LAND USE STANDARDS UPDATE

The City Planning Commission will consider updated zoning and planning standards during its September 14, 2011, regular meeting. These standards apply to new development and land use throughout the City. For more information, please visit the City’s web site at www.northplains.org, or visit City Hall to view the documents.

CITY COUNCIL TO NAME PARKS

Residents are encouraged to recommend names for the new City parks located by the water reservoir near NW Commercial Street and NW 318th Avenue; at NW Highland Court and NW 31th Avenue; and at NW Pacific Street and NW 313th Avenue. The City Council will select the parks names during its September 6, 2011, regular meeting.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you live in North Plains and are interested in how the City budget works or would like to learn more about land use planning? The City of North Plains is seeking interested citizens who are willing to volunteer their time and expertise on the Budget Committee, and Planning Commission. City committees provide valuable policy direction toward the future of the community and assist with determining City services and procedure. If you are interested in applying, please visit the City's web site at www.northplains.org to obtain an application for submittal to the City Recorder.

Budget Committee: 2 positions available on the 7 member Committee which is responsible to develop a balanced budget for the City each year. There are generally 3-5 meetings, typically between January through June at 7:00 p.m.. These positions have three year terms, expiring December 31, 2014.

Planning Commission: 1 position is available on the 7 member Commission which is responsible for review of land uses including residential, commercial and industrial development. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.. The term for the position will expire December 31, 2012.

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The Parks Advisory Committee will consider amendments for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan this fall. Please check the City web site for dates and details. An important addition to the Plan may be the Community Trails appendix which is available on-line for review. Please submit comments by mail, e-mail, phone, or in person to City Hall.
UPCOMING NORTH PLAINS PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Library Card Sign-Up Month: A library card is the most important school supply of all. Get yours today at the North Plains Public Library!

Overdue Materials Fines Start September 1st: Materials belonging to the North Plains Public Library will be subject to over due fines effective September 1, 2011. Currently, all public libraries in the County assess fines on materials except North Plains Public Library. The fines schedule is established by the Washington County Cooperative Library Services and adopted by the City Council. The standard fine rate, which includes most materials, is $0.15 per item per day with a maximum fine of $5.00 per item. The DVD/Blue-ray fine rate is $1.00 per item per day with a maximum fine of $5.00 per item. The Cultural Pass fine rate is $10.00 per item per day with a maximum fine of $30.00 per item.

First Friday Flick: Free family movie nights occur on the first Friday of each month beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Library. The animated PG movie for Friday, September 2, 2011, is about a young Viking teenager named Hiccup who sets out to follow his tribe’s tradition of becoming a dragon slayer but finds he would rather have the dragon as a friend. Seating is limited and refreshments will be served.

Story time: Children ages 0—6 are invited to join us for Story time every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the children’s section of the Library. On the third Wednesday of each month, Story time is presented by special guests.

See’s Candy Sales: The Library is selling a variety of See’s candy bars as a fundraiser. Prices range from $1.50 to $20.00. Stop by to purchase something sweet and delicious!

Library Book Club: The September selection will be the book, Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand, about an Army Air Forces bomber which crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappears. The pilot, captured by the Japanese and driven to the limits of endurance, he would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve and humor. Join us on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at the library for a discussion of this work. Refreshments will be served.

NORTH PLAINS SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER GRAND OPENING!
The remodel has been completed and the dust has settled. Come join the Senior Center in their Grand Opening celebration and check out the new look on October 10, 2011, from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m..

Come see your neighbors and enjoy cookies and punch!

PUBLIC SAFETY AWARENESS
Remember that with school starting back up soon, we will see a sharp increase in the amount of young children on our streets. Please be aware of your surroundings and drive cautiously. Let’s all do our part to keep everyone safe!

DITCH MAINTENANCE CHANGE
Due to limited budget revenues, the Public Works Department staff no longer maintains the ditches in various areas of the City. Homeowners are reminded they are responsible to maintain all areas up to the road surface.

SPECIAL THANKS to the following volunteers for stuffing newsletters and envelopes: Eileen Riddell, Jean Engeseth, Mary Lou Fults, Lorraine Langue, Dody Stanton, Martha Seeling and Mary VanDomelen.