

This is Casey Dolan with your local news and commentary for Wednesday, October 4, 2023 on KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington.

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The Kitsap County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) has posted on their Facebook page regarding an ongoing homicide investigation. According to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office on their own Facebook page, the two identified suspects have been known to frequent Jefferson County. Temporary felony arrest warrants have been issued for murder in the first degree for Caleb R. Sloan, 29-year-old white male, and Aksel J. Strom, 26-year-old white male. Both suspects should be considered armed and dangerous. Former mug shots of each can be viewed on both the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/kitsapcountysheriff>) and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/jeffcowasheriff>).

At 1:30am yesterday morning, KCSO Deputies were dispatched to the 3100 block of Lincoln Road Northeast in Poulsbo for a reported gunshot injury. When Deputies arrived, they discovered an unresponsive male victim in a residence. Deputies performed CPR until relieved by medics. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene. KCSO detectives ultimately identified Sloan and Strom as suspects. It is believed that the suspects knew the victim in this incident. They ask the public that if you have information about the location of these two armed and dangerous suspects, please call 911 immediately. Do not attempt to approach or contact either of them.

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Yesterday, U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer announced that the U.S. Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration awarded a total of \$1 million through the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, including \$500,000 to the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and \$500,000 to the Skokomish Indian Tribe, both for Broadband Infrastructure Deployment projects. The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will install two communication shelters and initiate site preparations for the future installation of two towers. This strategic groundwork aims to provide broadband access to 268 unserved Tribal households in the foreseeable future. The Skokomish Indian Tribe's funding will aid in the installation of an antenna for 2.5 GHz Fixed Wireless Coverage. It will also support the purchase and construction of additional wireless infrastructure, ultimately connecting 15 unserved Tribal households, two community anchor institutions, and three Tribal businesses.

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According to a press release by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the DNR began accepting applications last Monday for what is by far the largest amount of urban and community forestry grant funding ever offered by the agency. The DNR will distribute up to \$7 million to successful applicants via the 2024 Community Forest Assistance Grant Program administered by the DNR Urban and Community Forestry Program. This opportunity is open to all Washington municipalities, counties, 501(c)(3) nonprofits, tribes, educational institutions, and special taxing districts. Funding for the grant cycle comes from a \$5 million award of Inflation Reduction Act money by the USDA Forest Service and \$2 million of state funding appropriated during the 2023 legislative session. Applications will be accepted through January 8, 2024, with awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$350,000 to be announced in the Spring. Funds will go to support both single-year projects, as well as those that take multiple years to implement. To learn more about the DNR Urban and Community Forestry program, visit <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/urbanforestry>. For more information about the Washington Tree Equity Collaborative, visit <https://www.americanforests.org/project/washtec/>.

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A section of Mountain View Dog Park closest to Blaine Street will be closed for annual maintenance beginning this week until Spring 2024. City Parks Staff will be working on establishing grass on the hillside to prevent any further erosion and to mitigate safety concerns from walking up and down the hillside. The other two sections will be open for all dogs during this time. Please observe the new signage as you enter the park.

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KPTZ 91.9 FM broadcasts your local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and at noon on Saturday. You can contact us at [news@kptz.org](mailto:news@kptz.org). I'm Casey Dolan and I thank you for listening.