

News Media Contact: Valerie Kushnerov Public Information Officer 805-961-7507 805-689-8044 (cell) vkushnerov@cityofgoleta.org

## CITY COUNCIL Eric Onnen Mayor

Margaret Connell Mayor Pro Tempore

Roger S. Aceves Councilmember

Michael T. Bennett Councilmember

Edward Easton Councilmember

CITY MANAGER Daniel Singer

## PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 21, 2010

## Free Disaster Education and Emergency Kit Preparation for Seniors Goleta Valley Senior Center Hosts Event

**Goleta, CA, September 21, 2010** – Goleta Prepare Now!, an initiative of the City of Goleta and the American Red Cross Santa Barbara Chapter, is offering a free disaster education presentation for seniors with the opportunity to compile an emergency kit on site. The class will be held Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Goleta Valley Senior Center located within the Goleta Valley Community Center. The course is approximately 60 minutes long with time for questions and review of kit-making worksheets.

"We are thrilled to be offering another course on how to make an emergency kit and become prepared in the event of a disaster. Bringing our seniors up to date on the information and the supplies needed for a kit is just another way for us to make our community safer," said Amy Mallett, Director for the Goleta Valley Senior Center. "The icing on the cake is that the seniors can make a kit on-site at no cost."

Those seniors interested in participating in Thursday's course can call the Goleta Valley Senior Center at 805-683-1124.

This disaster education presentation is one of several offered as a way to help our community members become aware of the natural and human-caused hazards that threaten our area. These classes help educate our residents about how to better protect themselves, their family and their property.

The City of Goleta in partnership with the Santa Barbara County Chapter of the American Red Cross offers free presentations at businesses, residential gatherings, and community organizations through Goleta Prepare Now. For more information or to schedule a class, contact Laura Brenner at 805-687-1331 ext 128 or <a href="https://www.lbrenner@sbredcross.org">lbrenner@sbredcross.org</a>.

September is National Preparedness Month throughout the United States and Goleta is partnering in this nationwide effort to educate individuals, businesses and communities about the importance of being prepared.

For more information on how to become prepared, visit <u>www.goletapreparenow.org</u>.

###

