



Vitamin E acetate is an oily substance that can cause severe damage to lungs.
Robert F. Bukaty/AP Photo

Vitamin E acetate is a possible culprit in vaping illness epidemic

By FEDOR ZARKHIN
The Oregonian

Federal analyses of some vape products used by victims of a vaping-related lung illness revealed that vitamin E acetate, an oily substance that can cause severe damage to the lungs, was found in every case tested. The results are a “breakthrough,” said Dr. Anne Schuchat of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as the agency reported for the first time that officials have identified a possible toxic chemical of concern in biological samples extracted from patients. “These findings provide direct evidence of vitamin E acetate as the primary site of injury among EVALI patients,” the agency reported on Friday, using an acronym for the name health officials have given for the severe lung illness, “E-cigarette,” or vaping product use associated lung injury.” As of Nov. 5, 2,051 people have fallen ill with EVALI, and 39 have died, the CDC reported Thursday. Two Oregonians have died in the epidemic, and 17 have fallen ill. At least one of Oregon’s victims is under 18, the Oregon Health Authority confirmed this week. Health officials said two weeks ago that the epidemic could be receding because of increased awareness and public health messaging. The CDC reported Friday that it did chemical tests on lung fluids from 29 patients from 10 states who had been treated for the vaping-related lung illness. Federal investiga-

tors made a prioritized list of chemicals to test for, which included vitamin E acetate — a chemical identified early in the epidemic as a possible culprit — and MCT oil, plant oils, petroleum distillates and other chemicals and compounds. Each of the 29 samples had vitamin E acetate, the CDC reported. The chemical could be being added to vaping products to thicken THC vape oil, the agency reported. Part of the reason it is hazardous is the high temperature necessary to turn it into a vapor. The Washington Post has reported that vitamin E could cool down enough to turn into oil droplets before it is absorbed into vapers’ lungs, accumulating to the point that the material could elicit a violent immune system reaction. The focus of the inquiry continues to be on products containing THC, the intoxicating chemical in marijuana. Of the 23 patients who told officials what products they had used, 20 said they vaped THC. The focus is, in particular, on THC products bought illicitly. There’s a possibility that tainted vape products entered the legal marijuana production pipeline in states where THC products are legal, Schuchat said. At least six Oregon victims used only THC and at least five reported they had used only nicotine. Federal officials said they continue to investigate nicotine products because, though a minority, some patients have credibly said that’s all they used before falling ill.

Scientists say climate change threatens ‘fate of humanity’

By ERIN ROSS
Oregon Public Broadcasting

It’s rare for scientists to call something a clear and unequivocal fact. But that’s exactly what a group of 11,258 scientists from around the globe are saying in a new paper. “Earth is facing a climate emergency,” they wrote, “and scientists have a moral obligation to clearly warn humanity of any catastrophic threat.” It’s the first time such a large group of scientists has made such stark warnings. The statement, spearheaded by Oregon State University scientists William J Ripple and Christopher Wolf, was published this week in the journal BioScience, 40 years to the day after the first World Climate Conference in Geneva in 1979. They argue that scientists have been warning about climate change ever since, but greenhouse gas emissions are still rising. “Climate change has arrived and is accelerating faster than many scientists expected,” Ripple said in a press release. To make the threat of climate change clear, Ripple and Wolf looked at more than just global surface temperature. They mapped tree loss over the globe and in the Amazon. They looked at population growth, fertility rates and an increase in greenhouse-gas producing agriculture. Climate change, the authors say in the paper, is “more severe than anticipated, threatening natural ecosystems and the fate of humanity.” But there are steps we can take to mitigate it.

The paper outlines a series of policy moves that the people of the world will need to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change:

- Eliminating fossil fuel subsidies and making a transition from fossil fuels to low-carbon renewable energy.
- Reducing the use of short-term pollutants like methane immediately. Those pollutants often warm the planet even more than carbon dioxide, but they also leave the atmosphere more quickly than carbon dioxide. Cutting them out can help curb warming rapidly.
- Protecting and restoring the Earth’s ecosystems, which can help curb emissions and store carbon.
- Switching to a more plant-based diet. More carbon dioxide is emitted in the production of meat than it is in the production of carbon dioxide. It also takes more farmland to grow a hundred calories of meat than it does to grow a hundred calories of plants. Livestock like cows, goats and sheep also emit methane, a serious greenhouse gas.
- Creating a carbon-free economy.
- Curbing population growth by making family-planning readily available, and by educating women and advocating for gender equality. Research shows educating women and giving them control over their reproduction is one of the most successful ways to slow population growth.

These changes won’t be easy, the warning’s writers acknowledge. But they argue that those changes would improve the quality of life for people around the world.

OBITUARIES

Mary Anne Headlee Ciocca Fairfield, California Sept. 20, 1936 — Oct. 15, 2019

Mary Anne Headlee Ciocca passed away Oct. 15. She is formerly of Enid, Oklahoma, and was born Sept. 20, 1936, and is the daughter of Paul and Helene Headlee. She will be laid to rest next to her mother and father at Enid Memorial Cemetery this Saturday, Nov. 9, at 3 p.m. Mary Anne graduated from Enid High School in 1954, and attended the University of Oklahoma, then graduating from the College of Marin in California. She left with several of her girlfriends for fun and adventure, moving to the San Francisco Bay Area, where she met and married Air Force Lt. Nathan L. Patterson. They spent two years in North Africa and returned to the Bay Area, where he preceded her in death in 1961, due to a tragic Air Force plane accident.



Mary Anne Ciocca

She then married Richard H. Madden, who preceded her in death in 2007, and David Ciocca, who passed away in 1973. She spent many years living in Sausalito, California, where she was a landlord of her many properties, then lived her retiring years in a historic house in Astoria, Oregon, while touring the world whenever she could. She enjoyed Astoria’s sea air, small town feel and how much it reminded her of Sausalito when she first moved there. Mary Anne is survived by her three children, Roe Patterson of Fairfield, California, Seth Patterson of Boulder, Colorado, Caroline Madden of Cazadero, California, and six grandchildren. Flowers may be sent to Enid Memorial Cemetery in Enid, Oklahoma.

Carl F. Stultz Knappa Jan. 16, 1948 — Nov. 2, 2019

Carl F. Stultz, of Knappa, passed away at the age of 71 due to complications with heart surgery at Oregon Health & Science University hospital on Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019. Born in California, he moved to Oregon and graduated from Knappa High School. Drafted right out of high school, Carl earned two Purple Hearts and three commendation medals while in the Army. He served from 1968 to 1971 in Company C, 2nd Brigade, 35th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division. He is survived by his mother, Marian Stultz of Knappa; daughter Alexis

Stultz of Kelso, Washington; son George Stultz; wife Barbara Stultz of Hopkins, South Carolina; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and Uncle Richard Radach, Aunt Ethel Courtney and Aunt Helen Hiss. He is preceded in death by his father, Don Stultz; and sister, Sandra Stultz. A special thanks goes to Shawn Teevin and friends for allowing him peace and comfort up on your mountain all these years. A celebration of life is to be held Saturday, Nov. 16, at 4 p.m., at Crossroads Community Church in Svensen.



Carl Stultz

OBITUARY POLICY

The Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior. Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication. Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at DailyAstorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

OREGON CAPITAL INSIDER

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Grand Piano Benefit Concert

Sunday
Nov. 10th
1:00pm
Free Admission

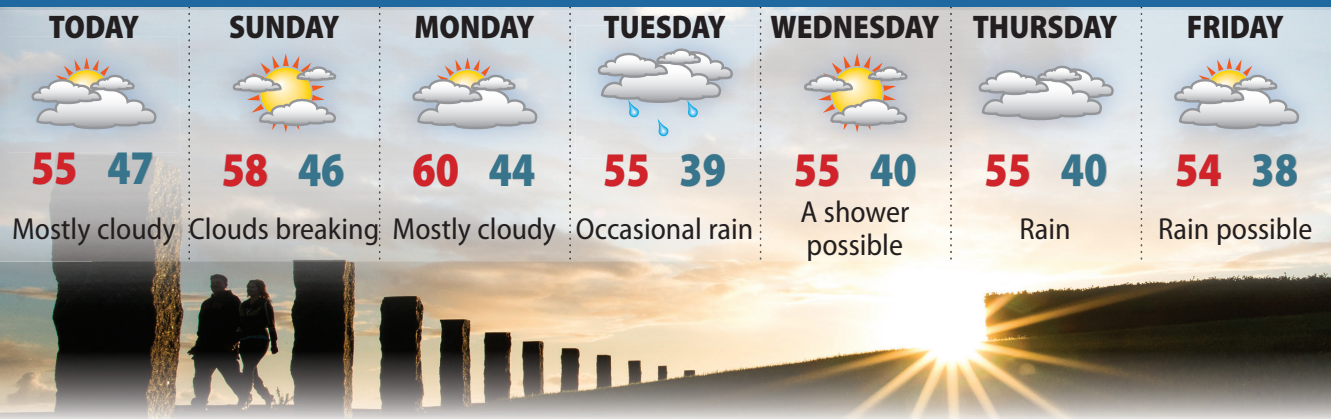


5
Local
Artists

First Presbyterian Church
1103 Grand Astoria

A free will offering will be taken to help defray the cost of the piano

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA



ALMANAC	
Astoria through Thursday	
Temperatures	
High/low	64/36
Normal high/low	55/42
Record high	68 in 1923
Record low	30 in 1993
Precipitation	
Thursday	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	2.21"
Year to date	38.75"
Normal year to date	48.43"

Forecasts and graphics provided by
AccuWeather, Inc. ©2019

UNDER THE SKY
Tonight's Sky: Cygnus, the swan, is beginning its annual nosedive toward the western horizon.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON			
Sunrise today	7:07 a.m.		
Sunset tonight	4:51 p.m.		
Moonrise today	4:05 p.m.		
Moonset today	3:53 a.m.		

	Full	Last	New	First
Nov 12	Nov 19	Nov 26	Dec 3	

TODAY'S TIDES			
Astoria / Port Docks			
Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
11:05 a.m.	7.9	4:53 a.m.	1.4
11:34 p.m.	6.9	5:37 p.m.	0.7
Cape Disappointment			
10:42 a.m.	7.4	4:14 a.m.	1.5
11:12 p.m.	6.4	4:55 p.m.	0.8
Hammond			
10:50 a.m.	8.1	4:27 a.m.	1.6
11:21 p.m.	7.1	5:12 p.m.	0.9
Warrenton			
11:00 a.m.	8.3	4:37 a.m.	1.5
11:29 p.m.	7.3	5:21 p.m.	0.8
Knappa			
11:42 a.m.	8.2	5:54 a.m.	1.2
none		6:38 p.m.	0.6
Depoe Bay			
9:58 a.m.	8.1	3:40 a.m.	1.9
10:30 p.m.	7.0	4:25 p.m.	1.3

NATIONAL CITIES		
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	56/38/s	65/43/s
Boston	42/35/s	54/40/pc
Chicago	45/33/pc	41/20/c
Dallas	67/48/s	71/52/pc
Denver	70/34/s	55/22/pc
Honolulu	85/72/pc	86/73/pc
Houston	66/47/s	72/58/pc
Los Angeles	88/58/s	82/56/s
Miami	82/72/t	83/73/pc
New York City	42/36/s	52/43/pc
Phoenix	87/62/pc	86/61/pc
San Francisco	66/49/s	66/52/s
Wash., DC	48/38/s	59/43/pc
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.		

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REGIONAL FORECAST

