

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Charlie Bermant, with with local news and commentary for Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

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Jefferson County reported four new cases of COVID-19 yesterday, bringing the total to 362. This represents an increase of eleven cases in one week. Nine cases are now in isolation, with 48 people are awaiting test results. Vaccinations continue as we strive toward total inoculation in Jefferson County. In his weekly briefing to the board of county commissioners, health officer Dr. Tom Locke said the Olympic Peninsula has the highest vaccination rates and the lowest COVID-19 rates in the state. Jefferson County holds the record for highest number of doses given, with 51.6% having received a single dose. Locke said 36.7% of the population is fully vaccinated. Locke reported that the county has plenty of vaccine on hand, with available doses from Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson – favored by many as it is a single dose.

However, there is a problem that arose after Locke's report: administration of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine is paused due to reported blood clots. In response, Jefferson Healthcare has temporarily suspended scheduling for J&J vaccine. The Vaccine Team will meet soon to discuss the overall plan, according to hospital spokesperson Amy Yaley. The hospital believes that complete vaccination is the best defense against the COVID-19, and is continuing with clinics for Moderna and a Pfizer clinic for our teen population. Yaley encourages everyone who has not been vaccinated to schedule an appointment today. There are appointments available now for April 23, which can be scheduled directly on the hospital website: go to [JeffersonHealthcare.org](http://JeffersonHealthcare.org) and click on the top yellow banner. If you are scheduled to receive the Johnson and Johnson vaccine contact the provider. If you have received the vaccine and have symptoms, contact your provider immediately. For some perspective, there are six reported cases of blood clots out of 6.8 million administered. All six were women between the ages of 18 and 48 and all developed the illness within one to three weeks of vaccination. One woman died and a second woman in Nebraska has been hospitalized in critical condition, according to the New York Times.

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Recently deceased Prince Philip, England's Duke of Edinburgh, has received worldwide accolades for his service to his country, which has rekindled attention to his regular gaffes. Like the time he asked Australian aborigines whether they still threw spears at each other. Or when he asked a resident of the Cayman Islands if the population is all descended from pirates. Except that didn't really happen, according to a Port Townsend resident Bill Tennant, who recently retired as director of the Jefferson County Historical Society. He was serving in a similar post at the Cayman Islands museum in 1994 during a royal visit from Prince Philip and Queen Elizabeth. Philip did in fact ask Tennant privately how much of the island's population had pirate ancestors, a common misconception that Tennant corrected.

Anticipating the visit, the museum ran rehearsals where the staff was educated about protocols, such as never walking ahead of the queen or to ask her a question. Tennant said the queen was aware of these restrictions, asking open-ended questions that allowed people to talk at length without breaking the rules. Tennant said that the questions were detailed, making it clear that the royals had done their research about the region. Shortly after the meeting the British press corps, including many tabloids, asked Tennant to describe the meeting. Tennant replayed the conversation but it got twisted around. Instead of an earnest question, Philip was quoted as asking Tennant, who was not identified by name, "aren't you all descended from pirates?" The quote has become a part of Philip's folklore, bouncing around the internet on a variety of sources. The quote was repeated in many of the recent obit notices, even one in the Bahamian paper that first covered the visit (and did not, at the time, incorrectly report the quote).

Here at KPTZ News we are shocked and ashamed that one of our press colleagues would ever take a quote out of context or twist it around to fit their narrative. Thankfully, this doesn't happen very often.

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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](mailto:news@kptz.org).

This is Charlie Bermant. Thank you for listening.