

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

MOVIE NIGHT IN THE COMMONS / WEDNESDAY EVENINGS - JUNE 2023

New Lenox CERT members are once again assisting with "Movie Night in the Commons" on Wednesday evenings. This detail began on June 7th and will continue until August 9th.

CERT members meet at the concession stand in the Commons at 7:30pm and receive a short briefing from New Lenox Police Department personnel. Attendance for a typical movie night has been 12-14 CERT members who serve as extra "eyes and ears" for the police department.

In partnership with police department personnel, including police cadets, CERT members "patrol" areas throughout the Commons before, during and after the movies. This year, activities were added before the movies as well. These activities include reptile shows, face painters, balloon sculptors, yoga demonstrations, martial arts demonstrations, music and more.

Special thanks to our volunteers for working hand-in-hand with NLPD to keep guests safe during Movie Nights!

Our Core Principles:

- Readiness
- Member Safety
- People Helping People
- Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people...

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CERT BUILDING SEARCH TRAINING AT JOLIET ARMY TRAINING AREA – JUNE 21, 2023

At 5:00pm on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 nine members of New Lenox CERT met at the Joliet Army Training Area (Gate 13) to set-up training that was scheduled to begin at 7:00pm. This month’s training was designed to provide refresher training for our team members, including plenty of hands-on practice.

After proceeding through Gate 13, our instructors met in an area that is currently a work in progress by Joliet Army Training Area personnel. In its current state, it consists of four groups of shipping containers that have been placed in a U-shape fashion. Three of the four groups included a second / upper level with wooden staircases that were built to access the upper levels. Collectively, these shipping containers resembled housing units, ideal for building search training.



After a short briefing, our instructors were assigned as station facilitators. Signage was placed in front of each of the groups of shipping containers to designate Station 1, Station 2, Station 3 and Station 4. Our instructors then spent about 15 minutes at their assigned station for the purpose of becoming familiar with the layout. In addition, instructors marked hazards with yellow caution tape while they were doing their walk-throughs. Lastly, scrap construction lumber and tree branches were brought into the units to simulate debris from a severe weather event.

At 6:30pm people started to arrive and by 7:00pm approximately 40 team members were ready for the briefing. Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT

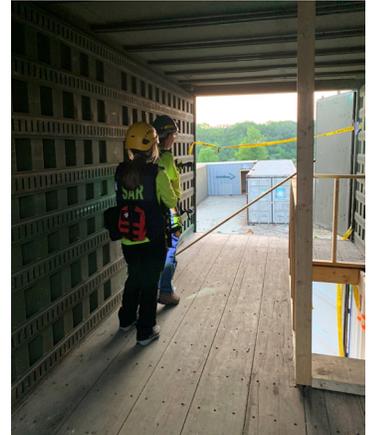
Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them for making the trip out to the facility. Dan also thanked Terry Hartigan for making the arrangements for use of the facility, John Schuld for planning and the instructors who arrived early to prepare for the training. Dan quickly covered building search considerations, team organization, strategy, search markings, search methods, communication, search speed and some additional tips for an effective search. Following Dan’s overview, Terry Hartigan gave the Safety Briefing, which covered hazards, staying hydrated and how to report a “real life emergency.” Everyone was then divided into four teams – Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta. Everyone was provided with a Station Rotation Timeline as follows:

- 7:15pm to 7:35pm
- 7:35pm to 7:55pm
- 7:55pm to 8:15pm
- 8:15pm to 8:35pm

- Station 1 Facilitators – Lisa Murphy and Lauren Humbrecht
- Station 2 Facilitators – Tricia Pakosz and Rich DeVault
- Station 3 Facilitators – Mary Ann Cody and John Schuld
- Station 4 Facilitators – Joe Frigo and Terry Hartigan



Station Facilitators provided brief instructions to the teams as they arrived at each of their stations. In short, a Team Leader, Scribe and Searchers were selected. Team Leaders determined search strategy and communicated with team members as they made entry into the structures. Team members communicated hazards as they came across them and communicated their progress to team leaders via radios that were provided before the exercises started. Most teams searched the structures multiple times, increasing speed each time. During the last search, teams searched for small blue footballs that were placed at various locations by facilitators. When located, team members radioed their team leader that a “victim” had been located, which was documented by the Scribe. Teams finished their last station at 8:35pm at which time everyone helped with clean-up.



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At 8:45pm a de-briefing was held that covered most aspects of the training. Each of the Station Facilitators were provided an opportunity to share their observations as well as additional comments regarding search technique. The de-briefing concluded just before 9:00pm at which time everyone returned to their vehicles and carefully drove away from the training area on the access road to the main highway.

Again, special thanks to EVERYONE that played a role in this training and to those who attended. Great job by all!



SEARCH AND RESCUE MANAGEMENT (SARM) TABLETOP EXERCISE – JUNE 24, 2023

At 8:00am on Saturday, June 24, 2023 Mary Ann Cody from the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team attended a Search and Rescue Management (SARM) Tabletop Exercise that was hosted by the Naperville Emergency Management Agency.

There were seven SARM members in attendance from Naperville EMA, Kane County EMA (2), Kendall County EMA, McHenry County EMA (2), and New Lenox.

The tabletop exercise was three-fold:

- SAR Management skills utilizing a scenario and filling the appropriate forms.
- Practice and improve at ISAR level.
- Initial Planning consisted of team formation, situational awareness and resource mobilization.

A specific scenario was provided, forms were completed individually and then shared as a group. The group then reviewed presenter's version for comparison. Questions, clarifications and recommendations to forms were discussed. Many of the ICS forms have been or are in the process of being replaced with ISARC forms. The forms utilized and reviewed were:

- Initial Response Check List ISARC 600
- Search Urgency Rating Factors ISARC 601
- Missing Person Questionnaire ISARC 602
- Subject Profile ISARC 603
- Check-In ISARC 611
- Org Assignment ICS 203
- Incident Organizational Chart ICS 207
- Communication Plan ISARC 611
- Medical Plan ICS 206
- Safety Plan ICS 208
- Search Area ISARC 504

Discussion followed the exercise regarding future exercises, frequency and improvements. The next tabletop is scheduled for September 30, 2023 and the topic will be Planning. Updated and fillable forms will be available in the BOX very soon.

Training concluded at 12:00pm. Special thanks to Mary Ann for attending this training!

TRIPLE PLAY CONCERT (JEWEL) – JUNE 17, 2023

At 4:30pm on Saturday, June 17, 2023 twenty-six New Lenox CERT members met at the Village Hall to assist with the Jewel Concert. Everyone parked in the upper-level parking lot of the Village Hall and as they entered the building, they were issued IFAKs (Individual First Aid Kits), radios and a printed copy of the briefing.

Once in the Council Chambers, Dan Martin, CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them in advance for assisting with the concert. Dan shared information that CERT volunteers are typically asked and / or need to know. This included, but was not limited to, ticket sales, carry-in policy (prohibited / permitted items), venue smoking policy, lost & found, washrooms, accessible parking and other venue specific policies. Dan also shared the timeline for the opening acts as well as the projected time for Jewel to take the stage, which was 9:00pm.



photo credit Tony Z. Kroll

Volunteers were then given their assignments, which ranged from positions in the lawn to positions around the gated venue. Some volunteers were assigned to golf carts to assist with transportation from the accessible parking lots while others controlled access to the Village Hall and other areas where performers and stagehands are allowed. The briefing concluded with a brief review of the Incident Action Plan, which included showing everyone what all the tickets and passes looked like. Following a quick team photo, everyone headed out to their assigned locations at 4:50pm.

Everyone was in place by 5:00pm and at 5:30pm the gates opened. The lawn seating area quickly filled-up and our volunteers did an excellent job establishing aisles for emergency access, if necessary. "Hooked Like Helen" took the stage at 6:00pm and was followed by "Taylor Hicks" at 7:30pm. There were still people arriving at 9:00pm when Jewel took the stage. Jewel and her band played until almost 10:30pm at which time our volunteers headed to each of the three gates to assist with egress. At approximately 10:50pm everyone headed into the Community Room for a de-briefing, which included some food and beverages.

During the de-briefing a couple minor issues came up which included an issue with one of the portable toilets (resolved) and a minor medical issue (turned over to New Lenox Fire Protection District Paramedics). Overall, the concert went very well and our volunteers did an excellent job.

Special thanks to everyone that assisted with this concert, which helped to lead to its success!



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TRINITY TRIUMPH 5K – JUNE 15, 2023

At 6:00pm on Thursday, June 15, 2023 thirty-five New Lenox CERT volunteers met in the upper-level parking lot of the Village Hall for a briefing related to the Trinity Triumph 5K. As volunteers were arriving, they were issued IFAKs (Individual First Aid Kits) as well as the Community Event Briefing Sheets for this event.

Dan Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox and New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them for assisting with this 5K. Dan provided a brief overview of the race, which included expected attendance (150) and where all the assignments were located. Dan also covered emergency protocols and reminded everyone to return to the Village Hall for a de-briefing following the trail vehicle passing by their location. Following a quick team photo, everyone headed out to their assignments at approximately 6:25pm.

Everyone arrived at their assigned locations, which included race marshal (traffic management) positions throughout the course as well as a water station, which was set-up on Wildwood Drive just north of Illinois Highway. Everyone was set-up and ready to go by 6:40pm.

At 7:00pm the race kicked off with the fastest runners crossing Haven Ave. (from Gear Drive) within a minute or two. Race participants made a left turn onto Mustang and then a right turn onto southbound Gear Drive with our volunteers doing an excellent job with traffic management. Before Gear Drive & Central Road, runners shifted to the left (east) side of the street with CERT volunteers in the middle of the street keeping them safe from traffic. Our team had volunteers at every intersection from Mustang to Illinois Highway where participants made a left turn (east).

As the last walkers and trail car passed by each of the intersections, our CERT volunteers shifted over (one block) to Wildwood Drive. Streets closest to Illinois Highway had other CERT volunteers waiting to be joined by a CERT member coming over from the Gear Drive side.

After participants made a left turn onto Wildwood Drive from Illinois Highway, our CERT volunteers greeted them at a water station. In addition to providing race participants with water, our volunteers clapped, cheered and rang cow bells for encouragement. Participants continued northbound Wildwood Drive while receiving additional encouragement from our volunteers as they passed through each of the intersections.

Team members assisted New Lenox Emergency Services at Haven Ave. & Wildwood Drive as well as Haven Ave. & Gear Drive as runners and walkers made their way back to the New Lenox Commons where the finish line was located. After everyone cleared all of the assigned locations, CERT members met back at the Village Hall for a de-briefing.

In short, the event went very well and there was nothing significant to add in terms of areas in need of improvement. Dan thanked everyone and the de-briefing concluded at approximately 8:15pm. Great job by all!



NEW LENOX SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM TRAINING / GPS REFRESHER – JUNE 13, 2023

At 7:00pm on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, twenty-one members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the Forest Preserve District of Will County – Hickory Creek Preserve (LaPorte Road Access). Rich DeVault and Dan Johnson, who were the leads for this month's training, arrived prior to the team to set-up the exercises. Dan and Rich also made a previous trip to this location in preparation for the GPS training.

Rich started by providing everyone in attendance with a handout that covered GPS terminology and definitions. Some of the items included: Waypoint, location, coordinate, calibration, dashboard, and much more. In addition to terminology and definitions, the handout included set-up instructions for most of the Garmin GPS units carried by team members. Rich walked everyone through the settings to ensure that all units were programmed the same. This was helpful, especially for some of our newer members, who were not as familiar with GPS units.

Following Rich's presentation, everyone was divided into two teams. In addition, team members were assigned to teams based on which GPS unit they carried. Dan Johnson then provided an overview and instructions for the exercises, which included radio communications. Following the explanation, the exercises commenced, with the two teams essentially traveling in opposite directions.

In one exercise the team was provided with GPS coordinates (UTM), which prompted them to use the "find" button. Using the path that made the most sense (ex. using a roadway rather than traveling through heavy brush), teams found their "object." In this case, the "object" was a sheet of paper in a clear plastic sleeve that had the coordinates for the next location. Teams traveled from location-to-location using radio communications to let "Search Base" know their status.

The other exercise entailed locating golf balls in a large area around the pavilion area where the team had met for the briefing. In this exercise, when a golf ball was located, the team had to radio in the find **and** provide the GPS coordinates for the golf ball. Although the team(s) didn't know it at the time, a total of 10 golf balls were used for the exercise. Following both teams completing both exercises, everyone met back at the pavilion for a de-briefing.

Rich and Dan wrapped everything up by providing a review of the material and the exercises. Dan Martin then thanked them for their time and effort spent preparing for the training. Special thanks also to Lisa Murphy for reserving the location with the Forest Preserve District of Will County, which included completing paperwork for the permit.

Following the de-briefing a discussion was held regarding some recent changes to activation procedures (Will County EMA text messages, email and "I Am Responding"). In addition, the team discussed a recent activation (evidence search) as well. The discussion concluded at 9:00pm at which time everyone departed from the forest preserve.



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TRIPLE PLAY CONCERT / THE FRAY – JUNE 10, 2023

At 4:30pm on Saturday, June 10, 2023, twenty-seven New Lenox CERT members met in the Council Chambers at the New Lenox Village Hall for a briefing related to the first Triple Play Concert for 2023. Dan Martin welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the concert. In summary, details included:

- Expected attendance
- Ticket Sale Information (location, time, pricing, etc...)
- Carry-In Policy (prohibited and permitted items)
- Smoking Policy (curb-to-curb including e-cigs)
- Lost and Found Policy
- Portable Toilets (location and concession stand washrooms closed)
- Accessible Parking and Seating
- Shuttles (time running, drop-off and pick-up location)
- Timing (Will Call @ 4pm, Gates Open @ 5:30pm, "Good Things" (band) @6pm, "Nine Days" (band) @ 7:30pm and "The Fray" @9:00pm – playing until approximately 10:30pm.
- Food and Beverages (location of vendors, etc...)
- Shelter Locations and Staffing
- Assignments
- Incident Action Plan (summarized and sample tickets & passes shown)



Following the briefing Dan reminded everyone which radio channel to use, to be mindful of the IFAKS (Individual First Aid Kits) and to stay hydrated. Following a quick group photo, everyone headed out to their assignments at 4:50pm.

Everyone was in place by 5:00pm and had time to make any necessary adjustments to their respective areas. At 5:30pm the gates opened and after the necessary "bag check" by police department personnel, guests made their way into the venue. Our volunteers did an excellent job with seating in the lawn, ensuring that spray painted lines (for emergency aisles) were maintained. Other volunteers assisted with accessible seating, control of restricted areas (village hall, performer's trailers / back stage) and integrity of the perimeter that had been established around the venue. Other volunteers provided rides for guests to Gates 1 & 3 on golf carts from accessible parking lots, which is always appreciated by those needing additional assistance.



Lawn seating filled in during the first couple hours while the opening acts were entertaining guests. Everything went very smooth and by 9:00pm when "The Fray" took the stage, the venue was relatively full with guests excited to see the main act. Our volunteers held their respective positions until 10:30pm when the performance concluded. CERT volunteers assisted with clearing the lawn area and they also helped out with egress at Gates 1, 2 & 3. By 10:45pm the venue was cleared and Public Works had already began removing fencing, trash cans, etc...



CERT volunteers met in the Community Room just before 11:00pm for a de-briefing as well as some food and refreshments. Overall, the event went very well and the de-briefing did not yield and significant changes needed for the next concert. Special thanks to everyone that helped to make the first of the 2023 Triple Play Concerts a huge success!



CHASING THE SUN 5K – JUNE 1, 2023

At 6:00pm on Thursday, June 1, 2023 thirty-eight CERT volunteers arrived in the upper-level parking lot of the New Lenox Village Hall for a briefing.



Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them in advance for assisting with this event. Dan provided some history and background on this race, which is hosted by the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce and the New Lenox Community Park District. Dan talked about the approximate number of runners / walkers (200), CERT duties & responsibilities, and which intersections would be covered by New Lenox Emergency Services. In addition to safety considerations, Dan encouraged everyone to cheer for the participants, which is always appreciated.



IFAKS (Individual First Aid Kits) were issued to approximately 20 team members, which insured that there was at least one IFAK at each location. Following the briefing, which concluded at approximately 6:20pm, a team photo was taken. All CERT volunteers then headed out to their assigned locations, which included the water station near Wildwood Park, as well as over a dozen traffic management (race marshal) positions throughout the course.



The race started promptly at 7:00pm and the everyone did an excellent job with traffic on the course as the runners and walkers passed through each of the assigned locations. Our volunteers also did an excellent job at the water station by making sure all participants were offered a cool cup of water. The last walker passed through Wildwood Drive & Old Plank Trail (our last posted position on the course) at approximately 8:00pm. Everyone then headed back to the upper-level parking lot of the Village Hall for a de-briefing.



Overall, the event went very well and no significant changes were recommended. For the most part, motorists were respectful of the race participants and didn't mind waiting a minute or so for intersections to clear. The de-briefing concluded at approximately 8:15pm and all water stations surplus was returned to the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce Office inside the Village Hall.



Special thanks to everyone that assisted with this event, which was a huge success.



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ISARC / URBAN GROUND SEARCH & RESCUE TRAINING – JUNE 4, 2023

At 9:00am on Sunday, June 4, 2023, the New Lenox Search and Rescue team assisted the Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC) and other agencies in hosting a short but informative ground search and rescue training for MAGEN Chicago at the Bernard Horwich JCC in Chicago, IL.

The MAGEN Chicago organization provides classes and training in Stop the Bleed, CPR/AED, Tactical Emergency Casualty Care, security, threat detection, de-escalation, self-defense, and martial arts, as well as knowledge of and compliance with local law. Their organization develops relationships and coordinates with local Police and Fire Departments, providing much-needed information and education to the entire Chicago Jewish Community.

In 2023, the local community has experienced three missing person instances to date. Many members of the local community assisted in past search efforts. Sunday's training aimed to introduce various tools, techniques, and other information that MAGEN Chicago and community volunteers could incorporate into future search efforts.



Class began at approximately 09:00am with a presentation by Kim Gotte, which covered ISARC and its mission. This was followed by an overview of the SARTopo application, its use, and how it aids searchers in the field. The next topic was lost person behavior which covered the most common lost person groups, the areas where lost persons are typically found, as well as typical behaviors of the various types of lost persons. Other topics covered during the presentation included how to properly document details about lost persons, how to ask probing questions to learn more about the search subject, as well as links to other resources for further information.

After the classroom presentation concluded, representatives from the assembled agencies introduced themselves and the class moved outside for a live field demonstration by the various SAR teams. The demonstration showed how search teams determine the Average Maximum Detection Range (AMDR) followed by the team lining up and performing a search with flankers. Pivoting the line was demonstrated, and a short Q&A session was held afterward.

At approximately 11:30am a brief lunch was held and then a live field exercise was conducted. The students were divided into teams of approximately 5 students with 2-3 SAR members to assist each team. Students were shown how to install SARTopo, identify their search segments, and how to record their tracks in the SARTopo application. The teams then traveled to their search segments and performed their search for training clues that were placed throughout the local area. SAR team members provided guidance, answered questions, and helped the students apply the concepts learned in class to the live search. Once the search was concluded, the teams returned to search base, and a short debriefing was held with each team.

Many thanks to ISARC for providing the opportunity for New Lenox SAR to assist with this training and to highlight our capabilities to the Chicago Police, MAGEN Chicago, and the local community.

ASSIST ROMEOVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH EVIDENCE SEARCH – MAY 27, 2023

At 1:00pm on Saturday, May 27, 2023 eleven members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the Romeoville Emergency Management Agency, 195 S. Budler Rd, Romeoville, IL 60446 to assist with an Evidence Search.

After everyone signed-in, all searchers were directed to the facility's training room, which was the location where the briefing was held. A representative from the Will County Emergency Management Agency led the briefing and additional information was provided by members of the Romeoville Police Department as well. Following the briefing everyone exited the training room and waited outside in the garage area for their assignments.

Within 30 minutes or so teams were given their first assignments. New Lenox SAR members were divided into two teams; one team with 5 members and one team with 6 members. Both search segments were in a residential area and consisted of searching yards for evidence.

After the first search segment was completed for each New Lenox team (Charlie & Delta), everyone was transported back to the Romeoville EMA facility for "rehab." While searchers were rehydrating, Search and Rescue Managers were preparing the next round of search segments. New Lenox teams were then driven to their search segments at approximately 3:00pm.

Approximately 30 minutes into the second round of search segments it was learned that the item being sought had been located. As such, teams were picked-up and transported back to the staging area. Upon returning, teams were requested to stand-by so everyone waited in the garage area until 5:00pm. At 5:00pm all New Lenox volunteers signed out and left the facility.

Special thanks to our volunteers for searching on a Saturday afternoon on a holiday (Memorial Day) weekend.

<https://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxSAR>

GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE FUNDAMENTALS FOR CERT VOLUNTEERS – MAY 23, 2023

At 6:00pm on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 several New Lenox CERT instructors arrived at the Village Hall to prepare for training that was scheduled to start at 7:00pm. This month's training, "Ground Search and Rescue Fundamentals for CERT Volunteers," was designed to provide those in attendance with an overview of Ground Search and Rescue Operations *and* to practice some of the skills discussed in the classroom.

At 7:00pm Dan Martin, CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and made some quick announcements regarding upcoming events. Following the welcome and opening remarks, Dan transition into a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following areas (in summary):



Ground Search and Rescue – WHY Train CERT Volunteers?

Depending on the TYPE of search, often times MANY searchers are needed. When paired up with trained searchers, CERT volunteers can be a force multiplier. CERT volunteers already have training in some areas that are complimentary to GSAR. Better than emergent / untrained volunteers who just "show up." Good skills to learn – useful in camping, hiking and other outdoor activities. CERT members may develop an interest in GSAR by being introduced to the fundamentals.

Search and Rescue (SAR) Definition – SAR is the application of all available resources to locate and assist persons who are, or feared to be, in actual or potential distress.

Search - to locate persons in distress.

Rescue - To retrieve persons in distress, provide for their initial medical or other needs, and deliver them to a place of safety.

Treat a potential search as an EMERGENCY, until you learn otherwise.

Considerations...

The subject may require emergency care.
The subject may need protection from themselves or the environment.
Time and weather destroy clues.
The size of the search area increases with time.

Lost Person Behavior (book by Robert J. Koester)

Basic to any effective search is a profile of the individual being sought. Physical capabilities and / or impairments, mental condition, clothing, medications, past experience and more are part of building a profile.

Notable behaviors: Failure to make shelter or fire, discarding equipment, disrobing, going it along – thinking no one is looking for them.

Lost person strategies: Trail running, straight line, direction sampling, view enhancement, backtracking or "staying put."

LPB book provides investigative strategies based on tens of thousands of cases. It provides guidance for search managers to make educated decisions regarding search areas.

Ground Search and Rescue Fundamentals – Navigation

Navigation skills are essential to GSAR and a team's ability to search effectively. Compass (various types), Map, GPS, SARTopo, Flagging, etc... These navigation skills are learned in the Illinois Search and Rescue Council's 8-Hour Basic Land Navigation Class (BNAV).

Types of (Ground) Searches

Initial Search – rapid search of high probability areas or routes.

Efficiency Search- systematic search of high probability areas by crews of 5-7.

Evidence Search – usually requested by law enforcement – small items (gun, shell casings or discarded evidence of a crime).

Recovery Search – high probability that victim is deceased at this point.

Cold Case Search – likely searching for bones, clothing or other clues.



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Ground Search and Rescue Team Roles and Responsibilities

Crew Leader - Leads the team. Provides direction and guidance.

Flagger / Flanker (one on each end) - Keeps the team in the search segment. Follow established azimuth and back azimuth.

Line Searcher - Searches respective area for missing person, clues or evidence. Searchers do "Purposeful Wandering" within their "lane."

Average Maximum Detection Range (AMDR)



Place an item in search area. Team circles the item and walks outward until it's no longer recognizable.

Rotate to next position, adjust, and walk inward. Repeat 6-8 times. Add all numbers then divide to determine the average.

Think spokes on a bicycle tire when doing AMDR.

Critical Spacing **also known as** Critical Separation

Critical Spacing is the sum of two searchers' individual search ranges.

$AMDR 1 + AMDR 2 = 1 \text{ Critical Space.}$

Then, the Crew Leader adds all the numbers (ex. 8, 10, 10 and 12) and determines the average (10). In an open grid efficiency search, forward movement would be 15 (10×1.5).

Additional Training – Illinois Search and Rescue Council

Search and Rescue Initial Operations (SARIO)

Basic Land Navigation (BNAV)

Ground Search and Rescue Operations (GSAR)

Search Management (SARM)



Dan credited the Illinois Search and Rescue Council for the content that was included in the lecture portion of the training then divided everyone in the room into three groups (Alpha, Bravo and Charlie). Members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team were integrated into the three teams for the purpose of providing guidance and direction for those less familiar with ground search and rescue.

At 7:25pm everyone exited the Village Hall and proceeded to a large open field just west of Gear Drive. In this open field three stations had been set-up as follows:

Station #1 – Flagging Led by Lisa Murphy and Lauren Humbrecht

Station #2 – Evidence Search Led by Dan Johnson and Rich DeVault

Station #3 – Compass Led by Joe Frigo and Terry Hartigan

From 7:30pm to 8:30pm, teams spent 20 minutes at each station practicing the skills demonstrated by the station facilitators. At 8:30pm everyone headed back to the Community Room inside the Village Hall for a de-briefing.

Each of the station facilitators provided comments regarding their respective station, which prompted some discussion regarding skills learned at each of the stations. Training concluded at approximately 8:45pm. Special thanks to those that facilitated stations and to everyone that attended!

“BE THE SPARK” 5K RUN/WALK – MAY 20, 2023

On Saturday, May 20, 2023 thirty-four members of New Lenox CERT began to gather at 7:40am in the upper-level parking lot of New Lenox Village Hall in regard to assisting with the morning’s 5K event – **“Be the Spark” 5K Run/Walk** – a fundraiser for New Lenox School District #122 PTO. Members gathered early to sign-in and pick-up maps of the course, in addition to their assignments.

At 8:00am John Opoka, the team lead for this event, starting the briefing with details of assignments and protocol. Prior to the briefing, John met with Tina Rauch of the PTO and two members of New Lenox ESDA to go over final details. All members were welcomed and told that the event currently had 365 runners/walkers, with a few more walk-ons to be added. John was advised that the lead vehicle would be a scooter and the trailing vehicle was a green (CERT green) Ford Bronco.



John discussed the importance of safety for all CERT members as our priority. The safety of runners/walkers, as well as, vehicles entering or exiting the course route was discussed. Protocol of water distribution at the water station was reviewed. Race marshals were told to focus on their buddy to be aware of traffic and runners/walkers. Any person needing medical assistance would be treated by team members according to established CERT protocols and their respective level of training. Dialing 9-1-1 shall be the immediate response to a medical emergency.



This event was the first New Lenox CERT event where the new IFAKS (Individual First Aid Kits) were issued to twenty members so we had coverage over the entire race route. A point of emphasis was that the IFAKS were critical to remain intact as packed (as we were trained), and returned after the race at the debriefing. The briefing concluded with a few questions and all members went to their assigned locations by 8:30am.



The race started at 9:00am with runners and walkers closely following. All went well with no issues being reported. All New Lenox CERT team members performed their duties very admirably. The encouragement to the runners/walkers was very appreciative along the race route.

Debriefing, returning of IFAKS, at the same location as the briefing began approximately 10:09am. A few issues were discussed with possible improvements. Overall, the entire team had a very pleasurable experience on a beautiful weather day! Our hope was that the fundraiser was a success for New Lenox School District #122.



The debriefing ended at 10:22am and John thanked all New Lenox CERT members for their participation and performance.

Special thanks to John Opoka for leading this event and thanks to those that participated!

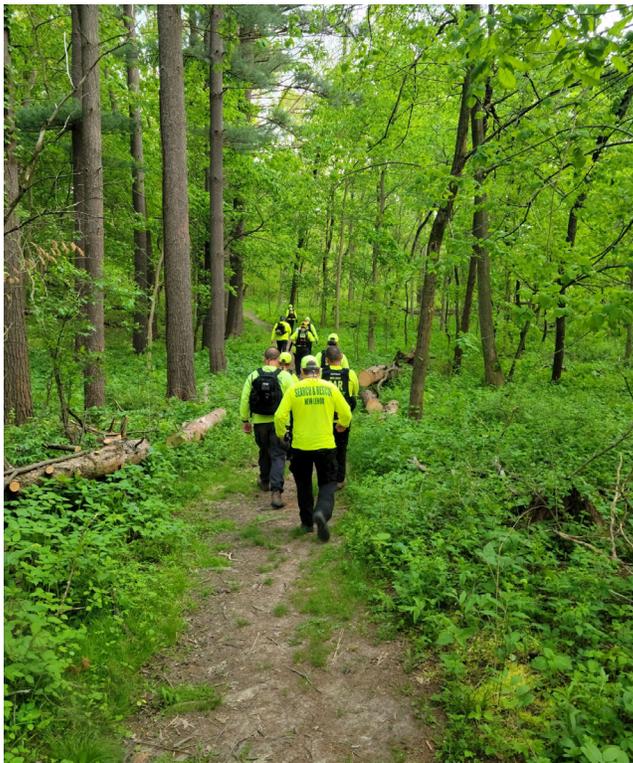
NEW LENOX SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM ANNUAL FIT TEST – MAY 16, 2023

In January, at the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team's Annual Meeting, a discussion was held regarding the creation of a NEW fit test. The idea was to replace the 3-mile (under 50 minutes in full gear) test with something that would be more reflective of what we actually do during a search. Following the discussion, it was decided that the test should be in a wooded area, rather than on a paved trail. With this in mind, a planning team was formed with Lisa Murphy appointed as the lead for this project.

Over the next several months Lisa, with the assistance of Lauren Humbrecht, Rich DeVault, Dan Johnson and Joe Frigo, scouted a variety of locations in an effort to find a suitable area for our test. In April, Messenger Woods was identified as the first choice for the TRIAL fit test. Lisa and her team walked the course a number of times and used GPS for mapping and to determine distance.

In the afternoon on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 Lisa and Lauren flagged the complex course through the woods. As designed, this course utilized dirt paths, but also cut through the woods on lesser traveled paths. The terrain was uphill, downhill and numerous fallen trees needed to be stepped over along the way. In addition, there were many undergrowth obstacles (small limbs, roots, etc...) that needed to be navigated along the way. In addition to the 2.1-mile distance, it was a test of stamina and endurance.

At 6:30pm team members began to arrive. Everyone had their load-bearing vests weighed to ensure there was at least 10 pounds of equipment. Everyone's vests were also checked to ensure that all mandatory items were being carried. Shortly before 7:00pm Lisa provided everyone with a briefing, which included an overview of the course *and* a safety briefing to watch out for trip hazards. Everyone was divided into two teams and assigned guides (planning team members). Guides were put in place to ensure that team members stayed on the course and were a supplement to the biodegradable flags.



At 7:00pm the first team started the course and at 7:10pm the second team began. Team members walked as fast as they could through the course. As noted above, everyone was challenged by the changing grade and obstacles that needed to be stepped / climbed over. This was definitely a much different experience than the "standard" 3-mile walk that the team had been doing for 10 years. Shortly before 8:00pm everyone completed the course and headed over to a covered pavilion for a discussion. It should be noted that all flags on the course were removed by those serving as course guides.

It was noted that the times for this test ranged from approximately 36:00 minutes to approximately 44:00 minutes. A discussion then ensued and it was agreed upon that 45:00 minutes would be set as the cap for the Pass/Fail test. Feedback for the test was positive and following the discussion everyone in attendance (21 team members) agreed to adopt this as our Annual Fit Test. It was also agreed upon that the (old) 3-mile test could still be used as a make-up if need be. Lastly, it was agreed upon that the team's training date in the month of May (annually) would be designated as the Annual Fit Test. This way the conditions, for the most part, can be replicated from year-to-year.

Following the discussion, Dan Martin thanked Lisa and her team for designing the test. Dan also thanked everyone in attendance for keeping an open mind and being a part of the trial, which just happened to work out very well. Following the de-briefing / discussion, some upcoming activities were discussed. Training concluded at 8:30pm.

MULTI-AGENCY SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING IN BOONE COUNTY – MAY 13, 2023

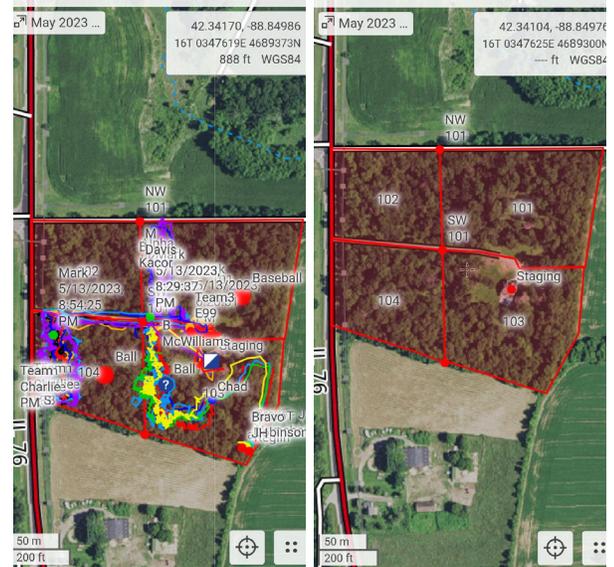
On Saturday, May 13, 2023, three members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the New Lenox Village Hall at 4:00pm to carpool to the Multi-Agency Search and Rescue Training. They arrived at 5:50 p.m. The training was held on the private property of Dan Zaccard, the Boone County Emergency Management Agency Director. Approximately 24 people attended, many of whom were new to GSAR. The training was on "Night Search Techniques," and was led by Kim Gotte, Search and Rescue, Kendall County Emergency Management Agency.



At 6:00pm, Kim began the training by instructing how to download and use SARTopo. She then had the three members of the New Lenox SAR team demonstrate how to find AMDR. Afterwards, the searchers were divided into three teams; Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie, with one New Lenox team member on each of the three teams. These three teams were to practice AMDR, Critical Spacing, and navigation. After this part of the training was over, Dan Zaccard graciously grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, and peppers for all of the attendees. After eating, Kim went over the general SAR gear, including safety equipment, clip-on lights, and tree markers.

The next segment of the training included a night search for a training aid and two clues, which were a baseball and a bigger ball. At 8:30pm the teams were briefed. The search was for an 8-year-old boy, wearing blue jeans and gray socks. Searchers were told that he had grayish eyes and a shaved head. The three teams, which had 6 – 7 people on each team, went to their assigned segment to start the search. The search went slowly because of the extremely thick brush, downed trees, and barbed wire.

At 10:00pm the teams were told to return to base. Only one of the clues was found, so Team Bravo was directed to meet with someone from SAR Command to retrieve the training aid. After all teams returned to the staging area, Kim invited all the searchers to debrief in the Command Center where the maps of the search segments could be viewed on the screen. Kim went over each team's progress. After the debriefing everyone signed out and were dismissed for the evening. Our New Lenox team members arrived back at the New Lenox Village Hall at 12:10am.



Special thanks to our team members for spending their Saturday evening training way up in Boone County!



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LOYALTY DAY PARADE – MAY 7, 2023

Between 12:30pm and 1:00pm on Sunday May 7, 2023, twenty-two members of New Lenox CERT met at the New Lenox Village Hall for the Loyalty Day Parade. Many of our members graciously donated candy for the parade which was loaded into Mark and Lisa Sikorski's pickup truck. In addition, the Sikorski's truck was used as "home base" for bottled water and parade literature (CERT newsletters & Ready.gov pamphlets).



By 1:30pm everyone had made their way out to the staging area located on East 4th Street, just east of Cedar Road. At this location everyone was provided with bags to hold candy and literature. The Loyalty Day Parade has always had a patriotic theme and New Lenox is also the "Home of Proud Americans." As such, everyone was also provided with American flags to carry along the parade route. While waiting for the parade to start, everyone chatted, took pictures, hydrated and applied sunscreen as it was a hot and sunny day.



The parade kicked off at 2:00pm and shortly thereafter our team made its way onto northbound Cedar Road. There was quite a crowd lining the Cedar Road and families (especially children) enjoyed the candy that was being tossed their way by our volunteers. Our team waved to the cameras as they passed the viewing stand at Cedar Road & Haven Ave., right before making a left turn onto westbound Haven Ave. crowds lined Haven Ave. all the way to Veterans Parkway where the last of our candy and literature was handed out. Our team made its way into the New Lenox Commons, which was the official end of the parade route.

After the parade, everyone met on the west side of the Village Hall where clean-up duties ensued. A short de-briefing was held, which included the need for a plan to manage our candy disbursement better next year. Despite having a record amount of candy on hand this year, we still ran short toward the end of the parade route.

Special thanks to EVERYONE that contributed and / or participated in this year's parade. You ALL are very much appreciated!



16-HOUR GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE COURSE – APRIL 22-23, 2023

At 7:45am on Saturday, April 22, 2023 seven New Lenox SAR members (GSAR Instructors) met Kim Gotte, Kendall County EMA SAR & ISARC Training Chair, at the New Lenox Village Hall. Dan Martin, Village of New Lenox, assisted Kim with getting the PowerPoint set-up and welcomed everyone that was arriving for the class. In total, 22 individuals registered and attended the 2-day course that was hosted by the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team. Included in the 22 registrants were 4 members of New Lenox CERT (Brendan Clancy, Cheryl Dorn, Patience Halsey, and George Nelson).

At 8:30am Dan Martin officially welcomed those in attendance and also covered some housekeeping things (location of washrooms, food / beverages, silencing cell phones, etc...). Dan then welcomed and thanked Kim Gotte for handling all the behind-the-scenes prep work that was needed to offer the course. Following Kim's introduction, the PowerPoint was presented as follows:



Slide Numbers

1 thru 6
7 thru 13
14 thru 21
22 thru 37
38 thru 50
52 thru 52
53 thru 61
62 thru 78
79 thru 108
109 thru 111
113 thru 127
129 thru 140

Content Overview

Course Overview and ISARC Information
General Concepts
Lost Person Behavior
Searcher Skills - Search Crew Positions
Searcher Skills - Search Methods
Searcher Skills - Efficiency Search
Searcher Skills - Vision Theory
Searcher Skills - Searching, line search diagram
Searcher Skills -The Golden Rule
Outdoor Skills and Summary
Searcher Safety and Equipment
Search Resources

Instructor

K. Gotte
D. Johnson
D. Martin
D. Johnson
T. Pakosz
T. Pakosz
L. Murphy
M. Cody
J. Frigo
R. DeVault
R. DeVault
K. Gotte

The PowerPoint sections were taught, in part, to fulfill ISARC requirements for LEAD GSAR Instructor. As such, each time our GSAR Instructors teach the GSAR Course, they teach a different section(s).

The classroom portion of the training ended at approximately 1:00pm at which time the class was given a break for lunch. While the class was at lunch, Kim and the GSAR Instructors headed over to Pilcher Park to set-up the field exercises. Given the size of the class and the number of GSAR Instructors, the exercises were created for three teams (7, 7, & 8) led by two GSAR Instructors – in addition to Dan Martin and Kim Gotte.

From 2:30pm to about 6:30pm the class rotated through stations that consisted of the following:

- Open grid search (articles of clothing – 3 search segments)
- Closed grid search (playing cards)
- Initial Search (various small objects / toys)
- AMDR exercise
- Critical Spacing exercise
- Evidence Search (small erasers)

The class was given a short break for dinner and the training picked back up at about 7:30pm. This was done by design to provide the class with an opportunity to train at night. Kim covered different types of flashlights and showed the class different types of lens filters. Various aspects were discussed, which was followed by another open grid search. By design, teams rotated to different search segments and the GSAR Instructors stayed with their assigned segments. This way, teams searched different areas and also benefitted from guidance from different instructors.

The searches concluded at 10:00pm at which time a short de-briefing was held. Everyone





departed for the evening at about 10:15pm and were given instructions to be back by 8:30am (GSAR Instructors 7:45am).

On Sunday, April 23, 2023 training picked-up again with an exercise that included an initial search. Following the initial search, the teams were each directed to conduct an efficiency search in an assigned search segment. As it was training day two and the final field exercise, teams picked their team leader and conducted the search with minimal direction from GSAR Instructors. Training concluded a little after 12:00pm with all three teams finding all the articles of clothing. In addition, one team also found the training aid, which simulated a lost child (pursuant to the provided scenario).



A de-briefing was held that provided time for all GSAR Instructors to comment on the two days of training. Kim Gotte also provided comments as did a few of the members of the class. Group photos were taken and class members were presented with their Certificates of Completion. The class wrapped up at about 1:00pm.

Special thanks to Kim Gotte for her leadership and guidance, to our GSAR Instructors for doing a terrific job and to those that completed the course!



TRIAGE AND TREATMENT – APRIL 27, 2023

Planning Team Members began to arrive at the New Lenox Village Hall at 5:30pm to assist with set-up for our team's monthly training. This training was designed to include an overview on **Preparedness** and **Scene Management** as well as **START Triage** and **Head-to-Toe Assessment**. In addition, there would be FOUR hands-on stations for groups to rotate through every 20 minutes. As planned, the stations were Triage, **Treatment**, **Head-to-Toe Assessment** and **Bleeding Control**.

In addition to the lecture and practice at the stations, this training was designed to utilize live "victims" at the Triage and Treatment Stations. As such, our Moulage Team arrived at 5:45pm to set-up the moulage area (employee breakroom) to accommodate moulage for 20+ role players. The role players, a mix of mostly young teens and adults, arrived at 6:15pm and were escorted to the moulage area.



At 6:30pm Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Coordinator, welcomed everyone in attendance. After announcements and a brief outline of the evening's training, Dan turned the floor over to Val Grellner. Val then discussed preparedness elements for CERT volunteers, which was followed by an overview on scene management. This included what CERT members should expect when they arrive on scene for an activation.

Val then introduced Justin Bobor, Firefighter / Paramedic, Bridgeview Fire Department. Justin was kind enough to come out and train our team in the principles of START Triage as well as Head-to-Toe Assessment. Justin did an excellent job in the time allotted and his overview provided just what our team members needed to transition into the hands-on practice portion of the training.

Everyone was divided into four groups, which were designated as ALPHA, BRAVO, CHARLIE, and DELTA. Each group consisted of 10-12 CERT members who proceeded to their first of four stations. The schedule for the stations was as follows: 7:20pm to 7:40pm, 7:40pm to 8:00pm, 8:00pm to 8:20pm and 8:20pm to 8:40pm. The stations were identified as follows:

Station #1	Triage – led by Justin Bobor (with 10 LIVE VICTIMS)
Station #2	Treatment – led by Sandy Scannell and Dr. Martin Greenberg (with 10 LIVE VICTIMS)
Station #3	Head-to-Toe Assessment - led by Joan O'Malley
Station #4	Bleeding Control - led by Chuck Geraci



Highlights included 10 live victims at the Triage Station, which was located outside in the loading dock area. Each team designated a Team Leader that directed team members to various areas where the victims were located. A Scribe, working in concert with the Team Leader, kept track of how many victims were located and what they were triaged as (Immediate / Red, Delayed / Yellow). After the team located and triaged all the victims, Justin held a de-briefing with each of the teams.

At the Treatment Station, teams were given 5 backpacks filled with dressings, bandages, splinting materials, tourniquets and other medical supplies. Teams were provided with a brief scenario and then exited the Village Hall to find 5 victims on the lawn (north side of the building). The 5 victims were triaged and treated accordingly. Following the victims being located, triaged and treated, Sandy and Dr. Greenberg held a de-briefing with each of the teams. **It should be noted that while 5 victims were being utilized at the station, the other 5 were getting their moulage refreshed. Victims at this station rotated in and out to ensure their wounds / injuries looked fresh.*



At the Head-to-To Assessment Station, which was located in the Community Room, Joan O'Malley demonstrated the process on a "Rescue Randy" mannequin. Joan did an excellent job explaining the proper way to conduct a head-to-toe assessment, which included some helpful tips and tricks.

At the Bleeding Control Station, which was located in the Community Room, Chuck Geraci used a variety of dressings and bandages to demonstrate how to control bleeding. In addition to a standard cloth bandage, Chuck had team members practice with Israeli bandages

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as well as tourniquets. Team members also did wound packing on wound models and practiced various techniques on themselves and each other.

Val Grellner floated from station to station to ensure everything was running smooth. Patty Edgett and her Moulage Team did an excellent job with moulage on the victims and kept those victims assigned to the Treatment Station looking fresh.

At 8:45pm everyone met back in the Community Room for a de-briefing. Dan Martin thanked EVERYONE for doing a terrific job, which was followed by comments from each of the station facilitators. Training concluded at 9:00pm.

Again, SPECIAL THANKS to everyone that planned, executed and attended this training. Well done!



NAVIGATION / COMPASS EXERCISES – APRIL 13, 2023

At 7:00pm on Thursday, April 13, 2023 sixteen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the park that's just north of the New Lenox Police Department. Joe Frigo gathered everyone in a circle and provided an overview on the lensatic compass, which included holding and sighting methods. Joe discussed azimuths and back azimuths, including best practices for flagging. Following the overview, team members participated in the following compass exercises:

- Proper compass holding techniques and shooting azimuths.
- Flag line using surveyors flags – azimuth provided, set a total of 10 flags every 6 paces.
- Compass triangle – 360, 240 and 120 degrees, set three flags in each direction returning to the starting point.
- Compass triangle – same as above except using one golf tee at the start, with the goal of returning to the tee.



Terry Hartigan and Lisa Murphy served as co-instructors with Joe, assisting with the above-described exercises.

At approximately 8:15pm the field exercises concluded and everyone met under the pavilion for the de-briefing, which was led by Joe.

Following the de-briefing, short discussions were held regarding a recent activation, recent training, upcoming physical fitness test, and ISARC Conference. In addition, GSAR Instructors stuck around to discuss an upcoming 16-Hour GSAR Class that we are hosting. Training concluded at 9:00pm.

Special thanks to Joe, Terry and Lisa for leading this training. Also, thanks to those who attended!

Additional Information

Daniel Martin

Safe Community Coordinator

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Fax: 815-462-6469

Email: dmartin@newlenox.net

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
20-HOUR BASIC CLASSES**

The next New Lenox CERT Basic Class will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. The first session will be on September 6th and the last session will be on October 18th. The Final Exercise (Disaster Simulation) and Graduation will be held on Saturday October 21st from approximately 8:00am to 12:00pm. If interested in registering for the class or otherwise becoming involved with the New Lenox CERT Program, please contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox at (815) 462-6493 or via email at dmartin@newlenox.net

- | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| • Class 1 Graduation | 10/17/2009 | • Class 10 Graduation | 10/31/2015 |
| • Class 2 Graduation | 12/05/2009 | • Class 11 Graduation | 03/12/2016 |
| • Class 3 Graduation | 02/27/2010 | • Class 12 Graduation | 10/29/2016 |
| • Class 4 Graduation | 10/30/2010 | • Class 13 Graduation | 10/28/2017 |
| • Class 5 Graduation | 04/09/2011 | • Class 14 Graduation | 10/27/2018 |
| • Class 6 Graduation | 11/12/2011 | • Class 15 Graduation | 10/26/2019 |
| • Class 7 Graduation | 10/20/2012 | • Class 16 Graduation | 10/17/2020 |
| • Class 8 Graduation | 10/19/2013 | • Class 17 Graduation | 10/23/2021 |
| • Class 9 Graduation | 10/25/2014 | • Class 18 Graduation | 10/15/2022 |

To learn more about the CERT program and the CERT Basic Class, visit <https://www.ready.gov/cert>



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<https://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxSAR>

ASSIST WITH COLD CASE SEARCH – APRIL 2, 2023

On March 30, 2023, the Will County Emergency Management Agency sent out a request for mutual aid to assist law enforcement with a search related to a cold case. The search was originally planned for Saturday, April 1, 2023, but due to inclement weather, it was rescheduled to Sunday, April 2, 2023.

At 7:50am on Sunday, April 2, 2023 thirteen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at a pre-determined staging area to assist with the search. Including law enforcement personnel, it was estimated that approximately 75 people assisted with this search.

At approximately 8:15am everyone was provided a QR code for a SARTopo map that outlined search segments. A briefing was then conducted that provided instructions as to what to look for and how to report potential found evidence.

New Lenox Search and Rescue personnel were divided into two teams, which were designated Bravo and Charlie. Search areas assigned were mostly wooded and considered high probability areas.



Team Bravo covered their search segment in approximately 2 hours and returned to search base for rehab. Team Charlie covered their search segment in approximately 2.5 hours and returned to search base for rehab.



After rehab, Team Bravo was transported to another search segment, which was completed in approximately 2 hours. Bravo returned to search base to wait for team Charlie.

Team Charlie was assigned a very wooded, marshy area and was joined by three additional searchers.

It was completed in 2 passes and the team was picked up and transported back to the search base.

At 1:45pm, Team Charlie was rejoined with Team Bravo. Following some conversation with SAR Managers, our team was thanked for participating in the search. Following a team photo, everyone signed out at 2:00pm and headed home.

Special thanks to everyone that participate in the search!



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