



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for June 2, 2019

Virginia Beach suspect resigned hours before shooting

(CNN) DeWayne Craddock turned in a letter of resignation via email Friday morning, the day of the shooting, Virginia Beach City Manager Dave Hansen said.

He was not forced to resign, Hansen added. He was in "good standing" and had no ongoing discipline issues, he said. He turned in a letter of resignation via email Friday morning, the day of the shooting, Virginia Beach City Manager Dave Hansen said. He was not forced to resign, Hansen added. He was in "good standing" and had no ongoing discipline issues, he said.

Craddock -- whom a Virginia government source called a "disgruntled employee" -- walked into the [city building Friday afternoon and opened fire](#), police said.

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/01/us/virginia-beach-suspect/index.html>

Escalating workplace violence rocks hospitals

(Inquirer) Across the country, many doctors, nurses and other health-care workers have remained silent about what is being called an epidemic of violence against them.

The violent outbursts come from patients and patients' families. And for years, it has been considered part of the job.

When you visit the Cleveland Clinic emergency department — whether as a patient, family member or friend — a large sign directs you toward a metal detector.

"There is a very fundamental problem in U.S. health care that very few people speak about," CEO Tom Mihaljevic said, "and that's the violence against health-care workers. Daily — literally, daily — we are exposed to violent outbursts, in particular in emergency rooms."

Many health-care workers say the physical and verbal abuse come primarily from patients, some of whom are disoriented because of illness or from medication. Sometimes, nurses and doctors are abused by family members who are on edge because their loved one is so ill.

Read full story: <https://www.inquirer.com/wires/mct/hospitals-violence-assault-doctors-nurses-er-20190528.html>

US measles count nears 1,000, surpassing 25-year-old record

(AP) — U.S. health officials on Thursday reported 971 measles cases so far this year, the highest tally in 27 years, and experts say it's not clear when the wave of illnesses will stop.

Measles, once common in the U.S., became rare after vaccination campaigns that started in the 1960s. A decade ago, there were fewer than 100 cases a year.

The new numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention pushed the U.S. tally higher than the 963 illnesses reported for all of 1994. The nation last saw this many cases in 1992, when more than 2,200 were reported.

Learn more: <https://apnews.com/9e4f0becf3d94a4195c08a8af6a593e6>

Anti vax movement: Russian trolls fueled anti-vaccination debate spreading misinformation on Twitter

(CBS) Russian Twitter trolls have attempted to fuel the anti-vaccination debate in the U.S., posting about the issue far more than the average Twitter user last year, [a study out of George Washington University](#) has found. Such trolls ramp up controversial issues in the U.S. by inflating different viewpoints, the study says.

The U.S. is in the midst of the [worst measles outbreak in the country in 25 years](#). Health officials say misinformation and anti-vax messages have led more people to avoid vaccination, allowing the disease to spread.

According to Axios, however, misinformation about vaccines is not the only threat, as Russia is focusing on spreading misinformation around health care issues ahead of the 2020 election.

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/anti-vax-movement-russian-trolls-fueled-anti-vaccination-debate-in-us-by-spreading-misinformation-twitter-study/>

LA officer gets typhoid fever, 5 others show symptoms

(AP) — A Los Angeles police detective has been diagnosed with typhoid fever, a rare illness typically spread through contaminated food or water, and at least five other officers who work in the same station are showing symptoms, union officials said Thursday.

Full AP story: <https://apnews.com/e6c4a34980c549deada4f1f981cedb80>

7 patients at new Ohio hospital diagnosed with Legionnaires'

(ABC) Ohio's [health](#) authority on Friday ordered a newly opened hospital outside Columbus to immediately flush and disinfect its water lines and take other steps to protect the public's [health](#) after seven patients were diagnosed with potentially fatal Legionnaires' disease. The hospital also has been ordered to test and clean its ice machines, clean and service its on-site cooling towers, and provide all test results and a water management plan to the Health Department.

The Centers for Disease Control and Infection website says people are infected with Legionnaires' by inhaling airborne water droplets containing the Legionella bacteria. Cooling towers containing water and a fan as part of a centralized cooling system are a potential source for Legionella, the CDC says.

While most healthy people are unaffected, those over 50, smokers and others with weakened immune systems and chronic lung disease are most at risk of being infected, the CDC says.

Read more: <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/patients-ohio-hospital-diagnosed-legionnaires-63419405>

**Tropical threat may brew in Gulf of Mexico,
likely to send more downpours into central US this week**

(AccuWeather) The [2019 Atlantic hurricane season](#) is officially underway, and the southwestern Gulf of Mexico may serve as the breeding ground for the next tropical depression or storm early this week. A broad area of unsettled weather traversing across the Bay of Campeche is being monitored for potential tropical development.

"There is a medium to high chance for tropical development in the Bay of Campeche," according to AccuWeather Hurricane Expert Dan Kottowski. "That means the system could become a tropical depression and perhaps a tropical storm within the next 48 hours."

Full story: <https://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/tropical-threat-may-brew-in-gulf-of-mexico-as-atlantic-hurricane-season-officially-begins/70008426>

Army Corps Under Fire From Flood Victims Amid Storm Surge

(NY Times) The Army Corps of Engineers has been struggling on two fronts — taming America's rain-swollen rivers, and taming the fallout from mass water releases and breached levees.

The Corps of Engineers, one of the world's largest engineering agencies, has for the better part of two centuries managed the complex network of dams, reservoirs, canals, hydropower plants and levees on the nation's largest waterways, a job that was often solved with generous applications of earth, concrete and riprap. In recent years, the agency's flood control mission has been complicated by competing new obligations to protect fish and wildlife resources, promote recreation and maintain navigation for ships and barges.

The record-setting floods this spring have thrown into sharp relief the difficulty of managing all those priorities when so many of them — particularly the unusual weather patterns that have sent an unprecedented amount of water churning down the Arkansas River — are unpredictable.

Full story: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/31/us/army-corps-engineers-midwest-floods.html>

May 2019 historic month for tornadoes after unprecedented twister streak

(Accuweather) After nearly two weeks, Mother Nature finally gave the nation a reprieve on Thursday by ending an unprecedented tornado streak at 13 days. On each of those days, weather officials logged at least 8 tornado reports per day across the U.S.

The streak reached 11 days on Monday night when a flurry of tornadoes ripped through Indiana and Ohio, including [an EF4 twister that struck Dayton, Ohio](#), causing significant damage to local communities. The next night, [a destructive tornado, also an EF4, ripped through Linwood, Kansas](#). These are just a few of the massive tornadoes that have touched down recently in the country and extended the streak to almost the two-week mark. Tuesday was day 12, eclipsing the old record of 11, which ended on June 7, 1980.

As of Friday, the National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center (NWS SPC) logged 26 preliminary tornado reports on Tuesday. While these reports do not represent confirmed tornadoes, they do suggest that the record for consecutive days on which at least eight tornadoes touched down would be broken once the official totals are in.

That number extended to 13 days as 41 preliminary tornadoes were reported during Wednesday's severe weather event.

Full story: <https://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/may-2019-could-be-historic-month-for-tornadoes-after-unprecedented-twister-streak-finally-ends-at-13-days/70008393>

With weather getting more severe, it's time for a reminder...

Tornado watch vs warning: What to do when you see alert messages

(ABC-7) Tornado watches and tornado warnings have different purposes, and you should react to each differently, AccuWeather explains.

A tornado watch is typically issued hours in advance by NOAA's Storm Prediction Center (SPC). It means that conditions are ideal for a tornado to form. A watch will not necessarily result in severe weather, AccuWeather explains. While a watch covers a broad region, a warning is issued by a local National Weather Service meteorologist for a smaller area.

A warning means that either a tornado has been spotted or a radar has picked one up. If you are in an area with a tornado warning, it's time to act immediately. Get to a safe space such as a storm shelter. [If you don't have one, the best option](#) is usually in the basement or the middle of a building, away from windows, preferably in an area with reinforced walls.

Full story: <https://abc7chicago.com/weather/tornado-watch-vs-warning-what-to-do/5321358/>

What's the difference between a hurricane and a tornado?

(NBC) Hurricanes and tornadoes are alike in basic ways. Both produce powerful, swirling winds — and both can leave a path of death and destruction. But hurricanes and tornadoes also differ in crucial ways, including their size and duration as well as how, when and where they form.

The biggest differences between [hurricanes and tornadoes](#) are how big they are and how long they last. Hurricanes are typically hundreds of miles in diameter, with high winds and heavy rains over the entire region. The largest hurricane ever to hit the United States was Sandy in 2012, which was 1,000 miles wide when it slammed into New York and New Jersey, causing more than [\\$70 billion worth of damage and more than 175 deaths](#).

Learn more: <https://www.nbcnews.com/mach/science/what-s-difference-between-hurricane-tornado-ncna1011676>

It's rare for a tornado to hit a big city — but that may not always be the case

(NBC) These are very low probability events, but if and when they occur, they will likely be devastating. There's no special reason why tornadoes seem to miss big cities. It just comes down to chance. Densely populated urban areas such as Los Angeles, Chicago or New York are relatively small specks amid vast stretches of forests, mountains or otherwise rural regions. But, as cities grow and developments spill beyond city limits, these areas become part of an "expanding bull's-eye" effect, as described by a [2015 study published in the magazine Weatherwise](#).

What Is Radiation Poisoning?
Here's What to Know About the Disease Seen on HBO's 'Chernobyl'
<https://news360.com/article/498085066>

Another Tick-Borne Disease To Worry About

(NPR) When a tick bores into your skin, anchoring itself for what can be a leisurely meal while often spreading germs, it isn't just Lyme disease that you have to worry about.

Various kinds of ticks have been shown to carry at least 16 diseases in the U.S alone that can infect humans, according to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). Now add one more to the global list of ills that a tick bite can bring about, according to a study in the May 30 [New England Journal of Medicine](#). The newly discovered disease was found in Inner Mongolia, an autonomous region of China.

Learn more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2019/06/01/728375159/another-tick-borne-disease-to-worry-about>

New data show gaps in Ebola treatment for young kids

(CIDRAP) A new World Health Organization (WHO) analysis of Ebola infections in children under 5 years old in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's (DRC's) outbreak found that parents often avoid taking them to Ebola treatment centers and that the youngsters are less likely than other groups to be added to contact tracing lists.

Children younger than 5, as of May 28, have made up 15% of all Ebola cases, and, of 300 cases in the age-group, 19 are listed as probable.

Though children under 5 are brought to health facilities sooner than kids older than 5, most aren't being referred to Ebola treatment centers (ETCs), with parents opting to take them to multiple local healthcare facilities. The WHO said possible reasons for avoiding ETCs could be parents' fear of being far from home away from family support.

Read full report: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2019/05/new-data-show-gaps-ebola-treatment-young-kids>

CDC: 10 more people infected with *Salmonella* linked to hedgehogs

([CIDRAP News Scan](#)) The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) yesterday announced 10 more cases of *Salmonella* Typhimurium illness linked to pet hedgehogs, and 6 more states are affected. The new cases raise the outbreak total to 27 cases in 17 states.

Two people have been hospitalized in this outbreak, but there have been no reported deaths. Forty-two percent of cases involve children aged 12 or younger, the CDC said. In interviews, 90% of patients said they had contact with a hedgehog prior to symptom onset. Illnesses were reported from Oct 22, 2018, to Apr 8, 2019.

The CDC recommends good hygiene when handling pet hedgehogs and says to avoid kissing or snuggling the animals. **May 30 CDC [update](#)**

CDC records 2 new pediatric flu deaths, 1 variant H1N1 case

([CIDRAP News Scan](#)) The CDC recorded 2 new pediatric deaths from influenza in its weekly FluView report, raising the 2018-2019 total to 113. The agency also notes an infection with a variant strain.

The rate of influenza-like-illness (ILI) remained at 1.5%, well before the national baseline of 2.2%, signaling flu is circulating at low levels typically seen in summer months. All 10 regions reported ILI activity below their region-specific baseline levels.

May 31 CDC FluView [report](#) & May 24 CDC FluView [summary](#)

What's Doctor Burnout Costing America?

(NPR) Doctor burnout is costing the U.S. health care system a lot — roughly \$4.6 billion a year, according to a [study published this week](#) in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. The medical profession now carries an increasing load of paperwork and bureaucracy, adding stress to doctor's lives.

The study defines burnout as substantial symptoms of "emotional exhaustion, feelings of cynicism and detachment from work, and a low sense of personal accomplishment." This description tracks closely with the World Health Organization's [newly updated definition for burnout](#).

To put a price on burnout, the study authors culled data from recent research findings and reports — including direct or inferred findings on doctors cutting back on hours or quitting as a result of burnout. They ran a mathematical model to estimate the costs associated with burnout, focusing on the costs of replacing physicians and lost income from unfilled positions.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/05/31/728334635/whats-doctor-burnout-costing-america>

Businesses object to FCC's plan to block robocalls

(Fierce Wireless) Debt collectors, banks, healthcare providers and other businesses are voicing objections to FCC Chairman Ajit Pai's proposal to allow phone companies to block unwanted calls. Pai has proposed allowing wireless carriers to block unwanted calls to their customers "by default."

The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) [reported](#) that lobbyists representing a spectrum of businesses met with FCC officials last week to urge the regulatory body to delay its planned vote on the proposal, slated for June 6.

Those firms fear the rule may result in carriers blocking important calls from businesses that are trying to reach their customers. Banks and debt collectors in particular, who consider automated calls to be "crucial," according to WSJ, fear that their calls would be blocked under the new system.

Illegal robocalls and caller ID-spoofing spam calls have experienced a surge in recent years. In 2018, 29% of all calls to mobile phones were spam. That number was [expected to reach 44%](#) during the first months of 2019.

Full story: <https://www.fiercewireless.com/regulatory/businesses-push-back-against-fcc-s-plan-to-block-robocalls>

With a Worm Looming, the BlueKeep Bug Isn't Getting Patched Fast Enough

(Wired) Two weeks have passed since [Microsoft warned users about a critical vulnerability](#) in a common Windows protocol that could enable a hacker to remotely take over machines without even a click from their owners, potentially allowing an infectious worm to rip through millions of PCs. That bug might be fading from the headlines, but it still lingers in at least 900,000 computers. And that vulnerable herd is getting Microsoft's patch at a glacial pace—as a wave of contagion that will likely soon hit all of them looms.

[BlueKeep](#), as the bug has come to be known, is a hackable vulnerability in Microsoft's Remote Desktop Protocol, or RDP, that affects Windows 7 and earlier as well as older versions of Windows Server.

Full story: <https://www.wired.com/story/microsoft-bluekeep-patched-too-slow/>

Crippling Baltimore Hack Takes Another Turn

(Newser) – The NSA is denying any responsibility—however indirect—for a ransomware attack that has crippled the city of Baltimore, a lawmaker tells the [New York Times](#). That contradicts a [Times report](#) that EternalBlue, which was stolen from the NSA in 2016, was used in the attack. How the NSA knew about results of the Baltimore investigation is unclear.

Learn more: <https://www.newser.com/story/275945/nsa-washes-its-hands-of-city-attack-lawmaker.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.

Safety After a Tornado



([CDC EPIC](#)) A tornado's impact on a community can be devastating. Recovering from a tornado's destruction takes time and can be dangerous; it is important to look after both your physical and emotional well-being. Use the tips below to keep you, your family, and your community safe during the recovery process.

General Tips



Stay tuned to emergency information channels using your phone, battery-powered radio, or television.



Use personal protective equipment during the [inspection](#) and [clean-up](#). Wear boots or sturdy shoes, long pants, long sleeves, and gloves when walking near or handling debris.



Take care of your [emotional health](#). See the section below and follow the links to learn more.



Keep [pets](#) on a leash or in a carrier during transport or when outside. Pets can become confused and even get lost after an emergency as landmarks and familiar scents have changed. Protect pets from debris, downed power lines, and other hazards, including wildlife that may have been disrupted by the tornado.



Carbon Monoxide: REMEMBER: Never use generators; pressure washers; camp stoves; grills; or other gasoline, propane, natural gas, or charcoal-burning devices inside your home, basement, garage, or camper. They should also not be used outside near an open window, door, or vent. **They should be at least 20 feet away** from your home or business. These devices produce carbon monoxide (CO), an invisible gas with no odor that can cause sudden illness and death if inhaled. Symptoms of CO poisoning include dizziness, headache, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. Seek immediate medical attention if you think you or someone else may have CO poisoning.

Emotional Health: It is very common to feel worry, stress, anxiety, and grief during and after a disaster. An event such as a tornado affects people differently, especially [children](#). Give yourself the space to acknowledge these feelings and track how they change over time.

- Follow these steps to help you and others cope:
- Share your feelings with a friend or family member.
- Take breaks and make time to unwind. Try to return to activities that you enjoy.
- Avoid excessive exposure to media coverage after the event.
- Try to eat healthy, exercise, get plenty of sleep, and avoid alcohol and other drugs.
- Ask for help. Talk to a counselor, doctor, or clergy member. You can also contact the SAMHSA helpline at 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746.



CDC's Ready Wrigley activity book "[Coping After a Disaster](#)" is a great resource to help kids begin processing their feelings after an emergency. Other activities, games, and resources relating to children and disasters can be found [here](#).

[View it as a Web page.](https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCDC/bulletins/2485c2e) <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCDC/bulletins/2485c2e>