

G.A.P.S. NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015

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



DRUG DROP BOX UPDATE

The Gerrish Twp. Police Department is pleased to announce that they turned over 59.6 pounds of unwanted, expired and/or unused prescription medications on Oct. 20, 2015. GTPD is partners with the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council in Petoskey and drops off the drugs to them for proper disposal per DEA requirements. The boxes of drugs, pictured below, represent a three-month collection from our box. Please support the program and discard your unwanted drugs properly and safely by utilizing our **DROP BOX** located next to the front door at the police department.



OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Officer Norm LaBonte who was awarded the Gerrish Township 2015 Police Officer of the Year Award at the November 16th ACT NOW Appreciation Dinner.

Chief Hill presented the award to Officer LaBonte which is based on a 15-point evaluation criteria.

Officer LaBonte grew up in Midland, Michigan and attended Delta Community College where he received an Associates Degree in the applied Science of Criminal Justice and attended the Police Academy at Delta College in 2001. Norm worked at the Roscommon County Sheriff Dept. for six years as a Deputy and joined the Gerrish P.D. team in December of 2009.

Officer LaBonte has multiple certifications in many facets of training and is the department's Field Training Officer, Firearms Instructor & Armorer and an Evidence Technician. He is also an EMT, Fire Fighter, Advanced Hazardous Material Tech and a Certified CPR/AED/First Aid Instructor.



7th Annual Trunk or Treat & Haunted Trail was a great success thanks to the 29 trunk participants and approximately 800 children that attended with their families!! Prizes were awarded in the following categories:

Best Decorated - Markey Church
Scariest - Matt's Lake Street Grill
Most Creative - Kathleen Patchin
\$25 Walmart gift card went to Jennifer Green who was the winner of the Random Participation Drawing. The \$300 cash prize for the Best Decorated Section of the Haunted Trail went to the Hohman Family. Despite the rain, it was a fun night filled with treats (and some tricks)! Thank you to all the participants and volunteers who worked so hard to make this event a success! We look forward to our 8th Annual Trunk or Treat next Halloween...mark your calendars!

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

DECEMBER 3rd

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

Gerrish Township Police Department

DECEMBER 21st

5:00 p.m. Shop-With-a-Cop WRAP PARTY

Gerrish Twp. P.D. (Pizza & Pop will be served)

JANUARY 7th

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

Gerrish Township Police Department

Happy Thanksgiving



ROSCOMMON COUNTY AMBULANCE HOLIDAY "TOY DRIVE"

Please help us fill ambulances that will be located at the below locations during the holiday toy drive on Saturday, Dec. 5th.

Drop off any new toy item, game, etc. between 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and help us make this Christmas a bit brighter for those children in need in the County:

Gerrish Twp. Ambulance - In front of

Gerrish Twp. Fire Station

Higgins Twp. Ambulance - Will be

downtown Roscommon during

Christmas in the Village

Denton Twp. Ambulance - At Walmart in

Houghton Lake

Houghton Lake EMS - At K-Mart in

Houghton Lake

Lyon Twp. Ambulance - At the Lyon

Township Fire Station

Markey Twp. Ambulance - At the Markey

Township Fire Station

Thank you to Roscommon County Department of Health & Human Services for their assistance with distribution.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

GERRISH TWP. P.D. WELCOMES NEW OFFICER JAMES SCROGGIN...

Officer Scroggin was hired on November 5, 2015 and fills the 7th police officer position making the department fully staffed after completion of his 14-week Field Training Program. James attended Kirtland Community College where he received his Associates Degree in 2013 and completed the Kirtland Regional Police Academy in November of 2014. He is also a certified EMT and Firefighter and is planning on joining the Gerrish Twp. Fire/EMS Department after his training and probation period have ended.

James currently resides in St. Helen, but is looking forward to moving to the Gerrish Township community. Please take a moment when you see Jim and introduce yourself, he is very committed to our community policing philosophy and is very excited to be serving the public with the Gerrish Police Department.



The Annual Shop-With-A-Cop WRAP PARTY will be held on Monday, December 21st at 5:00 p.m. at the Gerrish Police Department. Bring your scissors and any wrapping paper you would like to donate and help the officers and ACT NOW members wrap the gifts that will be distributed to the 2015 Shop-With-A-Cop families. Pizza and pop will be served afterwards. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Shop-With-A-Cop program, you can drop it off anytime at the police department or send a check payable to ACT NOW, 3075 E. Higgins Lake Dr., Roscommon, MI 48653.

FROM ALL OF US
AT THE GERRISH
TOWNSHIP
POLICE DEPT...
*Wishing you and
your families a
Blessed Christmas
and a Happy,
Healthy and Safe
New Year!!*

