

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend. I'm Taylor Nations with local news and commentary for Tuesday, March 26, 2024.

The *Peninsula Daily News* reports that last Tuesday, Cipriano Ojeda-Ibarra of Clallam Bay pleaded guilty in Clallam County Superior Court to first-degree murder, two counts of second-degree assault and possession of a stolen firearm for a crime committed last June. He will be sentenced at 9am on April 30 and faces a sentence between 35 years and three months to 43 years and four months.

On June 28, Clallam County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to a travel trailer in Clallam Bay, where they located a deceased 39-year-old woman, later identified as Charlotte Louesa Lopez. Indications were that she had died of a gunshot wound, according to a sheriff's office news release. Ojeda-Ibarra later was identified on the property, then arrested and booked into Clallam County jail for investigation of second-degree murder-domestic violence. Then-Clallam County Undersheriff Ron Cameron said at the time that "the victim and suspect are related, which is why it reads domestic violence." Ojeda-Ibarra is being held without bail in the Clallam County jail.

The Port Townsend Creative District gives us an update on the whereabouts of ex-PT *Leader* editor Mitzi Gordon. She has accepted the role of the Port Townsend Creative District Manager. With a background in the arts, fundraising, and project management, she will head the implementation of the recently released Creative District Arts and Culture Plan. Gordon is a multidisciplinary artist, writer, and researcher and has held positions at the Dali Museum, Street Lab, the Tampa Museum of Art, and other nonprofit organizations. She is the founder of multiple traveling and interactive art projects, including the Bluebird Books Bus – a rolling free library and book-arts studio housed on a converted short bus – and the Carmada art car showcase, bringing art-on-wheels events to public spaces. From 2018-2023, she guided the SPACEcraft project as a founder and manager, bringing a public shipping-container art studio to parks in Pinellas County, Florida.

Mari Mullen, Executive Director of the Port Townsend Main Street Program, says, "We are excited to have Mitzi join our team. She is deeply committed to the arts, creative place-making, and community-building among artists. She looks forward to helping implement the goals and strategies of the newly completed Arts and Culture Plan which maps the next steps of the Creative District." Creative District efforts are under the auspices of the Port Townsend Main Street Program.

In a press release, U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer, a member of the House Appropriations Committee, announced that \$2 million in new federal funding has been allocated for Jefferson Healthcare's Expanding Healthcare for Rural Seniors project. The funding was passed with bipartisan support in the House and is expected to be passed by the Senate and signed into law by President Biden.

Jefferson Healthcare will use the funding to support the construction and opening of a new clinic offering specialty care in neurology; pulmonology; ear, nose, and throat; and geriatrics to seniors in Jefferson County who face geographic barriers to health care. The project is a sustainable, cost-effective community health investment that will create needed care options for Jefferson County senior citizens and their families.

Mike Glenn, CEO of Jefferson Healthcare, said, "Providing high-quality health care in rural communities is a critical need in Washington State. Jefferson Healthcare is grateful to Representative Kilmer for supporting the

Expanding Healthcare for Rural Seniors Project, which will allow East Jefferson County seniors to access vital medical care....With seniors making up over one-third of our community, and a significant number having to travel over an hour to seek these health care services, Jefferson Healthcare is excited to be able to offer these specialties and support the overall health of our population.”

Following a 2015 evaluation, the Campus Modernization and Expansion Project includes the demolition of the outdated structure of the hospital and the expansion of facilities, introducing upgraded services for medical oncology, dermatology, wound care, express care, and obstetrics and gynecology. New specialty services such as radiation oncology, ear, nose and throat, neurology, pulmonology, and an ambulatory surgery center will be added to provide a wider range of care locally.

KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and at noon on Saturday. You can reach out to us at news@kptz.org. This is Taylor Nations. Thank you for listening.