

## Jennifer Davis Hayes

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**From:** Jennifer Davis Hayes  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 10:30 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Davis Hayes  
**Subject:** Downtown News - February 2010  
**Attachments:** DT\_Event Calendar\_2011\_one page.pdf; SIFF\_Renton\_Press\_Release\_2-17-11.pdf

**Welcome to the Downtown News** - the monthly e-mail about Downtown Renton. The goal is to keep you informed about what's happening in Downtown and share opportunities to become involved in Downtown.

Please share news of interest, special events and information about your business, the community or other items that impact Downtown Renton for the next newsletter. Let us know about topics that interest you or things we've missed. And please forward this to your peers! If you would like to join or be removed from this distribution, please e-mail [jdavishayes@rentonwa.gov](mailto:jdavishayes@rentonwa.gov).

In the next few months, the Downtown News will change its format to make it easier to read and link to exciting things happening in Downtown Renton. I look forward to hearing your feedback about these changes!

If you have questions or would like more information about items in this e-mail, please contact me and I will connect you with the appropriate contact.

Thank you for your support of Downtown Renton!

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### **HOT TOPICS:**

#### **King County Library System – “Take Time To Read” Book Cover Posters installed throughout Downtown Renton**

Have you noticed colorful posters throughout Downtown? From S 3<sup>rd</sup> & Shattuck Ave S to the Downtown library, Renton is one of eight locations throughout King County that is participating in KCLS's "Take Time to Read" Book Cover Walking Tour. Enjoy the book covers and you can call 425-507-0429 and enter the extension number on the poster (Renton's extensions range between 701 and 720) to hear an audio clip about the book. Brochures and other marketing materials will be distributed by KCLS in the next month. The book cover posters will remain up through May.

#### **Sustainability Lecture Series: Styrofoam - What to Do With It?, February 24, 7 – 8:30 pm**

Sustainable Renton, a community group working to foster a healthier community and planet, will host this free workshop on Thursday, February 24, 7 – 8:30 pm at the Renton Highlands Library (2902 NE 12th St). Marilyn Lauderdale from V&G Styro Recycle, a Renton-based business, will talk about what her business does with styrofoam to turn it into a recyclable material. There will also be a discussion on what steps the City of Seattle took to take styrofoam out of the city's waste stream. This is a free event, but donations can also be made to Sustainable Renton. For more information, contact [sustainablerenton@gmail.com](mailto:sustainablerenton@gmail.com) or (425) 255-3149.

#### **Renton Police Citizen's Academy accepting applications**

Is "CSI" your favorite show? Do you like "Law and Order"? Have you ever wondered what it's really like to be a police officer? Come find out! The next session of the Renton Police Department Citizen's Academy begins on March 1. Classes will be held on Tuesday nights for twelve weeks, and topics will include Patrol Operations, SWAT, Narcotics, Crisis Communications, K9 unit and more! The Academy includes a tour of the dispatch

center and a ride-along with a police officer. Attendees must be 18 years old and a background check will be conducted on all applicants. The class fills quickly, so submit your application today! For additional information or to download an application, go to the City's website at [www.rentonwa.gov](http://www.rentonwa.gov) or call 425-430-7520.

**Meet your Downtown business peers and stakeholders at the next Downtown Committee meeting, Wednesday, March 2, 8 am**

Join your business neighbors to learn more about what's happening in Downtown. Hear from Renton's Small Business Development Center Advisor Asbury Lockett at the next Downtown Committee meeting at Go Deli & Bakery, 306 Williams Ave S at 8 am. For more information, contact Kellie Jordan at [kjordan@gorenton.com](mailto:kjordan@gorenton.com) or 425-226-4560.

**Free CPR & AED (defibrillator) Training, March 7, 6 – 8 pm**

The Renton Fraternal Order of Eagles is hosting a free, open to the public CPR & AED Training on Monday, March 7, from 6- 8 pm at 220 Wells Ave S. Call 425-277-5450 to sign up.

**Help the Downtown shine by joining the Downtown Clean Up event, April 23, 9 am**

Mark your calendars for this year's Downtown Clean Up event to pick up litter, remove weeds, paint out graffiti and spiff up the area in preparation for the Spring Festival on May 7. All ages are welcome to join to make a difference in Downtown Renton. Meet in the Piazza at 9 am - gloves and tools provided. For more information, contact Mary Clymer at [happydelusions@yahoo.com](mailto:happydelusions@yahoo.com).

**Spring Festival and Downtown Poker Run scheduled for May 7, 12 – 5 pm**

This year's Spring Festival and Downtown Poker Run will be held a few weeks later to coincide with the Centennial Celebration at Renton High School. Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 7, for this great Spring event. Vendors interested in a booth can visit the Piazza Renton [website](#).

**People are talking about Renton!**

Check out the newest [videos](#) highlighting the wonderful things that make Renton a great place to live, work, play, learn and visit! Three high-energy videos help to tell the story about Renton – and invite others to become part of our community. As always, we welcome your support in telling the Renton story to anyone you think might be interested in opening a business in Renton. The videos are being noticed around the Puget Sound, including this [posting](#) that gives kudos to Renton for taking the lead in 'new media.' Thanks to the Renton Community Marketing Campaign for keeping Renton "Ahead of the Curve"!

**[SIFF is coming to Renton](#) in May 2011!**

Yes – the [Seattle International Film Festival \(SIFF\)](#) is coming to the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center May 20 – 26, 2011! SIFF is the longest running, largest and most highly attended film festival in the United States that will bring tremendous benefits to Renton's restaurants, hotels and other businesses. Take advantage of the 4,000+ visitors who will come to Downtown Renton! To advertise in the Renton Reporter special insert, contact Natalie Bonham at [nbonham@rentonreporter.com](mailto:nbonham@rentonreporter.com) or 425-255-3484. To sponsor SIFF, contact Sue Guthrie at [sue@siff.net](mailto:sue@siff.net) or 206-315-0684. To volunteer to help with this first annual event can contact [arts@rentonwa.gov](mailto:arts@rentonwa.gov).

**Are you with a nonprofit looking for space to hold a meeting or an event?**

Harambee, located in Downtown Renton at 316 S 3<sup>rd</sup>, offers nonprofits an opportunity to use their building for meetings or events. Contact [info@vivaharambee.com](mailto:info@vivaharambee.com) or go online to [www.vivaharambee.com/usage](http://www.vivaharambee.com/usage) for more information.

**Communities In Schools of Renton (CISR) Mentor Program recruiting mentors in March**

Do you have just one hour a week to provide the additional support and friendship that a young person needs to achieve their highest potential? The CISR Mentor Program links a caring adult with a child at school sites within the Renton School District. Each mentor-student relationship is different depending on the child's needs and interests. The common factor is building an inter-generational friendship to improve the student's well-being and self-esteem. Mentors spend time with their mentees in a school setting, building a relationship by playing games, making arts and crafts, telling stories, sharing life experiences, and learning about each other's hopes, dreams, and challenges. Please call 425-430-6659 or e-mail [emiverson@rentonwa.gov](mailto:emiverson@rentonwa.gov) to learn more.

## **Call for Renton High School memorabilia and nominations for Walls of Honor**

Do you have a sweater, cheer uniform, buttons, the “R” keg, senior radiator, sports or other uniforms, pictures, tickets from the loop, the XXX Barrel? The Renton High School Centennial Committee is searching for alumni to share items to display at the Centennial event on May 7. All items will be returned after the event. Please contact Roxanne (Nelson) Hanson at [rhanson@rentonhighschool.org](mailto:rhanson@rentonhighschool.org).

The Friends of Renton High School organization is now accepting nominations for its Walls of Honor. These prestigious honors recognize graduates of Renton High School who have succeeded in their personal and professional lives. Two award categories are the “Distinguished Alumni Award” and the “Athletic Hall of Fame Award.” Anyone may submit a nomination. Nomination forms can be downloaded at [www.CelebrateRentonHigh.org](http://www.CelebrateRentonHigh.org) and must be received by March 1, 2011.

## **Don't forget to promote the Shop Renton – CurveCard!**

Did you know that over 100,000 CurveCards have been distributed? And there are over 60 of your Downtown business peers participating in the Shop Renton campaign? You can utilize the [Shop Renton – CurveCard graphics](#) in any print or on-line marketing. For more information about the program or to obtain CurveCards for your customers, please contact the Economic Development Division at [dced@rentonwa.gov](mailto:dced@rentonwa.gov). **Thank you for shopping in Renton!**

## **Have you noticed...**

- construction in front of McLendon Hardware? The entrance way to the store will be expanded into the parking lot and showcase some garden items and possibly an espresso stand.
- the [Irish Market](#) in **A Terrible Beauty Irish Pub**? The store in the corner of the restaurant carries everything from pub clothing and handmade Irish wears to imported food and take home deli items.
- an “available” sign at **Vino** on the corner of S 3<sup>rd</sup> & Shattuck Ave S? The restaurant is still open but the building is for sale.

## **Additional topics this month: (please click on topic area to read more)**

[New and coming soon businesses in Downtown Renton](#)

[Business Resources that can Help You](#)

[Downtown Businesses in the News](#)

[Events: Downtown and special business events](#)

[Get Involved](#)

## **New businesses in Downtown Renton**

- Welcome to [Rain City Catering](#), the new operators of the Renton Pavilion Event Center in Downtown Renton. Owners Kenneth Rogers and Jeremy Bryant bring experience in catering, special events and high profile service. Call 206-395-5126 to reserve your Renton Pavilion Event Center event today!
- Have you heard popcorn popping in Downtown Renton? Now you can purchase 100 different flavors of popcorn from [Pop! Gourmet Popcorn](#) (916 Houser Way S). This specialty foods business moved into Downtown Renton in 2010 to produce the popcorn for sales at other venues and this month has added a retail space. Stop by to welcome David Israel and Sachin Ajith to Downtown between 11 am – 5 pm or call 206-682-1550.
- Welcome to artist **Jennifer Phillips** who joined **Lisa Lamoreaux** in her studio at 910 Houser Way S. Jennifer produces original art paintings and her work can be viewed on her [website](#) or by contacting her at 206-284-6726.
- [Splat Interactive](#) (221 Wells Ave S) is a professional services company for Social TV. To learn more about their business, contact them at 425-276-5286. Welcome to their Chief Executive Officer Tom Freeman and his staff!

- [Chuan Tao Kung Fu](#) (911 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St) offers classes in an all-encompassing martial arts system for all ages. Stop by and welcome owner Scott McMurray or call 425-255-3320.
- **Taylor's Auto Body** is now [Precision Collision Auto Body](#) (330 Main Ave S). Welcome to manager Kasey Guard who can be reached at the same number, 425-271-3001.

Businesses coming soon:

- **Luther's Table** - 419 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Suite A (check them out on Facebook)
- **The Berliner Pub** – 221 Main Ave S

No longer in Downtown:

**Bella Napoli** (509 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St) closed after nearly 6 years. Best of luck to Ciro in his next endeavor!

### **Business Resources that can help you!**

Check out the Renton Chamber of Commerce's Learn at Lunch workshop: "How to find, influence and convert more prospects into customers," Wednesday, March 9, 11:30 am-1 pm at 300 Rainier Ave N. Speaker Matt Heinz will walk through a specific framework your business can follow to find the right prospects, earn their attention & trust, then convert them into long-time, loyal customers. You'll walk away with specific plans, best practices and strategies to impact your sales & marketing results right away. Reservations are required and a light lunch will be provided; \$10 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-Chamber members. To register and for more information visit [www.GoRenton.com](http://www.GoRenton.com).

### **Downtown Businesses in the News**

"[Damaged salon finds angel](#)" highlights the Hair We Are generosity of opening salon space for Hairport Salon when it was damaged in a car accident during the busy holiday season in the January 7 edition of the *Renton Reporter*.

Valerie O'Halloran wrote the commentary "[Renton Community Foundation at heart of a giving community](#)" in the January 14 edition of the *Renton Reporter*.

"[KCSARC receives \\$5,000 grant](#)" reports on the **King County Sexual Assault Resource Center's** award from Puget Sound Energy in the January 14 edition of the *Renton Reporter*.

[Rain City Catering is the new leaseholder for the Pavilion in downtown Renton](#) reports on the Renton Pavilion Event Center as reported in the January 28 edition of the *Renton Reporter*.

**Merrill Gardens at Renton Centre and CD Danza Salon & Spa** were profiled in the January 28 edition of the *Renton Reporter Business Profiles*.

"[Aviatrix led the way for black pilots](#)" reports on the **Renton History Museum's** tribute to Black History month as reported in the February 11 edition of the *Renton Reporter*.

"[Renton to host Seattle International Film Festival in May](#)" highlights the week-long film screenings at Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center as reported in the February 18 edition of the *Renton Reporter*.

Other SIFF in Renton in the News can be read at the [SeattleTimes.com](http://SeattleTimes.com) and [KOMONews.com](http://KOMONews.com).

The Renton Farmers Market was in the news regarding the hiring of the new Market Manager Valria Lopez in [Renton.patch.com](http://Renton.patch.com) and announcement of a new Farmers Market at Valley Medical Center in the [Renton Reporter](#).

[Renton.patch.com](http://Renton.patch.com) highlighted Downtown businesses in the following stories:

[Hearty cuisine, history at Vino Ristorante Italiano in downtown Renton](#) by Catherine Reynolds  
[Renton History Museum Moves into the Future](#) by Susan Bressler

[Downtown Renton Businesses See Boost in Traffic, Sales To End 2010](#) reports on **happy delusions, Garland Jewelers, Armondo's, Melrose Grill, Liberty Café, Antique Country Station, The Red House** by Susan Bressler

[Magic Carpet Ride for the Tongue: Naan N Curry](#) by Catherine Reynolds

[City Awards Year-Long Lease to Rain City Catering](#) by Jenny Manning

[Dazzle your sweetheart with roses](#) mentions **Cugini Florist** by Susan Bressler

[A Lot of a Good Thing, For Next to Nothing: Go Deli](#) by Catherine Reynolds

[Guatemalan Breakfast Finds a Home in Renton at Chapinlandia](#) by Catherine Reynolds

### **Events: Downtown and special business events**

#### Special business events in Downtown:

- [Renton History Museum](#) (235 Mill Ave S) presents exhibit "Among Friends: Renton High's 100 years" through May 2011. Also mark your calendar for the Spring 2011 Speakers Program: *Finding Aunt Phoebe: My Search for the True Life of Phoebe Goodell Judson* reveals many interesting facts about the co-founder of the town of Lynden, March 15, 5 pm. Renton History Museum hours are 10 am – 4 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, contact 425-255-2330.
- [Armondo's Café Italiano](#) (310 Wells Ave S) offers a Spring Cooking Class, March 5, 1 pm, \$25 per person. Call 425-228-0759 to reserve a space.
- **Renton Fraternal Order of Eagles** (220 Wells Ave S) will host its 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Buffalo Dinner, March 12, from 4 – 8 pm. Tickets are \$9 before the event, \$10 at the door. For more information contact 425-226-172.
- [Uptown Glassworks](#) (230 Main Ave S) is looking for professional artists (beyond glass artists) who need for space to get their businesses going or expand an existing business to a second location. For more information, contact 425-228-1849 or paul@uptownglassworks.com.
- **Compass Veterans Center** (419 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St) offers a way to honor those who served in the military year-round by helping to furnish the newly built housing for Veterans and their families – everything from dishes to towels. Visit the [website](#) for more information or contact 206-357-3240.
- [happy delusions](#) (924 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St) hosts Stitch & %itch gatherings on Sundays 1- 5 pm at the store. Bring your craft project to work on and socialize. For more information, contact 425-255-6078 or [happydelusions@yahoo.com](mailto:happydelusions@yahoo.com).
- [A Terrible Beauty Irish Pub](#) (201 Williams Ave S) hosts trivia night every Monday and Pub Quiz Bingo Night every Thursday; 425-227-3396.
- [DC's Bar and Grill](#) (907 S Third St) hosts trivia every Wednesday at 8 pm and comedy on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month at 8 pm. For more information, contact 425-255-2511.
- [Liberty Cafe](#) (926 S 3rd St) hosts a weekly Monday Magic gathers at 6 pm, contact 425-235-1400.

#### Upcoming Downtown Community Events

##### May

7 Piazza Renton Spring Festival and Downtown Poker Run, 12 – 5 pm in the Piazza

7 Renton High School Centennial Open House & Dinner

20-26 Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF) in Renton, Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center

Mark your 2011 calendars for all the Downtown Renton Events listed in the attached calendar.

#### Downtown Art & Cultural Events:

- [Renton Civic Theatre](#) (507 S 3rd St) presents: *The Mousetrap*, February 25 – March 12. For more information about these or other events, contact 425-226-5529.
- [Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center](#) (400 S 2nd St) public events include: Spirit of Sound Concert presents "Share Our Sound", February 26, 7 pm, 253-279-2011; Joyas Mestizas, March 26, 6 pm; Rainier Symphony – Classical Concert Three, April 16, 7:30 pm.

#### Wine Tasting:

- [Red House Beer & Wine Shoppe](#) (410 Burnett Ave S): every Wednesday 6 - 8 pm; \$20 with food samples; 425-226-2666.

- [The Met Coffee & Wine Bar](#) (232 C Burnett Ave S): every Thursday 5 - 7 pm now with live music; \$5; 425-687-7989.

Live music entertainment:

- [A Terribly Beauty Irish Pub](#) (201 Williams Ave S) – Live rock & roll every Friday and Saturday nights and live jazz at brunch every Saturday and Sunday 9 am – 3 pm, Irish music session, Sundays at 5 pm; 425-227-3396.
- [Upper Room](#) (817 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St) hosts indie music.
- [Liberty Café](#) (926 S 3rd St) - Jam sessions every Saturday night, open mic night every Wednesday; 425-235-1400.
- **Williams Ave Sports Bar** (214 Williams Ave S) - Live music every Friday; 425-277-2766.
- **Uncle Moe's Snappy Inn** (321 Williams Ave S) – Jam session every Sunday, 5 – 10 pm; 425-917-3130.
- **Harambee** (316 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St) – hosts open mic night on the last Friday of the month, 8:30 pm; 425-271-6700

Karaoke in Downtown:

- [Stix n Stone's Restaurant and Lounge](#) (317 Main Ave S) – Tuesdays through Thursdays and Saturday nights; 425-282-4173.
- [A Terrible Beauty Irish Pub](#) (201 Williams Ave S) – Tuesday and Wednesday nights; 425-227-3396.
- **Burnett Lounge & Restaurant** (340 Burnett Ave S) - Thursday and Friday nights; 425-271-8240.
- **Uncle Moe's Snappy Inn** (321 Williams Ave S) – Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights; 425-917-3130.

**Get involved**

Have an idea to improve Downtown? Want to join others to create positive efforts in Downtown? It only takes a few people to make a big difference.

Here are just a few ways to get involved:

- Attend the next Downtown Committee meeting at the Renton Chamber of Commerce. Next meeting date is **Wednesday, March 2, 8 am, Go Deli & Bakery** (306 Williams Ave S). Mark your calendars!
- Help keep Piazza Park alive with activity! Contact Linda Middlebrooks at 206-772-4010 or [jmidbk@aol.com](mailto:jmidbk@aol.com) for more event opportunities.
- Help plan and implement events to draw people to discover Downtown. Events include Clean Up Day; Poker Run; Storefront Scarecrows; Trick or Treat; "Olde" Fashion Halloween Party in Main Street Square; and Holiday Celebration. Contact Mary Clymer at [happydelusions@yahoo.com](mailto:happydelusions@yahoo.com) for more information.
- Join the new Renton Farmers Market Working Group or join the [Friends of the Market](#) list of contributors. For more information, contact 425-430-7214.
- Keep up with the latest happenings throughout the City through the Community Services Newsletter – available [on-line](#)!

**Thank you for your continued support of Downtown Renton!**

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