



Renton City News

RENTON. AHEAD OF THE CURVE.

Spring 2013

NEWS IN BRIEF

City Attorney Larry Warren Earns Prestigious Award For Excellence

City Attorney Larry Warren has been presented the 2013 Ernest Campbell Award for Excellence in the practice of municipal law, the highest distinction conferred by the Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys (WSAMA). This award is the equivalent of a lifetime achievement award in the practice of municipal law. Warren has served as Renton's city attorney for over 30 years, serves on the board of several legal organizations and has received the highest rating from Martindale-Hubbell for his legal ability and ethics.



City Recently Launched New eBill and ePay System for Utility Bills

The City of Renton is pleased to announce the launch of a new payment system that offers customers the ability to manage their utility accounts, make payments via echeck and/or Visa/Mastercard, and to set up paperless billing and autopay. If you would like to receive a bill via email instead of a paper statement, set up autopay and have your bill paid automatically, go to rentonwa.gov/ub to set up your online account access. For property owners with rental properties, since there is no limit of how many people may access any particular account online, property owners can provide their tenants with the utility account number to create and manage their own account online.

Comcast Offering Free Internet to Low-Income Families

The world has gone digital and internet service has become essential for success. Comcast has created Internet Essentials, which will be available to households with children who receive free or reduced price school lunches. For more information and to see how you can participate please visit internetessentials.com.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

April is Volunteer Month and I want to take this opportunity to celebrate the spirit of volunteerism that defines our community. Volunteers continue to make a big difference—last year over 4,000 volunteers contributed over 60,000 hours of service to the Renton community.

Each volunteer's contribution and personal commitment to serve make our community unique and special. Some of our volunteers have served for over 25 years.

Volunteers play a crucial role in supporting and expanding the services we provide. By providing time and resources, volunteers help reduce our costs and enhance the services we offer. Volunteers also help connect us to our community and give us valuable feedback.

In Renton, we are also very fortunate to have the dedication and generosity of service clubs and local business owners



who are always ready to volunteer, provide generous donations, and help meet the growing needs in our community.

Volunteering is fun, interesting and a way to meet others with similar interests. It also provides an opportunity to share unique ideas and perspectives to help shape the future of our community.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Community Services Department at 425-430-6600 or visit rentonwa.gov.

— Mayor Denis Law

SIFF SCREENINGS RETURN TO RENTON

The world of cinema is returning to Renton!

We are pleased to announce that once again Renton will be hosting a week-long screening of Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF) films at the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center May 23 to 29, 2013. Renton is honored to be part of the longest running, largest and most highly attended film festival in the United States.

We are very excited to be hosting this annual event—this is the third year of our partnership with SIFF. Hosting SIFF draws thousands of visitors to Renton from throughout the region to experience our city,



restaurants, hotels and other businesses. This great event provides us the opportunity to showcase Renton as a vibrant, diverse city at the cutting edge of cinema, arts and culture. For more information visit siff.net.



EARTH

CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY/ EARTH DAY, APRIL 27

This month, we celebrate Arbor Day/Earth Day on Saturday, April 27, and honor our commitment to future generations. Every year Arbor Day is celebrated to promote the planting and care of trees. Planting trees is one of the most effective ways to protect the environment. Earth Day is a time to unite and take action to protect our environment.

Renton's Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration is a great opportunity to have fun and do our part to reduce our impact on the environment.

Join hundreds of volunteers at May Creek Trail, 4260 Lake Washington Blvd. N., to plant trees and shrubs, clear debris, and spread landscaping chips to promote a healthy environment.

To register, contact the Renton Community Services Department at 425-430-6600. Volunteers should wear sturdy work boots or shoes and dress for the weather and forest conditions. Minors must have parental permission. Children 14 years and under must be accompanied by an adult guardian. Check-in begins at 9 a.m. Event is 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SPRING RECYCLE DAY RETURNS MAY 11

Twice a year the City of Renton offers residents the opportunity to recycle household recyclables during Renton Recycle Day.

City staff will be on hand to collect recyclable items including plastic bags, clean styrofoam, reusable household goods, batteries and cell phones, uncontaminated antifreeze and motor oil, used oil filters, tires, clean mattresses, cardboard, scrap metal, large appliances, bulky yard waste and clean wood, broken concrete, bricks and porcelain. Items not accepted include hazardous waste, garbage, hard or molded plastics, carpet, drywall,

windows, latex paint, leaves and grass clippings, glass, cleaning products, oil-based paints, solvents and thinners, fluorescent lighting, pesticides, television sets, computers, and propane tanks.

The event will be held May 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the north parking lot of Renton Technical College (NE 6th Place and Monroe Avenue NE). Vehicles should enter from southbound Monroe Avenue NE, and no vehicle may join the line after 3 p.m. For detailed information visit rentonwa.gov or call 425-430-7398.

TH DAY

ARBOR DAY: A PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF SPRING

Arbor Day is a public celebration of spring and trees. Earth Day encourages and celebrates countless acts of stewardship by individuals and the personal responsibility we all share to “think globally and act locally” as environmental stewards of the planet. Because planting trees is one of the most effective ways of improving the environment, Renton will be celebrating both Arbor Day and Earth Day.

If you cannot attend this year’s Arbor Day/Earth Day event, take the opportunity to commemorate this day by planting trees to beautify your yard, or taking a walk with your neighbors and performing litter control in your community.

Trees, besides providing shade and aesthetic beauty, also:

- Help cleanse and purify the air by absorbing carbon dioxide, catching dust particles and other pollutants, and giving off oxygen.
- Conserve energy by insulating homes and buildings and providing windbreaks.
- Reduce run-off and erosion.
- Screen out “eyesores” in the landscape and frame good views and create privacy, if desired.
- Help increase the resale value of a home.



SPRING FESTIVAL SATURDAY, MAY 11

Celebrate spring at the 11th Annual Spring Festival at Piazza Park, S 3rd Street and Burnett Avenue S., Saturday, May 11, noon to 5 p.m. Enjoy music, entertainment, and children’s activities. Arts and crafts vendors will be featured. Inside the Renton Pavilion Event Center will be a Family Fair with resources and services for families with children age 2 to 14. Casper Babypants will perform at 1:30 p.m. For more information call 425-243-3399 or visit piazzarenton.com. Admission is free.

Also, sign up for the Poker Run, hosted by downtown businesses. Sign up at the Piazza for a suggested donation of \$1 or canned food for the Salvation Army and tour downtown businesses for a chance to win over \$1,500 in prizes. For more information call 425-254-2038.

NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS AVAILABLE

As part of its efforts to foster strong and healthy neighborhoods, the City of Renton announces the Neighborhood Project Grant Program for 2013. The grants are available to organized neighborhood associations with defined boundaries in the City of Renton that have been officially recognized by the city.

The grants stimulate community projects that help build stronger neighborhoods and strengthen partnerships between the city and its neighborhoods.

“This is a great opportunity for neighbors to work together to support each other and improve their community,” said Mayor Denis Law.

Eligible projects include physical improvements that build or enhance a

feature of the neighborhood or benefit the general public. The grants range from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per project although the actual amount is based on a project’s merit and is determined by the Renton City Council, based on the recommendation of a staff-level interdepartmental team.

Grant applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, June 7, 2013. Applications may be accessed at www.rentonwa.gov. When submitting an application please include neighborhood bylaws and a list of board members.

Awards will be announced in early July 2013. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact Neighborhood Program Coordinator Norma McQuiller at 425-430-6595 or nmcquiller@rentonwa.gov.

CITY TO LAUNCH SMARTPHONE APP

On May 1 the City of Renton will participate in the launch of STQRY, a new app showcasing city parks, trails, recreation sites, cultural spaces, and events. Designed for iPhone and Android smartphones, STQRY uses QR codes and location data to help residents and visitors get the most out of Renton's attractions.

The City of Renton joins the cities of Sammamish, Kent, and Redmond, as well as organizations like 4Culture and ArtsWA in using STQRY to encourage smartphone users to explore locally. Download STQRY and watch for Renton sites, Renton History Museum exhibits, and many other exciting features.

CITY CONTACTS

Area Code 425

General Information	430-6400
Mayor	430-6500
City Council	430-6501
Municipal Court Judge	430-6550
Chief Administrative Officer	430-6500
City Attorney	430-6480
City Clerk	430-6510
Code Enforcement	430-7373
Community Services	430-6600
Community & Economic Development	430-6580
Finance & Information Services	430-6850
Fire/Emergency Services	430-7000
Graffiti Reporting Line	430-7373
Human Resources & Risk Management	430-7650
Public Works	430-7394
Police	430-7500
or epolice.rentonwa.gov	
Street/Water/Sewer Maint.	430-7400
Utility Billing	430-6852

EMERGENCY 911

 **The City of Renton provides reasonable accommodation upon request.**

TDD.. 711 (425-430-6511)

rentonwa.gov

RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

Sunday, April 7

Savvy Gardener Class: Sustainable Veggie Gardening. 1 to 2:30 p.m. at McLendons Hardware, 440 Rainier Ave. S. Presentation by Emily Bishton. More info at savingwater.org/savvygardener

Thursday, April 18

American Indians In Cinema. Portrayals and Participation, Onscreen and Behind the Scenes. 5 to 6 p.m. Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave S. Presented by Seattle-based scholar Lance Rhoades.

Saturday, April 20

Community Garage Sale. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Renton Community Center, 1715 Maple Valley Highway. Spaces are limited so pre-registration is required. Call 425-430-6700.

Sunday, April 21

Seahawks 12K Fun Run/Walk. 9 a.m. to noon. The Landing. To register visit Seahawks12KRun.com.

Saturday, April 27

Arbor Day/Earth Day. Check-in begins at 9 a.m. May Creek Trail, 4260 Lake Washington Blvd. N. Plant trees and shrubs, clear debris, spread landscaping chips. Check-in 9 a.m., event 9:30 a.m. to noon followed by free volunteer lunch. Call 425-430-6600 to register.

Spring Shredathon. 9 a.m. to noon. Sam's Club parking lot, 901 S. Grady Way. Free document shredding until truck is full. Bring up to five boxes containing paper documents to be shredded.

Saturday, May 4

Downtown Renton Clean-Up. 9 a.m. to noon. Join your community to "spring clean" downtown Renton. Bring gloves. Call 425-430-6589 to register.

Sunday, May 5

Renton Youth Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert. 3 p.m. Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Highway. Tickets \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, \$5 students. Call 425-430-6700.

Thursday, May 9

The End of the Trail: How the Western Movies Rode Into the Sunset. 5 to 6 p.m. Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave S. Presented by movie critic Robert Horton.

Saturday, May 11

Spring Recycle Day. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Renton Technical College, north parking lot, NE 6th Place & Monroe Avenue NE. For more information call the information line at 425-430-7398.

Spring Festival, Family Resource Fair and Downtown Poker Run. Noon to 5 p.m. Renton Piazza & Pavilion Event Center. Music, entertainment, arts & crafts. For more information call 425-243-3399.

Thursday-Friday, May 16-17

Senior Stage Review. Thursday 1 to 2 p.m., Friday 7 to 8 p.m. Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Highway. Tickets \$3. Call 425-430-6700.

Saturday, May 18

Green and Clean Saturday. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Kiwanis Park, 815 Union Ave. NE. Check-in begins at 9 a.m. Call 425-430-6600.

Sunday, May 19

Savvy Gardener Class:

Drip Irrigation 101. 1 to 2:30 p.m. at McLendons Hardware, 440 Rainier Ave. S. Presentation by Carey Thornton. More info at savingwater.org/savvygardener

Thursday-Wednesday, May 23-29

Seattle International Film Festival. Screening times will be announced by May 1. Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center. For more information visit siff.net.

Thursday, May 23

Seattle International Film Festival Renton Gala. Screening at Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, followed by opening night gala at Renton Pavilion Event Center. Visit siff.net.

Monday, May 27

Memorial Day Celebration. 1 p.m. Veterans Memorial Park. Call 425-430-6600.

Saturday, June 1

Fishing Kids. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N. Pre-registration and fee required. Call 425-430-6700.

Stop and Swap Recycling Event. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Renton Memorial Stadium, 405 Logan Avenue N. Call 425-430-7396.

Saturday, June 15

Swimming beaches open for season. Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park and Kennedydale Beach Park, 1201 and 3501 Lake Washington Blvd. N., respectively. Lifeguards on duty from noon to 8 p.m. daily thru Sept. 2.

Henry Moses Aquatic Center open for swimming season. Sessions at noon and 4 p.m. daily. 1719 SE Maple Valley Hwy. Call 425-430-6780.

Sunday, June 16

Renton City Band Concert. 2 p.m. Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, 400 South 2nd St. Call 425-430-6700 for tickets.



Renton Farmers Market. 3 to 7 p.m. every Tuesday. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett.

For more information visit rentonwa.gov