

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Jim Burke, with local news and commentary for Tuesday, June 21, 2022.

The Port Townsend City Council recently discussed a community engagement strategy to explore the Port Townsend Golf Course's future direction. The City Council gave direction to staff in late 2020 to enter into a three-year operational agreement for golf, to investigate alternative use concepts for feasibility, and to develop and refine these concepts with broad community involvement, including the possibility of extended golf use. Then COVID-19 happened.

This community engagement work will help determine the future use of the municipal land currently used as the Port Townsend Golf Course. The community engagement effort will explore all options and culminate in a recommendation for the City Council to consider, expected in spring 2023. The effort will also include planning for the Mountain View Campus across the street from the golf course, to take advantage of any complimentary ideas and/or uses. The link to the City Council meeting with the community engagement framework can be found on here: https://cityofpt.granicus.com/GeneratedAgendaViewer.php?view_id=4&clip_id=2426

Carrie Hite, Director of Parks and Recreation Strategy for the City, will be taking the lead on seating a stakeholder committee. This committee will include members from the golf community, Mountain View campus tenants, as well as those that were involved in the previous Parks, Recreation, and Open Space planning effort in 2018-20. The community engagement will begin this summer, likely with a launch event. The City looks forward to broad participation from the community. Members of the public can visit the PT Farmer's Market booth where City staff and City Council members will be available on the last Saturdays of each month through September. More information will be regularly posted at <https://cityofpt.us/engage>. The public may also join City Manager John Mauro on his regular radio show (Brewocracy Now) on KPTZ each Thursday from 12:30 to 1pm.

Contact: Carrie Hite, Director of Parks and Recreation Strategy – 360-379-2979 – chite@cityofpt.us

In COVID-19 news: This past Thursday 69 new cases were reported; that is the largest single day increase in cases since the pandemic began. There was a large surge of cases related to the High School graduation a week and a half ago. The end-of-year celebration for eighth grade students at Blue Heron School was a virtual and drive through event with the soundtrack provided by Chris Bricker on KPTZ, due to a COVID-19 outbreak at the school.

Yesterday was the Juneteenth holiday, so there was no Board of County Commissioners Meeting, but there was a meeting this morning. Dr. Berry said vaccines for children as young as 6 months old, will be available next week in Jefferson County.

In Jefferson County, the two-week case rate is 979 per hundred thousand. There are 177 cases in isolation. One person is currently hospitalized and is expected to recover and be discharged. Total Cases: 4,567. 30 people have died in Jefferson County since the pandemic began.

In Clallam County, the case rate is 657 per hundred thousand. There have been a total of 13,393 cases since the pandemic began. One person is currently hospitalized, and there has been a total of 115 deaths due to COVID-19 in Clallam County since the pandemic began.

The risk of COVID-19 transmission in public, indoor spaces is high – very, very, very high. Wearing a well-fitting N-95 mask or similar is still your best protection from infection, even if you are vaccinated.

If you are a registered voter in Jefferson County, you might have already received a new voter registration card in the mail. This message was sent out from Jefferson County Auditor, Rose Ann Carroll, and it reads as follows:

Jefferson County voters will receive new voter registration cards.

New voter registration cards are being mailed out to ALL Jefferson county voters. The new cards list new precinct assignments as a result of the Decennial Redistricting based on the 2020 census.

Voter registration cards are not needed to vote and are for your informational purposes only. The cards show the current congressional, legislative, county commissioner, school district and precinct assignment for each voter.

Voters are asked to review their name and address for accuracy. If changes are needed please contact Jefferson County Elections at (360)385-9119 or email elections@co.jefferson.wa.us.

DATED AT PORT TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON THIS 17th DAY OF June 2022.

(signed)

Rose Ann Carroll

Jefferson County Auditor

So, no need to panic, there was a census, and there were changes, and you still have the right to vote! If you do not receive a voter registration card in the next few weeks, check your voter registration status ahead of the August 2 primary.

KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news at noon and five Monday through Thursday and at noon on Friday and Saturday. You can contact us through news@kptz.org. This is Jim Burke. Thank you for listening, and have a good Wednesday.