

This is KPTZ 91.9 FM in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Diane Walker, with your local news and commentary for Thursday, April 2, 2026.

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The Jefferson County Prosecutor's Office has issued a public alert about a growing scam in which fraudsters are contacting friends and family members of inmates at the Jefferson County Jail using spoofed phone numbers that appear to come from the jail or the court system.

Hoping to get victims to provide personal or financial information in order to hack existing bank accounts, open new credit cards, file fraudulent tax returns, or commit other forms of identity theft, the callers create urgency by claiming the inmate is in danger or needs medical care, and then claiming they can secure the inmates' immediate release or transfer to a treatment center for a fee. Anyone who receives such a call should hang up immediately and report the incident to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office at 360-385-3831.

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Now that fishing season is open, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is encouraging folks to switch from paper to mobile licensing. The Fish Washington® app, allows users to buy licenses, report harvests, and display their licenses directly from their smartphones and to send catch records automatically to the Department. In addition, the integrated maps, regulations, and species information support better trip preparation. To learn more about mobile licensing, visit <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/apps/mywdfw>.

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The grand reopening of the Jefferson County Historical Society's Museum of Art + History will take place at noon on Saturday. The museum will be open from 11am to 7pm for visitors to explore the reimagined space and join pop-up meet-and-greets with experts. They will also host Family Day from 11am to 4pm on Sunday. Throughout the weekend, guests can view "More Love," an exhibit by Martha Worley.

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The Port Townsend Farmers Market will also be opening this Saturday. Opening day festivities for its 34th season will include a community photo and ribbon cutting followed by the annual goat parade. Participants should begin gathering at Tyler and Lawrence streets at 8:45am for the community photo. The market officially opens at 9am, and the goat parade will kick off at 9:05.

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The Port Townsend Police Department has announced it will become officially accredited in May. The accreditation process, which occurs in phases and can take years to achieve, requires law enforcement agencies to prove compliance through written policies, police and incident reports, officer interviews, and on-site visits with a wide range of standards, including information technology, fiscal management, use of force, internal affairs, health and safety, recruitment and selection, and records management.

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According to the Port Townsend *Leader*, DUI arrests have been increasing substantially in recent years, and by February local police had already made 16 DUI arrests, which could mean a possible 96 arrests by the end of

the year. Police Chief Thomas Olson admits that with the police department more fully staffed, there are more folks available to enforce traffic stops and get intoxicated drivers off the road.

But part of the problem may also be that public transportation ceases to be available in the late evening, and taxi service in town is limited. The *Leader* conducted an informal survey of to gauge interest in ride-hail options (such as Lyft and Uber) and of those who responded, 80% agreed they would use a ride-hail option if available. 94% agreed that having that option could improve public safety.

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And finally, it's Easter weekend, and there are several Easter Egg hunts to choose from. The Friends of Fort Flagler will host an Easter Egg Hunt at 10am Saturday at the lower campground at Fort Flagler State Park – feel free to bring baskets. The Port Townsend Elks Lodge will host its 96th Easter egg hunt at 8am Sunday at Chetzemoka Park (a visit by the Easter Bunny is expected). And the annual Community Egg Hunt will start at noon Sunday at the parish hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (baskets will be provided). All three events will divide children into age groups to give the younger children a head start.

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KPTZ 91.9 FM broadcasts your local news Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at noon and 5pm. You can contact us at [news@kptz.org](mailto:news@kptz.org). I'm Diane Walker. Thank you for listening and have a great weekend.