



George County Board of Supervisors
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George County to unveil Fallen Officers Memorial on Nov. 8

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George County officials and community leaders will unveil the “Fallen Officers Memorial” on Thursday, November 8, at 9:30 a.m. during a ceremony on the southeast corner of the courthouse in Lucedale.

The Fallen Officers Memorial was envisioned and organized after the death of George County Sheriff Garry Welford and honors all local officers who have died in the line of duty.

“The outpouring of local support has been overwhelming,” said Elaine Rogers, memorial co-organizer. “We had a tremendous amount of backing from businesses like Concrete Creations and the Board of Supervisors. We had residents donate money or items to auction off at a fundraiser. So many groups and citizens have helped with this project.”



The memorial is an 800 square foot courtyard outside of the courthouse which features bronze tribute plaques, a memorial wall, lighting and landscaping. Board President Kelly Wright says the County was honored to provide the location and foundation work for the memorial.

“I want to commend the Fallen Officers Committee Members for their hard work and dedication to this project. Our County needed this memorial; we needed a place to honor our fallen heroes. The Board was proud to be a part of the project,” Wright said.

Two law enforcement officers have died in the line of duty serving George County. Sheriff John Elbert Nelson on December 21, 1948, and Sheriff Garry Marshal Welford on July 21, 2010. Both men will be remembered and honored at the memorial.

“These two men made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the citizens of George County and both will continue to be loved and missed,” said Rogers.

The ceremony will be attended by County Supervisors, City Officials, members of the Sheriff's Department, Jackson County Sheriff Mike Byrd, and community leaders. For more information, call Connie Shockley at 601-947-7506.