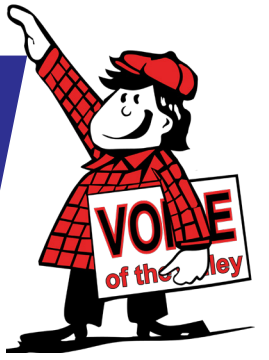


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# VOICE of the Valley

56<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NUMBER 12  
MAPLE VALLEY, WASHINGTON  
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2025



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# Seven Wonders

A group of geography students studied the "Seven Wonders of the World." At the end of the lecture, the students were asked to list what they considered to be the present-day Seven Wonders of the World. Although there was some disagreement, the following got the most votes: 1) the Great Pyramids of Egypt, 2) the Taj Mahal, 3) the Grand Canyon, 4) the Panama Canal, 5) the Empire State Building, 6) St. Peter's Basilica, and 7) the Great Wall of China.

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student, a quiet girl, hadn't turned in her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The quiet girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many possibilities." The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help." The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the Seven Wonders of the World are: 1) to touch, 2) to taste, 3) to see, 4) to hear. . ." She hesitated another moment and then continued, "5) to hope, 6) to laugh, 7) and to love."

The room became so silent it was deafening! You see, it is far too easy for us to look at the exploits of man and refer to them as "wonders" while we overlook all the amazing things God has done and regard them as merely "ordinary."

Psalm 40:5 says, "Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders which Thou hast done, And Thy thoughts toward us; There is none to compare with Thee; If I would declare and speak of them, They would be too numerous to count." The wonders of man can be counted on one's hands, while the infamous wonders of God are innumerable. Life itself is a wondrous and amazing gift from God. The failure to notice, declare, and live in light of it is to miss life altogether.

Go out and look at all of His wonders and then say with the Psalmist, "I WILL give thanks to the LORD with all my heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders. I will be glad and exult in Thee; I will sing praise to Thy name, O Most High" - Psalm 9:1-2.

Would you like to know more? We would love to speak with you. Call us at 425-432-0634, or contact us at [www.taylorcreekchurch.org](http://www.taylorcreekchurch.org). We invite you to join us for Sunday service: 9:00 AM for Sunday School and 10:15 AM for Worship. Address: 21110 244th Ave. S.E., Maple Valley.



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

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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



On 02/26/2025, at approximately 15:15 hours, officers observed a known subject driving a motor vehicle while her license was Revoked 1st Degree. Officers confirmed the driver's license status. A criminal citation for DWLS 1st Degree will be issued to the driver via mail.

On 02/26/2025 at approximately 1903 hours, an officer was flagged down in reference to a female attempting to locate her elderly husband. It was discovered the male drove to an unknown location nearby with his dog for a walk four hours earlier. The male failed to return home in a reasonable amount of time. With the assistance of KCSO the males vehicle was located in an unincorporated area of King County. The male was later found at his residence which he walked back to, after having a mechanical vehicle issue.

On 2/26/2025 at 2125 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department conducted a traffic stop at the 30400 block of 3rd Avenue after running the license plate and discovering the registered owner had a suspended driver's license. Officer's identified the driver as the registered owner and issued a criminal citation for the offense and an additional infraction for no insurance.

On 2/26/2025 at 2325 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department responded to a verbal domestic violence near the 22800 block of SE Fir St. It was reported that an ex girlfriend and ex boyfriend were arguing. Through investigation, Officer's discovered the argument was due to living situations and no crime had been committed and that the incident was verbal only.

On 2/28/2025 at 0505 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department responded to a CPR in progress near the 23200 block of SE Dogwood St. Prior to Officer's and Fire personnel

arriving, the patient regained consciousness and CPR was no longer needed. It was later determined the patient suffered from a seizure and Fire personnel transported them to a nearby hospital. Officer's cleared the scene.

On 03/01/2025, at approximately 00:50 hours, officers conducted a traffic stop in the 24300 Roberts DR. Officers discovered that the driver of the vehicle had a license that was Suspended/Revoked 3rd Degree. Officers issued the driver a criminal citation for DWLS 3rd Degree.

On 03/01/2025, at approximately 04:04 hours, officers were dispatched to a theft in the the 33300 block of Evergreen AVE SE. Officers arrived on scene and spoke with the victim, who told officers that her wallet was stolen and someone had recently attempted to make purchases in Maple Valley with her debit and credits cards. This investigation is ongoing.

On 03/02/2025, officers were dispatched to a welfare check at the 21600 block of SE 288th St. Dispatch advised that an anonymous caller advised that two juveniles were walking in the dark on the side of the roadway. Officers contacted the juveniles who advised that they were walking to their home that was 5 minutes away. Officers offered the juveniles a courtesy transport that was denied by the juveniles.

On 03/01/2025 officers were dispatched to a shooting at the 22400 block of Terrace Pl. Dispatch advised the incident was reported as a self inflicted gunshot wound. Officers responded to the scene and conducted a death investigation.

On 03/03/2025, at approximately 03:40 hours, officers observed a possible protection order violation

(Continued on page 4)

The Cedar Grange Presents:  
**2025 Spring Craft Bazaar!**  
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# When Coal Was King

By Bill Kombol



Six years before this early photo from early 1949, Bob Chambers, left, was in his early 40s, never married, and living in Seattle performing maintenance work. A Canadian immigrant, Robert Elmer Chambers became an American citizen on Nov. 8, 1943. Bob's naturalization papers listed him as 5'9" tall, 150 pounds, blue eyes, brown hair, medium complexion, single, with no children.

A lot happened in the ensuing six years. Bob Chambers purchased his father's gas station where the Enumclaw-Black Diamond Road intersects S.E. 416th Street. He was nearly blinded when a battery blew up in his face, but a poultice of tobacco juice and castor oil healed the wound. While digging a well, he fell on a wooden plank that impaled his lower body, after which a doctor told him he would never have children. So in early 1949, it was something of a miracle that Bob and Betty Jean (Hubbell) Saari were standing outside their Chambers Corner filling station holding identical twin boys, Robert and Richard. Over the next five years, Bob and Betty Chambers bore three more children, Marilyn, Eloise, and Bruce.

Together with two children from Betty's her first marriage, Dale and Barbara Saari, Bob and Betty raised seven kids while operating a business on the ground floor and living upstairs. For the next three decades, the entire family joined in pumping gas, cleaning windshields, checking oil, and selling auto supplies, food, and drink. They did so 16 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days per year, from 6 am to 10 pm. While Bob repaired and serviced vehicles, Betty primarily ran the store which sold soda, popsicles, candy, hand-dipped ice cream cones, cigarettes, plus a variety of groceries including milk, cheese, butter, oranges, lemons, sliced ham, sugar, flour, canned soup, and Langendorf bread.

But there was one convenience store staple the Chambers family didn't sell – beer, wine, or alcohol. Why? Betty Chambers didn't want the kind of customers booze drew in. According to Doug Walthers, in their early years after an ugly run-in with a late-night drunk, Bob declared, "We're not selling no more alcohol." It was a principled stand that's almost unthinkable today. Bob did make one exception. He always kept a bottle of whiskey in the cupboard that he mixed into with six-ounce Cokes to share with friends over a game of cribbage on the store counter. A nearby neighbor, John Kelly Shannon, generally known as 'old man Shannon' was a frequent cribbage guest.

All the Chambers and Saari children worked at the station and in the store. Eloise Chambers remembered, "The store was like our living room, where we kids watched television. Richard Chambers recalled, "Growing up was just working in the store." While all the kids got paid, Richard added, "But not that much." Richard also called to mind, "The store never really closed. If someone knocked at the door in the middle of the night, Bob would get up and pump gas." When telephone calls came in, they all answered the phone the same way, "Bob's Service." When asked for directions the stock answer was, "One mile north of Enumclaw on the Black Diamond Highway."

In addition to home-grown help, Bob and Betty hired local teenagers to pump gas and help run the store. Like the Chambers and Saari children, the hired help were paid by commission. Doug Walthers, an Enumclaw native hung around the station and store being close friends with Bruce Chambers. Doug explained Bob's commission system. The cash register was equipped with five keys, labeled A thru E, whose corresponding letter was punched in by whoever made the sale. On payday, Bob tallied each person's sale totals and paid them 3% of the gross.

Next week's final column of this five-part series will step inside the store that Bob and Betty Chambers operated for over 30 years. This chapter is indebted to Bob's step-granddaughter, Penny (Reich) Harp, daughter of Peggy (Reich) Chambers, who wrote her grandfather's biography while in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. And to Robert, Richard, Marilyn, and Eloise Chambers for sharing details about their family history. The youngest brother, Bruce passed away in Feb. 2012 at age 57. Doug Walthers is from Enumclaw Class of 1972 and lives nearby operating Walther's Honey Farm. Photo LP1025F comes courtesy of the Enumclaw Plateau Historical Museum located at 1837 Marion Street. Photo colorization was provided by Boomer Burnham, a Tahoma High School teacher doing business as: www.BoomersPhotography

## 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.

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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.

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## Black Diamond Police Reports

(Continued from page 2)

occurring in the 30600 block of 3rd AVE. Officers had seen a a vehicle that was registered to the respondent of the order travelling northbound on 3rd AVE in the direction of a residence he was not allowed to be at. Officers turned around and observed that the vehicle had pulled into the driveway of the residence and the vehicle had been turned off. Officers contacted the protected party, who denied that the respondent was at the residence. \*\*\*\*\*

On 03/03/2025, an Officer was dispatched to the 31100 block reference to a citizen assist. The complainant advised that Royal Towing would not allow him into his vehicle to retrieve belongings because he had no identification with him. The Officer verified the complainant's identity and provided that information to Royal Towing. \*\*\*\*\*

On 03/04/2025, at approximately 05:06 hours, officers were dispatched to an unwanted subject in the 32200 block of Morgan DR. The reporting party was an Uber driver who had a subject refusing to get out of his vehicle. Officers arrived on scene and woke up the subject, who was still located inside the Uber. The subject exited the vehicle with no further issue.

Keep our community safe. Talk to your kids about drinking and driving.

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## 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, April 2, 2025**  
2 hour preview @ 8-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.**  
For list of vehicles see [www.roadoneseatle.com](http://www.roadoneseatle.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, March 25, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc. 1201 North 125th St., Seattle, WA 98133 206-364-2000. **Saturday, March 29, 2025**  
3 hour preview @ 7-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.**  
For list of vehicles see: [www.roadoneseatle.com](http://www.roadoneseatle.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, March 25, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc., 8425 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108 206-364-2000 Ext. 1370. **Wednesday, April 2, 2025**  
Preview 8-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.**  
For list of vehicles see: [www.roadoneseatle.com](http://www.roadoneseatle.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, March 25, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Long Towing Inc., 652 Elliott Ave W., Seattle, WA 98119. 206-900-0005. **Friday, March 28, 2025** Viewing 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. **Auction at 10 a.m.**

Year	Make	Model	VIN #
2007	Hyundai	Santa FE	5NMSG13D77H012536
1995	Dodge	Caravan	2B4GH25K3SR154897

(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, March 25, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Payless Towing & Recovery 33905 Pacific Highway South, Federal Way, WA 98003. 253-941-4565  
**Thursday, March 27, 2025 @ Noon.** Viewing @ 11:30  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, March 25, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Payless Towing & Recovery - 33905 Pacific Hwy South, Federal Way, WA 98003 . 253-941-4565  
**Tuesday, April 1, 2025 @ Noon.** Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, March 25, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
Todd's Towing, 1410 East North Bend Way, North Bend, WA 98045. 425-888-3414.  
**Saturday, March 29, 2025.** Preview @ 9 a.m. **Auction at 10 a.m.**  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, March 25, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**  
US Towing, 24816 Pacific Hwy South, Kent, WA 98032. 206-824-3448.  
**Friday, March 28, 2025.** Viewing at 10 a.m. **Auction at 11 a.m.**  
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