

Homeland Security Grants Available to Nonprofits

AREA — Nonprofit agencies that can be targets of a terrorist attack can apply for federal grants of up to \$100,000 to improve their security, New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP) Director Richard Cañas announced this week.

Mr. Cañas said 2007 Nonprofit Security Grant Program funds are available to 501(c)(3) organizations in the seven counties covered by New Jersey's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program, namely Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris,

Union and Passaic. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has allotted more than \$24 million countrywide for the program.

The grants will be awarded to eligible nonprofits according to criteria that include whether the organization maintains a site with symbolic value and is a recognized national or historical institution that makes it an attractive target; has a role in responding to or recovering from a terrorist attack; has potential vulnerabilities to attack, especially as documented by a prior risk assessment; and has been the subject of an identified and substantiated attack — or is closely allied with an organization that has been the subject of attack — by a terrorist organization inside or outside the United States.

The grant funds must be used for "target hardening" activities, such as the purchase and installation of physical security equipment or for training organization personnel. The grants require the organizations to provide a 25-percent non-cash or cash match.

NJ Storm Sufferers Can Register for Aid

PISCATAWAY — Local, state and federal officials urge New Jersey homeowners, renters and business owners who suffered damages as a result of the April nor'easter storm to register with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Those who suffered damage and/or financial loss from the storm and are located in one of the 12 New Jersey counties designated for federal individual assistance can register online at fema.gov or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for hearing or speech impaired.

The following counties are eligible for individual disaster assistance: Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset and Union.

Residents should apply online or by phone before visiting a local Disaster Recovery Center.

Applications are due to OHSP by the close of business on June 11. For more information, grant guidelines and an application, visit nj.gov/njohomelandsecurity/grants/index.html. The federal UASI program is designed to provide funding to high-threat, high-density urban areas and to help them build capacity to prevent, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism. Nationally, there are 46 UASI regions funded by DHS. From 2003 to 2006, New Jersey's UASI has received nearly \$97.6 million to protect the state's densely populated Northeast region.



IN UNITED WAY WE TRUST... New Westfield United Way trustees pose after the organization's annual meeting earlier this month. Pictured, left to right, are: Rick Ragoza, Rick Malacrea, Kathleen O'Neill Lynch, Jennifer Jaruzelski, Susan Cook, Colleen Echausse, Anthony Cerami and Sharilyn Brown.

Mountainside Walk Program To Continue this Summer

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Mountainside Recreation Department announces that Steps to a Healthier Mountainside walking program will continue this summer. The 8-week program, which will run from June 11 to August 5, is funded in part by a grant of the Blanche and George Watts Mountainside Community Foundation. Its purpose is to motivate residents to increase their activity levels and maintain healthy lifestyles.

For a registration fee of \$10, participants receive a pedometer, t-shirt and a guidebook with the program's custom logo. Participants, who must be borough residents, are asked to walk on a regular basis and count their steps using the pedometer. Walking can be done on one's own or as part of a group. Weekly step counts are submitted to the recreation department, where they are tallied and posted on the program's website, mountainside-nj.com/steps.htm.

Each week, incentive prizes are awarded to selected participants who walk the greatest average number of steps and the most additional steps since the previous week. A participation award will also be decided upon by chance. Prizes include gift cards to local business and restaurants that promote healthy lifestyles.

At the end of the program, selected participants will be recognized for several walking accomplishments based on their total statistics. At that point, participants may keep their pedometers, t-shirts and guidebooks, and hopefully include walking as part of their regular activity.

Walking is seen as a major contributor to health and well-being for children, adults and senior citizens. A

balanced diet, regular physical activity, and the avoidance of dangerous substances can increase one's health and enjoyment of life.

Participation in Steps to a Healthier Mountainside is limited. Registration begins on Monday, June 4, at the Mountainside Recreation Department, 1385 Route 22 East. For more information, call (908) 232-0015, or visit mountainside-nj.com/recreation.htm.

MVC Announces S. Plainfield Change

TRENTON — The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) reminds the state's motorists that its South Plainfield Agency, located at 6051 Hadley Road in the Middlesex Mall, closed at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 24. On Tuesday, May 29, the MVC opened a new, much larger South Plainfield Agency, approximately five miles away from the Hadley Road site, at 698 Oak Tree Avenue in the Golden Acres Shopping Center.

Hours of operation will be weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with evening hours on Tuesdays until 7:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon. Customers who required MVC services on Friday, May 25 or Saturday, May 26 were advised to visit the Edison Agency at 45 Kilmer Road or see njmvc.gov for alternate locations.

Avoid the end-of-month rush at MVC agencies by visiting mid-week and mid-month. For hours and service information, customers may visit the MVC online at njmvc.gov.

Recycle Electronics, Tires in New Providence, June 9

NEW PROVIDENCE — The County of Union will sponsor a recycling event of electronics and automobile tires on Saturday, June 9, so county residents can get rid of unwanted tires, computers, televisions and other electronic equipment in an environmentally proper manner.

The special recycling event will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lucent Technologies, 600 Mountain Avenue in New Providence.

All residents of Union County are eligible to participate at no cost.

"Computer monitors and old televisions are the source of a considerable amount of lead — about five pounds per screen," said Freeholder Chester Holmes, liaison to the Union County Solid Waste Advisory Board. "Up to 95 percent of most electronic appliances can be recycled. This is a responsible way to keep hazardous heavy metals out of our environment."

Electronic equipment that will be accepted on June 9 includes computer monitors, hard drives, modems, keyboards, CPU's, mice, printers, scanners, speakers, televisions, VCR's, fax machines, telephones and circuit boards.

Residents need to drive to the New Providence site with their unwanted electronic equipment and as many as eight automobile tires, without rims, and workers at the site will unload the vehicles.

Pre-registration is not required for this special Saturday collection.

Refrigerators, washers and dryers, microwaves and air conditioners will not be accepted.

A complete list of the materials that will be accepted on June 9 is available at the Union County Bureau of Planning and Environmental Conservation website: ucnj.org.

The electronics collection and tire recycling will be held rain or shine, for county residents only and not for businesses. Proof of residency is required.

An alternate weekday drop-off program for recycling electronics equipment is available every Monday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Newtech Recycling Facility, located at 111 Chimney Rock Road, Building 2, in Bridgewater.

For more information about recycling events, please call the Union County Recycling Hotline at (908) 654-9889.

County 'Bio-Blitz 2007' to Focus on Wildlife Education

MOUNTAINSIDE — Hawks and other birds, fish and amphibians, plants and other wildlife in the Watchung Reservation will be the focus for scientists, teams of naturalists and public volunteers during "Bio-Blitz 2007," which starts at 5 p.m. Friday, June 15, and continues until 5 p.m. Saturday, June 16.

"A Bio-Blitz is a 24-hour sampling of the flora and fauna in a particular location," said Freeholder Chairwoman Bette Jane Kowalski, liaison to the Union County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. "Its twin goals are to study the biodiversity that can exist even in a park located in an urban or suburban environment and to make the public aware of that diversity."

In each of the two previous Union County Bio-Blitzes — the first at Lenape Park in Cranford and the second at the Ash Brook Reservation in Scotch Plains — scientists identified more than 650 different species. The 2,065-acre Watchung Reservation, which like the other Bio-Blitz locations is part of the Union County Park System, is by far the largest site studied to date.

During the Watchung Reservation event, as at the previous two Bio-Blitzes, members of the public will have the opportunity to go on bird and nature walks led by experts who will identify the specimens they find. At Bio-Blitz Central, a field

lab and display area located at Trailside Nature and Science Center, samples of flora and fauna found by the scientists and their teams will be on display. Visitors can rub elbows with scientists and naturalists as they work to identify their finds.

Bio-Blitz Central will also be the meeting location for educational programs, including evening bird, owl and bat walks on Friday night and bird walks, pond searches, fish explorations and plant talks on Saturday given by some of the Bio-Blitz leaders. On Saturday afternoon, leaders will give presentations on biodiversity and the Bio-Blitz in general.

In preparation for the event sponsored by the Union County Department of Parks, the Rahway River Association, science teams and volunteers have made a series of pre-bio blitz scouting visits to the reservation. On their fourth visit, teams identified a Cooper's hawk and dozens of other specimens, including frogs and salamanders, tiny yellow violets and bush honeysuckle and praying mantis egg cases.

Additional experts, amateur naturalists and volunteers are still being sought for the program. Anyone interested may contact Betty Ann Kelly, Environmental Specialist in the Union County Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities, at bkelly@ucnj.org or (908) 527-4231.



AWARDS... Winners of the 2007 "My County" poster contest, sponsored by the Constitutional Officers Association of New Jersey for fourth graders, are presented their awards. Pictured, left to right, are: Caitlin Collins from McKinley School in Westfield (1st Place), Lexie Sinscera from St. John the Apostle Elementary School in Clark (2nd Place), Lauren Bibbo from Harding School in Kenilworth (3rd Place) and Thomas Monaco from St. John the Apostle Elementary School in Clark (4th place). Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi (left), Freeholder Chairwoman Bette Jane Kowalski and Sheriff Ralph Froehlich congratulate the winners.

Add the Finishing Touch to Your Garden



Choose from garden sculptures, fountains, chimineas, lanterns & torches, obelisks, gazing balls, arbors, containers and garden benches in stone, metal, wood & cement.

10% OFF
your
Garden Accessory
Purchase

Coupon expires 6/5/07. See store for details.

We have a large tropical selection!
Hibiscus, Dipladenia,
Oleander, Exotic
hibiscus, Brugmansia,
& Banana



Parker Gardens 14 acres
1325 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
Garden Center • Greenhouses • Landscape Services

Mon-Wed 7-6 • Thurs-Fri 7-7
Saturday 7-6 • Sunday 9-5
www.parkergardens.com
Telephone 908.564.0123

CLASSIFIEDS

Buy & Sell on the Net
goleader.com/classifieds

Bring on the Season!

STIHL



BG 55 Handheld Blower

\$149⁹⁵

- Primer bulb and throttle lock ensure fast starts
- Adjustable tube length
- Optional vacuum and gutter kit attachments available



MS 180 C-BE STIHL MiniBoss

\$249⁹⁵

- One of our most popular homeowner saws
- STIHL Easy2Start system makes starting almost effortless



FS 45 Trimmer

\$139⁹⁵
UPGRADE TO: NOW JUST
STIHL Easy2Start \$169⁹⁵

- Easy to use, well-balanced homeowner trimmer
- Lightweight, reliable and fast cutting
- Dual line AUTO-CUT™ TapAction™ cutting head



Always wear protective apparel as recommended in your instruction manual.

STIHL - 8,000 Servicing Dealers Nationwide!

The BEST BUY SEAL is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license.

The Eardly T. Petersen Co.

224 Elmer St. • Westfield

908-232-5723 • www.etpetersen.com

stihlusa.com

Are you ready for a **STIHL**?

All prices are NET-RRP. Available at participating dealers. copyright © 2007 STIHL, NES7-741-82200-2