

County Administrator's Digest

December 20, 2013

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SHOP WITH THE SHERIFF (Sheriff Rosema)

The Ottawa County Sheriff's Office held the fifth annual Shop with the Sheriff event on Dec 4, 2013 at the Grand Haven Wal-Mart. This year 20 Deputies volunteered shopping with 50 children chosen by the homeless youth liaison from Grand Haven Public Schools. The children were given a \$75 dollar gift card to shop for their families and themselves for Christmas.

Wal-Mart of Grand Haven hosted the event again this year along with donating money for the children to shop.

The Command Officers Association and Grand Haven Area Public Schools also contributed to make this event possible.

[Shop with the Sheriff Grand Haven Tribune Article and Photos](#)

[Shop with the Sheriff Holland Sentinel Article](#)

ANNUAL FILLMORE HOLIDAY PARTY (Shannon Felgner)

The Ottawa County Fillmore Staff held its Holiday Party on December 13. As part of the celebration, the County held a Cupcake Wars battle and a food drive. Departments were invited to create cupcake displays. Employees then "voted" for displays with cash and checks. Those feeling feisty could cast "negative votes" with five's, ten's and so on. Fiscal Services won the competition with 1,497 votes. District Court was second place with 1,009 votes. The big winners, however, were Love, Inc and Community Action House! A total of \$2,770 and several hundred pounds of food were donated to these charities. Thank you to everyone who came to the Holiday Party and to those who participated in Cupcake Wars. The creativity and the generosity shown by the employees and commissioners was more than we could have imagined. Blessings to all this holiday season. See the displays online: [Cupcake Wars Displays](#)



GO GREEN FOR THE HOLIDAYS: REDUCE WASTE & SAVE ENERGY (Kristina Wieghmink)**Go green for the holidays: Reduce waste & save energy**

Thousands of paper and plastic shopping bags end up in landfills every year. Reduce the number of bags thrown out by bringing reusable cloth bags for holiday gift shopping.

About 40 percent of all battery sales occur during the holiday season. Buy rechargeable batteries to accompany your electronic gifts, and consider giving a battery charger as well. Rechargeable batteries reduce the amount of potentially harmful materials thrown away, and can save money in the long run.

Turn off or unplug holiday lights during the day. Doing so will not only save energy, but will also help your lights last longer.

When buying gifts, check product labels to determine an item's recyclability and whether it is made from recycled materials. Buying recycled encourages manufacturers to make more recycled-content products available.

Check out Ottawa County Department of Public Health's**NEW Environmental Health Disposal Program booklet of services available to residents at**

<http://ow.ly/rwxPb> www.miOttawa.org/eco

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Winter Tips to help prepare for snow and ice storms.

<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/hi-winter.htm>

Shop for EnergyStar qualified gifts.

<http://www.energystar.gov/products>

GVMC WEEKLY UPDATE (John Weiss)

[Click here](#) for the most recent update.