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FROM THE DESK OF.... SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN

MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

MCSO SUPPORTS NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

April is National Autism Awareness Month, a time that holds major significance for the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, as we proudly recognize and promote this important cause. The main focal point of our efforts was held on April 27, when we kicked off the 7th Annual Autism Forum & Resource Fair at the MCSO. This educational platform continues to be one of the most informative and impactful ways to spread awareness about innovative approaches to supporting individuals with autism and their families. As a strong advocate for the special needs community and a board member of the New Jersey Monmouth Ocean Foundation for Children, I was honored to host this meaningful and well-attended event.

The forum featured a diverse panel of dedicated and passionate speakers who shared valuable perspectives and expertise. Among them were Monmouth County Commissioner Director Tom Arnone, who also serves on the board of the Monmouth Ocean Foundation for Children, and Monmouth County Prosecutor Raymond Santiago, who provided important insight into the Monmouth County Special Needs Registry, a tool designed to ensure first responders have critical information during emergencies involving individuals with special needs. Michele O'Shaughnessy, Director of the Division on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans Services, highlighted the wide range of resources available to the special needs community. Sheriff's Officers Patrick Luke delivered a detailed overview and live demonstration of Project Life-saver, a technology used to help locate individuals who may wander due to cognitive conditions such as autism. Donna Mazzella of Howell Township Schools provided valuable educational and emotional insight into supporting students on the autism spectrum while Ed Sidley, a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst with the SEARCH Day Program, shared his expertise on effective behavior intervention strategies. Additional presentations were from Chad Majczan, Monmouth Cares, Danielle Pietromonico, The Arc of Monmouth and S/O Daniel Tacopino.

The event was not only educational but also engaging. Participants had the opportunity to interact with representatives from various organizations, ask questions,



- INMATE LABOR
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and access important resources. Demonstrations added an interactive element to the day, including a K-9 tracking demonstration, as well as Project Lifesaver and drone presentations.

The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office is proud to host events that truly make an impact, and I commend everyone who played a role in its success. We also extend our sincere thanks to the Monmouth County Board of Commissioners for recognizing and supporting these efforts, a testament to our acknowledgment of our shared commitment. Let's look forward to continuing this important work to ensure Monmouth County remains a place where every individual feels valued, supported, and safe



NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

The MCSO celebrated National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, April 12 -18 and honored the dedicated professionals of the MCSO Communications Division. PSTs are the first point of contact during an emergency. They are the steady voices in moments of crisis, the unseen heroes who work around the clock to keep residents and communities safe. From dispatching emergency services to providing life-saving instructions, they are the backbone of public safety. The MCSO thanks these exceptional men and women for their unwavering commitment, professionalism, and compassion.



VISIT MCSO ONLINE:



WWW.MCSO.NJ.ORG

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MCSO PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKEBACK

Sheriff Golden thanks all who supported the MCSO's fight against drugs by participating in National Prescription Drug Takeback Day on April 25. As a result, the Drug Enforcement Administration collected 30 pounds of unwanted and expired medication that was dropped off at the Public Safety Center by residents in Monmouth County.

The public can continue to dispose of medications all year through the MCSO's Project Medicine Drop Box, the agency's permanent collection site, which can be utilized daily at 2500 Kozloski Rd, Freehold.



MEDSTAR EXPANDING SERVICES

The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office is expanding EMS operation, MedStar into Long Branch. A move that will strengthen emergency response, enhance public safety, and ensure that Long Branch residents receive the highest level of medical care. MedStar has proven to be a highly effective, professional, and compassionate service, with outstanding response times and lifesaving care delivered by our dedicated EMS professionals.

Since launching in February 2024, MedStar handled nearly 20,000 calls and transported over 13,000 patients, with average response times under six minutes.

MedStar currently serves 10 towns as primary and five more as backup, with this expansion further extending its reach.



MEDSTAR IS HIRING

Want to be a part of the MCSO's county run Emergency Medical Services Operation, MedStar?

Sheriff Golden is seeking additional full/part-time EMS professionals to join this dynamic team.

MedStar has highly trained EMTs who are dedicated to saving lives, by providing the highest level of care and professionalism.

The County of Monmouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

MCSO PARTICIPATES IN JOB FAIR

The MCSO is hiring and was pleased to meet with potential job seekers at the Monmouth County Job Fair held at Brookdale Community College, April 9.

Representatives from the Law Enforcement and Corrections Divisions as well as members of the MCSO EMS operation provided information about the agency and discussed potential future employment. The MCSO has a dynamic group of public safety professionals and offers competitive salaries and benefits packages.



MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

NOW Hiring

MEDSTAR IS EXPANDING
HIRING ADDITIONAL FULL-TIME EMTs & PART-TIME EMTs

Full Time \$55,000
Part Time & Seasonal \$28.50/hr

WE OFFER

- Competitive Salary
- 36 Hour Work Week for FT
- Paid Vacation
- Enrollment in (PERS) Pension
- Paid Training
- Benefits
- Continuing EMT Education Provided At No Cost

JOB REQUIREMENTS: MUST BE A CERTIFIED NJ EMT

MED STAR

WWW.MCSO.NJ.ORG/MEDSTAR
for more information contact: Medstarems@mcsnj.org
The COUNTY OF MONMOUTH is an Equal Opportunity Employer



MCSO STAFF MENTORS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AT JOB FAIR

Members of the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office were proud to participate in the career fair at Freehold Borough High School, April 29, where they had the opportunity to connect with students and share insight into careers in law enforcement and emergency services.

Throughout the event, staff engaged with students, answered questions, and offered guidance on the many rewarding paths within public safety.



SHERIFF WELCOMES ALL TO IMPORTANT EVENT HELD AT MCSO

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Sheriff Golden was proud to welcome all attending the 180 Turning Lives Around training held at the MCSO. The event brought together law enforcement professionals and a courageous survivor-speaker panel to help lead a meaningful discussion focused on strengthening the response to sexual violence.

This valuable training highlighted victim-centered, trauma-informed best practices and reinforced the importance of a coordinated community approach in supporting survivors and their loved ones. Attendees also received updates on the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) protocols and prevention efforts, ensuring we continue to provide compassionate and effective support to those in need.

Many thanks to CEO Liz Graham of 180 Turning Lives Around, the panel of experts, and the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office who work diligently to assist victims and hold those accountable for this heinous crime.



BLUE MASS

A meaningful and moving ceremony was held in honor of our fallen officers during the 24th Annual Blue Mass hosted by the Catholic Diocese of Trenton at St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, April 7.

Sheriff Golden, who serves as chairman of the Blue Mass Committee, and the MCSO were proud to support such a memorable and heartfelt occasion and extends its sincere appreciation to the Diocese for its unwavering commitment to recognizing and supporting law enforcement.

The ceremony serves as a powerful reminder of the courage, dedication, and selflessness displayed by our fallen heroes, whose legacies continue to inspire us each day.

It's also a time to recognize and thank all active and retired men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting others, and their families. Their service, sacrifice, support and commitment do not go unnoticed.



DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

April is 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. Texting and talking on a cell phone, eating, and putting on makeup while driving are all irresponsible actions. They take the focus off the roads and may have deadly consequences that otherwise could be avoided. Please don't engage in dangerous distracted driving behaviors and keep our roads safe.

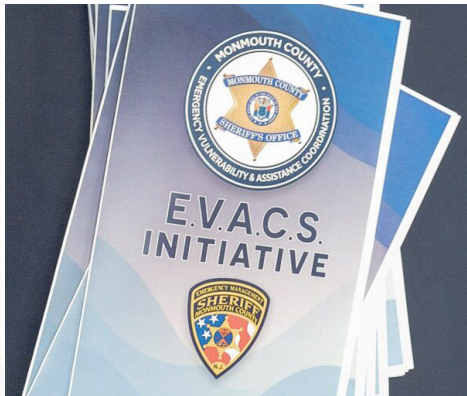


OEM PRESENTS EVACS

The MCSO's Office of Emergency Management was proud to present the Monmouth County Emergency Vulnerability & Assistance Coordination System, EVACS, program to seniors in Long Branch and Eatontown in April, to raise awareness about this important public safety initiative.

The EVAC program is designed to help first responders better assist individuals with access and functional needs during emergencies by providing confidential information. The program is free and voluntary.

For more information, visit: <https://www.mcsonj.org/evacs>



CERT TRAINING

The MCSO OEM CERT Team trained on damage assessment, using AI to simulate post storm impacts, April 15. Members practiced identifying damage and reporting it in real time using OEM software.

This hands-on training helps teams respond faster and support recovery efforts across the county. Sheriff Golden commends CERT for their ongoing commitment to preparedness.



GANG INTELLIGENCE PRESENTS TO OFFICERS

Members of Sheriff Golden's Gang Intelligence Unit presented Narcotic Criminal Enforcement Training for the New Jersey Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association (NJNEOA), equipping new officers with critical skills, April 10. The training focused on identifying and interacting with gang members, as well as using social media as a powerful investigative tool.

Special thanks to MCSO Correctional Police Officers Dennis Cleary and Carlos Pineiro for their dedication and expertise. They are a great team, making a difference in the lives of our youth when it comes to gang prevention and awareness.



MCSO PRESENTS DANGER OF STRANGERS

Students from the Yeshiva Keter Torah School in Eatontown were made aware of and reminded about the Dangers of Strangers through the MCSO's child safety program, April 14. S/O's Eithan Hamber and Jasmin Colon presented the program and taught children what to do if a stranger tries to engage them in conversation, whether on the street, on the telephone, when home alone or on the internet.

This program along with the other numerous public safety programs of the MCSO helps keep children out of harm's way and plays an important role in building awareness at a young age.



BROOKDALE STUDENTS TOUR MCSO

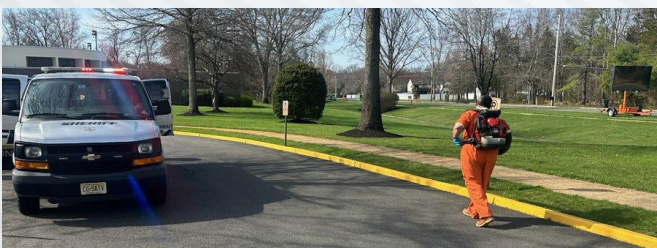
Sheriff Golden is always pleased to welcome Prof. Dave D'Amico and students from his Brookdale Community College class (Police Role in Community) to the MCSO. This month Professor D'Amico's classes visited the MCSO several times where students were provided with an overview of the agency and operations, K-9 demonstrations and tours of the public safety center and STARS facility.



INMATE LABOR

The MCSO Inmate Labor crew from the Monmouth County Correctional Institution kicked off the season by getting the grounds ready at St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral in Freehold for the 24th Annual Blue Mass. Then it was off to the historic Oakley Farmhouse in Freehold. Each year inmates visit the farmhouse to work on maintenance and upkeep to the grounds and house.

Sheriff Golden is proud of this collaborative effort of Monmouth County resources which help ensure that our communities, roadways, beaches, and historic landmarks are maintained at no expense to taxpayers. This shared service is a cost savings to towns and helps re-integrate individuals back into society.



MONMOUTH COUNTY PREPARES FOR 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Sheriff Golden was proud to host the final Monmouth250NJ Summit for municipalities, led by Monmouth County Clerk Christine Hanlon and Commissioner Director Tom Arnone. Some great information was shared as Monmouth County prepares for the celebration of America's 250 Anniversary. Thanks to all who attended and we look forward to celebrating this huge milestone.



MCSO PROMOTIONAL & RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Sheriff Golden was proud to honor staff from the MCSO on their achievements that help maintain safety in Monmouth County during the MCSO Promotional & Recognition Ceremony, April 21. This special event highlights the commitment, professionalism and hard work demonstrated across all divisions at the MCSO.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

Sheriff Golden and the MCSO are grateful for the invaluable contributions of our dedicated volunteers and recognize all during National Volunteer Week, held April 19-25.

From our VISCOMP (Volunteers in Sheriff's Community Programs) to members of the outstanding Community Emergency Response Team, CERT, their commitment to service and selflessness truly make a difference.

Those efforts of assisting during emergencies, providing vital support at events, or working to enhance public safety initiatives do not go unnoticed.



EARTH DAY

Earth Day was April 22. Sheriff Golden and the MCSO encouraged all to celebrate by taking the time to appreciate the beautiful surroundings and be grateful for all nature has to offer.

