



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for March 12, 2019

KY Concealed Carry Signed Into Law

(WKYT) Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin has signed into law an NRA-backed measure which will allow people to conceal carry without a permit. Bevin signed Senate Bill 150 into law Monday. It allows Kentuckians 21 and older who can lawfully possess a firearm to be able to conceal it without a permit. The law goes into effect in July.

More: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Gov-Bevin-signs-permitless-conceal-carry-into-law-507004161.html>

Toyota partnership marks 'final step' for 700-acre Eastern Kentucky solar project

(Herald-Leader) Toyota will partner with developers of a proposed 700-acre solar farm on a Pike County strip mine, marking the "final step" in what would be the largest solar energy project in the state by a magnitude of ten. At 700 acres, an output of 100 megawatts and a price tag of about \$130 million, the Pike County project would [far surpass any other solar farm in the state](#). At that scale, it would be the largest in all of Appalachia, Johns said.

Developers hope to begin construction in late summer. The project, located on an old mine site on Bent Mountain, should take about a year and a half to complete.

Read more: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/state/kentucky/article227295924.html>

Solar farms in space could be renewable energy's next frontier

<https://www.nbcnews.com/mach/science/solar-farms-space-could-be-renewable-energy-s-next-frontier-ncna967451>

Lawmakers Advance Bill To Study State Response to Hepatitis a Outbreak

(WFPL) Kentucky lawmakers have advanced a bill that would ask the state's health cabinet to review its response to a deadly hepatitis A outbreak in Kentucky. Sen. Morgan McGarvey, a Democrat from Louisville and sponsor of the bill ([SCR 154](#)), said that he is not assigning blame for the outbreak "because we don't have any answers."

"This is to look at the local health departments, the response that the Cabinet had to say what happened, how did it happen and how can we prevent it from happening in the future," McGarvey told the Senate Health and Welfare Committee.

Read more: <https://wfpl.org/lawmakers-advance-bill-to-study-state-response-to-hepatitis-a-outbreak/>

Ky. Considers Bill to Make It Easier To Prosecute Strangulation as a Felony

(WFPL) It takes only four seconds of strangulation for a victim to pass out. And while injuries like a knife wound or a punch to the eye all usually result in some physical evidence of harm, strangling is [different](#).

"You can have internal injuries with no marks on the outside of the neck," said Bill Smock, a national expert on strangulation and a forensic physician with Louisville Metro Police Department.

"Unfortunately there've been many felony assaults that have been charged as a misdemeanor based upon inadequate investigation."

Those [injuries](#) can include bone fractures and swelling, but strangulation is often prosecuted as a misdemeanor in Kentucky. Under state law, strangulation can technically be prosecuted as a Class B felony, but because it requires a medical professional to testify, often prosecutors don't choose that route.

A [bill](#) moving through the Kentucky General Assembly (SB 70) would make it easier to prosecute strangulation as a lower-level felony: a Class D. This is a minimum standard that's already on the books in at least 45 other states.

Read more: <https://wfpl.org/ky-considers-bill-to-make-it-easier-to-prosecute-strangulation-as-a-felony/>

KY LRC Bill link: https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/19RS/sb70/orig_bill.pdf

Prez is "cool" with making Daylight Saving Time permanent

(CNN) After losing an hour of executive time to "springing forward" his clock an hour over the weekend, President Donald Trump voiced his support Monday to eliminate states' legal requirement of "falling back" an hour each year.

Ending Daylight Saving Time would require congressional approval, but it's already been bolstered by several Florida Republicans in Congress who [sponsored legislation last year](#) that would make daylight saving time permanent nationwide.

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/03/11/politics/donald-trump-daylight-saving-time/index.html>

DST Change Increases Car Crash Risk

(CBS) Missing two hours or more of sleep nearly doubles your crash risk, AAA says.

- Drivers need at least seven hours of sleep a night to drive safely
- Nearly 3 in 10 people admit to driving drowsy within the past month.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/daylight-saving-time-losing-an-hour-of-sleep-can-heighten-your-car-crash-risk-aaa-says/>

Unvaccinated child in OR gets tetanus

(CBS) An [unvaccinated](#) 6-year-old Oregon boy was hospitalized for two months for tetanus and almost died of the bacterial illness after getting a deep cut while playing on a farm, according to a case study published Friday by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It was the state's first tetanus case in over 30 years. The child's care - not including the air ambulance and inpatient rehabilitation - cost nearly \$1 million.

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/unvaccinated-boy-almost-dies-of-tetanus-portland-oregon/>

Not just measles:

Mumps, whooping cough and other vaccine-preventable diseases are still in the US

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/03/09/health/vaccine-preventable-diseases-mumps-whooping-cough-tetanus/index.html>

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.