

Yachats Trails Committee
Parks & Commons Commission
City of Yachats
Lincoln County, Oregon

For Immediate Release

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Yachats to Hold 8th Annual New Year's Day Peace Hike

Start the New Year off on the right foot by joining the 8th Annual Yachats New Year's Day Peace Hike on Monday, January 1, 2018. Participants in this six-mile round-trip hike will proceed from the Yachats Commons (441 N. Hwy 101), along the Amanda Trail to the Amanda Grotto south of town, where a Peace Ceremony will take place.

Hikers will traverse both paved roads and narrow dirt trail surfaces with some steps and moderate inclines. Sturdy shoes, layered clothing and walking sticks are recommended.

In addition, a new activity this year for both hikers and non-hikers who would like to acknowledge and honor Amanda's journey, will be a candlelight vigil for peace at Yachats' Little Log Church.

Details for both events are below:

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Hikers may check in at the Yachats Commons' kitchen. All hikers will need to sign liability waivers and will receive safety information, route maps and commemorative buttons during check-in.

9:50 a.m.

The story of Amanda will be told by Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI) tribal members at Yachats' Little Log Church (328 W. 3rd Street). Hikers are encouraged to check in at the Commons beforehand so that they may continue to the Amanda Grotto immediately following the story telling.

10:15 a.m.

All hikers should be checked in by 10:15 and on their way to the Amanda Grotto to arrive in time for the Peace ceremony.

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Peace ceremony takes place at the Amanda Grotto.

12:00 p.m.

Ceremony ends and hikers may depart. No additional post-hike activities are planned.

Please note that to avoid hazardous traffic congestion, there will be no shuttle service this year to or from the grotto and no parking allowed at the Kittel driveway where it meets Highway 101. All hikers should plan to arrive and return on foot.

Drop-in Candlelight Vigil

For anyone – hiker or non-hiker – who would like to honor Amanda’s legacy, her people and their own hope for peace in the new year, Yachats’ Little Log Church will hold a drop-in candlelight vigil from **10:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited to stop by, light a candle and take time to focus on their intention for peace within themselves and throughout the world

It is through the Tribes and the community’s endeavors with the Amanda Trail that many have become more aware of the great need to acknowledge the wrongs of the past and to be more conscious of the need to treat people of all cultures throughout the world with honor, dignity and respect.

In the event of heavy rain and/or winds exceeding 25 mph, the hike will be cancelled. However the Little Log Church’s candlelight vigil will take place no matter what the weather.

For more information visit Yachatstrails.org or call 541-547-3640.

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About the Amanda Trail

The Amanda Trail was completed and dedicated in July 2009. A 35-year endeavor, the Trail has helped reveal the truth about the treatment suffered by the Alsea, Siuslaw, Coos and Lower Umpqua people during their incarceration at the Alsea Sub-agency prison camp from 1859 to 1875. Since the Trail's dedication, the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI) have become an important part of the Yachats community. CTCLUSI also provided financial aide and skilled labor toward the replacement of the pedestrian bridge along the Amanda Trail. More information about the tribes and early Yachats area history can be found from the History tab on www.yachats.info.