



Village of New Lenox / New Lenox Police Department COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Volume 3 - Issue 4

October 2013

2013 PRAIRIE STATE CERT CHALLENGE – SEPTEMBER 28, 2013

On Saturday September 28, 2013 the New Lenox CERT sent 14 team members to participate in the 4th Annual Prairie State CERT Challenge. The event was held at the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA) in Glenview, IL and featured 11 CERTs from Northern Illinois. The Opening Ceremony started at 8:30am with the Victory Baptist Church Choir from New Lenox, IL signing the National Anthem. Special thanks to our very own Gail Spitilli who is a member of the choir – they were amazing!

Following the Opening Ceremony the participating teams returned to "Tent City" and each of the 11 Team Leaders reported to Staging / Incident Command for assignments. Teams rotated throughout the day to the following stations:

- Staging / Incident Command
- Terrorism
- Search
- Triage / Treatment
- CERT Jeopardy
- Transport
- Size-Up / Hazards
- Team Building

In addition to the stations which tested the team's ability in the various CERT disciplines, teams were provided an opportunity to network with other teams while assembling disaster supply kits for the underprivileged. Teams also rotated to the Communications area where they were given an overview of the Illinois Transportable Emergency Communications System (ITECS) trailer.

The event ended at 3:45pm with the Closing Ceremony beginning at 4:00pm. Although this event is not designed to be a "competition," it is scored. Our New Lenox Team did outstanding by taking 3rd place behind Carol Stream CERT. Top honors this year went to Chicago CERT, an excellent group of volunteers.

An important aspect of the 2013 Prairie State CERT Challenge is the value of the training and participation that our team members now have. This group dedicated a tremendous amount of time (as a group and individually) preparing for this event. This knowledge and experience can now be passed along to our other team members during monthly training. So WHEN a disaster occurs in New Lenox, our team will be better prepared to handle the situation as a result of training and participation in the 2013 Prairie State CERT Challenge.

On behalf of the Village of New Lenox, the New Lenox Police Department and the citizens of our community, thank you 2013 New Lenox Prairie State CERT Challenge Team. We're very proud of your accomplishment and appreciate all that you continue to do for New Lenox!!

1. Trish Buhle
2. Adam Bulthuis
3. Gary Cook
4. Rich DeVault
5. Mike English
6. Randy Halach
7. Catherine Johnston
8. Dave Lauer
9. Tania Mora
10. Lisa Murphy
11. John Opoka
12. Tricia Pakosz
13. Jon Ruane
14. Pete Simon



Our Core Principles:

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

Recent Activities:

Prairie State Challenge	1
Assist Frankfort/New Lenox Running Club	2
Pet Ownership Day	2
Monthly Training Sept.	3
French Market & Cert Demonstration Day	3
Foreigner Concert	4
Pipeline Safety & Awareness Training	4
St. Jude Running with Faith	4
Mars, Inc. Safety Day	5
Recovery Search Aug.	5
LW Animal Hospital Open House	5
Country in the Commons	5
Tornado Exercise	6
French Market August	6
Recovery Search July	7
NL Blood Drive	7
Beef Cook Off	7
Special Needs Day	8
Rick Springfield Concert	8
Will Co. EMA to Host Basic CERT Class	8
SAR Water Rescue	8
Semi Annual Meeting	9
French Market July	9
Bad Company Concert	9

Upcoming Events:

Mark Your Calendar 2

Member Spotlight

John Schuld 10

ASSIST FRANKFORT/NEW LENOX RUNNING CLUB – SEPTEMBER 22, 2013

At 5:45am on Sunday September 22, 2013 eight members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met at Lion’s Den (Cedar Road & Old Plank Trail) for a short briefing regarding assistance for the Frankfort/New Lenox Running Club (FNRC). Team members learned that approximately 40 runners would be participating in a 20-mile run which is part of their training program for the October 13th Bank of America Chicago Marathon. FNRC leaders requested that New Lenox CERT / MRC personnel to assist with the following:



- Water / Gatorade Stations
- Intersections (traffic control)
- Medical (minor issues that may occur)

A plan was developed and it was decided that some New Lenox CERT / MRC members would drive to pre-designated locations along the route while two team members would ride bicycles along Old Plank Trail for the purpose of keeping a close watch on the runners. Following a quick team picture which was taken in the dark, the runners started their run eastbound on Old Plank Trail at 6:00am. The runners set off in different pace groups ranging from about 7:00 to 12:00 minutes per mile. The turnaround point (10-mile) was Ridgeland Avenue and it was great to see that all the runners were doing well and in good spirits.



Everything went very well during the run and the majority of runners returned to Lion’s Den before 9:30am. The runners were very gracious and thanked our team members for their assistance. The New Lenox CERT / MRC wishes all the FNRC Runners good luck with the Chicago Marathon!

RESPONSIBLE (PET) OWNERSHIP DAY – SEPTEMBER 22, 2013

Shelley Halach continues to be a force to be reckoned with when it comes to Pet Preparedness. This time Shelley was invited to “Responsible Ownership Day” in Cary, IL to conduct an Pet Preparedness presentation. The Village of Cary declared September 22nd as “Responsible Ownership Day” and hosted a big event which featured Shelley! In addition to Shelley’s Pet Preparedness presentation she, along with her husband Randy, put together an awesome informational table. Shelley had 37 visitors at her table from 11:00am to 4:00pm and had an opportunity to meet with a CERT Instructor and other members of Cary CERT as well. Shelley enjoyed the opportunity to share her knowledge about Pet Preparedness and the opportunity to compare notes with volunteers from another CERT program. Thank you Shelley (and Randy) for your continued dedication and commitment in the area of Pet Preparedness!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- NLFPD Open House - Saturday, October 12th / 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm at Fire Station #1
- Chicago Marathon - Sunday, October 13th / 4 am - 4 pm Chicago, IL
- Monthly Training - Wednesday, October 16th / 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm at Beggars Pizza
- Emergency Response Guidebook Training - Tuesday, October 22nd / 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the Community Room at the Village Hall
- Saturday, November 9th - Dash for Scouting / 8:00 am at NLPD
- Saturday, November 16th - Monthly Training / 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at TBD
- Tuesday, December 17th - Monthly Training / 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the Community Room at the Village Hall



MONTHLY TRAINING – SEPTEMBER 18, 2013

At 7:00pm on Wednesday September 18, 2013 approximately 40 members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for monthly training. The topic of this training event was a de-brief / lessons learned from the tornado exercise that was held at Lincolnway Christian Church on August 10th. Daniel Martin, NLPD Public Safety Division Chief and New Lenox CERT / MRC Program Coordinator, provided the opening remarks and a brief overview of the purpose of the discussion. The floor was then turned over to Bill McGuire who provided those in attendance with a synopsis of Staging and Incident Command. Bill did an excellent job describing how the request for assistance went out and how team members responded. Bill was an Evaluator on the day of the event and took excellent notes which included a timeline from the beginning of the exercise through its conclusion. Bill brought up many positives and constructively addressed areas in need of improvement.



Following Bill's presentation, Patty Edgett took center stage to address triage and treatment. Patty also utilized a Powerpoint which contained a number of photographs of team members engaged in triage and treatment of "patients." Much like Bill, Patty discussed many good points and constructively addressed areas of improvement. Included within the presentation was an overview of S.T.A.R.T. (Simple Triage And Rapid Treatment).

Tania Mora followed Patty and provided an overview of how the team did with regard to "search." Tania also utilized a Powerpoint with photographs of team members in action. Tania touched on several major points which included the size-up (9-step continual process), search (locating victims and documentation) and rescue (extricating victims). Tania pointed out that team members did a relatively good job utilizing their P.P.E. (Personal Protective Equipment) but there were a few examples where team members became lax.



Rich DeVault rounded out the de-briefing with an overview of transport. Rich described the various methods that were utilized to transport "victims" to the triage area which was supplemented with a number of photographs from this portion of the exercise. Rich covered lifting techniques, safety and transport techniques throughout his portion of the presentation. Throughout Rich's presentation as well as the others, team members asked questions which prompted some excellent discussion. Special thanks to Bill, Patty, Tania and Rich for doing an excellent job during the de-brief / lessons learned training event.

FRENCH MARKET AND CERT DEMONSTRATION – SEPTEMBER 7, 2013

On Saturday September 7, 2013 several members of the New Lenox CERT and MRC staffed informational table(s) at the Village of New Lenox French Market. Team members arrived at approximately 8:30am to set-up the tables to ensure they were ready to go before the 9:00am start time. Throughout the morning visitors stopped by the tables and were provided literature on emergency preparedness from Ready.gov. MRC personnel also provided FREE blood pressure screenings to visitors.



At 10:30am additional team members arrived at the New Lenox Police Department to prepare for a CERT demonstration. This included CERT / MRC member Patty Edgett doing a great moulage job on some New Lenox Boy Scouts who agreed to play "victims." At approximately 11:00am the CERT Demonstration Team, led by John Opoka, made their way through the French Market while extending invitations to attend the demonstration. Folks then made their way over to the grassy area just west of the French Market where the demonstration had been staged.

CERT Demonstration Team members approached the scene, conducted an appropriate size-up of the area and then began their search for "victims." Team members then located the victims and began to triage them after proper head-to-toe assessments were conducted. The "Immediate" victims were quickly treated and then transported to a mock triage area that had been simulated. The team did a great job with the exercise and received applause from the crowd after its completion. Patricia Pakosz also did a great job narrating the team's movements and actions so the crowd had a full understanding of what was occurring and why. Special thanks to all the volunteers who staffed the table(s) at the French Market and to those that participated in the demonstration. This was definitely a great way to kick-off National Preparedness Month!



FOREIGNER CONCERT – AUGUST 31, 2013

At 4:30pm on August 31, 2013 nineteen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC arrived at the New Lenox Police Department for a briefing prior to the Foreigner Concert in the Village Commons. Volunteers were provided with an overview of the concert’s Incident Action Plan (IAP) which included duties and responsibilities of personnel from the New Lenox Police Department, New Lenox ESDA, New Lenox Fire Protection District and New Lenox Public Works. Volunteers were told about various aspects of the concert which included gates opening at 5:30pm, where Lost & Found would be located, shelter locations in the event of severe weather and everyone’s specific responsibilities.



The briefing concluded at 4:50pm at which time volunteers walked to their assigned locations. Volunteers staffed various positions around the perimeter of the event, various positions in the lawn to assure that aisles were maintained, assistance with those with functional needs (transportation via golf cart to Gate #1) and access control to the New Lenox Village Hall. Volunteers did an excellent job assisting concert attendees, many of which thanked them for their service.

The concert ended at approximately 10:30pm which was followed by a short de-briefing. Mayor Tim Baldermann stopped by to thank volunteers for their assistance at this event as well as the other concerts throughout the summer. Following the de-briefing, volunteers were dismissed at 10:45pm. Special thanks to everyone that assisted with all of the concerts throughout the summer. Everyone did an outstanding job!

PIPELINE SAFETY AND AWARENESS TRAINING – AUGUST 29, 2013



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

At 7:00pm on Thursday August 29, 2013 approximately 40 team members and guests from the Will County Health Department MRC and Minooka CERT met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for pipeline safety / awareness training. Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief for the New Lenox Police Department and CERT / MRC Program Coordinator welcomed team members and guests. Following the opening remarks, Martin introduced Timothy Kistner, Operations Supervisor, Enterprise (Pipeline) TE Products and his colleagues who were on hand for the presentation.

Kistner and his colleagues provided a 60-slide PowerPoint presentation which covered a variety of topics related to pipeline safety. The presentation included an overview of pipeline safety markers, including where they’re placed and what information they contain. In addition, those in attendance were provided with information regarding what products flow through the pipelines. It was noted that although transportation of these products is efficient and safe, hazards do exist. Guests learned about safe evacuation zones and what to do in case an emergency does occur. The gentlemen from Enterprise Pipeline provided pipeline safety literature and also had a very nice informational table on display which included sections of 14”, 16” and 20” pipe. Throughout the presentation the audience asked questions which prompted great discussions.



Special thanks to our new friends from Enterprise Pipeline for providing the presentation as well as our friends from the Will County Health Department MRC and Minooka CERT for attending.



ST. JUDE’S RUNNING WITH FAITH 5K & 10K RUN – AUGUST 24, 2013

At 5:30pm on Saturday August 24, 2013 sixteen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met at the New Lenox Police Department for the St. Jude’s Running With Faith 5K & 10K Race Briefing. Volunteers were provided with an overview of the race, which included the number of registered runners (+200), race course, location of New Lenox Fire Protection District Paramedics, communications and expected duties. Bill Byerley from the Illinois Radio League was on hand to inform those in attendance about the duties that amateur radio operators would be performing and Jeff Butler from New Lenox ESDA advised that his personnel would be handling traffic control at major intersections. The briefing ended at 5:50pm at which time all volunteers headed out to their assigned locations. At 6:00pm CERT / MRC volunteers were in place at water / first aid stations at Wildwood Drive & Haven Avenue, Ridgefield Road & Gear Drive and Veteran’s Parkway near Old Plank Trail Bank. At 6:30pm the 10K Race kicked off followed by the 5K Race approximately 5 minutes later. CERT / MRC volunteers did a terrific job keeping the runners hydrated on an evening where temperatures were still in the mid to upper 80s. In addition, volunteers provided runners with plenty of encouragement through cheering and hand clapping. The last of the runners finished the course just before 8:00pm at which time all volunteers were dismissed for the evening. Special thanks to everyone that assisted with this event, including our New Lenox ESDA and Illinois Radio League friends.



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

MARS, INC. SAFETY DAY – AUGUST 20, 2013

On Tuesday August 20, 2013 Mars Inc. in Chicago, IL hosted a Safety Day for associates at the Goose Island site. There were a number of informational sessions provided for those in attendance. Examples included information regarding travel safety, pet safety / preparedness, and severe weather with Jim Allsopp from National Weather Service. In addition, there were a wide range of vendors and demonstrations from Grainger Safety Equipment, Deedubs Personal Safety Store, National Incident Management System, Illinois State Police, Chicago Fire Department and Metra. Catherine Johnston and Dale Alexander from New Lenox CERT displayed an informational table similar to those displayed by our Public Information and Emergency Preparedness Committee.



“We had over 100 people come by our table. Many stopped by to chat and to pick-up informational leaflets. The prize wheel with emergency preparedness questions was on display and we were impressed with some answers that associates gave,” said Catherine Johnston who is also a Mars, Inc. employee. In addition to the associates from the Goose Island offices, Catherine and Dale also spoke with visitors from other Mars locations as well. A manager and associates from the Yorkville, IL site were very interested in finding out how to get involved in a CERT organization near their community.

The event was rounded off with a Jeopardy game based on safety and a free raffle for all attendees. The event ended around 2:00pm and was a huge success. Special thanks to Catherine Johnston, as well as Dale Alexander for their participation well beyond the geographical boundaries of New Lenox.

RECOVERY SEARCH – AUGUST 17, 2013

On Saturday August 17, 2013 at 8:00am six members of the New Lenox SAR Team met at Pilcher Park in Joliet, IL to assist the Will County Sheriff’s Police and the Will County Emergency Management Agency (WCEMA) with a search for a missing woman. Additional SAR members from Naperville, Plainfield, McHenry County and other locations were also on hand to assist. A short briefing was held at approximately 9:00am and teams were deployed shortly thereafter. This search was a follow-up to the July 28th search for the 52-year old woman that had been missing since on or about June 9th. The search area was divided into four areas in the area of Hickory Creek and U.S. Route 30. The teams searched until approximately 2:30pm but were unsuccessful in finding the woman. Special thanks to the volunteers who assisted with this search and the efforts made toward bringing this case to a close.



LINCOLN WAY ANIMAL HOSPITAL OPEN HOUSE – AUGUST 17, 2013

On Saturday August 17, 2013 Shelley and Randy Halach participated in an Open House sponsored by the Lincolnway Animal Hospital located at U.S. Route 30 & Ridgeland Ave. in Matteson, IL. Shelley has spent a tremendous amount of time putting together an excellent display for animal preparedness and is well-versed in this area. Shelley and Randy staffed the informational table from 12:00pm to 4:00pm and provided information to approximately 25 visitors at this outdoor event. In addition to meeting Open House visitors, Shelley and Randy had an opportunity to meet with representatives from other organizations, such as veterinarians and veterinary clinicians. Shelley had the opportunity to speak with a visitor from a Kennel Club in Cary, IL and was invited to speak at a their event on September 22, 2013. Special thanks to Shelley and Randy for their time and effort at this event as well as Shelley’s on-going efforts in the area of pet preparedness.



COUNTRY IN THE COMMONS (ELI YOUNG BAND) – AUGUST 16, 2013

At 4:15pm on Friday August 16, 2013 twenty-two members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met at the New Lenox Police Department for the Country in the Commons (Eli Young Band) Concert Briefing. During the briefing the concert’s Incident Action Plan was discussed as were the descriptions of each of the volunteer assignments. The briefing concluded at 4:45pm at which time volunteers walked over the New Lenox Commons to staff their assigned positions. Volunteers were placed around the perimeter of the Commons to serve as a deterrent to “fence jumpers.” Volunteers also staffed the main entrance to the Village Hall for the purpose of allowing only authorized personnel access to the building. One volunteer assisted individuals with functional needs by transporting them via a golf cart from the handicapped parking area to the Main Entrance at Gate #1. Four additional volunteers ensured that aisles were maintained to allow access to and from lawn seating areas. Three volunteers were also kind enough to help out with merchandise sales on behalf of the Village of New Lenox. MRC volunteers (EMTs) were on hand to assist with medical emergencies which fortunately did not occur. The concert ended at approximately 10:30pm and following a short de-briefing, volunteers were dismissed at 11:00pm. Special thanks to all the volunteers for doing an excellent job!



TORNADO EXERCISE AND UCAN PRESENTATION – AUGUST 10, 2013

On Saturday August 10, 2013 the New Lenox CERT / MRC held monthly training. At 8:05am an email was sent to team members advising them to report to Lincolnway Christian Church, 690 E. Illinois Highway to assist with a “tornado” that had just occurred. The email was followed by a text message and phone calls to our team’s leadership. Team Leaders then initiated a “phone tree” to ensure that all team members had received the information.



Team members began to arrive on scene within minutes at which time Incident Command was established. A Command Post was set-up in the parking lot of the church as was a check-in table nearby. Information was gathered from church personnel who advised that 17 boy scouts had been camping just south of the church and their camp was destroyed by the destructive winds. Many of the scouts had been injured and at least two were missing.



A size-up was then conducted of the area which was followed by the deployment of search and rescue teams. Within minutes the injured scouts were being triaged, treated and transported to a triage area that had been established nearby. As the teams worked their way through the camp site, additional team members conducted a search for two missing scouts who were located. Within one hour all 17 scouts had been located and handled appropriately.

Team members continued to arrive on scene as the exercise was concluding, some coming from as far away as Chicago, IL. Following the completion of the exercise a de-briefing was held in the parking lot with all team members. The Incident Commander, Team Leaders, Evaluators and others were provided an opportunity to comment on the exercise. As with any exercise, the team recognized what went well and identified areas for improvement.

Following the tornado exercise, Kelley Holdren, Administrative Director / Flight Nurse for UCAN (University of Chicago Aeromedical Network) provided a 1-hour presentation in the church’s sanctuary. The presentation was excellent and those in attendance anxiously awaited the arrival of the UCAN helicopter. Unfortunately just as it was starting to make its way to New Lenox, it was called to assist with a real life emergency and had to cancel. An invitation has been extended for the helicopter and its crew to return to New Lenox at a future date and time.



Thirty team members participated in this training exercise. Special thanks to Tricia Pakosz, Bill McGuire and members of the Training Committee who did an excellent job putting this event together!

FRENCH MARKET – AUGUST 3, 2013

On Saturday August 3, 2013 six members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met at the French Market at 8:30am to set-up an informational table. Materials included literature from “Ready.gov” such as Family Communications Planning and 72-Hour Disaster Supply Kits. In addition to the literature, volunteers offered French Market attendees (especially children) an opportunity to spin a prize wheel which contained a number of questions related to disaster preparedness. On the MRC side, Patty Edgett and Randy Halach offered free blood pressure screenings to over 30 French Market Guests. The Market was open from 9:00am to 1:00pm with dozens of visitors to the CERT / MRC table. Special thanks to our volunteers for doing a wonderful job!



WILL COUNTY EMA TO HOST A BASIC CERT CLASS

Will County EMA has scheduled a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class which will be held on Saturday, November 2nd and Saturday November 9th at the Will County EMA Training/Garage Facility located at 16841 W. Laraway Road, Joliet, IL. Participants must attend both days to successfully complete the course.

To register, send an email to ema@willcountyillinois.com with your first and last name, daytime telephone number, and the class session you wish to attend. For questions, please call Brenda Lutz at 815-740-8353. The class is limited to the first 25 who register. There is no cost to attend.

RECOVERY SEARCH – JULY 28, 2013

On Sunday July 28th at 6:00am eight members of the New Lenox SAR Team met at the Will County Emergency Management Agency (WCEMA) Garage on Laraway Road & Cherry Hill Road regarding a Recovery Search. Our team, along with members of the WCEMA’s SAR Team, then drove to the Ingalls Park Athletic Club, 20 N. Park Road Joliet, IL (unincorporated Will County) which was designated as the staging and briefing location. Additional SAR members from Naperville, Plainfield, Hanover Park and other locations arrived on scene for the briefing which was held at approximately 7:30am. WCEMA SAR Chief Domingo Kaller lead the briefing and was joined by Will County Sheriff’s Police Investigators. In summary, volunteers were told that they would be searching for a 52-year old woman that had been missing since on or about June 9th. The search area was along the Old Plank Trail and was divided into four sections, one for each search team. The teams were deployed at 8:00am and searched until approximately 4:00pm with negative results. This search provided a great opportunity for our team members to gain experience as it encompassed challenging wooded terrain, the use of a compass and skills that had recently been learned in the 16-Hour Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) Course. Special thanks to the volunteers that dedicated their Sunday to assist family members of the missing woman by attempting to bring some closure to this case.



NEW LENOX COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE – JULY 27, 2013



On Saturday July 27, 2013 New Lenox CERT and MRC volunteers met at the New Lenox Village Hall at 8:30am to assist with the New Lenox Community Blood Drive. Patty Edgett took the lead on this event and she, along with eight additional volunteers, assisted staff from the Heartland Blood Centers with set-up of the Community Room. Following set-up, the event began at 9:00am and ended at 1:00pm. Throughout the event, New Lenox CERT and MRC volunteers staffed the registration table where 17 donors checked-in to start the process for their life saving donation. In addition, our volunteers staffed the snack and refreshment station where donors were seated after they gave blood. Our volunteers sat with the blood donors to ensure they were feeling okay and fortunately no one needed assistance. Special thanks to all the volunteers that assisted with this very successful event.



CONTROLLED BURN BEEF COOK OFF – JULY 27, 2013

On Saturday July 27, 2013 Dale Alexander and Rich DeVault participated in the 2nd Annual Controlled Burn Beef Cook-Off which was held at Proud American Days. The event is sponsored by the New Lenox Fire Protection District Foundation and included eleven teams from the New Lenox area. Dale and Rich arrived at 6:00am to fire-up Rich’s grill which was followed by seasoning their 12-lb. top round roast. The eleven teams had a lot of fun while the roasts were cooking but kept their recipes and cooking techniques guarded. Six judges, including



Mayor Tim Baldermann, arrived at the event and were seated at tables facing away from the participating teams. Judging began at 11:30am with teams carving choice pieces off their roasts in an effort to please the judges. Judging took over an hour and after tallying the scores the winner was announced. New Lenox CERT took 3rd place in this year’s event which was excellent considering the stiff competition. Congratulations to Dale and Rich – their time and effort really paid off! Special thanks to Naomi Carden who transported Rich’s grill to and from the event. Anyone with grilling skills should contact Dale or Rich to start planning for next year’s event!



SPECIAL NEEDS DAY AT PROUD AMERICAN DAYS – JULY 26, 2013

At 10:00am on Friday July 26, 2013 seventeen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met on the grounds of Proud American Days for Special Needs Day. Tania Mora worked closely with Lynn Eckhardt (New Lenox Lion’s Club and CERT / MRC member) to encourage volunteers to assist at this event and boy did they do an outstanding job! The volunteers began assisting with various duties such as directing traffic and parking cars in designated parking areas. Other volunteers assisted those with functional needs out of their vehicles and over to the main tent where the food and music was located. Guests were treated to hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, beverages and desserts which were served by our team members and volunteers from other service organizations as well. Following lunch, the dancing commenced and everyone had a great time. Our volunteers assisted guests over to the carnival where fun was had by all on the rides. The event started to wrap-up around 2:30pm at which time guests were assisted back to their vehicles. The guests had a great time as did the volunteers who made Special Needs Day very special!



RICK SPRINGFIELD CONCERT– JULY 20, 2013

At 4:15 pm on Saturday July 20, 2013 nineteen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met at the New Lenox Police Department for the Rick Springfield Concert Briefing. Daniel Martin, New Lenox Police Department Public Safety Division Chief and CERT / MRC Program Coordinator covered the concert’s Incident Action Plan and explained what each of the volunteer assignments entailed. The briefing concluded at approximately 4:45pm at which time volunteers walked over the New Lenox Commons to staff their assigned positions. Volunteers were placed around the perimeter of the Commons to serve as a deterrent to “fence jumpers.” Volunteers also staffed the main entrance to the Village Hall for the purpose of allowing only authorized personnel access to the building. One volunteer assisted individuals with functional needs by transporting them via a golf cart from the handicapped parking area to the Main Entrance at Gate #1. Four additional volunteers ensured that aisles were maintained to allow access to and from lawn seating areas. Two MRC volunteers (RN and EMT) were available to assist with medical issues in the lawn area where approximately 5000 guests were gathered for the concert. Aside from a passing threat of severe weather, the concert went very well and ended at approximately 10:30pm. Following a short de-briefing, volunteers were dismissed at 11:00pm. Everyone that assisted with the concert did an excellent job – thank you!



SAR WATER RESCUE TRAINING– JULY 20, 2013

At 8:00am on Saturday July 20, 2013 six members of the New Lenox SAR Team met at the Will County Emergency Management Agency’s Garage located on Laraway Road just west of Cherry Hill Road. A short briefing for the Water Rescue Training was conducted by Will County EMA SAR Chief Domingo Kaller, after which members of Will County EMA SAR and New Lenox SAR left the facility for a drive to the Kankakee River in Wilmington, IL. SAR members arrived at the Kankakee River at approximately 8:45am and were joined by SAR members from Naperville and Plainfield. Wilmington ESDA personnel conducted the training which included an overview of water rescue throw bags. SAR members had an opportunity to practice with the throw bags (on land) which contained 50 foot and 75 foot lengths of rope.



Wilmington ESDA personnel then changed into wet suits, put on safety helmets and then jumped into the river which had a moderate current at the time of this training. All SAR members near the water wore personal flotation devices as they “rescued” the “victims” by tossing the throw bags. SAR members had an opportunity to toss the bags up to 10-12 times to the “victims,” some of which tugged on the rope to simulate a stronger current and / or a struggling victim. Following the hands-on portion of the training, SAR members participated in a water safety / water rescue discussion. The training concluded at approximately 11:00am and provided an excellent opportunity for our team members.



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

SEMI ANNUAL MEETING – JULY 16, 2013

At 7:00pm on Tuesday July 16, 2013 approximately 60 members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for the Semi-Annual Meeting. After welcoming those in attendance, Daniel Martin New Lenox Police Department Public Safety Division Chief and CERT / MRC Program Coordinator, introduced the Committee Chairs who provided a summary of their respective committee’s activities. This included reports from:

- Training Committee: Bill McGuire and Tricia Pakosz
- Functional Needs: Tania Mora
- Pet Preparedness: Shelley Halach
- Shelter Management: Dan Johnson and John Schuld
- Public Information / Emergency Preparedness: Tania Mora and Al Murry



Following the Committee reports, a discussion was had regarding the Medical Reserve Corps, including the new applications that are now available to unit members. The New Lenox Search and Rescue (SAR) Team was discussed, including training and a recent activation. A discussion was had regarding the selection of team members for the 2013 Prairie State CERT Challenge which is scheduled for Saturday September 28, 2013. A number of upcoming events were discussed and volunteers were encouraged to sign-up for various events scheduled in July, August and September. As the time approached 8:30pm, a wrap-up was held which included time for a Q & A session. The meeting ended at approximately 8:40pm and was followed by a brief meeting with 2013 Prairie State CERT Challenge Team Members.

Special thanks to Debbie Jones who took a group of 10 on a short walk on Old Plank Trail for the purpose of pointing out poison ivy and other rash-producing plants. The participants met Debbie at the New Lenox Police Department at 6:15pm and were back in time for the 7:00pm meeting.

FRENCH MARKET – JULY 6, 2013



Dale Alexander and Tania Mora

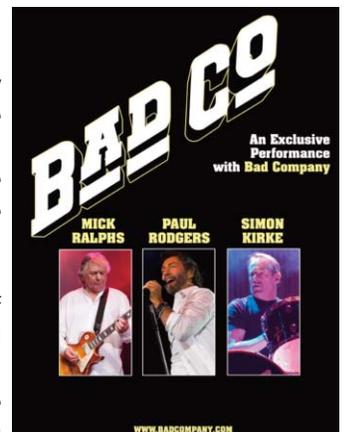
On Saturday July 6, 2013 Tania Mora, Dale Alexander, Randy Halach and Shelley Halach met at the Village of New Lenox French Market at 8:00am for set-up of the CERT / MRC informational tables. On the CERT side, informational materials from Ready.gov were made available to market guests as were materials related to severe weather and pet preparedness. In addition, a prize wheel was set-up with disaster preparedness questions geared toward families with children. The prize wheel has been a huge success at the French Markets and regardless of the answer, kids always walk away with a “prize.” On the MRC side Randy Halach had blood pressure information available and during the market (9:00am to 1:00pm) he conducted over 40 blood pressure screenings. As always, the CERT and MRC volunteers did an excellent job answering questions and interacting with the public.



Randy Halach

BAD COMPANY CONCERT – JUNE 29, 2013

At 4:15pm on Saturday June 29, 2013 nineteen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met at the New Lenox Police Department for the Bad Company Concert Briefing. Volunteers were introduced to the concert’s Incident Action Plan which included a short discussion of contingency plans in the event of an emergency. In addition, the concert passes were shown to those in attendance so everyone had knowledge of what the different types of passes looked like. The briefing concluded at 4:40pm at which time everyone walked down to the Commons to staff their assigned positions. New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers staffed perimeter positions around the New Lenox Commons, ensured that aisles were maintained in the lawn, assisted with a V.I.P. party on the north patio of the Village Hall, staffed the doors to the main entrance of the Village Hall, handled the sale of t-shirts and merchandise and assisted transporting those with functional needs to Gate #1 (via golf cart) from the handicapped parking area. The gates were opened at 5:30pm and the first band started at 5:45pm. The second band began at 7:00pm and Bad Company took the stage at approximately 9:00pm. MRC volunteers were assigned to the lawn area in the event concert guests (5000) sustained injuries or were otherwise in need of medical assistance. The concert ended shortly after 10:00pm at which time volunteers staffed exits at Gates #1, #2 and #3 to ensure guests did not leave the Commons with alcoholic beverages. A de-briefing was held at 10:30pm and volunteers were dismissed at 10:45pm. The concert was a success and the volunteers did an outstanding job!



Additional Information

Daniel Martin

Public Safety Division Chief
 New Lenox Police Department
 Phone: 815-462-6100
 Fax: 815-462-6101
 Email: dmartin@newlenox.net

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

Thirty-one residents currently make-up CERT Class #8 which is scheduled to graduate on Saturday October 19, 2013. Much like the previous classes, CERT Class #8 is a GREAT group of folks who are currently learning skills that will benefit their families and neighbors during an emergency or disaster. For those that are interested in playing a "victim" during CERT Class #8's Final Exercise on October 19th (9:00am – 11:00am) please let us know. For additional information about the New Lenox CERT Program or to register for the next class, contact Public Safety Division Chief Daniel Martin at the New Lenox Police Department by phone (815) 462-6100 or email dmartin@newlenox.net.

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

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



Visit us on Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxCERT>

**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
 JOHN SCHULD**



I, my wife and 4 children love living in New Lenox. We have lived here since 1999, but I've been coming 'out here' since 1971 with family living in town. I have been working in the telecom/VoIP industry for the last 23 years. My family's business was in town and it seemed like a great place to settle. I have been a member of the New Lenox CERT since 2009 (Class #2). What motivated me to join CERT was a long held belief that charity starts at home. In the immediate aftermath of 9-11, the predominant emotions I experienced were pride and respect for the people who came to help strangers. These people were not only first responders and ER staff, but civilians and co-workers of the injured. I wondered if I would be ready to step-up if needed. My goal was to help my family, my neighbors and my community. When the CERT concept was first made public, I thought I would go to the meeting and see what it was about. I thought hopefully 15 or 20 people would come out and get this started. Boy was I wrong. The meeting room at the Village Hall was packed and not only was Class 1 created, but Class 2 & 3 filled immediately as well.

I really enjoy CERT because it allows me to be part of a team of other like-minded citizens, with an interest to assist the greater good. I'm amazed and sometimes awed when I see how some of these other individuals perform when we train. Even though they don't know it, there are several teammates that I constantly look to for guidance and support. Of course the ability to network and make new friends is an added bonus. I think one of the great things about being a member of the New Lenox CERT is the ability to be involved as little or as much as you want. I have been a Team Leader and done some committee work. Like all committee members I experience great satisfaction when a task is done and knowledge or support has been offered to fellow team members.

I know that my training will help me in areas outside of the CERT environment. I know that I am more aware of my surroundings, whether it's at a customer site, at Navy Pier or the Indiana Dunes with my family. I think I have developed a new level of awareness. I would definitely recommend CERT to anyone and plan on getting my children involved when they get a bit older. I think it is a great way to have young adults learn about the importance of community.



FEMA

