



G.A.P.S. Newsletter

Gerrish Alternative Policing Strategies

"Community with Police...Caring & Sharing Together"

FEBRUARY 2020



Pictured left to right...

Tom Allen, Lyndsey Houser, June Allen, Brittany Buck, Dave Harned, Anita Sheppard (all representing the Roscommon County Community Foundation,

Lt. Greg Patchin, Chief Brian Hill, Chief Jim Fisher, Treasurer Leasa Tulgetske (all representing Gerrish Township), ACT NOW Chair John Ellis, Jim Clabuesch (RCCF) and Rick Meeks (Higgins Lake Foundation). **THANK YOU TO ALL OF THESE DONORS AND SUPPORTERS WHO MADE THIS PROJECT A SUCCESS!!**



"PROJECT TRACKS"

Lt. Greg Patchin (Gerrish Twp. Police Department) wrote two grants last fall and were awarded funds through the Higgins Lake Foundation Community Grant program and the Roscommon County Community Foundation's Morley Foundation Fund, Doug Allen Fire & EMS Fund and the Roscommon County General Fund.

The Gerrish Twp. Police Department and Fire/EMS Department, along with community partner organization ACT-NOW provided the additional funding needed for purchasing and installing a "TRACK" system on the Police Department's existing Polaris Ranger off-road special response vehicle. The tracks will allow for emergency response and rescues in difficult terrain not only during snowy winters but also on hills, uneven wooded areas and swampy marsh areas. More traction would provide for greater stability and the vehicle will have more ground clearance to be able to clear deeper snow and standing water/mud. This vehicle is available for use for the Gerrish Twp. Police Department and Fire/EMS Department for search and rescues, injuries or accidents in areas where ambulances cannot reach such as sledding hills and frozen water, stand-by services at large community events as a patrol and transport vehicle.

The Ranger has been utilized in many incidents since it was obtained originally through a U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company grant written by Chief Hill in 2007. Additional equipment was added such as the Freedom Cab and the rear Stokes Carrier and Jump Seat. Now most recently with the addition of the Tracks System, this specialized vehicle becomes one of the only of its type in our County. It will be available for call-outs to our neighboring agencies through mutual aid whenever necessary and will further benefit our community and visitors to our area.



Ranger Before TRACK System Installation

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS:

FEBRUARY 5th

6:00 p.m. **CERT CLASS** @ Gerrish P.D.

FEBRUARY 12th

6:00 p.m. **CERT CLASS** @ Gerrish P.D.



FEBRUARY 19th

6:00 p.m. **CERT CLASS** @ Gerrish P.D.

ACT NOW SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

ACT NOW will be awarding \$1,000 scholarships to two Roscommon High School 2020 graduates in May. Scholarships are based on community service, GPA and student need.

Application packets are available at the Roscommon High School, at the Gerrish Twp. Police Department and on-line at our website www.gerrishpolice.org. The applicant will be required to provide two letters of recommendation from their school, one letter of endorsement from a non-school, non-related person along with their official high school transcript, the completed and signed application form and a 300 word essay on the "Value of Community Service."

Application deadline for submission is APRIL 1, 2020. Applications can be mailed to ACT NOW at 3075 E. Higgins Lake Drive, Roscommon, MI 48653 or turned into the RHS Counseling Office.

Scholarship awards will be presented at the Senior Awards Presentation at RHS on May 4th.

ACT NOW began their Scholarship Program in 2008 and has awarded \$19,000 to 12 RHS graduates since its inception.

ACT NOW and the Gerrish Twp. Police Department have also been annual supporters of "Project Graduation" and the RHS Marching Bucks. We have either hosted fundraisers or have participated in community fundraisers that benefit the Roscommon Youth Basketball Program, the Roscommon and Houghton Lake Rotary Interact Clubs and the Roscommon Bowling Team.

Part of our Mission is to assist the youth in our community and we take great pride in supporting our local young adults. They are our future leaders and it's very rewarding to watch them as they mature and become upstanding, productive citizens!

ACT NOW 2019 EVENTS SCHEDULE

*(All dates, times
and locations
subject to change)*



04/01/2020 ACT NOW Scholarship Submission Deadline

04/15/2020 Scrap Metal Project DROP OFF BEGINS

04/18/2020 Bowling Tournament Fundraiser at Fred's

05/04/2020 Scholarship Awards Presentation at RHS

05/13/2020 Roscommon Business EXPO Booth

05/19/2020 Spring Road Clean Up (Alt. date 05/21/2020)

06/20/2020 Higgins Lake Sunrise Run

07/20/2020 ACT NOW Annual Meeting & Picnic

08/08/2020 ACT NOW Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser

09/08/2020 Fall Road Clean Up (Alt. date 09/15/2020)

09/12/2020 Glow Golf Fundraiser at Ye Olde CC

09/19/2020 Shop-With-A-Cop Stuffed Animal Fundraiser

10/15/2020 Scrap Metal Project DROP OFF CLOSES

10/31/2020 Annual Trunk or Treat

11/28/2020 Bowling Tournament Fundraiser at Fred's

12/21/2020 Shop-With-A-Cop Wrap Party

12/22/2020 Shop-With-A-Cop Deliveries to Families

All event dates, times and location are subject to change. Watch for up-to-date information on future website and Facebook postings and in upcoming issues of the Newsletter.

