



# NEWSLETTER



**CITY OF YACHATS**

**December/January 2007**

Visit [www.ci.yachats.or.us](http://www.ci.yachats.or.us) for City Council/Commissions meeting minutes and more!

## Quote of the Month

*"I, not events, have the power to make me happy or unhappy today. I can choose which it shall be."*

*Groucho Marx*



## Mayor's Message

**By Susanne Smith, Mayor**

Last month I asked you to think about just exactly what the Yachats "essence" might be.

While I didn't hear from many of you, I have discussed this with several folks over the last several months and we have come to the conclusion that "it" is an indefinable "something." It feels a little like one of those "If you have to ask..." situations.

For me, one aspect of the "Yachats Essence" is the way we rush to help a friend in need. Just lately, it seems as if there have been more than usual numbers of "opportunities" for us to exhibit the sense of community that makes this place special...injuries, illnesses, deaths. Yachadians step up to the plate to care for and nurture their friends and neighbors without fail.

Another perspective was shared by a young lady of 12 who lives in Michigan and whose great-grandparents have a home here. With her grandmother's permission, I offer the following for your consideration:

## YACHATS

**By Anneke von Seeger**

*Everyone has a very special place.*

*It is as different  
For each person,  
As each person  
Is from me.*

*My special place  
Is by the beach.*

*It is quiet and I love it.  
Its name is Yachats.*

*We can go to so many places,  
But my favorite is the rocks.*

*We can climb,  
And we can find  
Extraordinary things.*

*The rocks are black and rough.  
And to me, they are perfect.*

*They look like frozen lava,  
And have many holes, and dips.*

*In the dips, there are pools.  
They are filled with life.*

*There are anemones,  
And starfish and shells.*

*The shells especially  
Have beauty in them.*

*They are gray on the outside,  
But hold beauty within.*

*The lining is perfect,  
Shiny and shifting,  
In the light from the sun.*

*There are holes to the ocean,  
And out of them,  
Bursts the sea,  
Foaming white,  
Out of the rocks.*

*We can visit the beach,*

City of Yachats  
PO Box 345  
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Yachats OR 97498

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*By the swift, strong river,  
And be lifted off my feet,  
By the wild, wild wind,  
Caught in the wings  
Of the parachute.*

*We can return to the house,  
Wet, cold, and sandy,  
For hot baths.*

*Set high on the slopes,  
The house has a view.*

*And what a view it is.*

*You can see the waves on the beach,  
And the whales out at sea.*

*That is my special place,  
Only for me,  
And to my eyes,  
It is perfect.*

*Perfect for me.*

Stay tuned. A recent visitor from England shared his impressions of Yachats which I will share with you in the next Newsletter.



**Payment Acceptance  
Policy Adopted**  
By Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

At their November meeting City Council adopted a policy regarding acceptable forms of payments.

Because large amounts of cash presents a particular security risk it was decided that any payment in excess of \$200 shall be submitted in check or money order form. Furthermore, any check must be made out to "The City of Yachats" and shall be legible in order to ensure correct processing by the banks.

This policy will also ensure that all deposits the City makes will comply with established bank policies and Federal guidelines for processing cash.



**New Residential  
Building Activity**  
By Larry Lewis, City Planner

Over the past five years Yachats has experienced a significant increase in building construction. In the late 1990's and early 2000's the number of new residential dwellings averaged 10-to-12 per year. There was a noticeable increase in new residential dwellings beginning June 2003 with a peak in 2004 and a decline every year since 2004.

Year	# of New Residential Dwellings	Notes
Late 1990s–2002	Avg. 10-12 per year	
2003	20	5 permits issued January-June 15 permits issued July-December
2004	26	
2005	21	
2006	17	
2007	14	10 permits issued January- April 4 permits issued May-November



**Wastewater Treatment  
Plant Update**  
By John McClintock, Public Works Director

All four corners of the Sequential Batch Reactor Basins have been poured. The next step for the contractor is to finish the concrete wall by connecting the corners.

The contractor is drilling at the new pump station locations getting ready to set wet-well manholes.

The project is still on schedule with only two days lost due to high winds so far.

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## **ATTENTION ALL WATER CUSTOMERS!**

The Public Works Department will be flushing and cleaning the water distribution system during the first two weeks of December.

This is done annually to check the condition of the system.

If you experience low water pressure or any other problem during this time, please call Public Works at (541) 547-3243 or (541) 547-3565.



### **Storm Drain Plan Update Underway** By Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

The City's engineers and The Dyer Partnership will be present at the next Public Works & Streets Commission to discuss the storm drain plan update they have been asked to prepare. Interested citizens are being encouraged to attend the meeting.

The Dyer Partnership have been asked to study the drainage basins and existing drainage system, conduct a hydrology study of the area including an assessment of local soils, developed areas, projected development and site investigations. The drainage basins will be broken down into sub-basins and hydraulic models will be created to determine the recommended culvert and ditch sizes required to handle the capacity. The study will also recommend projects to correct any deficiencies.

The Public Works & Streets Commission meeting is December 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Meeting Room of the Commons.



### **Planning Commission Member Appointed** By Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

At their meeting on November 8, 2007 City Council appointed Christine Orchard as the newest member of the Planning Commission. Ms.

Orchard moved to Yachats a little over 6 months ago and has been looking for a way to contribute. She said that she wants to help the City grow with a managed approach to keep its beauty and resources sustainable.

Orchard worked for the State of Washington as an Information Technology Staff Manager for 12 years before moving to Yachats.

Orchard was appointed to fill a vacancy with a term ending December 12, 2010.



### **Yachats City Council Announces the Following Vacancies** By Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

- 1 - Planning Commission
  - 1 - Term ending December 31, 2011
- 3 - Parks and Commons Commission
  - 3 - Terms ending December 31, 2010
- 3 - Public Works & Streets Commission
  - 1 - Term ending December 31, 2008
  - 2 - Terms ending December 31, 2010
- 3 - Library Commission
  - 2 - Terms ending December 31, 2010
  - 1 - Term ending December 31, 2008
- 2 - Budget Committee
  - 2 - Term ending December 31, 2010

For a complete description of the duties and requirements, please inquire at City Hall. City Recorder Nancy Batchelder is also available by phone at (541) 547-3565 for further information.

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

In order to provide the Commissions the opportunity to review the applications and make recommendations to City Council please submit as soon as possible.

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**Yachats Commons News**  
**By Susan Garner, Commons Coordinator**

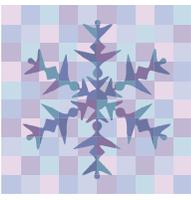
The holidays are coming right up and if you are looking for those great once in a lifetime gifts, shop locally. We have all sorts of wonderful shops in town and many people selling great services such as housecleaning, massage, yard work, etc. Why not shop in the community in which you live, save gas and make the holidays brighter for the folks making a living here.

Come to the Yachats Commons and visit the Village Art Gems gallery set up in Room 8 where a group of local artists are displaying their work for sale. There are paintings and photos, sculpture and jewelry, cartoons and gift cards, watercolors, and more. Hours for the gallery are Friday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm until December 23. See what some of our local talent has to offer.

Yoga and Tai Chi classes will be moved to Room 3 for the month of December. Many thanks to those people for giving up their room for a while.

On a different note, the volunteers and kids of the Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program (YYFAP) have been the first to participate in a Commons clean up. I have asked local groups that use the Commons on a regular basis to pick a month out of the year to contribute a few hours and help do work around the Commons. YYFAP cleaned the kitchen and checked the inventory of equipment, washed walls and scrubbed tables, cleaned up some of the rooms and had an overall good time. There were five adult volunteers and 15 kids who made the building that much cleaner. This sort of help is invaluable to our community center that is run with a minimum of staff time. Many thanks to all participants and if your group is on the list, see you at cleaning time!

For information about the Commons and how to volunteer call me at (541) 547-4734.



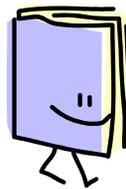
**Yachats Winter Celebration Begins**  
**By Mary Crook, Board Member, Little Log Church & Museum**

The annual Opening Ceremonies

launching the Yachats Winter Celebration will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 7 at the Little Log Church and Museum. The event is sponsored by the Yachats Area Chamber of Commerce to declare the official opening of the holiday season, which begins a month-long calendar of holiday events and surprises. Special holiday music under the direction of Cheryl Waide will also be featured.

The public is invited to attend the Opening Ceremonies at the Little Log Church, and then enjoy entertainment by the Sweet Adelines at the Yachats Lions Club at 7:20 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

The Log Church is located at 328 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street at Pontiac Street in Yachats. The Yachats Lions Club is located at 344 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street at Pontiac Street.



**Yachats Public Library**  
**By Annette Howarth, Library Manager**

Do you like to play Scrabble? The Library's Scrabble group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the every month. Come join the group on December 4, 2007 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It's great fun!

We also have two programs for preschoolers and babies:

- **READY TO READ** is just for preschoolers. The group meets every other Thursday at 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Come on December 13, 2007 and meet other preschoolers.
- **READY TO READ, TOO?** Is for babies and toddlers and their caregivers. This group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month. Our next meeting is at 10:00 a.m. December 3, 2007. Our youngest participants will receive a free book each time they attend. It's a great opportunity to meet other caregivers and children.

For more information call the Library at (541) 547-3741.



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**Yachats Lion's Club**  
**Celebrates**  
 By Max Glenn, President, Club  
 12876

On October 12, 2007 the Yachats Lions Club celebrated nearly 40 years of providing a Thrift Store in South Lincoln County. The grand opening featured a ceremony with ribbon cutting performed by Mayor Susanne Smith.

Charles Moreland, owner of the donated space, was recognized for his family's contribution to the Yachats community. His parents, Dr. and Mrs. Gretchen Moreland worked with Lion Walter Zeige to establish a thrift store that would recycle good, usable low-cost items for residents and visitors.

According to Bert Harley, long-time chair of the thrift store project, "We are proud of our club's 56 years of service to the community, especially our ongoing thrift store that has served so many families over the years. I am particularly pleased that Edwena and Mike Matychuck have stepped forward to help operate the store. We are open every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m."

The Yachats Village Market donated shelving which was repainted by Lions' volunteers. The store was stocked with items donated by many generous citizens of our community.

"The Lions Club members thanked everyone who contributed to this important work. You were and are truly helping Lions make a difference in our community and all of South Lincoln County," stated Max Glenn, president.

The Yachats Lions Club has 49 members and meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Lions Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> and Pontiac Streets. Lions Clubs are a group of men and women who identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved with the Yachats Lions Club, please contact Max Glenn at (541) 547-5171 or visit our Web site at <http://yachatsor.lionwap.org/>

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with nearly 1.3 million members in approximately 45,000 clubs in 200 countries and geographical areas around the world.

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Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired and made a strong commitment to community service and serving youth throughout the world. For more information about Lions Clubs International, visit the Web site at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)



**Yachats Community**  
**Park Task Force**  
**Honored**  
 By Debrah Edwards,  
 Administrative Specialist

During the October 2007 City Council Meeting, members of the Yachats Community Park Task force were presented a Certificate of Appreciation as follows:

**WHEREAS, the Yachats Community Park Task Force was formed in December 2003 and the members labored for 45 months to bring their vision to fruition; and**

**WHEREAS, the members of the Task Force participated in all phases of the park development from planning to planting as they strived to restore the area to a rich coastal marshland that will be home to a wide spectrum of native plants and wildlife and serve as a resting place for migrating waterfowl; and**

**WHEREAS, the members of the Task Force sought and secured the funding needed to achieve their goal of creating an aesthetically pleasing environment that provides a recreational and educational resource for residents and visitors; and**

**NOW THEREFORE WE, the Yachats City Council, do hereby recognize the contributions of the Yachats Community Park Task Force and thank the members for all of their hard work that will benefit Yachats residents and visitors.**

The Yachats Community Park dedication ceremony took place on September 8, 2008. The park is directly behind the Yachats Commons Building. Please come by to enjoy the fruits of the Task Forces' labor.



**Notice to our Readers**

There will be no newsletter published for the month of January. Instead Yachats citizens will be receiving an emergency preparedness survey.

*We Wish Everyone a Happy and Safe*

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*Holiday Season!*

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