

# Community Newsletter

January  
2016

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

Your City Council: [Mayor David Hatcher](#), [Council President Teri Lenahan](#),  
[Robert Kindel](#), [Sandi King](#), [Charlynn Newton](#), [Sherrie Simmons](#), [Scott Whitehead](#)



## HAPPY NEW YEAR

### 8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NORTH PLAINS CRAB FEED

Saturday, January 16, 2016



It is here already. The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual North Plains Crab Feed, Saturday, January 16, 2016. This is a fundraiser for the North Plains Senior Center. Tickets are on sale in advance at the Senior Center

or online at [www.northplainssc.org](http://www.northplainssc.org). Advance sale prices are \$35 for crab or \$40 for crab and steak. If you wish to wait to purchase your tickets at the door, the prices will be \$40 and \$45. Seating times vary-3:00, 4:30 and 6:00. Raffle baskets will be on hand, and tickets will be available for a chance to win a hand-knit heirloom afghan. There will be silent auction items also, including a guided fishing tour for two. Come and join your neighbors and bring your friends for good food and good music. Beer and wine will also be available.

### North Plains Jingle Results!

The winners of the 2015 North Plains Jingle are as follows:

Best House: Sarah Sewell at 31348 NW Cottage

Best Street: Lenox Street

Best Holiday Spirit Golf Cart: "White Christmas" by Andrea Johnson

Congratulations and thank you for a wonderful night full of holiday spirit and fun!

### A Community Night of Comedy!



Acting With Mo! is looking for comedians! Ages from elementary to retirees! We are going to have a Night of Comedy for the community of North Plains. Interested contestants will attend three rehearsal sessions on January 19, 22, and 26, 2016. Contact Maureen Hicks at [onceuponatime713@yahoo.com](mailto:onceuponatime713@yahoo.com) or call 503-447-1263 to schedule a spot in the Night of Comedy production! Everyone who is interested in being a contestant for this family night of comedy will go on! No auditions! The performance will be held on Friday, January 29, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. with MC Michael Colombo. The Treasure Chest will be providing the props and stage decorations. This will be a family-friendly event and will be open to all. Price of admission will be two canned good items. Pizza and cookies donated by Gerald's Italian Eatery will be available for purchase the night of the performance. All proceeds will go to the North Plains Food Pantry.

Let's show North Plains how to laugh after the holidays!



### Important Envision North Plains Updates

Thank you to all who participated online and in person to create the City's 2035 Vision. Based on the guidance of more than 200 participants, the Envision North Plains process engaged new and long-time residents in describing a positive future for North Plains.

## North Plains in 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. Community participation is strong and community members can see the results of their involvement. Community gathering places and events form the heart of North Plains.

*The full vision and goals language can be found at this link: [www.envisionnp.com](http://www.envisionnp.com)*

**Vision Implementation!** Our next step is to implement the 2035 vision through a series of Comprehensive Plan updates. Please let us know at [www.envisionnp.com](http://www.envisionnp.com) if you are interested in serving on the **Vision Implementation Work Group**. We anticipate meeting six times over the next year. Applications are available online and are due January 15, 2016. Please see [www.envisionnp.com](http://www.envisionnp.com) for more details or to sign up to receive periodic updates.

**Help Create Our Economic Future!** Along with strengthening our neighborhoods, refining our economic development focus is a top priority. We are looking for **all businesses** to complete a business survey recently mailed or via an online survey. See

[www.envisionnp.com](http://www.envisionnp.com) for more information or to answer the survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NPBusinessSurvey>  
Responses are due by January 15, 2016.

## Library News

**Holiday Closures.** The library will be closed on New Year's Day, **Friday, January 1** and on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, **Monday, January 18**.

**Storytimes.** Children ages 0-6 are invited to participate every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the children's section of the library.

- **January 6** Storytime with Miss Marion
- **January 13** Storytime with Teacher Barbara: Rotten Days
- **January 20** Special Guest Storytime: Children's Author Curtis Cooper
- **January 27** Storytime with Youth Librarian Jackie: Rabbits

**First Friday Flick.** No movie will be shown in January because of the New Year's Day holiday. The next First Friday Flick will be on February 5.

**Art Exhibit.** In **January** and **February**, John Driscoll, North Plains' resident, photographer and naturalist, will exhibit some of his favorite photos at the Library. His works feature local images as well as those captured while traveling to western British Columbia and Alaska. He has been photographing for several years, especially focusing on nature. John is also a volunteer naturalist for Metro and Tualatin Riverkeepers, leading field trips for school-aged children.

**Quilt Display.** The quilt on display above the checkout desk throughout the month of **January** will be provided by West Side Quilters Guild member Suzanne Dailey. The pattern is titled "Almost Amish." This E-Z 9-patch was pieced and hand-quilted in 2001-2002. It measures 76.5 inches by 57.5 inches.

**Writers' Group.** Share your writing projects and receive feedback from peers on **Thursday, January 7** beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the library. New members are welcome to join. (This is not a teacher/trainer-led class.)

**Super Saturday.** Penny's Puppet Productions is a professional one-woman puppet company offering joyful programs that ignite the imagination and fill the room with excitement and laughter. On **Saturday, January 9** at 1 p.m. at the Jessie Mays Community Hall, come see an original mini-musical puppet production: *Super Hero Machine*. Super Donkey believes that

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## 8th Annual North Plains Crab Feed

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

1<sup>st</sup> Seating: 3:00 p.m. - 2<sup>nd</sup> Seating 4:30 p.m. - 3<sup>rd</sup> Seating 6:00 p.m.

\$35.00 for Crab or Steak ----- \$40.00 for Surf & Turf (\$5.00 more at the door)

This event benefits the North Plains Senior Center & Meals on Wheels

Dinner will be served at:

Jessie Mays Community Center 30975 NW Hillcrest St.



For more information & tickets, call Patti Burns 508-647-5666

Crab Feed Sponsored by:



everyone has a super hero inside just waiting to be discovered. So he builds a machine that will help his friends discover their superpowers. However, Vinnie the Villain wants to steal the Super Hero machine and make it his own. Come sing, laugh, and discover the surprise ending to this heroic tale. All ages are welcome to attend this free event.

**Friends of the Library.** There will be a general meeting of the Friends on Monday, January 11 at the library beginning at 7 p.m. New members are welcome to attend.

**Library Board.** There will be a regular meeting of the Library Board on Wednesday, January 20 at the library beginning at 7 p.m. This meeting is open to the public.

**Library Book Club.** Our Book Club will hold its annual potluck party on **Thursday, January 28** beginning at 6 p.m., and the books chosen to read in the new year will be announced during this time. Book Club members are encouraged to submit two or three book suggestions by **January 7**, either by email to [info@nplibrary.org](mailto:info@nplibrary.org) or by delivering your written choices to a Library Clerk at the North Plains Library. A listing of all the suggestions, with summary information, will be sent to everyone by **January 9**, whether you made a suggestion or not. You will have two weeks to consider the nominations and decide which books you would like to read next year. Then, everyone will vote for 11 books from the list by **January 25**, either by email to [info@nplibrary.org](mailto:info@nplibrary.org) or by delivering your written choices to a Library Clerk. The results of the voting will be tallied, and the top-scoring **11** books will be announced at our potluck party. If we have any ties, we will do a coin flip at the party. If you have any questions, please call 503-647-0353 for more info.

The potluck food can be anything of your choosing. We always have a great selection of yummy dishes to feast on and wonderful books to look forward to reading. New members are welcome to join us! This is a perfect time to become involved with our group and participate in the selection process.

**Lego Palooza.** Drop in between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on **Friday, January 29**, a No-School Day, for Lego Palooza at the Jessie Mays Community Hall. Hang out and build with Legos or Duplos that we provide. (Please leave yours at home and ours there.) Kids, teens, and adults are welcome to participate.

**Wanted – Refrigerator.** The Friends of the Library will be moving its online book sales operation from the annex at the Jessie Mays Community Hall to the yellow

house across the street from the library on Commercial Street at the first of the new year. Volunteers who post books for sale on the Amazon account would appreciate having a refrigerator in which to put their sack lunches. We are seeking the donation of a gently-used refrigerator, which can be any width, but it must be less than 67” tall to fit under the cabinets in the kitchen. Please contact staff at the library at 503-647-5051 if you have one to donate.

## **North Plains Senior Center News**

*To all days here and after,  
May they be filled with fond memories,  
Happiness and laughter.*

**The North Plains Senior Center wishes you  
a Happy New Year!**

### **8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CRAB FEED—Jan. 16**

Tickets are on sale now. \$35 for crab *or* steak, or \$40 for both (\$5 more at the door). Proceeds benefit the North Plains Senior Center and Meals on Wheels program.

**SENIOR CENTER JANUARY CLOSURES**—January 1, New Year’s Day and January 18, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

**TAX TIME IS COMING**—AARP will once again be at the Center to review taxes, beginning February 4. We should be able to book appointments by the middle of January. You need not be a senior to have your taxes done.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**—The North Plains Meals on Wheels program is always looking for volunteers. We need drivers to take meals to homebound senior citizens, as well as kitchen help (prep, serve, & clean-up) Monday-Friday every week. You can pick which days and hours fit your schedule.

**POP ‘N’ PAINT WORKSHOP**—Jan. 20 at 6:30 p.m.

**BINGO, Jan. 19**—Cards and food ready at 6; start calling numbers at 6:30

**Liver & Onions for Lunch**—Tuesday, Jan. 19, because Monday is a holiday.

**BUNCO**—Jan. 14 and 28. Start time is 1:15.

## EXERCISE CLASS

The class meets on Monday and Friday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the North Plains Senior Center. It is low

impact exercises using weights, bands and movement to increase balance, flexibility and strength. The class is FREE!



## Those were the good old days... Out on the Porch



By Melvin Van Domelen,  
Mountaindale, OR

My parent's house at Mountaindale was large. It was built around 1910; the construction of the home took a year and a half. I was told that one carpenter did most of the work, along with my

Grandfather's son. The carpenter was paid \$600.00 plus room and board for his efforts. The house was a Craftsman Bungalow, a popular design of the time.

There were five bedrooms in the Van Domelen home, and a large sleeping porch upstairs, extended across the entire north end. Sleeping porches were in style and a big deal in those days. The screened in 2 ft. opening around the sleeping porch shows on the right hand side, just below the roof in the photograph.

I remember that in the summer our whole

family would move their beds to the sleeping porch and stay there until they heard crickets in the fall.

My sister, Betty Jean, attended Banks High School in the early 1940's. During this time she had a slumber party out on the porch. Sleep for the rest of the family was impossible. There was laughter, singing and pillow fights. My older brothers had rigged an alarm clock to ring a cowbell at midnight.

My Father came and told me to "Fetch a blanket" and we spent the rest of the night



sleeping in the hay loft of our barn. It was a night to forget.

During the time I attended high school, from 1946 to 1950, I slept out on the porch year around. That was about the time in a youngster's life when one wants to do his own thing. I really did enjoy it. This open screened area extended around three sides of the porch so in reality I slept outside with a roof over my head. A few mornings I would find fine drifted snow on the blankets. One night I had a glass of water on my nightstand that froze and broke. The temperature fell below zero twice during these years.

I had two mattresses in my bed, one flat and another curled under on both sides. This made a tight "u" shaped tunnel down the middle. If I put enough blankets on top, I could survive anything except a direct lightning strike.

I remember coming home from a football game or a movie to find my Mother had slipped a hot water bottle in to warm my feet. That's what mothers do.

Around 1947 the telephone system that had been owned by the local folks was taken over by a telephone company. Every household then had a hand-cranked wall phone they didn't need anymore.

A neighbor boy, Merlyn Connolly, who lived at the Mountaindale store, and I decided to put the old phones to use again. My Father had an electric fence with two strands of barbed wire on insulators that ran almost all the way from our house to the store. We used this fence for our telephone line and added wire to Merlynn's bedroom and my sleeping porch. It worked beautifully. We could ring each other and talk. I even had my crystal radio set hooked into the system and Merlynn could listen in. My favorite program on the crystal set was Bob Crosby and the Bob Cats that came in every evening at 9:45. A few times the wind or snow would give us trouble and we would have to go out and work on our phone line.

After our Mother had passed away, we divided the family keepsakes among my sister, brothers and I. We took turns choosing an item. I ended up with the old telephone. My sister's daughter, Janice Loehden, had expressed a wish to have the telephone. I told Janice she could keep the phone until she married, then I wanted it back. The telephone hung in the Loehden home by the fireplace and it looked neat there.

Time went by until one day my sister was all bubbly and excited. She told me that Janice and Kevin Upton were engaged to be married. "Do you know what that means?" she said. "Do you know what that means?" I said "Sure. I get the old phone back."



The telephone had a place in our home for a while, but it is retired now and only comes out for historical displays. That old phone shared my adventures while I was sleeping out on the porch.

## North Plains Historical Society

Our motto is: *You are history in the making*

Please come join us, on January 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Jessie Mays Community Center at 1:00 pm. There will be lots of stories and items to share. There will be refreshments served.

Call 503-647-2285 for additional information.

## January 2016 Calendar

- 01/01** Happy New Year! City offices and Library will be closed.
- 01/04** Historical Society 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 01/04** City Council Meeting 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street

- 01/06** Storytime 11:30 a.m. at the Library
- 01/07** Writers Group 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- 01/09** Super Saturday 1:00 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 01/13** Garden Club 9:00 a.m. at Jessie Mays
- 01/13** Storytime 11:30 a.m. at the Library
- 01/13** Planning Commission 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 01/14** Food Pantry 5 p.m. at 31311 Commercial Street
- 01/16** North Plains Senior Center Crab Feed Seatings at 3:00, 4:30 and 6:00 at Jessie Mays
- 01/18** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day City offices and the Library will be closed.
- 01/19** City Council Meeting 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 01/20** Storytime 11:30 a.m. at the Library
- 01/20** Library Board 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- 01/27** Storytime 11:30 a.m. at the Library
- 01/27** Parks Board 6 p.m. at North Plains City Hall
- 01/28** Food Pantry 5 p.m. at 31311 Commercial Street
- 01/29** Lego Palooza 11:00 a.m. at Jessie Mays
- 01/29** A Community Night of Comedy! 6:00 p.m. at Jessie Mays. Admission is two canned good items!



<p><b>We Deliver!!</b></p> <p><b>Thursday, Friday &amp; Saturday</b></p> <p><b>5 – 7:30 pm</b></p> <p><small>\$20 minimum \$3 delivery fee</small></p>	<p><b>VIDEO LOTTERY</b></p> <p><small>PLATINUM SERIES</small></p> <p><i>New platinum games</i></p> <p>Enjoy free soda, cookies and chips while you play!</p>	<p><b>Happy New Year!</b></p> 
 <p><b>\$4 off</b> ANY X-LARGE PIZZA</p> <p><b>\$3 off</b> ANY LARGE PIZZA</p> <p><small>Expires in 30 days North Plains Location only</small></p>	 <p><b>\$10.00</b> LARGE PEPPERONI PIZZA</p> <p><small>Expires in 30 days North Plains Location only</small></p>	 <p><b>\$1 off</b> ANY SANDWICH</p> <p><small>Expires in 30 days North Plains Location only</small></p>
<p>Find us on <b>Facebook</b></p> <p>Like our facebook page for special offers just for our followers!</p> 		

# NORTH PLAINS VISION STATEMENT

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.

## Community

Our events are inclusive and connect neighbors frequently. Residents and visitors enjoy events such as the North Plains Elephant Garlic Festival and a rich variety of social and cultural activities to celebrate the city, its history and its people. North Plains' residents are active and engaged in civic events and decision-making processes.

## Economic Opportunity

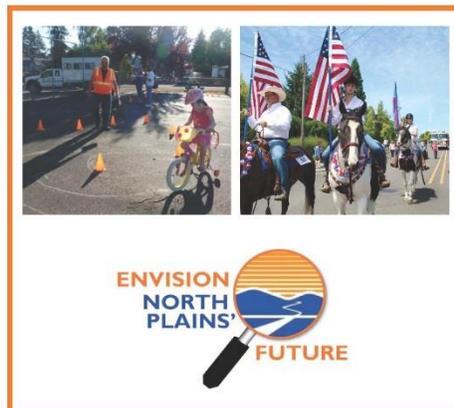
Downtown North Plains retains its old town atmosphere and is a vibrant, walkable, attractive place to shop, dine and gather. Glencoe Road and Commercial Street supply business-friendly, mixed-use areas for residential and commercial development. Employment areas provide land for industrial and other employment opportunities. Proximity to US 26 provides easy access to well paying jobs in the region. North Plains is recognized as a gateway to the Oregon Coast.

## Neighborhoods

North Plains is a well planned and connected city where residents and visitors enjoy pedestrian and bicycle paths between neighborhoods and to downtown. Walking is safe. Bicyclists understand designated routes and share the road safely. North Plains is connected to surrounding recreational, economic and cultural amenities.

## Heritage & Natural Resources

North Plains' agricultural heritage is visible and accessible in places like Lakeview Farms. City policies preserve natural assets and areas, such as McKay Creek and Ghost Creek tributaries.



## Connectivity

Historic structures are maintained and rehabilitated to accommodate new homes and businesses. There is a range of quality housing for all ages and income levels. Housing is attractive, compatible and builds upon historic North Plains' patterns. Land uses and housing types transition cohesively among neighborhoods.

## Public Services

North Plains' families and visitors enjoy the City's parks, trails, community center and recreational opportunities. The library continues its vital role as a place of learning. Residents value first responders, community policing, fire prevention and emergency preparedness. Proficient government agencies maintain existing city assets and coordinate future development. Transportation routes for freight, automobiles, bicycles and pedestrians are well-marked and communicated. Parks and recreation activities are easily accessible, including walking, bicycling and golfing.

Implementation starts in 2016!

Join the conversations at [envisionnp.org](http://envisionnp.org)