

Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



August 26, 2020

Chief's Corner - How We Hire

One of the questions we often hear when we are out at community events, especially from curious young people, is how they, too, might become a police officer some day. We are always happy to answer that question, especially since there is always a need for entry-level applicants, our next generation of public servants.

We know that new recruits bring fresh perspectives, ideas, and experiences. This is especially true with regard to candidates from underrepresented communities, whose diversity can only make us stronger. The Pierce County Sheriff's Department has a recruiter who regularly visits job fairs, community meetings and school/college presentations to promote our profession and try to reach candidates who represent a cross-section of our community. However, I believe the best recruiter for the local police department is *you*.



Do you know someone who you feel has the right character, skills and abilities to be a police officer? Sometimes it just takes the encouragement of a friend or family member for that person to explore law enforcement as a career.

This fall, we will host our first **virtual** Citizens' Public Safety Academy—and our first class session will be on the hiring and training process for officers. We will cover topics such as:

- What does the hiring process involve?
- What type of training do your officers get?
- What is being done to bring diversity to the force?
- How do you ensure you hire the best people?

Attendees will be able to log into a live presentation and ask questions via the chat feature. We will record these presentations and share them later with the

entire community. This is good information for those interested in law enforcement as a career but also for the general public who just wants to be aware of how police officers are selected and trained here in Washington.

The Academy will kick off on Oct. 8 and consist of six weekly classes on topics very relevant to many of the questions people have today around police operations. In the coming weeks, we will share more information on how to register, so please watch for that. And as always, stay safe.

We're Having a Birthday Party - Virtually

We all know that the COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to rethink the way we mark many of life's milestones, from weddings to graduations to major anniversaries.

So it should come as no surprise that the City of U.P. has had to change its original plans for a community-wide celebration to mark our 25th "birthday" as an incorporated city. We had hoped to host a large block party on Aug. 22 to mark the occasion and to document the many accomplishments of the last 25 years, while also sharing the result of our Imagine 2045 efforts that will help shape our next quarter-century.



Instead, the City will publish a special digital 25-Year Retrospective & Look Ahead, while also holding a week-long social media celebration beginning on Aug. 31. "We really want the community to contribute to this celebration, so we encourage everyone to share their own memories, photos and videos using the #WeAreUP hashtag, which we hope will connect stories on our **website**, **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **Instagram** accounts," said Mayor Caroline Belleci. "Our story is not just about City government, but about the people and businesses who create our sense of community and pride in place every day."

Although the in-person party plans have had to be shelved for now, Belleci says the celebration will eventually take place—when it can be done safely and with full participation by the entire University Place community.

Don't Miss the Last Stop on the 2020 Garden Tour

The University Place Historical Society wraps up its 2020 Virtual Garden Tour at **Memory Lane North**, where Howard Dempsey has created an informal,



**University Place
Historical Society**

densely planted garden that explodes with the colors and artistry of nature. With lots of loving care from Howard, his yard has been transformed from a wild slope to a terraced oasis, rich with vibrant fuchsias that attract scores of hummingbirds and bees, while a natural stream flows over a waterwheel into Howard's man-made pond. With something new to see every day (thanks to help from some on-site pest "managers"), you'll understand why Howard thinks his garden "is the

most wonderful place in the world.”

Howard’s garden is the last stop on this year’s U.P. Historical Society’s Virtual Garden Tour, which is free to the public to view on UPTV thanks to financial support from Atkins Chiropractic, Columbia Bank, Gray Lumber Company, JK Tax Service, Inc., McCabe’s Automotive Specialists, Morrison House/Sotheby’s International Realty, Portland Avenue Nursery, Seattle Seahawks, Sound Community Bank, Suburban Opticians and U.P. Refuse & Recycling.

In the next issue of Headlines, we’ll provide a link to a special video compilation of all seven of this year’s spectacular garden stops. Enjoy them again all at one time...and be sure to share the link with family and friends.



What’s UP with Biz - Spend an Afternoon in U.P.

The **Village at Chambers Bay** is encouraging consumers to sneak in some last-minute summer shenanigans with its Passport to Summer promotion.

One thousand Passports to Summer have been mailed to residents in the vicinity of the Village at Chambers Bay, but anyone can pick up a passport from any of the seven participating businesses and get it



stamped when they visit each one of those businesses through Aug. 31. Those who return their stamped passports to First Financial Northwest Bank will be eligible to win a basket loaded with prizes, including:

- A three-float package from Urban Float
- \$20 gift card to Bliss Small Batch Creamery
- Two latex pillows from Naturepedic
- Live Loud hat, bag of coffee and \$20 Gift Card from Anthem Coffee
- Four FREE classes from Pure Barre
- Coffee tumbler and water bottle from First Financial Northwest Bank
- A selection of Wella hair care products from Bishops Cut/Color

The drawing for the lucky winner will be held on Sept. 1.

Passports to Summer can be picked up at any of the participating businesses (**First Financial Northwest Bank, Urban Float, Pure Barre, Bliss Small Batch Creamery, Anthem Coffee, Naturepedic** and **Bishops Cut/Color**). Thanks to First Financial Northwest Bank for making this special promotion of these locally-owned businesses possible.

Celebrate National Night Out Safely

COVID-19 has forced us to reimagine how we hold some of our most cherished traditions, from high school commencements that have transitioned to car parades of graduates to major league baseball games with cardboard cut-out "fans."



So it should come as no surprise that U.P. has been forced to reimagine how we hold one of our largest and most successful events, National Night Out. Always held on the first Tuesday in August, this "Neighborhood Night Out Against Crime" is a way for neighbors to re-connect with one another and allows University Place Police, West Pierce Firefighters, City staff and elected officials to come to U.P. neighborhoods and hear about local concerns and engage on ways to collaborate and make University Place the very best it can be.

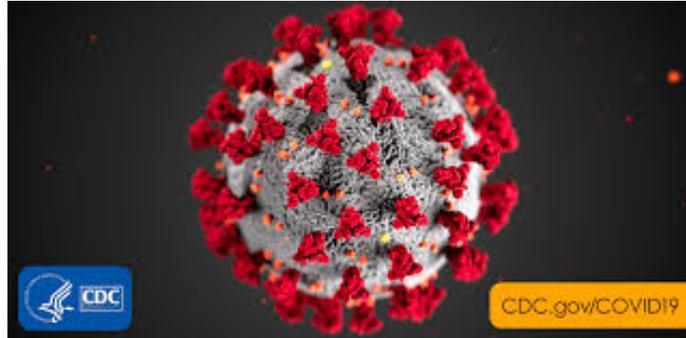
You may recall that earlier this spring, National Night Out celebrations were postponed until the first Tuesday in October at the recommendation of the National Association of Town Watch (sponsors of NNO). But given the current restrictions in Pierce County, U.P. public safety personnel have decided to cancel the community First Responder caravan portion of National Night Out this year. "We routinely, year after year, visit 50 plus neighborhoods in University Place," said Jennifer Hales, public safety administrator for the City of University Place. "But because there are so many logistical challenges under normal circumstances, we simply believe this cannot safely be done under the CDC's current recommendations."

But Hales says this does not mean that neighborhoods cannot and should not find an outdoor way to safely social distance and grill up some burgers and have some dessert. "Our University Place National Night Out event is the largest

neighborhood National Night Out in Pierce County and is one of our most favorite events,” she said. “It’s one of the reasons why University Place remains such a desirable place to live and work and demonstrates our amazing community spirit. We truly hope that our neighborhoods will carry on the tradition—safely and responsibly—and be sure to share photos on social media, using the hashtag #WeAreUP.”

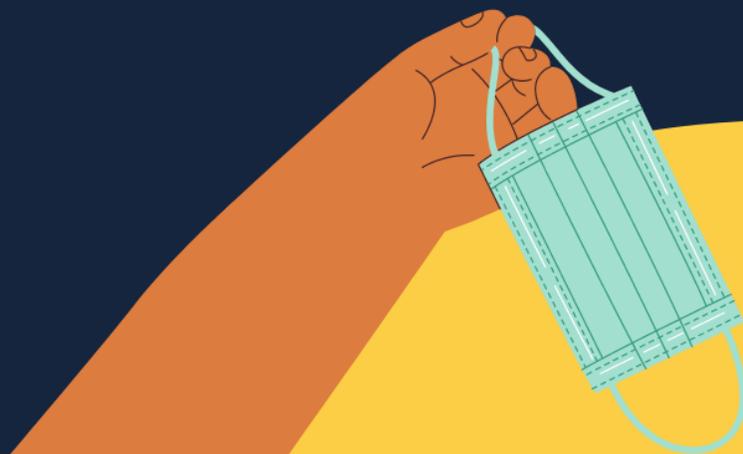
Get the Facts: COVID Resources

As the nation and our region continues to battle the COVID-19 outbreak, be sure to stay informed with accurate information from these official sources:



- The **U.S. Centers for Disease Control** offers the latest facts and information about COVID-19, including information on travel and return to school or work.
- The **Governor’s Office** provides details about on-going response efforts throughout the State of Washington, including the state’s Risk Assessment Dashboard.
- The **Washington State Department of Health** provides updated statistics on the occurrence of COVID-19 across the state, as well as testing data.
- The **Tacoma-Pierce County Department of Health** and **Pierce County Government** provide important local information on testing sites, phased re-opening status and CARES Act funding to support recovery efforts.
- The City of University Place’s dedicated **COVID-19 info page** includes valuable information on resources for businesses and residents, such as local school meal sites and public utilities’ contact information for payment plans or assistance.

Mask UP to prevent the spread of COVID-19



How Can You Verify That Someone Is a Census Taker?

If someone visits your home this year to

collect information for the 2020 Census, check to make sure they have a valid ID badge with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date. Census workers may also carry Census Bureau bags and other equipment with the Census Bureau logo.

If you still have questions about their identity, you can contact your regional census center to speak with a Census Bureau representative.

What To Expect

Census takers will wear masks and follow local public health guidelines when they visit your home. All census takers complete a virtual COVID-19 training on social distancing and other health and safety protocols before beginning their work in neighborhoods.

Census takers are hired from your area, and their goal is to help you and everyone in your home be counted in the 2020 Census. If the census taker who visits your home does not speak your language, **you may request a return visit from a census taker who does speak your language.**

If no one is home when the census taker visits, the census taker will leave a notice of their visit with information about how to respond **online**, by **phone** or by **mail**.

If you respond online or by phone today, a census taker is less likely to have to visit your home to collect your response.

Please complete your form online, by phone, or by mail today. Visit **my2020census.gov** to begin.



State Broadband Office Needs Your Help

In 2019, the Washington State Legislature enacted Second Substitute Senate Bill 5511, recognizing that broadband access is critical to the residents of Washington. The bill directed three state agencies to work in collaboration to meet the goal of providing access to affordable broadband to all residents.



“Our State Broadband Office is leading the nation with this first-of-its-kind survey to collect broadband access and speed data at this level of detail,” said Gov. Jay Inslee. “We encourage everyone to take the test and share the link. The data will provide the foundation for achieving our long-term goal to provide quality, high-speed broadband access to every Washingtonian.”

Washington residents are asked to perform a one-minute access and speed survey. Using the easy-to-follow instructions and a simple link, anyone can complete the speed test at home using any computer or mobile device. The Washington State Broadband Office mapping initiative will help identify gaps in high-speed internet service in order to bring universal broadband to the state by 2024.

Take the **1-minute access and speed survey**.

For more information, visit **www.commerce.wa.gov**.

UNIVERSITY PLACE VIRTUAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

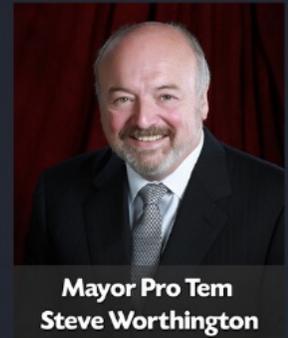


**Monday, Sept. 8, 2020
at 6:30 p.m.**

WWW.CITYOFUP.COM



**Mayor
Caroline Belleci**



**Mayor Pro Tem
Steve Worthington**



**Council Member
Javier Figueroa**



**Council Member
Kent Keel**



**Council Member Pro Tem
Howard Lee**



**Council Member
Denise McCluskey**



**Council Member
Stan Flemming**

**Follow us on your favorite
social media sites!**



@CityofUPWA



UniversityPlaceTV

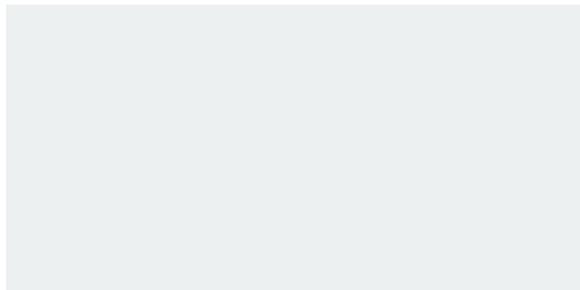
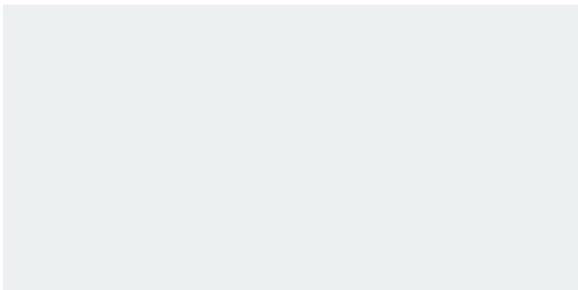


@CityofUP_WA



@CityofUPWA

University Place City Council





Mayor Caroline Belleci



**Mayor Pro Tem
Steve Worthington**



**Council Member
Javier Figueroa**



**Council Member
Kent Keel**



**Council Member
Ken Grassi**



**Council Member Pro Tem
Howard Lee**



**Council Member
Denise McCluskey**



**Council Member
Stan Flemming**

