

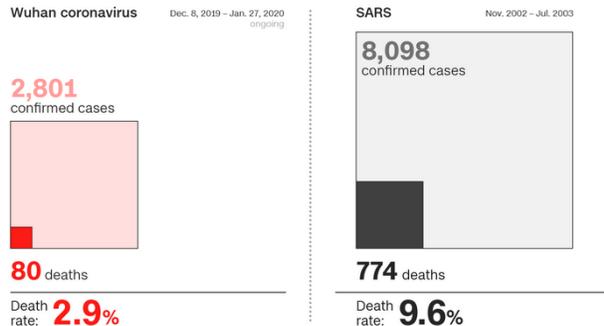


Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for January 27, 2020

China goes into emergency mode Number of confirmed Wuhan coronavirus cases reaches 2,700

(CNN) The death toll from [the Wuhan coronavirus](#) now stands at 80, with almost 2,800 cases confirmed across China, as the country initiates emergency procedures to try and rein in the pathogen's global spread.

How this outbreak compares with SARS



Making that task more difficult is the fact that the virus [can be spread before any symptoms appear](#), Chinese health authorities said Sunday, meaning carriers may not realize they are infected before they transmit the virus to others.

Across China, 15 cities with a combined population of over 57 million people -- more than the entire population of South Korea -- have been placed under full or partial lockdown.

The virus has spread quickly around the world since it was first discovered in Wuhan last month. Outside mainland China, at least 13 other places have reported cases of the virus, including France,

Australia and the United States. Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/26/asia/wuhan-coronavirus-update-intl-hnk/index.html>

Related: China Searches for Super Spreader

A single patient has infected 14 health care workers

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/23/health/wuhan-virus-super-spreader/index.html>

Johnson & Johnson 'pretty confident' they can create a coronavirus vaccine

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/27/jj-pretty-confident-it-can-create-china-coronavirus-vaccine.html>

Johns Hopkins creates GIS tool to track global nCoV info

<https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

[If you are in to mapping health outbreak data, this GIS tool, built on the ESRI platform, is an excellent way to picture the global outbreak and rill down into the numbers.]

Deputies concerned about new 'wasping' trend among meth users

(WKYT) - Authorities in Central Kentucky are concerned about a new trend with meth users. It's called "wasping" and deputies in Franklin County say it's becoming more and more common.

They say addicts will mix and dilute their meth with wasp spray to give it a longer life span. Deputies say users also are heating the spray up and then huffing it.

Deputies believe the trend came from West Virginia and has since made its way across Kentucky. So far, they are responding to medical emergencies where people are either beginning to overdose or facing hallucinations related to pesticides.

Full story: <https://www.wave3.com/2020/01/26/deputies-concerned-about-new-wasp-trend-among-meth-users/>

ABC 2018 story on "wasping" dangers: <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/dangerous-drug-trend-called-wasping-combines-meth/story?id=54068422>

KY CHFS warns about CO Poisoning as weather gets colder

(From CHFS Press Release) With recent temperatures below freezing, the Department for Public Health (DPH), within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), wants to remind residents to take action to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning (CO).

"Carbon monoxide poisonings are more likely during colder weather, so it is very important that Kentucky residents make sure their heating sources and carbon monoxide detectors are in good working order," said Rebecca Gillis, director of the DPH Division of Public Health Protection and Safety.

In Kentucky, carbon monoxide poisoning sends over 200 people per year to the emergency room, according to data from the [Kentucky's Environmental Public Health Tracking Program](#). Data from the [National Environmental](#)

[Public Health Tracking Program](#) tells us that an average of 17 Kentuckians die every year from unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning.

More information about carbon monoxide poisoning can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/co/default.htm> and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission at <https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/464.pdf>

Full press release: <https://chfs.ky.gov/News/Documents/nrcarbonmonoxide.pdf>

LG&E and KU to supply additional 100 megawatts of solar power to Kentucky customers

(KyForward News) Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company has filed with the Kentucky Public Service Commission for approval of three contracts that could mean one giant step forward for solar energy generation in Kentucky, with construction of the largest solar array in the Bluegrass. The proposed contracts are the result of LG&E and KU's ongoing efforts to enhance renewable offerings for residential, commercial and industrial customers to help meet their various renewable energy goals. The solar facility is expected to be completed and commercially available by 2022.



Learn more: <https://www.kyforward.com/lge-and-ku-to-supply-additional-100-megawatts-of-solar-power-to-kentucky-customers/>

In Rural America, There Are Few People Left to Drive the Ambulances

(New Yorker) For decades, states with a lot of land and not a lot of hospitals have relied on volunteer services to respond to medical emergencies. Today, that system faces collapse. Forty-six million people live in



America's rural counties, and, for decades, they have relied on volunteer ambulance services to respond to their medical emergencies. Today, that system faces collapse. As these communities become grayer and less populated, there are fewer people left to drive ambulances, and fewer people left to pay the taxes that keep the ambulances in service.

Dia Gainor, the executive director of the National Association of State E.M.S. Officials, wishes lawmakers and rural community members would regard E.M.S. as an essential public service, like fire departments and law enforcement. Though rural fire departments also struggle to recruit volunteers, financial incentives and federal grants help them stay afloat.

Full story: <https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/in-rural-america-there-are-few-people-left-to-drive-the-ambulances>

Raw ground beef recalled in nine states due to possible plastic contamination

(Fox61) A Chicago company is recalling about 2,020 pounds of raw ground beef that was shipped to nine states, federal health officials said. The beef is being recalled due to possible contamination with thin pliable plastic. One-pound vacuum-packed packages containing lot code "0060," case code "11402" and a use or freeze by date of "01/31/2020" on the product label are subject to the recall. The products were produced January 6 and shipped to retail locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Full story: <https://fox61.com/2020/01/25/raw-ground-beef-recalled-in-nine-states-due-to-possible-plastic-contamination/>

So If Your Kid Gets Worms, You Can Probably Blame the Dog

(Romper) When your pet serves up those sweet sloppy kisses, he might also pass on something more sinister (and frankly, gross) to your kids, too — worms.

Toxocariasis (or more commonly known as worms) is an infection that people can get from their dogs or cats. It comes from [worms that live in your pet's intestines](#) and then are passed on to pet owners, *Kids Health* reported. "Dogs and cats — especially puppies and kittens — are commonly infected with roundworms and hookworms unless they are on an effective deworming protocol," Dr. Jennifer Coates, DVM, tells Romper. "Both of these intestinal parasites shed eggs in the pet's feces that contaminate the environment."

If you're worried about [how kids get worms](#), read on to find out how to prevent this problem from happening: <https://www.romper.com/p/how-do-kids-get-worms-its-easier-than-you-think-21745549>

Opioid victims can begin filing claims against Purdue Pharma

(WLEX18) State and local governments have been leading the legal fight against the opioid industry, seeking payouts to help them deal with the fallout from the nation's addiction crisis. Average Americans are about to get their shot.

On Friday, the federal judge overseeing the bankruptcy case of Purdue Pharma set a June 30 deadline to file a claim against the company. That includes governments, entities such as hospitals and, for the first time, individuals who have personal injury claims. It's not clear how much money might be at stake.

Learn more: <https://www.lex18.com/news/covering-kentucky/opioid-victims-can-begin-filing-claims-against-purdue-pharma>

----- Twin cases involving teens murdering their families -----

Per ABC News - the first mass shooting in America for 2020

Utah Teen Killed His Family Over Many Hours

Learn more: <https://www.newser.com/story/285990/2/son-learned-of-familys-mass-murder-on-facebook.html>

**Alabama teen kills family, hits the hay,
then goes to school... like nothing ever happened!**

Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/286056/alabama-boy-kills-family-hits-the-hay-police.html>

Coalition of states sue over rules governing 3D-printed guns

<https://www.lex18.com/news/national/coalition-of-states-sue-over-rules-governing-3d-printed-guns>

AHA's Hospitals Against Violence initiative

Webinar: [Feb. 19 at 12 p.m. ET](#)

AHA will host a webinar framing gun violence as a complex biopsychosocial disease. It seeks to advance the biopsychosocial model, apply it to gun violence, and identify opportunities for prevention and care that informs a health system's approach to reduce these deaths and injuries and make the communities we serve healthier and safer. [View more information and register.](#)

Infant surrendered in Indiana baby box was just hours old

(WDRB) A newborn baby is safe after he or she was placed inside a baby box at a fire station in Seymour.

The organization [Safe Haven Baby Boxes](#) said the Seymour Fire Department was alerted Thursday after the infant was surrendered. "The Seymour Fire Department was able to retrieve the newborn within 60 seconds of the parent placing the newborn in our baby box," said Monica Kelsey, founder & CEO Safe Haven Baby Boxes. The baby boxes are climate-controlled, and a silent alarm notifies the fire department when the door closes.

"This was the fifth time a baby box that's been used in the state of Indiana in the last 24 months," Kelsey said. "The boxes are working," she said. "The law is working in our state."

Read more: https://www.wdrb.com/news/infant-surrendered-in-seymour-indiana-baby-box-was-just-hours/article_dfc5c522-3ecf-11ea-9698-e746238305cb.html

Related info on Kentucky Safe Haven Law | Baby Safe Haven

See more: <http://safehaven.tv/states/kentucky/>

Water Protections in Place for Decades to Be Gone Within Days

(Newser) In the end, government scientists couldn't sway him. President Trump's administration is expected to finalize a change to an Obama-era regulation protecting many US wetlands and streams as soon as Thursday. Large bodies of water will remain protected, as will major tributaries and adjacent wetlands. But other wetlands and some seasonal and transient streams will be open to pollution and development. In December, the EPA's own Science Advisory Board found the proposed change "neglects established science"—an argument likely to appear in lawsuits brought by state attorneys general and environmental groups.

Learn more: <https://www.newser.com/story/285989/water-protections-in-place-for-decades-to-be-gone-within-days.html>

'Doomsday' Has Never Been Closer

It is now 100 seconds to 'midnight'

(Newser) The keepers of the Doomsday Clock on Thursday moved the symbolic countdown to global disaster to the closest point to midnight in its 73-year history, citing "existential danger" from nuclear war and climate change, per the AP. More: <https://www.newser.com/story/286012/doomsday-has-never-been-closer.html>

Grim Request to Houston Residents after Blast: Look for Body Parts

Two people died after a massive explosion Friday leveled a Houston warehouse, damaging nearby buildings and homes and rousing people from their sleep miles away, authorities say. The building was reduced to burning rubble and debris, and some surrounding buildings suffered heavy damage to parts of their walls and roofs, per the AP.

Houston Fire Chief Samuel Pena said hazardous-materials crews have secured the valve on a 2,000-gallon tank of propylene that had been leaking. Propylene is a colorless gas that's highly flammable and can explode in a fire; people exposed to propylene can become dizzy and light-headed, and the gas can also cause liver damage. Nearby homes sustained significant damage. Some were knocked off their foundations.

Full story: <https://www.newser.com/story/286052/houston-warehouse-blast-kills-2-damages-homes.html>

DHS Releases Report on Combatting Trafficking in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods

([US DHS Press Release](#)) The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) released its first report pursuant to President Trump's April 3, 2019, *Memorandum on Combatting Trafficking in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods*. The first-ever report outlines a series of recommendations and actions that can be taken by both the federal government and industry partners to combat this illicit trade epidemic.

DHS led a robust effort in coordinating with ICE, CBP, and the interagency to develop recommendations focused on protecting businesses and consumers against counterfeits and pirated goods. This report includes more than a dozen recommendations, best practices, and immediate actions to be taken.

The full set of recommendations can be found [here](#).

<https://www.dhs.gov/publication/combating-trafficking-counterfeit-and-pirated-goods>

Mid-Atlantic TeleHealth Resource Conference

Charlotte NC - April 5-7

Website to learn more is <http://www.matrcsummit.org/index.html>

Early registration is \$350 (Expires at the end of January)

[Breakfast and lunch included]

Hotel conference rate is \$159+taxes/night

Roundtrip non-stop airfare from Louisville is about \$270

Got questions? Contact Tim Bickel, TeleHealth Dir, UofL

tim.bickel@louisville.edu or (502)852-1559

***Final four:* State narrows routes for new Louisville-area bypass**

(WDRB) Kentucky transportation planners are weighing four routes for a proposed Louisville bypass between I-71 in Oldham County and I-65 in Bullitt County, with costs expected to reach as high as \$1.24 billion. The alternatives pass through Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Bullitt, Nelson, and sliver of Jefferson counties. At one point, 15 corridors were being considered. State lawmakers approved the \$1.9 million study for the "regional connector" in 2018. A final report was expected last fall, but it now is planned for March, according to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

Read and see more: https://www.wdrb.com/in-depth/final-four-state-narrows-routes-for-louisville-area-bypass/article_8ce50bf0-3ec1-11ea-88a7-f3f72722d557.html

Feel Good Story for the day

#wheeliepup - Firefighters rescue puppy stuck in spare tire

(CNN) Riverside California firefighters responded to an unusual call this past week -- a 3-month-old Australian cattle dog that got her head stuck in the wheel in a spare tire.

The dog had put its head through the hole on the wheel that attaches to the hub on a vehicle's suspension. Once in, the dog couldn't get its head out.

They tried to use oil to lubricate its neck to get it free but ultimately had to sedate the animal. Firefighters were able to cut the wheel enough to safely remove the dog.

The playful puppy is back with her family, where she can rest safely after the *tiring* ordeal.



Full story & video report: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/26/us/dog-head-stuck-wheel-california-fire-department-wheelie-pup-trnd/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.