



# NEWSLETTER



**CITY OF YACHATS**

**January 2002**



## WHAT IS A VILLAGE?

**By Mayor Lee Corbin**

We frequently hear Yachats referred to as a village. What does that mean to you? Among Webster's definitions are "a group of houses in the country, smaller than a town or city and larger than a hamlet" and "such a community incorporated as a municipality". We seem to fit these descriptions reasonably well but what are the characteristics of a village? To me this brings to mind a number of images:

- Narrow streets
- Meandering paths wherever possible instead of straight concrete sidewalks
- As few curbs, gutters and sidewalks as practical
- A pedestrian/bicycle friendly environment
- Personalized individually owned businesses
- A defined "downtown"
- Places to sit
- Local art in public places
- No fences
- Friendly faces
- Front porches

These are some of the things I hope to see maintained and enhanced as we visualize our future. Your list may well be different and there will be opportunities for you and me to review our vision as we go through the Transportation Growth Management evaluation process that will be starting soon. Parking, traffic patterns, safe bike and pedestrian use of Hwy 101, an improved visual environment, and changes to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan which will coordinate planning, land use and transportation objectives are just some of the considerations. Should you want to help shape the Yachats of the future, keep an eye

out for forthcoming meetings and/or contact a council member.



## CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS GOALS FOR 2002

### Yachats City Council Goals

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

### Yachats City Council Objectives - 2002

- Develop long term water/sewer rate plan - including a revision of the system development fees
- Continue evaluating alternative methods for emergency water
- Complete south trail project with ODOT; finalize remaining trail design & gateways design
- Emphasize improvement & appearance of public spaces
- Develop alternative means to fund the commons
- Develop local disaster plan to complement county/state plans
- Encourage development of alternate bypass routes paralleling Hwy 101
- Update comprehensive plan
- Finalize the transportation growth management plan (TGM) with a clear vision of the Yachats of the future
- Pursue relationship with chamber of commerce regarding visitor enhancement programs i.e public restrooms, visitor center etc.
- Pursue communication among council & commissions (reports, liaisons etc.)

City of Yachats  
P O Box 345  
Yachats, OR 97498

541-547-3565  
Fax - 541-547-3063  
e-mail - [cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us](mailto:cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us)  
[www.ci.yachats.or.us](http://www.ci.yachats.or.us)

- Evaluate the transient occupancy tax structure
- "spiffy up" the civic meeting room



### **TRANSIENT RENTAL LICENSE ORDINANCE AMENDED**

At several meetings in the past few months the City Council has reviewed the Municipal Code sections that relate to the rental of private homes for vacation use and they determined that changes were needed to preserve the quality and character of the residential neighborhoods in which the transient rentals operate. An ordinance amending the code was adopted at the City Council meeting on January 10, 2002.

Several definitions were added; the complaint process was made easier for all parties; and changes to the standards require the following.

- The name and phone number of the contact person shall be posted inconspicuously on the transient rental building, but where a neighbor can easily read it.
- One off-street parking space shall be provided for each bedroom in the dwelling,—but in no event shall fewer than two spaces be provided (This provision shall be waived for any existing transient rental as of the effective date.)
- The maximum allowable number of overnight occupants shall be two persons per sleeping area plus two additional persons. The rental agent shall match the number of persons and vehicles to the particular property being rented. Tents and similar structures shall not be allowed on transient rental properties.
- Weekly solid waste collection service shall be provided. A sufficient number of suitable garbage receptacles shall be provided. Except on collection day, these garbage receptacles shall not be readily visible from the street. Renters shall be advised not to place trash outside in plastic bags.

These changes will go into effect thirty days from adoption of the ordinance, which is February 9, 2002. A copy of the new ordinance will be mailed to all licensees and vacation property managers within the next month.

### **COMMISSION MEMBERS RE-APPOINTED**



At the January meeting City Council re-appointed Mary Crook and Florence Whitney to serve on the Library Commission. Richard Miller was re-appointed to the Public Works and Streets Commission. Mac Curless, who had resigned for personal reasons several months ago, reapplied for membership, and he was appointed to refill the vacancy he had left on the Public Works and Streets Commission.

**Vacancies still exist on the Library Commission, Parks and Commons Commission, and the Budget Committee. Interested persons can apply at City Hall.**

### **STREET NAME ASSIGNED**



The City Council, following a recommendation from the Public Works and Streets Commission, assigned the name "Lily Court" to a street in the Rothermich Addition. The street, which is on the east side of Hwy 101 south of the bridge, is actually no more than a driveway to one house right now; but, it will serve three properties so the County addressing code, as adopted by the City, requires that it be given a name.

The name Lily Place was suggested by one of the property owners because the City once had a "Lily Fund" to provide money for planting lilies throughout town as the unofficial, official City flower; and, because it is his daughter's name.

At their December meeting the Public Works and Streets Commission determined that Lily Court would better fit the addressing code, and forwarded their recommendation to City Council.

All the owners that have property abutting the road were notified of the proposed name before City Council considered the

recommendation. One letter was received from an owner requesting the name Sandy Court.

City Council decided to go with the recommendation from the Public Works and Streets Commission.

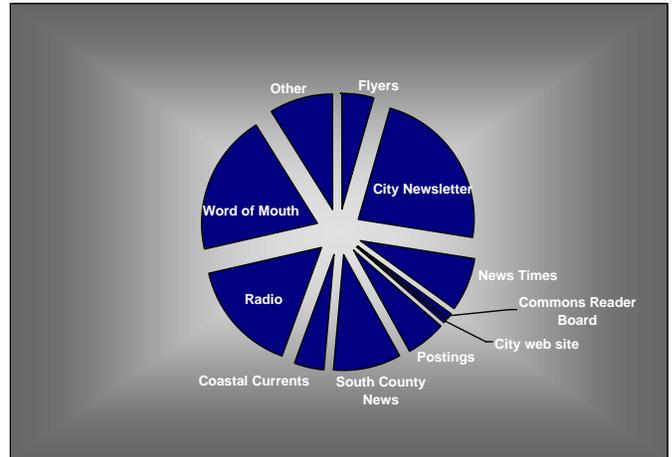
Coastal Currents	14
Radio	53
Word of Mouth	67
Other	30

**WHERE PEOPLE GET THEIR INFORMATION**

Councilor Sue Smith noted that the results from the recent survey have been computed. People indicated that they get their **general information** from the following sources:

Flyers	22
City Newsletter	152
News Times	66
Commons Reader Board	28
City web site	13
Postings	32
South County News	72
Coastal Currents	64
Radio	21
Word of Mouth	72
Other	17

Smith said she plans to meet with the Fire District and KORC to work on a plan for the



best ways to get emergency information out to the people who need it. Smith said that she would also be meeting with people from various groups in town to work on getting a community calendar for the newsletter.

This newsletter was the source most people said they get their information from.

26% of the surveys mailed were returned, so the City considers this a success! (Most of the time a 5 - 10% return on a survey is considered good.)

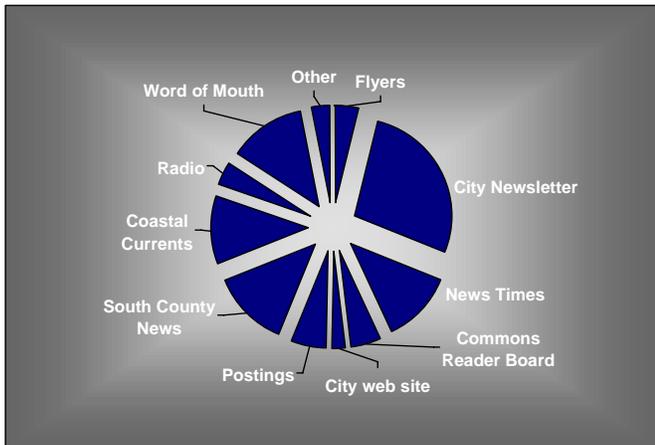
50% of the people said that they were very satisfied with the amount of information they receive. Another 39% said that they were somewhat satisfied.

Thank you for taking the time to answer!



**IN OTHER BUSINESS THE COUNCIL:**

- Recommended approval for a Temporary Liquor License for the Yachats Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner, which will be held at the Lions Club.
- Released a temporary construction easement that had been granted by the Edmunds during construction of raw water tank



The following were named as the sources for **emergency information**:

Flyers	15
City Newsletter	78
News Times	25
Commons Reader Board	3
City web site	2
Postings	19
South County News	32

City of Yachats  
P O Box 345  
Yachats, OR 97498

541-547-3565  
Fax - 541-547-3063  
e-mail - cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us  
www.ci.yachats.or.us



**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**by John McClintock**

- The city staff has found and fixed several leaks this past month.
- The Waldport and Yachats water system crews will take turns touring each other's systems. The wastewater plant operators will do the same in the future.
- The electric service to the pump house at the intertie will be moved to the rear of the building. The project will be finished and ready for testing in the next couple of weeks.
- Dyer Partnership will be doing some flow monitoring during the next storm event to see where the inundation of storm water is entering the system.
- The bio-solids expert from the DEQ was in town recently and it was a good visit; he suggested several other places, which will qualify, near the field that the City currently uses for disposal.
- The crews have cleaned out a lot of ditches and culverts.

McClintock told the City Council that there are not enough people in the public works department to do the work that needs to be done. McClintock said that it is difficult for any public works department to do what they have to do on a daily basis, day after day; and, when you add emergency situations to the duties it can start to run everyone ragged. There are a lot of things that the City of Yachats can do in-house, which would save the City money, but another employee is needed. McClintock said that he would like to find someone who is proficient in all aspects of the public works department. The City Recorder has prepared a report regarding the available funds for the remaining year; there will be enough money to cover another utility employee.

**Annual Budget Summary Report for Fiscal Year July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2002**

<i>Reporting Through</i>	<i>12/31/01</i>	
<b>Program</b>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Administration	\$467,190	\$276,297

**City of Yachats**  
**P O Box 345**  
**Yachats, OR 97498**

Library	\$13,000	\$6,494
Little Log Church & Museum	\$9,499	\$2,663
Parks & Commons*	\$92,948	\$55,021
Streets	\$99,555	\$39,419
Water	\$581,775	\$191,811
Sewer	\$330,209	\$165,639
In Reserve for Future Uses	\$885,229	\$694,985
Debt	<u>\$178,509</u>	<u>\$134,842</u>
	<u>\$2,657,914</u>	<u>\$1,567,172</u>



**FEDERAL TAX FORMS AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL**

The City Hall recently acquired a book of reproducible Federal Tax Forms and instructions for filing 2001 personal tax returns.

If you need forms stop by City Hall for assistance.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND STREETS COMMISSION CHANGES MEETING DATE**

The Public Works and Streets Commission has changed their meeting dates to make it easier for the new Public Works Director to attend.



Monthly meetings will be held on the first Tuesday from now on. The meetings will still be held in the Civic Meeting Room of the Commons at 7:00 p.m.



**Commons News**

By Susan Garner - Commons Coordinator

It is a new year and if your resolutions include becoming involved in your community, then head on down to the Commons. There is always a wide range of groups looking for help. The Friends of the Commons, the group most

541-547-3565

Fax - 541-547-3063

e-mail - [cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us](mailto:cityhall@ci.Yachats.or.us)

[www.ci.yachats.or.us](http://www.ci.yachats.or.us)



instrumental for improvements here in the building, can use volunteers to help with putting on the musical events, Big Band dances, concerts. The Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program works with the children and families in the area and they need after school volunteers, helpers for various fundraising activities and preschool helpers. Call 547-4599 to find out how you can make a difference.

If you want to get together with some old and new friends, the monthly senior luncheon might be of interest. There is always a good meal and an interesting program. Call 547-4734 for further information. The next luncheon will be on January 24 at 11:30. Call to make a reservation.

Should you have a good idea for a program - a dance class (periodically we have ballroom dance classes; check the calendar), workshop or class - find some like-minded people and see what you can come up with. For help in making things happen, call 547-4734.

Coming up at the Commons:

January 26 & 27, Writer's Workshop  
February 2, Oregon Coast Chamber Orchestra  
February 9, Barbershop Quartet  
February 16, George Thompson & Paul Chasman Concert

**Get involved in your community!**



**LEAKS AND LEAK DETECTION**

A little leak can account for large amount of lost water. A pinhole size leak can mean a loss of gallons in three months, and it is so hard to find. The best way to determine if you have a leak is to perform an audit.

A water audit is most accurate in winter months when there isn't outdoor water use.

Locate your water meter and make note of the meter reading. Turn off all the fixtures in and around your home and don't use any water for an hour. Then go back and check the reading on the meter, if it has changed, you have a leak or leaks!!

Repair any leaks, retro-fit with water saving devices, insulate pipes and water heater, and adjust water use.

Check water use for several months after your audit, repairs, retro-fits, and adjustments to compare use.

**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 City recently audited the addressing system and corrected some addresses in different neighborhoods. The City has been working with the County to ensure that all addresses are appropriate, and that those in use are correct. If you have any questions about your address, or if you would like to know more about the ordinance requirements, please call City Hall.