

# G.A.P.S. Newsletter

Gerrish Alternative Policing Strategies

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

**AUGUST 2023**



## History of Golf

Did you know that the game of golf originated in Scotland with players hitting pebbles over sand dunes and around tracks using a bent stick or club during the 15th century? It was banned in 1457 due to many men neglecting their military training. The ban was largely ignored and in 1502 the game gained royal approval and its popularity spread quickly throughout 16th century Europe.

Golf as we now know it was formed in 1754 by the St. Andrews Society of Golfers and the first ever 18-hole course was constructed at St. Andrews (Scotland) in 1764.

The oldest recorded rules for the game date back to 1744 where The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers published "Articles and Laws in Playing at Golf."

Evidence of early golf in the United States includes a 1739 record for a shipment of golf equipment to Charleston, South Carolina and the South Carolina Golf Club was established in 1787 in Charleston. It's popularity grew and by 1910 there were 267 established clubs in America. In 1932 there were over 1,000 clubs, 1980 over 5,000 clubs and today there are over 15,000 clubs throughout the Country. The United States Golf Association (USGA) was established in 1894 to regulate the game and with the availability of serious funding through commercial sponsorships, the USA quickly established itself as the center of the professional golf game.

Golf ball material transitioned throughout the years from wood, leather, feathers, rubber, to the modern rubber-core urethane coated balls used today.

## ACT NOW GOLF OUTING FUNDRAISER

Come join us for a "SHOTGUN" start on August 12th at Redwood Golf Course for our 14th Annual ACT NOW GOLF OUTING. Registration begins at 9:00 am and the SHOTGUN start will be at 10:00 am. Did you know that this style of starting a golf tournament began in Walla Walla, WI in May of 1956 as a way for all golfers to start at their respective holes at the same time? Air horns are also used to begin play, however, we have always used the more traditional "SHOTGUN" to start our golf outing each year.

This is a really fun event and is ACT NOW's largest fundraiser each year. All proceeds support ACT NOW and the Gerrish Twp. Police Department's community programs and projects, including our Gerrish CERT team.

If you don't golf, but would still like to donate, you can be a hole sponsor for \$100, \$250 or \$500 and your name will be placed on a sign by one of the 18 tee boxes. You can also give any amount as a general donation or donate a prize for our

Raffle. Stop by the golf course during the event and participate in the prize raffle or the large 50/50 drawing! You can also sponsor a golfer or a team, registration fee is \$60 per person and includes green fees, golf cart, water, pop and lunch served afterwards. This is a four-person scramble event and there are fun games to join in on a lot of the holes. "Golfapalooza" will be back again this year with their Cannon Shoot on Hole #3 and a Dino Shoot just outside the club house.

Hart Ford will be sponsoring the Win-A-Car with a Hole-in-One on the 18th hole and cash prizes will be awarded for the 1st Place team (\$400), 2nd Place team (\$300) and a Random place team (\$200). There is still time to register a team or make a donation...Contact Julie at (989) 821-5207 Ext. 291. Help support a great cause and take part in one of the oldest





## UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS:

### AUGUST 5th

Gerrish Fire/EMS Department OPEN HOUSE  
7:00 - 9:00 pm @ Gerrish Fire Station (next to the  
Gerrish Township Hall) FREE FAMILY MOVIE  
"Firehouse Dog" will begin at 9:00 pm (Dusk)

**Free drinks and candy provided during  
movie...bring a lawn chair or blanket, if weather  
is bad movie will be shown inside the large  
apparatus bay.**

**\* Kids Activities \* Tool Demonstrations \* Tours \*  
\* Car Seat Installations \* Sprinkler \* Hose Spray \***

### AUGUST 11th

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

### AUGUST 12th

ACT NOW Annual GOLF OUTING  
10:00 am @ Redwood Golf Course (Reg. at 9:00 am)

### AUGUST 26th

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



### *Law Enforcement TORCH RUN*

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2023**

*Starts at Gerrish Police Department and ends  
at South Higgins Lake State Park*

*5K Run/Walk/Bicycle Event to raise money for  
Special Olympics Michigan*

*Starts at 6:00 pm (Registration starts 5:00 pm)*

### **Fall ROAD CLEAN-UP**

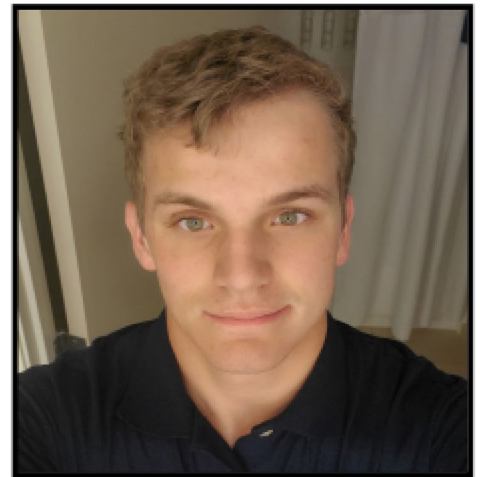
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2023**

*Meet at Gerrish Police Department at 4:00 pm  
Safety vests, bags, pokers, buckets, gloves will  
be provided. Pizza and pop served afterwards to  
all volunteers.*

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH ROAD CLEAN-  
UP, PLEASE CONTACT JULIE AT 989-821-5207  
EXT. 291 SO WE CAN ADD YOU TO THE LIST.**

## New Police Cadet for GTPD

On August 11th,  
the Gerrish Twp.  
Board approved  
the hire of  
Alexander Cole  
who will be a  
sponsored Cadet  
through the  
Kirtland Regional  
Police Academy.



GTPD will be paying for Alex to attend the Fall 2023 Kirtland Regional Police Academy that begins on August 14th and runs through December 8th, including wages and benefits through the assistance of a Public Safety Academy Assistance Program grant from MCOLES (Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards). Once Alex completes the Academy and passes all of the state required testing, he will be sworn in as a Certified Police Officer immediately after graduating from the Academy. He will then start a 20-week Field Training program with Officers from the Gerrish Twp. Police Dept. Chief Brian Hill has submitted his retirement date of June 16, 2024 to the Board and the Department and in preparation for a transitioning of staff within, Alex will fill the void of a Patrol Officer as command staff changes occur within the Department. Watch for more details as the Department will have many changes coming in the next year. Alex moved to Roscommon with his family from downstate Michigan in 2020. He looks forward to pursuing a career in law enforcement and first response as he is also a licensed EMT and Firefighter. He enjoys hiking and backpacking especially on the trail network at Hanson Hills. He also likes working on small electronics.