



FROM THE DESK OF.... SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN

MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

LAW ENFORCEMENT RECRUITS GRADUATE MONMOUTH COUNTY POLICE ACADEMY



As we look forward to our 341st Anniversary as the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, I thank each of you for your dedication to public safety, and service to the residents and visitors our county. Each one of you, with the support of your families, have an integral part in making the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office the premier, and most accredited, public safety agency in Monmouth County, with five national accreditations. We are a symbol of professional excellence and I'm grateful to have such loyal employees as we work together on new safety initiatives and programs in 2024.

The MCSO proudly ended the year with a ceremony at Brookdale Community College as 43 newly sworn in law enforcement officers graduated from the Monmouth County Police Academy. The graduation included 28 recruits of the 105th Basic Course for Police Officers and 15 recruits from the 56th Basic Course for Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers who all received their Police Training Commission certificates.



- LAW ENFORCEMENT RECRUITS GRADUATE MONMOUTH COUNTY POLICE ACADEMY
- WELCOME NEW RECRUITS AND CONGRATS TO RETIREES
- MCSO ANNOUNCES PASSING OF K-9 GUNNER
- MCSO RETIRES RENOWNED SKYE IN STYLE
- COFFEE WITH COPS
- CPOs HELP MAKE HOLIDAYS BRIGHTER FOR THOSE IN NEED
- K-9s PATROL SHOPPING AREAS TO MAINTAIN SAFETY DURING SEASON
- SHOP WITH A COP
- TOY DRIVES
- WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
- VETERANS SERVICE COUNCIL GRATEFUL FOR SUPPORT
- CERT TRAINING
- MONMOUTH COUNTY EMPLOYEE AWARDS BREAKFAST
- SHERIFF ADDRESSES RESIDENTS AT SEABROOK
- MCSO TOURS

- **MADE IN MONMOUTH**
- **CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS SAFELY**
- **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

These fine men and women demonstrated their commitment to law enforcement by persevering and successfully completing intense training. Becoming a member of law enforcement is a great privilege since there is no higher responsibility than maintaining the public safety of our residents and communities. Their accomplishments are commended for a job well done.

Both law enforcement classes, which were combined, consisted of 22 weeks with more than 800 hours of training run through the Monmouth County Police Academy. Upon successful completion of the police training commission approved curriculum, the officers were well prepared to serve their respective law enforcement agencies. The recruits were committed and worked hard but didn't achieve this goal alone. The exceptional staff of the Monmouth County Police Academy instructed and encouraged the officers during their intense training. There's no doubt the instructors' guidance and leadership will help them embark on successful careers in law enforcement.

God bless all our first responders.



WELCOME NEW RECRUITS & CONGRATS TO RETIREES

On Dec. 12, the MCSO held a special ceremony of its own as fifteen sheriff officers took the oath of office. Three S/Os were graduates from the Monmouth County Police Academy, three others will enter the academy in January and the remaining nine S/Os are from other public safety agencies. In addition, correctional police officers began training at the Monmouth County Police Academy on Dec. 18, and upon completion of the 42nd Basic Course for County Correctional Police Officers, will work at the Monmouth County Correctional Institution.

As officers begin their careers others are coming to an end. On Dec. 14, the Monmouth County Board of Commissioners recognized three members of the Law Enforcement Division and five members from the Corrections Division who are retiring. Sheriff Golden wishes all the best of luck and thanks the retirees for their service.



VISIT MCSO ONLINE:



WWW.MCSO.NJ.ORG

CONTACT US

Cynthia Scott

Phone: 732-431-6400 x1113

Email: cscott@mcsonj.org



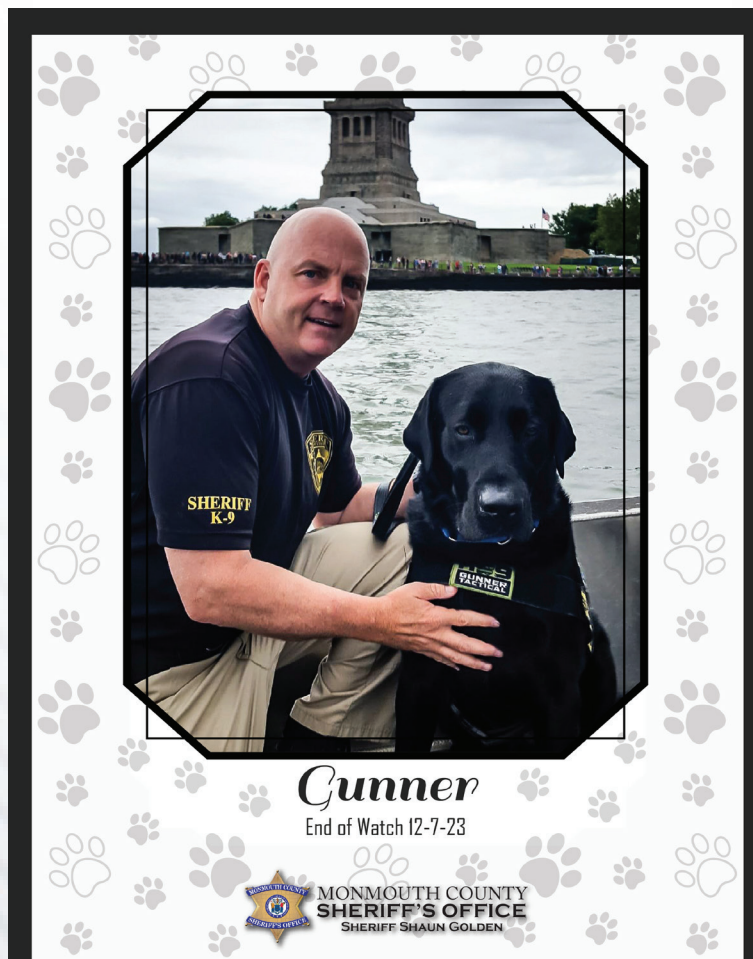
MCSO ANNOUNCES PASSING OF K-9 GUNNER

It is with deep regret that the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office announced the passing of K-9 Gunner, beloved partner of Sgt. Kurt Kroeper. The nine-year-old Labrador retriever, who specialized in narcotics detection, passed away unexpectedly on December 7, after being diagnosed with cancer, one week before he was scheduled to retire.

Gunner was an outstanding member of the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit. He had an important role in combatting the proliferation of drugs in Monmouth County. Throughout the course of Sgt. Kroeper and Gunner's career, an excess of more than three million dollars in cash was seized, a result of numerous drug investigations. The K-9 team also located a significant amount of narcotics including heroin, cocaine and marijuana, which led to the arrests of hundreds of individuals.

One week after Gunner's passing, the Board of County Commissioners recognized Dec. 14, 2023 as K-9 Gunner Day and Sgt. Kurt Kroeper was commended by Sheriff Golden for the team's years of hard work and service.

We thank Gunner for his commitment and dedication to serving Monmouth County. His loss has been felt throughout the county and is missed by all.



MCSO RETIRES RENOWNED SKYE IN STYLE

Sgt. Kroeper also had another partner in combatting crime and her name is Skye. For nearly ten years K-9 Skye has certainly been barking up the right tree as one of the most valuable Bloodhounds in the State of New Jersey, with a nose for sniffing out crime. After serving the residents of Monmouth County since 2014, Skye hung up her harness on Dec.15 as Sheriff Shaun Golden and the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office celebrated her and Sgt. Kurt Kroeper's years of success, with a walkout on the trail to retirement.

Skye was nationally certified and had an exceptional career. She and Sgt. Kroeper were called into service more than 1000 times. Through tracking and trailing, the team assisted the sheriff's office and local police departments in apprehending criminals and locating missing persons, such as children and individuals with Alzheimer's disease. Skye also participated in record breaking K-9 demonstrations in Monmouth County, had her picture taken with more people than Santa and no doubt melted many hearts.

We thank Skye for her tremendous loyalty, service and dedication to the job. She will be missed.



COFFEE WITH COPS

Sheriff's Officers held their last Coffee with Cops and Conduct of the year at Brookdale Community College on Dec. 13, where they are always eager to meet and greet students, faculty and staff. Those who attended got quite a treat, they not only met Sheriff Officers but members of the K-9 Unit, who also work very hard to protect our communities.

Sheriff Golden leads law enforcement and public safety functions at Brookdale and is proud of this great partnership.



CPOs HELP MAKE HOLIDAYS BRIGHTER FOR THOSE IN NEED

The MCSO Corrections Division is most proud to work with the RAINE Foundation which assists children and families in need from the Bayshore area. On Dec. 19 our correctional police officers once again geared up to help deliver gifts to ensure each child has one to open on Christmas. Every year these dedicated CPO's assist with collecting gifts and travel from home to home putting a smile on a child's face. They are honored to be a part of this wonderful event which truly defines what Christmas is all about. Sheriff Golden thanks all for their continued commitment and compassion of this great cause throughout the holidays to help families in times of need.



K-9S PATROL SHOPPING AREAS TO MAINTAIN SAFETY DURING SEASON

The MCSO K-9s have been busy walking the beat and working the rounds at the malls to ensure safety this time of year. They also took a break to spread some holiday cheer to shoppers and even managed to slip away to let Santa know they would like to find a big bag of bones under the tree.



SHOP WITH A COP

Sheriff's Officers along with partners in law enforcement were so proud to participate in Shop With a Cop at Walmart in Neptune on Dec. 16, as they walked around with children and their families picking out the perfect gifts. The event symbolizes how the holidays are all about the spirit of giving.

Sheriff Golden thanks all for participating and spreading holiday cheer.



TOY DRIVES

The MCSO's Toys for Tots collection site was a great success and as a result lots of toys were donated to local families in need. On Dec. 15, Sheriff's Officers transported collected toys and dropped them off at a warehouse in Neptune to be distributed to various organizations. The holiday season is about giving, and because of the efforts of volunteers and the MCSO's PBA 314 Toys for Tots drive, less fortunate children will have presents to unwrap this Christmas.

Sheriff Golden thanks all who supported Marine Toys for Tots Foundation with a special thanks to the Monmouth County Clerk's Office, the Fairhaven Education Association and the Culinary Education Center in Asbury Park.



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

The annual Wreaths Across America ceremony was held at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation in Holmdel Dec. 13, where wreaths were laid to remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach our children the value of freedom.

Wreaths Across America is a six-day nationwide event held at more than 2500 locations where wreaths are laid at cemeteries and remembrance sites. A caravan of participants began their journey in Maine and ended at Arlington National Cemetery for Wreaths Across America Day on Saturday, Dec. 16.

Sheriff Golden and the MCSO will never forget all of those who have died for our freedom and those who serve.



VETERANS SERVICE COUNCIL GRATEFUL FOR SUPPORT

The MCSO Veterans Service Council is extremely grateful to the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners for their unwavering support of veterans, and, in appreciation, presented them with a plaque on Dec. 13. Mike Ferraro, MCSO Veteran's Service Officer, and the Vietnam Veterans NJ Shore Area Chapter 12 which is a part of the Veterans Service Council, thanks the board for supporting their efforts, particularly the Military Honors for Forgotten Veterans cremains event.



CERT TRAINING

The MCSO's OEM Community Emergency Response Team, CERT, held its monthly training On Dec. 6 which included familiarizing the team with activating the Emergency Operations Center, the set up of an emergency phone bank and distribution of emergency supplies.

CERT trains monthly to ensure members will be ready to assist should an emergency or disaster occur.

Sheriff Golden commends all for their great efforts.



MONMOUTH COUNTY EMPLOYEE AWARDS BREAKFAST

The MCSO is proud of its staff who day in and day out are committed to maintaining the safety of our residents of Monmouth County. Many of them have been working at the MCSO for numerous years and were honored along with other county employees for 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of dedicated service, during the Monmouth County Employee Service Awards Breakfast, Dec. 1.

Sheriff Golden congratulates all and particularly acknowledges the MCSO's staff from the Law Enforcement, Corrections and Communications Divisions for their years of service. Great job to all.



SHERIFF ADDRESSES RESIDENTS AT SEABROOK

Sheriff Golden thanks Seabrook Erickson Senior Living for inviting him to be the guest speaker at the men's breakfast on Dec. 11, where he presented an overview of the MCSO and highlighted the Law Enforcement, Corrections, Communications and the Special Operations Divisions. Important topics he also spoke about included the fight against drugs, Monmouth County's response to Superstorm Sandy and the Monmouth County Special Needs Registry.



MCSO TOURS

The MCSO had some great school visits in December. Sheriff Golden takes pride in welcoming and mentoring students and future leaders in law enforcement. Schools that visited included Monmouth Regional High School, Manalapan High School, Freehold Township High School and the Academy of Law and Public Safety.



MADE IN MONMOUTH

Sheriff Golden was proud to be a part of the Made in Monmouth holiday event on Dec. 9, coordinated by the Monmouth County Board of Commissioners and held at Brookdale Community College. It's important to promote, support and shop local Monmouth County businesses.



CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS SAFELY

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS SAFELY

If you see someone about to get behind the wheel or on a motorcycle after they have been drinking, take their keys and find them a ride with someone who is sober.

Under no circumstances should adults provide alcohol to a minor or allow anyone under 21 to consume alcohol while at their home.

Before going out, designate a driver who will not consume any alcohol the entire night.

Do not drive if you are impaired. Call an Uber, a cab, a sober friend or family member.

If you don't have a ride, stay where you are. If you live nearby, do not attempt to walk or ride a bicycle home.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Happy
Holidays



MONMOUTH COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN