

ROYAL J. DEVANEY, MAYOR  
TOWN OF WATERVILLE

Honoring nearly three  
decades of public service  
from 1992 – 2019.

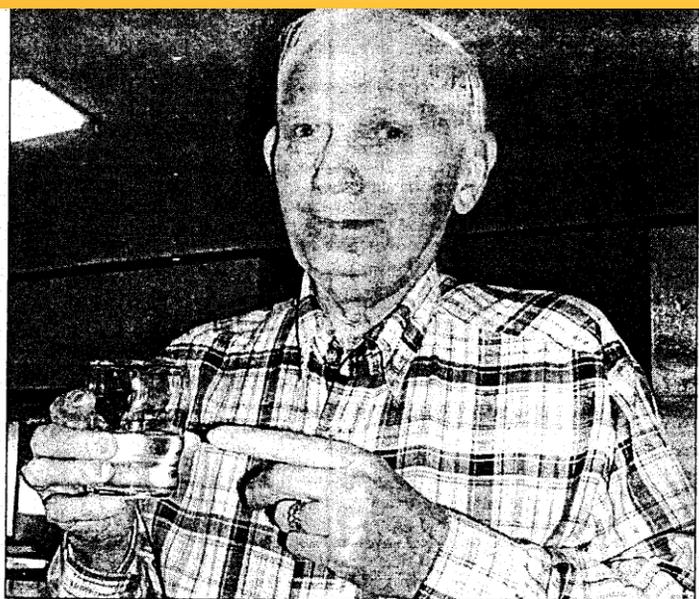


PHOTO BY JIM ROGERS

Royal DeVaney said he thinks the problem with water in the town is like a glass half empty.

# WARNING!

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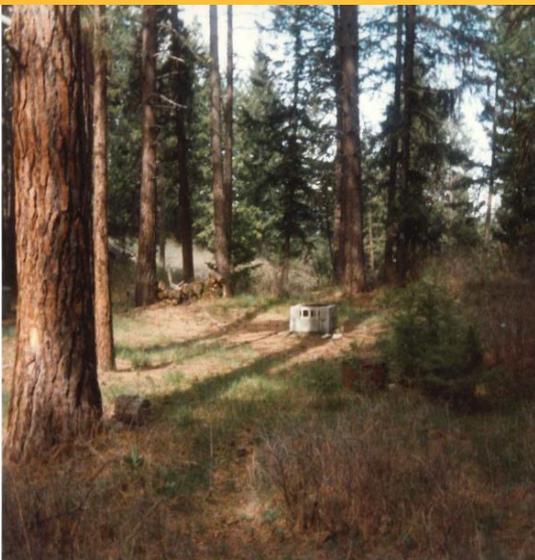
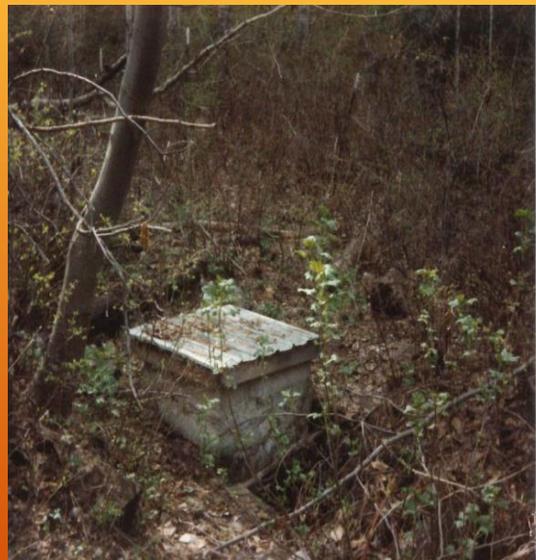
Turn the page.....  
See "Crasher's" Pick-up

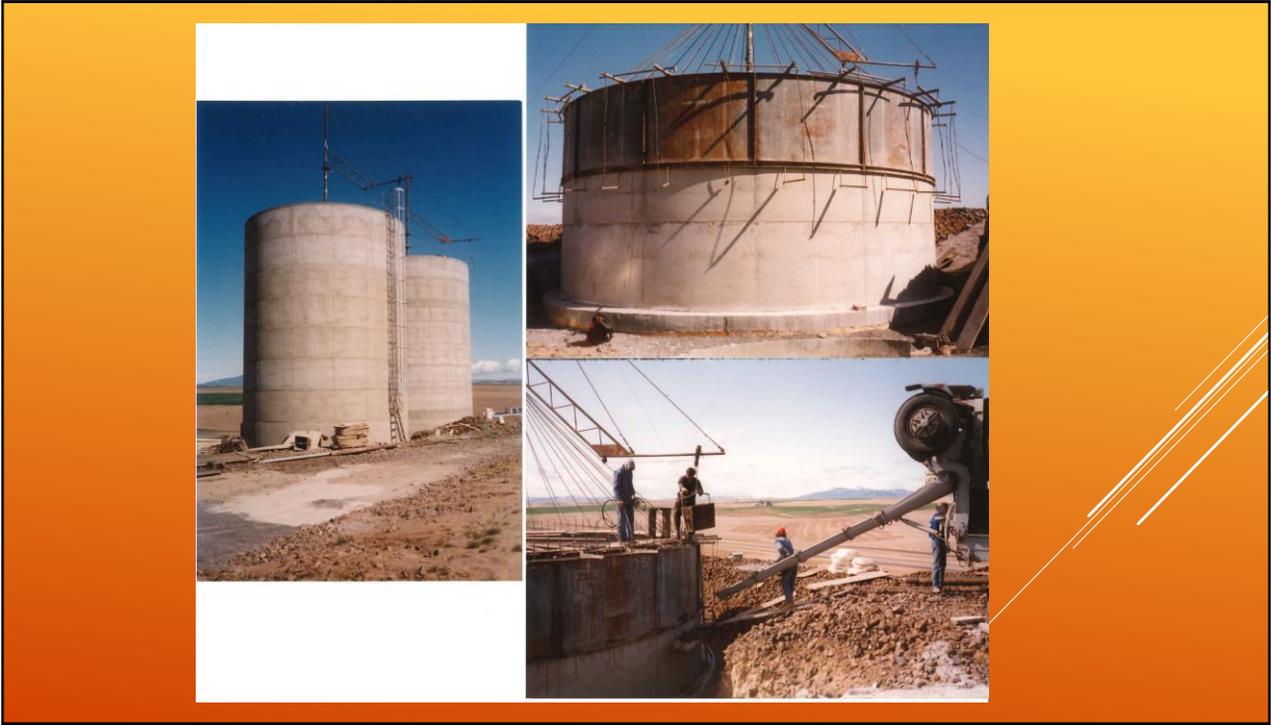
## ROYAL J. "CRASHER" DEVANEY

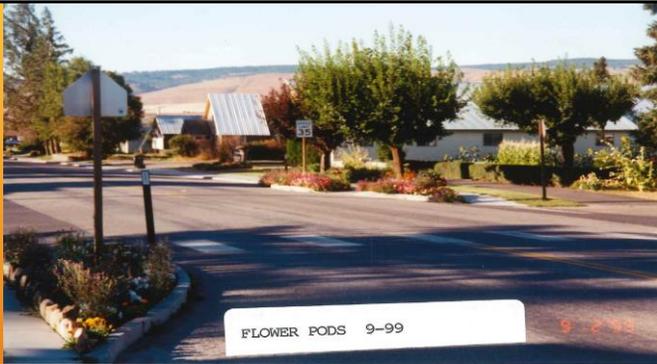
**WARNING THIS MAN IS HEAVILY ARMED  
WITH A CHEVY PICKUP  
DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE PRETTY BRIGHT  
LIGHTS -- RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!**



**ANOTHER VICTIM ABOUT TO BITE IT**









## Recycling: It's a partnership



Hal Haupt and four other volunteers unloaded her recyclables in less than five minutes.

"You have to make it fun or it ain't worth doing," Haupt said. Alice Hill takes recycling to the 8th degree: she strips labels off soup cans and cuts the tops off cereal boxes. She delivers them to the Waterville School District, which converts the items into cash or computers, sports and play-ground equipment, said Diane Polson, food service director.

Hill even saves toilet paper rolls for elementary school projects.

On town cleanup day, April 20, the recycling center will grill Cornish sausage and serve coffee, punch and cookies to its customers, said volunteer Ken Borders, a Waterville city councilman.

Most of the businesses in Waterville recycle at the center, Borders said. The school district brings cardboard and phone books, a convalescent home recycles cardboard from food deliveries, and the conservation office drops off its junk mail.

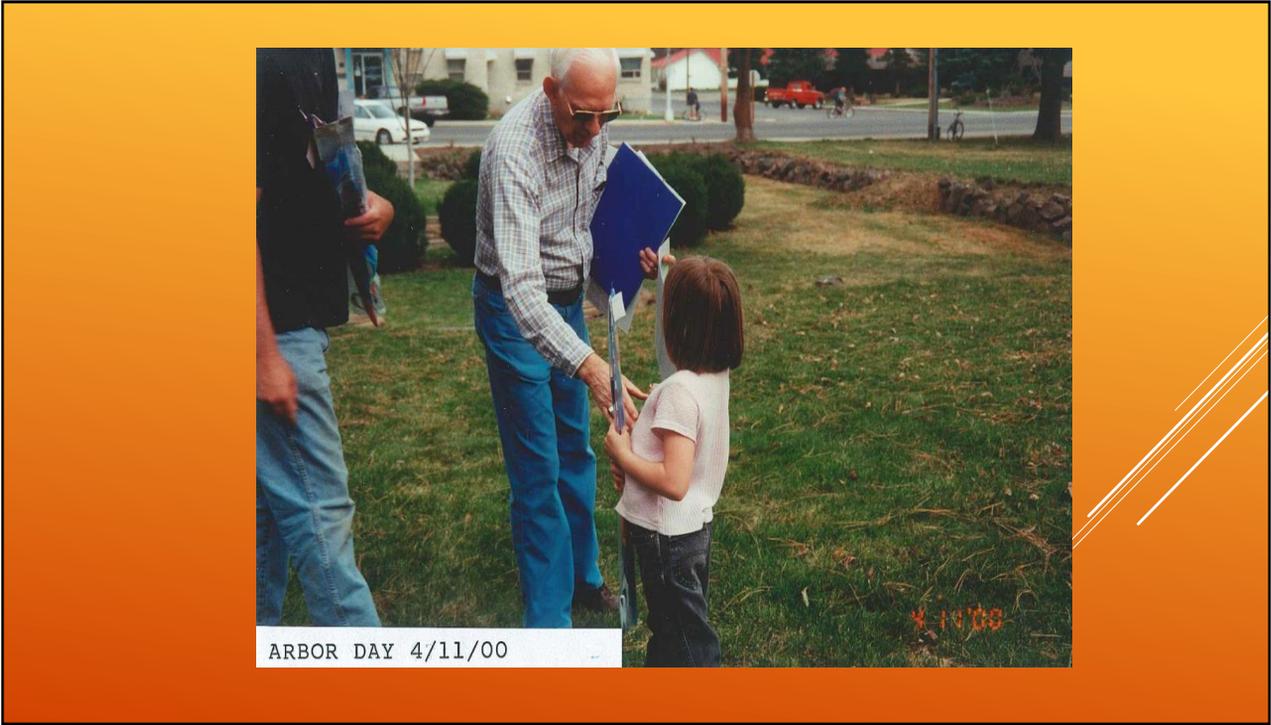
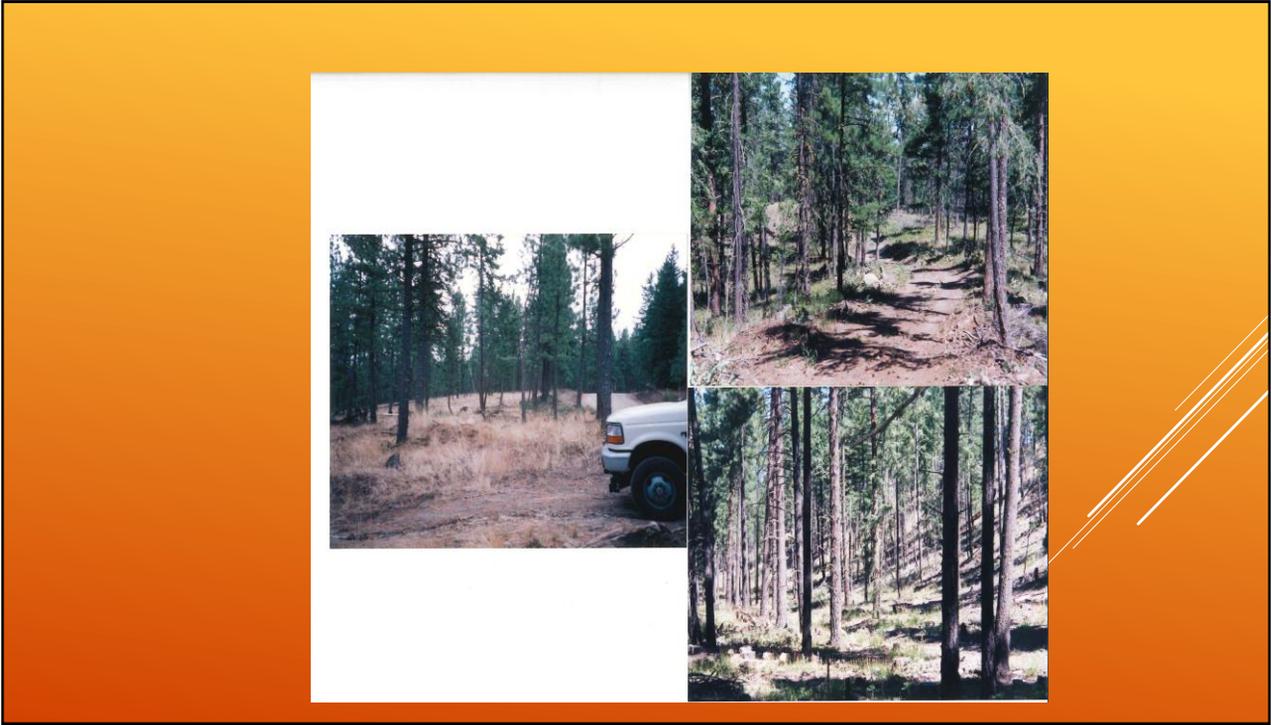
"The more stuff we can keep out of the landfill, the longer it can stay open," Borders said.

After the recyclables are compacted and baled, an inmate crew from the Chelan County Jail hauls the stuff to the Greater Wenatchee Regional Landfill near Pangborn Airport, Drago said. Waste Management, which operates the landfill, sends a check every quarter to the city of Waterville for the value of the recyclables.



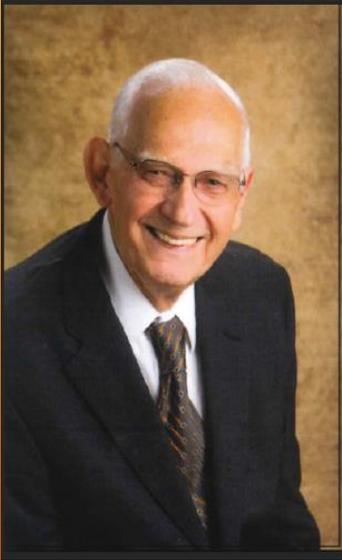
Ken Borders

Waterville resident Peggy Dalling dumps a box of glass to be recycled at the Waterville recycling center. The all-volunteer recycling center was named the best rural recycle program in the state.





ARBOR DAY 4/11/00



**ANNOUNCING THE  
DEDICATION OF  
ROYAL J. DeVANEY PARK**

**Wednesday, September 14, 2019  
1:00 P. M.  
308 East Locust Street**

**The public is cordially invited to attend.**

**Social hour with refreshments will be held in  
the Swim Pool office following the ceremony.**

**Steve Smith, Master of Ceremonies**

**NOVEMBER 2007**

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

**November 1, 2007**

## Handing over the big check



PHOTO BY KAREN LARSEN

Waterville Mayor Royal DeVaney, center, along with councilwoman Gert Snyder, middle, and councilwoman Tiena Sheridan and councilman Tim Skinner, accepted the "big check" from USDA Rural Development director Jon DeVaney, (who is not related to the mayor.)



**WATERVILLE  
CORRIDOR  
ENHANCEMENT  
PROJECT**



**Phyllis Jo DeVaney**



**IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
PHYLLIS J. DEVANEY**

**MAY 23, 1943 – APRIL 8, 2016**

**Cityscope**  
A COMMUNITY IN FOCUS WATERVILLE

**Water Works**

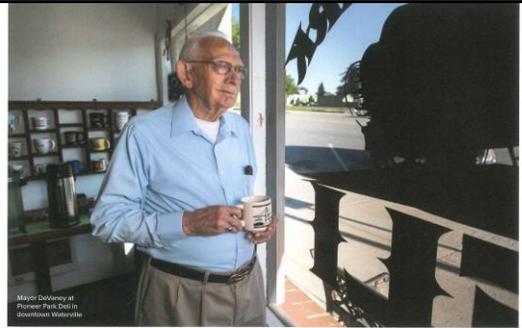
Approaching retirement, Royal DeVinney reflects on how a dry bathroom tap led to nearly three decades of public service as Waterville's mayor.

INTERVIEW BY KIRSTEN DOROTHE

**You've lived in Waterville for over 30 years. What first brought you to the area?**  
I was born in Oregon, and in 1959 I went to Alaska for what I thought would be three years—26 years later, I left. My wife was born and raised right outside of Waterville. I had just retired from my job in Alaska managing seafood processing plants, and we already owned a home in Waterville, so we decided to move here full time in 1981, and from there it just kind of blossomed into other things.

**Like serving on Waterville's Park Board and Zoning and Planning Commission, and eventually as its mayor. What led to your interest in local government?**  
I was the first mayor in Unalakleet (Alaska) out in the Aleutians. Out there, I got kind of pushed into it—a bunch of people said, "Have you thought about doing this?" When I came to Waterville, the mayor at the time approached me about joining the Park Board or the Zoning and Planning Commission, and I thought I might be interested in one of them. **CONTINUED ON P. 12**

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DANIELLE  
JULY/AUGUST 2019 CITYSCOPE MAGAZINE 11



Well, the paper came out a few days later, and there was an article that said he had appointed me to both those boards, so I did that for a couple of years.

**Why did you run for mayor?**  
I got up in the middle of the night to get a drink of water one time, and no water came out of the faucet. I went to town hall wanting to find out what was happening, and they said, "Oh, this is just a common thing. Sometimes we run out of water." So I talked to my wife, and I said, "I think I might get involved and that I have something to offer to them," and she agreed. In 1991, I ran for mayor, and my term started in 1992.

**And did you get to the bottom of Waterville's water problem?**  
When I first took office, I'd go to Olympia, and nobody knew where Waterville was. Within two years, almost everyone

**"I LISTEN TO ANYONE WHO WILL TALK TO ME. I DO MORE BUSINESS IN THE POST OFFICE OR THE STORE OR ONE OF THE RESTAURANTS THAN I DO AT MY DESK, BECAUSE PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO BOTHER ME THERE."**

in the state knew where Waterville was, because I went to meetings and was pretty pushy about funding and getting things done for the town. A major part of that was that I got some wells drilled and two more reservoirs to add to our water supply.

**What makes the Waterville economy tick, and is it difficult to attract workers to a rural community of 1,207?**  
Waterville is on the Waterville Plateau—we've got wheat for miles all the way around town, and if you go eight miles away you start running into fruit orchards. Since I took office, the farms have gotten bigger and there's fewer of them, and

with the equipment now they can do so much of the work in a day with fewer people. The kids that grew up on the farms here didn't see much of a future and moved away, but in the past eight years they've started coming back to the area looking for work.

**What kind of jobs are they finding?**  
Some of them are coming back to the farms and helping family who are still here. There's a clinic in town, and we have people coming back with medical degrees working there. Some young people who left to get their education have come back to teach at the school. The county seat is Wa-

terville, so we've got positions that people are filling with the county to help with things that the county takes care of, like road maintenance.

**At the end of December, you're retiring as mayor after 28 years. Any advice for first-term mayors who want to succeed at the job?**  
Listen to the people. I've had my mind made up and thought I had it all figured out, and a lot of times I've had my mind changed because people in town would see it a little differently—and most of the time it saved us money and expedited things. I listen to anyone who will talk to me. I do more business in the post office or the store or one of the restaurants than I do at my desk, because people don't want to bother me there—they think I'm busy—but they'll bother me anywhere else, and I take the time to sit and listen and see what they've got to say.

**THANK YOU TO ALL THE PEOPLE THAT MAKE IACC POSSIBLE.**

