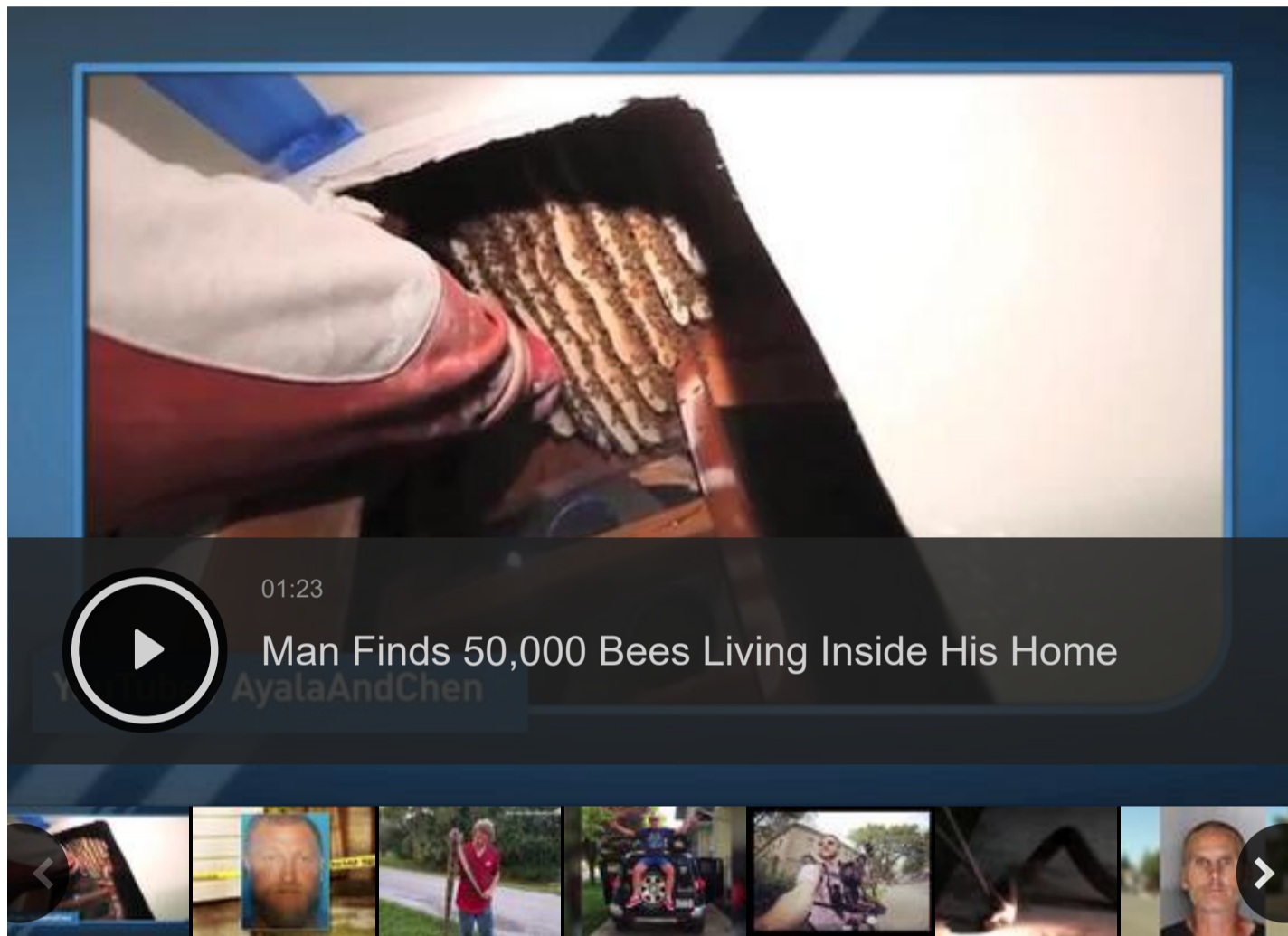


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Larry Chen Finds 50,000 Bees Inside Walls Of His California Home

By Kyle McGovern



This is not the kind of buzz you hope for.

Larry Chen, a 27-year-old photojournalist, discovered a hive of 50,000 bees inside his California home last week, [ABC News reports](#).

Rather than wipe out the colony, Chen decided to call a specialist who would simply relocate the bees.

“I figured they wouldn’t bother me too much,” he told ABC. “I got stung once but I was more curious about how big the hive actually was.”

Chen found a professional beekeeper — Mike ‘The Bee Guy’ — on Craigslist, who vacuumed the insects into a custom-made device and placed them in two boxes, which held 20,000 bees each.

A documentary on the endangerment of bees prompted Chen to contact Mike, who is a member of Backwards Beekeepers — a rescue organization that you could say has a “hive” mentality.

“My policy is to relocate, not exterminate,” Mike said to ABC.

The removal process at Chen’s home took five hours. Mike was stung four times.

Bees have made the news lately. There was [the suspected poisoning of 15 million pollinators in China last week](#), and [the scientific back-and-forth on colony collapse disorder](#) — the abrupt deaths of bees happening in North America and Europe — earlier this year.

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