

Hello there! Thanks for tuning in to 91.9 FM KPTZ. I'm Simon Jaynes. Here is the local news for Port Townsend on this Thursday, June 2, 2022.

Sunrise was at 5:15 this morning and it will set at 9:05 tonight, giving us almost 16 hours of daylight to work with today. There was a persistent fog this morning and not much breeze to get it moving along. We are settling in now to another overcast day with a good chance of rain later tonight. High temperatures this week are just scraping the low 60s. The national weather service reports that even in Seattle, over the past seven years by May 31 the city has experienced on average 100 hours at or above 70 degrees. In 2022 so far, that number is...5. It's been a chilly spring, folks, and the seven-day forecast says: keep those sweatshirts and rain jackets handy for at least a little longer.

Tonight at 7:30pm you can catch an entire half hour of NBC affiliate KING 5's Local Magazine show *Evening*, devoted to Centrum, Port Townsend's local arts non-profit located at Fort Worden. Centrum has earned an international reputation for its year-round arts workshops and performances ranging from jazz and blues to creative writing and chamber music. *Evening* spent several days with a production crew interviewing and filming artists and luminaries from Centrum's history, with the goal of telling this very special arts organization's very special history. The program will include testimonials from famous artists who have performed at Centrum events over the past five decades, including Kim Kopp, Anat Cohen, Gary Copeland Lilley, and Grammy-award saxophonist Kenny G.

In years past Centrum has held its gala fundraiser near the beginning of June. This year that fundraiser will be replaced by tonight's virtual event. Centrum has a \$50,000 challenge to unlock during the event. Local donors Anne and Dick Schneider and Berry and Sam Shoen put up the initial donation, and to secure these funds, Centrum must raise a matching \$50,000 by midnight on June 2. All donations made towards the challenge will directly support scholarships for those in need. You can tune in to catch the special on NBC tonight at 7:30, but anyone interested in supporting the organization and getting an insider's view of the event is encouraged to check in at <https://centrum.org/> at any time during that broadcast or by 8pm for a behind-the-scenes post show hosted by Laura Michalek. Updates will be provided throughout, on how the organization is doing meeting the \$100,000 fundraising goal and of course opportunities to donate can be found at the same web location.

Shareholders of Quimper Mercantile received the company's financial statements from 2021 this week. The Mercantile is Port Townsends general merchandise store with a unique financial structure – as it is owned by over 800 local shareholders and managed by an elected board of directors. 2021 appears to have been a good year for the collectively owned company, as they touted \$3 million in annual sales and a net profit of almost \$400,000, their highest net profit in history. The Quimper Board attributes this success to the strength of their mission and the store's vital nature within the community, especially during the pandemic. It does seem worthy of note that a brick-and-mortar general store would experience its highest profit on record during a year where extreme challenges – from supply chain issues to staffing shortages – rocked the retail world. The Mercantile had its \$98,000 Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan from 2020 forgiven in 2021, but retained \$150,000 remaining debt in the form of an Economic Injury Disaster Loan.

The City of Port Townsend recently completed an “Edge Lane Road” demonstration striping project on Blaine Street between Tyler and Adams. If you are interested in seeing what this looks like you can visit the recently completed prototype road section: 2 blocks of Blaine Street on the Chetzemoka side of Tyler. Studies from across eleven US cities over the past eight years have showed a 44% overall reduction in crashes compared to previously existing two-lane configurations. According to these studies, other benefits of Edge Lane striping include speed reduction, safer passing, increased pavement life, reduced installation costs, and better organization of multiple modes. Essentially an edge lane road has one center lane that is shared by car traffic, and two large bike lanes at the edges which can be used by motor vehicles when two cars are passing each other. However, these cars in the center lane have to yield to bikes and pedestrians in the edge lane, so it would seem that this new traffic control would put quite a bit of pressure on motorists to understand the rules of the road. The Edge Lane Road trial will be in place from June through July. The City Council has received two briefings about Edge Lane Roads. Those briefings and more information, including sample signage and details of the Comprehensive Streets Program can be found at the web link in the transcript to this broadcast at <https://cityofpt.us/engagept/page/edge-lane-roads-%E2%80%93-what-are-they-and-why-city-interested-installing-them>.

Jefferson County public Health reported 38 new cases of COVID-19 yesterday bringing our total case count to 4,120. There are 177 active cases in isolation and no one is currently hospitalized. The case rate in Jefferson county is 857 / 100,000.

That’s it for today’s local news. KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news at noon Monday through Saturday, and at 5pm Monday through Friday. You can contact us at news@kptz.org. I’m Simon Jaynes, thanks for listening and have a great day.