

CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE HEADLINES

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**A Publication
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University Place**

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Year in Review – 2013

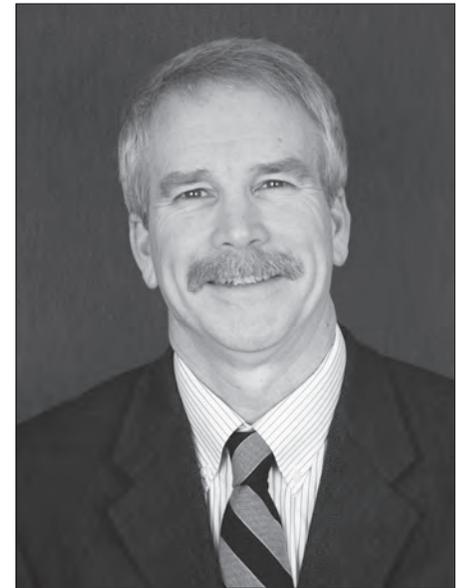
A message from the City Manager

The big story for 2013 was the announcement that **Whole Foods Market** is coming to downtown University Place. Whole Foods is the world's first certified organic grocer with more than 300 stores in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. Whole Foods was sought as a use in the very beginning of the Town Center project, and as the only Whole Foods in Pierce County and beyond in the South Puget Sound, the University Place store will have a broad regional draw and be a unique addition to food stores in the region. This will transform our downtown into a regional destination, bringing substantial economic development to University Place and directly fulfilling the City's vision for the Town Center project.

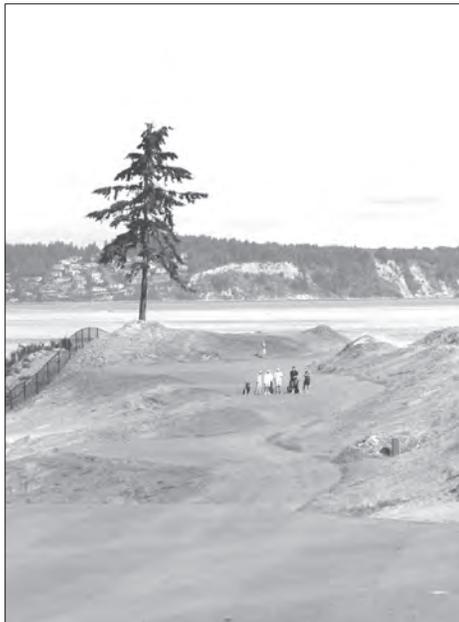
In addition to the Whole Foods announcement, we are very pleased that a number of businesses recently made the decision to locate in University Place:

- Harbor Greens (opened in March 2013)
- Cheers U.P. Bar & Grill (opened in July 2013)
- O'Brien Dentistry (opened in August 2013)
- Dr. Robert Wilson (opened in August 2013)
- Starbucks (opened in September 2013)
- Family Care Dentistry (opened in September 2013)
- Verizon (opened in November 2013)
- Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar (opened in December 2013)
- Jersey Mike's Subs (opening in February 2014)

We welcome all these businesses to University Place and look forward to their success.



*Steve Sugg
University Place City Manager*



*"The Lone Fir"
Chambers Bay Golf Course*

Meanwhile, excitement is building for the 2015 U.S. Open at Chambers Bay in University Place. According to the Chambers Bay website (www.chambersbaygolf.com):

"The U.S. Open is the national golf championship of the United States and is conducted annually in June. The U.S. Open is one of golf's four major championships, along with the Masters (played in April), British Open (July) and the PGA Championship (August). The 2015 U.S. Open at Pierce County-owned Chambers Bay, in University Place, will be the 115th playing of the national championship, and it will be the first to be conducted in the Pacific Northwest. In the recent past, the U.S. Open has been broadcast to more than 100 million people in 180 countries, with more than 30 hours of live coverage domestically."

In preparation for the U.S. Open, the City Council formed a Task Force of three council members – Chris Nye, Kent Keel and Javier Figueroa – whose mission is to make the 2015 U.S. Open the most pleasant and rewarding experience possible for U.P. citizens, USGA officials, players and golfing fans from around the world.

Looking forward, in addition to preparing for the U.S. Open and continuing work on development of our downtown, the City Council will be focusing on developing a plan to address long-range needs and funding for Public Safety, Streets and Parks & Recreation. Stay tuned to upcoming newsletters for more information on this topic.

Finance

The Finance Department has the responsibility of monitoring and maintaining the financial health of the City. This responsibility includes the legally mandated duty of preparing all of the City's financial reports, including the Biennial Budget, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and financial reports. 2013 has been a busy, yet successful year for the department.

Major Accomplishments

- Awards – Comprehensive Annual Financial Report & Professional Finance Officer
- Balanced Budget
- Clean audit by State Auditor
- City's bond rating increase

2013 Recognition & Awards

- **Fifteenth consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting** award from the Government Finance Officers Association for its 2011 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.
- **Two members of the Finance Department have received the Professional Finance Officer Award.** The Washington Finance Officers Association award to Assistant Finance Directors Leslie Blaisdell and Sandy Garrett reflects our staff's professionalism, knowledge and commitment to excellence.

A Clean Opinion for the City's 2012 Financial Statements

The State Auditor's Office completed its annual comprehensive review of the City's 2012 financial statements in June 2013. The Independent Audit Report that was issued expresses the Auditor's opinion that the City's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City. The full audit report can be found on the State Auditor's website at www.sao.wa.gov.

City's Debt Rating Raised

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services raised the City's debt rating on the City of University Place's general obligation (GO) bonds. The Agency increased the rating from A+ with a stable outlook to AA- with a stable outlook. Standard & Poor's credit analyst Margot Rosenshein commented that "The rating is supported by the City's strong liquidity and economy."

Looking Ahead

The City is likely to experience a one-time increase in revenue as a result of the 2015 U.S. Open, followed by stable, but lower levels of revenue than prior to the start of the recession. Because a shorter term financial forecast would not fully reflect the City's ongoing financial condition, the Finance Department has extended its traditional six-year financial forecast by four years. This extension has provided the Council and the public with a better understanding of the effect of program decisions on the City's long-term financial health. As a result of this new forecast, the City Council has begun evaluating service levels and funding options for transportation, Public Safety and Parks & Recreation services.

New Mayor and Pro Tem Elected

At its meeting of Jan. 6, the University Place City Council elected veteran Council Member and recent Mayor Pro Tem Denise McCluskey to serve as the City's Mayor for 2014-2015. Council Member Javier Figueroa, another veteran member, was also elected as the Mayor Pro Tem.

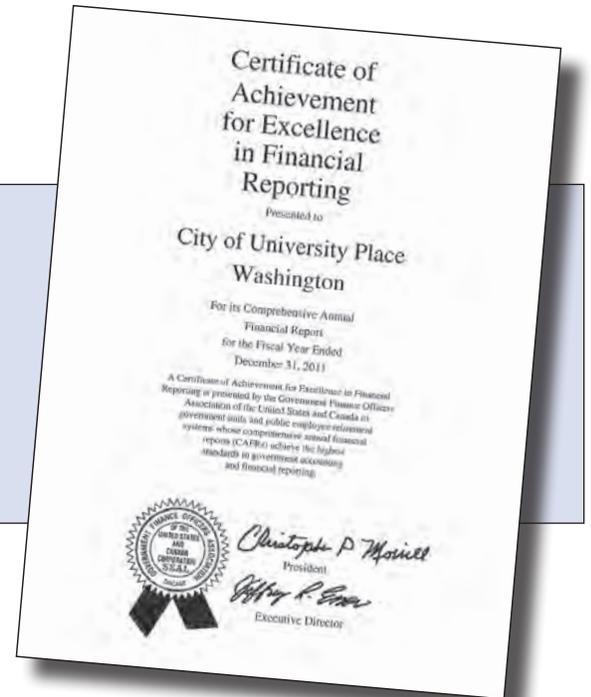
Mayor McCluskey brings many years of civic experience to her new role, having served the City of University Place in the past as a member of the Planning Commission and the Parks & Rec Commission, the Chair of the Capital Strategy Task Force, and in many other volunteer positions.

During his recent four-year term, Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa has been very active as the City's Finance Committee Chair, the Vice President of the Rainier Communications Commission, and a member of the 2015 U.S. Open Task Force.

Every two years the Council elects council members to serve as Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem. The Mayor Pro Tem serves as the Mayor in the Mayor's absence.



Mayor Denise McCluskey and Mayor Pro Tem Javier Figueroa are all smiles just after their election on Jan. 6.



Public Safety



Proactive Policing

In 2013 your police team conducted vehicle prowl emphases in target areas and continued to form crime reduction partnerships with our apartment community management and owners in other parts of the city. We continue to look for opportunities to reduce crime in our community.

The relationships we have built over the past 15 years with the rental and business communities have served the City well. Our ability to triage neighborhood issues with these partnerships allows us to be more effective with limited staffing. We rely on your ability to take note and report things that are suspicious in your neighborhood. With additional staff added, the exciting news in 2013 was our ability to provide increased customer service to the public:

Community Support Officer – With the hiring of a Community Support Officer (CSO), Sandi Estep, in September of 2013, we increased our business desk hours to Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed from noon to 1p.m.). This University Place Police Department (UPPD) customer service expansion furthers our community oriented policing “no call too small” ideology.

Since Sandi’s arrival in September she’s taken 42 reports, which include identity theft, fraud, vehicle prowls, thefts, check frauds, forgeries and motor vehicle thefts. In addition to handling countless telephone calls, she has assisted citizens at the office with civil issues, including questions regarding domestic violence protection orders, evictions, anti-harassment orders, background checks and concealed pistol licenses.

*Mike Blair
University Place Police Chief*

In-house Investigator – Brought on in 2012, during 2013 our investigator closed cases involving theft, fraud, vehicle prowls, trafficking stolen property, robberies, burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, assaults, warrants, shoplifts, forgeries, embezzlements, and prescription fraud. He assists patrol with followup on ongoing issues and provides updates on the activities of career criminals in University Place. He is a liaison to the larger investigative units of the Pierce County Sheriff’s Department. Additionally, he works with South Sound 911’s LARIAT unit (real-time crime unit). South Sound 911 is home to Washington State’s first real-time crime center. The RTCC is set up to assist law enforcement efforts in reducing crime and increasing criminal arrests through data-driven analysis and intervention, as well as providing community-based partnerships for safer communities.

Committed to a Great Community

This past summer an elderly woman lost in her apartment complex was returned home safely, thanks to the kindhearted efforts of University Place Officer Jason Smith. A concerned rental community resident received a knock at his back sliding door from the elderly woman. She was lost and confused. He dialed 911 immediately and stayed with her until police arrived. U.P. Officer Jason Smith arrived, took the woman’s hand and walked her back to her apartment.

This story illustrates U.P. Police Department’s experienced and dedicated officers and their commitment to honor and serve the community. On the other end of that continuum is the community’s commitment to serve each other by reporting suspicious circumstances as they are occurring. This partnership is what makes University Place such a great community.

Dedicated Team of Officers Honored to Serve

As of the end of November 2013 our commissioned patrol staff of 13 handled 10,324 calls in University Place. Our people continue to do great police work. The caliber of officers we currently have in University Place is unmatched anywhere else in the county. The most junior patrol officer currently assigned here has six years on and we continue to have “no vacancies.”

The patrol staff that come here, stay here, and that is because it is truly a rewarding place to conduct police work. Citizens care about quality of life issues and are committed to working with police to preserve that quality of life.



Front row: Leslie Wheeler, Office Manager; Sandi Estep, Community Support Officer. Back row: Glen Carpenter, Sergeant; Dennis Banach, Investigator; Jennifer Hales, Public Safety Manager; Mike Blair, Police Chief.

“This unique partnership is truly what makes policing in University Place so rewarding.” – Chief Blair

Parks & Recreation

2013 was a great year for the Recreation Department! It was the first full year in our bright new office location in the Civic Building. We like to think the increase in program participation had much to do with this beautiful new location – as well as our amazing programs!

Successful Youth Programs – Old and New!

Camp UPlay – This year our Camp UPlay Winter and Spring Break camps hosted nearly 30 kids ages 5-12 – a record enrollment! This seemed to foreshadow our incredible summer numbers where we also had a record high participation of up to 90 kids per week!

Youth Sports – Our Youth T-Ball/Coach Pitch/Baseball/Fastpitch leagues ran with nearly 1,000 participants. We are currently at record numbers going into 2014 for youth basketball and are looking forward to another incredible year of youth sports.

Boot Camp – A brand new program, Boot Camp continues to attract participants. For people of all fitness levels, shapes and sizes, this high intensity fitness program has really brought people together in the community and encouraged them to become healthier, giving them confidence and energy.

Facility Rentals – Another great win for Parks & Recreation in 2013 was the increase in athletic field and picnic shelter rentals at Cirque Park. With the addition of beautiful new restrooms, a concession stand and an outdoor volleyball court, its popularity will only grow.



An Immense Variety in Our Senior Programs

Overall participation in 2013 Senior Programs increased, and with a wide variety of programs which meet many needs of the University Place community, we look forward to more growth in 2014.

Our **traditional drop-in programs** grew, and in 2013 we added a **hosted Bridge tournament** once a month, bringing in around 40 bridge players. **Friday lunches** continue to be a popular program, providing nutritious food and the opportunity for fellowship to 50 participants each week.

Some of the fitness classes offered at the Senior Center last year included: **Stay Active & Independent for Life, Zumba Gold, Chair Yoga, Tai Chi Chih and Polynesian Dance.**

Keeping people active and moving is what our **Trips & Tours program** is all about. Both day trips and overnight tours saw an increase in participation, with 83 participants enjoying eight overnight trips during 2013. Our day trips were varied and in demand, and the most popular trips included:

- Black Diamond Bakery & History Museum
- 5th Avenue Theatre Series
- The Great Wheel / Chihuly Glass Museum
- A Day at Mt. St. Helens
- St. Demetrios Greek Festival
- Crystal Mountain Gondola Ride
- Sol Duc Hot Springs
- Vashon Island Monastery
- Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad
- Christmas Lights in Seattle

Celebrating Our Community Partners

An important component of our success is our many wonderful community partners.

Bridgeport Place Retirement Community – provides the Souptacular program on the first Tuesday of the month. Free soup, breadsticks and dessert are available. Bridgeport Place also donates bingo prizes, cupcakes to celebrate each month's birthdays and goodie bags for our overnight trips.

The Villas Retirement Community – provides a continental breakfast prior to our overnight trip departures and helps with special events throughout the year.

The “Community Supported Parks & Recreation” non-profit organization – has provided much support through its grant and fundraising endeavors, including thousands of dollars in scholarships and program support.



The staff of Parks & Recreation are thankful for a great 2013 and looking forward to an amazing 2014. Come check out what programs and parks we have available to you, to make your 2014 the best year ever.

Public Works & Parks Maintenance

What is Public Works?

If you're a resident who wants to know more about the Public Works Department in the City of University Place, then you've come to the right place. To start with, just what is it that makes up the Departments of Public Works and Parks Maintenance?

- The departments' equipment, which includes a backhoe, street sweepers, dump trucks, pickup trucks, a vactor truck, lawn tractors and mowers, and all the related hand tools that make it possible to get our work done;
- 208 lane miles of roadway with the related guardrails, road striping, streetlights, curbing, signs, trees, pavement, storm water management system, and driveway aprons;
- 14 developed park properties and 10 undeveloped open space areas;
- And last, but certainly not least, our residents.

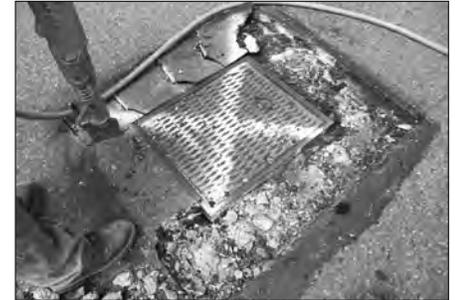
Sometimes our efforts are obvious: everyone is familiar with and loves seeing the City's employees out and about during a snowstorm. Did you ever wonder who to call when you can no longer see the stop sign, drive around the pot hole, or the crosswalk needs repainting? What number do you dial when the catch basins are blocked and the street is flooding?



This last year 1,000 gallons of crack sealant was applied by the Streets Maintenance crew.

All of these issues, and countless others, are dealt with daily by the City of University Place Department of Public Works. Our duties and responsibilities, along with those of the Parks Maintenance Department, don't end there. These departments are also responsible for the ongoing maintenance and cleaning of City Hall, Windmill Village and the Civic Building grounds, Recreation Department support such as painting ballfields for league and tournament requirements and picnic shelter rentals, as well as maintaining and inspecting play area equipment.

While all of this is going on, our employees are also mowing the roadsides on City streets, replacing and repairing signs, and rebuilding and cleaning catch basins. During the spring and summer the crews mow, weed and maintain all medians, planter strips, parks and green spaces throughout the city. In the fall they sweep the leaves fallen from the street trees, pick up downed branches in our parks and cut back vegetation. When winter comes, the crew can be seen out plowing snow.



In 2013 the Public Works crew spent more than 2,000 hours improving, repairing and/or maintaining facilities in the storm water management system.

Why Do We Crack Seal?

The crew spent a good portion of September applying crack sealant to the City's asphalt roads. Cracks can form in asphalt through various modes of distress. Regardless of how the cracks form, they must be repaired to help protect the pavement structure.



If the cracks are not maintained, they can ravel and increase in size. Unsealed cracks allow water to penetrate into the structure from the pavement surface, which eventually causes potholes and further deterioration. Water intrusion is the number one enemy of pavements.

Crack sealing is the single most important and cost effective maintenance option used to help protect the pavement structure. Crack seal has a life expectancy of three to five years.



Installation of a regulation size sand volleyball court was completed in mid-2013, along with a permanent restroom/concession stand. As pieces of the 1998 Cirque Park Master Plan, these two new facilities add to the park's other amenities: the baseball/softball and multipurpose fields, a picnic shelter, a trail, ample parking, and the always-popular skate park.

Engineering

This has been a busy and exciting year in the City's Engineering Department. During 2013 we constructed several miles of new roadway improvements and laid the groundwork for even bigger things to come. These improvements featured a mix of new sidewalks, street lighting, landscaping, bike lanes, crosswalks, and other features that greatly increase the safety and mobility of our travelling public.

Beckonridge Drive

The west side of Beckonridge Drive was improved with new sidewalks, streetlights, landscaping and bike lanes between Grandview and Cirque Drive, providing safe, dedicated, well-lit areas for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to travel along this busy arterial. Two new speed radar signs have been installed along this street to help control speeds and further improve the safety of pedestrians and motorists alike. Crosswalk improvements were also made at 97th Avenue and at Alderwood Drive. This project was funded by an \$830,000 federal grant through the State's Safe Routes to School program.



In mid-August Sunset Primary Principal Allison Drago, accompanied by students Berkley and Lauren Ledisma, joined Mayor Ken Grassi, City Manager Steve Sugg and City Engineer Jack Ecklund for the ribbon cutting of the Beckonridge Drive Safe Routes to School project.



19th Street

Under the 19th Street project, new sidewalks were built along the south side of 19th Street between Bridgeport Way and Mildred Street, making critical connections to the commercial and residential areas along this corridor as well as connecting into the popular Sunset Terrace Park. This project was funded through a \$118,000 federal Community Development Block Grant.



27th Street, looking west.

27th Street

On 27th Street, businesses and residents alike are now enjoying new sidewalks, streetlights, landscaping and roadway surfacing along this vital corridor between Bridgeport and Grandview. A new signalized pedestrian crosswalk at Sunset Drive has also been built to provide for a safe pedestrian crossing at this very busy intersection.

These improvements have been made possible through collaboration with local businesses, the school district and the City. This project is funded by a \$910,000 federal grant through the State's Safe Routes to School program and a \$100,000 contribution from a local developer.



27th Street, looking east.

In addition to these improvements, in 2013 the City was successful in obtaining a \$1.2 million state grant for street improvements to 27th Street between Bridgeport Way and Mildred. These improvements will include sidewalks, street lighting, bike lanes and landscaping along both sides of the street. Design work for this project will begin in early 2014 with construction planned for 2015.

What projects will Engineering be working on in 2014-15?



Bridgeport Way

Thanks to more than \$5 million in federal and state grants, additional improvements to Bridgeport Way will soon be made at several locations, further enhancing the access and safety along our busiest street.

In December of 2013, bids were received for the Bridgeport Way Phase 3B project. Under this project, new sidewalks, streetlights, bike lanes and landscaping will be built along both sides of Bridgeport between 54th Street and Chambers Lane. This project connects to more than two miles of improvements built on Bridgeport to the north. In 2013, the utility poles in this area were relocated by Tacoma Public Utilities in preparation for this project. The Bridgeport project is funded through a \$2.2 million grant from the Federal Highway Administration. Roadway construction is scheduled to begin in February.

Further to the south, another project will be built that extends our Bridgeport sidewalk network using innovative stormwater technologies. The Bridgeport Way Low Impact Development project will construct new sidewalks with pervious pavement along the southwest side of the street between 67th Avenue and the southern City limits. This project will also include the construction of rain gardens, vegetative swales and bio-retention systems in order to clean the storm water runoff from the street before it enters Leach Creek. This project is funded through a \$758,000 grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology and \$250,000 from local surface water management funds. Construction for this project is anticipated to begin this spring.

At the north end of the City, the design work on the Bridgeport Way Phase 5 project has begun. This project includes new sidewalks, street lighting, bike lanes and landscaping along Bridgeport between 27th Street and 19th Street. This project is funded through a \$2.5 million grant from the Federal Highway Administration. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2015.

Cirque Drive

In 2013, the City of University Place was awarded more than \$2 million in federal grants for improvements to Cirque Drive, 44th Street and 56th Street as part of the State's Safe Routes to School program. Under the Cirque Drive project, new sidewalks, bike lanes, streetlights and landscaping will be built along the north side of the street between 79th Avenue and Beckonridge Drive.

The project also includes new signalized pedestrian crosswalks at 79th Avenue and 83rd Avenue. This corridor is heavily utilized by students walking and biking to **Drum Intermediate** school. Construction is anticipated to begin later this year.



44th Street

The 44th Street project includes new sidewalks, bike lane, streetlights and landscaping along the north side of 44th Street between Bridgeport Way and 67th Avenue. 44th Street serves **Narrows View Intermediate** school and provides connections to Evergreen Primary as well as the high school and junior high. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2015.

56th Street

The 56th Street project includes new sidewalks along the north side of 56th Street between 95th Avenue and Grandview Drive, and will provide new street lighting along 56th Street between 95th Avenue Court West and **Chambers Primary** school. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2015.



Planning & Development Services

The Planning & Development Services Department experienced a significant uptick in activity in 2013. While 2012 was busy, major development projects and State-mandated long range planning activities kept the department staff hopping. The most visible project was, of course, the construction of the Clearview mixed-use building in the Town Center project. Department staff in planning, building, engineering and permitting had various roles helping the developer complete the project in a timely and code-compliant manner.

Development Services

The County's Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion project is another large job in which the department has been and continues to be engaged.

The County is constructing 44 new buildings and upgrading existing facilities in order to double the capacity of the plant to accommodate projected population growth. More construction activity around the treatment plant will be evident in 2014.



Pierce County's expansion of its Waste Water Treatment Plant, at the southwest end of the city, will engage Development Services staff into the future as the County works to double its capacity.



In addition to these larger projects, there was a lot of commercial and residential construction activity to keep staff on their toes. New commercial construction included a new building in the Green Firs Shopping Center replacing the Shari's restaurant with a Starbucks and Verizon store. Across Bridgeport Way the Applebee's restaurant opened at the end of December.

Some of the many commercial tenant improvements included Chambers Bay Dental, Dr. Wilson's Medical Office, Grassi's Gifts, the Masonic Lodge, Cheers U.P. and O'Brien Dentistry. There were several multi-family housing remodel projects, 32 new single family homes and 68 residential remodels in 2013. Altogether, the City's Building Department conducted 3,500 inspections on \$15.4 million worth of new construction.



Left to right, Council Member Eric Choiniere and Mayor Ken Grassi joined Ali Kashi and members of his staff for the ribbon cutting of Cheers UP following its improvement project.

Planning Services

While the Development Services team kept busy, the department's Planning Services was working hard to comply with State planning mandates and implementing City Council resolutions. Most notable was the City's completion of the Shoreline Master Program Update. This multi-year project included dozens of public meetings, the appointment of a Shoreline Citizens Advisory Committee, public hearings and recommendations by the Planning Commission as well as public hearings before the City Council. The Master Program is currently being reviewed by the State Department of Ecology. Planning staff worked with the City's Planning Commission to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan, another State mandate that will continue in 2014 and 2015.

Economic Development

“What’s going in there?” It’s the most frequently asked question in town this year. New construction, business ribbon cuttings and grand openings have been the norm in 2013 as the economic recession is abating. Confidence in the economy is evidenced through private development, and this year the level of that confidence exceeded \$3.4 million in private funds invested in commercial growth and development.

Celebrating Success!

Near the end of 2013, the City Council approved a landmark agreement with Verus Partners for the phased development of Town Center with the announcement of Whole Foods Market as anchor tenant. This concludes a robust year of commercial developments which includes six new completed commercial structures and 27 major tenant improvements.

The Economic Development office helped coordinate ribbon cuttings for these businesses in 2013:

- Harbor Greens
- Washington Federal
- Cheers U.P. Bar & Grill
- Total Image Solutions Salon & Spa
- Stewart & Son Computer Services, LLC
- Brooklyn Sandwich & Coffee House
- O’Brien Dentistry
- Clearview 100 Building
- Applebee’s Neighborhood Grill & Bar



Stewart & Son opened a storefront this year, transitioning from a start as a home-based business.



City Council Members Choiniere, Keel, Mayor Pro Tem McCluskey, Council Member Figueroa and Mayor Grassi celebrate the completion of the Clearview 100 building with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Providing Support

In keeping with the upsurge in economic confidence, the number of licensed businesses located within the City of University Place has reached an all-time high, with 1,327 businesses licensed; over 52 percent of those businesses are home-based. The City continued to undergird these businesses with support through:

- Partner UP networking events
- Looking UP business directory
- Talking UP business newsletter
- Business site visits

The City also continued to partner with the West Side branch of the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce.



The U.P. business directory debuted a new look in 2013!

Realizing Dreams

Finally, after a long wait to implement the 27th Street Master Plan, this year saw the completion of Phase 1 which included a mid-block pedestrian crossing on the north side of 27th Street from Bridgeport to Grandview, new sidewalks, curb/gutters, landscaping and street lights. Soon to follow is the installation of 27th Street banners signaling the start of the 27th Street Business District revitalization.



While we look forward to continued economic development growth, we anticipate gearing up for the upcoming 2015 U.S. Open next year.

11th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance

Dads & daughters will enjoy an evening just for them!



Mark your calendar for Saturday, Feb. 8 from 6:30-9 p.m. in the Curtis High School Cafeteria. An array of music will please all age groups and tastes! Come prepared to dance the night away. All ages are welcome! Participants will receive refreshments, party favors and a night of fun and entertainment that both daddy and daughter will never forget. Uncles, grandfathers, big brothers, even moms are welcome to accompany their little princess. Action Photography Northwest will be there to provide you with pictures for a small fee.



We are also excited to announce that American Party Place has sponsored a fun photo booth for the event and Forza Coffee will be donating coffee again this year for all the dads. Be sure to pre-register with the Recreation Office by calling 253.460.2530 today!



Winter Break Camp UPlay!



Parents – are you looking for a safe and fun environment for your school age children during the mid-winter break from school?

Look no more! University Place Parks & Recreation is offering School's Out Camp UPlay. There's no need to stress about childcare or take unwanted time off work, we're here for you!

Camp will be held at Curtis Junior High School during the week of Feb. 17-21. Drop off in the gym, and yes, there will be camp on the holiday! Kids grades K-5th will spend the week playing games, doing projects, sport activities, guitar hero and much, much more, with a field trip to end their week at camp!

Regular camp hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Extended hours are 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Fees are \$100 for a resident with regular hours, \$110 for a non-resident with regular hours. If you need extended hours, add \$20 to the total. For more information or to register, stop in to the Recreation Office or give us a call at 253.460.2530.



New pilot program!

Half Day Camp UPlay for Evergreen Primary students

Camp UPlay is expanding again! The University Place School District has half days every other Wednesday, which is a benefit to classroom learning. We are excited to offer Camp UPlay Half Day Camp as a half-day option for Evergreen Primary School kids.

Pre-registration is required. Children will participate in group games, fitness activities, arts and crafts and more. The program will run from 12:15-2:35 p.m. on the Wednesday half days. If this program is a success, we will be working with the U.P. School District to re-evaluate for the next school year.

For more information contact the Recreation Office at 253.460.2530.

Youth Baseball & Softball

"Early Bird" Deadline: Feb. 14; "Final" Deadline: March 14



University Place Recreation Youth Sports Leagues invite children from Pre-K through 7th grade to join a recreational baseball or softball team. Leagues will focus on teamwork, sportsmanship, basic fundamental instruction and, most importantly, having fun!

We offer co-ed T-ball for Pre-K (4-5 years) and K/1st (5-7 years), co-ed coach pitch for 1st/2nd grades, boys hollywood baseball for 3rd/4th grades (10U), boys regulation baseball for 3rd-7th grades (10U, 12U & 14U), and girls softball for grades 3rd-7th (10U, 12U, & 14U). Coaches will make contact with players when practices begin in mid-April.

Be sure to register online at www.CityofUP.com by going to the Parks & Recreation page, or come in the office to register in person, fax it, mail it or email it!

Check out the Winter 2014 Recreation Program Guide online at www.CityofUP.com! From there visit the Parks & Recreation page and click on the Winter Guide – you'll find something for everyone!

Enchanted Holidays at Market Square!

The University Place Christmas Tree Lighting celebration kicked off the year's holiday season at Market Square with carriage rides, a fantastic performing Christmas Elf on stilts, and of course the family tradition of pictures with Santa by the fireplace. We would like to thank the season's generous sponsors: All Pro Carpet Cleaning, Artco Crafts and Framing, Columbia Bank, Entertainment Masters, Frog n Kiwi Café, Peace Out, Vivid Images Photography LLC, West Pierce Fire & Rescue, and Tacoma Boys!



After the kickoff Tree Lighting event, crowds continued to delight in the holiday magic of University Place Town Center throughout the entire month of December. Some warmed themselves by the Atrium fireplace while they posed for holiday photos with Santa, provided by Vivid Imagery LLC, and others sipped a hot winter drink from nearby Frog n Kiwi Café while they gathered around the outdoor fire pit in Market Square, eagerly awaiting a turn on the carriage ride. The dazzling lights of Market Square brought joy to all. See you again next year!



Get Paid to Scrap or Upgrade Your Old Wood Stove

It's time to get rid of Old Smokey and get paid to do it.

Do you own an old wood stove or insert that was manufactured 15-20 years ago and is uncertified by the EPA? If you live within the smoke reduction zone in Pierce County, you may qualify for \$350 of cold hard cash to scrap that old, uncertified wood stove or insert. Even better, if you'd like to upgrade to a cleaner source of heat you can qualify for a \$1500 discount to do so. Certain low income qualified households can also qualify to receive a free heating upgrade. To find out if you live in the Tacoma/Pierce County Smoke Reduction Zone and qualify, go to www.airsafepiercecounty.org.

Why would I want to get rid of my old stove, you ask? For starters, if you have an old wood stove or insert you don't use anymore, you can basically get paid to get rid of it. Beyond getting paid to scrap your old wood stove, you can breathe easier knowing you are contributing to keeping the air clean and healthy in Pierce County. During winter months, much of Pierce County doesn't meet federal air quality standards because of fine particle pollution caused by wood smoke. Adhering to Air Quality Burn Bans when they are called and trading in your old wood stove for a cleaner heating device are the two ways you can help Pierce County meet federal clean air standards.

Another thing to keep in mind: starting in September 2015 all old, uncertified wood burning devices will be illegal to use under state law. This means that these uncertified devices must be disposed of or rendered inoperable by Sept. 30, 2015 in the Pierce County Smoke Reduction Zone, except those residences that have no other adequate ways to heat their home.

Find out more at www.airsafepiercecounty.org or contact Kit McGurn at the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, KitM@pscleanair.org.

Pierce Transit Launches Express Custom Bus Demonstration Service

On Dec. 9, 2013, Pierce Transit introduced two new routes as a six-month demonstration project: Route 475 University Place-Olympia Express and Route 485 Olympia-Puyallup Express. These demonstration routes are designed to ease congestion along crowded I-5 and SR512 corridors, and provide unique service options to University Place and Puyallup customers. Passengers enjoy limited stops, comfortable high-back seats, and free WiFi service on board.

Express Route 475 provides a new weekday option for University Place commuters headed to our state capitol. The route features two early morning trips from University Place Town Center to Olympia, and two return trips in the evening, stopping at two Sounder Stations along the way. Southbound service departs Drexler Drive & 35th Street West at 4:29 and 5:29 a.m. and northbound service departs Olympia Transit Center at 4:53 and 5:53 p.m. Fares for one ride, beginning Jan. 2, 2014, are \$3 for Adults/Youth and \$1.50 Discounted Fare. A monthly Regional Pass is \$108 for Adults/Youth, and \$54 Discounted Fare with a regional reduced fare permit.

Custom Bus Route 485 is tailored to meet the needs of commuters traveling between Olympia and Benaroya Business Park in Puyallup. This weekday service also has two northbound trips in the morning, and two return trips in the evening.

For additional information about Pierce Transit's Express Custom Bus Demonstration Project, visit piercetransit.org/custombus.

Curran Apple Orchard Pruning Classes

Learn how to prune apple trees and hone your skills! Master Gardeners and trained volunteers will be on hand to lend advice and instructions at free pruning classes sponsored

by CORE held at the Curran Apple Orchard on the following Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.:
Feb. 8 & 22 March 8 & 22 April 12 & 26
Wear old clothes and bring work gloves and

pruning tools if you have them. Some tools are available to borrow. Help is also needed hauling branches to dumpsters. Goodies are provided!
More info at www.curranappleorchard.com.

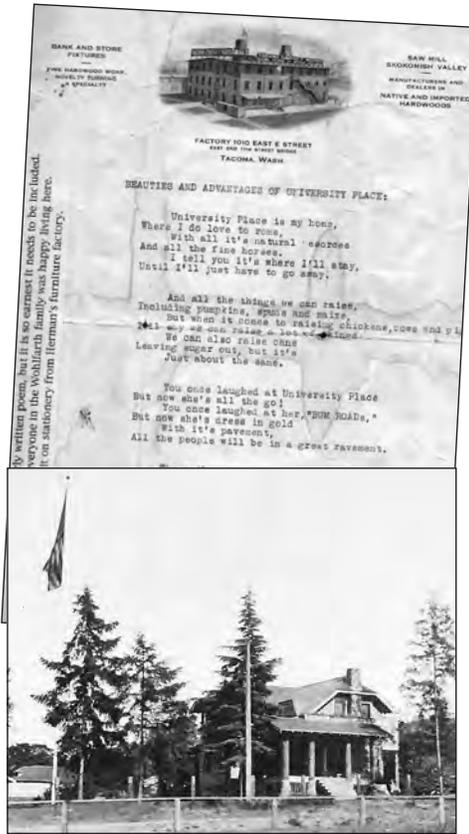
Do you remember this house?

The University Place Historical Society has had an inquiry from a gentleman in Seattle. He stated he recently visited his parents in California and while he was there made copies of some old family photos. He is trying to locate his great grandparents' homes, one of which was located in Regents Park (perhaps in what is now Fircrest) and one in University Place. He stated his great grandparents were Herman and Eva Wohlfarth who emigrated from Germany. Herman owned Tacoma Cabinet Works that was located on East E Street in Tacoma.

Mr. Peters shared a copy of a poem written by his grandmother circa 1920s when she was a young girl. I think many of us agree with her perception of University Place.

As you read this article and look at the picture, see if you can identify the house and its location if it still stands. I believe it was built circa 1920. If it has been torn down but you remember where it was located, please contact Barbara Lee at 253.778.6717. The historical society has a number of photos of both houses and the Wohlfarth family.

Preserving the rich history of our early settlers and the pioneers who lived in University Place is important to those who live here now and in the future. The history contributes to its personality and provides a link to its roots. Everyone has a story about the history here, and preserving that history is dependent on those of us who live here now. The Wohlfarths are part of our history. If you want to share your history through conversation, old photos or artifacts, please contact us, we are here to listen and record those precious memories you have of University Place.



Destination Art

Bring "Between Sea and Sky" to the U.P. Civic Building!

A gorgeous fused glass sculpture composed of 750-1,000 pieces of glass depicting the sky, forests and sea scapes of the Pacific Northwest is getting closer to being installed in the U.P. Civic Building atrium!

UP for Arts, a nonprofit 501(c)3, is spearheading a \$100,000 campaign to bring this stunning suspended glass sculpture to University Place. Created by Artist and Architect Michele Gutlove, this public art piece entitled **"Between Sea and Sky"** will be made possible thanks to the generosity of our local and regional community members. Since last fall, UP for Arts has raised nearly \$80,000 in pledges and donations toward our \$100,000 goal with gifts ranging from \$5 to \$25,000.

We need YOUR help to complete the fundraising for this incredible glass sculpture. Our goal is to install **"Between Sea and Sky"** by May 2015, just in time for the U.S. Open in June. Please join us in our efforts to create a dazzling destination in our city center! All donations are tax deductible...and all amounts are appreciated! Gifts of \$500 or more will also be recognized on the donor wall in the atrium.

Donate online at www.upforarts.wildapricot.org or mail in checks made out to UP for Arts/Destination Artwork, UP for Arts, P.O. Box 65145, University Place, Washington 98464. We also accept stock donations!

Many thanks to all of our amazing donors and art patrons. We are deeply grateful for your participation and fervor in enhancing our beautiful city!

UPTV – "UNIVERSITY PLACE" ON TV

Each month different programs about University Place air on Click! Channel 12 and Comcast Channel 21. The following programs are scheduled:

- Regular Council Meetings
- Christmas Tree Lighting
- Slices of Life

Visit our Website: www.CityofUP.com/Page49.aspx for a weekly schedule. Send program suggestions and comments to

UPTV@CityofUP.com

or call Linda Seesz, Communications/I.T. Manager, at 253.460.2537.

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