

# Fall City NEIGHBORS

Volume 28, Issue 5  
May 2025



COURTESY OF KING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Recent budget cut directives have forced the King County Sheriff's Office to cut back on patrols in Fall City. In this month's issue we learn what the cutbacks mean for our community and what the Sheriff is doing to provide adequate public safety with less money. We also get a preview of the Fall City Day festivities, discover a great solution for getting kids around town during summer break, see how one Fall City teenager found belonging and confidence, learn the secrets to a great lawnscapes, and so much more.

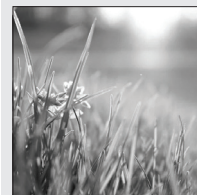
## IN THIS ISSUE

Sponsors .....	4, 6, 7, 10, 14	Youth Perspective—Trail Youth Coffee....	12
Editor's Note .....	2	Getting Kids Around This Summer.....	13
FCCA Meeting Minutes.....	3	Senior Center Events .....	14
Sheriff Patrol Cutbacks.....	5	Community Food Pantry .....	15
Fall City Day Grand Marshal.....	8	Community Calendar .....	16
Tokul Creek Hatchery .....	9		
Garden Corner .....	11		

## May Highlights



Ohana!  
— page 8



Summer  
Lawn Care Tips  
— page 11

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

The bucolic setting of small-town life presents a picture of family security and safety. However, are we truly safe? Smash and grab attempts at the gun shop. Speeding through neighborhoods. Domestic violence and murder. Armed robbery at the gas station. Catalytic converter and automobile thefts. Drunkenness on the river. The King County Sheriff's data suggests Fall City is one of the safest communities in the County. It certainly does not look that way if you live here.

Recent patrol cutbacks and anticipated longer response times by the Sheriff's Office are a grave concern of many Fall City residents. The true picture of our safety is not born out by "the data." It becomes the responsibility of us all to make sure that the data being used to plan our protection reflects what is happening. Of course, a serious violent crime deserves a call to 911, but the Sheriff's Office has deprioritized non-emergency calls and pushed them to an online reporting system. It is from this database that the Sheriff draws their conclusions. Now, more than ever, it is critical that we use this resource to report non-violent incidents that can lead to more serious injury and crime. See a speeder or reckless driver, experience a prowler or theft, see a tagger in the act, report these and other non-emergency incidents at: [kingcounty.gov/depts/sheriff/on-linereporting/online-reporting.aspx](http://kingcounty.gov/depts/sheriff/on-linereporting/online-reporting.aspx)

Let's keep our community safe. Scan the QR code below to put the online reporting website into your phone and report what's happening.



King County Sheriff  
Non-Emergency Online Reporting

Jim Hutchins, Editor,  
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## Fall City Neighbors, since 1998: Helping to build a caring and connected community of neighbors.

Fall City Neighbors is a monthly publication of the Fall City Community Association ([www.fallcity.org](http://www.fallcity.org)) and is supported by local sponsors and donors. It is distributed free of charge to the community. Available at the Fall City library, post office (green box in front) and at businesses throughout town.

**SUBMISSIONS:** We encourage submissions, story suggestions and comments from our community. We are always looking for writers, reporters, artists, photographers and idea people interested

in volunteering for this publication.

**STORY IDEAS, ARTICLES, SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR TO SUBMIT/REQUEST A BUSINESS PROFILE:** James Hutchins, Editor, e-mail: [editor@fallcity.org](mailto:editor@fallcity.org) or mail to Fall City Neighbors, P.O. Box 1064, Fall City, WA 98024.

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**Deadline for submissions is the TENTH of each month.**  
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nextdoor



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# Community News and Notes

## FALL CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### *Highlights from the April 2025 Meeting*

The Fall City Community Association (FCCA) held its regular monthly meeting on April 1, bringing together local leaders and residents to discuss community projects, upcoming events, and important local concerns.

**BOARD UPDATE.** President Rachel Shepard opened the meeting at 7:13 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by unanimous approval of the March meeting minutes. Shepard reported that the FCCA currently holds approximately \$10,500 in unrestricted funds. Announcements included updates to King County's onsite sewage regulations that went into effect on April 1st. King County offers \$500 in financial assistance if there are property owners who are in need of financial assistance to meet these code changes. New building codes also go into effect Monday April 14th. Comments may be submitted to [permittinglegislation@kingcounty.gov](mailto:permittinglegislation@kingcounty.gov). Shepard also highlighted the annual Fall City Town Cleanup scheduled for May 10.

In a show of support for local students, the FCCA voted unanimously to expand its scholarship program from three to four \$500 awards this year, following an increase in applications.

#### **FCCA COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**FALL CITY DAY.** Angie Donaldson shared Fall City Day news, noting the enthusiastic response for the Grand Marshal position. Of 12 community nominations, the Noel family was randomly selected to lead this year's festivities.

**COMMUNITY CENTER.** An upcoming FCCA member vote will determine next steps for accepting a community center grant. Members expressed concern for taking on debt, costs of ongoing facility management, and shared feedback on the information needed from the committee to make an informed decision.

#### **COUNTY AND PARTNER UPDATES**

**KING COUNTY SHERIFF.** King County Sheriff's Office representatives Mark Knoske and Jessie Anderson addressed community concerns about patrol coverage. As of 2025 there were budget reductions for unincorporated King County which resulted in the reduction of the number of deputies on duty per shift. Influencing this decision are salary increases, the cost for additional staff and digital resources required to implement these actions and pressure on the number of officers per shift. Most of the reductions are reductions in overtime. It was noted that this budget reduction does not impact the number of open positions for officers. There are

still approximately 85 department vacancies and the Sheriff's Office continues recruitment efforts. Councilmember Sarah Perry, who joined the meeting online, encouraged residents to stay informed on state legislative efforts, including Washington State House Bill 2015 that is prompting some of these cutbacks.

**FALL CITY SEPTIC ASSOCIATION.** Pete Nelson of the local sewer project (LOSS) reminded business owners to connect electrical systems to new 10'x10' tanks ahead of the June 1 "first flush." Property-specific septic tank installation is underway, with CLS noted as a well-reviewed contractor.

**FRIENDS OF FALL CITY ARENA.** Jim Hutchins, president of Friends of Fall City Arena announced that they received a \$14,000 Community Partnership Grant from King County Parks to improve the Fall City Arena. Work begins in May to regrade and re-groom the arena. The non-profit will also provide supplemental surface maintenance, event liaison services and promotion. This will help make the arena safer to use and bring more attention and revenue to Fall City from horse shows, clinics and recreational riders.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

*Editor's Note: Our community's deepest sympathies go out to our King County Council Representative Sarah Perry on the passing of her husband, Bill Ramos, our 5th District State Senator. Both have done so much to support our community.*

FCCA meetings are open to the public  
on the first Tuesday of the month,  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.,  
via Zoom, Facebook Live, and in-person  
at the Fall City fire station.





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# Reduction In Sheriff Deputies To Impact Fall City

by Kate Grossman

Officers and patrol cars from the King County Sheriff are a common sight in downtown Fall City and around the Snoqualmie Valley, but may be slightly less common in the future. Unlike nearby cities that fund their own police force, Fall City, within unincorporated King County, relies on the Sheriff for public safety. In 2025, as a result of a deficit in the King County budget and resulting cuts to the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) budget, Fall City and other unincorporated areas will see a reduction in officer staffing and potentially notice a reduction in response time to non-emergency calls.

The King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) provides law enforcement for more than half a million people across twelve contract cities, Metro and Sound Transit, King County airport, the Muckleshoot tribe, and all the unincorporated county areas, including Fall City. Unincorporated King County is divided into precincts, which are further divided into patrol districts. Fall City lies within the North Precinct, which stretches from I-90 to the King-Snohomish county line, and east to Snoqualmie Pass. Historically, there has been a minimum of six Sheriff's deputies on shift at any given time who are able to cover the patrol district. With the cuts, that number has decreased to an average of five deputies per shift.

Deputies will still respond when there are emergencies, crimes in progress, or suspects are involved, but lower level offenses, such as those without a suspect or evidence left behind, will be deprioritized. "When there is a need for a police officer to be present for a public safety concern, deputies are going to be dispatched to those calls," says Undersheriff Jesse Anderson. At the April Fall City Community Association meeting, Major Mark Konoske, the North Precinct commander agreed: "There are some calls we'd love to be at, that we'd love to have that face-to-face connection, but we need to keep deputies freed up for when you need us there quickly." Crimes that are not emergencies, violent, or in progress can be reported via a non-emergency line or the online reporting system on the KCSO web site.



**The King County Sheriff's Office is struggling with demands for budget cutbacks.**

When residents report crimes via 911, they get triaged to the appropriate agency, including the KCSO. Based on KCSO data, during the past five years there have been approximately 700 total reported crimes in Fall City, and the crime rate has dropped an average of 7% per year over that period. One-third of the reported crimes were some kind of theft (including identify theft); another 9% were destruction, damage, or vandalism of property; 9% were simple assault (threat but no physical contact); and fewer than 5% were violent crimes.

The amount of crime in different areas of the precinct helps Konoske determine how to deploy deputies, but the rationale for the reduction in deputy staffing overall is based on the KCSO budget. Approximately half of their budget comes from city contracts and the other half comes from the King County Biennial Fund. Sammamish and Carnation, along with ten other cities within the county, have contracts with KCSO to have sheriffs serve as their local police force. (Snoqualmie and North Bend, in contrast, share the Snoqualmie Police Department.) However, because those cities are paying for KCSO coverage and are revenue-generating, they are not impacted by the budget cuts. The cuts fall solely on the half of the budget funding unincorporated communities.

The budget shortfall problem is arising now because the King County biennial fund, a general fund that,

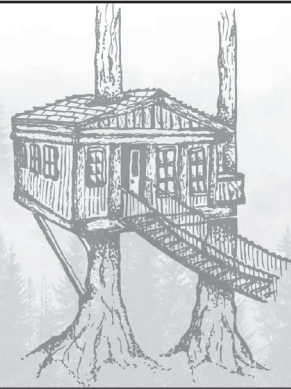
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## Fall City Methodist Church

Sunday Worship with Pastor Carrie 9 am  
 Livestream on our Facebook page 9 am

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## SHERIFF

(cont'd from page 5)

according to County documents, “supports the traditional functions of a county government,” is in shortfall. The fund is sourced primarily through property tax (56%) and sales tax (26%), but increases in property taxes are legally capped by to rise no more than 1% per year. With post-pandemic inflation, net costs rose for King County faster than gains in net revenue, compounding an already existing budget shortfall. The KCSO is the largest recipient of those funds, and officer wages are the largest part of the KCSO budget.

While the reduction in deputy coverage will decrease by an average of one officer per shift for the remainder of 2025, in 2026 and 2027 there is the potential for even greater cuts. The biennial general fund faces a shortfall of \$150 million, and the current projection is for the KCSO to absorb \$30.2 million of that reduction. In a report to the King County Council’s Budget and Fiscal Management Committee in February, County Sheriff Patti Cole-Tindall explained, “I remember many times where people have said ‘we need to do more with less’... Today we are simply doing less with less. ...We will find some efficiencies to reduce costs, but the efficiencies will not add up to \$30.2 million.” She concluded, “This large cut will affect everyone in King County, with the most severe cuts causing devastating impacts to our unincorporated communities.”

Undersheriff Anderson concurs: “I am not overly concerned about the reduction of one deputy per shift, but if we cut the minimum staffing in half, that’s the potential safety impact. You’re doubling or tripling response times. We won’t know until November when the [King County Council] makes the final decision about what the Sheriff’s office budget will look like.”

Changes in KCSO staffing may have a noticeable impact, but the local precinct is experimenting with different staffing plans to make sure deputies are available when they’re needed most. Additionally, other agencies and law enforcement support teams, such as the Therapeutic Response Unit, may partner even more with KCSO to provide support in those non-violent situations.

Says Undersheriff Anderson, “We appreciate the support we’re receiving from the Fall City community. There’s a lot of support out there and we want to continue having a good partnership with the public.”

## POETRY CORNER

### Previous Wars

*by Laura Rice*

People don’t talk about the lesions on your heart  
From constantly fighting,  
Constantly begging to be heard,  
That now,  
When someone raises their voice  
Or ignores a simple request,  
It’s like they’re pressing a finger to an open wound.

It’s not their fault,  
And it’s not yours.  
It’s the fact that we’re all shaped by  
Past experiences  
And previous wars.



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**Sat., May 10th**

**9:00-11:30 a.m.**

**Meeting Point:**

**Bernard Park**





# Fall City Day Parade 2025: Honoring Grand Marshal Leon Noel

This year's Fall City Day Parade Grand Marshal is more than a familiar face—he's a local legend, a steward of tradition, and a living thread in the fabric of Fall City itself. We're proud to celebrate Leon Noel, a man whose life story is as deeply rooted in this town as the cherry trees he helps light each Christmas.

Born in 1956, Leon was of the last generation of babies born at the old doctor's office in the historic Bronneman Building—arriving in the world with a perfect sense of timing and tradition. He represents the fifth generation of the Parker-Noel family, whose roots in Fall City stretch back to the 1800s. The Parker-Smith Bridge, connecting Fall City Preston Road with Mitchell Hill and the surrounding lands, once led directly to his family's 500-

acre homestead—now home to Koba Gardens.

Leon is the son of Leon Noel Jr., a World War II Navy veteran. In true family fashion, his mother lovingly dubbed him “Leon the Third,” though playfully referred to him as “Leon the Turd.” Family stories like these are documented in treasured local books, including *Jack Kelly's History of Fall City*, *Preserving the Stories of Fall City*, and *Fall City: In the Valley of the Moon* by Mrs. Margaret Corliss.

Leon has spent decades shaping the community he loves. For 10 years, he coached Fall City Soccer and Falls Little League and 4 years mentoring in the Boys Club every Saturday. He not only helped train athletes but helped raise responsible and resilient young people.

In 1999, he took part in the King County Comprehensive Planning Process under County Executive Ron Sims, contributing to Fall City's very first subarea plan. His voice, grounded in experience and a deep love for this place, helped chart a thoughtful path forward.

Leon also co-founded the beloved Fall City Yacht Club with Grady from the Riverside Tavern. He turned down the first membership slot and proudly claimed #8 instead. What began as a float down the lower Snoqualmie River turned into an annual event drawing up to 500 locals, once even sanctioned by the Seattle and California Yacht Clubs. As the club's “Sergeant at Arms,” he kept things organized and litter-free with “death by drowning” jokingly cited as the penalty for polluters. Leon's mission: keep Fall City clean and inspire others to be good stewards of the land.

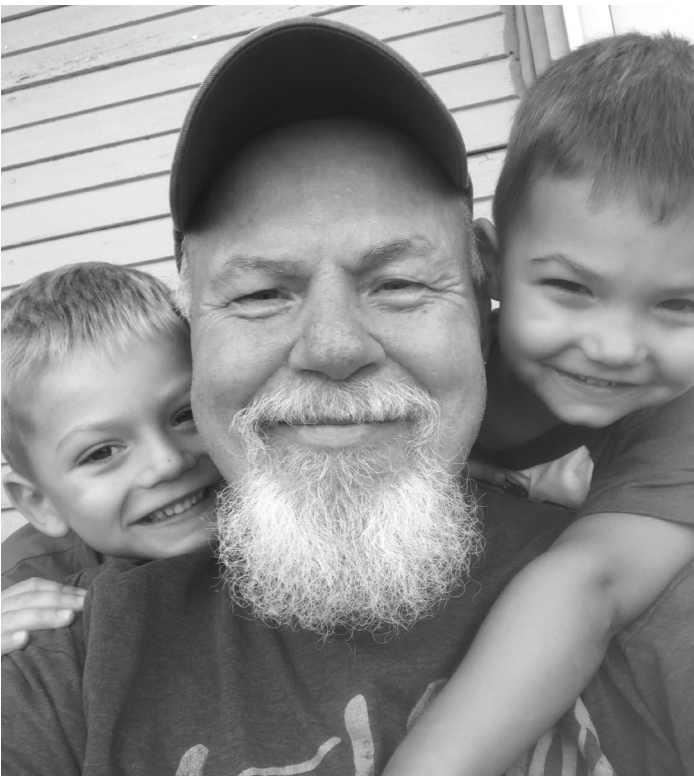
On the last weekend of December, he leads a beach cookout for steelhead fishermen and others that venture over — bringing warmth, good food, and camaraderie to the riverside. He is quoted, “We don't make friends, we make family.” And while he's known for his big efforts, Leon is just as often seen behind the scenes: stringing lights through trees, cleaning up streets, helping neighbors, and making sure Fall City stays safe, connected, and cared for.

Some still remember Leon's amateur boxing days when he was fiery, focused, and fearless. Even now, there's a certain comfort in knowing that “troublemakers fear Leon more than the King County Sheriff.” His presence alone is often enough to keep the peace.

And yes, his name is a palindrome—spelled the same forward and backward. Locals like to joke that Leon Noel must be Santa Claus himself. He just smiles and says he works for him.

This year, Leon rides at the heart of our Fall City Day Parade, surrounded by his loving family and his “babies.” His two grand-nephews and a niece. Together, they embody the past, present, and future of Fall City.

Thank you, Leon Noel for being our Grand Marshal, our neighbor, and our guardian. Your legacy is etched into every corner of this town, and we are endlessly grateful for all that you've done and all you continue to do for your family and Fall City.



Patriarch Leon Noel and his extended family will represent “Ohana” at this year's Fall City Day Grand Marshal.



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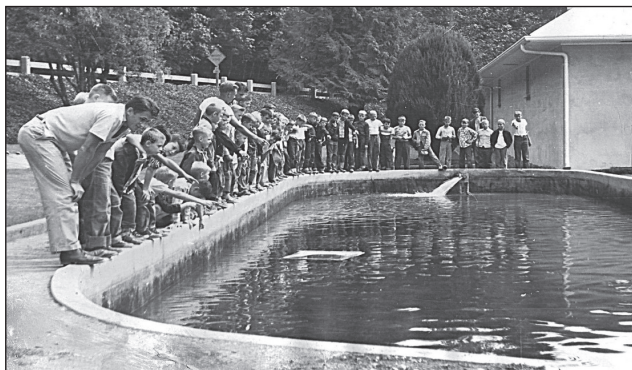
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## THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON

Since opening in 1908 by King County, the Tokul Creek Fish Hatchery has been a part of the Fall City community. It was originally known as the King County Trout Hatchery until operations were transferred to the newly formed WA State Dept. of Fish & Game in 1932. Raising primarily trout and ocean-migrating steelhead, the hatchery has been a resource for fishing enthusiasts as well as providing educational events, and welcoming visitors of all ages. In the 1920s, with the newly paved and expanded Sunset Highway, the hatchery became a popular tourist stop for everyone traveling over Snoqualmie Pass. Jack Kelley recalls the parking lot was often filled, only slowing after 1946 with the construction of US10.

In the 1930s and 1940s buildings were added to the property, and in the 1950s ponds that were lost to flooding were replaced with raceways. In addition to the operational structures, there were houses on the property, and the early superintendent's house was moved just west of 372nd SE, while another house burned as a training exercise for the Fall City Fire Department.

These days, the hatchery raises over 200,000 trout and Kokanee salmon for stocking local lowland lakes, alpine lakes and South King County lakes. Fall chinook adults entering Tokul Creek are also trapped and transported upstream to allow access to spawning grounds. Currently the

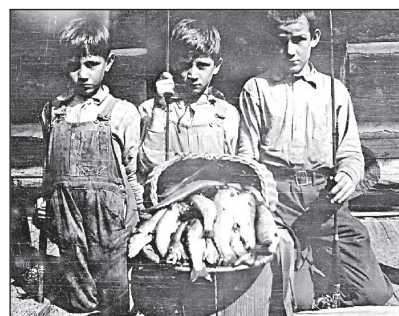


Boys with Seattle YMCA on a field trip to the hatchery, viewing fingerling trout in a rearing pond, date unknown



During the Depression, adult fish from the fertilization process were distributed to unemployed residents.

Credit: SVHM



Moore cousins with trout from Patterson Creek, c. 1914

hatchery is in a transition from producing an early returning segregated stock of winter steelhead for sport harvest to utilizing the native Snoqualmie stock of steelhead to aid in enhancement and recovery of the native steelhead stock. The hatchery is open 365 days per year for self guided tours, 7am - 3pm, and scheduled tours are welcomed by calling 425-222-5464.





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Public meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month  
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# Get A Lawn That's Green For Nature Too

by Teresa Kluvern

**T**raditional lawns are frequently scorned for using too many resources, needing too much care, and providing very little ecological value. But, nearly all of us have some area of our yards covered in grass that serves a great purpose for pet and child play and can be a beautiful contrast to neighboring plantings. Lawns don't have to be intensively managed. You pick what meets your needs and desires. But let's prioritize getting the biggest bang for your efforts if you want to build a nicer lawn.

The turf grasses used in the Pacific Northwest, generally perennial ryegrasses and fescues, are tough. They grow well without any water or fertilizers but will go dormant - not die - during the later summer months and then regenerate from their roots when rains begin in the fall. Adding water prevents this dormancy but it is not necessary for the long-term survival of the lawn. So, what are the best practices - some needed, some chosen.

**Mowing** - Unless you are managing a meadow, regular mowing is needed. Mowing at a 2" to 3" height helps to conserve water. Mulching the grass clippings, rather than bagging and removing, returns natural fertilizer to the soil. This does not contribute to thatch as the clippings are so small and decompose readily.

**Fertilizer** - Optional. But, if you do one application of fertilizer, do it in the fall (October). The fall fertilization feeds the roots coming out of dormancy and remains available in the plant and soil for spring growth. Select a soil-building fertilizer with organic compounds such as feather meal, poultry waste, and such. Building the soil is the key to healthier turf grass as the needed nutrients become part of the soil profile. If you water, an additional fertilizer application may be needed in early summer. Avoid fertilizing in the spring as the grass is naturally growing due to warming temperatures.

**Water** - Optional. If it's important to you to have a green lawn all summer then watering deeply, but infrequently, is the most effective. This method helps to develop a deep root system that can survive longer periods of drought.

**Aeration** - Optional. This is a very effective renovation technique for compacted soils and if you want to add any supplements such as lime. Aerating machines essentially pull "plugs" from the soil allowing for air and water to more easily enter the root zone. The plugs should not be removed but can compost in place. They will disappear within a week or so.

**Dethatching** - Optional. Unless you are working



## GARDEN CORNER

in the smallest of areas, a machine is needed for this renovation practice. And be prepared for a ton of debris! A dethatching machine has knife-like blades that slice down into the crown of the grass plants and pulls up dead grass stems, moss and any other debris in this area. In my yard it includes a lot of fir needles and cones. All of this material must be raked and removed.

**Supplements** - Optional. Other than fertilizer, most supplements should be added following a lawn renovation.

- **Lime** is an effective soil amendment in areas of acidic soils. Most soils in the Puget Sound area are acidic and if you get any conifer drop into your lawn areas your soils may be very acidic. The downside of having highly acidic soils is that nitrogen, the nutrient that makes our lawns green, is bound tightly to the soil particles and not available to be absorbed by the lawn. Lime is cheap but needs to have contact with the soil to be effective. So, adding lime, following aeration or dethatching is optimum. When I add lime to our heavily treed yard, I can see the effect immediately as nitrogen becomes available to the lawn.

- **Topdressing** with compost will help build the soil profile. Good soil results in a more robust lawn that needs less fertilizer and water. Many local equestrian centers have composted manure they would just love to get rid of. Visit the King Conservation District "Manure Match" webpage to find local sources: [kingcd.org/programs/better-soils/manure-match](http://kingcd.org/programs/better-soils/manure-match)

Oftentimes, folks want to top dress with sand believing it will improve drainage. This is only true if you have a sand-based turf area typical of many sports fields, but not home lawns.

**Moss and Weeds** - To treat or not to treat? Moss will grow if you have two of three conditions: shade, acidic soils, or wet, compact soils. Changing the underlying conditions by improving drainage or aeration should first be considered. If you do treat, the dead moss must be removed

(Continued on p. 16)

# Creating Confidence: Nathan's Story And The Mission Of Trail Youth

by Darsh Patel

In the heart of downtown North Bend, Washington, a unique coffee shop is brewing more than just beverages. Trail Youth Coffee Home serves as a sanctuary for local teens, offering a safe space, mentorship, and opportunities for personal growth. For Nathan Perez, a local Fall City teenager, Trail Youth has become a place of acceptance and transformation.

Nathan first discovered Trail Youth through his friends, who spoke highly of the free drinks and welcoming atmosphere. "I came here because of the free drinks," he admits with a smile. However, what started as a casual visit quickly evolved into a meaningful connection.



Thirteen-year-old Nathan Perez finds acceptance and confidence through the camaraderie and programs of Trail Youth Coffee House.

"They welcome me and accept me for who I am." He is now a daily visitor with his brother.

Trail Youth's mission is to restore hope to teens by removing negative labels and promoting stable, nurturing relationships. The organization provides a safe, healing environment through its youth-focused coffee shop, where teens can learn barista skills, display their artwork, and participate in various programs.

Since becoming a regular at Trail Youth, the 13-year-old has experienced significant personal growth. "I've gained so much confidence from the day I started coming here," said Nathan. The supportive environment has allowed him to form strong connections. "I've even found a girlfriend!" He proudly shares. "It's a nice and kind community."

Trail Youth offers more than just a place to hang out. The organization provides mentorship programs, job training, and leadership opportunities at no cost. Teens can join the marketing team, participate in podcasting, and learn how to roast coffee - a program which Nathan "definitely envision[s] joining." These programs aim to equip young teens with practical skills and a sense of purpose.

Understanding the challenges faced by today's youth, Trail Youth has established partnerships with local counseling centers, the food bank, and the school district to provide comprehensive support. The organization also offers free counseling services, recognizing the importance of mental health and the need for accessible resources. The coffee shop distributes many drinks which are adorned with positive affirmations, such as "You are worthy" and "You are loved," reinforcing the organization's commitment to uplifting youth.

Through its various programs, Trail Youth has served over 10,000 free drinks to teens and enrolled more than 90 participants in their programs, many of whom have transitioned to paying jobs. The organization's commitment to youth development and community engagement has made a lasting impact on teens in Fall City and Snoqualmie Valley.

Reflecting on his journey, Nathan encourages other teens to visit Trail Youth. "Trail Youth accepts you for who you are," he emphasizes. His favorite treat? "Hershey's Birthday Cake"—a sweet symbol of the warmth and kindness he has found at the non-profit coffee shop. Describing Trail Youth in one word, Nathan chooses: "Kind." He elaborates, "They are always kind to me, and they will accept people, the staff even plays Roblox with me!"

However, even places built on positivity are not immune to hardship. In February 2024, Trail Youth Coffee Home was the target of a break-in. The front window was smashed, and several items were stolen, including several essential funds and gift cards for teens. For an organization that runs entirely on community support and donations, the incident was both financially and emotionally

(Continued on p. 13)



# Kids Summer Transportation Solution

As summer approaches and kids are out of school, the demands on parents to get their kids to summer camps, sports practices, and summertime activities while juggling their busy work schedules adds to the stress of their lives. However, there is a local solution that can help get their kids (and themselves) anywhere in the Snoqualmie Valley safely and inexpensively. Snoqualmie Valley Transportation (SVT) has become a life-changing service for Valley residents of all ages and abilities.

Allison Feely had real concerns about sending her son, Marshall, who is nonverbal, to ride the bus from their home in Carnation to the Transitional Learning Center (TLC) in Snoqualmie. TLC is a continuing education program for special needs students to prepare them for adult life with work, social and community experiences. Her son did not qualify for school transportation, her husband worked full-time and they had two younger children in middle school and involved in after-school activities, so it wasn't possible for her to drive him everyday.

"I was definitely in a panic trying to figure out how to do all the different things," Feely said.

After talking with the TLC teacher and SVT staff, Feely was willing to try the service. On Marshall's first day riding the bus home from school, she was following behind in her car. She also talked to the driver afterward to be sure there had been no problems, and she found out that Marshall seemed to enjoy the trip.

"It was just such a liberating moment," she said, adding tearfully, "It was hard for me to let go... I'm learning, along with Marshall, that Marshall can go out in the world...and that's really amazing."

Elizabeth Harris had a similar experience when she entrusted her daughter Claire four years ago. She never



COURTESY OF SNOQUALMIE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION

**Many Snoqualmie Valley shuttles have bike racks if transportation is needed to or from a fixed-route bus stop or if kids want to take their bikes with them.**

would have if they were not living in North Bend. She said, "being in a small town, it feels very safe." Claire now uses the bus regularly to get to her new education program and her job. Harris is able to spend more time at work, but more importantly, her daughter loves being independent and self-reliant. "For her, the best part of the day is getting on that bus," said Harris.

"We do our very best to accommodate people," said Jodi Scott, one of four call takers at the SVT office.

Scott and her co-worker Mia McCorvey are the weekday team who work with callers to book rides at the SVT office, working full time to get people where they need to go.

Snoqualmie Valley Transportation covers the Snoqualmie Valley with demand-response and fixed routes buses arriving and departing on a regular schedule seven days a week with a few exceptions. Youth 10 years old and up are welcome to ride unaccompanied. Most buses also accommodate bicycles if transportation is needed to or from a fixed-route bus stop. Fares are either a donation or \$1. Kids under 18 ride free.

Visit [svtbus.org](http://svtbus.org) or call (425) 888-7001 to learn more or book a ride.

## NATHAN

(cont'd from page 12)

devastating. Yet, in true Trail Youth fashion, the tragedy was met with resilience and community support. Locals rallied around the coffee shop, donating funds, time, and supplies to help them recover. The efforts have made a significant impact with currently, having nearly doubled their fundraising goal with over \$12,750 raised.

The incident became a defining moment that reinforced Trail Youth's mission—reminding everyone of the

importance of community support and resilience in the face of adversity. Not only do they offer hope to teens, but the community offers hope right back to them. Trail Youth Coffee Home stands as a testament to the power of community support and the positive impact of providing a safe, nurturing environment for youth. Through mentorship, job training, counseling, and unwavering kindness, Trail Youth continues to empower the next generation, one cup of coffee at a time.

*Learn more about Trail Youth and consider donating to their efforts by visiting [trailyouthcoffee.org](http://trailyouthcoffee.org)*



## Sno-Valley Senior Center, Carnation

### SENIOR MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH

Thursday, May 1, 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Free health care services for rural Seniors. Talk to professional nurses about your health concerns for treatment, info, and referrals. No insurance required. Call 425-333-4152 to schedule an appointment.

### PLANT SALE FIRST PICKS PARTY

Thursday, May 1, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Get first pick of the Plant Sale items while enjoying music, specialty beverages, and a gift bag with snacks, dessert, and more. Sno-Valley Senior Center in Carnation. Tickets are \$25 in advance (\$40 per couple), or \$30 at the door. Ages 21+ only. Purchase Tickets at: <https://igfn.us/form/VzqCpQ>

### SNO-VALLEY SENIOR CENTER PLANT SALE

Friday & Saturday, May 2 & 3, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. One of the largest plant sales on the Eastside features annuals, perennials, shrubs, vegetables, herbs, fresh flowers and garden artists. Presentations and demonstrations Friday morning. Saturday includes children's area to decorate and plant a pot.

### ADULT CPR & FIRST AID CLASS

Monday, May 5, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Learn how to recognize medical, environmental, and injury emergencies, call for help, provide basic first aid, and prevent injuries and illnesses. Participants also learn how to recognize cardiac arrest and provide CPR. \$30 without CPR certification; \$60 with CPR certification.

### POPBOX JAZZ DANCE CLASS

Tuesday, May 6, 2:00 p.m. Join us the first Tuesday of each month for lessons that will have you moving, no matter your ability or mobility. Classes focus on rhythm,

coordination and basic movement skills. We learn different styles each month. FREE

### PLANNING YOUR AGING JOURNEY

Wednesday, May 14, 11:00 a.m. This seminar from Aging Wisdom will help you draft a road map for your aging journey including health, legal considerations, financial concerns, housing, and family issues. Q & A time included. FREE

### VETERANS TRIP: TAHOMA NATIONAL CEMETERY

Wednesday, May 21, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Veterans and their family members will take a special trip to celebrate our veterans at the beautiful Tahoma National Cemetery where we will explore and learn some of the history of the site. Lunch will be available at a nearby restaurant. The trip is free for veterans, plus a spouse or family member. Meal not included. To sign up, call 425-333-4152.

For more information or to register for Sno-Valley classes and events go to [snovalleysenior.org](http://snovalleysenior.org) or call 425-333-4152

## Mt. Si Senior Center, North Bend

### GOLDEN HEARTS GALA & AUCTION

Saturday, May 10, 6:00 p.m. Join the community for an evening of inspiration, generosity, and celebration. Proceeds support vital programs for over 1,400 local Seniors, helping them live independently, with connection and care. Tickets \$150 per person or \$1,200 for a table of eight. Visit [fundraiser.support/mssc25](http://fundraiser.support/mssc25) to learn more, donate, purchase tickets and bid online.

For questions about Mt. Si events or membership, contact Tracie Jones at 425-888-3434 x 135 or email [Development@MtSiSeniorCenter.org](mailto:Development@MtSiSeniorCenter.org)

## HOUSES SOLD FASTER THAN YOUR MOM SELLS OUT HER FAMOUS BROWNIES AT THE BAKE SALE



Hey Neighbor,

Are you tired of looking at houses that "almost" work? Or sitting on a property that's "almost" sold? Don't settle for "almost" — call your guy who gets it DONE.

"Why Work with Me?"

- 200+ homes sold (that's A LOT of brownies).
- Negotiations smoother than your grandma's mashed potatoes.
- Fast, fun, and frustration-free real estate experiences.

So, let's make your real estate journey a walk in the park (a really fancy park with swans, of course).

Nic Chambers | 206.802.8120 | [nic@chambersnw.com](mailto:nic@chambersnw.com)

LET'S GET REAL... ESTATE, THAT IS!

Track Your Home's Value



Just hover your camera over this QR code to get started!



CHAMBERS  
NORTHWEST  
A COMPASS TEAM



*Anyone in need may receive ~  
spread the word!*

### **DROP-OFF LOCATIONS FOR NON-PERISHABLES**

Farmhouse Market  
FC United Methodist Church  
Hauglie Insurance Agency

### **DONATE**

Please make checks payable to:  
FCCFP c/o Fall City UMC  
P.O. Box 640, Fall City, WA 98024

### **Gift Matching**

Gift matching is available through  
Boeing and Microsoft

### **JOIN OUR TEAM!**

Please call 425-269-8098 if you are  
interested in volunteering – more  
hands are always welcome!

### **Dates\***

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month

### **Time**

12 - 1:30 P.M. & 6:30 - 7:30 P.M.

### **Location**

Fall City United Methodist Church  
4326 337<sup>th</sup> Place SE  
fallcityfoodpantry.org

Like us on Facebook!

### **NEXT FOOD PANTRY DATES**

May 7 and May 21

## **FALL CITY COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY**

### **Help Us Feed Our Neighbors GiveBIG to Fall City Community Food Pantry!**

On **May 6-7** thousands of generous people across Washington will join together to support the causes they care about most during the GiveBIG annual giving event.

Here in the Snoqualmie Valley, we hope you'll choose to **GiveBIG to the Fall City Community Food Pantry.**

Your donation during GiveBIG helps us provide fresh, healthy food to local families facing food insecurity. From working parents trying to stretch their paycheck, to seniors on fixed incomes, to neighbors experiencing temporary hardship—your generosity fills plates and hearts.

At the Food Pantry, we serve over a hundred neighbors each month—providing fresh produce, nutritious staples, and a welcoming smile to those facing food insecurity. Every dollar you give helps us offer hope, dignity and full plates to those who need it most.

- **\$25** helps provide a week of fresh produce
- **\$50** fills a family's pantry with staples
- **\$100** stocks a full grocery cart for a neighbor in need

When we come together, small-town generosity creates big change. Thank you for supporting local families with compassion and care through GiveBig!



### **Local Teen Supports Pantry Through IORG**

Fall City resident Ayame is the current president of Bellevue Assembly #120 of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls (IORG) and chose Fall City Food Pantry as the recipient of her service project for her term. "I chose this organization because I live in Fall City and wanted to give back to my community. We achieved my goal of collecting over 100 food items. The second half of my term, we'll be focusing on collecting hygiene products for the Food Pantry." The IORG is a youth service organization for 11-20 year olds that teaches leadership, confidence and service to the community through service projects. Many thanks to Ayame for her support of the Pantry!







COURTESY OF FALL CITY APPLE FESTIVAL/NWNHC FAMILY FUND

## MAY 2025 FALL CITY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

*Not-for-profit organizations and elected/appointed government groups may submit calendar items to [editor@fallcity.org](mailto:editor@fallcity.org).*

*Deadline is the 10th of the month preceding the month of the event.*

### TUESDAY, MAY 6

**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** *Department of Community & Human Service Assistance.* King County Department of Community & Health Service (DCHS) will be at the Fall City Library to assist you in connecting to resources for housing stability, behavioral health, developmental disabilities, veterans' services, employment assistance, and community safety. No appointment necessary.

**7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.** *Fall City Community Association Meeting.* Fall City Fire Station Community Room. Join live or via Zoom or Facebook Live (Fall City WA).

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 24, 21, 28

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** *Fall City Learning Garden.* Enjoy gardening with friends every Wednesday in April. Weather permitting. Produce donated to Fall City food pantry. Extra seeds and starts shared with volunteers. Garden is located behind the Masonic Hall at 4304 337th Pl. SE.

### SATURDAY, MAY 10

**9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.** *Fall City Community Clean Up.* Join your Neighbors to spruce up our downtown public

spaces. Meet at Bernard Memorial Park. Gloves, safety vests, and pickers provided. Kids welcome.

### SATURDAY, MAY 17

**9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** *Fall City Library Plant Sale.* Join Friends of Fall City Library for this annual event in the library parking lot. Starts, flowers, seeds and more. Proceeds benefit programs and books for the Fall City Library.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

**7:00 p.m.** *Fall City Water District Commissioners Meeting.* Water District customers and the public are welcome to learn what's new and share concerns. Water District Office, 33015 SE 43rd Pl.

### FRIDAY, MAY 30

**4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** *Fall City Community Market.* Purchase fresh organic produce, flowers, breads, kombucha, crafts, and more from local vendors or enjoy a beverage with friends in the Wine Garden. Sponsored by the Fall City Community Association. Aroma Coffee/Treehouse Park.

## GARDEN

(cont'd from page 11)

(detached) and the area seeded to encourage lawn grass. Weeds, if they bother you, should be treated individually by manual or chemical removal. Avoid a blanket weed application. No need to treat areas for weeds that have none. Providing the best conditions for grass is often more productive than repeatedly killing moss or weeding out undesirable plants.

Now, as our lawns are coming to life again after the winter, is the time to consider your goals and options for

lawn care. You may opt to keep a turf grass lawn or you may be considering a move to a more relaxed meadow-type lawn that are being promoted these days along with "No Mow May".

Garden Now, Garden Always

*Teresa Kluver has a bachelor's degree in horticulture and a master's degree in urban forestry. She is the former park operations supervisor for the City of Redmond responsible for maintaining the city's parks and flower program.*