

Village of New Lenox

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

SHAREFEST HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND RECYCLING EVENT – SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

At 7:00am on Saturday September 9, 2017 five members of New Lenox CERT met at the Spencer Campus for the ShareFest Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection and Recycling Event. Marta Keane from Will County Land Use / Will County Green provided everyone with a briefing, including assignments for the event which was scheduled to run from 8:00am to 3:00pm. Essentially, New Lenox CERT volunteers were needed at the main entrance off of Spencer Road, at the first turn into the campus, the second turn and the exit from the HHW / electronics recycling area. Staffing for our volunteers included two-hour blocks (7am-9am; 9am-11am; 11am-1pm; 1pm-3pm). Some of our volunteers worked all day while others worked one or two shifts.



Even as the 7:00am briefing was taking place, vehicles were already starting to form a line in the HHW and electronics recycling area. Vehicles started to back up in the queuing line, which snaked its way in front of the kindergarten, up the north drive, across the east side of the school and up the south drive onto Spencer Road. The event began a little before 8:00am and our volunteers were very helpful directing the vehicles into the correct lines. Despite the efficiency of the operation, cars

began to back up to the north and south on Spencer Road. Adjustments were made to include creating a double line of cars entering into the campus off of Spencer Road and directing vehicles without HHW (small percentage) into other lines.



New Lenox CERT members worked closely with New Lenox Emergency Services and New Lenox Police Department personnel in an effort to alleviate traffic congestion. This was an extremely difficult task due to the overwhelming turn out for the event. Our volunteers also worked closely with Will County Land Use personnel as well as other ShareFest volunteers who were assisting in other areas such as scrap metal, Styrofoam, wood, and household goods collections.

At 3:00pm the last vehicle in line was identified just north of the CN Railroad tracks. Once the last vehicle was inside the south entrance of the campus, the event was closed. Traffic direction and control continued until approximately 4:15pm, which was the time the last vehicle was serviced. Preliminary numbers indicated that 1,490 vehicles came through the event – a new ShareFest HHW / Recycling Event record!

Special thanks to our wonderful volunteers who worked SUPER hard to make this event a huge success!



Our Core Principles:

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

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Member Spotlight

Bernadette Kacor 12

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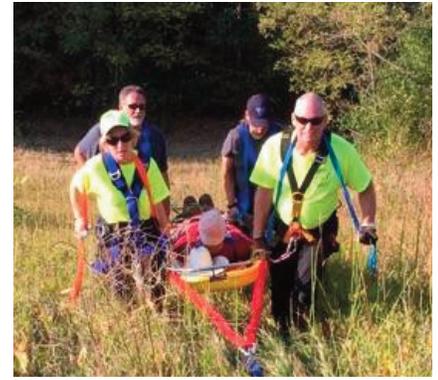
Mark Your Calendar 4



SAR TRAINING / ILLINOIS SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL CONFERENCE – SEPTEMBER 23 & 24, 2017

This was the first year that the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team attended the Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC) Conference, which was held at the Little Galilee Christian Camp in Clinton, IL. Fourteen of our seventeen members were able to attend the conference, which was the largest number of attendees from any one team!

Thirteen of our SAR members arrived at the conference on Friday afternoon or evening, with one additional team member arriving Saturday morning. Friday evening our team members, along with other conference attendees, checked-in and received their conference folders. The handouts included information regarding the keynote presentations, breakout sessions and speaker biographies. A barbeque dinner was provided and after some networking with other conference attendees, our team headed back to the Quality Inn in Forsythe, IL for the night.



After breakfast at the hotel Saturday morning, everyone drove back to the camp for an 8:30am start time. The morning consisted of opening remarks by Kim Gotte, ISARC Chair, which included an overview of the state of search and rescue in Illinois. David Kovar then provided an excellent presentation on the "Legal/Ethical Aspects of Drones in SAR," which generated a number of questions from the audience and some good discussion. Following a short break, Jacqueline Purcell, Kendall County Coroner, provided an informative presentation entitled "Bone Identification." The presentation included an opportunity to handle both human and animal remains to help searchers note the differences between the two. Following some networking and time to shop for ISARC merchandise, everyone headed over to the dining hall for lunch.

Saturday afternoon included some excellent breakout sessions. Collectively, our team members attended the following presentations:

- K-9 (variety of topics)
- CISD
- Communications and Documentation
- GIS for SAR
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- Team Motivation – Team Leaders
- Low Angle Rescue
- Alzheimer's (Effective Communication Strategies)
- UTV Search and Safety
- Drones – Practical Approach (demonstration)



These presentations were well-received by our team members who provided a number of positive comments. Following dinner, the ISARC Board elections and a meeting, the day ended at approximately 9:15pm.

Bright and early Sunday morning our team members returned to the camp for additional breakout sessions. The majority of our team attended "Crew Leader Part A and B" while several additional team members attended "SAR Equipment Part A and B." Both sessions wrapped up at about 12:00pm and after one last meal in the dining hall, everyone hit the road for home.



It was a great opportunity to attend this conference, which was well planned. Special thanks to our very own Dan Johnson who proudly serves on the ISARC Board. He and the other board members did an excellent job! Lastly, special thanks to our team members who attended this conference and learned some valuable information, which will undoubtedly be beneficial to our team as well as the Illinois SAR community.

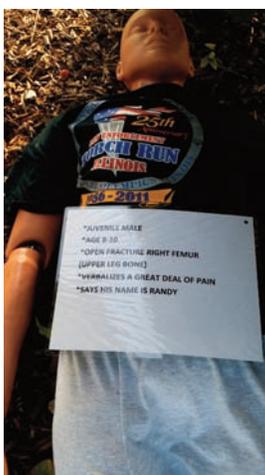


DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND SEARCH EXERCISE – SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

At 5:30pm on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 five members of the New Lenox CERT Training Task Group met at 901 Country Creek Drive (New Lenox Emergency Services Facility) to set-up for monthly CERT training. This month’s exercise encompassed a Damage Assessment and Search Exercise, but also included the following components:

- Test of the team’s text messaging system
- Establishment of Incident Command
- Establishment of a Staging Area
- Establishment of Logistics (CERT trailer)
- Communications
- Triage / Treatment / Transport

Task Group members helped the team out by setting up the tent for incident command, which included a table, chairs and a dry erase board. A tent for staging was also erected and a table and chairs were placed under the tent as well. The team’s two Rescue Randy’s (adult male / juvenile male) were also placed at separate locations at the east end of Country Creek Drive (wooded area adjacent to open fields) as they would be needed for the second part of the exercise.



At 6:00pm team members received a text message and email advising them to report to 901 Country Creek Drive, a location that they did not know in advance. Team members started to arrive on scene as early as 6:15pm. Everyone parked in the fenced in parking lot and were directed to sign-in at staging. Volunteers agreed to assignments in the Incident Command Post, which consisted of Incident Commander, Scribe, Safety Officer and Communications Officer. Additional team members were formed into teams as they arrived at the staging area.

After a short period of time, four teams were formed and were deployed to conduct a damage assessment of three structures on the north side of County Creek Drive. At approximately 7:15pm, after three of the teams returned from their damage assessment assignment, a twist was thrown into the scenario. The “inject” included a missing father and son that were last seen at the baseball field at the end of Country Creek Drive (before the “storm”). Two teams were deployed to search two fields, one on the north side and one on the south side of Country Creek Drive. Within a relatively short period of time of each other, both teams reported that they located the victims during their search. The victims had laminated cards with their injuries spelled out, which prompted the teams to treat them accordingly. Transport teams were then summoned to the two locations at which time the victims were transported back to a designated medical treatment area near the staging area. After the two search teams completed their searches (despite locating the victims), they returned to Incident Command and the scenario was concluded. Following breakdown of Incident Command and the staging area, everyone gathered inside the New Lenox Emergency Services Facility for a de-briefing.



Following a 15-minute de-briefing, the training ended at 8:45pm. Special thanks to our Training Task Group who did an excellent job planning and executing this event. Also, great job by everyone that participated – thanks for coming out!



BARENAKED LADIES WITH SPECIAL GUEST LIVING COLOUR – SEPTEMBER 2, 2017

At 4:30pm on Saturday September 2, 2017 twenty members of New Lenox CERT met in the west lower level parking lot of the New Lenox Police Department for a briefing related to the "Bareknaked Ladies Concert." Dan Martin thanked everyone that arrived to assist, especially those who had been at each and every concert this summer. The briefing included the following information, in summary:

- Anticipated attendance
- Entertainment lineup and starting times
- Weather forecast and severe weather shelter plan (if needed)
- Ticket information (including description of passes)
- Volunteer assignments (perimeter, Village Hall, performer trailers, lawn aisles, handicapped seating, golf cart rides for those with functional needs, etc...)
- Incident Action Plan

The briefing ended at approximately 4:50pm, leaving plenty of time for everyone to walk over to their assignments in advance of the 5:30pm opening of the gates.

The weather held steady for the first band, "On the Off Chance," but some light rain began to fall as "Living Colour" was on stage. The weather cleared up as the main act, "Bareknaked Ladies," took the stage at 9:00pm. For the most part, the weather remained clear except for a short period of time when

there was a brief shower. Throughout the evening, the National Weather Service Chicago Office was a great source of information. Fortunately there was no severe weather (lightning, heavy rain, high winds) that would have caused activation of the severe weather shelter plan.

The concert ended at 10:30pm at which time attendees headed for the exits, signaling the end of the Triple Play +1 Concert Series. At 11:00pm our volunteers met at Gate #3 for a briefing, which for the most part, was uneventful. Special thanks to everyone that assisted with this concert as well as all the concerts this summer. Everyone did a great job keeping our guests informed and safe!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Saturday October 14, 2017 / 8:00am - New Lenox SAR Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Saturday October 21, 2017 / 7:00am – Lincoln-Way Special Recreation Association (LWSRA) "Trick or Trot 5K" at LWSRA
- Saturday October 21, 2017 / 8:00am – New Lenox SAR Training with WCEMA at Location TBD
- Thursday October 26, 2017 / 7:00pm – New Lenox CERT Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Saturday October 28, 2017 / 8:00am – CERT Class #13 Final Exercise at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Thursday November 9, 2017 / 7:00pm - New Lenox SAR Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Tuesday November 14, 2017 / 7:00pm – New Lenox CERT Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Saturday November 18, 2017 / 1:00pm – New Lenox SAR Full-Scale Exercise in Kane County
- Sunday December 3, 2017 / 11:00am – "Christmas in the Commons" at the New Lenox Village Hall and Commons
- Tuesday December 5, 2017 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Thursday December 14, 2017 / 7:00pm – Presidential Service Awards / Christmas Party at the New Lenox Village Hall



CERT TRAINING (G.S.A.R. BASICS) – AUGUST 23, 2017

At 5:30pm on Wednesday August 23, 2017 ten members of the New Lenox CERT Training Task Group met in the Will County Forest Preserve at Route 30 & Schoolhouse Road, near Schmul School. This particular group, which included several New Lenox Search and Rescue (SAR) Team Members, met for the purpose of setting-up the training for CERT members who were due to arrive by 7:00pm. As planned, this particular CERT training was designed to cover Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) Basics, or an introduction to GSAR.



Three “stations” were set-up to include the following:

Station #1 – Compass and Navigation

Station #2 – Evidence Search and Flagging

Station #3 – Wooded Area Search



By 7:00pm approximately 45 CERT volunteers were on site and the first order of business was to run everyone through an exercise to determine pace count for 100ft. After completing the exercise, everyone did some calculations to determine how many feet they covered in one pace. This information was needed for the compass and navigation exercise. Following the pace count exercise a safety briefing was held. Finally, all participants were divided into three groups with the purpose of rotating through the stations as follows:

	7:15PM TO 7:45PM	7:45PM TO 8:15PM	8:15PM TO 8:45PM
STATION 1: COMPASS AND NAVIGATION	TEAM 1	TEAM 3	TEAM 2
STATION 2: EVIDENCE SEARCH AND FLAGGING	TEAM 2	TEAM 1	TEAM 3
STATION 3: WOODED AREA SEARCH	TEAM 3	TEAM 2	TEAM 1



Joe Frigo and Linda Tomnitz facilitated Station #1, which started with a compass overview followed by the completion of a compass triangle. Each team member, utilizing a compass bearing and distance (provided), had to use their pace count to find an object(s).

Tricia Pakosz and Trish Buhle led Station #2, which was located near Schmul School. Team members were provided with a scenario and had to conduct an evidence search. The terrain consisted of cut grass, tall prairie grass and trees / bushes. Flagging was included in this exercise as was the logging of objects (evidence) that were located during the search.

Dan Johnson, Rich DeVault and Lisa Murphy led Station #3, which was

located in a wooded area just north of the pavilion. Team members formed a line, which included a crew leader. Starting a search, stopping to do a 360 degree search, flagging, verbal commands, and logging evidence were included in this exercise.

At approximately 8:45pm the exercises concluded and a de-briefing was held under the pavilion. A great discussion was held and everyone enjoyed the exercises. Special thanks to our station leads as well as everyone that attended this valuable training!



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

ST. JUDE PARISH 5K AND 10K RACE – AUGUST 26, 2017

At 5:30pm on Saturday August 26, 2017 over 30 members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. The purpose of everyone getting together was for a briefing for the St. Jude Parish Running With Faith 5K and 10K Race.



Dan Martin, Safe Community Coordinator and CERT Program Coordinator for the Village of New Lenox, provided the briefing for those in attendance. Information provided in the briefing included a historical perspective of the race as well as safety considerations. In addition, everyone was provided with their assignments which included positions at 3 water stations along the course as well as Race Marshal positions in the area of Gear Drive & Mustang Drive. The briefing concluded at 5:50 p.m. and after a quick team photo, everyone headed out to their respective assignments.



The race, which included 176 participants, kicked off at 6:30pm sharp. Our volunteers, along with New Lenox Emergency Services personnel and amateur radio operators, did an excellent job ensuring the safety of all those along the course. Runners stay hydrated as they passed through the water stations and also appreciated the cheers from the volunteers along the course including St. Jude Parish volunteers who also served as Race Marshals.



The last (10K) runner reached the finish line at approximately 7:45pm and was met with cheers from those in the area of the finish line. Each of the water stations was broken down and everyone returned to the parish for a debriefing. Overall, it was an excellent and safe event for all participants. Special thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers who helped with this race.



CERT / SAR IN OUR COMMUNITY



MGT 335: EVENT SECURITY PLANNING FOR PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS – AUGUST 24 & 25, 2017

On August 24th and 25th, six members of New Lenox CERT participated in FEMA's "MGT 335: Event Security Planning for Public Safety Professionals," which was offered by the Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium and Eastern Kentucky University. The class was held in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall, hosted by the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition, in partnership with the Will County Emergency Management Agency. In addition to CERT volunteers, the class included a number of personnel from law enforcement, fore service and emergency management. Everyone in attendance received a participant guide, which included the following modules:



- Module One – Event Planning and Security
- Module Two – Risk Assessments
- Module Three – Information and Intelligence
- Module Four – Event Security Activities
- Module Five – Staffing and Logistics
- Module Six – Command and Management
- Module Seven – Public Information and Media Relations
- Module Eight – Security Plan and Briefing
- Module Nine – Practical Exercise

As noted in Module Nine, the 2nd day included a practical exercise where the class was divided into three groups, each having to present their plan for a large-scale outdoor event. It was a great opportunity for everyone to work together and utilize their respective backgrounds and experience to develop a plan for an event. The class concluded at approximately 4:00pm on the 25th following a written examination administered to all participants. Special thanks to all of our CERT volunteers for taking the time out of their busy lives to attend this 2-day class!

FAMILY FUN DAY AT NLFPD STATION #1 – AUGUST 19, 2017

At 9:40am on Saturday August 19, 2017 members of New Lenox CERT started to arrive for "Family Fun Day" at New Lenox Fire Protection District (NLFPD) Station #1. The NLFPD was kind enough to invite our team to their annual event and allowed our team members to set-up an emergency preparedness informational table. This was great timing in light of National Preparedness Month (September) being right around the corner as well as CERT Class #13 starting in September. It was a great opportunity to promote the class as well as spread the emergency preparedness message by-way-of Ready.gov literature.



Children that attended this wonderful event had the opportunity to take advantage of jump houses, climb into fire trucks, try on firefighter turnout gear, utilize the fire safety simulator, enjoy lunch and meet the NLFPD staff. In addition, there were a number of organizations with informational tables that included lots of great information and giveaways. Our table featured a pet preparedness section with live kittens and bunnies that the families really enjoyed.

The event ran from 11:00am to 2:00pm and was great fun. Special thanks to the NLFPD for the invitation and to our wonderful volunteers who staffed the table. We're already looking forward to next year!



Keeping our community safe, healthy and prepared . . .

16-HOUR SEARCH AND RESCUE MANAGEMENT (SARM) COURSE – AUGUST 19TH AND 20TH

At 7:45am on Saturday August 19th, four members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the New Lenox Village Hall for the purpose of carpooling to the Naperville Electric Building, 1392 Aurora Avenue in Naperville, IL. This was the location where the Illinois Search and Rescue Council's Search and Rescue Management (SARM) class was being held. Our team members arrived at 8:30am and following registration, the class started at 9:00am.

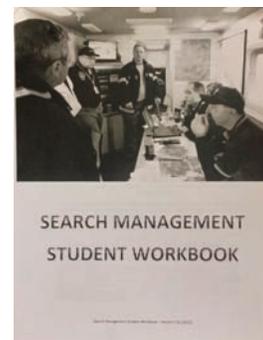
The morning hours were spent reviewing the various search and rescue "systems" that are in place across the country. This included, but was not limited to, the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Coast Guard as well as state and local SAR authorities. In addition to this overview, ISARC instructors outlined the duties and responsibilities of SAR managers, which was followed by an overview of "Lost Person Behavior" (LPB). The LPB review also included some exercises, which allowed students to locate the appropriate LPB profile based on the various scenarios.

In the afternoon students learned about Incident Assessment, which included Initial Planning Points and the completion of documents ("Missing Person Questionnaire" & "Search Urgency Rating Form"). Following a break for lunch, those in attendance learned about SAR Resource Typing. Common SAR resources include untrained searchers, ground search crews, mountain bike crews, mounted search crews, technical SAR resources, search dogs, fixed wing aircraft and rotary wing aircraft. The afternoon also included some tabletop exercises, which provided an opportunity for students to put their newly learned skills into action. Those in attendance learned very quickly how much paperwork is involved in SAR Management. The day concluded with a unit on "Initial Response," which included instructions on how to complete ISARC's "First Arriving Office Checklist for Search of a Missing Person." The class concluded at 5:15pm and after the return commute, NLSAR members arrived at the Village Hall at approximately 6:00pm.

On day #2, our team members arrived in Naperville for an 8:00am start time. Throughout the day students learned about missing person (search) strategies and tactics which included yes, more forms to be completed! Those in attendance participated in additional exercises, which included scenarios and maps. Prior to moving into the final exercise, the class learned about the First Operational Period, Ongoing



Operations, Managing External Influences along with Planning, Training & Standards. Following a brief lunch break, teams were given a comprehensive scenario, complete with maps and lots of forms to be completed. The exercise took several hours and culminated with each group providing an overview of how they managed their respective search. Everyone in attendance received a travel drive, which included all documents needed by SAR Managers. Class ended at approximately 5:15pm with our team members arriving back in New Lenox at 6:00pm. Special thanks to our volunteers for completing this extremely VALUABLE training!



SIGN-UP FOR LOCAL ALERTS VIA NIXLE

The Village of New Lenox has partnered with Nixle to implement its Community Notification System to alert residents in real-time for localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories.



As a resident, there are several simple ways to register:

1. Text your zip code (60451) to 888777 from your mobile phone
2. Go to the Village of New Lenox website www.newlenox.net/notifications and sign-up via the Nixle widget
3. Sign-up and create a User Profile on www.nixle.com

The service is secure, reliable, and easy to use. All Alerts will be targeted geographically, allowing residents to receive localized, relevant alerts from the Village of New Lenox, including alerts from the police department and public works. Nixle Alerts can be sent via Text, Email, Web, Social Media, and the Nixle Mobile App in an instant.

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

SAR TRAINING / DAY SEARCH – AUGUST 19, 2017

At 9:00am on Saturday, August 19, 2017 two members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue team met with members of Will County Emergency Management Agency (WCEMA) Search and Rescue Team in order to conduct a search exercise located at Mather Woods, in Plainfield.



At approximately 9:30am, Incident Command gave a briefing that a 4-year old girl had been reported missing. Teams were given the following physical description as well as a photo of the child:

Samantha. 4 years old. Blond hair. Blue eyes. 2-feet tall. 30 pounds. Last seen wearing a pink t-shirt.

Search areas were then assigned within the wooded preserve. New Lenox SAR members were combined with 5 members of WCEMA SAR to form team "Bravo."

After completing searches in two different areas, team "Bravo" was called to Incident Command. Teams "Alpha" and "Charlie" returned shortly after. A debriefing was then given by Incident Command. Teams were told that initially, a "live victim" was going to be placed in an area that would have been searched following the noon lunch break. However, due to heat, overgrown vegetation, and the large amount of biting insects, the decision was made that no victim would be utilized and teams were free to leave.

New Lenox SAR members signed-out and departed at approximately 12:30pm.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (AGAINST CRIME) – AUGUST 1, 2017

At 5:30pm on Tuesday August 2, 2017 thirty-one New Lenox CERT volunteers arrived at the New Lenox Police Department to assist with National Night Out activities. Following a short briefing in the lower level (west) parking lot, everyone walked up to the Commons in advance of the 6:00pm start time. CERT volunteers assisted in the following areas:



- CERT Informational Table 5 volunteers
- Concession Stand 10 volunteers
- Cooking (hot dogs) 2 volunteers
- Snow Cones 4 volunteers
- PD Information 2 volunteers
- PD Squad Cars 3 volunteers
- Jump Houses 5 volunteers



Citizens began arriving shortly before 6:00pm and as the event went into the 2nd hour the Commons was filled with families that came out to enjoy the festivities. Kids had a great time in the jump houses and enjoyed exploring the emergency vehicles (squad cars, tow trucks, fire trucks, SWAT vehicle, and EMA mobile command center). Families enjoyed hand made snow cones, hot dogs, frozen yogurt,

and bottled water that were being served. Families also had the opportunity to visit many safety-related tables or others that were sponsors of the event. The event started to wind down close to 8:00pm with a bicycle raffle sponsored by Target.



In short it was a nice evening and an opportunity for the community to come together in support of the police department and its fight against crime. Special thanks to our volunteers who contributed to the success of the event. Everyone did an excellent job!

SPECIAL NEEDS DAY – JULY 28, 2017

At 11:00am on Friday July 28, 2017 twenty-eight members of New Lenox CERT met at the New Lenox Community Park District's "Proud American Days" for "Special Needs Day," hosted by the New Lenox Lion's Club. Following a short briefing, our volunteers started to assist special needs clients who were arriving in vans and buses from all over the south / southwest suburbs. The guests and their caretakers were escorted to the main tent area where they were seated. Lunch was served by CERT members as well as additional volunteers from other organizations. Everyone enjoyed the hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, cookies, water and sodas that were served. In addition, the D.J. played music during lunch and several of our volunteers took to the dance floor. The special needs guests had a great time dancing to some oldies but goodies.



Following lunch, a good portion of the guests made their way out to the carnival and were treated to some great rides. Our volunteers assisted with the lines, steps, and gates, in addition to assisting those who needed assistance on and off the rides. The weather was just perfect – sunny, but not too hot. The special needs clients enjoyed the carnival for quite some time and things started to wind down by about 2:30pm. CERT volunteers assisted once again by helping guests from the carnival to the "big tent," and then out to their various modes of transportation.



In short, it was a great day which brought smiles to hundreds of faces. Our thanks and appreciation goes out to those that took the time out of their busy lives to bring some cheer to some very special people. Everyone's compassion and willingness to help others is truly remarkable!



BODEANS WITH SPECIAL GUEST THE SMITHEREENS CONCERT – JULY 22, 2017

At 4:30pm on Saturday July 22, 2017 twenty-two members of New Lenox CERT met in the west lower level parking lot of the New Lenox Police Department for a briefing related to the BoDeans Concert. Volunteers learned about the opening acts, what ticket holders could NOT bring into the venue and what to do in case of severe weather. In addition, everyone was given their respective assignments and had an opportunity to take a look at sample passes to help familiarize themselves with what the tickets look like. The briefing ended at 4:50pm, providing plenty of time for everyone to walk to their assignments in the Commons in advance of the gates opening at 5:30pm.



All the positions were staffed and the gates opened for hundreds of eager concert goers. Our volunteers did an excellent job controlling access to the venue, including the Village Hall. The first act (Nicholas David) took the stage at 6:00pm and the Smitereens started at about 7:35pm. The venue filled to capacity by the time the BoDeans took the stage at 9:00pm and the weather turned out to be great. Those in attendance were treated to a great show that from a public safety stand point was uneventful. The BoDeans played until approximately 10:45pm at which time the bulk of the crowd began exiting the venue.

Shortly after 11:00pm CERT volunteers met near Gate #3 for a short de-briefing after ensuring that everyone was accounted for. Other than sharing a few stories, one about a 50-something couple that jumped the perimeter fencing, everyone was pleased that everything went as planned. Special thanks to our wonderful volunteers who did an excellent job and contributed to the success of the concert!

Keeping our community safe, healthy and prepared . . .

CERT SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING – JULY 18, 2017

At 7:00pm on Tuesday July 18, 2017 approximately 60 team members met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for our semi-annual meeting. Once everyone was seated, Dan Martin welcomed everyone, including a few new folks from CERT Class #13. Following the opening remarks, Dan introduced Harold Damron, Director of the Will County Emergency Management Agency who graciously accepted the invitation to be our guest speaker.



Director Damron provided an overview of the latest in the field of emergency management, but not before thanking our volunteers for their respective efforts. Those in attendance also learned about "Ready Will County," a new smartphone app that provides information about severe weather, emergency preparedness information and a special section for CERT volunteers. Director Damron took the time to answer questions and also was kind enough to stay for the entire meeting.

Following Director Damron's presentation, Dan Martin introduced the Team Leaders in attendance and thanked them for their leadership. A summary of meetings, training and community events was then provided. Dan thanked everyone for their continued commitment and noted that between January 1st and July 18th our team members put in a total of 1,670 hours. In addition to a summary of January thru July activities, an outline of what's to come in the next six months was also provided. This included some excellent training opportunities as well as a number of community events.

Considerable time was spent talking about CERT Class #13, starting on September 13th. Everyone was encouraged to assist with recruitment, the final exercise and to feel free to stop by for a refresher during any of the units. In addition to CERT Class #13, there will be a number of activities held in September to support National Preparedness Month. This will include setting up informational tables at community events and providing emergency preparedness presentations for various groups. Our Task Group Chairs spoke about the work going on within their respective groups (training, shelter operations, public information, emergency preparedness and pet preparedness). Also discussed was our most recent (July) newsletter as well as our Facebook page.

An opportunity was also provided for team members to provide feedback and suggestions under "Good of the Order." Everyone was thanked for their attendance and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

NLSAR WATER RESCUE TRAINING – JULY 12, 2017

At 6:00pm on Wednesday July 12, 2017 Joe Frigo, Tricia Pakosz and Lisa Murphy met at the Hibernia Park pond to set-up the team's water rescue training. New Lenox SAR team members started to arrive at approximately 6:30pm, which allowed time for Dan Martin to distribute the new 5.11 load bearing vests to team members.



Training started at 7:00pm sharp with Joe Frigo providing an overview on how to properly deploy the team's water rescue throw bags. Joe reminded everyone about the various ways to throw the bags based on the current situation and environment. In addition, Joe covered the proper method to be utilized by rescuers when pulling the victim to the shoreline. This included how to hold the rescue line and which side of the body to place the line on when pulling the victim in. Tricia Pakosz added various tips throughout the presentation and demonstrated some of the techniques as well.

Following the brief review, everyone had an opportunity to practice with the throw bags. Both Joe and Lisa went into the water and provided targets for our team members. Experienced SAR members helped others on the shoreline until they became proficient with their throws as well as re-loading the bags. In the interest of safety and standard operating procedures (SOP), everyone near the shoreline deploying throw bags wore a personal flotation device (PFD).

Following the practical, the team practiced bringing a victim out of the water on a backboard. Team members assumed the roles of victim and rescuer for this portion of the training. Team members did a good job tilting the backboard into the water, placing the victim onto the board and securing them with the board's Velcro straps. Good verbal commands were used to lift the victim(s) and team members took great care not to slip on the mud and rocks as they walked the victim(s) out of the water. After team members walked the victim(s) up the hill and to the walking path, verbal commands were used to lower the victim(s). Following a short de-briefing, this portion of the training ended at 8:25pm at which time everyone walked back to the pavilion.



At the pavilion Rich DeVault handed out equipment (pouches for the 5.11 vests) that he was kind enough to order for our team members. Discussion about how to set-up the load bearing vests continued and everyone left the park at about 9:00pm. Special thanks to Joe, Tricia and Lisa for leading the training and to those that participated.

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

Additional Information

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Safe Community Coordinator

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

CERT Class #13 is currently in session and will graduate on Saturday October 28, 2017. Classes for 2018 are being planned. If interested in completing the 20-Hour Basic CERT Class, contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, at (815) 462-6493 or vial email at dmartin@newlenox.net for additional information.

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 10/29./2017

To learn more about the CERT program and the 20-Hour Basic Class, visit <http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/>



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**SPOTLIGHT MEMBER –
BERNADETTE KACOR**



I grew up on the south side of Chicago near Midway Airport and right down the street from Vittum Park where my one sister, all the neighborhood kids and myself would play from sunup to sundown in the summer and all our free time after school. Even though from the south side, I watched the Chicago Cubs and one of my fondest memories was going to Wrigley Field with my Mom on Ladies' Day, which were the Friday home games. My family vacationed at my grandparents' farm in Michigan which was also a special treat growing up. After Chicago, home was Willow Springs for a few years which was very scenic and not too far away from the busy life of the city. Then children came into the picture and it was time to think more about the community they should grow up in. We had friends who had moved to New Lenox and even though at the time it seemed so very far away, we liked what we saw when we came out to visit and the area had great schools - so this is where we decided to go. That was almost 24 years ago, so it must have been a good decision.

I worked in the accounting area of the physicians' billing department of Loyola's hospital in Maywood while earning my Bachelor's degree from there. Once my kids were born, I left the business world to stay at home with them. Eventually, when I had to go back to work, I found a job working from home for a family-owned mailing house where sometimes my kids were my helpers. It wasn't the most glamorous job, but it allowed me the freedom to set my own hours so I could be involved with their school and sports activities, and to take long summer family vacations visiting friends in northern Wisconsin. As the kids grew older, it was time to work outside the house again and I was offered a position at my Church where I had been doing some volunteer work. Currently, I work as an Administrative Coordinator there and have been with them for over 13 years.

My three children are now grown. My oldest son, Joe, is a truck driver and still lives at home to help me out; my daughter, Natalie, is an ER nurse and mother to my only grandchild, Nathan, who is in 2nd grade – they also live in New Lenox; and my youngest son, Matt, is currently at the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis after spending four years in the Marines. I try to spend as much time with them as possible, including babysitting Nathan (my fishing partner), and have had several opportunities to do some traveling when I visit Matt. I also like to walk, bike ride, play board games, cook/bake and enjoy good times with family and friends.

While the schools and my Church offer great opportunities to volunteer and serve, I was looking to do more. I would notice CERT assisting at various community events and wanted to find out more about them. It took a while to be able to clear my schedule, but in 2016 I was finally able to take the class. While the class itself is filled with much valuable information, I knew this was just a sample and the beginning of a lot more to learn and prepare for. The continuous training and community involvement afterwards strengthens the basics from the class. I feel I am constantly learning and like the fact that I am able to give back to the community. I have met many great CERT members who have been very patient and helpful in sharing their knowledge (THANK-YOU!), and hope to be a part of the team for a long time.

Resolve to Be Ready 2017

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