E-Water Bills

We are excited to announce that we are launching e-bills! Water customers will be able to view their statements online, but unfortunately payment is not able to be submitted directly through the statement view. That is our next goal! For the time being, you can always make a payment through the website www.cityofnp.org. Click the red button that says “Pay Online” and you will be directed to the payment portal.

To set up e-bills visit https://northplains.moonlightbpo.com/default.aspx. First time users will need to register. Enter your name and account number exactly as it appears on your water statement.

Once registered go to your profile and select “send e-mail” under Delivery Method. You will receive an e-mail to the e-mail address you provided during registration once the new water statements are ready, typically around the 1st of each month.

Annexation Update

On November 7, 2016 the North Plains City Council conducted two public hearings regarding the annexations of two separate areas of land into the City Limits. The East Annexation area measures approximately 45.58 acres in size and is proposed for annexation to the City by Polygon Northwest Company. The North Annexation area measures approximately 76.07 acres in size and is proposed for annexation to the City by Paine Tract, LLC and Lone Oak Land and Investment Company.

The State of Oregon passed Senate Bill 1573 in March 2016, requiring cities to take action on annexation applications meeting certain criteria without requiring a vote of the City electorate, regardless of the City’s required annexation procedures. Senate Bill 1573 therefore supersedes the City of North Plains’ requirement for voter-approved annexation.

To that end, each annexation request was reviewed by the Planning Commission for compliance with the City’s Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code and Senate Bill 1573. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the annexation requests at a public hearing on May 11, 2016.

All land that is annexed into the City will be zoned Neighborhood Community. Upon recommending approval of the annexations, the Planning Commission identified deficiencies in the Zoning Code requirements for the Neighborhood Community (NC) zoning district. The Planning Commission began review of the NC zone with input from representatives of both of the annexation areas. One notable change to the NC zone is...
the requirement that any development proposal within an annexation area include a phasing plan that details the anticipated construction schedule. This is important because the City’s Comprehensive Plan does not anticipate full build out of these annexation areas until 2021. The Planning Commission will review any development applications to ensure consistency with both the Zoning Code and the Comprehensive Plan.

The City Council decided to delay the final annexation hearings until the NC updates were in place, recognizing that once annexed, the property owners could apply for development review and would be subject to the standards in place at the time of application submittal. The updates to the NC zone will become effective on November 2, 2016. Therefore, the City Council conducted the public hearings regarding the annexations on November 7, 2016.

Any decisions made by the Council on November 7, 2016 will include direction to staff to draft an ordinance. This ordinance will be read twice, once at each of two consecutive City Council meetings, presumably November 21, 2016 and December 5, 2016. Once the second reading is complete, the Council will adopt the ordinance. The ordinance will then become effective 30 days later, presumably January 4, 2016.

**News from the North Plains Senior Center**

*During this Christmas season, may you enjoy the message of hope, love, and peace on Earth.*

*May all of these holiday blessings be yours to keep.*

**YUM-M-M**

**HOMEMADE HOLIDAY PIES FOR SALE**—Large 12-inch homemade apple, pecan and pumpkin pies for sale. Pies are $16 each; proceeds support the Meals on Wheels program, providing hot, nutritious lunches to our seniors—at the Senior Center and through home delivery. Call 503-647-5666 and order a week ahead so we can have your pie ready on the following Tuesday or Thursday.

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

Sunday, Dec. 4 at Loch Lolly Christmas Forest from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. $10 per person. Menu includes french toast, sausage, eggs and juice. Reservations must be made in advance. Please RSVP for the Breakfast with Santa to 503-647-2619 or email lochlolly1@aol.com. Proceeds from this breakfast go to the Kyron Horman Foundation, a perpetual foundation. Each child will be able to make an ornament to take home with them at no additional charge.

**CLASSIC COUNTRY**

ENJOY THE CLASSIC COUNTRY SOUNDS OF D.T. & COUNTRY

HOLIDAY DANCE

Saturday, December 17th, Jessie Mays Community Hall

Dancing 7:30 to 10:30; $5 per person

Referrals available for purchase 50/50 raffle

**COME BACK LITTLE SHIBA**

Karen Shell from SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) will be available by appointment only in November to help seniors sign up for medical insurance. Call the Senior Center at 503-647-5666 for an appointment.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

For kitchen help prepping food, serving and cleaning up. We also have openings for drivers to deliver meals on homebound seniors. Mileage reimbursement for those who would like it. Please come in and fill out a registration form if you have spare time to volunteer. Once a week, once a month or whenever you are available. We’ll work with your schedule.

**DECEMBER CALENDAR**

MUSIC AT THE CENTER—Monday, Dec. 12th, DT & COUNTRY. 11:00 – 1:00

BINGO—Wednesday, December 7th, 6:00. Drawing for free entry, ticket & dinner. Come and join the fun!

BUNCO—Thursday, December 1st, 15th and 29th at 1:00 p.m.

LIVER & ONIONS LUNCH—Monday, Dec. 19th

**Library News**

SAVE THE DATES: KEY DATES FOR LATER IN THE YEAR

On January 26 2017 from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. it’s time to say hi to the WCCLS cloud library. The Library Director will give a presentation on what the cloud library is, how to install it on your devices and how to use it to get free e-books and audio books using your library card. He will also help members of the public who bring their own mobile devices get up and running with the cloud library.

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.  
November 23. Cats and Dogs with Mr. Will.  
November 30. Storytime with Mr. Will - All about me.  
December 7. Miss Marion hosts a rhyming Storytime with Rhyme Time as the theme.  
December 21. A visit with Santa!  

**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.  

**December 2 at 6 p.m.  My Neighbor Totoro.**  
When two girls move to the country to be near their ailing mother, they have adventures with the wondrous forest spirits who live nearby. Arguably the greatest children’s animated movie ever made.  

**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.  

**Day of service; the library gets a clean sweep!**  
On Saturday October 22 the library was given a splendid cleaning, dusting and polishing by many tens of staff and volunteers. Over many hours of work every shelf was emptied for dusting and the exterior stone work was cleaned and lichen removed from the pillar caps. This was followed by our annual “un-birthday brunch” to recognize the efforts of our volunteers on the day and all year long. The event was both fun and very motivating.  

**Holiday Concert Bell Choir & Carolers**  
Join us for our holiday spectacular event with a Concert Bell Choir & Carolers featuring the *Bells of the Cascades* and the *Dickens Carolers*. It will occur on the evening of December 9 from 6:30 p.m. until 7:45 p.m. at the Jessie Mays community center.  

**Annual Library craft fair**  
The annual Craft Fair will be held in the Library from December 1 until December 24. Proceeds will be used to purchase new books.
Those were the good old days...

Threshing Day
By Melvin Van Domelen
Mountainedale, OR

I gave a copy of this threshing machine photo, and others, to our mural painter Allison McClay for an idea of something for her to work with. This is an early wooden frame machine. It was sometimes called a grain separator. The machine is putting out a lot of grain. I see two sack sewers at work. The man standing by the empty grain sacks was called the “jigger”. He put the sacks on the grain spouts and shook or “jigged” the grain down as the sacks filled. The man standing on top of the separator probably owned it. He was called the separator man. His job was to watch for trouble and keep things oiled. I told Allison she didn’t need to paint this guy in, there is not a half-dozen of us left who know what he was doing up there.

So, I’d like to relive a day in the life of an 8-year old when the threshers came to my parent’s farm late 1930’s. Our large wheat field down by the creek has been cut by a horse-pulled grain binder a week ago. The grain bundles have been stacked together at random, wheat heads up, waiting.

I can still hear the clop, clop, clop of Floyd Raffety’s team of horses and his bundle wagon coming into our barnyard. Floyd is coming early to load in the field and have a full wagon of bundles of wheat ready when the threshing machine arrives and sets up. The Hergert family owns the machine used in our community, powered by a John Deere tractor.

My Father is having the thresher set up in our cow lot this year. The cow lot was a fenced quarter of an acre next to our dairy barn. In good weather the cows would spend the night in the cow lot. Cows liked to nibble on the straw.

Frank Rice is pulling in with another team and bundle wagon and heading out to the field. The crew will move to his farm tomorrow. The operation is about to start up here. The machine is in place, belted up to that John Deere. The neighbors are here, Jim Mathiesen, Herman Crocker, Clarence Meek, Joe Baker, Earl Luther, Ed Leming and others. It will take 12 men with 4 teams and wagons to feed this separator once it is running. Start-up time is about 10:30 a.m.

I am just a young kid, but I’m taking all this in.

My mother has been working on the meal to feed the crew for 2 days. My Great-Aunt Maggie Crocker has come in to help. The wash room is in a separate building where my Mother does her laundry. The men wash up before lunch, using LAVA soap that felt like it had sand in it. Cold water only and LAVA soap. The harvest table is set up in our screened back porch, a large porch that can hold a crowd.

There is quite a competition among wives as to who could put out a good meal at harvest time. No problem getting a crew together with a good cook.

About all an eight-year old can do today is to be the water boy. I have my gallon jug double wrapped in wet burlap and a tin cup. One feels rewarded if someone wants a drink. I’ll catch an empty wagon and go out to the field and try to get some more customers out there. They are loading a wagon here. The man throwing the grain bundles up to the wagon with a 3-tined fork was called a “spike pitcher”. A good loader could catch the bundle in midair with his fork. He would then place it in the load, grain heads to the inside, bundle butts out. They were thirsty in the field. My mission accomplished. The reward for my field trip will be a ride back to the threshing action on top of Floyd’s wagon loaded with grain bundles. I would rub out a few heads of wheat in my hands and pop some into my mouth to chew on. I’m a happy kid, on top of the world.

The separator is running smoothly. Bundles are pitched into the feed conveyor, heads first. The threshed wheat goes through a measuring device at the top of an elevator that records the number of bushels being harvested. Two bushels to a sewn sack that weighs 120 pounds.
The straw is being blown out of a large pipe into the cow lot. This straw stack has reached a height of well over 20 feet. After it settles this straw stack will be good to climb up on and then slide down.

As time goes by the cattle will munch around the edges of a straw stack. I would see what looked like giant mushrooms at different farms. This is something never to be seen again. Times have changed, the events mentioned here are all things of the past. Those old farmers had it all figured out. But I was the water boy, and I remember it all.

**TVF&R Update**

On November 8, voters approved Ballot Measure 34-268, which dissolves Washington County Fire District 2 and annexes the area into Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue. The transition will take effect on July 1, 2017.

In the past, Washington County Fire District 2 provided fire service to residents of North Plains, Midway, Scholls and portions of unincorporated Washington County.

In recent years, the district faced funding and operational challenges. North Plains City Councilor Robert “Butch” Kindel, who also serves as a District 2 board member, states, “As a District 2 volunteer for 30 years, I’ve been personally committed to the safety of our community. But like many other fire districts around the country, we’ve found it difficult to meet the rising demands for emergency services.”

Elected leaders from District 2 determined it was in the community’s best interest for TVF&R to permanently provide service to their area in order to stabilize funding for fire, medical and emergency services and to ensure continued fire protection to area residents. They put the issue before voters to decide.

Voter support of Measure 34-268 to dissolve District 2, paves the way for TVF&R to annex the territory and ensure emergency services continue in the future. Fire Chief Mike Duyck states, “We are so pleased with the outcome of this election and humbled by the endorsement we’ve received from the community.

We are eager to provide service permanently to residents in North Plains, Midway, Scholls and central Washington County and excited that District 2 firefighters and staff have joined our family. We will be good stewards and fulfill our commitment to provide fast and effective fire and emergency medical service.”

**WHAT CAN RESIDENTS EXPECT?**

**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. For more information about Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue services, visit www.tvfr.com.

**December Calendar**

12/02  First Friday Flick  6 p.m. at Jessie Mays
12/05  Historical Society  1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
12/05  City Council Meeting  7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
12/08  Food Pantry  5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St
12/08  Holiday Jingle  6:00 p.m. at Jessie Mays
12/09  Holiday Bell Choir Concert  6:30 p.m. at Jessie Mays
12/10  Super Saturday  1 p.m. at Jessie Mays
12/14  Planning Commission  7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center
12/17  Senior Center Dance  7:30 p.m. at Jessie Mays
12/19  City Council Meeting  7 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street
12/23  Food Pantry  5:30 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St
12/26  City Offices Closed
12/28  Parks Board  6 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center
1/02  City Offices Closed
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Champion’s Grille Ghost Creek Clubhouse
December 16, 2016
Dinner service 5pm -8pm

Starter Appetizers
Artichoke Spinach Dip with breadsticks $6
Fried Calamari rings with Roasted Garlic aioli $7
Coconut Shrimp Skewers $8

Entrees Selections
Slow Roasted Prime Rib Au Jus
Slow roasted to juicy perfection accompanied by Frizzled Tumbleweed Onions, Horseradish Sauce and Au Jus
12 oz Rancher’s Cut $27 8 oz Petite Cut $21

Masters’ Filet Mignon
Broiled Center Cut Tenderloin
with Rogue Bleu cheese compound butter.
Crowned with Sautéed Mushroom Caps
9 oz Rancher’s Cut $28

Breast of Chicken Cordon Bleu $20
Herb Crusted Breast of Chicken Topped with Prosciutto and Provolone Cheese then finished with hollandaise

Roasted Turkey Roulade $21
Cranberry cashew herb stuffing
served with Apple cider turkey gravy

Crab stuffed Pacific Salmon $23
Seasoned filet stuffed with Crab & Dill Cream Cheese

All Entrée Selections are served with your choice of Herbed Cheese Mashed Potatoes, Butternut squash risotto, seasonal vegetables, Artisan bread with butter and unlimited trips to the soup and salad bar.

Selections from our Dessert Tray  prices vary
Cocktails and Wine List are Available

12930 NW Old Pumpkin Ridge Road
North Plains Oregon 97133
Reservations are required
503.647.2509
www.pumpkinridge.com