

The CERT monthly newsletter is available on our webpage at:
<http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/OEM/CC/CERT/brief.html>

CERT IS
WHAT
YOU
MAKE IT!

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Nassau County CERT Field Exercise 2012

September was National Preparedness Month, and as is customary, Nassau County CERT held its annual Field Training Exercise on Sunday, 30 September 2012.

This year a new location was found that afforded us a variety of new sites for training stations that covered building search and rescue, cribbing exercises, fire suppression, entering smoke-filled spaces, a field hazards obstacle course, and mass casualty triage. The site at North Woodmere Park in Valley Stream is used by fire departments in the County for their own training needs.



Although this exercise is a rain or shine evolution, the rain held off until late in the day, allowing over 135 CERT volunteers from Nassau and Suffolk Counties, and New York City, to participate in a hands-on response to a simu-

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Leadership - Delegating Responsibility

Time is your most precious commodity. No matter how hard you try, you can't do everything by yourself. Many supervisors avoid delegating responsibilities and the reasons for this vary. Those who have moved up through the ranks of a company may be uncomfortable or simply not used to delegating. Others live by the words "If you want something done right, do it yourself." And then there are some who fear delegating may mean being outshined by their employee.

Whatever your feelings, as a manager you need to realize that you are not a regular employee,

you are a coach. Coaches must understand the importance of teaching, motivating, and taking pride in the performance of their charges. To do this, you must learn how to delegate efficiently and responsibly.

Some Things Should Not be Delegated

Never delegate sensitive projects to your employees. If you are in charge of the project because of your expertise, you should complete it yourself. If the project is confidential in any way, be very careful about outsourcing the work. Keep in mind that some jobs need to be

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From the Desk of the Director

September was a very intense month for the Exercise Planning Team but all of their efforts payed off ten-fold with the successful execution of our Regional Training Exercise held on September 30th at North Woodmere Park. As you know, New York City and Suffolk County CERT also participated in the Training Exercise, which was designed to test our skills responding to various emergency situations. The feed-back has been overwhelmingly positive and the planning for next year's exercise has already begun. A joint team of planners from NYC, Nassau and Suffolk will be announced in the near future and a location for next year's exercise will be announced early 2013. If you are interested in becoming part of the Exercise Planning Team send an e-mail to marcari@nassaucountyny.gov.

I would like to extend my personal gratitude to all of those who were involved in the design, planning and execution of this year's training exercise. Without you, this would have not been possible.

I am very saddened to announce the passing of Darlene Dillon. Darlene has always been an inspiration to all of those around her. She was an active member of CERT and one of the original members of the Community Animal Response Team (CART). Darlene was more than just a member, she was dedicated to the creation, design and training of those CERT members who joined CART. We will always remember her smile and her dedication to the Citizens Corps Program. On behalf of all of us at OEM and CERT, we extend our deepest sympathy to Darlene's family. She will be missed but never forgotten.

With October upon us and the cold weather about to begin, it is time to take out our CERT backpacks and make sure we include those items we will need to keep ourselves warm during an activation. Also check those items in your bags that have expiration dates on them. The time to find out an item has reached its expiration date is not when you need it most. For more information you can go to www.ready.gov.

Happy Halloween!

Michael Arcari

Nassau County CERT Field Exercise 2012 *(Continued from Page 1)*

lated disaster, without the need for raingear. The CERT-designed exercise was supported by members of the First Responder community — Port Washington and Manhasset Lakeville Fire Departments, and the Nassau County Fire Marshall. Nearly 80 volunteers from various Boy Scout troops, members of the Uniondale and Major Foster JROTC, and Fire Department Juniors from 5 different departments participated as "victims" or helped to setup and run our Training Stations. Our CERT member Moulage Team applied make-up and simulated severe injuries to these volunteers to provide more realism in the training scenarios that involved victim extraction, triage and treatment. These young adults were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed the role-playing and interaction with our CERT volunteers. We thank them for their community spirit.

We also had the support of the Terry Farrell Foundation, providing drivers and vans to transport our volunteers from the assembly point to the Training Stations, and an

instructor from the Suffolk County Fire Educators .

The exercise was run under the Incident Command System, the national doctrine used for command, control and communications for large-scale events, incidents, and disasters. Exercise control was centered at the Incident Command Post, and CERT members assembled at the Staging Area for team assignment and deployment, as they would in a real emergency activation.

As of this writing, your CERT Command Staff is collating the comments from all Exercise Training Group personnel and the Exercise Control team to formulate an After Action Report. This review of lessons learned is essential for confirming what worked and addressing those areas that did not work so well, so that improvements to future drills and training courses are possible. For those who participated in the 2012 Drill, please submit any comments you may have regarding the exercise and your experiences to messig@nassaucountyny.gov to be reviewed and summarized in the After Action Report.

October 2012

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Division 1 Meeting CANCELLED	4 <u>RACES/COMMS</u> <u>7PM-9PM</u> <u>Basic Class 4</u> <u>Locust Valley</u> <u>7PM-10PM</u>	5	6
7	8 	9	10	11 <u>Basic Class 5</u> <u>Locust Valley</u> <u>7PM-10PM</u>	12	13 <u>Tabling Events</u> <u>Eisenhower Park</u> <u>10AM-4PM</u> <u>Uniondale FD</u> <u>10AM-4PM</u>
14 <u>Tabling Event</u> <u>Eisenhower Park</u> <u>Lot #7</u> <u>10AM-4PM</u>	15 <u>Basic Class 1</u> <u>LIU CW Post</u> <u>7PM-10PM</u> <u>Division 2 Meeting</u>	16 Planning Meeting 7PM-9PM POSTPONED to 10/30/12	17	18 <u>Basic Class 6</u> <u>Locust Valley</u> <u>7PM-10PM</u>	19	20
21	22 <u>Basic Class 2</u> <u>LIU CW Post</u> <u>7PM-10PM</u>	23 <u>Division Leaders Meeting</u> <u>7PM-9PM</u>	24	25	26	27
28	29 <u>Basic Class 3</u> <u>LIU CW Post</u> <u>7PM-10PM</u>	30 <u>Planning Meeting</u> <u>7PM-9PM</u> RESCHED	31 	<p>Monthly Crossword Puzzle Winners !</p> <p>The winners for the September 25th drawing for an LDRNY Ready-2-Go Bag are:</p> <p>Melanie Costantakos & Joseph Kopian</p> <p><i>The Crossword Puzzle will return in the November Newsletter</i></p>		

The 2012 CERT calendar has been posted on our website. Please check it periodically for updates. The calendar can be found here:

<http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/OEM/CC/CERT/training.html>

Division Updates

Division 3

CERT Division 3 (Nassau County North Shore) held its quarterly meeting on September 19th at the Glen Cove Firehouse. In attendance were a large number of new CERT members who had completed the basic CERT course within the past 3-6 months. We continued to practice with radio communications, a skill that will be necessary for nearly any CERT mission, and reviewed other topics that would be covered by the Annual Field Training Exercise at the end of September.

Additionally, in September, we inaugurated the CERT maritime unit with a weekday evening kayak tour of eastern

Hempstead Harbor. Though only attended by 3 members of the Division, there was sufficient interest in kayaking by Division members that we will attempt to schedule a weekend outing and hope to make it a regular event on summer evenings and on future weekends.

Nassau County RACES

Greetings to all and we hope you are continuing to have a fun and safe summer! On July 26th as, last months Newsletter was going to press the call went out for the Communication

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Leadership - Delegating Responsibility *(Continued from page 1)*

done by the person in charge. At the same time, try to avoid delegating only the "dirty work". Give your employees something fun and interesting to do once in awhile.

Assign Duties to the Individual Best Suited for the Project

There are many things to evaluate before delegating duties. Consider your employees' skill level, motivation, and dependability. Remember, not every employee is created equal. Certain people will be more efficient than others depending upon the facet in which they thrive. At the same time, try not to typecast your employees. Give them opportunities to broaden their horizons and become more valuable to the team. Matching the proper person to each task can be difficult. Start small and be patient.



Make Your Instructions as Clear as Possible

When you are assigning unfamiliar duties, be very specific when you explain what you need. By detailing an assignment, you leave no room for confusion and therefore, no room for error. If you have a long list of verbal instructions, type them out. This will give your employee something to refer to when they are performing a task that is unfamiliar to them. If possible, train two people to do the same thing. This way, they can refer to one another for questions, rather than coming to you. It is also essential that your employee has a clear understanding of their authority in each situation. When a decision needs to be made regarding their assignment, should they use their best judgment or should they come to you immediately for clarification? This will be one of your hardest decisions to make, because it could mean the difference between success and failure. When in doubt, retain control. Once an

employee had proved their capability, give them more responsibility in the decision-making department.

Measure and Control Projects

Measure the performance of employees and delegated projects. Explain to them how performance will be measured and let the employee know the level of accountability that comes with the task. Clarifying these things beforehand will make everything run much smoother. Large projects may be easier to monitor if they are broken into smaller segments. Spread the assignments throughout your staff and make them report to you after each segment of the project has been finished. Also, get feedback from your employees via meetings and reports. Do this daily, weekly, or monthly. Know what's going on around you. Staying informed limits the possibility of failure. As a supervisor, you are responsible and accountable for your employees and their work.

Coaching Your Staff

One of the most important parts of delegation is coaching. When you delegate an assignment, make it clear to them that they can come to you with questions. New tasks can be confusing. Above all, be patient. You should consistently motivate your staff and commend them when they do well. If they complete an assignment, but they don't do a good job, find out why. Pinpoint what went wrong and take steps to address the issue. On the other hand, when tasks are completed effectively, give your employee the recognition they deserve. Whether it is public recognition or one-on-one, your employee will value being given credit for their work. Doing this not only makes your employee feel good, it will also motivate them to continue their on-the-job success.

Division Updates *(Continued from page 4)*

Group to activate for severe weather! So we wish to thank all those who came in to OEM to man the 800 Radios or who stood by to respond if they were needed.

A very BIG "Thank You" to the guys at the Nassau County Department of Public Works for the outstanding job they did with the prefabrication work on the CERT/Comms Trailer. They helped us mount a 28 foot pneumatic mast to the front of the trailer. On July 13th the work was completed and the mast was tested and raised at the DPW yard for guys to see what their fine work helped us accomplish! This new feature to the trailer will give us the flexibility to deploy various types of antenna's and aid us in providing the County with better Communications. In addition we can deploy the antenna much faster when the need arises which is critical! Now we can move forward with implementation of the many improvements to the work stations and finally Installation of both old and new Communication Equipment!

If you are interested in joining or just want to visit the Nassau County RACES and CERT Comms Group, they meet the first Thursday of each month at OEM at 1900 hours.



OEM

510 Grumman Road West • Bethpage, NY 11714
Tel. (516) 573-0636 • Fax. (516) 573-9658

Office of Emergency Management • Nassau County, NY www.NassauCountyNY.gov/Agencies/OEM

Edward P. Mangano
County Executive

Craig J. Craft
Commissioner

Dear CERT Member:

On behalf of County Executive Edward P. Mangano and Emergency Management Commissioner Craig J. Craft, I would like to thank you for your participation in our annual CERT Field Training Exercise on September 30th, 2012. Our annual exercise is the culmination of the many training offerings throughout the year, and provides the opportunity to integrate most of the skills and knowledge obtained through these courses in a hands-on experience that simulates a disaster scenario.

I hope that your experience was valuable and served to illustrate how your acquisition of emergency preparedness skills can be utilized to the benefit your fellow citizens in an actual disaster. Once again, this year's exercise was developed and coordinated entirely by Nassau County CERT volunteers, with the participation of several emergency response personnel who are active fire department members and EMTs. I look forward to any comments that you may have regarding this year's drill, and any constructive critique that could help to make this a better experience in future exercises. Please forward your comments regarding your experience at this year's drill to: messig@nassaucountyny.gov, with "2012 Exercise" in the subject line.

As the Nassau County CERT Director, I thank you for your volunteerism and community service.

Sincerely,

Michael Arcari
CERT Director

October Upcoming Events



In 90% of all emergencies, the victim or bystander provides the immediate assistance on the scene.

Would you know what to do?



- **Division 1 Meeting**
Wednesday October 3
CANCELLED
- **RACES/COMMS Meeting** Thursday October 4
OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd. West
Bethpage, NY 11714
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.
and ends at 9:00 p.m.
- **Locust Valley Basic Class 4 - 6**
Thursday October 4, 11 & 18
Locust Valley Fire House
228 Buckram Rd.
Locust Valley, NY 11560
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Class begins at 7 p.m. and
ends at approx. 10 p.m.
- **Tabling Event—**
Sat—Sun, October 13-14
Eisenhower Park, Lot #7
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- **Tabling Event**
Saturday October 13
Uniondale Firehouse
501 Uniondale Ave
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- **LIU Post Basic Class 1-3**
Monday October 15, 22, 29
LIU CW Post
Northern Blvd. (Route 25A)
Brookville, NY
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Class begins at 7 p.m. and
ends at approx. 10 p.m.
- **Division 2 Meeting**
Monday October 15
Beth Shalom
390 Broadway
Lawrence NY 11559
The meeting begins at 7 p.m.
- **Division Leaders Meeting**
Tuesday October 23
OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd. West
Bethpage NY 11714
Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The
meeting begins at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Meeting**
Tuesday October 30
NOTE DATE CHANGE
OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd. West
Bethpage NY 11714
Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The
meeting begins at 7 p.m.

Joseph Massaro - Part 1

Joseph Massaro – Husband, Father, Grandfather, retired dentist, Veteran, member of Knights of Columbus, US Volunteers Honor Guard, CERT Volunteer, avid tennis player, singer and all around nice guy.

I have the honor and privilege of knowing Joe and calling him a friend and neighbor. Joe started with the CERT program back in 2006 and has not stopped being an active volunteer since then. He has attended multiple exercises including one held a few days before he was scheduled for knee replacement surgery. He can be found at many of our activations and all of the advanced training classes.

Joe is married to Nancy, another wonderful person, they have 5 children, 4 daughters and a son and 8 grand children. They have lived in Floral Park for over 45 years where Joe also had a dental practice. I asked Joe what he wanted to be when he grew up and he said be a dentist. I asked him why and he said growing up his family dentist Dr. James Edward Hubbard was very generous and kind and he wanted to be like him. Add that to the respect and admiration he had for his hard working business minded Brother Jimmy and that translates into one successful person. His funniest dentist story is one where he was filling a tooth. He used all these fancy terms, but I am going to tell it in English. You have to keep the area dry so you pack that side of the mouth with cotton roll and blow it dry with the blast of air. Well he finished up with a patient and sent her home. She called his office a few hours later and asked, Dr. Massaro if it was okay to take the cotton rolls out of her mouth. There was a quick pause and the fast thinking Dr. Massaro told her to leave them in for at least another 15 minutes and if she had any problems after that to



call him back. She thanked him and was never the wiser about his mistake.

Joe is originally from Buffalo, NY where he attended the University of Buffalo and the school of dentistry there. He was one of 8 students that signed up for a special program with the US Navy that would make them active duty Navy when they graduated. Just before graduation in 1958 he and 4 other students were sent “Dear John” letters saying their services were no longer needed. He was able to secure an internship at the Jewish Chronic Disease Hospital in Brooklyn where he met his future wife Nancy, a dental hygienist at the hospital.

Joe and Nancy married in 1959 and had their reception at the New Hyde Park Inn; this was long before they changed the name to The Inn at New Hyde Park. Joe said that a grand time was had by all and they had reservations at the old Garden City Hotel that night. Nancy had all the envelopes and was sorting and counting the money after they arrived. When she was finished, she looked over at Joe and he was sound asleep. (I think he has more energy now at 80)

Joe did join the Navy and was stationed at Camp Lejeune NC, where he was discharged in 1962. Then in October 1964 he joined the Army Reserve for better career opportunities and promotions. He was promoted to Colonel shortly thereafter.

Joe worked at a dental practice in Queens Village before he and Nancy found a home in Floral Park where Joe opened his own practice for 38 years in the basement of the home. The family joined the Our Lady of Victory Parish where Joe joined the choir. He served on the choir for 45 years before leaving this choir for the St John’s University choir where he still sings at their Sunday service. I guess the pay was better at the college.

Part 2 of this article will be published in the November 2012 Newsletter.

BE HALLOWEEN Safe

Halloween is a fun, and spooky, time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips.



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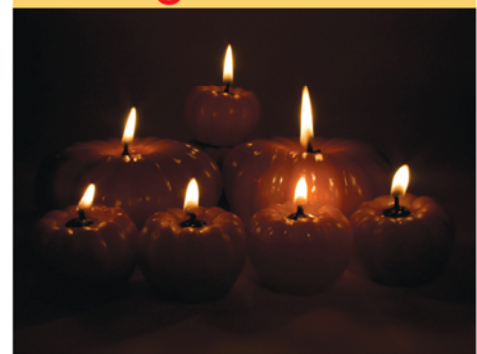
Halloween Fire Safety Tips

- »» **When choosing a costume**, stay away from billowing or long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so they can see out.
- »» **Provide children** with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- »» Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper are highly flammable. **Keep** these and other decorations well away from all open flames and heat sources, including light bulbs, and heaters.
- »» **It is safest to use** a flashlight or battery-operated candle in a jack-o-lantern. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.
- »» **Remember** to keep exits clear of decorations, so nothing blocks escape routes.
- »» **Tell children** to stay away from open flames. Be sure they know how to stop, drop and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice, stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.)

Use flashlights as alternatives to candles or torch lights when decorating walkways and yards. They are much safer for trick-or-treaters, whose costumes may brush against the lighting.

If your children are going to **Halloween parties** at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.

Did you know?



Decorations are the first thing to ignite in more than **1,000** reported home fires each year.



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

www.nfpa.org/education