



## Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 15, 2018

### Louisville granted \$3.4 million to combat youth homelessness

(WAVE) – A monetary gift has given Louisville a big boost to end youth homelessness in the metro.

The department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded a \$3.4 million grant to the Coalition for the Homeless as part of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program. YHDP supports rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing and host homes for homeless youth.

The money granted to the Coalition will be used for a wide range of housing options in the metro that will help young people get back on their feet.

Full story: <http://www.wave3.com/story/38643140/louisville-granted-34-million-to-combat-youth-homelessness>

### Within opioid abuse epidemic, infectious disease epidemic emerges

NEW YORK: There is a new epidemic of hepatitis C, HIV, and other infections within the opioid abuse epidemic, according to participants in a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine workshop.

There is an urgent need for actions to address this combined threat, they write in *Annals of Internal Medicine*, "Opioid use disorder is like any other medical disorder, and through simple screening and starting medication treatment with the FDA-approved medications to prevent relapse to opioid use and decrease opioid craving, people can reduce acquiring infections," Dr. Sandra A. Springer from Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut told Reuters Health by email. "For those who do have associated infections at the time of screening, then starting treatment for their opioid use disorder can help them recover from their infectious diseases as well. Two for the price of one."

Read more at <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/health/within-opioid-abuse-epidemic-infectious-disease-epidemic-emerges-10529918>

### John Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from [July 13, 2018](#)

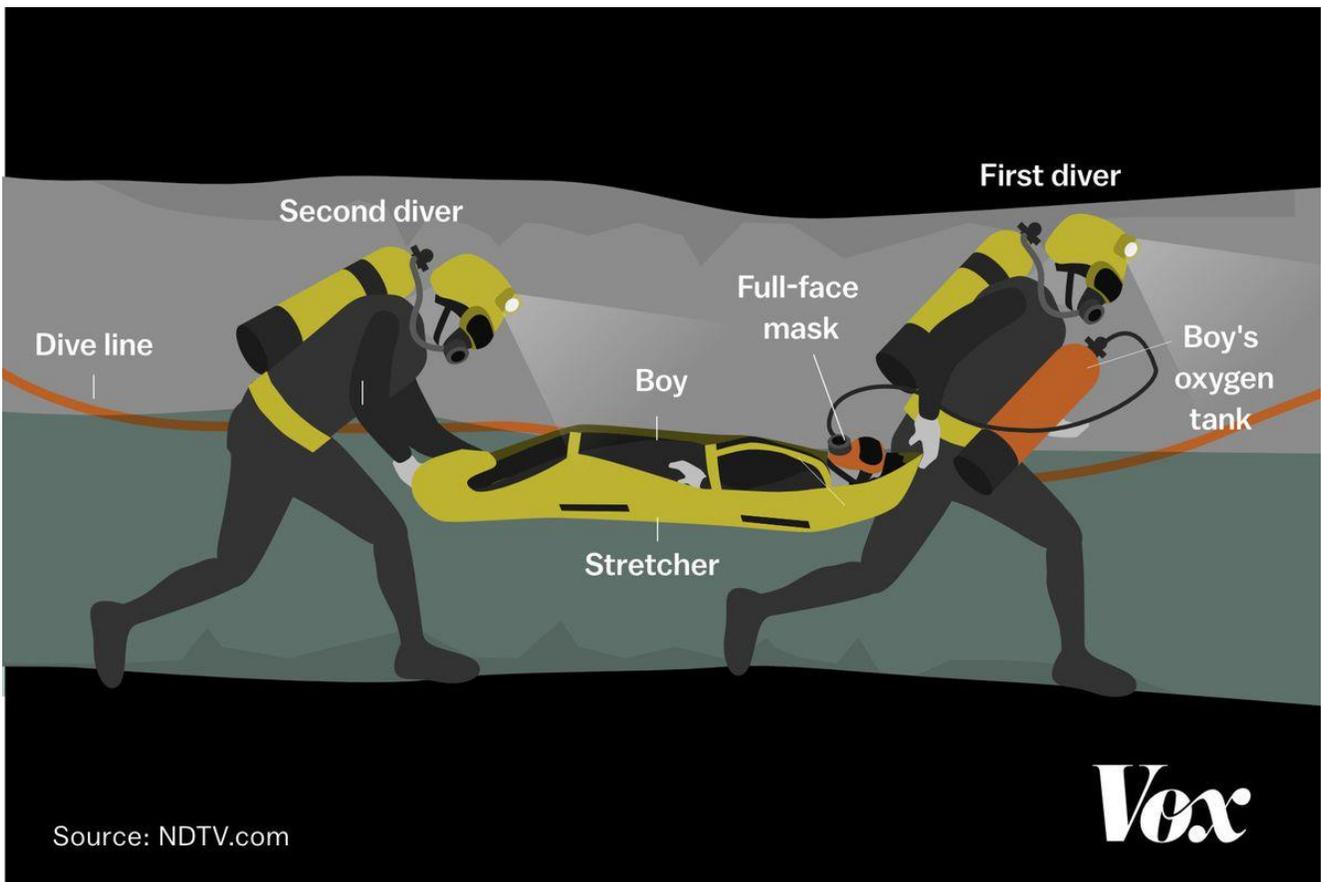
**[The Strange and Curious Case of the Deadly Superbug Yeast](#)** (*Wired*) A pathogen that resists almost all of the drugs developed to treat or kill it is moving rapidly across the world, and public health experts are stymied how to stop it. It's a yeast, a new variety of an organism so common that it's used as one of the basic tools of lab science, transformed into an infection so disturbing that one lead researcher called it "more infectious than Ebola" at an international conference last week. [Go to article](#)

**[UPDATE: Source of Nerve Agent Contamination Identified](#)** (*Metropolitan Police*) On Wednesday, 11 July, a small bottle was recovered during searches of Charlie Rowley's house in Amesbury. It was taken to the Defence, Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL) at Porton Down, Wiltshire, for tests. Following those tests, scientists have now confirmed to us that the substance contained within the bottle is Novichok. Further scientific tests will be carried out to try and establish whether it is from the same batch that contaminated Sergei and Yulia Skripal in March - this remains a main line of enquiry for police. [Go to article](#)

**[China, Russia, and the US Are All Building Centers for Military AI](#)** (*Defense One*) Russia and the US are moving closer to opening their own centers for military-related research into artificial intelligence, as China did in the spring of last year. But the three governments have differing approaches. [Go to article](#)

## Thai boys didn't swim out of the cave; they were rescued on stretchers

(VOX) New information suggests the 12 Thai boys trapped in a cave were medicated and carried out on stretchers during the rescue operation.



Learn more: <https://www.vox.com/2018/7/11/17561932/thai-cave-rescue-boys-stretcher>

News) – The "[giant horror plant](#)" that recently popped up in Virginia sent a teen working his summer job to the VCU Medical Center burn unit in Richmond, reports the [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#). Alex Childress, who plans on attending Virginia Tech in the fall, was weed-whacking around Fredericksburg on Tuesday when he stumbled across a plant he thought was just that—a big weed. He cut it down and discarded it in the forest, but not before it had slid across his arm and face.



When his father came home later that day, he was met with a shocking sight. "The top layer of skin on the left side of [Alex's] face basically was gone and appeared to be like a really bad burn that had already peeled," Justin Childress says, noting that Alex thought he'd gotten a bad sunburn. That night, when

he took a shower, Alex tells [People](#), "big chunks of my face were falling off."

It was Alex's mother, a nurse, who made the connection with the giant hogweed plant, and he confirmed when she showed him a photo. (See one [here](#).)

Read more: <http://newser.com/s261922>

## McDonald's Pulls Salads From 3,000 Locations After Dozens Sickened By Parasite

Read more: <https://news360.com/article/462228162>

## More than 500 Tennessee zipline visitors sick in stomach illness outbreak

Read more: <https://news360.com/article/462149428>

## Extreme heat, climate change has airlines preparing for dark and stormy flying

(CNBC) It's less than a month into the summer and triple-digit temperatures have already shattered records in many cities across the country, like around Los Angeles area where it hit 114 degrees in Burbank and 120 degrees in Chino on July 6.

That's as hot as last year's brutal summer when temperatures hovered around 120 degrees in Phoenix and prompted [American Airlines](#) to cancel more than 40 flights at its hub there. The regional jets that feed big airlines' couldn't operate with temperatures above 118 degrees. The extreme heat that has come with climate change is prompting airplane manufacturers to test their fleets for increasingly hotter temperatures.

While travelers are used to flight cancellations in blizzards, the unpredictable storms and extreme heat of warmer months present airlines — and passengers — with some of the most challenging conditions of the year. The gradual warming of the earth that has come with climate change is causing more frequent and more severe swings in weather patterns across the globe. That means more days of extreme heat that airlines didn't have to worry about before.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/07/06/flying-the-summer-months-is-a-headache-for-airlines-and-passengers.html>



Hey readers - We will have a break this week while I am on vacation. If you see us drowning some worms at Dale Hollow, waive!

See y'all next week!

Dick Bartlett

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](mailto: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.