



# Renton City News

RENTON, AHEAD OF THE CURVE

June/July 2009

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### City Wins Several Prestigious Regional and National Awards

- The city's newsletter, Renton CityNews, was recently awarded the Blue Pencil & Gold Screen Award of Excellence by the National Association for Government Communicators. Renton is one of the few government agencies in the United States to earn this distinguished award for outstanding writing and print materials.
- The Washington State Recycling Association presented the city with a 2009 Public Agency Recycler of the Year Award for its efforts to reduce waste and increase recycling.
- Maplewood Golf Course was designated a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by Audubon International. Maplewood Golf Course is the second municipal golf course in the state to receive the award.
- The city's neighborhood picnic program was nationally recognized for its excellence in "Social Revitalization" by Neighborhoods, USA, a national non-profit organization, and the Liberty Ridge Playground Project (neighborhood grant) came in third out of 25 applicants nationwide in the "Physical Revitalization/Beautification" category.

### City Council Votes Unanimously Not to Close Benson Rd. Bridge

Renton City Council voted unanimously not to authorize the complete closure of Benson Road for I-405 bridge replacement. The proposal involved a full closure of Benson Road from City Hall to Eagle Ridge Drive for approximately 11 months, October 2009 through August 2010, for the reconstruction of the Benson Road Bridge.

### City Council Adopts Ordinance to Annex Mackay Property

Renton City Council adopted an ordinance to annex the Mackay property that includes approximately 7.4 acres west of 148th Avenue SE, south of NE 26th Street, east of Lyons Avenue NE, and north of SE 102nd Street. The Council accepted the 60% petition for the Earlington annexation (approximately 100 acres).

## FABULOUS FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS IN RENTON

Join us as the City of Renton and new title sponsor The Landing celebrate Independence Day in Renton. Enjoy free children's activities and face-painting from noon to 8 p.m., stage entertainment from 1 to 9:30 p.m. (sponsored by Sanctuary & The Reserve Apartments) and a professional fireworks display from a barge on Lake Washington at 10 p.m.

Come to the park or enjoy the beautiful fireworks display from boats, canoes, kayaks, or from your home if you live close to the park. Treat yourself to food and beverages from the restaurants and concessions. Visit the Event Information Booth, located just north of Kidd Valley, for summertime community event information and to get your own 2009 IKEA Renton River Days t-shirts, tank tops, hats and mugs.



### Fireworks Ban Within City Limits

A ban on the use, sale and possession of fireworks within the city limits was instituted in 2005. The ban was introduced as a way to protect citizens and their property. In 2008 there were 115 fireworks related calls on the 4th of July and \$7,600 in



property damage over the course of the entire fireworks season. This is a significant reduction from past years prior to the fireworks

ban. The ban is inclusive of all types of fireworks and residents should know that violators are subject to both criminal and civil citations. Fines can range from \$100 to \$500 and fireworks found inside the city limits can be confiscated.

For more information visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

## CAR SHOW RETURNS TO RENTON

Cruise back in time and check out classic vehicles at the 19th Annual Return to Renton Benefit Car Show, Sunday, July 12. The show begins at 10 a.m. with awards presented at 3 p.m. The event includes vehicle displays, entertainment, an art show, food and a raffle.

Show headquarters will be at Piazza Park, with cars displayed on downtown city streets. Free admission. For more information call 425-430-7589 or visit [GoRenton.com](http://GoRenton.com).



## ANTI-GRAFFITI CAMPAIGN UPDATE

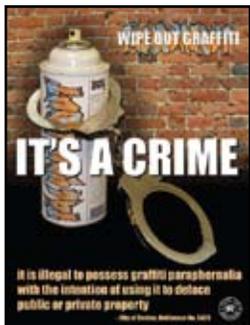
The City of Renton recently launched an aggressive campaign against graffiti that includes a new Graffiti Control Ordinance that went into effect in January 2009. The city has also hired a part-time graffiti abatement coordinator, installed cameras in hot spots throughout the city to help identify and prosecute vandals, and has partnered with local businesses and the community on a comprehensive education campaign.

Thanks to a call from a witness, Renton Police recently caught and arrested one adult and one teen who were in the process of tag-

ging a light pole in Renton. The witness called 9-1-1 while the graffiti vandalism was in progress, and police officers arrived on the scene and discovered two vandals in the act of tagging the light pole. Both suspects were arrested

thanks to the quick actions of the witness. The witness is now eligible for a \$300 reward from the City of Renton.

"Our goal is to send a clear message to graffiti vandals that if they continue tagging, they will be caught," said Commander Chad Karlewicz.



## HELPFUL POLICE TIP

What do you do if police cars are in your neighborhood at night blocking an intersection with emergency lights and frequent blasts of the sirens?

Stay in your homes and/or avoid the area while police are present. Police officers use this tactic to keep suspects contained to a localized area when they're in pursuit. This helps officers contain a suspect to an area until the K-9 unit arrives on scene to aid in the apprehension of the suspect.

## REGISTER TO VOTE

To be eligible to vote, you must be registered at least 30 days in advance of an election. It is especially important to remember this deadline if you are registering to vote by mail. For the August 18, 2009, primary and special election, the 30-day deadline to register is July 18, 2009.

Your application must be postmarked by the 30-day cutoff or it will not become effective until after the election. If you miss the 30-day deadline and are not currently registered in the State of Washington, you can still sign up in time for the election, but you must register in person at the King County Elections Office in Renton no later than Monday, August 3, 2009.



## OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

For more information visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov)

### Tuesday, June 16

**Renton Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett.

### Thursday, June 18

**Renton City Band Concert.** 7:30-9 p.m. Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Hwy. Tickets \$10 adults, \$7 senior/student. Call 425-430-6700.

### Saturday, June 20

**Swimming beaches open for season.** Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park and Kennedydale Beach Park, 1201 and 3601 Lake Washington Blvd. N, respectively. Lifeguards on duty from noon to 8 p.m.  
**Henry Moses Aquatic Center opens for season.** Sessions at noon and 4 p.m. daily. Henry Moses Aquatic Center, 1719 SE Maple Valley Hwy. Call 425-430-6780.

### Tuesday, June 23 & June 30

**Renton Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett.

### Wednesday, July 1

**Kidd Valley Coulon Family Concert Series.** 7 p.m. Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N.

### Saturday, July 4

**Renton Fabulous Fourth of July.** Noon to 10:30 p.m. Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N.

### Tuesday, July 7

**Renton Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett.

### Friday, July 10

**Moonlight Movies.** Seating starts at 7 p.m. Movie "Little Big League" begins at dusk. Liberty Park, Bronson Way N. & Houser Way N. Co-sponsored by Sam's Club.

### Sunday, July 12

**Return to Renton Car Show.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett. Entertainment, vehicle displays, art show, food and raffle. Call 425-430-7589 or visit [www.GoRenton.com](http://www.GoRenton.com).

### Tuesday, July 14

**Renton Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett.

### Wednesday, July 15

**Kidd Valley Coulon Family Concert**

**Series.** 7 p.m. Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N.

### Friday, July 10

**Moonlight Movies.** Seating starts at 7 p.m. Movie "Mamma Mia" begins at dusk. Liberty Park, Bronson Way N. & Houser Way N. Co-sponsored by Sam's Club.

### July 19-26

**Downtown Window Decorating Contest.**

### Tuesday, July 21

**Renton Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett.

### Wednesday, July 22

**Renton River Days Kids Day.** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Liberty Park. Wenatchee Youth Circus, 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m., \$1/pp.

### Kidd Valley Coulon Family Concert

**Series.** 7 p.m. Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N.

### Thursday, July 23

**Renton River Days Senior Day.** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Renton Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Highway. Contact Renton Senior Activity Center at 425-430-6633.

### Friday-Sunday, July 24-26

**IKEA Renton River Days Festival.** Noon to 8 p.m. Liberty Park. Parade Saturday July 25, 10 a.m., S. 3rd Street between Shattuck and Mill Ave.

### Saturday-Sunday, July 25-26

**Summer All Teen Musical.** Saturday 7:30 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m. Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Hwy. Call 425-430-6700.

### Tuesday, July 28

**Renton Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett.

### Wednesday, July 29

**Kidd Valley Coulon Family Concert Series.** 7 p.m. Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N.

### Friday, July 31

**Moonlight Movies.** Seating starts at 7 p.m. Movie "Kung Fu Panda" begins at dusk. Liberty Park, Bronson Way N. & Houser Way N. Co-sponsored by Sam's Club.  
**Summer All Teen Musical.** 7:30 p.m. Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Hwy. Call 425-430-6700.

# FARMERS MARKET OPEN JUNE 2

The Renton Farmers Market begins its eighth year with a full market, featuring 58 vendors. We are happy to welcome many new vendors and welcome back those who have been with us from the beginning.

Come and enjoy a delicious lox sandwich, grab a couple of steaks to throw on the grill, create a succulent salad with fresh produce from our many farmers, or enjoy mountains of berries and fresh, crisp apples to whip up something for dessert. Is your mouth watering yet?

After shopping, enjoy live entertainment or learn how to make something new at the

chef demonstrations.

The Renton Farmers Market at the Piazza offers fresh flowers, fruits and vegetables and a variety of other food vendors located at the Piazza Park at 3rd and Burnett in downtown.

The market is open every Tuesday from 3 to 7 p.m., June 2 through September 15.

For more information contact Stefeny Anderson, Farmers Market coordinator, at 425-430-7214 or smanderson@rentonwa.gov.

Market fans can also sign up for weekly emails with recipes, shopping guides, and events at [www.rentonfarmersmarket.com](http://www.rentonfarmersmarket.com).



# SEAHAWKS TRAINING CAMPS DEBUT

Renton will be decked out in blue and green and 12th Man flags in late July, prior to the opening of the first annual Seahawks Training Camp on August 1. Over 25,000 people

will be coming to the Seahawks' spectacular Virginia Mason Athletic Center over a month-long period.

Renton residents and businesses are encouraged to post Seahawks cheer cards, which will be downloadable starting early July through [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov), and to fly 12th Man flags. In addition, wear your blue and green on July 31 for "Renton Welcomes the Seahawks Wave Day."

## Gatorade Junior Training Camp

For the 14th consecutive year the Seattle Seahawks will host Gatorade Junior Training Camps. These two-hour clinics combine first-rate football instruction and life skills messages

that focus on self-improvement and a motivational life skills session with a Seahawks player or alumni.

The Gatorade Junior Training Camps are FREE to kids ages 8 to 14. Participants will receive a camp t-shirt and Gatorade water bottle.

Each camp is limited to 200 participants. Camps are filled on a first come first serve basis. A parent and or guardian will be required to

fill out the registration form. For more information or to register visit [www.seahawks.com](http://www.seahawks.com).

## Northwest Pro Sports Camp

The Seahawks will also be offering a four-day camp in Renton that combines football, basketball and soccer, with visits by Seahawks, Sounders FC and Portland Trail Blazers players. For more information or to register visit [www.seahawks.com](http://www.seahawks.com).



# CITY CONTACTS

Area Code 425

- General Information..... 430-6400
- Mayor ..... 430-6500
- City Council..... 430-6501
- Municipal Court Judge ..... 430-6550
- Chief Administrative Officer..... 430-6500
- City Clerk ..... 430-6510
- Code Enforcement..... 430-7373
- Community Services ..... 430-6600
- Community & Economic Development ..... 430-6580
- Finance & Information Services ..... 430-6850
- Fire/Emergency Services..... 430-7000
- Graffiti Hotline..... 430-7373
- Human Resources & Risk Management ..... 430-7650
- Public Works ..... 430-7200
- Police ..... 430-7500  
or [epolice.rentonwa.gov](http://epolice.rentonwa.gov)
- Street/Water/Sewer Maint..... 430-7400
- Utility Billing..... 430-6852

**EMERGENCY ..... 911**

 **The City of Renton provides reasonable accommodation upon request.**

**TDD.. 711 (425-430-6511)**

[rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov)

[RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov](mailto:RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov)

# IKEA RENTON RIVER DAYS FESTIVAL RETURNS

This year marks Renton's 24th annual Renton River Days festival and celebrates the 11th anniversary with IKEA as the festival's title sponsor. "Explore the Heart of Renton" is more than a theme for 2009 IKEA Renton River Days. It's an invitation to explore the diverse offerings that highlight Renton's passion for music, art, food and an active lifestyle.

Festival favorites include Kids' Day, Senior Day Picnic, stage entertainment, Nibble of Renton, Art Market, Renton Annual Art



Show, Quilt Show, Chalk Art Contest, Petting Zoo, Parade, and Rubber Ducky Derby. For the active, don't miss the Golf Tournament, Volkssport Fun Walks, Canoe & Kayak Regatta, Tennis Tournaments and youth Six-A-Side Soccer Tournament.

Join the fun and help volunteer on Kids' Day, July 22, or our main three-day weekend, July 24-26. Download the festival volunteer application at [www.RentonRiverDays.org](http://www.RentonRiverDays.org). Volunteer

opportunities include assisting with children's activities, the information booth, parade and much more.

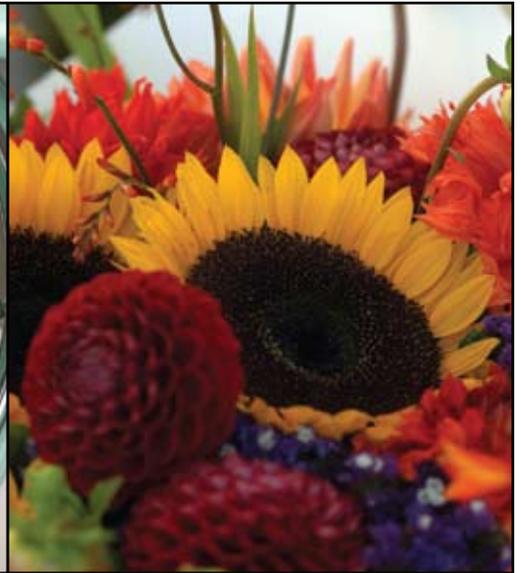
## 2009 Festival Highlights

- Kids' Day: Wednesday, July 22, 11a.m. to 5 p.m., Liberty Park
- Main Festival Weekend: Friday-Sunday, July 24-26, Liberty Park

## Weekend Event Hours

- Festival: July 24, noon to 8 p.m.  
July 25, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
July 26, noon to 6 p.m.
- Parade: Saturday, July 25, 10 a.m., S. 3rd St.
- Rubber Ducky Derby: Sunday, July 26, 4:30 p.m., Houser Street Bridge, Cedar River

For the complete schedule of festival events call 425-430-6528 or visit [www.RentonRiverDays.org](http://www.RentonRiverDays.org).



## SUMMER READING PROGRAM BEGINS

Did you know that the Summer Reading Program isn't just for kids? This year the whole family can drop by the Renton Main Library or Highlands Library throughout the summer and enjoy great books and activities for children, teens and adults. The Children's Summer Reading Program "Be Creative" is open to ages birth to 11 years. For teens, the program is themed "Express Yourself" and is open to ages 12 to 17. Adults can share what they are reading for a chance to win readers' gift baskets during our "Summer of Reading."

Registration begins at the Highlands and Renton Main branches Monday, June 22.

For more information, visit us at [library.rentonwa.gov](http://library.rentonwa.gov) or call 425-430-6610.

## GEAR UP FOR DIGITAL TELEVISION

As of June 12, most TV broadcasting is now broadcast only in digital. Federal law required the switch, which freed up the airwaves for police, fire, and emergency rescue communications, allowing broadcasters to offer more programming choices with better picture and sound quality, and provide for advanced wireless services for consumers. Viewers who previously got their signals "over the air," using a rooftop antenna or rabbit ears will now have to make some adjustments. Visit [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov) for more information.



## SWIM SEASON JUST AROUND CORNER

The Henry Moses Aquatic Center will open June 20 and close on September 7. Leisure swim times are noon to 3:30 p.m. and 4 to 7:30 p.m. seven days a week.

Monday and Wednesday evenings offer a Twilight Swim from 8 to 10 p.m. Lifeguards

will go on duty June 20 at both Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park and Kennydale Beach Park. Both beaches will be guarded seven days a week from noon to 8 p.m. until September 7.

The boat launch at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park will be staffed Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. beginning June 19 and ending September 7.

