

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM, MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS *and* SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

TRINITY TRIUMPH 5K – JUNE 25, 2015



At 6:00pm on June 25, 2015 twenty members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the Training Room at the New Lenox Police Department to prepare for the Trinity Triumph 5K Race. During the briefing, those in attendance were provided with the event's "Community Event Log," which provides information ranging from procedures for medical emergencies to volunteer assignments. John Opoka also brought large maps of the course, which were greatly appreciated. In addition to our CERT / MRC volunteers, eight amateur radio operators from Will County ARES were in attendance as they agreed to assist with communications on the course. The briefing ended at approximately 6:20pm at which time everyone walked out to the front steps of the police department for a group photo. Following the photo, everyone headed out to their assigned locations.

Many of our volunteers assumed duties as race marshals, directing runners through the course and assisting with minor traffic direction and control duties. The Trinity Triumph Course turns left at Mustang and Gear, followed by another right turn to the south as Gear straightens out. As such, there is an "S" curve, which is challenging to deal with due to vehicles and runners on the course. Joe Frigo, Lisa Murphy, Rich DeVault and John Opoka did an excellent job directing traffic at critical times. Other volunteers also did an excellent job keeping runners and walkers safe at their respective positions. In addition to the race marshal duties, our volunteers did an excellent job at the water / first aid station, which was located on Wildwood Drive, approximately 100 feet north of Illinois Highway. All runners and walkers finished the course by 8:00pm, at which time our volunteers met back at the New Lenox Police Department for a de-briefing.

Our volunteers provided feedback indicating that everything went very well, but a larger water table is needed for next year. Following the de-briefing which ended at approximately 8:15pm, everyone departed after being thanked for their assistance. Great job for a great cause!

Our Core Principles:

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

Recent Activities:

Trinity Triumph 5K	1
Nixle	1
Kenny Loggins Concert	2
Animal Preparedness	2
French Market	3
Chasing the Sun 5K	3
Traffic Incident Management	4
Special Meeting	5
Ground Search & Rescue	6
NLSO #122 PTO 5K	7
Loyalty Day Parade	7
Severe Weather Training	8
SAR Training	9
Team Building	9

Upcoming Events:

Mark Your Calendar	6
--------------------	---

Member Spotlight

Ed Selvas	10
-----------	----

THE VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX ASKS RESIDENTS TO SIGN UP TO RECEIVE LOCAL ALERTS

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. Nixle is partnered with NLETS for unmatched data security, as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Blue Alert Network, and Google for unmatched reach and two-way information exchange.

We are very excited to have you experience it for yourself!



KENNY LOGGINS CONCERT – JUNE 20, 2015

At 4:30pm on Saturday June 20, 2015 twenty-five members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met at the New Lenox Police Department for a briefing related to the Kenny Loggins Concert. Team members were in good spirits despite the threat of severe weather, which was in the forecast. Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief for the New Lenox Police Department and CERT / MRC Program Coordinator, provided everyone with an overview of the concert. The briefing provided an overview of the concert, assignments, and a review of the events Incident Action Plan (IAP). The IAP included instructions for sheltering the concert attendees at the village hall, library, police department, and park district building.



The briefing ended at 4:50pm at which time everyone headed out for their respective assignments.

The gates opened at 5:30pm with hundreds filing into the venue in an orderly fashion. The opening band took the stage at approximately 5:45pm and attendees began to enjoy the show while making trips to the vendors for food and beverages. Mayor Baldermann and village leaders continued to monitor the weather and received frequent updates from the National Weather Service Chicago Office, located in Romeoville, IL. Due to the threat of severe thunderstorms with heavy lightning, the shelter plan was activated at approximately 7:45pm. Concert attendees were advised to seek shelter in their vehicles and were afforded an opportunity to shelter in the four above-described buildings. Our volunteers assisted with directing people into the buildings, which was done quickly and efficiently. Our volunteers staffed each of the buildings and provided updates, which were greatly appreciated.



Following a short break in the weather, people started to make their way back out into the Commons. However, the break was short lived because additional information from the National Weather Service indicated that there was another line of severe thunderstorms on its way. At approximately 8:20pm a decision was made to cancel the concert as it appeared that there would be no break in the severe weather for several hours. The information was related to concert attendees who understood and supported the decision, which was made in the interest of public safety. Everyone filed out of the Commons in an orderly fashion and with little time to spare. Just as the National Weather Service had predicted, the heavy rain and lightning returned to the area at approximately 9:00pm.



A de-briefing was held inside the New Lenox Village Hall as the rain and lightning continued outside. Volunteers discussed their roles during the event and provided constructive feedback for future events. The briefing ended at approximately 9:45pm, but many waited to leave due to heavy rain and lightning that was still occurring.

Our volunteers performed in a calm and professional manner throughout this event. Approximately 5,000 people were sheltered and went home safe due, in part, to the actions of our team members. Kudos to everyone for a job well done!

ANIMAL PREPAREDNESS PRESENTATION FOR STONE CITY KENNEL CLUB – JUNE 16, 2015

At 7:00pm on Tuesday June 16, 2015 Shelley Halach gave a presentation on pet preparedness, rescuing animals, and sheltering at the Stone City Kennel Club. In addition to the Stone City Kennel Club's Board of Directors, there were approximately 30 kennel club members in attendance. Shelly also led a discussion regarding last year's pet shelter exercise that was held at the New Lenox Public Works facility, in partnership with the American Red Cross.



Randy Halach assisted Shelley during the presentation by taking photos and distributing FEMA pet preparedness literature. The presentation ended at approximately 8:15pm. Special thanks to Shelley and Randy for a job well done!

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

FRENCH MARKET – JUNE 13, 2015

On Saturday June 13, 2015 our CERT and MRC volunteers met in the Metra Lot at 8:00am to set-up an informational table for the French Market, which started at 9:00am. The Metra Lot (Route 30 & Prairie) is a new venue this year for the French Market and has plenty of space for food vendors, crafters, and non-profit organizations. Randy Halach took the lead on this event, wearing two hats as CERT and MRC volunteer, although his attire for the day represented our MRC. Randy was joined by his wife Shelley, who set-up a wonderful pet preparedness section for the informational table. Patty Edgett took the lead for the MRC and with assistance from Randy, they completed 27 blood pressure checks throughout the event. Trish Buhle brought along her trained therapy dog “Buddy” who was a huge hit with kids and families. Additional assistance at the booth was provided by Gail Spitilli, Laura Johnston, and Ed Selvas. From 9:00am to approximately 1:00pm many individuals and families stopped by the informational table to pick-up Ready.gov literature and speak with our volunteers. As always, everyone did an excellent job and their efforts are greatly appreciated!



CHASING THE SUN 5K – JUNE 11, 2015

On Thursday June 11, 2015, twenty-eight CERT / MRC volunteers arrived at the New Lenox Police Department for the Chasing the Sun 5K briefing. Our CERT / MRC volunteers were joined by approximately 12 members of the Illinois Radio League, who offered to assist with communications during the event. Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief for the New Lenox Police Department and CERT / MRC Program Coordinator, provided an overview of the race, including the following details:

- Weather forecast
- CERT / MRC attire for the event
- Communications
- Major and minor intersections
- Locations for start, finish and the water / first aid station
- Staging for the New Lenox Fire Protection District ambulance / Paramedics
- Protocol for medical emergencies
- Protocol for water dispensing
- Break down of water station and race marshal positions
- Location and time of de-briefing following the event



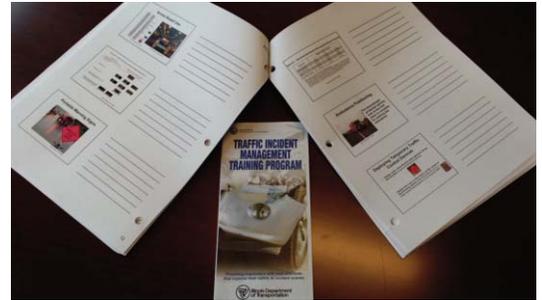
Following the briefing a group photo was taken, at which time volunteers left for their respective assignments.



Over 200 runners and walkers left the New Lenox Commons promptly at 7:00pm and began making their way through the Aerohaven and Wildwood Subdivisions. Our volunteers did an excellent job at the race marshal positions, cheering on the participants as they passed by. Volunteers at the water / first aid station also did an excellent job providing support for the runners, which was greatly appreciated. As the last participants passed by the race marshal positions and water stations, volunteers headed back to the New Lenox Police Department for the de-briefing. After receiving positive feedback and noting some constructive suggestions for the race organizers, everyone was dismissed at approximately 8:30pm. Thanks to all that participated!

TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT – JUNE 9TH AND 10TH

At 6:00pm on Tuesday June 9, 2015, twenty-one New Lenox CERT / MRC members met in the Community Room at the Village Hall for monthly training. Our team collaborated with the Will County Emergency Management Agency to host a 5-hour Illinois Department of Transportation Class on Traffic Incident Management. In addition to our team members, there were emergency management professionals in attendance from Lockport EMA, Plainfield EMA, Naperville CERT, Crete Fire Department, and the Will County Emergency Management Agency.



The course was divided into the following modules:

- Module 1 – Introduction and Objectives
 - o Crash and other statistical data
 - o Contributing factors to crashes
 - o Training outline
- Module 2 – Roles and Procedures
 - o Roles and responsibilities (law enforcement, fire, ems, transportation, towing & recovery, communications)
 - o Standards, policies and laws
 - o NIMS / ICS
 - o Safety and reflective vests
- Module 3 – 3C's (Communication, Coordination and Cooperation)
 - o Unified command system / structure
- Module 4 – Initial Scene Response
 - o Communication before arrival
 - o Safe vehicle positioning
 - o Arrival at scene and exiting emergency vehicles
 - o Highway terminology
 - o Lane referencing
 - o Initial and secondary scene size-up
- Module 5 – Incident Classification
 - o MUTCD incident types (minor, intermediate, major and catastrophic)
 - o Steps for fuel spills (hazmat and non-hazmat)
- Module 6 – Traffic Management
 - o Highway terminology
 - o Safety principles (reaction distances, braking distances, emergency lighting, etc...)
 - o Traffic control devices (channelizing devices, cones & flares, advance warning area, arrow boards, portable warning signs, etc...)
- Module 7 – Clearance and Termination
 - o Clearance procedures
 - o Tow truck classifications - class 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 (light to heavy)
 - o Crash investigation goals
 - o Reopening travel lanes
- Module 8 – Hands On Case Studies
 - o Table top exercise
 - o Written exam



The course was taught via PowerPoint and was supplemented with videos throughout the presentation. The IDOT instructors were excellent and had a great sense of humor. The class ended at approximately 11:00pm and was repeated the next morning from 9:00am to 3:00pm. An additional three team members attended the daytime class, along with 32 emergency management professionals from various Will County communities. Thanks to those that attended – it was a great class!

SPECIAL MEETING – MAY 27, 2015



At 7:00pm on Wednesday May 27, 2015 a “Special Meeting” was held in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. The premise behind the meeting was to evaluate our team’s organizational structure, leadership, and to develop a strategic plan to ensure success moving forward. John Opoka did a great job leading the meeting until Dan Martin arrived at approximately 7:45pm. The following is a summary of the points that were discussed:

- Creation of teams based on geographic areas. So for example, team members from the Royal Meadows, Palmer Ranch, Horizon Meadows, and Taylor Glen subdivisions might make up one team. A positive might be transportation to training, community events, and even disasters (carpooling). Leadership for this type of team structure would need to be determined.
- Creation of teams based on skill sets (search & rescue, transport, medical, etc...). Leadership for this type of team structure would need to be determined.
- Team Leaders and Assistant Team Leaders must desire to hold these positions. Although excellent attendance at training and community events is greatly appreciated, it does not necessarily translate to good leadership skills.
- The pros and cons of “permanent” Team Leader and Assistant Team Leader positions were discussed. Some prefer a temporary assignment (6 months, 12 months), while others really enjoy the leadership position.
- The phone tree was discussed, which is a necessity, especially during a disaster as it’s possible that other forms of communication might not function. The phone tree during non-emergency situations (training and community event reminders) was also discussed. There were some in attendance that would volunteer to be on a “team” to make the phone calls. It was suggested that team members provide phone number(s) to be reached at during certain hours. Example – 6am to 6pm and 6pm to 6am. Note – our Team Leaders and Assistant Team Leaders should already be doing this in some format.
- The Nixle (SMS messaging system) was discussed. This system has made things a bit easier for us in terms of determining how many will be in attendance at a training event. This is always important for planning purposes. With a recent upgrade to the system, team members can respond YES or NO if they will be in attendance.
- Much of the same was discussed with regard to our Committees (Public Information, Emergency Preparedness, Training, Shelter Management, and Pet Preparedness). Do we assign team members to these committees? Do individual teams (on a rotational basis) handle various assignments related to these committees? Do the committee chairs do a short presentation or set-up a table at an upcoming training / meeting and solicit volunteers? The latter seemed to be the best choice as it provides an opportunity for team members to gravitate to a committee that they have an interest in.
- Miscellaneous:
 - o Nametags at meetings with names and team numbers
 - o Assign someone to follow-up phone calls for those that don’t respond to text messages
 - o Survey Monkey
 - o I Am Responding App
 - o Team nights – get to know other team members
 - o Create teams based on 20-Hour Basic CERT Class



As a result of the meeting, the following short term steps will be taken:

1. Status quo for the time being. In other words, until we work out the new teams, current Team Leaders and Assistant Team Leaders will continue to lead their teams.
2. Geographic team assignments will be explored.
3. A Leadership Committee (6-10 members) will be formed, which will:
 - a. Explore the comments and suggestions from the “Special Meeting.”
 - b. Research leadership training for volunteers – something specific to CERT.
 - c. Formal “duties and responsibilities” for Team Leaders and Assistant Team Leaders will be developed.
 - d. A mechanism for Team Leader / Assistant Team Leader mentorship will be explored.
 - e. Regular leadership meetings will be established.
4. Committees will remain in place. Short presentations will occur during the 23rd Semi-Annual Meeting, which will:
 - a. Inform our members about what the committees do
 - b. Recruit volunteers to participate in one or more committees of their choosing

Special thanks to ALL who attended the meeting and offered some excellent suggestions!

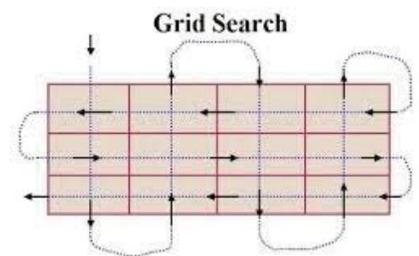
GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE FOR CERT VOLUNTEERS – MAY 20, 2015

At 7:00pm on Wednesday May 20, 2015, twenty-five members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for monthly training. Mike English and Joe Frigo took the lead for this training, which included ground search and rescue basics for CERT / MRC members. The idea behind the training was to familiarize CERT / MRC members with ground search and rescue concepts, in the event that team members are needed for future searches. Likely scenarios might include assisting with an evidence search following a crime or a search for a missing person, perhaps a child or an elderly person with Alzheimer's. Joe and Mike provided everyone with some initial information in the Community Room and then everyone moved outside into the New Lenox Commons.

Joe and Mike, assisted by members of our Training Committee, had placed articles of clothing in a pre-established search area prior to the training. Those in attendance were then placed in a line formation and a grid search of the area was conducted. Everyone did an excellent job, locating all the items that were placed in the area.



Team members were then moved to another area just north of the New Lenox Police Department and west of the Lions Community Center. Playing cards had previously been placed in the field, which provided an opportunity for team members to conduct an evidence search. Once again, everyone did an excellent job and enjoyed the opportunity to learn some basic ground search and rescue techniques. Special thanks to Mike, Joe, and members of the Training Committee for setting up this training event.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Saturday July 18, 2015 / 8:00am - Multi-Jurisdictional SAR Training in Lemont
- Saturday July 18, 2015 / 4:30pm – Steve Miller Band Concert in the New Lenox Commons
- Thursday July 23, 2015 / 7:00pm – Semi-Annual Meeting at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Saturday August 1, 2015 / 9:00am – French Market in the Metra Parking Lot
- Saturday August 15, 2015 / 8:00am - Multi-Jurisdictional SAR Training at Location TBD
- Monday August 17, 2015 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Training at Location TBD
- Saturday August 22, 2015 / 5:00pm – Running With Faith 5K
- Tuesday August 25, 2015 / 7:00pm - New Lenox CERT / MRC Monthly Training at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Saturday September 5, 2015 / 4:30pm – Lynyrd Skynyrd Concert in the New Lenox Commons
- Tuesday September 8, 2015 / 7:00pm - New Lenox SAR Training at Location TBD
- Saturday September 12, 2015 / 9:00am - French Market in the Metra Parking Lot
- Thursday September 17, 2015 / 6:30pm – CERT Class #10 starts at the New Lenox Police Department
- Saturday September 19, 2015 / 8:00am - Multi-Jurisdictional SAR Training at Location TBD
- Wednesday September 23, 2015 / 7:00pm - New Lenox CERT / MRC Monthly Training at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Saturday October 3, 2015 / 8:00am – 2015 Prairie State CERT Challenge at the College of DuPage



NLSD #122 PTO 5K RUN – MAY 30, 2015

At 7:00am on Saturday May 30, 2015, twenty-six members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the parking lot of Nelson Ridge & Nelson Prairie Schools. A briefing for the 5K Run / Walk was held, which included background on the event, location of the water / first aid stations, race marshal positions and actions to be taken during medical emergencies. The briefing ended at approximately 7:20am at which time the volunteers headed out to their assigned locations.



The race kicked-off at 8:00am sharp with approximately 200 runners / walkers crossing the start line. Race participants passed each of the race marshal positions and were not only guided through the course by our volunteers, but cheered on as well. Our water / first aid station volunteers did an excellent job passing out water to the participants and fortunately there were no medical emergencies to attend to.

Most of the race participants were done by 9:00am, with some additional walkers coming in a little later. Following the event a short debriefing was held and everyone was dismissed by 9:30am. Thanks very much to those that participated in this event. Everyone did an excellent job!

LOYALTY DAY PARADE – MAY 3, 2015

On Sunday May 3rd members of New Lenox CERT, MRC and SAR met at the New Lenox Police Department at 12:00pm to decorate the float for the Loyalty Day Parade. Although the day started out cloudy with a chance of rain, it turned out to be a perfect day for a parade. Our volunteers arrived with decorations for the float as well as extra candy to give out during the parade. The decorations included yellow and green streamers and balloons, a perfect match for our CERT colors. With everyone's assistance, the float was decorated in about 45 minutes and it looked great.



In addition to the float, team members prepared approximately 60 three gallon "bakery" buckets for the parade. Each white bucket received a "New Lenox CERT" sticker, which included the link to our Facebook page as well as the phone number for the New Lenox Police Department. Then, each bucket received Ready.gov literature, including information on how to put together a disaster supply kit. The idea behind handing out the buckets was to demonstrate that a disaster supply kit could be assembled in something as simple as a bucket; no expensive containers needed. During the parade, the buckets ended up being a big hit as families also used them to collect candy that was being handed out by all the participating organizations.

At 1:00pm everyone stepped onto the float, which Gary Cook pulled over to Cedar Road & 4th Street with his truck. We found our lineup position behind the New Lenox Fire Protection District's fire trucks and patiently waited until the 2:00pm kick-off. Randy Collette assumed the role as "Candy Manager," making sure all the candy was ready to be distributed throughout the parade route. We had a tremendous amount of candy this year and Randy made sure that there was enough to last until the very end of the route.

Just like clockwork, the parade started at 2:00pm. Catherine Johnston, Naomi Carden, and Laura Johnston led our group by carrying a banner in front of Gary Cook's truck and the float. The three were individually dressed in CERT, SAR, and MRC attire, assuring that all three groups were represented. Our volunteers had great fun handing out candy and Ready Buckets along the parade route, including the viewing stand which was set-up on Cedar Road just south of Haven Ave. Everyone did a great job keeping pace and the next thing everyone knew, the end of the parade route was in sight. The parade ended on Gear Drive, near the Village Hall, but we continued to the police department where everyone had parked their cars. Before leaving everyone chipped in by taking the decorations off the float. Everything was wrapped up by 3:00pm and our volunteers were off to enjoy the rest of their day. Special thanks to everyone that participated in this year's parade!



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

SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING / HEALTH AND SAFETY EXPO – APRIL 21, 2015

On Tuesday April 21, 2015 the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition and Citizen Corps Council, in partnership with the Will County Emergency Management Agency, National Weather Service Chicago Office, and Lincoln-Way School District #210, hosted the 6th Annual Severe Weather Spotter Training / Health and Safety Expo. The event was held in the Performing Arts Center at Lincoln-Way West High School, 21701 S. Gougar Road, where it's been held for the past several years. The Health and Safety Expo, featuring 45 local organizations, was held from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, followed by the Severe Weather Spotter Training at 7:00pm.

New Lenox CERT, MRC, and SAR volunteers began arriving as early as 4:00pm to help representatives from the participating organizations bring in their materials and locate their tables. In addition, several volunteers set-up the CERT and MRC informational tables, including a special table for pet preparedness. Volunteers also assembled 5-gallon buckets for the "Ready Bucket Challenge." The idea behind this preparedness activity was to encourage residents to prepare for emergencies and disasters by assembling a disaster supply kit. Visitors to the table were given a 5-gallon bucket, which contained literature from Ready.gov, including a pamphlet on disaster supply kits. Those that accepted buckets were encouraged to place 12 preparedness items in the bucket, demonstrating that they've started to assemble a disaster supply kit. Bucket recipients were then instructed to bring their buckets to the New Lenox Police Department on May 3rd, following the Loyalty Day Parade. Those that successfully assembled disaster supply kits were rewarded with Midland NOAA Weather Radios.



The Health and Safety Expo kicked off at 5:00pm and had a steady stream of visitors until 7:00pm. Brenda Lutz, Deputy Director Preparedness, for the Will County Emergency Management Agency and her volunteers remained busy at the check-in table. Although some missed the table, 404 people signed in for the Severe Weather Spotter Training. In conjunction with the Health and Safety Expo, the American Red Cross held a blood drive just outside the doors of the school in their mobile blood center. There was a lot of positive feedback from Health and Safety Expo attendees, as well as vendors who enjoyed the opportunity to network.

At 7:00pm the opening ceremony for the Severe Weather Spotter Training began. The ceremony included posting of the colors and signing of the National Anthem by members of the Lincoln-Way Air Force Jr. ROTC. Mayor Baldermann then provided opening remarks, which was followed by the introduction of National Weather Service Meteorologist Andy Krein, the presenter for the evening. Krein did an excellent job throughout his presentation, which included a PowerPoint containing a number of severe weather videos. Krein's presentation ended at approximately 9:00pm, following a question and answer session. A raffle for door prizes (first aid kits and NOAA Weather radios from New Lenox Emergency Services and the Will County Emergency Management Agency) was held and a few of our volunteers were lucky to win. Andy Krein was also kind enough to stay until approximately 9:30pm to answer questions from those that had additional questions.



Special thanks to all of our volunteers who assisted with the Health and Safety Expo as well as those that stayed for a very informative Severe Weather Spotter Training!



MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SAR TRAINING – APRIL 18, 2015

On Saturday, April 18, 2015, at 7:30am, eight members of the New Lenox SAR team arrived at Mathers Woods in Plainfield, IL to participate in a multi-jurisdictional training exercise (exterior search - day) that was to begin at 8:00am. NLSAR, along with members from Naperville, Plainfield and Will County prepared their gear while waiting for the initial briefing from Incident Command.



At approximately 8:30am, IC briefed all searchers and split everyone into search teams of four. NLSAR were teams "Alpha" and "Echo." The scenario was as follows: the missing person was an autistic, non-verbal 11-yr. old boy, Chris Junior. He was about 4'11" with blond hair and blue eyes. Chris had only lived in the area for one month so was not familiar with it. He liked water, animals and nature, but did not like the police and would most likely be unresponsive to first responders. He was last seen wearing jeans and a "teenage mutant ninja turtles" shirt.



Three teams, including NLSAR-Alpha, were sent out at 8:45am to conduct hasty searches of the trails throughout the preserve. By 9:15am, all remaining teams were deployed into the field. The victim was located at approximately 10:45am and a RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) was formed to package and transport Chris out of the woods and to a rendezvous point.



Following victim extraction, all teams returned to Incident Command and were debriefed. Training ended at 11:45am and all members of NLSAR departed by 12:00pm. Thank you to everyone who was able to participate in today's exercise. Great job team!!!

TEAM BUILDING – APRIL 14, 2015

At 7:00pm on Tuesday April 14, 2015 monthly training was held in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. Following opening remarks, those in attendance were divided into three groups to participate in the team building stations designed by members of the Training Committee. The stations included the following:

Walking Planks, which consisted of two boards with four attached ropes. Four team members were required to stand on the two boards while tightly holding the ropes. Team members then developed a communications strategy to walk with the boards by ensuring they were in sync. This station was designed for two teams to compete against each other by moving approximately 25 yards forward to a turnaround point, and then returning to the finish line. Some teams did a great job and completed the challenge in approximately two minutes. Tricia Pakosz and Emily Serno briefed the teams and provided great encouragement to the teams during the exercise.



Labyrinth, which required team members to work together as a team to help one team member find his / her way through a maze. The maze was placed on the floor of the rotunda and was in the form of a grid with two foot squares. Team members were allowed to go left, right, forward or diagonally, utilizing memory skills to navigate the maze. Following an incorrect step, a team member stepped off the grid and was replaced by a new team member who had to start at the beginning. Randy Halach designed this challenge and guided the teams through several mazes, which became increasingly more difficult.

Name Game, which required team members to learn the names of other participants. Team members were placed in a circle and were required to say their name and then toss a ball across the circle to another team member. The team member catching the ball had to say the name of the person that tossed the ball to them, their name, and had to toss the ball to someone else. This was repeated over and over until everyone in the circle had a turn. John Schuld and Patty Edgett led this station, which also included adding additional balls to the circle. In addition to this challenge, team members had to say their name, mention something that they like to do, and then demonstrate it. Each person in the circle had to repeat the names, activities, and demonstrate the activities of everyone before them. Everyone else in the circle helped out by demonstrating the activities, which was pretty fun.



Everyone returned to the Community Room at approximately 8:20pm for a debriefing of the exercises. The importance of working together as a team and getting to know each other was recognized. WHEN our team is activated, team members will have a higher level of trust amongst each other because they've had an opportunity to work side-by-side in exercises like these. Thirty two team members attended this training, which concluded at 8:40pm.

Additional Information

Daniel Martin

Public Safety Division Chief
New Lenox Police Department
Phone: 815-462-6100
Fax: 815-462-6104
Email: dmartin@newlenox.net

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

We are now accepting applications for the next (FREE) 20-Hour Basic CERT Class. The class will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm starting on Thursday September 17th. The class will be held in the Training Room at the New Lenox Police Department, 200 Veterans Parkway. The last Thursday class will be October 29th and the Final Exercise and Graduation will be held on Saturday October 31st from 9am to 1pm. 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 the class. Class size is limited to 25 and registration closes September 11, 2015.

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

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



Visit us on Facebook

- <http://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxCERT>
- <https://facebook.com/safenewlenox>
- <https://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxMedicalReserveCorps>
- <https://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxSAR>

**SPOTLIGHT MEMBER –
ED SELVAS**

My name is Ed Selvas and my family and I moved to New Lenox approximately 40 years ago. My wife Barbara unfortunately passed away 4 years ago but I have two daughters who both live in New Lenox with their families along with 5 grandchildren. During my career I served in the Navy, worked at the Citgo Refinery in Lockport for 33 years (retired) and served as a New Lenox Park District Commissioner for 13 years.



One of my favorite things to do is to serve as a volunteer for local charities. I have assisted with United Way of Will County both on the Allocation Committee and also with the Annual United Way Golf Outing. I have also volunteered at Trinity Services, which is an organization that assists persons with disabilities achieve success in their personal goals. I also take Tai Chi classes through the New Lenox Community Park District to help me stay healthy.

I volunteer for TRIAD for a number of reasons, but most importantly to assist senior citizens in keeping up-to-date on how to stay safe in emergency situations. I learned about the important duties of a First Responder through my participation with the New Lenox CERT program. Our CERT group also assists the community in many activities such as Proud American Days, the Triple Play Concert Series and 5K races. Although I hope it is never necessary to use my CERT training, I feel prepared to help my family and neighbors in the event that it becomes necessary. I have also prepared my own home with a NOAA radio and provisions should it become necessary to take cover in an emergency weather situation.

I am proud to be a part of this great team and look forward to helping others whenever necessary in the future.



FEMA



American Red Cross