



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE SPRING DISTRICT

FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

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POINTS OF INTEREST

Happy Valentine's Day

Black History Month

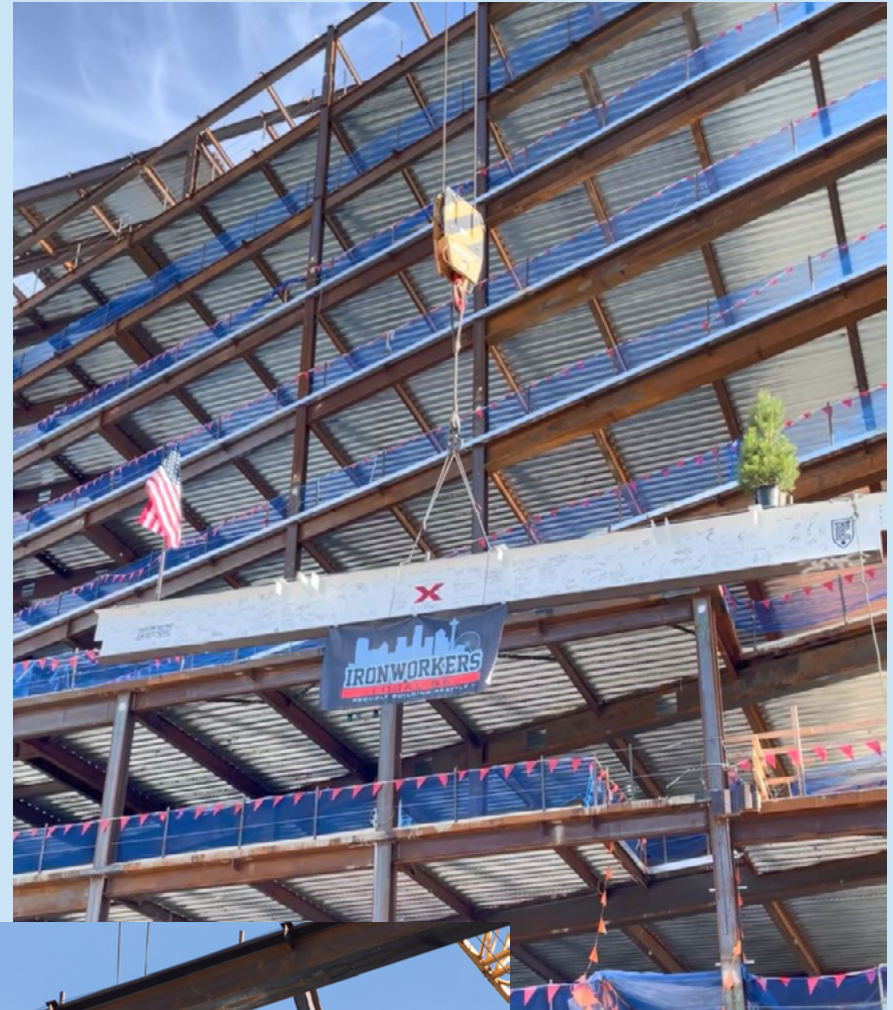
Block 5 Topping Out
Ceremony



BLOCK 5 TOPPING OUT CEREMONY

A construction topping out ceremony is when the last steel beam is raised into place at the highest point of the building. A small evergreen tree is placed on the beam in homage of the history of past timber structures and has come to symbolize a safe working environment. Often in the U.S. an American flag is put on the opposite end of the beam. The beam is painted white so it can be signed by all the members of the construction crew, development team, building owners, and building staff. Speeches commemorating the event, congratulating all the workers for doing a great job, and highlighting the benefits of the new building to the community were made by Wright Runstad & Company CEO Greg Johnson and EVP-Director of Development Cindy Edens.

This is another exciting milestone for The Spring District!



**WRIGHT
RUNSTAD
& COMPANY**



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FROM THE SPRING DISTRICT

Valentine's Day as we know it, is a mashup of centuries-old ceremonies, celebrations and holidays. Steeped in pagan and ancient Roman history, modern Valentine's Day is still true to its roots by being all about love. Christians wanted to honor mid-winter pagan fertility celebrations while still honoring the Christian martyrs who were celebrated for their commitment to love. For example, one of the celebrated martyrs is Valentine, who defied Roman Emperor Claudius who had outlawed marriage for military-aged young men, by marrying the young men in secret (he was killed for his sentimentality).

The very first "valentine" was written by a man imprisoned in the Tower of London to his sweetheart, signed "from your Valentine". Over the years, Valentines have grown from simply flowers pressed into paper (due to low literacy rates among populations in Roman times) to frilly handmade cards first mass-produced in 1840. Valentine's Day and celebrations today, while more modern, have a clear connection to the past.





BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In 1915 [Carter G. Woodson](#) and [Jesse E. Moorland](#) founded an organization to promote and research the achievements of Black Americans. What started as a one week celebration honoring Black Americans is now a month-long celebration of their contributions, accomplishments, and legacies throughout our history.

Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially observed February as Black History Month as well as endorsing a theme. The 2023 theme is "Black Resistance".

Visit the website for the [Association for the Study of African American Life and History \(ASALH\)](#) to learn more.

THE CITY OF BELLEVUE HONORS BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH MOVING HISTORICAL PERFORMANCES FROM LIVING VOICES: THE RIGHT TO DREAM - FEBRUARY 15, 6:30-7:30PM

Experience key moments and periods in history brought to life by an actor portraying civil rights figures, accompanied by archival films and photos. Register for the event [here](#).

Celebrate **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**with Living Voices:
The Right to Dream**

**Wednesday, Feb. 15
6:30-7:30 p.m.**

City Hall Council Chambers

Join us for a unique and dynamic performance from Living Voices. Using a live actor in combination with historical film and photos, we will learn about the stories and people of the of the Civil Rights Movement.

**Register for this event by
scanning this QR code**



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-6021 (voice) or email sboyle@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice) or email ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov. If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.



*City of Bellevue
Diversity Advantage*

LUNAR NEW YEAR ACTIVITIES

Lantern Festival - February 5

The Lantern Festival marks the first full moon of the lunar new year, two weeks after the Lunar New Year. One of the many legends about the origin of the [Lantern Festival](#) states that lanterns should be lit to distract an angry God intent on burning down a village where his prized goose was hunted and killed. The villagers were directed to light lanterns and firecrackers to give the illusion that the village was already burning. Once safe from the angry God, villagers celebrated the Lantern Festival annually. Learn more [here](#).



The Spring District has dressed up the park near the swings with lanterns in honor of the 2023 Lantern Festival. While out and about in the neighborhood, tag [#thespringdistrict](#) on your social pages and spread the word.

Visit The Marketplace at Factoria this weekend for the end of the Lunar New Year celebration featuring many photo opportunities throughout the shopping center.

Learn more about Lunar New Year Dining in Bellevue. Click [here](#).

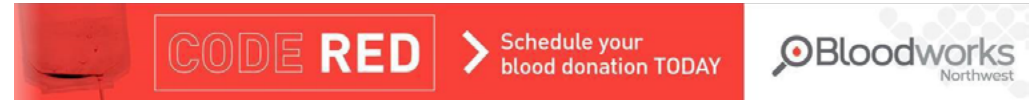
INTENTIONALIST

THE WEBSITE THAT HELPS YOU SHOP WITH PURPOSE LOCALLY

If you'd like to shop with purpose, the website Intentionalist, helps you find minority-owned businesses in your area. This valuable service allows you to thoughtfully support local, grass-roots business. Find restaurants, bakeries, exercise studios, crafters, and so much more near you. There is something for everyone. Visit today and explore: [Intentionalist](#)

As we honor Black History Month, use Intentionalist to find black-owned businesses, use the #SpendLikeItMatters hashtag to feature the minority-owned businesses you frequent, and write recommendations to spread the word about these wonderful local business.

In addition, the website features a blog which highlights local issues and ways to get involved.



Local blood supply is critically low.

Emergency Need for Blood Donors: The community blood supply has dropped to emergency low levels as patient need is outpacing donations. Last week local patients were transfused with 620 more units of blood than were donated.

There is not enough blood on the shelves to do that again. Code Red Emergency Facing a severe blood shortage, a Code Red appeal has been issued urging everyone who is eligible and feeling healthy to fill immediate appointments to give blood and platelets. The local blood supply has hit emergency levels. It is vital that anyone who is feeling healthy - especially O negative and O positive donors - please schedule a donation ASAP and regularly thereafter.

Schedule your donation today at bloodworksnw.org/schedule or 800-398-7888.

[Bellevue College](#)

February 7, 2023

[Keller Williams Eastside Realty](#)

[First Floor Open Space](#)

February 21-22, 2023



Appointments and masks are required at all Bloodworks donation sites and no guests under the age of 16 are permitted on-site. There is no deferral from donating after receiving a COVID vaccine. For more information, <https://www.bloodworksnw.org/about/news/coronavirus>

♥ "Thank you for saving my husband's life. He is 34 and was just diagnosed with leukemia. This blood transfusion is helping him through his induction chemo."



BloodworksNW.org / 800-398-7888

NEIGHBORHOOD HIGHLIGHTS



PRESIDENTS' DAY MONDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2023

Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, Presidents' Day now honors the birthdays of Washington, Lincoln and all presidents who have served our country well. Formally established as a federal holiday in 1971 as part of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, as a way to create more three-day holidays encompassing a Monday. Learn more [here](#).

The Spring District Property Management Office will be closed on Monday, February 20, 2023, in honor of the Presidents' Day holiday.

JANITORIAL EMPLOYEE HONORED AS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

We are proud to share that one of the night janitorial crew members was honored as Alliance Building Services' December 2022 Employee of the Month! Alicia is a member of a dedicated team of folks who keep The Spring District's Class A commercial buildings sparkling. Congratulations Alicia and thank you for keeping our community in tip-top shape.



Creamy Chicken Soup with Potatoes and Bacon

By [Country Living](#)

Here is an easy answer to the mid-week “What’s for dinner?” question. This soup is healthy and delicious. The recipe calls for rotisserie chicken so it’s perfect when you’re pressed for time. Pack it along for a great addition to a winter picnic after a snowy hike.

INGREDIENTS

- 4 slices bacon, chopped
- 1 tbsp. unsalted butter
- 1 leek (white and light green parts), halved and sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, pressed
- 1 tsp. fennel seeds, crushed
- 2 tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 2 c. whole milk
- 4 c. chicken stock
- 3/4 lb. red potatoes cut into 1/2-inch chunks
- 6 sprigs thyme
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2 c. shredded rotisserie chicken
- 1 c. frozen corn, thawed
- Sliced fresh chives, for serving

DIRECTIONS

YIELDS 7 Cups TOTAL TIME 40 mins

Step 1

Cook bacon in a large pot over medium heat until browned and crisp, 7 to 8 minutes; transfer to paper towel-lined plate with a slotted spoon. Reserve pot.

Step 2

Add butter and leek to reserved pot. Cook, stirring occasionally, until just tender, 3 to 4 minutes. Add garlic and fennel. Cook, stirring, until fragrant, 1 minute. Add flour and cook, stirring, 1 minute. Slowly whisk in milk and then stock. Add potatoes and thyme. Season with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer until potatoes are tender, 14 to 16 minutes.

Step 3

Add chicken and corn. Cook until soup is heated through, 1 to 2 minutes. Discard thyme. Serve topped with crispy bacon and chives.





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