



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA POLICE

# CHIEF'S CORNER

**APRIL 2024**

I hope everyone is happy that Spring (and the Red Sox) are back.

For the month of April, the Department will be selling special patches and stickers to recognize Autism Acceptance Month. Proceeds will be donated to the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation, which strives to support and empower those with autism.

Autism is a neurodevelopmental disorder that affects how people communicate and interact with others and the world around them.

Chances are you know someone living on the autism spectrum; many people lead full and productive lives.

While we participate in many fundraising events during the year, this event is special to the Department. Several officers have family members who live along the autism spectrum.

We are aware of the challenges they face and share in their successes, so we are grateful to all in our community who will help us support them.



Patches and stickers cost \$10 each. They may be ordered [here](#). A limited number will be available in the police station lobby.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me.

Be safe!



**SINCERELY,  
CHIEF  
FITZGERALD**

10 Central St.,  
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<https://manchestermapd.com/>



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## JANUARY 2024

Emergency management plays an important role in keeping our residents and community safe. An emergency response is not just a prolonged power outage or localized flooding; most work is done behind-the-scenes on threat prevention, protection, and mitigation. A public emergency can be localized and short-term, or worldwide and ongoing (think “COVID-19 pandemic”).

The town Emergency Management Team – I as Emergency Management Director, Fire Chief James McNeilly, Public Health Agent Wendy Hansbury, Town Administrator Greg Federspiel, and the Select Board – regularly review and update emergency protocols to ensure we are able to serve the entire community. We maintain strong relationships with Town departments, the Manchester Essex Regional School District, and non-government agencies that can provide vital support.

The Town also is a member of the North Shore-Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition, with members from 15 communities who discuss challenges and responses.

Our current focus is ensuring plans for our emergency shelter operation, hosted at Manchester Essex Regional High School, are up-to-date and represent best practices.

The Town also is in discussion with other North Shore and Cape Ann communities to plan a regional emergency shelter than open during a widespread, statewide, or national incident.



and Cape Ann communities to plan a regional emergency shelter that can open during a regional, statewide, or national incident. You can play a key role as well. Throughout the year the MPD news blog shares proactive measures to protect as simple as building an emergency kit. You also can help during a crisis by staying informed and following local instructions.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me.



**SINCERELY,  
CHIEF  
FITZGERALD**

**Contact us:** 978.526.1212

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## NOVEMBER 2023

This is the season for good food, good times, and the holiday spirit.

It's also the season for porch pirates.

As quickly as a delivery driver can drop off a package, a thief can steal it.

According to the National Neighborhood Watch, nearly one in four adults in the United States has reported having a package stolen at least once.

Here are a few ways you can protect your deliveries:

- Set up notifications to track packages
- Consider getting a P.O. box or having packages delivered to your office
- Require a signature upon delivery to ensure packages are never left unattended
- Reschedule delivery or ask for a package hold when on vacation
- Ask your neighbors to take your packages for safekeeping until you return home
- Install a security camera in the area(s) outside your home where packages may be delivered
- Research potential home security technology and locking device options to protect and monitor packages
- Sign up for the U.S. Postal Service "Informed Delivery" service to receive a daily email with a picture/scan of the mail you will receive that day.

**Contact us:** 978.526.1212



If you believe a package has been stolen, contact the delivery company, then contact us immediately. Please give us a copy of any security camera video.



On behalf of the men and women of the Manchester-by-the-Sea Police Department, we wish you a safe and happy holiday season!

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**OCTOBER 2023**

I hope everyone has had a safe October.

Earlier this month we received a \$10,000 grant from the North Shore Health Project as part of the POST Overdose Aftercare Program. This grant supports a number of projects such as purchasing Narcan for our officers and community; professional development about addiction, overdose, and harm reduction; and community outreach.

We also are considering installing overdose emergency kits in public areas.

We partner with the Lahey Behavioral Health and Essex Police on an overdose and mental health follow-up team. Sgt. Stephen Louf heads the unit, which includes Lahey professionals and representatives from One Stop, a free prevention and screening service. We continually work to improve how we interact with those who have mental health or substance misuse challenges.

We used to be called "law enforcement." Today we collaborate with our residents, build strong partnerships, and work proactively

**Contact us:** 978.526.1212



to keep Manchester-by-the-Sea safe. We want our residents to have the support they need, so that their challenges can be addressed before we are called.



If we can save a life, or help someone find a new path in life, every dollar is well spent.

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## SEPTEMBER 2023

I hope everyone had a great Labor Day weekend.

This month I would like to share information about our switch to a new emergency notification system, from OnSolve Code Red to Rave Mobile Safety Smart 911.

The Department is making this change to adopt a modern and more flexible emergency communications system. Our first responders will have access to more critical information when they arrive on a scene, allowing them to act quickly at times when every second counts. It also will allow them to communicate more effectively.

The decision to move to Rave was made after a comprehensive review of the options by myself, Fire Chief James McNeilly, and Town Administrator Greg Federspiel. The town will bear the first-year expense, with North Shore Regional 911 Center covering costs in future years. Residents should have received a mailing from the Town describing this change, which included a QR Code (seen at right) to allow easy access. We ask residents to sign up to receive emergency alerts and notifications, and create a personal profile that will assist first responders.

Residents may create an account [here](#), and sign in [here](#).

**Contact us:** 978.526.1212



In providing information and registering, residents are creating a



personal Smart911 profile. Residents can access, update, and change personal information by logging into [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com)

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