



North Plains Connected

A monthly newsletter from the City of North Plains - October 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



Contact Your Council:

Mayor Teri Lenahan

Robert Kindel

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North Plains History Connection: *Hops Way Back Then*

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

Over the years there have been several crops grown by farmers in our local area that have all but disappeared, these being cannery peas, barley, flax and hops. We now do have a baseball team playing at Ron Tonkin field called the "Hops". People wondered why this name was selected for the ball team. They had to reach way back in time to come up with that one.



There was the Maxwell hop yard that was located just before Corey Road, taken off from Dairy Creek Road, about 2 miles north of the Mountaindale corner. There were 10' to 12' foot high posts that supported the vines. Elaine Gardener Olsen remembers the Maxwell hop yard and the hop drier there. She told of her brother Elmo being the person who would shout out "Wire down" when he lowered a line of vines for picking.



The Willis hop yard was west of where Murphy Road starts the climb up to Pumpkin Ridge, with the wood fired hop drier down by Dairy Creek. It was like a small barn with three levels of screened floors. There were planks that a person could walk on to stir the hops, which needed to be done often.

The Sinclair hop yard was located about halfway between North Plains and Hillsboro on Glencoe Road. Steve Griffels lives there today and said that there had been hops grown on the Sinclair farm from 1906-1945. Steve said the young hop vines had to be trained to grow around the string in the right direction or they wouldn't climb. The hop pickers were paid by the pounds produced. Steve said that back then there was a tally book kept for this, and that the best price received for dried and baled hops at that time was \$1.50 a pound. If that was the price the grower received, the pickers could not have been paid very much. Hops were soft and light, took a lot to make a pound.



In 1946 the Sinclair's were drying hops for Steve's father, Avis Griffels, who had a yard up on Pumpkin Ridge. A fire burned down the Sinclair drier and one-half of Avis's 1946 crop...*visit our website for more in the full article!*

City Council Approves UGB Expansion

At its September 18, 2023, meeting, the North Plains City Council adopted an Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) Expansion area including a full UGB Expansion Report and a Housing Needs Analysis (HNA) recommended by both the North Plains UGB Advisory Committee and the City Planning Commission.

In August and early September 2023, the Planning Commission and City Council held additional public hearings to add supplementary findings that provide additional context to the UGB Expansion report and HNA.

Next Steps

The approved UGB expansion was presented to the Washington County Board of Commissioners in a work session on September 19, and will go to the Washington County Planning Commission and then the Washington County Board of Commissioners for approval over the next several months. It will also go to the State of Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) with the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) for review.

Concept planning for the expansion area is expected to begin in November 2023, funded by a grant from the Oregon Transportation and Growth Management Program (TGM), a joint program of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). This planning process will ensure that we have a good balance of housing and economic development, proper zoning, road and street connections, water delivery, parks, and trails consistent with the land needs identified in the UGB expansion process. The City will promote a variety of in-person and online opportunities for community input and will continue communications with affected landowners through this process.

For more details on the UGB expansion study process and next steps, visit www.northplains.org/UGB.

October City Calendar

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



- 10/2 City Council (w/6pm work session) - 7 pm
- 10/2 North Plains Historical Society Meeting - 1 pm
- 10/4 Economic Development Committee - 6 pm
- 10/9 Parks & Recreation Board - 6 pm
- 10/11 Planning Commission - 7 pm
- 10/16 City Council - 7 pm
- 10/18 Library Board - 7 pm
- 10/19 Annual Chili Cook-off - 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Library Director to Participate in Women's Leadership Academy

Library Director Robin Doughty has been chosen to participate in the 2023-2024 Northwest Women's Leadership Academy. A program of the Oregon City County Manager's Association, the academy works to empower and advance women from various backgrounds in local government and overall increase the number of women in local government executive leadership roles.



"I am thrilled to be participating in this exceptional program along with some of the most dedicated and talented women in local government from across Oregon," said Robin. "I look forward to being able to utilize new skills and perspectives I will gain from the Academy in my ongoing work for North Plains."

Robin is among 20 local government women professionals accepted into the 8-month cohort which includes six days of training between October 2023 and June 2024.



City Public Works fall leaf pick-up is just around the corner!

Help us collect leaves and prevent flooding from clogged storm catch basins. Rake your leaves into a windrow parallel and 18 inches from the curb no higher than 3 feet. Our public works crew will collect them on Tuesdays periodically in November and December (weather-dependent). Check our website as we get closer for specific dates. You can drop off extra leaves to Recology.

News From Your Library

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



Homework Help Mondays at 5pm

& 5:30pm. We're happy to offer free homework help at the Library for all subjects, specializing in English, French, 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, and reservations must be made ahead of time. Register online at wccls.org/events. No library card needed to register.

4-H Explorstation Workshop Wednesday October 4th at 3 pm in the library. Join Alice Phillips, Oregon State Extension Service 4-H Youth Development, and Mrs. Emily, our Early Literacy Specialist, for an hour of STEAM hands-on space exploration and career connections. We will learn about rockets, space, and create amazing rockets. Participants will leave with take-home activities! Register online at wccls.org/events. No library card is needed to register.

Sugar Skull Workshop with Gerardo Calderon - Friday, October 13th at 1pm at Jessie Mays Community Center.



In this hands-on workshop, participants will sculpt and decorate their own edible sugar skull. Learn about the Day of the Death celebration and its traditions, including the meaning of alters and the special place sugar skulls have in honoring our ancestors. The workshop can be offered in English, Spanish or Bilingual. Register online at wccls.org/events, no library card is needed to register.

Tech Help - Thursday, October 12th from 1-3pm at the library. Do you want to learn more about using your phone, tablet, laptop or other device? Reserve your spot for a one-on-one tech troubleshooting session. Bring your device(s) with you. Receive help creating, saving and sharing documents, composing and sending emails, navigating the internet, using dictation or text-to-speech, and more. Register for this free program online at wccls.org/events, or call the library at 503-647-5051 and we'll register you. No library card needed to register.

Craft Guild - Tuesday, October 3rd 5:30 pm at the Library. Join our informal group of knitters and quilters from 5:30-7 pm the first Tuesday of each month. Anyone interested in gathering for camaraderie as you work on your individual craft project is welcome to drop in (no formal instruction).

Introduction to Qi Gong & Tai Chi Thursdays at 6:30 pm

Oct. 5 - Nov. 9 at Jessie Mays. Designed for beginning students, join Chris as concepts of qi gong and tai chi are introduced to enhance well-being. Practice meditative mind-body exercises with slow rhythmic movements to increase balance, flexibility, and muscle strength. All ages are welcome to join this free class, no registration required.



Inclusive Storytime: Using the Principles of Universal Design for Learning to Support Early Literacy Learning for All. Wednesday, October 25th 9am-1pm in the library. We are excited to announce that the Inclusive Storytime Team, a partnership with Portland State University's Department of Special Education will be facilitating a workshop designed to support inclusive practices in public library storytimes. The workshop will consist of a presentation by the Inclusive Storytime Team (Melissa Pebly, Pam Graves, Crystal Loman and Mayra Gonzales) followed by a live storytime session. This workshop is for parents, caregivers, teachers, teacher assistants and library storytime leads.

Bilingual Hindi Storytime Tuesdays at 11 am at the library and on Zoom from October 3rd - November 7th. Please join us for an interactive Hybrid Storytime in person or on Zoom where kids will learn new Hindi words, and enjoy rhymes and stories in Hindi and English. If attending via Zoom, register online at wccls.org/events. No library card needed to register.

Storytime 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 help expand learning experiences at home with your child. Drop in, no registration required.

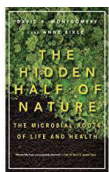


Bookbabies Fridays at 10 am . Miss Chris guides parents and caregivers through some inspirational early development activities for babies and toddlers. Adults learn techniques that help expand learning experiences at home with your child. Bonus: Visit with other parents and caregivers while entertaining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

Library News - continued

Teen Council Friday, October 13th at 4:30 pm in the Library. Are you a teen who wants to connect with other teens and make a difference in our community? Do you have ideas on how the North Plains Library could better serve teens? We want YOU to join! Drop in, no registration required.

Book Club - Wednesday, October 25th at 7 pm. Join us at the Library or via Zoom for a discussion of *The Hidden Half of Nature* by David Montgomery. New patrons are welcome to join. Please email carolyn@markleavitt.com to receive a link and passcode.



Library Services Survey Open Through Oct 10! Please take our quick 6-minute and let us know how we are doing!

We are always working to improve and better serve the greater North Plains area. We greatly appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts with us by taking our survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VD7T8RC>



Fire in the Bowl! Annual North Plains Chili Cook-off is Oct 19!

Jessie Mays Community Center
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Those wishing to enter their chili recipe need to submit their [Chili Cook-Off Entry Form](#) by October 10th. Those who enter will be allowed to make their chili entries at home and serve 'samples' to people attending the event. The Senior Center will serve a main chili meal (including a vegetarian chili) to include hot dogs (chili dogs) and corn bread. Dessert will also be provided.

Go to www.northplainsevents.com and click on Chili Cook-off for more info or to enter. Trophies and at least a year of "Bragging Rights" are awarded to the best chili makers in several categories.

This event is coordinated by the North Plains Events Association and is always FREE.



Chief's Corner: Stranger Awareness



Chief James Haxton

Review the tips below to teach your child how to respond and help prepare themselves for potentially dangerous situations.

- Ensure a trusted adult always knows where you are going.
- Always maintain a safe distance from strangers, their vehicles, or their homes.
- Never make plans with someone you don't know or don't trust.

What can I do to keep my child safe from unsafe strangers?

The North Plains Police Department recommends proactively speaking with your child about strangers to help keep them safe.

- Travel in pairs; walk with a friend, a trusted adult, or a group when possible.
- Be aware that strangers may use candy, animals, toys, or anything enticing to lure you near them.
- Learn about safe internet practices; do not chat online with people you don't know.
- Follow home and phone safety rules. Keep doors locked and never answer questions over the phone or at the door when home alone.

As a reminder, instruct your child to tell a trusted adult right away if someone makes them uncomfortable for any reason. If they are in immediate danger, they should call 911 or, to report an incident after the fact, call non-emergency at 503-629-0111

More information about stranger awareness: https://bit.ly/WCSO_StrangerAwareness.

Cooking Safety Starts with YOU!



Cooking is one of the leading causes of home fires and injuries. Last year, approximately 42% of the residential fires that TVF&R responded to, began in a kitchen.

October is Fire Prevention Month and this year's National Fire Protection Association campaign, "Cooking safety starts with YOU – Pay attention to fire prevention," works to educate about simple but important actions people can take to keep themselves and those around them safe when cooking. Here are some helpful tips:

- Minimize your risk of a fire by organizing a safe kitchen and practicing safe cooking.
- Keep a watchful eye on what you are cooking — never leave cooking unattended.
- Keep your cooking area clean, including the stove top, oven, and exhaust fan.
- Keep dish towels and potholders away from the burners on your stove.
- Watch your sleeves to prevent them from catching fire or getting caught on pan handles.
- Cooking oil can ignite quickly. Heat oil slowly and watch it closely.

- Keep a fire extinguisher in your kitchen. Store it in an easy-to-reach location and know how to use it.

- Put a lid on it. The easiest way to extinguish a small pan fire is with a pan lid. Turn off the burner and carefully slide a pan lid over the pan from the side. The lid will "smother" the fire, while turning off the burner removes the heat. Do not move the pan until the fire is completely extinguished and the pan is cool. If you do not have a pan lid, you may also use a baking sheet or pizza pan. Never transfer a burning pan from the stove top to the sink or out an exterior door.



The fire may grow in size and burn you or spread to a counter top, cabinets, or curtains.

- Grease and water do not mix. Never pour water on a grease fire. Water causes these fires to explode as the burning material stays on top of the water, causing it to spread and putting you at severe risk of getting burned.

If the fire is large and/or continues to grow, do not attempt to extinguish it. Quickly get everyone outside and immediately call 911 from a cellphone or neighbors.

For additional safety tips, visit www.tvfr.com.

VETERANS DAY

REMEMBRANCE CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023 11:00 AM

NORTH PLAINS VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
31230 NW Highland Court, North Plains, OR 97133
Color Guard and Rifle Salute by the Martin J. Ryan VFW Post 2666

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