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VOICE of the Valley

56TH YEAR, NUMBER 25
MAPLE VALLEY, WASHINGTON
TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2025



Since 1969



MOVIES IN THE PARK



WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 25

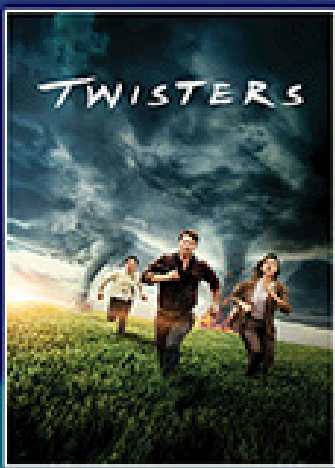
**SONIC THE
HEDGEHOG 3**

Kid's Root Beer
Float Party
@ 6pm



WEDNESDAY,
JULY 9

**BEETLEJUICE
BEETLEJUICE**



FRIDAY,
JULY 18

TWISTERS

Adult Movie Night
with Bingo and
Beer Garden
@ 6-9pm



WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 20

WICKED



SUNDAY,
AUGUST 31

**THE WILD
ROBOT**

Black Diamond
Labor Days
Movie Night

TEN TRAILS CIVIC PARK
Movies Start @ Sunset

OAKPOINTE
COMMUNITIES

Movies in the Park is brought to you by Oakpointe Communities

Grab your friends, pack your blankets and chairs, and join us for Movies in the Park all summer long! We'll be showing a mix of crowd favorites, with tasty eats from local food trucks and sweet treats from Blue Barn Kettle Corn. Movies begin at dusk — come early, grab some food, and enjoy a fun night under the stars!

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On June 7th and 8th Pacific Raceways held the 4th Annual “Full Blown Frenzy”. The nostalgia cars from the bygone days of drag racing took to the quarter mile track at “The Place to Race”. There were front engine dragsters, roadsters and the Box/No Box cars after 1988. In addition, were the cars of the Western 348/409 club. The exhibition cars included Pro Mods, Funny Cars, a Top Fuel Dragster, and new this year a Gasser class. Just to make things more exciting the TomaHawk Jet Car made a few passes as well. The weekend was filled with good weather and great racing action. Check out www.pacificraceways.com for all the racing still to come in 2025, and there is still time to get your tickets for the NHRA Muckleshoot Casino Resort Northwest Nationals coming July 18th-20th. Photo by Bill Archer



Black Diamond Police Reports

On 05/08/2025, at approximately 21:12 hours, officers were conducting a business check in the 30700 block of 3rd AVE. Officers were contacted by a brewery business owner, who reported that while she was closing her business, two male subjects had attempted to enter the building but were told they were closing. Approximately 15 minutes later the individuals contacted other patrons outside the business and asked them to sneak them in the back door. The patrons refused and the subjects left in a black sedan, unknown make/model. No crime occurred and the incident was documented for information only.

On 05/09/2025, an Officer responded to the 25500 block of Lawson St in reference to a fraud. The complainant advised that he shared sexually explicit photographs of himself with an unknown female online. He further advised that after sharing these photographs, the female has threatened to post the photographs online unless he sent her money. The complainant advised that he did send her money in the form of Bitcoin.

On 05-09-25, at approximately 11:43 hours, Officers received a call from Valley Communication Radio regarding a parking complaint. Officers were informed that a subject called 911 to report that a blue Dodge pickup was parked in the roadway in the 30700 block of 229th PL SE. Officers arrived at the location and contacted the owner of the vehicle. The owner moved his vehicle to a legal parking location. Officers cleared the scene without incident.

On 05/09/2025, officers observed a traffic violation at 23600 Roberts DR and initiated a traffic stop. Officers discovered the driver's license was suspended in the 3rd degree. Officers issued the driver with citations for the offenses.

On 5/9/2025 officers responded to a FLOCK hit advising of a stolen vehicle traveling southbound on 3rd AVE/Summit. Upon investigation it was found that the vehicle had recently been recovered by another agency and not yet removed from WACIC.

On 05/10/2025, at approximately 01:45 hours, officers were dispatched to a suspicious person in the 31100 block of 3rd AVE. Officers arrived on scene and contacted the subject. The subject continued walking and no crime was committed.

On 05/10/2025 Officers responded to the 32400 block of 2nd Ave reference to a suspicious vehicle. Upon arrival, Officers determined that the suspect was intoxicated and in physical control of his vehicle. The suspect was booked into jail

On 05/10/2025, an Officer was dispatched to the 32900 block of Crystal Lakes Ln reference to a civil standby. The complainant was requesting a standby while he picked up personal property from his wife's residence at the above listed location. The complainant's wife has a no contact order against him out of Black Diamond which does not allow him to have contact with his wife or be at her residence. The order allowed the complainant to have a standby to pick up property from the residence. Due to the complainant already having a standby on 04/28/2025, he was advised to contact the Black Diamond Court to see if he would be allowed an additional standby.

On 05/11/2025, officers were dispatched to an admin detail at 25510 Lawson ST. Dispatch advised that the Des Moines Police Department requested confirmation on a subject's Black Diamond Warrant. Officers

(Continued on page 4)

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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An Encouraging Word Taylor Creek Church

By Pastor Jason Katen



The Devil's Favorite Tool!

A story was once told that the Devil advertised his tools for sale at public auction. When the prospective buyers assembled, there was one oddly shaped tool which was labeled “Not for sale.” Asked to explain why this was, the Devil answered, “I can spare my other tools, but I cannot spare this one. It is the most useful implement that I have. It is called discouragement, and with it, I can work my way into hearts otherwise inaccessible. When I get this tool into a man's heart, the way is open to plant anything there I may desire.”

There is no question that discouragement is one of the greatest challenges that we face. Many times it is the beginning of a downward spiral that sinks many into depression, emptiness, and despair. We cry out to money, success, and possessions, thinking that in them lies the answer to contentment and happiness, only to find it empty as well.

What is the answer to this problem? How can I keep from or recover from discouragement? As it is true that the Bible tells us that “Satan is like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour” - 1 Peter 5:8, it is equally true that the Lord is like a rock that is not moved - Psalm 62:2. Those who do not rest upon Him will be easily discouraged. Yet, those who place their faith in Him and walk closely by Him will be able to stand firm.

Does this mean that we will never find ourselves discouraged? No, it means that we have a Rock to stand on when we become unstable and discouraged. King David said, “Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer. From the ends of the earth, I call to You, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe. I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings.” - Psalm 61:1-4. The prophet Isaiah says that the Lord “gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” - Isaiah 40:29-31.

Discouragement may be one of the Devil's greatest tools, and we know the world is full of it, but this is nothing new as the Lord Jesus said, “In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” - John 16:32. If you are discouraged and experiencing depression, get to higher ground, get to the Rock. Take refuge in the truth of God's word and not the lies of the Devil.

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. 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.



Church Information and Services

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Hope Fellowship, 21115 Kent Kangley Road just past Sawyer's Village. 425-432-5114. 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. Senior Pastor: Jason Katen



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JULY 19-20

SAT & SUN | 10AM-6PM

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When Coal Was King

By Bill Kombol

Over the past century, Congress adopted 48 days, weeks, or months for patriotic or national observances. Some are well-known, like Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, and Memorial Day. Most are unknown such as Pan American Aviation Day, Stephen Foster Day, Leif Erikson Day, National Forest Products Week, and Steelmark Month.

Flag Day fits somewhere in between. Few Americans can correctly identify its date of observance, June 14, or the week following that’s dedicated to flying the U.S. banner. Though 86% of Americans can correctly say there are 50 stars, only about three-quarters know there are 13 stripes. About half of Americans say they have a U.S. flag at home.

Bernard Cirgrand, a grade school teacher in Waubeka, Wisconsin held the first recognized observance of Flay Day in 1885. After 30 years of advocacy, Woodrow Wilson declared June 14 as Flag Day in 1916, a year before the U.S. entered World War I. In 1949, Congress established June 14 as National Flag Day, though it is not a federal holiday.

When the children and teachers of Kummer, Washington assembled near the schoolhouse steps for this 1913 photo, there were only 14 students in the Kummer School. That same year the U.S. flag grew to 48 stars with the recent addition of New Mexico and Arizona. The new flag’s 48 stars were assembled in a rectangle of six rows each with eight stars. The school had likely received the new flag and gathered to celebrate. The 48-star flag remained the same for nearly five decades until 1959 when Alaska and Hawaii were admitted as the 49th and 50th states.

Kummer was a small coal and clay mining town located south of Black Diamond on the Green Valley Road. The resource-rich area was discovered by Jacob Sants in 1888 and named for George Kummer, a ceramist and engineer for the Denny Clay Company. The Columbia & Puget Sound Railroad extended a branch line to Kummer in 1897. There were 33 students listed on the 1896 Kummer school census. This 600-sf schoolhouse was built circa 1898 with its water source from a well.

The Denny-Renton Clay and Coal Company, which had extensive operations in Taylor, east of Hobart, owned the town. Corporate ownership changed hands but shale and fire clay continued to be mined. Coal was also mined at Kummer into the 1950s by the Johnson Coal Company, Richard Wetten and Campbell Co., and finally Palmer Coking Coal Co. which closed the last Kummer mine in 1956.

One of Kummer’s most prominent early families was that of John Henry Pritchard, who served as the mine superintendent until he was killed in 1894, after being crushed while riding a horse-drawn coal car. Bayard T. Plass moved his family nearby and in 1920, purchased 77 acres of timberland from Pacific Coast Coal Co. The Plass Road, also known as 257th Ave. S.E. was named in his honor.

The Callero family is another well-known Kummer name. Domenico and Rose Callero immigrated to the area in 1899 where Domenico found work in the Black Diamond coal mines. The couple bore seven children and many third and fourth-generation offspring continue to live in the area. Domenico acquired the Kummer schoolhouse in 1930. After moving it from ‘Johnson’s Hill’ to his property, it was converted it to a barn. After his father died, Andy Callero, the second-born son, acquired the property in 1962 and revitalized the little red schoolhouse where he, his brothers, and sisters were once schooled.

Callero later owned and operated Andy’s Place, a gas station and tavern located at the intersection of Green Valley Road and



Highway 169. The gas station closed down but the tavern and café remained, later called the Boondocks when operated by Joe and Marie Webby. Today the same commercial property at 24838 Enumclaw-Black Diamond Road is owned by Granite Tile, Inc.

The school closed down in 1918 when the Kummer district was absorbed into Black Diamond which in turn was annexed to the Enumclaw School District in 1975. Five of the 14 students were identified on the back of this photo that originally belonged to Andrew Callero. **Front row:** Margaret (Plass) Dodge –2nd from left holding the flag; Louis Callero – 4th from left above the first star; Annie (Mustonen) Peltola 7th from left in a blue dress with white collar. **Second Row:** Frank Callero – 4th from left in a blue coat and white shirt; Andrew Callero 6th from left on the end. The two teachers are 1st and 2nd from left standing on the stairway with one older girl.

The former Kummer school building, later expanded to 1,140 sf, still stands on tax parcel 262106-9003. It is privately owned by Daniel and Deanna Humphreys who live next door. The red schoolhouse is located on the south side of S.E. Green Valley Road, 200 feet west of its intersection with 257th Ave. S.E. The side of the building is painted in bold letters reading, “This is Kummer, formerly School District 123, home of the lonely red schoolhouse.”

This photo and other information about the Kummer school come courtesy of JoAnne Matsumura, an Issaquah historian and collector. Photo colorization was performed by Boomer Burnham, a Tahoma instructor who operates <http://www.boomersphotography.com/>



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ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Dick's Towing and Road Service, Inc. 8425 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 137. **Wednesday, June 25, 2025.** 2 hour preview @ 8-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.** For list of vehicles see www.roadoneseattle.com
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, June 17, 2025)

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ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc. 1201 North 125th St., Seattle, WA 98133 . 206-364-2000. **Saturday, June 21, 2025.** 3 hour preview @ 7-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.** For list of vehicles see: www.roadoneseattle.com
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, June 17, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc., 8425 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 1370. **Wednesday, June 25, 2025.** Preview 8-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.** For list of vehicles see: www.roadoneseattle.com
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, June 17, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Payless Towing & Recovery 33905 Pacific Highway South, Federal Way, WA 98003. 253-941-4565. **Thursday, June 19, 2025 @ Noon** Viewing @ 11:30.
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, June 17, 2025)

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Skyway Towing & Recovery RTTO 5191 & RTTO 5023 2025 S 341st Pl., Federal Way, WA 98003. **Tuesday, June 24, 2025** - Viewing: 12:30 - **Auction 1:30 p.m.** See list at skywaytow.com
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, June 17, 2025)

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Stan's Mt. View Towing Inc #5254 will sell to the highest bidder the 9 abandoned vehicles on TUESDAY, **JUNE 24, 2025 at 2 p.m.** prior inspections will be from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. The sale location is at 9000 Delridge Way SW, Seattle, WA 98106.
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, June 17, 2025),
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(Continued from page 2)

confirmed the warrant. The subject was transported and booked into SCORE jail.

On 5/11/2025, officers responded to the 32300 block of Evergreen Ave SE for a theft of a package. Suspect and vehicle information was identified on security cameras nearby. The suspect involved has not been identified. The case will closed pending additional information being located.

On 05/12/2025 Officers were dispatched to the 22500 block of SE 304th PL in regard to a report of an individual bitten by a dog. Officers contacted the individual who was medically evaluated by Fire personnel, and remained on scene until King County Animal Control Officers arrived to investigate the incident.

On 5/13/2025, the Black Diamond Police Department was requested by the Washington State Patrol to conduct an area check for a male walking northbound on Enumclaw Black Diamond Rd SE at approximately 0105 hours. Officer's located the male outside of city limits and were advised he was transient. Officer's provided the male subject with shelter resources and an emergency blanket. Through investigation, Officer's determined involuntary commitment criteria had not been met and cleared the call.

On 05/13/2025 at approximately 2101 hours, officers were dispatched to the intersection of 3rd Ave and Baker Street in reference to a female yelling and making noise a the bus stop. Officers located a female matching the description sitting at a bus stop in the 25300 block of Baker Street. The female was not making any noise at the time. Officers found the female at this location was in need of a ride and provided it to a location in Covington.

On 05/13/2025 at approximately 2118 hours, officers were dispatched to the intersection of 3rd Ave and 1st Ave in reference to a male under a tree who had been there all day. Upon arrival,

officers located a male with his belongings beside a tree in the 32600 block of 3rd Ave. The male was positively identified by law enforcement but requested no assistance. The male had been contacted in a different location earlier this date by officers and given resources at that time.

On 5/14/2025, a citizen reported a male subject had been living under a tree in the 32800 block of 3rd AVE. They identified themselves as the property owner and requested the subject be moved a long. Officers went to the location and attempted contact. The subject was unable to be located.

On 5/14/25, Officers were dispatched to a theft report. Upon contacting the reporting party officers learned the subject was reporting case 240000343 had been a false report. Officers collected 53 pages of documents from the reporting party, reviewed them, and did not find probable cause that a crime had been committed.

On 05/14/2025 Officers were dispatched to a phone report of suspicious activity occurring in the 32000 block of Morgan DR. A report was filed to document potential drug related activity in the area.

On 5/14/2025, officers took a subject into custody for a City of Renton Warrant at the Black Diamond Municipal Court in the 25500 block of Lawson St. The subject was transferred to a Renton Police Officer for booking into jail.

On 05/14/2025, at approximately 20:58 hours, officers were dispatched to the 23500 block of SE Jasmine ST for a suspicious subject. Officers were advised that a male subject was knocking on doors soliciting. Officers arrived in the area and attempted to locate the subject but were unsuccessful.

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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.

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