



NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

JUNE 2008

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Quote of the Month

For as long as I can remember I have wanted my country to become the things I was taught it aspired to be: For Justice; For Truth; For Compassion; For Freedom; For the generosity of the heart and the equality of man; For the true meaning behind its symbols and creed.

--Lloyd Marbet



Mayor's Message By Susanne Smith, Mayor

As I thought about this month's Mayor's Message, the following article came across my desk. It is much better and timelier than anything I could have written. So I offer it for your consideration:

LESSONS FROM GEESE

Fact 1

As each goose flaps its wings it creates "uplift" for the birds that follow. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

Lesson:

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

Fact 2

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

Lesson:

If we have as much sense as a goose we stay in

formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.

Fact 3

When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into formation and another goose flies to the point position.

Lesson:

It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other's skills, capabilities and unique arrangements of gifts, talents or resources.

Fact 4

The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson:

We need to make sure our honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement, the production is much greater. The power of encouragement (to stand by one's heart or core values and encourage the heart and core of others) is the quality of honking we seek.

Fact 5

When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

Lesson:

If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

Editor's Note: "Lessons from Geese" was transcribed from a speech given by Angeles Arrien at the 1991 Organizational Development Network and was based on the work of Milton Olson.

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**Planning
Department**
By Larry Lewis, City
Planner

**CITY SIGN
ORDINANCES**

The location, size, content, and number of signs located throughout the City are an ongoing concern. All property owners need to recognize and comply with the City's sign ordinance. The City's complete sign ordinance is located in Yachats Municipal Code Chapter 9.44. A summary of the City's sign ordinance is provided below.

Purpose

- To protect the public safety and welfare
- The need for a well-maintained and attractive community
- The need for identification, communication and advertising for all land uses

Objectives

- To ensure that signs are designed, constructed, installed and maintained so that public safety and traffic safety are not compromised
- To allow and promote positive conditions for meeting sign users needs while at the same time avoiding nuisances to nearby properties
- To reflect and support the desired character and development patterns of the various zones
- To allow for a variety in number and type of signs in commercial zones while preventing signs from dominating the visual appearance of the area
- To ensure that the constitutionally guaranteed right of free speech is protected

General Requirements

- Maximum 0.75 square feet of sign for each linear foot of a singular frontage per property
- No sign exceeding 32 square feet, except a wall sign or mansard roof sign
- Maximum 2 freestanding signs per property
- Exceptions for business with minimum 300 linear feet of street frontage
- Maximum height of sign or its structure above center line of adjacent street is 30 feet
- Illumination: interior allowed; exterior, no direct glare on other buildings or street

- Off-premise signs only allowed if authorized on highway by ODOT or if City Planning Commission allows off-premise sign on private property no larger than 6 inches by 30 inches

Specific Requirements

- Awning, canopy, marquee: maximum 32 square feet or 50% of awning/canopy/marquee area, whichever is less
- Home business: maximum 1½ square feet
- Bed & Breakfast: maximum 3 sq feet
- Projecting signs: minimum 7'6" above grade, not more than 5 feet from building wall
- Roof sign: highest point of sign is lesser of 30 feet or ridgeline of pitched roof or 4 feet above flat roof
- Wall signs/mansard roof signs: lesser of 100 square feet or 20% of building wall area or face of mansard roof
- Wall sign: project maximum 16 inches from wall, not project higher than wall
- Window sign: computed in allowable sign area

Prohibited Signs

- No signs that blink, rotate, swing, revolve, movement, or flash
- No portable, A-frame, or wheeled signs
- No roof signs directly painted on roof surface
- No signs painted with phosphorescent or luminescent or sparkling paint
- No limitation or obstruction of views of any official traffic control device or sign
- No signs displayed on vehicles not incidental to the primary use of the vehicle.

Signs Exempted From Permits (see ordinance for complete listing of signs exempted from permits)

- Event signs: maximum 4 signs; signs size per General Requirements; maximum 30-day duration; may be off-premise with property owner consent
- Garage, yard, estate sale signs: maximum 1 sign per ROW frontage; maximum 4 square feet; no more than 2 days prior and during actual days of sale; on premises except for 2 off-premise with property owner consent; removed within 1 day following sale
- Political signs: maximum 4 square feet; maximum duration of 45 days prior to election; remove within 10 days following election; allowed on private property w/ owners consent

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- Real estate signs: maximum 6 square feet on residential properties; maximum 20 square feet on commercial properties; 1 sign oriented to each abutting ROW; removed w/in 14 days following sale, lease or rental.
- Flags, banners, and similar decorations: provided such decorations do not include any lettering and meet other requirements of the sign ordinance



Public Works

By John McClintock, Public Works Director

As summer approaches, the Yachats Public Works

Department is preparing to perform dry-weather projects. We will be replacing waterlines in several areas in town. Also, we have budgeted to perform substantial wastewater manhole rehabilitation throughout the system.

Street maintenance has already started with the widening and paving of Horizon Hill Road and rocking and grading of several improved streets.

It will be another very busy summer and we once again ask for understanding and patience. To complete many of these projects we have to excavate areas that affect traffic, both vehicular and pedestrian. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

If you have any questions, please call Public Works at (541) 547-3243.



Yachats Clean Sweep

By Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

Bargain hunters take notice! Beginning Wednesday, June 18, 2008 and continuing for 3

spectacular days, Yachats citizens may display their unwanted items at their curbs for anyone to take free of charge. On Friday, June 20th through Saturday, June 21st Yachats residents may bring their remaining treasures to the Commons area behind the Bank of the West where the City will place dumpsters marked for disposal.

► Wednesday, June 18th: Yachats residents place any unwanted items (no household trash or hazardous materials) at the edge of the street next to the curb.

► Thursday, June 19th: "One Person's Trash is Another's Treasure." Yachats' citizens 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 20th: shoppers and treasure hunters continue to "cruise" the city streets in search of treasures they may have missed the day before. Residents may bring any remaining unwanted items to the back Commons parking lot where there will be dumpsters marked for disposal. Seniors or handicapped/disabled Yachats citizens with items that are too heavy or bulky should call City Hall at (541) 547-3565 and a Public Works crew member will come by to assist them in disposing of the items.

► Saturday, June 21st: residents may continue bringing unwanted items to dumpsters until 5:00 p.m.

Acceptable Items:

Clean wood, yard debris, lumber
Metal, old appliances, blinds, curtain rods
Furniture

We will not be accepting household garbage or hazardous waste.

Proof of residence (physical address within the City limits only) will need to be shown when items are disposed of at the Commons.



Yachats Commons

Events

By Susan Garner, Commons Coordinator

Thanks to the Friends of the Commons, we have a new refrigerator in the kitchen. As any of you who have used the old refrigerator know, the old one was very noisy. The new one is such an improvement. It is quieter, cleaner and the doors work much more smoothly.

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Salsa dance classes are still happening here on Monday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The classes are lively and affordable. Come check them out. You do not need a partner to join the classes.

A new series of yoga classes will begin on June 11, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 8. These classes are held throughout the summer and are perfect for those who cannot come in the mornings to the regular yoga classes held in Room 3 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m.

Summer exercise classes are held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the gym. When the gym is not in use, it is open to anyone wanting to shoot some baskets or practice dance or exercise on their own.

The Yachats Big Band will be playing here again on Thursday, June 5, 2008 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. As always, there is great music and the chance to let loose on the dance floor.

Movie Night is scheduled for Thursday, June 19, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

The Yachats Lunch Bunch (senior luncheon) is serving up a good meal and entertainment on Thursday, June 26, 2008 at noon. Later that evening come to Open Mike Night at 6:30 p.m. put on by the Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program (YYFAP). It's entertaining and a chance to ham it up.

For further calendar information, log on to the Commons website at www.yachatscommons.org, or call me at (541) 547-4734. And as always if you have some interesting ideas for classes or workshops, call me.



**Yachats Community
Skate Park Update**
By Laura Svendsgaard,
Yachats Skate Park Committee

Having learned that the soils in the area designated for the skate park were unsuitable, the Skate Park Committee recently did a bit of scrambling in order to give kids a safe place

to skate by this summer. While the Committee has every intention of eventually building a skate park worthy of both resident and visiting youth, a temporary measure was recently approved by both the Parks & Commons Commission and the City Council. We are very pleased to announce that this month a quarter-pipe skate ramp will be constructed and installed behind the Commons. In the interim, this ramp will give kids a place to focus their skating activity, get them off the streets, and encourage healthy outdoor recreation. A celebration of the skate ramp and outdoor play is being planned for the 12th of June. Details will be available soon. To learn more or assist our efforts, please call me at (541) 547-3640 or e-mail me at lsven@peak.org.



Yachats Public Library
By Marie Green, Library
Commission Chair

About five years ago, the Yachats Public Library was given two computers for use of the public by the Gates Foundation. A condition of the gift was that we be prepared to replace them as needed. Faithfully, each year since the library budget reserves reflected this commitment.

On the advice of our current "techie" we will be installing two new Dell computers before Memorial Day. The library has high visitor usage during the summer as tourists stop by to check e-mails. We delight in the diversity of people who discover us and in their gratitude in the form of contributions of books and cash.

The Nancy Reynolds Shelf of Best Sellers is proving to be highly popular with patrons. If you have not yet discovered these recent publications for yourself, just stop by the library and ask the volunteer at the desk. Happy Reading!

Yachats Public Library Presents: The 2nd Annual *Oceans of Fun!* We had so much fun last year that we couldn't wait to do it again...

This fun and engaging children's program explores our great ocean, its inhabitants, and its surroundings through stories, songs, books, crafts, puppet shows, walks to the beach, and much more. Designed and led by Kelly Everfree, an

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experienced early childhood educator, this program is sure to bring out the child in not only the children but also in the parents. We'll meet up with old friends and make new ones as we discover the beauties and obscurities of the Pacific while having oceans of fun!

So please join us for six Fridays starting July 11th 2008 from 10:30 a.m.-11:45 p.m. This program is designed for children ages 3-6 (accompanying adult recommended, though not required). We also encourage children of all ages (0-92+) to come.

Where: The Yachats Library, 560 West 7th Street.
When: Six Fridays; starting July 11th
Time: 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Phone: (541) 979-9363 (ask for Kelly)
Email: Kelly@peacethroughparenting.org

We hope to see you there!



Little Log Church and Museum
By Karl Christianson, Director

It's a Museum and More!

We Yachadians know that our city is the *Gem of the Oregon Coast*. One of its gems is the Little Log Church and Museum, a landmark in the heart of the village.

In my role as Events Coordinator and frequent docent at the museum, I am often asked if Sunday services are still held at the Little Log Church. Since the property is now owned by the City of Yachats and has been a museum for many years, the answer is technically no. However many events are held there during the year, making it a very special place where memories are made.

Most locals know the church is often used for weddings and an occasional memorial service. There have been many other events that you might like to know about. The Little Log Church is a regular stop for Elderhostel groups who visit the coast. About three times a year I have the pleasure to speak to these visitors from all over the country who come here to learn about local coastal history and lore. We have also hosted special concerts

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and poetry readings. One August, a family held their reunion in Yachats and wanted to have their own personal Sunday service just for their family. Each person had a special part to contribute and the church was the perfect venue. Our annual Valentines Day wedding vow renewal ceremony has become a tradition for the past twelve years. The sanctuary has also provided a place for comfort and relaxation. A new non-religious meditation group is being formed at this time and plans to meet one evening a week at the church.

So when you walk or drive by the Little Log Church and Museum, remember we are indeed alive and well! We're available to speak to groups, private parties, or individuals interested in local history and artifacts. It's also a wonderful place to hold a wedding, anniversary, baby or family blessing, or most any other memorable event.

Stop by any day (except Thursday) from noon to 3:00 p.m. or call us at (541) 547-3976 or our Events Coordinator, Mary Crook, at (541) 547-4547.



Spring is Alive at the Little Log Church and Museum
By Jodi Sones, Landscape Coordinator

I am very excited about some new native plant acquisitions added to the grounds at the Little Log Church and Museum.

I have acquired a couple varieties of Oregon's native Elderberry tree, which is considered an understory tree. The first is *Sambucus Nigra* (a black elderberry) which has very dark foliage and large pink clusters of blossoms. And second is a *Sambucus Nigra 'Aureomarginata'* (golden variegated elderberry). I hope they will love their new home on the grounds. I have also added another bog/riparian bush called Spirea, which is native also. It bears lovely, feathery soft pink blossoms. I then added a couple native Cotoneasters which look so graceful and elegant when mature. There are now two *Symphoricarpos Albus* (Snowberry) shrubs, another native shrub, on the grounds. They are easy to locate with those cute little pure white berries, which mature in fall, and give them away in an instant. Since birds don't

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particularly like the berries, they usually stay on all winter.

Stay tuned for more exciting things happening at your Little Log Church and Museum.



Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program

By Debbie Jackson, Director

Summer Youth Activities

Summer will be here before we know it and the Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program is busy planning some great activities for children and youth. We are excited to be able to offer activities from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. for five weeks this summer. We hope local parents will find this helpful. Our 2008 schedule will look like this:

June 16-20	Closed
June 23-July 3	Rec PLUS 1:00p-6:00p
July 7-Aug 8	Summer Explorations 9:00a-1:00p & Rec PLUS 1:00p-6:00p
Aug 11-22	Rec PLUS 1:00p-6:00p
Aug 25-29	Closed

Rec PLUS is YYFAP's traditional drop-in program. There will be lots of free play plus opportunities to participate in small group activities such as: sports; art; crafts; and more. Summer Explorations is a more structured program. Each week will be organized around a different theme. Pre-registration is required and participation is limited. Children will participate in a variety of hands-on activities designed to engage their minds, hands, and creativity in exciting new ways. Many activities will take place outdoors. The themes are:

July 7-11	"Wildlife Habitats"
July 14-18	"How Things Work"
July 21-25	"Quests!"
July 28-Aug 1	"Fairies and Trolls"
Aug 4-8	"Natural World"

We hope to coordinate with the USDA Summer Lunch program to offer lunches every day we are open. During the weeks we don't offer full-day

programming, the 21st Century program in Waldport is offering special learning activities from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Call them at (541) 563-3476 for more information.

RiverRats: South County Sailing Club

All winter long a group of graduates of last summer's youth sailing lessons have been meeting to form a South County sailing club. The goal is to continue sailing on Eckman Lake and on Alsea Bay. The task seemed daunting at first. We needed boats and experienced leaders and there were big questions about insurance and storage. Now, success is just around the corner! With a lot of help from interested adults, commitment from the Yaquina Bay Yacht Club, Lincoln County 4-H, and the Lincoln County School District, the kids expect to be on the water this summer. They are building their own small sailing punts this spring and are planning a variety of skill-building and just-plain-fun sailing activities for the summer. RiverRats is open to anyone who has completed a sailing course. And yes, YYFAP will be offering sailing classes again this summer. Call me at (541) 547-4599 for more information.



A Letter from Concerned Teens

Over the last few months, we, a group of concerned teens have devoted our efforts to raising awareness of a growing problem: use of illegal substances such as drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products. This issue has been going on for many years and we do not expect it to subside, but we are still seeking prevention methods. To aid our efforts, we have discussed the topic with the mayors of both Yachats and Waldport (Sue Smith and Herman Welch) and Sheriff Dotson of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department. From our discussions with the mayors and the sheriff, we have tried to increase patrols through Waldport where the majority of the problems are taking place. Yachats does have its issues with substance abuse, but on a smaller scale. You may have seen teens or even younger kids using illegal substances in public places with no consequences. The conclusion we have come to is that the illegal use of substances will not cease, but as a group we can limit the number of kids who are involved. It would

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be helpful to the community if we spoke up to the problem together. Overall, we believe that raising awareness is the number one way to help limit the problem at hand. Through this article, we hope to open your eyes to the issue and help you realize we are all in this as a community

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