

Community Newsletter

March
2015



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](#), [Sandi King](#), [Charlynn Newton](#), [Sherrie Simmons](#), [Scott Whitehead](#)

“ACTING WITH MO”

It's time for Acting With Mo! Come and join the fun this year! Children ages 5-12 are welcome to come and learn acting techniques during 8 weeks of classes with a performance at the end of this course. We can use up to 20 children to perform two one-act plays written by either Mo or Julia Richards. Julia is a new addition to the teaching of these classes with over 25 years of acting experience!

Classes will be on Mondays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Jessie Mays Community Hall, with the final performance on the last day at 5:00 p.m. To sign up your child, call Mo at 503-447-1263 or email her at mhicks713@yahoo.com.

This class is open to all kids for free, and no experience is needed.

2015 THURSDAY MARKETPLACE

The North Plains Thursday Marketplace is just around the corner! If you would like to join the Market Board or volunteer this year at the market please e-mail, northplainsfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Our next Market Board meeting will be March 2, 2015 at the Rogue Brew Pub at 7:00 pm.

New Seasons Market Grant Program will be sponsoring the Market Sprouts Kids' Club in 2015 with a \$3,750 grant. In 2014, 151 children from the North Plains Grade School participated with Market Sprouts. The Oregon Trail Card Match will be \$5.00 per person, per market. We thank the Rogue Brew Pub and Eatery who will be the music sponsor for 2015! Board members Livia Blazack and Vanessa VanDomelen attended the Oregon Farmers' Market Association Annual meeting and the Oregon Small



NORTH PLAINS
FARMERS' MARKET



Match will be \$5.00 per person, per market. We thank the Rogue Brew Pub and Eatery who will be the music sponsor for 2015! Board members Livia Blazack and Vanessa VanDomelen attended the Oregon Farmers' Market Association Annual meeting and the Oregon Small



Farms Conference on February 27 & 28, 2015 and have come back with many wonderful ideas.

Join us at the North Plains Thursday Marketplace, beginning Thursday,

June 4 and going through Thursday, September 24, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. on NW Commercial St. in North Plains, Oregon!

MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Spring yard work is upon us and now is the time to remember to trim shrubs and trees back from sidewalks. Height clearance on sidewalks should be no less than 7 feet. It is also important to remember sidewalks should be passable at all times, this means it should not be a place to store portable basketball hoops and recycle bins, nor park cars over the sidewalk.

Keep your property free from noxious vegetation. What is noxious vegetation, you ask? This can be anything that could become a health hazard, a fire hazard, or a traffic hazard, if it begins to impair the view of a public thoroughfare. Also, weeds and grass should not exceed 10 inches in height.

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Director, Blake Boyles at blake@northplains.org or call 503-647-5555.

DID YOU KNOW?...



Did you know that North Plains' residents can drop off wood and yard debris at Nature's Needs/Recology at no cost year round? You only need to present your ID to prove residency.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Have you been thinking that you would really like to get more involved with your small community? Well, opportunity awaits you. There are four openings on the North Plains Budget Committee and two openings on the North Plains Parks Board. If you are interested, give us a call at City Hall or check out the website for more information.

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.

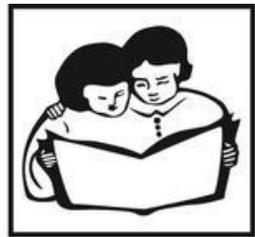
- **March 4** Storytime with Miss Marion: Watch it Blow!
- **March 11** Storytime with Teacher Barbara: Noise
- **March 18** Special Guests: Baby Goats
- **March 25** Storytime with Youth Librarian Jackie: Cats

Writers' Group. Share your writing projects and receive feedback from peers on **Thursday, March 5** at 6:30 p.m. New members are welcome to join. (This is not a teacher/trainer-led class.)

First Friday Flick – Join us on the first Friday of each month at the Jessie Mays Community Hall at 6 p.m. for a FREE movie showing. On **Friday, March 6**, come see *Big Hero 6*, the PG-rated, comedy-action adventure from Walt Disney Animation Studios. Hiro Hamada, his friends, and his brother Tadashi's plus-sized, inflatable robot, Baymax, set off to save the city of San Fransokyo from a notorious villain. Refreshments will be served.

Friends of the Library. There will be a general meeting of the Friends on **Monday, March 9** at the Library from 7:30-9:00 p.m. New members are welcome to attend.

Art Exhibits. The art exhibit in **March and April** will feature works by Anne Marie Grgich, a Portland-based collage artist with national and international acclaim. A reception will be held in her honor on **Friday, March 13** from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Library. The evening will also feature art viewing and wine tasting at Abbey Creek Vineyards from 6 to 9 p.m. Join your friends and spend the evening enjoying this fabulous Art Walk event.



FRIENDS
OF NORTH PLAINS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Super Saturday – Leapin' Louie! All ages are invited to come watch this free, one-man western comedy show on **Saturday, March 14** beginning at 1 p.m. at the Jessie Mays Community Hall. David Lichtenstein specializes in physical comedy, trick roping, fancy whip cracking, juggling, and unicycling – a virtuoso of new vaudeville and alternative circus. For more information, visit: <http://www.comedytricks.com/>.

Introduction to Beekeeping. Join us at the Library on **Thursday, March 19** from 6-7 p.m. to learn about the benefits of keeping honeybees. Jeff Clark and his family keep bees in rural northern Washington County. He is the President of the Tualatin Valley beekeepers and a journeyman in the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program. This free presentation will cover:

- Hives and equipment
- Cost of getting started
- Local rules and regulations
- Resources for more information (local bee groups, and bee schools)

Come listen and ask questions to find out if beekeeping is for you!

LEGO Palooza. Come to Jessie Mays Community Hall on the first day of Spring Break, **Monday, March 23**, and use your imagination to make fantastic LEGO creations. Drop in between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Kids, teens, and adults are welcome. We will provide the LEGOs (for ages 6 and up) and DUPLOs (for ages 3 and up), so please leave yours at home and ours at Jessie Mays!

Library Book Club. The Book Club will meet at the Library on **Wednesday, March 25** beginning at 6:00 p.m. to discuss The Housekeeper and the Professor by Yoko Ogawa. This is beautifully-written story of a brilliant math professor who has suffered a traumatic brain injury, and who is left with just eighty minutes of current short-term memory. An astute, young housekeeper, with her ten-year-old son, is hired to care for him. This is an enchanting story about what it means to live in the present and about the unusual equations that can create a family. Refreshments will be served.

Quilt Display. The quilt on display above the checkout desk throughout the month of **March** is titled *Swoon*. It was created by Anne Marie Cowley, a member of the Westside Quilters Guild. The pattern for this 80" square quilt is by Thimble Blossoms, and the piece was quilted with straight lines.

Thank You Epson Portland, Inc. The Friends of the North Plains Public Library wish to acknowledge and thank Dave and Emi Graham and Epson Portland, Inc.

for the generous donation of a new Epson printer! It will be used by the Friends for their online book sales program which is conducted from the Jessie Mays Community Hall annex and which netted \$2,500 this past year for the Library. Many thanks to the Grahams and Epson for helping with this fundraising program!

Coming in April – Fourth Annual Haiku Contest.

Celebrate National Poetry Month with us this April.

Enter your haiku poems from **April 1-27** to win a Regal Cinemas gift card. This year's theme is Super Heroes!

Coming in April - Beginner Internet Genealogy. Learn how to use Heritage Quest and Ancestry databases. Explore websites such as Family Search and Find-a-Grave. Three FREE classes will be taught by Library staff member Donna from 6-8 p.m. on consecutive Thursday nights. Class size is limited to nine people using Library computers and four people using their own laptops. Participants must commit to all three classes. Call the Library to sign up (503-647-5051):

- **April 16** Basic Record-Keeping and Heritage Quest
- **April 23** Family Search and Find-a-Grave
- **April 30** Ancestry (not accessible from laptops) and Wrap-up

Classes will be hands-on. Come prepared with whatever information you have about people you want to find - names, dates and locations of birth, death, and marriages.

Save the Date – Friday, April 17 – 11th Annual Art of the Story Festival. National storyteller Sam Payne of Utah will perform at the Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club beginning at 7 p.m. His storytelling skills, jazz-inflected folk music, and soaring tenor voice have established him as an engaging performer. This free program, sponsored by the Washington County Cooperative Library Services, is designed for an adult audience.

Tax Information. The Library will carry the most commonly used Federal forms. Less common personal tax forms are also available for photocopying. Oregon state forms are available for photocopying. Ask at the front desk.

ONLINE INFORMATION:

Federal: <http://www.irs.gov>

State: <http://www.oregon.gov/DOR>

All States: <http://www.taxadmin.org/fta/taxpayer.html>

HOW TO FILE FOR FREE ONLINE:

Federal and State:

<http://www.irs.gov/Filing/E-File-Options>

“Free-file” is available for adjusted gross incomes of \$60,000 or less. This method is through the IRS website and links to tax software companies who offer free filing for taxpayers who meet certain parameters. Even if taxpayers do not qualify to use any of the companies' filing services, this site itself offers free fill-able forms and free filing.

PHONE TAX ASSISTANCE:

Federal: **800-829-1040**
Oregon: 800-356-4222
Oregon out of state: 503-378-4988

AARP TAX AIDES IN NORTH PLAINS:

North Plains Senior Center
31450 NW Commercial Street
503-647-5666
Every Thursday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. by APPOINTMENT ONLY

Note: This day/time is subject to change, as this is a volunteer-run program of AARP.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE SOLDIERS IN IRAQ

This is a great opportunity to help soldiers that are part of the helicopter rescue team and a supply squadron in Iraq.

They are in need of the following:

- **Emergency C Vitamin Drink Mix**
- **Fruit/Vegetable Pouches**-(found in nutrition section or near baby food section)
- **Keurig coffee**-K-cups for the Keurig coffee maker
- **\$\$ for postage would be appreciated**-Flat rate postage is \$12.95 per box

Please bring any donations to the following North Plains Drop-off Sites:

North Plains Christian Church
31231 NW Commercial Street

North Plains City Hall
31360 NW Commercial Street

North Plains Senior Center
31450 NW Commercial Street



NORTH PLAINS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

You are history in the making.

The North Plains Historical Society will be meeting at the Jessie Mays Community Hall on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 1:00 in the afternoon.

Jerry Keenon will be the featured speaker. He is a retired surveyor and has a lot of historical knowledge

on lands around here. He is from the old Keenon family from Mountindale and Pumpkin Ridge. He also will have a display of old surveying equipment. He has been a history buff of Lewis and Clark and will tell how they influenced him in his career choice.

We will have old land deeds and maps from various families in the area. And some maps of old and new North Plains to look at.

Special days are coming up! North Plains School is 100 years old this year. If you have attended the school, please write down some stories and get them to us. We plan on having a great celebration with all of you!

Did you know we had a champion volleyball team two years in a row? We competed with a lot of grade schools in Hillsboro, even Banks and Buxton schools.

We would love to hear your stories!

Joyce Meek Reynolds

North Plains Historical Society

Call 503-647-2285 for additional information.

ENVISION NORTH PLAINS *Meeting of Steering Committee!*

Visit www.envisionnp.org

Join us in the Community Vision Process!

Our community-based steering committee will be shaping the first community workshop—Envision North Plains Future at the upcoming March meeting. All interested North Plain residents, businesses, and community members are invited to participate in the April workshop where we will begin to shape and guide the planning of our community for current and future generations. The April workshop will ask the community what the future of North Plains should look like. A second community workshop, scheduled for May, will refine the community-influenced vision statement so the steering committee can design recommendations and implementation measures to bring this vision to life. These recommendations will be forwarded to the North Plains City Council for consideration. We anticipate this entire process will be complete this fall. More information about the committee and this exciting and important process can be found at www.envisionnp.org

The next meeting is scheduled for March 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the Washington County Fire Station in North



Plains. All steering committee meetings are open to the public.

News and Views from the Senior Center

SPRING DANCE

Join us at the Jessie Mays Community Hall on Saturday, March 21 for the North Plains Senior Center Spring dance featuring the band, DT & Country. The dance will begin at 7:30 and continue until 10:30. Everyone is welcome. Admission price is \$5.00. Snacks will also be available for purchase.

MEAL TICKETS

We are selling meal tickets at the center for congregate meals. The tickets are \$30 for 10 meals. This would make a great gift for a special loved one in your life.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! You can help the North Plains Senior Center earn donations just by shopping with

your Fred Meyer Rewards Card. Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to nonprofit organizations in Alaska, Oregon, Idaho and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to North Plains Senior Center at



www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. You can search for us by our name or by our nonprofit number 92742. **Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you help the North Plains Senior Center earn a donation! And don't worry, you'll still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates, just as you regularly do!**

DEEP IN THE HEART OF TAXES . . . IT'S THAT TIME



Once again AARP is providing free tax service Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments are being taken, so call the Center at 503-647-5666 and get your name on the list. Remember, when you come in to have your taxes done, be sure to bring all W-2s, 1099s, the previous year's tax return, your social security card and photo ID. Just a reminder that the Senior Center runs on community donations and proceeds from our various fundraisers.

DONATIONS WELCOME

The Senior Center always welcomes donations. You can make donations through Paypal online in any denomination. You may also drop off a check or cash at the Senior Center.

POP AND PAINT NIGHT

Pop and Paint night at the North Plains Senior Center, Wednesday, March 18, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. “Multnomah Falls” will be the picture being painted. \$37.00 is the cost of the class. Snacks and drinks will be served. Register at www.popandpaint.com.

EXERCISE GROUP

The Exercise Group, open to the public and not just for seniors, is meeting on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, in the lower level of the Senior Center. New cardio exercise will be included. Meeting time is 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Work at your own level and enjoy the fun!

TOPS

Come and join TOPS for a fun and supportive way to lose weight on Thursday evenings from 6-7 p.m. Call Karen at the North Plains Senior Center at 503-647-5666 for more information.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

Plan now to come join us on Tuesday, March 17, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Senior Center will be having a St Patrick's Day dinner, meal includes corn beef & cabbage, potatoes, carrots, green beer and dessert. Price is \$15.00. Call or stop by the senior Center to make your reservation. 503-647-5666.

Advertise in NP Community Newsletter.

Rates range from \$10-\$90 per month. The newsletter is mailed with over 800 water bills and another 500 email addresses.

Local non-profits and youth leagues receive up to a half page at no cost. Ads must be submitted by the 15th of the month. Email: info@northplains.org

March 2015 Calendar

See community events at NPfun.org

- 3/02 City Council Meeting** 7 p.m. at the North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 3/02 Historic Society Meeting** 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays Community Hall. Call 503-647-2285 for details.
- 3/04 Storytime** 11:30 a.m. at the North Plains Public Library, 31334 NW Commercial Street
- 3/05 Writers' Group** 6:30 p.m. at the library

- 3/06 First Friday Flick** 6 p.m. at Jessie Mays Community Hall, 30975 NW Hillcrest Street
- 3/09 Friends of the Library** 7:30 p.m. at the Library
- 3/11 Storytime** 11:30 a.m. at the North Plains Public Library, 31334 NW Commercial Street
- 3/11 Planning Commission** 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 3/12 Food Pantry** 5 p.m. at 31311 Commercial Street
- 3/13 Art Walk** 6 p.m. at the North Plains Public Library, 31334 NW Commercial Street; Abbey Creek Winery and the Rogue Brew Pub & Eatery
- 3/14 Super Saturday** 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 3/16 City Council Meeting** 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 3/18 Storytime** 11:30 a.m. at the North Plains Public Library, 31334 NW Commercial Street
- 3/19 Intro to Beekeeping** 6 p.m. at the North Plains Public Library, 31334 NW Commercial Street
- 3/21 Senior Center Dance** 7:30 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 3/23 LEGO Palooza** 11 a.m. at Jessie Mays
- 3/25 Storytime** 11:30 a.m. at the North Plains Public Library, 31334 NW Commercial Street
- 3/25 Library Book Club** 6 p.m. at the North Plains Public Library, 31334 NW Commercial Street
- 3/25 Parks Board** 6 p.m. North Plains City Hall, 31360 NW Commercial Street
- 3/27 Food Pantry** 5 p.m. at 31311 Commercial Street
- 3/31 Steering Committee-Community Vision Process** 6:30 p.m. at Fire Station at 31370 NW Commercial Street.
Visit www.envisionnp.org



Those were the good old days... A BUM STEER



By Melvin VanDomelen—
Mountaindale, Oregon

If I had my druthers, I'd druther submit this article for the October Newsletter, it would be more timely. But October is a long way off, and one never knows what the future holds.

Our parents were good about taking their children to fairs and events such as the Pacific International Livestock Exposition, commonly referred to as the P.I.

The Portland Expo Center now occupies the space that was once the home of the P.I. that was held around the first of October.

The Pacific International Livestock Exposition was a big deal. I remember going there from the 1930's to the 1950's. Hundreds of show horses and cattle were brought in from surrounding states for show, judging, and sale. Many of the counties in Oregon put in booths promoting their products and attractions. The upscale Henry Thieles restaurant from west Burnside moved in for the show.

There was a top notch rodeo with Brahma bulls and show horses. The rodeo clowns were Homer, who would tease the bulls and jump into a barrel, and Slim Pickens, his real name. Slim was a real character that ended up in the movies, once with Bing Crosby. The best bucking horse around was a little black one named "Five Minutes to Midnight".



For me, this livestock show was good for a few days out of school, a chance to meet kids from other states, and they gave out large ribbons, which were hard to come by.

When I was in high school and enrolled in the Future Farmers of America (FFA), I took registered Guernsey dairy cattle to the P.I. for several years. During the intermission of the rodeo there was a filler event called the calf scramble held for the 4-H and FFA youth.

This event consisted of 16 boys and eight Hereford calves all turned loose in the arena. The rules were if you could catch a calf, get a halter on it, and get it out of the arena in 15 minutes, the calf was yours. The new owner was to bring the animal back to the P.I. for sale next year.

The 16 combatants—this was combat, were lined up, halters in hand, along one side of the arena. The calves were released from the bucking chutes. All I can remember is a red blur running by and I dropped onto the nearest animal to me. This is when, as they say, "all hell broke loose."

All I could do for a time was hang onto his neck. The calf would bellow, rear up, kick, and roll. He would lift me off the ground when he jumped and walk on me when he came down. I don't believe I could have been separated from that animal with a pry bar.

I finally got his head down, but knew I'd never get the halter on unless I threw him onto his side. This was accomplished by reaching under and pulling a hind leg out from under him. The calf came down and I sat on his head for a while and rested.

This, so called, calf was weighed in later that evening at 480 pounds, a half grown animal. From here on out, I'll call him a steer.

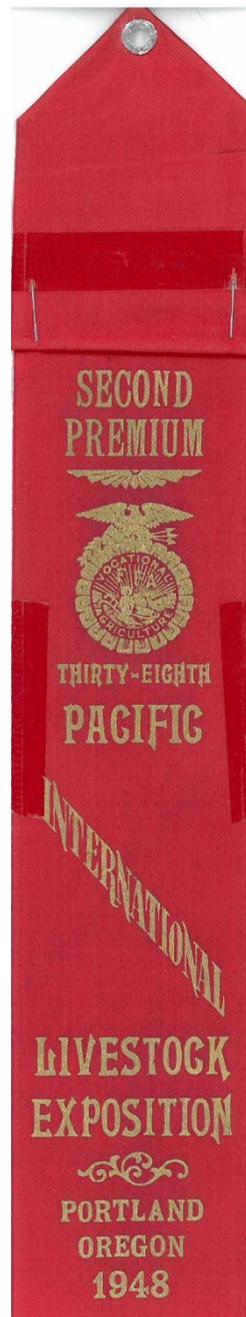
All of this time, the other boys who had not caught a calf were hanging around like vultures, because if my steer got loose, anyone could try for it. Most of my family was in the audience watching. I'm told my father was hard to control.

I sat on the steer's neck to keep him down and worked the halter over his head. Then I tied my end of the rope around my waist. I let the steer up, if he was going to run, he was going to have to drag me.

I couldn't begin to lead him and was still about 150 feet from the exit. The vultures are still circling. I found if I kept the rope tight, the steer would fight it and back up. So, I started to back him out of the arena, a few steps at a time. I could actually point him where I wanted to go. I was getting applause from the crowd, but time was running out. Those eight vultures helped me out the last few feet, the steer was mine.

My FFA teacher, Mr. Thomas was the first to greet me out of the arena. He kept saying "I didn't think you had it in ya, I didn't think you had it in ya!" My parents showed up and took inventory of my body. A few nicks and cuts, pant leg ripped and one sole torn off of my shoe. They took me home that night.

When I awoke the next morning I can honestly say I was suffering more physical pain then at any other time in my life. I could hardly walk, didn't



want to eat. The bruises and swelling showed up. The joints all hurt.

When the steer was unloaded the next morning from Mr. Thomas's trailer, he went crazy and took off. I



remember seeing my brother, Dale, disappear around a corner of our barn on his belly trying to hang onto the rope. Old Bruiser, I'd already named

him Bruiser, went through seven fences. He was finally caught a mile and a half away, wedged behind a manure spreader in Emil Duyck's machine shed. I was too beat up to join in this chase. I missed the next two days of school.

I tamed Bruiser down, but he would not eat grain. A grass fed Bruiser went back to the Pacific International

next year and weighed 950 pounds and sold for \$280. I just remember the 480 pound Bruiser that left his mark on me!

BEAVERTON BANKS & BEYOND BIKE TOUR
BEAVERTON | OREGON

32 | 64 | 86 | 100
MILE ROUTES

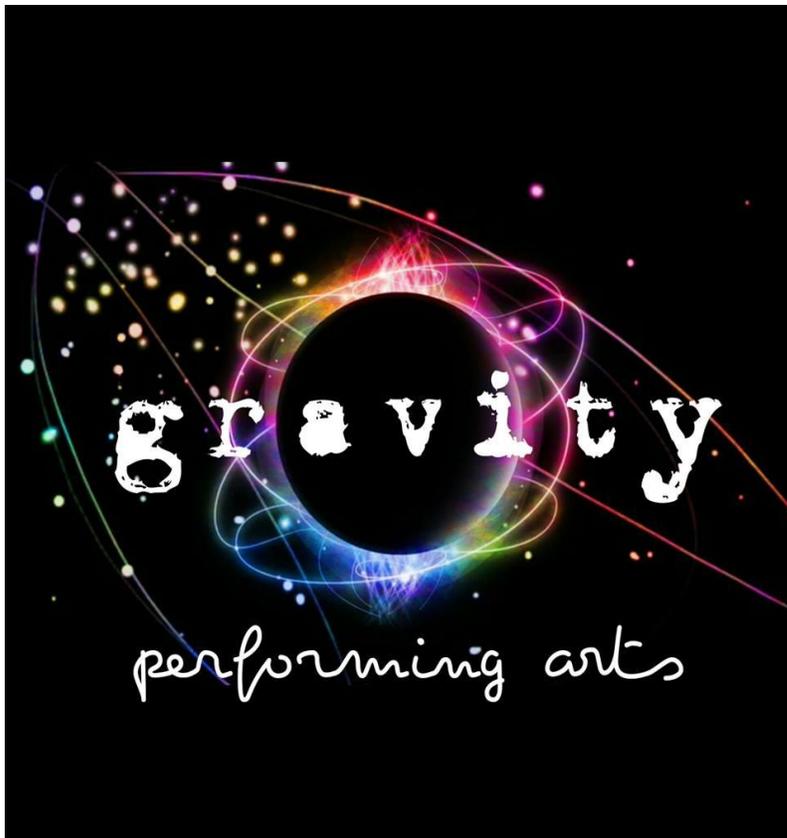
Explore beautiful farmlands as you wind through North Plains country roads towards Banks, Oregon

Return features sweeping smooth descents through forested corridors. Start/ Finish at Papa's Pizza Parlor where a meal is available

Proceeds benefit NW Bicycle Safety Council's educational outreach program to fit kids, families, and communities with helmets at no charge

INFORMATION | REGISTRATION
www.nwbicyclesafetycouncil.org

AUGUST 15TH 2015



Local dance instructor & founder of Gravity Performing Arts, Junia Huynh, brings 27 years of dance training and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Portland State University. Please contact Junia at gravitydanceinfo@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/dancegravity

TIME
to
>> DANCE <<
Classes located in North Plains
Spring 2015.
Sign-up ASAP, classes forming now!
Ballet, Contemporary
& Hip Hop
{Ages toddler to adult}
CLASSES STARTING AT \$35/mo



St. Patrick's Day



Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner



Join us for a traditional Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Where: North Plains Senior Center

When: Tuesday, March 17th 2015

Time: 6:00 pm- **Price** \$15.00

Dinner includes: Corn Beef & Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots, Soda Bread, Dessert & Green beer.

Call or come by the Senior Center to make your reservations.

503-647-5666