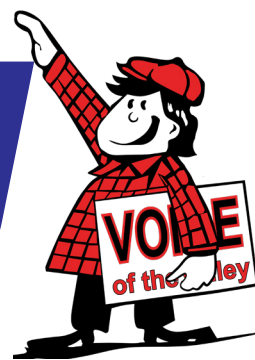


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VOICE of the Valley

56TH YEAR, NUMBER 48
MAPLE VALLEY, WASHINGTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025



Since 1969

Friday Is The Day For The Holiday Engines To Collect Food For The Food Bank



Santa will be visiting neighborhoods this year in the Maple Valley, Kent, and Covington areas with local Scouts, school, and other youth groups to collect food and donations for the Maple Valley Food Bank. If you would like to make a donation before the Holiday Engines appear in your neighborhood, you can visit one of the foodbanks they will be helping Covington Storehouse, Kent Foodbank and Maple Valley Food Bank.

The Holiday Engines will be out and about for three Fridays and Saturdays starting **December 5, 2025**. Maple Valley Holiday Engine

Routes <https://www.holidayengine.org/routes-mv.html> Covington and Kent Holiday Engine Routes can be found at <https://www.holidayengine.org/routes-covington.html> to determine if your neighborhood is on the list of those to be visited, and if so, when.

On the night that you want to follow the Holiday Engines, go to <https://www.holidayengine.org/track.html> and track them in near real time.

The holiday engines with Santas' helpers will again be carrying a card machine this year so that if you like, you can donate to the food bank using your debit or credit card. The same as prior years, a cash boot will be available for donations as well. Thank You!

If you are unable to participate in the fun on those evenings, you can still leave food at your door for local school, sports, or scout groups to pickup. Our helpers will be visiting neighborhoods the week prior to the Engines to hand out fliers and bags reminding community members of the event. If you decide to leave any food on your front porch or step, our helpers that visit the neighborhoods with the Holiday Engines will be sure to pick it up.

Finally, if you are a part of a youth organization, i.e. scouts or a sports team, and would like to help us with the Holiday Engine as we collect food in local neighborhoods, please reach out to us at signup@holidayengine.org.

HOLIDAY HIGH TEA AT NEELY MANSION



Join us in welcoming the holidays with a Victorian Tea, live music and tours of the decorated Mansion.

Saturday, December 6th, seatings at 12:30 and 2:30pm

\$40.00 per guest

By reservation only: neelymansion.org or 253-927-4250

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Ravensdale Community Meeting on Historic Ravensdale Homes



Do you recognize these Ravensdale houses along the top of this hill? Eleven of the 12 houses shown on the top of the hill along Ravensdale Way in this ca. 1910 photo are still in use today, very little changed from their original exterior appearance. These houses are now 125 years old – constructed in 1900 to house miner families of what would become the Ravensdale mines. Come join us for a community meeting to discuss recognizing these 11 historic Ravensdale houses with an honorary designation as a *Community Landmark District*. This type of designation poses no obligations or regulatory constraints on the homeowners – it is solely a recognition by our community of the important role these historic company houses played in our early history. The community meeting will be held in the meeting room at the rear of the Ravensdale Park Maintenance Building (between Baseball Field #3 and Soccer Field #4) in Ravensdale Park on Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

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 Katen

Anyone up for a Christmas Competition?

By Bill Archer

Here's your chance to not only help the team at Pacific Raceways but also give to the families and children to ensure they have a Merry Christmas. How can I help out, you ask? In the 2nd Annual Bad Santa Cruise-In and Battle of the Elves. The event is Sunday December 7, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Place to Race, Pacific Raceways. The entry fee is a new unwrapped toy or a \$10 donation. There are four groups of elves that are competing to see which ones can raise the most toys and donations this season. They are Pacific Raceways donating to Akin (formerly Childhaven and Children's Home Society), Binford's Field of Dreams will be helping out Santa's Castle for Active Military families experiencing financial hardships. Cruise Enumclaw will be collecting for Plateau Network Holiday for families in need in Enumclaw, and Cruise Puyallup assisting the Summit Secret Elves in Pierce County. This year's event aims to be a whole lot of fun for everybody. High Performance Photography Services will be on hand so you can get your photo taken with Santa. At 1:45 PM there will be a Parade Lap around the 2.25-mile road course to take part in. In addition, there of course will be food available and if you're looking for something to put under the tree then perhaps one of the vendors on site might have just such a gift. Can't make the event, but still want to help out the gang at Pacific Raceways they have drop off locations for such an occasion:

Pacific Raceways Office see Diana
Kelly's Auto Repair 222 A St SE Suite B, Auburn, WA 98002
Auburn Muffler & Auto Repair 1301 Auburn Way S, Auburn WA 98002



A Street Automotive 225 A St SE Auburn, WA 98002
The Rebuilder 722 Central Ave S, Kent, WA 98032
Dr. Injector/Performance Prep 34703 16th Ave S, Federal Way, WA 98003

This is a great way to get an early start on the holiday season and to help out those families and children in need so they too might have a Merry Christmas. If you need any more information about this event then check out www.pacificraceways.com, and thank you.

Find more news on our website

www.voiceofthevalley.com

and be sure to like us on

Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/voiceofthevalley>

Dave & Sue Pilgrim Appreciation & Retirement



Friday, December 12th 2025, 5-7 PM
@the Greater Maple Valley Community Center

Please join us in thanking Dave & Sue Pilgrim for their years of service to the Maple Valley Historical Society as they step down from their positions on the Historical Society Board of Directors. Refreshments provided



They don't stay this age very long.... Chersh their special moments forever!

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When Coal Was King

By Bill Kombol



On Tuesday, December 2, 1975, the skies opened up, and the rains poured down, precipitating catastrophic flooding of the Cedar River throughout lower Maple Valley. Bill Ziegner, editor of the VOICE of the Valley, described the disaster on the newspaper’s front page. “The beautiful, gentle summer Cedar River turned into an ugly, roaring, vicious giant last week as it wrought millions of dollars of devastation to homes and properties along its banks.”

“Once beautiful laws were now rutted with gulleys, flanked by great sand dunes like an ocean beach. Masses of huge fallen trees, brush, and trash were jumbled across rhododendrons and flower borders carefully tended by proud owners.”

In fact, the VOICE of the Valley office, located at 23207 Lower Dorre Don Road, was ravaged by floodwater. The entire first floor of the home office of Bill and Ruby Ziegner, owners of the VOICE, was inundated. The Ziegners published the first edition of the VOICE of the Valley on Aug. 21, 1969. They were teachers in the Tahoma School District and produced the newspaper from their residence. The VOICE is Maple Valley’s longest operating tabloid paper.

To put out the following week’s newspaper, Bill Ziegner borrowed typewriters and equipment from Tahoma High School, while Ted Bell of the school board set up temporary living quarters for VOICE personnel. A 16-page issue was duly published on Dec. 10, 1975, from which facts for this article were derived.

On that week’s Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, volunteer boys from Tahoma High School were released to the Maple Valley Fire Department to provide flood relief. Over three days, 85, 100, and 150 young men, mostly juniors and seniors, served the community by moving sandbags and providing other assistance. Brian Miller was a Tahoma senior who remembers consecutive days devoted to filling and placing sandbags to stem the rushing water from doing even more damage. Tahoma girls in Home Ec. cooked meals each day adding to the school’s efforts. Other students added their names to volunteer work lists available to anyone who needed help.

Throughout the devastation, community leaders and ordinary folks

stepped up to assist. A relief fund was organized by Wilderness Village merchants, Gael Reedy, Joe Flynn, Gary Morgan, Stan Johnson, and Louise Duett. The Red Cross served 7,600 meals at the Grange Hall in one week, while nearly half of the residents displaced from their homes slept in the Grange over several nights. Terry Beckler, an agent for Grange Insurance, offered help to homeowners filing claims. The Northwest Steelheader’s local president, Chuck Judkins led his club’s members in transporting 120,000 fish eggs, incubated in holding ponds at Arcadia, and temporarily relocated them to the Issaquah hatchery.

Mrs. William H. Gates, the first woman president of United Way of King County, issued a statement offering aid when needs arise. She proclaimed, “People helping people is the United Way slogan. It’s the old American idea of neighbors pitching in to help each other.” That same year, Mary Gates’ son, Bill Gates, and Paul Allen created the first computer language program for a personal computer. A month later, their company, Micro-soft,

reported year-end 1975 sales of \$16,005. Bill Gates offered Microsoft employees stock option, so that by 2005 an estimated 12,000 rank-and-file employees were millionaires.

In addition to the hundreds of individuals and organizations named and lionized in that week’s Voice, Bill Ziegner added this commentary about the citizens of Maple Valley. “At the same time [the Cedar River flooded], it released some of the finest qualities that human beings possess, as armies of volunteers throughout the entire area and surrounding communities united in incredibly heroic and magnanimous efforts to save the stranded, to shore up crumbling dikes, and to sandbag threatened homes. The war between the workers and the river went on incessantly day and night from 3 o’clock Tuesday morning [Dec. 2, 1975] to the following Saturday night, the river winning some battles but the workers victorious in others.”

This Dec. 4, 1975, photo by Vic Condiotty, appeared in the Seattle Times, and was taken along S.E. Bain Road with Highway 169 in the background. Photo colorization was provided by Boomer Burhnam, a Tahoma High School photo instructor, and an assistant wrestling coach. The image was provided by JoAnne Matsumura, an Issaquah historian and collector.

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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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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Black Diamond Police Reports

On 11/10/2025 at 1330 hours, Officer's responded to a suspicious subject near the 30500 block of Selleck PL. It was reported a male subject was walking on people's properties and identified himself as a PSE employee but PSE stated they had no record of the subject. Officer's later located the male who stated he worked for Hydromax and PSE and was conducting gas meter checks. The male provided valid employee credentials and Officer's cleared the call.

On 11/10/2025 Officer were dispatched to a Verbal Domestic violence in the 32600 block on Stuart Ave SE. After investigations led by Officers there was no crime found. The reporting party requested for Officers to conduct a welfare check on the other party. After contacting the other party in the 32500 block on Baker ST, there was no crime found and no need for assistance from law enforcement.

On 11/13/2025, officers were dispatched to a welfare check at the 31200 block of 3rd Ave. Dispatch advised that a female juvenile had no phone with them and wanted to go home. Officers contacted the juvenile provided them resources and contacted their father who arrived to pick them up.

On 11/13/2025, an Officer was dispatched to a harassment at the 32900 block of SE Cottonwood St. Complainant advised that subjects on line attempted to extort him for money advising that if he did not pay them they would post compromising photographs of him on line.

On 11/14/2025, Officers were dispatched to a noise complaint in the 22400 block of SE 297th ST regarding sounds of a loud vehicle. Officers made contact with the subject responsible for the noise. The subject acknowledged it was getting late, turned off the vehicle, and went inside of his residence. Officers cleared the scene.

On 11-17-25, approximately 08:46 hours, Officers received a call from Valley Communication Radio regarding a welfare check. Officers were informed that a neighbor wanted a welfare check on her elderly neighbor at his residence in the 29700 block of 226th AVE SE. Officers arrived at the residence and found the subject asleep inside the residence. Officers cleared the scene a few minutes later.

On 11-17-25, at approximately 14:00 hours, Officers were provided with a .357 Smith & Wesson Magnum handgun from a citizen that requested that it be destroyed. Officers took possession of the firearm and entered into evidence for destruction.

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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, December 10, 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, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Easy Towing, LLC**, 648 Elliott Ave W, Seattle, WA 98119. **Friday, December 5, 2025** Viewing 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. **Auction at 11 a.m.**

(Published VOICE of the Valley on Tuesday, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Gerber Towing** 16705 Aurora Ave N, Shoreline, WA 98133. **Thursday, December 4, 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	State
2003	KAWK	VN1600	6K9882	
2012	CHRY	T&C	VP366D	
1997	NISSAN	ALTIMA	CLP6290	
2012	LNDR	RANGE ROVER	CTB5987	
2011	INFI	M56	CMJ0444	
2004	CHRY	T&C	ADJ0080	
2003	HYUN	ELANTRA	CNZ5334	
2009	BUEL	ULYSSES	NO PLATE	TX
1990	GMC	SIERRA	D80280B	WA
2004	VW	JETTA	CHD8493	WA
1996	HONDA	ACCORD	CLF8222	WA
2016	DODGE	RAM	1500 TY1159	WI
2004	CHRY	T&C	ADJ0080	WA

Published VOICE of the Valley on Tuesday, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc.** 1201 North 125th St., Seattle, WA 98133 . 206-364-2000. **Saturday, December 6, 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, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc.**, 8425 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 1370. **Wednesday, December 10, 2025.** Preview 8-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.** For list of vehicles see: www.roadoneseattle.com

(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Payless Towing & Recovery**, 33905 Pacific Highway South, Federal Way, WA 98003 253-941-4565. **Thursday, December 4, 2025 @ Noon.** Viewing @ 11:30

(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Payless Towing & Recovery**, 33905 Pacific Hwy South, Federal Way, WA 98003. 253-941-4565. **Tuesday, December 9, 2025 @ Noon.** Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.

(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **TBT Towing** 16705 Aurora Ave N. Shoreline WA 98133. **Thursday, December 4, 2025 @12:00 p.m.** Viewing starts at 10:30 a.m.

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	LIC #
2014	AUDI	SQ5	BHG6106
2000	CHRYSLER	T & C	LGJ949
2005	JEEP	G. CHEROKEE	NO PLATE
2007	HUMM	H3	AUV9306
2005	TOYT	SIENNA	AGS7966
2006	PONTIAC	G. PRIX	BYC1114
2007	TOYT	HIGHLANDER	AOE4596
1999	FORD	ECONOLINE	D11311A

(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Skyway Towing & Recovery RTTO 5191 & RTTO 5023** , 2025 S. 341st Pl., Federal Way, WA 98003. **Tuesday, December 9, 2025.** Viewing: 12:30 - **Auction 1:30 p.m.** See list at skywaytow.com

(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, December 2, 2025)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION **Rainbow Towing**, 8333 219th St. S.E., Woodinville, WA 98072. **Saturday, December 6, 2025.** Preview @ 9 a.m. **Auction @12:00 p.m.**

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