

G.A.P.S. NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2016

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

2015 SHOP WITH A COP PROGRAM

Thank you to all of the officers, donors and volunteers that helped make this year's Shop With A Cop Program a great success!! We provided Christmas gifts for 10 local families which included 33 children and 16 adults. Officers from the Gerrish Twp. P.D. took one child from each family shopping and treated them to dinner afterwards. The gifts were wrapped and tagged at the Wrap Party which was held at the P.D. on December 21st and the gifts were delivered by the officers and some citizen volunteers on December 23rd.

This was our 13th annual SWAC event and we are happy to say that since the program's inception we have brightened the holidays for 107 families, 409 children and 179 adults!



Don't forget Gerrish Twp. Police Dept. offers "Well Being" Checks for elderly, handicapped or special needs residents that live alone. Once a week an officer will check in with the resident to make sure they are ok. Forms are available at the p.d. or on-line at www.gerrishpolice.org.



CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

Sheriff Ed Stern and staff will be holding their first annual Roscommon County Citizen's Police Academy starting Jan. 5, 2016. The academy will be a 37 hour block of instruction designed to provide the public a working knowledge of law enforcement and their policies and practices. The twelve 3-hour classes will be held once a week and open to anyone 18 years of age and above who lives or works within the County of Roscommon. The Sheriff's Office will be partnering with other area law enforcement agencies in instructing with a goal of ensuring that citizens possess a greater understanding of what is involved with policing in today's environment. For more information or to obtain an application, stop by the Gerrish Police Dept. or the Roscommon Co. Sheriff Office. Space is limited.

Valentine Dinner Dance



ACT NOW and the Gerrish Fire Fighter's Association have teamed up and will be holding a Valentine Dinner Dance on Feb. 20th, 2016. The event will take place at the Knights of Columbus Hall 6593 in Roscommon and will run from 5:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The cost of a ticket is \$150 (for two people) and includes appetizers, dinner, drinks (open bar), live band with dancing, door prizes and a chance to win cash drawing: **\$1,000 Grand Prize** **\$250 Each for 2nd-5th Prize** Tickets are available at the Gerrish Twp. Police Dept. or Fire Dept. or by contacting an ACT NOW board member. Please purchase a ticket and help support the many programs and projects that these two groups sponsor such as Shop-With-A-Cop, Grayson's Gift Project, Scholarship Award Program, Boy Scouts Fire Explorer Program and C.E.R.T. just to name a few!

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

JANUARY 7th

1:00 p.m. ACT NOW Executive Board Meeting
Gerrish Township Police Department

FEBRUARY 4th

1:00 p.m. ACT NOW Executive Board Meeting
(Yearly Planning Session) @ G.T.P.D.

FEBRUARY 12th & 13th

Winterfest @ North Higgins Lake State Park

FEBRUARY 20th

5:30 p.m. VALENTINE DINNER DANCE

Knights of Columbus Hall 6593 (Roscommon)



Gerrish Township Police Officers Association participated in the Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center Annual Festival of Trees that took place on December 5th during Christmas in the Village. The association decorated a tree that was furnished by the center and provided all the "gifts" under the tree. The event raised over \$1,400 with all proceeds going to directly to the center which provides forensic interviewing, victim advocate support and assessment services to children who are victims of abuse and/or neglect in Crawford, Ogemaw, Oscoda and Roscommon Counties.

Nicole Grace was the winner of the GTPOA tree and goodies in photo ⇨⇨⇨



CERT held it's final training of 2015 on November 11th and it was well attended and a lot of fun as the group participated in team building exercises. These exercises are designed to improve planning skills and communications, boost morale, instill motivation and learn personal strengths and weaknesses. Watch for upcoming CERT yearly training in 2016 and if you are interested in becoming a CERT member contact CERT Coordinator Sharon Zacny at (989) 275-8858 or email at gerrishcert@gmail.com.



G.A.P.S. (Gerrish Alternate Policing Strategies)

GAP Officers are available to assist citizens with non-emergent neighborhood problems or concerns. All Gerrish Officers can be contacted by calling 821-5207 and listen to the directory for their extension numbers, or by going to www.gerrishpolice.org and click on the "GTPD" tab and go to "Meet the Team" and leave an email message for your GAP Officer:

- GAP #1: Maplehurst Road north to County Line (M-76)
Sgt. Greg Patchin & Officer Eric Muszynski
- GAP #2: Maplehurst Road south to Sharps Corner
Officer Norm LaBonte & Officer James Scroggin
- GAP #3: Sharps Corner west to North Townline Road
Officer Austin Martin & Officer Shannon Fick

It is important for citizens to remember that the problem DOES NOT have to be of a criminal nature for one of the GAP Officers to lend a helping hand!

