



Community Newsletter



City of North Plains, 31360 NW Commercial Street, North Plains, OR 97133
(503) 647-5555 info@northplains.org www.northplains.org Events: www.npfun.org

Your City Council: [Mayor David Hatcher](#), [Council President Teri Lenahan](#)
[Robert Kindel](#), [Charlynn Newton](#), [Sherrie Simmons](#), [Scott Whitehead](#), [Larry Gonzales](#)
City Council [Agendas/Minutes](#) (←click here)

Election Day is November 8

This is an election year for the City of North Plains. Three City Councilor terms and the Office of the Mayor are all expiring December 31, 2016. The General Election is November 8, 2016. The three candidates running for the Council positions are Robert "Butch" Kindel, Cameron Martinez and Russ Sheldon. Running for the office of Mayor is Teri Lenahan. Be sure you are registered to vote so you can participate in the election.



Voters will decide whether to permanently join Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue

The Washington County Fire District 2 Board of Directors recently decided to ask voters in their communities if they'd like to receive fire, rescue and emergency medical services permanently from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue.

District 2 leaders unanimously passed a resolution during the board's August 9 meeting to place a measure on the November ballot requesting voter approval to dissolve the existing fire district and annex the territory into Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue. If voters approve the measure, all the District 2 firefighters will become permanent TVF&R employees. TVF&R will also provide all administrative services, training, maintenance, and capital improvements.

The purpose of the measure is to stabilize funding for fire, medical, and emergency services and to ensure continued fire protection to area residents in North Plains, Scholls, Midway, Helvetia, Rock Creek, and other portions of central Washington County.

District 2's elected leaders initially approached TVF&R in 2015 about a partnership and contract services since their budget and resources will not sustain current or future staffing levels needed to meet rising demands for service. Since March 1, TVF&R has

provided all of the services previously provided by District 2 to area residents as part of a service contract. Starting July 1, TVF&R increased staffing at both Station 17 in North Plains and Station 19 in Midway to strengthen service levels. District 2 is funded by a combination of property taxes and a local option levy that will expire in June 2017.

The TVF&R of today is rooted in partnerships like these. TVF&R took shape between 1972 and 2004, as a number of small fire departments consolidated to share limited resources and save money. Joining forces permanently through annexation of District 2 to TVF&R would mean the addition of firefighter paramedics with advanced life support training to every medical call, improving response to emergencies such as heart attacks or traumatic injuries. It would also improve the ability to get enough firefighters on scene to start fire attack methods that would otherwise be delayed.

"As a District 2 volunteer for 30 years, I've been personally committed to the safety of our community," said Robert "Butch" Kindel, District 2 board president and member of the North Plains City Council. "But like many other fire districts around the country, we've found it difficult to meet the rising demands for emergency services. Our partnership with TVF&R creates stability and an opportunity for improved service."

For more information about the ballot measure or to schedule a community presentation, call Cassandra Ulven at 503-649-8577.

Public Hearing: C-2 & M2 Marijuana Code & Neighborhood Community Code Update to City Council

The municipal code for Commercial (C-2) and Industrial (M-2) zones have been revised by the North Plains Planning Commission, during public hearings, to

accommodate the various types of marijuana facilities within the city limits. The recommended changes will be reviewed by the City Council at a September 6th public hearing which starts at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. A second public hearing addressing the Neighborhood Community (NC) zone code will also be heard at the September 6, 2016 meeting. This zone determines the code and requirements of the annexation expansion areas. If you would like to comment on these issues, you can submit written comments to the [City Recorder](#) 24 hours in advance of the meeting, or in person during the public hearing. You are always welcome to attend!

Public Hearing: Planning Commission

FEMA has recently updated their floodplain maps. On September 14, 2016, the Planning Commission will conduct a Public Hearing on File No.16-085 to update Chapter 16.65 (Floodplain Overlay) of the Zoning and Development Ordinance to reflect current FEMA regulations. The Planning Commission's recommendation will be heard in a second public hearing which will be held before City Council on October 3, 2016.

The City is updating the Zoning and Development Ordinance to change the basis for the establishment of the areas of special flood hazard. The current code references "The Flood Insurance Study of the City of North Plains, Oregon, Washington County, Oregon' dated March 16, 1989". The language will be changed to reference current adopted FEMA mapping.

Vacancy on Planning Commission

The City of North Plains Planning Commission has an opening that needs to be filled. If you are interested in serving your community with the planning and future development of the city please stop by City Hall for an application or download a copy of the application at: http://cityofnp.org/files/2614/2739/5531/Current_Planning_Commission_Application.pdf

More info on the rules and terms can be found in Chapter 1.35 of the Municipal Code at http://cityofnp.org/files/2613/8142/5749/chapter_1.35_planning_commission.pdf

We are accepting applications until September 6th.

Library News

Meet North Plains' New Library Director Will Worthey. You are invited! The City of North Plains has hired Will Worthey as its new full time Library Director. He will begin work on September 1, and there will be a welcome reception for him on **Friday, September 16** from 5 to 7 p.m. at the library. Worthey replaces part time Library Director Debbie Brodie who will retire at the end of the month. The Friends of the North Plains Public Library will host the reception, and the public is welcome to drop in to meet him.

Library Card Sign-up Month and Lucky Barcode Contest. Since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each **September** to mark the beginning of the school year. It is a time when the American Library Association and libraries across the country remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all. Check the poster in the library each week in September to see if the last three digits on your library card match one of the numbers listed. You could win your choice of a Fannie May candy bar or a small bag of apples (generously supplied by Mason Hill Orchard).

First Friday Flick. Join us at the Jessie Mays Community Hall on **Friday, September 2** at 6 p.m. for a free showing of *Angry Birds*, a PG-rated, animated action comedy. Find out why an island inhabited by flightless birds becomes the site where green pigs decide to visit. What are they up to? Popcorn will be served.

Handkerchiefs – The Artful Little Squares of History. The handkerchief, although small, is a textile rich in history. The North Plains Public Library will welcome Terese Blanding of Billings, Montana on **Thursday, September 8** at 6:30 p.m. for a program that explores the wide-ranging historical and literary adventures of hankies, from Shakespeare's *Othello* to works by Louisa May Alcott, Walt Whitman, Mark Twain, Willa Cather, Truman Capote, Ivan Doig, and Barbara Kingsolver, among others. Blanding will also display her collection of over 1,000 vintage handkerchiefs – little 3-inch squares to one 36-inch square.

Artist Trading Cards

Connect and swap art with others on the third **Thursday** of each month at 6 p.m. at the library. The next ATC meeting will be on **September 15**. Call 503-647-5051 to learn the current month's theme. Craft artists meet to trade these miniature works of art – about the size of a baseball card – with each other. This

North Plains Market & Liquor

31580 NW Commercial St 503-647-
5332 mynmarket.biz

Open daily
Mon-Fri 7am- 8pm
Sat-Sun 8am-8pm



*Come see our new selection
of fine whiskeys, vodkas,
tequilas, cordials and other
spirits!*

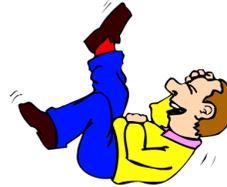
is a fun way to meet other artists and exchange creations. The get-together is free and open to the public.

Beatrix Potter – Life and Works. Join us at the North Plains Public Library as we welcome Terese Blanding of Billings, Montana on **Saturday, September 17** at 1 p.m. for a program in which she shares the story of one of the world's most beloved writers and illustrators of children's literature. Helen Beatrix Potter, the creator of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* and numerous other well-known books, was born in London during the mid-Victorian era. After enduring an oppressive childhood, she became one of England's most successful writers, naturalists, business-women, and sheep breeders, owning large areas of land in northern England. Included in the program is a display of the many books authored and illustrated by Potter as well as drawings, photos, wallpapers, fabrics, garments, games, porcelain figures, and other memorabilia relating to Potter and her endearing characters.

Library Book Club. On **Wednesday, September 28** beginning at 7 p.m. at the Library, the book *Neurotribes: The Legacy of Autism and the Future of Neurodiversity* by Steve Silberman will be discussed. From the website goodreads.com: "A New York Times bestseller and winner of the 2015 Samuel Johnson

Prize for non-fiction, this groundbreaking book upends conventional thinking about autism and suggests a broader model for acceptance, understanding, and full participation in society for people who think differently." New members are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Community Night of Comedy



Acting With Mo is looking for comedians of all ages for another night of comedy benefiting the North Plains Food Pantry with a canned food drive.

Does your son or daughter make you laugh with jokes they can tell? Is your husband or wife hilarious? Do you have a gift of making people laugh? Well the time has come to sign up for the night of Comedy! This is for ages 5-100, new talent to lots of experience.

We will meet one night on 11/08 from 7-9 pm to go over your routine and schedule when you will go up on stage for the one-night performance on 11/11 from 7-9 pm. This comedy is rated PG.

Call Maureen at 503-447-1263 or email her at onceuponatime713@yahoo.com for more information and reserve your spot in the spotlight!

Those were the good old days... Why Vernonia?



**By Melvin Van Domelen
Mountindale, OR**

One of the things that has always bothered me was being born in Vernonia. All of the other children that my Mother had were born in the big farm house at Mountindale.

The story goes that there was, what was then called a practical nurse, a Granny Rodgers. Mrs. Rodgers had always come to Mountindale to help my Mother with a birth of a baby. I never knew the lady's first name, she was always referred to as Granny Rodgers.

This picture is of my Mother and Granny Rodgers. Mrs. Rodgers lived in a small



house on North Street, but she owned a larger house next door where she cared for people in need. She was the closest thing Vernonia had to a hospital. When I was due to come into this world, Granny Rodgers was taking care of someone in Vernonia who was very ill. So my Mother went to Vernonia for my birth. That is why my birth certificate reads "Born in Vernonia, Columbia County 12-16-31".



In the photo, I am being held by Granny Rodgers in December 1931.

I am told my Father came on Christmas Eve to bring my Mother and me home. On Christmas morning my parents put me under the Christmas tree and told my brothers and sister that I was their

Christmas present. I'm sure there were other gifts, but this was the era of the great depression and times were tough.

My Mother had two cousins who lived in Vernonia. As I grew up my parents visited these cousins and Granny quite often.

In the late 1930's Columbia County was still an open range County. Livestock were allowed to roam free everywhere. My Father would have to watch for cows and goats in the road.

In Granny Rodgers' woodshed there were always a pile of firewood, scraps from a planer mill. There were smooth pieces of 2 x 4's, 2 x 6's and the like. They were like an endless supply of building blocks to me. I'd spend hours in that shed stacking them up.

During one of the Vernonia visits, my Sister and I went with our cousins for ice cream. There was an ice cream parlor called the Pal Shop just west of the Rock Creek Bridge. I remember this so well, for it was the first time I ever tasted orange sherbet. I thought it was the greatest stuff. The Joy Theater was still in operation across the street.

From the bridge over Rock Creek we could look down in this dam in the creek that created the swimming

hole there for the community. This practice still goes on today.



In the late 1930's there were still a lot of wooden sidewalks around Vernonia with cracks between the boards. My Sister, Betty Jean, once dropped a nickel down through one of these cracks. A nickel, to kids, in those days was something hard to part with. A man living nearby saw us fussing around and came to our rescue with a pick-ax to pry the board up. We retrieved our nickel!

About 1951 my Brother Dale and I delivered a load of hay to the Vernonia area. While there, we were able to tour the huge Oregon American sawmill that was still running. This operation stretched close to a mile from mill pond to the storage yards. We went across the street to a small store to get cookies and sodas. The lady asked "What's your number?" We had no idea what she was talking about. She says "Everyone has a number". We found that the mill workers and some town people charged by their number and paid when they could.

When our daughter, Vanessa, had her learner's driving permit, I took her to Vernonia one Sunday afternoon. It was a good place for someone to practice parking. She could drive around the block and learn her hand signals. We were able to get a picture of the house where I was born.

In recent months I've had talks with a gentleman who grew up in Vernonia. He has memories of the Pal Shop by the bridge. He told about the owner of the Joy Theater raising ticket prices from 20 cents to 25 cents. This move caused the high school kids to protest and picket out front. After they boycotted for two weeks the admission price was reduced.

So, I need to go to Vernonia again for old time's sake. I know the Pal Shop and the theater are gone. I'll drive by my birth place on North Street and see what is there now.

It's a matter of public record. Melvin M. VanDomelen born in Vernonia, Columbia County 12-16-31.

Sept. 2016 Calendar

- 09/01 **Thursday Marketplace** 5 p.m. on Commercial Street
- 09/02 **First Friday Flick** 6 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 09/05 **Historical Society** 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 09/06 **City Council Meeting** 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 09/10 **Super Saturday** 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 09/14 **Planning Commission** 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center
- 09/16 **Reception for new Library Director** 5 p.m. at the Library
- 09/17 **Senior Center Dance** 7 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 09/19 **City Council Meeting** 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 09/21 **Library Board** 7 p.m. at the Library
- 09/28 **Parks Board** 6 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center
- 09/29 **Vision Implementation Work Group** 7 p.m. at the Senior Center



NPEA News Corner Events Calendar

- October 13 - Chili Cook-off
- December 8 - North Plains Jingle Parade

Lennar Homes unveils new Solar Homes

Lennar Homes, the builder of the McKay Creek Crossing subdivision off of 307th Ave and Highland court, cut the ribbon on their new subdivision of solar homes on August 6th.



As one of the numerous subdivisions that are being built here in North Plains, we are especially excited to see that renewable energy sources being built in! Stop in and check them out!



<p>We Deliver!!</p>  <p>Thursday, Friday & Saturday 5 – 7:30 pm \$20 minimum \$3 delivery fee</p>	<p>VIDEO LOTTERY PLATINUM SERIES</p> <p><i>New platinum games</i></p> <p>Enjoy free soda, cookies and chips while you play!</p>	<p>Try our New Buffalo Chicken Pizza!</p> <p>Zesty Ranch, spicy buffalo chicken, red onions, Pepperoncini, crispy bacon</p>	
<p>GERALDI'S <i>The Italian Eating Place</i></p> <p>\$4 off ANY X-LARGE PIZZA \$3 off ANY LARGE PIZZA <small>Expires in 30 days. Cannot be combined with any other offers.</small></p>	<p>GERALDI'S <i>The Italian Eating Place</i></p> <p>\$10.00 LARGE PEPPERONI PIZZA <small>Expires in 30 days. Cannot be combined with any other offers.</small></p>	<p>GERALDI'S <i>The Italian Eating Place</i></p> <p>\$30.00 Large Pepperoni Pizza Large Speciality Pizza <small>Expires in 30 days. Cannot be combined with any other offers.</small></p>	
			<p> Find us on Facebook</p> <p>Like our facebook page for special offers just for our followers!</p> 