



Community Newsletter

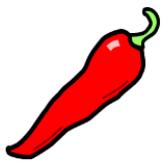


City of North Plains, 31360 NW Commercial Street, North Plains, OR 97133
(503) 647-5555 info@northplains.org www.cityofnp.org Events: www.npfun.org

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)

Fire in the Bowl!

Fire in the Bowl! It is time to register for the annual North Plains Chili Cook-off on Thursday, October 20th at Jessie Mays Community Center, 30975 NW Hillcrest Street, starting at 6:30 p.m. The North Plains Events Association will coordinate the event along with the City of North Plains. The event will be judged by 6-7 local folks. People who wish to enter their best chili recipe will be allowed to make their chili entries at home and serve "samples" to people attending the event. The Senior Center will be serving a main chili meal to include hot dogs (CHILI DOGS) and corn bread. Dessert will be provided as well. This event is always FREE! Trophies and at least a year of "Bragging Rights" are awarded to best chili makers for: Best Traditional Chili, Best Traditional Chili with beans, Hottest Chili, Best non-



Traditional Chili, People's Choice Chili, and Kid's Favorite Chili. To register as a chili chef, either stop by City Hall or go online at www.cityofnp.org and click on the Chili icon. It's Fall time and the

North Plains "Meals on Wheels" program at the Senior Center will be making and baking homemade Apple pies and Pecan pies, they will be selling pies to the public beginning in October. Large 12 inch pies will be made fresh and sold for \$16.00 each, and will be sold each Tuesday & Thursday from 12 noon – 2:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. Pies will also be sold at the Annual Chili Cook-off event on October 20th. All proceeds will go to the North Plains Meals on Wheels food program. If you have questions or would like to place an order call 503-647-5666.



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.



Washington County Fire District 2 voters will have the opportunity to decide whether to permanently join Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue this November.

WHY IS MEASURE 34-268 ON THE BALLOT?

Elected leaders from District 2 determined that it is in the community's best interest for TVF&R to provide service to their area permanently in order to **stabilize funding for fire, medical and emergency services** and to ensure continued fire protection to residents in North Plains, Scholls, Midway, Helvetia, Rock Creek and other portions of central Washington County. In order for TVF&R to annex the territory, voters must decide to dissolve District 2.

WHAT DOES MEASURE 34-268 DO?

If voters approve Measure 34-268, Washington County Fire District 2 will be dissolved and the territory will be annexed to TVF&R. District 2's combined tax rate of \$1.69 per \$1,000 assessed property valuation will be eliminated. TVF&R's current rate of \$2.07 per \$1,000 assessed property valuation will be applied.

HOW DOES THIS BENEFIT AREA RESIDENTS?

Improved Medical Response: Additional firefighters will be added to each shift at the North Plains and Midway fire stations. These firefighters are cross-trained as paramedics who bring a near-emergency-

room-level of care to medical calls such as heart attacks and traumatic injuries.

Enhanced Fire Response: Increased staff and TVF&R's network of fire stations improve the ability to get enough firefighters on scene quickly to start fire attack methods that would otherwise be delayed.

Better Coverage: Additional firefighters and fire stations in TVF&R's system improve reliability when multiple calls occur at the same time and enhance bench strength when large incidents happen.

Additional Training: Firefighters will receive ongoing critical skills training in advanced life support (EMS), structural fire suppression, wildland firefighting and other rescue techniques.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MEASURE 34-268 FAILS?

If Measure 34-268 fails, elected leaders will have to decide what's next for Washington County Fire District 2, which could include an operating levy proposal. The current service contract with Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue expires on June 30, 2017. For more information about [Measure 34-268](#) or to schedule a community presentation, call Cassandra Ulven at 503-649-8577.

Get to know your Candidates!



Teri Lenahan- Mayoral Candidate

I have called North Plains my home for the last ten years. I have had the privilege to serve as your City Councilor for the last eight

years; five of those years as Council President. It is an honor to run for Mayor to continue my service to you.

As your Councilor, I collaborated with area leaders to help build community and create goals for North Plains. I listened to your concerns and asked tough questions to get to the heart of the issues that matter most to our community.

As your Mayor, it will be my responsibility to listen to your opinions, concerns and desires. Citizen input is essential to a unified community. I will work with local and regional leaders to find solutions that fit North Plains. Our government will be transparent and I will advocate strongly for this. We will continue to work on strategic plans for housing, police and fire, and economic growth. We will continue working to maintain our family friendly community and rich history. It is critical that we find balance between community and future growth.

There is so much more work to be done. Thank you for your support.



Cameron Martinez- City Council Candidate

Hello North Plains, my name is Cameron Martinez (Cotton). I started my journey in North Plains and my extended and immediate family reside here currently. North Plains has always

been home for me. After living in Hillsboro for several years, I returned to North Plains and feel I have a unique opportunity to continue to grow with this city, handle responsibility and build positive relationships within our community. I will take great pride in doing this. After spending my childhood on Pacific Street, I graduated with honors from Glencoe HS and then continued education with a degree in Community Health Ed. at PSU. From Portland State, I pursued my dream of being a Registered Nurse, achieving a second degree from University of Portland. I am currently working as a District Nurse (RN) in the Hillsboro School District. I'm driven, not to do great things for myself, but to proudly serve others and the city I love.....North Plains.



Butch Kindel- City Council Candidate

I, Butch Kindel, am seeking your vote for another term on City Council. I love this City and all who live here.

With your vote, I will continue

making North Plains a great place to live.

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.

News from the North Plains Senior Center

Come join us for **BINGO!** Our new day of the month is the first Wednesday. This month falls on October 5th from 6 pm- 8 pm. \$5 at the door buys your first card. Every card, thereafter, is \$1/per card. Hot dogs, soda, and chips will be available for a separate fee.

For the month of October, **Bunco** will be held on the 13th and 27th. Begins promptly at 1pm.

DT & Country will be singing at our senior center on October 10th, during our lunch hour and every 2nd Monday of the month until further notice.

Liver and onions will be served on October 17th.

A few Washington County Meals on Wheels Centers have joined efforts and will be having an **"Octoberfeast"** celebration fundraiser on **October 15th** at the Loch Lolly Tree Farm. Tickets are \$25/per person and are on sale NOW and include sausage/sauerkraut dinner, soda and dessert. Beer will be available for a separate purchase. Hours are from 3 p.m.-9 p.m. There will be entertainment provided.

North Plains' will have their annual **chili cook-off** event on October 20th at the Jessie Mays community center. Register thru npfun.org Event starts at 6:30 pm. Chili, chili dogs, (toppings) cornbread, cake and punch will be served free-of-charge.

There will be a **BBQ** on the evening of **Halloween** (October 31st) at the senior center, weather permitting. Donations will be welcome to support the North Plains senior center.

For those interested in **painting**, there is now a class offered every Thursday in the lower level of the senior center for a small fee.

Keep your eyes out for **fresh baked apple pies** to go on sale soon. Pies will be made-to-order and proceeds will benefit the North Plains Meals on Wheels program.

North Plains Meals on Wheels needs **volunteers** to help out in the kitchen Monday-Friday from 10am-2pm--prepping food, serving, and cleaning-up! We also have openings for drivers to deliver meals to homebound seniors. Route takes approximately 1-1 ½ hours to complete. Meals on Wheels People offer mileage reimbursement for those that would like it. Please come in and fill out a registration form if you

have any spare time during the week. Can be once a week, once a month OR as many days as you are available—we will work with your schedule!

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...

Muskrat Story



By Melvin Van Domelen
Mountaindale, OR

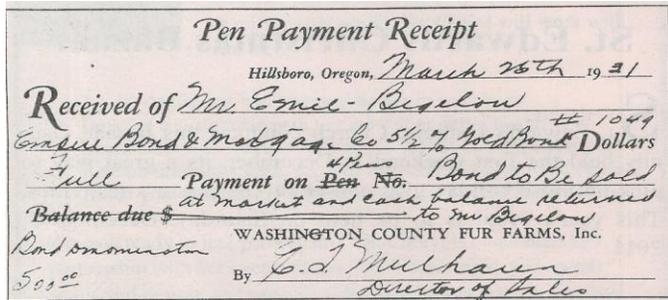
In the period before the Great Depression, there were many shaky investment schemes being promoted. I have heard of stock being sold in a worthless chicken-raising plan. My Uncle George bought shares in a silver mining company in Montana. He kept receiving requests for more money to buy bigger equipment to get that silver out. It never paid off. The interest in chinchillas, the nutria craze and the worm farms all followed at later dates.

The Washington County Fur Farm had its roots closer to home. There was a hired man from Minnesota who helped on our farm for over twenty years named Emil Bigelow. I have a processed check showing my mother, who then was Pearl Corey, paying Emil wages in 1917. This would have been several years before she married my father.

Anyway, Earl got caught up in a get-rich-quick scheme that surfaced in 1931. This bought in for four pens of muskrats for the sum of \$500.00. Now, that



was big money in those days, probably a good share of his savings.



No telling how many times these same pens of muskrats were sold. I'm told he was so caught up in his investment that he would go up to the muskrat farm and work on it. Emil even tried to get my parents to invest the savings accounts of their children into this project. My parents did not go along with Emil's advice.

Muskrats are a water rodent about the size of an average house cat. I could never understand the fascination of these rats ever generating income. In the late 1930's a muskrat pelt was only worth \$3.00 at best.

This enterprise had a slick public relations person operating it. Glowing articles on the progress of the Mountaindale Fur Farm appeared in the Hillsboro Argus during February and March of 1931. Such as: February 5, 1931

Construction work on the muskrat farm near Mountaindale started on Monday. Pens, sheds and waterways are being built along with cottages for employees and stockholders. First shipment of local muskrats was received at Fur Farm last week.

March 19, 1931

Purchase of 900 muskrats made by Washington County Fur Farm at Idaho Falls, Idaho. These muskrats will be trucked to the Farm on Dairy Creek, Oregon. The pens are ready to receive them. Many people visited the muskrat farm on Sunday.

March 26, 1931

The company has been delayed in getting the muskrats from Idaho because the ice did not melt where the muskrats are to be caught.

Same Date (March 26, 1931)

First shipment of muskrats to leave Idaho by truck bound for Washington County Fur Farm. A large number of traps have been built. Snow and ice have delayed the venture, but 1,200 muskrats will be obtained.

That is a lot of muskrats. I seriously doubt they ever arrived in those numbers. The muskrat farm came to

an abrupt end. Seems the pens were left open, the muskrats got through or under the fence and they all escaped. Every one.

In the years past Carol Guttman has recorded the following information from Mountaindale natives about the muskrat farm.

Alma Raffety-Wilson: "The rats got out all at once, like somebody turned them loose. Then everybody lost their investments. Alma once hiked with a group of Campfire girls to visit the muskrat farm as it was being promoted in March of 1931."

Denny Hall: "I think the venture was probably a scam, it didn't last very long. More money went into it than ever came out. Nobody made anything."

Howard Hollenbeck: "The muskrat farm was a scam. One night the rats got let loose, the money was taken and the owner skipped the country. All of a sudden there was nobody living there anymore and all the rats escaped." So said Howard.

The area around the muskrat farm had a special fence that had sheet metal on the bottom buried in the ground to keep the rats from digging out. Also a strip of tin 14 inches high lined the top of the fence so they couldn't crawl up and over. I remember this fence very well and thought it was worthwhile to see if any sign of it could still be detected. On November 12, 2011, Mitch Ward, his son Ryan, their dog Shadow and I set out on another adventure up Dairy Creek.

I was only off a few yards when we started our search. Any remains of the fence along Dairy Creek Road had been wiped out when a natural gas pipeline ran through the area a few years ago. There is not a bit of it left. We were discouraged and about to give up, but I decided to explore a bit into the woods.

What caught my eye was a long mound of soil about four feet high that looked manmade. Then pieces of tin and chicken wire began to show up. I shouted to Mitch, "I'm on it."

The area had been divided by several of those berms or dikes used for flooding a space. There are many two-inch diameter pipes of different lengths still sticking up out of the ground along the base of these dikes. A few weathered boards and a lot of chicken wire remain, evidence of pens.

After 80 years there are a lot of remains from the Washington County Fur Farm still with us. We went looking for a fence along the road and uncovered much, much more.

Where all of those muskrats went is still a mystery.

October 2016 Calendar

- 10/03 **Historical Society** 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 10/03 **City Council Meeting** 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 10/07 **First Friday Flick** 6 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 10/08 **Super Saturday** 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 10/12 **Planning Commission** 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center
- 10/13 **Food Pantry** 5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St
- 10/14 **Lego Palooza** 11 a.m. at Jessie Mays
- 10/17 **City Council Meeting** 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
- 10/19 **Library Board** 7 p.m. at the Library
- 10/20 **Chili Cook-Off** 6:30 p.m. at Jessie Mays
- 10/22 **Hazardous Waste Clean Up** 9 a.m. at Jessie Mays
- 10/26 **Parks Board** 6 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center
- 10/28 **Food Pantry** 5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St



NPEA News Corner
Events Calendar

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

Fun Fact!

Have you noticed those tiny white flies that seem to be everywhere? Well, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has classified them as a pest and is taking measures to help keep them in check!

[Click here](#) if you would like to learn more about it or go to www.cityofnp.org.



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5 – 7:30 pm
\$20 minimum \$3 delivery fee



New platinum games
Enjoy free soda, cookies and chips while you play!



Ask us about our Dine for Dollars fundraising program



\$4 off
ANY X-LARGE PIZZA
\$3 off
ANY LARGE PIZZA
Expires in 30 days. Cannot be combined with any other offers.



\$10.00
LARGE PEPPERONI PIZZA
Expires in 30 days. Cannot be combined with any other offers.



\$30.00
Large Pepperoni Pizza
Large Speciality Pizza
Expires in 30 days. Cannot be combined with any other offers.



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The Meals on Wheels program feeds and assists in the lives of seniors by providing them nutritious meals and social support. Some seniors never see another face each day except for the volunteer who delivers their meals. Those volunteers make sure that their clients are feeling well each day and that they can count on seeing a friendly face. Fundraisers like this event will help ensure that this program can continue and that NO senior will go hungry or experience social isolation.

Washington County

Meals on Wheels People operates 8 neighborhood dining centers throughout Washington County which serves approximately 3,871 clients every year. Our dining rooms provide a place for seniors to have coffee, lunch and visit with friends. The home delivery program utilizes over 1,793 hardworking and caring volunteers who check in with our clients throughout the county every weekday.

About the Event

MAKE A DIFFERENCE – and have fun doing it! Meals on Wheels People will host its first ever Octoberfeast Celebration. All proceeds will support meals for seniors in Washington County.

The Octoberfeast will be held on Saturday, October 15th from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Loch Lolly Christmas Forest in North Plains. Attendees will enjoy traditional German fare and includes sausage, sauerkraut, German potato salad, green beans & dessert. Traditional large pretzels & beer will be available for purchase, there will be live German singing entertainment along with fun raffles prizes. This is a chance for the community to gather and support Meals on Wheels People.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person and are now available at the North Plains Senior Center/ Meals on Wheels location.

For more information please call Angie or Patti 503-647-5666

Event address:
Loch Lolly Christmas Forest
28366 NW Dorland Rd
North Plains, Or 97133