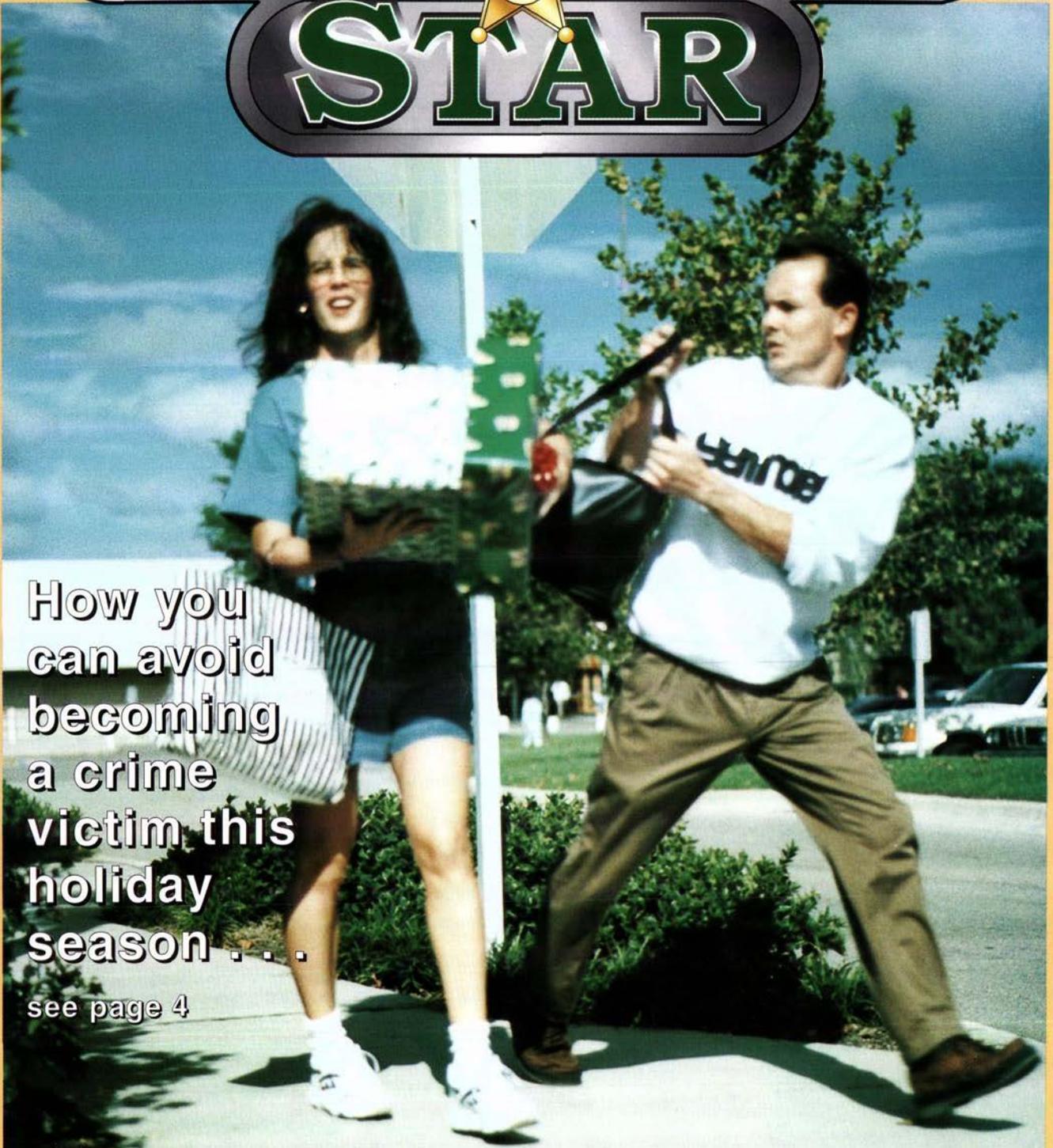




THE SHERIFF'S STAR



How you
can avoid
becoming
a crime
victim this
holiday
season . . .

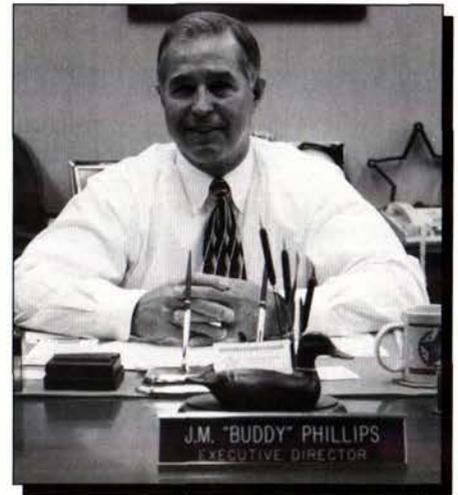
see page 4

Great strides being made in Florida Boot Camps

see page 8

From the desk of . . .

**J.M. "Buddy" Phillips, Executive Director
Florida Sheriffs Association**



The holiday season is a perfect time to think of doing something for someone else.

In 1957, a group of Sheriffs did just that: They thought of providing a home for boys — a ranch where neglected, unsupervised or troubled youngsters could get an even break and a chance to make something of their lives.

Originally organized through the Florida Sheriffs Association, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. now consists of six communities throughout Florida. In 37 years, the Youth Ranches have served over 25,000 boys, girls, and their families.

Each year, our Sheriffs hold fundraisers and charitable events to raise money and other resources to help provide for the more than 230 youth in residential care, and thousands more who attend the camp and other programs.

Sheriffs tend to be a conservative group. The majority of our 67 Sheriffs support old-fashioned values of discipline, love, solid character, and honesty. These are the very principles the Sheriffs that served in those earlier years hoped to instill in what would be "lost children" if not for the Youth Ranches.

We'd like to encourage our members who long to do something for those in need during Thanksgiving and Christmastime to remember our youth. Remember those who are receiving a helping hand through the efforts of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

There are many ways to reach out to these children. Because the residential program is the foundation of the Youth Ranch program, the kids benefit from those who offer support for their education, housing, recreation, and counseling.

You may be asking yourself how you can help.

Keith Stavig, the director of education for the Boys Ranch near Live Oak, told our *Sheriff's Star* magazine editor,

Julie Bettinger, that he could use books for the library.

"We especially need books about animals and dinosaurs," Keith said. And the more pictures, the better, as books are competing for the attention of kids who are used to watching full-color television and video games.

The Boys Ranch is also working to establish a computer lab, Keith mentioned. He hopes to acquire special software that corresponds with school curriculum and can move kids through the educational system with computer lesson plans and testing. Not many people realize it, but a goal for Youth Ranch high schoolers is to assure their graduation. In the 1993-1994 school year, 100 percent of high-school seniors at the Youth Ranches received their diploma or GED.

A computer lab will supplement the kids' education. If you're interested in supporting the effort to establish a computer lab at the Boys Ranch, Keith says financial resources are the greatest need. Of course there are also smaller, more specific needs for supplementing the Youth Ranchers' education, too. Most are related to the traditional school items including: pencils, pens, notebook paper, markers, poster board, and calculators.

In addition to these specifics, the Youth Ranches, Inc. corporate office maintains a huge warehouse of items that have been donated for the organization's frequent auctions. From automobiles to plant stands and large appliances — few items of value are turned away.

If you're interested in giving a charitable contribution, monetary or non-monetary, we invite you to contact the Youth Ranches, Inc. in Live Oak, (904) 842-5501. Supporting the charity that our Sheriffs have supported for more than 37 years is definitely a gift worth giving.

At press time

Talking about doing something for others reminds me of how our law-enforcement communities throughout the state came together to assist their fellow Sheriffs in North Florida following the destruction left by Hurricane Opal.

The Florida Sheriffs Association's statewide Task Force and disaster relief plan was activated on October 4, prior to the storm touching land. Each of the Sheriffs in unaffected areas provided a list of personnel and resources they could make available through our statewide mutual aid agreement.

I personally worked at the Emergency Operations Center during the hurricane and witnessed the process of providing relief. The Emergency Operations Center acts as a clearinghouse of people and items needed by the disaster areas. As we received requests for law-enforcement assistance, we dispatched deputies for specific missions, including: directing traffic, protecting stores from looters, and assisting residents of the area.

Our Task Force is a good example of people helping people. And I'm proud to say the Florida Sheriffs Association helped make it happen.

Buddy

J. M. "Buddy" Phillips
Executive Director

Crime Prevention Tip:

Be the life of the party: Don't let friends drive drunk

The end of November and Thanksgiving weekend mark the beginning of the Holiday season. And while it is time to celebrate and be thankful, it is also a time to be careful, especially where parties and alcohol are concerned.

During the holidays, many law-enforcement agencies beef up their DUI patrols — not to harass drivers but to protect other drivers and passengers.

We are all aware that alcohol relaxes inhibitions, slows reactions, decreases coordination, and impairs judgment and vision. That's the danger of mixing drinking with the operation of a motor vehicle.

Party-givers can help friends and family drink more responsibly by taking some precautions and planning for guests who might get carried away. Follow these tips for holiday get-togethers, and make this season a safer, happier time of year:

- Always serve food if you serve alcohol. High-protein and high-carbohydrate foods such as cheeses and meats are especially good. They stay in the stomach longer, which helps slow

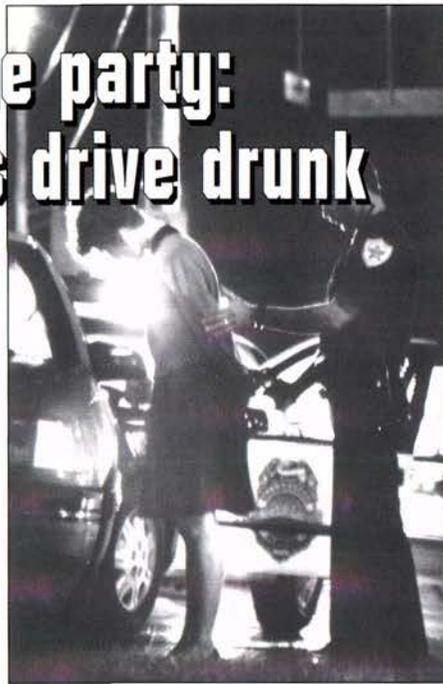


Photo: S. Leukanech/Twin Palms

the rate at which the body absorbs alcohol.

- Include non-alcoholic beverages on your menu. It is important for people to have the option not to drink alcohol. Many beverage companies now offer tasty, non-alcohol beers and sparkling drinks. Encourage designated drivers to drink these alternatives.

- Don't let people mix their own drinks. If you tend bar yourself or hire a professional bartender, you can control the amount of alcohol in each mixed drink. Having small glasses for beer, wine, or champagne can also reduce the incidence of over imbibing, as guests must return to the bar to fill up, and

their consumption can be monitored.

- Never force drinks on your guests. When offering beverages, name alcoholic and non-alcoholic choices with the same enthusiasm. This way they won't feel out of place accepting the non-alcoholic choices, especially if they are a designated driver for the evening.

- Stop serving alcohol about two hours before the party is over. This gives the guests time for their bodies to absorb the alcohol they consumed. Serve coffee, non-alcoholic beverages, and more food toward the end of the evening.

- Have a special gift or other party favor specifically for the designated drivers. This allows the host to determine who's driving and casually monitor their consumption.

- If a guest has had too much to drink, try to slow his/her drinking by engaging the guest in conversation. Offer drinks with little or no alcohol and serve high-protein food. Offer to pay for a cab ride home or have the guest spend the night. Only time can sober someone up. Coffee and a cold shower are not the answer. An "awake" drunk is just as dangerous behind the wheel.

When entertaining this holiday season, prevent your friends from driving drunk. A safer celebration can help make you the life of the party.



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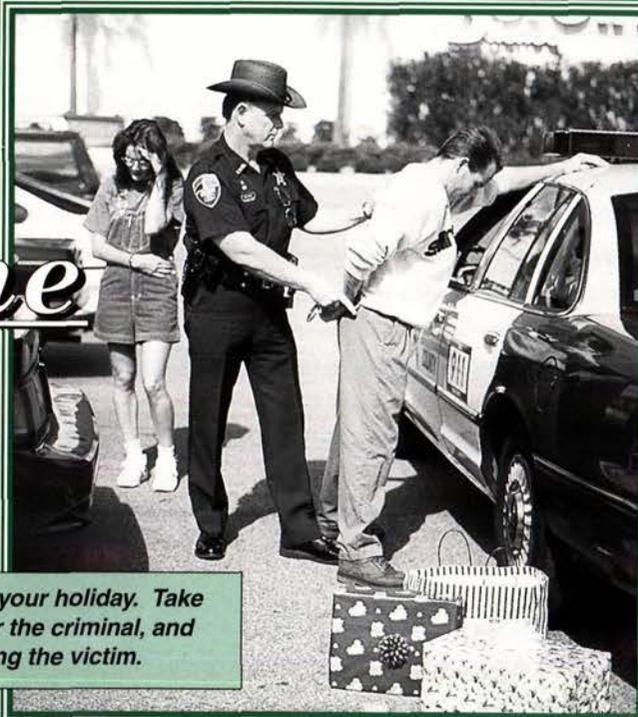
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Holidays are Prime Crime Times



Don't let crime ruin your holiday. Take precautions to deter the criminal, and you'll avoid becoming the victim.

It was Christmastime in South Florida. At one couple's home, gifts were wrapped in festive-looking paper, the tree glittered with a tasteful combination of white miniature lights and all-white ornaments. Spirits were high as they looked forward to seeing the family members who were coming to visit for the holidays.

That's when it happened.

The couple awoke one early December morning to find their mid-size luxury sedan had been stolen right out of their driveway. What a way to dampen the holiday spirits.

After notifying law enforcement, the couple decided to try to put it behind them. They would rent a car for the time being, and if there were no leads about their auto theft in a few weeks, they would collect insurance money and look into purchasing a new vehicle.

Two days later, news came from Miami-Dade Police Department. They had recovered the car, and it was in seemingly good condition. The odd thing, they were told: There was a note from the thief apologizing to the couple.

In the typewritten two-page message, this car thief repeatedly told the couple how sorry he was about stealing the car. He apologized over and over again, saying it had been an emergency, or else he would have never imposed on the car owners by stealing their vehicle. Another odd twist: He included tickets to a Broadway play that was showing in the Miami area, and asked them to accept the tickets as a token of his appreciation and

a symbol of his sincerity.

The couple marveled at the thought. Perhaps the holiday spirit had in fact penetrated even the most hardened of hearts — that of a common criminal.

It turned out that the couple didn't have a conflict the particular evening of the show, so they decided to attend.

The night of the play, the couple dressed up in their finest, left their home, and were out for an evening of entertainment. The show was thoroughly enjoyable, and they returned home around 11 p.m.

As they walked through the door, though, it became obvious that something was terribly wrong. Wrapped presents were gone from the tree. And as they checked further, they discovered that their big-screen television, VCR, and stereo equipment had all disappeared. Entire jewelry boxes, even a miniature safe they kept hidden, were gone. Their home had been cleaned out.

Then it hit them: The unsuspecting couple had been conned by a car thief and burglar. It wasn't going to be such a swell Christmas, after all.

It could happen to you

This is a true story, with a few details changed to protect the victims' identity. As awful as it seems, the inci-

dent helps illustrate how criminals target unsuspecting citizens in what should be the happiest, most carefree time of the year.

Con games like the one this couple fell for are just one risk during the holidays. The majority of other incidents are crimes of opportunity.

"The shame of holiday crimes is that over 99 percent of them can be prevented," says Jerry Rudoff, a lieutenant with the Metro-Dade Police Department's Community Policing Bureau. The key is to eliminate the opportunity, he says.

Sheriffs' departments and other law-enforcement agencies repeatedly stress in their personal safety programs that there's no "right" time or place for a crime, and it pays to be prepared.

"We must be prudent in our day-to-day activities, be aware of our surroundings at all times, and not isolate ourselves," Rudoff says. The minute we become isolated — either by allowing ourselves to be distracted, or by physically being isolated — we are subjecting ourselves to some degree of victimization.

How people handle themselves in public can make a world of difference in whether or not they'll become targets for criminals.

Street smarts: how not to be a victim

The problem is that people often operate on automatic pilot during the holidays and other times of the year. The routine of parking the car and going into the grocery store lulls a person into letting their guard down. Complacency causes us to relax. We think nothing's happened to us before, so nothing will happen to us now.

Unfortunately, during the holidays, our minds are even further distracted, and it shows. People who are walking around in a fog and not paying close attention to their surroundings are the ones that criminals will target.

The best defense to protect yourself is to pay attention to your surroundings and try to make eye contact with everyone you meet, says Nancy Burns, a deputy with the Leon County Sheriff's office Crime Prevention Unit.

These two steps help send a clear message of confidence and awareness, both deterrents to criminals.

Women, especially, are not prone to make eye contact. That means they avoid the very action that could protect them from a confrontation.

"Anytime you're out, you always need to have that independent, confident look about you," says Burns. It not only helps deter the opportunity for having goods stolen, but also provides greater personal safety.

For women, she says, "A lot of times a rapist will confront you and see how you react. That way they know if you're a good potential victim. If you give them a dirty look and don't let them get in your defense zones, it will make you look a little tougher."

And though some people argue about the value of pepper spray, she says it often gives people more confidence and that will come across in the way they carry themselves.

Shopping

Because there is an abundance of people out shopping during the holidays, and they're all preoccupied, the thieves prey on them, Rudoff says.

If there's any way possible, leave children at home, he advises. Not only is the adult easily distracted by the chil-

dren's activities, her attention may wander away from the children, which can put them at risk.

To avoid being overburdened with packages, and therefore in a more vulnerable position, make several trips to the car and lock the goods up in the trunk — out of sight.

Protecting your money

Pickpocketing is a popular crime during the holidays. Those who choose this type of crime can work alone, in pairs, and with three or four together, Rudoff says. And despite people thinking they would recognize a "bad guy" if they saw him, daily incidents have convinced law-enforcement officers there's no way to know who might be in on a scam. A criminal can be either gender, and any race or age — even your own.

"Ironically enough, a pickpocket is going to look like everyone else in that group," Rudoff says. "People of the same cultural or ethnic make-up will prey on their own."

That's why people cannot afford to be judgmental or stereotypical. "Crime does not discriminate," he says.

Habitual crooks will set up a distraction, sometimes several distractions to get a victim's attention going in one direction. Then they'll move in, lift the wallet or grab the purse and packages, and they're off. Before the victim can react, they've already handed off the stolen goods to someone else in on the plot.

When it comes to protecting your valuables in public, Nancy Burns says, "Fanny packs are the best things to have for men and women." Fanny packs hang easily in the front, which will deter a potential purse snatcher, she says.

And if you're going to get a fanny pack, she says it should snap next to the purse part — not the back or center of the strap. Otherwise a criminal could push the snap and grab the pack.

For men, she says it's best to carry a wallet in a front pocket in a crowd. For those who carry their wallet in the back pocket, she says they should make sure the button is buttoned. At the very least, they should put a rubber band around the wallet, as that will make the tugging



Fanny packs, such as the one pictured here, are a good deterrent to pickpockets.

action more obvious if someone is trying to pick your pocket.

Burns recommends that women keep their purses close to their bodies, in front. Purses dangling next to a person's side are more easily accessible and are in clear view of a criminal approaching from behind. Strapping them across the chest, bandoleer style, is also unsafe, she says, because purse snatchers can yank it hard enough to make the strap break and still get away.

Making the purse less valuable is another means of self-defense, says Burns.

Many times women have been hurt fighting to keep their purses, she says. "I always teach women what they should be carrying with them. All you really need is a driver's license, insurance card and a copy of your car registration," she says. Credit cards can be carried in the pocket. Checkbooks that get stolen can be covered by alerting the bank, she says. Keys can also be carried in a pocket or on a wrist bracelet. The balance of the contents of a purse are easily replaced — makeup, brush, etc.

"So now, what are we really losing? Is it really worth fighting for?" she asks.

The idea of minimizing loss by reducing what's carried can also be applied to medication, Rudoff points out. Only carry enough medication for that particular day, so if your purse is stolen, there won't be an emergency to get the prescription refilled.

Credit cards

When it comes to credit cards, a person should treat them like any other valuable possession.

"People need to be careful of unscrupulous clerks," Rudoff says.

continued on next page

Holidays are Prime Crime Times

continued from page 5

Many times retail stores will hire extra help during the holiday time and they could be planning to take advantage of shoppers.

"Keep your eye on your credit card," Rudoff advises. "Know where it is and what's happening to it at all times," even as the clerk is ringing up the sale.

Crime-prevention personnel of law-enforcement agencies are working to reduce the numbers of victims during the holidays and throughout the year. And their message seems clear: By being more aware of your surroundings, staying alert, and taking simple precautions to deter the criminal, you can avoid becoming a victim of crime.

Crime Prevention Goes High Tech

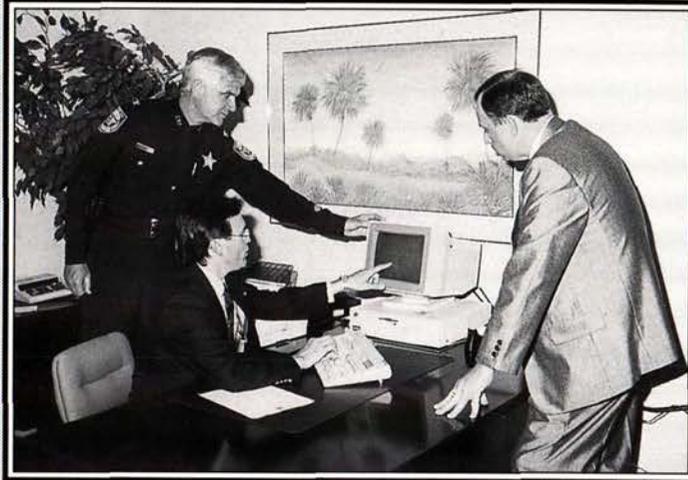
How are businesses and citizens protecting themselves against crime? Information. And the newest way is tapping into local computer online services provided by Sheriffs' departments to get the latest on crime trends, correspond with law enforcement and learn techniques to protect their homes, their lives, and their property.

The Metro-Dade Police Department established a unique service called "Crime Bytes," a citizen communication network and bulletin board.

"It's a free service," says Jerry Rudoff, a lieutenant with the Metro-Dade Police Department Community Policing Bureau. "People call from all over the country, and costs are offset by donations from the corporate community."

The bulletin board is not new — it's been up and running since the mid-1980s — and Rudoff says the popularity is still growing.

The purpose isn't so much a police board, but a community board, he clarifies. The primary objective is for the education and awareness of community



Alachua County Sheriff Stephen M. Oelrich, left, is given a demonstration of Starlink, a law enforcement computer bulletin board established by his office. Businesses can dial into Starlink from their computers to learn of specific crimes affecting their area and receive tips on how to avoid becoming a victim of crime.

problems. It's a tool for student-to-student mentoring and adult-to-child mentoring, too.

There's an "Ask A Cop" conference, where people from all over the country can pose questions about law enforcement, including how to beat a speeding ticket. They get perspectives from Sheriffs' deputies and police officers from all over the world.

"You can have an ongoing conversation and develop a relationship online," Rudoff says. He personally monitors "conversations" or messages sent back and forth to assure no one takes advantage of children or other vulnerable individuals online.

There are also conferences on Crime Stoppers, DARE, Youth Crime Watch and Citizen Crime Watch International.

"Our attitude is that the 20th century is the age of information," says Rudoff. "The more information you have, the more you're able to deal with quality of life issues."

Rudoff says anyone can have access to Crime Bytes, and he invites those with community-type bulletin boards around the country to contact him for possible partnerships.

The number to dial up Crime Bytes is: (305) 592-9831. Lt. Jerry Rudoff can be reached at (305) 471-1746.

Businesses get serious about curbing crime

The Alachua County Sheriff's office teamed up with the business community of Gainesville to develop a law-enforcement computer bulletin board called

"Starlink." Using a computer and modem, businesses can dial up the office and review information on suspicious activity and crime trends in the area, which is posted by the Alachua County Sheriff's office. The system was first introduced in March.

"Starlink is a proactive approach to fighting crime in the business community," says Alachua County Sheriff Stephen M. Oelrich. "I envision a business owner coming to work in the morning, and when he turns on the coffee pot, and opens the morning mail, he can dial up Starlink and learn what he can do to decrease the risk of being a crime victim."

Starlink contains information on crimes committed against businesses, including robberies, forgeries, professional shoplifting, and counterfeiting. Businesses are also able to share information on suspicious activity. The bulletin board is divided into different industry categories, including banking, convenience stores, pharmacies, and retail establishments.

Numerous businesses have signed up and have been given access to Starlink, according to Lt. Spencer Mann, Alachua County Sheriff's office. Other law-enforcement agencies also have access to the system, in hopes of determining similar crime-related trends they might be experiencing in other parts of the state.

For more information on Alachua County's Starlink, contact Det. Farnell Cole or Det. Tim Merrill in the Criminal Investigations Division, (904) 955-2585.

Briefly noted...

Bicycle patrols generate strong public support

HILL-N-DALE – When a desperate young mother was unable to stop her 2-year-old daughter from choking, she snatched up the infant and ran outside looking for help.

Fortunately, Bicycle Patrol Deputy Gary Mason was nearby and quickly performed the Heimlich maneuver on the child. Out popped some grapes that had lodged in the child's throat, and she started to breathe normally.

This was just one of the success stories that helped to generate strong public support after Hernando County Sheriff Thomas A. Mylander started using neighborhood bicycle patrols to establish community oriented policing.

Earlier, business firms and community leaders demonstrated their approval by donating lightweight, heavy-duty, 21-speed mountain bikes to the Sheriff's Office at a cost of \$575 apiece. The donors also provided lightweight helmets, equipment belts, shirts, nylon saddle bags, high-intensity lights with rechargeable batteries, rear safety lights, tire pumps, and water bottles.

"We hoped for community acceptance and involvement," said Major Richard B. Nugent, who heads the Sheriff's Operations Bureau, "and we are grateful for this positive response to our proactive 'take-it-to-the-neighborhoods approach.'" He said the equipment donors have made a substantial contribution to public safety, and their gifts will enable the bicycle patrol deputies to be more effective.

DNA test of cow's blood results in arrest of suspected cattle rustlers

COCOA – While DNA evidence in the O. J. Simpson trial was keeping viewers riveted by their television screens, DNA (a blood analysis component) was also making prime time news in a South Florida cattle rustling case.

"Investigators use cow DNA to capture cattle rustlers," proclaimed the big, black headline on a newspaper article



BROOKSVILLE – Pictured with one of the eight fully equipped mountain bikes donated to the Hernando County Sheriff's Office for Community Oriented Policing patrols are (from left) Sgt. Mike Maurer, who was assigned to bicycle patrols; Sheriff Thomas A. Mylander; and Maj. Richard B. Nugent, Operations Bureau Commander.

about cattle rustlers who shot a purebred cow, butchered it, and sold the meat.

The article revealed that Brevard County Sheriff's detectives had used tips from a confidential informant to find a man who had innocently bought cuts from the purebred Angus. He willingly handed over a pot roast, which was then sent to a DNA lab in Utah.

Along with the roast went a sample of blood from the slain cow's calf, and a report came back that the lab had found a "99-percent accurate" DNA match. Carefully kept records of the purebred's blood provided further evidence. Then, with help from the purchaser of the pot roast, investigators were able to identify the suspected rustler. He was charged with grand theft and armed trespassing, and a warrant was also issued for his partner.

Locating the partner was no problem. He was already in jail on an unrelated charge.

Chip on the shoulder is OK for K9 deputies

PENSACOLA – Going around with a chip on your shoulder is a "no-no" for human deputy Sheriffs, but not for the K9 deputies employed by several Sheriffs' Offices in northwest Florida.

These high-tech dogs have comput-

er chips implanted near their shoulders so they can be identified if they stray or become lost. Veterinarians, animal-shelter employees and owners using handheld scanners can identify them quicker than you can say "Microsoft," or "Apple."

The chip is the size of a rice grain and can be implanted with a hypodermic needle. Sheriffs' K9s got theirs free as a gift from the manufacturer, AVID Corporation, a Norco, California, firm.

According to an article in the *Pensacola News Journal*, animal shelter directors hope all pet owners will get their animals "chipped." They say it will be especially advantageous during hurricanes and other natural disasters when owners and pets are likely to become separated. The cost of a chip injection is around \$25, the article stated.

Mark of excellence comes to Marion and Seminole SOs

Certification by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) is a mark of professional excellence recognized nationwide, and with the addition of Marion and Seminole counties to the growing list of accredited Sheriffs' Offices, Florida is continuing to set the pace for the nation.

Marion County (Ocala) was originally accredited in 1989, but because of budget constraints, the certification lapsed in 1991. The current certification amounts to re-accreditation which will be in effect for three years. "We have had an independent review of our files and policies to certify that we are doing what we say we are doing," Sheriff Ken Ergle told a news reporter.

In Seminole County, Sheriff Donald F. Eslinger was quoted as saying innovative projects such as lending cellular phones to domestic violence victims may have helped the Sheriff's Office to become certified.

The importance of setting high standards for law enforcement was emphasized early in 1995 when the Florida Sheriffs Association and the Florida Police Chiefs Association created the Commission on Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. It is setting standards that do not conflict with national standards, but are adapted to Florida's needs.

Great strides being made in

Florida Boot Camps

The incident was enough to send shock waves throughout the state.

A notorious female juvenile offender in Polk County went looking for trouble in South Florida. She joined a friend to pull off a car jacking. Their target: tourists driving down the highway. Their method was to bump the car, usually causing the unsuspecting tourist to pull over. Once stopped, the tourist was a sitting duck. They would pull a gun and demand the car, leaving the motorist stranded.

It had worked hundreds of times before, and the sport was considered pretty easy. This time, however, the plot was foiled. The European tourist didn't pull his car over when bumped. His rental-car company had provided warnings to customers of the risk of car jacking, and he was prepared.

Infuriated by his lack of predictable response, the young girl did something only a hardened young heart would allow: She shot the man from her moving vehicle, killing him.

And more boot camps are born

Paired with the other tourist slayings that followed in rural North Florida, this incident caused state lawmakers to start getting tougher on juvenile offenders. They established the Department of Juvenile Justice and helped accelerate the establishment of boot camps

to house juvenile offenders. Through the South Florida incident and others, it had become obvious the previous approach to juvenile detention wasn't working.

Manatee County Sheriff Charlie Wells had already set the stage by establishing the state's first juvenile boot camp in March 1993. Leon County followed shortly after, as reported in

the May/June *Sheriff's Star*. To date, a total of seven boot camps for juvenile offenders are either up and running or poised to receive their first recruits.

Counties turning to boot camps to rehabilitate juvenile offenders include: Bay, Leon, Manatee, Martin, Pinellas, Polk, and Volusia.

The South Florida incident



Members of a U.S. Army Reserve engineering unit volunteered to build a physical fitness-obstacle course for the Volusia Juvenile Boot Camp.

"The guys loved it out here," said Lt. John Szaroleta, commander of the camp. "They knew they were accomplishing something important."

(Photos courtesy of Sam Cranston, Daytona Beach News-Journal)





The obstacle course, like this one that was built for Volusia County by a neighboring U.S. Army engineering unit, is a major component of the fitness program for juvenile boot camps in Florida. The courses are a challenge to the mind and body and provide a way to let the offenders know they can accomplish something that seems impossible at first.

involving the Polk County female was enough to win public support for a program that would house both male and female offenders in this central part of the state. The Polk County Boot Camp is now the largest in the state and the first in the nation to house female offenders, said Scott Wilder, public-information officer. With four wings, it has an 80-bed capacity. Seventy five percent of the offenders are male, the balance are female, but facilities are completely separate.

Polk County celebrated its first anniversary of the boot camp opening September 30. One hundred eight juvenile offenders are either in the camp, in aftercare, or have completed the program. Recidivism rate is about 4.5 percent.

Polk County Sheriff Lawrence W. Crow, Jr., said their female offenders list has multiplied over the last sever-



al years. Nearly 1,300 female offenders were referred to the Juvenile Justice System from November 1993 to November 1994. The first female group entered the Boot Camp in June 1995 and graduated in October.

"We've had less problems from the females," said Boot Camp Commander Lt. Danny Drew. "They seem to be better at adjusting." Drew said their hopes are that the resulting change is long term, and not just a temporary state of mind to survive the rigors of boot-camp training.

All in a day's work

The Polk County Boot Camp opened with two 20-bed wings, an attached center control room, a classroom training building, and an obstacle course. Two additional 20-bed wings, an additional classroom, a mess hall, and an aftercare office have been added since.

The curriculum includes rigorous military-style physical training with educational instruction and psychological counseling. The Boot Camp experience lasts four months, followed by four months of closely monitored aftercare.

Their mission is to change the individual's criminal beliefs and behavior by emphasizing individual responsibility, showing consequences for actions, providing education, providing role models, and giving options.

Aftercare includes psychological assistance and providing community-based options and supervision. A mentoring program is included through the assistance of Big Brothers/Big Sister, Inc., job training skills, and employment when appropriate.

Offenders rise at 5:00 a.m., take care of their personal hygiene and clean their rooms until 5:30. They go to breakfast until 6:00 and then prepare class work from 6:30 until 7:00 a.m. The physical training is next, lasting for an hour and a half. Then there's a 30-minute recovery time/break. Drill and ceremony begins at 9:00 a.m. At 10:00 a.m., they go into psychological and group counseling. Lunch is 11:30 to noon. Classes are held until 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner. At 5:30, the offenders attend life skills classes and receive individual counseling. There is free time from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Uniform preparation and sweep down is until 8:30. Lay worship service is from 8:30 to 8:45, followed by

continued on page 10



The Volusia Juvenile Boot Camp obstacle course is a compilation of resources from many organizations and entities, including the county public works, the U.S. Navy, and the Marine recruiting unit.



Polk County Juvenile Boot Camp recruits work at the Cornerstone Youth Shelter in Mulberry, Florida during United Way of Central Florida's "Day of Caring."



Boot Camp update continued

hygiene inspection until 8:55. Taps and retirement is at 9:00 p.m.

"Boot camp is the pressure cooker," said Commander Drew. "We teach them integrity, self-esteem, and self-control. Then, you could say, we loosen the lid on the pot in the transition phase. We're no longer telling them what to do, but we're monitoring them. We give them a schedule, and they know what they have to do."

After-care, which averages about two months, involves electronic monitoring. The offender wears a bracelet on his or her leg, and Sheriff's deputies can ride by the home and determine if the boy or girl is in the home at curfew by using a cellular connection.

The educational component is comprehensive and is subsidized by the county school system, which helps keep costs contained.

There have been 17 graduates who have received their GED as a result of the accelerated educational training at the Boot Camp. The Boot Camp academic program has been responsible for wide-ranging advancement for many of the recruits. Students have averaged two-year gains in concepts and skills in mathematics. They have averaged a one and a half-year gain in reading and writing skills — all during the four-month period at the Boot Camp

Betty Branch, a teacher at the Boot Camp who has worked with special-needs students for years, told the *Tampa Tribune* that the environment at the facility is among the most conducive for learning that she has ever worked in.

"It's the discipline they get at the Boot Camp which really makes the dif-

ference," Branch said. "It is so refreshing for me to teach well-behaved students. They are all perfect gentlemen in the classroom, but because we have the drill instructors with them, they know that if they misbehave the drill instructors will take care of it."

Senior Drill Instructor A. Mitchell said that most of the youths who entered the Boot Camp programs are bright and have considerable potential to lead constructive lives.

"Most of these kids have high self-esteem, but for all the wrong reasons, like how many cars can they steal," Mitchell said. "We have to redirect that self-esteem, and it's amazing how much they can change."

Volusia is next

Volusia County Sheriff Robert L. Vogel, Jr. and area officials have been working for two and a half years to get their Boot Camp off the ground. A dedication ceremony took place October 19, with Attorney General Bob Butterworth and Department of Juvenile Justice Secretary Calvin Ross giving remarks. At press time, officials said they expected the first group of offenders to enter the program by early November.

Previously a juvenile-detention hall off U.S. 92 and Indian Lake Road, west of Daytona Beach, the Boot Camp received a special gift this past summer from a nearby Army Reserve Unit.

One of the Volusia County Sheriff's office reserve officers, Bob Sullivan, is a first sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve and a retired police officer from Miami. He's part of an engineering unit and volunteered them to build a physical-fitness obstacle course for the Boot Camp. The volunteer effort saved the county approximately \$10,000 in labor.

"The guys loved it out here," said Lt. John Szaroleta, commander of the Volusia Juvenile Boot Camp. "They

knew they were accomplishing something important.”

The obstacle course is a major component of the fitness program, Szaroleta explained. It's the backbone of a solid fitness program.

“We all feel better about ourselves when we're in shape,” Szaroleta said. “It gives us confidence, and we feel better psychologically.”

An obstacle course is a challenge to the mind and body, he added. It provides a way to let the offenders know they can accomplish something that seems impossible at first.

The course is a compilation of resources from many organizations

and entities, including the county public works, the U.S. Navy, and the Marine recruiting unit.

“Once you get started, you'd be surprised by the number of people who want to be involved,” Szaroleta said. “The public has really been supportive in Volusia County.”

The Volusia Juvenile Boot Camp is a unique partnership of local and state agencies, including the state Legislature, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, the State Attorney's Office, Volusia County Sheriff's Office, Volusia County Council, and the Volusia County School Board.

Szaroleta, with the help of Depart-

ment of Juvenile Justice contract manager Bill Holland and district manager Jan Abee, visited all of the Boot Camps that were in operation over a two-year period before building Volusia's program.

“I think we took the best from every program and just built on that,” he said.

Volusia has 34 beds and plans to have 15 recruits to start, followed by another 15 after three weeks.

“In 24 years of law enforcement, I've never done anything like this,” Szaroleta said. “We really have an opportunity to make a difference.”

Briefly noted...

Jail Population has more than doubled in past 10 years

Everyone who keeps up with the news knows the nation's jail population is rising at an alarming rate, but, as statisticians always say, “the devil is in the details,” and the following details were recently provided by the U.S. Department of Justice:

* The nationwide jail population soared to 490,442 in 1994.

* This more than doubled the total compiled 10 years ago.

* Drug offenders accounted for most of the increase.

* Ten percent of the inmates were women.

* 39 percent of the inmates were white; 44 percent black; 15 percent Hispanics; and 2 percent other races.

* Nearly half of the inmates were in five states, namely California, Florida, Texas, New York, and Georgia.

* Average yearly cost per inmate was \$14,667.

* The study did not include six states that have combined jail-prison systems, namely: Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island and Vermont.

A “highly respected” Sheriff

AVON PARK – “He is highly respected by his employees and the community,” said Avon Park Chamber of Commerce Director Sam White when he announced that Highlands County Sheriff Howard Godwin had been chosen Citizen of the Year by Chamber members. A native of Avon Park, Sheriff Godwin holds three academic degrees in criminal justice. They include an A.S. Degree from South Florida Community College; a B.A. Degree from the University of South Florida; and a master's degree from Rollins College. He is currently serving as vice chairman of the Florida Sheriffs Association's board of directors.

Good kids get a sweet treat

Bad kids normally get lectures and other forms of discipline from deputy Sheriffs, and good kids get a “high five.” However, the good kids who help their neighbors and obey the law get something extra in Orange County – coupons that entitle them to sweet and icy slurpees at 7-Eleven convenience stores. The 7-Eleven chain gave 10,000 slurpee coupons to the Orange County Sheriff's office as part of a widespread campaign, and deputies are handing them out to reward good kids for good deeds.

Jamar, 13, has stolen \$16,000 and flashes a gold-plated smile

FORT LAUDERDALE – Jamar Dixon is only 13, but in the past two years he has stolen at least \$16,000 and has used some of it to pay for five gold-plated teeth, according to an Associated Press article based upon reports from the Broward County Sheriff's office.

Arrested recently for the 22nd time, this one-kid crime wave was riding in a stolen car and sitting on a pile of blankets so he could see over the steering wheel. He's only 4 feet, 3 inches tall.

Since his first arrest in 1992, Jamar has accumulated 38 criminal charges for burglary, assault and battery, grand theft, robbery, auto theft and other law-breaking capers.

Sheriff Ron Cochran was quoted as saying cases like Jamar's point up the urgent need for Operation Bootstrap, a proposed juvenile boot camp plagued with construction delays.

Editor's Note:

In the September/October issue of the Sheriff's Star, page 3, we inadvertently stated that Holmes-Braddock Senior High initiated the Youth Crime Watch. In fact, it was North Miami Beach High School. We regret the error and would like to apologize to the founders of the program.

Member Profile :

Ernest A. "Jack" Allsopp

He's been writing checks to the Florida Sheriffs Association annually for 30 years. As he wrote this year's check and discussed his record of annual giving with Carol McCullar at the St. Johns County Sheriff's office, Mr. Ernest A. "Jack" Allsopp told her, "I hope to give even more next year."

He's 95 years young, and Mr. Allsopp is as optimistic as ever about the future.

A voracious reader, he enjoys discussing current events with visitors. Although he lives alone in a gated community at Ponte Vedra, he usually has a nurse or other caregiver available for conversation and companionship.

Mr. Allsopp recalls what led him to join the Florida Sheriffs Association. The Sheriff of Duval County was helping to raise funds for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, he says. The Sheriff called on Mr. Allsopp and his wife, Frances, who is now deceased, as potential contributors.

"I wanted to give to the children," Mr. Allsopp says today, "because they deserve it. I'm not interested in alcoholics or people who've made a mess of their lives, but these innocent babies . . . they need to have a chance in life."

Weaving tales about life

Mr. Allsopp is sitting in the warmly furnished den of his home. The walls are lined with book collections: Mark Twain, *Reader's Digest* Condensed Books and Thackeray's works. Some are leather bound. On this day, he's planning his 95th birthday party, rather reluctantly, in a telephone call from his daughter, Ann.

A talkative sort, Mr. Allsopp describes himself as an extrovert. "I like people," he says. Although he expresses concern that he's boring his visitor with details about his life, he gladly continues to share them. He



seems happy to have company to talk politics, discuss personal philosophies, and help recall historic events.

As much as he corrects himself for "running off at the mouth," he reveals many details about his 95 years.

Jack Allsopp graduated as an accounting major from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in 1923. He moved to central Florida to capitalize on the boom in real estate. He and his brother, Howard, established Allsopp brothers, which seemed to do no wrong until 1930.

The real-estate market took a nose dive, and he says he lost everything. He packed a bag, left his wife and child in central Florida temporarily, boarded a steam-engine train and headed to New Jersey, hoping to get a job to support his family.

He met with a prep-school chum who referred him to another friend at Prudential Insurance of America based in Newark. Allsopp was hired on the spot for his expertise in real-estate foreclosures, having lived in an area that had experienced the worst of it.

"I went from being nearly a millionaire, to making \$75 a week," he says. "And that still wasn't bad."

Prudential needed him, though. "I knew all about the Florida real-estate market and they had never faced so many foreclosures," he says.

Over the next 10 years, Allsopp handled the foreclosure proceedings on over 900 houses, mostly in Orlando, Winter Park, Daytona, and Tampa.

Allsopp describes his first job as being an investigator for the company. He quickly worked his way up to senior vice president of finance for Prudential.

He retired in 1960 and moved with Frances to Ponte Vedra. With children grown and raising their own families, Mr. Allsopp says he filled his days playing golf, gardening, and shooting quail, dove and duck in Georgia.

Today, he has six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren and receives visits occasionally from them, his daughter, who is age 63 and his son, age 67.

Making history

Born in 1900, Mr. Allsopp has an amusing way of recalling how old he was when certain events took place. "That was 1930, so I was 30 years old," he recalls in one incident.

It's his way of keeping track.

"I always used to joke that when I'm in my 90s I'll begin to lose my marbles and when someone asks me how old I am, I'll just ask them, 'Well, what year is it?'"

Mr. Allsopp says although he prefers to keep a low profile in his giving, there is no doubt why he continues to support the Florida Sheriffs Association and the Youth Ranches.

"I want the kids to have a chance in life," he says. His reward comes in knowing his money is being put to good use.

"I used to volunteer to help, but I can't do that anymore," Allsopp says. "The only thing I can do is give money."

We thank you for your continuing support, Mr. Allsopp. From the children and our statewide law-enforcement community.



FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION HONOR ROLL

This Honor Roll gives special recognition to individuals who have demonstrated a strong commitment to progressive law enforcement. Distinguished Service Certificates are awarded to those who have supported the Sheriffs Association as Honorary Members for 25 or 30 years. Lifetime Honorary Memberships are awarded to veteran law-enforcement officers whose careers have spanned 40 years or more; and to supporters whose donations to the Florida Sheriffs Association total \$1,000 or more.



DR. OLIVA



MRS. REHME

DADE CITY – Pasco County Sheriff Lee Cannon (left) presents 25-Year Distinguished Service Awards to Dr. Marcelino Oliva, Jr.; Mrs. Alice W. Rehme; and Mrs. Emily A. Brooks.



MRS. BROOKS

CROSS CITY – Chief Deputy J. P. "Bo" McEwien (left), representing the Dixie County Sheriff's Office, presents a 25-Year Distinguished Service Award to James E. "Jim" Motes.



OCALA – Capt. Towles Bigelow (left), representing the Marion County Sheriff's Office, presents a 30-Year Distinguished Service Award to Mr. Clyde C. Mulkey.



PARTNERS

Progressive business and professional leaders give generous support to the many anti-crime activities of the Florida Sheriffs Association

Progressive business and professional leaders have always been major supporters of strong law enforcement, but until recently they remained in the background as "silent partners." Now the Florida Sheriffs Association is giving them special recognition by enrolling them as Business Members. Bronze members pay dues of \$50 per year; Silver



\$250; and Gold \$500. Each member receives a distinctive wall plaque, a plastic identification card, an office window decal, and a subscription to *The Sheriff's Star*.

To apply for a business membership, please write to Florida Sheriffs Association, P. O. Box 12519, Tallahassee, FL 32317-2519; or call (904) 877 - 2165.

GOLD BUSINESS MEMBERS



PENSACOLA – Escambia County Sheriff Jim Lowman (third from left) presents a Gold Business Membership to Baptist Hospital, represented by (from left) Gail Boylan, Associate Administrator; Mr. Al Stubblefield, Administrator and President; and Dr. Rick Slevinski, Director of Emergency Services.



WEST PALM BEACH – Palm Beach County Sheriff Charles A. McCutcheon (center) presents a Gold Business Membership to Paradise Eximport, Inc. represented by Mr. Carlos Pardo and Mr. Hely Perez.



PUNTA GORDA – Charlotte County Sheriff Richard Worch (right) presents a Gold Business Membership to Ralph Root, representing Spike's Super Lube.



GAINESVILLE – Alachua County Sheriff Stephen M. Oelrich presents a Gold Business Membership to Mrs. Madeline Beckwith, representing Beckwith Gun Dealers. (Her husband, Mr. Harry Beckwith became a Business Member in 1990, and renewed his membership in 1995.)

In Focus

Sheriff Danny Hasty goes international

Washington County — with its population of 17,500 — isn't an area in which a person might expect to find international influences. But, thanks to the work of Sheriff Danny Hasty, that's just what they're getting. As the president-elect of the International Association for Identification (IAI), Sheriff Hasty is hobnobbing with the likes of Russian diplomats and with law enforcers from as far away as Sweden.

All in the name of solving crime.

A soft-spoken native of Chipley, Sheriff Hasty retired from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in 1992, after 30 years of service. Without even taking time for a vacation, he threw his hat in the ring for Sheriff of the rural northwest Florida county. After rigorous first and second primaries, he faced a Republican in the general election and won by 35 votes. He took office in January, 1993.

Front-line approach

What the citizens of Washington County had recognized in Danny Hasty was the depth of his abilities. This is a man, who at the age of 17, had aspirations to work for the FBI and actually passed their strict standards, winning an entry-level position as clerk. He left Chipley for Washington, D.C., and eventually entered fingerprint orientation and training. The specialty quickly became his passion, and the experience qualified him to later accept a position with FDLE.

The timing was a win-win situation for both Sheriff Hasty and FDLE, as the state was leading the effort in fingerprint identification. Hasty became an integral part of the development of FDLE's Automated Fingerprinting Identification System (AFIS).

Automated fingerprinting speeds the process of fingerprint matching between previous offenders and current crimes. It helps law-enforcement officers get hardened criminals off the street — before they target another victim.

When he retired, AFIS operators were



Washington County Sheriff Danny Hasty was presented with authentic Russian hats, along with a plaque, as he was inducted as president-elect of the International Association for Identification (IAI) this past July. The hats were a token of honor from a delegate of the Moscow City Bar Association and a representative of the Moscow Police Headquarters. Both are members of the IAI.

making in excess of 2,000 cold-search hits which involved criminal offenders, from murders and sexual assault, to burglaries and armed robberies.

In fact, Hasty was the first to tie the juvenile file to the AFIS system. Today, the success is phenomenal. Close to 50 percent of the total hits from the AFIS system are now coming out of the juvenile file. This fact proves the frequency of juvenile offenders becoming adult offenders — a fact that law-enforcement officers have maintained for years.

The benefit juvenile prints offer is the ability to apprehend the suspect sooner using the juvenile finger prints, rather than waiting until he or she has committed numerous offenses as an adult before a fingerprint match can be made.

In his career with FDLE, Hasty supervised every section of the crime lab. He retired as Crime Laboratory Analyst Supervisor.

Scene of the crime

Though he doesn't get as involved in crime scene analysis as he once did, Sheriff Hasty has testified in some very high-profile cases.

Ted Bundy tested his skills, when Hasty had to tap the forensic sciences to identify the remains of Kimberly Diane Leach, to link Bundy with her murder. Hasty's work was also a key in linking evidence found at the site of the Chi Omega Sorority house in Tallahassee. He testified in both cases.

Hasty was also an integral part of linking Kenneth Ray Wright with the notorious and heinous murder of 8-year-old Camellia Joe Hand from Ocoee, Florida.

The story was that Wright lured the young girl's dog to his car and when the little girl followed, he abducted her. He took the child to a wooded site, slashed her with a razor blade, sodomized and sexually assaulted her, then buried her in a shallow grave.

To solve the crime, Hasty admits, he got lucky in his search of single fingerprint files. (The case preceded the automated fingerprint matching.) It turns out that Wright had been fingerprinted after committing another crime in Orlando and Hasty just happened on Wright's file, eventually linking his prints with those found on the razor blade that was recovered from the gravesite.

Wright had been discovered snooping around the area where the girl's remains were eventually found, claiming he was looking for lawn mower parts. He was only one on a lengthy list of suspects.

"They had no idea at the time who this subject was," Hasty says. "But the fingerprint match helped (local law-enforcement officers) put it together."

Hasty says he felt rewarded being part of the conviction team.

Membership makes the difference

Hasty is a lifetime member of IAI and has spent the last eight years serving in other offices to reach the presidency.

IAI members are recognized worldwide as the experts in the forensic science field, specifically in the collection and preservation of physical evidence at the crime scenes.

With its 5,000 members, Hasty says the IAI deals with all the forensic sciences, including identification, investigation, examination and analysis of bloodstain patterns, crime scenes, fingerprints, firearms and tool marks, footwear, and tire tracks. IAI also deals with forensic photography and electronic imaging, polygraph

examination, and voice identification /acoustic analysis.

More than 35 foreign countries have chartered association members.

Discussing what he hopes to accomplish in the next year, Hasty says, "I have a number of goals. I want to continue education to deter and fight crime. In America, we have new technology and new ideas to help fight crime and get convictions. We need to develop these areas. Another thing

I feel very strong about is continuing the efforts to bring more professionalism to law enforcement through accreditation. The acceptance of change is critical. It's a fast-moving world we live in. I'd like to encourage and develop in my department and the Association, the education and development of new ideas."

At a meeting in Costa Mesa, California this past July, Sheriff Hasty took the oath of office for a one-year term. In addition to

other numerous accolades, Hasty was honored with a presentation of hats from a member of the Moscow City Bar Association and a representative of the Moscow Police Headquarters.

Asked if the hats were on display in his office, he says, "They're sitting right here on my desk." And to emphasize their importance, he adds, "They're right below my FSU (poster)."

Wanted: Because It Works

By: Della Cormier and Lt. Joe Cobb
Marion County Sheriff's Office
Community Relations Division

Armed with a borrowed concept straight from the Wild West and relying on citizen involvement, Marion County Sheriff Ken Ergle recently launched a campaign to bring persons wanted on nearly 8,000 active warrants to justice.

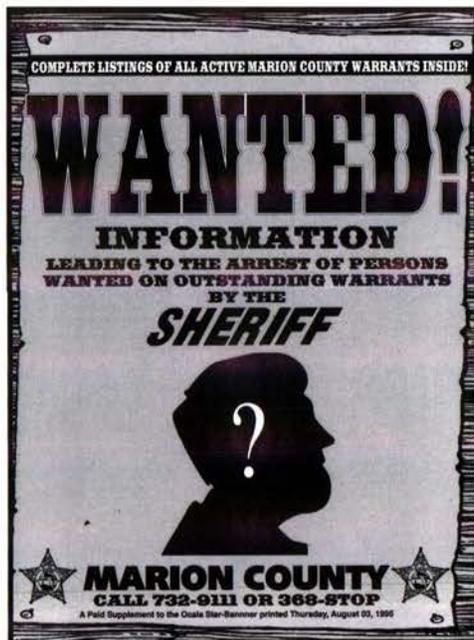
By using an old-fashioned "Wanted" list to apprehend suspects, the county hit pay dirt: In the first three days, the office received approximately 300 calls responding to the "Wanted" listings. In four weeks, over 600 warrants had been served or recalled and four of Marion County's 10 Most Wanted had been apprehended. Numerous leads are still under investigation on the remaining six.

An idea sparks a project

This past June, in an effort to relieve the backlog of outstanding warrants on file, Sgt. Guy McWilliams, supervisor of the Warrants division, approached Sheriff Ergle with the idea of publishing the names of those who were wanted in a supplement section of the county's local newspaper under the title "Wanted."

Recognizing the idea to be in line with the innovative and pro-active approach he promotes, Sheriff Ergle gave McWilliams the green light to proceed with the project.

After numerous hours and weeks of preparation, visual verification of each warrant, and designing the supplement, a 44-page list of everyone who was wanted for a crime in Marion County was published in the *Star-Banner* newspaper. The August 3, 1995 list was the first ever published in a daily newspaper in Florida.



This "Wanted" publication, started by the Marion County Sheriff's Office, included information on nearly 8,000 outstanding warrants. Within three days of initial distribution, Sheriff Ken Ergle's Office received approximately 300 phone calls responding with information. In four weeks, over 600 warrants had been served or recalled and four of the County's "Most Wanted" were apprehended.

It ran the gamut from worthless checks to murder.

Also published were the pictures and names of Marion County's 10 Most Wanted criminals. Sixty thousand copies of the edition made it into Marion County homes that morning, with 1,000 extra copies of the supplement placed in each of the Marion County Sheriff's district offices for supplemental distribution.

To fund the project, the Sheriff's office used \$10,000 that had been seized in drug cases.

In a *Star-Banner* article, public-information officer Lt. Joe Cobb said, "You have to figure that everyone knows at least 20 people. You are not going to be able to keep 20 people quiet."

One man, a 29-year-old accused of committing sexual battery on a 9-year-old girl last April, was one of the first apprehensions.

"We got a call from someone who recognized (the man's) picture in the paper," Cobb told a news reporter. "When the deputies arrived, they immediately recognized him . . . He was told he was one of the most wanted. He acknowledged it, but did not comment any further."

Mounting the posse

Detectives and deputies checked out leads from citizens as far away as Texas and Alaska. Several area merchants have also credited the publication for a significant increase in accounts receivable, as people came in to make good on worthless checks. Local businesses have used the list to screen existing and potential employees, too.

The local media were very instrumental, especially the *Star-Banner*. They designed and established the proper format of the publication and helped promote the project. Several letters to the editor were published in the *Star-Banner*, praising Sheriff Ergle for the latest of his ongoing efforts to make Marion County a safe place to live.

"Since this tactic was a 'first' for my office, I wasn't sure what to expect," Sheriff Ergle says. "However, I'm satisfied with the results so far, and I'm very grateful for the citizen involvement. The cost of funding the project was money well spent."

Sheriff Ergle says he now plans to run a "Wanted" list twice a year to include warrants received since the original publication.

Inside the Youth Ranches

A Personal Essay



Beyond the plaques, the awards, the photos of people proudly receiving accolades from Sheriffs for their contributions — there are the kids. The very reason people give to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches from the start.

And yet how many of us have visited the Youth Ranches? How many of us have seen the classrooms where our money is making a difference — the campuses, family cottages, and programs where our donations are helping to build the future of some young person's life?

Though the Youth Ranches invite donors to visit the campuses year 'round, people's lives are so crowded, they have little time for such luxuries, it seems.

For this issue of the Sheriff's Star, we decided to send our new editor, Julie Bettinger, to the Boys Ranch in Live Oak. Julie is a donor through her husband's business, but like so many other donors, she had never taken the opportunity to see their contributions at work. She wrote the following essay on the initial impressions she received during a half-day visit to the Boys Ranch.

Just Kids

by Julie S. Bettinger

You look into their eyes and think to yourself, "They are like every other teenager — every other young person with hopes and dreams and inferiority complexes and teenage-type troubles."

But they're not. Not really. Their troubles go far beyond what's considered typical for today's child. Many have suffered through physical, mental, and emotional deprivation. Some have been subject to misguided anger, explosive personalities, bad influences at school, and a failure of "the system."

They've been wounded by the very environment that should have comforted them and nurtured them as infants and young children. And even others often



Boys Ranch teacher Angie Viele uses flash cards in a lesson about state capitals from around the nation. Of the 60 boys who live at the Boys Ranch in Live Oak, half attend public schools and half receive their education at the campus learning center.

lacking basics in personal hygiene, self-discipline required for learning in school, and knowledge in what's considered acceptable behavior in public.

That is, they are all of these things — before they enter the gates of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

My first impression of the Boys Ranch in North Florida, one of the six Youth Ranches located in our state, was awe. Set on 3,300 acres and located eight miles down a rural country road outside the small town of Live Oak — the place gives a sense of solitude. There are a lot of elements that could be distracting for a young mind. Here there are rolling green pastures that serve as home to 500 head of cattle, 40 horses, and 60 young boys who help care for them.

Once on campus, I realize there are modern conveniences beyond the rugged feel of farm life. There's an educational facility, a cafeteria, warm homes called "cottages" with video games and ping pong tables, an arts and crafts center, and a chapel. In fact, the place operates much like a small town, self-contained with few interferences from the outside world.

Yet, ironically, the outside world — the thousands of donors who support the Youth Ranch concept — is the campus' lifeblood.

Education first

Visiting with Keith Stavig, director of education at the Boys Ranch, I learn that half the teenagers are enrolled in public school and half attend classes at the Ranch campus. They are schooled in the ABCs: academics, behavior, and character.

On this day, a Friday, 17 boys sit in a darkened room watching a movie. It's a reward for their good behavior. And even though the movie lacks the "shoot 'em up" violence and graphic scenes found in so many of today's flicks, it has the boys quietly entranced. It shows that a movie doesn't have to be shocking to entertain.

Stavig leads me down the hall to a "time out" room — a stark, small closet of a room with no chair. It's used to separate a boy for 15 minutes of solitude to help re-focus his attention and realize when he's erred.

There's also a dress code: no ear-

rings or long hair. No obnoxious rock-and-roll T-shirts, either. Cleanliness and good hygiene are a must.

Stavig says he really enjoys hearing the reaction of outsiders when they take the boys on field trips. "They tell me our group is so much more well-behaved, so much better dressed than many other groups they get."

That's important, he says. It reinforces the traditional values that steer the Youth Ranches.

And what is the path that leads a young man to the Youth Ranch, I ask?

It's mostly by referral. It could come from a law-enforcement agency, calling to tell of a young person at risk of being lost in a bad crowd. It could also be a parent at wit's end or a teacher or confidante who sees a child's potential and yet fears for his future. And any combination of these.

I learn that entering the Boys Ranch is a process that involves the child, his parents or guardian, outside public and private agencies, and the Ranch staff. There's a family-agency performance agreement that outlines the goals of each party involved. The youth acknowledges his weak points and sets a goal to overcome them. The parent or family does the same. Ranch staff and counselors are there to act in a supportive capacity to help achieve the stated goals, eventually reuniting the family, if possible.

A family kind of place

The Ranch is very much family oriented. Boys make their home in cottages that dot the campus. They have cottage parents who strive to give them a home life. These parents teach the self-discipline needed to get the boys out of bed every morning at 5:30, do their household chores — including laundry, cooking and cleaning — and interact with as many as nine other "siblings" — their cottage brothers.

A couple I meet, Mom and Pop Lanham, have 10 boys in their cottage. On this afternoon, they're anticipating the arrival of another boy, and Mom Lanham's enthusiasm can barely be contained.

The couple raised eight children of their own, so parenting is not new to



Mom Lanham pals around with Mike, one of her "boys." Asked about what he likes most about the Boys Ranch, Mike says, "It's the help you can get. Whenever you have a problem, there's someone who can talk to you."

them. Still, she says, "A lot of these kids have had problems." Helping them work through and correct the problem is her "reward."

Although there's a point system and other standard approaches to help the boys progress, Mom Lanham says the Youth Ranch doesn't impose specific standards on the household, dictating every move. "We just try to be 'Mom and Dad.' Period," she says. "We try to make it as close to home as we can."

Mike, one of "her boys," as she calls them, is headed home for a weekend visit with his natural family. He's trying to transition back into his previous home life and says that's his primary goal at the Boys Ranch: to earn the opportunity to go home.

Mike works 14 to 16 hours a week at the Boys Ranch gym. A percentage of his earnings automatically goes into savings. This provides a lesson in self-discipline and personal finances.

Asked what he likes most about the Ranch, Mike says, "It's the help you can get. Whenever you have a problem, there's someone who can talk to you."

Names behind the facilities

Evidence of the support the Ranch has received is scattered throughout the

campus. Roads are named for donors: Cecil Webb Road and Frank Maitese Way, for example. Cottages are also named for larger donors. But all Ranch staff emphasize: They wouldn't be able to use the big gifts for their designated purposes if it wasn't for the much smaller gifts given each year through the Florida Sheriffs Association and Youth Ranch supporters.

There's a waiting list of youth, and Pat Monogue, program director, says he hopes they'll be able to open up another cottage or two by 1996 to accommodate more boys. Two older cottages are available, but they are in need of extensive renovations. As of yet, funding hasn't been at the level needed to open them.

On my tour, I learn that the Youth Ranches need non-cash items that can be auctioned. The warehouse periodically receives vehicles, livestock, and entire estates. There are all types of antiques, pianos, and oddball items such as a chicken incubator and commercial-size washer and dryer.

Not too proud, though, the staff finds a way to recycle them and turn them into productive support for the Youth Ranches.

There are other facts I learn. For instance:

- 60 percent of the private funds that keep the Youth Ranches operational come from wills and bequests.
- The Youth Ranches employ over 270 professionals statewide.
- The average age of youth in residence is 15 years old.
- It takes an operating budget of nearly \$11 million annually to keep the Youth Ranches working.

Still, no matter what facts I learn and scribble down in my notebook on this day— I still return to the same realization that I had the first time I faced one of these boys. If it wasn't for the Boys Ranch, where would this young man be? And what about the other 25,000 youth just like him? It seems unfair that the world would have failed him to this point. Abuse, neglect, confusion.

It's up to the Youth Ranches to provide for their future. And that's a hopeful moment.



Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

Honor Roll

Home towns eliminated
from roster of

Lifetime Honorary Members

To protect our Lifetime Honorary Members from receiving unwanted solicitations and junk mail, we have discontinued printing their home towns when we print their names.

We decided this was necessary after we learned that certain organizations of questionable legitimacy were adding our Lifetimers to their mailing lists. Obtaining a complete mailing address was relatively easy for them as long as they had the Lifetimers' home towns. Without the home towns, it will be extremely difficult.

We have never permitted other organizations to use our membership lists, and we will continue to do everything possible to protect the privacy of our members.

On these pages we give special recognition to generous supporters of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches who have qualified for Lifetime Honorary Memberships in the Florida Sheriffs Association by giving \$1,000 or more to the Youth Ranches. Each Lifetime Honorary Member receives a plaque, a lifetime identification card and a lifetime subscription to *The Sheriff's Star*. Under a regulation which became effective in 1984, those whose gifts total over \$5,000 will receive additional gold stars on their plaques – one for \$5,000, two for \$10,000, and so on, up to a maximum of five stars for gifts totaling over \$25,000.

Presentations

We regret that photos of Lifetime Honorary Members are not always available when their names appear on the membership roster. Consequently, we often find it necessary to print the names in one issue of *The Sheriff's Star* and the photos in a subsequent issue.

New Lifetime Honorary Members

Mr. Arthur B. Aarstad
Mr. Norman Allen
American Trans Tech.
Angie's Bake Shop, Inc.
Ms. Pauline Barber
Mr. And Mrs. Carl E. Barker
Mr. And Mrs. Russell W. Bates
Mr. William Beaubien
Colonel and Mrs. Charles A. Betts
Mr. And Mrs. William Blank
Mr. And Mrs. Roger O. Bouchard
Dr. And Mrs. Thomas O. Brackett
Mr. And Mrs. Charles Brenneisen
Mr. Lance Brown
Mr. Paul Bundy
Mr. James L. Burney, Jr.
Mr. And Mrs. Robert L. Campbell
Carlson Automotive Resources, Inc.
Ms. June Carruthers
Columbia Correctional Institution – Lake City
Mr. Sal Costa
Mr. B. F. Counselman
Mrs. Robert Dawson
Mr. Barry Dean
Eagle Broadcasting Co.
Estates of Silver Lake
Mr. And Mrs. Clarence F. Falkner
Mr. And Mrs. Victor C. Foley
Mr. And Mrs. Leon Fox
Mrs. Betty E. Freeman
Mr. Carl Gay
Mr. Michael Gregory
Grumman St. Augustine Corporation
Mrs. M. Haas
Mr. And Mrs. Dallas W. Heim, Jr.

Mr. And Mrs. Clarence Hinderman
Mr. And Mrs. George S. Hoban
Ms. Harriett Hollander
Ms. Joyce Hopkins
Mr. Basil Jabiri
Mrs. Maru G. Johnson
Mr. And Mrs. Michael Johnston
Ms. Denise Kaplan
Mr. Michael Kinman
Kiwanis Club of Live Oak
Mr. Robert Knudson
Dep. & Mrs. John E. Lawrence
Mr. Barney Lieberman
Ms. M. E. Liermann
Miss Shirley J. Lindsay
Mr. William Linscott
Mr. And Mrs. James R. Malia
Dr. And Mrs. Philip Mallatt
Mr. And Mrs. James Mancini, Jr.
McCann's Carpet Service, Inc.
Mrs. Louise T. McCullough
Mr. Kevin McKenna
Mr. And Mrs. Charles H. Mills
Mrs. Stacie Morrison
Motel 6 – Lakeland
Mr. And Mrs. Joe Nastaszewski
Ms. Jeanine L. Nelson
North Florida Welding
Ms. Maryann O'Donnell
Mr. Willie Oxendine
Paragon Cable – Bradenton
Mr. Jon Pasqualone
Mr. And Mrs. Gary Perkins
Mr. Emile Perrenot
Mr. And Mrs. Rene A. Piche
Mr. And Mrs. Vincent Pisano
Mr. Thomas Place
Mrs. Theresa K. Porter
Mr. David Price



OCALA – Presented by Marion County Sheriff Ken Ergle (right) to Ms. Olivia Grubb. Assisting in the presentation was Mr. Robert Moderau (left), a Youth Ranches volunteer.



STUART – Presented by Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Bob Haag to Mr. and Mrs. Emory S. Naylor, Jr.

Mrs. Theresa Virginia Price
Mr. George Reynolds
Richwagens Bicycle, Inc.
Mrs. Ruth Rollings
Ronald McDonald Children's Charities
Mr. And Mrs. Kenneth L. Roosa
Mr. Lee Rose
Mr. And Mrs. William Rossfeld
Mr. James F. Ryan
Mr. Andre Sapanaro
Scooter haven
Mr. Andrew Sesta
Mr. Claire Sheffer



REDINGTON SHORES – Presented by Youth Ranches Regional Director Mac Stones to Mrs. Robert Slansky. (The membership was issued to Mrs. Slansky and her husband.)



CROSS CITY – Presented by Taylor County Sheriff John Wesley Walker (right) to Youth Ranches President C. T. O'Donnell II. Sheriff Walker is the chairman of the Youth Ranches Board of Directors.

Ms. Mary Shell
Mr. And Mrs. Thomas C. Sherman
Mr. And Mrs. James H. Shimberg, Jr.
Mr. Doug Slockbower
Mr. Jim Smith
Mr. Ken Smith
South Florida Golf
Mr. George W. Srock
Mr. And Mrs. James P. Steffan
Mr. And Mrs. Clyde E. Story
Mr. Charles E. Strange, Jr.
Mr. Gordon Sturwold

Ms. Ellen Sukup
Ms. Barbara Thorpe
Total Rental Center
Mrs. Phyllis Triolo
Mr. John Vargo
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Edward W. Penno Post # 4864
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4141
Ms. Susan Warner
Mr. Russell T. Welker
West Wind Inn
Mr. And Mrs. Buddy Westbrook



Youth Ranches Honor Roll continued . . .



MR. BLAKELY

TAMPA BAY AREA - Presented by Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Terry Gregg (left) to Mr. Claude Blakely, of Pinellas County; and Mr. Michael A. Holm, Director of MacDonald Training Center, Inc., James Ranch Campus, Hillsborough County.



MR. HOLM



PALM CITY - Presented by Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Bob Haag (left) to Mr. Scott Sade.



STUART - Presented by Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Bob Haag (right) to the Holiday Inn, represented by Mr. Charles L. Calvert.



PINELLAS COUNTY - Presented by Pinellas County Sheriff Everett Rice (right) and Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Terry Gregg (left) to Mr. William Terry.



MS. LATHINGHOUSE

LIVE OAK - Presented by Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Linda Crews to Ms. Linda Lathinghouse, Manager of Twice Nice Consignment; and Mr. Joe Carl, President of Luraville Country Store.



MR. CARL



HIGH SPRINGS - Presented by Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Doug Medlin (left) to Mr. and Mrs. McCall, of McCall's TV Sales and Service.



MR. MARRONE

CITRUS COUNTY - Presented by Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Doug Medlin (left) to Mr. John Marrone, Beverly Hills; and Mr. and Mrs. James E. Patterson, Crystal River.



THE PATTERSONS



CARUTH CAMP - Presented by Youth Ranches Vice President for Planned Giving Doug Medlin to Ms. Sarah Jurewicz, Caruth Camp's Regional Secretary.



PORT ST. LUCIE - Presented by St. Lucie County Sheriff Robert C. "Bobby" Knowles (right) to Chris Nelson.



MS. MEDEIROS

MARTIN COUNTY - Presented by Martin County Sheriff Robert Crowder (left) to Ms. Barbara Medeiros, representing Martin Downs Country Club; Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Atlas, of Palm City; Mr. Bob Johnston, Stuart; Ms. Donna Frazier, Stuart; Mr. Joe McGavock, owner, Howard Johnson Motel, Stuart; and Mr. Davie Gulich, representing Deinard's Construction, Stuart.



MR. AND MRS. ATLAS



MR. JOHNSTON



MS. FRAZIER



MR. BROWN

BROOKSVILLE - Presented by Hernando County Sheriff Tom Mylander (right) to Mr. L. T. Brown, County Jail Administrator for Corrections Corporation of America (CCA); and Donald Smith, director of the work release facility for CCA.



MR. SMITH



MR. MCGAVOCK



MR. GULICH



CAPS - WHITE OR GREEN - with multi-colored embroidery including metallic gold thread, adjustable band



AUTO TAG 6 x 12" - Metal, embossed, 4 colors, baked on enamel finish



LAPEL PIN 7/8" die cast metal with 4 color enameled finish



BELT BUCKLE 3 1/2 x 2 5/8 solid brass

Join the celebration!

To celebrate the 85th Anniversary of the Florida Sheriffs Association, we are selling colorful baseball caps, coffee mugs, auto tags, belt buckles, watches and lapel pins. This will give loyal friends and supporters an opportunity to join in the celebration by mailing the order form printed below. Eighty-five years is a mighty long time. The Association has many accomplishments to contemplate with pride, so come on, let's contemplate and celebrate!



11oz. COFFEE MUGS - white color with 85th anniversary type and green bands listing all 67 counties

**Style # 4500
MEN'S GOLD BAND
Face No. 1**

**Style # 4200
WOMEN'S GOLD BAND
Face No. 1**

**Style # 4502
MEN'S TWO-TONE BAND
Face No. 2**

**Style # 4202
WOMEN'S TWO-TONE BAND
Face No. 2**

**Style # 4500
MEN'S GOLD BAND
Face No. 3**

**Style # 4200
WOMEN'S GOLD BAND
Face No. 3**



NOTE: These water resistant, ETA Swiss quartz analog timepieces featuring beautifully engraved "Sheriff's Star" dials in an all gold dress medallion, or a multi-colored sports style are available in both all gold or gold/steel two-tone as depicted above. All watches carry a 3-year limited warranty from the date of purchase against failures due to defective materials or workmanship. Gold or two-tone bands can be purchased with either of the three available faces.

MEMBERSHIP ITEMS ORDER FORM

Mrs. Ms. Mr. Miss

Name _____ (Please print)

Residential Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____



Please make check or money order payable to
FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 12519, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32317-2519

I wish to purchase:

No. _____ *Automobile tags at \$10.00 each. \$ _____

_____ *Lapel pin(s) at \$8.00 each. \$ _____

_____ *Belt buckle(s) at \$15.00 each. \$ _____

_____ *Watches at \$165.00 ea. Style No. _____ Face No. _____ \$ _____

_____ *Hats (white or green) at \$12 ea. \$ _____

_____ *Coffee Mugs at \$12 ea. \$ _____

(postage & handling cost included in prices) Total \$ _____

* Please add 6% Sales Tax for membership items \$ _____

(Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for shipping) Total enclosed \$ _____

* Add .5% or 1% discretionary sales surtax, if applicable.

If you would like to renew your membership at this time please make out a separate check for \$20. Membership Dues are deductible for income tax purposes.

Orders must be received by November 30th if items are to be delivered by Christmas.