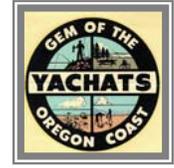




CITY OF YACHATS NEWSLETTER



JUNE 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

If you've been reading newspapers recently you'll know that there are a lot of cities in our region that are struggling with how to pay for replacing worn out utilities. Water systems, storm drains, sewer systems, roads, you name it, they are in need of major repair or replacement. They are old. They are on the verge of failure. I'm hearing stories of the last sections of wooden pipe being pulled from the ground as pieces of these systems are upgraded. That tells you how long ago many of these facilities were put in the ground. As a consequence those cities are attempting to figure out how to pay for wholesale replacement and upgrade of expensive facilities. Mostly they are looking at rapidly increasing rates for water and sewer bills. No one, and I mean no one, likes that idea. The public works employees that have to deliver the bad news about what a fix will cost don't like it. The city councils that have to make the decision about what to do and whom to charge don't like it. Those who have to cut back on other programs to help fund the projects don't like it. And it's a certainty that the rate payers aren't going to like it.

We are doing pretty well here in Yachats. We are a little ahead of the curve. We already bit the bullet on our new sewer plant (how long do we get to call it new?). Leaders who came before your current City Council made some tough decisions and put a funding plan for that plant into place that was far less hateful than what is developing in nearby cities. Our Public Works crew has been making constant progress on upgrading and meeting the needs of our systems as detailed in the city's water plan, sewer plan, and storm drain plans. Those plans were put together to look ahead and prepare for the city's needs before crises developed.

The fact is, though, that getting ahead of the needs isn't a one-time project. It is a constantly moving target. Our water plan needs updated even before we've completed

all the projects in it. There are needs that weren't anticipated when that document was put together. The drainage plan and the sewer plan are newer, but a time will come when they are old and the facilities they consider (even the "new" sewer plant) will be old too. Staying ahead of the game and avoiding big tickets hits on our rate payers means planning way into the future and taking steps to repair and improve even before repairs are needed.

As a consequence our Finance Committee, working in concert with the Public Works and Streets Commission, has been studying the capital improvement needs that are coming our way. They have been putting together schedules that anticipate the needs of not only our utilities (water, sewer, storm drains) but also our structures, programs and other facilities. What we have found is that, in spite of the fact that we are relatively well ahead of the game compared to other municipalities we still have some significant challenges ahead in order to stay even. We've put together a tentative ten year plan (which we are still refining) which includes options to address bringing city streets up to standard, water distribution line replacement, a potable water/fire reserve reservoir south of the Yachats River, water loops to improve efficiency and reliability, new water sources to be able to contend with diminished water supplies in our existing source due to climate change and/or watershed degradation, and to deal with the reality that even the "new" sewer plant isn't going to stay new forever. It is going to need funds in reserve to handle major maintenance eventually.

It's difficult to think big enough to capture all of the needs. We have undoubtedly missed a few. It gets more difficult when we start talking about how to pay for them. That brings us back to the part nobody likes. Stand by. There will be more to come on this topic as we get a clearer picture of the needs, a better time line on when those needs must be met, and a clearer game plan about how to proceed. Be encouraged that we're working on keeping surprises, and costs, to a minimum. But be aware that as far ahead of our neighbors as we

may be, there's probably no free lunch waiting for us. No one should be alarmed. We are, as I said, doing pretty well. But there are fairly big decisions ahead of us and all of us who have been engaged in this planning know that there needs to be significant public discussion before our ten year, or twenty year plan is finished.

In the meanwhile, our thanks are due to those dedicated volunteers on the Library Commission, the Parks and Commons Commission, the Little Log Church group, and others for providing forward thinking input into this effort. Mostly, though, thanks are due to the Finance Committee for doing the heavy lifting in this important effort.



Yachats Clean Sweep By Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

Bargain hunters take notice! Beginning Wednesday, June 20 through Saturday, June 23 the City of Yachats will hold its annual "Clean Sweep."

Wednesday, June 20 Yachats residents may place any **free** unwanted items (no household trash or hazardous materials) at the edge of the street next to the curb.

Thursday, June 21 Residents and friends are invited to cruise the city streets in search of "treasures" and take what they want from along the edge of the street.

Friday, June 22 Treasure hunters can continue to cruise the city streets in search of "gems" they may have missed the day before. Residents may bring any remaining unwanted items to the dumpsters set up behind the Commons.

Saturday, June 23 Residents may continue bringing unwanted items to the dumpsters until 5:00 p.m.

Special notes:

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

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

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

*NO household garbage or hazardous waste

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



Yachats Public Works Department

By John McClintock, Public Works Director

- The contractual documents from Oregon Water resources should arrive this month for signatures for the agreement to install the Yachats River Monitoring Device.
- The South Reservoir land acquisition title agreement is being drawn up by the City Planner.
- The USDA inspected the Water Treatment Plant last month and was impressed with the condition of the plant and how we are running it.
- The intern from Job Corps; Logan Phelps spent 6 weeks job shadowing at the Water and Waste Water Treatment Plant and plans to further his education for a possible future in Water and Waste Water Treatment.



Yachats Academy of Arts & Sciences

Donald Niskanen Chair

The Yachats Academy of Arts and Sciences is alive and well. We sponsored two very successful events last month. On May 5th, over 120 people were ferried to the Gerdemann Botanical Preserve for our "Invitation to Wander" event. Another 30 participants walked to the garden from their homes or nearby parking spaces. The weather cooperated and the blooms were glorious.

On May 11th, Dr. William Orr, retired Geology professor from the University of Oregon gave a presentation on "Biomimicry". The slides of ancient plant and animal life and their adaptations for survival predate many of our "modern" inventions. It was an extremely interesting presentation and Dr. Orr would like to return.

Our upcoming schedule includes a premier of members of the University Of Oregon Department Of Theatre Arts in an evening of "UO Plays the Beach", an evening of improvisational theatre. Children are most welcomed. The date is Saturday, June 23, 6:30 PM.

Saturday, July 28, All Day, "Triple Play" Our own Dave Baldwin has scheduled an all day event, which will include a Wiffle ball game in the sports field, a barbecue in the picnic shelter and two presentations in the Commons multipurpose room in the evening.

Other events for the year include:

July 21, Dr. Tom Kerns, "No Fracking Way" A discussion of the controversial oil extraction method, which many believe, is contaminating our aquifers.

For more information call 541-961-6695 or go to www.GoYachats.com



Yachats Trails Update

Yachats Trails Committee

By Wally Orchard & Lauralee Svendsgaard

If you do nothing else this month, treat yourself to something unique in all the world -- head out on a glorious day (sunny, rainy, foggy -- you choose) and savor the delights of being on one of our trails. Whether the 804 (purported to be the longest stretch of accessible trail on the Oregon Coast), the Amanda Trail, the public footpath at Gerdemann Botanical Preserve, or one of our neighboring U.S. Forest Service Trails, GET OUT -- for an hour or a day, and simply enjoy what you see, and hear, and smell and feel as you walk through some of the most wondrous habitat on earth.

The Yachats Trails Committee, its Trail Crew and YIPS have lots of wonderful community activities in store this summer. If you want to join a merry band of zany characters, please join us. No experience necessary. All are welcome. We have tools and gloves, and strongly encourage that even if you have limitations, there'll be something helpful you can do.

Following are our activities for the month of June, so far. For details, questions or to be added to our contact list, contact one of the Trails Committee Leaders listed at the end of this article.

- **June 2, Saturday** -- National Trails Day! The Yachats Trails Crew and friends will join U.S. Forest Service at 10am at Cape Perpetua for displays and a celebration of trails in Yachats and Cape Perpetua. The Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians and of the Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians will conduct a flute concert in the Amanda grotto (at the bridge) at 12 noon.
- **June 23, Saturday** -- YIPS (Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee) will meet for a fun-filled 3-hour work event from 10 am to 1pm, at the Prospect Garden (East 2nd & Prospect Streets). (Normally YIPS meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month, but because of scheduling conflicts, we're meeting on the 4th Saturday this month.)

- **July 4, Wednesday** -- La De Da! Think "zany" and help us make a showing in the Parade we can be proud of and hope it doesn't make it on Facebook!
- **July 6, Friday** -- The Annual Overleaf Lodge Ivy Pull. Details to follow.
- **July 22, Sunday** -- The Yachats Trails Committee's annual picnic at Bear Wind Mountain (Joanne's) from 2 to 6pm. Details will come later, but mark your calendars.

YIPS (Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee) News

When it comes to our more aggressive non-native plants, this is the time of year when all of them seem to overrun the Oregon coast -- broom, morning glory, Clematis vitalba, knotweed and blackberry. Don't let them get the better of you. Pull them up, roots and all, replace them with native and wildlife friendly plants and you will see them retreat. It is especially important remove the weeds before they set seed that will become next year's unwanted crop.

Some of our worst weeds are garden ornamentals that self-seed or easily propagate and then become a nuisance elsewhere. One such example is Spurge Laurel. Laurel had escaped from a nearby garden and numerous stands had sprung up in the adjacent forest. Springing into action, on Saturday, May 19th, the YIPS foray saw a dozen hardy Yachadians report for duty at the site of the invasion. Under the able supervision of Josh Lambert of the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, we pulled, dug, chopped, wrenched and grunted our way through heaps of laurel, as well as the odd bit of ivy and holly. We then triumphantly made our way to the Drift Inn and celebrated our small victory.

Following Saturday's YIPS event, Josh emailed Wally to say, "Your crew garnered great respect with Aaron and I that day. Our next priority is outlying populations in the adjacent forests. I would highlight in your outreach efforts that this is a concern species that we may have a really good impact on controlling if done in the next few years. Inform people how to removed them or have them give us a call. For the immediate future, reporting new plants to us would be a priority so that we can inventory them and contact landowners about removal.

However, unless it's a garden invasion, waiting till winter months to do control in the adjacent forest would best serve everyone due to the ease of spotting and moving about during that time."

June's "Weed of the Month" (WOM) is another ornamental that has gotten out of hand -- ivy, both English and Irish. Ivy originated in Europe and has no natural pests in North America. As a result it does far too well here. Ivy spreads quickly and takes over and destroys the entire landscape -- shrubs, walls and trees included. Once mature, it produces seeds that are readily

spread to other locations, creating new “ivy deserts” that are very difficult to eliminate or even control, and provides excellent habitat for rats.

Last year YIPS removed masses of ivy from the stone wall at Whale Park. The little bits of ivy root we were unable to get out of the ground will re-sprout, requiring our vigilance to help ensure it doesn't re-infest the wall and adjacent grounds again. Once we've gained control of the area we'll be able to plant colorful native and wildlife friendly plants.

Ivy is also entrenched on the 804 trail north of the Overleaf Lodge. The annual Ivy Pull hosted by the Overleaf Lodge has helped restore portions of the area to native dune plants. We'll be gathering again on Friday, July 6 to gain more ground in hopes of one day eliminating ivy from the 804.

How does the ivy in your garden grow? For more information about ivy, how to eliminate it and what habitat friendly plants could replace it, consult the Yachats Invasive Plants brochure (which includes a list of native and wildlife friendly plants to replace the invasives), and the WOM publications. The YIPS publications and other helpful links can be found on the website www.yachats.info, simply log on and follow the link.

For more information about the Yachats Trails Committee, its activities or to be added to the Committee's email list simply contact one of us via phone or email:

- Joanne Kittel, Leader, Development Committee & Amanda Trail at 541.547.3144 or jnkittel@peak.org
- David Lavrinets, Leader, Trails Crew at 541.547.5388 or dalavrinets@peak.org
- Wally Orchard, Leader, YIPS at 541.547. 5474 or worchard@peak.org
- Lauralee Svendsgaard, Chair, Yachats Trails Committee at 541.547.3640 or lsven@peak.org



Little Log Church and Museum

By Mary Crook, Events Coordinator

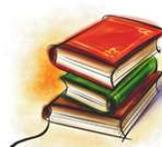
Something to Add to Your Knowledge Bank

We have opportunities to learn about local history outside the walls of the Little Log Church and Museum. Perhaps you have noticed a sign at the intersection of 2nd and Beach streets, near the parking lot of C&K Market. It says “Historical Marker”, however it isn't specific as to exactly where or what the marker is. Since I'm a history buff as well as a puzzle lover, I set out to find the mysterious item in question.

I found the very attractive interpretive sign at the state park at the foot of Second Street. It is visible from the parking lot if you face east, with your back to the observation deck. My guess is that many folks could miss seeing it because most people focus on the spectacular ocean view all along that curve of the road. But it's well worth a gander.

Placed there by the Oregon Travel Information Council with support from the City of Yachats, it is a multi-panel sign about settlement on the Central Coast. It includes very informative descriptions about Native American inhabitants before the white settlers arrived, the reservation years, as well as the logging industries, railroad and highway development, and other attractions that brought people to this part of the coast in the early 20th century. It is nicely illustrated with drawings and photographs.

Next time you're at the park, stop and check out this attractive and informative addition to our area. It's nice to share with visitors also.



Yachats Public Library

By Carolyn White

Library Strategic Plan

The Yachats Library invites patrons to help draft the Yachats Library 5 Year Strategic Plan. We are using the National Public Library Strategic Planning Process: analyzed demographic data, reviewed the last five years of library usage statistics, met with community services and partners to help identify community needs and engaged the library volunteers in defining services we want to stress for the next five years. Now we would like patrons to give their input and help us determine the action steps we need to take. There will be a community meeting at the Library, June 20th from 7-8:30 pm. If you can't join us for the meeting, you can comment on Facebook :Yachats Public Library Friends or email us at yachatspl@actionnet.net

We would really like to know what steps you want us to take; if there is cost and suggestions on how to fund it.

Here are our proposed priority service responses for the next five years:

(1) Connect to the Online World Public Internet Access: Residents will have high-speed access to the digital world with no unnecessary restrictions or fees to ensure that everyone can take advantage of the ever-growing resources and services available through the Internet. Typical Services and Programs in Libraries That Select this as a Priority: Provide public access computers and printers, provide high-speed and wireless access to the

internet, offer training on how to use databases and other on-line resources, access to e-books, etc.

(2) Stimulate imagination: Reading, viewing and listening for pleasure

Residents who want materials to enhance their leisure time will find what they want when and where they want them and will have the help they need to make choices from among the options. Typical Services and Programs in Libraries That Select this as a Priority: Provide a summer reading program for children, present several adult reading programs throughout the year, present programs on new books and offer author visits etc.

Thank you for taking the time to help strengthen this important community resource.



Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program

By Alice Beck, Executive Director

YYFAP Receives Two Grants for Programs

Yachats Youth and Families is the lucky recipient of two grants that will help us offer great summer programming. From Our Coastal Village Foundation we received \$9,760 that helped us to buy science curriculum for the preschool, add hours and has allowed us the opportunity to offer a summer “camp” program for preschool aged children. Lots of fun activities are planned. The “camp” will run June 18th to August 24th, M/W/F from 10:30 – 1:30 and is for children 4-6 yrs of age. Thanks to OCV, cost is only \$65 for the entire summer. (Some limited scholarships are available) Drop ins will also be welcome for \$10 per day in order to help meet the needs of visitors to our beautiful city. We already have 15 children registered for summer, so we send a great big thank you to OCV for their support!

The second grant is from The Ford Family Foundation and is for summer and fall Recreation Plus. This \$15,000 grant will allow us to hire an assistant for our school aged program, which is much needed. We are very excited to offer a super summer program starting June 25th for ages 6 and up. Program will run from June 25th to August 24th. Each week will carry a theme and we have lots of great fun in store for the kids. We are still in the planning stages, but some of the themes so far include: The Ocean and it’s Creatures, Pirate Week – Goonies Never Say Die!, Outdoor Adventure Camp, and more! We also have plans for guitar and swimming lessons this summer so stay tuned to our webpage, www.yachatsyouth.org or follow us on Facebook for updates. You can also call 541-547-4599 for more information.



GoYachats.com

By Andrea Scharf,
Marketing Director

When you stroll through town between June 1 and June 16, look for some amazing critters hanging in the trees, popping up in the wetlands behind the Commons, floating on the observation deck at the State Park. All of them have been made by local knitters to publicize World Wide Knitting in Public. Yachats is an official WWKIP site and on June 16, there will be knitters all over town knitting, teaching people how to knit, talking about knitting, laughing and having a good time.

YOU are invited to participate—all ages are welcome, any skill level (including none at all!) There will be three “official” stations--in front of the Commons, at the Ladies Club, and at the State Park—where you can get a WWKIP button, learn more about knitting and other fiber arts, find out what ‘frogging’ and ‘tinking’ mean to knitters, and buy a raffle ticket or two for a chance to win prizes, including several lovely hand-knitted items. WWKIP in Yachats takes place from 10 am to 2 pm, rain or shine. (IF it’s raining look for knitters inside or under umbrellas—they’re a hearty bunch!) Questions? Visit <http://www.wwkkipday.com> for more info about WWKIP or contact Andrea@GoYachats.com, 541 547 3092.

And if you haven’t seen the lovely knitted Shellphone Mermaid on display in City Hall, it’s worth a special trip. From her long blonde hair to her fishy fins, the Mermaid is entirely knitted by Birgitte in honor of The Little Mermaid of her native Denmark. That’s just a sample of the creative critters which will be displayed around town by the dedicated members of Yarn Over Yachats!



Duck Tickets On Sale Now!

It’s that wonderful time of year again when YYFAP adds to the July 4th fun with our annual Duck Race for Kids! We hope you will come join the fun on July 4th on the beautiful Yachats River at 2:30 pm. Prizes this year include an amazing hand blown vase from Ocean Beaches Glass, gift certificates from several local eateries, a bicycle, and lodging packages. Tickets are 1 for \$5 and 3 for \$10. They can be purchased at Raindogs, Yachats Visitor Center, Yachats Sunday Market, Chuck’s Video in Waldport and here at YYFAP. We thank everyone for your past support and hope you will buy lots of tickets this year!



Sunday June 17th



Yachats Farmers Market Open

The Yachats Farmers Market began its 20th season on May 13, 2012.

The market will continue to be open every Sunday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. through October outside the Yachats Commons.

The Yachats Farmers Market is an informal gathering place where residents and visitors alike can browse, shop, and visit neighbors and vendors in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. There are locally grown plants and produce and locally created crafts, all offered by the growers or craftsmen themselves. The Friends of the Yachats Commons sponsor the market. For more information, e-mail Peter Karassik, Manager at yachatsfarmersmarket@gmail.com.



Yachats Lunch Bunch

By Paul Niblock, Coordinator

The June luncheon will take place as usual at the Yachats Commons on the last Thursday in June, the 28th. Doors open at 11:30 and lunch is served at noon. The event is open to everyone 55 or over and there is a suggested donation of \$4. This is not only our Pre-July-Fourth, but also our Let's-Appreciate-Angell- Job-Corps Lunch. You see they will be on vacation (Oh, No!) and we will really miss their catering! Not to worry: our valiant volunteers are putting on the whole shebang. It will be a typical Fourth type fare: Hot dogs, Buns, Fixings, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Green Salad, 'Tater Chips, and a dessert yet to be argued over but it looks as if Brownies and Whipped Cream Topping are leading the pack. There will be fun and fare and entertainment. You will greet old friends and meet new ones. So get on out and come on down – to the Lunch Bunch!



UPDATE!

By: Leon Sterner, Commons Coordinator

As of the writing of this article, the sounds of construction are happening in the near background. Construction of the long awaited storage room has begun and work is in full swing. Stephen Lippincott Construction was awarded the bid and is working on the project. John McClintock agreed to oversee the progress as per the engineering specifications. Today the concrete

hole is being cut from the South wall of the MP room where a double door will be installed – which will open to the new storage area. Scheduled events have been cancelled or moved to accommodate the construction schedule and, according to Stephen, all goes well!

In anticipation of the storage project completion and in light of the added storage capacity it will lend, I convened a group of community members who have for some time expressed an interest in purchasing new – and more comfortable chairs for use at events at the Commons. More comfortable translates into 'more padding', that is, thicker cushions. This type of chair will require more storage space – and for this reason we thought it best to get the storage room issue resolved before looking into buying new chairs. The group is researching the chair options, soliciting community support from organizations that frequently use the Commons, and at funding opportunities. One of Us Productions has pledged \$2500 for the project!

Also new are two pieces of technical equipment. One is a cordless portable wireless sound system. This Fender "Passport" P-10W Wireless device is a speaker/amplifier that can be carried with the over the shoulder strap and has a wireless microphone. It will lend itself to outdoor public address situations – for instance at events like the 4th of July Duck Race, or events held in the Picnic Shelter. The device is powered by rechargeable batteries – so no power cord is needed while using – and the cordless microphone makes it a very 'handy' device. The second acquisition this last month is the dual-deck CD player for the sound system in the MP room. It replaces a unit that had served us very well over the years – and has weathered countless events and many, many users. The new unit seems to be of very good quality – and as far as such things go – seems to be user friendly. Groups like Exercise class, Zumba, Salsa Class, Lunch bunch are some of the regular users of the CD player. And the installation came just in nick of time for the upcoming YYFAP talent show! Thanks to John Deriberprey for trying to fix the old unit and determining it's "needs to be replaced" status – and for installing our new unit. John is helpful with our technical issues – especially as per computers and audio equipment on an ongoing basis. Be sure to say thanks when you see him!