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Milton Township NEWSLETTER

We Volunteer Whole Heartedly



Written by: Trish Billings - Milton Township CERT Program Manager

Volunteers are the backbone of our organization, and we cannot serve our community without your tireless efforts. We are so grateful for all the hard work and dedication that our volunteers have given to us. Please take a minute and look at the volunteers and their hours, which showcases a small portion of the team and its impact they have had on our team and the community.

Our annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony takes place in January and recognizes those exceptional volunteers who have given 100 hours or more of their valuable time over the past year. We proudly present these outstanding men and women with the esteemed Presidential Service Award Medal and official certificate bearing the signature of our nation's leader. This award is bestowed upon them according to different levels: Bronze for achieving 100 up until 249 hours and silver for reaching 250 to 499 hours and gold for surpassing an impressive milestone of 500+ hours!

Congratulations to everyone!

551.7		
551.7 5 Chuck 524.5	Lindquist	Gold
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0 Nicholas	Houghtaling	Gold
436.0		
0 Tony	Carter	Silver
408.7		
5 Brandon	Colvin	Silver
406.0		
0 Trish	Billings	Silver
388.7		
5 Mike	Sherman	Silver
368.5		
0 James	Weaver	Silver
364.7		
5 Rich	Pioppo	Silver
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0 Janice	Gerzevske	Silver
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5 Dottie	Hemrick	Silver
324.7		
5 David	Sezonov	Silver
280.7		
5 Michael	Lynch	Silver
275.5		
0 Linda	Dailey	Silver
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5 Diane	Lehrman	Silver
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0 Franklin	Carter	Silver
235.2		Bronz
5 Jashmine	Fuentes	e
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5 Sandy	Turnbull	e
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	Stanley	Boris	Bronze
	Debbie Tama		
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107.0	00 Naresh	Nair	Bronze
105.7	75 JP Morgan		Bronze
104.0	00 Lynda	Pratscher	Bronze
103.2	25 Ryan Lynch		Bronze
103.0	00 Hunter Cole		Bronze
100.7	75 Eric	Gillespie	Bronze
100.0	00 Dan	Piper	Bronze









Bronze Level

Silver Level

Gold Level

In addition to the show of hard earned hours here are some more statistics you may like to know:



We have completed an impressive number of 79 events this year; 11 Leadership Meetings and 9 IL Cert Membership Meeting by Zoom.

257 Volunteers served out of 1122 active Members that is a 22.9 % participation rate. 170 volunteers served more than once.

Total Volunteer hours this year was a staggering 11,394 hours times by what a volunteer is worth, which is 31.80 per hour. We have saved the various DuPage Communities over \$ 362,329.

We have trained 79 students all over the DuPage area in 46 hours and 20 hours in make up sessions. We cannot forget to mention that we gained one more TTT individual; Jashmine Fuentes. Congratulate her next time you see her.

Torch Run—By Jim Devitt

The Torch Run was held this year on Sept 30th 2023 in conjunction with the Wheaton October Fest. 562 runner including some amazing youngsters along with there parents, some even pushing strollers, completed the event. All runner completed the event with no known serious injuries, at least nothing a band aid or Tylenol couldn't cure. CERT manned 10 corners and aside form the usual "surprised" residents everything went smoothly. Thank you to all of you who performed flawlessly.

Glen Ellyn's Fire House Open House- Oct 7th

Saturday Oct. 7th was Glen Ellyn's Fire Department Open House. With comfortable weather and a steady crowd, all went well! And we received 4 signups! We gave out Culver's chocolate and vanilla frozen custard and had a few tables set up with coloring books and crayons for the kids. Even some adults! LOL. Glen Ellyn fire had several hands on stations for kids and adults. Such as a demo on stop drop and roll, demo on the fire hose, demo on fire extinguisher use, and a few other stations. We had a special treat Mission BBO there. Glen Ellyn Flore and a few other stations.

use and a few other stations. We had a special treat Mission BBQ there, Glen Ellyn Fire Dept. fed everyone well with hot dogs and popcorn! Great job to my DIC Rich Pioppo and to Mike Mikulecky and Don Pellico! It was great working with you all.



Fall CERT Class—Kryptonite—by Mike Lynch & Tony Carter



The Fall Milton Township Community Emergency Response Team (MT CERT) Class, known as Kryptonite, consisting of 42 students from Milton Township and Elk Grove Village residents, was very much engaged in learning what was being taught by asking questions of the teachers and CERT volunteers. When their turn came to answer questions, they had the answer before the question was finished being read, showing their grasp of the content. We had several fun activities that were designed to help teach the students, from a team building tower building exercise, a go bag comparison where the one with the wrong size of equipment had everything including the owners CERT Buddy, to cribbing and search and rescue training exercise. Once all the knowledge was imparted to the students, we had their Final. The mock disaster was that of a plane crash due to a bird strike and running out of fuel on landing approach. When the CERT volunteers arrived to set up we came to find out that the location of the mock fuselage was not where we were told it would be, so exercising our CERT Training, Size Up, the original plan for where everything was to be placed was modified and was further modified when the DuPage Airport Authority (DAA) asked us to keep a large area of the tarmac open so that emergency equipment could pass by and get to an emergency if one was to happen. When the Students arrived, we stationed their IC out of direct view of the site to give them a more realistic scenario. As always with these it was chaos with the radios, search teams, transport teams, fire team, cribbing team, medical team, and the IC team; the IC team did a fantastic job in trying to keep everything on track as did everyone else with their assigned roles and was one of the best IC Teams we have had for our finals. In the end, we had a total of 42 students graduate to become full Milton Township CERT members. Of the 42 graduates we had a large portion that were actively engaged in other Milton Township CERT events before graduation, showing another layer of "on the Job learning" and engagement by the students.

Thank you for making this one of the best classes we have ever had! Michael Lynch, Incident Commander, and Tony Carter, Deputy Incident Commander



DuPage Airport Plane Disaster Drill - Oct 7th — by Trish Billings



The DuPage County Airport authority asked if we would like to participate in MABAS drill with a airplane! I then asked my volunteers to sign up for this once in a lifetime opportunity. Over 20 volunteers signed up almost immediately. What a learning experience it was to observe from a safe place as the first responders react to a disaster like this one. We were first made up to look like burn survivors from the plane, then placed at a safe distance. When the first responder attended to us they then boarded us onto real ambulances to the "Hospital". A hot wash of the whole day was given for clarity. Thank you so much for thinking of us and including us in your exercise.







CERT was asked to do traffic control for the Milton Township Recycling Extravaganza. Our duties were traffic control and car counting at several locations. The event went well with just under 300 vehicles. Gary was very happy with the outcome of the event. Thanks to all the cert volunteers for a job well done.









CPR & AED —By Jan Gerzevske

Seventeen people either learned for the first time or reviewed how to do CPR on October 12, 2023. Retired Naperville firefighter Al Katona provided both video and verbal instruction at the Naperville Safety Town located on Aurora Ave.

Everyone learned that you should do 100-120 compressions per minute to be doing CPR correctly. Giving breaths when providing CPR is no longer mandatory. Following Al's instruction, each of the participants had the opportunity to practice "lighting up" the practice dummy. When the light is green, CPR is being done correctly. Also learned as part of the class is how to use an AED.

Senior Car Inspection- Oct 14th—by Chuck Lindquist



CERT was asked to do traffic control plus other various duties for the Senior Car Care event. This event ran very well considering the challenges we faced. The weather was chilly and rainy for most of day. We set a record of 118 cars. We had to rearrange the traffic pattern due to the large public response. We also escorted several seniors to and from the washrooms due to the long wait. Chuck Smith was extremely pleased with the professional attitude of the team. The willingness of our volunteers to do whatever was needed was also noted. Thanks to all volunteers for another job well done.











Metra Rail Event - by Dean Lapcewich



Milton Township CERT and METRA-Rail conducted their biannual training exercise on October 21st. This year we partnered with METRA's Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. We began our training at the Du-Page County Administration building where METRA-Rail Emergency Training Instructors gave us a full briefing on METRA-Rail safety and emergency procedures, as well as a discussion on evacuation techniques from METRA-Rail cars. The 48 CERT members were then bused by PACE to the Aurora BNSF Hill yard at Aurora, II, where they came upon a complete "live" train (engine and eight cars) that METRA BNSF had taken out of service for us to use in our disaster training scenario. We were able to practice the safety and emergency procedures we had been briefed on at the DuPage County building. We also practiced sizing up the incident, performing medical triage of survivors on the rail cars, evacuation/extrication of survivors from the rail cars, medical treatment and transport of survivors, and cribbing (removing heavy debris that had fallen on top of survivors), while still on the train. Our special thank you to DuPage County Chair Debra Conroy for permitting us to use the DuPage County auditorium, Milton Township Chairman John Monino, Carl Cicero and John Radzinski from METRA-Rail, Christopher Motley and all of the Engineers from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, and PACE Suburban Bus. We also want to add a special thank you to Aurora Mayor Richard Irvin for providing the entire training staff and CERT members with lunch.









Train the Trainer Nov 3 & 4—by Trish Billings



The last session of Train- the-Trainer produced 10 more trainers across the Chicago Land area, but none are more proud than our own Jashmine Fuentes. She presented very well and will be a great addition to the team of Instructors. Congratulate her when you see her next.

A special thanks goes out to Matt Raymond from IEMA who audited the class and gave helpful insight. We hope to send at least one per session this year!



NARCAN Training—NOV 7th - Trish B

Me and David Sezonov taught roughly 25 CERT Members on the importance of administering NARCAN. We taught this at the Wheaton Library. NARCAN is also known as Naloxone; Naloxone is a medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose. It is an opioid antagonist—meaning that it binds to opioid receptors and can reverse and block the effects of other opioids, such as heroin, morphine, and oxycodone. Administered when a patient is showing signs of opioid overdose, naloxone is a temporary treatment and its effects do not last long. The medication can be given by intranasal spray (into the nose), intramuscular (into the muscle), subcutaneous (under the skin), or intravenous injection. If you missed this one, don't worry we will do it again this year.





MRC—Summit Series—NOV 2023 —April 2024 -by Trish Billings



Take advantage of this fantastic chance to expand your knowledge on Cert-related subjects without breaking the bank! MRC has secured a generous grant that enables them to host monthly summits featuring six hourlong presentations by industry experts. These events will take place throughout Illinois, so keep an eye out for a location near you. Don't miss out – sign up using the provided registration link!

https://form.jotform.com/232915199698172 copy & paste in browser





Training Agenda

Time	Session Title	
7:30am-0:30am	Registration	
8:00am-0:05am	Welcome	
0:05em-0:15em	Opening Remarks	
B:15am-9:15am	Illinois Search and Rescue Council and the MRC Working Together	
9:15am-10:15am	Let's Put Some Pop Into Your Step: Communicating with Energy & Sidestepping Vampires	
10:15am 10:30um	Breide	
10:38am- 12:00pm	Moulage Makeup for Injury Simulation	
12:00pm-1:00pm	Networking lanch	
Lift0pin-2:00pm	Integration of Access and Functional Needs Planning	
2:00pm-2:10pm	Break	
2:10pm-3:10pm	Field Triage and First Aid	
3:10pm-3:20pm	Brenk	
3:20pm-4:20pm	Family Assistance Center/MARC	
4:20pm-4:30pm	Clasing	

Teaching at the Re-MRC-able Summits-Trish B

Jashmine Fuentes & I had the most unbelievable opportunity to attend the MRC Summits in Nov & Dec . At the summit we taught the attendees Med 1 & 2 from the CERT Curriculum. We made it interactive and fun. We thank the Medical Reserve Corp for thinking of us and the chance to teach. Look for me (Trish) at the Carbondale location as I have one more to do.









Whole Community Training Summit—By Trish B

The summit took place at the Northern Illinois University Naperville Campus, located at 1120 E Diehl Rd, Naperville, IL 60563, on Thursday, November 16, 2023. Our responsibilities were aiding in the registration process at the main desk and facilitating check-ins for the breakout sessions in the conference rooms. The following vendors was present at the event:

- Com Ed
- Radiation Injury Treatment Network (RITN)
- AT&T
- Collaborative Healthcare Urgency Group (CHUG)
- Propac
- Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA)
- Medical Reserve Corps of Illinois (MRCIL)
- Chicago Hearing Society
- Veterinary Emergency Group
- Integrated Solutions Consulting (ISC)

All three of us learned so much that day and we cannot wait to share it with you.



Wheaton Christmas Parade - by David Sezonov.

Thank you to all who volunteered to serve at the downtown Wheaton Christmas Parade. It was a really fun event. The downtown Wheaton Association, as well as the Wheaton Police were very thankful for our service. The event went off without a hitch. Santa Claus came to town and the Wheaton Christmas Tree was lit. As always thank you for your support. It's an honor serving with our team.





Glen Ellyn Holiday Walk—by Trish Billings

We felt honored when both local authorities such as The Glen police department along with reputable organizations like their chamber of commerce requested CERT lend them helping hands for crowd management measures while they hosted yet another unforgettable post-thanksgiving event. It truly filled us with happiness knowing we played even small part in bringing people together under merry circumstances officially starting off most wonderful time years via image Santa lighting up entire streets festive aura emanating from magnificent tree.



Wheaton Park District Reindeer Run 5 k—by Rob Sessner

We had excellent weather for the Reindeer Run this year! It was a little chilly, but it could have been much worse. Thank you to all the CERT volunteers that helped with the race.

We had a few last-minute adjustments to make, but Dan had everything set up on the whiteboard in the van. Everyone did a great job with their radio/cell phone communication during the race.

We received multiple compliments from the Wheaton Police Department and the organizers of the race. They were very complimentary of our crowd and traffic control. It was an excellent way to close out the races for the year. Rob Sessner and Dan Piper





MARC with American Red Cross—Rich Pioppo

On Wednesday December 6th, the CERT team was asked to assist in an emergency call out by the Red Cross to assist their MARC, Multi Agency Resource Center. The purpose of this event was to assist the more than 100 people displaced by the fire in their apartment complex at the Main Park apartment complex at 813 Burr Oaks Drive. Each family was accompanied by an ambassador and translator to insure they received all the services that they needed. CERT served as ambassadors as well as traffic control for the event. The MARC serviced over 40 families. Twenty-three(23) organizations participated to assist these families.:

American Red Cross, Casa Michoacán DuPage, Catholic Charities, DuPage Community Services, DuPage County Animal Services, DuPage County Health Department, DuPage Health Coalition, **ICNA** Illinois Department of Human Services, Illinois Department of Insurance, Metropolitan Family Services, Mexican Consulate. People's Resource Center. Prairie Legal, Puente del Pueblo, Salvation Army, School District 33, Secretary of State, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, The Alex Project Wayne Township,





We thank all the organizations that were there to generously give to those in need. We were excited to participate in a true emergency. Here are some of the responses from the CERT Members who at-

"We had lots of volunteers. Everyone was very nice and were glad we were there. It was a great feeling assisting those in need, very rewarding! " - JP Morgan

"It was Awesome! Met some great people, great selection of Services!! " - Ezra Cohens

"Thought it was very organized and everyone worked together to make it as easy as possible and a very successful event. I would certainly help out again in the future if needed. " - Ken Mixer

"Good Experience to get our feet wet in a real disaster response!"- Tracy Mack



DuPage Sheriff Dept.—Shop with a Cop — Dottie



On December 9, we had a very positive start to the holiday season. Milton Township CERT helped out with Shop with the Cop. We helped the DuPage County Sheriff's department as well as several local police for this annual event. The sheriffs picked up kids at their home and took them to Ackerman Park for a McDonald's holiday breakfast. From there they were driven in a caravan to the Bloomingdale Meijer's. Santa met the cars and then the kids were able to pick up presents for their families and themselves within the budget they were given.

Milton Township CERT assisted with wrapping the presents the kids picked out. Also, present were two comfort dogs to help. Special thanks to Dee Lehrman, Lori Ranieri, and Tim Keen for their help with wrapping presents. A very special thanks to Jim Devitt, Jashmine Fuentes, Rich Pioppo and Trish Billings for getting up especially early on a Saturday morning and helping direct traffic at Ackerman Park to help the police and sheriff find a parking space. Thank you so much for volunteering for that shift. and then coming over and wrapping presents with us for the rest of the morning. It is always a wonderful way to start the holiday season.



Wheaton—Warrenville/Christmas Sharing & Share the Spirit - By Chuck Lindquist

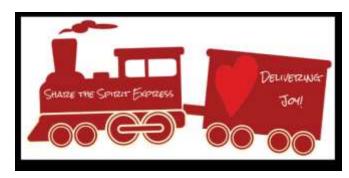


The Milton Township CERT Team was asked to assist with two major events in December, the Wheaton-Warrenville Food Distribution & Share the Spirit Toy Distribution. The first event involved distributing toys and food at the DuPage county fairgrounds where poor weather conditions and a volleyball practice taking place simultaneously presented challenges that were overcome thanks to dedicated volunteers who worked hard to ensure everything went smoothly despite these obstacles., Event organizers also donated leftover food items to the Milton Township Food Pantry, for those struggling financially during winter months when heating bills rise sharply due primarily because of colder temperatures outside!

In addition, Milton township partnered up again later on down road but this time they focused solely on providing families gifts rather than edibles such as turkeys or other grocery products. This too occurred successfully notwithstanding several concurrent activities happening nearby which required careful coordination by staff members responsible for overseeing operations there.

Overall both initiatives achieved their objectives thanks largely towards tireless efforts put forth beforehand. Behind the scenes preparations leading right up until day arrived when recipients began lining streets early morning hoping get whatever remaining goodies might still remain available.













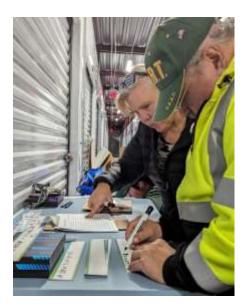
Abundant Child and Family Services—by Jan G

Four weeks helping pack bags of toys by several of our members brought about distribution of the toys on December 19-21, 2023.









The Distribution took place in building 5 "The Café" at the DuPage County Fairgrounds. Our main responsibility was parking cars near the building so everyone could leave and none of the children got in the way of a car. Our members also assisted the participants with getting their items to their cars while keeping the children safe.

Tuesday was blustery and cold so members were rotated due to the weather while parking cars. As with other distribution events, most of the people showed up at the beginning of the time frame which was 1-3 pm each day. Only on Thursday did we have six people for pickups after 2:30 pm. Beginning at 2:15 pm on Thursday, Michelle Watkins from ACFSA had our volunteers begin loading items in the U-Haul she had rented. The leftover toys along with numerous t-shirts were dropped off a homeless shelter in the area.











Abundant Children & Family Services Agency

Loaves & Fishes Food Distribution—By Trish Billings



Loaves and Fishes asked if we could assist with the traffic flow on their last distribution of the year! Regular guy was on vacation. So we gladly jumped in and what a rewarding day it was to see the clients get their last minute items for Christmas Dinner . Thank you so much for the volunteers who came out so close to Christmas and gave them Christmas cheer. The team's involvement included directing cars where they needed go; ensuring drivers did not block intersections causing safety hazards or interrupt overall operations while simultaneously making certain pedestrians had clear access from nearby parking lots into the facility itself -- all crucial roles played by each individual who dedicated part of their morning towards contributing positively impact someone else's life directly. I could not be more proud.











Tools of the Trade—Paul Mueller Jr—Baker 06



Being prepared for a winter storm is something many people let slip. But even though it may be warmer today or tomorrow, blizzard conditions and black ice can be right around the corner. If you were unprepared, you could be putting your life in danger.

Preparing yourself and your vehicle for winter's wrath is not as formidable as you might think, if you do a little at a time. Once you have gathered the items, keep them together in a covered plastic tub, duffle bag or even an old suitcase.

As with any situation like this, take a moment and reflect on the three zones of assessment: what you have on your person, what is available immediately around you (say, in your car) and resources further away, such as family or friends that are in a position to help.

Let's start with what you are wearing and have with you. When you leave the house, you should have on clothing that is weather appropriate, especially footwear and outerwear. Don't pull a coat on over your jammies and jump in the car with your slippers on and hope for the best, because you'll be home soon. Assume you may have trouble, BEFORE you leave. Your cell phone should be fully charged and have all of the important numbers already programmed into it. Have some cash and a credit card with you in case you're forced to stay the night in a hotel. One more thing, if you are on a strict medication schedule, don't leave home without a two day supply on hand.

The car is your primary source of emergency necessities if you're stuck in a blizzard. In addition to all of the regular emergency equipment like flashlights and jumper cables, there should be some winter additions to your kit. A few bottles of water and some non-perishable food is a must. It is generally not advisable to eat snow as a substitute for water since it will cool your core temperature down very quickly. Some sort of shovel is necessary to shovel out your car and keep the tailpipe clear. Several people died last year when the snow accumulated over the tailpipe and forced carbon monoxide into the vehicle. Extra blankets or a sleeping bag can mean the difference between getting frostbite or not. Another item that works well are the chemical hand and foot warmers that you buy at the hardware or grocery store. Rip open the package and expose the little bags to air and they stay nice and warm for four to six hours. I would avoid candles since they are typically not very effective at warming the vehicle interior and can turn dangerous if you fall asleep and knock it over. Keep a book or a few old magazines in the car to help pass the time without having to run the car. Don't forget the car charger for the cell phone and as always, keep the gas tank full. And speaking of gas, it is not advisable to run the car the entire time; run the engine maybe ten minutes every hour to take the chill off. Then snuggle into that blanket or sleeping bag.

The third zone in this situation would relate to the folks that are your lifeline. Who knows you are gone and when are you expected home? Will anyone come looking for you or are you on your own? The difference could matter a lot. Keep contact with these folks via cell phone, but be careful to not run down the battery. Call every few hours at a specific time for an update or if there is any news.

Stay safe and warm this winter. The Milton CERT team is counting on you.





Stay Prepared.

IL CERT Assoc.-Zooms 4th Tues of each month-



If you have not signed up for the IL CERT Association go to

Www.certillinois.com and sign up to be a member now.



Are you MOVING? Remember if you move outside of the DuPage County and / or the State of IL, we will need your CERT Backpack back. It will be recycled to someone else.

If you have moved within the DuPage County, do we have your new address on file? Phone number, CELL Carrier, and email too?

This is extremely important we have accurate information on file because if there is a CALL OUT, we need to be able to reach you!



Volunteer for 1 or 2 events this

Complete online course IS

Complete online course IS





FYI: We have started up a Milton Township Facebook Page! This has articles and pictures from events that we have done and events that are in the area. If you are a Milton Township CERT Member and are on Facebook, please join our group and see what's new!

MILTON TOWNSHIP CERT TEAM - FB Name

Please visit our website at www.miltontownship.net - It's new! (Click on the CERT TAB)

The CERT application is also on our website. Please tell your friends, co-workers, family members etc. who may be interested in enrolling in class.

Audit a class and refresh your knowledge in CERT—check out our website for future classes.





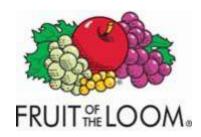


*shown on adult large tee



Official CERT Tee Shirt ™ Milton Township Cert Team

A beautiful 100% 5.6oz Cotton Shirt with pocket from



- This Forest Green Shirt comes in sizes Small to XXX Large
- ◆ It features an embroidered (not Screened) CERT LOGO on the front, and a retro reflective night time safety "CERT "name on the back.
- Your Cost is \$20.00
- Please email Trish at P.billings@miltontownship.net to order
- Please include your name/ size/ quantity/ phone/ & return e-mail address with your order

^{**} Available only to CERT graduates! **





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"Are You Ready?"

We are on the web: http://www.miltontownship.net

Visit the calendar for current and future classes/events www.miltontownship.net/cert

