This Week from the Mayor

SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

City, county and state cooperation results in Riverview Bridge

Earlier today I was pleased to join representatives from the city council, state legislature, department of fish and wildlife, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and environmental groups to cut the ribbon and officially open the new Riverview Bridge.

This beautiful bridge is a tremendous addition to our parks and recreation facilities. It was possible through strong cooperation between the city, county and state, with the state and county covering almost the entire cost. The result of this true team effort is a structure that will greatly benefit both current and future generations.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Multicultural Festival is more than entertainment, it’s involvement

Final touches are being put on our first annual Renton Multicultural Festival and the list of performers is impressive. African Dancers, Bollywood music and dance, a renowned jazz singer and a fashion show—that’s just the first night on September 30. Saturday, October 1, will feature Taiko drummers and Brazilian, Mexican, Polynesian and Filipino music and dance. There will also be tap and Lion dancers and martial arts. Miss Washington Alicia Cooper will make a special appearance.

But the festival is more than sitting back and being entertained by amazing performers. On Saturday you will have a chance to put your personal story on video for possible use in an exhibit at the Renton History Museum and to be shown on TV channel 21. We will also have a graffiti wall and a Twitter wall where you can share your thoughts. If you get hungry, we have you covered with food trucks and several outstanding restaurants within easy walking distance of the Renton Pavilion Event Center. I’m excited to see the culmination of months of planning and hard work and I hope you are too. See you there!

50+ Senior Expo showcases available services and programs

Our population of 50-plus seniors is one of our most valued and we have several city resources and services available. For the first time they’ll be showcased in one place at Renton’s 50+ Senior Resource Expo. The staff at the Senior Activity Center has brought together more than 40 vendors to explain programs and services designed to help our seniors improve their independence, health and quality of life. There will also be presentations on finance, transportation and housing.

The Expo will be at the Renton Senior Activity Center on October 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event is free and no registration is required. A complimentary lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Hyde Shuttle (206-727-6262) is offering free transportation for city residents. Please pass the word to someone you know who will benefit.

RYAC TURNS THREE

Three years ago, John Houston, executive director of the Renton Youth Advocacy Center (RYAC), came to me with a dream and a passion for helping our youth. Today RYAC provides after school services to youth ages 12-17. The programs offered help young people succeed by providing academic support and the chance to form meaningful relationships with adults from their community, and by encouraging them to get involved in their neighborhood through service projects. Kids who participate in after-school programs earn higher grades, have improved attendance, behave better in school and are more apt to graduate. If you’re interested in getting involved, contact them at 425-793-3535 or alstandan61@yahoo.com.

FEEDBACK

If you have comments, questions or suggestions, or just want to share all the great things that are happening in the city, please e-mail me. Thanks for reading.