

Seattle and NW Washington

SPOTLIGHTS

Telephone Assistance Program Helps Residents 'Stay Connected'

There have been major changes to telephone assistance programs in Washington and National Telephone Assistance Awareness Week, Sept. 14-20, highlights how low-income residents can still stay connected.

The week is part of a national effort sponsored by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the Federal Communications Commission, and the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates to promote awareness of telephone discounts across the country.

Access to local emergency services and community resources is especially vital to our low-income and elderly residents. Telephone assistance programs can help them stay connected.

The Washington Telephone Assistance Program, which offered discounted telephone rates to low-income residents throughout the state, ended Aug. 31. The federal Lifeline program will fill the gap, offering a \$9.25 discount on land-line telephone service or a free cell phone with 250 minutes of free talk per month. Only one Lifeline discount per address is allowed.

Customers who participate in, or are eligible for, certain public assistance programs such as Food Assistance or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, are eligible for Lifeline.

To apply for Lifeline benefits, contact your local telephone or participating wireless company and tell them you qualify for the program.

Applicants will be required to provide proof of eligibility. For more information on the Lifeline program, visit www.fcc.gov/lifeline.

If you have problems signing up for Lifeline benefits, call the UTC at 1-888-333-WUTC (9882) or visit www.utc.wa.gov/consumers.

The UTC regulates the rates and services of telecommunications companies, investor-owned electric utilities, natural gas and water companies, garbage-collection haulers, household-goods movers and charter-bus companies, commercial ferries, pipeline companies, and a low-level radioactive waste repository.

Sen. Murray Announces Grants to Improve Health Centers

This week, U.S. Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee and the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, announced that Washington state is receiving over \$15 million in Affordable Care Act grants from the Department of Health and Human Services to support health centers and expand primary care services.

Washington state will receive 25 Expanded Services awards totaling \$8,537,753 to increase access to services such as medical, oral, behavioral, pharmacy, and vision care.

Additionally, it will receive 7 Health Infrastructure Investment Program awards totaling \$7,000,000 for facility renovation, expansion, or construction to increase patient or service capacity.

Since the beginning of 2009, health centers have added 6 million patients, and are now serving nearly 23 million people each year. Today, over 1,300 health center grantees operate approximately 9,000 clinic sites in every state and U.S. territory.

Read more about the grants at <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/09/20150915a.html>.

Youth Football



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Jelani Guerro 12, takes off down the field during a game between his Brave Pride Juniors team and the Rainier Eagles Juniors Saturday Sept. 12 at the Rainier Play Fields. The Brave Pride Juniors (5th and 6th grade boys) beat the Rainier Eagles 26—6.

City Accepting Applications for Art in the Parks Grants Through Oct. 30

The Office of Arts & Culture is partnering with Seattle Parks and Recreation to increase arts and community events in parks throughout the city.

The Put the Arts in Parks pilot grant program is an opportunity for the city to invest in the vibrant cultural work being done in and by diverse communities throughout Seattle.

The city will host two information sessions for potential applicants.

These interactive question-and-answer sessions will cover specifics on eligibility and how to apply. First-time applicants are encouraged to attend. To register for the session, contact Jenny Crooks at (206) 684-7084 or e-mail at jenny.crooks@seattle.gov.

The first session will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Sept. 30, 2015, at the 2100 Building, 2100 24th Avenue South. The second will take place from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. Oct. 3 at the Lake City Branch Library, 12501 28th Ave. N.E.

The Put the Arts in Parks pilot program supports neighborhood arts councils and community-based groups that are seeking to activate Seattle Parks with new and established festivals or events that promote arts and cultural participation, celebrate our diversity, build community connections, and activate parks through arts and culture while connecting with underserved communities.

Who can apply:

- Individual artists, neighborhood arts councils and local community-based groups are eligible.
- Organizations and individual artists representing communities of color are encouraged to apply.
- Groups applying are not required to be a 501(c)(3) non-profit nor are they required to use a fiscal agent.
- If funded, groups will need to have a City of Seattle Business License.

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Qualifying projects must:

- Have a significant arts and culture component,
- Be free and open to the public,
- Provide a platform for under-represented artists and communities,
- Adhere to the Seattle Park's mission statement,
- And take place in a city of Seattle park between February and December 2016.

New Season of National Geographic Live Speaker Series Starts Nov. 1

National Geographic Live announces the 19th season of its Seattle Speaker Series at Benaroya Hall.

The expanded 2015–2016 season begins three months earlier than previous years.

The season kicks off on Nov. 1 with a 2 p.m. matinee in the large S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium with "Into Africa's Okavango: Measuring a Mighty Wilderness," featuring National Geographic explorers Steve Boyes and Jer Thorp.

Two additional evening presentations of "Into Africa's Okavango" will be held Nov. 2 and Nov. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

The National Geographic Live Seattle Speaker Series continues in January with an exciting lineup of talks from explorers, scientists, archaeologists, and photographers, each sharing stories from the front lines of exploration.

Visit www.benaroyahall.org or call (206) 215.4747 for more information.

In "Into Africa's Okavango: Measuring a Mighty Wilderness," National Geographic explorers Steve Boyes, a conservation biologist, and Jer Thorp, a data artist and educator, discuss their experiences over two consecutive summers leading a "live-data" expedition across Botswana's Okavango Delta.

SEATTLE COMMUNITY CALENDAR 2015

THE SKANNER.com

If you have an event you want to share with the community, email it two weeks in advance to The Skanner at info@theskanner.com

Saturday, September 19

ANNUAL SUMMER'S END AT LACEY CAR SHOW: There will be cars, vendors, kid's games, activities for all ages, live music and much more. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Huntamer Park, 618 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey.

SUPERHERO BLOCK PARTY: Come attend Redmond Town Center's First Annual Block Party. This year, we will test your strength with lively superhero activi-

ties. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet everyday superheroes, enjoy bouncy houses and slides, participate in superhero mask-making and much more. Feel free to wear your favorite superhero costume. Noon – 5 p.m., Redmond Town Center, 16495 NE 74th St., Redmond.

COMMUNITY KIDS DAY: Featuring a wide variety of entertainment and activities for kids of all ages. The event begins at 10 a.m. and runs until 2 p.m., with games, arts and crafts, storytelling and much more. Lakewood Gardens, 12317 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW, Lakewood.

Thursday, September 24

FREE FAMILY DAY AT THE WING! Free arts and crafts activities for all ages are held in the Community Hall from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. General admission to the Wing Luke-Asian Museum is free every first and

third Thursday of the month. Extended hours 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. 719 S. King St., Seattle.

Friday – Sunday, September 25 – 27

BITE OF BROADWAY: The Bite of Broadway commonly called "BOB" is an annual Seattle-based community event that draws thousands from around the area. BOB offers a weekend filled with mouth-watering food, live music and entertainment and much more. 4 p.m. – 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sunday. Christ of King School, 405 N. 117th St.

Saturday, September 26

STATE PARKS ANNOUNCE "FREE DAY." In recognition of National Public Launch Day, day use visitors will not need a Discover Pass to visit State Parks all in Washington State Parks.