



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for June 30, 2018

Fireworks display gone wrong nearly cost firefighter his vision

(CBS) As the country prepares to celebrate the July Fourth holiday, experts are warning that all the fun with fireworks can be dangerous if you aren't careful – and sometimes even if you are. Each year, more than 10,000 people are treated in hospitals across the United States for [injuries involving fireworks](#). Unfortunately, many of those injured are young children.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/fireworks-display-gone-wrong-nearly-cost-this-firefighter-his-vision/>

Kentucky hepatitis A outbreak now worst in US

(WDRB) -- Kentucky officials believe the hepatitis A outbreak is now the worst in the United States. "Some states have ended their outbreak but still have a low number of cases," said Commissioner of Kentucky's Department of Public Health Dr. Jeffrey Howard. "As far as we know this is the most cases in a state with a current outbreak."

The Kentucky Department of Health confirms 969 cases of the liver disease.

Louisville has 482 confirmed cases; 300 people have been hospitalized. Six people in Kentucky have died, which is less than one percent of those diagnosed; three of those deaths were in Louisville. Officials say that death rate is much lower than that of states with comparable outbreaks.

Watch report and read more: <http://www.wdrb.com/story/38532350/kentucky-hepatitis-a-outbreak-now-worst-in-us>

Controversial Nonprofit Funded By Drug Companies Moves Into Kentucky

(WFPL) As the opioid epidemic continues and addiction experts push for more medication-assisted treatment, a controversial national nonprofit funded by drug companies is setting up shop in Kentucky.

The group, [the Addiction Policy Forum](#), was formed three years ago and is funded by [drug companies](#) that make the medication-assisted treatment drugs used to help people stay off opioids. Last week, the group announced it's forming a Kentucky chapter to help fight addiction in Kentucky.

The Addiction Policy Forum has set up a hotline and [website](#) for information on where to get treatment in Kentucky; the group has done so in 16 [other](#) states with plans to expand into every state by the end of the year, according to O'Brien.

But state officials and health experts say the group's efforts are duplicating systems already in place — and may pose conflicts of interest.

Full story: <http://wfpl.org/controversial-nonprofit-funded-by-drug-companies-moves-into-kentucky/>

Nearly 1,800 Puerto Rican hurricane survivors to lose FEMA housing assistance

(CNN) Nearly 1,800 Puerto Ricans who survived Hurricane Maria will be forced to move out Sunday from hotels on the island and the US mainland, where they've lived rent-free on assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"After 10 months of providing emergency shelter through Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA), FEMA is ending the program on June 30 for Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria survivors," the agency said in a statement. "Intended to provide emergency shelter, TSA is a temporary solution that bridges survivors into more permanent options."

Designed to be used for about two weeks, [the program had been extended repeatedly](#). FEMA spent more than \$432 million on lodging for tens of thousands of hurricane survivors who were left with no power or running water, damaged or destroyed homes and no school for their children, according to the agency.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/29/us/puerto-rico-fema-housing-assistance-ends/index.html?no-st=1530402774>

A dangerous heat wave is hitting more than half of the U.S. this weekend

(CBS) A dangerous heat wave will have more than half of the country sweltering over the Fourth of July holiday. Temperatures near -- and above -- 100 degrees Fahrenheit are combining with thick humidity to present serious health hazards.

The National Weather Service posted a reminder Friday that heat kills more people each year than tornadoes, lightning and floods.

Eighteen states from New Mexico to Michigan have issued heat advisories, warnings or watches, making up a heat dome that is descending on 60 million people. A storm knocked out power to 30,000 of them in St. Louis, who now lack air conditioning.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/heat-wave-fourth-of-july-weekend-2018-06-29/?ftag=CNM-00-10aac3a>

NWS Paducah: HEAT ADVISORY NOW IN EFFECT UNTIL 8 PM CDT SUNDAY.

* HEAT INDEX VALUES... Peaking from 100 to 110 degrees this afternoon, and from 100 to 105 degrees Sunday afternoon.

* IMPACTS... The combination of heat and humidity will lead to an high risk of heat related stress and illness. The very young, the elderly, those without air conditioning, and those participating in strenuous outdoor activities will be the most susceptible to heat illnesses. Also, car interiors can reach lethal temperatures in a matter of minutes.

NWS Louisville: (Hancock-Breckinridge-Meade-Ohio-Jefferson-Butler): Heat Advisory In Effect Through Tomorrow. TEMPERATURE...Temperatures in the mid 90s combined with high humidity will result in peak heat index values around 105 degrees the rest of this afternoon and again tomorrow afternoon.

Special Weather Statement (Jefferson-Grayson-Hardin-Bullitt-Oldham-Trimble-Henry-Shelby-Franklin-Scott-Harrison-Spencer-Anderson-Woodford-Fayette-Bourbon-Nicholas-Nelson-Washington-Mercer-Jessamine-Clark-Larue-Marion-Boyle-Garrard-Madison-Edmonson-Hart-Green-Taylor-Casey-Lincoln-Logan-Warren-Simpson-Allen-Barren-Monroe-Metcalf-Adair-Russell-Cumberland-Clinton):

HOT AND HUMID AGAIN ON SUNDAY. High temperatures will again climb into the lower 90s Sunday and combined with high humidity, plan on peak heat indices in the upper 90s to lower 100s during the afternoon and early evening hours.

Practice heat safety. Check on your neighbors, the elderly, and anyone without access to air conditioning. Stay hydrated. Limit strenuous outdoor activities to the morning or late evenings. Take frequent breaks in shade. Do not forget about your pets. And never leave children or pets unattended in vehicles.

NWS Wilmington: HOT AND HUMID CONDITIONS EXPECTED AGAIN ON SUNDAY. A strong upper level ridge will allow temperatures to warm into the lower to mid 90s on Sunday. These hot temperatures will combine with dewpoints in the lower to mid 70s to push heat index values into the upper 90s to around 100 degrees during the afternoon.

Anyone planning on being outside should take frequent breaks, and drink plenty of fluids. Remember to check on the elderly and people without air conditioning.

Weather Watches, Warnings or Advisories: <https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/ky.php?x=1>

**It Was The Water, FDA Says Of
Romaine E. Coli Outbreak That Killed Five**

(NPR) An E. coli outbreak that sickened people in 36 states and triggered warnings not to eat romaine lettuce this spring has been traced to water in a canal in the Yuma, Ariz., region – and the outbreak is now officially over, federal officials say.

"Suspect product is no longer being harvested or distributed from this area and is no longer available in stores or restaurants, due to its 21-day shelf life," [the Food and Drug Administration says](#).

Five people have died because of the outbreak and 96 were sent to hospitals, the FDA says in its latest update. Overall, the agency says, 210 people were made ill by the E. coli outbreak.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/2018/06/29/624647252/it-was-the-water-fda-says-of-romaine-e-coli-outbreak-that-killed-five>

You're probably washing your hands all wrong, study says

(CNN) Research shows that 97% of the time, we're washing our hands incorrectly which can lead to contamination of food and surfaces, and result in foodborne illness

The study from the US Department of Agriculture shows [most consumers failed to wash their hands](#) and rub with soap for 20 seconds. That's the amount of time recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which says that washing for shorter periods means fewer germs are removed.

Poor hand-washing practices led to cross-contamination, the study found. About half the time, participants spread bacteria to spice containers while preparing burgers, and 11% of the time, they spread bacteria to refrigerator handles.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/30/health/hand-washing-study-usda/index.html?no-st=1530403017>

CDC warns of shingles vaccine shortage

(CBS) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) is warning about a shortage of the newest shingles vaccine. [Shingrix was recommended](#) for people 50 and older beginning last fall and is more effective than the old vaccine at preventing the painful shingles virus. The demand has been greater than expected and many patients are having trouble getting the shot.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cdc-warns-of-shingles-vaccine-shortage-shingrix/>

**A Guide To Mosquito Repellents,
From DEET To ... Gin And Tonic?**

(NPR) - Bug-repellent wristbands? Victoria's Secret perfume? That old standby DEET? A look at the newest — and the tried-and-truest — methods of keeping skeeters from biting.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2018/06/30/623865454/a-guide-to-mosquito-repellents-from-deet-to-gin-and-tonic>

New Details Emerge About Deadly Shootings In Capital Gazette Newsroom

(NPR) The man charged with murdering five people in the Capital Gazette newsroom in Annapolis, Md., on Thursday had previously been investigated over threatening comments toward staff members, Anne Arundel County Police Department Chief Tim Altomare said Friday.

That was one of several details to emerge in a news conference on Thursday's shooting. Other revelations include the fact that police used a facial recognition system to help confirm Ramos' identity. Altomare also said the suspect had tried to hide as officers cornered him roughly two minutes after the first 911 call came in.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/2018/06/29/624700775/new-details-emerge-about-deadly-shootings-in-capital-gazette-newsroom>

Parkland documents released

Survivors describe carnage at Florida high school massacre

(AP) Students and teachers who survived a Florida high school massacre told investigators how they watched classmates die, had bullets whiz past them and huddled in fear until they were rescued by police, in some of the most dramatic records released so far from the mass shooting.

Prosecutors released the statements Friday from the Feb. 14 shooting Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where a gunman killed 17 people. The redacted statements are the latest evidence released under Florida law that makes it a public record when it is turned over to defense attorneys.

Full story: <https://apnews.com/bb8e9afb57d041c39b9861406559936f>

John Hopkins Health Security Headlines
Extracts from [June 29, 2018](#)

Amazon Primed for Health (*Boston Herald*) Amazon's acquisition of Somerville-based PillPack, an online pharmacy startup, marked the company's first internal foray into the health care industry, and sent ripples through the stock market as pharmacy retail stocks plunged.

Read more: http://www.bostonherald.com/business/business_markets/2018/06/amazon_primed_for_health

A Flu Drug May Be Poised to Upend Treatment in US (*Scientific American*) Next winter, there may be a new drug for people who contract influenza--one that appears to be able to shut down infection quickly and, unlike anything else on the market, can be taken as a single dose. The Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday said that it would give the drug, baloxavir marboxil, a priority review, and approval has the potential to upend the way influenza is treated. [Go to article](#)

New Observatory Monitors Disease Outbreaks and Large-scale Vaccinations in Real Time (*Homeland Preparedness News*) The hectic nature of public health emergencies may hardly leave officials time to reflect on what lessons are being learned on the ground, and in real time. The Outbreak Observatory aims to change that. Comprised of experts in public health and biosecurity, the Observatory's team captures and publishes stories and social media posts much like a journalist would from the experts on the ground tackling evolving public health challenges in the US and abroad. [Go to article](#)

Roadmap for Implementing Biosecurity and Biodefense Policy in the United States (*Gryphon Scientific*) The US policy landscape for countering biological threats is split into two main groups: 1) biosecurity, which specifically focuses on preventing theft, diversion, or deliberate malicious use of biological sciences knowledge, skills, materials, and technologies to cause harm; and 2) biodefense, which involves the development of capabilities and knowledge to assess, detect, monitor, respond to, and attribute biological threats. This report presents a roadmap for implementing biosecurity and biodefense policy to leverage the capabilities of science and technology advances and minimize security risks. [Go to article](#)

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.