Friday, December 7, 2012
8:30 - 10:00 am
77 Goodell St, Buffalo, NY 14203 (UB Gateway Building, 2nd Floor, Rm 208)
All welcome, refreshments provided.
To RSVP, call Kathleen at the Network in Aging at 829-3712, or email Laura at UB at LMangan@Buffalo.edu.

OLDER ADULTS’ VULNERABILITIES TO EXTREME WEATHER IN WESTERN NEW YORK
Results from a Survey of Meals on Wheels Clients

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With Debra Street, PhD, Chair and Professor, UB Department of Sociology, and
Discussants from Kenmore-Tonawanda Meals on Wheels, Erie County Dept. of Senior Services

University at Buffalo researchers teamed with Kenmore-Tonawanda Meals on Wheels staff to survey clients (age 60 years or more) about their preparations for and ability to cope with the effects of winter storms. Nearly half of the respondents expressed anxiety about impending winter weather, making it at least a low-level stressor for many. Unless the family members and neighbors on whom so many of the respondents depend live very nearby, an extreme winter storm might prevent the “typical” social support network from reaching suburban older adults. Research findings emphasize the need for contingency plans among formal service providers to fill the breach in support when extreme weather events disrupt usual patterns of assistance.

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