

MAY 2015

G.A.P.S. NEWSLETTER

GERRISH ALTERNATIVE POLICING STRATEGIES "COMMUNITY WITH POLICE...CARING AND SHARING TOGETHER"



SKYWARN

Weather Spotter Training

Class is being hosted by ACT NOW and the Gerrish Twp. Police Department on **May 18th** at the Gerrish Twp. Hall at **6:00 p.m.** This class is being offered in cooperation with the Roscommon County Dept. of Emergency Management and will be presented by the National Weather Service Gaylord Office. This is a free 1 1/2 hour class that will include:

- Thunderstorm Ingredients
- Lightning, Flood & Hail Safety
- Super-cell & Multi-cell Storms
- How Tornadoes Form
- Cloud Formations
- Online Spotter Networks
- National Warning Criteria
- What and When to Report

This class is open to the public and those that attend will be "Official" National Weather Service Skywarn Spotters that are a critical piece of effective and accurate weather warnings.

Mark you Calendars...

August 8th will be the "6th Annual ACT NOW Golf Outing" which will be held at the Redwood Golf Course at **10:00 am** (registration at **9:00 am**). The cost is **\$50.00** per-person and includes **18 holes, 4-person scramble, golf cart, prizes, hot dogs on the turn, water and pop, and a chicken wrap or hamburger picnic lunch afterwards.** Other beverages will be available at the golf course club house or beverage carts. Registration forms are available at the Gerrish Police Dept.

To make a donation or purchase National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund merchandise visit their website at www.LawMemorial.org.

**RESPECT
HONOR
REMEMBER**



NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation that designated **May 15** as **Peace Officers Memorial Day** and the week in which that date falls as **National Police Week.**

Thousands of people will gather in Washington, DC, this May to honor those officers who made the ultimate sacrifice last year and to remember those who have fallen in the past. A **Candlelight Vigil** will be held on **May 13, 2015** to honor the fallen officers and to hear the most recent names that have been engraved on the **Memorial walls.** Recently, it seems that there has been much more publicity on the deaths of law enforcement officers throughout the U.S. and the world. The public will never know all of the circumstances behind these deaths, however, we must all realize that these officers also have family, loved ones, friends and co-workers that need support during these fatal incidents.

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UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

MAY 6th

4:00 p.m. Spring Road Clean-Up

Meet at Gerrish Twp. Police Dept.

MAY 7th

1:00 p.m. ACT NOW Executive Board Meeting

@ Gerrish Township Police Department

MAY 18th

6:00 p.m. ACT NOW Community Meeting

@ Gerrish Township Hall

"SKYWARN" Spring Weather Spotter Class

National Drug Take Back Initiative

September 24, 2014 was the final National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day through the DEA. They have published new disposal regulations that took effect on October 9, 2014 and now the public may find authorized

collection agencies in their communities. Gerrish Township Police Department continues to collect

unwanted and unused prescription drugs at their Drug Drop Box located at the front of the police department just to the left of the front entry door. They

have teamed up with the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council out of Petoskey in supporting the drug drop off program as they have an official registered

incinerator for proper disposal of drugs per the DEA requirements and on April 17th, the Gerrish Twp. P.D. turned in

74 pounds of drugs (7 month collection). The National program started in 2010 and in total, close to 4.1 million pounds of drugs were collected in four years!

Please help us keep this program going and discard prescription drugs properly and safely!



SPRING ROAD CLEAN-UP is scheduled for May 6th at 4:00 p.m. Come on out and help ACT NOW clean the road-sides of County Road 100 from the top of Pioneer Hill south to Hillsdale Drive. Meet at the Gerrish Twp. Police Department at 4:00 p.m. Pizza and pop will be served afterwards. You can bring your own gloves and safety traffic vests if you have them, if not, gloves and a vest will be provided for you (if you are a CERT member you can wear your CERT vest). ACT NOW has adopted this double section of roadway through the Michigan Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program and schedules a spring and fall road clean-up each year. This is just another way that we give back to our community and help keep our road ways clean!



**DODGE
BALL**

Congratulations to "Team Torch" who were the Champs of the first annual Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center Dodge Ball Tournament on April 18th. There were nine teams that participated from area police/fire/EMS services and students from the high school. This event raised about \$900 for the Assessment Center which is a non-profit organization that provides professional forensic interviewing services for children who are victims of crimes. "Team Torch" consisted of Gerrish Police Officers Norm LaBonte, Greg Patchin and Austin Martin and also Forensic Scientists Shane Hill (MSP Bridgeport Crime Lab) and Jennifer Patchin (MSP Grayling Crime Lab). The team trophy is proudly on display at the Gerrish Township Police Department...Good Job Team!!