



This Week from the Mayor



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The dragon has landed and we're celebrating



EVERY CITY NEEDS A LITTLE WHIMSY; something unique that a community can rally around. In Renton, we have a library that spans the Cedar River and now we have our very own rooftop dragon.

Join us this Saturday as we celebrate and unveil our newest piece of downtown art, a dragon perched atop the Old Western Hotel Building at the corner of Third Street and Wells Avenue (826 Third St.). This new piece of art is sponsored by the Renton Municipal Arts Commission.

Why a dragon? Dragons represents fantasy and flight. Renton is home to [Wizards of the Coast](#), one the world's best-known makers of fantasy games, Boeing, and we have one of the region's busiest municipal airports. It's a natural connection.

The [Renton Downtown Partnership](#) has several activities scheduled for Saturday, including a scavenger hunt for eight dragon eggs, kids' activities, music and more. The festivities will run from 4 to 9 p.m. with the unveiling at 8 p.m. I hope you can join us.

Family safety event offers free gun locks

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 20, the city, thanks to the Renton Police Department and other city departments, will host our first [Safe Family Gun Safety](#) event at Renton Community Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Before you say to yourself, "a gun accident can't happen in my house" let me share some numbers with you from the [Alliance for Gun Responsibility](#) regarding Washington state:

- » One in six deaths among children ages 15 to 24 involve firearms.
- » A child or teen is killed in a gun-related incident every eight days.
- » Firearm suicide risk among children is at least nine times greater in homes with improperly stored firearms.
- » Between 2010 and 2014, 158 children ages 5 to 17 were hospitalized with firearm injuries in Washington and 108 died as a result of guns during that time.
- » The Washington State Superintendent of Public Instruction reported 91 incidents involving a gun on school grounds, within school facilities, or on school transportation during the 2013–2014 school year.
- » Firearms are the number one method of suicide in Washington.

An estimated 64,000 adults living in King County have an unlocked, loaded firearm in their house. Do not put your family at risk of becoming a statistic. Safe firearm storage protects children, reduces the risk of injury and saves lives. We will be distributing free gun locks while our supplies last, in addition to providing valuable safety information. Police firearms instructors will demonstrate applying and removing the locks, so you do not need to bring your gun. I urge you to take advantage of this potential life-saving event.



June Leonard Place opens downtown

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS for more affordable and low-income housing is a priority for the city. So it was my immense pleasure on Monday to take part in the grand opening of [June Leonard Place](#), a quality and attractive five-story low-income housing building in downtown Renton.

It was doubly enjoyable to see special recognition for years of public service by June Leonard, a Renton icon.

For those of you lucky enough to know June, to say she was a pillar of our community is an understatement. She was a leader and an activist. She served the community on the school board and as one of our legislators in Olympia. There she worked tirelessly for veterans and the less fortunate, all the while raising nine children. It is appropriate her name is on the building.

June Leonard Place was developed by the Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) and has 48 one-, two-, and three-bedroom units for lower wage earners, homeless households, including families with children, and homeless veterans. The building is located near transportation, parks, schools, and shopping, and residents will have access to enhanced supportive services.

A project like this does not come together overnight. The driving force was Sharon Lee, the executive director of LIHI. She worked tirelessly with city, King County, Renton Housing Authority, state and federal agencies to see the project through from idea to reality. She deserves our thanks and appreciation.



June Leonard Place has 48 units designated for lower wage earners, homeless households including families with children, and homeless veterans.



Sharon Lee, executive director of the Low Income Housing Institute, presents Mayor Law with a plaque commemorating the opening of June Leonard Place on April 8.

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](#)