

Mayor aims to nix free-speech rally in wake of killings

By **MARTHA BELLISLE**
Associated Press

The mayor of Portland on Monday urged U.S. officials and organizers to cancel a "Trump Free Speech Rally" and other similar events, saying they are inappropriate and could be dangerous after two men were stabbed to death on a train as they tried to help a pair of young women targeted by an anti-Muslim tirade.

Mayor Ted Wheeler said he hopes the victims will inspire "changes in the political dialogue in this country."

It comes amid a wider debate in the U.S. about the First Amendment, often in liberal cities like Portland and Berkeley, California, and on college campuses, where violent protests between far-right and far-left protesters have derailed appearances by contentious figures.

Taliesin Myrddin Namkai Meche, 23, and Ricky John Best, 53, were killed Friday as they tried to stop Jeremy Joseph Christian from harassing the women, one of whom was wearing a hijab, authorities say. Another who stepped in was seriously injured.

Christian's social media postings indicate an affinity for Nazis and political violence. He is accused of aggravated murder, intimidation — the state equivalent of a hate crime — and being a felon in possession of a weapon and is scheduled to be in court Tuesday.

The federal government has issued a permit for the free-speech rally Saturday



Coco Douglas, 8, leaves a handmade sign and rocks she painted at a memorial in Portland on Saturday for two bystanders who were stabbed to death Friday while trying to stop a man who was yelling anti-Muslim slurs and acting aggressively toward two young women.

AP Photos/Gillian Flaccus



Jeremy Christian

and has yet to give a permit for an event June 10. The mayor says his main concern was participants "coming to peddle a message of hatred," saying hate speech is not protected by the Constitution.

A Facebook page for the event says there would be

speakers and live music in "one of the most liberal areas on the West Coast." It says it will feature Kyle Chapman, who describes himself as an American nationalist and ardent supporter of President Donald Trump.

Chapman was arrested at a March 4 protest in Berkeley, the birthplace of the U.S. free speech movement in the 1960s that has become a flashpoint for the extreme left and right since Trump's election.

The University of California, Berkeley, has been

criticized for canceling an appearance by conservative commentator Ann Coulter in April and another by right-wing provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos in February. It canceled Coulter's speech amid threats of violence, fearing a repeat of rioting ahead of the Yiannopoulos event.

Trump has condemned the stabbing, writing Monday on Twitter: "The violent attacks in Portland on Friday are unacceptable. The victims were standing up to hate and intolerance. Our prayers are

w/ them."

Wheeler said he appreciated Trump's words but stressed the need for action.

"I hope we rise to the memory of these two gentlemen who lost their lives," the mayor told reporters. "Let's do them honor by standing with them and carrying on their legacy of standing up to hate and bigotry and violence."

The mother of one of the targets of the rant said she was overwhelmed with gratitude and sadness for the strangers who died defending her daughter, 16-year-old Destinee Mangum.

Mangum told news station KPTV that she and her 17-year-old friend were riding the train when Christian started yelling at them. She said her friend is Muslim, but she's not.

"He told us to go back to Saudi Arabia, and he told us we shouldn't be here, to get out of his country," Mangum said. "He was just telling us that we basically weren't anything and that we should kill ourselves."

The teens moved toward the back of the train, preparing to get off at the next stop.

"And then we turned around while they were fighting, and he just started stabbing people, and it was just blood everywhere, and we just started running for our lives," Mangum said.

Micah David-Cole Fletcher, 21, was stabbed in the neck. His girlfriend, Miranda Helm, told The Oregonian/OregonLive that he was recovering his

strength in the hospital.

Telephone messages left at the home of Christian's mother Sunday and Monday were not returned. It was not clear if he had a lawyer yet.

A day before the attack, cellphone video confirmed by police Sgt. Pete Simpson shows Christian using expletives as he rants about Muslims, Christians and Jews on a train. At one point, he threatens to stab the driver of the train Thursday, according to video from a passenger posted by TV station KOIN.

Simpson says police also are investigating an incident that day involving Christian and a black woman on the train, but he didn't immediately respond to emails seeking additional details.

Christian served prison time after holding up employees at a convenience store with a gun in 2002, court records show. He went back after pleading guilty in 2011 to being a felon in possession of a firearm. He was behind bars again in 2013 for violating a condition of his release, according to court records.

Tomica Clark told The Oregonian/OregonLive that she has known Christian since elementary school. She said she was surprised to hear people call Christian racist. Clark is black and said Christian had many black friends.

"He never disrespected me," Clark said, but added that he changed after he got out of prison.

"Prison took the real him away," she said.

BRIEFLY

Man killed after pickup drives over angry campers

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — A 20-year-old man who was intentionally run over at a Grays Harbor County campground has died of his injuries.

KOMO-TV reports that Jimmy Smith-Kramer of Taholah was one of two victims run over by a pickup truck Saturday.

Tacoma General Hospital officials confirmed he had died late Sunday.

The second victim, a 19-year-old Aberdeen man, reportedly is in critical condition.

The incident took place at the Donkey Creek Campground.

Campers were upset at 1:30 a.m. Saturday because of a pickup was doing doughnuts on a gravel bar in the campground.

The Grays Harbor Sheriff's Office says there was an argument and a camper threw a rock at the truck.

Investigators say the driver then backed up toward the campers and ran over the two men and then fled.

Man who shot caged cougar loses hunting rights

SEATTLE (AP) — A Redmond man who shot and killed a cougar in a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife research

trap has been barred from hunting in Washington for two years.

The *Seattle Times* reported Saturday that the WDFW has stripped Ronald D. Wentz of his hunting privileges for the 2016 incident.

Mother dies in crash after son fell asleep at the wheel

RITZVILLE, Wash. (AP) — A mother was killed after her son fell asleep at the wheel along U.S. Highway 395 in Adams County.

The Spokesman-Review reports that Jaciel Parra Medina was driving south of Ritzville, Washington at about 5 a.m. Monday when the SUV he was driving left

the road and rolled.

Washington State Patrol says his mother, Gabriela Parra Belton, was a passenger and died at the scene. She wasn't wearing a seat belt.

Parra Medina was not injured and was arrested on a charge of vehicular homicide.

Trooper Jeff Sevigny says witnesses reported that Parra Medina appeared to be driving more than 100 mph prior to the crash.

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.

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
90° 55°	72° 56°	71° 50°	74° 47°	80° 49°
93° 56°	78° 60°	78° 53°	80° 48°	85° 52°

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

Today	Wed.
90° 55°	74° 47°
93° 56°	80° 48°

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

Today	Wed.
93° 56°	80° 48°
93° 56°	85° 52°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	89°	51°
Normals	74°	50°
Records	103° (1897)	34° (1924)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.93"
Normal month to date 1.29"
Year to date 9.14"
Last year to date 5.54"
Normal year to date 6.40"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	94°	50°
Normals	76°	50°
Records	99° (1983)	33° (1951)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.43"
Normal month to date 1.05"
Year to date 6.31"
Last year to date 4.23"
Normal year to date 5.04"

SUN AND MOON

	First	Full	Last	New
	June 1	June 9	June 17	June 23

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: More clouds than sun today; a morning shower in spots across the north.

Eastern and Central Oregon: A shower across the north today; increasing clouds in central parts and near the Cascades. Sun in the south and upper Treasure Valley.

Western Washington: Times of clouds and sun today with a couple of showers. A brief shower or two tonight.

Eastern Washington: Intervals of clouds and sunshine today; however, increasing clouds across the south.

Cascades: Cloudy and cooler today; a passing shower across the north.

Northern California: Partly sunny today. Rain and drizzle in the interior mountains tonight.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	58	50	c	63	52	c
Baker City	87	51	pc	73	47	pc
Bend	78	44	c	71	46	c
Brookings	57	48	pc	58	50	c
Burns	87	47	pc	69	44	pc
Enterprise	85	52	pc	72	49	sh
Eugene	63	45	pc	71	52	c
Heppner	88	52	pc	72	50	pc
Hermiston	93	56	pc	78	60	pc
John Day	90	54	pc	71	49	pc
Klamath Falls	76	46	pc	67	44	c
La Grande	89	56	c	71	51	pc
Meacham	86	52	pc	69	49	pc
Medford	73	53	c	78	55	c
Newport	56	47	c	59	50	c
North Bend	60	50	pc	63	52	c
Ontario	94	61	s	85	58	pc
Pasco	96	55	pc	79	56	pc
Pendleton	90	55	c	72	56	pc
Portland	65	53	c	74	56	c
Redmond	81	43	t	73	45	c
Salem	64	48	pc	72	54	c
Spokane	88	57	pc	71	54	pc
Ukiah	87	48	c	68	46	pc
Vancouver	62	52	c	72	56	c
Walla Walla	94	58	c	75	59	pc
Yakima	93	54	pc	82	53	c

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	77	58	sh	94	61	s
Hong Kong	86	78	pc	87	80	sh
Jerusalem	83	61	s	83	58	sh
London	69	53	pc	70	53	s
Mexico City	75	59	t	70	57	t
Moscow	62	45	pc	63	53	r
Paris	74	53	t	75	58	sh
Rome	79	57	s	79	59	s
Seoul	80	61	pc	78	63	pc
Sydney	63	51	s	61	51	pc
Tokyo	82	71	pc	80	69	c

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Wednesday
Boardman	NW 6-12	WSW 8-16
Pendleton	E 4-8	W 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

1 4 6 6 4 1

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.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

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

National Summary: Showers and snow will drench areas from Texas to southeastern Virginia and from the Upper Midwest to the central Appalachians today. Storms will dot the Rockies as showers dampen the Northwest.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 107° in Needles, Calif. **Low 22°** in Ryegate, Mont.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	80	57	t	74	55	t
Atlanta	78	65	t	84	66	pc
Atlanta City	65	60	c	72	60	pc
Baltimore	70	60	t	78	56	pc
Billings	76	50	s	85	57	s
Birmingham	79	64	t	84	66	pc
Boise	93	63	s	84	59	pc
Boston	62	55	c	68	59	sh
Charleston, SC	89	69	t	86	68	t
Charleston, WV	80	56	sh	76	53	pc
Chicago	71	51	t	70	51	s
Cleveland	74	57	pc	71	52	sh
Dallas	90	70	pc	88	71	c
Denver	75	50	pc	81	52	t
Detroit	74	54	pc	69	50	pc
El Paso	86	65	t	84	63	t
Fairbanks	60	36	sh	66	42	pc
Fargo	63	43	c	75	50	s
Honolulu	86	73	sh	86	73	pc
Houston	86	71	t	87	72	t
Indianapolis	74	54	pc	72	52	s
Jacksonville	91	69	t	89	69	t
Kansas City	78	54	t	80	63	t
Las Vegas	101	76	s	96	71	s
Little Rock	87	63	pc	87	67	t
Los Angeles	75	59	pc	72	59	pc
Louisville	82	60	pc	80	58	s
Memphis	86	66	pc	85	68	t
Miami	92	80	t	91	79	pc
Millwaukee	69	51	sh	68	53	pc
Minneapolis	61	49	c	72	53	pc
Nashville	85	63	pc	82	73	c
New Orleans	81	71	t	83	73	c
New York City	64	59	c	75	60	pc
Oklahoma City	86	62	pc	87	66	c
Omaha	79	49	s	80	60	s
Philadelphia	70	61	c	79	59	pc
Phoenix	102	76	pc	101	77	pc
Portland, ME	56	50	c	63	52	pc
Providence	67	55	c	75	56	pc
Raleigh	82	64	t	82	63	pc
Rapid City	72	43	s	79	52	pc
Reno	87	57	pc	71	51	pc</