Cortona Building wins state preservation award

The Cortona Building downtown has been awarded a State Historic Preservation Officer Valerie Sivinski Award for Outstanding Rehabilitation.

Many of you remember the building as the home of F.W. Woolworth Company from its construction in 1954. It later housed the Bonanza 98 Cent Store and Renton Western Wear.

The Cortona LLC group, headed by Dave and Monica Brethauser, bought the building in 2015 and restored its mid-century modern features and status as the centerpiece of the downtown retail core. Today it is home to five entrepreneurial businesses: Boon Boona Coffee, Urban Sprouts, The Pencil Test, and Ascendance Dance Studio.

Upstairs is the Mind Share Work Lounge featuring rentable offices and meeting space for entrepreneurs.

The Sivinski Award is the second for Cortona LLC on the project. In 2016, they were awarded the John D. Spellman Award for Historic Preservation by King County. The Cortona Building is on the Washington Heritage Register, the state’s official listing of historically significant sites and properties.

Cover Story

It’s been a busy few days around the city with the Memorial Day holiday, Black Lives Matter Art Walk, raising of the Pride Flag, and the opening of Renton Farmers Market. If you missed any or all, here’s a brief recap in reverse chronological order.

Our Flickr page has many more photos of each event.
This year are hot food vendors, providing that enticing grab-and-go dinner option. The Healthy Kids Corner is also back and debuts on June 29. Look for their booth at the market’s exit, where staff from Washington State University’s Extension SNAP-Ed, along with Piazza Renton volunteers, will be handing out homemade play-dough and fun kids activities.

The market also participates in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which includes P-EBT (Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer) benefits. The market offers a dollar-for-dollar match for up to $40 with the SNAP Market Match Bucks each market day.

Shoppers are encouraged to take advantage of the free two-hour parking available close by at the City Center Parking Garage. The market is also adjacent to the Renton Transit Center.

Thanks to our market sponsors Kaiser Permanente, Renton Downtown Partnership, and Renton Community Marketing Campaign.

The market is open every Tuesday from 3 to 7 p.m. at Gateway Park (S. Third St. & Logan Ave. S).

Pride Flag flies over city hall

On Tuesday morning, Renton’s LGBTQIA+ community members joined Mayor Armondo Pavone to raise the Pride Flag at city hall to celebrate LGBTQIA+ Pride Month.

This year’s flag, the Progress Pride Flag, was donated to the city by Renton’s LGBTQIA+ community. This flag adds a five-colored chevron to the original version of the pride flag. The chevron places greater emphasis on “inclusion and progression.”

Memorial Day

On Monday, the city commemorated and remembered the sacrifices made by our military personnel with a ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park. A group of veterans from Renton’s American Legion Post #19 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1263 were joined by city leaders to place a wreath at the base of the eagle statue in the park.

Black Lives Matter Artwalk

A talented group of artists, singers, dancers, and poets were featured as part of the second annual Black Lives Matter Artwalk last Saturday. The event was coordinated by Renton Municipal Arts Commission and hosted by Renton Chamber of Commerce.

This year’s event theme was “Embodying Black Excellence.”

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Hate Has No Home Here materials available

When community members of different races, religions, and nationalities move past apathy to investment in one another, we can overcome racism and intolerance, and move towards a better future for Renton. That’s the purpose of the Hate Has No Home Here campaign. Knowing that it’s easy to hate people we don’t know, the campaign started in North Park, a Chicago neighborhood characterized by its diversity of age, race, nationality, and ethnicity. A kindergartner and a third grader developed the phrasing, and a neighborhood organization developed a campaign to welcome all people to their community.

By putting a poster in the window of your home or business or a sign in your yard, you’re telling everyone that speech and hateful actions against others will not be tolerated. You’ve also positioned yourself as a refuge for those who might be subjected to intolerance.

We hope you’ll join with the city and proudly display Hate Has No Home Here materials. Our No Hate website has information about what the city has done over the years to ensure Renton is welcoming to all. There is also a Hate Has No Home Here poster, flyer, and yard sign to download and print. All materials have “Hate Has No Home Here” in the top seven languages spoken in Renton.
Comcast RISE grants available to small BIPOC-owned businesses

Comcast RISE is a multi-year commitment to provide marketing, creative, media, and technology services to small businesses owned by people of color. The latest round of grants went to 69 BIPOC-owned (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) small businesses in Washington. Your business is eligible if you meet the following criteria:

• At least 51% owned and operated by people of color
• Independently owned and operated
• Registered to conduct business in the US
• Operating for one or more year
• Located within the Comcast Business or Effective service area footprint

The deadline for the latest round of funding is July 31, 2021.

Work underway at Liberty Park playground

The first phase of playground renovation at Liberty Park is underway. The park’s play equipment and wood fiber safety surface have been removed. New play equipment will be installed for ages 2-5 and 5-12. The new safety surface will be a poured-in-place rubberized all-weather material. Completion is planned for mid-August of this year. The park is open during construction.

Park Project Updates

• Kiwanis Park Improvements – Project began in Sept. 2019 and is tentatively scheduled for completion by the end of July 2022.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Secure Your Load Day

June 6 is Secure Your Load Day. It’s a reminder to all of us that unsecured loads can pose a deadly hazard to motorists. It’s also a time to remember those injured or killed because of unsecured loads and road debris.

It only takes a few minutes and basic supplies such as rope, straps, and netting to secure a load. Below are practical tips and videos links for securing loads.

1. Place lighter items below heavier items to keep them in place. Securely fasten the heavy items directly to your vehicle.
2. Tie down items using rope, netting, straps, or chains.
3. Add extra protection by covering the entire load with a tarp or netting. Make sure that any covering is securely tied down.
4. Don’t overload vehicles or trailers.
5. Double-check to be sure the load is secure.
6. Speed, weight, and gravity are not load-securing devices. Ropes, straps, and netting are load-securing devices. View practical tips for securing loads in videos from the King County Solid Waste Division, Washington State Department of Ecology, and the Washington State Patrol.

Law enforcement in Washington state can issue a $228 fine for transporting an unsecured load. If an item falls off a vehicle and injures someone, motorists in Washington face a fine of up to $5,000 plus jail time.
Transportation

State is moving to new tolling system
If you use one of the state's toll roads, you'll notice a change starting June 18. State DOT will be taking the current Good To Go! tolling system offline for two weeks while they transition to a new system.
During the closure, you'll be unable to access your account, pay tolls, or reach customer service. However, you will still be charged the appropriate amount.
Their website has steps to prepare for the two-week closure.

COVID-19 update

Update on mask directives for businesses
Public Health – Seattle & King County has produced a frequently asked questions sheet for business regarding the latest mask directive. They have also provided an informational poster.
The FAQs are specific to public health's May 20 Local Health Officer Directive. The directive will remain in effect until 70% of residents age 16 and older in King County are fully vaccinated.

COVID-19 vaccine

King County Fire District 20
King County Fire District 20 offers vaccinations for those 12 and older every Wednesday through June 23 at their headquarters, 12424 76th Ave, Seattle, 98178. No appointments are necessary at this free walk-in clinic, open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. The June 9 clinic will open from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

Valley Medical Center
Uninsured, underinsured or minimally insured accepts walk-ins at their vaccine clinic from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You do not have to be a Valley patient. Appointment scheduling is still available. Valley is using the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines only. Everyone 12 years and older is eligible to be vaccinated.

HealthPoint
The HealthPoint COVID-19 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 also call 866-893-5717.

Kaiser Permanente
Kaiser Permanente’s Glacier Building and the Rainier Building are accepting appointments. You do not need to be a Kaiser Permanente member.
Call 1-877-932-9191, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and Saturday 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. to schedule by phone. Interpreters are available, simply state your preferred language when connected. Patients who are 16-17 years old must have a parent or guardian call to schedule their appointment.
You can also schedule online.

Car-side vaccination in Auburn
The Auburn vaccination clinic offers car-side service on Monday. Just let a greeter know upon arrival that car-side assistance is needed.

Mass vaccination sites
Kent: The Shvolve Center, 625 W. James St., Kent, WA 98032
Auburn: 1710 Outlet Collection Way, Suite 1233, 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.

COVID-19 vaccine
**This Week in Renton**

• WA State COVID-19 Assistance hotline: 1-800-525-1275 or 1-888-856-1816 (then press 6), 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. (Monday), 6 a.m. - 8 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/](http://seattledbsc.org/).

• Walk-in vaccination (no appointment required) is also available Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., while supplies last.

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**CITY COUNCIL**

There was no council meeting on Monday, May 31 due to the Memorial Day holiday. Council will meet next on Monday, June 7, at 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole will meet at 4 p.m.

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**EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**

**Support front-line workers by donating blood**

The city is partnering with Cascade Regional Blood Services for a blood drive. The drive is Monday, June 14, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Renton Community Center (1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy). Register online or by calling 877-242-5663 for help scheduling your appointment or if you have any questions about donating.

**Why donate?**

• 43,000 units of blood are needed each day in the U.S.

• A single-vehicle accident victim can require up to 100 units of blood.

• A single whole blood donation can save up to 3 lives.

• Cascade Regional Blood Services needs 100+ donations per day to serve our local community.

• Blood collected at Cascade Regional Blood Services goes directly to hospitals and patients in our community.

• If each donor donated just one more time per year, our community wouldn’t have critical blood supply shortages.

• Blood is used for trauma, cancer treatments, surgeries, childbirth, treating blood disorders, treating severe burns and infections, and more!

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**Adult Volleyball League**

What better way to spend summer evenings? Form a team with your volleyball-loving friends and register for the Outdoor Recreational Volleyball League. The league is for intermediate-level players with a minimum of two men and two women on the court at all times.

Games begin June 23 at Cedar River Park on Wednesdays from 6 - 9 p.m. Teams are guaranteed 8 matches, with 3 games per match (depending on the total number of teams). Top teams will advance to a league championship tournament. Space is limited!

Register at rentonwa.gov/register.

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**Basketball Skills Training: 3-Day Camp**

Join Triple Impact Coaching and Coach Ann-Moisey, Jr. for Summer Camp 2021. Coach Mosley and his staff work with players worldwide and are recognized for being leaders in youth basketball development. The July 20-22

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**3-Day Basketball Camp**

Ages 13-18

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Camp for ages 13-18 is designed to help players who play recreationally and competitive players looking to make their high school team. This program is all about competition, fundamentals (ball handling, basketball IQ, defensive positioning, footwork, passing and shooting), leadership development and social-emotional growth. Register: July 20-22 camp. Aug. 3-5 camp.

CALENDAR

Mon.-Fri., 11:30 a.m., Daily, Senior Meals, free, drive-thru sack lunch pick up at Green Senior Activity Center, 31501 16th Ave. SE. Limited quantities.

Tuesdays, 3-7 p.m., Renton Farmers Market, Gateway Park, S. Third St. and Logan Ave. S. 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.

Renton History Museum is hosting an exhibit from the Prichard Gallery at the University of Idaho titled Facing the Inferno: The Wildfire Photography of Kari Greer through July 30. It features over 60 dramatic photographs of wildfire and smokejumpers from six western states, 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.

Thursday, June 10, 6-7:30 p.m., Drip irrigation for home gardeners. Chris Hoffer, Educator for Tilth Alliance, will show how easy it is to water a garden with water-efficient drip irrigation. Email LuAnn Imhoff to register.

Thursday, June 10, 6-7:30 p.m., Music in our Secondary Schools. Students will discuss how they managed their remote music education, including vocals, instruments, songwriting and composition. Visa Zoom. Register online. Presented by Beyond the Stage, a free, virtual series featuring a variety of local artistic creators.

Saturday, June 12, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Recycling Event, Renton Technical College. Accepted items are unusable tires, cardboard, mattresses and box springs ($15 for each piece). Please remember to secure your load and wear a face covering. We have event guidelines and a list of accepted items on our website.