

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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Activation

This edition of the CERT newsletter has been delayed by the recent meteorological events, "Superstorm" Sandy and the encore Nor'easter that brought unprecedented destruction to the region. While many Long Islanders, and indeed residents of the New York Metro area and New Jersey, continue to suffer from the devastation wrought by these storms, the response by CERT volunteers and our colleagues in the Red Cross and other volunteer organizations has been tremendous.

This is the sort of event which the vast majority of us in CERT signed up to do – become educated in the ways to prepare for emergencies and to secure our families, and then to help our neighbors and our communities in the recovery. Our CERT members have responded despite the impediments of poor communications, debris-blocked roads, and inability to fuel our vehicles.

The magnitude of this disaster to Long Island was not unexpected – the projections of a Category 2 or 3 hurricane targeting this area at just the right location and at just the right stage of tide, and causing the degree of flooding, downed trees and power lines that we experienced has been predicted for the past few years. While Sandy did not achieve the category designations of 2 or 3, the convergence of weath-

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Leadership: What Gives a Man or Woman the Right to Lead?

by John C. Maxwell

It certainly isn't gained by election or appointment. Having position, title, rank or degrees doesn't qualify anyone to lead other people. And the ability doesn't come automatically from age or experience, either. No, it would be accurate to say that no one can be given the right to lead. The right to lead can only be earned.

The Kind of Leader Others Want to Follow

The key to becoming an effective leader is not to *focus on making other people follow, but on making yourself be the kind of person they want

***"Leadership is
influence,
nothing more,
nothing less"***



to follow. You must become someone others can trust to take them where they want to go.

As you prepare yourself to become a better leader, use the following guidelines

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From the Desk of the Director

At the end of October we were hit with a Tropical Storm, *Sandy*, followed by a Nor'Easter — a one-two punch if you will. The effects of this Superstorm are still being felt now, in mid-November, and will be felt by so many of our families, friends and neighbors for some time to come. I would like to extend my personal gratitude to all of those who responded to this unprecedented crisis and volunteered their time to help out those in need in their communities. Many of you did so while being impacted directly by the storm yourselves. I would like to thank all the volunteers that responded when called upon - not just CERT's but the American Red Cross, Amateur Radio Operators (ARES, RACES, CERT Comms), and Skywarn Spotters, among others. In addition, those who help take care of the animals is a cause I hold dear. USHS, North Shore Animal League, Pet Safe, the ASPCA of both Nassau and Suffolk Counties, and those not affiliated with a group but came to help as private citizens. Whether you worked at OEM, a shelter or in the field, we could have never fulfilled our mission without your help. I am truly honored to have worked alongside each and every one of you. Once again thank you all!

Michael Arcari

Joe Slattery

It is with sadness that we report the recent passing of Joe Slattery, radio call sign KC2PPR, an active member of Nassau County CERT, and amateur radio groups RACES and ARES. Joe was also involved with the Boy Scouts and the American Legion, and served his country proudly as a U.S. Marine. Arrangements were handled by Dalton Funeral Home in Hicksville with a military funeral at Long Island National Cemetery in Pinelawn NY on November 7th 2012.

The condolences of the CERT and amateur radio communities go out to Joe's family. He will be missed.



Leadership: What Gives a Man or Woman the Right to Lead? (Continued from page 1)

to help you grow:

1) Let go of your ego

The truly great leaders are not in leadership for personal gain. They lead in order to serve other people. Perhaps that is why Lawrence D. Bell remarked, "Show me a man who cannot bother to do little things, and I'll show you a man who cannot be trusted to do big things."

2) Become a good follower first

Rare is the effective leader who didn't learn to become a good follower first. That is why a leadership institution such as the United States Military Academy teaches its officers to become effective followers first – and why West Point has produced more leaders than the Harvard Business School.

3) Build positive relationships

Leadership is influence, nothing more, nothing less. That means it is by nature relational. Today's generation of leaders seem particularly aware of this because title and position mean so little to them. They know intuitively that people go along with people they get along with.

4) Work with excellence

No one respects and follows mediocrity. Leaders who earn the right to lead give their all to what they do. They bring into play not only their skills and talent, but also

great passion and hard work. They perform on the highest level of which they are capable.

5) Rely on discipline, not motion

Leadership is often easy during the good times. It's when everything seems to be against you – when you're out of energy, and you don't want to lead – that you can earn your place as a leader. During every season of life, leaders face crucial moments when they must choose between gearing up or giving up. To make it through those times, rely on the rock of discipline, not the shifting sand of emotion.

6) Make adding value your goal

When you look at the leaders whose names are revered long after they have finished leading, you find that they were men and women who helped people to live better lives and reach their potential. That is the highest calling of leadership – and its highest value.

7) Give your power away

One of the ironies of leadership is that you become better leader by sharing whatever power you have, not by saving it all for yourself. You're meant to be a river, not a reservoir. If you use your power to empower others, your leadership will extend far beyond your grasp.

"The task of the leader is to get his people from where they are..."



*"...to where they have not been."
- Henry Kissinger*

November 2012

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 RACES/COMMS Meeting 7 - 9 pm OEM	2	3
4  Tabling Event Old Westbury Gardens 8 am - 1 pm	5 Basic Class LIU Post POSTPONED	6 	7	8	9	10
11 	12 Basic Classes 3 LIU Post 7 - 10 pm	13	14		16	17
18	19 Basic Classes 4 & 5 LIU Post 7 pm - 10 pm	20 Planning Meeting 7 pm - 9 pm OEM	21	22 	23	24
25	26 Basic Class 6 LIU Post 7 pm - 10 pm	27 Division Leaders Meeting 7 pm - 9 pm OEM	28	29	30	

Division Leaders - do you have an exceptional CERT volunteer on your team?
Submit a piece (750 words or less), with photos if you have them, and we'll publish it in a future newsletter issue.

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>

Activation (Continued from page 1)

weather systems that resulted in a new name, "Superstorm", presented the same result. All of the planning done for such an event never achieves the level of response readiness desired or needed. And while CERTs have trained and prepared to respond in a support role for an event of this nature, we always harbor the feelings that such disasters only happen somewhere else – Florida, the Gulf Coast, California.

We are in it now, and we must be prepared to continue supporting our region and our Island's recovery efforts over the long-haul. The hardest hit areas, the L.I. South Shore, Staten Island, Brooklyn, and New Jersey, will require much from volunteers who serve their communities. CERTs can be expected to be called upon to continue performing work in Shelters,

Distribution Centers, and in Damage Assessment activities for quite awhile to help those who are displaced and have lost their homes and belongings, and in many cases, their livelihoods. But as volunteers, we must remember to pace ourselves and find the proper balance – our responsibilities include insuring the well-being of our families, obligations to our jobs, and with the remaining time, helping our communities.

While responding to the call for volunteers, ensure your own health and well-being. Don't endanger yourselves by signing-on for superhuman shifts that leave you exhausted and unable to safely get home or to report for your job. Get plenty of rest between assignments. As a volunteer, each of us has a responsibility to not become a victim.

Division Updates

Nassau County RACES

As we prepare this for the November Newsletter the RACES and Communications Group are continuing to move forward on the acquisition of new Equipment such as Emcomm Boxes for some of our radios. These Emergency Communication boxes will give us the ability to be able to set up Communications at a moment's notice if the need arises. We are also continuing to work on the refit of the Communications Trailer and hope to have it completed soon. In addition we are also preparing for some upcoming events like the All-CERT Meeting (whenever it is rescheduled) and Ham Radio University in early January 2013. As we move forward we are still keeping one eye skyward in the event we are needed for any severe weather activations!

One final item – on behalf of the Officer's and Members of both Nassau County RACES and the CERT Communications Group, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Bob Long KC2PSN

Obstacle Course

On September 30th we held our annual Fall exercise and this year we introduced a new Situation Awareness Training Station designated Field Hazard or as it came to be known the "Obstacle Course". I am happy to report that it seems to have been a big hit with the CERT's from Nassau, Suffolk and NYC alike. The station

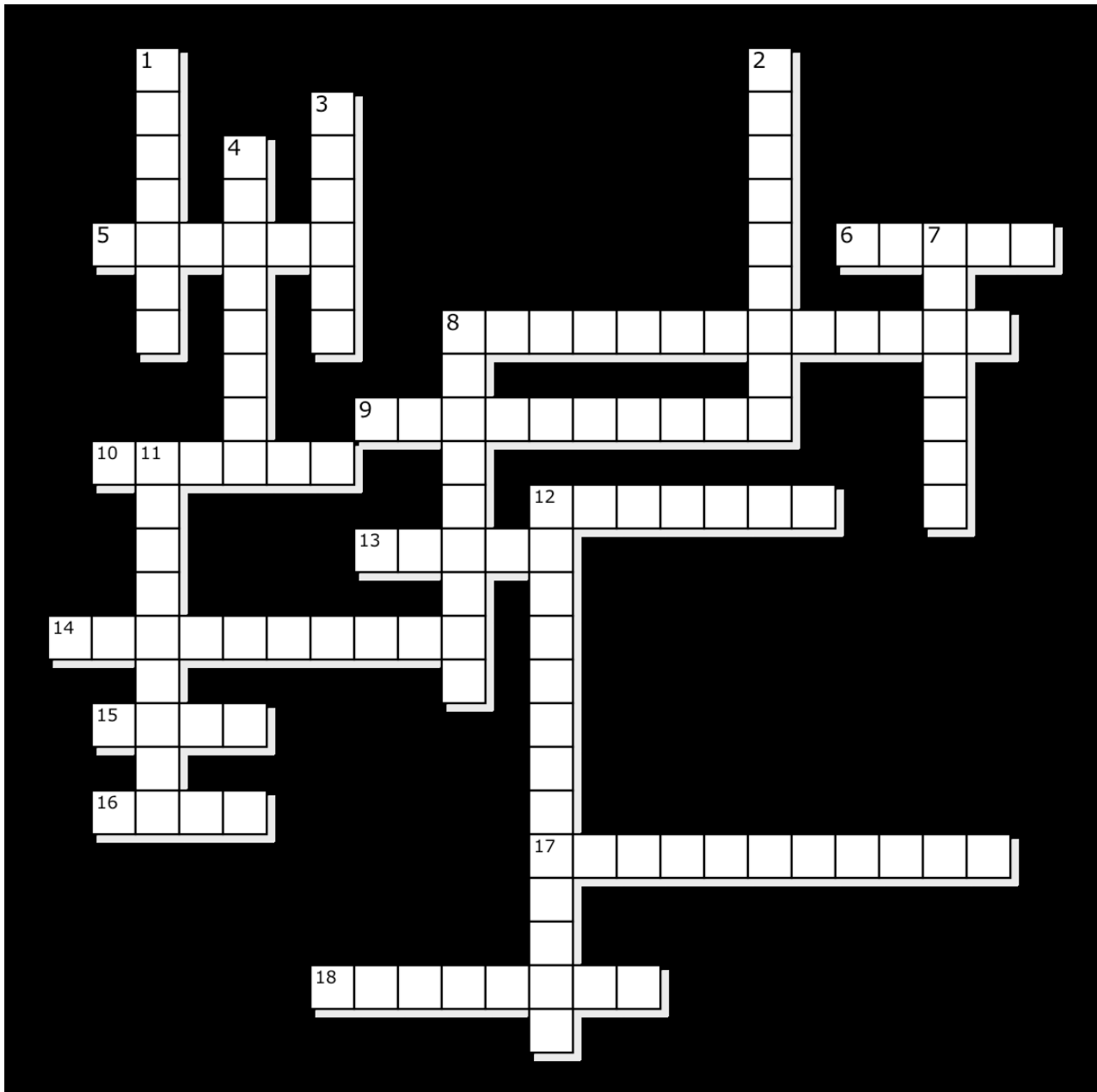
lines with the dead crow a crowd favorite! And a "special thanks" must go out to our Victims who where outstanding and enthusiastically played the role of both live and yes dead victims. And also took on the roll of resetting the station! Thank You for going above and beyond what was originally asked of you! I hope we see you at next



had Chemical drums with different Placards, Victims and other Hazards not to mention Downed Electrical



years Exercise! And a big thank you to ever it was that kept the rain away till the very end the Exercise!



DOWN

- 1) When suppressing a fire you should always have _____ to exit.
- 2) CERT members play a very important role in fire safety by shutting off _____, when necessary.
- 3) To reduce electrical hazards in the home by replacing broken or _____ cords.
- 4) Dry _____ is used in a class B fire extinguisher.
- 7) Before deciding to use a fire extinguisher you need to answer four questions one of them is - Is the area free from other _____?
- 8) Use L.I.E.S. storage procedures in the home and business. the E stands for _____.
- 11) During an activation you should always wear your safety _____.
- 12) When Heat, Fuel and Oxygen are combined in the right amount a _____ occurs.

ACROSS

- 9) Step Five in the CERT Size-up is to Establish _____.
- 10) According to the NFPA Hazardous Material Identification System, the number in the Blue area of the diamond represents the level of _____ Hazard.
- 12) There are Five Classes of fire, Class K is for _____ oils.
- 13) Test batteries for natural gas and carbon monoxide detectors every _____.
- 14) Natural gas hazards, it is explosive and an _____.
- 15) Before approaching a fire you must _____ the fire extinguisher.
- 16) If an NFPA Placard has a number greater than 1, CERT's should consider this as a _____ Sign.
- 17) A class D is for _____ metals.
- 18) _____ in the family should know the location of all utility shutoffs and how to shut them off.

Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.

- » Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- » Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- » Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- » Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- » Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- » Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- » Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- » Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- » Never leave children alone in room with a lit a candle.
- » Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

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

Did you know?



Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep **kids out of the kitchen** during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done **outside** the kitchen.

www.nfpa.org/education