Thank you!

Border Community SERVICE of Niagara University hosted a free Citizen and Community Preparedness conference at Niagara University on Saturday, June 6, 2015. The “Empowering Volunteers” Conference was designed to provide training opportunities and workshops detailing ‘best practices’ in citizen and community preparedness initiatives.

We loved hearing the positive responses from all who attended the conference and appreciate everyone’s attendance at the event. This year’s keynote address was provided by three members of the Joint Terrorism Task Force and the information provided to our attendees was outstanding. Lots of questions and thankfully lots of answers were provided during the keynote address.

We thank all presenters of the break-out sessions including Al Hornung, Niagara Falls Fire Department; Mary Walawander and Michael Amato, Erie County Health Department; Nicole Gerber, Grand Island & Roswell Park Emergency Manager; Laura Capizzi and Kathleen Clouden, State Farm Insurance. The only negative comment was that attendees wished they could have gone to every one of the four presentations instead of only two!

This year the entire conference was held in St. Vincent’s Hall which made everything very centralized and extremely easy to get from one place to another.

Again, thank you to all who participated in our annual conference!
First, I would like to welcome our newest staff members at Border Community SERVICE! We’re so happy to have Terri and Taylor on board!

June started with a visit to Timon Towers on Delaware Avenue for a presentation for nearly 30 residents. We had a great time talking about emergency preparedness and I left with a wonderful sense of their community – they all clearly worked together well and looked after each other, which, of course, is a great attribute for a community to have to weather any disaster.

For this month’s Clean Sweeps, we visited Hayden and Ryan Streets in South Buffalo, right off of Seneca Street. We then went to the West Side for the following week and handed out information on Laird and Ross, both streets ending at the beautiful Riverside Park. We also visited the Kenfield and Langfield properties which are managed by Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority. The teams made a huge impact in speaking to neighbors and getting information out with the help of BMHA property managers.

This month I was also invited to attend a meeting regarding Senator Ortt’s plans for the property adjacent to the Niagara Falls Air Base. Working in collaboration, the Town of Niagara, Niagara County, many local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, Niagara County Emergency Services, and private agencies, are looking to build a Western New York Emergency Preparedness Center that would help shore up the air base against future BRAC decisions, as well as strengthen the region’s preparedness and response capabilities. Senator Ortt has announced $500,000 in seed money to begin the project.
Ken-Ton CERT will be busy in July supporting two major area events. The first is the Town of Tonawanda veteran recognition ceremony and fireworks display on Thursday, July 2nd. As in the past two years, K-T CERT members will provide traffic management and audience security for residents and participants. This year's ceremony will recognize Vietnam Veterans for their service. With more than 1600 Vietnam Veterans residing in the town, this should be quite a large event. Several K-T CERT members will also be honored at the ceremony. K-T CERT works closely with the Parks and Recreation Department and Tonawanda Police to ensure a safe and successful evening. If interested in volunteering for the July 2nd veterans recognition event, you must be qualified to participate - meaning you must have completed traffic management training. If you have that training and would like to volunteer, send an email to: tonawandanycert@gmail.com.

Ken-Ton CERT has been contacted by the City of Tonawanda Office of Emergency Management to provide support for the Annual Canal Fest, July 19 - 26. K-T CERT teams provide crowd management during the parade and fireworks events and roving safety patrols throughout the week. This will be the third year for collaboration between K-T CERT and the City of Tonawanda Office of Emergency Management. The week-long event draws significant numbers of attendees and is an excellent opportunity for CERT volunteers to serve the community. Unfortunately you cannot volunteer for Canal Fest as the sign-up for that is too late as the City of Tonawanda requires a police background check that they provide.

Come to the Fair this summer! We are planning to man a booth at the Niagara County Fair this August and are requesting help to promote FEMA's Ready Campaign and to inform the community about Border Community SERVICE programs. If you are available to work for 3 or 4 hours to assist in reaching out and sharing information with the public, please contact Terri Mannarino at 205.0076, or email Gail at gstruzik@niagara.edu. We will need volunteers, Wednesday, August 5th – Saturday, August 9th from 9am till 9pm most days! If able to help, we will need to know your name, how to contact you (thru email and phone if possible) and what day(s) and time(s) you would be available.

Your help is greatly appreciated!
The Fourth of July, or Independence Day, celebrates the anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It’s a national holiday, celebrated with everything from flag raising ceremonies to backyard barbecues and fireworks. To celebrate our nation’s birthday, here are a few fun facts you may not have known about the 4th of July and American history.

1. What animal did Benjamin Franklin supposedly prefer as the official national bird over the bald eagle? Benjamin Franklin is said to have wanted the wild turkey to be the national bird but was outvoted by both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who chose the bald eagle, a bird of prey native only to North America, as the official bird of the United States of America.

2. How many hot dogs are consumed, on average, at barbecues on the Fourth? The 4th of July and barbecues go hand-in-hand, so it’s probably no surprise that over an estimated 150 million hot dogs are consumed in the United States each Independence Day. That’s roughly one hot dog for every two people in the U.S.

3. What year was the 4th of July first celebrated in the White House? The first recorded 4th of July celebrations were in 1777 on the one-year anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. The first 4th of July party held at the White House, wasn’t until 1801, when it was held by President Thomas Jefferson.

4. Why were the stars on the original American flag arranged in a circle? The 13 stars on the American flag were arranged in a circle to represent equality between the original thirteen colonies. Although there were several versions of the early flag, including one with the stars arranged in vertical lines, the “Betsy Ross flag” which depicts the stars in a circle, was the most popular.

5. When was the 4th of July declared a national holiday? Although the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence has been celebrated since 1777, the 4th of July was not declared a national holiday until 1941. The 4th of July wasn’t referred to as Independence Day until 1791.

From: www.overstock.com/guides/5-fun-facts-about-the-fourth-of-july

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SMART Training/Meeting Calendar - July 2015

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:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 15</td>
<td>6:00 pm - 8:30 pm</td>
<td>Health/Membership Processing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, July 18</td>
<td>9:00 am - 11:30 am</td>
<td>Health/Membership Processing</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 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
DID YOU EVER WONDER HOW YOU COULD REALLY USE THOSE EMERGENCY SURVIVAL WRAPS? READ ON...

Emergency Wraps/Blankets for Survival

An important part of any first aid kit, an emergency wrap/blanket provides you with more benefits than just keeping warm. However, keeping warm should always be your first priority in any type of survival or adventure situation.

Some of the most useful things about survival wraps are that they're lightweight, take up very little space and don't cost very much. Folded up, it's about the size of a deck of cards, and unfolded it's about 56 by 84 inches (142 by 213 centimeters).

Here are just a few ways you can utilize one in a survival situation:

**Emergency blanket** -- Of course, the main purpose is helping you or someone else stay warm. It's especially useful in a first-aid kit if someone is going into shock. Wrap the blanket around the person, tucking it in on the sides and under the feet in order to keep body heat in and cold out (shiny side toward body). Cover the person's head with a hat or scarf to prevent further heat loss.

**Emergency shelter** -- In a pinch, you can use your wrap/blanket as a tent, tarp or lean-to. The material is waterproof so it will protect you from rain or wet snow. If you are in a cold weather situation, take advantage of the shiny side of the blanket to reflect heat from a campfire back to you. The metallic surface will bounce the heat of the fire toward you and help keep you warm.

**Keep warm** -- Besides using a wrap as a blanket, you can also use it to insulate your space. For example, let's say you become trapped in your car during a freak winter blizzard. Cover the windows of the car with the wrap -- shiny side in. It will help reflect your body heat back inside the car.

**Keep cool** -- In the same way that the wrap reflects heat back toward you, it can also reflect heat away from you. If you're in a tent, and the sun is bearing down on you, put the blanket shiny-side-up (shiny side towards the sun) on top of the tent. Have you ever seen shiny sun shields on the windows of cars during the summer? Same idea -- the metallic surface of the sun shield reflects the heat of the sun out of the car.

**Signal for help** -- Because the surface of the wrap is so shiny, it makes a good distress signal. The reflective surface makes it more easily visible from the sky. Some even come with the letters "SOS" printed right on the blanket itself.

With a little creativity, you can probably find even more ways to use your survival wrap!

*Information obtained from How Stuff Works*