

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Diane Walker with local news and commentary for Friday, May 10, 2024.

According to State Patrol, a collision between a garbage truck and an SUV this past Tuesday sent 73-year-old Mary Jones of Port Townsend to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. Jones was apparently traveling southbound on South Discovery Road, when her Subaru Forester went through a stop sign and was t-boned by a garbage truck moving westbound on State Route 20. Both vehicles came to rest in the eastbound shoulder. The Forester was destroyed and the garbage truck sustained reportable damage. The driver of the garbage truck was uninjured, but Jones was transported to Harborview and was still listed in serious condition as of Wednesday. Potential charges are pending an investigation.

The *Kitsap Sun* tells us a home in a forested neighborhood outside Kingston was destroyed and the family dog killed in a fire this week. The family of four apparently left their home on Country Home Lane for the day shortly after 8am on Tuesday. About an hour and a half later a nearby neighbor noticed a black column of smoke and called 911, but the home was fully engulfed by fire by the time fire crews were able to reach the residence. Around 9,000 gallons of water were needed to extinguish the fire, but a narrow road made access to the home difficult. The number of vehicles that could be accommodated was limited by space and turning around was a challenge. The fire was extinguished around 11am; the cause of the fire is believed to be accidental but remains under investigation by the Kitsap County Fire Marshal's Office. The manufactured home, estimated at 1,100 square feet in size, is a total loss and the family is now staying with friends.

This Saturday marks the beginning of the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP). Through a collaborative effort with the Jefferson County Food Bank Association, OlyCAP, and WSU Jefferson/Clallam County Extension, the Jefferson County Farmers Markets will distribute both the SFMNP cards redeemable at the farmers market and bulk produce subscriptions this summer. Seniors with incomes lower than the federal poverty line are encouraged to apply starting this Saturday by visiting the info booth at the Port Townsend or Chimacum Farmers Market, OlyCAP, or one of the Jefferson County Food Banks. Benefits are available June 1 through October 31.

This week has been National Drinking Water Week and the Jefferson County PUD invites you to raise your water glasses to the unsung heroes of the PUD water team. PUD water is carefully managed for quality, but water conservation is something we can all contribute to. According to the PUD, simple household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons annually nationwide. That's equal to the annual household water use of more than 11 million homes. Just fixing a slowly leaking sink tap can save more than 150 gallons per month, but there are also other ways to save water: wash only full loads in your washing machine or dishwasher; don't run water continuously when washing dishes by hand; and check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter doesn't read exactly the same, you may have a leak, so give the PUD a call (360-385-5800). They're happy to come check it out.

May is birthing season for Port Townsend deer, but the does often leave their fawns to forage for food. If you come upon a fawn that appears to have been abandoned, do not assume the baby is orphaned. Unless a fawn is crying, running around looking for its mother, or showing signs of dehydration or hunger, it should be left alone. If you do feel a fawn needs to be rescued, do not deal with it yourself: contact Center Valley Animal Rescue in Quilcene and they will send a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

And finally, if you or someone you know is looking for gainful employment, you might want to check out the Jefferson County Jobs and Trades Fair this afternoon from 3:30 to 5pm at the Chimacum High School. There will be almost 40 employers onsite, offering over 200 jobs.

KPTZ 91.9 FM broadcasts your local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and again at noon on Saturday. You can contact us at news@kptz.org. I'm Diane Walker. Thank you for listening.