Mayor Armondo Pavone has proclaimed April as Volunteer Appreciation Month to salute the hundreds of volunteers who make Renton a wonderful place to live, work, and play. “Volunteers are the lifeblood of our community,” said the mayor. “While we all have demands on our time, our volunteers find a way to make a difference in our community. We owe them a heartfelt thank you for donating their time and talents.”

Renton’s volunteers serve on the city’s almost two dozen boards, committees, and commissions, giving advice and counsel to city staff on issues ranging from the city budget to senior issues. They also help beautify and maintain our parks by planting trees and flowers, weeding, and spreading bark in play areas. You’ll also see them at the many events planned for later this year.

In 2021, 1,529 Renton volunteers donated 14,408 hours, up from 2020. Using 2020 analysis by the group Independent Sector, each volunteer hour in Washington was worth $33.75 per hour, well above the national average of $28.54. In addition to having a positive impact on the city’s budget, volunteers provide new ideas, energy, and opportunities to improve community relations as volunteers and city staff work side by side. On April 27, our city’s volunteers will be honored at the Volunteer Appreciation event, which will be a drive-through format. The annual event is our way of letting the volunteers know how much the city appreciates their invaluable contributions to our community.

KCSARC offers resources to sexual assault victims

Sexual assault knows no boundaries. It is among the most underreported crimes because victims fear being believed or traumatized by a system supposedly designed to protect them. Giving a voice to sexual assault victims, their families, and the community is the mission of King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC), located in Renton, their counselors are available 24/7/365 to give a voice to victims, create a change in beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors toward sexual violence, and encourage people to speak out.

Mayor Armondo Pavone has proclaimed April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Renton to support their work. We can alleviate the trauma of sexual violence by working together as a community. This can be accomplished by ensuring supportive resources are available to all survivors while standing up to harmful attitudes and behaviors that contribute to sexual violence.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of a sexual assault, please reach out to KCSARC to get information and support that will empower you to take your next steps.
The city is inviting public and non-profit agencies to apply for a second round of 2022 Tourism Promotion Grants. Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 13.

Eligible events are not limited to within the Renton city limits. However, events must show measurable drive-in tourism within the city limits. Organizations may apply for multiple events. The grants are funded by Washington state’s Hotel-Motel Tax, which is collected on all in-city lodging stays of less than 30 days.

In the news this week
A recap of news posted on the city’s social media accounts. You can find us (@cityofrenton) on Facebook, Instagram, & Twitter. Renton residents can also find us on Nextdoor.

City Council update (agendas, documents, and video from the most current meeting)
Arts and Culture Grants available (deadline: May 5, 2022)
City Hall reopen
City seeks candidates for Senior Advisory Board
Coffee with the Chief: April 20, 5-7 p.m., Starbucks (601 S. Grady Way)
COVID-19 (vaccine locations, current mandates, resources)

Parks Projects (Kennydale Beach, Kiwanis, Coulon)
Pop-up Lunches on Tuesdays
Recreation Guide (current classes, activities, leagues & events)
Traffic Projects (impactful traffic around the city)