



CITY OF YACHATS NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2016

THE YACHATS CITY COUNCIL VISION

Adopted: April 2, 2009

Our village is a place where natural resources are valued and protected, where diversity is celebrated, and where a vibrant economy and sense of community pride create and recreate a living spirit. Yachats cares not just for its citizens' basic needs but also supports them in their efforts to excel mentally, physically, artistically, and spiritually. It is a community with an enduring sense of itself.



Happy Groundhog Day!

Mayor's Message

By Ron Brean, Mayor

As I sit down to write this month's installment I look out the window searching for inspiration. It is one of those

promising winter mornings, rare this year, where the sun's brightness finds its seasonal southern angle unobstructed by weeping clouds. Souvenirs of last night's drizzle cling to branches and leaves, and they sparkle jewel-like, polished facets on the gem of the Oregon coast. The waves are frothy from meteorological turmoil and rolling in rhythmically under the blue and open sky. I so love the promise of a bright winter sky.

I'm an outdoor guy, and there are few days that are nasty enough to keep me from venturing outside, but sunny days are better. Sunshine seems to lift spirits and direct focus on promise rather than doubt. It certainly works that way for me. Those twinkling raindrops glistening in the sun are shouting spring time and promise and better days ahead.

Groundhog day is on us. With due respect to Punksutawni Phil and regardless of his own sensitivities to a bright sun, that means there are roughly six weeks of winter left. Whether it rains or shine on February 2nd the vernal equinox will arrive when it's scheduled. Few things are as reliable.

I know that winter has it's own magic and it is amazing in its power. Sometimes that power, however, creates significant problems for us mere mortals. Trees down, bridges out, debris piles, landslides, and myriad other whims of the season create significant repair needs and no small amount of hand wringing.

But we are veterans of Oregon coastal winters. We've been through it before and we will go through it again. We don't stop working in the winter, but we know that a respite in the onslaught is not far off. We know our chance to make better progress is coming. We know that the alders will bud first and the rest of the slumbering forest will surge into a freshening sun. We know we will be out there clearing away the debris of winter and repairing the damage done. And we know that our neighbors will be there too, helping to restore order, hopefully with a little sunshine on their backs.

Happy Groundhog Day.



Yachats Lunch Bunch

By Will Williams,
Coordinator

The Yachats Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, February 25th, 2016 in the multipurpose room. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch served at noon. Everyone 55 or older is welcome.

Our "guest chef" for February is Natasha Martin. She will be preparing French Dip

Croissants, Potato chips, Blanch sweet carrots and Sweetheart Cinnamon Rolls. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person. Don't forget to wear Valentine RED!



Little Log Church and Museum

By Mary Crook,
Events Coordinator

This is a month for the Little Log Church to express gratitude double time.

First, to the wonderful people at January's Yachats Agate Festival. Its *Fifth Ever* festival was a great success. Part of the festival included a fabulous raffle (truly the *Powerball* of all raffles) that included prizes such as a two-night stay at Ocean Creek Bed and Breakfast, many, many gift certificates from local merchants, and valuable items from businesses and restaurants in the Yachats, Florence, and Waldport area - amounting to well more than \$900 worth of goods, certificates, and services. The grand prize ticket was held by a woman from Florence, who was absolutely thrilled by her prize.

And we too are absolutely thrilled at the LLC&M because we were the recipients of the proceeds of the raffle. Each year the Agate Festival contributes to a group or organization that shares its values of supporting appreciation of the natural beauty of our precious village. Among the goals of The Friends of the Little Log Church are to create an interpretive guide of local plants and trees on its beautiful grounds that are informative and fun for locals and visitors. We also would like to have a memorial pathway on that ground that acknowledges the dedication of those who have given their time and energy to the Little Log Church and the community.

We are pleased to say that the Yachats Area Chamber of Commerce Agate Festival presented

the Friends of the Little Log Church a check for \$1142.00 as a result of the proceeds of the raffle. We are so grateful! Many thanks to all who contributed to its success! We will keep you informed of the progress in your City's garden.

Gratitude number two: That will be the theme of the 2016 **Wedding Vow Renewal** event at the LLC&M on February 14th. This will be the 21st year we offer the opportunity for couples to renew their commitments on Valentine's Day. Because of the popularity of this beautiful event we will be scheduling two times on that Sunday: 12 noon and 5:30 p.m. The topic will be "*Gratitude*". This is a fund raising opportunity for us, and we suggest a donation of \$10 per couple. Reservations are required. To make your reservation please call the events coordinator Mary Crook, 541-547-4547. She will want to know your names, telephone number, where you live, and how long you have been married or a committed couple.



As Shakespeare wrote in Twelfth Night: "I can no other answer make but thanks, and thanks. And ever thanks."



Yachats Public Library

By Janet Rackleff

February at the Library

So many holidays this month, Groundhog's Day, Valentine's Day, Presidents Day and on top of that it's a Leap Year and we'll have a 29th day this February.

Whatever you choose to celebrate we have books for you, there are histories and biographies on the Presidents including a new bestseller: **Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates: The Forgotten War That Changed American History** by Brian Kilmeade. We have lots of romance and love stories both fiction and nonfiction, many as mysteries, but love is a mystery isn't it? Come in and post a heart-

shaped recommendation for a favorite book about love on our "Good Reads" board.

In the kids room don't miss **Pete the Cat: Valentine's Day is Cool** by James and Kimberly Dean, **A Garden for Groundhog** by Lorna Balian or **Grumpy Groundhog** by Maureen Wright.

We are still accepting donations for the upcoming **Friends of the Library Book Sale, March 25 and 26**. Please call us ahead if you are dropping off a large quantity of books, 541-547-3741. The donations have been generous - be sure to mark the dates on your calendars and don't miss out.



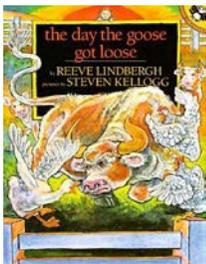
Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program

By Alice Beck, Executive Director

Little Sweetheart's Valentine Dance

Bring your little sweetheart to the third annual YYFAP family Valentine Dance. Mother/Son, Father/Daughter, or any couple combination of friends and family young and old alike. There is no age limit. Each adult receives a flower to give their date and there will be refreshments and couples photos too. Music will be provided once again by our very own local DJ-JD. Time is 6-8 pm on Saturday night, February 13th at the Yachats Commons Multipurpose room. Cost is \$10 per couple or \$15 per family.

Families Together Free Dinner in February



Please join YYFAP and friends at the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church at 360 W. 7th street on February 26th from 6-8 pm. There will be free dinner and story time for the kids featuring "The Day the Goose Got Loose" by Reeve

Lindbergh. Each child will take home a copy of the book and there will be other, age appropriate

books for older siblings. After dinner there will be a craft related to the story for the children. We do hope you will join us for this evening of fun for the whole family.



Yachats Trails Update

By Jan Brown, Chair
Communications Leader

This year one of the biggest events on our calendar - the annual Yachats New Year's Day Peace Hike - turned out to be one of the most successful ever. This, despite the sudden and extensive last-minute re-planning that had to be done following the late December washout of the Amanda Trail, bridge and grotto which has been the traditional destination for the hike in the past.

Fortunately Trails Committee Chairperson Lauralee Svendsgaard is blessed with incredible organizational acumen and energy, and was able to pull together a determined team of volunteers to tackle the changing logistics and prepare a safe and well tended alternate route along the 804, Ya'Xaik and Gerdemann Botanical Preserve trails.

Thus, on January 1st close to 200 participants braved a bright, though chilly and windy day to attend the peace ceremony, hike the trails and continue our tradition of manifesting peace within ourselves, our community and throughout the world. Sincere thanks go out to the wide array of wonderful people who contributed to this event and helped maintain its intent and integrity. The list is far too long to include here, but you know who you are and how very much every one of you is appreciated. (I do have to say that a dose of that gratitude also goes out to our friends at the Overleaf Lodge for the VERY welcome surprise of a restorative hot cider stand along the way!)

So what's next for the Amanda Trail? **The Amanda Grotto and Trail (from Ocean Creek Inn to the summit of Cape Perpetua) remains CLOSED.** The continued rains have brought additional mud and debris to the site, making the entire area unstable. Quicksand, shifting and falling trees as well as bank erosion make this a "no kidding, stay out, you could be killed" area. Sadly, people continue to violate the closure order, causing a LOT of stress on the folks responsible for the property. Please, if you hear of anyone talking about going down to that area, speak up and let them know that's just a truly an idiotic idea and immensely inconsiderate of those looking out for others' safety.

In the meantime, State Parks, Forest Service, Tribal members, Hancock Logging (owners of the property where the slides are originating) and the City of Yachats are developing both short- and long-term plans for re-opening the trail once the rains have subsided, the area is stable and the improvements can be made.

While we may think that the destruction of the Grotto and the disappearance of the Amanda statue are true tragedies, know this: On January 1st, between 12 noon and 2pm, three very large, very mature Spruce trees came down on the Kittel driveway right between the north and south trail entrances... the same place where we gather before heading down to the Peace Ceremony in the Grotto, and where we congregate after the Ceremony. If we'd been there at our normal time that day there is little doubt that a worse tragedy, one with potentially mortal consequences, would have occurred.

And so, the story of Amanda and the new chapters that are unfolding continue. We are dedicated to restoring the trail, the creek crossing and the statue. We will continue to tell Amanda's story, and the story of community and friendship and of building bridges with our native friends. And now, we add a new chapter to the story -- about how a natural disaster kept us safe from a natural disaster.

A Special Tribute

One person who has always been central to the telling of the Amanda story and who has created great peace and understanding through his music and actions is Doc Slyter, Tribal Council member and Tribal Flutist for the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. During this year's State of the City event, we were very pleased to honor Doc with a special award for all he has contributed to our community. Since the dedication of the Amanda Trail, Doc has touched many with his music, his integrity and his gentle spirit. That he and other members of the Tribes have shown a willingness to be a part of the Yachats community is both courageous and magnanimous and we are thankful that we have had this opportunity to share the journey.



Mayor Brean presenting Doc Slyter with a special Mayoral Award that reads, "A dear friend of the Yachats village, embracing integrity, lifting our spirits and sharing his heart with music & grace."

YIPS! (Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee) News

Thunder, lightning and torrential rain put an end to our January YIPS! outing, but we'll be back in February (the 20th to be exact) to continue our efforts around the Commons wetland park where Ivy and Blackberry are still widespread. We hope to see you there, but in the meantime, if you have questions about weeds in our area, or need tips on how to control them, contact Wally (541-547-5474) or Don (541-961-6695) for details.

Upcoming Trails, YIPS! and Related Events

The Yachats Trails Crew meets on the first Saturday of each month and the YIPS! Crew on the third Saturday, both from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. There are always a wide variety of tasks for all levels of interest so come join in the fun. We guarantee you a warm appreciative welcome and, if you are so inclined, a friendly social get-together to celebrate our accomplishments at the end.

February 6th (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Trails Crew work event. (Location TBA)

February 20th (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: YIPSI Crew work event. Meet at the picnic shelter behind the Commons

For more information on contact any one:

Lauralee Svendsgaard, Chair, Yachats Trails Committee at 541.547.3640 or lsven@peak.org

Joanne Kittel, Leader, Development Committee & Amanda Trail at 541.547.3144 or jnkittel@peak.org

Loren Dickinson, Leader, Trails Crew at 541-547-4559 or loren.dickinson@gmail.com

Wally Orchard, Leader, YIPSI at 541.547.5474

or worchard@peak.org

Jan Brown, Leader, Communications at 541.547.4927

or espressobrown@gmail.com



Commons Events

By Leon Sterner, Coordinator

The recent 'MOVE' event sponsored by the Friends of the Yachats Commons Foundation (The Friends) was a great success. The activities that involve movement were demonstrated and explained to a well populated room of folks. Tai Chi, Chi gong, Zumba, exercise, yoga, pickletball and ping-pong were demonstrated on the stage for all to see, and/or explained details about how their form of movement is helpful - and when they are scheduled to happen. These types of events are held on a by-donation basis, with proceeds going to the city to help defer cost of lights and heat etc. For detailed listings of these and the many other types of events scheduled at the Commons, visit the www.goyachats.com website and click on the 'Events' tab. There you will find the community calendar which lists the "goings on" at the Commons and in the community at large. Thanks go to Friends' Board member Shelley Schrock for coordinating this new and fun event.

The Friends are very pleased to announce that we received a couple of grant awards during the holiday season. The first award was received from the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution

Fund for new yoga supplies and equipment. Yoga instructor Mana Takei worked with the Friends to plan and secure new yoga mats, blankets, bolsters straps. These have been purchased and are now stored in Room 3. The new equipment replaces older worn equipment and items that had disappeared. New yoga students are welcomed to use the new equipment for classes that are offered at the Commons. Thank you Mana and the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund!

A second grant was awarded from the Three Rivers Foundation to purchase six wireless microphones for activities at the Commons. These microphones will improve the sound quality of arts and culture performances, meetings and other activities at the Commons. Wireless microphones will also allow performers and speakers to move around the stage or Commons floor with more flexibility. Friends' President Jessica Waddell worked to plan and secure funding for the microphones. Thank you Jessica and the Three Rivers Foundation!

At the time of writing this article, the new elements for the Skatepark project are being loaded onto a truck and heading for Yachats. I have a group of volunteers ready to assist with assembly and placement of the new skatepark features. The skatepark area is also the location for the upcoming Mural project. Local artist Mike Guerriero and Friends' Board member Rose Valentine will manage the Mural project. Mural project funds have been provided by the Friends of the Commons along with grant monies from Oregon Community Foundation - Small Arts and Culture Program and the Lincoln County Cultural Coalition. Mike will work with a group of area youth to design and paint the mural. Preliminary design work is in progress, and the actual painting of the mural will happen later in the year when the weather permits.

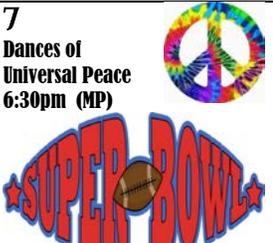
A new LED lighting project - to replace all of the fluorescent lighting fixtures with new LED ones - is currently being planned by the Friends and the City of Yachats.

**Remember our
Presidents**



2016



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Happy Groundhog Day!	1 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP) 6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) 7pm Ping pong (MP)	2 8am Heidi's YOGA(Rm3) 8:30am Marketing Cmte Mtg. 10am Qigong (Rm8) Emergency Planning Cmte 2 pm (Civic Mtg Rm) Public Works & Streets Mtg 3 pm (Civic Mtg Rm) 6:30pm Tribal Fusion Movement (Rm8)	3 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) 10am Exercise Class (MP) City Wide Tsunami Siren Test 11am 3pm Special City Council Mtg. (Civic) 1pm Art in the Kitchen 1:15p Pickleball (MP) 6pm Zumba (MP)	4  Big Band Dance 7 pm (MP)	5  Exercise Class 10 am (MP)	6 
7 Dances of Universal Peace 6:30pm (MP) 	8 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 9:30am City Council Work Session 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP) 6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) 7pm Ping pong (MP)	9 8am Heidi's YOGA(Rm3) 10am Qigong (Rm8)  Friends Bd Mtg 5:30pm 6:30pm Tribal Fusion (Rm8)	10 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 10am Finance Committee Meeting (Civic Mtg Rm) 1pm Art in the Kitchen 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP)	11 2pm City Council Meeting (Civic Mtg Rm)	12  Exercise Class 10 am (MP)	13  6-8pm YYFAP: Little Sweethearts Dance (MP)
14  Vow Renewal Ceremony (LLC)	15 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP) 6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) 7pm Ping pong (MP) 	16 8am Heidi's YOGA(Rm3) 10am Qigong (Rm8) 2pm Planning Commission Work Session (Civic Rm) 3pm Planning Commission Meeting (Civic Mtg Rm) 6:30pm Tribal Fusion Movement (Rm8)	17 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 1pm Art in the Kitchen 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP)	18 Gentle Healing Yoga 11am(Rm3) 3pm Parks/ Commons Commission (Civic Mtg Rm)	19 Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 	20  Love Month
21  American Heart Month	22 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP) 6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) 7pm Ping pong (MP)	23 8am Heidi's YOGA(Rm3) 10am Qigong (Rm8) 6:30pm Tribal Fusion Movement (Rm8)	24 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 1pm Art in the Kitchen 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP)	25  11:30am Yachats Lunch Bunch 55+ (MP)	26 Exercise Class 10 am (MP) Beach Side Writers Work Shop (MP) 6pm YYFAP: Families Together (YCPC)	27 Beach Side Writers Work Shop (MP)
28 Beach Side Writers Work Shop (MP)	29 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP) 6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) 7pm Ping pong (MP)	1 8am Heidi's YOGA(Rm3) 10am Qigong (Rm8)  6:30pm Tribal Fusion Movement (Rm8)	2 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm3) Exercise Class 10 am (MP) 1pm Art in the Kitchen 1:15p Pickleball (MP) Zumba® 6 pm (MP)			

True love stories never have endings. ~ Richard Bach