

January 2013

Community News



City of North Plains, 31360 NW Commercial Street, North Plains, OR 97133 www.northplains.org

Happy New Year

Start this year right by preparing your family for fun!

North Plains will be expanding recreational opportunities throughout the year.

Most of these events are offered with the help of community volunteers.

Please contact the City if you can volunteer a couple hours or on a regular basis

(503) 647-5555 or info@northplains.org

Just a few hours helps our community become a better place to live.

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New Music Shows

Get your cowboy hat and boots ready, it will be Country Music Night at Jessie Mays Community Hall on **January 26** at 6:30 p.m. DT & Country and local talents will play music and sing.

Admission is free.

Council is encouraging residents to bring canned and other non-perishable donations to the event, for the North Plains Food Pantry.

Feel free to bring your drinks and food to the party.

A second Music Show is scheduled for February 22.

Thanks to Abbey Creek Winery and Corner Bistro for sponsoring the City's first Music Show event.

Kids Acting Classes

Free acting classes are being offered to students (5th and 6th grade.)

Volunteers Maureen Hicks and Tracy Baslington will be sharing their many years of theater experience as they lead the classes. An 8-class session will start on **January 16, 2013** at 3:30 p.m. at Jessie Mays Community Hall. Space is limited to 16 students.

Kids will learn acting skills and play theater games. No prior experience is required.

Call Maureen for more info or to enroll (503) 447-1263.

Jan 19 Crab Feed

Tickets are on sale now for the Senior Center's 5th annual Crab Feast which will be held at Jessie Mays Community Center, Saturday, January 19th beginning at 3:00. 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 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.

Playdate North Plains

*All kids (ages 3-12) are invited to enjoy free indoor activities at Jessie Mays Community Hall on **January 27, February 24, March 24 and April 28** between 1:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.*

Admission is free. Parents should plan on attending the event with little ones.

Activities will include bounce house jumping, sports and games.

No advance registration needed. Just show ready to have fun. Everyone is welcome.

Library News

New Computers. The Digital Drive Campaign has been phenomenally successful! Launched by a grant from Meyer Memorial Trust for \$13,000, and amplified by generous local donors, the fundraising efforts conducted by the Friends of the Library have enabled the Library to purchase a SelfCheck machine and to acquire 15 new computers with the Windows 7 operating system and Microsoft Office 2010 software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint). Many thanks to all who contributed!

Classes and One-on-One Instruction. Let us know if you need instruction in downloading ebooks to your iPad/Nook/Kindle, if you need help with basic computer functions, or if you would like job search tips and information about career databases. North Plains Library staff will be compiling a list of people interested in these topics, and expert volunteers will be providing personal assistance this winter.

Read to the Dogs. Pet Partners (www.petpartners.org) is a non-profit human-services organization that brings individuals together who share a common passion - a love of animals and people. In libraries, certified dogs and their owners offer children the opportunity to practice reading skills in a non-judgmental environment – to a friendly dog. This program will begin at the North Plains Library this winter. Please call to sign up your 1st-5th grade child.

January Art and Quilt Displays. On exhibit in the computer/program room throughout the month of January will be artwork by Chris Lantz. Displayed above the checkout desk throughout the month of January will be a Snowflakes quilt by Diane Link.

Storytimes. Children ages 0-6 are invited to participate every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the children's section of the Library. Youth Librarian Jackie will host Storytime on **January 2, 9, 23, and 30.** On **January 16,** come see the puppet show Elephant and Piggie, based on the books by Mo Willems and performed by Rick Samuelson and Terisa Brown from the Washington County

Cooperative Library Services.

Writers' Group. Share your writing projects and receive feedback from peers on Thursday, **January 3** at 6:30 p.m. at the Library. New members are welcome to join.

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 3D stop-motion comedy thriller from animation company LAIKA to be shown on January 4 features an 11-year-old boy who can see and speak to ghosts, zombies, and witches. Seating is limited. Refreshments will be served.

Super Saturday. Meteorites will be the featured topic beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, **January 12** at the Jessie Mays Community Hall and presented by Dick Pugh, meteorite enthusiast, educator, and field scientist from Portland State University. This program is geared for school aged children although everyone is invited to attend.

Friends of the Library Meeting. There will be a regular meeting of the Friends on Monday, **January 14** at the Library from 7:30-9 p.m. New members are welcome.

Library Book Club. Come to the Library on Wednesday, January 30 at 7:30 p.m. for a discussion of Hemingway's Boat by author Paul Hendrickson. Focusing on the years 1934 to 1961, the author traces Ernest Hemingway's exultations and despair around the one constant in his life during this time: his beloved boat, Pilar. New members are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Craft Night. Bring your knitting, crocheting, or other personal craft projects to the Library on Thursday, **January 31** from 6-8 p.m. for an evening of camaraderie and dedicated handiwork time.

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.

4th of July Celebration Volunteers Needed



In 2013 the City of North Plains will host another 4th 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 years 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 or call Blake Boyles at (503) 647-5555.

Applications are being accepted for arts, craft, and food vendors as well a community group booths at the 4th of July Celebration. Please visit www.northplains.org for more information

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 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.

Discarded Vehicles



This month the City of North Plains will start enforcing the discarded vehicles ordinance more aggressively.

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 promotes 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."

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.

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.

The City of North Plains presents

COUNTRY MUSIC NIGHT

AT JESSIE MAYS COMMUNITY HALL

30975 NW Hillcrest

Saturday, January 26th, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.



Bring your family, sodas, and a can of food
for the Food Bank... then just
kick back and
enjoy the music of DT & Country.
See you there!

Sponsored by
Corner Bistro & Abbey Creek Winery.
Support our local businesses!

Odor Update

For the past year, odors from Nature's Needs compost facility located immediately to the east of the City have been an issue in the community. The facility is operated by Recology which has invested about \$5 million in improvements on the property to help address odor.

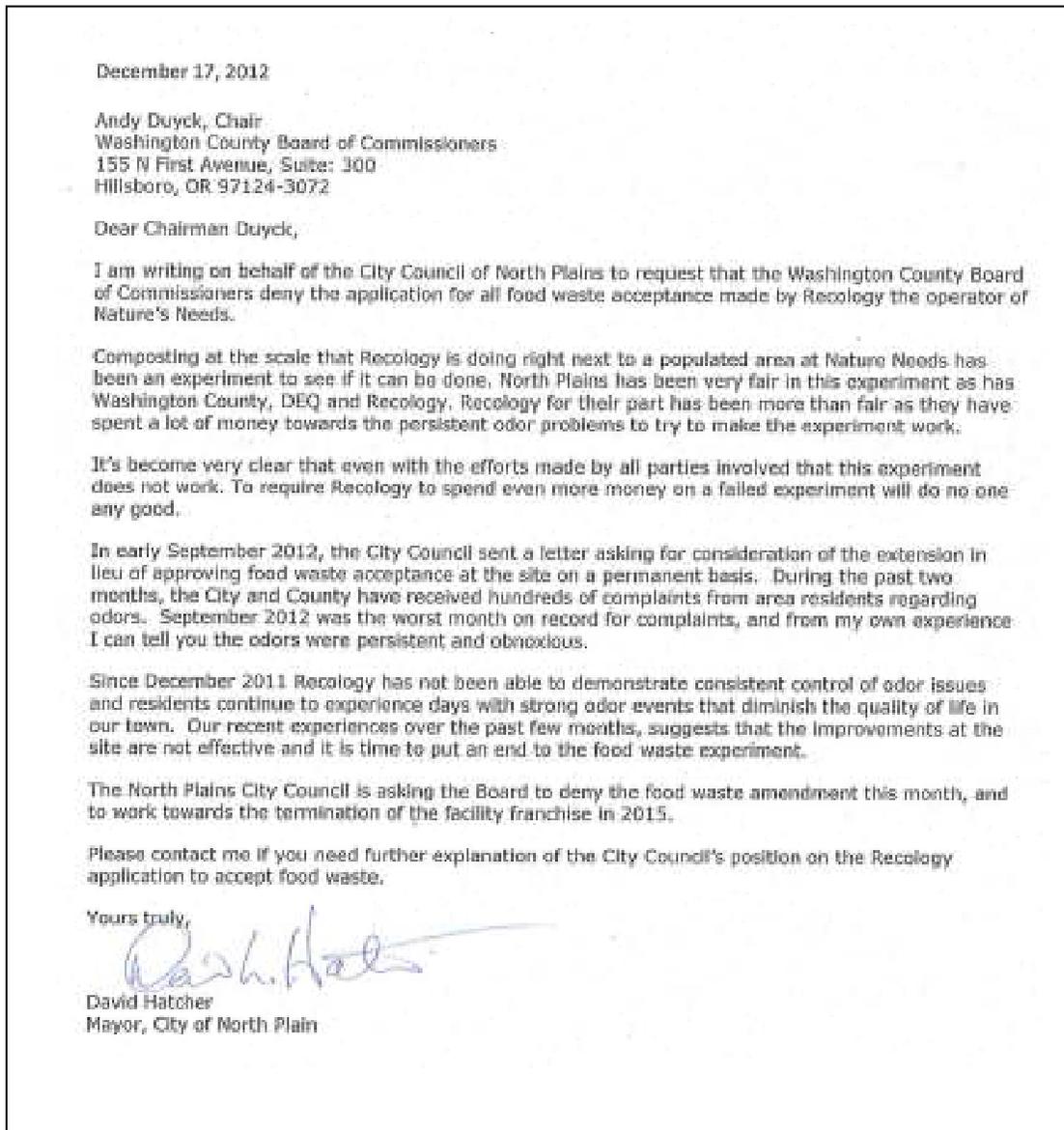
City Council recently staked out a strong position in opposition to the acceptance of food waste at the facility. A copy of the letter is to the right. In the past year there have been more than 1,200 complaints and over 619 individuals who have stated concerns about odors.

On January 22, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. the Washington County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing to consider two options:

- 1) Deny the food waste acceptance application
- 2) Allow the acceptance of residential food waste only (eliminating the commercial food waste stream.)

Because of the large volumes of materials involved both options will take 4-8 months to implement.

Residents can provide written comments by sending an email to odor@northplains.org



Commercial and Residential Food Waste

Commercial food waste is comprised of different materials from residential food waste. Recology proposed eliminating the bulk of the food waste to reduce odors.

Eliminating commercial food waste will reduce the amount of food waste entering the facility by roughly 83%.

Composition of Food Waste Streams

Material	Commercial	Residential
Food	77%	6%
Yard debris	3%	90%
Paper	11%	1%
Other	9%	3%

City of North Plains

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.northplains.org



Dates to Remember

City Council January 7 and 22 at Jessie Mays at 7 p.m.

Chamber of Commerce –January 8 at the Fire Station at Noon

North Plains Garden Club – January 9 at Jessie Mays at 9 a.m.

Planning Commission – January 9 at Jessie Mays at 7 p.m.

Recology Stake Holders Meeting – January 16 at 6 p.m. at Library

Library Board – January 16, 7 p.m., Library

Parks Advisory Board – January 23 at Jessie Mays at 6 p.m.

Country Music Night – Jan 26, 6:30 p.m at Jessie Mays

Playdate – Jan 27, 1:30-5 Jessie Mays

Thank You Ana!

Councilor Ana Singh-Gill will be stepping down from Council after 4 years of community service. Charlynn Newton is joining City Council on January 8.

Newsletter by Email

Do you have a family member or friend who lives out of town, and 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 martha@northplains.org.

Council Agenda

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

- Oaths of office for Mayor and Councilors
- Council committee appointments
- Discussion of County consideration of food waste acceptance at Nature's Needs facility.
- Revision of municipal code sections regarding procedural rules
- Supplemental budget
- Approval of BUG IGA

City Council has regular meetings scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month. Due to the holiday, this month's second meeting will be held on a Tuesday. All meetings are open to the public. Agendas are published on the City's website the week before the meeting.

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.

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. January 16 is the next meeting. Please call Recology if you would like additional information or wish to provide comments (503) 647-9489