

## **Don't let D.A.R.E. be only issue**

Written by Scott and Corky Anderson, Lexington

Wednesday, 05 May 2010 20:57 - Last Updated Wednesday, 05 May 2010 20:57

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Don't let D.A.R.E. be the only issue to decide the Dawson County Sheriff position.

Contrary to what Cheri Ziebell and Matt Weiss wrote about in Saturday's Letter to the Editor, Sheriff Gary Reiber is not the one who decided to discontinue the D.A.R.E. program in Dawson County. Sheriff Gary Reiber wanted to continue the program. The decision ultimately came from the Dawson County Commissioners as a budget decision and because a lack of interest in the schools during Mr. Eisenhower's (Lexington School's Superintendent) term. Many of our country schools were closing at the time, budgets were affected and D.A.R.E. had run its course. The current administration at that time felt that the Health teachers would be able to expand upon drug resistance instruction in their health curriculum.

Discontinuing D.A.R.E. did not and will not stop Sheriff Gary Reiber from making sure that the children in Dawson County have the tools, information and instruction they need to make good choices in their lives. He makes himself available to the Dawson county schools upon request.

Gary is a friend to the youth in Dawson county both professionally and personally as he is: an instructor for Hunter Education, he supports Optimist Youth Soccer & Baseball, he Supports & Participates in Operation Santa Claus, he supports Parent Child Center, supports Project Extra Mile to Prevent Underage Drinking, he supports Club 180, Supervises Student Intern Law Enforcement Program and High School Job Shadow/Ride Along Program, supports K-9 Outreach in schools and businesses, gives Drug awareness talks upon request, supports 'Hands Are For Helping Not Hurting' program, helps with D.A.D. Career Fairs for High School and Job Shadowing, Pre-School Bike Safety Program and is a board member of F.A.N. - Family Advocacy Network (children of Violent Crimes).

One thing we do agree on regarding the last letter to the editor is how important it is to carefully consider the candidates and to vote for the best one for the ENTIRE job, not just ONE issue.

Gary Reiber has done an excellent job as our sheriff which includes managing a budget of which he has been successful in seeking out ways to run it more efficiently; He has a great working relationship with other county law enforcement agencies which allows the Dawson Co. Law Enforcement Center to take in inmates from other counties to help county revenue.

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Sheriff Reiber has a soft spot in his heart for Dawson County Senior Citizens also. For years he has devoted his time and resources to promote a sense of security and well being for his senior friends in Dawson County. He was instrumental in helping Lexington citizens initiate T.R.I.A.D. and made long lasting friendships at that time. Gary is also a Senior Defensive Driving Instructor, Dawson Co. Crime Stoppers Board Member and presents Scam Education & Prevention Programs at the Senior Centers in the county.

Sheriff Reiber is level headed and not quick to anger allowing for clear decision making.

His military career and subsequent law enforcement career since gives him the solid experience which is so important in a Sheriff. He supervises over 60 employees and has a good working rapport with them.

When considering who to vote for on May 11th for Sheriff of Dawson County, please consider the ENTIRE job and the most qualified for it. Gary Reiber is the only candidate with the successful and proven experience to do this job. He is respected, reliable and has gotten results in Dawson County. We vote to have him continue serving and protecting the citizens of Dawson County.