

# SAFE WATCH

Volume 1, Issue 3

A Quarterly Publication for Healthcare Staff

Fall 2006

**Environmental Health & Safety Healthcare Group**

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**Phone:** 4-6783  
**Fax:** 4-6845

**University Police**

Public Safety Office

Scott Law  
*Director East Campus Operations*

Winston Kerr  
*Detective*

Robert Sweeney  
*Lieutenant*

**Phone:** 4-2825

**Emergency Numbers:**

Dial 911 or 632-3333

Non-Fire Emergencies 911  
(Major Chemical Spill/Haz Mat)

All Codes 321

Fire (Code Red) 321



## New Safety Initiatives: Fall 2006

Contributed by Jill Kavoukian

The EH&S Healthcare Group gathered in August for our annual planning meeting where we discussed & reviewed our goals for this fiscal year. Communication improvements are planned for the Fire Warden Program with the purchase of radios & the installation of a repeater. A fire simulator will be purchased this year, which will enable us to provide hands-on fire extinguisher training. Safety Subcommittee will continue to focus on

ways to reduce ergonomic & contaminated sharp injuries. Our mercury reduction efforts continue along with working this year on achieving the H2E Environmental Leadership Award. Our chemical monitoring program and chemical inventories continues to be a focus.

As always, we will continue to provide quality programming to insure a safe environment for patients, staff and visitors.



## Interim Life Safety Measures

Contributed by David Roy

Health care occupancies such as our hospital, are required to put in place Interim Life Safety Measures (ILSM) any time life safety is diminished because of Life Safety Code deficiencies or construction activities. With the Major Modernization Program in progress, there is potential for problems that could affect the safety of patients, visitors, and staff. Each time an area is taken over by the contractors for construction, a risk analysis is done to determine if there are any changes to corridors affecting egress or hazards introduced impacting life safety. As an example, the following are some interim measures put in place on Level 5 for the construction occurring there.

- √ A 1 hour fire barrier constructed between the

construction area and the rest of the building to include rated fire doors.

- √ A prohibition of storage of construction supplies in the work area in the hospital.
- √ Extra fire extinguishers and fire detection devices.
- √ Special training for the workers.
- √ Changes to the exit signage on Level 5 showing the new exit pattern after the main doors were relocated to the temporary lobby.
- √ Training to the Heart Center staff due to a major exit change.
- √ Unannounced walk-throughs of all areas by a Fire Marshal.

**Help Wanted—Fire Wardens—Call 4-6783**



## "You Got Caught Being Safe" 2006 Recipients

Contributed by Rebecca Woskoff, *Student Volunteer*

Congratulations to the following employees who received our "You Got Caught Being Safe" Recognition:

### June winners:

Raquel Carrera, Invasive Cardiology  
Ken Hauser, EH&S  
John Staudt, Materials Management  
Mary Ellen Dropela, Chemistry  
Terry Mercado, Cytogenics  
Jeanenne Strianse, Pharmacy  
Walter Doroski, Physical Plant

### July winners:

Al Rowland, Physical Plant  
Moe Vazquez, Lock Shop  
Fred Lascalea, Lock Shop  
John Prisco, Physical Plant

Chris Ryan, ECPP  
Denise Fritz, Materials Management  
Marge Bryan, Hospital Custodial Services

### August winners:

Michael Seymour, EH&S  
Lisa Buchter, EH&S  
Anthony Albanese, EH&S  
James Makarius, EH&S  
Michael Desposito, HVAC  
Matt Labriola, Schindler Elevator  
Kevin Steed, Schindler Elevator  
Leslie Jahn, Surgery/Plastic  
George Tortora, Microbiology  
Dennis Sheppard, Microbiology

How can you be recognized as a

### "You Got Caught Being Safe Recipient"?

The above recipients helped the hospital meet its health and safety goals by being caught:

- Assisting in laboratory safety inspections.
- Ordering new non-mercury switches.
- Mounting new safety poster by the UH elevator.
- Providing disaster kits to UH departments and helped with proper management of waste.
- Assisting in the development of a waste management program.
- Dedicating service and active participation during EOC Rounds.
- Assisting in a fire emergency.

*Congratulations to all our Recipients!*



## What You Can Do At Work To Improve Our Security

Contributed by Scott Law

As members of our community you can do the following to help create a safe environment:

- Wear your University ID at all times while in the University Hospital or Health Science Center.
- Report unauthorized visitors and guests to University Police (911).

- Report any security issues or potential hazards to University Police staff immediately (911).
  - Secure all valuables when leaving your office or work area.
  - Comply with directives given by University Police Officers, Security staff and Hospital Administrators during emergency situations.
- Remember, crime requires three basic

things: A criminal with a DESIRE and ABILITY to commit a crime and a victim who gives them an OPPORTUNITY. You cannot control the criminals' desire or ability but you can make sure they do not have the opportunity.

*"This Community Belongs To All Of Us."*



## Do You Know the Answer?

What is the phone number to call if you have a fire or smoke condition?

**Answer:** Dial 321, announce Code Red and give the location.

### SAFE WATCH

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EDITOR: Carol Malley  
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Rebecca Woskoff  
STAFF WRITERS: Jill Kavoukian  
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Annette Falcetta  
David Roy

## SBU Fire Marshals Attend HazMat Technician Refresher

Contributed by Lisa Buchter



The Hazardous Materials Technician refresher was conducted in

June at Stony Brook University. This course provides our practicing HazMat Technicians with the required annual refresher training, as outlined by the Occupational Safety and Health

Administration (OSHA). The Office of Fire Prevention and Control provided the SBU Fire Marshals with four hours of classroom training followed by a hands on hazardous materials exercise. For this exercise a "leak simulator" was set up to practice how to mitigate a situation where hazardous materials were being released from various types of valves, pipes, drums or equipment.

## Tip of the Month

### Door Chocks



Doors to rooms and suites are not allowed to be chocked or blocked open. If you have a need to hold open a door, discuss alternative solutions with the Physical Plant.



## Do you know Eileen Reiser?

*Continue reading to find out exactly what Eileen does for the hospital!!*

Eileen Reiser, RN, CCM, joined the hospital in June 2005 as our Workers Compensation Case Manager. She is part of the hospital's Support Services division. As a Registered Nurse and Certified Case Manager she has extensive medical, managed care, and workers compensation experience in health insurance and worker's compensation companies as well as in a hospital setting. Her responsibilities include the oversight of the claims process



efforts thus far have resulted in a significant savings to the hospital by receiving a credit for billed workers' compensation claims. She is a key stakeholder for the on-line injury reporting program which is anticipated to be available for the recording of

(NYS Insurance Fund), decreasing work loss days, and facilitating a healthy return to work. Her

injured hospital employees in the fourth quarter of 2006. She interfaces with the hospital's insurance carrier, injured employees, supervisors, Labor relations, HR, Timekeeping, Environmental Health & Safety, Employee Health, and other staff members to provide case management services, process improvements, increase communication, and facilitate the handling of Workers Compensation claims.

## EH&S Healthcare Staff



Yvonne Walsh, Staff Assistant for the EH&S Healthcare office, has worked for Stony Brook for over 20 years. Yvonne started in Environmental Health and Safety in 1984. In 1993, she left EH&S for a

promotional position in Legal Liaison Services. This past year, we are happy to say, Yvonne found her way back to Environmental Health and Safety. Yvonne not only keeps the office running smoothly, she is also taking an active role in the Right to Know (MSDS) and Injury and Illness programs. Yvonne says she is thrilled to be back and enjoys the added

responsibility.

We rely on Yvonne for her quick wit and organizational skills. She is the welcoming voice you hear when you call our office.

Yvonne holds an Associate Degree in Business Administration and is currently working toward her Bachelor's degree in the same field.

*New Crossword Puzzle***Got Codes?**

Contributed by Jill Kavoukian

**Across**

4. CODE GREEN

5. CODE RED

6. CODE PINK

7. CODE BLACK

8. CODE BAT

9. CODE RRT

10. CODE BLUE

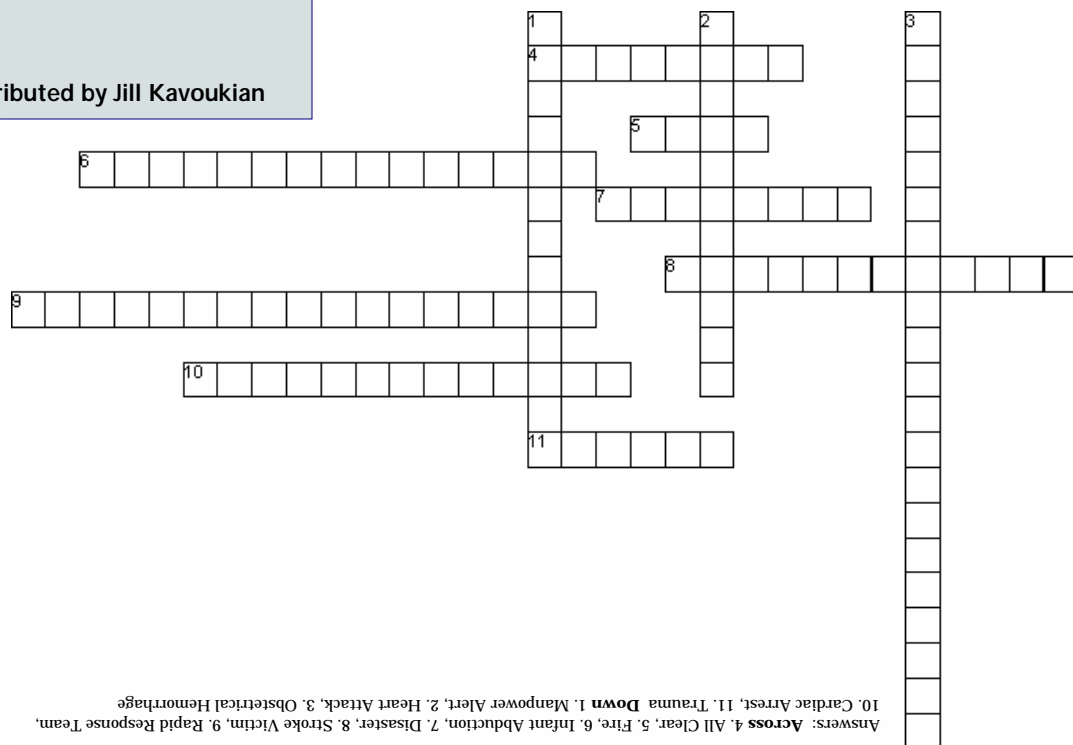
11. CODE T

**Down**

1. CODE M

2. CODE H

3. CODE NOELLE



Answers: **Across** 4. All Clear, 5. Fire, 6. Infant Abduction, 7. Disaster, 8. Stroke Victim, 9. Rapid Response Team, 10. Cardiac Arrest, 11. Trauma **Down** 1. Manpower Alert, 2. Heart Attack, 3. Obstetrical Hemorrhage

**September is National Preparedness Month***So why not let LIPA help prepare you for hurricane season?*

Contributed By Rebecca Woskoff, Student Volunteer

LIPA offers the following essentials and tips to prepare your family for hurricane season:

**Water and Food Essentials**

- One gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation. Keep at least a three-day supply of water per person (children, nursing mothers, and sick people may need more water).
- Store water tightly in clean plastic containers such as soft drink bottles.
- Store at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food.
- Select foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking and little or no water.
- Pack a manual can opener and eating utensils.
- Choose foods your family will eat such as ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables, protein or fruit bars, dry cereal or granola, peanut butter, dried fruit, nuts, crackers, canned juices, non-perishable pasteurized milk, high-energy foods, vitamins, food for infants, comfort/stress foods.

**General Storm Tips**

- Have a battery powered radio.
- Keep a flashlight handy.
- Have proper clothing and bedding.
- Keep a First Aid Kit handy.

**Kids Health and Safety Expo**

Contributed by Annette Falcetta

On July 19, the Department of Environmental Health and Safety participated in the Kids Health and Safety Expo at the Holiday Inn Express. This well-attended health fair was sponsored by Stony Brook University Medical Center and featured numerous exhibits focusing on child safety. EH&S's contribution was an Under-the-Sea Bean Bag Toss game. We asked the children safety questions and tested their pitching skills with ocean critter targets. It was hard to tell who was having more fun—the parents or the kids!