This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I’m Charlie Bermant sitting in for Lily Haight, with local news and commentary for Wednesday, July 7, 2021.

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OlyCAP is looking to the public to provide an appropriate name for a new low income housing project, due to break ground on July 22. The Seventh and Hendricks Affordable Housing Project, as it is now known, is a proposed 43-unit, low-income housing site that is expected to cost around $15 million dollars to construct. It will be located in the parking lot adjacent to QFC with expectations for occupancy in Fall 2022. The complex will contain a mix of studio, one, two and three bedroom apartments that will be available for those with household incomes below 50% of the median income. There will be an onsite early learning child care facility for resident and community use, and several apartments will have special social service designations. Since the Seventh and Hendricks Project moniker doesn’t exactly roll off of the tongue, OlyCAP is holding a naming contest, soliciting ideas for a name that characterizes the project and, according to a web post, reflect the county’s shared values for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. With this in mind, sponsors are discouraging any Native American reference, in order to avoid the whiff of cultural appropriation.

Names should capture the positive nature of the facility, and reflect an optimistic future. I’ve already sent in my best idea – “The Shire” – inspired by the safe, happy Hobbit Home in “The Lord of the Rings.” I’m not optimistic, as the winning entry will no doubt be less… precious. The contest is open until this Friday, July 9, through a link on the OlyCAP web page (https://olycap.org/). You can enter as many times as you like. There isn’t a big prize, but the winner will earn bragging rights along with a $50 gift certificate to Elevated Ice Cream. The winner will be announced at the July 22 groundbreaking.

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The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners will hold its first live meeting since the beginning of the pandemic next Monday, July 12. The meeting begins at 9am in the commissioners’ chambers on the basement floor of the county courthouse. The meeting is open to the public, although the room has a 49-person occupancy limit. Anyone attending should get there a little early, and be prepared to show a vaccination card or sign a declaration of vaccination. Those who are not vaccinated are required to wear a mask, although that will be on the honor system. Public comments will be taken in person at the beginning of the meeting or through Zoom or phone. Written comments will continue to be accepted through jeffbocc@co.jefferson.wa.us and will be added to the correspondence log. The meeting also will be live-streamed through the county website at https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/, with links to Zoom – or phone for those who aren’t quite ready to join the new world.

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Jefferson County reported three new cases of COVID-19 after the holiday weekend. This brings the total to 454, with five cases in isolation and 32 people awaiting test results. Jefferson County has the third highest vaccination ratio in the state, behind San Juan and King Counties. 73.3% of the eligible County population 12 and over have received one dose of the vaccine, while 70.1% have been fully immunized. Vaccines are readily available, provided through local pharmacies and Jefferson Healthcare’s Express Clinic. A special pop-up vaccination clinic will be held for veterans during the Veteran Stand Down event at the Elks Club in Port Townsend, from 10am to 2pm on July 26. No other pop-ups are being scheduled at this time, but that could change. For more information call the Department of Emergency Management’s COVID-19 Call Center, 360-344-9791.

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And an update from yesterday: The Cake Picnic will be part of this year’s Rhody Parade, serving up slices to parade participants and the public at Pope Marine Plaza on August 14.

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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.

This is Charlie Bermant. Thank you for listening.