



NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

JUNE 2010

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Mayor's Message by Ron Brean, Mayor

My grandmother was convinced that the whole "man on the moon" event of 1969 took place in a Hollywood studio. It is my belief that she, along with thousands of other Americans, was fooled by Orson Welles' infamous radio broadcast of "War of the Worlds" that left the country believing it was being invaded by aliens. She wasn't going to be fooled again. I feel compelled to tell you about my grandmother's experience because I'm about to tell you a story about a little town that is a lot like ours, except that everything in it is made up. Some of the things I've made up about this town could or should cause concern if you thought it was Yachats. It isn't...well, at least not entirely.

The town, Noim Port, OR, is a small coastal town. It's doing okay in a downturned economy. There have been better times, but most of the City's businesses have struggled through and are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. The heavily tourist-driven economy has tottered along and the City's financial picture looks sound. It's a town that could use a little diversity in its employment options and varieties of business, but it has seen the ups and downs of the economy over the years and it just keeps on doing what Noim Port does.

The folks who live there are an interesting assortment of wheelers and dealers on a local scale, a few players at high levels in distant arenas (aided by frequent flyer miles and high-speed internet access), a higher than average collection of college educated retirees, artists and musicians, and a potpourri of odd jobbers who find whatever work they can just to stay in the community they love. They all love their community for its natural setting, its art, its music, and the high level of neighborliness common to virtually all its citizens.

Neighborliness is actually a law.

No one knows exactly when it became part of the municipal code. It's been on the books so long that the citizens have become accustomed to calling "foul" on themselves rather than waiting for someone they've offended to point out the error. Apologies follow and then amends are made in excess of what might seem appropriate for the transgression. This has been going on so long it is now so much a part of the culture of Noim Port, Oregon, that amends are made even when transgressions do not occur. After all, it's the law and one should always be on the good side of the law. In Noim Port, if there is good to be done people are lining up to do it. One might call it "proactive neighborliness."

When the grocery store was closed for a while, volunteers made sure other folks had access to groceries. When jobs are lost and funds are tight food is shared with those that need it. When the local playground at the community center was in need of landscape work a dozen people showed up with rakes and shovels and did the job. Noim Port has a problem with a couple of species of nasty exotic and invasive plants. Volunteers have taken it upon themselves to attack and remove Broom and Clematis without prompting by government officials. People are volunteering to take care of domestic animals in the event of a disaster. Others are getting trained for disaster response. Commissions, the City Council, and committees of all shapes and sizes are staffed by volunteers.

Visitors to Noim Port are often impressed with this community norm. The citizens know, however, that they deserve no particular credit. It is of no import. After all, it's the law. Now if you find a community where that sort of thing happens without a law, just because the people there are...well, "like that"...then you've got something.

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The City of Yachats is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

That would be Yachats. Leaders and wanna-be leaders over the centuries have attempted to legislate civility, kindness, concern for others, a sense of real community. On the national level great debates are taking place, which are at their core at least nominally about finding the right blend of neighborliness. How can we be more neighborly? How can we compel "them" to be more neighborly? How do we properly take care of our neighbors that are struggling? Laws can be passed, but in the final analysis they are of no import. Governing bodies can only set the stage. Mayors and city council members can only steer, just a wee little bit. It is all of us working together that really make a community. What a rare thing indeed it is to find a collection of souls for whom neighborliness—proactive neighborliness—is a natural way of life. Yes, that would be Yachats. Thanks for making my job easier and my town, our town, so special.



Notice of Public Hearings

The Yachats Urban Renewal Agency, State Revenue Sharing, and City Budget public hearings will take place on June 7, 2010 at 2 p.m. in the Civic Meeting Room inside the Yachats Commons.

The purpose of these hearings is to receive public comment on the approved 2010-2011 Urban Renewal Budget, proposed uses of the 2010-2011 State Revenue Sharing Funds, and the approved 2010-2011 City Budget.

Public input is needed and all interested persons are encouraged to attend the hearings or correspond in writing to City Hall, PO Box 345, Yachats, 97498 or via e-mail cityhall@ci.yachats.or.us.

The Yachats Commons is handicapped accessible. Anyone requiring assistance may contact the City Recorder at (541) 547-3565 before the meeting.



Public Works Department

by John McClintock, Director

City of Yachats
PO Box 345
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The Public Works Department has begun work on the East 2nd Street and Prospect Avenue parking project to increase off-street parking in the downtown area. The project will create diagonal parking on the south side of East 2nd Street between Highway 101 and Prospect Avenue with no parking on the north side of East 2nd Street. Diagonal parking will also be available on the east side of Prospect Avenue, north of E 2nd Street. Inconveniences to traffic should be minimal.

The Public Works Department is also performing ditch maintenance work and cleaning culverts per the *Yachats Storm Water Master Plan Addendum*. Street and storm system work will continue through the rest of spring and summer.

Please call us at (541) 547-3243 or (541) 547-3565 if you have any questions or concerns about our projects.



Yachats Clean Sweep By Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

Bargain hunters take notice! Beginning Wednesday, June 16 through Saturday, June 19 the City of Yachats will hold its annual "Clean Sweep."

Wednesday, June 16 Yachats residents may place any **free** unwanted items (no household trash or hazardous materials) at the edge of the street next to the curb.

Thursday, June 17 Residents and friends are invited to cruise the city streets in search of "treasures" and take what they want from along the edge of the street.

Friday, June 18 Treasure hunters can continue to cruise the city streets in search of "gems" they may have missed the day before. Residents may bring any remaining unwanted items to the dumpsters set up behind the Commons.

Saturday, June 19 Residents may continue bringing unwanted items to the dumpsters until 5:00 p.m.

Special notes:

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website: www.ci.yachats.or.us

*Proof of physical residence (inside City limits only) must be shown when items are disposed of .

*Seniors or handicapped/disabled citizens with items too heavy or bulky to move may call City Hall at (541) 547-3565 to schedule a pick up from Public Works no later than 9 a.m. on Thursday June, 17.

*Clean wood, yard debris, lumber, metal, appliances, blinds, curtain rods, and furniture OKAY.

*NO household garbage or hazardous waste

*This year we will be having some special recycling opportunities—look for coming announcements at www.ci.yachats.or.us .



Citizens Required to Remove Noxious Weeds from their Property

By Nancy Batchelder, City

Recorder

Per City of Yachats Code Enforcement Office, Don Niskanen, there is a serious outbreak of Scotch Broom along the Highway 101 corridor and the east side of Highway 101. Yachats Municipal Code 5.08.110 requires property owners to eradicate noxious weeds, and City Council has noted that it is important that the proper methods be used to ensure that more damage is not done.

Fortunately the wet weather in late winter and early spring makes it easy to pull scotch broom. For particularly stubborn plants, a weed-puller made especially for Scotch Broom can be checked out free of charge at City Hall on a first come first serve basis.

Further questions regarding vegetation identification and methods for the control or eradication of noxious weeds please call the Lincoln County Vegetation Advisory Committee at (541) 265-5747 or to the Oregon State Department of Agriculture Plant Division, Noxious Weed Control at (866) 468-2337 or log on to their websites at:

http://www.co.lincoln.or.us/publicworks/vegetation_mgmt.html

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<http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/> .



Yachats Farmers Market Now Open
Leon Sterner, Commons User Support Manager

A sure sign that spring is upon us is the opening of the annual Yachats Farmers Market. The Friends of the Yachats Commons have sponsored this event for many years and it continues to be a favorite for both locals and tourists alike. The market opened for business on May 23rd and will continue every Sunday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. through October 17th. On rainy days the market will move inside the Commons building if the space is available.

Peter Karassik is a member of the Friend's board and is the market's manager. Thanks go to him for all the work he does to plan, organize, and manage the market in addition to all he does as a very active member of the board.

The Yachats Farmers Market provides the community with a wide variety of fresh, in season farm products and is a venue for local farmers, nurseries, and artisans to sell their products directly to the consumer.

We know it won't disappoint! For more information e-mail yachatsfarmersmarket@gmail.com .



"OM" FOR THE SUMMER
By Fred Jones, Yoga Instructor

Beginning Wednesday, June 9, at 6 p.m. in Room 8 at the Commons I will be teaching yoga classes aimed at improving flexibility and balance. The classes are for at anyone interested in yoga, including beginners. Wear loose, comfortable clothing, bring a towel and yoga mat if you have one. For more information please call me (541) 547-4031 after June 3.



Yachats Public Library
by Marie Green, Chair Library Committee

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website: www.ci.yachats.or.us**

Library staff is gearing up for our busy season from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Please call us at (541) 547-3741 for summer hours.

The Seed Bank has been very popular. There are still seed packets left for anyone to pick up free of charge. Plant them this season and send us feedback as to let us how they thrived (or not) here on the coast.

We are still looking for someone to organize a summer reading program for kids in August. Talk to Carolyn White if you are interested in this project.

Labyrinth Park Project Taskforce

Mayor Ron Brean appointed a taskforce with members from the Yachats Public Library, Parks and Commons, and Public Works and Streets commissions to make recommendations to City Council for the area between the waste water treatment plant, the library, the city park and West 7th Street.

The proposal is expected to be attractive, easily maintained, open for meditation and contemplation, and appealing to Yachadians and visitors alike.

The next meeting of the taskforce will take place at the library reference room at 10 a.m. on June 10th (please use the eastside entrance). We hope to have a labyrinth expert meet with us for guidance and information.



Changes and Then Some. . .

By Mary Crook, Coordinator

One of the objectives of the Little Log Church and Museum is to serve as an archive of the many changes that have taken place in Yachats over the years. Right now we are witnessing a new development just south of the bridge, where the Shamrock Lodgettes stood for many years. For many of us who have known and loved Yachats for a long time it has been hard to say good-bye to what we have thought of as a part of our lives for a generation or more.

But change is not new to Yachats. In May 1946 an entrepreneur by the name of H.M. (Hugh) Sherwood, Jr. purchased property just south of the Yachats River and decided to move a huge log fortress called Fort Remote from where it stood near the Coquille River to his new property in Yachats. This involved dismantling 14,089 logs, charting and numbering each one, and then transporting them 120 miles to the new location to be re-assembled on site. It was a state-of-the-art destination called the Sherwood Lodge. It was indeed a luxury lodge with all modern appointments.

The Little Log Church has copies of newspaper articles touting the grand opening, which finally occurred May 27, 1949. A fine dining room made its debut on August 3rd. A double room with bath was \$6.00 per night (without-\$5.00). The Sherwood Lodge was a huge success.

Unfortunately the harsh and unforgiving coastal climate caused the log buildings to deteriorate, and the Sherwood Lodge just couldn't survive. It was finally torn down and the unusable portions were burned as a training exercise for fire fighters in 1963.

The Shamrock Lodgettes was built concurrent with the last days of the Sherwood Lodge, and became a beloved landmark until they too succumbed to time and the weather, and at last, economic realities.

KOHO survives in that location, commemorating the "koho" games played by the indigenous peoples of this beautiful area.

History goes around and comes around. We at the Little Log Church and Museum attempt to record it as best we can.



In the Garden

**by Jodi Sones, LLCM Landscape
Coordinator**

You will be seeing a new face taking care of the gardens at the Little Log Church and Museum. I hope you will make Woody Eggers feel as appreciated as you have made me feel. He is very enthusiastic about taking over my position and I am sure you will be happy with the job he will do.

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This is the last article I will be writing for the Little Log Church. I am not sure if Woody will continue the column. I believe he has enough on his hands at the moment getting used to all that he is expected to do there. I have enjoyed working at the Log Church these past years and also meeting many of you that come there to visit.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support of the Little Log Church and Museum.



Yachats Youth and Family Program
by Bee Bui, RecPLUS Team Leader

RecPLUS (Passages to Learning, Understanding and Success) is our drop-in program. Children ages 6 and up are welcome to join the fun. This summer, RecPLUS will be packed with exciting adventures and activities. There will be a lot of free play, tie-dye workshops, pie-making contests, water games, scavenger hunts, field trips, dance classes, self-defense classes, and more. Children are supervised by at least one staff member and a trained volunteer. Our volunteers come from diverse backgrounds and bring strong skills to RecPLUS such as art, beading, gardening, and of course devotion to serving our youth.

RecPLUS is located in the Yachats Commons basement. The cost is \$50 per family for the whole summer or \$10 per week or \$5 per day. Limited scholarships are available. RecPLUS hours are weekdays June 28-August 27 from 2: p.m.-6 p.m. (children must be picked up before 6 p.m.):

Summer Explorations is a structured program featuring a themed weeklong class. Children will take part in a variety of hands-on activities to engage their minds, hands, and creativity in exciting new ways. Many activities will take place outdoors. The cost for Summer Explorations is \$45 per week or \$200 for all 5 weeks. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Lunch will *not* be provided, so please bring a sack lunch. Scholarships and sibling discounts are available.

5 Days & A Play - led by Robin Murphy
July 12-16, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. . Suggested ages: 7-13

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This weeklong journey takes participants through the process of putting on a play. From script to stage, children discover what's behind the magic of theater. One the last day, participants will perform before an audience at 6 p.m.

Nature Journals - led by Gretchen Armstrong
July 19-23, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Suggested ages: 9-13
Experience and reflect on nature through art, poetry, collages, diagrams, and more in your very own nature journal.

This is Who I Am - led by Carol Ritter
July 26-30, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Suggested ages: 7-10
Learn about yourself and how to be a friend to others through games, movement, outdoor challenges, and creative activities.

Mystery Festival - led by Debbie Jackson
August 2-6, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Suggested ages: 9-13
Conduct forensic science tests and exercise your critical thinking skills as you solve "The Case of the Missing Millionaire."

Amazing Artifacts - led by Cicely Bernard
August 9-13, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Suggested ages: 8+
Explore Yachats history, traditions, and natives. Hike trails, identify wild local food sources, and discover artifacts. Guardians invited.

We are also offering specialty classes designed for older youth and adults: Beading 101 every Wednesday; a tie-dye workshop; self-defense classes; a swing dance class; and more.
To register or to request a brochure, call us at (541) 547-4599 or e-mail yapkids@peak.org or log on to www.yachatsyouth.org. YYFAP will be closed June 21-25 and August 30-September 6.



GoYachats Update
by Andrea Scharf, Marketing Director

We are now on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GoYachats . Become a fan! Get the most up-to-date information about what's going on in Yachats and admire the beauty of our little village in its setting between the mountains and the ocean all caught by local photographers. Share your own images of Yachats—that perfect sunset, a fabulous run on the beach with your dog, a quiet moment watching the storms stir up the ocean.

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Promote your event or a visit to your favorite Yachats shop. Most of all, invite your friends to join and become fans of GoYachats. You can also follow GoYachats on Twitter www.twitter.com/GoYachats.

The opinions of the authors of the articles may not be that of the City of Yachats. Items stated as fact will be confirmed.

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