



JUNE 2021

NEWSLETTER



Physical Address: 501 HWY 101 N | 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)

Mayor's Message

By: [Leslie Vaaler](#)

Once again, we have staff transitions.

- Interim City Manager Lee Elliott's last day on the job is June 3. City Planner and longstanding Yachats resident Katherine Guenther has agreed to step into the position. Katherine has been employed part-time as the City's planner since March. She will continue her planning work. I expect the City will advertise the permanent City Manager position in June.
- Heather Hoen is leaving her employment as Community Services Coordinator. Lee, Katherine, and I are among the many who value Heather's contributions highly. However, Heather was offered a different position that she judges to work better for her at this time, and I respect her choice. I am delighted that Heather plans to stay active in our community and that she has indicated a willingness to consult with Katherine. I hope you will express your appreciation to Heather when you next see her, perhaps at the Farmers Market where she has joined Blythe's team as manager.
- Oregon Cascade West Council of Governments (COG), along with contract employee Janet Cline, have provided contracted finance services since 2019. COG's services will end on June 4. In the short-term, the City has made arrangements for finance services to be provided by Yachats resident Tom Lauritzen, along with Janet. Tom is a retired accountant who has previously provided services for the city. The city

will be working to determine an appropriate staffing model, and I would be happy to hear from locals and others who have relevant experience and a possible interest in providing services going forth.

In updates to previously reported news,

- Council modified the plan for delineator posts on the striping on Ocean View between 2nd Street and 7th Street, increasing the distance between markers from 5 feet to 10 feet. We expect the delineator posts to be three feet high.
- The lighting ordinance received the required affirmative vote for it to be adopted.

At our May 19 meeting, Council was alerted to drought conditions—currently moderate in most of Lincoln County, but severe in South County—and very low stream flows. I encourage everyone to conserve water.

The budget must be adopted in June for the City to have continued spending authority. This is a multi-step process, and I thank the Budget Committee members for their hard work in May. Final discussion and approval is slated for Council's June 3 meeting after public comments have been heard.

Your City Council will be discussing the desired composition of a housing task force "to seek and identify avenues to address the lack of affordable housing

for moderate to low-income citizens."

Please share your suggestions. I would love to hear from interested citizens. More generally, I would like to keep a Mayor's list of people who have expressed



a willingness to volunteer, along with their areas of interest.

For our city, many things are in progress. So, this month, I will share an in-progress soft-pastel portrait I have been working on—a self-portrait of me, half a lifetime ago!

Be well, and enjoy our wonderful village!

Build a “Go-Bag” - 3 Days or 2 Weeks Ready?

By: Tom Fisher

The May newsletter included information regarding what steps to take **IMMEDIATELY** in the event of an earthquake. **HOWEVER, WHAT DO YOU DO AFTER SURVIVING AN EARTHQUAKE?**

A large Cascadia Subduction event (earthquake of magnitude 9.0 or greater), and resulting tsunami, could leave whole communities isolated for an extended period. Roads and bridges could become impassable. Powerlines and water lines could be damaged. Supplies of food and fuel could become limited. Rescue agencies and first responders will be limited to focusing upon the injured and most vulnerable. In this worst-case scenario, individuals will have to depend upon themselves and each other in the community.



EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT – 3 DAYS

Many of you may already have prepared an emergency supply kit

(or ‘Go-Bag’), stocked with enough non-perishable food, water, and other essential items sufficient to survive a disaster for 72 hours.

These kits can also contain standard preparedness items such as *flashlights, gloves, hand-crank radios, trash bags, first-aid kit, a whistle, masks, duct tape, can opener, matches, and a mess kit.*

If you live in or are visiting a coastal location which may experience tsunamis, your go bag for tsunamis should be readily accessible to grab (and include an evac. map) as you will likely evacuate on foot.

A three-day emergency preparation

kit may be sufficient to get you through a power outage, winter storm, or short-term evacuation. But, after surviving a major earthquake and potentially an accompanying tsunami, it could take up to two weeks or more for help to reach some areas.

Emergency Managers now are suggesting that individuals be prepared to be on their own without help for up to two weeks.

Being 2 Weeks Ready may take more than 2 weeks!

Building an emergency preparedness kit might seem time consuming and expensive. You need not create your 2 week emergency supply all at once. Take your time and gather



your supplies over an extended period. Red Cross has developed a Dis-

aster Preparedness Calendar to assist in planning for building your emergency kit over time. You can view the calendar by going online:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/CityDocuments/red-cross-preparedness-calendar.pdf>

Don't Forget Children, Seniors, Pets, Special Needs:

Everyone has different dietary and medical needs. There is no ONE way to plan for two weeks' supply in case of a disaster. Depending upon the makeup of your household (whether it includes children, seniors, or pets), you may need to consider additional supplies.

Other Items To Consider For Emergency Preparation:

- 1) Blankets or sleeping bag
- 2) Tent and tarps
- 3) Cotton or hemp rope (50 feet)
- 4) Jacket to protect you from the rain and/or cold
- 5) Candles and waterproof matches or a lighter
- 6) Soap or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- 7) Toothpaste/toothbrushes
- 8) Pre-moistened towelettes/baby wipes
- 9) Scissors
- 10) Axe, shovel, hammer, screwdriver
- 11) Pocket knife
- 12) Pen and paper
- 13) Supply of prescription medicines
- 14) Non-prescription medications: pain relievers, anti-diarrhea medication, antacids, or laxatives
- 15) Prescription eyeglasses and contact lens solution
- 16) Hearing aids and batteries
- 17) Infant formula, bottles, diapers, wipes
- 18) Pet food, extra water, collar with ID tag,
- 19) Books, games, puzzles, or other activities

For information and tips on ways you can prepare for and recover from a natural disaster, you can go online to the City website:

yachatsoregon.org/153/emergency-preparedness

Yachats Trails – YIPS

By: Jan Brown

It has been a busy and productive winter and spring for the Trails and YIPS! (Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee) crews. With an average of 18-22 participants per work sessions on the first and third Saturdays of each month, many projects, large and small, are moving forward. We are currently in the process of assessing each trail and prioritizing what needs to be done for each.

One extremely popular project has been the addition of four new interpretive signs, along with updated maps, that give walkers a broader perspective and understanding of the areas they are traversing. It's a rare day that you don't see people stopping, pointing, reading and conversing as they learn more about the magic of each of these varied trail segments. You can find the signs on the path between Aqua Vista Loop Drive and Marine Drive, along Ocean View Drive to the State Park, at the west end of the Gerdemann Public Path and at the south end of Yachats Ocean Road.

Some initial thoughts are being shared on how signage could help hikers more easily navigate between the Overleaf / Fireside area and the Ya'Xaik Trail. In the meantime, here's a brief update on just a few other activities in various stages of evaluation, planning or development.

Prospect Trail and Garden – Work continues to expand the beauty (and safety) of the garden and the trail. A dedicated work session in May

provided great progress. If you haven't visited the garden and the trail in a while, now is the perfect time!

Amanda Trail – Crews have been working on the Amanda gathering area to clear and improve additional standing and seating areas. These cleared areas will provide a better view of the Amanda statue in anticipation of future special events. Crews are also working to clear and prepare the area for construction of the new suspension bridge scheduled to start on October 1. Yay!

Walkway Project – Planning for the Walkway project, located at the Southeast end of Oceanview Drive, continues to progress. The project team appreciates the great support from the Parks and Commons Commission and the City Council. At its May 15 meeting, the Council authorized the project's design consultant to produce conceptual drawings for two walkway construction alternatives.

YIPS!

As Wally, our enthusiastic and supremely knowledgeable YIPS! Leader, has noted before, Spring is the very best time to destroy weeds before they run rampant. To help you identify and tackle these intruders, Wally has posted the flier "Yachats Most Wanted – Dead" online.



Go to yachats Trails.org and choose the "Weeds in Yachats" tab for complete information.

See You Next Year?

While we will not be celebrating National Trails Day (the first Saturday in June) in the usual fashion of group service projects this year, we hope that day will come again soon. Until then, please take time to enjoy all the beauty of the trails in our own back yards.

Reminder from Code Enforcement

By: Tony Bour

Hello to all the good People of Yachats,

Tony here, your friendly Code Enforcement Officer, reaching out to you. I am writing this to remind you of the excellent weather around the corner, and with good weather, you get **Vegetation Growth**. With Covid-19 keeping us home, you have lots of time to maintain your property. Yachats is a beautiful community, so let's all do our part to keep it this way. I have added some entries of the city ordinance for vegetation for you. If you want to read the whole ordinance, you can find it at the City website <http://www.qcode.us/codes/yachats/>.

I hope all of you stay safe and be well.

Section 5.08.110 Noxious and invasive vegetation.

An invasive vegetation competitive with, and destructive to, native vegetation and desired landscape and garden plants; No owner or person in charge of property shall allow the uncontrolled growth and accumulation of dead or dormant weeds, brush, high grass, scotch broom, gorse, blackberries, or pampas grass to become a fire hazard.

Such vegetation shall be removed or eliminated before July 1st of each year

Any actual costs incurred by the City in enforcing this section, including, but not limited to, summary or other abatement costs pursuant to subsections B and G of this section, shall become a lien against the property and perfected and recorded as such according to State law. (Ord. 341, 2016; Ord. 283, 2009; Ord. 244, 2004; Ord. 221, 2001)

Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program

By: Ms. Patricia



We are excited to announce that we have hired 2 new staff members. Jodie Dalby has been selected as our new Lead Preschool Teacher. She has been a wonderful

asset this school year as our assistant teacher and we are pleased to have her move up to lead our preschool program.

We also welcome Stephanie Burnett as our new program coordinator. She will be working with the director to support the after-school program, summer camps, and special events as well as fundraising. Stephanie has worked as an education assistant for Lincoln County School District, and has worked with youth in a variety of other capacities.

We are now looking to hire a new assistant preschool teacher for this summer and next

school year. This is a fulltime, year-round position. Please check our website at yachatsyouth.org for more information.

We are a Preschool Promise provider and offer free preschool to families that meet income guidelines. We are planning in-person preschool this fall. If you are interested in enrolling your 3- or 4-year-old child, please email us at yfap-kids@gmail.com. We will be happy to answer questions and put your child on the list.

When enrollment opens for summer and fall programs, we will contact you with additional information.

As summer approaches, we are also working to develop in-person summer programs for preschool and school aged students. We are working closely with the city to plan for the use of indoor and outdoor spaces for small group, activities

this summer, as well as what options are available for next school year's preschool and Rec Plus (afterschool) programs. We will make additional announcements regarding upcoming programs once we have more information and a plan in place.

Thank you all for your patience and support!



 POLLY PLUMB PRODUCTIONS

Presents

A Free Music Event

SUMMER SOLSTICE SHUFFLE

Sunday, June 20, 2021
Music from 1:00 – 5:00 PM
Yachats Commons Pavilion

Food & Beer available for purchase prepared by Drift Inn.
Free popcorn!

Bands include-

Barbara Lee & Franki T.	1:00 PM
June Rushing Quartet	2:15 PM
Weird Science	3:30 PM

Bring your own lawn chair and let down your hair!

Public Works & Streets Commission Message

By: Linn West

The City of Yachats gives you the unique opportunity to participate in the process that provides for the public safety for our citizens. Our Mayor, Leslie Vaaler, eloquently wrote of this Commission in her Message in the May Newsletter. As she indicated you do not have to be an engineer or have experience in street or other construction or even know much about it.

What you need to have is interest in how our community, your neighborhood, moves forward tomorrow. Primarily you need common sense to help make decisions. You will absorb some education and information from other commissioners and especially from our Water & Sewer Leads: *Rick McClung & Dave Buckwald* respectively.

All of us on the Commission are continuing to learn each month. We don't already know how things operate or need to be done. We ask questions and find out and assist the best we can in determining a direction best for the Community.

Give it some thought. We need additional people to help us keep the Community looking forward.

If you have questions I will be glad to try to answer them, or contact anyone on the Commission, listed on the City website.

Contact Linn West at: linnarchspec@gmail.com)

Yachats Public Library

By: Susan Walsleben

As I went by the church on my daily walk to town, I recognized three children playing out front. They were members of the after-school "read aloud" group. After seeing them, I realized how much I missed reading to them every other Wednesday. I love reading stories to children. My goal has always been to engage them in the story and to inspire them to love reading as much as I do.

Even though I've been able to order a few good children's books during the shutdown, I miss researching and reading about new books that are available to order.

This past year has been strange and challenging for everyone. Not having access to our beloved library has been one of the challenges.

I'm hopeful that very soon things will change and the library will open up. Then I can once again read to and interact with the children and begin to order more children's literature. I can't wait!



Something Big is Coming to the Wastewater Treatment Plant

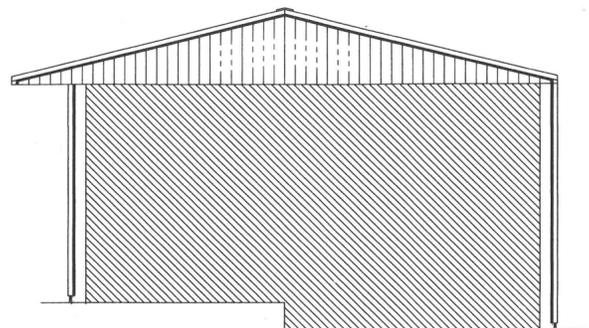
By: Dave Buckwald

In mid-June to early July, construction of a 34 feet wide, 48 feet long, and 23 feet tall pole building will finally begin on the West side of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The primary purpose of the building is to provide the ability to process treated biosolids whenever necessary, regardless of weather conditions. Biosolids are currently processed only during dry days, which are not so frequent in the winter months.

The new building will also provide much-needed cover for some of Public Works' larger pieces of equipment which are at the mercy of our marine climate.

The structure will be located next to the biosolids processing building and extend towards the Yachats Public Library to the original fence line.



*For Illustrative Purpose Only:
Pole Building extension is fully open on one side to easily store large machinery*

Yachats Pantry

By: Pamela Luderitz

Our Food Pantry is open **Monday to Friday from 11am to 1pm**. We will be open five days a week at least through June.

We all fall on hard times and we want you to know that the Pantry is open to everyone. We do not ask questions or want any verification as to where you live. We are here to help our neighbors and friends.

We have a great selection of foods, fresh and canned. We still see a need as we slowly reopen our village. Some jobs will never return and some will slowly return. We will continue to offer assistance to all.

Thank you to the donors and the volunteers.



A **water audit**, similar to an energy audit, is the method of quantifying all the flows of water in a system to understand its usage, reduce losses and improve water conservation.

Water Audit April 2021

Gallons of Water Produced

Water Plant	4,476,300
Total	4,476,300

Gallons of Accounted for Water

Reservoir +/- Gallons	312,495
Waterline Flushing	19,000
Water Sold	3,799,900
Total	4,131,395

Final Water Report

Water Loss Efficiency	92%
Unaccounted Water per Month	344,905
Unaccounted Water per Minute	8

Parks and Commons

By: Dawn Keller

Question: Why isn't the Commons open yet?

Answer: We do not have the personnel to do it; we will need people on-site at all times.

Problem:

This is making us all cranky and frustrated.

Solution:

Establish an amazing, hospitable, big-hearted team of community volunteers trained to do all the extra things we will need. This is not just for the Commons, but wherever there is a need for any event or a gathering!

Say hello to the **CAN OPENERS**.

The Can Openers are part of the Yachats Area Community Collaborative, which is dedicated to creating and empowering the most vibrant, diverse, and wonderful community life possible in our little corner of the world. But we are going to have to work together to make this happen for one another. So, if you want to play ping pong in the Commons, then volunteer to watch the door so the yoga class can happen. And if you are a yogi, then help set up chairs in the multipurpose room for a meeting, etc. For now, a majority of what we will be doing involves letting people in, sitting around while things are happening, and then checking them out. If we are successful, as time goes by, we will add more complexity to our system, scheduling, and availability. We are, after all, building the infrastructure for our new normal. The more volunteers we have, the more things CAN OPEN, and the more great stuff we will have going on!

So, please consider becoming a CAN OPENER! Email us at yachatsareacomcollaborative@gmail.com, join the Yachats Area Community Collaborative Group on Facebook, or feel free to contact Dawn Keller (541-305-6785) about your availability or with any questions.

Together, we CAN build the community we want to be!

CITY HALL 

Friendly Reminder

- Drive-Thru is Open but please be patient as we could be on a call or on a Zoom meeting
- There is a Secured Drop Box at City Hall Drive-Thru but we also check the lockbox at Yachats Commons
- Please make sure you write the Account Number, Property Address, or Tax/License note on your checks





ENSURING THE SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY

Soft Opening Announcement

Thank you for your patience as we navigate through this global pandemic.

Our priority is the safety of our community. We are excited to announce the soft-opening of Yachats Commons beginning Monday, May 24th.

We thank you for your cooperation.

WHAT IS OPEN?	PROTOCOL TO FOLLOW	HEALTH & SAFETY
<p>MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM</p> <p>Beginning Monday 05/24 at Noon Reservations for Classes will be Open</p> <p>Classes to be held M-F from 9-4</p>	<p>Class leader is responsible for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Size • Getting Keys at City Hall • Tidying Up • Social Distancing • Mask Enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Classes are limited • All Other Rooms are not available • Bathrooms will be open • Daily Cleaning will be done after hours

As this situation is on-going and changes can occur, please call City Hall @ 541.547.3565 or Email CityHall@yachatsmail.org

A NEW ADVENTURE AWAITS FOR THE CITY MANAGER DOG PRO TEM

SAFE & HAPPY TRAVELS OSCAR!

You've made your mark here now and it's on to the next!
 Thank you and Good luck to you and Lee!



*Wardrobe provided by Bette Perman

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Parks & Commons Commission Meeting @ 2PM	2	3 City Council Work Session and Regular Meeting @ 930A Emergency Prepared- ness Committee @ 2PM	4	5
6	7	8 Public Works & Streets Commission @ 2PM	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Planning Commis- sion Work Session and Regular Meeting @2PM/3PM	16 Finance Committee Meeting @ 10AM City Council Regular Meeting @ 2PM	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

For Events, please go to the City website:
YachatsOregon.Org



Need Help? Have Questions?
Just call us at 541.547.3565



To Attend the Zoom meetings, go to 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

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