



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### New Water Rates Encourage Conservation

Water utility rates have been restructured to encourage water conservation and distribute the costs of service more fairly. Customers who use more water will pay more and water-wise single-family customers may pay less. Conserve water, especially summer irrigation water, and save money. Visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) for details.

### Renton History Museum Restores Coal Car

The Renton History Museum is having its early twentieth-century coal mine car restored by the Northwest Railway Museum. It has been displayed outside the museum for many years and has suffered weather-related deterioration. Funded by a grant from 4Culture, the museum will ensure that the restoration is historically accurate. Find more details at [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).



### New Online Feature for Checking Facility Availability

The Recreation Department has a new way to research facility availability. Now you can check picnic shelter and rental space amenities and availability online. Find the link to the search portal at [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) on the Recreation page. Reservations are not available online. Call 425-430-6700 to reserve a facility.

### Renton Participates in Regional "One Night Count"

On January 24 Renton volunteers and staff joined other cities in King County in counting the homeless in their respective cities. Last year, the Renton City Council adopted the 10-year plan to end homelessness.

### February is Black History Month

Visit the city Web calendar at [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) for event information.

### Renton Officials Sworn In

The mayor and newly elected and re-elected councilmembers were sworn in January 8.



## "RENTON. AHEAD OF THE CURVE" TV AD



The Renton Community Marketing Campaign showcased the city and its brand "Renton. Ahead of the Curve" in a television commercial that aired on KCPQ-TV, February 3, during the Super Bowl XLII pre-game show.

The advertisement, which first debuted during the Seattle Seahawks' NFC Wild Card game on January 5, 2008, features actor/comedian John Keister. The comedian regularly panned Renton in his groundbreaking comedy show "Almost Live," a KING-TV production that aired from 1984 to 1999.

The Renton Community Marketing Campaign celebrates its tenth anniversary in 2008. The partnership includes the City of Renton, Renton Chamber of Commerce, Renton School District, Renton Technical College, Renton Visi-

tors Connection, and Valley Medical Center. The partnership has been recognized nationally for its "Ahead of the Curve" brand and as one of the first in a trend of communities working to market itself.

"Renton is one of the most dynamic places today," said Mayor Denis Law. "We have great neighborhoods, excellent schools, a diverse business community, Renton Technical College, and Valley Medical Center. Several exciting developments are under construction such as the Seattle Seahawks' Virginia Mason Athletic Center and The Landing, our 68-acre mixed-use urban village."

*"Renton is really showing its stuff"*

"There is no grander stage for advertising than the Super Bowl," said Bill Taylor, CEO of the Renton Chamber of Commerce. "Renton is really showing its stuff by joining this branding blitz. This is yet another demonstration that 'Ahead of the Curve' is more than just a marketing slogan, it is a way of life in Renton."

The advertisement is available for viewing on the web at [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

## DUVALL AVE. INTERSECTION CONSTRUCTION

Duvall Ave./Coal Creek Parkway has become a major through-route between Renton and Bellevue. The Duvall Ave./Coal Creek Pkwy construction projects shared between Newcastle and Renton will improve safety and ease congestion from Renton to Bellevue.

The project includes a widening of Duvall Ave NE/Coal Creek Pkwy to five lanes from the Sunset/Duvall Ave NE intersection to the SE 95th Way/Coal Creek Pkwy. intersection, and adding curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and bicycle

lanes on both sides of Duvall Ave NE.

The project will also convert overhead power lines to underground, enhancing safety especially during storms and emergencies. Alternate routes include I-405 or arterial roads which are identified on a map at [duvall.rentonwa.gov](http://duvall.rentonwa.gov).

To move forward with these plans, Renton will be closing Duvall Ave./Coal Creek Parkway from Sunset Blvd. to SE 95th Way. The road is expected to be closed for twelve months.



Rendering of Improved Duvall Ave. Intersection

## GREEN CITY RENTON

### Smart Watering

Winter is a gardener's time to plan. This year plan for a water-wise landscape that will save not only water, but also time and money.

Choose native plants or plants that are site appropriate. Group plants according to water needs and amend the soil to hold water.

Use the following helpful resources in your winter planning:

- a volunteer WSU Master Gardener
- King County Department of Natural Resources
- GreatPlantPicks.org

Need more inspiration? Visit Bellevue Botanical Gardens or Van Dusen Botanical Gardens in Vancouver, BC. Questions? Contact Helen Weagraff in the Utilities Department at 425-430-7287.

## HOUSING REPAIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The City of Renton Housing Repair Assistance Program (HRAP) helps resident homeowners who have very low to moderate incomes with free services focused on health and safety. These services help keep housing affordable and safe and neighborhoods attractive. New residents in the Benson Hill annexation area may begin to apply for services March 1, 2008. Eligibility guidelines, program information and downloadable applications are available at [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov). Search for HRAP or call 425-430-6650. Families meeting the size and income criteria on the chart below may qualify.

### Family Size : Max. Annual Income

1 : \$41,700	3 : \$53,650
2 : \$47,700	4 : \$59,600

## COUNCIL FILLS VACANT SEAT



On January 28 Renton City Council chose Rich Zwicker from among eleven candidates to fill the vacancy left by Dan Clawson, who resigned effective December

31, 2007.

Rich will serve as the chair of the Utilities Committee and serves on the Planning & Development and the Transportation/Aviation Committees.

## OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

- Wednesdays, weekly.** 6:30 - 8 p.m. **Talk Time.** Renton Main Library. Free.
- Thursday, February 21.** 10:30 a.m. **Reptile Man.** Renton Community Center. **"Play It Safe" Festival.** 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Renton Community Center. For Kids under 12. Free.
- Saturday, February 23.** 7:30 p.m. **Concert with Choklate.** Carco Theater. \$10.
- Friday, February 29.** 9-11 p.m. **The Big Screen.** Pizza, snacks, and a movie. Ages 11-17. North Highlands Neighborhood Center. Free.
- Friday, March 7.** 8 p.m. **Flashlight Egg Hunts.** Ages 7-10 and 11-15. Liberty Park. Free.
- Saturday, March 8.** 10-11:30 a.m. **Summer Part-time Job Fair.** Renton Community Center. **Windows in Time.** 11 a.m. Stories of Seattle at the turn of the century through the eyes of a young girl. Renton History Museum. \$3 or \$1 for kids under 7.
- Teen Night.** 8-11 p.m. Ages 11-17. Snacks and prizes. Highlands Neighborhood Center. Free.
- Tuesday, March 11.** 4:30 p.m. **Hear My Voice.** A story about earning women's right to vote. Renton History Museum. \$3 or \$1 for kids under 7.
- Saturday, March 15.** 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Hip Hoppin' Egg Hunt & Carnival.** Ages 6 and under. Free.
- Wednesday, March 19.** Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) begins. Search for "CERT" at [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) for more information or call 425-430-7027. Free.
- Friday, March 21.** 8 p.m. - Midnight. **Teen Dance.** Ages 11-15. \$5. Renton Community Center.
- Thursday, March 27.** 7:30 p.m. **Renton City Concert Band Spring Concert.** Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center. Adults \$7. Students/Seniors \$5.

## RENTON HEART MONTH



Renton residents can take advantage of the Renton Fire & Emergency Services (FES) Department's Heart Month program in February. Residents can get free blood pressure and blood sugar screenings at any Renton Fire Station or at Renton Community Center, which is holding free CPR classes.

Renton businesses can partner with Renton FES Department and arrange for free CPR classes for employees. The FES Department is also offering free automatic defibrillator training to inquiring businesses.

Contact Renton FES Department at 425-430-7100 or visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) for more information.

## CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY & CULTURE

### Women's History Month

In March we honor our mothers, sisters, and friends for their service to our communities and invite you to visit the Renton Public Libraries in March to learn more about the amazing women who have shaped history.

Find special women's history month events on the city's Web calendar or read "What's Happening," Renton's community events brochure.

If your group or organization is planning a community multi-cultural celebration this winter or spring, email or call us:

[CelebrateDiversity@ci.renton.wa.us](mailto:CelebrateDiversity@ci.renton.wa.us)  
425-430-6600

## CITY CONTACTS

Area Code 425

<b>General Information</b> .....	430-6400
<b>Mayor</b> .....	430-6500
<b>City Council</b> .....	430-6501
<b>Municipal Court Judge</b> ....	430-6550
<b>Chief Administrative Officer</b> .....	430-6500
<b>City Clerk</b> .....	430-6510
<b>Code Enforcement</b> .....	430-7373
<b>Community Services</b> .....	430-6600
<b>Economic Development, Neighborhoods, &amp; Strategic Planning</b> .....	430-6575
<b>Emergencies</b> .....	<b>911</b>
<b>Finance &amp; Information Services</b> .....	430-6850
<b>Fire &amp; Emergency Services</b> .....	430-7000
<b>Human Resources &amp; Risk Management</b> .....	430-7650
<b>Planning/Building/Public Works</b> .....	430-7200
<b>Police</b> .....	430-7500
	or <a href="http://epolice.rentonwa.gov">epolice.rentonwa.gov</a>
<b>Utility Billing</b> .....	430-6852

[rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov)