

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend. This is Jim Burke with local news and commentary for Tuesday, August 6, 2024.

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The Wooden Boat Festival is less than a month away! Volunteer shifts for the 2024 Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival are now open for sign-up! Volunteering for the Festival is a great way to meet new friends, experience the Festival from the inside, and simply have some fun! People who Volunteer for 3 shifts will receive a volunteer T-shirt and a 3-day Festival pass. For more information go to <https://woodenboat.org/volunteer/>.

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As everyone around here is acutely aware, there was a major internet fiber service outage last Friday, August 2. A contractor working for Lumen (formerly known as Quest) was working at Ness' Corner in Port Hadlock and cut a major fiber transmission line just before noon which cut off internet access to much of the Quimper Peninsula. This certainly affected people in northeast Jefferson County, disrupted businesses (Mean Bean was cash only Friday until closing at 6pm) and made it necessary for people to watch the Olympics Friday on their phones. This issue was not fixed when this reporter went to bed Friday at 10pm, but JeffCo PUD reported that service was fully restored by 12am Saturday morning. NOANET (<https://www.noanet.net/>) owns the fiber that Lumen contractors were working on when they broke it.

From their website: NOANET is a non-profit public broadband organization owned by public utilities. NOANET "operates with a mission to enhance broadband access and services in Washington State and the Pacific Northwest. Our primary focus is on supporting the development of broadband infrastructure and programs to bridge the digital divide and bring the advantages of advanced connectivity to rural communities throughout the region."

Despite KPTZs inability to broadcast the Free Friday Acoustic Blues Concert, it was recorded, including THE interviews. Stay tuned to KPTZ and watch our website for word on when those interviews and the concert will be broadcast.

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After completion of the new roundabout on State Route 104 and Beaver Valley Road (State Route 19), crews are set to repeat the process just a few miles away. Work begins on the intersection of State Route 104 and Shine Road/Paradise Bay Road Wednesday, August 7 at 7am. Travelers will see a temporarily shifted roadway at the intersection of State Route 104 and Shine Road/Paradise Bay Road. The speed limit remains 40 mph at this intersection (you always knew it was 40 mph near the bridge, right?) People are encouraged to be heads up in work zones and watch for the temporary changes. The shifted lanes will allow crews to prepare the ground near Shine Road. This is the final phase of a safety improvement project (<https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/search-projects/sr-104-paradise-bay-shine-road-sr-19-intersection-safety-improvements>) on State Route 104. All turns will remain available during this phase of work. In late August, access to Shine Road from State Route 104 will close for approximately three weeks. The exact date of the closure will be announced as soon as WSDOT has it.

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And it is Primary election day, August 6, in Washington State so this is your reminder to fill out your ballot and send it in. Voters in Jefferson County can still register to vote today in the County Courthouse. And please

make sure that if you are returning your ballot, put it in the security envelope, the outer envelope. and sign the outer envelope!

If you are sending in or dropping off your ballot, it is postage paid. You can drop it off at many drop off boxes in the county and put it in your mail. As long as it is postmarked by today, you're good. For more information go to <https://voter.votewa.gov/portal2023/login.aspx>.

No fewer than 11 Senate candidates are on the ballot that I have in front of me, including "Goodspaceguy." US Representative District 6 has 5 candidates including two who have heavily advertised on TV – Emily Randall and Hillary Franz. There are 31 candidates for Governor on this ballot, 5 for Lieutenant Governor, and 4 for Secretary of State in Washington. There's also 2 for County Commissioner: Heather Dudley-Nolette and Ben Thomas. They will both advance to the November 5th election.

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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 reach out to us at [news@kptz.org](mailto:news@kptz.org). This is Jim Burke. Thanks for listening.