



North Plains Connected

A monthly newsletter from the City of North Plains - March 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 - State of the City 2024

Greetings North Plains community and beyond! I am excited to extend a warm invitation to you and your family for the upcoming State of the City address on March 18th at 6 pm, hosted at the Jessie Mays Community Center.

This year, our theme is "North Plains in Bloom" and we can't wait to share the blossoming updates and developments with you. It is not just a formal report. It's a chance for our community to come together, connect with fellow residents, and revel in our shared successes.

Please join us as we dive into the city's progress, talk about some of the important initiatives, and provide a look into the exciting blooms on our horizon. But that's not all - it will be a family friendly atmosphere with refreshments to make this gathering a delightful time for everyone.

Let's make this State of the City the best one yet! Your presence is key to the warmth and spirit of our community. We can't wait to see you on the 18th.

~Mayor Teri



Join us for Mayor Lenahan's 2024 State of the City

Monday, March 18 | 6 pm
Jessie Mays Community Center
and TVCTV Live Broadcast

*See what grew well in 2023 and what is
sprouting for 2024!*

More details and to RSVP to attend in person:
www.northplains.org/SOTC



North Plains in Bloom



New Northplains.org Website Now Launched

Have you seen it? We've launched a new website offering a cleaner look, improved features and functionality, and better access for all. This new version replaces an older site with one that has more efficient technology and a more effective and user-friendly central hub for 24/7 access to City resources and community information.

In addition to all of the features you've come to expect from our website, specific improvements include:

- A new home page design featuring a more front-and-center spotlight of top news, events, and resources.
- User-friendly site-wide navigation that provides easy access to information and services.
- Improved calendar and news layouts and functionality.
- Welcoming and informative web pages throughout the site highlighting city services and projects as well as community information.
- Improved accessibility with a mobile-friendly layout, an accessibility widget on every page that enables the user to customize the site for their digital accessibility needs, and Google Translate which helps visitors translate the site into 150+ languages at the click of a button.



We will continue to keep the content current and plan to add more helpful features to the site including online facility reservations and public feedback options in the future. Let us know what you think and stay tuned for more updates.

Public Works Conducting New EPA-Required Water Service Line Testing

If you've seen our Public Works crews out testing water lines, that's because the EPA has a new regulation, Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI), to better protect communities across America from exposure to lead in drinking water. Public water providers are required to do an inventory of material of all service lines on both the water system and the homeowner sides of the meter. Public Works is working through our system as they can in between other regular duties in order to submit the inventory by the October 16, 2024 deadline.

March 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.

- 3/4 City Council Meeting 7pm (w/ 6pm Work Session)
- 3/6 Economic Development Commission - 6 pm
- 3/11 Parks & Recreation Board - 6 pm
- 3/13 Planning Commission - 6 pm (new time)
- 3/18 State of the City 2024 - 6 pm
- 3/20 Library Board - 7 pm



Parks & Recreation Board Vacancy - We Need You!



Be a part of overseeing park development and maintenance, and making recommendations regarding park projects and fees in your community.

The City of North Plains is seeking applicants who live inside of the North Plains city limits to fill this vacancy for a term that runs through June 30, 2027.

Learn more at www.northplains.com/bc-parks



February Library Programs & Events

Featured Programs

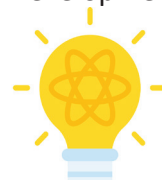
Henna Workshop Wednesday, March 27th 4-5:30 pm in the Library. All ages are welcome to join us for this presentation of the history and cultural significance of henna. Attendees will receive a henna cone and basic designs to practice. Bakul will be offering small henna designs for interested attendees. No library card needed. Register online at wccls.org/events



***NEW* Cozy Evening Storytime: Tuesdays, 6 pm, February 6 - March 26.** Bring your blanket or pillow for our family evening storytime series at the library. Experience stories in English,

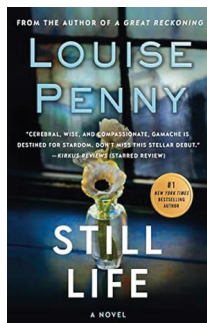
Spanish, and Hindi, along with songs, rhymes and movement. Geared toward toddlers and preschoolers and older siblings are welcome. Caregiver participation is also encouraged! Drop in; no registration required.

4-H Explorstation Workshop: Wednesday, March 6th 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). Register online at wccls.org/events.

Book Club: Wednesday, February 28th at 7 pm at the library or on Zoom. Join us for a discussion of *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. New patrons are welcome to join. 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.



Library Meetings

- 3/11 Friends of the Library Public Meeting - 7 pm @ the Library
- 3/20 Library Board Meeting - 7 pm @ the Library



NORTH PLAINS
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Recurring Library Programs/Events

Homework Help - Mondays, 5:30 & 6 pm

Storytime - Wednesdays, 11 am

Bookbabies - Fridays, 10 am

Craft Guild - 1st Tuesday of each month, 5:30 pm

Teen Council - 2nd Friday of each month, 4:30 pm

Tech Help - 2nd Thursday of each month 1-3 pm

Bookclub - 4th Wednesday of each month, 7 pm

Teen Council - 2nd Friday of each month, 4:30 pm

Visit www.northplains.org/calendar for more events and details.

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

Our Library events are always free!

The North Plains Public Library is a member of:



Washington County
Cooperative Library Services



**Ways to Stay
Connected**



**Subscribe to our
monthly E-Connect**



**Download the
MyNorthPlains app**



Follow us on Facebook



Attend a public meeting



Follow us on Instagram



**Visit our website 24/7
at NorthPlains.org**



NORTH PLAINS
OREGON
City to the Sunset

North Plains History: North Side of Commercial

From Melvin Van Domelen, Local Historian and 4th General Area Resident



North Plains had a hotel around 1911 that was owned by Carl Christner. This hotel was located on the north side of Commercial Street across from the parking lot between today's North Plains Market and what locals refer to as the Lower Tavern (The Last Waterin' Hole). A 2016 painting depicting this same hotel is

represented on a mural in almost the exact same location of where it formerly operated. The building had a grocery store and a meat market on one corner. I suspect Andy Christner was connected to the operation of their meat market.

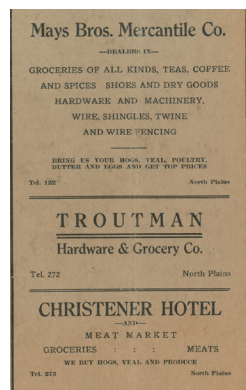
A 1915 story in the North Plains Optimist, a weekly newspaper of that time, tells of Andy bringing back the beef.



Around 1922, Bill and Ethel Troutman bought the building and opened a grocery store there. Prior to that they had operated a meat market in the corner of the building.

I am going to switch over to the time my memory serves me, to about 75 years ago.

There was a fire in North Plains in 1937 that burned three buildings. This fire took out everything from where the Senior Center is today to the brick Pythian Hall. This burned the upper tavern, whose second floor had a storied reputation, and the post office. After the fire the Post Office was moved into the west side of the Troutman's Store for a time.



I remember the Troutman's daughter, Jane Ann, as a cheerful, energetic young girl always helping the customers. Fritz Tschantz was a meat cutter in the store for quite a while. Troutman's had a slaughter house down by McKay Creek.

By the time I was in grade school, Troutman's had refrigeration, something that Mays Brothers store

lacked at that time. My parents had space rented in a frozen food locker there and I would go in with my mother. The store sold Dromedary ice cream and kept their supply in a space we would have to walk by. It was tough for a kid to go by all of that ice cream and not get any, never!

I think it was in the mid 1940's that Troutman's built a small diner to the east that was joined to the store buildings by a few steps on one end. This restaurant resembled a boxcar. I was only in this diner a few times. Seems there was only a counter and stools to sit on. Sometimes the train would stop and the crew would walk up to the diner for lunch. Some of the local farmers would that their harvest crews there to eat.

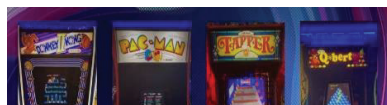
Want more of this interesting story? Visit our website news section for more in the full article!



NORTH PLAINS Boy Scouts Troop 275

**You're invited to the Troop 275
12th Anniversary Celebration!**

**Saturday March 9th, 2024
2:00PM - 5:00PM
Next Level Pinball Museum
1458 NE 25th Ave, Hillsboro, OR**



Troop 275 is looking for new Scouts to share in our amazing adventures. If you are 11-17 years old, join us at Next Level Pinball on March 9th for information about Scouts BSA, lots of fun and games.

11-17 year-olds get in free with this flier.

Questions? Contact Darrel Smith: (503) 648-1488

Chief's Corner

Protect yourself against phone scammers!

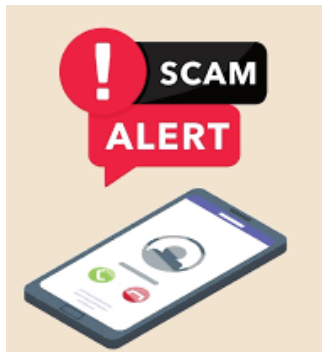


Phone scammers continue to be active. One of the most common calls we receive are of individuals who falsely identify themselves as law enforcement officials with the goal of procuring money from victims. Most calls will include the caller informing the victim that they have an outstanding warrant

for their arrest because of a missed court date, missed jury duty, or unpaid tickets among other excuses, and demand immediate payment, threatening imminent arrest. These callers often use the names of actual local law enforcement personnel and may disguise their phone number.

Red flags to watch out for:

1. People claiming to be police or law enforcement.
2. Callers using real phone numbers or names of local law enforcement people to sound legitimate.
3. Request for payment via gift card.
4. Calls from unknown numbers.
5. Requests for bank account information.
6. Strangers asking you to send them a photo of your ID.
7. Threats to wire money or be arrested.



Remember, law enforcement will NEVER ask for payment over the phone.

If you receive such a call or any other suspicious call asking for payment, hang up and call non-emergency dispatch: 503-629-0111.

Stay alert to help protect yourself from scams!



City Manager Receives Credentialed Designation

City Manager Andy Varner recently received the Credentialed Manager designation from ICMA, the International City/County Management Association. Andy is one of over 1,300 local government management professionals currently credentialed through the ICMA voluntary credentialing program.



To receive the ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government; have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field; and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development. "Andy is a genuine leader who prioritizes community development with unwavering integrity, fostering a caring team dedicated to understanding and addressing local issues in North Plains," said Mayor Teri Lenahan. "His commitment reaches beyond the four walls of City Hall - he promotes education with elected leaders, volunteers, staff and the community to find common ground to make our city a great place to live, work and play. I am truly grateful for his leadership and friendship."

Andy has over 15 years of professional local government executive experience. He has served as North Plains' City Manager since 2018 and prior to that was the city administrator for the City of Sand Point, Alaska. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and management from the University of Missouri-Columbia as well as a master's degree in public administration from the University of Alaska.

ICMA's mission is to advance professional local government through leadership, management, innovation, and ethics.



March 25th - 29th

TVF&R Invites Local Scouts to Register for Scout Day



Local scouts won't want to miss an opportunity to learn a variety of safety tips from public safety professionals.

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue is hosting a Scout Day on Saturday, April 13, from 10 am to noon at the South

Operating Center, 8445 SW Elligsen Rd. in Wilsonville. Local scouts of all ages from across TVF&R's service area are invited to register and attend this free community event.

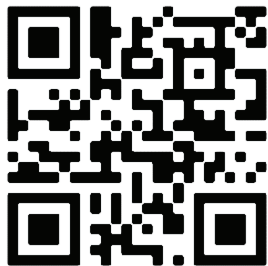
Attendees will have an opportunity to check out fire and medical equipment used by firefighters, learn about fire safety and escape planning, hear from K-9 law enforcement officers about stranger danger, get safety tips from American Medical Response personnel, and learn from the American Red Cross how to build an emergency kit for kids.

Participants will be divided into groups and rotate through several hands-on and interactive stations. Scout leaders and parents are encouraged to move through the activity stations with their kids. Badge sign-off will be up to scout leaders to perform following the event.

We will start promptly at 10 am and encourage groups to arrive 15 minutes early.

TVF&R personnel are proud to be joined by our community partners from the Wilsonville Police Department, Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, American Red Cross Cascades Region, and American Medical Response to make this a memorable event.

Those interested in attending can register online at www.tvfr.com or scan the QR code seen here. Registration closes at 5 pm on April 11th. For more information about Scout Day, call 503-259-1502 or email Events@tvfr.com



**NORTH
PLAINS**

Food Bank

Contact:

Lora Dexheimer
503.442.8060

Lora@NPFoodBank.com
www.NPFoodBank.com

North Plains Food Bank Achieves 501c3 Status

The North Plains Food Bank ramped back up in late 2023 with new energy and now officially has its independent nonprofit designation. Your much-appreciated donations may be tax-deductible!

The Food Bank offers 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 have also started a resource information center located at the front of the food bank.

They've been serving nearly 300 community members and are seeking volunteers to help with this and other Food Bank programs.

Thank you to Lora Dexheimer, the North Plains Food Bank Board of Directors, all involved in helping to make this valuable program possible for our community.

Get more info at www.NPFoodBank.com