



September/October 2011

www.bigoak.org

TIMBERS



Big Oak Ranch

A Christian home for children needing a chance

"So they will be called oaks of righteousness the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified." Isaiah 61:3



TIMBERS

"So they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified" Isaiah 61:3

P.O. Box 507 • Springville, AL 35146
Phone (205) 467-6226 • Fax (205) 467-6206
September/October 2011



Big Oak Ranch

Big Oak Ranch is a Christian home for children needing a chance. The Ranch takes in children between the ages of six and eighteen who are orphaned, abused, neglected, or homeless. Comfortable two-story brick houses are home for up to eight children and a quality Christian couple. Our houseparents provide the consistent love, discipline and direction our children so desperately need and deserve.

Big Oak Ranch, Inc. is a non-profit, non-denominational organization that is privately funded. The ministry consists of:

- A) Big Oak Boys' Ranch in Gadsden, AL
- B) Big Oak Girls' Ranch in Springville, AL
- C) Westbrook Christian School in Gadsden, AL

The Timbers mailing list is confidential and is not shared with any other organization. Questions, comments or corrections should be addressed to the attention of Rhonda Hindman.

Board Members

Big Oak Ranch is owned and operated by Big Oak Ranch, Inc. and its board. We would like you to know our working Board of Directors:

- Miller Welborn (Chairman)**, President, Welborn & Associates Inc., Lookout Mountain, TN
- Patsy Burks**, Chairman of the Board, Lighting & Lamp, Birmingham, AL
- Richard Grimes**, Senior Vice President, RealtySouth Birmingham, AL
- Jim Leonard**, Leonard Properties Birmingham, AL
- Tony Miller, Esq.**, Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C., Birmingham, AL
- Darrell Piatt**, Alabama Power (Retired) Birmingham, AL
- Sandy Sansing**, Owner, Sandy Sansing Nissan, BMW & Chevrolet, Pensacola, FL
- William B. Eyster, Jr. (Board Emeritus)**, Eyster Properties, Inc., Birmingham, AL
- Randy Pittman, (Board Emeritus)**, Samford University, Birmingham, AL

Christmas Sponsors

Would you like to sponsor one of our children for Christmas?

If so, or if you have any questions or would like more information on how to make Christmas special for a child at Big Oak, please contact:

Boys' Ranch – Donna Duke (256) 892-0773
Girls' Ranch – Lynn Hazard (205) 467-6226

October		November		December	
Max	10/02/97	Houston	11/01/97	P. J.	12/06/00
Nina	10/03/97	Bronson	11/01/02	Christian	12/10/99
Ally	10/04/94	Cory	11/06/94	Will	12/10/06
Braxton	10/14/00	Kira	11/07/00	Kyleigh	12/10/04
Rebekah	10/17/01	Gail	11/09/04	Amber	12/12/96
Addyson	10/18/06	Kayla	11/11/99	Brett	12/19/01
Lance	10/22/93	Haley R.	11/13/95	Hallie B.	12/30/97
		Chase	11/20/97	T. J.	12/30/94
		Karen	11/21/97		
		Francisco	11/21/95		
		Tyddus	11/23/96		
		Abigail	11/26/04		
		Gilberto	11/26/97		
		Storm	11/28/98		
		Dakota	11/29/97		

ON THE COVER

P.J. is 10 years old and lives in the Bonds Home with his houseparents Jeremy and Janet Cockrell.



A Note From the Business Office on Planning for Year-End Gifts

- ◆ To receive a receipt dated in 2011, your gift must be in the mail and postmarked (US Post Office postmark) by December 31, 2011.
- ◆ If you wish to make an honorarium or memorial gift for Christmas, it must be in our Business Office no later than December 16, 2011.
- ◆ If you are planning a gift of Marketable Securities:
 - Please phone our Business Office for transfer instructions and give them your name, address, quantity and description of the securities you are contributing.
 - *If possible*, please make your gifts of securities by December 26, 2011.
- ◆ If you are planning a Non-Cash gift (auto, etc.), please phone our Business Office for new IRS rules. All Non-Cash gifts and titles must be in our possession by December 29, 2011.

Thanks for your support and for loving our children throughout the year!!

The Business Office Staff

Letter from John

Every time I left the house as a young teenager, my dad would always give me the reminder, “Be where you’re supposed to be.”

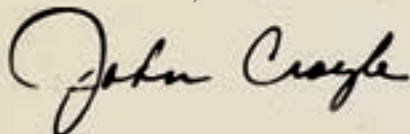
If you stop & think about it, most times when we got in trouble growing up, it was because we were NOT where we were supposed to be. I challenge you to keep up with where your kids are. Sure, you are going to get the customary “eye roll,” but it is well worth the effort. Yes, there will be times when this trust is breached, but overall knowing where your kids are will work out for the best.

Our houseparents do an excellent job of maintaining good communication with the children that have been placed in their care. Thank you for loving and supporting our children, and for making it possible for our staff to take care of them. We could not do what God has called us to do without you!

It’s hard to believe we are in the fourth quarter of 2011. Hopefully we are all on the tail-end of the economic crunch. With well over a hundred children living with us, and taking care of nineteen in colleges around the state, we truly need your continued support. With the holiday season fast approaching, we hope you will remember us with your year-end giving.

Thank you for loving our children!

Your friend,



John Croyle
Executive Director



John & Tee Croyle



Boys' Ranch GROWING OAK



Jordan

17 years old



13 years old

- Is 17 years old
- Has been a resident of Big Oak Ranch for 4½ years
- Lives in the Bullock Home with houseparents Mike & Kim Perkins
- Is a Senior at Westbrook Christian School and will graduate in May
- Is serving as Senior Class Chaplain at WCS
- Played on Westbrook's JV football team and currently plays on the Varsity football team
- Wants to continue his education after graduation and work as a Physical Therapy Assistant
- Is an active member of his church youth group
- Worked hard on the summer work program to save up extra money
- Recently purchased his first vehicle, 2001 Ford pick-up truck
- Is a hard worker at home and in the classroom





When you feel like giving up, remember why you held on for so long in the first place.



Harold and Chase are havin' fun at the skating rink



Leavy's just hangin' around in the basketball gym



Robert enjoying the nice weather tossing a football around



Trey has made a new friend!



Pop Perkins is taking precautions teaching DeVernon how to drive!

Boys' Ranch Needed Items:

- School Supplies
- Kitchen Towel Sets
- Pillows
- Hand Held Hair Dryers
- Vacuum Cleaners
- Heavy Duty Cookware
- Large Skillets with Lids
- Irons
- Ironing Boards
- Volleyballs and Basketballs

*Please send donated items to:
Big Oak Boys' Ranch Inc.
250 Jake Mintz Road, Gadsden, AL 35905*

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up. 1 Thessalonians 5:11





Girls' Ranch GROWING OAK



13 years old

Rosa



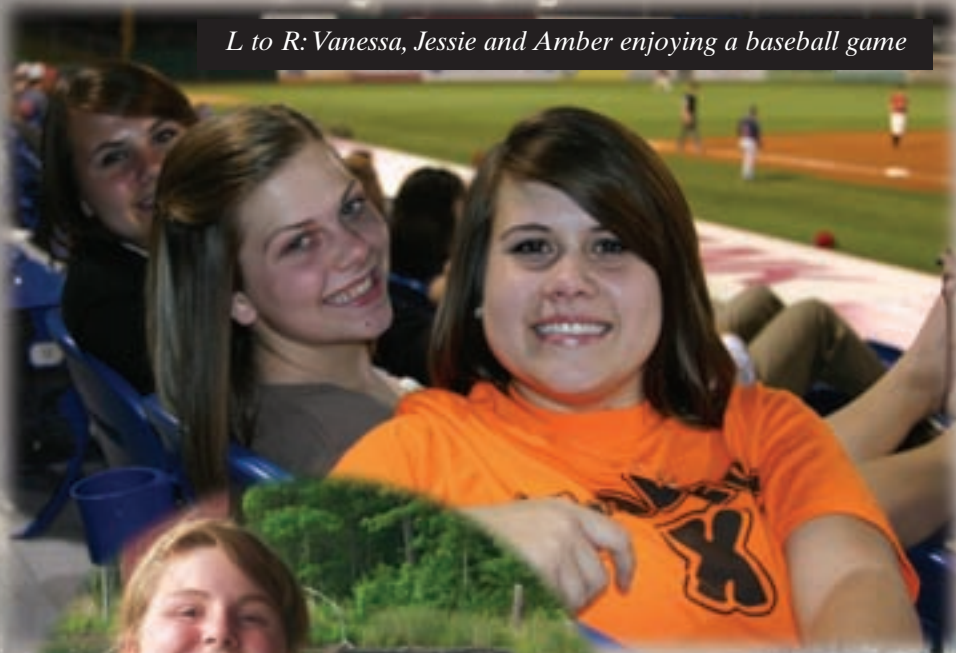
7 years old

- Is 13 years old
- Has been a resident of Big Oak Ranch for 6 years
- Lives in the Nonnie Brewer Home with houseparents Tony and Rhona Osborne
- Enjoys Jr. High at Westbrook Christian School
- Takes Art classes every summer and is very talented
- Regularly attends youth activities at her church, and is looking forward to a youth retreat weekend this fall
- Lives with her twin sister Lorenza in the Brewer Home
- Enjoys jokes and pranks with her brother and 10 sisters
- Began taking piano this year and loves music
- Always puts a smile on everyone's face





Love is shown in your deeds, not in your words.



L to R: Vanessa, Jessie and Amber enjoying a baseball game



Lorenza is ready for some fun on the water



Nice catch Nera



Michelle and Jessica have the giggles



Mom Moseley and Brittney have winning smiles

Amber and Annabella look so cute together!

Girls' Ranch Needed Items:

- Straightening Irons (flat irons)
- Curling Wands
- Paring Knives
- Light Colored Towels
- Ironing Board
- Cordless Phone
- Vacuums
- Volleyballs and Basketballs

*Please send donated items to:
Big Oak Ranch Inc.
P.O. Box 507, Springville, AL 35146*

We should love one another. 1 John 3:11





Boys' Ranch Director
Noel & Renee Vice
& Family

2011 *Family Trip to*



BONDS HOME
Jeremy & Janet Cockrell & Family



BRYANT HOME
Dave & Robin Bolin & Family



BULLOCK HOME
Mike & Kim Perkins & Family



HANNAH HOME
Zach & Leanne Jenkins & Family



MCCOLLOUGH HOME
John & Robin O'Leary & Family



MCELRATH HOME
Barry & Donna Ryan & Family



SANSING HOME
Matt & Amy Maurer & Family



SPRADLING HOME
Lester & Leslie Hales & Family





11 to the Beach

Girls' Ranch Director

Jonathan & Joyce
Smidt & Family



BREWER HOME

Tony & Rhona Osborne & Family



DARDEN HOME

Todd & Tracy Moore & Family



EDDLEMAN-MANN HOME

Robert & Lara Vitter & Family



JERNIGAN HOME

Darin & Lisa Moseley & Family



McDANIEL HOME

Jim & Mary Rezac & Family



THOMPSON HOME

Jae & Amy Thomas & Family

*Our annual trip to the beach is quite possibly
the most important time of the year.
ALL of the Ranch family load up in vans
and head down to Panama City for 5 days –
no distractions – nothing to do but
spend time together getting to know each other
and just having a blast...
It is my favorite time of the year!!*

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

John & Tee
Croyle





Fun

once again had a BLAST on our annual
 Mrs. Ted Garbutt, and David, Kristy and
 with housing at Laguna Beach Christian
 as if they hadn't already done enough, the
 and gave us a "Fun Day" on the water -
 al. We were once again hosted by First
 and Mrs. Al Qualls, for a fun-filled time at
 ns, face painting and balloons.
 e who made our Big Oak Ranch
 unforgettable this year!!



Memorials and Honorariums

The following people have made contributions to Big Oak Ranch in Memory or in Honor of family members, friends, and loved ones. The contributions were received between 07/19/2011 — 09/28/2011. If your name does not appear, please look for it in our next Timbers. We regret the unintentional omission or misspelling of names on these lists.

In Honor of:

Mrs. Joann Bashinsky
Ms. Beverly King

Lt. Col. Trey Bass Family
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Self

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Black
Mrs. Angela Albanese

Mrs. Laura Bownes
Mr. Michael Bownes

Mr. George Bracy
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Earl & Iris Roth

Mr. J. C. Culver
Mr. & Mrs. Jon & Emily Barganier

Tim and Angie Denton
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Self

Mrs. Sandra C. Frederick
Coach Lisa Vickery

Mrs. Alvin Gibbs
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Baughn

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Goffney
Dr. & Mrs. John T. McCarley

Ms. Carolyn Higginbotham
Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Stadlander

Mr. & Mrs. Kal & Kim Kimbrough
Mr. Scott McCall

Mrs. Rebecca Kirk
Richard & Jennie Cowart

Mr. David Larsen
Mr. & Mrs. David Larsen

Col. & Mrs. Harry Lombard
Ms. Donna Wadsworth

Charlie and True Luck
Hiter & Jill Harris & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Roy McCord
Mr. & Mrs. David McAlister

Mrs. Mary R. McGukin
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen K. Griffith and Family

Mrs. Dewanda Nelson
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Self

Master Samuel Nicastrò
Ms. Ella & Jennifer Ahia

Jady and Jordyn Panzer
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Panzer

Steven, Dorothy, and Melissa Pegues
Ms. Julia Pegues

Rachael
Mr. & Mrs. Jaime Carranza

Sammy & Donna Richardson
Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Edwards

Mr. & Mrs. Phil Robeson
Ms. Ernestine W. Smith

Mr. Sammy Sanderford
Joseph & Patricia

Johnny and Nicole Self
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Self

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Mrs. Annette Smith

John & Jeanette Townsend
Terrie Pung

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Mrs. Leslie M. Edwards, Mrs. Anne L. Kitchens, Mrs. James H. Meigs, Mrs. E. H. Willett

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Ms. Eleita Kinard

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Ms. Amy L. Hudson
Mr. & Mrs. James H. Johnson
Ms. Eleita Kinard
Philip & Sharon Roach
Ms. Alan Stewart
Mr. Drew Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Williams
Chris and Sandy Young

In Memory of:

Mrs. Margaret R. Alford
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Peters

Mr. J. D. Amason
Mr. & Mrs. R. J. Deason

Mrs. Mary C. Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Wilson J. Keller

Ms. Helen Apostol
Ms. Barbara Apostol

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Mrs. Mary F. Henry

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Jimmy and Shelby Knight

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Mrs. Suzanne Anselmo
Dr. Judith Baxter
Donald and Audrey Beasley
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Ms. Wenda L. Clouser
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Mr. & Mrs. T. J. Richey
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Mr. & Mrs. Steve Upton
Vulcan Threaded Products
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Mrs. Adele M. Williams
Mrs. Jeff Wyatt
Alpha Delta Pi -- House
Corporation Eta Chapter
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Windy Whitley Consulting INC
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Mr. & Mrs. Douglas A. Bible

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Mr. & Mrs. James Malone

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Mr. & Mrs. Henry Boerner

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Mr. & Mrs. Clell Mayfield

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Ms. Faye Brown

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Mrs. Eugenia Calk

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Dr. & Mrs. Harold E. Cannon

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Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth McLendon

Mrs. Thelma Colvert
Mrs. Gerry Dunham



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John and Ruth Ray
- Doug Cooper**
David and Sue Belcher
- Mrs. Juanita Cordell**
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- Mrs. John Cox**
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- Dr. Bracey Cross**
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald L. Baynes
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Mr. & Mrs. Louis D. McMilion Jr.
- Mr. Pat Cullars**
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Baptist Church
- Dr. Robert Daniel**
Spicer Farm, LLC
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- Mr. W. F. Davis**
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- Mr. Andrew R. Korolevica**
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Nixon
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Mr. & Mrs. Steve Holcomb
- Ms. Nancy Ligon Lawson**
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Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Virciglio
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Mr. Wade Catchings
- Mrs. Pearl Moulton**
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Mr. & Mrs. Michael Randle
- Taylor E. Mullins**
Mrs. Julie Colley Lowery
- Lawson Murphy**
Mr. Matthew F. Drummond
- Senator Hap Myers**
Senator and Mrs. Zeb Little
- Mr. Matthew Newell**
John Stanley
- Ms. Wilma Newton**
Mr. & Mrs. George C. Kynerd
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Ms. Connie C. Guess
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Mr. & Mrs. J. O. Moore
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Mr. John Nolen
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Mr. and Mrs. George Moore

Mrs. Connie Rich
Ms. Bettye E. Kennamer

Mr. Thaxton R. Richards
Dr. Wright Bates
Mr. & Mrs. James F. Bradley
Chosen Witness
Mr. William R. Findlay
Mr. & Mrs. Morris R. Jones
Cecile & Ed Lindley
Mr. & Mrs. William B. Lollar Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. William Nelson
Mr. Edward Pratt
Ms. Billie Stembridge and Family
Mr. & Mrs. Walter D. Wharton

Mr. Floyd Rinehart
John and Ruth Ray

Mr. Ellis Roberts
Ms. Margaret West

Ms. Lib Rogers
Roger & Dixie Yurczyk

Mrs. Nell Rollins
Dr. & Mrs. Harry Littleton

Mrs. Clementine Rosche
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Wilson

Mr. Michael Russell
Mrs. Betty Russell

Ms. Donna Scorey
Animal Hospital of Signal Mountain
Ashland Terrace Christian Church
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Bicking
Mr. E. Liston Bishop
Dr. Vicki Breneman
Andrew & Gary Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Copeland
Dr. & Mrs. Tai Federico
Dr. & Mrs. Corey Ford
Mr. & Mrs. John Grant
Mrs. Sherry Graybeal
Irby & Sara Hartley
Mr. & Mrs. A. Daniel Hurn
Jackson Square Association
Ms. Janet Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Richard McMillan and
Family
Mrs. JoAnn Morton
Mr. John Kyle Mueller
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Owens and Family
Ms. Adrian Palmer
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Phillips
Ms. Barbara Sams
Mr. Marian Snouger
Mr. & Mrs. Thornton Strang Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. John Strausberger
Mrs. Joy Turner
UNUM
Mrs. Peggy Ward
Mr. & Mrs. M. D. Wilson Jr.

Mr. Mack Sentell
Mrs. Janice Sentell

Shelby Shafer
Mr. & Mrs. James H. Smith III

Ms. Elizabeth O'Neal White Shannon
Mr. & Mrs. Morris Benner Jr.
Ms. Susan Justice & Family

Mr. Bradley Shapiro
Mr. James A. Todd Jr.

Mr. John Waylon Sharpless
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Pearce

Mr. Waylon Sharpless
Mr. & Mrs. James Wilson

Mrs. Jeanne H. Shepherd
Mr. & Mrs. Derek Anderson

Ms. Annette Sherman
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Self

Ms. Gertrude R. Sherrod
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Thomas

Mr. Harold L. Shields
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Shields

Mrs. Glayds Shows
John & Carolyn Josey

Mrs. Tiny Sims
Ms. Kimberly Virciglio

Mr. Andrew Smith
Dr. & Mrs. Vance & Jeanette
McCollum

Ms. Annetta Elizabeth Smith
Jerry & Barbara Sanson

Mrs. Hettie Smith
Mr. & Mrs. James Malone
Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Betty Smith

Mr. Richard "Ricky" Smith
Lee and Elizabeth Barnett
Mr. & Mrs. John Brune
Mr. & Mrs. Dana Bullard
Mr. & Mrs. James Burks
Mr. & Mrs. David Clokey
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald L. Cox
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Daugherty
Robert & Michelle Duke
Mrs. Willie Mae Jordan and Family
Ms. Janet N. King
Leonard Family Foundation
Col. & Mrs. Harry Lombard
Charles and Shirley Nichols
Mr. & Mrs. David Nolen
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Nolen
Mrs. Nancy C. Prater
John and Ruth Ray
Ms. Connie Reeves
Dr. & Mrs. Warren B. Seiler
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Sisson
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Word

Mr. Stan Smith
Mr. Roger Fuston

Sperry Snow
Mr. Roger Fuston
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Hunt
Ms. Janet N. King

Mrs. Jewell Sosebee
Ms. Connie Reeves

Mr. Daniel H. Speegle
Jimmy and Shelby Knight

Mr. James Walter Stanford
Mr. & Mrs. Hilbert W. Wilkinson

Mr. Shane A. Stathers
Dr. & Mrs. Virgil Mcgrady

Mr. Gerald Stephens
Mr. & Mrs. James Reed

Mr. Norborue Stone
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Saliba

Mr. Bruce Sudduth
Mrs. Pat Sudduth & Family

Mrs. June R. Summerlin
Mr. T. W. Shows

Mr. Douglas Tate
Mrs. Bonnie Carr

Mr. Tommy Tatum
Ms. Margaret West

Mr. James L. Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. James A. Sims III

Mr. Paul C. Taylor
Because We Care Group Tallaweka
Baptist Church
Fletcher & Paula Miller

Mr. Wesley Charles Thigpen Sr.
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Thigpen

Ms. Suzanne Thomason
Ms. Ella & Jennifer Ahia

Mr. Aaron Thrasher
Mr. & Mrs. Rhett Woody Jr.

Mr. Paul Themothy Tollett
Mr. & Mrs. Aubrey D. & Ruby
Barnard Jr.

Corky Traylor
Mr. & Mrs. Clell Mayfield

Mr. Jim Traylor
Mrs. Ann S. Carlton
Mrs. Sandra Cleveland
Ms. Claire Dorough
Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Leach
Mrs. Nina Ramp

Mr. Roy Treaster
Ms. Paula A. Cohn

Mrs. Myra Vaughn
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald L. Baynes

Mr. Bradford Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph McGrew

Buford (B.C.) & V. Walker
Mike & Kay Sutley

Mr. Ed Walker
Mr. & Mrs. William Hunter
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Strickland

Mr. Eddie Walker
Dr. Russel Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Drensek
Ms. Eleanor H. Gross
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Gross
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Gross
Dr. Delores Hunt
David Hust
Northweat Educational
Improvement Association
UMC Financial Aid Staff
Bob and Trish Walker
Mr. & Mrs. George Williams

Mr. Darrell Warnix
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Conaway

Mr. Doc Watson
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Coursey III

Lu Webb
Ms. Susan Justice & Family

Mr. James Ralph Weed
Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Edwards

Mr. Louie Welch
Ms. Edith Mullino

Mr. Floyd Weldon
William & Jan Bailey

Mrs. Mary Whitaker
Mrs. Frances Culbert

Mr. Clark Whitfield
Ms. Connie Reeves

Mrs. Elia Langham Williams
Ms. Juanita Martin

Mrs. Jean O. Willoughby
Mr. & Mrs. Buddy R. Lockhart
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Virciglio

Mr. Jerry Don Wills
Mr. & Mrs. James Malone

Mr. Roger Wills
Mr. & Mrs. Hilbert W. Wilkinson

Mr. Joe Wood
Mr. Rush Girardeau

Mr. John Fred Wood Sr.
Silhouettes Dance Club
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Walker

Mr. Bob Woodard
Mark and Sheila Norton
Ms. Martha Oliver

Mr. Kenneth Young
Ms. Connie Reeves



Our Development Philosophy



Big Oak Ranch

God says:

- *"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for me?" Jeremiah 32:27*
- *"...Is the Lord's power limited? Now you shall see whether My word will come true for you or not." Numbers 11:23*
- *"... and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows." Malachi 3:10*

This we believe. We must be good stewards of God's blessings by:

- A. ensuring that your contributions are used to enrich the lives of our children--spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically;
- B. maximizing every gift to its fullest; and
- C. conducting every area of business in an honorable way.

This plan will ensure that your support is used where you and God intended - *to relieve the suffering of children.*

-- Board of Directors of Big Oak Ranch



Big Oak Ranch

Isaiah 61:3

EST. 1974

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HELP US BE GOOD
STEWARDS OF
GOD'S MONEY.

Please notify us if
you would like to be
removed from our
mailing list or
have had a
change of address.

All children are a gift from God — and they should be treasured as such.

