

Serving Black Diamond, Hobart, Maple Valley, Ravensdale & More  
[www.voiceofthevalley.com](http://www.voiceofthevalley.com) and <https://www.facebook.com/voiceofthevalley>

# VOICE of the Valley

55<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NUMBER 46  
 MAPLE VALLEY, WASHINGTON  
 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024



Sunday, November 3rd Pacific Raceways held its First Fall Motorsports Swap Meet at the track

Neither the cold or the on and off rain showers deterred those motorsports fans looking for a deal. There was everything from wheels, tires and tools as well as memorabilia including books and model cars to remind everyone of the good ole days of motorsports.

It was a fun event full of deals and bargains. If you missed this Swap Meet, not to worry as plans are already being made for the 6th Annual All Motorsports Swap Meet to be held in February of 2025. Need any more information, then check out [www.pacificraceways.com](http://www.pacificraceways.com) for all the details.

Photo by Bill Archer



## Kickoff of Local Plan

By Peter Rimpos, GMVUAC  
 Corresponding Secretary  
 On Monday, November 4, the Area Council held its regu-

lar monthly meeting at the Maple Valley Fire Station and via Zoom. Major topics discussed were: (1) Local Subarea Plan and (2) 2024 King County Com-

prehensive Plan Update.  
**Local Subarea Plan**  
 King County Principal Subarea Planners, Kaitlin Harris, and Kaelene Nobis, presented

a summary of results from the September 26 Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River (GMV/CR) Community Service Area (CSA) Subarea Plan kick-off Open

House held at the Hobart Community Church.

The Open House had 120  
 (Continued on page 2)

ARE YOU GETTING THE VOICE EACH WEEK?

**Guarantee You Don't Miss A Single Issue!!**  
 Call now to get a subscription and have it mailed to your home!

For only \$100 a year (52 issues) mailed directly to your home  
[billing@voiceofthevalley.com](mailto:billing@voiceofthevalley.com) or call 425-432-9696





(Continued from page 1)

attendees. Much information was collected on people's concerns, interests, etc. Primary among people's comments was to "Keep the Rural Area rural," which coincidentally happens to be the Area Council's motto.

Their Online Survey has received 2,845 responses from 301 individuals. They also have met with the Area Council many times, plus with representatives from adjacent Cities; Social Services (Maple Valley Food Bank, etc.); and School Districts.

Upcoming Tasks include: Publication of an existing conditions report; Publication of an engagement report; Initial drafting of plan chapters (building from existing conditions and engagement report); Hiring a Consultant to help with administrative development of the subarea plan; and Development of a Vision and a set of Principles, as well as a Themes survey.

For more on the subarea planning process please see: Subarea Planning (<https://kingcounty.gov/so-so/dept/local-services/buildings-property/development-planning-regulations/subarea-plans>).

For specifics, please see the Area Council GMV/CR CSA Subarea Plan (<http://gmvuac.org/gmvr-csa-subarea-plan/>) webpage.

2024 King County Comprehensive Plan Update (Update)

The Area Council continues to coordinate a Joint Rural Team of nine Unincorporated Rural Area Councils in participating in the Update—a 3-yr effort. The Joint Rural Team has offered multiple amendments to the Update.

The King County Council's remaining Schedule consists of the following events: Thursday, November 14—Striking Amendment (full draft of the Update) released to the Public. Monday, November 18—Proposed Councilmember Line Amendments released to the Public. Tuesday, November 19—11:00 AM Council Hearing with opportunity for Public Comment. Tuesday, December 3—1:30 PM Council meeting with final discussion and vote on approval.

More information can be found at: Update (<https://kingcounty.gov/so-so/dept/council/governance-leadership/county-council/useful-links/comprehensive-plan/2024>).

**Next Area Council Meeting**

The next Area Council monthly meeting will be held Monday, December 2 from 7 - 9:30 PM at the Maple Valley Fire Station at 22225 SE 231st St (across from the KC Sheriff's Precinct). Our Guest Speaker will be Meagan Jackson from Seattle-King County Public Health to discuss new rules for On-Site Septic Systems.

Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month (except for Holidays, when they are held on the second Monday). All meeting announcements, agendas, and Zoom information are posted on the Area Council's Website ([www.gmvuac.org](http://www.gmvuac.org)) and local NextDoor platforms. You can also find us on our FaceBook page (<https://www.facebook.com/GMVUAC/>). Each meeting begins with an open Public Comment period where anyone can voice concerns, comments, etc.

**Area Council Membership**

Your Area Council, founded in 1978, is one of the longest contin-

uously active local councils. It serves as an all-volunteer, locally recognized advisory body to King County on behalf of all rural unincorporated area residents living in the Tahoma School District (TSD). The Area Council, in "working to keep the Rural Area rural," collaborates regionally with other King County Rural Area organizations through both the Joint Team and its Joint Transportation Initiative.

The twelve-seat Area Council has four open seats. If you have an interest in joining, please send an e-mail to: GMVUAC ([info@gmvuac.org](mailto:info@gmvuac.org)) or attend (either in-person or virtually) a monthly meeting and express your interest. To be eligible to join the Area Council as a Member you need to live within the TSD.

Residents, even those not living within the TSD, are eligible to become Associate Members who can serve (including as Chair or Vice-Chair) on any Area Council Committee: Environment, Growth Management, Transportation, Public Relations, or Train Show. For information on each of these committees please see the Area Council's Website ([www.gmvuac.org](http://www.gmvuac.org)) and use the drop-down menu under Committees.

All Monthly Meeting Summary Articles can be found on our Home page in the 2024/2023 GMVUAC Monthly Meeting Articles box or by using the drop-down menu under Correspondence.

## Church Information and Services

**HOPE FELLOWSHIP**

Are you wondering if there's a God and what place He should have in your life? Join us Sundays! Sing to contemporary music. Hear the Bible explained simply. Keep your money. Wear normal clothes. Nursery and children's program provided. Did we mention coffee? Visit either at 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. or 6 p.m.

Hope Fellowship, 21115 Kent Kangley Road just past Sawyer's Village. 425-432-5114. [www.HopeFellowship.net](http://www.HopeFellowship.net)

\*\*\*\*\*

**MOUNTAIN VINEYARD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Join us for: •Practical Life Messages •Loving Family Relationships •Help to our Community •Contemporary Music. •Nursery, Kids Ministry, Teens & Adults.

We meet at 19001A SE 272<sup>nd</sup>, Covington • Sundays: 9:45 a.m. Pastor Jimmy John Morris at 253-631-6886. [www.mtnvineyard.org](http://www.mtnvineyard.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

**TAYLOR CREEK CHURCH**

A place for you to grow in your relationship with the Lord and fellowship with His people. We invite you to join us each Sunday for Sunday School Classes for all ages at 9 am, and for our Worship Service with verse-by-verse teaching of the Word of God at 10:15 am. (Children's Church and Nursery are provided through Kindergarten) A cry room is provided for nursing mothers with a video feed of the service.

We invite you to also join us throughout the week for personal encouragement and spiritual growth through Adult Small Group Bible Studies, Studies for Men, Studies for Women, as well as Youth Ministry (grades 7-12) and Adventure Club (ages 3 through grade 6).

We are located at 21110 244th Ave. SE (right off Hwy 18). For more information about our church or other activities, please call the church office at (425) 432-0634 or visit our website at [www.taylorcreekchurch.org](http://www.taylorcreekchurch.org). Senior Pastor: Jason Katen

Tahoma Band Boosters Present

# Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 16, 2024

10:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

Tahoma High School \*23100 SE Bear Blvd.\*Maple Valley, WA 98038  
west entrance

FOOD TRUCKS - CRAFTS - RAFFLE  
BAKE SALE - MUSIC - COFFEE BY BEAR BEANS

Free Admission

<http://www.tahomabandboosters.org/>

**Obituaries printed in VOICE**



Write up the memories you cherish about your loved one to pass on from generation to generation with an obituary in the VOICE of the Valley.

Obituaries can be placed by emailing [voice9696@comcast.net](mailto:voice9696@comcast.net)  
**Call 425-432-9696 for prices!!**

**Celebrate the miracle of life...**



Tell the world about YOUR new addition by putting a birth announcement in the VOICE of the Valley

[voice9696@comcast.net](mailto:voice9696@comcast.net) or call 425-432-9696

# When Coal Was King

By Bill Kombol

While Victor Tull is usually credited with discovering high-quality coal seams along the Green River Gorge, lower-quality coal had been noted in the area as early as 1873. That year, Edgar E. Morgan and others incorporated the Green River Coal Co. to exploit their finds. But nothing came of the effort due to a lack of transportation. In the 19th century, without a railroad, or another way to ship products, there could be no coal mine.

Seven years later, the Black Diamond Coal Mining Company financed Tull's expedition when he found those coal outcrops in July 1880. The California company discreetly purchase land and used straw men to file homestead claims. By January 1882, the Black Diamond Company began construction of what became Mine No. 14, named for the section of land where the mine took root. The mine sat on a knoll overlooking Jones Lake, also known as Lake 14.

Through cooperation with the Oregon Improvement Company, which planned its coal mines adjacent to the Green River Gorge, the Columbia & Puget Sound Railroad was induced to build a rail line from Renton through Black Diamond, then two miles east into Franklin. Both mining communities prospered and within 20 years, dozens of new towns sprouted up as coal mining became one of South King County's main industries.

As noted in last week's column by 1977 coal mining in Washington was a shadow of its former self and only two operations remained, both open pit surface mines. The Centralia Coal Mine fed the Big Hanaford power plant that generated up to 10% of Washington's electricity needs. Palmer Coking Coal Company's McKay surface mine in Franklin supplied coal to heat four Washington state institutions.

The first step in extracting coal by surface methods was to remove the trees and vegetation, then push the topsoil into stockpiles to expose the coal seam. Because the McKay vein in this location dipped into the earth at about a 45-degree angle, the bedrock overlying the coal had to be removed. That was accomplished by drilling holes into the sandstone down to the coal's level. Then with sticks of dynamite, electric detonating caps, and Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil (ANFO), the bedrock was blasted into small rocks and removed from atop the coal.

The coal, which is far softer and easily fractured, was next stripped from the ground as seen in this April 1977 photo. Jack Kombol, with a cigarette dangling from his lips, was operating a Koehring 405 excavating dragline. Kombol joined Palmer Coking Coal in 1952 after a dozen years driving garbage, tanker, and logging trucks, plus operating heavy equipment in the woods. Laverne Shercliffe Kombol was born to a school teacher mother, Lulu Shircliff, and a coal mining father, Tony Kombol in a short-



lived mining village of Hiawatha. He preferred being called Jack at an early age, contracted polio, and attended elementary school at Selleck, then high school at Enumclaw before dropping out his junior year. Jack Kombol died of pancreatic cancer two years after this photo was taken.

This image came from Louis

Corsaletti, who authored several articles about South King County's coal industry. The photo was colorized by Doug 'Boomer' Burnham, a Tahoma High School photography teacher who specializes in capturing the vibrant spirit of sports teams through custom graphic design, plus brings more than 20 years of insights to his projects. For further information about everything Boomer does, visit <http://www.boomersphotography.com/>

## VOICE Welcomes Letters

The VOICE of the Valley welcomes letters to the editor on any subject, although we reserve the right to edit for space, potential libel, and/or political relevance. Letters addressing local news will receive priority.

We prefer letters to be typed and E-mail is preferred. Letters must be signed and have a daytime phone number and address to verify authorship. Deadline for letters is 3 p.m. on Thursday each week.

Address: 26909 206th Ave SE, Covington, WA 98042  
E-mail: [voice9696@comcast.net](mailto:voice9696@comcast.net)





**9 AM to 3 PM**

**Dec. 14**

20+ Vendors

Kids' Activities

Food Trucks

Free Admission

**Great for last minute gifts!**

St. John the Baptist Church, 25810 156th Ave SE, Covington, WA

## WANT RESULTS?

Maximize your advertising investment with the

# VOICE of the Valley!

Affordable advertising rates!  
Call 425-432-9696 for a quote!  
Email [advertising@voiceofthevalley.com](mailto:advertising@voiceofthevalley.com)

**Emerald Theatre**  
Presents

# A Christmas Carol

Directed by EARLENE DELEON

Co-Produced by  
EMERALD THEATRE &  
MAPLE VALLEY CREATIVE ARTS COUNCIL

**DECEMBER 7, 8, 13, 14, 2024**

Friday & Saturday evening @ 7pm  
Saturday & Sunday matinee @ 2pm

Performances at the  
MAPLE VALLEY CREATIVE ARTS CENTER  
23220 Maple Valley Black Diamond Road SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038

General Admission: \$20.00  
Seniors / Youth 6-17 years / Military: \$15.00  
Children 5 & under: Free  
Group tickets: 10% discount for 10 or more tickets  
Discount code: scrooge24



Purchase Tickets online with QR code

A Christmas Carol made possible in part by  
The Norcliffe Foundation, Tulalip Cares, Starline Luxury Coaches,  
Garneau Nicou Family Foundation,  
Maple Valley Creative Arts Council & 4Culture

www.emeraldtheatre.org  
email: [info@emeraldtheatre.org](mailto:info@emeraldtheatre.org)



**wildernessvet.com**  
425.432.9975

Wilderness Animal Hospital is proud to serve the Maple Valley area for your pet's health care needs.

We're open Mon - Fri 7:30am - 7pm, and Saturday from 8am - 5pm  
**Book an appointment today!**



23714 222nd Pl SE, Suite L, Maple Valley | Located above QFC in the Wilderness Village Shopping Center

# Service Directory

Call 425-432-9696 or  
Email: [advertising@voiceofthevalley.com](mailto:advertising@voiceofthevalley.com)



## CLASSIFIED ADS

425-432-9696  
<https://www.voiceofthevalley.com>



**ACCOUNTING**

### SCHRAM Associates

Providing Accounting, Bookkeeping & Tax Prep Services for 30 Years!  
Licensed to practice before the IRS  
**253-639-0494**  
[www.schramandassociates.com](http://www.schramandassociates.com)

**HEATING**

**Complete Heating & A/C, Inc.**  
Furnace Tune-up Special \$149<sup>95</sup>  
•Furnaces •Water Heaters  
•Air Conditioners  
All Major Brands  
Puget Sound Energy Preferred Contractor  
**425-254-0031**  
COMPLHA036J3

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

**Deedle Dee's Creations**



Unique Gnomes and Wreaths for Sale  
Check Them Out At  
[www.deedledeescrations.com](http://www.deedledeescrations.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/deedledeescreations/>  
**Custom Orders Available**  
**206-713-8140**  
<https://www.facebook.com/deedledeescreations@gmail.com>

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Dick's Towing and Road Service, Inc. 8425 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 137. **Wednesday, November 20, 2024.** 2 hour preview @ 8-10 a.m. Auction: 10 a.m. For list of vehicles see [www.roadoneseattle.com](http://www.roadoneseattle.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, November 12, 2024)

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc., 1201 North 125th St., Seattle, WA 98133. 206-364-2000. **Saturday, November 16, 2024.** 3 hour preview @ 7-10 a.m. Auction @ 10 a.m. For list of vehicles see: [www.roadoneseattle.com](http://www.roadoneseattle.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, November 12, 2024)

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc., 8425 1st Ave S., Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 137. **Wednesday, November 20, 2024.** Preview 8-10 a.m. Auction @ 10 a.m. For list of vehicles see: [www.roadoneseattle.com](http://www.roadoneseattle.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, November 12, 2024)

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
**Thursday, November 14, 2024**  
@ Noon / Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.  
**Payless Towing & Recovery**  
33905 Pacific Hwy South  
Federal Way, WA 98003  
253-941-4565  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, November 12, 2024)

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
**Tuesday, November 19, 2024.**  
@ Noon / Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.  
**Payless Towing & Recovery**  
33905 Pacific Hwy South  
Federal Way, WA 98003  
253-941-4565  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, November 12, 2024)

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Rainbow Towing, 8333 219th St. S.E., Woodenville, WA 98072. **Saturday, November 16, 2024.** Preview @ 9 a.m. Auction @ 12 p.m.  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, November 12, 2024)

SIGN UP THIS WEEK BEFORE PRICES INCREASE!

**MAPLE VALLEY TURKEY TROT**  
RUN 5K WALK  
2024

**THANKSGIVING DAY @ LAKE WILDERNESS PARK!**

**6th Annual Maple Valley Turkey Trot**

Thanksgiving Day at Lake Wilderness Park 22500 SE 248th Street, Maple Valley, WA 98038. Thursday, November 28 at 9 a.m. Go to [bit.ly/maplevalleyturkeytrot](http://bit.ly/maplevalleyturkeytrot) for more information.

Join us for our 2nd Annual Ten Trails Turkey Trot 5k hosted by the Ten Trails Active Club! The race will be on Thursday, November 28 at 8:30 a.m. in Civic Park. Registration is open and free but must be done prior to race day with the link below. <https://tentrail-activeclu.wixsite.com/.../ten-trails>

**Find more news on our website**  
[www.voiceofthevalley.com](http://www.voiceofthevalley.com)  
**and be sure to like us on Facebook!**  
<https://www.facebook.com/voiceofthevalley>

**ASPHALT**

Quality Workmanship • Reasonable Prices  
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL

LAKERIDGEPAVING  
•Parking Lots •Driveways •Utilities  
Resurfacing •Sub-Divisions •Roadways  
•Play Courts •Excavating  
**COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AVAILABLE**  
Hours: M-F 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
**253-631-8290**

**AUTOMOTIVE**

**BLACK DIAMOND AUTOMOTIVE**  
Auto Repair & Muffler Shop  
Professional, Friendly Service  
**360-886-2800**  
32607 3rd Ave.  
Black Diamond

**Wilderness Auto Service**  
•Electronic Engine Tune-up  
•Complete Brake Service  
•Air Conditioning  
•Front End Alignment and Repair  
•Headlight Aim  
•Tire/Battery sales and service  
•Lubrication and Oil Changes  
A.S.E. Approved Mechanics  
**Open for Gas - 24 Hours**  
Mechanics 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Mon.-Sun.  
**425-432-1636**  
Free pickup and delivery

**CONCRETE**

Serving the community for over 30 years. Locally owned and operated.  
**Free Estimates - 206.510.2005**  
[rodneym@sbconcrete.com](mailto:rodneym@sbconcrete.com)  
SBCONL\*970BP  
Licensed\* Bonded\* Insured

**CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIES**

**MILLWORK OUTLET**  
Windows, Doors, Mouldings, Etc.  
Surplus and new building supplies  
Maple Valley 425-432-5185  
North Bend 425-888-5044  
[www.millworkoutlet.com](http://www.millworkoutlet.com)

**NOTARY**



**Need A Notary?**  
Notarize Your Documents At The  
**VOICE Of the Valley**  
\$8 A Page!  
**425-432-9696**

**PLUMBING**

**CAHILL'S PLUMBING & HEATING**  
Complete Plumbing and Drain Cleaning Service  
Large Repair Parts Inventory  
**425-432-1977**  
24 hr. service  
Commercial, Residential, Industrial  
Prompt Professional Licensed  
St. Contractors # CAHILPH150RKK

**Maryanski Plumbing LLC**  
New Installation Remodels  
**253-470-6164**  
Lic # Maryap\*926N8  
DBA Maryanski Plumbing  
Licensed, Bonded & Insured

**SAND & GRAVEL**

**PALMER COKING COAL CO**  
•Crushed Gravel: 3/8" 5/8" 1-1/4"  
• Drain Gravel: Pea 7/8" 1-1/2"  
• Sand/Rock  
• Top Soil/Bark  
• Red Cinders/Lava Rock  
U-Haul or We Deliver +Open Saturdays  
31407 Hwy. 169 - Black Diamond  
425-432-4700 360-886-2841  
[www.palmercc.com](http://www.palmercc.com)

**A BRIGHT idea:**  
Save Energy! Use compact fluorescent light bulbs with the ENERGY STAR® label.



PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY SINCE 1969!! ~ [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VOICEOFTHEVALLEY](https://www.facebook.com/VOICEOFTHEVALLEY) ~ Twitter @VOICENewsMV

# VOICE of the Valley Newspaper

[www.voiceofthevalley.com](http://www.voiceofthevalley.com) ~ Owner/Publisher - Donna Hayes ~ News and advertiing email: [voice9696@comcast.net](mailto:voice9696@comcast.net)

WEEKLY DEADLINES: Display Ads - Wednesday by 5 p.m. News Copy: Thursday by 3 p.m. Classified Ads: Friday by Noon

26909 206th Ave SE, Covington, WA 98042 ~ NOTARY SERVICE AVAILABLE ~ OFFICE - 425-432-9696