



October 2015

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I am starting this newsletter on a terribly sad note. This weekend, our wonderful friend and long-time Board Member, **Paul Dezurick**, lost his battle with cancer. Paul served as the Treasurer of our Board for years, but more than that he was the person I lovingly called "my tether". As I would bounce out with new ideas, he would gently steer me back on course. His kindness and warmth for WINGS, and the whole community, will be sorely missed.



Paul and the love of his life, Alexandra, a few Valentine's ago!

Chicken Charlie Island Adventure



What an amazing day! The first of the hosted parties for the 2015-16 **WINGS Dinner Series** was a fabulous day on Chicken Charlie Island. Our



generous hosts, **Paul and Joyce Chiles**, opened their oasis to WINGS for a day filled with great food, wonderful views, great boat rides and lots of interesting information.

Big thanks to Board Members **Patt, Ruby and Lisa** for pulling together all of the pieces! **Patt and Gary Blake, Stephen and MaryBeth Rogers and Darren Rogers** provided the transportation - half the fun was the boat ride!



Lee Fairchild shared information about local geology and **Marilyn Shaw** shared her family's history on the island - so fascinating. The good news is: we are invited back! Be sure to sign up next year!!

Awesome Autumn



A perfect fall evening was had by all at the beautiful **Mt. Hood Winery**. Gracious hosts **Steve Bickford, Jan Byrkit, and Kyle and Jill House** set the perfect mood, and of course Steve spoiled everyone with his Estate wines and Reserves - YUM! **Shane of Four and Twenty Blackbirds** really lived up to his reputation of serving Wholesome Gourmet Goodness with his awesome four-course farm-to-table dinner. Everyone was entertained by the wonderful **Willy & Nelson Trio!** An amazing evening - thanks so much to all!



What a setting - what a night!!



Meet Linda

Our darling **Petrina** is leaving at the end of the year to embark on her next adventure. She has added so much to our program it will take two people to replace her. **Linda Williams** has agreed to become the Program Assistant. She will take over the paperwork side - so much to do!! Welcome aboard Linda!!



Thank goodness Linda is here!

Granola & Backpack for Kids



Great GF Granola!!

As you may have read, we started **Gorge-Us GF Bakery** with our formerly homeless moms and coordinator **Tiffany Pruitt**. We had a wonderful season baking at the **Innovative Kitchen** at **Columbia Gorge Community College** and selling **GF Granola** at the Farmer's

Markets in Hood River and The Dalles. Thanks to all who made it an amazing season. If you would like to buy more scrumptious **GF Granola**, please call Allyson at 541-380-3820.

We are expanding the Bakery to create **GF Desserts**. Next month we will have pictures and sales information for our business we have dubbed "**Small Bites**". We are offering GF muffins, lemon or pumpkin cream cheese bars, macaroons, peanut butter bars, chocolate bars and sooo much more!



Melissa, Emily and Rachel at The Dalles Farmers Market!



Our first Backpack For Kids order!!

Desserts are sold frozen in whole or portions of 9 x 13 sheets. Looking for great GF desserts? Call Allyson at 541-380-3820.

We have been invited by the **Backpack for Kids** program of Klickitat County to provide healthy snacks twice a month.

These wonderful folks pack healthy food every Friday for kids on their free and reduced lunch program to take home on the weekends! Thanks to **United Way**, we are all able to help these kids!

How Cute is This?



Thanks Mady & Larry

Mady Blackburn joined our board this year and has been a Godsend! Now she and **Larry** have really gone above and beyond!! They donated their darling 1994 Geo Metro to **WINGS!** Remarkably it only had 36,000 miles on it! **Kaiel** is getting ready to graduate and has put dibs on this car -

he will use his **WINGS** savings to buy it at an affordable rate and pay for insurance!!

Happy Birthday Kaiel!

It is always special to be able to celebrate the guys' birthdays. Often it has been quite a while since they had had a birthday party and they are always so cute and so grateful! We are very proud of **Kaiel** and see a bright future ahead! Friends of **WINGS** like you make this possible!



Haaaaaappy 20th Birthday Kaiel!

Big Thanks To Columbia Gorge Cat Rescue

A very sweet mama cat had her kitties under the **WINGS** house. The amazing folks at **Columbia Gorge Cat Rescue** helped **WINGS** trap, neuter and spay the whole family! Thanks so much to **Marcia, Richard, Jen,** and the many volunteers! Columbia Gorge Cat Rescue is making such a difference!!



Work, Work, Work

We were proud to have been selected to scrape and paint the out-building for **Bethel Church** in Lyle. Looking good now - new windows are coming next! Guys are hard at work this week prepping and painting the office of **Your Rental Center** in Hood River. Should be done in a week or two!! Thanks, **Chuck** - for the work!



Kaiel on the roof - getting it done!

We helped the **HR Chamber** with set up and take down for **Hops Fest** and will be doing the same next weekend for **Harvest Fest**. Watch for our guys doing gate duty at the event!! We will also be helping **Hood River Lions** with their annual **Applerama** where they take LOTS of apples to sell in Portland! Happy to help!!

Our apologizes to folks looking for firewood. We have not been about to cut wood because of the drought, but will let you know if we are able to get some wood in before the rains set in!

We also apologize to everyone who has patiently waited for us to complete our big projects! Soon we will get back to fall yard clean up, moving gigs and any project you don't want to tackle yourself! Call Allyson at 541-380-3820.

Barn Project on Hold

Thanks to all who offered to show up Oct 24th to help with our barn-raising project. We had so much work that we could not take the time to get the foundation put in. We also decided we should save money for winter and tackle the barn next spring! Will let you know when we reschedule!

Wish List

We are looking for items to help the program! If you have a spare laptop (working and newish), we could really use it. We are looking for bikes and all types of camping and winter sports gear. We could use nice muffin tins, 13 x 9 baking dishes, mixing bowls and items for our young mom's apartments. Also we are collecting toys and books for a 4-month-old, 6-month-old and a 3-year-old for Christmas.

Finally . . .

*In honor of the amazing **Paul Dezurick**, please hug your kids and your spouse, play a round of golf, volunteer in the community! So grateful to all of you for your kindness and support! Have a great Fall!*

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://www.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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