

# Obituaries

Paid notices

## Wilma Spengler

Wilma Rachel Spengler, 78, passed away Dec. 30, 2014, at the West Linn, Ore., home of her youngest son, surrounded by family.



Wilma Spengler

Wilma is survived by her sons, Christopher Spengler, of Hood River, Ore., and Timothy Spengler and his wife, Stacey, of West Linn, Ore.; sister Rita Sandbloom, of Fountain Valley, Calif.; brother James Alexanian, of Huntington Beach, Calif.; three grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind many friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Steven, and her sister, Linda Krajian.

Wilma Alexanian was born Oct. 16, 1936, in Boston, Mass., to parents Arshagouhi (Alice) and Ludwig Alexanian. She was raised in Pasadena, Calif., and educated at the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, receiving a bachelor's degree and a Master of Education degree, respectively. While initially starting her teaching career in Southern California, Wilma's adventurous spirit quickly took her to the Alaskan Interior, where she worked as an elementary school teacher on the military bases of Eielson Air Force Base and Fort Wainwright. It was at Fort Wainwright where she met Steven, a fellow educator, and in 1963, they married. Together they worked in education and raised their family in Fairbanks.

Wilma enjoyed exploring and living in Alaska, and during her summers off she would travel and visit family, spend time at the cabin she and Steven built along the Chena River, or just go camping and enjoy the beauty of the world around her. In the mid-1980s Wilma and Steven retired from education and moved to a rural farm in Hood River, Ore. Wilma worked for several years as a real estate broker and developed many close relationships with associates and other members of the Hood River community. She continued to spend time with her family and friends, and travel throughout her retirement.

Wilma had a strong fondness for the outdoors. She loved the sunny beaches of California and Hawaii, the rugged coast of Oregon, and trekking around the mountains of Europe, Alaska, the Sierras, and the Cascades. She loved to hike and ski, both cross country and downhill; and had fond memories of her time working in Yosemite National Park during her college summers. She was always curious, and she could spend hours poking around an ocean tide pool, and then days investigating what she saw. She was an eager and willing travel companion for any friend or family member heading out on a trip. Wilma's company was always loved.

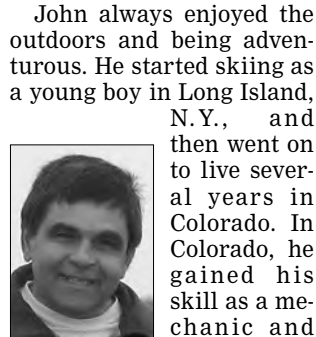
A memorial service will be held at Anderson's Tribute Center, 1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River, on Saturday, Feb. 21, at 11 a.m. Please join Wilma's family at a reception following the service.

The family asks that remembrances be sent to any of the charities that honor Wilma's memory and represent her interests, including the Heart of Hospice in Hood River, Oregon.

Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center (Funerals, Receptions, Cremations), 1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River, OR 97031; 541-386-1000. Please visit [andersontributecenter.com](http://andersontributecenter.com) to sign the family guest book.

## John Stancati

John Michael "Paco" Stancati, 57, passed away Jan. 22, 2015, at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital in Hood River, Ore. He was born June 9, 1957, in Bay Shore, N.Y.



John Stancati

John always enjoyed the outdoors and being adventurous. He started skiing as a young boy in Long Island, N.Y., and then went on to live several years in Colorado. In Colorado, he gained his skill as a mechanic and continued to ski, and started to rock climb and windsurf. He eventually made his way to Baja, Mexico, to have fun and windsurf every day.

After his years in Mexico, he found the place that he loved, Hood River, Ore. Here he finally settled down and bought a home and established an auto repair business and became part of a wonderful community of people. John was fortunate to be able to live the life he wanted to live, surrounded by people that he wanted to be around.

John graduated from West Babylon Senior High School. He was a mechanic by trade and owned and operated "1556 Auto Repair" in Hood River.

John is survived by his father, Emanuele Stancati, of New York; two brothers, Peter Stancati, of New York, and Paul Stancati, of Florida; sister Julie Venditto, of New Jersey; nieces Jessica and Michelle; nephews Nicholas and Peter; and a host of friends that he has collected over the years.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Mary.

A celebration of John's life is planned for Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 6 p.m. at Anderson's Tribute Center, with Father Ronald Maag officiating.

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# Despite lost jobs due to low snow, HRC has lowest unemployment

The Oregon Employment Department released its unemployment numbers for the month of December this week and though it lost well over a 100 jobs compared to last year, Hood River County still has the lowest unemployment rate in the state.

According to a news release from OED, the Columbia Gorge region lost 180 jobs compared to Dec. 2013, a drop of 0.8 percent. Hood River County lost the most jobs, falling by 180 or 1.6 percent. Dallas Fridley, Gorge regional economist with OED, stated that Wasco and Wheeler counties remained flat while Gilliam County lost 15 jobs and Sherman County gained 15.

The region's unadjusted unemployment rate, at 6 percent, remained below

Oregon's 6.3 percent, while on a seasonally adjusted basis, Hood River County's 5.4 percent ranked as the state's lowest (tied with Benton County), 1.3 points below Oregon's 6.7 percent.

Hood River County's unemployment rate ranked as Oregon's lowest in December (tied with Benton County), its seventh consecutive month leading the state. Over the year Hood River County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.3 points from 5.7 percent.

The winter recreational season needs more snow and because of the lack of an adequate supply of the white stuff, arts, entertainment and recreation cut 220 jobs to total 500. Last year, the industry had 360 more jobs in December, but

there's still hope that February will turn things around, OED said.

Retail trade rose by 70 jobs in December to total 1,520 — an increase of 30 over last year's total. Wholesale trade lost 50 jobs in December, accommodation and food services cut 30 jobs, falling to 1,380, and mining, logging and construction shed 30 jobs, dropping to 330.

Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 6.3 percent in December, which was low enough to rank ninth in Oregon (tied with Polk County). Wasco County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.6 percent over the year.

Wasco County's nonfarm employment fell by 120 jobs

in December to total 9,570. A loss of 30 jobs in leisure and hospitality cut its total to 1,010, construction shed 20, and professional and business services dropped by 20. December job gains were led by transportation, warehousing and utilities (+30) and educational and health services (+10).

Private industry rose by 30 jobs over the year, while government cut 30. Educational and health services led Wasco County with an over-the-year gain of 60 jobs increasing its total to 2,170. Retail trade took the biggest bite, cutting 60 jobs over the year, and financial activities lost 30. Government landed in the minus column, cutting 30 jobs, with a drop of 20 in local education and a loss of 10 in federal government.

# Community Health Worker training offered

Nuestra Comunidad Sana, a program of The Next Door, brings Community Health Worker (CHW) Training to the Gorge. Participants who complete the rigorous 90 hour course requirements are eligible for certification as CHWs in Oregon.

This training usually costs \$2,000 but is being offered free for this session. Sessions are scheduled for Fridays and Saturdays in February and March, starting on Feb. 20.

Locations will alternate between The Dalles and Hood River.

The "We Are Health" curriculum was created over the course of more than 25 years of work with Community Health Workers.

To apply, fill out the CHW Training Application at [www.nextdoorinc.org/chw](http://www.nextdoorinc.org/chw) and return to Elizur Bello by Feb. 6. Applicants will be

notified by Feb. 13 if they are invited to participate in the training.

This training is offered in collaboration with Columbia Gorge Community College and the Community Capacitation Center of the Multnomah County Health Department.

## PET OF THE WEEK

# Larry is a playful, happy pup

This week volunteers at Adopt A Dog have selected Larry as the program's adoptable pet of the week:

Larry is about a year old and as playful as they come! Any toy, any dog, any piece of fuzz on the floor has potential for this guy!

And good thing he has those long legs to help him run faster! He keeps up with the big dogs, no problem. Larry is a lover-boy,

too! He's a cuddler and a snuggler, a player and a pouncer. Larry just loves life and has a blast no matter what.

Larry thinks leashed walks are awesome, too! I mean it! Nothing gets this boy down, unless the toys are put away — then he's kinda sad — but not for long because he just looks around the corner and is sure to find something else

to do. And at the end of it all, he's the perfect lap dog full of kisses and snuggles!

Larry is current on shots, microchipped and will be neutered this week. The adoption fee for Larry is \$200.

The fee to adopt is charged to recoup standard veterinary expenses. Since many of our dogs are in foster, please call ahead to meet Larry in Odell at the Hukari Animal Shelter, 3910 Heron Dr., or call for more information at 541-354-1083. Adoption hours are Wed., 5-7 p.m. and Sat., 9-11 a.m. You can fill out an application online at our website, [hoodriveradoptadog.org](http://hoodriveradoptadog.org), or download and scan and email to us at [adoptadog@gorge.net](mailto:adoptadog@gorge.net), or fax it in



Larry

to 1-877-833-7166. We offer 24PetWatch microchips, which include free registration into the 24PetWatch pet recovery service.

For more information visit [www.24petwatch.com](http://www.24petwatch.com) or call 1-866-597-2424.

## Death Notices

### Michele Alberry

Michele Lynn Alberry, 46, a resident of The Dalles, Ore., died at home Jan. 25, 2015.

Arrangements are under the direction of Spencer, Libby and Powell Funeral Home, 1100 Kelly Ave., The Dalles; 541-296-3234.

### Jim Walker

James Thomas "Jim" Walker, 65, passed away Jan. 16, 2015, in Portland, Ore.

He was born Nov. 26, 1949, in The Dalles, Ore., to James and Willie (nee Cooper) Walker.

## Service Announcements

### Anita Nevin

Anita June Nevin, 91, entered her eternal home on Jan. 24, 2015, surrounded by her loving family at her home in Hood River, Ore. Anita was born on Nov. 14, 1923, in Los Angeles, Calif., to John and Winifred (Goodenberg) Hulderman.

Graveside services are planned for Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 2 p.m. at Idlewild Cemetery, 980 Tucker Road, Hood River, Ore.

The family suggests donations in Anita's name be made to the Hood River Valley Adult Center.

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Twila A. (Reynolds) Marker in Marienville, Pa.

A celebration of John's life is planned from 2-5 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 31, at the Parkdale Fire Department, 4895 Baseline Drive, Mt. Hood, OR 97041.

Memorial contributions can be made in John's name to the Hood River County Library Foundation (P.O. Box 1582, Hood River, OR 97031) or the FISH Food Bank Building Fund (1767 12th St., #147, Hood River, OR 97031).

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Long Beach, Calif., to Frederick and Margaret Hogg.

A celebration of life service with reception following will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, at Anderson's Tribute Center, 1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River, OR 97031. A graveside memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at Colfax Cemetery, 804 State Route 272, Colfax, WA 99111.

The family suggests donations be made to the Hogg Family Endowed Football Scholarship at Washington State University (Washington State University Foundation, P.O. Box 641925, Pullman, WA 99164-1925).

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### Fredrick Hogg

Fredrick Neil Hogg, 72, passed away on Jan. 8, 2015. He was born Oct. 18, 1942, in

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