Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



January 11, 2023

Closing the Internet Access Gap

The nonprofit organization

EducationSuperHighway
reports that 18 million

American households have
access to the internet but can't
afford to connect to it. That
includes households in
University Place.
But thanks to the Federal
Communications Commission's
(FCC) Affordable Connectivity
Program, there is financial help
available to households to



access broadband services for work, school, healthcare and more.

Eligible households can receive a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service (up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands). Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop or desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute between \$10-\$49 toward the purchase price.

To be eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program, household income should be at or below 200 percent of the **Federal Poverty Guidelines**. Eligibility is also available to those participating in programs including SNAP, Medicaid, Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch or Breakfast programs, WIC, SSI or federal housing assistance programs.

For the complete list of eligibility requirements and to enroll, visit **www.fcc.gov/acp**.

Neither Rain, nor Snow...

As the West Coast deals with an onslaught of rain, wind and freezing temperatures, this is just another reminder from the City's Public Works Department that regardless of the conditions, they will work around the clock to ensure the City's streets are treated and cleared of any

storm debris.

If the forecast calls for snow, ice or strong winds, residents that don't have to go out are encouraged to stay off the streets so that plows and anti-ice trucks can operate without hinderance. Crews will focus on arterial and secondary arterial streets in accordance with the priorities set in the **Snow Route map**.

For the latest updates on closings, cancellations and other weather-related news, visit the **City's website** or check its **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **Instagram** accounts. For information on power outages, view the **Tacoma Power Outage Map** on the **TPU website**.

Curran Apple Orchard Tree Adoptions

The Curran Apple Orchard is a 7.33 acre City park located at 3920 Grandview Drive.

There are more than 250 apple trees which are available for adoption each year.

Varieties include Gravenstein, Golden Delicious and MacIntosh.

Tree Adoptions: All adopters are entitled to the apples from their tree





- Pruning Adoptions \$45 (Available December through March 31)
 Adopters must prune their trees according to orchard guidelines. Free
 instruction available online (www.CurranAppleOrchard.com) as well as
 from trained volunteers and Master Gardeners. Adopters must also thin
 and pick up windfalls.
- Orchard Supporter Adoptions \$70 (Available December through July 31) Orchard supporter adoptions are great for people who would like a tree but who are unable to care for the tree themselves. Instead, trained volunteers will prune their tree from January through April. These adopters are still responsible for windfalls and harvest.
- Good Apples Want to support the orchard without adoping a tree? Be a "Good Apple" by donating an amount of your choice. All donations greatly appreciated!

Tree Adoption forms are now being accepted for the 2023 harvest year. (Visit **www.curranappleorchard.com** to download forms). People who adopted a tree last year have first priority on adoptions. Other interested people may submit forms and payment now but will not receive notification until January about their tree assignments.

CORE (Curran Orchard Resource Enthusiasts) is the volunteer group which helps maintain the orchard. Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings held the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information, contact **curranappleorchard@gmail.com**.

Free Pruning Class

Learn how to prune apple trees at a FREE pruning class on **Thursday**, Jan. 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the University Place Primary (UPP) School Cafeteria.

Master Gardener and professional arborist Robert Sweet will discuss proper pruning techniques as well as appropriate tools. UPP is located at 2708 Grandview Drive W. in University Place. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting,

which is sponsored by CORE, the volunteer group dedicated to maintaining the Curran Apple Orchard Park.

Volunteers are also needed for a variety of tasks at the Curran Apple Orchard Park including hanging tree tags, pruning (instruction and tools available) and hauling branches to the dumpsters.

Tree Adoptions are also now available for the general public. For more information, visit our website at **curranappleorchard.com** or contact CurranAppleOrchard@gmail.com.

Free Mason Bee Presentation

Join local beekeeper Rick Mercier for a fascinating discussion on Mason Bees the stingless little heroes that help pollinate the Curran Apple Orchard Park each year!

Rick has been raising the PNW's amazing, very own, non-aggressive, and highly efficient pollinators for more than 15 years. With native bees in decline, it's more important than ever to do our part. Let him show you how.

Join us at the University Place Library on Saturday, Jan. 28, from 10:30 a.m. **to 12:30 p.m.** Everyone is welcome to attend.

What's UP with Biz? U.P. Business Snapshot

With 2022 in the rearview mirror, the City's Planning and Development Services Department would like to provide a brief review of the past year's major highlights:

- Site work is underway for the new **Alta Narrows Urban Village** (located on the site of the old AMC Theater and Narrows Plaza Bowl) that will be a new market-rate apartment community to include 274 residential apartments in a total of nine buildings.
- With the demolition of the old Red Apple building, work is proceeding on Grandview Plaza, which will be an eight-acre site that will include 185 units of mixed-use senior living at the corner of 27th Street and Grandview Drive.
- Bridgeview 125 officially opened at 3610 Bridgeport Way W., offering 8,500 square feet of commercial space and 125 apartment homes.
- Construction began on 4201 Bridgeport Apartments. The project features two separate buildings, with one five-story structure and one four-story building with a total of 101 apartment homes.
- Chipotle opened a new location at 4020 Bridgeport Way W., and a new **Habit Burger** is under construction next door that will open in the next 6 months.
- 19 ribbon cuttings celebrated new, relocated or official grand openings of U.P. businesses.
- 1,700 licensed businesses call U.P. home, with 300 new licenses issued

in 2022 alone.

- A **Northeast Business District survey** gathered public input on opportunities and challenges facing the area between South 19th and 27th Streets from Cascade Place West to Mildred Street in the next 20 years.
- A **COVID-19 Impact survey** by the Economic Development Advisory Commission assessed how the pandemic affected local businesses.
- New episodes of the "Open for Business" video series premiered, produced by the City's Communications Department and Pierce County TV.





Resolve to be Ready

As we head into the New Year, it's a

perfect opportunity to review your emergency plans, go-kits, and sit down with your family to discuss what to do in the event of an emergency. Below is a list of ways you can resolve to be ready in 2023!

- GET YOUR YEAR OFF
 TO A GOOD START:
 PROTECT WHAT YOU LOVE
- Make a Resolution.
- Make an emergency plan: choose a safe place to
 - meet, learn evacuation routes, and establish an out-of-town contact.
- Take a current photo of you and your pet together in case you get separated during a disaster.
- Get to know your neighbor and invite them to be a part of your emergency plan.
- Snap photos of important documents and save them in a secure place or online.
- Set up group text lists so you can communicate with friends and family during emergencies.
- Take a class in CPR and first aid.
- Keep and update emergency supplies; remember to include cash.
- Have back-up power sources available to charge devices in case of a power outage.
- Snap pictures of your property for insurance purposes.
- Check your insurance for coverage on disasters like floods, hurricanes, and earthquakes.
- Sign up for alerts and warnings. Download the FEMA app to get real-time alerts, safety tips, and locate open shelters.
- Save for a rainy day! Start and grow your emergency fund.
- Financially prepare for the New Year. Find out how with the **Emergency** Financial First Aid Kit.
- Spend within your means. Use a personal budgeting worksheet to help plan for holiday expenses and beyond.
- Build up your savings. Put a small amount in your account the first of every month beginning January 1.

Find more information about Emergency Preparedness at Ready.gov.

City Hall Holiday Closure

CITY HALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 16 IN RECOGNITION OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY.

CITY HALL OFFICES WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17 AT 9 A.M.

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University Place City Council



Mayor Steve Worthington



Mayor Pro Tem Javier Figueroa



Council Member Kent Keel



Council Member Edward Wood









Council Member Caroline Belleci













City of University Place | 3609 Market Place W, Ste 200, University Place, WA 98466

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