



NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

November 2009

Visit www.ci.yachats.or.us for City minutes and codes, receive/pay your bill, schedule/view Commons events, and more!

Quote of the Month

Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference. ~Winston Churchill



Mayor's Message By Ron Brean, Mayor

When I was a kid, just about every year *The Wizard of Oz* was aired on one of the three television stations we could pick up on our house-top antenna. It

was aired in black and white as all television programs were. (For those of you under 40, yes there really was a time when there were television antennas, programs only in black and white, and only three...or fewer... channels to choose from.) *The Wizard of Oz* was a special treat. It was full of magic and mystery and suspense, all things that charm young children. Besides, it gave us a chance to stay up past our normal bedtime. What could be better?

What we didn't know as kids was that the film was the first significant full length color movie. When it was released in 1939 (which was before my time, thank you) film goes started watching the film in black and white, which was the only option they'd ever had. When Dorothy landed in Oz, everything switched to color. People in theaters all over America oohed and awed. We children of the early 1950's were on the edges of our seats too, but not because of the magic of Technicolor. Just because of the magic.

The first time I saw the film in color I was blown away by how much I'd missed. Not only was the movie so much more spectacular from a visua

l perspective, there were also great lines that you just miss if you're watching in black and white. For instance, when Dorothy and her entourage arrive in Oz they observe an unusual horse. Someone asks "What is it?" The answer is "A horse of a different color." In black and white it made no sense, but in color you could see the horse changing colors every few second. (Okay, so it's only a great line if you're a fan of puns...which I am.)

Have you noticed the Commons recently? It's not in black and white any more. It's a house of a different color. (Sorry, I just couldn't help myself.) We took advantage of our on-going siding replacement and energy efficiency project to seek input on color selections and to make a change. I think most of us find it a refreshing improvement over the old gray.

I find it a wonderful metaphor. Yachats is a colorful town with colorful and wonderfully talented people. It attracts other colorful people to entertain and enlighten us. The Commons is the most likely place for that rainbow of color to burst forth in profusion in the form of music, art, literature, lecture, or performance. It's often a problem solving forum for City government, non-profit, volunteer, and community groups where unleashed creativity paints away the black and white to reveal the colorful nuances of hidden solutions. The flat and dreary landscape of impasse gives way to the brilliance of solved problems. Suddenly we're not in Kansas anymore.

As you can imagine, there are days when being Mayor are more turbulent than others. Sometimes the storms of conflict gather strength and swirl around the City with unabated enthusiasm. Invariably though, once the winds have died down and we've worked through the problems together, we find that we're still, and happily, somewhere over the rainbow.

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441 Highway 101 N
Yachats OR 97498

(541) 547-3565
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There is my metaphor. I see it constantly in play.

Everyday those of us who are blessed to live here see the brilliant hues of diverse opinions and the multi-colored palate of cooperation blend together in an extraordinary creation of new adventure. It's powered by brains, courage and, most of all, heart. Have I mentioned what a great town this is?



Councilor's Corner **By Sandy Dunn, Councilor**

When Annette Howarth vacated her seat I applied for it because I believe I can lend a perspective that will benefit the current Council and fulfill my goal of giving back.

I was born in Tillamook, Oregon, raised in Portland, and graduated from Oregon State University in 1974 with a degree in Geography/Cartography. I retired from the Bureau of Land Management in Anchorage, Alaska after 31 years. I held various staff and supervisory positions including Cartographic Technician, Land Law Examiner, Realty Specialist, Team Development Trainer and I retired as the Alaska Administrative Officer and State Management Team Facilitator.

I bought my first property in Yachats in 1989 and retired here four years ago when I built a new home and joined my mother who has lived here 20 years. I have been President of the Yachats Ladies Club for the last 2 ½ years where I have coordinated the building renovation project and some of the fundraisers held to pay for the work.

Through my work with the Yachats Ladies Club and the massive fundraising we have done the last two years I have come to know many individuals and organizations in this area. This is the first time I have lived in a small town and experienced what it is like to be truly part of a community. I have gotten so much from this experience; I would like to assist by giving back my time and knowledge.



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Planning Commission **Approves Koho**

Planned Unit Development

By Larry Lewis, City Planner

On October 20, 2009 the Yachats Planning Commission approved the plan for redevelopment of the Shamrock Lodgettes property.

The proposed "Koho Planned Unit Development" includes a mix of 36 two and three bedroom townhomes. Substantial open-space will be retained. There will be a lodge with a small office, gathering room, spa (hot tub and sauna) but no dining. The property will continue to be managed with on-site staff and the grounds kept by a traditional home owners association. Subleasing as vacation rentals will be prohibited. The plan includes more parking spaces than required and a new landscape design to screen and enhance site character. The plan requires no variances from the City and all buildings will be at or below the 30' height limit.

The Planning Commission decision includes several conditions of approval that address the R-4 residential standards, open space, vehicular access, parking, utilities, archaeological resources, and final approval requirements.

I am available on Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. to answer further questions about this project at (541) 547-3565.



Public Works Department **By John McClintock, Director**

With winter coming it is a good idea to ensure all bare piping inside and outside of buildings is winterized. Each time the weather freezes any exposed water lines have the potential to freeze. There is a significant chance they will break during a freeze or break when they thaw. Both instances can cause serious leaks, possible water damage, plumbing costs, increased water bills, and an unnecessary demand on the City's water system.

The Public Works Department only checks meters once a month during meter reading or if specifically requested. Per Yachats Municipal Code, it is the owner's responsibility to maintain their side of the

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water meter, i.e., keeping their meter box free of debris and maintaining a functional hand valve. For further information about winterization call Public Works at (541) 547-3243.

YACHATS NEEDS YOU



The City of Yachats is seeking volunteers to fill positions on the following Commissions:

- ◆ Planning Commission
- ◆ Parks and Commons Commission
- ◆ Public Works & Streets Commission

For a complete description of the duties and requirements, please inquire at City Hall or log on to <http://www.ci.yachats.or.us> . Those interested can pick up a Volunteer Application at City Hall, 441 N. Hwy 101, Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m-4:30 p.m. (except holidays) or download one at <http://www.ci.yachats.or.us> .



Tsunami

Preparedness

By Frankie Petrick, YRFD Fire Chief

Once again we have been reminded about the potential of the force of nature to the west. As with every experience we endure we come away with greater knowledge. The event on the evening of the 29th of September turned out to be a minor one for us. We at Yachats Rural Fire District did our best to ensure the beaches were clear of any unknowing folks. We have approximately 18 miles of beaches to cover and it seemed to me to be a very good opportunity to remind folks about the definitions of the events that can come to us via the ocean. These definitions were provided by the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) in early 2008.

We recommend that all individuals who live in an inundation area plan for the unexpected:

- ❑ Be prepared by having a disaster kit
- ❑ Have “disaster buddy” on high ground who has storage you can use to store essentials ahead of time
- ❑ Buy a NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) radio
- ❑ Practice walking to your “safe” elevation at least twice a year
- ❑ Participate in any local drills.

If you feel an earthquake, duck, cover and hold during the shaking. Then move IMMEDIATELY to higher ground, at this time DOGAMI is recommending 60’.

A **Tsunami Warning** is issued when a potential tsunami with significant widespread inundation is imminent. Warnings alert the public that widespread dangerous coastal flooding accompanied by powerful currents is possible and may continue for several hours after arrival of the initial wave. Warnings also alert emergency management officials to take action for the entire tsunami hazard zone. Appropriate actions to be taken by local officials may include the evacuation of low-lying coastal areas and repositioning ships to deep waters when there is time to do so safely. Warnings may be updated, adjusted geographically, downgraded, or canceled. To provide the earliest possible alert initial warnings are normally based only on seismic information.

A **Tsunami Watch** is issued to alert emergency management officials and the public of an event that may later impact the watch area. The watch area may be upgraded to a warning or advisory, or canceled, based on updated information and analysis. Therefore emergency management officials and the public should prepare to take action. Watches are normally issued based on seismic information without confirmation that a destruction tsunami is underway.

A **Tsunami Advisory** is issued for the threat of a potential tsunami that may produce strong currents or waves dangerous to those in or near the water. Coastal regions historically prone to damage due to strong currents induced by tsunamis are at the

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greatest risk. The threat may continue for several hours after the arrival of the initial wave, but significant widespread inundation is not expected

for areas under an advisory. Appropriate actions to be taken by local officials may include closing beaches, evacuating harbors and marinas, and repositioning ships to deep waters when there is time to do so safely. Advisories are normally updated to continue the advisory, expand/contract affected areas, upgrade to a warning, or cancel the advisory.

A **Tsunami Information Statement** is issued to inform emergency management officials and the public that an earthquake has occurred, or that tsunami warning, watch or advisory has been issued for another section of the ocean. In most cases information statements are issued to indicate there is no threat of a destructive tsunami and to prevent unnecessary evacuations because the earthquake may have been felt in coastal areas. An information statement may, in appropriate situations, caution about the possibility of destructive local tsunamis. An Information Statement may be reissued with additional information, although normally these messages are not updated. However a Watch, Advisory, or Warning may be issued for the area, if necessary, after analysis and/or updated information becomes available.

Anyone needing further assistance planning their preparedness can contact us at (541) 547-3266.



Yachats Youth and Family Program By Debbie Jackson, Director

Yachats Food Pantry Update

Did you know the Yachats Food Pantry has grown?? The small pantry originated by the Yachats Youth & Family Activity Program's (YYFAP) teen group "Helping Hands" has grown into a true community effort. We've improved our space with the assistance of the City of Yachats, Friends of the Commons, Yachats Community Presbyterian and St. Luke's Episcopal Churches. The addition of a refrigerator makes it possible to

include perishable foods in addition to the canned and packaged foods we've carried all along. A small part of the food dropped off includes 183 pounds from St. Luke's in Waldport over the past month and a half. Local residents and businesses are also helping by providing food and money to stock the pantry. The Village Bean has been collecting tips on Tuesdays to help stock the pantry. To date, customers and employees have donated over \$1,000!

Over the course of the year, we have served a great variety of people. If you stop by on any given day, you may see a young mother with a toddler or two in tow. Her sack may contain some milk and cereal, a jar of peanut butter and some fresh fruit. She may bring in a bag of dried beans to put on the shelf because someone else can use it more readily than she can. Perhaps, you'll get a chance to visit with a middle-aged man who needs his food to be easy to heat over a fire and pop top lids work great for him. It's possible you'll have to encourage him to take a can of tuna or peanut butter since he feels he should leave those for children who may need it more than he does. What you'll definitely see is our community working together to help each other with dignity. Those who have more are sharing with those who have less. Several of our local residents have even been bringing in cat and dog food to help out our neighbors.

The Food Pantry is in the Yachats Commons and is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m. Donations may be taken directly to the pantry. Those who need food may access the pantry anytime during those hours.

The YYFAP Food Pantry is providing a way for people to help people and for our community to work together for the common goal of ending or alleviating hunger right here in our own back yard.

Check Out YYFAP's New Website and YouTube Channel

Finally The Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program is joining the 21st century with new ways of keeping in touch with everyone! YYFAP recently launched a new website, complete with a blog. The address remains the same: www.yachatsyouth.org. Please check it out next time you are on the computer and be sure to subscribe. The blog will be used to remind

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subscribers of special events, highlight the accomplishments of youth, and keep everyone up to date on our activities. While there, follow the links to information about positive youth development and YYFAP partners. You will also find our current calendar, newsletter, and our most recent annual

report. And don't forget the Helping Hands website and our YouTube channel. Prepare to be amazed!



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

Something new and unique has been added to the Yachats Public Library. The Yachats Seed Bank has been donated to the Friends of the Library and was installed in the lobby of the library during the first week of October. This depository comprises a display carousel stocked with packets of vegetable seeds, which are offered free to the public. Currently, it carries ten different kinds of seeds, all appropriate for fall planting. A log book is available so that gardeners can record information about successes and failures with the seeds. Plans for the seed bank include provision of various kinds of gardening literature, as well as guidebooks and cookbooks for native edible plants. Maggie Marshall, one of our library managers, has been compiling statistics for the Oregon Public Library Annual Report. Here are a few highlights:

Expenditures for print material \$8,687

Electronic materials \$600

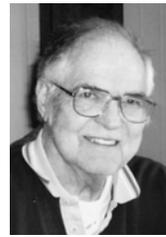
Operating \$6,699

Total (includes both budget & gifts) \$15,986

In the library collection are 12,692 cataloged print items, we added 1,707 items, 440 audio materials (70 added) and 470 video materials (155 added) with a total circulation for the fiscal year 16,699.

Last but by no means least, the library currently has 29 volunteers who worked a total of 2,141 hours.

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

Our community lost an enthusiastic supporter last month with the passing of longtime resident Jack Ewan. The loss was especially felt by the volunteers and board of the Little Log Church and Museum, where Jack served for more than 15 years as a volunteer docent, board member, and its treasurer.

As anyone who has "retired" to Yachats from a previous life knows, another life often begins anew here. After a career in advertising, public relations, and as a University of Oregon journalism professor, Jack and his wife, Ellie, bought their sweet little red house on the bay and settled in Yachats. Jack was drawn into community life in his new home and soon served on the Yachats Planning Commission and as an elder of the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church. Shortly after the restoration of the Little Log Church was completed in 1993, Jack assisted in the construction of a new volunteer board of directors. He was instrumental in the creation of its bylaws and in the formation of the mission statement and goals that we carry out today.

Board members will attest that working with Jack was not always easy. He was never reticent to state his opinion about how he felt things should be done, and was quick to point out concerns and details that might otherwise be overlooked. Jack was our gadfly and our bulldog. If something needed to happen, he'd bore and bore until it got done. That strong-willed determination carried him through some difficult times.

We appreciate the passion Jack had for his beloved Yachats and for the Little Log Church that fed his spirit and ours. Jack, we salute you!



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

My event in September at The Little Log Church and Museum went even

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better than I could have ever imagined. We didn't make our monetary goal, but my goal of having people enjoying use of the grounds certainly came true. In fact the Board of Directors is considering making it an annual event.

I hope you had one of the lunches that Julie Dutcher and Robbie Schoonover put together. They were

certainly very filling and convenient for a nice picnic at our table. I know if those two are involved in the food part, it will be great.

The two speakers were video taped and I believe both of those tapes will soon be available for purchase at The Little Log Church. I know they already have the one on the history of the Little Log Church. Our music was really just magical. The hammered dulcimer in the morning was played by Margo Setrow of Waldport. Many of you already know Richard Sharpless from the Drift Inn. He played in the afternoon with great garden music as well. Those two really rounded out the music in the garden part of the event.

There is one person I must thank who was a last minute contributor and really made the silent auction for us. That was Scott Copeland who is the son of Betty Johnston. He had his Native American art on show at Toad Hall until the end of October. I really hope you were able to take advantage of that. Some lucky buyer really got a bargain on "The Crab" painting he donated to our silent auction.

I am sorry if you didn't get any of the plants that were available for a donation. I will have more next year, if the Board does in fact, make this an annual event.

Right now I am very busy doing fall clean-up at The Little Log Church. It is time to cut back all the bulbs for winter, which is called "putting them to bed," and cut back all the herbaceous plants that are done photosynthesizing. Not a fun chore but one that needs to be done every year, it really makes the grounds look bare, but come spring, you will really be glad you took the time to do all that work.

I am going to end this article on a happy note. I was working on the grounds one day when a gentleman came up to me and advised me that it wasn't just humans that enjoy the grounds. He

often brings his pet turtle who seems to really enjoy it too.



Holiday Food Baskets for 2009

**By Tonner Hayes, SRL
President**

South Lincoln Resources (SLR) is in its 27th year of delivering Holiday Food Baskets to the children, families and seniors in Yachats area in addition to Five Rivers, Tidewater, Waldport and Seal Rock. Baskets are distributed once in November and once in December. SLR is an all volunteer 501(c)3 charitable corporation registered in Oregon with no paid positions or government funding. If you are interested in making a contribution, please send a check to South Lincoln Resources PO Box 1638, Waldport, OR 97394. If you would like your donation to go directly to the holiday food basket program please note that on your check otherwise your donation may be used to support other areas of the program such as emergency vouchers.

For more information about SLR and their other programs call them at (541) 563-2388 or log on to www.southlincolnresources.org

All donations are tax deductible and make a wonderful gift to the community or as a gift donation on behalf of someone else.



Yachats Umbrella Drill Team Volunteers Wanted **By Carl Miller, Coordinator**

The Yachats Umbrella Drill Team is seeking up to 50 members to join in the fun. We want to be well represented for marching in some bigger parades such as Newport, Waldport, Florence, and of course the Eugene Celebration. We practice on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. behind the Yachats Commons. In the event of rain we rehearse inside the gym if there is nothing else going on at the time.

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Join us now and enjoy the roar of the crowd. Have some fun and find out what good exercise it is as well. For more information call me at (541) 547-4350 or send me an e-mail to carlandkarl@peak.org



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