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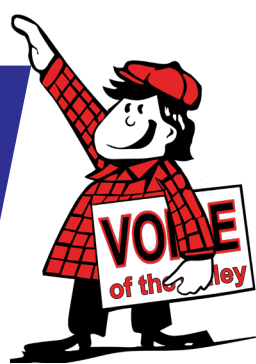
# VOICE of the Valley

56<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NUMBER 37

MAPLE VALLEY, WASHINGTON

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

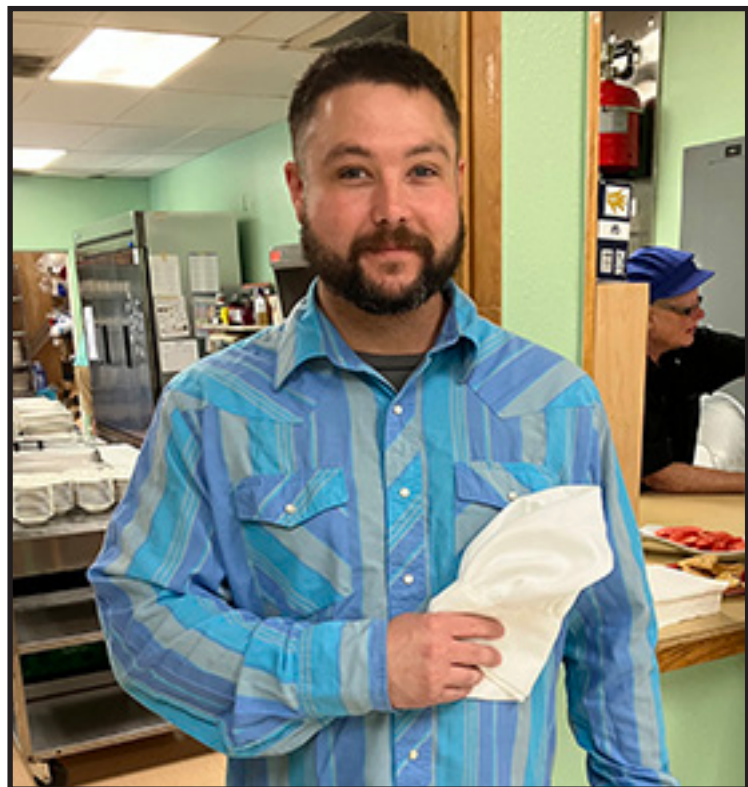
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Attending their 60<sup>th</sup> reunion, THS classmates from 1965 are (from left) Rick Jones, Greg Morris, Ceil (Byers) Kernkamp, Shirlee (Names) McDonald, Mike Somerville, Joanni (Schiller) Scott, Patty (Bryner) Milam, Mary (Macht) Still, Donna (Phillips) Connor, Ron (Balzer) Weilbacher, Wilma (Smith) Sharp, Tom Johnson, Fred Sahlin, LaDonna (Dufenhorst) Rae, Don Thompson and Bob Glidewell. ~Submitted by D'Ann Tedford

## Tahoma Class of 1965 Holds Last Reunion

Feeling more chipper than their age revealed, a group of classmates recently gathered to dine and drink. It was their 60<sup>th</sup> reunion. "This will probably be our last get together," they mused while reading from a bulletin board that listed deceased classmates. Time takes a toll on reunions.



James Lesinski takes his passion for cooking into the kitchen at Black Diamond Community Center. ~Photo by D'Ann Tedford

## Lead Chef to Turn Up the Heat in Black Diamond

James has worked at Black Diamond Community Center for nearly eight years. He has managed the food bank, worked alongside cooks in the kitchen, and he volunteers at the Tuesday and Thursday senior lunch program.

"I have a passion for food and for serving the community," he said, "I really like cooking breakfast meals and different pasta dishes." He is turning his passion for cooking to the oven and the burner. After two weeks of training, he will be the lead chef at BDCC. The community may soon be treated to French toast, bacon and potatoes at lunch. An applause broke out when he asked lunch attendees if breakfast-for-lunch was okay for the noon meal. His daughter, Juliana, reminded him that she was the one who gave him advice for success in making pancakes.

For a traditional lunch James favors pasta dishes, including chicken parmesan. "I look forward to turning up the heat and preparing delicious meals for seniors to enjoy."

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# Local Subarea Plan

**By Peter Rimpos, GMVUAC Corresponding Secretary**  
On Monday, September 8, 2025, the Area Council held its Regular Monthly Meeting at the Maple Valley Fire Station and via Zoom (*one week later than the normal first Monday of the month due to the Labor Day Holiday*). Major topics discussed were: (1) Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River Subarea Plan and (2) Area Council's Annual Model Train Show.

**Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River Subarea Plan**  
King County Department of Local Services (DLS) Subarea Planners, Susan McLain and Kaitlin Harris discussed the ongoing Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River (GMV/CR) Community Service Area (CSA) Subarea Plan. This is a locally specific plan that covers: Land use and zoning; Housing and human services; Environment; Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Resources; Transportation; Services and Utilities; and Economic Development.

They discussed some staffing changes: (1) Last Spring two Subarea Planners left for other jobs outside of King County government; (2) Kaitlin is leaving soon on maternity leave; and (3) Susan stepped down as Planning Manager as of August and will continue on as a planner facilitating work on the GMV/CR CSA Subarea Plan, as well as the and Fairwood CSA Subarea Plan, which is just getting underway. Recruitment for the Planning Manager position is actively being pursued.

As a result, King County DLS is currently exploring scheduling options to produce the following documents and ensure community review:

- The *Preliminary Plan* is being drafted based on input collected from the five Community Conversation meetings held locally earlier this year, as well as comments received [online](https://publicinput.com/greatermaplevalley) (<https://publicinput.com/greatermaplevalley>), and through future community input received in the coming months.
- The *Public Review Draft*, which will represent a full plan, then will be developed. There also will be an event to discuss it at a time and location that is to be determined.
- A *Final Draft* will be transmitted to the King County Council, after which the public will continue to have opportunities to provide written and oral comments during deliberations prior to a final vote of approval.

The Area Council, while it understands the limitations put on county staff, expressed concerns about ensuring the GMV/CR CSA Subarea Plan work is completed to the community's satisfaction, as well as there being sufficient staff to review all the community's Public Comments. Susan and Kaitlin understood such concerns.

### Annual Train Show

On the weekend of October 18 - 19 the Area Council will host its Annual Train Show at the Gracie Hansen Mansion at 27132 SE Ravensdale Way in Ravensdale. Preparations are underway as Exhibitors and various supporting organizations have been contacted. There is a lot of upfront planning that goes into the Train Show and the Area Council's Train Show Committee briefed everyone on the status of each. It is expected that this year's Train Show will be another success with fun had by all.

### Next Area Council Meeting

The next Area Council monthly meeting will be held Monday, October 6, 2025 from 7 - 9:30 PM at the Maple Valley Fire Station at 22225 SE 231st St (across from the KC Sheriff's Precinct).

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](http://www.gmvuac.org) ([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/) (<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 continuously 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 Rural Team* and its *Joint Transportation Initiative*.

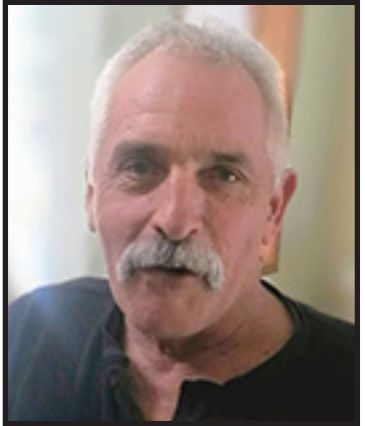
The twelve-seat Area Council has four open seats. If you have an interest in joining, please send an e-mail to: [GMVUAC](mailto:GMVUAC@info.gmvuac.org) ([info@gmvuac.org](mailto:info@gmvuac.org)) *or* attend (either in-person or virtually) a monthly meeting and express your interest. To be eligible to 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 and use the drop-down menu under *Committees*.

All Monthly Meeting Summary Articles can be found on our Home page in the *2025/2024 GMVUAC Monthly Meeting Articles* box or by using the drop-down menu under *Correspondence*.

## Obituaries



### Jim Davis

9/20/51 - 8/27/2025

Our beloved brother, uncle, husband, brother and friend passed away at home after a valiant battle with cancer.

He served his country in Vietnam. For full obituary and information on

Celebration of Life please link to: <https://www.firlawn-funeralchapel.com/obituaries/james-jim-davis>



On 08/25/25 at approximately 1712 hours, an officer was dispatched to 300 ft south of 3rd ave at its intersection with Jones Lake Rd, in reference to a vehicle striking glass which fell from a second vehicle. The officer checked the area with negative results. The phone number provided to/by dispatch went to voicemail and no call back was received after a voicemail was left.

\*\*\*\*\*

On 08/25/25, officers were dispatched to take a hit and run report at the 24800 block of Morgan St. Officers are currently investigating this case.

\*\*\*\*\*

On 08/25/25 at approximately 1606 hours, officer were notified of an active commercial fire (Continued on page 4)

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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)

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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



# Overcoming Anger

A lady once came to the evangelist Billy Sunday and tried to rationalize her anger. "There's nothing wrong with losing my temper," She said, "I blow up, and then it's all over." "So does a shotgun," Sunday replied, "and look at the damage it leaves behind!"

Anger is common among everyone. We all have emotions that sometimes get carried away when we are offended. Some of us have longer fuses than others, but anger is an area that we all have to watch. Failure to do so can lead to all kinds of hurtful and destructive actions, especially toward those whom we love the most.

In all cases, anger can be controlled, even with those known to have a bad temper, especially when trying to maintain a certain appearance before others. It is amazing how a person can turn off the appearance of anger when they are concerned with what certain people may think. What this shows is that those who take out their anger on loved ones show them to be less important.

What can we do to overcome problems with anger? First, don't let the sun go down on your anger. The Bible says, "Be angry and do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil an opportunity." - Ephesians 4:26-27. When we fail to deal with or resolve disagreements that day, we give the Devil an opportunity. Unresolved issues become burrs that lead to bitterness and constant sources of contention. It is a stone in a wall that is built one brick at a time when we fail to seek or offer forgiveness.

Second, hold your tongue. Proverbs 10:19 says, "When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, but he who restrains his lips is wise." If you have nothing good to say, don't say it. As the Bible says, "Do not be eager in your heart to be angry, For anger resides in the bosom of fools." - Ecclesiastes 7:9.

Third, stop it before it starts. Proverbs 17:14 says, "Starting a quarrel is like breaching a dam; so drop the matter before a dispute breaks out." You may not be the one who is angry, but you may be the one to turn it around. Proverbs 15:1 says, "A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger."

Fourth, when you fail, confess it to the Lord and go to those you offended and ask their forgiveness. 1 John 1:9

Fifth, memorize God's Word, especially verses concerning anger, such as Proverbs 14:17, 15:18, 19:11, 29:11,20.

Don't let anger overcome you! Remember, "He who is slow to anger has great understanding, But he who is quick-tempered exalts folly." - Proverbs 14:29.

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.

# Have a Nice Day

## 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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# When Coal Was King

By Bill Kombol



Osceola, a farming area west of Enumclaw, was the subject of our last two columns that examined the community’s second and third schools, both of which still stand. This week’s focus is on Osceola’s growth and commerce. The area, located along the Auburn-Enumclaw highway, SR-164, was first settled by Allen Porter, who filed a land claim for 320 acres in 1853. He built a log cabin, planted oats and potatoes, but left during the 1855-56 Indian Wars. For most of the next two decades, Porter was the only White settler on the Enumclaw Plateau.

When the Northern Pacific Railway announced Tacoma as the western terminus of its transcontinental railroad in 1873, settlers began considering the vast plateau between the Green and White Rivers, which measured 291 square miles, each section comprising 640 acres of land. Homesteaders were generally able to claim one-quarter section, or 160 acres, by inhabiting the property and putting the land to productive use. From 1873 to 1880, 27 pioneers filed claims for just over 4,000 acres.

The next decade, the 1880s, saw an explosion of new residents, some filing homestead claims, and others purchasing land from Northern Pacific Railway. Over 125 pioneer families either filed claims or purchased nearly 19,000 acres on the Enumclaw Plateau. The railroad’s land grant, authorized by Congress, entitled Northern Pacific to every odd section of land within 20 miles on either side of its line. Railroad property was often sold for \$3 to \$6 per acre.

Most settlers cleared their land and constructed small log cabins until profits from farming allowed them to build better homes. Pioneer families planted orchards and vegetable gardens while raising hogs, cattle, and poultry. The top cash crop that practically every Enumclaw Plateau farm planted was hops. Hops are a key ingredient in beer production, which provide the bitter taste, and act as a preservative to lengthen beer’s shelf life from a few weeks to years. The popular Indian Pale Ales were developed by English brewers during Britain’s rule of India. To make sure their casks of beer stayed fresh on long sailing trips to India, ale brewers increased the concentration of hops, hence the origin of IPAs.

Enumclaw farmers flourished on the rich plateau soils. Though harvesting hops was very labor-intensive, whole communities gathered to ensure the crop was picked. Entire families went into the fields, and even townspeople joined the trek to earn good wages. Crews typically

included a high percentage of Native Americans, who were prized hop pickers, never tiring, and working through all kinds of weather. According to Trudy (Mathews) D’Armond, “Natives all the way from Yakima would make the long trek here to help with the hop harvesting, working side-by-side with farmers and families to get the job done.”

However, in the early 1890s, hop production began to decline. Hop blights caused by aphids ravaged unsprayed fields, increasing farmers’ costs. Mold and mildew in Western Washington’s damp climate also took its toll. Hop growing eventually migrated to the drier Yakima Valley, which now produces 70% of all U.S. hop production.

As hop crops faded, dairy farming became the new darling on the Enumclaw Plateau. The Enumclaw Cooperative Creamery Co. was owned by the dairy farmers who pooled their resources and co-marketed their products, primarily fresh milk, sweet cream, and butter. By 1939, the Enumclaw Creamery ran a fleet of 17 trucks and sold over two million tons of butterfat

each year.

In 1929, John Alfred Jokumsen started the Osceola Pickle Company, using cucumbers raised on his own property, located at the intersection of S.E. 448<sup>th</sup> and 228<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E. The cucumbers were brined on site in 12-foot-tall wooden vats and 3,000 wooden barrels. During the early years, J.A. Jokumsen marketed his pickles from a booth in the Pike Place Market. Using Danish recipes, Jokumsen launched a three-generation business that lasted 48 years, until the untimely 1975 death of John Jokumsen III. His wife, Jeanne Jokumsen, continued the business for another two years, but shut it down in the spring of 1977. The operation consistently moved 300 tons of products per year.

The Jokumsen farm also drew attention from archaeologists after the discovery of Native American artifacts around 1968. Under the direction of Gerald Hedlund, a Green River Community College instructor, students began digging and collecting artifacts from beneath a fast-flowing mudflow from Mount Rainier about 5,600 years ago. That lahar destroyed everything in its path, but much later created conditions for a vibrant farming community.

Hedlund believed the former Indian village or gathering site might have been a gateway to the old Naches Trail used to connect Yakima tribes to their Puget Sound brethren. Hedlund stated his students catalogued about 24,000 artifacts in total, including 13,000 made from stone tools. Today, the old Jokumsen pickle farm is owned by the Archaeological Conservancy, an Albuquerque, New Mexico, non-profit organization that identifies, acquires, and preserves significant archaeological sites in the United States.

This photo of the Jokumsen’s Osceola Brand Pickle truck was taken on a brick street in the Queen Anne area of Seattle around 1937 and comes courtesy of Jeanne Jokumsen. Research for this column was aided by Nancy Irene Hall’s “In the Shadow of the Mountain” (1983); “There Is Only One Enumclaw” (1995) by Louise Poppleton; the archives of the Enumclaw Plateau Historical Museum; and news clippings from the Enumclaw Courier-Herald, including a Jan. 27, 1977 interview with Jeanne Jokumsen and a Sept. 28, 1988 article about Jokumsen-Stobie site artifacts.

### 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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(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, September 16, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Gerber Towing** 16705 Aurora Ave N, Shoreline, WA 98133. **Friday, September 19, 2025.** Viewing starts at 10:30 a.m. **Auction starts at 12:00 p.m.** Contact 206-524-9099 with questions.  

Year	Make	Model	License
2009	Dodge	Caliber	CND3079
2003	Cadi	Deville	CAZ0164
2009	Ford	Fusion	BDR4431
2009	VW	Rabbit	CNK5517
2012	Chrysler	200	CNZ1469
1995	Toyt	Camry	CGD7969
2004	Chev	Suburban	CGF1320
2015	Nissan	Altima	9RSS5132012

  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, September 16, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc.** 1201 North 125th St., Seattle, WA 98133. 206-364-2000. **Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025.** 3 hour preview @ 7-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.** For list of vehicles see: [www.roadneseattle.com](http://www.roadneseattle.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, September 16, 2025)  
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ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc.,** 8425 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 1370. **Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2025.** Preview 8-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.** For list of vehicles see: [www.roadneseattle.com](http://www.roadneseattle.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, September 16 2025)  
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ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Payless Towing & Recovery** 33905 Pacific Highway South, Federal Way, WA 98003. 253-941-4565. **Thursday, September 18, 2025 @ Noon** Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, September 16, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Payless Towing & Recovery** 33905 Pacific Hwy South, Federal Way, WA 98003. 253-941-4565. **Tuesday, September 23, 2025 @ Noon** / Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, September 16, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Skyway Towing & Recovery RTTO 5191 & RTTO 5023** 2025 S 341st Pl., Federal Way, WA 98003 **Tuesday, September 23, 2025** Viewing: 12:30 - Auction 1:30 p.m. See list at [skywaytow.com](http://skywaytow.com)  
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, September 16, 2025)  
\*\*\*\*\*

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **TBT Towing,** 16705 Aurora Ave N. Shoreline WA 98133. **Friday, September 19, 2025 @12:00 p.m.** Viewing starts at 10:30 a.m.  

YEAR.	MAKE	MODEL	LIC #
2006	TOYT	Prius	CMT3286
2012	HYUN	Genesis	BSW4335
2013	NISSAN	Altima	CMX4485
2003	LEXUS	ES300	CSY4075
2011	TOYT	Corolla	BXU9388

  
(Published VOICE of the Valley Tuesday, September 16, 2025)  
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## Black Diamond Police Reports

(Continued from page 2)  
in the 32000 block of Railroad Ave. Officer arrived, finding all subjects outside, and provided traffic control for the duration of the incident  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 8/26/2025 at 1954 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department responded to a welfare check near the 31100 block of 3rd Avenue. It was reported that four children were at the home with their grandmother while their mother was sick in the hospital and the children were frantically contacting their mother. Upon contact, Officer's were able to speak and see the children and found them all to be in good health and they did not appear to be in distress. Officer's advised the reporting party of the findings and cleared the call.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 08-26-25, at approximately 10:36 hours, Officers received a call from Valley Communication Radio regarding a suspicious person. Officers were informed that a female called 911 to report that a white male began to approach her on foot at her residence in the 25500 block of Cumberland WAY, when he turned around and ran away. Officers conducted an area check for the subject with negative results.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 08/26/2025 at approximately 0027 hours, officers were dispatched to the 30600 block of 3rd Ave, in reference to a male and female fighting and pushing each other. Upon arrival both subjects were interviewed and an arrest was made on scene. The subject was booked without issue.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 08-28-25, at approximately 08:04 hours, Officers received a call from Valley Communication Radio regarding a suspicious person. Officers were informed that a subject called 911 to report that an unknown male subject was asleep in his vehicle parked in the 32700 block of Ash AVE. Officers arrived and located the subject. The subject slept in the vehicle because he thought he was at his residence and that the vehicle belonged to his parents. The subject was given a courtesy transport to his residence a couple blocks away.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 08/28/2025, Officers were dispatched to a report of a missing person. Officers made contact with the reporting party and completed the missing person report. Officers requested dispatch check if the subject had been involved in any calls for service, he had not. Officers also called local hospitals and the individual was not there. The individual was entered as missing by Auburn Records.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 8/29/2025, an officer

responded to the 32600 block 3rd Ave for a report of a three vehicle collision. A collision investigation was conducted and a driver was cited for following too closely.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 08/30/25, officers were on patrol at a city park at the 22400 block of SE 296th St. Officers observed a suspicious vehicle parked in the dark. Officers contacted the 2 occupants in the vehicle. Officers contacted the subjects, advised them of the park rules and issued them a verbal warning for the offense.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 8/31/2025, an officer responded to the 32800 block of Ten Trails Parkway SE for a report of a suspicious circumstance. A letter was dropped off by another resident of the neighborhood at 1 a.m. The letter was collected and the incident was documented.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 9/1/2025 at 0135 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department responded to suspicious circumstances near the 26000 block of Lawson St. The reporting party stated that they believed they were being followed by a vehicle and person familiar to them. Officer's located the vehicle but established a crime had not occurred. Officer's provided a courtesy transport to the reporting party and cleared the call.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 09/01/2025, an Officer responded to the 32500 block of Railroad Ave reference to a parking complaint. The complainant advised that there was a vehicle parked on her lawn and she wanted it towed away. The complainant was contacted in person and it was found the vehicle was parked off the roadway and on private property. The complainant was advised that they would have have it removed by tow company if they wished.  
\*\*\*\*\*

On 9/1/2025 at 2126 hours, the Black Diamond Police Department responded to a welfare check near the 25400 block of Kanaskat Dr. The reporting party stated they were suffering from withdrawals and needed medical assistance. The reporting party later agreed to voluntarily be transported to the hospital for further evaluation by the fire department. The reporting party did not meet involuntary commitment criteria and Officer's later made a referral for the subject for additional assistance to the recovery navigator program.

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