



North Plains Connected

A monthly newsletter from the City of North Plains - January 2024

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



Contact Your Council:

Mayor Teri Lenahan

Robert Kindel

Russ Sheldon

Cameron Martinez

James Fage

Rickey Smith

Trista Papen

Mayor's Corner: This is a Special Place



Mayor Teri Lenahan

A few months ago, we asked you to share with us what you think makes our North Plains unique and why you choose to live and/or work here. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who shared their perspectives – our residents, community leaders, City Council, business owners and dedicated staff. Your input has been instrumental in shaping the identity of North Plains through a set of core values and traits that reflect who we are and what's important to us.

The community resonates with the realization that North Plains has a perfect blend of small-town charm, timeless values, natural beauty and abundant opportunities. In celebrating our growing diversity, we reaffirm our commitment to fostering a community that cherishes the richness of varied perspectives and cultures. We commit to ensuring that our efforts toward thoughtful planning evolve for an even more positive and impactful future.

As we sought to define North Plains as a person, asking the question, "If North Plains were a person, how would you describe them?" resulted in a collective vision of the North Plains personality – welcoming, straightforward, relaxed, connected, progressive, hard-working and intentional.

Despite North Plains evolving over the years, we can remain rooted in the values that truly matter to us:

- We can remain a community where connecting with and supporting our senior citizens and neighbors is a priority
- We can embrace the traditional values by having our annual Easter Egg Hunt, the 4th of July Parade and other such events.
- We can appreciate the combination of small-city urban life, convenience, opportunity and beautiful sunsets.
- We can focus on intentional growth, striking a delicate balance between rural & urban, ensuring a high quality of life.
- We can value our past while embracing the potential of our future.

We can be and do all these things (and more) as we plan for our future. I love this community, and I know you all do, too. Let's celebrate who we are and work together to make North Plains the very best it can be. Wishing you all a safe and prosperous New Year.

~Mayor Teri



Public Works Facility 12/16 Groundbreaking Recap

It's official! The New Public Works and Emergency Operations Center construction is underway after a December 16, 2023, groundbreaking ceremony! Many thanks to the North Plains Chamber of Commerce for making this event happen, to our contractor Swinerton, and to all who attended!

This new 12,000-square-foot building will house a Public Works Facility and Emergency Operations Center adjacent to the recently completed water reservoir on West Union Road. The building will consist of two stories of office space to plan for 20+ years of growth in community services, as well as a four-bay garage to provide covered parking for Public Works fleet services and maintenance. There will also be yard storage for materials and equipment. This much-needed building is in the City's Capital Improvement Plan and is funded largely by a State Lottery Bond. The current public works space behind City Hall is inadequate to provide the necessary services needed for our expanding community. The facility is anticipated to be completed in 2025.



Business License Upgrade

We are pleased to announce that beginning this month, we have a new online business license purchase and renewal process through the Oregon-based company License Registrar. This will help us to provide your business with better service by:

- Providing an easy-to-use online system for purchase and annual renewals
- Auto-reminder emails when your business license is due to be renewed for another year
- Enabling businesses that have lost a print copy of their license to print one at their convenience.



Businesses should expect an email about this new service in early 2024. If you have any questions, give us a call at 503-647-5555.

January City Calendar

Public meetings and events below take place in-person and many offer virtual options. Visit www.northplains.org/calendar for more events and details.

- 1/1 City Hall & Library closed - Happy New Year!
- 1/2 City Council Meeting 7pm w/ 6pm Work Session (*Tuesday due to Monday holiday*)
- 1/3 Economic Development Commission - 6 pm
- 1/8 Parks & Recreation Board - 6 pm
- 1/10 Planning Commission - 7 pm
- 1/15 City Hall and Library closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 1/16 City Council - 7 pm (*Tuesday due to Monday holiday*)
- 1/17 Library Board - 7 pm



News From Your Library

****If accommodations would help you to attend any library programs - please contact us!***

Homework Help each Monday at 5 pm and 5:30 pm in the library starting January 22, 2024. Homework Help is offered for all subjects, specializing in English, French, and Math and Science for all grade levels, K through College Level. Tutoring with Jenna W., PHD, is offered for all subjects. Sessions are a half hour each. Register online at wccls.org/events. No library card needed.

Storytime Wednesdays at 11 am. Time for stories, songs and bubbles and songs! Following story time Mrs. Emily will teach children to identify and sound out letters of the alphabet and counting basics. Parents and caregivers learn meaningful techniques that will help expand learning experiences at home with your child. Drop in, no registration required.



Bookbabies Fridays at 10 am. Miss Chris guides parents and caregivers through some inspirational early development activities for babies and toddlers. Adults learn techniques that help expand learning experiences at home with your child. Bonus: Visit with other parents and caregivers while entertaining and educating your little one. No registration required.

4-H Explorstation Workshop Wednesday, January 3rd at 3 pm in the library. Join Alice Phillips, 4-H Youth Development from the Oregon State Extension Service, Washington County, and Mrs Emily, our Early Literary Specialist, for an hour of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math). We will discuss how snowflakes are made, try a fun snowflake experiment, and will complete the hour with snowflake art. Register online at wccls.org/events.



Artful Beginnings: New Year Collage Workshop, Saturday January 20th from 10am to noon at the library. Collage is currently a fast growing and popular art activity. It's easy, fun and creative, all at the same time! Experience crafting collages withing a group setting, fostering lively conversations and the exchange of ideas. Start your New Year with fun and friends by joining us. All supplies are

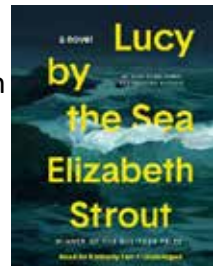
provided. Registration is required; no library card needed to register.

Craft Guild Tuesday January 2nd, 5:30 pm in the library. Join our informal group of knitters and quilters on the first Tuesday of each month. Anyone interested in gathering for camaraderie as your work on your individual projects is welcome. This is intended to be an informal get-together of crafters, with no formal instruction. Drop-in, no registration required.



Teen Council Friday, January 12th at 4:30 pm in the library. Do you want to connect with other teens? Are you a teen who wants to make a difference in our community? Do you have ideas on how the North Plains Public Library could better serve teens? We want YOU to join! Drop in - no registration required.

Book Club Wednesday, January 31st at 7 pm at the library or on Zoom. Join us for a discussion Lucy by the Sea by Elizabeth Strout. New patrons are welcome to join the North Plains Library Book Club. No need to register if attending in person. To join via Zoom and receive a link and passcode, please email Carolyn at carolyn@markleavitt.com.



Keeping Our Streams Clear to Prevent Flooding

Did you know that our public works crews do all kinds of work to keep our infrastructure maintained all around the City? This includes occasionally removing beaver dams from Ghost Creek and other tributaries to prevent flooding. The crew is seen here in December 2023 clearing a beaver dam that contributed to flooding earlier in the month on Gordon Road.



Chief's Corner: Winter Driving



Chief James Haxton

It's never too early to prepare for winter weather. 'Tis the season for stormy weather, power outages, and messy commutes. Watch for winter weather updates and double-check the forecast and driving conditions before heading out.

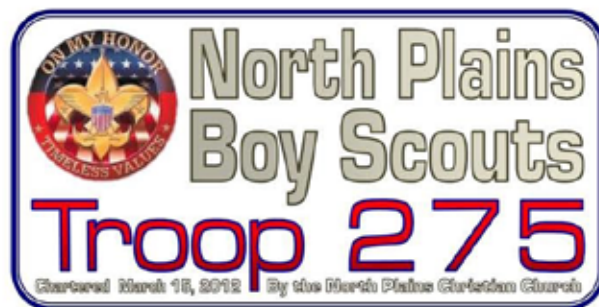
Taking time to prepare now can

keep you safe, no matter what the weather. Consider these safety tips:

- Build your emergency kit and make sure it is stocked and in the car. It should include jumper cables, flashlights, flares or other emergency markers, an ice scraper, cell phone and cell phone charger, blankets, water, and any other supplies that you may need.
- If winter weather is in the forecast, make sure you have a full tank of gas.
- For your commute - plan your route, including alternatives should you encounter road closures.
- Check your tires and other items on your vehicle, such as windshield wipers and headlights to ensure they are winter ready.
- Take it slow and allow extra room between vehicles.
- Watch your local news for winter weather updates.



Take it slow out there, and stay safe and warm! For more information about winter driving, visit: www.nhtsa.gov/winter-driving-tips.



* Do you have youth in your household between 11 and 17? If so, please contact us about our exciting Scouting program and schedule a visit! Call Darrel at (503) 648-1488.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

WE PICK UP AT YOUR CURB



SATURDAY JANUARY 6TH

SATURDAY JANUARY 13TH

We'll pick up your bottles & cans too!

Place top portion of flyer in bag provided, with your donation. Attach it to base of tree. Leave tree curbside by **9 AM** on January 6th or 13th.

Your support directly benefits North Plains Boy Scouts camping programs & activities.

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2023 / 2024 Donation Record

Thank you for your generous donation.
Make checks out to 'Boy Scout Troop 275'

Amount: \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$30 ☐ Other \$

We are looking for new Scouts, ages 11-17.
Please contact our Scoutmaster,
Darrel Smith at (503) 648-1488



Apply to join the Economic Development Commission

We are searching for interested residents who are passionate about making our community the best it can be to fill 2 positions on our recently expanded Economic Development Commission (EDC).

The Committee meets once per month (1st Wednesdays at 6 pm) and is charged with advising City Council on specific community and economic development topics.



Get involved and make a difference in North Plains - apply today!

More info: northplains.org or lori.lesmeister@northplains.org

North Plains Food Bank Making a Difference

The North Plains Food Bank is back in action and has launched an every Monday food box pick-up at the North Plains Senior Center from 2-3 pm for seniors and 3-6 pm for anyone. They are seeking volunteers to help with this and other Food Bank programs. Thank you to all involved in helping to make this valuable program possible for our community.

JOIN US TO HELP FEED OUR COMMUNITY

The North Plains Food Bank, in collaboration with the North Plains Senior Center, is committed to addressing the critical needs of seniors and families in our area.

The NP Senior Center, a compassionate 501(c)(3) organization, has been a pillar of support for our senior population for many years. Now, in partnership with the NP Food Bank, we aim to go beyond simply providing food. *Our goal is to become a comprehensive resource for our community, ensuring that no senior or family goes hungry or without essential items.*

North Plains faces a unique challenge due to the absence of a local grocery store. This creates a situation where access to essential food and daily necessities becomes a real struggle for our residents.

How You Can Help:

Our partnership with the NP Senior Center relies on the support of generous individuals, local businesses, and concerned organizations.

- ❖ Financially – Please make checks payable to NP Senior Center noting NP FOOD BANK.
- ❖ Donations of food and personal products.
- ❖ Volunteers – It takes a community to raise a village.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Contact:
Lora Dexheimer
503.442.8060
Lora@NPFoodBank.com
www.NPFoodBank.com



Dreaming of a new dining table?

Located in downtown North Plains, we specialize in bespoke dining tables designed to fit your space and style.

*The best memories are made gathered around the table.
Scan the QR code to visit our website.*

Contact:

Brian Free

Call or text 503-949-8882

brian@bfreewoodworking.com



TENINTY'S PIZZA & SUBS


10395 NW Glencoe Rd #600 North Plains, OR 97133

503-647-5761 WWW.TenintysPizzaAndSubs.COM




North Plains & Banks Residential Area

\$5 off any Detroit Style Pizza

Online Coupon code TPSD5
Cannot be combined with any other offers Expires 3/31/2024. 

Buy any XL or Large Pizza and receive a free Cheese Bread

Online Coupon code TPS650
Cannot be combined with any other offers Expires 3/31/2024. 



Online Ordering

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