

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Diane Walker with your local news and commentary for Friday, February 23, 2024.

This is from the *Peninsula Daily News* this past Tuesday: A Port Angeles woman charged with stealing a Clallam Transit System bus in Sequim and driving it nearly to Shelton made her first appearance in Clallam County Superior Court last Friday. Hailey Weatherbie, 35, pleaded not guilty to one count of vehicular theft, a Class B felony that carries a maximum punishment of 10 years in prison and a fine of \$20,000.

Superior Court Judge Brent Basden assigned the public defender's office to represent Weatherbie. Though he is not her assigned attorney, public defender Charles Commeree sat with Weatherbie during her appearance. Judge Basden set a status hearing for April 12 and a trial date for May 13. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Roberson said he anticipated the trial would last three days, and requested that as a condition of release on her own recognizance Weatherbie be ordered to remain in Washington state, to possess no firearms, and to have no contact with Clallam Transit property, including its buses.

Commeree requested that Weatherbie be allowed to continue riding the bus, because she relies on public transportation. Judge Basden said she was not to go on Clallam Transit property, but she could ride a bus, getting on at one stop and off at another, but she's not to access any other buses. Weatherbie had already been prohibited from possessing firearms as part of her diversion agreement in a different Class B felony, in which she's accused of giving false statements to the state Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) between August 2016 and March 2019 in order to obtain \$7,556.90 in cash, food, and childcare assistance. She was scheduled to appear before Basden on that case Friday as well, but her attorney, William Payne, was not in court. The judge did note that Weatherbie had made progress on restitution payments to DSHS.

This is the final weekend for "Burst of Color," the fiber art show at Northwind Art's Jeanette Best Gallery. This Peninsula Fiber Artists juried show encompasses more than 70 works, from 37 local artists, and offers everything from improvisational quilts and silk paintings to textile sculptures and wearable art. In "Burst of Color" the makers revel in exploring fiber art's many forms. In addition to a variety of brightly colored quilts, "Burst of Color" offers some delightful surprises, from giant indigo overalls to a knit and crocheted coral reef and an African crowned crane. Pat Herkal, who has brought her sequined and silk birds into the show, said "I want to give people whimsy and happiness." I think she's accomplished that!

Peninsula Fiber Artists (PFA) began 11 years ago as a chapter of the national Surface Design Association. Today the independent PFA encompasses artists and craftspeople across and beyond the Olympic and Kitsap peninsulas. Donna Lark, one of the Peninsula Fiber Artists who created this exhibit, has said on the Northwind art website, "This group has such a diversity of talent. We all come up with these incredible pieces. I am always inspired by this group. Seeing these artists and what they make gives me energy to continue to create."

"Burst of Color" closes Sunday, Jeanette Best Gallery is at 701 Water Street in Port Townsend and is open from noon to 5pm. More information and images can be found at www.northwindart.org.

And, finally, a ferry advisory for Sunday: If you're using the Seattle-to-Bainbridge route on the Washington State Ferry System this Sunday, February 25, plan for delays and limited vehicle capacity, as more than 2,000 bicyclists are expected to head to Bainbridge Island for the annual Chilly Hilly. Expect a lot of bikes on the

Seattle departures from 7:55 to 9:35am, and then again on sailings out of Bainbridge from 11:35am to 3pm. Drivers should consider alternate travel times or routes.

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 Diane Walker. Thanks for listening.