



# North Plains Connected

A monthly newsletter from the City of North Plains - July 2023

## 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

## Mayor's Corner: Planning For Our Future



North Plains' Vision Statement for the future of our community reads, *"In the year 2035, residents of North Plains enjoy a safe and welcoming community as a livable place for people of all ages. North Plains is an independent community within Washington County that maintains a small-town character while accommodating current and future residents. Citizen participation is strong and community members can see the results of their involvement. Community gathering places and events form the heart of North Plains."*

I have worked in the financial industry for over 24 years and helping people plan ahead for retirement is something that I enjoy. **Why am I sharing this and how does this relate to an urban growth boundary (UGB) expansion?** Well, every Oregon city has a UGB which is basically a line drawn on planning maps to designate where a city is planning to grow 20 years into the future. The State of Oregon land use laws require cities to plan ahead for a 20-year period and follow a process to plan what their communities will look like by that time. Those laws require a city to study both employment needs and housing needs. If you want to retire comfortably, you need to plan ahead. If a community wants smart growth, they also need to plan ahead.

Expanding a UGB for a city can have several potential reasons and benefits. While there are many opinions on what that might mean for a city, most strategic plans include balancing economic development, environmental sustainability, quality of life and infrastructure demands to make those informed decisions that benefit the community as a whole.

North Plains has experienced a steady increase in population over the years and as we move forward with an expansion, we hope to contribute to an improved quality of life for all residents. It can also allow for the preservation of farmland, green spaces, parks and recreational areas, which in turn, creates a healthier and more livable environment.



*Continued on Pg 2...*

# July City Calendar

**Public meetings and events take place in person and many offer virtual options.**

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

- 7/4 City Hall & Library closed for the 4th of July holiday
- 7/4 4th of July Parade & Celebration - 11 am
- 7/10 Parks & Recreation Board - 6 pm
- 7/12 Planning Commission - 7 pm
- 7/17 City Council - 7 pm
- 7/19 Library Board - 7 pm
- 8/3 North Plains National Night Out and Safety Fair



## Mayor's Corner...Continued from page 1

It also provides opportunities for community amenities, such as a grocery store, entertainment venues and cultural spaces.

Our decisions on how to expand the UGB have been thoughtful and deliberate. Some of the original folks who planned the last UGB expansion in the early 2000's have been a part of this current process. And, more than 20 years later, they're at it again. Our community members, staff and consultants have worked with local, regional and state partners to ensure that our vision for growth meets the needs of a city our size. We are a small town with small-town charm and character. We can maintain that and accommodate future change by staying true to the core values outlined in our vision statement.

~ **Mayor Teri** ([teri.lenahan@northplains.org](mailto:teri.lenahan@northplains.org))

## 2022 Water Quality Report

The City's annual Water Quality Report is out! We are pleased to confirm that North Plains provides high-quality, safe drinking water to our community.

Check out the report on our website:

<https://www.northplains.org/publicworks/page/2022-water-quality-report-available>

It includes details on where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.



## Urban Growth Boundary Info

The City of North Plains has been working on an Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) Expansion since fall 2020. This expansion is required by Oregon law. City Council approved an expansion scenario and full UGB Expansion Report on June 20, 2023.

**For updated news including an FAQ, North Plains' process and next steps, visit:**

[www.northplains.org/UGB](http://www.northplains.org/UGB)

## 2023-25 Biennium Budget Approved; Takes Effect July 1



City Council approved a 2023-2025 biennium budget at the June 5, 2023 City Council meeting.

This budget will take effect on July 1, 2023. During the budget creation process, the North Plains City Council, the City's Budget Committee, and city staff worked to create a budget that aligns with the city's goals, priorities, and strategic initiatives.

"North Plains - the fastest growing city in the Portland-area - is on the precipice of lasting change and this budget reflects the planning, the service levels, and the personnel to make this transition toward the future," says North Plains City Manager Andy Varner. "Our intent is to put North Plains on a solid and sustainable financial footing for many years to come so that we can provide exceptional services to our residents and businesses."

**See budget highlights and the full budget document on the City's website.**

# July Library Events & Activities

*\*Unless otherwise noted, programs are drop-in, no registration required.*

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

## Storytime at the Library - Wednesdays at 11 am

Time for stories, bubbles and songs! Following storytime, 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 expand learning experiences at home with your child.



## 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 care givers while entertaining and educating your little one.

## The 3 Little Pigs and the Huffy Puffy Wolf - Wednesday, July 19th at 1 pm at Jessie Mays Community Center.

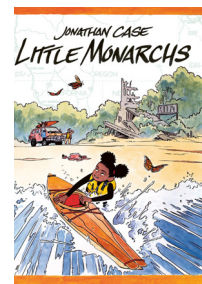
Join Penny's Puppets on this musical journey for this traditional tale with a twist. Discover some coping skills when having a bad day and laugh and rejoice with the 3 little pigs and their unlikely friend the Huffy Puffy Wolf.

**Art Lab Monday, July 31st at 1 pm at Jessie Mays Community Center.** We're making summer beach waves with non-toxic resin and colors. Each participant will leave with a beautiful canvas to display at home or give as a gift. All materials provided. Art Lab is free to all participants! This program is best suited for elementary-aged kids and their adults. Registration required. [wccls.org/events](http://wccls.org/events). No library card needed to register.

**Summer Reading is here!** Everyone can sign up anytime this summer by visiting the library. Spin & Win Week in the Library July 24th-29th during open hours! Show us your reading progress so far this summer on your reading log and Spin the Wheel for the chance to win prizes including bikes donated by the Knights of Pythias!



**Little Monarchs Talk & Workshop with Cartoonist Jonathan Case, Wednesday, July 5th at 1pm at Jessie Mays Community Center.** Join award-winning author/illustrator Jonathan Case for a behind-the-scenes look at his acclaimed 2022 graphic novel, Little Monarchs, followed by a hands-on drawing workshop! Jonathan is the creator of many books and comics for publishers like DC, Disney, Dark House, Random House, and more, and is excited to come spend some time talking comics and drawing with you! Registration required. [wccls.org/events](http://wccls.org/events). No library card needed to register.



**Letters from Home, Wednesday, July 12th at 7pm in the Library.** Hannah Thuku Kolehmainen left small-town Kenya for small-town America. Hear her entertaining and captivating stories of growing up female in rural Kenya and all about her recent travels home. She discusses the dramatic changes - positive and not-so-positive - that she and her homeland have undergone. This in-person event will feel like gathering around a fire for a rich time of interactive tribal connection.

## Teen Council - Friday, July 14th at 4:30 pm

Do you want to connect with other teens? Are you a teen that wants to make a difference in our community? Do you have some ideas on how the North Plains Public Library could better serve teens? We want YOU to join.

## Teen Tie Dye Friday, July 21st at 4 pm at Jessie Mays Community Park.

Teens in 6th-12th grade - join us to create your own tie-dyed t-shirt! Materials will be provided. Please wear clothing that you are okay being messy in or getting dye on! Registration required, [wccls.org/events](http://wccls.org/events). No library card required to register.



## Artist Reception Saturday, July 29th 4 pm in the library.

Local artist Jeffery Hall will be at the library to connect with community members and speak about his work. Light refreshments will be provided

**Find out more about these events and more at [www.northplains.org/calendar](http://www.northplains.org/calendar).**



## Chief's Corner: Vehicle Theft



Chief James Haxton

July is Vehicle Theft Prevention Month. We encourage community members to keep their vehicles safe by following these simple steps to avoid costly crimes:

- Never leave your keys inside your vehicle.
- Close and lock all windows and doors at all times.
- Never leave valuables in your vehicle, especially if they are visible from the outside.
- Remove your garage door opener from your car when you are home.
- Pay attention to your surroundings and park in well-lit and open areas, if possible.

If you fall victim to vehicle crimes, file a police report by calling non-emergency dispatch at 503-629-0111, or file a report online at [https://bit.ly/WCSO\\_Reporting](https://bit.ly/WCSO_Reporting), if it meets the criteria. To file a report, you must know your license plate number, make, model, color of your vehicle, and VIN.



If you witness a crime or suspicious activity in action, such as an unknown person trying multiple car handles, please call 9-1-1.

For more information, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at <https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/vehicle-theft-prevention>.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### National Night Out & Safety Fair

Thursday, August 3, 2023

- See page 6 for details -

## Parks & Recreation Board Vacancy - We Need You!

Be a part of overseeing park development and maintenance, and making recommendations on park projects and fees in your community. We are seeking applicants (must live inside the North Plains city limits) to fill this vacancy for a term that runs through June 30, 2024. Learn more: [www.northplains.org/bc-parks](http://www.northplains.org/bc-parks)



## Community Transportation Survey

Participate to win a \$25 Visa gift card!

Ride Connection is expanding its existing [GroveLink](#) and [WestLink](#) services.

The expanded GroveLink service would provide community connections in Forest Grove and Cornelius, Monday through Friday. The expanded WestLink service would allow travel to destinations between various cities in Washington County with connection to the MAX Blue Line, TriMet bus line 57 and others.

We are interested in hearing from you as we plan the expansion. These services are scheduled to start in Late Summer/Early Fall 2023.

Your responses will be used in designing the routes and hours of operation that could serve your family, neighbors, friends, and/or co-workers. Please return completed surveys by July 31, 2023.

This survey should take approximately 8 minutes to complete.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RideConnectionGroveLink>





★ The North Plains 25th Annual ★

# ELEPHANT GARLIC FESTIVAL





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Large Pizza and  
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Cheese Bread**

Cannot be combined with any other offers Expires 12/31/2023.



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**Thursday - August 3rd  
6:00-8:00pm**

**JESSIE MAYS COMMUNITY CENTER**

FREE SNACKS - KIDS ACTIVITIES - BIKE HELMETS  
PUBLIC SAFETY DISPLAYS



## 2023 Youth Summer Sports Day Camps

in North Plains

The YMCA, in partnership with the City of North Plains, is offering three weeks of sports day camps for ages 5-12 in North Plains this summer!

- July 10-14 | Flag Football Camp  
*Atfalati Ridge Elementary*
- August 21-25 | Sport Sampling Camp  
*Jessie Mays Community Park*

All camps are Monday-Friday from 9 am to 3 pm.



Get details  
& register  
here! →



Or [northplains.org/2023summercamps](http://northplains.org/2023summercamps)

Questions?

Contact Travis Shelton  
[tselton@ymcacw.org](mailto:tselton@ymcacw.org)  
503.608.3123