

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Diane Walker with your local news and commentary for Thursday, June 12, 2025.

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Folks traveling uptown yesterday will have noticed that after a five-year pandemic-prompted hiatus, the midweek farmers market has returned to Tyler Street, providing farmers and food producers with an opportunity to connect with the community and sell their goods at peak freshness.

The midweek market will be returning each Wednesday from 3pm to 6pm throughout the summer, according to the Port Townsend *Leader*, but will just be focusing on food and farms, with products ranging from fresh produce to prepared meals and flowers. Arts and crafts vendors will continue to make their appearances on Saturdays.

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And, speaking of food, if the shelves at the Food Co-op are looking a little bare lately, it's because of a cyberattack on United Natural Foods, Inc (UNFI), a national health food wholesaler owned by Amazon. An incident in UNFI's IT systems caused disruptions to the company's business operations, and they have been unable to fulfill or ship customer orders. The Co-op is working with local and secondary suppliers to fill the gaps until UNFI can safely bring its systems back online.

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Twenty residents at Port Townsend Senior Living have tested positive for COVID-19 in an outbreak that started at the beginning of June, according to the *Peninsula Daily News*. Symptoms are mild and none of the cases have resulted in hospitalizations, Executive Director Peter Berg said, adding that the current outbreak peaked at 28. Residents who test positive are asked to quarantine in their own apartments; and whatever food or assistance they require is then brought to them. Prior to the outbreak, Port Townsend Senior Living had not seen any COVID-19 cases for at least a year, Berg said. Apparently this new strain is quite contagious.

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Washington state governor Bob Ferguson met this past Tuesday with State Adjutant General Gent Welsh, who, as commander of the state's National Guard, is the state's top military official and also serves as the governor's homeland security advisor. According to the *Washington State Standard*, the two met to discuss the possible ramifications of President Trump's recent decision to deploy National Guard troops in Los Angeles without the California governor's consent.

State Attorney General Nick Brown noted that the law the president cites for the California deployment says such orders shall be issued by the governor. And the situation in California did not meet any of the three circumstances where a National Guard deployment would be lawful, he said. "If the facts arose here that were the same as California, it would be illegal," Brown said, but he didn't rule out a circumstance where the president could have the state's consent to deploy the Guard. "I don't want to presuppose that we would challenge everything, because it really depends on what the facts are," he said, but added that he doesn't want protesters acting out violently and "playing into the hands of the Trump administration." ...Something to remember for those who are considering participation in any No Kings protests this coming Saturday.

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And finally, two construction projects to be aware of:

- Construction began this week in the southeast quadrant of the Boat Haven boatyard on one of the components of their new stormwater treatment system. During construction, traffic in the area may be affected: drivers and pedestrians are asked to use caution, follow all posted signage, and adhere to flagger instructions to ensure safety and minimize disruption.
- And, starting next Monday, construction will begin on a project at the Kingston Ferry Terminal that will continue through July of 2026. The three trestles will be upgraded, and concrete pilings will be repaired in order to ensure the facility is safe during major earthquakes. As a result, the 5:30am sailing from Kingston to Edmonds will be up to 10 minutes late every day. For those passengers who take Community Transit Route 909, this will cause missed connections through August 30 until the route can adjust service.

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KPTZ 91.9 FM broadcasts your local news Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at noon and 5pm. You can contact us at [news@kptz.org](mailto:news@kptz.org). I'm Diane Walker. Thank you for listening.