Did you know that many people don’t test their smoke alarms as often as they should? When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. You need working smoke alarms to give you time to get out. Test yours every month!

Some smoke alarms facts:

- Almost three of five (60%) of reported home fire deaths in 2007 to 2011 resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.
- Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half.
- In fires considered large enough to activate the smoke alarm, hardwired alarms operated 93% of the time, while battery powered alarms operated only 79% of the time.
- When smoke alarms fail to operate, it is usually because batteries are missing, disconnected, or dead.
- An ionization smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires and a photoelectric smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. For the best protection, or where extra time is needed, to awaken or assist others, both types of alarms, or combination ionization and photoelectric alarms are recommended.

HERE’S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home.
- Test your smoke alarms every month.
- When a smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.
- Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years

September was a very busy month for the Border Community SERVICE Buffalo office. We were able to offer community emergency preparedness meetings at several sites around the City of Buffalo. In early September we visited the Friends of the Elderly Community Center on East Utica Street. This dynamic group of seniors gathers together for lunch during the week and to learn about various topics – including emergency preparedness. This presentation was just after we learned of the individual with terrorist ties in Rochester so the conversation drifted to that. What great insight and discussion by all present at the presentation.

BCS also visited the Cazenovia Resource Center in the evening of September 24th. The presentation was one of the longest to date and we enjoyed great tips from some of the people attending the presentation. We’ve also again started to visit classrooms for the Buffalo Public Schools Adult Education program. This month we went to the South Park High School site, the Erie Community College site on Oak Street, and the Adult Learning Center on Virginia Avenue. The classrooms were very diverse in topic and it was wonderful to have the opportunity to speak to all of the students.

BCS also had the opportunity to provide information at two very important tabling opportunities. On September 11th, we were able to have a table and distribute information at the City of Buffalo’s Day of Remembrance in City Hall. On September 23rd we had the opportunity to engage the staff, patients, and families at Roswell Park.

We also attended two very important meetings this month. New York State’s Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Conference on September 24th and the “Building Communities of Trust” meeting that sought to build relations between law enforcement (including homeland security offices) and the community. Both meetings presented great opportunities for learning.

SMART Training/Meeting Calendar - October 2014

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>6:00 pm - 8:30 pm</td>
<td>Pet Preparedness &amp; First Aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 18</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9:00 am - 11:30 am</td>
<td>Pet Preparedness &amp; First Aid</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
Pre-registration is required for all sessions.

Pati Aine Guzinski
Training Coordinator PH Emergency Preparedness for Erie County
Phone: (716) 858-7109
PatiAine.Guzinski@erie.gov
September is National Preparedness month and to reach citizens of Niagara County regarding what to do in case of a disaster, community tabling events were held at City Hall in both North Tonawanda and Niagara Falls. Community members and employees visited the table and received valuable information on emergency preparedness planning and also received a survival wrap, which keeps your body heat in if needed during cold temperatures.

In addition, brochures were distributed to the 200 families and employees at Small World Child Care, which has two sites in Wheatfield. More information was included in the monthly newsletter about National Preparedness Month and how BCS is available to provide presentations to anyone interested.

A presentation was conducted at Wrobel Towers for the Congregate Meal Sites through Niagara County’s Office of the Aging Eat Well...Stay Well Dining Program. A couple more presentations are planned for the rest of the year and then our program will have visited all 22 meal sites. The 34 seniors who attended the presentation were very attentive and appreciative of receiving a 34 piece first aid kit. Another presentation was conducted for the residents at Forest View Senior Village in Wheatfield where 12 seniors attended and received the information and mini first aid kit.

A presentation was also conducted for child care workers at the North Tonawanda YWCA. The presentation included information on what to do to keep their family safe during a disaster and how to help children cope after a disaster. Extra materials were provided so they can share the information with their clients.

At the end of the month, our program participated in the second annual Niagara County Healthy Connections Information and Resource Fair at Cornell Cooperative Extension where more than 55 seniors attended and received valuable information on disaster planning.

Please know that we are planning a CERT class to coincide with Dr. David Taylor’s Homeland Security class taking place at Niagara University. The class will take place Monday nights, 7-10 pm, starting November 3 and ending on December 15. If you know anyone who is interested in taking CERT, please provide them with the information included in this newsletter. Also, in next month’s newsletter, we will include the schedule of topics, so current CERT members can attend any session as a refresher.

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 to Help Deliver Emergency Food Boxes to Homebound Elderly on Thursday, October 23rd

Details have been finalized for Border Community SERVICE’s partnership with the Niagara County Home Delivered Meal Program to provide volunteers to help deliver their Emergency Food boxes to their clients, also known as “Blizzard Boxes.”

The pick-up date for these boxes will be Thursday, October 23rd between 5 - 6 pm at 100 Davison Road in Lockport. You will be provided a route to deliver the boxes to their clients on your way back home or near where you live. The program is also kind enough to provide pizza and pop to show their appreciation to the volunteers who assist.

The boxes are about the size of a shoe box and should be able to fit in your trunk or back seat. If you are unable to make the delivery that night, you can always pick up the boxes this night and make the delivery at your convenience (but by no later than Sunday, October 26th).

Please let me know if you are interested in helping by contacting me at vhaseley@niagara.edu or 205-0076 by Thursday, October 16th.

The purpose of the boxes is to provide their clients with a nutritious meal in the event they are unable to deliver meals due to weather or an emergency situation. Border Community SERVICE will also be providing a Preparing Makes Sense brochure and a small first aid kit to their clients.

The Niagara County Home Delivered Meal Program provides lunch, dinner, and weekend meals to the homebound elderly throughout Niagara County. Their clients are 60 years or older, fragile, lack the support of friends and family, and unable to drive.

The program currently serves 415 people.
CERT Training is a **FREE** Citizen Preparedness course that includes academic and hands-on instruction, as well as a disaster training exercise.

CERT Training is designed to prepare you to help yourself, family, and neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Emergency personnel may not be able to help everyone immediately so you can make a difference by using CERT Training to save lives and protect property.

Classes start **November 3, 2014** and run seven consecutive **Monday nights** from 7-10 pm culminating with a disaster simulation on **December 15th** at the **Niagara University Campus**.

Topics covered include:

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

Through personal education, training and volunteer service, every individual can help make communities safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to the various threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds. CERT, developed for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is one of the primary programs offered to the American public to meet this challenge. Participants must be at least 16 years of age, attend all seven (7) class sessions, complete all requirements and register as a Border Community SERVICE volunteer. Best of all, **CERT training is fun and FREE!**

For more information contact:

Valerie Haseley, Niagara County Project Coordinator
Border Community SERVICE of Niagara University
at (716) 205-0076 or E-mail: vhaseley@niagara.edu
Register online at: www.niagara.edu/BCS-enrollment
Please indicate you are enrolling in the NU class