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Southern News Group

Arkema officials were warned of flood risks a vear before Hur-ricane Harvey



Inside C2

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

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U.S. launches criminal probe into bit coin price manipulation

(Reuters) - The U.S. Department of Justice has launched a criminal probe into whether traders are manipulating the price of bitcoin and other digital currencies, Bloomberg reported on Thursday.

The investigation concerns illegal practices that can influence prices such as spoofing, or flooding the market with fake orders to trick other traders, Bloomberg said, citing four people familiar with the matter.

Federal prosecutors are working with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), the report added. Neither the Justice Department nor the CFTC were immediately available for comment.

Criminals have stolen about \$1.2 billion in cryptocurrencies since the beginning of 2017, as bitcoin's popularity and the emergence of more than 1,500 digital tokens have put the spotlight on the unregulated sector, according to estimates from the Anti-Phishing Working Group released

Representations of the Ripple, Bitcoin, Etherum and Litecoin virtual currencies are seen on a PC motherboard in this illustration picture, February 13, 2018. REUTERS/ Dado Ruvic/Illustration

The estimates were part of the non-profit group's research on cryptocurrency and include reported and unreported theft.

"One problem that we're seeing in addition to the criminal activity like drug trafficking and money laundering using cryptocurrencies is the theft of these tokens by bad guys," Dave Jevans, chief executive officer of cryptocurrency security firm CipherTrace, told Reuters in an interview. Jevans is also chairman of APWG.

Of the \$1.2 billion, Jevans estimates that only about 20 percent or less has been recovered, noting that global law enforcement agencies have their hands full tracking down these criminals.

Their investigations of criminal activity will likely take a step back with the European Union's new General Data Protection Regulation, which takes effect on Friday.

"GDPR will negatively impact the overall security of the internet and will also inadvertently aid cybercrimsaid Jevans. "By restricting access to critical information, the new law will significantly hinder investigations into cybercrime, cryptocurrency theft, phishing, ransomware, malware, fraud and crypto-jacking," he added.

GDPR, which passed in 2016, aims to simplify and consolidate rules that companies need to follow in order to protect their data and to return control of personal information to EU citizens and residents.

The implementation of GDPR means that most European domain data in WHOIS, the internet's database of record, will no longer be published publicly after May 25. WHOIS contains the names, addresses and email addresses of those who register domain names for websites.

WHOIS data is a fundamental resource for investigators and law enforcement officials who work to prevent thefts. Jevans

He noted that WHOIS data is crucial in performing investigations that allow for the recovery of stolen funds, identifying the persons involved and providing vital information for law enforcement to arrest and prosecute criminals.

"So what we're going to see is that not only the European market goes dark for all of us; so all the bad guys will flow to Europe because you can actually access the world from Europe and there's no way you can get the data anymore," Jevans said.

(To make a reservation)

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FILE PHO-TO: Representation of the Bitcoin virtual currency standing on the PC motherboard is seen in this illustration picture

U.S. jury awards Apple \$539 million in Samsung patent retrial

After nearly five days of deliberations, a U.S. jury on Thursday said Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS) should pay \$539 million to Apple Inc (AAPL.O) for copying patented smartphone features, according to court documents, bringing a years-long feud between the technology companies into its final stages. The world's top smartphone rivals have been in court over patents since 2011, when Apple filed a lawsuit alleging Samsung's smartphones and tablets "slavishly" copied its products. Samsung was found liable in a 2012 trial, but a disagreement over the amount to be paid led to the current retrial over damages where arguments ended on May 18. Samsung previously paid Apple \$399 million to compensate Apple for infringement of some of the patents at issue in the case. The jury has been deliberating the case since last week. Because of that credit, if the verdict is upheld on appeal it will result in Samsung making an additional payment to Apple of nearly \$140

million. In a statement, Apple said it was pleased that the members of the jury "agree that Samsung should pay for copying our products." "We believe deeply in the value of design," Apple said in its statement. "This case has always been about more than money." Samsung did not immediately say whether it planned to appeal the verdict but said it was retaining "all options" to contest it.

The new jury verdict followed a trial in San Jose, California, before Judge Lucy Koh that focused on how much Samsung should pay



for infringing Apple patents covering aspects of the iPhone's design. The jury awarded Apple \$533.3 million for Samsung's violation of so-called design patents and \$5.3 million for the violation of so-called utility

Apple this year told jurors it was entitled to \$1 billion in profits Samsung made from selling infringing phones, saying the iPhone's design was crucial to their success.

Samsung sought to limit damages to about \$28 million, saying it should only pay for profits attributable to the components of its phones that

infringed Apple patents. Jurors in the earlier trial awarded \$1.05 billion to Apple, which was later reduced.

Samsung paid \$548 million to Apple in December 2015, including \$399 million for infringement of some of the patents at issue in this week's trial.

Apple's case against Samsung raised the question of whether the total profits from a product that infringes a design patent should be awarded if the patent applies only to a component of the product, said Sarah Burstein, a professor of patent law at the University of Oklaho-



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LOCAL NEWS

Arkema officials were warned of flood risks a year before Hurricane Harvey

TOfficials at Crosby's Arkema chemical plant were warned that the facility was at risk for flooding a year before Hurricane Harvey's deluge resulted in a chemical fire at the plant. But facility employees, with the exception of a manager who retired in early 2017, "appeared to be unaware of this information," an inquiry by the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board found.

The board concluded that Arkema, a French multinational company that manufactures chemicals used to create plastic products, was not prepared for the 6 feet of water that wiped out the facility's power and backup generators. With the power out and cooling systems failing, volatile organic peroxides exploded multiple times over the course of a week, producing towering pillars of fire and thick plumes of black smoke.

The board — an independent federal agency that investigates industrial chemical accidents — released a 154-page report Thursday morning detailing findings and recommendations to the company, to Harris County and to industry leaders. Those recommendations include developing better policies for determining risks from extreme weather events, such as flooding, and protecting first responders from releases of hazardous chemicals.

CSB Safety Video about the 2017 Fire at the Arkema Chemical Plant in Crosby, Texas, following Hurricane here." Harvey

Also Thursday, Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg said evidence would be presented to a grand jury "in coming weeks" as part of the county's lawsuit company's plans for protecting its product were against the company.

The chemical safety board can offer recommendations and guidance, but it can not fine or punish a

company based on its findings.

Janet Smith, Arkema spokeswoman, said in a statement that the company was pleased with the board's investigation because it "accurately depicts the unforeseeable nature of the situation Arkema faced during Hurricane Harvey." But board members determined that the company's emergency response plan was insufficient, confirming a Houston Chronicle report in November.

However, in her statement, Smith said, the report "shows that Arkema had multiple policies and safeguards in place to address the risks associated with hurricanes, that Arkema followed those policies, and that our employees went to extraordinary lengths, under difficult conditions, to maintain safety at our site."

Board officials said Thursday that Arkema is being proactive in its efforts to understand the facility's flooding risks and take steps to make sure an incident such as this doesn't happen again.

"Arkema wasn't prepared, but they were not alone," Vanessa Allen Sutherland, the board's chairwoman, said at a Thursday news conference. "The most valuable lesson here is that facilities should plan and plan again. Don't be lulled into a false sense of security by thinking it can't happen

As Harvey bore down on Southeast Texas and the National Hurricane Center warned of potentially "catastrophic" or "life-threatening" flooding, the simple: keep the chemicals cold on-site. If they grew too hot, they would explode.



U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board investigator Mark Wingard speaks to members of the media regarding the results of their investigation of the Arkema facility in Crosby, Texas, and Hurricane Harvey during a press conference at the Hyatt Regency Thursday, May 24, 2018, in Houston

Arkema had multiple freezer buildings, six backup generators, and, as a last resort, refrigerated trucks. But the company didn't consider flooding a "credible risk," the report states, confirming previous reporting by the Chronicle.

Officials thought this despite a 2016 report from its insurer, Factory Mutual Insurance Co. (FM Global), stating that the facility was at risk for flooding and parts of it sat in both the 100-year and 500-year flood plains, the report states. FM Global was not Arkema's insurer during Hurricane Harvey.



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Tuesday, May 29, 2018



Editor's Choice



Women's Champions League Final - Olympique Lyonnais vs VfL Wolfsburg



Riot policemen try to control a march of students from the UPEA (Public University of El Alto) during a protest to demand an increase in their budget in El Alto



Students from the UPEA (Public University of El Alto) burn a tire during a protest to demand an increase in their budget in El Alto outskirts in La Paz



Mexico's Foreign Minister Luis Videgaray shakes hands with his Japanese counterpart Taro Kono during a welcoming ceremony in Mexico City



Leftist front-runner Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador of MORENA and his wife Beatriz Gutierrez Muller attend a campaign rally in Mexico City



Supporters of leftist front-runner Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador of MORENA shout slogans during a campaign rally in Mexico City



The Prince of Wales, Great Master of the Honourable Order of the Bath, attends the Service of Installation of Knights Grand Cross of the Order at Westminster Abbey in central



Soccer Football - 2018 World Cup - Colombia Training - Nemesio Camacho El Campin Stadium, Bogota, Colombia - May 24, 2018 Colombia's national soccer coach Jose Pekerman (R) talks to Luis Muriel. REUTERS/Jaime Saldarriaga



A member of the Order of the Bath as the Prince of Wales, Great Master of the Honourable Order of the Bath, attends the Service of Installation of Knights Grand Cross of the Order at Westminster Abbey in central London



COMMUNITY

Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz, President of the University of Houston Downtown, made a special visit to the offices of Southern News Group and the International Trade Center on Monday, May 21st.

Dr. Muñoz, accompanied by Jacob Lipp, UHD Director of Public Relations, and Mike Emery, UHD Director of Marketing, were warmly greeted by Southern News Group Chairman Wea H. Lee who introduced the delegation to SNG personnel. Chairman Lee pointed out the printing facilities of the company, the STV Television Studios and the newspaper editorial department. Lee also showed the group the company's website (www.today-america.com) as well as gave a tour of the company's International Trade Center (ITC). The group also shared a productive exchange regarding Chinese students studying in the United States and discussed the possibility of future cooperation in that regard.

Dr. Muñoz and his colleagues visited the company in order to learn more about the development of the Southern News Group's newspaper business, now into its 40th year, expressing much praise for the company's progress. When Dr. Muñoz and his colleagues visited the Southern News Group's printing facilities, they were surprised to learn that the Southern News Group printed and published for so many news organizations. During the visit to the editorial department, Dr. Muñoz met with members of the editorial staff and unexpectedly discovered that he, Chairman Lee and Jun Gao were actually alumni of the same university.



Southern News Group Chairman Wea H. Lee (left) introduces U of H Downtown president, Dr. Muñoz, to

the important historical events of the South American newspaper industry.

Dr. Muñoz said that he very much welcomes Chinese students to study at the University Campus of Houston Downtown. The USD campus is located in the heart of Houston and is rich in culture and diversity. In the future, international students can take online courses before going to the campus in Houston. Students will also receive certificates for taking these online courses. When students eventually go to the Houston campus to study in the fall, they will have a much smoother transition after completing their pre-requisites.

Dr. Muñoz was also interviewed by the Southern News TV host David Tang. During the interview. Dr. Muñoz stated that the University of Houston's Central Campus was established in 1974 as part of the University of Houston system. The Central Campus is the second largest campus and currently has about 10,000 students. With a total of 4,000 students, there are more than 40 university departments and eight institutes for students to choose from, of which the University of Houston's Central Campus has the largest

UHD President Visits SNG And ITC

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



Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz, President of the University of Houston Downtown (2nd from left) is greeted by Chairman of Southern News Group Wea H. Lee, in the lobby of the South News Building.

MBA program in the Houston area serving many industries in Houston and around the state of Texas. Both institutions enjoy cooperation and cultivate the many excellent talents of their students.

Dr. Muñoz looks over an issue of the Southern News English newspaper in the company's printing factory.

Dr. Muñoz said that the ratio of student to teacher in the campus of the University of Houston Downtown is 20:1. Teachers and students have close interaction, and each student's name can be called out. The school has a fully equipped gymnasium, art gallery, computer room, library, drama hall, cafeteria, bookstore, health center, and other service facilities. Due to its central location, it is only a few steps away from Houston's famous companies, famous restaurants, entertainment activities, professional sports venues, and art performance centers.

The school's goal is to make tuition as affordable as possible without incurring too much financial pressure on the students. Students are required to mainly focus on their studies and earn their degree. Compared to other Houston universities, the tuition fee at UHD is the lowest in the city, providing quality education at a reasonable price. This fact alone, lets students reduce any tuition debt burden after graduation



Dr. Muñoz met members Southern News Group's editorial department. Southern News

Group Chairman Wea H. Lee mentioned that he would be happy to assist in initiating Dr. Muñoz's interaction with educational institutions in China and Taiwan to allow more students to come to the United States for further study. Dr. Muñoz said that he looks forward to visiting universities in China and Taiwan next year, and welcomes more Chinese students to attend the University of Houston Downtown. When students from different sides of the earth come together, more creativity and communication is possible to take place, and different cultures can be shared. Such shared diversity also help students to be more successful.

For more information on the University of Houston Downtown, please visit https:// www.uhd.edu.

Meet UHD President Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz

On Feb. 23, 2017, the University of Houston System Board of Regents appointed Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz to the role of UHD Presi-

Dr. Muñoz arrived at the University of Houston-Downtown from Texas Tech University (TTU) where he served as a Senior Vice President and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs. At TTU, Muñoz supervised more than 40 units and departments, including oversight of several academic degrees, the TTU Ethics Center, the Military Veterans Program Office, the Teaching, Learning and Professional Development Center, and the Office of Academic Engagement. There he served on the President's Administrative Council, President's Executive Cabinet, Provost's Staff, Provost Council, Dean's Council, Academic Council. and the TTU Strategic Planning Com-



Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz, UHD President

was a founding member of the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education, and was a past member of its Executive Board as Treasurer. He is a graduate of the Academy for Innovative Higher Education Leadership sponsored by Arizona State and Georgetown Universities, ACE's Spectrum Executive Leadership Program, AASCU's Millennium Leadership Initiative, Harvard's Institute for Management and Leadership, the University of California, Berkeley's Executive Leadership Academy, and the University of Texas, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Policy, Governor's Executive Development Program.

Dr. Muñoz cur-

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Dr. Muñoz previously held an appointment in TTU's College of Education as a Full Professor in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction and was an inductee of the TTU Teaching Academy. In the College he served as Coordinator of the Bilingual Education and Diversity Studies program and was a founding member and Director of the College of Education's, Center for Research on Leadership and Education. Prior to joining Texas Tech, Dr. Muñoz was also a faculty member in the Department of Secondary Education at California State University Fullerton. His research interests examine the education of at-risk students and the learning needs of ethnically and linguistically diverse



Group photo of the delegation from the office of the president of the University of Houston Downtown included from left to right, the host David Tang, the director of public relations for UHD, Jacob Lipp, Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz, Southern News

Group Chairman Wea H. Lee, Southern News English editor John Robbins, and

Dr. Muñoz earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. After returning from military service in the U.S. Marine Corps during the 1990-91 Gulf Crisis, he attended California State University, Los Angeles, where he earned a Master of Arts degree in Mexican-American Studies with an emphasis in literature and literary theory. He completed his Doctorate of Philosophy at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he studied Curriculum & Instruction in the Division of Urban Schooling. Prior to attending UCLA, Dr. Muñoz was a secondary school teacher, an instructor in the California Community College system, and an adjunct faculty member at Pacific Oakes and Whittier Colleges. Dr. Muñoz's scholarship has appeared in academic journals, books, encyclopedias, and at national conferences. He is the author of over 96 book chapters, academic articles, and referred conference presentations. In 2010, Dr. Muñoz was among the contributing editors of the seminal compilation, Handbook of Latinos and Education, Routledge. The Handbook received the coveted American Association of Educational Studies' prestigious Critic's Choice Book Award. His recent text, Perspectives in Interdisciplinary and Integrative Studies, explores disciplinary responses and emerging academic offerings that foster interdisciplinary learning.



In Texas, Dr. Muñoz served on the Board of Directors for the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts, the South Plains Workforce Development Board and Boys & Girls Club of America Alumni Board. Dr. Muñoz is also a past Board Member of Covenant Health System and Director in the Texas Lyceum. He is past president of the Lubbock Boys and Girls Club, past board member and vice president of the South Plains Boy Scout Council, former commissioner of the Lubbock Housing Authority and Civil Services Commission. He was a member of both American State Bank and Happy State Bank Advisory Boards, In 2008, Dr. Muñoz was appointed by Texas Governor Rick Perry to the Board of Directors for the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, where he served as Vice Chairman until the completion of his term in 2017. His community service has been recognized through numerous certificates of commendation from local, state, and congressional offices.



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BUSINESS



Lava from the Kilauea volcano approaches the Puna Geothermal Venture plant on Hawaii's Big Island on Monday. (Photo/Getty Images)

In the weeks since the Kilauea volcano began belching lava into Hawaii's residential areas, the fiery flow has destroyed dozens of structures and covered scores of acres on the Big Island. But authorities fear its destructive reach could ravage at least two more cornerstones of the state: its power supply and, a little less tangibly, its all-important tourism

On Monday evening local time, the Hawaii County Civil Defense agency announced that lava from nearby fissures had begun to encroach on the southern edge of a significant source of the Big Island's power, the Puna Geothermal Venture

The plant harvests hot liquid and steam from underground wells to drive turbine generators for electricity, which is then sold to the state's

Another risk, besides the loss of power, rests in what might happen if the lava overcomes the state's protective measures: "There's a steam release, there's many chemicals, but primarily the critical factor would be hydrogen sulfide, a very deadly gas," Hawaii's Emergency Management Agency chief, Tom Travis, told reportersMonday night.



County, state, and federal partners have been collaborating closely to monitor the situation and work with PGV to ensure the safety of the surrounding

communities," the civil defense agency said in its alert. "Ten of the eleven wells have been quenched. Efforts are ongoing to make sure the site is secure and the community is kept safe."

When officials refer to "quenching," Travis explained, they mean "filling [the wells] full of cold water so that the weight of the cold water sitting in the pipe, the long pipe, is sufficient that instead of hot water entering the bottom of the well, cold water exits the bottom of the well "

Kilauea's Wrath Threatens Power Plant — And Hawaii's Most Powerful Industry

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

It is the second step after simply shutting all the wells, which he says they already did when the event began. Crews were working overnight to quench the 11th and final well.

"Once that step is taken, we will be in a much more solid state for having lava overflow the site," Travis added late Monday. "It's not easy to predict where it's going to go and when it's going to get there. So it's important that we get what we can done now."

Meanwhile, elsewhere on the island, the longer the lava keeps flowing, the longer one of the state's premier tourist attractions remains closed to ensure visitors' safety. About twothirds of Hawaii's Volcanoes National Park closed May 11, right around the start of the summer tourist season — and it remains closed, likely deterring a substantial chunk of the park's more than 2 million annual visitors.



A golfer makes the best of the situation as a huge ash plume rises from Kilauea's summit nearby on Monday. (Photo/AP)

A National Park Service report published last month estimated that those visitors spent \$166 million in communities nearby last year — spending that "supported 2,020 jobs in the local area, and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of \$222,394,900."

The number of visitors to the park has "increased by 58 percent" since an eruption on Kilauea's summit a decade ago, according to

Now that Kilauea's activity has dramatically escalated, however, local businesses have seen their income diminish in seemingly equal proportion.

"We have a family to support so we hope that the national park will reopen again soon," one small-business owner told Reuters, "otherwise this could have a serious impact on our

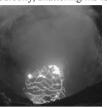
Related

Hawaii workers rush to shut down power plant in path of lava

Molten lava erupting from the Kilauea Volcano on Hawaii's Big Island is creeping closer to a key geothermal power plant, as workers rush to shut down the facility to prevent a major release of toxic fumes.

The Puna Geothermal Venture provides about 25 per cent of the island's power, and lava has crept to within 200 metres.

On Saturday the volcano caused its first injury when erupting lava hit a man sitting on his balcony, shattering his leg.



Molten lava spews from over 20 fissures in the ground from the volcano. Hawaii Island's

Kīlauea Volcano has been in a fit of rage since erupting in ear-

ly May, spewing toxic gas, hurling boulders from its summit and cracking open more than 20 fissures.

The current activity at Kilauea is the latest phase of an eruption that began in 1983 when basaltic lava flows began leaking out of a vent on Kilauea's East Rift Zone named Pu'u 'Ō'ō. The lava has flowed intermittently since then. Basalt is the most common rock type in the Earth's crust, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Shield volcanoes, like Kīlauea, are made almost entirely of basalt. Basaltic lavas are more fluid than other types such as andesites or dac-

What's happening in Hawaii is very typical of Kīlauea, according to Dr. Peter Ward, a retired volcanologist who spent 27 working for the



Lava shoots into the night sky from active fissures on the lower east rift of the Kilauea volcano, Tuesday, May 15,

2018 near Pahoa, Hawaii. (Photo/AP) Ward, who once climbed Kīlauea, has dedicated a large portion of his career to examining how volcanoes cause both cooling and warming of Earth's climate.

One example of warming he points to occurred in central Iceland in August 2014 when Bardabunga Volcano began a six-month erup-

Ward contends that the Bardarbunga eruption played a major role in 2016 being the warmest year on record. The subsequent basaltic lava flow spilled over 30 square miles in just six months, which is larger than the size of Manhattan (23 square miles).

In comparison, Ward said it's taken over 30 years for Kilauea to ooze that amount of lava. He said large basaltic eruptions release gases such as chlorine and bromine into the atmosphere and they can deplete the ozone layer. When the ozone layer is depleted, more ultraviolet B radiation reaches Earth. This type of radiation can cause skin cancer, sunburn and the warming of Earth, he explained. While volcanoes are able to impact the global climate, there won't be any noticeable changes to the weather around Hawaii Island thanks to the current eruption.

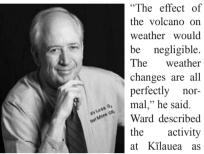
The eruptions in Hawaii are not big enough to cause changes in the weather, according to

The effect of

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Dr. Peter Langdon Ward, "awe-inspira geophysicist retired from ing," but it the United States Geologi- doesn't reflect cal Survey (1998). the fury and

potent volcanoes.

The eruption of Mount Pinatubo in 1991 in the Philippines spewed ash more than 22 miles into the sky. Bardarbunga's ash cloud reached 16 miles and the deadly Mount St. Helen's eruption in 1980 unleashed ash about 15 miles into the air. In comparison, the ash cloud from Kīlauea has reached around 5-6 miles into the atmosphere.

The eruption of Mount Pinatubo was the second largest of the 20th century, behind only the 1912 Mount Novarupta eruption in Alaska. The volcano had produced nearly 20 million tons of sulfur dioxide into the stratosphere. As a result, researchers found that over the next 15 months, the Earth underwent a period of

global cooling with a recorded drop in the average global temperature of about 1 degree Fahrenheit (0.6 of a degree Celsius).

It could be weeks or months before the Kīlauea eruption subsides, with "more of the same" activity expected, Ward said. He added that the biggest concern going forward is keeping the public educated, but the agencies involved have done a good job so far.

The main threat to life remains in the immediate vicinity of the volcanoes, areas that have already been evacuated. However, Ward said Hawaiian volcanoes are not particularly life-threatening when compared to other volcanoes around the world.

Volcanoes typically start with lots of earthquake activity, which serve as plenty of warning for residents to execute their evacuation strategy. In the days leading up the May 3 eruption, hundreds of small earthquakes were observed, which prompted officials to get the public ready to evacuate.

While over two dozen homes have been lost in the Leilani Estates neighborhood, there have been no reports of fatalities.

Warnings from the USGS and the Philippine Institute of Volcanology helped save over 5,000 lives ahead of Mount Pinatubo's eruption.



A plume of steam rises as lava enters the ocean near Pahoa, Hawaii, Sunday, May 20, 2018. (AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

The Kīlauea eruption can serve as a reminder of the danger of volcanoes, especially for those who live in areas where volcanoes have been dormant, like the Pacific Northwest, Ward said. Tens of thousands of people live in Mount

Rainier's lahar-hazard zones, in the Seattle and Tacoma, Washington, suburbs, according to the USGS. The volcano has been resting since its last eruption about 1,000 years ago, but that doesn't mean people can't learn about certain hazards.

"Hopefully, [an eruption] won't occur in our lifetime, but it could," Ward said.

"It's really important that you be aware of what your risk is, because if something suddenly starts to happen you've given it some thought, you can decide with your family what you need to do." (Courtesy staradvertiser.com)



