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SAVE THE DATES

NJAC Reorganization

**January 24th
11:00 a.m.**

**NJ State House
Sen. Chambers
Trenton, NJ**

**NJAC
Annual Conference
June 5th- 8th, 2012**

**Bally's Park Place
Hotel & Casino
on the
Boardwalk**

**We Look
Forward
To Seeing You This
Summer!**



CAMCA of NJ Holiday Happenings

By: Harold Spence, President

The statewide organization of County and Municipal Consumer Agencies of New Jersey (CAMCA) recently announced their annual monetary and food donations to the Southern Regional Food Distribution Center in Vineland.

At their December meeting and holiday luncheon, CAMCA Directors from around New Jersey attended the event to also help provide a special delivery for needy families. During the meeting the membership collected monetary donations accompanied by 4 large parcels of assorted food items.

CAMCA President Harold Spence said "when we think of holidays and other special events, we contemplate the exchanging of gifts and sharing in large

family meals. Sometimes we tend to forget those who do not have the means this time of year to provide for themselves and worse, their family". CAMCA has been collecting items for friends in need for the past several years and as a statewide group, alternate each year on different areas of the state. This year was South Jersey.

Also at this meeting, Vice President Patricia Watson, Director of Monmouth County Consumer Affairs announced her retirement and was presented with a plaque from CAMCA and a letter of congratulations from Governor Christie. Director Watson said "what a pleasure it has been serving with CAMCA, not only as Vice President, but as Director for Monmouth County Consumer Affairs. I

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Prevent Pipe Breaks

By: Maxons Restoration

As temperatures drop below freezing, many homeowners and businesses face the inconvenience and expense that come with frozen water pipes. While we know to bundle ourselves up to keep warm many people forget to check to make sure their pipes stay warm as well.

Ice forming in a pipe does not typically cause a break where the ice blockage occurs. Rather, following a complete ice blockage in a pipe, continued freezing and expansion inside the pipe causes water pressure to increase downstream - between the ice blockage and a closed faucet at the end. Usually the pipe bursts where little or no ice has formed.

Here are some tips to help avoid this common cause of winter property damage:

How to prevent frozen pipes

- Pipes that have frozen in the past or near exterior walls are obvious candidates for special attention.
- Insulate areas where vulnerable pipes are located.
- When insulation isn't enough, consider pipe wrappings embedded with electrical coils (heat tape) that provide an outside source of heat.
- Remove hoses from outside yard faucets. The faucets can't drain properly with a hose attached and will freeze and break if the hose is left attached.
- During severe cold weather, resist the urge to lower your thermostat to save

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Maxons Restoration

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money while you are gone for the day.

- Open the doors to kitchen and bathroom cabinets under your sinks so heat from the room will help warm the pipes.
- Running water doesn't freeze very readily. During severe cold weather, keep a stream of water trickling out of faucets or spouts attached to vulnerable pipes.
- If you have a sprinkler system, drain all outdoor pipes and turn off the water supply to the system. Know where your main water emergency shut-off valve is located.

Winterizing your property if you'll be away for an extended time

- Turn off the water supply at the main shutoff valve by the street.
- Remove garden hoses from outside faucets and open these faucets to drain them.
- Drain the water heater. Turn off the pilot light on gas water heaters and be sure to turn off the electricity to electric water heaters before you drain them.
- Use an air compressor to blow any trapped water from the water pipes. Open all faucets and leave them open. This will help keep condensation from freezing and bursting the water lines.

- Flush all toilets (to empty the tank) and every faucet (to drain water from pipes) in the home, including outdoor faucets.
- Empty all toilet bowls by siphoning or bailing and sponging. Pour a mixture of food grade anti-freeze and water into all toilet bowls and traps of all sinks, showers and bathtubs. Don't drain these traps. The water in them keeps sewer gases out of your house.

If your water supply is from a well, switch off the pump and drain it along with the above-ground pump lines and the tank.

What to do if a pipe freezes

To prevent a frozen pipe from bursting, open the faucet it supplies with water. Then add heat to the area where the pipe is located.

- Turn off the water supply to that line.
- If a pipe does burst, immediately turn off the water supply to your property.
- Know where your main water emergency shut-off valve is located.

If the worst does happen know that Maxons is here to help with emergency restoration services 24/7.

For further information contact: max@maxons.com.



Mercer County Corrections Officers Complete Special Operations Training

By: Julie Willmot, Mercer County Director of Communications

An elite team of personnel from the Mercer County Correction Center recently completed an intensive 55-hour program in tactical training for correction officers. The Mercer County Emergency Response Team program, or MERT, teaches officers innovative ways to manage potentially volatile situations with inmates.

A group of 11 officers underwent the training the week of Nov. 28 and covered all aspects of advanced officer training including confrontational avoidance techniques, restraint training, cell extractions, use of weapons, range exercises, riot control, and written and practical exams. As part of their final exam officers were required to perform an oral presentation that would be suitable for a civilian audience. Among the topics presented were the importance of the MERT program; use of tactical gear;

and alternative inmate control measures.

The course was taught by Mercer County Correction Center personnel who last year graduated from a Master-level certification program provided by TJA Use of Force Training Inc. **This latest group of graduates is the second class to benefit from the "Train the Trainer" course.**

Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes noted not only the effectiveness of the advanced training but the savings passed on to county residents by having county personnel deliver the instruction. "Our investment in the MERT team training last year is paying off now and with every new group of officers who graduate from this course and are trained in-house. Our County

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Nationwide[®]
On Your Side

Be Sure You Understand RMDs and Your Payout Options

By: Kelly Adams, Senior Marketing Analyst

The Internal Revenue Service requires that by April 1 of the year after you reach age 70½ and have severed from employment, you must begin taking distributions from your retirement account(s) – a *required minimum distribution* or RMD, for short. Failing to take the required amount can result in hefty penalties so, if you're nearing age 70½, call us. We can help explain what you need to know to comply with RMD regulations. Remember: You should contact your tax adviser before making decisions that may affect your taxes.

Neither Nationwide nor any of its representatives give legal or tax advice. Please contact your legal or tax advisor for such advice.

If you're already taking distributions from your retirement account, you may see the amount withheld for federal taxes change over the year. Federal law requires a 20% federal income tax withholding on periodic payments for less than 10 years and certain other types of payments. The withholding doesn't begin until you exceed the minimum amount in a given year. But it "goes away" at the beginning of a new year.

When you have questions about distributions or you're getting ready to take distributions from your Plan account, contact *Anthony Sebro, Investment Adviser Representative, NRS at (800) 675-6244 or SEBROA@nationwide.com* or *David M. Sarmir, CRC, Sr. Retirement Specialist at (877) 677-3678 x43390 or sarmird@nationwide.com*.

Mercer County

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Correction Center is run by extremely well-trained staff that works hard to ensure the facility operates safely and efficiently."

The Mercer County Correction Center is located in Hopewell Township and houses approximately 800 inmates on any given day. Correction officers maintain order within the institution and enforce rules and regulations. To help ensure that inmates are orderly and obey rules, correction officers monitor the activities and supervise the work assignments of inmates. Sometimes, officers must search inmates and their living quarters for contraband like weapons or drugs, settle disputes between inmates, and enforce discipline. Officers also escort prisoners between the institution and courtrooms, medical facilities, and other destinations.

"The more skills an officer can utilize and execute effectively during training, the greater the likelihood of him or her successfully resolving a crisis in reality, added Hughes.

For further information contact: *Julie Willmot, Mercer County Director of Communications at (609) 278-7137 or jwillmott@mercercounty.org*.

CAMCA of NJ

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will miss my staff and I will miss the daily interaction with consumers who come to us in their time of need". Joining the presentation ceremony was State Deputy Director of Consumer Affairs, Cindy Miller.

For further information contact: *Harold Spence, President, CAMCA and Gloucester County Consumer Affairs/Weights and Measures at (856)384-6851 or hspence@co.gloucerser.nj.us*.

NJAC REORGANIZATION

January 24, 2012

11:00 a.m.

**Senate Chambers
NJ State House
Trenton, NJ**

**For More Information Contact
Kimberly Nolan at (609) 394-3467**

Mission Statement

NJAC is committed to advocating for legislation, regulations, and policy directives that empower county governments to operate more effectively and efficiently. As a non-partisan organization that represents the only true regional form of government in the State with a unified and proactive voice, NJAC is dedicated to advancing innovative programs and initiatives for the sole purpose of saving valuable taxpayer dollars.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5 Legislative Session	6
9 Legislative Session	10 Legislative Session	11 Photographic Exhibit Bergen Cty. Admin. Bldg.	12 History Roundtable Mtg., Salem Cty.	13 Correction Officers Graduation, Atlantic Cty.
16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17	18	19	20
23	24 NJAC Board Meeting/ NJAC Reorg	25 Cape May Police Academy Open House	26	27 Public Skate Mercer Cty.
30	31			

From the Executive Director's Desk

I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy, and successful New Year!

As you continue to navigate an uncertain economy, NJAC is committed to providing you with progressive networking opportunities to market and grow your business. As a valued associate, you'll have **NEW OPPORTUNITIES** to take advantage of NJAC's comprehensive network of county officials, businesses, trade associations, and statewide leaders through innovative networking events and communication mediums that include:

- An outstanding annual conference in a revitalized Atlantic City.
- Networking at NJAC Board of Directors meetings - *New!*
- The NJAC Foundation's annual charitable golf outing.
- A unique year-end summit of county officials.
- Advertisement in a one of a kind directory of county officials.
- Publication in a widely distributed and read monthly E-Newsletter.

We also want to hear from you, so that we may enhance our services as a valuable resource. With this in mind, please take a moment to answer the following questions:

1. Would you like to serve as an advisor to our Conference Committee?
2. What types of networking opportunities and events would prove valuable for your business?

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I look forward to working with you. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.