



## Wilson & Niagara Wheatfield hold active-shooter training drills

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY LISA BIELMEIER

Oreans/Niagara BOCES Public Relations Director  
On the Superintendent's Conference Day on March 17, the Wilson Central School District and Niagara Wheatfield Central School District hosted emergency training and active shooter drills at Wilson Middle School/High School and the Niagara Wheatfield High School and Middle School.

The training exercise included members of law enforcement and first responders from the Lewiston Police Department, New York State Troopers, Niagara County Sheriff's Office and U.S. Border Patrol. Niagara County Emergency Services, Sanborn Fire Department and the Wilson Fire Co. helped with planning and observed the drill.

Wilson CSD School Superintendent Tim Carter said the first-time drill benefitted his district greatly.

"The staff did a great job with this more intense training with our lockdown drills and highlighted the importance of 'If You See Something, Say Something,'" he said. "We got to see our safety plans in action with law enforcement present to give suggestions on how to improve our response. It definitely benefits our law enforcement partners to see the layout of our school and get to know



the building entrances."

Niagara Wheatfield CSD School Superintendent Daniel Ljiljanich added, "We have been very fortunate to conduct active-shooter drills in all of our school buildings. We cannot thank our law enforcement agencies and

EMS enough for the time and attention they provide to our district for this type of training. Each drill provides us with an opportunity to practice our response, test our current technology, and learn from each experience."

## Mental Health Association in Niagara County offering college scholarship

The Mental Health Association in Niagara County (MHA) is again offering its annual Justin Budwey Memorial Scholarship to a Niagara County high school senior and/or adult who is entering and/or returning to a higher learning institute, who plans on working in the field of human services.

A press release stated, "This scholarship is being provided in memory of Justin Budwey, whose father, Frank, has been an instrumental advocate for those with a mental health diagnosis and mental health services for many years. The MHA offers this scholarship to honor Justin

Budwey's memory and has been awarded each year dating back to 2010."

Interested students can contact MHA Executive Director Daniel Colpoys at 716-433-3780 or dcolpoys@mhanc.com for an application. Applications are due by April 7.

"The MHA has been helping local students with this application for the past 13 years, and we're happy to be able to assist another Niagara County student again this year with the ever-increasing costs of attending college," Colpoys said.

It is the mission of The Mental Health Association in Niagara

County to promote mental wellness by sponsoring and implementing advocacy, education and community service programs.

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