Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



February 22, 2023

U.P. Leaders Attend State Conference

University Place Mayor Steve
Worthington and Mayor Pro Tem Javier
Figueroa recently attended the
Association of Washington Cities, City
Action Days conference in Olympia,
where they had the opportunity to
meet one-on-one with U.P.'s local 28th
District legislators Rep. Mari Leavitt,
Rep. Dan Bronoske and Sen. T'wina
Nobles. During the two-day event, they
also engaged with city leaders from
around the state and attended
information sessions on topics such as



housing, public safety, infrastructure and transportation.

"These kind of events are a good way to hear what other Washington cities are doing and the challenges they are facing," Worthington said. "Both Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa and I came away with some new ideas as well as renewed assurance that many of the issues we face in University Place are not unique. In turn, I hope we were able to share with others some insights from our experiences. The goal is to help everyone improve what they are doing to serve their constituents."

Public Safety Community Meetings Kick Off Today

A new series of community public safety meetings begin today, Feb. 22, with sessions at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers (3609 Market Place W., Third Floor). Additional sessions will be held on March 22, April 13 and May 24, also at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

U.P. Police Chief Greg Premo will answer your questions, provide updates on crime statistics in U.P. and share ways in which



you and your neighbors can work together to enhance your personal safety as well as the safety of your community.

Public safety continues to be a top priority for the City Council, which is why multiple sessions have been scheduled to maximize opportunities for the public to attend. If you are unable to participate at these times, however, the Public Safety team invites you to reach out to them with questions or concerns at any time. Email them at **UPPublicSafety@cityofup.com**.

Color it UP! Student Art Contest

The City of University Place is looking for talented young artists to help transform bland utility boxes into vibrant pieces of art. University Place students in grades 5-12 are invited to create designs that reflect community pride or happiness.

Winning designs will be printed on vinyl and wrapped around utility boxes along Cirque Drive between Bridgeport and Grandview. The four-sided utility boxes come in two sizes, and artists can **download templates** for each so they can submit art that will cover the entirety of both boxes.

The contest is free and runs through April 14, 2023. Get all the details, including the templates and submission requirements, on the **City Website**.





BEFORE AFTER

Curran Apple Orchard 2023 Winter Events

Learn a new skill and help take care of a unique apple orchard park in University Place at FREE pruning parties sponsored by CORE (Curran Orchard Resource Enthusiasts)! Volunteers are needed to help prune and haul branches to dumpsters...no experience needed!

Pruning Parties are scheduled for the following Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.



March 4 and 18

Other dates are possible – contact **Curranappleorchard@gmail.com** for more info.

Trained volunteers and Master Gardeners will be on hand to provide guidance.

Wear old clothes and bring loppers, hand pruners and saws if available. Some tools are available to borrow at the barn.

Help is also needed hauling branches to the dumpsters. Great for community service hours! (Students – please bring parent permission forms which are available at **www.curranappleorchard.com**).

CORE meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. on the second floor of University Place City Hall, 3609 Market Place W. Free parking is available underneath the library.

For more information and to confirm meeting locations, visit www.curranappleorchard.com or email apples@curranappleorchard.com.

Everyone is welcome to attend!

What's UP with Biz

The City of U.P. Economic Development Department strives to keep local businesses apprised of opportunities to grow and strengthen their operations.

This is one of those opportunities:

The Washington Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) has allocated \$200,000 for direct business resiliency grants to help minority and/or woman-owned businesses "achieve more."



Recipients of the Achieve More Grant can use the funds for infrastructure improvements, employee training and business equipment. The deadline for businesses to apply for the Achieve More Grant is March 19, 2023 by 11:59 p.m. PST.

Find more information, including eligibility requirements, **here**. Local businesses are also encouraged to **subscribe to Talking UP**, the Economic Development Department's e-newsletter, for regular updates on business support programs.



Curran Apple Orchard 2023 Volunteer Opportunities

Help take care of the Curran Apple Orchard Park and earn community service hours!

January-May	Hang Tree Adopter signs in designated trees.
January-late March	Pruning Teams – We will provide tools and train you to prune trees. Rain gear, work gloves and boots recommended. Pruning parties are scheduled on Saturday, March 4 & 18, from 10 a.m 1 p.m. Contact us to arrange other dates and times.
February-April	Branch Removal – Drag branches to the dumpster at pruning parties or times convenient to you.
May	Insect Traps – Saturday, May 6, 9 a.m. to noon. Construct and hang insect traps.
June	Thinning – Saturday, June 10 from 10 a.m. to noon or at your convenience. Remove excess fruit from trees.
May-September	Insect Monitoring – Help monitor insect traps within 16 trees twice a month from May through September. Done at your convenience.
July-September	Windfall Pick up – Help reduce future insect infestation by raking up windfalls and placing them in the dumpsters.
Late August	Annual Cider Squeeze – Sunday, Aug. 27, 2023. Several opportunities for set up, running the squeeze and takedown.

Sign up for volunteer opportunities by contacting **curranappleorchard@gmail.com**. Volunteers under 18 must provide a signed Parent Liability Waiver before volunteering. (Available on **www.curranappleorchard.com**)









Calling older adults and people with disabilities!

Property Tax Exemption Seminar

Monday March 6 | 6:30 p.m. Roy H. Murphy Community Center 555 Contra Costa Ave. in Fircrest



Event Information

Join us for a property tax exemption seminar on March 6, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., at the Roy H. Community Center in Fircrest. The Pierce County Assessor's Office will be here to answer your questions and provide valuable information at this free event. Topics include income categories, appeal of denials and effects of death or retirement.

You may qualify for this exemption if you:

- · Are over 61 years old or full disabled (80% VA) and
- · Have gross household income at or below \$45,708

Application Support

Learn how to accurately complete and return your application. Find out what defines your 'residence' and other occupancy requirements.

Taxable Income and Veterans

Learn the differences between taxable and non-taxable income. SS5256 will be explained for veterans. If you're receiving certain military benefits, find out if they will be deducted from your disposable income.

Allowable Deductions

Learn what you, your spouse, co-tenant, or domestic partner can and cannot deduct.

SPACE IS LIMITED. RSVP TODAY BY CONTACTING Jason.Gauthier@piercecountywa.gov | 253-281-9491

Additional information from Pierce County Human Services programs will be available at this event.



University Place City Council



Mayor **Steve Worthington**



Mayor Pro Tem Javier Figueroa



Council Member Kent Keel



Council Member Edward Wood



Council Member Denise McCluskey



Council Member Stan Flemming



Council Member Caroline Belleci













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