Border Community SERVICE hosted “Empowering Volunteers” Conference

Border Community SERVICE of Niagara University hosted a free Citizen and Community Preparedness conference at NU on Saturday, June 8. The “Empowering Volunteers” Conference was designed to provide training opportunities and workshops detailing “best practices” in citizen and community preparedness initiatives.

The event, for community volunteers and leaders in Niagara County, Erie County and the City of Buffalo, drew approximately 100 attendees who had the opportunity to hear a keynote address in the Castellani Art Museum provided by Dennis Carson, Coordinator, Emergency Services and Homeland Security Bureau, Town of Tonawanda Police Department, who spoke on “Preparing for Today’s Threat”.

Other topics covered included:
• Disability Awareness Training for First Responders - David Whalen
• Active Shooter Awareness - Frank McNamara & Brent Costello
• Nursing and Disasters: From preparedness to response - Joann Sands
• Introduction to Border Patrol - Christopher Griffiths & Jon Marotta
• Emergency Preparedness and Response: Coordination of Organizations and Services - Nicole Gerber

We are very appreciative of all who presented and all who attended the conference. Thank you!

Fourth of July Fun Fact

On this day in 1776, the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress, setting the 13 colonies on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation. As always, this most American of holidays will be marked by parades, fireworks and backyard barbecues across the country.

2.5 million - In July 1776, the estimated number of people living in the newly independent nation.  Source: Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970

316.2 million - The nation’s estimated population on this July Fourth. Source: U.S. and World Population Clock
City of Buffalo  Dana Estrada  716-205-0075

June started off with the same way May ended for the City of Buffalo project – a continuation of presentations for the Buffalo Public Schools Adult Education program! I visited the Northwest Community Center at 155 Lawn Avenue and the Father Belle Center on Maryland Street to present emergency preparedness information to “English as Second Language” classes. It’s been a wonderful opportunity for us to do these presentations and we’re looking forward to beginning the next round in July.

I also had the opportunity to meet with 18 staff members of the State Office of Children and Family Services in the Ellicott Building for their “Lunch and Learn” session. From that presentation, I’ve already booked future presentations at that beautiful building. Looking forward to returning!

The Clean Sweeps continue on Wednesdays in the City of Buffalo. This month we’ve visited Person & Krupp and spent time with the folks from the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority at Kenfield/Langfield. Our next planned sweep is in the Fruit Belt area of the City.

Thank you to all that attended the 6th Annual “Empowering Volunteers” Conference at the beginning of June. It was wonderful to have such great representation from our Buffalo contingent. Hope you all enjoyed it! Happy Summer!

Niagara County  Valerie Haseley  716-205-0076

During the month of June, I presented to more than 200 5th and 6th graders from across Niagara County at the Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District’s Environmental Education Field Days that took place at the Royalton Ravine Park in Gasport. The weather was picture perfect as I spoke to them about different types of weather emergencies to plan for and displayed a sample emergency supply kit. The kids were extremely inquisitive and were encouraged to participate in their family’s emergency preparedness plan.

Border Community SERVICE also participated in three Food Express programs coordinated by NIACAP in Niagara Falls, North Tonawanda and Lockport. About 300 families were provided information on emergency preparedness and received a mini first aid kit.

Presentations were conducted at the First Presbyterian Church in Lewiston for 13 individuals and Orleans/Niagara BOCES for 47 faculty members. The attendees received valuable information on emergency preparedness planning.

At the end of the month, BCS participated in two events that took place in Niagara Falls. The Mayor’s Task Group for a Healthier Niagara Falls hosted a Wrap-up Party and Wellness Fair event at Legends Park for more than 30 families. The Healthy Families Niagara’s Festival of Fathers event at Hyde Park had about 150 people in attendance that stopped at the table to receive information.

BCS will be partaking in upcoming Fairs and Festivals that take place throughout Niagara County. More information is on page 3 and I hope you will consider volunteering a couple hours of your time at one of these events. It’s nice to be involved in these events and encourage community members to be prepared for a disaster that will promote our regional readiness.

As always, please contact me at 716.205.0076 or vhaseley@niagara.edu if you know of a group that would benefit from a presentation or an upcoming event that we should be involved in.
Volunteers Needed for Summer Events

Come out and enjoy some of Niagara County’s Summer Events and help Border Community SERVICE at the same time. We are participating in fairs and festivals throughout Niagara County and volunteers are needed for 3 to 4 hour shifts to promote FEMA’s Ready Campaign material and to inform about Border Community SERVICE programs.

Here is the list of where we will be. SIGN UP TODAY!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Shift(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niagara County Fair</td>
<td>Cornell Cooperative Extension</td>
<td>Wednesday, July 31 Th &amp; Fr, August 1 &amp; 2 Saturday, August 3</td>
<td>9am-1pm; 1-5pm; 5-9 pm; 12-5pm; 5-9pm (both days) 10am-1pm; 1-5 pm; 5-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheatfield Town Celebration</td>
<td>Fairmont Park Nash &amp; Steig Roads</td>
<td>Sunday, August 25</td>
<td>11:30 am - 2:30 pm 2 - 5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety &amp; Crime Awareness Day</td>
<td>Hartland Fire Hall 8945 Ridge Road Gasport</td>
<td>Saturday, Sept. 14</td>
<td>3 - 6:30 pm 6:30 - 10 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYPA Wildlife Festival</td>
<td>Niagara Project Power Vista, 5777 Lewiston Rd, (Rte 104), Lewiston</td>
<td>Saturday &amp; Sunday Sept. 28 &amp; 29</td>
<td>10am - 2 pm; 1 - 5 pm (both days)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please contact Valerie Haseley, Niagara County Project Coordinator, at 205.0076 or vhaseley@niagara.edu and provide the event, date and shift that you are interested in volunteering at. Your service is greatly appreciated!

The following information has been provided by Pati Aine Guzinski and if you are interested in attending any of these upcoming sessions, please contact Pati Aine as listed below.

SMART Training/Meeting Calendar - JULY 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 17</td>
<td>6:00 - 8:30 pm</td>
<td>Terrorism Awareness/Active Shooter Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, July 20</td>
<td>9:00 - 11:30 am</td>
<td>Terrorism Awareness/Active Shooter Events</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dates may change due to participation in community events / drills/ exercises.
All classes will be held at the Erie County Fire Training Academy, 3359 Broadway, Cheektowaga, NY 14227. In an effort to facilitate an optimum training environment and experience, class size may be limited. Pre-registration is required for all sessions. Every effort will be made to send out session specific information, including the pre-registration form, at least 2 weeks before each session.

Pati Aine Guzinski, Training Coordinator PH Emergency Preparedness for Erie County
Phone: (716) 858-7109 - PatiAine.Guzinski@erie.gov
HOW TO PREPARE WHEN ON VACATION

Planning a vacation this summer? Whether your plans are for a weekend just hours from home or spending a few weeks in another state or country, you should include emergency preparedness in your vacation planning. In fact, if you are traveling to other parts of the world they may not have sophisticated weather alert systems, your cell phone may not work and emergency services may be far and few between.

Vacation time is supposed to be relaxing and fun, but a disaster occurring when you’re far from home can be very stressful, particularly if you don’t know how to stay safe. A little research, planning and strategic packing could go a long way toward keeping your family safe throughout your vacation.

The first step in vacation emergency planning is to conduct an Internet search to learn about natural and man-made hazards for the area you plan to visit. If you’re not sure how to prepare for certain disasters, such as hurricanes, tsunamis or earthquakes, research preparedness measures for those hazards.

Even if your vacation spot is prone to dangers you're already familiar with, dealing with those emergencies can be challenging in a new environment.

When you arrive at your destination, identify safe locations to go to when severe weather approaches and find out how weather warnings are communicated in the area (are there outdoor warning sirens, does your hotel or resort have a public address system). Also, locate a hospital near where you’re staying.

Before you leave
- Pack a travel-size emergency supply kit with water, snacks, a first-aid kit, flashlight, small battery-operated radio, extra batteries and an emergency contact card with names and phone numbers.
- Pack extra supplies of critical items, such as prescription medications and baby formula, in case your return is delayed by a disaster.
- Let family and friends know your itinerary and how to reach you.
- Develop a communications plan and make everyone in your traveling group aware of the plan. Make sure everyone has the cell phone numbers of the others in your group. Designate an out-of-area person to contact in case your group is separated during an emergency and unable to place local calls.
- Have copies of your passport and travel documents. Carry them with you, and make an electronic backup of them as well.

If traveling internationally, register with the U.S. Department of State through a free online service at https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/. The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) allows travelers to enter information about upcoming trips abroad so that the Department of State can better assist them in an emergency. It’s also a good idea to make note of the hotline for the U.S. Embassy or consulate when travelling in another country.

During your trip
- If traveling by car, check the forecast for your entire route before and during your trip. Weather conditions can change drastically, especially if thunderstorms are expected.
- Bring along a travel weather radio, which will automatically switch to the weather radio station closest to your travel area and will alert you to any hazardous weather.
- Become familiar with the names of the counties you are traveling through because hazardous weather warnings are issued by county.
- If you are in a vehicle when a tornado warning has been issued or you see a tornado approaching, seek shelter in a sturdy building until the storm passes. If you’re unable to reach a sturdy building, pull over and find a low area, such as a ditch, and take cover there.
- Familiarize yourself with emergency plans in your hotel or place you are staying as soon as you arrive. Ask your hotel about their disaster plan and if you’re renting a condo or villa, ask the management property if emergency procedures and evacuation routes are outlined in your information packet. Be observant of how locals react during a disaster and follow their lead. Residents are familiar with their local warning system and know evacuation routes and procedures to follow.

For more information on this topic, visit www.ready.gov.