

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of June 22 to June 29, 2018

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Articles are listed in alphabetical order by state within each category, so you can easily scan through the articles for those within your state or other states in which you have an interest. *International* articles are near the end. The categories are: *Abuse and Neglect*, *Laws & Legislation*, *Studies & Statistics*, *Improved Supports*, *International*, and sometimes *Miscellaneous*. Check the categories below for a guide to types of abuse. The categories are indicated by type, and the number of the article.

Types of Abuse and Neglect:

Sexual Assault: 3, 7, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 22, 35

Physical Abuse: 5, 10, 12, 14, 20, 40

Emotional abuse: 42

Neglect: 1, 5, 28, 40

Murder: 4

Trafficking/Prostitution: 7, 22

Incarceration due to lack of housing: 9

Driver drunk: 16

WINNER of most egregious award: 8 – Chicago schools found in violation of state and federal special education laws; 10 – No time in jail for abusers.

WINNER of “good job” award: 5: woman with developmental disabilities sues group home for abuse; 46: Lawyer fights for child sexual assault victims.

WHO DUN IT (listed by article number):

School: 14, 17

Carer: 1, 5, 11, 16, 20, 28, 35, 40

Transporters: 3, 14

Law enforcement: 7

(Note: not all articles identify gender of perpetrators.)

Men: 3, 7, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

Women: 1, 14, 20

Good News: 21 Governor discontinues removal of children in custody disputes due to parental disability; 31: New York to investigate reports of abuse; 45: Rape treatment to include people with disabilities.

Bad News: 2 – No mercy for death row inmate with mental illness; 4: Teens and adults taunt male with disabilities and watch while he drowns; 23: Malnutrition prevalent among those with cerebral palsy; 37: special education students asked to stay home; 49: Trump administration reviewing standards for group homes (to reduce them?)

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ABUSE & NEGLECT

1. “Disabled adults left unattended at El Mirage group home” - The owner of a Valley health facility for disabled adults is accused of operating without a license after several patients were allegedly left unattended. El Mirage police report that on June 25 a registered nurse arrived at Love Helping Hands near Dysart and Greenway roads for follow-up care on a patient. – ABC 15 – June 28, 2018- (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/jDhWK4>
2. “Mercy is rejected for killer claiming abuse, mental illness” - The Ohio Parole Board on Friday recommended against mercy for a death row

inmate whose attorneys cite a history of physical and emotional abuse and untreated mental illness that led to him killing a man he picked up at a bar more than 30 years ago. – WHIO-TV7- June 1, 2018 – (OHIO) <https://is.gd/NuG91W>

3. “MetroAccess driver charged with raping disabled passenger” A van driver was arrested Wednesday night after allegedly sexually assaulting an intellectually disabled passenger aboard a MetroAccess vehicle Monday afternoon in Hyattsville, Maryland. Deymon Levarne Childs, 40, of Suitland, now faces several charges including second-degree rape, second-degree assault and third-degree sex offense. The passenger, an adult female, told Metro Transit Police that Childs picked her up as scheduled in Prince George’s County but made an unscheduled stop, where he forced himself on to her as she sat in the back of the van.- WTOP – June 21, 2018 (D.C.) <https://is.gd/DmLgrU>

4. “No charges for teens who taunted drowning disabled man” - Florida prosecutors say they aren't charging a group of teens who taunted a drowning disabled man and recorded his death. State Attorney Phil Archer released a statement Friday announcing his office's decision not to criminally charge four juveniles and one adult for failing to help 31-year-old Jamel Dunn at a Cocoa retention pond last July. Archer pointed out that no Florida law requires a person to provide emergency assistance under the facts of this case. Such a law was proposed during this year's state legislative session but failed to pass. Fox 35- June 22, 2018- (Florida) <https://is.gd/EI3sto>

5. “Developmentally disabled woman sues group home over abuse”- A developmentally disabled woman has filed a lawsuit against the Sunrise Community in Tallahassee after suffering severe burns and neglect while in their care. – WTXL- 2 – June 27, 2018 – (Florida) <https://is.gd/p2K4JC>

6. “Complaint could lead to state ethics investigation of 2 Hillsborough school board members” - Karen Clay’s disabled son went through the Hillsborough County school system, where she says she’s been an advocate for more than 30 years. She gave News Channel 8 a confidential copy of an ethics complaint she filed against two board members that hasn’t been made public yet. Clay says offensive and insensitive comments about disabled children posted in a Facebook conversation between board members Lynn Gray and Melissa Snively reignited her concerns. Clay

says the board members made fun of a fellow activist's concerns about disabled students who have died. Channel 8 News- June 26, 2018 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/SvbFxi>

7. “Cobb officer used mentally disabled woman to solicit her niece for sex, cops say.”– A Cobb County police officer accused of choking and slapping a mentally disabled woman during sex faces new charges involving the woman's 12-year-old niece, according to police. In sexually explicit text messages between May 31 and June 12, Robert Lanier New repeatedly attempted to solicit the woman and her niece for sex, according to the warrant obtained by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. New, 46, now faces criminal solicitation and computer pornography charges. - The Atlanta Journal-Constitution- June 21, 2018 (Georgia) <https://is.gd/fR2aTU>

8. “CPS students denied special education services amid 'cycle of chaos” - parents say - Students with special needs in Chicago scored a major victory last month when the state Board of Education ordered dramatic changes in the way Chicago Public Schools offers special education services to students. After emotional testimony from parents, teachers and advocates across Chicago during the Illinois State Board of Education's first-ever public inquiry, the state found CPS to be in violation of multiple state and federal special-education laws — from requiring overly complicated forms that shut out many qualifying students simply because of paperwork problems, to denying transportation citing arbitrary reasons, to failing to get struggling students or students with mental illness into therapeutic schools during crises. – Chicago Tribune - June 19, 2018 – (Illinois) <https://is.gd/sqDrOz>

9. “Our sorry state” -Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner said the Department of Corrections was following the law when it kept prisoners with disabilities in prison even after their release dates. But the governor has also indicated an openness to changing the law. A WBEZ investigation found the Department of Corrections often struggles to house inmates leaving prison with disabilities. Instead of being released to halfway houses where they can serve out parole, or mandatory supervised release as it's officially called, inmates with disabilities can end up spending extra time in prison. “If these laws need to be changed, we're open to having that conversation with the General Assembly as we continue to build on our efforts to reform the criminal justice system in

Illinois,” Rauner said in a written statement.- The Capital Fax- June 21, 2018 – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/UKQAGI>

10. “Ankeny couple who abused adopted disabled children won't spend any jail time” - An Ankeny couple who pleaded guilty to physically abusing their adopted children have been given probation, which one family member said was scant given the years of violence in the home. Joyce Bell, 58, and her husband, John Bell, 56, were sentenced Thursday to two years of probation. They had pleaded guilty in May to two counts of misdemeanor child endangerment. State prosecutors who lowered the charges from felony counts said probation is a good resolution for everyone, but “it’s a little frustrating to say the least,” said Makayla Bell, the couple’s adopted daughter. - KCCI 8- June 22, 2018- (Iowa)- <https://is.gd/NAZJaS>

11. “Caretaker charged with sexual abuse of 2 clients”- A Mason City caretaker is accused of sexually assaulting two of his clients. Cerro Gordo County Court records say 19-year-old Wasfie Alshara is charged with two felony counts of sexual abuse. He remained in jail Thursday morning. The records don't list the name of an attorney who could comment for him.- KWWL- 7- June 28, 2018- (Iowa) - <https://is.gd/ygFTp0>

12. “Ex-Eagleton staffer admits to kicking student, claiming it was self-defense”- A staffer at the former Eagleton School admitted to kicking a student in the shin in December 2015, an act his attorney called self-defense. Peter Meadow, 53, of Lenox, had his case continued without a finding for one year after he admitted in Berkshire Superior Court to sufficient facts to warrant a guilty finding in connection with the incident. The Eagleton School, which served boys and young men with special needs and developmental disabilities, closed in 2016 in the wake of a raid on the Great Barrington campus amid allegations of widespread abuse of students. Meadow is among at least 18 people facing charges associated with the allegations. -The Berkshire Eagle- June 26, 2018 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/mOFHXN>

13. “Bridgewater man who attempted to kidnap woman has lengthy list of similar charges” Gordon Lyons, the Bridgewater man who police say attempted to kidnap a jogger on Sunday, has a history of similar charges that include rape, assault to kill, rape of a child and indecent assault and

battery of a person with an intellectual disability, documents show. At least six of the charges he faced in Barnstable County in 1978 resulted in not guilty by reason of insanity findings, according to court documents obtained by The Enterprise. Prosecutors said he is also a convicted rapist. Lyons, 57, was arrested Sunday after a police said he physically and sexually assaulted a woman jogger. Wicked Local – June 20, 2018 (Massachusetts) <https://is.gd/08GGLK>

14. “Jackson County School District changes policies in response to disabled student's assault” - In response to an assault on a disabled student that went unreported to state officials, the Jackson County's Board of Education has made changes to its policies to ensure any future incidents do not go unreported, Board President Ken Fountain said. “In light of the circumstances and reporting surrounding the recently released video of a special needs students, the Jackson County School District initiated an aggressive review of all district policy to do everything possible, policy wise, to prevent anything like the incident at issue from ever happening again,” the JCSD said in a statement.- Sun Herald- June 25, 2018 – (Mississippi) - <https://is.gd/5BYwqv>
15. “Springfield man who had sex with a disabled teen in YMCA hot tub gets prison time”- Springfield man was sentenced Thursday to prison time for having sex with a mentally-disabled teen in a YMCA hot tub. Matthew Woolfolk, 33, was found guilty in February of three counts of sexual assault after a bench trial in front of Judge Thomas Mountjoy. On Thursday, Mountjoy sentenced Woolfolk to 5 years in prison. – The Springfield News Leader- June 22, 2018 – (Missouri) - <https://is.gd/mpIIAy>
16. “Video shows caregiver's DWI arrest while driving disabled adults” - A caregiver who provides services for disabled adults was arrested on DWI charges in Santa Fe Saturday. Jamie Hughes, 26, was driving a passenger van carrying disabled adults when neighbors reported the van hit at least two vehicles while in reverse on Primo Colores Street, according to a criminal complaint filed by the Santa Fe Police Department. – KOAT- 7 – June 27, 2018 – (New Mexico) - <https://is.gd/fflHLJ>
17. “Rape victim alleges teachers, staff turned 'blind eye' to pattern of abuse” - Nine Pawtucket teachers and staff members were added to a

lawsuit for allegedly ignoring a pattern of sexual harassment by students and one teacher, that preceded the rape of a disabled 13-year old in a school bathroom. The June 17, 2016 rape at Pawtucket Learning Academy (PLA) happened as the victim was waiting for her father to pick her up at the school. Ivander DeBurgo, who was 18 at the time of the crime, pleaded no contest to one count of first-degree child molestation and was sentenced in 2017 to 25 years in prison, with 10 to serve.- WPRI – June 21, 2018 – (Rhode Island) -<https://is.gd/DdVBG0>

18. Man accused of sexually assaulting young woman with learning disability” - Jackson County deputies said a man faces a charge after he was accused of sexually assaulting a young woman with a learning disability. Phillip Lee Williams, 20, of Ravenswood is charged with third-degree sexual assault after an incident that was reported June 14, according to a criminal complaint filed in Jackson County Magistrate Court. - Fox 11- June 27, 2018 – (West Virginia) <https://is.gd/u0jrOT>
19. “UPDATE: Second man arrested in sexual assault of mentally challenged woman” - A second man has been arrested in connection with the sexual abuse of an 18-year-old mentally challenged woman, Jackson County court records show. Jack McKee, 55, of Ravenswood, is charged with conspiracy to commit a felony. Investigators say the incident happened in May after McKee encouraged another man to have sex with the victim. According to the criminal complaint, the young woman functions mentally at a 14- to 16-year-old level. WSAZ- 3- June 28, 2018- (West Virginia) <https://is.gd/G2o97f>
20. “Group home worker accused of beating disabled man over hamburger”- A Racine woman is accused of allegedly beating a disabled resident at the group home where she worked, apparently over a hamburger. Canei A. Brown, 19, of the 1300 block of Buchanan Street, is charged with intentional abuse of a patient causing bodily harm, a felony, and disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor. She could face up to a \$10,000 fine and as many as six years in prison for the first charge and up to \$1,000 fine and 90 days imprisonment for the second charge. – The Journal Times- June 22, 2018 – (Wisconsin)- <https://is.gd/pDKaki>

LAWS & LEGISLATIONS

21. “Governor signs law protecting Nebraskans with disabilities in custody cases”- A new law signed by Governor Pete Ricketts on Monday helps Nebraskans with disabilities in custody battles. Legislative Bill 845, which was introduced by Senator Tom Briese of Albion, prohibits courts from denying legal or physical custody of children based upon the disability of one of the parents. LB845 was approved by the Legislature by a vote of 49-0. NBT – Nebraska TV – June 20, 2018 – (Nebraska) - <https://is.gd/mgy1nq>

22. “Human Trafficking Laws go into Full Force July 1” - The human trafficking laws include a measure which makes promoting prostitution punishable as trafficking for a commercial sex act when the victim has an intellectual disability. This action allows prosecutors to charge a defendant with a Class D, instead of a Class E, felony, stiffening penalties for the crime. The other law creates a path for juvenile victims of human trafficking to have their records expunged if the judge finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that the conduct occurred as a result of the person being a victim. WGNS- Radio -June 28, 2018 – (Tennessee) <https://is.gd/P7XGhI>

STUDIES & STATISTICS

23. “Malnutrition Highly Prevalent in Kids with Cerebral Palsy, Better Measures Needed, Study Shows” - Malnutrition affects a majority of children with cerebral palsy, mainly due to severe motor disability. Better tools are needed to assess their nutritional status and to design improved rehabilitation plans for these young patients, researchers in Turkey suggest.- Cerebral Palsy News Today- June 25, 2018 – (Turkey) <https://is.gd/aNPK7C>

IMPROVED SUPPORTS

24. “Education Matters: PCSSD Students With Special Needs Get Work Experience”- Behind the cafeteria counter at Baptist Health Hospital, there's a bit of prep work that needs to happen. This summer, employees are getting some help from teens who are eager to learn basic work skills. "They will also learn self-advocacy skills which are very

important and then exposure to secondary education and training opportunities that are available to them once they've graduated," says John Baldwin, Easter Seals Director of Center for Training and Wellness- [KARK.com](https://www.kark.com)- June 25, 2018 – (Arkansas)
- <https://is.gd/6dF3Md>

25. "Douglas County district pays \$1.3 million to settle landmark special education case" - The Douglas County School District has paid \$1.32 million to settle a long-running special education case brought by a couple who sought reimbursement from the district for their son's education at a private school for students with autism. The payment, made to the law firm representing the couple in May, represents the last chapter in a landmark special education case known as Endrew F. v. Douglas County School District. The case lasted for seven years, leading to a 2017 U.S. Supreme Court decision that raised the standard schools must meet in educating students with disabilities. The Denver Post- June 20, 2018 – (Colorado) <https://is.gd/xWzJHb>
26. "Girl Scout troop promotes ADA awareness in Ridgefield" - When Girl Scout Troop 50669 had to think of a project for their Bronze Award last year, one idea quickly came to mind. The group of 15 fifth-graders, who had been together as a troop since kindergarten, wondered whether they could use the project to help one of their own members, Dina Jamshed, who uses a wheelchair. They ultimately decided to investigate whether shops on Ridgefield's Main Street were accessible for Jamshed and visited downtown twice this spring to complete a survey of the different stores. - News Times- June 22, 2018- (Connecticut)
- <https://is.gd/agWKhx>
27. "Advocates address disability work accommodations in Columbus"
- Changes that Crittenden and the staff said includes incorporating tools, either high-or-low tech, that will make their routine easier and more efficient." I use things like track balls, adaptive keyboards," Crittenden said, "things of that nature that allow me to still be able to do my job. I also use what's called text-to-speech. That's a great equalizer."- WTVM – 9- June 20, 2018- (Georgia) -<https://is.gd/MrG9HG>
28. "Personal care home worker pleads guilty in Richmond County"- Joseph Johnson, 34, pleaded in Richmond County Superior Court to neglect of a disabled adult and two counts of making a false

statement. Johnson was indicted on the charges after an investigation by the Crimes Against the Vulnerable and Elderly, which began the morning of July 25, 2017, when 59-year-old Edward Dath was found dead at the Dynasty personal care home. – The Augusta Chronicle – June 26, 2018 – (Georgia)- <https://is.gd/iw7THH>

29. “Accessibility, diversity among Tulane’s priorities” - Tulane University is demonstrating its commitment to equal access and diversity by expanding the services available to students, faculty, staff and visitors with disabilities. While Tulane will continue to improve accessibility for students through the Goldman Center for Student Accessibility, Kathryn Fernandez, the new executive director for campus accessibility and ADA/504 coordinator, has a vision of how the university can better serve its employees and the community members who enjoy Tulane’s campuses. Tulane University – June 21, 2018 – (Louisiana) <https://is.gd/93ga9C>
30. “States Aim To Halt Sexual Abuse Of People With Intellectual Disabilities” - James Meadours delivers the keynote address at a summit in New Jersey to propose reforms to prevent sexual abuse of people with intellectual disabilities. Meadours, a rape survivor with an intellectual disability, travels the country to raise awareness. - All Things Considered- NPR- June 25, 2018 (New Jersey) <https://is.gd/5bRPlq>
31. “NYS agency establishes new team to investigate sexual abuse of people with special needs” - Reports of sexual abuse of individuals with disabilities in New York State funded and licensed facilities will now be investigated by a newly created response team. The Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs says the establishment of the specially trained team comes at a critical time. WXXI News- June 25, 2018 – (New York) <https://is.gd/4T7Q7z>

INTERNATIONAL

32. “Autistic man's home modified to be 'step down' from prison isolation after trauma” - A Melbourne man with a profound intellectual disability and autism, who was accused of assault and then left in a high-security prison because there was nowhere else for him to go, has had his charges dropped by Victorian prosecutors. ABC News- June 26, 2018 – (Australia) <https://is.gd/q3TbsQ>

33. “Are D&I initiatives overlooking people with disabilities?” When people hear the words ‘diversity and inclusion’, more often than not it’s talked about in terms of gender, race and sexuality. However, there is another group that is getting more attention than it traditionally has been: people with disabilities. – Human Resources Director- June 27, 2018- (Australia) - <https://is.gd/eGprfd>
34. “Why the word 'handicapped' has been removed from P.E.I. legislation” - The P.E.I. government has removed the word handicapped from five major pieces of legislation, as a result of lobbying by former Easter Seals ambassador, Hannah MacLellan. CBC News- June 25, 2018 – (Canada)<https://is.gd/Rme3Xa>
35. “Man to serve nine-month sentence after sexually assaulting disabled woman” - A man was sentenced to nine months in jail Wednesday after sexually assaulting a severely disabled woman while he was working as a team lead at the Elves Special Needs Society in Edmonton. Justice Peter Michalyshyn said that Eugene Thompson, 65, admitted to rubbing his penis on the inner thigh of a 37-year-old non-verbal woman while she lay on a table with her pants and underwear pulled down on May 5, 2016.- The Star Edmonton – June 18, 2018 – (Canada) - <https://is.gd/HUayX5>
36. “Federal government tables Canada’s first national accessibility law” - Canadians with disabilities felt a surge of tempered optimism on Wednesday as they watched Canada table its first piece of federal legislation aimed at improving accessibility for people with disabilities. Disabled residents and advocacy organizations said the introduction of the Accessible Canada Act marked a key step towards greater inclusion and contained several critical points community members had named as priorities during a lengthy cross-country consultation process that helped shape the new bill.-The Globe and Mail – June 20, 2018 – (Canada) <https://is.gd/4blrWh>
37. “Ontario students with special needs increasingly asked to stay home: report” - An education advocacy organization says students deemed to have special needs are increasingly being asked to stay home from school in Ontario rather than remain in class with their peers. The annual report from People for Education does not speculate on the

cause of the trend, which it began documenting in 2014 after hearing anecdotes from parents. The Globe and Mail – June 26, 2018 – (Canada) <https://is.gd/nNBM3b>

38. “Child Refugees With Disabilities in Iran Struggle to Access Education and Healthcare” In interviews conducted by the Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI) ahead of this year’s World Refugee Day, June 20, 2018, several Afghan refugees in Iran described difficulties accessing basic services including health care and child education. Refugees with disabilities, particularly children, are often excluded or denied the ability to obtain the limited state services currently provided by Iran. An Afghan mother of a child with a disability told CHRI, “My child is not able to move and yet she does not qualify for any services and we have to pay for all her expenses. – Center for Human Rights- June 21, 2018- (Iran) -<https://is.gd/E2ChaG>
39. “Justice & Equality Committee to receive updated on disabilities legislation” -Finian McGrath, Minister of State at the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection, the Department of Justice and Equality and the Department of Health with special responsibility for Disability Issues will attend the meeting. - Tithe Oireachtais – June 26, 2018 – (Ireland) <https://is.gd/5xQoEi>
40. “Wellington rest homes being investigated after claims of abuse of elderly patients” The Health and Disability Commission (HDC) has launched an investigation into two Wellington rest homes after claims of staff negligence and mistreatment of residents. Dayani Navaratnam contacted the commission earlier this year about the "sub-standard care" both her parents received at Churtonleigh Lifecare over the past few years, as well as her father's care at Millvale House in Miramar.Churtonleigh Lifecare, which now operates as Ultimate Care Churtonleigh, was aware of Navaratnam's complaints and was taking it "very seriously." –Stuff- June 22, 2018- (New Zealand) <https://is.gd/eyGqDP>
41. “Dressing down for Facebook executive at Commons hearing” - We have long had very clear policies around abuse and hate speech on our platform and the abuse of individuals using language that may degrade, may dehumanise and may abuse individuals and attack them for what we describe as protected categories,” he said. “We have long included

disability... as one of our specific protected categories within our community standards.” - Daily Mail – June 19, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/rV3Lej>

42. “Disabled teen reveals how she almost killed herself over bullying” A disabled schoolgirl has talked about how she tried to kill herself after suffering horrific abuse at the hands of bullies. Leah Atkinson, 15, suffers with cerebral palsy yet during her time at different schools across Merseyside she was thrown on the floor, beaten up and repeatedly called ‘peg leg’. She has now spoken out about how she had to move schools to get away from bullying but that the vicious treatment continued with insults delivered via social media and people telling her that ‘her legs should be broken’. – Metro- June 24, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/U6hL31>

43. “The government promised to ‘deinstitutionalise’ learning disabled people. It’s failed miserably.” - In 2015, the government and NHS England pledged to end the institutionalisation of learning disabled people, with tangible results within three years. Their latest statistics show they’ve failed pathetically – even as the government cynically joins in with Learning Disability Week. “Homes not hospitals” In October 2015, NHS England launched its “Homes not hospitals” plan for learning disabled and/or autistic people. At the time, I wrote for the *Independent* that I was sceptical. Not because I disagreed with the notion of ‘independent living’ (that is, people living in community settings, not hospitals). But because I was concerned the plan would be rushed through to the detriment of the people it was designed to support. -The Canary – June 23, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/G9hLh3>

44. “Walking stick-seat’ finalist in disability equipment fabricator’s awards” - A lightweight walking stick that doubles up as a seat has been put forward for an award given out by Remap, a charity that makes custom equipment for disabled people when no other kit is available on the market. Caryn Moberly (*pictured*), from Henley, invented the device which is designed for people who need help while walking and who also may need to sit and rest. -Access and Mobility Professional – June 25, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/Y1Fk0j>

45. “Glasgow Rape Crisis Centre transformed to improve access for disabled people” - The Bell Street facility previously struggled to help disabled rape and assault survivors, despite them being three times more likely to be abused as a child.- Glasgow Live – June 27, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/z5Gv44>
46. “Lawyer fights for child sexual-abuse victims“- Every day, the lawyers’ division receives four to five calls and letters asking for help,” the 62-year-old said. “The number is higher than in the past because more people are aware of criminal proceedings against abusers. Also, the new Law on Children came into effect in June last year.” Parents of the abused children who speak out are “brave”, Nu said, adding that emotional scars from sexual and physical abuse can last a lifetime, and some children commit suicide. Whenever Nu speaks about abused children whose cases are not referred by police to the courts, she is often moved to tears. Every abuse case is important, but she is especially concerned with sexual abuse of girls with disabilities. *VietNamNet Bridge-June 23, 2018-* (Vietnam) <https://is.gd/CESWwN>
47. “Learning disabilities: Hayden's new confidence as tour guide” - As a welcome assistant, he gives people guided tours around the Grade II listed Newton House and helps out around Dinefwr Park. Hayden, 26, has autism but since he started volunteering three years ago, he said he had become a very different person. A new programme aims to improve lives for thousands like Hayden in key areas such as employment and housing.- BBC News- June 22, 2018 –(Wales) <https://is.gd/GLk9R8>

MISCELLANEOUS

48. “Delta is banning pit bull service dogs. That might not be legal.”- Amid growing scrutiny of animals in airplane cabins, several airlines have unveiled tightened policies aimed at limiting the number of untrained pets or unusual species on flights. The changes, they have said, are driven by safety considerations and intended to ensure that service or emotional-support animals are traveling only with passengers

who have disabilities. -The Washington Post- June 22, 2018 – (District of Columbia) <https://is.gd/E4xdHY>

49. “What happened next to the man with autism whose aide was shot by police” - America’s disability-services system takes in billions of dollars in Medicaid funding to care for people with disabilities and integrate them into the wider community. It often relies on isolated, institution-like facilities where residents are subjected to physical restraints and antipsychotics to keep challenging behavior under control. Disability-rights advocates have long argued for reform, and under the Obama administration, stricter standards were established for group homes that receive federal funds. Those rules are now being reinterpreted by the Trump administration. The Washington Post – June 22, 2018 (Florida)<https://is.gd/xWWRcB>

50. “Massachusetts family says disabled son was discriminated against on JetBlue flight” - A Massachusetts family says JetBlue flight attendants discriminated against their disabled son on a flight out of T.F. Green, breaking the law in the process. They say the flight attendants didn't allow him to use a special harness in the middle seat, which led to emotional and physical trauma. Nicholas Whatley is finally recovering at home after a hospital stay his family says happened because of the way he was treated on a JetBlue flight. – ABC 6 News – June 25, 2018 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/aNDQG0>