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FROM THE DESK OF.... SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN

MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

SHERIFF STRESSES HOLIDAY SAFETY



Hope all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. It marks the beginning of the most joyous season celebrated with family and friends. Here at the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, safety is always of the utmost importance and this time of year is no exception.

While people gather to celebrate throughout the season, there will be an increase of travelers on the roadways. As a result, the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, along with partners in law enforcement, will be putting the brakes on drunk drivers by participating in the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign to keep roadways safe and free from drunk drivers. If you are going to drink, don't drive, it's as simple as that. Patrols are being increased and sobriety checks will be set up throughout Monmouth County where motorists will be stopped to maintain safety.

The national "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" holiday campaign is a nationwide effort to raise awareness about the dangers of impaired driving through enforcement and education and lasts throughout the month of December to January 1.

In New Jersey, an individual is considered over the legal limit if he/she operates a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol level concentration of .08 or greater. In an effort to avoid presenting a danger to oneself or others, it's important to follow these safety tips:

- 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 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.

- INMATE LABOR
- MCSO PARTICIPATES IN A WALK IN THEIR SHOES
- CONGRATS TO CLERK HANLON
- GIS DAY
- MCSO TOURS

There is also a tremendous increase of shoppers during this time of year and it's important to not be careless or look vulnerable while shopping.

The best way for shoppers to stay safe and not become a victim of theft, is by using a common sense and a cautious approach. Also, if you are going to shop online be aware of porch pirates.

By applying these important initiatives, we can all help ensure a safe, secure, and happy holiday season in Monmouth County.



TIS THE SEASON TO GIVE

Even though the Monmouth County Police Academy recruits are in intense training, they haven't forgotten that this season is all about giving, and made a generous donation to Fulfill on Nov. 21. The 105th Basic Class for Police Officers along with the 56th Basic Class for Special Law Enforcement Officers II class collected 528 pounds of food to assist those in need.

The giving didn't stop there for the MCSO, four Sheriff Officers assisted the Immanuel Bible Church in Howell on Thanksgiving Day to serve dinner to 80 veterans from Soldier On, a housing facility in Tinton Falls for vets who are transitioning from being homeless. Great job to S/Os John Lee, Doug Marino, Liz Imbriacco and Brandon Pilecki.

VISIT MCSO ONLINE:



WWW.MCSO.NJ.ORG

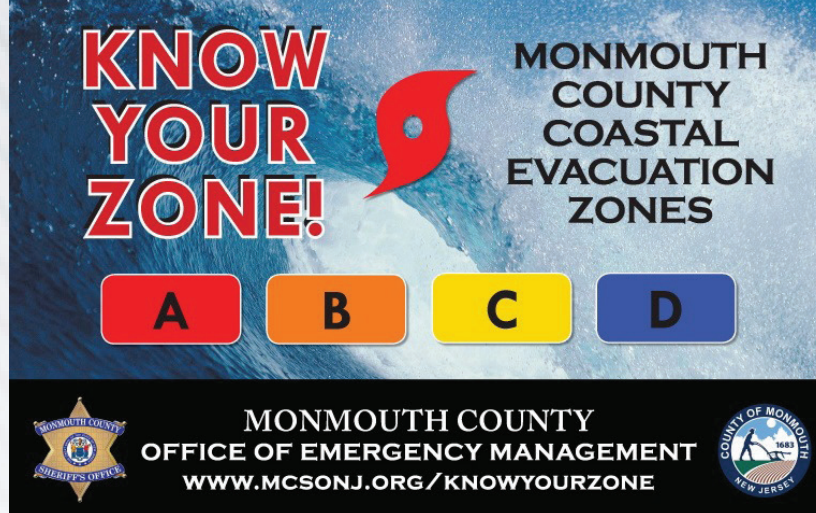
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HURRICAN SEASON COMES TO AN END

The last day of hurricane season was Nov. 30. There were 21 named storms and thankfully the ones that made landfall were not close to NJ. The MCSO's thoughts remain with those who dealt with, and continue to deal with, the devastation from damaging hurricanes of 2023. Even though the season is over, Sheriff Golden says it's important to always have a plan, be prepared, stay informed and Know Your Zone www.mcsonj.org/ready. Also, download the MCSO App for the latest emergency weather related information.

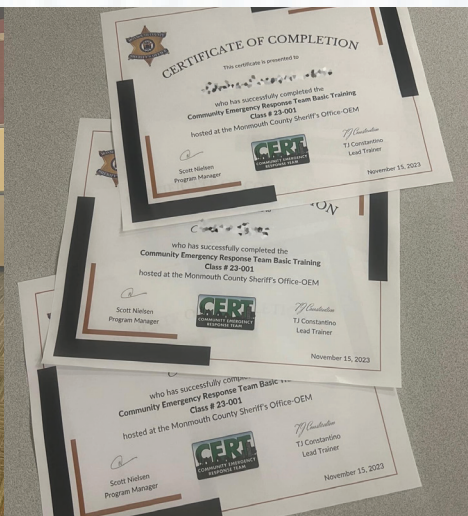
OEM REVIEWS SHELTER PLANS

The MCSO is always preparing and on Nov. 2, staff from OEM, the Monmouth County Health Department, and Brookdale Community College officials reviewed Monmouth County disaster shelter plans and discussed logistics and shelter layout. This is a great partnership and coordinated effort to ensure safety in the event of an emergency.



CERT COMPLETES TRAINING

After seven sessions, the MCSO OEM Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) completed their basic training on Nov. 15, ending with the topic of homeland security presented by MOCERT Commander Bernard "Bernie" Fowler. Sheriff Golden is proud to now have 24 trained CERT members available throughout Monmouth County to assist with emergencies and disasters. Moving forward, CERT will meet and train monthly and be ready to assist during emergencies as needed. Those interested in becoming CERT Team members should keep an eye out for course announcements in early 2024.



MCSO PARTICIPATES IN MARITIME SECURITY EXERCISE

Members of the MCSO's Law Enforcement Division participated in an important Maritime Security Exercise on Nov. 1, led by the FBI - National Joint Terrorism Task Force, which included Police/Fire, K9 Teams and Marine units from federal, state and local agencies. Locations were at Liberty State Park in Jersey City and the United States Coast Guard in Bayonne.

Sheriff Golden is proud that the MCSO K-9 Teams and members of Marine 1 participated in this important exercise. K9s were familiarized with different types of vessels and challenged in their scent discipline, where multiple buildings and structures were used for hides.



SHERIFF THANKS MEMBERS OF MARINE ONE

Now that the boating season is over, Sheriff Golden thanks the MCSO's Marine 1 team for a great job in maintaining safety on the waterways. Marine 1 works diligently, responding to incidents throughout the summer and fall season.

Sheriff Golden appreciates our Marine 1 team for their commitment and dedication.



SHERIFF HONORED AT VETERANS APPRECIATION CEREMONY

This past Veterans Day, Sheriff Golden was proud and honored to be a part of the Veterans Appreciation Ceremony held by CentraState Healthcare System. The sheriff was recognized for his unwavering support of veterans through the MCSO's Veterans Service Council and the Military Honors For Forgotten Veterans ceremony, which CentraState participated in. We thank CentraState for the great recognition and for honoring 33 veterans from the community.

As always, the MCSO salutes all veterans for the service, bravery and commitment they have made to protect us and our country. The MCSO is particularly proud to have veterans from the agency dedicated to serving.



MCSO FLAG BURNING CEREMONY

Veterans Day is a reminder of the sacrifices many have made for our freedom. That's why Sheriff Golden was proud to retire approximately 2000 flags, with dignity and respect, during the MCSO's American Flag Retirement ceremony at the Monmouth County Fire Academy on Nov. 9.

The MCSO thanks the Vietnam Veterans NJ Shore Area Chapter 12 for their support and the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore for properly honoring our flags during the event.

The MCSO Flag Dropbox is located outside of the front entrance at the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, 2500 Kozloski Road in Freehold and can be utilized seven days a week.



MILITARY FAMILY APPRECIATION MONTH

November was not only a time to appreciate veterans but also military families as Military Family Appreciation Month was commemorated.

They stand behind our brave service members, provide tremendous support, and sacrifice so much. This month the MCSO took the opportunity to express deepest gratitude, with a special acknowledgement to the military families of the MCSO.

You are all appreciated.



MCSO RECOGNIZES NATIONAL ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

November was also National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness month and Sheriff Golden and the MCSO work hard to provide programs and initiatives that assist in maintaining the safety and wellbeing of individuals with Alzheimer's Disease. An important program at the MCSO is Project Lifesaver which helps locate individuals through radio signals that track people with Alzheimer's disease and autism when they wander and become missing.

Project Lifesaver is a critical lifesaving tool. There are currently 174 individuals on the Project Lifesaver program in Monmouth County, with 35 adults and 139 juveniles. Each radio transmitter worn by an individual has a unique frequency. From January 2021 to date the MCSO has had 26 Project Lifesaver activations. The MCSO also works closely with the Monmouth County Prosecutors Office on the Monmouth County Special Needs Registry, where families register loved ones with special needs, for first responders to respond in the safest and most efficient way.



GUEST SPEAKER ADDRESSES RECRUITS ON AUTISM AWARENESS

Sheriff Golden and staff at the Monmouth County Police Academy were proud to have Alex Mann serve as a guest speaker for the recruit class during a presentation on "Handling Individuals with Special Needs" on Nov. 13.

Alex is autistic and a huge supporter of law enforcement, who routinely tours public safety agencies and learns all about operations. Alex's journeys have taken him to five states, the furthest being California. He has visited 450 police departments including the MCSO and is always ambitious and eager to meet with members of law enforcement.

The MCSO thanks Alex for his continued support of law enforcement.



COFFEE WITH COPS

It was time for the monthly "Coffee with Cops and Conduct" at Brookdale Community College on Nov. 8, where sheriff's officers were eager to meet and greet students, faculty and staff. Those who attended got quite the 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.

The next event will be held on December 13 at 11:45am at Brookdale.



NO SHAVE NOVEMBER

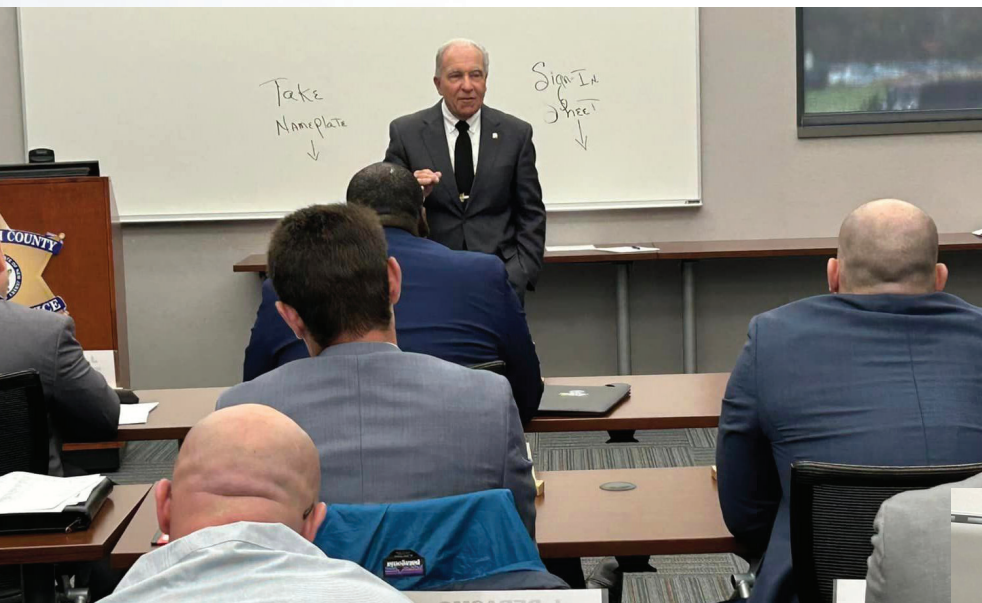
Things got a bit hairy at the MCSO in November as sheriff's officers, correctional police officers and public safety telecommunicators took a break from shaving to participate in No Shave November. This is a great charitable effort where a total of 6000 dollars was raised through the law enforcement, corrections and communications divisions and was donated to help fund cancer research and prevention. Sheriff Golden is proud of all for their dedication to such a worthy cause.



UNDERSHERIFF FREEMAN LEADS MOI INSTRUCTION

The Methods of Instruction class led by Undersheriff Ted Freeman began Nov. 16 at the MCSO Public Safety Center. Those participating in the six day course were from the MCSO, the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office, Old Bridge and Howell PDs.

MOI is an intense course approved by the NJ Police Training Commission for those who plan to teach at police academies or their law enforcement agencies.



INMATE LABOR

The MCSO Inmate Labor crew and members of Hazlet Township Clean Communities participated in a cleanup to remove debris from a large track of public land in the township on Nov. 27. Used tires, trash, fencing, and numerous industrial construction materials from the land were removed. The Inmate Labor program is a cost savings to towns and helps re-integrate individuals back into society.



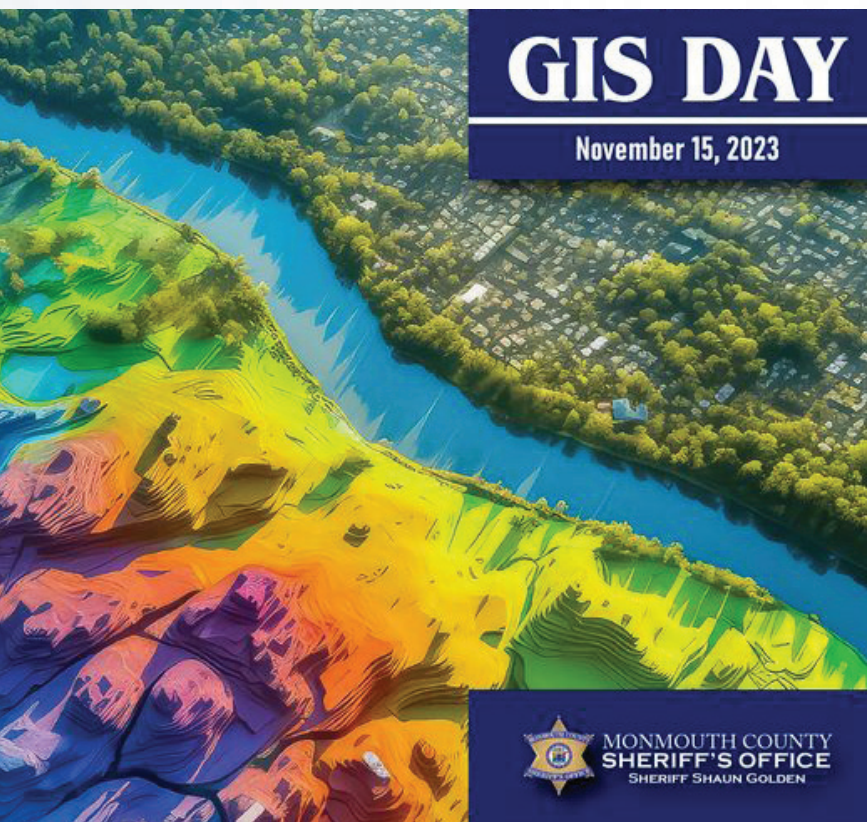
MCSO PARTICIPATES IN A WALK IN THEIR SHOES

Sheriff Golden's Team Monmouth walked the Asbury Park Boardwalk along with members of the Ocean County Sheriff's Office for a great cause on Nov. 5 during Ocean's Harbor House's Annual A Walk in Their Shoes, which spreads awareness on youth homelessness and raises money to help provide shelter, programs and services to young adults and teenagers in need. We thank all for the tremendous support.



CONGRATS TO CLERK HANLON

A well-deserved honor for Monmouth County Clerk Christine Hanlon as she became the recipient of the 2023 Golden Osprey Award for Outstanding Chamber Service from the Jersey Shore Chamber of Commerce on Nov. 16. The award is presented to an individual who continually supports the chamber of commerce and its mission, and who works tirelessly to better their community. Sheriff Golden was proud to be a part of the event.



GIS DAY

The MCSO recognized GIS Day on Nov. 15 which celebrates technology of Geographic Information Systems. The MCSO has a GIS Department under IT which works with 9-1-1 Communications & Emergency Management to create maps and products that enhance its mission.

MCSO TOURS

The MCSO had some great school visits in November. Sheriff Golden takes pride in welcoming and mentoring students and future leaders in law enforcement. Schools that visited were Brookdale Community College, Monmouth University, Monmouth Regional, Colts Neck and Freehold High Schools.

