

## ~AROUND TOWN~

Artist Returns to  
Gallery With Many  
Styles of Art

Natalya Burke

Natalya Burke effusively greets visitors to the Eagle Prairie Arts District gallery at Wildwood and Columbus in Rio Dell, in her warm and energetic style explaining the work on display, many pieces of which are her own. They represent a wide range of art media that include encaustic wax (which she explains means ironing wax on paper); watercolor marbling (which requires special tools, paint and paper to achieve the desired effect); painting on both sides of glass (to give a stained glass effect with greater depth); and leatherwork, both of scenes and items such as brooches to affix to clothes or hats.

A native of the Ukraine, she studied and worked in nuclear engineering, then started her own business when the Soviet Union, of which the Ukraine was a part, came undone, resulting in few jobs and lower salaries. She immigrated with her son to the U.S. about 15 years ago, living in Fort Bragg, where she attended a College of the Redwoods campus, taking all the art classes offered.

**Continued on Page 4.**

Member Profile: Harland Law Firm Values Tradition,  
Family in 71st Year

Amy Mendoza-Stover

Harland Law Firm, at 954 Main Street in Fortuna, has been providing legal services to the area since 1946 when Collis Mehan opened the office. Six years later Gerald Harland joined him and when he died in 2012 while still working as a partner, the decision was made to name the firm after him permanently. That respect for "how Jerry did things" still guides the firm today, notes Amy Mendoza-Stover, the youngest attorney, who joined the currently five-member firm a decade ago, right out of college. Mendoza-Stover, a sixth-generation native of Redwood Valley, where she still lives on a hobby farm, says her dad was a logger and she worked loading logging trucks during her college years. Her initial plans were to major in agriculture, and then business, but mentors who included Roger Rodoni kept encouraging her onward to eventually obtain a law degree as the way she could best help ranchers and loggers. She targeted the Harland firm as her first choice to get a job because Richard Smith, currently the managing partner at the firm, is "the pre-eminent attorney for land use issues in Northern California, if not the whole state," she says. That's an area in which she is very interested, and she wanted to work with, and learn from, such an experienced professional. She was delighted to be chosen for the job and feels part of what made her a good fit in the eyes of Harland and the other decision-makers was that she was a local person returning to seek a career in the area. **Continued on Page 3.**

## Seniors Enjoy Cards, Lunch

The Rio Dell Seniors meets weekly on Tuesdays at the Chamber office, 406 Wildwood Ave. in Rio Dell, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to play cards and enjoy lunch catered by CC Market at noon. The group is open to anyone 60 or over. To reserve a \$3 lunch, call John at 764-3251 by Monday noon, the day before.

## 4th Annual Community Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15th from 10:30-12:30

Fireman's Park, Rio Dell

Free family fun, yummy food and kids' egg hunt. All ages welcome.

Brought to you by the Rio Dell Community Resource Center!



Front row. L to R. Thelma Miller, Mary Rovai, Betty Mederios, Marilyn Martino  
Back Row. L to R. Kathy Wadell, John Wadell; Rena Dewell, guest; Marsha Hayes, president of The Fortuna Seniors; Jean Pacheco, Ruth Allen.



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## Save the date! Bike Rodeo

Rio Dell Community Resource Center will host a Bike Rodeo May 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Rio Dell Elementary School parking lot open to all Rio Dell and Scotia families who ride bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc. Kids will learn about street safety and get a new helmet. There will be raffles for prizes and free food and drinks for all participants.

## Long-time community advocate feted



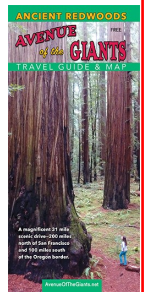
The Rio Dell Scotia Chamber of Commerce saw off its veteran member Harry Pulver in a March 11 event at the Winema Theater that drew dozens of friends, family, colleagues from his several volunteer gigs, and former colleagues from his careers at Pacific Lumber and the U.S. Post Office. Pulver, profiled in the March issue of this newsletter, was honored by several members of the community who cited his stabilizing role in his family and in the organizations to which he belonged, his reliability to do what he said, and his generosity of time. Automotive Workshop, CC Market and Napa Auto Parts in Rio Dell; Aqua Dam in Scotia; and the Sequoia Humane Society in Eureka, where Pulver volunteered in the fund-raising Tail Waggers Thrift Shop in Henderson Center, were sponsors of the event, which featured a cake and other refreshments. Board members Eldon Whitehead of Fortuna and Jim Brickley of Rio Dell supplied beverages.

## Travel Guide ad once again sponsored by Humboldt Gables



The 2017 Avenue of the Giants Travel Guide will be out mid-April, and Dave Thompson, manager of the Humboldt Gables Motel in Rio Dell, once again sponsored the Rio Dell advertisement in it for the chamber. There are 160,000 copies printed each year and distributed to targeted locations from the Oregon border to Mendocino County, for use by tourists. Thanks again, Dave, for being

such a solid community booster over the years!



## Historian Jerry Rohde to give free talk

Popular history speaker Jerry Rohde and his wife and fellow teacher Gisela will bring a special talk to the Chamber office at 406 Wildwood in Rio Dell on Friday, April 28 at 7 p.m. They are presenting the free, hour-long event throughout the county this spring, highlighting historical features in the style of an old-time Chautauqua. They will also introduce their audience to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) which offers more than 100 classes every semester for those aged "50 or better."



## Coffee shop to open in April

Nicole Norton of Shotz Coffee in Fortuna has confirmed a second location will open in Rio Dell at the site most recently housing Higher Grounds Coffee & Treats, which moved to Fortuna. Shotz is expected to open in April following some remodeling, Norton says.

## Scotia Inn needs a new lease on life

This newsletter reported earlier this year the impending closure of Gallagher's Pub in the historic Scotia Inn. Inn manager Wes Paden said at the time that the bar would close January 31 and hopefully reopen with a new name and customer experience. However the whole inn as well as Gallagher's remains closed. A sign on the front door says the closure is for the season, and provides a phone number for more information. Steve Dieky, controller for the Town of Scotia, whose phone number is posted on the sign, reports that the lease for the facility expired January 31 when the tenants chose not to renew, and the inn will only reopen if a new manager steps up to propose a business plan to the town that is approved. Miguel's Restaurant, which formerly sublet its space from the Scotia Inn, is now leasing its facility directly from the Town of Scotia and remains open as before.

## Scotia welcomes new fire truck

The Scotia Volunteer Fire Department's newest addition to its two-fire-engine fleet was introduced to the community in an open house event in late February. The *Times-Standard*, reporting on the arrival, notes Scotia Fire Chief John Broadstock said he and the other 13 firefighters in his department are excited to replace a 1977 International Van Pelt fire engine with a newer, safer engine. Costing under \$300,000, the Rosenbauer 2017 RTX Type 1 engine, a type used in structure fires, features a 1,000 gallon water tank and 20-gallon foam tank, as well as a remote control water gun on top of the engine that can be operated without someone climbing up, and risking falling off. It offers additional equipment storage, easier pumping with simplified and computerized systems, and it carries five persons, two more than the engine it is replacing. Broadstock said he has been looking into buying a new fire engine for quite a while and most of the used engines he found were around the same price as this new engine. The old engine it replaces is experiencing mechanical issues so may be sold for parts once it's stripped of all useful fire equipment.

## Harland Continued from Page 1.

An area she has taken on after Harland's death is his specialty, wills, trusts, and probates, accounting for a very large portion of the firm's varied case load. Mendoza, who is Spanish-speaking, enjoys being able to provide a useful tool to help people from all backgrounds to manage their family resources and plan for the future. "We provide a great service to the community," she says, noting the firm has a Spanish-speaking notary.

While retaining respect for the past, reflected in long-time employees like paralegal Sharon Berti, who has been with the firm for 40 years, the business has changed. At one time there were offices in Crescent City and Ferndale; at present there is a second office in Eureka where Mendoza-Stover, like the firm's other attorneys, divides her time. A new attorney is expected to be brought on board.

## Massage of the Redwoods

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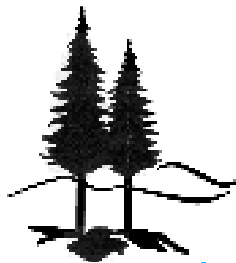
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Pennzoil Qt motor oil \$ 2.99  
*Spring is here! We have many lawn & garden items on sale!*



## ~Meeting Calendar~

### Senior Brown Bag Program

Food boxes given the 2nd Thursday of every month for local seniors. Boxes distributed from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Church of Christ, 325 2nd Ave. in Rio Dell. To sign up call Food for People at 445-3166.

### Rio Dell Library

**Tuesday-11-4, Wednesday - 1-6, Saturday- 11-4**

There is a First 5 Puppet Story Time every Saturday at 11 a.m. 715 Wildwood Ave., 764-3333.

### Emergency Food 1

Running low on food this week? Get a bag for your family or just for yourself at the Community Resource Center; no income verification is needed.

### Emergency Food 2

**The Journey Church**, 95 Bellevue Ave. Rio Dell, Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

### Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce

406 Wildwood Ave., Rio Dell.  
For more info call 506-5081.

### Bread for Life Food Pantry

143 Main Street, Scotia, 3rd Thursday, from 10 am -2 p.m., For more info call 764-5239.

### Clothing Closet

**Ruth's Room:** Rio Dell Baptist Church, Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Call 764-3811 for more information.

### Eagle Prairie Arts District

Meetings are the 1st Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Gallery/Visitor's Center. Call 506-5081.

### Women's Health Project Breast and Gynecology Eel River Valley

### Outreach Center:

707-726-7919 or 825-8345

### Friday Playgroups

The Community Resource Center provides a First Five playgroup Fridays 10 a.m. to noon at the Early Head Start classroom, 95 Center St., Rio Dell.

### SAIL

Staying Active and Independent Living helps prevent falls and broken bones. This free program meets noon - 1 p.m. Mon., Wed., and Fri. at the at the Rio Dell Baptist Church, 100 Butcher St. Call Susan at 407-8707. Join us!

### Monday Storytime

Families with children 0-5 years old are welcome to join Community Resource Center staff at the Eagle Prairie School library room, Mondays from 8:20 to 9:20 a.m. to develop childhood literacy through stories and crafts. Snacks are provided.



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## Rio Dell-Scotia News

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**Submissions deadline for May newsletter copy is April 17th. Call the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce at 506-5081 to advertise.**

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## New Artist Continued from Page 1.

Burke now lives in Carlotta on a 40-acre farm with a large garden, greenhouse and art studio. She is a member of the Fortuna Arts Council and the Fortuna Garden Club, and has her work on display at venues throughout the area. Her husband of six years, who is retired, is the assistant chief of the Carlotta fire department.

Burke volunteers at the gallery on Fridays and is eager to share the story of her art with visitors. She has a range of items on display, including book-marks for \$2 and brooches to dress up a wardrobe for \$20, proving original art can be very affordable.

## Save the Date Continued from Page 2.

### Rio Dell schools slate April events

On April 3, classes will dismiss at noon for a professional development staff opportunity. The Parent-Teacher Organization will meet at 4 p.m. in Room 107. Track practice begins. April 4 will be monthly awards for grades 6 to 8. On April 5 Cinderella's Closet will be open 4 to 6 p.m. for girls who need a prom dress. Formals and semi-formal dresses are available, and can be selected, one dress per girl. Those with a dress to donate can bring it to the school any time before this date. On April 12 the school board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in Room 107. There will be an open house April 13 at 6:30 p.m. All classes will be dismissed at 1 p.m. on Friday, April 14, and the following week is spring break, with no school. The school site council will meet at 5 p.m. April 25 in Room 107. Monthly awards will be presented April 28 to grades K-5.

### School board terms recalibrated

Rio Dell School Board elections will now coincide with general elections which are held on even years. To make this possible, the terms of board members Brett Barsanti, James Rich, and Shan Grundman will be extended until December 2018. The terms of members Valerie Barrote and Jolon Wilson will be extended until December 2020.

### Scotia school events set

The Parent-Teacher Organization meets April 5 from 6 to 7 p.m. The school board meets at 7 p.m. on April 13. Spring break is April 17 to 22 and a fun run will be held April 28.

### Volunteer gardeners needed at library

Enjoy gardening? Come help give the Rio Dell Library a face-lift with some attractive plantings. Your volunteer help is needed! Contact Tim Marks of Friends of the Library at 764 – 3730 to start planning for the planting!

### Library plans free concert

Rabbi Les Schaumburg, a talented Bayside troubadour of songs from around the world, will share tales and music from many lands on Sat., April 29 in the evening. Watch for more details on this event.

### Storytime at the library is now every Saturday

There is a First 5 Puppet Story Time every Saturday at 11 a.m. Two story tellers alternate weeks.