

Renton NOW



Sept/Oct 2007

RENTON, THE CENTER OF OPPORTUNITY



NEWS IN BRIEF

Renton's Fire Chief Receives National Recognition

Fire Chief I. David Daniels received the first annual Garry Briese Safety Performance Award from the International Association of Fire Chiefs for his significant contributions to the overall environment of health and safety in the Renton Fire Department and the fire service. Chief Daniels also received recognition from the Center for Public Safety Excellence as Chief Fire Officer, an exclusive honor among international candidates.

Roads & Transit Plan for Renton

The Roads & Transit Plan includes the following projects in Renton: I-405 Bellevue to Renton lane additions, SR 167/I-405 interchange HOV to HOV direct lane connection, SR 167 HOT (toll) lanes, southbound I-405 to eastbound SR 169 flyover ramp, and SR 167 Green River Valley corridor congestion relief projects. On August 20, the Renton City Council passed a resolution in support of the Roads & Transit Plan. Voters will vote on this package this November.

Wayfinding Signage Coming to Downtown

The city is developing a system of signs and landmarks to better assist visitors and residents into and around downtown Renton. The system will also better connect The Landing with downtown and enhance the identity of downtown.

Airport Noise Study Workshop and Community Open House

City of Renton residents are invited to an evening workshop and community open house on Wednesday, September 26, 2007, 7 - 9 p.m. at Renton City Hall to learn about airport noise effects and to provide input for the airport noise study, jointly funded by the City of Renton and the City of Mercer Island. The Renton Airport Advisory Committee (RAAC) will meet at 5:00 p.m. on September 26 prior to the community meeting.

Volunteer English Tutors Needed

The City of Renton is recruiting volunteers to help residents who are learning English. If you have any experience or interest in helping others learn English, contact Karen Bergsvik at 425-430-6652.

PHOTO ENFORCEMENT MAKES SAFER STREETS

Speeding and running red lights jeopardize public safety on a daily basis. To counteract this danger, the City of Renton will soon be launching a photo enforcement program at key traffic intersections and school zones to make our streets safer for drivers and our kids.

Photo enforcement cameras will be placed at intersections and in school zones to capture images of violations as they happen. Since a photo won't be taken until the law is broken, and the cameras only capture pictures of the license plate, these cameras pose no threat to privacy.

The City of Renton is currently evaluating at which high-traffic intersections and school zones the cameras will be installed. As part of an emphasis on school zone speeds, areas under consideration include Renton High School, McKnight Middle School, and Talbot Hill Elementary. The city's plan is to install the cameras by the end of October 2007. There will be a warning period before notices of infraction are issued to registered owners of violating vehicles. Violators will be able to go online to view their violation. Look for updates and more information on this program at rentonwa.gov.



POLICE DEPT TAKES PART IN ACCREDITATION

On August 26 a team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., (CALEA) were in Renton to review all aspects of the police department's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services to evaluate whether the department meets the Commission's rigorous standards to gain accreditation – a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.

The Renton Police Department is one of only twelve departments out of 250 in Washington to be accredited by both CALEA and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC). The Commission will report on the accreditation process by the end of the year.

HOUSING REPAIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The City of Renton helps homeowners who have low to moderate incomes maintain their homes. These free services, focused on health and safety, are provided to city residents to help keep housing affordable and neighborhoods attractive and safe. Eligibility guidelines are listed below. For program information or an application call 425-430-6650 or go to rentonwa.gov and search for HRAP.

Families of the following sizes with the corresponding annual income qualify for this program.

Family Size : Max. Annual Income

1 : \$41,700	3 : \$53,650
2 : \$47,700	4 : \$59,600



RentonNow Feedback
RentonNow@ci.renton.wa.us

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

GREEN CITY RENTON



WashWise Rebate Program

The City of Renton in conjunction with Puget Sound Energy is offering WashWise program rebates of \$50 to \$100 for the purchase and installation of qualified energy and water-saving clothes washers. The more energy and water the washer saves, the higher the rebate.

For more information visit rentonwa.gov or www.pse.com or call 425-430-7287.

Saturday, September 15. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. **Fall Recycle Event.** Renton Technical College. Solid Waste Utility at 425-430-7396.

Tuesday, September 18. 3 - 7 p.m. **Last Farmer's Market of the season.** Piazza Park, downtown Renton.

Wednesday, September 26. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. **Map Your Neighborhood Facilitator Training** (Emergency Preparedness). Call 425-430-6700 or visit cybersignup.org to register online for Course #43080. **Airport Noise Study Workshop and Community Open House.** 7 - 9 p.m. Council Chambers, Renton City Hall.

Saturday, September 29. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. **Tiffany Park Grand Opening.** Children's activities and food provided. 425-430-6700.

October 1-31. **Downtown Storefront Scarecrows Display.** Throughout downtown.

Saturday, October 6. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Renton Chamber of Commerce Business Expo.** Spirit of Washington Event Center. 425-226-4560. **Fall Harvest Festival.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Piazza Park.

Thursday, October 18. 5 - 10 p.m. **2007 Citizen of the Year Banquet.** Renton Senior Activity Center. \$25. Sponsored by the Renton Chamber of Commerce.

Saturday, October 27. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Boo Carnival.** Renton Community Center. **Holiday Craft Bazaar.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Renton Senior Activity Center. 425-430-6633. **Downtown Trick or Treat.** 1 - 4 p.m. "Olde" Fashioned **Halloween Party.** 1 - 4 p.m. Main Street Square.

MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Work With Your Neighbors on Emergency Preparedness

Those who took the Ready in Renton challenge in August tested their personal emergency preparedness plans. To do more to help your community weather a disaster, the 2-hour "Map Your Neighborhood" facilitator training is a good first step. Learn how to organize a meeting with your neighbors and inventory the resources and needs in your immediate neighborhood. Call 425-430-7027 for more information.

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

The 6th annual Fall Harvest Festival is Saturday, October 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Piazza Park. It features produce, flower, food, and arts and crafts vendors; music; master gardeners; pumpkin decorating; and a scarecrow contest. The festival is a free event held in conjunction with the Renton Chamber of Commerce Business Expo (Spirit of Washington Event Center). For information call Piazza Renton at 425-228-1977 or Renton Chamber at 425-226-4560.

CITY CONTACTS

Area Code 425

- General Information** 430-6400
- Mayor** 430-6500
- City Council** 430-6501
- Municipal Court Judge** 430-6550
- Chief Administrative Officer** 430-6500
- City Clerk** 430-6510
- Code Enforcement** 430-7373
- Community Services** 430-6600
- Economic Development, Neighborhoods, & Strategic Planning** 430-6575
- Emergencies** **911**
- Finance & Information Services** 430-6850
- Fire/Emergency Services**. 430-7000
- Human Resources & Risk Management** 430-7650
- Planning/Building/Public Works** 430-7200
- Police** 430-7500
or epolice.rentonwa.gov
- Utility Billing** 430-6852

rentonwa.gov



The newest permanent addition to the Renton History Museum is the Fey's Roxy movie theater sign. The Roxy had been a center of social life for years since its 1936 opening. When it closed in 2001, the Renton Historical Society saved its sign. Thanks to grants from the City of Renton and many others, the Society had the sign refurbished to its former neon glory, preserving a piece of downtown Renton for future generations. Visit the museum to reminisce about the Roxy.

