



# The Sheriff's Report

Official newsletter for citizens served by the Pasco Sheriff's Office

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[www.PascoSheriff.com](http://www.PascoSheriff.com)

## From the Sheriff's desk

### PSO budget process notches wins for citizens

I am pleased to announce that the Pasco Board of County Commissioners has approved the amended 2010 Sheriff's Office budget.

This is important to Pasco citizens as it keeps the agency Aviation Unit flying, and adds 24 road patrol deputies that will be funded by the federal law enforcement stimulus package.

Our agency received the fourth largest fund amount in the state, \$4.4 million, which was determined by a number of factors. This includes the fiscal need of the county, the local crime index figures and the agency's community policing efforts.

County commissioners also approved my request to build a \$145,000 hangar for the Aviation Unit, which now leases space to the

amount of \$60,000 a year. Over the long run, building a hangar will save taxpayers' dollars.

The continued hard work of our deputies and civilian employees continues to pay dividends in the court of public opinion.

The evidence of this was provided in a series of county-sponsored budget workshops where Pasco citizens told commissioners that they wanted public safety to be at the top of their funding priorities. Law enforcement and emergency fire and medical services topped the list.

I applaud our commissioners for heeding the will of our citizens in providing the necessary funding to allow us to continue to keep our communities safe.



**Bob White,  
Sheriff**

**"The continued hard work of our deputies and civilian employees continues to pay dividends in the court of public opinion."**

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- Golf tourny registration underway
- Inmate doula program

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### Bank tellers experience mock robberies

About 40 Pasco bank tellers received some high-energy training recently when members of our Major Crimes Unit demonstrated the unnerving elements of a bank robbery at the Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union in Port Richey. The mock crime was committed by Dets. Alan Proctor, pictured with the training shotgun, and Matthew Myers, who demanded money from the teller. According to Sgt. Jim Sessa, the training can assist tellers to remember important descriptive information during a real robbery that can assist detectives in identifying suspects and making an arrest.

# New Pasco deputy is Boy's Ranch alum

Interacting with troubled youth is often part of a deputy's job. Having a way to help young boys straighten out what can be a confusing time in their lives was the reason a group of Sher-



iffs got together in 1957 to found the Florida Sheriff's Boys Ranch. Then-Pasco Sheriff Leslie Bessenger was one of those Sheriffs who helped get the Ranch up and running.

Over the years, different Pasco Sheriff's have recommended a number of boys and girls to attend the youth ranch programs. In what is believed to be a first for our agency, a new Pasco deputy is a former member of the Boy's Ranch program.

Dep. Kelly Endricks joined the Pasco Sheriff's Office in May. His move into his law enforcement uniform took many years and, according to the new deputy, had its roots with his time spent at the Boys Ranch in Live Oak.

"I was an angry teenager who had an abusive step-father," Dep. Endricks explained. "In 1989, a Pasco deputy responded to a domestic dispute call at my house between myself and my step-father and he mentioned to my

mother that I might be helped by attending the Boys Ranch."

The 16-year-old Endricks agreed to attend the program for four months. "I told my mother that at the end of four months, if I didn't like it, I would come home. She agreed. Well, at the end of the four months, I was ready to come home. However, she told me that that wouldn't be a good idea right now, and that I would have to stay a little longer."

That didn't sit well with Endricks, who had a "blow-up" and became angry at his situation. But that was the beginning of his path toward maturity.

"My cottage pop, Pop Raymond, took me aside and talked to me one-on-one and got me to open up about my problems. That is when I began to see that both of my cottage parents really cared about me and what I did with my life."

Before this episode, Endricks was resistant to the rules and chores that are mandatory in the cottages. That included doing his own laundry and cooking, something he never had to do before. He now realizes that structure gave him the support to begin working towards goals in life.

"Teamwork and accountability are factors in everything you did at the Ranch," Endricks said. "You had to work for everything but there was always someone there to help you do it." He learned this firsthand when he saw boys riding bikes around the expansive Ranch

grounds.

"I found out where the bike shop was and went down there to get a bike. The attendant said, 'Sure, you can have a bike.' He then pointed to the frame, the handlebars, the pedals, and wheels that were there for me to put together. I said, 'You're kidding me, right?' But, of course, he wasn't, and if I wanted to ride bad enough, I would build one, which I did."

Endricks didn't know it at the time, but his mother was also required to attend counseling while he was at the Ranch. She says that counseling helped her and when she got to see Kelly on weekends or holidays, she could tell a difference in her son's attitude.

"At first, she thought I was putting on a show, just so I might be able to come home sooner,"



**Endricks, far right, received the award for Best Musician at the Youth Ranch in 1990.**

Endricks said. "But she soon realized that I was actually growing into a responsible young adult."

Although Endricks spent only two years at the Ranch, his mother credits his time there for a lifelong change. "She tells me even today

**Continued on next page**

## Sheriff announces largest cocaine bust

Sheriff Bob White announced the largest cocaine bust in the history of the Pasco Sheriff's Office August 27, 2009 at the Land O' Lakes Detention Center. Standing in front of 52 kilos or more than 114 pounds of packaged cocaine, Sheriff White praised the work of agency Vice and Narcotics detectives. Working with federal Drug Enforcement Administration agents and Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents in an 18-month investigation, detectives issued a search warrant at 12019 Duck Lake Canal Road in Dade City.

The 52 kilos of cocaine worth about \$1.5 million and \$200,000 in cash were found buried in a shed on the Dade City property. A Sheriff's Office K-9 team located the drugs using the dog's sensitive nose. In addition, a semi-truck with what is believed to be at least \$2 million in a hidden compartment was stopped by the Florida Highway Patrol and confiscated. Three Mexican citizens were arrested and were booked into the Land O' Lakes jail, two for trafficking in cocaine, and one for conspiracy to traffic in cocaine. The trio were later indicted for federal drug trafficking charges.

**Boy's Ranch alum, from page 2**

that I am the same now as I was then, due to what I learned there." After leaving the Ranch program, Endricks returned to Pasco County where he has since lived his entire life. He worked at a construction materials business for 14 years, becoming a plant manager. When the construction industry began its recent downturn, Endricks began to consider other career options, and his mind always returned to how he was helped so many years ago by a Pasco deputy. So he entered the police academy while simultaneously working on completing his GED degree. He was hired by the Dade City Police Department and served there a year before being hired by the Pasco Sheriff's Office.



Endricks still remembers what it was like to be an angry teenager, and advised a mother about the Youth Ranch option during a domestic violence call he was on recently. He told the young girl that he had been there before, just like her. She was asking a lot of questions about the Ranches and although Endricks doesn't know if she will attend, she had an excellent role model of what the experience can do standing right in front of her in a law enforcement uniform.

Pasco Sheriff Bob White is the vice chairman of the youth ranches enterprise board and knows first hand the good work the program can do for children. "It shows you what these young children can do if provided a nurturing home environment and the opportunity to excel with the proper guidance and hard work."

## Sheriff's Golf Classic registration underway

Our young people face many serious challenges today. As part of the Pasco Sheriff's Office's commitment to our youth, I am again hosting our annual golf tournament to support the many youth programs sponsored by this agency.

These programs help young people in Pasco County develop good character building skills and self confidence. They also teach them how to make good life choices, and to accept responsibilities for those choices.

Since our very first tournament in 1978, your generosity has helped to sustain these programs over the years. With your continued support, we hope to make this year's 2009 Sheriff's Golf Classic tournament the best yet. I invite you to join us on Monday, November 2, 2009 at Lake Jovita Golf Club in Dade City and help us make a difference in the life of a child.

You can register online at [www.PascoSheriff.com](http://www.PascoSheriff.com).

*Sheriff Bob White*



# Program aids mothers-to-be in Land O' Lakes Detention Center

Expectant mothers who are incarcerated in the Pasco County detention center here have access to a special program that can assist them in both pre- and post-natal care.

Started in 2001, the Birth Behind Bars program sends doulas into the jail twice a month to provide pregnant inmates with information and support about their upcoming births. The word "doula" comes from the ancient Greek meaning "a woman who serves" and is now used to refer to a trained and experienced professional who provides continuous physical, emotional and informational support to the mother before, during and just after birth.

Doulas are unpaid volunteers, not medical personnel, and do not give medical advice. The pregnant inmates still see a medical caregiver during the time that they are incarcerated. But doulas do provide a lot of important information to the inmates about the changes that their bodies are undergoing, provide encouragement, and answer questions about the birthing process and labor techniques.

"We also teach them to take care of themselves once they are out of jail and to bond with their babies," said Janice Banther, executive director of the Birth Behind Bars program. She

also is the executive director of a Tarpon Springs-based nonprofit that offers childhood education classes and doula services for disadvantaged women.

Participation in the doula program at the Land O' Lakes Detention Center is voluntary. In 2008, the number of women who were pregnant averaged about five a month. During a recent meeting of the twice-a-month program,

six women attended out of the 12 who were pregnant at the time. Of these, three were pregnant with their first baby. About 160 women have gone through the program since its inception.

"Our main goal is to change the mother's lifestyle," Banther said. "We encourage them to eat well. At least while they are here, they aren't getting fast foods and fat." Part of the doula's instruction is healthy eating, and the women do get an additional daily snack while pregnant in jail.

Banther created a booklet for the women to read for the program, titled *I'm Pregnant, Now What Do I Do?* It describes the various changes their bodies go through during pregnancy, and the labor process. The doulas scan the bellies of the inmates with a fetal Doppler device that picks up the heartbeat of



their babies for the mothers-to-be to hear. The excitement of the inmates shows on their faces as many of them hear the sound for the first time.

If requested, the doulas will attend but not participate in the delivery of an inmate's baby. Soon after the delivery, the inmate is returned to the detention center and the baby is given either to the father or a competent relative who can care for the child. The doulas also monitor the new mothers after the birth for signs of postpartum depression.

The program has recently expanded to include male inmates who may have children or become fathers. This course is called "Why Do Babies Cry?"

Banther has been contacted by former inmates who tell her the importance of the program.

"Some of them say the program changed their life," she said. "We try to give these women skills because we don't want frequent fliers in the Pasco County jail."

**Photos: (Above) The inmates listen to Janice Banther as she begins the meeting. (Left) An inmate hears her baby's heartbeat for the first time.**

