

# SAFE WATCH

Volume II, Issue I

A Quarterly EOC Publication for SBUH Healthcare Staff

Spring 2007

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## Emergency Numbers:

Dial 911 or 632-3333 (cell phone)

Non-Fire Emergencies 911  
(Major Chemical Spill/HazMat)

All Codes 321

Fire (Code Red) 321

## Safe Watch has a New Focus in 2007

The “**Safe Watch**” newsletter will now highlight the Hospital’s Environment of Care programs and no longer be the sole product of Environmental Health and Safety’s Healthcare Group and University Police.

“Environment of Care (EOC)” refers to a variety of sites where patients are treated. These include inpatient and outpatient settings. The seven EOC management plans are Safety Management, Fire Safety, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management, Security Management, Emergency

Management, Medical Equipment Management and Utilities Management.

We will share safety programming from all seven plans by eliminating generic safety articles and focusing on Stony Brook University Hospital programs, initiatives and performance. We expect that these changes will provide a more informative newsletter to our readers.

Jill Kavoukian, CHSP  
Hospital Safety Officer

## Fire Extinguisher Training

Contributed by David Roy



If a fire were to occur in your area, would you know how to use a fire extinguisher? Traditionally, fire extinguisher training has been conducted in a classroom setting with the instructor going over the acronym PASS – somewhat effective, but not the best way. We recently purchased a fire

extinguisher burn simulator which allows staff to not only learn the principles of fire extinguisher usage, but lets them extinguish a live fire.

Weather permitting, Nursing Recertification participants now receive hands-on, live burn training which reinforces their extinguisher knowledge by actually putting a fire out with a real fire extinguisher – a more effective learning technique. To schedule a live fire training for your department, call Environmental Health and Safety at 4-6783.

**Fire Wardens Needed– To Volunteer Call 4-6783**



## “You Got Caught Being Safe” 2007 Recipients

Contributed by Rebecca Woskoff , Student Volunteer

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

### December winners:

Joe Gatz, BME

Tony Indelicato, Radiology

John Terry, EH&S

Larry Stuchel, EH&S

Lisa Murray, OR

John Spenser, Physical Plant

Frederick Rene, Physical Plant

Karen Bayer, Endoscopy

Elizabeth Harrish, 18S, Surgery Acute

John Staudt, 18N, Surgery

Sandra Funes, OR

### January winners:

Leslie Daves, Pathology

Gayle Lark, Pathology

### February winners:

Pete Kreskowski, Facilities

Cathy Dowling, Media Services

Camielle Kutcher, Pathology

Jean-Maurice Danvers, ACP

John Garafolo, ECPP

John Staudt, ECPP

These employees went above and beyond their duties to make the

hospital a safer environment by insuring the proper storage of waste fluorescent lamps, repairing a fume hood that contractors no longer supported with spare parts from several fume hoods that were no longer in use, reinforcing fire safety procedures to staff, updating MSDS books, assisting in lab safety inspections, arranging training on hazardous waste management or identifying additional mercury containing equipment for removal. We commend all our YGCBS recipients on their dedication to keeping our Hospital safe.

***Continue being safe and we will continue to catch you.***



## Safety Employee of the Year Awarded - David Hendrickson

Contributed by Carol Malley

The Safety Employee of the Year award was selected from the “You Got Caught Being Safe” 2006 recipients. This individual went above and beyond in promoting a safe and environmentally friendly work place.

This year’s award was presented to David Hendrickson, Hospital Cabinet Shop, at the March 7th Patient Safety Week Reception.

David was selected because he manages his program at the Cabinet Shop in a way that welcomes new initiatives and at the same time is cognizant of



From Left: Ventryce Thomas, Jill Kavoukian, David Hendrickson

patient and staff safety concerns. He is also continually looking at reducing the environmental impact.

Because of David’s efforts, the Cabinet Shop has trialed environmentally friendly alternative products. He has

made a tremendous impact in reducing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) by using an adhesive with significantly less VOC content than the previous product. When it was determined that there was another adhesive that had the same low VOC content but was safer for use by the workers in the cabinet shop, he switched products again.

David is currently researching a new lacquer product that is safer and more environmentally friendly.

***Congratulations to David as our first Safety Employee of the Year and on a job well done!***

## Forklift Training Class Graduates

Contributed by Kathy Terwilliger

Safety training and road test are required for anyone operating a powered industrial truck such as a forklift. Several ACP Support Service staff were recently trained on safe forklift operation and successfully passed their road test coordinated by Ken Hauser.

At the completion of the course, Kathy Terwilliger, Healthcare EH&S Manager, presented each participant with a Certified Forklift Operator card and pin.

If you or your staff needs training, please contact EH&S at 4-6783.



From left: Peter Mahnken, Keith Reichl, Jean-Maurice Danvers, Marvin Johnson, Kathy Terwilliger, Nick Biscotto (not present)

## Office Clean Outs = Recycling



If you are moving, reorganizing or just cleaning up your office, you can request a large recycling container.

Contact Hospital Custodial Services (4-1455) to have a container delivered.

Remember, papers, folders, computer disks and CDs can all be put in this container as well as the gray confidential bins in your offices.

## Check your ID Badge holder!

Contributed by Kathy Terwilliger



Please take a moment and look at your ID badge holder. If you are wearing a necklace-style badge holder make sure it is a "break-away" type - when pulled, it will easily break apart. A badge

holder that is not a break away can cause personal injury if the holder is caught in equipment or pulled by a patient. An alternative is to wear a clip-on badge. Breakaway lanyard badge holders are available at the ID office.



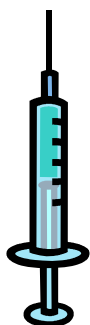
## Parking Garage Alert

Contributed by Scott Law

There have been reports of vandalism in the garage — Remember to lock your cars and keep personal belongings out of sight.

## Working to Reduce Nursing Injuries

Contributed by Kathy Terwilliger



This year we are focusing on reducing the occurrence of ergonomic and contaminated sharp injuries among nursing staff. In 2006, 55% of the contaminated sharp injuries and 58% of the ergonomic injuries were

among Nursing/CA job titles. Environmental Health and Safety, Nursing, Employee Health Services and Nursing Education met to discuss ways to reduce these injuries. It was decided that injury data would be provided to the Nursing Quality Management Liaison on a monthly basis to be shared with

key managers for necessary reporting and follow-up. Through education, we believe we can significantly reduce the rate of injuries among Nursing/CA staff.



## Parking Safety Initiatives

Contributed by James O’Conner and Kathy Terwilliger

The Department of Transportation and Parking is actively working to make the hospital and HSC



parking garages as safe as possible. Several projects will be completed during the summer months because of the lower volume of cars.

The majority of the HSC garage lighting has already been repaired or upgraded. The remainder of the lighting will be corrected this summer. In addition, this summer surface deck work will be completed.

A consultant is scheduled to review the garages and make recommendations for signage; implementation of the recommendations are set to begin this summer.

If you note any safety concerns within the garages, contact the garage offices during normal business hours.

**HSC Office:** 4-6610  
**Hospital Office:** 4-6607  
**University Police after hours:** 911 or 631-632-3333 from a cell phone

## Mercury Update

Contributed by Carol Malley

Over the past three years we have removed close to 3,000 pounds of mercury from SBUH.

### Some recent developments:

Endoscopy has replaced their mercury-containing dilators with mercury-free devices. The hospital laboratories have replaced their mercury calibration thermometers.



If you find mercury containing equipment, call EH&S at 4-6783 and we will be happy to pick it up and/or discuss alternative products.

## Using Recycled Paper Promotes SBUH’s Commitment to the Environment



Contributed by Carol Malley

When purchasing paper consider using recycled paper with either a 30% or 100% recycled content. The Staples Catalog # and Prices are shown for 8-1/2”x11” and 8-1/2”x14” below.

| Paper Type    | Size       | Catalog #     | Price         |
|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| 100% Recycled | 8 1/2”x11” | 620014        | \$42.00/case* |
| 30% Recycled  | 8 1/2”x11” | 492072        | \$30.50/case* |
| 100% Recycled | 8 1/2”x14” | Not Available | —             |
| 30% Recycled  | 8 1/2”x14” | 580525        | \$5.76/ream   |

\*10 reams per case.

## Coming Soon! Revised EOC Reference Cards



Be on the look out for the recently updated Environment of Care Reference Cards. These yellow laminated cards are provided to all departments for quick and easy reference of the seven management plans. We expect to start distribution in May.