

Village of New Lenox

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

SURVIVAL SKILLS – SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

At 7:00pm on Tuesday, September 27, 2022 approximately 45 members of New Lenox CERT met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for monthly training. September's Survival Skills Training was designed to be a nice compliment to the basic CERT curriculum as well as something fun for those in attendance. Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and provided a brief overview of the training. Following the overview and introduction of Station Facilitators, everyone was divided into four groups – ALPHA, BRAVO, CHARLIE and DELTA. Attendees were then provided with a printed "station rotation," which showed teams rotating through four stations every 20 minutes starting at 7:10pm. The stations and their facilitators were as follows:

- **Shelters / Knots** – Joe Frigo and Lisa Murphy
- **Fire Starting** – Rich DeVault and Lauren Humbrecht
- **Wilderness First Aid** – Tricia Pakosz and Scott Thompson
- **5 C's & 10 C's of Survival** – Brendan Clancy

A brief description of the four stations is as follows:

Shelters / Knots

The first skill CERT members were taught was how to set-up a ridgeline utilizing a large rope and two knots; timber hitch and the trucker's hitch. Everyone was then shown an "A-frame" tarp shelter. Here, they were given the opportunity to take down and reset the ridgeline for the shelter. Lastly, they were shown another primitive shelter, called a "hooch," that was built using a poncho. The station facilitators explained the differences between the two types of shelters, as well as the positives and negatives of both.

Fire Starting

Each group was shown various types of materials that can be utilized to start a fire. Materials included, but were not limited to:

- Cotton balls soaked in petroleum jelly.
- Egg carton sections filled with dryer lint and pieces of egg carton filled with candle wax.
- Road flares.
- Fine steel wool and a 9V battery.
- Pre-shaved magnesium (available on Amazon).
- An Altoid tin full of charred sticks help get the fire going.
- Strike-anywhere matches.
- Magnesium sticks (good quality preferable).

Demonstrations were provided and team members were also afforded an opportunity to start a fire using different methods and materials.



Wilderness First Aid

Facilitators explained that many scenarios can occur in the outdoors that require first aid. When you are camping, hiking, or anywhere in the outdoors, you have limited supplies. Being creative with what you have on hand, combined with some basic knowledge, can save a life. Everyone was reminded of the "ABCDE" method of checking and assisting a victim:

- A – **Airways Open** (head tilt, chin lift)
- B – **Breathing** (check the chest if one side or both sides are expanding)
- C – **Circulation** (capillary refill – 2 seconds and check for pulse)
- D – **Decide** – CPR or treat wounds
- E – **Expose** - the injury to view, examine, and treat

Each group had an opportunity to participate in a scenario, which included a mountain biker (Rescue Randy Jr. mannequin) that sustained an injury while riding. The "victim" was found unconscious with a bicycle on top of him. The bicycle had impaled the victim's eye and he had profuse bleeding from his wrist. In addition, the victim's leg was twisted, an apparent fracture. Each of the groups conducted a size-up and triaged the "victim." Groups then utilized items typically taken on a hike to treat the victim.



Our Core Principles:

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

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Survival Skills – September 27, 2022 Cont'd



5 C's and 10 C's of Survivability (created Dave Canterbury)

At this station, attendees learned about some items to have in their kits that would assist them in a survival situation. The first 5 C's included:

Cutting / Cutting Tool – One of the most difficult to reproduce in an outdoor situation. Various knives were shown. High quality, full tang (blade runs the entire length of the knife for durability) stressed.

Combustion Device - Bic lighter, ferro rod, mesh metal - some with handles. Shave off metal from the rod so shavings oxidize and ignite. Kindling and flash tinder important to start a fire. Fire are important for warmth, (maintain core body temperature), light, purify water, cook food, make medicines and for calming / comforting effect.

Cover & Shelter – to protect from the elements. Cover could include a wool blanket, a tarp, Mylar foil blanket. Silver or orange Mylar blankets could also be used as signaling devices.

Container – A container capable of boiling water (single walled, stainless steel), or cooking. Enables water purification and cooking of foods.

Cordage – Paracord (super strong with smaller fibers within outer core), twine, etc... will facilitate building a shelter and have other uses. Hemp rope for example, is not that strong, but can be used to start a fire. Other types of cordage can be used for making primitive traps, sewing, flash tinder, etc...

10 C's of Survival are the expanded elements of the 5 C's of Survivability that can be utilized to augment survival kits even further. They include:

Candlelight

Cotton material

Compass

Cargo Tape

Canvass Needle



Following the conclusion of the stations (approximately 8:40pm) everyone met in the Community Room for a de-briefing. During the de-briefing the facilitators provided short summaries of their respective stations and were thanked by everyone for their presentations. Great job and thanks to those that attended!

OLD CAMPGROUND FESTIVAL - SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

At 8:00am, Trish Buhle, the lead volunteer for this event, and three other members arrived on the grounds of the United Methodist Church for this year's Old Campground Festival. They chose a spot on the grounds and began setting up the 10' x 10' tent, table, and literature for the CERT informational table. Two other members arrived shortly after to help out.

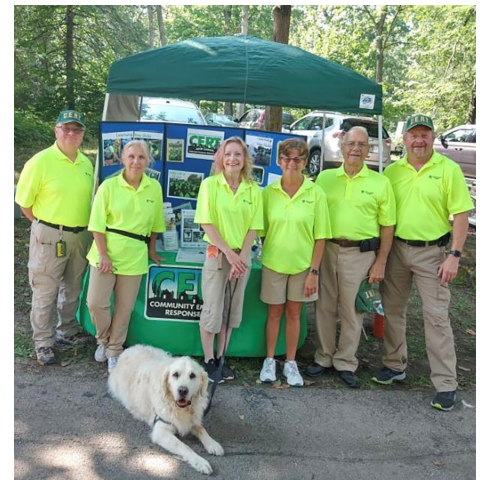
Our members always help the community whenever able. Shortly before the festival opened, one of our members, Stu Sikora, was able to help out another vendor by providing a tow strap to use to free a vehicle that was stuck in the mud.



The festival officially started at 9:00am at which time visitors started making their way around the grounds. Many families and individuals visited our table throughout the day and were provided with Ready.gov disaster preparedness literature, as well as information on how to join our New Lenox CERT team. Even though age is catching up with him, "Buddy" our CERT dog came out from 9:45am to 12:30pm. Many people loved seeing Buddy again as well as meeting him for the first time.

The weather was absolutely perfect for this event; 85 degrees and sunny to dry up the grounds from the recent rain. The beautiful grounds of the United Methodist Church supplied plenty of shade and a perfect atmosphere for an outdoor event. The Old Campground Fest concluded at 3:00pm and provided an opportunity for our team to meet the public and

describe what CERT does for the community as well as provide information on emergency preparedness. Special thanks to all of our volunteers who gave their time to staff the table and represent our team!



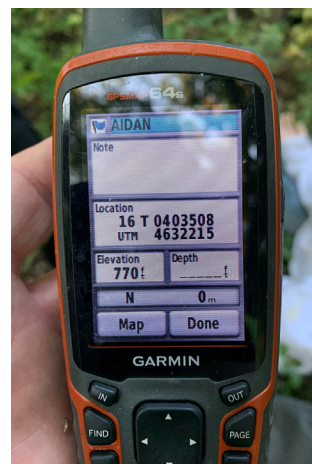
Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people . . .

MULTI-AGENCY SAR TRAINING / NIGHT SEARCH – SEPTEMBER 10, 2022

At 5:00pm on Saturday, September 10, 2022 five members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the Village Hall for the purpose of carpooling to St. James Farm, 25541 Winfield Road, Warrenville, IL. Two additional New Lenox SAR members commuted separately, but everyone arrived at approximately 5:40pm. Upon arriving at the Staging Area everyone donned their SAR vests and sprayed down with insect repellent. Additional SAR volunteers arrived from several other jurisdictions and at approximately 6:00pm everyone made their way over to the Incident Command Area. Kim Gotte, Section Chief, Search and Rescue, Kendall County Emergency Management Agency, welcomed everyone and provided information about upcoming Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC) training opportunities. Following this information, Kim provided the scenario for the training exercise / night search. In short, teams would be searching for a lost hiker (background, physical description, clothing description, etc... provided).



Several teams were then put together, which included New Lenox with 7 team members. Our team was designated Team "Alpha," and a Team Leader was chosen. Our team was provided with a search segment and then headed out on a 10-minute walk to the area. This area was wooded with uneven terrain and thick underbrush. A decision was made to utilize a 330° azimuth with a 150° back azimuth. It was also decided that on each pass, one flanker / flagger would be substituted to allow everyone to get some flagging experience. All searchers utilized their compasses to ensure they were maintaining their critical spacing. Everyone also utilized their SARTopo app, which was being tracked by Search Managers.



Search progress was slow, but steady. After each pass our team radioed "Search Base" to let them know a pass was completed and another would be commencing. Our team did an excellent job with coverage. Flagging was good (back azimuths were routinely checked). Purposeful wandering was good. 360° searching when the line stopped was good. Communication between team members was good. Everyone did a good job looking out for each other, including reminders about staying hydrated. At approximately 8:30pm ALL teams were advised to return to the Staging Area. We were just starting our 6th pass and were approximately 1/2 way through our search segment.



A de-briefing was held where we learned that the "victim" (training aid) was located in another search segment. Kim discussed various aspects of the search and reminded everyone to sign out. We held a short de-briefing with our team at which time everyone was thanked for participating. Everyone left the site and we returned to New Lenox at approximately 9:30pm.



Again, a big thank you to those that participated in this training exercise – well done!

HHW / RECYCLING EVENT AT SPENCER CAMPUS – SEPTEMBER 10, 2022

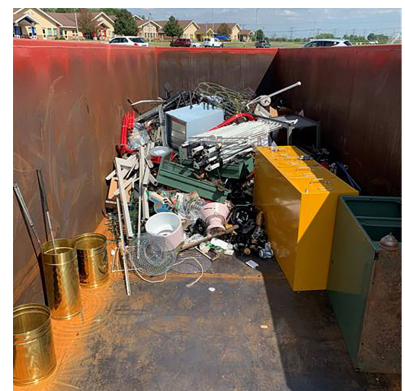
At 7:30am on Saturday, September 10, 2022 twelve members of New Lenox CERT met at the Spencer Campus, 1711 S. Spencer Road to assist with an annual household hazardous waste and recycling event. This annual event is run by Will County Green and ShareFest New Lenox, with the support of Will County, the Village of New Lenox, and New Lenox Township. Our team members met with Marta Keane, Recycling Program Specialist, Will County Land Use – Waste Services / Will County Green, who provided the briefing. In summary, it was expected that close to 900 vehicles would be participating in the event from 7:30am to 3:00pm. Marta explained that everyone made their appointments online and indicated what they would be dropping off. Choices included electronics, household hazardous waste, Styrofoam, scrap metal, scrap wood or household items (food, clothing, furniture, etc...). Following Marta's briefing, Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, did a safety briefing and assigned everyone positions. In short, everyone was assigned traffic management (routing vehicles through the campus to various points and answering questions) or working in the Styrofoam / Scrap Metal / Scrap Wood Area.



Everyone was in place by 7:45am, in advance of the 8:00am start time. Vehicles were already starting to line-up for their 8:00am appointment times. Additional vehicles started to arrive for their 8:15am, 8:30am, and 8:45am appointment times as well. Our volunteers did a great job routing all vehicles to the survey / check-in area, which was the last checkpoint before vehicles entered the drop-off areas for electronics and HHW. Our volunteers then contacted vehicles once again and, if applicable, directed them to the Styrofoam / Scrap Metal / Scrap Wood Area -or- to the Household Goods drop-off area. Our first shift (7:30am to 10:00am) did an excellent job as did the next two shifts (10:00am to 1:00pm *and* 1:00pm to 3:00pm). Everyone worked very hard throughout the day, but it was rewarding when people said "thank you," "good job," or otherwise paid our volunteers complements.



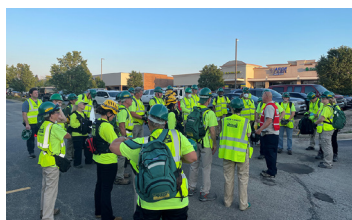
The event ended at 3:00pm and everyone was thanked for their efforts. Special thanks to EVERYONE that assisted with this event and helped to make it a huge success!



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

DISASTER SIMULATION AT STANDARD BANK – AUGUST 24, 2022

After much planning and preparation, New Lenox CERT Exercise Facilitators met at the abandoned Standard Bank, 456 Nelson Road, at 4:00pm on Wednesday, August 24, 2022 for the purpose of setting-up the disaster simulation scheduled for 7:00pm. A 360° perimeter was established around the bank with traffic cones, which essentially closed off each entrance to the bank. The traffic cones were supplemented with signage (sandwich boards) that said "TRAINING IN PROGRESS." Our team's good friend, Patrick Hardin, from MABAS, arrived with 25 training mannequins that would serve as "victims" for this exercise. Everyone helped to unload the mannequins, which were distributed evenly on the main and lower levels of the bank. After the mannequins were set in place, an injury card was taped to their torso. The injury cards were used, in part, to give our team members practice with Triage and Treatment. Although this process seems simple, it was labor intensive. We were fortunate to have a lot of hands on deck so it went relatively quickly.



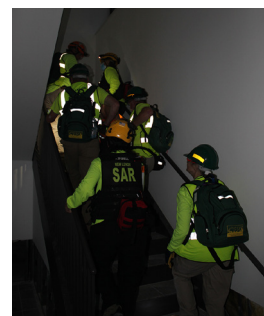
As the work was going on inside the bank, an area for Incident Command was established. This included a table, chairs, radios and all the forms that would be utilized during the exercise. A Staging Area was also established nearby. This included a pop-up tent, table, chairs and sign-in sheets (Personnel Resources Forms). Lastly, a Logistics Area was established. This included our 16-foot CERT trailer, which had all the supplies needed for this exercise.



CERT volunteers started to arrive shortly after 6:00pm and were divided into teams as they arrived. The idea with this exercise was to have a SEARCH / TRIAGE / TREATMENT TEAM work hand-in-hand with a TRANSPORT TEAM. So, ALPHA (search / triage / treatment) worked with BRAVO (transport). CHARLIE and DELTA were also set-up that way. Even though these teams consisted of about 7 team members each, it still left others available in the staging area for other assignments. The briefing started at 7:00pm sharp and essentially everyone was told that this was a gas explosion. The structure,



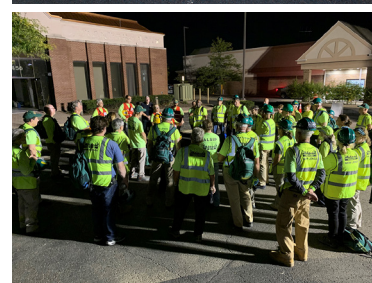
declared safe, needed to be searched following a Damage Assessment. Included in the overall briefing was a Safety Briefing and all Evaluators (red vests marked Evaluator) were identified.



Following the briefing, Team Leaders were called over to Incident Command for their assignments. A Damage Assessment was conducted and the gas to the building (mock gas main) was turned off. ALPHA and BRAVO lined up, followed by CHARLIE and DELTA. The paired-up teams made entry and began searching their assigned level of the bank (main or lower). As the search was commencing, a Treatment Area was established and made ready to receive "victims." ALPHA and CHARLIE Team Leaders directed their respective teams in their search areas.

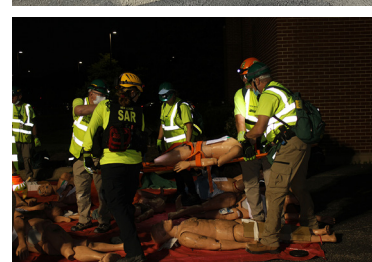


When Red/Immediate "victims" were located, they were treated accordingly. Team Leads for BRAVO and DELTA (Transport Teams) were contacted and began their extractions to the Treatment Area. This process was repeated over and over for the next hour or so until all but the "trapped victims" remained in the building. Both of these "victims" were in grave condition and team members needed to utilize cribbing materials to remove them. As all of this was going on, Incident Command was in touch with the Team Leaders via the radio, which was also being monitored by the Team Leader in the Treatment Area, which helped to track incoming "victims."



The exercise concluded at approximately 8:30pm at which time a de-briefing was held with everyone. Comments were made by the Exercise Evaluators, Incident Commander (and staff), Team Leaders and others that participated in the exercise. Following the debriefing, everyone assisted with clean-up, which took about 30 minutes.

Special thanks to EVERYONE that contributed and / or participated in this exercise, which was EXTREMELY valuable for our team!



NEW LENOX SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM ANNUAL FIT TEST – AUGUST 16, 2022

At 5:30pm on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 four members of New Lenox SAR met at the Forest Preserve District of Will County's Sugar Creek Administration Center, located at 17540 W. Laraway Road, Joliet, IL. Our team members, who had previously completed the fit test, held a short meeting to discuss how the 3-mile fit test would be carried out. It was decided that Dan Martin and Rich DeVault would be at the start / finish line recording times, Dan Johnson would be at the one-mile (also two-mile) mark, and Joe Frigo would be at the one-and-a-half mile (turnaround) mark. Since Dan Johnson was essentially in the middle of the course, he was provided with an AED, in case there was a cardiac emergency. It was discussed that both Dan Johnson and Joe Frigo would provide split times to team members if requested.

Team members started to arrive and walked over to the staging area. Everyone had their load-bearing vests checked for mandatory equipment and to ensure they met the minimum weight requirements. Everyone was dressed in long sleeve shirts, black BDU pants and hiking boots. As everyone was arriving, Dan Johnson checked the course on his mountain bike from the start to the 1 ½-mile turn around. The course was checked for distance with a Garmin GPS unit as well as SARTopo mapping app.

At 6:20pm Dan Martin provided everyone with a safety briefing and explained the requirements. Everyone was told that following the test, there would be a discussion regarding upcoming trainings, AMDR, Critical Spacing and Flagging Concepts. Following the briefing, everyone walked over to the start line on Wauponsee Glacial Trail, approximately 50 feet south of Laraway Road. Once everyone was ready, Dan Martin keyed his radio and did a countdown – 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 START, which could be heard by Dan Johnson and Joe Frigo so they could start their stop watches.



Dan Johnson kept the other test facilitators up-to-date as team members passed the 1-mile and 2-mile marks. Our first two team members crossed the start line in a little over 38 minutes, which is an extraordinary time for walking in full gear. The rest of the team finished in the 40+ minute range with ALL team members completing the test under the 50-minute requirement. MANY of our team members set PRs (Personal Records) during this test, which was awesome to see! Everyone was given time to hydrate and recover from the test before walking back across Laraway Road.

Following the test, the team met in an area between Laraway Road and the parking lot where there was some bench seating. At this time Dan Martin talked about the upcoming Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC) Conference (October 7-9) and two ISARC classes that New Lenox is scheduled to host. These classes include an 8-hour Basic Land Navigation (BNAV) class and a 16-hour Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) class. BNAV will tentatively be held on Saturday, November 5th and the GSAR will tentatively be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 19th & 20th. In addition to Dan Martin's announcements, Dan Johnson talked about upcoming SAR and CERT training, which included topics as well as the need for assistance from NLSAR members.

Following the updates, Dan Martin covered basic concepts of AMDR, Critical Spacing and Flagging, to ensure that everyone was on the same page with techniques. Joe Frigo also demonstrated a flagging technique that can be utilized to quickly tie a flag to a branch, leaving a long double tail, which can be easily seen. Everyone was provided with flagging tape and given an opportunity to practice. Training concluded at approximately 8:30pm, just as daylight was fading.

Great job and congratulations to all of our team members that completed the fit test. On the horizon (2023) will be a fit test that more accurately reflects what a searcher does – stay tuned!

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MOVIE NIGHT IN THE COMMONS – JUNE THRU AUGUST, 2022

The New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team was asked to assist the New Lenox Police Department on Wednesday evenings for “Movie Night in the Commons.” This activity, sponsored by the Village of New Lenox, featured family-oriented movies at dusk along with a variety of snack foods available at the concession stand. Our team’s role, in part, was to serve as a visible deterrent to mischief as large groups of teens also regularly attended. Our team was also on hand to assist with medical emergencies, should they occur during the movie.



Throughout the summer a briefing was held at 7:00pm with New Lenox Police Department Officers. Following the briefing our volunteers staffed various positions throughout the Commons while others served as “floaters.” Suspicious or mischievous activity was reported to NLPD Officers. Volunteers typically stayed until 10:00pm – 10:30pm, depending on the length of the movie. Typical staffing for Movie Night has been 6-9 volunteers per evening.

Our volunteers assisted with “Movie Night in the Commons” every Wednesday evening from June 8th to August 10th. Special thanks to our outstanding volunteers who did a terrific job this summer!



TRIPLE PLAY CONCERT / COUNTING CROWS – AUGUST 27, 2022

At 4:30pm on Saturday, August 27, 2022 twenty-nine members of New Lenox CERT met in the Council Chambers at the New Lenox Village Hall for the Counting Crows Concert Briefing, which was given by Dan Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox. Dan welcomed everyone and thanked them in advance for assisting with the third and final concert in the Triple Play Concert Series. An overview of concert's Incident Action Plan was provided and included in summary the following: Expected attendance, timeline for the bands, items allowed in the venue, items prohibited in the venue, parking (accessible, V.I.P., & food vendors), severe weather shelter plan, location for "lost & found," smoking areas, portable toilet locations, food vendor locations, assignments, and much more. All volunteers were issued radios if they didn't have their own and med kit supplies were checked. Following a quick team photo, everyone headed out to their assignments at 4:50pm.



The gates opened at 5:30pm at which time hundreds poured into the venue from Gates 1 & 3. Our volunteers assisted in the lawn by establishing aisles that are designed to allow access to first responders in case of emergency. Other volunteers assisted at about 10 additional locations throughout the venue, each performing specific duties and responsibilities.

The crowd enjoyed the first two bands, which took the stage at 6:00pm ("May-December Trio") and 7:30pm ("Phillip-Michael Scales"). Following an introduction by Mayor Tim Baldermann, the Counting Crows took the stage at 9:00pm and played to an audience of approximately 3,500. Throughout the 90-minute set, our volunteers did an excellent job assisting guests in a variety of ways, including two separate medical situations.

At 10:30pm CERT volunteers assisted with egress at Gates #1, #2, and #3. They did a great job with this task as well, which ended at approximately 11:00pm. After the venue was cleared, everyone headed into the Village Hall Community Room for a de-briefing. During the de-briefing, Mayor Baldermann stopped by to thank the volunteers for assisting with all three concerts this summer. The Mayor spoke very highly of the volunteers and said a number of kind things regarding their efforts.



Special thanks to our volunteers that assisted with this concert, as well as all three concerts this summer. As the Mayor noted, everyone did an outstanding job!

CASA SUPERHERO 5K – AUGUST 4, 2022

At 6:00pm on Thursday, August 4, 2022, twenty-five members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team met in the upper level parking lot of the New Lenox Village Hall. The purpose of the gathering was to hold a briefing for the CASA Superhero 5K, which is an event that our team has assisted with for the past several years.

Dan Martin, CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them for volunteering for this event. Dan then provided everyone with a briefing which included a history of the race, procedures in case of a medical emergency, and an overview of duties related to the water station as well as race marshal positions. Lastly, Dan reminded all the volunteers to cheer on the runners and walkers as they came through positions. For some, this would be their first 5K and it's important to recognize them for their efforts. After taking a quick photo, everyone headed out to their positions at approximately 6:30pm.

After overcoming some logistical issues related to the water station, everyone was ready to go. The race actually kicked-off about five minutes earlier than the scheduled 7:00pm start time. Fortunately, all of our race marshals were in position and ready to handle traffic management duties.

The lead runner was led by three cyclists that were utilizing recumbent bikes. Following the lead runner were other packs of runners who traversed the course with the assistance of our CERT volunteers who did a terrific job with traffic management. Many of the runners quickly stopped at the water station for some hydration and were very grateful for the cold bottled water.

All of our volunteers stayed on the course until the last walkers passed by, who were followed by a New Lenox Police Department Community Service Officer. New Lenox Emergency Services Officers were also at Haven Ave. @ Wildwood Dr., which is one of the busier intersections along the course.

All of our CERT volunteers returned to the upper level parking lot of the village hall by 8:00pm. At that time, a short debriefing was held where strengths and areas for improvement were discussed. Dan thanked everyone that assisted with this event and was very appreciative of everyone's efforts.

Great job by all and congratulations to CASA of River Valley for a successful event.



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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – AUGUST 2, 2022

New Lenox CERT was requested by the New Lenox Police Department to assist at National Night Out (Against Crime), a national event that occurs on the first Tuesday in August each year. Between 5:00 and 5:30pm CERT volunteers arrived at the Village Hall and were provided with a short briefing before heading out to their assignments. In total, 19 CERT volunteers assisted with this event as follows:

2 Volunteers Floating Assignment (to supervise and assist as needed)

9 Volunteers Concession Stand (to cook & wrap hot dogs and to serve hot dogs, chips, freeze pops and bottled water)

8 Volunteers Informational Table (to distribute disaster preparedness materials and offer games for kids)



The event started at 6:00pm with many families already in the Village Commons ready to participate in all the activities that were offered. There was a "touch-a-truck" component that featured several vehicles from the New Lenox Police Department, New Lenox Fire Protection District, New Lenox Public Works, Metra and Will County Sheriff's Police (Lenco Industries Bearcat, SWAT vehicle). In addition, HERO's (Heroin Epidemic Relief Organization) "Hidden In Plain Sight Trailer" was on hand, which gave an inside look of a teenager's bedroom where drug paraphernalia can be hidden. A number of additional organizations had informational tables that offered handouts and games similar to our CERT table.



Everyone, including our volunteers, had a great time at this event, which ended at approximately 8:00pm. A short de-briefing was held back at the Village Hall at 8:20pm where there were a number of positive comments regarding the event. Special thanks to our volunteers for helping this year – well done!



CERT WATER SAFETY / WATER RESCUE TRAINING – JULY 28, 2022

At 6:00pm on Thursday, July 28, 2022 about 10 members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team arrived in the Village Commons to set-up (CERT) training prior to the 7:00pm start time. Tricia Pakosz and Joe Frigo had the lead on this particular training, which covered the basics of water safety. It also included an overview of water rescue throw bags, along with hands on practice.

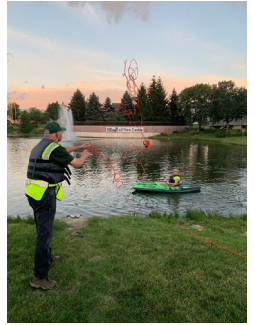


At 7:00pm approximately 30 members of New Lenox CERT met at the stage of the performing arts pavilion where Tricia and Joe provided information regarding water safety and water rescue. Tricia shared a story about some teens who saved three girls and a police officer from drowning in a Mississippi river. Tricia shared the lessons learned from the incident, which included how dangerous swift water can be.

Tricia also shared that six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control and stalling. Six inches of swiftly moving water can also knock a person off their feet. Twelve inches of water will float many passenger cars. Two feet of swiftly moving water will sweep away larger vehicles such as pick-up trucks and SUVs. Flood water on roadways can obscure hazards such as large cracks or even missing portions of the road. Even after water has subsided, extreme caution must be used as the weight of your vehicle could cause the roadway to collapse.

Both Tricia and Joe talked about water rescue throw bags, including the concepts of making both verbal contact and eye contact with the "victim." Additional key points included:

- Throw (never wrap or slip the loop around your wrist).
- Position yourself and look for a location where the "victim" can be brought in safely.
- Get the "victim's" attention by calling out to them and yelling "Rope."
- Depending on obstacles (overhead limbs, for example) the bag may be thrown underhand, overhand or sidearm.
- The end of the rope should be held in the "weak" hand, opposite of the coiled rope in the bag and throwing hand. Much like in throwing sports, step and throw.
- Follow through with the throw, which should be slightly ahead of the victim's direction of travel (based on current). Ideally the line should cross the "victim" between his / her feet and head.



In addition to deployment of the bag, Tricia and Joe talked about a secondary throw (if missed the first time). As there will not be enough time to re-stuff the bag, the line should be coiled as quickly as possible and thrown again. Joe also demonstrated the technique for holing the line (based on "victim's" direction of travel) and bringing the "victim" into the shore.

Following Tricia and Joe's presentation, everyone was divided into three teams - Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Everyone was provided with a station rotation which included three stations as follows: Station #1 – Throw Bag Accuracy (on grass aiming for hula hoops at different distances), Station #2 Throw Bag Practice (from shoreline to two kayakers moving through the water, simulating current), and Station #3 Throw Bag Practice (from elevated deck to a moving kayak, simulating a rescue from an elevated location). The schedule had teams starting at 7:20pm, rotating at 7:40pm and then again at 8:00pm.



Members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team assisted with instruction at each of the stations. They manned kayakers, stuffed water rescue throw bags, assisted with technique, and shared tips for effective throws. In short, they did an excellent job instructing and CERT members did a great job at each of the stations too. The stations concluded at 8:20pm at which time everyone headed back over to the stage for a de-briefing.

Tricia and Joe provided final comments while additional SAR members added comments as well. The training was well-received and appreciated by those in attendance. Special thanks to Tricia, Joe and all those who facilitated a station. Also, thanks to all the CERT members that attended this extremely valuable training – well done!



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

PAT BENATAR AND NEIL GIRALDO CONCERT – JULY 23, 2022

At 4:30pm on Saturday, July 23, 2022, thirty members of New Lenox CERT met in the Council Chambers at the New Lenox Village Hall for a briefing related to the Pat Benatar / Neil Giraldo Concert. Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and thanked them for volunteering for the (second) 2022 Triple Play Concert, sponsored by Mayor Tim Baldermann and the Village of New Lenox. Dan jumped right into the Incident Action Plan, which had been distributed to police, fire, public works, emergency management and others intimately involved with the event. Included in the plan was an overview of the event as well as information that CERT volunteers should be aware of. This includes, but is not limited to, location of accessible parking, location of accessible seating, what's allowed / prohibited in the venue, severe weather shelter locations and much more. In addition, Dan provided everyone with their assignments, which included areas of responsibility throughout the venue. Following the briefing a quick team photo was taken before everyone headed out to their assignments.



The gates opened at 5:30pm at which time hundreds flowed into the venue in search of a perfect spot to set-up their chairs and blankets. Our volunteers did an excellent job establishing and maintaining the aisles, which are there for everyone's safety. Other volunteers kept a watchful eye out at gates, perimeter fencing, food vendor areas and other areas that are restricted to performers and crew.



Two opening bands played before Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo, who took the stage a few minutes before 9:00pm. As light turned to darkness, the crowd enjoyed the performance and CERT volunteers continued to contribute to the safety of guests. The concert ended at approximately 10:30pm, at which time CERT volunteers assisted with egress at the gates until 11:00pm. Following those duties, everyone met near gate #1 where a short de-briefing was held. As with all de-briefings, strengths and areas for improvement were discussed. Suggestions are passed along to those who plan the concerts, who always appreciate them. The de-briefing concluded at 11:15pm, at which time everyone was thanked for their efforts.

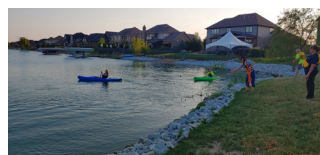
Once again, special thanks to everyone that assisted with this concert. Everyone did a terrific job!

NEW LENOX SEARCH AND RESCUE WATER SAFETY / WATER RESCUE – JULY 14, 2022

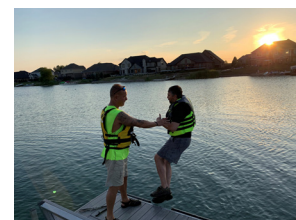
At 7:00pm on Thursday, July 14, 2022, eighteen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the Sunset Lakes Subdivision in Manhattan, IL for Water Safety / Water Rescue Training. This particular training was planned by Tricia Pakosz and Joe Frigo, with assistance of Lauren Humbrecht. Everyone brought PFDs (Personal Flotation Devices) and dressed accordingly for in-water exercises.



Instruction was led by Tricia and Joe. Collectively, they covered what to do if a searcher fell in the water (proper positioning – legs/feet down river, tucked position, etc...), which everyone practiced on the shoreline. In addition, everyone was instructed on the use of a water rescue throw bag. This included proper throwing technique (underhand, overhand, and sidearm). SAR members were shown the proper technique for holding onto the rope (based on water current) and how to pull a victim to the shoreline. In addition, to the water safety / water rescue training, everyone had an opportunity to practice cutting fishing line with their knives in the event a SAR member became tangled in the water and had to free themselves.



Following the instruction on the shoreline, everyone headed over to a dock where the hands-on drills took place. Lisa Murphy, Lauren Humbrecht, and Brian Mejdrich were in kayaks to simulate someone moving in current that needed to be rescued. For the next 30 minutes or so, everyone practiced with their water rescue throw bags. Following these exercises, Joe provided some instruction on what to do if someone fell in the water with their SAR vest on. The instruction included everyone being gently pushed off the dock and into the water. Once in the water, everyone had to shed their vest (simulated by a PFD) and prepare themselves for a water rescue. SAR members on the shoreline were able to get in additional practice with their throw bags by performing the rescues.



The training concluded at approximately 8:45pm with a short de-briefing on the shoreline. Special thanks to Tricia and Joe for the instruction and to Lauren for securing the training location. Also, thanks to Lisa and Brian for bringing out their kayaks, which allowed team members to practice their throws.

Well done team!

Additional Information**Daniel Martin***Safe Community Coordinator*

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COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM 20-HOUR BASIC CLASSES

The next 20-Hour Basic CERT Class will be held on consecutive Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm starting on September 1, 2022. The final Thursday evening class will be held on October 13, 2022, which will be followed by the Disaster Simulation and Graduation on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 8:00am to 12:00pm. To register for this class, please contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, at (815) 462-6493 or via email at dmartin@newlenox.net. Congratulations to the following classes:

• Class 1 Graduation	10/17/2009	• Class 10 Graduation	10/31/2015
• Class 2 Graduation	12/05/2009	• Class 11 Graduation	03/12/2016
• Class 3 Graduation	02/27/2010	• Class 12 Graduation	10/29/2016
• Class 4 Graduation	10/30/2010	• Class 13 Graduation	10/28/2017
• Class 5 Graduation	04/09/2011	• Class 14 Graduation	10/27/2018
• Class 6 Graduation	11/12/2011	• Class 15 Graduation	10/26/2019
• Class 7 Graduation	10/20/2012	• Class 16 Graduation	10/17/2020
• Class 8 Graduation	10/19/2013	• Class 17 Graduation	10/23/2021
• Class 9 Graduation	10/25/2014		

To learn more about the CERT program and the CERT Basic Class, visit <https://www.ready.gov/cert>

ASSIST VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND PARK / FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTER – JULY 12-15, 2022

The New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team was asked to assist with a Family Assistance Center (FAC) in Highland Park on July 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th. Our team provided several volunteers each day that assisted families that were present during the active shooter event that occurred during the Highland Park 4th of July Parade. Below is a summary, including comments, from our team members that assisted with this request.

Our volunteers assisted by being the initial point of contact for those arriving at the FAC. When clients arrived, they were asked some screening questions for the purpose of getting them to the services that they needed. After the initial screening, clients were issued colored wristbands and then directed from the screening area accordingly.

Some assistance included determining if the clients had left personal belongings at the scene. Many did not wish to retrieve anything, but some did. If belongings were requested, clients were escorted to an on-site secure gymnasium where everything was being stored.

Other available services included counseling, victim compensation, legal aid, basic needs (food, clothing, rent, etc...). Our volunteers indicated that the FAC, a joint effort between the FBI and the American Red Cross, was very well organized. Many of the counselors and therapists that were on hand had donated their time to assist victims that had been present during the tragic event. It was noted that World Central Kitchen was also on hand to provide on-site snacks, beverages and meals for anyone. This included clients and volunteers.

By Friday, it was estimated that there were 1,900 points-of-contact. A point-of-contact included one individual or an entire family. As such, it's estimated that several thousand people were served during this operation. Our volunteers indicated that the FAC was well run, everyone was very kind, patient and flexible.

In addition to the above summary, our volunteers also had the following impressions from the experience:

- Clients consisted of all ages, some requiring Spanish translators.
- Despite the passage of more than a week since the incident, most clients appeared somber and some were tearful.
- This event was a textbook example for the need for CERT Disaster Psychology training.
- It was imperative for CERT volunteers to introduce themselves to clients while remaining calm, friendly and attentive.
- It was important to be mindful of client's privacy when they were being provided services.
- Recognizing the physical needs of clients and encouraging them to rest, eat and drink during their visit was important.

Just one comment from one of our volunteers included: ***"It was truly a privilege to be able to assist them. We can't change what happened, but we can help in their recovery."***

Special thanks to our volunteers that assisted with this request. Truly remarkable and well done!

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