WHY IS FIRE SAFETY IMPORTANT AT WORK?
by John Basher

Fire Safety is very important where ever you are. At work it may mean the difference between being employed or unemployed.

Campus safety officers patrol our campus 24 hours a day and are constantly on the lookout for the well being and safety of students, faculty and staff. Officers are checking for fire safety violations such as blocked open fire doors, exit lights not lighted, obstructed or blocked exits, items left in hallways and stairwells and to be sure fire extinguishers are in place and ready to be used if necessary. In addition to our full time officers, we have one auxiliary officer, trained by the New York State Academy of Fire Science to maintain all our fire extinguishers, on a monthly basis. There are approximately 1,200 fire extinguishers on campus that must be checked and maintained every month.

As assistant director of fire safety, I am constantly maintaining our campus to be in compliance with New York State Fire and Maintenance codes. All fire and life safety systems have to be inspected and tested on a regular basis. Although I am not the person that actually does this, I am the person responsible to keep the records and to make sure our local code officer has copies of such records. It takes several employees and contractors to properly inspect and test safety systems in each building at least twice a year. Tests and inspections are conducted in each building on fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems, emergency lighting systems, stove hood suppression systems, generators and elevators. Our New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control inspector spends hours inspecting not only each building, but also inspects the files for each building, to be sure all inspections, systems and fire drills are conducted. When we’re cited for a violation where B&G has to take action, I write the work orders to be sure the violation is corrected.

As we start the new academic year, we will also start a new cycle for fire safety awareness and inspections. Inspections are done in-house and by outside inspection agencies. Colgate takes pride in keeping all buildings within fire code compliance all year around. The other part of this important task is placed on employees and students to take steps to keep the college safe every day. We are asking you to please partner with us to meet requirements set forth, for the safety of all our students, staff and faculty to be aware of life and fire safety all year. There are several ways employees and students can make sure they are living and working in a fire safe area.

During the last two years, the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) has inspected all buildings to make sure they are in compliance and to make sure employees and students are taking steps to keep up with fire and safety codes. At the same time our local (Village of Hamilton code enforcement officer) inspector has kept a close eye on Colgate properties to make sure we are in a safe place. Along with this, our fire and risk management (insurance) inspector is on campus periodically to make spot inspections. All the above inspectors work from the same fire safety code manuals, so there is no discrepancy in listing the violations.

Life safety is most important to everyone. In order to follow the fire code continued on page 7
Welcome back to all you who were away this summer. It was a very busy season for construction, renovation, upgrading, and remodeling — and we are glad to have you back. And to those of you who are new to campus, welcome. We look forward to working with you.

Getting help. Over the coming weekends, the Helpline will be open during its regular hours, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. During the week, the Helpline is open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. For urgent problems, please call the Helpline at 315-228-7111. You can also use the online form to contact them for help (http://computing.colgate.edu/help.asp) or e-mail them at Helpline@colgate.edu.

Your e-mail address. Mail addressed to you@mail.colgate.edu will always find its way to your Inbox. But the good news is that mail addressed to you@colgate.edu will be delivered to your Inbox, too. If you choose to do so, notify your correspondents that they can use the shorter address. In what we believe will be some very rare instances, a remote server may be unable to resolve the shortened address and your correspondent will receive an “unknown user” error message. In that case they will need to resort back to the longer mail.colgate.edu address.

Especially for students. The Student Operated User Resource Center (SOURCe) for technical support will be ready to support the new students on Thursday, August 25. (They’re located in the O’Connor Campus Center, and by phone at x7111, option # 3.) Regular support hours for returning students begin on Saturday the 27.

Public facilities. Though the Gatehouse lab (due to construction-related activity) was closed over the summer, it will reopen on Friday, August 26.

Labs formerly located in Case Library have moved, to make way for ongoing construction. Public machines are now available for use in the Hall of Presidents in James C. Colgate (Student Union).

The O’Connor Lab will re-open on Thursday, August 25, with its newly upgraded equipment. Among others, these upgrades include ten multi-media capable machines, providing a variety of media ports for content conversion and entry level digital media production capabilities.

ITS provides a full featured multi-media lab in the basement of McGregory. Contact Ray Nardelli (x6793) for assistance with a project.

For information and hours about departmental labs, please contact the appropriate department.

Classroom upgrades. New technology systems have been installed in Alumni 431, Clark Room, and Olin 304. Alumni 107, Lathrop 158, and Lawrence 206 all have some new equipment. The following rooms are scheduled for improvements during this fiscal year: O’Connor Campus Center Conference Room, Alumni 110, Alumni 208, Lawrence 205, Lawrence 304, Lawrence 305, Persson 210.

Network upgrades. You may not have even noticed our network upgrades that occurred over the summer, since we did much of the work in off hours, to minimize downtime. The upgrade of our intermediate switches was completed, in order to increase the speed and general reliability of the network. Time Warner has been awarded the bid to provide our internet services.

cu.colgate.edu. Each day brings new additions to the portal. Login and check it out regularly to see these improvements!

Network storage. Users of network storage have reported that they use the system regularly, and because of its general availability, it contributes to increased productivity. If you haven’t tried it, please take a look at the introductory documentation at http://computing.colgate.edu/help/netstore.
August 3 was a perfectly hot, steamy day! Attendance at the camp reached an impressive 315 campers. The day was filled with food, fun activities, competitions and music. Thanks to your generosity, $435.29 was raised for the Hamilton Food Cupboard. Thanks to all of you who contributed your time and energy in making this year’s Spirit Day a memorable event. And special thanks to all you happy campers who came to play and have fun!

Resident musicians, Adger Williams and Chris Vecsey.

Team USA wins the blindfolded tent pitch.