



NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

APRIL 2010

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Mayor's Message By Ron Brean, Mayor

Pobody's Nerfect or The Horrors of Homonyms

Last month I wrote a piece for this space in the newsletter that I felt pretty good about. In writing it, I was deeply engaged in the thoughts. I was feeling the content and "listening" to what I thought was a reasonably mellifluous flow of language across the page revealing those thoughts. Somewhat proud of my effort I read the piece aloud to my wife and I thought it was tolerable if not eloquent. Feeling perhaps overly satisfied, I scanned the document one final time looking for those tell-tale red squiggles that let you know if you've spelled something incorrectly. Seeing none, I put the article to bed. I sent it off for publication and awaited the accolades that I knew I'd get from some of the readers.

Alas, it contained errors. There were no less than three hateful, horrible, horrifying homonyms happily hiding in the article. Flawed phrases resulted from my fast flying fingers fearlessly flinging false but high "sounding" words at the deep thoughts, affixing those sounds to the page. They were the right sounds, but the wrong words.

Of coarse (just kidding) I know the difference between "border" and "boarder." I have a reel (kidding) understanding of the meanings of "pour" versus "pore." I even no (one more kid) the distinction between "sheer" and "shear." But in my effort to be appropriately communicative, to share the depth of the idea, to write a nice sounding and thoughtful article I got caught up in the ideas and did not focus adequately on the details. To those of you that were thrown off by my carelessness, I apologize. For many of us, such mistakes can detract from the thought and we can miss the

mess-

age because of the clumsy delivery.

One of our citizens was kind enough to let me know of my errors. Make no mistake, it was a kindness. It allowed me to fix the electronic version before others were distracted. It reminded me that there is more to writing than high "sounding" words. It even gave me the idea for the next article. When I got the e-mail informing me of my failings I was at first stung. It wasn't the criticism that stung me. It was the realization that some might be missing the thought I tried to evoke because of my carelessness. I thanked the inveterate "editor" for pointing out the problem, and did what I could to fix it.

After having some time to reflect, I realized it is yet another metaphor for life in our little town. As a group we are not afraid to expose our thoughts. We are willing to reveal our artistic side in an effort to make life better for ourselves and our neighbors. Though we have vulnerabilities, we are not afraid to try, and in trying, to sometimes make mistakes. We are also not timid about pointing out when mistakes have been made. Then we collectively own up to the failing and we try again. Even if the error isn't ours, we try to make it right for the community.

Our grocery store failed. The community saw to it that grocery service was available to all who needed it while the store was closed. Because of the work done by many (especially the few close to the issue) the store is due to open early in April. The new proprietors are expressing a great deal of confidence in our town. A failed development left hopeful lot owners without a solution. The City, affected land owners and other citizens devised a solution that will put those people back on track with as little trauma as possible. People without adequate income in these tight economic times are benefitting from the largesse of the rest of the community through the food bank, produce from the

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community garden, day old baked goods, and countless individual efforts to make it right. I am actually grateful that the populace of Yachats isn't perfect. If it were, I'm dreadfully afraid I would not be allowed to live here. Besides, it would be frightfully boring. But I am even more grateful that we know how to (for the most part) own up to our own mistakes and to try and move forward toward the fix. We are generally there for each other either to point out an overlooked pitfall or to pull our neighbor out of the pit after they've fallen. I used to work with a woman whose passion for excellence would not allow her to tolerate failure to try, but whose mantra for failure to succeed was "pobody's nerfect." Let's all keep trying to get it write (still kidding).



Are YOU Ready?
Walt Weyand, Public Works and Streets Commissioner

Recent disasters in Haiti, Chile, Turkey, and other, lesser reported locations should remind us that

the world we live in can turn on us at any time, and with little warning. Earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricane-like Pacific storms, and landslides can severely strain our ability to maintain a comfortable lifestyle in our little bit of paradise here in Yachats.

Which leads me to one of my favorite topics: what have **YOU** done to prepare yourself (and your pets) for surviving one of these events? Are you ready? How long can you survive a Haiti-type disaster before help arrives? One day? Three days? Two weeks?

One of the unfortunate and unspoken little secrets of life on the Oregon Coast is that we are easily isolated by natural events such as earthquakes, landslides, or tsunamis. Our lifeline is one narrow, frequently bridged road, Highway 101. A major event may destroy several of the bridges, or the road itself, rendering aid from outside difficult. We have no airport, harbor, or railroad to provide an alternative route for outside aid reaching us. We may have to fend for ourselves.

This means we must plan and prepare to keep ourselves alive and functioning for at least three days. So says the federal government, as well as disaster relief experts. But will three days be

enough? In the event of a massive disaster, the authorities will be kept busy caring for the victims residing in large population centers. Our community of 800 residents will have a low priority, and will have to wait until the large population centers are served.

This is where **YOU** come in! Do you have enough drinking water stored in your home to survive until help arrives? How about a plastic tarp and a few roofing nails to plug the holes in your roof caused by the tree that fell on it? How will you keep warm until electricity is restored? If your home is destroyed, do you have an alternative dwelling such as an RV or a tent? What about a sleeping bag or wool blankets?

My intent is not to frighten, but to motivate you to prepare. The steps you take today may determine how comfortable you are during an emergency situation. In a worst-case scenario, the steps you take today may keep you and your family alive and well until help arrives tomorrow, next week, or next month.



Public Works Department
By John McClintock, Director

Last month I talked about myself and what a Public Works Director's day is like, so this month I'd like to talk about the rest of our Public Works staff and their duties.

Rick McClung is the senior member of the crew and has been with the City for over 12 years as well as having over 15 years of experience in the field. Rick's primary responsibility is as the Water Treatment Plant Operator. He holds an Oregon State Level III Operator's Certificate and has an associate's degree from Clackamas Community College. In addition to water operation, Rick is certified in wastewater treatment and helps out at the wastewater plant as needed.

Russ Roberts has been with the City for over 7 years and has been in the Public Works field for 20 years. Russ is an Oregon State Certified Water Treatment Plant Operator and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. His primary responsibility is maintenance of the city

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infrastructure and he has an excellent knowledge and ability in mechanics fabrication and welding.

Dave Buckwald has been with the City for over 5 years and is our Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. Dave is responsible for the operation of the City's new wastewater plant. Dave is certified in both wastewater treatment and water treatment. He also has an associate's degree from Linn-Benton Community College.

Jeremy Mabe is the newest member of the Public Works Department. Jeremy's primary responsibilities are monthly meter reading and working in the field of infrastructure. He is getting ready to take the first exam for wastewater certification this fall.

Each of our Public Works employees wears many different hats and has to have a working knowledge of all facets of Public Works due to the small size of our staff.

In addition to City business, Public Works contracts out to the United States Forest Service to operate their wastewater treatment plants at Angell Job Corps and at Cape Perpetua Scenic Area. This has become a win-win situation all around.

I am proud of what we do on a daily basis at Public Works. Each employee takes turns being on-call after working hours and is subject to be called back to work at anytime 24/7. The staff also works weekends on a rotating basis to insure full coverage for the City.

Stop by the water treatment plant or wastewater treatment plant and say hello. If you see us on the street feel free to do the same. We work for you!



Yachats Public Library **By Marie Green, Chair**

The Friends of Yachats Library put on another huge book sale at the Commons last weekend. It's our way of keeping the collection manageable and current in the space available and allowing our friends and patrons to find books of personal interest. We hope you found some treasures and lots of bargains. Many new volunteers pitched in as well as community sale

veterans who wouldn't miss the event. Again this year, YYFAP Helping Hands group did much of the heavy lifting and kept us energized with coffee and goodies. Many thanks to one and all.

Does the library have the newspapers you would like to read? We currently carry the *Newport News Times*, *South County News*, *Siuslaw News*, the *Oregonian* and *The Christian Science Monitor*. Should we subscribe to the *Eugene Register Guard*? If so, ask the librarian at the desk for the clipboard to register your comments.

Scientific American magazine, as requested, is being added this month. Do you have a favorite that you think should be available to the public? Make it known, please. Remember, you can also re-circulate your own magazines. The lower shelves of the front section are free for the taking; we just like to keep a count of how many go out.

Finally, we need your thoughts and ideas about the future of Yachats Library. What should it look like five, ten or twenty years from now? How should the City finance it? Again, there is a clipboard to record your dreams.



Little Log Church and Museum **By Mary Crook, Events Coordinator**

After basking in the afterglow of Jamie Laval's stunning Celtic Fiddle Concert in February, the volunteer board of directors is thinking "more!" We all know that our sweet Little Log Church is a favorite place for weddings and anniversary renewals. This location can also be a great venue for other events and happenings suitable to the unique character of Yachats.

Just last month, for example, my own "Maltoodle" (Maltese/Poodle dog) Sophie received a very special doggie blessing in the garden beside the St. Francis sculpture. A three-year old rescue dog with a very tough early life, Sophie waited three months before she was ready to accept humans in her life. We invited several of her local dog friends to join in welcoming her to the community along with Mary Wiltse, a very gifted animal minister. It was a wonderful event held in the Little Log Church's magical garden.

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We would like to invite your suggestions about other special events that might be appropriate for our village's historic place. There is an abundance of local musical talent in our community that would be just right for the perfect acoustics of the Little Log Church; or how about a poetry reading; a display of local artwork; a family re-union celebration? Or whatever?

Proposed events must be approved by the Board of Directors as appropriate to the mission of the Little Log Church. There are many possibilities. May we hear from you? Please contact me at (541) 547-4547.



In the Garden

By Jodi Sones, Landscape Coordinator

It seems each year we get more and more rain. It just won't let up. I try to do what I can between

storms, but it never gives me enough time. Such is life on the coast.

But, on the brighter side, that is what makes our area so beautiful and unique. I hope you take time to enjoy the wildlife and nature here. I have a saying on the wall in my office by John Burroughs. It reads "I go to nature to be soothed and healed and to have my senses put in order." The Oregon coast certainly does that for me.

I just love this time of year, when the new leaves start to emerge on the trees, bulbs are blooming, and fruit trees burst with blossoms. The birds are aflutter with courtships and nest-building. It's a great time to drop by the Little Log Church and see the garden come alive with blooms.

If you enjoy gardening and can spare 10 to 12 hours a month then I would really like to talk to you. Please give me a call between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, or e-mail me anytime at jodean@peak.org . I have a deal you just can't refuse.



Yachats Youth and Family Program

By Bee Bui, RecPLUS Team Leader

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Family Dance Night

Bring out your dancing shoes and join us for Family Dance Night on Friday, April 2nd from 6-8 p.m. at the Yachats Commons multi-purpose room. A light dinner will be served at 6 p.m. followed by group dancing led by local dance instructor Ella Kress. Additionally, a representative from the *Healthy Kids For a Healthy Oregon* program will be attending. If your children do not have health and/or dental insurance than you can't afford to miss out on this opportunity for free health insurance for them. The representative will be available to help answer questions as well as assist in the application process. All ages welcome and must be accompanied by an adult. This event is sponsored by the Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program (YYFAP).

Indoor Park for Dogs

All well-behaved, vaccinated, and energetic small to medium dogs are invited to meet and play with their fellow dog friends on Saturday, April 10, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. The event will take place in the Yachats Commons basement. Please bring food donations (apples, oranges, pears, bread, cheese, etc.) to help support the programs at YYFAP. For more information, call (541) 547-4599 or e-mail me at beebui@peak.org.

Parenting From the Heart, Mind & Spirit

Parenting from the Heart, Mind & Spirit is an empathy-based parenting workshop brought to you by the YYFAP. This workshop is taught for six consecutive Monday nights beginning Monday, March 29, 2010 by Kelly Everfree. Dinner will be served in the Yachats Commons at 6 p.m. and childcare will be provided next door in the preschool room during the workshop. The workshop will be held down the highway at the Fistera Garden apartment building conference room from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The workshop dates are: 3/29, 4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26, and 5/3. Donations are greatly appreciated. For more information, call (541) 547-4599.

Calling All Talent

The 14th Annual Yachats Family Talent Show is scheduled for Sunday, April 11, 2010 at 2 p.m. at the Yachats Commons

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Polish up those dancing shoes, practice your scales, and prepare to dazzle the crowd! Past crowd-pleasing acts have included magic tricks, skits, tap dance, juggling, ballet, and music of all kinds. Family acts are especially encouraged. To secure your spot in the show or for more information, call (541) 547-4599.

Earth Day in Yachats

Celebrate Earth Day in the Yachats Commons on Thursday, April 22, 2010 from 3-6 p.m. There will be activities for all ages including: edible wild plant walks; crafts using recyclable materials; forest discussions; waste reduction games; informational booths about sustainability and water quality; tour of a recycling truck, and more. We'll also be giving away trees. Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County will be accepting donations of reusable home building materials for their new *ReStore* opening in Newport.

This event is made possible through Dahl Disposal Service in cooperation with the Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program, Yachats Ladies Club, Dancing Star Farm, Waldport 21st Century After School Program, Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County, Oregon Department of Forestry, OSU Lincoln County Extension Service, Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District, Oregon Green Schools, and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Earth Day in Yachats Event Program as follows:

- 3 p.m.** Earth Day Celebration Begins
- 3:30-4 p.m.** Edible Wild Plant Walk 101
- 4-4:30 p.m.** Recycling Presentation & Discussion
- 4:30-5 p.m.** Recycling Race
- 5-5:30 p.m.** Forest Sustainability Presentation
- 5:30-6 p.m.:** Edible Wild Plant Walk 101
- 6 p.m.:** Door Prizes

Dahl Disposal Service will also be celebrating Earth Day on Saturday April 17th from 11am-2pm at the Sprung Structure in Siletz in collaboration with the Siletz Tribal Energy Program. We also have special events planned on Saturday April 24th from 10am-

3pm at our Recycling & Refuse Stations in East and South Lincoln County.

For more information visit www.dahldisposalservice.com or call Laura Kriz, Recycling Coordinator at Dahl Disposal Service, (541) 336-2932.



Who's Who?

By Gerald Stanley, Parks & Commons Commissioner

Visitors to the Yachats Commons have probably noticed the display of photographs of former students from the Yachats School. The efforts of many including Blythe Collins, Susan Garner, Mary Ellen Morton, Doris Gardenhire, Butch Green, Elaine Harley, Judy Kauffman, and many others to lesser degree have seen to it that these collected photographs have been framed, placed on the wall, and for the most part identified.

The photos date mostly from the 1940's although the school operated from 1930 until 1983. We certainly would like to secure, frame, and identify more pictures (some of which you have lying around your home).

We invite you to revisit the photos, check out the red binder where many of the former students have been identified, and contact me at (541) 547-4509 if you can give us original photos or identify some of the students already on the wall.



Yachats—Never Better!

By Andrea Scharf, Marketing Director

There's been a bit of negative publicity about Yachats lately, which is really frustrating. Those of us who live here know what a great place this is.

Businesses come and go, things always change, but those qualities that make Yachats the unique place it is are always here. The town was full of people during spring break. The Commons was full of artists and craftspeople in all their creative glory. The sun was shining (some of the time anyway)

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and of course, there was all that activity at the grocery store.

For those of you who engage in “social networking,” I hope you are letting your friends know that Yachats is its same quirky self, with great people and wonderful little shops. And, oh by the way, it’s still right here where it’s always been, tucked in between the tree-covered ridges and the dynamic sea—surely one of the most beautiful places on the Oregon coast. A range of lodging options and restaurants, three bakeries, coffee, coffee, coffee (and tea!) and more fun things to do than one might expect from a town this size. For more information visit www.goyachats.com and find out what’s really going on!



Yachats Lunch Bunch By Paul Niblock, Coordinator

The Yachats Lunch Bunch will meet, as usual, on the last Thursday of the month, April 29, 2010 inside the Yachats Commons multipurpose room. The luncheon is open to everyone 55 years or older. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and lunch is served at noon (there is a suggested donation of \$4).

The menu for April is: vegetable or beef lasagna; green salad; rolls with butter; and banana cream pie for desert.

The entertainment has yet to be determined (it will be difficult to better the show put on by the Polka Dots last month), however, our entertainment coordinator Will Williams has promised that he will do his best to try and make something happen.

This is a great way to meet and socialize with your friends and neighbors—so let’s see you there.



Funny Money Cancelled By Carl Miller, One of Us Productions

One Of Us Productions had to cancel its spring production, *Funny Money* at the Commons due to two actors forced to bow out. This left so little time before the opening that it would have

been very difficult to get replacements up to the level of the remaining actors in time for production.

One of Us has to compete with three other theater companies in Lincoln County for actors. Auditions and play presentations have to be timed just right to get the actors that we need for each production. We would like to encourage all actors in South Lincoln County to join us and be a part of our little local theater group. Community theater is a fun outlet and it is always interesting and entertaining to watch those we know in the community as they are transformed into totally different characters than we know them to be.

We are always in need for participants in all phases of Community Theater—actors, directors, planners, prop handlers, publicity handlers, musicians, set designers, costumers and builders. If you name it, we need it to be a part of *One of Us Productions*. We occasionally need writers for new material as well.

We are putting a revue together at the Commons for a two-night showing on May 7th & 8th. Let us know how you would like to help by contacting me at (541) 547-4350 or Robbie Schoonover at (541) 547-3876. Thank you

Town Tidbits



- Yachats Ladies Club is hosting a Lasagna Dinner and reception on Saturday, April 17th at 4 p.m. in honor of Frankie Petrick receiving the *Outstanding Special District Service Award* in recognition of her more than 35 years of volunteerism to the Yachats Volunteer Fire Department. Call (541) 547-3205 for more information.
- C & K Market in Yachats will hold a grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, April 2, 2010. Free BBQ 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The Grocery Hotline will close as of April 2nd, however, anyone still requiring grocery items not carried at the store in Yachats or prescriptions medications can call Lauralee Svendsgaard at (541) 547-3640.
- The Yachats Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its *Annual Awards & Volunteer Appreciation*

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Dinner on April 4, 2010 at 6 p.m. at the Yachats
Inn Tea House. For more information call (541)
547-3530.

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