

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend. I am Jim Burke, with your local news and commentary for Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

As reported in the *Peninsula Daily News*: Clallam County sheriff's deputies have identified a man found dead off state Highway 112 about 12 miles west of Joyce. Jarrett R. Wilson, Jr., 33, was found deceased by a person walking his dog on private property. Chief Criminal Deputy Amy Bundy with the Clallam County Sheriff's Office said the report was made to county dispatchers a little before 5pm Thursday and said Wilson was a resident of Spokane Valley. There were no signs of trauma and no evidence of foul play, Bundy said. No cause of death has been determined. Wilson was described as an adult African-American male wearing a dark-colored jacket, jeans with a belt, and dark-colored long johns with no shoes, she said. Detectives searched the area for any additional evidence and the search yielded no further results, Bundy said. Detectives located his next of kin in Texas. They have been notified of their loved one's death.

And in the *PT Leader*: Swan School on Kuhn Street in Port Townsend recently celebrated 40 years of service as a community-based educational non-profit. Two special open house events, one on February 14 and another on March 13, invite new families to get to know this experiential education program first-hand. With a mission to nurture compassionate, creative, and connected multi-age students on the Olympic Peninsula, Swan School is focused on engagement, inquiry, and hands-on learning. Their open house offers prospective families an opportunity to tour the Swan campus, and talk with teachers, staff, and other families about educational approaches that support holistic wellbeing. Each week at the school, class groups conduct field inquiries in the woods, at the beach, or at other outdoor locations. Outdoor spaces on the school's campus – including a chess board patio and covered sport court – are utilized by students and teachers, rain or shine.

The school's 40th Anniversary Campaign was launched to make further lasting improvements to their open-air campus environment. Outdoor education is a major pillar of Swan's project-based curriculum, led by their focus on research that shows the positive effects of outdoor programs on a student's overall well-being. According to a 2017 study in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, markers of these effects can be found in student physical activity, mental health, social ability, and academic achievement. The Swan School open house takes place at 2345 Kuhn Street., Port Townsend. The next one is March 13 from 1:30 to 3:30pm. For more information, call 360-385-7340 or visit <https://swanschool.org/> online.

And another story from the *Peninsula Daily News*: The marina at Point Hudson is scheduled to open March 1 after having been closed since September when reconstruction of the south jetty started. Capital Projects Director Matt Klontz told commissioners at their meeting this past Wednesday, that they are in the home stretch. At 18 feet above the water, the new pedestrian walkway along the top of the jetty offers a great view of Admiralty Inlet and Port Townsend Bay, Klontz said, and added "It's going to be very popular." When work on the south jetty is over, the port's \$14 million project to replace Point Hudson's 90-year-old jetties will end. A grand opening celebrating the completion of the project is planned for April 24.

The port is in the process of writing a grant application for Phase 2 of the Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program for funding that would allow it to expand the Boatyard at Boat Haven – essentially doubling the size and capacity of the existing yard. The project would address city stormwater that runs off Sims Way/state Highway 20 and into the boatyard, hampering the port's desire to expand and develop its property, particularly to the west. A new spur to the Larry Scott Memorial Trail also would be created as part of the design.

The boatyard is one of the projects in the North Olympic Peninsula Recompete Plan that in December was named a finalist in the federal Recompete program and could bring \$50 million to the Olympic Peninsula. The Recompete program would provide 100% of the funding for the port's boatyard expansion project that Berg estimated would cost roughly \$9.5 million. However, a final number won't be known until staff submit the application, which is due April 25.

KPTZ 91.9 FM brings you local news Monday through Friday at noon and 5pm and at noon on Saturday. You can reach out to us at news@kptz.org. This is Jim Burke. Thanks for listening.