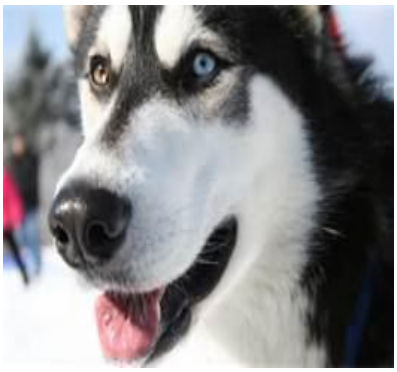
SHELBY COUNTY OFFICE OF PREPAREDNESS eNEWSLETTER

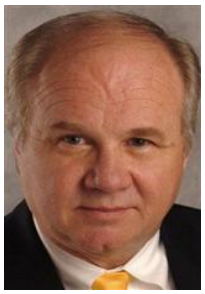
May
2013
Issue

LOST DOG!



"LADY" Siberian Husky
Female, 65 lbs.
one blue eye, one brown
Last seen Stony Point, NJ, Oct 30
If found call 555.222.5556

Approximately 16,000 pets were displaced and separated from their families during Superstorm Sandy, according to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA). Orphaned pets were rounded up and sheltered in New York and as far away as California. Social media supported the efforts to reunite pets with owners using Facebook and Twitter to help bring their lives back together.



Before disaster strikes, it is vitally important that we are proactive and make our animals part of our preparation plans. They are our responsibility. **May 8, 2013 is National Animal Disaster Preparation Day**.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness, under the direction of Bob Nations, Jr., urges citizens to have a plan for your animals ahead of the next emergency.

Here are some simple tips to guide your emergency "pet plans:"

1. Find a safe place to shelter your animals ahead of time in case your neighborhood must evacuate. Research which veterinary clinics have 24 our emergency services. Find out if your community plans to have a shelter for animals, since animals are not usually allowed in people shelters, unless they are “service” animals. Have a phone list of “pet friendly” hotels in your region ahead of time.

2. Get to know your neighbors who also have pets. Sharing the responsibility of your pet with neighbors, friends or family before the disaster will help you be familiar with another pet if disaster strikes.

3. Create a “go bag” for your pet to include: crate or carrier, leash, food, water, medication, familiar toy or bedding, first aid supplies, and sanitation supplies

4. If you are forced to shelter-in-place, make sure you have extra emergency supplies for your pet, such as food, water, and medication to sustain them for at least seven days.

5. If your pet is left behind because you cannot return home, make sure you have a pet decal in the window to notify emergency workers that there are “pet inside.” A free pet decal can be obtained from the website, www.aspca.org.

6. Pet identification is essential. A collar and dog tag with your name, phone number and address should be worn by the pet at all times. Additionally, a permanent identification by way of a microchip, will help identify your pet if the collar comes off.

7. Keep a current photo of you and your pet with you at all times.

8. Have a list of family or friends and their phone numbers who can be contacted in case you are not able to care for your pet.

9. Discuss your pet plans with everyone in the family.

10. If you have livestock, have a plan for them to be moved to safety or sheltered.

To encourage animal owners to get ready, the Shelby County Office of Preparedness is delivering “literature kits” to veterinarian clinics. The kit includes brochures on pet and animal preparedness, the Local Emergency Planning Committee’s shelter-in-place brochures, a HELP / OK window sign, information of business preparedness, and the “Are You Ready?” FEMA book. If you would like a free pet literature kit, please call 901.515.2525.

Flood Advisory for Shelby County

Photo Caption: Low lying areas near the Wolf River filling up with flood water May 1, 2013

The Mississippi River at Memphis remains under a "Flood Advisory," issued by the National Weather Service, until May 7, when the crest is predicted to be near 33 feet. Flood stage is 34 feet.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness, under the direction of Bob Nations, Jr., hosted a "water briefing" at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to discuss the spring flooding.

Jim Belles from the National Weather Service presented current GIS flood maps. According to Belles, factors that impact our area this spring include Midwest heavy rains, precipitation on the Upper Mississippi Basin, the rise of the Ohio River, and Minnesota snow pack. He assured the group that we are having a **"typical, traditional spring flood regime."** It will not likely mimic the historic flooding of 2010 and 2011. Belles said downtown May riverfront events should not be impacted by the predicted crest.

Director Nations said, "Since the 2011 flooding, we've made significant improvements to how we monitor the rising waters by installing 5 five new river gages and one new weather station. Our ability to map flood-prone areas with GIS technology helps us to communicate with the public quicker and more effectively. Our biggest concerns are the impact of the Mississippi River tributaries. As we go through "flood season" we intend to keep the public informed about possible property flooding and make sure those who use the waterways for recreation stay safe. We will be sure to keep

business owners abreast of any possible flooding. And we urge everyone to purchase flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program."

Photo Caption: Waters creep onto Mississippi River Greenbelt Park May 1, 2013

Photo Caption: Water briefing at the EOC to discuss the spring flood season and the recent "flood advisory." Director Bob Nations, sitting far right, and Jim Belles, standing, far left.

To find the most current flooding information and to view flood maps, please visit: www.srh.noaa.gov/meg/. To find out about purchasing flood insurance, please visit: www.floodsmart.gov.

Hazardous Materials Safety

HazMat events can happen anywhere, anytime.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness reminds citizens when faced with chemical spills, to do the following:

- Move away from the substance to minimize contamination.
- Call 911.
- Avoid inhaling gases, smoke or fumes by covering your mouth with a cloth.
- If outside, stay uphill, and upwind. Move at least a half mile from the scene.
- Do not touch or walk on the chemical
- Seek shelter in a building. Once inside, shut the windows and doors. Turn off ventilations systems. Seal gaps under doors and windows with wet towels.
- If you spot an accident victim with hazardous materials on their body, do not touch them.
- Listen to the advice of authorities regarding special instructions for those who have been exposed to the substance.
- Follow decontamination instructions from authorities (such as take a shower).
- Place clothing and shoes that were exposed to the chemical in a sealed container. Wait for instructions how to dispose of them.
- Communicate with others that you have been exposed to the substance.
- Seek medical attention for exposure symptoms.
- Do not return home until authorities have given the “all clear.”

CDC Helps Children Cope With Floods

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has created a helpful series of illustrations for children affected by floods.

"The Flood is Over. What do you do Now?" helps children to cope after a flooding event. Children are taught to wash their hands with soap and water, tell adults if they smell a bad odor, throw away anything touched by flood waters, stay away from power lines, and never play in rivers and streams.

To find out more visit www.cdc.gov.

Preparedness Outreach

Photo Caption: Eugene Jones from the Shelby County Office of Preparedness, standing, center, greeted pre-K students at the Raleigh-Bartlett Meadows School on May 1, 2013.

Career On Wheels

Over 400 energetic children learned about emergency and postal careers at the Raleigh-Bartlett Meadows Annual “Career on Wheels” event on May 1, 2013. A sprinkle of rain didn’t deter the excitement of the students, pre-K to ninth grade, as they visited with representatives from the Shelby County Office of Preparedness and other Shelby County agencies.

Eugene Jones from the Office of Preparedness showed the children a weather station, safety vest, tools, and a first aid kit. He asked them if they knew what to do if they hear the “tornado” sirens activated. One child said, “get under a bush” and another said more accurately, “jump in the bathtub.”

Pine Hill Community Center Health Fair

Photo Caption: The Shelby County Office of Preparedness attended the Pine Hill Communty Center Health Fair on Saturday, April 27, 2013. Reserve Jo Griffith spoke to over 45 citizens while handing out FEMA preparedness brochures, Citizen Corp cups and HELP / OK signs to attendees. Above, some of the guests and agency representatives at the fair.

Christ Baptist Church Health Fair

Photo Caption: Over 50 citizens were greeted by Ruth Watson, Shelby County Office of Preparedness Reserve, on Saturday, April 27, 2013, at the Christ Baptist Church Health Fair. Ruth spoke to the guests about the importance getting ready and showed them a disaster kit.

Damage Assessment

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness offered a course in “damage assessment “ taught by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) on May 1, 2013 in the Emergency Operations Center.

Photo Caption: An example of a home with flood damage seen during a “windshield survey.” The residents have pulled possessions to the curb touched by flood waters.

The Shelby County Citizen Corps Council, under the leadership of Kimberlyn Bouler, Chairperson and Office of Preparedness Planning Officer, meets monthly to guide the disaster professionals and volunteers in training the public for unexpected events. Programs include: Volunteers in Police Services, USAonWatch, Medical Reserve Corps, and the Community Emergency Response Team.

The mission of Citizen Corps is to harness the power of individuals through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

Preparedness Training Opportunities:

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Bartlett CERT: 5868 Stage Road, Bartlett Station Municipal Center, Community Room A, Bartlett, TN 38135, Email bartlettcert@cityofbartlett.org or ljenkins@cityofbartlett.org or call 901.385.5536. Teen CERT: June 10 – 14, 2013, 8:30 a.m. – 12: 30 p.m.

CERTPlus: Citizens For CERT. New CERT program incorporated in Tennessee as a non-profit organization offering CERT training by all volunteer, certified instructors. Contact Lee Race at 901.692.3889.

Collierville CERT: 1251 Peterson Lake, Collierville, TN Contact: Scott Sumner by email: ssumner@ci.collierville.tn.us or call 901.457.2400. Friday, 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. May 31, June 1 - 2, 2013

Germantown CERT: Fire Station #4, 3031 Forrest Hill Irene, Germantown, TN, Contact: srhea@germantown-tn.gov or call 901.757.7203. Friday at 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., next 2 Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. May 10, 11, 18 and September 28, 29, October 5.

Shelby County Office of Preparedness CERT: 1075 Mullins Station Road, Memphis, TN 38134, Contact citizencorps@shelbycountytn.gov, or call Eugene Jones at 901.515.2525. Two consecutive Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. May 4 and 11, June 1 and 8, July 13 and 20, Aug 3 and 10, Sep 7 and 14, Oct 5 and 12, Nov 2 and 9. Pre-registration is required.

Additional Training Opportunities:

Mid-South Association of Contingency Planners, "Fighting Domestic and International Acts of Terrorism, The United States Attorney's Office Western District of Tennessee," May 9, 2013, 11:30 a.m., includes lunch, University of Memphis, Fountain View Suites #350, 499 University St., Memphis, TN, Register at www.secretary@msacp.org or call 901.678.2254. Deadline to register is May 3, 5:00 p.m.

2013 Vulnerable Populations Emergency Preparedness Symposium, May 14, 2013, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Botanic Gardens. Register at: www.shelbycountytn.gov/PHEPP or call 901.222.8216.

Natural Gas Emergency Training Course, May 20 – 24, 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., 4949 Raleigh LaGrange Road, Room 111/121, Memphis, TN. Contact Bin Holland.

Technician Amateur (Ham) Radio Class, July 8, 15, 22, 29, August 5, and 12, Entry level ham radio Technician license class, Monday nights, 6:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 6865 Poplar Pike, Memphis, TN. Class is free. FCC exam given last night of class is $15. ARRL Ham Radio License Manual Second Edition is $30. Pre-registration required. Send request to Joe Lowenthal at email wa4ovo@arrl.net or call 901.628.4318.

Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) **Emergency Operations Center Course**, September 17, 2013, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., 1075 Mullins Station Road, Room C-113, Shelby County EOC, Memphis, TN., Registration forms can be printed from www.staysafeshelby.us. Fax registration form to 901.222.6714.

Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) **HazMat Awareness Course,** October 16, 2013, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 1075 Mullins Station Road, Room C-113, Shelby County EOC, Memphis, TN, Registration forms can be printed from www.staysafeshelby.us. Fax registration form to 901.222.6714.

For more information about preparedness training, please call 901.515.2525 or email: Citizencorps@shelbycountytn.gov**.**

Shelby County Office of Preparedness Resources

Shelby County Office of Preparedness: 901.515.2525, www.staysafeshelby.us

Shelby County Citizen Corp: citizencorps@shelbycountytn.gov

Shelby County, TN: www.shelbycountytn.gov

Shelby County Medical Reserve Corps: www.shelbycountymrc.org

Ready Shelby: www.readyshelby.us

Shelby Cares: 901.515.2525 or email Terry.Donald@shelbycountytn.gov

Shelby County Office of Preparedness Storm Shelter Registry: email kimberlyn.bouler@shelbycountytn.gov

ALERT FM: www.alertfm.com

AccuWeather: www.accuweather.com

American Heart Association : www.heart.org

American Radio Relay League: www.arrl.org

Center for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov

Center for Earthquake Research and Information (CERI) www.ceri.memphis.edu

Citizen Corps: www.citizencorps.org

Department of Homeland Security: www.dhs.gov

Do1thing: www.do1thing.com

Drop Box: wwwdropbox.com

Emergency 2.0 Wiki Accessibility Toolkit: : www.emergency202wiki.org

Emergency Preparedness: Disability: www.disability.gov/emergency-preparedness

Federal Drug Administration: www.fda.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.org

FEMA Text Messages: text PREPARE 43362 (4FEMA)

Google Maps: www.googlemaps.com

Humane Society Of Memphis and Shelby County: www.memphishumane.org

International Association of Emergency Planners: www.iaem.com

Lightning Safety: www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov

MapQuest: www.mapquest.com

Memphis Light, Gas and Water: www.mlgw.com, 901.544.6549, Outages: 901.544.6500

National Flood Insurance Program: www.floodsmart.gov

National Fire Protection Assoc. www.nfpa.org

National Hurricane Center: www.nhc.noaa.gov

National Safety Council: www.nsc.org

Next of Kin Registry: www.nokr.org

NOAA National Weather Service: www.weather.gov

NOAA Hurricane: www.hurricanes.noaa.gov

Occupational Safety and Hazards Administration: www.osha.gov

Ready TN: www.tn.gov/homelandsecurity/getready.shtml

Ready America: www.ready.gov

Ready Gov: www.ready.gov/business

Ready Gov: www.ready.gov/kids

ROAD CONDITIONS:

- Tennessee: 1.877.244.0065
- Mississippi: 1.888.728.4218
- Arkansas: 1.800.245.1672

Salvation Army: www.salvationarmyusa.org

Severe Weather: www.ready.gov/severe-weather

Storm Ready Program: www.stormready.noaa.gov

Tennessee: www.tennessee.gov

United States Geological Society: www.usgs.gov

Weather Bug: www.weatherbug.com

Weather Channel: www.weather.com

Wunderground: www.wunderground.com

Emergency: call 911

Shelby County Office of Preparedness
HLS/EMA
Bob Nations, Jr., Director
901.515.2525
www.staysafeshelby.us

- **Know Your Risks**
- **Get a Kit**
- **Make a Plan**
- **Stay Informed**
- **Be a Buddy**