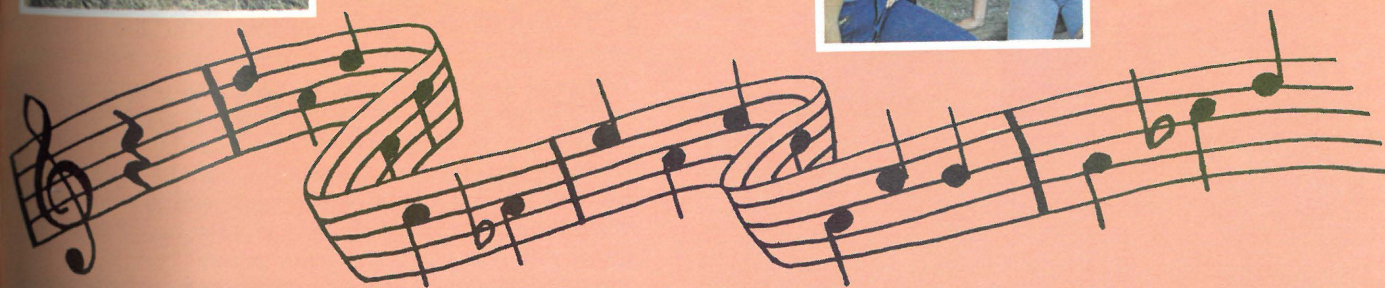
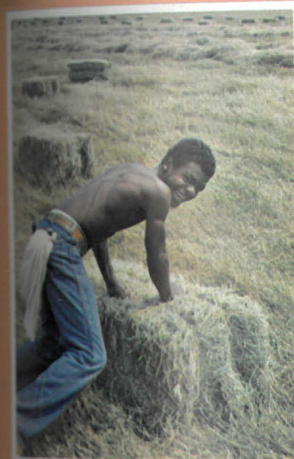


WINTER 1978

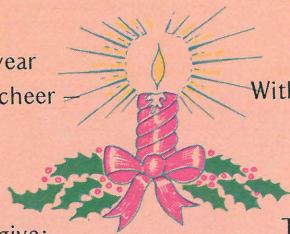
# The Rancher

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH FUND, BOYS RANCH, FLORIDA 32060.

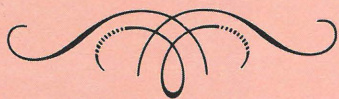


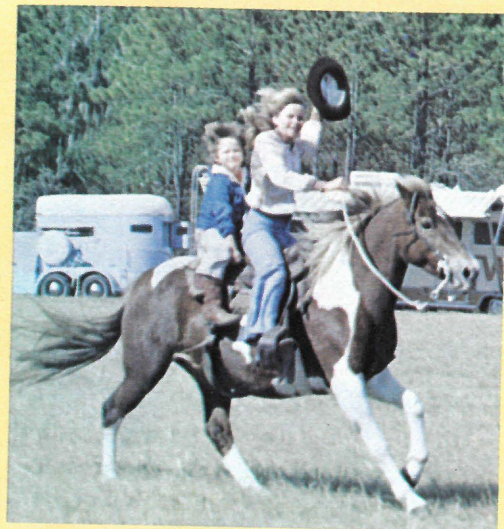
## Of These We Sing

It's that super, wonderful time of the year  
When custom calls for songs and good cheer  
A time when we feel inspired to sing  
A song that's a happy, jubilant thing.  
We sing of youngsters learning to live  
With all the benefits a good home can give;  
And there's also a rather spectacular chorus  
About wonderful folks who do nice things for us —



Our friends who show how much they care  
With a gift, or a letter, or a sincere prayer.  
You won't hear our ditty performed at the "Met."  
It's folksy, and corny, and schmaltzy, and yet,  
We composed it this year for a definite reason;  
To trumpet the joys of the holiday season.  
We've had many blessings — hope you have too —  
And we pray they'll increase all the year through.



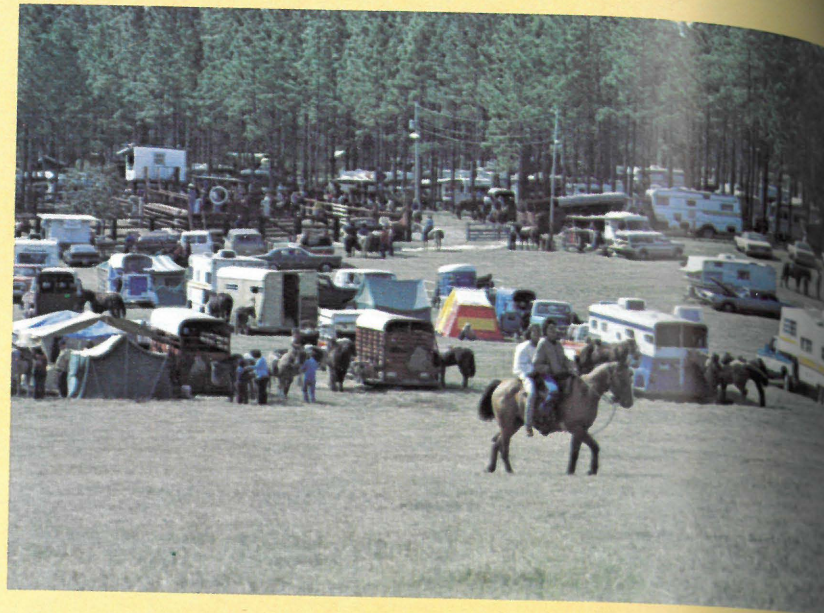


## BIG PARTY- no panic

When 1,000 weekend guests showed up for the 21st Anniversary celebration at the Boys Ranch, we didn't panic — not even when we discovered they had brought more than 300 horses with them. We had been expecting them, and we had staff members on hand to show them where to park their horse trailers, travel trailers, motor homes and tents. We also greeted them with big iron pots of steaming hot chicken pilau, and we did everything possible to make their weekend enjoyable. It's the sort of thing we do every year, and so what if it means working overtime making preparations? It's worth it just to see happy families riding, socializing, eating and worshipping together. These people are our friends, and the Anniversary celebration is our version of an old-fashioned family reunion. The bigger it gets, the better we'll like it.



Guests were greeted with pots of chicken pilau.



Nothing like a campfire to bring people together on a chilly morning.



## No more monkey business for SCHMUTZ the showman

John Schmutz has retired. It's easy to say, but difficult to comprehend because for the past 16 years he has been a sort of Jack-of-all-trades who could do well any task that was handed to him. We sure are gonna miss him.

He was good at raising boys, tending the warehouse, teaching woodworking, operating ham radios, puppeteering and making friends for the Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Fund. His greatest accomplishment was traveling around the State of Florida with trucks and horse trailers as Field Representative for the Boys Ranch and later the Youth Fund. He logged almost 700,000 miles and picked up an amazing variety of non-cash gifts that included household goods, tools, clothing, machinery, appliances, bicycles, boats and other items donated to the Ranch, Villa and Youth Fund.

Over a period of 12 years, he transported some 2,000 horses and at times turned his truck into a veritable Noah's Ark by hauling other animals such as monkeys, geese, ducks, rabbits, chickens, donkeys, burros and peacocks.

It's been said John has probably been on a first name basis with more animals than Barnum ever saw, but the one he remembers best was an affectionate, motherless monkey that shared the cab of his truck during a long trip.

The monkey was a gift to the Ranch, but John couldn't put it in the back of the truck because it was incompatible with some geese, two mules and a donkey he was also hauling to the Ranch.

Things went well for a while, but the monkey either became amorous or developed insecurity symptoms, and it insisted on hugging John's arm while he was trying to drive.

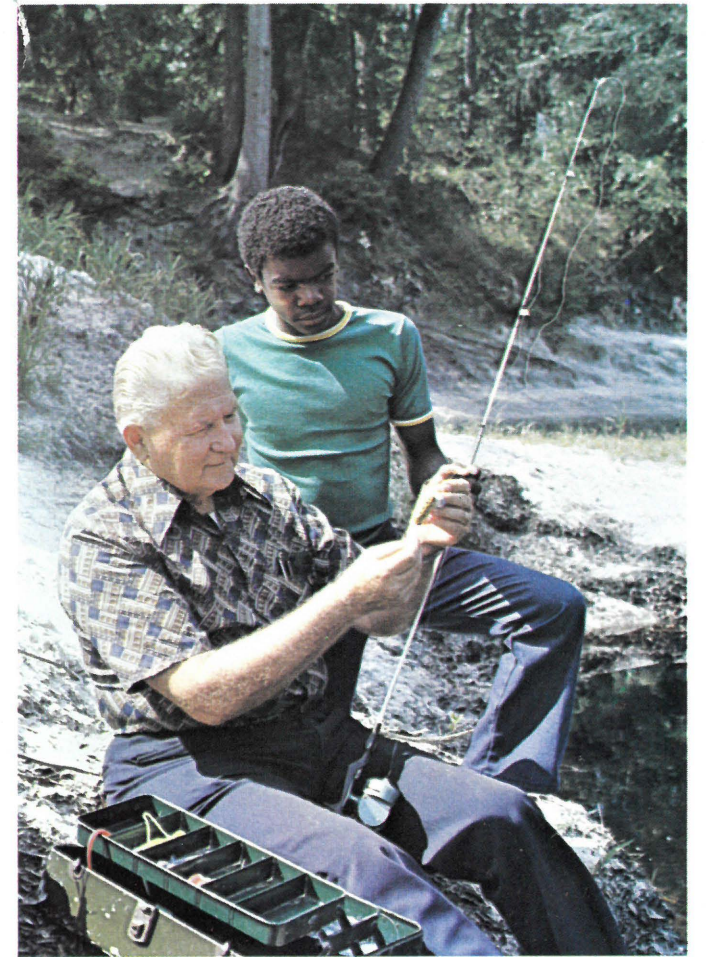
Finally it bothered him so much he wheeled into a shopping center to buy a banana which he hoped would serve as a pacifier. After he walked away from the truck, the monkey became terrified and began to scream. This upset the mules and donkey. They brayed, stomped and kicked. The geese became frightened and added to the clamor.

When John returned, banana in hand, a puzzled crowd had gathered, but the unflappable Field Representative simply got into the cab, quieted the monkey, and drove away — leaving the spectators wondering if they had just seen part of a traveling circus.

The truth is, John's job often resembled a traveling circus, but it also allowed him to function as a good will ambassador. He made many friends among Youth Fund donors, and as the years passed he left an almost visible trail of good public relations.

Prior to becoming Youth Fund Field Representative, John spent six years in other capacities at the Boys Ranch. He and his wife, Irene, came to the Ranch in 1962 from Glenview School for Boys, in Cincinnati, Ohio, where they had been employed as cottage parents.

They worked as cottage parents at the Boys Ranch until 1966, and had 16 boys living in the cottage with them in addition to their young daughter, Jeanne. Jerry Willard, one of the boys in the cottage, eventually became their son-in-law.



Any time John Schmutz went fishing on the Suwannee River there was usually a Rancher with him learning the lore of the lure.

Jerry and Jeanne were married in 1969, and they are now living in Jacksonville, where he is employed by the Pitney Bowes Corporation.

In 1966, John became a relief cottage parent, warehouseman, and shop instructor, while Irene became Ranch librarian. Occasionally, John was sent out with a truck to pick up non-cash gifts, and this part-time chore eventually evolved into the full-time Field Representative's job he was appointed to in 1968.

Irene, meanwhile, became Executive Secretary to Harry Weaver, who was formerly Executive Director of the Boys Ranch and Girls Villa, and is currently President of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund. She plans to continue in that capacity.

She and John have been involved in the development of the Boys Ranch in many ways. They helped to establish an amateur radio station (WB4PHT) which is still operating, and they both became highly qualified licensed operators. They are also skilled puppeteers, and during their early days at the Ranch they taught some of the boys how to put on puppet shows.

Now that he's retired from the "traveling circus," John expects to fish a little, but he will also continue to be involved in show business. He is planning to develop a traveling puppet show, based in Jacksonville, which will be available for performances at birthday parties and other special occasions.

As they say — once a showman, always a showman.



Activity Center facilities include a pool, a learning center, a kitchen and a chapel.



*Allegro Maestro Please!*

**New Activity Center Creates Livelier Tempo at Girls Villa**

It's possible to get bored at the Girls Villa, but it isn't easy — now that the new activity center is open for business.

This handsome facility offers a large recreation room which can be used for volley ball, pool, ping pong and other games; a kitchen capable of providing snacks for one or a full-course meal for one hundred; a thoroughly cool pool for swimming; a well stocked library; and facilities for arts and crafts.

However, it's not just a playhouse. Under its tile roof, there is also a learning center where some of the girls receive remedial education and others get special tutoring to help them to greater achievements in the Bartow public schools. There is also a small chapel to provide spiritual enrichment.

Nearby there are tennis courts and a small lake with boating facilities. A well equipped riding stable is just a short trot away.

There's no shortage of fun things to do, but that does create a problem — the problem of trying to decide what activity to get involved in next.



Not all activities take place at the Activity Center. During a typical Saturday afternoon in the early fall the girls received instructions in horsemanship and held a cook-out under the pine trees.





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Mr. & Mrs. John A. Madigan, Jr.

MS. ETHEL WILSON  
Mr. & Mrs. A. Earlo Tanner  
GEORGE SPENCER WILSON  
Mr. & Mrs. T. T. Doughterson  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Boddy  
Hildreth S. Noland  
Ms. Vera S. Jackson  
Dorothy McNicol  
STEVE WILSON  
Mr. & Mrs. Hyman C. Butler  
FRED C. WINKLEMAN  
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Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Bunce  
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J. BYRON WOODS  
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Storey  
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Ashley L. Wright  
GEORGE O. WRIGHT  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Breathitt

**Y**

WILLIAM H. YARNOLD  
Mrs. W. H. Yarnold  
GEORGINA YOUNG  
Mrs. Margaret E. Doust

**Z**

DYMYD ZACHARKO  
Mary Zacharko  
EDWARD ZALDIVAR  
Mrs. Mary C. Zaldivar  
CHRISTINA ZOLL  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen P. Ivan

The Memorial Fund donations for this listing were received by the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund between July 15 and September 27, 1978.

**Facts About Our Finances**

Copies of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1978 will be available about January 1, 1979. The Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1977 is currently available. Address your request to Harry Weaver, President, Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Inc., Boys Ranch, Florida, 32060.

**About your will.....**

Many generous friends have thoughtfully made provision in their wills for our youngsters. If you are considering a gift of this nature, we can furnish information to assist you in drawing up a new will or revising an old one. Through a bequest to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Inc., you can help youngsters at any or all of our facilities, as you choose. Simply fill out the form below and mail it in the postage-paid envelope found elsewhere in this issue or call Area Code 904-842-5501 for further information.

Address inquiries to:

Harry K. Weaver, President  
Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Inc.  
Boys Ranch, Florida 32060

Please send literature about:

- Wills
- Effective Giving
- Giving Stocks
- Giving through life insurance

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

The proper designation of legatee is as follows:

FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH FUND, INC.

**Now you can give and receive income**

Gift annuities paying up to 12 per cent annually — depending upon your age — are now available from the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Inc. For more information on how to receive a guaranteed income for life and a significant tax deduction, simply complete this coupon and mail it in the convenient, postage-paid envelope found elsewhere in this issue.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code and Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Help Wanted**

If you are getting two copies of this publication, you can help us reduce our printing and mailing costs. Simply send us both labels. (If you don't want to cut up your magazines, just copy down the exact information from each label.) Mail both labels to Circulation, THE RANCHER, Boys Ranch, Florida 32060. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

**NEW ADDRESS ?**

Americans are on the move, and keeping up with changes of address is a six-aspirin headache. Some of our subscribers (bless them) send us their new addresses. Others let the U. S. Postal Service notify us, and the Postal Service charges us 25 cents for each new address. If you have a new address, please help us to keep our budget in balance by clipping out this form, filling it out and mailing it to:

Circulation Dept.  
THE RANCHER  
Boys Ranch, Fla. 32060

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In this space, please attach your RANCHER mailing label with the old address and fill in the new address above. Also do the same with name changes and corrections.

**President's Perspective**

A message from Harry K. Weaver, President of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund.



The connotations of words have a way of changing with the times. Consider the word "inflation" which was once a positive sort of word, bringing to mind images of blowing up balloons or bicycle tires to make a child happy. In today's world, inflation makes us think of unpleasant things like balance of payments deficits, shrinking currency, and an ever-lowering standard of living for people on fixed incomes and others.

The income of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund is not fixed. It is variable and dependent almost entirely upon voluntary gifts. In any given year, Youth Fund income may be higher or lower than in the previous year, depending upon the generosity of people who care and share.

Inflation takes its toll of the gift dollars you send to support the Youth Fund and its programs at the Boys Ranch, Girls Villa, and Youth Ranch. With each day that passes, the costs of food, clothing, fuel, utilities, and just about anything you can think of goes up so that it takes more and more dollars to purchase less and less.

We might be moving backward instead of forward were it not for the help of a very special group of people. We call them special, because many of our friends and supporters, without being asked, have realized the effects of inflation upon our programs and have increased the size of their gifts accordingly. They are keeping the Youth Fund moving forward.

This extra measure of generosity when it is needed is not something new — it is in the tradition of the kind of people who support the Youth Fund, going all the way back to the days when the Boys Ranch was struggling for its existence. Our friends came through when we needed them then — and here they are now as we go through a difficult crisis in the national economy.

Our gratitude for this kind of support goes beyond words, and so we have to say it in the best words we know . . .

Thank you. . . Thank you so very much.

**FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH FUND IS...**

A charitable, non-profit corporation, sponsored by the Florida Sheriffs Association, to manage and operate the Boys Ranch, the Girls Villa, the Youth Ranch, and any other youth programs that may later be developed by the Florida Sheriffs Association. One of the most important functions of the Youth Fund is the raising, receiving, budgeting and disbursing of funds for its programs. Gifts and bequests can be made to the Youth Fund for the exclusive benefit of any single youth program, such as the Boys Ranch, Girls Villa, or Youth Ranch. They can also be made to the Youth Fund, without restriction, to be distributed among existing programs where they are most needed or to be used for the development of new programs at the discretion of the Governing Board.

MAILING ADDRESS — Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Inc.  
Boys Ranch, Florida 32060 PHONE — AC904 842-5501

**BOYS RANCH IS.....**

a home for dependent, neglected and homeless boys sponsored by the Florida Sheriffs Association and operated under the management of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Inc. It is not an institution for delinquents.

The Boys Ranch was founded in 1957 and is located nine miles north of Live Oak, Florida. It has approximately 100 boys in care at any given time, and it is supported almost entirely by voluntary gifts through the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Inc.

**GIRLS VILLA IS.....**

a similar institution for needy and worthy girls located near Bartow, Florida. It was founded in 1970. The first buildings were completed in July, 1972, and the first girls were admitted in August, 1972. Current enrollment is 24 girls.

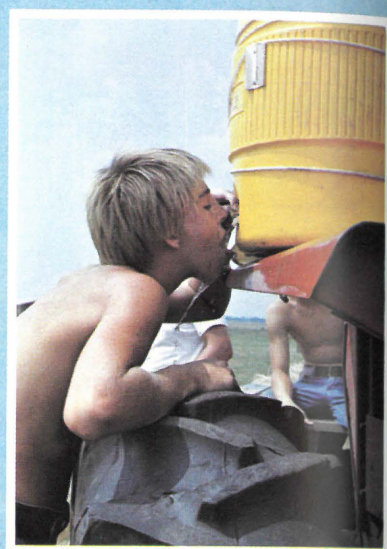
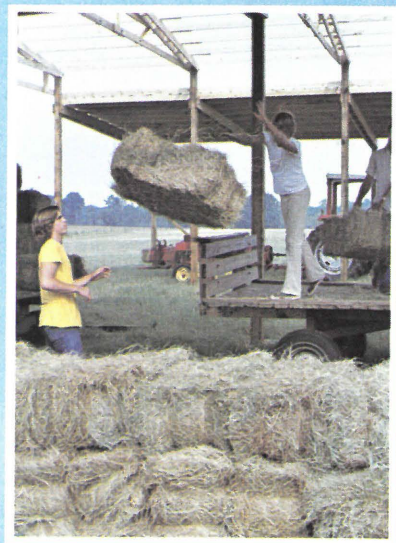
Mailing address and phone number for the Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Ranch are the same as for the Youth Fund.



**YOUTH RANCH IS.....**

The newest group child care facility sponsored by the Florida Sheriffs Association. It was founded in 1976, and is located near Clearwater, Florida. The first youngsters were admitted in August, 1978. The Youth Ranch provides a homelike environment for brothers and sisters who are dependent, neglected or homeless.

Mailing address and phone number same as Youth Fund.



Our boys don't actually sing when they work. They don't even love their work, but we consider ourselves successful if we can teach them to stop hating it.

Work is necessary. The Ranch can't operate without it. Much of it is pure drudgery, but some of it can be a source of pride and personal satisfaction. Ranchers get an opportunity to become acquainted with both kinds — the boring and the stimulating.

There are times in the hot hay fields when the boys are sweating and running and heaving hay bales, and they actually seem to be having fun. They won't admit it, but they give themselves away with their friendly banter and occasional somersaults.

At other times, just the sight of a hay bale gives them acute indigestion.

Boys and work are natural enemies. This is not easy to overcome — but show us a boy who enjoys using a power drill in the arts and crafts workshop, and we will show you a future cabinetmaker who will take pride in his work.

Send us a boy with special aptitudes in carpentry, electrical work, plumbing or any of the familiar skilled trades, and we will not only use the best available methods to discover those aptitudes, but we will also do all we can to help him develop them.

Show us a boy with dirty fingernails, and we will show you a boy who just spent a rewarding two hours solving the mechanical problems of an ailing tractor.

Our boys don't go around singing about hard work, or looking for it, but they aren't afraid of it, and they aren't likely to spend the rest of their lives running away from it.

That's something!!



## We've been working at the Boys Ranch\*

\*To the tune of "I Been Workin' on da Railroad"



If a boy has special skills, we do everything possible to discover and develop them. Testing includes the use of tape recorded instructions supplemented by color slides.





Former Salls home has been renovated for use as the first residence cottage.

**The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch is in operation now and we are doing everything possible to make it homelike for the boys and girls living there.**



Moving in.

**S**ixty years ago people were singing a song called "Home Sweet Home," and there was a line in the lyrics that said: "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home."

We're still singing that song, but we have changed the lyrics to say: "There's some place like home." There is — and we call it the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch.

This newest project of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund is in operation now, and we are doing everything possible to make it homelike for the boys and girls living there.

Located near Clearwater, the Youth Ranch offers love, shelter and a better future to brothers and sisters who are dependent, neglected or homeless. The first ranchers came aboard in August, and the first residence building is currently filled to its capacity of ten youngsters, plus a married couple employed as group parents.

A master plan has been developed for future expansion, and the next addition, which will be known as the Elmer and Nancy Pilcher Administration Building, is now under construction.

The Youth Ranch is programmed to strengthen family ties between brothers and sisters who might otherwise have to live hundreds of miles apart in separate institutions. The first residents of the Youth Ranch were formerly living at the Boys Ranch and Girls Villa.

Like its predecessors, the Boys Ranch and Girls Villa, the Youth Ranch will be supported almost entirely by voluntary contributions.

It began with a voluntary contribution when Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Salls offered to donate their large home and surrounding acreage as the site for a new child care facility. The offer was gratefully accepted, some adjoining land was acquired, and the Salls home was renovated.



Elmer and Nancy Pilcher Administration Building is under construction.



First pet was a stray named "Morris."

Cooking is a chore everyone shares.





## Flying Scholarship Fund lets youngsters "try their wings"



Will Coffman will be one of the first students to receive flying lessons under the new scholarship program.

Youngsters at the Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Ranch who have an interest in flying are getting an opportunity to "try their wings" under a new scholarship program funded by Jerry Stevens, a Cleveland, Ohio, furniture wholesaler with business interests in Florida.

Mr. Stevens, who is a long time flying enthusiast, told us he wanted to share his enthusiasm by motivating some of our youngsters to take up aviation careers, or to use flying as a form of recreation or therapy.

We liked the idea, and with the help of a generous cash gift from Mr. Stevens, we developed a program we are calling the Jerry Stevens Flying Scholarship Fund. It's under way now, and we are giving our benefactor periodic reports so he can keep track of our progress.

The first phase is exploratory. Boys and girls who want to be more than mere groundlings — and who have appropriate releases signed by parents or guardians — will be given airplane rides to evaluate their interest, aptitudes and enthusiasm.

Those who want to go beyond the exploratory phase, and

are at least 15, will be eligible for three introductory flying lessons to "get the feel of it," after which they can apply for a full series of flight lessons funded by the scholarship program. These lessons will include the normal ground school and 20 hours of dual instruction aloft. They will be given at airports near Youth Fund facilities.

Students who receive solo licenses will be eligible for two hours of flight practice each week until they qualify for private licenses. Up to this point, the Scholarship Fund will pay all expenses, but any young people who want to take advanced flying instruction toward a commercial license will be required to start "working their way" through flying school by sharing in the cost.

Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund President Harry Weaver is enthusiastic about the new program. He said a flight training program of this type will provide excitement and adventure for our youngsters, and also expand their vocational opportunities so that some of them who have special aptitudes can be encouraged to take up aviation careers.

FLORIDA SHERIFFS  
YOUTH FUND  
BOYS RANCH, FLORIDA 32060  
Address Correction Requested

