

What Are Managed Services?

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VOL. XXVI NO. 2

FREE!

Rio Dell-Scotia News

FEBRUARY
2018



Managed services allow business managers/owners to offload specific IT operations to a service provider who assumes ongoing responsibility for monitoring

and managing designated equipment and resolving technical problems for selected IT systems and equipment on your behalf.

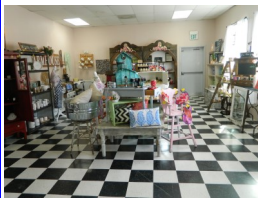
Managed services providers can offer services such as alerts, security, patch management, data backup and recovery for different client devices: desktops, notebooks, servers, storage systems, networks and applications. Offloading routine infrastructure management to an experienced professional lets you concentrate on running your business, with fewer interruptions due to IT issues.

Managed services providers usually price their services on a subscription basis. Depending on the services they provide, pricing is usually based on the number of devices, with different packages priced at different levels. Some provide customer support onsite when required. Basic services often start with a monitoring service, which notifies you of problems, which you resolve on your own. At the upper end of the spectrum, service providers offer fully managed services that cover everything from alerts through problem resolution.

Typically they perform an initial assessment of your current IT environment and management requirements to help you decide what services and service levels you need.

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Check Out the New Gift Shop



Emerald's Edge Boutique is a new gift shop that opened last month at 70 Wildwood Ave., # C, in Rio Dell – enter as though going to the former, now closed, Highway 101 Café in the building shared with Mingo's Bar. Emerald's Edge is to the right, as you enter, a place filled with creative gift ideas ranging from note cards to original art and craft items to jewelry and pieces of restored, farm-house style furniture, all artistically arranged.

April Ash runs the store, owned by her husband, Seth. The couple has lived in Rio Dell for a few years, she notes, and she formerly worked for many years in home health care, but wanted to do something that she felt is needed in the community.

"I began going to craft fairs and meeting vendors," she says, which led to her bringing in many product lines from local people as well as others from as far away as Sonoma County. "We have soap from Ewe So Dirty in Rio Dell," she notes, indicating the product line of soaps made from sheep milk. "We have bird houses from Linda and Jim Barsanti," she points to products from another Rio Dell vendor, and Humboldt-made items like Witch in the Woods botanicals. A catalog from a craftsperson who makes sliding, barn-style doors for home use such as in closets and bathrooms, lies on the counter for those wanting to place an order. Massages by Ariel Card are offered by appointment, in the back.

Ash says the shop name came from her grown daughter, since emerald is her birth stone, and they are located on the south edge of town. She plans to bring in new items so returning visitors will see different things. One plan for the future is to sell fresh, cut flowers. Hours for now are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, which she notes she may alter as she sees how business goes. Ash's shop can be followed on Instagram and Facebook, for updates on her product lines.

Art District Seeks New Energy, Leadership

The Eagle Prairie Arts District (EPAD) is celebrating its fifth year of operation. Founder and president Adam Dias is hoping members of the community will take this opportunity to get involved, bring new ideas and energy, and sculpt this organization to continue to serve the residents of the area with opportunities to share and enjoy various arts.

Dias recalls the organization's early days – after he opened his burl shop in the former gas station on the corner of Wildwood and Columbus in Rio Dell, artists started coming to see if they could show their art on his walls. A challenge was that he didn't have enough wall space to meet the demand. He and the other early artists chipped in \$35 each to start the arts group.

Dias recalls going to the chamber of commerce where he met Nick Angeloff, current chamber president. "We hit it off," he said, and the two found they shared a vision for how to make the community more vibrant. They put together the plan that brought together many functions such as a business stimulator that would allow new businesses a location from which to launch and become successful before moving out to rent space on their own; a gallery, a visitor's center to draw in tourists, and office space for the chamber which had formerly been housed in the north end of the library building. These purposes were melded into the present location at 406 Wildwood, across Columbus from Dias' shop.

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Get involved this year –consider running for office

Let this year be the one you make a difference, by getting involved in elected office, either by running yourself, or helping a candidate in whom you believe. From school board to county-level commissions and committees, there are opportunities. To help, a free, popular forum that has coached scores of potential candidates and campaign volunteers is coming to Fortuna, complete with a new Spanish-language translation and a special one-on-one resources session.

People from Rio Dell, Scotia and surrounding communities will be the focus of “Run, Serve, Lead! – an Introduction to Civic Engagement” offered by the Northcoast Peoples’ Alliance, scheduled for 1 to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 4 at the MultiGenerational Center, 2280 Newburg Road, Fortuna. It is being co-sponsored by several organizations including the *Ferndale Enterprise* newspaper.

The forum is geared to everyday people considering running for office, applying to serve on an appointed board or commission, volunteering for a local campaign, or simply becoming a more actively engaged community member.

Panelists will include Clif Clendenen, former 2nd District Humboldt County Supervisor; Patrick O’Rourke, a Ferndale City Council member; Renee Saucedo, an immigrant rights activist and former candidate for San Francisco Supervisor, and Danny Kelley, a newly elected member of the College of the Redwoods Board. Sofia Pereira, Arcata’s mayor and community manager for the national organization “She Should Run,” will speak about preparing to run for office.

Volunteers will staff two resource tables, one for voter registration and one to help people determine what local offices they might qualify to run for, based on their voting address. Light refreshments will be served.

“Run, Serve, Lead!” is free to the public. Donations are encouraged to help defray costs.

Two “Run, Serve, Lead” forums were held in 2017, attended by nearly 150 people in Arcata and McKinleyville.

Get your community garden spot now!

While spring may seem a long way off, the Community Resource Center in Rio Dell is accepting applications for a plot in the community garden for 2018. Located on the property of the First Baptist Church, 100 Butcher Street in Rio Dell, the garden has been inactive for a couple years and is being re-started. Lumber for raised beds was donated by Forbusco Lumber in Fortuna and Root 101 Nursery in Rio Dell. Applications for a plot can be picked up and returned to the Rio Dell Community Resource Center at Wildwood and Monument.

Health fair slated at Bayshore Mall

St. Joseph Health – Humboldt County will offer its annual Health, Wellness and Resource Fair on Sat., Feb. 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bayshore Mall in Eureka. There will be a variety of free tests available to the public, which generally include body fat testing, blood pressure checks, and fingerstick tests for cholesterol and glucose (no fasting required).

In addition, coupons will be distributed for low-cost blood draws beginning at 10 a.m. which will be held at the Outpatient Lab on the General Hospital campus in Eureka. They will include screenings for CMP (Complete Metabolic Panel), Hemogram (includes Hemoglobin and Hematocrit, etc.), Lipid Profile, PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) and TSH (Thyroid Stimulating Hormone).

CalFresh/CalWorks:

Do you know if you are eligible for either CalFresh or CalWorks? Come to the Community Resource Center to find out how to qualify and apply for both programs. You can also apply for CalFresh, CalWorks and MediCal at www.cyourself.com.

Community Resource Center Site Closure

The Rio Dell Community Resource Center will be closed on Monday, Feb. 19, in observance of Presidents’ Day.

New statue placed



The second of four statues to be placed on Wildwood Avenue by Eureka artist Dan McCauley was delivered last month. The depiction of a cougar is on the pedestal that formerly held the Christmas tree outside the chamber office at Wildwood and Columbus. Two more statues are expected to be delivered after pedestals to contain them are prepared, farther north on Wildwood.

Rio Dell school news

Monthly awards for grades K-5 will be held on Feb. 2. The 6th Grade boys’ basketball tournament will be Feb. 2 and 3. The Parent-Teacher Organization will be on Feb. 5 at 4 p.m., and the school board will meet Feb. 7 at 5:30 p.m. There is no school President’s week, which is Feb. 19 through 23. Monthly awards for Grades 6-8 will be on Feb. 27. Coming up: the 8th grade boys’ basketball tournament in Crescent City is March 2 and 3.

Scotia school events

The Parent Teacher Organization will meet Feb. 7 at 1:15 p.m. The school board meeting is Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. Feb. 19 to 23 is President’s Week so there is no school.

Managed Services? Cont. from Page 1.

Just like larger companies, small businesses need technology to operate efficiently and to compete effectively. But as reliance on IT grows, the resources to support an increasingly complex IT environment may not. In many small businesses, IT resources are scarce, and can be quickly overwhelmed with the day-to-day responsibilities of keeping the IT infrastructure that the business depends on up and running. If you fall behind in keeping up with things such as backups, patches and security, the odds are that you'll face an IT outage or another problem down the road that will negatively impact your business. For instance, if your e-mail server, customer relationship management system, financial application or network goes down unexpectedly, you face substantial productivity and revenue losses as a result.

MSPs act as an extension of your IT department, taking care of routine IT infrastructure monitoring and management around the clock—freeing up your IT staff to focus on higher-value projects. By proactively monitoring and maintaining your systems, an MSP can help you avoid many technology problems in the first place. Should an issue occur an experienced MSP can troubleshoot and resolve it more efficiently.

Unlike traditional outsourcing situations, where you surrender complete control of your IT assets, you decide what you want the service provider to take care of, and what you want to handle. You retain full visibility into the process and management of your systems. In addition, the MSP subscription model gives you more expense predictability than a consultant-type time and billing model.

MSP Considerations?

With so many different types of MSPs and offerings, the MSP label can be a confusing one. So, when considering managed services, think first about your requirements. How satisfied you are with the level and quality of support that you have today? With so many different types of MSPs and offerings, the MSP label can be a confusing one. So, when considering managed services, think first about your requirements. How satisfied you are with the level and quality of support that you have today?

Where are the gaps, pain points and inefficiencies in IT infrastructure management? How do downtime, outages and other problems impact your business? With these requirements top of mind, evaluate MSPs that map to your IT, business and budget requirements and provide a flexible, proactive approach that can adapt with you as your needs evolve.

If you need a Managed Service Provider or need more information on the subject – call PSA Computer Services at (707) 506-6228 to set up an appointment to get a quote.

Arts District continued from page 1.

Dias and Angeloff each put in some start-up funds of their own, and grant funding was received from the Headwaters Foundation. Meanwhile Monica Warden, wanting to retrain from a food service background, was eligible for a program that would pay her to work initially, and she was looking for an opportunity. Jim Rich at the Pizza Factory, active in the chamber and aware of the project taking place, referred her, and Warden worked for several years for the chamber, until grant moneys ran out and her hours were cut.

In this capacity, she came to know the artists at the gallery and became interested in the arts organization that met there. "They needed a secretary, it felt great to be part of the community," she recalls as she took on that role.

"Monica and I have been with the organization all that time," Dias says of the board. Liz Deck, who lives in Rio Dell and works at Humboldt State in Youth Education Services, an office connecting students with community activities, mentoring, and other programs, is the treasurer. Artist Amy Embree is also an EPAD board member and runs the youth arts component, which the board hopes to see become a more major focus in the future.

Embree has worked with bringing intergenerational art programs to the area, blending children with seniors in care homes and other settings, and was pivotal in getting the **Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre** based in Blue Lake to bring its summer rural residency program to Rio Dell, with nearly 20 young people from around the world getting a master's degree in theater at the school spending several days teaching and performing in workshops around town.

"We need something for kids to do in this area, a safe place for parents to drop off their children and let them explore their creative talent," Warden says. Keeping events free and having a greater focus on music are goals they'd like to see this year.

"We must have raised and spent \$100,000 to benefit the community," Dias says of the past five years with EPAD. The Sculptures on the Avenue project was an early idea that underwent some modifications and experienced some delays but is now coming to fruition. The Arts on the Avenue events held monthly from May to October the past few years is another success Dias cites, providing funds for other activities and offering a place for small businesses to sell products and for performers to play music, as well as for people to get outside and meet and talk to each other in an afternoon social setting. The kickoff event each May is Art, Brew and BBQ, and Dias says plans are already underway to hold that, again at Scotia's Winema Theater. Dias sees a lot of opportunities for new people to get involved. "You don't have to be from Rio Dell, or be an artist," he says. It's a great way for college students to fulfill an internship, make contacts and get recognition for their work. "Someone just needs to be able to get out and be visible," Warden adds, suggesting that getting on the phone to talk up the events, seeking donations, encouraging participation, and going to related events to help spread the word, are critical to the organization's success. "This is a cool organization," Dias adds, noting it's an independent 501.c.3, meaning a recognized non-profit. "We are relaxed, open-minded and community-oriented, and we always have a good time."

Rio Dell-Scotia News

Is free of charge and published on the first of each month by the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce and the Rio Dell Community Resource Center. Funded by local businesses and the St. Joseph Health System. 650 copies distributed in Rio Dell, Scotia, and Fortuna by the Rio Dell Baptist Church.

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Submissions deadline for March newsletter copy is February 16.

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



Ongoing Events

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: Running low on food this week? Get a bag for your family or just for yourself at:

- **The Community Resource Center:** 99 Wildwood Ave., Rio Dell, no income verification is needed.
- **The Journey Church:** 95 Belleview Ave. Rio Dell, Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- **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: 100 Butcher St., Rio Dell,

Rio Dell Baptist Church, Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Call 764-3811 for more information.

Women's Health Project: Breast and Gynecology Eel River Valley Outreach Center: 707-726-7919 or 825-8345.

Friday Playgroups: We have a new Playgroup leader named Nicole and she's so excited to meet our community families!

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.

Free Produce Available: Those whose households qualify based on income are reminded of the monthly Mobile Produce Pantry that comes to the Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department on the second Wednesday of each month, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, contact Food for People at 445-3166.

From the Community Resource Center:

The Center will be closed Jan. 1 and Mon., Jan. 15, in observance of Martin Luther King Day..

Food distribution set

The Bread for Life Pantry commodities distribution will be the 3rd Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you can't make it, please call the Rio Dell Community Resource Center to see how you can still receive your monthly food box.

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Do you know if you are eligible for either CalFresh or CalWorks? Come find out how to qualify and apply for both programs. You can also apply for CalFresh, CalWorks and MediCal at www.cyourself.com.