

DHS ignored facility's lack of license, criminal records of staff

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon child welfare officials knew in 2009 the Portland foster care program Give Us This Day was operating without a license and was staffed entirely by people with criminal records.

Still, the Oregon Department of Human Services allowed Give Us This Day to continue operating without the necessary residential care license. It was unclear from state records how long the situation persisted, and DHS was unable to provide an answer Wednesday afternoon.

Emails released by the Oregon Department of Human Services reveal top DHS officials knew of problems at the program much earlier than previously reported. The records also show Give Us This Day operated outside the state's licensing rules, and went over the heads of licensing staff to deal directly with the director of the agency, Dr. Bruce Goldberg. The agency released the emails in response to a public records request from state Sen. Sara Gelser, D-Corvallis.

"Our staff have been working with them to try and help them obtain a license to provide residential care (they already are providing such care without a license)," child welfare administrator

Erinn Kelley-Siel wrote in a February 2009 email. At the time, Kelley-Siel was director of the agency's Child Welfare, Self-Sufficiency and Vocational Rehabilitation programs. She was promoted to the position of director in 2011, when Goldberg left.

Kelley-Siel had other concerns about the program, which she listed in the email to Goldberg.

"At a site visit last week, numerous concerns arose (on top of the fact they aren't licensed) — the most serious of which is that every single staff person has a criminal record and their program design does not address the issues that come with that," Kelley-Siel wrote.

Goldberg did not appear to have replied to Kelley-Siel's email, based on the records released by DHS.

At the time, Give Us This Day had a state license to operate as an academic boarding school. Mary Holden, executive director of the program, told DHS licensing staff that she and the board of Give Us This Day had already gone to the top to negotiate the issue, and was discussing it with Goldberg. Holden refused even to apply for the correct residential license and was still operating without one in May 2009, when DHS employees learned that someone was suing

Give Us This Day and had filed a public records request for the program's licensing file.

On June 1, 2009, Kelley-Siel asked Goldberg in an email whether she should personally inform Holden and then-state Sen. Margaret Carter, a board member at Give Us This Day and Portland Democrat, about the lawsuit and public records request.

Goldberg responded, "seems to me you should give them a heads up."

Goldberg was director of DHS from 2005 through February 2011, when then-Gov. John Kitzhaber tapped Goldberg to lead the Oregon Health Authority. Goldberg resigned in 2014 following the state's health insurance exchange fiasco, and now works for Oregon Health & Science University's Center for Health Systems Effectiveness. Goldberg could not be reached for comment Wednesday afternoon.

Carter said although she was a Give Us This Day board member at the time, "in terms of being an active board member, where I actually knew what was going on in terms of day-to-day operations, not at all." She also did not recall DHS employees calling her about the lawsuit or records request. "I don't recall that conversation about public records," Carter said.



AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli

Californians want 51 states

A rain-soaked flag of what activists call the state of Jefferson drapes an umbrella at a rally calling for the creation of the 51st state at the Capitol on Wednesday in Sacramento, Calif. Supporters said creating the new state, along the California-Oregon border, would give them the government representation they claim they are not getting.

Washington to limit carbon pollution from largest facilities

By PHUONG LE
Associated Press

SEATTLE — The state's largest industrial emitters would be required to reduce carbon emissions by 5 percent every three years, under a proposed rule released Wednesday by state regulators.

The Department of Ecology's proposed Clean Air Rule would initially apply to about two dozen manufacturing plants, refineries, power plants, natural gas distributors and others that release at least 100,000 metric tons of carbon a year. Many more facilities would likely be covered by the rule as that threshold is lowered over time.

State officials say the rule is needed to protect human health and the environment from climate change.

"It's important that we act now to protect our water supplies, infrastructure and economy for future generations," Ecology Director Maia Bellon said in a prepared statement.

Environmental and other groups applauded the draft rule as a crucial step in addressing climate change. But business groups and others have worried the efforts could hurt the state's ability to attract and retain industries.

The draft rule comes after Gov. Jay

Inslee failed last year to get legislation passed on his ambitious cap-and-trade plan that would have charged industrial facilities a fee for carbon emissions. In July, Inslee directed Ecology to limit carbon pollution using its existing authority under the state's Clean Air Act.

Meanwhile, two competing efforts are trying to limit carbon pollution through statewide initiatives.

In one effort, backers of Initiative 732 have turned over 350,000 signatures on a proposal to tax carbon pollution at \$25 a metric ton while lowering other state taxes. If verified, I-732 would go before the Legislature. If lawmakers don't act, the measure would go on the 2016 ballot.

A coalition of environmental, labor and social justice groups, the Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy, is also planning a statewide ballot initiative. That measure hasn't been finalized, but it could impose new fees on carbon pollution and direct the money for clean-energy projects, low-income communities and other projects.

Officials say its Clean Air Rule would capture about 60 percent of the state's overall carbon emissions, but it would not get the state all the way toward its mandate to limit emissions of greenhouse gases to the 1990 level.

BRIEFLY

SWAT team seizes several firearms from man's home

SWEET HOME (AP) — Linn County authorities say a SWAT team has seized seven firearms and about 1,000 rounds of ammunition from the home of a man legally prohibited from owning guns.

KVAL-TV reports that deputies arrested 73-year-old Allen Maurice Diggs Tuesday on suspicion of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The sheriff's office says Diggs was spotted in the Quartzville area with several firearms when deputies found he had been prohibited from

possessing the weapons.

The regional SWAT team then served a search warrant at the man's home and allegedly found the guns and ammunition.

Portland adopts new standard to increase diversity

PORTLAND (AP) — The city of Portland has adopted a new standard to help increase diversity among its top employee ranks.

The standard adopted on Wednesday will require commissioners to interview at least one qualified minority candidate, female candidate and candidate with a

disability for bureau director and other top positions. It will become binding city policy.

The last seven bureau directors hired by the city are middle-aged white men.

The new standard is modeled on the NFL's "Rooney Rule," which requires that at least one minority candidate be interviewed for head coach and general manager positions. The Rooney Rule was named after Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney, who was chairman of the league's diversity committee.

It was city parks ranger Sam Sachs who proposed that Portland adopt a version of the Rooney Rule.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

EAST OREGONIAN

— Founded Oct. 16, 1875 —

211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton 541-276-2211
333 E. Main St., Hermiston 541-567-6211
Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed major holidays

www.eastoregonian.com

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East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday, Monday and Dec. 25, by the EO Media Group, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801. Periodicals postage paid at Pendleton, OR. Postmaster: send address changes to East Oregonian, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801. Copyright © 2015, EO Media Group

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Single copy price:

\$1 Tuesday through Friday, \$1.50 Saturday

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To submit a Letter to the Editor: mail to Managing Editor Daniel Wattenburger, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801 or email editor@eastoregonian.com.

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy and chilly	Mostly cloudy	Chilly with periods of sun	Partly sunny and chilly	Mostly sunny and chilly

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
34°	28°	35°	26°	32°
38°	30°	36°	29°	35°

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
38°	30°	36°	29°	35°
37°	24°	37°	24°	35°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 29°	24°
Normals 40°	26°
Records 70° (1914)	-6° (1942)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	Trace
Month to date	0.01"
Normal month to date	0.35"
Year to date	0.01"
Last year to date	0.18"
Normal year to date	0.35"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 32°	29°
Normals 40°	28°
Records 58° (2009)	-8° (1974)

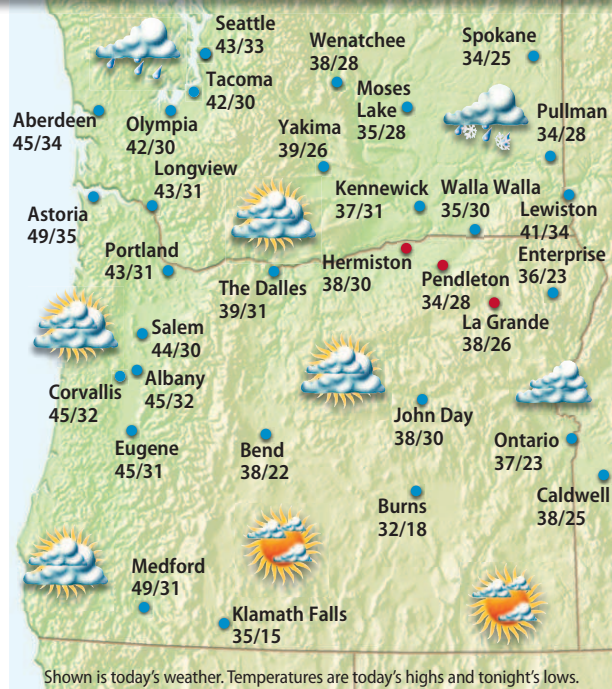
PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	Trace
Month to date	0.01"
Normal month to date	0.24"
Year to date	0.01"
Last year to date	0.10"
Normal year to date	0.24"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:35 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:27 p.m.
Moonrise today	5:07 a.m.
Moonset today	2:51 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Jan 9	Jan 16	Jan 23	Jan 31



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Periods of sun today with a shower in the afternoon. Partly cloudy tonight.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly cloudy today; a morning flurry in the south. Low clouds tonight.

Western Washington: Mostly cloudy today. Partly cloudy tonight. Clouds and sun tomorrow.

Eastern Washington: Variable cloudiness today.

Cascades: Clouds and sun today. Mostly cloudy tonight, except mainly clear across the north.

Northern California: Mainly cloudy today; a shower or two; however, dry in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	49	35	c	50	36	pc
Baker City	35	21	c	33	20	c
Bend	38	22	pc	37	22	pc
Brookings	50	41	sh	51	42	pc
Burns	32	18	c	29	16	c
Enterprise	36	23	c	33	15	c
Eugene	45	31	pc	46	32	pc
Heppner	35	26	c	35	24	c
Hermiston	38	30	c	36	29	c
John Day	38	30	c	37	22	c
Klamath Falls	35	15	pc	32	21	pc
La Grande	38	26	c	36	20	c
Meacham	36	25	c	35	19	c
Medford	49	31	pc	48	34	c
Newport	50	36	c	48	37	pc
North Bend	54	40	pc	54	42	pc
Ontario	37	23	c	34	20	c
Pasco	38	31	c	38	29	c
Pendleton	34	28	c	35	26	c
Portland	43	31	c	43	33	pc
Redmond	38	21	pc	38	21	pc
Salem	44	30	c	44	30	pc
Spokane	34	25	c	32	22	c
Ukiah	36	22	c	34	18	c
Vancouver	43	31	c	44	31	pc
Walla Walla	35	30	c	35	27	c
Yakima	39	26	c	37	26	c

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	32	15	s	33	12	s
Hong Kong	68	60	pc	68	62	s
Jerusalem	62	44	c	50	44	sh
London	48	38	pc	49	40	pc
Mexico City	70	42	pc	71	40	pc
Moscow	11	-1	c	9	3	c
Paris	53	36	r	46	39	r
Rome	57	49	pc	62	52	sh
Seoul	33	18	pc	35	19	s
Sydney	73	64	sh	75	65	s
Tokyo	53	39	pc	51	40	pc

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Friday
Boardman	VAR 2-4	VAR 2-4
Pendleton	VAR 2-4	VAR 3-6

UV INDEX TODAY

0 0 0 0 0 0

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

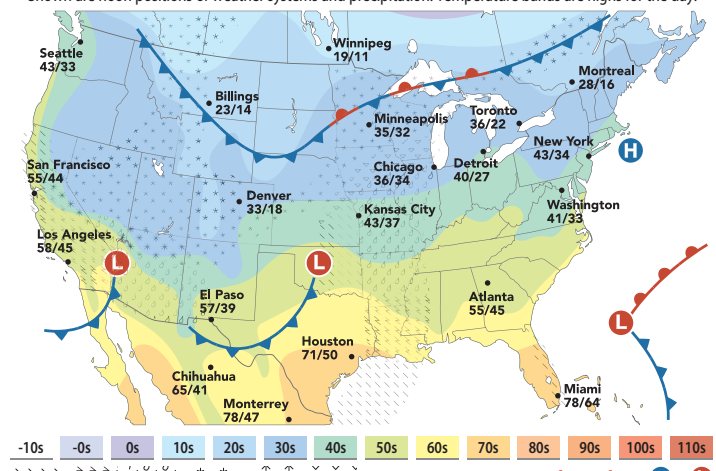
0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 2016

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



National Summary: A storm will bring snow north and rain central and south over the middle of the nation today. Another storm will impact the Southwest with drenching coastal and desert rain and heavy mountain snow.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 77° in Naples, Fla. Low -12° in Berlin, N.H.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.				Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W		Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	42	26	c	38	24	sf	Louisville	50	41	pc	56	48	sh
Atlanta	55	45	c	55	49	pc	Memphis	53	47	r	63	50	pc
Atlanta City	44	36	pc	48	41	pc	Miami	78	64	pc	79	68	pc
Baltimore	44	30	pc	47	36	r	Milwaukee	37	35	i	39	35	r
Billing	23	14	sf	16	7	sf	Minneapolis	35	32	sf	34	21	sn
Birmingham	55	47	c	60	50	pc	Nashville	55	44	c	59	49	c
Boston	38	28	c	35	27	c	New Orleans	67	53	r	71	59	pc
Charlotte, SC	43	29	s	41	35	pc	New York City	43	34	s	44	38	pc
Charlotte, WV	51	28	pc	51	40	r	Oklahoma City	58	32	pc	53	32	pc
Chicago													