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Sheriff's sweep nets 40 arrests

ANNAPOLIS - The county Sheriff's Office last month arrested 40 people on outstanding warrants during a county wide sweep.

The operation - code named "Fall Leaf Sweep" - occurred Nov. 21 and was part of Sheriff Ron Bateman continuing efforts to reduce the county's backlog of outstanding arrest warrants. It cleared 49 open warrants, most of which were for failing to appear in traffic cases.

"We are not going away. We are not letting up. Turn yourself in, or get locked up!" Bateman said in a prepared statement.

The Sheriff's Office receives about 1,000 new warrants each month. Despite the new warrants, officials said the backlog has decreased about 35 percent in the past two years - from almost 14,000 to about 9,000.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of a wanted persons in Anne Arundel County is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at 410-222-1495. All tips are kept confidential.