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Houston police chief says FBI agent's statement on fatal shooting



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Wall Street jumps as tech bounces back at end of blistering month

NEW YORK (Reuters) - U.S. stocks rebounded for a second day on Wednesday, as investors snapped up beaten-down technology and internet favorites and strong company results lifted spirits after equities had been spooked this month.
Shares of Facebook Inc (FB.O) gained 4.6 percent after the social media giant said margins would stop shrinking after 2019 as costs from scandals ease.



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in New York, U.S., October 30, 2018. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid

The S&P communication services sector .SPLRCL, which also houses Alphabet (GOOGL.O) and Netflix (NFLX.O), rose 3.0 percent.
Amazon.com Inc (AMZN.O) and Apple Inc (AAPL.O), other members of the FAANG group, climbed as well.
"Tech is leading the way," said Mike Dowdall, investment strategist at BMO Global Asset Management in Chicago. "Growth stocks, broadly, are closing the gap with value a little. They've been underperforming them

by a decent amount."
"Facebook earnings came in decent yesterday after the market close. That's provided a bit of support for tech overall," Dowdall said.
The high-flying group has powered U.S. stock market's decade-long bull run, but fears of rising borrowing costs, global trade disputes and possible slowdown in U.S. corporate profits have pummeled the stocks recently.

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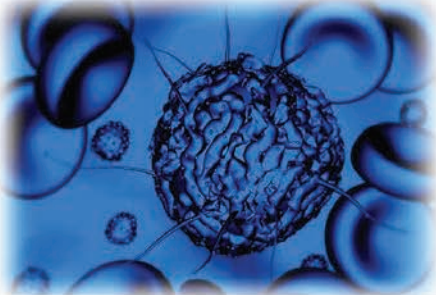
您是否常有以下症狀？脖子痛、肩膀痛、腰痛、頭痛？小心，可能是因為脊椎軟骨突出而引起的。許多人長期久坐或姿勢不良，腰椎長期處於過度壓力中，脊椎軟骨便逐漸萎縮，疼痛開始隨身。

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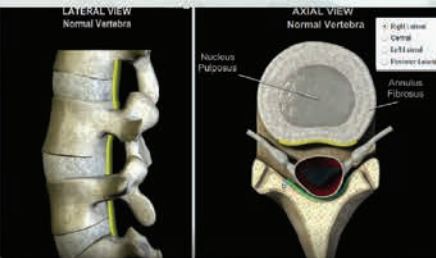
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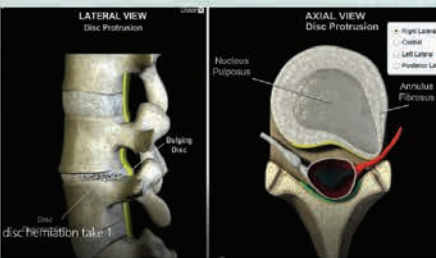
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Houston police chief says FBI agent’s statement on fatal shooting of kidnap victim doesn’t match evidence

Houston’s police chief said Wednesday his department’s investigation into a fatal shooting of a kidnapping victim in January by a local FBI agent who was attempting to rescue the man determined the agent’s description of the shooting was not supported by the evidence.

Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo has previously said the shooting occurred as agents were trying to rescue Ulises Valladares, 47, a day after the Conroe man was bound with duct tape and pulled from his home by gunmen who later demanded ransom. The agent told police that as he used his assault rifle to break through a window at the rear of the home where Valladares was being held, an unknown occupant grabbed the gun.

The local FBI in Houston has never identified the agent, who reported that he was worried he would

lose control of the gun and that it would be used on agents entering the front of the house. He fired two shots, killing the person who had grabbed the gun and it was later learned it was a man he was trying to rescue.

At the Wednesday press briefing, Acevedo said the agent’s comments were “not supported” by the evidence and department’s investigation, and that he had referred the case to the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the Western District of Texas, the Harris County District Attorney’s Office and the FBI. He declined to provide specifics into the discrepancies between the agent’s description and the sequence of events during the shooting, citing an ongoing criminal investigation into the incident by the Western District



Jimmy Tony Sanchez, 38, is seen outside the 9th state District court at the Lee G. Alworth Building, Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018, in Conroe. Sanchez, along with Nicholas Chase Cunningham, 42, and Sophia Perez Heath, 35, were arrested Jan. 25 at two different locations on first-degree felony charges in connection with the kidnapping of Ulises Villadares from his home in Conroe on Jan. 24. An FBI agent later killed Villadares during a predawn operation in northeast Houston

Beto O’Rourke was threatened by Florida pipe bomb suspect, campaign staff says

The Florida man accused of sending pipe bombs to former President Barack Obama and at least 13 others also threatened Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Beto O’Rourke earlier this year, his campaign confirmed.

Cesar Sayoc, 56, sent threatening messages to O’Rourke via Facebook in April, O’Rourke’s campaign spokesman Chris Evans said.

Evans said he reported the messages to the Capitol Hill police immediately and turned over the messages to the FBI in July.

The messages, first reported Wednesday by the Dallas Morning News, included pictures of O’Rourke’s wife and children, and a warning that Sayoc would see him soon.

O’Rourke did not receive pipe bombs like other Democrats that Sayoc targeted. Sayoc sent explosive devices containing “shards of glass that could only have been intended to maximize harm to the defendant’s victims,” according to federal prosecutors.



dential candidate Hillary Clinton, and former vice president Joe Biden, among others. Prosecutors have said Sayoc, a vocal Trump supporter, kept a list of more than 100 potential targets. It is unclear whether O’Rourke was on that list.



O’Rourke, 46, is a three term congressman challenging U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, a Republican, for re-election.

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~**Beth Yip, M.D.**, co-managing physician, Pearland Clinic

Dr. Yip is a board-certified pediatrician who completed her medical degree, internship and residency at Baylor College of Medicine. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and member of the American Medical Association, Texas Medical Association, Harris County Medical Society and Texas Pediatric Society.

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Editor's Choice



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) near the close of market in New York



U.S. President Donald Trump speaks to the media as he departs for a campaign rally in Fort Myers, Florida, on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington



Britain's Prince Charles is welcomed by Gambia's President Adama Barrow, upon his arrival at Banjul International Airport



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People take part in the Annual Children's Halloween Parade in Washington Square Park in New York City



Soccer Football - Carabao Cup Fourth Round - West Ham United v Tottenham Hotspur - London Stadium, London, Britain - October 31, 2018 Tottenham's Son Heung-min celebrates scoring their first goal Action Images via Reuters/Matthew Childs EDITORIAL USE ONLY. No use with unauthorized audio, video, data, fixture lists, club/league logos



People take part in the Annual Children's Halloween Parade in Washington Square Park in New York City



Ghofrane Belkhir of Tunisia celebrates after winning gold medal in the Weightlifting Women's 58kg Group A at the Europa Pavilion, Youth Olympic Park, Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 11, 2018.

For the next 3 weeks, the **City of Houston Municipal Courts Department (MCD)** will discount certain delinquent cases to help individuals save money when they resolve those cases.

“Many of our citizens are still putting the pieces back together from Harvey, and we understand that sometimes many are not able to meet all their obligations,” stated Judge J. Elaine Marshall, Director and Presiding Judge of the Municipal Courts Department. “We are hoping this final Amnesty of the year will give everyone the opportunity to clear up old business, reduce the stress that delinquent cases cause, to start the new year off fresh,” said Judge Marshall. The Amnesty Program will begin **Friday, October 26, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. and ends Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 11:59 p.m.** Any defendant who voluntarily appears at any Municipal Court location during the amnesty period will be permitted to resolve all of their eligible delinquent cases, including Failure to Appear (FTA) cases, and **will not be subject to arrest.**

Cases eligible for amnesty include cases that were delinquent prior to **September 1, 2018.** Only the defendant named in the citation or their attorney can participate in the Amnesty Program. Bonding companies, friends, relatives, and spouses cannot make the amnesty request on behalf of someone else. The Amnesty Program does not apply to a defendant that is in custody, previously adjudicated cases, parking citations, administrative violations, bond forfeitures, or civil cases. Individuals may call the Houston Helpline by dialing 3-1-1 or 713-837-0311 for questions about whether their specific case(s) is amnesty eligible. Defendants may take advantage of the Amnesty Program by phone, US Mail or in person at any Municipal Court location. For additional information about Municipal Courts or court cases, please visit the website at www.houstontx.gov/courts, or call the Houston Helpline at 3-1-1 or 713-837-0311 if outside of Houston.

News From The International District

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



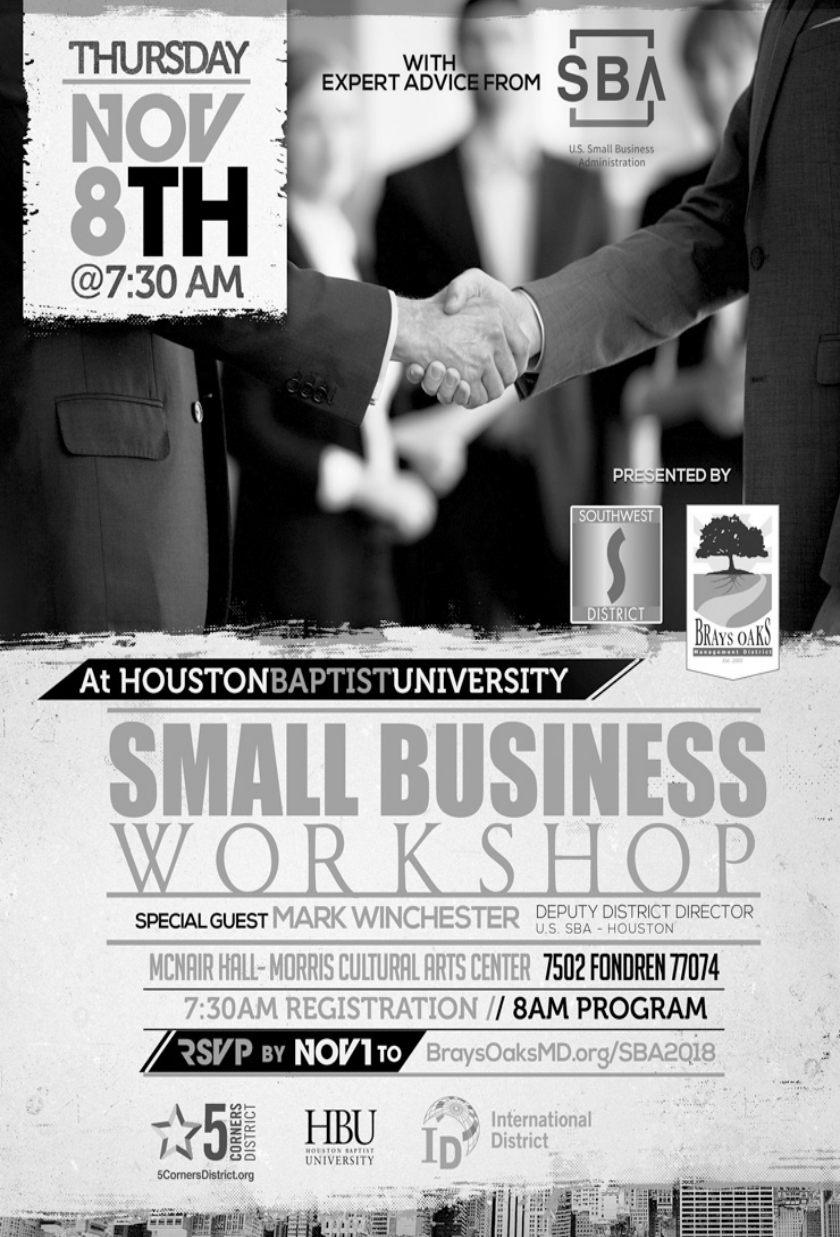
Houston Municipal Courts Announces Fall Amnesty Program



2018 Amnesty Program FAQ’s
Why are you doing this?
To resolve cases for which all other means of resolution have been unsuccessful and to assist the citizens of Houston with any lingering outstanding Municipal Court issues.
When does Amnesty begin?
The Amnesty Program begins Friday, October 26 and ends at Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 11:59pm.
What kinds of cases are eligible for Amnesty rates?
Most delinquent traffic and non-traffic citations that were delinquent on or before September 1, 2018 will be eligible for Amnesty discounts. Parking citations and Administrative violations are not eligible for Amnesty. Citizens may call 3-1-1 to find out if they have eligible Amnesty cases.
What do I do if I have a delinquent parking citation?
Parking citations are not eligible for Amnesty. For additional information or assistance regarding paying your parking citation, please call 311 or 713.837.0311.

How can I find out if I have warrants?
Dial Houston’s Helpline at 3-1-1, visit the website at www.houstontx.gov/courts or come in person at any City of Houston Municipal Court location.
What are my options if I find out that I have warrants?
You may pay the fines at the applicable Amnesty rates if your cases qualify. You may also be able to post a bond and have your case(s) reset for a new court date. You always have the option to seek legal advice from an attorney or come to any City of Houston Municipal Court location to speak with a judge.
If I come to court to pay, will I be arrested?
No. The City Houston Municipal Courts will not arrest individuals who visit our courthouse to inquire about their delinquent cases. We encourage everyone to come in voluntarily to resolve their cases.
If I want to pay for my delinquent cases/warrants, what are my payment options?
Payment options are as follows: Phone

(3-1-1, 713-837-0311), U.S. Mail, or In-Person at any City of Houston Municipal Court location.
What forms of payment do you accept?
We accept cash, checks, money orders, and American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa.
After I pay, how long will it take to clear my driving record through DPS?
The City of Houston Municipal Courts Department will forward the information to DPS upon payment of your case(s). Please allow 5 to 7 business days for your driving record to clear through DPS.



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Another child has died amid a deadly virus outbreak at a New Jersey rehabilitation, bringing the total number of deaths to nine, officials said Sunday. The state's Department of Health said the victim was a "medically fragile" child who had a confirmed case of adenovirus.

The unidentified child died Saturday evening at the Wanaque Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in Haskell, the department said. There have been 25 cases associated with the outbreak.

"This is a tragic situation, and our thoughts are with the families who are grieving right now," Health Commissioner Dr. Shereef Elnahal said in a statement. "We are working every day to ensure all infection control protocols are continuously followed and closely monitoring the situation at the facility."

Adenoviruses are a family of viruses that account for about 5 to 10 percent of fevers in young children, but most patients recover. The infections can affect the tissue linings of the respiratory tract, eyes, intestines, urinary tract and nervous system, causing illnesses ranging from a cold to bronchitis to pneumonia to pink eye.



The children at Wanaque appear to have been more susceptible to serious infections due to their other medical conditions. Children at the center are severely disabled, with some living in comas, and for many, it is their permanent home, the Bergen Record reports. Many will never walk or talk, and some have spent virtually their whole lives there, according to the paper. A team of infection control experts will head to a New Jersey rehabilitation facility where nine children have died from a virus, and will visit other, similar facilities, the state health department said Monday. They experts will also visit a public hospital where four premature babies caught a different infection. One of the babies has died.

They will reinforce basic infection control procedures. It's not necessarily an easy task, said Dr. Shereef Elnahal, the state's health commissioner.

"It really requires meticulous attention to detail and it requires a culture of zero harm," Elnahal told NBC News.

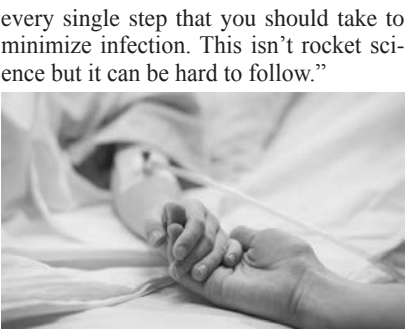
"What that means is not failing to follow

9th Child Dies From Adenovirus Outbreak At New Jersey Facility

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



The marquee outside the Wanaque Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in New Jersey, where New Jersey state Health Department confirmed 18 cases of adenovirus in Haskell, New Jersey on Oct. 23, 2018, and where six children have died from an outbreak of adenovirus.



every single step that you should take to minimize infection. This isn't rocket science but it can be hard to follow."

The state health department confirmed that nine children at the Wanaque Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation in Haskell died from infections caused by adenovirus – a virus that normally causes common cold symptoms but which can be deadly in fragile patients.

"A total of 25 pediatric cases have been associated with this outbreak. A staff member at the facility — who has since recovered — also became ill as part of the outbreak," the health department said in a statement.

The children at the facility have developmental disorders or immune deficiencies that put them at special risk. Several were on ventilators and had tracheostomies – openings in the throat that allow the installation of breathing equipment. Such patients have a high risk of infection. Staff who treat such patients should be following precise procedures to protect their vulnerable charges, the health department said.

"The team will visit University Hospital, Wanaque Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation in Haskell, Voorhees Pediatric Facility in Voorhees, and Children's Specialized Hospital in Toms River and Mountainside," the department said. (Courtesy <https://www.nbcnews.com/health>)

Related
Surprise inspection reveals problems at N.J. facility where 9 kids died in viral outbreak



The Wanaque Center for Nursing And Rehabilitation in Haskell, where an adenovirus outbreak has claimed the lives of nine children. (AP Photo)

The state released a new inspection report of the Wanaque Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in Haskell -- where nine children died in a severe viral outbreak and more than a dozen others sickened -- finding some deficiencies in handwashing and infection control.

In one case, a nurse performing care of one patient donned gloves, touched the patient's gastrostomy tube (a tube inserted through the abdomen that delivers nutrition directly to the stomach), re-positioned the resident, but then "removed her gloves, and without benefit of performing hand hygiene, then touched the tubing connected to the resident's tracheostomy tube and the ventilator machine."

At the same time, Health Commissioner Shereef Elnahal raised questions over whether the standards set by the Centers Medicare & Medicaid Services for care

of patients in settings like Wanaque need review.

"Certain findings raise questions about whether these general long-term care standards are optimal for this vulnerable population of medically fragile children," said Elnahal. "I will be engaging in collaborative discussions with CMS to assess how we can better align standards for these pediatric long-term care facilities."

Health officials note that CMS is already moving to require long-term care facilities to have an "infection preventionist" on-site, responsible for infection prevention control programs. That mandate begins in November 2019.



"I am encouraged by this new CMS requirement. We also need to think about whether there is more we can do as healthcare leaders to protect immunocompromised children, such as those served at Wanaque Center," said Elnahal.

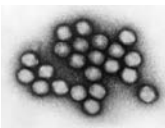
To date, that has been 26 confirmed pediatric cases associated with the adenovirus outbreak at the facility. In addition, a staff member -- who has since recovered -- also became ill as part of the outbreak.

Those who died, as well as the others who remain sick, were pediatric patients who ranged in age from toddlers to teenagers, many on ventilators with compromised immune systems -- some with developmental disabilities or serious health challenges. All became ill between Sept. 26 and Oct. 22, said health officials.

The state said it was notified of the adenovirus outbreak on Oct. 9.

Adenovirus is typically a mild illness that mimics flu- and cold-like symptoms, but can pose serious complications to some people, particularly those with weakened immune systems.

The health department conducted an unannounced inspection of the facility on Oct. 21. According to the report of that visit, a review of medical records for those who died revealed that prior to hospitalization revealed they were being monitored for fever, and medicated with Tylenol alternating with Ibuprofen, and antibiotics administered on a doctor's orders.

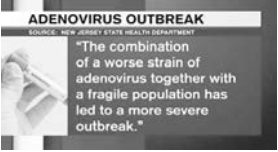


Virus outbreak discovered at NJ facility. During the inspection, the state confirmed there were germicidal disposable wipes, sanitizers, masks, gloves, and gowns available on every wing, and mostly in every room for the staff and visitors to use prior to entering the room.

The report said there were also guidelines regarding adenovirus for visitors visible in each room, warning visitors not to visit if they are sick, and observed staff cleaning the rooms with germicidal cleaning solutions. A review of the facility's records showed that there was an Oct. 8 memo that went out, informing all staff on intensive housekeeping and disinfection on the pediatric unit and classrooms.

"In addition, the facility had good communication with physicians and the receiving hospitals," the report said.

However, the report cited deficiencies in hand washing procedures, where members of the staff did not wash their hands long enough. In another case, a nurse stepped out of a room without first performing hand hygiene and went to another patient's room to open the window, again without performing hand hygiene, and went to her medication cart.



Elnahal said his department has been working closely with the facility on infection control issues since the outbreak was reported, including having a member of the agency's Communicable Disease Service onsite at the facility.

"Additionally, in November, we are deploying a team of infection control experts and epidemiologists to conduct training and assessments of infection control procedures at Wanaque and similar facilities," he said.

Rowena Bautista, administrator for the Wanaque Center, did not respond to requests for comment.

The Wanaque Center in northern Passaic County is a 227-bed nursing home, rehabilitation center and a pediatrics center, which offers short- and long-term care. Licensed for 92 pediatric beds, state officials said the facility has agreed to cease admitting new patients until the outbreak ends. It also has established a 24/7 hotline for families affected. It said the Wanaque Center is also offering professional grief counseling to anyone impacted. (Courtesy nj.com)

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