

Rio Dell-Scotia News

Meet a bronze chamber member – CC Catering

CC Catering, owned by Wally and Sandra Close of Rio Dell, is in its 30th year, and going strong. “We were booked this summer with very few weekends open,” Sandra Close said. A lot of the couple’s business is repeat, as organizations count on them for annual meetings, events, and dinners. Much of the rest is word of mouth.

Everything is homemade, Close said. “We tear the lettuce by hand, it doesn’t come in a plastic bag. We form the meatballs by hand, they are not bought frozen. Wally makes the spaghetti sauce and the potato salad. Karen Hower does the baking – all the cakes, pies, cookies.” Seven employees are hired to help with various events, from the meal prep to set-up and serving.

The couple, who formerly owned CC Market in Rio Dell, began the catering business when they made renovations to the market that expanded the deli area as part of repairs following damage from the 1990 fire and 1992 earthquake. They sold the store three years ago. Val Barrote, who worked with them at the store, manages the catering business’ bookkeeping.

Today the business supplies many annual events, sending potato salad (65 gallons worth) to the Fortuna Rodeo each year, and macaroni salad for the dinner held in conjunction with the junior livestock auction at the Humboldt County Fair in Ferndale. “We fed over 200 kids at Senior Career Day last year,” Close noted of another example of repeat business. Weddings, graduations, and class reunions are other staples of the business along with celebrations of life.

“Many of those were put on hold during Covid so many are being held now,” she says of the number of celebrations of life.

The Closes take their catering van as far south as Redway, as far north as McKinleyville, and sometimes “out in the hills” to places like Petrolia. While there was a drop in business during Covid, they are not having supply chain issues, Close says, adding that one needs to plan ahead. Prices are higher, but “we are doing OK,” she adds.

Close, a first-grade teacher for 40 years at Scotia, retired from that job last year but still substitutes there as needed. “I miss the school,” she says, but wanted to spend more time with Wally. “We don’t have a website, we aren’t on Facebook, we aren’t in the phone book,” Close says of the lack of marketing done for the catering business. “Sometimes people call the market to try to find us.” She offers a contact number for those wanting to explore catering options: 707.764.5202.



Sandra & Wally Close
at their former store



WILDWOOD DAYS SCHEDULE ON PAGE 3



DJ's sets summer cruise nights

DJ's Burger Bar on Wildwood Ave. has set "hopefully warm and dry" evenings to host car cruises. Aside from the Ernie Cannady Car Cruise on August 5, the other nights are 6 to 8 p.m. on Aug. 27 and 31 and Sept. 14. These Wednesday nights offer "food, music, cars, visiting and raffles."

Parade donors thanked

The Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce thanks sponsors of the Wildwood Days parade prizes: Tri Counties Bank and Redwood Capital in Fortuna and Element 7 in Rio Dell.

Scotia school announces start of year schedule

Scotia school superintendent Amy Gossien notes, "Our first day of school is Monday, August 29. Free breakfast is served daily beginning at 8 a.m.. School starts at 8:25 a.m. Student drop off and pick up will be the same as last year: drive up B Street, turn left onto First Street, pull up to the curb to drop off or pick up students, then turn left to drive down Church Street.

We will have a transitional kindergarten classroom for our students who are 4 by the first day of school, as well as our traditional kindergarten classroom for our students who are 5 by the first day of school."

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten dismissal time is 1:30 p.m. For First to Third grades, dismissal time is 2:30 p.m., and for Fourth to Eighth grades, dismissal time is 3:05 p.m.. All students are dismissed at 1 p.m. on Fridays.

The After School Program is enrolling students in grades TK-8th. Registration packets are available on the school's website or from the office. The After School Program operates until 6 p.m. daily and provides both a snack and "supper" to students.

All incoming transitional kindergarteners, kindergarteners, and seventh graders must be up to date on all required vaccinations by the first day of school. Parents can call the school office with any questions.

We will be offering fall sport, Students who plan to participate need to have a physical completed prior to the first practice. Physical forms can be found on the school's website or from the office. Student athletes need to get a physical annually.

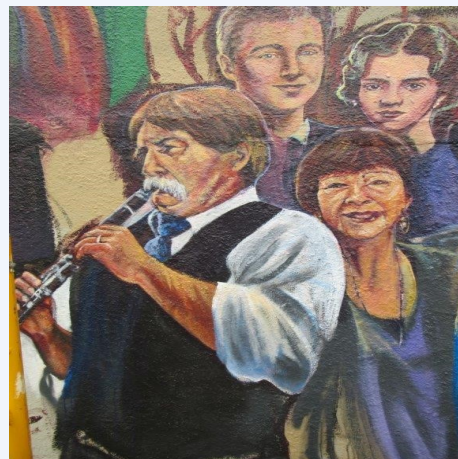
Gossien adds the gym project is moving forward as planned and on schedule.

Rio Dell schools announce fall start

Principal Lauren Byrie notes, "The first day of school is Monday, August 29. School begins at 8:20 a.m. and breakfast is served at 7:45 a.m. We have hired three wonderful teachers, Brittany Munoz-Garcia, kindergarten; Natali Kiser, 5th grade; and Erin Wishneff. middle school. We are excited to have them join our team!"

Mural progresses, you can still be in the big picture

Have you watched the progression of the murals taking shape on Wildwood at Monument in Rio Dell? There's still time to put yourself (or a family member or friend) in the "big picture" the chamber has commissioned at 99 Wildwood, home of the Community Resource Center. Artist Julia Fordyce is accepting photos (with payment, based on size, of \$75 to \$250 per image). Go to juliafordyce.com/riodell for more, where you can upload digitized photos and pay with Venmo or Paypal, or get a hard copy of the information at Root 101 Nursery, supply physical photos and pay by check. *At left, Fordyce works on a section of the mural. At right, chamber vice-president Jim Brickley (on clarinet) and his wife Angie of Rio Dell and Brickley's parents are among the images completed.* News and Notes continued on Page4



Wildwood Days Schedule

Thursday August 4

Rio Dell Fire 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament @Rio Dell Elementary 6 p.m.

Friday August 5

Ernie Cannady Cruise & BBQ @ DJ's Burger Bar 5:30 – 9 p.m.

Fire Truck Rides @ Cedar St. & Sequoia Ave. 6 – 7 p.m.

Dennis Wendt Women's Softball Tourney @ Rio Dell Firemen's Park 6 p.m.

**Kids Night: Penny Scramble, Soap Box Derby, Bouncers, Shaved Ice
@ Douglas St. 6 –8 p.m.**

**3rd Annual Street Dance with The Triple Tones @ DJ's Burger Bar
9–11 p.m.**

Saturday August 6

Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast @ Rio Dell School 8 – 11 a.m.

Bocce Tourney 9 a.m. @Rio Dell Firemen's Park

Dennis Wendt Women's Softball Tourney @ Firemen's Park 9 a.m.

Vendors & Craft Fair @ Firemen's Park 10 a.m.

Book Sale @ Library 10 a.m.

**Parade - Noon -Theme: A Salute To First Responders Stage on Center Street
East of Wildwood (by schools) by 10:30 a.m. to be judged.**

Music Festival in the Park 1 p.m.

Texas Hold'em Tourney @ Fire Hall 7 p.m.

Tri-Tip BBQ in the Park 7 p.m.

Fireworks @ Rio Dell School Field 9:45 p.m.

Sunday August 7

Dennis Wendt Women's Softball Tourney @ Rio Dell Firemen's Park 9 a.m.

Car Show & Shine in front of City Hall 9 a.m.

Duck Race @ Rio Dell-Scotia Bridge 9 a.m.

Vendors & Craft Fair @ Firemen's Park 10 a.m.

Book Sale @ Library 10 a.m.

Scotia Band and Firemen's Bar-B-Que @ Firemen's Park Noon

Live Auction @ Firemen's Park 1p.m.

From the way back files .

The chamber crew decided while changing the furnace filter to do a deep clean and in the depths of the furnace, found a check that is at least 60 years old, belonging to a deceased former resident, Cheryl Voight, who according to the address printed on the check lived at the time at what was called the “Kohinka Trailer Park.” The amount, date, and person to whom it was made out, were all too faint to read clearly but the intended recipient was likely Larks Pharmacy which occupied the building at the time.

A look back in time

The following excerpt is from the 1981 book The Bluffs Around Us by Evelyn McCormick, submitted with an update by Rio Dell resident Melissa Ambrosini Marks.

“In 1911 the first of the Italian families began arriving in the Wildwood area. Most of these men sought employment with The Pacific Lumber Company across the river. Today the few remaining oldsters are retired but a good percentage of the population is made of their offspring.

Zermira Dal Porto, who left Italy in 1902 with her parents, resided in the northern part of Humboldt. She married Arthur Scatena in 1904 and the couple moved to Rio Dell in 1911. At that time Scatena and Angelo Battini established the Scatena-Battini Hotel on what is now Edwards Drive.

Just below the hotel was the Schuler Ferry operated only for the convenience of Scotia and Rio Dell residents. Pacific Avenue was the main road through town and continued to Redwood Avenue through the Stephenson place and down the west side of the Eel River. It went past Automobile Rock, Twin Creeks, Stafford, Greenlaw Bluff and Pepperwood. Marks adds that years later the hotel was moved to 127 Wildwood Avenue, and the land it was on is now the housing development off Edwards Drive. Douglas Street in Rio Dell was formerly called Scatena Street.

Zermira and Arturo Scatena were parents to daughters Julia, Emma and Londa and grandparents to Marie Cook, Lenora Marks and Linda, Tom, and Art Patmore, and great-grandparents to Tim and Dennis Marks, and to John, Mike, Tom, and MaryAnn Cook.

Widowed, Zermira married John Picchi and, widowed again, later married Olindo (Lindy) Martinelli, Leroy’s dad. She donated land for Rio Dell’s first fire station. Later, she sold the land that is now City Hall to the city.

NEWS AND NOTES Cont. from Pg. 2

Plan now for nervous pets during fireworks season

Note to pet owners – last year’s Wildwood Days fireworks took some pet owners by surprise and the stress to their pets caused by the sound was a source of discussion online. Consider meds from your vet to ease the stress on pets and/or plan to have them confined in a safe space where they will not be able to run away.

Join the chamber monthly board meeting

This takes place at noon on the first Friday of the month, August 5 will be the next. Call in at 605.313.4802 and use access code 860467 or come to the chamber office at 406 Wildwood at noon to participate.

HWMA is Extending the Free Tire Recycling Program until 2023!

The Hawthorne Street Transfer Station in Eureka will accept up to nine auto or light truck tires per day at no extra charge. It’s ok if they’re on rims. No business-generated tires please. This program is only for household generated tires.

Call or email us for details:

268-8680 or info@hwma.net



Humboldt Waste Management Authority
1059 W. Hawthorne St., Eureka, CA 95501
www.hwma.net

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

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