

In Port Townsend, this is Diane Urbani de la Paz with local news and commentary for Thursday, January 12, 2023 on KPTZ 91.9 FM and KPTZ.org.

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A throng of people showed up Wednesday evening at Open House #1 for the future of the city's golf course and Mountain View Commons. The presentation, held at the Fort Worden Commons, started with scores and scores of people milling around and reading information panels about the history and the possibilities for the course and Mountain View campus. Then Mayor David Faber, City Manager John Mauro and consultant Chris Jones stood before the crowd, assuring us repeatedly that no decision has yet been made about what to do with all that land. Mauro said the open house is part of a public process that the city will also engage in regarding the municipal swimming pool. The city manager said, "I know we're a competent community that's creative when it comes to shaping the future of recreation in the town." Jones, of an urban design company called Groundswell, explained that the city had selected it to work with local residents to design the future. "This is a community planning effort," Jones said, "that affects many of you. Which is why the place is jammed. The consultant's job is to discern what the priorities are, and hear feedback from the locals." Jones has already spent months, hearing input from people. He said the ideas range from putting affordable housing on the land to building more pickleball courts there. Still other locals want to integrate public trails with the golf course. For those who couldn't or prefer not to attend the in-person event, another open house is being held today, online from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until 5:30 this evening (<https://cityofpt.us/engagept/page/virtual-open-house-envision-port-townsend-golf-course-and-mountain-view-commons-0>).

Jones said the input from both open houses will be incorporated into the discussion at Open House #2, around April. Then Open House #3 will happen around June, so he can ultimately present the City Council with a preferred alternative for future use of the course and commons. In the meantime, the city website has a lot of information on its home page (<https://cityofpt.us/engagept/page/envision-port-townsend-golf-course-and-mountain-view-commons>). And if you scroll down, you'll see a link to an online form that lets you give input (<https://cityofpt.us/engagept/webform/envision-port-townsend-golf-course-and-mountain-view-commons-online-form>).

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The nationwide Point in Time Count of people experiencing homelessness is coming up on January 26, two weeks from today. The Olympic Community Action Programs, OlyCAP, seeks volunteers to help with the count in Jefferson County. OlyCAP senior manager Allison Arthur plans to offer a training session for volunteers next Wednesday, January 18 from 2 until 5:00 in the afternoon. It's necessary to contact her at [AArthur@olycap.org](mailto:AArthur@olycap.org) or call the Olympic Community Action Programs office and ask for Allison Arthur's extension (360-385-2571 ext. 6349). "We're looking to bring attention to the homeless situation," Arthur told me. Anyone can become homeless at any time, she said, adding that OlyCAP recently helped a man who was born and raised in Port Townsend to find housing. He had been living in his car. Arthur said an accurate count can mean more dollars to support people in Jefferson County.

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The annual community movie screening at Port Townsend's Rose Theatre in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy is set for this coming Monday, January 16. Tickets will become available to everybody tomorrow, Friday, at two places: the Rose box office on Taylor Street, downtown and online at the Rose Theatre's website ([www.Rosetheatre.com](http://www.Rosetheatre.com)). These portals will open at 3:30 Friday afternoon, and the tickets will be first-come first-served, with a limit of two per patron. This year the MLK Day movie is *Lowndes County and the Road to Black Power*, the story of a local movement in Alabama against racist terrorism. According to the Rose

newsletter, this is a movie not about hope, but about action. In this community screening tradition that began on the Martin Luther King holiday 12 years ago, the film will light the screen at 1:00 Monday afternoon.

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KPTZ brings you local news Monday through Friday at noon and five p.m., and Saturday at noon on 91.9 FM and KPTZ.org. We welcome input at [news@kptz.org](mailto:news@kptz.org). I'm Diane Urbani de la Paz. Thanks for listening.