A Mind for Science
See Page 20
“Coming from a family of preachers, the idea of giving back has been part of my life as long as I can remember.”

~ David Green

I hear so many people say these days with great emphasis that the problem with our society is that the young are much more selfish or have a “me first” attitude. They say young people tend to be more self-centered and less giving than my or my parents’ generation, and they believe the idea of giving back is being lost.

I guess for me, the concept of giving back has always been a part of my upbringing and the quote above is reflective of my own life. I do come from a family of preachers, considering both my father and grandfather were ordained ministers, and my childhood was spent in different churches throughout North Florida. Helping others who were less fortunate was simply what you did, sharing what you had was normal and taking food and clothing to a family in need was not uncommon. When thinking about it, it’s one of the many reasons I love working at the Youth Ranches.

From what I hear others saying about our young people these days, I do have to smile. So many people have never met the young men and women who grew up within the Youth Ranches. If they had, they too would know that giving back is part of our own family values. Thaddeus Bullard aka WWE Superstar Titus O’Neil came to the Boys Ranch at age 13 and discovered that people truly cared about him. Thaddeus will tell you that he had his fair share of issues at the Boys Ranch but that the dedicated staff, especially former Director Pat Monogue never gave
up on him. He will tell you we stayed with him as he attended the University of Florida and earned his degree. Today, Thaddeus is a well-known celebrity who has traveled all over the world; he is a loving father and dedicated son. He also spends much of his time giving back to others, especially children, through multiple charity events.

Catherine Koclanes is another of our successful alumni who came to us at age 14 from a home environment where she was struggling. She was so desperate that she found us on her own and convinced her mother to let her come and live with us at our Safety Harbor campus. There she thrived with her cottage parents and other dedicated staff. She went on to Stetson University and is now a successful Insurance Broker in Chicago. Whenever she is asked to do anything for the Ranches she responds without hesitation and has on many occasions traveled great distances to speak on our behalf. We could also talk about Willie Nickerson who came to the Boys Ranch after finding out about us and convincing his family to let him come as well. While at the Ranch, Willie became a role model, and while he struggled at first with his studies, he overcame his issues and later graduated with his Masters from FAMU. He is now a Deputy Sheriff serving his community while continuing to give back in other ways to those less fortunate than himself. He is also a loving husband and big supporter of the Ranches.

I have seen our young men and women give back in so many ways. Like Jacob Crow who recently described that living at the Ranch is belonging to a family. That he has brothers and sisters who may not be blood relatives but they remain his family because of the Youth Ranches. Jacob is currently attending Law Enforcement Academy to become a Deputy Sheriff. Or Cody Pressley who came to us as a young child and continues to call the Boys Ranch his home and is now the President of the Boys Ranch Alumni Association. Cody serves as a Correctional Officer and is a loving husband and new father to a beautiful baby boy. Cody gives his time to help other young boys and girls living at the Ranch. The list goes on and on dating back to our very beginning when the first boys arrived at Saunders Cottage back in 1959.

Our society will forever be changing. However, it does not mean that we always have to change with it. There are ideas and values which need to be passed along and while our children may not always be best at listening, they are best at imitating what they observe. I grew up in a family of preachers; the children who call the Youth Ranches home are growing up in a family which survives on the generosity of others. They learn early on what it means to give as well as receive. The values of gratitude, fairness, caring, integrity and responsibility are regularly observed and through these observations, young men and women will emerge as future givers, upholding the values learned at the Ranches.

Thank you for supporting our children with your gifts. Not only are you providing a home and other educational opportunities like our camping programs, but you are also helping us pass along a set of values which will enrich the lives of others for years to come!

God bless,

Bill Frye
SENIORS 2018 | Carrie

Current Age: 17  
Most Recent GPA: 3.14  
Months and Years at the Ranch: 4 Years  
Activities: Carrie loves being creative. She enjoys drawing, reading and writing.  
Awards: Best Artist, Best Worker, Academics Award, Campus Pride, Best Character, Program Directors Award  
Worksites: Carrie volunteers at the local animal shelter, autism camp, and the local library. She has also worked at summer camp as a Counselor in Training.  
Future Plans: Carrie would like to go to the University of Florida and study Veterinary Sciences. She would like to one day become a veterinarian.

SENIORS 2018 | Devon

Current Age: 19  
Most Recent GPA: 4.0  
Months and Years at the Ranch: 2 Years, 6 Months  
Activities: Devon has participated in the Senate Page Program.  
Awards: Best Dressed, Best Worker, Best Room  
Worksites: Devon has worked with Maintenance, at the Admin Building and currently works for the Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises Thrift Store Live Oak.  
Future Plans: Devon plans to attend Fort Myers Technical College to pursue a career in IT.
Current Age: 18
Most Recent GPA: 3.5
Months and Years at the Ranch: 6 Months
Activities: Basketball, Karate, Photography, Christmas Program with the Boys Ranch Choir
Awards: A & B Honor Roll, Senate Page Program, Represented the Youth Ranches on a trip to Washington, D.C.
Worksites: Volunteer at the Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises Thrift Store Live Oak, Boys Ranch Recreation Department
Future Plans: Anthony plans to attend Miami-Dade College for Aviation to become a pilot. He would also like to get his bail bondsman license.

Current Age: 17
Most Recent GPA: 3.4
Months and Years at the Ranch: 7 Months
Activities: Basketball, Pen Making with Pop Dodd
Awards: Represented the Youth Ranches on a Trip to Washington, D.C., Represented the Youth Ranches on a fishing trip, won a bicycle for first quarter grades (4.0)
Worksites: Volunteer at Boys Ranch Cowboy Camp and works at the Boys Ranch Clinic
Future Plans: Thomas plans to attend college to become a graphic designer and own his own business.
In a modern age of cellphones, computers and more screens than you can count, kids have so many distractions! It is hard to find anything that can keep their attention. When they do find something that not only keeps their attention, but also teaches valuable lessons and leaves them looking forward to it year after year, it must be something special.

Summer camp at the Youth Ranches is that thing!

“I can’t wait to come back next year!”

This is the sentiment you hear mixed with laughter, hugs and even a few tears at the end of a week of summer camp at the Youth Ranches. Can you blame them? The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Summer Camp offers all the traditional camping activities, but with a wonderfully unique twist.

Summer Camp offers canoeing, archery, swimming and countless other recreational activities that allow youth the opportunity to build basic teamwork and peer communication skills while simply being kids. They also can spend the week enjoying a beautiful, tranquil outdoor environment.

What makes summer camp at the Youth Ranches so unique is that it also provides an opportunity for Deputy Sheriffs and other law enforcement volunteers to get personally involved with the campers to form positive, healthy relationships.

Since camp began its motto has been “Law Enforcement Officers are Our Friends”, and this continues to ring true year after year. One mother recently shared a story about her two campers. “My children had a great time and can’t wait to go back,” she said. “When they left home, they were afraid of law enforcement. They came home with positive attitudes. This experience was very enlightening and great for them.”

The campers live among their peers in cabins, learning how to share, adapt and...
behave properly within a group setting. Every day contains a healthy balance between work and play, proving a valuable lesson for maturing youth.

Some of the children at camp learn valuable life lessons about cooperation. “I learned that we can work together to accomplish anything,” said Matthew from Lake Mary proudly. For other campers, their lasting memories are something a little simpler. Making friends is one of the best parts, according to Helen. The young girl from Duval County had a blast participating in the challenge course, but she said her favorite part of the week was just “learning how to make new friends!”

That may be one of the best parts about summer camp — there is something for everyone! Thanks to donors like you, summer camp at the Youth Ranches is completely free for Florida’s most needy and deserving children. When we asked the children what they would say to our donors, it was an enthusiastic, “Thank you for sending me to camp!”

**SINCE CAMP BEGAN ITS MOTTO HAS BEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ARE YOUR FRIENDS, AND THIS CONTINUES TO RING TRUE YEAR AFTER YEAR.**
At the Youth Ranches, we teach our children based on a Work, Study, Pray and Play philosophy. For our children to be successful when they leave the program, a solid foundation in work and career planning is essential. This past fall at the Boys Ranch, the students’ vocational rotation added a new creative career path: Photography.

Not every child is interested in farm work or maintenance or working in an office. For those who have more of an artistic eye, this class opened up an entire new realm of career possibilities while teaching valuable communication skills and lessons in patience, persistence and pride in their work.

The students started out the course by learning camera basics, terminology and how to frame a shot. They learned proper camera care and etiquette, and then had the opportunity to try their hands at shooting objects around campus.

“It was amazing to see that a small change in the way you look at something can make such a big difference,” Salvador said, looking at one of the photos he had taken. “It’s like you can take a picture of some flowers and it’s pretty, but when you take the time to focus and frame it, it can be art.”

Over the course of several weeks, the young men continued to learn and grow in their skills, as well as develop an eye for composition. Their next huge task was learning not only to pose themselves, but to also direct a photo shoot with their fellow classmates as their models and “clients.”

This took a tremendous amount of communication and patience. “It was difficult to try to tell someone how to pose,” Anthony said. “I can see what I want in my head and I know how I want them to pose, but trying to express that was a challenge.”

Staying calm and giving clear instructions proved to be successful for the group. They used a storage room as their photo studio and produced professional-quality shots to print out for friends and family.

“I never thought about photography as a career before this class,” Anthony said, “but now I look at everything and think of the best angle for a photo. I think I might have found a passion for photography.”

Seeing things from a different angle and finding the best in every situation is what the Youth Ranches does for our youth every day. It is thanks to our donor family that we are able to teach and guide our Ranchers and develop them into lawful, resilient and productive citizens with hopes and aspirations for a better tomorrow.
At the Youth Ranches we teach our youth based on a four pillar philosophy of work, study, pray and play. This year many of our youth experienced these four pillars off campus while participating in community sports leagues.

Several of our young ladies at the Youth Villa showed an interest in volleyball this year. The sports league run by Highland Park Church of the Nazarene in Lakeland uses principles similar to the Youth Ranches in their youth leagues; making it a perfect fit.

At the Boys Ranch, four of our young men made the Suwannee High School basketball team and have been impressing the coaches all season, on and off the court. Our teens playing sports have been surprised by just how much their work, study, pray and play philosophies have come in handy.

The play is easy, as it is undeniable how much fun they have being active and playing a sport they truly enjoy. The smiles on their faces and excitement to go to practice each day is easy to see. “It’s awesome!” Oscar said when asked about playing on the basketball team. “We have starters and have scored during the games. It’s been a great season already!”

However, anyone who has played a sport before can tell you, they are fun, but there is a surprising amount of work involved.

The old saying goes, “Practice makes perfect.” A more accurate saying would be that practice makes permanent, that is why
it is so important to have a strong work ethic for everything our youth dedicate themselves to. Good practices mean good results. With sports, work is evident through long and tough practices filled with drills that challenge the youth’s skills. The better they get and the more dedicated they are the better they perform at games.

For our Ranchers though, sports come second. Their education is always their top priority. The study philosophy becomes very important if they want to stay on the team. Not only must all the athletes maintain a high GPA to stay on the team, but they must also learn to be organized so their practices and game schedules do not interfere with homework or class assignments.

Prayer is an important part of their game day ritual. Before each game a time is set aside for a prayer asking for a good game, everyone playing to the best of their ability and safety on the court.

For us, it is always great when our youth represent the Youth Ranches in such a positive light in the community. It is wonderful to see that people take notice of the changes they are making in their lives.

After five weeks of competitive games, the volleyball coach was asked how it’s been going and he replied, “They did it all yesterday - and did it right,” he said. “Hustle, movement, EFFORT, TEAMWORK and a POSITIVE ATTITUDE. When all these fall into place, success can’t hide from us.”

Success can’t hide from any of our youth! They are all on a path to better their lives thanks to our generous donor family, coaches, mentors and the staff at the Youth Ranches.
Thank you from our Campers!

“Thanks for Sending Me to Camp!”

Dear Sponsor,

My name is Alaura. I am from Humble. My favorite activity at camp was arts and crafts. This week I learned to just have fun. I would love to come back!

Alaura

“Thanks for Sending Me to Camp!”

Dear Sponsor,

My name is Chris and I am from Swannee County. My favorite activity at camp was the high ropes. While at camp I learned respect. Thank you for sending me to camp.

Sincerely, Chris

“Thanks for Sending Me to Camp!”

Dear Sponsor,

My name is Justin. I am from Clay County. My favorite camp activity is archery. While at camp I learned how to work as a team. Thank you for sending me to camp.

Sincerely, Justin

“Thanks for Sending Me to Camp!”

Hi! My name is Tamaria and I am from Sanford. My favorite camp activity was the springs. I learned at camp that you need to be able to communicate with one another.

Sincerely, Tamaria
The cottages at the Safety Harbor campus may have a few chefs in the making after a six week course with the University of Florida’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. While the youth are having fun and learning to cook, they are actually gaining a far more valuable lesson they can use in their lives once they leave the Ranch. The “Cooking Matters” hands-on course teaches the boys and girls at the Youth Ranches the skills they need to be self-sufficient in the kitchen. They learn how to prepare and shop sensibly for healthy meals on a limited budget.

During the six weeks of lessons with Chef Donna and her trained volunteers she teaches meal preparation, grocery shopping, food budgeting and even focuses on helping the youth make healthy choices. They learn and practice fundamental food and kitchen skills like proper knife techniques, reading ingredient labels and making an entire healthy meal for a family on a $10 budget. A few of their favorite recipes were the Black Bean Quesadillas, Chinese Veggies with Rice and Yogurt Parfaits. The absolute winner was learning to make their own personal pizzas.

At the last session, the Ranchers teamed up in a “Chop Challenge” to create their own dish with only the ingredients that Chef Donna had made available. It was a great time with some budding new chefs.

At the end of the session each Rancher received a graduation certificate, cookbook and a bag of kitchen tools to encourage them to continue cooking!

Opportunities like this and the skills learned are incredibly valuable to the boys and girls who call the Youth Ranches home. Many of our youth do not come from homes where regular healthy meals were available or even an option. By teaching them the skills to not only cook healthy meals but also shop and find ingredients we are helping make sure they can be successful as adults. ★

WHAT’S ON THE MENU?

Safety Harbor Ranchers are cooking up something special.

WHAT’S ON THE MENU?

Safety Harbor Ranchers are cooking up something special.
For the third year in a row, the children of the Youth Ranch have had the opportunity to participate in the Young Artists Program hosted by the St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts and ArtRtainment. Talented, professional artists from around Tampa Bay and St. Petersburg take time out of their schedules to teach the Ranchers about art styles and techniques, and help them tap into their creative sides while creating amazing works of art.

This year, they set the bar even higher. “I wanted the artists to challenge the kids and themselves,” said Anna Glenn, the museum’s curator of Public Programs. “Each year, we have fun and get great pieces of art, but I wanted them to test their limits.”

Glenn and the entire group involved with the program were pleased beyond measure with the results. “This is easily the best artwork we’ve ever seen come out of the program,” Glenn said.

Aside from learning about art, the youth are learning something even more valuable: self-confidence.

When Carrie came to the Youth Ranches, she was quiet and shy, but at the Young Artists reception, she beamed with pride as she stood next to her displayed
work. She wasn’t just confident in her work; she is now confident in herself.

Through this program, Carrie has begun to develop her enjoyment of drawing into a real passion for art. It was astounding to watch her conversation with locally renowned artist Derek Donnelly. The two discussed art styles, media and ideas for upcoming art pieces, and bounced ideas back and forth like two seasoned pros. If you didn’t know her, you would not have known she wasn’t a professional artist. She spoke with passion and self-assurance. She was the embodiment of a strong, intelligent and poised young woman.

Without the Youth Ranches and the opportunities provided through our services, a young woman like Carrie might not have found the self-confidence to pursue her passion, the voice to express herself, or the guidance to overcome the adversity of her past and find the tools for a successful future.
A LIFE CHANGING WEEK!

Never underestimate the power one week can have on the life of a child. Each year the Youth Ranches serves thousands of children in our camping programs. Unfortunately, many of the children we see come from a place of need, abuse, neglect or anger.

These at-risk and deserving children depend on others to help them through the tough times and to show them there is a bright, hope-filled future waiting for them.

We are relying on you to help provide a life changing week of camp!

One week of camp will teach children “Law Officers are Your Friends.” Teaching them there is one adult a child can turn to in a time of need.

One week of camp will teach a child healthy and enjoyable activities that can turn into a lifetime hobby or interest. This will help them spend their recreation time in a positive way rather than turning to mischief or petty crime for entertainment.

One week of camp will teach children to respect themselves, respect others, respect their community and respect authority. They learn it is important to help others and to become the best they can be – lawful, productive citizens.

One week of camp can put a family in contact with people who will help them through their times of need.

We all know one experience can change a life forever. Please help us provide that for a child through your camp sponsorship gift. $250 will send a deserving child to camp for one full week. If you are unable to sponsor an entire week of camp, a donation of any size will be added to the generosity of others to help support a child in need.

Your partnership with the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches is a sure combination for success. Your gift will make a difference in the life of a child. Please send your camp sponsorship today!

Please help a deserving child attend Summer Camp this year!

YES! I want to sponsor a boy or girl at Summer Camp!

Here is my gift of □ $250 (full campership) □ $125 □ $75
□ $50 □ $25 □ $10 Other $______

NAME_________________________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS_____________________________________________________________________________

CITY_____________________________________ STATE__________________ ZIP________________

PHONE___________________________________ EMAIL_____________________________________ 

Use this form to make certain your gift is properly identified.

Please send your gift in the enclosed envelope or mail your gift to Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches – P.O. Box 2000 – Boys Ranch, FL 32064.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CARING AND TIMELY GIFT!
NEED MORE RELIABLE INCOME?

Convert your assets into a stream of guaranteed income and be sure the remainder goes to help our kids.

Your gift of $10,000 or more in the form of a Gift Annuity (cash or stocks) can help deserving youngsters and secure a reliable 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 cash, stocks or property that you would like to transfer into a Gift Annuity with the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and want to lock in this annual payment rate, please contact Debbie Parnell at 1-800-765-3797 for a free, personalized example. Joint rates can also be given upon request. Available to Florida residents age 65 or older.

RATE SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL PAYMENTS FOR SINGLE-LIFE CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

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RATES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2012

Please call us at (800) 765-3797 if you have any questions.

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.)

First Life_________________________ Phone__________________________

(Date of Birth) Month Day Year Area Code

Second Life__________________________

(Date of Birth) Month Day Year

Name______________________________

Address____________________________

City_________________________ State___________ Zip______________

THE RANCHER • CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SERVICE • SPRING 2018 • 17
Visiting with different donors, we get ideas about how they want their family to be remembered. Some choose to leave all their money and property directly to their family, hoping they will continue to support favorite charities. Others have made specific plans to ensure their charitable wishes are followed.

Here are a few of the more creative ideas we have seen in recent years:

• Naming the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, retirement account or bank account

• Specifying a particular percentage of your estate for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches OR the opposite, specifying a particular percentage or piece of property for your heirs and leaving the remainder of your estate to the Youth Ranches

• Investing in a Charitable Gift Annuity where the remainder after death goes to the Youth Ranches

• Making a cash gift of $5,000 or more to the Youth Ranches in honor of a family member and request they be made a Lifetime Honorary Member of the Florida Sheriffs Association

• Contributing a minimum of $10,000 and creating a family named endowment fund at the Youth Ranches

• Establishing a Charitable Remainder Trust where distributions (set amount or %) are made to family members for a period of years and once complete, the balance is donated to the Youth Ranches

• Establishing a Charitable Lead Trust where a distribution (% or set amount) is made to the Youth Ranches for a period of 10 or 20 years, then the balance is distributed to your heirs when they are older and better prepared to receive these funds

These are just a few options to consider. As always, we encourage you to discuss this with your personal attorney or advisors to chart the best course for your future and remember to update your will annually as things and people in your life change!

Thank you for Caring and Sharing!
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 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 Bill Frye at (800) 765-3797.

Your will should be reviewed annually.

About your estate planning...

Many of our friends have thoughtfully made provisions 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.

Please send me the booklet:

☐ Giving Through Gift Annuity ☐ Giving Securities ☐ Giving Through Your Will ☐ Giving Real Estate ☐ Visit me when you are in my area.

☐ Other __________________________

Name ____________________________________________________________

Address _________________________________________________________ City __________________ State ______ Zip ________________ Telephone No. (________)________________________________

The proper legal name to provide a bequest is:

“I bequeath to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc., Boys Ranch, Florida 32064:

100% of the residual amount of my estate • a specific amount of $__________ • a description of the property a certain quantity of stocks.” (or any combination of the above.)
To say that 15 year old honor student Janessa loves technology would be an understatement!

The shine in her eyes is unmistakable as she shows off her handmade remote controlled skateboard. There is a sense of pride as she holds the remote in her hand and effortlessly glides across the pavement. When Janessa flips up the skateboard the underside looks like a science project.

You have to admire what she has been able to create with a recycled plastic tackle box, some screws, a rechargeable battery pack, wire connectors and if you look closely - some wooden Jenga game pieces. Janessa loves taking things apart to find out how they work. She is always on the lookout for parts and pieces to build something new.

Janessa is a great example of a young lady with drive and determination. She is very aware of who she is, what she wants to accomplish and where she has come from. Her family has struggled regularly with being homeless. Her youngest sibling has a chronic illness and requires regular care. It hasn’t always been easy for their single mom to balance the high level of care with a regular job.

Janessa’s words and deeds show that she has an awareness of herself and others and empathy for her fellow students that not many young people possess.

Janessa is living at the Youth Ranch while her mom works on creating a permanent home for their family. Over the holidays she came home from school with some angels from an Angel Tree at school. Angel Trees are set up with the names of children that people know won’t have a Christmas without the help of others.
Janessa told her cottage parent she needed to go shopping for her Angel Tree foster kids. He shared, “I had to have a funny look on my face. I said Janessa, you know, you are a foster kid. My heart almost burst when she told me, ‘I know I am going to have a great Christmas here at the Ranch.’” She explained that she wanted to help kids who won’t have what she has at the Ranch and she had saved up money for something special.

To be honest every time we talk about Janessa all of our hearts almost burst! We all hope that the difference we make in a child’s life inspires them to help others. Janessa’s words and deeds show that she has an awareness of herself and others and empathy for her fellow students that not many young people possess.

Even with the challenge of moving to a new place, and having her family split up, Janessa has been able to keep up her grades. Anyone else may have buckled under her course load. Janessa is not only an honors student, but she is also taking college courses as a dual enrollment student.

We know Janessa will be successful no matter what life throws at her. When asked about her next project Janessa says, “I want to create a coffee maker that makes both hot and cold drinks.” It sounds like an ambitious plan but we have no doubt that one day Janessa will impress us with a completed version of her project.★

Janessa’s resourcefulness isn’t just for motors and electronics. The creative teen also designed and built her recycled desk from wooden pallets.
When James came to the Boys Ranch in 2005, the 15-year-old boy was getting into all kinds of trouble. “I was a hellion,” James admitted, thinking back to his youth. “It got to the point where my mom couldn’t handle it anymore.” She began looking for someone who could help. When they stumbled on the Boys Ranch, it was like an answer to her prayers. “By the time I got to the Boys Ranch, I was punching holes in walls,” he said. “I was out of control.”

But the Boys Ranch wasn’t an immediate fix. “For the first six days, the first week, I didn’t want to be there,” James said. “But then with the help of the counselors and my cottage parents, I started to see that I needed to change and I realized that I wanted that change for myself, too.”

With the help of the staff at the Boys Ranch over the next three years, James began to become a person he was proud of. “I learned a lot about having a good work ethic,” he explained. “Everyone there always kept me motivated and pushing me forward.”

After James left the Ranch and went back home, he decided to pursue a career where he could help others. James is now a certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). EMTs provide out-of-hospital emergency medical care and transportation for critical and emergency patients. Aside from the excitement of his job and his passion for people, being an EMT connected James with the fact that he could turn someone’s life around. “I love looking at someone who has something wrong or broken and knowing I can help them,” he said.

His medical training recently hit close to home. “My mother fell ill. My job was often 12-hour shifts and her insurance didn’t cover home healthcare for that many hours, so I took leave from my job to be there for her,” he said. Thankfully, James’s mother is on the mend and recovering well, and he hopes to be able to return to his job and continue to help others.

“I don’t know where I would be without the Youth Ranches,” James said. “Probably in jail. If you stay with the program, put in the effort and listen to the staff, it works! You just have to be open to change and you will change. The Youth Ranches are amazing and I owe them my life. It really works!”

“I know everyone probably says this — that the Youth Ranches saves lives. They saved mine.”
AWARDS, EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Farm Credit of Northwest Florida Board of Directors Chairman Richard Terry and Farm Credit Union of Northwest Florida CEO Rick Bitner recently presented Donor Relations Officer Janet Sampson with a Check for $1,500 as a part of their Helping Rural America Grow Campaign. The Youth Ranches are so grateful to accept this generous gift.

Peggy Moffit and the Odd Fellows Lodge have a long history of making sure our children are taken care of at the holidays. Each year the Odd Fellows Lodge gives each child a new pair of jeans, each cottage fun games and snacks and a gift card to the school for supplies. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Mr. Jon Swift and Jason Swift presents Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight their annual donation check for $5,000 for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

Kay Persing of Nature Coast presented Volunteer Donor Relations Officer Frank Kenney with a generous donation to the boys and girls of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

Gulf County Sheriff Mike Harrison presents FSYR President Bill Frye a check for $1,000.00 from the Gulf County Sheriff’s Office fishing tournament.

Levy County Sheriff’s Office – Citizens on Patrol President Mr. Ron Morgan, Treasurer Mrs. Donna McFadden and Levy County Sheriff Bobby McCallum present FSYR VP Operations Mark Davis with a generous donation for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.
Gadsden County Sheriff Morris A. Young recently invited FSYR President Bill Frye to be a part of the swearing in of Gadsden County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Robert Scavone. Mr. Frye was honored to be a part of the special day and have the opportunity to meet Gadsden County’s newest Sheriffs Deputy and his family.

Please Donate Your Vehicle to the Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises

The Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises accepts vehicles in fair to great condition. If your vehicle has proper emission controls, fair tires, no major body or rust damage, and the engine/transmission are in good working order, please consider sharing this resource with our charity.

Your donation will be used to benefit the boys and girls of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

For more information or to set up an appointment for a Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises representative to pick up your vehicle, call us today at 800-338-0377.

www.sre4kids.org

Please Note: The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 contains new rules pertaining to the charitable deduction allowed for vehicles donated to a qualified charity after December 31, 2004. Basically, this law limits the donor’s tax deduction to $500, or the gross proceeds from the sale of the vehicle, if over $500. We recognize that each individual’s tax situation is different and the impact of any charitable deduction is based on a variety of circumstances. You are strongly encouraged to consult with your independent tax advisor.

Required Disclosure Information

"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." Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises registration number is CH20347.
MEMORIAL GIFTS

Helping Our Children through a Memorial Gift.

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

Estate and Trust Gifts

Owen and Adeline M. Brecker
Kathleen T. Nicol
Helen M. Vukasovic

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 October 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 from estates and trusts.
Be A Mobile Ambassador!

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Specialty License Plate provides Florida citizens with a unique and personal way to help in the mission of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches! See your tax collector to purchase your plate!

DID YOU KNOW?
100% of our specialty license plate sales go directly to our children in program. By putting a Star on Your Car you help Florida’s needy boys and girls find shelter, guidance and self-confidence.

WE WANT TO THANK YOU!
When you sign up for the FSYR plate at your local tax collector’s office, be sure to check the box that releases your contact information so that we can properly thank you, our generous donor!

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Donald L. Mann
Mrs. Ann T. Mann
Rick Mann
Ms. Dawn Mackland
Kay Manson
Ms. Sulamita S. Donnolo
Curtis J. Marlow
Ms. Cindy Eason
Mrs. Alice Martin
Sheriff & Mrs. Bobby McCullum
Mr. & Mrs. Roger K. Page
Jacqueline Matthews
Mr. & Mrs. William M. Steingraber
KIMBERLY McDARVER
Mrs. Bonnie Harris
Ms. Dawn Mackland
Mrs. Ann T. Mann
Donald L. Mann

20 years! We love the Youth Ranches!"
MEMORIAL GIFTS

PET CORNER
Remembering Special Companions

K9 DIESEL (DOG)
Ms. Marsha D. Perryman

MAGGIE (DOG)
Mrs. Maria Knapp

SPARKY (CAT) AND COCO (DOG)
Ms. Lois Campesi

Gifts from October 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017
Helping Our Children through an Honor Gift.

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 acknowledgement will be sent to the person being honored. A listing of the person honored will appear in a future issue of The Rancher magazine and, when address is provided, 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honor Gifts from October 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF SAVITRI DARNELL AND STAFF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr. ALL THE HEARTSBOYS AND GIRLS</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Robert X. Guyot ALL CHILDREN John J. Witte</td>
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<td>ALL WHO SERVE John R. Nabet ALL SHERIFFS Frank Malak</td>
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<td>ALL SHERIFFS THAT SERVEMs. Barbara A. Nielsen</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Jerry Ange Dr. &amp; Mrs. F. Lee Cook</td>
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<td>REVEREND DOCTOR AND MRS. BENNY ANTHONY Mr. &amp; Mrs. Robert A. Miller</td>
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<td>BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF SCOTTY RODHIN AND STAFF Mr. &amp; Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr.</td>
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<td>JANET BASS Mr. &amp; Mrs. Howard W. Goff</td>
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<td>BAY COUNTY SHERIFF TOMMY FORD AND STAFF Mrs. George Elliott</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr. DAVID BIEHL</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark A. Pryor Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark A. Pryor</td>
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<td>MR. AND MRS. DEAN BIEHL Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark A. Pryor</td>
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<td>MR. AND MRS. DENNIS BIEHL Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark A. Pryor</td>
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<td>MR. AND MRS. SCOTT BIEHL Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark A. Pryor</td>
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<td>DEL BOLTON Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark A. Pryor JUDY BLANK</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mark A. Pryor BOB BLOOD</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John E. Ives BUNNY BLOOD</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John E. Ives HAROLD BUMBURGER</td>
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<td>Dr. Wayne D. Schwab MR. AND MRS. DAVID BOWEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Charles H. Masters BRADFORD COUNTY SHERIFF WAYNE IVIE</td>
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<td>CMASt &amp; Mrs. James R. Hough Jr. USAF (Ret.)</td>
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<td>BREvard county SHERIFF WAYNE IVIE AND STAFF Mr. &amp; Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAT BREWER Mr. &amp; Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr.</td>
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HONOR GIFTS

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AND WOMEN
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Mr. Robert J. Wihnyk
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Judge Don Forst
MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF WILL
SNYDER AND STAFF
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Ms. Angela Merizio
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Mr. & Mrs. Larry Haslak
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American Legion Vogel Lee Post
No. 47
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TAM PAES
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Schwab Charitable Fund
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF
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Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Pryor
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MELBA RILLOT
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ROBERT MICHAEL
Mr. & Mrs. Geoffrey S. Gallo
AND MRS. MICHAEL
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TOM KNIGHT
Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Pryor
ERIC TROOP
Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Pryor
LORI TROOP
Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Pryor
RICH TROOP
Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Pryor
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BRADFORD HIGHLAND AND STAFF
Mr. & Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr.
JERRY MAC WATSON
BIRTHDAY
Mr. & Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr.
PAUL WHITFIELD
Ms. Constance M. Garrity
LT. JOHNNY YONG
RETIEMENT
Sheriff & Mrs. William F. Balkwill
(Ret.).
YOUR FAMILY MEMBER
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Isley
YOUR SONS
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery A. Wagar
YOUR VILLAGES NEIGHBORS
Mr. & Mrs. Alan M. Bayer
JOYCE ZIMMERMAN
Ms. Gail J. Zimmerman
DICK VAN POLUCKER
BIRTHDAY
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kenny
DAVID VERINDER
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Alexander
VOLUSIA COUNTY SHERIFF
MIKE CHITWOOD AND STAFF
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JARED MILLER AND STAFF
Mr. & Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr.
LAWRENCE WALRAED
RETIEMENT
Walt Disney World Co.
WALTON COUNTY SHERIFFS
OFFICE
Ms. Marianne Hussey

WALTON COUNTY SHERIFF
Mr. & Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr.
WASHINGTON COUNTY
SHERIFF KEVIN CREWS AND
STAFF
Mr. & Mrs. William E. Powers, Jr.
MOVING?

Start shopping today at: https://smile.amazon.com/
Please fill this form out and return promptly if you’re moving, even temporarily.

Use the envelope enclosed in the center of this magazine.

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc.
P.O. Box 2000
Boys Ranch, FL 32064
fsyr@youthranches.org
www.youthranches.org

☐ I’m moving. Please change my address as indicated below.
☐ My address will change temporarily.
   Date from ____________ to ______________
☐ Please delete my name from your mailing list.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Name (please print)

____________________________________________________________________________________________

Street Address  City    State   Zip

Mark Your Calendar

McCulley Farms Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Benefit Ride
February 24 – 4th Annual Event hosted by McCulley Farms. Come ride the beautiful trails with the ranchers, have fun and enjoy lunch. Location: McCulley Farms, 3019 McCulley Farm Road, Jasper, FL 32052. For Camping Reservations: Carol McCulley 386-938-1147, mcculleyr@yahoo.com. For information Janet Sampson, Donor Relations at (386)-688-4336

Best of America By Horseback Benefit Ride for the Youth Ranches
March 23-25 – Come camp the week end and ride the beautiful trails with the ranchers and your favorite TV hosts. Location: Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Cecil Webb Place Live Oak, FL. For Camping Reservations: Janet Sampson, Donor Relations at (386)-688-4336. For Event Reservations: http://www.bestofamericabyhorseback.com/ft-sheriff-youth-ranch.html

Harley Owners Group – HOGS Ride to the Ranches
April 21 – 4th Annual Event hosted by Tallahassee HOG Riders. Enjoy the ride to the Boys Ranch and meet our ranchers, tour campus and enjoy lunch. Location: Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Cecil Webb Place Live Oak, FL. For Information Contact: Dallas Johnson (850) 445-180

Columbia County Sheriff’s Office Fins and Pins Bowl-a-Thon and Fish Fry
April 28 – This event takes place at Lake City Bowl at 12:30 p.m. Lake City Bowl is located at 347 SW SR 247, Lake City, FL. The Columbia County Sheriff’s Office Fish Fry will take place at the Columbia County Fairgrounds. The Columbia County Fairgrounds are located at 438 SW SR 247, Lake City, FL. For more information contact Sarah Wheeler at the Columbia County Sheriff’s Office at (386) 758-1148.

Spring Ranch Ride
TBA April/May 2018 – Come camp at the Boy’s Ranch and ride our beautiful trails with the ranchers. Location: Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Cecil Webb Place Live Oak, FL. Register for this event: Janet Sampson, Donor Relations at (386)-688-4336, jsampson@youthranches.org. For information on this event contact Jeff Parker, Farm Manager at (386) 842-5555

Michelle Wells Golf Tournament
May 4 – The Manatee County Sheriff’s Office is hosting their 33rd annual golf tournament at the Stoney Brook Golf Club. The field is limited to 36 foursomes so return your entry form early to guarantee your play! For more information or questions, please contact Yvonne Gard at (941) 747-3011 ext. 2222.

Kentucky Derby Day
May 5 – This event is presented by the Sumter County Sheriff’s Office at The Villages Polo Club. Contact Beth Hunt at (352)-589-1687 for more information.

St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office Golf Tournament
May 12 – The golf tournament will be held at the Legacy Golf and Tennis Club in Port St. Lucie. The address for the Legacy Golf and Tennis Club is 9000 Clubhouse Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL. For more information contact Dorothy Shaw at (772) 462-3205.

55th Annual Youth Villa Classic Golf Tournament
May 26-28 – The Youth Villa Classic will take place at the City of Bartow Golf Course. The address for the Bartow Golf Course is 190 Idlewood Avenue, Bartow, FL. Please contact Kayla Bianchi at (800) 765-3797 for more information on any Youth Villa Classic activity.

For additional information visit www.youthranches.org, or contact the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Donor Relations Department at (386) 842-5501 or the Sheriff’s Office sponsoring the event.

Join us for our special events!
Some teens may spend their Saturday afternoons watching TV. Talisa and dozens of other Youth Ranch students instead spend their time learning about different art styles and techniques at the St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts. Talisa shows off a bowl she crafted and painted using paper mache and a splatter paint technique.

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches
Mending Lives and Healing Hearts
www.youthranches.org