

# NEWSLETTER

## CITY OF YACHATS

February 2004

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FROM THE MAYOR

A UNIQUE GEM



At the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Pontiac Streets sits one of Yachats more unusual landmarks---the Little Log Church. Dating from 1930, the cross-shaped log building originally housed the congregation for the First Evangelical Church but was turned over to the Presbyterians in 1950. In 1968 when larger quarters were needed the Log Church was sold to the Lincoln County Historical Society, with the stipulation that the Log Church building be kept as a museum. It remained under the care of the Historical Society until 1986 when it was deeded to the City of Yachats but in 1992 safety regulations closed the church's doors. It had to be shut down before it fell down. This could have easily been the end for the Log Church, but Yachats volunteers came to the rescue both with funds and labor, installing a cement block foundation, replacing the rotten logs, insulating and adding new electrical, new trim and new paint. Wherever possible the integrity of the old building has been preserved including the style of the adjoining museum addition. As a museum the Little Log Church houses an eclectic collection including original church furnishings, old bibles and hymnbooks, the Phelps pump organ dated about 1907 and many early photographs of the Church, the Yachats area and the Alsea Indian sub-agency. Additionally a number of Native American baskets and other artifacts are displayed along with objects that were typical of the region. Most recently a collection of some 300 unusual seashells from Alice Stein has been added as well as a portion of the antique tools collected by George Staats. With these additions the walls are beginning to bulge and consideration is being given to yet another addition to house more unique items.

During the year, the Little Log Church entertains both visitors and residents for a variety of events including 40 or so weddings, memorials and special events in addition to fine arts exhibits. Visitors from virtually every state and many countries stop by to view the exhibits and learn more of what makes Yachats the "Gem of the Oregon Coast"

The Little Log Church has not only survived but also prospered under the direction of its 6 man Board of Directors and the many volunteers who open the doors from 12 to 3 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and from 10:00 am to 3 pm on Saturday and Sunday. If you haven't visited recently, stop by to see the new exhibits at this most unique gem.

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### **Vegetation That Poses a Fire Hazard Now Restricted**

At their February meeting City Council adopted an Ordinance amending the Yachats Municipal Code requiring property owners to control vegetation that could pose a fire hazard. The wording of the new section in the code follows:

No owner or person in charge of property shall allow the uncontrolled growth and accumulation of dead or dormant weeds, brush, high grass, scotch broom, gorse, backberries or pampas grass to become a fire hazard. This section shall not apply to any of the following:

1. Any maintained landscaped area;
2. Any crop grown and maintained for lawful agricultural purposes;
3. Any natural area on publicly owned land of Yachats; or
4. Any property defined as wetlands by proper authority, if control of vegetation would violate federal, state, or county laws.

Such vegetation shall be removed or eliminated before **July 1** of each year, or at any time the City Council declares a period of extreme fire danger, by cutting to a height of no more than 6 inches and mulching all cut materials. If any owner or person in charge of property does not comply with this subsection, the City may contract with a firm licensed to do business within the city limits to bring the property into compliance as provided in Section 5.08.250 Summary abatement. The City may recover all costs as provided in Section 5.08.240 Assessment of costs.

Any actual costs incurred by the City in enforcing this Section, including, but not limited to, summary or other abatement costs pursuant to Subsection B. and G., above, shall become a lien against the property and perfected and recorded as such according to state law.



**City Council Adopts 2004 Goals**

At their February meeting, the City Council set the following goals and objectives for the following year.

### **Long Term Goals**

- Maintain a sustainable water supply
- Pursue stable long term funding
- Provide for resident and visitor safety
- Pursue effective communication
- Maintain and enhance the livability of Yachats

### **2004 Council Objectives**

1. Complete update of comprehensive plan
2. Revisit the Vision 2020 Plan
3. Consider a bluff protection ordinance
4. Finalize sewer plant facility plan
5. Achieve consistent 85% water efficiency
6. Establishment of a Special Transportation Area. designation
7. Completion of proposed parking per Transportation Growth Management Plan
8. Completion of trail system from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> Streets on Ocean View Drive
9. Adoption of Marine Drive/Ocean View Drive as City street
10. Repaving of Yachats Ocean Road by State Parks & Adoption as City Street
11. Construction of "T" intersection
12. Construction of North Gateway at city limits
13. Inaugurate G.A.S.B (governmental accounting standards) and Capital Improvement Plan
14. Research the feasibility of developing official city maps
15. Complete the pump station on Lot 26



### In Other City Council Business

- City Council continued their discussion concerning financial contributions for the Commons Park development to the March meeting.
  - City Council continued their discussion concerning parking in the downtown core area to the March meeting.
  - Adopted an ordinance repealing a prior provision for Measure 7 claims. Measure 7 was contested in the State Courts and was never enacted.
  - City Council set the agenda for their retreat.
  - Granted a request from the Overleaf Village to connect water service to a common area garage.
  - Discussed a complaint regarding the use of spotlights on the beach and referred it to the Planning Commission for further review.
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### House Numbers

Making sure your house number is clearly visible could mean the difference between **life** and **death**. Emergency vehicles need to be able to see the number when responding to a call. The UPS or Fed-X driver would probably thank you as well.

A City ordinance requires that all house numbers be posted, and they should be visible from the street **at night**, and in all kinds of weather.

The Fire District may be able to assist you if you can not hang the numbers!

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### Citizen Suggestion of the Month - Exterior Lighting:

Due to citizen complaints, the Yachats Planning Commission and City Council are looking into an ordinance that would regulate exterior lights that intrude on public or private property. Before purchasing and installing exterior lights please make sure they can be operated in a way that will not adversely affect your neighbors.

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### Public Works Director's Report

By John McClintock

The infiltration and inflow project has been completed. W. W. Construction is finished and the asphalt repairs have been completed. The City will get a video of the work that was done underground. Upon this completion, the City should receive 10 more EDUs.

The City advertised for a Wastewater Treatment Operator and received over 40 applications. There are some excellent candidates.

Road and Driveway has completed the patching for W.W. Construction and for the City on First Street, Beach Street and the Commons. They have also started the Ocean View from 101 and are stopped at 7<sup>th</sup> street. What is going to happen to the area past 7<sup>th</sup> will be up to the County.

Oregon State Parks is interested in collaborating with the City regarding the paving of Yachats Ocean Road. Costs would include engineering, preparation and paving. Representative Matt Reynolds would like to have a meeting with the City. They have sources to provide the funds, and would prefer that the City act as the lead agency. There appears to be no desire to change the configuration of the street as it was before all of the work was done. Council agreed that it would be a good idea to meet with them.

The T-Intersection is still going to bid in April, and it is planned that it will be done this year. They are finalizing some wet lands mitigation, which will not require much more work.

Water efficiency numbers in January were way down, for no apparent reason. Paula ran the report and after much investigation, the public works crew found three valves that are all related had gone bad at the same time. The valves were at Horizon Hill, Radar Road, and the Overflow valve at small reservoir. This problem has been corrected. The crew cleaned the infiltration gallery at Reedy Creek. Galvanized culvert was replaced with more cost effective pvc pipe. The crew will begin flushing the water system on the 16<sup>th</sup>. This will get any buildup on the pipes out of the system. This also provides a water turn over at the reservoir and flushes out the dead end lines. The process cleans, re-disinfects and freshens the entire system.

A private contractor reviewed the situation at the Library and agreed that the building is sinking. There are cracks in the walls because the building has settled. It appears that the low spot is wet all of the time. The recommendation is to put a french drain around the area, jack the building up, rock the area, repour that part of the foundation, and set the building back down.

The emergency generator has been installed and is working efficiently. The size of the fuel tank will provide generated electricity for a couple of days.



#### Community Issues Forum of South Lincoln County Report

Yachats Councilor, Sue Smith, reports that the group's official mission statement is to provide enhanced communications among the Citizens of South Lincoln County and to provide a forum in which to represent, discuss and resolve respective and/or collective issues. The next meeting will be at Waldport City Hall on February 26, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. Dave Perry of the Oregon State Department of Land Conservation and Development will be speaking. The March 25 meeting will be in Yachats at the Commons. The public is encouraged to attend.

#### City Budget Report for the Month

<i>Reporting Through</i>	<i>1/31/04</i>	
<b>Program</b>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Administration	\$542,118	\$383,916
Library	\$16,503	\$10,554
Little Log Church & Museum	\$8,423	\$3,582
Parks & Commons*	\$86,905	\$54,543
Streets	\$138,613	\$48,042
Water	\$510,600	\$339,674
Sewer	\$351,138	\$208,686
In Reserve for Future Uses	\$1,210,960	\$1,022,687
Debt	<u>\$128,426</u>	<u>\$7,960</u>
	<u>\$2,993,686</u>	<u>\$2,079,644</u>



**Yachats City Council Announces the following Vacancies:**

**2 - Budget Committee**

2 - Term ending December 31, 2006p

As provided by law, the Budget Committee may receive the budget document before the first Budget Committee meeting. At the first meeting, the committee shall elect officers, hear the budget message, hear interested citizens, announce the time for their subsequent meetings, and establish agendas for those meetings outlining discussions regarding each fund. Minutes of the meetings shall be kept and made available upon request. The Budget Committee may request any information the committee requires for the preparation or revision of the Budget Document from any officer or any city employee.

The Budget Committee does not approve new personnel, employee contracts, or salary schedules, nor does it negotiate salary contracts.. However, the adopted salary schedules, negotiated contracts and other materials having a fiscal impact on the budget document may be requested for review by the Budget Committee. Through its authority, the Budget Committee may direct the administration to make dollar adjustments (increases or decreases) in the proposed budget.

Those interested in serving on the Committee can pick up a Volunteer Application Form at City Hall, 441 N. Hwy. 101, between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 p.m.



Commons News

By Susan Garner - Commons Coordinator

The Commons once again has heat! And we are all grateful to the various workmen who toiled away during the worst (and coldest weather) that we have experienced in a long time around here.

So now regular activities are once again going on here. It is a relief to know that anyone who wants to rent a part of this building for reunions or meetings or classes can just come and do it without worry about the temperature of the building.

The Commons calendar is well-packed for the next few weeks. On Thursday, February 26, the Lunch Bunch is hosting its senior luncheon again. The meal is served by Job Corps at 1230 and all seniors are welcome. Cost is very minimal.

On Saturday and Sunday, February 28 and 29, John Reed is teaching a writing workshop here for those interested in learning how to write journals. Please call me for further information.

Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> (national pun day!?), the Big Band is once again playing for all dancers and music lovers. The music begins at 7 pm.

The Portland Boy Choir will be here on Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. This concert should be a real treat for everyone.

The Yachats Chamber of Commerce is once again putting on an amazing arts and crafts show during the weekend of March 20 and 21. This historic show is always a great place to see and buy wonderful things.

There is always room here in the Commons for your group's meeting or event. Family reunions and parties are also welcome here. Contact me at 547-4734 for information about any of the listed

events and also if you would like to consider renting space here in the building.

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**COMMUNITY MEETING:** View the Future will host a community meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24, in the Commons. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss efforts to protect and preserve the forested ridge south of the Yachats River which forms the city's viewshed. Everyone is encouraged to attend. For more information, call 547-3092.

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### **Passport Applications Are Available At Yachats City Hall.**

**Please call Yachats City Hall to make an appointment at 547-3565**

Applications are available at Yachats City Hall. You may fill out the application before submitting it, but leave it unsigned. You will need sign it in the presence of the City Recorder.

*Also, bring with you the following items:*

- 2 identical passport pictures (2" by 2" in size). Pictures must meet passport office specifications.
- - A current State driver's license will be required. If a child is under the age of 16 (or does not have a driver's license), a parent's driver's license will be used.
  - A **certified** birth certificate **or** a passport issued previously.
  - A certified check, money order or personal check, payable to the SEATTLE PASSPORT AGENCY in either of the following amounts:
    - ■ \$40.00 (age 15 and under) - Passports valid 5 years
    - ■ \$55.00 (age 16 and over) - Passports valid 10 years
    - A separate fee, cash or check payable to the City of Yachats in the amount of \$30.00.

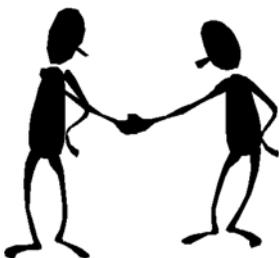
If your most recent passport was issued after your 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, and was issued within the past 15 years you may renew your passport by mail using FORM DSP-82. This form is available at Yachats City Hall.

### **EXPEDITE SERVICE**

Expedited service is available. The fee is \$60.00 per passport. Passports will be processed within 3 business days after receipt by a passport agency. This does not include the express mail fees each way.

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### **Complaints and Mediation**



The City receives many complaints each year, and City staff is asked to assist in the resolution of each. The City established a Municipal Court to deal with ordinance enforcement and public nuisances. However, many times the problems that give rise to the complaints are more personal in nature, and the City's court system was not established to handle these

types of problems. There are many times when resolution of the problem may be as simple as speaking with the person or neighbor and letting them know what the complaint is. When parties have discussed all the concerns and share a common awareness of the issues they can begin to focus on a solution. When two or more people are cooperating to find a creative solution it is much more effective and welcome than a judgment handed down by a court.

Successful dispute resolution is most effective if you prepare and plan, and keep a cool head. Although you may not agree with what the other person is saying, a workable resolution is possible if you calmly listen and get the issues and feelings out in the open.

Locally the Lincoln Community Dispute Resolution organization assists citizens of Lincoln County in all kinds of disputes, including property damage, animals, litter, noise, money, trespassing, harassment, landlord and tenant relations, victim-offender, and family problems. They are a non-profit organization, and donations are requested from each party. They may be reached at 574-9846.

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