



This Week from the Mayor



SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

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Police present “Surviving Mass Violence”



Surviving Mass Violence

Houses of Worship

September 12, 2019 // 6:30–9:00 pm
Harambee Church // 316 S 3rd St, Renton

FREE // RSVP: facebook.com/RentonPDWA in events or on eventbrite.com
Questions: CPC Sandra Havlik at shavlik@rentonwa.gov or 425-430-7520

IT'S A SAD REALITY that we live in a country that experiences far too many episodes of mass shootings. It seems that almost any place, from shopping centers, schools, concerts to churches are all possible targets.

We struggle to find meaningful ways to address these threats. Involving the community in the discussions is one thing we're doing.

My [Mayor's Inclusion Task Force](#) meets regularly and includes representation from all facets of the Renton community including African-Americans, Chinese-Americans, Indians, Sikhs, Somalis, Vietnamese, Sudanese, Filipinos, Latinos, Ukrainians, LGBTQ, seniors, youth groups, and Muslim and other faith groups.

I encourage them to have open and honest conversations and work together to find “real solutions to real issues.” These meetings have addressed and solved many issues because they meet with respect and an understanding of each other's position.

The task force has also worked closely with Chief Ed VanValey and members of the Renton Police Department to develop community meetings that address the issues we face. For example, last month the department explained and demonstrated how and why officers sometimes have to use force in dealing with the public.

On Thursday, September 12, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Renton police will present “[Surviving Mass Violence](#)” in conjunction with Harambee Church (311 S. Third St.) and Pastor Caleb Mayberry. This important free presentation will focus on houses of worship or similar environments, but will also cover other mass violence situations and provide tips on what you can do if you find yourself in the wrong place at the wrong time.

I realize it's part of our nature to believe something that happened in a faraway place like Ohio or Texas couldn't happen here. But recent events have shown no city is immune. While we won't know the when and where the unspeakable might happen, we can take precautions and learn the best way to protect our families. Space is limited, but I hope you will [register and take part](#).

Renton turns 118 on Friday



A large crowd lined Third Street for the annual Renton River Days parade in July. River Days is one of dozens of events during the year that bring residents and visitors to Renton.

TOMORROW, RENTON TURNS 118 and she's aging beautifully. From our beginnings as a simple coal mining town to our position today as a leader in airplanes, health care and technology, our residents enjoy living in one the best cities in the state.

Both Renton School District and Renton Technical College are nationally recognized for their innovative programs and commitment to educating our community. Hyatt, Marriott and Hampton have all chosen Renton for new hotels and when [Southport](#) opens its doors, we'll have over 630,000 square feet of technologically advanced office space steps from Lake Washington. With the National Football League season kicking off tonight, we now turn our attention (and blue face paint) to the Seahawks, who call Renton home. Their players have become an [integral part of our community](#).

I think you'll agree with me that our [parks and trails](#) are second to none and provide hours of recreational activities for everyone. Revitalization efforts in downtown Renton and Sunset have added market-rate housing and new places to shop and dine.

But it's our people that make Renton a great place to live, work, play and learn. Thousands of you volunteer your time and talents every year and I thank you for all you have done and will continue to do.

So, on this our 118th birthday, it's appropriate to remember the pioneers who settled Renton. I'm positive they could not have imagined what was to come, but I know they would be proud of what we have become.

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](#)