Fire in the Bowl

Fire in the Bowl! It is time to register for the annual North Plains Chili Cook-off on Thursday, October 19th at Jessie Mays Community Center, 30975 NW Hillcrest Street, starting at 6:30 p.m. The North Plains Events Association will coordinate the event. 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:

- North Plains Chili Cook-Off Best Traditional Chili 2017
- North Plains Chili Cook-Off Best Nontraditional Chili 2017
- North Plains Chili Cook-Off People’s Choice 2017
- North Plains Chili Cook-Off Judges Choice 2017
- North Plains Chili Cook-Off Hottest Chili 2017

To register as a chili chef, go online at www.npfun.org and click on the Chili icon.

Housing Design Workshop

Housing Design Workshop

Are you a renter or homeowner in North Plains? Are you interested in how your community grows, and how it accommodates current and future residents?

The City of North Plains is hosting a workshop on housing design. We will be talking about housing issues specific to North Plains including design challenges and solutions, different types of housing that meet your needs, and looking at examples in other communities. Please join us! This event is free and open to the public.

North Plains Housing Design Workshop
November 2, 6:00 to 7:30 PM
North Plains Senior Center
31450 NW Commercial Street

Background

Earlier this year, the City of North Plains received Transportation Growth Management (TGM) assistance to conduct a series of small conversations leading to a public workshop, focused on housing designs for the future, designed to meet the needs of our city and our families, including our children and grandchildren, in North Plains. A team consisting of Urbsworks, Inc. urban design and Paste in Place were retained to lead the project.

Project Objective

The objective of the project, called Outreach Workshop on Housing Design for the City of North Plains, is to help the local community learn about and discuss different housing types and housing designs that are compatible with the needs of the community. Better designed higher-density housing can lead to a more diverse, connected and cohesive community. Higher density, compact development supports transportation choices in the community. The project may inform future zoning code amendments, but zoning code amendments are not part of this project.

Project Timeline

March through November 2017

More Information

Please see the City’s website for updates on the workshop and other project materials. You may also contact Erika Warhus with questions: erika@urbsworks.com

Library News

TUTORING SERVICE

Stacie our tutoring volunteer will be providing her excellent Homework Help again this school year and will be here on Mondays. This started on Monday, September 11. The booking window is 2:30pm until 4:30pm for half hour blocks of time. Please contact the Library to book a free appointments. The tutor will provide help with all subjects including math from an elementary school level through calculus.
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.

Storytimes

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

September 20. Storytime with Mr. Will, Out for the Count.
September 27. Storytime with Mr. Will, Beware of Pirates.
October 4. Storytime with Ms. Barbara, Fall into Fall.
October 11. Special guest Mayor Lenahan.
October 18. Storytime with Mr. Will, Planes, Trains and Automobiles.
October 25. Storytime with Mr. Will, Spooky Tales.

First Friday Flick

Join us at the Library on the First Friday of each month for a free showing of a PG-rated movie.

October 6 @ 6:30pm, ICE AGE: Collision Course

Scrat's epic pursuit of his elusive acorn catapults him outside of Earth, where he accidentally sets off a series of cosmic events that transform and threaten the planet. To save themselves from peril, Manny, Sid, Diego, and the rest of the herd leave their home and embark on a quest full of thrills and spills, highs and lows, laughter and adventure while traveling to exotic new lands and encountering a host of colorful new characters.

Super Saturday.

Come join the library at Jessie Mays Community Center for fun performers and activities for all ages! These events occur from 1 until 2pm. Events are always a blast, and always free of charge.

Saturday October 14 Join Penny and her puppets for Animals Build It!

This fantastic puppet show will occur at the community center at 1pm. Animals create their worlds. They build shelters and gather food. Like you, animals live in a home. Find out what it would be like to build like a bee, a bird, a beaver and many more animal friends. Join Penny and her musical cast of animal puppets sing, laugh and build their worlds.

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.

Oregon Military History Book Talk

Join us at the library October 19 at 7pm. Oregon’s military heritage goes back thousands of years with native warrior traditions. From 1847 to 1880 Army and volunteers units engaged Oregon’s native peoples in eight major conflicts. The Army built several forts from Oregon’s coast to the Snake River. The Oregon Militia was first created in 1843 and this led to creation of the Oregon National Guard in 1887. As the Pacific Northwest’s well-trained National Guard unit, the 41st Infantry Division served commendably from 1941 to 1945. Oregonians served heroically in Korea and Vietnam. Recently Oregon Army and Air National Guard units have been serving in Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts.

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 wine is available for purchase.

Thursday, October 26, International Movie Night will be the film Glory from Bulgaria at Abbey Creek tasting room at 6pm.

Tsanko Petrov, a railroad worker, finds millions of leva on the train tracks. He decides to turn the money over to the police, for which the state rewards him with a new wristwatch that soon stops working. Meanwhile, Julia Staikova, head of the PR department of the Ministry of Transport, loses Petrov's old watch, a family relic. This starts his desperate struggle to recover both his old watch and his dignity.

Those Were the Good Old days...

The Great Oregon Steam Up

By Melvin Van Domelen
Mountaindale, OR

There is an event staged each year the last weekend in July and the first weekend in August at Brooks, Oregon just north of Salem. This Great Oregon Steam Up features operating steam traction engines antique and modern tractors of all kinds. Over the years this show has doubled in size and now is almost more than one can see in a day. I have enjoyed attending here many times in years past. My legs and knees are slowing me down now.
The first time I went to the Steam Up was with my cousin, John Crocker, maybe 20 years ago. We wandered into the entertainment tent to drink a soda. No alcohol is allowed on the grounds. They don’t want drunks around all of the moving machinery. In those days, anyone who wanted could just set in and play their instruments together with the band.

Next door there is an elderly man running a steam engine that is belted up to a flour grinder. This man, with a cane and a squirt oil can hooked on his back pocket, limps in. He gets upon the stage and sings “That Silver Haired Daddy of Mine”. He then did a lively jig and a 2-step, went back to his engine and threw some more wood in the firebox.

I asked John “What did we just see?” His reply was “We saw a 90-year old man sing, do a jig and a 2-step dance with a cane and oil can hanging on his back pocket”.

One of the highlights of the truck museum there is this 1920 chain drive, open cab, hard rubber tired Doane freight truck. It rang a bell the first time I saw it because it looked like a truck that used to be on display at Marelco Rancho. Damon Trout and his wife owned a home and showplace up above Mountaindale, 1940’s-1970’s.

Upon inspecting the information board at the truck museum we find that Meier & Frank once owned the Doane to move heavy freight. The information board also states that Marine Electric Company was the owner later on. Marine Electric Company was Mr. Trout’s business in Portland. He used the first letters of his company to come up with the name Marelco Rancho for his home and park.

A steam sawmill operates at this event several times a day and always draws a large crowd. The same boiler that powers the sawmill also supplies the steam that runs an ice cream making machine. This is a must stop, to line up and get your ice cream cone from a steam powered machine.

There are all sorts of working farm devices on display. Bundles of wheat feed a threshing machine that operates every afternoon, a stationary straw baler cleans up after the threshing, everything powered by steam engines. For those of us who took part in these farm activities, it’s a trip back into the past. For those who came along later it’s a lesson in how things used to be.

There is a dirt roadway around the Steam Up grounds that features a parade every afternoon. There are usually 8 to 10 working steam traction engines at this event. In keeping with tradition, they all blow their whistles at noon. These same engines lead off the parade. After that any exhibitor who wants can join in. You never know what you will see. An announcer identifies the passing attractions.

One area displays garden tractors and all kinds of small farm machinery powered by old one cylinder gasoline engines. These exhibits might include corn shellers, water pumps or buzz saws. You name it. I was in this area on my last visit to the Steam Up. I saw this Maytag washing machine that was exactly like the one my Mother once used. This brought back a scary memory of my childhood.

My Mother was programmed long before computers came into being. In her program, Monday was wash day. Before I was in grade school, I liked to feed the washed clothes through the rubber rollers of the wringer of the washing machine. I thought I was helping by pressing the water out. Once, my fingers were caught between those rollers, and my arm, up to my elbow, went through the wringer. As luck would have it, those rollers were spring loaded and I escaped injury.

There is not much here to interest women, only a small flea market. Children could learn if they watched the activities and put away their cell phones. But for the guys, this is the mother lode. There is a huge swap meet in a field where one can almost get lost.
I’d like to go back to the Steam Up again. If for nothing more than to hear all of those steam engines blow their whistles at noon.
I’d like to thank John Hyde for the photos for the story.

Books for Sale
Love reading Melvin’s stories each month? You can now buy them in print in “Those Were the Good Old Days!” by Melvin Van Domelen. The book is 208 pages long and selling for $25. Please call 503-647-2760 to order your copy!

Senior Center News

MUSIC MONDAY: DT & Country will be playing at the Senior Center on Monday, October 9th at 11:00 am- 1:30 pm

PAINTING CLASS: Every Thursday, August 31st thru October 12th open to everyone $5.00 per class 11:30-3:00 pm for info call Janice Cook 503-351-3222 or jcookart@gmail.com

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR MEDICARE: Do you have questions about Medicare? From October 15th thru December 7th you can make an appointment to speak with Karen Shell and have all your questions answered, call the Senior Center 503-647-5666

EXERCISE CLASS: Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9:30 – 10:30 AM, down stairs at the Senior Center, this class is FREE and open to anyone.

OCTOBER CALENDAR:
BINGO: Wednesday, Oct 4th, 6:30 p.m.
BUNCO: Thursday, Oct 5th & 19th 1:00 pm
Liver & Onions Lunch: Monday, October 16th salad bar opens at 11:45, lunch at 12 pm

New to the Senior Center:

Circuit Training Bootcamp

What: Circuit Training Bootcamp
Where: North Plains Senior Center
When: Begins 10/30
Monday-Friday
5am-6am
How: Just show up!
$5 for drop in
$25/month

October Calendar

10/02 City Council Meeting 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
10/06 First Friday Flick 6 p.m. at the Library
10/11 Planning Commission 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
10/12 Food Pantry 5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St
10/14 Super Saturday 12 p.m. at Jessie Mays
10/16 City Council Meeting 7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
10/19 Chili Cook-Off 6:30 p.m. at Jessie Mays
10/25 Parks Board 6 p.m. at North Plains Senior Ctr.
10/27 Food Pantry 5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St
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Cannot be combined with any other offers.
We want you to hear from you!

The city of North Plains is updating the Transportation System Plan (TSP) to plan for and provide a safe and balanced transportation system for the next 20 years. The TSP will provide a policy and improvement framework that expands on the Envision North Plains Comprehensive Plan to support planned growth and community development.

We are currently looking for community members to join our Advisory Committees. If you would like to get involved, please contact Sierra White at 503-647-5555, or sierra.white@northplains.org.

Want to get involved but can’t commit to a spot on the Advisory Committees? Come to one of the many public and on-line planning meetings where you can stay up to date on progress and provide feedback and ideas. Visit northplainstsp.com for a schedule of upcoming meetings and more information related to the TSP.

Get Involved!

- Join the Advisory Committee
- Attend the Public Meetings
- Let Us Know What Is Important to You

The TSP

- Evaluates impacts of land uses on the transportation system
- Identifies Improvements for safe and efficient multi-modal travel
- Identifies Goals and Policies for balancing the transportation system

Visit northplainstsp.com for more information

CONTACT
Sierra White
sierra.white@northplains.org