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VOICE of the Valley

56TH YEAR, NUMBER 34
MAPLE VALLEY, WASHINGTON
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025



Community Welcomes New Artful Additions to Lake Wilderness Arboretum



A beautiful evening of art, nature, and community spirit came together on Tuesday, August 19, as the Maple Valley Creative Arts Council and the Lake Wilderness Arboretum hosted a special dedication event in the Children's Garden. The event marked the unveiling of eight handcrafted steel animal and bird sculptures created by Ravensdale artist Jenn Brown. Tucked playfully among the plants and pathways, the sculptures formed the basis of a family-friendly **Animal Scavenger Hunt** that delighted children and adults alike. "We wanted to create something that sparked imagination and curiosity in the garden," said Arboretum's director, Susan Goodell. "Each sculpture is a tribute to the wildlife we're lucky to see in our forests."

The festivities began



Guests explore the whimsical steel animal sculptures during the dedication event at the Lake Wilderness Arboretum's Children's Garden on August 19. Artist Jenn Brown's creations are now a permanent feature in the garden.

with a welcome from organizers, a short dedication ceremony, and self-guided tours through the garden. Guests enjoyed searching for the cleverly placed creatures, which included a coyote, owl, deer, rabbit, songbirds, duck and ducklings, and woodpecker — all blending seamlessly with the natural landscape. Attendees were especially captivated by the challenge. "I truly enjoy the local, organic approach — I found the coyote hiding in the woods!" said Deputy Mayor of Maple Valley, Dana Parnello, proudly holding up his completed scavenger card. Following the garden tour, guests proceeded to the Perennial Garden to enjoy a free **Summer Concert** at the Arboretum, continuing the



evening's celebration with music under the trees. "This partnership between the Arts Council and the Arboretum really brings our community together in a joyful, creative way," said one attendee. "It's great to see families out here exploring and celebrating something so unique." The sculptures will remain a permanent installation in the Children's Garden, and scavenger hunt cards will be available at the information booth, offering a lasting and interactive experience for future visitors.

For more information about upcoming events or to support community arts initiatives, visit maplevalleyarts.com.

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Black Diamond Police Reports

On 7/28/2025 at 00:10 hours, officers observed a vehicle exhibiting driving behavior consisted with a DUI driver. Officers conducted a traffic stop at the 33100 block of 3rd Ave. Upon contacting the driver and determined that probable cause existed on the driver for the crime of DUI. The driver was taken into custody and booked into a correctional facility.

On 07/28/2025 an officer responded to the 22100 block of SE 296th St reference to a road hazard (dead deer in the roadway). Upon arrival the deer was located and Public works responded and removed it.

On 07/28/2025, an Officer was dispatched to a Juvenile problem at the 32100 block of Bruckners Way. Complainant advised that juveniles were riding dirt bikes up and down the roadway. I responded and located the juveniles, the dirt bikes and the father of the juveniles at the above listed location. The father was advised that although the dirt bikes were registered, he could be criminally charged for authorizing his unlicensed children to ride them on the roadway. The father advised that it would not happen again.

On 7/28/2025 at 1947 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department responded to a domestic disturbance near the 33100 block of Ten Trails Pkwy SE. The reporting party stated they could hear their neighbors fighting, but did not have visual. Officer's arrived on scene and discovered a male and female verbally fighting. Through

investigation, Officer's determined no crime had been committed and the parties separated for the remainder of the evening.

On 07/30/2025, Officers were dispatched to an overdose in the 25000 block of Roberts DR. Officers arrived on scene and observed an individual showing symptoms of an opiate overdose. Officers administered NARCAN to the subject. FIRE arrived on scene and began treating the patient. Due to the subject being unable to care for self officers had the subject involuntarily committed for medical treatment. Officers took the subjects personal property to be stored for safekeeping.

On 7/31/2025, an officer confirmed a warrant for a subject who Kent Police was in contact with. Kent Police transported the subject to SCORE Jail for booking. The subject suffered a medical emergency and was transported to the hospital instead.

On 8/1/2025, officers responded to the 32500 block of Railroad Ave for a report of an overdose. The subject was evaluated by the fire department before being transported to the hospital for a mental health evaluation.

On 08/01/2025, officers were dispatched to a CPR in progress at the 33100 block of 3rd Ave. Officers responded to the scene and administered CPR. Medical personnel arrived shortly after and continued life saving efforts on the subject. The subject was pronounced deceased on

scene. Officers conducted a death investigation and the body was held by King County Medical Examiners.

On 08/02/25, officers were dispatched to a complaint of loud music at the 32500 block of Lawson St. Officers located a subject playing loud music. Officers advised them of the Black Diamond noise ordinance and they agreed to turn the music down.

On 08/03/25, Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 31500 block of 3rd AVE. The driver was an unlicensed minor. The guardian showed up to the scene and was issued a notice of infraction for allowing an unauthorized minor to drive and the driver was issued a verbal warning.

On 8/3/2025 at 0237 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department contacted multiple subjects after dusk at the Lake Sawyer Boat Launch, located at 22480 Se 296th St. It was later discovered one of the subjects had a felony warrant. The warrant was confirmed and the subject was taken into custody and booked into a nearby correctional facility.

On 8/3/2025, an officer responded to the 28800 block of 228 AVE SE for a welfare check on a subject sleeping in a vehicle. The subject was awake when the officer arrived. The subject declined assistance and declined field sobriety tests.

On 08/03/2025, officers were dispatched to a request for extra patrol at the 29200 block of 217th PI SE. Dispatch advised the caller reported unauthorized juveniles inside their gated community. Officers conducted an area check and located 3 juveniles on dirtbikes in the area. Officers attempted to contact the juveniles who recklessly fled the scene. Officers did not pursue the juveniles.

On 08/03/2025, officers contacted an occupant of a parked vehicle at the 30400 block of 3rd Ave, who had a suspended drivers license. The vehicle was parked on private property at a local business. Officers warned them not to drive on the public road with their suspended license status. Shortly after, officers observed the same vehicle enter the public roadway. Officers initiated a traffic stop and issued the driver a criminal citation for the offense.

On 08/03/2025 at approximately 1940 hours, an officer observed a vehicle stopped suspiciously in the parking lot of the Lake Sawyer Regional Park located at 31500 Lake Sawyer RD SE. Upon the officer checking the parking lot and the vehicle, it was discovered the vehicle had been entered as stolen less than an hour prior by KCSO. Occupants of the vehicle appeared to have been checking parked vehicles for valuables as an officer approached. The vehicle fled the location at a high rate of speed, officers did not pursue. The vehicle was documented by Flock Cameras immediately leaving the city and driving to the city of Seatac.

On 8/4/2025 at 0021 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department contacted a known felony warrant subject located at the 31500 block of 3rd Avenue. Officer's detained

(Continued on page 4)

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An Encouraging Word Taylor Creek Church

By Pastor Jason Katzen



Knowing Your Time

We know that time passes quickly in this life. It seems that our weeks have become like days. We are busy pursuing goals, caring for our families, and living the American dream. NBC's News reporter David Bloom was living the American Dream. He was also a man who knew his time.

David Bloom was at the height of his journalistic career as an embedded reporter with the U.S. Army's Third Infantry Division in Iraq; he was doing his job of keeping those abroad informed. On April 6, 2003, Bloom sent an email to his wife. This email would be one that would become cherished by his wife and children as it was only a short time after Bloom pushed the send icon that he died from a blood clot. In his email to his wife, he wrote that he was at the top of his career but said: "It's nothing compared to my relationship with you and the girls and Jesus."

There was no way for Bloom to know that his time here on this earth would be so short, but that did not matter, he already knew his time. He knew that there was nothing more important in this world than Jesus Christ. Knowing Christ makes everything else relative in relation to how long we live. This is what Jesus told Thomas as recorded in the gospel of John, "Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way where I am going. Thomas said to Him, 'Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?' Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me." - John 14:1-6.

When we are sure of our eternal future, everything is secure. How about you, are you sure? You can be sure today. Call us at 425-432-0634 or go to www.taylorcreekchurch.org and read about God's gift at Christ's cost. You may also join us each Sunday, 9 AM for Sunday school and 10:15 AM for Worship. We are located at 21110 244th Ave. S.E., Maple Valley.



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

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. Senior Pastor: Jason Katzen

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
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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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MAPLE VALLEY Creative Arts Council

Poppy Purse Productions

When Raleigh, a struggling singer in Los Angeles, returns to her small Texas hometown to collect her late mother's belongings, she expects nothing more than closure. Instead, she uncovers a collection of random objects — each one holding a story shared with her mother's longtime nurse, Anna Mae. But the past has more to reveal.

A visit from a mysterious professor sets off a chain of revelations that challenge everything Raleigh thought she knew. With a Native American talking stick as the narrative thread,

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Are these stories real or imagined? Is her mother's dementia distorting the truth — or revealing something deeper? The Talking Stick is heartfelt, humorous, and deeply moving — a poignant exploration of memory, identity, and the ties that bind us.

Reserve your seat today for one of the dates below: <https://mvvac.ludus.com/200493453>

**Sept. 26 @ 7:30 PM: Sept. 27 @ 2:00 PM: Sept. 27 @ 7:30 PM
Sept. 28 @ 2:00 PM: Oct. 3 @ 7:30 PM: Oct. 5 @ 2:00 PM**

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When Coal Was King

By Bill Kombol

As a working-class town, Labor Day has long been Black Diamond’s biggest celebration. It’s the day they close Highway 169 for a few hours to stage a parade on what Black Diamond calls Third Avenue. It’s two streets east of Railroad Avenue, where locomotives once pulled scores of loaded coal cars to Seattle’s waterfront, where they were loaded for shipment up and down the West Coast.

Black Diamond’s first coal mine, Mine #14, shipped its first train load of coal in December 1884. By May 1885, a one-week strike organized by the Knights of Labor won Black Diamond’s miners a pay increase. And for most of the first 90 years, when coal was being mined and shipped from Black Diamond, labor unions have played an important role in speaking on the coal miners’ behalf.

The Knights of Labor was America’s largest labor union in the 19th century, claiming nearly one million members. By the mid-1880s, over 20% of all workers were affiliated with the Knights. However, after the Haymarket Riot of 1886, the organization collapsed, and nearly 90% of its members left.

Four years later, on Jan. 25, 1890, a new union was born to lead Black Diamond’s coal miners to the promised land – the United Mine Workers of America, or UMWA. Eight years after its founding, on April 1, 1898, the UMWA achieved the eight-hour day for its members. The 25th anniversary of UMWA’s founding was celebrated in the Morganville Union Hall, pictured above.

The Morganville Union Hall was located at 32522 Buena Vista Drive, on Block 6, Lot 18. It was built in 1922, measuring 36 feet by 70 feet deep, with two stories. It rested on a full basement foundation with an eight-foot ceiling height. The Union Hall burned to the ground in May 1945, according to a report Abramo Pennacchi (1881-1958) filed with the Assessor on July 12, 1945.

This King County Assessor photo of tax lot 564260-0275, taken Nov. 22, 1939, comes courtesy of JoAnne Matsumura, an Issaquah historian. At the time of the photo, the property deed was held by H.J. Allsopp, as trustee of the United Mine Workers District 10. Photo enhancements were provided by Doug “Boomer” Burnham, who teaches photography skills at Tahoma High School.

In Black Diamond, efforts to organize under the United Mine Workers umbrella were generally unsuccessful until 1907. After the Union began meeting at the railroad depot, now the Black Diamond History Museum, Pacific Coast Coal (PCC) officials, who operated as a company town, prohibited further assemblies there. As a result, workers gathered half a mile west, 75 feet across the section line, and beyond company property. Workers assembled at a large Douglas fir tree stump where speeches were given. The Union Stump is now encased in concrete, located in a quarter-acre triangular park due north of the Black Diamond Cemetery.

Shortly thereafter, Local 2257 of the UMWA was organized. And without a strike, the Union obtained the eight-hour day and wage increases for Black Diamond’s miners. For the next 12 years, labor peace generally held. Wages rose, fueled by higher coal prices, as



production boomed. The WW-I years were particularly fruitful in Washington State as coal output set the all-time record of over four million tons.

With peace in Europe in 1918, came a fall in production and lower coal prices. Workers agitated for higher wages, but in 1921, the union miners were locked out by Pacific Coast and replaced by strikebreakers. A bitter labor dispute followed, and union miners were forced from company houses located in the PCC-controlled townsite.

An old coal miner named Tim Morgan, who owned the Union Stump property, again came to the assistance of the miners by donating a large section of his property to the union. Over the next year, nearly 200 homes were built by locked-out coal miners in an assembly line fashion on Morgan’s property. That part of

town has been called Morganville ever since. Tim Morgan is buried in the nearby Black Diamond cemetery.

The labor dispute ended in 1922, and most of the union miners got their jobs back. But King Coal’s days were over – five years later, Black Diamond’s largest and most successful Mine No. 11 closed. The New Black Diamond Mine opened between Maple Valley and Renton, and many of the town’s miners began working there. But over time, the coal mines closed and workers found employment by commuting to jobs with growing companies like Pacific Car & Foundry and Boeing. Underground coal mining came to an end in 1975, when the nearby Rogers No. 3 mine closed, though surface mining continued locally for another 25 years.

This weekend, Black Diamond celebrates Labor Day with the annual parade at 10 am on Monday, plus a host of events including Doggy Day, Citizen Awards, games, and a free movie on Sunday. For more information, go to the Black Diamond Labor Days’ Facebook page or check out their website: www.BlackDiamondLaborDays.org



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Black Diamond Police Reports

(Continued from page 2)

the subject and were later notified that the warrant was confirmed. The subject was then placed into custody, transported, and booked into a nearby correctional facility.

On 08/04/2025 at approximately 1754 hours, an officer was dispatched to the intersection of 3rd Ave and Roberts Drive, in reference to a crash notification from a cell phone. Upon checking the area no collision was located. A phone was located on the ground near the intersection and through investigation it was found the device was the responsible for the notification. The owner of the phone was located and provided with phone a short time later.

On 8/4/2025 at 2052 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department responded to a suspicious subject near the 26200 block of Lawson St. The reporting party advised 2 unknown males were seen climbing a nearby water tower. Through investigation, Officer's discovered the males at the water tower were city employee's conducting job specific duties. Officer's advised the reporting party and cleared the scene.

On 8/5/2025 at 0017 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department responded to suspicious activity near the 28900 block of 229th PL SE. The reporting party advised they heard a loud thud outside of their home and when looking outside, discovered multiple items knocked over and moved. Officer's conducted an area check but were unable to identify anyone or anything that may have been the cause of the suspicious event.

On 08/07/2025, Officers were dispatched to the 31100 block of 3rd AVE for a suspected intoxicated subject who was reportedly heard yelling and throwing items outside. Officers arrived on scene, contacted, and identified the subject. It was determined no crime had occurred.

On 8/7/2025, an officer responded to the 31100 block of 3rd Ave for a citizen assist. The officer confirmed a subjects identity so they could retrieve their property.

On 08/07/25, an officer was parked at the 30300 block of 216th Ave SE where they observed a vehicle exhibit erratic driving behavior. Officers contacted the driver of the vehicle and determined probable cause for the crime of DUI. Officers arrested the driver transported them to SCORE jail where they were medically declined. Officers transported the driver to Covington Multicare where they were cited and released.

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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, September 3, 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, August 26, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc.** 1201 North 125th St., Seattle, WA 98133 . 206-364-2000. **Saturday, August 30, 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, August 26, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc.,** 8425 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 1370. **Wednesday, September 3, 2025.** Preview 8-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.** For list of vehicles see: www.roadoneseattle.com
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, August 26, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Payless Towing & Recovery** 33905 Pacific Highway South, Federal Way, WA 98003. 253-941-4565. **Thursday, August 28, 2025 @ Noon** Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, August 26, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Payless Towing & Recovery** 33905 Pacific Hwy South, Federal Way, WA 98003. 253-941-4565. **Tuesday, September 2, 2025 @ Noon** / Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, August 26, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Todd's Towing,** 1410 East North Bend Way, North Bend, WA 98045. Auction: **Saturday, August 30, 2025.** Preview @ 9 a.m. **Auction at 10 a.m.** 425-888-3414.
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, August 26, 2025)

LEGAL NOTICES

Court of Washington County of King
In re the Estate of Dorothy Pieter James van Zee, Deceased.
No. 25-4-05615-2 KNT Probate Notice to Creditors (RCW 11.40.030)
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The above Court has appointed Pieter James van Zee as Personal Representative of Decedent's estate
Any person having a claim against Decedent must present the claim:
•Before the time when the claim would be barred by any applicable statute of limitations, and
•In the manner provided in RCW 11.40.070:
•By filing with the Court the original of the signed Creditor's Claim, and
•By serving upon or mailing by first class mail to me at the address provided below a copy of the signed Creditor's Claim.
The Creditor's Claim must be presented by the later to occur of:
•Thirty (30) days after I served or mailed this Notice to you as provided in RCW 11.40.020(3), or
•Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice.
If the Creditor's Claim is not presented within the foregoing time period, the claim will be forever barred except as provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective for claims against both the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets.
Date of First Publication of this Notice: Tuesday, August 26, 2025. Dated: August 18, 2025
/s/ Jennifer A. Gellner: Jennifer A. Gellner, Gellner Law, Attorney for Personal Representative, WSBA #30701 Address for Mailing of Service: Jennifer A. Gellner, Gellner Law, 8407 S. 259th Street, Suite 203, Kent, WA 98030-7536
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesdays, August 26, September 2 & 9 2025)

Court of Washington County of King
In re the Estate of Dorothy Lee Howard, Deceased.
No. 25-4-05563-6 KNT Probate Notice to Creditors (RCW 11.40.030)

The above Court has appointed Leo Howard, Jr as Personal Representative of Decedent's estate
Any person having a claim against Decedent must present the claim:
•Before the time when the claim would be barred by any applicable statute of limitations, and
•In the manner provided in RCW 11.40.070:
•By filing with the Court the original of the signed Creditor's Claim, and
•By serving upon or mailing by first class mail to me at the address provided below a copy of the signed Creditor's Claim.
The Creditor's Claim must be presented by the later to occur of:
•Thirty (30) days after I served or mailed this Notice to you as provided in RCW 11.40.020(3), or
•Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice.
If the Creditor's Claim is not presented within the foregoing time period, the claim will be forever barred except as provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective for claims against both the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets.
Date of First Publication of this Notice: Tuesday, August 26, 2025. Dated: August 20, 2025
/s/ Jennifer A. Gellner: Jennifer A. Gellner, Gellner Law, Attorney for Personal Representative, WSBA #30701 Address for Mailing of Service: Jennifer A. Gellner, Gellner Law, 8407 S. 259th Street, Suite 203, Kent, WA 98030-7536
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesdays, August 26, September 2 & 9 2025)

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