

# YACHATS YOUTH & FAMILY ACTIVITIES PROGRAM



NEWSLETTER

February 2011

## Money Matters

**A message from Stacy Smith, president of the YYFAP Board of Directors**

We believe YYFAP is important to the families who use it, and the community that supports it. But as we begin this third year of economic recession, YYFAP finds itself in a tough spot. For two years now, we have managed to maintain all our great programs at full capacity. We have done this even though all our sources of income have declined. We take our job of fiscal responsibility very seriously. With few signs of economic recovery, the board has decided to make some changes.

- 1) For the rest of this school year, YYFAP will be closed on school breaks and holidays, including in-service days.
- 2) Rec PLUS fees will be collected monthly instead of quarterly. Fees will be assessed on a sliding scale. Every parent is expected to contribute. If cash is too tight, we will accept food or volunteer time.
- 3) We are stepping up our fundraising activities this spring.

In addition to making these immediate adjustments, the board is considering additional changes beginning in July 2011. These may include program cuts.

**We need your help.** If you use a program - please pay your fees. If you are a donor, please consider sponsoring someone who can't afford fees. To everyone- we need volunteers - kids, teens, adults to help with programs, office tasks, and to help with fundraising. Just recently a parent group formed to help raise money for Preschool. They had a bakesale and are planning a chili cook-off. This attitude of, "How can I help?", is what we all need to get through these times together. Hats off to them! If you would like to help with fundraising call me at 541-547-3410.



## ParentTalk coming to Yachats

Coming soon, local mom and Early Childhood Educator, Kelly Everfree, will be leading discussions

about the joys and difficulties of parenting. Here is an opportunity to ask some questions about parenting and listen as she shares her knowledge and experience. (Her website is [www.peacethroughparenting.org](http://www.peacethroughparenting.org)) Time and place have yet to be determined. Watch the newspaper and our website [www.yapkids.org](http://www.yapkids.org) for more information on time and place.

## Zumba# Fitness

*Mondays and Wednesdays*

*Yachats Commons*

*6-7 PM*

*New Session Starts March 7*

*For 6 weeks (Mar 7 - April 13)*

*\$8 drop-in*

*\$5 advance (10 class punch card)*

## Yachats Tree House is Finally Done!

In 2004 the Yachats Community Planning Committee asked local children and youth for ideas in planning the Yachats Community Park. The number one suggestion was for a tree house. The Helping Hands youth group from the Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program took on the task, made a plan and a model, and started the search for an engineer to draw the final plans.

Because tree houses are not standardized structures, most engineers were unwilling to participate. Finally, a firm specializing in tree houses agreed to work with us. The engineer made a trip to Yachats to inspect the trees, gave the youth a quick lesson on the issues involved, designed a plan, and shepherded it through the permit process. Thanks to participation from dedicated adult and youth volunteers, we were able to bring the cost down to a manageable amount- and now it is finally up and BEAUTIFUL! Come check it out! Many thanks to all who helped make it happen.

Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program

[www.yachatsyouth.org](http://www.yachatsyouth.org)

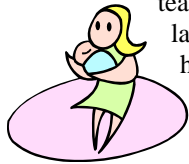
[yapkids@peak.org](mailto:yapkids@peak.org)

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# Yachats Indoor Park

by Cicely Bernard

Indoor Park is a playgroup for parents of children ages 0-6. It happens twice a week: on Mondays from 10:30 until noon, and on Thursdays from 2:20 until 4:00 in the Yachats Commons Preschool Room (#4). Winter learning opportunities at Indoor Park focus on activities parents can do with their children inside during cold, stormy weather. A local yoga



teacher, Ursula Adler, will be joining us later this month to share about yoga and her passion for it. We will be doing some simple short yoga routines to music.

Local massage therapist, Mila, came to Indoor Park twice this month to share some easy, seated-massage techniques for moms while I shared about reflexology and foot massage for babies and toddlers. Both of these methods can be used to reduce stress and enhance immune system function. Everyone really liked the massage days!

We also had local musicians Tony Kaltenberg and Mary Deriberprey come to IP on different days and contribute their musical abilities to entertain us and inspire parents and kids alike.

The live music and singing really got their attention and helped to calm and quiet the energy in the room.

Indoor Park is a great way for parents, grandparents, and other caregivers to network with others in the community. It also gives kids an opportunity to play together and learn vital social skills. Come check out Indoor Park at the Yachats Commons.

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## We Won a \$2,500 Grant

With over 1,600 organizations all over the nation competing for the best play day, the Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program was selected as one of the top ten Play Days in the nation. Then the final round



was opened to the public for a vote. During the month of November South Lincoln County tirelessly campaigned to get out the vote for a chance to win one of only five grants from Mott's and NFL PLAY 60. Even though Yachats is a small town, we made it! South Lincoln County is a well-connected community with a lot of heart, and won votes all over the country. With all of the dedication, determination, and South Lincoln County pride, Yachats won fifth place and was awarded a \$2,500 grant to improve the Yachats Commons play space. Thank you dedicated voters!

## Recreation P.L.U.S (Passages to Learning, Understanding and Success)

by Bee Bui

Children ages 6 and up are welcome to join the fun every day at the Yachats Commons from 3:30 until 6:00 PM. Between 15 and 20 children of a range of ages attend daily. Children are supervised by at least one staff member and a trained volunteer.

Jan Ostby, Nutrition Educator with the OSU Extension Service, visits us twice a month and the kids love it. They love her games and also the food she serves up. All of the kids participate in her activities. Jan provides worksheets and recipes for all of the kids and parents, so the families can enjoy the activities and food again. This newsletter includes one of Jan's handouts: a nutrition tipsheet for parents.

The kids are really enjoying the 'Challenge of the Week,' making Valentine's Day cards, Wii, computer time, playing outside, and board games. Additionally, we have new upcoming projects and challenges. Children will be pushed to their limits with logic games, balloon challenges, races, and relays.

Children may take the school bus to the Yachats Commons after school and must be picked up before 6:00 PM. Cost: Sliding- scale from \$10-\$100 per month per family. Every family is asked to contribute. If cost is a concern, please talk to an YYFAP staff member to learn about how to contribute to the program. For more information or to volunteer, please contact me at [Beebui@peak.org](mailto:Beebui@peak.org).

**Recreation PLUS will be closed** during Spring Break this year (March 21 - 29) and on all scheduled no-school days.

## Calling All Talent



The fifteenth annual Yachats Family Talent Show is scheduled for **Sunday, May 1st** at 2:00 pm at the Yachats Commons. It's time to polish up those dancing shoes, practice your scales, and prepare to dazzle the crowd! Past crowd-pleasing acts have included magic tricks, skits, tap, juggling, ballet, and music of all kinds. Family acts are especially encouraged. To secure your spot in the show, or for more information, call 547-4599.

## Going Paperless

YYFAP is hoping to go to electronic newsletters SOON! In order to do that, we need your e-mail address. If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please send your name and e-mail address to [yapkids@peak.org](mailto:yapkids@peak.org). Thanks!

## Watch For These Upcoming Events

**Fri, March 4:**  
*Sat, March 26:*  
**Sat, April 16:**  
*Wed, April 27:*  
**Sun, May 1:**  
*Sat, May 21:*

**Plant-a-Seed Potluck**  
*Dinner Theatre Gala*  
**Chili Cook-Off**  
*Dine out for Kids at the Drift*  
**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Talent Show**  
**Gnome Hunt**

For more information  
(541) 547-4599  
[www.yachatsyouth.org](http://www.yachatsyouth.org)  
[www.facebook.com/YYFAP](https://www.facebook.com/YYFAP)



**Thank you to the Children's Trust Fund of Oregon for funding this newsletter, YYFAP parent/family support programs, and part of our Early Childhood Education program.**

Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program

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