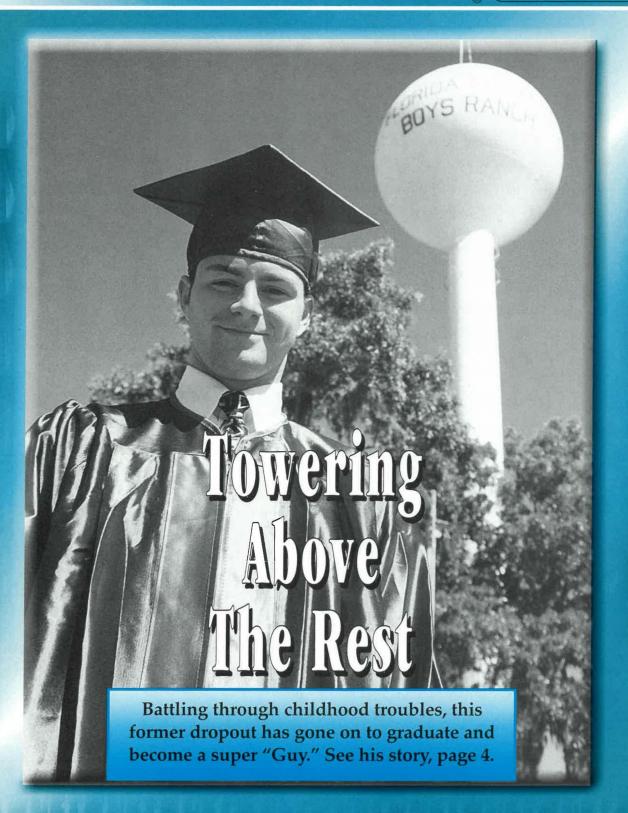


PUBLISHED BY THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES, INC. SUMMER 2000



Urgent News

Many of you have called in recent weeks about a series of headlines being reported by news organizations around the state regarding a particular "Boys Ranch." The stories refer to an alleged misuse of government funding. Please be assured – the "Ranch" in question is not and never has been associated and/or affiliated with the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches or any of its programs.

We regret this problem has been associated with the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. But remember, if you do not see the word "Sheriff" or the Youth Ranches star logo with a boy and girl, it is not one of our programs.

Last year, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches received over 80-percent of its funds from generous donors like you. That means, approximately 20-percent of Youth Ranches funding came from other sources. This includes the state of Florida. If you would like a copy of our Annual Report or independent external Auditor's report, please let us know. We welcome your inquiries, visits and questions.

We would like to reassure our entire donor family about our integrity, quality of care and fiscal responsibility. Thank you for caring about the boys and girls we serve.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to call us at (904) 842-5501, or e-mail us at youthranches@worldnet.att.net.



Being Civic Minded!

Want to know more about the

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches?

Youth Ranches representatives are available to meet with you and share our story.

If you are interested in arranging a speaking engagement for your civic organization or club, please contact us at (904) 842-5501.



THE RANCHER®

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REQUIRED DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Florida Statutes Chapter 496, cited as the Solicitation of Contributions Act, was enacted by the 1991 Florida Legislature with an effective date of January 1, 1992. This law requires that organizations like the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc., furnish the following information with each fund solicitation and receipt for contributions received:

"A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE."

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President's Perspective

A message from Roger O. Bouchard, Jr. President of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.

 ${f R}$ ecently, we had the opportunity to honor and remember two very special people whose caring and concern made a difference in

the lives of children. At the dedications of the Ruth Amy Bell Learning Center at the Youth Ranch Bradenton/Sarasota and the Frederick "Mac" Stones Recreation Area at Caruth Camp we were reminded how people, working together, can help our children have a better chance to be successful.

Ruth Amy Bell was born in New York in 1901. After finishing her education, she worked several different jobs until the age of 25 when she moved to Washington, D.C. to take a secretarial position. She remained there for over 30 years as a government employee.

After retiring to the Ft. Myers area, Ms. Bell became interested in the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and was one of its most faithful supporters. Over the years she contributed regularly through the Youth Ranches' Charitable Gift Annuity program, with the intention at her death, the money would be used to help young people receive a solid education.

The Ruth A. Bell Learning Center will provide classrooms, a computer learning center and other benefits that will enable boys to receive the special help they need to get back on track in their schoolwork and learn the skills needed to become productive members of our communities. Ms. Bell, with a modest income, was never wealthy, but was able to provide a beautiful facility where boys can learn and grow.

In Mac Stones, the Youth Ranches lost a long-time staff member who served as Director of the Boys Ranch, Regional Director of Youth Ranch/Safety Harbor and as a Development Officer working with donors. During his career, he was able to touch the lives of many boys and girls. And, no matter where he traveled around the state, Mac always shared the Youth Ranches story.

In February 1999, Mac was diagnosed with cancer and began a tough series of treatments for the disease. During these trials, his faith and upbeat spirit encouraged and blessed all who came in contact with him. He continued to



share about the Youth Ranches and to encourage those around him to help support his lifelong mission of helping children.

One of those he talked to was W.C. Gentry, a family member who is a successful attorney in Jacksonville. In November, Mr. and Mrs. Gentry decided to make a significant gift to the Youth Ranches in honor of Mac. This gift has enabled us to provide a beautiful recreational complex for the boys and girls

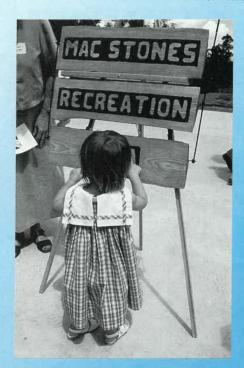
who attend Caruth Camp, a program that Mac helped develop over ten years ago.

Unfortunately, Mac did not live to see this dream fulfilled. Although he was not with us at the dedication, his family and friends were able to attend and witnessed the impact he had on so many boys and girls.

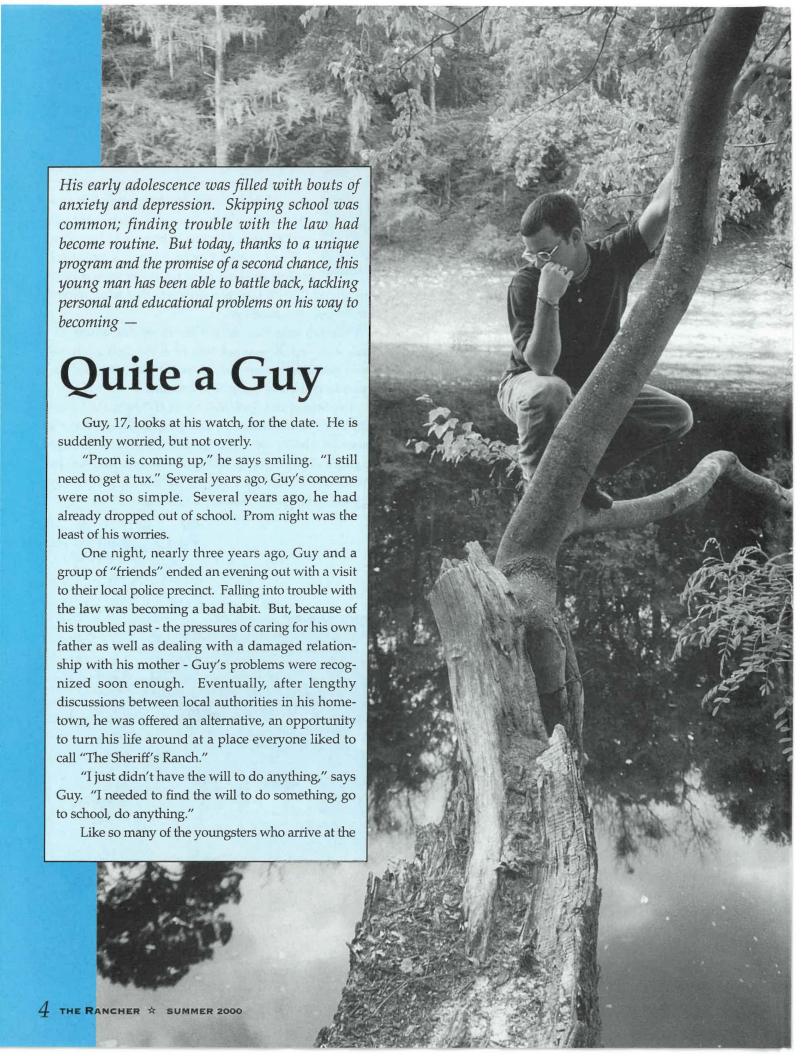
Mac Stones and Ruth Bell loved children; they were committed to the idea that every child should have a chance for a better life. Through their efforts and through the gifts and generosity of family and friends, they will be remembered as their commitment continues to give a helping hand to future generations of children.

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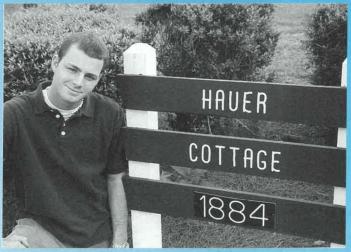
Roger Bouchard President



A Touching Tribute -Named in honor of former Youth Ranches employee Fred E. "Mac" Stones, the **Mac Stones** Recreation area at the Florida Sheriffs Caruth Camp will welcome hundreds of boys and girls each year.







Boys Ranch Director of Education Nancy Nielsen (at left) is one reason Rancher Guy was able to continue his schooling and graduate on time.

Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Guy needed structure, discipline and a place to build positive relationships; he needed a second chance. After all, Guy wasn't just cutting class anymore; he had literally dropped out, given up on school and on himself, and had begun a dangerous pattern of delinquent activity around his neighborhood and throughout his commu-

nity.

"The first day, I was a little neryous . . . I didn't know what to expect," says Guy. "I never could've imagined it would all turn out like this."

Guy made friends quickly, and easily, building a rapport with other Ranchers like Daniel and Curtis, who had similar backgrounds and problems. Soon, the boys were helping each other, discussing their hopes and fears, and working out issues at home, together. Today, after two and a half years at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Guy has become a role model himself, helping guide newer, younger boys toward success and personal growth.

"The younger boys look up to me," says Guy. "I'm older, more independent now . . . they always want to know how they can get there, too."

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches has always offered a healthy balance of activities which teach structure and discipline, rules and responsibilities. To help challenge youth as well as guide them, the Youth Ranches employs a unique set of "cottage parents" at each house on campus. It is this "Mom" and "Pop" who often influence and encourage and inspire troubled kids.

"They really helped

me out," says Guy, thinking

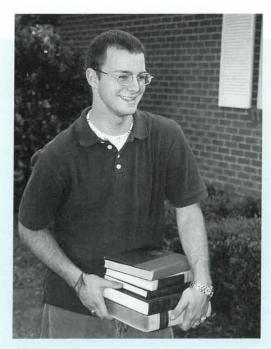
of Mr. and Mrs. Fischer, cot-

tage parents who had quite a

positive influence on Guy's life at the Ranch, before their retirement. Guy remembers dinnertime fondly. It was always a time of peace and cooperation and reflection. "They were always so caring and loving to me ... they never treated me like a number or a case file," Guy remembers. "They always treated me like I'd want to be treated . . . they taught me I could learn from my mistakes."

An important part of Guy's overall curriculum and ultimate development as a law-abiding, productive young man was his choice to participate in the Boys Ranch Steer and Heifer Program. One hundred and twelve days in all, Guy worked hard feeding, washing and training an untame steer to walk on a lead line and wear a halter. This daily responsibility helped teach Guy the value of routine

continued on next page



Quite a Guy

Rancher Guy is really "booking" it to class (at left) and takes a moment to reflect on his success (above).

as well as build his sense of pride and esteem. The program culminated at the Suwannee County Fair Spring Livestock Show where "Prince Albert," Guy's steer, was recognized for being one of the heaviest steer out of nine classes.

"I like a good challenge," says Guy. "Raising 'Prince Albert' was definitely challenging . . . I liked it a lot."

Even when "Prince Albert" needed a haircut, Guy was eager to help. Because of his tremendous progress and maturity, Guy persuaded Boys Ranch Farm Manager Danny Driver to let him try. With clippers in hand, Guy shaved his steer carefully, patiently.

"I was the only one to cut my own steer," Guy says. "It was one of the hairiest situations I've ever been in."

As Guy's relationships with elders and peers (and steer) changed, so, too, did his relationship with his family; more specifically, his mother. "I remember my friends telling me, 'Don't argue with your mother'," Guy recalls. "They were right . . . we don't argue anymore."

After patience and counseling, the two began to forge a new, more positive relationship. As Guy began to open up, his mother began to open up as well. And, as Guy's life turned around, as he planned for the future, so did his own mother. Enrolled in community college to catch up on her own education, Guy's mom has plans to become a phlebotomist.

"My mom's taught me to be self-reliant, independent," says Guy. "She's been my greatest role model."

For someone who had all but given up on life and any hopes of continuing his education, Guy has made ambitious career plans. One of his favorite movies is Patch Adams, which stars Robin Williams as an unorthodox family physician who mixes humor with medicine to treat his patients.

"I want to be the next Patch Adams," Guy says. "That's my goal."

After a possible tour of duty with the United States Air Force, Guy plans to enroll in medical school. He has his sights set on a prestigious college in Alabama where he can get his degree and eventually practice medicine.

"I want to help people," says Guy. "Being a doctor is my ultimate dream."

Guy can recall a night when his dad accidentally cut himself. Coming to the rescue, Guy dressed and bandaged the wound, and took his father to the hospital. Moments like this have fueled his passions and his interests.

Guy still keeps in touch with old friends who have graduated from the Boys Ranch program by writing letters or talking over the phone. He's even made plans to reunite with one Rancher alumnus at the top of a Colorado mountain. Guy was part of a special hand-picked group of boys that traveled out west last year. Guy's five-year plan includes another trip to the state.

"There's a pizza place out there I'd like to meet Mike at," says Guy. "My goal is to earn enough money to go back."

Three years ago, Guy could never have imagined he would have the chance to graduate with his class, let alone attend his own Senior Prom. Today, he looks at his watch again and smiles. Today, he's thinking about Prom. Today, he's thinking about a future.

A Message from Youth Ranches Vice President Financial Development

William W. Yarick

Recently, a Boys Ranch visitor arrived on campus to learn more about our programs. The guest was invited to have lunch in Blackburn Cottage.

Before lunch, Ionathon provided the visitor with a tour of the cottage. Of course, beds were made and clothes were carefully arranged in the closet. Jonathon's own room, which he shares with Mike, was also neat and clean.

Name

Address

Longtime cottage parents, Mom and Pop Davis, were gracious hosts. Mom explained the boys' daily routine in and around the cottage, while Pop shared the joys and personal rewards of caring for the boys. But, it was a plaque near the front door which inspired the guest. It reads in part:

"Blackburn Cottage is a tribute to the Honorable R. "Ed" Blackburn, Jr. in recognition of his exemplary efforts on behalf of underprivileged, dependent and neglected children, his important role in the establishment of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches in 1957..."

Today, in this issue of *The Rancher*, you will read about other caring individuals like Mac Stones and Ruth Bell. Both of them, like Ed Blackburn, worked long and hard to help and serve others. Each had a personal commitment to care and share with children in need.

After a tour of any of our six campuses, one of the

easiest things to understand is the mission of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches (at left). Once you meet the children, experience the genuine commitment of dedicated people who change the lives of boys and girls in our care, and see the

beautiful facilities, you will understand the purpose of our work.

Many challenges and more sharing opportunities are on the horizon. Some challenges will be great, some rather minor in comparison. But the opportunities will be plentiful. How they are met can be your legacy.

You are a part of this important mission, we continue to be grateful and appreciative of your faithful support. Wh.W. Garlet

About your estate planning...

Many of our friends have thoughtfully made provision in their estate planning for our boys and girls. If you are considering a gift of this nature or if you would just like to know more about the many and varied opportunities for sharing, we can help. At your invitation, it would be our privilege and pleasure to visit you in your home. If you prefer, you are welcome to visit us or we can furnish information by mail or telephone, whichever is most practical and convenient.

If you would like to know more about the gifting of Securities or Real Estate, please complete the coupon below and mail it in the postagepaid envelope found elsewhere in this magazine.

Please send me the booklet:

- ☐ Giving Securities
- ☐ Giving Real Estate
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Visit me when you are in my area.



Address inquiries to: Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Office of the President P.O. Box 2000 Boys Ranch, Florida 32064 Telephone: (904) 842-5501

The proper legal name to

provide a bequest is: " I bequeath to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.,

State Telephone No. (_____)

MISSION STATEMENT

To prevent juvenile delinquency

and develop lawful productive

citizens through a broad range of

family-centered services.

Boys Ranch, Florida 32064 . . . "



Big & Tall: Fred E. "Mac" Stones 1930-1999

Making a difference in the lives of deserving boys and girls was the lifelong ambition of Mac Stones, and there is no doubt he achieved his goal! From his early years as a high school teacher and coach, as a seminary student, and throughout his career, Mac honed his skills to perfection. For 20 years, his optimistic spirit and seasoned advice made him an invaluable member of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches family.

Hired initially as the Resident Director at the Boys Ranch in 1979, Mac soon took the reins of the newest Youth Ranch campus in Safety Harbor. Serving both boys and girls - primarily sibling groups – at the same location, was a relatively new concept for the agency but one Mac handled with ease. Quickly, his good judgment and sensible management style solidified a firm foundation for a reliable, responsible child-care program. His guidance, coupled with an atmosphere of positive, healthy family values gave these children a brighter hope for their future.

Mac proved to be a master, wearing many hats, juggling a number of different priorities, making many friends, and ultimately, making an impact on young lives. Whether fishing with the kids or cultivating a relationship with a donor, everyone knew, and liked, that "big tall man" at the Ranch. After all, Mac made a career out of car-



ing and sharing, giving and healing. The lives of the children he served reflect his passion, his ministry of the heart, and his mission of the soul.

Gentry & Family Show True Dedication

When the Florida Sheriffs Caruth Camp was renovated, remodeled and re-opened just three years ago, it was with an understanding that many of the construction projects on campus were ongoing; growth and expansion would evolve gradually, over time.

But now, thanks to an extremely generous gift from Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Gentry and family, the boys and girls who attend Caruth Camp will have the opportunity to learn and grow by swimming and playing, thinking and praying, at the newly-dedicated Mac Stones Recreation Area. Named in honor and memory of longtime Youth Ranches employee Fred E. "Mac" Stones, plans for the spot include a pool/bathhouse, new basketball court, improved arts and crafts building, development of an outdoor chapel and a complete restoration of the campus spring.

"We wanted to do something special for Mac and the kids," said Mr. Gentry. "This seemed like the perfect opportunity to help children and remember Mac all at the same time."

The Youth Ranches is grateful to the Gentry family for their ongoing support of the children in our care.

Mrs. Ruth A. -

Helps Send Kids to School

Through the years, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches has built cottages, dedicated barns and opened new Opportunity Stores around the state, but it's not often the Youth Ranches has the privilege to commemorate the grand opening of a new Learning Center on campus. Named in honor of longtime Youth Ranches supporter Ruth A. Bell, the new Learning Center will help educate nearly 30 boys and help assure their success.

A faithful Youth Ranches supporter for many years, Ruth Amy Bell was born and raised in New York City, but spent over 30 years in Washington, D.C. as a loyal governmental employee. After retiring in 1960, Ms. Bell relocated to Florida to be closer to family.

"Education is the foundation of a youngster's future," said Youth Ranch Program Director Jill Hazzard. "The new Learning Center will help prepare these boys for whatever obstacles they may have to face."

As each campus grows, the Youth Ranches understands and works hard to meet the special educational needs of the boys and girls in our care. Without the proper role models and guidance, many of our students find themselves hopelessly lost in the system, grades behind classmates, in danger of dropping out and becoming a statistic. These youth need special instruction, attention, a place to play catch-up, and salvage their educational futures.

A common characteristic of at-risk youngsters is their ongoing struggle to meet educational objectives. Due to emotional handicaps, learning disabilities or habitual behavioral problems, many of these children are "failing" in the standard school setting. Learning Centers were established to meet these special needs. Inside, youngsters are able to receive one-on-one tutoring, and have the opportunity to focus on subjects giving them the most trouble. Oftentimes, improvements are immediate; many of their achievements lead to improved self-esteem and self-confidence.



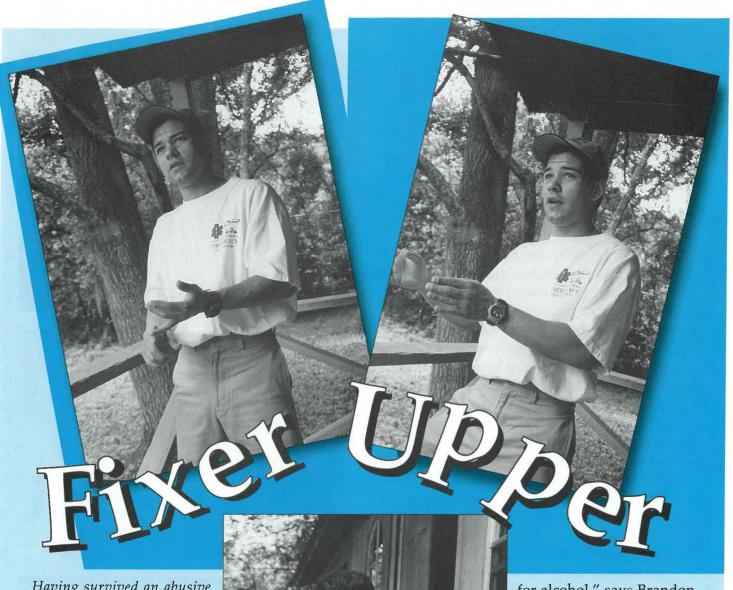


(L-R) Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard, Youth Ranches Development Officer Dr. Bill Aust, Rancher David and Sarasota County Sheriff Geoffrey Monge help commemorate dedication ceremonies at the new Ruth Bell Learning Center on the Youth Ranch-Bradenton/Sarasota campus.

"Our students get exactly what they need here," said Hazzard. "Every youth is different, with different problems, needs and circumstances."

In a school atmosphere which emphasizes respect, Learning Centers allow children who have failed in school the opportunity to try without fear of failure. It is this specialized attention which gives youth a second chance at success.

Ms. Bell passed away in 1996, but her memory, as well as her lifelong commitment to youngsters, lives on today. Although she never married, Ms. Bell held a special place in her heart for children and often spoke of the Youth Ranches as her true "family." For her commitment and love, we will be forever grateful.



Having survived an abusive childhood and the instability of nearly 50 foster homes throughout his youth, Boys Ranch alumnus Brandon Cawthon has learned to manage his anger, moved into a new house and truly fixed up his life.

What a Shame

Brandon Cawthon sits on the porch of his house leaning back in a wicker seat; he is calm and confident. He'll turn 26 in July. "I wasn't even aware I had so much aggression," admits Brandon, digging through his mind, into memories he'd probably rather forget.

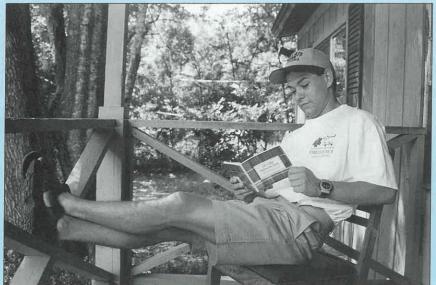
"Both my parents lived

for alcohol," says Brandon. "I didn't want people to know my house was such a nightmare."

Wearing long sleeves and jeans in the middle of the summer to hide the "hurt," Brandon remembers the day he was finally taken from his home. It put an end to the nightmare, but it was just the beginning of a new set of challenges. "It was the scariest day of my life."

Finding Representation

Declared a ward of the state, Brandon was tossed from foster home to foster home, nearly 50 in all. Even-



Following "Life's Little Instructions" - Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch alumnus Brandon Cawthon (above) takes a moment on the front porch of his new home to quietly reflect. The book, Life's Little Instruction Book, was a gift from long-time friend State Representative Debby Sanderson.

tually, Brandon would end up in a temporary refuge at The Covenant House in Ft. Lauderdale. He stayed six months, until a chance meeting changed his life.

State Representative Debby Sanderson was touring The Covenant House when she met Brandon. After hearing his story, the two became fast friends. It was Sanderson who introduced Brandon to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, which finally gave him a home. And even today, Brandon still spends each and every Christmas with Debby and her husband.

Pat On The Back

Up at 5 a.m. to clean and sweep and participate in morning devotion, life at the Ranch was decidedly different than Brandon's past. At the Boys Ranch, Brandon found the love of a "mom" and "pop," along with an entire network of counseling and emotional support. The Ranch's mandatory work program, household chores and daily schoolwork all kept Brandon busy. It was this schedule, this structured lifestyle, that helped Brandon get a handle on his violent past and the anger he held

But, the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch is only as good as its people. Without folks like the late Pat Monogue, former Boys Ranch Resident Director, the Youth Ranches would not be near as successful. During Brandon's 3-year stay at the Boys Ranch, Monogue became a father figure as well as a friend.

"I looked up to him (Monogue)," says Brandon. "He always treated me with so much respect . . . I still can't believe he's gone."

Even in discipline, Brandon had the utmost respect and admiration for Mr. Monogue. Back then, when a young man misbehaved, they were assigned "Stump" Duty. A boy was placed on restriction until an old tree stump on campus had been successfully removed. Sometimes it took weeks to work a stump out with a shovel. "My stump was nicknamed 'Rambo,'" remembers Brandon. "It

was hard work, but how many people can say they've removed a tree stump that big . . . how many can remember its name."

Wrestling With the Past

Organized sports also played an important role in Brandon's healing process. Through wrestling, Brandon discovered a way to control his anger and re-direct his aggression by learning the value of winning and losing. Brandon's coach was one of his newfound, positive role models. When Brandon had to wrestle a 2-time State Champion in order to make the varsity team, Coach constantly encouraged him to do his best.

"He pushed me . . . he convinced me never to give up," recalls Brandon. "Coach brought out the best in me."

Brandon would later receive the Most Valuable Wrestler Award in Eighth grade. It was the first time the team had awarded such a recognition. The honor took Brandon by surprise.

"Everyone in school stood up and clapped," Brandon remembers. "I didn't even know I was that popular."

Under Construction

Growing up at the Boys Ranch, Brandon was no stranger to work. He learned a combination of hands-on skills and common sense while working at the Arts and Crafts Center, Administration Building and as a Lifeguard one summer. Brandon even rode his bicycle over 270 miles, from Inglis to Tallahassee during a 3-day Bike-a-Thon sponsored by the Florida Sheriffs Caruth Camp. For his

continued on next page

Fixer Upper

continued from page 11

efforts and vast improvements in behavior, Representative Sanderson promised him a page position

at the Capitol if he could bring his grades up, and keep them up.

"She was the first person to get me to wear a suit," says Brandon. "She got me to do a lot of things for the first time."

With the same work ethic he learned at the Ranch, Brandon outlined a plan for his future. After graduation, he was busy taking 16 credit hours at Tallahassee Community College, as well as working two jobs, before a car accident side-tracked him. But even in tragedy, he vowed to always go back and finish his education.

Life's Little Instructions

Today, to help make ends meet, Brandon works full-time in Tallahassee, painting houses and doing minor repairs. But, Brandon has more immediate plans of going back to school to continue his education. Brandon has hopes of becoming an EMT, and eventually, a paramedic.

"I always wanted to be a paramedic," says Brandon. "I've always wanted to help people."

Brandon's experience as a Companion Trainer for Specialized Support Services should prove valuable to his training. Brandon spent nearly two





Well Represented - Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch alumnus Brandon Cawthon attributes his success to long-time friend State Representative Debby Sanderson. It was Rep. Sanderson who originally introduced Brandon to the Boys Ranch. "She was truly the mother I never had," said Brandon,

> years working with disabled and handicapped individuals, teaching them important

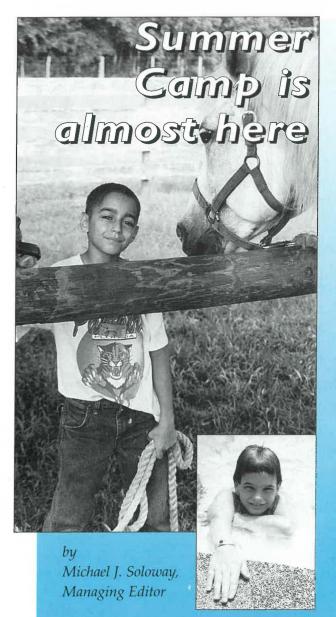
routines, like how to ride the bus or clean a countertop. He was even responsible for feeding and bathing some of his patients.

> "It very rewarding."

Brandon credits so many kind caregivers and friends for the changes in his He believes his second chance may have even been a "miracle

from God." Today, whenever problems or obstacles arise in his life he draws on his positive experiences, and also a book Representative Sanderson gave him many years ago as a gift.

There are still stars next to key passages in Life's Little Instruction Book, a paperback of thought-provoking sentences about life and how to treat those around us. "The way I carry myself, the way I do things today is all because of Mrs. Sanderson . . . she was truly the mother I never had."



The sky is blue, The trees are green, At summer camp, It's quite a scene.

Quiet now, But soon there'll be, Lots and lots. Of folks to see.

Campers, counselors, The Deputies, too, Will all be there, To comfort you.

They'll help you learn, And help you play, They'll be there, Each and every day.

For the first time, You'll ride a horse, Make a craft, Finish a Challenge Course.

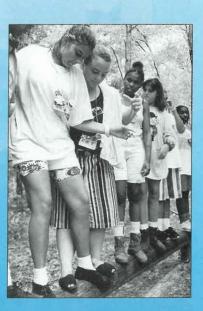
The water is warm, So jump right in, They'll hold you up, Look, you can swim!

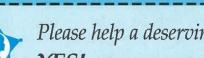
You'll sit at night, Around a fire, Talking to friends, Being inspired.

These kids will play, They will grow, By making friends, Or using a bow.

The kids are close, The kids are near. In can only mean, Summer camp is almost here!

It's not too late to help send underprivileged boys and girls to camp! Will you do your part to make this summer unforgettable for Florida's youth?





NAME

CITY

ADDRESS

Please help a deserving child attend Summer Camp this year! YES! I WANT TO SPONSOR A BOY OR GIRL AT SUMMER CAMP!



Here's my gift to help sponsor troubled boys and girls at camp this summer:

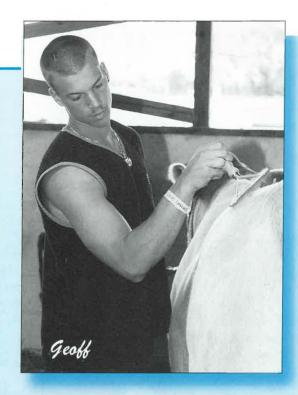
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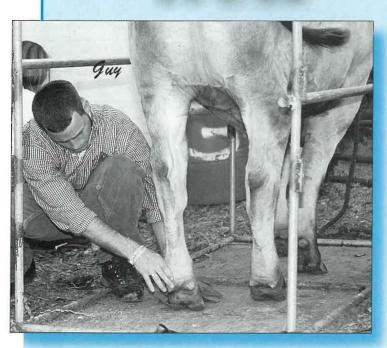
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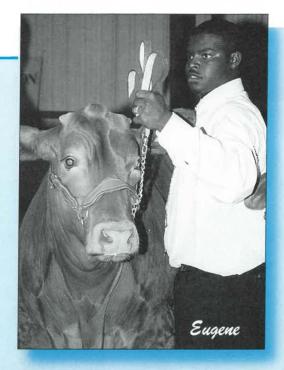
ZIP



Use this form to make certain your gift is properly identified and return it in the enclosed envelope. Thank You for Your Caring and Timely Gift! (Designated for Summer Camp 2000)







Month upon month of hard work, patience and sacrifice culminates with the 4-H Spring Livestock Show at the Suwannee County Fair.

Dressed and polished the boys wait.

A loudspeaker has been left inside the barn so contestants can hear all of the judging. Class Six has just entered the arena. The boys are in Class Nine; three more to go.

"It's hard waiting," said Eugene. "But we've come

In the months leading up to the fair, the boys worked with their animals daily, training them to wear a halter, walk on a lead line and stand properly for inspection and judging. The task was not always easy, especially for youth born and raised in the city, without exposure to farm life or farm animals. But, the Boys Ranch Steer and Heifer Program is designed to build a youth's self-esteem as well as their sense of responsibility and sacrifice. It exposes youngsters to new areas of interest and broadens their personal experience.

"It was a big responsibility taking care of something like this," said Earl. "But it was worth it."

Class Seven comes and goes, then eight. It is dark now; the moon has helped push the sun out of sight. The night grows cooler. According to the announcement, Class Eight is exiting the arena. The boys stand ready. Their class, Class Nine, is next.

Each steer has been washed and dried and brushed, and brushed again. It is time.

continued on next page

The boys, all four, Eugene, Earl, Geoff, and Guy, walk in together, one right after the other, in a line around the ring. They lead their steer to spots in the center. There are two other entrants in the weight class. They stand with the boys, too. The crowd is still clapping. It sounds a lot like rain. Earl's animal is spooked by the noise. He steps back and around, pulling at his halter. Earl pulls back, calming the steer until he is under control.

The judge moves around the arena, inspecting, looking up and down, high, then low, for balance, weight, bone structure, for that special something that distinguishes a first place steer from a second, and a first from a Best in Show. The boys stand tall and still as the judge moves around them. Third, fourth, fifth and sixth fall into place rather quickly. Soon, only two contestants remain. A local high school student and Earl.

The crowd is quiet as the judge concentrates, compares; the air is still, silent. Even the steer appear nervous. Then, the decision - second place in Class Nine

"It's disappointing but I still enjoyed myself," Earl said. Yes, Earl would score second place this night, not first. But, winning is not the point of this exercise. Earl knows that. It's more like a marathon than a sprint, and our boys finished the race.

We're proud of all our boys for their diligence and devotion to animals and the Steer and Heifer Program. In our hearts, they are all winners!

RANCHER Revisited

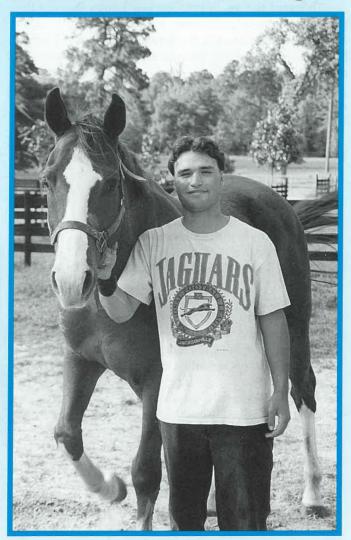
Capping Off a Successful Journey

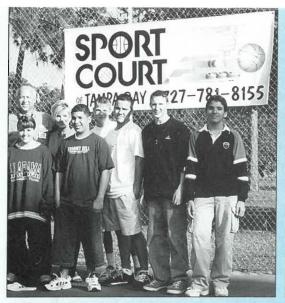
Michael entered the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches program at the Caruth Camp (then a unique wilderness camping program) as a youngster in desperate need of guidance and special attention. It was at the camp, under those therapeutic conditions, that Michael discovered his love of nature and animals, as well as a growing set of personal values.

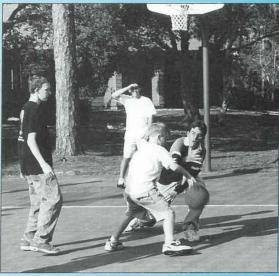
After a productive stay at the Caruth Camp, Michael graduated to the Boys Ranch, located outside Live Oak, on the banks of the Suwannee River. This comprehensive residential program offered a healthy environment for Michael to grow, mature and finish his education. He even discovered his life passion while working on the farm.

"I want to go to college," Michael said. "I want to work with animals."

Michael openly admits if it were not for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, the Caruth Camp, and all of the staff who helped him expect more from himself, he would undoubtedly have landed in jail. Today, thanks to patience and hard work, Michael will graduate from Suwannee County High School, walk with his class and walk tall in the future.







Michael Johnson and his wife B-Ann (back row) donated a synthetic "Sport Court" to the youngsters of the Youth Ranch/Safety Harbor.

Truly, A Good Sport

People sell used merchandise - cars, clothes, computers. In fact, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches has been accepting used non-cash goods for years. After all, one person's trash is another ones treasure, right? But, a used basketball court? Impossible, right?

This past spring, Sport Court of Tampa Bay did the impossible, the unusual even, by donating a full length basketball court surface to the Youth Ranch/Safety Harbor. Made of a space-age polypropylene material, the court consists of tiles like "waffles" which snap together like the pieces of a puzzle. Unlike concrete, Sport Court is pliable, easier on a child's feet and knees, and can be designed to suit any specific criteria or needs.

"I wanted the court to go someplace where it would get some real use," said Sport Court Owner/Distributor Michael Johnson. "The Ranch seemed like a place where kids would have the greatest access and greatest fun."

Originally from a small suburb outside Chicago, Mr. Johnson and his wife B-Ann moved down last year to begin their company. But, being actively involved with local youth programs and orphanages in their native Chicago, the Johnsons were looking for a worthwhile charity to devote their time, efforts and energy.

"Children are really our passion," said Mr. Johnson. "It breaks our hearts to see youngsters in need."

Since the court's installation, the Johnsons have visited the location on a few separate occasions. "I'm always happy to see kids playing on it," said Johnson. "Our company's main goal is to promote family backyard fun . . . it gives me a warm heart to know we've actually done so much more for these kids."

Educated Guests

An education must be well-rounded, not one-sided. For that reason, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches field trips mix education with experience.

Recently, the girls of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Villa spent a day at Rollins College in Winter Park. The visit included a full tour of the campus, lunch at the student union, a trip to the campus museum and a ladies' basketball game that night. Following the game, school personnel answered the girls' questions about college life, classes and potential scholarship opportunities. The trip helped inspire those who were already planning to enroll in a college or university and encouraged some of the

other girls to at least consider the option. Educational field trips like these help inspire young girls to take advantage of their second chances. One girl in particular, Nadia, wants to study Marine Biology. The trip to Rollins College only fueled her desires even more. "I can't wait to go to college now," said Nadia.



Youth Villa girls enjoy a day at Rollins College in Winter Park. Nadia (far right) wants to study Marine Biology thanks to a series of educational field trips.



A Delicious Day

A festival of great food, live music, special K-9 demonstrations and displays by the U. S. Coast Guard, Florida Marine Patrol, Indian River County Fire Department, and Indian River County Sheriff's Office SWAT team, the sixth annual Indian River County Barbecue has become a popular Youth Ranches fund-raising event. Through the effort of Indian River County Sheriff's Office volunteers and the help of its local citizens, over \$28,000 was raised for Florida's needy, neglected children.



Sheriff County Wheeler and staff have devoted their time, energy, and resources to helping the Youth Ranches children. "I don't know of a better way to help kids," said Sheriff Wheeler. "It just gets better and better each year . . . better than I ever expected."







Sew Nice

A patchwork of quilts bring comfort to local schools.

After incidents like the shooting at Columbine High School, programs like Project Harmony are more important than ever. Established to help promote racial tolerance and build positive relationships between students, Pro-Harmony has helped ject hundreds of Florida's youth change their attitudes and control negative behavior.

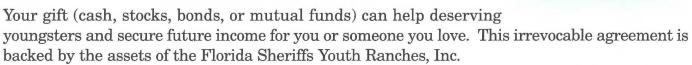
One of the scheduled activities as boys and girls near the conclu-

sion of the Project Harmony program is the construction of what has become a symbol of unity in each school. Students design and make their own personal cloth patches. The patches are then sewn together to create one cohesive quilt. The quilt is displayed at the participating school, usually in a cafeteria or library or any other place where everyone can see it. The combination quilt serves as a constant reminder of the values and behavior everyone should follow.



Would you like to help prevent juvenile delinquency and receive reliable income for life?

Consider a **Charitable Gift Annuity**



A portion of your charitable gift annuity is immediately tax deductible. In addition, a portion of your annuity payment is tax free during normal life expectancy. The amount of the payment is based on the amount of the gift and the age of the annuitant. Please note the first two columns below to determine the rate for each age group. These rates are consistent with the recommendations made by The American Council on Gift Annuities.



Schedule of Annual Payments and available charitable deduction for Single-Life Charitable Gift Annuity at indicated ages based on a \$10,000 agreement.

Please call us at (904) 842-5501 if you have any questions.

| AGE | GIFT ANNUITY RATE | ANNUITY PAYMENT | TAX -FREE PORTION* | TAXABLE PORTION* | INITIAL CHARITABLE DEDUCTION |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 65 | 7.0 | \$ 700 | 316 | 384 | 3,721 |
| 70 | 7.5 | 750 | 372 | 378 | 4,080 |
| 75 | 8.2 | 820 | 447 | 373 | 4,460 |
| -80 | 9.2 | 920 | 545 | 375 | 4,884 |
| 85 | 10.5 | 1,050 | 686 | 364 | 5,334 |
| 90 - OVER | 12.0 | 1,200 | 856 | 344 | 5,807 |

^{*}Computations assume a Federal Rate of 7.0%. The amount of income tax due each year is the product of the taxable portion of the annual payments and your individual income tax rates. You are encouraged to consult your attorney or other professional advisor for advice and assistance.

| Please bas | e the calculat | ions on a pote | ntial agreement in the | e amount of \$ | (minim | num of \$5,000). |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------|------------------|
| First Life | | | | Telepho | one | |
| (Date of Birth) | Month | Day | Year | | Area Code | Number |
| Second Life | | | | | | |
| (Date of Birth) | Month | Day | Year | | | 4 |
| Name | | | | | | |
| Address | | | | | | |
| City | | | State | Zip | | |



Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches + HONOR ROLL *********

Roster of Builders - This Honor Roll gives special recognition to generous supporters of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and its six child-care programs: the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Youth Villa, Youth Ranch/Safety Harbor, Youth Ranch-Bradenton/Sarasota, Youth Camp, and Caruth Camp. Those who give \$250 or more in cash, or \$500 or more in non-cash gifts, receive a Builder Certificate. Those who give \$2,500 or more in cash, or \$5,000 or more in non-cash gifts, receive Lifetime Honorary Membership in the Florida Sheriffs Association. A large wall plaque is awarded to each Lifetime Honorary Member, and gold stars are added when that person's total gifts reach \$5,000 (one star); \$10,000 (two stars); \$15,000 (three stars); \$20,000 (four stars); and \$25,000 (five stars). For gifts of \$50,000 or more, there is the Golden Star Award. Donors of \$100,000 or more receive the Grand Star Award. We want our donors to know we have never permitted other organizations to use our lists of supporters, and we will continue to do everything possible to preserve their privacy.

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Grand Star Award

PINELLAS COUNTY - Sheriff Everett S. Rice (right) and Youth Ranches Development Officer Terry Gregg (left) present the Youth Ranches Grand Star Award to Mrs. Freda Turner.





PALM BEACH COUNTY - Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard (left), Youth Ranches Development Officer Michele Linebaugh (second from right) and Paim Beach County Sheriff Bob Neumann (right) present the Youth Ranches Grand Star Award to Mr. and Mrs. Lionel J. Martoccia, Jr.

Golden Star Award

OSCEOLA COUNTY - Sheriff Charlie Croft (right) and Youth **Ranches Development Officer** Sandy Phillips (left) present the Youth Ranches Golden Star Award to Ms. Alma H. Sherberth.









Mr. Bob Ellinor



Mr. Jason Rambo

MARION COUNTY - Sheriff Ed Dean (right) presents Builder Certificates to the Ocala Insurance Agency and Mr. Paul Smith; Independent National Bank and Mr. Bob Ellinor; and JMM Marketing Co./JMM Marine and Mr. Jason Rambo.

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OKALOOSA COUNTY - Sheriff Charlie Morris (right) presents a Builder Certificate to Mrs. Audrey Gison; and Mr. Paul McDowell.



OKALOOSA COUNTY - Sheriff Charlie Morris (left) presents a Builder Certificate to Major

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FLAGLER COUNTY - Sheriff Robert E. McCarthy (left) presents a Builder Certificate to Ms. Ellen Lacev.



MARTIN COUNTY - Sheriff Robert Crowder (left) presents a Builder Certificate to Ms. Floretta Bartlett, Treasurer of the Lydia Circle Jensen Beach Christian Church.



FLAGLER COUNTY - Sheriff Robert E. McCarthy (left) accepts a \$5,000 check from Mr. Michel Roux on behalf of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches boys and girls.

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MARTIN COUNTY - Sheriff Robert Crowder (left) presents a \$7,500 check to Youth Ranches Senior Development Officer Hank Edwards (right) representing proceeds from the annual Martin County Barbecue & Auction.



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY - Sheriff Gary Wheeler (second from left) accepts a check on behalf of the Youth Ranches from the Kahn family for a special Christmas display for the kids.



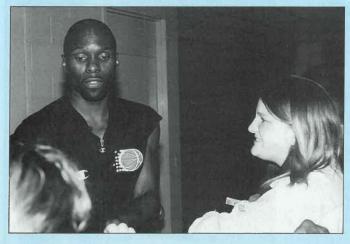
CITRUS COUNTY - Sheriff Jeff Dawsy (left) and Youth Ranches Development Officer Frank Kenny accept a check on behalf of the Youth Ranches from American Express and Mr. Chris Nast (center).

Opportunity For Appreciation

Established as a way to sell donated goods to local citizens and raise money for needy kids, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Opportunity Stores, and the customers who shop in them, believe in the Youth Ranches mission to prevent juvenile delinquency and develop lawful, productive citizens through a broad range of family-centered services.

"It (Appreciation Day) gets better each year," said Opportunity Store Manager Frank Smith. "The community support for this event is extraordinary."

This past spring, the Youth Ranches Opportunity Store in Dunedin celebrated its anniversary by treating store patrons to special discounts as well as law enforcement demonstrations all day long. This year, the event raised over \$8,000 for Florida's needy children.





Orlando Magic stars Darrell Armstrong (at left) and Bo Outlaw (right) took timeout to teach the Villa girls about discipline, hard work and the importance of an education no matter what you do in life.

It's Magic!

The girls of the Youth Villa were treated to an Orlando Magic basketball game this past spring. Taking time-out from their rigorous practice before a game with the Chicago Bulls, Magic players Bo Outlaw and Darrell Armstrong stopped to sign autographs and talk with the Villa youth. The players' main message stressed the importance of receiving an

education. After all, like basketball, it takes discipline and hard work to succeed in school.

"It was a lot of fun," said one girl.

"I can't believe how tall they are," said another.

The Youth Ranches boys and girls thank the Orlando Magic for their hospitality and generosity. It's always encouraging when some of today's sports stars use their celebrity to teach positive lessons to our youth.

Martin County Sheriff's Office Auction & Barbecue raises much needed funding for Florida's youth

As if his ongoing list of duties as Martin County Sheriff, or his growing responsibilities as Chairman of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Board of Directors were not enough, Sheriff Bob Crowder (right) still finds time to host the annual Martin County

Auction & Barbecue. Proceeds from the event help underprivileged boys and girls earn a second chance at life.

"Helping these kids is something we all need



to do," said Sheriff Crowder. "Thankfully, the citizens of Martin County always come through for kids at the Youth Ranches."

Youth Ranches Calendar of Fund-Raising Events

MAY 23-29, 2000 - Youth Villa Classic Week hosted by the Bartow Chamber of Commerce.

JUNE 3, 2000 - Special Car Auction at the Boys Ranch in Live Oak. Doors open at 8 a.m. Auction begins at 9 a.m.

AUG. 5, 2000 - Quarterly auction at Boys Ranch in Live Oak. Doors open at 8 a.m. Auction begins at 9 a.m.

OCT. 6-8, 2000 - Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches 43rd Anniversary Celebration in conjunction with the Boys Ranch Open House and Horse Show.

OCT. 14, 2000 - Calhoun County Gospel Sing.

OCT. 16, 2000 - Pinellas County Golf Tournament hosted by Sheriff Everett S. Rice.

NOV. 4, 2000 - Quarterly auction at the Boys Ranch in Live Oak. Doors open at 8 a.m. Auction begins at 9 a.m.

NOV. 4, 2000 - 10th Annual Leverock Fish Fry hosted by Pinellas County Sheriff Everett S. Rice at the Johnny Leverock Seafood House in Pinellas Park.

NOV. 5, 2000 - Florida Sheriffs Caruth Camp Turkeyin-the-Ground Day.

NOV. 12, 2000 - Florida Sheriffs Youth Camp Turkeyin-the-Ground Day.

DEC. 10, 2000 - Florida Sheriffs Youth Villa Annual Open House.



For Additional Information Contact:

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Public Relations Department at 904/842-5501 or the Sheriff's Office sponsoring the event.

All proceeds benefit the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.

MEMORIAL FUND



Contributions to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches are listed in alphabetical order by name of the deceased. Donors are listed after the name of the person in whose memory they contributed.

The Memorial Fund donations for this listing were received by the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches between January 1, 2000, and March 27, 2000.

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Escambia County Sheriff Jim Lowman (right) talks with one his "inmates" during a recent lockdown to help benefit the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

Locals Go To Jail To Keep Kids Out

Go to jail. Go directly to jail. Do not pass "Go." Do not collect \$200.

A night in the new Escambia County Jail wasn't supposed to be a game, but it was fun. The lockdown raised over \$1,000 for Florida's needy youth. But, who would pay money to put themselves in prison?

"Lots of folks did," said Escambia County Sheriff Jim Lowman. Held at the newly constructed Escambia County Jail, the lockdown gave officers and staff a "dry run" prior to opening and raised money for the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

HONOR GIFTS SUSSESSES



A gift may be made to the Youth Ranches in honor of a person and/or a special occasion, such as a birthday, anniversary, etc. If appropriate, and if a mailing address is provided, a letter of acknowledgment will be sent to the person being honored. A listing of the donor and the person honored will appear in a future issue of The Rancher magazine and, when address is provided, the person honored will receive a copy of the issue in which his or her name appears. In the listing below, the Honoree is listed first in all caps.

75TH BIRTHDAY Mr. Edward G. Green, Jr. **GUY F. AMUSO** CONFIRMATIONS Mr. B. D. Pearson, Jr. **GLADYS ANTIGUA** 31st ANNIVERSARY Mr. Feliciano Antiqua **DET. KEVIN BENNETT** Ms. Hao Thi Mai ROGER BOUCHARD Sheriff and Mrs. Wm. G. "Buddy" Smith **BOYS RANCH CAFETORIUM** STAFF

Sheriff and Mrs. Geoffrey Monae Mr. Ben Sizemore

EARL AND SARAH E. CAIN 50th ANNIVERSARY Mr. & Mrs. Earl Cain CAROLYN Mr. & Mrs. Bennard D.

Buckingham CHARLOTTE COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPUTIES

Holiday Travel Park Activities BETTY S. CLARK BIRTHDAY Mr. Kenneth Clark

DOROTHY CORRINGTON Ms. Charlotte C. Webb LT. RON CUCCHIARA Mr. Richard Wood DEP. DAVID DANZIG

Ms Ruth Sullivan DIXIE COUNTY SHERIFFS **DEPUTIES** Mr. & Mrs. John B. Spohrer, Jr.

LYLA EARLY Mr. & Mrs. Clifford E. Randall MARK S. EMMONS Mr. & Mrs. David W. Emmons **ERIK FAHNOE**

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Laser MARIA FAHNOE Mr. & Mrs. Roger Bouchard

FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH **RANCHES** Spring Hill First United

Methodist United Methodist Men Mr. Olider Sanchez FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH

RANCHES STAFF Sheriff and Mrs. Wm. G.

"Buddy" Smith **FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA**

Ms. Shirley A. Cronk **NANCY GALLOWAY** Mr. & Mrs. James B. Galloway NANCY GARRETT BIRTHDAY

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Hurner

DON GENUNG Mrs. Iscilda C. Partelow WILLIAM 'BILL' GIZEY Mrs Lillian S. Gizev DEP. RYAN GRIMSDALE Mr. Sheldon Haffner **BETTY AND JAMES** GRUNHOLZER Ms. Keightley Stringfellow CORP. BRIAN HAGGERTY Holiday Travel Park Activities **NELLYE C. HAINES** BIRTHDAY Mr. & Mrs. John R. Clements

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas S. Clements

DEP. BRIAN HUDGENS Ms. Ruth Sullivan JANET G. KASE BIRTHDAY

Mr. & Mrs. Lester Lee Heddle PAULINE KENNEDY Dr. & Mrs. Ben S. Kennedy DEP. C. R. KINDLE

Ms. Hao Thi Mai DEP. RUSSELL KLAR Ms. Hao Thi Mai

JOSEPH "GRANDPA JOE" KOENIGSBERG

Mrs. Lisa R. Stern JANICE LAMSA BIRTHDAY

Mr. Alexander Bloch LOUIE AND LOUISE LANDREY Mr. Craig M. Waren

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Woodville Little League Winthrop Park Little League MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FUNERAL ESCORT Ms. Jeanne Floyd

CARLYLE MARTIN BIRTHDAY

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Hurner ZACHARY B. MARTIN, JR., M.D.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Hurner SHERIFF GEOFFREY MONGE

RETIREMENT Mr. William Kling Mr. & Mrs. Terrence M. Lewis **ALLIE NEWTON**

Fra Great South Realthy, Inc. Mr. Jason Burgess

Mr. Jimmy Burgess **ROSE MARY TREADWAY** OELRICH

BIRTHDAY Ms, Laura Hall Mr. Andrew Makawshka Mrs. Linda S. Jones Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church

Mr. & Mrs. Steven F. Singer Mr. & Mrs. Roger Bouchard MR. AND MRS. CLIFTON PARKER Mr. & Mrs. Mike Woolley PINELLAS COUNTY WAR VETERANS

Voiture 1217 - 40 & 8 Society WILLIAM E. POWERS, JR. Mr. & Mrs. Keith C. Tischler

JIM RAYMOND Sheriff and Mrs. Geoffrey Monge

RAY SCHWEIKERT Mr. & Mrs. Arnold W. Frear **MONICA SELES**

Sheriff and Mrs. Geoffrey Monge

HOLLY SHAWVAN RIPTHDAY Mrs. Vicki S. Shawvan

LOUISE NORMAN SMITH 100TH BIRTHDAY Mr. & Mrs. Richard Beach

A. EARLO AND MAXINE TANNER

50th ANNIVERSARY Hon. & Mrs. Jeff D. Miller Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Roberts Mrs. Esther Pettypiece Mrs. Ellen Sunka Mrs. Josette Banks THOSE IN ACTION IN WORLD

WAR II Mr. John Tavani WALTER TIPERT 90th BIRTHDAY

Sheriff and Mrs. Geoffrey SHERIFF GUY TUNNELL

BIRTHDAY Ms. Carole Joseph HARRY WEAVER Sheriff and Mrs. Wm. G.

"Buddy" Smith WINFIELD WEEKS 73rd BIRTHDAY Mrs. Caroline E. Weeks

SHERIFF GARY WHEELER Camp Younts Foundation

Singing Their Praises

First ever Gann Brothers Gospel Sing raises over \$3,000 to help needy boys and girls learn self-respect and build self-esteem.

You could call it music therapy. Through the words and sounds of gospel, troubled youth are discovering the power of music; they are finding the courage to heal wounds from the past.

Until now, perhaps an unorthodox way to raise money, the gospel sing has become a popular Youth Ranches special event. It is the perfect chance to enjoy time with friends, fellowship with family and a night full of fantastic music. Proceeds from the occasion go directly into the care of underprivileged children.

"We really always admired the work the Youth Ranches did with kids," said Mr. Calvin Gann. "We wanted to be a part of it somehow . . . this just seemed like the best way to help their boys and girls."

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches thanks host and Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell as well as the Gann Brothers for their help and enthusiasm. We look forward to the Second Annual Gann Brothers Gospel Sing early next year. Retired cartoonist and Youth Ranches supporter Ed Tison of New Smyrna Beach submitted this unique sketch as his own vision of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. We agreed with suggestion . . . "When They Need a Helping Hand"



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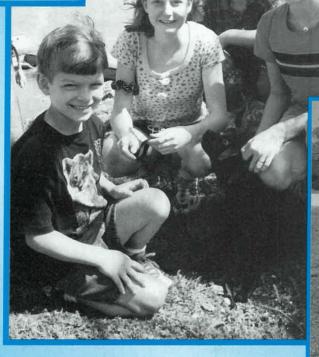
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Gone Fishing

You've probably seen the images over and again, of a father and son "gone fishing."
The image is clear; the picture is timeless. You can probably imagine what the basket of bread and bait look like.
Maybe you can recall your own first rod and reel,



perhaps made of something as simple as bamboo and string. Well, thanks to a special fishing trip hosted by Dixie County Sheriff Dewey Hatcher and local resident Dr. Stoddard, Youth Ranches boys and girls found out what it was like to catch their first fish (and throw it back). One particular youngster, Chris, shares the proud moment with Pop Davis.



FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES BOYS RANCH, FLORIDA 32064

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