

Social worker left surprise \$11M to children's charities

By SALLY HO
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Alan Naiman was known for an unabashed thriftiness that veered into comical, but even those closest to him had no inkling of the fortune that he quietly amassed and the last act that he had long planned.

The Washington state social worker died of cancer this year at age 63, leaving most of a surprising \$11 million estate to children's charities that help the poor, sick, disabled and abandoned. The amount baffled the beneficiaries and his best friends, who are lauding Naiman as the anniversary of his death approaches in January.

That's because the Seattle man patched up his shoes with duct tape, sought deals at the grocery store deli at closing time and took his best friends out to lunch at fast-food joints.

Naiman, who died unmarried and childless, loved kids but also was intensely private, scrimping, investing and working extra jobs to stockpile money that he rarely spent on himself after seeing how unfair life could be for the most vulnerable children, his friends say.

They believe a life-

long devotion to his older brother who had a developmental disability influenced Naiman, though he rarely spoke of it. The brother died in 2013, the same year Naiman splurged on a sports car — a modestly priced Scion FR-S.

"Growing up as a kid with an older, disabled brother kind of colored the way he looked at things," close friend Susan Madsen said.

A former banker, Naiman worked the past two decades at the state Department of Social and Health Services, handling after-hours calls. He earned \$67,234 and also took on side gigs, sometimes working as many as three jobs. He saved and invested enough to make several millions of dollars and also inherited millions more from his parents, said Shashi Karan, a friend from his banking days.

Thrilled when he finally qualified for senior discounts, Naiman bought his clothes from the grocery store. He loved cars, but for the most of his life, drove beat-up vehicles and seemed to enjoy the solitude and savings of solo road trips, friends say.

After Naiman's death, Karan realized how little he knew of the other aspects of his longtime friend's life.



In this Friday, Dec. 21, 2018, file photo, Chris Meyer, left, and Maddi Heim, fold and sort donated clothes at Treehouse, a nonprofit organization in Seattle that serves the needs of children in the foster-care system.

AP Photo/Ted S. Warren, File

"I don't know if he was lonely. I think he was a loner," Karan said.

Many of the organizations benefiting from Naiman's gifts said they didn't know him, though they had crossed paths.

He left \$2.5 million to the Pediatric Interim Care Center, a private organization in Washington state that cares for babies born to mothers who abused drugs and helps the children wean off their

dependence. The group used some of what was its largest donation ever to pay off a mortgage and buy a new vehicle to transport the 200 babies it accepts from hospitals each year.

Naiman had called the center about a newborn while working for the state more than a decade ago, and its founder, Barbara Drennen, showed up in the middle of the night to get the baby.

"We would never dream that something like this would happen to us. I wish very much that I could have met him. I would have loved to have had him see the babies he's protecting," Drennen said.

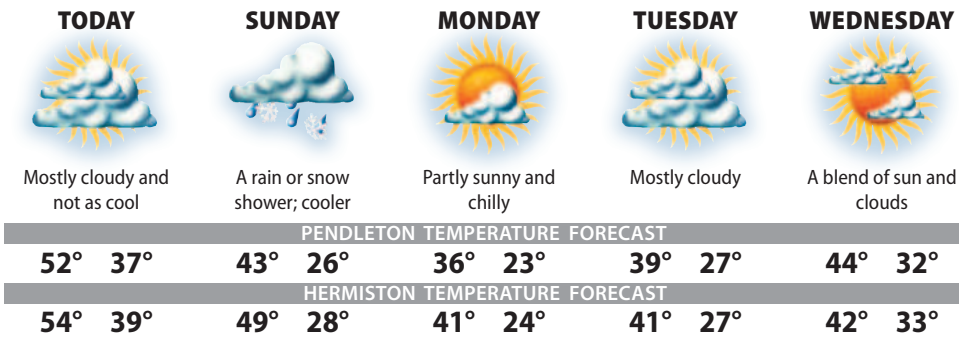
Naiman gave \$900,000 to the Treehouse foster care organization, telling them that he was a foster parent years ago and had brought kids in his care to the group's popular warehouse, where

wards of the state can choose toys and necessities for free.

Treehouse is using Naiman's money to expand its college and career counseling statewide.

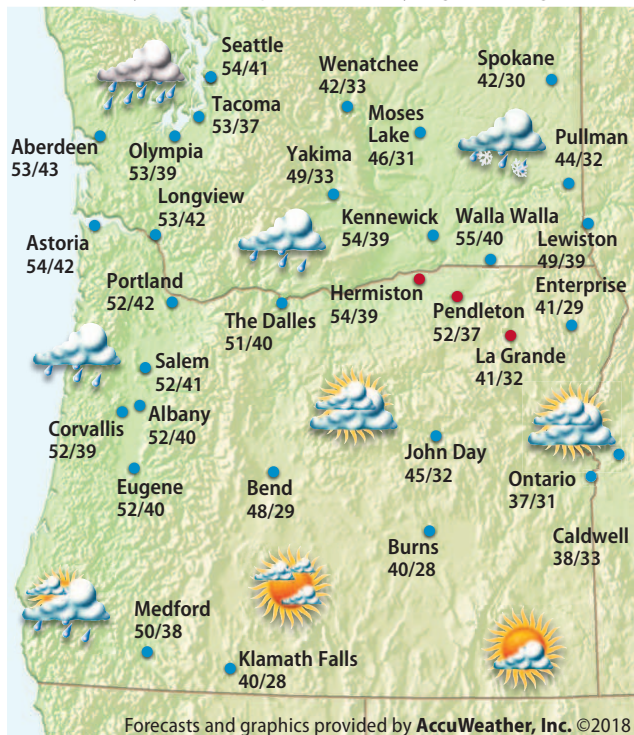
"The frugality that he lived through, that he committed to in his life, was for this," said Jessica Ross, Treehouse's chief development officer. "It's really a gift to all of us to see that pure demonstration of philanthropy and love."

Forecast for Pendleton Area



OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



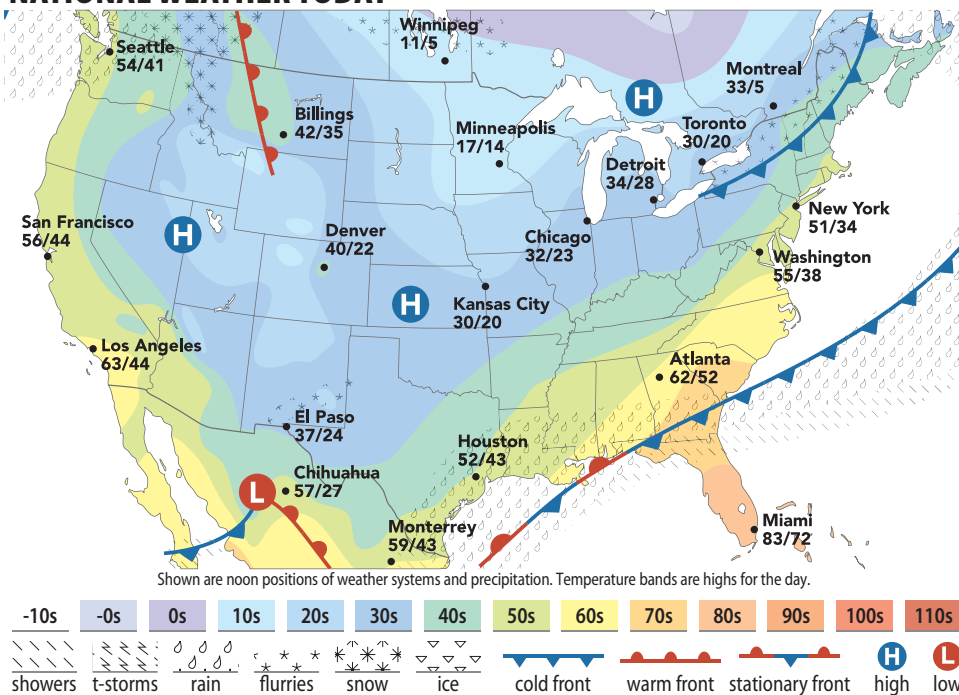
ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.			
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW	
Yesterday	39°	28°	
Normals	39°	25°	
Records	64° (1917)	2° (1990)	
PRECIPITATION			
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"		
Month to date	1.35"		
Normal month to date	1.45"		
Year to date	10.22"		
Last year to date	16.28"		
Normal year to date	12.92"		
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.			
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW	
Yesterday	36°	23°	
Normals	39°	27°	
Records	67° (1937)	2° (1983)	
PRECIPITATION			
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"		
Month to date	0.66"		
Normal month to date	1.33"		
Year to date	7.62"		
Last year to date	9.31"		
Normal year to date	9.80"		
WINDS (in mph)			
Today	Sun.		
Boardman	WSW 10-20	W 7-14	
Pendleton	SW 8-16	W 8-16	
SUN AND MOON			
Sunrise today	7:36 a.m.		
Sunset tonight	4:19 p.m.		
Moonrise today	none		
Moonset today	12:17 p.m.		
Last	New	First	Full
Dec 29	Jan 5	Jan 13	Jan 20

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 88° in Immokalee, Fla. Low -18° in Gould, Colo.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



U.S. investigating CenturyLink internet outage, 911 failures

By KEITH RIDLER
Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — U.S. officials and at least one state said Friday that they have started investigations into a nationwide CenturyLink internet outage that has disrupted 911 service.

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai called the outage that began Thursday "completely unacceptable" because people who need help couldn't use the emergency number.

"Its breadth and duration are particularly troubling," he said.

The commission's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau will investigate the cause and effect of the outage, he said.

The Monroe, Louisiana-based telecommunications giant is one of the largest in the United States. It offers communications and information technology services in dozens of states. Customers from New York to California reported outages.

CenturyLink spokeswoman Debra Peterson said the outage "is not related to hacking," but she declined further comment.

The company said on Twitter that it's working to restore service and appears to be making progress. It hasn't provided a cause for the problems.

"Where CenturyLink is the 911 service

provider 911 calls are completing," the company said in a tweet.

Regulators in Washington state also said they were opening an investigation into an outage of its statewide 911 service.

The state Utilities and Transportation Commission said interruptions began about 8:30 p.m. Thursday. The commission's regulatory services division director, Mark Vasconi, said the system appeared stable Friday but the agency was monitoring it.

In Idaho, Emergency Office Management Director Brad Richey said he didn't receive any reports of 911 service failures, but some state agencies, including the state Department of Correction, lost service on internet-based phones.

Some businesses in Idaho also lost the ability to make credit card sales, and some ATM machines weren't working in Idaho and Montana.

Due to sporadic 911 outages in Massachusetts, public safety officials recommended individuals looking for emergency help use the 10-digit telephone number of the fire or police departments they wanted to contact.

In Greeley, Colorado, the Weld County Regional Communication Center on Friday said 911 calls were being dropped, but callers should keep trying and emergency dispatchers would try to call back.

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East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday, Monday and postal holidays, 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.

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