

Lakeview Area News

Thursday, May 31, 2018

Montcalm Cty Public Safety Event



Michael Bunce demos machine

By Joe Tilton

Due to a technical issue, this story did not run last week as intended. Please pardon the delay.

“There’s something for everybody” is not a cliché as it pertained to the annual Public Safety event in Stanton Saturday. In spite of the rain, emergency equipment, personnel and displays came together to show the public what equipment and services are available for county citizens.

Outside in the parking lot at the county complex were snowplows, fire trucks, ambulances, rescue, police and sheriff’s vehicles and equipment, even ATV’s for search and rescue. State police, Department of Natural Resources and many others were on display. A large number of personnel were on hand to answer questions and meet the public.

Rain did discourage crowds, but tables were set up inside the building

along the courtroom hall that attracted many. EMS displayed automatic compression devices to assist heart attack victims. The Mid-Michigan District Health Department displayed detailed information on many conditions, and had a wheel for visitors to spin for prizes. Sheriff Mike Williams participated and won a coloring book.

The Commission on Aging had many visitors. The State Police brought emergency vehicles including their bomb squad with displays of explosive devices, including pipe bombs, confiscated in their line of duty. A State Police dog was on hand with his handler who described how the dog aids in solving crimes and finding evidence, even cell phones.

Critical information from many agencies was free for taking. Titles such as “Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies,” were available.

EMS personnel said they have transported dogs when the person injured would not leave without their pet. Another small but important pamphlet was titled, “Emergency Supply List,” which is included at the bottom.

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“Young People and Suicide—what you should know,” was another one. “Home Invasion—what to do if you are a target,” is still another.

The Montcalm-Ionia Medical Reserve Corps was there to encourage more to volunteer. Their web site is www.MontcalmIoniaMRC.org.

Small books about addiction were available plus lost-child information. Domestic violence was addressed in a free book called, “You’re not Alone.” And “Sometimes it is Sad to be at Home.” This well-illustrated book informs children of all ages.

“The 7 Signs of Terrorism” sheet was popular, as was information from the Red Cross that helps prepare for emergencies.

The *Lakeview Area News* had a table where we met many people and signed up new subscriptions.

FEMA’s pamphlet called, “Emergency Supply List” is worth attention.

Here are their recommendations for every family:

* One gallon of

water per person per day for at least three days for drinking and sanitation

* At least a three-day supply of non-perishable food

* Battery-powered or hand crank radio and NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both

* Flashlight and extra batteries

* First aid kit

* Whistle to signal for help

* Dust masks to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place

* Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation

* Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities

* Can opener for food

* Local maps

There are 15 more items for consideration. The list can be found at www.ready.gov.

Amy Thomas, Coordinator for the Public Service Event, plus the Planning Committee, did a magnificent job with organizing the event, and the rain contingency worked well.

The Montcalm Public Safety event is annual, so watch for it again in 2019.