

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend. I'm Jim Burke with your local news and commentary for Thursday, November 7, 2024.

The League of Women Voters of the United States president Dianna Wynn and CEO Celina Stewart released the following statement on the 2024 election results:

“The 2024 election underscores the dedication of poll workers, election officials, and volunteers nationwide, who ensured that every eligible vote was counted, and every voice was heard. This year’s election was marked by integrity, transparency, and high turnout. The American people have spoken...While we celebrate a fair and secure election, the outcome of this election has made the future for women unclear...Given the disturbing rhetoric made during this election season, we are deeply concerned about challenges we may face, particularly regarding the issues that disproportionately affect women, from health care and reproductive rights to economic security and equal representation...We are thankful to Leagues across the country for their tremendous work supporting the election infrastructure and supporting voters, as well as every election worker and democracy defender who guaranteed our fair and free voting process. We are thankful for the work they have done so far this cycle and the counting, curing, and certifying work that will take place in the weeks ahead...The League is dedicated to our mission of defending democracy. As we move forward, we remain steadfast in our commitment to advocate for policies that uplift women and ensure equitable representation in all levels of government.”

From the *Washington State Standard*: It’s still not clear which party will control the U.S. House. Republicans have won at least 205 seats and Democrats 191. It’s 218 for the majority. And southwest Washington’s 3rd Congressional District is one of the races that will determine which party comes out ahead. As of last night, Democratic U.S. Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez held a 51.7% to 48% lead over GOP challenger Joe Kent. That’s roughly in line with Tuesday night’s figures. Clark County, where Gluesenkamp Perez has been outperforming Kent, had about 62,000 ballots left to count as of last night. But the race is still too close to call (<https://washingtonstatestandard.com/briefs/gluesenkamp-perez-keeps-lead-in-key-congressional-race-in-washington/?amp%3bhmac=VUbKWihxI6beRoFgwSKq91DVeMbFYniKSY3ZyR2N57k%3d&%3bemci=a4ae9f36-159d-ef11-88ce-000d3a98fa6b&%3bemdi=18ee0cb8-219d-ef11-88ce-000d3a98fa6b&%3bceid=553235>).

In the PT *Leader* yesterday, under News Briefs, there is a small piece about Mayor David Faber taking issue with the way in which the PT *Leader* is reporting on City Manager John Mauro’s resume. Faber said, “Making claims that he padded his resume in the headline above the fold, using budget figures from the very first year of his time in office, these are things that are just really disappointing as someone who thinks we need to have a strong local paper to have a strong local democracy.”

Faber went on to say that without strong local newspapers, corruption and bad government behavior blooms. Quoting him again: “It’s important that the local paper exists and holds our feet to the fire, but there is also a responsibility that comes with that, which is being responsible with information and not sewing distrust,” he said. “I don’t even quite understand what they think they are going to get out of this. Maybe just spurring readership, which is deeply frustrating to me, not just as mayor, John’s friend, but also as a community member who wants this community to succeed.”

Washington State DOT issued this advisory: People will keep moving on US 101 as crews help fish move under the highway in Sequim. The work zone is located between Happy Valley Road and Palo Alto Road. Beginning Friday, November 8, US 101 will shift onto a newly constructed two-lane bypass road.

- The US 101 speed limit will reduce to 30 mph between milepost 267.8 and 266.85.
- No left turns at the intersection of Whitefeather Way and US 101 until summer 2025.
- People walking or riding bicycles on US 101 between Blyn and Sequim will detour onto the Olympic Discovery Trail.

The temporary bypass road allows crews to remove the existing culvert that carries Johnson Creek under US 101. A new bridge will replace the culvert and remove barriers to fish. The project removes fish blocking culverts at a half-dozen locations between Sequim and Gardiner. Additional information about this work is available on the WSDOT Blog (<https://wsdotblog.blogspot.com/>). Travelers are encouraged to sign up for the WSDOT email updates for State Highways through Jefferson and Clallam Counties (https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WADOT/subscriber/new?topic_id=WADOT_68).

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. This is Jim Burke. Thanks for listening.