Saturday, June 4th

Border Community SERVICE
Volunteer & Community Leader Conference

Our annual free day-long conference for volunteers and community leaders will be held on the Niagara University campus from 9 AM to 4 PM on Saturday June 4th, 2011. Please save the date!

Our keynote address will be by Dr. Michele Bernatz on 2012 Prophecy. Entitled, “2012: Ancient Mayan Prophecy or New-Age Hysteria?”, Dr. Bernatz will give a historical perspective on how contemporary concerns and media hysteria relate to ancient Mayan predictions.

The conference will also include the following presentations:

- Dave Whalen, Statewide Project Coordinator for First Responder Disability Awareness Training - “Disability Awareness Training for First Responders”
- Judy Levan, NOAA Warning Coordination Meteorologist - “Western New York Weather Hazards”
- Louis Henry, Vice President for Management and Development for MJM Corporation, Radiation Consultants - “Basic Aspects of Response to Nuclear Detonation”
- Niagara County RACES - “Amateur Radio Communications Capabilities”
- Niagara Frontier Search and Rescue Team - “Overview on Volunteer Organization Trained in Wilderness Search and Rescue”
- Janet Hinkel, Adjunct Professor with D’Youville College - “Global Warming: Why Health Professionals Care and Why Emergency Preparedness Responders Should too”

Detailed information is available at the Border Community SERVICE website (www.niagara.edu/bordercommunityservice).

The registration form for this conference can be found on page 6 of this newsletter and the brochure is attached for more detailed information.

Hope to see you there!
I never thought that I would witness a natural disaster on vacation. But that was almost the case when I was vacationing in Portland, Oregon when a Tsunami Warning was issued for the West Coast after the Earthquake & Tsunami hit in Japan. Luckily, nothing major happened in the area I was, but it goes to show that when you are out of town, you should always be aware of any potential threats that can occur in the area. My heart goes out to the people of Japan who are dealing with the aftermath of two natural disasters and now the threat from the nuclear power plants.

In March I was a presenter at the Niagara County Regional Science Fair that took place at Stella Niagara Education Park. I presented the “Ready America” program to students and their parents in five, thirty minute presentations. It was a good opportunity to show the students a sample Family Emergency Kit and discuss the weather activities that occur in Western New York and how to plan for them. I also presented to an Office of Aging congregate meal site located at the Calvin Richards Community Center in the Town of Niagara.

Please contact Valerie Haseley at 286-8023 or vhaseley@niagara.edu if you know of any upcoming event that we should be present at. As always, I am also looking for additional places to introduce our “Ready America” presentation so please contact me if you would like a presentation scheduled with your group.

 Incident Command System (ICS 100) Class

In preparation for issuing Regional CERT ID cards, if you have not already received ICS 100 training, we are offering a class on Tuesday, May 10th from 6:30-9:00 pm at Niagara University, St. Vincent’s Hall Room 105 computer room. It will be open to the first 25 who register.

You must register before Friday, May 6th by contacting Valerie Haseley at (716) 286-8023 or vhaseley@niagara.edu.

Classes are closed that day as a “Study Day” for students so parking will be available in the Main Lot. This is not a review. This is for anyone who has not taken the class before and needs to be certified in order to receive a Regional CERT ID.

 Calling all Niagara County CERT Members

Border Community SERVICE will be holding an information meeting for all Niagara County CERT Members on Wednesday, April 27th at 6:30 p.m. at the Cambria Fire Co., 4631 Cambria Wilson Road in Cambria. We will discuss how you can become more active in Niagara County. Please RSVP by Tuesday, April 26th to Valerie Haseley at (716) 286-8023 or vhaseley@niagara.edu.

 Ambrose-Searles ‘Move Over Act’

In light of the recent tragic accident that claimed the life of State Trooper Kevin Dobson on Interstate 290 in Tonawanda, please remember that the ‘Move Over Act’ requires drivers to reduce their speed and move from the lane immediately adjacent to stopped emergency vehicles when emergency lights are flashing. This law went into effect on January 1, 2011.

Violations are punishable by a fine of up to $275 and two points on the driver’s license record. The exception to the law is if traffic or road hazards prevent a driver from safely changing lanes.
First, I would like to say it’s very good to be back in action after my short-term absence and it’s a pleasure to be working with the Border Community SERVICE team, CERT members, our community partners, and Niagara University once again. I look forward to seeing you all at various events.

The first presentation in March was given to Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled with many of its adult beneficiaries in attendance. Members were very active participants and eager to discuss ways we can all be advocates in regards to taking better care of our neighbors in the event of a disaster. We also talked about easy day-to-day things to help prepare to take care of those around us in the event of a disaster. They were very appreciative of the "First Aid to Go!" kits that were distributed after the presentation. Thank you to Janice-Hammer Baines in the Self-Advocacy Department for inviting Border Community SERVICE to help make her organization and community a safer place.

I have arranged to partner with Independent Health’s “Good for the Neighborhood” events in both the East side and West side of Buffalo. Border Community Service will be present at this event in April, August, and November of this year. We are also set to give a presentation at the Living Water Fellowship Church and the South Buffalo Block Club, among others, during the month of April. We are looking forward to having a CERT class in Buffalo soon and are also preparing to be a part of the many summer events and activities the city is famous for.

As always, let me extend my gratitude for your interest and participation in our programs and please feel free to refer any groups you may be aware of in the City of Buffalo who might be interested in a presentation. Also, if you know of any upcoming events that we should be present at, please do not hesitate to contact me at 851-4299 or ehoddy@bpdny.org. Thank you kindly.

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**Town of Tonawanda**  
Jess Martin  
716-286-8306

“April showers bring May flowers.” It is well known that rain storms are prominent in the month of April and being prepared for them is important. Some helpful tips include:

- Always pack an umbrella or leave one in your car — you will be happy to have it when it starts to rain
- Wearing a waterproof jacket or trench coat is recommended — while umbrellas are helpful, nothing compares to a good raincoat
- Pack sweaters and long pants to wear — it can be cool, particularly at night and when it's wet, it feels even colder
- Wearing closed toe shoes, comfortable for walking and water-resistant is best — you will be happy to have dry feet when you accidentally walk into a puddle

For more preparedness information visit: [http://www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

**CERT Open House**

On **Monday, April 18, 2011** from 6pm-8pm at the Town of Tonawanda Fire Tower (70 Fire Tower Drive), **Town of Tonawanda CERT** is hosting a “CERT Open House.” CERT members will have an opportunity to meet fellow CERT members, turn in their old CERT duffel bag for new backpacks, update contact information, get a CERT ID badge picture taken (**for Town of Tonawanda CERT members only**), and purchase an official CERT shirt for $20.00. **FREE** first aid kits will be given out while they last. The American Red Cross will be present to talk about services and training opportunities. Information about the next Town of Tonawanda CERT training course will also be available. Refreshment provided. **Come for the fun and bring a friend!**

Call Linda at (716) 832-0425 -OR- Marge at (716) 833-3429 if you plan on attending. Please make all phone calls to Linda and Marge before 10:00 pm.
Looking to assist areas affected by Disaster?

As we all know, Japan was impacted by a 9.0 magnitude earthquake, and subsequent Tsunami and radiological disaster, on March 11, 2011. Many people look for ways to provide assistance to others when such disasters occur but it’s often difficult to discern reputable organizations to donate to. USAID, a U.S. independent federal government agency that receives guidance from the Secretary of State, has a website dedicated to providing information on American government and agencies providing disaster assistance to affected areas. In addition, there is a link to a listing of reputable organizations providing relief work in Japan that are seeking donations and volunteers. For more information visit: http://www.usaid.gov/japanquake/.

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NO QUESTIONS ASKED. JUST DROP THEM OFF.

Prescription pill abuse is the number one drug problem in Western New York.

It is being called an epidemic by the C.D.C. across the USA.

Check your medicine cabinet today, and drive in, drop off, no questions asked.

21 locations in WNY. What are you waiting for?

Keep unneeded, unwanted medications out your children's hands.


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Town of West Seneca

Office of Disaster Preparedness

1250 Union Road, West Seneca, New York, 14224

Office: 716.558.3238 - www.wscert.net

West Seneca Citizen Emergency Response Team (WS CERT) along with the South Towns Amateur Radio Society (STARS) will be conducting amateur radio, technician license, training classes each Tuesday evening 7:00 – 10:00 PM from April 12 through May 10 at the West Seneca Kiwanis Center, located at 50 Legion Parkway, behind the Town Library at 1300 Union Rd.

Pre-registration, no later than April 5, with the Gordon West Technician Manual is $21 or you may purchase your own as a walk-in participant. There will be a final exam fee of $15. To register,
"Town of Tonawanda, we’re looking for CERT volunteers!"

CERT Training is a **FREE** Community Preparedness course that includes both academic and hands-on instruction. The course will meet at the **Town of Tonawanda Fire Training Tower Classroom**, (70 Fire Tower Drive), located off of Two Mile Creek Road in the **Town of Tonawanda**. The nine (9) class course starts on **Tuesday, May 10, 2011** and continues on Tuesday and Thursday evenings (6:00-9:00 PM) concluding on **Saturday, June 11** course review and simulated disaster training exercise. Participants should plan to attend all sessions.

CERT Training prepares you to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Emergency personnel may not be able to help everyone immediately and you can make a difference by using CERT Training to save lives and protect property. CERT Training topics include:

- **Disaster Preparedness**: Disasters & Disaster Workers, Community Preparedness
- **Emergency Medical Operations I**: Triage & Treating Life Threatening Injuries
- **Emergency Medical Operations II**: Public Health Considerations & Patient Treatment
- **Fire Safety**: Fire Chemistry, Fire Hazards, Fire Safety, & Fire Suppression
- **Light Search and Rescue**: Search & Rescue Size-up and Operations
- **CERT Organization and Incident Command (ICS 100)**
- **Disaster Psychology**: Impact of Disaster on Rescuers & Victims and Its Mitigation
- **Terrorism & CERT**: Terrorism & its Goals; CERT Protocols for Terrorism Incidents
- **Disaster Simulation Training Exercise**: Course Review & Hands-on Exercise

Through personal education, training and volunteer service, every individual can help make their community safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to the hazards of weather, terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds. Pre-registration is required. **Register NOW!** Participants must be at least 16 years of age, attend all nine class sessions, and register as a Border Community SERVICE Volunteer.

For more information or to enroll, please contact:

Jess Martin, Citizen Corps Coordinator,
Border Community SERVICE at Niagara University
at (716) 286-8306 or e-mail: jmartin@niagara.edu

You can also register online and/or view a CERT Community Briefing at:
www.niagara.edu/BCS-enrollment
Registration for 2011 Empowering Volunteers Conference
Presented by Border Community SERVICE of Niagara University, a regional Citizen Preparedness Training Center, on Saturday, June 4, 2011

Name: ____________________________________________
Title: ____________________________________________
Agency: ___________________________________________
Affiliation: ________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ ST: __________ Zip: ______________
Email: __________________________________________________________________________
Phone: __________________________ FAX: ______________________________

Please indicate the workshop you are most likely to attend in each session.

Workshop Session One:
_____ Disability Awareness Training for First Responders
_____ Western New York Weather Hazards
_____ Basic Aspects of Response to Nuclear Detonation

Workshop Session Two:
_____ Amateur Radio Communications Capabilities
_____ Niagara Frontier Search and Rescue Team
_____ Global Warming: The Public Health Concern

I do _______ do not _______ plan to attend lunch.

Please register by May 27 one of the following ways:
Mail form to: Border Community SERVICE, PO Box 2040, Niagara University, NY 14109-2040.
FAX this registration form to 716-286-8016.
Call Gail Struzik at 286-8388 and she will complete a registration form.