



MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

From the desk of.... Sheriff Shaun Golden

APRIL 2019

VOLUME 2019, NUMBER 4

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MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE LEADS THE WAY IN AUTISM AWARENESS AS NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH IS COMMEMORATED

Every April the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office commemorates National Autism Awareness Month. To start, the staff kicks off the month by lighting it up blue to recognize the importance. From there, the effort continues to spread as the MCSO and partners in law enforcement promote awareness of the disorder.

At the helm of that effort is our Autism Awareness Coordinator Fran Hines. He trains members of law enforcement throughout Monmouth County, public safety telecommunicators, police academy recruits and staff at the MCSO, to

ensure they are equipped with information and understand the problems associated with autism in order to effectively assist an individual who needs help. Without this training, an individual's behavior can be misinterpreted. In addition to training, Hines initiates Project Lifesaver, a wristlet program which uses radio signals to track for individuals with autism or Alzheimer's disease if they wander and become missing.

There are presently 115 children with autism on the program.

Another program to help ensure the safety of special needs individuals is the Monmouth County Special Needs Registry, a partnership comprised of



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the MCSSO, Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office and Monmouth County Police Chiefs Association. The registry helps law enforcement and other emergency service personnel better assist residents with special needs by providing first responders with vital information about an individual.

As a result of the great need and importance of these two programs, the MCSSO was proud to hold the Autism, Project Lifesaver and Special Needs Registry 2nd Annual Forum, on World Autism Day, April 2. It brought together project lifesaver clients, family members, members of the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, Monmouth



County Prosecutors Office, Monmouth County Office on Aging and local law enforcement. The collaborative effort enabled us to provide, share and communicate information to special needs advocates and family members of special need individuals. It was a successful event that enabled us to connect with people and present them with the opportunity to learn about our programs, ask questions and share ideas.

Throughout the month, the MCSSO was also pleased to support some great school initiatives. As a result of fund raising efforts the Asbury Park School District presented a check to Project Lifesaver for \$2,400. The funds will be used to purchase additional equipment for the electronic monitoring program.

We also participated at the Bradley Elementary School's 5th Annual Bubbles for Autism event, and at Belmar Elementary School for World Autism Day.

As the Monmouth County Sheriff, and a board member of the Monmouth/Ocean Foundation for Children, we should all be proud of the strides we make in keeping Autism Awareness in the forefront, not only during National Autism Awareness Month, but always. It is because of those efforts that the MCSSO leads the way in Autism awareness.

Thank you all for the continued support.



VISIT MCSSO ONLINE:



WWW.MCSONJ.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS

5/3 SEEK 9-1-1, Middle Rd. School, Hazlet

5/7 Distracted Driving, Middletown Senior Center

5/11 National Police Week

5/15 Child Safety Seat Checkpoint, Monmouth County Garage, Freehold

5/17 Opioid Awareness Program, The College Achiever Charter School, Asbury Park

5/16 Bicycle Safety Program, Ocean Township Elementary School, Oakhurst

5/22 Monmouth County Police Academy Graduation, Brookdale Community College

5/27 Freehold Memorial Day Parade, Downtown Freehold

5/28 ACES 9-1-1, Keyport Senior Center

DID YOU KNOW:

Did you know the MCSO Office of Emergency Management staff has presented the STORM program to more than 3000 seniors and distributed 2500 STORM kits throughout Monmouth County?

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DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

April was also Distracted Driving Awareness Month and Sheriff Golden, who is committed to keeping drivers safe, wants all to take the proper precautions while behind the wheel.

That's why sheriff's officers routinely conduct the Distracted Driving program, Seconds that Could Change or End Your Life at high schools, senior centers and groups throughout Monmouth County.

On April 10 Sheriff's Officers Illiana Santos and Michelle Melendez presented the program to Monmouth County Courthouse volunteers during a recognition dinner in Neptune.

Texting and talking on a cell phone while driving is irresponsible. It takes the focus off of the roads and may have deadly consequences that otherwise could be avoided. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens 15 to 20 year old in the US, and according to the NHTSA, 3,166 people overall died in distracted driving crashes in 2017.

It's vital to practice these important safety tips and don't be a distracted driver.



DISTRACTED DRIVING

- Do not text or talk on your cell phones while driving. It's illegal.
- Ask whoever is riding with you to make a call or answer a text on your behalf.
- Limit the number of passengers, as well as the level of activity inside the car.
- Don't drive if you're tired. Make sure you get an adequate amount of sleep each night.
- Avoid eating, driving, drinking and putting on makeup while driving.
- Do your multi-tasking outside the car.
- If you use a GPS, don't try and enter an address or location coordinates while driving.
- Don't let your knees do the driving.

AWARENESS MONTH

PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK



The week of April 14 was the time to say thank you to all public safety telecommunicators for a job well done as Public Safety Telecommunicators week was recognized. On April 18 the Board of Chosen Freeholders commemorated the week by honoring the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office Communications Division's (PSTs) for outstanding work. A proclamation was presented to PST Angela Crotchfelt and PST Joshua Burns who accepted it on behalf of all the PSTs.

These dedicated men and women are the unsung and unseen heroes of public safety and play a critical role in saving lives, but all too often, that work goes unnoticed. Our public safety telecommunicators

deserve a great deal of acknowledgement for their continued efforts. Without their commitment, police officers, firefighters and EMTs across Monmouth County would not be able to perform their daily duties in a safe and effective manner.

The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office Communications Center is staffed with 117 employees, which includes 100 PSTs, 11 senior PSTs, five supervisors and one 9-1-1 coordinator. They answer 9-1-1 calls for 47 municipalities, Brookdale Community College, Monmouth University and Naval Weapons Station Earle, and, provide dispatch services for 23 police departments, 69 fire companies and 38 first aid squads. The Communications Division processes more than 750,000 calls annually.



OCEAN GROVE FIRE



Numerous resources assisted in the major fire in Ocean Grove on April 13, that began in a restaurant causing a roof to collapse and destruction to parts of the boardwalk Sheriff Golden, the MCSO's Office of Emergency Management team, it's EMS Task Force and the Monmouth County Fire Marshal were on scene along with the Medical Ambulance Bus and Field Comm to assist in operations and support firefighters, police and local EMS crews. A great job to all involved who fought the fire and maintained safety to the area.



SHERIFF JOINS MCPO TO ANNOUNCE LARGE SCALE DRUG RING



Sheriff Golden joined Monmouth County Prosecutor Christopher Gramiccioni on April 15 as they announced the culmination of a 16 month long drug trafficking investigation, with the assistance of many members of law enforcement, called 'Operation Finished Business'. A large scale heroin distribution ring in the Bayshore area.

MCSO PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKEBACK DAY



The MCSO leads the way in the fight against drugs and on April 27, participated in National Prescription Drug Takeback Day where a total of 53.7 lbs of unwanted and expired medication was collected.

Since the beginning of the year, the MCSO's Project Medicine Drop Box, the agency's permanent site, collected 240 pounds of unwanted medication. The drop box can be utilized daily at 2500 Kozloski Rd, Freehold.

FLAG FOOTBALL FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS

It was a beautiful day for a football game on April 7, especially when all were playing for a great cause. Members of the MCSO, along with law enforcement throughout the state, battled it out on the field in the fight against drug abuse during the first annual Shore Showdown Flag Football Tournament at Monmouth University,

The games were organized by the MCSO's PBA 314 and FOP 121. Proceeds raised from the teams were donated to Monmouth University Students in Recovery Club and other non-profit organizations and used for prevention, treatment and recovery support from addictions.



The MCSO's HOPE One Monmouth Mobile Unit, a vital asset in the fight against drug abuse, was also at the event to draw attention to and send a message of HOPE, through the services and programs offered to individuals with substance use disorder.

We thank all for the incredible support.

ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILL AT COURTHOUSE



An active shooter training exercise was held at the Monmouth County Courthouse on April 11. The event organized by the MCSO's Law Enforcement Division and Monmouth Vicinage, provided officers and judiciary staff an opportunity to train and test response to simulated real life scenarios.

Thanks to all the participants for helping to accomplish the purpose of the exercise aimed at enhancing skills and techniques. Additional participants included Aberdeen-Matawan CERT who acted as victims, members of the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office and the NJ Department of Homeland Security.



POLICE ACADEMY RECRUITS GOING STRONG



Basic fingerprinting was the topic at the Monmouth County Police Academy on April 11 where the history and process of fingerprinting were discussed through in class and hands on training, led by the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office.

Recruits were able to learn about the different types of imprints, the proper techniques to lift prints and how to locate and identify them,

Graduation day for recruits is May 22.

BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LUNCH AND LEARN



Sheriff Golden is always eager to mentor students who aspire to become law enforcement professionals. On April 26, the MCSO hosted a lunch and learn for Brookdale Community College students with an interest in criminal justice where they learned about the Law Enforcement, Communications and Corrections Divisions, toured operations and had a Q&A session with the sheriff and staff from agency divisions.



MCSO PARTICIPATES IN CAREER DAYS & JOB FAIRS



The MCSO was proud to participate in Monmouth County's Spring Job Fair on April 12 at Brookdale Community College, and at Monmouth University's Spring Career Day on April 2. Members of the Law Enforcement, Corrections and Communications Divisions spoke to students about career opportunities at the MCSO and why choosing a career in public safety is a great path to follow.

DARRYL BRECKENRIDGE SWORN IN AS UNDERSHERIFF



Sheriff Golden was proud to swear in Darryl Breckenridge as the Undersheriff of the MCSO's Law Enforcement Division. U/S Breckenridge was the Director of the Monmouth County Police Academy for three years. He did a superb job running the academy, which under his leadership and the hard work of staff attained National Accreditation in police training. Prior to being director, U/S Breckenridge worked in the Fair Haven Police Department, for many years, where he started out as a patrolman and worked his way up to chief. U/S Breckenridge is proud to lead the largest law enforcement agency in Monmouth County and eager to maintain and enhance public safety initiatives.

SHERIFF GOLDEN HONORED BY NJ REENTRY CORPORATION

Sheriff Golden was honored and humbled for the great recognition by the New Jersey Reentry Corporation for his vision and diligent work with individuals released from incarceration, through support and services. The event was held in Asbury Park on April 9, and attended by advocates of addiction services, members of the clergy, and state, county and local officials.

The non-profit organization, led by Gov. Jim McGreevey, is a proven

model in the state and assists individuals upon release from incarceration in job training, employment, addiction treatment, health and legal services and therefore reducing recidivism to create safer communities. The MCSO is proud to work closely with the corporation.

Since August 2018, 122 individuals from the Monmouth County Correctional Institution have been referred to NJ Re-Entry for integration back into society.



SHERIFF GOLDEN WELCOMES CORRECTIONS PARTNERS TO STARS



Sheriff Golden welcomed partners in corrections from across the river as staff from NYC Dept. of Correction visited and toured the Situational Training and Response Simulator (STARS) facility on April 2. They viewed the VirTra system where members of law enforcement train through virtual reality to fight real life crime to enhance public and officer safety, and toured a correctional housing unit for cell extraction drills, a domestic violence response training area, an active shooter area and a K-9 agility course.

MCSO HONOR GUARD PRESENTED COLORS AT VETERANS INTERMENT SERVICE



It's was a tremendous honor for the MCSO Honor Guard to present the colors at a Veteran's Interment Service for the unclaimed remains of seven veterans from WWI, WWII, the Korean War and one WWII spouse on April 11. The event led by the Missing In America Project and Vietnam Veterans NJ Shore Area Chapter 12 was held at the BG William C Doyle Veterans Cemetery in Wrightstown, NJ, where all were brought to their final resting place, with full military honors, to show they will never be forgotten for the sacrifices they made.

The MCSO is pleased to work with both organizations through our Veteran's Service Council, where staff members and representatives

from various veterans service organizations gather to discuss community outreach efforts to enhance much needed services to vets.

MCSO HOSTS SANJ MEETING

The Sheriffs' Association of New Jersey's monthly meeting was held at the MCSO on April 18 where sheriffs and undersheriffs throughout the state gathered to discuss and share law enforcement efforts, initiatives, legislation, ideas and programs to enhance safety and better serve the public.



JERSEY SHORE MARATHON



Great job to all the runners in the New Jersey Marathon & Half Marathon in Long Branch held on April 28, including Sheriff Golden and his team. A special thanks to all the first responders for providing security to ensure safety throughout the race. It's always a great day.



MCSO TOURS KEYPORT WALL LONGBRANCH



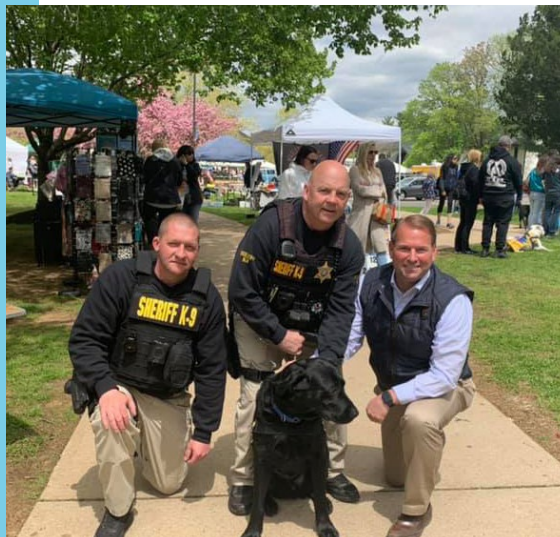
The MCSO hosted students from Keyport, Wall Township and Long Branch High Schools throughout the month of April where they learned about law enforcement, communications, corrections and toured operations.

PAWS FOR A CAUSE



It was a great event led by Monmouth University's Alpha Phi Sigma's Criminal Justice Honor Society as they raised money for the MCSO K-9 Unit during the 8th Annual Paws for a Cause on April 17, where K-9 demos were held and an overview of the unit was provided. Money raised will be used to purchase a K-9 bullet proof vest. This extreme generosity from Monmouth U and the public has helped keep our K-9s out of harm's way. They face dangerous situations regularly and the funds raised assist in their protection. We appreciate all the support throughout the years.

MCSO PARTICIPATES IN MCSPCA DOG WALK



The MCSO is always eager to attend Monmouth County SPCA events and on April 27 participated in their 25TH Anniversary Dog Walk and Pet Fair held at Brookdale Community College. Members of the K-9 unit held demos to support the great organization.

MCSO'S TAKE YOU CHILD TO WORK DAY

MCSO participated in Take Your Child to Work Day on April 25 and it was a great time for all.



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