



KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

614 DIVISION ST. MS-37 • PORT ORCHARD, WASHINGTON 98366 • (360) 337-5698 • FAX 337-4923

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Arrest made in South Kitsap homicide

Colchester, Wash. -- The tranquility of a beautiful Sunday in the South Kitsap community of Colchester was tragically marred with the late afternoon discovery of an elderly woman who was apparently murdered in her home.

The victim has been identified as Ruby P. Andrews, age 87.

An arrest has been made in connection with the woman's death. A 17 year-old male juvenile was taken into custody by sheriff's detectives, without incident, around 7:45 p.m. last night. The young man is a neighbor of the victim.

Sheriff's patrol deputies, together with engine and medic units from South Kitsap Fire & Rescue, responded to a residence in the 1000 block of Puget Drive East, concerning a 4:46 p.m. 9-1-1 report that a man had returned home and found his wife deceased and the house a scene of violence. The husband had been gone from the house from one to two hours.

On arrival deputies contained the area and secured the crime scene as detectives were notified and responded. Deputies learned that a vehicle registered to the husband was missing from the property, as was a .38 caliber revolver handgun. A description of the missing vehicle, a white-colored 1993 Cadillac DeVille, was broadcast to surrounding area law enforcement agencies, Puget Sound area broadcast and print media, and the state department of transportation.

During the initial stages of the investigation sheriff's detectives began to develop information about the male juvenile as a possible person of interest in connection with the investigation surrounding the woman's death.

At 7:18 p.m. a patrol deputy located the missing Cadillac DeVille abandoned in the parking lot of the Mariner's Glen apartments, behind a Domino's Pizza Store, about five miles from the Andrews' residence. A handgun was found inside of the vehicle. The Cadillac has been impounded pending a detailed evidence search.

In the meantime detectives had made contact with the 17 year-old male who had arrived in the area in the company of an adult relative. As the investigation progressed, sheriff's detectives developed probable cause whereby the young man was no longer a person of interest but now a suspect.

The juvenile was arrested and booked into juvenile detention on suspicion of murder, 1st degree, with additional charges possible. In accordance with RCW 13.04.030(1)(e)(v), he will make an initial appearance in Kitsap County Superior Court today at 3:00 p.m.

The investigation continues. Sheriff's detectives will be conducting a detailed evidence search of the Andrews' house as well as a search of the suspect's residence under authority of a search warrant. They will be assisted by investigators from the Washington State Patrol Crime Scene Response Team.

A motive for the victim's death is unknown right now. For the immediate time being, sheriff's detectives are not releasing information concerning what occurred inside the victim's residence, other than describing her death as due to homicidal violence.

An autopsy for Ruby Andrews is pending. The Kitsap County Coroner will make a determination as to cause and manner of death.

Additional details regarding this investigation will be made available to the public as determined by the sheriff's chief of detectives.

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