

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Ann Katzenbach with local news and commentary for today, July 22, 2022.

The town of Gorst, located in Kitsap County where Routes 16 and 3 meet at the bottom of Sinclair Inlet between Bremerton and Port Orchard, is primarily a town consisting of stores, auto dealerships and espresso stands. The population was 592 at the 2010 census. Small as it is, Gorst is the target of a combined effort by the Washington State Patrol, Bremerton Police Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, and Port Orchard Police who are conducting "High Visibility Enforcement" – also known as HIVE – patrols in the five-mile radius of Gorst. The first of four HIVE patrols conducted on July 14 resulted in 54 traffic stops, 67 violations, 33 speed contacts, and 5 criminal offenses within a four-hour period. While the HIVE lasts throughout one day, the focus area is saturated with patrols during peak times when serious injury fatality collisions have historically occurred. Most of us know this stretch of road to be hazardous. Several roads intersect in strange ways and the highway is narrow and curvy. The number of traffic violations noted by the police on July 14 in just 4 hours should sound a loud note of caution to anyone coming or going to Bremerton on route 16. Be Aware! There will be at least one more HIVE patrol in the coming weeks on this hazardous section of highway.

The Dungeness River Nature Center, next to a historic railroad trestle on the Olympic Discovery Trail in Sequim, has more than tripled in size. It opened last week to the public after undergoing extensive expansion during COVID-19. The non-profit Center is partnered with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and the Audubon Society and offers nature-based workshops classes, lectures, and events throughout the year. The Nature Center hosts field trips on the river each year to fourth and fifth grade classes from Jefferson and Clallam school district and accommodates home schoolers who visit with their parents. The new facility includes a large meeting room, fully-equipped catering kitchen, and large plaza for outdoor events. Hurricane Coffee at the River offers drinks and pastry Tuesday through Sunday. The Center is open Monday through Saturday from 9am to 5pm And Sundays from noon to 5pm. Admission is free. Follow direction signs to 1943 West Hendrickson Road in Sequim. For more information and directions, check out <https://dungenessrivercenter.org/>.

Last week, the Sequim City Council gave tentative approval to a partnership with Bird Rides, Inc to take delivery of 60 electric stand-up foot scooters. People who have lived in cities with scooters and now live in Port Townsend, have voiced serious doubts about the idea. Most say there are many things that can go wrong or become very complicated – including recharging, repairing, sidewalk safety, weather, right-of-way rules, collisions and liability, rough trail riding and, of course, occasional lapses of common sense. To make marketing the scooters more financially feasible, Bird Rides is looking to neighboring cities to add scooters. Port Angeles has been approached. Stay tuned.

There's plenty to do this weekend:

- Tomorrow afternoon there's an author event on the lawn at the Port Townsend Library.
- An album release concert at Rainshadow Recording at Fort Worden.
- A show of pocket yachts at the Maritime Center.
- Also, throughout the day on Saturday at the Fairgrounds, Relay for Life hosts a mix of events to raise funds to end cancer.

- On Saturday and Sunday, pack a picnic and go anywhere, but if you enjoy live classical music, head to Concerts in the Barn in Quilcene.
- Sunday evening you can hear Latin jazz and learn how to dance the salsa at Finn River Farm.

Summer outdoor venues are everywhere for sipping and listening. If you start to feel sedentary, go for a history walk around town or browse for seasonal bounty at either of the county's farmers' markets. So get out, enjoy the sunshine, and put a mask in your pocket just in case.

And that's it for today's news. KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news at noon and five pm, Monday through Friday and at noon on Saturday. I'm Ann Katzenbach. Thanks for listening. Have a great weekend and stay safe.