

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend. I'm Jim Burke, with your local news and commentary for Friday, September 1, 2023.

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KPTZ news has received an exclusive from the Fort Worden Public Development Authority Board of Directors. The board has approved Celeste Tell to lead the agency until they select a permanent executive director. Tell, who is currently serving as PDA board vice chair, would begin her interim tenure on October 2, after the retirement of Executive Director David Timmons. The board is expected to finalize her salary, benefits, and conditions of employment to be addressed at the regular meeting on September 26.

The board will begin a more comprehensive search for a permanent executive director at that time. Tell will resign from her Board position on September 30. She will recuse herself from any discussion about her employment and may rejoin the board after the process is completed. She has not yet decided whether to apply for the permanent position.

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Washington State DOT wants you to be ready: Ferry Riders should plan ahead for what is likely to be one of the busiest travel weekends of the last few years. About 400,000 people are expected to travel on the Washington State Ferry System between Thursday, August 29 and Tuesday, September 5 for Labor Day weekend. The most traveled day will be Saturday, September 2. Passengers are encouraged to check sailing schedules in advance and give themselves plenty of extra time to get to their destination as there will likely be longer waits if driving aboard.

Also, please note that the routes below will be operating on adjusted sailing schedules but only on Monday, September 4:

- Anacortes/San Juan Islands: Holiday Schedule  
(<https://wsdot.com/ferries/schedule/scheduledetailbyroute.aspx?route=ana-sj-sid>)
- Port Townsend/Coupeville: Holiday Schedule  
(<https://wsdot.com/Ferries/Schedule/scheduledetailbyroute.aspx?schedrouteid=1973&route=pt-key>)
- Edmonds/Kingston: Holiday Schedule  
(<https://wsdot.com/Ferries/Schedule/scheduledetailbyroute.aspx?schedrouteid=1981&route=ed-king>)
- Point Defiance/Tahlequah: Holiday Schedule  
(<https://wsdot.com/Ferries/Schedule/scheduledetailbyroute.aspx?route=pd-tal>)
- Seattle/Bainbridge: Saturday Schedule  
(<https://wsdot.com/Ferries/Schedule/scheduledetailbyroute.aspx?route=sea-bi>)
- Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth: Weekend Schedule  
(<https://wsdot.com/Ferries/Schedule/scheduledetailbyroute.aspx?route=f-s>)

Customers can also use several tools in advance to help their trip go as smoothly as possible. You can check terminal conditions before leaving home as well as WSF's Twitter account for automatic updates on travel conditions. People using state highways to get to the ferry terminal should also plan ahead for potential backups and delays with real-time traffic information on the WSDOT traffic app for their mobile device. Links to all of these, on the transcript or go to <https://wsdot.com/ferries/schedule/default.aspx>.

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State Route 19/Beaver Valley Road near Port Ludlow will close to all travelers for 10 days starting at 6am Tuesday, September 5. The road will reopen at 6am Friday, September 15. The highway will close to traffic

between Egg and I Road and Larson Lake Road. Access will be maintained for local traffic. No access will be available through the closed work zone. People will detour around the closure using Center Road and SR 104. A temporary traffic signal will be placed on SR 104 at Center Road. The speed limit on that portion of SR 104 will be reduced from 60 mph to 35 mph. Contractor crews for the Washington State Department of Transportation will work around-the-clock for 10 days. The work will remove and replace a culvert blocking fish passage at Swansonville Creek.

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The Washington State Patrol sent a press release and they said: Labor Day weekend is upon us and they would like to remind everyone to drive carefully. They stress the importance of making good choices, to make the highways safer and to avoid a traffic stop, a ticket, a fine, or jail. They put out the statistics from last year, Labor Day weekend, 2022. WSP troopers were involved in the following: 21 cases of DUI, 448 cases of speeding, 19 seatbelt violations, 115 collisions include 2 fatalities, 60 cases of distracted driving, and 232 cases of aggressive driving.

Troopers will be out on patrol day and night looking for impaired drivers and anyone driving in an unsafe manner that endangers others on the highway. Washington State Patrol reminds everyone to drive with patience and courtesy, and expect more traffic throughout the Labor Day weekend.

The Mobile Impaired Driving Unit (MIDU) will be deployed to process those arrested for suspicion of impaired driving to enable patrols to spend the most time possible on the roadways. Of course, all of these statistics and admonishments do not include the sheriff's departments of Jefferson, Clallam and Kitsap Counties, nor any local constabularies, so keep chill on the highway and local roads too.

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On Tuesday, September 5 at 9:30am Jim B. will be sitting in as DJ and will bring you the BOCC health report from Dr. Allison Berry and Willie Bence. We are past the deadline for listeners' questions.

Chris Bricker's show *Morning on the Salish* will no longer be on KPTZ Tuesday mornings. His last show was this past Tuesday. If you missed *Morning on the Salish* in the last two weeks, you can go to the KPTZ website and click on the streaming archive.

And we will miss him in that time slot. He will continue to produce *Our Working Waterfront*, and *Community Tides*. Updated schedules will be issued later this week. Go to KPTZ.org for updates on our fall programming changes.

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KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and noon on Saturday. This is Jim Burke. Thanks for listening and please, be careful out there.