Director’s Pick

For readers of all ages, **How To: Absurd Scientific Advice for Common Real-World Problems** is a handy, illustrated DIY guide for those into doing things the most scientifically complex, impractical, and excessive way humanly possible. Find ill-advised, but scientifically sound solutions to your everyday problems like how to dig a hole and how to predict the weather. Read it for fun and learn a lot about science in spite of yourself. With great surprise and delight, my son related how this book helped him pass a middle school science test!

Also by Randall Munro, **What If: Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions**

**Pi Day Celebration!**
North Plains Library invites you to celebrate the mathematical constant π (π) and to sample pie. Join Library staff and special guest Dolores VanDomelen, the Pie Guy’s Mom, for Pi Day Happiness. Enjoy a fun afternoon by sampling pies with a time to increase your Pie-Q with a Q & A with Dolores! Bring any burning questions, nothing is too flaky! Saturday March 14th at 2 p.m. while supplies last.

**Storytime**
Bring your little ones to our interactive weekly Book Babies and Storytime with Mrs. Em. Enjoy songs, stories, wiggles, bubbles, and crafts! Book Babies (0-2 yrs.)— every Tuesday at 10 a.m.
Pre-school Storytime (3-5 yrs.) – every Thursday at 10 a.m.
Bilingual Spanish Storytime continues Saturdays at 10 a.m. presented by volunteer community members. The last Saturday of the month is a bilingual social hour instead of a presented storyline.

**Oregon Battle of the Books**
OBOB teams and participants are invited to attend Mrs. Em’s fun practice sessions held at the library through March.

3-5th Grade: Feb. 27th 3:30-4:30 discussing **Stef Soto Taco Queen** by Jennifer Torres
6-8th Grade: Feb. 27th 4:30-5:30 discussing **The List** by Patricia Forde

**After School ‘Bingo with Brianna’**
Join us in the library for after school BINGO and win fantastic mystery prizes! Kids, tweens, and teens are invited to play BINGO at 3 p.m. on the Last Friday of the month through May.
**Artist Trading Cards**

Each month Marie Buckley and other local artists meet to share Artist Trading Cards (ATCs). These miniature works of art are designed to match a set theme and are about the size of a baseball card. The event occurs at 5:00 p.m. on the third Thursday evening of each month. This is a fun way to meet other artists and exchange art creations. The ATC exchange is free and open to the public.

*Upcoming ATC themes:*
- March 19 – Poison
- April 16 – Tops and Bottoms
- May 21 - Lips

**Library Book Club**

New members are always welcome to join in the monthly discussions. The group meets regularly once a month, usually on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the North Plains Public Library.

*Upcoming Books:*
- March 25th – *Chances Are* by Richard Russo
- April 29th – *Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World* by Jack Weatherford
- May 27th - *Nothing to See Here* by Kevin Wilson

**Craft Guild**

Join our informal group of knitters and quilters from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 on the first Wednesday evening of each month. Anyone interested in gathering for camaraderie as you work on your individual projects is welcome to do so at the library. This is an informal get-together of crafters, with no formal instruction.

**Print from Anywhere**

Send a print job to the library printer through a simple email from any device and pick it up at your convenience! For your privacy, your print job won’t be printed out until you arrive at the library. Simply attach the file you wish to print to an email message and send to one of the following:
- B&W: wccls-nppl-bw@printspots.com
- Color: wccls-nppl-color@printspots.com

If you are printing a confidential file such as a boarding pass or bank statement, we recommend you use our secure waveform to send the print job. You can find the waveform by clicking this [link](https://www.wccls.org/printfromanywhere) or by visiting [link](https://www.wccls.org/printfromanywhere). Staff will release the print job once you are in the library to retrieve it.

**The Friends on Amazon Smile**

Amazon donates money to charities through their Amazon Smile program. Sign up and add the Friends of the North Plains Public Library as your designated charity. [https://www.smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com)

Questions? Contact the Friends at [friendsnppl@gmail.com](mailto:friendsnppl@gmail.com) for more information [https://nplibrary.org/friends](https://nplibrary.org/friends)

**The Friends at Fred Meyer Rewards**

Sign up and add the Friends of the North Plains Library #LW132 as your designated charity. Fred Meyer will give cash back to the Friends. Proceeds raised support your local library.

Support are local nonprofit just by shopping at Fred Meyer with your Rewards Card. Fred Meyer donates over $2 million each year - up to $550,000 each quarter - to the local schools, community organizations and nonprofits of your choice. All you have to do is link your Rewards Card and scan it every time you shop at Fred Meyer. [https://www.fredmeyer.com/signin?redirectUrl=/account/communityrewards/](https://www.fredmeyer.com/signin?redirectUrl=/account/communityrewards/)

Questions? Contact the Friends at [friendsnppl@gmail.com](mailto:friendsnppl@gmail.com) for more information [https://nplibrary.org/friends](https://nplibrary.org/friends)

**March Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03/02</td>
<td>Historical Society Meeting 1 p.m. at Jessie Mays</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/02</td>
<td>City Council Meeting 7 p.m. with 6 p.m. work session at North Plains Senior Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/04</td>
<td>Economic Development Meeting 6 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/09</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation Board 6 p.m. at North Plains Senior Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/11</td>
<td>Planning Commission 7 p.m. with 6 p.m. work session at North Plains Senior Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/12</td>
<td>Food Pantry 5 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/16</td>
<td>City Council Meeting 7 p.m. with at North Plains Senior Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/18</td>
<td>Library Board 7 p.m. at the Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/27</td>
<td>Food Pantry 5 p.m. at the Yellow House, 31311 NW Commercial St</td>
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CITY OF NORTH PLAINS
PROUDLY SERVED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

IS YOUR CAR LOCKED?

MAKE LOCKING YOUR DOORS A HABIT

Unlocked vehicles or open garage doors are perfect targets for thefts. Be sure to always lock your doors, thieves take the easy route. Looking for additional ways to safeguard your property? Add these habits to your routine:

Lock It – Lock your house, garage and vehicle doors. Many criminals simply just check to see if doors are unlocked. Don’t create an easy opportunity for crime.

Light It – Whether you are home or away, leave the porch light on. Thieves thrive in the dark; keep it lit so they will keep away!

Hide It - Don’t leave your garage door opener in your vehicle. That’s the easiest way for a thief to get into your garage and possibly your home. Bring it into the house with you as you leave your car.

Remove It – Bring your keys, electronic devices, spare change, gym bag and all other items in the house. Valuables left in the car are easy targets.

Report It – Call 9-1-1 or non-emergency at 503-629-0111 to report anything that seems suspicious or makes you uncomfortable; communicating what you see is key to preventing or deterring crime. If it doesn’t look right, it probably isn’t; listen to your intuition.

Establish It - Organize a Neighborhood Watch group. Partner with the Washington County Sheriff’s Office to enhance your neighborhood livability: bit.ly/WCSO_NeighborhoodWatch

HOME ALONE SAFETY

Spring break will soon be upon us, and many parents are wondering: “At what age can my child be left home alone?”

Child neglect in the second degree (ORS 163.545) states: “A person having custody or control of a child under 10 years of age commits the crime of child neglect in the second degree if, with criminal negligence, the person leaves the child unattended in or at any place for such period of time as may be likely to endanger the health or welfare of such child.”

The question is challenging to answer because, not only does it depend on the child’s age, it also depends on the maturity of the child. Ask yourself these questions to help inform your decision:

- Does my child know how to get help in an emergency, like calling 9-1-1 or going to a neighbor’s house?
- Does my child have access to a phone and a list of important numbers to call in case of emergency?
- Have rules been established? Some rules might include not having friends over, not answering the phone, not opening the door to visitors and keeping all doors locked, no cooking (or establish what appliances can be used), and checking in with a parent or caretaker at pre-determined times.

Not all children mature at the same rate. Some kids could be ready at 10 years old, and some may not be ready until they are 16 or 17 to stay home alone. As your child grows older and wants to stay home alone, you must ensure they possess the life skills to do so.

Have a safe and pleasant spring break, neighbors!

PERSONAL SAFETY - SAVE THE DATE

Washington County Sheriff’s Office invites women, 14 years and older to participate in a free personal safety course - “Power Curve-Increasing Self Defense Options for Women”. This class is designed to empower women with tools to maintain personal safety, successful confront and survive potentially dangerous situations.

The next class session is Saturday, April 18th (9am-4pm)

Class size is limited, online registration for classes will open 30 days prior to the class start date.

Visit bit.ly/WCSO_Defense to register

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE | NORTH PLAINS
Don’t Get Bit by the Bag Ban
By Carissa Bonham
Living so close to Hillsboro, I’m sure many of you have noticed that single-use plastic bags started being phased out this summer when a city-wise law went into effect there.

On January 1, 2020 a similar law took effect statewide. So now vendors all over the state will be asking you if you need a bag - and if the answer is yes, they will sell you a paper bag or thick, reusable plastic bag for $0.05 or more per bag.

Want to save your nickel without spending money on expensive bags? Here are easy ways to switch to sustainable shopping for FREE:

1) Go bagless
This is easy to do when you aren’t buying many items all at once. Once your cashier has scanned your goods, you can just carry them straight outside or load them back into your cart, to push to your car and transfer them sans-bag.

2) Reuse boxes
Instead of breaking down boxes to recycle, put boxes in the back of your car to use on shopping runs. Once the box starts to wear out, break it down to recycle it.

3) Laundry baskets
Laundry baskets are a great bag substitute because they hold so many things and many of us have an extra laundry basket or two lying around our house. Their sturdy sides also keep items from rolling around your bar.

4) Make your own bags
If you have unused clothing, sheets or curtains lying around, you can make your own bags. If you have old t-shirts whose bottom hem is still intact, you can even make a reusable cloth bag without sewing! If you go to my website at www.creativegreenliving.com and search "shopping bag", I have the directions there!
5) Reuse your plastic bag stash
Many of us have a plastic bag full of plastic bags somewhere in our house. Even though these bags are labeled as "single use", you can tuck one or more bags still in good condition into your pocket or purse to reuse while shopping.

If you end up buying paper bags for $0.05 each, remember that they are helpful for recycling - use the paper bag to corral scrap paper, junk mail and other paper recycling before dropping it into your curbside recycling bin.
Happy shopping!
www.creativegreenliving.com

Fire Department News

Chief’s Corner: TVF&R invites you to explore a career in the fire service

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue personnel will be participating in several recruitment events in the months ahead, offering unique experiences that give people an inside look at what it’s like to be a firefighter.

TVF&R will have an exhibit booth and crew ready to answer questions and meet with high school students at the NW Youth Careers Expo on March 10 at the Oregon Convention Center. Nearly 7,000 students from about 70 high schools across Oregon and Southwest Washington are expected to attend and participate in hands-on learning, demonstrations, mock interviews, and career workshops.

TVF&R is also gearing up for its third annual Career Day on April 18 at our Training Center in Sherwood.

Career Day offers an opportunity for adults who may be interested in a career in the fire service to learn more about job requirements and TVF&R. It includes hands-on experiences in primary firefighter responsibilities as well as presentations about station life, career and volunteer opportunities, the hiring process, emergency medical services, fire prevention, public safety education, and more.

Between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. that day, participants will rotate through activity stations and have a chance to talk with education partners from several colleges and universities about their respective emergency medical services and fire science programs.

“The application period opened February 7, and TVF&R will select 35 participants for Career Day. The deadline to apply is March 22 but may close prior to that date if the district receives enough applications for consideration.

Candidates interested in applying for TVF&R’s Career Day must be 18 or older and can apply online at www.tvfr.com/careers under “Outreach.”

Girls in high school are invited to participate in a recruitment event tailored for them. The Oregon Tradeswomen Career Fair on May 15, held at the NECA-IBEW Electrical Training Center in Portland, promotes success for women in the trades through education, leadership, and mentorship.

For more information about career opportunities with TVF&R, visit www.tvfr.com.

Senior Center News

News from the North Plains Senior Center & Meals on Wheels for March 2020

Come join us for BINGO! Always the first Wednesday of the month. For the month of March, it falls on the 4th from 6 pm-8 pm. $5 at the door buys...
your first card. Every card, thereafter, is $1/per card. Hot dogs, soda, and chips will be available for a separate fee.

Throughout the month of March and the first 1/2 of April, tax professionals from AARP will be preparing taxes every Monday & Thursday, for free, in the lower level of the North Plains Senior Center- by appointment only. You can call the North Plains Senior Center at (503) 647-5666 to set up an appointment. Open to everyone- regardless of income.

For the month of March, Bunco will be held on the 12th and 26th. Begins promptly at 1pm.

DT & Country will be singing at the North Plains Senior center on Monday, March 9th from 11am-1:30pm.

We will have St Patrick’s Day Dinner at the North Plains Senior Center on March 17th at 6pm. Cost is $17/person and you must RSVP to attend.

Liver and onions will be served on Monday, March 16th as the second entree.

We will also have students from the North Plains Elementary School choir come sing for us for a short while during the lunch hour.

**EXERCISE GROUP**—The Exercise Group, open to the public and not just for seniors, meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the lower level of the Senior Center. New cardio exercise included. Work at your own level. Bring a friend and enjoy the fun!

**Upcoming event:**

**Meals on Wheels People** will be having our 3rd annual Stride for Seniors walkathon on Saturday, April 25th at the Portland International Raceway. Come join my team or create your own to support our mission! You can go to strideforseniors.org to register. My team is called “Pioneers of North Plains” and I, Angie Boyd, am your team captain. Can’t attend? You can still help by making a cash donation (online or at the North Plains Senior Center) to support my team or the organization as a whole. Our goal this year is to raise $460k to help support seniors in our communities. Thank you!

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**The Last Waterin’ Hole**

**Come Celebrate with us!**

**St. Patrick’s Day March 17th**

We are celebrating our 14th anniversary!

**Find us on Facebook @LWHNorthPlains**

**Call in orders welcome 503-647-2030**

**Corn-beef, cabbage, buttered carrots, potatoes & dessert $14.00**

**Lunch 11-1:30 PM**

**Dinner 5-7PM**