

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Charlie Bermant, with local news and commentary for Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

Jefferson County added two more cases of COVID-19 yesterday, bringing the total to 127. Both cases are in their sixties and were traced through contacts with other known cases. Currently, 96 people are awaiting test results.

We report the latest numbers here on KPTZ News during our regular broadcasts, but cases are increasing on a daily basis. For the latest numbers, including gender breakdown and cumulative percentages, visit the Jefferson County Public Health website (<https://jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/1466/Case-Information>) or the Jefferson County Government Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/jeffcowagov>).

A water shutoff is scheduled for residents and businesses in the Point Hudson area from 7am to 6pm today as crews work to repair a water main that cracked on Monday night and spilled sewage into Port Townsend Bay, according to a report in today's *Peninsula Daily News*.

Today's water shutoffs will include the Point Hudson side of Monroe Street from Port Townsend Bay up to about Clay Street, as well as the American Legion Hall. The intersection of Monroe and Water streets will remain closed with detours on Madison and Washington streets at least through the end of next week.

Jefferson County Public Health is analyzing water samples from Port Townsend Bay for harmful bacteria. Until the results are returned, public health issued the health advisory for the shoreline from Madison Street to the entrance of the Point Hudson Marina. The public is advised to avoid all contact with the water; no swimming, boating, or fishing will be allowed.

The water main spilled more than 180,000 gallons of water on Monday night, according to a Tuesday estimate. The sewage overflow was halted by 9pm Monday, the City of Port Townsend said, but not before some of the water ran into the bay, spurring a no-contact order.

The Intergovernmental Collaborative Group, which consists of members from four governing boards and their directors, met Wednesday night to review the COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience Plan, discussing the various recommendations so far. According to the county's Facebook page, Commissioner Kate Dean characterized the list of recommendations as imperfect, but it is as close as we can get to finding a way to organize the various concerns. Port Townsend City Manager called the document a blueprint for the committee's action, calling out four different theme categories that emerged: physical infrastructure, individuals feeding the social fabric, designing better ways of working together, and strategic planning, policy, and advocacy.

The group will next meet on December 16, at which time it could discuss the creation of a permanent entity to address the issues on an ongoing basis.

Jefferson County is soliciting the donation of a small RV or trailer that could serve as an administrative office for homeless housing support at the County Fairgrounds. There are some funds available for purchase, up

to \$12,000, but that number represents the cost of two months of services. In a post, South County Commissioner Greg Brotherton said the need for a trailer is dire, and the situation worsens with any delay.

If you have a trailer or know of one that may be available call OlyCap Executive Director Cherish Cronmiller. 360-385-2571, extension 6308.

Many people are breaking the Thanksgiving holiday tradition by opting for smaller gatherings. The Tri Area Community Center's annual free Thanksgiving feast will go on, but with accommodations to the pandemic. The Tri-Area Community Meals Organization is preparing a dinner with turkey, vegetables, potatoes, a roll and a cookie for pickup only, as indoor dining will not be available.

Anyone desiring a free dinner needs to call 360-379-4228 and follow the instructions. Deliveries are also available, but only to those who do not have transportation or are home bound.

Again, the reservation number is 360-379-4228. Leave a message and the sponsors will follow up. Prospective volunteers or those who want to donate food should call the same number.

The Port Townsend Marine Science Center, located at Fort Worden State Park, has closed its museum and aquarium facilities until further notice, in response to recent announced restrictions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. As a result, our contact with exotic sea life is limited to take out at local sushi restaurants.

KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news at noon Monday through Saturday and at 5pm Monday through Thursday. You can contact us through news@kptz.org.

This is Charlie Bermant. Thank you for listening.