



G.A.P.S. Newsletter

Gerrish Alternative Policing Strategies

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

MAY 2021



GERRISH POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY AWARDS were presented by Chief Brian Hill to Officer Eric Muszynski and Administrative Clerk Julie Hill at the April 13th Gerrish Twp. Board Meeting.

These awards were given in recognition of their outstanding leadership in community involvement to include chairing several community events in 2020 which exceeded the Department's expectations.

Chief Hill explained that due to the COVID pandemic and all of the mandated State orders last year it was very difficult to raise funds and hold events in the traditional fashion. Both of these Department members serve on the ACT NOW non-profit community advisory Executive Board and found creative ways to modify fundraisers successfully so that several annual events such as Trunk or Treat, Shop-With-A-Cop, Glow Golf, Scholarship Awards, Stuffed Animal Project and the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Michigan could still be held. These events all had to be restructured but we felt that the community still needed them to happen and by putting in the extra effort and time, Officer Muszynski and Julie pulled off these modified events resulting in great outcomes!

THANK YOU BOTH FOR YOUR COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY!!

MAY IS SAFETY MONTH...

With the nicer weather upon us, more people will be out and about on motorcycles and bicycles. Please be extra vigilant when you are driving to watch for bike riders, both motorized and non-motorized.

MAY is "Motorcycle Safety Month" and "National Bike Month" for good reasons. This is a way to bring awareness to our community and drivers to watch for them, allow them space and respect and follow all laws pertaining to them.

For more information on motorcycle and bicycle safety and laws, visit our website at www.gerrishpolice.org and click on the following links: GTPD/Laws/Motorcycle Laws or GTPD/Laws/Michigan Bicycle Laws. You can also stop into the PD and pick up brochures and information for Bicycle Safety for Adults and Children and Motorcycles.

MAY IS ALSO THE TIME TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK OUR PUBLIC SERVANTS...

May 9th - 15th is "National Police Week"

May 16th - 22nd is "National EMS Week"

We have great law enforcement officers and Emergency Medical Technicians in our area, and we extend our heartfelt appreciation and **THANK** all of them for their dedication and service to our great community!!

SPRING CLEAN UP

April 15th was the official start date for the ACT NOW SCRAP METAL PROJECT. You can drop off unwanted scrap metal items in the utility trailer located behind the Gerrish Police Department next to the Impound fence area. Please NO propane tanks, tires, microwaves, refrigerators, freezers, TV's or computers. These type of items along with paints, oils, ammunition, etc. can be dropped off at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection on June 5, 2021 at the Roscommon County Road Commission complex in Prudenville.

ACT NOW Spring Road Clean-Up is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on May 18th and will start at the Gerrish P.D. Please contact Julie at 989-821-5207 Ext. 291 if you would like to sign-up to participate. Safety vests, gloves and buckets/bags will be provided. Pizza and pop will be served afterwards.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS:

MAY 7th

ACT NOW Executive Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. @ Gerrish Twp. Police Dept.

MAY 22nd

Food Truck Distribution @ Roscommon Area Schools
Bus Garage (10:00 a.m. until food is gone)

MAY 31st...MEMORIAL DAY



COVID CORNER

THE CENTRAL MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
HAS SEVERAL LOCATIONS FOR VACCINES FOR ANYONE 16
YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER...



COVID-19 VACCINE
IS HERE!

SCHEDULE TODAY!

There are three ways to schedule
your first appointment:

- Call 2-1-1
- Visit www.cmdhd.org
- Scan QR code below with phone's camera.



Vaccines will be provided by the Central Michigan District Health Department, which covers Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola, and Roscommon counties.



Central Michigan District Health Department
Promoting Healthy People, Healthy Communities

TEENS & SPEEDING: Breaking the Deadly Cycle

The Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) along with Ford Motor Company Fund has released a new report this year that examines the significant role speeding plays in teen driver fatalities.

The analysis found that from 2015-2019 teen drivers and passengers (16-19 years of age) accounted for a greater proportion of speed-related deaths (43%) than all other age groups combined. In our State during this time frame 4,930 teen drivers and passengers died in speed-related crashes. The drivers are more likely to be unrestrained males that run off the road or roll their vehicles in accidents that usually occur late at night. Our country has a speeding problem that only worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic as parents may have had less time to spend training their teen drivers given other priorities during the pandemic.

"Speed management continues to be a key component of our training and this report reaffirms its importance," said Jim Graham (Ford Motor Company Fund Manager).

"Teens don't see speeding as a serious problem and parents likely don't recognize how rampant it is for novice drivers, so teaching them about the impact is critical."

Other tools discussed in the report include driver education and training, speed enforcement, graduated driver licensing laws, parent-teen orientation sessions, driving agreements and peer-to-peer programming. To view this report and for further information visit www.ghsa.org/issues/teen-drivers.

Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Michigan

Sale t-shirts for the 2021 Torch Run are now available to purchase at the Gerrish Twp. Police Department. These shirts help raise funds for Special Olympics Michigan. You do not



have to sign up to participate in the run to get one of these shirts. They are \$10 each and available in adult sizes Small - XX Large. They are a heather blue material in a 65/35 poly/cotton blend. If you would like to purchase a shirt, please stop by the Gerrish P.D. or contact Julie at (989) 821-5207 Ext. 291 or email at jhill@gerrishpolice.org. Torch Run Week is being planned for the second week in September, more info to come once details have been arranged.