

Celebrating the Curran Apple Orchard Park

25th Anniversary (1993-2018)

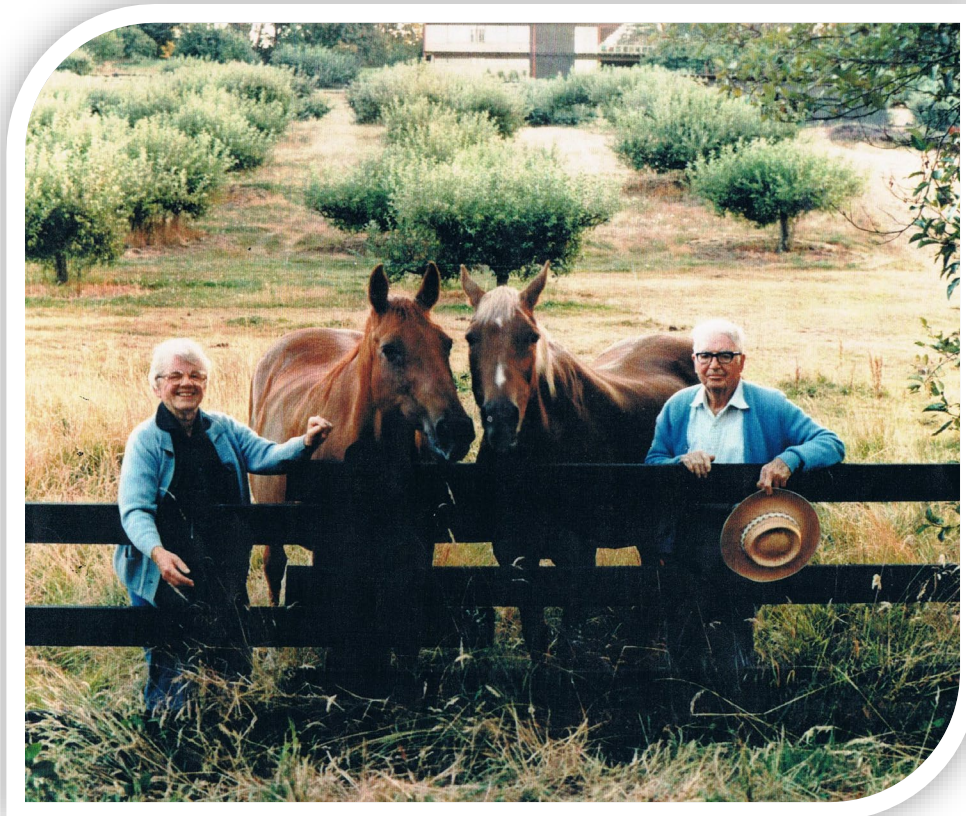


Photo by James Truitt

Presented by: UP for Arts

UP for Arts

Established 2000

Independent Volunteer Nonprofit 501(c)3

Our Goals:

- To develop a visible public art program which enhances the attractiveness and vitality of our community.
- To provide opportunities for artists to exhibit and sell their work.
- To heighten awareness of art as an integral part of our quality of life.
- To provide people of all ages the opportunity to experience and appreciate cultural, historical and artistic expressions.
- To develop partnerships with businesses, artists, schools and organizations to maximize private and public participation.



As an official City partner, UP for Arts has raised funds for numerous projects, resulting in the acquisition of several major artworks thanks to the generosity of local individuals and businesses.



"SHARING" – John Jewell (Cirque Park)

\$8,334 Community donations

\$6,000 City funds

Significant in-kind artist donation



"EAGLES' NEST" – Douglas Granum (40th Street Roundabout)



\$19,000 Community donations

\$5,000 from City beautification
donated by Citizens

\$16,575 City landscaping

Significant in-kind artist donation

"ONE STEP AHEAD" – Georgia Gerber (Library/Civic Building Plaza)

\$15,000 Terry Reim Memorial Fund,
Community donations

\$15,000 State Grant



Photo by Kathy Admire Photography

"BETWEEN SEA AND SKY" – Michele Gutlove
(Library/Civic Building Atrium)



Photo by Kathy Admire Photography

\$108,000 Community
donations

"GRAND PIANO"
(Library/Civic Building Atrium)

\$21,000 Community donations



Photo by Kathy Admire Photography

"Spring and Fall Art and Concert Series"

Fall 2011 - Present

up for Arts
2018 Spring Art and Concert Series

February 23rd

 Critically acclaimed Bay Area pianist, Robyn Carmichael, performs works by Scarlatti, Schubert, Tchaikovsky and Schuman.

Visual artist, Gina Kling, Raku Pottery 

March 23rd

 Seattle opera star and Tacoma native, Ryan Bede, along with Elisabeth Ellis, pianist, will sing Songs Of The British Isles with selections by Vaughan Williams, Gurney, Quilter, Finzi and more!

Visual artist Dan Suckow, Photography 

April 27th

 Multi-award winning pianist, violinist and composer Jennifer Thomas performs original songs, plus new music from her latest album.

Visual artist Cindy Baij, Watercolor 

All performances start at 7pm
 UP Civic/Library Atrium
 3609 Market Square, University Place
www.upforarts.org

Admission \$15
 Students \$5
 Members Free
 Tickets at the Door



Fall Concert and Art Series

September 22nd

Karen Early Evans, Chris Burns and Lawrence Bradley
 Music for Soprano, Double Bass and Clarinet
 Featuring music by local composer Deborah Anderson along with Morton Gould, Paul Hindemith and much more!

 Ron Fuller, Woodworker

October 27th

David Deacon-Joyner Jazz Trio

Fred Buxton, Fused Glass

November 17th

Wolfgang Wortberg, piano
 Music by Franz Liszt

Pamela Phelps, Jewelry Artist

Admission \$15, Students \$5
 Members Free
 Tickets at the door

All performances start at 7pm
 UP Civic/Library Atrium
 3609 Market Square, University Place

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Leaving a Legacy

The Curran Apple Orchard is a beloved park in University Place attracting thousands of residents and visitors each year. The orchard began in the early 1950s when Charles and Mary Curran purchased the property to build a home for their growing family. Mr. Curran planted apple trees after admiring an orchard in Eastern Washington.

He used dynamite to blow out stumps and clear blackberries so he could plant 250 apple trees. During the same time, noted architect Robert Price designed the house which is undergoing renovation by the UP Historical Society for a future museum.

Before cityhood in 1995, University Place was a rural area filled with orchards, horses grazing in fields and only a few hundred residents.



The Apple Orchard's Role in the Community

Charles and Mary Curran continued to live in the orchard bringing up their three children along with several horses, dogs, two Siamese cats and cattle including one steer, who was so good looking, they called him "George R. Curtis."



Photo by Karen Benveniste

Along with their full-time jobs (Charles worked as a Continental Baking Driver and Secretary-Treasurer of the Local Teamsters Union and Mary was Dean of Women Students at UPS), the Currans were deeply committed to their community. Charles was a Rotarian and served on the UP School District Board for 28 years. Mary was active in PTA and preschools.

Yet the creation of the orchard became their greatest contribution to the community.



People would stop by and purchase apples from Mr. Curran. Children walking home from school enjoyed visiting the horses and feeding them apples.

Horse Tales



At times, it was hard to tell who loved the apples more....people or the horses!

The horses loved the apples so much that the Currans fenced them in when the trees were producing. The horses also loved the mash from the cider press in the fall and would come running when they heard the process underway.

The Curran horses were quite the neighborhood attraction.

"When the Curtis Band would practice, the horses thought it was time for a parade and they would gallop around the orchard," Mary recalled. "Many young neighbors would also come to watch the horses and ask for rides." One year, Mary received a phone call at work saying the horses had left the orchard and were prancing past Curtis High School. Son, Chuck, Jr. then herded them back home using their jeep.



Special Friends



Photo by Karen Benveniste

Although the Currans loved all their animals, there was one special horse. Charles received a gift mare called "Back Interest" from his friend, Frank Brewster, who was Vice President of the Western States Teamsters Union.

Since "Back Interest" was the granddaughter of Man o' War (arguably the greatest race horse ever), Mr. Curran decided to breed her with the hopes of obtaining a race horse of his own.

The Currans bred her to a \$400,000 Irish Import resulting in a horse called "Brewster" named after Frank. Two years later, Brewster had a brother called "Christopher" after Mr. Curran's son!

Mr. Curran decided to race Brewster at the Yakima Race Track. Right before his first race, Brewster developed a virus and was sent to the WSU Veterinary School. He barely ate and was sent home not expecting to live but Mr. Curran loved him and fed him oats by hand...and he recovered! Although the racing plans were dropped, the Currans continued to love their horses, who lived until the ripe old ages of 34 and 32.



Still Bringing Community Together



After development started to occur around the orchard, the UP Community Council approached the Currans for permission to submit a grant to preserve the orchard.

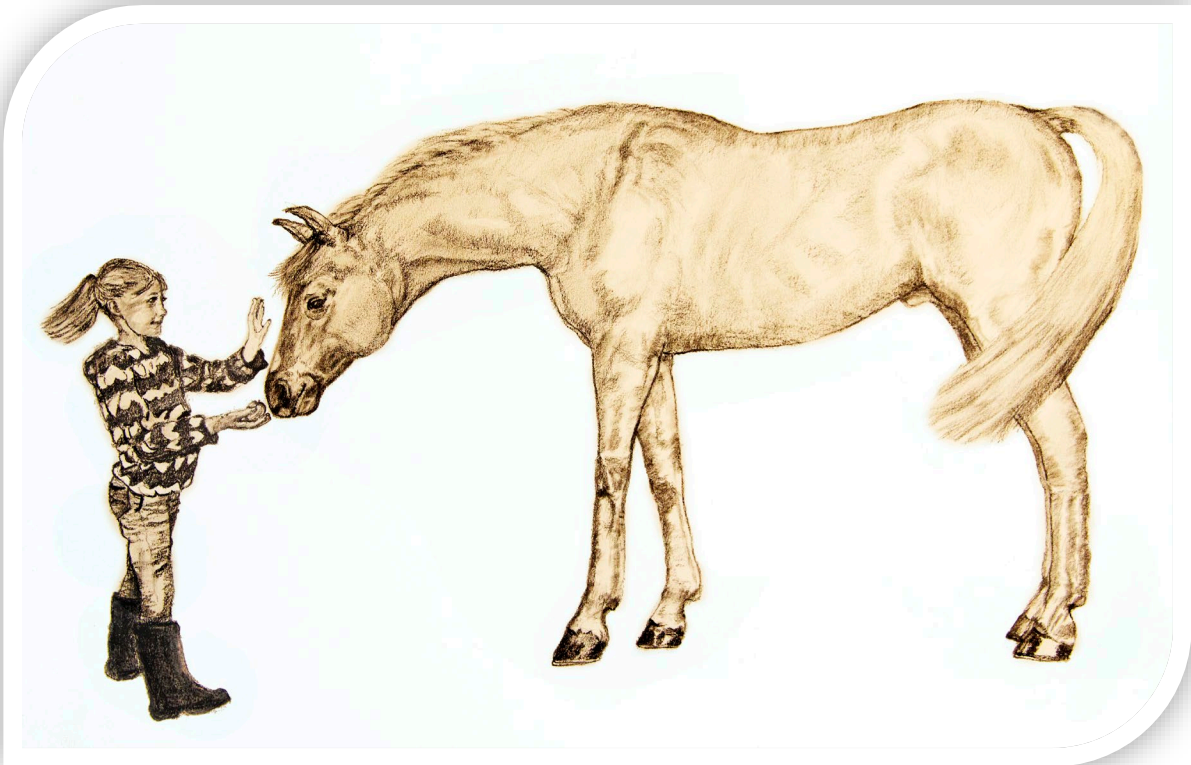
In 1993, the UP Community Council obtained the Pierce County Conservation Futures Grant to preserve the home and orchard forever. The newly formed City of University Place later assumed responsibility for the orchard park and home.

Today, the orchard continues to bring people together with a variety of activities:

- Adopt A Tree program
- Pruning Parties (Community Service hours for high school students)
- Summer Concerts
- Annual Cider Squeeze
- School Tours (800+ students per year)
- Eagle Scout projects (benches, bike racks)
- Teddy Bear Picnic
- Weddings, picnics and group events
- Easter Services
- Opportunities to enjoy nature



Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Curran Apple Orchard Park
1993-2018



Sketch by John Jewell

UP for Arts is embarking upon a campaign to honor the 25th anniversary of the Curran Apple Orchard becoming a Community Park (1993-2018).

"Forever Friends" is a life size, bronze horse being offered an apple from a schoolgirl. The statue and historical sign will be visible from Grandview Drive to welcome visitors to the park.

Our selected artist is John Jewell. He is a retired educator and accomplished artist and sculptor. His works include:



- "Sharing" - Cirque Park
- "Fireman" - West Pierce Fire and Rescue Headquarters in UP
- "Chloe Clark" – Dupont
- "Meriwether Lewis and Seaman" – JBLM
- "Balancing the Books" - Pierce County Library Key Center branch.

We are delighted and proud to work with him again.



Photo by Karen Benveniste

“Forever Friends” Timeline and Fundraising Goals

Timeline: As a long time City partner, UP for Arts has established a reputation for excellence and extensive community support resulting in artwork which enhances our City’s attractiveness and adds a sense of creativity and vitality for residents and visitors alike.

As with our other projects, we plan to raise all funds to acquire and install the artwork before donating it to the City.

Fundraising Goal: \$135,600

Our goal is to complete fundraising as soon as possible to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the park next year (2018).

But to do this, we need your support!



“Forever Friends” Sponsorship Opportunities

Major Sponsorship Opportunities

Golden Delicious (\$25,000 +) Major donors at the \$25,000 Level will receive a bronze maquette of the sculpture

MacIntosh (\$10,000+) Donors at this level will receive a signed and numbered print of the sketch of the sculpture by John Jewell

Chehalis (\$5,000+) Donors at this level will receive a photobook featuring the making of the sculpture and the story of the horses

Gravenstein (\$2,500+) Donors at this level will receive a custom walking stick made from Curran Apple Orchard wood and wood burned by local artist Barry Crust.

All donations, great and small, are *greatly* appreciated!

Thank you for your support!

Donations can also be made on our website: www.upforarts.org.

UP for Arts is a nonprofit 501(c)3. Tax ID# 91-2106639



UP for Arts

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