterone in their bodies. Normally if men have higher testosterone their mothers do too. So the theory is that when a mom has more testosterone-- those babies have ring fingers that are longer. But no matter what length your fingers are, it's important to discuss prostate screening with your doctor.

UNDERAGE DRINKING

VO:27

Hospital emergency visits due to underage drinking are likely to jump on New Year's day, U.S. government researchers said Thursday, hoping to warn parents and young people of the dangers as they ring in 2011. According to the latest statistics, there were an estimated 1,980 visits to emergency rooms in the United States on Jan. 1, 2009 related to underage drinking, nearly four times the 546 such visits on an average day that year.

MORE JOBS FOR 2011

LOURDES MELUZA/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG : 2:10

A new CareerBuilder survey finds that more employers plan to add full-time workers in 2011 compared to 2010. The survey found that new hiring is more likely "in technology and revenue-producing fields." "More than half of employers reported they are in a better financial position today than they were one year ago," Matt Ferguson, CEO of CareerBuilder, said in the survey statement. "2011 will usher in a healthier employment picture as business leaders grow more confident in the economy. Our survey indicates more jobs will be added in 2011 than 2010, but job creation will remain gradual. The year will be characterized by steady, measured gains across various industries." The hiring outlook is different by geographic region, with the West having the best outlook and the Midwest and South having the lowest percentage hiring expectation. According to the survey, 26% of hiring managers in the West reported they plan to add full-time, permanent headcount followed by 24% in the Northeast and 23% in the Midwest and South. Plans to downsize staffs are trending below the last two years, with 8% of employers in the South expecting to decrease headcount followed by 7% in the Northeast, Midwest and West. Harris Interactive conducted the survey for

CareerBuilder from Nov. 15 to Dec. 2, 2010, with input from more than 2,400 hiring managers and human resource professionals across industries and company sizes.

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12/31/2010

KATRINA END OF TRAILERS

VO: 34

The era of the FEMA trailer -- a symbol of the prolonged rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina -- might be drawing to a close in New Orleans. Citing the remaining 221 trailers as blight, New Orleans officials have told the last remaining residents to be out by the start of 2011 or face steep fines. New Orleans once had more than 23,000 FEMA trailers, and for many people still living in them, they are akin to permanent homes. These residents say they will find it hard to make the city's deadline.

US:CA/NEW MARIJUANA LAW

VO: 21

In California will no longer be a crime to have marijuana for personal use, provided that the amount does not exceed 28 grams, but if you have more you will get a \$ 100 fine. This law is effective in January to allow an act to save tens of millions of dollars in legal proceedings for possession of small amounts of this drug.

MEDICARE FINANCES STUDY

VO: 31

An updated analysis of the financial stability of the Medicare program shows that what people pay into the system doesn't come close to covering the full value of the medical care they can expect to receive as retirees. The new program estimates by economists with the Urban Institute think tank illustrate a disconnect between people's perceptions about Medicare and the hard numbers that document the system's shaky finances. Many workers may believe their Medicare payroll taxes are going for their

own insurance after they retiree. But the money they contribute actually is used to pay the bills of seniors currently on the program.

MEAT RECALL

VO: 25

A California company has recalled 34,373 pounds of organic ground beef over fears of E. coli contamination. First Class Foods Inc. of Hawthorne said recalled packages were produced on December 7 and December 16. They have "EST. 18895" printed on them, federal officials said. Products were shipped to California, New Jersey, North Carolina, New York, Wisconsin and Washington state.

YOUNG MOTHERS

VO:25

A study showed that the rate of teens giving birth in U.S. reached its lowest level in almost 70 years ...however, in the international context the number is worried because the index of young pregnant is quite a lot more than in other countries. the number of pregnancies among mothers is a concern, because it involves several drawbacks, as higher rates of school dropouts, as well as possible and other health problems

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