

Events & Announcements



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Bubblin’ Brown Sugar

The Throwback Dance team made up of former High School dance team members performed during the 2018 Bubblin' Brown Sugar High School Dance Contest April 28 at Garfield High School. The sold-out event included performances by six area high schools and three dance teams. Cleveland High school took first place in the annual contest.

more than \$6.5 million initially during the one year
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pilot partnership – with additional funding to follow. Multnomah County represents the only community to be selected in the Pacific Northwest by the Center for the Study of Social Policy into the Early Childhood Learning and Innovation Network for Communities. United Way of the Columbia-Willamette will serve as the community lead through its strategic initiative, Early Learning Multnomah (ELM), which addresses the biases and barriers children of color face before kindergarten to ensure equity and provide an opportunity for every child in Multnomah County to learn, grow and thrive. The initiative is part of United Way’s broader mission of investing in kids to eliminate racial disparities and reduce childhood poverty. With an estimated 3 million of the nation’s youngest children at risk of reaching kindergarten not ready to learn, the partnership seeks a dramatic investment in improving kindergarten readiness. The participating organizations will equip communities with tools to strengthen early childhood systems and share best practices with other cities, counties and states. In turn, communities will share resources that will drive policies and make the case for public and private investment in core services for young children. United Way’s ELM initiative already has a history of working to ensure young children have a strong start in life. Since its inception in 2014, ELM has distributed more than 13,500 early literacy kits in four languages and recently helped to create 192 additional high -quality preschool openings for three and four-year-olds in Multnomah County. ELM has also developed a Parent Accountability Council, which engages parents from African American, African immigrant, Asian, Latino, Native American and Slavic communities.

Seattle News Briefs

King County Residents Receive Martin Luther King Medal of Distinguished Service

This week the Metropolitan King County Council awarded nine citizens the Martin Luther King Medal of Distinguished Service, an accolade recognizing those who are committed to public service. This is the third year Councilmembers have recognized individuals in their districts that have answered the question asked by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “What are you doing for others?” Today’s recipients have helped in their communities in a number of ways:

- Councilmember Rod Dembowski recognized Terry Lavender, an advocate for open space and protecting the environment, who started with saving a fragile wetland in her community.

- Councilmember Larry Gossett presented the medal to Bettie Williams-Watson, a community activist whose focus has been on developing culturally relevant programs to assist both the survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and those who have been abusers in the past.
- Council Vice Chair Kathy Lambert recognized Cynthia Krass, Executive Director of the Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District and the Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance who has been a strong voice for the agricultural community in the Snoqualmie Valley.
- Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles recognized Jorge Barón, Executive Director of the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP), who arrived in the U.S. as an immigrant and now leads an agency protecting the rights of those following him to America.
- Councilmember Dave Upthegrove acknowledged the leadership of Seattle Seahawks Wide Receiver Doug Baldwin on various community initiatives throughout King County, including leading the efforts of a partnership between the city of Renton, the Renton School District and HealthPoint in creating the Family First Community Center in South King County.
- Council Vice Chair Claudia Balducci recognized the tireless work of Karina O'Malley in assisting the homeless in East King County through her work with The Sophia Way, a shelter for women experiencing homelessness.
- Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer presented the medal to long-time community leader Mike Park, who has served the city of Federal Way in a number of areas. He was the first Korean-American Mayor of the City and has been active in strengthening ties between Federal Way and the Republic of Korea.
- Council Chair Joe McDermott recognized Bryan Hastings, who helped keep White Center’s Evergreen Pool operating when the County had to close the facility due to budget cuts. A new generation of swimmers are in the pool because of Hastings effort as the Executive Director of WhiteWater Aquatics Management, the non-profit agency operating the pool.
- Councilmember Reagan Dunn acknowledged the tireless efforts of Scott Gray, who went from selling Pepsi at the King County Fair to leading the volunteers who have kept the oldest County Fair West of the Mississippi open. Today’s recipients were selected by the Councilmembers in each respective district. The annual presentation of the MLK Medal of Distinguished Service is the Council’s way of thanking those who have made a particularly strong impact on the county and to encourage others to renew their dedication to serve their community.

Community Calendar 2018

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Seattle Metro

SATURDAY, MAY 5

YOUTH AND FAMILY WELLNESS FAIR: This free family event is organized by multiple community partners. Fairgoers can enjoy music, food and movies as well as services and training to youth and family. Training sessions include early childhood development, bullying, suicide prevention, cultural competency and more. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Evergreen Middle School, 7621 Beverly Lane, Everett.

COME JOIN US AT OUR 17TH ANNUAL LIVABLE COMMUNITY FAIR: Nearly fifty exhibitors will exhibit in the gymnasium to share resources and information about services and activities offered to our community. Throughout the day there will be music, breakfast and lunch concessions, trout pond, Washington State Police and Key Peninsula Fire Department and so much more. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Key Peninsula Civic Center Association, 17010 S. Vaughn Rd., Vaughn.

13TH ANNUAL CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION: This event is free and open to the public. There will be Mercado, children's activities, raffle prizes, vendor and informational booths, traditional foods will be available to purchase. 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Centillia Cultural Center & Outdoor Plaza, 2524 16th Ave. S.

BEST HIKES WITH KIDS WITH SUSAN ELDERKIN: Western Washington is just the guide you need to help your kids experience nature for themselves in a fun and active way. Come to Brower's Bookstore and find all the outdoor information you will need to enjoy the outdoors while hiking with your kids. 1 p.m. – 3 p.m., Brower's Bookstore, 107 Capitol Way N., Olympia.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

EVENING BOOK GROUP AT COLUMBIA BRANCH LIBRARY: Join us for a book group at the Columbia Branch Library. Everyone is welcome. This month's title is "The Art of Racing in the Rain" by Garth Stein. Registration is not required for the book group. 6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m., Rainier Beach Library, 9125 Rainier Ave. S.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

TRINITY'S SPAGHETTI DINNER: Come to Trinity's Spaghetti Dinner and Accordion Concert. Free will dinner donations and all proceeds support the Trinity Youth for 2018 Houston Triennial. 5:30 p.m. – 9 p.m., Trinity Thompson Hall, 12115 Park Ave. S., Tacoma.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

WASHINGTON WOMEN IN TRADE 39TH ANNUAL CAREER FAIR: Every Spring for the last 39 years, Washington Women in Trades has created a place where over 1,000 people gather some teach, some learn, some recruit, some apply for jobs, some are hired on the spot. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., Fisher Pavilion at Seattle Center, 305 Harrison St.

SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT: Under the director of assistant Professor of Music Danny Helseth, the SPU Wind Ensemble continues their exploration of music by women composers in their final concert of the year. Free. 7:30 p.m., First Free Methodist Church, 3200 3rd Ave. W. Seattle, WA

County Council Calls for Pilot Program to Allow Eligible Employees to Bring New Babies to County Offices

King County employees may soon have the opportunity to bring their babies to work, after today’s action by the Metropolitan King County Council requesting that the Executive implement a pilot “Infants at Work” program. Infants at Work (IAW) programs are structured to allow eligible employees the opportunity to bring their new infants to work for a limited period of time. A growing number of employers have implemented this program, and in 2015, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) adopted an IAW policy to allow employees to bring their infant, ages 6 weeks to 6 months, to work. The motion adopted by the Council requests the Executive to develop a plan to implement a pilot program allowing eligible employees to bring their new infants to work. The motion requests that the plan, along with any legislation necessary for implementation, be transmitted to King County Council by August 15, 2018.