City Wide Garage Sale

Let’s get set for a garage sale bonanza! The North Plains annual Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, May 6th this year. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this free event either as a buyer, a seller, or both. A list will be put together of all the garage sales in the City and surrounding area at no cost to you. If you would like to participate in this year’s event, please call Patti Burns at 503-647-2619 or send an email to lochlolly1@aol.com. The list will be available on Facebook and listed on a flyer at City hall on Thursday, May 4th.

The North Plains Garden club will be hosting their annual plant sale the same day at Jessie Mays. The sale opens at 8 a.m. and closes at 4 p.m.

Clean-Up Day May 13th

Residents in the 97133 zip code are invited to bring unwanted items to the North Plains Annual Clean Up Day at Jessie Mays Community Park. Garbarino Disposal is providing dumpsters for junk materials and recyclables. Clothes for the Cause will accept usable clothing and Habitat for Humanity ReStore will accept usable building materials.

Acceptable items (and fees) include:

- Usable items for a charitable organization - No fee
- Large appliances - $5 each
- Air conditioner, refrigerator or freezer - $25 each
- Tires - $4 per tire off the rim; $6 per tire with wheel
- Bulky wastes, furniture, scrap metal, plastics and electronics - $5 per carload, $10 per truck, trailer or van
- Heavy materials (brick, rock) - $20/ half-full mid-size truck

Other items will be assessed at the event. Participants may be asked to help unload their materials.

Do NOT bring:

- Household/wet garbage; hazardous waste; paint; medications; light bulbs; batteries or potentially asbestos-containing building materials such as drywall, vinyl sheet, etc - see www.npfun.org for a full list
- Yard debris. Recology Nature’s Needs will accept yard debris from residents, free of charge, on May 13, 2017 at their facility (9570 NW 307th Ave). Learn more at the event webpage www.npfun.org or call the City of North Plains at 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 10:30am in the children’s section of the library.

May 3. Mr. Will unleashes Crocodiles.

May 10. Mr. Will brings in Monsters.

May 17. Special guest Fire Fighters.

Tutoring assistance

Homework help is available during the school year. Volunteer Stacie will be available for half-hour segments on Tuesday evenings from 5pm until 7pm. The tutor will provide help with all subjects including math from an elementary school level through calculus. 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.

May 5 at 6:30 p.m. Moana.

From Walt Disney Animation Studios comes Moana, a sweeping, CG-animated adventure about a spirited teenager who sails out on a daring mission to prove herself a master way finder and fulfill her ancestors’
unfinished quest. During her journey, Moana meets the once-mighty demi-god Maui, and together, they traverse the open ocean on an action-packed voyage, encountering enormous fiery creatures and impossible odds.

**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 May 13 Legopaloosa extravaganza.**

Join us from 1 until 3pm for a smashing Lego block building time!

**International Movie Night**

With the kind support of the Cultural Trust of Oregon, the Cultural Coalition of Washington County, and the Abbey Creek winery we are able to bring you fresh foreign film every month. All showings occur at the Abbey Creek winery tasting room on Commercial Street. Fine food and wine are available to purchase.

**SAVE THE DATES: KEY DATES FOR LATER IN THE YEAR**

May 18 international movie *Amnesia* at the Abbey Creek tasting room 6pm.

May 19 at 7pm *Hungrytown* folk music performance at Jessie Mays.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6w5X5rMAEA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6w5X5rMAEA)

**Quilt of the month**

For May and June our quilt pattern is called “Spring Fever” from a Buggy Barn book called Certifiably Crazy. The quilt was made in 2010. Mary Lou Cannon (Library cataloger Candii’s mom) started quilting in 2006 and has finished over 50 quilts, with several of them being king and queen size quilts. Most of her ‘spare’ time is spent in front of the sewing machine, cutting out fabric, looking for new patterns or shopping for material. Her mind pretty much never shuts off from quilting.

**Senior Center News**

**GARAGE SALE PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER**—Saturday, May 6th, 7:30 to 11:00. We’ll be serving all-you-can-eat pancakes plus eggs, sausage, juice and coffee or you can have a Biscuits and Gravy breakfast instead. Cost is $7 per person.

**D.T. & COUNTRY SPRING DANCE**—Saturday, May 6th at Jessie Mays. Enjoy the classic country sounds of our own D.T. & Country. Dancing from 7:30 to 10:30. Admission is $5 per person; refreshments (pork sliders) available for purchase. Door prizes and 50/50 Raffle. Good music and good fun for all!

**FIRST AID AND AED CLASS**—We’re working on putting together a First Aid and AED Class so watch this space for details to come. Open to all.


**ANNUAL MEETING**—Monday, May 22nd, 12:15 at the Senior Center. Members please attend. We will be voting to fill three board positions—Treasurer, Vice-Chair and Director-at-Large. And don’t forget to stop by the front desk and pay your dues for the 2017-2018 year. Only $15.

**MAY CALENDAR**

Music at the Center—D.T. & Country, Monday, May 8th from 11:00 to 1:30.

Liver & Onions Lunch—Monday, May 15th

BINGO—Wednesday, May 3rd, 6:30 p.m.

BUNCO—Thursday, May 4th and 18th, 1:00 p.m.

**Here Today, Gone Tomorrow**

By Melvin Van Domelen
Mounta infield, OR

It was a Sunday December day in 1941. My mother was listening to a weekly soap opera called “One Man’s Family”. Our neighbor, Alton Warnick, who lived across from the Mounta infield store, comes rushing to our front door. The Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor, we were at war. This recruiting poster went up in many public places in the next few days.

We should remember the difficulties the local Japanese population suffered following this attack. Suddenly all the Japanese people living in the United States became the enemy. Many were long-time U. S. citizens, their children had been born here. They lost their friends, were shunned at schools and accused of suspicious activities. On February 9, 1942 President Roosevelt signed an executive order giving the states along the west coast authority to remove all residents of Japanese descent.

Those that could afford it could move to areas inland. Most of them had to comply with an order to report for relocation. They lost their jobs, had to leave their homes, try to dispose of their belongings, and had no idea what was in store for them. The local
Japanese ended up at the place where the Pacific International Livestock Exposition was held annually. This was the same location as the Portland Expo today. There were 11 acres there at the Exposition site, much of it under several roofs.

My brother, Dale, had become good friends with two Japanese, Harry Minamoto and Art Iwasaki, in high school. Harry and Art could not attend their high school graduation because they had been put under curfew and couldn’t be out after dark.

The Minamoto family lived at Shadybrook, a short distance up the hill from the grade school. Just before the family had to leave, my Father, brother and I took over our farm truck and loaded up some of their possessions to keep for them. The family looked to be in total shock and frightened. They were here today, going to be gone tomorrow. All they could take with them is what they could carry.

The father broke out a bottle of sake and small cups. I am 10 years old, but I’m putting down shots along with the big guys. We had their boxes stored upstairs in our attic for the duration of the war. I was told to never talk about the boxes in the attic or we would be looked upon as sympathizers by some.

When the Japanese arrived at the Pacific International buildings they lost their family names and became only a number. They were given small plywood cubicles, some only 10 feet by 10 feet. These spaces had open ceilings up to the space below the building’s roof, walls 8 feet high. Some cubicles only had dirt floors. The furnishings were Army cots and straw mattresses. These were the same areas that had held livestock a few months earlier. Some families, over 4,000 people, spent up to 4 months here.

In September a blacked out train took most of the Japanese from Portland to Minidoka, Idaho. This was one of the 10 “relocation centers” in the country.

Here at Minidoka they were greeted with plywood barracks wrapped in tar paper, no insulation. Cracks showed through the rough wood floor. A coal stove supplied heat. The temperature ranged between 100 degrees in summer to below zero at times. The Japanese organized their activities and quickly had an internal community set up much like a small city and they made do with what they had. Nine thousand Japanese spent 3 1/2 years here.

Many young men from the center volunteered to serve in the United States military even after they had been treated this way. Those coming to mind were Hank Taugawa, Art Iwasaki, Ned and Harry Minamoto. There were probably many others from this area. The news was careful to call these Internment Camps or Relocation Centers. The name Concentration Camp or prison never came up. These people were in prison, barb wire, searchlights and guard towers holding soldiers with guns pointed at them.

Our daughter told me this story of the Japanese internment during World War II was never taught as history in school. The United States Supreme Court refused to hear this relocation case for over 30 years. In 1988 President Ronald Reagan apologized to the Japanese-Americans for this injustice, and thanked the Japanese who had served our country. A sum of 20,000 dollars was paid to the survivors, many were not alive to claim it.

A year after World War II ended, the Pacific International Livestock show was held again. I was in the Future Farmers of America in high school. I took some dairy cattle to exhibit there. The next building over still had the cubicles made of plywood where the Japanese families had been held. I know what the space looked like. There were wooden pallets on a dirt floor, plywood walls 8 feet high and open space up to the building’s high roof. I slept here for three nights. I know what it is like to sleep on a bale of straw in a horse stall.

There was a Japanese family living up above Mountaindale on what had once been Fred Stettler’s winery. They probably rented the farm, but had around 7 acres of strawberries ready to harvest. They had to leave and see their crop go to waste.

I hope we don’t ever see an event like this happen again.
May Calendar

05/01 Historical Society 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
05/01 City Council Meeting 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
05/05 First Friday Flick 6 p.m. at Jessie Mays
05/06 City Wide Garage Sale
05/08 Budget Committee 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
05/10 Planning Commission 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
05/11 Food Pantry 5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St
05/13 Clean-Up Day 8 a.m. at Jessie Mays
05/13 Super Saturday 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
05/15 City Council Meeting 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
05/19 Folk Music Concert 6 p.m. at Jessie Mays
05/22 Budget Committee 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
05/24 Parks Board 6 p.m. at North Plains Senior Ctr.
05/26 Food Pantry 5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House

Fire Department News

It’s important for property owners to take steps this spring to assist in helping to protect their home and land from potential wildfires this summer.

During a wildfire, time is crucial and resources are limited. What you’ve done before a fire strikes may determine whether firefighters are able to save your home and other structures on your property.

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue has taken deliberate steps in the past 20 years to ensure a quick and effective response to wildfire, including investing in specialized wildland vehicles and equipment. Firefighters also participate in hands-on training, and TVF&R offers complimentary inspections to homeowners who reside on steep hillsides and in rural areas on the edges of town to discuss preventative measures.

Spring is the perfect time to create a 30-foot defensible space or safety zone around your home that may help firefighters safely protect your home from an encroaching fire.

To create this space, homeowners are encouraged to take the following steps:

- De-limb trees at least 10 feet up from the ground and cut back tree limbs hanging over your roof.
- Remove leaves, brush, and other debris from your gutters, rooftop, and underneath decks and crawlspaces.
- Regularly mow and water lawns and other green belts on your property. Keep your landscaping well pruned and watered.
- Plant low-growing, fire-resistant plants such as groundcover, perennials, and annuals near your home. Plant individual shrubs and hardwood trees at least 10 feet from your home.
- Store firewood and other combustibles at least 100 feet from your home.

Ensure firefighters can quickly find your home by posting your address at the beginning of a long driveway. Make sure your street is named or numbered and a sign is posted at each street intersection. If you need a rural address sign, call 503-697-9418.

Access to your property is also crucial. To ensure crews can safely respond, cut back low-hanging tree limbs and clear dense vegetation and debris from the road or driveway. Driveways should be 20 feet wide and have a minimum clearance of 15 feet overhead.

For more information about wildfire safety tips, visit www.tvfr.com.
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