



CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 4
April 2024

Community Calendar

April 1st at 5:00 PM

Economic Development, Tourism, & Events
Commission Meeting

April 2nd at 5:30 PM

City Council Workshop

April 9th at 7:00 PM

City Council Meeting

April 11th at 12:00 PM

Civil Service Meeting

April 16th at 7:00 PM

Planning Commission Meeting

April 17th at 4:00 PM

Youth Advisory Commission

April 18th at 4:00 PM

Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

April 23rd at 7:00 PM

City Council Meeting

All meetings/workshops are hybrid, both in-person at College Place City Hall and via Zoom videoconferencing. You can watch live on the City YouTube page at

www.youtube.com/channel/UCbx3grqzLDL_05NusReSI-g. Meeting information is available at go.boarddocs.com/wa/cocp/Board.nsf/Public.

If you would like to submit a written public comment, email the City Clerk at sstclair@cpwa.us or mail to College Place City Hall at 625 S. College Ave, College Place, WA. 99324 by the deadline outlined in the meeting/workshop agenda "Public Comment" section.



Spring BLOCK PARTY

COLLEGE PLACE, WA

SUNDAY MAY 19TH, 2024

1:00-6:00PM

**SOUTH COLLEGE AVENUE
4TH STREET TO WHITMAN DRIVE**



Vendor
Application

FAMILY FUN | FOOD | MUSIC



areid@cpwa.us

509.394.8511



Looking for a faith-based private school for your student? Walla Walla Valley Adventist Schools is enrolling students in grades K-12 for the 2024-2025 school year.

Visit valleyadventistschools.org for more information or contact

holley.bryant@valleyadventistschools.org for a tour.



WALLA WALLA
VALLEY ACADEMY

A Note From The Mayor

Hello Neighbors,

Happy Spring to you all! I know it hasn't been consistent, but I hope you have enjoyed the days when the sun shines down on College Place. The colors of this beautiful blessing we get to call home are starting to pop up all around us, and I am feeling refreshed.

We had a productive winter here at The City. We finished up plans, worked on grant fundraising, and wrapped up preparations for some pretty exciting projects we are working on this year. City Administrator Mike Rizzitiello and I traveled to the other Washington (D.C) to appeal federal funds from our two senators and our congresswoman for various projects, including a new water tower so that CP is a step ahead of development and growth, a community center at Lions Park which will replace the current structure, and parks and city infrastructure. We were well received by all three of their offices, and we believe CP will see some benefit from the trip soon.

On Friday, March 22nd, we kicked off the Lions Park renovation project with quite a group of neighbors and supporters. Soon, there will be fencing around Lions Park, so please remember to visit one of our other parks- Kiwanis, Veterans, and Harvest Meadows.

A few weeks ago, we heard from a few of you who experienced a sudden jump in your Basin Disposal. However, I was confused because not everyone had a bill increase. We requested a meeting with them to understand what happened. Well, it turns out that Basin Disposal caught an error in some rates that were never adjusted in 2017 when they should have been. As you know, CP has an unlimited trash pickup contract with Basin Disposal, allowing all residents to put out as much trash as needed. This includes large items such as furniture, appliances, and mattresses. We entered this contract because many residents were paying for extra trash that would not fit into the standard 32-gallon waste bin, which was quite a bit of money monthly for some.

At that time, everyone had to switch to a higher-capacity 96-gallon waste bin, but some residents had requested to stay the same size for various reasons. For most who requested the exception, the 96-gallon waste bin was just too big for them to move around. At the city's request, Basin Disposal agreed to the waste bin size exceptions for a few of you, even though the overall cost to them is the same for a 32-gallon and a 96-gallon waste bin. However, with the unlimited trash pickup, the monthly bill was to be the same amongst all residents, no matter what size waste bin we had. In fact, a 32-gallon waste bin takes more work because the trucks used are designed to mechanically pick up the larger 96-gallon waste bin, which means the smaller waste bins have to be manually picked up.

Annually, Basin Disposal evaluates the cost incurred throughout CP each year using a measure of the previous year's total weight of single-family residential trash picked up with the total amount paid by CP single-family homeowners. They then adjust for the cost of what the following year's total will likely be. It could be more, or it could be less. Every single-family residence bill adjusts at the beginning of each year with the same new rate. However, those granted the waste bin size exception never saw their rates change since 2017 due to a technical error. The monthly cost was supposed to increase from \$15.85 to \$24.59, the same rate as the 96-gallon-sized waste bin. For Basin Disposal to avoid losing money with CP's unlimited waste pickup program, all single-family homes must pay an equal share of the total annual cost to Basin Disposal.

The increase some saw in their March bill was a correction in the error that allowed for seven years of not paying the same rate that all others have been paying. Basin Disposal did not back charge for the seven years of no rate increases for those who had not seen them, understanding that it was an issue that had gone unnoticed by them all these years. However, from here forward, as it should have been since 2017, all single-family homes are paying the exact same rate, no matter the waste bin size.

Basin Disposal understands that some may not need a 96-gallon waste bin, but they encourage everyone to switch to that size. For our senior and disabled residents who have difficulties moving a large waste bin, Basin Disposal will have their drivers retrieve it from an agreed-upon accessible location. However, you must contact their customer service at 509-547-2476 for arrangements. I would also like to remind everyone that Basin Disposal's contract with College Place requires them to offer reduced billing for low-income and senior residents. Contact BMAC at 509-529-4980 for an appointment to complete the application.

A Note From The Mayor (continued)

I know this was a bit long, but I felt you deserved the same detailed explanation I received from Basin Disposal before I could comprehend why some saw billing increases of 80% or more. I know this does not change the sting of the sudden bill increase, and I am sorry I cannot help with that. I hope it helps you understand why it happened. For further concerns or questions or to change to a 96-gallon waste bin, please contact Basin Disposal at 509-547-2476. I thank all of you who have stopped and introduced yourselves to me whenever you see me; I genuinely enjoy meeting you. I also would like to thank the Van Hays for the beautiful card you sent me, which included some incredibly encouraging words that touched my heart and strengthened me. I am most grateful to you all. I hope to see and meet more of you at events throughout College Place this spring and summer; we have several fun community events coming up!

With gratitude,
Norma L. Hernández—Mayor

TAKE BACK WEEKEND!

**APR.
27**

WALLA WALLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

54 E MOORE ST,
WALLA WALLA
10AM - 2PM

**APR.
28**

WALMART SE CORNER PARKING LOT

1700 SE MEADOWBROOK ST,
COLLEGE PLACE
10AM - 2PM

CELL PHONES

Discard your cell phones to be repurposed for victims of abuse.



SHARPS

Safely dispose of your needles and sharps.



SHRED

Drop off your documents for on-site shredding.



Donations benefit WW Area Crime Watch

COMPUTERS

Drop off computers and electronics for safe and secure disposal.



DRUGS

Drop off your unused/expired medication.



Gesa Credit Union



WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

APPLY FOR A CITY COMMISSION!

CURRENT VACANCIES:

POSITION 5 - LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMISSION



For more information scan the QR code or visit:

https://www.cpwa.us/government/boards_and_commissions/index.php



College Place Library

April 3, 10, 17, 24 at 11:30AM	Storytime with Mr. Chris
April 5th	Closed - All Staff Training
April 8th at 1:00 - 5:00 PM	Poetry Crafts
April 25th at 3:00 - 5:00 PM	Crafternoon Thursday: Cherry Blossom Art
April 30th at 7:00 PM	College Place Book Club "The Berry Pickers" by Amanda Peters



Walla Walla County
Rural Library District

College Place Department Contacts

Mayor Norma Hernández nhernandez@cpwa.us 509-394-8505	City Administrator Mike Rizzitiello mrizzitiello@cpwa.us 509-394-8506
Community Development Director Jon Rickard jrickard@cpwa.us 509-394-8520	Finance Director Brian Carleton bcarleton@cpwa.us 509-394-8500
Fire Chief David Winter dwinter@cpwa.us 509-394-8602	Police Chief Troy Tomaras ttomaras@cpwa.us 509-394-8550
Public Works Director Robert McAndrews rmcandrews@cpwa.us 509-394-8520	Council Members Paul Jessup, Michael Cleveland, Loren Peterson, Tito Espinoza Jr., Melodie Williams, Heather Schermann, & Monica Boyle

Irrigation System Owners

Backflow Device Information: This is a reminder that State Law and City Code require that all backflow devices be tested by an approved assembly tester. The City will be mailing out reminder notices with a list of approved backflow testers this spring to those who have a device that needs to be tested. The City appreciates your cooperation in completing the testing of your backflow device. The backflow device is an integral part of protecting the City's water supply.

For more information contact:
Kevin Wolpert—Water Quality Operator
kwolpert@cpwa.us 509-394-8658

Randy Yaw 30th Annual Pi Contest!
April 26—3:14 PM
WWU, Kretschmar Hall, Room 107
Enjoy a slice of pie and watch
students recite digits of Pi.
The record for this contest is 1,773 digits!



NATIONAL
SUICIDE
PREVENTION
LIFELINE
1-800-273-TALK (8255)
suicidepreventionlifeline.org



988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

City Well-being Corner April Spotlight "Positive Pack"



For more information, visit
wallawallavalley.bluezonesproject.com



College Place
FARMERS
MARKET

Thursdays 4-7PM
Kiwanis Park
on SE 3rd Street
OPENING DAY: MAY 30TH!

