

Beauty A Blaze

The Newsletter of
★ BLAZING HOPE RANCH ★

TRUE SANCTUARY FOUND

I have had the privilege of working with Blazing Hope Ranch for nearly a year now. When I met David and Jo Haggard, I was blessed to discover that they shared many of the same passions I have, especially ministering to people through horses. I am grateful to have the opportunity to help them in starting up the Ranch. They have blessed me in ways that words cannot describe.

My time spent at the Ranch has been refreshing and healing in so many ways. Before they welcomed the first horses I was able to assist with some manual labor

around the property. Maybe it's strange, but I find something oddly therapeutic about moving hay, clearing brush and building fences. It gives me time to pray. And doing something with my hands helps me process what's been going on in my life.

As the horses began to arrive at the Ranch I have had the joy of focusing more of my atten-

tion on them. This has been so restorative to me. **God has saved me through horses, beginning with my own, back home in Colorado, and continuing on this little ranch in Tennessee. When life gets painful and overwhelming, I know I can feel God's love in the presence of a horse.** He has given these amazing creatures as a

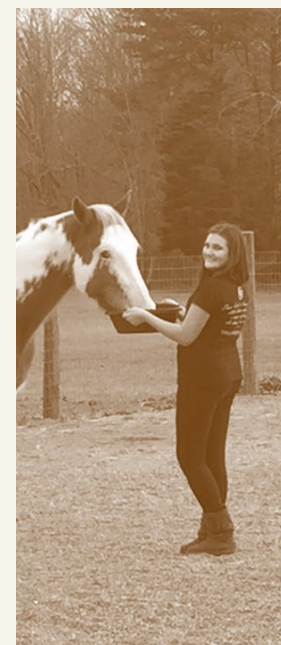


wonderful gift. They are able to love people, perhaps as a reflection of His own unconditional love for each of us. In working with the horses at Blazing Hope and at home, I am learning to love, trust and open my heart once again.

I truly adore the horses at the Ranch. With the first equine residents, Grace the pony and Chase the mini, I have learned

how to rebuild trust. Both of these little ones were so fearful when they first arrived. They had been rescued from a difficult environment. Over time, with lots of love and patience, they are finding themselves at home. **They are learning to trust and offer affection again, and showing me how to do the same.** I appreciate my time with them, especially the quiet moments when I can kneel next to them and enjoy their pony kisses all over my face. I believe I have seen glimpses of heavenly peace in these special moments and I will cherish these memories forever.

Newer residents, paints Sundae and Dixie, have been no less of a blessing. Sundae is so loveable; I just love to hug her neck and lean my head against hers to experience a moment of calm and reflection. Dixie has been a bit more of a challenge. She is more standoffish, wanting to put up a tough front to keep people away. At first, I didn't like her because I thought she wanted nothing to do with me.



OUR MISSION

We exist to restore wholeness to female survivors of human trafficking and weaken the sex trade through the power of Christ

(Story Continued Page 2)

SANCTUARY (CONTINUED)

However, God showed me that I had to pursue her—patiently and gently. As I think about it, she and I have a lot in common. I have worked hard to earn her trust, and I am beginning to see the fruits of my labor. She allows me close to her without pinning her ears or walking away. Recently I was able to successfully ride her for the first time. We still have a long way to go, but **God is using her to teach me the importance of pursuing**

relationship with others.

Blazing Hope Ranch has become a true sanctuary for me while I am in Tennessee. My time in college has been far from easy; it's practically broken me. But **I have found healing in a quiet little spot on the mountain. There I can hurt, but I can also find release in the comforting strength of four horses, and the people who take care of them.** Their love for Jesus is evident and they extend that same love to me. I don't

know what I would have done without them, and I am thankful that God brought us all together.

I am so excited to see what future He has in store for Blazing Hope and all who find shelter there. I believe that the women who seek refuge at the ranch will find incredible hope and healing—through horses and the presence of God evident on it's peaceful ground. God is doing great things there, through the Haggard's, the

volunteers and the beloved horses.

The love of Jesus is radiating from the sanctuary know as Blazing Hope Ranch and reaching the darkest places with the message of redemption and restoration.

For survivors of sex trafficking there is no better place to be.

—Mikaela Hewitt

*Seek **JUSTICE**, love **MERCY** and walk in **HUMILITY** with your God.*

— Micah 6:8b



FREEDOM REQUIRES SACRIFICE



Freedom Wranglers, **Damien & Jessica Kenworthy** are a pair of our many monthly supporters. Here is why they choose to regularly partner with the Ranch:

"We choose to support Blazing Hope Ranch because we believe that the mission of the ranch is so close to God's heart and the need for this redemptive work is enormous. We have seen firsthand the way that David and Jo pour out their lives for these precious women to bring healing, hope and ultimate freedom."

We would be honored and humbled if you would make a commitment and financial sacrifice to become Freedom Wranglers. **We cannot advance the work of restoration with-**

out faithful people like you! Monthly expenses include counseling services, equine care, staff salaries, and basic utilities. You can send your monthly donation along with the enclosed commitment reply to: Blazing Hope Ranch, PO Box 164, Dayton TN 37321.

Or you can go online and set up a recurring monthly gift using PayPal and a credit or debt at www.blazinghoperanch.org/about.

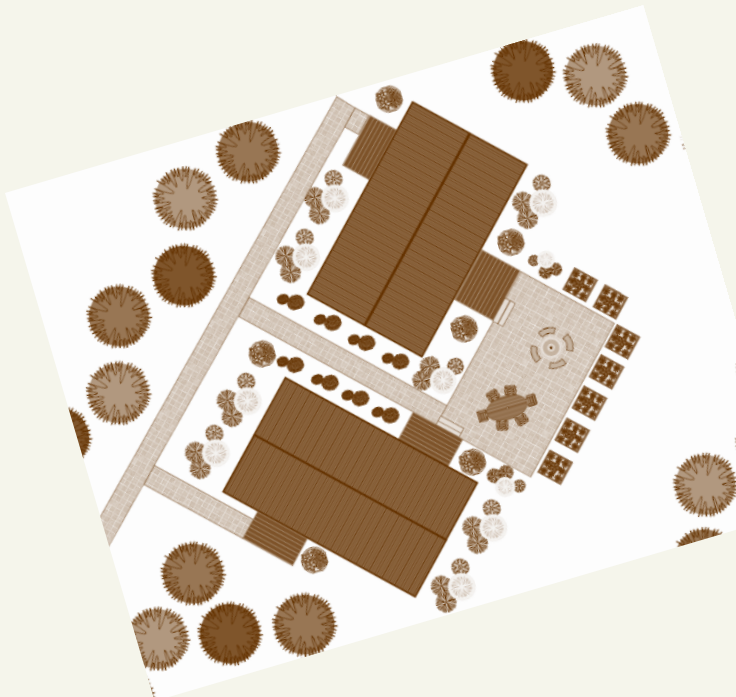
FROM RUST TO RESTORATION

John Sterling, owner of **Old School Rod and Custom, LLC** has recently extracted at **1960 Apache C 20** for restoration. He and his team had to literally remove it from the grips of the earth to take it back to his shop for the work to be completed. John plans to take the struggling Apache, assaulted by the elements, and restore it to its original beauty. This will be a **DONATION** to the ranch to raise awareness about trafficking and the essential efforts of Blazing Hope and later to be used for work purposes on the Ranch. **The truck will stand as a visual metaphor of the powerful restoration that can come in the lives of the precious survivors who come to the Ranch.**

If you have been seeking for a way to be involved and are interested in contributing to this project through offering your skills or sweat, please **reach out to us at blazinghopetn@gmail.com** and we will connect you with Old School Rod and Custom.



DESIGNED FOR COMMUNITY



Because of your support, the two four-bedroom Survivor homes are being placed into their permanent location on the Ranch this spring. **The basic design below shows how they will be positioned close to each other with a beautiful outdoor space to encourage community and sanctuary.** We will be working with Justin at McCosh Landscaping to complete the project using volunteers!





BLAZING HOPE RANCH

PO Box 164
Dayton, TN 37321

Phone: 423-667-3820
Web: www.blazinghoperanch.org
E-mail: blazinghopetn@gmail.com

WHERE HOPE RUNS FREE

BLAZING HOPE RANCH
PRESENTS

HOOTENANNY

FOR **HOPE** FUNDRAISING SHINDIG

6 pm
APRIL 27TH
Order Tickets ONLINE
Dinner & Dessert

FOLK MUSIC & SURVIVOR STORY

folkartmama

WWW.BLAZINGHOPERANCH.ORG