

# **District 7** Spring 2023 Update



#### **Dear Friends:**

**Happy Spring!** 

With the weather changing and the first day of baseball just around the corner, I welcome the warmer days of spring after a chilly winter. However, no matter the weather, I always enjoy getting out and about the district and taking part in all that our area has to offer. Below are some of the highlights of events I attended in South King County this first quarter of the year.

With best wishes,

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Pete von Reichbauer King County Councilmember

### **Seattle Mariners April Schedule**



#### **Seattle Orcas Jump into Major League Cricket**

The Seattle Orcas will leap into competition in the historic debut season of Major League Cricket (MLC) this summer. The newly named team will represent the Greater Seattle area, and the Pacific Northwest more broadly, in MLC. The new league will bring some of the world's top players to compete in a sport that boasts millions of fans in the United States and is the second most watched sport globally with more than two billion followers. Read more here.



### Federal Way High School Basketball Seniors Pizza Party

As I live within walking distance of Federal Way High School, I hosted a pizza party for the basketball team's seniors to celebrate their achievements, both on the court and in school. While many of us remember Yattah Reed as a player at FWHS, he is now known as Coach Reed. Congratulations Yattah for your success as a teacher, coach, and parent.



With Coach Yattah Reed, Coach Quinn Gillis, Coach Jeffery Forbes Jr., and the Federal Way High School Basketball team's senior players

#### **Federal Way School District's New Memorial Field**

I firmly believe that sports programs bring our diverse communities together. As a longtime supporter of South King County schools and their sports programs, I was pleased to have been a part of the groundbreaking for the Federal Way School District's new Memorial Field. Thank you, Federal Way High School Principal Dr. Matt Oberst, and FWHS Junior Rahshawn Clark for showing me the plans for the new stadium and grounds.





With Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, FWPS Superintendent Dr. Dani Pfeiffer, Deputy Mayor Susan Honda, Council President Linda Kochmar, Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson and students

### **Redondo Heights Groundbreaking Event**

On February 1st, a 334-unit affordable housing development broke ground in Federal Way's Redondo Heights Community. Adjacent to a Park and Ride, the complex is close to public transit, including the 272nd Link Light Rail station extension.

A partnership between the nonprofit Multi-Service Center (MSC) and housing developer Shelter Resource, Inc., the project received \$11 million from King County, spread across three years in 2019, 2020, and 2022. Additional project funders include Amazon and the Washington State Department of Commerce Housing Finance Unit.



With King County Executive Dow Constantine and MSC CEO Robin Corak

## "Good Eggs" Breakfast Meeting with Washington Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz

On February 22nd, I was joined by Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz at my monthly "Good Eggs" Breakfast Meeting. Our guests enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about the important role the Department of Natural Resources plays not only in protecting our environment, but in funding important programs like education.

Our firefighters in attendance especially appreciated DNR's commitment to wildfire mitigation and making sure our state has the resources it needs to put out fires fast!



With Federal Way Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, Washington Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz, Kent Mayor Dana Ralph, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, Pacific Mayor Leanne Guier, and Algona Mayor Troy Linnell



With Commissioner Franz and Federal Way Councilmember Jack Walsh

With Valley Regional Fire Authority Chief Brad Thompson, Deputy Chief of Operations Rick Olson, and Washington Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz

#### **PAC-12 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships**

The Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way is one of the fastest pools in the world! Numerous PAC-12 records were broken at the Swimming and Diving finals, and over 200 world records have been set at the King County facility. No wonder swimmers come from all over the WORLD to use our great facility! The students you see today are the Olympians of tomorrow.

For more information about the winners, please click <u>here</u>.







With PAC-12 Assistant Director of Championships Markel Leonard, who I first met at the 2022 PAC-12 Championships

#### **Anniversary of the War in Ukraine**

February 24th marked the one-year anniversary of the unnecessary Russian invasion of Ukraine. I recently met some of those most devastated by the war, the Ukrainian children who were forced to flee their homes, some without their families, just to survive. Thanks to the hard work of non-profits, and individuals like Honorary Consul General Valeriy Goloborodko, these children are in the United States to receive physical and mental health services, including rehabilitation, prosthetics, education, and much more, so that they can begin healing from their experience.



# A Token of Appreciation from the Federal Way Korean American Association

While South Korea and our region are divided by over 5,000 miles, there are so many values which unite us. I was honored by Federal Way Korean American Association President Daniel Kim and former Federal Way Mayor Mike Park for my work to build people-to-people bridges, with this magnificent replica from Chuam Beach in Donghae.



With Korean American Association President Daniel Kim and Former Federal Way Mayor Mike Park





# "Good Eggs" Breakfast Meeting with Public Health Director Dr. Faisal Khan

Public Health – Seattle and King County Director Dr. Faisal Khan joined me at the "Good Eggs" Breakfast in March to discuss the many responsibilities Public Health has in our county, including working with restaurants and food-service providers to keep customers and business owners safe. His insights into COVID-19 and the current flu season were informative and welcomed by our guests. Thank you, Dr. Khan!



With Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, Public Health – Seattle and King County Director Dr. Faisal Khan, Des Moines Deputy Mayor Traci Buxton, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, and Wild Waves President Jody Kneupper

#### **88th Seattle Sports Commission Star of the Year Awards**

Sports not only bring people together, but they provide countless jobs in our region, and I was honored to join my colleague, King County Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles (JKW), at the 88th Seattle Sports Commission banquet. JKW has been a leader in making outdoor sports accessible to all people, particularly those with disabilities. Ken Griffey Jr. was just one of the many Hall of Famers present. Thank you, Beth Knox and the Sports Commission team, for showcasing the best of our current and past sports moments.





With Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Baseball Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Jr., and the Seattle Kraken mascot

#### **Girl Scout Cookies**

They are back: Tagalongs, Samoas, Thin Mints, Carmel deLites, Do-si-dos, Lemon-ups... Since 1917, Girl Scout cookie sales have supported evolving, worthwhile programs! Diet? What diet?



## The Best of Federal Way Mirror Celebrates its 25th Anniversary

Federal Way is home to great businesses like the Federal Way Mirror! Many of them have served the community for a long time, including the Mirror which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary. Sherry Kerr and Lucia Morena from Federal Way High School baked a cake to mark the occasion, and I enjoyed meeting them, and other entrepreneurs in Federal Way who create jobs for our region!



With Cindy Ducich, Federal Way Mirror Multimedia Sales Manager



With Sherry Kerr, CTE Culinary and Pro-Start Teacher, and her student Lucia Moreno

## **Lunch with Elections Director Julie Wise and Mayor Jim Ferrell**

On March 22nd, I had the opportunity to meet with King County Elections Director Julie Wise for our annual lunch. We talked about King County Elections' operations, her work to expand access to voting, and ballot security. We were joined by Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, who shared information about current events in Federal Way.



With Director Julie Wise and Mayor Jim Ferrell

## **Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer**

Email me at pete.vonreichbauer@kingcounty.gov
Call me at (206) 477-1007 or (800) 325-6165
TTY/TDD: (206) 296-1024 Fax: (206) 296-0198
Find me on the web at www.kingcounty.gov/vonReichbauer
Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/pete.vonreichbauer