

# Community News



City of North Plains, 31360 NW Commercial Street, North Plains, OR 97133 [www.northplains.org](http://www.northplains.org)

## Holiday Bazaars

North Plains Holiday Bazaar  
December 1, from 9 am to 4 pm at Jessie Mays Community Hall.  
The event will feature craft vendors, prize drawings and snacks.  
Admission is free

St. Edward's Bazaar is the same day and features wreathes, crafts and sandwiches.

### Individual Highlights:

- Library News 2
- Discarded Vehicles 3
- Senior Center News 4
- NP Elementary Holiday Boutique 5
- Event dates 6

## Jingle - December 6 at 6:30 p.m.

The Jingle is a unique types of decorated address added. North Plains tradition to vehicles are welcome. **Registration is free.** celebrate the holidays. It (Many residents rent Trophies awarded for starts at 6:30 p.m. at golf carts from J&S decorated homes Jessie Mays Community Golf Carts on Main street - 503-647-1984.) include: Hall. Each year, residents drive in decorated Additionally, several **Best Holiday Spirit** vehicles to view homes community organiza- **Best Lighted House** with holiday lights. The tions bring trailers with **Best Street Spirit** parade lasts about a half hay bales for the ride. **Most Likely to be Seen from Space** hour and ends at Jessie A prize is awarded for Houses will be judged Mays, where hot the Best Parade Entry. by December 4. A **People's Choice: Best** chocolate, coffee, cider and cookies are served. **How does my house join House** award will be **This is a free event.** **the Jingle parade route?** selected by parade participants the day of You do not have to If you would like the the event. register in advance to ride Jingle to pass by your **This year's event is** in the Jingle. Just show home or decorated **sponsored by the North Plains** up on the evening of the street, please register **Events Association, a new** event. Vehicles will be at [www.northplains.org](http://www.northplains.org) **volunteer organization that** lined up in the parking lot or call City Hall at 503- will host a variety of **community events.** and along Hillcrest. All 647-5555 to have your

## Donations for Gnos Family

On Saturday, November 10, Bob and Jean Gnos of North Plains lost their home of 50 years and everything in it to a devastating fire.

Unfortunately the home was under-insured, so their many friends are asking the community to help with the necessities that they will need to rebuild their lives.

Cash donations are encouraged and will gladly be accepted at West Coast Bank for the Gnos family and also at the Jingle in keeping with our community's Christmas spirit.

Any new or gently used items or non perishable foods, blankets, towels and any other household items would also be appreciated and can be brought to the North Plains Jingle on Thursday, December 6 at 6:30 at the Jessie Mays Community Center.

## Library News

**Storytimes.** Children ages 0-6 are invited to participate every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the children's section of the Library. Storytime with Miss Marion on **December 5** will feature tales about Winter. Youth Librarian Jackie will host Storytime on **December 12**. On **December 19**, come meet our VERY Special Guest, Santa Claus! On **December 26**, Miss Marion will return with stories featuring a Boxes theme.

**Writers' Group.** Share your writing projects and receive feedback from peers on Thursday, **December 6** at 6:30 p.m. at the Library.

**First Friday Flick.** Free family movie nights occur on the first Friday of each month beginning at 6 p.m. at the Library. The PG-rated animated movie by Pixar to be shown on **December 7** is the adventure story of the king's daughter and the trouble she brings to the Highlands of Scotland. Seating is limited. Refreshments will be served.

**Friends of the Library Meeting.** There will be a regular meeting of the Friends on Monday, **December 10** at the Library from 7:30-9 p.m. New members are welcome.

**Holiday Closures.** The Library will close early, at 5:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24 and will remain closed on Christmas Day, Tuesday, **December 25**. The Library will close early, at 5:30 p.m. on New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31 and will remain closed on New Year's Day, Tuesday, **January 1**.

**Library Book Club.** Come to the Library on Wednesday, **December 26** at 7:30 p.m. for a discussion of The Cat's Table by author Michael Ondaatje. This coming-of-age novel, by turns poignant and electrifying, is about the magical, often forbidden, discoveries of childhood and a lifelong journey that begins unexpectedly with a sea voyage. New members are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

**Craft Night.** Bring your knitting, crocheting, or other personal craft projects to the Library on Thursday, **December 27** from 6-8 p.m. for an evening of camaraderie and dedicated handiwork time.

**Monthly Art and Quilt Exhibits.** Displayed in the computer/program room throughout the month of December is artwork by Valerie Sjodin. Displayed above the checkout desk throughout the month of December is a Christmas quilt by Kellie Shulruff.

**Digital Drive Campaign.** The Digital Drive Campaign funds will replace all computers and upgrade to the latest Windows operating system and Microsoft Office software. Please help with a tax-deductible donation. You can do this online at [www.nplibrary.org](http://www.nplibrary.org), by dropping off a check (made payable to Friends of the North Plains Public Library) at the Library, or by mailing your check to the Friends at PO Box 525, North Plains OR 97133.

**Library Remodel.** If you have been to the Library lately, you will have noticed some wonderful changes in the decor! The Friends of the North Plains Public Library have graciously donated funds to add two ranges of Adult Fiction shelving and to remodel an Adult Non-Fiction shelving unit in order to house more materials. They have also purchased a 3M Self Check machine that allows Library patrons to check out their own items without having to wait in line. A new entryway carpet welcomes you to the Library. Coming up next is a project to move the photocopier into the computer room enabling patrons to release and pay for their own printing jobs without assistance.

**Silent Auction - Japanese Gifts in a Themed Basket.** Look for the basket of intriguing items from Japan at the front door. Bid on the basket by writing your name and the amount you are willing to pay on the form next to the basket. You have until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, **December 19** to place your bid, at which time the highest bidder will be announced and can claim the basket. Items include a doll, coins, magnets, 1000 Yen, postcards, stationary, chopsticks, a mug, a tapestry bag, stickers, a decorative plate, handkerchiefs, a lithograph, a wooden fan with a display stand, The Samurai's Garden by Gail Tsukiyama, and an English-Japanese dictionary, among other things.

**Pay Library Fines by Debit or Credit Card.** It is now possible to pay with debit or credit cards at the

North Plains Public Library! The minimum payment amount is \$15.00. All major cards are accepted - Visa, Mastercard, Discover, American Express.

Library open hours are Monday – Wednesday 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday – Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Library is located at 31334 NW Commercial Street. Call 503-647-5051 or visit our website at [www.nplibrary.org](http://www.nplibrary.org) for more information. You can also find us on Facebook!

## Election Results

Residents of the City of North Plains have reelected David Hatcher as Mayor. Robert “Butch” Kindel and Teri Lenahan were also reelected as Councilors. Charlynn Newton will replace Councilor Ana Singh-Gill who opted not to run for reelection. Ms. Newton will be sworn in this January.

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Volunteers Needed



In 2013, the City of North Plains will host another 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, and we could use your help. Volunteers are needed for both advance planning and to work on the day of the event. Activities that require volunteers include the Cruisin’ Car Show, kids’ play area, contests (like pie eating), and a parade. This year we hope to add a BBQ dinner event.

We are hoping next year’s event will also include more vendors of food and crafts and fireworks.

If you would like to participate in either planning or volunteering on the day of the event, please contact [info@northplains.org](mailto:info@northplains.org) or call Blake Boyles at (503) 647-5555.

## Discarded Vehicles



*Did you know the City has an ordinance prohibiting discarded vehicles in view from the public street?*

Municipal Code section 5.10 states “No person shall park, store, leave or permit the parking or storage of an abandoned, disabled, discarded, off-road, or destruction derby vehicle upon private property within the City in excess of seven (7) days, unless the vehicle is completely enclosed within a building, garage, or covered trailer. Temporary movement of the vehicle shall extend the seven (7) day time limit. This section shall not apply to the operation of a business enterprise conducted in a lawful place and manner and properly licensed. Further, it shall not apply to vehicles surrounded by a sight-obscuring commercial fence or concealed by a cover in good repair which is approved by the City.”

Such vehicles are considered a nuisance as they promote blight and reduce neighborhood property values.

The Code defines a discarded vehicle as “a vehicle which does not have lawfully affixed to it an unexpired license plate, and is in one or more of the following conditions: a) inoperative, b) wrecked, c) dismantled, d) partially dismantled, e) abandoned, f) junked. Discarded vehicles may be considered to include major parts of vehicles, including but not limited to bodies, engines, transmissions and rear ends.”

*The City of North Plains will start enforcing the ordinance more aggressively in the coming months.*

Residents who need assistance determining if a vehicle can be considered as discarded or abandoned should contact the City at (503) 647-5555 or [info@northplains.org](mailto:info@northplains.org).

Initially, warnings will be given to residents, with a 30-day grace period to resolve the issue. If discarded vehicles are left in place, the City may proceed with a citation and abatement of the vehicle.

## Senior Center News

### THANKSGIVING THANKS

Thank you to all who attended the great Thanksgiving dinner at the Senior Center on Turkey Day! We had a good turnout, lots of good food and good friends and family with whom to visit. Thank you also to Margaret and all the volunteers who helped cook, set up, serve, and cleanup.

### DECK THE HALLS--December 8

Come out and join us at the North Plains Senior Center at 9:00 Saturday morning, December 8, as we "deck the hall." We'll have lots of fun putting up the tree and decorating the inside and outside of the Center. There'll be some Christmas music playing and refreshments and coffee. Remember . . . *many hands make light work* . . . so if you can spare some time, please come and help us out.

### FUDGING ALLOWED--Now until December 24

As our holiday fundraiser, our Mrs. Claus and her elves are making homemade fudge with walnuts for Christmas. The cost is \$10/lb. and orders are being taken. Call the North Plains Senior Center and place your order today. You can't ever have too much chocolate . . . *ho-ho-ho!*

### GETTING CRABBY!--January 19

Tickets are on sale now for our 5th annual Crab Feast to be held at Jessie Mays Community Hall, Saturday, January 19 beginning at 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the City of North Plains, Washington County Fire District #2, and Loch Lolly Christmas Forest, the menu will include fresh Dungeness crab, coleslaw, pasta salad, roll, dessert and beverage. Tickets are \$25 each, and proceeds will benefit the North Plains Loaves and Fishes Center and its senior nutrition program. A surf and turf menu is also available for \$35. Seatings will be at 3:00, 4:30 and 6:00. For event information, call Patti Burns 503-647-2619, and for tickets call Margaret Wold, 503-647-5666.

For information about activities or events, other questions about the Center, or suggestions for what would be of interest to you, please call Margaret or Karen at 503-647-5666.

## Prevent Crime: Lock Your Car

Recently, the North Plains Police Department has received numerous reports of thefts from cars. In most cases, the cars were left unlocked overnight. The criminals are striking in the wee hours of the morning to take cell phones, GPS units, electronics, purses, and any other item left in plain view.

Please take an extra moment to remove valuables from plain view and lock your vehicle to avoid becoming a crime victim.

## November Water Use Estimated

Due to a heavy rain storm, the City was unable to read water meters in November. The two-day process of reading meters coincided with very heavy rains that drowned most water meters, making them impossible to read.

This month, water utility bills are based on property owners' use of water during November 2011. Thus, it is possible that a few residents will see unusually low or high bills this month. The amounts will be corrected when meters are read in December.

The City apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause, and we will work with residents who have unusual bills.



## Volunteers needed for Neighborhood Watch

Please contact Chief Snyder if you can spend an hour or two a month preventing crime in our community. Please call the NPPD at (503) 647-2031

North Plains Elementary is asking for your help!!

We are sponsoring our annual...

# Holiday Gift Shop!!

Each year the North Plains Elementary PTO sponsors and coordinates a unique gift shop for our students. It consists of items that have been donated by families and friends of North Plains students as well as business members in the community. Each student will have the opportunity to attend this gift shop and choose a gift for two special adults in his/her life. They will wrap the gift and prepare it for giving.

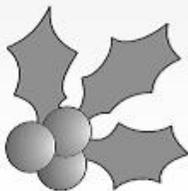
We are in need of your donation in order for the Gift Shop to become possible. These donations should be small items. They will be a gift for an adult and should stay between \$1-\$5. Some suggestions are handmade items, golf accessories, stationery, fishing supplies, calendars, personal care items, kitchen gadgets, small tools, measuring tapes, candy, sporting accessories, knick knacks or garden tools.

Other items we need for the gift shop are wrapping paper, bows, tape, tissue paper, gift bags and gift tags.

If you would like to help...

Please drop off new or like new items at  
North Plains Elementary school office by  
Thursday, December Dec. 6th.

*Thank you for your help!*



QUESTIONS??? Please call:  
North Plains Elementary School at  
503-844-1630



## **Washington County Board of Commissioners to Consider Extension of Nature's Needs Test Period for Food Waste**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners will be considering an extension of the test period for the acceptance of food waste at Nature's Needs facility. This discussion is likely to occur in early December. The Board has the discretion to 1) accept the application to modify the franchise to accept food waste on a permanent basis, 2) continue the test period to allow time for physical improvements to be fully evaluated, or 3) deny the application for food waste. It is the City's understanding that the Board is likely to approve the extension. The Board has asked for the City's comments on proposed odor-monitoring methods.

## City of North Plains

**MAYOR:**

David Hatcher

**CITY COUNCIL:**

President  
Teri Lenahan

Ana Singh-Gill  
Robert Kindel  
Michael Demagalski  
Michael Broome  
Glen Warren

31360 NW Commercial Street  
North Plains, OR 97133

PHONE:  
(503) 647-5555

E-MAIL:  
[info@northplains.org](mailto:info@northplains.org)

City Manager  
Martha DeBry  
[martha@northplains.org](mailto:martha@northplains.org)

Police Chief  
Bill Snyder  
[bills@northplains.org](mailto:bills@northplains.org)

Public Works Director  
Blake Boyles  
[blake@northplains.org](mailto:blake@northplains.org)

Library Director  
Debra Brodie  
[dbrodie@wccls.org](mailto:dbrodie@wccls.org)

We're on the Web!

See us at:

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



## Council Agenda

Issues that will be coming before City Council in December include:

- Discussion of County consideration of food waste acceptance at Nature's Needs facility
- Revision of municipal code sections regarding procedural rules
- Acceptance of Design Guidelines for commercial zones
- Approval of Music Show and Concert in Park programs
- Approval of playdate program
- Draft supplemental budget
- Discussion of Finance Department status
- Discussion McKay Fields Park System Development Charge credits

City Council has regular meetings scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month. All meetings are open to the public. Agendas are published on the City's website the week before the meeting.

## Dates to Remember

**City Council** - December 3 and 17 at Jessie Mays at 7 p.m.

**Jingle** – December 6 at 6:30 p.m. Jessie Mays

**Chamber of Commerce** – December 11 at the Fire Station at Noon

**North Plains Garden Club** – December 11 at Jessie Mays at 9 a.m.

**Planning Commission** – December 12 at Jessie Mays at 7 p.m.

**Recology Stake Holders Meeting** – December 19 at 6 p.m. at the Library

**Library Board** – December 19 at the Library at 7:30 p.m.

**Parks Advisory Board** – December 26 at Jessie Mays at 6 p.m.

## Newsletter by Email

**Do you have family members or friends who live out of town and who might be interested in receiving hometown news?**

They can receive the City Newsletter free of charge by email. Simply tell them to email their address with a request to be added to the Newsletter mailing list to [mdebry@northplains.org](mailto:mdebry@northplains.org).

## Need Help? Dial 2-1-1

This free service can connect you with social service agencies in Washington County. Among the services provided are emergency energy bill assistance, eldercare referrals, emergency housing and food assistance, and drug addiction counseling.

## Are you a teacher?

The City has made it simple and more affordable to use Jessie Mays Community Hall for instruction and other events. Classes that do not charge participants can even have fees waived.

Rental fees and security deposits are lower than in the past.

If you have an idea for a class or event please call City Hall (503) 647-5555.

## Nature's Needs/Recology's Stake Holder Meetings

Recology hosts meetings at the North Plains Library at 6:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month to discuss issues related to the operations of Nature's Needs including odor complaints. December 19 is the next meeting. Please call Recology if you would like additional information or wish to provide comments - (503) 647-9489.