



# This Week from the Mayor



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*The always spectacular fireworks display over Lake Washington caps the annual Fabulous 4th of July celebration at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park. The event is just one of dozens put on by the city's Community Services Department. Photo by Denis Law*

## Renton ... a great place to play

In Renton we are blessed with the ability to partake in a variety of outdoor activities throughout the year. From visits to our picturesque, versatile, and well-maintained parks, to a variety of community events, I feel our city is second-to-none when it comes to providing recreational opportunities for our residents.

That we're able to offer such a variety of activities is the result of location, but also speaks to the talent and hard work of our [Community Services Department](#) along with support from other departments.

So far this year large crowds have enjoyed dozens of community events, ranging from the fabulous 4th of July, Renton River Days, Renton Farmers Market, and the Renton Multicultural Festival, to community clean-ups, Memorial Day ceremony, National Night Out, and Pooch Plunge. The planning and execution of these events can be challenging, but they always go off without a hitch.

In 2017 Community Services introduced us to new events, including Cruz the Loop and Bark in the Park. "Cruz" was designed to bring back the nostalgia of cruising the famous Renton Loop in the 60s combined with a car show and live music from that era. "Bark" was held last weekend and was both fun and educational, providing free coupons for chipping your dog as well as spay and neuter information.

If you weren't able to attend an event, maybe you spent time at one of our 31 parks, played the Maplewood Golf Course, walked/jogged the Cedar River Trail, or spent the day at the Henry Moses Aquatics Center. All are meticulously maintained and staffed by Community Services.

If you think their work is done because the weather is changing, rest assured the group is currently hard at work on several upcoming holiday-themed events including Clams Lights (December 1) and the always invigorating Polar Bear Plunge (January 1), as well as offering a full slate of youth and adult recreational leagues and activities at the Renton Community Center and the Renton Senior Activity Center. Take a minute to partake in one of the fun activities or events Community Services offers. I'm confident you'll enjoy yourself.



*The inaugural Bark in the Park was both fun and educational. Attendees took part in a costume contest and received a coupon for a free identification chip.*

## Remembering victims of domestic violence

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month and visitors to City Hall will notice two changes: outside the trees are covered with purple lights 24/7 and inside the lobby contains silhouettes and stories of seven Renton residents who died as the result of domestic violence.

Every nine seconds a woman in this country is beaten by her husband or boyfriend. Across the state 44 people died from domestic violence in 2016; domestic violence shelters received over 94,000 calls and provided over 220,000 shelter bed nights to victims and their families. These numbers are alarming.

In Renton our police department and human services staff are working to improve our response to and treatment of domestic violence cases through a heightened awareness of the cultural differences in our community. We have a [Domestic Violence Victim Advocate](#) to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence who live within the city limits. If you or someone you know are the victims of domestic violence please call our advocate at (425) 430-6654. If you are in imminent danger, please call 9-1-1. Domestic violence has no place our community.



## Converting rail to trail

I will join with King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn in [removing a ceremonial rail spike](#) this Tuesday, October 17, at 10 a.m. just north of Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park. The ceremony signals the start of construction of a four-mile section of the Eastside Rail Corridor (ERC) stretching from Coulon Park to Newcastle Beach Park in Bellevue. This new segment will also connect to the existing Lake Washington Loop Trail. When completed, the ERC will stretch almost 17 miles connecting Renton with Bellevue, Kirkland, Woodinville, and Redmond.



## 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.