



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 12, 2018

Feds pick 10 battlegrounds for 'tireless' opioid crackdowns. Fayette County is among them.

(Herald-Leader) Lexington has been chosen as one of 10 places nationwide where federal authorities will take part in a special enforcement program aimed at curbing distribution of synthetic opioids, powerful painkilling drugs that have helped drive up overdose deaths in Kentucky.

Under the plan Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced Thursday, 10 federal prosecutors will choose one county in their regions and prosecute "every readily provable case involving the distribution of fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, and other synthetic opioids, regardless of drug quantity," according to a news release.

Read more: <https://www.kentucky.com/latest-news/article214778490.html>

Cities Planning Supervised Drug Injection Sites Fear Justice Department Reaction

(NPR) More than a dozen cities from San Francisco to New York are trying to open safe injection sites for heroin users. But worries about a crackdown from the Justice Department have local leaders on edge.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/07/12/628136694/harm-reduction-movement-hits-obstacles>

FDA approves clinical trial for potentially life-saving trauma foam

(CBS) The FDA has approved the use of a potentially lifesaving foam on patients in a clinical trial at a Boston hospital. Called ResQFoam, it was created to quickly stop [internal bleeding](#) in trauma patients.

The foam starts as two liquids injected into the body through the belly button, then it expands in the abdomen.

"It wraps around injured tissues and injured organs and puts gentle pressure on them which temporarily slows or stops hemorrhage," Dr. David King, a trauma surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital, [told CBS Boston](#).

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/resqfoam-fda-approves-clinical-trial-for-potentially-life-saving-trauma-foam/>

Secret Service rolls out new ways to identify and stop student attackers

(ABC) The Secret Service – known for protecting the president – is now using their expertise to protect schools in the wake of a spate of deadly mass shootings.

The new guidelines on enhancing school safety are based on research from the [U.S. Secret Service's](#) National Threat Assessment Center. Lina Alathari, the author of the operational guide, told ABC News that although guns were used the majority of the time in the crimes studied, the report also includes attacks carried out using a "lethal weapon," such as a knife, gun or explosives.

The purpose of the report was to show a "blueprint" for how schools can establish threat assessment programs in their schools so that they are identifying students who may be expressing distress or engaging in concerning behavior.

Read more: <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/secret-service-rolls-ways-identify-stop-student-attackers/story?id=56509454>

USSS Report:

https://www.secretservice.gov/data/protection/ntac/USSS_NTAC_Enhancing_School_Safety_Guide_7.11.18.pdf

Nikolas Cruz's Mother Was an 'Enabler' Who Let Him Own a Gun After Counselors Advised Against It, Official Says

(Newsweek) The mother of the suspect in February's mass shooting at a Parkland, Florida, high school allowed him to have a gun and was an "enabler," the chairman of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission alleged on Tuesday.

The commission is currently reviewing the school shooting that took place February 14 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where Nikolas Cruz allegedly entered the school with an AR-15 rifle and [killed](#) 17 people.

Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Sheriff and chairman of the commission, told those who attended the commission review meeting of the shooting at the BB&T Center in Sunrise, Florida, on Tuesday that Cruz's deceased mother, Lynda Cruz, enabled him and allowed him to have a gun the [Sun-Sentinel reported](#).

Read more: <http://www.newsweek.com/nikolas-cruz-mother-enabler-own-gun-parkland-shooting-official-says-1016820>

PTSD raises heart and stroke risk in World Trade Center cleanup crews

(Reuters) More than 16 years after cleanup was completed at the site of the September 11, 2001 attack on New York City's World Trade Center complex, many who worked at the disaster site still struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and may also have an elevated risk of heart attack and stroke as a result, researchers say.

Read more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-heart-ptsd/ptsd-raises-heart-and-stroke-risk-in-world-trade-center-cleanup-crews-idUSKBN1K02JR>

A Simple Emergency Room Intervention Can Help Cut Suicide Risk

(NPR) ER workers helped patients who arrived after a suicide attempt develop a tailored "safety plan" that included coping strategies of what to do and whom to call if the urge arose again.

Learn more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/07/11/628029412/a-simple-emergency-room-intervention-can-help-cut-future-suicide-risk>

New ASPR Focus on Blood & Blood Products

ASPR just completed a Topic Collection which focused on [blood and blood products](#) during a disaster. This collection highlights lessons learned from recent MCIs; relevant plans, tools, and templates; resources on supply chain modeling; and the like. We were fortunate enough to have reviewers from the healthcare spectrum provide their very valuable feedback, and also review the accompanying [FAQ document](#).

John Hopkins: Health Security Headlines
Extracts from [July 12, 2018](#)

[Fractional-dose Yellow Fever Vaccination - Advancing the Evidence Base](#) (*New England Journal of Medicine*) In 2016, a global shortage of yellow fever vaccine occurred as a result of major yellow fever outbreaks in Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo. By October, 7136 cases and 493 deaths were reported in the two countries. Reactive vaccination campaigns were conducted in areas with autochthonous transmission during the summer of 2016, but many people were still living in areas of risk. In Kinshasa, the capital of the DRC, a preventive campaign targeting roughly 10.5 million people was needed to mitigate the risk of an urban yellow fever outbreak. However, only 5.8 million vaccine doses were available from the WHO stockpile. A solution was urgently needed. [Go to article](#)

[At-home Influenza Tests Take Leap Forward](#) (*HHS.gov*) Two potential diagnostic tests for influenza designed to be purchased over-the-counter for home use will move into advanced development with new support from the US Department of Health and Human Services. The Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, part of the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, is partnering with Cue Health, Inc., of San Diego, California, and Diassess, Inc., of Emeryville, California, to develop these first-in-class testing devices. [Go to article](#)

[Changes in Influenza Vaccination Requirements for Health Care Personnel in US Hospitals](#) (*JAMA Network Open*) Annual influenza vaccinations are currently recommended for all health care personnel to limit the spread of influenza to those at high risk of developing serious complications

from the virus. Vaccination coverage has been shown to be significantly greater among employers requiring and encouraging HCP to receive the annual influenza vaccination. [Go to article](#)

[System for Reporting Suspicious Opioid Orders Repeatedly Failed, Report Finds](#) (*STAT*) A Senate report released Thursday lays out systematic failures in the reporting system for suspicious opioid orders, faulting some drug distributors and manufacturers for their roles and criticizing the Drug Enforcement Administration for a years-long lull in enforcement actions. [Go to article](#)

[Spanish Researchers Develop Five-strain Ebola Vaccine](#) (*Straits Times*) Spanish researchers are working on a vaccine against all five strains of the killer Ebola virus in what would be a world first, Madrid's October 12 Hospital said Wednesday (July 11). A prototype vaccine developed by pharmaceutical group Merck is already in use, but acts only against the most virulent, "Zaire" strain. [Go to article](#)

Thinking skills may suffer on hot days

(Reuters Health) - Heat waves can sap productivity by slowing down thinking, even in the young and healthy, a small study suggests. Harvard researchers found that during a summer heat wave, students living in dorms without air conditioning consistently scored lower on daily cognitive tests over the course of nearly a week than students in buildings with AC.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-temperature-cognition/thinking-skills-may-suffer-on-hot-days-idUSKBN1K130A>

Beware these common summer health hazards

<https://www.cbsnews.com/media/summer-health-hazards-drowning-ticks-mosquitoes-hogweed/>

Researchers Study Thousands of Ticks Collected By the People They Bit

(NPR) Researchers invited the public to help them study the geographic spread of ticks that carry pathogens that can sicken humans. People were eager to oblige by sending in the pesky bugs that bit them.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/07/12/628491294/researchers-study-thousands-of-ticks-collected-by-the-people-they-bit>

To Avoid Ticks, Follow Lead of US Military

<http://newser.com/s261807>

FEMA Was Sorely Unprepared for Puerto Rico Hurricane, Report Says

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's plans for a crisis in Puerto Rico were based on a focused disaster like a tsunami, not a major hurricane devastating the whole island. The agency vastly underestimated how much food and fresh water it would need, and how hard it would be to get additional supplies to the island.

And when the killer storm did come, FEMA's warehouse in Puerto Rico was nearly empty, its contents rushed to aid the United States Virgin Islands, which were hammered by another storm two weeks before. There was not a single tarpaulin or cot left in stock.

Those and other shortcomings are detailed in a FEMA report assessing the agency's response to the 2017 storm season, when three major hurricanes slammed the United States in quick succession, leaving FEMA struggling to deliver food and water quickly to storm victims in Puerto Rico.

Full NY Times story: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/12/us/fema-puerto-rico-maria.html>

How administering hands-only CPR could save a life

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/hands-only-cpr-could-save-a-life/>

Don't try this at home!

Arkansas dad, 19, tried using extension cord shock to revive baby after smothering her

(Fox) Police in Arkansas allegedly a young father smothered his infant child before trying to revive her by shocking her with a live extension cord. Charged with murder.

Full Story: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/07/12/arkansas-dad-19-tried-using-extension-cord-shock-to-revive-baby-after-smothering-her-report-says.html>

Girl put Mr. Clean in 4-year-old stepbrother's water to 'get rid of him,' Kentucky deputies say <https://www.kentucky.com/news/nation-world/national/article214775875.html>

Wedding nightmare:

NY bride sues caterer after 100 guests violently ill at reception

Melissa Conarton planned her wedding reception for a year, hoping it would be a memorable event for her nearly 200 guests. The reception, held July 31, 2015, did turn out to be memorable - but not in any way Conarton had ever planned.

At least nine ambulances rushed to the reception. Emergency personnel spread out tarps on the ground to triage the sick guests - everyone was crowded on the red tarp designated for the more-serious cases, Conarton remembered. An estimated 100 people got sick - 22 were hospitalized, some overnight. Several of those stricken were children.

Court papers said guests fell ill due to food poisoning, and allege that it was due to the food provided by the caterer. The macaroni and cheese, the papers say, was "statistically significant for staphylococcus aureus."

Read more:

https://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2018/07/it_was_like_an_apocalypse_cny_bride_sues_caterer_after_guests_get_violently_ill.html

Surprise Suspects in Arsons: Volunteer Firefighters

Learn more: <http://newser.com/s261820>

Firefighter killed in gas explosion, fire near Madison (WI)

(AP) — A massive natural gas explosion killed a firefighter and leveled portions of a city block in a southern Wisconsin community, including a bar the firefighter owned, authorities said Wednesday.

The [blast happened](#) after police got a call at 6:30 p.m. that a construction crew working on a downtown street had punctured a WE Energies natural gas line. Police and firefighters arrived to investigate and were evacuating the area when the gas exploded shortly after 7 p.m. The blast ignited four-story high flames that burned long into the night and belched a smoke plume visible for miles.

Read more: <https://apnews.com/3ab88b5e1c6f476aae19c3bfa9f3eb25>

Spotted Lanternfly Could Be Worst Invasive Species In 150 Years

(Potentially more damaging than the Emerald Ash Bore)

(NPR) International shipping sometimes brings unwanted guests: invasive species. The latest invader, the spotted lanternfly, threatens fruit and hardwoods. It's recently spread to Pennsylvania. First discovered near Reading, Pa., in 2014, the spotted lanternfly has spread across 13 counties in the state, munching on suburban maples, grapes and orchards. It likes to eat everything, which means it could be more devastating than the invasive emerald ash borer. And the worse thing is it's not very tasty, so it has no real predators here in the U.S. If it continues to spread, the pest could cause an estimated \$18 billion to \$20 billion in damage to agriculture and forestry just in the state of Pennsylvania. But a big fear is what it might do to grapes and the wine industry. And in fact, this spring, a thriving population of spotted lanternflies were discovered in Virginia for the first time.

Listen to the podcast, or read the full story: <https://www.npr.org/2018/07/10/627782743/spotted-lanternfly-could-be-worst-invasive-species-in-150-years>

Ebola survivors suffer severe mental and neurological problems

People who survive the deadly Ebola virus can continue to suffer severe psychiatric and neurological problems including depression, debilitating migraines, nerve pain and stroke, according to a study published on Wednesday.

Read more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-ebola-longterm/ebola-survivors-suffer-severe-mental-and-neurological-problems-idUSKBN1K12CZ>

Recalled cereal in expanding salmonella outbreak is still being sold illegally

Read more: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/business/article214802240.html>

Hackers are selling backdoors into PCs for just \$10

Curious? Read more: <https://news360.com/article/461979662>

US DHS PIO Training Available

The US Department for Homeland Security will be holding a training program your Public Information team may be interested in.

Working with the Media: A Short Course for Rural First Responders is a seven-hour tuition-free course designed to provide rural first responders with the skills and knowledge to quickly adopt the role of public information officer (PIO) if/when needed and to communicate with the public through the media. Many rural first responder organizations do not have a full or part-time PIO on staff. Therefore, in the event that a first responder is thrust into the role of PIO, whether it be roadside at the scene of an emergency or detailing directions to the public in a crisis situation, it is important to understand how the media works and how best to work with the available media outlets.

Topics covered include but are not limited to:

- Utilizing the media in emergency and public awareness situations.
- Working with the media at the scene of an emergency.
- Anticipating what news agencies want from the responders at the scene of an emergency.
- Giving interviews that work.
- Writing effective news releases that will be read.

*The program will be held at **Lake Cumberland State Resort Park** in Jamestown, KY, from 8 AM to 4 PM (CDT) - Seven hours.*

Registrants will need a FEMA Student ID#. If you don't have one, register for your FEMA Student Identification number at: <https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid>

Course registration deadline is August 8th, and a minimum of 20 students will be needed to put the course on.

After you get your FEMA Student ID, then register here: <https://www.ruraltraining.org/training/schedule/2018-08-22-awr209-jamestown-ky-001/>

Please share the attached flyer with your colleagues. If there are questions, the regional Point of Contact is Amy Tomlinson, Public Health Preparedness Manager, Lake Cumberland District Health Department, 606-678-4761 ext. 1148 or email AmyC.Tomlinson@lcdhd.org.

Course flyer is at this link: AWR+209+Registraiton+Flyer++Jamestown%2C+KY_08-22-18.pdf

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.