

# THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum  
212 N. Hwy 101, Rockaway Beach, Oregon (503) 457-6056



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Welcome to the Scanner, the official news letter of the International Police Museum at Rockaway Beach.

**IPM is temporarily closed** as we assist with the social distancing and working to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We are facing a serious health risk, one which has been described as having potential on a scale equal to the 1918 flu epidemic which killed an estimated 695,000 in the United States. We are fortunate our knowledge, science and medicine has significantly advanced, with improvements in hygiene and research which will help us mitigate the impact of this threat. The closure, however, will have a significant impact on the service and entertainment we can provide to the public. Museum attendance for the first two months of 2020 was on track to be consistent with previous years. A closure of 45 days or more will definitely impact our total numbers. The only bright part of this closure is that it is during a shoulder season, when attendance is lower than our peak summer months. IPM looks forward to reopening once the crisis is abated.

**Ms Nan Devlin, MTA, CIG; Executive Director of Visit Tillamook Coast, EDC,** the County Tourism Office, put it best in her recent report: Tillamook Coast Tourism Industry Update - March 31, 2020 "Tourism businesses bring vitality to our communities, certainly in the form of restaurants, retail stores, local foods, museums, attractions, campgrounds, lodging, etc. But visitor spending (\$240 million a year in Tillamook County) keeps our grocery stores and gas stations open. Provides about \$1 million a year toward road repair. Keeps our state parks the jewels they are. Inspires entrepreneurial efforts. Supports small farmers and fishers who sell to restaurants that feature local foods." Ms Devlin also indicated: "Visit Tillamook Coast, the SBDC and EDC are all working to help our local businesses and provide updated information to the community on federal, state and regional resources."

**IPM will not be inactive** during this shutdown. We will continue research and development of programs while working to improve displays for our eventual reopening. While there may be some changes, such as revising our interactive area to make it easier to disinfect and increasing the cleaning schedule for display cases, we will maintain a family friendly atmosphere for all ages. Improvements are planned for the web site, including more local history and possible interactive lesson plans on history and other topics. We have already added coloring pages and puzzles to the "Kids" interactive page with more improvements scheduled to roll out in 2020. A goal of this project is to become a source for students and the curious to expand their knowledge of both police and local history while continuing to be a tourist attraction.

**IPM hosted students from Neah Kah Nie High School** and residents from two adult care facilities during 2019 and hope to expand that public service in 2020. Expanded circulation of our official newsletter, the IPM Scanner, which goes out to over 200 people worldwide, is helping to advertise both the museum and the City of Rockaway Beach as a destination. IPM members made remote presentations about the museum and the City and participated locally in the National Night Out Against Crime. IPM remains active in the Tillamook County History Alliance (TCHA) and works closely with the county's tourism promotion group, Visit Tillamook Coast (VTC). The museum had over 20,000 visitors in the first four

## Meet your Board President



### **Doug Tharp, Board President**

Having served IPM since the inception of the museum in 2015, Mr. Tharp was elected President of the Board of Directors for the 2019-2020 period. He succeeds Mrs. Cecile Doyle, and will also continue as the museum's volunteer coordinator. Mr. Tharp is a retired executive and with his wife Marlene, is also active in their church and other Rockaway Beach volunteer activities. His service is greatly appreciated.

and a half years of operation. IPM Board and volunteers are proud of our accomplishments for a relatively new museum. While most travelers come from the US, more than 90% are from over 50 miles away from Rockaway Beach. The museum hosted visitors from England, Canada, Sweden, and several countries in Europe. Two separate officers from England (Kent and Durham Constabularies) modified their vacation routes to stop at the museum. The IPM Board looks forward to a successful and exciting 2020 with new displays and new things for visitors to see and do safely. IPM is proud to be an attraction in Rockaway Beach.

**An advertising grant** from Visit Tillamook County, allowed us to have ads in written publications as well as enhance our digital footprint with Facebook, where we had a reach of 1,388,238 in 2019. We also continued our updates and upgrades to our website: [www.internationalpolicemuseum.org](http://www.internationalpolicemuseum.org). The website had 1,037,663 hits during 2019. The VTC Grant made it possible for IPM to place ads in the Oregon Coast Mile by Mile Guide, and Venture Coastward. Ads and articles were also placed in the Oregon Coast Magazine, which features stories and pictures of coastal interest and is available in multiple retail outlets in Oregon and Washington. We expect a residual effect of this effort through 2020.

**Jane McClain, Board Secretary** attended the nationally recognized Certified Interpretive Guide (CIG) course in Tillamook on February 24-27. The course, which was sponsored by Nan Devlin and VTC, is designed to help entities such as ours to improve their delivery of information to adults, students, and children. Ms. McClain was recently advised she had passed the course exam, and IPM is proud to have its own nationally certified guide.

## **Coming Events**

**May fundraiser cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns.**

**Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 15;** Each year, the president of the United States proclaims May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week of each year during which such May 15 occurs as National Police Week. Please join us in honoring federal, state and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty, as well as all those who serve. Watch for more details on our web site; [internationalpolicemuseum.org](http://internationalpolicemuseum.org).

**July 4 Auction;** July 4, 12:30 following the parade at Central City Park, 100 Blk N. Highway 101. Bid on Weekend getaways, sports tickets, gift baskets, and much more. NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 concerns, our July 4 auction is currently under review. Watch the web site and Facebook for updates.

## **New acquisitions**

**Portland Police Bureau antique memorabilia;** Det. Marcia Carson, PPB ret

**Section of antique wood water pipe dug up in Rockaway Beach;** Advanced Excavation, Nehalem

**Picture of Tillamook County Posse, 1952;** Mr. Don Best, Rockaway Beach

**Police Patches:** Mr. Steven Wright, Seaside

**Police patches and badges;** Mr. Kelly Scott

**Button Collection, Police and military;** Mr. Grant Johnson, Canada

**Photo Credits:** Ed Wortman, Don Best

## **Article Sources:**

(1) <https://www.businessinsider.com/1918-flu-pandemic-pictures-2012-8>

(2) <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/1918-pandemic-h1n1.html>

## **Help us keep history alive**

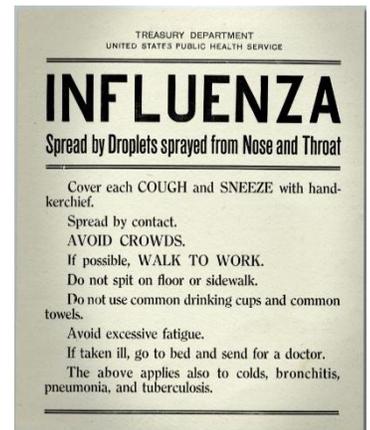
Your donations allow us to bring the Law Enforcement experience to life for visitors, school children, and other tour groups. The International Police Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Donations may be made directly to the Museum, at any U. S. Bank branch, or online at [www.internationalpolicemuseum.org](http://www.internationalpolicemuseum.org).

Please consider supporting the museum with a Memorial Bequest or remembrance in your estate planning. IPM has no paid staff so we rely on volunteers and Board members for staffing and support. We are appreciative of the public support from both area citizens and businesses that has helped us grow and will help us keep history alive for future generations.

## Policing a Public Health Crisis: Ed Wortman, Chief of Police, retired

Police officers and other first responders face a daunting task as they perform their duties, protecting the public, while endeavoring to keep themselves safe. Most of the time, law enforcement deals with perpetrators and evidence that can be seen, identified, classified, and collected. They now face an enemy which cannot be seen, and is not always properly identified as some of the symptoms may resemble a cold or other malady. Governments have mandated that citizens stay at home, not gather in groups, and increase personal hygiene. Social distancing of at least 6 feet is recommended and many grocery stores are limiting access to some items. Many offices and businesses not considered essential are closed; those that can work from home are encouraged to do so. Most government offices are closed, and many medical facilities are handling only emergency or urgent care to stem the epidemic. The press coverage, keeping us updated on the latest numbers, maintains a heightened public awareness. All of this raises the angst of the public as the fear of this unseen assailant grows. Police officers and other first responders must deal with this angst, in addition to the tense, rapidly evolving and emotionally charged situations or emergencies to which they are generally summoned.

This is not the first time our nation has faced such a crisis. There was a pandemic flu which swept through the United States and the world in 1918. Officially known simply as “the flu” this illness was not easily identified as, like our current strain of COVID-19, symptoms could also appear to be a cold, a previously diagnosed stomach flu, or even a sore throat. Due to the wartime press censorship much of the public did not know the extent of the epidemic. The virus became commonly known as the Spanish Flu following press reports on the illness of Spain’s King Alfonso XIII. Now identified as a member of the H1N1 type virus, the Spanish Flu was not well understood at the outset. Some of the current standards were not considered essential in 1918. Sanitation, both in hospitals and private life, was not what it is today. The poster depicted to the right was posted in Seattle, Washington, during the 1918 epidemic and reflects many similarities with the current guidance: (1) Cover your cough, avoid crowds, do not use communal cups or other utensils. We have learned much over the last 100 years, but as we see from the current environment, we still have a lot to learn.



Seattle 1918 Public Health Poster



Seattle Police on Patrol 1918

Many Cities were reluctant to declare an emergency or an epidemic in 1918, fearing that they would set off panic or negatively impact the business or industry in their area. People went to work with a cough, when sick or with a fever, because in 1918 if you didn’t work you may not eat. Health care professionals had not seen a virus or malady which was as contagious as the Spanish Flu. An estimated 50 million died, worldwide, including 675,000 in the United States. (2) Police and first responders in cities such as Seattle were given cloth masks to protect them from this unseen enemy and sent out on patrol. Since there were not a lot of automobiles, walking or mass transit were the most common transportation. Thus the suggestion on the poster to “walk to work.” There are no specific numbers available on the death toll among first responders, but it may have been considerable as they were often the first called to the sick or the dead.

Today’s first responders and the public have more knowledge of modern hygiene standards including hand washing, use of sanitizers, caution about touching public areas such as doorknobs or elevator buttons, and maintaining a safe (6 ft.) distance between people. First responders are also equipped with gloves and other equipment to protect them, their professional contacts, and evidence, from contamination. Many departments also provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) up to and including full containment suits and a Self- Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) in extreme cases. This equipment reduces the possibility of inhalation of smoke or other dangerous particles at a contaminated crime scene. This equipment requires special training and restricts movement, sight, and time. These measures are not suitable for extended periods such as an 8-12 hour shift. When you see a Police Officer or other First Responder wearing gloves or maintaining a distance from someone, remember it is not disrespect, it is for the protection of both parties. They are working hard to protect both themselves and you.



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Tillamook County Sheriff Mounted Posse, 1952



Leonard Broder, Roger Pye(Uniform in museum), Charlie Ditz, Blackie Roach, Jack Mezyk, Vern Lawson, Steve Stiene, Ike Devrich, Clarence, Archie Pye, Ed Sorenson, Cecil Nims, Stan Smarce, Preston Williams. (From faded cursive on the back of original photo. Apologies if spelling incorrect)

“Bringing Police History to life, It’s Not All Guns and Cuffs”

INTERNATIONAL POLICE MUSEUM, ROCKAWAY BEACH, OR

[www.internationalpolicemuseum.org](http://www.internationalpolicemuseum.org)