

This is Casey Dolan with your local news for Wednesday, December 28, 2022 on KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington.

According to numerous news outlets, both Jefferson and Clallam Counties will receive federal funding for local priorities thanks to new legislation. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, a \$1.7 trillion omnibus spending bill, will include \$2.5 million for the City of Port Townsend for its Sewer Pump Station Project and \$3 million for Jefferson County for its Port Hadlock Sewer Project. Clallam County will receive \$1.9 million for the Lower Elwha Tribal Community for facilities and equipment, \$4.8 million for the Makah Indian Tribe for facilities and equipment, and nearly \$3 million for the Clallam County and City of Port Angeles Joint Emergency Services and Public Safety Facility. The funds for the City of Port Townsend will assist with installing a new sewer pump station to service the Evans Vista neighborhood – a 14-acre parcel acquired by the City of Port Townsend in 2018 – which will support the community-based development of 100 to 150 mixed-income affordable and workforce housing units. The Port Hadlock funding will help construct pressure sewer collection lines and publicly owned grinder pump connections on several key streets – enabling connections to the Chimacum Primary School, the Public Library, affordable, multi-family housing, senior housing, small businesses, and a supermarket.

In a press release from US Representative Derek Kilmer's office, Kilmer said, "Across our region, we need more affordable housing. But that's only going to get built if we have the infrastructure needed to support it." U.S. Sen. Patty Murray helped author and negotiate the bill. Kilmer requested funding for several projects through the House Appropriations Committee's Community Project Funding process, or earmarks. Sen. Maria Cantwell also reported victories for projects in the bill, detailing grassroots efforts in counties that include Jefferson and Clallam.

As reported in the Port Townsend *Leader* yesterday, a Brinnon man, Daniel James Gilmore, 52, was arrested for second-degree assault with a deadly weapon last week after he allegedly pistol-whipped an acquaintance during a dispute outside his home in the Lazy C neighborhood of Brinnon. Gilmore was booked into Jefferson County Jail on Dec. 20. The U.S. Marshals Service already wanted Gilmore for a prior weapons offense and had prior felony convictions for second-degree malicious mischief, second-degree unlawful possession of a firearm, possession of controlled substances, second-degree burglary, possession of explosives, taking a motor vehicle without permission, and second-degree possession of stolen property. Gilmore made his first appearance in Jefferson County Superior Court on Wednesday, December 21. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tuppence Macintyre mentioned that Gilmore had 37 warrants in his history, not including the federal warrant for a weapons offense. Macintyre also noted that a gun was fired during the dispute that led to Gilmore's arrest. Superior Court Judge Keith Harper set bail at \$150,000. Gilmore's arraignment is set for Friday, December 30 and he faces four felony charges: second-degree assault with a deadly weapon; two counts of second-degree unlawful possession of a firearm; and possession of a stolen firearm.

In an update provided yesterday by Jefferson County Public Health, the two-week case rate for COVID-19 is 392 cases per 100,000 people. The risk of transmission in public, indoor places is high. At this level, they are strongly recommending that everyone continue to wear a well-fitting, high-quality mask in public, indoor settings. Here are the numbers: As of December 22, there are 41 new cases reported, 8.5% tests reported positive in the last two weeks, 0 cases hospitalized, 0 new deaths reported. For the total numbers: 6,577 total cases, 6.8% positive for all time, 172 have been hospitalized and there have been 34 total deaths.

As reported in the Port Townsend *Leader*, a 46-year-old Forks woman was hurt late Christmas Eve when her 2001 Mazda Protege hit an elk that had walked onto US Highway 101 near Milepost 196 just north of Forks. The collision happened just before 11pm December 24, according to the Washington State Patrol. The woman was heading north on US 101 when she hit the elk. She was taken to Forks Community Hospital for treatment. The car was totaled in the crash. No report on the condition of the elk.

KPTZ 91.9 FM broadcasts your local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and at noon on Saturday. You can contact us at news@kptz.org. I'm Casey Dolan and I thank you for listening.