

## **The Oregonian**

# **Portland Fire Holds Ceremony on 9/11 to Honor Fallen Heroes and Recognize Firefighters Battling Wildfires**

*By Maxine Bernstein  
September 11, 2017*

Portland's fire chief and local firefighters marked the 16th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks Monday, remembering the 343 firefighters killed in New York and honoring the firefighters today battling wildfires in Oregon and Washington.

Chief Mike Myers credited the bravery of firefighters, who when others are fleeing danger, have the courage to "go in and stand that ground," whether it's at the World Trade Center towers attacked in 2001 to the wildfire burning in the Columbia River Gorge.

Myers thanked firefighters in Portland Fire & Rescue and beyond for their dedication, "superb ethic of service" and selfless responses to help protect others and their property.

"We are here today to honor and never forget," said Jason Lehman, a vice president of the Portland Fire Fighters Association, standing at the Eastbank Esplanade beside Fire Station 21 along the Willamette River.

Firefighters from Portland, Hillsboro, Gresham, Port of Portland and Tualatin Valley last week rallied together to help save the historic Multnomah Falls lodge from the Eagle Creek fire, Myers said. Portland sent engine companies, as well as a ladder truck, to help protect the lodge from encroaching flames.

Shifts of Portland firefighters – from a couple to a dozen - have been rotating to assist battling the wildfires in Oregon, the chief said. Portland Fire's operations division chief Tom Williams, for example, spent more than 30 days assisting with fire safety planning for the Chetco Bar wildfire near Brookings, and then was transferred more than a week ago to assist with the Eagle Creek fire, Myers said.

Terry Shanley, president of the David Campbell Memorial Board of Trustees, urged support for a new memorial that will be erected where Monday's ceremony was held.

The future David Campbell memorial will be placed beside Station 21, and remember the former Portland fire chief who was killed fighting the Union Oil Fire in Southeast Portland in 1911. The current David Campbell memorial, which now stands in Northwest Portland and is not easily accessible, will be renamed Portland Firefighters Park.

The city has budgeted \$100,000 towards the new memorial. The union has raised another \$100,000 through deductions in firefighters' pay. The goal is to raise roughly \$1 million to construct the new memorial, Shanley said.

## **The Portland Tribune**

# **New Homeless Shelter in Old Town/Chinatown Sparks Old Debate**

*By Lyndsey Hewitt  
September 12, 2017*

**Concentration of homeless services continues to concern business owners and community members in the district.**

About 350 homeless people can be found in the Old Town/Chinatown area on any given night, according to city and county officials.

That's a lot compared to the rest of the city, and this has historically been the landscape of Old Town/Chinatown — at least since the 1970s and 1980s, with little improvement.

Officials contend there continues to be a need there despite a heavy concentration of shelter and services already.

That was part of their message to a room full of concerned and unsatisfied area business owners and community members who attended one of two forums hosted by the Old Town China Town Community Association on Sept. 6 about the opening of a new 200-bed, 24-hour three-story homeless shelter at 320 N.W. Hoyt St. It would be the largest in the district.

Business owners for decades have been dealing with homelessness in the area, some threatening to move their operations elsewhere, criticizing that more services threaten area tourism and only add to already-high level of crime. Some argue that continuing to concentrate services is a self-fulfilling prophecy.

According to portlandmaps.com, crime stats nearby the 320 N.W. Hoyt location between September 2016 and 2017 show 71 assaults, four forcible rapes, four sex offenses, 92 larceny charges, 65 drug law violations, 30 disorderly conduct charges and a slew of other vandalism, fraud, vehicle theft, trespassing and other crimes, several times above the city averages. Old Town/Chinatown has been called Portland's Skid Row.

A panel of city and county officials attended the forum to respond to concerns, including: Marc Jolin, the director of the city-county Joint Office of Homeless Services; Christian Gaston, Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury's policy director; Berk Nelson, senior adviser to Mayor Ted Wheeler; and Kelli Sheffer, Portland Police Bureau Commander for the Central Precinct.

Jolin emphasized that the city is still in a housing crisis, officially declared in October 2015.

"We have too many people sleeping outside and in our shelters, they're languishing there. How do we start to get folks moving back to permanent decent housing they can afford, at a higher rate?" Jolin passionately told the group. "And then being realistic, that despite our best prevention efforts and housing placement efforts, we're going to continue to see people becoming homeless in our community."

The joint office signed a letter of intent to purchase the 29,100-square-foot building and adjoining vacant lot owned by the Seattle-based Alco Investment Company.

The building would need repairs to serve as a homeless shelter, likely not coming online for months. Officials haven't disclosed how much it would take to repair the building or details about the sale pending negotiations.

"We have people every day aging out of foster care, being discharged from mental health institutions, coming out of the corrections institutions in our community," Jolin said, adding that those people can face more obstacles than others in getting housing. "That means we're going to have to continue providing an emergency response."

### **Past agreements**

It seems that placing the shelter there would go against previous agreements established between the city and the association on adding more homeless services in Old Town/Chinatown.

Commonly called the "No Net Gain" agreement, the "Clark-Shiels" agreement was developed between Don Clark, director of Central City Concern in the '80s, and Roger Shiels, who represented Old Town businesses.

When federal civil rights laws questioned the legality of the agreement, the city of Portland incorporated much of the agreement's provisions into city zoning amendments to prevent over-concentration and expansion of homeless services in Old Town/Chinatown.

But when former Mayor Charlie Hales declared the housing and homelessness state of emergency, it opened the door to city officials to bypass zoning code.

Originally, shelters in that area couldn't be within 1,300 feet of one another in Old Town/Chinatown per the agreement. That was reduced to 600 feet and, according to association members, shelters are overlapping that boundary.

### **Varying ideas at forums**

Community members' views were all over the board at the forum, though skewing toward mostly against the new shelter and a sense of cynicism about city efforts, which was reflected in a vote after the meeting.

Harris Matarazzo, who owns a law firm that specializes in criminal defense of mentally ill people, is fed up with the concentration of services. His firm has been in Old Town/Chinatown since 1968 and he said it's one of the area's largest private employers.

"You talk about the needs in Old Town as we have a growing population. I think we have an inordinate amount of services down here, and I think that's a self-fulfilling prophecy to say that we have an inordinate need. When you keep adding services, that's where people are going to keep coming to get them," Matarazzo told officials. He added that political administrations come and go, and with it different enforcement practices.

Both Nelson and Sheffer said they've reinstated police foot patrols of the area in an attempt to mitigate crime, as well as making sure homeless folks aren't building structures.

Matarazzo said his female employees have been harassed.

"If this stuff keeps coming in, we're seriously looking at moving out of the neighborhood, and we've been here almost 50 years," he said.

On the flip side, a formerly homeless woman named Karen Hervey thinks the location is great for the new shelter, despite the fact that she would never go back to a shelter since she had horrible experiences in them, including getting scabies and lice.

She now receives \$732 a month through Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and became homeless when her home was foreclosed after she started taking care of her elderly parents. Having moved to Portland two years ago from Oklahoma, she lives in a rent-controlled apartment unit in Old Town/Chinatown.

Hervey advocates for concentration of shelters because those who are mentally ill and disabled have an extremely tough time getting from one part of town to the other.

However, she criticized how the shelter plans to operate. Like most of the county's shelters, it would operate on a reservation basis. That means that, while the new shelter would be open 24/7, people can't just waltz in any time and expect a place to sleep. It takes an element of planning, including having to make a phone call or an in-person reservation at the Bud Clark Commons Day Center, operated by Transition Projects Inc.

"If you don't have a phone, or X amount of minutes on your Obama Phone (a phone loaded with minutes for low-income citizens), you're s—t out of luck," she said. "I've had people come up to me on the street ... and ask me for help. Unfortunately there's nothing open at that time of night because they're reservation shelters."

She's also concerned how long it will take to repair the warehouse to operate as a shelter.

"We need shelter and housing now," Hervey said.

The Old Town Chinatown Community Association plans to take a position on whether they agree with the siting there sometime next week.

As to whether the city will consider their position, "We'll cross that bridge when we come to it," said Denis Theriault, spokesman for the joint office.

## **Facing Cancer, Fish Decides to Keep Running for Reelection**

*By Jim Redden*

*September 11, 2017*

### **Commissioner says treatment may slow him down a little, but still has a lot he wants to accomplish for the city**

After considering his options for nearly a month, Commissioner Nick Fish has decided to continue running for reelection while he is being treated for abdominal cancer.

Fish had declared for reelection when he was diagnosed with cancer in mid-August. At the time, Fish said he wanted to see how his chemotherapy treatments would affect him. He has maintained most of his City Hall schedule and, on Sept. 11, emailed supporters to say he is still running.

"The treatment for my cancer may slow me down a little this fall, but it will never diminish my passion for public service," Fish says in the email. "Campaigns are time-consuming — and I have many things to balance in the months ahead. I won't be the first person who manages an illness or a disability and runs for office."

The email also seeks donations and lists eight priorities he wants to accomplish. They range from "sponsoring new, cost-effective solutions to our housing crisis" to "standing up for workers and consumers in the changing economy."

A non-practicing lawyer, Fish was elected with 61.4 percent of the vote in 2008 to fill the unexpired term of Commissioner Erik Sten, who resigned mid-term. He was re-elected to a full four-year term in the May 2010 primary election with just under 80 percent of the vote. He was reelected in the May 2014 primary election with 73 percent of the vote.

So far, only environmental advocate Julia DeGraw has announced against Fish and filed a fundraising committee. Affordable housing advocate Margo Black has said she is considering the race, but has not yet announced.

## **City Hall Watch: Hearings on Central City Plan Roll Over Into Next Year**

*By Pamplin Media Group  
September 12, 2017*

### **Plus, police commanders encouraged to live within city limits and audit says city forestry plans need to be aligned**

The City Council ran out of time to hear from all of the 140 witnesses signed up to testify on the Central City Plan update on Thursday, but announced a lengthy schedule of additional public hearings before the final vote, which is tentatively scheduled for next March.

Many of those who testified Thursday opposed increasing building heights in various parts of the downtown area to encourage more residential and employment towers.

No one opposed the significant increases proposed for the U.S. Post Office distribution center that the city bought last year and plans to redevelop as a dense new neighborhood, however.

Additional hearings are scheduled for Sept. 14 and 28, Oct. 18, Nov. 2,

Dec. 6 and Jan. 18. Written testimony also is still being accepted and added to the record.

### **Police commanders encouraged to live within city limits**

The City Council voted 4-0 on Wednesday to pay police command staff an additional 5 percent if they live within Portland boundaries. Commissioner Dan Saltzman was absent.

The premium will apply to captains, commanders, assistant chiefs and newly selected chief Danielle Outlaw, if they live in the city. Mayor Ted Wheeler appointed Outlaw as the next chief. She is expected to take office Oct. 2.

Wheeler sponsored the ordinance and said it will improve trust between the community and the police. According to the Bureau of Human Resources, the premium will cost the city between \$30,000 and \$50,000 a year.

### **City forestry plans need to be aligned**

According to an audit released last Wednesday, although the new Tree Code adopted in 2015 appears to be achieving some of its goals, Portland's Urban Forest Management Plan needs to be updated, and both should be aligned with other priorities, such as housing affordability and housing.

The City Auditor's Office says the percentage of trees preserved in development projects increased the year after the new code was adopted. But some trees are less protected under the

code, fees may be increasing housing costs, and outdated software makes it difficult to accurately track all results.

Commissioner Amanda Fritz, who oversees the Urban Forestry Commission, says the council will discuss potential fixes later this year. You can read the audit and responses at: [bit.ly/2eCYVvN](http://bit.ly/2eCYVvN)

## **The Portland Mercury**

### **Good Morning, News: Ted Cruz Loves Dirty Twitter, Irma Wreaks Havoc, and Nick Fish Stays in the Race**

*By Dirk VanderHart  
September 12, 2017*

**TED CRUZ LOVES TWITTER PORN:** Or "likes" it at least. His Twitter account was observed giving the old thumbs up to a porn clip yesterday, and from all anyone can tell, this is the exact thing Twitter was designed to ultimately accomplish. Those folks play the long game. Still waiting for Cruz to acknowledge this. Excuse should be delicious.

**Irma pandemonium** continued in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina on Monday, causing widespread damage and leaving millions without power. "The Defense Department said that damage to the [Florida] Keys was so extensive that it might be necessary to evacuate the 10,000 residents who rode out the storm on the islands."

**And terrible EPA Chief Scott Pruitt's** going full NRA in response to concerns that global warming is making hurricanes more severe, saying it's insensitive to discuss climate change while storms are playing out? Actual scientists, like the rest of us, are incredulous.

**Commissioner Nick Fish** is still in. The Tribune reports Fish has decided to continue to pursue re-election next year even as he battles stomach cancer. "I won't be the first person who manages an illness or a disability and runs for office," the paper says Fish wrote to supporters.

**Officials in the gorge** are acknowledging something we suggested last week: That a bunch of popular hiking trails are going to be closed into next year as a result of the still-burning Eagle Creek fire.

**The fire is one of almost 40** burning throughout the country, and officials told gorge residents last night that while the fire isn't spreading at the breathtaking rate it did last week, it's still unclear when some evacuees will be able to return home. I-84 is still closed.

**Secretary of State Dennis Richardson** wound up supplying an Oregon voter list to Donald Trump's voter fraud commission. It's the same list that's available to anyone for \$500, so hardly a scandal.

**Some ignorant dipshit** sprayed "ISIS" on a Portland mosque this weekend.

**A novel new law** in Washington State requires gun sellers to inform authorities if someone tries to purchase a gun but fails the compulsory background check. It'll help domestic abuse victims and others who have restraining orders learn if their abuser is looking to buy a gun, but it won't necessarily do much more.

**Another day,** another damn DB Cooper theory. This time, the famed skyjacker was an aggrieved southern father looking to embarrass the FBI?

## **The Portland Business Journal**

### **5 Things to Know for Tuesday, Including How the Simple Name of the New iPhone Has Disrupted Our Morning**

*By Andy Giegerich  
September 12, 2017*

Happy Tuesday, Portland. Or, put another way, happy iPhone day.

Nah, it's not out yet, but Apple is indeed giving its first look at the newest version of the device (we think it's the 8, although it might be the 10, or, technically, the X... why can't we stop thinking about this?). Along with the unclear moniker, we're also a bit gobsmacked by the \$1,000 pricetag.

Whatever, text us when you can. Here's today's Five Things.

#### **Living history**

The really cool and ornate U.S. Bank building turns 100 this year.

And if you've not seen it, you really need to check out this piece by the PBJ's Jon Bell and Cathy Cheney detailing what's going on in there. It's a testament to craftsmanship, longevity and old-time banking class.

It's also, as Bell and Cheney note, home to a rather scary ghost.

#### **Hire and hire, baby**

PacStar, the Tigard telecommunications platform specialist, has landed a very solid military contract.

As Malia Spencer reports, money the company's \$50 million deal will trickle down to plenty of PacStar suppliers who provide mother boards and other goods to the growing enterprise. And, the company's hiring.

#### **Not going anywhere**

Good news from City Commissioner Nick Fish: His cancer treatments are going well. In a message sent to supporters yesterday, he proclaimed that he plans to win his fight.

As such, he'll push forward with his plans to keep his council seat during the 2018 elections.

"Campaigns are time-consuming — and I have many things to balance in the months ahead. I won't be the first person who manages an illness or a disability and runs for office," he wrote. "I have assembled a strong campaign team, and we are building a solid foundation for success in the May, 2018 primary election."

#### **Harvey helpers**

In the meantime, chef Anh Luu of Tapalaya is hosting a very worthwhile event tonight

Anh, a survivor of Hurricane Katrina, is working with 10 local businesses on a special dinner that'll benefit Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. The New Orleans small plates restaurant will donate all of the proceeds from the event toward Harvey causes.

Contributing to the event are Acadia, NePo 42, the Pie Spot, Staccato Gelato, Mi Mero Mole, Bunk Sandwiches, the Bivy, Tunki, New Deal and Leah Jorgensen Cellars.

The dinner costs \$40 and starts at 4 p.m. at Tapalaya, at 28 N.E. 28th Ave.

### **Haystack rocks**

Haystack Rock seems designed as a festival backdrop.

Enter Stackstock, a music festival that's set for Sept. 23 in Cannon Beach. The gathering counts one of the biggest names in Oregon music: Colin Meloy of the Decemberists will perform a set at the event, which also features Pure Bathing Culture.

Tickets for the Public Coast Brewing-backed festival are \$40 and are available [here](#).

Part of the proceeds will benefit the Martin Memorial Scholarship Fund.