October 7-13 is **Fire Prevention Week**

Fire Prevention Week gives the fire service the opportunity to reach out to the community and empower its citizens to prevent home fires and protect their families. This year’s theme, “Have 2 Ways Out!” reminds us how important it is to have two ways out of every building we’re in – especially our homes, where most fires take place.

No one thinks fire will happen to them. It is so important to practice good fire safety like staying in the kitchen when cooking; not overloading electrical outlets; and take care of your heating systems. It’s also important to be prepared by installing smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, which give you time to escape, and to make and practice a home escape plan, so everyone will know what to do in an emergency. The reality is that when fire strikes, your home could be engulfed in smoke and flames in just a few minutes. It is important to have a home fire escape plan that prepares your family to think fast and get out quickly when the smoke alarm sounds. What if your first escape route is blocked by smoke or flames? That’s why having two ways out is such a key part of your plan. This year’s theme, “Have 2 Ways Out!”, focuses on the importance of fire escape planning and practice.

Visit [http://www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) for more information.

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**Border Community SERVICE of Niagara University**

**Skills Enhancement Training**

**Firefighter Rehab**

Presented by: Phil Richardson, St. Johnsburg Fire Company EMT Captain and Vice President of Tri Community Ambulance Company

**Date:** Monday, October 29, 2012  ~  6:30-9:30 p.m.

**Location:**

St. Johnsburg Fire Company

7165 Ward Road, North Tonawanda

**Description:** CERT members will be trained to safely set up and perform the non-medical functions of firefighter rehabilitation. CERT members will learn: 1) the definition of and need for firefighter rehab; 2) the physiological threats to firefighters; 3) an overview of what happens at the scene of a fire; and, 4) how CERT members set up and what they do in the rehab area.

**Register:** Pre-registration is required by contacting Valerie Haseley, Niagara County Project Coordinator, at vhaseley@niagara.edu or 205.0076 by Wednesday, October 24. **Must be a CERT member to attend.**

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September was National Preparedness Month and I was invited to speak with the members of the Countryside Community Neighborhood Watch in Newfane about their emergency plans, how to plan for pets and people with special needs. I was also a vendor at the Niagara Falls Housing Authority’s 70th Anniversary Family Fun Night at the Packard Court Community Center. Many families were in attendance and received important information about developing an emergency plan for their family.

We had a booth at the 27th Annual Wildlife Festival at the New York Power Authority. This was a fun event and we had a sample emergency kit for pets and an interactive game for kids to participate in so they can learn more about planning for their pets as well as their family.

Thank you to Eugene Berg, Michele Berg, Deb Clouser, Frank Kendzierski, Lynnor Printup, and Peggy Slowinski who volunteered their time at this event.

BCS also participated in DeGraff Memorial Hospital’s "Step Safely into Fall" Health Fair. About 50 people were in attendance and received valuable information on emergency preparedness.

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Cambria CERT Class Schedule and Volunteers Needed for Final Exercise

If you haven’t participated in a drill since you went through your CERT class, join us for the Final Drill for the Cambria CERT class. This is a small class and it’s a good opportunity to refresh your skills participating in a disaster simulation.

The Final Drill is taking place Wednesday, November 14th from 6-9:30 pm at Cambria Fire Company, 4631 Cambria-Wilson Road in Cambria (Lockport).

You are also more than welcome to attend any of the sessions as a refresher. The following classes will be taking place from 6:30-9:30 pm at Cambria Fire Company:

October 10: **Disaster Medical Operations II**: Public Health Considerations & Patient Treatment
October 17: **Disaster Psychology**: Impact of Disaster on Rescuers & Victims and its Mitigation
October 24: **Light Search and Rescue**: Search & Rescue Size-up and Operations
November 7: **Terrorism & CERT**: Terrorism & its Goals - CERT Protocols for Terrorism Incidents

Anyone interested in attending the final exercise or any of the classes must register in advance by contacting Valerie Haseley at 205.0076 or vhaseley@niagara.edu.
We’ve been busy in the City of Buffalo celebrating National Preparedness Month. We continue to work every Wednesday going door to door in different neighborhoods in Buffalo distributing preparedness literature and small first aid kits. This outreach is critical as we are reaching people who are not otherwise engaged in community activities. Most recently we were in the Fillmore area of the City on Box and French Streets. We’ve also been on Pooley/Dewey and Goodyear in the last few weeks. Watch for us on Channel 22 in the City of Buffalo to learn more about the Clean Sweep initiative.

On September 11th we were asked to participate in a Volunteer and Educational Fair at Buffalo State College. It was a great event and a reminder to college students that they need to think of preparedness when on their own, even if living in a dorm and especially in off-campus housing. We also had the opportunity to visit the youth program at Seneca Babcock Community Center in September. The City of Buffalo runs an afterschool program there and we were happy to be a guest speaker.

On September 27th, we were invited to participate in Roswell Park’s Safety Day for staff and visitors to their campus. The event had many informational tables – including representation from Buffalo Fire, police agencies, Roswell offices and Border Community SERVICE. We even ran into a few CERT volunteers!

CERT volunteers also had the opportunity to assist at the Schiller Park Fire Safety Day at the end of September. Partnering with the Buffalo Fire Department, the Children’s Burn Fund and the American Red Cross, volunteers helped to distribute educational materials and smoke detectors to residents of the Schiller Park Community. Thank you to Dan Hunter, Robert Janik, Howard Freeland, Janice Nelson-Wells, Pat Conner, Judy and William McCullogh, Diane Quart, Katie Baker and Martine Vas for helping the day of the event and the days leading up to the event by distributing information door-to-door throughout the neighborhood.

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**Lancaster CERT Class Schedule**

Here is the Lancaster class schedule in the event that any of our current CERT members are interested in a refresher:

- **October 4:** Emergency Medical Operations I: Triage & Treating Life Threatening Injuries
- **October 11:** Emergency Medical Operations II: Public Health Considerations & Patient Treatment
- **October 18:** Light Search and Rescue: Search & Rescue Size-up and Operations
- **October 25:** CERT Team Organization & Incident Command System (ICS 100)
- **November 1:** Disaster Psychology: Impact of Disaster on Rescuers & Victims and its Mitigation
- **November 8:** Terrorism & CERT: Terrorism & its Goals - CERT Protocols for Terrorism Incidents
- **November 10:** Disaster Simulation Training Exercise: Course Review & Hands-On Exercise

The classes are held at the Lancaster Office of Emergency Management, 321 Columbia Avenue, Depew.
Amanda Hansen Foundation

Mayor Byron W. Brown declared September 12, 2012 as Ken and Kim Hansen Day in the City of Buffalo honoring the work they have accomplished through the Amanda Hansen Foundation at the Clean Sweep Program on that day. The Hansen family has donated about 150 carbon monoxide detectors throughout the summer months to people who cannot afford them. The foundation was established in memory of their daughter, Amanda, who at the age of 16, passed away on January 17, 2009 because of this silent killer. Her parents, Ken and Kim has worked tirelessly to educate the public to the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning in an effort to spare another family of such a tragedy happening again.

Because of Ken and Kim’s efforts, effective February 22, 2010, a new law went into effect in New York to help protect families from the #1 cause of accidental poisoning deaths in the U.S., carbon monoxide (CO). The new law requires the following:

- CO alarms be installed in all new and existing one and two-family dwellings, multifamily dwellings and rentals having any fuel-burning appliance, system or attached garage.
- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends CO alarms be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.
- To comply with the law, CO alarms must be listed to comply with UL (Underwriters Laboratories) 2034 or CSA (Canadian Standards Association) 6.19 and installed in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions.
- CO alarms should be replaced every five years in order to benefit from the latest technology and upgrades.

To further protect your child(ren), please be aware that battery operated alarms are also available so that you can send one with your child to a sleepover in the event that an alarm is not present in the home they are sleeping over at.

Please visit www.amandahansenfoundation.org for more information and how you can help.
SMART Training

The following information has been provided by Pati Aine Guzinski
If you are interested in attending any of these upcoming sessions, please contact Pati Aine

Smart Training/Meeting Calendar - OCTOBER 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>October 17</th>
<th>6:00 pm - 8:30 pm</th>
<th>SMART Health/Membership Processing (PPE/ID distribution/Physicals/Fit Testing)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>9:00 am - 11:30 am</td>
<td>SMART Health/Membership Processing (PPE/ID distribution/Physicals/Fit Testing)</td>
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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 Erie County | Health
95 Franklin Street, Room 987 | Buffalo, NY 14202
P:(716) 858-7109 | F:(716) 858-7121
PatiAine.Guzinski@erie.gov | http://www.erie.gov

October is National Fire Safety Awareness Month

The arrival of cooler weather means that the fall season has begun and we start to keep warm by keeping windows and doors closed. And with that, candles become a favorite to enjoy as they burn and add a festive touch to our homes (and make it smell so very nice too)!

In 2010, US fire departments responded to an estimated 9,600 home structure fires that were started by candles. These fires caused 90 deaths, 820 injuries and $370 million in direct property damage. Other facts as reported by the National Fire Protection Association include:

¤ More than 1/3 of home candle fires started in bedrooms.
¤ On average, 35 home candle fires were reported each day.
¤ Falling asleep was a factor in 12% of the home candle fires and 42% of the associated deaths.
¤ More than 1/2 of home candle fires occurred when some form of combustible material was left or came too close to the candle.
¤ December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. In December, 11% of home candle fires began with decorations compared to 4% the rest of the year.

CANDLE SAFETY TIPS

Candles might look pretty but they are an open flame. Please remember:
¤ Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
¤ Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
¤ Consider using flameless candles as they look and smell like the real thing.
¤ Make sure that candle holders are sturdy and on an uncluttered surface.
¤ Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
¤ Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage.
¤ Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
Emergency Preparedness Workshop for WNY Scouts

This event includes education and information to complete the requirements of the Boy Scout Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge and the Girl Scout Emergency Preparedness Patch, excluding the practical exercise (disaster drill). Scouts and leaders should be in uniform.

Open to all Western New York Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

- Saturday, January 19, 2013
- Registration at 8:30 am and Workshop is from 9 am-3:30 pm
- Niagara University Campus
- Lunch is provided
- Cost is Free!
- For Ages 11-18

Provided by Border Community SERVICE of Niagara University

Limited space is available so Register Online early at www.niagara.edu/border-community-service or contact Valerie Haseley, Niagara County Project Coordinator, at 716-205-0076 or vhaseley@niagara.edu