

Rio Dell-Scotia News

Wildwood Days is coming! See inside for more.

Motorcycle group has plans for Pizza Factory site

A non-profit group called the Family Humboldt Motorcycle Club has purchased the former Pizza Factory building at 185 Wildwood Avenue, Rio Dell, as a social club and weekly meeting place for members and the site of events geared to raise money for causes the group supports. James Surber of Fortuna is one of the members, and notes that they've looked for a site for a few years, while meeting and holding events at other locations, such as Eureka's Veterans Hall.

The group, which has nine members, purchased the building in November of last, year, and has been working through the stages of paperwork and approvals required to hold events. They've redone the floor and made other upgrades and moved in a pool table.

Weekly meetings are held on Thursday evenings. Envisioned, monthly fundraisers would be held on Saturdays and support injured, local motorcycle riders and their families, and the purchase of bicycles and helmets to donate to Toys for Tots. An annual motorcycle ride called the Pisces Party is held in March. Swag will be for sale with the group's name.

Meet a chamber member – Tri Counties Bank

Tri Counties Bank at 909 Main Street in Fortuna is part of a network of financial institutions based in Chico that is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Its original location opened in 1975 and today physical locations including stand-alone and in-store banks, extend from the Oregon border to Bakersfield. Fueled by acquisitions, in 2018 it reported it was Northern California's largest community bank network with assets of over \$6 billion.

But local roots are important here, too, as bank manager Christopher Broadstock notes. Broadstock moved to Scotia at the age of 7 where his dad, John Broadstock, worked at Pacific Lumber. He speaks of the pleasure of growing up in that special time when the town was close-knit and everyone knew each other.

Broadstock has worked for 24 years in customer service, he notes, first managing a Radio Shack in Fortuna, then moving to the Bank of America that formerly occupied the current site of Tri Counties Bank, in 2014. Tri Counties took over the location two years later.

"Our motto is 'Service with Solutions,' which means that we bring financial guidance and resources to the interaction, and seek to build trust and respect," Broadstock says of Tri Counties.

The bank plays a vital role in the community in other ways, he notes, such as through thousands of dollars each year in donations, grants, and scholarships and volunteer work done by individuals associated with the bank. The bulletin board inside the front door has numerous thank-you notes posted acknowledging financial and other donations the bank has contributed to area non-profits, including the Kiwanis, Rotary, Humboldt-Del Norte Cattleman's Association and Redwood Prep charter school.



Notes and News

Median redesign on Wildwood Avenue continues through May

The Wildwood Avenue median re-do in Rio Dell has been underway since mid-April, affecting traffic from Bellevue Avenue on the north to Davis Street on the south. Funded by a Clean California grant, the project involved removing old trees and planting more than 100 new ones, replacing the existing irrigation with a more efficient watering system, and replacing the soil around each tree, which previously was mostly road base gravel, with a type that would better ensure the long-term growth and survival of the trees, according to City Manager Kyle Knopf in a news release.

The new trees, a type of flowering cherry called *Prunus yedoensis*, will provide pink flowers down the median and white blooms on both sides of Wildwood Avenue during the blooming season, according to Jeremy Sisson, pictured, who is crew lead at J & G Lawn and Garden, the firm which is doing the work.



Schools set graduation

Rio Dell's Kindergarten promotion will be Thursday, June 13 at 4:30 p.m. at Bear River Rec Center, Principal Lauren Bryie notes, followed by eighth grade graduation at 6:30 p.m.

Scotia's eighth grade graduation will be held in the school's new gym on Wednesday, June 12, at 7 p.m., Superintendent Amy Gossien says, adding, "Our eighth graders are going on the annual trip to the Bay Area June 4 to 7. The students have received generous community support for their fundraisers throughout the year."

Scotia School plans summer activities

Camp Scotia, an "all-day summer camp with fun, outdoor activities," will take place at the Scotia school July 15 to 18 and July 22 to 25, Superintendent Amy Gossien says, adding, "We will be running additional programming throughout the summer as part of our Expanded Learning Opportunity Program."

Community yard sale planned

A community-wide yard sale for both Rio Dell and Scotia is planned for Saturday, June 22, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Email scotiariodellyardsale@gmail.com for more information.

Radio ads promoting Rio Dell, Scotia to air this month

Through its membership in the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce, Lost Coast Communications is offering \$1,000 in pro-bono advertising on its radio stations. Twenty seven, one-minute spots will run in June, promoting Rio Dell and Scotia as an excellent place to launch a summer get-away. The ads will run on KSLUG, the most-listened-to of the organization's family of stations, which skews to an audience encompassing both family and young single populations.

Ads were also run prior to the chamber's tree-lighting event in December, and will be used to promote Wildwood Days, in conjunction with messaging done by the fire department, later this summer.



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Wildwood days offers new, traditional activities

The annual community festival, Wildwood Days, will be held Thursday, Aug. 1 through Sunday, August 4 this year. It will again feature a Western theme.

Among last year's new events that are back by popular demand, is the BBQ cookoff, set for Thursday evening by the bridge downtown, and the "colors" fun run, which will be Saturday morning. New this year is a bicycle ride in 35 - and 58-mile lengths, which will be held Sunday morning, organized by Wally Coppini of Rio Dell.

The \$40 entry for the bike ride includes a ticket to the fire department dinner at the park at noon. Profits go to the fire department. The shorter ride is to the Dyerville Loop, and the longer one, to the South Fork Bridge. Coppini, 66, has been cycling for 14 years and says he rides about 150 miles per week. He has participated in over 100 cycling events – "I have 70 t-shirts from them that I've never worn," he notes. He is working with Jennifer Johnson, owner of Adventure's Edge outdoor shop in Eureka, on the logistics.

Also new, in addition to vendor booths for the weekend at Firemen's Park (\$75 for craft booths and \$100 for food booths), there will be one-night options for \$25 per night for a booth on Thursday and Friday, from 4 to 8 p.m. downtown. Thursday will feature the cookoff and fireman's muster, and Friday will be the traditional Kid's Night activities

Events are being finalized and details worked out, for innovations such as being able to buy duck race tickets on Venmo. Go to the site, <https://wildwooddays.godaddysites.com/> to keep up with the news and plan your Wildwood weekend.

Chamber names parade grand marshal

Dorothy Johnson, owner of DJ's Burger Bar, will be the grand marshal in this year's Wildwood Days parade, taking place at noon on Saturday, August 3. She has been active each year in the community celebration, hosting the Friday night Ernie Cannady car cruise (a parade of antique and classic cars including a parking lot dinner with live music and dancing) and more. DJ's can be counted on to enter a float each year in the Wild - wood Days parade, as well.



Johnson gets holiday-themed decorations out on the median and around her business throughout the year, and recently started assisting city council member Julie Woodall with the care and tending of floral displays that Woodall installs each year throughout the downtown area. She touches up the building with fresh paint herself each year, including the outside tables, deck and rail. In addition, she hosts several summer drive-ins for antique and classic car fans on alternate Wednesday evenings typically starting in June and running into August.

Johnson has owned the business for 27 years. Featured in this newsletter five years ago as a silver-level chamber member, she noted at the time that the name DJ's stood for Dorothy and Jackie, the J being her daughter, a college student, who convinced her parents to buy the restaurant which at the time was called the Hamburger and Sausage Company, where Jackie was working.

Friends figure largely in Johnson's enjoyment of the workplace, from which she doesn't have plans to retire, and in her ability to accomplish so much. "I open up at 8 every morning so this group of a dozen friends can come here for coffee," she says, noting at 10 a.m. one day that they had just left, "Some days when we're not open, some come to my house for coffee."

Museum seeks volunteers

Interested in local history, have a few hours to spare, like to help visitors and meet new people? The Scotia Community Services District is getting ready to open the Scotia Museum, which has been closed for several years pending repairs and renovation. Docents are needed to staff the museum on a volunteer basis. Check it out at the Scotia CSD office.

Rio Dell-Scotia News

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Call the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce at 707-506-5081 to advertise.



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