Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



April 30, 2025

Duck Daze is June 7! Parade Registration is Open

U.P.'s beloved rite of Spring, Duck Daze, will return on Saturday, June 7. **Registration for the parade is now open**. Don't miss your chance to show off your club, business, school group or hot rod in this popular event that kicks off the day's festivities.



All **parade registrations** are due by Friday, May 23. Late registrations cannot be accepted.

The day's attractions and activities are still shaping up, but crowd favorites Duck Rogers, the Clan Gordon Pipe Band and Joel Gibson Jr., will return to the lineup again this year. The South Sound Makers Market will be bigger and better and Reptile Isle will entertain all ages in the Civic Building Atrium.

Be sure to follow the City on **Facebook** and **Instagram** for all the latest updates.

Get the Facts on Crime in U.P.

Don't let unofficial social media be the source of your information regarding crime data in University Place. U.P. Police Chief Pat Burke encourages residents to check out the **Police Blotter**, available both here in each issue of Headlines as well as via the **Police Department's webpage**.

This vital source of community information includes recent arrests, DUIs, calls for service and more. It also includes a schedule of upcoming community events at which the public can meet and speak to UPPD officers in person such as Coffee with a Cop.

The most recent Coffee with the Chief event highlighted many traffic related concerns in the community. As a result, Burke is setting up traffic emphases (when the volume of calls for service permits), to be responsive to community concerns. Look for future proactive enforcement highlights in future blotters.

"The **Blotter** demonstrates our commitment to full transparency with the public

about crime in U.P.," said Burke. "Our hope is that citizens take advantage of this and encourage others to use it as their primary source of information."



Connect with Council

Spend a few minutes getting to know more about the public servants behind the nameplates on the City Council dais in the new "Meet Your Council" video series.

Hear them describe in their own words why and how they got involved in local government, what they enjoy most about living in U.P. and what inspires them the most. You might also learn a few fun facts about them that might surprise you!



Watch the videos and be sure to follow "This or That" on the City's **Instagram** to make even more connections with your Council members. It's just another way your leaders are committed to building relationships, encouraging conversations, and making sure you know the people representing you.

Work Begins on Creekside Park Master Plan

The City of University Place has hired the landscape architecture firm SCJ Alliance to create a master plan for Creekside Park. The goal of the plan is to improve access to the 15-acre site while also balancing the park's ecology with recreation through integrated exploration, play and connections to nature.

This will be a community-driven process that will include public outreach so that the end result reflects a shared vision for the park based on the community's input and feedback.

Watch future issues of Headlines for the dates and times of community meetings as well as opportunities to Get involved with the Creekside Park
Master Plan—help plan and design
University Place's 2nd largest park!
Daze 2025
June 7th

Concerts in the Orchard
All Summer Long!

Where is Creekside Park?

Concerts in the Orchard
All Summer Long!

Project Visioning Pate TBD

Music on the Square
July 9th thru Aug. 27th

Project Rollout at Annual Tree
Lighting Dec. 5th

engage virtually through **FlashVote** surveys and other communications with Parks staff and SCJ consultants.

For additional information, please contact **Tony West**, Parks operation manager, at 253.460.6493.

Parks Appreciation Day Volunteers Tackle Colegate Park



Many thanks to the 52 volunteers who came out to clean up and spruce up Colegate Park for Parks Appreciation Day on Saturday, April 19.

In addition to removing overgrowth and litter, the crew spread approximately 100 yards of woodchips on the park's walking trails. They also planted a cherry plum tree in honor of Arbor Day.



Once again this year, U.P. Refuse and Recycling generously provided t-shirts, coffee and donuts to get the day started and then rewarded the team with a hamburger and hotdog cookout afterward.

View more photos from this year's Parks Appreciation Day event on the City's **Facebook page**.



New Roundabout Planned for Grandview Drive and 36th Street West

This summer, the City will construct a new roundabout at the intersection of 36th Street West and Grandview Drive West to address safety concerns at Grandview's intersections with 35th, 36th and 37th Streets.

An engineering analysis found that a roundabout at 36th and Grandview would have eliminated 83 percent of the accidents that have occurred along this stretch by reducing vehicle speeds at the most dangerous point in the curve in the



roadway to allow for easier and safer turns in and out of these streets. The new roundabout can be constructed without additional property acquisition or condemnation of homes, will improve safety for pedestrians crossing Grandview Drive and allow for safe U-turns.

The project is primarily funded through a \$764,000 grant from the State Transportation Improvement Board. Work is scheduled to begin in June and should take approximately six months. For more information, contact **Kyle Mauren**, senior project engineer.

What's Up With Biz?





On Friday, April 18, U.P. officials held a special ribbon cutting ceremony for The Essential Pantry, one of the City's newest businesses.

Located at 3550 Market Place W., Suite 105 in the Village at Chambers Bay, The Essential Pantry offers a diverse selection of craft-made vinegars, extra virgin olive oils, premium salts, aromatic herbs and hand-selected teas from around the world.

Stop by and pick something up for yourself or as a gift to a friend or neighbor. When you shop local, you support our community and those who have chosen to set up shop here.

When Spring Cleaning, Don't Forget Our Waterways

It's time to shake out the dust and cobwebs of winter and get our spring cleaning on!

But when you are washing and rinsing, don't forget to think about the potential pollutants that could make their way into our stormwater system—and ultimately, Puget Sound.

Harsh chemicals from cleaning agents and debris in rinsewater can impact the thriving economic and social life of our shorelines and waters.

Consider using natural cleaning agents whenever possible. And never use the City's storm drains to dispose of toxic chemicals or hazardous wastes. Visit the Pierce County Household Hazardous

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Waste website to learn more about disposing of these materials.

If you want to know more about U.P.'s efforts to protect our waters, contact **Todd Smith**, the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) coordinator, at 253.460.5432.

Spring Oversized Brush Crubside Pickup

University Place Refuse and Recycling's Spring Oversized Brush Curbside Pickup event runs from May 5-16!

Pile Limitations: 1 per household no larger than 6' wide by 6' long by 6' high.



REFUSE AND RECYCLING

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 6am 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 Bursh 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 scotchbroom 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.

For more information about this or other University Place Refuse and Recycling events visit their **website**!

U.P. Historical Society Garden Tour Returns on June 14

The public is invited to tour five outstanding gardens in the University Place/Fircrest area on Saturday, June 14 during the 2025 U.P. Historical Society's Annual Garden Tour.

Early bird tickets for the event are now on sale for \$20 at the following locations:

- Chirp and Company (3803 N. 26th St., Tacoma)
- Brown's Flowers (620 Regents Blvd, Fircrest)
- Harbor Greens (2620 Bridgeport Way, Suite D)
- GardenSphere (3310 N. Proctor St., Tacoma)

You may also purchase tickets through the **Historical Society website**. After May 15, tickets will be \$25.

This event sells out quickly so act now to ensure your spot on the tour.





University Place City Council



Mayor **Javier Figueroa**



Mayor Pro Tem Ed Wood



Council Member Frank Boykin



Council Member Steve Worthington



Council Member Denise McCluskey



Council Member Stan Flemming



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