Mayors Corner

I want to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas, a happy Hanukkah, and a joyful Kwanzaa, whichever blessed event is celebrated by you and your family.

As 2020 comes to an end, I think we can all say that we are very eager to put 2020 in the archives. Our lives have changed so much over this past year. However, what hasn’t changed is our ability to be there for each other. We are a community that has had to adapt our lives during this pandemic and by doing so, we have become creative in how we spend time with each other. Social distancing and Zoom calls are the new normal.

Staying positive during this pandemic hasn’t been easy. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for all the folks who have shared their stories of helping neighbors and supporting our local businesses this past year. Your ideas, concerns, and willingness to work with each other has been very heartwarming. This pandemic isn’t over, so please keep wearing masks, social distance and keep on being there for one another.

I can’t say enough how much I appreciate all of you for pulling together to be there for each other. It is more important now than ever.

Many blessings to all of you during this holiday season.

Fuel Tax

North Plains Voters Approve Fuel Tax Measure

North Plains voters approved a fuel tax of $0.03 per gallon during the November 3, 2020 election. The tax collection begins in January 2021. The City will soon begin work to prioritize and plan for projects funded through the tax revenues, including road overlays, sidewalk and safety improvements, crosswalks and intersections, and a pedestrian pathway along West Union Road. Engineering and design efforts will begin in 2021 and we will keep the community informed of the progress for improving our transportation infrastructure. Thanks to all North Plains voters who supported the measure, and to everyone who voted this election.

Utility Billing Fees

Effective, January 1st, 2021 the City of North Plains will resume standard water billing practices, including assessing late penalties and water disconnections due to non-payment. The convenience fee for online credit card payments will also be applied. If COVID-19 has impacted your ability to pay utility bills, please contact the City so we can work with you.

Board and Committee Vacancies

The Planning Commission and the Economic Development Committee have vacancies beginning January 1st, 2021. If you are interested, please submit your application to the City Recorder, Lori Lesmeister. For more information, visit our website www.northplains.org.
Brick Dedication

Veterans Memorial Park
Dedication bricks are available for purchase if you’d like to eternally honor a veteran in your life. Visit our website www.northplains.org to fill out a request form and for more information. There are also sponsorship opportunities for businesses and families that would like to contribute to the park’s creation.

Library News

Brand new library bookdrop coming soon! Same location, open 24/7.

Holds Pick-up Inside or Outside:
Holds pick-up of library materials has moved inside the library entryway/vestibule, but if you prefer, we will place them on the bench outside the back door. Holds pick-up is 6 days per week, Mon-Fri 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sat 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Returned items are quarantined for at least 24 hrs. (1 day). We offer Print from Anywhere, and Book Bundles (staff-selected materials) during holds pick-up hours. Library users can place their own holds online and will receive automatic notifications when holds are available to pick-up. All WCCLS libraries are filling holds and courier runs Monday-Saturday.

STEM Materials Drive Success!
Peak Chiropractic and cooperating city partners have raised over $700 towards STEM and literacy kits for check-out. We are so thankful! This is a great jumpstart to a new educational enrichment collection for North Plain’s youth. Initial items include a microscope, an amusement park engineering kit, a flexible keyboard, a programmable robot, and more. We will launch this new collection by the end of December.

Storytime Break
Mrs. Emily’s storytime will be on a break from Dec. 15-29, resuming Jan. 5. Please visit https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/events/ for countywide storytime alternatives during the break.
Teen Council
The super-fun Teen Council meets once per month on Zoom for games and social time. Next meeting is **Friday, December 4th at 4:30 p.m.** By popular demand, we will be playing online game **Among Us** again! All teens are welcome! Email Brianna at briannas@wccls.org for the Zoom link and more details.

Community Connections
*December Theme – Holiday Cheer*
6:30 – 7:15 via Zoom
Dec. 2 – Special guest culinary expert gives holiday tips and tricks for cooking and baking.
Dec. 9 – Creative celebrating from a distance to protect loved ones.
Dec. 16 – Show and tell your favorite holiday traditions.
Register at [https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/events/](https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/events/) to be emailed the Zoom link.

Mind Your Yoga
Meena and Tara lead yoga sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-6 p.m. via Zoom. Please register online at [https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/events/](https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/events/)

Friends of the Library Bookclub
The Friends bookclub is going strong via Zoom! All are welcome. Contact FriendsNPPL@gmail.com for the link and visit the bookclub’s website for more good reads at [https://nplibrary.org/friends/book-club](https://nplibrary.org/friends/book-club)

December 16th 7 p.m. – *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes

Library Board
The library board meets on the third Wednesday of each month to discuss the library, its goals, and objectives. No meeting in December. The next meeting will be on Jan. 20 at 4 p.m. via Zoom.

### December Calendar
City meetings are now a mix of in-person and virtual. Please visit [www.northplains.org/calendar](http://www.northplains.org/calendar) for information on how to join in.

- **12/02** Economic Development Committee 6 p.m.
- **12/03** Jingle Parade 6 p.m
- **12/07** City Council 7 p.m. with 6 p.m. work session
- **12/09** Planning Commission 7 p.m.
- **12/14** Parks and Recreation Board 6 p.m.
- **12/16** Library Board 4 p.m.
- **12/21** City Council 7 p.m.
- **12/24** Library Closes at 2 p.m.
- **12/25** City Offices Closed
- **12/31** Library Closes at 5 p.m.
- **01/01** City Offices Closed
Chief’s Corner

As the season of giving approaches, please know our deputies and detectives are working tirelessly to protect your online purchases from “Porch Pirates” – those who steal packages outside of your home or apartment while you are gone. Packages left on porches may indicate no one is home and may make a home vulnerable to burglary. Follow these tips to protect your property this holiday season:

• Schedule deliveries to arrive when you are home, or have them delivered to your place of employment.
• Pick up packages as soon as they are delivered – track your package online and request an email, text, or other available alert once it has been delivered.
• Utilize special delivery options such requiring a signature for delivery.
• Have a trusted neighbor or friend pick up your packages if you won’t be home.
• Deliver packages to a shipping store or an Amazon Locker.
• Install a security camera on your property.

Remember: Be aware of suspicious people walking and vehicles driving through the neighborhood. If you have security cameras, make sure they are working and recording properly. If you are going on vacation - place deliveries, mail, and newspapers on hold until you return. Consider a locking parcel delivery box that can be secured.

Be alert and report all crime and suspicious activity.

MyNorthPlains app now available!

Stay informed on the latest City of North Plains news and resources with the new MyNorthPlains app.

Access current North Plains news and events, pay your water bill, receive important emergency and community notifications*, discover local businesses, view park information, get community resources, contact us, and more - all right at your fingertips.

*Make sure to enable push notifications to get important and timely notifications as they happen.

Download today in the app store for IOS and Android

Everyone who downloads the app by December 15, 2020 will be invited to enter to win prizes including a limited edition North Plains silicone cup and gift certificates to local businesses.
YOU ARE INVITED to provide public input to discuss Ride Connection's possible service expansions in Washington County. Ride Connection provides free public transportation, and we would like your input online to improve the service.

ESTÁ INVITADO a brindar comentarios públicos para discutir las posibles expansiones de servicios de Ride Connection en el condado de Washington. Ride Connection ofrece transporte público gratuito, y nos gustaría recibir su opinión en línea para mejorar los servicios.

Please provide input online at:
https://rideconnection.org/washcoexpansion

This page discusses proposed transit upgrades to GroveLink, Westlink, and other Ride Connection services in rural Washington County.

Proporcione información en línea en:
Esta página analiza las actualizaciones de transito propuestas para el GroveLink, WestLink y otros servicios de Ride Connection en zonas rurales del condado de Washington.

Upgrades to GroveLink (starting early 2021)
- Expanded weekday and Saturday service
- New stops and routes

Upgrades to WestLink (starting early 2021)
- Two additional round trips
- A new stop in North Plains near the North Plains Medical Clinic
- New stops in Forest Grove (near Bus 57 and GroveLink)

Rural door-to-door (starting late 2020)
- Trips as far east as SW 185th Ave.
- Medical trips as far as the Willamette River
- Rural to rural trips
- Removed limitations on pickup times

GroveLink (a partir de principios de 2021)
- Servicio expandido a días laborables y los sábados
- Nuevas paradas y rutas

WestLink (a partir de principios de 2021)
- Dos viajes de ida y vuelta adicionales
- Una parada nueva en North Plains cerca de la Clínica Médica de North Plains
- Nuevas paradas en Forest Grove (cerca del Bus 57 y el GroveLink)

Servicio de Puerta-a-puerta rural (a partir de finales de 2020)
- Viajes hacia el Este hasta la SW 185th Ave.
- Viajes médicos hasta el río Willamette
- Viajes dentro de zonas rurales
- Se eliminaron las limitaciones en los horarios de recogida

More Information can be found at: | Puede encontrar más información en:
www.rideconnection.org
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31383 NW Commercial St.

We would love your support! Please consider shopping with us for your florals, centerpieces and holiday wreaths this season. All made locally right here in North Plains.