



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 18, 2018

Top FBI official in KY worries perceptions could impact agency's work

(AP) — Amy Hess, the FBI's top leader in [Kentucky](#), said Friday that she worries the agency's ability to carry out its mission could be damaged by any decline in public approval. The way to restore confidence among doubters is to focus on the job and "eventually this will pass," she said.

In a wide-ranging interview with reporters, Hess acknowledged "a lot has happened nationally" in the two years she's been special agent in charge of the FBI in Kentucky. Hess, who is leaving soon for a high-level administrative job at FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C., didn't delve into any FBI-involved controversies. But she expressed concern about public attitudes of the agency and how that affects its crime-fighting work.

Source: <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/kentucky/articles/2018-08-17/fbi-official-worries-perceptions-could-impact-agencys-work>

Related:from WDRB - [Louisville FBI chief headed to Washington to join cyber branch](#)

Lexington Police Department Joins National Crackdown To Reduce Impaired Driving Fatalities

(LEX 18) – If you choose to drive impaired in Lexington – beware. Lexington police are joining with law enforcement throughout the nation for the “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” campaign, Aug. 17-Sept. 3. The strong nationwide impaired driving crackdown will include high-visibility enforcement, high-profile events, and will be supported by national paid advertising, creating a comprehensive campaign to curb impaired driving.

Learn more: <http://www.lex18.com/story/38907537/lexington-police-department-joins-national-crackdown-to-reduce-impaired-driving-fatalities>

Kentucky to offer new driver's licenses to comply with Read ID law

(AP) — Kentucky will start offering new driver's licenses in January, becoming one of the last states to comply with a federal travel law passed in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Congress passed the Real ID Act in 2005, requiring states to upgrade the security of their driver's licenses.

Kentucky will offer a standard driver's license or a voluntary travel ID. People can only have one. Both enable a citizen to drive, vote and apply for federal benefits. But beginning Oct. 1, 2020, only people with travel IDs will be allowed to board domestic flights or enter U.S. military bases. People with standard IDs after that date will have to show another form of identification, such as a passport.

One of the biggest changes will be who makes the licenses. Kentucky drivers get their licenses not from a DMV, but from their local circuit court clerk, and right now, clerks make the licenses on site. Beginning in January, all licenses will be made out-of-state by Idemia, an outside vendor. Drivers will be issued a temporary ID until they get the permanent ID in the mail within five to 10 days.

Read more: <https://www.wcpo.com/news/state/state-kentucky/kentucky-to-offer-new-drivers-licenses-to-comply-with-law>

Related - Herald-Leader's Opinion

Will new Kentucky licenses make us safer? Only if terrorists are as confused as we are.

Read more here: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/tom-eblen/article216830590.html>

Kentucky official urging lawmakers to slow state's soaring prison population

(WDRB) -- Kentucky's prisons and the county jails that also house state inmates are essentially full. Justice and Public Safety Secretary John Tilley said recreational space has been filled and inmates have double-bunked, but it still isn't enough.

"We have no capacity left," he said. "We have done everything that continue to keep us, at least as best as we can, accredited."

The next step, Tilley said, is to begin releasing some lower-level, non-violent offenders.

Tilley has been sounding the alarm about prison overpopulation for years, but it's happened even faster than he expected. The crisis was fueled by the drug abuse epidemic and the increase in property crimes committed to buy drugs.

Learn more: <http://www.wdrb.com/story/38901465/kentucky-official-urging-lawmakers-to-slow-states-soaring-prison-population>

Justice Department, DEA propose significant opioid manufacturing reduction in 2019

The Department of Justice and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration have proposed a reduction for controlled substances that may be manufactured in the U.S. next year. Consistent with President Trump's "Safe Prescribing Plan" that seeks to "cut nationwide opioid prescription fills by one-third within three years," the proposal decreases manufacturing quotas for the six most frequently misused opioids for 2019 by an average ten percent as compared to the 2018 amount. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking marks the third straight year of proposed reductions, which help reduce the amount of drugs potentially diverted for trafficking and used to facilitate addiction.

Read more: <https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2018/08/16/justice-department-dea-propose-significant-opioid-manufacturing-reduction>

Related from AP: [Trump wants federal suit against opioid manufacturers](#)

"Worrisome" levels of lead and arsenic found in baby food

(CBS) A consumer advocacy group is advising parents to limit the amount of rice cereal their children eat, with an analysis finding troublesome amounts of potentially toxic chemicals such as arsenic and lead.

Consumer Reports tested 50 baby and toddler foods purchased from different retailers across the country. Products made with rice fared the worst in tests, but all showed measurable levels of at least one of three toxic heavy metals: cadmium, inorganic arsenic and/or lead, the organization found.

Thirty-four of the products contained levels food safety experts at Consumer Reports believe warrant concern, while 15 would pose potential health risks to a child regularly eating one serving a day. More worrisome, organic foods are just as likely to contain heavy metals as conventional foods, the tests found.

Stressing that its findings represented a spot check of the market that should not be used to draw conclusions about specific brands, Consumer Reports devised a daily limit, or number a servings a child would need to eat to face potential health risks from exposure to the three metals.

Watch and read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/baby-food-contains-worrisome-levels-of-lead-arsenic-cadmium/>

RELATED: U.S. senators demand answers from Army after Reuters report on lead poisoning

(Reuters) - Four U.S. senators on Friday urged the Army to detail the steps it is taking to safeguard children from lead poisoning, citing a Reuters investigation into hazards on military bases [including KENTUCKY]. Reuters reported that more than 1,000 young children tested at military clinics had elevated lead levels between 2011 and 2016.

The Reuters investigation also found that several military bases had not been reporting children's blood test results to state health departments, violating state laws and creating public health blind spots. The Army said those test results are now being reported. ([here](#)) As part of its examination, Reuters provided lead testing to families at several U.S. bases, finding lead paint hazards in Georgia, Texas, Kentucky and New York.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-military-senate/u-s-senators-demand-answers-from-army-after-reuters-report-on-lead-poisoning-idUSKBN1L22DG>

FDA approves first generic version of EpiPen

(FDA) The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved [last Thursday] the first generic version of EpiPen and EpiPen Jr (epinephrine) auto-injector for the emergency treatment of allergic reactions, including those that are life-threatening (anaphylaxis), in adults and pediatric patients who weigh more than 33 pounds. Teva Pharmaceuticals USA gained approval to market its generic epinephrine auto-injector in 0.3 mg and 0.15 mg strengths. Full release: <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm617173.htm>

EpiPen shortage has some relying on expired devices

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/epipen-shortage-has-some-relying-on-expired-devices/>

McDonald's salad has now sickened 476 in 15 states

(CBS) An outbreak of intestinal illness linked to eating salads from McDonald's is widening. More than a month after health officials [first alerted](#) the public, the count of confirmed cases tied to the cyclospora parasite has increased to 476 people, 21 of them hospitalized, and now includes residents from 15 states, the Food and Drug Administration [said](#).

Health officials are investigating cyclospora illnesses associated with McDonald's locations in 11 states including Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. A Florida resident also became ill after purchasing a salad while traveling in Kentucky, while patients residing in Tennessee, Connecticut and Virginia purchased salads while in Illinois.

Read full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/mcdonalds-salad-has-sickened-476-people-in-15-states/>

[Scientists seek new ways to combat Florida's growing 'red tide'](#)

Scientists in Florida are on the cusp of developing promising methods to control toxic algae blooms like the "red tide" that has been killing marine life along a 150-mile (240-km) stretch of the Gulf Coast, the head of a leading marine lab said on Wednesday.

[U.S. court orders Trump administration to enforce chemical safety rule](#)

A federal appeals court on Friday ordered the Trump administration to immediately implement an Obama-era chemical safety rule introduced in response to a 2013 explosion at a fertilizer plant in Texas that killed 15 people.

[U.S. energy regulator wants more disclosure of cyber attacks](#)

(Reuters) The U.S. government on Thursday asked power generators to disclose more information about cyber attacks amid growing concern that foreign hackers could disrupt the electric grid.

[Study warns of rising hacker threats to SAP, Oracle business software](#)

(Reuters) At least a dozen companies and government agencies have been targeted and thousands more are exposed to data breaches by hackers exploiting old security flaws in management software, two cyber security firms said in a study published on Wednesday.

[Pentagon creating software 'do not buy' list to keep out Russia, China](#)

The Pentagon is working on a software "do not buy" list to block vendors who use software code originating from Russia and China, a top Defense Department acquisitions official said on Friday.

[Facebook fakers get better at covering tracks, security experts say](#)

Creators of fake accounts and news pages on Facebook are learning from their past mistakes and making themselves harder to track and identify, posing new challenges in preventing the platform from being used for political misinformation, cyber security experts say.

**Camp connects young adults who lost loved ones
in terror attacks, violent extremism or war**

(CBS) At Colby College in Maine, a group of resilient kids got together recently for a unique camp experience filled with bonding and healing. They gathered for a week-long program that was designed for young adults who lost family members in terrorist attacks, violent extremism or war. The camp has been around since 2008 and has helped more than 700 teenagers from 28 nations learn to cope with loss. The program was created by Tuesday's Children, a nonprofit founded to [help the thousands of kids who lost a parent on 9/11](#).

Executive director Terry Sears said as the years passed and a new generation went off to war, the organization evolved. As tragedies have continued to unfold, Sears said her organization stepped in.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/project-common-bond-summer-camp-connects-young-adults-who-lost-loved-ones-in-terror-attacks-violent-extremism-or-war/>

Measles: No Current, Multi-state Outbreak in the United States
107 Cases Reported So Far in 2018, by 21 States, but Not As a Multi-state Outbreak
Full CDC Clinician Report: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCDC/bulletins/206aa7e>

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.