



Talking UP

News from the City of University Place
Economic Development Office

May 2023



MEET U.P.'S HIDDEN BUSINESSES



On Thursday, May 18, the City's Economic Development Department will host a Home-based Business reception at Happy Duo Café from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m.

This is an opportunity for the City to offer an official welcome to these businesses that comprise more than half of all businesses located in University Place but remain largely unseen by the community.

Please be sure to stop by to learn more about their products and services to support these entrepreneurs who are a vital part of our City's economy. The event is free and open to the public.

PARTNER UP IS BACK!

For many years prior to the pandemic, the Economic Development Department hosted regular networking socials known as Partner UPs. These after-hours events enabled members of the city's business community to get together for casual conversation outside of business hours.

On June 22 from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Chambers Bay will help reintroduce these events when they host Partner UP in their event tent. Enjoy breathtaking views, tasty morsels from their kitchen and reconnect with others in the business community. There is no cost to attend, but for planning purposes, please RSVP to **Becky Metcalf**.



ANOTHER NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY FOR U.P. BUSINESSES

The Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce is hosting an after-hours Business Expo on June 15 at the Narrows Marina (9007 S. 19th St., Tacoma).

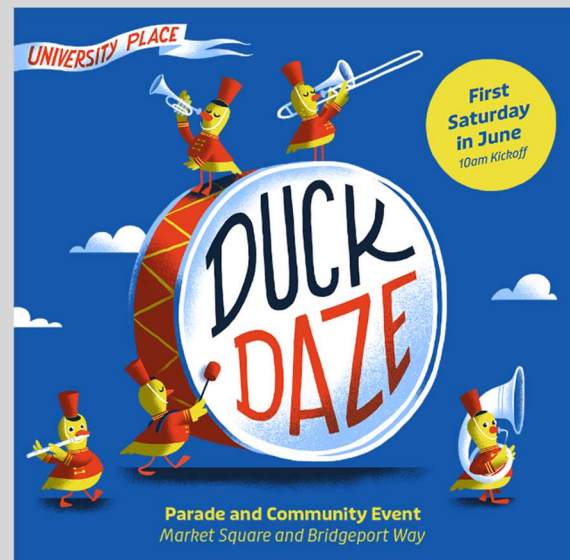
Westside Chamber members are invited to participate in a special exhibitor table as well. The event is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members and includes two drink tickets and light refreshments.

Plan to attend and do some regional networking while enjoying a spectacular waterfront setting. For complete details, including how to purchase tickets, visit the [Chamber website](#).

PIERCE COUNTY BUSINESS accelerator

The Pierce County Business Accelerator program still has a few slots open for Pierce County small businesses that are interested in receiving business training and coaching, technical assistance and networking support. The program also offers matching and professional services grants and a commercial rent stipend up to \$500/month for one year.

Spaces are filled on a first-come, first-served basis so [apply now](#).



DEADLINE FOR DUCK DAZE PARADE REGISTRATION IS MAY 25

If your business wants to “march” in the Duck Daze parade on Saturday, June 3, you must pre-register with the City by Friday, May 25. The parade begins at 10 a.m. sharp at the intersection of 29th Street and Bridgeport Way and heads south on Bridgeport. It will end at the Village at Chambers Bay.

Even if you do not plan to be a part of the procession, don't miss this chance to offer special promotions and discounts that will capitalize on the huge crowds this annual celebration

attracts. The fun will continue for hours after the parade ends with food trucks, live music and loads of family fun in the Village at Chambers Bay. Get all event details [here](#) and parade registration form [here](#).



