Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday March 30 at 10:00 a.m.
at North Plains Elementary School
Sponsored by the North Plains Events Association and Washington County Fire District #2 Volunteers
This is a free event for children of all ages to enjoy.

Incentives for New Houses on Vacant Lots

For a limited time, the City will reduce System Development Charges (SDCs) and the In-Lieu Street Fee up to 75%. This can save a property owner $10,000 or more on the construction of a new single family home. City Council recently approved a temporary reduction in fees for the construction of new single family homes on vacant or partitioned lots to encourage new development on existing streets.

To qualify for the incentive, the builder must pledge to buy American products when available and follow Energy Star and Waterwise guidelines to ensure energy efficiency and water conservation best practices are used during construction. Additionally, the general contractor must be or pledge to hire a North Plains subcontractor for at least 10% of the project value. As a result of Council’s action, several builders have already applied for new home permits. (The incentives are not available to subdivisions of 3 or more homes.) Each home will provide North Plains with about $2,170 in property taxes for every $100,000 of assessed value added to the community’s tax rolls.

Last year, Council also reduced fees for lot line adjustments and partitions. For less than $350, it is possible to divide a large lot into two parcels. (No costly deposit is required as in the past.)

The incentives will be reduced to 50% in 2014 and 25% in 2015. They expire in 2016. More information and forms are available on the City’s website: www.northplains.org.

Summer Fest & Garlic Out West!

This August 9, 10, and 11, the North Plains Events Association (NPEA) presents the Summer Fest & Garlic Out West! festival.

The NPEA was formed to oversee North Plains’ traditions like the Jingle, Easter Egg Hunt (with Washington County Fire Volunteers) and Citywide Garage Sale. Additionally, the NPEA wanted to provide a free festival on the second weekend in August that invited North Plains residents to enjoy live music, good food, activities and crafts while supporting local community groups through fund raising opportunities. For additional information about this year’s Summer Fest and Garlic OutWest festival please see page 6.

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Library News

First Friday Flick. Free family movie nights occur on the first Friday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Library. The PG-rated, 2012 computer-animated comedy film to be shown on March 1 is about Dracula’s classy resort for monsters – no humans allowed! – and the drama that unfolds there. Seating is limited. Refreshments will be served.

Storytimes. Children ages 0-6 are invited to participate every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the children’s section of the Library. Story reader Miss Marion will be our guest on March 6 with tales about Windy Weather. Youth Librarian Jackie will host Storytime on March 13 and 27. The Special Guest Storytime on March 20 will feature Becky and her 4H Bunnies and stories about rabbits.

Writers’ Group. Share your writing projects and receive feedback from peers on Thursday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Library. New members are welcome to join.

Super Saturday – Graphic Novel Workshop. Darren Davis of Bluewater Productions will be teaching K-6th graders how to draw their own comics beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 9 at the Jessie Mays Community Hall.

Friends of the Library Meeting. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 11, from 7:30-9 p.m. at the North Plains Public Library. New members are welcome to attend.

Genealogy Classes. Learn how to do genealogical research from members of The Genealogical Society of Washington County Oregon at a series of three free classes at the Library on Tuesday mornings from 10-11:00 a.m. on March 12, 19, and 26. Learning about your family’s history is a fascinating adventure. These classes will help you understand the process of genealogical research – where to look, whom to contact, how to organize what you find, and how to interpret that information. Pre-registration is required. Call the Library at 503-647-5051 to sign up.

Library Book Club. Come to the Library on Thursday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m. for a discussion of Where Lilacs Still Bloom by Oregon author, Jane Kirkpatrick. German immigrant and farm wife Hulda Klager possesses only an eighth-grade education - and a burning desire to create something beautiful. What begins as a hobby becomes Hulda’s consuming purpose - plant hybridization – and puts her at odds with family and community as she challenges the early twentieth-century expectations for a simple housewife. New members are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Craft Night. Bring your knitting, crocheting, or other personal craft projects to the Library on Thursday, March 28 from 6-8 p.m. for an evening of camaraderie and dedicated handiwork time.

Library open hours are Monday – Wednesday 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday – Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Library is located at 31334 NW Commercial Street. Call 503-647-5051 or visit our website at www.nplibrary.org for more information. You can also find us on Facebook!

What can the City of North Plains do for you? If you have any suggestions for improving our services to you and the rest of the community please let us know by emailing info@northplains.org.
Senior Center News:

HAPPY ST. PATRICK’S DAY
A terrific traditional CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER will be held Saturday, March 23rd at 6:00 at the North Plains Senior Center. Only 50 tickets will be sold at just $15 per person. Stop by and get your tickets today! Yummmmm!!

ATTENTION LADIES
Tuesday, March 12 at 1:00, Mary Pat Farnard will teach you how to perk up your wardrobe and learn fun ways to use scarves. Enhance your style with color and beauty. Please bring a square scarf and an oblong scarf. If you don’t have scarves, you can borrow one during the presentation.

HEADS UP! CLOTHING EXCHANGE
In April, the Senior Center will open its doors for its second Clothing Exchange from 11:00 to 1:00 on a Saturday to be determined. Bring your gently used clothing and perhaps do a little shopping yourself. Men’s, Women’s and Children’s clothing available. Donations only.

WALK WITH EASE
The Arthritis Foundation will begin a new walking class in April. Walkers will meet Mon, Wed, and Fri at 10:30 and enjoy our beautiful spring weather on a 1.5 mile course. Join us!

DON’T BE A TARGET
Do you have personal papers that need shredding? The Senior Center is here to help you with our secure recycling box. Bring in your papers and drop them in the box. It’s a locked box and each Friday the shredding truck comes by to pick it up, unlock it and empty it into the shredder. No muss, no fuss, and NO ONE looks at your papers. Be safe, not sorry! Any resident can use this service.

D&T COUNTRY invites you to join us for a few hours of CLASSIC COUNTRY MUSIC
WHERE? North Plains Senior Center
WHEN? Sunday, March 3, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Admission, per person, is $1 dollar and 1 can of food for the North Plains Food Bank. All monetary proceeds go to the North Plains Senior Center. There will be a short intermission and refreshments.

Your North Plains Senior Center is here to serve you. For information about activities or events or other questions about the Center, please call: 503-647-5666.

Tax Help and Forms
The Senior Center is offering free tax preparation—through AARP—each Wednesday, now through April 10.

You don’t have to be a senior to take advantage of this service.
Anyone can seek assistance.
Call 503-647-5666 or come in for an appointment
Copies of the most used tax forms are available at the Library.
Additionally, the Library has a book of the less frequently used forms that can be photocopied for use.

North Plains Food Bank
The North Plains Urban Renewal Agency is providing space for the Food Bank at 31315 NW Commercial Street. Each month, the food bank assists 25+ North Plains families with food staples. The City Council, sitting as the Agency Board of Directors, authorized the use of the space at no cost to the pantry. (Previously the pantry was housed at North Plains Senior Center, which is still the sponsoring organization.)

Free Gun Locks
North Plains Police Department is distributing hand-gun locks free of charge. You can pick up the locks at City Hall, 31360 NW Commercial Street, during business hours.
ODOT Glencoe Ramp Closure

This Month

This month, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) anticipates closing the Glencoe exit for a week or more. ODOT posts its information about the project on http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/pages/glencoe/index.aspx. Please watch for signs about the closures on Hwy 26 and Glencoe Road. The City will send emails to persons on its newsletter lists to advise of exact dates when they are known. If you’d like to get on the project email distribution list, please send your email address to Lili.D.Boicourt@odot.state.or.us.

Volunteers Needed

There are a lot of community activities that need volunteers. If you have a little time (even just a couple hours) here are opportunities for which you may volunteer:

- Concerts in the Park
- Music Shows/Dances
- 4th of July (planning and day of event)
- Playdates (set up, supervision and take down)
- Teach a class (Jessie Mays is available for nominal cost or no cost for free instruction.)
- Budget Committee (a few meetings to review the City’s budget)
- Parks Advisory Committee (This is an exciting time to plan changes at Jessie Mays and plan new parks and trails.)
- Neighborhood Watch Captains
- North Plains Farmers’ Market assistants
- Answering phones and filing (City Hall can use a little help.)

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please email info@northplains.org or call (503)-647-5555.

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

~Winston Churchill

Odor Monitor Meeting

March 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Thomas Card of Environmental Management Consulting, which has been retained by Washington County to monitor odors, will conduct a meeting on March 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Jessie Mays Community Hall. He will outline his process for analyzing odors and the goals of his study. Washington County Commissioners have entered into an agreement with Recology for the odor monitoring study which is estimated to cost $125,000.

While visiting North Plains during the week of the 11th, Mr. Card will also be seeking assistance from community members to document odors and to be trained as odor monitors. Several City staff and community members will be taught how to use a “nasal ranger” and to conduct regular monitoring. If you are interested in participating in monitoring, please contact City Manager Martha DeBry at martha@northplains.org.

Recology’s Stake-Holder Meetings

Recology hosts meetings at the North Plains Library at 6:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month to discuss issues related to the operations of Nature’s Needs including odor complaints. February 20 is the next meeting. Please call Recology if you would like additional information or wish to provide comments (503) 647-9489.

Prevent Crime: Lock Your Car

Recently, the North Plains Police Department has received numerous reports of thefts from cars. In most cases, the cars were left unlocked overnight. The criminals are striking in the wee hours of the morning to take cell phones, GPS units, electronics, purses and any other item left in plain view. Please take an extra moment to remove valuables from plain view and lock your vehicle to avoid becoming a crime victim.
New Construction Projects at Curtis Street, Highland and 307th
City staff anticipates several projects in the area of Highland Court (east of Glencoe), 307th Avenue and Curtis Street. Water mains will be installed on all three streets. Construction on the Highland Court Subdivision, including the extension of Curtis Street to Highland Court and building a new City park, is also likely to begin this month.

North Plains Farmers’ Market
The North Plains Farmers’ Market will be open Saturdays, June 15th - September 28th 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The market will be accepting SNAP/Oregon Trail Cards, WIC and Senior vouchers. The market will match SNAP card purchases up to $5.00 per person, per market thanks to a grant from New Seasons Market. The North Plains Farmers’ Market 2013 Vendor Handbook and application are available online at www.northplainsfarmersmarket.org. The North Plains Farmers’ Market continues to seek applicants for the market board. The application can be found on our website. You may also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Cruisin’ Apparel Still Available
T-shirts, tank tops and muscle shirts celebrating the very first 4th of July Crusin’ Show are still available at City Hall for $10 each. A variety of sizes are available. You may also visit the 4th of July website at www.np4july.org to order shirts online.

Boy Scout Troop 873 Visits City Council
On February 19th, Troop 873 presented colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The boys attended the meeting to earn a Merit Badge as well.
Summer Fest & Garlic Out West!

(...Continued from front page)

Summer Fest & Garlic Out West festival will follow a familiar format which includes:

- a hometown parade on Main and Commercial Streets on Saturday,
- an early morning 10k run/2k walk on Saturday,
- a pancake breakfast at the Senior Center,
- a vintage car show on Sunday,
- live music all three days,
- a kids’ play area with inflatables and a rock wall,
- vendors selling garlicky food, and
- lots of arts and crafts for sale on the Jessie Mays field.

This year’s garlic festival will feature vendors and music on Commercial Street on the day of the car show.

Details about the event may be found at [www.garlicoutwest.org](http://www.garlicoutwest.org).

NPEA volunteers have organized similar events in the past. The planning process for this year’s event is well underway. If you are interested in volunteering, becoming a vendor or providing sponsorship, please contact the Summer Fest & Garlic Out West organizers.

Contact Information for Summer Fest and Garlic Out West: The NPEA can be reached by calling Patti (503) 647-2619 or email patti.garlicoutwest@gmail.com. Website: [www.garlicoutwest.org](http://www.garlicoutwest.org).

Looking for Fun Free Things to Do?

Check out a Cultural Pass from the Library. Did you know you can get admission for two people to the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum for free? Cultural passes are also available for the Portland Children’s Museum, the Washington County Museum in Hillsboro, the Pittock Mansion, the Lan Su Chinese Garden (pictured), the Portland Japanese Garden, and A.C. Gilbert’s Discovery Village in Salem.

Playdate March 24 at 1:30 p.m.

Admission is free. Parents should plan on attending the event with little ones. Activities will include bounce house jumping and games. No advance registration needed. Just show up ready to have fun. Everyone is welcome.

Newsletter by Email

*Do you have family members or friends who live out of town and who might be interested in receiving hometown news?* They can receive this Community Newsletter free of charge by email. Simply tell them to email their address with a request to be added to the Newsletter mailing list to martha@northplains.org.
The Knights of Pythias
is a non-profit fraternal organization dedicated
to helping the North Plains community and founded on the
principals of friendship, charity and benevolence.

The Knights contribute resources, funding and volunteer time to many North Plains organizations as follows:

- 400 hours of volunteer labor at the annual North Plains Garlic Festival
- North Plains Elementary School Outstanding Boy and Girl Awards
- North Plains Police Department Bicycle Helmet Program
- Cub Scout Pack #175
- Support Our Troops Care Box Collection and Disbursement
- North Plains Senior Center
- North Plains Baseball
- North Plains Public Library DVD Movie Collection
- Soccer field goals
- Food bank assistance
- Lodge hosts Westside Quilters Club
- Lodge hosts North Plains Tae Kwan-Do Club

*The Knights of Pythias are very excited to host this year's City of North Plains 4th of July Celebration Community Dinner!* Plan to stop by the Fire Department for a special meal and a chance to meet *The Knights*. We hope to see you all there! Questions? Contact: Roger Newton reoportland@yahoo.com
Issues that will be coming before City Council this month include:

- Discussion of the In Lieu Street Fee
- Farmers’ Market

City Council has regular meetings scheduled at 7 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month. All meetings are open to the public. Agendas are published on the City’s website the week before the meeting. Members of the public may speak at any meeting on topics unrelated to the agenda during public comment periods.