

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I am Casey Dolan with your local news and commentary for Wednesday, March 27, 2024.

The *Peninsula Daily News* reports that Julie Jaman, who was permanently banned from the YMCA's Mountain View pool in Port Townsend after confronting a transgender woman about her presence in the women's locker room in July 2022, is now threatening a lawsuit unless her lifetime ban is lifted. The woman, Clementine Adams, an employee of the Olympic Peninsula YMCA, which operates the pool, was escorting children in the summer camp to the restroom. Adams was not wearing any employee identification at the time. After the confrontation with Adams, Jaman had been asked to leave the facility and was later informed she was permanently banned from the pool for violating the YMCA's code of conduct.

Last week, the Virginia-based Center for American Liberty (CFAL) sent a letter to Port Townsend City Manager John Mauro, Kendra Rosenberg (an attorney with the law firm Kenyon Disend), and Olympic Peninsula YMCA CEO Wendy Bart alleging violations of state and federal laws and demanding restorative actions. The letter, written by Harmeet Dhillon, founder and CEO of CFAL, demands: "(1) the City and the YMCA lift the ban against Jaman; (2) the City and the YMCA issue a formal apology to Jaman for their actions against her; and (3) the City and the YMCA pay Jaman the sum of \$350,000 for her emotional distress arising out of the incident." A deadline for a response is set at 5pm today. The letter continues: "If the City and YMCA fail to comply with this demand by that deadline, all options will be on the table, including the institution of legal proceedings in court." The Center for American Liberty is a nonprofit legal center founded in 2018 by Harmeet Dhillon, a California-based attorney and committeewoman with the Republican National Committee.

State Senator Emily Randall has announced in a press release that every member of the Washington State Legislature LGBTQ Caucus, including Speaker of the House Laurie Jinkins from Tacoma, has endorsed her campaign for Congress. Randall would be the first ever LGBTQ+ member of Congress from Washington.

This follows last week's news that the Human Rights Campaign PAC, "the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer civil rights organization," announced their proud endorsement of Randall's campaign. Randall has now received the backing of every major national LGBTQ+ PAC, including Equality PAC, LGBTQ Victory Fund, and LPAC.

The California State Patrol says that Russell S. Mikeal of Quilcene crossed the centerline while traveling southbound on U.S. Highway 101 at milepost 304 north of Brinnon last Friday night. He was flown to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle after the accident. Mikeal had not been wearing a seat belt, but was in satisfactory condition on Sunday. State Patrol said drugs or alcohol were involved and that the cause of the collision was driving under the influence.

Don't forget to submit your Public Health questions to Public Health Officer Dr. Allison Berry or Director of Emergency Management Willie Bence by emailing contactus@KPTZ.org by this Friday at noon. Your questions should be answered at the BOCC meeting on April 1 at 9:45am here on KPTZ.

And, in a related piece of health news, the Department of Health released updated information regarding current Measles outbreaks in Washington state, the U.S., and around the world in 2024. In Washington, 11 confirmed cases of measles have been reported since late December 2023. The most recent reported measles activity which could have affected the general public was reported in a press release by Spokane Regional Health District in February. If you have a suspected case of measles, notify your health care provider and local health jurisdiction immediately. Look for a red rash (typically starts at hairline and progresses downward on the body); high fever (may reach 104 degrees Fahrenheit); cough; runny nose; red, watery eyes; and tiny blue/white spots in the mouth. Individuals infected are contagious from approximately 4 days before the rash starts and through 4 days after rash onset.

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.