



**Dear Friends:**

**While the days may be getting shorter and darker, the enthusiasm among the groups and people I meet with is just as bright as ever. It is an honor to be able to support so many great organizations in South King County and across our region. Please take time to check out some of the highlights of events I attended both locally and throughout King County.**

**With best wishes,**



**Pete von Reichbauer**  
**King County Councilmember**



## King County Day at Emerald Downs

Doo Dah! Doo Dah! Sunday at Emerald Downs for the King County Express was a special day! In addition to being the designated day at the races for county employees and their families, I was joined by my King County Council colleagues Jorge Barón and Girmay Zahilay, Superior Court Judges Ketu Shah and Sean O'Donnell, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, and current and former county staff. The King County Express was the 7th Race on July 7th, and the winning horse was number 7! A great afternoon in District 7!



## “Good Eggs” Breakfast with Ivar’s and Kidd Valley CEO Bob Donegan

Bob Donegan, who is the CEO of Ivar’s and Kidd Valley, as well as the “Mayor” of Seattle’s Waterfront, joined my “Good Eggs” breakfast in July to share how the Waterfront Park is being transformed into a point of pride for our entire region. Upgraded parks for families, an oculus into the aquarium, a salmon habitat, the chance to touch the ocean, and more innovations are driving the post-pandemic revival of the waterfront. Our group also appreciated learning about the strong return of the hospitality and tourism industries along the waterfront. Thank you, Bob, for your commitment to our region and your persistent optimism!

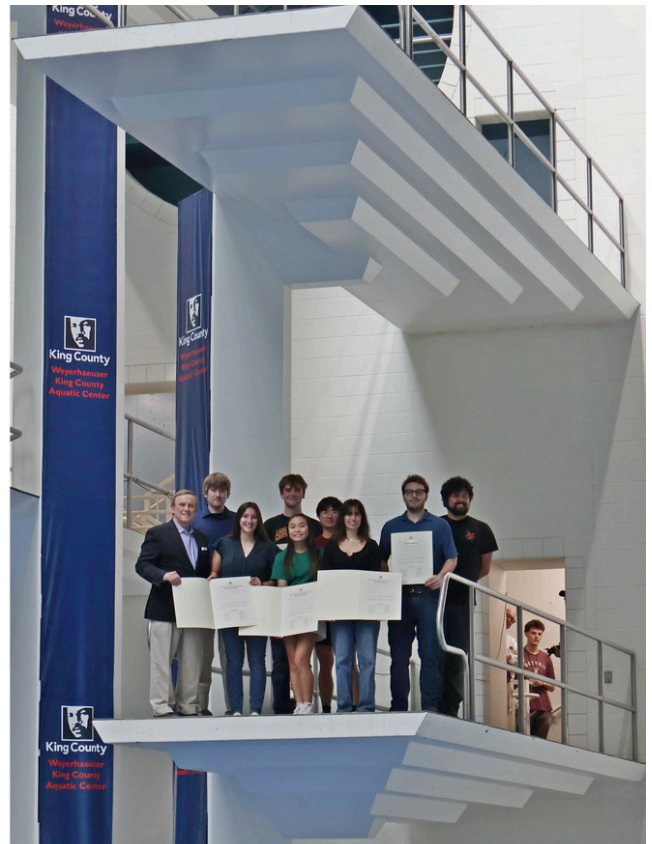
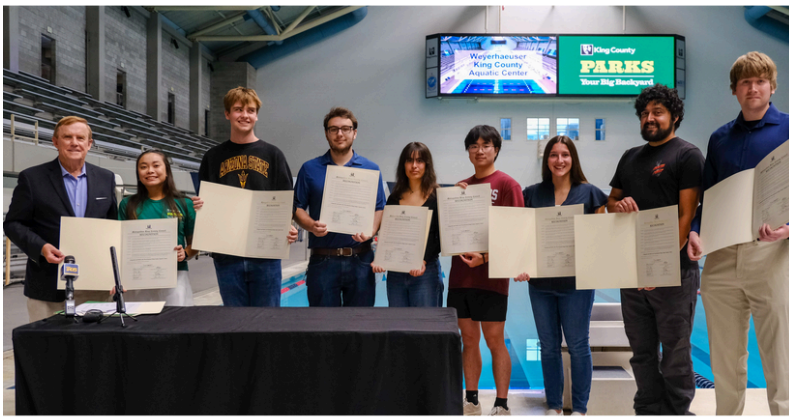


*(Top) With Bob Donegan & South King County Mayors Nancy Backus (Auburn), Troy Linnell (Algona), Vic Kave (Pacific), Jim Ferrell (Federal Way), Dana Ralph (Kent), Traci Buxton (Des Moines), and Jan Molinaro (Enumclaw); (Bottom) With Bob, Emerald Downs Founder Ron Crockett and President Phil Ziegler*



## King County Aquatic Center Recognition

What do you get if you combine a world class staff, a world class pool, and world class leadership under one roof? The King County Aquatic Center! It was my honor to present a King County Council Recognition to the hard-working Aquatic Center lifeguards and staff, who performed a rescue of a high school swimmer in life threatening distress. Thank you, Mike Dunwiddie, Brian Mazzuca, Ivy Luong, Caitlin Mazzuca, Jordan Covington, Xalli Bell, Jay Deng, Grace Ralstin, Polly Leone, Gregorio Quevedo, Kyle Wicklund, and David Hersey for your excellent work!



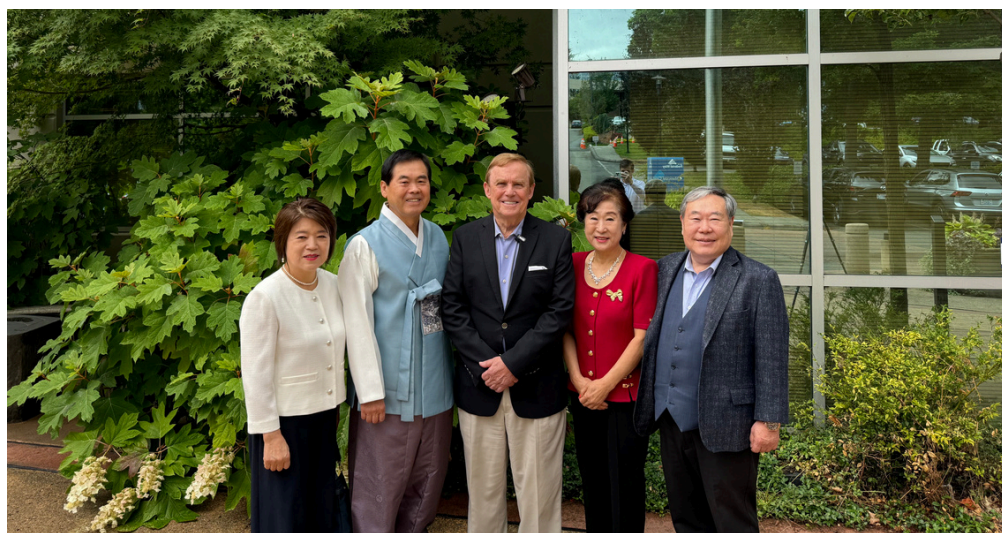
*With King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Director John Taylor, King County Parks Director Warren Jimenez, our local Aquatic Center heroes and their families*

### Hanwoori Garden Benefit Concert

You did not have to speak Korean to appreciate the great musical performance of Junkho Son and So Hyun Kim at the Federal Way Performing Arts and Event Center to help support the fundraising efforts to build a Korean garden monument near the Aquatics Center. Thanks to all who came together to build cultural bridges between the USA and the Republic of Korea!



*With U.S. Rep Adam Smith, former and current Federal Way Mayors Mike Park and Jim Ferrell, and Korean Musical Theater Couple Junkho Son and So Hyun Kim*



*At the Federal Way City Hall with former Federal Way Mayor Mike Park and major Hanwoori Garden donors Anne Kim, Musang Lee and Hyun Sook Lee*



### El Centro Skate Rink Ribbon Cutting

The sun was shining bright in Federal Way as we cut the ribbon on new solar panels for El Centro Skate Rink! Providing positive outlets for our young people’s energy is CRITICAL for their development and El Centro Skate Rink in Federal Way is one of those positive places. I am grateful that Estela Ortega and her team are committed to keeping youth off the streets and in safe, healthy environments.



*With El Centro de la Raza Executive Director Estela Ortega*

### Kiwanis Salmon Bake

My jokes are so corny that I was again assigned to dispense corn at the annual Kiwanis Salmon Bake at Steel Lake. Thousands of dollars for the youth are raised every year at this event. Thanks to Kim Hensley for sharing work with me and to my colleague Girmay Zahilay and his wife Joyce for visiting and supporting this 68th annual community fundraiser.



*With King County Councilmember Girmay Zahilay and his wife Joyce, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, Councilmembers Jack Dovey and Hoang Tran and his wife Thuy, and fellow Kiwanis member Kim Hensley*

## Annual FUSION Gala

It never rains on FUSION! 31 years and counting of raising money for transitional housing in South King County. I was privileged to be Honorary Chair this year as I welcomed my colleagues in government King County Councilmember Girmay Zahilay, Mayors Nancy Backus (Auburn) and Jim Ferrell (Federal Way), as well as Assessor John Arthur Wilson to support our neighbors in need.





## Transit Town Hall with Sound Transit CEO Goran Sparrman

At the Transit Town Hall on September 5th, South King County local community leaders, business owners, and residents had the opportunity to engage in a dialogue with Sound Transit Interim CEO Goran Sparrman about Sound Transit’s ongoing and upcoming projects in South King County. Thank you, Goran, for your willingness to be a PARTNER, as well as a leader.



*With South King County elected officials, Sound Transit Interim CEO Goran Sparrman, local community leaders, business owners and residents*

## King County Council Recognizes India Day

What do India and Washington state have in common? A LOT! In the last recorded year, the total trade between our state and India was \$1.3 billion! We also celebrate independence from the same country! And now, cricket, a sport that is booming in all regions of King County! Thanks to Indian Consul General Prakash Gupta for joining us for our recognition of India's 78th National Independence Day!



*With my King County Council colleagues and Indian Consul General Prakash Gupta*



## “Good Eggs” Breakfast with Seattle Sports Commission CEO Beth Knox

According to FIFA, around 5 billion people around the globe watched the 2022 Soccer World Cup. At the September “Good Eggs” breakfast, Seattle Sports Commission CEO Beth Knox explained how the 2026 World Cup will put a global spotlight on our region, as well as bring in 650,000 visitors, to a group of local mayors and other leaders. Sports bring people together, and no event brings more people together than the World Cup. Thank you, Beth, for speaking to our group about the economic and social benefits of amateur and professional sports!



*(Top) With Seattle Sports Commission CEO Beth Knox, Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, Des Moines Mayor Traci Buxton, Pacific Raceways President Jason Fiorito, Renton City Council President Ed Prince, and Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell; (Bottom) With Edgewood Mayor Dave Olson, Algona Mayor Troy Linnell, Pacific Mayor Vic Kave, Seattle Sports Commission CEO Beth Knox, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, Des Moines Mayor Traci Buxton, and Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus*

## Yo Soy Unico Federal Way

Feliz dia de la Independencia, Mexico. While Cinco de Mayo celebrates Mexico's victory at the battle of Puebla in 1862, September 16 is the official Independence Day. And what better place to celebrate this day than with teachers at Yo Soy Unico, a youth center where students learn important working and life skills.



*With Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, Yo Soy Unico Center Director Maria Luisa Aguilera, Administrator Gabriela Martinez, and students*



## Government Accountability and Oversight Meeting at the Museum of Flight

On September 10, the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee (GAO) had the opportunity to tour and hold its meeting at the Museum of Flight. Present were the GAO committee members and our King County Council colleagues, Councilmembers Teresa Mosqueda, Jorge Barón and Girmay Zahilay. The meeting agenda included an update about King County International Airport's (KCIA) projects, a briefing from a panel of stakeholders, and the confirmation of the appointment of two King County residents to the KCIA roundtable.



*With GAO Committee Members Councilmembers Claudia Balducci and Reagan Dunn, King County Councilmembers Teresa Mosqueda, Jorge Barón and Girmay Zahilay, KCIA Director John Parrott and Deputy Director David Decoteau, Museum of Flight President and CEO Matt Hayes, KCIA Roundtable Chair Erik Utter and members Brian Algiers (Labor Representative Appointee), Mark McIntyre (Friends of Boeing), and Cindy Hales (Pacific Northwest Business Aviation Association President)*

### Meet & Shred

Our “Meet and Shred” event is one of the favorite programs I started because it brings people together and helps stop identity theft. Many showed up before our start time of 8 AM and continued until 11 AM, not just to watch their papers be shredded on camera but also to ask questions about government. Thanks to Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell for stopping by and joining me in helping AND listening to residents, as well as to the over 150 drivers who dropped in and dropped off, and gave me good insight into their concerns.



*With Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell,  
Sue Celski (the mother of US Olympics Champion JR Celski), and residents*



## Mission Africa

In my youth, I was fortunate to travel from Ethiopia to South Africa and learn from the people I met along the way in the 1970s. Today, I am STILL learning from local leaders like Ndudi Chuku (Nigeria) of Mission Africa, not to mention Lucy Gitau (Kenya), Anthony Chibueze (Nigeria), Jean Paul Yafali (Congo), and Pedro Nzola (Angola), who all work to improve the lives of the MANY new immigrants who have made South King County their home. From computer literacy classes to professional development seminars, Ndudi helps people learn important skills and succeed!



## University of Washington Men's Rowing Team

101 years after their first victory the University of Washington (UW) Men's Rowing Team claimed its 20th national title beating Harvard University. I was pleased to invite UW Athletic Director Pat Chun and members of the team down to the courthouse to be recognized for their championship season. The UW beat Harvard with a time of 5 min 27.233 seconds to Harvard's 5 min 28.976 seconds!! Go Dawg!!



*With King County Executive Dow Constantine, Assessor John Wilson, Councilmembers Jorge Barón, Girmay Zahilay, Dave Upthegrove, Rod Dembowski, Claudia Balducci, Sarah Perry, Teresa Mosqueda, and Reagan Dunn, and UW Athletic Director Pat Chun and the Men's Rowing Team*



## Pre-Apprenticeship Programs

### Federal Way

What has no college debt, access to a high-paying career path, and the support of the King County Council? Pre-apprenticeship programs!! Pre-apprenticeship pathways are an alternative to college and include construction and automotive trades as well as others. I was pleased to present \$125,000 to Federal Way School District (FWSD) Superintendent Dr. Dani Pfeiffer and the FWSD board to support this invaluable program.



*With King County Council Budget Chair Girmay Zahilay, Federal Way School District Superintendent Dr. Dani Pfeiffer, School Board Directors Quentin Morris, Dr. Jennifer Jones, Luckisha Phillips, and Joan Marie Murphy, and JROTC cadets.*

## Pre-Apprenticeship Programs

### Auburn

Whether they are considering a blue collar or a white-collar path, students should have every opportunity available to help them succeed after high school. I was pleased to tour the Auburn High School wood-working and welding programs with Auburn Superintendent Alan Spicciati and the Auburn School Board, as it demonstrates their commitment to giving students options for success! The additional \$125,000 in funding will help expand Auburn pre-apprenticeship programs.



*With King County Council Budget Chair Girmay Zahilay, Auburn School District Superintendent Alan Spicciati and Board Members Sheilia McLaughlin, Arlista Holman, and Valerie Gonzales, Auburn High School Principal Jeff Gardner, Career & Technical Education Director Jane Hendrickson, and Auburn High School Teacher (Woodshop) Tyler Casias*



## Muckleshoot Tribe Event & Taste of Federal Way

Congratulations to Muckleshoot Tribal Chair Jaison Elkins for hosting a successful event Saturday, September 28, and to the Ehl Family for drawing nearly 700 people for the Taste of Federal Way at the Farmers Market where I was able to taste some amazing local food in my role as a judge.



*(Above) With Muckleshoot Tribal Council Chair Jaison Elkins, US Rep. Marilyn Strickland, WA Rep. Bill Ramos, King County Councilmembers Jorge Barón and Sarah Perry, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, Auburn Councilmembers Kate Baldwin and Cheryl Rakes, and Seattle Councilmembers Tanya Woo and Dan Strauss; (Below) With Federal Way Farmers Market Founders Karla Kolibab and Rose Ehl*

## **Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer**

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