

the Sheriff's Star

JULY-AUGUST 1981

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Photo Archives, Strozier Library, Florida State University

The Era's Gone but Vice and Violence Linger on

This 1925 photo is a quaint memento from the far gone days when smugglers were running rum and "revenoors" were busting whiskey stills throughout the length and breadth of Florida. Prohibition is just a faint memory now, but drug smugglers are currently reviving the vice and violence of that bygone era, according to an article on page 2. "Here we go again!" the article says.

... and Now Let Us Pause For A Round of Applause

Here's a line-up of Sheriffs and deputies who received special recognition in recent months:

WEST PALM BEACH — Sgt. Robert Wilson was awarded the Combat Star, one of the highest honors offered by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department, for bravery in a shootout that cost him the use of his left arm.

Two fellow deputies were also honored. Glen Baker received a Lifesaving Award for rescuing a woman in a diving accident; and Richard Lee Tanton received a Distinguished Service Award for exceptional crime lab work.

Wilson still carries a rifle slug in his arm, but through therapy he has contradicted predictions that he would have to end his law enforcement career.

TAMPA — A Humanitarian Award was presented to Hillsborough County Sheriff Walter Heinrich by the Council of Minority Affairs. The featured speaker at the awards dinner was Dr. Walter L. Smith, President of Florida A & M University.

TITUSVILLE — Veterans of Foreign Wars members in Brevard County selected Deputy Sheriff Joe Crosby for their "Police Officer of the Year" award. This qualified him to compete for the same title on the state level.

PENSACOLA — The Pensacola Exchange Club selected Sgt. L. A. Davis, of the Escambia County Sheriff's Department, as its Law Officer of the Year. He was honored for his outstanding work as head of the Sheriff's Department's narcotics unit.

VERO BEACH — Sheriff Tim Dobeck has become a member of the Board of Directors of the Indian River County Spouse Abuse Center, a move that was described as an important asset to the Center's activities.

PANAMA CITY — The Junior Chamber of Commerce selected Bay County Sheriff's Department

Investigator Frank McKeithen as its Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer for 1981. A few weeks later the Panama City Exchange Club chose him as its Lawman of the Year, and Bay County Sheriff LaVelle Pitts praised him for his outstanding work in solving major crimes.

SEBRING — Highlands County Sheriff Joe Shepard was chosen to receive the Lake Placid Kiwanis Club's first annual D. D. Cunningham Award which has been established to honor the outstanding officer of the year.

OCALA — Deputy Sheriff Willard Pope, who has served on the Marion County Sheriff's Department's Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team and underwater rescue team was chosen Citizen of the Month by the Ocala Junior Woman's Club.

Pope, who lost the use of one eye in the line of duty while serving on the SWAT team, was cited for playing his part "in keeping our country safe".



His Specialty:

Catching Crooks "in-the-Act"

SARASOTA — Sarasota County Sheriff Jim Hardcastle (right) presents his annual Felony Arrest Award to Deputy Sheriff Frank Mercurio, while Mercurio's wife, Nancy, looks on. Mercurio received a pin and a \$100 bonus for making the most felony-in-progress arrests in 1980. (Sarasota Journal photo.)

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Setting up Drug Busts is Award Winner's Specialty

CLEARWATER — Michael L. Hawkins, a 33-year-old detective in the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department, has received the ninth annual Ruth and Tim Johnson Award for his excellent undercover work in narcotics investigations.

The \$500 award and a plaque are presented each year to a member of the Sheriff's Department in recognition of outstanding service. This year's winner was selected from three nominees by the 24 mayors who make up the Pinellas County Council of Mayors.

Hawkins, who is a four-year veteran with the Sheriff's Department, played a key role in the arrests and prosecutions that followed many high level narcotics transactions. A Sheriff's spokesman said the conviction rate of persons arrested by Hawkins is very high.

A Sheriff's Department citation said Hawkins has been assigned to several undercover investigations during the past year which resulted in the arrest of at least 20 persons considered major organized traffickers of illegal drugs.

"In conjunction with the arrests," the citation added, "several hundred thousand dollars worth of drugs were seized, as were numerous firearms, reflecting the potential danger Hawkins faced during his investigations. Because of his leadership and investigative ability, Hawkins has been assigned as acting supervisor, and is currently responsible for



To protect his identity for future undercover work, Detective Michael L. Hawkins turned away from the camera after he received the annual Ruth and Tim Johnson Award. So did his wife. The others involved in the award presentation are (from left) Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and Sheriff Gerry Coleman.

directing major narcotics investigations."

Detective Hawkins was born in Kankakee, Illinois, and moved to St. Petersburg when he was a child. He attended local schools, and received a bachelor's degree in Behavioral and Social Sciences from the University of South Florida. He lives in St. Petersburg with his wife, Marilyn, and their two children.

Mr. and Mr. Timothy A. Johnson, Sr., established a trust agreement in 1973 to provide for the annual award. A large plaque with the name of each year's recipient is on permanent display at the Sheriff's Department.

Crime Prevention is Alive and Well

CLEARWATER — Hard times are here. Many sources of government funds have dried up, but crime prevention is alive and well, thanks to a new organization labeled the International Society of Crime Prevention Practitioners (ISCPP).

So goes the message presented by Pinellas County Sheriff's Department Lt. Richard Mullen in an article featured in the latest issue of THE NATIONAL SHERIFF, a magazine published by the National Sheriffs Association. Mullen ought to know. He is president of ISCPP and he also heads up crime prevention activities under Pinellas County Sheriff Gerry Coleman.

He said crime prevention practitioners are refusing to let outside influences determine their future, and have developed a self-sustaining organization that is becoming a strong, influential force in the crime prevention field today. ISCPP is also helping crime prevention practitioners to become better equipped to meet ever-changing demands and challenges, he said.

Broad in its concept, ISCPP does not limit its membership to law enforcement officers. It also includes individuals from civic organizations, private security firms and business firms.

The Society is subdivided into seven regions to facilitate communications between its members. It also holds an annual national conference, publishes a newsletter and encourages members to exchange information.

Mullen said a repository for information about all kinds of crime programs is being established in South Carolina through the combined efforts of that state and the Society. "The data from this program," he explained, "will be made available free-of-charge to all crime prevention groups in South Carolina, as well as to each and every ISCPP member."

The Society, although presently comprised solely of volunteers, is going to hire a full-time staff based in Washington, D.C., Mullen said, and it will also do some lobbying for crime prevention efforts at various governmental levels.

For more information about ISCPP, contact Donald Newton, Executive Secretary, ISCPP, 250 West Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida 33540.



Front Cover Photo

TAMPA — The record changes hands almost monthly these days and it's difficult to determine exactly who has confiscated the largest haul of marijuana. However, as of a couple of months ago, this 90,000-pound cargo of top-grade Colombian weed seemed to be a new high for Florida. Shown checking the quality are (foreground, from left) State Attorney E.J. Salcines, Florida Department of Law Enforcement Agent Danny Johnson, and Hillsborough County Sheriff Walter C. Heinrich. The well coordinated multi-agency bust resulted in the arrest of 15 persons.



Here We Go Again!

Smugglers are taking us back to Prohibition's Vice and Violence

September 10, 1976, is a date Suwannee County Sheriff Robert Leonard is not likely to ever forget. According to testimony in a Florida Senate hearing and also in two federal court trials, that was the day he had an amazing conversation with circuit Judge Samuel S. Smith about 1,500 pounds of marijuana the Sheriff's Department had confiscated.



Sheriff Robert Leonard

Tape recordings presented as evidence revealed the judge was proposing to order the confiscated marijuana destroyed, and the Sheriff (who was pretending to go along with the deal), was agreeing to hold back 500 pounds of it and turn it over to the judge so that it could be sold and the proceeds could be split. Part of the dialogue, which was secretly recorded by the Sheriff and later played back to senators and jurors follows:

"I think I need to keep some where people can see it destroyed," the Sheriff said.

"Yeah," said the judge, pausing as though he thought his portion ought to be more. "Well, of course, the return money-wise would be geared directly to the poundage that you could let go."

"Well, Judge, I know that," the Sheriff said, "but you know these newspapers, they keep up with it pretty close." The judge agreed.

Casually then, the Sheriff mentioned that in addi-

Circuit Judge Samuel S. Smith, of Lake City, walks into the federal court in New Orleans to face federal charges. (Wide World Photos)



tion to the 1,500 pounds already in storage, he had another 5,000 pounds which had been sent to a crime lab so that fingerprints could be lifted from the bales.

Judge Was Breathing Hard

"God almighty! Good God almighty! Five thousand pounds!" the judge exclaimed, his voice rising. Goose pimples popped up on his arms. He had expected to be paid about \$150,000 for 500 pounds, but to contemplate the possibility of dealing with 5,000 pounds had him breathing hard.

"If...if we can get a lick like 2,000 pounds (out of the 5,000) by God, they can take this job I've got and go with it!" he declared. "You can do the same thing," he told the Sheriff, "because, by God, you've got enough money to live on the rest of your life. And, you and I can handle 2,000 pounds as...just as easy as I can do 500."

"Okay," said the Sheriff. "It's over at the lab now and it's supposed to be back. It's on a U-Haul-It truck." They got down to details — especially how



MIAMI BEACH — In five days the U.S. Coast Guard confiscated 50 tons of marijuana from three smugglers' boats. Unloading of one of the boats, the "Island Merchant," was in progress when this picture was taken. (Wide World Photos)

the stolen marijuana would be hauled. They agreed that traveling south would prevent being stopped at state weighing or inspection stations.

"Well," said the judge, "the man I'm gonna deal with I trust implicitly, and he trusts me, and all I'd have to do is put it in something like this (camper) and take it out here to Arrowhead (campground) or somewhere and park it and give him a set of keys, then you lock it up and he'd come by and give me the money and go out there and pick it up and go on with it."

The judge explained that if they could get 2,000 pounds he would simply buy a camper, load the marijuana in it, and give the buyer camper and all "because, my God, I can get one of those for \$12,000." The Sheriff agreed.

"Hell," said the judge, "you're talking about over a half million dollars...2,000 pounds." A little later they parted. The Sheriff then drove to the Holiday Inn where he gave an FBI agent the tape recorder that had been hidden in his clothes.

Agents Had Been Tipped Off

Weeks earlier the Sheriff had tipped off state and federal agents about the marijuana plot, and had agreed to pretend he was going along with the conspiracy. Despite the risk involved, he continued the charade for a number of weeks until the judge was finally arrested. He was eventually convicted in two federal court trials and removed from office. One of the convictions was recently reversed on appeal and sent back for a new trial.

Sheriff Leonard was widely praised for his handling of the case; Florida's criminal justice system was rocked and shocked; and news reporters had a field day with a classic example of marijuana's capacity to corrupt all who come in contact with it — users, sellers and enforcers alike.

However, this was not an isolated example. Instead, it was simply one incident among many demonstrating that drug smuggling has plunged us into an era of lawlessness and moral decline reminiscent of the 1920s and 1930s.

A national study of homicides in U.S. cities has found that America is currently experiencing an upsurge in cases of "strangers killing strangers" — a trend that has been unmatched in this century since the prohibition era slayings of gangland's heyday. "The handgun has replaced the submachine gun as the nation's most feared killer," according to Crime Control Digest, "and drug trafficking has replaced the bootlegging of liquor as a key factor in the soaring murder rate."

Violence May Accelerate

It could get worse. Criminal justice officials early in 1981 were enthusiastic about a Florida Supreme Court ruling that upheld a 1979 law mandating stiff sentences for drug smugglers; but there were also predictions that tougher enforcement will accelerate the spread of violence.

"I think we'll see more killing than in the past...pure assassination," Bartow defense attorney Ray McDaniel was quoted as saying. "There's too much money in it (drug trafficking) to stop. When some of the people at the top start looking at 15-year sentences, they'd just as soon take the chance (of) bumping people off rather than going to trial."

Polk County Sheriff Louie Mims agreed that gunplay is likely to increase when law enforcement officers close in on a drugs off-loading operation. "There'll be more shoot-outs and smugglers trying to get away than in the past," he said. A Manatee County shoot-out gave credibility to the Sheriff's prediction. News reports said the pilot of a suspected drug smuggling airplane fired at deputies who had ordered him to turn off the engine and get out of the plane. The deputies returned fire, but the pilot was able to take off and escape.

(continued on page 4)

Smugglers are taking us back to Vice and Violence

(continued from page 3)

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS — Pot profits are so high that smugglers can afford to sustain frequent losses. Consequently, when this airplane with its two-ton cargo of marijuana made an emergency landing here, the pilot promptly abandoned it and fled. (Wide World Photos)



Smugglers Increasing Firepower

Sheriffs are concerned about reports that smugglers are packing more powerful weapons than in the past. After three high-powered automatic rifles and a sawed-off shotgun were confiscated in a Martin County drug bust, Sheriff Jim Holt said he planned to alter the manner in which smugglers will be approached in the future. "We will be much more cautious," he explained.

Sheriffs have also become more cautious about storing confiscated marijuana that is being held as evidence. The seized pot has such a high market value, and the temptation is so great, that ripoffs have become numerous. Deputy sheriffs have been involved in some of the thefts.

In one outlandish case, armed men stole confiscated marijuana from the Glades County Jail after tying up the radio dispatcher on duty and locking him in a cell. Later the Sheriff suspected that someone on his staff had been stealing the marijuana, and the jail holdup was actually an attempt to cover up the earlier thefts. He fired his chief deputy, who was then charged with conspiracy to traffic in marijuana, conspiracy to commit armed robbery and conspiracy to commit a burglary with a firearm. Seven other men, including a former deputy, were also arrested.

In another county, after a deputy stole some marijuana from a large haul of evidence, the Sheriff used extreme measures to protect what was left. He rented a tractor trailer, loaded the marijuana in the trailer, locked the trailer doors, backed the trailer up against the solid concrete block wall of the jail, unhooked the tractor and moved it away. This placed the marijuana behind a high chain link fence topped with barbed wire and the area was floodlighted at night. However, the Sheriff remained a bit nervous until he

finally got a court order allowing him to destroy the evidence.

Holding Pot Was No Picnic

Nerve-wracking days under similar circumstances are described in the following MIAMI HERALD article datelined Key West, April 16, 1981:

"Monroe County Sheriff William A. Freeman says he's more comfortable in his office these days — now that the 26 tons of marijuana worth about \$21 million is gone from beneath his window.

" 'Makes me feel good not to have it outside my window,' Freeman said Wednesday. 'It makes me feel good to get it, but it makes me feel bad to have it outside my window, because it's so expensive (to store). Plus you've got to worry when it's sitting outside like that.'

"Between September and January, authorities were making so many huge pot busts so quickly that the Sheriff's Department could not dispose of it fast enough. Confiscated campers, step vans and trucks were parked along Fleming Street, jammed with bales, their windows and doors sealed with evidence tape. Between September and March, the Sheriff's Department spent about \$45,000 keeping two armed guards on duty seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

"Two persons were arrested for sneaking around the area. Several others were chased off. County workers were concerned that thieves might raid the poorly protected dope storage area.

"All of it was due to the record dope seizures between September and January. The Sheriff's Department in December had 1,297 bales of pot in 16 vehicles. Much more was taken away by Customs patrol officers after federal authorities agreed to prosecute cases. While Customs was able to dispose of the pot easily, the Sheriff's Department had to go

through a complicated legal process to get rid of the marijuana.

"The storage problem abated when the last truckload was hauled away in March. Freeman says he's negotiating with the state attorney's office to find ways of destroying pot more quickly when this summer's harvest season begins."

Another Judge Got Caught

Marijuana's corrupting blight reaches out and degrades the lives of all manner of men — of refugees and Sadducees, old mule skinnners and unrepentant sinners, big shots and have nots.

Alabama Circuit Judge Thomas Coggin pleaded no contest to smuggling charges after 98 pounds of marijuana were found in his private airplane at the St. Lucie International Airport, Fort Pierce, Florida. A deputy sheriff found the marijuana on Coggin's plane and a loaded revolver in his boot. News reports said the judge was noted for the strict sentences he handed down to drug dealers in his Alabama court.

Sheriffs' Departments have not escaped suspicion. There have been a few wild rumors of payoffs, of suspects being framed, and of drug dealers being tipped off about impending drug busts, but none has been substantiated. Some of these rumors have been aired in the press. Some were circulated as political scuttlebutt during the 1980 election campaign. All were summarily denied.

The Lure of Big Bucks

Recently, while one Florida Sheriff was assuring the press that none of his staff members was involved in the theft of 80 to 90 pounds of marijuana stored in his property room as evidence, another Florida Sheriff was suspending five of his men who were suspected of being too chummy with drug smugglers.

The five men came under suspicion after news reports revealed that state agents had secretly tape recorded a clandestine meeting between the Chairman of the County Commission and three other men suspected of drug dealing. The Chairman was alleged to have said that deputies were being paid to act as lookouts for drug smugglers.

Obviously, the lure of marijuana's big bucks is a pernicious thread that runs through all levels of the criminal justice system. Bribery accusations, for instance, are surfacing with increasing frequency.

Five Miami men were arrested recently and charged with attempting to bribe a U.S. Customs Service agent. They allegedly offered him \$70,000 to release two boats that had been confiscated in smuggling activities.

Witness Was Bribed

In Key West, an important prosecution witness involved in several drug cases was arrested and charged with accepting an \$8,000 bribe. A news account said he was supposed to have promised to

change his testimony, or to leave town so that his testimony could not be used in an upcoming trial.

Drug trafficking throws the whole law enforcement system out of balance. It accelerates the murder rate, overcrowds jails, diverts manpower that should be used in fighting other types of crime, and increases the number of thefts — particularly thefts of airplanes.

According to Bob Collins, Executive Secretary of the International Aviation Theft Bureau (IATB), thieves flew off with 76 airplanes in 1978, 180 in 1979 and 230 last year. "There's no great mystery about what happens to these stolen planes," he told the CHICAGO TRIBUNE. "More than 90 percent of them wind up running dope into this country from South America."

Florida led the nation last year with 62 airplane thefts. California had 38, Arizona had 19 and Texas had 18. "It's getting so any time there's a full moon you can count on a rush of airplane thefts," Collins said. "They're easier to fly low and over the water when there's a full moon."

The IATB's data bank shows that stolen aircraft valued at \$12 million have been found crashed or in irretrievable condition since 1974. The whereabouts of another 260 planes worth \$17 million has yet to be determined.

Escapades Get Wilder

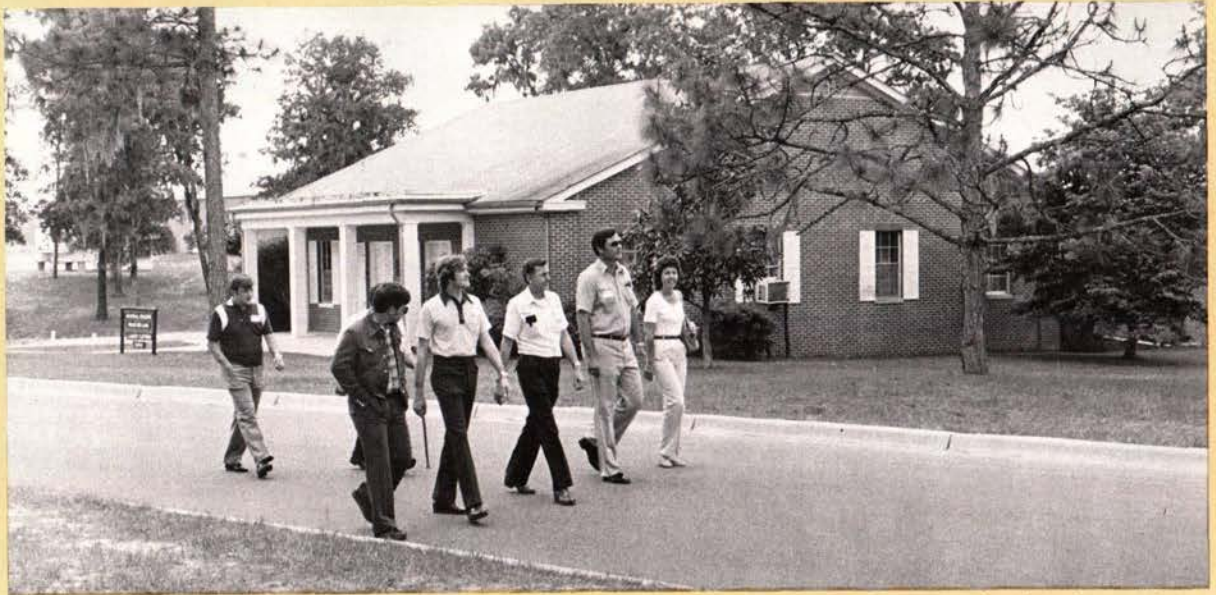
As smugglers get bolder about stealing planes, they also seem to be taking greater risks and putting on wilder escapades in their efforts to get the weed to market. They drop their cargoes by parachute at night; make no-lights landings in the dark on small remote airstrips; and clip tree branches with their propellers when landing and taking off from impromptu sites in the boondocks.

A low-flying smuggler pursued by U.S. Customs agents bombed a Fort Lauderdale neighborhood with 100-pound bales of pot and scored direct hits on a mobile home and a parked van. No one was injured, but the bale that struck the mobile home ripped through the roof and into the living room. "I thought it was the water heater blowing up," said the mobile home owner. "We rushed into the living room and saw all this brown stuff spewed all over, and there was a jagged hole in the corner about two feet across each way."

Smuggling pot is a bizarre business — the stuff from which future novels and movies will be made — and its corrupting influence is continuing to spread throughout Florida.

Our state has already gained the dubious distinction of being the number one point of entry for illicit drugs in the United States. It follows, therefore, that we are also likely to be in the vanguard as smugglers lead the nation back to the vice and violence that prevailed during prohibition's heyday.

Well, here we go again!



Walking tour was highlight of orientation session.

Eye Witnesses Now:

Sheriffs and Deputies See How Youth Fund Operates

Doyle Bryan from Hardee County, Robert Durkis from Hendry County and LaVelle Pitts from Bay County are new Sheriffs, but they are well prepared to answer questions about the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund. They are also well informed about the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Ranch, three child care institutions operated by the Youth Fund.

Bryan, Durkis and Pitts were part of a group of Sheriffs and deputies who attended an intensive Youth Fund orientation session at the Boys Ranch. Polk County Sheriff Louie Mims, current Chairman of the Youth Fund Board of Directors, was also part of the group, but he is an old hand at Sherifing, and was well informed before he arrived.

The Boys Ranch was chosen for the orientation session because it is the oldest and largest of the three Youth Fund institutions, and also because the Youth Fund central office is on its campus. The Boys Ranch is located near Live Oak, about midway between Tallahassee and Jacksonville. The Girls Villa is near Bartow, and the Youth Ranch is near Clearwater.

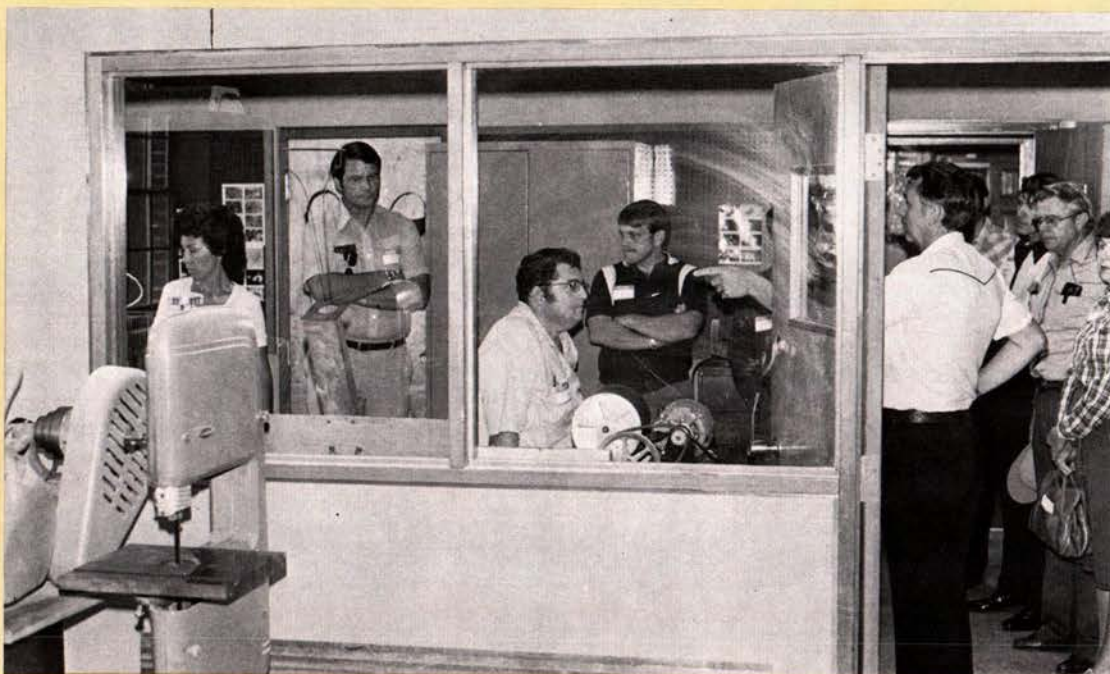
A walking tour of the Boys Ranch made the visitors aware that this home for needy and neglected youngsters is literally a self-contained community



Sheriff LaVelle Pitts (center) gives boys' living quarters careful scrutiny.



Sheriff and Mrs. Doyle Bryan.



Visitors inside Boys Ranch arts and crafts center.

with its own sewer, water, computer and communication systems. Points of interest included the fire station, arts and crafts center, gymnasium, chapel, medical and dental clinic, automotive repair shop, cafetorium, learning center, laundry and swimming pool.

During lectures and discussions Youth Fund and Florida Sheriffs Association officials explained how the Sheriffs Association sponsors the Youth Fund; how the Youth Fund staff helps unfortunate youngsters and their families; how cash and non-cash gifts are collected and processed; and how modern techniques are used to keep the public informed about Youth Fund plans and progress.

The sheriffs and deputies went home well supplied with Youth Fund literature, and better equipped to talk to prospective donors about law enforcement's number one child care agency.

It is important they did. Ever since the Florida Sheriffs Association got into the child care business in 1957 by founding the Boys Ranch, sheriffs and deputies have been the number one public relations ambassadors for fund raising. Their voluntary, non-paid efforts have been a key factor in the success of the Youth Fund. Annual orientation sessions help to keep this tradition alive.



Boys Ranch Resident Director "Mac" Stones (left) with Sheriff Louie Mims.



Jim Strayer (left), Youth Fund Vice President for Youth Services, with Sheriff and Mrs. Robert Durkis.

OUR PERSPECTIVE

On the 1981 Session of the Florida Legislature

Law Enforcement and State Attorneys Granted Sweeping New Authority Over Juvenile Detention Decisions

Time after time, Florida law enforcement officers have experienced the frustration of taking a juvenile crime suspect to the nearest Regional Detention Center, only to have the state Health and Rehabilitation Services (HRS) Intake Officer release the child. In some cases, the child has been at home or back on the street before the arresting officer finished his paperwork. This has resulted in demoralized officers, irate victims, and increasing juvenile crime rates; but better days are coming. The Florida Legislature, in its 1981 session, passed committee substitute for House Bill 1095 which will make detention of juveniles a strong possibility in more cases and circumstances.

The 1981 law became effective July 1. It grants sweeping new authority to law enforcement officers and state attorneys, and also diminishes the authority of HRS intake officers. It provides for detention of:

1. Children, regardless of age or prior record, who are charged with felonies.
2. Children alleged to have escaped from detention, custody, probation, parole, furlough, or similar status.
3. Children wanted by other jurisdictions for a crime which is a felony or misdemeanor in those jurisdictions.
4. Children who request protection after being charged with breaking the law. (In these cases a child is likely to be sent to a crisis or shelter home, if available.)
5. Children charged with crimes of violence.
6. Children who fit into certain categories as suspected prior offenders or special risks, and who are charged with offenses which, if committed by an adult, would be violation of the law.

When a decision is made at Intake to detain a juvenile, there must be a detention hearing before a circuit judge within 24 hours, excluding Sundays and legal holidays. The judge rules on the sufficiency of probable cause and the legality and

appropriateness of detention. The court will either enter an Order of Detention or release the child pending arraignment.

Previously, the decision to detain until the detention hearing was made by the HRS Intake Officer. The changes under HB 1095 provide that when the above listed detention criteria are met, but Intake wants to release and the law enforcement officer or agency disagrees, the State Attorney must be consulted to make the decision. Even when the criteria are met, and HRS and law enforcement AGREE that release is appropriate, the State Attorney must be consulted for authority to release. This precludes the release of any juvenile that meets the criteria when either law enforcement or the State Attorney, or both, are opposed to release.

Unchanged is the authority of law enforcement to release any child to parents or guardian in lieu of transporting to the Intake Office. Officers determining that release is appropriate are guided only by their departmental policy and/or their own decision making process.

Additional new laws related to law enforcement have been summarized as follows by Al Hammock, the Sheriffs' Association's Director of Publications:

Tighter Control of Fund Raising

Chapter 81-265 (Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 252)

The "Law Enforcement Funds Act" was passed in 1978 to regulate organizations raising money from the public in the name of law enforcement agencies or groups. Enforcement of the act did not begin until February of 1981 because of a court challenge, by a police union, concerning its constitutionality. Most of the changes enacted this year were the result of work done by a joint legislative and executive "Commission of Solicitation of Funds" which studied organizations not qualifying as either charitable or religious. The title of the new law, "Law Enforcement and Emergency Ser-

vice Solicitation of Funds Act", indicates the scope of the bill was broadened to include all emergency service groups, such as firemen, ambulance drivers and paramedics. Chapter 81-265 requires registration with the Department of State; bonds from professional solicitors; certain records to be kept and open for inspection; and the filing and approval of disclosure statements. It seeks to clean up abuses by unscrupulous solicitors. It also provides for criminal penalties, and gives the Department of State authority to suspend or revoke registration, and authorizes the Department of Legal Affairs to seek civil penalties. Effective October 1, 1981.

Editors' Note - This legislation was supported by the Florida Sheriffs Association in the hope it will help eliminate high-pressure fund raising techniques by organizations which take advantage of their law enforcement name to raise money for activities which are not related to police work, do not help children, or assist law enforcement officers.

Chapter 81-249 (Senate Bill 537)

Back in 1951 the Florida Legislature passed a series of laws obviously intended to curtail the activities of the Ku Klux Klan and similar organizations by prohibiting the wearing of hoods or masks. More recently the laws have been used against masked criminals, but in 1980 the Florida Supreme Court declared a portion of the statutes to be unconstitutional. The law has now been rewritten to solve the constitutional problem and another section has been added to increase penalties when a crime is committed by a person wearing a hood, mask or anything else which conceals his identity. The wearing of a disguise upgrades the seriousness of a crime. Thus a misdemeanor of the second degree becomes a misdemeanor of the first degree; a misdemeanor of the first degree becomes a felony of the third degree and so forth. Effective upon becoming law, July 1, 1981.

Punishes Dishonest Pushers

Chapter 81-53 (Senate Bill 31)

One of the biggest jobs facing law enforcement agencies is dealing with the illegal distribution and sale of drugs. In putting together cases against drug dealers, law officers often work undercover to buy the illegal drugs. Occasionally, the undercover agents buy seaweed for marijuana or powdered milk for cocaine which means a lot of time and effort has been wasted. This new law makes it illegal to sell a substitute or counterfeit substance in place of the actual illegal drug. Violation of this law is either a felony of the third degree or a misdemeanor of the second degree, depending on the type of drug being substituted. Effective October 1, 1981.

Chapter 81-142 (Senate Bill 1104)

In times of natural disaster or civil disturbances, local law enforcement agencies need additional personnel to handle their many responsibilities. Recognizing this need, the Florida Legislature passed the Florida Mutual Aid Act in 1969 to facilitate the utilization of men and equipment. Following the 1980 riots in Miami, a special Task Force formed to suggest better ways of preparing for such emergencies. Some of the recommendations

from the Task Force involved the Mutual Aid concept, so several parts of the 1969 law have now been revised to remove problems of jurisdiction which arise when officers from one agency go into another city or county to assist. The changes also make it easier for local agencies to work out cooperative agreements between themselves. An example would be a joint city-county narcotics task force. Agreements may also cover emergency situations which fall short of disaster proportions. The whole Mutual Aid program will be administered out of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, where it has been since 1969, but this is the first time the Legislature has appropriated funds for FDLE to exercise its authority. Effective June 24, 1981.

Gold and Silver Controls Tightened

Chapter 81-121 (Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 54)

When the value of gold and silver began to skyrocket, so did the number of burglaries by thieves after these precious metals. Dealers in precious metals began setting up shop in motel rooms, shopping malls and old hamburger joints. The growing number of people buying and selling these items made it very difficult for law enforcement officers to track down stolen merchandise. This law requires precious metals dealers to obtain the name, address, place of employment, business phone number, age, race, sex, signature, driver's license number, two other identifying numbers and either a photograph or thumbprint of the seller. The buyer must submit a description of the purchased items to the sheriff or local police department. No purchased item may be

(continued on page 13)

CRIMES, PUNISHMENTS and FINES

Penalties for crimes committed in Florida fall into seven categories:

Capital felony — life imprisonment with no parole for 25 years or the death penalty (no fine provided for)

Life felony — life or a term of years not less than 30; a fine not exceeding \$15,000

Felony of the first degree — a term of imprisonment not exceeding 30 years; fine not to exceed \$10,000

Felony of the second degree — a term of imprisonment not exceeding 15 years; a fine not exceeding \$10,000

Felony of the third degree — a term of imprisonment not exceeding 5 years; a fine not exceeding \$5,000

Misdemeanor of the first degree — a term of imprisonment not to exceed one year; a fine not to exceed \$1,000

Misdemeanor of the second degree — a term of imprisonment not to exceed 60 days; a fine not to exceed \$500



Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund HONOR ROLL



On these pages the Florida Sheriffs Association gives special recognition to generous supporters of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund and its child care institutions: The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Ranch. Those listed as "Builders" have given gifts totaling \$100 or more.

Those listed as "Lifetime Honorary Members" of the Florida Sheriffs Association have given \$1,000 or more. Builders receive certificates suitable for framing. Each honorary lifetime member receives a plaque, a lifetime identification card and a lifetime subscription to The Sheriff's Star.

Lifetime Honorary Members

WILLIAM ACKERMAN Lehigh Acres	DR. CLARK V. HOSHALL Jacksonville
ROBERT H. ALLEN Ponte Vedra Beach	HARRY E. HURST Tampa
MR. & MRS. DAVID BEAM Palm Harbor	K-MART STORE No. 3329 Port Richey
BEST PRODUCTS FOUNDATION Pompano Beach	H. F. MASON EQUIPMENT CO. Lakeland
BRYAN INVESTMENT CO., INC. Ocala	McCALLUM WHOLESALE, INC. Gainesville
BULLSEYE INC. OF BROOKSVILLE Brooksville	DR. & MRS. TAKESKI OKANO Largo
CARL A. BUBIE Syracuse	VERNON E. PALMER Port Richey
DR. & MRS. P. LEO CRESPI Holiday	MS. C. H. PATTISHALL Atlanta, GA
MR. & MRS. W. L. DeBORDENAVE Ft. Myers	SAM G. RAHALL St. Petersburg
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY No. 11 Largo	MISS LOUISA T. RIDEOUT Toledo, OH
MR. & MRS. JOHN J. FINNEGAN Clearwater	CHARLES SKERRETT Ormond Beach
FIRST COMMERCIAL BANK Live Oak	DR. LEON F. SMITH Jacksonville
MR. & MRS. HOKE FITZGERALD Lake Wales	CAPT. JEAN PAUL TILLMAN Ft. Lauderdale
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT CORP. Port St. Lucie	DR. TERRY TIPPIN Orange Park
HAROLD "RED" GRANGE Indian Lake Estates	MRS. EDNA L. WILSON St. Cloud
MRS. BESSIE J. HAINES Ft. Myers	WILLIS E. WOOD Largo



SANFORD — Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund President Harry K. Weaver (left) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Seminole County Sheriff John E. Polk.

Builders

MRS. VALERIA ADOLPHSON Seminole	MR. & MRS. WILLIAM BORNEMAN Clearwater	PETER B. COPELAND Stuart	MR. & MRS. S. G. FINLEY Alamance, NC	BILL HAMNER Leesburg
ALBERT C. ALLEN, JR. Stuart	W. F. BOWLD Crystal River	MR. & MRS. VAN L. CRAWFORD Naples	CHARLES L. FISHER St. Petersburg	MR. & MRS. JOHN W. HARRIS St. Petersburg
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, UNIT 299 Moore Haven	MS. BYRNINA BRITTON Ft. Myers	MR. & MRS. LAKE W. CULLEY Tallahassee	FLA. DEPT. OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS Jacksonville	LEE HAYNES Dunedin
MRS. DAPHNE M. ANDERSON Largo	JOHN J. BURNHAM New Port Richey	Mrs. ESTHER J. CURTIS Sarasota	FRANK R. FORD Boca Raton	HERNANDO COUNTY SERTOMA CLUB Spring Hill
MRS. JOHN L. AULT Cape Coral	MS. SHEILA CAIN Kathleen	GEORGE E. DAIL, JR. West Palm Beach	MRS. MARY MYRTLE FRUH Lake Worth	HYLE HERWICK, SR. Tarpon Springs
MR. & MRS. DAVID BEAM Palm Harbor	HARVEY CAPPS, JR. Key West	MR. & MRS. JEFFREY H. DAVIS Ft. Lauderdale	GENERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Port St. Lucie	RALPH HIGLEY Stuart
BELCHER AREA HOME OWNERS ASSN. Belleair	MR. & MRS. OTIS P. CARDEN St. Petersburg Beach	JEFFERSON F. DAWSON Ft. Myers	JOHN Q. GILL Longwood	MRS. KAY HODOSI Pompano Beach
BLUE CHIP TRAVEL, INC. Pinellas Park	MR. & MRS. LESLIE CHAMBERS St. Petersburg Beach	MRS. SARAH L. DAWSON Kissimmee	MR. & MRS. LEWIS G. GOODALL Dunedin	MRS. MARIE LOUISE HOLMAN Davenport
WILLIE J. BOOTH Hernando	ALFRED CHESAR Miami	MR. & MRS. DON DEADWYLER Lorida	MR. & MRS. J. R. GORMLEY Clearwater	HOUSE OF DELMAGE, INC. Tampa
	CLEMONS HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC. Tallahassee	MRS. C. A. DEBEVOISE St. Petersburg	HAROLD "RED" GRANGE Indian Lake Estates	Mr. & Mrs. WILSON P. HOWARD Crestview
	MRS. HELEN T. COOK Clearwater	MR. & MRS. W. L. DeBORDENAVE Ft. Myers	E. S. GREENE Ft. Lauderdale	MRS. VERA J. HUTTENHAUER Venice
		MR. & MRS. PATRICK FERRA New Port Richey		



VFW Post 6827

CLEARWATER — Pinellas County Sheriff Gerry Coleman (left) and Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch Resident Director Joe Spenard (right) present a Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque to VFW Post 6827, St. Petersburg, represented by Post Chaplain Charlie Allen

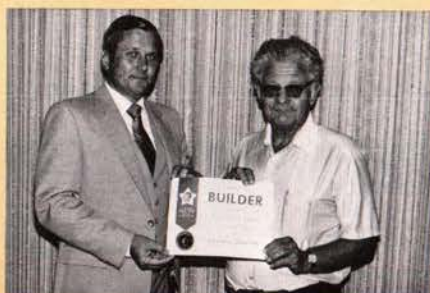


Insurance Women

(left) and Post Commander James Peyton. Sheriff Coleman also presented a Lifetime plaque to the Insurance Women of Upper Pinellas, represented by Judy Wheeler, Judy Lund (President) and Lynden Halliday.



James Berg



William A. Smith



Mrs. Lillian Daneko

PUNTA GORDA — Charlotte County Sheriff Glen E. Sapp (left) presents Builder Certificates to James Berg, representing Hess Oil and Chemical Company of Port Charlotte; William A. Smith, representing Bill Smith's Garage; and Mrs. Lillian Daneko, wife of former Deputy Sheriff Charles Daneko.

Builders continued

INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY CLUB
Ft. Pierce

MRS. RUTH O. JACKSON
West Palm Beach

AUSTIN KAISER
Coraopolis, PA

CHRIS C. KAMPF
Tampa

DR. ROBERT L. KANTOR
Sarasota

MR. & MRS. JAMES F. KEATING
Green Cove Springs

MRS. FLORENCE J. KENNEDY
Clearwater

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL NO. 472
Winter Haven

NAOMI G. KNOX
Brandon

K-MART STORE NO. 3329
Port Richey

LANDEGGER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, INC.
New Smyrna Beach

MRS. CHARLOTTE LATTIMER
Largo

MR. & MRS. PHILIP F. LEAVITT
Tampa

CHARLES E. LEE
Sarasota

RAYMOND A. LETTRE
Clearwater

JAMES LOGAN
Venice

MR. & MRS. JOHN H. LOGAN
Clearwater

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE LODGE No. 1880
Brandon

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE LODGE No. 983
Ft. Lauderdale

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE LODGE No. 455
Jacksonville

DWAYNE H. LUNSFORD
Riverview

T. J. LUTHER
Winter Haven

GERRY MADISON
Clearwater

KENNETH E. McFALL
Atlantis

MRS. IDA MENDELSON
Chevy Chase, MD

DOUGLAS A. MILBURY
Lansing, MI

MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIES OUR P.T. 50
Brooksville

MRS. CLAUDIA MITCHELL
Clearwater

L. A. MORROW
Clearwater

DR. WILLIAM NIPPER
Orange Park

NORTH FLORIDA PRINTING COMPANY
Live Oak

JAMES K. NYBURG
New Smyrna Beach

MRS. GEORGE W. OHMAN
Port Charlotte

MR. & MRS. WILLIAM B. O'MALLEY
Brooksville

MS. C. H. PATTISHALL
Atlanta, GA

MRS. MARILYN PAXTON
Midlothian, IL

R. L. PEDDYCOART
Lakeland

MR. & MRS. SYDNEY R. PERRY
Sarasota

JAMES V. PERVISS
Lake Placid

MR. & MRS. JAMES S. PETERS
Stuart

LT. COL. CHARLES W. PHIFER
Naples

MR. & MRS. RAYMOND D. POLLARD
Naples

DR. CHARLES L. PRIZZIA
Jacksonville

SAM G. RAHALL
St. Petersburg

ANN REESIDE

MR. & MRS. J. W. REGISTER
Seville

FRITZ L. REUTHER
Vero Beach

RIVER GREEN'S GOLF-ETTES
Avon Park

CLIFFORD ROGERO
Jacksonville

DR. ROBERT ROMANS
Jacksonville

ARLIE SCHARDT
Manhattan Beach, CA

FRANK L. SCHRIMSHER
Orlando

SCOTTISH RITE BODIES VALLEY OF TALL
Tallahassee

MRS. SELMA SHANNON
Jacksonville

D. L. SMITH
Summerfield

MRS. ELSIE SMITH
Floral City

VICTOR J. SMOLYAN
Jupiter

SPANISH LAKES BUILDERS
Port St. Lucie

DR. JERRY M. STUDDARD
Jacksonville

PAUL THOMAS, SR.
Chattahoochee

MR. & MRS. W. B. THORNTON, JR.
Lakeland

MR. & MRS. DUANE TIBBITS, JR.
St. Petersburg

MIKE TILLEY
Lakeland

D. C. TURNER
St. Petersburg

JAMES E. TURNER
Vero Beach

MRS. JACKIE YOUNG
Palm Harbor

REV. ALLYN K. WADLEIGH
West Palm Beach

ROBERT L. WAGNER
Orlando

GEORGE V. WATTS
Boynton Beach

WAKULLA COUNTY C.B. CLUB
Tallahassee

MR. & MRS. WILLIAM G. WELLES IV
Arcadia

VALLE WESTERBERG
St. Petersburg

WILLIS E. WOOD
Largo

JERRY ZASTRO
Polk City

Another Large Gift from the Gulls

CLEARWATER — Pinellas County Sheriff Gerry Coleman (right) and former Sheriff Don Genuing, who is currently Director of Planned Giving for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, accept large cash gifts from the Sea Gulls Club for the Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa. Shown presenting the gifts is Mrs. Helen Hale, Sea Gull President. Seated are Mrs. Edna Storey (left,) Secretary-Treasurer; and Mrs. Jane Dikman, Past President. The Sea Gulls have been supporting the Villa ever since it began operating in 1972, and have made many substantial contributions. The current gifts include \$4,000 toward furnishing the lobby of the Villa Activity Center, and \$2,000 toward the purchase of educational material for the learning center.



WAUCHULA — Hardee County Sheriff Doyle W. Bryan (left) presents a Builder Certificate to Albert Lanier.

Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund HONOR ROLL

continued from page 11

MADISON — Madison County Sheriff Joe C. Peavy (left) presents Builder Certificates to (from left) William Vaclavek; Mrs. Annie Bee Jones, representing Pantry Pride Store; Julian H. Andrews; Mrs. June Toomey, representing Tommy Greene, Publisher of the Madison County Courier; A. L. Hughes; and Thomas F. Strobel.



Jail Crisis is Widespread

Florida's jails and prisons aren't the only ones facing a crisis because of court-ordered improvements and population limits.

Federal judges have purview over at least 74 prisons in 27 states (including Florida), according to the National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

Courts are also exercising authority over many of the country's nearly 4,000 local jails. In Florida, local jails under judicial scrutiny include those in Dade,

Palm Beach, Escambia, Leon, Santa Rosa, and Volusia Counties, and in the consolidated City of Jacksonville which encompasses nearly all of Duval County.

Around the nation some jails have been closed after being ruled unfit for human habitation.

The number of class-action court suits on behalf of inmates is constantly increasing, according to Bob Berkhardt, executive director of the National Institute of Justice. "There are thousands of suits," he said. "I don't know if it has reached a peak yet."

(continued from page 9)

sold, melted or disposed of until 15 days after the law enforcement agency has been notified. Persons under 18 years of age are not permitted to sell precious metals. Anyone who violates this law will be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. Effective October 1, 1981.

Chapter 81-176 (House Bill 1099)

In order to cut down on the cost of having one or two deputies transport a prisoner to another part of Florida or across the country, sheriffs have been contracting with private companies which fly several inmates at one time to different parts of the state or out of state. The system has worked well and has saved many thousands of dollars, but a question arose about the legality of sheriffs turning over prisoners to a private transportation company. This law specifically gives sheriffs the authority to utilize this kind of service while requiring any company that provides such a service to carry \$100,000 liability insurance. Effective June 24, 1981.

Stop and Hold Law for Farmers

Chapter 81-108 (House Bill 109)

In 1975 merchants were given authority to apprehend persons, who had been stealing merchandise, and detain them until a law enforcement officer arrived. The same law has now been amended so farmers may stop and hold persons they have observed stealing livestock or produce. As long as the farmer follows the law and has probable cause to believe the person he detains has stolen livestock or farm produce, the farmer is protected against charges of false arrest. Anyone who resists the efforts of a farmer to recover his livestock or produce, and is subsequently found guilty of theft, is also guilty of resisting, and that is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Effective October 1, 1981.

Chapter 81-212 (House Bill 101)

Abolishes the motor vehicle inspection program of the State of Florida. Authorizes counties to establish their own inspection programs. The inspection program will come to an end on October 1, 1981.

Chapter 81-163 (Committee Substitute for House Bill 801)

Many stores today have special anti-shoplifting devices which sound an alarm when someone tries to leave the premises with specially marked or tagged merchandise. This law simply says that the activation of such a device constitutes probable cause for a merchant to detain a person whose departure from the store has set off the warning device. Requires notice be posted that

such a detection system is in use. Effective October 1, 1981.

Let the Buyer Beware

Chapter 81-281 (House Bill 176)

Increases the penalty for keeping a house of ill fame (prostitution) from a misdemeanor of the first degree to a felony of the third degree. Also increases the penalties for persons convicted of living off the earnings of prostitutes. Furthermore, anyone convicted of purchasing the services of a prostitute is now guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree. Effective October 1, 1981.

Chapter 81-149 (House Bill 305)

In 1980 the Florida Legislature passed a law which attempted to put out of business "head shops" which sold drug paraphernalia. The "head shop" owners took the law to court and the Supreme Court struck down a portion of the law. This new law amends the 1980 law so that possession of any drug paraphernalia, with intent to use with a controlled substance, is illegal and a misdemeanor of the first degree. Effective June 24, 1981.

Chapter 81-224 (House Bill 25)

Prohibits the use of live animals in the training of racing greyhounds. Anyone found guilty of using live animals is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. Effective July 1, 1984.

Chapter 81-43 (Senate Bill 254)

Makes it a felony of the third degree for anyone to injure, disable, or kill a police dog. Effective October 1, 1981.

Chapter 81-278 (Senate Bill 881)

Adds a new section to the state statutes, making it illegal for anyone, except a law enforcement officer or hired security guard, to possess a concealed firearm inside a pharmacy. A violation of the new law is a felony of the third degree. Effective October 1, 1981.

Senate Resolution (Senate Bill 1060)

Local law enforcement agencies in Florida have complained that they don't have sufficient manpower or equipment to adequately deal with the drug smuggling problem. This resolution requests that the Governor of Florida ask the President of the United States for assistance. Specifically, the resolution requests that the armed forces of the United States be permitted to render assistance in locating airplanes and boats involved in drug trafficking. Although this is a resolution rather than a law, it reflects the urgent concerns of Sheriffs and other law enforcement officials.

FBI Academy Graduates

Polk County Sheriff's Department Captain Donald C. Dempsey, who heads the department's Special Investigation Unit, St. John's County Sheriff's Department Captain Ronald D. Janson, who is in charge of auxiliary services, and Flynn W. Edmonson, an investigator with the State Attor-

ney's Office in the Seventh Judicial Circuit, are recent graduates of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Edmonson is the son of former Flagler County Sheriff P.A. "Zip" Edmonson, of Bunnell.

The Florida officers were graduated in a class of 248 lawmen from 49 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories and several foreign countries.

"Dear John — We Want to Arrest You"

FORT MYERS — It isn't possible to make an arrest by mail, but the Lee County Sheriff's Department is doing the next best thing. Instead of handing a warrant to a deputy and sending him out to make an arrest on minor charges, the Sheriff's Department mails a card to the prospective arrestee that says:

"Please be advised that our department is currently holding a warrant for your arrest. In order to avoid physical arrest at your home or work, you must schedule an appearance in court immediately. Bring this card with you to the Lee County Sheriff's Department located at 2055 Anderson Avenue, Fort Myers, Florida."

Just a simple postcard, but it's working so well and saving so much time and money that the department is also using postcards to streamline the serving of court summonses. The message is similar:

"Please be advised that our department is currently holding a summons for your appearance in court. In order to avoid sending a deputy to your home or work, you must schedule with this office an appearance date for court immediately. Bring this card with you to the Lee County Sheriff's Department, etc. . . ."

The Sheriff's computer system keeps track of responses, and if a person to whom the card was addressed does not come in within 15 days, the warrant or summons is turned over to a deputy who then serves it in person.

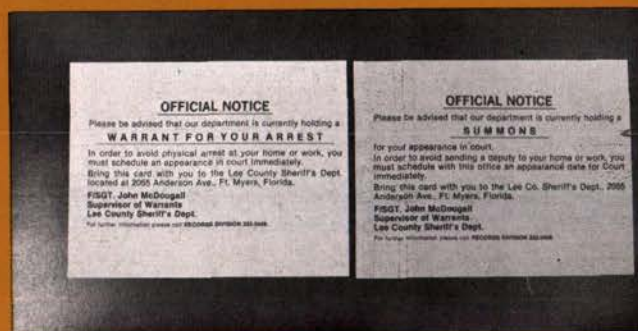
"Before we instituted the postcard system, we were averaging between seven and eight percent of service on all warrants and summonses entered in our computers," Sheriff Frank Wanicka said. "With this new program which was begun in January, we are now serving 47.2 percent — a fantastic increase." By the end of May the percentage had increased to 67.1.

Near the end of April Wanicka reported that 1,294 people had been served warrants or summonses through the new system. He said this had generated approximately \$500,000 for Lee County through additional fines and reduced operating costs.

The cost per mailing is only 12 cents, but the Department has saved thousands of man hours that would have been spent by deputies



Sheriff Frank Wanicka (left) and Sgt. John McDougall study computer printout that reveals the effectiveness of their new post card system.



These are the post cards that eliminate the need for deputies to serve warrants and summonses in person.

attempting to serve the warrants and summonses in person. Wanicka pointed out there have also been savings in miles traveled by deputies, clerical processing and county jail housing.

"Many of the persons who receive cards will call for information about a warrant and will be advised of the charge, and also the amount of cash necessary to pay their bonds and/or fines," Wanicka explained. "This helps to facilitate a smooth transaction of business and reduces the number of persons having to be housed in our jail for lack of funds."

Other counties have begun using similar postcard systems, and Sgt. John McDougall, the Supervisor of Warrants at the Lee County Sheriff's Department, has received numerous inquiries from law enforcement agencies in Florida and other states. Anyone wanting more details about the system is invited to get in touch with McDougall. His phone number is 813/332-3456.