

# Alabama Sheriffs' Youth Ranches

Ranch Round-Up ♦ Online Newsletter ♦ December 2011



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**Ranch Round-Up Online Newsletter**

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## Tallapoosa County Girls Ranch



A group of supporters from Selma recently enjoyed a very special visit with the girls of the Tallapoosa County Girls Ranch. The visitors started arriving around 12:00 and the girls were ready.

They started by separating the children into two groups. In the first group they each received a makeup kit and then were taught how to use it.

The other group was taught how to play the guitars

and sang Christmas songs. The volunteers switched and continued with the other group of girls.

Then the girls were photographed by a photographer and each one received pictures of themselves in frames so they could give

them to their family and friends as gifts.

By then the girls and volunteers were

hungry, so a retired baker cooked homemade pizza of their choosing. What a hit with all. They then sang and had s'mores by the camp fire.

All this was done in the newly renovated Leach House on the Ranch. The



long, fun day wrapped up around 8:00 p.m. that evening.

In addition the group of volunteers provided new blankets and towels for each house. It was priceless seeing the glow on all of the kids faces which made the effort so worthwhile for all who participated.



*"It's easier to build boys and girls than to repair men and women"*

# St. Clair County Boys Ranch



Our children gathered on our sign to make a picture for Christmas. Is that not a good looking bunch of energy!

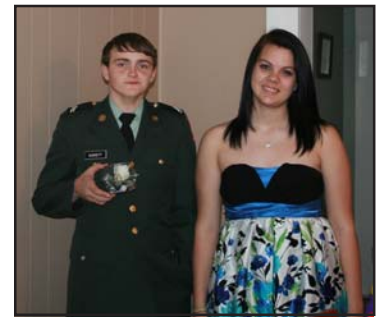
St. Clair County Sheriff Terry Surles hosted the annual bass tournament he does for the St. Clair County Boys Ranch on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Here are several of our children with caps they received from a sponsor.



This is a picture from the Middle School Band Christmas Concert. Todd M. and David C. both enjoy playing in their school band.



Former Rancher Desmond returns home for a holiday visit from college.



This is Randall B. and his date for the JROTC Christmas Ball.

## Merry Christmas!



The staff at Advantage Logistics provided delicious snacks and Christmas gifts for the children during a recent visit.



The Ranchers enjoyed the Vestavia Key Club Christmas Party. The club provided a delicious lunch and Christmas gifts for the children. Then the members spent the afternoon playing football and games with the Ranch children.

*"It's easier to build boys and girls than to repair men and women"*



# Colbert County Fame Girls Ranch



The Girls at FAME Ranch have been very busy this Christmas. We kicked off the season at the ranch with a pizza party provided for us by Franklin County Representative Johnny Mac Morrow. Representatives Morrow and Bedford also presented us with a grant to go toward replacing one of our central heat and air units. The girls enjoyed a shopping trip with their Belk gift cards and everyone was able to purchase a new winter coat.



In the spirit of giving, the girls worked with the Soroptimist Club of Huntsville wrapping gifts in Parkway City Mall to raise money to benefit the Crisis Center for domestic violence.

The ladies of the Soroptimist Club also visited us at the ranch for dinner and brought Christmas gifts for the girls. Billy Reid Clothing Store was so kind to us this season by sponsoring a fundraiser and giving us 30% of their sales on December 9<sup>th</sup>. They also sponsored us

for a new camera for the ranch and digital picture frames for all of the girls. The girls had fun at Wednesday night church when they had tacky Christmas sweater night.

The girls had a lot of fun creating a Christmas card as well. For the card, every girl wore a different pair of funny Christmas socks and took a picture of their feet. We also had a



wonderful Christmas with the employees of Franklin Pharmacy in Russellville. They were so generous and gave us many items that we can use in the new addition

that is about to open shortly. Happy Birthday to Paige and Mrs. Misty who both had birthdays this month. Congratulations to Thanks to all of our wonderful

supporters! We could not do without you and we hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# Baldwin County Boys Ranch



On December 5, 2011 The Baldwin County Boys Ranch enjoyed a Christmas party thrown by The Hangout in Gulf Shores, AL. The boys were treated to appetizers, dinner, and deserts by the restaurant along with stockings and gifts provided by Santa. Another highlight of the evening was television theme song trivia, and Hangout staff teaching the boys the "chicken dance".



The boys enjoyed a recent shopping trip to Belk with gift cards donated by longtime supporter and Board Member Robert Norris. Mr. Norris and his company, Jet-Pep, Inc., gave gift cards to each child throughout the Ranch system.

## Happy Holidays!



Dr. McCollough and his staff from the McCollough Institute brought their office Christmas party to the Ranch again this year. They brought presents for the Ranch boys and snacks for everyone to enjoy during their visit.



Early on the morning of December 15th the Baldwin County boys received some very special visitors -- the Loxley Optimist Club. The Club members brought breakfast and presents to the boys before school. This is a long tradition that the club established more than 20 years ago and both the members and the boys look forward to it every year.

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