25 CERT Members Respond To Search For Missing, At-Risk Adult. On Saturday, February 26th at approximately 9 A.M., an at-risk adult was reported missing from her residence in Pacific Grove. At the request of Pacific Grove Police, CERT was activated to assist in the search effort. 25 CERT members responded to the Staging area behind the fire station on Pine Avenue. Teams were organized and sent into designated search grids. The CERT trailer was also used. Teams continued their search operations for approximately two hours when a report was received of a possible sighting in upper New Monterey. Nearby CERT teams, together with Pacific Grove Police and Monterey Assistant Fire Chief James Courtney converged on the area to quickly locate the adult, safe and unharmed!

CERT members Sam Balesteri and Aletha Park, Monterey Assistant Fire Chief Jim Courtney and a Pacific Grove Police Officer are shown with the missing subject moments after she was located safe and unharmed off Prescott Street in Monterey.
CERT Calendar of Events:

CERT Training For Peninsula Area Residents. Training for new members occurs in Monterey March 5th, 12th and 19th. Time each day is 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. to enroll contact: training@montereycert.org

On-air radio drill: Monday March 14th at 7 P.M. on CERT Channel 4

NEW CERT GROUP BEING FORMED IN MID CARMEL VALLEY: Training will occur: April 2nd, 23rd and 30th. The new team will encompass the area in Carmel Valley from Via Malorca to Garland Park. To enroll send an email of interest to: demekastros@msn.com Put Mid Valley CERT in the email subject line.

CERT training for TORO Park, Creekside, San Benancio ,Corral De Tierra and nearby area residents: Interested persons send an email to: demekastros@msn.com and please put TORO CERT in the subject line. Dates will be established when we have 25 people enrolled.

CERT Training Videos: Here are four links to training videos on various aspects of Monterey CERT:

Monterey County Sheriff's SAR Vehicle Tour & SAR Personal Equipment
https://youtu.be/XXV6I2oEYg0

Monterey CERT Refresher 5/08/2021
https://youtu.be/CswxypaLVjM

Monterey CERT Radio Refresher 8-9-21
https://youtu.be/i8b3ddjur3M

CERT Using a Stokes Litter in a Hilly Area
https://youtu.be/Pb87AqbA1KE
A New CERT Team Is Being Formed In The Toro Park, Serra Village and Creekside Areas

Your Monterey CERT instructors have been working with area neighborhoods to assist them in forming their own CERT response groups. This benefits all areas of the Peninsula as not only do we have more trained, organized response teams, but we can help each other with “Mutual-Aid”. In addition to the Peninsula, there are outstanding CERT responders in Carmel Valley, The Santa Lucia Preserve and Big Sur. All have been trained by FEMA certified CERT instructor and Nationally registered EMT Isabelle Preti.

We are working to establish a CERT group in the Toro Park area. If you know someone who lives in the area and would want to participate, please have them email: demekastros@msn.com to express interest. Put TORO CERT in the subject line. There is no cost to enroll. Training dates will be scheduled when we have sufficient enrollment.

This training will be open to residents of Toro Park, Serra Village, Creekside, San Benancio and adjacent communities
Fire Safety Checklist for Homeowners and Renters

If there is a fire, you may have less than 3 minutes to get out of your home. Talk about what you should do to be safe. Make sure everyone in your home knows what to do if there is a fire.

☑ Put a check in front of each statement that is true for your home.

Smoke Alarms
☐ Smoke alarms are on every level of the home.
☐ Smoke alarms are inside and outside sleeping areas.
☐ Smoke alarms are tested each month.
☐ Smoke alarm batteries are changed as needed.
☐ Smoke alarms are less than 10 years old.

Test your alarm regularly. Your smoke alarm is working if it makes a noise when you press the “test” button.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms
☐ Carbon monoxide alarms are located on each level of the home.
☐ Carbon monoxide alarms are less than 7 years old.

Electrical and Appliance Safety
☐ All electrical cords are in good condition and not broken or cut.
☐ People clean the dryer of lint after every use.
☐ All plug outlets are safe and do not feel warm when you touch them. (If they are warm, call the landlord or an electrician.)

Candle Safety
☐ Candles are in sturdy fire-proof containers that won’t be tipped over.
☐ Adults blow out all candles when leaving the room or going to bed.
☐ Candles are kept out of reach from children and pets.

Children are sometimes curious about fire. If you have children in your home, lock up any items that can start a fire (matches, lighters, cigarettes, etc.) and make sure children cannot reach candles.

Cooking Safety
☐ The cooking area has no items that can burn.
☐ People stay in the kitchen when they are frying, grilling, boiling, or broiling food.
☐ Pot handles are always turned toward the back of the stove.

Escape Plan
☐ There is a fire escape plan that shows 2 ways out of every room.
☐ Everyone knows where the safe meeting place is outside the home.
☐ Everyone living in the house practices the escape plan 2 times a year.

Learn more about fire prevention: www.usfa.fema.gov