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CERT All-Member
Monthly

Craig J. Craft
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NOVEMBER 2015

# From the desk of the Deputy Director Eric Zausner

CERT IS
WHAT
YOU
MAKE IT

**INSIDE THIS** 

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CNN Poll 5A

Anatomy of a first 6 aid kit

Mangano 7 announces new shelter

The Word on 8 Resilience As we enter November, autumn is in full swing; and with Thanksgiving happening later in the month, I just wanted to mention some food safety tips that are of particular importance. According to the CDC the largest amount of food poisoning cases occur over Thanksgiving, and no not every one of them can be attributed to me.

Following these guidelines outlined on page 5 & 5A will ensure an enjoyable and safe Thanksgiving for you and your guests. Also if you are anything like me you might need the number for the Butterball hotline 1-800-BUTTERBALL (800-288-8372), they can provide other safety and cooking information for anything that I didn't address above.

As a reminder our CERT Mini-Drill is coming up November 14th at Christopher Morley Park in Searingtown. I hope many of you will attend as this will be a great event where you really will be able to hone your skills.

Have a happy Thanksgiving and I look forward to seeing you at the All-County Meeting in December!

Eric

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#### **CERT On-goings**



We would like to congratulate CERT member Liz Fox for receiving a Volunteerism award from the Long Island Volunteer Center for her work at the Nassau County Pet Shelter during Superstorm Sandy



We would like to thank Rosa, Allan and Diane for taking time out of their busy schedules to help inform local residents about CERT and Emergency Preparedness at the Long Island Volunteer Fair.



Please remember to contact your Division Leader if you would like to participate in this month's mini drill on November 14th at Christopher Morley Park





## Homework: How to get ready for winter

By TIM CARTER. Special to Newsday

Each year it's my guess you have a major or minor crisis at your home because you failed to take the time before it got really cold to prepare for Old Man Winter. Technology in the form of your smartphone, tablet or laptop computer seems to amplify the stress of everyday living sucking away time from traditional chores done by many of us so many years ago.

The solutions to weather-related problems are not always easy to come by when things go sour because hundreds or thousands of other residents around you find themselves in the same situation, scrambling for the same supplies or service providers that you're trying to secure.

The smart homeowners take the time to get ready now for the surprises that happen when the winds howl and the snow is blowing. I'd like you to be one of these astute prepared people.

Degree of difficulty: One hammers out of five Step One: Cold weather produces freezing temperatures that can cause public water mains to break. A deep cold spell could overwhelm your municipal water department and you could find yourself without water for days. Now's the time to save two-liter soda bottles or any other plastic container you have that can store potable drinking water. My mother used to have 20 or 30 Clorox bleach bottles of water at our house.

Step Two: Your furnace or boiler will probably fail on the coldest day of the year. Do you think your heating repair company can get to you in an hour or two? Think again. Now's the time to assess the real condition of your furnace or boiler. If it's near the end of its life, replace it now, not when the temperature inside your home has dropped to 38 degrees and you and your family are holed up in a local motel.

Step Three: Do you use outdoor equipment of any kind that has a small gasoline engine? Go start it now, not when there's a foot of snow on the ground. Fill it with fresh gasoline, check the oil level and change the air filter. Make sure you can start the engine with one or two pulls.

Step Four: You've been putting off getting a gas-powered generator for years. Is this the season a massive ice storm cuts your electricity for days or even a week? Your furnace and boiler need electricity to operate.

Step Five: Flashlights are often overlooked. In a power outage, that LED flash on your cellphone is only going to last so long. What's more, you don't want to be wasting the battery on your cellphone for lighting. Newer flashlights work so much better than old flashlights, and modern batteries provide lots of power. You can even buy small flashlights that have a hand crank and require no batteries. I have two of these.

Step Six: Do you have a small transistor radio that will keep you in touch with the world? Yes, your cellphone that connects to news services may allow you to pull down news feeds, but what happens if your cellphone dies or a severe storm cripples cellphone towers? Small radios are inexpensive and you'll be able to tap into a radio station news feed about what's really happening.

Step Seven: Will conditions get so bad that you have to evacuate and drive a distance to be safe? If so, always keep your car or truck gas tank topped off so you can avoid long lines at gas stations. It's possible some weather event will make getting gasoline quite problematic and you could get stranded at home.

Step Eight: Do you know how to turn off your main water supply to your home? Does the valve even work? When was the last time you tried doing this? Do you know how to drain the water lines in your home in case you need to leave your home in bitter cold weather?

## **November 2015 - Upcoming Events**

November 2015									
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat			
1	2	VOTE	4	RACES/ Comms Meeting - Lecture Hall 7:00 pm	6	7			
8	9	10	VETERANS DAY	12	13	CERT Mini Drill Christopher Morley Park 9AM-1PM			
15	16	17	18	Division Leader Meeting Lecture Hall 7:00 pm	20	21			
22	23	24	25	26 Happy Thanksgiving	SALE! BLACK FRIDAY	28			
29	30								

#### RACES/Comms Meeting -Thurs Nov 5th

OEM Lecture Hall Time: 7:00 pm

#### **CERT Mini Drill-**

Sat. Nov 14th

Christopher Morley Park 9AM-1PM

#### <u>Division Leaders Meeting -</u> Thurs NOV 19th

OEM Lecture Hall Time: 7:00 pm

## Holidays in November

- Election Day November 3rd
- Veterans Day November 11th
- Thanksgiving November 26th
- Black Friday November 27th



## **December 2015 - Upcoming Events**

December 2015									
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat			
		1	2	RACES Meeting 7:00PM	4	5			
6	7	8	9 67	10	11	12			
13	14	15	ALL COUNTY MEETING 7PM Lecture Hall	Division Leaders 7:00 PM	18	19			
20	21	22	23	Christmas Christmas	25				
27	28	29	30	HAPPY NEW YEAR!					

#### RACES/Comms Meeting - December 1st

Lecture Hall Time: 7:00 pm

#### <u>Division Leaders Meeting -</u> December 17th

Lecture Hall Time: 7:00 pm

#### ALL County Meeting- December 16th

Lecture Hall Time: 7:00PM

## **DECEMBER HOLIDAYS**

- Chanukah December 6-14
- Christmas Eve December 24
- Christmas Day December 25
- Kwanzaa December 26
- New Year's Eve December 31



### Thanksgiving Tips for a Wholesome and Safe Holiday.



- Thawing the turkey or any meat product on the counter might seem easier, but it's not safe. Thaw your turkey in the refrigerator, in cold water, or in the microwave oven.
- As tempting as it is to leave out for all to admire, your pumpkin pie contains milk and eggs, so first bake it to the safe minimum internal temperature of 160 °F, then refrigerate after baking.
- 3. Using the same spoon for stirring and tasting is bad manners and oh yeah, it can spread bacteria and viruses.
- 4. No matter how good it looks, you can only tell if a whole turkey is safely cooked when the internal temperature reaches 165°F. Always use a food thermometer.
- 7. More leftovers than usual? Refrigerate leftovers in shallow containers within 2 hours of cooking and use within 3-4 days or freeze. Reheat thoroughly to 165 °F.

- 5. Wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds before and after handling food and after using the bathroom, changing diapers, or handling pets.
- 6. Never stuff your turkey the night before cooking it. To avoid harmful bacteria growth and food poisoning, the wet and dry ingredients can be prepared the night before and refrigerated separately. Mix the ingredients and stuff the turkey just before cooking.



Learn more about holiday food safety at: www.foodsafety.gov



## WHAT <u>NOT</u> TO FEED YOUR PETS ON THANKSGIVING

- ▼ TURKEY SKIN, DRIPPINGS + GRAVY
- **▼ TURKEY TWINE**
- **▼ TURKEY BONES**
- **♥** STUFFING
- **♥** SAGE
- ▼ RAISIN + GRAPES
- ◆ ONION + GARLIC
- **♥** NUTMEG
- **♥** NUTS
- **▼ MUSHROOMS**
- **♥** FAT TRIMMINGS + FATTY FOODS
- ♥ CORN ON THE COB
- **♥** CHOCOLATE
- **♥ CANDIED YAMS**
- **♥** BUTTER
- **♥** BREAD DOUGH
- **▼** ALCOHOL



For more information please visit: http://www.foodsafety.gov/keep/types/petfood



## N.Y. Assemblyman Proposes State-Run Flood Insurance

By Young Ha | March 5, 2015

A New York State assemblyman says he will introduce a bill to create a state-run flood insurance program designed to serve New York homeowners in flood-prone communities.

Assemblyman Phillip Goldfeder (D-Queens) announced the plan on March 1 to introduce new state legislation creating the New York Flood Insurance Association (NYFIA) — a joint underwriting association.

The proposed state-run system, Goldfeder said, would provide homeowners living in flood-prone communities an alternative to rising federally-backed flood insurance premiums "by offering economical, fair and non-discriminatory policies; and protect families from the unfair flood damage claims practices experienced following Superstorm Sandy."

"Our families were victimized by Sandy and then again by the insurance companies and [National Flood Insurance Program] who were supposed to help. Insurers have fought Sandy claims and challenged homeowner's needs, adding insult to injury for those who went through so much and who still struggle to recover," said Goldfeder. "The New York Flood Insurance Association will be a strong system with shared risk that will give families a new choice for flood coverage and help keep premiums affordable so that they can remain strong and secure in their own homes."

#### Modeled on NYPIUA

Goldfeder, a member of the Assembly's Committee on Insurance, said the plan is modeled on the New York Property Insurance Underwriters Association (NYPIUA), a joint underwriting association created in 1968 under the laws of the state of New York to meet the basic insurance needs of the public.

More recently, Goldfeder said, other states have taken similar steps to protect families following hurricanes.

"In 1993, the Florida state legislature created the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to lower premiums by providing partial reimbursements to insurers for catastrophic hurricane losses after Hurricane Andrew," said Goldfeder. "In 2002, Florida created the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation as a joint underwriting association to expand insurance policy options for homeowners finding it difficult to insure their properties."

He said the legislation would amend New York State insurance law to create the New York Flood Insurance Association as a choice for consumers when flood insurance is unaffordable or difficult to obtain.

Under the proposal, the New York Flood Insurance Association's membership would be comprised of state-approved insurers and would be governed by the Superintendent of the State Department of Financial Services and a board of 13 directors.

Association members would have to follow a plan of operation requiring them to provide "economical, fair and non-discriminatory" flood coverage to policyholders and follow "reasonable and objective" underwriting standards. Any homeowner or renter who has made a reasonable effort to find coverage on the private market could be eligible to apply to the association, Goldfeder said, for coverage of up to \$1.5 million for property and contents.

The association's policy premiums would be capped at certain percentages of private market policy rates, based on the class of property. The association would also have the power to distribute any premium gains and losses in excess of 1 percent evenly among members.

"This association will ensure that rising flood insurance premiums do not price families out of the neighborhoods they know and love," said Goldfeder. "I thank Department of Financial Services Superintendent Benjamin Lawsky for his tireless work to protect New York families and I look forward to working with him, my colleagues in the Assembly and on the Insurance Committee to finally give families the choice they deserve when it comes to buying protection from floods."

## **County Executive Mangano Issues Proactive Safety Tips**

#### **As Crime Continues Downward Trend**



Nassau County Enjoys Nearly 30% Reduction in Major Crime Over Past Five Years

With major crime in Nassau County down 4.8% year-to-date and down nearly 30% over the past five years, Nassau County Executive Edward P. Mangano is issuing safety tips so Nassau County can remain the safest county in America for its size. After analyzing crime data, safety tips include: burglary prevention; thefts from vehicle; shopping tips; shopping online and taking of inventory.

County Executive Mangano. Said "Though many safety tips seem like common sense, it is important that we share them with residents so that together we can protect our loved ones and property.

#### **SAFETY TIPS**

#### **Burglary Prevention**

- If you have an alarm, be sure to set it.
- Gifts and valuables should be kept out of sight, away from windows.
- Do not publicize that you will be out of town on the internet.
- Leave your lights on when you leave the house.
- Lock all doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home if you'll be away.

#### **Thefts from Vehicles**

- Park in well-lit areas.
- Lock your vehicle and do not leave it running unattended.
- Do not leave valuables visible in the vehicle. Hide packages and shopping bags in the trunk.
- Keep keys in your hand when walking to your car or home.

#### **Shopping Tips:**

- Be alert and aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Be sure your purse or wallet is secured at all times.
- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.

#### **Shopping Online:**

- Shop only on secure websites.
- Do not respond to emails asking you for personal or credit card information.
- Check your credit card and bank statements regularly.

#### **Take Inventory:**

- Make time to update or create a home inventory.
- Take photos or make a video of valuable items with descriptions and serial numbers.

Remember, it is important to be alert! If you see something, say something and call 911 for all emergencies and crimes in progress. If you have information on a previous crime and would like to report it anonymously, please contact the Nassau Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-244-TIPS





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"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Deadline for submission of articles, photos and news for the next CERT Newsletter is:

-Margaret Mead

November 20th.

#### **CERT BASIC COURSE**

THE NEXT CERT BASIC COURSE WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY SIGN UPS ARE ONGOING—CALL THE OFFICE WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

OEMCERT@NASSAUCOUNTYNY.GOV

(Current CERT Members may attend any class as a refresher)

