

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend. This is Jim Burke, with local news and commentary for Thursday, March 14, 2024. Happy Pi Day, everyone! If you know what I'm referring to, thank a geometry teacher or Pythagoras.

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This is from today's *Peninsula Daily News*: An unidentified woman was airlifted to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle on Wednesday afternoon after a vehicle was reported to have driven over a cliff on South Discovery Road. At least one occupant was reported to have been ejected from the vehicle in the 4pm wreck, according to a post on the East Jefferson Fire Rescue (EJFR) website. As of 5:30pm, the woman was loaded into an ambulance to be transported to Jefferson International Airport for flight to Harborview, EJFR said. South Discovery Road between Cape George Road and Adelma Beach Road was shut down shortly after firefighters arrived. No information on her condition was available Wednesday night.

There was a NIXLE alert issued on this accident yesterday at 4:24pm as well as an all-clear issued shortly after 9pm. On Monday's County Health Report, Director of OEM Willie Bence talked about how NIXLE alerts can inform you in the event of Earthquake, Tsunami, Wildfire, or even road closures due to weather or accidents. To sign up for NIXLE alerts issued by Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management go to NIXLE.us (<https://supportcenter.nixle.com/hc/en-us/articles/19077392253211-Nixle-How-to-Subscribe-to-Nixle-Alerts>)

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For the first time, Tonia Burkett and Usawa Consulting (that's U, S, A, W, A) will offer workshops to the public. Previous workshops have been limited to private contractors, including non-profit organizations and private businesses. Last summer, one participant in an anti-racist language workshop was this reporter. I can tell you that it was difficult and challenging both intellectually and emotionally, but it helped this 65-year-old white guy see the ways in which racist systems and beliefs adversely affect people of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and all People of Color) communities, but also white people like myself who unwittingly benefit from racist systems.

Workshops are for individuals interested in understanding how racial inequity impacts our lives and communities. The curriculum was developed and is facilitated by a team of Black, Indigenous, and White educators and community organizers in Jefferson County. The goal is to create a more equitable, welcoming, and accountable community. These workshops center on racism with the understanding that by liberating BIPOC/People of the Global Majority (PGM) we liberate all people. The workshops are framed by Barbara J. Love's Development of a Liberatory Consciousness Model. In that way, an attempt is made to take participants through the process of increasing awareness, developing analytical skills and strategies, learning ways to take action, and establishing relationships that will help participants be accountable allies for people who experience marginalization.

To be inclusive, they offer sliding-scale payment options to these four-hour workshops. Tonia Burkett said it is a leap of faith that the cost of their physical, emotional, and intellectual labor will be met through the sliding-scale payment schedule. If you are interested in attending, there is a document (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pw2JmeTVoWRnBxLbjvy6YC0XAEt2bd3s/view>) on the transcript of today's news with three workshops offered in April, May, and June. The document includes a brief description of the workshop, links to register, and information about the sliding scale. April and May workshops are happening on Monday evenings from 6-8 pm in Chimacum at the Tri-Area Community Center.

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As Casey Dolan reported last week, Jefferson County is holding a series of public meetings to discuss regulations regarding short-term rental properties. The county is looking for public input to determine if there is a need to change the existing regulations governing short-term rentals and, if needed, what sort of changes might be necessary. The discussions center around Airbnb, Hipcamp, and similar options for transient or tourist accommodations that may be reducing long-term housing options for members of the workforce. There is one meetings left: today, March 14, at the Quilcene Community Center at 5:30pm. Tuesday and yesterday, there were meetings in Cape George and Chimacum.

And tomorrow on County Connections, co-hosts Jim Burke and Commissioner Greg Brotherton will welcome Brent Butler, Chief Strategy Officer for Jefferson County to discuss the issue of short-term rentals. That's at 12:30pm tomorrow, Friday, March 15. If you have a question for Jim, Greg, or Brent, you can send email to [news@kptz.org](mailto:news@kptz.org) beforehand, or while we are on the air to [dj@kptz.org](mailto:dj@kptz.org).

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KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and at noon on Saturday. You can contacts us at [news@kptz.org](mailto:news@kptz.org). This is Jim Burke. Thanks for listening.