

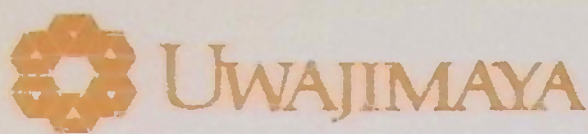
# RENTON Magazine

Volume 4 / No 5 May 2009



**Local WWII  
pilot survives  
attack on B-17**  
page 11





## bringing exotic Asian foods to Renton

BY DAVID SUFFIA

Anyone who has stepped inside one of Uwajimaya's three Asian market and gift stores knows there is a magic to them. There are exotic fruits and vegetables and seafood items you're not likely to find anywhere else.

The shelves are lined with Asian goods like shrimp chips and lichee nuts, as well as more traditional American fare. The deli is a sumptuous banquet of Asian delights.

And now it's all coming to Renton. Uwajimaya

plans to open its fourth retail grocery and gift store by the end of June, replacing the Thriftway grocery store in the Renton Village shopping center near the junction of I-405 and Highway 167.

"We're very excited to have Uwajimaya locating their new store in Renton," Renton Mayor Denis Law said.

"They have a strong regional following and a rich history of

being a great corporate citizen."

"We've had our eye on the Renton area for some time," Alan Kurimura, Uwajimaya vice president says. "We like the economic diversification of the city and the diversity of the population. When the opportunity came up we grabbed it."

"We decided to move to Renton for two reasons. Our plan was to have a Uwajimaya in each area around Puget Sound, Seattle, the Eastside and South King County. We spent a

lot of time looking for the right city and the right location in South King County.

"My parents used to shop at the Thriftway store, so I was very familiar with the store, the Renton Village center and the area," Kurimura said. "We're really pleased and excited to be part of Renton."

He said the new Renton store will be very much like Uwajimaya's other stores in Seattle, Bellevue, and Beaverton, Ore.

"We will have an awesome seafood section, even better than the seafood in our other stores. We'll also have an Asian deli serving Asian dishes. We tend to create a lively, almost magical feel with our décor, and I think people in South King County will like it."

The new store will employ 50 to 60, some transfers from the existing stores, with some new hires. Uwajimaya is family-owned and privately held and employs about 450. Beside the retail markets, it sells

wholesale to restaurants, and has a food manufacturing arm that makes sushi and Asian bread and pastry items. Renovation of the new store will cost more than \$2 million.

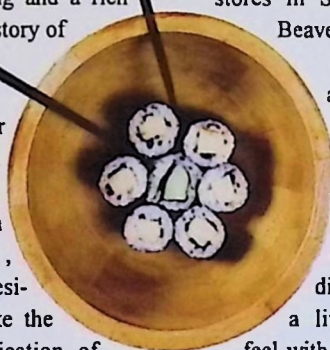
Uwajimaya is hoping to capture lunchtime clientele from nearby commercial office buildings, government buildings, and other businesses.

The company was started in Tacoma in 1928 by Fujimatsu Moriguchi, a native of Japan. He sold homemade fish cakes and other items from the back of his truck to Japanese laborers working in logging and fishing camps around Puget Sound.

Moriguchi named his business Uwajima-ya, after the town of Uwajima, where he learned his trade. "Ya" means "store" in Japanese.

Moriguchi and his family were interned by the U.S. government during World War II. He reopened his business in Seattle after the war, expanding it to the greater community. Uwajimaya opened its Bellevue location in 1978, and the Beaverton store 20 years later.

Following Moriguchi's death, the company continues to be owned and managed by his family.



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## publisher's note

Spring has finally sprung. People's winter-pale arms were spotted recently as temperatures hit 70 degrees. Trees are greening. Lawns are being mowed and people are rinsing winter's gunk off outdoor furniture.

Our neighbors haven't yet erected their badminton net in the front lawn, but the day can't be long off, now. Milder temperatures and longer days are calling even the fair-weather walkers out for an evening stroll.

The community's volunteers are hard at work, putting finishing touches on the big events that bring us together. The big summer events are just around the corner. And right now, a plethora of performances, both amateur and professional, bring culture and fun to venues near us. Check our calendar for more details.



And May brings us Mother's Day. For 97

years, the second Sunday in May has been the special day to honor our mothers. Not "our mothers" as the collective, but singular: My mother, your mother. Anna Jarvis, recognized as the modern-day founder of the day, was specific: "It was to be a singular possessive, for each family to honour their mother, not a plural possessive commemorating all mothers in the world," according to Wikipedia.

I recently had the opportunity to sit with my parents and look through piles of family photos. There was my mother and her family on vacation at a nearby lake. Mom, probably in her young



**Diana Kramer**  
PUBLISHER

teens, dressed in coveralls while grandpa wore his Sunday best. Mom relaxing in her back yard with friends from college. Mom in her nurse's uniform.

And then pictures from my parents' wedding. More pictures as my brothers and sister arrived on the scene. So many pictures, each giving a tiny window into the life of an Illinois farm girl, who became a nurse, married a newspaper publisher, gave birth to four children and works alongside my father in building a business. This is the Cliffs Notes version, of course.

Your mother has her own story. It may be chronicled with many photos, or with few. But it's a rich one, regardless of the details. These stories are part of what makes people a family. I hope you'll take some time soon and capture your mother's story, or your own story, for your family.

## RENTON Magazine

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### cover:

Hank Hendrickson is a local veteran who flew B-17s during WWII. The Boeing Bee is being restored at the Museum of Flight. It's pictured in stark contrast to Hendrickson's B-17, known as the Sky Monster, which he flew in flak-damaged condition from Germany to England, where he safely landed. The front and rear halves were held together by the plane's skin. Historical photo courtesy of Hank Hendrickson. Photo of Hendrickson by James Bavendam. Composite design by Kerri Ladines.

## important phone #'s

**City Hall**  
425.430.6400

**Chamber of Commerce**  
425.226.4560

**Community Center**  
425.430.6700

**Fire Dept**  
(non emergency)  
425.430.7000

**Library (Main)**  
425.430.6610

**Library (Highlands)**  
425.430.6790

**Police Dept**  
(non emergency)  
425.430.7500

**Puget Sound Energy**  
1.888.225.5773

**Renton Community Foundation**  
425.264.0516

**Renton Magazine**  
425.271.9300

**Renton Museum**  
425.255.2330

**Senior Activity Center**  
425.430.6633

**Valley Medical Center**  
425.228.3450



## upcoming events

May 16



may 3

The 25-piece RYSO will perform Haydn's Trumpet Concerto, Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, Dvorak's "New World" Symphony, selections from "E.T.," and symphonic highlights from the "Pirates of the Caribbean." Alexei Girsh directs.

Sunday, 3 p.m.  
Carco Theatre  
1717 Maple Valley Highway  
425-430-6707  
Admission: \$10/ adults;  
\$7/seniors; \$5/children

## Renton Rotary's Annual Wine Event



Saturday,  
5-10 p.m.

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Bring your family and friends to enjoy quality wines provided by more than 15 wineries. The evening will include music, a silent auction, a glass and jewelry sale, and food catered by Don and Larry's Catering. Proceeds will support Renton Rotary's purchase of new winter coats for kids in the Renton community.



may 5

### 2009 Ahead of the Class

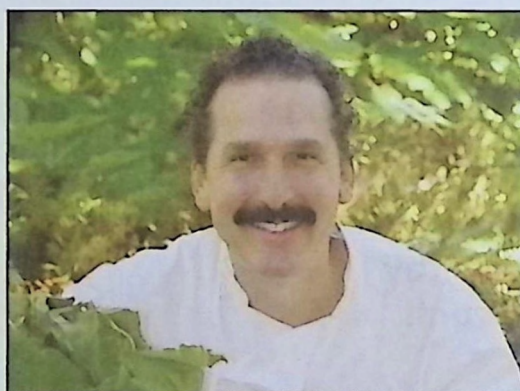
The public is welcome to the Renton Chamber of Commerce's 9th annual "Ahead of the Class Excellence in Education" awards banquet. This ceremony recognizes and rewards teachers serving the Renton School District, who demonstrate high standards of professionalism and innovation in teaching.

Tuesday, 7-9 p.m.

Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center  
400 S. 2nd St.

425-226-4560

Admission: Free (register online at [www.gorenton.com](http://www.gorenton.com))



may 7

### Greg Atkinson

Renton History Museum presents local chef and cookbook author Greg Atkinson. Atkinson, a leading voice in Pacific Northwest culinary trends, will share his passion for West Coast regional cuisine. He is the author of several cookbooks, including West Coast Cooking, and is a food commentator, regularly featured in radio, television, and print.

Thursday, 4:30 p.m.

Carco Theatre  
1717 Maple Valley Highway

425-255-2330

Admission: \$10 per person; \$5 per student and seniors 65 and over



may 10

### Mother's Day Brunch

Mothers and children are welcome to brunch at Renton Technical College, hosted by RTC's culinary department. Menu includes an omelet bar, carving station with honey ham or baron of beef, potatoes O'Brien, bacon and sausage, biscuits and gravy, waffles and pancakes, muffins/Danish and fruit, and juice and coffee. Each mother will receive a carnation. Reservations are preferred.

Sunday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Renton Technical College (cafeteria)  
3000 N.E. 4th St. / 425-235-5845 ext. 4

Cost: \$12.25 per person; \$8.95 for seniors and children under 10



## upcoming events



may 9 & 10

This classic tale, retold by Studio-East Storybook Theatre, features a brother and sister duo who decide to explore the woods without their parents' permission. Their outing leads to a confrontation with a top chef who delights and dabbles in the art of confection. The chef wants to turn Hansel into her next meal, only to find some things are best left uneaten.

Saturday, 11 a.m. Carco Theatre  
and 1 p.m.; 1717 Maple Valley  
Sunday, 1 p.m. Highway  
and 3 p.m. Admission: \$9  
1-877-827-1100



**Northwest WORKS**  
may 29 - 31  
From the classical to the contemporary, this diverse program featuring Northwest choreographers combines a varied range of music with a mix of dance. Seating in the Black Box Theatre is limited to 100 per performance.

Friday, 7:30 p.m.; 425-228-6800  
Saturday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Admission: \$25/adults; \$18/seniors 62 and over; \$12/children and students (2-25, with valid student I.D.)  
Sunday, 5:30 p.m.  
Renton IKEA PAC  
400 S. 2nd St.



### Hearts Full of Spring

Northwest Sound Men's Chorus will hold its annual spring/summer show at Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center with special guest group, The Coats, plus two Northwest quartets—FastTrack and FrontLine. The Coats, one of the most in-demand touring acts on the college and corporate circuit today, started out on the streets of Pike Place Market. This vocal group has won national vocal competitions and has performed with acts, including The Beach Boys and Trisha Yearwood.

Saturday, 2 and 7 p.m. Admission: \$22/adults; \$18/seniors; and \$10/child  
Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center  
400 S. 2nd St. Tickets available at  
206-251-1118 <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/58487>

## Emerald



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## now playing

MAY 2 & 3

Ensemble Ballet Theatre  
Presents  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
With  
A Collection of Three Dances

This whimsical, romantic ballet, produced by Ensemble Ballet Theatre, takes place in the woods, where fairies delight in creating mischief. Two pairs of young lovers and other charming characters conspire in magical pursuits in an ode to the supernatural power of love. The program also includes a collection of three dances in modern, swing, and ballet styles.

Saturday, 7 p.m.;  
Sunday, 1:30 p.m.  
Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center / 400 S. 2nd St.

1-877-EBT-8771  
Admission: \$12/adults; \$8/students and seniors  
[www.ebtballet.org](http://www.ebtballet.org)

MAY 1 & 2

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S  
**OKLAHOMA!**  
High-spirited rivalry between the local farmers and cowboys provides the colorful background against which Curly (Mason Catt), a handsome cowboy, and Laurey (Laura Kooiman), a winsome farm girl, play out their love story. Will Parker (Tim Maison) and his pursuit of Ado Annie (Sarah Hudson) provide some comic relief along with carpet bagger Ali Hakim (Johnny Sor). That these romantics will succeed in making a new life together, there is no doubt. That this new life will begin a brand new state provides the ultimate climax to the triumphant "Oklahoma!"

Admission: \$7/students with student I.D., middle and elementary students, RSD staff, and seniors; \$10/students without student I.D. and adults.

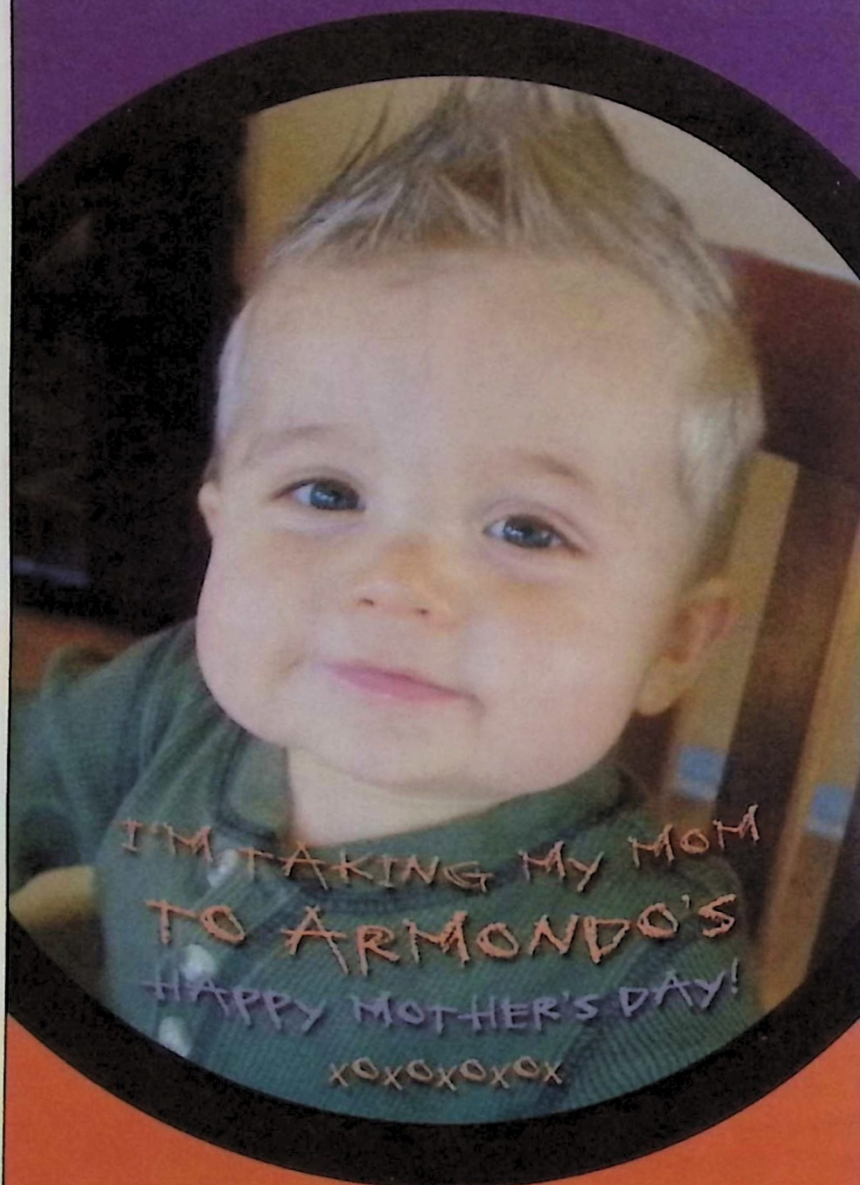
Friday, 7 p.m.;  
Saturday, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.  
Hazen High School auditorium  
1101 Hoquiam Avenue N.E.  
425-204-4226



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## calendar of events

### MUSIC CONCERT

#### **Musicians Emeritus Symphony Orchestra Concert**

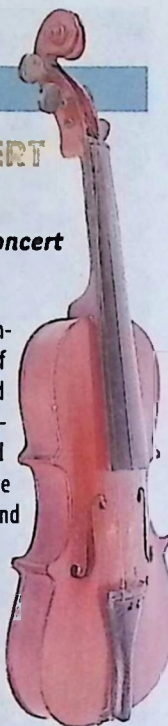
Sunday, May 31, 3 p.m.

MESO's spring concert, co-sponsored by the Allied Arts of Renton, will feature 12-year-old violin soloist Gloria Ferry-Brennan. Selections performed by the orchestra are Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony and Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. It remains MESO's hope and mission to showcase young musical talent and classical music in underserved communities beyond Seattle.

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
19800 108th Ave. S.E.

425-774-8166

Admission: Free, \$10  
suggested donation



### **Green and Clean Saturday**

Saturday, May 16, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

The City of Renton welcomes families and volunteer groups to meet at the Highlands Library for a park volunteer project. These events are set up to give people the chance to help maintain a public place. The city provides tools, water, and a small snack. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

Highlands Library  
2902 N.E. 12th St.

425-430-6600 (to register)

Cost: Free

### COMMUNITY EVENTS



### **Spring Shredathon**

Saturday, May 9, 9 a.m.-noon

The City of Renton presents a spring annual document-shredding event at the Sam's Club parking lot. Residents are invited to bring up to five boxes containing paper documents to be destroyed in a truck-mounted shredder. Boxes should be 12 to 15 inches deep by 10 inches high. Donations of canned goods will be accepted for the Renton Food Bank. This event is co-sponsored by the City of Renton, Renton Police Department, Sam's Club, and Iron Mountain.

Sam's Club parking lot  
901 S. Grady Way

425-430-7520

Cost: Free

www.rentonwa.gov  
(search "shredathon")



### **Relay for Life of Renton**

Friday, May 29, 6 p.m.-Saturday, May 30, 8 a.m.

Relay for Life brings together people nationwide to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer and lost, and the strength of survivors who inspire others. Relays based at local high schools allow everyone in the community the opportunity to come together and raise money in the fight against cancer.

Renton Stadium  
405 Logan Ave. N.

425-793-8634 (Lori)

Fee: \$125 (team registration)



## SCHOOL PROGRAM

### Opera By Children

Thursday, May 7, 9:45 a.m. and 1:45 p.m.

The public is welcome to enjoy an opera production by Ms. Mann's and Mrs. Taylor's class (9:45 a.m.) and Mrs. Pang-Ching's and Mrs. Dotson's class (1:45 p.m.). In this elementary opera production, students are encouraged to find their "song" and grow in the Arts.

Tiffany Park Elementary  
1601 Lake Youngs Way S.E.

425-204-4850

Admission: Free



## REGIONAL EVENT



### Backyard Wildlife Festival

Saturday, May 9, 9 a.m.

Tukwila's 10th annual Backyard Wildlife Festival will feature day-long festivities focusing on the appreciation of natural wildlife. Chris Heeter, founder of The Wild Institute, an organization committed to connecting people to nature, will give a keynote speech about "The Wild Within." Her speech will pose the questions: What leads us to a festival like this? What leads us to change our yards to accommodate wildlife? Heeter plans to fill everyone who attends with the beauty of the natural world. In addition, there will be music, a species costume parade for kids, and a guided bird tour by the Rainier Audubon Society.

Tukwila Community Center  
12424 42nd Ave. S.

206-768-2822

Admission: Free



## YOUTH THEATER

### Summer Teen Musical Auditions

Monday, May 4-Wednesday, May 6, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Youth interested in being a part of the 24th Annual Summer Teen Musical are encouraged to audition. Bring a one-minute monologue and an upbeat section of a song – no more than 32 bars. An accompanist will be provided, so bring sheet music.

Carco Theatre  
1717 Maple Valley Highway

425-430-6707 (call to set up audition time)

Cost: Free

### Cascade Elementary presents 'The Glover's Son'

Thursday, May 21, 9:45 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Cascade Players, made up of Harvey Sadis' second grade class plus Shakespeare alums, perform a take on Shakespeare's life. The play will include scenes from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Macbeth," "Henry IV," and "Hamlet." The production is suitable for ages 5 and above.

Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center  
400 S. 2nd St.

425-204-3372 (for ticket information)

Admission: Free (donations accepted)

## COMMUNITY THEATER



### Aunt Dottie's (early-bird) Sing-Along Cabaret

Sundays, May 3, 10, and 17, 2 p.m.

After years entertaining on the high seas, Aunt Dottie finds herself on dry land, due to her current husband's chronic sea sickness. Unable to stop performing, and still paying alimony for all those previous husband's, Aunt Dottie is bringing her act back to the Renton Civic Theatre. In this all-ages show the audience is encouraged to participate and sing along as Aunt Dottie, and her nephew, Aaron, take you on a journey through some classic and not-so classic songs.

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Women  
WOW!

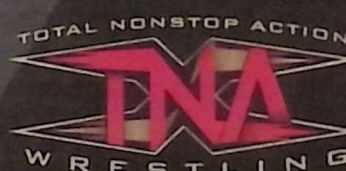


## may 23 & 24

World Famous Lipizzaner Stallions

## may 27

Styx, REO Speedwagon w/.38 Special



## june 4

TNA Live! Cross the Line presented by TNA Wrestling

## june 6

Rat City Rollergirls



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Suite rentals & group discounts available,  
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Spotlight Dance Center, LLC  
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425.235.7033  
[www.spotlightdance.net](http://www.spotlightdance.net)

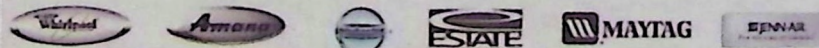
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## calendar of events

Renton Civic Theatre, 507 S. Third St.

425-226-5529 / Admission: \$10

### TEEN LIBRARY EVENTS

Downtown Renton

Public Library

100 Mill Avenue S.

425-430-6610

#### Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 4-5 p.m.

Renton Public Library invites teens in grades six to 12 to attend the new teen advisory board and exercise creativity and develop leadership skills. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month.

Cost: Free

#### Teen Game Days

Thursday, May 28, 3-5 p.m.

These "game days" are suited for students in grades six to 12.

Cost: Free

### EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

#### Renton High School Multicultural Show

Friday, May 1, 7 p.m.

This program is a showcase of talent from various cultures to increase appreciation for and understanding of multiculturalism.

Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center  
400 S. 2nd St.

425-204-3499

Admission: Free

### SENIOR EVENTS

Renton Senior Activity Center

211 Burnett Ave. N.

425-430-6633

#### Mother's Day Luncheon

Friday, May 8, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Ladies are invited to have a Mary Kay representative give them a hand treatment before lunch. Lunch tickets should be purchased before the

event.

Admission: \$3 (donation if 60 and over); \$6 (charge if under 60)

#### Senior Stage Revue

Thursday, May 14, 1 p.m.; Friday, May 15, 7 p.m.

The annual Senior Stage Revue is back by popular demand. The evening event is a showcase of the best in singing, dancing, comedy, and acting, represented by local seniors. Tickets are now available.

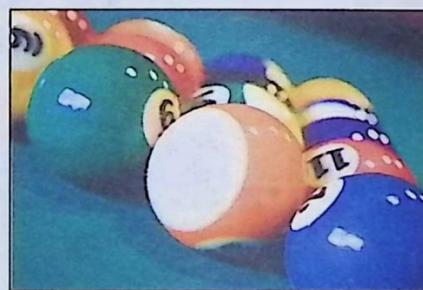
Admission: \$3

#### Hop Into Spring Dance

Friday, May 22, 2:45-4:30 p.m.

Dancing with Ray Johnson and his three-piece band. Tickets are sold at the door. Appetizers will be served.

Admission: \$4



#### Pool Tournament

Thursday, May 21, 9:30 a.m.

Congratulations to Ben Cheney, first place finisher, and Jose Ledezma, second place finisher, in the January pool tournament. To participate in the May tournament, participants must register by May 18. An anonymous donor has paid for gift certificates.

Cost: Free

#### Tax issues for retirees

Thursday, May 21, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

This workshop will review recent changes in the tax code that could affect retirees. Attendees will learn about alternatives for reducing taxes on Social Security and investment earnings that could impact how they complete their tax returns.

Cost: Free

*If you have an upcoming event you want others to know about, we want to hear from you. Please send information about your event to [info@pugetsoundpublishing.com](mailto:info@pugetsoundpublishing.com) or call us at 425-271-9300.*



# Mentors and heroes make community all-star list

*O*n May 18, 1980, Kim and I moved from Bellingham to Renton so that I could become pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. I was 28 and Kim was 23. We figured we would be here for two or three years – five years at the most. Four children, three cats, two houses and 29 years later, we are still going strong. The people of St. Matthew's and our many Renton community friends have proven to be a huge blessing in our lives. We only hope that we have returned a portion of what we have received.

During this stint, I have relied on many mentors to learn what it means to be a community servant. These mentors have taught me the value of making a strong commitment to the community. I want to share with you some of the "all-stars" on my list.

It only makes sense to start with Rich Brooks. Rich is the executive director of Renton Area Youth Services. Rich traces his roots to 1975, when he began working for RAYS. Rich has clear memories of what it was like to serve youth and families after the Boeing downturn and the end of the Vietnam War.

He has seen the community dramatically change as people from around the world have made Renton their home. He knows what it is like to see the demand for services escalate while funding declines. Rich has a huge heart and has given his life as an advocate for families, making him a beacon of hope in the community.

My community hero is Mary Ellen Stone, executive director of the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center. Mary Ellen began her work in 1979 when the agency was known as King County Rape Relief. Mary Ellen has kept a keen focus on addressing the issues of sexual assault in our community. She has made it possible to do what was once

impossible: Talk openly about the reality of sexual assault in our families and in our community. Mary Ellen speaks the truth clearly, compassionately and with courage and grace.



Kirby Unti  
COLUMNIST

Mary Ellen has taught me the power of patient persistence and holding deeply to the belief that we can change the world. It is no wonder she has received international recognition for her work.

The final all-star on my list is Rich Roodman, the chief executive officer for Valley Medical Center. He has taken a community hospital whose reputation was anything but favorable and established it as the premiere health care provider in our area. Today, Valley boasts a network of two dozen specialty, primary and urgent care centers; 23 subspecialty services including orthopedics, neuroscience, sleep, cardiovascular, birth, and breast, and the only university-affiliated residency program at any suburban Northwest hospital.

VMC is a magnet employer and for seven consecutive years has earned a place on Washington CEO's list of 100 Best Places to Work in Healthcare in the U.S., generating over \$1 billion in gross revenue. It is next to impossible to keep a CEO of Rich's caliber at a public district hospital. He makes my all-star list because of his commitment, skill and dedication over the past 26 years in making VMC an anchor in our community.

Renton, we are fortunate to have three top-flight social and health services providers serving our community. Please join me in saying a huge thank you!

*Renton Magazine columnist Kirby Unti is pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in the Renton Highlands.*



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## around the garden



**BY ELAINE ANDERSON**

**E**ven gardeners who rank shopping right up there with bamboo-slayers-under-the-fingernails torture love to shop if it's plants they're seeking. No matter how many plants we own, there's always one more that catches the eye. It makes sense, then, to include some method with our madness.

Where should we shop? Nurseries are the best

## Be a savvy garden shopper

bet. They have the greatest variety of, and the best cared for, plants. Stock is arranged according to type and growing needs. How much sun? How much water? Nurseries are staffed with people who know plants and are able to help you choose wisely.

Don't ignore the garden section of home improvement centers. You won't find the unusual and new varieties you'd find in a nursery, but you will discover a large number of the more popular plants. They are usually well taken care of, and some of these sections are staffed with at least one knowledgeable employee.

What about the plants displayed in front of supermarkets and drugstores? Prices are often low, and, if the plants look healthy and aren't dry, they might be worth taking a chance on. Walk on by a plant that's dried out. Who knows how many times it's had to deal with sporadic watering, which is stressful (and can be deadly) to plants in containers. It might just be awaiting a more pleasant burial ground (your garden) before it takes its last breath.

There are a few other things to avoid. If a plant is labeled "tender," it will survive only our mildest winters.

A winter such as we just experienced will be its death knell unless you are able to provide protection of some kind.

Check plant tags for the size of a plant when it's full grown. This will be a conservative measurement, and if you don't have room for the mature plant, don't buy it! You won't have any better luck than Cinderella's stepsisters had with the glass slipper.

Don't expect a plant that's marked "shade" to do well in sun and vice versa. Plants that prefer dry soil will turn to mush if their close neighbors receive regular watering.

Gardening is fraught with opportunities to make mistakes, but the fewer you make at the buying end, the fewer you'll end up with at the growing end.

*Elaine Anderson is the Washington State University Extension coordinator for the King County Master Gardener Program. The program, funded by King County and WSU, provides free, environmentally friendly gardening advice to home gardeners. For answers to your questions about purchasing plants and other gardening topics, call the Master Gardener Phone Clinic at 206-296-3440.*



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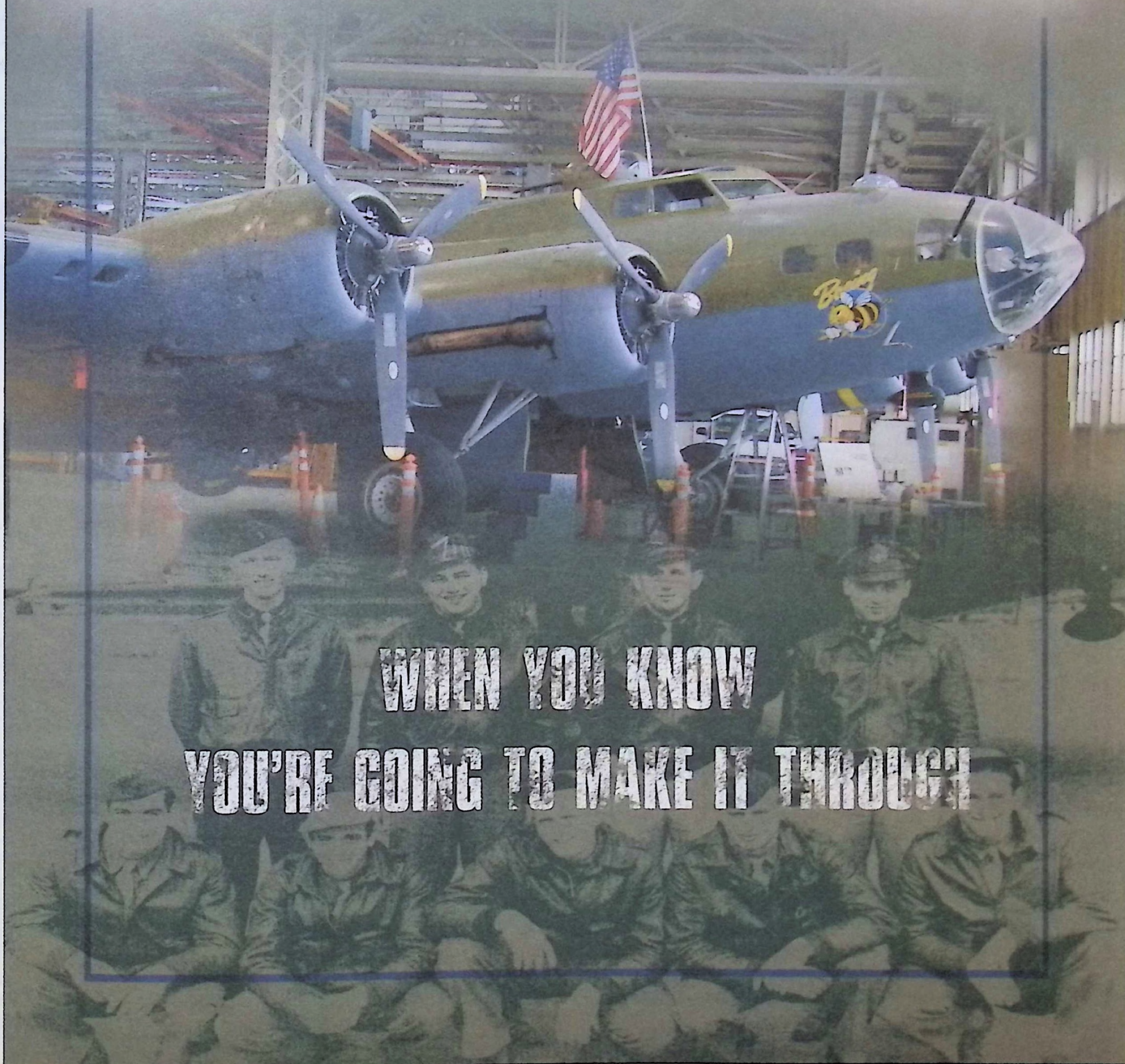
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# ECHOES FROM WWII



WHEN YOU KNOW  
YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE IT THROUGH



# WHEN THE SHELL EXPLODED...

BY JAMES BAVENDAM



## ...BENEATH THE AIRPLANE,

it blew the B-17 up on its tail. Inside, pilot Hank Hendrickson thought, "This is our Waterloo."

But it was World War II – not the Napoleonic Wars – and Henderson survived to tell his story. Decades later, at age 88, Hendrickson recounts experiences that can put some of today's challenges in perspective.

When World War II began, Hendrickson was 21, working in Spokane. Rather than wait for the draft, he decided to enlist. A written assessment opened doors to the Army Air Corps, but he didn't weigh enough.

"I was supposed to be 142, but I only weighed 137. It was just before noon. The sergeant said, 'When you go out to lunch, eat all the bananas you can hold.' Well, I did that. And just before I got on the scale, he says, 'Now go out in the hallway and drink all the water you can hold.' Well, I made the weight and got in," says Hendrickson.

The Army sent him to California for basic training and flight school.

"We flew open-cockpit, Ryan PT-22s. I really liked those airplanes. That was real flying. But I didn't take to it easily. If my instructor wasn't so good, I don't think I'd ever have finished," smiles Hendrickson. The Army continued his training in Marfa, Texas, in larger, more complex aircraft. Everyone wanted to fly fighters. But the Army had openings in transport airplanes, B-24s and B-17s.

"Transport was just towing gliders. I didn't know anything about B-24s. So, I chose B-17s. It turned out to be a pretty good airplane." After 125 hours of additional training, he was considered a full-fledged B-17 pilot and was sent to MacDill Field in Tampa, Fla., to take over a crew.

## SOMETHING WAS UP

"So, one day I had to walk out to the airplane, and here's nine guys wondering who this new guy is. And believe me, they looked you over pretty close. My copilot was pretty ticked because he was just out of flying school and been assigned to be a copilot. But it was a period of transition for all of us. I was learning how to be an aircraft commander. These guys entrusted their lives to me. And it was a little intimidating to start with. But you do what you have to do."

The days were filled with formation flying, gunnery and bombing practice. They knew something was up when their practice times were repeatedly cut short to move to the next task.

In May of 1944 they boarded a train to Savannah, Ga., where they were assigned to ferry a new B-17 to England by way of Newfoundland.

"We spent a few days at Gander, Newfoundland because of bad weather. And I don't know to this day what they considered good weather, because one day they said, 'You're flying out tonight,' and it still wasn't weather that I'd want to fly in."

Once in England, the new B-17 was whisked away and they were assigned to a war-weary B-17 for combat.

"It had so many flak holes in it. And it had a fancy name of 'Heavens Above.' Above the name was painted a naked Vargas girl, which didn't last long. One day the CO came by and said, 'Put some clothes on that girl!'"

"When the weather was good, we might fly every day. But, most of the time, we tried not to fly two days in a row. The weather determined most of it. On a rare day, we'd fly three days in a row. It was tough to come back from a real tough mission, where you really got shot up, and realize, hey, you got

to go tomorrow too.

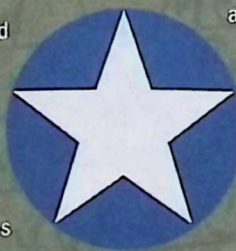
"Most of our primary targets were in France – railroad facilities, fighter bases. We were trying to block a transport for support. But then when the targets dried up, they started sending us to 'strategic' targets – oil refineries, aircraft factories, engine factories in places like Berlin or Munich. One of the worst targets was an oil refinery called Merseberg, which turned out to be our nemesis. I was told there was something like 10 refineries in one spot getting oil from coal. It was well protected by flak and fighters. Anytime you went to Merseberg, you said your prayers first."

## ATTACK ON MERSEBERG

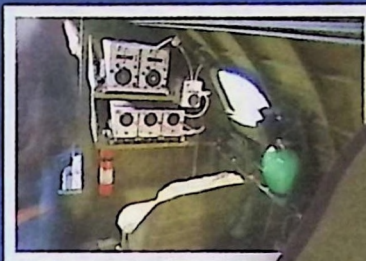
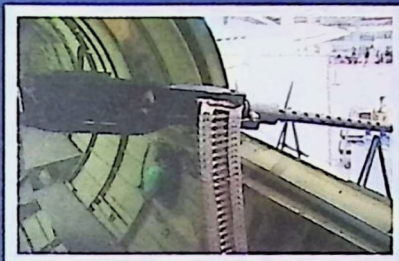
"On our 23rd mission we were going to Merseberg for the third time and we really gotlobbered, flying a B-17 called 'Sky Monster.' We approached the initial point where we'd turn on the bomb run, and another group of B-17s came from I don't know where and cut us off. The navigator in the lead ship had us do a big wide turn to avoid the group. This took us out of the safe zone and put us in the flak zone over Leipzig. And boy, were they accurate."

"Our leader got hit by flak, dropped about 50 feet and blew up. Now it's our duty to take over the lead. So we went into the lead. And about 30 seconds later, we got hit by a flak shell. When the shell hit us, the concussion underneath was so strong, it stood the aircraft on its tail, then rotated in a spin. The concussion put a compression cloud in the cockpit that was so thick, I couldn't even see the instrument panel in front of me."

"I sat back very calm and thought, this will be my Waterloo. But the bomb cloud cleared, I realized we still had four engines running, and even though we were headed down into a spin, I thought, hey, we've got a chance here! We hadn't broken in half. But at that time, I didn't realize it was







Far Left: Standing by the gaping hole, Hank Hendrickson and navigator, Carl Murray, illustrate the scale of the damage to their B-17. Even though only the skin of the airplane held it together, Hendrickson and his crew flew the B-17 from Germany to a safe landing in England. Photos courtesy of Hank Hendrickson.

229782



Hendrickson leads a tour of The Museum of Flight's "Boeing Bee." With frostbite a constant hazard at -30 degrees, waist gunners had 3-5 seconds to aim and fire their .50 caliber guns at attacking aircraft. One moment sitting at his station, the radio operator was blown out of the B-17. Thanks to his parachute, he survived the fall. The Norden bombsight allowed B-17's to drop bombs from altitudes of 25,000 feet. Photos by James Bavendam.

Right: A smiling Hendrickson in 1944 upon his arrival in England. Photo courtesy of Hank Hendrickson.

Center: The Museum of Flight's "Boeing Bee" currently under restoration. Photo courtesy of The Museum of Flight.

close."

The 88mm flak shell had blown a large hole in the side of the airplane, blowing out the interior frames and supports of the aircraft. The ball and waist gunners were killed. The radio man was blown out of the aircraft, but survived due to his parachute.

"The floor was missing in the radio room and I could see a huge gap in the side of the airplane. The only thing holding that airplane together was the skin. I had to wonder, how in the hell did we stay intact? I had to have pulled full G's to get out of the spin, and we had a full load of bombs and had plenty of fuel. All I can say is, that we were in one damn tough bird."

## SILVER STAR

With no radios, the engineer fired flares to assemble the remaining four aircraft in the squadron. Struggling with damaged controls, they continued to their secondary target, dropped their bombs and headed for England. At the edge of France, Hendrickson decided they were in good enough shape to cross the English Channel.

They landed at Woodbridge, an emergency field near the coast of England. Hendrickson made the tail gunner bail out before the landing.

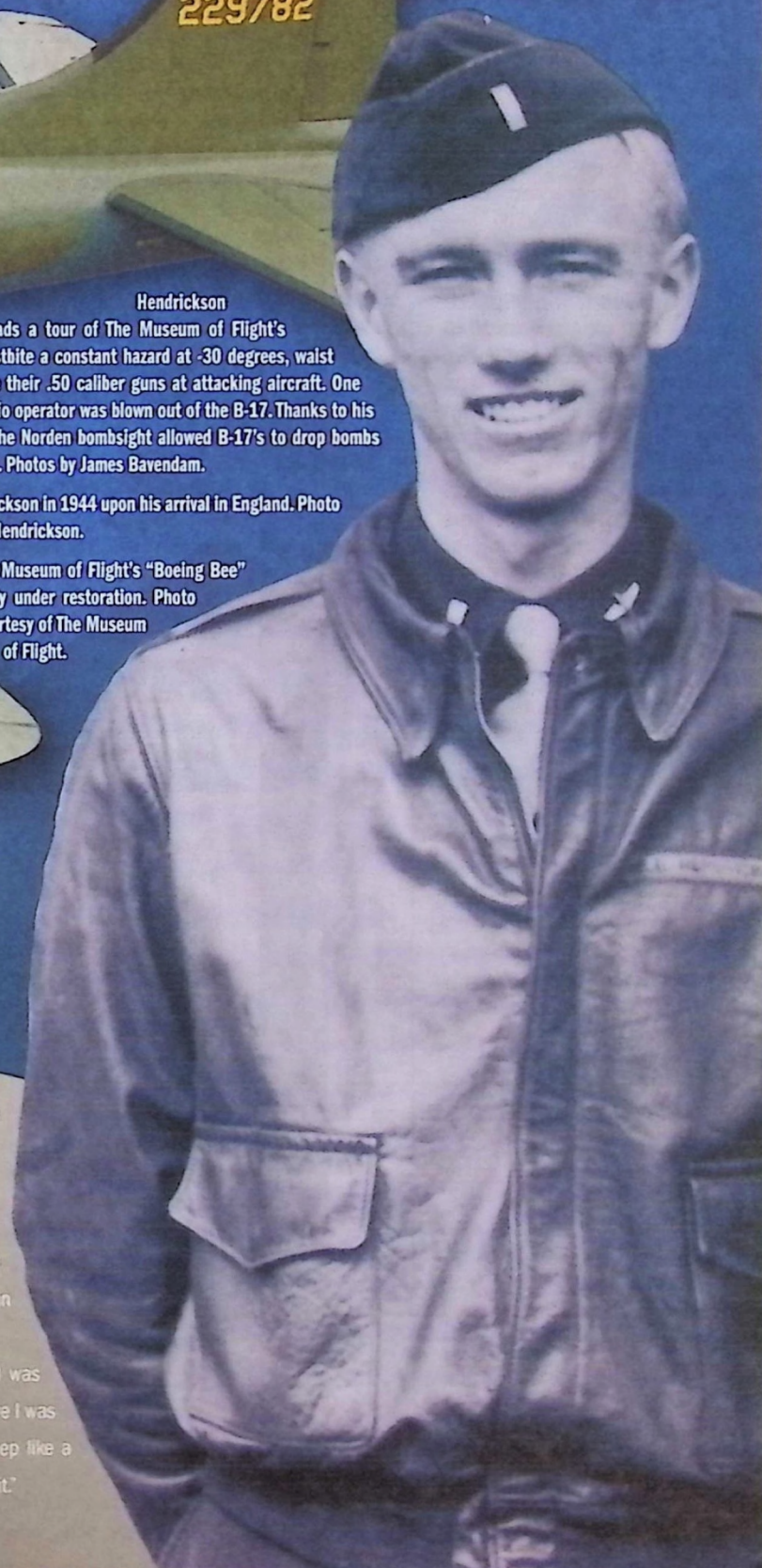
"If we had broken in half, he would have been dead for sure."

Almost serious, Hendrickson muses "He may have forgiven me by now for making him jump out. But I think that's the

smoothest landing I ever made."

Hendrickson completed his final missions and returned to the states. Six months later, he was awarded the Silver Star for bravery in action. Hendrickson says the real heroes were the mechanics who had to work mostly outside, through the night in all kinds of weather to get the planes flying again for the next mission.

"But as silly as it sounds, I just knew I was going to make it through the war. I was positive I was going to make it. I could go to bed and sleep like a baby and not dream about it. I can't explain it."





# Health Topics

*My child struggles and doesn't like to eat. Shouldn't mealtimes be easy, or even fun? What can I do?*

Most of us take eating and drinking for granted, as it usually happens naturally and we enjoy it. But some children experience trouble, and it's important to learn why. Speech Language Pathologists at VMC Children's Therapy offer Clinical Swallowing Evaluations and Pediatric Modified Barium Swallow studies. By analyzing oral feeding skills and observing the child during mealtime, the specialist may offer suggestions to reduce mealtime stress, or decide that feeding therapy may help. If swallowing safety is an issue, a Pediatric Modified Barium Swallow study will see "inside" the child during drinking or eating. This helps us understand what your child is experiencing and find a way to make meal times safe. Feeding should be an enjoyable experience for everyone...so let us help you and your child!

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# urban hiking

## A walk on the wild side is just a step or *two away*

BY SARAH ZUGSCHWERDT

Local hiking doesn't have to mean hours in the car and a full gas tank. Renton residents have the best of both worlds behind their fence line—and often don't even know it.

Tucked into the Kenndale neighborhood of northeast Renton runs the Honey Creek Trail. Driving by, you may miss the extension of N.E. 27th Street that ends abruptly with a "road closed" sign; this is your cue to park and start walking. At the bottom of this short hill, appropriately named "Devil's Elbow," the once-driven road curves sharply upward. Instead of curving, keep walking and you'll find yourself along Honey Creek. Deciduous and evergreen trees flank the trail while the gurgling Honey Creek provides the soundtrack of a far-away forest amble.

Moving toward downtown Renton, quite different scenery emerges: Lake Washington. Gene Coulon Memorial Park, well-known to swimmers and boaters in summertime, also offers two miles of lake-front trail, end-to-end. The paved pathway bends and curls, each quarter mile offering something different—open lakeshore with waves licking the boulders at its edge, a wooden bridge over shallow water and sunken logs, or a busy boardwalk. It's easily found next to the Landing and Boeing on Lake Washington Boulevard North.

Further south, and a little west, a river empties into Lake Washington and another trail begins. The Cedar River Trail, all 17 miles paved (4.5 within city limits), starts at lake-level, then lowers and raises alongside the river as it flows through downtown Renton, under the library, and out to Maple Valley. Turn west onto N. 6th Street off of Logan Street downtown, and drive past Boeing to get to

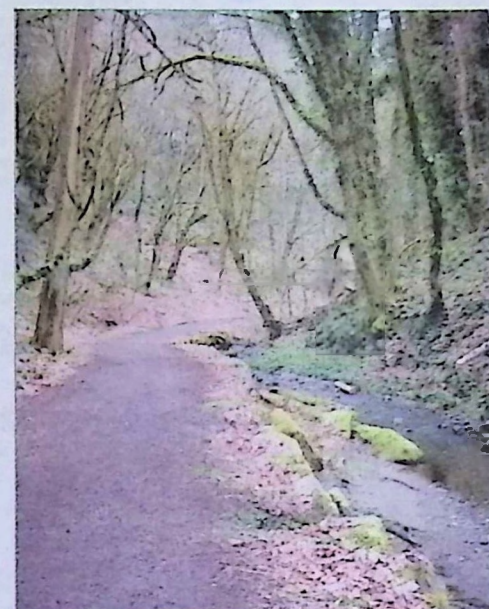


PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH ZUGSCHWERDT

The road less traveled on the Honey Creek Trail.

this north entrance; other entrances can be found at Liberty Park or at Carco Theater further downriver.

Near Renton's southern border sits yet another hidden treasure—the two-mile Springbrook Trail and Waterworks Garden, located about half a mile north of Grady Way on Oaksdale Ave., next to the Black River Riparian Forest. Before 1917 and the completion of the Ship Canal, Renton was once home to the Black River, which ran between Lake Washington and the Duwamish River. All that is left now is a forested wetland (riparian comes from the Latin for river), and the Springbrook Creek

that flows through it. Great blue herons are the star attraction of the forest with one of the largest colonies in the state and a non-profit organization of 600 members dedicated to protecting them.

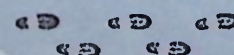
Connected to the trail is Waterworks Garden—eight acres of environmental artwork that takes storm water

runoff through an elaborate purification process, starting at a

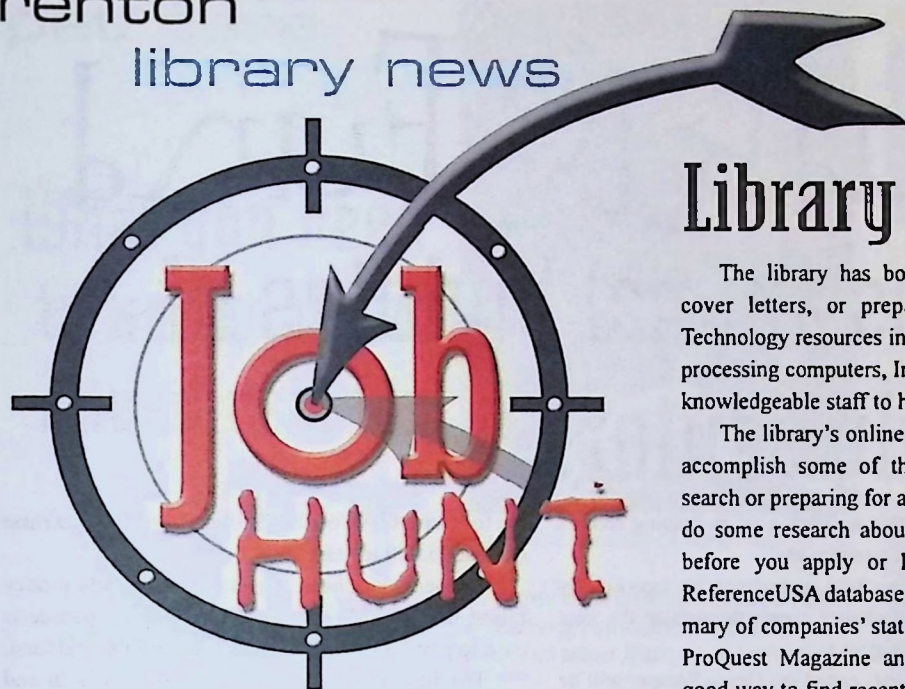
knoll on a hill, and flowing down through pools, waterfalls, and funnels, until it reaches its final destination: the wetlands. The Grotto at the middle of the Garden boasts beautiful natural stones and the chance to take all of it in.

### First take a hike on the Internet

Information on these walks and others, visit the City of Renton's Web site at <http://rentonwa.gov>, and follow the parks and recreation link to trails. For information about protecting the herons of the Black River Riparian Forest, visit [www.heronforever.org](http://www.heronforever.org).







BY AARON OESTING

*I*f you are looking for work during these trying times, it may seem as if there is little help and support for your efforts. However, the Renton Public Library offers a variety of services that can be of assistance in a job search.

## Library resources for job hunting

The library has books about writing resumes, cover letters, or preparing for a job interview. Technology resources include online databases, word processing computers, Internet access, and a friendly, knowledgeable staff to help you use all these things.

The library's online resources are a great way to accomplish some of the tasks necessary in a job search or preparing for an interview. It is important to do some research about a business or organization before you apply or have an interview, and the ReferenceUSA database is a great place to find a summary of companies' statistics. Also, the ProQuest Magazine and Newspaper database is a good way to find recent news about an organization. Some types of professions require entrance exams, and good communication and math abilities are always highly desired skills. Learning Express Library is an online tool that can help you prepare for exams or brush up on job related skills. All these resources can be found on the library's web site: <http://library.rentonwa.gov> and accessed with your Renton library card from home as well as at the library.

Computers have become an essential part of the workplace and the job search. Many job openings are now found only online and require that people submit application materials over the Internet - difficult if a person does not have a computer at home or has a slow Internet connection.

The Renton Public Library has 13 Internet-connected computers and a word processing-only workstation available to the public. These can be used for job searches, investigating and communicating with prospective employers, downloading or filling out application materials, or writing and submitting resumes. There are also online tutorials for learning a variety of computer programs and skills that might help you land your next job.

At the end of a hard day of job-hunting, the library can also provide a good book or movie to help you relax and unwind. When you wonder who will help you find a job, make one of your first stops the Renton Public Library.

Aaron Oesting is assistant director of the Renton Public Library, phone 425-430-6610.



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BY DAVID SUFFIA

**B**udkis Charbonneau wasn't the most handsome fellow, depending on what you consider handsome. He had a big round face with lots of wrinkles and he tended to drool.

On the other hand, he liked his beer and reportedly was very charming. Although he passed away more than eight years ago, the charity that bears his name still does a lot of good, helping needy local seniors and their pets.

Budkis was a 95-pound bulldog owned by Chuck and Mij Charbonneau of Renton. They began the Budkis Fund for Senior Emergency Pet Care in his honor. In past years, the fund has held a big auction to raise money. Last year, 114 people showed up and the fund raised about \$35,000.

The fund operates totally on volunteer help, and 98 per-

# Budkis Fund

## helps animal buddies of

## needy seniors

cent of the money it raises goes to helping seniors and their animal companions.

This year, the fund is changing its approach by planning several charity events throughout the year rather than one big auction.

The first event, called the Grape Escape, will be held May 30 at Patterson Cellars winery in Woodinville. There will be music and wine tasting, as well as appetizers provided by Kathy's Kapers catering. Admission is \$35 per person. You may purchase tickets online at the Budkis Fund Web site, or mail payment to The Budkis Fund, Attn. Mij Charbonneau, 3909 S.E. 11th St., Renton, WA, 98058-2829.

"There will be a silent auction, games and a raffle, with some significant prizes" says Greg Sweers, president of the Budkis Fund board. "One of the prizes will be dinner for 12 in your home, provided by the caterer, or dinner and a cooking class in the caterer's kitchen."

Sweers is one of four fund board members. Originally, the fund was run by the Charbonneaus, but "they're going to retire at some point and are stepping back a bit," Sweers says. "We still meet at their home in Renton, and they're staying on as founders of the fund."

"We decided to change the format of the fund-raising efforts this year to make it easier for the volunteers who do the work," he adds. "Having several social events is less stressful than one big auction event. We're hoping we can attract at least 150 peo-

ple to attend the Woodinville event and help us raise at least \$6,000 to start."

A Boeing engineer, Sweers says the only money raised that doesn't go directly to helping people is used to pay for outside financial auditing of the fund.

The fund has assisted dozens of seniors in and around Renton. It has paid for emergency veterinary care for the pets of seniors who couldn't afford it, including an elderly Renton woman's poodle that was attacked by pit bills.

"We just paid a huge bill to repair a dog's broken leg," Mij Charbonneau says. "It was a papillon that belonged to a 68-year-old woman who's on a small fixed income. Trying to pay the bill would have really stretched her budget."

"We recently paid a \$305 vet bill for a 94-year-old man's sick dog. That isn't much money, unless you don't have it."

"Honestly, it's nice to see the fund helping people, but we're just so happy to see Budkis' memory live on. He meant a lot to us," she says. "It's also exciting to see people in the community embracing the fund, and to have new blood and new energy involved in running it."

"The Budkis Fund is truly about helping the animals and keeping Budkis's legacy alive."

If you'd like to donate to the Budkis Fund but can't attend the Grape Escape, you may send a check made out to The Renton Community Foundation, Memo: The Budkis Fund, P.O. Box 820, Renton, WA 98057.

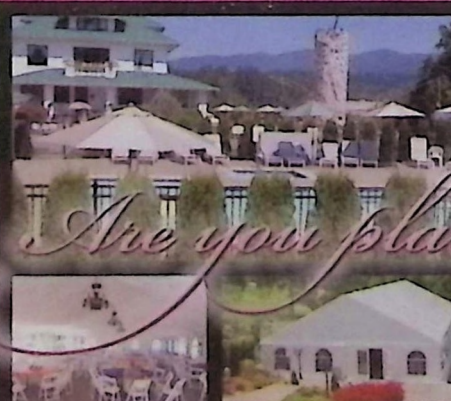
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# What you need to know about anesthesia for your pet

BY DR. KATHY CONNELL

**R**ecent advances in veterinary anesthesia manage risks and have made anesthesia safer than ever. Better, safer drugs have decreased complications. There is also equipment that your veterinarian can use to closely monitor your pet while it's under anesthesia.

Extensive laboratory work is usually not necessary for short, routine procedures in the average young, healthy pet. Your veterinarian may recommend blood work or other laboratory tests in some patients, though. For example, the management of a young, healthy dog undergoing a routine castration will be different than a lengthy, complicated surgery in a patient compromised medically by age, diabetes or a heart problem.

Monitoring the drugs and medications administered ensures the proper level and quality of anesthesia. Sedation may be given beforehand to quiet your pet and to reduce levels of anesthetic drugs necessary. Pre-operative pain medication or anti-inflammatories may also be given.

An endotracheal tube may be placed in the pet's windpipe to manage the airway. The tube is connected to the anesthesia machine, which safely delivers a mixture of oxygen and anesthetic gas.

Your pet's circulation, blood oxygen level, and breathing will all be observed and recorded during anesthesia. Circulation is checked to ensure that your pet's tissues and organs are receiving proper blood flow. Your veterinarian may use an electrocardio-



PHOTO COURTESY OF HENRY MOORE, JR. BCU/WSU

All types of animals can successfully undergo anesthesia that is modern and safer than ever before.

gram to provide a continuous visual display of heart functions.

Breathing, called ventilation, must also be maintained throughout the procedure. Ventilation is monitored by observing chest movements and the breathing bag on the anesthesia machine. Your veterinarian may also use an audible respiratory monitor.

An anesthetic record will be kept by your veterinary health care team during your pet's procedure. The surgeon or a trained technician will be aware of your pet's status at all times during anesthesia and recovery. They will recognize problems and intervene if necessary.

Here are a few questions you can ask your veterinarian about your pet's upcoming anesthesia:

- Do you recommend any pre-anesthetic testing?
- Are you using the most current techniques and medications?
- How will my pet be continuously monitored during the surgery and in recovery?
- Will you be using equipment to monitor heart rate, respiration, blood pressure and blood oxygenation?
- Because of my pet's condition, do you recommend any additional medications or fluids?

You can minimize risks by preparing yourself and your pet before any anesthesia. Follow all pre-operative instructions carefully and you will have done your part to ensure your pet will have the best outcome.

Dr. Kathy Connell, DVM, owns and operates Foxglove Consulting.



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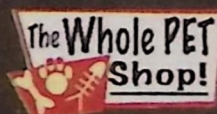


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# Let's have

**BY CHRISTIE KATONA**

**A**s Mother's Day approaches, what could be a better reason to have a lovely tea to celebrate? Tea parties are also ideal ways to celebrate an engagement, shower, graduation or new baby.

For centuries, people all over the world have found comfort, communication and warmth in a simple cup of tea. Next to water, tea is the most popular drink in the world. Its history dates back almost 5,000 years. Tea is a member of the camellia family and is grown in tropical and subtropical climates. The tea plant needs a lot of water in order to flourish, and a tea plant may remain productive for over a century.



**CHRISTIE KATONA**

*Christie Katona is the owner of Christie's Catering Inc. in Renton. She attended the Cordon Bleu in London, has authored many cookbooks, taught cooking classes for many years and worked as a restaurant consultant. More recipes and suggestions can be found at [www.Christies-Catering.com](http://www.Christies-Catering.com).*



People eat with their eyes, so tea sandwiches should look as good as they taste. Use your prettiest trays and be sure to garnish with fresh herbs, flowers and fruit. Spread each slice of bread with softened butter or mayonnaise. A certain uniformity and precision makes your presentation more special. Place the prepared sandwiches on a cookie sheet and cover with a dampened towel to keep them from drying out. Cover tightly with plastic wrap and store in the refrigerator. Here are some suggested combinations to try.

*Whole wheat bread with:*

- Herbed cream cheese and thinly sliced English cucumbers
- Brie cheese, thinly sliced ham, green peppercorn mustard
- Grated radishes mixed with butter and garnished with watercress

*Rye Bread with:*

- Avocado mixed with butter and garnished with a dollop of caviar
- Dilled cream cheese and smoked salmon
- Deviled eggs and chives

*Cheddar cheese or egg bread with:*

- cream cheese, chutney and toasted almonds
- cream cheese mixed with black olives, walnuts and blue cheese
- cream cheese, shredded cheddar and pimientos

*Sweet Breads such as banana, pumpkin, mango or date bread with:*

- Mascarpone cheese with chopped toasted almonds and dried apricots
- cream cheese mixed with strawberry jam, garnish with mint leaves
- cream cheese mixed with crushed pineapple and grated orange zest

From time to time we have been asked to serve scones at catered events and yours truly can make them at the speed of lightening! Scones are always popular at a tea party and mixes are available on your grocer's shelves. Make the scones quite small and dainty and serve with a bowl of whipped cream and jarred lemon curd.

Here are some other recipes that go beautifully at a tea party. All of them can be made ahead and frozen, which will be convenient for you. And they will be sure to bring raves from your guests.





## Sesame Cheese Straws

Makes 4 dozen

### you will need

2 cups flour  
2/3 cup butter  
2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese  
1/2 cup toasted sesame seeds  
1 tsp salt  
1 tsp ground ginger  
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce  
4 to 5 Tbs cold water

### directions

Preheat oven to 400. In a food processor using the steel blade, combine the flour and butter. Add the cheese and seasonings and combine until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Sprinkle with cold water and process until mixture begins to form a ball. Remove dough from the machine and roll out as for pie crust on a lightly floured board. Cut into decorative strips using a pastry cutter or sharp knife. Place on a lightly greased cookie sheet and bake for 10 to 12 minutes or until golden. Cool on a wire rack. Store in air-tight containers. Can freeze.

## Mango Bread

Makes 2 loaves

### you will need

3/4 cup oil  
2 eggs  
1 1/4 cups sugar  
2 cups flour

2 tsp cinnamon

1/2 tsp salt

1 tsp lemon juice

2 1/2 cups chopped mangoes

1 cup raisins, optional

2 tsp soda

1 cup coarsely chopped macadamia nuts, optional

### directions

In an electric mixer combine oil, eggs and sugar. Sift together flour, soda, cinnamon and salt. Add to egg mixture. Stir in lemon juice, mangoes and raisins and nuts if using. Preheat oven to 350. Divide batter evenly into two greased 8 x 4-inch bread pans. Bake for 1 hour or until center of the loaves test done. Cool. Wrap in foil and refrigerate or freeze. Excellent spread with pineapple and cream cheese.



## Asparagus Roll Ups

Makes 75

### you will need

25 pieces white sandwich bread, crusts removed  
25 pickled asparagus spears, drained well  
8 oz cream cheese, softened  
3 oz blue cheese or other savory cheese  
1 egg  
1 tsp white pepper  
1 1/2 cups melted butter  
1 cup shredded Parmesan

### directions

Flatten bread slices with a rolling pin. Combine cream cheese, blue cheese, egg and pepper. Spread on bread slices. Place an asparagus spear on the edge of one side of each piece of bread. Roll up tightly. Place on a cookie sheet and brush with butter, sprinkle with the Parmesan. Cover well and freeze until use. To serve, preheat oven to 400. Cut frozen rolls into thirds and bake while frozen, 15 minutes or until golden. Serve hot.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF RENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Rentontutor.com allows high school students in the Renton School District to log on at anytime and anywhere to get help in their math studies

**BY ANDREW FICKES**

Anytime, anywhere, and at no cost, eligible high school students in the Renton School District can receive help with their math studies from an online tutor – a service financed through donations from local businesses.

The program is the idea of Toyota dealer Bob Bridge, who credits tutoring with helping him attain financial success. Wanting that opportunity to be available to Renton students, he launched a live tutoring project at Lindbergh High School in 2008. The program paired tutors from the University of Washington with struggling Lindbergh math students. The program proved to be a success, but expanding it to all five high schools (including the two alternative schools) would be difficult to administer.

That's when Bridge discovered Tutor.com, a Web site for struggling students who can log in 24/7 to get help with any subject. The site, founded by The Princeton Review and funded by the founders of Intel, uses the services of 2,500 tutors worldwide. Renton

# Business donors help students get math tutoring online

students go to [www.rentontutor.com](http://www.rentontutor.com) to link with Tutor.com.

## Goal of 100 students

Bridge brokered a deal with Tutor.com to provide a certain amount of minutes for up to 100 students across Renton's five high schools. It works out like minutes on a cell phone plan. So far, Bridge and other business owners in Renton have contributed \$40,000 to pay for minutes used by 100 students.

Bridge's goal is to raise at least \$80,000 to maximize the amount of minutes for those 100 students at a cost of \$800 per student per year. If the program is a success, Bridge is willing to raise more money to provide tutoring to more than 100 students.

"It was important to have a real efficient approach that both a public and private partnership could support," says Bridge.

Bridge's idea was conveyed to Renton school superintendent Mary Alice Heuschel last summer.

"She's really the visionary. The credit goes to her," he says. "I don't think many school superintendents would listen to a local Toyota dealership owner."

Heuschel says she liked the idea because it was initiated by a business owner who is a strong supporter of education.

"I like the flexibility of a 24/7 [program]," she says. "We tested it as stu-

dents, and my experience was very positive with the tutors."

"One of the wonderful pieces of the site is, students can ask textbook-based questions," Heuschel says. "The tutors offer very individualized attention and work students through the learning experience."

## Results in four years

Of the 100 students identified to use the program, Heuschel says about 25 "superstars" use it regularly (at least one hour per week). Another 15 to 20 are beginning to show signs of more activity. Bridge calls this a "learning curve" year for the program.

"My goal for this program is to have the standardized test results of seniors in higher math and science four years from now be substantially higher than today," says Bridge.

For Adio Foluke, a ninth grader at Lindbergh High School, using Tutor.com at home after school has been a lifesaver. Last semester he struggled to achieve a passing grade in his beginning algebra class. His dreams of becoming an architect felt unattainable.

Thanks to Tutor.com, Foluke is now passing.

"Ever since I've used Tutor.com, math has been my best subject," he says. "I can't wait to get to math class."

## How to contribute

Bob Bridge and many business owners in Renton have so far raised \$40,000 toward an \$80,000 goal, which would be enough to offer 100 high school online math tutoring. It costs \$800 to tutor each student for the entire school year. Contributions (large or small) are welcome and are tax deductible.

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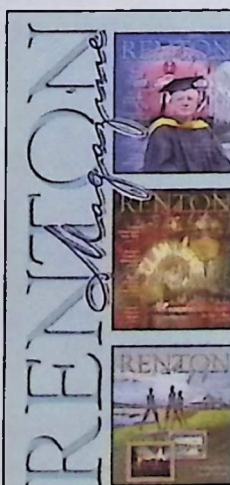
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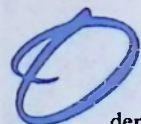
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# It all adds up for Muckerheide

BY ANDREW FICKES



On a Thursday morning, the day before their quiz, Paul Muckerheide is having his math analysis students review what they will be tested on. A student is at the board working through a problem, getting help from his peers. Muckerheide quietly observes.

Students, yearning for the answer, ask Muckerheide for help, but he tells them repeatedly, "I don't want you to be a Xerox machine." He wants his students to discover the answer for themselves.

After 37 years of teaching math, Muckerheide strives to break students of the habit of accepting teachers' answers, assuming they're right, and copying.

"I encourage students to analyze answers and don't always take answers as right," he says. "I encourage them to even question a teacher's work."

Muckerheide will soon finish his fourth year at Hazen High School. He taught for five years at Renton High. On April 15, he received an "outstanding teacher" award from the Renton School District, honoring his commitment to student learning and his input in math curriculum at the state level.

This school year Muckerheide has served as math department chair at Hazen, helped write curriculum for segmented math, and continued his term on the Project Time steering committee at Green River Community College. Project Time helps to prepare high school students for the community college level.

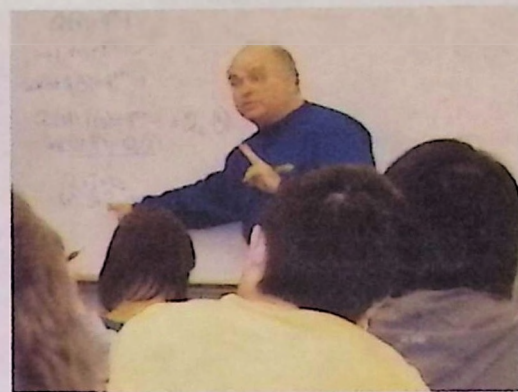
Last August, he attended a statewide retreat for math teachers to look at new state standards for math (in spring 2010 the state will replace the WASL with two new tests).

"In mathematics, the child advancement expectations are in flux" he says. "Every time they have had a town hall meeting in Olympia, I've been there."

Beyond his state level involvement, Muckerheide's other accomplishments are with students, whether in class or out on the field. He has assisted in coaching women's long jump, triple jump, and high jump. He holds a master's degree in sports science from the U.S. Sports Academy in Mobile, Ala.

"He brings math out to the field," says head coach Donald Ponds. "Most coaches, including myself, just think athletics: run faster and jump higher. But he teaches the athletes if you take this jump at this angle you'll land here. He captivates them [the athletes] with math."

Lisa Behmer, a math teacher at Hazen, nominated Muckerheide for the "outstanding teacher" award. She says she admires Muckerheide for setting high standards



RENTON MAGAZINE / ANDREW FICKES

Paul Muckerheide leads his math analysis class through problems that will be on a following day's quiz.

for his students.

"He has a reputation of being a challenging instructor, but he absolutely supports the kids to attain those high goals," she wrote in the nomination form. "That combination is very powerful."

Muckerheide says he structures his teaching around the Socratic method, posing a question to the class and having students answer through discussion.

"I strive to encourage a climate in class where both right and wrong answers are accepted, but a desire to fix wrong answers is present," he says. "The biggest challenge is creating that atmosphere."



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PHOTO COURTESY OF JARNA RAINEY

The Cascade Family Motorcycle Club rides off-road on a 2007 Fourth of July trip to Naches, Wash.

View from the bike:

## IT'S A DIFFERENT ROAD

BY DANA E. NEUTS

After a long, dreary winter, motorcycle enthusiasts are anxious to get out on nearby roads and trails, especially Pam Rose, who rides every chance she gets – including commuting to work every day from her Puyallup home. The 45-year-old petite, hair salon owner is president of a motorcycle club – Chapter 350 of the Star Touring & Riding Association ([www.startouring.org/chapter350/](http://www.startouring.org/chapter350/)) in Renton.

Rose's love for motorcycles began in 2005 when she visited her parents in Arizona. Both motorcycle riders and Star members, Rose's mom and dad took her along on a Laughlin River Run, an annual bike run to the Colorado River. Rose was hooked.

"I came home and told my husband, 'I've got to have a bike,'" she says. "It's the coolest feeling to have the wind blowing in your

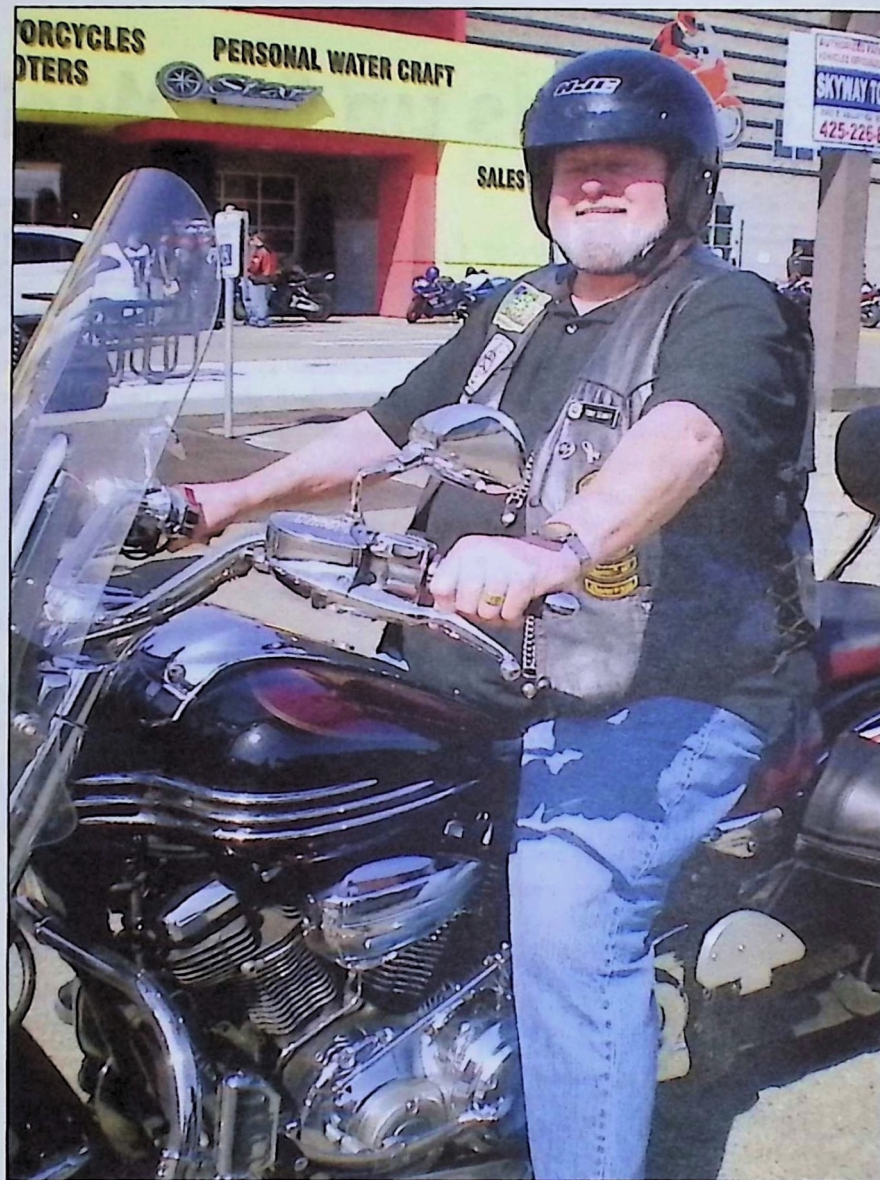
face." Rose owns a 2005 Yamaha V Star 1100 Silverado and has convinced her husband Jim to buy a bike too.

Chapter member Tony Schaaf, 72, of Redmond has been riding motorcycles for 55 years. Averaging 6,000 to 7,000 miles per year on his 2006 Yamaha Stratoliner, Schaaf says there is no feeling like being on his bike.

"It's a different road. You feel and see so much more," he explains.

Ed Davis, 48, of Kent agrees: "It's about getting out and forgetting everything. It's in your blood."

The family-friendly chapter has about 25 members of varying ages from around the area. In addition to its monthly meetings at Renton Motorcycle Company (3701 E. Valley Road) and after-meeting rides, the chapter participates in events held by other chapters, hosts longer rides, supports fundraisers for charities including Operation Homefront and the Autism Society, and promotes motorcycle safety and awareness. Despite common misconceptions about motorcycle riders, Rose says chapter members are nice, everyday people who focus on having fun while being safe.



RENTON MAGAZINE / DANA E. NEUTS

Tony Schaaf, 72, of Redmond has been riding motorcycles for 55 years, including this 2006 Yamaha Stratoliner.

### A wide range of biking clubs

In addition to these organizations, there are other cycle groups in the area including the Seattle Harley Owners Chapter Group #2065 (H.O.G.), Bell's Angels (Renton), Women on Wheels (Auburn), Full Tilt Riders (Seattle) and more. Check with other riders or your local motorcycle dealer for more information about organizations and events near you.

"We're very aware of the public's thoughts about us," Schaaf says. "We try to put on a positive image."

Members of another local group – Cascade Family Motorcycle Club ([www.cascadefamilymc.org](http://www.cascadefamilymc.org)) in Kent – are also anxious for spring. Some members, however, ride off-road no matter what the weather.

"Racers have to ride year-round to stay in shape, so about 60 percent of our members ride all year long," says president Gene Jackson, 50, of Auburn.

Formed in the mid-1970s, the Cascade Family Motorcycle Club focuses on providing family-oriented, outdoor activities,

sharing a love for off-road bikes and racing, and helping to maintain riding trails throughout the state, which includes more than 1,000 hours of trail maintenance annually. Ranging in age from 3 to mid-60s, riders include about 30 area families and a few individuals. The club meets monthly and hosts frequent rides, longer trips, Enduro races, and events co-sponsored with the Northwest Motorcycle Association. Upcoming events include a week-long trip to Moab, Utah; family campout in Shelton Valley; Family Fun Days; and several Enduro races at Belfair.

"There's always something for everyone in the family to do," Jackson says.



# With Aunt Dottie's cabaret it's a different show every time

BY DANA E. NEUTS

Since November 2008, "Aunt Dottie" has been captivating audiences of all ages with her sing-along cabaret at the Renton Civic Theater. Played by Michele Greenwood Bettinger, "Aunt Dottie" stars in a two-hour matinee composing a few rehearsed songs, improvisation and audience participation. "Aunt Dottie," who won't divulge her age, (unlike Bettinger, who is 46) is accompanied on the piano by "nephew" Aaron, played by Aaron Buckner of Renton. Singing everything from 1940s to 1980s classics, show tunes and popular favorites, a typical show includes as many as 20 songs, ranging from "We Will Rock You" and "Twist and Shout" to "Sentimental Journey" and "Que Sera, Sera." Much of what "Aunt Dottie" sings depends on the audience.

"She spontaneously works the crowd," says Doug Mackey of Tacoma. "Every show is different." Mackey and his wife Lynn have seen the show twice.

"I am amazed by her ability to make the audience so comfortable and how involved some of them get," Mackey says. "She even had an 80-year-old man dancing on stage!"

The theater's artistic director, Bill Huls, is also a fan. He likes the show because it is fun, family-friendly entertainment, and appealing to a wide and growing audience.

The impetus for "Aunt Dottie" began a few years ago with Bettinger's desire to return to the stage. Beginning her career at age 7 in television's "Romper Room," Bettinger has performed most of her life, doing everything from high school plays and community theater to a seven-year stint as a member of an acting troupe at Disney-MGM Studios.

Bettinger knew she wanted to do a cabaret, but wasn't sure what that show would be. The idea solidified in her mind following an Arlo Guthrie concert last spring. After singing "This Land is Your Land" with his audience, Guthrie told the crowd it was important for people to sing together. This idea was further enforced when Bettinger played salon-owner Truvy in "Steel Magnolias."

"It seemed like the audience yearned to be a part of it," Bettinger said. "I wanted my show to get the audience involved too."

When not playing "Aunt Dottie," Bettinger works full-time in Renton at Wizards of the Coast, a division of Hasbro. She and her husband Shawn live in Fairwood with their children, Fern, 8, and Guthrie, 5. Bettinger says her character is not modeled after anyone, but has developed her own personality over time, one that is quite separate from her own.

"Aunt Dottie and I don't have a lot in common, except that we both love to sing," Bettinger says, "And we both think that Renton should be the center of the universe!"



Photo Courtesy of Renton Civic Theater

## If you want to go

"Aunt Dottie's Sing-along Cabaret" is playing May 3, 10 and 17 at the Renton Civic Theater, 507 S. Third St., Renton. Tickets to the family-friendly show are \$10 each. For more information, visit [www.rentoncivictheater.com](http://www.rentoncivictheater.com) or <http://auntdottiesings.blogspot.com/>.

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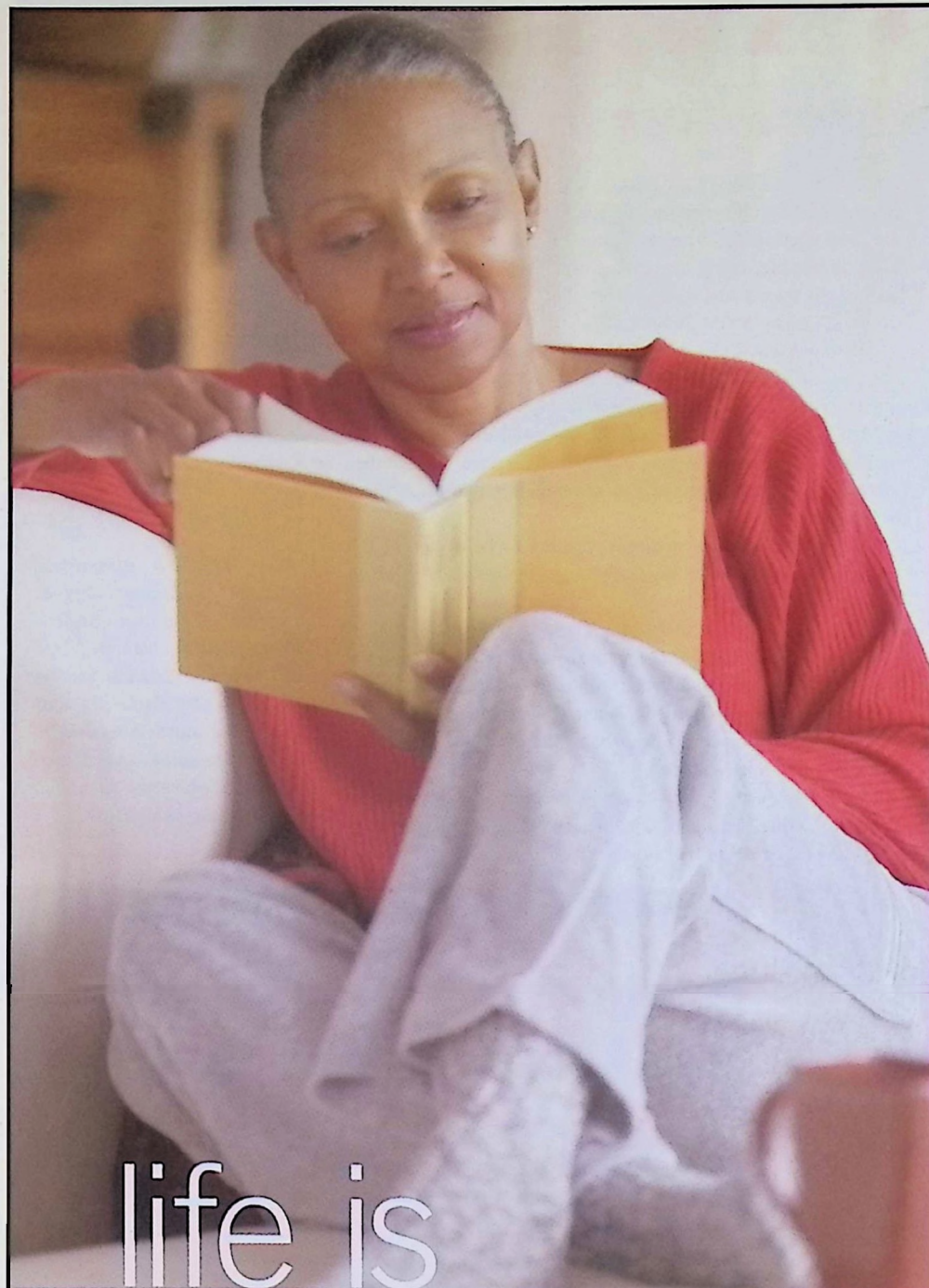
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