



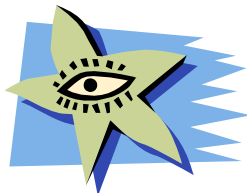
# NEWSLETTER



**CITY OF YACHATS**

**MAY 2010**

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



## **Mayor's Message** by Ron Brean, Mayor

### **No Headaches**

*I don't take the movies seriously, and anyone who*

*does is in for a headache* —Bette Davis

On the 10th of April, *The Ghoul from the Tidal Pool* was released upon the world. Burgundy Featherkile's spoof on a 1950's-style horror film premiered at the Yachats International Film Festival—a bit of a spoof itself. The gala event was complete with wine, tuxedos, red carpets (or at least a series of reddish throw rugs), costumes, and appearances by all the stars. There wasn't a headache in the house. Although there was serious work undertaken to pull this full-length film together and serious effort to perform and serious commitment by a cast of bunches, no one took the movie itself seriously. As a consequence it was a success.

It was great fun seeing so many of our neighbors on the silver screen with some of the City staff, some of the Council, young people, not so young people, business people and their businesses, working folks, tourists, and locations that we all know well. If you haven't had a chance to see it, check the schedule on [www.GoYachats.com](http://www.GoYachats.com) for future showings and go see it. You won't want to miss it.

The day after "The Ghoul" premiere was the annual YYFAP Talent Show. Extraordinary talent filled the big screen only hours before the curtain went up on a roster of talent no town as small as ours has a right to expect. Yet we've come to expect it and we weren't disappointed. The stage at the Commons featured performances from polka dancing to a dog act. That's right, polka *and* a dog act! There was

singing, dancing, joking, a puppet show featuring Webkinz (which is apparently sort of a cyber-beanie

baby...kinda sorta), and playing of various musical instruments. Like the performances in the movie, it wasn't always strictly professional. It was, however like the movie, all good.

It has been said that the Mayor's and the City Council's job is to handle the headaches for the rest of the Yachatians. That may be true. After all, we're not making a movie but rather attempting to make a livable town. The Council is certainly the place that problems come for resolution. Sometimes resolution is easy and sometimes it is, in fact, a bit of a headache. However, those of us who serve on the Council consider it a privilege to play some small role in making our town the unique and marvelous gem that it is. Whatever talents we bring to the task are but our contribution to the talent show. The benefits of being part of such a vibrant cast of players are an effective analgesic against the few and minor headaches that come our way. We take our roles seriously, but we try not to take ourselves too seriously.

It is, in my experience, a rare and wondrous thing when people can be serious about having fun and can have fun while handling serious business. There are all kinds of adages meant to advise the pursuit of this spirit: "Stop and smell the roses"; "Life's too short"; and "You only go around once". Too often we get hung up on the task in front of us—the challenge, the headache. As Ferris Bueller said (not to stray too far from the movie theme) "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." But "life" lives in Yachats. If you miss it here, you're not trying very hard.

**City of Yachats**  
**PO Box 345**  
**441 Highway 101 N**  
**Yachats OR 97498**

**(541) 547-3565**  
**fax: (541) 547-3063**  
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**City Council News**  
by Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder

- The City Council adopted Ordinance No. 290 at the

April meeting amending the Nuisance Section of the Municipal Code to add wording related to “stalled” construction sites. The amendment will provide the City with a tool to deal with construction sites that have become unsightly due to debris, mud, standing water, overgrown vegetation, open ditches, or uneven bare ground either through an abatement procedure or through the Yachats Municipal Court system.

- After inspection by the Public Works Director and recommendation by the Public Works & Streets Commission, the City Council dedicated Windsong Street as a city street and it was accepted for City maintenance.
- A prefabricated outdoor notice board for the Amanda Trail was approved for purchase by the City Council. The sign will provide a temporary solution until the Trails Committee can design and construct a custom interpretive sign for the trail. The Confederated Tribes will provide the wording for that sign.
- City Council approved the conceptual plan for the trail between the southeast corner of the Gerdemann Preserve and the Fistera Garden development. In addition, they allocated funds for the Environmental Impact Study required, contingent upon approval of the concept by the U.S. Forest Service. The trail, which will cross Forest Service land, will provide a connection between the City’s trail system and the 804 Trail.



**Public Works Department**

by John McClintock, Director

If you haven’t already seen a somewhat different-looking piece of City equipment around town, you will.

With the Public Works and Streets Committee’s recommendation and the City Council’s permission, the Public Works Department purchased a second-hand Vac-Con® catch basin sewer cleaner truck.

This piece of equipment is used to clean and unclog sewer mains and storm drain culverts with a high pressure “vac jet.” With up to 3000 p.s.i. available, it is able to scour and clean pipes. The vacuum portion of the truck is used to suction out sewer manholes and storm water catch basins. The vacuum system has an eight-yard debris container that allows operators to stay in the field longer without removing debris, and the “jet vac” onboard has almost 1000 gallons of water that at full power lasts about 20 minutes.

The Public Works Department is pleased to have such a valuable tool; we feel it should serve the City well.



**Volunteers Still Needed for Task Force**

If I were faced with an emergency evacuation from my home I would:

**Choice #1** Stay in my home with my humans and tuck in my tail and hope we are not harmed.

**Choice #2** Go to the human shelter and beg them to let me in with my owners even though no pets are allowed in people shelters.

**Choice #3** Beg my humans (before I even have to answer this question) to join the Domestic Animal Disaster Preparedness Task Force where they can help the City plan ahead for my safety, get free Dog and Cat First Aid/CPR and FEMA training, and help the community get educated and prepared for a disaster.

Any humans in the greater Yachats area who care about animal welfare should contact the City at (541) 547-3565 or e-mail [debrah@ci.yachats.or.us](mailto:debrah@ci.yachats.or.us) to offer their help.

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**Tsunami Siren Test  
Schedule Changes**  
by Frankie Petrick, YRFPD  
Fire Chief

In order to avoid confusion, the Oregon Legislature has adopted a new rule for standardizing the schedule for testing tsunami warning signals. For those of us who are familiar with the weekly or monthly tests in South Lincoln County, the day of the week and the time will change to meet the new standard.

The new test schedule will commence on Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Both Seal Rock Fire Protection District and the Central Oregon Coast Fire and Rescue District 7 (Waldport) will test each of their sirens Wednesday at 11 a.m. Yachats Rural Fire Protection District will test their siren monthly on the first Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m.

If you have any questions about this matter or wish to obtain free disaster/emergency preparedness training or to purchase related supplies call YRFPD at (541) 547-3266.



**The American Red  
Cross**  
by Ceci Pratt, Lincoln  
District Program & Services  
Coordinator

As one of the two American Red Cross representatives attending the City of Yachats Emergency Planning Committee meeting last month, I must say overall I'm rather impressed with the level of preparedness Yachats is at. Upon Larry Nixon's request, Disaster Services Volunteer Jerry Zilis and I met with committee members to discuss renewing the shelter facility agreement between the City of Yachats and the American Red Cross.

It's refreshing to see communities active and involved in preparedness on behalf of their residents and tourists. I had been in contact with Debrah Edwards regarding the proactive task force being coordinated to prepare owners and shelter domestic animals in the event of a disaster and am

certain her hard work will become a great model for our whole county to implement.

Yachats as a whole will benefit from the efforts of a few, but it should be the responsibility of every individual to be prepared. The Lincoln District has approximately 20 volunteers at present so it is imperative that every household build a kit, make a plan and stay informed. Folks can log on to [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or call the Newport Red Cross office at (541) 265-7182 to learn about the many opportunities to become active as a volunteer or to learn how to help others.



**Volunteer Spotlight**  
by Karl H. Christianson,  
Director LLCM

Volunteers are the backbone of our community. If it weren't for the many hours that so many of our friends and neighbors contribute to the day to day operation of our village, we would cease to be the unique gem that we are. I have been asked to be the first to write a column that will honor some of our preeminent volunteers. So let's start with Mary Crook in her own words:

*Shortly after I moved to Yachats in 1993, I decided to waste no time becoming established in my new community. I marched into the Yachats library and asked about volunteer opportunities. The next week I was sitting next to then mayor and library volunteer Nancy Reynolds, who patiently showed me how to check out and shelve library books. It was a great day, especially since her husband, Dick, brought us each a scoop of ice cream.*

*The next week I was walking my black lab, Hooper, along Third Street, and was stopped by Isabel Prescott, who was trimming shrubs by the front entrance of the Little Log Church and Museum. After a cordial chat she said "do you want to volunteer here?" I was quickly reeled-in. The church had just been reopened after a lengthy renovation and was ready for visitors. During my shifts I educated myself about Yachats history by perusing the scrapbooks and files stored in the cabinets.*

*For a few years I also volunteered at the visitor center operated by the Chamber of Commerce. I found it fun to talk about Yachats and its environs, and brag about our little paradise. I still coordinate "Yachats Night" at the annual Christmas open*

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house at Heceta Head Lighthouse and have for the last eleven years.

I am very involved with Little Log Church activities and serve on the Board of Directors as Secretary and as Events and Volunteer Coordinator. I have really enjoyed facilitating the annual marriage vow ceremonies each Valentines Day.

After nine years as a library commissioner I passed the baton to new blood. I still work occasionally as a library assistant when needed, although my knees protest when I try to get to the bottom shelves.

At times being a volunteer is a challenge, but it is the essence of the gift of giving. Thank you Mary; you are indeed a blessing in our community.



### **Friends of the Yachats Commons**

**Leon Sterner, Commons User Support Manager**

It may have been a quiet week in Lake Woebegone, but it certainly wasn't a quiet weekend at the Commons—nope, quite the contrary. The weekend that began on Friday, April 9th was when Bob Welch from the Register Guard stood beneath the basketball hoop in the multipurpose room and delivered an entertaining evening to a nicely numbered audience. He spoke eloquently and with good humor of his generational history here in our area, of how his family's children, grandchildren and great grand children have all had beginnings here. After reading from several of his many novels he answered questions from the audience about his novels, journalism, his columns, and the lessons he's learned along the way.

On the following Saturday the same room where Bob Welch's stories still echoed there was a Ghoulish scene. Netting and stars appeared and the room morphed into an underwater world. A capacity crowd flowed into the room as two silhouetted musicians played and sang familiar tunes. The guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and libations while readying themselves to witness the first ever offering of the Yachats International Film Festival—*The Ghoul from the Tide Pool*. The film's director, local Burgundy Featherkile, was actually

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seen wandering among the crowd and as the rumored story goes was dressed to the nines. Our technical wizard, Greg Scott, did his magic with sound and projected light that filled the auditorium and the audience witnessed yet another new beginning here in our little town by the sea.

The next day the same room as above, transformed and realigned itself for yet another over-the-top event—the Annual YYFAP Talent Show. People of all ages performed in a line up that drew applause and appreciation as the audience witnessed an impressive variety of talents. For those who could not attend DVD's are available, thanks to Milo Graamans, by calling YYFAP at (541) 547-4599.

And so it was, that recent weekend at the Commons. Chairs and tables and volunteers moved in and around one another faster than the bags of popcorn move around on free Movie Night to unfold what was anything and everything but a quiet weekend at the commons here in our fair little town.



### **Yachats Lunch Bunch** **By Paul Niblock, Coordinator**

Our May luncheon will take place as usual in the Yachats Commons multipurpose room, on the last Thursday of the month, May 27, 2010 (doors open at 11:30 a.m., lunch at noon). The luncheon is open to everyone 55 or older with a suggested donation of \$4.

The menu will feature BBQ chicken, baked mac'n' cheese; green salad, rolls & butter; followed by assorted cookies all prepared and served by the Angell Job Corps culinary students. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your neighbors and friends and enjoy the superb live entertainment that Will Williams has been arranging for us every month. Don't forget to mark your calendars. Hope to see you there!



### **Yachats Public Library** **by Marie Green, Chair Library Committee**

**(541) 547-3565  
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Kudos to Burgundy Featherkile on her successful entry in the very first Yachats International Film Festival; many scenes were shot on location at the Yachats Public Library and some scenes featured some of our volunteers and loyal patrons. *The Ghoul from the Tidal Pool* DVD will be available shortly here at the library for checkout.

For those of you interested in gardening, the rack containing free seed packets is stocked and ready for you to pick up and to try out. Some are heirloom seeds, some are shared by local gardeners and all should do well here on the coast.

When at the library, be sure to look at the rotating art exhibit maintained by the Yachats Art Guild. All of the works displayed are available for sale.

A big "thanks" to those of you who kindly donate their gently-read books to us. The "for sale" bookcase that was emptied for the Library's annual book sale is once again filling up with donations.

New titles are being added weekly to the library's collection and your suggestions are always welcome. Just tell the librarian on duty the title and author or check the sheet for recent acquisitions.

Lastly, we are looking for someone with a passion for kids and books to organize and run a summer reading program. If you are interested, please let us know by calling (541) 547-3741.



### **Little Log Church and Museum**

**by Mary Crook, Events Coordinator**

One Tuesday last month volunteer Dan Dolan reported he greeted a visitor who happened to be a descendant of Sophie Mitchell, who ran the Yachats Post Office and grocery in the early 1900s. Our visitor enjoyed touring the museum and was able to identify several people from some of our old photos.

This stirred my own curiosity about post office history in Yachats, so decided to research our post offices over the years. I found some articles from the 1987 South Lincoln County News, written by Cornelia Lovejoy, who was a regular correspondent for the newspaper as well as a volunteer at the Log

Church. She reported on the plans for a big centennial celebration commemorating the opening of the first post office in our little town.

Did you know that the post office was originally known as the Ocean View Post Office and established on November 5, 1897? The name was changed to Yachats in 1917 when Lincoln County was formed. Until the Pacific Coast Highway was built in the mid-1930s, mail was carried via mail coaches down the beach from Waldport as the tide permitted.

The Little Log Church has photos of the mail coaches "beating the tide," as well as framed pictures of past Yachats post offices. Previous locations of post offices include a building just up Yachats River Road (now a private residence), and the space where Mr. Bill's is now.

It was fun perusing the old scrapbooks. If you are curious about what was happening in Yachats in the last century, you are invited to do the same.



### **In the Garden**

**by Jodi Sones, Landscape Coordinator**

As I write this I can still see the forsythia, at the Little Log Church, is still in bloom. That always makes it feel like spring to me. Of course those will probably be all done by the time you read this, but I am sure other wonderful things will be blooming soon.

I've done quite a bit of cleanup around the grounds and have made a kind of topiary out of the little boxwood hedge in front of the museum windows. They were beginning to take over so I had to do something. I decided to try and make them look like 3 orbs. They have a bit of growing to do yet, but are shaping up quite nicely already.

I haven't done a "crow fact" for awhile, so thought I'd throw one in here. Actually, this is more of a generic bird fact. Did you know that birds have been found here on the coast that have died of starvation even though their stomachs were full? It is true. Humans, unknowingly, were feeding the poor birds people food and since it was not what their system required, they died of malnutrition.

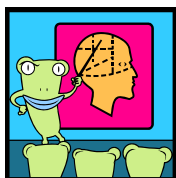
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Even though the birds appear to beg for the food, unless it is part of their regular diet, it will do them no good at all. In fact birds that are fed large amounts of bread get a condition called "angle wing" that renders them unable to fly for the rest of their lives.

If you enjoy gardening and can spare 10 to 12 hours a month then I would really like to talk to you. Please give me a call between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, or e-mail me anytime at [jodean@peak.org](mailto:jodean@peak.org).

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED MAY 31 IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY.



**Yachats Youth and Family Program**  
by Bee Bui, RecPLUS Team Leader

**Brain Party**

Please come join us as we celebrate the release of "Changing Brains" with a DVD release party Friday, May 21, 2010 starting at 6 p.m. at the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church. "Changing Brains" is a documentary developed by Dr. Neville and her team at the Brain Development Lab at the University of Oregon and explores how the brain is shaped by our personal experiences. Admission is free and there will be plenty of fun brain activities for all ages, great door prizes, and a panel discussion with the "brain scientists."

**Teen Tuesday**

"Teen Tuesday" is open to those 6th grade and up and occurs on the third Tuesday of every month from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Yachats Commons basement. Each session we will provide dinner and engaging activities tailored for teens, such as guest speakers, thought-provoking movies, and more. Registration is not required but donations are welcome. Upcoming dates are: 5/18; 6/15; and 7/20.

**Indoor Park**

Indoor Park is a playgroup for parents and children ages 0-5 lead by YYFAP staff member, Cicely Bernard and her son, Sawyer. The group meets every Wednesday from 1:30 p.m.-3 p.m. in room 4 at the Yachats Commons.

Starting this spring, the Indoor Park will be outdoors as much as possible to take advantage of the fresh

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air, playground, exploring the garden, walking on some nearby trails, and surveying the natural world around us with our senses.

The monthly "Moms and Tots Nature Walk" portion of the Indoor Park held its first walk of the season on April 28th. The group toured the Gerdemann Botanical Preserve. Donations of \$1 per child are requested and each parent is responsible for supervising and cleaning up after their own child(ren).

**Indoor Park for Dogs**

All non-aggressive, vaccinated, and energetic dogs are invited to play and make new "paw pals" on Saturday, May 29, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. There will be raffle prizes and free goodie bags for all participants provided by Marie's Paw Spa of Yachats. The event will begin in the Yachats Commons basement. Weather permitting we may head out to the Yachats Commons field. Food donations to help support YYFAP programs are appreciated.

**YYFAP Closed on Memorial Day**

YYFAP will be closed on Monday, May 31, 2010 in observance of Memorial Day. All programs will resume on Tuesday, June 1, 2010.

For more information about YYFAP programs call (541) 547-4599, e-mail [BeeBui@peak.org](mailto:BeeBui@peak.org), or log on to [www.yachatsyouth.org](http://www.yachatsyouth.org) or join us on [www.facebook.com/YYFAP](http://www.facebook.com/YYFAP).



**Previews of Coming Attractions**  
by Andrea Scharf, Marketing Director

In light of the positive response we received from the *Kanikapila* (Hawaiian-style sing along) back in March, the Friends of the Yachats Commons and I decided to host another Hawaiian weekend next February or March in Yachats. If anyone has connections with Hawaiian musicians or dancers, or know people who can teach Hawaiian crafts, or if you're just interested in helping in some way, please let me know at (541) 547-3092.

And even though it seems absurd to think about December when the trees are just starting to leaf out and we're all looking forward to summer sun, it really isn't too early. In the past, Yachats has had

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all kinds of fun events to brighten that cold dark period between Thanksgiving and the end of the year. I would like to put together a working group to start planning everything from lights to carols, performances, craft workshops, and food of course! If you are interested, or if you have some ideas, or remember things from previous years that you'd like to see again, give me a call, meanwhile, Happy Spring!

**City Hall does not have any information about the 2010 Census. Please call (866) 872-6868 or log on to [www.2010Census.gov](http://www.2010Census.gov)**

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