



NOVEMBER 2020

# NEWSLETTER

New Physical Address: 276 W. 6th STREET | Mailing Address: PO Box 345 YACHATS, OR 97498

PH: 541-547-3565/800-735-2900 TDD

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—FRIDAY: 9AM-4PM (Closed 12N-1P)

## Yachats City Council Vision

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.

Adopted: April 2, 2009



## Good to Know:

### City Planner (Holly Hamilton)

 Tues/Weds at 9A-4P

 [planner@yachatsmail.org](mailto:planner@yachatsmail.org)

### Code Enforcement (Tony or Jake)

 Thurs/Fri or Fri/Sat at 9A-4P

 Use the [Report a Concern](#) feature on the front page of the City website or 541.265.1963

## Mayor's Message

By: [W John Moore](#)



At long last, our city offices should be moved into their "new" space in the 501 building by the time you are reading this. Phone, data and internet service are all scheduled to be transferred the last three days of October, and the move completed before November 1. This will finally provide our employees a COVID-compliant office space, creating a more productive and safe work environment.

The vast majority of the funds spent to get the building ready for occupancy were spent to cover long-deferred maintenance, preserving a city asset for many more years to come. The building now has a new HVAC system, replacing the failing unit that was not working efficiently, providing lower utility costs. Very soon, you will see a new metal roof installed, and the color is the closest match that could be found to meet the overall Commons color scheme envisioned by the Council years ago. The interior walls have been repainted, and new floor covering has been installed throughout the building. Every choice kept safety and disinfection in mind with the new requirements imposed by COVID. Thankfully, due to our staff's efforts, the majority of project improvements were covered by a \$91,000 grant from the Federal government.

Staff members are now adequately spread out, making for a much safer environment for our employees and residents alike. For those of you who have missed not being able to talk with Kimmie when you make your payments, you will soon be able to do that again by dropping them off using the drive-up window on the north side of the building. Of course, you can continue to drop them in the box in front of the Commons as well. While we have a few more things to do before we call this project complete – the project will be completed on time, and on budget. Kudos to our City Manager and her staff for all their hard work in making this Council goal come to life for our community. I think you will be pleased with the look and feel of the office once you are able to see it when the COVID restrictions ease up a bit.

The Parks and Commons commission will be having public discussions about the future use of the space in the Commons, previously occupied by our city offices. This space will be put to good community use as soon as it is deemed safe to allow public use of the facility again.

This is a nice improvement not only for our staff and residents who need to conduct city business, but it will also allow the former office space to become more suitable Commons community space. I look forward to seeing the rest of our projects that are underway come to completion in the year ahead. This coming year will have plenty of challenges, although I'm sure we all hope it will be a much better year than 2020.

Stay healthy, everyone.

The City website: [WWW.YACHATSORÉGON.ORG](http://WWW.YACHATSORÉGON.ORG)

## How do you get the Yachats Public Works' guys to smile? Well, finally, get them a vac truck!



Photo (Left to Right): Russ Roberts, Jeremy Mabe and Kevin Kentta

### Why this is a big deal:

The current vac truck is antiquated, unsafe, and unreliable. Since the purchase of a new truck was out of the City's funding parameters, we needed to replace it with a high-quality *used* truck. The search was cumbersome and lengthy, but it was worth waiting as it even came under budget (~\$19,000).

This piece of equipment will become Public Works' most valuable asset, not only in purchased cost but also in labor efficiencies. Imagine a task to pothole for underground utilities that would typically take two workers about 2-3 hours is now cut to less than one hour with the Vac truck.

The ability to clean and clear sewer main lines fast and efficiently will limit residents' and businesses' disruption.

### PUBLIC WORKS

*heads up*

Yachats Public Works will be cleaning culverts  
in November and part of December.

If you notice the culvert under your driveway  
that may be partially or filled in with dirt, please  
notify Public Works through the Report a  
Concern button on the City website.

Thank you!

## The Yachats Visitor Center

By: James Kerti

The Yachats Visitor Center thanks the Farmers Market for welcoming us this summer and fall. It was wonderful to get to have mask-adorned, socially distanced interactions with locals and visitors at the market this year.

The Visitor Center is open on an appointment-only basis in the Yachats Commons. Brochures and maps are available at the window on the north side.

You can also find us on Facebook now at [Facebook.com/DiscoverYachats](https://www.facebook.com/DiscoverYachats) or type Discover Yachats into the search box. Check us out on there for lots of great stories and photos from our community!



We're looking forward to launching our new website soon and continuing to work with businesses and community groups as we head into the winter season.



## Yachats Youth Program Receives Preschool Promise Grant

By: Alice Becker

Yachats Youth & Family Activities is excited to announce that we have received a Preschool Promise grant from The State of Oregon Early Learning Division.

With this grant we will be able to offer free preschool for three and four-year-olds whose parents meet income guidelines. Preschool will begin online and move to in-person classroom



learning later in the year if it is safe to do so.

Registration must be completed through the Linn Benton Early Learning Hub. Interest

forms can be obtained by emailing

[preschoolpromise@linnbenton.edu](mailto:preschoolpromise@linnbenton.edu)

For more information, you can also visit our Facebook Page or our website at [www.yachatsyouth.org](http://www.yachatsyouth.org)

## Yachats Pantry

By Pam Luderitz

The pantry is going very well thanks to all our wonderful volunteers and donors.

We have some new shelving thanks to South Lincoln Resources, Johnni Prince and Dave Cowden. The pantry looks great and much more organized so a big round of appreciation to Johnni,

Dave, and SLR. Thanks also to Jim Finlayson and Dave for finishing the reorganization process.

For those of you who are unaware the food pantry is in the *Yachats Community Presbyterian Church* and is open every *Monday, Wednesday, and Friday except Holidays from 11am to 1pm.*

Donations can be dropped off during those times.

Volunteers are always welcome to host. If you are interested just call Pam at [541.547.3493](tel:541.547.3493).

Thank you all and Happy Thanksgiving!

## Yachats Trails

By: Jan Brown

If you had seen all the yellow-vested Trails and YIPS! crew members around town this past month, you might have thought there were 100 people out there working rather than maybe a fifth of that. For these teams, social distancing continues to be a catalyst for working more efficiently and enabling team member to work on the tasks they enjoy most.

Some of our most recent maintenance, repair and improvement tasks have included work on the Ya'Xaik trail, the Commons wetlands and boardwalk, Gerdemann Botanic Preserve and Public Footpath, Upper Prospect trail and park, and Peace Pole Park, among others.

Much work has gone into the Amanda Trail as well, with a focus on enlarging,

cleaning up and restoring the grotto. Work has also been done on the Windy Way highway crossing and the Charlies Grove area.



In last month's newsletter we shared plans for new plantings of native shrubs between 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and King Street. Most, if not all, of the new plantings are now in the ground and ready for the coming rains to quench their thirst over the winter.

We also mentioned an ongoing project to provide updated trails map brochures as well as several larger display maps designed to help people explore and understand the diverse system of trails throughout Yachats -- and what visitors will see when they traverse those trails. The brochures with updated content are being regularly distributed to hotels, local merchants, and other visitor information locations. The first two large display maps are in final stages of preparation and should be installed by May 2021.

Watch for more info on timing and locations to come!

*Photo by Loren Dickenson*

The annual  
Solstice Bonfire,  
sponsored yearly by YAAS  
(Yachats Academy of Arts  
and Sciences)  
will not be  
held this year.

Hopefully, conditions  
will allow the continuation  
of this event in 2021.



CITY OF YACHATS

**HOME OWNERS!**  
**VACATION RENTAL  
LOTTERY/WAITLIST**

**NEW LOTTERY DATE:  
FRIDAY 11/6 @ 12N**

DRAWING TO BE HELD AT COMMONS PAVILION AND VIA ZOOM

SEE UPCOMING EVENTS AT

[WWW.YACHATSOREGON.ORG](http://WWW.YACHATSOREGON.ORG)

FOR MORE DETAILS

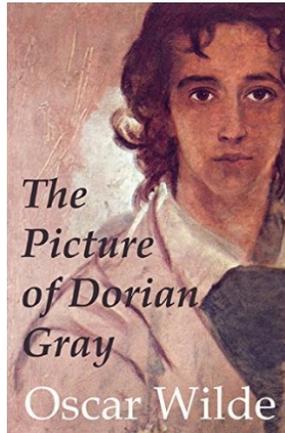
## Yachats Public Library

By: Rebecca Bloch

What are some of your favorite book memories? I remember how excited I was when it was time for the Scholastic Book Sale! I would spend, what in my memory, seemed like hours pouring over the descriptions of each book and marking which ones I wanted, when Mom and Dad told me to winnow down the list to 1 or 2, oh the agony of deciding which books would be cut from the list! More hours spent feeling like I was leaving behind what could have become my best friend.

I remember seeing my Dad read *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and begging him to let me read it. He wouldn't let me, insisting that with my imagination, it would cause me nightmares. I finally got to read it, and yes, I have my Dad's copy now, safely shelved as its fragile condition warrants.

As you may know, many of our library's collection comes from community donations. Each of those donations started as a



desire; to learn, be entertained, escape life's worries, and laugh. Once the book has served its purpose, it is graciously given to our library for others to experience.

Libraries have evolved over time to become much more than a place to browse and check out books. You can read newspapers and magazines, check out books on CD or in some libraries, eBooks. They are also technology centers, providing residents and visitors with access to the Internet for a myriad

of reasons, both personal and business. Book clubs and various other groups make use of libraries, and in our community, the library is often the place you run into a friend or neighbor and take a moment to catch up. These days our library has, out of necessity, scaled back to providing books and other resources through the reservation system.

At the same time, we are looking to the

future as we determine how best our library can serve its patrons. We thank you for your participation in the survey and for attending the meetings with the library consultant.

As the days grow shorter, take some time to peruse the catalog and while away the hours getting to know a new best friend in book form.



## Kids Contest: We have a winner!

The City Council created this Kids Contest to name the one-block street between the back of City Hall and the Park.

Twenty submissions were received by the September 30 deadline. Councilors Mary Ellen O'Shaughnessey and Max Glenn were asked to plan and conduct the contest. A committee chaired by Tracy Diane Crews, Ron Urban, Sandy White, and Ariana Carlson chose "*La De Da Lane*" which was submitted by three kids as the winner with "Ollie Lane" submitted by two other kids as runner-up.

Councilor Glenn arranged for each of the three winners to receive a \$50 cash prize and Councilor O'Shaughnessey worked

with Marc Taylor at the *Rock Shop* to provide special gifts to each of the kids making a submission.

**The Winners Are:** La De Da Lane -- Sylvie Hood, age 11.5, Alex Burse, age 14, Olive Achinson, age 12. Reason given "because that's where we gather for the La De Da parade."

**The runner-up:** Ollie Lane — Adelaide Geary, age 9 and Noah Lauck, age 5.

City Council voted on October 21 to name the street *La De Da Lane*.

## YACHATS KIDS:



## CONTEST WINNER: La De Da Lane!

\*Special thanks to Heather Taylor for designing the flyer

# From the Desk of the City Manager

By: Shannon Beaucaire

## Relocation of City Hall

The final pieces are coming together, and we have finally been able to establish a date of October 30, 2020 to relocate City Hall. As with any move, there are always inconveniences. We are sorry if you had challenges in reaching us October 28-30 as phones and internet were transferred. There are still some final items that will need to be done, but the bulk of the relocation work is complete.

We are pleased that we were able to secure \$91,300 in grant funding to assist us in protecting the city building

with roof and heating system replacement.

The current budget for the project is as follows:



501 Highway 101

Project Items	Budgeted Amount	Actual Cost	Difference
Heating	\$18,000	\$16,782	\$1,218 under
Painting	\$8,000	\$4,696	\$3,304 under
Flooring	\$20,000	\$22,341.50	\$2,341.50 over
Wiring/Electrical	\$10,000		
Roof	\$70,000	\$88,900.00	\$18,900 over
Windows/Doors	\$5,000		
Staircase/walls	\$20,000		
Contingency	\$15,000		

## City Financial Updates

Over the last few days I have been asked about our current budget situation so I thought it best to share this snapshot with everybody.

If you wish more detail, our annual budget is published every year on the City website for transparency in the [Document Center](#) under Budget.

As you know, at the end of every fiscal year (July 1-June 30) we go through a state required independent audit of our financials. In addition to the required documentation, I pulled a snapshot of data from the Go Yachats system where our businesses currently file their quarterly (TRT) lodging and (F&B) food and

beverage taxes to assess how the pandemic is impacting those important City revenues.

I wanted to share the current numbers from the Go Yachats system. July-Sept taxes are not due until the end of October however, in speaking with our hotel

and restaurant operators they are fairing a little better than they expected over the summer months. The good news is that the conservative budget we adopted back in July is on point for the moment. Yes, we have been impacted by the health pandemic with reduced revenues, but not as significantly as the budget committee anticipated. While we are not out of the woods yet, I thought we could all use some positive news right now.

F&B Comparison			
	2019	2020	Difference
Jan-Mar	\$ 75,315.92	\$ 79,144.92	3,829.00
Apr-June	\$ 70,232.17	\$ 25,925.00	(44,307.17)
<b>Totals</b>	\$ 145,548.09	\$ 105,069.92	(40,478.17)
TRT Comparison			
	2019	2020	Difference
Jan-Mar	\$ 193,061.53	\$ 200,957.59	7,896.06
Apr-June	\$ 159,243.53	\$ 133,694.47	(25,549.06)
<b>Totals</b>	\$ 352,305.06	\$ 334,652.06	(17,653.00)

## Paving Project Between Ballfield and Skatepark (Driftwood)

This street is now *La De Da Lane* thanks to the kids naming contest. Thank you to all the children who participated, as well as, the individuals who reviewed the entries and made the recommendations to the City Council.

Last month, I updated you on the modified paving project scope of work. I did

work with ODOT to determine if the modified scope of work met the grant requirements. I am pleased to say that it does, preserving the \$100,000 grant funding that will protect the city's water lines and address safety issues with the crumbling roadway.

Our engineers are revising the drawings. We expect that revised drawings will come to the City Council in November/December and that we can go out to bid in January/February for spring paving which will also meet the grant's timeline requirement.

## From the Desk of the City Manager (cont.)

By: Shannon Beaucaire

In October the Council reviewed a sidewalk ordinance recommended by our insurance carrier, CIS. The Council wanted the public to have more information before consideration of adoption.

The following article is from CIS.

### *Defective Sidewalk Conditions: Who is at Fault?*

*Liability between municipalities and landowners for injuries sustained by pedestrians due to defective sidewalk conditions has been the subject of lawsuits and City ordinance enactments for years. In Oregon, municipalities generally own the sidewalks adjacent to private property owners' land, but most City ordinances provides that the landowners are responsible for maintaining the sidewalk fronting their property in a safe and usable manner.*

*Most City ordinances provide that a municipality may assess landowners for the cost the municipality incurs to maintain sidewalks if the landowner fails to perform his/her duty. Although these ordinances provide that abutting landowners are responsible for sidewalk maintenance and may be assessed the cost of repairs, they may not be liable for injuries or damages to third persons who use the sidewalk, unless the municipality enacts an ordinance that addresses liability. A Plaintiff who trips and falls on a City sidewalk typically sues the City and the adjacent property owner. Absent an ordinance that clearly and unambiguously transfers liability to the adjoining property the courts have typically held that the property owner owed no legal duty at all to the injured plaintiff.*

*In adopting a sidewalk liability ordinance that addresses these issues the City is requiring the persons in the best position to discover a sidewalk defect (the property owner) to act to protect the public. Cities are empowered under the Oregon Constitution to enact ordinances and regulations deemed necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and that such City ordinance are a permissible exercise of that power. Without such an ordinance, landowners would have no incentive to maintain adjacent sidewalks in a safe manner.*

*CIS has found that the homeowners' carriers for adjacent property owners will rarely accept a Cities tender of defense to the adjacent property owner unless the City has a liability shifting ordinance with indemnity provisions. In these cases, the City is left to jointly defend the case with the property owner incurring unnecessary costs.*

*Therefore, CIS strongly encourages as a best practice recommendation, Cities provide indemnification and defend the city language within their sidewalk ordinances that hold property owners responsible for maintaining the sidewalk fronting their property, as a responsibility and incentive to protect the overall health and safety of the greater community served.*

## From the Desk of the City Manager (cont.)

By: Shannon Beaucaire

### **Oceanview Drive Project**

Understandably, the pandemic and the fires have impacted the work on this project with Lincoln County. We met with the County on October 14<sup>th</sup> to see how we can restart the progress on this project. Unfortunately, the grant for the transportation system study that was to help cohesively address traffic, curb, and other safety issues was unsuccessful so the city will not be proceeding with that study.

Therefore, the City Council discussed on October 23<sup>rd</sup> setting up public input meetings to discuss directionality of Oceanview drive, truck traffic on those roads, and erosion concerns on Oceanview drive. Please check the website for when those meeting dates were set.

I heard the concern about driving new posts for the guardrail into the already sensitive bluff. I am exploring alternative possible options to proceeding with the new posts. Additionally, one of the main things to come out of the meeting is to develop a comprehensive plan/package of Oceanview drive improvements so that the County can present it to the mitigation fund parties for approval. I will work with the planner and project lead to pull together a draft plan with the various pieces and then bring that forward for confirmation and input.

Other next steps are:

- Finalize easements and schedule meetings with impacted property owners where the road goes over their property.
- Explore options that the public can consider and discuss for public input on directionality, park improvements, and striping.
- Work with planner and project

lead to pull together all pieces to develop a comprehensive plan - to confirm with the community - for work with the mitigation funds.

- Planner is confirming fence ownership on properties connecting Aqua Vista and Marine. Work with property owners off Aqua Vista to address fencing/easement work. Contact contractor based upon outcome of conversations and research.

Conduct property sale (Aqua Vista to Marine lots) at beginning of 2021.

### **Graffiti**

There have been tags on City signs, barricades, and power stations. We have been 1) photographing and reporting to the Sheriff's Department, and 2) removing as they are discovered as best practices requires to reduce "ownership" of tagged property. We have asked Newport signs if there is a coating we can put on signs to make clean up easier.

### **Project Tracking**

We are developing a template, based upon another City's CIP tracking, to foster a more detailed tracking of project history, funding, and development. An example can be seen in the **City Project Updates** under the **Government** tab on the City website. See Vac Truck project here: <https://www.yachatsoregon.org/382/Vac-Truck>

For information on additional city happenings like Code Enforcement/Community request tracking, Planning, and Public Works information, please see the City Manager's Monthly Report and also the Financial Report in the City website's **Document Center** under **Reports**.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

## Fats, Oil, and Grease can accumulate in your system

By: Tony Bour

It is that time of the year when we see a substantial increase in grease in the wastewater collection system and at the wastewater treatment facility. Grease causes operational problems in sewer laterals, sewer mains, sewage pumping stations, and at the treatment plant.

*Section 8.08.040 Paragraph "C" of Chapter 8.08 of the City's Municipal Code states that "no person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any water or waste containing fats, wax, grease, or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 mg/l or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between Thirty-two (32) and one hundred and fifty (150) degrees."*

Grease traps must be cleaned at least once every week during the summer and not less than twice a month during the winter. A record of when the device was cleaned must be kept and copy must be made available to the City upon request. Grease entering the sewer collection system increases the cost of treating the sewage. It is also the cause of severe blockages of the main sewer lines forcing raw, untreated sewer into homes and businesses.



Bags and containers are available for purchase at City Hall for \$2 for 3 bags or \$5 for container and 2 bags (exact change only please)

# What to Expect at the New City Hall

By: Heather Hoen

We here at the City are excited to announce our move to the 501 building as the new City Hall offices!

The new location of our offices will allow for a more functional work environment to better serve you the Community of Yachats.

- ◆ Shannon Beaucaire, City Manager, will have the front corner offices where she can administrate City business and have space to meet with community members safely, staff, Councilors, and outside contractors safely within the COVID-19 mandate
- ◆ Kimmie Jackson, Deputy Recorder, will be where the drive-through teller window is. She will be able to receive utility payments through the drawer for safe contactless transactions, or just for your convenience of not having to get out of your car. The best part is she will see your smiling faces, and you can see hers. There is an intercom so you will be able to speak to each other.
- ◆ Holly Hamilton, City Contract Planner, will have a larger space to meet citizens and contractors in need of her services.

Best of all, you will see that Community Services Coordinator, Code Enforcement, RARE Associate and even the Lead Water Operator are all centralized to better serve the Community. There is plenty of seating space and extra desk for the Mayor and Council. When we eventually open to the public, you will see a large receiving desk (ADA compliant) with a large shield where Anita Sites will greet you and assist with your questions.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we make this transition. More details to come!



New Physical Location of City Hall: 276 W. 6th Street

# November 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 <i>City Council Work Session @ 930AM</i>  <i>Emergency Preparedness @ 2PM</i>	6	7
8	9	10 <i>Public Works &amp; Streets Commission @ 2PM</i>	11 <b>CITY HALL CLOSED</b>  <i>Veterans DAY</i>	12	13	14
15	16	17 <i>Planning Commission Work Session and Regular @ 2PM/3PM</i>	18 <i>Finance Committee @ 10AM</i>  <i>City Council Regular Session @ 2PM</i>	19 <i>Parks &amp; Commons Commission @ 2PM</i>	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 <b>CITY HALL CLOSED</b> <b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b>	27 	28
29	30					

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Having issues logging into Zoom? Call us at 541.547.3565



To Attend the Zoom meetings, go to [www.YachatsOregon.org](http://www.YachatsOregon.org) and scroll down to **UPCOMING EVENTS** And click the Calendar event you are interested in.

As changes can occur, subscribe to **NOTIFY ME** for meeting changes and Agenda/Meeting Material availability