

## **The Oregonian**

### **Family of Rick Best asks well-wishers to line funeral procession route**

*By Kale Williams*

*June 5, 2017*

Rick Best, one of two men killed on a Portland MAX train last month after they stood up to a man who had unleashed a racist tirade against two young women of color, will be laid to rest Monday afternoon and his family had a special request for those who wish to pay their respects.

They asked well-wishers to line the route of the procession from the church, where the service will be held, to the cemetery, where Best will be buried.

On May 26, Best, along with Taliesin Myrddin Namkai-Meche and Micah Fletcher, intervened when Jeremy Christian, a white supremacist, allegedly began screaming at two young women on a crowded commuter train, one of whom was black and the other who was wearing a hijab.

Police said Christian pulled out a knife and stabbed all three men. Both Best and Meche died. Fletcher survived his injuries.

Best's funeral is scheduled for Monday morning at Christ the King Catholic Church in Milwaukie. The procession, which is expected to get underway around 1:15 p.m., will travel from the church to Willamette National Cemetery.

The full route is below:

- SE Fuller Rd to SE Monterey Rd
- East on SE Monterey Rd across 82nd Ave
- East on SE Monterey Rd past the Clackamas Town Center over the bridge to SE Bob Schumacher Rd.
- North on SE Bob Schumacher Rd to Idleman Rd
- East on Idleman Rd to Mt. Scott Blvd
- East on Mt. Scott Blvd to Willamette National Cemetery

## **The Portland Tribune**

### **R2DToo moving to new home**

*By Jim Redden*

*June 6, 2017*

Homeless camp is relocating from Old Town to the Rose Quarter as the result of a city deal

The Right To Dream Too homeless camp continued moving from Old Town/Chinatown to a spot near the Moda Center over the weekend.

After being located on private property at Northwest 4th and Burnside for more than four years, the owners served the camp — which is operated by a nonprofit organization — an eviction notice in April.

The relocation is necessary for the owners to complete the sale of the property to Progress Portland, former known as the Portland Development Commission, for \$1.2 million. The city had agreed to buy the property if it was free and clear by May 1. Mayor Ted Wheeler extended the deadline to early June when the new site was agreed upon.

The new location is a parking lot owned by the Portland Bureau of Transportation between the Moda Center and the Willamette River. Campers started moving on May 26 and plan to be totally relocated by June 7. Small houses built by Benson High School students were set up in the new location on Saturday, June 3.

The Old Town property is the former site of Cindy's Adult Bookstore. It is owned by Michael Wright, his wife and another couple, Daniel and Donna Cossette. They tore the business down after the city cited it for numerous fire and building code violations, then allowed homeless people to set up camp there as a protest.

The City Council previously tried to relocate the camp to Southeast Portland but the move was blocked by the state Land Use Board of Appeals after nearby residents and businesses argued the new location was not properly zoned for camping. Commissioner Amanda Fritz then proposed moving it to a city-owned parking lot on Southwest Naito Parkway, but Wheeler objected.

R2DToo co-founder Trillium Shannon told KOIN 6 News in April the new location is one of the best spots they've seen in a few years.

"We are happy with it, it's a new site nice site, it's about the same size but it's got some upgrades, we were able to upgrade some of our stuff as well," R2DToo chairperson Sarah Chandler said.

"We're really looking forward to getting involved with the community over there and helping as many people as we can."

Chandler said it's been difficult moving after so many years, but they've had a lot of support and it's going well.

## **City Hall Watch: Gang incidents up in May, but down for the year**

*By Jim Redden*

*June 6, 2017*

Also, Mayor Ted Wheeler was criticized for trying to cancel last Sunday's far-right protest and Biketown announced an expansion

According to new figures released last Friday, incidents of gang violence rose slightly last month compared to May 2016, but are still running well below the total for the year to date.

The Gang Enforcement Team investigated 14 incidents in May of this year. That is more than the 10 investigated last May, but fewer than the 25 investigated in May 2015.

For the year, the team, so far, has investigated 43 incidents, a 37 percent reduction from the 68 investigated by the same time in 2016. The number was 69 in 2015, the year that ended with 193 incidents investigated, the highest official number. The total number of incidents dropped to 155 last year.

### **Wheeler criticized on First Amendment**

Mayor Ted Wheeler was accused of not understanding the First Amendment when he called on the federal government to revoke its permit for a far-right rally in Terry Schunk Plaza last

Sunday. Although Wheeler was concerned about the potential for violence in the wake of the racist May 26 MAX attack that left two dead and one injured, he was promptly criticized for trying to stifle free speech rights.

During his May 29 press conference, Wheeler said hate speech is not protected by the First Amendment, a common assumption about hate crime laws. But a lengthy Washington Post analysis by Kristen Phillips quickly pointed out that Wheeler was wrong, saying, "The Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled that hate speech, no matter how bigoted or offensive, is free speech."

### **Biketown announces expansion**

The Portland Bureau of Transportation announced Thursday that Biketown is expanding to additional parts of town ahead of the summer.

The bicycle rental program launched 10 months ago with most of its racks located in the Central City, including downtown, the Pearl District and the inner eastside. The expansion will include new areas in North, Northeast and Southeast Portland.

In North Portland, the service area is expanding to the west to North Gay Avenue, including the Overlook neighborhood.

The Northeast expansion will extend service north to Ainsworth Street and east to Northeast 33rd Avenue, and will encompass the Alberta Main Street business district. In Southeast Portland, the expansion will move the service area's southern border to include the Brooklyn Neighborhood's main street district and will also extend east to Cesar Chavez Boulevard.