

# Big Brothers Big Sisters hold mentor appreciation luncheon



Submitted photo

**KEITH WHIGHAM**, of Hood River, and "Little" Kaiydon, 9, at last year's Bowl for Kid's Sake event, the largest of Big Brothers Big Sister's fundraiser each year. This year's event takes place March 14 at Orchard Lanes.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Columbia Gorge held its annual mentor appreciation lunch on Jan. 24 at Spooky's Pizza in The Dalles in honor of National Mentoring Month.

About 20 "Bigs" and their guests attended.

Eric Einhorn and Keith Whigham, both of Hood River, each received the Big of the Year award and \$50 gift certificates to a local business. Rachel McKay of Hood River and Little Sister, Espie, of Pine Grove won the Match of the Year award, receiving passes to Sky High Trampoline Park in Portland and a \$100 Visa gift card to cover trip expenses.

Einhorn and Little Brother, Paul, 17, have been together since November 2011. Match Coordinator Justine Ziegler said Einhorn was enthusiastic and committed to the program from the first, and was initially matched with Paul's older brother. "When the older brother moved away

and that match closed, the younger brother had to have the Big Brother for himself," she said. "And as their relationship has evolved, the pair has shifted their focus from just having fun together to learning together, discussing the Little's future, and setting goals. When the Little expressed interest in studying abroad, the Big Brother immediately jumped onboard, helping him research possible funding sources."

Whigham and Little Brother, Kaiydon, 9, have been together since June 2013. The two have personalities — and energy levels — that are well matched. "Never have I met a more positive, energetic adult," said Ziegler. "...This boy now has a Big Brother with whom to express his boundless energy. I always look forward to calling his mom to check in about the match. She uses phrases like 'cut from the same cloth' and 'two peas in a pod' to de-



Submitted photo

**ERIC EINHORN**, of Hood River, with "Little" Paul, 17, at last year's annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Christmas Breakfast, held at The Dalles Moose Lodge.

scribe her son's relationship with his Big."

McKay and Little Sister, Espie, 12, have been together since April 2014, and have volunteered at the Big Brothers Big Sisters garage sale and the Salvation Army Thanksgiving dinner. During their initial interview, however, Espie was fairly shy — until McKay announced she had brought props for their match photo. "The Little Sister's face lit up

as she followed her new Big Sister into the other room to see what kinds of props she had acquired," said Ziegler. "...Typically, new match photos can be awkward, but not this one. I've never seen bigger smiles on a Big and a Little who met just minutes prior."

For more information on the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, contact Ziegler at 541-436-0309.

## Obituaries

Paid notices

### Anita Nevin

Bless the Lord, of my Soul. Let all that is within me bless His holy name. Ps. 103:1

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



Anita Nevin

Anita graduated from Venice High School in Los Angeles, then married Wilbur Donald Nevin. Anita's love of children was evident not only in the caretaking of her own children, but also in the many years she worked as a caregiver for Asbury Daycare.

Anita loved her Lord Jesus, and was an avid walker, she also loved to garden, play tennis and practice tai chi. She also enjoyed spending time with her friends and family.

Anita was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Wilbur Donald Nevin, and three sisters.

She is survived by her five children: Janet (Richard) Gilda, David (Shirley) Nevin, Nancy Settje, Paul Nevin and Donna Nevin. She is also survived by 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

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.

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 [andersonstributecenter.com](http://andersonstributecenter.com) to leave a note of condolence for family.

### Kevin Walters

Kevin Patrick Walters was born in The Dalles, Ore., on March 2, 1975. He grew up in Hood River and Yamhill, and most recently lived in McMinnville. He passed away on Jan. 25, 2015.



Kevin Walters

He graduated in 1993 from Yamhill Carlton High School, and graduated from Western Oregon University with bachelor's degrees in business and philosophy.

Kevin joined the U.S. Navy and retired as an E4, accruing five years of service with Pacific Fleet where he received the National Defense Service Medal, Navy "E" Ribbon, Sea Service Deployment ribbon (received four times), M16A2E3 Service Rifle (Expert), Good Conduct Award, Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation with distinguishing device, Humanitarian Service Medal, Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon, and a Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

He married the love of his life and best friend, Jessica Alfsen. They were inseparable and truly loved being in the presence of each other. They were married on Aug. 4, 2007, at Bethel Baptist Church in McMinnville.

Kevin was a relationship banker at Chase Bank in Newberg for the last three years.

Kevin is survived by his wife, Jessica Alfsen Walters; a son, Thomas Crawford Walters; his father, Theodore (Ted) Walters; a sister, Heather Novickis; three nephews, Cyrus Lindsey, Niklas Lindsey, and Dmitri Novickis; and a grandmother, Beryl Donahood.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Alice Elaine Riley Walters.

His hobbies and special interests included spending time with family and friends, being at the beach, hiking, cooking, reading, camping and exploring. He also enjoyed Sci-Fi, debate, and philosophy. He was active in church and involved in service projects both locally and overseas.

He truly loved his Lord, and his caring and courageous soul will be missed by family and friends.

His wonderful spirit, joy, and talents will be celebrated at a Memorial Service on Saturday, Jan. 31, at 2 p.m. at Church on the Hill, 700 N.W. Hill Road, McMinnville, Ore.

Contribution may be made in Kevin's memory to Jessica and Thomas at [gofundme.com/b55t2o](http://gofundme.com/b55t2o) or support the Walter's Rosemont Century Family Farm at [gofundme.com/Rosemont-Farm](http://gofundme.com/Rosemont-Farm).

### Michele Alberry

Michele Alberry, 46, passed away Jan. 25, 2015, in her sleep at her home in The Dalles, Ore. She was born the older of two daughters on May 6, 1968, in Manhasset, N.Y., to Nancy and George Garland.

Michele grew up in West Hempstead, N.Y., and would be the first to tell you she was a Long Island girl at heart. A happy child from the day she was born, her mother fondly recalls she always slept through the night and was a delightful child who grew up to be her best

friend. Michele was cherished by her mother, grandmother and grandfather. When Michele was 5 her mother was pregnant with her second child. Michele asked for a girl, who after her wish was granted, she mothered as her own every day thereafter.

Michele was not your typical student. She played drums in the school band, threw shot put and discus, and excelled in academics effortlessly. Diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma at the age of 16, she spent most of junior year tutored at home. She graduated, cancer-free, from West Hempstead High School in 1987.

After high school, Michele enrolled in college at SUNY New Paltz. She majored in cultivating friendships and minored in celebrating a cancer-free life. Friends remember her spending more time helping them with their assignments than her own. When reminded of that Michele would just smile and say "It's easier doing things for other people."

Two years shy of her degree, she moved back to Long Island and worked at Avis Rent-a-Car in the payroll department. A gifted writer and voracious reader, Michele was more comfortable with the written word than numbers. However, she worked hard and won over the whole office with her humor and warmth to create a whole new circle of friends.

It was while visiting her sister at her AmeriCorps job placement at Mosier Elementary School Michele realized her calling. After being a natural teacher to others her whole life she returned home and told her mother, "I know what I want to do." Michele courageously decided to go back to SUNY New Paltz, finish her degree and embark on a career in teaching.

Three years later, she completed her BA in education and took her first full-time teaching position at the Kindergarten Center in Lynbrook, N.Y. In 2005 she also completed her MA in education. Kindergartners, she quickly learned, were "her people." For 13 years she touched the life of every child and family in her classroom. She embraced a philosophy of "compassionate teaching" and actively worked to make every child feel special. She reveled in creating themed lessons and a nurturing environment. She fostered a love of reading with a Magic Tree House literacy unit. She stayed in touch with students encouraging them to embrace learning and curiosity. She cared so much for her students, it was not uncommon for her to leave the classroom at 11 p.m. and prepare lessons with her

mother on the weekends. Meanwhile, she survived two episodes of breast cancer surrounded by the love and support of her extended family at the Kindergarten Center.

While teaching in Lynbrook, "Buzz," an old crush, came back into her life. She originally met Buzz while visiting her sister who was studying abroad in England. Buzz never forgot Michele and spent the next 10 years staying in touch. They bonded over Star Wars trivia, arcane rock music, travel stories and sharing movie lines verbatim over long distance. After her breast cancer diagnosis he moved to America to be with her. They were married on a fall day in 2007 hosted and surrounded by family and friends in her beloved New Paltz.

Almost two years ago Michele and her mother drove cross-country to join her husband at his new job in The Dalles and be near her sister and nephew in Hood River. Michele approached her new life with boundless energy and joy. Michele and her husband planted a vegetable garden and started renovating their new home. She and her mother embarked on field trips all over Oregon. Michele took her nephew on special outings. And finally, after a year of substitute teaching, she was offered a teaching position at Chenoweth Elementary School. She fell in love with and began nurturing another classroom of kindergartners.

Michele found a way to connect with everyone and thank them for being a part of her life; by taking delight in finding the perfect present, sharing inside jokes, using sweet nicknames, sending hand-written notes, acknowledging birthdays, doling out hugs and traveling anywhere to share time with those she loved. Just last October she flew back to New York to cheer on her best friend running the NYC Marathon.

Michele is survived by; her husband, Darin "Buzz" Alberry, of The Dalles, Ore.; mother, Nancy Garland, of Hood River, Ore.; sister Patty Garland, of Hood River; brother-in-law, Gary Johnson, of Hood River; nephew, Rafael "Rafi" Villegas, of Hood River; best friend Jennifer Springer, of Charlottesville, Va.; and every one of her dear friends who were blessed by her kindness and love over the years.

Michele is preceded in death by her father, George Garland; her grandfather, Francis McNulty; her uncle Michael McNulty; and her grandmother, Madeline McNulty.

A celebration of Michele's life was held Saturday, Jan.

24, at Spencer, Libby & Powell Funeral Home, 1100 Kelly Ave., The Dalles, OR 97058. In lieu of flowers please consider contributing to a fund set up in Michele's name to continue serving the children she put first: North Wasco Education, ATTN: CES Michele Alberry Fund, 3420 W. 10th St., The Dalles, OR 97058.

### Elisabeth Dallmann

Former Hood River resident Elisabeth Ione Dallmann passed away Jan. 19, 2015, peacefully at her home in Madras, Ore., at the age of 94.



Elisabeth Dallmann

She was born Dec. 13, 1920, in Grand Rapids, Minn., the eldest of five children born to Dr. George and Essie (Rogers) Gingerich. She grew up in Bovey, Minn., where her father had a chiropractic practice.

When Elisabeth was 9, and the Great Depression hit, the Gingerich family moved to the farming area of St. James in southern Minnesota, where patients could pay her father in chickens and eggs when money was scarce.

In high school, she was an excellent student, participated in plays and public speaking contests, and was the homecoming queen her senior year. In the summers, she enjoyed staying on the farms of her Amish relatives in Kalona, Iowa. She graduated in 1939, and attended Mankato Teachers College in 1940. There she met fellow student James Ore, and they were married at her parent's home on Dec. 21, 1941, at the outbreak of World War II. Their daughter Carol was born in 1942. They moved to Iowa, where James taught and she attended summer school for six years to earn a teaching certificate.

James passed away and she married Harvey Dallmann on April 10, 1949, and became a mother to his two young sons, Ronnie and Ricky. Their daughter Susan was born in 1950. Elisabeth taught in Sleepy Eye, Minn., and three other communities.

In 1956, Elisabeth and her daughters moved to Hood River, where she taught second grade for 10 years at Coe Primary. Coming from the

flatlands of Minnesota, they were enthralled with the snow-capped mountains, Columbia River Gorge, and abundance of orchard fruit and berries. She was a member of Riverside Church.

Elisabeth took a year off from teaching to finish her degree, and in 1961, graduated with honors from Eastern Oregon College in La Grande with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She taught in Eugene and Hood River, and spent the summers hiking and enjoying the Oregon Coast.

She was a child welfare caseworker in The Dalles, and taught in Rufus and Portland before retiring early. Exploring new interests, she worked as a hostess at the Hood River Inn, waitress, florist, Avon lady, Lloyd Center clerk, and pie baker for Tebos Restaurant.

Settling in Salem, she spent the next 39 years going on excursions with the Geology Club, Brightsiders Club, and senior center, enjoying the city's cultural opportunities, the Salem Library, and walking daily through the beautiful neighborhoods to Bush Park. She was a member of Unity Church.

Her other interests included square dancing, hiking, art club outings, picking berries and fruit, gleanings for others, Oregon history, letter writing, stargazing, family gatherings, and seeing her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In 2009, Elisabeth moved to Madras to be near her younger daughter and enjoy the sunny, dry weather and mountain views.

Survivors include her daughters, Carol Johnson, of Salem, and Susan Matheny (and spouse Ron), of Madras; stepson, Rick Dallman (Judy) of Minnesota; brother, Dr. Ralph Gingerich (Dee) of Salem; sisters, Elaine Torkelson, of Minnesota, and Alice Marie McCrum, of North Carolina; grandchildren, Anthony Johnson (Kitta), of Portland, Lisa Leonard (Jon), of Ellensburg, Wash., and Marty Matheny (Ariana Denney), of Portland; great-grandchildren Ember, Nia and Trinity Leonard, all of Ellensburg, Wash.; and numerous cherished nieces, nephews and longtime friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; both husbands; brother, Kenneth Gingerich; stepson Ron Dallman; and grandson, Todd Johnson.

A graveside service was held Jan. 23 in Madras. A memorial will be held at 2 p.m. April 18 at Unity Church, 1777 Fabry Road S.E., in Salem.

**Peace of mind** is not just knowing what you want but also knowing who is going to help your family in their time of need and where it will happen. Stop by to meet our family, tour our facility that has Hood River's only on-site crematory and pick up your free "My Final Wishes" organizer to keep your final wishes safe.

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