

Rio Dell-Scotia News

Meet a chamber member: Town of Scotia, LLC

The Town of Scotia LLC is a Bronze-level (\$250/year) member of the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce. It's in the business of selling homes, through its arrangement with Coldwell Banker; renting homes; and overseeing the installation of infrastructure in the various phases of development that move Scotia, long termed "The Last Company Town" to a future of privately held homes and businesses, supported by new city streets, sidewalks and sewers and individually metered power.

The history of Scotia as housing for workers at Pacific Lumber Company is etched in the minds of generations of mill employees and their offspring, often couched in idyllic terms as a golden time when everyone knew each other, their shared employer took care of most of a family's needs, and the town bustled with civic endeavors, including company-sponsored sporting teams, picnics, celebrations, and the launching of Scotia Band, now in its 89th year.

That story was shared with the outside world most recently in an in-depth portrait in *New Yorker* magazine in January of this year. A point of interest the article probed was that the Town of Scotia was not a municipality, as one might expect from the name, where one paid utility bills – that happens around the corner at the Scotia Community Services District – but rather a private entity that exists to sell off the assets received in the liquidation of Pacific Lumber by a massive hedge fund company, Marathon.

At the helm is Steve Deike, a role he held since the retirement of his predecessor, Frank Bacik a couple years ago. "I'm about the last one here," Deike, 77, notes, of the role he has played going back nearly 60 years, when he landed a part-time mail-sorting job at Pacific Lumber while he attended classes in the first year College of the Redwoods was in existence, housed at Eureka High School.



After college and the military, he went on to hold various positions at PL, mostly in finance, and in 2008 moved into the role of overseeing aspects of the liquidation. The *New Yorker* article told how he set his password then to *retire2011*, as that was what seemed a reasonable goal. Now retirement isn't remotely in his vision, or his password. "I love what I do and the people I work with," he says.

"I'm a hands-on guy," he adds, so he was always involved in the operational aspect of what he did, and as the job changed over the past 16 years with retirements and consolidations of responsibility, he wasn't affected by the added dimensions that came his way.

Sitting with Mary Bullwinkel, residential real estate sales coordinator, he reviewed the progress and the path forward with, as he put it, "putting his organization out of business" by completing its task of selling all the homes and businesses to private owners. "We sold 156 out of 270 homes," they said, and are starting Phase 4, which consists of homes "below the pond," with infrastructure installation. There are 20 houses yet to sell in Phase 3. "It takes about two years to sell the houses in each phase," Bullwinkel said. One, fifth phase, remains to be tackled. At present, there are renters living in Phase 4 and 5 homes.

Mill A is the last industrial property to be sold, and is part of Phase 4, with all the needed work done for it. It is where Aqua Dam and Dayle's Diesel are housed, and where Eel River Brewery had its facility before it built its own production site in Fortuna adjacent to its restaurant.

The appearance and quality of life in Scotia remains primary in their minds. "Curb appeal," Deike noted as he referred to making sure weeds are mowed and holiday decorations are up and other steps completed that make a community more attractive.

"I'm a firm believer in chambers of commerce," Bullwinkel said of the town's upper-reaches membership level. Active in the Fortuna chamber, where she currently lives, and in the past a board member of the Rio Dell-Scotia chamber, she feels chambers play a key role in the success of a business community. Deike, who currently lives in Fortuna with wife Nancy, echoed Bullwinkel's belief that civic engagement is important in the life of a community, recalling his time in decades past with the Scotia Kiwanis, fire department, and more.

Notes and News

Heads up on Rio Dell parking rules

Mayor pro tem Amanda Carter shares newly approved parking regulations for the City of Rio Dell with the intent of letting people know about enforcement that will be taking place. These include:

RDMC 10.05.530- Use of streets for storage of vehicles prohibited which says that vehicles (including trailers, RVs and boats) shall not be parked on any city street or alley for more than 72 consecutive hours. After such time they must be moved at least one block or 300 lineal feet, whichever is more, to avoid violation of California Vehicle Code Section 22651(k) or this section. Vehicles parked more than 72 hours without being moved may be subject to removal.

RDMC 17.30.230- Parking regulations which says the storage (defined as parking for longer than 72 hours) of a vehicle, RV, boat, or trailer shall be allowed only when all portions of the vehicle, boat and/or trailer are entirely within the property boundaries and do not extend into the public right-of-way, including public utility easements and sidewalks.

In the Town Center area of Wildwood Avenue, the period is 24 hours in which a vehicle is allowed to remain unmoved before it is considered stored and must be contained within the property boundaries, and not allowed to extend into public right-of-way including utility easements and sidewalks.

Stamp out hunger food drive is May 11

The annual mail carrier food drive, Stamp Out Hunger, takes place May 11 this year. Those able to contribute to this nation-wide effort are asked to put non-perishable food items in unbreakable containers out for the mail carrier on that date, or to bring the donations to the collection barrels in the post offices in Rio Dell or Scotia.

Postmaster Katherine Coleman notes that just over 250 pounds of food was collected locally last year, a drop from the more typical 400 annual pounds received in the previous five years. She notes that some of the greatest levels of donations come from the less wealthy communities, where people know what it is to be hungry and want to ensure others don't experience that fate.

Coleman asks people to check that the food they are donating is not past pull date – she notes that she has gotten items 20 or more years old, which cannot be donated. Alcoholic products are another that she receives “cases of” and cannot donate to the food bank.

Community Garden event planned

Is Spring getting you eager to get out in nature? Come to the Garden Party on Saturday, May 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Garden site on the First Baptist Church property, 100 Butcher Street, Rio Dell. Learn about the Community Garden and more – there will be refreshments, a local artist on site painting, and tables of information on bee keeping, Cal Fresh, the farmers' market, and the Rio Dell schools' Garden Club; the event is sponsored by the Community Resource Center.

Annual Rio Dell Spring Clean-Up slated

The annual opportunity to unload unwanted stuff for free happens Sat., May 11, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. sharp at Eagle Prairie Elementary School, 95 Center Street in Rio Dell. It is open only to Rio Dell residents, who can bring bulky items such as yard waste, old furniture, scrap wood and metal, and appliances to this event, sponsored by Recology Eel River. The city's flier for this event asks those participating to please be in line early to speed the number who can be served, and to sort what they are bringing by type when loading to help with the unloading process – trash, wood and metal are unloaded in that order.

Tires, e-waste, hazardous materials, household waste and construction waste are not accepted. E-waste can be brought to the Recology location at 965 Riverwalk, Fortuna, to be dropped off, for a \$2 fee per item.



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Scams and Scammers - Part 3

Billy Joe Long, PSA

Computer Services



There are many types of scams and scammers you may encounter throughout your life. In the last article we talked a little bit about phone scams and what you can do when it happens to you. In this article we will address email scams.

Ransomware attacks render your device unusable until you pay the fee required by the attackers. Even then it is highly unlikely they will actually remove the ransomware after you pay. Knowledge and a healthy dose of common sense will prevent them from accomplishing their goal.

Scammers attempt to get information from you by crafting clever emails that may make emotional pleas for help, or which look like password reset notifications, or which appear to be from institutions you may be familiar with, such as the government, IRS or banks. For businesses it can get even more complicated as the scammers can get a lot of information about your business from publicly accessible resources which enables them to craft very specific emails which can add to the “believability” of these messages. So, what can you do to protect yourself and your business?

First, you must develop a distrust of all email. According to research conducted by Symantec, nearly 85% of all emails are spam or malicious. Their research indicates that almost 9 out of 10 emails were not considered legitimate messages and most of these emails contained malicious links or attachments designed to infect your computer.

Next, make sure you have all the basics covered. Keep your devices current with security updates, make sure you have working antivirus and firewall software and ensure spam prevention settings have been configured for your email address.

Finally, be prepared to examine any email requesting information. If you’re too busy at the moment, do nothing with the email until you have time to examine it. What are you looking for? Ask yourself, does this email make sense, do I have this service, this account, or this software? If not mark it as spam (or junk).

Take a look at the From email address, does it make sense? Let’s say this is an email claiming to be from Netflix, and you have a Netflix account. As you examine the From address you notice its admin@netflix.ru. What would you do? You should mark it as spam and delete it immediately. Look at the address closely: notice what is after the @ symbol ... netflix.ru, that’s not right. We would expect something like admin@netflix.com.

How about this From address -admin@netflex.com, how’s that look to you? Look closely at the domain portion of the email (everything after the @ symbol). It says netflex.com – not netflix.com. Again, mark as spam and delete.

It can take some time and practice, but be patient and thorough and you will be better protected from email scams. If you have questions about email give PSA Computer Services a call at (707) 506-6802 or check us out on the web at <https://psa-2.com/>.

Fire department sets annual pancake breakfast

The annual, traditional Mother’s Day pancake breakfast will be held at the Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department, 50 Center Street, on Sunday, May 12 from 8 to 11 a.m. For \$10, support this fire department fundraiser and enjoy pancakes, eggs, bacon or sausage, and coffee, juice, or milk

Rio Dell artist displays work

Marilyn Martino of Rio Dell had several of her paintings on display last month at the new Fortuna Senior Center on Rohnerville Road.



Rio Dell-Scotia News

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Call the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce at 506-5081 to advertise.



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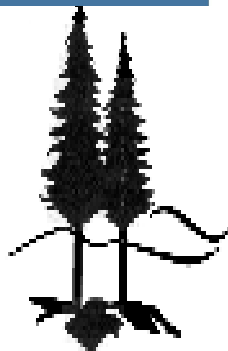
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