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FESTIVAL
WOODEN
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MAGAZINE



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B SECTION

Beloved local commercial fisherman confirmed lost at sea

BY JAMES ROBINSON

The search for Joel Kawahara, a Quilcene-based fisherman lost at sea, ended Aug. 13, when U.S. Coast Guard crew members boarded Kawahara’s salmon troller F/V Karolee about 60 miles southeast of Eureka, California, and confirmed that no one was aboard. “Suspending a search for someone is the toughest decision we make in the Coast Guard,” said Cmdr. Chelsey Stroud, search and rescue mission coordinator for the Coast Guard’s Northwest District. “Our crews diligently searched hundreds of miles. We are grateful for the numerous Coast Guard crews along

the West Coast who assisted in this search. We send our deepest condolences to the family, friends, and loved ones of the missing man.” According to reports, Kawahara, 70, departed Quilcene on Karolee and was last heard from about 7:30 a.m. on Aug. 8. At that time the vessel was in the fishing grounds about 30 miles west of Neah Bay. After that last contact, the Karolee’s Automatic Identification System (AIS) indicated the boat maintained a constant speed of about four knots, heading on a constant southerly course for several days. AIS enables boats to broadcast their identity, position, course, and speed

using VHF radio signals, allowing other AIS-equipped vessels to track and identify them. By Aug. 10, and after a weekend of no-contact, concern for Kawahara grew and the word went out up and down the West Coast over radios and social media, urging the Coast Guard, boaters and fishermen to be vigilant for signs of Kawahara. Coast Guard watchstanders made numerous call-outs to the Karolee and asked mariners in the area to do the same. No response was received. On the morning of Aug. 12, a Coast



The Automatic Identification System (AIS) track shows Karolee’s unattended course before U.S. Coast Guard crews intercepted the vessel on Aug. 14. Image courtesy the U.S. Coast Guard

see LOST, page 25

From the streets to the kitchen to people



Michael McCutcheon and Debbie Paulson ready a home-cooked meal, a Friday routine that has become a lifeline for many in Jefferson County. Photo by Alex Frick

Editor’s note: This is the third part of a series that explores the housing crisis affecting Port Townsend and Jefferson County.

BY ALEX FRICK

Each week, Michael McCutcheon briskly moves between prep tables and stacked freezers, his hands in constant motion while portioning out food for the next community meal. Dozens of donated produce boxes lean against the wall as the smell of seasoned chicken fills the air. The people who line up for his food don’t see a stranger — they see someone who has stood where they stand. “I’ve been homeless. I’ve been drug-addicted. I’ve been sicker than sick,”

McCutcheon said. “I had 38 years of what I like to ‘call research in opiate disorder.’ Then I decided I didn’t want to do it any longer.” Recovery for McCutcheon was anything but a clean break. “I’d go to detox, get out, and think, ‘Man, I wish today I could get high, but I can’t.’ I’d last a few weeks, sometimes less. But I kept trying for a longer stretch every time.” Then McCutcheon discovered that giving back provided the motivation he needed. In a sense, a selfless act sparked his life’s work. “I gave my life to God and realized what I wanted to do was to give back. You can’t keep something you can’t give away,” he said.

“I started out handing out bottled water by the truck-load on Skid Row. Hostess sponsored me, so I gave out Twinkies and Ding Dongs. Then I went to bologna sandwiches — no mayonnaise, no mustard, just straight bologna.” He moved on to Hollywood, where he began feeding unhoused youth. He applied the same principles that kept him sober to help mentor troubled kids. “It kept me busy thinking about other people instead of what I didn’t get,” he said. “We’d bring kids from rich neighborhoods — kids in trouble for weed or cocaine — and have them serve homeless kids. They were shocked.” Fifteen years later,

McCutcheon is still feeding people in need, now in Jefferson County. Three days a week, his operation — and its impact — continue to grow. His purpose has expanded from hunger to outreach. “I’ll take one or two people a week and just work with them,” he said. “I can believe they can change more than they believe. I’m living proof.” McCutcheon spoke of a time when he mentored a young man everyone else had given up on. “A retired cop told me, ‘Mike, you’re putting too much energy toward that kid. He’s not going to make it.’ But I can’t give up

see STREETS PAGE 24

Finance director reports solid second quarter

BY JAMES ROBINSON

The city is halfway through fiscal year 2025 with revenues tracking slightly ahead and expenditures under budget, according to city finance staff who presented a second quarter financial briefing to the Port Townsend City Council on Aug. 18. “Nothing jumped out at me that was a surprise,” said Jodi Adams, the city’s finance director. “There were no surprises and no concerns. Business and occupation (B&O) tax came in higher than expected, and that may be due to big construction projects.” Adams said that while B&O tax came in strong, Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), was a “little lower than expected, but I’m not concerned.” Collections on REET are at nearly \$230,000, which is about 34% below budget. They were more than offset by strong B&O performance at \$2.49 million, which is 62% above expectations. According to the report, cash in the bank comes in at \$5.3 million, with the city’s General Fund forecasted to end the year with a \$4.93 million fund balance. Other highlights from the report include:

- General Fund revenues are at 52% of budget.
- General Fund expenditures are at 47% of budget.
- Property tax collections as of the end of the second quarter total \$2.31 million or 57% of budget.
- Sales tax collections are reported at \$3.18 million or 45% of budget.



JODI ADAMS

Suspect returns, makes off with stolen vehicle after breaking into courthouse

BY MALLORY KRUML

An early morning heist at the Jefferson County Courthouse ended near the mossy city of Forks on Aug. 15. At approximately 6:05 a.m. that day, 911 dispatchers received a report of a burglary at the courthouse from

a county employee, according to the Sheriff’s Office. Law enforcement deputies, officers and state troopers responded immediately to secure and clear the building. An initial investigation determined that at around 1:00 a.m., a person dressed in dark clothing — later identified as 34-year-old Andrew Gaikowski

— broke a window to gain entry to the courthouse and then forced entry into the Sheriff’s Civil Office. Once inside, the suspect stole body-worn cameras, Taser batteries and keys to an unmarked juvenile services transport car, wrote Acting Sheriff Andy Pernsteiner. Gaikowski fled the scene in the stolen

car and was later located near Forks. All stolen property was recovered, and Gaikowski was taken into custody at approximately 9:19 a.m. Gaikowski remains in custody on \$50,000 bond and is facing 15 charges from the incident, including

see THIEF PAGE 3

Cox lawsuits against city manager, mayor dismissed

LEADER STAFF

A Jefferson County Superior Court judge has dismissed the lawsuits against the City of Port Townsend, City Manager John Mauro and Mayor David Faber filed by Reverend Crystal Cox, leaving only one defendant, Phil Olbrechts, in the case.

The dismissal came following court proceedings on Aug. 8.

In a memorandum opinion dated Aug. 14, Judge Brandon Mack detailed

grounds for dismissal, ruling that Cox’s appeal of an ethics complaint dismissal was not legally valid.

Cox, according to court documents, had argued her case under the state Administrative Procedure Act and the Ethics in Public Service Act, but the court found those laws apply to state agencies and officials, not municipalities.

Mack also noted that Cox attempted to shift her legal argument to a writ of review under RCW (Revised Code of

Washington) 7.16, but failed to meet procedural requirements, including filing a writ application and properly serving the defendants.

Also on Aug. 14, Cox filed her own “Notices of Voluntary Dismissal” for the cases against Mauro, Faber and Olbrechts.

Cox, representing herself, alleged that the court’s clerical errors deprived her of due process, claiming her appeal was incorrectly treated as a new civil case. Mack rejected that

argument, writing that the dismissal was based on law and procedure, not on the clerk’s case classification.

Mack further clarified that the court is not required to provide litigants copies of orders and that parties must request them from the clerk’s office, contrary to Cox’s understanding and assertions.

The ruling leaves Cox with the option of filing a motion for reconsideration or appealing the dismissal.

BRIEFS

Long-time hospital district commissioner and board chair Jill Buhler Rienstra will not seek re-election, leaving three candidates to vie for the two open board seats in November’s general election.

According to VoteWA, Buhler Rienstra entered the race to return to East Jefferson Hospital District No. 2 on May 5 but withdrew from the race on May 12.

“I was going to run and I did file, but another woman who is exceptionally qualified also filed,” Buhler Rienstra said. “It was a hard decision to make, but I really, sincerely believe it’s time for me to step aside. This isn’t about winning or losing an election, it’s about who’s best suited to lead Jefferson Healthcare for the next six years and beyond.”

VoteWA shows incumbent Matt Ready, Stu Kerber and Patty Rhoden all vying for seats on the hospital district board.

Buhler Rienstra said she endorses Rhoden’s candidacy.

Buhler Rienstra, who was appointed to the East Jefferson County Hospital District No. 2



BUHLER RIENSTRA
not seeking re-election to hospital board.

board of commissioners in 1995, has been reelected three times.

WATER CHALLENGES AT PARK

Visitors and campers heading to Bogachiel State Park will need to prepare for limited water availability for the remainder of the season, according to state parks officials.

Due to low water levels in the park’s well, potable water will be limited to use by registered campers only.

Day-use visitors are asked to bring their own water.

Restrooms will remain open, but the park’s showers, dump station and RV tank filling water stations are closed.

The well is not expected to recharge until the fall rainy season.

LAYOFF ASSISTANCE

The Employment Security Department, along with state and local partners, will host another layoff assistance webinar for state of Washington employees and contractors on Aug. 21.

The webinar is scheduled from 1 to 3 p.m. on Aug. 21. Registration is free and is open until the event starts. There is no limit to the number of participants who can register. The event is the fifth webinar organized for state workers. Staff hosting the webinar said they will not be able to address specific questions due to the large number expected.

RAPIST SENTENCED

A Marysville man was sentenced to more than 23 years in prison after he was convicted of committing second-degree rape in 2019, the day he was released from prison.

Rhyan Tyler Vasquez, 31, was sentenced Aug.

15 by Jefferson County Superior Court Judge Brandon Mack to 280 months in prison for second-degree rape, with domestic violence and an aggravator for rapid recidivism.

On July 7, 2019, Vasquez’s former girlfriend picked him up from his release from Clallam Bay Corrections Center.

Vasquez admitted to detectives that he hit his former girlfriend in the face and threw her phone, but he told the jury the sexual encounters were consensual.

During the trial,

Deputy Prosecutor Holly Graham presented evidence that included photographs of the woman’s injuries, DNA evidence and Vasquez’s admissions of hitting her and biting her.

At the sentencing hearing on Aug. 15, Mack told Vasquez that a person cannot consent to sex after having been assaulted and threatened.

INDIAN ISLAND TRAINING

Naval Magazine Indian Island (NMII) has scheduled security training exercises from Aug. 19 through Aug. 21.

Training to ensure readiness and verify response procedures will take place near the main gate, near the pier and on the water.

NMII said neighboring residents may notice increased noise and activity.

Scenarios will include the loud sirens, bright blue flashing lights, the use of blank ammunition and boats on the water. NMII will make announcements over the base’s loudspeaker.

Temporary main gate closures are expected, but should not impact area traffic.



New Port lift

Port Commissioner Pam Petranek, Congresswoman Emily Randall and Port Townsend Mayor David Faber

break a bottle of stout on the new travel lift at Boat Haven in front of a crowd on Aug. 18. *Photo by Mallory Kruml*

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In a story about the federal suit against OlyCAP staff and Jefferson County Commissioner Greg Brotherton in the Aug. 13 Leader, Richard Fitzgerald’s position was incorrectly identified. The suit names Fitzgerald

as a plaintiff, individually and as manager of the Quilcence Community Center.

A column by Hazel Windstorm in the Aug. 13 issue misspelled her name.

WEEK OF AUGUST 20 - AUGUST 27

DATE	HIGH	LOW
20 Wed	68°	52°
21 Thu	70°	54°
22 Fri	73°	55°
23 Sat	74°	55°
24 Sun	70°	54°
25 Mon	70°	54°
26 Tue	70°	54°
27 Wed	68°	54°

DISCOVERY BAY TIDES

HIGH				LOW							
DATE	A.M.	ft.	P.M.	ft.	A.M.	ft.	P.M.	ft.	SUNRISE	SUNSET	MOON
20 Wed			4:05	8.1	8:08	-1.5	9:02	6.1	6:11	8:16	☾
21 Thu	1:07	7.1	4:38	8.1	8:58	-1.4	9:45	5.5	6:13	8:14	☾
22 Fri	2:15	7.1	5:07	8.1	9:42	-1.1	10:24	4.9	6:14	8:13	☾
23 Sat	3:16	7.0	5:32	8.0	10:23	-0.6	11:04	4.2	6:15	8:11	☾
24 Sun	4:12	6.8	5:54	7.9	11:00	0.1	11:43	3.5	6:17	8:09	☾
25 Mon	5:06	6.6	6:12	7.8	11:37	1.0			6:18	8:07	☾
26 Tue	6:02	6.3	6:29	7.6	12:23	2.7	12:15	2.0	6:20	8:05	☾
27 Wed	7:01	6.1	6:49	7.5	1:04	2.1	12:53	3.1	6:21	8:03	☾

PORT TOWNSEND TIDES

HIGH					LOW						
DATE	A.M.	ft.	P.M.	ft.	A.M.	ft.	P.M.	ft.	SUNRISE	SUNSET	MOON
20 Wed	12:40	7.7	4:52	8.6	8:25	-1.6	9:19	6.5	6:11	8:16	☾
21 Thu	1:54	7.6	5:25	8.6	9:15	-1.5	10:02	5.9	6:13	8:14	◯
22 Fri	3:02	7.5	5:54	8.6	9:59	-1.2	10:41	5.2	6:14	8:13	◯
23 Sat	4:03	7.5	6:19	8.5	10:40	-0.6	11:21	4.5	6:15	8:11	◯
24 Sun	4:59	7.3	6:41	8.4	11:17	0.1			6:17	8:09	◯
25 Mon	5:53	7.0	6:59	8.2	12:00	3.7	11:54 AM	1.1	6:18	8:07	☾
26 Tue	6:49	6.7	7:16	8.1	12:40	2.9	12:32	2.1	6:20	8:05	☾
27 Wed	7:48	6.5	7:36	7.9	1:21	2.2	1:10	3.3	6:21	8:03	☾

PORT LUDLOW TIDES

HIGH					LOW						
DATE	A.M.	ft.	P.M.	ft.	A.M.	ft.	P.M.	ft.	SUNRISE	SUNSET	MOON
20 Wed	1:49	8.7	5:04	9.9	9:04	-1.5	10:24	6.6	6:11	8:14	☾
21 Thu	2:55	8.7	5:37	10.0	9:55	-1.5	11:05	5.8	6:12	8:12	☾
22 Fri	3:52	8.8	6:04	10.0	10:41	-1.3	11:41	5.1	6:13	8:10	☾
23 Sat	4:44	8.8	6:28	10.0	11:22	-0.9			6:15	8:08	☾
24 Sun	5:33	8.7	6:50	9.9	12:16	4.3	12:00	-0.1	6:16	8:06	☾
25 Mon	6:22	8.5	7:12	9.8	12:49	3.5	12:37	0.9	6:17	8:04	☾
26 Tue	7:11	8.3	7:35	9.7	1:23	2.8	1:14	2.1	6:19	8:02	☾
27 Wed	8:03	8.1	8:01	9.4	1:59	2.1	1:51	3.4	6:20	8:00	☾



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PUBLISHER
Lloyd Mullen
lloyd@ptleader.com

EDITOR
Meredith Jordan
editor@ptleader.com

COPY EDITOR
Patrick Jennings

NEWSROOM
Kirk Boxleitner
kbox@ptleader.com
James Robinson
jrobinson@ptleader.com
Mallory Kruml
mkruml@ptleader.com
Alex Frick
Africk@ptleader.com

ADVERTISING
Cyrus Gubelman, manager
cgubelman@ptleader.com
Kachele Yelaca
kyelaca@ptleader.com

PRODUCTION
Jessica Ceballos
jcebaltos@ptleader.com

FRONT OFFICE/LEGALS/CLASSIFIEDS
Kathleen Boyd, manager
frontoffice@ptleader.com
classifieds@ptleader.com
subscriptions@ptleader.com

DELIVERY
Nicole Eldridge
subscriptions@ptleader.com

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‘Flying the flag’ in South County with a deputy

BY ALEX FRICK

Alan Jorgensen waves at just about every car passing by — and just about every driver waves back. It is a friendly habit, but for South Jefferson County’s new dedicated deputy, it is also strategy.

“If folks see you around when nothing is wrong, it changes the conversation when something is,” Jorgensen said.

Jorgensen was assigned to South County, a position created this year after residents pressed for more consistent coverage in Brinnon and Quilcene. He said previously deputies would rotate through but were often pulled back north for calls in more populated areas.

South of State Road 104 is his territory, and he’s seen the reaction in real time. “Tons of people are just super happy that I’m there,” he said. “Some have come up behind me, which is always spooky, and they give me a big old hug. A few people have said that things have already gotten better. Less people doing sketchy things at sketchy times.”

His first day was April 1, and Jorgensen was greeted with an unusual welcome.

“The night before, someone broke into the Brinnon fire station and tore it up, broke a bunch of windows, tried to steal an ambulance and then bled all over the inside of my

office because he cut himself on the glass,” he said. “So yeah, my first day I show up to work, I’m told ‘By the way, your office got all [messed] up.’”

Since April, Jorgensen has leaned on visibility and building relationships as much as he has enforcement.

“I try to hit neighborhoods that don’t normally get hit — drive through there, if I see somebody out gardening, I’ll stop. It’s just kind of a chitchat.”

He prefers a proactive approach to law enforcement, and these routine loops have practical purposes.

“If I do it enough, then I know when I’m like, ‘hey, that vehicle, I don’t recognize that,’” he said. By picking up on irregularities, he can better identify unlawful behavior.

“There’s somebody in there ... turns out they got drugs in their lap or something, they got warrants.” He added that this approach is crucial “just by being in the neighborhoods and being able to recognize what’s normal, what’s not.”

They call it “flying the flag,” a reminder that a deputy is nearby.

“It’s not about sitting in one spot,” he said. “It’s about getting around and being approachable. If you’ve already talked with me on a good day, it makes the bad day a little easier.”



South County Deputy Alan Jorgensen pilots a drone through an opening between the trees to survey the Dosewallips Fire from above. *Photo by Alex Frick*

He is one of the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office search-and-rescue coordinators, and he often relies on drones to cover terrain quickly, whether that is mapping a fire line or locating someone lost in the backcountry.

“The main thing is the drone,” he said. “Suspects that run in the woods or even fires, too ... You can see where it’s spread.” Jorgensen said the drones have been critical during the recent wildfires. “It’s phenomenal when you can get that spot fire weather and actually see what’s going on before you send people in,” he said.

Jorgensen said if South County had a dedicated drone in Brinnon that he could conveniently use, there would be

a noticeable impact.

“If we had one right there ... it would be huge,” he said.

Jorgensen grew up in Jefferson County and has worked in Port Townsend as a county detective. He said while he enjoyed his time in busy North County, patrolling in South County has a different vibe.

“Being a cop is fun anyways. I love this,” he said. “Up north, you get all that. But down here, it’s more relationships. Lots of old timers come up and like to talk to me.”

The role also requires judgment and a respect for the small-town challenges a community can face.

“I’m not going to hammer down on somebody who probably doesn’t have the gas

money to make it all the way to Port Townsend,” he said. “If they’re doing stupid stuff, like drinking and driving ... that’s different.”

As he patrols South County, he waves at drivers and pedestrians, and they wave right back, a small but steady sign that his presence is not just noticed but warmly welcomed.

“If people feel like someone’s around, they’ll think twice,” he said. “It’s about showing up,” he said. “If we do that, a lot of the rest takes care of itself.”

Alex Frick is a staff writer for The Leader in Port Townsend and a 2025 corps member of the GroundTruth Project of Report for America.

Thief: Suspect heads to Forks with a stolen transport vehicle owned by Sheriff’s Dept.

continued from page 1

second-degree malicious mischief, second-degree theft, second-degree burglary, and taking a motor vehicle without permission.

“As far as security for the courthouse, I’m not going to divulge what

security is up there for safety purposes, although we did meet to talk about further security measures due to this event,” Pernsteiner wrote.

The investigation is ongoing and charges are pending, according to the sheriff’s office.

It’s the second time Gaikowski broke

into the courthouse this year. In June, he broke in but didn’t steal anything, said Detective Brian Anderson with the sheriff’s office.

“We know the suspect from what pictures we had of him ... so the same thing he did last time, he was in the courthouse,” said Detective Brian

Anderson. “That was investigated by the city last time. I think he was issued a citation for criminal trespass.”

Pernsteiner wrote that charges for the June incident are still pending. Police Chief Thomas Olson did not respond to a request for comment by press time.

Jefferson County Fair

Thanks you

- Sam Wall
- Sean Wall
- Anji Scalf
- Loretta Nelson
- Kim Merrik
- Linda Gately
- Cheri Scalf
- Ross Pruden
- Korina Maher
- Katie Kowal
- Kellie Henwood
- Kay Gual
- Bridget Gregg
- Amit Sharma
- Owen Rowe
- Sophie DeGroot
- Michael Reynolds
- Yvette Reynolds
- Aimee Rosbach
- Alicia Simmons
- Amy Long
- Anne Kearson
- Bethel Moore
- Candy Seele
- Chris Franson
- Emily Bishop
- Geoff Rosbach
- Hannah Germeau
- Hellen Cury
- Hope Robinson
- Jeanne Kitchen
- Jessica Dehnert
- Jessica Larson
- Kari Mathews
- Katherine Haman
- Kimberly Erickson
- Lauren Reinertsen
- Michelle Skopnick
- Shelby Smith
- Stacy Pratt
- Talia Munn
- Tara Murphy

- Trena Brown
- Trisha Freiberg
- Kathi Johnson
- Beth Hansen
- Linda York
- Joan Chapdelaine
- Elouise Hepworth
- Eileen Martin
- MaryRose Stanton
- All Home Arts Volunteers
- Kristi Pimentel
- Ramon Pimentel
- The Moore Family
- Laurie Hampton
- Virginia Crandall
- Dr. Bill Testerman
- Dr. Harold Sherwood
- Sigourney Tuttle
- Tina Anderson
- Rose Martin
- Linda Findlay
- Johanna Perkins
- Stacy Richards
- Sarah Smith
- Scott Seidel
- Shawna Seidel
- Tim Arrowood
- Paws-N-Claws 4-H Club's 4-Hers & Adults
- Lori Bailey
- Patrick Forrestal
- Debbie Stoll
- Amber Miller
- Denise Huff
- Nicole Murray
- Cyndie Stumbaugh
- Taylor Howerton
- Tina Anderson
- River Bell
- Sam Johnson
- Justin Clouse
- Megan Titus

- Shannon Riley
- Chuck & Julie Boggs
- Quilcene Wranglers
- Safyr Hinkle
- Emmeline Hopkins
- Cody Patterson
- Leslie Brown
- Betty Mysak
- Hannah Nordstrom
- Horseketeers 4-H Club
- Jefferson County Horse 4-h Club
- Sequim FFA
- Equitese Pony Club
- 7 Cedars Casino
- A+ Rentals
- Abracadabra
- Artifact Puzzles
- Bayview Restaurant
- Bazaar Girls Yarn
- Creative Union
- Corvus Crafts
- District Fabric
- Edensaw
- Franson Trucking and Excavating
- Frederickson Electric
- Green Eye Shade
- Gold Coast
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- Integrity Roofing and Construction
- Jeffco PUD
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- Quimper Mercantile
- Reed Electrical
- Robert and Barbara Gray
- Safeway
- Shold Excavating INC
- Strange Day
- Summer House Design
- Sunshine Propane
- The Leader
- The Moore Family
- The Production Alliance
- WestBay Auto Parts
- Whistle Stop Toy Store
- Wilderbee Farm
- North Beach Neighbors
- Ben Thomas
- Heather Dudley-Nolette
- Tobi McEnerney
- Linda Noble
- Arran Stark
- Sarah Henry
- Michael McCutcheon
- Elijah McCutcheon
- Mike Hilt
- Kyle Legman
- The Dahlstrom Family
- Max Morningstar
- Brian Morningstar
- Lammers Family
- Miranda Rogers-Lynn
- Kris Horrocks
- Jane Stebbins
- Ezra Paskus
- Jane Stebbins
- Kyle Legman
- Bill McEnerney
- Argus McEnerney
- Becky McEnerney
- Thomas Lenigan
- Cameo Turner
- Ethan Newman
- Ben Waltenbaugh



- David Moore
- Taylor Handly
- Mark Walters
- Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts
- Port Townsend Paper Company
- The Spice and Tea Exchange
- Port Townsend Little League
- North Olympic Salmon Coalition
- Don's Pharmacy (Home Arts)
- Port Townsend Sunrise Rotary
- Rotary Club of Port Townsend
- KMi Kristin Manwaring Insurance
- Integrated Psychology Group
- The Blankenship Family
- The Obee Family
- Tri Area Garden Club
- Karly Mishko
- Alissa Gubelman
- Lillian Gulden
- Danny McEnerney
- Doug and Pat Rogers
- Sigrid Cummings
- Susan Roller
- Ken Roller
- Dave Codier
- 4-H volunteers, participants, and parents

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Council takes next steps for Evans Vista housing project

BY ALEX FRICK

Port Townsend City Council unanimously endorsed staff efforts on Aug. 18 to move the Evans Vista neighborhood project forward, clearing the way for the city staff to begin soliciting developers.

The decision reaffirms the city’s commitment to Evans Vista, a 321-home neighborhood planned on city-owned land near the Rainier Street roundabout. At least 25% of the homes are aimed at middle-income households, with additional units expected to meet affordability requirements tied to future state or federal support.

Housing Grants Coordinator Renata Munfrada presented city council a comprehensive update on Evans Vista, describing the meeting as an opportunity to restart public conversation after a long pause.

“Our intent for the council meeting was really to kick off the conversation and let the community know we’re picking the project back up, after leaving it on hold for a while,” Munfrada said. “We want the community to know the project is not dead, and while it may take a while to get units on the ground, we are taking the steps necessary on the back end to move the project forward.”

With council approval, the next stage tentatively includes a “soft launch” with potential developers, followed by a formal request for proposals in 2026. Staff outlined a roadmap that anticipates a developer will be selected by the end of 2026, with agreements negotiated through 2027 and construction starting in 2028.

City leaders acknowledged the challenges ahead but stressed that the situation is both necessary and urgent.

Mayor David Faber said, “We need thousands of units of housing in this community in the next 20 years, and I don’t think we are going to get there without proceeding with this project.”

Deputy Mayor Amy Howard echoed Faber’s statement.

“We have to build housing. We have to have rental units, not just home ownership,” she said. “We need to be



Port Townsend city council endorsed staff efforts to advance Evans Vista, a major housing project aimed at addressing affordable housing. *Photo by Alex Frick*

fixing that housing ladder. We don’t solve the homeless issue without solving that issue — the whole ladder is broken.”

Staff noted that grant funding for the project carries a 24-month requirement, meaning construction must begin within two years of the award announcement, expected in early 2026. The timeline is intended to ensure infrastructure dollars quickly translate into housing, and staff said developer outreach and selection remain on schedule with the city’s plan.

Council member Neil Nelson noted significant challenges tied to the encampments nearby.

“To move forward at the rate of speed that we need to move forward, we have to deal with the homeless issue that

we’ve got out there,” he said. “That’s already proving to be a challenging concept. I think we can do this, but I think we need to be aware of the fact that we have to do this. We have to.”

Public Works Director Steve King referenced planning commission member Viki Sonntag’s earlier remarks about the countywide housing deficit.

“Viki noted we had a deficiency of 2,200 affordable units in Jefferson County,” King said. “Evans Vista has the opportunity to create capacity in our region to build at scale to make a dent in that problem.”

He added that the success of the Evans Vista project will hinge on partnerships, but that decisions as to who will be managing the properties have

“We get a lot of criticism about whether the city should be a developer. The city is looking for a developer. The city is not trying to be the developer.”

DEPUTY MAYOR AMY HOWARD

not been made yet.

According to a pro forma and final design presentation prepared by ECO Northwest, which was presented to city council on Nov. 20, 2023, estimated the total project costs would range from \$111 to \$126 million. Multifamily development costs would range from \$312,000 per unit to \$380,000 per unit, depending on the unit mix and construction type.

City staff said the proposed designed is not set in stone.

“There is entirely a possibility of a nonprofit to run this place. None of this has been decided,” King said. “It could also be mixed.”

The project has been met with scrutiny from the public, with concerns that the city should not be in the development business. Howard pushed back on the notion that the city is attempting to take on the job itself.

“We get a lot of criticism about whether the city should be a developer. The city is looking for a developer. The city is not trying to be the developer,” Howard said.

While the Evans Vista project is moving forward, the planning commission said they are remaining focused on the comprehensive plan by the end of the year, including code changes.

“We haven’t specifically spoken about what a future planning commission might entail,” Munfrada said. “For now, the commission’s focus is really the Comp Plan. We are on a tight timeline to get that finalized, which also includes making the actual code changes due by the end of the year.”

At the moment, the city council’s action means the project is moving ahead, with staff preparing developer outreach with continued community updates.

“There will likely be many more public presentations pertaining to Evans Vista as the project progresses,” Munfrada said. “I’m excited to see it unfold.”

Alex Frick is a staff writer for The Leader in Port Townsend and a 2025 corps member of the GroundTruth Project of Report for America.



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Bear Gulch fire grows to 8,373 acres, containment reaches 7%

BY MALLORY KRUML

The Bear Gulch fire in Olympic National Forest burns on.

Containment has increased slightly, now reaching 7%, as of Aug. 19. Days earlier, containment was at 3%.

Its estimated size has grown to 8,373 acres. “Yesterday’s rainfall significantly reduced fire behavior,” according to an Aug. 16 fire update. “As the rain subsides, fire behavior may increase due to trees falling outside the fire perimeter, which can contribute to increased fire speed.”

Residents in the area near Dry Creek, including the Staircase Campground, are under a Level 3 “GO” evacuation order from the Mason County Sheriff’s Office. The area south of Dry Creek is under a Level 2 “Be Set” order.

“As far as the fire goes, no real growth anywhere

across the fire, it is continuing to warm and dry and so we are seeing increased smoke in isolated spots,” said California Interagency Incident Management Team 7 Operations Section Chief Derek Steidley, during an Aug. 19 fire briefing.

Officials say the fire will continue to burn until winter.

Campfires are prohibited in the national forest and Olympic National Park. All outdoor burning is prohibited in Mason County.

As of June 18, Jefferson County has a high fire level in effect, prohibiting fireworks, charcoal grills, exploding targets, incendiary ammunition, firearm discharge on unimproved county lands, tiki-style torches and open flame devices, according to its website.

While East Jefferson fire Rescue (EJFR) isn’t involved in the firefighting efforts at Lake Cushman, Fire Chief Bret Black commented on this year’s

wildfire season.

“We are seeing a noted increase in wildfires in Jefferson County this summer,” Black said. “We are only halfway through the wildfire season. We are expecting higher than normal wildfire potential in September, that’s the national wildfire risk forecast.”

Black does not expect EJFR to assist with the Bear Gulch fire, given it has its own boundaries to protect.

“Events like the Bear Gulch fire could happen in other parts of the county, and the lesson learned there is our community needs to be ready,” Black said, recommending residents sign up for NIXLE, an emergency alert system, and have a go bag ready.

Olympic National Forest continues to seek tips on how the human-caused fire started on July 6. Those with information should contact the Forest Service Tipline at 541-618-2154.

POLICE LOG

The Port Townsend Police Department responded to 178 calls for service from Aug. 11-17.

AUG. 11: Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle at a local apartment complex in the 1600 block of 21st Street. According to the report, a vehicle was slowly driving through the parking lot, parking and reversing several times, while revving the engine. Officers located the vehicle unoccupied.

• Officers responded to an unwanted person at the local shelter in the 200 block of Monroe Street. Upon arrival, the subject had already left the shelter. No known threats were made, but they had a disagreement with the employees.

• Officers conducted a traffic stop for texting while driving a motor vehicle in the business park at West Park Ave.

• Officers responded to a theft at a local business in the 900 block of Water Street. The suspect was located, trespassed and arrested.

• Officers responded to an animal bite in the 1100 block of 19th Street. The neighbor’s dog attacked and bit a juvenile in the face. The dog was taken for a mandated quarantine. The juvenile is recovering from his injuries.

AUG. 12: An officer responded to a report of graffiti on a garage in the 700 block of Water Street. The graffiti has since

been cleaned. There are no suspects at this time.

• Officers responded to a vehicle prowl in the 400 block of Umatilla Avenue. The victim’s vehicle was broken into overnight. There are no suspects at this time.

AUG. 13: Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 1000 block of Sheridan Avenue, and determined the driver was impaired. The suspect was arrested for DUI and transported to jail.

AUG. 15: Officers responded to a theft of a cell phone in the 900 block of Kearney Avenue. The suspect had stolen the phone, and took off on an electric bike. Officers were

unable to locate the suspect.

• Officers located a warrant suspect in the 2500 block of Evans Vista Boulevard. The suspect was taken into custody without incident, and transported to jail.

• Officers located a warrant suspect in the 200 block of Monroe Street. The suspect was taken into custody without incident, and transported to jail.

• Officers responded to a burglary at the Jefferson County Courthouse. The suspect broke in, caused damage and stole property, including a vehicle, with which they left the city limits. The suspect was apprehended at Rialto Beach.

SHERIFF’S LOG

The Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office responded to a total of 343 calls for service from Aug. 7-13.

Deputies conducted 112 traffic stops, of which two resulted in criminal (misdemeanor/felony) charges.

AUG. 7: A Brinnon resident reported their neighbor’s chickens were eating their blueberries. Law enforcement made contact with the neighbors, and they said they would do better about keeping the feathered berry thieves in their own yard.

• A report of a traffic hazard on West Valley Road in Chimacum. The reporting person described the hazard as “two fat miniature horses,” and contained them in their fenced yard. The Jefferson County Sheriff’s Animal Control Officer arrived, and made arrangements for the horses’ owner to retrieve them.

AUG. 8: Deputies assisted Port Townsend Police with multiple reports of a disturbance in the parking lot of Safeway. A man was throwing shopping carts, while yelling and making obscene hand gestures to passing vehicles. The subject said he was “taking out his frustrations on the shopping carts.” Officers served the subject with a trespass admonishment.

AUG. 9: A vehicle was reported as parked on a dirt road for nine days off Highway 101, in the west end of Jefferson County. Law enforcement arrived, and discovered the vehicle was a rental that had been reported stolen out of California. Evidence inside the vehicle was recovered, the vehicle was towed and the owner was contacted.

• A disturbance was reported at a Jefferson Transit bus shelter near Four Corners Road in

Port Townsend. The reporting party stated that a man was screaming, throwing things and kicking buses. The behavior prevented buses from entering the shelter. When deputies arrived, the subject was calm and compliant.

AUG. 10: A Port Hadlock resident called to report a series of small fraudulent charges from Google and Amazon were made on their credit card, totaling \$140. The caller believes the charges were made out of California, and believes their number was compromised online. The victim’s bank is reversing the fraudulent charges.

• Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office and Washington State Patrol responded to a two-car collision in Chimacum. One driver went through a stop sign without stopping and caused the collision. Airbags were deployed, but there was

no report of injuries.

AUG. 11: Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office assisted Washington State Patrol with a hit-and-run collision on Highway 101 in Sequim. A van side-swiped a Clallam Transit bus, and the driver fled the scene. No bus passengers were injured.

AUG. 12: A report of a noise complaint at Fort Flagler. On three consecutive nights after closing hours, multiple cars of kids were driving through the park, screaming. Washington State Patrol, the law enforcement agency that governs Washington State Parks, was requested to do extra patrols.

• A Port Ludlow resident reported malicious mischief. The resident returned home to find damage to five of their vehicles. The estimated

total of damages was \$10,500. The victim had no cameras, and there was no evidence left behind by the vandal(s).

AUG. 13: A Brinnon resident called about a large number of people, and two to three cars, on abandoned property. They reported hearing arguing and screamed obscenities. Deputies checked the property, and found no vehicles or people. The reporting party stated they all ran off into the woods when law enforcement arrived.

This week, there were multiple reports of vehicle-versus-deer collisions in Jefferson County. Minimal damage to vehicles, and no serious injuries to passengers, were reported. If only the deer would obey their crossing signs. Until then, stay alert and be safe.

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Jefferson County deputies put drone technology to work in the field

BY ALEX FRICK

The Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office is putting drone technology to work in nearly every aspect of its operations, from search-and-rescue missions and wildfire detection to tactical responses and crime scene mapping.

Detective Sgt. Derek Allen, who runs the department’s drone program, said the crewless aerial vehicles are becoming an essential tool.

Allen said the drones can do “an amazing amount of things.” He said drones have significant potential for a wide range of field operations, from locating and communicating with vulnerable community members to conducting search-and-rescue missions in the mountainous backcountry.

Fairgoers got an up-close look at the aircraft in action when Allen and other deputies also brought the drones to the 2025 Jefferson County Fair. The Sheriff’s Office booth featured them as part of its public outreach.

Many of the Sheriff Office’s drones come from DJI Enterprise, which makes a variety of drones. These systems typically feature visual and thermal sensors, Global Positional System mapping and rapid deployment capabilities, which Allen said are transforming emergency response.

“We will fly and try to find the person and then give them instructions via a loudspeaker that attaches to it,” he said. “We use them for tactical situations, so we can give ourselves a little more distance while still communicating with people. Also, it lets us get eyes on a location that we might not be able to safely put a deputy or an officer.”

Allen added that the drones are also used in criminal apprehension during foot and vehicle pursuits, as well as in traffic collision reconstruction and mapping out homicide scenes. Recently, the drones have assisted in finding lost dogs and helping other agencies, including the search for the triple murder suspect in Chelan County.

“The list just goes on and on and on,” he said.



The Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office uses drones as part of the department’s growing aerial response program. *Photo by Alex Frick*

With wildfire season in full swing, drones are also utilized in identifying potential fires. Thermal imaging has allowed the sheriff’s office to recognize wildfire hotspots and underground fires sparked by lightning strikes.

“The fires technically already started, it’s just generally underground,” Allen said. “But the heat that it emits is visible through the IR [infrared] of the UAV [unmanned aerial vehicle], whereas with the naked eye or flying a plane or helicopter, you might see no signs of it.”

Similarly, drones have been deployed in rescues where first responders’ access is slow or dangerous.

“We found a guy. He had been lost. We located him with the drone,” he said. He was going to have to stay overnight, and so we were able to remotely

drop [supplies] to him in the middle of the night and got him through the evening. And the next morning at daybreak, we were able to find him.”

The drones have also assisted during water emergencies when rescue boats could not get there quickly or safely.

“We could potentially deploy a pilot and a drone, and they can fly a life jacket out and remotely drop it,” Allen said.

Each pilot in the program must complete a three-day preparatory course on FAA rules for UAV operation, and then they must pass an FAA remote pilot license test with a minimum score of 80%.

“Once you’ve achieved [your FAA license], you come back to me. We go over drone 101 with all of our different platforms. And then from that point, we do quarterly trainings at the

Sheriff’s Office,” Allen said.

Training covers everything from assembly to advanced mapping for homicides, wildfires, and large-scale disasters.

Allen said that future applications could include single-person drones capable of transporting rescuers directly to remote locations.

“Instead of taking eight hours to climb this, you could now fly there and ... start providing that life-saving medical attention that’s necessary immediately rather than half a day later,” he said. “It truly is a tool that can be applied almost anywhere you can think of. The possibilities are pretty much endless.”

Alex Frick is a staff writer for The Leader in Port Townsend and a 2025 corps member of the GroundTruth Project of Report for America.



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ASTROLOGY
ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
This week you are unstoppable, Aries. Your confidence will be shining brightly for all to see, and the right people are bound to take notice. Expect to tackle some projects.
TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, small comforts will bring big happiness to you this week. Plus, your natural charm will draw others in. A surprise in your home life will make your heart soar. Enjoy the moments.
GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, your words will be magical this week whether you're pitching ideas or chatting with friends. There's not much you can't say that people will not hear and take to heart.
CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, this week you may be building something meaningful, whether it is in love or work. All of the steps you are currently taking will help establish security and happiness in your life.
LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
Your creativity is on fire right now, Leo. People are drawn to your warmth and charisma. This is a great time to start something new or share a talent with others.
VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Something that felt out of place begins to align perfectly right now, Virgo. You might be tapping into your inner wisdom, and it's guiding you toward some much-needed success.
LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, new connections will be coming your way, meaning that you may have different avenues for social connections. Get out and meet people as much as you can.
SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Your drive is unmatched right now, Scorpio. Whatever goals you have established you are pushing through faster than would seem possible. Stay focused, but celebrate your progress.
SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Adventure is calling, Sagittarius. You might be planning a trip or diving into a new study subject. This week a fire will be lit and your optimism is contagious.
CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, a breakthrough in your life may be brewing. You are increasingly making smart choices that can offer long-term dividends. Stay open and trust the process.
AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
Connections with others are a primary focus for you this week, Aquarius. Whether you are exploring love, friendship or new business opportunities, fresh energy comes into play.
PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
You are in your element this week, Pisces. A creative idea or unexpected kindness makes the week extra special. Focus on some self-care and keep giving off positive vibes.
FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS
AUGUST 17 Austin Butler, Actor (34)
AUGUST 18 Andy Samberg, Actor (47)
AUGUST 19 John Stamos, Actor (62)
AUGUST 20 Demi Lovato, Singer (33)
AUGUST 21 Hayden Panettiere, Actress (36)
AUGUST 22 Dua Lipa, Singer (30)
AUGUST 23 Shelley Long, Actress (76)



Eager to work outdoors and gain hands-on environmental restoration skills? Washington Conservation Corps is recruiting crew members in Discovery Bay and statewide. Visit www.ecology.wa.gov/WCC or call 360-470-0004.

213236 8/20-9/3

Finnriver Cidery is looking for a Warehouse & Logistics Manager. Are you detail-oriented person who enjoys interfacing with different factions of the business? Look at the full posting on www.finnriver.com/jobs. Full time with benefits.

213070 7/23-8/20



Hiring Caregivers
\$21.49-\$25.39 hour
Part Time and Full Time,
Paid Training, Flexible
Shifts, Paid Health
Insurance
[www.kwacares.org/](http://www.kwacares.org/careers)
[careers](http://www.kwacares.org/careers)
Call 360-344-3497
212782 7/2-9/17



Jefferson County Public Health is hiring a Public Health Communication Specialist. This position works within a team to build engaging and informative communication platforms that strategically disseminate time sensitive emergency, educational and general information about the department, its services and programs. UFCW, 40 hours/week with benefits. Grade 28, starting pay typically \$28.71/hr. Full hourly range \$28.71-\$34.28/hr. DOE. To submit application, resume, letter of interest, and to see full job description for minimum qualifications & desired skills go to <https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/Jobs.aspx>. Open until filled, first review September 3, 2025. ADA/EOE.

213185 8/13-8/20



Jefferson County Public Health-Epidemiologist I or II (Hybrid, 2-3 days/week working in office): Provides data collection and analysis, program monitoring and evaluation, and epidemiological services in support of public health programs. UFCW, 40 hrs/wk with benefits. Epidemiologist I, Grade 33, starting pay typically \$34.44/hr. Full hourly range \$34.44-\$41.12/hr. DOE. Epidemiologist II, Grade 35, starting pay typically \$37.08/hr. Full hourly range \$37.08-\$44.28/hr. DOE. To submit application, resume, letter of interest, and to see full job description for minimum qualifications & desired skills go to <https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/Jobs.aspx>. Open until filled, first review September 3, 2025. ADA/EOE.

213184 8/13-8/20



Maintenance Technician II-Specialist-Stormwater, Septic, Well Systems Join the dynamic team at the Port of Port Townsend! The Port is seeking a self-motivated, team-oriented, and positive individual to join the Port team as a full-time employee. A position as a Maintenance Technician II - Specialist is now open. See application at www.portoftp.com. Submissions should include application, resume, and cover letter. Hourly pay range \$34.76 – 39.12 DOE/DOQ, plus full benefits package (medical, dental, vision, and life insurance and vacation, sick, and holiday pay). This is a union position; Position closes September 2, 2025. The Port of Port Townsend is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

213234 8/20-8/27



Quilcene School District is accepting applications for a Special Ed Paraeducator/Campus Aide for 5.5 hrs/day; Special Ed Paraeducator for 6.5 hrs/day starting the 25/26 School Year. Application packet, job descriptions with salary/benefits information are available online at: www.QSD48.org/employment. EOE

213237 8/20-8/27



Senior Director of Development

Full-Time with benefits | Exempt | Salary Range: \$85,000 - \$100,000 | Port Townsend, WA

Centrum is seeking a strategic, community-minded, and visionary leader to join our executive team as Senior Director of Development. This is an exciting opportunity to lead Centrum's fundraising, donor engagement, and philanthropic strategy in support of our mission to foster creative experiences that change lives.

We offer a collaborative work environment, competitive compensation, flexible scheduling, and benefits including health insurance, retirement contributions, paid vacation/holidays, and access to Centrum workshops and events.

To Apply, submit your resume and cover letter to: hr@centrum.org See the full posting at centrum.org

Centrum is an Equal Opportunity Employer

212206 4/16-4/30

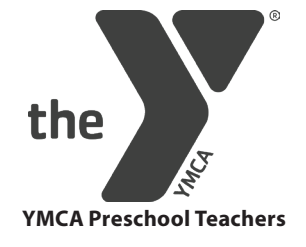


The Port Townsend School District is now accepting applications for the following 6.5 Hr/Day, 181 Days/Year positions: General Paraeducator at Salish Coast Elementary School; Specialized Paraeducators at Salish Coast Elementary School; General Paraeducator at Blue Heron Middle School. Salary range for general paraeducators is \$22.75 - \$28.76 per hour. Salary range for specialized paraeducators is \$23.88 - \$29.67 per hour. Salary is determined

based on prior Port Townsend School District experience.

BENEFITS: Benefits include Sick Leave, Annual Leave, Bereavement Leave, Family Sick Leave, Medical, Dental, Vision, AD&D, and Basic Life Insurance coverages for those that meet the 630 work hour requirement. Retirement is through the WA State Department of Retirement, plans available: SERS/TRS Plan 2 or SERS/TRS Plan 3.

213196 8/16-8/24



YMCA Preschool Teachers

The YMCA Early Learning Center at 7th Haven is hiring Preschool Teachers for part-time with the potential to transition to full-time as the program expands. This new program will provide state-licensed childcare for 2.5-5 year olds in a brand-new facility. Must be 18 years of age or older with a high school diploma or equivalent; some college education preferred. Apply online at olympicpeninsulaymca.org/careers.

213064 7/30-8/20

YMCA Wellness Coaches

The YMCA of Jefferson County is hiring wellness coaches to join our team. This role will instruct members and guests in the safe use of fitness equipment and monitor our new Wellness Center located at the branch; 18+. Apply online at olympicpeninsulaymca.org/careers.

213065 7/30-8/20

Services

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212772 6/18-9/10

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191718

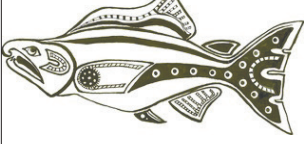
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207552 1/31-3/27

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stevengoddard13@gmail.com
192181

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194633

County Notices



AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO SERVE ON CHIMACUM DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOARD

Jefferson County seeks interested individuals and organization

representatives who value Chimacum Creek - and the Beaver and Chimacum valleys that its two forks occupy - and the robust agriculture they support to serve on the revitalized Chimacum Drainage District Board of Commissioners. We seek a diversity of interests for the Drainage District including agricultural producers, people with a natural resource or conservation background and residents of the district.

The initial three commissioners will be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, and subsequent commissioners will be elected by drainage district property owners, as provided in Chapter 85.38 RCW. Membership on the Drainage District Board is not paid. Meeting schedules are to be determined by the Drainage District Board of Commissioners.

To be considered for appointment to the Drainage District Board of Commissioners please fill out and submit a Volunteer Application. A Volunteer Application can be found at: www.co.jefferson.wa.us - Services - Laserfiche web portal (username and password: public) - Board of Commissioners - Boards & Committees - Chimacum Creek Drainage District. You may also request an application by calling (360) 385-9100, or by coming to the County Administrator's Office.

Volunteer applications must be received on or before **4:30 p.m. September 2, 2025**, in the Jefferson County Administrator's Office, P.O. Box 1220, 1820 Jefferson St., Port Townsend, WA 98368. Positions open until filled. First review is September 4, 2025.

PTL: August 20, 2025
Legal No.213228



JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCIES

Help shape our community's future growth & character! There are positions open for the Jefferson County Planning Commission in

District 1 - The remaining terms begin as soon as filled and will expire on March 17th of 2028 with the possibility of an additional term. District #1 includes the Port Townsend area.

District 3 - The remaining terms begin as soon as filled and will expire on March 17th of 2029 with the possibility of an additional term. District #3 extends from southern Oak Bay to South County and the West End.

The Planning Commission assists the Department of Community Development and prepares advisory recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. The group provides a forum for public review of land use and planning proposals such as the Comprehensive Plan, zoning designations, policies and regulations that guide development activities around the county. The group does not review project-specific permits.

Meetings are typically held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 5:30 PM at the WSU Extension Classroom in Port Hadlock with the option to attend virtually. There is a \$50 stipend for each meeting attended.

TO APPLY: Find Volunteer Application at: <https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/18833/Board-and-Commission-Volunteer-Application>

Submit completed application to Joel Peterson, Associate Planner, at jpeterson@co.jefferson.wa.us Each position is open until filled. Review of applications will begin immediately.

LEARN MORE: Visit the Planning Commission webpage, including Commissioner District map, at <https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/580/Planning-Commission> or contact Department of Community Development at 360-379-4450 or PlanningCommission@co.jefferson.wa.us.

PTL: July 9, 2025
Legal No.212933



Jefferson County Public Health is soliciting applications from residents of County Commissioner District 3 to serve on the Clean Water District Advisory Council. If you are interested in assisting the county with the protection and restoration of water quality and shellfish resources in Jefferson County, please contact Michael Dawson at 360-385-9444 x301 or mdawson@co.jefferson.wa.us. The position is unpaid. Applications are available at Jefferson County BOCC office, 1820 Jefferson Street, Port Townsend or at www.jeffersoncountypublichealth.org by following the link for the Clean Water District. Application deadline is August 29, 2025.

PTL: May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
Legal No.212425



TAX NO. 712 2025 CERTIFICATE OF DELINQUENCY ISSUED TO: JEFFERSON COUNTY FOR: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 AND 2025 TAXES THIS IS TO CERTIFY that I have this day, as Treasurer of Jefferson County, issued to said County, this Certificate of Delinquency for assessments, taxes, interest, penalty, and costs due and delinquent August 15, 2025, in the sum set opposite each description of the real property situate in Jefferson County, State of Washington, and described as follows, TO WIT: See attached Exhibit A incorporated herein by reference. Which several sums shall bear interest at 12 percent per annum or 9 percent per annum on the balance of unpaid taxes, and a penalty of 11 percent per annum on 2021, 2023, 2024 and 2025 delinquent taxes plus added costs as required by law. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Witness my hand and seal as Treasurer of said County, in said State, this 15th day of August 2025. Stacie Prada Treasurer of Jefferson County State of Washington

DEFENDANT: ALVAH A BRIDGES
Parcel Number:**710-312-043** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Heirs and/or Devises of Ganova J. Bridges, deceased** Description: **That portion of H.E.S. No. 119 in Section 31, Township 27 North, Range 10 West, W.M., in Jefferson County, Washington, known as Lot 42 of Brandenberry Estates (unrecorded plat), as designated on the County Assessor's Plat and Description Book as Tax No. 42 in said Section 31. Situate in the County of Jefferson, State of Washington.** Situs Address For Informational Purposes Only: **Vacant Land, Forks, WA 98331** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$1,653.62 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

DEFENDANT: BARBARA J SPARKS
Parcel Number:**979-503-108** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Heirs and/or Devises of Barbara J. Sands-Sparks, deceased and Donald E. Black, as a separate estate** Description: **Lots 13 and 14, Block 31, First Addition to Oil City, according to the plat recorded in Volume 3 of Plats, page 15, records of Jefferson County, Washington.** Situs Address For Informational Purposes Only: **Vacant Land, Port Angeles, WA 98362** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$1,610.73 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

DEFENDANT: BARBARA J SPARKS
Parcel Number:**979-503-902** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Heirs and/or Devises of Barbara J. Sands-Sparks, deceased and Donald E. Black, as a separate estate** Description: **Lot 2, Block 39, First Addition to Oil City, according to the plat recorded in Volume 3 of Plats, page 15, records of Jefferson County, Washington.** Situs Address For

Super Crossword

Answers

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Weekly SUDOKU

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8	2	1	9	6	5	7	4	3
7	4	6	2	3	1	5	8	9
3	1	5	7	9	4	6	2	8
2	6	4	8	5	3	9	7	1
9	7	8	1	2	6	4	3	5
6	5	2	3	4	9	8	1	7
4	8	7	5	1	2	3	9	6
1	9	3	6	7	8	2	5	4

Informational Purposes Only: **Vacant Land, Port Angeles, WA 98362** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$1,546.15 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

DEFENDANT: GERTRUDE L MC MILLEN TRSTE, MC MILLEN FAMILY REVOCABLE TRUST Parcel Number:**801-102-003** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Successor Trustee(s) of Gertrude L. McMillen, deceased Trustee, of The McMillen Family Revocable Trust** Description: **That portion of the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 28 North, Range 1 West, W.M., in Jefferson County, Washington, lying Northwesterly of Center Road and Southerly of the following described property: Beginning at a point on the North line of said Section 10, which is 16.63 chains East of the Northwest corner of said Section 10, being the Northeast corner of the school lot; Thence running South 3.16 chains; Thence East, to the West line of Permanent Highway 4-D; Thence North, along the West line of said highway, to the North line of said Section 10; Thence West to the point of beginning. Situate in the County of Jefferson, State of Washington.** Situs Address For Informational Purposes Only: **Vacant Land, Port Angeles, WA 98368** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$1,689.62 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

DEFENDANT: JASON LEVI NEALE Parcel Number:**502-103-024** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Jason Levi Neale, as his separate property** Description: **A tract of land in the Southwest quarter of Section 10 and the Northwest quarter of Section 15 in Township 25 North, Range 2 West, W.M., in Jefferson County Washington, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point on the South line of Section 10, South 89°14'39" East along said South line 1,413.98 feet to the 1/16 corner and South 89°12'12" East 122.37 feet along said South line to the True Point of Beginning; Thence North 89°12'12" West, 122.37 feet; Thence South 1°21'11" West, 120.21 feet; Thence North 88°15'02" West, 382.10 feet; Thence North 115.36 feet; Thence North 89°14'39" West, 228.00 feet;**

Thence North 67°35'51" East, 127.61 feet; Thence North 38°16'32" East, 112.36 feet; Thence North 34°15'53" East, 193.60 feet; Thence South 81°46'40" East, 592.72 feet; Thence South 31°12'25" West 267.33 feet to the True Point of Beginning; (Also known as Tract 11 of Madrona Ridge unrecorded plat) Situate in the County of Jefferson, State of Washington. Situs Address For Informational Purposes Only: **200 Jupiter Loop Rd, Brinnon, WA 98320** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$13,888.74 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

DEFENDANT: JUDITH BROOKS JOHNSON Parcel Number:**989-714-211** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Heirs and/or Devises of Judith Brooks Johnson, also known as Judith Johnson-Cuvertino, deceased** Description: **Blocks 1 and 2 of Tideland District No. 8 (being first-class tidelands) of Original Townsite of Port Townsend, according to the plat recorded in Volume 1 of Plats, page 1, records of Jefferson County, Washington; TOGETHER WITH those portions of East Front Street and Clay Street, as vacated in Ordinance No. 1016 recorded under Auditor's File No. 67979, which attach by operation of law. Situate in the County of Jefferson, State of Washington.** Situs Address For Informational Purposes Only: **Tidelands, Port Townsend, WA 98368** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$1,615.47 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

DEFENDANT: LESLIE DRAKE Parcel Number: **702-236-001** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Heirs and/or Devises of Leslie Drake, deceased** Description: **523-T27N-R2W-TAX 39 IMPS ONLY 12x56 MH W/OUTBLDG Situate in the County of Jefferson, State of Washington.** Situs Address For Informational Purposes Only: **69 DEEMA SMACKMAN RD, QUILCENE, WA 98376** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$1,419.51 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

DEFENDANT: MARY C KANAHELE AND LINDA STEELE Parcel Number:**966-900-020** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Mary Catherine Kanahale, as a separate**

estate Description: **Lots 20 and 21, Lazy C Ranch, Division 1, according to the plat thereof filed in Volume 5 of Plats, pages 9 to 11, records of Jefferson County, Washington. Situate in the County of Jefferson, State of Washington.** Situs Address For Informational Purposes Only: **240 Appaloosa Dr, Brinnon, WA 98320** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$8,896.11 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

DEFENDANT: NANCY L YOUNG Parcel Number:**942-600-502** Lien, Contract OR Judgement Holders: **Heirs and/or Devises of Nancy L. Young, deceased** Description: **Lots 2, 3, 4, and 5, Block 5, Chalmer's Addition to Irondale, according to the plat recorded in Volume 2 of Plats, page 128, records of Jefferson County, Washington. Situate in the County of Jefferson, State of Washington.** Situs Address For Informational Purposes Only: **90 May St, Port Hadlock-Irondale, WA 98339** Amount of County Delinquency: **\$4,378.74 plus costs** Tax Year Owing: **2022, 2023, 2024, 2025**

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY IN RE THE PROCEEDINGS FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY FOR THE FORECLOSURE OF LIENS FOR DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEARS 2022 THROUGH 2025 AND/OR PRIOR YEARS. NOTICE OF SUMMONS OF FORECLOSURE FOR DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAX AND ASSESSMENTS NO. 25-2-00172-16

JEFFERSON COUNTY TO THE SAID: SUCH OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES KNOWN OR UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE CERTIFICATE OF DELINQUENCY

1. A lawsuit has been started in the above-entitled court by Jefferson County, Plaintiff, to foreclose real property tax lien on property described in Certificate of Delinquency filed with the court on August 15, 2025. Jefferson County records and/or a title report reveal that you may own or have an interest in the property described in the enclosed documents. 2. Jefferson County is the owner and

holder of a Certificate of Delinquency No. Tax 712 issued on August 15, 2025 for the delinquent real property taxes, interest and penalties owed on the real property described in the attachment for 2022 through 2025 and/or prior years. 3. In order to defend against this foreclosure lawsuit, you must appear and defend this action by answering this summons and notice in writing within thirty (30) days after service of this notice and summons, exclusive of the day of service, or pay the amount due for taxes, interest, penalties and foreclosure costs. All pleadings and process may be served upon Jefferson County by serving the same upon the undersigned attorneys at their address stated below. 4. You may demand that the plaintiff file this lawsuit with the court. If you do so, the demand must be in writing and must be served upon the person signing this summons. Within 14 days after you serve the demand, the plaintiff must file this lawsuit with the court, or the service on you of this summons and complaint will be void. 5. If you wish to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter you should do so promptly so that your written answer, if any, may be served on time. 6. This Summons is issued pursuant to rule 4 of the Superior Court Civil Rules of the State of Washington. 7. Important – Judgment and Order of Sale Without Notice. Jefferson County will apply to the Superior Court in November 2025, for a judgment foreclosing its lien for taxes and an order to sell the property against which judgment is rendered. If you fail to answer or pay the amount due, default judgment will be entered against the property foreclosing the lien for taxes, interest, penalties and foreclosure costs against the land and premises described in the attachment. A default judgment is one where Jefferson County is entitled to have the application for judgment foreclosing the tax lien granted because you have not responded. Default judgment will be entered without notice unless you or your attorney serves a notice of appearance on the undersigned person, or you request notice as set forth in paragraph 12 below. The judgment would be against the property and not a personal judgment against you. 8. If judgment is rendered against the property, either by default or

after a hearing by the court, your property will be ordered to be sold. The property against which judgment is rendered will be sold, unless redeemed prior to the day of sale, at a public auction. The sale will be held via internet auction on the tentative date of December 3, 2025, with the sale continuing thereafter on any parcel remaining unsold until each parcel is sold or the Jefferson County Treasurer determines that no bids were received. 9. Important – Redemption Rights. The Property may be redeemed from foreclosure, and sale of the property avoided, by paying the delinquent taxes, interest, penalties and foreclosure costs prior to the day of the public auction. The payment must be by cash, cashier's check, money order, or certified check. The right to redeem the property expires at 4:30 p.m. the day before the public auction. There is no right of redemption on the day of or after the public auction. 10. Important – Right to Surplus Sale Proceeds. If the property is not redeemed from foreclosure and you are the record owner of the property on August 15, 2025, the date the Certificate of Delinquency was issued to the County Treasurer, then you are entitled to any sale proceeds which exceed the taxes, interest, penalties and foreclosure costs. 11. Exemption for Elderly and Disabled. This action will not be continued against your property if you are eligible for deferral of taxes under ch. 84.38 RCW due to age or disability and file a declaration to defer taxes in accordance with the requirements of that chapter. The Foreclosure Department of Jefferson County can assist you in filing the declaration if you call 360-385-9155. 12. Interest accrues at the rate of 9% or 12% per year. 13. You may obtain further information regarding the matters set forth above, including the total amount of interest, penalties and foreclosure costs payable at the time of redemption, by contacting the Foreclosure Department of the Jefferson County Treasurer, 1820 Jefferson St., Port Townsend, Washington, 98368, phone: 360-385-9155. 14. Request for Notice of Judgment and Sale Dates. You may ask the Foreclosure Department for the dates on which application for judgment and the public auction will occur. The date for the sale is tentatively set for

December 3, 2025 @ 8:00 a.m. Dated this 15th day of August, 2025 Respectfully submitted, Melissa Pleimann, WSBA #50591 Jefferson County Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Published: PT Leader August 20, 2025 Legal No.213229

State Notices



NOTICE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT PERMIT

PERMIT NO: WA0021202

APPLICANT: Olympic Water and Sewer Inc. 70 Breaker Lane Port Ludlow, WA 98365

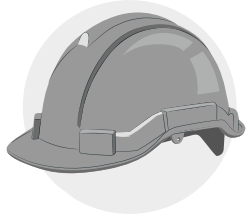
FACILITY: Port Ludlow Wastewater Treatment Plant 8481 Oak Bay Road Port Ludlow, WA 98365

Olympic Water and Sewer Inc. has applied for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington (RCW), Chapter 173-216 Washington Administrative Code (WAC), and Federal Clean Water Act. Olympic Water and Sewer Inc.

presently owns a secondary activated sludge wastewater treatment plant. The plant is currently limited to a maximum monthly flow of 0.32 million gallons per day (MGD) due to operational deviations from the original design. When

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Pets, larger than life, grace mural painted at Humane Society

BY MALLORY KRUML

Two new animals have found a home at the Humane Society of Jefferson County. But these larger-than-life pets aren't up for adoption.

A colorful new mural now greets visitors at 112 Critter Lane, featuring a curious cat, a playful dog and butterflies flying around the building's exterior.

Evan Kraft, a now-graduated Port Townsend High School student, painted the mural.

Dr. Deanna Kraft, Evan's mother, is a veterinarian at the Humane Society.

"The idea of a mural came about as we were thinking of ways to be more involved in the community and send a message that we are making positive changes," she wrote in an email to The Leader. "My son happened to be looking for a senior project idea and was interested."

The high school requires graduating students to complete a project that involves either career exploration or community service.

Given his artistic abilities and the fact that he was voted "Most Likely to be Featured at the Met" by his class, the mural was a good fit for his project, Kraft wrote.

"I've always been interested in art, but I wasn't sure how I could take advantage of that interest for my senior project," Evan wrote. "When the opportunity for this project arose I knew that this project was meant for me, and so I decided to take it on."

After checking out books from the library for inspiration, Evan and his mother chose a color palette to complement the cinder block exterior.

"He designed it to capture attention as you come around the curb of the driveway," Kraft said over the phone. "We wanted it to fit with the building itself and complement it."

Evan hand-drew the design and

transferred it to the wall using a Photoshop-style app to maintain perspective and proportions.

"That was one thing the cinderblocks came in handy for, was using them as a grid to transfer the image," Kraft said.

Mallory Paint Store donated paint for the mural, and Station Signs provided a metal sign featuring the organization's logo.

"I'm a new manager and I am trying to build rapport, and I like helping the community as much as I can," said Isaac Poeschel, the paint store manager. "If that's one way I can do it, by all means, it was easy to do."

Evan worked on the mural throughout the spring, usually on weekends and after school, often joined by friends.

"As it got closer to the deadline for him to get it done, I tried to help a little bit to get it moving along," Kraft said. "He actually had friends over who either just offered moral support or did a little painting."

He completed the project in June and presented it at the Port Townsend High School Senior Symposium in July. Finishing it while keeping up with school and extracurricular activities was a challenge, he wrote.

"A small part of the appeal of this project was knowing how good it would feel having completed it," Evan wrote.

"Presenting the project felt like the finishing touch, and it made me feel proud of my work."



Evan Kraft, muralist, stands next to his work. *Courtesy photo*

There, Kraft recalls a county commissioner commenting that the project was an example of an essential but underfunded organization making the best of what they have.

While a welcome improvement to the building's exterior, Kraft hopes it will reflect the humane society's internal efforts to improve the organization as a whole.

"We have new management and new staff, and are seeking applications for more positions," she wrote. "We are all working very hard to bring our operations up to current sheltering standards as defined by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians and the ASPCA, as well as provide more services to Jefferson County pet owners."

CLASSIFIEDS

operations are normalized, a maximum monthly flow of 0.64 MGD will be in effect. The wastewater, following treatment, must meet the requirements of the Washington State Water Pollution Control Act (Chapter 90.48 RCW) and applicable regulations for a permit to be issued.

Following evaluation of the application and other available information, a draft permit has been developed which would allow the discharge of treated municipal wastewater from Port Ludlow Wastewater Treatment Plant to the outer Port Ludlow Bay/Admiralty Inlet area. A tentative determination has been made on the effluent limitations and special permit conditions that will prevent and control pollution. A final determination will not be made until all timely comments received in response to this notice have been evaluated.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND INFORMATION

The draft permit and fact sheet may be viewed at the Department of Ecology (Ecology) website: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/paris/DocumentSearch.aspx>. The application, fact sheet, proposed permit, and other related documents are also available at Ecology's Southwest Regional Office for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, weekdays. To obtain a copy or to arrange to view copies at the Southwest Region Office, please call (360) 407-6365, email publicdisclosureswro@ecy.wa.gov, or write to the address below.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed permit. All comments must be submitted by September 19, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. to be considered for the final determination. Comments should be sent to:

Alisha Mckittrick
Department of Ecology
Southwest Region Office
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

Email comments should be sent to swrowqpermits@ecy.wa.gov.

Any interested party may request a public hearing on the proposed permit within 30 days of the publication date of this notice. The request for a hearing shall state the interest of the party and the reasons why a hearing is necessary. The request should be sent to the above address. Ecology will hold a hearing if it determines that there is significant public interest. If a hearing is to be held, a public notice will be published at least 30 days in advance of the hearing date. Any party responding to this notice with

comments will be mailed a copy of a hearing public notice.

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov. For TTY or Washington Relay Service, call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit Ecology's website at <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Accountability-transparency/Accessibility> for more information.

Published: The PT Leader
August 20, 2025
Legal No.213197

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO CHANGE A WATER RIGHT

TAKE NOTICE:

That River Valley View of Quilcene, WA on May 16, 2025, filed Water Right Application No. CG2- 25592CWRIS, to change groundwater, certificate G2-25592C with a priority date of 5/9/1980. Permitted quantities are for year-round use from existing groundwater well in the amount of 47 gallons per minute (gpm) and 7.1 acre-feet per year (ac-ft/yr) for group domestic supply use

Change point(s) of withdrawal: The certificated point(s) of withdrawal is/are located within the SE quarter of the SE quarter of section 22, township 27N, range 02W, W.M., within Jefferson County. The proposed point(s) of withdrawal is/are located within the NW quarter of the SW quarter of section 23, township 27N, range 02W, W.M., within Jefferson County.

To view this application as well as the underlying certificate documentation, visit our Water Right Search application and web map search here: <https://apps.wrighttrackingssystem/WaterRights/default.aspx>

Protests to this application must include a detailed statement of the basis for the objections. Protests must be accompanied with a fifty dollar (\$50.00) non-refundable recording fee. We accept check or money order only. Do not send cash. Send your protest with the \$50.00 fee to the Department of Ecology at the address below within 30 days from: 8/25/2025

Department of Ecology
Cashiering Office
PO Box 47611
Olympia, WA 98504-7611
PTL.: August 20, 2025
Legal No.213240

Notice to Creditors

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KITSAP COUNTY

In Re The Estate of: DAVID R. JORDAN, Deceased.
No. 25-4-00908-18
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

(RCW 11.40.030) (NTRCD)
The person named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this Estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. Date of First Publication: 8/20/2025
Whitney A. Jordan, Personal Representative
Eric Landeen, WSBA #53824; Attorney for Whitney A. Jordan, Personal Representative
Address for Mailing or Service: Eric Landeen
PO Box 163, Indianola, WA 98342
Tel: 360-265-3554
Court of probate proceedings and cause number: Kitsap County Superior Court No. 25-4-00908-18
Published: The PT Leader
Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 2025
Legal No.213206

NOTICE TO CREDITORS of and Claimants against Accu-Comm, Inc.: RCW 23B.14.070

TO: All Creditors of Accu-Comm, Inc.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that ACCU-COMM, INC., a Washington corporation (the "Corporation"), filed its Articles of Dissolution and was

administratively dissolved by the Washington Secretary of State, effective as of **July 25, 2025**.

In accordance with the Washington Business Corporation Act, specifically RCW 23B.14.070, any claim against the Corporation will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within **three (3) years** after the first date of publication of this notice.

All claims must be presented in writing and must include the following information:

1. The claimant's name and mailing address;
2. The amount of the claim;
3. The basis for the claim and the date the obligation was incurred; and
4. Any supporting documentation.

Written claims must be mailed to the Corporation's registered agent at the following address:

Michael J. Bingaman
c/o Cross Sound Law Group, PLLC
19307 8th Ave NE Ste C
Poulsbo, WA 98370

A claim against the Corporation will be barred if a claimant fails to commence a proceeding to enforce the claim within three years of the publication date of this notice.

DATED this 1st day of August, 2025.

By: Brittany Shaw Arnold, WSBA No. 42586
Attorney for the Dissolved Corporation
Cross Sound Law Group, PLLC
19307 8th Ave NE Ste C
Poulsbo, WA 98370
Phone: 360-598-2350
Email: brittany@crosssoundlaw.com
Published: The PT Leader
August 6,13,20, 2025
Legal No.213150

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR KING COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GARRETT W. LARSEN, Deceased.
Probate No.25-4-05372-2 SCA
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE NAMED BELOW has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of

limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the Decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. Date of first publication: 8/20/2025
Personal Representative: Dianna L. Larsen
Attorney for Personal Representative: Henry W. Grenley, WSBA #1321
MULLAVEY, PROUT, GRENLEY & FOE, LLP
2401 NW 65 TH
P.O. BOX 70567
SEATTLE, WA 98127-0567
(206) 78 9-2511
FAX: (206) 789-4484
Published: The PT Leader
Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 2025
Legal No.213217

Summons

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR COWLITZ COUNTY JUVENILE DIVISION

In Re the Interest of: ROSS, AEDAN
JAMES WALKERDOB: 07/07/2015 Minor Child.
Case No.: 22-7-00442-08
NOTICE AND SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION (Dependency)
TO: HOGAN, JOHN, Parent
A Dependency Petition was filed on October 11, 2022; A Fact Finding hearing will be held on this matter on September 29, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at Cowlitz County Youth Services Center, 1725 First Ave, Longview, WA 98632. YOU SHOULD BE PRESENT AT THIS HEARING. THE HEARING WILL DETERMINE IF YOUR CHILD IS DEPENDENT AS DEFINED IN RCW 13.34.050(5). THIS BEGINS A JUDICIAL PROCESS WHICH COULD RESULT IN PERMANENT LOSS OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR AT THE HEARING THE COURT MAY ENTER A DEPENDENCY ORDER IN YOUR ABSENCE. To request a copy of the Notice, Summons, and Dependency Petition, call DSHS at 360/501-2600. To view information about your rights in

this proceeding, go to www.atg.wa.gov/DPY
DATED this 7th day of August, 2025.
STACI L. MYKLEBUST
Cowlitz County Clerk

Published: PT Leader
Aug. 20, 27, Sept 3, 2025
Legal No.213194



Superior Court of Washington, County of Jefferson Juvenile Court

Dependency of: FRITH, Sylvia
DOB: 12/11/2024
**No. 25-7-00001-16
Notice and Summons by Publication (Dependency)**

To: Alleged fathers, Jose Trinidad Maldonado Rodriguez, Jose Luis Gordillo-Zuniger and unknown father, John Doe, name and identity unknown, and/or anyone else claiming a parental interest in the child.

A Dependency Petition was filed on January 9, 2025; A Fact Finding hearing will be held on this matter on **October 2, 2025**, at 9:00 a.m. at Jefferson County Courthouse, Juvenile Court, 1820 Jefferson Street, Port Townsend, Washington, 98368.

You should be present at this hearing.

The hearing will determine if your child is dependent as defined in RCW 13.34.030(6). This begins a judicial process which could result in permanent loss of your parental rights. If you do not appear at the hearing, the court may enter a dependency order in your absence.

To request a copy of the Notice, Summons, and Dependency Petition, call DCYF at 360-302-3533. To view information about your rights, including right to a lawyer, go to www.atg.wa.gov/DPY

Dated: July 11, 2025, by Lori Bailey, Chief Deputy Clerk, Jefferson County Superior Court Clerk.

Published: The PT Leader
August 13, 20, 27, 2025
Legal No.212986

Rededication Potlatch draws many to honor totem pole

In July of 2015 there was a “Rededication Potlatch” celebration for the totem pole on “Burner Point” near the Inn at Port Ludlow. The totem pole had been erected 20 years prior and was in dire need of restoration. The pole was actually taken down and restored by a crew led by the original carver, David Boxley.

No significant changes were made except for the removal of the wings at the top to be replaced by larger and more appropriately sized wings. The old wings were auctioned off with the proceeds to be used to maintain the restored pole. Actually, one of those wings resides in my front yard after a long overdue restoration done by this columnist last year.

After 10 years, on August 10, another rededication was

held with almost 200 folks in attendance again at “Burner Point” near the inn. Again, the work was done by David Boxley, although from scaffolding erected around the pole instead of taking it down. As noted in the handout at the event, “This totem pole is a heraldic pole depicting the evolution of Port Ludlow from its past natural state to its present as a residential community, arrayed in six Tsimshian figures.” The figures are: The Eagle, representing the natural state prior to any human occupation; The Bear, representing the ancestors of the

S’Klallam Tribe; The two people with locked arms representing Pope and Talbot; The Lumberman representing the period of the sawmill from 1852 to 1935; The

Beaver representing the building phase of Pope Resources; the Six Interlocking Figures representing the people and community of Port Ludlow.

This year’s event was sponsored by Port Ludlow Associates. The moderator was Dan Ratigan, General Manager of the Inn at Port Ludlow. He commented about the need to continue to maintain the totem pole and lamented the fact that David

Boxley could not be in attendance due to that thing called Covid! However, David’s son, Dylan Sanidad, was there and would be leading the Git Hoan, People of the Salmon, dancers performing dances and songs developed by his father. David’s background with the Tsimshian culture in Metlakatla, Alaska where he grew up inspired his work with the dance, the songs and the totem carving. He is said to be instrumental in revitalizing the cultural traditions of carving, song and dance in his Tsimshian community. His tribe gave him the title of “culture bearer”, an honor he states is the greatest one he has received.

Dan Ratigan introduced John Goldwood, president of the Port Ludlow Village Council who commented on

the need for greater peace and cooperation in the world, even between Port Ludlow’s north bay and south bay! Gene Jones who is also “Chief Siatsn” of Port Gamble’s S’Klallam tribe addressed the crowd and praised the efforts to maintain the totem pole. After also lamenting that David Boxley was unable to attend, he then sang a song. Dylan Sanidad then introduced the Git Hoan dancers and singers whose members included several children. Their celebration of the Tsimshian figures was unique and meaningful.

Following the ceremony, the inn had prepared a potlatch meal with over 100 people enjoying the traditionally prepared salmon on the lawn adjacent to the inn.

Love a curmudgeon and have a great week!



NED LUCE
LIFE IN LUDLOW



Left: Restored eagle wing from the totem pole before restoration in 2015.

Right: Restored totem pole on Burner Point in Port Ludlow.

Bottom: Git Hoan dancers performing for the crowd at the rededication of the totem pole in Port Ludlow. *Courtesy photos*



LETTERS

ATTENTION READERS:

Have you sent a letter to the editor and not seen it in the paper? If you posted it to the link on our website a glitch might have deleted it before it could get to us. Please email Editor@PTLeader with submissions old and new. Put “LETTERS” (uppercase) in the subject header.

Editor’s note: This letter was submitted through the online portal in late July.

Quarles for position 1

I write in support of Dylan Quarles for City Council position 1. He listens to all sides of the broad and conflicting range of opinions in our community, not just those he might agree with, and he is quite

capable of changing his mind given accurate information. He is unafraid of calling an issue a distraction when it brings nothing to the table for the majority of our community and when other issues are more urgent.

His diversity of lived experience and willingness to engage and understand other positions will fit well with our current Council. I’ve attended nearly all Council meetings for 15 years, and the current Council members work diligently to study the issues, engage with staff and the public, and do what is needed for all of us, even when being berated by single-issue or misinformed members of the public. Dylan is a careful, thoughtful, eloquent man who will bring that

consideration to issues of affordable housing, infrastructure, economic development, and protection of our open spaces.

Dylan is a son of this community, raised here by a family with connections to both public health and marine trades, and is now raising a young son with his wife. He knows the issues that we all face, especially our young families and elders on fixed incomes. Our median age here is over 60, so Dylan may seem young, but he’s only a year or two younger than Theodore Roosevelt or John F Kennedy were when they became US Presidents.

Don’t let the distracting noise turn you into a single issue voter. Please join me in voting

for the best candidate for our City Council, Dylan Quarles.

Deborah Jahnke
Port Townsend

Judging ads

“The newsroom does not use generative AI, which is the creation of new content” reads ptleader.com/our-commitment.

This may be true for editorial, but the smeared fingerprints of GenAI assets coat House Ads like Seeking Local Astrologers. More frequent are GenAI tells in third-party community ads for eg. car-washing, jewelry sales, and (ironically, if true) craft fairs. Most egregiously, the front-page of ptleader.com the week of Aug. 6 featured a poster in the Calendar carousel online advertising an event at

American Legion: The ad bears the tell-tale lettering, beige hue, and smears of OpenAI’s services, laundering local community and native cultural motifs like waves, ferries, evergreens, and totem poles into commercial slop. I find it revolting, and (for lack of any other outlet or recourse) am CC’ing this letter to the editor and businesses and organizations I think are responsible. It’s quite possible I’ll be informed that everyone’s been on-board with this the whole time, but will appreciate it if you help my displeasure be heard, that we as a community may make up our own minds and vote with our feet.

Eli Harding
Port Townsend

Front desk responds:

Calendar submissions are self-submitted, meaning any visuals or graphics in the calendar are uploaded by the person/people submitting them. Advertisers have domain over the content of their ads. Finally, the writer overestimates the use of AI.

April fools

I turn 70 years old next week. I have lived here almost a year. I like new experiences. Congratulations are in order to everyone involved in the stupidest proposal I have ever seen, ever.

Approving a 50 room hotel with only 10 parking spaces is laughable. Everyone involved should be embarrassed that this is even a thing.

I know being in a

see **LETTERS**, page 13

Law contributing to kids at risk but good news in other areas

Many of us remember the tragedy of an infant whose body was found at Kah Tai lagoon early in 2024. The baby was born with fentanyl in his system. Less than a month later the child died, and was seemingly discarded, shortly after being released into the custody of his father, who was grappling with substance abuse. A year and a half in, we have made some progress on reducing the chance of reoccurrence of such incidents, but not nearly enough.

A number of professionals identified Washington’s Keeping Families Together Act as having a causative role in permitting events such as the Kah Tai baby, including County Prosecutor James Kennedy who referenced it in an interview on KREM2 News on Jan. 24, 2024. This law prevents social workers, hospitals, physicians, and law enforcement officers from stepping in to protect children at risk due to parents or guardians using hard drugs, unless they first establish probable cause that there will be imminent physical harm to the child. Mere parental abuse of addictive substances like fentanyl does not suffice in establishing a risk of imminent harm. The law was intended to avoid the disproportionate removal of children from BIPOC families. But sadly, the law enables children of all races to be left with those unable to safeguard them, including active fentanyl addicts.

Our state has made only halting progress in preventing future tragedies like this. We are now receiving help from the federal government in battling the scourge of opioid addiction, which will hopefully reduce

injury to our children.

Two state bills were introduced in 2024 to fix this child endangerment issue. I personally rallied several county and city prosecutors to testify in favor of those bills. Unfortunately, those legislative fixes did not pass.

The oversight board of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) provided an update on this situation last month and the picture is far from rosy. The board investigates complaints about state agencies involved with children in need of protection, those in state care, and families involved with the child welfare system due to allegations of maltreatment. Child fatalities and near fatalities were analyzed.

The trend is not good. Incidents of youth and children accidentally ingesting and overdosing on drugs such as opioids were five in each of 2017 and 2018, 15 in 2019, and 13 in 2020. This incident rate then doubled to 32 in 2021, the same year the Keeping Families Together Act passed. Then there were 56 incidents in 2022, 67 in 2023 (when the Keep Families Together Act took effect), and 61 in 2024. This presentation data covers all investigated accidental ingestion and overdose incidents regardless of where the child was placed. Patrick Dowd, director of the DCYF Office of the Family and Children’s Ombuds,

relayed to me that the majority of these incidents happened while in the care of addicted parents.

According to news reporters covering the event, Dowd also addressed 2025 data, breaking from its past practice of not reporting midyear numbers because of an alarming increase in critical incidents. Just in the first six months of 2025, 92 children suffered from fatal or near-fatal incidents. Dowd confirmed to me that the 2025 data reflects incidents from all causes, and he did not yet have a full breakdown of how many were due to drug overdoses. But he did have data for the subset of accidental overdoses by children aged 1-3 years old during this period, which totaled 21.

Members of the public in attendance at that meeting, including healthcare workers and foster parents, noted that keeping children in homes with drug addicted parents leads to overdoses. One voiced the opinion that policy makers prioritized the rights of abusive and neglectful adults over those of innocent children, according to an article in the Lynnwood Times on July 21.

DCYF chalks these tragedies up to our fentanyl epidemic. It does not favor significant reform of the Keeping Families Together Act. Instead, it supports focusing on treatment and the use of harm reduction kits including a lock box, fentanyl testing strips,

naloxone, and educational materials. In my opinion such measures fall drastically short of protecting children. Yes, pursue efforts to encourage treatment. But immediately prioritize keeping our kids safe.

A bright spot was this year’s passage of State Senate Bill 6109, which clarified the need for courts to give great weight to the lethality of fentanyl and public health guidance on this dangerous drug. I don’t believe it is enough, but it is a start.

We are also receiving assistance on the federal level. Whatever your view of Trump administration policies, border enforcement has more than halved the flow of illicit fentanyl across the Mexican border, according to the June 3 Washington Stand, which is part of the National Research Council. And on July 16, the federal Halt Fentanyl Act was signed into law. It permanently classifies fentanyl-related substances (structurally related derivatives, salts, isomers) as Schedule 1 drugs under the Controlled Substances Act. The bill makes trafficking fentanyl-related substances a federal felony with mandatory prison time.

These federal actions should reduce the availability of fentanyl, including to parents of young children. Now we just need to lobby our legislatures to take action to safeguard children whose parents remain in active addiction.

Marcia Kelbon is an attorney and engineer based in Quilcene. Contact mkelbonpolitical@gmail.com.



MARCIA KELBON
OUT OF BALANCE

City playbook repeats misinformation, controlled narrative, manufactured consent

We co-led the effort to save the iconic poplars on Sims Way with Julie Jaman in 2021 and 2022. We want to share what we learned about three of our local public agencies during that process, and illuminate how the same playbook continues to be deployed by the city.

The most important thing we know is that the basis for removing the poplars was not true, yet the agencies promoted this fallacy throughout the entire process. Public records revealed that the Port of Port Townsend and PUD, over a year before poplar limbs hit the powerline, started to plan the removal of the trees so the port could expand the boatyard. They used the limb hitting the powerline as the catalyst, and claimed the trees had to come down because they were a danger to the powerline.

Whether one likes the poplars or not, what proceeded should be of concern to everyone.

We met on-site with a professional forester who said that the lack of maintenance of the poplars had created a dangerous situation. He noted that there were limbs that could lean into, or fall into, the powerline along the boatyard, and that some trees were so unhealthy they should be removed. These community trees were woefully neglected.

The city, PUD and Port touted their partnership as a bromance between the three agency managers. In lockstep, they insisted that the trees had to be removed because undergrounding the line would kill them. Again, this was not true. We documented undergrounding by the Safeway gas station, where poplar roots were cut mere feet from the trees for conduit, and an underground vault that did not harm the trees. When we confronted PUD manager Kevin Streett with this, he said he was on the work crew for that project and was very familiar with it. Nevertheless, they continued to insist that undergrounding was not feasible because it would kill the trees.

It was becoming clear to us that it was not feasible only because their plan all along was to take down the trees and expand the boatyard.

The public process was an insult. City Manager John Mauro led the effort, and any comment against cutting down the trees was deemed “too negative,” as if one could only say something positive or nothing

at all. Mauro said there was overwhelming support to cut the trees down, but when we made a public records request for this documentation, none was forthcoming. The City cherry-picked the members of the advisory committee by appointing a majority of people who favored cutting the poplars — and who had registered comments with the city prior to the creation of the committee. These agencies also produced a glossy rendering of what Sims Way would look like after the project that was misleading as it did not reflect the full scope of their proposal.

The agencies said wildlife don’t use the trees but we documented bird nests and actual birds in the trees — which the Port and PUD completely dismissed then and now, as they had planned to cut them



DAVID GOLDMAN
SOAPBOX



ANDREA HEGLAND

down this spring, during peak nesting season. They also deployed fear tactics, when an old growth poplar fell down by the golf course...they said this could happen along Sims Way, although the trees are much smaller and relatively younger. By now it was crystal clear to us that these agencies had internally decided to cut the trees down and expand the boatyard, and were controlling the information and process to achieve it.

The final and most damning indicator of their true original intent was that even after the trees were finally trimmed away from the powerlines, they are proceeding to cut them down even though the risk has been substantially mitigated, and would be completely unnecessary by undergrounding the powerline. This was contrary to their claims and would likely not endanger the trees.

We realize poplars require maintenance, as do most trees. But we believe that to lie to, and manipulate this community, is wrong.

Is the process around the poplars the new public agency

playbook...a playbook that deploys misinformation, controlled narrative, and manufactured consent to ensure city-approved outcomes? It appears so. This playbook is being deployed from finances and budgeting to the City’s plan to convert a significant part of the much-loved golf course and camas fields to housing, a goal of Mayor Faber.

This dubious agency behavior surfaces at the individual level. Faber, for example, is facing a number of challenges. Contrary to city manager and city attorney advice, Faber voted on an infrastructure project that could benefit a property he owns, without recusing himself as he was advised he should do. The city’s contract Hearing Examiner exonerated Faber in an ethics complaint. The petitioner in the ethics case is understood to be appealing this decision to Superior Court.

There is a history of our elected officials diminishing and even disrespecting citizen input and this was evident on the poplar project. Although we were an organized community group, producing reams of referenced information, only two city councilmembers would meet with us, Ben Thomas and Monica MickHager. We also held a community meeting to discuss the project, and no city representative attended.

We came forward in good faith at the invitation of the city to take part in reviewing a decision whether or not to remove the poplars. While we lobbied for the retention of the poplars we were met by city hostility. We were even accused by the city of dishonesty. Citizens who have stepped up with time, energy and money to take on legal responsibility for rescuing and maintaining the golf course have had to deal with the same city hostility. We believe this represents bad faith on the City’s part with its own citizens.

David Goldman and Andrea Hegland co-founded the former Poplar Alliance.



“Look no further than the PUD trenching for power by Safeway gas station in October 2021, which did not harm the poplars, to disprove the claim that trenching for power would kill them,” according to the author. *Photo courtesy of Andrea Hegland*

Beware of toxic waters and take time to learn about how to prevent algae bloom

Recently, this post appeared on one of my social medial outlets: “It was just so hot. We decided to take Army [the dog] to the lake and go swimming. We swam for a couple of hours and had a great time. But on the way home, Army started acting weird and she vomited and pooped in the car. We called the vet as we were driving and they said to bring her in. By the time we got there, she couldn’t stand. They said she was brain dead. I am devastated. I’m assuming it was caused from one of those blue-green algae blooms.”

This heartbreaking post wasn’t from our area, but it got me wondering about some of our highly toxic lakes like Anderson, Gibbs, Leland and others. What the heck is going on? Why are some of our lakes so toxic they can make us sick or even kill our pets? And can we do anything about it?

I checked in with Michael Dawson, Water Quality Manager for Jefferson County. He told me toxic algae blooms occur every year in a number of our lakes. “Blue-green algae naturally occurs,” he said. “It’s often caused by excess nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen that’s in lakebed sediments or that runs off into the lakes.”

Toxic algae blooms are caused by cyanobacteria, which is toxic to humans and animals. While cyanobacteria occurs naturally, it becomes a problem when it overgrows. That often happens in the early spring/

summer as the weather — and the water — warms up. The same body of water may have toxic algae bloom in shallower water, but not in the deeper water where the water is colder. With the climate heating up due to climate change, toxic algae blooms are becoming more frequent.

Cynobacteriqa can be deadly for both people and pets. Toxic algae may contain neurotoxins, which can cause nerve poisoning or hepatotoxins, which poison the liver. Nerve poisoning symptoms in humans may include numbness of the lips, tingling in the fingers and toes, and dizziness. In pets, nerve poisoning signs may include weakening, staggering, difficulty breathing, convulsions, and death. Signs may appear within 15-20 minutes.

Symptoms of liver poisoning may include abdominal pain, diarrhea and vomiting in humans and death in pets. It may take hours or even days before signs of liver poisoning appear.

Dogs and cats are especially susceptible to cyanobacteria poisoning. “Dogs are vulnerable because of their smaller size and they lick the algae off of their fur,” says Dawson. In 2019, a dog who was exposed to toxic algae bloom in Anderson Lake died. It wasn’t the first pet to succumb to

Anderson’s toxic brew.

“Anderson Lake has its own form of cyanobacteria,” Dawson explains. “It’s so unusual that Oregon State University has written papers on it.”

According to Dawson, 70-acre Anderson Lake, part of Anderson State Park, has had toxic algae blooms every year since the county started monitoring it in 2007. While it’s in a relatively rural area and, thus, an unlikely candidate for nitrogen or phosphorus run off, cyanobacteria has been present for years. In fact, a 2021 study found cyanobacteria in the lake’s sediments that dates back to the 1700s.

So how can you stay safe and still enjoy our county’s bounty of beautiful lakes?

Before you go, check the status of lakes. Jefferson County Public Health maintains an excellent website (jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/723/Lake-Water-Quality) that contains information on cyanobacteria and the water quality status of four lakes: Anderson, Gibbs, Leland, and Crocker.

They test the lakes every Monday and results are generally posted by Thursday or Friday.

You can also check out Washington state’s nwtoxicalgae.org website that

lists the current algae bloom of fresh-water lakes across the state.

Stay out of waters where active blooms are occurring. Don’t fish, swim, or boat/paddle board when blooms are present.

If you see green paint-like scum or bloom on the water, report it. Keep in mind that a bloom might occur after the county has tested or in an area that they haven’t measured. You can call 360-385-9444 to alert water quality experts.

You can also help prevent toxic algae blooms.

Avoid over-fertilizing. Often toxic algae blooms occur because of farm or residential run-off of nitrogen and phosphorus that’s present in commercial fertilizers.

Pick up animal waste. Farm animals and house pets can contribute to run-off pollution.

Check your septic regularly. Keep your septic system in good shape to avoid run-off.

Do you part to reduce climate change. Use fewer fossil fuels by shifting to renewable energy sources. Improve the energy efficiency of your home by adding insulation and sealing up leaks. Turn down your thermostat. Reduce your consumption and waste. Support leaders who support policies that fight climate change.

Bobbie Hasselbring is a long-time journalist who lives in Cape George. She also leads the PT Strummers, a performance/jam ukulele band.

Funny summer movies: And now for something completely different

As of this writing last week, I’m still waiting to see when two funny summer movies, the latest “Naked Gun” sequel with Liam Neeson and also “Spinal Tap 2,” will show here, and where.

Sight unseen, “Tap” will probably be tremendous, just like the original mockumentary. As far as brilliant, funny movies go, “Spinal Tap” was matched only by the warm-weather Monty Python movies. The “Tap” trailers I’ve seen are indeed promising. Movies this funny, summer or otherwise, are rare indeed.

Oh, you say, I’d like to have an argument, please.

(Well, this IS an opinion page.)

Monty Python’s John Cleese responds: “I could be arguing in my spare time.”

I was luckier than most of you Python fans: I got to watch “Monty Python’s Flying Circus” well before most Americans. That’s because I lived in Montreal in 1972, and the Canadian Broadcast Corp ran the

superb, groundbreaking BBC comedy two years before it hit U.S. airwaves.

I also got quite lucky by being able to meet the Pythons in person, also in Montreal, as they were about to embark on their first North American tour, which was also their first Canadian tour. The group never toured the U.S. even though it did some U.S. gigs, most notably the Hollywood Bowl.

I was already a big fan — and believe me, fandom does not come easily to this longtime newspaper critic — when the six Pythons arrived in Montreal. I was at Dorval Airport when they landed. Python Eric Idle stepped off the plane, saw skyscrapers in the distance (London didn’t have a skyline then) and quipped, “Ah ... this must be so the capitalists can be closer to God.”

I then got to spend a couple of days in a Montreal recording studio with the group, who were both very bright — all but one of them, American

Terry Gilliam, were Oxford or Cambridge alums — and extremely talented, a rare combination I hadn’t encountered before — or since. I loved



BILL MANN
MANN OVERBOARD

the group’s subsequent show at Place des Arts in Montreal.

Both our kids grew up watching Python. They know all the bits, like The Lumberjack, The Dead Parrot, or The Cheese Shop.

Not long ago, I got to see Python silly-walker John Cleese, who’s now on his “Last Chance to See Me Before I Die” tour, talk live about such things as where he got the inspiration for Basil Fawlty, of

“Fawlty Towers” fame. Cleese, who was then married to “Fawlty” costar Connie Booth, says he came up with the irascible innkeeper character after checking in at an inn in the resort town of Torquay, and being told the misanthropic innkeeper was absent — he’d actually been getting ... bomb threats!

Python’s Life of Brian” was financed by appreciative fan, former Beatle George Harrison, after EMI dropped its backing at the last moment because of its “blasphemy.” The former Beatle has a brief cameo in the film.

My far more modest contribution to Python was, of all things, getting the brilliant series shown in ... Hawaii. This came when I was then the TV columnist at the Honolulu morning daily, and I bugged the general manager of the local PBS affiliate, Mary Bitterman, to carry “Python.” Mahalos (thanks) are hereby accepted from any of you who saw the Beeb series on Hawaii TV. The two new summer

comic films above may not be as funny as the Python movies, but that’s admittedly a high bar.

For me, the group’s funniest summer film was its collection of sketches, “Monty Python’s The Meaning of Life.” Many of them are brilliant, intelligent and literate, like the anti pro-life spoof, a major production called “Every Sperm Is Sacred.”

I’ve never laughed harder at any film scene than at the admittedly lowbrow takeoff on gluttony in “Meaning,” with fat-suited Terry Jones exploding after wolfing down a huge meal. It then segues into a brilliant shot at antisemitism.

Python trivia: Can you name the Python theme song, and its composer?

Answer: “Liberty Bell,” composed by John Phillip Sousa.

Python superfan and PT humorist Bill Mann appreciates your feedback: newsmann9@gmail.com

LETTERS

continued from page 11

position of leadership is difficult and making decisions involving millions of dollars is tough.

But everyone involved in this should be recalled, resigned, fired, or made to walk a plank off the ferry dock.

If this were April 1, I would think it was a joke. But it’s not, it’s sad.

Parking is a challenge. Do we really want to make it worse?

Jim Spurr
Port Townsend

Quarles mistakes

I am writing to point out three decidedly unfortunate mistakes that Dylan Quarles made during his primary election campaign. Mistake number one was not ensuring that he had information submitted on time for the voter pamphlet and then compounding that blunder by calling this invaluable service for encouraging an educated electorate

nothing more than a “head shot.” That was a monumental gaffe. We already have Port Townsend City Council members who are no-shows for important votes, we don’t need another one who doesn’t seem to take the job and deadlines seriously.

Mistake number two, after getting clobbered in the primary, Mr. Quarles stated that it didn’t really matter since he was more interested in appealing to younger voters. This is part of the “younger voter theme” launched by Mayor David Faber’s endorsement.

This thinly veiled hint at ageism is another blunder. If every single eligible voter under the age of 45 voted for Dylan Quarles in the general election he would only have one out of three votes. With the median age in Port Townsend around 60, next year’s council needs to remember that seniors vote. Perhaps the coup de grace mistake that ensured a

primary election shel-lacking was obtaining the endorsement by Faber and several current members of council. All year the citizens of Port Townsend have been inundated with information about a city manager’s exorbitant salary and subsequent additional pay raises and the tax dollars being spent on team building, consultants, contract labor and special street paving projects. Added to this are the barriers to more housing that have been created by city government. It is surely possible that the primary election vote for Mr. Quarles was also a plebiscite regarding the current elected city government, and the message is not good. These mistakes are unfortunate. I believe Quarles is running for office because he is interested in public service. Unfortunately, this year the voters are more interested in making a change.

Pat Keaty
Port Townsend

Dangerous overgrowth

Please note the overgrowth off of Hastings Avenue near Sheridan. I am blind and my significant other is legally blind.

We have to literally dodge a lot of things the city leaves out and have no choice but to walk in traffic I’ve lived at the same place for 25 years. Hoping the city can address this.

Leah Thomas
Port Townsend



Residents say they have to walk in the street because of overgrown path. *Courtesy photo*

Free-for-all

Let me understand this: a dictator invades a neighbor on a whim, is responsible for hundreds of thousands of deaths and the destruction of villages, towns, hospitals, and schools—and gets a red carpet treatment from the supposed leader of the free world? What universe are we living in? Why is there no talk about severe punishment for Putin? Why isn’t the United Nations blacklisting Russia and totally blockading it? We’ve had Genghis Khan and Adolf Hitler and countless other wannabe tyrants, but this is the 21st century. Or, are we kidding ourselves: it’s really the 12th Century or Middle Ages ad infinitum. If the world doesn’t get its act together over what Putin is doing to Ukraine, the future is a free-for-all for felons.

John Delaney
Port Townsend

Thistle in wind

There is a huge outbreak of thistle weeds along Discovery Road, just south of the Towne Point entrance. I have never seen such a large quantity of this weed and they are nasty to deal with. They all seem to have the purple flowers on top that are starting to turn to seed. With the high winds we have here, Towne Point and the surrounding community are about to be inundated with this nasty weed. Also, the new stretch of trees, plants and grass, along Discovery Road, are about to be infected as well. A city crew or environmental group needs to come out and take care of this problem before it becomes worse. By the time this comes out, a good amount of thistle seed will have already been spread.

Frank Saladonis
Port Townsend

Amber Waves



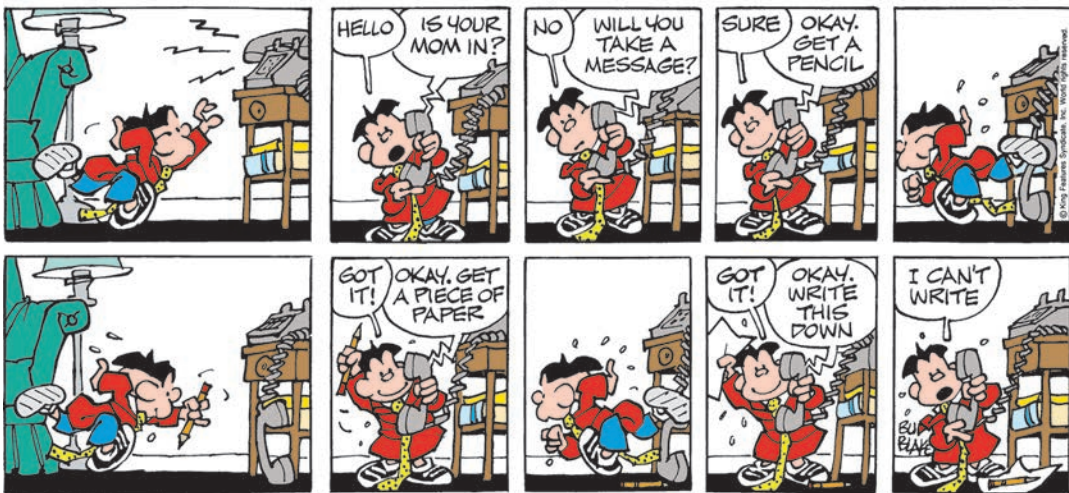
Out on a Limb



The Spats



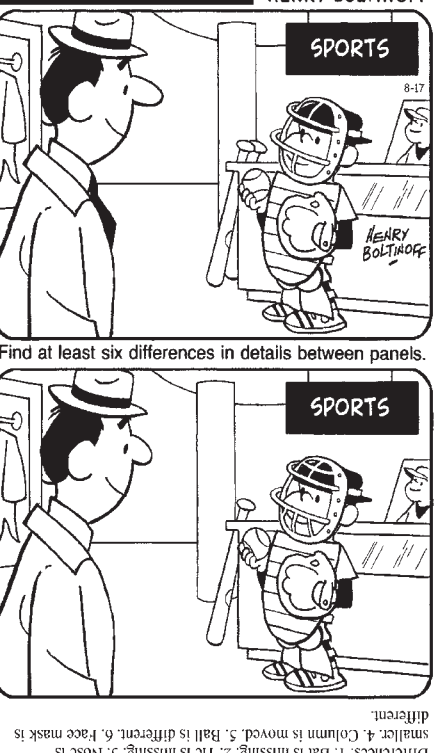
TIGER



OLIVE



HOCUS-FOCUS



Just Like Cats & Dogs



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: F equals C

UJFGSRZD VGOZH TWFRJIK
BVWTJ OJOQJDT ZSBZKT IJHC
IW VRI JZJV WIVJD WH IVJ
VJZC: QWU FGSIGDJ.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Emblem
DEBAG

Limber
GAILE

Item
JOBTEC

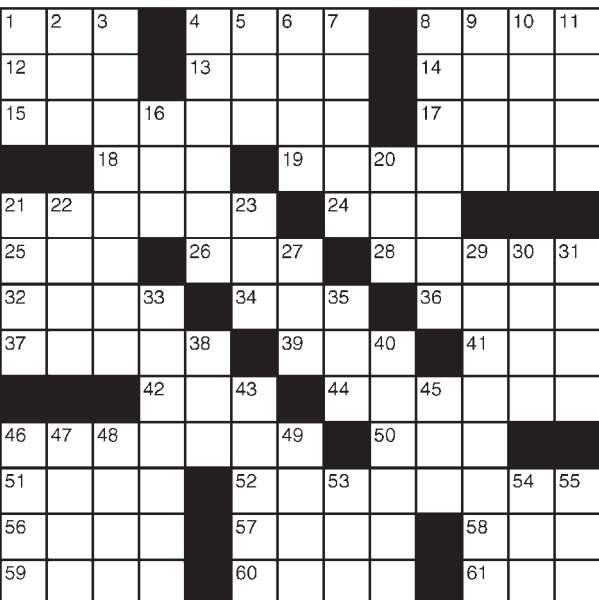
Power
GINNEE

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Lion" star Patel
4 Obi
8 Banshee's cry
12 Hot temper
13 Nick and Nora's pet
14 Conceal
15 Pompeii volcano
17 Altar vows
18 Three, in Rome
19 Fairy tale maidens
21 Protein-rich grain
24 Nanny's charge
25 Boot brand
26 Egg quaff
28 "Tiny Alice" playwright
32 Mr. Guinness
34 Online guffaw
36 The Emerald Isle
37 Name on a vacuum
39 Conk on the head
41 Kilmer of "The Doors"
42 Highland hat
44 Goodies
46 Weapons store
50 Entirely



DOWN

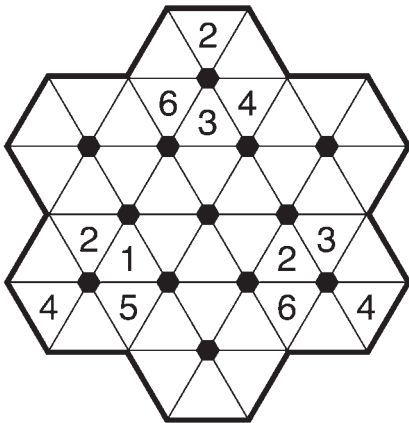
- 51 Active sort
52 Birthing experts
56 Jai
57 Soon, poetically
58 Ecol. watchdog
59 Apportion
60 Wimbledon units
61 Half dozen
count
5 "Do — say!"
6 Poker variety
7 Tears into
8 Tea kettle noisemaker
9 Staffer
10 Pop star
11 Minus
16 Ornate vase
20 Extinct bird
21 Campus area
22 Unsightly
23 ISP giant
27 Sailor
29 Clams and oysters, e.g.
30 Part of Q.E.D.
31 Congers
33 Exclusive group
35 Parcel of land
38 A Bobbsey twin
40 Seafood order
43 May honorees
45 Yale grad
46 Cain's dad
47 Actor's quest
48 Membership
49 Queue
53 Speck
54 Roof ornament
55 Jazz band instrument

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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦
♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦♦ Difficult

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: Which best original song from "Aladdin" won an Oscar?
- TELEVISION: In what year did the animated TV comedy "South Park" debut?
- HISTORY: Where did the Romans build Hadrian's Wall?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Brazil?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was the first to be impeached?
- MYTHOLOGY: What is the home of the Greek gods?
- U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the U.S. Naval Academy?
- MATH: What is the smallest prime number?
- LITERATURE: What is the original name of the farm in George Orwell's "Animal Farm"?
- ASTRONOMY: Which planet is known for its large red spot, which astronomers believe is an ongoing storm?

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JOGGING

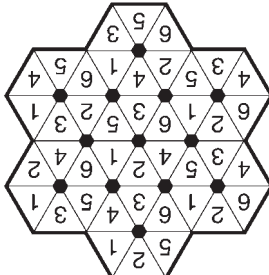
Today's Word

3. Object
4. Engine
1. Badge
2. Agile

SCRAMBLERS



Solution



solution

SNOWFLAKES

Peculiar human society whose members always tend to hit each other on the head: bop culture.

Answer

Cryptoquip

10. Jupiter

9. Manor Farm

8. 2

7. Maryland

6. Mount Olympus

5. Andrew Johnson

4. Brasília

3. England

2. 1997

1. "A Whole New World"

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Salish Sea Butoh Festival brings international avant-garde talent



Left: Eugenia Vargas is a dancer, choreographer, teacher, curator and artistic researcher from Mexico City. Above: Melvin Coppalle is a dancer, performer, choreographer and butoh practitioner from Rennes, France. Courtesy photos

BY KIRK BOXLEITNER

The fifth-annual Salish Sea Butoh Festival is bringing an international assortment of performing artists to Port Townsend to close out the summer.

Guest artists in this contemporary dance form will come from Japan, Australia, France and Mexico, as well as Austin, Texas, and Seattle. The festival is at Fort Worden State Park from Friday, Aug. 22, through Saturday, Aug. 23.

Iván Espinosa, executive producer of the Salish Sea Butoh organization, noted the irony that a number of people mistakenly assume butoh dance is a traditional and distinctly Japanese art form.

Espinosa explained that butoh is an avant-garde form of performance that emerged in late 1950s and early 1960s Tokyo and quickly became

multicultural as it gained popularity around the world.

“It started in Japan, but spread beyond its borders,” Espinosa said. “There are butoh artists and dancers all over the world, a number of whom are not strictly connected to Japan.”

Choreographer Tatsumi Hijikata developed butoh at the height of the Japanese counterculture movement, after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, featuring performers covered head-to-toe in white body paint, contorting their bodies and facial expressions.

“Butoh’s founder was inspired not only by Japanese theater and Eastern spiritual thought, but by European literature, Western performance art, German Expressionism, French Existentialism, Dada and Surrealist artists ranging from Salvador Dalí to

Francis Bacon,” Espinosa said. “Butoh was born out of a fusion of cultural influences. It’s a melting pot that’s transcended barriers to celebrate global diversity.”

Among the reasons Espinosa feels so personally connected to butoh is its foundational spirit of experimentation and innovation, which he credited with continually bringing new approaches to the art form, rather than dogmatically clinging to a fixed status quo.

“Once you learn butoh’s principles, you’re actually encouraged to incorporate your own influences,” Espinosa said. “It lends itself to uniquely creative, cutting-edge interpretations.”

Espinosa proudly touted Salish Sea Butoh as “the only organization consistently bringing international butoh artists to the Olympic Peninsula.”

Espinosa also pointed out how Salish Sea Butoh shares its region’s concerns with ecology.

“Our butoh festival is one of the few in the West to highlight humanity’s impacts on nature and the environment,” said Espinosa, who cited the influence of the Salish Sea Butoh Festival being staged in communities such as Port Townsend and the Quimper Peninsula. “Port Townsend is famous for its beautiful lands and waters. Fort Worden’s natural spaces range from beaches to forests. The Pacific Northwest is an iconic location in which to educate the public.”

A grant from the Port Townsend Arts Commission, makes the festival’s educational portion free to the public, with a week of evening lectures delivered by butoh historians and academic scholars from across the country.

That same week — which started on Saturday, Aug. 16, and leads up to the festival

itself — is set to include daily butoh workshops, from mornings to evenings, as well as an evening butoh cabaret on Wednesday, Aug. 20.

“It’ll be a fusion of butoh with burlesque,” Espinosa said.

Espinosa described this year’s festival as highlighting master butoh artists of the art form’s first and second generations, along with third and fourth-generation butoh artists from all over the world, performing on the same stage of Fort Worden’s USO Hall theater.

“Butoh was born from the culture of socially turbulent times, which perhaps makes it as relevant as ever today,” Espinosa said.

What to know:

Tickets and a schedule of the Salish Sea Butoh Festival and its attendant events are available online.

All ticket purchases include admission to a post-show talk, for a chance to meet the artists.



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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate

♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Melons: Summer’s royalty

The First Bite: Where Stories Begin

Every year, twenty years in, it starts again—the first cantaloupe of the season. It’s ripe, waiting to be opened. Then comes that first bite, and there’s a pause. “Oh, yum.” This is the most delicious melon, and the stories begin. My husband tells me about his childhood in Los Angeles, eating cantaloupe at his grandmother’s house — coral orange, juicy, and sweet. He remembers sunshine, the taste of summer, and the warmth of her love. I’m back in Southern Oregon, eating cantaloupe with vanilla ice cream scooped into the middle. We tell the same stories every year, but somehow, this melon, this moment, makes them live again.

FRUIT ROYALTY: SIMPLE YET COMPLEX

Melons are royalty, bringing happiness with their complex simplicity. A stroll down the melon aisle at the Food Co-op is like meeting dignitaries at a royal gala. Each variety has its own personality, flavor, and pairing possibilities.

A GUIDE TO THE STANDOUT GUESTS

HERMISTON CANTALOUPE

Grown in Hermiston, Oregon, prized for their musky sweetness and deep orange flesh, thanks to the region’s hot days and cool nights.

Pairing: Wrap slices in prosciutto for a salty-sweet combination.

Why It Works: The cantaloupe’s musky sweetness balances the richness of cured meat.

SNOW LEOPARD MELON

A rare variety with pale cream skin speckled with green spots, resembling a snow leopard’s coat. Mildly sweet and refreshing, with a crisp texture.

Pairing: Toss chunks with lime juice, mint leaves, and a drizzle of honey.

Why It Works: The sweetness and crisp texture are enlivened by the lime and mint.

GREEN HONEYDEW

Known for its smooth, pale green rind and vibrant green flesh, with a subtle floral aroma. Its high water content makes it perfect for hot days.

Pairing: Blend into a smoothie with cucumber, basil, and coconut water.

Why It Works: The honeydew’s floral notes complement the cucumber and basil.

CHARENTAIS MELON

A French heirloom variety with intensely fragrant orange flesh. Often called one of the most flavorful melons in the world.

Pairing: Serve with crumbled goat cheese and a balsamic glaze.

Why It Works: The melon’s sweetness and fragrance pair beautifully with tangy cheese and acidic balsamic.

ORANGE HONEYDEW

A tropical twist on traditional honeydew, with bright orange flesh and a sweet flavor.

Pairing: Dice into a salsa with pineapple, jalapeño, and cilantro.

Why It Works: The tropical flavor blends with the heat and brightness of the other ingredients.

MINI SEEDLESS WATERMELON

Perfect for single servings. Sweet, crisp, and easy to slice.

Pairing: Grill slices and sprinkle with feta cheese, black pepper, and a squeeze of lemon.

Why It Works: The smoky caramelization complements the watermelon’s sweetness, while feta adds savory depth.

Fresh sliced cantaloupe. Photo courtesy of Sidonie Maroon

HAMI MELON

Native to China, Hami melons are oblong with pale yellow skin and honey-like, crunchy orange flesh.

Pairing: Combine with shredded chicken, sesame oil, and soy sauce in an Asian-inspired salad.

Why It Works: The honey-like flavor contrasts with the umami of soy and sesame.

THE REIGN OF MELONS

Melons are the storytellers of summer, bringing us together with their short but sweet reign. They remind us to savor the fleeting season. So, let the stories flow and the happiness linger — after all, melons are royalty, and their reign is sweet but brief.

Sidonie Maroon is the culinary educator for the Port Townsend Food Co-op. For more recipes on this topic and others, please visit our website www.foodcoop.coop. More melon recipes, complete list of pairings and Tajín spice mix.

Spicy Cantaloupe Salad with Homemade Tajín

SERVES 4

Cantaloupe with zesty lime, smoky homemade Tajín seasoning, and a hint of heat from chili. Fresh herbs and creamy avocado round out the dish.

4 cups cantaloupe, cubed (make sure it’s not too ripe)

1 large avocado, cubed

1 medium cucumber, peeled, seeded, thinly sliced and cut in halves

1/4 cup red onion, thinly sliced into slivers

1/4 cup fresh cilantro leaves (or mint)

Juice of 2 limes

1 teaspoon runny honey

1 teaspoon homemade Tajín seasoning

Sea salt to taste—if you have a fancy salt use it here.

Prepare the Base: In a large bowl, combine cantaloupe, avocado, cucumber, red onion, and cilantro. Toss gently to mix.

Make the Dressing: In a small bowl, whisk together lime juice, homemade Tajín seasoning, honey and a pinch of salt. Adjust seasoning to taste.

Combine and Serve: Pour the dressing over the salad and toss gently to coat the ingredients evenly. Let it sit for 5–10 minutes to allow the flavors to meld.

Finish with Flair: Transfer the salad to a serving dish. Sprinkle a little more Tajín on top. Garnish with additional cilantro or mint leaves.

TAJÍN FROM SCRATCH

1 tablespoon chili powder (use mild or spicy but fresh is best)

2 teaspoons smoked paprika

1/4 teaspoon chili flakes, or cayenne for more heat

Zest of 2 fresh limes (I suggest using a microplaner)

1 teaspoon sea salt

Combine the lime zest, chili powder, smoked paprika and sea salt.

Super Crossword

FETE-FUL FOLLOWERS

ACROSS

1 Little jump

4 Brains

10 Teeny bits

15 Female horse

19 Friend, in Paris

20 Social outcast

21 Ice cream utensil

22 Female gamete

23 Cap production place

25 — firma

26 "I saw," to Caesar

27 Newspaper stories

28 Vehicle attachment to transport watercraft

30 "Get it?"

31 "Ender's Game" star Butterfield

33 Actress Long or Vardalos

34 Closes in on

35 Cry while wearing a costume

41 Some boxing punches

43 On top of, in verse

44 Divine figure

45 Feel poorly

47 Pub barrel

51 Pundits' paper pieces

54 Power to attract others

57 Unceasingly

59 Newbie at a law school

60 Sculling tool

61 Org. that screens bags

62 Patron of sailors

63 "Second gentleman" Emhoff

65 Forget to say

67 Lots and lots

68 Logical thought process

72 Some sharp turns

75 Coll. lecturer

76 Low-fat, informally

77 Piña —

81 "I have it!"

82 Hosp. test in a big tube

83 Christian of fashion

85 Led to a seat

86 Typical D.C. dealings

91 County in New Mexico or Colorado

92 Method

93 Muscle: Prefix

94 University of Maine's city

96 Neighbor of Kan. and Ia.

97 Pro at taking dictation

99 Swear words and such

103 Clear wrap

106 Says "yes" to

108 USN officers

109 Sleuth, in old slang

110 Straight, flexible wire

113 Rather little

118 Prefix with present

119 Gorme of song

120 Post-event bash ... or where eight key words in this puzzle might appear

122 Diatribe

123 U. of Maryland team

124 Band flunky

125 Atlas feature

126 Pivotal WWII event

127 Eye maladies

128 Prods

129 "Yes" vote

DOWN

1 "Funny joke!"

2 Vizquel of baseball

3 Brad of "Fight Club"

4 Sissy of the screen

5 Gavin of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"

6 Jester Johnson

7 Ocho — (resort in Jamaica)

8 Pothole filler

9 Sheepish

10 Colon's meaning in an analogy

11 Whale locale

12 Burrito base

13 Large arteries

14 Trade jobs

15 Apt place to make a scene

16 Birthplace of St. Teresa

17 Less courteous

18 Kuwaiti chiefs

24 Finance-related: Abbr.

28 Lamb's cry

29 Growth on an elk's head

31 Intro studio class

32 Jane of "Live and Let Die"

35 Horn blasts

36 Transplant, as a flower

37 Cara of "Fame" fame

38 Enjoy a novel

39 Element #50

40 Chronicle

42 Zealots

46 "This makes no sense to me"

48 Singer Eartha

49 Canadian gas brand

50 FBI guy, e.g.

52 Barbies, e.g.

53 Big rig

55 Poet Maya

56 Enter

58 Like numbers with more than two divisors

63 "Whoop-de- —!"

64 When a team travels, perhaps

66 TV bartender Szyslak

67 Shoelace tag

69 "Will & Grace" actor

70 Ventilates

71 Big Apple neighborhood

72 Microwaves, informally

73 Sailor's cry

74 Lassies

79 Removal of govt. controls

80 Pueblo brick

82 E. Sicilian volcano

84 "Time — the essence!"

85 Forearm part

87 "How sad"

88 Cure by exposing to burning wood

89 E-addresses

90 Gmail rival

95 A Great Lake

98 "Later"

100 Rock- — jukebox

101 Alternative to a ballpoint

102 Golden State sch.

103 Fencing need

104 Ex-NFLer

105 Lisa of "Melrose Place"

107 Marsh bird

111 Fish snares

112 Scottish loch

113 Forest buck

114 Contents of Rx bottles

115 "— la Douce"

116 Go nowhere

117 Really promote

120 "How — you?"

121 Haze

A 16 • Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Port Townsend & Jefferson County Leader

Selecting plants for a small garden plot

Small gardens are inviting to gardeners who might just be getting started in gardening, lack large growing space and/or the investment of time and resources that a larger garden might require. They offer magical opportunities to play with color, texture and layering on a smaller scale.

Julia Cordz, Jefferson County Master Gardener, suggests gardeners first think about whether the garden will be in a sunny or shady area. She points out that most nurseries carry excellent stock of sunny or shady plants that do not get large.

When selecting plants at a nursery, Julia emphasized the importance of “reading the plant tag.” The tag is an estimate for growth to about 10 years. “The mature size of a shrub labelled as a

(watering, soil health, wind, sun, etc.).

Julia suggests gardeners of small spaces look for shrubs or plants that do not exceed 3–5 feet on the tag, meaning they will be less than about 7’ at maturity. Due to hybridization of plants, different varieties often mean different sizes. For example, the native black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*; about 36” tall) has hybridized varieties at various heights and widths: *Rudbeckia hirta* ‘Toto’ is 8-10” in height and width, *Rudbeckia hirta* ‘Prairie Sun’ grows to 36” tall and 12” wide, *Rudbeckia hirta* (Gloriosa Daisy) grows 36” tall and 18” in width, while the *Rudbeckia hirta* ‘Cherokee Sunset’ grows to 36” tall and 24” wide.

Creating layers (ground covers, herbaceous plants and maybe a shrub) and adding plants with variegated leaves and colors, will allow even small gardens to be a love song to the gardener’s heart. Julia suggests gardeners select smaller varieties of things they find appealing, incorporate a mix of textures, and include some light-colored foliage that will stand out in low light for all-day/evening interest. Additionally, mix perennials with evergreens, including



Above: Black-eyed Susan, Echinacea, and Crocosmia ‘Lucifer’. Photo courtesy of Michele Koomen

low-growing/smaller conifers.

PREPARING THE SOIL

Julia recommends soil testing for even small plot gardens and before adding any soil amendments. “Almost every soil needs a little more nitrogen, but may not need phosphorus or potassium. You won’t know what might be needed until you test the soil.” In her own garden she rarely fertilizes. Instead she “adds a fabulous compost and earthworm castings. Both of those are like magic. They are usually enough to carry things through the growing season for the plant.”

Select small garden

herbaceous and perennial plants such as those in the box to the right.

“Ask a Master Gardener” plant clinics will be held at the Charles Pink House at Port Townsend Library (first Tuesday of the month: 12–2 p.m.; January to December) or at the Jefferson County Library (second Saturday of the month: 1–3 p.m.).

Michele Koomen has been a volunteer for the Master Gardener Program since 2024, serving as a community educator in gardening and environmental stewardship.

RECOMMENDED PLANTS FOR A SMALL GARDEN

Key: H=hybridized; N=native; NN=non-native; DT=drought tolerant; P=Pollinator

SUN

- Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia*; DT, N, H)
- Cardwell’s penstemon or beardtongue (*Penstemon cardwellii*; DT, N)
- Catmint (*Nepeta*)
- Cinquefoil (*Potentilla*; NN, DT)
- Distylium (*Distylium* hybrid ‘Coppertone’; DT, H)
- Douglas Aster (*Symphotrichum subspicatum*; DT, N, P)
- Feverfew (*Tanacetum*; NN)
- Mickie Rockrose (*Cistus* x hybridus ‘Mickie’; DT, H, P)
- Purple coneflower (*Echinacea*; N with many H, P)
- Spirea magic carpet (*Spiraea japonica* ‘Walbura’; H, P)
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* var. *occidentalis*; N, P)

PARTIAL SHADE TO SUN

- Bergenia or Pigsqueak (*Bergenia*; NN)
- Seaside aster (*Erigeron glaucous*; DT, N, P)
- Western spirea (*Spiraea douglasii*; N, P)
- Yellow monkey flower (*Erythranthe guttata*; N, P)

SHADE

- Bunchberry (*Cornus unalaschensis*; N)
- Deer fern (*Blechnum spicant*; N)
- False Solomon’s seal (*Smilacina racemosa*; N)
- Goat’s beard (*Aruncus dioicus*; N)
- Henderson’s shooting star (*Dodecatheon hendersonii*; N, P)
- Piggyback plant (*Tolmiea menziesii*; N)
- Sweet box (*Sarcococca*; NN, DT)
- Western columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*; N, P)
- Western trillium (*Trillium ovatum*; N, P)
- Western bleeding heart (*Dicentra formosa*; N)
- Western white anemone (*Anemone deltoidea*; N)

Resources: WA State Extension (free publications for gardeners); WA State Native Plant Society (plant profile); Real Gardens Grow Natives (website with plant profiles).



MICHELE KOOMEN
GARDEN NOTES

8 foot plant is more like 10 to 12 feet. Rule of thumb is it will exceed the 10-year size by half of that measure, which in a small garden means plants will compete for space to grow and may need pruning.” Shrubs grow at varying heights depending on cultural conditions



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East Jefferson Little League celebrates a summer to remember after state title

BY ALEX FRICK

The East Jefferson Junior Little League All-Stars capped off their historic summer run with a team celebration at H.J. Carroll Park on July 16.

The squad celebrated a season that brought home the team’s first state championship in more than 20 years and finished as the seventh-best team in the entire western region.

The afternoon was filled with laughter and memories, and of course, burgers and hot dogs, a fitting end to a baseball summer stitched not just in cork and yarn, but into history.

Strong season

East Jefferson’s post-season success was as impressive as it was historic. The team finished 9-2 overall, sweeping both the District 2 and Washington state tournaments. In the District 2 matchups, the team outscored their opponents 36-2, and in the state tournament, the guys from East Jefferson outscored Washington’s best teams by a staggering 70-14 run differential.

At the plate, the team batted .426 over 11 post-season games, collecting more than 100 hits in 364 plate appearances, scoring 117 runs. Pitching and defense led the way all season. Pitchers Mason Heinzinger, Trig Fountain, Logan Segar, Braecen Anglin and Luca Blake held opposing

batters to a .215 average and struck out 91 batters, nearly half of the batters faced.

East Jefferson’s roster included Brayden Tuttle, Luca Blake, Logan Segar, Quinn Brinton, Shaun Guenther, Caron Boltinghouse, Braecen Anglin, Devon Murray, Trig Fountain, Mason Heinzinger, Carter Thornton and Noah Guenther.

The team was led by manager Dean Murray and coaches Seth Boltinghouse and Rafe Thornton.

Manager speaks

The numbers tell a story of East Jefferson’s dominance, manager Dean Murray said the team’s legacy runs much deeper. In a letter to The Leader, he reflected on what the season meant to the players, their families and the community that rallied behind them.

“We are a small-town team who played against the best from other cities and states, and we held our own. These young men proved that a lot of hard work and dedication can make things happen.

“There has been a ton of help and support for these boys over the years, from additional coaches — Josh Fountain, Rock Fountain, Brett Anglin — to “Team Grandmas,” who showed up to almost every practice and supplied the boys with water and snacks. Also, a ton of thanks to Doug Guenther, our team photographer, who promptly supplied the



Top row: Brayden Tuttle, Devon Murray, Trig Fountain, Braecen Anglin, Mason Heinzinger. Bottom row: Logan Segar, Carter Thornton, Carson Boltinghouse, Luca Blake, Quinn Brinton. Not pictured: Noah Guenther, Shaun Guenther. Photo by Amber Anglin

families with pictures of all the players after each game. When they say it takes a village, it really does, especially in such a small, tight-knit community like ours.

“After winning the Washington State Tournament, the team had about a week to raise money for the Western Regional Tournament in Bend, Oregon. The team organized a car wash and went door to door at businesses seeking assistance. The support from the community was remarkable, as businesses and families generously donated to help the team reach Oregon.

“At Regionals, our small-town team, from a county with a population of 33,000, went up against teams from St. George, Utah (population 106,000+, High Plains Little League,

a suburb of Colorado Springs, and Santa Rosa, California (population 177,000+). Some of the coaches and families from those teams could not believe that this group of boys came from such a small area.

“It’s been over 20 years since this age group of boys has won a state title, and they’re the first ever to make it to the quarterfinals at the regional level. They made history for the community, proving to younger players that anything is possible with hard work and determination. This will definitely be a time in these boys’ lives that they won’t soon forget; I know I won’t.”

Bigger than baseball

The banquet marked the conclusion of a

season that built more than records. It built memories that belong to everyone who enjoyed the ride — families, neighbors, classmates or any kid who chooses to pick up a glove believing, as this team showed, anything is possible.

The ball doesn’t stop rolling. East Jefferson Little League announced it will host Fall Ball this year for both baseball and softball for ages 8 and up. The developmental program begins in the first week of September and continues through October, offering opportunities for players to fine-tune skills, get a feel for new rules or try to play some ball before next season.

Alex Frick is a staff writer for The Leader in Port Townsend and a 2025 corps member of the GroundTruth Project of Report for America.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit Community Events to editor@ptleader.com with the word **CALENDAR** in the header. To be included in The Leader calendar, events should be “live” in or near Jefferson County. Listings will vary in length based on the type of submission and at the discretion of editors.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 20

TRANSFORMATIVE ALIGNMENT-BASED YOGA THERAPY

Debra Wolfe offers personalized, accessible yoga therapy for chronic pain, injury recovery, stress and anxiety. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9-10:15 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. to noon.

HIKE FORT FLAGLER

We'll begin at the parking lot near the park entrance. Don't forget to bring your valid Discover Pass for parking. The trail is primarily flat, with a few gentle hills, making it enjoyable for new and experienced hikers alike. Along the

way, you'll be treated to views of Puget Sound and the Cascade Mountains. Keep an eye out for wildlife, as the park is home to a variety of creatures. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes for a comfortable and safe hike. 9-11 a.m. at 1321 Flagler Campground Road.

BABYTIME AT THE LIBRARY

Meet in the Humphrey Room for simple stories, rhymes, songs and playful movements designed to stimulate your baby's brain development. This program is for infants and early toddlers. 10:30-11 a.m. at the Jefferson County Library.

SENIOR NUTRITION MEALS IN PT

Coastal Community Action Program is serving senior nutrition meals at the Port Townsend Community Center. Mondays through Fridays from noon to 1:00 p.m. No reservations required. Ages 60 and older. Call the Port Townsend Senior Association for more information at 360-385-9007.

ECHOES, MEMORIES AND CURIOSITIES

“Echoes, Memories and Curiosities” is



Join group hike through Fort Flagler on Aug. 20. *Courtesy photo*

a one-man show by Chuck Iffland, an outsider artist whose works spring from his inner visions. The son of painters, musicians and craftsmen, Iffland uses his great-grandfather's hand tools to turn his dreams and imaginings into sculptures and prints. Noon to 5 p.m. at Northwind Art.

FUNDRAISER NIGHT FOR MARINE LIFE

SR3 (Sealife Response, Rehabilitation and Research) operates the only dedicated marine wildlife hospital in the Pacific Northwest. This fundraiser aims to support the continuation of their work, in the face of government funding cuts. Help protect and support our marine life in the Pacific Northwest, including our endangered Southern Resident Orcas. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Finnriver.

TAP ROOM TRIVIA

Test your general knowledge on a variety of subjects. Both rounds of questions are carefully curated. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Keg and I.

BAR STOOL BINGO

Every Wednesday, the Hilltop Tavern has bingo, with 100% of the proceeds going to benefit community groups. 7-9 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUG. 21

ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS CLASS

No experience necessary. Any fitness level is welcome. 9 a.m. at 9572 Rhody Drive in Chimacum.

SENIOR NUTRITION MEALS IN PT

Coastal Community Action Program is serving senior nutrition meals at the Port Townsend Community Center. Mondays through Fridays from noon to 1:00 p.m. No reservations required. Ages 60 and older. Call the Port Townsend Senior Association for more information at 360-385-9007.

SHOWCASE 2025

A celebration of 14 regional artists at Northwind Art, from Port Townsend, Port Ludlow, Sequim, Seattle and the Kitsap Peninsula. Thursday through Mondays, noon to 5 p.m.

ECHOES, MEMORIES AND CURIOSITIES

“Echoes, Memories and Curiosities” is a one-man show by Chuck Iffland, an outsider artist whose works spring from his inner visions. The son of painters, musicians and craftsmen, Iffland uses his great-grandfather's hand tools to turn his dreams and imaginings into sculptures and prints. Noon to 5 p.m. at Northwind Art.

NEW EXHIBIT AT PORT TOWNSEND'S AURORA LOOP GALLERY

Mary O'Shaughnessy and Charlie Van Gilder's “Hidden World” explores beneath the sea's surface. O'Shaughnessy's new work is cast paper and cast glass, and Van Gilder has new freeform ceramic art. Noon to 5 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC AT VINTAGE

Silky vocals, timeless tunes and an easygoing sparkle. Sweet DiPrete serves up soulful favorites and feel-good melodies that turn Thursday afternoon into a mini-weekend. Bring a friend and settle in. 3-5 p.m. at the Port Townsend Vineyards.

TEXAS FLOOD RELIEF

Finnriver Marketing Director Laura Prendergast is from Kerrville, Texas, one of many towns deeply impacted by the catastrophic flooding over this year's Fourth of July weekend. Join us to raise funds for the Hill Country Flood Relief Fund. With live music by honky-tonk band Sagebrush, you can expect some two-stepping fun, and a rousing round of bingo. Grab your boots, and come dance, play and help us lift up a community in need. Every dollar makes a difference. 5-8 p.m. at Finnriver.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: COMMUNICATION IN A DISASTER

Do you have a plan for communicating with your family and loved ones during an emergency? Join representatives from the Department of Emergency Management, JeffCom 911 and VECOM to learn the best ways to create an effective communication plan, and where to find reliable information during disasters and emergencies. Registration is required. Visit the program calendar online at jclibrary.info to sign up. 3:30-5 p.m., with an encore presentation at 5:30 p.m., at the Jefferson County Library.

BOSSA NOVA JAZZ

Live bossa nova jazz from 5-7 p.m. at the Bishop Block Bottle Shop and Garden.

OPEN MIC NIGHT AT THE KEG AND I

Sign up at the bar to save your spot, or drop in by 5:30 p.m. to get on the list. Share your talents and bring your friends.

MOVIE NIGHT: THE PALESTINE EXCEPTION

“The Palestine Exception” tells the story of the largest anti-war movement since the 1970s, as students, faculty and staff on campuses across the U.S. demand divestment from companies doing business with Israel, and an end to the war on Gaza. The documentary features diverse academics, explaining the history of censorship around criticism of Israel and Zionism. Co-director Jan Haaken will join us for a question-and-answer session about the movie and the movement. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Port Townsend Community Center.

IAN MAK SIN

Breaking boundaries both musical and geographical, cellist, composer and multilingual vocalist Ian Maksin has created his own unique style, by blending elements of different genres and traditional music from around the globe, in a new way that uses his cello as the main unifying force. 7-9 p.m. at the Field Arts and Events Hall in Port Angeles.

MUSIC TRIVIA

Every Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Uptown Pub. Forms teams of up to five people.

FRIDAY, AUG. 22

ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS CLASS

No experience necessary. Any fitness level is welcome. 9 a.m. at 9572 Rhody Drive in Chimacum.

TRANSFORMATIVE ALIGNMENT-BASED YOGA THERAPY

Debra Wolfe offers personalized, accessible yoga therapy for chronic pain, injury recovery, stress and anxiety. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9-10:15 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. to noon.

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LAUGHTER CLUB

Laughter yoga sessions involve simulated laughter that quickly becomes genuine laughter. 1120 Walker St. 2-3 p.m.

PIZZA AND PIANO FRIDAYS WITH JONAS MYERS

Treat yourself to a night of live piano music by local favorite Jonas Myers. Sing along or make a request. 5-7 p.m. at the Bishop Block Bottle Shop and Garden.

SALTIRE THEATRE PRESENTS SHERWOOD: THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD

Bubbling with wit, fun, swordplay and sass, in which tyranny is thwarted and community is worth fighting for. 6 p.m. at Littlefield Green at Fort Worden.

SUMMER DANCE PARTY

Join Lucky and the Locals for a summer dance party in the Sunset Lounge at Field Hall in Port Angeles. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the music begins at 7 p.m. VIP tables are available by reservation. All other seating is first-come, first-served, and by donation.

LIVE MUSIC: AMERICANA

Steven W. Young's full band performs at Finnriver, featuring Connor Forsyth on keys, Paul Geoghan on bass and Sammy J. Watson on drums, playing original songs best described as rock-and-roll with a strong dash of country. 7-9 p.m. at Finnriver.

SALISH SEA INTERNATIONAL BUTOH FESTIVAL

Celebrating its five-year anniversary with a weekend of dance performances highlighting the theatrical art of Japanese butoh, with guest artists from Japan, Australia, Mexico and France. 7:30 p.m. at 200 Battery Way West at Fort Worden.

SATURDAY, AUG. 23

BRUNCH TIME

The Bishop Block Shop and Garden offers local ingredients and refreshing drinks in a cozy atmosphere. Call for reservations at 360-302-6984. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PORT TOWNSEND FREE ARTIST STUDIO TOUR

Explore 45 local studios during Port Townsend's free artist studio tour. Meet artists, see works in progress and experience creativity in action. Studio locations listed online at ptstudiotour.art. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LEGENDS AND LORE OF PORT TOWNSEND

This fun and analytical walking tour of downtown Port Townsend is researched, developed and led by the Jefferson County Historical Society, and draws from infamous and mysterious stories in Port Townsend's history. 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

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WILD WONDER WEEKEND NATURE JOURNALING DEMO

Join Art Toolkit and John Muir Laws for a nature journaling demo at the Tyler Street Plaza, next to Art Toolkit. 1 p.m. at 1003 Water St.

FINNRIVER TASTING TOURS

Join our knowledgeable cidery hosts for guided strolls through Finnriver's organic fields and orchard, and get a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the inner workings of the cider barn. We'll follow the journey of the apple, from

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Blue Heron Middle School Aug. 27th 4:30-5:30 pm
OCEAN K-12 School Aug. 28th 5-6 pm
Port Townsend High School Aug 27th
-Freshman Orientation & Meal 4-5:45, Parent Mtg 5:45-6:45 pm
-Welcome & Open House for 10th-12th Grades 4-5:30 pm

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

juice to fermentation to bottling. The quarter-mile loop around the land and cider barn is interwoven with stories of farm history, cidermaking styles, sustainability initiatives, orchard and fermentation facts, and insights into Finnriver's mission and land partnerships. 1-2 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. at Finnriver.

OLYMPIC MUSIC FESTIVAL PRESENTS BEETHOVEN THE VISIONARY

The Olympic Music Festival presents "Beethoven the Visionary," featuring the Olympic Chamber Music Fellowship. Musicians include Alexander Fiterstein on clarinet, Ria Honda and Jessica Lee on violin, Jeremy Klein on viola, Matthew Zalkind on cello and Julio Elizalde on piano. Also featuring Trio Eris, with K.J. McDonald on violin, Annie Hyung on cello and Andrew Chen on piano. 2-4:30 p.m. at Fort Worden's Wheeler Theater.

WILD WONDER WEEKEND BOOK-SIGNING AND NATURE JOURNALING PRESENTATION

Join us for a book-signing and nature journaling presentation with John Muir Laws, at 4 p.m. at the Port Townsend Public Library.

SATURDAY SOUNDS

Featuring local music at the Bishop Block Bottle Shop and Garden. Check out our website to see who's playing this coming Saturday. 5-7 p.m.

UP UP UP CRANE TRUCK CIRCUS

The ensemble performs its fifth-annual one-hour all-ages outdoor circus show at Worthington Park in Quilcene at 6 p.m. Admission is by donation.

SALTIRE THEATRE PRESENTS SHERWOOD: THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD

Bubbling with wit, fun, swordplay and sass, in which tyranny is thwarted and community is worth fighting for. 6 p.m. at Littlefield Green at Fort Worden.

LIVE MUSIC

Michael Moore, Bill Brennan and more friends live. Classic covers, plus original tunes on acoustic and electric guitars.

A fun, danceable time to enjoy music and craft beverages. 6-8 p.m. at the Keg and I.

LA FEM PRESENTS RHYTHM GLOW: EXPERIMENTAL ELECTRO, SOUL AND INDIE

A special showcase of artists from La Fem Records, founded by musician and producer Francesca Eluhu, of Day Soul Exquisite and Fem Du Lit, representing a new generation of Seattle music, stemming from the need to amplify and support QTBIPOC artists. 7-9 p.m. at Finnriver.

SALISH SEA INTERNATIONAL BUTOH FESTIVAL

Celebrating its five-year anniversary with a weekend of dance performances highlighting the theatrical art of Japanese butoh, with guest artists from Japan, Australia, Mexico and France. 7:30 p.m at 200 Battery Way West at Fort Worden.

SUNDAY, AUG. 24

WILD WONDER WEEKEND SKETCH WALK ON THE BEACH

Join Art Toolkit and John Muir Laws on the beach near the Marine Science Center dock at Fort Worden. 9 a.m. at 502 Harbor Defense Way.

PORT TOWNSEND FREE ARTIST STUDIO TOUR

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The Up Up Up Crane Truck Circus ensemble performs its fifth-annual one-hour all-ages outdoor circus show at Worthington Park in Quilcene on Aug. 23 and at Finnriver in Chimacum on Aug. 24. Courtesy photo

collections from noon to 3 p.m.

STUDIO TOUR

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Join our knowledgeable cidery hosts for guided strolls through Finnriver's organic fields and orchard, and get a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the inner workings of the cider barn. We'll follow the journey of the apple, from juice to fermentation to bottling. The quarter-mile loop around the land and cider barn is interwoven with stories of farm history, cidermaking styles, sustainability initiatives, orchard

Dance Club is a weekly dance class that includes jazz, funk and hip-hop-inspired choreography and "dance club" moves that will allow you to shake that booty in a low-pressure, supportive and fun environment. 5-6 p.m. at 1030 Lawrence St.

UP UP UP CRANE TRUCK CIRCUS

The ensemble performs its fifth-annual one-hour all-ages outdoor circus show at Finnriver in Chimacum at 5 p.m. Admission is by donation.

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Bubbling with wit, fun, swordplay and sass, in which tyranny is thwarted and community is worth fighting for. 6 p.m. at Littlefield Green at Fort Worden.

LIVE OLD-TIME FIDDLE MUSIC

The Mississippi Hotdogs, featuring Joe Fulton, Jack Dwyer and friends, play old-time fiddle music and more at the Uptown Pub. 7-8 p.m.

MONDAY, AUG. 25

FOOLS BOWL PUB TRIVIA

At the Uptown Pub. 8-9 p.m. Free to play.

TRANSFORMATIVE ALIGNMENT-BASED YOGA THERAPY

Debra Wolfe offers personalized, accessible yoga therapy for chronic pain, injury recovery, stress and anxiety. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9-10:15 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. to noon.

SENIOR NUTRITION MEALS IN PT

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MONDAYS AT THE CASTLE

Bobby Winstead and Jack Dwyer perform bluegrass, old-time, classic country and more on mandolin, guitar and vocals. 5-7 p.m. at the Enchanted Castle Restaurant at Manresa.

IMPROV NIGHT

Saltire has rekindled community improv nights. Come play. 6 p.m. at 1948 Blaine St.

TUESDAY, AUG. 26

OUTDOOR STORYTIME IN QUILCENE

Join us for an energetic outdoor storytime, rain or shine. Hear stories, sing songs, and enjoy physical movement to build children's love of reading and learning. Storytimes are created with preschool and toddler-age children in mind, but all ages are welcome. 10:30-11 a.m. at Worthington Park.

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DRUM AND PERCUSSION FUN

Come and learn some African drumming techniques, or just bring your own percussion to join in a drum circle. Get away from the usual by trying something new, and engaging with your friends and neighbors. 6-7:30 p.m. at the Keg and I.

CHESS NIGHT

Every Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. at Aldrich's Market, upstairs, at 940 Lawrence St. in Port Townsend. Open to all ages, skill levels and interests.

NINE BALL TOURNAMENT

Every Tuesday from 7:30-11:30 p.m. at the Hilltop Tavern. Race to two wins. Alternative breaks. Call Seth at 360-531-2185 with questions.

OPEN MIC

Show off your skills and see what locals have to offer. 9-11 p.m. at the Uptown Pub. Music, comedy and poetry.

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Denzel Washington strives to play it cool in Spike Lee’s “Highest 2 Lowest.” *Courtesy photo*

After slow start, ‘Highest 2 Lowest’ kicks into gear with musically accented action

BY KIRK BOXLEITNER

What’s most striking about director Spike Lee’s “Highest 2 Lowest” is that its supposedly central ethical quandary is shockingly inert. Fortunately for Lee, his updating of Akira Kurosawa’s 1963 “High and Low” finally starts to soar when it departs the furthest from Kurosawa’s tale. As Rory Doherty wrote for the A.V. Club, there is no good reason why the first hour of “Highest 2 Lowest” should play out as formally as it does, right down to its generically ostentatious cinematography and blandly urbane background score. No, the incidental piano music is not composed by Howard Shore, but it might as well be. Likewise, it’s difficult to sympathize with Denzel Washington’s swaggering record executive when he realizes that kidnappers have abducted not his own son, but that of his loyal chauffeur, played by Jeffrey Wright, who makes it painfully easy for us to empathize with his aggrievement.

The police are far less deferential toward the understandable trauma of Wright’s chauffeur than they are toward Washington’s music mogul, even after they’d already mistakenly treated the chauffeur as a potential suspect in the kidnapping. Worse yet, while Washington’s record exec had been fully willing to fork over the funds for his own son’s ransom, the fact that he’s embroiled in a high-risk bid to buy back the music label he founded makes him initially reluctant to make the same financial sacrifice for his friend’s son. There’s almost no drama to this moral dilemma, because everyone from the mogul’s son to his business partner treats his temporary disinclination to pay as simply wrong. It’s such a one-sided debate that we see the ultra-masculine Denzel Washington failing to intimidate his character’s son out of his casual disrespect for the early stance. Once Washington’s exec agrees to pay the ransom, though, Lee at last kicks this

film into high gear, starting with an engaging ransom money dropoff sequence that cross-cuts exquisitely with New York City’s lively Puerto Rican Day Parade, whose outdoor concert echoes the dance hall in Kurosawa’s “High and Low.” In the midst of “Law & Order” veteran Dean Winters again playing a hilariously ill-tempered and unfit cop, we’re treated to an appearance by pianist and bandleader Eddie Palmieri. He died earlier this month and this has to have been one of his final performances. Both Lee and Kurosawa contrast their protagonists gaining folk hero status in the media with those businessmen’s creditors demanding repayments of money no longer in their possession. But while Kurosawa explores the police’s manipulations of the media through the release of true and false stories, Lee taps into his protagonist’s talent as a music producer to spot a clue that leads him to the kidnapper, played by real-life rapper A\$AP Rocky (born Rakim Mayers).

The confrontation scenes between Washington and Mayers are at once playful and profound. Verbal sparring spins out into diegetic freestyle rap lyrics and the true conflict at the heart of “Highest 2 Lowest” is made explicit, between the older and younger generations of Black music. Even as the older man seeks literal and figurative payback from the younger man, the older man also understands where the younger man is coming from, enough to keep me guessing until the very end about how their fraught relationship would resolve itself. For a dude who turned 70 last December, Denzel is credibly nimble in spouting what sound convincingly like improvised verses. And for as aloof and closed-off as he comes across at the outset of this film, it’s nice to see him demonstrate insights into musical artists that led to his character’s successes in the industry. I was ultimately able to forgive some of this film’s first-reel sluggishness and seemingly poor storytelling choices, due to the

denouement that the callousness of Washington’s character came from him drifting away from his more heartfelt reasons for making music. To be fair, this is both contrasted and underscored when we see that he’s retained his artistic principles in the face of corporatization, social media and AI influence. If Washington wasn’t having the time of his life in this role, then he’s an even better actor than I thought. He’s continually letting fly with small, puckish gestures that are clearly animated by the “play” part of acting. Meanwhile, Wright continues to demonstrate his peerless talent at portraying bone-deep disgruntlement and disillusionment, with a heavy-lidded brow and a bearded scowl whose furrowed lines read like a road map of weary resignation. If you can resist the temptation to check your watch during the first hour of this 133-minute film, “Highest 2 Lowest” is worth watching, but it’s also improved by a follow-up viewing of “High and Low.”

BUSINESS PAGE

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State fire officials press for safety reforms for ADU’s

BY JERRY CORNFIELD
WASHINGTON STATE
STANDARD

As Washington lawmakers ease barriers to build more housing across the state, fire officials warn of an “unintended circumstance” making their jobs more difficult in some communities. They say recent state laws encouraging higher density development have led to more properties with multiple single family residences, or accessory dwelling units, squeezed onto them. In some situations, the path to reach a front door is no more than 3 feet wide, too narrow to get a gurney through in a medical emergency and too little space to safely lean a ladder if there is a fire, they say. Fire marshals are pressing the state Building

Code Council to mandate a minimum 5-foot wide path to access any new home that does not face a street, alley or parking lot. “This poses a safety issue to firefighters, occupants and patients,” Dave Kokot, past president of the Washington State Association of Fire Marshals, told the council Friday. Kokot filed a petition for an emergency rule change and hoped the Building Code Council would grant it in its Friday meeting. Instead, the panel opted to have one of its committees review the request. It will decide later whether to grant the request. Some jurisdictions, like Vancouver, already have a 5-foot minimum standard. The fire marshals’ proposal contains exceptions. For example, if a building has an approved automatic fire sprinkler system, a four-foot width would be allowed. If adopted, the new requirement would not be retroactive. Projects already submitted would not be subject to the change. In Friday’s extensive debate, some council members questioned the degree to which this was an emergency. “It has not come into play in a lot of developments yet. We anticipate that it will,” Kokot said. Others said they thought fire marshals already had the power to ensure adequate access into homes and buildings. Kokot said building officials can override fire officials but having a state-wide requirement could make it harder. Kokot said he realized this situation is an

unintended consequence of the Legislature trying to come up with ways to address the housing shortage. “We are open to delaying implementation to a reasonable date to allow new projects to get through the process,” he said. Patrick Hanks, codes and policy manager for the Building Industry Association of Washington, said the proposed change could be interpreted to require five feet of clearance around an entire accessory dwelling unit. That would choke off construction of ADUs because there would not be enough space to comply. In an email, Hanks said detached accessory dwelling units, commonly called “mother-in-law” units, are often built within three feet of another structure, fence,

or property line. This allows for increased density in areas that used to be zoned exclusively for single-family homes, he said. “It’s one tool that helps improve housing affordability,” he said, adding BIAW will work on getting “more workable code language that will improve fire safety while reducing negative impacts to housing affordability, with a delayed implementation to give the industry time to adjust designs if they would be affected.” Though the rule didn’t get adopted, Kokot said afterwards he’s glad they’re still talking about doing so. “I am encouraged that the council, for the most part, acknowledges there is an issue,” he said. “I’d like to get the language done. I think we can.”

Streets: Helping others has been his path

continued from page 1

“A retired cop told me, ‘Mike, you’re putting too much energy toward that kid. He’s not going to make it.’ But I can’t give up on anybody,” McCutcheon said. “We got him arrested, he went to a mental hospital, then to treatment. Now I sponsor him.” He added, “He hated me at first — I represented something he didn’t believe he could ever have. But I kept bringing him meals, checking on him in the snow, making sure he had propane for heat. Now he’s part of our society again, and his parents believe we saved their son.” McCutcheon even listens to meal requests, some of which surprise him. “We’ve got vegetarians,” he says, laughing. “At first, I said, ‘Come on, you’re shoving dope in your arm and now you’re vegetarian?’ One of the ladies told me, ‘They don’t want to eat another animal.’ Oh. Yeah, okay — prepare vegetarian.” McCutcheon does not simply feed people at random. He develops relationships with the people he helps, sometimes leading with friendly hugs or sharing inside jokes. One regular still gives McCutcheon grief after playfully questioning

the contents of one of his dishes. “She looks at me and says, ‘What is this?’ I told her it was chili. She goes, ‘That’s bulls-- chili.’ And ever since then, she calls it that every time,” McCutcheon said with a laugh. While that joke stuck, the meals themselves are no laughing matter to McCutcheon. He doesn’t believe in feeding people low-quality food in mass quantities; he wants people to be fed — and fed well. “During summer-time, I like to have a salad so they get fiber. Throughout the year it’s about getting them protein they can actually eat — chicken off the bone so their hands don’t get filthy, pork that’s tender, fish that flakes apart. Some people think I’m just cooking whatever’s free, but there’s a reason behind every meal,” he said. This part of his mission has a bigger message: The food he serves isn’t just to fill a plate, it is to nourish people who may not eat another balanced meal all week. “It’s about dignity, too,” he said. “If it looks good and tastes good, they feel valued.” While his approach is built on compassion, he said that accountability is crucial to rehabilitation. “If I was feeding them every day, I’d be enabling them,” he said. “I believe

in things being rough — that’s how they get tired of that lifestyle. But I don’t jeopardize their lives. When it’s hot, I take them water. When it’s cold, I check on them.” Recovery looks different to a lot of people and with its complexity, no solution is simple. But he argues that change begins when people treat people like human beings. For McCutcheon, solutions follow a simple philosophy and it is one he believes gets overlooked. Without perspective, decision-makers address the wrong questions, resulting in just another gap in a system that is built on misunderstanding. The answer, McCutcheon said, is transitional. “People think it’s about not having housing. It’s not. You have to treat the addiction or the mental health first, then give them housing,” he said. “You can’t just set up a campground with no services and no requirements.” After years of cooking in borrowed kitchens throughout the community, McCutcheon decided to build a commercial kitchen on his own. “I poured the concrete March 14. The building came out of Canada — buckets of bolts, came in stacks,” he said. “It’s made my life easier. Before, I had freezers



Michael McCutcheon chats with a fellow volunteer inside his kitchen, which he built by hand. *Leader photo by Alex Frick*

here, some there, some outside. Now, I can keep track of what we have.” The kitchen is compact, but remarkably sophisticated for a volunteer-led operation. McCutcheon arranged the kitchen to maximize efficiency and organization. Inside are commercial freezers for bulk meat, shelves with neatly labeled dry goods and enough counter space for a team to prepare meals all at once. The kitchen represents so much more for McCutcheon, as it operates as the home base for the outreach that fuels his passion, a space that keeps him safe - and accountable. When asked about whether he worried about the likelihood of relapsing if he could not serve others, McCutcheon said he is sure of it. “Yeah, I know it would be. This is my lifesaver. Is it a crutch? Call it whatever you want. I’m not any good when I’m using,” he said. “So, if I’m using a crutch to stay clean, and I’m helping somebody else and getting somebody else into recovery, that’s good enough for me. But yeah, if I didn’t have this ... if it gets me another 10 years, I’m 65, another 10 years, I’ll be good.” For McCutcheon, the meals, the kitchen, and the conversations are all centered around a mission—a mission to meet people where they are and offer something that matters. “I’m out there because I care,” he says. “I know what it’s like to be there. And I know people can change. This work keeps me alive — and as long as I’m alive, I’ll be doing it.” Soon, McCutcheon’s story moves from kitchen to screen. McCutcheon’s story will be featured in the independent film Michael and Damien, screening at the 26th annual Port Townsend Film Festival, Sept. 18–21, 2025. Next week, the series will look at transitional housing — and how it fits into local debates about addressing the housing crisis. *Alex Frick is a staff writer for The Leader in Port Townsend and a 2025 corps member of the GroundTruth Project of the Report for America.*

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Douglas Manso Stuart
DEC. 3, 1940 - JULY 31, 2025

Douglas Manso Stuart, 84, passed away peacefully in Bellingham, Washington, on July 31, 2025, after a long battle with Parkinson’s disease. He was a longtime resident of Port Townsend, Washington, and had also lived in New York City, Redwood Shores, California, and other places throughout his adventurous life. Doug attended The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey, where he valued his high school years and the friendships he made. He went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in classical music from Columbia University, followed by a bachelor’s degree in medical laboratory science

from the University of Washington. As a young man, Doug set out on the open seas, working as a deckhand on a ship bound for Africa. Soon after, he served four years in the United States Marine Corps. In the years that followed, his path was as varied and colorful as the man himself—driving a taxi through the bustling streets of New York City, lending a hand in a health food store, and eventually making his way west to Washington State. For more than two decades, Doug worked as a laboratory technician at Jefferson General Hospital, where his steady hands and thoughtful nature left a lasting impression on colleagues and patients alike. Outside of work, Doug pursued life with a deep and abiding passion for learning and the arts. He loved playing classical piano and accordion, singing hymns, practicing yoga, studying calculus and Japanese, and traveling the world. He was a devoted fan of the Seattle Mariners, a connoisseur of whole wheat bread, and never

said no to a good glass of carrot juice. Doug is survived by his son, Nathan, daughter-in-law, Natalie, and his beloved grandchildren, Evan, Lydia, and Samuel, who will carry forward his love for curiosity, music, and life’s simple pleasures. The family extends heartfelt gratitude to all the compassionate staff at Summit Place Assisted Living in Fairhaven and Whatcom Hospice for their dedicated care and kindness during Doug’s final chapter. In honor of Doug, no formal service will be held. Instead, take a walk by the sea and remember a man who found beauty in both the grand adventures and the quiet moments in between. Please share memories of Doug at www.westfordfuneralhome.com.



Jim Gilmore
FEB. 9, 1939 - JULY 26, 2025

James DeMott Gilmore, age 86, died at home on Bainbridge Island, Washington on July 26th, 2025. Jim was kind and thoughtful and very loved. Born in Independence, Kansas on February 9, 1939, Jim graduated from Independence High School in 1957, Princeton University in 1961, and served in the Navy on the USS Princeton from 1961-1963. He earned his law degree at Stanford University and moved to Alaska as a young lawyer in 1966. He married his wife Katy in 1969 and the couple had two sons. He practiced Law in Alaska for 40 years with notable distinction. In 2005, Jim and Katy moved to Washington State, first to Port Townsend where Jim

continued to take public defense appointments, self-published a book about trial practice, and played coronet in the Port Townsend Summer Band. In 2018, when he fully retired, the Gilmores moved to Bainbridge Island where Jim took classes at the University of Washington’s Classics Department, volunteered at the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum, and played chess weekly. Jim’s interests ranged from classical Greek to kettlebells. He was committed to his law practice, and stories of Jim’s exploits as a trial lawyer are legion. Guided by his ethics and noted professionalism, he was appointed to the Alaska Judicial Counsel, awarded the Alaska Bar Lifetime Professionalism Award, and invited to the exclusive American Academy of Trial Lawyers, Jim’s charm, storytelling, and warmth remain with everyone who knew him. Jim was devoted to his family and is survived by his wife, Katy, sons Chester and William, daughters-in-law Mera Mathews and Chommada Gilmore, granddaughters Opal and Olivia, and grandsons August James and James Jira.



Alyce Marie Hansen
MAY 4, 1924 - AUG. 14, 2025

Born and raised in Cottage Grove, Oregon Alyce married her high school sweetheart, Gene Hansen, just before he was shipped out in the Navy at the beginning of World War II. Alyce moved to Port Townsend shortly before the end of the War when Gene was transferred to Fort Warden to tend the submarine net across the channel. Alyce worked at Crown Zellerbach paper mill for her entire career. She was an avid bowler participating in tournaments in all 50 states. A world traveler, she was on 7 continents including Antarctica. She was in Egypt when forced to return to the States because of covid which upset her as she had planned on traveling on to Jordan. Alyce loved being involved and participated in many events and groups. An avid knitter since childhood she helped provide many blankets and children at the Children’s Hospital and other groups. Alyce was predeceased by her husband and sister but is survived by many cousins, nieces and nephews. Donations can be made to Peninsula Friends of Animals in the name of Tiger, her beloved cat. A Celebration of life is pending and will be announced at a later date.

Lost: Kawahara trawler found empty

continued from page 1

Guard C-27 fixed-wing aircrew from Air Station Sacramento responded to the vessel’s position and attempted to make contact, but heard nothing. The aircrew visually noticed that the vessel was rigged for fishing, lights were energized, and a life raft was observed in its cradle. The aircrew flew over the Karolee’s previous course but did not find any signs of distress. The crew then flew back to Sacramento. Around noon the same day, watchstanders at the Coast Guard’s Northwest District command center dispatched an MH-60 helicopter from Air Station Astoria in Oregon and Coast Guard Cutter Douglas Denman to assist in the search efforts. In addition, a boat crew

from Coast Guard Station Neah Bay was launched and completed a shoreline search from Cape Flattery towards La Push, Washington. The MH-60 searched for several hours in the waters west of Grays Harbor, and then returned to Astoria. The Douglas Denman arrived at the designated area by 8 p.m. and began searching. The Coast Guard’s search lasted through the night. The crew searched the trackline where the vessel traversed off the coast of Washington and Oregon to look for any signs of distress. Coast Guard crews searched over 18 hours, scouring an area of 2,100 square miles, including over 430 miles of trackline. Watchstanders at the Coast Guard’s Southwest District command center diverted the crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Sea Lion



Quilcene fishing icon, Joel Kawahara, 70 at the Boat Haven in Port Townsend. *Courtesy photo*

to intercept the vessel and confirm if anyone was onboard. The crew of the Sea Lion arrived on scene with the Karolee around 10 a.m., Aug. 13, conducted a boarding, and confirmed no one was onboard. The Coast Guard crew also noted that all safety equipment was located onboard the vessel.

With no additional reports of distress or responses to callouts, the Coast Guard suspended the search. The crew of the Sea Lion took the Karolee in tow and brought it to Eureka, California, where it was transferred to a Station Humboldt Bay boat crew. The vessel is now moored in Eureka.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

Bahá'í Faith
360-385-0169 to contact Jefferson County Bahá'ís.
National and International information and contact:
www.bahai.us and www.bahai.org or 1-800-22-UNITE

Upcoming Events —
World Peace Devotions Mondays, August 18, September 15, October 20. An artistic series of monthly musical devotions for World Peace. Noon to 1pm at Unity Spiritual Enrichment Center. The theme for August is 'The Environment'.
Month of Names (Asmá) begins at sunset on Mon, Aug 18
Month of 'Izzat (Might) begins at sunset on Sat, Sept 6.
Month of Mashīyyat (Will) begins at sunset Sept 25.
Month of Ilm (Knowledge) begins at sunset Oct 14.

Unit Convention is Saturday, October 4 in Port Ludlow. Bahá'ís of NW Washington gather to consult and elect a representative to the annual National Convention, held in Apr.
The Birth of the Bab and the **Birth of Bahá'u'llah** will be celebrated on Oct 22 and 23. Details of a public meeting to honor the holy days will be announced.

Weekly meetings, open to the public, all are video-conferences. Call the local contact number above and a link will be provided.
• Wednesday morning prayers at 9:00 am
• Sunday morning prayers at 10:00 am.

"Be fair to yourselves and to others, that the evidences of justice may be revealed, through your deeds, among Our faithful servants. Beware lest ye encroach upon the substance of your neighbor. Prove yourselves worthy of his trust and confidence in you, and withhold not from the poor the gifts which the grace of God hath bestowed upon you. He is the Great Giver, the Most Generous, the Benevolent."
— Bahá'u'lláh,

First Baptist Church of Port Townsend
Loving God and Loving Port Townsend • Pastor: Skip Cadorette
1202 Lawrence St., Port Townsend WA 98368
Phone: 360-385-2752 • E-mail: firstbaptistpt@gmail.com
On the web: www.firstbaptistpt.org
Find us on Facebook at FirstBaptistChurchofPT

Sunday Worship: 9:30am A relaxed, come-as-you-are, blend of contemporary and traditional styles of music, traditional and emerging styles of worship, prayer and honest Biblical teaching. Nursery care is provided.

11:00am Classes for kids and youth; sermon discussion and coffee hour for adults.

Christian Science Society, Port Townsend
275 Umatilla Ave. • 360-379-1139
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Sunday 10am — 11am Church Service and Sunday School
Sunday school classes for children, teens, and young adults up to the age of 20.
Wednesday 12pm — 1pm Testimony Meetings
Saturday 11:30am — 2pm and by appointment, Christian Science Reading Room
Follow us on Facebook at Christian Science Church PT
*Christian Science is not associated with Scientology

First Presbyterian Church, PT
Rev. Paul Heins, 1111 Franklin St., Port Townsend • 360-385-2525
www.fcpt.org • welcome@fcpt.org
Spirit, Compassion, Justice
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Live Streaming worship service at 9:30 am each Sunday at fcpt.org

San Juan Baptist Church
1704 Discovery Rd. Port Townsend • www.sanjuanbaptist.com
Office Email: office@sanjuanbaptist.com
Office Phone: 360-385-2545
Pastor Noel Muscutt • Email: ndmuscutt@sanjuanbaptist.com

Join us at 10:00am on Sundays for our worship service.
Prayer Meetings: Wednesdays 7 pm online and Thursdays 10 am in-person
Forge Youth Group: (Middle and high schoolers): Thursdays at the pastor's house
Thrive Youth Group: (ages 8 and up): Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Ladies Bible Study: Thursdays 6:30 pm

We're on Facebook and Instagram! Search for San Juan Baptist Church.
Email the church office for more information and to get connected! office@sanjuanbaptist.com

St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church
Pastor: Fr. Jacob Maurer
Vicars: Fr. Naresh Gali & Fr. Ed White
1335 Blaine Street (Harrison & Blaine) Port Townsend
(360)385-3700 www.stmaryss.com

Daily Mass: Mon, Thurs, First & Third Fridays 12 PM; Wed, 5:30PM
Friday Adoration 12 PM to 8 PM

Saturday 5PM; Sunday 8:30 AM Spanish Mass; 11 AM English Mass

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WEDNESDAY Healing & Eucharist
10:30 am

MON-WED-FRI Centering Prayer
9:00-9:30 Online

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Pastorpeacepl@gmail.com | 360.447.8254

The Salish Sea Fellowship
A Free Faith Community growing out of Unitarian and Universalist culture and tradition

When: Sundays, 4pm
Where: Sunday Services are held at 130 Church Lane, Hadlock
Discover the **Salish Sea Fellowship**, a free faith community growing out of Unitarian and Universalist culture and tradition. The SSF is an independent, educational, spiritual and liberal community, emphasizing support and respect. All are welcome!

Our members and friends gather together in community several Sundays a month at 130 Church Lane in Port Hadlock. Come enjoy a Sunday Service, our community potluck, or game night. Our fellowship is always a soft place to land.

Please check out our website (salishseafellowship.org) regularly for updates on all of our special offerings. Our popular and free Adult Learning Program (ALPs) will resume in the fall with new and exciting classes. Join us!

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More info: <https://quakerspeak.com/collections/>

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Children & Youth Programs offered year round
For more information: quuf.org
2333 San Juan Ave, Port Townsend
360-379-0606

Unity Spiritual Enrichment Center
3918 San Juan Avenue, Port Townsend, WA 98368
360-385-6519

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Sun, Aug 17 The Wonders of Oz
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Friday, August 22 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Tuesday, August 26 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Quilcene School Based Health Center

Monday, August 18 | 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Wednesday, August 20 | 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

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Jefferson Healthcare unveils \$78 million expansion, redefining local care

BY JAMES ROBINSON

Jefferson Healthcare sits poised to open the doors to the newest wing of its hospital, a project that staff says has been years in the making and modernizes the hospital while delivering a host of new and expanded services to area residents.

“Our focus is keeping care local,” said Jefferson Healthcare Chief Operating Officer Jacob Davidson. “This project allows us to add entirely new services like radiation oncology, neurology, pulmonology, and ENT (Ear Nose and Throat) — services patients often have to travel long distances for. That travel can be a real barrier, and we’re working to eliminate it.”

The complex, \$78-million project is centered by a 56,000-square-foot building that had in its specs a need to demolish an older structure while connecting, updating and expanding to other areas of the hospital. It was years in the making.

Long gestation period

In 2015, Jefferson Healthcare evaluated the buildings on its campus for seismic and structural safety. The hospital’s oldest building, constructed in 1965, was determined to be beyond its useful life. Engineering reports identified serious seismic and structural deficiencies and recommended replacement before 2025.

That was the impetus for the Campus Modernization and Expansion Project.

The newest building, according to hospital executives, solves these issues while creating a modern, easily navigable wing.

One major theme throughout the project is making the hospital easier to navigate, he said.

“We focused a lot on wayfinding,” Davidson said. “With just two main corridors, it’s hard to get lost, which is a big improvement over the patchwork layout we had before.”

Another highly anticipated feature, he added, is the fully renovated cafeteria. It will once again be open to the public.

“Our cafeteria is doubling in size,” Davidson said. “We have a phenomenal dietary team and an incredible head chef. With the new building opening, we’re excited to welcome the community back.”

Called the Garden Row Cafe, staff anticipates providing food for patients by Aug. 22. with the goal to provide food options for staff from the kitchen by Aug. 28. On Sept. 8, the kitchen is slated to open to the public.

In addition, the building features many floor-to-ceiling windows, flooding the space with natural light and offering commanding views of Admiralty Inlet, Port Townsend Bay and Manresa Castle.

Beyond aesthetics, the project brings other infrastructure improvements



Asif Luqman, MD, FACOG, of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic, and Lauren Lemmons RN, BSN, director of Surgical Services, walk down Jefferson Healthcare’s new ‘Mainstreet’ in the new wing. *Leader photo illustration by Lloyd Mullen*

— such as 120 additional parking spaces and electric vehicle charging stations. Hospital officials anticipate the new entrance and other improvements should improve traffic flow and accessibility for patients and visitors alike. The new wing, Davidson explained, essentially ties four buildings together.

“We now have four entrances. The new building’s entrance will be called Castle View,” Davidson said.

The new wing will provide space for existing services such as medical oncology, dermatology, the wound clinic and obstetrics and gynecology. With the project complete, Davidson said the dermatology department’s footprint will triple in size to better meet demand.

In addition to expansion of existing services, Jefferson Healthcare patients will now have access to a linear accelerator for radiation oncology, ear, nose and throat specialists, neurology and pulmonology services, an ambulatory surgery center and access to a linear accelerator for radiation oncology.

A linear accelerator (LINAC) is a medical device used in external beam radiation therapy to treat cancer. It works by accelerating electrons to a high speed and then using them to produce X-rays which are focused and shaped to target and destroy tumor cells. A LINAC can be used for various types of cancer treatment, including image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT) and stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS).

By the numbers CAMPUS MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION PROJECT:

REVENUE BONDS

•Siemens, JP Morgan Bank and private revenue bonds

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

•\$2.5 million radiation oncology appropriation fiscal year 2023
•\$2 million specialty services appropriation fiscal year 2024

WASHINGTON STATE

•\$4 million reproductive health appropriation fiscal year 2023

JEFFERSON HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

•\$2.5 million

JEFFERSON HEALTHCARE

•\$10 million from savings

Source: Jefferson Healthcare

Paying for it

Hospital staff reports the Campus Modernization and Expansion Project will be completed within its \$78 million budget.

“This project was the result of a community-wide effort,” said Tina Herschelman, the hospital’s marketing and community engagement spokesperson. Contributions came in many different forms and from many people.

“Thanks to generous community support, the Jefferson Healthcare Foundation met its largest ever campaign goal of \$2.5 million. A successful two-year capital campaign, with participation from community members, local businesses, individual donors, and grants, means that Jefferson Healthcare was able to purchase a linear accelerator to bring radiation oncology to our county,” said Herschelman.

She credited U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell with securing a \$2.5 million appropriation to help fund the build-out of our radiation therapy area and the vault where the linear accelerator will be housed. The senator also helped secure an additional \$2 million appropriation to help fund new clinic space. “Rep. Steve Tharinger helped secure a \$4 million state appropriation to help fund the operating room expansion, allowing for greater access to full spectrum reproductive care services,” she said.

With the doors set to soon open, Jefferson Healthcare staff say they are thrilled to begin serving the community in a modern facility equipped with cutting edge medical technology.

“This will feel like one cohesive facility — even though it’s built from multiple buildings,” Davidson said. “It’s modern, it’s easy to navigate, and it reflects the high standard of care we’re proud to provide here in Jefferson County.”

An expansion that marks a milestone for our community

In just a few days, on August 24, Jefferson Healthcare will host a celebration as we open the doors of our new hospital wing for a ribbon-cutting ceremony and public tours. Our hospital’s expansion is a milestone years in the making, and it’s so important because it means that people in East Jefferson County will have access to an even broader range of health care services closer to home.

The new building will provide space for new specialty services, as well as expanded space for existing services our community depends on. More than bricks and mortar, this expansion represents our commitments to expanding our services to better meet community need and keeping care local.

I’ve often said that it’s unusual for a rural hospital to offer specialty



Mike Glenn, CEO, and Hospital Board Commissioner Jill Buhler Rienstra. *Leader photo by Lloyd Mullen*

services like dermatology, radiation oncology, plastic and reconstructive surgery, and pulmonary care. It’s extraordinarily uncommon for a critical access hospital to be able to offer this level of specialty services. We can

only do this at Jefferson Healthcare because of an amazing group of doctors and providers, and the partnership we have with our community members.

Let me explain why that’s such a big deal.

The reality of rural healthcare

Across the country, rural hospitals are under intense pressure. Recruiting specialists to work in smaller communities can be difficult, and the financial constraints of operating in rural areas often mean that services



MIKE GLENN
GUEST COLUMN

are limited to only the most essential care. If Jefferson Healthcare didn’t offer specialty services, many patients would be required to travel hours to get the right care.

This isn’t just inconvenient. For many, it’s a dealbreaker. Not only can long travel times mean delayed diagnoses or postponed treatments, if it means traveling to Silverdale or Seattle, some patients will forgo treatment altogether. That’s why adding new services, like radiation oncology, is so important — so the

people in the communities we serve can have access to the kind of top-quality, empathetic care they need and deserve.

Community support matters

Jefferson Healthcare has been able to expand because of significant community support. Partnerships with a host of local vendors and organizations have brought us to this moment. But this expansion also wouldn’t be possible without you, and we’re so grateful that you’ve trusted us to be your local health care provider. Thank you.

I’m proud of what we’ve accomplished together. And I’m excited to see what’s next.

Mike Glenn has been CEO of Jefferson Healthcare since October 2010.

Hospital cafe seeks to become community destination again

BY KIRK BOXLEITNER

Before COVID-19 and construction, the cafeteria at the Jefferson Healthcare hospital in Port Townsend was popular not only among patients and staff but the general public.

Head Chef Arran Stark won a Reader’s Choice award from The Leader, and he’s looking forward to ending a five-year intermission of the Garden Row Cafe, a name that goes back to the middle part of the last century. That’s when the hospital first began feeding people fresh food from its garden on the grounds.

The cafeteria service at the hospital is restarting with the opening of the new building and its state-of-the-art kitchen.

He and his staff have operated out of a kitchen at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds for more than a year.

The square footage of the pre-pandemic cafe was approximately 2,800 square feet, while the new facility’s footprint measures approximately 5,500 square feet. Meanwhile the seating capacity is increasing from 36 to 80 and cafeteria staff is increasing from 19 full time positions before COVID to 27 in the new facility.

Stark gushed over the new features, including video monitors to display each day’s menus, separate soup and sandwich stations, grab-and-go refrigerators and freezer doors, and an espresso bar.

Tina Herschelman, who handles marketing and community engagement for Jefferson Healthcare, noted that all of the kitchen equipment used at the fairgrounds while the new building was underconstruction will either remain there or go to other locations. “Nothing went to waste,” she said.



Stark estimated that between 25-30% of the cafeteria’s customers prior to the pandemic were members of the general

public, with the cafeteria serving between 450 and 500 diners per day. Closed to the public in March 2020, it began operating



Clockwise from above: Chanda Johnson, Supervisor; Eva Hernandez, Cook; Aimee Smith, Supervisor; Vickie Barron, Cook, prep fruit and vegetables in the new kitchen. A view through the window into the new Garden Row Cafe atrium. The Japanese Maple was acquired from a local vendor. Michelle Poore, a baker, grips her whisk and stainless steel bowl. *Leader photos by Lloyd Mullen*

had 1,014 employees, with expectations of a fully staffed building, services and clinics reaching 1,200 employees.

Expectations of fully staffed building/services/clinics would have us reach 1200. That is in addition to 17 patients per day, which is its consistent average. Just how many diners will be served will

at the fairgrounds in June 2023.

The hospital is bigger now. As of Aug. 7, the hospital





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The Leader



Above from left: Chef Nick Collier, prepares breakfast sandwiches in the kitchen. Chanda Johnson, Food Services supervisor, slides a plate with soup under a heat lamp. Tom Forest, a chef at Jefferson Healthcare, drops some leeks in a wok. *Leader photos by Lloyd Mullen*

have to be determined over the next few months.

Stark said while he welcomes the return of the community to the cafeteria he emphasized that hospital employees will be prioritized for service. Many have about half an hour to eat their meals before returning to work.

When asked about the new cafe's pricing, Stark described it as comparable to rather than competitive with, other eating establishments in the area.

He stressed that he isn't looking to undercut or take business away from any other existing restaurants, cafes or diners. The hospital cafeteria's purchasing is facing the same challenges due to changes happening at the federal level as are other eating establishments.

Stark wistfully recalled the lunches and dinners of old that

were well-attended by seniors in the community, and he hopes that, by starting dinner at 4 p.m., he can see that level of socialization resume.

In the meantime, he is planning for the unveiling of Jefferson Healthcare's newly completed hospital wing on Aug. 24 with 800-900 cupcakes. The treats will be available to welcome the community back to the "cool oasis" of the cafeteria.

Destination dining

"Our cafeteria was a destination," Stark said. "People loved to eat at the hospital. In the food service industry, the two places that are often regarded as the worst places to be a cook are the cafeterias at hospitals and schools, when those folks need and deserve some of the best food service. I've been in



Arran Stark, head chef at Jefferson Healthcare, checks the new equipment at the hospital cafe. *Leader photo by Lloyd Mullen*

the trade for 35 years, and 20 of those were spent serving wealthy people in high-end restaurants. For the 15 years that I've worked here, my staff and I have been culinarians."

He focuses on healthy options and food is sourced from local farms.

Stark credited the quality of their service to the informed, collaborative and creative process through which he and his cooks work together, describing it as driven by passion and enabled by training.

"We feed a broad spectrum of the community," Stark said. "I want to help educate people in the culinary arts. Preparing food is one of the truest forms of art, because it pleases all the senses, right down to the taste, smell, feel and appearance of the food."

Not only will the cafe's new dining room feature a display shelf of donated cookbooks and recipe collections, but Stark intends to utilize his new space to conduct cooking demonstrations, mirroring the menu items that will be served

at the cafe.

"Knowing methods of cooking contributes to good health, which is our collective mission," he said. If Stark has his wish, he'd like to see the temporary kitchen at the fairgrounds used as a nonprofit cooking school. "I used to work at Gray Wolf Ranch, and good food helped fill a void in those kids' lives," he offered.

Stark touted the aesthetics of the new cafe, with its interior open-air solar deck courtyard, noting it contributed to the "beauty" of its dining experience.

"These facilities look fancy enough that you might expect to see them in downtown Seattle," Stark said. "We'd been working out of a kitchen that was built in 1965, and now, we have facilities that should carry us forward for the next 50, 60, 70 years."

Jefferson Healthcare unveils new hospital wing August 24

RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION

It's time to celebrate what we've built together! **More Services. Local Access. Better Care.**

Jefferson Healthcare invites you to a community celebration on **Sunday, August 24, at 2:00 p.m.**, when we officially open our newest hospital wing. Join us for a ribbon-cutting ceremony, refreshments, and a guided tour of the specialty services wing. See firsthand how we're expanding to bring even better care to East Jefferson County with more services, improved local access, and state-of-the-art care, right here at home.

Jefferson
Healthcare



Learn more about the new hospital wing, designed for patients and our community, at jeffersonhealthcare.org.

Jefferson Healthcare had high marks before the expansion

BY MALLORY KRUML

With Jefferson Healthcare unveiling its new hospital wing and officiallly launching its significant exansion at an Aug. 24 ribbon cutting,The Leader stepped back to look the hospital, how it ranks statewide among other rural hospitals, and its impact on the community.

The years-long, \$98 million expansion project, specifically set out to raise the bar on quality of care. It provides new space for existing services — medical oncology, dermatology, wound clinic, and obstetrics and gynecology — while allowing Jefferson Healthcare to offer a range of new services — radiation oncology, Ear Note and Throat (ENT), neurology, pulmonology and an ambulatory, or outpatient surgery center — which are often sought outside of Jefferson County.

The hospital has already been ranking near the top of all critical access rural hospitals in the state. At the end of June and for the second year in a row, the hospital received Critical Access Hospital Achievement of Excellence, gold-level recognition by the Washington State Hospital Association (WSHA) and one of just 20 in the state.

“To receive this recognition is a reflection of the hard work, innovation and dedication of our entire team,” said Jefferson Healthcare Chief Medical Officer Dr. Steven Butterfield. “We’re deeply proud to be recognized among the top rural hospitals in the state for putting patients first and continually raising the bar on care quality and safety.”

To qualify for the program, Jefferson Healthcare submitted data on quality measures including sepsis management, diagnostic accuracy and workplace safety. Critical access hospitals are those with 25 or fewer beds located more than 35 miles from another hospital. They maintain an average length of stay of 96 hours or less for acute care patients and provide 24/7 emergency care — with an average score of five out of 10 across various measures.

“The Achievement of Quality Excellence program elevates the work of our most rural hospitals as they deliver high-quality care close to home,” said Darcy Jaffe, WSHA’s senior vice president of safety and



Radiation Oncologist Sabrina Prime, MD, MPHS, stands next to the new linear accelerator in the new Radiation Oncology Clinic. A linear accelerator (LINAC) is a machine that generates high-energy radiation, typically X-rays, to treat cancer and other diseases by targeting and destroying cancerous cells. It works by accelerating electrons using microwave technology and then directing them towards a target, creating high-energy X-rays that can be shaped and directed at the tumor. The precision of LINACs minimizes damage to surrounding healthy tissue.

Leader photo by Lloyd Mullen

quality. “Their outstanding commitment to improvement is a testament to their leadership in patient care.”

Jefferson Healthcare has a five-star rating from

Medicare through Hospital Compare, an online resource that provides ratings based on quality of care at each of the nation’s Medicaid-certified hospitals, which

to remove travel as a barrier to care by offering these specialties close to home.”

The addition of radiation oncology alone is a game-changer for local healthcare. With the community-funded purchase of a linear accelerator — the technology needed to deliver targeted radiation therapy — and the addition of new services, Jefferson Healthcare is reinforcing its role as a critical healthcare provider for Jefferson County residents..

A 2022 study in the Journal of Clinical Oncology found that while rural counties generally have fewer cancer cases, they suffer from higher cancer death rates. It lists limited access and significant travel times to treatment chief among the barriers to oncologic care.

While the total number of radiation oncologists increased from 2013 to 2019, the study found that the percentage practicing in rural areas declined, concluding that the disparities are becoming more pronounced.

But, Jefferson Healthcare, by adding radiation oncology to the list of services provided and hiring its first-ever radiation oncologist, Dr. Sabrina Prine, aims to break down those barriers.



JACOB DAVIDSON

Until now, patients in need of radiation therapy had to travel to Poulsbo, Silverdale or Seattle for treatment.

“We’ll be the first critical access hospital in the state to offer radiation oncology,” Davidson said. “During their toughest time, patients won’t have to travel an hour or two for a five-minute appointment.”

That amount of travel was enough for some patients to forgive treatment altogether, according to the hospital.

“This is a tremendous step forward for our patients and our community,” Butterfield said. “Radiation oncology is a highly specialized service that is rarely found in rural settings. Our ability to offer it here speaks volumes about the commitment of our community and the exceptional team we’ve built.”

“We’ll be the first critical access hospital in the state to offer radiation oncology. During their toughest time, patients won’t have to travel an hour or two for a five-minute appointment.”

JACOB DAVIDSON

JEFFERSON HEALTHCARE CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER



According to the manufacturer, HyperSight improves image quality in terms of spatial and contrast resolution. This is designed to improve the ability to more precisely target tumor volumes and increase sparing of healthy tissue. *Courtesy image*

highlights quality of care. It received Outstanding Patient Experience Award for both 2023 and 2024 from Healthgrades, with patient ratings about 9% higher than the average. The overall patient experience is based on nine measures related to doctor and nurse communication, hospital cleanliness and noise levels, and medication and post-discharge care instructions.

Already the largest employer in the county, Jefferson Healthcare generates an annual payroll of \$90 million. Hospital officials say the expansion will bring 70 to 100 new local jobs.

“Our focus is keeping care local,” said Jefferson Healthcare COO Jake Davidson. “We’re working

People will complete the expansion: A look at providers

LEADER STAFF

The following providers are part of clinics being added or expanded as part of the growth and campus expansion at Jefferson Healthcare.

Hospital administrators say the expansion is a response to the demands for care in Jefferson County that have surged. The campus expansion into speciality care — and the recruitment of physicians and other staff — was shaped to accommodate patient needs.

Administrators note that these clinics and providers add critical services that previously required travel to Silverdale or even Seattle, which is also expected to generate revenue.

It's part of a trajectory of growth seen in its financial statements: Jefferson Healthcare has doubled or even tripled its volume in nearly every service provided in the past decade.

For existing services, like dermatology, obstetrics and gynecology, expanded clinic space will allow providers to care for more patients, capacity will increase, and access will be less of a challenge.

New services include a new linear accelerator for radiation oncology, and expanded space for a wound clinic, as well as new specialty services like ear, nose and throat (ENT), neurology, pulmonology and an ambulatory surgery center.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE PROVIDERS:

NEW SERVICES

NEUROLOGY — KELLY RAMIREZ, MD

EDUCATION:

- (Medical School)
 - University of the East Medical School, MD.
 - Washington State University, Pullman.
- (Residency)
 - University of Massachusetts, Chan Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts.

- Organizations:
- American Academy of Neurology.
 - American Academy of Neuromuscular & Electromyography Medicine.

As a general neurologist, Ramirez strives to see a diverse patient population, treating a range of conditions. “I strive to listen and attend to each individual, while providing a safe space for those from diverse socioeconomic, ethnic, generational and gender backgrounds,” Ramirez said.

OTOLARYNGOLOGY (ENT) — CURRENTLY RECRUITING

OUTPATIENT SURGERY — KEVIN HINES, PA-C

EDUCATION:

- University of Washington, School of Medicine Medex Northwest.
- James Madison University.

Hines is a certified physician assistant who has been with Jefferson Healthcare for 13 years. He works with patients during their surgical pre-op appointments. He joined Jefferson Healthcare Surgical Associates from a background in primary care. He doesn't do surgeries or procedures.

OUTPATIENT SURGERY — DR. JAY LAWRENCE, DO, FACOS

EDUCATION:

- (Medical School)
 - College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine.
 - University of Washington, BS in Pharmacy.
- (Residency)
 - General Surgery, Grandview Hospital and



Medical Center, Dayton, Ohio.

Upon graduation from surgical residency in 1993, Lawrence moved to Port Townsend to join Dr. Jim McCarron in his surgical practice. He had his own private practice, Port Townsend Surgical Associates, and in 2014, it became part of Jefferson Healthcare. Lawrence received his Board Certification from the American Board of Osteopathic Surgeons in 1994, followed by his Surgical Fellow

from the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons in 1999. He is a member of the American Osteopathic Association, American College of Osteopathic Surgeons and Washington State Medical Association. In 2006, Lawrence served as Chief of Surgery at Jefferson Healthcare. Lawrence's professional interests include minimally invasive and endoscopic procedures, hernia and cancer surgery. Lawrence makes every attempt to take

care of his patients locally. He has long-term relationships with other Jefferson Healthcare specialty providers that he trusts with his patients' care.

OUTPATIENT SURGERY — DR. CAITLIN LUND, DO

EDUCATION:

- (Medical School)
 - Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, Yakima, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine.

From above: Christine Skorberg, MD, FACOG, of the OBGYN Clinic, stands in the new Outpatient Surgery Center at Jefferson Healthcare in Port Townsend. Asif Luqman, MD, FACOG, of the OBGYN Clinic takes a break from his clinic hours to show new break room for healthcare workers at Jefferson Healthcare, above the OBGYN Clinic in Port Townsend.

Leader photos by Lloyd Mullen

- Evergreen State College, Olympia, Bachelor of Science.
- (Residency)
 - MercyOne Medical Center, Des Moines, Iowa.
- Organizations:
 - American College of Osteopathic Surgeons
 - American College of Surgeons.

Lund practices a patient-centered, individualized approach. In her free time, her personal interests include being outdoors hiking, biking, and kayaking with her husband and their dog.

OUTPATIENT SURGERY — KELSEA PETERMAN, DO

EDUCATION:

- (Medical School)
 - Western University of Health Sciences, Doctor of Osteopathy.
 - Western Washington University, Bachelor of Science, Marine Biology.
- (Residency)
 - Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, Corvallis, Oregon.
- Organizations:



These colorized images show St. John's Hospital in Port Townsend within a few years of it opening. An article in the Morning Leader shortly after the hospital was constructed stated that the view from the upper floors "is one of rare beauty, inspiring in the hearts of the afflicted a feeling of peace and quiet." Top photo courtesy of the Jefferson County Historical Society, lower image courtesy of Providence Archives

Jefferson Healthcare: Caring for the community for over 135 years

BY TINA HERSCHELMAN

Victorian structures weren't just a presence but the norm in Port Townsend when the Sisters of Providence tended to their first patients in 1890. Driven to address the town's need for care — particularly its dockworkers and mariners — they set up shop on Castle Hill.

The modern-day Jefferson Healthcare descends from St. John Hospital, which they founded nearly 135 years ago.

The hospital has undergone a series of sweeping transformations over the years, transferring to a public hospital district in 1975, a rebirth as Jefferson General in 1985, and then, in 2004, a broader embrace of community care as Jefferson Healthcare.

In 2016, that legacy took physical form anew with the opening of a \$20 million, 50,000-square foot Emergency and Special Services building. That effort included infusion suites, a women's imaging center, and room for future growth.

Across nearly a century and a half, this institution has been rebuilt, renamed, and reimagined — always with the goal of evolving in a way that mirrors the community.

The early years

Two nuns, Sister Mary Conrad and Sister Mary of Nazareth, arrived in



Port Townsend in 1890 with the intention of starting the hospital. The plan had been designed by Mother Joseph, who was summoned from Montreal to Fort Vancouver to help establish schools and hospitals in the Pacific Northwest, and they began soliciting donations.

The land was donated by Charles Eisenbeis, Port Townsend's first mayor. Through the tenacity of these two women, by December of that year, the new hospital building was in use.

After surviving a fire in 1942 and serving the community for nearly 75

years, St. John's Hospital was razed in 1963, and a new hospital was built. A special election had been held in 1961, authorizing the establishment of Jefferson County Public Hospital District No 2, and in 1975, the Sisters of Providence transferred the institution to the people of Jefferson County. The hospital became a municipal corporation, accountable to the community and governed by an elected board of commissioners who oversee the district's operations. In 1985, the hospital was renamed Jefferson General Hospital, reflecting its status

as an independent hospital as well as a commitment to community values and care. In January 2003, the hospital was designated as a critical access hospital.

Naming process

Jefferson County Public Hospital District No 2 determined in September 2004 that there would be another name change. Jefferson General Hospital and the variety of outpatient clinics connected with the hospital would be renamed Jefferson Healthcare.

Commissioners felt the name more accurately reflected the comprehensive healthcare organization and the fact that 75 percent of the services offered under the Jefferson Healthcare umbrella were outpatient services.

Commissioner Jill Buhler Rienstra summed it up, "Healthcare is what we do."

More than 20 service lines have been added or expanded in the last 15 years, and new services will be added in the new wing, including radiation oncology, pulmonology and otolaryngology (ENT). To determine where to expand, Jefferson Healthcare maintained an open-door policy, listening and adding local care based on community needs.

The campus had to change to accommodate this growth.

A brick wing that was added to the hospital in 1929 was demolished to make way for the Emergency and

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Top Left: A brick wing was added to the original hospital in 1929 at a cost of \$90,000, bringing the number of beds available to 130. *Photos courtesy of Jefferson County Historical Society*
Top right: A nun and priest peruse the demolition of the original hospital in 1963. The \$1 million new building addition was completed in 1965. Bottom left: This image, from 1961, was taken about the time of the special election that established the creation of a Jefferson County Public Hospital District #2. Photo courtesy Jefferson Healthcare Bottom right: This aerial image was taken in 2013 for the purpose of master site planning.

Specialty Services Building, which opened in 2016. The ESSB was designed to “fill our space needs for at least a decade,” according to Buhler.
By 2021, it was already full due to the community’s need for dermatology, oncology, sleep medicine, wound care, cardiology and orthopedic services. “Every office, exam room, nook, cranny and broom closet are being used to support patient care,” Buhler said.

With its latest expansion project, Jefferson Healthcare continues to grow and adapt to meet community needs. The hospital’s newest building opens to patients on September 2. The project is expected to be completed on time and on-budget while adding another 75 to 100 new employees to serve the health needs of the community. The cost is \$78 million, with additional soft costs pushing the total to \$90 million.

Jefferson Healthcare is the community’s sole healthcare provider, simultaneously serving as the county’s largest employer. Operating primary care clinics in Port Townsend, Port Ludlow and Quilcene, Jefferson Healthcare is now an integrated healthcare system that includes a 25-bed inpatient unit, Level IV trauma center, and emergency and specialty services. Tina Herschelmann manages marketing and community engagement for Jefferson Healthcare.

Jefferson Healthcare welcomes providers Dr. Kevin Chong and Dr. Sabrina Prime

Jefferson Healthcare is pleased to announce the addition of Kevin Chong, MD, a board-certified pulmonologist and critical care physician, and Sabrina Prime, MD, MPH, a board-certified radiation oncologist, to its growing team of specialists. Both providers will be offering care in Jefferson Healthcare’s new hospital wing, expanding access to specialty care.

A patient-first approach to pulmonology care
With Dr. Chong’s arrival, East Jefferson County residents will have local access to expert diagnosis and treatment of complex lung and respiratory conditions — including chronic cough, pulmonary hypertension, thoracic malignancy and interstitial lung disease — without the need to travel outside the area.

Pulmonology is a highly specialized field that is not commonly available in rural healthcare settings. Jefferson Healthcare’s ability to offer comprehensive pulmonary medicine, including advanced diagnostics, imaging, rehab and interventional procedures, reflects a major step forward in local specialty health care access.

“It is an exciting time in Jefferson Healthcare history,” said Dr. Chong. “It’s a great



Dr. Kevin Chong

opportunity to start a new service line that encompasses full-spectrum pulmonary medicine. My hope is to bring these services to the folks of Jefferson County so they have access to top care in their backyards.”

Dr. Chong’s philosophy of care is centered around accessibility, adaptability and putting patients first. “Healthcare is constantly evolving,” he said. “All aspects of care — from diagnostics to referrals — must come with the patient in mind. Access to a physician in a time of need should never be part of the challenge.”

Dr. Chong treats adults ages 18 and older and brings a broad clinical background that



Dr. Sabrina Prime

includes board certifications in internal medicine, geriatric medicine, pulmonary medicine and critical care medicine. He completed his residency and fellowship at Staten Island University Hospital.

A new chapter at Jefferson Healthcare brings comprehensive oncology care
Bringing radiation oncology to East Jefferson County is a significant achievement for East Jefferson County and marks the first time these services will be available locally. Until now, patients in need of radiation therapy were required to travel to Poulsbo, Silverdale or Seattle for treatment — and for this reason, many chose to forego care completely. With the arrival of Dr. Prime and new radiation

oncology equipment in the hospital’s new building, Jefferson Healthcare is proud to offer high-quality, compassionate radiation care right here at home in Port Townsend.
“This is a tremendous step forward for our patients and our community,” said Jefferson Healthcare Chief Medical Officer Dr. Steve Butterfield. “Radiation oncology is a highly specialized service that is rarely found in rural settings. Our ability to offer it here speaks volumes about the commitment of our community and the exceptional team we’ve built.”

Join the ribbon-cutting celebration August 24
Jefferson Healthcare’s new hospital wing opens to patients in September 2025 and includes expanded space for existing services, state-of-the-art equipment, and new clinical specialties like pulmonology and radiation oncology. We invite everyone in the community to join us on August 24 at 2:00 p.m. for a ribbon-cutting ceremony and tours of the new hospital wing. These additions are designed to meet the growing healthcare needs of the community, while maintaining the compassionate, personal approach Jefferson Healthcare is known for.

Paid For By Jefferson Healthcare

Providers: A look at new providers with education and focus joining with expansion

continued from page B5

American Osteopathic Association.
American College of Surgeons.
Peterman grew up in the San Juan Islands, and spent 10 summers working with her family as a commercial fisherman in Southeast Alaska. She emphasizes shared decision-making to empower each patient to achieve their healthiest possible self.

OUTPATIENT SURGERY — DAVID SCHWARTZ, DO

EDUCATION:
(Medical School)
Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, Doctor of Osteopathy
(Residency)
Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, Corvallis, Oregon
Board Certifications:
Member, American Osteopathic Association
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.
Schwartz believes in open listening and thoughtful surgical planning, and strives to leave the world and its inhabitants a little better off by sunset than it was at sunrise. His special interests include laparoscopy and endoscopy.

OUTPATIENT SURGERY — DR. ERICA TIRADO, DO

Education:
Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy.
Midwestern University, Master of Biomedical Science.
University of Arizona, Bachelor of Science.
(Residency)
Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, Corvallis, Oregon.

Board Certifications:
American Osteopathic Association.
Organizations:
American Medical Association.
American College of Surgeons.
Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons.
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.
Tirado enjoys exploring the great Pacific Northwest with her family and is a former college gymnast.

PULMONOLOGY — KEVIN CHONG, MD

EDUCATION:
(Medical School)
SABA University School of Medicine, Doctor of Medicine.
University of Alberta, Undergraduate Degree.
(Internship)
Staten Island University Hospital.
(Residency)
Internal Medicine, Staten Island University Hospital.
(Fellowship)
Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine, Staten Island University Hospital
Board Certifications:
Internal Medicine.
Geriatric Medicine
Pulmonary Medicine.
Critical Care Medicine.
Societies:
American Medical Association.
American College of Chest Physicians.
Chong’s philosophy of care is centered around accessibility, adaptability and putting patients first. “Healthcare is constantly evolving,” he said. “All aspects of care — from diagnostics to referrals — must come with the patient in mind. Access to a physician in a time of need should never

be part of the challenge.” He enjoys spending quality time with his wife and their three children, saying “they always keep us busy and enrich our lives.”

RADIATION ONCOLOGY — SABRINA PRIME, MD

EDUCATION:
Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri; Residency in Radiation Oncology, and Master of Population Health Science.
University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Medical Doctorate.
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities; Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry.
Board Certifications:
American Board of Radiology.
American College of Radiation Oncology.
American Society for Radiation Oncology.
American Society for Clinical Oncology.
Prime brings clinical expertise and a passion for rural medicine to her new role. Raised in the small town of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Prime is deeply familiar with the value of close-knit communities and personalized care. She completed her medical degree at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, and trained in radiation oncology at Washington University in St. Louis. Prime’s work has focused on improving patient outcomes through patient-centered research, shared decision-making and innovations in cancer care delivery.

EXPANDED SPACE

DERMATOLOGY — NAZANIN

KAATZ, MD
EDUCATION:
(Medical School)
State University of New York, Syracuse, Doctor of Medicine.
University of California Los Angeles, Bachelor of Science.
(Residency)
University of Colorado.
(Fellowship)
Dermatology Research, Stanford University and University of Southern California.
Board Certifications:
American Board of Dermatology.
Organizations:
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery.
American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery
Kaatz joined the Jefferson Healthcare Dermatology Clinic in 2021, after completing postdoctoral fellowships at Stanford University and USC in dermatology research. Her clinical interests include medical, surgical and cosmetic dermatology, including skin cancer prevention, detection and treatment.

OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Asif Luqman, MD, FACOG
Education:
(Medical School)
St. Georges University School of Medicine, Doctor of Medicine.
University of Waterloo, Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences.
(Residency)
Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency, The Brooklyn Center.
(Fellowship)
AACS Cosmetic Surgery Fellowship, Tukwila.
Luqman has traveled abroad extensively, to Kenya, Egypt, Ghana, Dubai, Gambia, Paris,

Amsterdam, Ireland and England. He and his wife Shawnisa Francis, a certified physician assistant at Watership Clinic are excited to live, work and raise their children in Port Townsend.

OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY — CHRISTINE F. SKORBERG, MD, FACOG

EDUCATION:
(Medical School)
The Chicago Medical School, Doctor of Medicine.
San Francisco State University, Pre-Medical Studies.
Southern Methodist University, Bachelor of Fine Arts.
(Internship)
Obstetrics and Gynecology Internship, Cook County Hospital, Chicago.
(Residency)
Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency, Cook County Hospital, Chicago.
Board Certifications:
Board Certified Obstetrics and Gynecology.
Organizations:
Fellow, American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology.
Skorberg has an extensive career in obstetrics and gynecology, and has delivered more than 10,000 babies. She has served as OB/GYN Department Chair at previous hospitals, and was the leading OB/GYN surgeon in northern Colorado. Skorberg was a featured physician on MTV’s “16 & Pregnant” series. She is currently the Medical Director for the Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic at Jefferson Healthcare. Skorberg practices relationship-based medicine, which is centered on listening, honest conversation and respect for patients, including all races, sexual orientations, situations and lifestyles.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Jefferson County now has access to radiation oncology.

Thank you for helping us bring healing close to home.

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