



**April 2015**

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**Wow, it is so beautiful out - sunshine and daffodils and blossoms.** Fresh starts and the hum of new beginnings. At WINGS we are always looking for ways to improve - from the program, to staff, to fundraising, to ourselves. Spring is such a great time to restart!

**New Houseparents**

When **Gina** and **Alan** decided to move on to more full time positions, we were so blessed to hire **Terri** and **Don O'Hara**. They are transplants from the Bellevue area and two years ago purchased the Jocelyn House in Bingen. The wonderful old Victorian is getting a major makeover. Terri is bringing her joy and heart and talent and 20 boxes of holiday decorations to WINGS, and we could not be happier! Welcome aboard you two!



*Welcome Terri & Don!*



*Houseparent room - done!*

**Walt** and the guys spent the week getting the Houseparent's room redone - and it looks great! Thanks guys for all the hard work! They celebrated with a burrito-eating contest - **Jamison** won with seven - argh!



*Jamison wins with 7!!*

**Dillan**

**Dillan** graduated from Phase One at the end of the year and has been working with **Tim Sweeney's Hood River Construction**. He came to our board meeting last week and presented his graduation speech. OK, we all cried and were so moved by his thoughtful words and heartfelt gratitude - yep - that is why we do this every day! Thanks Dillan for reminding us! [Click here to read Dillan's speech.](#)



*Dillan's Grad Speech!*



*Allyson & Dillan*



*Daniel and his pal Walt!*

## Daniel

**Daniel** moved into Phase Two last week, and we are so proud of his progress. He was an awesome leader with the guys and we know he will take his leadership skills with him - **Walt** misses him already! He has a full time job with **Wade Walker** at

**Walker Landscaping** in The Dalles. Way to go Daniel!

## Valentine's No-Show Gala

Thanks so much to all of you who again supported our No-Show Gala. Please know how much these donations mean to us - particularly in February! We are so grateful!



## LeRoy Nickerson

We lost a dear friend earlier this year. If you attended a WINGS Hoe-Down, you will remember the highlight of the evening was always the wonderful music of the band **Larkspur**. **LeRoy**

and his wife, **Dana Branson**, were the heart and soul of the band and always played with such joy. So many of LeRoy's friends made heartfelt donations to WINGS and we are so grateful. He is missed by all of us!

## Join Us for a Mexican Fiesta!

**Lorena Lowell** will be hosting our next event in our **WINGS Dinner Series** on April 11. She will be creating one of her amazing Mexican



feasts and it will be paired with Margaritas or Sangria. It will be held at her great location - 220 Clearwater Lane in Hood River. Hope you will join us for this amazing fiesta of flavor by [clicking here](#).



## What an Evening!

Big, BIG hugs to **Lisa and Mal Brown** for hosting the amazing *Winter in Paris Dinner*. The incredible (and already missed) **Kathy and Stu Watson** put on a multi-course dinner that was sooo delicious! We were beautifully serenaded by guitarist **Dave Henehan**. And **Tom Garnier** shared a wonderful array of fabulous wines from *Garnier Vineyards*! What a night - thanks to all!!



## Treasure Sale - May 17-19



*Thanks Harsch!*

Its baaack! **Clark Bryant** is loaning us his old building for storage and we will be able to start accepting donations next week. We are so blessed. Our friends at *Harsch Investments* are loaning us the old Dream Street space between Safeway and Rite Aid. We have a much smaller space this year, so

please only donate your treasures. No clothing, appliances or old TVs please! Call Allyson for pick up - 541-380-3820

## BIG Thanks to Matson Container

Not sure our neighbors are thrilled, but we are so excited to receive a used 40' container from **Matson**. They were kind enough to have it delivered to Portland and the great guys at *Mitchell Brothers Towing*



*Thanks Matson - it is a beauty!*

gave us a sweet deal to deliver it to our site. Finally we can start putting our tools inside and getting ready to take down our barn! Watch for barn raising info - hope you can join us!

## 400 W 16<sup>th</sup> Street

Whoo Hoo - looking so great. We were so lucky to get to work with **Patricia Kaseberg** and **Hal Dornquast**. Remodeling and landscaping this house was a great learning experience for our



guys and led to both **Dillan** and **Daniel** getting great jobs! Thank you guys for the opportunity! Have a contractor but need more hands to work? - call us!



## Work, Work, Work

We are getting out from under our backlog - still two weeks out. But if you need landscape or moving jobs done - please call us! The guys come with trailer and tools and our working supervising Crew Leader. We charge \$18 for the Crew Leader and \$13 for each of four guys - or \$70 per hour. We also have a trip charge for outside of Hood River.

## Happy Birthday, Chris & Alonzo

Celebrating birthdays is always fun, and this month **Chris** turned 19 and **Alonzo** turned 20 - two weeks apart. Proud of these two guys and so happy they are turning their lives around at WINGS.



*Happy birthday Chris!!*



*And you too Alonzo!*



## Save the Date - Saturday, August 8

*Starry Starry Nights* will be held at **Lakecliff** this year - why didn't I think of that before? Come and listen to great music on the cliff

overlooking the Columbia River. **Ahi Catering** will be spoiling us and we will have an array of local wines and beers. Hope to see you under the stars on Saturday, August 8th!

Wish List - want to help or have any of these items - please call Petrina at 307-247-0673.

### We Need Volunteers:

- Baker to Help Launch Granola Biz - one day per week
- To serve as a Board Member
- Network Wizard - link our workstations
- Outdoor Weekend Enthusiasts
- Help w/ Barn Construction
- Volunteers to help w/ Treasure Sale
- Take guys to NA or AA meetings - Wednesday nites

### Items Needed:

- Suburban - must run!
- Treasure Sale items
- Monitors & Keyboards
- Windsurfing goodies
- Rock climbing goodies
- Bikes
- Mini Fridge

*As always, we are crazy grateful to all of you for your support! Just seeing these guys successfully graduate to great jobs makes it so worthwhile! We will be welcoming new guys in this month, and I can't tell you what it means to offer them the chance to turn their lives around! Thank you so much!*

## Facebook



I am a dinosaur in the internet age and struggle to keep our Facebook page current - but if you have a page, please like WINGS if you have not done so already. We are trying to get the word out to folks and could use your help - [facebook/getwings](https://facebook.com/getwings).

*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 and women 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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