



# This Week in Renton

Mayor Armondo Pavone



Send story ideas or comments to [communications@rentonwa.gov](mailto:communications@rentonwa.gov).

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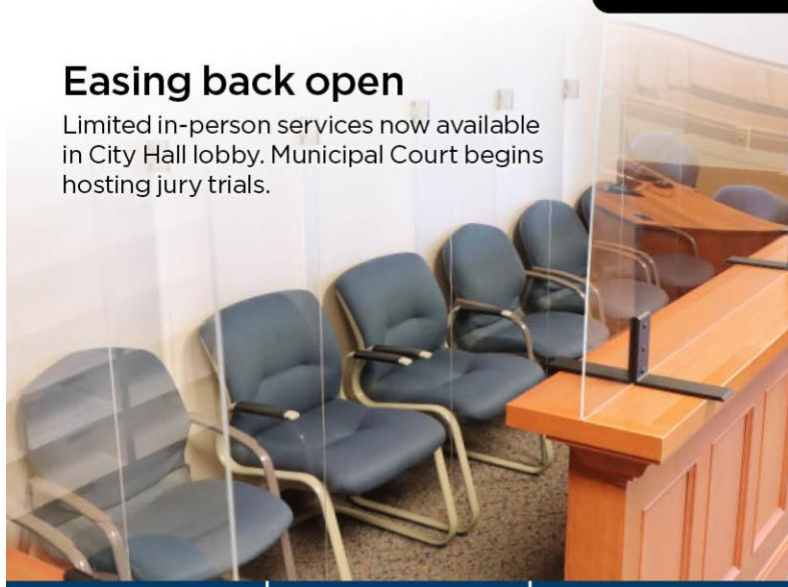
## This Week in Renton

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### Easing back open

Limited in-person services now available in City Hall lobby. Municipal Court begins hosting jury trials.



PHOTO

Renton police debut "Pop-Up with a Cop"

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Deadline for Tourism Promotion Grants is July 23

FARMERS MARKET

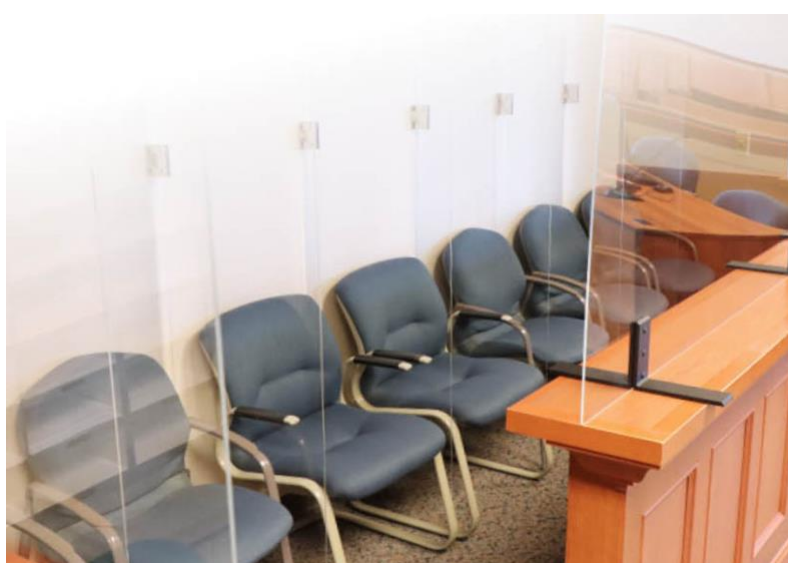
Every Tuesday from 3-7 p.m. Park free in City Center Garage

### PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Stephanie Hynes, one of Renton Police Department's Community Programs coordinators, was with officers and staff at Tuesday's Renton Farmers Market on Tuesday as part of the department's "Pop-Up with a Cop" program. The program is one of many that will have officers and staff out in the community this summer. See below for more community activities.

### COVER STORY



Renton Municipal Court jurors are separated by plexiglass between seats and at the front and sides of the jury box.

### Limited in-person services at City Hall; court holds first jury trial

Two events have signaled we're moving closer to a return to normal day-to-day activities at City Hall.

Although City Hall has not fully reopened to the public, [limited in-person services](#) have been offered since July 6 and earlier this week, Renton Municipal Court successfully concluded their first jury trial.

The lobby-level customer service hub is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays [with limited services](#) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; court services are available on Thursdays and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Many of our services are [available without coming to City Hall](#). For example, while our in-person permit counter remains closed customers are able to call or go online to make an appointment with our team through our [Virtual Permit Center](#) and then attend these appointments using a city-provided computer in the hub. Customers are encouraged to take advantage of this and our other online options, but we are also working to safely meet the needs of our customers without internet access.

[Renton Municipal Court](#) pivoted quickly to conducting business online when the pandemic hit. Now, as restrictions have rolled back, they have moved to a hybrid in-person/virtual model for trials.

The jury box, bench, witness stand, and attorneys' tables are all separated by Plexiglas in the courtroom. Trial participants are escorted from the City Hall lobby to the third floor. Jurors are escorted in and out of the building and to and from the deliberations courtroom.

For their first jury trial, the judge, both attorneys, and defendant were in the courtroom and conducted preliminary juror examinations (voir dire) via Zoom. This will remain in place even after City Hall fully re-opens. During the trial, court staff converted Courtroom One into a jury room, allowing jurors to move freely. In addition, technology allowed the room to continue to be used for virtual hearings.

"Having voir dire conducted virtually is a huge advantage for the juror selection process," said Bonnie Woodrow, courts services director. "Those not chosen appreciate the time saved."

Both the in-person service hub and court proceedings are conducted following county and state guidelines. Everyone entering City Hall is required to wear face coverings, as are city staff.

## TOURISM



### Tourism Promotion Grant application deadline is July 23

Friday, July 23, 4:30 p.m., is the deadline for submitting 2021 Tourism Promotion Grant applications. This second round of grants, which supports tourism marketing and operations in Renton, is available to convention and visitors bureaus, destination marketing organizations, non-profits such as chambers of commerce and lodging associations, and municipalities.

[Grant applications are available online.](#)

Finalists will present their applications to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) on Aug. 2 via Zoom. The committee will make its final recommendations for funding to Renton City Council by mid-August.

Tourism Promotion Grants are awarded by Renton City Council and funded by the state's Hotel-Motel Tax, collected on all city lodging stays of less than 30 days in length. LTAC, composed of councilmembers, lodging owners, and community members appointed by the mayor, reviews the grants. City council takes LTAC's recommendations under advisement when determining final grant awards.

## RECREATION



### HMAC second season registration opens July 26

Reservations for the second season at Henry Moses Aquatic Center will open at 8 a.m. on Monday, July 26. The second season runs from Aug. 1 to Sept. 6.

If you don't have an account in our PerfectMind registration system, you'll [have time to create one](#) before reservations begin.

Please remember, only tickets purchased through PerfectMind will be honored for admission.

## POLICE IN THE COMMUNITY

A dark blue graphic for the Virtual Youth Public Safety Academy. At the top, a red banner contains the text "VIRTUAL YOUTH PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY" and "WEDNESDAYS | JULY 21 - AUGUST 18". Below this is a list of six weeks, each preceded by a red star icon. At the bottom right are the logos for the Renton Police Department and the Renton Regional Fire Authority.

- ★ WEEK 1 (JULY 21): WHEN & HOW TO CALL 911
- ★ WEEK 2 (JULY 28): HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLANNING
- ★ WEEK 3 (AUG 4): BIKE SAFETY TIPS
- ★ WEEK 4 (AUG 11): WATER SAFETY TIPS
- ★ WEEK 6 (AUG 18): VIRTUAL Q & A WITH A POLICE OFFICER & FIREFIGHTER

### Virtual Youth Public Safety Academy

Are you looking for a fun and educational activity for your five to 12-year-olds this summer?

Renton Police Department has partnered with Renton Regional Fire Authority to present a five-week Virtual Youth Public Safety Academy.

Weekly from Wednesday, July 21 to August 11, the departments will [post a video with a link to an activity](#), which your child can complete at their own pace. You can participate in all activities or just the ones that are of interest.

On Wednesday, August 18, the last activity will be a virtual Q&A with a police officer and firefighter. It's an excellent opportunity to ask questions and learn about police and fire careers. [Pre-register to attend the Q&A only.](#)



## National Night Out

Renton Police Department will celebrate [National Night Out](#) at Renton Farmers Market on Tuesday, Aug. 3, from 3 to 7 p.m.

The department's booth will feature officers and personnel to answer your questions and engage in thoughtful conversation about topics of concern. In addition, there will be art activities and a prize wheel, where youngsters can spin for prizes.

Renton PD is also using the event to collect new pairs of shoes to benefit local students in partnership with [Communities In Schools of Renton-Tukwila](#). The shoes will be distributed during their Back-to-School event later in August.

The National Night Out celebration encourages neighborhood unity, awareness, safety, and police-community partnerships.

## RIVER DAYS



## River Days to hold neighborhood events

Renton River Days (RRD) will not be held this year in its traditional form. However, the group's volunteers have worked to create smaller events. River Day's [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) will have more information on these events:

- "In Search of Renton River Days with "'Flat' Gene & Liberty River" the week of July 19. This self-guided activity includes downloading, coloring, and decorating your own 'Flat' Gene & Liberty River (the festival's "River Kids"). Take their picture at your favorite community or RRD location. Post using #insearchofrentonriverdays and tell what you miss most and what you'd like to see in the future.
- "Music at the Piazza" on July 24. Piazza Park and the Pavilion come alive from 3 to 8:30 p.m. The day will feature two bands, a craft beer & wine garden and Rain City Too Food Truck. Shop downtown businesses. Come back to the Piazza to enjoy "Off the Hook – Old Skool Kool" from 3:30-5 p.m. and "Benicio 'Beni' Bryant and Average Joe w/SoundProof" from 6-8 p.m. Presented in partnership with Rain City Catering.
- "Night Out in the Neighborhood." Enjoy live entertainment and a movie. On July 30, it's "Tom & Jerry" at Highlands Park and Neighborhood Center. On August 13, enjoy "Raya and The Last Dragon" at Thomas Teasdale Park. Renton Road Shows begins each evening at 7 with live music. Enjoy the show live or [online by registering](#). Presented in partnership with the city's Recreation & Neighborhoods Division.

## FARMERS MARKET

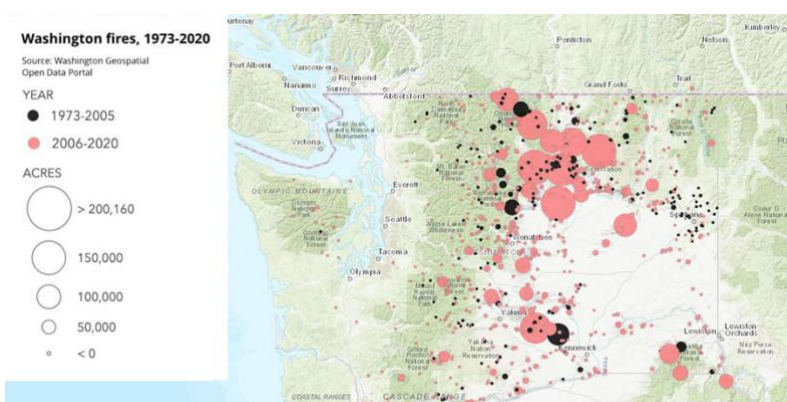


## Farmers Market: every Tuesday from 3-7 p.m.

[Renton Farmers Market](#) has more than farm fresh produce and flowers. There's arts & crafts from local artisans, breads, wines, and prepared foods for that grab-and-go dinner. The market offers a dollar-for-dollar match for up to \$40 with the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Market Match Bucks. This includes P-EBT (Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer) benefits. There's also Kid Corner and live music on the Piazza Park Terrace. Check the [market's website](#) for each week's specials.

Shoppers can park for free one block away at the City Center Garage (655 S. Second St.). The market is also adjacent to the Renton Transit Center for easy access via public transportation.

## PUBLIC WORKS



## Preparing for wildfires

Hot temperatures, drought, and dry vegetation are conditions that provide fuel for wildfires.

Here are ways to prepare your home and yard from our solid waste division:

- Clear leaves and debris from gutters, eaves, porches, and decks.
- Cut back vegetation. You can compost leaves and foliage through the city's curbside organics collection program.

- Move flammable materials such as firewood piles and unwanted or stored items away from the house.

Recycle unwanted items at drop-off sites listed on [Renton Recycling Resources](#) or King County's [What do I do with ...?](#)

Single-family residential garbage customers within the city limits may schedule one free pickup of extra garbage through the [2021 Clean Sweep program](#).

King County's emergency management department has more [tips to prepare for wildfires](#) and [wildfire smoke](#) in multiple languages.

## PRIMARY ELECTION



# Key Dates

- **July 14**  
Ballots mailed
- **July 15**  
Drop boxes open
- **July 19**  
Voters should have their ballot in hand by the 7/19 mail delivery
- **July 26**  
Deadline to register to vote online or by mail
- **August 3**  
Election Day! Drop boxes close at 8 p.m. sharp



[kingcounty.gov/depts/elections](http://kingcounty.gov/depts/elections)

### August Primary Election ballots due by Aug. 3

Election ballots for the [Aug. 3 Primary Election](#) started arriving earlier this week. Ballot drop boxes will open July 15 and close at 8 p.m. on election day. Mailed ballots must be postmarked by Aug. 3. Mailing is postage-free.

## METRO



### Metro's Safety, Security, and Fare Enforcement Reform

King County Metro is looking to reform its transit safety, security, and fare enforcement policies and practices through the [SaFE reform initiative](#).

Through July 25, Metro is [conducting a survey](#) to make riding Metro safe. The information will help them establish what safety means, develop community guidelines, and create a vision statement. Their process will center on Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities, which continue to be disproportionately and negatively impacted due to the challenges of systemic racism.

The survey is available in English, Amharic, Arabic (modern standard), Chinese (traditional), Dari, French, Korean, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.

## COVID RESOURCES

# COVID-19 RESOURCES & NEWS

### COVID-19 grants available to small businesses in unincorporated King County

Small businesses in unincorporated King County can [apply for grants of up to \\$25,000](#) to help them recover from the effects of COVID-19. These funds can reimburse rent, employee payroll, goods, services, and other COVID-19-related expenses.

To be eligible, a business must:

- Be active and licensed in the state of Washington with a physical business address in unincorporated King County.
- Have 30 or fewer full-time employees.

- Have gross revenues of \$3 million or less per year.

## WINE WALK



### Wine Walk a success; plans underway for fall version

Hopefully you were able to partake in [Renton Downtown Partnership's Wine Walk](#) last Saturday.

The sold-out event featured 10 local wineries in three tasting areas for ticket holders.

Ticket holders and non-ticket holders enjoyed a beer garden, two vendor markets, and specials and discounts at 25 featured downtown businesses. In addition, 358 bottles of wine were purchased.

Congratulations to these raffle winners:

- Renton Staycation Package: Joni Henwick
- Merrill Gardens Wine Basket: David Gill

Plans are already underway for a fall Wine Walk.

## CITY COUNCIL



*Mayor Armondo Pavone (center front) is flanked by the 2021 Renton City Council. Ruth Pérez and Council President Randy Corman are seated in the front row. Standing: Valerie O'Halloran, Ed Prince, Council President Pro Tem Ryan McIrvine, Kim-Khánh Vãn, and Anaelina Benedetti.*

### July 12 meeting

- [Meeting documents](#) (approved committee reports, motion sheets, and council committee meeting calendar)
- [Council meeting video](#)
- Committee of the Whole video (COW did not meet on July 12)
- [Approved Minutes](#) (June 28 meeting. No council meeting on July 5)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Renton City Council meets via Zoom. For information on viewing or participating in a council meeting, go to [rentonwa.gov/council](#). Past meetings are available at [rentonwa.gov/youtube](#).

The council will next meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, July 19. Committee of the Whole will meet at 6 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES



### Renton Outdoors

Coast & Forest presents an outdoor adventure in our own city parks this summer. On Sunday mornings, discover local feathered friends and other wildlife in Birding Education, Birding Social, or River Walks series. Monday evenings dabble in Journaling in Nature for your creative side. [Register online](#) and type "Renton Outdoors" in the search box for the full lineup.



### Dog Days and summer special events

Take the opportunity to spoil your pooch and help feed others at these doggone fun events:

**Sunday, July 25, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Pet Food Drive**, Renton Community Center. To kick off our Dog Days of Summer celebration, we are hosting a pet food drive in partnership with Renton Chamber of Commerce.

**Tuesday, July 27, 4-8 p.m., Downtown Dog Walk**. In partnership with Renton Chamber of Commerce, we are inviting Renton's dogs and their owners to join us for an evening stroll through Renton's Downtown.

**Thursday, July 29, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Puppuccinos in the Park**, Cedar River Dog Park. Connect with other Renton residents and their pets and get a [puppuccino](#) for your pup. We will also be taking on-site registration for our upcoming Pooch Plunge series at Henry Moses Aquatic Center.

**Sunday, August 1, 12-4 p.m., Yappy Hour!** Hyatt Regency at Lake Washington dock. Enjoy quality time with your four-legged friend for a good cause, as the Hyatt Regency at Lake Washington raises money for the Seattle Humane Society. During Yappy Hour, \$1 from every Tito's drink purchased will be donated to the Seattle Humane Society. We will also be taking registration for our Pooch Plunge series at Henry Moses Aquatic Center and providing attendees information on pet licensing, animal recreation opportunities, and more.

## CALENDAR

**Daily, Senior Meals, Mon.-Fri., 11:30 a.m.**, free, drive-thru sack lunch pick up at [Renton Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave. N.](#) Limited quantities.

**Mondays, 5:30–7:30 p.m.**, [Sustainable Renton free drive-through grocery store](#) at [St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, 1700 Edmonds Ave. NE.](#)

**Tuesdays, 3–7 p.m.**, [Renton Farmers Market](#), Gateway Park, South Third Street & Logan Avenue South Through Sept. 28.

**Wednesdays, 6 p.m.**, **Renton Live!** Online connection promoting business, nonprofits, and activities within the greater Renton community. Find the weekly link on the [Renton Live Facebook page](#).

**Library resources and events**, ongoing. Filter by event, program, and location. [kcls.org](#)

**Tuesdays in July, 12:30–2 p.m.**, **Emergency Feeding Program** at Liberty Park. Weekly free lunch event for the unsheltered and residents with food insecurities. Along with ready-to-eat food and drinks, personal hygiene kits, socks, and cleaning supplies will be available.

Renton History Museum hosts [Facing the Inferno: The Wildfire Photography of Kari Greer](#) through July 30. It features over 60 dramatic photographs taken by the official photographer for the National Interagency Fire Center. The museum is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Friday, July 16, 3-5 p.m.**, **Skyway Resource Center** at [Campbell Hill Elementary](#). This event, held every other Friday, is a FREE drive-through multi-service center to access various resources. Find the events on the Renton Innovation Zone Partnership [Facebook page](#).

**Thursday, July 22, 1-4 p.m. PlayStreets Benson!** Enjoy games, snacks, arts & crafts at this block party for all ages. PlayStreets advocates for healthier and stronger communities by creating safe and accessible residential play areas.

## COVID-19 VACCINE



## VACCINE FINDER

### Valley Medical Center

- Walk-in Pfizer and Moderna [free clinic for anyone 12 and older](#) from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- [Schedule an appointment](#).

### HealthPoint

- Drive through [testing and vaccination site](#) (805 SW 10th St., 98057), offers drive-through access for the Pfizer vaccine.
- Appointments for 12–16-year-olds or new patients can be made by calling 866-893-5717.
- Current patients over age 18 can use [MyHealthPoint Portal](#) to schedule an appointment.

### Kaiser Permanente

- [Glacier Building](#) and the [Rainier Building](#) are accepting appointments. You do not have to be a Kaiser Permanente member.
- Schedule appointment: 877-832-9915, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Saturday 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Interpreters are available. Patients who are 16-17 years old must have a parent or guardian call to schedule their appointment.
- [Schedule online](#).

### Car-side vaccination in Auburn

- [Auburn vaccination clinic](#) offers car-side service on Mondays.

### Mass vaccination sites

Kent: The ShoWare Center, 625 W. James St., Kent, WA 98032

Auburn: 1101 Outlet Collection Way, Suite 1333, Auburn, WA 98001

- [Register for an appointment](#) (available in English only)
- Schedule via phone: If you need language interpretation or online help, the following hotlines are available. Please say your preferred language when connected:
  - WA State COVID-19 Assistance hotline: 1-800-525-0127 or 1-888-856-5816 (then press #), 6 a.m.-10 p.m. (Monday), 6 a.m.-6 p.m. (Tuesday-Sunday)
  - King County COVID-19 Call Center: 206-477-3977, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
  - For telephone-to-text relay service, dial: 7-1-1 or 1-800-833-6384. For tactile interpretation, contact: <http://seattledbsc.org/>.
- Walk-in vaccination (no appointment required) is also available Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., while supplies last.