

Chief Deputy Ray announces retirement from sheriff's office

Written by Betsy Blevins

Thursday, 24 March 2011 14:34 -

March 17, 2011 - Sheriff says county patrolling has not lapsed and deputies are out doing their jobs

Chief Deputy Ray Ryan has announced his retirement from Fannin County Sheriff's Office. He applied for a position in the fall and was recently contacted with an offer of employment as Training Coordinator with Community Education Center.

Chief Ryan's strong professional background of service has included 10 years in the United States Marine Corps and about 31 years as a Texas Peace Officer.

Ray began working for Fannin County in January 2005 and promoted through the ranks to become Chief Deputy in January 2011 upon the appointment of Sheriff Foster.

"I consider my service at the FCSO as both a challenge and an opportunity to expand my training and experience," Ray says. "In addition to the pro-active changes already taken, I truly believe that all FCSO personnel will 'continue to march' for positive goals that are planned along with future endeavors to make the FCSO and its personnel a professional and proud agency".

Sheriff Foster said, "Upon my appointment as Sheriff I knew that I didn't have to look far for the best choice as Chief Deputy. I hate losing Ray, but I know where his heart is. He told me that he had applied for the training job with C.E.C. at the time he accepted his promotion to Chief. I want what is best for Ray, but losing him will be tough. Ray has always had a strong interest in the training arena and has been involved in training and professional standards during his time with Fannin County. His desire to teach others has been a great asset to the personnel at the Sheriff's Office and I know he will be an outstanding addition to the staff at C.E.C., the company which runs our jail. Ray is a personal friend to all our staff and will be greatly missed, but we will continue to have a very close working relationship with Ray. He'll be right next door. We certainly wish him the best."

The first 60 days of this new administration have been very active and productive.

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Five burglaries in Dodd City have been cleared with the arrests of eight suspects on twelve felony charges. Those arrests were made possible with help from the citizens of Fannin County. Videos from in-store cameras were posted on the Sheriff's Office web site. Approximately 1800 viewings resulted in many calls from viewers who felt that they might recognize suspects. Videos were also shown to school administrators at local schools and this also resulted in identifying some of the suspects. An additional arrest was made during a burglary in progress in Dodd City.

Several narcotics arrests have been made, including buy-busts in Ector and Honey Grove, resulting in a subsequent search warrant for a residence in a drug-free zone near Honey Grove's city park. Multiple suspects from the Dallas area were arrested while delivering drugs in Bonham and Trenton. Vehicles have been seized in some of those offenses.

Fannin County investigators recently were instrumental in the arrest of a suspect and recovery of a stolen tractor worth approximately \$45,000 in Collin County.

Sheriff Foster reported that Fannin County Deputies recently received much needed raises.

"Our deputies and dispatchers are dedicated, hard working people. We eliminated a position by restructuring some of our personnel's duties. This freed up money which was distributed among our staff. I believe that our Commissioners Court is appreciative of our people and the job we do. They voted unanimously to allow the restructuring and to give the pay increases. I, like everyone else, read the articles last fall which stated that the Sheriff's Office would no longer be patrolling the county. I want everyone to know that we are out there and will be out there doing our jobs."