



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for June 17, 2018

1 dead and 20 injured after gunfire at New Jersey art festival

(USA Today) One gunman is dead and 22 people were injured, including four critically, in a shooting early Sunday at an all-night arts festival in Trenton, New Jersey, authorities said.

At least two suspects began shooting about 2:45 a.m. at the Art All Night festival, according to Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo Onofri. One of the suspects, a 33-year-old man, was killed, Onofri said.

The other suspect, who wasn't identified, was in police custody.



The reason for the shooting remained unclear as state police continued to investigate the scene. The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is assisting the investigation.

Read more:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2018/06/17/trenton-shooting/708419002/>

<< Read more: <http://newser.com/s260721>

Kentucky Sues Walgreens For 'Dual Role' In The State's Opioid Crisis

(NPR) The lawsuit alleges the company fulfilled orders "for such large quantities of prescription narcotic pain medication that there could be no associated legitimate medical purpose for their use."

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/2018/06/14/620154365/kentucky-sues-walgreens-for-dual-role-in-the-states-opioid-crisis>

'I did not sell donor eyes for profit.'

Indicted coroner backed up by Kentucky Lions Eye Bank

Read story: <http://www.kentucky.com/news/local/crime/article213158414.html>

National Guard setting up four free medical clinics in Eastern Kentucky

(Herald-Leader) A 10-day program beginning Friday is bringing free health care to Eastern Kentucky.

"Operation Bobcat" will see the deployment of the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123 Medical Group to four sites in the region.

The Guard members will be joined by active-duty U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy Reserve and active-duty U.S. Navy members. Operation Bobcat will have a staff of 215 members and will offer medical screenings; non-emergency medical treatments; sports physicals; dental exams, cleanings, fillings and extractions; optical exams and single-prescription eyeglasses.

Full story: <http://www.kentucky.com/news/state/article213091089.html>

ASPR to Fund Partnerships to Test Regional Disaster Response Concept

(AHA Today) Eligible partnerships can apply through Aug. 15 to serve as demonstration sites for implementing its Regional Disaster Health Response System concept, the Department of Health and Human Services' Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [announced](#) yesterday. ASPR plans to award two partnerships up to \$3 million each to serve as demonstration sites for one year.

"Whereas the health care coalition effort has successfully promoted horizontal integration of key stakeholders in the emergency response system, including health care entities and organizations, this effort will bolster such efforts by simultaneously promoting vertical integration of key expert resources such as trauma centers, pediatric centers, and poison control centers," the funding opportunity announcement states. According to the announcement, the awards "will focus primarily on building and maturing the partnerships that are required to effectively prepare for and respond to the management of patients in disasters, including those that facilitate rapid expansion of medical surge

capacity of the existing healthcare system, coordination of patient and resource movement to support the response, and the swift involvement of specific clinical specialists." Eligible partnerships must include at least one hospital with a designated trauma center among the health care providers and at least one state and one political subdivision.

Funding announcement: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=306288>

Signs a child is drowning can be easy to miss

(CBS) With summer recreation luring kids to the water, experts caution parents that one of the season's favorite pastimes is also one of the [most dangerous](#) for children.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [drowning is the second-leading cause](#) of accidental deaths in kids under the age of 15. Children can drown in as little as an inch or two of water in a kiddie pool, bathtub, or even a cleaning bucket or cooler. But about half of cases involve swimming pools.

[Bode Miller's 19-month-old daughter drowns in pool, authorities say](#)

What's more, nearly half of child drownings happen within 25 yards of an adult, and 10 percent of adults will witness the situation without even realizing the drowning is happening.

That's because often times what most of us think of as the telltale signs of drowning – flailing arms and shouting for help – simply don't happen, says Mario Vittone, a former U.S. Coast Guard officer, water safety expert and author of an [article for Slate](#) called "Drowning Doesn't Look Like Drowning."

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/signs-a-child-is-drowning-can-be-easy-to-miss/>

Rising temperatures heighten concerns for area doctors

(WDRB) (WDRB) -- It may not be summer yet, but it will sure feel like it in the coming days. As temperatures rise, so does concern from area doctors.

Temperatures will reach well into the 90s for several days and heat indices will also be a factor, but local doctors say they will be ready.

Heat exhaustion and heat stroke send dozens to Norton Audubon Hospital every year, and doctors are trying to get in front of it.

Physicians are warning people to do everything they can to prepare themselves for the extreme temperatures.

"Stay hydrated, stay in the shade as much as you can, and postpone any activities that can be rescheduled so you aren't doing them in the heat of the day," Norton's ER Director Robert Couch said.

High body temperature, shallow breathing and confusion can be signs there may be a problem. If you or someone you know is experiencing heat stroke, doctors say to take action.

Doctors suggest immersing the person in cold water, and placing ice packs on their head and neck. They also say you should make wise clothing choices.

Watch and read more: <http://www.wdrb.com/story/38437648/rising-temperatures-heighten-concerns-for-area-doctors>

Ricin Threat: Cologne Anti-terror Police Search Flats

(BBC) The 29-year-old man, named in German media only as Sief Allah H, is being questioned by police. Police stormed his flat on Tuesday and found a chemical which turned out to be ricin. He is suspected of planning a biological terror attack.

Read more: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-44494010>

Shortage of Rural Veterinarians Puts Farmers, Food Supply at Risk

(NPR) Large-animal veterinarians inspect livestock before they can legally be sold for slaughter. If an illness spreads among a herd or flock, it's Chandler's responsibility to diagnose and report the problem to public health officials. Early detection is key to preventing devastating outbreaks, like the 2015 bird flu in the Midwest that led to the deaths of 50 million turkeys and chickens.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2018/06/16/620387349/shortage-of-rural-veterinarians-puts-farmers-food-supply-at-risk>

Fear and Frustration Over EPA Move To Kill Chemical-Disaster Protections

(NPR) The EPA intends to block rules to prevent and respond to leaks, explosions and other disasters at chemical facilities and refineries around the U.S. That scares many people who live and work nearby.

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/2018/06/15/620134622/fear-and-frustration-over-epa-move-to-kill-chemical-disaster-protections>

Terrifying new strain of bird flu that kills nearly HALF of those who contract it discovered in China amid fears of new global pandemic

Read more: <https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/news/2790957/terrifying-new-strain-of-bird-flu-that-kills-nearly-half-of-those-who-contract-it-discovered-in-china-amid-fears-of-new-global-pandemic/>

Missing: *Where Are the Migrants in Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plans?*

Migrant and mobile population groups—such as migrant workers, cross-border frontier workers, refugees, asylum seekers, and other non-citizen categories residing within national boundaries—may be disproportionately affected in the event of health emergencies. Plans that are migrant inclusive and mobility competent enable greater public health protection for all. [Health and Human Rights Journal](#)

Separating kids from parents at the border mirrors a 'textbook strategy' of domestic abuse, experts say - and causes irreversible, lifelong damage

(Business Insider) Babies ripped from parents' arms. [Tent cities](#). [Mass trials](#). [Suicides](#). Reports about what's happening to children and families who arrive at the US-Mexico border have shocked many, from [White House reporters](#) to [conservative religious leaders](#).

US authorities are now detaining and prosecuting anyone who attempts to cross the border illegally — even those seeking asylum because they're fleeing violence, some of whom are being [blocked from reaching official ports of entry](#). Within families, the parents are charged with a crime but children are not, which leads them to be separated. Almost [2,000 children were taken from their families](#) between April 19 and May 31 as a result of the policy. In some cases, the kids are too young to speak.

But this policy could cause irreversible harm and psychological damage for the rest of people's lives, according to experts. Some consequences could even be passed on to future generations.

Forced family separation has been condemned as harmful, inhumane, and counter to accepted human rights by many groups, including the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), the [American Psychiatric Association](#), and the [United Nations human rights office](#).

There are [more than 10,000 unaccompanied children](#) in US facilities and detention centers right now; some have been separated from their parents, while others arrived at the border alone.

Full story: <http://www.businessinsider.com/psychological-effects-of-separating-immigrant-kids-and-parents-2018-6>

DRC Bordering Countries Begin Ebola Preparedness Training

(*devex*) The Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo continues more than one month after being confirmed by the World Health Organization. And while health workers and international aid organizations fight to contain the virus, WHO has focused its most recent efforts on Ebola preparedness training in neighboring countries.

Read more: <https://www.devex.com/news/drc-bordering-countries-begin-ebola-preparedness-training-92942>

Probiotic bacteria can diagnose, prevent, and treat cholera infections

(Phys.org) MIT engineers have developed a probiotic mix of natural and engineered bacteria to diagnose and treat cholera, an intestinal infection that causes severe dehydration.

Cholera outbreaks are usually caused by [contaminated drinking water](#), and infections can turn fatal if not treated. The most common treatment is rehydration, which must be done intravenously if the patient is extremely dehydrated. However, intravenous treatment is not always available to patients who need it, and the disease kills an estimated 95,000 people per year. The MIT team's new probiotic mix could be consumed regularly as a preventative measure in regions where cholera is common, or used to treat people soon after [infection](#) occurs.

Read more: <https://phys.org/news/2018-06-probiotic-bacteria-infections.html>

Honey Smacks cereal suspected in 31-state Salmonella outbreak

(CIDRAP News | Jun 15, 2018) Federal health officials and their state partners are investigating *Salmonella* Mbandaka outbreak linked to Kellogg's Honey Smacks cereal that has so far sickened 73 people in 31 states, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced.

Read more: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2018/06/honey-smacks-cereal-suspected-31-state-salmonella-outbreak>

Just a Nuisance?

Research Says Bedbugs Could Cause Serious Health Effects

For most people who aren't allergic to bedbug bites, the pests are mostly considered a nuisance bug. Luz Fernandez, a doctor at a University of Louisville primary care clinic, said most studies show that bedbugs are ultimately harmless and are [not known to cause disease](#).

"Certainly if they were a vector of a more severe disease there'd be an outcry for eradication," Fernandez said. "But since at this point, they fall more into the category of nuisances, maybe that's why it hasn't gotten the attention that other things have."

But research is beginning to show there might be more to bedbugs than just an inconvenience. North Carolina State researcher Zach DeVries' hypothesis is that bedbugs either cause asthma or make other household allergens that trigger asthma even worse.

Read more: <http://wfpl.org/just-a-nuisance-research-says-bedbugs-could-cause-serious-health-effects/>

An American Child Gets Disease That Killed Half of Europe

(Newser) – An Idaho child has come down with a rare illness that once tormented medieval Europe. Details are scant, but the child contracted bubonic plague in Idaho or on a recent visit to Oregon and is recovering with antibiotics, per the [Idaho Statesman](#) and [Oregonian](#). American plague cases are pretty rare—this is Idaho's first in 26 years.

"Plague is spread to humans through a bite from an infected flea," an Idaho health official says in [a statement](#). "Fleas spread the disease between animals. The disease can also be transmitted to humans by direct contact with infected animals or their fleas."

Full story: <http://www.newser.com/story/260710/us-child-comes-down-with-the-bubonic-plague.html>

Internists who maintain board certification may provide better care

(Reuters Health) - Physicians who maintain board certification by regularly passing exams on current clinical guidelines may provide higher quality care than their colleagues who don't, a U.S. study suggests.

Researchers examined health data for 85,931 Medicare patients treated between 2009 and 2012 by 1,260 general internists who were initially certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in 1991. Overall, 786 doctors, or 61 percent, maintained their board certification from 1991 to 2012.

In every case, doctors who maintained board certification did these things more often than physicians who let their certification lapse, researchers report in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Read more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-physicians-certifications/internists-who-maintain-board-certification-may-provide-better-care-idUSKBN1JB2YJ>

Implantable defibrillators may cause dilemmas for older patients

(Reuters) Defibrillators implanted in the body to kickstart the heart can be lifesaving for some people, but as patients age they may face difficult conversations about when to replace or deactivate the devices. Conversations about end-of-life care, in particular, can drive a wedge between patients and doctors and create difficult decisions for families, an international team of cardiologists writes in the American Journal of Medicine.

Read more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-heart-devices/implantable-defibrillators-may-cause-dilemmas-for-older-patients-idUSKBN1JB20I>

U of L Trauma surgeons crucial to survival of gunshot victims

(WDRB feature on the value of trauma centers and trauma surgeons.)

Read more: <http://www.wdrb.com/story/38428767/u-of-l-trauma-surgeons-crucial-to-survival-of-gunshot-victims>

CMS hospital star-rating system has been wrong for two years, health system finds

(Modern Healthcare) The CMS has miscalculated hospitals' star ratings since they were first released in 2016, according to leaders at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

Rush's quality leaders found that instead of evenly weighting the eight measures in the safety-of-care group, the CMS' star-ratings formula relied heavily on one measure—PSI 90—for the first four releases of the ratings, and [in the most recent release](#) relied heavily on complication rates from hip and knee replacements.

Those measures accounted for about 98% of a hospital's performance in the safety group, according to Rush's analysis. Full story:

http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20180615/TRANSFORMATION01/180619933?utm_source=modernhealthcare&utm_campaign=mh-alert&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20180615-TRANSFORMATION01-180619933

Rocks Under I-95 Present Odd, and Scary, Threat to Power Grid

(Bloomberg) There's a layer of 300 million-year-old rock under Interstate 95 that's capable of killing the lights from Washington to Boston and beyond the next time the sun erupts in all its fury. Sound far-fetched? Perhaps. But not to scientists. A solar storm is now viewed as enough of a risk in fact that grid operators across North America are working on plans to respond to just such a disturbance. And a draft of a soon-to-be-published [U.S. Geological Survey](#) report pinpoints the Eastern Seaboard as one of the areas most in danger. That's because this Paleozoic-era rock doesn't let the energy from a major geomagnetic storm -- a once-in-a-100-years kind of event -- pass through it but instead acts as a backstop that sends the surge back up above the ground for a second shot at causing mayhem.

Full story: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-06-13/rocks-under-i-95-present-odd-and-scary-threat-to-power-grid>

Kentucky launches plan to repair or replace 1,000 bridges

(WDRB) -- The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is launching an effort to repair or replace 1,000 bridges in Kentucky. According to a news release, the Bridging Kentucky program is "one of the nation's most aggressive bridge rehabilitation and replacement programs" and represents a \$700 million investment. It is expected to take six years to complete.

Read more: <http://www.wdrb.com/story/38427749/kentucky-launches-plan-to-repair-or-replace-1000-bridges>
KyDOT SHIFT Plan: <https://transportation.ky.gov/shift/Pages/default.aspx>

Veterinary offices, auto repair shops among those getting ready to implement KY service tax

(WKYT) Kentuckians are almost two weeks away from the roll-out of the state's new service tax. There is still quite a bit of confusion over which ones are affected and how it will be implemented. The

tax reform bill (set to go in to effect on July 1st) subjects several industries to the new six percent service tax.

Read more: <http://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Veterinary-offices-auto-repair-shops-among-those-getting-ready-to-implement-service-tax--485702441.html>

How to combat 'phoneliness'

(c/net) A new study likens smartphone addiction to substance abuse. According to a recent [NeuroRegulation study](#), digital addiction is real, and [smartphones](#) are causing it in a growing number of people. What's more, the symptoms and behaviors mimic those of actual substance abuse and can include increased loneliness (which the study calls "phoneliness"), anxiety and depression.

How would you define "phoneliness"? The author describes it as "The uncontrollable urge to pick up your phone and check it, just in case you missed something.

Using social media and apps to increase our social interaction can be good for business and may keep you [connected to] society and the world in general. These interactions, though reinforced by a neurochemical process, are much like drinking a diet soda: It tastes sweet and fills your tummy, but it lacks in real nutritional value, and in the long run, too much can be harmful.

Read more to learn some ways to break the habit: <https://www.cnet.com/how-to/how-to-combat-phoneliness/>

Kentucky teens admit to Snapchat 'cyberstalking' that included threats of school violence

(Herald-Leader) Two Jessamine County teens pleaded guilty in federal court Friday, admitting they posed as someone else to send via Snapchat a threat aimed at district schools.

Read more: <http://www.kentucky.com/news/local/crime/article213238719.html>

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 add or delete, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact rbartlett@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.