FEMA Floodplain Map
FEMA has released an updated floodplain map for North Plains. To view the map please click here. If you received a letter and have questions, please call 1-877-336-2627.

Backflow Device Testing
Backflow device testing is due by June 1st. Backflow devices are located in irrigation systems to ensure that water will not flow backwards through the line and contaminate the water flowing to other houses. If you have questions, please email info@northplains.org or call 503-647-5555.

Library News
Book Babies Storytimes.
Babies 0-12 months are invited to hear stories, enjoy finger plays, and share songs and rhymes with Early Childhood Specialist Lauren every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the children's section of the library.

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

February 22. Storytime with Mr. Will Elephants v Mice!
March 1. Miss Marion seeks Birds of a feather.
March 8. Storytime with Barbara. Dr. Seuss day!
March 15. Bunnies! With Becky and Mr. Will.

Tutoring assistance
Math and Science tutoring help is available during the school year. Volunteer Aaron or Stacie will be available for half-hour segments each Saturday morning, from 10 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. and from 10:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. Half-hour segments will additionally be available from 6 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. and from 6:30 until 7 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. The tutors will provide help with math from an elementary school level through calculus. In science help will be provided from an elementary school level through college level. Call the library at (503) 647-5051 to book a free tutoring session.

First Friday Flick.
Join us at the Jessie Mays Community Hall on the First Friday of each month for a free showing of a PG-rated movie.

March 3 at 6:30 p.m. Trolls.
After the Bergens invade Troll Village, Poppy, the happiest Troll ever born, and the curmudgeonly Branch set off on a journey to rescue her friends.

Super Saturday.
Come join the library at Jessie Mays Community Center for fun performers and activities for all ages! Events are always a blast and always free.

Saturday March 11 join Henrik Bothe!
Mix the gentle humor of Victor Borge, the physical agility of Seinfeld's Kramer, and the cross-generational appeal of Charlie Chaplin and you have some idea of what Henrik Bothe brings to the stage. He spins plates, walks on ladders, juggles without using his hands, spins ropes, manipulates fancy hats, and rides a unicycle that's higher than your expectations. Most important of all, he connects with his audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: ADULT SERVICES
Here is a rundown on the adult focused news and programs that occurred recently or are scheduled to occur next month. All are welcome at our programs.

Foreign Film Night update
We will begin our first foreign film night series on Thursday, the 16th of March with Scandinavian chiller “Let the Right One In”.

Why I Walked 444 Miles to Make a Memory – February 21 2017, from 7 until 8:30 pm
Andra Watkins New York Times bestselling memoir Not Without My Father is about making memories, about turning I wish I had into I’m glad I did.

Andra’s presentation challenges audiences to evaluate their relationships. She gives attendees concrete ideas and strategies to leave inspired to make a memory of their own. In a one-hour, high-energy
performance, Andra shows everyone, whatever their phase of life, how to make memories that matter.

Chainsaw safety at the Library! This occurs on March 11 from 2 pm until 4 pm.

Trivia challenge. This occurs on March 24 from 7 pm until 8:30 pm. Yes if we can get sufficient teams we will run a trivia challenge in the library. Are you up for the challenge?

SAVE THE DATES: KEY DATES FOR LATER IN THE YEAR
Friday April 7 at North Plains Elementary story telling performance

Kevin Locke (Tokaheya Inajin in Lakota translation “First to Rise”) is a world famous visionary Native American Hoop Dancer and preeminent player of the Indigenous Northern Plains flute. He is a NEA Heritage Award Fellow and Cultural World Ambassador from the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in South Dakota.

Kevin is Lakota and Anishnabe. His instructions were received from his immediate family and community and from extended family in every part of the world. He has learned many lessons in global citizenship and how we each draw from the richness of our individual heritages.

His role in life is to entertain, educate, engage, and empower the minds of both youth and adults in the North American Indian cultural arts and history of Native Americans. His special joy is working with children on the reservations to ensure the survival and growth of indigenous culture. Kevin Locke will perform “Love Stories” at 6:30 p.m.

Acting With Mo 2017

Acting With Mo will be a bit different this year! Classes will start on March 6 and run through April 17th, from 3:30-5:30 at the Jessie Mays Community Hall. This is for children ages 10-14, and only 10 spots are available.

Instead of a play, we will be concentrating on helping your child learn contrasting monologues which they can use during auditions at a talent agency, for area theatres and to help boost their self-confidence!

We will be helping your children learn the ins and outs of acting websites offering free services to fees to join and be an actor on their page looking for jobs, how to audition in area theatres and how to obtain a professional head shot. We will be having guest speakers come and speak during part of the class and then work the rest of the class on the monologues with a final performance on April 17th!

For more information and to reserve your spot, call Maureen Hicks at 503 447-1263, or email at onceuponatime713@yahoo.com

News from the North Plains Senior Center

ST. PATRICK’S DAY DINNER—Friday, March 17 at 6 p.m.—You don’t have to be Irish to love corned beef & cabbage so make your reservations now for our traditional dinner with all the fixin’s. Corned Beef & Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots, Onions, Irish Soda Bread and Butter, Dessert & Drink. Tickets are $20 per person and you’ll be given a free ticket for a door prize drawing. Stop by the Senior Center and sign up or call 503-647-5666.

D.T. & COUNTRY—Saturday, March 18—Dust off your shamrocks and join us at Jessie May for a great evening of classic country music and dance. Dancing 7:30-10:30, $5 per person. Refreshments available for purchase and tickets for a 50/50 raffle. Come & support our North Plains Senior Center!

DEEP IN THE HEART OF TAXES—AARP is on-site each Thursday until tax day. Call 503-647-5666 to reserve a spot. No charge. Everyone welcome; you don’t have to be a senior to come in and use this service.

AND SPEAKING OF TAXES—If you’re knee-deep in tax preparation you might consider a charitable donation to the North Plains Senior Center. We are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit and your donation is tax-deductible. A win for both of us.

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, & cleanup) Monday-Friday every week. You can pick which days and hours fit your schedule.

EXERCISE GROUP—The Exercise Group, open to the public and not just for seniors, meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the lower level of the Senior Center. New cardio exercise included. Work at your own level. Bring a friend and enjoy the fun!

TOPS—TOPS, Take off Pounds sensibly group has disbanded and will no longer meet at the Senior

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Center. Thank you to all who supported and attended meetings in the past.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS—The North Plains Fire Department will be at the Senior Center for free blood pressure checks the first Monday of every month during lunch beginning at 11:45. Thank you Washington County Fire District 2 for your community spirit!

MARCH CALENDAR

Music at the Center—D.T. & Country, Monday, March 13th from 11:00 to 1:30.

BINGO—Wednesday, March 15th, 6:30 p.m.

BUNCO—Thursday, March 9th and 23rd, 1:00 p.m.

Local History Book

A 64 page local history book "Back in Those Days...Around North Plains OR in the First Half of the 20th Century" by Don Bills, former Shadybrook resident, will be made available. The spiral bound soft cover book covers mainly the Shadybrook area (not so much North Plains) based on Don’s recollections, documents and news clippings. The book also includes Don's memories of WWII, Korean War and the Bills family history. The cost is $16 if hand-delivered in local area, or $20 if mailed. You can see a sample book at North Plains Historical Society meetings on March 6 and April 3, 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays Community Center. Orders will be taken through April 3, then books will be printed and distributed about early May. Contact Carol Gutmann, Sec-Treasurer of NPHS, 503-647-5472 or at mtdale@ix.netcom.com to order a copy. Please provide name, address, phone and/or e-mail address. This book makes a great gift for local history buffs!

Those were the good old days...

Gone Fishing
By Melvin Van Domelen
Mountaindale, OR

I believe this is a photo that best shows my Father, Jacob Lewis Van Domelen, better known as Jake. He had a love for family, friends, the land and fishing.

The opening day of fishing season was like a national holiday for my Father. The start of the fishing season usually came around about the time we were planting the spring crops. Not much field work would get done that day.

Dad would get the milking done early and then take me, before daylight, to Dairy Creek that flowed through our farm. We would build a fire back from the creek, get our gear ready and wait for daylight.

One year my Father was busy baiting my hook and showing me how to cast the line. I pulled out two nice trout before he got the line in the water. Dad told me “You mind the fire, let me fish for a while.”

At this time, early 1940’s, Lester and Henry Cypher were operating the Mays Brothers Store that was then located below the Pythian Hall. On opening day of fishing Lester and his daughter, Margaret< were trying their luck on my parent’s farm. Margaret came by and gave me a large Butterfinger candy bar. I never forgot that, she was always okay in my view.

Margaret later married Ross Cox. They built the grocery store building we see today and carried on the Mays Bros. Store there until 1967, when they sold out.

On the first day of fishing cars would be parked along any place the creek could be reached. Once, in the 1940’s, my brother and I counted 104 cars parked along the creek between our farm at Mountaindale and the creek bridge at Meacham. This is a distance of around 5 miles.

My cousin, Elaine Corey, lived with her parents, Frank and Alice, on the farm next to my folks. She told of the County Sheriff, John Connell, stopping by to check a few fishing licenses. John poked his head into their kitchen door and asked “What’s for breakfast Alice?” He got his eggs and bacon right there.

After we had built our house in the oak grove in 1961, Jake stopped by one afternoon. He had been fishing up Dairy Creek and gave us several large trout. I made the remark “These are nice fish.” Dad replied “The biggest one is still up there, I’ll go back and get it tomorrow.” The next day he stopped by to show me that fish. It was a whopper.

Jake liked to fish the Wilson River for salmon and would go with someone every chance he had. As time went by, his fishing partners dwindled. I would drive him over to the Wilson River just so he could fish. I’d never put a line in the water. Here is a photo of my Father fishing the Wilson just below what was then known as Lee’s Camp.
When they were in grade school, our daughter Vanessa and Melinda Mathiesen went into the fishing worm business on the season opening day. They were camped out by the Mountaindale Store selling worms for bait. They were doing so well that I dug more earthworms for them after coming home from work.

I am being told by reliable sources that a few salmon are still coming up East Dairy Creek. Years back Loel Hollenbeck was trying to clear a drift of debris from the creek. He was wearing hip boots and kept feeling something bumping his legs. He watched and found that salmon were running and were hitting his boots.

My Father’s legs gave out over time. He would drive this Massey Harris tractor down to the creek to fish. I’d come home from work, see that red tractor parked on the creek bank and know that Jake was still doing his thing.

I gave a 1911 photo of my Father, operating a steam engine on a threshing outfit to our mural artist, Allison McClay. She painted Jake and the engine into the harvest scene on the VanDyke building. My Father ran this advance steam engine for his uncle, Charlie Herb, for nine years before he married my Mother.

Jake Van Domelen – 1890-1963

March Calendar

03/03 First Friday Flick 6 p.m. at Jessie Mays
03/06 City Council Meeting 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
03/06 Historical Society 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
03/08 Planning Commission 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center
03/09 Food Pantry 5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St
03/11 Super Saturday 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
03/18 Senior Center Dance 7:30 p.m. at Jessie Mays
03/20 City Council Meeting 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center
03/22 Parks Board 6 p.m. at City Hall
03/24 Food Pantry 5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House

Pilot Program Leverages Off-Duty Professional Firefighters to Save Lives

Each year, approximately 350,000 sudden cardiac arrests occur outside a hospital in the United States. Nearly 90 percent of these events prove fatal, and the chance of survival decreases by 10 percent with every passing minute without CPR.

Though survival rates in the Pacific Northwest exceed the national average, a coalition of first responders, clinicians, researchers and a leading medical equipment manufacturer aims to make the region the frontrunner in cardiac arrest response and survival.

The PulsePoint Foundation, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, International Association of Firefighters Local 1660 and automated external defibrillator (AED) manufacturer Philips Healthcare launched the Verified Responder Pilot Program on Valentine’s Day that will activate off-duty, professional firefighters to respond to cardiac arrest calls in public and private settings.

Participating professional firefighters are certified emergency medical technicians or paramedics who receive background checks in the state of Oregon. Philips Healthcare is loaning every participating firefighter an AED so that if they respond, they can employ the same technology used by emergency responders and physicians to restart a heart that has stopped beating.

“Four years ago, we were the first fire department in Oregon to launch PulsePoint’s app for citizen responders,” said TVF&R Fire Chief Mike Duyck. “We are humbled to partner with them again as the first agency to pilot the Verified Responder program and hope that it’s the beginning of a national movement. Having lost my own father from sudden cardiac arrest, I am personally and professionally committed to sparing other families from potential heartbreak.”

The effort will gather important data and combine it with existing technology and clinical insights to inform future lifesaving strategies and products. During the pilot, King County EMS (Wash.) will assist in evaluating the program for potential expansion to additional communities across the nation.
“Firefighters know all too well that their skills are sometimes needed when off-the-clock,” said Richard Price of the PulsePoint Foundation. “In some ways, PulsePoint Verified Responder simply formalizes the ‘always in service’ dedication and full-time commitment that comes with the badge.”

“We understand that the moments between someone’s heart stopping and when the emergency responders get to the scene are crucial, and we are grateful for the opportunity to be part of this important pilot program,” added Joe Sovak of Philips Healthcare. “The faster help is able to intervene, the greater the opportunity for another life saved.”

Clean Up Day

Clean up day is approaching! It is the second weekend in May. There will be more information in the April newsletter about items that are accepted and prices. Don’t forget to mark your calendars and take advantage of this awesome event!

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 email info@northplains.org or call 503-647-5555.

Commission & Committee Vacancies

Hear ye, hear ye! The Planning Commission has a vacancy for one position. If you are interested in applying for Planning Commission, please click here to be directed to the application and more information.

Budget season is upon us which means we are looking to fill multiple positions on the Budget Committee. If you’re interested in providing fiduciary input for the City of North Plains, fill out an application! Please click here to be directed to the website.

Need a Notary?

The City of North Plains has three staff members who are certified by the Secretary of State to perform notaries. The fee is $5 a signature. Please call in advance to schedule an appointment.

Fun Facts about North Plains!

-DID YOU KNOW... The City of North Plains became incorporated as a city after the Columbus Day Storm in 1962, to be eligible for FEMA aid?

-DID YOU KNOW... In 2005 the Elementary school caught fire when the North Plains Substation malfunctioned after a squirrel chewed through some wires?

-DID YOU KNOW... North Plains has a few homes throughout the city that were relocated from Vanport after the flood of 1948?