

April 2007

In Response

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The Disaster Files: SF CARD's In Response Newsletter

Solomon Island Tsunami is an Unfortunate Reminder That



Disasters Can Happen at Anytime!

Pictures of the aftermath of last week's tsunami that hit Solomon Island, Photos taken from Flickr (<http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=solomon+tsunami&m=text>).

ARE YOU PREPARED?



March 6, 2007 – With a 62% chance of a catastrophic earthquake in the next 30 years, the Bay Area Chapter of the American Red Cross unveiled its newest public service campaign to raise awareness about being prepared for the next disaster. The first phase of the campaign started with a two-day event that featured mobile billboards illustrating the affects an 8.1

magnitude earthquake will have on Market Street and the Ferry Building. For more information about the campaign please visit <http://www.bayarea-redcross.org/news/archive.htm#six>. Information about the campaign is listed under “Prepare Bay Area: Groundbreaking Billboard Premiere.”

San Francisco Community Agencies Responding to Disaster
1675 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94109
Ph. 415-955-8946 E-mail: info@sfc card.org www.sfc card.org

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Upcoming Events, Training, & Services

EARTHQUAKE RETROFITTING	YOU'RE INVITED
Saturday, April 21, 2007	Saturday, April 21, 2007 from 9 AM to 2:30 PM
<p>Looking to gain knowledge and learn how to retrofit your home, then Tony DeMascole & Jim Gillett offers a class at the Building Education Center in Berkeley.</p> <p><u>Class Synopsis</u> If your house hasn't been properly bolted and reinforced, the next earthquake could cost you \$25,000 to \$50,000 or even more. Engineer Tony DeMascole explains how to strengthen your wood frame home; retrofitting contractor Jim Gillett shows how to install expansion and epoxy bolts, shear paneling and structural hardware with slides and demonstrations on a full-scale mock-up. Save hundreds of dollars with the most efficient designs and proven materials.</p> <p>For more information, please visit the center's website at: http://www.bldgeductr.org/.</p>	<p>San Francisco NERT is hosting the April Citywide Drill.</p> <p>WHAT: The April Citywide Drill</p> <p>WHEN: Saturday, April 21, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>WHERE: Marina Middle School, 3500 Fillmore Street, San Francisco</p> <p>WHY: To refresh our disaster response skills and learn new ones!</p> <p>The San Francisco NERT 2007 April Citywide Drill will be a "real-time" drill: We will set up multiple staging areas and respond to events using the Incident Command System (ICS) in a more realistic, scenario-based setting.</p> <p>To attend, please RSVP by contacting the San Francisco NERT office at 415-970-2022, or by e-mailing sffdner@sfgov.org.</p>

Bust A Myth Section...

This is a new section of the newsletter. Each month we will take an opportunity to discuss a disaster-related myth and then we will provide the facts for that particular myth. Please let us know if you enjoy and/or are learning anything from this section.

MYTH – The door frame is the safest place to be during an earthquake.

FACT - According to the USGS, "In the early days of California, many homes were made of adobe bricks with wooden doorframes. After a powerful earthquake, doorframes were sometimes the only parts of these houses still standing. From this came the myth that a doorway is the safest place to be during an earthquake. Today, few people in the Bay Area live in old, unreinforced adobe houses. In modern houses, doorways may be no stronger than any other part of the house and do little to protect you from falling debris. You are safer under a table, so "DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON."



Please note: the picture and information was taken from USGS's Report, "Putting Down Roots" (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/2005/15/>).

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