



This Week in Renton

Mayor Armando Pavone



Send story ideas or comments to communications@rentonwa.gov.

Translation of the newsletter is available on the City of Renton's website. For additional translation services contact communications@rentonwa.gov.

If you're not already a subscriber, please [sign up and get up-to-date news and information](#) from City Hall.

Friday, Oct. 29, 2021 | Vol. VI | Issue 39

VOLUME VI, ISSUE 39
OCTOBER 29, 2021

This Week in Renton

Mayor Armando Pavone

[Click to read](#)

Holiday events

The city and its partners have planned a variety of events for the holiday season

CITY HALL Councilmember Benedetti to leave seat on Nov. 22	COMMUNITY City signs lease with Bezos Academy	EVENTS Olde Fashioned Scavenger Hunt concludes Saturday
--	---	---

Holiday events

The city and its partners have planned a variety of events for this holiday season

The holiday season is fast approaching. City staff and community groups are working hard to put the finishing touches on various special holiday activities planned for families in November and December.

Here's a brief look at what we have planned-so you can add the events to your calendar. As we get closer, you'll find the most current information at rentonwa.gov/events.

- Fall Harvest Food Drive:** The city's recreation division hosts the Fall Harvest Food Drive on Saturday, Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at [Renton Community Center](#) (1715 Maple Valley Hwy. 98057). City staff will collect non-perishable food items and unopened personal hygiene items for distribution by our partners to the community. Send your questions to recreation@rentonwa.gov.
- Senior Thanksgiving Dinner:** A Renton tradition for 27 years that even COVID-19 can't stop. As we did in 2020, city staff and community will combine with Sound Generations to prepare free Thanksgiving dinners. Meals are for adults 50 or over. Reservations are required for each individual and can be made from Nov. 1 to noon on Nov. 19. Make your reservation by calling 425-430-6633, visiting the [Senior Activity Center](#), or [online](#) using code 10260. The number of meals is limited, so please register early. Meals can be picked up starting at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 24, at the [Senior Activity Center](#) (211 Burnett Ave. N. 98057). The meals are delivered to your vehicle.
- Small Business Saturday and Annual Tree Lighting:** Celebrate [Small Business Saturday](#) and watch the annual tree lighting on Saturday, Nov. 27, at [Renton Pavilion Event Center and Piazza Park](#) (233 Burnett Ave. S. 98057). Small Business Saturday events run from 12 to 7 p.m. and include craft vendors and entertainment. In addition, visit the Holiday Farmers Market in Piazza Park from 12 to 4 p.m. The tree lighting takes place at 5 p.m., followed by the arrival of Santa Claus. The day's events are presented by the city and [Renton Downtown Partnership](#). Free parking is available at the nearby [City Center Parking Garage](#).
- Renton's Holiday Lights:** Holiday lights will be displayed at [Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park](#) (1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N. 98056) from 5 to 9 p.m., starting Dec. 3 and running through Jan. 1, 2022. COVID-19 protocols will prevent us from having an opening night event. However, Argosy Christmas ship will perform on Dec. 3 from 8:10 to 8:30 p.m. Holiday lights will also decorate Piazza Park. New for 2021, lights will also adorn light street poles in the downtown business core along South Third Street.
- Santa House:** [Renton Downtown Partnership](#) and Renton Civic Theatre (507 S. Third St. 98057) present [Santa House](#). The house is open on Saturday, Dec. 4, 11, and 18, from 1 to 4 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. Have your holiday photo taken, and then download it for free. Prints will be available for a suggested donation.

- **K9 Candy Cane 5K Fun Run and Walk:** Sunday, Dec. 5, 9:15 a.m., [Renton Community Center](#) (1715 Maple Valley Hwy. 98057). Competitive and recreational runners, walkers, and families--with or without dogs--are invited to the [K9 Candy Cane 5K Fun Run and Walk](#) along the beautiful Cedar River. [Early Bird registration:](#) \$28 (through Nov. 8). After: \$33. Register before 10 a.m. on Nov. 24 to receive an event sweatshirt. Professional chip timing is included.
- **Battle of the Badges, Holiday Light Edition:** Friday, Dec. 10, 6-7:30 p.m., [Renton Community Center](#) parking lot (1715 Maple Valley Hwy. 98057). Public safety personnel from around the region will decorate their safety vehicles or a 10'x10' tent in the holiday theme of their choice. The community can then drive through and vote for their favorite based on the creative use of lights, overall design, and holiday spirit.
- **Elf Academy & Drive Through Graduation:** Santa needs more certified elves. If you can help with good deeds, kindness, and following directions, then sign up for Elf Academy and lend a hand. Elves are invited to the drive-thru graduation ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 18, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at [Renton Community Center](#) (1715 Maple Valley Hwy. 98057). They'll be saluted by special friends of the North Pole and a very special guest. [Register online](#). Cost is \$15 for Renton residents and \$18 for non-residents.
- **Polar Bear Plunge:** Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022, [Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park](#) (1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N. 98056) for another Renton tradition, [Polar Bear Plunge](#). Join your family, friends, and neighbors to ring in the new year with a plunge into Lake Washington. The 2022 Plunge requires registration for either a 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. time slot. Registration opens on Dec. 1. Our [Polar Bear Plunge](#) webpage has session times and updates.

Angelina Benedetti to leave council seat on Nov. 22

Councilmember Angelina Benedetti's term and service on Renton City Council will conclude on Monday, Nov. 22.

Councilmember Benedetti [was appointed in February 2020](#) to fulfill the unexpired position #2 term of Armondo Pavone, who was elected mayor in November 2019.

During her time on council, she earned a [Certificate of Municipal Leadership](#) from the Association of Washington Cities. The program recognizes city elected officials for accomplishing training in four core areas. Councilmember Benedetti completed more than 30 hours of training to earn this distinction.



City Councilmember Angelina Benedetti

Due to [RCW 42.12.070](#) – Filling Non-Partisan Vacancies, her term will end one month earlier than originally announced. Nevertheless, she looks back fondly and with a civic duty for time served on the council.

"I wanted to be a part of the city council because it is one of the best ways to serve our community," she says. "That has proven true, especially during one of the most challenging times in our nation's and city's history.

"Despite the obstacles, we were able to make significant gains in areas of critical importance - affordable housing, equity and inclusion, and transforming our public spaces. The employees who work in the city are its' backbone. Their commitment to the quality of life of every person in Renton is evident in the many ways they stepped up these past nineteen months.

"I will continue to look for ways to serve our community. Thank you for the gift of this opportunity and the kindness you have shown in my time on council."

Translate This Week in Renton: rentonwa.gov/twir.

A look at this week's news

A recap of news posted on the city's social media accounts. We're @cityofrenton on Facebook, Instagram, & Twitter. We're also on Nextdoor.

[City signs lease with Bezos Academy](#)

[Take the Renton Responds Survey](#)

[Navigating City Contracting](#)

Sunset Oaks: [latest affordable housing project is now leasing](#).

[Help keep storm drains clear](#)

[Renton Regional Fire Authority host open houses in October](#)

Event: [Olde Fashioned Scavenger Hunt](#) ends Saturday

Photo Feature: [Halloween Drive-Thru on Oct. 22](#)

[Traffic Projects](#)

Glad You Asked: [First funeral homes in Renton](#)

[Recycle event keeps almost 4.5 tons of materials from landfill](#)

[City Council update](#)

[COVID-19 vaccines](#)

EVENTS

Oct. 30, Olde Fashioned Halloween Scavenger Hunt, downtown. Free. Download your map to the storefront clues from [Renton Downtown Partnership](#). Solve the riddle and turn in your

completed game card on Saturday, Oct. 30, in [Gateway Park](#), from 1 to 5 p.m. to claim your goodie bag.

CALENDAR

Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Free. Sustainable Renton [drive-thru grocery store, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church](#).

Wednesdays, 6 p.m., Renton Live! Online connection promoting business, non-profits, and activities within the Renton community. Find the weekly link on their new [Renton Live Facebook page](#).

Daily, King County Libraries, resources and events. Filter by [event, program, and location](#).

When You Can't Go Home, portraits by Karisa Keasey through Nov. 6, [Renton History Museum](#). The museum is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.