



**April 2013**

### Quick Links

[WINGS Website](#)  
[Newsletter Archive](#)  
[WINGS Facebook](#)  
[Page](#)

### In This Issue

[Blessings Abound](#)  
[Heavenly Support.](#)  
[What A Guy!](#)  
[Perfect Partner](#)  
[Firewood](#)  
[Work, Work, Work](#)  
[Doing Our Part](#)  
[SYS](#)  
[Fun, Fun, Fun](#)  
[Save the Date](#)

[How You Can Help](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

Spring has sprung and with the season, a sense of wonder and renewal. Changes abound and it is perfect! Have you seen *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel?* The movie has the greatest line ever: "Everything will be all right in the end, and if it is not all right, then it is not the end!" And so we keep going and it gets better! So many blessings! Enjoy!

### Blessings Abound

Between the end of the year donations and our **Valentine's No Show Gala**, over 65 people donated more than \$7,500. Yes, some wonderful folks sent in some crazy, amazing donations, but most of our support came in checks of \$25 or \$50 - each check a blessing. Each donation means so much, and to all of you who have supported **WINGS** over these four years, please know we would not be here without your generosity! A very special hug to our monthly donors - it means so much to get your monthly support!



### Heavenly Support



We are so grateful for the support from all of our church partners! This winter we were blessed to receive wonderful donation from the **Hood River Alliance Church**. They raise money through a holiday program called **The Advent Conspiracy**. The congregation donates money they would have over-spent to the Conspiracy and then the church selects a number of organizations to donate to - **WINGS** was very

grateful to have been selected again this year!

This winter, we were also blessed to again receive a very wonderful check from **Pastor Linda Presley** and her flock at **Hood River Valley Christian Church**. Please know that we are so grateful for the kindness and support - it means so much!



### What A Guy!



Meet **Brandon** - he is a force to be reckoned with! With the enthusiasm of a puppy and an amazing work ethic, Brandon has taken the role of *Crew Leader* by storm!

**Mark Hansen** had blessed us for a year as Crew Leader, but when a job across the river as the Girl Scout Camp Ranger came around, he could not resist. 260 acres all to himself and loads of benefits - a perfect fit!

I was not sure how we would be able to replace Mark, but prayers were answered and intentions were realized and Brandon has stepped in to rock the Crew Leader position. Hire the guys this Spring and you will see what I mean!

## Perfect Partner

**Petrina** started this winter as the part-time **WINGS** Program Assistant, and has found a million ways to make the program stronger and my life easier. She helps with all the paperwork, is volunteering with the guys one night a week doing a journaling class, and just last week attended the fight for homeless at the *Housing Opportunity Day* in Salem to meet legislators. In her spare time, she works for room and



*Housing Opportunity Day*

board at a farm and works two days a week on the mountain. Geez - good thing she is young and has so much energy!!

## Firewood

**Jack Brady** is a prince! He had a number of piles of beautiful maple on his property across the river. Instead of burning the piles, he offered the wood to **WINGS**. This season we pulled over 20 cords of wood off his property!



*Richard working at Jack Brady's*

Again, a shout out to **Pasquale**

**Barone**, for the use of his property to store and process our wood. Between these donations and many more, **WINGS** has made over \$8,000 in firewood sales! We do have eight cords left - so if you want some beautiful dry maple call **Allyson - 541-380-3820**. It is now on sale for \$165 (was \$225) delivered in Hood River. Some fir and pine left!



If you know of a family in need, we have a few cords of wood to donate, so give us a call!

## Work, Work, Work

Thanks so much to all of you who have called to hire the **WINGS** Crew. So great that we are getting so much repeat business! We have ½ and full days available and have our own tools, our new shiny pickup, dump trailer, and of course, insurance. We specialize in yard work, moving and demo! Put them to work doing any terrible project you have been putting off!



*The guys livestaking willow trees!*

Also we have graduates looking for work - so if you know of any job openings - indoor or outdoor, please give us a call!

## Doing Our Part



Very proud of the guys! Again this year we received a star from the **FISH Food Bank** for over 200 hours of community service! Every Friday, the guys pick up food from our friends at **Safeway** and **Rosaurers** and deliver it to **FISH**. They also arrange shelves and do a lot of the heavy lifting. The guys also love to help our partner, **Heart of Hospice**, by delivering lift chairs to people in need. They are here to help!

## SYS (Save Your Stuff . . . for our Treasure Sale!)



Yes, I know, we are all looking in our garages in dismay! So much stuff and so little room! **WINGS** can help! We can help you clean out and organize your garage and take all of the items you no longer need and sell them in our *Treasure Sale*. Starting in

May we will pick up on the weekends and give you a receipt for a tax donation! Treasure Sale location and date to be determined - but look for us in early June!!

## Fun, Fun, Fun

So many wonderful people and organizations have come forward so that we can offer our guys a number of great ways to get in shape and enjoy the Gorge! Again this year, **Camden Lindsey** generously bought the guys evening snowboarding passes. . . and the guys had the best time! Thanks again, Camden!!



As well, **Clark and Carol Emmerson** and the **Hood River Sports Club** again graciously provided the **WINGS** guys with winter memberships. The guys so appreciated a place to get out of the house and get into shape. Thank you so much to

all of you for your kindness and support!

**Margo Goodman** and **Double Mountain Ranch** have been great to work with. The guys have had chance to work with the horses - a good experience for both the guys and the horses. The rides have been so fun and it is great for them to have new experiences!



Our intrepid Weekend Crew Leader, **Shawn Bergman**, does a great job of getting the guys out and giving them a chance to explore the Gorge. On weekends, Shawn is out taking the guys fishing, hiking and even helping decorate the cupcakes for a great Easter feast prepared by the guys. You can see he has also found the perfect car for **Richard** for his graduation. Shawn, you rock!

**Save the Date - WINGS Hoe-Down will be October 12 at the Armory!**

*Thanks again for getting all the way to the end of our newsletter. Let us know if we can help with your yard or if you would like to stock up on firewood. Be sure to Save Your Stuff for our Treasure Sale! Know we are always joyfully grateful for your kindness and support and we would not be here with you!*

## Become a Fan on our Facebook Page!



When you just can't wait for the next **WINGS** Newsletter, head on over to our Facebook page. Just click on the "f" and you'll see lots of great photos and read about everything the **WING-men** and their supporters have been up to!



*Give Them Wings, Inc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation doing business as WINGS. WINGS is a two-phase program which provides housing, work, trade and life skill training, education and wrap-around services for 18- to 23-year-old young men in Hood River and Wasco Counties who were formerly in foster care or are currently homeless and in need of support.*

*Sincerely,  
Allyson Pate  
WINGS*

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