

# FUNERAL,

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we need to be his laugh. We need to fill the world with as much joy and warmth as we can and, in that, we will be Caden's living memorial."

Caden's aunt, Marilyn Sims, shared her emotions since learning of his death and the hole his absence has left.

"I feel like a piece of me and our family is missing ... I feel blessed that God chose you as my nephew," Sims said.

In addition to remembrances, a slideshow of photos of Caden were shown during the ceremony and included moments with family and friends, one with a Spider-Man birthday cake, another looking intently at a lollipop and one of Caden with a dandelion behind one ear.

The Rev. Larry Grine said that the point of a memorial was to help a community process pain together, especially in the wake of tragic loss.

"The news of his death broke in like an intruder that broke in to steal any sense of life being fair. The circumstances are our hearts are broken and our minds numb," Grine said. "Things like this can be a wedge, but when we recognize we are in the same boat, there can also be healing."

## Mother indicted

Amy Marie Robertson, Caden's mother, was indicted last week on charges of murder by abuse and two charges of criminal mistreatment relating to another of her three sons.

# POST,

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**Post:** I am concerned about assuring services for pregnant women and ending the controversial practice of using tax dollars for abortions and instead providing every possible care a pregnant woman and her baby could need from prenatal to postpartum, food clothing, shelter, health care and even adoption services. There is no limit to a woman's right to choose in this bill. This bill puts Oregon in the mainstream of states and the federal government on health policy.

**KT:** If you are concerned about those whose seek regular or multiple abortions, would you consider limiting the number of abortion reimbursements per patient rather than the one-size-fits-all policy change?

**Post:** Here is the amount of money (about \$21 million in 10 years) OHA has spent on abortions with tax payer dollars: <http://bit.ly/2k1hUAJ>. (Editor's note: the actual amount is \$16.5 million over the past 10 years.) And here is a letter from OHA detailing the spending: <http://bit.ly/2kNA0Yi>.

**HB 2126 would repeal requirements that those selling, leasing or otherwise transferring firearms provide a copy of record to law enforcement agencies.**

**KT:** (the following three questions were sent, Post chose to answer them as one): What are the benefits of this bill to gun owners if it passes? What are the benefits to non-gun own-

ers if it passes? Do you have any concerns about contributing to an increase in hard-to-track weapons used in the commission of crimes?

**Post:** The current law creates a used gun registration held by local law enforcement officials and this bill will stop that from happening. Registration of guns is the first step to confiscation.

I don't know if there are any benefits to non-gun owners. Perhaps you could say it removes an unnecessary burden being placed on local law enforcement agencies to inspect and store records which costs money and time. This bill would alleviate that.

Nearly all gun transactions are now required to take place at a gun dealers location. This law predates the current system of instant checks where guns are checked prior to being transferred. A gun dealer is very unlikely to take a gun which the instant check system has identified as untransferable. Also the state police are required to investigate all unlawful transactions, so this notification is now completely unnecessary. Prior to the instant check system there was a waiting period before a dealer could transfer gun so that law enforcement could check records so this requirement had some merit, but not today.

**HB 2128 would remove pseudoephedrine from the list of Schedule III controlled substances, but many of the safeguards pertaining to its distribution and sale would remain.**

**KT:** Our understanding of this is that it would reclassify

pseudoephedrine, but many of the current rules regarding dispensing it and purchasing it would remain in place. Given that, can you clarify what taking it off Schedule III would accomplish?

**Post:** This bill is my biggest priority. Oregon has to be number one for allergies and colds. My desire is to have Oregon join the rest of the country in having basically a "behind the counter" sale of PSE products. Under my bill - just like Washington, Idaho, California, Hawaii and most other states - a person goes into a pharmacy, shows a photo ID (it can be any photo ID) signs a form, the pharmacist puts the info into the NPLEx system and the person gets two packages of standard dose Sudafed. Current data show that most meth now is coming from large production labs out of Mexico where Oregon does not have any jurisdiction. The 2005 legislation was meant to stop the ability for small local meth labs to obtain PSE easily. In 2005, PSE was an over-the-counter medicine, there was not any ability to track who was buying how much PSE at any given time. Today there is a national Methamphetamine Precursor Electronic Tracking/Monitoring System and it is paid for by Pharma which means no cost to Oregon.

The National Precursor Log Exchange (NPLEx) is provided without cost to retailers. This doesn't include costs relating to internet access, optional hardware or other equipment. NPLEx will immediately notify the retailer if a sale will exceed legal limits; allow the retailer to override the stop-sale alert if the retailer is in reasonable fear of imminent bodily harm; and allow the retailer to override the stop-sale alert if the retailer is filling a valid pre-

scription; and is accessible to law enforcement for investigative purposes.

**HB 2378 would permit employers to pay employees under the age of 21 85 percent of minimum wage for the initial 90 days of employment.**

**KT:** (the following questions were sent, Post chose to answer them as one): 1) What motivated you to draft this bill? 2) The reality is that there are plenty of workers under the age of 21 who live independently or already have families dependent on their wages, are you concerned for their welfare if this passes? 3) Are you concerned that this might permit some bad actors to essentially hire people for 90 days and then let them go before having to pay the full minimum wage? 4) One of the often-repeated arguments against higher minimum wages is that minimum wage jobs were not meant to be living wage jobs, but times have changed and many people end up taking on multiple minimum wage jobs to make ends meet which reduces time for family, parenting and the basic enjoyment of life. Do you have any concerns that creating a temporary wage gap adds to those stresses?

**Post:** The most vocal opponent to the passed minimum wage hike in my district was from agriculture. They cannot afford to hire junior high, high school and college kids at the new rates. I am also very concerned that high school kids with no experience are going to be quickly left out of the job market. This bill would create a 90-day period in which the young person can meet expectations of the employer and if met, would then go to the set minimum wage for that zone in Oregon. Of course there might be "bad actors," there always are. I don't think that

will be the overarching theme though of getting jobs for young people. This is a "starting wage" that will help more young people get jobs now. If there had been some kind of "carve out" for ag in the original minimum wage bills from last year than this would not be necessary.

**KT:** What other bills have you submitted or plan to submit that are important priorities for you this session?

**Post:** My CHL (concealed handgun license) reciprocity bill, HB 2127, is back. It passed the House 57-1 in 2015 but died in Senate judiciary. Editor's note: HB 2127 directs the Department of Justice to create and maintain list of states that recognize Oregon concealed handgun licenses and require handgun competency to obtain concealed handgun license that is similar to competency required in Oregon.

I also have two other bills that are in draft form right now.

LC 2580 is the Oregon Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability. Currently if you steal a car, you will go to court where there is a prosecutor, defense attorney, jury and judge. If you are a judge and accused of a violation of some sort, you go before a "one party" package of judge, prosecutor and jury with no means to defend oneself. I think when Oregonians find this out, they will be outraged.

LC 1717 would allow alcohol in certified cigar shops. In 2015, I was able to get "food and drink" prohibition taken out of the certified cigar shops in Oregon with a bipartisan 89-1 vote. This would allow alcohol to be consumed in those same certified cigar shops, only the shop is not selling or providing any alcohol. Outside groups like a winery or distillery could offer their items.

## puzzle answers

M	E	S	S	R	U	L	E	R	T	E	A	R
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7	4	2	3	8	1	9	6	5
5	1	3	7	6	9	4	8	2
2	8	6	1	5	3	7	9	4
3	7	9	6	2	4	5	1	8
4	5	1	9	7	8	6	2	3



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