



## Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for June 8-9, 2019

*This was not part of the Shaken Fury exercise...*

### **Small earthquake reported in western Kentucky Thursday**

(WKYT) A small earthquake rattled western Kentucky Thursday night. It happened in Ballard County, near the town of Kevil.

According to a release from the U.S. Geological Survey, the quake was near the New Madrid fault line. The earthquake registered a 2.4 on the Richter scale.

No damage was reported, but people in Ballard County and neighboring Marshall County say they did feel shaking.

Source: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Small-earthquake-reported-in-western-Kentucky-510979022.html>

### **Congress sends president bill to reauthorize preparedness programs**

(American Hospital Association) The House of Representatives yesterday passed by voice vote the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act ([S. 1379](#)), which passed the Senate last month and now goes to the president for his signature. The legislation includes AHA-supported provisions that reauthorize the Hospital Preparedness Program at an increased amount; reserve a percentage of HPP funds to develop regional health care emergency preparedness and response systems; formally keep the HPP and Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program separate under their respective agencies; and change financing and uses for the Public Health Emergency Fund. PAHPAI also authorizes several national advisory committees and the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, and clarifies state liability law for volunteer health care professionals.

### **FEMA's internal watchdog produced 'feel good' reports about agency's emergency response**

(CNN) The Federal Emergency Management Agency's internal watchdog produced 13 now-retracted "feel good" reports about how FEMA's emergency management oversight team responded to natural disasters in an effort to "downplay all the negatives," according to an internal report from the Department of Homeland Security's Inspector General office.

The review, which was [first reported](#) on by the Washington Post, shows how changes within the FEMA Inspector General's office shifted the reports from being a thorough review designed to improve FEMA's emergency response to being overwhelmingly positive, no matter the reality of FEMA's response to the situation.

Click the link below to see some examples: <https://news360.com/article/498811330>

### **1 Lexington hospital gets an A for safety.**

#### ***Which Kentucky hospitals had D's and F's?***

(Herald-Leader) Six hospitals in Kentucky were given D's or F's in one nonprofit group's biannual safety rankings, and their patients are more at risk of dying during their stay, according to the website.

The website, [HospitalSafetyGrade.org](http://HospitalSafetyGrade.org) by The Leapfrog Group, uses hospital infections, surgery problems, error-prevention practices, safety problems and metrics on doctors, nurses, and staff to determine its rankings. Leapfrog is an independent, organization [that surveys more than 2,000 U.S. hospitals](#), which voluntarily participate. Performance measures from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services were also used.

Keep reading to learn more: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/state/kentucky/article231254453.html>

### **The Habit That Lowers Preventable Deaths, According to An EMS Worker**

Curious? <https://www.menshealth.com/health/a27820338/ems-worker-preventable-deaths/>

**Women are less likely than men to receive CPR in public.  
A new training product is designed to change that**

(CNN) CPR mannequins are getting breasts -- with the goal of saving women's lives. The so-called *Womanikin* is an attachment for flat-chested CPR dummies that aims to change the finding that women are 27% less likely than men to receive CPR if they suffer from a cardiac arrest in public. Researchers suspect bystanders' reluctance to touch the chest of woman they don't know might play a role.

Read/see more: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/05/health/female-cpr-dummy-women-cardiac-arrest/index.html>

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**For White Men Out West, the New Plague Is Suicide**

(Newser) – Movie lore has long depicted the West as a tough place to survive, and a story by Stephen Rodrick at Rolling Stone explores a relatively recent twist in why that remains true: Rising suicide rates. More specifically, rising suicide rates among isolated, white, middle-aged men. Those ages 45 to 64 make up the fastest-growing group, and five of the six states with the fastest-growing rates are in the mountain time zone—Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Idaho, and Utah.

Full story: <https://www.newser.com/story/276022/for-white-men-out-west-the-new-plague-is-suicide.html>

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***Is the Key-Control system addressed in your Active Shooter Plan?*  
'Blind Spot' Slowed Down Cops in Virginia Beach Shooting**

(Newser) – Police responding to the deadly mass shooting at a Virginia Beach municipal building were unable to confront the gunman at one point because they didn't have the keycards needed to open doors on the second floor.

Keycards have become a standard feature of building security at US workplaces. But security experts say cops often lack quick access to cards or codes—a situation that could cost them precious minutes in mass shootings. Read more: <http://newser.com/s276154>

*[R Bartlett note: One option mentioned in discussions on this is to have a "Public Safety Go-Bag" in the office or main control point that contains a master key, master key card, and floor plans for the building or complex. The plans should show the location of power panels, alarm control or monitoring panels, and shut off valves.]*

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**Kentucky toddler's tick bite led to rare disease**

(Fox/WDRB) A Louisville mother who found a tick on her 2-year-old son's neck now has a warning for other parents: Beware of these potentially disease-causing critters.

Kayla Oblisk told Fox News she removed a tick from her toddler Jackson's body in May after he played outside. Days later, on May 20, she began to notice symptoms of what she would later learn was a potentially fatal disease called Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF). Roughly a week later, her son was in the intensive care unit at Norton Children's Hospital in Louisville.

Full story: [https://www.wdrb.com/news/kentucky-toddler-s-tick-bite-led-to-rare-disease/article\\_d9261e24-878c-11e9-954f-33fa30089de5.html](https://www.wdrb.com/news/kentucky-toddler-s-tick-bite-led-to-rare-disease/article_d9261e24-878c-11e9-954f-33fa30089de5.html)

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**If you drink bottled water, you could *double*  
how many microplastic particles you ingest,**

(CNN) Every day we are ingesting tiny, often microscopic pieces of plastic -- "microplastics" -- with our food, beverages and with the very air we breathe. Americans eat, drink and breathe between 74,000 and 121,000 microplastic particles each year depending on their age and sex, new research suggests. The full impact on our health isn't known.

Learn more: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/05/health/microplastic-particle-ingestion-study/index.html>

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**FDA confirms PFAS chemicals are in the US food supply**

(CNN) The US Food and Drug Administration confirmed that PFAS chemicals have made their way into the US food supply. On Monday, the FDA publicly acknowledged the initial findings of the agency's investigation into how the "forever chemicals" have been detected in the foods we eat.

PFAS is a family of nearly 5,000 synthetic chemicals that are extremely persistent in the environment and in our bodies. Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/03/health/pfas-food-supply-fda/index.html>

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**Laundry pods still a serious safety risk for kids & others**

(CBS) Liquid laundry detergent packets are popular for their convenience, but a new study shows they remain a dangerous attraction to young children and some people who have dementia, reports CBS New York.

The pods, which can be poisonous if ingested, can look like candy to a child or someone with dementia. The combination has resulted in many accidental poisonings despite years of warnings. New research finds U.S. poison control centers received nearly 73,000 calls involving liquid laundry detergent packets between 2012 and 2017.

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/laundry-pods-still-a-serious-safety-risk-for-kids-some-people-with-dementia-study/>

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**Flash Fire Erupts in Man's Chest Cavity During Open Heart Surgery**

<https://news360.com/article/498334775>

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**Ohio doctor accused of murdering 25 patients with painkiller overdoses**

(FOX) A critical-care doctor in Ohio who authorities believe “purposely caused the death” of 25 hospital patients that overdosed on the opioid painkiller fentanyl was arrested and charged with murder Wednesday. The charges make up one of the biggest murder cases brought against a doctor in the United States.

Read more: <https://www.foxnews.com/us/ohio-doctor-accused-of-murdering-25-patients-in-painkiller-overdoses>

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**Storing a loaded gun at home raised soldiers' risk of death by suicide**

(CNN) Over 1,000 active duty US Army soldiers have died by suicide since 2015, and a new study suggests that reducing those deaths may require limiting access to one of a soldier's most familiar tools: the gun.

The research, published Friday in the medical journal JAMA Network Open, found that soldiers who died by suicide were more likely than their peers to own personal firearms. Storing a loaded gun at home or carrying one in public, the study found, was "associated with a 4-fold increase in the odds of suicide death" among soldiers.

The findings come at a tense time for the military, with suicides among active-duty Marines and sailors reaching a 10-year high last year and suicides among US Special Operations forces tripling. About two-thirds of all active duty suicides involve a gun, according to the Department of Defense's most recent annual report.

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/07/health/soldier-gun-suicides-study/index.html>

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**Louisville partners with Microsoft to become artificial intelligence hub**

(WAVE) – Metro Louisville is becoming a technology hub for Microsoft.

The major tech company joined Mayor Greg Fischer and several other community leaders Friday to announce the city would become the regional hub for artificial intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), and data science.

Being a hub means Microsoft and city government officials will work with industries that are at risk of automation by upskilling their workforce.

Full story: <https://www.wave3.com/2019/06/07/louisville-become-artificial-intelligence-hub/>

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 added or deleted, 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.