



This Week from the Mayor



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River Days celebration starts at Senior BBQ



The Renton River Days celebrated our city's seniors with the annual Senior Barbeque at the Renton Community Center on Thursday. The 34th Renton River Days kicks off a full weekend of events Friday.

It's appropriate that we celebrate [Renton River Days](#) in July, the month we also annually designate as [Parks and Recreation Month](#).

Without vibrant parks and recreational programs that promote an active, healthy lifestyle, events like River Days, our concert and movie nights, farmers market, Cruz the Loop and Multicultural Festival to name a few would not be possible. They are hand-in-hand.

Events like these showcase what's great about Renton: our spirit of community and inclusiveness.

Taking advantage of our parks and recreational programs should not be confined to one month, it should be enjoyed year-round. Our programs can aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide a therapeutic release for those who suffer from mental or physical disabilities, and improve the mental and emotional health of all our residents.

Cities with strong parks and recreational programs also see a reduction in crime, a rise in property values, increased tourism, and business start-ups, all of which expands our tax base. The programs also help develop life-long friendships, promote teamwork and provide an avenue to give back to the community.

That's why we are so fortunate to have a community event like River Days, which relies on everything I've mentioned for its success.

For the past 34 years a dedicated group of volunteers has given their time and expertise to make River Days a must-attend event.

But as you enjoy the event, think of the location of the activities: Piazza Park, Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park, Cedar River Park, and Liberty Park. Notice a trend? They're all parks. Without a versatile and well-maintained system of parks, there is no River Days.

So whether this will be your first Renton River Days or your 34th, I hope you spend a couple days enjoying everything the festival has to offer. Immerse yourself in the celebration and try something new. It's a true community event that will allow you to have fun with friends both old and new.



The River Days parade marches down South Third Street on Saturday at 10 a.m.

City gets millions for flood control

WE RECEIVED GREAT NEWS earlier this week with the announcement that Renton will get over [\\$6 million in grant funding](#) from the King County Flood Control District and the Washington State Department of Ecology to help control flooding along the Cedar River and remove stormwater runoff.

My thanks to King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn, chair of the [King County Flood Control District Board](#), and the rest of the county council for their support. Thanks and congratulations also to our Public Works Department, including Administrator Gregg Zimmerman, Utility Systems Director Ronald Straka, Utility Engineering Manager Joseph Farah and their staff for their work in securing the grants.



The Cedar River flows through the heart of Renton.

Hyatt Regency turns two



Photo by Leah Abraham, Renton Reporter

IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE it was two years ago that the Seahawks Doug Baldwin cut the ribbon opening the new [Hyatt Regent Lake Washington](#). The Hyatt's spectacular views, ambiance, and location has truly made it a game-changing addition to our city. Thank you Michael and Min Christ for your vision and commitment in achieving your goal.

Feedback

Comments, questions or suggestions, or just want to share all the great things that are happening in the city, please [email](#) me. Thanks for reading. [Translate](#) | [Archive](#)