



**October 2010**

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## Looking Back and Ahead

What an amazing month we have had - and we are continuing to see the rewards of your support and our hard work...but we REALLY need your help! Our third annual **Hoe-Down** is **Thursday, October 21** (see invite below) and we need to raise enough money to get us through the lean, winter months. Please, please attend our event and help us continue to offer services and support to formerly homeless young men!

The Hoe-Down is going to be SO MUCH FUN! Great **BBQ**, **Larkspur** will be playing dance favorites, the **Texas Hold 'Em Tournament** will be in the back - so there will be fun for all! Great golf and fishing items, a trip to Ireland and thirty other auction items will be there - you could get all of your holiday shopping done, and help support a great cause! And remember: **Bambinos** is offering \$5 per child babysitting for the event!

**Just log on to [getwings.net/hoe-down10](http://getwings.net/hoe-down10) and order your tickets online - they will be waiting at the door!**

*Dancin' to Larkspur*

*Texas Hold 'Em*

*No-host Wine & Beer Bar*

*Best Ever BBQ Ribs*

**Y'ALL ARE INVITED TO A HOE-DOWN TO BENEFIT WINGS**

It's time again to dust off your boots and grab your pa'dner, we're firing up the BBQ and gettin' ready for another boot-scootin' good time!

*Help us help homeless young men in the Gorge.*

This year - Join us at the Hood River Armory  
1590 12th Street, Hood River

**Thursday, October 21, 2010**  
**5:30 - 9:30 pm**

Tickets are \$50 each (\$30 is tax-deductible) and are available online at [www.getwings.net](http://www.getwings.net) or by calling Les at 503-781-4591.

## An Assisted Miracle



*Allyson and Daren*

Last week we were able to celebrate a dream come true! A great guy, **Camden Lindsey**, called a couple of months ago and offered to help. Turns out he works at **Google**. When he asked what he could do, I suggested he partner with **Daren**, our first graduate, and help him get his computer career off the ground. Well, he did so much more - helped Daren with his resume, walked his application in, helped with interviewing techniques and, **WOO HOO!**, Daren started two weeks ago at Google - servicing servers - his dream job! We all took Daren out to celebrate his amazing accomplishment!





### He Did It!

I have a hard time writing his - I still get choked up, but Stephen - homeless a year ago - has flown the nest! He started school at **Lane Community College!**

Stephen's longtime goal is to become a physics teacher, but he encountered a number of stumbling blocks on his way.

We all took a road trip to Eugene to help him move into his own place - but before we left, we had a wonderful dinner at *Riverside*, courtesy of **Chuck Hinman** and the *Hood River Inn*.



Stephen was toasted by **Glenn Taylor**, who sponsored Stephen into the program over a year ago! Way to go Stephen - we are so proud!



### Meet Colten

We are proud to welcome **Colten**. Although he grew up in The Dalles, he lived with a foster family in Dalles, OR for four years. He "aged out" of foster care on a Friday, and we were able to take him in the same day! He is 19 and plans to be a welder - so if you know anyone who can apprentice a great young guy, please give us a call.



### Don't You Just Love David Skakel?



*David Skakel and Allyson*

**David** has been a member of our board since we met at the Ford Leadership Conference - almost four years ago. He has brought his wisdom and thoughtfulness to our team and we are sad to lose him as a board member. David's lovely daughters all attend the Mosier Charter School and he feels he must work to support their efforts. We understand and know how lucky they are to have him! Thanks, David!

### And Another Wonderful New Board Member!

Meet **Paul Dezurick**! You may have seen Paul out on the golf course! He and his wife and daughter moved up from the Bay Area seven years ago. He is a "recovering" (retired) environmental attorney and has served on the CASA board for years - as president for two of them. Thanks, Paul, for joining our team!





## And Where Would I Be Without my Amazing Board?

See that squinting person - grinning ear-to-ear? That is me, because I have the most amazing board - WINGS would be nothing without each of

them! Left to right - **Patti Pearce, Rodger Schock, Kathy Eastman, Terri Johanson, me, Bill Marick, Karon Peterson** and hiding in the back, **Glenn Taylor. Deirdre Kasberger was out saving the world that day . . .** and you met New Paul. WINGS is so blessed to have each of them!



## How Fun Is This?

Big hugs to **Jaco and Wet Planet** for giving our team a free trip down the White Salmon River last week. As you can see from their faces, it was the perfect combination of

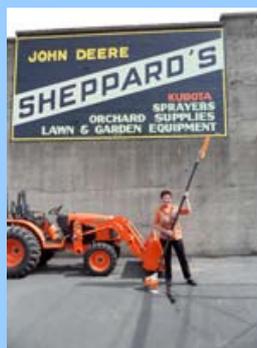
adventure and adrenaline rush - especially over the waterfall - an adventure of a lifetime.

Thanks so much, Jaco, for offering this special trip to WINGS - they had a blast!



## Please Give Craig Sheppard a Hug!

Although he was too humble to be in the picture, we are so excited to be the owners of a spiffy new pole saw! **Craig and Glenn Taylor** put together a plan to get this great new tool donated- I think Glenn just wanted us to trim his trees! Thanks again Craig- it will be put to good use!



*Allyson wields the new pole saw*

## Debbie Green - a Community Angel!



Debbie has been running **SAMs** - Single Adult Moms - for years. She collects donated items from retailers and distributes them to needy community members. We are very grateful to be on her list - woo hoo - new socks, tee shirts and underwear. Thanks, Debbie - for all you do!

## Work, Work, Work

We are very excited to have started a new project with **Green Home Construction** - thanks to **Tom** and, his partner, **Steve**! We are wrapping up our summer contract with **The Port of Hood River** and still working weekly with **Lone Pine Development**. We are also in the process of renewing our contract with **Cascade Commons Shopping Center**.





*Brandon enjoying his work*

We are still looking for more work this fall - so if you need your leaves raked, painting, moving, light construction, brush removal - you name it - we would love to help. We work as a crew - four strong guys and the amazing **Shawn**, our Crew Leader. We bill out at \$12 per person, per hour - or \$60 per hour - but you will be shocked at how much work they can get done!

### **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. You'll see lots of great photos and read about everything the WING-men and their supporters have been up to!

### ***Please Come!***

Yes, our program has been blessed with so much support, but it costs almost \$10,000 per month for food, clothing, shelter, staff and insurance. Yes, the guys are able to generate almost 35% of our income - but you can imagine, with grants drying up - we need your support more than ever. So please join us and know that every penny of your money goes directly to teach formerly homeless 18 - 23 year old young men to become employable and sustainable!

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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