

Village of New Lenox

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

TRINITY TRIUMPH 5K - JUNE 21, 2018



At 6:00pm on Thursday June 21, 2018 forty-one members of New Lenox CERT and eight members of the Lincoln-Way Central Varsity Football Team met in the Community Room at the Village Hall. Everyone met for a briefing regarding the Trinity Triumph 5K, which was set to start at 7:00pm. Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator for the Village of New Lenox, provided everyone with details regarding the history of the race as well as a description of the course. Medical emergencies were discussed along with communications, traffic control, water station protocol and the location for the debriefing following the race. The briefing concluded at 6:20pm, leaving plenty of time for a group photo on the patio outside the Community Room. Following the photo, everyone headed out to their assignments throughout the course.



The race kicked off at 7:00pm sharp and within a minute the lead runners exited the Commons, heading south toward the Aerohaven subdivision. Our volunteers did an excellent job directing traffic on the interior streets, while New Lenox Emergency Services volunteers handled the major intersections. In addition to keeping the runners and walkers safe, our folks provided a lot of encouragement for the participants as they made their way through the course. Our volunteers had a lot of fun working the water station with the Lincoln-Way Central varsity football players. They had a lot of energy and kept everyone entertained as they passed through the water station. The last walkers made the turn back into the Commons at approximately 8:00pm. Our volunteers met at the main entrance to the Village Hall where a short de-briefing was held.



Our debriefing included some minor points to be mindful of for next year's event. The de-briefing wrapped up at 8:15pm and a number of our volunteers walked over to the Commons for post-race festivities. Special thanks to everyone that helped out with the Trinity Triumph 5K. Great job!!



Our Core Principles:

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

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NIGHT RANGER CONCERT - JUNE 16, 2018

At 4:30pm on Saturday June 16, 2018 twenty-three members of New Lenox CERT arrived at the Village Hall for a briefing related to the Night Ranger Concert. Everyone moved into the Village Council Chambers where Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, went over the Incident Action Plan for the Concert. Those in attendance were advised that the Night Ranger Concert was being sponsored by the Lincoln-Way School District #210 Marching Band. The event was a fundraiser for the marching band because they've been invited to participate in the Rose Parade, which will be held in Pasadena, CA on January 1, 2019. Dan quickly went over the lineup for the evening which included the following timetable:

- The Lincoln-Way Marching Band entering the northeast corner of the venue at 6:00pm to perform in the Commons for approximately 20 minutes.
- The band "Lever" performing at 6:20pm for approximately 60 minutes.
- The band "I-Exist" performing at 7:30pm for approximately 60 minutes.
- The band "Night Ranger" taking the stage at 9:00pm and performing approximately 75-90 minutes.

In addition to the musical entertainment, Dan advised that there would be food and beverage vendors stationed on Veteran's Parkway from the New Lenox Village Hall to the New Lenox Public Library.

Dan then outlined the assignments for the evening and shared information about where the severe weather shelters were located, despite there being no severe weather in the forecast. Everyone in attendance was reminded to stay hydrated as the temperature was in the 90s, with a heat index hovering around 100F. A cooling tent was established at Gate #1, staffed by New Lenox Fire Protection District Paramedics. The rotunda of the Village Hall was also designated as a cooling area if needed. The briefing ended at 4:55pm and everyone walked out to their assignments and were in place by 5:00pm.

The evening went very well with no major issues. The bands performed as scheduled and CERT members did a terrific job with their assignments. Volunteers handled perimeter security, ingress/egress from the Village Hall, aisle integrity in the lawn seating area and assisted those with functional needs with golf cart rides from their vehicles to the venue. The concert ended at 10:30pm at which time concert patrons started making their way to the gates, which were staffed by CERT and New Lenox Police Department personnel. A short de-briefing was held at 11:00pm in the rotunda of the Village Hall. Dan thanked the volunteers and noted what an outstanding job everyone did.



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

THREE NEW LENOX CERT MEMBERS COMPLETE 16-HOUR GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE COURSE - JUNE 9, 2018

Patty Edgett, Christine Dzik, and Jerry Reeves completed a 16-Hour Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) Course on June 9th and 10th. The classroom portion of the course was completed at the Plainfield Law Enforcement Center and the field work was done at Mather Woods in Plainfield. The GSAR Course is approved by the Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC) and was hosted by the Will County Emergency Management Agency.

At 9:00am on Saturday June 9th the course began with an overview of GSAR and covered topics such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Lost Person Behavior, and a special segment on autistic children. Participants learned about how various types of searches are conducted and GSAR basics – navigation (compass & maps) flankers, flagging, crew leaders, etc...



After lunch the class re-grouped at Mather Woods in Plainfield for field exercises. Participants worked on AMDR (Average Maximum Detection Range), which was followed by an evidence search that utilized playing cards and golf balls. Participants worked in various types of vegetation and learned how to pivot their line as they swept an open field searching for objects. The class also practiced navigation with a compass as well as utilizing flankers as flaggers. For the night exercise teams entered a wooded area with the goal of finding articles of clothing, or "clues." The training concluded at approximately 10:30pm.



On Sunday morning participants met again at Mather Woods at 9:30am for the field exercise. After initial instruction, participants were challenged with finding a missing person, "Brian." The teams split-up into different sections of the woods, where they practiced flanking and being Crew Leaders. Team members were reminded to look up into the trees, where a few pieces of clothing actually were located. One of the lessons learned from the exercise was that muddied clothing can easily blend into the ground and knee-high vegetation. Sunday was a rainy, steamy day, which was a good test to see how rain gear (and bug spray) worked.

The field exercise concluded at 1:00pm and after a debriefing, instructor evaluation sheets were completed. The certificates of completion were presented and our New Lenox CERT members took photo with their certificates in hand. Congratulations to Patty, Christine and Jerry – well done!

SAR TRAINING WITH KENDALL COUNTY SAR AND AFFILIATES - JUNE 9, 2018

At 8:00am on Saturday June 9, 2018 five members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met in the upper level parking lot of the New Lenox Village Hall. Our team members met for the purpose of carpooling to the Pickerill-Pigott Forest Preserve, 63508 Minkler Road, Yorkville, IL for training with Kendall County SAR and affiliates. As it was pouring rain, everyone loaded their gear and squeezed into one vehicle for the 45-minute drive to the forest preserve.



The team arrived at 8:45am, geared up, and reported to staging. Kim Gotte, Section Chief, Search and Rescue, Kendall County Emergency Management Agency, welcomed the twenty or so that were in attendance. During this particular training, three volunteers (two from New Lenox) who had previously completed SARM (Search and Rescue Management), handled SAR management duties. While the SAR managers were getting set-up, Kim provided a refresher on AMDR (Average Maximum Detection Range). Kim provided an overview of AMDR, which in summary is the average distance in which a searcher can see an object in the terrain to be searched. In addition to the overview, several volunteers participated in a demonstration that included counting paces from an object and back to the object. After each count, team members rotated positions in clockwise fashion until approximately 6 measurements were taken and averaged. In addition to the AMDR demonstration, Kim spent some time talking about search lines and starting outside of a wooded area with curvature. The discussion also included the roles of flankers and principles of flagging.

Following the AMDR and search line discussion, everyone met for a briefing. In short, participants were divided into three teams and asked to search for an adult male who had not returned home. Everyone was given a physical description of the "victim," a clothing description, medical information, Point Last Seen, and other pertinent information. Teams, assigned as Alpha, Bravo and Charlie, left the staging area and walked to their assigned search areas. During the exercise, searchers had an opportunity to practice leadership (Crew Leader), AMDR, searching in thick vegetation, flagging, communication, teamwork, and related SAR disciplines. By 1:00pm all the teams returned to the staging area for a de-briefing. Much was learned from the exercise and the opportunity to network with volunteers from other SAR teams was very worthwhile. After wrapping up, our team left at 1:15pm and returned to New Lenox by 2:00pm. Special thanks to our volunteers who attended this training!

CHASING THE SUN 5K - JUNE 7, 2018

At 6:00pm on Thursday June 7, 2018, thirty members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. CERT members were joined by volunteers from New Lenox Emergency Services as well as Will County ARES. The purpose of getting together was to conduct a briefing for the Chasing the Sun 5K Race, sponsored by the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce and the New Lenox Community Park District. Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator for the Village of New Lenox and CERT Program Coordinator, provided everyone with a background on the race as well as an overview of the assignments. The assignments included the staffing of a water station at Wildwood & Gear (Wildwood Park) as well as race marshal duties at the following locations:



- Mustang Lane & Gear Drive
- Beechcraft Drive & Beech Lane
- Boeing Drive & Joliet Highway
- Joliet Highway & Stafford
- Young Drive & Woodlawn Road
- Woodlawn Road & Cernan Drive
- Glenn Drive & Joliet Highway
- Joliet Highway & Gear Drive
- Joliet Highway & Wildwood Drive
- Joliet Highway & Western Avenue
- Joliet Highway & Wisconsin Road
- Wisconsin Road & Central Road
- Central Road & Siesta
- Central Road & Wildwood Drive

Instructions for before, during and after the race were provided. In addition, a safety briefing was held, which included methods to handles various emergencies. The briefing concluded at 6:20pm at which time everyone gathered outside the Community Room for a group photo. Following the photo, everyone headed out to their assignments.

The race kicked-off at 7:00pm and included a large contingent of walkers at the back of the pack. All runners and walkers passing through the race marshal positions and water station were cheered on by our CERT volunteers. The run / walk was completed by approximately 8:00pm with nothing of significance to report. A de-briefing was conducted at the main entrance (upper level) of the Village Hall. Everyone that assisted with the event was thanked for their efforts before departing at approximately 8:15pm. Special thanks to all the volunteers who did an outstanding job!

NEW LENOX SAR TRAINING / SEARCH FOR MISSING BOY – JUNE 4, 2018

At 6:15pm on Monday June 4, 2018 New Lenox SAR Members received a Nixle text message and email to report to 13944 Leanne Court in Mokena, IL regarding a missing 5-year old boy. The text message and email was sent, in part, to test the team’s ability to respond to an activation. It was also sent to simulate a staggered response, which would occur if it were a real search. The first team members started arriving on scene at 6:30pm and reported to “SAR Command,” which was staffed by Rich DeVault and Phillia Mitchell who were responsible for planning this particular training. Including Rich and Phillia, 12 team members were on scene by 7:00pm at which time Rich provided a briefing to the team.



In summary, a 4 ½ year old boy was last seen playing at a home in the neighborhood during the time when there was a white van driving around. It was believed that the subject in the white van was trying to lure children into the van. Team members were given the boy’s description as well as a photo that was taken by the boy’s mother earlier in the day. Two teams of 5 were established to search two areas, which included approximately 10 properties in each area. Team Alpha was instructed to communicate with Phillia, while Team Bravo was instructed to communicate with Rich. The teams deployed into the subdivision at approximately 7:15pm.

The teams worked their way around the neighborhood, checking front yards and backyards. The lots in the neighborhood were quite large and were well landscaped. As such, teams had to search in bushes, trees, tall grass, under decks, etc... Clues that were found along the way included a Chicago Blackhawks ball cap, a plastic baseball, a plastic baseball bat, and a child’s shoe. Each clue was called into SAR Command with UTM coordinates. The path of the clues led back to the child’s home where he was located in a drainage ditch in good condition shortly after 8:00pm. A de-briefing was led by Rich and Phillia. The de-briefing included the team’s response, finding of the clues, utilizing UTM coordinates, communications, and search methods.



Special thanks to Rich and Phillia for leading this training, which was excellent. This included notification of neighbors (verbal in-person and flyers), notification to Will County Sheriff’s Police, photos of the “Victim,” maps, scenario, placement of clues, etc... Also, thanks to those who participated. Everyone did a great job!

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

STREATOR AND DWIGHT, ILLINOIS EVIDENCE SEARCHES - MAY 26 & JUNE 2, 2018

At 6:30am on Saturday May 26, 2018 ten members of New Lenox SAR met at the Village Hall to carpool to Streator, IL to assist with an evidence search. The staging location that was established was Woodland High School, 5800 E. 3000 North Road in Streator, IL. The team drove several vehicles to the search and arrived at the staging area in a little over one hour.

Following a briefing, our team was divided. Eight NLSAR members made up their own team, while two NLSAR members joined another team that was made up of searchers from several jurisdictions. By the early afternoon, temperatures were in the 90s as the teams walked ditches adjacent to the roadway. The bulk of the search was along Route 17 from Streator to Dwight. This was the direction of travel of a police pursuit for homicide suspects who later crashed their vehicle on Route 17 near Interstate 55. SAR teams participating in the search were searching for evidence related to the crime. Due to the intense heat, the search ended shortly after 3:00pm and all NLSAR members were back in New Lenox by 4:30pm.

At 6:15am on Saturday June 2nd eight members of New Lenox SAR met at the Village Hall to carpool to Dwight, IL to assist with an evidence search. The staging location that was established was the Shell Gas Station located at Route 17 & Interstate 55. The team drove several vehicles to the search, arriving at the staging area by 7:15am. On this search, all eight NLSAR members stayed together and the team's first assignment was a 3-mile stretch of Route 17. This assignment was completed by approximately 10:45am at which time the team was given an additional assignment.

The second assignment included an area about the size of two football fields and encompassed the location where the suspects had crashed their vehicle. Approximately 20 minutes into the search, our team located an item of interest that was not touched in any manner. SAR Command was notified, who in turn notified law enforcement officials. Law enforcement and SAR Command arrived within two minutes and the scene was turned over to them. Our team completed the search area and returned to the staging area. After a break, which included food and hydration, our team headed back to New Lenox.

With much gratitude, thanks to all of our volunteers who participated in this extremely important search. Your commitment, dedication and willingness to give your time was remarkable!



TRIAGE, TREATMENT AND TRANSPORT - MAY 24, 2018

At 5:00pm on Thursday May 24, 2018 set-up for the evening's training began. This included setting-up the moulage area as well as the triage, treatment and transport stations. Shortly before 6:00pm role players began to arrive at the Village Hall for their moulage (theatrical makeup) to help with their roles as "victims." The moulage team did an outstanding job applying the cosmetics to 32 volunteers in approximately 45 minutes. All of the "victims," young and old, took a group photo before heading out into the Commons where the scenario was being held.

At 7:00pm Dan Martin welcomed everyone that arrived for training and quickly turned the floor over to Patty Edgett who provided a refresher on TRIAGE. Patty's overview included reminding the team to conduct a size-up, reminding them to utilize colored tape to triage "victims" in 30-60 seconds and that anyone classified as red, or immediate, should be treated. Patty then turned the floor over to Lisa Zurales who provided an overview of TREATMENT. Lisa Z went over the injury classifications (Red/Immediate, Yellow/Delayed, Green/Minor and Black/Deceased). Lisa noted that the "victims" would be on color coded tarps and the treatment supplies would be between the Red and Yellow areas. Team members were reminded to wear proper PPE and to simulate glove changes between "victims." Lisa Z then turned the floor over to Lisa Murphy who provided an overview of TRANSPORT. Lisa M explained to everyone in attendance that there would be 5 stations set-up for team members to practice transport techniques. Lisa went over blanket carries, chair carries, one person carries (fireman and pack strap) as well as makeshift carries (lumber, blankets and tarps). Following the short overviews, everyone in attendance was divided into three groups. After quickly dressing, everyone left the Village Hall for the Commons.

Groups were given 20-minutes at each of the stations and then they rotated to the next assigned station. Our station leads did an excellent job with instructions, "victims" did an excellent job with their roles and team members did an excellent job at each station. Before each group rotated to the next station, short de-briefings were held to emphasize training points. At approximately 8:20pm the last station was completed and everyone helped with clean-up before heading back to the Community Room. All role players were thanked for their time and the value that they brought to the training.

Inside the Community Room a debriefing was held for each of the stations. Patty Edgett and Jean Mandella discussed the Triage Station. Lisa Zurales and Tricia Pakosz discussed the Treatment Station. Lisa Murphy, Joe Frigo and Rich DeVault discussed the Transport Station. A number of team members had questions and comments. Overall there was some excellent discussion and much was learned by the end of the evening. Special thanks to our station leads for doing a great job. Again, special thanks to those who played "victims" and great job by everyone that participated!



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAIN-THE-TRAINER - MAY 22, 2018

On Tuesday May 22, 2018 the Will County Emergency Management Agency, in conjunction with FEMA Region V, hosted an 8-hour Emergency Preparedness Train-the-Trainer Workshop at Catholic Charities in Joliet, IL. New Lenox CERT was well represented!

The workshop had four components: personal preparedness, organizational preparedness, community preparedness, and active shooter training.

Special thanks to our awesome volunteers for attending this training!



Pictured left to right are Jeff Hotter, Rex Toepke, Sara Morrey, Pamela Vinson, Amy Malina, Chris Thunherst and Jenn Huizenga.

NEW LENOX SCHOOL DISTRICT #122 PTO 5K COLOR RUN - MAY 19, 2018

At 7:15am on Saturday May 19, 2018 thirty-two members of New Lenox CERT met in the parking lot at Nelson Prairie / Nelson Ridge School for a pre-race briefing. As it lightly rained, everyone gathered around to discuss the particulars of the 5K color run, which had approximately 180 registrants. New Lenox CERT assignments included two water stations (Echo Dr. & Molly Ct. & finish line) as well as 13 race marshal positions throughout the course. In addition to New Lenox CERT volunteers, 7 volunteers from Will County ARES were also on hand to assist with communications. The briefing concluded at 7:30am and after a quick photo, everyone headed out to their respective assignments.



The race started on Nelson Road in front of the school campus at 8:00am. Before the first turn at Grand Mesa Drive, participants were showered with powered coloring from volunteers at the first color station. Runners and walkers then made their way through the Palmer Ranch subdivision with our volunteers positioned at many of the corners along the route. As the participants passed each of the race marshal positions as well as water station #1, our volunteers cheered them on. Speaking of cheering, following the race a participant commented that it was his first 5K and that he really appreciated the encouragement throughout the course from our volunteers.

By approximately 9:00am all the participants had completed the course, which ended back at the Nelson Campus. Following the event our team, as well as the Will County ARES volunteers, met near the finish line water station for a de-briefing. A couple minor points for improvement were discussed, but for the most part everything went great. Special thanks to all of our volunteers for doing a fantastic job to support this 5K!



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TRIPLE PLAY CONCERT SERIES TICKET SALES - MAY 19, 2018

At 6:00am on Saturday May 19, 2018 four New Lenox CERT volunteers met at the New Lenox Village Hall to assist staff with Triple Play Concert Series ticket sales. John Opoka took the lead on this event and made sure that everyone had radios for communication during the event. New Lenox CERT was asked to assist with the lines that were expected to form from residents eager to purchase their tickets for concert season. Our volunteers did a wonderful job during ticket sales and were dismissed at approximately 9:00am after the lines were reduced to a manageable level for Village staff. Special thanks to our awesome volunteers for helping out!



CRIBBING DEMONSTRATION WITH SCOUTS - MAY 15, 2018

At 6:30pm on Tuesday May 15, 2018 two New Lenox CERT members provided a cribbing demonstration to the New Lenox Troop 12 Boy Scouts. The training took place during a regularly scheduled Troop 12 meeting at the New Lenox United Methodist Church. After opening business was conducted, the 28 scouts were broken into two groups. Group 1 went outside for other duties while Group 2 stayed indoors for the cribbing training. CERT team members Tricia Pakosz and John Schuld provided an overview of cribbing fundamentals. Topics included personal safety and examples of cribbing material that might be available in a disaster environment. After discussion and review of slides on a tablet, the scouts were broken into two groups of seven and practiced removing "victims" trapped under two separate piles of debris. After approximately 30 minutes, Group 2 went outdoors and Group 1 came inside for cribbing their training.

After all training was done, CERT members Tricia and John conducted a debriefing. The scouts were reminded about the importance of safety and teamwork. The scouts were also encouraged to seek out additional opportunities for training as "Emergency Preparedness" is a required Merit Badge to attain the rank of Eagle Scout.



ASSIST NLFPD / SMOKE ALARM INSTALLATIONS - MAY 17, 2018

At 5:45pm on Thursday May 17, 2018 fourteen members of New Lenox CERT met in the parking lot of Laraway Lanes Bowling Alley (Laraway Road & Nelson Road) for a briefing with personnel from the New Lenox Fire Protection District (NLFPD). The team was asked to assist with smoke alarm and CO detector installations in a nearby subdivision. Approximately two weeks earlier, CERT members assisted in distributing flyers about the American Red Cross / NLFPD program to residents. As a result of the flyers being distributed, 13 homeowners contacted the NLFPD to request installations.

Marisa Schrieber, Fire & Life Safety Educator/PIO for NLFPD, explained the paperwork that needed to be completed at each of the homes. Marisa went on to explain that she had created five teams with each team having 2 or 3 homes each. The installations were scheduled for approximately 6:00pm, 6:30pm and 7:00pm. After covering smoke alarm nomenclature and how they operate, everyone gathered in front of a NLFPD fire truck for a photo before leaving for the nearby subdivision.

At approximately 6:15pm teams of CERT and NLFPD personnel set-off with step ladders, drills, screw drivers and hammers in hand to complete their assigned installations. Installations were completed in the following areas:

- 2400 block of Kerry Winde Drive
- 2100 block of Sanford Avenue
- 2100 block of Digby Drive
- 1600 block of Carlton Court
- 1600 block of Argyle Lane
- 2200 and 2300 block of Jackson Branch Drive

CERT volunteers worked hand-in-hand with firefighter/ paramedics and a NLFPD Trustee who was also kind enough to assist. Each of the teams developed a great routine with each volunteer contributing in various ways. It was also great to see how appreciative the residents were of the program and the volunteers who were doing the work. Working together, 54 smoke alarms were installed, 13 smoke alarm batteries were replaced, and several CO detectors were installed as well. In total, the teams updated / checked 67 smoke alarms!

This was an extremely enjoyable and rewarding project. Special thanks to the NLFPD for asking our team to participate and we look forward to future opportunities. Also, special thanks to everyone that participated. Everyone really did an outstanding job!



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NEW LENOX SAR TRAINING / HYPOTHERMIA TREATMENT AND SEARCH - MAY 10, 2018

At 7:00pm on Thursday May 10, 2018 thirteen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met in the 700 block of Bittersweet Lane for monthly training. This particular training was led by Tricia Pakosz and Linda Tomnitz and included treatment for hypothermia ("burrito wrap"), a search in a wooded area, and transport of a live "victim."

Tricia kicked off the training with an overview of how to properly wrap someone who is potentially hypothermic. Tricia's overview included viewing two short videos that showed viewers how to properly wrap and secure someone. Following the overview everyone had an opportunity to wrap Rescue Randy Jr. (training mannequin). The wrap included a ground tarp, a thick (exercise) mat / pad, a wool blanket and a "space" blanket. Once secured inside the wrap, team members secured him with a 50' length of climbing rope. The rope was started at Randy's feet and in daisy-chain fashion, was secured back and forth upward to his shoulders.



As Tricia had planned, two male teens interrupted the training to report that their 17-year old male friend had not been seen in approximately one hour. Apparently the teens were playing paintball, became separated in a wooded area nearby and has not been seen since. A complete description of the missing youth was provided and the teens led the team to the wooded area where their friend was last seen. The team made a quick plan, conducted critical spacing consistent with the victim's physical stature, and began a line search for the victim. The wooded area was very thick with lots of thorn bushes. After approximately 15 minutes the youth was located and found to have a severely sprained ankle, which prohibited him from walking. Team members treated the youth accordingly and carried him out of the thick brush and to an opening where he was transferred to a portable stretcher. The youth was then transported back to the staging area where all three role players were thanked.

Following a short de-brief of the exercise the team did more hands-on practice with the burrito wrap using team members as "victims." After a short discussion regarding upcoming events, training concluded just before 9:00pm. Special thanks to Tricia and Linda for leading this training and to our team members who attended.



40TH ANNUAL LOYALTY DAY PARADE - MAY 6, 2018

At 12:00pm on Sunday May 6, 2018 approximately 30 members of New Lenox CERT met at the Village Hall to decorate the CERT parade float. A number of volunteers started wrapping the float's handrails in green and yellow streamers while others started blowing up green and yellow balloons. In no time at all the flatbed trailer was transformed into a parade float that would carry many of our team members and their children. After a quick photo opportunity everyone made their way onto the float and prepared for a slow and safe drive over to Cedar Road & 4th Street, our designated staging location.



By 1:15pm our float was parked at the staging location which provided a great opportunity to visit while waiting for the parade to kick-off. While waiting, additional friends and family arrived bringing our participant total to about 60! Everyone had either candy or literature (New Lenox CERT newsletters, IEMA Severe Weather Preparedness Guides, Ready.gov preparedness and disaster supply kit pamphlets) to hand out along the parade route. Many of our volunteers also carried American flags to show support for the U.S. and members of the military.



At 2:00pm the parade started right on time and our team's float was toward the front of the parade, behind the New Lenox Fire Protection District.

The parade route (Cedar Road and Haven Avenue) was lined with families with children who were eagerly awaiting their opportunity to catch some candy. Our volunteers did a great job getting preparedness literature into the hands of the adults along the parade route, which took approximately 40 minutes to walk.

The parade ended in the Commons near the New Lenox Public Library. Our float was driven back to the upper level of the Village Hall and disassembled. Everyone that participated was thanked for their time and efforts. This was especially the case for Gary Cook who picked-up the trailer from Public Works, worked on it at his home, and pulled it with his pick-up truck in the parade. Great job team!



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ASSIST NEW LENOX FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT / SMOKE ALARM FLYER DISTRIBUTION - APRIL 25, 2018

At 6:00pm on Wednesday April 25, 2018 fifteen members of New Lenox CERT met in the parking lot at Laraway Road and Nelson Road to assist the New Lenox Fire Protection District (NLFPD). Daniel Martin, CERT Program Coordinator provided the briefing along with Marisa Schrieber, Public Education Coordinator for the NLFPD. In short, the NLFPD is collaborating with the American Red Cross who has offered supply smoke alarms (including installation) to those who need them. There had been a house fire in a nearby subdivision that includes older homes. The NLFPD felt that would be a good starting place to distribute flyers to let residents know about the program. Our volunteers were provided copies of flyers that outlined the program as well as maps that included the assignment areas. The briefing concluded at approximately 6:10pm at which time everyone drove a short distance to the starting point.

Volunteers were divided into two-person teams and given areas that included between 10-15 homes. At 6:20pm everyone left the staging area and began going door-to-door distributing the flyers for the free program. By 6:40pm the team had returned and most teams reported having positive contacts with residents who were pleased to see the program being offered in their neighborhood. Teams were given a second area and new maps that again, included about 10-15 homes per team. By 7:00pm everyone had returned and reported additional positive contacts from residents. Many of the residents said that they would be contacting the NLFPD to set-up an appointment for smoke alarm installation.

Both Dan and Marisa thanked all the volunteers who did a great job helping out. Our team looks forward to helping the NLFPD on May 17th with installations.



STOP THE BLEED (B-CON) TRAINING - APRIL 24, 2018

At 7:00pm on Tuesday April 24, 2018, seventy members of the New Lenox CERT met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for monthly training. This month's topic was a first for the team – Stop the Bleed (B-Con or Bleeding Control Training). Daniel Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone in attendance and then introduced the following instructors:

- Patricia Edgett – New Lenox CERT and RN (ret.)
- Brandon Tilton – New Lenox PD and Army Medic
- Chuck Geraci – New Lenox CERT, Alsip EMA, and Alsip FD (ret. Chief)
- Dr. Thomas Cartolano – Trauma Surgeon, Advocate Medical Group, Christ Hospital

The floor was then turned over to Dr. Cartolano who provided everyone in attendance with the Stop the Bleed presentation. Right out of the box, Dr. Cartolano was awesome! He covered all the information in the Stop the Bleed PowerPoint and also mixed in a lot of great real life trauma stories. The doc talked about why bleeding control training is so important. Examples included, but are not limited to, work-related injuries, home injuries, motor vehicle crashes, mass shootings and terrorist incidents. The primary principles of immediate response were covered and included:

- A** – Alert, call 9-1-1
- B** – Bleeding, find the bleeding injury (types of life threatening discussed)
- C** – Compress, apply pressure to stop the bleeding (methods discussed)

Dr. Cartolano also spoke about rescuer safety, including proper P.P.E. (personal protective equipment). At this point everyone understood the following sequence and what to do: Ensure safety > Look for life threatening bleeding > Is a trauma first-aid kit available? > YES > Where is the wound? > Arm or leg > Is a tourniquet available immediately? > YES > Apply above the bleeding site > Tighten until the bleeding stops

A fair amount of time was spent talking about types of tourniquets and their proper application. Again, some great stories were told by Dr. Cartolano, which helped take the mystery out of tourniquet application and dispelled several myths as well. A video was shown depicting the proper application of a tourniquet, which complemented the slides showing step-by-step application. The presentation then moved into wound packing, preferably with a hemostatic dressing. Dr. Cartolano spoke about the importance of packing the wound and applying direct pressure. A second video was shown that showed how to do the technique. Before moving into the hands-on practice, there was a short discussion about utilizing a tourniquet on children and what to do if exposed to blood while assisting a victim. Dr. Cartolano summarized the course and left everyone with the statement "The only thing more tragic than a death... is a death that **could have been prevented.**"

The remaining time in class was spent doing the hands-on tourniquet application and wound packing. Everyone in attendance applied the tourniquet on themselves as well as a partner. In addition, everyone also had a chance to practice with the wound injury models by packing the hemostatic training gauze into the simulated injuries. Dr. Cartolano did a wrap-up and Dan Martin came back up to thank the doc as well as the other Stop the Bleed instructors. Congratulations to everyone that completed the course and for participating in the training, which concluded at approximately 9:15pm.



TEEX WIDE AREA SEARCH 3-DAY COURSE - APRIL 20, 2018

At 7:45am on Friday April 20, 2018, seven members of New Lenox CERT arrived at Local 150 training facility at 19800 W South Arsenal Rd. in Wilmington, IL for a 3-day Wide Area Search Training. The training was scheduled from 8:00am to 5:00pm each day, with a 1 hour lunch break. Other participating agencies included: Chicago CERT, Illinois State Police, North Aurora CERT, Will County EMA and SAR, Frankfort FD, Lockport EMA, and New Lenox ESDA, for a total of 33 attendees. There were three Instructors from TEEX (Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service.) They all had experience in challenging operations that included Hurricane Katrina, World Trade Center disaster, the Space Shuttle Columbia recovery operation and other severe weather events.



The class began with the introduction of instructors, then attendees. The tables were arranged so the attendees were to work with members from other teams. The class was instructed in practical search methods and skills that can be applied to not only large scale searches, but smaller ones as well. The training also stressed the importance of properly filling out forms to insure that the information gathered is consistent and useful to others.

The group also practiced the markings and signage that is placed on homes and other structures to let others know the status, what was found, warnings, etc. Proper mapping techniques were also stressed to make sure the priority areas are given the attention they deserve in an emergency situation. The class followed the "Cycle of Preparedness" consisting of the 4 P's: Preplan—Prepare—Practice—Perform. The groups presented briefings, debriefings, team assignments, and mapping of the assigned areas for final exercise. At times, the attendees were put in dynamic, stressful situations that are found in real life emergency situations.

Everyone did a great job and survived this intensive 3-day training course. Special thanks to our volunteers who gave three days of their time to learn high level skills that can be utilized following a large-scale disaster.

SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING / HEALTH AND SAFETY EXPO – APRIL 19, 2018

At 4:00pm on Thursday April 19, 2018 a number of New Lenox CERT volunteers arrived at Lincoln-Way West High School to assist with the Health and Safety Expo, which was scheduled from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Our volunteers did a great job assisting representatives from the various participating organizations by carrying items and showing them to their tables. In addition, our volunteers helped with the Health and Safety Expo set-up, brought door prizes into the auditorium and set-up the CERT informational table.



At approximately 6:15pm many of our CERT volunteers assisted the Will County Emergency Management Agency volunteers with registration for the Severe Weather Spotter Training, which was scheduled from 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the auditorium. Our volunteers helped set-up the registration tables, which included separating and stacking Severe Weather Preparedness Guides. Our volunteers greeted guests as they arrived and showed them to the registration tables inside the auditorium. CERT volunteers also monitored the auditorium to ensure that enough seating was available for over 700 individuals that had pre-registered.



The Health and Safety Expo was a huge success and our team's informational table looked great. The Severe Weather Spotter Training was also a big hit. At the end of the presentation, our volunteers helped hand out door prizes after ticket numbers were drawn. The training, including the drawing, wrapped up just before 9:00pm. Special thanks to all of our volunteers who assisted with the event and / or attended the Severe Weather Spotter Training!



NLSAR TRAINING WITH KENDALL COUNTY EMA/SAR - APRIL 14, 2018

Three members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met in the upper level parking lot of the Village Hall on Saturday April 14, 2018 and carpoled to Harris Forest Preserve, 10460 Rt. 71, Yorkville, IL to attend SAR training hosted by Kendall County EMA / SAR.

Training started promptly at 9:00am with an introduction from Kim Gotte, Kendall County EMA / SAR and Chair of the Illinois Search and Rescue Council. Kim introduced co-presenter Levi Gotte, Chief Deputy Coroner for Kendall County and current Deputy Director of Operations for the Kendall County Emergency Management Agency. Approximately 30 members from multiple agencies were present for the training.

Chief Deputy Levi Gotte provided a technical presentation regarding lightening and safety for the first responder, which included the following facts:

- A lightning strike is 3x hotter than the sun and can power a light bulb for 3 months.
- 40% of strikes occur in open fields, 23% under trees, 14% boats / water, 5% golf, 5% machine, 4% poles, 9% misc.
- Victims are 84% male and 16% female.
- Second leading cause of storm deaths. Kills 10% of victims, others sustain life long disabilities such a memory loss and coordination problems.
- \$ 5 Billion annual impact to U.S.
- Lightning can strike 10 miles outside of storm.

There is no safe location, just safer locations during a lightning storm. Safer locations include fully enclosed structures and avoiding any conducting path to the outside such as appliances, doors, plumbing and phones. If in a car, remain inside keeping windows closed and do not touch any metal such as steering wheel, pedals, gear shift and door.

As a first responder, designate a weather watcher and be aware of the secondary hazards associated with lightning strikes, which can include steam explosions, fallen wires, electrical fires, house fires, forest fires, blast injury (tree impalements very common), side flash, contact voltage, and ground current effect.

A few reminders when providing First Aid to a lightning victim:

- Do not expose yourself in attempt to render assistance.
- Injured persons do NOT retain an electrical charge.
- Get injured person to safer location to provide medical attention.
- If victim is unconscious or not breathing, provide CPR.

Kim Gotte then provided a technical presentation on Global Positioning System, which included the following facts:

- Distance between earth and the moon is 239,000 miles.
- Circumference of the earth is 24,900 miles.
- Earth rotates 1,038 miles per hour, rotating once every day.
- GPS project was launched by the U.S. in 1973 for military purposes, became operational in 1975 and available to the public in 2000.
- There are 24 satellites currently orbiting a distance of 12,000 miles from earth and are powered by the sun.
- A GPS satellite orbits the earth every 12 hrs.
- There are six orbital plans, with four satellites per plan. This provides six views of any one location baring physical or structural barrier.

The exercise portion, included putting designated UTM coordinates into our GPS units, proceeding in small groups to locate the position within Harris Forest Preserve, identify associated objects and decode a hidden message. Upon return to the shelter, the coordinates were used to upload to the Garmin Basecamp and CalTopo to review locations and trail.

The training concluded at 1:10pm and team members arrived back in New Lenox at 2:10pm.



NEW LENOX SAR ANNUAL PHYSICAL AGILITY TEST - APRIL 11, 2018

At 6:30pm on Wednesday April 11, 2018 members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team began to arrive at the Will County Forest Preserve District's Hickory Creek Preserve / Hickory Creek Barrens, located on Schoolhouse Road & Route 30. The team was meeting for the purpose of completing the Annual Physical Agility Test, administered by Lisa Murphy and Joe Frigo, who had already completed the test. At 6:45pm everyone car pooled to the start, approximately ½ east, at Hickory Creek Junction. After some light stretching and a team photo the test commenced at 7:00pm.



The walking / bike path through the forest preserve was very scenic and contained a number of hills. As such, the 3-mile physical agility test was challenging. This was especially the case since everyone was wearing hiking boots and carrying all required equipment. At approximately 7:43pm the first team members crossed the finish line and within five minutes all other team members had completed the course as well. Everyone successfully completed the course in under 50 minutes, as required by the team's Standard Operating Guidelines.

Within five minutes of the test, Joe and Lisa had some additional challenges set-up for the team to complete. The first consisted of a fireman's carry of Rescue Randy Jr. The challenge was to carry the mannequin approximately 75 yards, turn around at a traffic cone, then carry him back to the start. The second challenge was to carry a 50lb. sand bag (men 2, women 1) approximately 75 yards, turn around at a traffic cone, then return to the start. The third and final challenge was to drag a semi-truck tire with a rope the same distance, walking backwards. Women were allowed to drag the tire one way and men were required to drag the tire both out and back.

Following the challenges the team held a short de-briefing and discussed upcoming events. The training concluded at approximately 8:30pm. Congratulations to everyone that successfully completed the annual test and special thanks to Lisa and Joe for leading the training!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday July 10, 2018 / 7:00pm - New Lenox SAR Training (Search and Med Ops) at location TBD

Saturday July 14, 2018 / 9:00am – New Lenox SAR Training (Evidence, Crime Scene Preservation and I.D. of Human Remains) with Kendall County SAR at location TBD

Thursday July 26, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox CERT Semi-Annual Meeting and Training (Basic Land Navigation) at location TBD

Friday July 27, 2018 / 10:30am – Special Needs Day at Proud American Days at lot just east of Walmart

Saturday August 4, 2018 / 11:00am – New Lenox Fire Protection District Family Fun Day at NLFPD Station #1

Tuesday August 7, 2018 / 6:00pm – National Night Out at the New Lenox Police Department

Wednesday August 8, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Training (Survival Skills) at location TBD

Saturday August 11, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Training (Night Search) with Kendall County SAR at location TBD

Saturday August 11, 2018 / 4:30pm – Triple Play Concert (Chris Isaak) at the New Lenox Commons

Saturday August 18, 2018 / 8:00am – New Lenox CERT Training (Full-Scale Exercise) at location TBD

Saturday August 25, 2018 / 4:30pm – Triple Play Concert (Bruce Hornsby) at the New Lenox Commons

Thursday September 6, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Training (Navigation – Compass and GPS) at location TBD

Saturday September 8, 2018 / 9:00am – New Lenox SAR Training (Drones, Patient Packaging and Transport) with Kendall County SAR at location TBD

Wednesday September 12, 2018 / 6:30pm – New Lenox CERT Class #14 Starts in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall

Thursday September 20, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox CERT Training (Survival Skills) at location TBD

New Lenox CERT Activity

New Lenox SAR Activity



Additional Information

Daniel Martin

Safe Community Coordinator

Phone: 815-462-6493

Fax: 815-462-6469

Email: dmartin@newlenox.net



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<https://facebook.com/safenewlenox>

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

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

CERT Class #13 graduated on Saturday October 28, 2017. It was an excellent class with many folks eager to become part of our team! Our next class will start on Wednesday September 12, 2018 at the New Lenox Village Hall. Classes will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm for seven weeks. The Final Exercise and Graduation will be held on Saturday October 27th, 2018 from 8:00am to 1:00pm. Contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, at (815) 462-6493 or via email at dmartin@newlenox.net to register for the class.

Congratulations to the following classes:

- Class 1 Graduation 10/17/2009
- Class 2 Graduation 12/05/2009
- Class 3 Graduation 02/27/2010
- Class 4 Graduation 10/30/2010
- Class 5 Graduation 04/09/2011
- Class 6 Graduation 11/12/2011
- Class 7 Graduation 10/20/2012
- Class 8 Graduation 10/19/2013
- Class 9 Graduation 10/25/2014
- Class 10 Graduation 10/31/2015
- Class 11 Graduation 03/12/2016
- Class 12 Graduation 10/29/2016
- Class 13 Graduation 10/28/2017

To learn more about the CERT program and the 20-Hour Basic Class, visit

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/>

SPOTLIGHT MEMBER - JENN HUIZENGA

I grew up in Lansing IL with five sisters and four brothers. Because we lived outside of the city limits we enjoyed having horses. We had cousins living nearby so we spent many summer days riding the horses out in the country. We also loved camping, and would take a two-week trip every summer. My favorite vacations were fishing trips to Canada. We also went to the Smoky Mountains, Missouri, and often to northern Wisconsin.

After high school I attended Trinity Christian College. I graduated with a B.A. in Psychology and a Sociology minor. While I was there I met my future husband and we were married 4 months after I graduated. Our first home was an apartment in Crestwood.

Within a year we were expecting our first baby and wanted to be homeowners. We began looking in the southwest suburbs. We finally found a home in Manhattan and have been there 37 years. My husband has been a mechanic at Ozinga for 33 years.

We have been blessed with 11 children. The six oldest are now grown. Our oldest son works for Bothwell Farms in Manhattan. Another son and his little boy live in Memphis, TN. He works for Jared's as a bench jeweler. Four of our daughters are married. One lives in Plainfield and has five children, another lives in Beecher and is expecting their first. And two more live in Crown Point, one also has five children and the other is also expecting their first. That adds up to 11 grandchildren with two more arriving in October & November. We still have five at home, a special needs adult son, a son that works for Ozinga in the Channahon quarry, and a son that works at Excel Electric in Frankfort. And last of all are two daughters, one in high school and one in junior high. We attend church in Monee, my husband is a deacon and I serve on the Hospitality Committee.

I've been involved in food service since I was in high school. I've worked as a waitress, cook, dishwasher and hostess. My brother-in-law owned a restaurant and I enjoyed working there. He soon started his own catering business and I continued to work when he was short on staff. I currently work part-time at Trinity Christian College in the catering department. I also work in the Dining Hall if it's needed. I've been there 10 years and really enjoy the people I work with.

In my free time I enjoy reading, needlework, especially cross-stitch, and recently I started quilting. I've made a few traditional quilts but I've also made several memory quilts for friends who lost a loved one. I use the clothing from their family member, t-shirts, dress shirts, ties, or whatever they provide and make a blanket from the clothing. It's a special moment when they see their quilt the first time. I enjoy giving them a way to treasure the memories.

My husband and I both have seen the volunteer spirit modeled by our parents and families. We learned early about helping others and giving back to the community. Even though I have plenty to keep me busy I was looking for a way to get more involved. I looked at relief work but I didn't want to be too far from home. I was interested in helping on a local level. Last summer I was at the Old Campground Festival and saw the CERT table. I knew Phillia and she was at the table that day. I asked about the program and was surprised to hear what CERT did. I knew I had found what I was looking for. I was so excited! I sent in my application and graduated last October in Class 13.

Going through the CERT program has given me the knowledge and confidence to approach various situations. I have enjoyed the trainings and opportunities to help at different functions. The group is amazing, they are willing to help wherever needed and ready with encouraging words for the newest members. I'm thankful to be part of CERT.



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