

Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



October 29, 2025

Short & Sweet Tips for a Safe Halloween

Oct. 31 is just around the corner, so it's a good time to remind your trick-or-treaters of what it takes to have a sweet and safe Halloween:

- Carry flashlights, wear reflective materials and don't let masks or other costume items make it difficult to walk and see safely.
- Stay on sidewalks, cross at crosswalks and obey traffic signals.
- Visit houses on one side of the street at a time. Don't zig-zag across the street. When it is time to cross to the other side, stop and look both ways before venturing into the street.
- Trick or treat in your own neighborhood and only approach houses with porch lights on.
- Make it home by 9 p.m. (or earlier!)
- Don't sample treats until you get home so they can be inspected for safety.



Motorists are reminded to slow down and use headlights even before dusk. UPPD urges anyone who witnesses unsafe or aggressive driving during the evening to call 911.

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

November 11, 2025 at 11 A.M.
Veterans Plaza, 7401 Cirque Drive West
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Join us as we honor and recognize the bravery, sacrifice, and service of our veterans. Let's come together as a community to pay tribute to those who have served our country.

Election Day is next Tuesday, Nov. 4

Don't forget to vote next Tuesday, Nov. 4! On the ballot are the four U.P. City Council positions, as well as positions for Fire Protection District No. 3, the Pierce County Charter Review, and the University Place School Board.

If you choose to vote early, you can drop off your ballot at West Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 31, 3631 Drexler Drive W. The ballot box is accessible 24 hours a day through Nov. 4. The drop box will close at 8 p.m. on Election Day.

In-person voting is available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Pierce County Election Center, 2501 S. 35th St., Suite C, Tacoma. The center will offer extended hours on Nov. 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Nov. 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For complete details on the election, including voter registration information, check out the **Pierce County Official Voters' Pamphlet**.



Cunningham and Pullen on Ballot for City Council Position No. 3

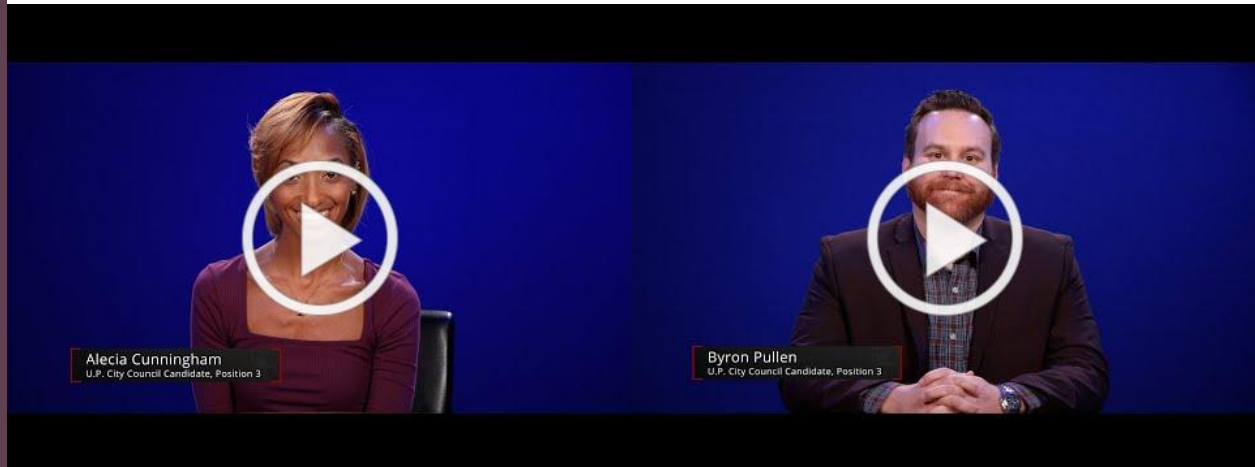
Before you cast your ballot in this year's election on Nov. 4, get to know the candidates who are vying for U.P. City Council Position 3, which has been vacant since the resignation of Steve Worthington in August.

Candidates **Alecia Cunningham** and **Byron Pullen** answered a series of questions about their visions for the future of U.P. as well as the issues facing the city that they believe are most pressing and how they would address them. Hear their full responses, including opening and closing statements, in this **video voters' guide**.



In addition to Position No. 3, Positions 1, 4 and 5 are also up for election, but the candidates for those positions, Javier Figueroa, Ed Wood and Denise McCluskey (respectively) are running unopposed. See all of the U.P. Council candidates' position statements on pages 90-92 of the **Voters' Pamphlet**.

Cast your ballot before 8 p.m. on Nov. 4 to make sure your vote is counted.



University Place Police Blotter

Keep yourself up-to-date with the latest public safety activity in University Place by checking out the U.P. Police Blotter! Chief Burke highlights some of the most notable incidents that the U.P. Police Department responds to. But that's not all - you can also browse through recent Calls for Service to get a better understanding of the local happenings in your area.

Don't miss out on staying informed and being part of a safer community - view the U.P. Police Blotter on the **City website** for updates!



Fall Curbside Oversize Brush Pickup

Nov. 3-14, 2025

Pile Limitations: one per household no larger than 6' wide by 6' long by 6' high

The Oversized Brush Pickup is available to all residential customers of University Place Refuse and Recycling, even those without yard waste service. The pickup day for your area will be the same as your curbside recycling or yard waste pickup day during the weeks shown above. Remember, this is a one-day event for each neighborhood. The Oversized Brush Pickup is only for the larger brush and limbs that do not easily fit into a regular yard waste cart. Limbs are removed by machine or pitchfork. Sweeping of small items by the customer can be expected. Please have all piles at the curb ready for pickup by 6 a.m. on your scheduled yard waste pickup day.



Yes, Oversized Brush Includes: branches, brush, and limbs no larger than 6' in length or 4" in diameter. Please stack loose for pickup (no cans, bags, or bundles).

No, Oversized Brush Does NOT Include: blackberry, holly, or other thorny vegetation; stumps, limbs larger than 6' or thicker than 4"; small loose items such as grass, leaves, weeds, bark, pine/fir needles, etc. No noxious weeds like scotch broom or English ivy, etc.

If you are signed up for yard waste service, please make maximum use of your cart before placing brush in a pile. Place your oversized brush in a loose pile at the curb or within five feet of the drivable portion of the roadway for pickup. Make sure the pile isn't in the street or blocking access to mailboxes or fire hydrants.

Visit the **University Place Refuse and Recycling website** for more information.

November is Puget Sound Starts Here Month

As winter rains descend upon us, the dirt and pollution from our cars wash into local storm drains and ultimately, Puget Sound.

Please do your part to help us support our clean water initiatives by:

- Keeping your tires properly inflated and aligned.
- Washing your car at a commercial car wash that treats dirty water.
- Checking for and quickly fixing leaks that end up on pavement, including oil, transmission fluid and brake fluid. Clean up any spills with sand or kitty litter.
- Recycle used motor oil.



When you keep up with vehicle maintenance and follow these easy steps, you save money and protect our waterways.

Resources for Employees Affected by Federal Government Shutdown

The Washington Employment Security Department (ESD) will host a **webinar** tomorrow, Oct. 30 at 10 a.m. to assist federal workers and others affected by the shutdown.

In addition, several Washington banks and credit unions are offering special loan products, skip-a-payment options, loan modifications, and other assistance programs. Contact your local financial institution to discuss your options.

For those who are worried about their mortgage and rent payments, **Fannie Mae** and **Freddie Mac** have issued guidance encouraging mortgage lenders and servicers to work with customers affected by the shutdown. It is recommended that if you're unable to cover your mortgage or rent payment, contact your lender or landlord immediately. They may offer options such as waived late fees, repayment plans, or forbearance.

Washington also has some options, including the Washington Homeownership Resource Center. Call 877-894-4663 (HOME) to be connected with a free housing counselor. You can also access a list of **housing counseling agencies** or seek guidance from the **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau** to locate certified housing counselors in the area.

Those who may be losing SNAP food benefits should contact **211.org** or call 211. Washington Connection also has a **Find Services tab**, as well as an **Alternative Solutions database** with extensive resources and a **reduced-cost services guide**.

And finally, if you're a concerned neighbor who wants to help families in University Place, you can donate to **Families Unlimited Network**.



Writing Workshop: Bewilderment by Richard Powers

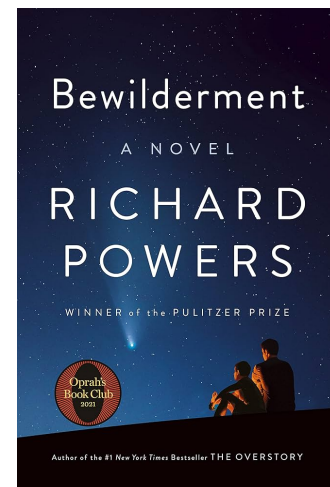
Create, connect, and get inspired to write as you explore and discover the power of words in this engaging workshop, inspired by this year's Big Read selection.

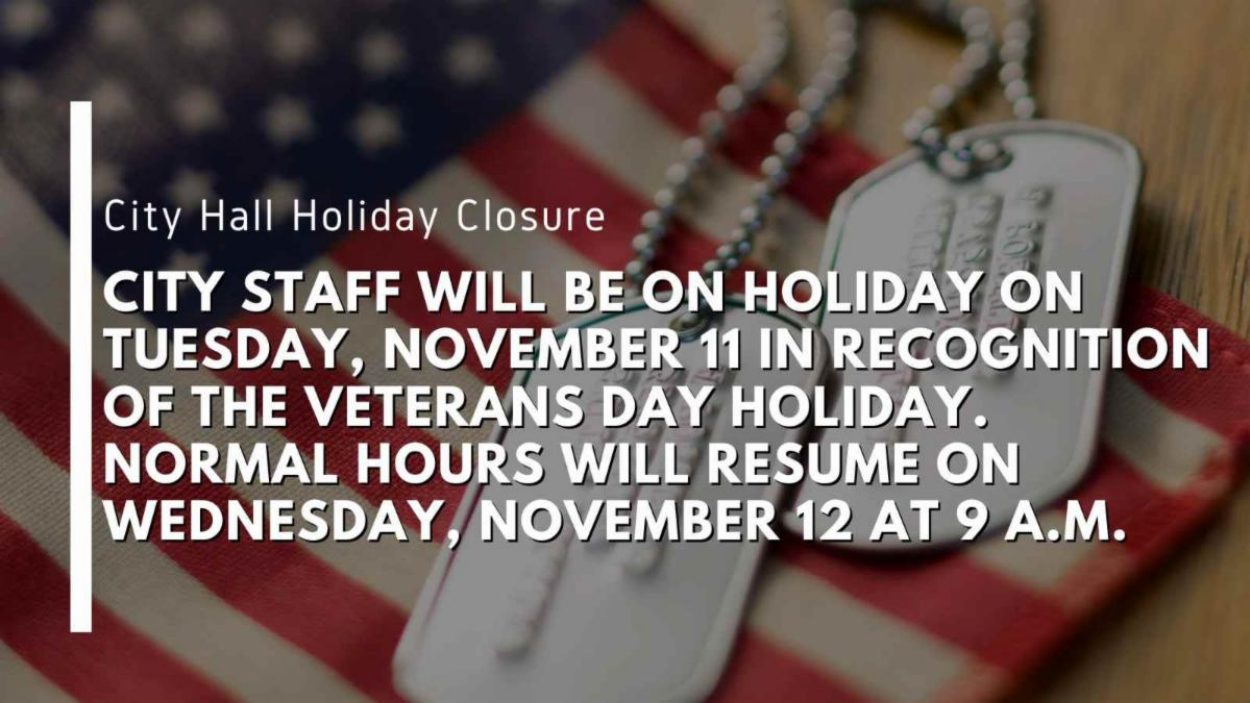
Join local poet Jessica J. Bloodsaw, as she presents on Emotional Ecosystems: From Forests to Galaxies, a metaphorical exploration of how our feelings are shaped by—and in turn shape—the environments around us, from the natural world to the cosmic.

This program is presented in partnership with the Museum of Glass and the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read grant featuring the book *Bewilderment* by Richard Powers. At its heart lies the question: How can we tell our children the truth about this beautiful, imperiled planet?

Copies of *Bewilderment* by Richard Powers will be available at the University Place Library before and during the writing workshop, while quantities remain. Please see the Help Desk for more information.

Check out the **library's calendar** for more information.





City Hall Holiday Closure

CITY STAFF WILL BE ON HOLIDAY ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 IN RECOGNITION OF THE VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY. NORMAL HOURS WILL RESUME ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 AT 9 A.M.



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, NOV. 3, 2025 AT 6:30 P.M.

AGENDA:

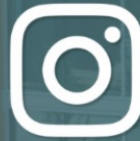
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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Native American Heritage Month Proclamation• 30th Birthday Bash Sponsorship Appreciation - U.P. Refuse & Recycling• 2026 Legislative Agenda | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2026 Property Tax Levy• LeMay Franchise Agreement• 2026 Commission Work Plans |
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AGENDA ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CITYOFUP.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.
WATCH ON COMCAST CHANNEL 21 / 321 OR LIVE ON YOUTUBE.COM/UNIVERSITYPLACETV

STAY IN TOUCH!



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UniversityPlaceTV

University Place City Council



**Mayor
Javier Figueroa**



**Mayor Pro Tem
Ed Wood**



**Council Member
Frank Boykin**



**Council Member
Denise McCluskey**



**Council Member
Stan Flemming**



**Council Member
Melanie Grassi**



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