

## Wildwood Days is Coming August 11 to 13

VOL. XXI NO. 7

# Rio Dell-Scotia News

FREE!

JULY  
2017

~AROUND TOWN~

## Scotia True Value Hardware to Close



Owner Linda David, left, and manager Becky Nicholson

A 20-year tradition in Scotia will end in July when the True Value Hardware store closes. Linda David will manage the final month of the store's operation, with the help of an inventory liquidation firm. Her husband, Paul David, is one of three brothers who ran the business along with an industrial, business-to-business hardware company. One brother died last fall, and Paul and Linda David want to retire to Kentucky, where a daughter lives.

"We want to thank the community and the area for 20 wonderful years," Linda David said. A native of Southern Humboldt, her memories of Scotia extend to her childhood in the 1950s. "My family would come to Scotia for groceries and banking," she said. The community of Bull Creek, where she grew up, bused people in to use the Scotia pool. "We played on the train. There's been a lot of change and also some things that have stayed the same," like the family-focused flavor of the community, she notes.

The hardware business was very successful, she says, and grew over time, adjusting to changes in the economy. "We're not going out of business, we're closing because we want to retire," she says, praising the employees who have staffed the store over the years. **Continued on Page 4.**

## Scotia Forges Ahead in Transition



Scotia marked the completion of the first home purchase in mid-June, when Dale Mensing, whose father was born half a block away in the old Scotia Hospital, took over the keys, along with wife Karen. "It's great to come back home," Dale Mensing said, noting his family has lived in Humboldt County since at least 1900. All 270 houses will be sold in phases over the next four to five years, according to current plans.

See [scotialiving.com](http://scotialiving.com) for the town's information on home sales. **Continued on Page 4.**

Wildwood Days, the Rio Dell celebration each August, will be compressed into three days from the traditional five this year, promising a full schedule of doings. Kids' night will be Friday, Aug. 11, and the planners are seeking vendors who want a free booth to sell kid-oriented items from 5 to 7 p.m. During this time the penny scramble, fire truck rides, and soap box derby rides will be going on. Email: [riodellwildwooddays@gmail.com](mailto:riodellwildwooddays@gmail.com) if you are interested in being a vendor. If you are planning to sell a food item, you'll need a food permit from the county health department.

Looking for a project to get the family together, keep the kids busy now that school is out, or a free way to promote your business or organization? Consider entering the Wildwood Days parade, which starts Saturday, Aug. 12 at noon. It's free, and there are prizes sponsored by the Coast Central Credit Union for those who choose to enter any of three categories of competition. The June newsletter from the City of Rio Dell carried a copy of the application and information sheet, which can also be downloaded from the website [riodellscotiachamber.org](http://riodellscotiachamber.org), under the button on the lower right that says *Join the parade!*

The theme *It's All About the Children* honors Ernie Cannady, who died in March and was active coaching youth sports as well as working at the Rio Dell elementary school, among his many contributions to the community. Watch for more on the complete line-up of activities in the August newsletter, get more information at [wildwooddays.org](http://wildwooddays.org), or check out Wildwood Days on Facebook.



## Arts on the Avenue Features Trash to Treasure Theme

Arts on the Avenue will be July 8 and the theme is Trash to Treasure. The Eagle Prairie Arts District urges the community to bring out your best reclaimed art pieces and show them off to the town, or even try to sell them. Vendor fees are \$10 for Rio and Scotia residents and \$20 for others. The event starts at 3 p.m., with music at 5 p.m., and features include a free bounce house for the kids, wine and beer tasting for adults, \$1 hot dogs and local art vendors, all happening around the gallery (at 406 Wildwood) and Dias Artistries, across the street.

## Daylong skate park Event Set

A skate park festival will be held at the fire hall in Rio Dell on Saturday, July 15. Events start at 10 a.m. with a street contest, followed by a form of competition called Big T's Game of Skate and a best trick contest sponsored by Lucky Star Realty of Eureka. There will be bands, vendors, food and beer plus raffles, drawings and prizes throughout the day.

## Shotz Coffee Shop Open for Business

Shotz on Wildwood Ave. in Rio Dell is now open seven days a week, 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



## Member Profile: Coast Central Credit Union Strong and Helping the Community

Manager Cindy Hicks at the Fortuna branch of the Coast Central Credit Union has no trouble listing the benefits her employer offers to the area. "We're a cooperative, so the members are the owners," she says, noting this "fundamental difference" means lower interest rates when borrowing money, and higher interest rates when investing, since profits aren't channeled to shareholders. Other advantages include the organization's size and strength. "We have 13 branches and a billion dollars," she notes. "We're five-star rated, that's as high as you can go," she says of the Bauer Financial Service system that rates banks and credit unions throughout the U.S., which people can check online for free at [bauerfinancial.com](http://bauerfinancial.com).

"We're locally managed," Hicks continued, pointing out that decisions are made by a local board. And, the credit union funnels about \$200,000 a year into the community, helping out with non-profit organizations and fundraisers. "We give to about 80 percent of the activities in Humboldt County" she says, as well as supporting activities in Del Norte and Trinity counties. She indicates her office, which is filled with gift baskets she has assembled to benefit various upcoming silent auctions and other activities. Finally, there's the quality of service that Hicks believes sets the credit union apart. "We go above and beyond," she says, taking the extra moment to build a one-on-one relationship. "It's like family here," one teller laughed, noting how the branch was decorated to mark Hick's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday recently. "This is why I worked here half of my career," Hicks says of her 40 years in banking, 20 of them in management with the credit union – it's the personal relationships among the employees and customers. All this, she thinks, adds up to the high level of satisfaction customers report in relationship surveys and Peoples' Choice awards offered through the *Times-Standard* and *North Coast Journal* newspapers.

In her 11 years as manager at the Fortuna branch, Hicks has served on a number of boards. A major passion is helping high school youth and college students. She works with the schools and other organizations such as Decade of Difference to give young people practice in mock job interviews, advice on how to present themselves, and tips on social media behavior and what the work world seeks and expects in employees. "They will be taking over one day," she says of her mentoring work and the good sense it makes to ensure young people get a solid start.

### **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 Bellevue 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.

### **Eagle Prairie Arts District**

406 Wildwood Avenue. 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 Rio Dell Baptist Church, 100 Butcher St. Call Susan at 407-8707. Join us!

### **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.

### **Senior Group Meets for Lunch, Cards**

Rio Dell-Scotia seniors meet Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for cards and lunch at the chamber of commerce office, 406 Wildwood Ave., Rio Dell. Contact John at 764-3251 by noon the day before to have a \$3 lunch provided by CC Market, or just come for the cards.

### **Community Resource Center Services:**

**CalFresh/CalWorks:** Come to the Rio Dell Community Resource Center to find out how to qualify and apply for both programs.

**The Nurturing Parenting Program** focuses on discussions and activities which promote nurturing relationships between parents and children. This program is FREE to all community members and offers flexible scheduling. Meetings can be 30 minutes or an hour. Please register with Peach Leath. Childcare will not be provided during NPP sessions.

**Food For People Summer Lunch Program:** The Rio Dell Community Resource Center is facilitating the Summer Lunch Program weekdays through August 25. Lunch is served from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. at the Rio Dell Fireman's Park and from 1 to 1:30 p.m. at Scotia Elementary School. (There will be no lunches July 4). Find out how to get more food for your family!

### **Fortuna Food Distribution Date Set**

The Fortuna Food for People produce distributions occurs the third Wednesday of each month, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at Fortuna Adventist Community Services, 2331 Rohnerville Road. The next one will be on July 19. Those attending are asked to please bring their own bags. For more information about attending or volunteering at a market, please contact Food for People at (707) 445-3166.



## Scotia Hardware Continued from Page 1:

The building formerly housed a Coast to Coast hardware store, which burned in the 1992 fire that destroyed the Scotia shopping center following an earthquake. After standing empty, it opened as a True Value with the David brothers as owners. Becky Nicholson, the longest-serving of the store's six employees, began in 2000 working in accounting. "The position of manager just sort of evolved," she said of her most recent title, as she tackled the various jobs including ordering and checking in new stock.

Nicholson sold her Rio Dell home in preparation for a move to Washington State where her husband had taken a job, in a timeframe that coincided with the closure of the store. The Town of Scotia owns the hardware store property and has been trying to secure a buyer.

*School is out for  
summer!*

**DRIVE CAREFULLY**

**HAPPY 4TH OF  
JULY!**

## 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. 450 copies distributed in Rio Dell, Scotia, and Fortuna by the Rio Dell Baptist Church.

Copyright © 2017

**Submissions deadline for August newsletter copy is July 14th. Call the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce at**

**506-5081 to advertise.**

**St. Joseph Health**   
St. Joseph • Redwood Memorial

## Town of Scotia Continued from Page 1.



Meanwhile, the Community Services District board of directors is busily assuming responsibility for the water and wastewater services, parks and recreation facilities, historic structures and other properties it formally took over from the Town of Scotia corporation in May. The five-member board meets at 5:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month, as well as at specially-called meetings when required. The board includes president Rick Walsh, vice president Gayle McKnight, and directors Diane Bristol, Paul Newmaker and Susan Pryor.

Handling the day-to-day work of running the community are general manager Steve Tyler and assistant general manager Leslie Marshall, both contract employees hired by Planwest Partners, Inc., an Arcata-based consulting firm offering services to governmental entities. Attorney Tracy Boobar with the Law Offices of Nancy Diamond, also in Arcata, provides legal counsel. Tyler and Marshall staff the office, which is also where board meetings are held, at 122 Main Street (in the suite of facilities that includes the post office and Massage of the Redwoods), from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A website, <http://scotiacsd.com/>, provides information.



There is much to do. The board is considering replacing the water and wastewater treatment plants with new package plants, according to a news release, noting they would be more efficient, easier to maintain, and provide safe, clean water. While current utility fees are sufficient to pay for these upgrades, the board is seeking grants and low-interest loans to offset the costs. The museum and Winema Theater both require new roofs and other exterior upgrades, and there is the need to meet accessibility requirements for restrooms to comply with the Americans with Disabilities act.

A recent meeting saw directors addressing the potential injuries that could come from people climbing on the lumbering equipment on display in the park area adjacent to the museum. While noting that local families and visitors of all ages come to the park to climb on the equipment and take photos, directors voiced concern for the dangers of people falling, getting cut on sharp edges, and being exposed to potentially harmful substances in the paint and materials.

Fencing will be erected and warning signs posted as an initial measure while the board examines possible ways to address the issue more permanently, which range from refurbishing of the displays, estimated to cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, to the possible sale of these items. A delegation from the Mill Valley Historical Society was in attendance, noting their continued interest in purchasing the locomotive because it served in a lumbering operation on Mt. Tamalpais before being moved to Scotia, but agreeing that there are substantial costs either party would need to invest in the care of the machinery.