



CITY OF YACHATS NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2012

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.



Mayor's Message

By Ron Brean, Mayor

Is Yachats a city or a village? You might think that question is of little importance. It is what it is. It's our haven, our center of gravity, our community, our neighborhood, our town, our city, our village and our home. It's what we harvest bountifully from it and what we eagerly invest in it. It is sun and rain and surf and trees and wind and smiles and frowns and music and art and...us. So why should I care whether it's a city or a village?

It's actually a question that has some importance to me. You see, in my mind, Yachats is both a city and a village. Knowing the difference between the two realities and knowing which definition applies at any given time, makes it possible to know whether my role is as an elected official or as a neighbor.

Cities are an artificial construct established to provide community services for those who live there and pay taxes. It is the method civilization has devised to provide what no individuals can provide for themselves in terms of infrastructure. Cities build water and sewer systems, roads, storm drains, libraries, community parks, community meeting centers, and other such services. Cities plan for those services in appropriate fashion and create a desired community character through zoning regulations and utility master plans. Yachats has commissions, staffed by volunteers, to assist with policy development in each of those city service arenas. We have a city council, also staffed totally with volunteers, to provide policy guidance and management oversight to ensure services are provided, maintained, and to make sure the fiscal resources are available and properly allocated to get these jobs done.

That's the boring part. The really interesting part is the "village-ness" of our community. You see, that city stuff

is merely a business operation. It's important and people step forward to see that it gets done properly, but it is not what defines the character of a town. It is not what gives a city its personality.

Let me see if I can illustrate the point. I once heard a person of questionable intellect described colorfully—as a bit uncharitably—as "dumb as a box of rocks." I'm reminded of this phrase because I have such a box in my garage. It may be a little dumb, but every time I walk the beach my head is down and my eyes are scanning to find more rocks to add to my box. I know that there are lots of others in town who have similar boxes. Somehow it doesn't ever seem possible to have too many agates. Each new translucent stone is a treasure and a find. Although a few people with more talent than I possess actually do artistic things with these treasures. For most of us though it is an eccentricity that is tough to define in practical terms. In practical terms it's just a dumb box of rocks.

In my own personal definition of a village these kinds of eccentricities play a prominent role. As you look around at your neighbors think of them metaphorically as a box of rocks. I know you can identify dozens (probably many more) that are "unusual" in practical terms. Like my box of rocks there are facets that seem to have no practical point but they are certainly colorful, perhaps even beautiful. Perhaps they make music for the sake of the sound. Perhaps they make musical instruments because they can. Maybe they wear colorful and unusual clothing or sport body art or jewelry in unconventional places. They have unusual careers. They have unusual interests. Maybe they weld odd items together or paint images of and on unusual things. Maybe they write stories or poetry. Maybe they are engaged in alternative healing or spiritual practices. Then, of course, there are those who are so **not** unusual that they are in fact unusual here. In my mind this character, this eccentricity, this collection of glowing and interesting odd rocks is what makes Yachats a

village.

Not all contributions to a quality community are the product of city services. Many, perhaps most, are the shine, and smoothness, and roughness, and cracks, and flaws, and sparkle of a Yachatian box of rocks tumbled together to make us what we are. Any chartered municipality can put together a business structure to provide utilities and services. Any place worth living, however, has more to offer than that. It has an eclectic and eccentric populace that willingly steps forward and cobbles together (pun intended) the means to meet their neighbors needs beyond the nuts and bolts provided by a government structure. In my mind what we offer each other as neighbors is at least as important as what we offer each other as fellow citizens. What's so dumb about a box of rocks anyway?



City Council Briefing

By Debrah Edwards, Deputy
City Recorder

The Yachats City Council met on Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 2 p.m. inside the Civic Meeting Room with all members present and 11 people were in the audience. The following are highlights of that meeting:

Announcements and Correspondence

Letters were received from: Ron Spisso re: Proposed Transient Rental Ordinance; and Don Niskanen re: Coastal Safety Marker Proposal

Public Hearing

- Before opening the Hearing for public comment regarding Ordinance No. 311: An Ordinance Amending Yachats Municipal Code 4.08 Transient Rental Licenses and Establishing a Procedure for Licensing, Mayor Brean explained that this is not the type of action that requires a public hearing, but he wanted to give interested parties the opportunity to provide testimony. After hearing the only two people wishing to speak, Jim Nordell (Oregon Shores Vacation Rentals) and Ron Spisso (transient rental property owner), Mayor Brean closed the testimony portion of the hearing.
- Councilor Featherkile, who served as the Transient Rental Task Force Chair, said that she stands by the Task Force's recommendations. Mayor Brean added that during the Council's Work Session, some possible changes concerning the homeowner's use of the home while holding a transient rental license were discussed but the consensus was if problems presented themselves in the future the Council

could consider changes at that time.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 311: Yay-5; Nay-0.

Reports

City Council

Councilor Scott reported that he attended a recent Yachats Rural Fire Protection District meeting. The YRFPD discussed considering some options for restructuring their operations.

Councilor Rieseck reported that while monitoring the *Cascade West Transportation Advisory Council* meeting minutes he learned that (ODOT) has no money for any projects including the Highway 20 project that is still stalled. However they have changed the plans and may be able to resume construction this next summer. Once resumed the project will take another 3 years to complete.

Mayor Brean reported that he met with a group of locals, including Ken Aebi and Max Glen, to discuss the possibility of establishing a "Head Start Program" in Waldport.

Public Works Department

Recent Storm:

- Public Works Director, John McClintock reported that during last month's major storm, Public Works was inundated with calls related to downed trees, flooding, etc. Most of the Department's time was spent clearing debris out of roadways and unplugging storm drain culverts and ditches.
- Also during the storm, access to the Water Treatment Plant was cut off for 24 hours due to flooding on Yachats River Road, but the Department prepared early and all of the water reservoirs were filled prior to the storm. In addition, three of the City's sewer pump stations lost power but were able to continue running on generator power until CLPUD restored power.
- Due to liability issues and a vulnerable waterline, Council authorized Director McClintock to have the three trees removed from the City right-of-way at East 3rd and King Streets.

Other:

- After the City's engineers at Dyer Partnership reviewed plans for the Aqua Vista Village project and the comments were delivered to Aqua Vista Village's engineer all issues were resolved with regard to infrastructure and they are ready to proceed.

Other Reports

Written copies of the Commissions meeting minutes,

staff, Go Yachats Marketing Director, and Code Enforcement Officer submitted to the Council.

Business

Motion to support a one-time request for the coastal marker design as presented during February's joint City Council and County Board of Commissioners meeting: Yay-4; Nay-1 (Rieseck).

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 310 "An Ordinance Amending the Yachats Municipal Code Chapter 1.08 Elections, Section 1.08.13 –Measures Referred by Council: Yay-5; Nay-0.

From Management/Staff

Motion to adopt amendments to (change or clean-up) City Administrative Policies: Yay-5; Nay-0.

From City County Insurance:

Motion to adopt the amendments to the Personnel Handbook; and adopt the Sewer Maintenance and Fleet Policies: Yay-5; Nay-0.

Other Business

From the Council:

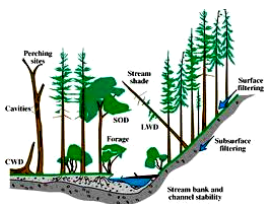
Councilor Scott's request to speak with the City Attorney about potential legal issues with regard to his proposal to create an electronic complaint process (for the City) was added to next month's agenda for further discussion.

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned 3:25 p.m.

For more detailed minutes and documents submitted to the City Council for this agenda log on to www.YachatsDocuments.info.

The Yachats City Council requests the public join them for their next meeting on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 2 p.m. inside the Yachats Commons building, Civic Meeting Room.



Proposed Land Use & Zoning Code

Public Hearing

By Larry Lewis, City Planner

Protection of Ocean, River, Streams, Wetlands and Riparian Areas

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 3 p.m. during its regular monthly meeting, inside the Yachats Commons Civic

Meeting Room, to consider Code amendments regarding protection of the ocean, river, streams, wetlands, and riparian areas. If you have property inside the city limits on or near those areas the amendments, if adopted, will impact the way you are able to develop your property. The public hearings with the Planning Commission and, subsequently, the City Council are your opportunity to provide input.

The stated purpose of the proposed amendment is to provide procedures necessary to secure the desirable attributes of the City from depletion by recognizing the value of the ocean, river, streams, wetlands, and riparian vegetation for fish and wildlife habitat, maintenance of water quality and quantity, alleviation of flooding hazards, storm water control, recreation and aesthetics, and to provide for open space. Protection of the natural drainage ways as an integral part of the City environment in accordance with the *2011 Yachats Local Wetlands and Riparian Inventory (LWI)* is also important in order to manage storm water drainage, minimize maintenance costs, and protect properties adjacent to drainage ways. Some of the proposed protection standards include:

Ocean Protection Standards

Prior to development on ocean shore lands, a site-specific geotechnical report is required and building setbacks shall be a minimum of 25-feet from the top of the bank or greater if recommended by an Oregon certified engineering geologist.

Riparian Corridor Protection Standards

These standards would apply to the river, streams, wetlands, and riparian areas.

- No filling, grading, excavating, or draining is permitted in a wetland area unless such is performed for restoration purposes or in accordance with mitigation standards.
- The flow from springs, drainages, streams, and other features providing the water necessary to maintain wetland hydrology shall not be diminished or substantially increased.
- Within the riparian corridor boundary, no grading shall occur, no impermeable surfaces or structures shall be placed, and no vegetation shall be removed or destroyed, with exceptions.
- Development activities shall not change the natural drainage or substantially increase the water flow.
- Development activities shall not create erosion

into a stream, wetland, pond, or riparian area.

River Protection Standards

The existing river protection standards are proposed to be maintained.

Drainage Way Protection Standards

To prevent significant increase of surface water runoff, any new development or redevelopment proposed on land containing or adjoining a drainage way shall avoid fill or disturbance in the natural drainage way, avoid placing impervious surfaces within 15-feet of the drainage way, **and additional standards.**

The entire draft amendment may be reviewed online at www.yachatsdocuments.info.



Don't Feed the F.O.G. Monster!

By John McClintock,

Since last year's article concerning the amount of F.O.G., Fats, Oils, and Grease, in our wastewater collection system we have noticed some improvement; however, F.O.G. still remains a difficult problem to deal with when it comes to removing it from our wastewater system.

While monitoring our system we have observed that quite a bit of F.O.G. originates from households throughout Yachats. We check manholes in neighborhoods and the wet-wells in our pumping stations and see it on a regular basis. What is often overlooked is the fact that F.O.G. is not only a problem Public Works must deal with but F.O.G. can block not only your household drains but your neighbor's as well creating sewage back-ups and overflows that are messy, costly, and a potential threat to your health and to the environment.

When most of us think of F.O.G., the source we think about most often is generated by local restaurants and we tend to dismiss the seemingly small amount households produce. However the by-products of cooking and the content in prepared foods add to the overall amount of fats (solid), oils (liquid), and grease (semi-solid) that are disposed of through household drains. Meats, poultry, fish and cooking oil readily come to mind as dietary sources of F.O.G., but other foods such as: butter/margarine; pastries/baked goods; salad dressing; and dairy products also contain F.O.G.

Some simple steps such as disposing of cooking oil, fat

trimmings/drippings (in a disposable container) and wiping residue from dishes/pots with paper towels then disposing of them in the garbage are the easiest ways to help minimize this problematic maintenance issue. Keeping just 1 tablespoon of F.O.G. out of your drains (or toilets) daily adds up to 12 pounds of F.O.G. each year not running through your pipes, the City's sewer system, and wastewater treatment plant.

The City of Yachats has two ordinances aimed specifically at other sewer system users to keep F.O.G. out of the wastewater system: Yachats Municipal Code 4.08.030, Section H. Transient Rental Licenses Standards requires all transient rentals to provide a grease container, replacement liners and instructions for proper disposal of F.O.G.; Yachats Municipal Code 8.08.040, Section E. Grease Traps Other Pretreatment requires all restaurants to have onsite approved and functioning grease traps that are periodically cleaned and inspected (by the City).

Because local businesses no longer sell grease containers and replacement liners, the City now sells the Fat Trapper® brand at cost inside City Hall during regular business hours, weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (except holidays). The "Starter Kit" as seen below (a container w/lid and two heat resistant foil liners) costs \$4. Containers sold individually cost \$2.78/ea and replacement liners cost \$.62/ea.



Fat Trapper® Containers & Liners

We appreciate everyone's cooperation. If you have any questions or would like to see what F.O.G. looks like give Public Works a call at (541) 547-3243.



Applying for a Passport

By Debrah Edwards, Deputy City Recorder

If you are applying for a U.S. Passport Book or Card for the first time or you have previously obtained a U.S. Passport Book or Card but it was *issued* more than 15 years ago then Yachats City Hall can accept your passport application form, documentation, and fees for processing (we do not issue passports or take passport

photos). To ensure a Passport Acceptance Agent is on duty, please call us first at (541) 547-3565 to make an appointment.

Each applicant must bring a completed (in black ink) but **unsigned** DS-11 "Application for a U.S. Passport" form along with the following items:

- One recent 2"x2" passport photos that meets U.S. Department of State specifications (do not attach the photo to application)
- A current state driver's license (a \$.15 copy fee will be charged to make a front/back copy of the license)
- Children under the age of **18** must have one parent present with their current driver's license (\$.15 copy fee applies)
- Children under the age of **16** must have both parents present with their valid driver's licenses (\$.15 copy fee applies), an original or certified copy of their birth certificate, and their previously issued previously U.S. Passport (if there is one). If one parent is unable to be present, a notarized DS-3053 "Statement of Consent or Special Circumstances: Issuance of a Passport to a Minor Under Age 16" form from that parent must be submitted also
- A personal or certified check or money order payable to the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE in one of the following amounts (a passport book and card can be obtained together using one DS-11 form):

Passport Book	(age ≥15)	\$80.00
Passport Book	(age ≤16)	\$110.00
Passport Card	(age ≥15)	\$15.00
Passport Card	(age ≤16)	\$30.00

- A separate Acceptance Fee of \$25 payable in cash or money order or personal check payable to the CITY OF YACHATS
- Average turnaround time for application processing is 4-6 weeks. Expedited service is available for an additional \$60 fee plus overnight delivery costs and cuts processing time down to 2-3 weeks. Please confirm these times at http://travel.state.gov/passport/processing/processing_1740.html. If you need to travel internationally in two weeks or less you may make an appointment at the Passport Agency in Seattle, WA by calling (877) 487-2778. For those needing only U.S. Passport Card they do issue them on site.

PLEASE NOTE: Applicants whose most recent U.S. Passport Book or Card was issued after their 16th birthday and was issued within the past 15 years may renew their U.S. Passport Book or Card by mail using a DS-82 "Application for a U.S. Passport by Mail" form.

Applications by mail are not charged an Acceptance Fee.

All U.S. Passport forms are available at City Hall weekdays 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (except holidays) or at to http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms/forms_847.html.



Noxious and Invasive Vegetation

Don Niskanen, Code Enforcement Officer
Wally Orchard, YIPS Leader

Tennyson wrote, "In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." True enough, but in the Yachatan spring a weed's fancy turns to rapid growth.

Last year the City of Yachats and the Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee (YIPS) began serious efforts to control various noxious and invasive weeds in Yachats. In its first year of operation YIPS organized regular monthly forays targeting some of the City's most infested areas. Meanwhile, the City initiated efforts to improve compliance with the Yachats Municipal Code 5.08.110 Noxious and Invasive Vegetation by local property owners. Both campaigns achieved gratifying results. YIPS work targeted ivy, knotweed, broom, tansy ragwort and blackberry in particular. Once informed of the City ordinance many private landowners have begun regularly clearing their formerly weedy lots. One clear way to see the progress is to take a drive to neighboring cities on Highway 101 and compare the amount of Scotch broom you see next to the road.

We can never hope to eradicate these species—in some cases their seeds can remain dormant for over 50 years—but we can control them and take back much of the habitat that has been lost to these invaders. Everyone in Yachats can help in our campaign. If you are a landowner, keep your lot clear of weeds on a regular basis. Bare ground is also an open invitation to weeds and other invasive vegetation. Regular lot maintenance is required if new generations of weeds are to be prevented from flowering and seeding. Ideally plant some suitable *replacement flowers, shrubs, and trees (see below).

In Yachats, six invasive plants have been identified in our brochure *Invasive Weeds—Yachats Most Wanted Dead*. These are broom, ivy, clematis, bindweed, knotweed, and blackberry. If you have these on your

property, please take steps to remove or at least control them. If you don't recall receiving our brochure when it was mailed out last year with the water/sewer bills it is available on the counter inside City Hall and online at www.YachatsDocuments.com—enter "invasive weeds" in the search bar then click on [Invasive Weeds](#) and [Invasive Weeds Supplement](#) separately to download. The brochure not only contains photos and information on how to deal with these species but an insert with an additional list of noxious and invasive species and a list of Yachats habitat-friendly replacement plants. Alternatively, there are a number of local contractors who are licensed in Yachats and well-qualified to do this sort of work (call City Hall at (541) 547-3565). Of course if you are feeling particularly community-minded and energetic, please consider coming out and joining the YIPS crew on their regular Saturday morning work outing.

This year we plan to have a "Weed of the Month" feature highlighting particular weeds in months when they are easy to identify. We hope you will support us in our efforts to keep pushing back the weed frontier throughout this year and beyond.

For more information, contact either one of us:
Don Niskanen dwn@peak.org (541) 961-6695
Wally Orchard worchard@peak.org (541) 547-5474



Trails Update

By Lauralee Svendsgaard,
Chair Trails Committee

Buds are cautiously peeking out of the alder trees, daffodils are popping up, and morning light has clearly begun shortening our nights. There seems to be an almost audible sigh of relief among all our nature neighbors that we're nearing the end of winter.

Enjoy the ensuing sweet delights of spring with the Trails Crew and Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee (YIPS) on the following dates:

Yachats Trails Crew—Saturday, March 3, 2012 from 10 am to 1 pm—we'll gather at the Yachats Commons Picnic Shelter and spend some time doing routine trail maintenance and some clearing of invasive plants from the wetlands followed, of course, by a rousing celebration of our good deeds at the Drift Inn.

YIPS!—Saturday, March 17, 2012 from 10 am to 1 pm—with so many lovely places in need Wally Orchard will be

selecting the work site shortly and will provide details on the selected location via the Trails email list about a week before the event.

For more information about the Yachats Trails Committee its activities or to be added to the Committee's email list contact:

- Lauralee Svendsgaard, Yachats Trails Committee Chair, at (541) 547-3640 or lsvend@peak.org
- David Lavrinets, Trails Crew Leader, at (541) 547-5388 or dalavrinets@peak.org
- Joanne Kittel, Development Committee & Amanda Trail Leader, at (541) 547-3144 or jinkittel@peak.org
- Wally Orchard, YIPS Leader, at (541) 547-5474 or worchard@peak.org



Community Calendar 101

Leon Sterner, Commons Coordinator

If you haven't done so lately take a peak at the community calendar on the City's *Go Yachats* website www.GoYachats.com. By clicking on the EVENTS tab you can see what's going on in our community this month or with a click of your mouse you can see what has gone on in the recent past as well as what is scheduled to happen in the future. This community calendar is an answer to a longtime wish held in Yachats...to have a common place to look for information about what is happening when and where. For us locals it is a wonderful resource that makes scheduling our events much easier and more efficient. For such a small town we do seem to have a very large number of events. In a larger and more important way, it is an information resource that both locals and visitors alike can easily use to plan the time they spend in our village.

A peak at the community calendar reveals, among other things, many of the activities at the Commons. It is a quick reference for ongoing events such as: Yoga; Tai Chi; Drumming; Exercise; Zumba®; Yachats Lunch Bunch; Free Movie Night; Yachats Big Band; as well as City and other organizational meetings. Also listed are the larger events that often occur on the weekends like the recent Agate Festival, Lion's Club Crab Feed, and YCLL *Depth Perception* event. Upcoming events like the Annual Library Book Sale, the Chamber Craft Fair, and the YCLL *Celebration of Japanese Arts and Culture* event to name a few. All this information, and much more, is available with a couple simple clicks your mouse as you are making your plans. Take a peak... its easy!



Yachats Public Library
By Sandra Calkins,
Volunteer

Annual Book Sale

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The time has come for the annual *Friends of the Yachats Library Book Sale* fundraiser. Circle these dates now to replenish your supply of great books, movies, and more.

Day 1

When: Friday, March 23, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Yachats Commons multipurpose room

Prices: Hardbound and trade paperback books \$1/ea
Regular paperback books 50¢/ea
Specialty and antique books individually priced
DVDs and CDs \$1/ea
VHS 3/\$1

Day 2

When: Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m

Where: Yachats Commons multipurpose room

Prices: Fill-a-Bag for only \$3 (any mix)

Another important date is Monday, March 19, 2012: you'll have until then to clean up your shelves and donate your unwanted books, movies, and CDs to the Library to make way for all the new books and movies you'll be buying at the sale.

"Thank you" to all those volunteers who sort our donations, take them to storage, transport them to the Commons, then set up the tables, man the cash boxes, and help people find what they are looking for, then take everything down and start the process all over again for next year.



Little Log Church & Museum Seeks Volunteers
By Mary Crook, Events

Coordinator

We've seen a slight increase in the number of visitors to the museum lately, thanks to some very nice articles that have appeared in some recent coastal and valley publications. In order for us to be ready for what might be a summer surge, we'd like to increase our pool of volunteer museum hosts. Therefore we plan recruit a few good people now and get them fully trained for summer.

Volunteer applicants should be willing to work at least two 3-hour shifts a month. The Little Log Church & Museum is open from 12 to 3 p.m. every day but Thursday. Duties involve welcoming visitors, answering questions about the exhibits and the area and telling our story. There may also be some minor records keeping and housekeeping duties involved. It's the perfect opportunity to be a Yachats ambassador in a relaxed atmosphere. We will hold an afternoon training class in April to acquaint new volunteers with our exhibits, local history and museum procedures (the date has yet to be determined).

If you or someone you know might be interested in volunteering at the museum, please give me a call at (541) 547-4547 before the end of this month. Not quite sure if this is the right fit then stop by the museum, chat with one of the volunteers and get an up-close and personal feel of the place. If you think it might be right for you give me a call.



Q & A from the Garden of the Historic Log Church and Museum
By Louis Mensing, LLCM
Gardener

*Q: My wife and I have several Hydrangea macrophylla in our yard. We live south of the Yachats Bridge on the east side of Highway 101 about 50 Yards up. My wife says they should be pruned back by one third. This seems to be leaving them a little stunted. Any suggestions for this plant in general would be appreciated. They sure are beautiful.
Thanks, Ellison G.*

A: Ellison, thank you for emailing the first question... If the plants have outgrown their space then go ahead and prune them back. However if you want blooms this year then I would leave it alone and only cut off the old flowers. I prefer to have more open, natural growth and

only thin out branches close to the ground to promote new growth from the base of the plant.

Aside from their fragrant beauty, Hydrangeas are easy to start simply by making cuttings and placing them in pots in a shady place.

If you have a gardening questions: drop off your question(s) in writing at the LLCM during regular business hours, Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Sunday from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.; or email me anytime LLCMGardener@yahoo.com. Please be sure to put "Yachats Gardening" in the subject line to ensure your email will be read.

This Month's Tip from "The Garden:" As the season begins bulbs are starting to sprout at the Historic Log Church; remember never fertilize bulbs in spring. Bulb roots begin to die off shortly after they flower in order to become dormant for the summer and will not be able to take up the optimal amount of nutrients from the fertilizer.



Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program

By Alice Beck, Executive
Director

Yachats Youth & Families to Host Community Dance

YYFAP will open the doors of the Commons multipurpose room on Saturday, March 10, 2011 to youth, families and the community at large for an evening of wholesome family fun and dance! Yachats own "DJ" John Deriberprey will keep the music pumping from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

We are starting the event early to encourage families with younger children to join us. Those who can stay up a little later can join us whenever they would like. Of course there will be refreshments available. Call YYFAP at (541) 547-4599 for more information—we'd love to see you there!

Families Together: Dinner & Reading

Come to the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church on Friday, March 23, 2012 from 6-8 p.m. for another evening of Dinner and Reading. This event is sponsored monthly in partnership between the church, YYFAP, Lincoln County School District (LCSD), and Seashore Literacy Center. Dinner is free thanks to grants from The *Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund* and LCSD.

Families also get to take a home a free book. All ages welcome. For questions please call Alice Beck at 541-547-4599.

YYFAP to Host QPR Suicide Gatekeeper Trainings

There will be two identical classes offered on March 27—one from 1 to 2:30 pm and another 6:30-8 pm

QPR stands for **Q**uestion, **P**ersuade, and **R**efer -- Three simple steps that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. Each year thousands of Americans, like you, are saying "Yes" to saving the life of a friend, colleague, sibling, or neighbor.

You can become a Gatekeeper

According to the Surgeon General's National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (2001), a gatekeeper is someone in a position to recognize a crisis and the warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide. Gatekeepers include parents, friends, neighbors, teachers, ministers, doctors, nurses, office supervisors, squad leaders, foremen, police officers, advisors, caseworkers, firefighters, and many others who are strategically positioned to recognize and refer someone at risk of suicide.

As a QPR-trained Gatekeeper you will learn to:

- ✓ Recognize the warning signs of suicide
- ✓ Know how to offer hope
- ✓ Know how to get help and save a life

The Yachats Lunch Bunch

By Paul Niblock, Coordinator



The Mad March Days are upon us so mark your calendars for next *Yachats Lunch Bunch* luncheon on Thursday, March 29, 2012 at the Yachats Commons multipurpose room.

Commons multipurpose room.

Now in our 11th year, the "Lunch Bunch" is open to anyone 55 years or better. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. with lunch served at noon. There is a suggested donation of \$4 per person.

The menu is: Ham, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Salad, Rolls, and Cheesecake for dessert.

You'll be able to greet old friends and make new ones.

We hope you will come and take part.



Town Tidbits

One of Us Productions is in rehearsals for an original comedy—*American Idle*— written and directed by Cris Torp. Opening night is slated for April 13, 2012 inside the Yachats Commons multipurpose room.

Check April's newsletter/calendar for more details.