



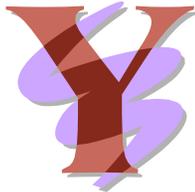
NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

MARCH 2010

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Mayor's Message **By Ron Breaun, Mayor**

“Y” In the World

I sat down today with the intent to write this article, but it didn't get written. Not then. I had something of an idea about what I would write, but it just didn't come together. It may be that the concept for the article lacked enough energy to sustain it, but I suspect other issues were at play. Not the least of those was the fact that the sun was shining. I looked out my home office window and saw today's variety of ocean colors (they're different everyday), the current state of the tide, the waves throwing their heads back in the wind, the birds along the river mouth, spruce limbs dancing on the flow of a breeze from the east and not a cloud in the sky. The wonder of the place where we live would not allow me the continuity of thought necessary to write about the wonder of the place where we live. I HAD to go outside and let the rays of the coastal sun pour over me.

It's not that I mind rain. I don't. As a matter of fact there is hardly a day that I don't find an opportunity to be outside, regardless of the weather. That's partly because there are two dogs in our household that would be sorely disappointed if they didn't get their morning and afternoon walks. I can endure many things but the pouting of disappointed canine pals is not among them. We've had some great outings in the rain too. A very wet forest or beach can be a marvelous place to explore. Their super noses sniff out the greatest of smells and you can see them conjuring fantasies of wondrous olfactory adventures as they snorkel along the trail. The freshness of a washed world and the sheer energy of a howling gale can charge my batteries, and theirs, almost as much as a glorious sunlit day like today.

But even without the dogs I find I must stretch my

legs and escape the confines of a room, a house, a desk. There is too much of the central Oregon coast, too much Yachats to experience to let lesser concerns consume my time. Sometimes it's dog leashes that pull me through the door and out into the world. At other times it's stalking rivers and streams with a fly rod in hand. Occasionally, (and this probably borders on some special kind of insanity) I even don my rain gear, put a "rain coat" on my golf bag, grab my umbrella, and head out on a golf course. If you're a golfer, you understand. If you're not, well...I've already admitted to a species of insanity. And in my saner moments I will fulfill the need by going someplace in town where I know there are other Yachadians gathered. In the comfort of a warm coffee shop surrounded by those who walk the same paths I do I find I can stretch my mental legs and enjoy comfort in a rare and pleasant kind of symbiosis.

I know that others may have their own means of getting their batteries recharged. Perhaps some of you, like me, have your own peculiar species of insanity that keeps you generally sane. It is a certainty, though, that we humans require a renewable source of personal power to keep going, to keep achieving, to keep inventing, to keep growing. As I contemplate our village and its creative, well-charged populace I know that there are a variety of Yachats charging stations all over town that enliven a special sort of power grid. At times I think you can actually hear the energy buzz.

Opportunities abound in Yachats. Other places, with a lower energy ambiance might see them as problems. Here, however, they are simply challenges to be met with optimistic energy and compassionate resolve. Why in the world would so many people engage in community problem solving if it weren't for the combined energy here? Why in the world would so many people volunteer for every job that needs done? Why in the world would so many people be attracted to visit here from all over the world, and so many people who have a global impact choose to live in such a tiny little town? Why

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**Task Force Seeks
Volunteers to Join
Disaster Preparedness
for Domestic Animals**

**By Debrah Edwards, Task
Force Coordinator**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the United States Congress passed the *Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006* or more commonly referred to as the "PETS Act." This law requires that local and state emergency preparedness authorities include plans for pets and service animals in their disaster plans to qualify for grants from FEMA.

While the City of Yachats has been busy making emergency preparations and offering free disaster preparedness training to the human community, we have just now started getting the ball rolling for our domestic animal preparedness plan. Although service animals will be permitted in City and Red Cross emergency shelters, it is a health violation to house other types of animals in the same shelter as people due to the risk of injury and transmission of diseases.

We are looking for Yachats area residents who have a passion for animal welfare, who are able to take a couple of independent study classes online (or via printed manual), and who can attend a pet first aid class in Portland on March 7, April 4, or May 2 to join our task force. Please contact me during business hours at (541) 547-3565 or anytime at debrah@ci.yachats.or.us if you are interested in joining or if you are able to provide shelter and/or supplies to animals (other than your own) during a disaster.

In the mean time, Yachats area residents are welcome to come by City Hall and pick up a free brochure to help kick-start disaster planning for their companion animal(s). The brochure covers disaster planning for all of the most popular household pets, as well as horses and livestock. I will also be happy to e-mail the brochure or answer questions about where to purchase supplies or obtain more education.



**Local Improvement District
Plan Approved**

**By Nancy Batchelder, City
Recorder**

At the February 11, 2010 meeting, City Council approved the plan for a local improvement district for several unfinished developments on the East Hillside of Yachats. The LID will complete water, sewer and electrical work needed to provide utilities to the lots and will provide the funding for the work.

In a LID the property owners in the area that will benefit from the improvements are assessed their share of the costs. For this particular LID, the estimated cost of performing these improvements is \$401,600. The City will complete some of the work in-house and contribute an estimated \$30,000. The property owners will pay the rest. Property owners will be given the opportunity to pay their assessment up front or in installments, with interest. The final assessment will be determined when all of the work has been completed.

City Council has not yet decided if the expenses will be paid out of reserve funds or if the City should take out a loan or issue bonds.

In Other City Council News...

- Edward Meyrowitz was appointed to serve on the Planning Commission. Meyrowitz has lived in Yachats for about four years. Before he moved here he was a homebuilder in Eugene. He also worked with the Nation Earth Foundation as an environmental wilderness activist. Meyrowitz told City Council that as a homebuilder he has experience with many of the issues with which the Planning Commission deals.
- City Council approved going forward with the new trail brochure designed by Jerry and Kathleen Sand. The brochures will be on heavy card stock so they will be durable and easy to carry when walking the trails. Jerry Sand donated his time and labor to

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draw the map that will be used and the Sands worked with the Trails Committee on the design.

- City Council accepted the recommendation from the Public Works and Streets Commission and authorized the Public Works Director to purchase a Vactor truck. A Vactor truck is a multi-functional piece of equipment that can be used to clean out storm drains and sewer mains. The crew will also be able to use it when cleaning up sewer spills or repairing water mains.
- City Council accepted the recommendation from the Public Works and Streets Commission and authorized the Public Works Director to go forward with some temporary improvements to add parking on East 2nd and Prospect Streets.
- City Council authorized the reallocation of some of the money not spent on the some elements of the GO Yachats project to be used for some enhancements elsewhere and to carry other money over to the 2010-2011 budget year.
- City Council agreed to form a work-study group that will explore options for Municipal Code management. The current software used to manage the Code was written in 1997 and the company went out of business in 2005. There is no new software available



Public Works
Department
By John McClintock, Director

A Life in the Day of a Public Works Director

The other day I was asked by my young grandson what it is I do at work. After attempting to put it in terms a 5 year-old could understand, I thought it might be make an interesting article for the newsletter.

February 17, 2010 - arrived at Public Works Department at 6:15 a.m.

Reviewed and posted day's schedule on the meeting room board.

Checked main wastewater pump station before morning staff meeting due to some on-going electrical problems.

Started staff meeting at 7:30 a.m. Discussed work for the day and addressed individual concerns and any questions.

Public works crew out in the field at 7:45 a.m. to check water treatment plant, wastewater treatment plant, all of the sewer pump stations and daily contracted work for U.S. Forest Service and Job Corps, and Cape Perpetua wastewater and water treatment plants.

Contractor arrived at wastewater treatment plant to install new replacement motor. Confirmed it was it was the correct motor, etc.

Went to City Hall to check mail box and e-mail, answered 2 letters and 4 emails. Discussed with City Recorder on U.S. Forrest Service contract for the new year.

Back to Public Works to make several phone calls. Talked with Dyer Engineering about several on-going projects inside the City.

Lunch break at noon; took a walk.

12:30 p.m. checked yellow painting of curbs and cleaned debris in street by Yachats Rural Fire District building as Fire Chief was concerned about hitting vehicles and not being able to respond quickly to emergencies.

Repaired foundation vents at the Yachats Public Library per their request.

Checked undeveloped lots on Driftwood Lane for water and sewer laterals—there were none. Made note to install prior to prepping and pairing street.

Back to Public Works to return calls to contractors with questions on water and sewer availability.

Checked electrical motor at wastewater treatment plant, installed, and waited on electrician to test.

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Met with wastewater plant operator to discuss issues on treatment process and was able to resolve two of the three issues.

Checked new street sign installation.

Staff day ended at 4:00 p.m. Checked on-call schedule to see who is on duty for after-hour emergencies then reviewed notes on street project.

Finished notes on work accomplished today and add to tomorrow's work schedule. Quick stop home at 4:30pm

Returned to check on the wastewater treatment plant at 5:45 p.m. and then attended the Joint City Council/Lincoln County Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm. Home again for the evening.



Yachats Public Library **By Marie Green, Chair**

Be sure to reserve time on your calendars on March 26 and 27 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. for the huge annual Friends of the Library Book Sale at the Yachats Commons. Just wait until you see what has been in our attic. Almost new, gently used, old treasures, mysteries, cookbooks, gardening books, fiction, biography, travel, history, humor—there will be pretty much any sort of book you could desire.

Helping hands will have the Commons kitchen open for sale of refreshments during the book sale with proceeds going to the Yachats Youth and Family Program.

Also, it's not too late to clean out your own attic, basement, or storage unit and donate your unwanted books, movies, and music. We will accept donations at the Library until Thursday, March 25, 2010.



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Little Log Church and Museum **By Mary Crook, Events Coordinator**

Over the years the Little Log Church and Museum has been fortunate enough to have an enthusiastic pool of volunteers eager to pass on the rich history of the Yachats area. Our volunteers share in many ways—as museum hosts, record keepers, landscape and garden creators, maintenance workers, display artisans, and more. Any of our volunteers can attest to the rewards of being an active part of this community and sharing in the living histories and stories our little town has to tell.

We understand our group of volunteers is also a living thing: we move on to new interests, changes in family responsibilities or work, or just choose to retire and allow new blood to carry on. And so we are looking for new volunteers to join the crew.

You don't need to be an expert or have specialized knowledge in local history—we'll be happy to train. We are looking for individuals with an interest in our area and are comfortable working with the public, willing to commit to 3 to 12 hours a month, and who would like to be Yachats area ambassadors.

If you think you might have skills we can use, please give me a call or e-mail a note at (541) 547-4547 or wedsea@casco.net.



In the Garden **By Jodi Sones, Landscape Coordinator**

Well, I did it! I purchased 175 attractive galvanized steel signs to put around on the grounds at The Little Log Church to identify the various plants, trees and shrubs. They are in various sizes, so it will take me awhile to figure out which size to put where. Also, I should be able to put just a bit more, hopefully interesting, information on each sign for you about the different plants there.

In the past month I have planted a dozen new shrubs on the grounds that will be natural food sources for the local wildlife. I realize that they, too, must find food and I am trying to do my part to

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make those food choices healthy for them. These plantings are all native species that I obtained from Yamhill Soil and Water Conservation District in McMinnville, OR. They have great programs there including their annual native plant sale.

Since there seems to be an over abundance of crows in the area lately, I thought I would put an occasional "crow fact" in my column that reader might find interesting. Did you know that Jays, Magpies, Jackdaws, Carrion Crows, Rooks and Ravens are all in the crow family? They have quite a large family, don't they?



Friends of Yachats

Commons

**By Jessica Waddell,
President**

Punxsutawney Phil may have seen his shadow, but already things are blooming here at the Commons! Every weekend in February was filled with an entertaining event: Barber Shop Festival; Winterfest Crafts; Beachside Writers Workshop; and the Oregon Coast Chamber Orchestra.

A fresh coat of paint has been added to the multipurpose room walls with new trim around the stage—we're ready for March Madness. There will be one more Winterfest weekend on March 13 and 14 followed by the 40th Annual Original Arts and Crafts Fair. We will be hosting a Potluck and Kanikapila (music jam) on March 27 at 6:00 p.m. with 50's and 60's music by The Refreshments. Everyone is welcome; suggested donation is \$5. Ending the month will be the Library's Annual Book Sale and Yachats Art Guild Show.

Some of you may get a sneak peek at the upcoming One of Us play, "Funny Money," which is rehearsing March evenings here. There may even be a role for you behind the scenes if you are interested in set building or prop management—give Robbie Schoonover a call at (541) 547-3746. There are always events that spring into action during the month, so be sure to check the Commons Calendar
(<http://www.ci.yachats.or.us/calendar/commons/calendar.htm>) for up to date information.



Yachats Youth and Family Program

**By Bee Bui, RecPLUS Team
Leader**

Self-Defense Class for Women

The Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program (YYFAP) offering a self-defense class for women of all ages. This two day class will be taught by Clint Murphy who has 20 years of experience under his black belt in Judo. He will be teaching basic techniques to help defend your self in stressful situations. The class is Wednesday, March 10th and Thursday, March 11th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. inside room 8 of the Yachats Commons. Cost is \$10 for adults and **free** for children 14 and under. Preregistration is required and limited scholarships are available. Call me at (541) 547-4599 send and e-mail to beebui@peak.org to reserve your spot.

Help for Parents

Are you feeling helpless, frustrated, and ineffective when it comes to parenting? Help is on the way! We have a parenting class coming to South County. YYFAP, Crestview Heights School, and the 21st Century Afterschool Program are teaming up to offer a 6-week series of **Parenting with Love and Logic** classes. These classes are about raising responsible children using a win-win philosophy. Classes will be led by Jacquie Blakely and held at the Waldport Community Learning Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. beginning on February 23. A light meal will be provided. Childcare is available upon request. To register, call (541) 547-4599 or (541) 563-3237.

Spring Break Activities for Kids in Yachats

RecPLUS will be open at the Commons during Spring Break, March 23–March 27 from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Local and visiting youth, ages 6-18 are invited to join in on the fun. The week will be filled with drama games, preparing for the upcoming talent show on April 11th, basketball, logic games and more! The cost for the week is \$25 for families who are not already enrolled at YYFAP. If you would like to volunteer or have

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questions, call (541) 547-4599 or e-mail beebui@peak.org.

FREE South County Preschool Still has Openings in Yachats

South County Preschool is still admitting 3-5 year olds to the Yachats location on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Yachats Commons.

Our Waldport location is full but we are accepting names for a waiting list in case any openings become available. Come play and learn valuable skills in preparation for kindergarten!

Although tuition is free, donations are gratefully accepted. To enroll your child or for more information, call Allison at (541) 270.0832 or (541) 547-4599.

Indoor Park for 0-6 year olds

Indoor Park is a play group for children ages 0-6 and their parents. Come play and learn imperative social skills while networking and enjoying the company of other parents. We meet on Wednesdays from 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. in Room 4 of the Commons. We hope to see you and your little one there!



Go Ya♥s a Big Success

**By Andrea Scharf,
Marketing Director**

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Valentine promotion! Mayor Brean drew five names from the box and baskets that were sent off to the lucky winners, but everyone in town felt like a winner with the stores getting a lot of customers and our visitors enjoying the various stores and restaurants in town. Many people commented that they didn't know all those stores existed in Yachats. (If this is true of you, dear Yachatians, go forth and explore, be a tourist in your own home town—it's awesome!) Of course, it didn't hurt that the weather was mild—even sunny.

Special thanks to Angie Bagby at Raindogs for designing all the print material and to Carrie Yano at The Wine Shop for help with packaging and

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wrapping the gift baskets. And of course thanks to all the participating stores and restaurants for donating items and gift certificates to make up the gift baskets. It was a great community success.

People have been offering suggestions for events and activities to bring visitors to our town, everything from "Bring back the Kite Festival!" to concerts, lectures, and treasure hunts. I'm very grateful for all your ideas. Not all will come to fruition, of course, but some will and others will stimulate creativity in another direction. People also give me names of people or organizations, which might be interested in having a meeting in any of our fine lodging accommodations. Again, I appreciate all this support! Most of all, I hope you are visiting www.GoYachats.com, where you will find everything you need to know about what's going on in Yachats!



Yachats Lunch Bunch By Paul Niblock, Coordinator

The March Lunch Bunch will take place on the last Thursday of March, which is the 25th.

As usual it will be in the Yachats' Commons and doors open at 11:30 a.m. with luncheon being served at noon. The Lunch Bunch is open to all 55 years or older and there is a suggested donation of \$4.00. This is a great opportunity to meet friends or to get to know new acquaintances. The menu will be a crowd pleaser: ham, macaroni and cheese, green salad, rolls with butter, followed by cheese cake for dessert. The featured entertainment will be a return of the popular Polka Dots!



Town Tidbits

The Grocery Hotline is still available to serve area residents from Ten Mile Creek to Tillicum Beach as well as the Yachats River Valley. Call us at (541) 547-4734 and leave your name, number and best time to call.

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