

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

FIRE SAFETY / FIRE SUPPRESSION / HAZ MAT / UTILITY CONTROLS TRAINING - SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

At 7:00pm on Thursday, September 28, 2023 forty-two members of New Lenox CERT met at New Lenox Fire Protection District (NLFPD) Station 1, which is located at 261 E. Maple Street in New Lenox. Everyone gathered in the Training Room at which time Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the team's monthly training. In addition, Dan thanked Patrick Hardin, USAR Operations Branch Chief, MABAS, Illinois for making the arrangements for our team to train at NLFPD Station #1. Dan also thanked members of the NLFPD for their hospitality and for providing training for our team members. Following the opening remarks, everyone was divided into three teams (Alpha, Bravo and Charlie) that included 14 people per team. Everyone was provided with a schedule for three stations as follows:



- Fire Suppression (live fire extinguisher training)
- Virtual Goggles (provides the user with the experience of being inside a room where a fire starts and shows how quickly the fire can spread – with and without a sprinkling system)
- Haz Mat / Utility Controls (various household chemicals, explanation of chemical suicide, shutting off electrical breakers and shutting off a gas main)



The schedule had teams spending 25 minutes at each station and then rotating as follows:

- 7:15pm – 7:40pm
- 7:40pm – 8:05pm
- 8:05pm – 8:30pm

The instructors that led each of the stations were terrific. They provided everyone some great refresher training, but included new information as well. The last stations wrapped-up shortly after 8:30pm at which time everyone headed back to the training room for a de-briefing.

Patrick Hardin led the de-briefing, which included a synopsis of the lessons learned. Our team members thanked the instructors and training concluded at approximately 8:45pm.

Special thanks to our team members for attending this training. We had a great turnout and learned a lot!



Our Core Principles:

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

Recent Activities:

Fire Safety	1
Drive Thru Flu Shots	2
Recyclepalooza	2
SAR Training / Transport	3
Warriors Walk	4
Multi-Disciplinary CERT Training	4
SAR Training / Med Ops Review	6
SAR Training / Crew Leader & Flanker	7
Silent Roller Disco	8
National Night Out	9
Leveraging and Cribbing	11
Triple Play - "Live"	12
Party in the Park	13
New Lenox SAR Training / SARTOPO	14
Play Day in the Commons	15
Movie Night in the Commons	16



DRIVE-THRU FLU SHOT CLINIC – SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

At 8:30am on Saturday, September 30, 2023 four New Lenox CERT members met at the north entrance of the New Lenox Village Hall for a briefing related to the Drive-Thru Flu Shot / Covid Vaccine Clinic. The event, hosted by the Village of New Lenox in partnership with Jewel-Osco, was scheduled to take place from 9:00am to 12:00pm in the Village Commons.



Megan Applegate, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor and Village Administrator, met with our volunteers to go over duties and responsibilities. In short, our volunteers were asked to assist with traffic management and were provided with color maps of the Commons, which included: Road closed signage, traffic direction / flow of traffic, vaccination tent location, placement of traffic cones in the roadway to create two lanes, registration table (for people who did not bring along consent forms), and parking (for people to fill out consent forms).



New Lenox Public Works did an excellent job with setting-up traffic cones, tents, tables, chairs and other logistical items. New Lenox Emergency Services placed "No Parking" signs around the Commons circle, which helped with traffic flow. Our CERT volunteers did an excellent job with traffic management and kept vehicles flowing at a steady pace.



The event ended at approximately 12:00pm. Special thanks to our volunteers for doing a terrific job!

“RECYCLEPALOOZA” - HHW / ELECTRONICS AND RECYCLING EVENT – SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

Will County Green requested the assistance of New Lenox CERT at this year’s “RECYCLEPALOOZA” event, which was held on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at the Spencer School Campus. In advance of the event, CERT volunteers “signed-up” for one, two or three “shifts” that included the following time slots:

- 7:30am to 10:30am
- 10:30am to 1:00pm
- 1:00pm to 3:30pm



The first shift was staffed with nine volunteers, the second shift was staffed with eleven volunteers and the third shift was staffed with five volunteers.

CERT volunteers started at 7:30am with a briefing from Marta Keane from Will County Green.

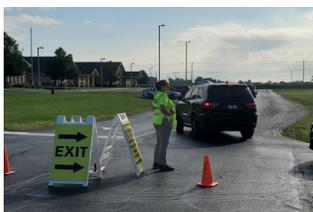
Simon Harris led this event and did a terrific job! Simon distributed radios, emphasized safety (especially around moving cars) and assisted in the development of assignments. Following the briefing, everyone went to their assigned positions.



CERT members managed traffic flow through electronics, HHW, wood, metal, Styrofoam, household donations, and finally the exit. In addition, CERT volunteers assisted in the wood, metal and Styrofoam drop-off areas.

Throughout the day there were many compliments about the event, including how smoothly things flowed.

Special thanks to Simon for doing a terrific job as Event Supervisor. Also, a big thank you to ALL of our CERT volunteers that assisted with this event. Great job!



Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people . . .

SAR TRAINING / TRANSPORT REFRESHER & NIGHT SEARCH - SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

At 4:30pm on Thursday, September 14, 2023 two NLSAR team members met at the New Lenox Village Hall to load supplies for the team's monthly training that was scheduled to start at 7:00pm. After the supplies were loaded (primarily "Rescue Randy" training mannequins), the team members drove to Pilcher Park in Joliet, IL where training was to be held.

From 5:00pm to 6:30pm the Rescue Randy mannequins and "clues" (nylon Metra string bag, yellow raincoat, white collapsible cooler, black backpack, black Remington gym bag, & white Chicago White Sox hat) were placed. Clues were placed along three pre-planned Initial Search routes as well as in three pre-planned search segments that were created in Caltopo. The clues were photographed and GPS coordinates in UTM were recorded.

By 7:00pm a briefing with 19 team members was held in the pavilion on Highland Place, just west of Gougar Road. In short, team members were provided with a scenario typical of a real-life event involving missing father and son hikers. Team members recorded the "victims" physical descriptions, clothing descriptions and items that they were last seen carrying. A safety briefing was included in the overall briefing and team members were advised that in this search the following skills would be tested:

- Communications
- Caltopo – map reading, identifying search segments, initiating tracks and entering clues
- AMDR and Critical Spacing / Critical Separation
- Crew Leader – leading teams on an Initial Search followed by an Efficiency Search
- Flanker / Flagging
- Navigation – compass and GPS unit (to call in UTM coordinates)
- Triage and Treatment (simulated)
- Transport – two "victims" (one large/adult 165lb. mannequin and one medium / teen 75lb. mannequin) using portable litters



CalTopo Map



KSJ1R - Write



Following the briefing everyone was divided into three teams – Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Teams were then provided with their color-coded Initial Searches and given their search segments to begin immediately following the Initial Searches. At this time the scenario began and teams began to radio "Search Base" that they were commencing their Initial Searches.

Within 10 minutes teams began to communicate that they had located clues along the Initial Search routes. GPS coordinates in UTM were provided and the clues were correctly entered into Caltopo.

Following Initial Searches, teams began their Efficiency Searches. As directed, teams conducted AMDR to set Critical Spacing. Teams double flagged their starting points along roads and paths before entering wooded areas. Flankers did a good job keeping the teams on the correct bearing and there was good communication between Crew Leaders and Team Members. Teams started calling in found clues with GPS (UTM) coordinates and continued to enter them into Caltopo as clues. The "teen victim" was located in Search Segment 107 and the "adult victim" was located in Search Segment 102. Given the weight of the adult male "victim," two teams traded off transporting the victim on a portable litter back to the staging area. It should be noted the 165lb. "victim" was carried approximately one mile back to the staging area where the de-briefing was held.



During the de-briefing strengths and areas for improvement were discussed. Overall, everyone did an excellent job in all the skills areas.

Following the de-briefing a short discussion was held regarding the ISARC Conference as well as activation protocol. Training concluded at approximately 9:15pm

Special thanks to everyone that played a role in making this a successful training!



4TH ANNUAL WARRIORS WALK – SEPTEMBER 9, 2023



At 8:30am on Saturday, September 9, 2023 seventeen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met in the New Lenox Commons for the purpose of participating in the 4th Annual Warriors Walk. Donations received for the Warriors Walk, a 20-mile ruck march, help support the Headstrong Project in the fight against veteran suicide. In about three weeks leading up to the event, our team raised over \$2,000.00 in online donations from our generous team members and those that supported them. We are extremely grateful to those who donated and / or participated in the event.



At 9:00am an opening ceremony was held at the Veterans Memorial and at about 9:15am the walk kicked-off. Well over 100 participants made their way toward Old Plank Trail where the route went east towards Frankfort. In addition to our 17 NLSAR members, four New Lenox CERT members (nurses) staffed three first aid / water stations at Cedar Road, Schoolhouse Road and White Street (Braidert Green Park) in Frankfort. CERT volunteers, along with other volunteers, provided water, Gatorade and fresh bananas to walkers.



During the walk, five of our team members walked 5-miles, five walked 10-miles and seven completed the full 20-miles. Everyone did a terrific job and again, we are so grateful to everyone that walked and / or contributed in some fashion.

Congratulations to Ryan Brazel from New Lenox VFW Post 9545 who created this event four years ago. Well done and keep up the great work!



New Lenox Search and Rescue

15 FIRE TEAMS Members

Raised: \$2,083 / \$1,500

DETAILS

DONATE NOW



MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CERT TRAINING – AUGUST 22, 2023

At 4:45pm on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, New Lenox CERT instructors and moulage team members arrived at the OLD New Lenox Public Works Facility, located at 907 Country Creek Drive, to set-up for monthly training. This month's training was multi-disciplinary in nature to include refresher training in Incident Command / Communications, Indoor Building Search, Cribbing / Leveraging, Triage and Transport.



The moulage team got right to work, setting up a tent, table and chairs for their moulage supplies. At 5:00pm eight volunteers arrived to receive moulage (theatrical makeup to simulate injuries) consistent with being involved in a severe weather event. In addition to receiving moulage, the "victims" were provided with direction and guidance with regard to roleplaying. Each of the "victims" knew what they were to be classified as (green / minor, yellow / delayed, and red / immediate) when team members arrived to triage them.



While the moulage team was preparing the "victims" for the exercise, the following stations were set-up by instructors / station facilitators:

- **Incident Command / Communications** – led by Tricia Pakosz and Dan Johnson. Designed to provide an overview on (CERT) Incident Command,

Keeping our community safe, healthy, and prepared . . .

including documentation (forms) as well as radio protocol. Time was set aside for team members to practice with the portable radios.

- **Indoor Building Search** – led by Lisa Murphy. This station, located inside the north end of the Public Works Facility, was designed to refresh team member’s skills on search markings, team communication, search technique, and team safety. Essentially in the dark, teams had to find small footballs that had been hidden throughout the search area. The idea was that if team members could find a small football, they can find real victims.
- **Cribbing / Leveraging** – led by Rich DeVault. This station utilized a large “Rescue Randy” mannequin that had been trapped under debris (wooden pallet covered with heavy rocks). Teams had to conduct a size-up, assemble a team, and develop a plan to safely extract the “victim.” Team members assumed roles of team leader, safety officer, and medical officer, in addition to roles needed to build a fulcrum and box cribbing.
- **Triage** – led by Patty Edgett. This station, located in an open field, was the scene of a severe weather event where “victims” had been injured by high winds and flying debris. Teams were provided with a briefing as well as triage tape (green, yellow and red – to be applied to victim’s wrists) as well as injury cards to document their injuries. Teams leap frogged from victim-to-victim, triaging “victims” in 60 seconds or less.
- **Transport** – led by Joe Frigo. This station provided refresher training on carry / transport methods. Primarily, team members were provided with a backboard, portable litter and a standard 10 X 10 tarp to practice carry / transport techniques. The “victims” were a “Rescue Randy” mannequin as well as a member of each team that rotated through the station. Team members were challenged with terrain as they had to transport their “victims” up hills, down hills, from an elevated position to lower ground, and across the Public Works Yard.



Following the welcome and overview, training started at 6:15pm. Everyone was divided into 5 teams of about 6 team members each. Teams were designated ALPHA, BRAVO, CHARLIE, DELTA, and ECHO. Teams were provided with a color-coded grid that showed teams where to go every 20 minutes. Station facilitators did an excellent job with their briefings, instruction and de-briefings that followed completion of the exercises. Training concluded shortly after 8:00pm at which time everyone chipped in to help with clean-up.

At about 8:15pm a de-briefing was held that provided an opportunity for station facilitators to discuss strengths and areas for improvement. Overall, team members did a terrific job at each of the stations and positive feedback was given. In addition, our “victims” were thanked for helping with the Triage Station. They too did an excellent job. The debriefing concluded at 8:30pm and after a little additional clean-up, everyone departed.

Special thanks to our moulage team, station facilitators, “victims” and everyone that played a role in making this a huge success – especially Tricia Pakosz who led the planning efforts. Also, we appreciate Mark Brow, New Lenox Public Works Director, and our friends from Public Works for allowing our team to train at their facility.



NEW LENOX SAR TRAINING / MED OPS REVIEW AND NIGHT SEARCH – AUGUST 16, 2023

At 5:00pm on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, Dan Martin, New Lenox SAR Program Coordinator, met Val Grellner (New Lenox CERT) in the parking lot at the Pilcher Park Greenhouse, 225 Gougar Road, Joliet, IL, which is on the corner of Gougar Road & Francis Road. Val graciously accepted the invitation to provide a Med Ops review for the team and also agreed to meet at 5:00pm to assist with placing clues in the wooded area just east of Gougar Road and just north of Francis Road. Dan had created a map in Caltopo with three search segments that were approximately 5 acres each. Clues for the search portion of the training included a small portable cooler, a collapsible (bag) chair, and a fishing pole, which were selected to fit the scenario that the team would be given. One clue was placed in each search segment and GPS coordinates were recorded.



At 6:00pm Dan and Val returned to the parking lot where Scott Thompson and Amanda Kelly (New Lenox CERT) were waiting. Amanda graciously agreed to be a "victim" for the search exercise and Scott arrived early to do her moulage, which included open fracture(s) to her upper and lower left leg. For safety reasons, Scott agreed to accompany Amanda to her staging location where he would stay with her until the search started.

By 7:00pm 19 members of New Lenox SAR were in attendance. Dan Martin introduced Val Grellner and thanked her for agreeing to come out to provide a Med Ops review. Val talked about injuries that may occur in a wilderness environment. Due to time constraints, Val concentrated on compound fractures where the bone penetrates the skin and sticks out. Val spoke about ways these injuries occur and how to treat them, which included a participatory demonstration. Val's Med Ops review concluded at approximately 7:30pm at which time the team transitioned into the search portion of the training.

Dan Martin provided everyone with a scenario, which included in summary the following: A female employee who worked the night shift at a nearby business told co-workers that she was going for a hike, which included doing some fishing. The woman advised that she was going to leave her vehicle in the parking lot and would only be gone for a few hours. In the early afternoon employees noticed that their co-worker still had not returned at which time law enforcement was contacted. Following an initial search by law enforcement, a request for GSAR resources was made and our team responded to the staging area. A name, physical description, clothing description, and items known to be in the woman's possession were provided. It was noted that the woman's phone went directly to voicemail and that she had no known medical issues.



Those in attendance were divided into three teams – ALPHA, BRAVO and CHARLIE. Team Leaders were chosen, and everyone was provided with the QR Code for the Caltopo map. A safety briefing, including known hazards was included. Team members were instructed to utilize their radios for all movement and updates. Everyone was reminded to complete an AMDR exercise, set Critical Spacing, determine a Bearing (azimuth and back azimuth) and flag accordingly. In addition, everyone was reminded to turn on their Caltopo tracking before they commenced their search. If clues and / or the victim was located, the location of said clues and / or the victim should be entered into Caltopo.



As hoped, teams located the above-described clues and called in their GPS (UTM) coordinates. As requested, clues were also marked in Caltopo. Team Charlie then located the victim and immediately assessed her injuries. The team then treated her two compound fractures and carefully placed her on a portable litter. Injected in the scenario was the necessity to transport the victim to the road (Francis Road) where "paramedics would be standing by." Team Charlie carefully conducted the transport and communicated with her verbally while bringing her to the pick-up location. At this time the exercise concluded, and all team members were instructed to return to the staffing area.



At the staging area a short de-briefing was held, which was followed by some training and event updates. The de-briefing and updates concluded at approximately 9:00pm.

Special thanks to Val for the Med Ops refresher, Amanda for doing a terrific job as our "victim," and to Scott for the moulage & assisting with the exercise. In addition, thanks to those that that participated in this training – well done!

Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people . . .

SAR MULTI-AGENCY TRAINING / CREW LEADER & FLANKER – AUGUST 12, 2023

On Saturday morning, August 12th, three members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at New Lenox Village Hall at 7:45am to carpool to the Multi-Agency Search and Rescue monthly training. A fourth member met them at the training, all arriving at 8:50am. The location was at the Aurora Police Department. The training focused on Crew Leaders & Flankers and there were 22 people in attendance.

At 9:00am, Kim Gotte began the training with a brief discussion about the upcoming ISARC Conference. Kim also reviewed some recent activations and talked about some upcoming training events.

The Crew Leader & Flanker training began with talking about leadership. It's an essential component because volunteers expect and deserve good leadership. It's also key to rescuer safety. The principles of leadership were provided: the leader knowing him/herself and always seeking self-improvement; being technically and tactically proficient; seeking and taking responsibility for his/her own actions, owning what he/she does; he/she makes sound and timely decisions; sets the example, knows the team members and looks out for their well-being; keeps the team members informed; helps members grow and learn; ensures that the task is understood and accomplished; is aware of the teams capabilities; praises in public / criticizes in private; and stresses safety and balances risk with achieving the mission.



There are 11 qualities that make good leaders: forming personal connections with team members; being approachable; a willingness to answer questions that members have; being humble; positive; even-keeled; generous; demonstrating integrity; knows how to read people; appreciates team members potential; and has substance, if the crew leader enjoys what he/she is doing, he/she will do it well. Other attributes of the crew leader that are essential to a successful search are: flexibility, adapting to changes in plans as a search progresses; having the skills of planning, observing, checking & double-checking, listening, communicating, making decisions, and delegating; concern for ALL involved; judgement, a combination of knowledge, experience and situational awareness; not having an ego; having courage, it's the essential quality; also loyalty, to leaders and members; and respect, to leaders and members.

****Leaders become great not because of the power, but because of their ability to empower others.**** SAR leadership function consists of three critical elements: Authority, Responsibility, Accountability. A Crew Leader must be delegated and agree to assume authority, knowingly take responsibility and willing to accept accountability. A team leader can't be effective without all three.



Following the discussion of qualities & attributes of a good crew leader, the discussion turned to Probability Definitions: POA - Probability of Area POD - Probability of Detection POS - Probability of Success. Estimating the probability of detection depends on several factors: prejudice - searchers that don't believe the clues are in the area (New Lenox SAR was mentioned pertaining to finding a victim alive in extremely thick vegetation); search fatigue; searcher boredom or preoccupation; weather; terrain and vegetation. Also mentioned were: searcher speed, terrain and weather are crucial; documents we may see as a crew leader; which forward movement tactic to employ, flanker first is preferred; and finally, search segment tactics, various ways to physically search different size and shapes of area to be searched, long passes vs short passes, etc.

After a 10-minute break Flanking was the final presentation. Why they are needed: responsible for keeping the SAR crew on a set path, be it a landmark (such as a fence line) or a compass bearing. Flankers are key to marking where the crew has searched, to ensure that the trained crew searches their assigned segment with relative certainty that they have covered that segment completely and in a timely manner. Most search segments are not perfect squares, so the flankers must be able to maintain a parallel bearing, no matter what the segment's shape. Maps were shown and there were discussions on the best way to search. Communication with crew leader and searchers is essential, especially if the boundary is not well-defined. Compass proficiency is crucial to a successful search. Flagging methods were reviewed and examples of both good and bad flagging were shown.

The remainder of the training was outdoors. The first exercise was having search teams lined up with a curving boundary. The flanker was required to call out verbal instructions to shift to the left or right to account for the curve and to keep the searchers in proper formation. The second, and final, exercise was dividing into teams of three and practicing being the right flank, left flank and crew leader. Each team used the azimuth of 120 and flagged a set distance. They were instructed to also check back azimuths during the process. After picking up the flags, Kim had a debrief and thanked everyone for attending the training. The New Lenox SAR members signed out and arrived back in New Lenox at 2:30pm.

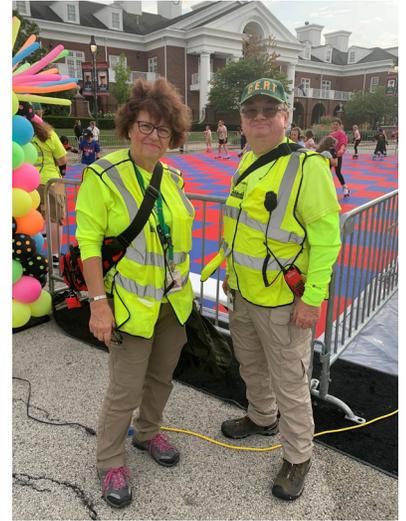


Special thanks to our team members for attending this valuable training!

SILENT ROLLER DISCO – AUGUST 5, 2023

At 5:15pm on Saturday, August 5, 2023 seventeen members of New Lenox CERT met on the north steps of the Village Hall (lower level) for a briefing related to the Silent Roller Disco.

Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, provided everyone with a color map of the Commons, which showed where everything was positioned. This included the food trucks, roller rinks (2 – family and adult), headphone rental, skate rental and location of the DJs. In addition, Dan provided everyone with an assignment sheet that had coverage at both rinks, food truck area, general check-in area and floating positions. At 5:30pm the briefing concluded and everyone headed out to their assignments.



It should be noted that rain had just stopped. As such, set-up for the event was slightly delayed but workers quickly caught up and had everything ready to go by 6:00pm. Our volunteers kept a special watch on the rinks where, as expected, there were some falls. Our volunteers handed out band aids for some minor injuries such as scraped knees. They also assisted with a couple more serious falls (child and adult – separately) where the individuals were treated for suspected sprains or breaks to the arms / wrists. Injuries were elevated, treated with ice, splinted and immobilized. Both individuals had someone to take them to an urgent care facility for further examination and treatment.

Those that attended had a lot of fun skating and listening to music, Sadly, the rain returned at about 9:00pm and cut the event short. At approximately 9:30pm a de-briefing was held and most of it focused on the medical situations. Overall, CERT members did an excellent job utilizing their medical skills to treat the fall-related injuries. Strengths and areas for improvement were discussed during the de-briefing. Special thanks to those that assisted with this event. Well done!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – AUGUST 1, 2023

At 5:15pm on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 thirty members of New Lenox CERT met at the front entrance (lower level / north side) of the Village Hall for a briefing related to National Night Out.

Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, thanked everyone for agreeing to help. Dan asked for volunteers to assist in the concession stand at which time 12 CERT members agreed to assist. Following a short briefing for that group, they headed over to the concession stand to get started.

A second group was formed that agreed to put together an informational table with literature from Ready.gov as well as our team's July, 2023 newsletter. In addition, this group was provided with our CERT application as well as the press release for CERT class #19 that starts in September.



A third group, designed to work hand-in-hand with the informational table volunteers, was formed. This group would be in charge of games designed to attract families over to the table. Supplies for this group included inflatable balls, pool noodles, hula hoops and buckets for a bean bag toss. Following a briefing for the informational table and games groups, they headed over to the set-up area across from the police department.

Lastly, a group of four "floaters" was put together for the purpose of checking on volunteers in the concession stand, at the informational table and those leading the games. Our floaters would give breaks and / or assist when needed. Following their briefing, they headed out to the Commons at approximately 5:40pm.

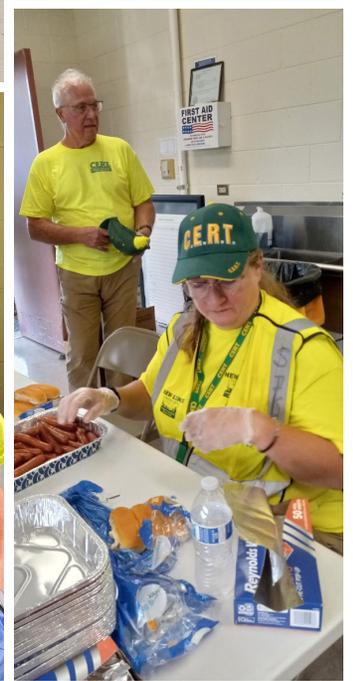
The event was scheduled from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Shortly after the start, families filled the Commons to take advantage of all the activities that were offered. Our volunteers did an excellent job cooking hot dogs and preparing them for distribution along with bottled water and chips. Our informational table volunteers made a lot of contacts with families that stopped by and many seemed interested in registering for the upcoming Basic CERT class. Our volunteers that led the children's games had a great time and they came up with some really creative games that the kids enjoyed. Everyone remained busy until 8:00pm, which is the time that things started wrapping up.

At about 8:15pm a short de-briefing was held in front of the Village Hall where all the activities were discussed. An event guest stopped by and offered to take a group photo, which was a nice gesture.

Following the de-briefing and photo, everyone departed at approximately 8:30pm.

Special thanks to EVERYONE that helped out at National Night Out. Your efforts were greatly appreciated!





Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people . . .

LEVERAGING AND CRIBBING – JULY 27, 2023

At 5:00pm on Thursday, July 27, 2023 Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, met Patrick Hardin, USAR Operations Branch Chief, MABAS Illinois, at the old Public Works yard located at 907 Country Creek Drive. Dan and Pat began setting-up exercises for our team’s monthly training, which was scheduled to begin at 7:00pm. Shortly thereafter, Dan Johnson and Rich DeVault, arrived to assist with set-up as well.

The instructional plan for this training was to have Pat provide a 30-minute overview / refresher on cribbing and leveraging, which would be followed by three practical exercises. The three exercises included:

- A trapped victim (training mannequin) under a vehicle
- A trapped victim (training mannequin) under a utility trailer
- A trapped victim (training mannequin) under a pile of debris

Since the entrapments were somewhat complex, it was decided that everyone would stay together as one large team and Pat would instruct at each of the stations.



At 7:00pm Dan welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming out to training. Dan then introduced Pat who jumped right into his lesson, which was supplemented by several handouts. The handouts included photocopied sections from the CERT Basic Participant Manual under the chapter on Light Search and Rescue (Leveraging and Cribbing). In addition, Pat provided supplemental material used to train firefighters. This included shoring basics and crib capacities. For example, the lumber that we had on hand can support 6,000 lbs. at each point of contact (corners) for a total of 24,000 lbs. Pat demonstrated the proper way to build a crib, how to use wedges and how to use levers.



It’s worth noting that despite training in the evening, the temperature was still around 90 degrees. Iced down bottled water was available to everyone, but our guest speaker / trainer did something really nice for those in attendance. Pat made arrangements to have his son pick-up about 100 popsicles for everyone to enjoy while he was providing the overview. This was very cool (pun intended) and greatly appreciated!



Following the overview, Pat provided a scenario (severe weather / tornado) and walked everyone toward the first station. Pat discussed safety and scene size-up, pointing out some gas storage tanks that were near the victim trapped under the vehicle. Pat then asked for volunteers and under his instruction, the team approached the victim, made an assessment, and initiated steps to remove the victim from under the vehicle. After securing the vehicle (wedges under wheels) and building a fulcrum, a 10-foot 4” X 4” was used to lift the vehicle on its driver’s side. Using the principle of “lift and inch – crib an inch,” cribbing was placed under the vehicle. The vehicle was then lifted and secured with cribbing until a point where the victim could be pulled out. During this exercise as well as those that followed, there was a designated team leader, safety officer, and volunteers to build fulcrums and cribbing.



Everyone moved on to station two, which included the victim trapped under the utility trailer. Using a similar strategy, the victim was removed from under the trailer.

Everyone then moved to station three, which included the victim trapped under debris (pallet, steel fencing, heavy rocks and snow fencing). As with the other stations, Pat provided some guidance and allowed the team members to work their way through the scenario until the victim was removed.



The exercises concluded at approximately 8:45pm at which time everyone helped out with clean-up. A short de-briefing then followed that prompted some excellent questions from those in attendance. Dan, who was joined by those in attendance, thanked Pat for the excellent training.

Special thanks to Pat for the training and to Dan Johnson and Rich DeVault for arriving early to assist with set-up. Much thanks and appreciation to those who came out on hot night to train – well done!

TRIPLE PLAY CONCERT (“LIVE”) – JULY 22, 2023

At 4:30pm on Saturday, July 22, 2023 twenty-seven New Lenox CERT volunteers met in the Council Chambers of the New Lenox Village Hall for a briefing related to the last concert in the Triple Play Series – “Live.” Everyone had already been issued IFAKs (Individual First Aid Kits), radios and community event logs when they arrived at the Village Hall. Once everyone was seated, Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them for helping with the concert.

Dan provided everyone with details including, but not limited to, the following:

- Location of gates, will call, lost & found, food vendors, portable washrooms, etc...
- Items allowed and items prohibited in the venue
- Information about beer ticket sales and which organization was serving the beverages
- Information regarding which organization was punching tickets at the entry gates
- Accessible, VIP and regular parking
- Time the warm-up bands as well as “Live” would be taking the stage
- VIP party on the patio outside the community room
- Severe Weather Shelter Plan
- Duties and responsibilities during egress
- Debriefing (time and location)
- Brief review of the concert’s Incident Action Plan (IAP) including tickets and passes



The briefing concluded at 4:50pm at which time a quick group photo was taken. Everyone then headed out to their assignments and waited for the gates to open at 5:30pm.

After the gates opened, the venue filled relatively quickly. The warm-up bands took the stage at 6:00pm and 7:30pm respectively, followed by “Live” at 9:00pm. Our volunteers did an excellent job in their respective roles (access control and numerous points, crown management in the seating area, seating management in the accessible seating section, accessible access to the venue via golf carts, etc...). Between the time the gates opened and the time “Live” took the stage there was one medical emergency as well as some brief planning for shelter operations due to a potential thunderstorm in the area. As luck would have it, there was only some light rain from 9:00pm to about 9:30pm and the remainder of

the evening was pleasant. The concert ended at approximately 10:30pm at which time our volunteers assisted with egress at gates 1, 2 and 3. At 11:00pm everyone headed to the Community Room at the Village Hall for the de-briefing.

Dan, on behalf of Mayor Tim Baldermann and the Village of New Lenox, thanked everyone for

doing a terrific job at this concert as well as he previous two. Dan noted that CERT plays an integral role in these concerts and the efforts of our volunteers are greatly appreciated. Great job everyone!



PARTY IN THE PARK (FORMERLY KNOWN AS SPECIAL NEEDS DAY) - JULY 21, 2023

At 10:00am on Friday, July 21, 2023 sixteen members of New Lenox CERT met at the lower-level entrance of the Village Hall for a briefing related to "Party in the Park." Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them for assisting with this very important event. Dan provided everyone with a brief overview of the event and also shared information about how New Lenox CERT would assist.



Dan was joined by Olga Viano, Deputy Director of Recreation, New Lenox Community Park District, who also thanked everyone for assisting. Olga provided additional information about the event as well as how New Lenox CERT would be most helpful. In short, CERT volunteers were asked to assist with traffic management, which included assisting functional needs clients exit their transportation (shuttles, buses and vans). In addition to assisting with traffic, CERT volunteers were asked to assist Lions Club members with serving lunch. At the end of the event, CERT would once again assist clients get

back onto their shuttles, buses and vans.

The first round of guests arrived at approximately 10:45am and it was clear to see they were excited about all the fun that was planned for them. Guests stopped by all the games that were set-up in the street in front of the New Lenox Public Library. As they continued to make their way to the tents that were set-up for lunch, they stopped by to check out a fire truck that was on hand and staffed by New Lenox Fire Protection District Personnel. Under the tent, guests were served lunch by New Lenox Lions Club members who do a wonderful job each year organizing and hosting this event. In addition to the food, guests were able to dance to music provided by "DJ Keith" from the Lincolnway Special Recreation Association.



Time flew by with games, food, music, dancing and fun. At around 1:00pm everyone started making their way back to the transportation pick-up area where our CERT volunteers said their goodbyes for now. After the last of the guests were on their way home a short de-briefing was held in front of the Village Hall.



Special thanks to the New Lenox Lions Club and the New Lenox Community Park District for asking our volunteers to assist. It was a lot of fun and very rewarding to be able to assist those that appreciate this event the most. Great job by all and we are already looking forward to next year!

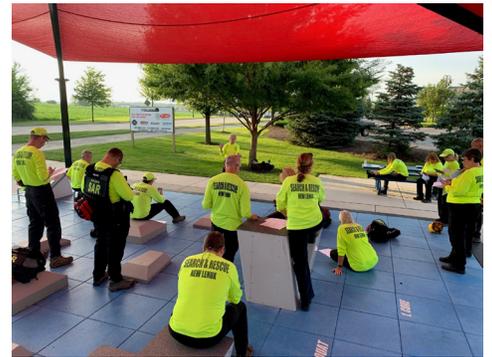


NEW LENOX SAR TRAINING / SARTOPO MAPPING REFRESHER – JULY 13, 2023

At 7:00pm on Thursday, July 13, 2023 nineteen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the New Lenox Community Park District's Outdoor Fitness Court, which is located at 701 W. Haven Ave. (corner of Haven Ave. & Gear Dr.). Everyone met at this location at the request of Tricia Pakosz and Lauren Humbrecht, who led this month's "SARTopo Mapping Refresher." Tricia provided about an hour-long refresher on SARTopo Mapping at this location, which was followed by field exercises near the Village Hall, Trinity Services, Inc., New Lenox Police Department and New Lenox Public Library.

Everyone was provided with a 4-page handout (SARTopo tips) as well as a 2-page handout, which explained how to register for an account and included an explanation of the merging of CalTopo and SARTopo servers. Items discussed during Tricia's one hour refresher included, but were not limited to the following:

- Tips for logging into the app
- Display Options – default (SAR mode, which includes assignments and clues)
- Coordinate Settings – datum (WGS84), units (mixed), format (UTM primary, coordinates secondary)
- Show Heading Line
- North Reference
- How to Load Maps (QR Code, URL, etc...)
- Turning On Location Tracking – using the Record Track icon
- Adding Objects and Clues
- Navigating with SARTopo – enter coordinates and find (similar to GPS units)
- Turning Off Tracking / Saving



At approximately 8:15pm everyone was divided into three teams. Two teams were given exercises that allowed them to practice navigating with SARTopo. Another team was given an assignment to conduct an Initial Search for a victim (scenario provided – victim played by Isaac Huizenga). During the exercises, team members used a variety of functions on their SARTopo apps. The teams were originally going to rotate through all three "stations," but the SARTopo Overview ran long, but was well worth the time. As such, after the first rotation everyone was called back to the staging area, which was the outdoor fitness court.

A short debriefing was held from 8:45pm to 9:00pm, which proved to be very useful. As a result of this training, everyone is "on the same page" as far as the SARTopo app and settings go. Special thanks to Tricia and Lauren for leading the training, which included the overview and exercises. In addition, we appreciate Isaac Huizenga for being a role player / victim for this exercise. Lastly, many thanks to those who attended the training as well!



Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people . . .

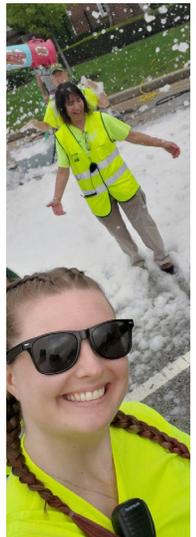
PLAY DAY IN THE COMMONS – JULY 8, 2023

At 9:00am on Saturday, July 8, 2023 seven New Lenox CERT members met on the north side of the Village Hall for a briefing related to "Play Day in the Commons." Beth Alderson, Special Events Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, provided an overview of the event. Following the overview, assignments were determined and our volunteers assisted in a variety of ways. Some of the activities at Play Day in the Commons included:

- Young Entrepreneurs Fair (50+ vendors)
- Magic Show, Performance by "Jeanie B" and Interactive Dance Games with "Chicago Loves Dance"
- Foam Party
- Inflatable Bounces Houses and Inflatable Obstacle Course
- Inflatable Funhouse Maze and Inflatable Bubble Wash
- Visits from Cinderella, Elsa and Ariel
- Face Painters
- Hair Tinsel and Mohawks by Jeffrey LaMorte Salon
- Caricature Artists and Balloon Sculptors
- Hands-On Science Demonstrations
- Exotic Animals Exhibits
- Inflatable Playland for Toddlers

Our volunteers did a great job keeping guests safe and guess what? They had a LOT of fun too!

Activities ended around 2:00pm and it seemed that everyone had a terrific time. Special thanks to our volunteers for helping to make "Play Day in the Commons" a huge success!



Additional Information

Daniel Martin

Safe Community Coordinator

Phone: 815-462-6493

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>



Visit us on Facebook

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

<https://facebook.com/safenewlenox>

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

**MOVIE NIGHT IN THE COMMONS / WEDNESDAY
EVENINGS – JUNE 7TH THRU AUGUST 9TH 2023**

New Lenox CERT members were once again asked to assist with "Movie Night in the Commons" on Wednesday evenings. This detail began on June 7th and concluded on August 9th.

Each Wednesday evening CERT members met at the concession stand in the Commons at 7:30pm to receive a short briefing from New Lenox Police Department personnel. Attendance for a typical movie night was 6-12 CERT members who serve as extra "eyes and ears" for the police department.

In partnership with police department personnel, including police cadets, CERT members "patrolled" areas throughout the Commons before, during and after the movies. This year, activities were added before the movies as well. These activities included 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. Everyone did a terrific job this summer!



**Resolve to Be
Ready
2023**

Preparing Makes Sense
www.ready.gov
#Prepared2023



**safe
COMMUNITIES
AMERICA.**

NEW LENOX, IL

