

President's Perspective

Roger O. Bouchard, Jr. President, Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.



Since our last issue of *The Rancher* magazine, all of us at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches have been very busy and excited about all that is going on in our world. Spring is one of our busiest times of the year with a number of special events held by Sheriffs' Offices to help raise funds for the care of our children. Golf and fishing tournaments, gospel sings and lots of good, old fashioned fun times bring people together to hear about the work of the Youth Ranches and to raise much needed funding for our programs. I would like to thank all those who give of their time and resources to make these such a success.

We also had the wonderful opportunity to dedicate the Donald Ralph Cooke School at the Boys Ranch. Mr. Cooke was a successful businessman who I had the opportunity to meet and get to know several years ago. Just as our friendship began to develop, Mr. Cooke passed away. Mrs. Cooke, his wife of 56 years, wanted to do something to honor and memorialize her husband. Since education was such an important part of Mr. Cooke's life, Mrs. Cooke donated the funds to build a new school building at the Boys Ranch. This beautiful and functional facility will allow us to have all our boys attending our on-campus school in one building rather than spreading them across the campus.

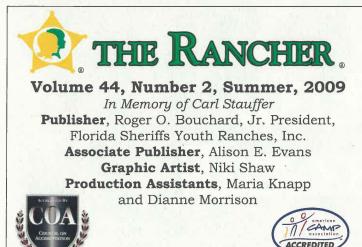
During the spring, we also held awards banquets for the youth at each of our residential campuses. I am always so proud of the accomplishments of these young people, especially those who are graduating from high school. As they go on with their education or leave to serve our country in the military, they will make wonderful ambassadors for the Youth Ranches. I am sure they will be successful in their future endeavors.

Lastly, this is the time of year we are bringing Summer Camp into the lives of thousands of children from around the state. Whether they come to one of our "spend the night" camps or attend day camp in their own community, they are having positive interactions with law enforcement officers and learning how to be better members of their families, schools and communities. Just last week some of our staff members were at the Florida Senate and discovered one of our state senators was an alumni of our Summer Camp, attending two separate summers when he was a child.

Of course, none of these blessings would be possible without the faithful support of our donor family. Although the economic times have presented some real challenges, our faithful donors have enabled us to continue providing services to children who come to us. Thank you for your faithfulness.

Kogen Bouchard

Roger Bouchard, President



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 © 2009 by the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.

REQUIRED DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

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 OF FLORIDA, 1-800-HELP-FLA. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE."

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. registration number is CH954. Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises, Inc. registration number is CH20347. THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES RECEIVES 100% OF THIS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION. New York - A copy of the latest annual report can be obtained from the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches or from the Office of the Attorney General by writing the Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. Unotes and Notes

"I look back to fond memories of my days at the Girls Villa with Mom and Pop Mikell and wish that I would have stayed there. It's been a rocky road for me but I have finally gotten my life straightened out. If only I knew then what I know now, I would certainly have taken advantage of the opportunities I had then!" ~ Sandi Huddleson,

"I really, truly enjoyed my time at the Boys Ranch and cannot wait until the day I can afford to come back and show my wife and kids the place that helped me become the man I am today. I had some of the best times of life there and learned so many life lessons there. Had it not been for the ranch, I would be dead or in jail. Instead, I have a great family and good job." ~ David "DJ" Seymour, Boys Ranch Alumnus

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.

"Thank you very much for inviting me to the Open House in Bradenton. Frankly, I was so nervous, I actually thought of not going. Lucky for me, I went!

I got to talk with three of the boys. After hearing how they came to the Ranch and how their Ranch experience was helping them, I found myself thinking "I hope I'm that mature when I grow up." Also, I got to talk with four of the parents. I am in awe of their work and professionalism doing what is arguably the hardest job in the world -- being a parent.

All in all, the few hours I spent there absolutely impressed upon me that my support is well deserved. Thank you for the invitation to see this good work for myself." ~ M. Boots, Donor

DID YOU KNOW....Most all of us use search engines like Google $_{TM}$ every day. Now you can help raise money for the Youth Ranches through your internet searches. GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo. Nowered search engine that donates half of souvered search engine that donates half of its advertising revenue (about a penny per its advertising revenue (about a penny per use it just as you would any search engine. Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. as the charity you want to support. And, please spread the word!



These youngsters loved the colorful creations of their first tie-dye project during arts and crafts.

Every summer the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches provides thousands of boys and girls with a unique and special summer camp experience. Some attend overnight camp at one of our two permanent locations and others attend a day camp right in their own community.

The giggles, smiles and adventures of summer camp are contagious. Kids meet new friends and have the opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities that engage their bodies and minds in wholesome recreational fun!

Swimming, hiking, arts and crafts and yes, sometimes even playing in the sand can surface a smile in even the toughest of kids. Volunteer Deputy Sheriffs and other counselors encourage the children to leave the worries of home behind and just enjoy the incredibly exciting experience of summer camp.

Woven into all the fun, our boys and girls create solutions for challenging games which teach sportsmanship, leadership and positive peer relationships. In a structured, yet playful environment, children love to learn and explore the world around them.

Thanks to your generosity and camp sponsorship we hope to reach out and touch the lives of some of the neediest children across Florida. We are so grateful that you have chosen to support the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches ~ "Florida's Charity for Florida's Children."®

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These boys and volunteer DeputySheriffs took the nature path as they made their way to the pool.



Sunshine and Fun at Summer Camp

On a hot summer day, nothing is sweeter than an ice cream sundael

At the weekly awards banquet, Charlotte County Deputy Tonya Tipping and the kids are all smiles!

SAVE

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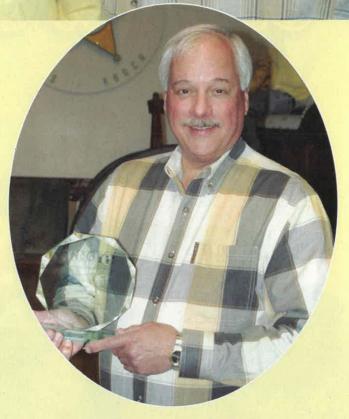
National Recognition for Rancher and Alumni

Rancher Wesley won national recognition for the CORE Student of the Year. The award was presented by Youth Ranches Vice President of Program Bill Frye (left) and Boys Ranch Farm Manager Jeff Parker (right).

The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch co-hosted the annual Coalition of Residential Education's (C.O.R.E.) National Conference. During the visit CEO's and other staff from residential programs nationwide toured the Boys Ranch and attended workshops. Youth Ranch staff conducted seminars and made our guests feel welcome.

During the visit, Boys Ranch Alumnus, Leonard Russek received the Alumni of the Year award and Rancher Wesley (four year resident of the Boys Ranch) received the Student of the Year award. These prestigious awards are a great honor and are chosen from many nominations from across the nation.

After the conference, the Executive Director and Founder of C.O.R.E. wrote saying, "Should I live to my 90's, I believe I will always remember as one of the highlights of my professional life riding on top of a couple bales of hay with my CORE colleagues, surrounded by Wesley and other students, seeing your campus as we moved along; the welcome by the boys on horses doffing their hats; the warm and welcoming banquet with the bear all dressed up as we presented the national awards; and so much more. Your program is truly inspiring. You all were/are so generous, warm, and welcoming. Your students were so courteous and proud. This overall sent a clear message that your program is serving them so well. This conference was one of our best ever. Thank you so much."



Boys Ranch Alumnus Leonard Russek was one of the first two boys admitted to the ranch in 1959. He has given back generously by serving on the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Board of Directors and making a \$50,000 gift in honor of our 50th Anniversary. Members of CORE honored him with the Alumnus of the Year award.

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The Club is open to all boys at the Ranch and currently we have kids between the ages of 12-17 participating in the reading activities. It is a privilege to be in the club. Dedication to the assignments, staying focused on the topic and good behavior all matter to the members of the Boys Ranch Book Club.

Nontreal

ast year, Boys Ranch Chaplain Dominick Morales and the boys decided to create the Boys Ranch Book Club. They selected several authors including C. S. Lewis, Ted Dekker and Randy Singer and then chose titles written by those authors. They have read a total of 15 books since the club began.

Boys Ranch

Book Club

in Pull

Once selected, books are ordered so everyone has the same edition and the reading begins. Youngsters are expected to read the assigned chapters prior to the meeting of the book club. The boys who have met this goal will ride with Chaplain Morales to a local coffee house in town where the boys gather and begin reading favorite passages aloud. Sometimes, there is a lively discussion and other times, a pensive, almost solemn time of reflection and thought.

Many of Chaplain Morales' questions begin with "What do you think about...?" This gives the boys an opportunity to form thoughts, opinions and reflect upon the choices made by the characters in the book.

It is a privilege to be a member of the Boys Ranch Book Club and this engaging opportunity has improved the confidence, public speaking skills and reading comprehension abilities of the boys and adults alike. We are proud of these young men as they strive to better themselves in so many valuable ways. Gathered in a circle, the boys discussed the most recent book, <u>By Reason of Insanity</u> by author Randy Singer. Chaplain Morales asked, "Is the insanity plea fair or unfair?"... "Was temporary insanity a good justification for a crime?"... and "Can insane people also be intelligent people?" The boys discussed mounting circumstances of the crime, the thoughts and feelings of the victim and the motives and choices of the accused. It was an interesting and insightful discussion.



Concentration and focus, these boys enjoy being part of the Boys Ranch Book Club.

THE RANCHER * SUMMER 2009 * /

DONALD RALPH COOKE August 19, 1917 ~ March 13, 2004



Mr. Donald Ralph Cooke was born in Montreal, Canada. He was born to Ralph and Nancy Cooke and had three siblings. Mr. Cooke was an incredibly bright man and the only person in his family to obtain a college education. He worked his way through college as an athlete, boxing coach and instructor. Mr. Cooke earned his Master's Degree in Business Administration at The University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, just outside of Toronto, in 1940. It is one of Canada's oldest universities, founded in 1878 by Bishop Isaac Hellmuth and the Anglican Diocese of Huron.

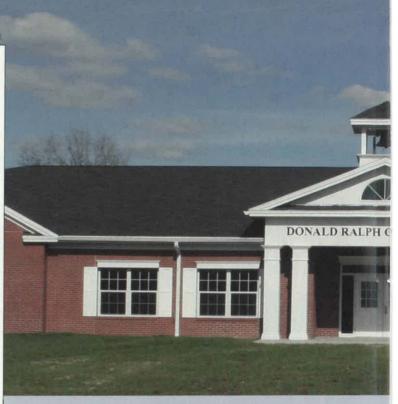
Mr. Cooke came to the United States of America in 1942. He thought this was a great country and wanted to start a business of his own. He became a US citizen and took a job as a radio announcer in Michigan. His business was known as Donald Cooke, Inc., and was located at 666 Fifth Avenue in New York City. Mr. Cooke was a New York Sales Representative for United States and Canadian radio and television stations and magazines

He married Dorothy Hertha McLaughlin at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in New York City, New York. They enjoyed 56 years together.

Mr. Cooke believed a strong education helps make a man very successful. He was living proof of this theory and his wife Dorothy has built this school as a tribute to him. Mr. Cooke was an honest businessman, full of integrity and humility. He also had an excellent sense of humor, a very quick wit and was a gentleman in every sense of the word.

Mr. Cooke was born in Montreal and resided in Toronto, Canada; New York City; Millbrook, New York; Ashville, North Carolina and Port Saint Lucie, Florida. He enjoyed his life tremendously and truly lived the American Dream.

6



Dedication of The Donald Ralph Cooke School Written and Spoken by Mrs. Dorothy Hertha Cooke

Donald Ralph Cooke was a kind intelligent gentleman very aware of his responsibilities and obligations. He had a quiet strength and was not only a happy man but an excellent husband.

Donald Cooke loved music and was self taught on both piano and organ (which he resounded throughout our home.) He also enjoyed sports – having been both a Boxer and Hockey Player in College. A favorite was watching baseball. We had a box behind first plate at Yankee Stadium in New York City during the Mickey Mantle-Yogi Berra era that he enjoyed tremendously.

Mr. Cooke was a firm advocate of keeping your eyes and ears open and your mouth shut. In Board of Governors meetings he would let everyone have his say and would be the last to speak – with knowledgeable pros and cons on the subject. He was not "a know it all" type but a very smart man!

I personally dedicate this beautiful School in honor of my husband DONALD RALPH COOKE and to all the boys here who have and will pass through to become as fine a gentleman as Mr. Cooke.

School Dedication Begins a New Era of Learning at the Ranch

OKE SCHOOL

The day was bright and beautiful as the ribbon was cut on the Donald Ralph Cooke School at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. This incredibly beautiful eightclassroom facility is exactly what we needed to help build the future of these deserving young men. Many dignitaries gathered to celebrate

the tremendous gift made by Mrs. Donald Ralph Cooke in honor and memory of her beloved husband.

St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken Mascara spoke boldly to the boys who live at the ranch and will attend the school, "...hard work, education and giving generously separated Mr. Cooke from the average person. Those traits can separate you from the average person, and I hope each one of you take advantage of this special opportunity to learn and make your mark in society."

Mrs. Donald Ralph Cooke reflected personally on Mr. Cooke's achievements and also encouraged the boys to take advantage of the opportunities available to them at the Boys Ranch. Several special friends and other members of the local community were on hand to personally thank Mrs. Cooke for her generosity as we honored the life of Mr. Donald Ralph Cooke.

DONALD RALPH COOKE SCHOOL



(I-r) Suwannee County Sheriff Tony Cameron, Suwannee County Superintendent of Schools Jerry Scarbrough, Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard, Mrs. Dorothy Cooke, St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken Mascara and Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises Board member and retired Sheriff Al Williams cut the ribbon on the new Cooke School.

Make a Great Charitable Gift!

Would you consider making a gift to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches through your will, trust or possibly list us as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy?

Your gift, small or large, will help us prevent juvenile delinquency and develop lawful, productive members of our communities.

Many people believe in our children and want to help but they need to preserve the money they have right now to cover the rising cost of. medical care and other living expenses. We understand this dilemma and know you should first care for yourself and your loved ones. However, one way you can fulfill your intent to support our boys and girls is by including the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches in your will or other estate plans.

As you think about your plans, a simple way to make a commitment of this type would be

to change the beneficiary of a life insurance policy or add the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches PO Box 2000, Boys Ranch, FL 32064 as a beneficiary to your investment or retirement account.

This will ensure the remaining funds will be used to help serve the children in our care. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about these gifting options, please contact President Roger Bouchard at (800) 765-3797.



Please send me the booklet:

Giving Through Your Will

Visit me when you are in my area.

Address inquiries to:

Office of the President

Boys Ranch, Florida 32064

Telephone: (386) 842-5501

P.O. Box 2000

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

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I.

Giving Securities

Giving Real Estate

Other_

INSURANCE POLICY BENEFICIARY

"I bequeath to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.,"

About your estate planning...

Many of our friends have thoughtfully made provisions in their estate plans 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.

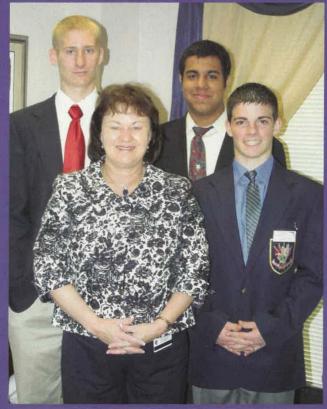
If you would like to know more about including the Youth Ranches in your estate plans, please complete the coupon below and mail it in the postage-paid envelope found in this magazine.

Name		<u>×</u>	name to provide a bequest is:	
Address			"I bequeath to the Florida Sheriffs	
City		State	Youth Ranches, Inc., Boys Ranch,	
Zip	_ Telephone No. ()		Florida 32064"	

 $10 \star$ The RANCHER \star SUMMER 2009

Two former Sheriffs, Senator Charlie Dean (left) and Senator Steve Oelrich (center) proudly stood in support of our Ranchers (from left to right) Cody, Ren and Jonathan.

Ranchers Witness GOVERNMENT IN ACTION



Ren, Jonathan and Cody were very pleased to meet Representative Debbie Boyd and personally thank her for helping to pass legislation which benefits the Youth Ranches. ponsored by Senator Charlie Dean, three of our boys were selected to participate in the Senate Page program this spring. It was an exciting and interesting experience for the boys as they saw how laws are made in the state of Florida.

Ironically, a bill enabling Florida residents to make a contribution to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches when they register a vehicle was

heard on the floor of the Senate during the week our boys served as Pages. Senator Steve Oelrich, who sponsored the legislation in the Senate, took a moment during his explanation of the bill to

recognize our boys as residents who would benefit from the passing of this legislation. Senator Chris Smith, who actually attended the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Summer Camp as a child, also strongly endorsed this bill.

Even though the boys served as Pages in the Senate, they were warmly welcomed to the House side of The Capitol by Representative Debbie Boyd. She successfully led this legislation through the House of Representatives to ensure the citizens of Florida would have another option to support "Florida's Charity for Florida's Children."®



Representative Debbie Boyd spent some time with the boys describing to them some of her responsibilities and duties as a State Representative.

Leaning the Leasons of Leasons of Lead Work and Dedication

Young Cody won a red ribbon in the competition for Showmanship at the Suwannee County Fair.

HESSIAN

Several boys at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch learned the lessons taught by many hours of hard work and dedication as they made a commitment to show a heifer at the local county fair. Months ago, the Ranchers selected a young calf and began to build trust with the animal. Then, as the fair drew near, the boys were teaching the calf how to walk with them on a lead line.

Hours of work at the barn taught the boys to be both persistent and patient. Farm Manager Jeff Parker expected the boys to handle all the chores related to the care of their heifer, including keeping them fed, watered and in a CLEAN stall. As the fair drew near, a small crowd at the Boys Ranch began to gather on a weekly basis to encourage the boys as they practiced "showing" their animals.

Finally the Suwannee County fair had arrived! You could see the pride in the boys' statures as they walked into the arena with their shoulders back and their confidence strong. The boys kept their eyes on the judge as they knew a part of the test would be a thorough questioning about their heifer. Each boy did his best to answer accurately and completely...standing ready for the final walk around the arena.

When the judging was complete and ribbons awarded, our boys still held their heads high. While blue ribbons went to other competitors, our boys knew they had won something they would keep forever – a sense of accomplishment, proof of their dedication and the satisfaction of representing the Boys Ranch with pride and dignity!



Andrew was all smiles when he received his red ribbon. It took a lot of hard work and dedication but it was all worth it!



Kyle and young Cody both have to do their fair share of the work to keep their cows fed, clean and comfortable.



Kyle's heifer "Waletha" (left) and Ty's heifer "Big Mac" have grown up side by side. At the fair, they were stalled separately, but had a visit just before showtime.



Provide a state of the second second

Having no children of their own, Mr. Clark took a special interest in the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. He admired the strong work ethic taught to the boys and believed that these children deserved a chance at a better life. He appreciated the strong commitment to traditional values so much that he agreed to serve on our Board of Directors.

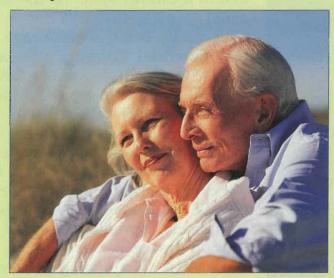
Plain spoken and very direct, he once shared there were only two criteria needed to evaluate the success of the Boys Ranch... one, determine if the boys (now men) were good husbands and fathers and two, find out if they filed a tax return last year. If the answer was "Yes" to both, we were successful!

The concept of breaking the cycle of abuse and neglect by being a good spouse and parent was obvious...but what about the tax return? Mr. Clark just smiled and nodded his head..."That tells me they had a job!"

In his wisdom, Mr. Clark also found a way to help the Youth Ranches and provide a stream of guaranteed income for life. He entered into a "two life" Charitable Gift Annuity agreement with the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches which gave him an immediate tax deduction, a reliable source of income and contentment in knowing he would eventually be helping the boys and girls in our care. Because it was a two life agreement, the Charitable Annuity continued to make quarterly payments to Mrs. Clark, even after his death.

Sadly, Mr. Clark passed away in 1997, but his wife lived another 11 years until 2008. She was comforted by the fact that she could depend on this regular and reliable source of income established by her beloved husband.

Would you like to make provisions for yourself or someone you love to ensure they have a steady stream of income for life? Would you like to feel good about this gift knowing any remainder of your gift would go to help prevent delinquency and provide a better life, a good education and a strong work ethic for deserving boys and girls? If so, please complete the coupon on the next page for a free, no obligation calculation outlining the benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity.



Gift Annuities Provide Steady Stream of Income for Life

Would you like to make provisions for yourself or someone you love to ensure they have a steady stream of income for life?

Consider a Charitable Gift Annuity

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. These rates are consistent with the recommendations made by The American Council on Gift Annuities.

If you have a current investment that you would like to transfer into a Gift Annuity with the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and want to lock in this rate, please contact us right away. Joint rates can also be given upon request.

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	AGE	RATE	PAYMENT					
	65	5.3	\$530					
	70	5.7	\$570					
	75	6.3	\$630					
	80	7.1	\$710					
	85	8.1	\$810					
	90 - OVER	9.5	\$950					

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 (800) 765-3797 if you have any questions.*

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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JUST A CHANCE TO BE A KID!

Life can be terrible to children. Teddy* and his brother and sisters have had some shocking and awful things done to them by people who should love and care for them. In fact, Teddy has visible marks of the trauma his little body has experienced. Some people stare but others can look beyond the scars and see his smile!

Every day Teddy lives with his painful past. He has been taunted and teased by other children who see him as different. **But, he is normal and just** wants to be like all the other kids around him.

Last summer, <u>thanks to someone like you</u>, Teddy and his siblings were able to attend summer camp for free. To watch him laugh and play, you would have no idea what Teddy has been through. His laugh is contagious. Spending a week at camp was the most wonderful thing to happen to him in a long time!

You can be part of providing boys and girls with a great summer camp experience! You can give this gift to a child in need. Your camp sponsorship enables thousands of children to participate in summer camping programs around the state.

Please send your sponsorship today! Summer is approaching fast and children are waiting for you!

* The child's name was changed for his privacy.

Teddy's world, once full of abuse and neglect, was now filled with joyful laughter and acceptance.

12/	ease help a deserving child attend Summer Camp this year! t to sponsor a boy or girl at Summer Cam	ACCREDITED
	□ \$250 (full campership) □ \$125 □ \$75 □ \$50 □ \$25 □ \$10 Other \$	
NAME		
ADDRESS		
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PHONE	EMAIL	
Please send your gift in	ertain your gift is properly identified and return it in the enclosed enclosed enclosed envelope or mail your gift to Florida Sheriffs Youth Ra P.O. Box 2000 – Boys Ranch, FL 32064.	
THAN	K YOU FOR YOUR CARING AND TIMELY GIFT!	
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"No, not all gifts have to be something that we can physically touch or use. I have learned the hard way that life and waking up every morning is the greatest gift of all.

Since I have been at the Ranch I have accomplished many things that honestly I do not think I could have accomplished if it was not for the Ranch. I think the Ranch has made me a different and better person. I have noticed this because people are treating me like I am actually cared about, and not always like "oh, he is not worth the trouble to be hanging out with." I have also never really said "thank you" to those who took the care and pride to better my life.

I am proud to say that the Ranch is the best thing that has happened to me in my life. All my teachers helped me to get good grades. My cottage parents have helped me become a person that people will talk good things about. If I had to pick a favorite gift, it would be to have just one day to show everyone who has helped me how much I appreciate them.

I know that every night I have a bed to sleep in, a roof over my head, and three meals daily. These are gifts that were given to me when I did not deserve to have them. I am very thankful to the Ranch and all Ranch staff. Well, there are people out there in the real world who don't have the things many of us have. I think everybody should stop complaining about what they don't have, and look at what they do have. There are people out there that would love to even have a bar of soap. I hope that people take what I have said for consideration.

Well, the only thing I have left to say is that I am not writing this for a prize, I am writing my honest feelings and this essay should open some peoples' eyes and I hope they will understand what I have said." ~ Scott D. (8th Grade) *"I am proud to say that the Ranch is the best thing that has happened to me in my life."*

Raman

INDIAN RIVER HERIFF'S OFFICE

Indian River County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Tim Elder (left) and Sheriff Deryl Loar welcome some children who attended the 15th annual barbecue.

Indian River County Sheriff Deryl Loar was sworn into office in early January. He had plenty to do, but that did not stop him from embracing the Sheriff's Office long-standing support of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

Sheriff Loar, along with many great volunteers and friends, hosted the 15th Annual Indian River County Sheriff's Office Barbecue and raised \$41,000 to help the boys and girls in our care. Sheriff Loar has visited the Boys Ranch near Live Oak and witnessed the tremendous success of the children we serve.

Sheriff Loar (left) presents Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard with a check for \$41,000 which will benefit the children of Indian River County and others across the state.

Indian River County Sheriff's Office Sergeant James Stewart made young Tyler's day by letting him sit on his parked motorcycle.





The boys at the Youth Ranch Safety Harbor enjoyed checking out this vintage Pinellas County Sheriff's Office patrol car.

Open House Events A Tremendous Success!

Several of our campuses held open house events so donors and friends could tour the campuses and meet with the boys and girls in our care. We are proud of what we do and want the folks who support us to feel comfortable seeing our success firsthand.

Hundreds of guests attended these various events and took the time to tour inside the cottages and visit with us. We are grateful for the many people who help us meet the needs of so many children.



The Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor had a presentation of four kayaks, a trailer and equipment from the Bay Area Canoe and Kayak Fishing Club of Tampa Bay. This group has been volunteering time with the youth. (I-r) Director of Recreation Jeff Harrell, Pinellas County Sheriff Jim Coats, Club President Sam Ledford, Patty Ledford, Vice President Mark Bellotte, Sharon Magwood, Special Events Coordinator Sheryl Beach and Craig Beach.





The Women of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America based at The Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sun City have a quilting group nicknamed the "Needlers." These ladies made 10 quilts, some pillows and gave a generous cash gift for the boys at the Youth Ranch in Bradenton.

The boys from the Ranch in Bradenton calmed their nerves and gave their first public singing performance at the annual open house.



At the Youth Ranch Safety Harbor event, the St. Pete Community Band played a wonderful medley of beautiful music for our guests.

Boys Ranch Alumnus Answers the Call to Duty!

Fortunately for Eric, he and the other members of his unit got to visit a number of national monuments and other sites when they were off duty. Ational Guard Engineering Specialist Eric Loehlein, 36, personally received the call to serve. "We need some folks from the unit to help with the Presidential Inauguration. Would you like to help represent us?" What a question! "Yes Sir!" Eric immediately replied.

The call had gone out across our nation. Eric joined nine other volunteers from the 868th Engineering Company of Live Oak and over 300 other Florida Guardsmen for the event in Washington, D.C.

Their duties appeared to be basic tasks...provide security and traffic control... but it was far from a normal environment. Washington D.C. was about to be flooded with more visitors, dignitaries, and citizens than ever before. The atmosphere was festive but the National Guard was on alert to protect and defend the United States of America.

Eric's unit was housed at a local elementary school, divided into three shifts, and took on the challenge of keeping thousands of citizens safe during this significant national celebration.

Eric was prepared for this duty and volunteered because he loves our country. He has been blessed to receive many opportunities in his life including living at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch for over five years. During the last four years of high school, Eric was a proud member of the NJROTC and continued by serving in the US Marine Corp.

After completing his active duty service, Eric returned home and married his sweetheart Elizabeth in the Boys Ranch Chapel. He is employed at WB Howlands, a home improvement warehouse in Live Oak. We are proud of Eric and all the Boys Ranch Alumni he represents.





As a veteran, Eric paid his respects to fallen brothers in uniform at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington DC.

20 * THE RANCHER * SUMMER 2009

SRE Hosts First Annual Dealership Fundraiser



Highlands County Sheriff Susan Benton (center) was joined by Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises Board Member Debra Graves as Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard presented them with awards for used vehicles donated at the event. Also pictured are Highlands County Deputy Mike Week (left) and Deputy Kenneth Cooper (right).

Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises hosted the first annual dealership fundraiser to increase donations of used vehicles and other items to help support the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises Board Member Debra Graves sponsored the event at the ALLSTAR Car and Truck sales lot in Sebring. She challenged other local car dealers in the area to match her contribution of at least one used vehicle. A total of five vehicles were received including two from the Highlands County Sheriff's Office.

In addition to promoting car donations, Sheriff Susan Benton supported this effort and encouraged folks to make donations of cash or non-cash items such as furniture, sporting goods, power tools, collectibles, jewelry, clothing, etc. These items will help stock the Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises Thrift Stores. All proceeds generated through Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises solely benefit the boys and girls served at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.



HONORING A SPECIAL BROTHER

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Delleani wanted to make a special gift to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches in memory of her brother Donato Petitti. They wanted to make a significant gift which not only remembered Mr. Petitti, but helped the children at the Ranch in a tangible way.

Donor Relations Officer Don Meek offered several suggestions to the Delleani's including an urgent need to refurbish the swimming pool at the Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor. Mr. and Mrs. Delleani thought it over and decided to make sure the pool would be ready for the kids to use this summer.

Pictured above Pinellas County Sheriff Jim Coats (right) and Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard were able to personally thank the Delleani's (left) for their generosity and unveiled a bronze plaque which will be installed by the pool to honor Mr. Donato Petitti.



(I-r) Roger Bouchard, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Delleani and Program Director Scott Halbach.

Caruth Camp Challenge



Citrus County Sheriff Jeff Dawsy (center with check) along with the Caruth Camp Challenge Golf Tournament Committee led by Chairman Bill Sizemore (blue shirt) present a check for \$13,625 to Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard. The check was proceeds from the annual Caruth Camp Challenge Golf Tournament.



MADISON COUNTY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Madison County Sheriff Ben Stewart presents a check to Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard. The check was proceeds from the annual Madison County Sheriff's Office Golf Tournament. Proceeds for the event were over \$5,000.

Martin County Rodeo



Martin County Sheriff Robert L. Crowder (left) presented a \$74,000 check, proceeds from the 2008 Martin County Rodeo to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches represented by Sumter County Sheriff William O. "Bill" Farmer.



Moose at Youth Villa

Moose on Bikes District 20 President Gerald Lambert (center) and newly elected Vice President Wes Emry (right) present a \$500 check to Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Donor Relations Officer Frank Kenny.

Bays Ranch Receives Rodeo Sickets



The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch received Florida Gateway Pro Rodeo tickets for the event held at the Columbia County Fairgrounds Rodeo Arena. Pictured above (left) Steve Briscoe, President of Columbia County Resources (CCR), (center) Bob Smith, Chair of CCR Board of Directors, along with Keith Leibfried, President and CEO of First Federal presenting the tickets to Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard and boys from the Boys Ranch.



Donation of Fishing Poles

Mr. Duke Mitchell attended a recent Sheriff's Advisory Board meeting at the Youth Ranch in Safety Habor. During the meeting, he presented Program Director Scott Halbach (left) and resident Brittney with a gift of fishing poles. The youth will be able to enjoy many days of fishing with them this summer.



Nature Coast Corvair Club Presents Check

The Nature Coast Corvair Club visited the Caruth Camp campus and presented a generous check to the Youth Ranches. Members of the club (l-r back row) are Dave Langdon, Secretary, John Saxe, President; (l-r front row) Larry Vaught, Vice President; Kathy Neumann, Treasurer. Accepting the check, (back row center) Donor Relations Officer Frank Kenny, (2nd from right) Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard and St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken Mascara.

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

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. <u>We want our donors to know we</u> have never permitted other organizations to use our list of supporters, and we will continue to do everything possible to preserve their privacy.

BUILDERS



 Mr. Thomas J. Boles, Sr.
 Mr. Earl R. Greve
 Mr. Fred Mascaro
 Mr. Michael J. Sonnelitter

 PALM BEACH COUNTY
 - Sheriff Ric L. Bradshaw presents Builder Certificates to many generous donors from Palm Beach
 County.
 Donors being recognized are Mr. Thomas J. Boles, Sr., Mr. Earl R. Greve, Mr. Fred Mascaro and Mr. Michael J.
 Sonnelitter.

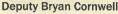


Youth Ranches Unit Director Steven Wright (left) presents a Builder Certificate to Mr. and Mrs. Tony Dodd for their continued support of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and the children in our care.



BROWARD COUNTY - Sheriff Al Lamberti (right) presents a Builder Certificate to Mr. Leonard Baton for his support of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.







Deputy Joe LeSerra

Deputy Daniel Smallridge

<u>LEON COUNTY</u> - Sheriff Larry Campbell (right) presents Builder Certificates to several deputies in his department for their generous support of the Youth Ranches. Deputies receiving certificates were Deputy Bryan Cornwell, Deputy Joe LeSerra and Deputy Daniel Smallridge.

Memorial Gifts Helping Our Children

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.

Memorial Gifts from January 1, 2009 to March 23, 2009

THOMAS E. "TOMMY" ABERCROMBIE Mr. & Mrs. Roger O. Bouchard, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. William A. Frye, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Dudley G. Matthews Mrs. Susan D. Miller LIZ AND W. T. ADAMS Mr. & Mrs. Andrew F. Gregory, Jr. DR. DAVID C. ALBRITTON Mr. & Mrs. Samuel B. Love, Jr. and Family THOMAS G. ALEX Mr. & Mrs. Timothy J. Roguska CATHY ALLEN Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Allen **KELLIE ALLEN** Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Allen LOUISE ALSIP Mr. James W. Alsip GERALD F. ALTHOUSE Ms. Margaret M. Althouse MSGT. LOUIS J. AMATUZZI Mrs. Ludmill E. Amatuzzi LILLIAN AMODEO Mr. & Mrs. Michael P. Pagone BEA ANAYA Mr. John J. Anaya CHARLES AND BETTY ANDERSON Mrs. Selena Wohlslagel REVA ANDERSON Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Mrs. Shirley N. Andrews MARGE ANGELI Mr. Stanley C. Roy CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY Mr. Reginald A. Smith FREDERICK L. APPLEYARD Mrs. Clara L. Appleyard GLOYCE ARD Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Buford, Jr. JOHN "JACK" ARLETH Mr. & Mrs. James Bernardino Ms. Barbara Gebel JACK C. ARNOLD, JR. Sheriff and Mrs. David B. Shoar KEN ATHERTON Judge & Mrs. Jeff D. Miller JUDY S. AUSTIN Mr. Robert G. Austin RONALD R. AUSTIN Ms. Joanne Austin - B -PHILIP BADER Mr. & Mrs. Herschel H. Phillips LCDR. H. H. "JOE" BAINBRIDGE, USN (RET.) Mr. & Mrs. John C. Johnson MILDRED BARNETT Mr. Henry E. Silver

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Mrs. Marilyn M. Bryson

Jr.

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ESTATES:

Edward L. McNeil

TRUSTS:

Mildred Burrows William Groot Louise B. Robertson

The Sheriffs of Florida and the Board of Directors of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. would like to extend their sincere appreciation for the gifts received between January 1, 2009 and March 23, 2009 from estates and trusts.

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Other Generous Support



Former Youth Ranches Board Chairman and Sumter County Sheriff Bill Farmer presents a statue of the Sheriff and Boy to St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken Mascara for his generous support of the Youth Ranches during the Florida Sheriffs Association Annual Conference.



During the Open House event at the Youth Ranch in Bradenton, members of the Venice Gardens Civic Association presented a check to Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard (2nd from right) and Program Director Dwight Lord (3rd from right). (I-r) Youth Ranches Board Chairman and Manatee County Sheriff Brad Stuebe, Linda Lukacs, Nancy Bennett, Pat Coelho, Dwight Lord, Roger Bouchard and Al Coelho.



Steve Harvard (left) and Dave Boyd (2nd right) representing the Gulf Coast Triathlon Foundation along with Bay County Sheriff Frank McKeithen present a \$3,000 check to Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Donor Relations Office Lana Pate.



Commissioner Sandy Haas-Martens, President of Holmes Beach Kiwanis club, presents a \$200 check to Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Donor Relations Officer Joe McLeod.

Honor Gifts Helping Our Children

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 card 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 <u>The Rancher</u> 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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Mark Your Calendar

State

Zip

USAT Triathlon July 12, 2009 - Contact Brandy Lemley at 386/842-5501

Bay/Washington Golf Tournament September 12, 2009 - Contact Sally Sparks at 850/747-4701

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office 5K Ranch Run

September 19, 2009 - Contact Chad Frisco at 813/247-8129

Sheriff Ben Johnson's Battle of the Badges September 18-19, 2009 - Contact Mike Odgers at 386/254-4660

Boys Ranch 52nd Annual Open House October 2-4, 2009 - Contact Vivian Starling at 386/842-5555

Boys Ranch Golf Tournament

October 2, 2009 - Contact Brandy Lemley at 386/842-5501

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

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches PO Box 2000 Boys Ranch FL 32064

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Cooke School Dedication at Boys Ranch

The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch recently dedicated the new Donald Ralph Cooke School. Mrs. Dorothy Cooke generously donated the funds to build the school in memory of her late husband. You can read more about the dedication ceremony and Mr. Cooke on pages 8 and 9.

youthranches.org

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