



# North Plains Connected

A monthly newsletter from the City of North Plains | July 2022

## City of North Plains

31360 NW Commercial St.  
North Plains, OR 97133

City Hall is open  
8:30 am to 4:00 pm  
Monday - Friday.



(503) 647-5555



[www.NorthPlains.org](http://www.NorthPlains.org)



## Contact Your Council:

Mayor Teri Lenahan

Robert Kindel

Russ Sheldon

Cameron Martinez

James Fage

Rickey Smith

Trista Papen

## Join the Fun! Be a Community Volunteer

*Have you been asking yourself, "How can I get more involved in North Plains?"*

Well, here is your opportunity to step up and be a part of the fun. North Plains prides itself on our small-town charm by providing some amazing community events. The

North Plains Events Association (NPEA) is the core group that plans these events. NPEA is looking for people to help keep the value of community growing by helping set up for our Ice Cream Social, cutting strawberries for our Strawberry Feast or driving a golf cart shuttle during the Garlic Festival. These are just a few opportunities to help give back.

We are not asking for much - just a little of your time, and it's so rewarding in return to get involved in your community.

With more and more families moving into our wonderful city, NPEA finds itself a bit short-handed in the volunteer department. If you feel you would like to be an essential part of what makes our community fun and can assist for a few hours or more for any of the below events, we would love to hear from you.

Simply email us at [volunteernow@northplainsevents.com](mailto:volunteernow@northplainsevents.com) and we are ready to answer any questions you might have and sign you up to be a part of the community spirit in North Plains. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Current events list:

- May – City-wide Clean-up Day
- June – Ice Cream Social; Strawberry Shortcake Feast
- July – Independence Day Parade and Celebration
- August – National Night Out; North Plains Elephant Garlic Festival
- October – Chili Cook-off
- December – Jingle Thru North Plains

Visit [www.northplainsevents.com](http://www.northplainsevents.com) for more details!



# News From Your Library

## Teen Council Garden Club

Friday, July 1st at 5:30 pm in the Community Garden. Teens in North Plains decided to plant a butterfly garden! We'll check in on our garden, do some weeding and watering, eat snacks and hangout! Community members are welcome to enjoy watching our butterfly garden grow, find it at plot 10.



## Creature Teachers

Thursday, July 7th at 1 pm at Jessie Mays Community Center. Explore the weird and wonderful world of animals! Creature Teachers aims to foster an appreciation for all wildlife, including the under-loved and misunderstood creatures; come and meet our scaly, feathery and furry friends!



## The Joy of Mandala Dot Painting

Saturday, July 9th at 10 am. Using sticks dipped in colorful acrylic paints, students will dot beautiful mandalas. Register online at <https://www.wccls.org/events>

## Book Giveaway

Saturday, July 9th at 11 am. Sign up for Summer Reading at Sunset Ridge West Park.

## Teen Water Fight!

Friday, July 15th at 4 pm at Jessie Mays Community Park. Cool off this summer with a water fight, be prepared to get soaked! Bring your own soakers and we'll provide some too!

## Family Picnic Bingo

Saturday, July 16th at 11:30 am at Jessie Mays Community Park. Bring a blanket and picnic and play free Bingo for prizes! All ages welcome!

## Spin and Win Week!

During Library open hours July 18th-23rd. Show us your reading progress with your log and Spin the Wheel for the chance to win prizes, including 4 bikes generously donated by the Knights of Pythias!



## Everyone Can Cook

Wednesday, July 27th at 5 pm on Zoom. In July, we will make fermented sauerkraut, pickles, radishes and a sour dough start! The art of fermentation lives on! Register online at <https://www.wccls.org/events>.



## Before the Ground Shakes: Earthquake Preparedness

Thursday, July 28th at 6 pm at Jessie Mays Community Center. Steve Eberlein served as an aid worker in one of the largest disaster responses in history. His experience Sri Lanka inspired him to help prepare people for catastrophic events. Learn about everything from the science and history of the Ring of Fire to creating a family preparedness plan. The library will be raffling off 3 Ready 2 Go Bags.

## Tai Chi & Qigong Class

Join Chris each Wednesday at 8 am at Jessie Mays Park through July to learn Tai Chi and Qigong exercises to increase energetic vitality, rejuvenate the mind, body, & soul, and improve agility and flexibility.



## July City Calendar

Public meetings and events below are taking place in-person and many offer virtual options (subject to change).

Visit [www.northplains.org/calendar](http://www.northplains.org/calendar) for more events and details.

- 7/4 4th of July Parade, live music, free hot dogs.
- 7/4 City buildings closed for 4th of July holiday
- 7/5 City Council - CANCELED
- 7/6 Economic Development Committee - 6 pm
- 7/11 Parks & Recreation Board - 6 pm
- 7/13 Planning Commission (with work session following) - 7 pm
- 7/14 Concert in the Park - 6:30 pm
- 7/18 City Council - 7 pm
- 7/20 Library Board - 7 pm



## City 101: Budget Perspective - Part 3

*This is the third of a 3-part series on the City's budget and planning for the future. In part 1 we provided an overview of the current challenges. In part 2 we shared more details about short and medium-term solutions, and in this part 3, we share a longer-term vision for fiscal sustainability and high-quality city services.*

The City of North Plains is committed to financial sustainability and is preparing important long-term strategies to ensure our community has the services it needs and the best quality of life possible. We are working on ways to both increase available land and step up our economic development efforts in order to attract more businesses for more employment and services right here in North Plains. This will take time, but would also create a better balance between residential and non-residential tax revenues to pay for services.

In 2021, the North Plains City Council adopted these economic development priorities to guide the City's updated Economic Opportunity Analysis related to UGB expansion and residents' quality of life:

**PRIORITY 1:** Reverse the trend of bedroom community status for North Plains with a thriving jobs-housing balance by expanding and diversifying employment opportunity and industry profile and presence.

**PRIORITY 2:** Grow business investment in North Plains to encourage expansion and diversification of the City's property tax base to reverse the imbalance created by a growing bedroom community development trend.

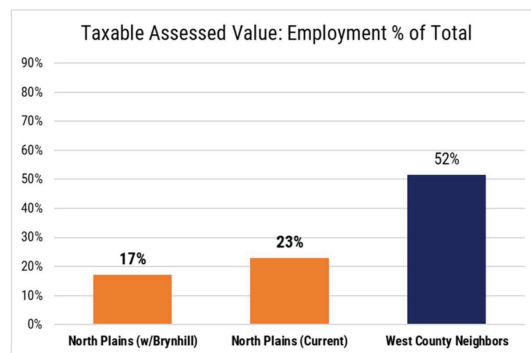
**PRIORITY 3:** Ensure and sustainably fund community-supporting infrastructure, economy-supporting infrastructure, and expanded City services such as recreational offerings that enhance community health and diversify the City economy.

**PRIORITY 4:** Expand the local presence of important, everyday commercial services for the residents of North Plains which offers a shorter and safer distance rather than at extended and costly distance to other cities.

These priorities highlight the larger challenges and speak to the need to act boldly to enhance City livability through improved jobs-housing balance, fiscal

sustainability, adequate infrastructure and services, and local presence of shopping and services to reduce vehicle miles traveled and enhance safety.

One of the primary fiscal challenges is North Plains' growth as a bedroom community for employers in other cities, which has pushed the city tax base into an over reliance on residential tax assessment. Taxable assessed value from employment uses in North Plains is among the lowest among West County neighbors and will be the lowest after Brynhill is built out (see graph).



Given the current North Plains employment tax base, it would be fiscally impossible currently, and worse with each passing year, to provide a higher quality of life services comparable to what residents of other nearby cities enjoy.

Adequate City fiscal resources are critical to the longer-term success of North Plains, and the goal is to have them generated largely by new business and industrial growth. These economic plans will take time to implement but will enable the City to provide the full array of municipal services needed by its residents and businesses going forward. Be on the lookout for more information in the near future about economic development efforts and how the city can accommodate more employment opportunities in the Urban Growth Boundary expansion.

## Economic Development Committee Opening

We have an opening for an interested resident to serve a 4-year term on our Economic Development Committee. If you are passionate about well-planned economic growth and making our community the best it can be, apply today! Find an application online at [www.northplains.org](http://www.northplains.org) or email [lori.lesmeister@northplains.org](mailto:lori.lesmeister@northplains.org).



## Chief's Corner: One Pill Can Kill!

The North Plains Police Department, through our partnership with Washington County Sheriff's Office (WCSO), deploys a comprehensive approach to combatting the dire effects of opioid abuse in our community. Specially-trained investigators from the Westside Interagency Narcotics (WIN) Team conduct fast-moving investigations seeking to stop the flow of harmful drugs into our community, holding those accountable for the lives destroyed and lost by drug addiction and overdose.



In response to the drastic rise in drug-related deaths since the onset of COVID-19, WCSO created avenues to promote public awareness through an educational-based campaign called One Pill Can Kill. Because of the widespread impact of lethal synthetic opioids, this campaign seeks to inform

the public about the increased availability and distribution of drugs such as fentanyl in our community. To learn more about WCSO's One Pill Can Kill campaign and available resources, visit:

[https://bit.ly/WCSO\\_OnePillCanKill](https://bit.ly/WCSO_OnePillCanKill).

In an additional effort to decrease unused medications available for misuse or accidental ingestion, Washington County Ordinance 848 requires drug manufacturers who sell their products in Washington County to provide a safe and convenient way for the public to dispose of unused medications. Contact your local pharmacy or visit [medtakebackoregon.org](http://medtakebackoregon.org) to find a disposal location near you.



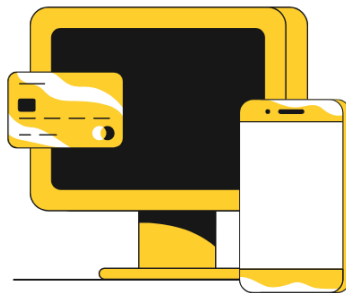
Chief James Haxton

## New Online Payment System Begins July 1

We are pleased to share that the City is launching a new and improved online payment system on July 1, 2022.

CivicPay will replace our current system and will offer a more convenient and efficient way of paying online. You will be able to register your account once and login when you need to, and you can easily manage paperless billing and autopay which will enable you to pay securely using a bank account Pay online imageor a credit/debit card. The new web portal will feature bill and payment history, electronic statements, usage history, and the ability to submit service requests for maintenance needs and to notify billing of account changes.

Visit our website on July 1 or after and click on "online payments" to find out details and set up your account!



Wednesday - August 3rd  
6:00-8:00pm

JESSIE MAYS COMMUNITY CENTER

FREE SNACKS - KIDS ACTIVITIES - BIKE HELMETS  
PUBLIC SAFETY DISPLAYS



# Celebrate the 4th of July Safely!



As we prepare to commemorate our country's independence on July 4, TVF&R offers firework safety tips to ensure you have a safe holiday.

**If you intend to use fireworks, keep them legal and safe.**

Oregon law bans fireworks that fly, explode, or travel on the ground more than six feet — this includes bottle rockets, roman candles, firecrackers, and M80s.

To be legal, purchase all fireworks at a licensed Oregon firework stand. Fireworks purchased by mail order or in the state of Washington or at a Native American reservation may be illegal in our state.

Just because some fireworks are legal, doesn't mean they're 100 percent safe. This includes sparklers. They can reach temperatures of 1,200 degrees — wood burns at 575 degrees, while glass melts at 900 degrees, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

Even legal fireworks are dangerous and can cause injuries and burns.

- Only adults should light or handle fireworks. Supervise children at all times.
- Use fireworks outdoors on a paved surface, away from buildings, vehicles, and vegetation.

- Never try to re-light a "dud." Never point or throw fireworks at people, pets, or buildings.
- Never alter fireworks or make your own.
- Have a hose nearby in case of fire and place "spent" fireworks in a metal bucket with water.
- Store fireworks, matches, and lighters out of the reach of children

## Reporting firework incidents in TVF&R's service area.

Individuals needing to report a fire or medical emergency should call 911; individuals wishing to report a nuisance or concern about illegal fireworks should do so via the non-emergency number, 503-629-0111. These situations will be logged, passed on to local law enforcement, and responded to as resources allow.

## Penalties for misusing fireworks.

Law enforcement agencies enforce criminal laws related to the use of illegal fireworks in Oregon.

Under Oregon law, officers can seize illegal fireworks and issue criminal citations, including reckless burning, criminal mischief, reckless endangerment, and more with fines up to \$500 per violation. People can also be held civilly liable for damages resulting from improper use of any fireworks — legal or illegal.

**For more safety tips, visit [www.tvfr.com](http://www.tvfr.com).**

## CONCERT IN THE PARK



**July 14, 2022**

**6:30 pm**

**Jessie Mays  
Community Park**

Featuring CelloBop - imaginative electric cello for improvisational classical, blues, jazz, electronic, funk and folk music. Fun for all ages!

## 24th Annual Elephant Garlic Festival

**August 12th, 13th &  
14th, 2022**

**Filled with music,  
food and fun for the  
entire family.**

**Funstinks.com**



# TENINTY'S PIZZA & SUBS

10395 NW Glencoe Rd #600 North Plains, OR 97133 503-647-5761

[WWW.TenintysPizzaAndSubs.COM](http://WWW.TenintysPizzaAndSubs.COM) Online ordering available



Our premium mozzarella cheese is 100% California made for premium performance. Our cheese is an authentic, natural mozzarella with a milky-buttery tantalizing taste.

**\$4 off ANY  
X-LARGE PIZZA  
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Cannot be combined with any other offers  
Expires 12/31/2022.



**\$15.00  
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Cannot be combined with any other offers  
Expires 12/31/2022.



[npparksfoundation.org](http://npparksfoundation.org)

## HONOR A LOVED ONE THIS VETERANS DAY!

### *Purchase a memorial brick at the North Plains Veteran's Memorial Park*

On November 11, 2020, the City of North Plains dedicated the Veterans Memorial Park on Highland Ct & 313th Ave. The City has partnered with the North Plains Parks Foundation to sell memorial bricks at \$100/each that will be laid around the flagpole. Bricks are for those who have served or are serving, as a living or deceased veteran.

**ORDER BY OCTOBER 14, 2022, FOR  
INSTALL BEFORE VETERANS DAY!**

Go to <https://www.northplains.org/parksrec/page/veterans-memorial-park> and follow the directions to pay by cash, check, money order or credit/debit card.

