Congress Ends Spat, Agrees To Fund $1.1 Billion To Combat Zika
(NPR) After nearly seven months of bickering and finger-pointing, Congress on Wednesday agreed to allocate $1.1 billion to help fight the spread and effects of the Zika virus.

The **deal** is part of a broader agreement to continue to fund the government after the fiscal year ends on Friday and the current budget expires.

It brings to an end a partisan fight that has had the unusual effect of delaying funding to deal with what **all sides agree** is a public health emergency. The delay came out because of disagreement over side issues like funding for Planned Parenthood and whether the money should be considered "emergency" spending.

Wednesday's deal drops language barring the money from going to Planned Parenthood clinics. The Senate passed the measure Wednesday; it is pending in the House.


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New case of dengue reported in Miami-Dade County
(CIDRAP News Scan) Florida's Department of Health (Florida Health) confirmed yesterday that Miami-Dade County has its first case of locally acquired dengue illness in 2016, the *Miami Herald* reported today. Dengue returned to Florida in 2009 after a 70-year absence, but local transmission has not occurred since 2013.

The news comes as Miami-Dade County remains vigilant against cases of locally acquired Zika virus. Like Zika, dengue is an arbovirus transmitted by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. Dengue appears within 14 days of a mosquito bite and typically causes more severe illness than Zika virus. The person infected in Miami-Dade County has been treated and is expected to make a full recovery, health officials said.

According to the infectious disease blog Avian Flu Diary, on Jun 1, there was a confirmed case of locally acquired dengue in Monroe County, which was the state's first case of the year. So far, according to the Florida Arbovirus Surveillance Report, there have been 40 cases of travel-related dengue in the state this year.

*Sep 28 Miami Herald* story
*Sep 28 Avian Flu Diary* post

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New name announced for Kosair Children's Hospital
LOUISVILLE, Ky. (WDRB) -- Kosair Children's Hospital has a new name: Norton Children's Hospital. Officials with Norton Healthcare announced the new name at a news conference Wednesday morning.

Kosair Charities and Norton Healthcare officially split up in August after the two parties **settled a two-year lawsuit**. The Kosair name will be removed and replaced with the new name by Nov. 10.

The names of other Norton Healthcare entities serving children will change as well, including Norton Women’s and Children’s Hospital (in St. Matthews), Norton Children’s Medical Center and Norton Children’s Medical Associates (physician practices).


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**Drink up:** More Kentucky communities allowing alcohol sales

GLASGOW, Ky. (AP) - Voters in multiple communities around Kentucky have approved alcohol sales. According to media reports, a measure allowing both restaurants and stores to sell liquor passed in Barren County by 233 votes. The city of Pineville in Bell County and the cities of Morgantown, Woodbury and Rochester in Butler County also approved measures allowing alcohol sales.


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**Official: 2 students, 1 teacher wounded in SC school shooting**

TOWNVILLE, S.C. (AP) - TOWNVILLE, S.C. (AP) — A teenager killed his father at their home Wednesday before going to a nearby elementary school and opening fire with a handgun, wounding two students and a teacher, authorities said.

The teen was apprehended within minutes of the school shooting in this rural town about 110 miles northeast of Atlanta. One of the students was shot in the leg and the other in the foot, Capt. Garland Major with the Anderson County Sheriff’s Office said. Both students were male. The female teacher was hit in the shoulder.

Before the shooting at Townville Elementary about 1:45 p.m., the teen gunned down his 47-year-old father, Jeffrey Osborne, at their home about 2 miles from the school, authorities said.

Full AP story: [http://bigstory.ap.org/aa98ce46336d434e986792b4369ade14](http://bigstory.ap.org/aa98ce46336d434e986792b4369ade14)

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**Clown related threats prompt heightened security at 2 Kentucky schools**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (WHAS11) – According to a JCPS spokesperson, a potential threat was made on social media regarding Farnsley Middle School and Moore High School. The photos on social media featured clowns.

JCPS believes the threats were hoaxes, but the district is taking the situation very seriously. As a precaution, both schools will be operating on heightened security for the remainder of the day.


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**Police keeping close watch at S. Ind. schools due to threats**

(WhAS11) LOUISVILLE - Police are keeping a close watch at schools across Southern Indiana because of threats found on social media.


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**UK students reported 837 sexual assaults in 1 year but almost none went to police**

(Herald-Leader) University of Kentucky students reported slightly fewer sexual assaults on campus in the second annual campus safety survey, but a high number of them are still not reported to the UK authorities. Of the 23,000 students who responded to the Campus Attitudes Toward Safety (CATS) survey for 2015-2016, 837 reported some kind of sexual assault, compared to 1,050 the year before.


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**AP: Across US, police officers abuse confidential databases**

DENVER (AP) — Police officers across the country misuse confidential law enforcement databases to get information on romantic partners, business associates, neighbors, journalists and others for reasons that have nothing to do with daily police work, an Associated Press investigation has found.
Criminal-history and driver databases give officers critical information about people they encounter on the job. But the AP's review shows how those systems also can be exploited by officers who, motivated by romantic quarrels, personal conflicts or voyeuristic curiosity, sidestep policies and sometimes the law by snooping. In the most egregious cases, officers have used information to stalk or harass, or have tampered with or sold records they obtained.

No single agency tracks how often the abuse happens nationwide, and record-keeping inconsistencies make it impossible to know how many violations occur.

Read more: http://bigstory.ap.org/ffdedcf4db9c4240a592e57d0a6fe84c

Marijuana measures on the ballot in 9 states on Nov. 8
(AP) Voters on Nov. 8 will decide ballot measures in nine states that would expand legal access to marijuana. Keep reading to see a rundown: http://www.wave3.com/story/33268618/marijuana-measures-on-the-ballot-in-9-states-on-nov-8

New drug detection technology that works in seconds
(AP) CLARK COUNTY, IN (WAVE) - Indiana State Police now have another tool that will help fight the war on drugs. The device is called TruNarc and troopers have the ability to scan narcotics and get a reading back within seconds.

For an agency that covers major interstates like I-65 and I-64, Sgt. Philip Hensley said this product will be a great help in speeding up the process and medical response and most importantly getting illegal drugs out of the community.


The Revolving Door Spins From FDA To Industry
(NPR) About 27 percent of Food and Drug Administration reviewers who approved hematology-oncology drugs from 2001 through 2010 left to work for the industry they previously regulated, an analysis found.


Domestic Preparedness Journal
Featured: CBRNE Threats
September 2016
Complimentary Download (Adobe Reader Required)

Opioid crisis in rural areas may be tackled through telemedicine
(Corbin Times) GILES COUNTY, Va. - Robert Devereaux is a family physician in this southwest corner of Virginia, where problems surrounding prescription opioid use far outstrip the capacity of psychiatrists and addiction specialists to treat them.

Read more: http://www.thetimestribune.com/cnhi_network/opioid-crisis-in-rural-areas-may-be-tackled-through-telemedicine/article_f8f8135e-8197-549c-ac2b-aee7ee8db89.html

Hospital chain settles Medicare suit for $32.7 million
WASHINGTON, Pa. (AP) - A national hospital chain headquartered in central Pennsylvania has agreed to pay $32.7 million to resolve allegations that it billed Medicare for medically unnecessary services. The Department of Justice alleged that between 2006 and 2013, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania-based Vibra Healthcare admitted patients to five long-term health care hospitals and
an inpatient rehabilitation facility although their symptoms didn't qualify them for admission. The company has facilities in 15 states.


UPMC Health Security Headlines
Extracts from September 28, 2016

CDC Whistleblower Claims Agency Has Been Using Wrong Zika Test (Washington Post) In the midst of the fight to control Zika, the top public health agency in the US has been engaged in an intense internal debate about the best way to test whether someone has been infected with the mosquito-borne virus. Go to article

A Guide to the Changing Science of Flu Shots (STAT) You're seeing the signs in pharmacies and perhaps around your workplace. Your doctor's office may be calling to schedule an appointment. It's just that time. Flu vaccination efforts are in full swing. But you may have been hearing puzzling things about flu shots over the past couple of years. Go to article

Searching for Ebola's Hideout (Medical Xpress) There was a certain kind of quiet hopefulness when, in late April this year, the last Ebola patient of the West African epidemic - a two-year-old boy - walked out of a treatment facility in Monrovia, Liberia. With the smouldering embers of the outbreak fading, there was cause for celebration. But there remains the impotent fear of the unseen: Ebola is still out there, lurking. We just don't know where it's hiding or when it will be back. Go to article

Earth's CO₂ Passes the 400 PPM Threshold--Maybe Permanently (Scientific American) In the centuries to come, history books will likely look back on September 2016 as a major milestone for the world's climate. At a time when atmospheric carbon dioxide is usually at its minimum, the monthly value failed to drop below 400 parts per million. Go to article

Mass Casualty Decontamination Guidance and Psychosocial Aspects of CBRN Incident Management: A Review and Synthesis (PLOS: Currents Disasters) Mass casualty decontamination is an intervention employed by first responders at the scene of an incident involving noxious contaminants. Many countries have sought to address the challenge of decontaminating large numbers of affected casualties through the provision of rapidly deployable temporary showering structures, with accompanying decontamination protocols. Go to article

Back to school season may mean surge in concussion risk (Reuters Health) - When children return to school each fall they face at least twice the concussion risk they had during summer vacation, a U.S. study suggests.

For boys aged 10 to 19, the concussion rate surges to 7.0 cases for each 1,000 people in the autumn from 2.9 cases per 1,000 in the summer, according to an analysis of medical claims for members of Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plans.

Concussion rates for girls in that age group climb to 3.7 cases for each 1,000 people in the fall from just 1.9 cases per 1,000 in the summer.

Full story: http://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-kidsconcussions-autumn-idUSKCN11Y2P1

From youth to college football, lynching threats reported over anthem kneeling (CBS) NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick's choice to kneel during the national anthem during pregame rituals to protest ongoing injustice against minorities has brought a wide range of reactions, from support to rage. At every level, athletes who kneel in protest have reported death threats, from the vague to the specific, like being lynched.
In Beaumont, Texas, the Beaumont Bulls youth football team has been kneeling to protest “bullying, gang violence and other problems,” reports CBS Beaumont affiliate KFDM-TV. With that protest has come death threats against the kids, ranging in age from 11 to 12.


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**Perspective on the "new Cold War"**

* A veteran reporter who covered the old Cold War discusses how a new one is brewing.
  
* Read and see more: http://www.cbsnews.com/news/60-minutes-perspective-on-the-new-cold-war/

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**Pilots, air traffic controllers shifting to text messaging**

CHANTILLY, Va. (AP) — Airline pilots and air traffic controllers are on schedule to switch to text communications at most of the nation's busiest airports by the end of the year, a milestone that holds the potential to reduce delays, prevent errors and save billions of dollars in fuel cost, says the Federal Aviation Administration.

Controllers and pilots will still use their radios for quick exchanges like clearance for takeoff and in emergencies and situations where time is critical. But the nation's air traffic system is gradually shifting to text messages for a majority of flying instructions.

Read more: http://bigstory.ap.org/37d10b72c9b8402099c602afc0391f44

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**Reminder: CMS Webinar on COP Final Rule about Emergency Preparedness**

* October 5th at 1:30 PM (ET)

* Register: https://blh.ier.intercall.com/details/d4e7a2cd3a1245f5b20fa6e053e215fe

The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the 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 (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.