

Media Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Through Increasingly Difficult Environment, Valley Bank Boasts Top Safety Rating

August 2008: Valley Bank, Puyallup, Washington stands strong in the current environment while many financial institutions are faltering. You don't have to take their word for it, though; Valley Bank has earned a 5-Star Superior rating from **BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc.** of Coral Gables, FL, the nation's leading independent bank rating and research firm. The 5-Star rating is based on the overall financial picture of the bank and indicates that Valley Bank is one of the strongest banks in the nation. What's more, this represents the 61st consecutive quarter that Valley Bank has earned this highest honor giving it the added distinction of being an "Exceptional Performance Bank". Only institutions that have achieved this highest 5-Star rating for ten years or longer can claim this distinction.

"In a climate where it is increasingly difficult to shine, Valley Bank proves it can be done," remarks Karen L. Dorway, president of the research firm. "In fact, local residents should be proud that their community bank is one of the elite financial institutions in the nation. They can rest assured that their deposits are well-placed in this 5-Star bank."

Established in 1973, Valley Bank has been pleased to fulfill the financial needs of its neighbors and friends for 35 years. It currently operates through nine conveniently located offices in Auburn, Graham, Kent and Puyallup and can also be found on the internet at www.vbwa.com.

Valley Bank: "Still Local After All These Years."

BAUERFINANCIAL, INC., Coral Gables, Florida, the nation's leading independent bank rating and research firm, has been reporting on and analyzing the performance of U.S. banks and credit unions since 1983. No institution pays for its rating, nor can they elude it. Consumers may obtain star-ratings by visiting www.bauerfinancial.com.

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For more information on Valley Bank, or any other U.S. bank or credit union, contact Karen Dorway directly at 800.388.6686 or e-mail her at kdorway@bauerfinancial.com.

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