

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Steve Evans, and this is the local news for Thursday, September 16, 2021.

Jefferson County Public Health and the Department of Emergency Management are offering the second of two drive-through COVID-19 vaccination clinics for immunocompromised individuals who want a third dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine this Saturday, September 18, from 9am to noon at Blue Heron Middle School, 3939 San Juan Avenue, Port Townsend. These third doses are exclusively for people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised. A person may qualify if they:

- Are receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years
- Have moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome or Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Have an advanced or untreated HIV infection, or
- Are in active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress the immune response.

Registration will require a reservation as well as proof of vaccination. Forms of proof include a vaccination card or a copy of your vaccination record from Washington State Department of Health, which you may retrieve at no cost by logging in to <https://wa.myir.net/register>. Once again, that's Saturday, September 18, 9am-noon at Blue Heron Middle School, 3939 San Juan Avenue, Port Townsend. You can make an appointment at the Department of Health website, or by calling 360-344-9791. Third doses for immunocompromised people are now also available at area pharmacies and through healthcare providers.

Jefferson County PUD is seeking support for a \$2M grant request from the WA State Public Works Board. The PUD's project proposes to extend fiber-optic cable to more than 200 homes along Hwy 20 east of Discovery Bay between Anderson Lake and Four Corners Roads that now suffer from inferior service. According to a PUD press release, residents in the proposed project area can either fill out a survey online or send back a return service postcard the PUD has provided in the mail. Responses are due to the PUD by September 24. "The more support we get the better our chances are for receiving funding," PUD Communications Director Will O'Donnell was quoted as saying in the release. "The current project builds off of our first and extends fiber north from the bottom of Discovery Bay up to the PUD's main facility on Four Corners Rd," said O'Donnell. "As in the previous grant, funding is intended to build to homes who lack service or can only get service that doesn't meet the state guidelines for broadband."

In August, the PUD applied for \$12.6M in federal funding to build more than 160 miles of fiber to connect over 1600 homes and businesses in Quilcene, Discovery Bay, Gardiner, and part of Chimacum. According to O'Donnell, awards for both the state and federal grants won't be announced until December. In both cases construction would begin in 2022 if funding is awarded. The PUD is advertising that fiber in the project area will offer minimum upload and download speeds of 100 megabits per second, with 1 gigabyte or higher speeds also available. Monthly internet service from the PUD is set to begin at \$65 before taxes. Low-income rates will be also available, said O'Donnell, as will voice over-internet phone service. More information, as well as a link to the online survey, is available on the PUD's website (<https://www.jeffpud.org/fiber-to-east-discovery-bay-and-anderson-lake-rd/>) > Take the Broadband Support Survey). Links to surveys can also be found on the PUD's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/JeffCoPUD>) and Instagram feeds.

This weekend you will have the chance to enjoy the last days of summer while celebrating locally grown food, fiber, and farm-made products at the 19th annual Jefferson County Farm Tour. Farms open to the public for self-guided tours include Eaglemount Winery & Cidery, Finnriver Farm & Cidery, Jacobs' Fleece Farm, Ananda Hill Farm, Red Hen Food Bank Garden, Sailor Vineyard, White Lotus Farm, and Wilderbee Farm. There will also be Virtual-Only offerings at farms NOT open to in-person activities, including: Arabians at Egg & I, Compass Rose Farms & The Dirt Rich School, Hopscotch Farm & Cannery, Kodama Farm & Food Forest, Natembea Farm Cooperative, One Straw Ranch, Sunfield Biodynamic Farm, and Sweet Seed Flower Farm. Brochures and maps are available now at The Food Co-op, Chimacum Corner Farmstand, and Jefferson Land Trust. On the weekend of the Farm Tour, brochures and maps will be available at participating farms and Farm Tour Central, located at 9122 Rhody Drive. The Farm Tour is open to the public with a suggested donation of \$10 per group. No one turned away. Donations are accepted at all participating farms and Farm Tour Central.

And that's it for today's local news. 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 Steve Evans for KPTZ Community Radio News. Thank you for listening.