New Spring CERT Classes

Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator of Huntington Beach, announced the dates for the new Spring CERT classes.

The series of four weekly Wednesday night classes will begin April 6, 2016 and end with an all-day class on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

Wednesday, April 6 - 6:00PM to 9:00PM
Wednesday, April 13 - 6:00PM to 9:00PM
Wednesday, April 20 - 6:00PM to 9:00PM
Wednesday, April 27 - 6:00PM to 9:00PM
Saturday, April 30 - 8:00AM to 4:00PM

The Fire Department will be conducting this class series in a different format from previous classes. The new format will include more hands-on training to improve the quality of the training experience. See flyer on pages 6–7.

The deadline to sign up is March 30, 2016, so tell your friends and family to register on the City website at: http://www.surfcity-hb.org/government/departments/fire/cert/class_schedule.cfm

Welcome Fire Chief David Segura!

By Virginia Petrelis

Our new Fire Chief, David Segura, will take over in April, 2016. He was selected after a national search to replace Chief Patrick McIntosh who retired in fall 2015.

Highlights of his background are: Thirty years with the Long Beach Fire Department as Firefighter, Paramedic, Captain, Battalion Chief, Assistant Chief and Deputy Chief.

He has a bachelor’s degree in Occupational Studies from California State University Long Beach, where he is earning his Master of Public Administration. He has an associate’s degree in Fire Science from Long Beach City College.

He has been a Huntington Beach resident for the past 16 years where he and his wife Cathy, have raised four sons.

Huntington Beach CERT looks forward to getting to know him and working under his command.

April is California’s Earthquake Preparedness Month

By Virginia Petrelis

April was designated as Earthquake Preparedness Month because early in the morning of April 18, 1906, residents of San Francisco and the surrounding area were shaken out of their beds by what was estimated to be an 8.3 earthquake. Several aftershocks and fires caused severe destruction.

Recent earthquakes around the world have shown that California is still vulnerable to the effects of a massive earthquake. Unlike other disasters, you cannot see an earthquake coming. The first 72 hours after an earthquake are critical to survival, so you should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least that long. Now is the time to get ready by:

- Making a checklist
- Assembling a “grab and go” bag
- Practicing a family plan on what to do when an earthquake hits and how you will communicate with each other
- Staying informed by registering for our Orange County emergency alert system, AlertOC @ http://bos.ocgov.com/alertoc/alertoc.asp

Our free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes, beginning April 6, 2016, provide training on how to prepare for earthquakes and other disasters. Luckily, there is still time to sign up. For more information and registration, go to:

http://www.surfcity-hb.org/government/departments/fire/cert/class_schedule.cfm

The deadline is March 30, 2016 and classes will start Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at 6pm.

Susan McClaran’s First Aid Corner

This past Saturday, March 19, 2016, for the 2nd year, I had the privilege and honor of being asked to assist in co-teaching the Hermosa Beach CERT class, Med Ops I & II. As many of you know, our friend, Erin Concas, is now employed by Hermosa Beach as their Emergency Manager. Erin reached out to me to see if I would help out with her CERT Med Ops class and the upcoming drill day.
Susan McClaran's First Aid Corner (cont)

I was going to be co-teaching with another trainer, Emmanuel Godinez (aka Manny). Class started at 8:00 AM with ten students. Manny and I met earlier around 7:30. Throughout the day, I found out Manny has been teaching Red Cross classes since he was around 14 years of age. He was also a medic in the Army, returned to civilian life, became a paramedic and currently works with different government departments in certifications and audits. He was called in to assist after 9-11, Hurricane Katrina, the Chatsworth train wreck and now works with the Academy of Emergency Medicine. The list could probably go on!

Having Manny present turned out to be more of a comfort to me as the day went on. I knew that I could reach out for answers if I needed to and that he would have my back if I missed something. He was very supportive and we ended up "bouncing off of each other" just fine. He is also a wealth of knowledge, so as he gave his portions of the presentations, I was able to learn some new things as we went.

At 3:00 PM, we said goodbye to some of the students and spent the next three hours taking the rest of them through their certification process. It was a real treat to spend the day with another trainer so full of knowledge. I was glad I had the opportunity to assist and to come away with a little more under my belt than I had when I first walked in.

I look forward to Saturday, March 26, as we take the Hermosa Beach class through their drill day and I’m glad I decided to do something a little uncomfortable.

Lucy Jones Seismologist Retires from USGS
By Anna Pinter

After 33 years, United States Geological Survey (USGP) seismologist Dr. Lucy Jones, confirms she is leaving federal services, but will continue her appointment at Caltech. Jones, who just turned 61, realized there is much more to do.

Jones has become the face of earthquake science in Southern California. She is known for taking problems of hard-to-understand science and translating these facts quickly so the nervous public could understand what was happening. After an earthquake, she turned fears of the unknown into understanding of the situation. "When I give it a name, I give it a number, I give it a fault, it puts it back in a box and makes it less frightening," Jones said. "You feel better if somebody shows they understand what’s going on."

Jones has said during her three decades of work, the most noticeable changes have come in the form of technological advancement. "When the Whittier Narrows earthquake happened, we took paper records off the drums and laid them out and measured the sizes to try and estimate the magnitudes," Jones explained. "We’re now determining it before the earthquake is over. That’s what early warning is." Her efforts to spearhead an early warning system in California were very important and, from her project, the ShakeOut Scenario, seismologists now have a good idea of what the "big one" will look like.

Much of what Dr. Jones does today is centered on: What good is scientific knowledge if people do not use it? This question came to mind when she joined the California Seismic Safety Commission in 2002 and realized decisions about infrastructure were being discussed without science being considered. This experience gave her a new mission. The mission was to translate disaster science into tangible actions for the public. She started working on a project called The ShakeOut Scenario which evolved into a 308 page ShakeOut report. This report was the first to lay out how a magnitude 7.8 earthquake on the San Andreas Fault would devastate Southern California. Last year during the seventh ShakeOut drill more than 43 million people practiced "drop, cover and hold on." The report persuaded officials to invest in earthquake-resilient infrastructure.

When Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti needed an earthquake czar to confront and make changes in long-ignored risks threatening Los Angeles, he chose Dr. Jones for the job. In more than 130 meetings with property owners, utility agencies and business groups, she preached the risks of doing nothing. Her message was very clear; doing nothing will leave the city reduced to rubble and its economy in shambles.

Last year the city passed the most sweeping changes in retrofitting laws in California. Dr Lucy Jones’ work earned her the Samuel J. Heyman Service of America medal. Mayor Garcetti recently said, “When the ‘big one’ hits, people will be living because of the work she has done.”

Dr. Lucy Jones said, “Earthquakes are inevitable, but disasters are not. What I learned from working in the city of Los Angeles is the power of actually changing outcomes.” There are 192 other cities in Southern California that could use the same information, the same approach. Some of these cities have reached out to the USGS, but they do not have the funding or the authority to tackle this problem. These challenges meant she had to retire. “So what I am looking forward to is being able to see who wants to fund it locally and creating whatever size of program the community wants. Obviously, I can’t do this as a federal employee and can’t start fundraising.”

After her last day on March 30, 2016, she will start raising money to create a nonprofit center that bridges science and public policy to promote a better understanding of science in the broader community. She will work with other cities on disaster issues the way she worked on earthquakes with Los Angeles. The center will implement programs to reduce the risk from natural disasters. Climate change will be her number one big challenge.
At the March 10, 2016 CERT General Meeting, very interesting presentations on tsunamis were given by Cynthia Pridmore from the California Geological Survey in Sacramento and Alex Tardy from the National Weather Service in San Diego. Mr. Tardy is responsible for the two tsunami/rip current kiosks on the Huntington Beach path – one under the pier and the other on the sand across from the bridge to the Hyatt Regency.

If you missed the meeting, check out the numerous websites offering a wealth of information.

Cynthia.Pridmore@conservation.ca.gov
Alexander.Tardy@noaa.gov
www.tsunami.ca.gov Tsunami information on the California Geological Survey website.
www.Myhazards.caloes.ca.gov Enter your home/business address to learn of hazards that exist in your area and how to prepare for them.
www.TsunamiZone.org How to be prepared for tsunamis and what to do to be safe.
www.ShakeOut.org Information on annual earthquake drills to practice what to do during earthquakes and to improve preparedness.
http://mobile.weather.gov Information on local weather conditions on your mobile device.
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/wea.html Weather warnings on the go! If your mobile device is Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) capable, you will receive alerts in the area in which you and your mobile device are located. These alerts will include extreme weather warnings, Amber alerts, local emergencies requiring evacuation or immediate action, etc.
Training Day with the American Red Cross: Shelter Fundamentals
By Guy Jackson

On January 23, 2016, the Orange County chapter of the American Red Cross (ARC) held an all-day (8 AM – 5 PM), hands-on “Shelter and Care Course” at its headquarters at 600 and 601 Park Center Drive in Santa Ana. Approximately 100 students participated in this event representing a number of various agencies such as RACES, Santa Ana CERT, Huntington Beach CERT, a real estate association, and non-aligned individuals. A number of instructors with different levels of experience and background led the participants.

The morning session covered the same material as can be found in the online course via the ARC’s Education Management Base for the American Red Cross (EMBARC), but the afternoon session was hands-on training. Participants practiced setting up a feeding area, placing signage, planning and setting up the dormitory area, setting up and running the reception area and other fundamentals of shelter operations in a nearby auxiliary building. Lunch was provided by one of the agencies that partner with the ARC. While lunch was occurring – students were vetted as volunteers through a background check agency (this was automated through workstations set up as part of the Santa Ana Emergency Operations Center.)

This course is required for CMAP volunteers (although taking the online version is acceptable). This same course was also held at other Southern California locations on the same day (i.e. Corona, Indian Wells and Rancho Cucamonga) and is taught numerous times throughout the year.
What is CERT?

CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) is a FEMA endorsed training program that prepares you to help yourself, your family, your neighbors and your community in the event of a disaster. During an incident, emergency response personnel could become overwhelmed and resources will be limited. By becoming CERT trained, you will gain the skills to help emergency responders save lives and property. Once you have completed the training, you have the opportunity to become a Fire Department CERT volunteer.

What do CERT Volunteers do?

CERT volunteers are trained to prepare for and respond to a disaster until first responders arrive. You will be taught to manage a disaster in your home, work, neighborhood or school. After taking care of your home, family and neighborhood, you will help the city with duties such as, providing damage assessment information, sandbagging, sheltering, helping in the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), and providing support to the Fire Department and Police Department.

What Will I Learn?

By taking CERT you will learn:

- How to prepare your home and family for a disaster
- How to perform basic first aid and CPR
- How to safely search a building for trapped victims and rescue them
- How to put out small fires using a fire extinguisher
- How to survive outdoors if you cannot return to your home because it is unsafe
- How to use all these skills to create a Neighborhood CERT Team
The CERT Basic Series consists of nine units that build on each other and end with a disaster drill where you can practice what you have learned. You must attend the entire training weekend to graduate. Unit topics include:

**Disaster Preparedness & Terrorism**
Learn what threats Huntington Beach residents face, how the City will respond in a disaster, and how you can get your home, family, neighborhood, school and/or business prepared to respond to emergencies.

**Disaster First Aid (Medical Ops I & II)**
Learn creative first aid solutions to common injuries resulting from an earthquake, or other disasters, and the ABC’s of disaster first aid. Additional topics include splints, slings, treating burns, impaled objects and shock. Learn how to triage disaster victims.

**Light Search & Rescue/Fire Suppression**
Learn how to do a safety size-up, lift 1000+ pounds using simple leverage techniques, properly search for trapped victims, shore up an unsafe structure, and safely move the injured. Learn to use a fire extinguisher and put out a live fire, fire safety and prevention, how to shut off utilities and secure items that may cause injuries in an earthquake. Finish the class with a disaster drill that will test your newly acquired skills.

**FREE** Evening Classes will be available for Spring 2016 the dates and times are as follows:

**Class Times**
Wednesday April 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th  
6:00pm to 9:00pm and  
Saturday April 30th  
8:00am - 4:00pm

**You Must Attend All Classes**

www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert
What is Relay For Life?
Your American Cancer Society, Relay For Life is a 12 Hour event involving teams of walkers who are committed to raising awareness and money in the fight against cancer. The event is held on a track where teams of 10 - 25 people of all ages participate. At 10:30 a.m., all cancer survivors are honored by walking a Survivor Lap around the track. While the Relay goes on, a party atmosphere is created as team members pitch tents, camp out, enjoy food, games, entertainment, and camaraderie. At 8:30 p.m., participants take part in a luminaria ceremony honoring survivors and remembering those lost to cancer. At the end of the Relay, our “Fight Back” ceremony is held in celebration of the end of our event, but not the end of our year around fight against cancer.

American Cancer Society’s
Relay For Life of Huntington Beach
April 30, 2016 10AM—10 PM
Central Park
6741 Central Park Drive
(off Edwards between Slater and Ellis Streets)
Huntington Beach, CA
Register Teams Online Today
http://relayforlife.org/HuntingtonBeachCa
Please No Dogs or Alcohol

ACS Rep Danielle Ruiz  (951) 768-2851
Event Lead Kassidy Hansen (714-)404-8335
ACS 1-800-227-2345 www.cancer.org
wwwrelayforlifeHB.com

8:30 PM Personalized luminarias honor cancer survivors & those who have lost the battle against cancer.

10:00 a.m. Kickoff: Relay participants walk and run to raise funds and awareness for a cure for cancer.

Children enjoy camping out at Relay For Life.

10:30 a.m. Cancer survivors and patients celebrate life as they prepare and walk the “Survivors’ Lap” at Relay.

FORM A TEAM...
BECOME A SPONSOR...
VOLUNTEER FOR THE EVENT!
Team lead Steph Desgle (714) 393-2439
Join your community in the fight against cancer.
1-800-227-2345 www.Cancer.org
wwwrelayforlifeHB.com
SANDBAGS

FREE

To Huntington Beach & Sunset Beach Residents

*Identification Required – Please Bring ID/Driver License & Current Utility Bill.*

City of Huntington Beach Corporate Yard
17371 Gothard Street (See Map On Reverse)
West Side of Gothard Street, Between Warner & Slater Avenues
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM Monday-Friday
(714) 960-8861

*The Corporate Yard is closed weekends and major holidays. Hours may be extended during extreme weather conditions.*

- Bags are for residents only – no businesses, please.
- There is a limit of 20 bags per residence.
- The City provides the sand and sandbags. Bring a shovel and be prepared to fill your own sandbags.
- City staff cannot fill bags or place bags in private vehicles.
- Resident is responsible for lawfully disposing of sand and sandbags after use.
- Elderly and disabled residents may call the HB Fire Department CERT Message Line at (714) 536-5974 to arrange for free sandbag delivery. Resident must sign a waiver of liability when sandbags are delivered.
- For information on flood preparedness, call the HB Fire Department Emergency Management & Homeland Security Office at (714) 374-1565.
Are you ready to become an official weather spotter?

Open to residents of Orange, San Diego, southwestern San Bernardino and western Riverside Counties. Complete the required training in-person or online.

Skywarn Weather Spotter training online:

If you cannot attend a spotter training class in person this is the best method to sign up!

[link](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/spx/spotter/spotter-intro.php?wfo=spx)

At your pace review the 1 hour training presentation, take the test and sign up by completing the information to be used by NWS officials only.

Skywarn Weather Spotter Training residence:

1) Attend a spotter training introduction presentation in various locations in our region. This training will cover the details about being a weather spotter and the local hazards in Southern California. The residence training is encouraged for all new spotters and for current weather spotters as a refresher.

2) After the course you will still have take the short exam and sign up with your information at the above link. We will then assign you an official weather spotter identification number.

Advanced Skywarn Weather Training

Attend advanced residence training at various locations and dates TBD. Also, you may join amateur radio weather nets, or the national spotter network [link](http://www.spotennetwork.org/)

Contact Information

How to become a Skywarn Spotter:

[link](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/spx/spotter/skywarn-intro.php?wfo=spx)

National Weather Service Skywarn contact information for all of California:

[link](http://www.stormrescue.noaa.gov/stormmaps/caw.htm)

Southwest Skywarn website and Facebook:
(Covers a four county area):

[link](http://www.swskywarn.org/)

[link](https://www.facebook.com/swskywarn)

Riverside County and San Bernardino County Skywarn Facebook website:

[link](https://www.facebook.com/SanBernardinoCountySkywarn)

[link](https://www.facebook.com/RivCoSkywarn)

San Diego County Skywarn Facebook page:

[link](https://www.facebook.com/SanDiegoCountySkywarn)

Orange County Skywarn website and Facebook:

[link](http://www.osskywarn.org/)

[link](https://www.facebook.com/OCSkywarn)

Southwest Skywarn Yahoo Group:

[link](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SW_SKYWARN/)

For additional information, you are encouraged to contact the coordinator for your area from the contact information listing at:

[link](http://www.swskywarn.org/Contacts.htm)

More training:

[link](https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_course.php?id=23)

Become a Skywarn weather spotter for the National Weather Service

[link](http://swskywarn.org)
Weather Spotters: What and When to Report

Two ways to report: By PHONE or ONLINE (version 2015)

1. Spotter phone number: 1-800-240-3022. We are here 24/7/365

2. Online from our homepage (weather.gov/sandiego - click on “Spotter Report”) or from SKYWARN page http://swskywarn.org/


Flooding
- Rainfall: How much rain in a given time (e.g., 1 inch in 20 minutes). Rainfall rates (e.g., 4 inches per hour) should not be reported
- Flooding: urban streets, ponding of water in low lying areas or poor drainage
- Flash Flooding (swift moving and greater than 6 inches). Report flooding that is threatening life or property or disrupting traffic.

Winter Weather
- Snowfall amount (new, duration, total). Snow depth and total to the nearest INCH
- Elevation of snow level, heavy snow and blizzard conditions
- Icy roads, road closures, chain control, unusually low temperatures and wind chills

Wind
- Gust of > 40 mph, and all wind related damage (e.g., trees or power poles down)

Extreme Heat
- >95 F near the coast, >105 F in the inland valleys, >115 F in the deserts

Fog
- Dense fog with visibility is at or near zero (report in feet or miles or impacts)

Thunderstorms
- Hail size (for larger hail compare to coins or measure) and accumulation, wind gusts, lightning strikes causing fire, any damage

Tornadoes
- Funnel clouds, waterspouts or any rotating cloud, in contact with ground (tornado) and confirmed injuries or damage

Surf and Coastal Impacts
- Surf 6 feet or higher, any flooding by combination of high tides and/or high surf
- Strong rip currents
- Tidal overflow and flooding or tsunami impacts such as strong currents

Visit Southwest California Skywarn on Facebook! http://www.facebook.com/swskywarn

PHOTOS: Send to alexander.tardy@noaa.gov or nwssgyphotos@gmail.com
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/NWSSanDiego
Twitter: @NWSSanDiego #cawx #wxreport #socal
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/NWSSanDiego
Field Guide to Observing Weather

Estimating Winds

15-20 mph: Raises dust and loose paper; small branches moved
20-25 mph: Small trees begin to sway; whitecaps on water
25-30 mph: Large branches in motion; whistling in wires
30-40 mph: Whole trees in motion; difficulty walking against the wind
40-45 mph: Breaks twigs of trees; impedes progress
45-55 mph: Breaks small tree branches; slight structural damage possible
55-65 mph: Breaks large tree branches; pushes over shalllow rooted trees; considerable structural damage to chimneys, TV antennas (Severe Thunderstorm winds are defined as 58 mph or higher)
65-75 mph: Widespread damage
> 75 mph: Severe damage and destruction

Hail Size (measure hail size or compare to coins)

1/4 inch = Pea size
1/2 inch = Marble size (do not report as marble size)
3/4 inch = Penny size
1 inch = Quarter size (Severe Thunderstorms are issued for 1 inch hail or higher)
1 3/4 inch = Golf ball size
2 3/4 inch = Baseball size

Definitions

Tornado or Landspout
A violently rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm and in contact with the ground
Funnel Cloud or Wall Cloud
A rotating, funnel-shaped or low cloud base, extending from a thunderstorm base not in contact with the ground
Waterspout
A small, relatively weak rotating column of air in contact with the ocean or other large body of water
Downburst or Microburst
A strong downdraft from a thunderstorm, with an outrush of strong wind on or near the ground

SAFETY FIRST! Do not endanger yourself or others

Thank you for being a weather spotter! Your reports may be used in NWS Advisories or Warnings! The information you provide will be used for storm verification and improve future forecasts and warnings.
MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is to provide information and training on disaster preparedness; provide leadership and coordination during an emergency, and assistance to help victims recover from an emergency.

Upcoming CERT Events & Activities

- CERT General Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM
  April 14, 2016 in B8
- The series of four weekly Wednesday night classes will begin April 6, 2016 and end with an all-day class on Saturday, April 30, 2016.
  - Wednesday, April 6 - 6:00PM to 9:00PM
  - Wednesday, April 13 - 6:00PM to 9:00PM
  - Wednesday, April 20 - 6:00PM to 9:00PM
  - Wednesday, April 27 - 6:00PM to 9:00PM
  - Saturday, April 30 - 8:00AM to 4:00PM

CPR Classes

Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee. Dates are listed below:

- Saturday, April 9, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, April 20, 6:00pm—9:00pm
- Saturday, May 14, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 25, 6:00pm—9:00pm

To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277 or 714-556-4277. Class location is in the HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.

HB CERT Newsletter Staff
Virginia Petrelis (Editor), Peter Petrelis (Publisher), Anna Pinter, Cynthia Goebel, Art Weiland, Carol Nehls, Bob Zamalin, Rajarajeswari (Raji) Shunmugavel, Brenda Welch, Barbara Scott

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!
CERT Website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert CERT Contact: CERT@surfcity-hb.org
CERT Message line 714-536-5974 (THIS IS A MESSAGE LINE ONLY!)