

Beauty Ablaze

The Newsletter of

★ **BLAZING HOPE RANCH** ★

STEALING HER INNOCENCE

I was watching her as her eyes lit up, a smile streaked across her face and she grabbed a pillow and drew it tight against her chest. She was watching the end of an animated princess movie and I was puzzled by her response. It was the happy fairytale ending that every little girl dreams of, but she seemed afraid. I finally asked her what was wrong. Her response continued the mystery; "I am nervous, daddy!" She said it with a smile and tugged the pillow tighter still. I glanced at the screen and girls were joyfully dancing.



Now I was completely confused. "Why are you nervous sweetie?" I said with amazement. The answer she provided defines the innocent little heart and mind of my six year old princess; "He is about to dance with her!" she exclaimed. The couple had finally wed and would join in the close intimacy of a glorious dance.

My tenderhearted daughter's world consists of giggles and dolls and princess movies. Just like a lot of precious little girls. A lot, but unfortunately not all. I had attached my mind to the statistic that the average age of a girl sold into sexual slav-

ery was 13. A sobering age to digest. Any age is categorically unacceptable. But I managed to abandon the thought that any danger surrounded my little girl for now.

Reality hit me like a sledgehammer when I unwittingly accompanied my wife to a recent theatre production called The Princess Cut. It shares the story of a girl named "Sarah" who became the victim of sex trafficking at the hands of her cousin. I knew I would come face to face with the true story of one girl's horrifying ordeal with the dark world of slavery. I thought I had adequately pre-



pared myself mentally and emotionally. I had not. I felt the intense sorrow and life altering agony of a little girl robbed of her innocence and joy by one

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guy after another, not at the age of 13 but at the all-too-familiar age of six.

My mind was engulfed with the thoughts of my own little girl twirling around the living room in a princess gown wanting daddy to dance. **How could this happen? "Sarah" was undoubtedly like any little girl. But in an instant her nervousness at the innocent embrace of her one-day prince was shattered into a million pieces. The fairytale turned into a nightmare that lasted not days or week, but years.** Someone's daughter would never be the same.

OUR MISSION

Blazing Hope Ranch exists to restore wholeness to female survivors of human trafficking and weaken the sex trade through the power of Christ.

INNOCENCE (CONTINUED)

Her life of dolls and cartoons and cuddles were stolen and sold to temporarily satisfy the sick and twisted desires of others.

The play forces us to come to grips with the horrifying act of sexual exploitation and the countless dreams lost in a sea of filth and depravity. **There are real girls, right where we live and work, experiencing hell on earth;** ei-



ther because they are currently being used or because they've been tossed aside like trash with the trauma

locked deep inside their heads. Someone needs to set them free. That is why my wife and I put our passion and energies into making a place for them.

They deserve one last chance at the fairytale ending. No, they can't go back. But I believe with all my heart that they can go forward. **Jesus came to bring**

life. **With Him and His healing touch there is real hope for true restoration. He is the only true and lasting hope.** And just when we think it can't get any colder, His blazing light races across the frozen land of Arendelle, thawing the hardened earth and setting that little girl free to dance once again without fear or shame.

Do you believe?

- David

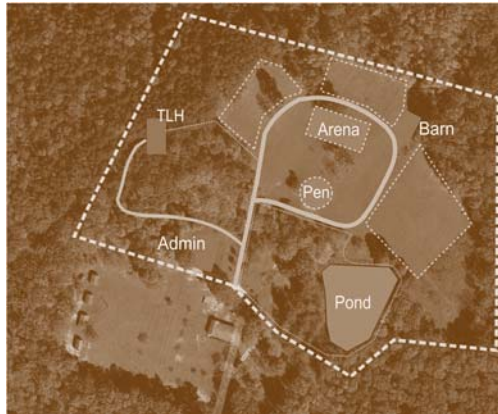
HOME SWEET HOME

After months of discussion between the ranch and Pastor Tom Goss, approval from the church board and a lot of prayer, **Mile Straight Baptist Church voted unanimously on January 27th to allow Blazing Hope Ranch to lease property on Graysville Mtn!** God provided abundantly for us through the people of the church in not only supporting the NO COST lease but in also wanting to partner with us in giving of their time, skills and money.

The land is truly amazing and

the 100+ acre property will allow us to do so much for the survivors, the horses and the community.

The ranch will specifically occupy 15+ acres of fields and woods that will include a pond, barn and small cabin. A company is generously conducting the land survey neces-



sary to complete the final step of executing a lease contract. Beyond the land, we are still

praying that God will provide in miraculous ways to accomplish a vision like the one you see in this drawing. **The ideal plan would include an administrative home (Admin) for the Haggards, fencing, arena and pen for the horses and a beautiful home (TLH) for the women.**

Nothing is impossible with Him!

Praise Him for his mighty deeds; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

Ps. 150:2

SUMMER OF HOPE



The first program to launch on the ranch will be Community Outreach through **two sessions of one-week summer day camps. These camps (June 27-July 1 & July 18-22) will focus on at-risk youth within the DCS.** They will spend each day at the ranch engaging in games/initiatives, arts/crafts, Bible, equestrian activities and Born-to-Fly curriculum in an effort to reduce the chance of exploitation and share the love of Christ.

RANCH NEWS & EVENTS

CRACKED POTS

ANNUAL LADIES LADY
SATURDAY – FEBRUARY 27TH
WOLF CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
SPRING CITY, TENNESSEE

The Cracked Pots Ladies Group graciously invited the ranch to share about our ministry and the issue of human trafficking. **Board member, Gwen Bollant represented BHR** and answered questions at our ministry table. We need faithful women who want to invest in the lives of the girls who will be at the ranch!

David & Jo had the amazing opportunity to get **intensive training** on effective aftercare service to survivors of trafficking and see the model applied specifically in the context of ranch/equestrian therapy

COMMUNITY MEETING - On February 11th BHR and Mile Straight Baptist Church held a joint meeting with the community the ranch will be part of. We worked to share the plans for the property and the ranch. **We committed to providing good communication as a ministry and building trust.** We were truly blessed by the Holy Spirit's work on our behalf and the wonderful folks who will be our neighbors and friends!



Southern Equine Expo
Meridian Equine Educational Center
February 26-28, 2016
Tennessee Miller Coliseum
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

With the help of Dianne Kean of Mile Straight Baptist Church, BHR was able to have a booth at the SEE event near Nashville. **Building awareness and support in the horse community** will be of tremendous benefit to the ranch.

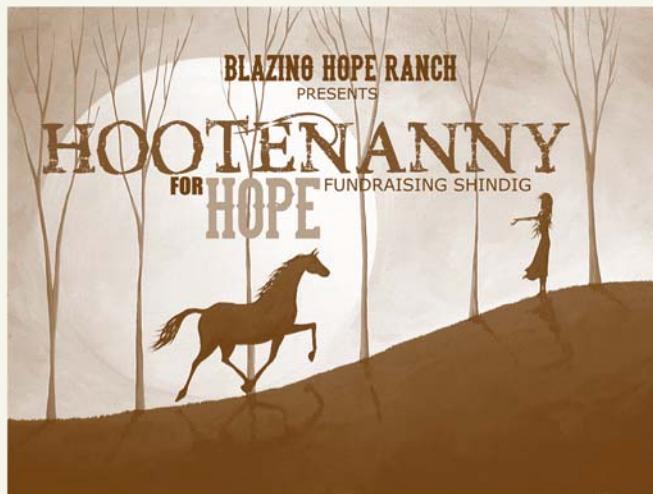
FEBRUARY 24-27

HUMAN TRAFFICKING:
Sex Industry
OutREACH
& AfterCARE
Training



EVENT SPONSORED BY
THE SALVATION ARMY

BHR Made the NEWS! - In securing the land with Mile Straight Baptist Church, WRCB-TV Ch 3, NewsChannel 9 and the Chattanooga Times Free Press ran stories about the ranch and the church's generous gift. What a huge blessing! **Check out the coverage on our Facebook page.**



BLAZING HOPE RANCH
PRESENTS
HOOTENANNY
FOR HOPE FUNDRAISING SHINDIG

LIVE FOLK MUSIC,
DANCING & DINNER
TUESDAY, APRIL 19TH at 6PM
\$15/adult - kids free
WWW.BLAZINGHOPERANCH.ORG

IT' LL BE A HOOT!

It's Blazing Hope Ranch's 1st annual fundraising event! **Learn about the ranch and its mission, enjoy good food, bask in the delightful sounds of folk music,** deepen friendships and help young women find mental, emotional and spiritual restoration.

Your ticket helps support the event while the **silent auction** and your further financial partnership will help get the property ready to restore wholeness to female survivors of human trafficking and weaken the sex trade through the power of Christ.

We are honored to have **survivor Angie Duncan, Executive Director and founder of Hosea's Heart of Knoxville** sharing her story and her heart for the sexually exploited.

The Hootenanny will take place at the rustic and elegant **Barn at Drewia Hill in Sale Creek.** Dress is most certainly casual so wear your favorite pair of overalls and cowboy boots.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, kids 12 and under are free. **Go to www.blazinghoperanch.org for details.**



BLAZING HOPE RANCH

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WHERE HOPE RUNS FREE

HELP HOPE RUN FREE

Partner with us to Pray for:

- A Home/Administrative hub for The Haggard family to coordinate activities on the ranch
- Fencing for pasture/arenas (\$4,000/pasture/3 pastures)
- Regular financial partners to help pay for the approximately \$13,000/mo. that will be needed to fully run the ranch & programs
- A large home for 5 to 6 women with a separate living space for the Mentor (\$350,000)
- Favor with grant-giving organizations



Partner with us in Ministry:

- Donate your time, expertise and equipment
- Give a donation for the items of prayer

Give by mail (check made payable to):

Blazing Hope Ranch
PO Box 164
Dayton TN 37321

Give online: go to blazinghoperanch.org and click "Donate" to give via PayPal

Give when you shop: using smile.amazon.com you can select Blazing Hope Ranch and know that a portion of the proceeds benefits the ranch

www.blazinghoperanch.org