Twenty-three CERT Members Respond To Search In Monterey For Missing Female Subject. On Thursday, July 7th at 7:03 P.M. the Monterey Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was activated by Monterey Police to assist in a search for an at-risk elderly female subject who went missing in the Holman Highway/Skyline area. The Staging location was established at the Carmel Hill Professional Center, with the CERT trailer deployed to set-up the Communications-Command Post. Using a grid-map system that was developed by a team member, volunteers were deployed to areas in Monterey, Pebble Beach and Pacific Grove to assist in the search. CERT members continued search efforts for approximately three hours until the subject was safely located.

Peninsula residents should be proud to know that volunteers from many of our communities will drop what they’re doing at a moment’s notice to assist in searching for someone they’ve never met!

CERT Responds To Provide Support At Structure Fire In Monterey. On Monday, July 11th at 7:16 P.M. CERT was requested to provide support at a structure fire in Monterey in the 200 Block of Laine Street in the New Monterey area. This occurred during the monthly Zone Captains meeting so the Captains immediately terminated the meeting to respond to the request. CERT provided a firefighter rehabilitation (re-hab) station, with water, Gatorade and protein bars. CERT also provided traffic control. In addition to Monterey Fire Department, engines from Seaside and the Presidio of Monterey Fire Departments responded. 13 CERT members remained on scene for over 2 hours. Firefighter re-hab is a part of the FEMA CERT supplemental curriculum and is covered by California Disaster Service Worker (DSW) laws.
After serving the City of Monterey for nearly three decades, Mayor Clyde Roberson recently announced his retirement. Mayor Roberson has been a longtime supporter of our CERT program. He was instrumental with securing funding for the CERT trailer. Mayor Roberson always complements the dedication and commitment of CERT volunteers, often sending a kind note to acknowledge the monthly newsletters and our many deployments.

Mayor Roberson has served on and off as mayor and on the city council since 1984. Clyde served six terms as mayor of Monterey. He has done so much to serve our community, also working 35 years as a teacher in local schools.

Mayor Roberson's term expires this December. He deserves a heartfelt thanks from the people of Monterey, CERT volunteers and all Peninsula residents.
CERT Deployed For Three Days To Advise People To Stay Out Of The Water. In response to the shark attack referenced below, and at the request of Pacific Grove Police, Monterey Fire Department and following State guidelines, CERT members deployed for three days after the shark attack to assure people remained out of the local area waters. CERT members donated 200 total hours of volunteer time for this extended deployment!

Shark Attack Victim Released From Natividad Medical Center.

In an interview released by Natividad Medical Center, a Central Coast man who was attacked by a great white shark while swimming near Lovers Point Beach in Pacific Grove shared his story of what happened that fateful day. Steve Bruemmer, 62, narrowly escaped death when he went for a swim on June 22, 2022 and was attacked by a great white shark. Bruemmer suffered serious injuries.

"It was such a beautiful day, there was no wind, the ocean was flat, there were no waves, it was so calm," Bruemmer said as he described the moments before the shark attack. "Wham! I didn't even know exactly what happened. It turns out I was bit ferociously by a shark," Bruemmer said about the exact moments of the shark attack.

Bruemmer went on to thank the Good Samaritans who rushed to pull him out of the water and the off-duty ICU nurses and doctor who were at the beach and applied first aid.
CERT Members In Our Community & Across California

An AACR Emotional Support Dog At the Paradise Fire in Northern California Doing His Job With a Child

Volunteering is in the heart and soul of our CERT members. Monterey CERT member Kathie Buaya is also a responding member of HOPE – Animal Assisted Crisis Response, (AACR). Their mission is to lend assistance to relief organizations by sending Certified Animal-Assisted Crisis Response teams where needed most. AACR has experienced teams consisting of canines and handlers that are trained and tested to be able to respond under the stresses of crisis response work. HOPE AACR teams are ready to work side by side with the lead agency in a disaster or other emergency to bring emotional support to the victims of a disaster, particularly children.
Kathie deployed with AACR to the devastating fires in Paradise, CA which we all remember was an absolute tragedy. Many people in the area lost everything as the devastation was all encompassing and heartbreaking, destroying most of the town of Paradise. AACR was called to assist. As a Team Lead, Kathie’s role was to be the liaison between the AACR teams and the agency in charge. AACR had teams rotating in and out of Paradise for several weeks after the fire. The fire was still raging nearby and the smoke was thick and low-hanging but Kathie and AACR teams deployed into the area to assist in providing help and emotional support to the victims. HOPE AACR can be contacted at the following website: HOPE Animal-Assisted Crisis Response – Comfort in Times of Crisis (hopeaacr.org)
Monterey CERT Calendar of Events:

Next CERT training for new members: Saturdays, October 15, 22 and 29th. Time each day is 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. Location will be downtown Monterey. Open to residents of the Monterey Peninsula. No cost to participate. To enroll, send an email of interest to: training@montereycert.org

CERT refresher/update training for all members: Saturday, October 1st. Time will be 0900-1200 hrs. Location to be announced.

CERT Radio Drill: Monday, August 8th at 7 P.M. on CERT channel 4.

Toro Park Area CERT: We need at least 30 people to confirm they will participate in the course before we will request funding from a Carmel 501.c. If you know people who live in the Highway 68 corridor area, please ask them to contact CERT at: demekastros@msn.com Put “TORO CERT” in the subject line.

CERT In Action: Scenes from the Laine Street Fire Support Deployment, July 2022
Visit the City Of Monterey CERT website, the only authorized Monterey CERT site: City of Monterey, CA