**Fireworks show caps July 4 celebration**

As you make your Fourth of July plans, we hope you’ll include a visit to Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park for our annual fireworks show.

The evening starts with music from DJ Jordan at 6:30 p.m. Then, at 8 p.m., he switches to a live musical performance. At 7 p.m. Mayor Armondo Pavone will provide the official welcome. Finally, the day will conclude with the fireworks show at 10 p.m.

To help you in and out of the park and to make your day safe and enjoyable, Renton Police Department and the city have produced two videos, one in English and one in Spanish. Also, a reminder that the Coulon Park beach is open, but lifeguards will not be on duty. Kennedale Beach Park is also open and without lifeguards.

Police and fire officials want to remind everyone that the sale and discharge of personal fireworks (R4-5-070(c)97) within Renton city limits are prohibited. This ban has been in effect since 2005 and helps limit fireworks-related injuries and property damage.

King County has also banned the sale and discharge of fireworks in unincorporated areas of the county. The ban includes the communities of Skyway and Fairwood.

Citations may be issued for violations. Violators are subject to both civil and criminal penalties. Additionally, the sale, possession, or use of explosive devices such as M-80s, M-100s, and homemade or modified fireworks is a felony offense. Therefore, violators will face criminal charges.

Everyone working for the City of Renton, Renton Police Department, and Renton Regional Fire Authority wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July.

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**City Council approves renaming senior center for Don Persson**

At Monday’s meeting Renton City Council unanimously approved re-naming the Renton Senior Activity Center in honor of Don Persson. The center will now be called Don Persson Activity Center.

“I want to thank the council,” said Mayor Armondo Pavone. “It’s exceedingly rare to name a city facility for an individual, but Don richly deserves this honor for his selfless service to our community.”
Mr. Persson, who passed away on October 4, 2021, served the residents of Renton for 53 years, 33 years as a member of the Renton Police Department and 20 years as a city council member. He’s being honored for his accomplishments, tireless volunteerism, and dedication to the community.

The date for the dedication ceremony has not been set.

Summer events return

Parks and Recreation Department’s summer fun has kicked off. The offerings include free outdoor movies, concerts, and family fun.

Family Fun Entertainment

July 11: Cantando y Jugando, Sunset Neighborhood Park, 11:30 a.m.
July 19: Gansgango Music & Dance Co., Tiffany Park, 11 a.m.
Aug 1: Amazing Magic Show, Heritage Park, 1 p.m.

Concert Series @ 7 p.m.
July 12: The Kennydales, Coulon Park
Aug 17: Danny Godinez Group, Sunset Neighborhood Park, 7 p.m.
Aug 31: Cory Wilds Band, Piazza Park

Movies in the Park @Dusk

July 22: “Encanto,” Liberty Park
Aug 5: “Jungle Cruise,” Kennydale Lions Park
Aug 26: “Sing2,” Thomas Teasdale Park

Summer meals program underway

Mayor Armondo Pavone has proclaimed June 27 to July 1 Summer Meals Week in Renton.
Renton School District provides free summer meals to everyone ages one to 18 until August 19. No registration is required, and all meals must be eaten on site. There is no meal program on July 4.

Summer meal programs are most effective when paired with educational and enrichment activities, providing students a fun, safe place to be with friends; helping curb the learning loss experienced during the summer months; and preparing students to return to school ready to learn.
Arts commission funds six more projects

Earlier this month, Renton City Council approved $23,545 in the second round of funding for Renton Municipal Arts Commission. Renton City Council includes funding for an art grants program in the city’s annual budget.

The commission received funding requests in 2022 that almost doubled its entire budget for the year. As a result, members worked hard to stretch funding for as many projects as possible.

The grant money will support these six projects:

Anna Mia Davidson/Photography Exhibit
An exhibition of Ukrainian historical photographs will be held at Renton History Museum. The exhibit will include a corresponding program series in the North Gallery of the museum. The program will feature an artist talk and an evening of conversation led by history and Ukrainian studies professors to help put the images into historical context. $2,500

Ascendance Aerial Arts/Dance Instruction Scholarship Program
The scholarship program provides reduced or free opportunities for students to participate in lessons at Ascendance Aerial Arts. $2,400

Burnett Station Public Mural
Forest Lights will shine on a blank wall on the back of the Burnett Station Apartments, visible from S. 4th Street and the Renton Chamber of Commerce Building. $7,000

Cheryl D’Ambrosio/Plein Air Painting for disabled and senior citizens
A video production of Plein Air Painting instruction will bring awareness to these groups. Caretakers will also benefit from seeing how to facilitate outdoor art activities in our community. They will learn to think “outside the box” for the benefit of their client or family member. $1,910

Puget Sound Puppetry Festival/ 2022 Puppetry Festival
The annual celebration showcases local puppetry arts and traditions of Puget Sound. The festival provides access at low or no cost to under-served youth populations and the community at large. The goal is to entertain and inspire members of these communities to tell their stories. At the same time, they enjoy groundbreaking works in contemporary puppetry not ordinarily available in this area. $7,000

Renton PTA Reflections Program/ Renton Reflections Program
Reflections allows K-12 students to participate in their favorite expression of arts, whether writing a poem or short story, creating a unique video, dancing, musical composition, or visual arts. $2,735

Since 1965, Renton Municipal Arts Commission has served as an advisor to city staff to ensure artistic and cultural development through awareness, education, projects, and public art.
ORCA Business Incentive benefits employers and employees

Businesses in King County with fewer than 100 employees can receive up to 50% off the cost of ORCA Cards in the first year through the ORCA Business Passport program.

Employees can use the cards to ride on King County Metro (including on-demand services), King County Water Taxi, the Seattle Streetcar, and Metro’s regional transit partners (Community Transit, Kitsap Transit, Pierce Transit, Everett Transit, and Sound Transit).

Employers must offer ORCA Business Passport to all benefit-eligible employees to take advantage of the limited-time ORCA offer. Employers must also agree to have their employees participate in two short travel habits surveys. This incentive is only available to employers who have not participated in the ORCA Business Passport Program. The value is capped at $10,000.

To learn more about the ORCA Business Passport Program and the ORCA Business Incentive, go to the ORCA Business page or email employer.services@kingcounty.gov.

In other 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)

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)

Renton Farmers Market (Piazza Park, Tuesdays 3–7 p.m.)

Summer Events Guide

Traffic Projects (impactful traffic projects)