



GAPS NEWSLETTER

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



Welcome Jonah Schutte

The first part of November Jonah Schutte joined our Gerrish PD team as our new Lieutenant. Jonah grew up in Whittemore, MI and attended Whittemore-Prescott High School. After graduating from high school the attacks of 09/11 took place sparking a strong desire for him to serve and protect by becoming a Police Officer. Jonah attended Kirtland Community College and graduated from the KCC Regional Police Academy in 2004 with honors. He also was on Kirtland's Golf Team and ranked 275th in the nation in Division II NCAA Golf.

Jonah landed his first full-time job as a Police Officer here with the Gerrish Twp. PD in 2004. He was a member of the Gerrish Township Fire Department and served as our agency's Firearms Instructor, Taser Instructor, Accident Investigator and more. He was always engaged in the community and originated the ACT NOW Golf Outing and ATV Raffles. He played a key role in starting up our Gerrish Community Neighborhood Watch groups and received accommodations for an OWI Award, a Community Service Award and Distinguished Expert in firearms.

After serving our community for nine years, Jonah took a position with the Roscommon County Sheriff's Office. While there, he served for three years as their Community Police Officer starting programs such as their Youth Police Academy, Citizens Police Academy and National Night Out just to name a few. He also served as a full-time investigator for the Northern Michigan Children's

Assessment Center and received a Distinguished Service Medal from the Sheriff's Office. Jonah came back to the Gerrish Twp. Police Department accepting the promotional position of Lieutenant.



He enjoys all that our community has to offer and is proud to be able to raise his four children in our Roscommon Area Schools.

We welcome Jonah back to our Gerrish PD family and wish him the best in his new position.



*From All of Us
To All of You*
**HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON!**

WRAPPING PAPER DRIVE

We are currently collecting wrapping donations for our Shop With A Cop Program. New or partially used Christmas wrap can be dropped off at the Gerrish Twp. Police Department or the Gerrish Twp. Main Office. We will also gladly accept bows, bags, boxes and tape. We appreciate any donations and thank you for your support of this annual community program that began in 2002.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

DEC 5
ACT NOW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
10:00 AM @ GERRISH TWP. POLICE DEPT.

DEC 13
FOOD TRUCK DISTRIBUTION @
ROSCOMMON AREA SCHOOLS BUS GARAGE
10:00 AM UNTIL FOOD IS GONE

DEC 15
SHOP WITH A COP "WRAP PARTY"
5:00 PM @ GERRISH TWP. POLICE DEPT.

DEC 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

Merry Christmas

Fun Facts

- The first Christmas tree wasn't a tree at all, it was made of dyed goose feathers and came from Germany
- The first use of lights on a Christmas tree was in 1882 by a close friend of Thomas Edison
- The world's tallest Christmas tree was 221 feet high and displayed in a Washington shopping mall in 1950
- Turkey was not always the favorite food on Christmas Day, traditionally it used to be a pig head
- Santa Claus was first used by the company "Coca Cola" as a winter promotion
- "White Christmas" by Bing Crosby is the bestselling Christmas song of all time
- Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer was created by the department store Montgomery Ward as part of their Christmas promotions
- The song "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" was recorded in 1949
- Rudolph should be portrayed without antlers as male reindeer shed them in the winter
- In Japan, the most commonly eaten food on Christmas Day is fried chicken
- The earliest known Christmas decorations were apples

KIDS HELPING KIDS PROGRAM

This year ACT NOW and the Gerrish Twp. PD hosted the annual Kids Helping Kids Program and assisted 30 foster families and 73 foster youth in Roscommon and Ogemaw Counties that are placed by the Department of Health & Human Services. We would like to thank the committee members from DHHS, ACT NOW, Gerrish PD, Roscommon County Community Foundation, Roscommon Rotary & Interact and Houghton Lake Rotary & Interact that make this event a success every year!

We would also like to thank the financial partners/donors that contributed to the program this year: ACT NOW, Roscommon Rotary Club, Houghton Lake Rotary Club, RCCF "Schroeder Foundation Fund" & "Roscommon County Kellogg Youth Fund" & RCCF "Anonymous Fund."



Planning is underway for our 2025 Shop-With-A-Cop Program. The Gerrish Police Department along with ACT NOW have brightened the holiday season for 178 families, 290 adults and 601 children since 2002. The Roscommon Area Public Schools assists with the application process and those applicants are reviewed by GTPD Officers to make sure families meet the required criteria for the program. If selected, one child from each family goes with Officers to shop for gifts for the entire family. The gifts are kept at the Gerrish PD and wrapped by volunteers at our annual "Wrap Party" which will take place on Monday December 15th. We will be providing finger foods and beverages for all volunteers that attend the wrapping. If you would like to volunteer to wrap gifts, please contact Julie at (989) 821-5207 Ext. 291 or email jhill@gerrishpolice.org so we have an accurate head count. You can still make donations to this program which can be dropped off at the Gerrish PD or scan the QR code for a quick online pay link.

