

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend. I'm Jim Burke, with your local news and commentary for Tuesday, September 5, 2023.

This is from the *PT Leader* and was posted last Friday September 1: In Jefferson County Superior Court last week, Jonathan S. Tomlin, 52, was charged with Assault in the Second Degree with the use of a deadly weapon – his pit bull, Rosie. In a Probable Cause Statement for the court, Port Townsend Police Officer Jon Stuart described the alleged July 21st incident. Stuart said two calls were made to dispatch alleging that Tomlin and his dog were attacking people, threatening them and throwing rocks at them. Upon arrival at the scene of the alleged incident, Stuart heard from a fellow officer that Aaron Arnes had been attacked by Tomlin's dog. The probable cause report in the charging documents state, "Arnes explained that he initially walked up to Tomlin to say hi and Tomlin got upset because he was sleeping. Arnes said that Tomlin got up and started getting in his face so Arnes began walking backwards telling Tomlin to 'back the (expletive) up.' Arnes pointed to where he walked backward to when Tomlin signaled for Rosie to do what she did, which was bite Arnes on the left foot."

Officer Stuart stated that he found Tomlin lying in the grass at the park, between the Food Co-op and the Penny Saver, where the incident had allegedly occurred. "Tomlin denied Rosie biting anyone ... Tomlin then said that the guy (Arnes) came over to ask if he wanted to buy some drugs." Stuart notes that he had inspected a fresh wound on the left foot of Arnes and that he is familiar with Tomlin and knows him to be aggressive, particularly when under the influence of alcohol. Tomlin appeared to be highly intoxicated and provided a breath sample which showed .34 Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) court documents state. A BAC of .08 is considered intoxicated in Washington. Stuart said, "Furthermore, it should be noted that Arnes appears to be disabled, as he walks with a limp and utilizes a cane." Upon hearing from another officer that there was a witness who saw Arnes fighting off the dog with his cane.

Bart Johnson, who works at the Penny Saver, told Stuart that he saw Tomlin being verbally aggressive and that all he saw was quote/unquote "dust and teeth," Johnson said that he was unsure as to whether the dog had bitten Arnes, but he did say that the dog was off leash. Johnson told Officer Stuart that after Arnes hit the dog with his cane she (the dog Rosie,) retreated. Tomlin then leashed the dog and left it with a female in the park and then "came back after Arnes, aggressively..." court documents stated.

Officer Stuart stated, "It is unknown if this dog has been trained to attack others, however this dog has been known to be aggressive and has bit(ten) people in the past, and that Tomlin will cause the dog to become aggressive. I also know this dog and have interacted in the past with her as well, my experience with this dog is that she is a good dog, friendly dog and only gets aggressive when Tomlin encourages it." Tomlin entered a not guilty plea and trial has been set for Oct. 30. He faces a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and/or a \$20,000 fine plus restitution and reimbursements.

Last week KPTZ news related a story from the *Washington Post* on August 25, that said "A highly mutated form of the coronavirus that threatens to be the most adept yet at slipping past the body's immune defenses is capturing the attention of virologists and health officials. While only about a dozen cases of the new BA.2.86 variant have been reported worldwide – including three in the United States – experts say this variant requires intense monitoring and vigilance that many of its predecessors did not. It has even greater potential to escape the antibodies that protect people from getting sick, even if you've recently been infected or vaccinated."

And this morning, in her report to the Jefferson County BOCC, Dr. Allison Berry had this to say about it: QUOTE OR SOUNDBITE.

Please join the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and Northwest Maritime Center in welcoming Hōkūle'a to Port Townsend September 5-6. The canoe will arrive at the Northwest Maritime Center dock on the afternoon of September 5 and depart the morning of September 6. Tours may be offered in the evening on September 5. For a more specific arrival time, you can track Hōkūle'a's progress on their website (<https://hokulea.com/>).

Hōkūle'a is a legendary voyaging canoe that revived the lost art of Polynesian voyaging and navigation and sparked a cultural renaissance in Hawai'i. This visit is part of its four-year, 43,000 mile Moananuiākea Voyage around the Pacific. Hōkūle'a has been sailing south from Southeast Alaska since the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS) held its global launch of the Moananuiākea Voyage in Juneau, Alaska on June 15. The Moananuiākea Voyage, led by PVS, will cover an estimated 43,000 nautical miles around the Pacific, visiting 36 countries and archipelagoes, nearly 100 indigenous territories and more than 300 ports.

This Friday, the Wooden Boat Festival at the NW Maritime Center begins. I ran into Lisa Widner, who is a captain at the Kids' Cove, which is to be located out at the end of Point Hudson. One of the activities is going to be printing fish on T-shirts, using paint and real rockfish. (here's an audio quote of Lisa explaining Gyotaku (fish printing)).

KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and noon on Saturday. This is Jim Burke. Thanks for listening and please, be careful out there.