

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend. I'm Jim Burke with your local news and commentary for Thursday, October 31, 2024.

From the *Washington State Standard*: Arson incidents targeting ballot boxes in Vancouver, Washington, and Portland, Oregon remain under investigation by the FBI and local law enforcement. The Portland Police Bureau said yesterday they were looking for a 30 to 40-year-old white male suspect, with very short hair or balding, a thin-to-medium build, and a thin face. They believe the suspect is highly knowledgeable in metal fabrication and welding. And they said he may try to attack more ballot boxes.

In Washington, Clark County Auditor Greg Kimsey said the county recovered 494 ballots from the Vancouver box. Of those, 488 had enough information to identify the voters and 6 did not. Of the 488 ballots for which the voter could be identified, 345 of the voters have already received a replacement ballot. Some of these people got a replacement online and some had one sent to them. Replacement ballots are expected to go out this morning to the other 143 people who were affected. It remained unclear how many ballots might've been entirely burned.

Police said a vehicle linked to the incidents is most likely a 2001 to 2004 Volvo S60, more matte in color than a standard shiny finish in places, with a tan or light gray interior, after-market grill with Volvo emblem missing, dark wheels, unpainted body trim and no front license plate. The damaged Washington ballot box was at Fisher's Landing Transit Center in Vancouver. Voters who put their ballot in the box between 11am Saturday and Monday morning should go to www.votewa.gov to see if their ballot was received. To get a replacement, call the Clark County elections office at 564-397-2345 or send an email to elections@clark.wa.gov.

If you'd like to find out the status of your ballot anywhere in Washington State go to: <https://voter.votewa.gov/portal2023/login.aspx>. Voters in Jefferson County can also find out if their ballot has been accepted by going to <https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/1266/Elections>. Registration to vote can only be now done in person at the County Courthouse up until 8pm on Election Day November 5.

And, speaking of upcoming events, this Monday, November 4 at 9:45am KPTZ will broadcast the Public Health Report to the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners from Dr. Allison Berry, Public Health Officer for Jefferson and Clallam Counties; and Willie Bence, Director of Emergency Management for Jefferson County. KPTZ listeners still have time to ask questions of Dr. Berry and Willie Bence by sending an email to contactus@kptz.org by noon tomorrow, November 1.

From the *Peninsula Daily News*: The Clallam County Sheriff's Office is looking for information about two missing totem poles on the West End. The totem poles, which are about 15 years old and valued at \$10,000 each, are missing from the Quileute Tribe's 101 Building in Forks, La Push Police Chief Mike Foster said. There are no suspects, and no witnesses have come forward, the sheriff's office said in a press release.

Anyone with information is asked to call 360-417-2262, email Sgt. Sean Hoban at sean.hoban@clallamcountywa.gov or send an anonymous tip at <https://www.clallam.net/cnmaster-c/nwformeml.php>.

Lastly: A 6.0 magnitude earthquake rumbled off the Oregon Coast yesterday afternoon, about 170 miles west of Bandon. Washington emergency management officials noted that the quake occurred in what's known as the Blanco Fracture Zone, an area known for quake activity.

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. This is Jim Burke. Thanks for listening.