



Trees for Tots 2015

Submitted by Lion Heidi Tice

November 2015 Fruitport Lions launched a new event called Trees for Tots, and Fruitport Leo had a Wreath for Ramp alongside.

The Trees for Tots event sold Christmas trees at the park with proceeds going to the Fruitport Lions Christmas giving program. Each year the Lions give either gifts or gift cards to families with children in the Fruitport Area that would have either no toys at Christmas or very little. The schools provide the Fruitport Lions with names of needy families, and the Lions go shopping. In 2015 we purchased \$7000.00 in gift cards for that purpose. Trees for Tots reached its goal of \$4000.00 to help defer that expense and keep the tradition going.

The Fruitport Leo club built a ramp last, in 2015, for a Fruitport resident that could not afford one, however, needed one. The purchase of materials for that ramp was donated by a given resident, while the club began money raising efforts for the next ramp. Wreath for Ramp is an event in which the proceeds help purchase material for their next ramp build. Each ramp cost between \$600-\$800 in material, with all labor donated. In 2015 the Wreath for Ramp event raised \$350.00 toward the Leo ramp project. The Club has other fundraisers such as Fruitport Old Fashioned Days Tee shirts that will be on sale throughout the Old Fashioned Days.

If you would like to help with any of these great fundraising events, come and visit the Fruitport Lions & Fruitport Leo Club at Fruitport Old Fashioned Days 2016 and the Trees for Tots and wreath sale during the months of November and December 2016. "We Serve."



Youth Assessment Survey

(Submitted by the Ottawa County Dept. of Public Health)

What is the YAS ?

- A locally developed teen survey since 2005.
- Conducted every two years at grades 8, 10 and 12 in participating Ottawa County schools.
- Monitors how behaviors increase, decrease or stay the same over time.
- Measures how many teens are engaged in a wide variety of both risky and beneficial behaviors that affect their health and well-being.

Why is the YAS important?

- Provides evidence-based information about what the biggest needs are (and aren't) among Ottawa County teens.
- Gives parents information they may use to guide their teens in becoming physically, emotionally and mentally healthy adults.
- Helps faith communities, local agencies and schools focus their efforts on the most pressing and prevalent issues teens say they face.
- Helps evaluate the effectiveness of interventions developed to address pressing and prevalent teen issues.
- Provides the option for school districts to have their own results to compare with Ottawa County's as a whole. Schools and parents may then make evidence-based decisions about how to address their student body's unique needs.
- Organizations and community members may request additional analysis that is suited to fit their needs.

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