

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I am Casey Dolan with your local news and commentary for Thursday, March 7, 2024.

According to a news release by Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue, 39-year-old Allyson Fredericksen, a human resources director at Columbia Legal Services in Seattle, was hiking at Dickerson Falls in the Kitsap Peninsula this past Sunday afternoon when she was killed by a falling tree. Fredericksen was with a group, but was the only individual struck by the tree. Another member of her group alerted emergency services and crews were dispatched around 2pm. However, before they arrived at the scene, they received another call from a nurse who reported Fredericksen had succumbed to her injuries. The rescue team assembled at the upper waterfall area where the rescue operation became a challenging recovery mission.

Because of the location of Fredericksen, the team launched what they describe as a “tech rescue recovery” using a basket and a low-angle rope system to bring her body up to the main road for access. Kitsap County Sheriff’s Office says that an official cause of death is pending and has announced it does not deem the incident to be suspicious. Dickerson Falls is the largest and uppermost of a series of three waterfalls located on private land in Dickerson Creek. It drops 50 feet in two separate steps and is reached via a 2.3-mile easy trail.

The *Peninsula Daily News* has updated the story on the arrest of James Kingsland as reported here on KPTZ last week. The Port Hadlock man was charged last Wednesday, following a crime spree that stretched from Agnew to the FedEx warehouse in Port Angeles, with two counts of second-degree burglary, one count of motor vehicle theft, with one count of second-degree theft, one count of motor vehicle theft, second-degree vehicle prowl, and third-degree malicious mischief. He said in Clallam County Superior Court that he was “led by God to do these crazy things.” Kingsland will be arraigned at 9am Friday in Clallam County Superior Court and remains in Clallam County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bail. Kingsland signed his acknowledgement of rights form as “Jesus Christ.”

One person was sent to Jefferson Healthcare hospital after an early fire this past Monday destroyed a house at Paradise Bay and Boat Drive, according to a news release from East Jefferson Fire and Rescue. Firefighters responded to 911 calls from neighbors around 2:30am and immediately began keeping the fire from spreading to nearby structures. Three fire engines, a water tender, and a medical unit responded along with a total of 19 personnel from several nearby agencies, such as Navy Region North West from Indian Island, which covered fire district vacancies during the incident.

Jefferson County will host a series of public meetings to discuss regulations regarding short-term rental properties. The county is looking for public input to determine if there is a need to change the existing regulations governing short-term rentals and, if needed, what sort of changes might be necessary. The discussion will center around Airbnb, Hipcamp, and similar options for transient or tourist accommodations that may be reducing long-term housing options for members of the workforce. These short-term rental platforms have boosted tourism revenues, but they also raise concerns about the shrinking availability of affordable long-term housing for local workers. The discussions will therefore also focus on how to maintain a healthy balance between supporting tourism and ensuring that the housing needs of the local workforce are met. Meetings are scheduled at 5:30pm at the following locations:

- Tuesday, March 12 at the Cape George Fire Station, 3850 Cape George Road in Port Townsend
- Wednesday, March 13 at the Tri-Area Community Center, 10 West Valley Road, Chimacum
- Thursday, March 14 at the Quilcene Community Center, 294952 U.S. Highway 101, Quilcene

The long-awaited opening of Hurricane Ridge's ski season enjoyed a reported 63 inches at Hurricane Ridge last weekend, which raised the water supply from 29% of needed water supply to 35%. 240 cars made the trek up the mountain on Saturday for the opening.

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. I'm Casey Dolan and I thank you for listening.