



It's Your Business

Serving the Greater Maple Valley – Black Diamond Business Community
December 2009

Board of Directors

President: Kevin Kalberg
Claffey's Painting
Mold Solutions NW
425.888.3634
Kevin@claffeys.com

Vice President: Sandi Sutton
Interim Treasurer
All Service Plumbing &
Contracting, Inc.
425.432.5334
sandi@allserviceplumbing.com

Director: Shane Davies
Windermere Real Estate
Maple Valley, Inc
425.569.6900
myagent@windermere.com

Director: Jim Flynn
Flynn Development
206.948.0168
flynn@vircom.net

Director: Jack Emmons
John L. Scott, Maple Valley
425.432.7007
jackemmons@johnscott.com

Director: Doug Corbin
Puget Sound Energy
253-395-6867
douglas.corbin@pse.com

Director: Karen Crowe
EnviroSpect NW
425.749.0491
kcrowe@envirospectnw.com

Director: Kevin Patterson
Tahoma School District
425.413.3409
kpatters@tahoma.wednet.edu

Past President: Bill Woodcock
W Real Estate Services
425.652.2170
william@wreservices.com

Executive Director
Sue VanRuff
206.856.1342
suevanruff@maplevalley.com

Office Manager
Susie Davies
425.432.0222
chamber@maplevalley.com

Luncheon Meeting
Wednesday, December 16, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM
◆◆◆Lake Wilderness Lodge◆◆◆
22500 SE 248th Street
RSVP by 10 am on Monday, December 14, 2009

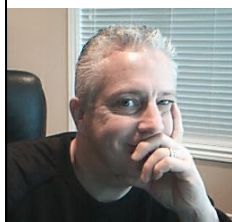
Tahoma School District Superintendent Mike Maryanski
Real Life Church Pastor Steve Murray
Headline December Chamber Luncheon

Tahoma School District Superintendent Mike Maryanski will bring us up to date on the district's 21st Century learning approach and its use of classroom technology to help our students find success after high school. Maryanski also will provide information about the school district's Feb. 9 levy requests.



The four-year levies would replace ones that expire at the end of 2010. One levy, called the Educational Programs and Operations Levy, provides about 20 percent of the district's operating revenue. It pays for staffing, programs, services and supplies not funded by the state. Voters have supported this kind of levy since 1978.

The other levy is for classroom technology. It would continue the work that has begun to incorporate electronic learning tools, software and support for students at every grade level. The district sees classroom technology as an essential element of 21st Century education.



He won't be snowed out this year! Last December the forecast promised snow in the morning so we cancelled the luncheon. . . and then of course it didn't snow until later in the day.

Steve Murray is the pastor of Real Life Church. Steve and his wife Tina started the church in 1998 and have engaged in the community ever since. With a heart for local community and his hand in several global initiatives, Steve's passion is to make a better world in practical and spiritual ways. Steve's humor, passion and transparency blend together as he speaks to us regarding the gift of presence.

Steve also is the Director of "A Better World Foundation" of The Pacific Institute.

Info-mercial: Bill Yeager, Affiliated Associations of America - Member Benefits

2009-10 Luncheon Costs
Chamber Members at the door \$18
Non Members and Invited Guests \$25
RSVP Luncheon Reservations
by 10 AM on Monday, December 14, 2009
425.432.0222 or chamber@maplevalley.com

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆ **Catering by Gloria's** ☆
☆ **Chicken Oscar** ☆
☆ **Rice Pilaf** ☆
☆ **Vegetables** ☆
☆ **Salads** ☆
☆ **Dessert** ☆
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



Kevin Kalberg
GM, Claffey's Painting &
Mold Solutions NW

**A MESSAGE FROM
KEVIN KALBERG, PRESIDENT**

Well the holidays are upon us and there is some excitement in the air about the opportunities and possibilities in the New Year. The Chamber is embarking on a new business development center, there are signs of a thaw in our frozen economy, and finally I

already finished this month's book "The Noticer" by Andy Andrews.

Your Chamber office is moving next month to the Maple Valley Center building next to Wilderness Auto Service and Chevron. When the city decided to move to the DCS building we found an interesting opportunity for a more permanent home for the Chamber. This opportunity has also afforded us with the chance to create a business development center and business incubator. The 1800 square foot space will be divided into a reception area, four individual offices and a conference room. We are also discussing the ability to utilize the center for programs with the Green River Community College Business Assistance Center (SBDC) and other opportunities with the Small Business Administration (SBA). The details are still coming together but having the Chamber of Commerce function in a business development/incubator fashion goes to the heart of the free enterprise system and the root of what a Chamber should be doing. Watch for news in the near future of our plans and goals of the Maple Valley Business Development Center.

I am somewhat of a news hound when it comes to developments in the economy and what I have been seeing lately is very encouraging. Being involved with new home construction it seems we were first into the recession so watching for signs of a recovery have become important to our business. For some history they said the recession officially started in December of 2007 and it appears to have ended in October of 2009. The

media may still have people scared to death about our outlook but there appears to be small green shoots of growth in the permafrost. This started with the current rally of the stock market from March 9th at 6,547 to today at 10,457. We are seeing signs of huge mergers and acquisitions. The housing industry set a high watermark, pending home sales have increased 9 consecutive months which is the longest run since recording started in 2001. Construction spending is up and we are down to a 6.7 month supply of new homes nationally. The mortgage industry is seeing historical lows in fixed rate loans. The manufacturing sector is seeing demand for new orders increasing. Does all of this mean that the worst is behind us, maybe but for those of us who have been deep in the trenches refining our processes, cutting our costs and fine tuning our businesses it means the light at the end of the tunnel may be the way out and it looks less likely that it is a freight train coming our way. So keep your head up and your outlook bright and continue to work like crazy to stay on the path to success.

Someone had once said, "You will be the same person in five years as you are today except for the people you meet and the books you read." I am not much of a reader so creating my reading list had two purposes; first to challenge me to read more and second, to inspire myself and others with positive, helpful and encouraging material in a challenging time. I actually read this month's book "The Noticer" in one sitting which I hadn't done since college (usually the night before the paper was due). This is a group of stories of a man named "Jones" who shows up in a number of people's lives and gives them a little needed perspective on their situation which turns things around for a positive result. I hope you pick up the book and enjoy it as much as I did.

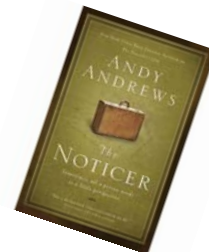
I challenge you to take some time this holiday season to recognize the blessings we have right in front of us and the opportunities we have that many others can only dream of. I wish each and every one of you a warm and Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a safe and Happy New Year!

Kevin's Book Picks

December "The Noticer" by Andy Andrews

January "Fearless" by Max Lucato

February "Start Where You Are" by Chris Gardner



.....
: **Receive your newsletter electronically!** The electronic version of "It's Your Business" will link
: directly to the news you want to read and have active links to the resources you need.
: Go to www.maplevalleychamber.org or www.blackdiamondchamber.org, scroll to the bottom left
: hand corner, and sign-up to receive your newsletter electronically!
:

NEW!!! MEMBER ORIENTATION DECEMBER 16, 1:15PM-1:45PM

GET THE INSIDE SCOOP ON WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CHAMBER AND DETAILS ON YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS. EACH QUARTER, BEGINNING IN DECEMBER, WE WILL HOST A MEMBER ORIENTATION FOLLOWING THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON. THIS SCHEDULED HALF HOUR SESSION WILL EXPLAIN MORE ABOUT WHAT WE DO AND HOW WE DO IT. DECEMBER'S ORIENTATION INCLUDES:

- ⇒ **BILL YEAGAR FROM THE AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS OF AMERICA** - DETAILS ON THE GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM OFFERED TO CHAMBER MEMBERS ALONG WITH THE FREE BENEFIT PACKAGES AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBER BUSINESS OWNERS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES.
- ⇒ **A SHORT PRESENTATION ON OUR NEW WEBSITE** WITH DETAILS ON HOW TO ENHANCE YOUR INDIVIDUAL DETAIL PAGE.
- ⇒ **TASKFORCE COMMITTEE CHAIRS ON HAND** TO EXPLAIN THEIR PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND EVENTS
- ⇒ **Q&A**

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOU JOINING US IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE LUNCHEON ON DECEMBER 16TH

WHAT DO THESE THREE BUSINESS HAVE IN COMMON?



They are all **Featured Businesses** on the Chamber's Homepage at www.maplevalleychamber.org and www.blackdiamondchamber.org. And what a deal it is!

Here are the introductory prices:

January-March or April-June: \$100

July-September or October-December: \$150

Be one of three featured businesses . . .

Sign up today! Call 425.432.0222

JOIN US FOR A
RIBBON CUTTING!
WEDNESDAY,

DECEMBER 16, 5PM

DAVINE

23829 222ND PL SE STE 106
(JUST BELOW THE TAHOMA ATHLETIC CLUB)

*NO HOST WINE AND COFFEE BAR
COMPLIMENTARY APPETIZERS!*



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

DaVine - Coffee and Wine Bar
Ken Dunham
23829 222nd PL SE STE 106
(below the Tahoma Athletic Club)
Maple Valley, WA 98038
(425) 433-8610 phone

Fido and Me Doggie Daycare
Matthew and Sophia Liu
30741 3rd Ave., Suite 153
(Diamond Square)
Black Diamond, WA 98010
360-886-7297

Troy McIntyre - Waddell & Reed
Investments & Financial Planning in Tacoma
4218 S Steele ST
Tacoma, WA 98409
1-866-242-0930 toll free
www.wradvisors.com

Thrive Community Fitness
Ian Smith, Manager
27411 Maple Valley Black Diamond RD
Maple Valley, WA
(425) 432-1199 phone
www.thrivecommunityfitness.com

Do you need to update your membership information?

Go to www.maplevalleychamber.org or www.blackdiamondchamber.org to verify all your business information. Send any updates or changes to us at chamber@maplevalley.com.

The Chamber Office is Moving on January 8th to our new location in Maple Valley Center!

(just south of Wilderness Auto Service & Chevron on the Maple Valley Highway and the suite above the office of Kelly Galloway, Edward Jones Investments)



The Greater Maple Valley- Black Diamond
 Chamber of Commerce
 P. O. Box 302
 Maple Valley, WA 98038

PRST STD
U.S. Postage Paid
Maple Valley, WA
Permit No. 204

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Lake Wilderness Arboretum,
 December 08

Mark Your Calendars!

- December 11 Business Development Committee
- December 16 December Membership Luncheon
 Member Orientation, 1:15pm-1:45pm
 Ribbon Cutting! DaVine, 5pm
- January 08 Business Development Committee
- January 26 Membership Services Committee
- April 23 -24 Hooked On Fishing 2010
- July 23 Whacky & Wild Golf Challenge
- September 18 Prime Time Business Expo

For more information on these and other community events visit our website and click on the Calendar tab. To request an event to be posted on the website, simply click on **Submit New Event**, complete the information form and click on the "Submit for Approval" button. It is that easy! To host a **Business After Hours** or special event celebration or to submit an article for the newsletter, call the Chamber office today!

We are driving business home to
www.maplevalleychamber.org &
www.blackdiamondchamber.org

City Council Meetings

City of Black Diamond
 First and Third Thursdays of every month,
 Public Comment
 7:00 pm, Black Diamond Council Chambers City Hall
www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us

City of Maple Valley
 First and Third Mondays—study sessions
 Second and Fourth Mondays—regular sessions, Public Comment
 7:00 pm, Tahoma School District Board Room
www.ci.maple-valley.wa.us

Advertise in the Chamber Gazette Newsletter and reach 250 Chamber Members!
Flyer Insert Advertisers must supply 275 copies for insertion by the 1st Friday of the month.
 Size of insert 8.5x11 can be double sided, light weight paper.
Cost for Chamber Members \$50; **Non-Members** \$100; **Non-Profit Groups** \$25