

The RANCH HOPE FACTOR

FALL 2017

~ NEWS AND HAPPENINGS FROM RANCH HOPE ~



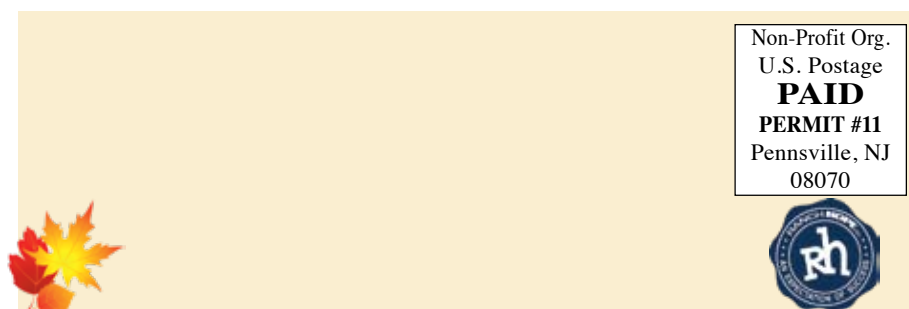
Ranch Hope youth build community lending library for city of Vineland

In the last months of the 2016-17 school year, Mr. Jordan Palmieri's History class built a community lending library for the city of Vineland. The library was created to be a replica of the first house built in the city.

Representatives of the City of Vineland were so pleased with the work the young men did, that they asked Mr. Palmieri to orchestrate a ribbon cutting ceremony to kick off its grand opening to the public. Mr. Palmieri, along with Ranch Hope CEO Dave Bailey, Jr. and a few Ranch Hope students were on hand for the ribbon cutting at the Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society at 108 S. 7th Street in Vineland on Saturday, June 10. Mr. Palmieri noted that the service project had a positive impact on the boys who worked on it. Everyone enjoyed giving their time and talents to the community, and the lending library is a welcome addition to the city of Vineland.



Pictured L-R with the lending library are Strang School History teacher Jordan Palmieri, Ranch Hope CEO Dave Bailey, Jr., and Ranch Hope youth Alex and Benjamin.



Third Annual Art & Glass Week is a great success

Ranch Hope youth enjoyed another fantastic Art & Glass Week in June at Salem Community College (SCC) Glass Education Center located in Alloway Township! Once again, the Robert M. Minkoff Foundation and SCC Foundation sponsored this wonderful educational experience. Students were instructed by SCC faculty and staff, including world renowned glass artist Paul J. Stankard, Glass Education Center coordinator Kristen Dedy, Scientific Glass Technology instructional chair Dennis Briening and glass studio specialist Doug Ohm. Several SCC glass students and studio lab assistants worked with Ranch students to help them develop their flameworking and hot shop skills. Each student created several glass art projects to take home and show off to their friends and families. The Third Annual Art & Glass Week was a great success and Ranch youth and staff look forward to next year. We sincerely thank the Robert M. Minkoff Foundation and SCC Foundation for their continued, generous support that affords our youth this unique educational opportunity.



Tristan is pictured with art he created at the 3rd Annual Art & Glass Week.

Third Annual Art & Glass Week

Anthony works intently at the torch in the flameworking studio.



Visit us at: www.ranchhope.org



Message From The Chief Executive Officer Dave Bailey Jr.

Each week, Ranch Hope staff members have several opportunities to join together for a time of prayer and devotions which focus on a passage of scripture. Recently, Fred Ruggiano, Ranch Hope's newly appointed Chaplain (see article on page 3), shared a devotion entitled Hearing, Understanding and Executing, based on Ezekiel 3:2-11.

As you would expect, the beginning of this scripture focuses on Ezekiel's hearing from God to eat; to nourish himself in the Word of God. I immediately thought of making deposits in my spiritual bank account, based on what I have "heard" from God. We speak of this often among our team members in ministry here at Ranch Hope! Showing up is important each day, but you better have made plenty of deposits in your own spiritual account through prayer and reading the Word before you get here! I have often related a message I heard given on King David, where in 1 Samuel 30:6, King David needed to make a withdrawal from his spiritual account, drawing strength from the Lord.

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The Lord tells the prophet Ezekiel in verse 5, "I am not sending you to people with strange and difficult speech." I have to admit there are times when it is just difficult to understand today's youth, whether here at Ranch Hope or around my own dinner table at home! Yes, the youth we are called to serve throw the "f" bomb around which can drive us crazy, and yes, their music and everyday language can be hard to comprehend. But God reminds us, as he did Ezekiel in verse 8, we were just the same growing up! We can relate! We are called to understand where today's youth are coming from, just as our Lord and others were patient and understanding of us. It is through our understanding that relationships and trust are built; ears and hearts are opened.

And then, once we have heard from God and have been willing to understand the youth we are called to serve, we need to execute His plan and share God's message with them.

I am reminded that all of these steps are very important; one is just as important as the other. I can't get to Step 3 without disciplining myself to focusing on the first two! Today, let's look to fill ourselves and fill our spiritual accounts through prayer and study of the Word of God. Let's make withdrawals from those accounts to help us better understand and relate to the youth we are seeking to reach. And when the relationship is strong enough, let's share His love and healing power.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes. Romans 1:16

Dave Bailey

Ranch Hope celebrated 53 years at Founder's Banquet

May 11 was a very special night as Ranch Hope celebrated 53 years of serving youth and their families. Guest speaker was Bishop John Schol of the United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey, who also accepted the Christian Partner Award on behalf of the Methodist Churches. The Methodist Churches have supported the Ranch through prayer, mission giving, evangelistic services and special offerings since 1962.

The 2017 Silver Spurs Award was given to Mrs. Isabel "Boydie" Bracken for her many years of outstanding leadership in assisting children, youth and their families. Mrs. Bracken founded Mission Teens, Inc. along with her husband, the late Rev. James Bracken. Rev. and Mrs. Bracken served youth through the power of the Holy Spirit since 1969, guiding thousands of individuals to seek God as the answer to their problems and addictions.

The Hibbard Group LLC received the 2017 Corporate Partner Award for their outstanding support of the Ranch Hope Radio ministry and Christian radio.

Ranch Hope Catering provided a delicious dinner buffet enjoyed by everyone. Ranch Hope gratefully acknowledges the support and generosity of Sharptown Methodist Church for hosting the event and for providing beautiful music.



Pictured with Silver Spurs Award recipient Isabel "Boydie" Bracken are Eileen Bailey, Rev. Dave Bailey, and Dave Bailey, Jr.



Introducing our new Chaplain ... Fred Ruggiano

Ranch Hope is pleased to announce that we have a new chaplain! Mr. Fred Ruggiano, who has been with the Ranch for 15 years, was named chaplain in September. Mr. Ruggiano, or "Brother R" as our youth and staff call him, has worked in several positions during his tenure at Ranch Hope, including night proctor, houseparent and recreation supervisor. He was most recently a residential supervisor, a position which he held for eight years.

Throughout his years of service to Ranch Hope, youth have written essays about the positive impact Mr. Ruggiano has had on their lives. One youth wrote, "Brother R treated me like his own child. If it wasn't for Brother R, I would have been in jail or dead on the streets." Another wrote, "Brother R brought Jesus into my life. I have become a leader and not a follower of men but a follower of Jesus." And yet another wrote, "Brother R helped me realize that God was always there for me no matter what happened and that God has plans for me in the future." These statements

are wonderful testaments to Mr. Ruggiano's Christ-centered, caring approach to his work.

Mr. Ruggiano is an ordained minister, having been a pastor since 1997. He has served several churches as an associate pastor, worship leader and youth pastor. He takes a holistic approach to ministry—he would like to be involved with all of our youth through his ministry and would like to see as many staff members as possible involved as well. He believes that no one person can do it all, and that we all have to work together for the same purpose to achieve God's plan for us.

Fred lives in Pennsville with his wife, Jodi, of 30 years and their two sons—Kyle, 26 and Jay, 17. Thank you for all you do for the Ranch Hope ministry, Fred! Everyone will be praying for you in your new role!



Chaplain's Corner

By Pastor Fred Ruggiano, *Chaplain*

A Season for Everything

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (ESV) "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

In our daily lives, God's spirit is constantly at work. Every day is fresh and anew. I am excited about the season we have entered at the Ranch!

Ecclesiastes 3:2 Says, "A time to give birth and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to uproot what is planted."

Whether in our personal or professional lives, God is constantly bringing us new opportunities (blessings).

Here at the Ranch, we are experiencing God giving birth to new ministries:

- A dedicated ministry team bringing a holistic approach that speaks into our staff's, and young men's lives,
- A worship team dedicated to bringing the Gospel of good news with song, sharing their talents with all those who desire to learn to play an instrument or sing God's Praise!
- A new Drama team bringing to life the gospel through dance and mime ministries.

Moving forward, we continue to seek the Christian community to partner with us and share the gospel to the lost! Romans 15:1 "We that are strong ought to bear with the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves."

For more information on ministry opportunities please call (856) 935-1555 or email fruggiano@ranchhope.org.

May God richly bless you in your season!

Rev. and Mrs. Bailey lead fundraising trip to New Orleans

On the morning of September 23, 2017, Rev. Dave and Mrs. Eileen Bailey embarked on a nine-day bus excursion, along with 49 other friends of Ranch Hope. Their trip started off with a lovely continental breakfast, and then everyone boarded the bus to begin their journey to New Orleans, Louisiana.

The group enjoyed the two day multi-state road trip with stops for shopping and dining before reaching their hotel in New Orleans. While in New Orleans, sightseeing tours included museums, the outstanding National WWII Museum rated #1 in the nation, a steamboat cruise, a historic plantation, the French Quarter and much more. The two-day trip back to New Jersey did not end the adventure, as everyone took a guided tour of the Battleship USS Alabama and a visit to North Carolina's Levine Museum.

All in all, it was a great trip! Each traveler's fare included a donation to Ranch Hope. Many thanks to everyone who supported the Ranch by traveling to New Orleans!

Plans are underway for 2018. Call 856-935-1555 x125 for more information.



Pictured in New Orleans, with the Cathedral-Basilica of St. Louis in the background, are Jim Denner, Linda Denner, Betty Klein and Nick Klein.



Strang School Science class is off to a great start

Science class is off to a really great start this year! Teacher Melanie Nugent said, "We've decided to try warming up with yoga instead of just writing in notebooks, and the effects have proven to be amazing with a large percentage of our students. Yoga has helped them get focused for class in a fun way. I can't wait to see the results as the year continues."

The Science students have started a classification project identifying local insects, plants and animals. Several students have caught beetles and butterflies, and they were able to watch one male monarch butterfly emerge from his chrysalis to release back into the environment.

In Earth Science, students have been recording their observations of the Ranch campus to compare how the environment will change from fall to winter to summer. They've also been taking soil samples to test for nutrient composition.

Ms. Nugent said, "In all my years of teaching, and in all my years of teaching to come, I will never forget the day fifth period Science class was digging and found this tiny T-Rex behind Hunt Cottage. We have an exciting year planned in Science and I look forward to sharing it with the boys!"



This T-Rex was found on a "dig" outside the school!



Science students warm up their minds and bodies with Yoga.



Tristan and Imir closely observe a Monarch butterfly.

Mid-June a very busy time for Strang School

The week of June 12-16, 2017 was a very busy week for Strang School students and staff. On Wednesday, June 14, the students performed in a Gala and Talent Show. Directed by music and arts teacher Mrs. Horne, and hosted by teachers Mr. Palmieri and Mr. Carney, the afternoon featured Ranch Hope students singing, dancing and playing instruments to thunderous applause and cheers from the audience. The program also included the world premiere of the video "Can't Stop the Feeling," starring staff, students and great music. The talent show was a wonderful afternoon of fun and lighthearted fellowship. Those who had the good fortune to be in the audience can't wait for the next one!

On June 16, the big day had finally arrived. Not only was it Friday and the last day of school, it was graduation day! By the end of the ceremony, five eighth graders had graduated and moved up to ninth grade—Ameer, Eli, Giani, Jermaine and Richard. It was an extra-special day for three seniors who graduated from high school. Benny, Brian and Scott all completed their high school requirements and proudly wore their caps and gowns as they marched up to receive their diplomas. Presidential Citizenship awards were given to Thomas, Noah and Gary. Staff members Mr. Carney, Mr. Moore and Ms. Willis were honored for their outstanding performance and service to students. Congratulations to all graduates and staff for a job well done!



Giani receives his certificate from Mrs. Dare and Mrs. Bracciante.



Board of Directors member Delise Dare and Principal Kimberly Bracciante are pictured with graduates Scott, Benny and Brian.



Mr. Vince Moore receives his award from Mrs. Bracciante.



A very busy summer and fall

The summer of 2017 is one for the books! The youth and staff were busy on- and off-campus. The summer began with two exciting trips. The first was a trip aboard the Mi-Jo with the Bergen County Saltwater Anglers. The youth had a great time fishing and relaxing on the boat. The second trip was with In His Wakes Ministries where the youth learned to water ski and wake board. These are two activities that the youth and staff always enjoy and will never forget.

The summer was just heating up as the outings continued. Youth and staff spent several days playing flag football, soccer, dodgeball, Archery Tag®, basketball and Ultimate Frisbee®. The youth also ventured off the Ranch and attended several sporting events. On a cool Friday night everyone cheered on the Wilmington Blue Rocks baseball team. On an evening in August youth and staff boarded the vans and headed north to see the Philadelphia Union Soccer Team in action. Special thanks to the Ranch Hope Wranglers for sponsoring the Philadelphia Union trip.

As the summer drew to a close, the youth enjoyed various other trips. They tried their hands at bowling, tried to get a hole-in-one at mini-golf, stayed upright roller skating, and relaxed while watching a movie. All youth had a chance to experience the one and only Salem County Fair and one boy even tried riding a mechanical bull.

The final trip of the summer was a tour of Lincoln Financial Field. The youth and staff were able to see the locker room and walk down the tunnel with music playing and lights flashing. Everyone felt like they were Philadelphia Eagles for the day. Summer was finally over and it was time for school, but that doesn't mean the fun had to stop.

Flag Football has started and games are played every Thursday after school. Once again the championship will take place under the lights in the beginning of November (stay tuned to Facebook for more information). The 11th Annual Scary Hayride will be happening shortly followed by the Fear Factor party. Lastly, be sure to mark your calendars for our 3rd annual Drive-Thru Live Nativity on Friday, December 15 from 6-8 p.m. Youth and staff will dress up and play various parts of the Christmas Story. We will also feature some of our furry four-legged friends, and as always, homemade cookies will be served!

Sports Banquet honors athletes

There were lots of cheers and smiles on April 27, as many youth were honored for their athletic talents and participation at the annual Ranch Hope Sports Banquet.

The Patriots were recognized for winning the 2016 Flag Football Championship. Thomas, Joseph, Hector, James and Esteban received Championship Rings to show off to their families and friends. The 4-on-4 Basketball Championship was won by the team of Marcus, Joseph, Stephen, Joe, Gary and Eli, who were awarded championship trophies.

The Varsity and JV Interscholastic Basketball teams were honored for their hard work and perseverance throughout the season. On the Varsity team, Anthony was named the Most Improved Player and Majid won the award for Mr. Hustle. The Offensive Player of the Year award was given to Marcus, and Cornell was named the Defensive Player of the Year. Marcus was called forward another time to receive the award for Most Valuable Player on the Varsity.

For the JV, Joe earned the Mr. Hustle award and Thomas was named the Most Improved Player. The Offensive Player of the Year award was given to James and Ameer earned the Defensive Player of the Year along with the JV's Most Valuable Player award.

Lamont was named Athlete of the Year for his excellent performance in all the sports he played. His determination, perseverance and sportsmanship were inspirational to everyone!

Thomas was named the Most Active Participant of the Year for participating in every activity and sport offered, including softball, flag football, 4-on-4 basketball, inter-scholastic basketball, charter boat fishing, water skiing, Live Nativity, horticulture and more!

Finally, youth who ran in Camp Edge's April 1 Sasquatch Run were awarded T-Shirts for braving the woods and searching for Sasquatch, and Gary was recognized for sporting the Mustang costume at every basketball game.



Marcus shows off his trophies.



Ameer is all smiles as he receives his award from Mr. Jeffers.

It's not too late! Ranch Hope is blessed to be a partner in Salem Health & Wellness Foundation's (SHWF) Matching Gift Program! Once again, until December 1, 2017, any donation made to SHWF and directed to Ranch Hope will be matched dollar-for-dollar! You can double your gift by using this form and sending your donation by December 1, 2017. Please call us at 856-935-1555 if you have any questions. Thank you!



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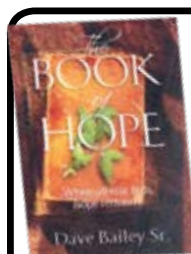
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Ranch Hope celebrated the Great American Solar Eclipse

Who says Science can't be fun? Ranch Hope youth and staff were very excited about the Great American Solar Eclipse, and a special party was planned for everyone on the afternoon of August 21. Some of our boys even prepared ahead of time with printing and graphics teacher Mr. Dave Casius and his high-powered cameras with special lenses. Everyone had solar eclipse glasses to wear to protect their eyes from the sun's harmful rays.

Treatment liaison supervisor, Mr. Roger Garrison, and his team planned a fantastic afternoon of fun for our youth and staff. The solar eclipse party had everything from swimming and volleyball to ice cream sundaes, snacks and drinks. Everyone had a great time as the moon slowly covered the sun. We saw about 75-80% of the sun covered, so it did not get dark. It did, however, get cooler and a bit breezy as the afternoon passed. It was quite a sight to see the moon cover a little more of the sun every few minutes. Everyone had a great time at the eclipse party!



Mr. Palmer, Mrs. Ayars, Ms. Bease and Ms. Hitchner check out the eclipse.



Will, Tristan and Miguel practice viewing the eclipse while wearing their glasses.

Volunteers honored at annual picnic

On Sunday, August 6, 2017, Ranch Hope held its Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue to honor ten individuals. "We are so grateful for the work of wonderful volunteers who give so generously of their time, talents and resources to our ministry," said Ranch Hope CEO Dave Bailey, Jr. "We wanted to honor them for their prayers, hard work, and ongoing faithful support."

Everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner and a wonderful time of fellowship and Ranch Hope presented its volunteer of the year award to the following recipients: David Allman of Woodstown, Eileen Bailey of Alloway, Doris Cheeseman of Laurel Springs, Leo Crispi of Woodbury, Jeanette Easter of Ocean View, Marshall Genter of Pitman, John Harris of Pennsville, Jane Shaffer of Avalon, Dale Stoppi of Pennsville and April Whitt of Alloway.

"From the Thrift Store to Camp Edge to our Board of Managers and everywhere in between, volunteers do so much to support our ministry to youth," said Ranch Hope founder Rev. Dave Bailey, Sr. "Our volunteers have been such a blessing to us over the past 53 years."

Ranch Hope youth and staff are grateful to all of our volunteers who tirelessly and selflessly help move our ministry forward.

Thank you!



Pictured are Rev. Dave Bailey, Sr. and Combined Auxiliaries president Leon Strang with Volunteers of the Year (L-R): David Allman, Jane Shaffer, Eileen Bailey, Doris Cheeseman, Leo Crispi, Jeannette Easter, April Whitt, Marshall Genter, John Harris and Dale Stoppi.



Youth and staff enjoyed a friendly volleyball game during the eclipse party.

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50 Years of Service Helping Young People

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Ranch Hope
Combined Auxiliaries
P.O. Box 325
Alloway, NJ 08001-0325

Camp Edge busy with camps and special events

Summer is always a busy time at Camp Edge and 2017 was no exception. Many great lessons were learned while campers had lots of fun.

The **L.E.A.D.E.R.s Camp** (Law Enforcement and Developing Emergency Responders) is always popular and this year saw its highest enrollment ever! Camp Edge has hosted this camp for more than 11 years in partnership with local area law enforcement and emergency management officers. The officers led campers through many activities including drills, firearms safety, fingerprinting and crime scene processing. Campers are already looking forward to 2018!

The Warrior's Edge camp was held in July and August. Campers used their minds, bodies and spirits to overcome obstacles. They learned about teamwork and improved their strength, balance, agility and problem solving skills in an effort to help each other succeed. This camp is gaining in popularity and hopefully, will continue to grow every summer.

As in past years, Camp Edge hosted the annual Harvest of Hope camp for five weeks in July and August. Harvest of Hope had more than 100 children enrolled for the five weeks and everyone even had the chance to meet Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus! Camp YEY (Youth Empowering Youth) was held in August in partnership with the Southwest Council. A major goal of Camp YEY is to empower youth to make healthy decisions and to serve as role models for others.

As fall was upon us, the annual Muddy Bottom Run was held on September 30. This ever-popular race had the theme of "A Galaxy Far, Far Away." Many costumed runners and walkers braved the cool lake and muddy conditions for a morning of sloppy fun. Thanks to everyone who participated in this fundraiser which helps to bring kids to summer camp!

Stay tuned to www.CampEdge.org or call (856) 279-2519 for information on upcoming events.



L.E.A.D.E.R.s campers show their muscles.



L.E.A.D.E.R.s Camp fingerprint class.

*Mud Run
Storm
Trooper*



Another successful Mud Run event at Ranch Hope.



Harvest of Hope campers gather to pose for a picture.



Taking a break during the Bike to the Edge event.

Mark Your Calendar for Ranch Hope Upcoming Activities

Saturday	November 11	9:30 am	Combined Auxiliary Meeting	Ranch Hope Cafeteria
Friday	November 17	1:30 pm	Suburban Auxiliary Fashion Show	Ranch Hope Cafeteria
Tuesday	November 21	3:15 pm	Thanksgiving Service	Lee Ann Bailey Chapel
Saturday	December 2	8:00 am	Ranch Hope Call-a-Thon	Facebook Live
Tuesday	December 12	6:00 pm	Cottage Decorating Party	Alloway & Williamstown
Friday	December 15	6:00 pm	Live Nativity	Alloway Campus
Saturday	December 16	11:00 am	Lunch with Santa	Camp Edge
Wednesday	December 20	3:15 pm	Christmas Cantata Service	Lee Ann Bailey Chapel
Sunday	December 24	7:00 pm	Candlelight Service	Lee Ann Bailey Chapel
Monday	December 25		MERRY CHRISTMAS!	
Monday	January 1		HAPPY NEW YEAR!	
Saturday	January 13	9:30 am	Combined Auxiliary Meeting	Ranch Hope Cafeteria
Friday	January 19	7:00 pm	Wranglers' Bowl-A-Thon	Wood Lanes