

Late Secretary of State memorialized in state funeral

Dennis Richardson died late last month following a battle with brain cancer

By SARAH ZIMMERMAN
Associated Press

SALEM (AP) — Former Oregon Secretary of State Dennis Richardson, who died in office last month following a battle with brain cancer, was honored Wednesday at a state funeral with stories about his devotion to his faith, family and the state.

Richardson, 69, was Oregon's top elections official and held the second-highest office in the state after the governor. He was the highest-ranking Republican in state government and was the first Republican elected to statewide office in years.

Lawmakers and colleagues paid their respects during a state funeral on the floor of the Oregon House of Representatives, where Richardson served for 12 years.

Through tears and laughter, acting Secretary of State Leslie Cummings praised Richardson for



Oregon's Secretary of State Dennis Richardson, seen in photo at left, lies in state in the rotunda at the Oregon Capitol in Salem on Wednesday.

wholehearted dedication to public service, recalling that Richardson would often work from early in the morning until late at night, and would bring such an enthusiasm to his work that his colleagues called him the "Energizer Bunny."

Richardson prioritized election fairness and conducting thorough audits on the state's ailing foster care system, Portland Pub-

lic Schools and the state's Medicaid program.

Cummings took over day-to-day operations last October, about four months after Richardson publicly announced he was diagnosed with cancer.

As he battled the disease, he kept working, encouraging Oregonians to register to vote, using social media as a pro-democracy tool and overseeing audits done by his office's audit team.

Statesman-Journal via AP/Anna Reed



AP Photo/Andrew Selsky

Republican lawmakers gather around the flag-draped coffin of Oregon Secretary of State Dennis Richardson, who is lying in state at the Oregon Capitol before his funeral in Salem on Wednesday.

Richardson's successor in the coming weeks. Her office said she would consider a Republican who commits to not entering the 2020 election.

Democratic Gov. Kate Brown remarked in her eulogy that he was a respected friend and mentor to colleagues on both sides of the aisle. "Dennis embodied what it means to be a dedicated public servant: hardworking, passionate, and wholeheartedly committed to making Oregon a better place on behalf of those he represented," she said.

Brown will appoint

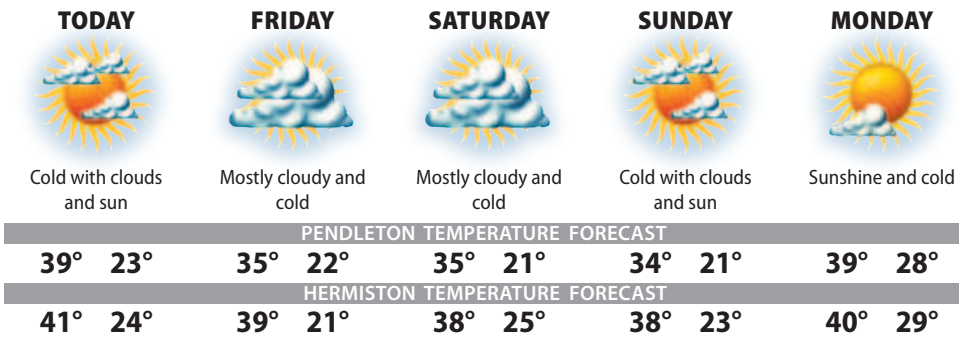
opened his own law practice in Oregon after graduating from Brigham Young University.

A devout Mormon, he and his wife Cathy have nine children and 31 grandchildren.

U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, the only Republican member of Oregon's congressional delegation, remarked that Richardson's "quiet competence and civility were a rarity in today's world."

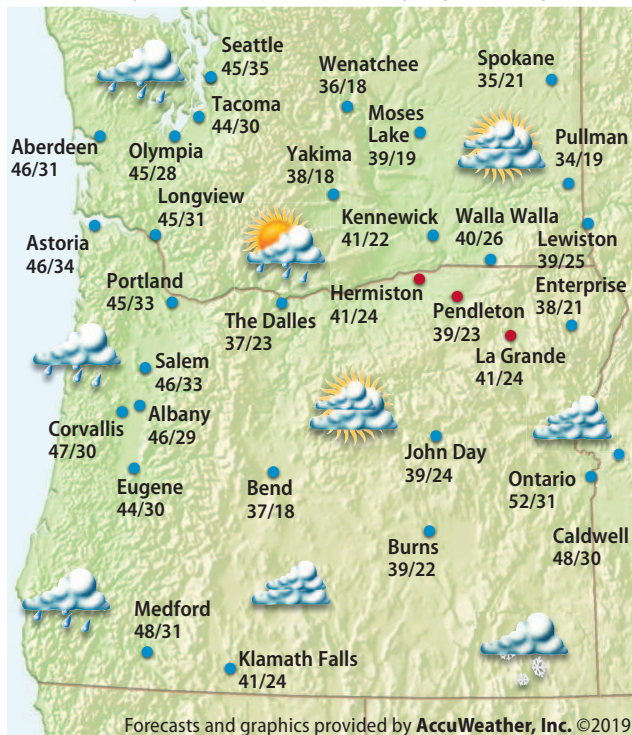
This was Oregon's first state funeral since 1983 for former Gov. Tom McCall.

Forecast for Pendleton Area



OREGON FORECAST

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



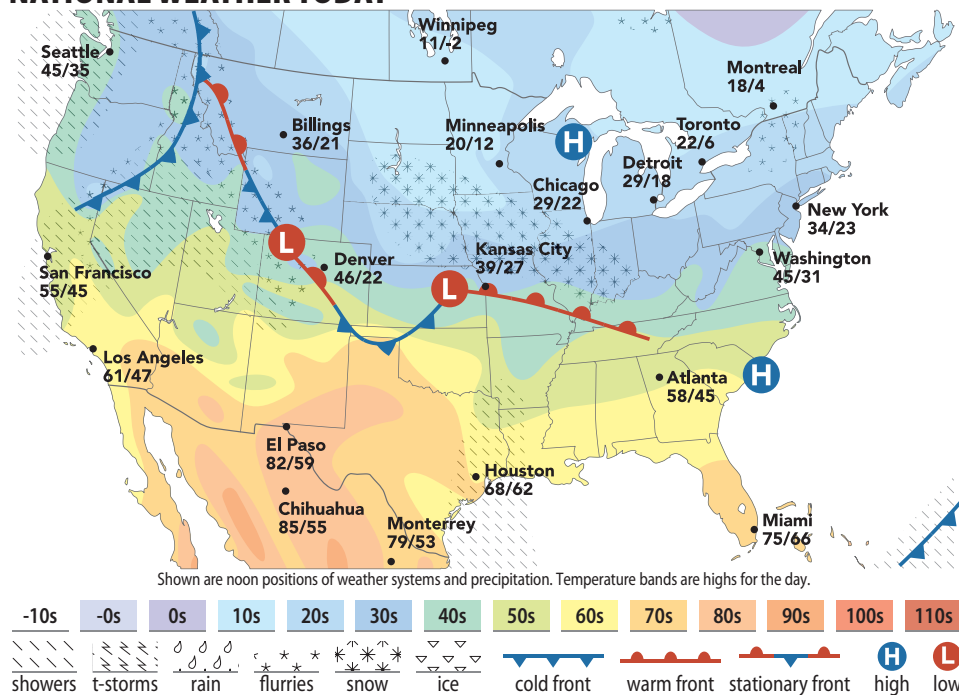
ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	24°	18°
Normals	53°	33°
Records	68° (1979)	18° (2019)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.25"	
Month to date	0.25"	
Normal month to date	0.21"	
Year to date	5.10"	
Last year to date	2.82"	
Normal year to date	2.72"	
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	26°	20°
Normals	55°	32°
Records	70° (1972)	11° (1943)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.04"	
Month to date	0.04"	
Normal month to date	0.20"	
Year to date	3.43"	
Last year to date	1.75"	
Normal year to date	2.44"	
WINDS (in mph)		
Today	Fri.	
Boardman	SW 6-12	SW 6-12
Pendleton	SW 6-12	WSW 7-14
SUN AND MOON		
Sunrise today	6:24 a.m.	
Sunset tonight	5:50 p.m.	
Moonrise today	7:14 a.m.	
Moonset today	7:00 p.m.	

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 86° in Tucson, Ariz. Low -31° in Stonington, Mich.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



Washington House passes bill limiting vaccine exemptions

By RACHEL LA CORTE
Associated Press

OLYMPIA, Wash. — As health officials monitor an outbreak concentrated in southwest Washington, the state House approved a measure that would remove parents' ability to claim a personal or philosophical exemption to vaccinating their school-age children for measles.

The vote comes in the midst of an outbreak that has sickened at least 71 people — mostly children age 10 and younger. As of Wednesday, Clark County Public Health said that they were investigating an additional three suspected cases.

The chamber passed the bill on a 57-40 vote late Tuesday night and it now

heads to the Senate, which is expected to vote in the coming days on its own bill, which is broader. While the House bill removes the philosophical exemption for just the combined measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, the Senate measure seeks to remove such exemptions for any required school vaccinations.

The measure is sponsored by Republican Rep. Paul Harris of Vancouver, who said that the measure "will make our communities safer."

Harris pointed to the nearly three dozen states — including those with Republican leadership — that currently don't have the option of the philosophical exemption.

"This is a biparti-

san issue," he said during debate.

Republicans initially introduced more than three dozen floor amendments, but withdrew most of them before the late night vote after majority Democrats agreed to accept a few of them, including one that exempts a child from the requirement if a parent or legal guardian presents a written certification that a biological parent or sibling has immune system problems or adverse reactions to a particular vaccine.

Unless an exemption is claimed, children are required to be vaccinated against or show proof of acquired immunity for nearly a dozen diseases before they can attend school or child care centers.

BRIEFLY

Ex-first lady agrees to settle ethics charges

PORTLAND (AP) — Former Oregon First Lady Cylvia Hayes has agreed to pay \$44,000 for ethics violations arising from her use of public office for personal profit.

The Oregonian/Oregon-Live reports the settlement, signed Jan. 18 by Hayes and made public Tuesday by the Oregon Government Ethics Commission, states Hayes will not contest that she broke ethics laws 22 times. But it allows Hayes to maintain that she didn't knowingly break the law.

Private groups paid Hayes more than \$200,000 to lobby for eco-friendly policies, work investigators later concluded she obtained because of her access to

Gov. John Kitzhaber.

The full Ethics Commission will vote Thursday on whether to accept the settlement.

Surfer survives shark attack with no injuries

PACIFIC CITY (AP) — A surfer survived a shark attack off the Oregon coast with only damage to his surfboard.

The Oregonian/Oregon-Live reports that Nathan Holstedt, 33, of Pacific City, was waiting for a wave Tuesday when something hit him from behind and he was sucked into the water.

When he surfaced, he saw a shark a few feet away and thrust his board at it. Then, he paddled safely to shore.

That's when he realized the shark had bitten his board and missed his leg by about 6 inches.

OSU student pleads guilty in tweet-threat case

EUGENE (AP) — A former student who threatened a shooting at Oregon State University has been sentenced to time served and will be on federal supervised release for three years.

Authorities said Christopher Strahan, 23, pleaded guilty Tuesday to making threats. He has been in custody for about a year.

He was also barred from entering the campuses or contacting the employees of OSU or Linn-Benton Community College, where he also took classes.

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
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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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Single copy price:

\$1.50 Tuesday through Saturday

Circulation Manager:

Bonny Tuller, 541-966-0828

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