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Teaching Youngsters to Accept Responsibility and Change the Future!

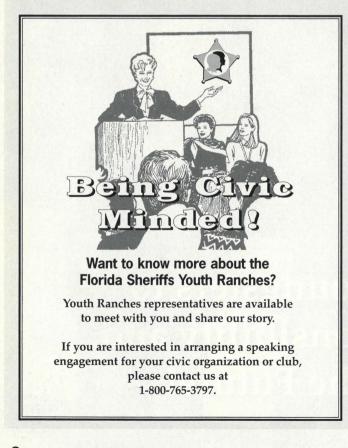
President's Perspective

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



President Harry S. Truman once stated, "Men make history, and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. <u>Progress occurs</u> when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

When young people come to the Youth Ranches for help, one of the first and most important things we explain and teach to them is how they must be responsible for the course of their lives. No matter what tragedies and struggles they have experienced, only they can determine their future direction. This is the first and most basic principle of leadership~ the willingness to accept responsibility for our own actions and attitudes. This becomes the foundation to begin changing things for the better.



As these youngsters begin to realize they hold the keys to their future success in their own hands, they become motivated to apply themselves to their jobs, education and personal growth. They mature past the point of needing someone to tell them what to do but welcome those who teach them how to live.

The articles in this issue of *The Rancher* speak of our children achieving goals and pursuing dreams. I hope you enjoy the stories, and take pride, along with us, in the success of these young men and women. Without your generous support, the Youth Ranches would not have been here to help them get a fresh start toward a brighter future.

Thank you so much for helping them become lawful, productive citizens!

Roger Bouchard

Roger Bouchard, President



Publisher, Roger O. Bouchard, Jr. President, Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. Associate Publisher, Alison E. Evans Graphic Artist, Frank J. Jones Production Assistants: Kathleen Dillon and Ali Cole

THE RANCHER is published quarterly in spring, summer, fall, and winter by the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, a non-profit corporation, Boys Ranch, Florida 32064. This is a free publication. If you have any questions, call 1-800-765-3797, or visit us on the web at **http://www.youthranches.org**. Copyright © 2004 by the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.





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."

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. registration number is CH954. 100% of charitable contributions are received by the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. TOLL-FREE WITHIN FLORIDA 1-800-HELP-FLA Quotes and Notes

"I am a former Rancher. I would like to say thank you for helping me out. The Boys Ranch will always have my full support. The youth there today need to take advantage of the program because they need to be ready for the real world." ~ John Cox, US Army, Iraq "I wanted to thank you for the experience of Camp Harmony. Though I only stayed for a mere five days, it still helped me with conflicting issues and present day problems...The High Ropes were challenging and it helped a lot of people conquer their fears and set new goals. I wasn't afraid and it was incredibly exciting...Thank you again for this privilege!" ~ Emily, Caruth Camp

"Thank you for taking me to the Boys Ranch. It was truly wonderful to see what a magnificent job you are doing for those boys...how well they are responding and the responsibility they are given. I shall truly spread the word. Please thank all those who were so hospitable and gracious." ~ Donor Janet L.

"Recently, when I was cleaning out the car, I had the opportunity to choose between wisdom and foolishness. I chose foolishness and threw out something of value. What I should have done was chosen wisdom and picked up the item, cleaned under it and put it back." Rancher Sean

"I just wanted to thank you and your wonderful staff. My daughter was fortunate enough to attend Project Harmony. What a wonderful opportunity for these kids. I was able to attend the awards ceremony and was very impressed with the staff and the beautiful facility." ~ Lindsey's Dad

"While being here, I have learned that I was my worst critic. I have had to think positive to be recognized for positive things. I also realized that no one can make you change...you have to want to change! The two most important things I will take from the Ranch is 'opportunity to accomplish great things' and 'a loving, caring family!" Rancher Brittney

Editor's note: These are just a few of the notes we receive in the mail or from our website (www.youthranches.org.) Minor adjustments may be made for clarity within the content, but the context remains the same.

Building a Brighter Future for the Leaders of Tomorrow



ising above the challenges of an abusive, shattered family, Sean has experienced the true courage and remarkable strength that only surfaces during periods of extreme

adversity. Deep within himself, he knows he has worth, value and a willingness to lead.

Sean has found happiness in his new home at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. However, he yearns for more than a roof over his head and three square meals a day. Sean thrives on success and recently discovered he is in control of his future. The opportunities are right before him, and his confidence is quickly catching up with his abilities.

Over the past three years, Sean participated in many activities at the Ranch that helped him develop positive leadership skills. He has worked at the farm, raised a heifer, been recognized as a Riding Rancher, served on the Ranch Council and performed well in school. He is bright, energetic and quite charming.

However, being a good leader also means you must learn how to serve others. Given his ambition and good behavior, Sean was selected to represent the Ranch and serve as a Page in the Florida Senate. He and two other Ranchers spent one week assisting the Senators, understanding our state government and holding a "mock" session with their peers.

This exciting experience energized this young

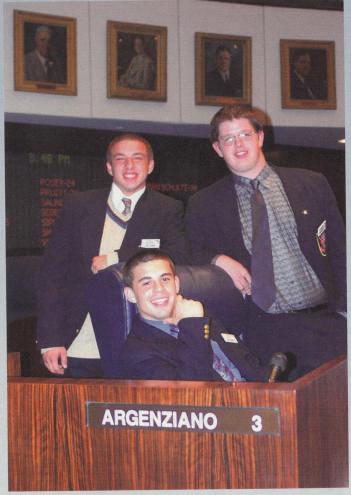


Serving Florida as the Coordinator of the Senate Page program, Miss Minnie did an exceptional job keeping track of all the kids involved with the program. Mike (center, back) insisted she was "the coolest person I met in Tallahassee."

man, elevated his confidence and opened up an entirely unknown interest in leadership. "We got to see Senator Argenziano debate an issue on the floor of the Senate. She was awesome...the best debater I have ever heard," Sean proclaimed. "After watching her, I knew I could stand up and speak my mind on the issue we discussed in our mock session. I didn't vote the way the other kids did. I voted for what I believed was right!"

We are very proud of our boys ~ Sean, Mike and Matt~ we know their lives are better because

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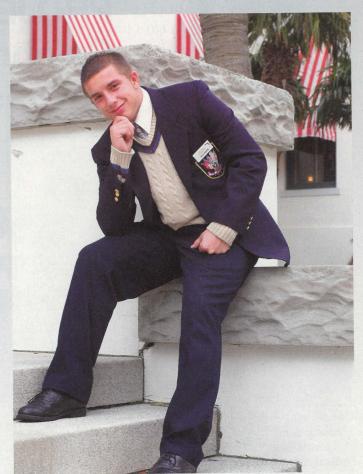
The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Caruth Camp are both located in the district served by Senator Nancy Argenziano. The boys selected her chair for their photo in the Senate Chambers. Matt (seated) recognized that many of the other kids in the Page program were "straight A" students or came from wealthy/well known families ~ when asked who he knew to 'get in' to the program, he replied, "All the Sheriffs in the state of Florida!"

of the opportunities you provide to help us develop good leadership skills within them. And, one simple example of how we know this...on the drive home to the Boys Ranch, they turned off the music and tuned in to "The Capitol Report" radio show. Yes, our boys are becoming young men ~ responsible, educated, and interested in the future! ◆

Sean's confidence soared after his week of service as a Page in the Florida Senate.



Matt, Sean and Mike unanimously agreed they would like to spend the entire session serving as Pages for the Florida Senate.





Tasha Stolo attended Project Harmony eight years ago and is now studying business management at Daytona Beach Community College. She says, "The experience and skills students gain at Camp Harmony are great building blocks for future situations. Thank you to everyone involved in making that possible."

"Project Harmony isn't a

boot camp. And it isn't a holding facility for juveniles," said Dr. Patrick Coggins, Professor of Education at Stetson University. "It's just a happy place where kids can come and



Retiring Volusia County School Superintendent Bill Hall said, "Don't ever, ever let Project Harmony go by the wayside. It's good for children, and frankly it's good for adults who bring their children out here. It's good for all of us." Volusia County Sheriff Ben Johnson (right) and some of the students presented Superintendent Hall (left) with a special Harmony puzzle depicting how a variety of students in all shapes, sizes, and colors can fit together in Harmony.

PROJECT HARMONY_® Celebrates a Decade of Success



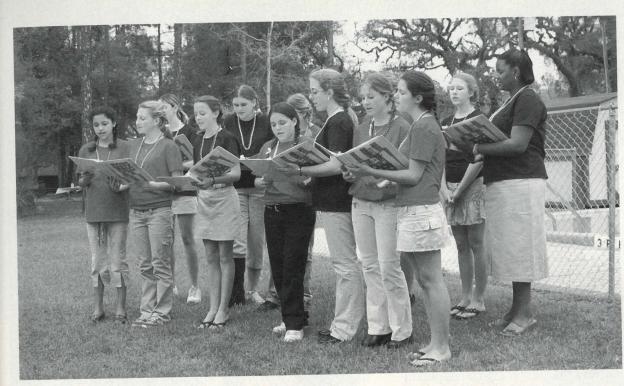
By: Gary Davidson, Volusia County Sheriffs Office

After ten years of promoting cultural diversity and reducing school violence, Project Harmony remains a model of success and is emulated in more than a dozen counties across Florida. "What a great, great project this is," said Volusia County Sheriff Ben Johnson. "What started kind of as a dream here in Volusia County is now being imitated throughout the state."

Project Harmony combats school violence by emphasizing leadership skills, cultural diversity and conflict resolution training.

During weeklong retreats, students are confronted with cultural diversity issues and challenged to work together to improve their school environment. Conflict resolution and

grow and develop."



A group of girls from Ormond Beach Middle School performed two songs at the Project Harmony Open House celebration.

leadership training are reinforced with challenge course activities which encourage cooperation and problem-solving.

Initial studies show Project Harmony has reduced suspensions and absenteeism in middle schools, and program participants as a whole have improved their academic performance. "This is a leadership program. That's what it's all about," proclaimed Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard. +

Sewing Seeds of Creativity and Love

We believe youngsters who use their time wisely and engage in productive activities have less of a chance to get caught up in mischievous behavior. We have also seen some great ideas emerge from creative minds. So many beautiful and unique items can be designed by children involved in craft activities.

Recently, a very special donor provided a fantastic sewing machine for use by the girls at the Youth Villa. "Mom" Ramey has a special interest in this area and believes she can teach this creative and fun activity to the girls in her cottage. From mending a hem to making a new dress, these abilities will also be a practical skill for use in their future. ◆



Mr. Percy E. Wheeler, Jr. (center) accompanied by Mrs. Betty Howard and Development Relations Officer Don Meek (center back) presented a new sewing machine to Cottage Parents Ed and Carolyn Ramey (left) for use by the girls who live in Buena Vista Cottage at the Youth Villa.

Three Years Later... Kris is still going strong...**MIGHTY STRONG!!**

ust out of middle school, Kris found himself in an awkward situation. He had not seen his dad in about six years and his fragmented family was beginning to feel the impact of a young teen on the brink of delinquency and destruction. He needed a stable home with a clear, firm set of rules. At the time, he didn't understand it, but moving to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch was the best thing to happen in his life.

In his first year at the Ranch, Kris joined the high school marching band. He enjoyed this activity but soon grew restless on the sidelines of the big games.

The following year, he traded one uniform for another and began the physical transformation it would take to play varsity football. The strength and endurance training during his sophomore year led him to two other sports that focused on individual achievement as a part of team success.

As a junior, Kris became a leader on the high school wrestling and weightlifting teams. In fact, during one wrestling match, the team's victory rested squarely on the outcome of his individual match – and much to the proud pleasure of "Mom" and "Pop" Barnett, Kris gutted out the victory and helped the team put a "W" in the win column.

This spring, Kris put tremendous energy and focus into helping the weightlifting team proceed to the



Kris was selected to share with the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Board of Directors about the three years he has lived at the Boys Ranch. He plans to remain at the Ranch until he graduates and then join the Marines.

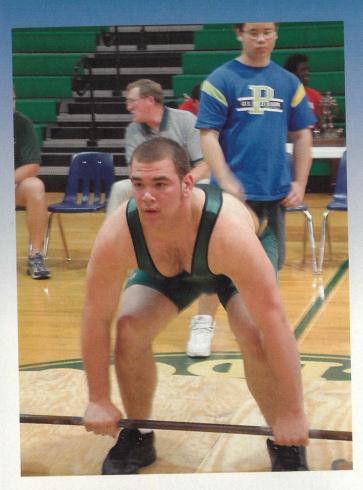
Two of Kris' biggest fans are Pop and Mom Barnett. They are very proud of Kris' tremendous accomplishments. Over the years, they have seen him grow to become a bright, talented young man!

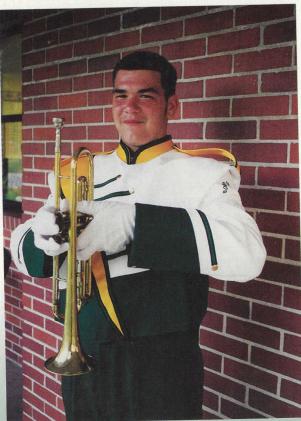
hopes to be a part of a state championship during his senior year of high school.

Aside from athletic competition, Kris' favorite thing about the Ranch is being able to work. He has a part-time job at the local Dairy Queen and helps out at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Opportunity Store with lawn and grounds maintenance.

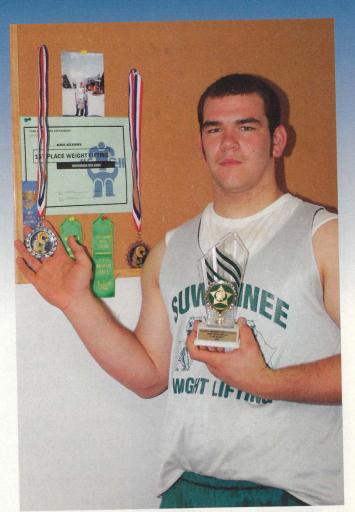
When he has any extra free time, you can find Kris out at the barn on the Ranch. "One thing the Boys Ranch has taught me is how to interact with people better. I would rather work independently (outside or with animals) but you can't always work by yourself," he said. Over the past three years, Kris has grown up to become a healthy, strong young man. We are proud of the progress

regional finals. He is running seven miles a day and eating right to stay in shape for this tough competition. Kris is already looking ahead to next season and he has made and the leadership roles he has taken in his school and on the Ranch. +

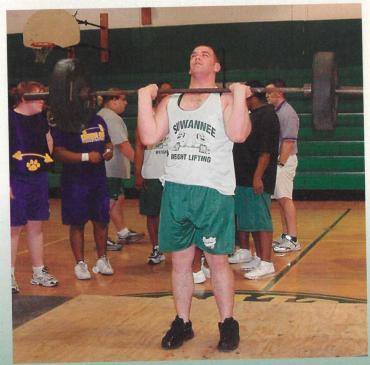




As a freshman, Kris played the trumpet in the high school band.



Through his successful athletic competition, Kris has emerged as a leader among his peers. He is known for his commitment to practice his sport as he builds his strength and stamina. (photos compliments of Janet Schrader – Suwannee Democrat)



Leading the Way to a Productive Future

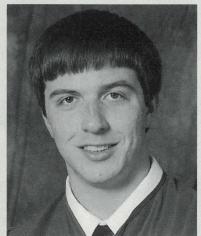
The graduating members of the Class of 2004 have successfully completed the tasks set before them and have earned their high school diploma. We are so proud of their diligent efforts and applaud this tremendous achievement.



MIKE ~ Class of 2004

Mike has lived at the Boys Ranch for over two years. During this time, he has brought his grades up and excelled in the leadership opportunities at the Ranch. Mike

has served on the Ranch Council and won the Director's Award in 2003. He plans to return to the Tampa Bay area and enter trade school.

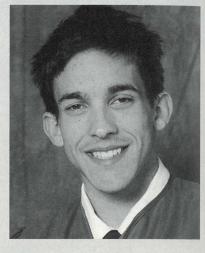


JOSH - Class of 2004 Josh is an extremely intelligent young man who has lived at the Boys Ranch since last summer. He plans to continue his formal education in college and hopes

to become a pediatrician.

COREY

- Class of 2004 Corey is an enthusiastic and diligent individual. He has received high praise for his job performance at the Swick Memorial Cafetorium. Corey is pre-



enrolled in the Marines and will report for duty this summer.

SUMMER - Class of 2004 Summer is an adventurous young woman with a carefully planned future. She has enrolled in St. Petersburg College this

summer and will

take a class that

includes an

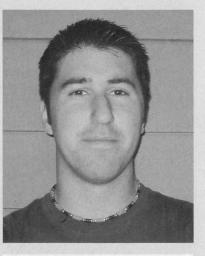


educational trip to Europe. This fall she will attend Tallahassee Community College and study journalism.



DAVID

- Class of 2004 David has already been accepted into Florida State University where he will major in business. He is excited about his future and the independence of college life.



SAMANTHA ~ Class of 2004

Samantha has lived at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Villa since 2002. She has successfully completed the



program and plans to return to south Florida and enroll in Broward Community College.

STEPHANIE - Class of 2004 Over the past year, Stephanie has maintained a job off campus at a local fast food restaurant. After graduation, she plans to work fulltime and move out on her own. She is hopeful that



her employer will consider her for future management opportunities.

PHILIP ~ **Class of 2004** (photo not available) Philip plans to enroll full time in a vocational school, with the hopes of becoming a Master Welder. **+**

President's Note: We are so proud of our Seniors! Thanks to previous gifts from our donor family, we currently have scholarship funds available to help these young adults and Alumni with their tuition and other expenses. Much like family, we will continue to invest our love and money in them as they become lawful, productive citizens.

However, in future years, we may not be able to get youngsters like them to this point. New legislation and other issues may restrict our ability to provide on-campus educational centers and qualified teachers who help us mend the academically discouraged and dejected youth of Florida.

Work, <u>STUDY</u>, Pray and Play are the four cornerstones of our success with these children

as we help prevent juvenile delinquency. Many of our kids come to us with failing grades, failing attitudes or both. We have proven our unique on-campus educational system is the best alternative for most of these children and **we need your help!**

We are counting on your faithful and generous commitment to help fund our general purposes including educating these children and providing them with the tools, supplies, buildings and teachers they need to overcome the challenges in their lives. Please invest in their future today by sending your gift in the envelope enclosed in this magazine.

Thank you so much for Caring and Sharing!

Creating Families through Camp Connection

Camp Connection's goal is to bring parents/families interested in adopting a child together with the children who are available for adoption and give them a chance to get to know one another in a peaceful, outdoor setting.

As the story has been told...

Mr. and Mrs. "Jones" had a strong desire to adopt a boy. They thought Camp Connection would be the perfect opportunity to meet some of the available children. With the help of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) staff, the Jones' prepared to spend a few days at the Caruth Camp.

One of the key rules for the parents was not to mention the possibility of adoption to any of the children. No pressure or formalities...this was just to be a time of fellowship and family-oriented fun.

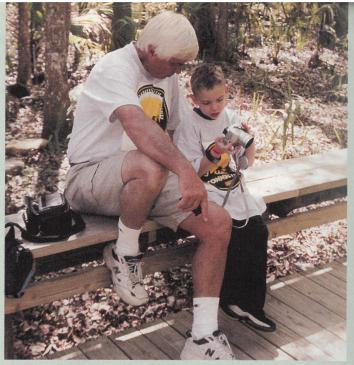
Because there were more "available children" than "adoptive parents" at camp, the Jones' met several different boys and girls, along with "Charlie." After lunch, Charlie followed Mr. Jones out of the building. He said, "Mister? Do you know anything about adoption?" A bit surprised by the question, but wanting to build every relationship on honesty, Mr. Jones knelt down and said, "Sure. What's on your mind?"

The boy looked him straight in the eyes and said, "If you adopt me, I promise I'll be a good son."

We do not know, but maybe, just maybe, this was the birthday of a new family.

Many children in the care and custody of the Florida Department of Children and Family Services are available for adoption. However, sometimes the search for a suitable adoptive family is not easy.

Florida Governor Jeb Bush has initiated this new program piloted at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Caruth Camp in conjunction with DCF/Orlando. We called this adoption program "Camp Connection" and soon thereafter a similar week led by Youth Ranches



Getting to know one another! This adoptive dad brought along his camera to capture some of the natural beauty at Caruth Camp. This youngster's curiosity in his new camera may eventually prove to be the beginning of a future family.



Many children came to camp from a temporary foster home or other shelter setting. At Camp Connection, each child received a huge bag filled with their very own sleeping bag, pillow, towel, toiletries, flashlight, bug spray, water bottle, bandana, sunscreen, rain gear, hat shirt, back pack and many other fun items...everything they needed for a great adventure at camp!

staff called "Camp Cool Kids" was hosted by Hillsborough Kids, Inc.

We are proud to be a part of this dynamic, collaborative effort to help create new families by placing children in loving adoptive homes. With your support, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches will continue to seek new and unique ways to help build and strengthen the families of Florida. \blacklozenge

Board of Directors **Provides** Strong Leadership

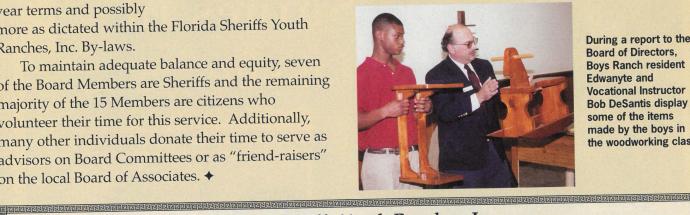
In cooperation with the Florida Sheriffs Association, nominations are received annually for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Board of Directors. The organization is carefully structured with initial threeyear terms and possibly



Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. Board of Directors 2004-2005 Seated, left to right - Bob Owens, Rose Mary Oelrich, Kimberly Hopper, Sheriff Bob Milner. Standing, left to right - Sheriff Frank Owens, Sheriff Al Williams, Dan Hager, Sheriff Bill Farmer, Erik Fahnoe, Sheriff Ed Dean, Fred Hertel, Jim Gill, Boys Ranch Alumnus Len Russek. (not pictured) Sheriff Bill Balkwill, Sheriff Ed Bieluch and Sheriff Pete Bucher.

more as dictated within the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. By-laws.

To maintain adequate balance and equity, seven of the Board Members are Sheriffs and the remaining majority of the 15 Members are citizens who volunteer their time for this service. Additionally, many other individuals donate their time to serve as advisors on Board Committees or as "friend-raisers" on the local Board of Associates. +



During a report to the **Board of Directors**, **Boys Ranch resident** Edwanyte and **Vocational Instructor Bob DeSantis display** some of the items made by the boys in the woodworking class.

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sheriff Al Williams, Jr., Suwannee County Chairman

Sheriff Bob Milner, Jr., Bradford County **Immediate Past Chairman**

Mr. Bob Owens, West Palm Beach Vice-Chairman

Sheriff Frank Owens, Columbia County Secretary

> Mr. Dan Hager, Bradenton Treasurer

Sheriff Bill Farmer, Jr., Sumter County Mrs. Kimberly Hopper, Parrish Mrs. Rose Mary Oelrich, Gainesville Mr. Len Russek, St. Petersburg Boys Ranch Alumnus Mr. Jim Gill, Starke Mr. Fred Hertel, Naples

Sheriff Bill Balkwill, Sarasota County Sheriff Ed Bieluch, Palm Beach County

Mr. Erik Fahnoe, Boca Raton Sheriff Ed Dean, Jr., Marion County Sheriff Pete Bucher, Madison County

Santana Shines in Tallahassee



ust 17, Santana is certain she wants her voice to be heard. She has lived with us for over a year and actively seeks appropriate opportunities to speak on behalf of her peers.

As a campus leader, Santana was elected to the Campus Council, a collective group of residents who address the issues, suggestions and recommendations of all the girls living at the Youth Villa. During this experience, she improved her grammar, public speaking skills and most of all her self–confidence.

Santana excelled and her candid style impressed people so much, she was selected be a part of the Kids Hope America delegation. This group of teens, who are under the supervision of the Department of Children and Families, had the opportunity to speak to the Governor and other legislators about their experiences. Many proclamations and special items are in the Governor's Conference room. Santana particularly noticed this set of boots worn by a NYC firefighter on September 11, 2001.

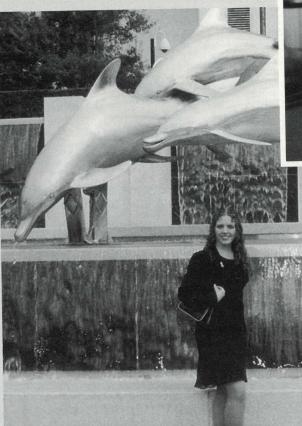
Carefully and with much respect, Santana shared her story and expressed great appreciation that she had found a home at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Villa. However, she was concerned about what would happen to her after she left the program. She has a great desire to be out on her own and live independently, but knows she will need ongoing help to achieve her goals.

During one of the group's discussions, the question arose about the availability of Medicaid funding for the healthcare of former "dependents of the state" between the ages of 18-21. Santana jotted down the name of a Legislator who did not support this issue.

Immediately after the discussion was

over, she made a beeline directly to the office of the law maker and patiently waited for her turn to make her point. After graduation next year, she hopes to attend school, and needs the continuation of this health care program. She took full advantage of her presence in Tallahassee to ensure her concerns were heard.

Like many of the children in our care, Santana has learned to stand up for herself in a very appropriate and proper way. She has decided to resist the self-pity, "poor me" attitude and embrace the positive, pro-active alternatives that can truly change her future. \blacklozenge



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Santana was very pleased to have the opportunity to meet with Governor Bush. She wanted him to know about life at the Youth Villa and the difference it has made in her life.

Santana paused briefly for this photo before she went up the steps into the Capitol. She is proud to be an advocate for teenagers throughout the state of Florida.



The children are waiting for you!

Since Camp starts in just a few weeks, we wanted to be sure you had an opportunity to sponsor a child at camp this year.

Your gift provides children with the opportunity for a life changing experience. Our staff and volunteer Law Enforcement Officers enjoy Summer Camp immensely because of the differences they see in children after just one week. The quiet, shy child might become the cabin leader...the rebellious youngster learns respect for authority...the child who has never been in a boat can become the best canoeist in the group. We are always amazed at the changes that can happen in a young person's life with a little one-on-one attention and a great big outdoor adventure! You can help us create a refreshing, positive outlook in a needy and deserving child's life.

We hope to serve over one thousand children through our Summer Camping programs this year. <u>Will you join with us and help us make this happen</u>? Children are waiting in line to go to camp... they are waiting for your help and generous support! Please complete the information below and send your thoughtful gift right away.

Thank you for caring and sharing!

Pleas	se help a deserving child attend Summer Camp this y YES! I WANT TO SPONSOR A BOY OR GIRL AT SUMMER CAMP!	year!
	Here's my gift to help sponsor troubled boys and girls at camp this summer	: 12
~ ~	□ \$200 (full campership) □ \$100 □ \$50 □ \$25 □ \$10 Other \$	
NAME		ACCREDITED
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PHONE	E-MAIL	American Camping Association

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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!

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

Consider a Charitable Gift Annuity

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Your gift (cash, stocks, bonds, or mutual funds) can help deserving youngsters and secure future income for you or someone you love. This irrevocable agreement is backed by the assets of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.

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.

me .ife!	Charitable	Gift Annuity at ind	and available charitable deduction for Single-Life indicated ages based on a \$10,000 agreement. 5) 842-5501 if you have any questions.			
AGE	GIFT ANNUITY RATE	ANNUITY PAYMENT	TAX-FREE PORTION*	TAXABLE PORTION*	INITIAL CHARITABLE DEDUCTION	
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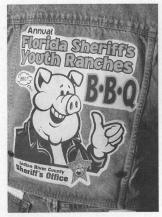
*Computations assume a Federal Rate of 6.2%. The amount of income tax due each year is the product of the taxable portion of the annual payments and your individual income tax rates. You are encouraged to consult your attorney or other professional advisor for advice and assistance.

Charitable Gift Annuity

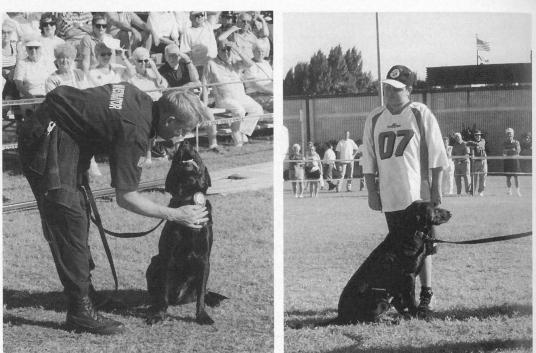
Please send me "no obligation" calculations showing the income and tax benefits of a gift annuity.

Please base the calculations on a potential agreement in the amount of \$_____ (minimum of \$5,000.)

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I 0th Anniversary BBQ is Another Big Success!



This K-9 Officer praises his dog after demonstrating his ability to find explosive powder planted in the shoes of a volunteer "bad guy." The dog signifies the presence of the harmful substance by sitting down where it is detected. This crime fighting ability can be used around people or with baggage/packages.

With tremendous support from the local citizens and the business community, the Indian River County Sheriffs Office hosted another incredibly successful barbecue. The event featured delicious food, great music and wonderful fellowship. Many different law enforcement and other public service agencies joined with the Sheriffs Office to demonstrate their equipment and services.

Special thanks are extended to the many sponsors and volunteers who help make this event possible. \blacklozenge





As the barbecue began, Event Chairwoman Mary Ellen Jones and Indian River County Sheriff Roy Raymond (right) presented a check for \$37,000 to Special Events Manager Joe McLeod (left) and Donor Relations Officer Dr. Hank Edwards.

After their exciting demonstration, the SWAT team paused for a quick photo. They were ranked 8th in the world at the recent SWAT round-up competition held in Orlando. Three of the team members (Brad Fojtik, Chris Carrington and Miguel Cruz) also serve the Sheriffs Office as School Resource Officers and volunteer at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Summer Camp.

Honor and Remember

Remembering and Honoring Mary Louise Brown A Great Volunteer and Friend of Children

Mary Louise Brown was a caring individual who always made time to help others. Years ago, she married a man in the Navy and their world was intertwined with military life. Even though they never had any children, she was like a mother to many people. After Lieutenant Commander Brown retired, they traveled the country and eventually settled in Sarasota County over 40 years ago.

Eventually widowed, Mrs. Brown was always very involved as a volunteer with the Methodist church, the hospital auxiliary and worked with other agencies in her community. She drove many miles to deliver food through the "Meals on Wheels" program and continued her selfless service by preparing packages of food for others at the food bank after she stopped driving.

Mrs. Brown had a very tender and special place in her heart for those less fortunate, especially children. Through her will, she made a very specific and special bequest to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches to ensure our boys and girls would have a good, loving home. We are forever grateful for her generosity.

Today, we honor and remember Mary Louise Brown for her many acts of loving kindness as a great volunteer and a true friend of children in need. ◆



The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches is dependent on gifts from folks like Mary Louise Brown. She is a shining star in the lives of the children we serve. Remember, your will should be reviewed annually.

Please send me the booklet:

Giving Through Your Will

Visit me when you are in my area.

P.O. Box 2000

Address inquiries to:

Office of the President

Boys Ranch, Florida 32064

Telephone: (386) 842-5501

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

Giving Securities

Giving Real Estate

Other

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 including the Youth Ranches in your estate plans, please complete the coupon below and mail it in the postage-paid envelope found elsewhere in this magazine.

Name	The proper legal name to
Address	<i>provide a bequest is:</i> "I bequeath to the
City	State Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.,
ZipTelephone No. ()	Boys Ranch, Florida 32064 "

George & Georgette

Coming Home Again!

In the late 80's, after the death of their parents, twins George and Georgette (age 14) found a new home at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. Georgette lived at the Youth Villa in Bartow and George moved to the Boys Ranch in Live Oak. As time moved on and they were ready to be on their own, each found great success working with the military.

Recently, George, along with Marie, his wife, their sons and some friends visited the Boys Ranch. They walked along the banks of the Suwannee River and drove through the beautiful land he once called home.

George recalled all the recreational opportunities he had at the Boys Ranch. "We had a lot of organized sports. We would play against local groups like the YMCA and PAL. I also earned my lifeguard certification and I have maintained it. I am glad I did because I needed it



After their parents died, George and Georgette came to live with us and became members of our Youth Ranches family. Now, over 15 years later, Georgette lives in Alabama and is a contractor in the Food Service Division of the military. George lives in Georgia with his family and continues his career with the Army.

when I was stationed in Hawaii."

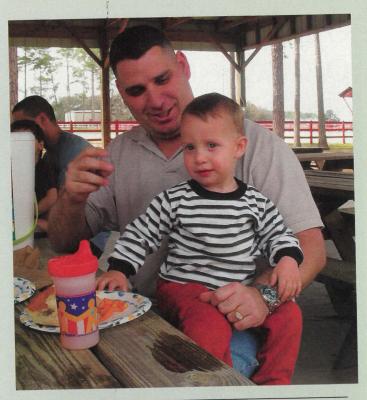
Ironically, when George was stationed in Hawaii, he noticed an older couple walking on



base. He remarked to his wife, "They sure look familiar." Crossing paths with them again, George stopped to say hello and immediately realized it was his former Cottage Parents Mom and Pop Whitehead. They had a wonderful visit and George later exclaimed, "This was certainly the last place I expected to see them!"

Today, George and his family live in Hogansville, Georgia. He works at the Army Reserve Center and is responsible for training/ surveying Army Reserve units for readiness. He has many fond memories of his years at the Boys Ranch and plans to return again this October to visit with other Alumni during the annual Boys Ranch Open House and Horse Show. \blacklozenge

> Boys Ranch Alumnus George Howard enjoyed a picnic lunch with his family and friends. He was especially proud of his two sons George, Jr. and Hunter. While George, Jr. was off exploring the Boys Ranch, Dad and Hunter finished their lunch together.



Spirit of Humanity Award is a Great Honor!

The Debartolo Family Foundation has selected the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches as a recipient of the prestigious "Spirit of Humanity" award that recognizes non-profit organizations

that provide extraordinary assistance to Tampa Bay Residents with special needs.

Nominated by a caring couple who have volunteered at the Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor for the past 15 years, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sachs wrote, "We can state unequivocally that there is no organization we are aware of that does more to help turn the lives of children around....Without the help of the services provided by



The children of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor accept the Spirit of Humanity Award from Lisa DeBartolo (center left) and Nikki DeBartolo Heldfond (center right) of the DeBartolo Family Foundation.

F.S.Y.R., these children would continue to live in abusive home environments, and inevitably (odds are) turn out to be unproductive adults. F.S.Y.R. gives them the opportunity and skills to succeed..." Lisa DeBartolo, Executive Director of the DeBartolo Family Foundation states, "We are pleased to honor an organization that has helped so many children and families in our community.

Through their loving and nurturing programs, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches has turned around the lives of many young people and allowed them to achieve success in their adult lives."

Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard responded,

" We are honored to receive the Spirit of Humanity Award. The generous donation the DeBartolo family has provided will

enable us to continue on our mission, which helps youth, families, and entire communities. On behalf of the Youth Ranches and Sheriffs of Florida, we thank the DeBartolos for their support." \blacklozenge

Opportunity Stores Offer Outstanding Support!

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches operates three thrift stores known as Opportunity Stores. Each accepts donated items in good condition such as furniture, appliances, clothes and other household items. In Dunedin,

the store is located near the Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor. Each Saturday, some of



Opportunity Store Manager Tim Proper and Assistant Manager Jane Phee enjoy mentoring young ladies like Mary (seated) who spend time working at the store each Saturday.

the Ranchers spend time working in the store, sorting items and helping customers. This gives our youth an opportunity to learn excellent customer service skills and understand the effort

Little Ladies with BIG Hearts!

Jordyn Endsley and Kyra Smith are two very special leaders in the Safety Harbor community. On their own initiative, these young Girl Scouts decided to reach out and help other girls within their local neighborhood. These two caring Scouts organized and conducted a very successful garage sale and raised \$441 in just one day! Then, they proudly visited the older girls who live at the Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor and presented them with this very generous and meaningful gift!



Youth Ranches employee Flo Barnes and Rancher Keilah help a customer at the Opportunity Store in Dunedin.

behind a retail sales operation.

Thankfully, our faithful donor family continues to donate useable items to help keep the store stocked with inventory and our customers regularly visit the stores in search of a great deal. We appreciate this continued support! +



Salls Cottage Mom Linda Orkney (center) proudly accepts this very special donation from Jordyn Endsley and Kyra Smith. All the girls who live in the cottage wanted to thank Jordyn and Kyra for this tremendously meaningful gift!

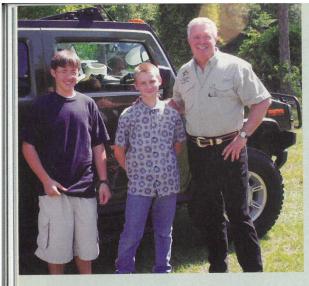
Just Fishin'

Each year, the Boys Ranch Alumni Association sets aside time to return to the ranch and visit with the boys. They usually organize games or other competitive activities that expends the energy of these young men.

This year, the beauty of the Suwannee River was just too tempting. So, the Alumni and the Ranchers pulled out their fishing poles and enjoyed a lazy day down at the River. Boys Ranch Alumnus Buddy Kimball (center) shows the boys how to cast a rod and reel.



The boys settle in for a relaxing day on the banks of the Suwannee as they prop their rods up with a stick and watch for a nibble on the line.



Pasco County Sheriff Bob White convinced one of his friend to lend him the keys to this beautiful Hummer and take the boys from the Ranch on a ride in this dream machine.

Dreaming of a HUMMER! This special day started out with a "bang" and ended with a sweet "Hum!"

Sheriff Bob White believes in making a difference in the life of a child each and every day. When he took the oath of office nearly four years ago, he made a silent commitment to work hard to protect the safety of the citizens of Pasco county...including and especially the children.

Keeping his promise, Sheriff White, the members of the Pasco County Sheriffs Office and a host of volunteers and good friends decided to host a very successful Sporting Clays event to benefit the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. Over 50 teams competed in the clay shoot, with several significant friends stepping up to become members of the special Sheriff's Club group of sponsors.

Each year, this outstanding event has grown significantly in size and stature. In just three short years, the Sheriff's Shootout has broken the single one day record for a fundraising event and raised the bar in a friendly competition with other Sheriff's Offices.

But, when you talk to Sheriff White, you quickly realize it's all about the kids!

Kessler and Matt live at the Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor. They attended the event and enjoyed meeting all the generous people who worked so hard to make it such a success. At one point, Kessler said, "Today, I am so happy. I never dreamed it would be this great!" When asked, "Why?" He replied with a huge grin, "I've seen SEVEN HUMMERS!"

As soon as Sheriff White heard about the boy's reply, the Sheriff took action. He surveyed the crowd and went



Hillsborough County Sheriffs Office Detective Heinz Bachmann holds the Law Enforcement Team trophy presented by Pasco Sheriff Bob White. Also, receiving recognition are team members Sgt. Mike Conigliaro (left) and Cpl. Ken Davis (right). Team member Detective Danny Connell had to leave the event before the presentation was made.

All Smiles! Kessler and Matt thank Sheriff White for a fantastic day at the Pasco County Sheriffs Office fundraising event.





Terry and Michele Edmonson heard about the boys exciting adventure and knew just what to do to make the day even better! With a quick phone call, they arranged for these replica Hummers and tee-shirts to be brought out to the event for the boys.

on a mission to find some keys. In a few moments, he called for the boys...."Let's go for a ride in a HUMMER!"

Kessler was so excited about seeing a Hummer, but he never expected to get a ride in one – especially with this busy Sheriff as his guide. Today was a dream come true! ◆



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 receive a Builder Certificate. Those who give \$1,000 or more in cash 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.





Grand Star Award



Several Sheriffs' Offices received Grand Star Awards at a recent Florida Sheriffs Association Conference. Sheriff Al Williams of Suwannee County and FSA Chairman presented the plaques to Sheriff Frank McKeithen of Bay County, Sheriff Cal Henderson of Hillsborough County and Sheriff Larry Campbell of Leon County.

BUILDERS

New Builders from January 1 to March 19, 2004

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FSA VENDOR GROUP THE BILLY & AGNES FULLER FOUNDATION MR. AND MRS. ROBERT M.

GINTEL continued on page 26



Donor Relations Officer Frank Kenny (left) and Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard (2nd from left) presented Mrs. Dorothy Sengebusch with a Golden Star Award. Also present was Mr. Frank Sengebusch (right).

award.

Ms. Evelyn Waters received a Golden **Star Award from Youth Ranches** President Roger Bouchard.



Sheriff Everett Rice

Crystal Star Award



Golden Star Award



BUILDERS



Orange County -**Chief Deputy Brad** Margeson (right) and Youth Ranches **Donor Relations** Officer, Dr. Hank Edwards (left) present a Builder Certificate to Major Donald C. Mills of **Orange County.**



Volusia County - Sheriff Ben Johnson of Volusia County recently presented Builder Certificates to Mr. Dick Gordan of the Daytona Mustang Club and Mr. Dan

Hucks of Total Comfort Heat & Air Conditioning,



Osceola County - Builder Certificates were presented by Sheriff Charles Aycock of Osceola County to Mr. Jose A. Hernandez and Mr. and Mrs. Will Reeder.



Lake County - Bob James, VP Development (left) presented Mr. Richard Croteau representing TMP Management Corp. with a Builder Certificate for their contributions to the Youth Ranches. Also present was Boys Ranch Alumnus Albert Williams (right).



presents a Builder Certificate to Ms. **Regina Ammons.**



St. Johns County - Sheriff Neil Perry



of Orange County recently presented a Builder Certificate to Mr. George Gruler. Also present Youth Ranches Donor Relations Officers, Hank Edwards (left) and Louise Lee.





Inc.

Okaloosa County - Sheriff Morris of Okaloosa County presents a Builder Certificate to Kevin Kirkpatrick.





Okaloosa County - Chief Deputy Fred Cobb (right) of Okaloosa County presents a Builder Certificate to Deputy Merle Ross.



Palm Beach County - Sheriff Ed Bieluch presented Mr. Jesse Robinson with his Builder Certificate.

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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, 2004 and March 19, 2004.

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The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches accepts vehicles in fair to great condition! Please be sure your donation has emission controls, fair tires, no major body damage, the engine and transmission in good working order and no major rust problems. Boats need to have road worthy trailers. Call 1-800-765-3797 to make your tax deductible gift of a car, truck, boat, RV or any vehicle and help save the future of a deserving child.



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ALEX TAYLOR

Martin County Sheriff's Office Barbeque



Each year the Martin County Sheriff's Office holds a barbeque in support of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. This year, the 11th Annual Barbeque raised over \$11,000 in one day. This year the event included a vehicle auction, various law enforcement displays, a barbeque



lunch, followed by an impressive K-9 demonstration. Sheriff Bob Crowder along with committee members from the Sheriff's office began planning months in advance to ensure a smooth and successful event.

Our thanks to Sheriff Crowder and the committee for their commitment to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.



Put a Star on Your Car!

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Specialty License Plate provides Florida citizens with a unique and personal way to help in the ongoing fight against juvenile delinquency and neglect. Along with the regular tag fees, the additional specialty tag donation will help Florida's needy boys and girls find shelter, guidance and self-confidence. To purchase your Youth Ranches Specialty Plate today, please contact your local Tax Collector.

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.

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MORE GENEROUS DONORS



Jim Turnbull (left) presents a check from the American Legion Post 42 in Leesburg to Bob James (right) VP Development. Also present, (Ir) are Bob Evans, Boys Ranch Alumnus Albert Williams and Wayne Sawdey.



Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership of Inverness recently donated \$500 to benefit the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. Attending the check presentation were, left to right, Sheriff Jeff Dawsy; Stephen Marshalsea, Aaron's sales manager; Frank Powers, Aaron's accounts manager; and Frank Kenny, Donor Relations Officer.

Pinellas County Commissioner John Morroni (left) hosted the 10th Annunal Appreciation Dinner for Law Enforcement, Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Personnel. The proceeds of the event, over \$8000 were donated to the Youth Ranches. Accepting the check is Donor Relations Officer Don Meek (right).



Donor Relations Officer Linda Crews (left) accepted a check for \$200 from Mr. and Mrs. David Eure on behalf of the Northeast Florida Travelers #166.

Guilly's Pub 44 Annual Moose Clam Chowder Cookoff raised much needed funds for Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch Programs. Guilly Aguiar, owner of Gilly's Pub presents Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Special Events Manager Joe McLeod and Florida Sheriffs Youth Camp **Director Liz Collins with a check** for \$5,000. Also pictured (left to right) Judy Alfonso, Neal Kimberly and Ed Woodward from Moose Lodge #1825.



MORE GENEROUS DONORS



The 8th Annual Xi Pi Omicron Golf Tournament recently raised \$1,260 for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. Pictured are Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Special Events Manger Joe McLeod and members of Xi Pi Omicron, a chapter of Beta Sigma Phi.



Indian River County Sheriff Roy Raymond presented Youth Ranches Special Events Manager Joe McLeod with the proceeds from the Annual Indian River County Sheriffs Office Barbecue. The event raised a total of \$40,000 this year.

Youth Ranches Calendar of Special Events

May 19, 2004 – Bay County Sheriffs Office Annual Golf Tournament in Panama City. For more information contact Sally Sparks 850-747-4700.

May 25-31, 2004 – Florida Sheriffs Youth Villa Classic in Bartow. For more information contact Louise Lee at 863-533-0371.

June 4, 2004 – Michelle Wells Memorial Golf Tournament hosted by Manatee County Sheriff Charlie Wells. For more information contact Charla Eberly at 941-747-3011.

June 18, 2004 – Tricounty Golf Tournament in Chiefland. Hosted by Levy County Sheriff Johnny Smith, Dixie County Sheriff Sammy Woodall and Gilchrist County Sheriff David Turner. For more information contact Patty Galyean at 352–486–5111.

August 7, 2004 - Quarterly Auction held at the Boys Ranch in Live Oak beginning at 9:00 am. For more information call 386-842-5501.

September 18, 2004 – Volusia County Sheriffs Office Bus Race. For more information contact John Szaroleta 386-254-4689.

September 29- October 3, 2004 – Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranches 47th Anniversary Celebration and Boys Ranch Open House. Call 386-842-5555 for more details.

October 1, 2004 – Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Anniversary Golf Tournament at Southern Oaks Golf Course in Lake City. Contact Joe McLeod at 386-842-5501.

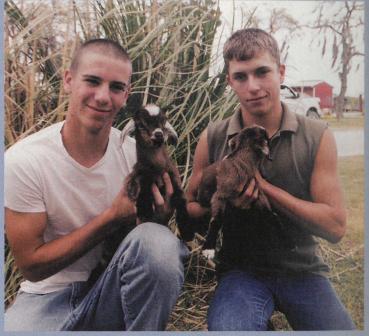
> For Additional Information Contact: Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Public Relations Department at 386/842-5501 or the Sheriff's Office sponsoring the event.

MOV		NG	?
Please fill this out and return promptly if you're moving, even temporarily. Use the envelope enclosed in the center of this magazine		ng. Please change my addres ited below.	ss
Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. P. O. Box 2000 Boys Ranch, FL 32064	My addre Date from	ess will change temporarily. n to	
Thank you for your help!	Please d	elete my name from your ma	iling list.
Name (please print)			
Street Address	City	State	Zip

So Sweet!

Caring for the animals at the Boys Ranch teaches these youngsters about responsibility, patience and self-control. When the boys handle the larger, sturdy horses and heifers, they get to show their strength and stamina. However, on occasion, some tender little animals, like these puppies and baby goats, bring out the gentle sweetness in our young men.





FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES BOYS RANCH, FLORIDA 32064



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