LG&E and KU unveil state’s largest solar facility in Mercer County

HARRODSBURG - April 20 - Amidst a sea of some 44,600 solar panels, Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company unveiled Kentucky’s largest solar facility Tuesday at E.W. Brown Generation Station in Mercer County.

Joined by Kentucky Lt. Gov. Jenean Hampton and Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet Secretary Charles G. Snively, utility officials and local political leaders, including Mercer County Judge-Executive Milward Dedman, gathered at Brown Generation Station for the official unveiling of the solar facility that is expected to be fully operational by June.


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Bardstown police warn of movie prop money being used as real cash

(WDRB) - April 27 - The Bardstown Police Department is warning residents to look out for funny money. The police department posted on its Facebook page Wednesday, saying it has issued a scam alert for fake money.

The counterfeit cash is being used at stores, for craigslist purchases and for other purchases. Police say these bills look real at first glance, but they are actually movie props.

If you look closely at the bill, you’ll see that it says, “for motion picture use only,” on the front and the back of the bill.

The Bardstown Police Department says it’s gotten reports of $50 and $100 bills being used.


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Governor cuts Louisville indigent care

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Among dozens of budget provisions vetoed by Gov. Matt Bevin on Wednesday was state funding for indigent care at the University of Louisville Hospital.

The governor deleted state funding of up to $7.5 million over the 2016-18 budget period to the program called the Quality and Charity Care Trust that cares for medically needy patients.

Bevin said in his one-sentence veto message that provisions of the Affordable Care Act make appropriation and rules for the indigent care program at U of L Hospital "duplicative."

KentuckyOne Health, which operates the hospital for U of L, released a statement saying it was disappointed with the veto.


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UPMC Health Security Headlines

Extracts from April 29, 2016

CDC: Updated Zika Numbers for the United States (AvianFlu Diary) The CDC has posted the latest weekly figures on Zika Virus Disease in the US, and while it is still early in the year for vector transmission in the lower 48, there are 8 sexually transmitted cases documented, and 436 travel related cases (including 36 pregnant women). Go to article
Maps Predict Possible Zika Hot Spots *(USA Today)* Parts of the US could face a year-round threat from Zika, according to a map of potential hot spots for the virus.  Go to article

Brain Damage in Zika Babies Is Far Worse Than Doctors Expected *(Wall Street Journal: Subscription Required)* Ana Gabriela do Prado Paschoal sat at a desk in a small medical exam room and began a familiar, heartbreaking ritual. Your baby’s head is smaller than normal, Dr. Paschoal told the anxious mother, who had contracted the Zika virus while pregnant. Go to article

Quest Diagnostics Says Its Zika Virus Test Gets US Approval *(Reuters)* Quest Diagnostics Inc. said it has received emergency authorization from the US FDA to sell the first commercially developed diagnostic test for Zika in the US, a step that may help expand testing capacity and speed diagnosis of the virus. Go to article

The Senate Goes Home Without Funding Zika *(The Atlantic)* The US Congress doesn’t look any closer to funding anti-Zika efforts now than it did last week. If anything, lawmakers appear to have taken steps back. Go to article

Infant at Children’s Hospital Infected with Elizabethkingia Bacteria *(Milwaukee Wisconsin Journal Sentinel)* A strain of the Elizabethkingia bacteria has been found in an infant being treated in the neonatal intensive care unit at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, the hospital confirmed Thursday. Go to article

The Risk of Dengue for Non-immune Foreign Visitors to the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil *(BioMed Central)* Rio de Janeiro in Brazil will host the Summer Olympic Games in 2016. About 400,000 non-immune foreign tourists are expected to attend the games. As Brazil is the country with the highest number of dengue cases worldwide, concern about the risk of dengue for travelers is justified. Go to article

These Are the Most Serious Catastrophic Threats Faced by Humanity *(GIZMODO)* Oxford’s Global Priorities Project has compiled a list of catastrophes - both natural and self-inflicted - that could kill off 10% or more of the human population. It’s a real buzzkill of a report and it says that any of these catastrophes could happen within the next 5 years. Go to article

Syria Hospital Bombing: Are the Rules of War Breaking Down? *(NPR: Goats and Soda)* The al-Quds hospital in Aleppo, Syria, is the latest health care facility to get blown apart. The 34-bed hospital was tucked into the lower floors of a 5-story building in the Sukkari neighborhood of Aleppo. Go to article

White Powder Mailed to Donald Trump's Campaign Office Deemed No Threat *(New York Times)* A white powder that was discovered at the campaign office of Donald J. Trump at the Trump Tower in Midtown Manhattan on Thursday night was not a threat, the authorities said. Go to article

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Critical, high severity flaws patched in Firefox

*April 28, SecurityWeek* – (International) . Mozilla released its web browser, Firefox 46 that patched a total of 14 vulnerabilities including 4 critical vulnerabilities affecting the browser engine, which could cause crashes and potential arbitrary code execution, as well as a high severity vulnerability that could be exploited via specially crafted Web content and cause an exploitable crash, among other flaws.
News Quickies!

7 deadliest emergency general surgeries
http://news360.com/article/348134200

Return visits to the ER more likely for patients with limited English
http://news360.com/article/348149901

Studies document risks of assault for healthcare workers
http://news360.com/article/348123443

Measure would require women to register for the military draft
http://news360.com/article/348180934

Earth gets greener as globe gets hotter, study finds
http://news360.com/article/348119931

Smartphone health: Apple releases software for medical apps
http://news360.com/article/348044012

Microsoft is still committed to Windows 10 mobile (MSFT)
http://news360.com/article/348194508

32nd annual Governor’s Safety and Health Conference in Louisville

Registration is open for the 32nd annual Governor’s Safety and Health Conference and Exposition to be held May 9-13 at the Galt House in Louisville.

“Each year, this conference is the largest gathering of occupational safety and health professionals in Kentucky,” said Commissioner of Department of Workplace Standards Ervin Dimeny. “This premier platform enables us to bring together business, labor, education and government fields to highlight our most important common interest — workplace safety.

“On behalf of the Labor Cabinet, I would like to encourage all interested parties to register for what is assured to be a fantastic week of interactive training and networking opportunities.”

Assistant U.S. Secretary of Labor for OSHA, Dr. David Michaels, will deliver keynote remarks on Thursday, May 12. As the longest serving Assistant Secretary in OSHA’s history, he will be on hand to provide an overview of the agency’s latest initiatives and updated regulations.

“In OSHA’s 45-year existence, the agency has helped to improve working conditions for millions of employees – preventing injuries and illnesses and saving lives,” Michaels said. “In 1970, an estimated 14,000 workers were killed on the job, or about 38 workers every day. Today, with a workforce almost twice as large, the number has dropped to about 13 workers killed every day.

“But despite the progress that has been made and our continued efforts, we have not achieved our ultimate goal – to protect the safety, health and life of every worker. There is more work to be done.
We honor the memory of workers whose deaths were preventable, and we acknowledge other workers who have been exposed to potentially deadly hazards. This conference will help us learn how to recognize and minimize hazards at work before any more people get hurt or killed.”


[Click here](#) for registration information.

The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled by Dick Bartlett ([rbartlett@kyha.com](mailto:rbartlett@kyha.com)) several times a week, and when events make it necessary it may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to added or deleted, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact [preparedness@kyha.com](mailto:preparedness@kyha.com) (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.