

# COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

## TRINITY TRIUMPH 5K – JUNE 23, 2016

At 6:00pm on June 23, 2016 twenty-nine members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team met in the west parking lot of the New Lenox Police Department, just prior to the Trinity Triumph 5K. Everyone in attendance received maps of the course, radios and the Community Event Log for the race, which included everyone’s assignments. An overview of the race was provided as well as information on what to do in case of emergency. Volunteers were reminded about safety while directing traffic and while assisting runners / walkers at the water station. The briefing ended at 6:20pm, which gave everyone plenty of time to get out to their assignments.



The race started promptly at 7:00pm with the first runners passing through the first race marshal position at Gear & Mustang just a couple minutes thereafter. Our volunteers did an excellent job stopping traffic for the runners and walkers at all the assigned intersections. In addition to keeping participants safe, they did a great job cheering them on as well. Our volunteers at the water station, which was located approximately 1½ miles into the course, did a great job keeping the participants hydrated and developed a great system for getting water to everyone passing through.



After all the runners and walkers passed through the race marshal positions and water station, our volunteers returned to the New Lenox Commons to cheer on the final race participants that were just crossing the finish line. A short debriefing was held and the general feedback was that everything went quite well for a race with approximately 200 participants. Special thanks to those that assisted with this event – everyone did an excellent job!



## DAUGHTRY CONCERT – JUNE 18, 2016

At 4:30pm on Saturday June 18, 2016 twenty members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team met at the New Lenox Police Department for a briefing. Volunteers were provided an overview of the Incident Action Plan for the Daughtry Concert, the second of six scheduled concerts for the summer. Although the forecast was for a beautiful summer evening, the severe weather shelter plan was discussed along with other items to prepare volunteers for the evening. Radios were provided to everyone along with their respective assignments. The briefing ended at 4:50pm, leaving time for everyone to walk across the street to their assignments by 5:00pm.



The gates opened at 5:30pm at which time concert attendees entered the venue in an orderly fashion. Our volunteers did a great job controlling access to the grounds throughout the evening as well as assisting those with special needs by providing them with golf cart rides from the handicapped parking areas. Volunteers also controlled ingress and egress from the village hall, maintained the aisles in the lawn and controlled access to the performer’s trailers. Our volunteers dealt with minor issues in the lawn seating area during the event, handling themselves in a polite and professional manner.

Following the two opening acts, Daughtry took the stage at 9:00pm and played to a very enthusiastic crowd for approximately 90 minutes. The concert ended at 10:30pm and our volunteers assisted with egress until almost 11:00pm. A short debriefing was held at Gate #1 where several issues were discussed, noting areas of improvement for the next concert. Overall it was a very successful evening and each of our volunteers are to be commended for a job well done!



### Our Core Principles:

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

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## SAR TRAINING / SWIFT WATER RESCUE – JUNE 18, 2016

At 7:15am on Saturday June 18, 2016 members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the New Lenox Police Department for the purpose of carpooling to training at the Plainfield Police Department. After determining the arrangements, our team members drove to Plainfield, arriving there at approximately 7:50am and in plenty of time for the 8:00am start. Some of our team members drove directly there and by class time a total of 10 New Lenox SAR members were in attendance.

Will County Emergency Management Agency SAR Division Chief Domingo Kaller welcomed those in attendance and provided a synopsis of the Illinois Search and Rescue Council's Swift Water Rescue training. Domingo then delivered the classroom material with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which covered the following areas:

- Strainers, hydraulic hazards, terrain and footing hazards;
- Drowning, entrapment, hypothermia, blunt trauma, cuts and lacerations;
- Safety considerations, preparation, training and equipment;
- Equipment – throw bags, PFDs, whistles, knives, gloves, boots and helmets;
- Water rescue sequence – reach (sticks, paddle, branches), throw, row, go, helo (helicopter);
- Training in self-rescue is essential – feet near surface pointed downstream, toes pointed up;
- Cold water survival – huddle position, heat escape lessening position;
- Watercraft procedures – PPE, sharp lookout, never reach over the side, vessel operator is in charge;
- Search equipment – probe device, binoculars, polarized sunglasses;
- Search tactics – was the event witnessed or unwitnessed? Did the witness see a person or just hear their screams?
- Confine and control, deploy team downstream, search from PLS, search for clues, body may blend into the environment, clothing may be stuck on a tree branch; slow careful scan of the river, study irregularities in color, shade or shape of the surface, study from two vantage points;
- Drowning – 8,000 deaths annually, #1 preschoolers, #2 school age children;
- Wet drowning, dry drowning, fresh water vs. salt water;
- Mammalian dive reflex – rapid submersion into very cold water, causes slowing of body metabolism. Diverts blood flow to the heart, lungs and brain;
- Physiology of body refloat – time, temperature and depth;
- Located body – mark it, secure it and stay with it.

Following the classroom presentation, participants drove over to the DuPage River in the downtown Plainfield area. At this location a brief overview of water rescue throw bags was completed and was followed by hands-on practice. A PEMA volunteer actually got into the water and floated in the direction of the rescuers who threw the bags to her. Rescuers had an opportunity to throw the lines in and out of the bags and techniques for holding the line were practiced. The training ended at 11:00am and our team members were back in New Lenox at approximately 11:30am. Special thanks to those that participated in this valuable training!

## NEW LENOX SAR / WARRIOR DASH – JUNE 11, 2016

At 7:00am on Saturday June 11, 2016 eleven members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the McDonald's on Route 30. The purpose of meeting there was to make arrangements to carpool to the Warrior Dash in Channahon, Illinois. The team had decided well in advance that participating in the Warrior Dash would constitute SAR training for the month of June. This particular event was chosen due to the team-building aspects involved in navigating the course.

New Lenox SAR members left at 7:15am and arrived at Dollinger Farm in Channahon, IL at approximately 7:45am. SAR members checked in and began to prepare for the race by stretching and hydrating. The team's "wave" started promptly at 8:30am and our team members began to run the 5K course that contained 12 challenging obstacles. Some of the obstacles included muddy hills, muddy trenches, cargo net crawls, plank walks, water slides, fire, and belly crawling through mud with barbed wire overhead.



Team members successfully completed the course in approximately one hour thanks to everyone helping each other along the way. As hoped, the Warrior Dash provided an excellent opportunity for team members to get to know each other, communicate, and build confidence along with trust.

Following quick showers, team members enjoyed a complimentary beverage and spent some quality time hanging out together. Everyone left the property at approximately 11:15am for the drive back to New Lenox. Great job by everyone that participated and let's plan to do it again next year!



## BUDDY GUY CONCERT – JUNE 11, 2016

At 4:30pm on Saturday June 11, 2016 twenty-two members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) met at the New Lenox Police Department for a briefing related to the Buddy Guy Concert. The Buddy Guy was the first of six concerts that make up the 2016 Triple Play and Triple Play "Extra" Concerts. Due to the 95 degree heat, the briefing was held inside the police department rather than in the parking lot.

As team members arrived, radios were issued to those that did not have their own. Everyone was also given a Community Event Log which contained details about the concert as well as all of the assignments. An overview of the concert was provided verbally in addition to details such as what to do in case of an emergency, including severe weather. The briefing ended at 4:50pm, which allowed everyone an opportunity to walk over to the New Lenox Commons and be in place by 5:00pm.

The gates opened at 5:30pm and shortly thereafter the first band took the stage. The second band "Chicago Six," started at 7:15pm and included former Chicago Bears Dan Hampton, Steve McMichael and Otis Wilson. Buddy Guy and his band started at 9:00pm and by that time there were approximately 3,500 fans at the venue.



New Lenox CERT members did an excellent job throughout the evening handling all of their assigned duties. CERT members helped with the return of a lost purse, provided rides on a golf cart to those parked in the handicap parking area, maintained perimeter security throughout the venue, maintained the integrity of the aisles in the lawn, and provided additional support for the concert in a variety of other ways.

The concert ended at 10:30pm at which time our volunteers assisted with egress at Gates 1, 2, and 3 until 11:00pm. After the majority of guests had left the venue, a debriefing was held near Gate 1 where the evening's activities were discussed. Overall it was a great evening and thankfully the temperature dropped considerably, which made it quite comfortable for guests as well as those working during the concert. Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers who helped to make the first concert of the season a success!



## CHASING THE SUN 5K – JUNE 9, 2016

At 6:00pm on Thursday June 9, 2016 thirty-five New Lenox CERT volunteers met at the New Lenox Police Department for a briefing. The purpose of the briefing was to prepare for the Chasing the Sun 5K Run, which was scheduled to start at 7:00pm. The briefing provided an overview of the assignments, which included the water station located near Wildwood Park as well as duties and responsibilities for race marshals that were needed at numerous locations along the course. The briefing also covered what to do in case of an emergency as well as radio assignments for the event. The briefing ended at approximately 6:25pm which left enough time for everyone to head out to their assignments.



The race kicked off promptly at 7:00pm and very soon runners were passing through the race marshal positions along the course. Our race marshals did an excellent job directing runners through the course as well as cheering them on as they went by. Our water station volunteers also did an excellent job making sure that all participants stayed hydrated. As the last runners passed each of the respective positions, our volunteers returned to the New Lenox Commons for a de-briefing.



The de-briefing was held at approximately 8:20pm and provided an opportunity for volunteers to share their experiences regarding how things went during the race. Fortunately the race was uneventful and no additional changes will need to be made for next year. Special thanks to everyone that came out to help make this event a great success!



## NLSD #122 PTO 5K RUN – MAY 21, 2016

At 7:00am Saturday May 21, 2016 twenty-three members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) met at the Nelson Campus for a briefing. The purpose of the briefing was to assist with the New Lenox School District #122 PTO 5K Run / Walk. This was the 7th annual event and the 5th time that New Lenox CERT assisted the school district's PTO. Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief for the New Lenox Police Department, handed out the assignments as well as the course map. Topics that were covered during the briefing included the various duties and responsibilities for those assigned to water stations as well as those assigned race marshal duties. In addition to basic responsibilities, safety instructions were included so volunteers knew what to do in case of an emergency. Following the briefing which ended at 7:30 a.m., a group picture was taken and everyone headed out to their assignments.



volunteers refreshed the runners with cold water and Gatorade.

The event went very well and our volunteers did an outstanding job. The last race participants finished just after 9:00am and by 9:15am our volunteers had wrapped everything up. Special thanks to everyone that helped to make this year's event a success, including a number of amateur radio operators as well as New Lenox ESDA.

At 8:00am the race kicked-off with runners and walkers heading northbound on Nelson Road toward Grand Mesa Drive. The course traversed the Palmer Ranch Subdivision where our race marshals did an excellent job guiding participants through the course while giving them words of encouragement along the way. CERT volunteers at the first water station did an excellent job handing out water to the participants as they passed by. Much like the race marshals, our volunteers at the water station on the course provided a great deal of encouragement to those passing through. The second water station was located at the finish line where our



## INCIDENT COMMAND, DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND DOCUMENTATION – MAY 18, 2016

At 6:00pm on Wednesday May 18, 2016 CERT members received a text message and email to report to 907 Country Creek Drive for training. Until this point, team members were not told the location of monthly training as the Training / Planning Team wished to test the team's ability to respond to an activation. Following the text message and email, our Team Leaders followed protocol and started their "phone tree" to ensure that everyone was notified.



Team members began to arrive on scene within ten minutes of the notification and within an hour almost 40 team members were on site. The initial 15 minutes or so was spent establishing a Staging Area and Incident Command. To staff Incident Command, an Incident Commander, Scribe and Safety Officer were selected to fill the roles. In addition, a Communications Officer and Scribe were selected to facilitate radio communications between field teams and Incident Command. Planning Team members helped facilitate the roles and served as Evaluators for the exercise as well.

As team members checked in, Team Leaders were selected, teams were established and in a relatively short period of time called over to Incident Command for assignments. Every 10-15 minutes a team was deployed with instructions to conduct a damage assessment of 907 Country Creek Drive (New Lenox Emergency Services) as well as the buildings to the east on Country Creek Drive. A radio log was kept along with damage assessment and assignment status forms. As teams returned to Incident Command they turned in their damage assessment forms and headed over to a designated area for a rest period. Two of the teams were given a second assignment to conduct a field search pursuant to "9-1-1 calls related to missing children last seen playing at a baseball diamond". All damage assessments and searches were completed by 8:15pm at which time teams were given a quick tour of the supply trailer.

A de-briefing was held with all team members in the Emergency Services garage area. Overall, everyone was pleased with how the call-out went and we learned that one team member did not receive the text message (later corrected). The damage assessment and assignment status forms were completed correctly as were the personnel resources forms and radio log. Special thanks to New Lenox ESDA for the use of their facility as well as everyone that participated in the exercise – great job!



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

## SAR TRAINING / EVIDENCE PRESERVATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE – MAY 14, 2016

On May 14, 2016 two members of New Lenox SAR represented our team at Kendall County’s monthly SAR training. Our team members arrived at the Kendall County Sheriff’s Department at 8:50am, just prior to the 9:00am start time. The topic for this particular training was Evidence Preservation for Search and Rescue. The class was taught by Sergeant Justin Kress from the Sycamore Police Department and member of the Kendall County Emergency Management Agency Search and Rescue. The classroom portion of the training included how to secure a crime scene as well as how to preserve and document evidence.

Following the classroom presentation, attendees headed out to a wooded area to search for evidence of a crime. This portion of the training was led by Kim Gotte from the Kendall County Emergency Management Agency’s SAR Team. Approximately 15 students performed the line search, stopping to discuss various pieces of evidence when located. Following the practical portion of the training, a de-briefing was held. In short, it was beneficial to know what to do and what not to do when locating pieces of evidence during a search.

The training concluded at 11:50am and our team members arrived back in New Lenox at approximately 1:00pm. Special thanks to Kendall County for extending the invitation and for our team members attending!



## SAR ANNUAL PHYSICAL AGILITY TEST – MAY 10, 2016

At 6:45pm on Tuesday May 10, 2016 seventeen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue (NLSAR) Team met at the Forest Preserve District of Will County’s Sugar Creek Preserve, on Laraway Road approximately ½ mile west of Route 52. The purpose of the gathering was to complete the Annual Physical Agility Test, pursuant to the team’s standard operating guidelines.

Lisa Murphy was in charge of the test and had previously marked the 3-mile course at the start/finish as well as the turnaround point at 1 ½ miles. After checking the gear that’s required to be carried during the test, everyone walked onto the Wauponse Glacial Trail, crossed Laraway Road and proceeded to the start line. Team members set out in groups in a southerly direction on the trail, which had areas of standing water due to the rain that had just stopped.

The time to beat for the 3-mile course was 50 minutes and 16 out of 17 team members successfully completed the course. One team member was nursing a prior injury, but wanted to give the course a try anyway. It proved to be too much, so another opportunity to complete the course will be given at a later date. Congratulations to everyone that successfully completed the test and special thanks to Lisa Murphy for marking the course and leading the test.



## LOYALTY DAY PARADE – MAY 1, 2016

At 12:00pm on Sunday May 1, 2016 approximately 35 members of New Lenox CERT arrived at the New Lenox Police Department for the purpose of decorating the float for the 2016 Loyalty Day Parade. A few days earlier, Gary Cook went out to New Lenox Public Works and picked up a 25-foot flatbed trailer, which volunteers quickly made into a parade float. Everyone helped by blowing up green and yellow balloons, which were affixed to the float along with green and yellow streamers. In addition, our volunteers were kind enough to bring bags of candy for the parade, which Randy Collette placed in large plastic containers on the float. To coincide with the patriotic theme of the parade, American flags were affixed to the float while others were distributed to those who would be walking in the parade.



After the float was completed and picture were taken, everyone stepped onto the float and prepared for the ride over to Cedar Road & 4th Street. Team members and their families socialized while waiting for all the organizations to line up. Additional team members arrived until approximately 50 CERT members, friends and family were ready to participate. The parade kicked-off right at 2:00pm and New Lenox CERT was fortunate to be toward the start of the parade, just behind the New Lenox Fire Protection District fire trucks. Our participants handed out Ready.gov preparedness literature and New Lenox CERT Newsletters along the

parade route along with ample amounts of candy. Hundreds of families lined the parade route along Cedar Road and Haven Ave. as the parade made its way to the New Lenox Commons.

At approximately 2:40pm our float reached the New Lenox Public Library and Veterans Memorial, which signified the end of the route. Everyone continued to the lower level west parking lot of the police department where the float was dismantled very quickly. By 3:00pm everything was wrapped-up and folks were on their way home. Special thanks to everyone that contributed to the success of this year's parade – great job!



## 2016 HEALTH AND SAFETY EXPO / SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP – APRIL 20, 2016

Our CERT volunteers played a major role in the 2016 Health and Safety Expo, in addition to attending the Severe Weather Preparedness Workshop, which immediately followed. At 4:00pm on April 20th about a dozen CERT volunteers arrived at Lincoln-Way West High School to assist the 40+ organizations that were participating in the Expo. Our volunteers helped the exhibitors by carrying in their table displays, literature, and giveaways. Everyone did an excellent job and it was great to see all the organizations set-up by 5:00pm, which was the starting time for the Expo.



Randy Halach set-up the New Lenox CERT table with the assistance of additional CERT volunteers. Our table looked great and included two Midland NOAA Weather Radios as raffle prizes. The Expo was a great opportunity to see what all of the organizations had to offer in terms of information and community services. In addition, it provided an excellent opportunity for networking. Many of the exhibitors took the time to meet others with similar interests and many business cards were exchanged.



The Expo ended at 7:00pm, which was the starting time for the Severe Weather Preparedness Workshop. Approximately 175 citizens were in attendance for the presentation, which started with the posting of the colors and National Anthem by members of the Lincoln-Way High School Air Force Jr. ROTC. They did an excellent job and served as segue way to opening remarks from Mayor Tim Baldermann, who has attended the event since its inception six years ago. Following opening remarks, Andy Krein from the National Weather Service took the stage for an interesting and informative presentation on preparedness for severe weather. Following Andy's presentation, everyone stuck around for the door prizes which included over a dozen NOAA weather radios and first aid kits.

Special thanks to the National Weather Service, Will County Emergency Management Agency, Lincoln-Way School District 210, New Lenox Emergency Services, and all who attended or otherwise contributed to the success of the event. Great job everyone!

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

## FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY – APRIL 23, 2016

by Phillia Mitchell

On Saturday, April 23, 2016, at 9:00am, 26 members of the New Lenox CERT met with other emergency management personnel at the Weltondorf Agricultural Educational Center, located at 17840 W. Laraway Road in Joliet, IL for a Forensic Anthropology Workshop. The lecture was given by Dr. Krista E. Latham. The purpose of the class was to:

- Learn the proper ways of searching for human remains;
- Obtain knowledge of forensic tools;
- Learn what we can and cannot do, and
- Know when the University of Indianapolis Archeology and Forensics Lab can assist in the field.



Some of the focal points of Human Remains Scenes include:

- Decomposed human remains are almost always found by accident, by civilians, in unexpected places.
- The scene is almost always larger than it first appears. The perimeter of the scene should always be strung with yellow tape, at least 10 yards out from the central concentration of the remains. All unnecessary personnel should be kept behind the line until the real scope of the scene can be determined.
- Just because the scene is “cold” doesn’t mean there is nothing left to recover. Bones and soft tissue can be preserved for hundreds or thousands of years.
- Processing a human remains scene requires formal training. The vast majority of crime scene technicians, coroners, and pathologists, do not know how to conduct a recovery, especially for buried remains. Forensic anthropologists always find more evidence at the scene than what has been processed.
- To recover everything, proper tools must be used. Forensic anthropologists use simple equipment, including string, pins, spoons, trowels, dust pans, and screens. To the untrained eye, small pieces of bones could easily be missed. Shovels and heavy machinery are almost never used at a human remains scene.
- It usually takes a full day for a typical recovery and two days if the remains are buried. Debris can be removed from the scene and ribbon can be used to mark off lanes. Then each person has their own lane to investigate. Each place where evidence is found must be flagged.
- Your goal should be 100% of the skeleton. The anthropologist needs as many bones as possible to ID the person and to determine if there is trauma present. There are over 200 bones and teeth in adult skeletons.
- The expert can quickly recognize bone fragments, even if damaged.
- Contextual clues can be as important as physical evidence, such as the position of evidence or even the absence of certain items. Also, you can get a lot of clues from the burial shaft.
- You always destroy the scene while processing it. If you cannot reconstruct the scene, you defeat the purpose of processing it.

Throughout the lecture, attendees were shown slides of different cases where skeletal remains were found. At the end of the lecture, two forensic anthropology students showed us slides of a case they each worked on and described step by step how the remains were found. The class ended with a question and answer period. There was a lot of information packed into this three hour class—all of it very interesting.

## PRESENTATION FOR LOCAL SCOUTS – MARCH 30, 2016

On Wednesday, March 30, 2016 Tricia Pakosz, a member of New Lenox CERT and SAR, met with Webelos 1, Den 9, Pack 444 Scouts regarding the duties of emergency responders. During the presentation, basic first aid skills, protocol for calling 9-1-1, and dealing with different types of emergency situations was discussed. The Scouts learned that they need to stay calm during emergencies so 9-1-1 dispatchers can understand the emergency and decide what resources are needed. In addition, the scouts learned about the importance of identifying a family meeting place, in case of a fire.

Tricia then explained what a search and rescue team does. She also told them that if they get lost in the woods, please, hug a tree and stay put. From there the meeting moved to a local park where the Scouts and their parents were given a scenario involving items left behind by a visiting Scout troop. A search for the missing items was completely successful as all items listed were found. The Scouts and parents really enjoyed the search.



Scouts know to “Be Prepared,” and hopefully Tricia’s presentation will help them do just that!

## TRIPLE PLAY CONCERT SERIES TICKET SALES – APRIL 16, 2016

At 6:00am on Saturday April 16, 2016 fourteen members of New Lenox CERT met at the New Lenox Police Department for a briefing regarding the Triple Play Concert Series Ticket Sales at the New Lenox Village Hall. Despite the early hour, everyone was in good spirits and ready to help out. Our volunteers were given an overview of how ticket sales were planned. For example, ticket sales for the Triple Play (Daughtry, Huey Lewis & The News, and The Wallflowers) would be on the upper level, while ticket sales for the Triple Play – Extra (Buddy Guy, Michael McDonald, and Chicago) would be on the lower level. Customers would be given sequential tickets while standing in line, which needed to be presented before approaching the sales desk along with their driver's license. Assignments included duties on the inside (upper and lower levels) as well as assignments on the outside (upper and lower levels). While traveling to the police department for the briefing, our volunteers noted that approximately 300 residents were already standing in each of the lines.

Following the briefing everyone walked over to the village hall where Dan Johnson handed out radios that were provided by Rich DeVault. Dan quickly covered radio basics and everyone headed out to their assignments. To alleviate some of the long lines that were forming outside, a decision was made to open the doors at 6:45am at which time ticket sales commenced. All of our volunteers did an excellent job keeping the lines organized, answering questions, collecting tickets, and handing out flyers for the Severe Weather Preparedness Workshop that was scheduled to be held the following week.

By 10:00am the lines became relatively small and a decision was made to break down the outside set-up which included traffic cones at the upper level entrance and road barricades at the lower level entrance. Tickets sales were then condensed to the upper level only and assistance from New Lenox CERT was no longer needed. A short de-briefing was held in the community room at which time everyone was thanked for their assistance and dismissed. Those that were scheduled to come in at 12:00pm to relieve the morning crew were contacted and advised that it would not be necessary. Thanks to all that helped with this event – everyone did a great job!



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Saturday July 9, 2016 / 4:30pm – Triple Play Concert (Michael McDonald) at the New Lenox Police Department
- Tuesday July 12, 2016 / 7:00pm – CERT Leadership Meeting at the New Lenox Police Department
- Thursday July 14, 2016 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Saturday July 16, 2016 / 8:00am – SAR Training with WCEMA at Location TBD
- Saturday July 16, 2016 / 4:30pm – Triple Play Concert (Huey Lewis and the News) at the New Lenox Police Department
- Thursday July 21, 2016 / 7:00pm – CERT Semi-Annual Meeting at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Tuesday August 2, 2016 / 5:30pm – National Night Out at the New Lenox Police Department
- Monday August 8, 2016 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Saturday August 13, 2016 / 4:30pm – Triple Play Concert (Wallflowers) at the New Lenox Police Department
- Tuesday August 16, 2016 / 7:00pm – CERT Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Saturday August 20, 2016 / 8:00am – SAR Training with WCEMA at Location TBD
- Friday August 26, 2016 / 4:30pm – Triple Play Concert (Chicago) at the New Lenox Police Department
- Saturday August 27, 2016 / 6:00pm – Running With Faith 5K & 10K at the New Lenox Police Department
- Thursday September 8, 2016 / 7:00pm - New Lenox SAR Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Wednesday September 14, 2016 / 7:00pm - CERT Monthly Training at Location TBD
- Thursday September 15, 2016 / 6:30pm – CERT Class #12 Starts at the New Lenox Police Department
- Saturday September 17, 2016 / 8:00am - SAR Training with WCEMA at Location TBD



## SIMULATED BUS CRASH AT LINCOLN-WAY TRANSPORTATION – APRIL 12, 2016

At 6:00pm on Tuesday April 12, 2016, 33 volunteers (scouts and high school students) arrived at the Lincoln-Way School District #210 Transportation Facility, 1343 S. Schoolhouse Road, New Lenox, IL to assist with our team’s monthly training. The volunteers were escorted to a large garage area where they were moulaged as victims of a school bus crash. Patty Edgett led a team of CERT volunteers who skillfully applied the make-up to simulate lacerations, broken bones, and bruises consistent with being involved in a motor vehicle crash. At 7:00pm over 50 New Lenox CERT volunteers arrived and were directed to a classroom that is typically used as a training / meeting room for school bus drivers.



At this time Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief and CERT Program Coordinator for the New Lenox Police Department, gave the briefing to those in attendance. In summary, everyone was told that there was a crash involving a school bus and a minivan. The bus had over 20 injured students, the van had 5 injured teenagers, and there were an unknown number of “victims” that had wandered away from the scene. CERT members were directed to establish Incident Command and take the appropriate actions to necessary to save lives and prevent further injuries. As such, team members recognized that skills such as search, triage, transport, and treatment would be utilized during this incident.

Team members quickly selected team leaders, established teams of 6-8 team members, and headed out the door. Team leaders then reported to Incident Command for assignments at which time teams headed over to the scene. The first team quickly triaged the bus victims while a second team did the same for the minivan victims. Those with minor injuries were walked to the (green) treatment area that was being established nearby. Most of the victims that were classified as “delayed,” were walked over to the (yellow) treatment area. The victims that were classified as “immediate,” were carried (backboard) to the (red) treatment area while some were escorted if they were able to walk. Team members did an excellent job utilizing the “buddy system,” ensuring that all victims that walked to the treatment area were escorted by two CERT members. There was one victim in the minivan that was classified as “dead.” This victim remained in the minivan while live victims were taken care of, hence following the principle of “Doing the greatest good for the greatest number.” As team members were dealing with the victims from the bus and minivan, search teams began searching for the victims that had walked off the bus. Once located, those victims were either walked or carried to the treatment area, based on the extent of their injuries. Searchers did a great job locating the victims, performing triage, and treating as needed.

The treatment area (green, yellow, and red) became quickly overwhelmed with over 30 victims. The treatment area team leader did a good job of communicating with Incident Command regarding the number of victims that had been received in each of the areas. Once everyone was accounted for and all search operations had finished, the scenario was concluded shortly after 8:00pm. At this time the victims were directed to the facility’s classroom while the treatment area was cleaned up and equipment was returned to the trailer.

At approximately 8:15pm a de-briefing was held, which provided an opportunity for the Incident Commander, team leaders, team members, and victims to provide feedback. The de-briefing generated some excellent questions and dialogue. Much was gained from this scenario and it seemed that all participants were pleased with the outcome. Special thanks to our victims, scenario planners / controllers, volunteers that applied the moulage, New Lenox ESDA for traffic control at the facility, and to everyone that participated. Great job!



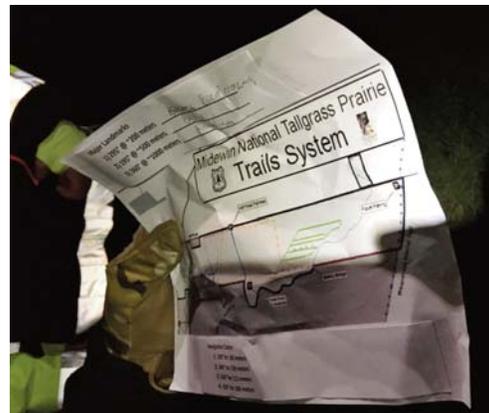
## SAR TRAINING / LAND NAVIGATION AT MIDEWIN NATURAL TALL GRASS PRAIRIE – APRIL 7, 2016

On April 7, 2016 thirteen members of the NLSAR Team met up at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie at 6:45pm. Joe Frigo, Lisa Murphy and Gary Cook were the training leaders for this event, which was pre-staged a month prior. Upon arriving, Joe and Gary hiked out one mile to Turtle Pond to ensure the training aids were still intact, which they were. At 7:00pm Lisa led the NLSAR team out to Turtle Pond where several exercises were staged.

The first training exercise was compass and map review. Joe reviewed both baseplate and lensatic compasses as the two main types of compasses that NLSAR will use. We discussed magnetic north, true north and grid north. Magnetic north is the direction indicated on a properly working magnetic compass, although uncorrected. The corrected difference between magnetic north and true north is called the magnetic declination (or simply declination). Some compasses have the ability to correct for declination, as Bill Gill showed us on his compass. Most maps normally indicate grid north, which usually has north oriented to the top of the map. Joe showed us how to align a baseplate compass to a map, and then how to orient the grid north on the map to magnetic north using the compass. This is an extremely important skill when using a map, as it helps to properly align the map to real geographical landmarks.

NLSAR members were then asked to verify their pace count on a pre-staged 100-meter course. Once everyone verified their pace count, they were asked to identify three major landmarks using a given bearing or azimuth and estimated distance. The three landmarks were a road crossing, a bridge, and a power-line tower. The purpose of this exercise was to ensure that everyone knew how to use their compass, shoot an accurate bearing, and that everyone's equipment was working properly.

The last exercise was meant to pull all the training topics together (i.e. using pace count and compass skills). A four-point navigation course was previously established using four different known headings and distances. Each NLSAR member was asked to shoot the first bearing and then walk the given distance to find the fluorescent tape marker that was staked to the ground. With a little guidance, the whole group made it through the course, which ended back at the starting point. The group was additionally challenged by the fact that the cloudy day had darkened the sky earlier than normal, which meant the last half of the navigation course was completed in the dark with the use of headlamps and flashlights.



At the conclusion of the navigation course, we had a recap of the evening's events at Turtle Pond. The message from the training leaders was that this exercise was very instrumental for our development as SAR members because we are often asked to be flaggers during real-world search events, which can ultimately make or break the success of the search. Additionally, NLSAR members learned which compasses were good, as well as who might need an upgrade! We also discussed all the different metal objects (zippers, eye glasses, flashlights, etc.) that were causing interference with our magnetic compasses. It was echoed by several of the NLSAR members that we need additional similar training to get us more familiar with our equipment and these noted skills. Upon conclusion of the training topics, we packed up and hiked a mile back to the parking lot. GPS tracks logged approximately three miles of total hiking for this event. At 9:00pm team members were dismissed from training.

## **(SAR) RECOVERY SEARCH ELGIN, IL – APRIL 9, 2016**

On Friday, April 8, 2016 the Will County Emergency Management Agency SAR Division sent out a request for assistance for a recovery search for a missing man. The search was to commence the following morning in Elgin, IL. Seven members of the New Lenox SAR team met at the New Lenox Police Department and carpooled to the Elgin Nazarene Church, arriving at Incident Command by 8:00am.

By 9:00am, all volunteers had been briefed on the situation. The subject, Joseph Kohl, had been missing since the previous Sunday (4/3/16). A one mile radius was set from the "point last seen" which happened to be his home. There were approximately 40 untrained citizens on location to assist in the search as well. These individuals were tasked with walking the surrounding neighborhoods, knocking on doors, and checking backyards. All trained personnel were then assigned to teams and sent out to search the more difficult and challenging areas.



*Photo obtained via  
Facebook*

NLSAR team members were kept together and given the call sign "Team 5." They were assigned to search a large and heavily wooded area. This particular location proved to be incredibly difficult, as there was thick vegetation and the ground was extremely wet and swamp-like. Upon completion of this assignment, the team was sent back out to search two "high probability" locations. Once all areas had been thoroughly searched, Team 5 returned to Command. No further searches were planned due to the fact that all of the areas had been covered. As such, official documents were completed and all members of NLSAR signed out. The team arrived back in New Lenox at 4:00pm.

The lessons learned from this deployment are as follows:

1. One of our team members was approached by a German Sheppard. It was a trained search dog, but it circled, then jumped on his back before running to another teammate and circling him as well. Had the dog been a wild animal, such as a coyote, pepper spray would have been very useful.
2. The first area was exceptionally large. Our team was spread so far apart, that the flankers couldn't see each other and our team lead lost sight of them as well. The radios we carry were essential. They allowed us to communicate and work more effectively as a team even with the distance between us.
3. Waterproof boots are a must have piece of gear. There were areas where the team was ankle deep in cold water. Wet feet can make walking, even one single block, miserable.
4. Since our team was deployed three separate times, being physically fit is incredibly important. Spending 6-8 hours pushing through heavily wooded and swampy, uneven terrain gets exhausting, and our team was up to the task. NLSAR's monthly training typically includes some type of physical activity to ensure all team members are adequately prepared for whatever situation we are placed in.

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## **HEAT, HUMIDITY CAN BE A DEADLY COMBINATION**

On average, heat kills more people each year than other weather-related hazards, such as tornadoes, floods and lightning. To increase awareness about the dangers of extreme heat, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and local emergency management agencies are offering heat safety tips throughout July to help people stay safe when temperatures rise.

Heat-related fatalities can be prevented by taking precautions when temperatures rise. One of the most important heat safety tips is to never leave children, elderly people, adults with disabilities, or pets in parked cars even for a short time. Temperatures in vehicles rise much faster than many people realize.

Additional hot weather tips include:

- Stay hydrated by drinking at least 1½ to 2 quarts of fluids daily, even if you don't feel thirsty.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages and drinks containing caffeine.
- Avoid overexertion and strenuous outdoor activities if possible.
- Take advantage of cooling centers, public pools and air-conditioned stores and malls during periods of extreme heat. Even a few hours a day in air conditioning can help prevent heat-related illnesses.
- Don't forget your pets. Offer pets extra water and place the water bowl in a shaded area if outdoors. Make sure pets have a shady refuge where they can escape direct sun exposure.
- If you or someone around you begins experiencing dizziness, nausea, headache, confusion and a rapid pulse, seek medical attention immediately, as these could be the symptoms of heatstroke.

Additional tips on how to protect yourself and others from heat-related illnesses are available on the state's Ready Illinois website ([www.Ready.Illinois.gov](http://www.Ready.Illinois.gov)).

**Additional Information**

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

We are now accepting applications for our (FREE) 20-Hour Basic CERT Class (#12), which will start on Thursday September 15, 2016. The course is FREE to residents and will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the New Lenox Police Department. The Final Exercise and Graduation will be held on Saturday October 29, 2016 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Contact Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief, at the New Lenox Police Department (815) 462-6100 or via email at dmartin@newlenox.net to register for a 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

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



Visit us on Facebook

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

**SPOTLIGHT MEMBER –  
 LINDA TOMNITZ**



Seventeen years ago my husband Allan and I moved from Bridgeview to New Lenox to raise our two children, Brianna (20) and Jarid (18). I was very lucky to be able to be a stay-at-home mom. This gave me plenty of opportunities to volunteer and be involved in whatever they did growing up. I was my daughters Girl Scout Troop Leader from Daisies all the way through high school. I was involved in Cub Scouts when my son was little. Over the years I was involved with numerous sports such as gymnastics, baseball, soccer, track, and cross-country just to name a few. I have been a part of my son’s passion for bass fishing over the years as well, helping out with fishing tournaments and his club classic weekends. Mornings too numerous to count I’ve been up at the crack of dawn feeding the hungry anglers before they hit the water.

Now that my children are older now, I began to look for something else to do with all my time. I saw an opportunity to take the 20-Hour Basic CERT Class offered here in New Lenox. This class helps train people to better prepare and respond to emergency situations. It was also a great way to meet new people and help out with community events such as Christmas in the Commons, 5K races and the Triple Play Concerts.

While going through the CERT class I met some awesome people and learned that New Lenox also had a Search and Rescue (SAR) Team. This was something that totally interested me. I took the 16-Hour Ground Search and Rescue course offered in March. I also took a CPR class, first aid class and successfully completed the physical agility test for the SAR Team. I truly believe I have found what I needed to do at this point in my life. I have made some great new friends in CERT and have a new family with the SAR Team. These folks are a great group of like-minded people who team build and train hard for the greater good of others.

New Lenox has been a great place to raise my kids. Now I know it is a SAFE place to live thanks to many volunteers that have put in countless hours of continued training in CERT and SAR!

**Resolve To  
 Be Ready  
 2016**

Preparing Makes Sense  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)  
 #Prepared2016

