



NEWSLETTER

Support Alliance For Emergency Readiness

CREATING A **SAFER** SANTA ROSA

www.safersantarosa.org

16 December 2013

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. - Aesop

NEEDS, REQUESTS, DONATIONS

We can do no great things -- only small things with great love. --Mother Teresa

"You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give". -- Winston Churchill

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Please plan to join us for the "Home for the Holidays ". Christmas Party at 5 pm on Thursday, December 19th. Our location is the new Versailles Banquet Hall at 1504 Intendencia Street in Pensacola (corner of Barancas and "H" streets) This is a fundraising event that you don't want to miss!

Come support one veteran family for 30 days this Christmas season with your \$50 donation . This program placed 90% of our residents in permanent housing last year and we want to do it again with your help.

SO COME ENJOY THE MUSIC AND GREAT FOOD & DRINKS WHILE WE SUPPORT OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES. CALL ME TODAY FOR YOUR TICKETS!

850-341-1399

COLD WEATHER SHELTERS TO OPEN

Two cold weather shelters for the homeless or heatless will open Tuesday, Dec. 10 in Santa Rosa County:

- Ferris Hill Baptist Church located at 6848 Chaffin Street, Milton
- Community of Christ Church located at 2111 Presidio Street, Navarre

One cold weather shelter will open on Wednesday, Dec. 11:

- Ferris Hill Baptist Church located at 6848 Chaffin Street, Milton

SUPPORT FOR SANTA ROSA SHELTERS

Cold weather shelters are located at Ferris Hill Baptist Church located at 6848 Chaffin Street in Milton and Community of Christ Church located at 2111 Presidio Street, Navarre. Those who would like to stay at the shelter must arrive between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. No one will be admitted after 8:30 p.m. unless brought in by law enforcement. The shelter will close at 7 a.m. each morning.

The shelters will open each night when weather is forecasted to drop below 40 degrees, December through March. The shelters are for people who are homeless, can care for themselves, and are not at risk to themselves or others. No one will be admitted to the shelter that is under the influence of drugs or alcohol and are unable to walk unaided or are disoriented.

The churches, with the assistance of the Santa Rosa County Emergency Management Office, will be responsible for making the determination of when the shelter is needed. Santa Rosa County Emergency Management is responsible for notifying the public of its availability and alerting sheriff deputies so they can assist with transportation and notifying the homeless of the shelter's availability.

Both shelters utilize volunteer resources and donations to operate. Ferris Hill Baptist Church is currently accepting financial donations and supplies including men's socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste, towels, soap, shampoo and deodorant. Donations can be dropped off at the church 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday or online at <http://ferrishill.org/giving/>. For more information contact Ferris Hill Baptist Church at (850) 623-3500

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Once again the Monument to Women Veterans in collaboration with POE In Action, Lodging Hospitality System, Waterfront Rescue Mission and numerous other veterans service organizations is preparing to provide emergency housing for our homeless veterans and their families for 30 days during the Christmas season.

Dates: 12/18/2013 to 1/16/2014

This is the second year we are hosting this 30 day program of relief and services for local homeless veterans and their families in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. The success of this program last year has prompted more organizations to join in our support to again take some of our veteran families out of homelessness and provide emergency housing for thirty days along with intensive case management and supportive services that help them to achieve their own permanent residences within a very short period of time.

The *Home for the Holidays* was begun as a pilot program in 2012 and proved so successful that our community wants us to once again take homeless veteran families off the street and provide the intensive case management, resources and referrals that resulted in an unprecedented success ratio with 90 % of those we served moving into their own home within just 30 days!

Help us do it again

You can help provide emergency housing for homeless veterans and their families in any of the following ways

Sponsor a family for one day	\$ 50
Sponsor a family for one week	\$ 350
Sponsor a family for whole month	\$ 1,500
Provide a dinner for the group	\$ 100
Be a bronze project sponsor	\$ 1,000
Be a silver project sponsor	\$ 2,500
Be a gold project sponsor	\$ 5,000
Be a platinum sponsor	\$ 10,000
Donation of your choice	\$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "POE In Action / Home for the Holidays"

Mail to: 890 Lexington Rd. Pensacola, FL 32514

WE ALSO NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS, IF YOU CAN HELP PLEASE CALL 850-341-1399

INFORMATION

When you cease to make a contribution you begin to die. - Eleanor Roosevelt

KEEP YOUR HOLIDAYS BRIGHT FIRE SAFETY CAMPAIGN BEGINS DECEMBER 1

Santa Rosa County emergency service agencies are teaming up for the seventh year to promote fire safety during the month of December with the "Keep Your Holidays Bright"

campaign. While a joyous time of year, cold weather, holiday decorations and festivities can create serious fire dangers. Firefighters hope to reduce the number of fires in Santa Rosa County by promoting simple, life-saving holiday safety tips each day, Dec. 1 through the 31.

In addition to the daily fire safety tips, Santa Rosa's Keep Your Holidays Bright campaign centers around a Christmas tree located in the Santa Rosa County Administration Complex on Caroline Street, decorated with electric candles. Each time firefighters respond to a working residential fire or large wildfire causing fire damage, a candle will be "extinguished" and replaced with a card noting the basic details of the fire. In the first year nine candles were extinguished on the safety tree, three in the second year, six in the 2009 campaign, four in 2010, six in 2011 and three in 2012.

According to the United States Fire Administration, 76 percent of fire injuries affecting civilians occurred in our homes. Fires occurring during the winter claim the lives of over 945 people, injure 3,825, and cause over \$1.7 billion in damage. Nationally, cooking is the leading cause of residential building fires in December, accounting for 41 percent of fires, followed by heating fires at 28 percent, open flame fires at nine percent, and incendiary/suspicious fires seven percent.

Each fire department in Santa Rosa County including Allentown Volunteer Fire, Avalon Fire/Rescue, Bagdad Volunteer Fire, Berrydale Volunteer Fire, the City of Milton Fire, East Milton Fire and Rescue, Gulf Breeze Volunteer Fire, Harold Volunteer Fire, Holley-Navarre Fire District, Jay Volunteer Fire, Midway Fire District, Munson Volunteer Fire and Rescue, Inc.; Navarre Beach Fire, Pace Fire/Rescue District, Skyline Fire and Rescue District, Florida Forest Service, Santa Rosa County Emergency Management and Lifeguard Ambulance Service are working together to promote holiday safety.

Daily Fire Safety Tips (Corresponds with Escambia's Keep the Wreath Green Campaign):

- Dec. 16 Have your chimney and fireplace inspected by a professional to make sure it's clean and free of obstructions. Never burn paper or trash in the fireplace.
- Dec. 17 Be sure your fireplace is covered with a metal screen or glass doors to prevent the spread of sparks and fire.
- Dec. 18 Make sure to have a working smoke alarm outside of every bedroom and on every level of your house. Make sure to test monthly and change batteries every time you change your clocks.
- Dec. 19 With children out of school, people doing yard work, dry vegetation, high-winds and low-humidity, remember that wildfires can happen quickly.
- Dec. 20 If you are enjoying the great outdoors during the holidays, don't leave campfires or warming fires unattended – make sure they are completely out!
- Dec. 21 Never leave cooking food unattended. Handles on stovetop pots should be turned away from the front, so they won't be accidentally tipped or knocked over.
- Dec. 22 Before you cook that holiday dinner be sure that the oven and stovetop are clean, free of grease, and are in good working order.
- Dec. 23 Keep cooking areas clean and free of grease and other combustibles (e.g. potholders, towels, rags, drapes, and food packaging), which can catch fire easily.
- Dec. 24 Do not burn wrapping paper in the fireplace because of the high flammability, dangerous sparks and possibility of flash fires.

- Dec. 25 Remember to be safety conscious and have a happy holiday.
- Dec. 26 When purchasing a space heater look for heaters that have safety features such as cut-off switches that turn the heater off if they accidentally tip over or overheat.
- Dec. 27 Space heaters need space. Make sure they are at least 3 feet away from combustible materials such as draperies, furniture, bedding, clothing and decorations. Also teach youngsters to keep away from them.
- Dec. 28 Use only UL labeled space heaters and follow the manufactured instructions. Never use stoves, ovens or other cooking appliances to warm your home.
- Dec. 29 Turn space heaters off when you leave the room. Also, remember to constantly supervise children and pets when space heaters are in use.
- Dec. 30 Don't cut up and burn your tree in the fireplace. Burning evergreens give off tar and creosol, which can ignite and cause a chimney fire. Dispose of your tree by following the instructions of your local trash disposal service.
- Dec. 31 Don't drink and drive, have a designated driver or call a friend.

FOURTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED ON FIRE SAFETY TREE

The fourth candle was extinguished on the "Keep Your Holidays Bright" fire safety tree after a residential fire in the 3100 block of Cayuga Trail. Santa Rosa County Emergency Communications received a call at midnight on Thursday, Dec. 12 reporting smoke in the home. Crews from Avalon and Pace fire departments arrived on scene at 12:11 a.m. No injuries were reported and the damage is estimated at approximately \$35,000. The fire is thought to have been caused by lights on a dry Christmas tree.

While live Christmas trees fires are not common, when they do occur, they are dangerous with an average of one in 40 tree fires resulting in death. Residents who decorate with live Christmas trees are urged to follow these safety tips:

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.
- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 1" - 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

HOMELESS RESOURCES FOR VETERANS

The links below contain helpful information and often funding opportunities for those of you that serve veterans.

Important Links

[VA National Call Center for Homeless Veterans](#)

[VA Center on Homelessness Among Veterans](#)

[DOL Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program](#)

[United States Interagency Council on Homelessness Veterans Page](#)

[Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Military Families Pages](#)

John Johnson, Executive Director, EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless, Inc. 850.439.3009

WINTER CARE FOR YOUR CAR

So you've prepared your home for winter weather but what about your car? You can avoid many dangerous winter travel problems by planning ahead. Before you hit the road, have a mechanic [check the following items](#) on your vehicle:

- Antifreeze levels – ensure they are sufficient to avoid freezing;
- Battery and ignition system – terminal should be clean;
- Brakes – check for wear and fluid level; and
- Tires – make sure they have adequate tread.

Changes in weather call for changes in your emergency supply kit. For winter weather, update the emergency kits in your vehicle with:

- Matches;
- Booster cables;
- Tow chain or rope; and
- A fluorescent distress flag.

Need a quick and easy way to remember what items to check on your car each winter? Download the [car maintenance checklist](#) from the Centers for Disease Control today!

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL AT THE MARDI GRAS FUN RUN & WALK!

Lace up and roll out to the greatest and only Mardi Gras Fun Run & Walk in Pensacola! Special Olympics is kicking off the Mardi Gras season by bringing the community together to promote diversity and inclusion with a 5k and 1-mile Fun Run and Walk in the beautiful East Hill neighborhood. This fun event is perfect for the whole family- strollers, wheelchairs and pets welcomed! Following the race is the Finish Line Party- complete with great food, beer, music and family-friendly activities brought to you by local businesses. Participate as an individual or with family, friends or co-workers as a team. Make a team and give yourself a "Krewe" name, designate colors and create costumes- the crazier, the better! Awards and Trophies will be awarded to overall male/female finishers, best costumes and top fundraisers. All proceeds support local athletes with intellectual disabilities so come out and be a fan of Special Olympics!

SIGN UP TODAY! <https://www.Firstgiving.com/SOFL/MardiGras2014>

Visit the event **Facebook** page at <https://www.facebook.com/MardiGrasFunRunPensacola> for updates and more information.

Early packet pickup is from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM Friday, February 7th, 2014 at the Bayview Community Center, 2001 E. Lloyd St., Pensacola, FL 32503. Race day registration and packet pickup starts at 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM Saturday, February 8th at the Bayview Community Center. The 5k and 1-mile Fun Run & Walk begin at 12 PM and 12:15PM respectively on Saturday, February 8th with a starting at Bayview Park, 2001 E Lloyd St in Pensacola.

“Laissez les bon temps rouler”/ “Let the good times roll”!

For More Information Contact:

Name: Jessica Barrale Title: Director, Special Olympics Florida-Escambia/Santa Rosa
Phone: 850.291.6234 Email:jessicabarrle@specialolympicsescambia.com

STOP ADULT FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION



Operation SAFE
Flyer - General.pdf

There will be a workshop on January 28, 2014 for seniors regarding stopping adult financial exploitation. It will deal with spotting a scam, outsmarting con artists, avoiding ID Theft etc. It will be held at the Santa Rosa County Auditorium, 4530 Spikes Way, Milton, FL. from 10 – 11:30 a.m. This is at no charge to the attendees. Please see the flyer above

RING THE ALARM

As the holiday season approaches, it's a good time to review [fire safety techniques](#) with your family including how to safely put out fires using a portable fire extinguisher. These extinguishers are a valuable resource for immediate use on small fires. Before you consider using an extinguisher there are some very important details to remember:

- The [U. S. Fire Administration recommends](#) only those trained in the proper use and maintenance of fire extinguishers consider using them when appropriate! Contact your local fire department for training in your area.
- The [type of fire extinguisher](#) you use should match the type of fire. Most extinguishers display symbols to show the kind of fire on which they can be used.
- If you do not think you would be able to safely put the fire out in five seconds using an extinguisher, do not attempt to use it! Leave the area and call 911.

Should you need to use a fire extinguisher, follow the PASS method.

Learn more about fire safety and how to properly extinguish fires with FEMA's preparedness activity module, [Putting Out Fires](#).

GET PREPARED

<http://do1thing.com/>

This web page is an awesome way to incrementally get your family and business ready for any disaster.

TWITTER

SAFER Santa Rosa is on Twitter.

FACEBOOK

SAFER is on Facebook, find us, and become our friend ;-). We are up to **715** people! Invite friends. [Let's keep growing this communications venue. Invite other Santa Rosans to participate.](#) Invite your Santa Rosa friends to join you on the SAFER Facebook page.



Use of barricades policy: Free to parades and other events in Santa Rosa County that are sponsored by a chambers or government entities (Christmas parades, Mardi Gras, 4th of July etc...) or non profits, that are hosting events that are free and open to the public. The user is responsible for transportation of barricades, AND banners advertizing sponsors MUST be put on barricades. Others wanting to use the barricades must provide transportation and rent barricades at a cost of \$5 per barricade. Additional fees may be applicable if barricades are not returned within 7 days of pick up/delivery. Barricades will cost \$8 each if delivery is required. Average rental price for barricades is \$9-\$13 each through other vendors. SAFER barricades are a bargain.

OPPORTUNITIES

There is no better exercise for your heart, than reaching down and helping to lift someone up. - Bernard Meltzer



Just In Time Disaster Training Video Library
New Subject – Neighborhood Preparedness and
Response

A new subject has been added to the Just In Time Disaster Training Video Library.

Neighborhood Preparedness and Response

Featured videos include:

- Building a Neighborhood Disaster Plan
- How to Help Your Neighborhood Prepare for an Emergency
- Map Your Neighborhood
- Neighborhood Emergency Communications

Now with over 627 disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery training videos the library is the most comprehensive, easy to search, **FREE** internet based source for training curriculum for today's emergency responders.

The library can be accessed at the following web site: www.JustInTimeDisasterTraining.org

Share access to this unique disaster training resource with others by linking your web site to the library today. Join the Just In Time Disaster Training Library's [Twitter](#).

BRIDGES TRAINERS - GET RECERTIFIED ONLINE!

Is your Bridges Out of Poverty trainer certification more than two years old? Do you need to recertify but don't have a lot in your travel budget?

There are several upcoming opportunities to recertify online with Phil DeVol:

Feb 27, 2014 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (CDT)

May 29, 2014 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (CDT)

Nov 20, 2014 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (CDT)

You can also convert to [Lifetime Certification](#) at this time.

What are the benefits of having a Lifetime Certification?

- Monthly trainer tips
- Newsletters
- Online support
- **Attend biennial online recertification sessions for free!**

This not only saves money; it also saves you time out of your office.

[Register today!](#)

For more information, email us at questions@bridgesoutofpoverty.com, or call us at (800) 424-9484. We look forward to working with you! The Bridges Out of Poverty Team

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES: AN ONLINE TRAINING

The RAND Corporation developed a free emergency preparedness [online training](#) outlining how organizations and communities can better prepare for emergencies and strengthen their resilience. Resilience means:

- mitigating and withstanding the stress of manmade and natural disasters.
- recovering in a way that restores normal functioning.
- applying lessons learned from past responses to better withstand future incidents.

The training is intended for a diverse range of organizations, including businesses; faith-based organizations; hospitals, health clinics, and other health agencies; mental health providers; schools and universities; civic and volunteer groups; first responders; local government agencies; public health departments; and nonprofit agencies.

JUST IN TIME DISASTER TRAINING VIDEO ON-LINE LIBRARY

There are now 417 disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery training videos embedded in the Just In Time Disaster Training Video Library with new videos being added on a daily basis.

The purpose of this **FREE** on-line library is to provide a single, easy to search source in which individuals, agencies and organizations can access Just In Time Disaster Training Videos.

The library can be accessed at the following web site:

www.JustInTimeDisasterTraining.org

Share access to this unique disaster training resource with others by linking your web site to the library today.

NEWS (blue is new)

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. --Margaret Mead

Girls fare worse in disasters

<http://www.irinnews.org/report/98949/girls-fare-worse-in-disasters>

H7N9 influenza virus not adapted to efficient human-to-human transmission

<http://bigmedicine.ca/wordpress/2013/12/research-h7n9-influenza-virus-not-adapted-to-efficient-human-to-human-transmission/#sthash.oMeeRSL0.dpuf>

A Ready and Resilient Workforce for the Department of Homeland Security: Protecting America's Front Line

<http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2013/A-Ready-and-Resilient-Workforce-for-the-Department-of-Homeland-Security-Protecting-Americas-Front-Line.aspx>

Business and disaster preparedness: helping communities prepare for effective response

http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=35643&a=email&utm_source=pw_email

State's successes in health security preparedness highlighted in national index (Florida)

<http://bigmedicine.ca/wordpress/2013/12/florida-states-successes-in-health-security-preparedness-highlighted-in-national-index/#sthash.kFiaJhQ5.dpuf>

Protecting Children From Toxic Stress

http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/10/30/protecting-children-from-toxic-stress/?hp&rref=opinion&_r=1

A year after Sandy, businesses unprepared for disaster

<http://www.nbcnews.com/business/year-after-sandy-businesses-unprepared-disaster-8C11439138>

Preparing Makes Sense for People with Disabilities and Other Access and Functional Needs- Video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZLLMDOScE4g&feature=youtu.be>

Building Resilient Communities: An Online Training

http://www.rand.org/pubs/tools/TL109.html?qoback=%2Egde_95355_member_271477566#%2

1

Disaster Resilience in America: Launching a National Conversation Website

<http://nas-sites.org/resilience/Resilience-Events/>

Moocdem Game

MOOCDEMIC is a simulation game of a real world epidemic. It is best played on a mobile device.

<https://www.moocdem.com/>

When disaster and disability converge

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/08/when-disaster-and-disability-converge-part-one/>

New Hope for Older People in a Disaster

<http://blog.aarp.org/2013/08/12/hope-for-older-persons-in-a-disaster/>

Active Shooter Workshop Teaches Communities to Win, not Survive

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/Active-Shooter-Workshop-Teaches-Schools.html>

Decision-making in a crisis: Understanding the brain

http://www.securitynewsdesk.com/2013/06/27/decision-making-in-a-crisis-understanding-the-brain/?goback=%2Egmp_3876618%2Egde_3876618_member_257800797

Strong leaders act before disaster strikes

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/strong-leaders-act-before-disaster-strikes-214249751.html>

OFB-EZ – a new, free business continuity tool

http://www.disastersafety.org/disastersafety/open-for-business-ez/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=IBHS+Launches+New+Disaster+Planning+Tool+for+Small+Businesses&utm_content=IBHS+Launches+New+Disaster+Planning+Tool+for+Small+Businesses+CID_29d5712ad3cfda67821107234642c451&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=dedicated%20OFB-EZ%20web%20page&goback=%2Egmp_3876618%2Egde_3876618_member_249997713

To Beat the Chaos, Take a Thinking Day

<http://www.linkedin.com/today/post/article/20130715110232-187399433-to-beat-the-chaos-take-a-thinking-day>

HEAT SAFETY TOOL

https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/heat_index/heat_app.html

Learning from disaster

<http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2013/jun/disaster-research-062613.html>

Why Do We Give? Not Why Or How You Think

<http://www.npr.org/2011/11/25/142780599/why-we-give-not-why-you-think>

Four Ways the Government Subsidizes Risky Coastal Rebuilding

http://www.propublica.org/article/four-ways-the-government-subsidizes-risky-coastal-rebuilding?utm_medium=referral&utm_source=pulsenews

5 Things You Don't Know About Disasters

http://www.weather.com/news/fema-fugate-know-5-things-about-disaster-20130625?cm_ven=Facebook&cm_cat=fb_article_rec&fb_ref=story_share

Map: Places That Will Flood More Often Due to Global Warming

http://www.slate.com/articles/health_and_science/climate_desk/2013/06/map_fema_study_shows_flood_hazard_areas_may_increase_45_percent_by_2100.html?utm_medium=referral&utm_source=pulsenews

The Risks You Don't Think of: A Plea to Pack a 'Go Bag'

<http://www.wired.com/wiredscience/2013/06/the-risks-you-dont-think-of-a-plea-to-pack-a-go-bag/>

Emerging Technology for Family Emergency Preparedness

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tony-loftis/emerging-technology-for-f_b_3420895.html

How Social Media Is Changing Disaster Response

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=how-social-media-is-changing-disaster-response>

Is Your Business Continuity Plan Ready for the Summer Vacation Season?

<http://www.disastersafety.org/disastersafety/business-continuity/>

10 Worst Things to Donate After a Disaster

<http://money.howstuffworks.com/10-worst-things-donate-after-disaster.htm>

Zombies and Preparedness: Five tips for using metaphors in exercises and outreach

<http://freeresources.lucienanton.com/2012/10/zombies-and-preparedness-five-tips-for-using-metaphors-in-exercises-and-outreach.html>

Woeful Success Rate in Citizen Preparedness Suggests New Approaches is Necessary

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Woeful-Success-Rate-Citizen-Preparedness.html>

Why Aren't Americans Listening to Disaster Preparedness Messages?

<http://www.rand.org/blog/2012/06/why-arent-americans-listening-to-disaster-preparedness.html>