



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 5, 2018

FBI: Cincinnati man scouted Cleveland locations for July 4 bomb attack

(ABC) An American-born citizen who federal authorities say recently scouted locations in Cleveland to attack people watching Fourth of July fireworks and talked of carrying out additional bombings has been charged with trying to support terrorism.

Federal authorities said Monday that Demetrius Pitts had expressed his support for al-Qaida for more than a year and talked about setting off bombs at a July 4 parade and later in his hometown, Philadelphia.

Pitts was arrested Sunday after meeting an undercover agent and was charged with attempted support of a terrorist organization.

FBI agent Stephen Anthony said it was unclear how close Pitts was to carrying out his threats, but he said authorities couldn't sit back and wait to find out. Authorities first began watching Pitts in 2017, when he lived in the Cincinnati area.

Read more: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/fbi-arrest-made-alleged-july-attack-plan-cleveland-56310520>

Related local story: <http://www.fox19.com/story/38555849/demetrius-nathaniel-pitts-july-4-cleveland-terror-plot-suspect-lived-in-cincinnati-until-may>

Man arrested over social media posts hinting he planned to blow up Cincinnati county buildings

FLORENCE, Ky. -- A man was arrested Monday in connection with social media comments hinting that he planned to blow up government buildings in Hamilton County, Ohio.

Allan Summers, 51, is charged with terroristic threatening, according to Florence police.

A post on Summers' Facebook page asked that friends and family "stay away" from the Hamilton County Justice Center, the county courthouse, and the building housing the prosecutor's office and public defender's office on July 9.

Read more: <https://www.wxyz.com/news/national/man-arrested-over-social-media-posts-hinting-he-planned-to-blow-up-county-buildings>

McConnell says there isn't much federal government can do about school shootings

(Herald-Leader) -Danville - In 2018, at least 26 students have died in five school shootings in America. Two of those deaths came in a shooting at Marshall County High School in Kentucky.

On Tuesday, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said he doesn't think Congress can do much to address the issue.

"I don't think at the federal level there's much that we can do other than appropriate funds," McConnell told a group of community leaders in Danville Tuesday. McConnell is not in favor of gun control laws.

Read more here: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/politics-government/article214224494.html>

ARH finalizes purchase of Saint Joseph Martin hospital, clinics

([ARH](#), [Lexington](#)) Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Inc. (ARH) has finalized the purchase of the Saint Joseph Martin hospital and its clinics.

ARH assumed ownership and operations of the facilities at 12:01 a.m. Sunday, July 1. The 25-bed Saint Joseph Martin hospital will operate under the new name, ARH Our Lady of the Way Hospital, and will become the 12th member of the ARH system, which is consistently recognized for medical excellence and covers communities throughout southeastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia.

Kathy Stumbo, who has served as president of the hospital since 2001, will continue as the Community CEO for ARH Our Lady of the Way moving forward.

Advocacy group seeks Ford Explorer recall due to fumes

(WKYT) (AP) - A nonprofit auto safety advocacy group is asking Ford to recall 1.35 million Explorer SUVs due to continued complaints of exhaust fumes in the passenger compartments.

The Center for Auto Safety says it found 44 complaints in a government database about fumes and potential carbon monoxide after owners had taken Explorers in for free repairs in a Ford customer service campaign that started last October.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has been investigating the problem for two years in police and civilian Explorers from the 2011 through 2017 model years, but it has not reached a conclusion.

Prior to October of last year, Ford had focused on fixing only law enforcement versions of the Explorer. But while maintaining the civilian versions were safe, the company said it decided to do a service campaign for them in response to customer concerns about odors and carbon monoxide.

Read more: <http://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Advocacy-group-seeks-Ford-Explorer-recall-due-to-fumes-487243051.html>

Ohio Paramedic took money from dead man's pocket.

But someone was watching!

Full story: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/nation-world/national/article214296189.html>

'I can't afford that'

Woman trapped by subway train begs bystanders not to call ambulance

(USA Today) After a woman's leg became trapped by a subway train in Boston, the bone exposed through her thigh, she reportedly pleaded with bystanders: Don't call an ambulance.

"Do you know how much an ambulance costs?" she wept, [according to The Boston Globe](#).

Commuters rushed to rescue the woman after she became stuck in a gap between a train and the subway platform. The incident occurred around 5:30 pm on Friday at the Massachusetts Avenue station, according to a police report. The gap was just 5 inches wide.

Suffering a deep laceration, the unidentified 45-year-old woman's leg was left "twisted and bloody," according to Globe reporter Maria Cramer, who witnessed the accident.

Did she go? Read on... <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2018/07/03/video-rescue-woman-trapped-injured-boston-subway/756068002/>

Rising air ambulance bills hit patients with added shock

A helicopter trip to a hospital may not be the only shock a patient faces after a bad accident. The next one could hit when the bill arrives.

Rides in so-called air ambulances can lead to bills of more than \$20,000 depending on a person's coverage, and insurance experts say big invoices are becoming more common as costs rise and coverage shifts.

Air ambulances transport around 400,000 people each year in the U.S., according to industry estimates. Most trips are from one hospital to another. But they also play a vital role in getting seriously injured or ill people fast help during what doctors call "the golden hour" — the initial window after an accident when a patient's chances for recovery are better.

Click here to a deeper look: <https://apnews.com/f273338dfff04c70bad9aa6ab373c50e>

FAA refuses to regulate airline seating, says tight rows are safe for evacuations

(USA Today) WASHINGTON – In response to a federal appeals court case, the Federal Aviation Administration said Tuesday that it doesn't need to regulate airline seating because evacuation tests prove there is enough room to maneuver, despite consumer complaints about cramped quarters.

The group FlyersRights.org challenged the FAA at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit over concerns that tighter seating with larger passengers could prevent evacuations within the goal of 90 seconds. The [appeals panel ordered FAA](#) nearly a year ago to review its safety rules for seating.

Full story: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/07/03/faa-airline-seating-regulations/755707002/>

The hidden 'outbreak' in Puerto Rico

(CNN) Puerto Rico's own records list so many cases of the bacterial disease leptospirosis that officials should have declared an "epidemic" or an "outbreak" after Hurricane Maria instead of denying that one occurred, according to seven medical experts who reviewed previously unreleased data for CNN and the [Centro de Periodismo Investigativo](#) (CPI).

A Puerto Rico mortality database -- [which CNN and CPI sued the island's Demographic Registry to obtain](#) -- lists 26 deaths in the six months after Hurricane Maria that were labeled by clinicians as "caused" by leptospirosis, a bacterial illness known to spread through water and soil, especially in the aftermath of storms. That's more than twice the number of deaths as were listed in Puerto Rico the previous year, according to an analysis of federal records.

"Twenty-six deaths attributed to leptospirosis -- that's extraordinary," said Dr. Joseph Vinetz, a professor of medicine at the University of California San Diego and an expert on the disease, who reviewed the data. "There's no other way of putting it ... The numbers are huge."

Leptospirosis is very rarely fatal and can be treated with common antibiotics. It is carried mostly in the urine of rats and other animals. It can be ingested in drinking water or absorbed through cuts in the skin.

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/07/03/health/sutter-leptospirosis-outbreak-puerto-rico-invs/index.html>

CDC Technical Info on Leptospirosis: https://www.cdc.gov/leptospirosis/health_care_workers/index.html

Puerto Rico introduces bill to become US state

<https://news360.com/article/460578109>

At Florida storm shelter drill, Red Cross workers rehearse new roles.

What to do if ICE shows up?

Read more: <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article213945434.html>

Texas reports 56 *Cyclospora* cases as authorities look for common source

([CIDRAP News Scan](#)) Texas health officials yesterday said they are investigating 56 *Cyclospora* illnesses reported since the beginning of May and investigations are underway to see if there's a common source for the infections and if they are related to illnesses in other states.

The report from the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) comes as federal and state officials are probing an outbreak linked to Del Monte fresh vegetable trays that has sickened 185 people in four Upper Midwest states: Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Michigan. The trays contained fresh broccoli, cauliflower, celery sticks, carrots, and dill dip, and most of the sick people who were interviewed had bought the pre-packaged trays from Kwik Trip convenience stores.

The disease is caused by the [Cyclospora cayetanensis](#) parasite, and symptoms include watery diarrhea, appetite loss, cramping, bloating, and fatigue. Past outbreaks have been linked to imported produce such as basil, cilantro, mesclun lettuce, raspberries, and snow peas. However, in some instances, the source hasn't been found.

Jul 2 TDSHS [press release](#)

Jun 29 CIDRAP News scan "[CDC: 41 more cyclosporiasis cases linked to vegetable trays](#)"

CDC Info: <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/index.html>

Vulnerable Rural Hospitals Face Tough Decisions on Questionable Billing Schemes

(NPR) Management consultants have been buying up struggling rural hospitals, claiming they can turn their finances around. But are those strategies in the hospitals' best interest?

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/07/03/617876814/vulnerable-rural-hospitals-face-tough-decisions-on-questionable-billing-schemes>

States expand telemedicine to allow prescribing of controlled substances

(Modern Healthcare) More states are allowing providers to prescribe controlled substances via telemedicine, reflecting growing acceptance for the technology overall. But federal restrictions remain, and reimbursement is still lagging. [READ MORE](#)

Amazon's online pharmacy acquisition proves it's serious about disrupting healthcare

(The Verge) After months of speculation around how Amazon might enter the healthcare market, the e-commerce giant announced today that the company will be acquiring pharmaceutical startup PillPack. The acquisition sent standard brick-and-mortar pharmacy stock prices plunging, and signaled a potentially huge disruption in the United States healthcare market.

The terms of the deal have yet to be disclosed, but [TechCrunch reported that](#) the acquisition went for just under \$1 billion. In a press release, the companies said they expect to close the deal in [the second half of 2018](#).

PillPack is an online pharmacy startup that provides consumers with prescription medication in prepackaged doses. The company's website suggests that it is licensed to ship prescriptions in 49 states. The company has also developed its own operational system — PharmacyOS — which organizes patient and pharmaceutical data.

Full story: <https://www.theverge.com/2018/6/28/17515176/amazon-pillpack-walgreens-pharmacy-market>

Administration Names DEA Acting Administrator

(AHA Today) Attorney General Jeff Sessions [named](#) as acting administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration Uttam Dhillon, a past director of the Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement at the Department of Homeland Security who recently served as deputy counsel and deputy assistant to the president. He replaces Robert Patterson, who retired. "With one American dying of a drug overdose every nine minutes, there can be no doubt that we are facing the deadliest drug epidemic in our history," Sessions said. "The work of the Drug Enforcement Administration is critical to fighting this crisis, and President Trump and I are committed to continuing to give it the strong leadership it deserves."

VA study shows antibiotic overprescribing is rule, not exception

(CIDRAP) A team of researchers establishing baseline data on antibiotic use by the Veterans Administration (VA) healthcare system in Pittsburgh found that about 75% of all antibiotic prescriptions were inappropriate, meaning they were either not indicated or were used for a duration that's not recommended.

Full story: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2018/07/va-study-shows-antibiotic-overprescribing-rule-not-exception>

More Nurse Practitioners Are Pursuing Residency Training To Hone Skills

(NPR) Proponents of postgraduate residencies say the extra clinical training boosts expertise in dealing with complex medical cases. But some nurse practitioner groups see the programs as unnecessary.

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/07/03/624721718/more-nurse-practitioners-are-pursuing-residency-training-to-hone-skills>

Flex work program lets nurses take summers off

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/flex-work-program-lets-nurses-take-summer-off/>

Male sex trafficking survivor says he was sold during Indianapolis 500
Boys are trafficked, too

(USA Today) Sex trafficking survivor says he was sold during Indianapolis 500.

Read and see more: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/nation-now/2018/07/03/sex-trafficking-survivor-says-he-sold-during-indianapolis-500-column/753972002/>

How a mom's reaction to son's depression helped him out of "darkness"

(CBS) Will Hargen was 17 and carrying a secret only he knew. When he asked his mom, Tracy, "Hey mom, can we talk?" she thought her all-American, high school junior was feeling typical teenage stress.

"But then when he said, 'I'm depressed. I mean, I'm seriously depressed and have been for a long time,' that blew me away," Tracy told CBS News' Mark Strassmann. "He was upbeat, he was getting up every day, he was involved in his activities. So it was confusing. And I'm thinking, 'What's he talking about 'I'm depressed.'"

It's estimated more than three million U.S. [children age 12 to 17 have at least one major depressive episode per year](#). That's about one in eight adolescents. Since Will was nine, he thought he needed to just figure it out himself. But when he opened up about his depression, his mother realized her next words mattered.



See video & read full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/moms-reaction-to-sons-depression-helps-lead-him-out-of-the-darkness/>

Kentucky Suicide Hotlines: <http://www.suicide.org/hotlines/kentucky-suicide-hotlines.html>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: [1-800-273-8255](https://www.suicide.org/hotlines/kentucky-suicide-hotlines.html)

Cave rescue: The health toll of waiting for freedom

(CNN)The world let out a sigh of relief when the missing members of a [Thai youth soccer team were found](#) alive in a cave in northern Thailand on Monday.

The 12 boys, ages 11 to 16, and their soccer coach were assessed overnight and appeared to have sustained only light injuries such as skin rashes, according to Thai navy Seals. A doctor and nurse are among those tending to the boys and their coach.

Being trapped in a confined space for days also can lead to fear, confusion, anxiety and feelings of helplessness and hopelessness, said Sandy Capaldi, psychologist and associate director of the Center for the Treatment and Study of Anxiety at the [University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine](#).

Those immediate psychological impacts also may be different among children versus adults.

"While an adult may be prone to try to think about the situation more rationally -- telling himself that rescue will surely come because others will be looking for them -- children may be unable to do so and may therefore experience more negative feelings," Capaldi said.

"The long-term psychological impacts of traumatic events such as this for adolescents, however, are often very similar to adults," she added.

Thinking that you have been rescued, only to learn that you might have to wait days, weeks or months before being freed can take a psychological toll, too, according to experts.

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/07/03/health/cave-rescue-psychological-toll-explainer/index.html>

**What are the deadliest mass shootings in US history?
From the Las Vegas attack to the Columbine massacre**

The tragedy in Maryland marks the 154th mass shooting in the US this year
Read more: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/4594991/mass-shootings-us-history-worst-las-vegas-attack-columbine-maryland-shooting/>

**John Hopkins: Health Security Headlines
Extracts for [July 3, 2018](#) & [July 5, 2018](#)**

[Drone in Superman Garb Crashes into French Nuclear Plant](#) (*US News*) Greenpeace activists say they have crashed a drone into a French nuclear plant to highlight the lack of security around the facility. The drone, which was decked out to resemble a tiny Superman, slammed into the tower in Bugey, 30 kilometers (20 miles) from the eastern city of Lyon, according to a video released Tuesday by Greenpeace. [Go to article](#)

[Artificial Intelligence Accurately Predicts Distribution of Radioactive Fallout](#) (*Science Daily*) Researchers have created a machine-learning-based tool that can predict where radioactive emissions from nuclear power plants will disperse. After training using extensive data on previous weather patterns, the tool consistently achieved over 85 percent predictive accuracy, and up to 95 percent in winter when large and predictable weather systems dominate. This tool can aid immediate evacuation in the aftermath of disasters like those at Fukushima and Chernobyl. [Go to article](#)

[Indiana: First Human Case of H3N2 Variant Influenza Reported Since 2013](#) (*Outbreak News Today*) The Indiana State Department of Health and Indiana Board of Animal Health are urging Hoosiers to take steps to prevent illness while visiting events where pigs are exhibited following confirmation of a case of influenza in a resident with exposure to pigs. This is the first human case of H3N2 variant influenza reported in Indiana since 2013 and the first human case in the US this year, according to the CDC, which confirmed the test results Friday. [Go to article](#)

[Amesbury Incident](#) (*Bio Chem Sec*) On the morning of the 5th of July the Amesbury story would make headlines in UK newspapers. Late the previous evening it had been confirmed by the Metropolitan Police that Novichok has been involved. Although aspects of the UK press had been tipped of some hours earlier. There would be appearances from a number officials on UK morning Breakfast news programmes. [Go to article](#)

See also: **[Amesbury Novichok Poisoning: Couple Exposed to Nerve Agent](#)** (*BBC News*) A man and woman found unconscious in Wiltshire were exposed to Novichok--the same nerve agent that poisoned ex-Russian spy Sergei Skripal, police say. The couple, believed to be Charlie Rowley, 45, and Dawn Sturgess, 44, fell ill at a house in Amesbury on Saturday and remain in a critical condition. [Go to article](#)

Opioids Crisis
ED Bridge Clinic Symposium
Initiating Opioid Use Disorder Treatment in the ED
Save the Date: July 19-20

St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center
3861 Olympic Blvd., Erlanger, KY 41048

For more information contact:
Lisa Anglin (859) 655-0181
lisa.anglin@stelizabeth.com

KORE is hosting a Bridge Clinic Symposium in northern Kentucky on Friday, July 20th to discuss the opioid crisis and the role of emergency departments and hospitals (see attached flyer). The day will include talks from two national experts, one from SUNY and the other from Alameda Hospital System

in Oakland CA, as well as presentations by our three bridge clinics and a panel discussion. Please register in advance.

Registration link: <https://www.stelizabeth.com/events/details/2018/07/20/emergency-department-bridge-clinic-symposium>

Friday schedule: https://www.stelizabeth.com/docs/default-source/events/2018/bridge_clinic_symposium_agenda_july_20.pdf?sfvrsn=eb553c72_2

In addition, on Thursday July 19th members of the KORE team and other leaders working to address the opioid crisis will be meeting between 11:30 and 1:30 at the St. Elizabeth Training Center to work directly with the two guest experts to discuss strategies around establishing and supporting bridge clinics. Secretary Tilley, Secretary Meier, and Representative Moser have been invited to attend as well. Lunch will be catered so please let me know if you plan on attending (in addition to completing the registration link above). There will be additional meetings held on Thursday with hospital systems. They anticipate also having dinner with the guest speakers that evening.

Register Now: Healthcare Challenges after Radiological Incidents

Next week, ASPR TRACIE is hosting a webinar on Healthcare Challenges After Radiological Incidents from **2:00 – 3:15 PM ET on July 11, 2018**. Webinar panelists will discuss the impact of radiological incidents on health and health care and planning strategies related to different incidents. They will also share guidance and lessons learned from recent exercises and research in assessing, triaging, treating, and following-up on casualties of radiological and nuclear emergencies.

Participation is limited to the first 1,000 registrants. ([More info Link](#))

**Your Samsung phone might be texting
private photos to your contacts without permission**

(c/net) Drunk dialing and butt-dialing are bad enough, but what if your Samsung phone sent some... private photos to your contacts without you knowing?

That's what a handful of users at Reddit are worried about (as spotted [by Gizmodo](#)) -- [including one who claims](#) his [Samsung Galaxy S9+](#) sent his entire photo gallery to his girlfriend while he was sleeping, [and another](#) who says it occurred on his or her [Galaxy Note 8](#). [Samsung](#) tells CNET it's actively looking into the matter, but it's not yet clear why this is happening or how widespread it might be -- particularly if it's true that these pictures are being sent without leaving any record.

Redditors were quick to point out that most affected [phones](#) so far seem to be on [T-Mobile](#), which has recently been upgrading users to [the Google-backed RCS](#) "advanced messaging."

Full story: <https://www.cnet.com/news/your-samsung-phone-texting-private-photos-to-contacts-without-permission/>

**Trump Has Blocked the World's Biggest Mobile Network Operator
From the U.S. on National Security Grounds**

Read more: <https://news360.com/article/460772338>

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.

If You See Something, Say Something®

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

FIND OUT NOW

TAKE THE CHALLENGE



Take the Challenge: https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something/take-challenge?utm_source=seesay_slideshow&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=dhsgov

Practice HEAT SAFETY Wherever You Are

Heat related deaths are preventable. Protect yourself and others from the impacts of heat waves.

Job Sites
Stay hydrated and take breaks in the shade as often as possible.

Indoors
Check up on the elderly, sick and those without AC.

Vehicles
Never leave kids or pets unattended - LOOK before you LOCK

Outdoors
Limit strenuous outdoor activities, find shade, and stay hydrated.

[weather.gov/heat](https://www.weather.gov/heat)

Heat Safety Tips & Resources: <https://www.weather.gov/safety/heat>