

# Rio Dell-Scotia News

## Wildwood Days cancelled

Wildwood Days has been cancelled for this year, it was announced in early June. A number of factors related to the pandemic helped with the decision, which came after a great deal of discussion within the fire department, which holds the event, including use of an online poll that garnered more than 400 responses and showed that three-quarters of those answering would attend the event if it were held.

Lisa Wilson, wife of fire chief Shane Wilson, said the discussion included the difficulty of ensuring everyone attending signed an indemnification form releasing the department of liability in the event they caught the Covid-19 virus. Another issue was the high cost of meat, which meant attendees at the department's barbeque would have to pay about \$45 per plate to make a profit. With businesses in crisis, she added, planners did not feel right asking for donations for the auction.

The rules around dealing with the pandemic changed every day, Wilson said. "I contacted the Covid 19 hotline, the health department, and an attorney. There was a slight possibility we may have been in Stage 4 (when groups of more than 100 can gather) by mid-July, but we have to have some permits filed 30 days before the event and the meat would have to be ordered in advance, and if the event for some reason couldn't be held, we would have lost the money."

This would have been the 50<sup>th</sup> year of Wildwood Days, but the 50-year celebration will instead be Aug. 6, 7 and 8 of 2021. "Wildwood Days is our biggest fundraiser," she added, with the department standing to lose \$20,000 in revenue. "We won't be able to make that up elsewhere, we will have to take the loss."

## Meet a chamber member: Lisa Fryrear, State Farm agent

Lisa Fryrear has been a State Farm insurance agent for eight years. Fryrear's office is in Eureka but she has lived in Fortuna for 23 years with her husband, Norm, and children. Her clients come from throughout the county. She sees herself offering a holistic approach in meeting the insurance needs of her customers. "It's my job to protect their assets and for that reason I can't use a cookie cutter approach," she says. "I like to get to know my customers and what is important to them." She adds that State Farm offers more than 90 products including home, auto and life policies, business and health insurance policies, plus financial services such as mutual funds and annuities, with which she can assist clients.



She began servicing the clients of Don Brown, a Fortuna-based State Farm agent who had been a mentor to her, following his death two years ago. She is enjoying getting to know his many clients in Rio Dell and Scotia.

"I was born and raised in the San Joaquin Valley but thank my lucky stars every day to live in Humboldt," Fryrear says. She enjoys spending time with family and serving her community by being on several boards, including Rotary and St. Joseph's Hospital. Favorite activities include golfing, hiking, camping and exploring the local landscapes, as well as sitting around a campfire on weekends.



**Flags have been flying on Wildwood Avenue on holidays this summer.** More than 70 flags were purchased by businesses, community members and others, at \$50 each, with sponsors providing inscriptions to go on plaques that will be affixed to each of the poles. Sixty flags were initially purchased and holders installed by members of the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce to instill civic pride, create a feeling of energy for those passing through the community on vacations, and to provide an avenue for people to honor a friend or loved one. (Continued on Page 4)

## ***NEWS AND NOTES***

### **Summer lunch program underway**

Sack lunches will be provided this summer to all children under the age of 18 in Rio Dell and Scotia Monday through Friday from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. through August 14. The program started June 15. Children or their parents should come to the Rio Dell elementary school parking lot at 95 Center Street during those times to receive their meal to take home. The program is sponsored by the Rio Dell Community Resource Center. See Pages 3 & 4. Call 764-5239 with questions.

### **Senior Food Drive wraps up**

The Journey Church on Belleview Avenue in Rio Dell donated more than \$1300 over the past couple months, contributed by its members, to the senior food drive. That effort has helped area seniors stay safe in their homes during the pandemic, with free food delivered by volunteers who signed up with the City of Rio Dell and coordinated through the Community Resource Center. Funds such as this donation, which have also been raised by the chamber through its members, have helped enable a wider food distribution than would otherwise be possible, serving an average 37 homes each week.

To date over \$6800 has been donated, either expressly for this purpose or earmarked by the chamber. Food purchases are made from CC Market, a chamber member and one of the first to contribute to the effort, to help promote small, local businesses. The effort is winding down for now as more businesses open and people are running errands more often themselves. The chamber is earmarking the unused funds to enable a later effort if a second wave of the virus requires staying at home again.

### **Chamber eyes re-opening**

The chamber office at 406 Wildwood in Rio Dell has been closed since March 21, except for the storing of flags (see page 1 story) and the weekly filling of food bags for distribution to seniors (see story above). Meetings such as are held by the Kiwanis board, chamber board, and the members of the weight-loss group TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly), and the exercise group which meets three times/week, have been curtailed during the pandemic. The chamber office can resume use after Stage 4 is called in the cycle of reopening, and after meeting the requirements set by the county regarding safety, mask usage, and sanitation. The board has begun to prepare the plan and is awaiting more guidelines before announcing the reopening to use.

### **Chamber congratulates scholarship winners**

Scotia eighth-graders Jacob Hatten and Athena Jones and Rio Dell Elementary eighth-graders Donald Bickle and Heaven Burns were winners of the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce \$50 scholarship this year. Each year two graduating eighth graders from each of the two schools are selected by their teachers to receive the awards, based on scholarship, leadership, volunteering, and civic-mindedness. The chamber board congratulates all the graduates, who faced a difficult year in light of the pandemic, missing out not only on traditional activities but also the day-to-day contact with friends and teachers, and wishes them well as they begin their high school career.

### **Food for those in need**

The Journey Church at 95 Belleview Ave., Rio Dell continues to be open on the third Thursday of the month from 9 a.m. to noon for those needing food. In addition, the Community Resource Center, on restricted hours during the pandemic, will provide a free bag of food while supplies last for those in need.

### **Advanced Security Systems honored**

By focusing on customer satisfaction and providing state-of-the-art security solutions, chamber member Advanced Security Systems in Eureka has for the third year been listed among the top 100 security dealers in the U.S. according to Chuck Petrusa, president and chief executive officer. The ranking is part of the *2020 Security Dealer Magazine 100* and is based on total annual revenue, residential subscribers, and non-residential sales revenue, among other factors.

# Summer Lunch Program

Now through August 14

Monday-Friday

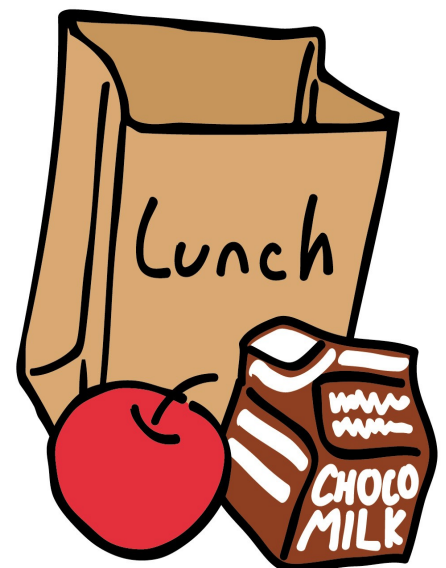
12:15pm-1:45pm

Eagle Prairie Elementary parking lot

95 Center St., Rio Dell, CA 95562

## Free sack lunches for all children under 18.

Questions? Call the Rio Dell  
Community Resource Center  
at 764-5239



**Flags on Wildwood Ave. continued from Page 1)** Those flags were first flown on Memorial Day and again on Flag Day, and will be brought out next for July 4. The plaques, produced at Ferndale Jewelers in Fortuna, will be attached to poles as they are completed. That so many signed up to sponsor a flag, despite the financial and other concerns of the pandemic, is a tribute to the patriotism, caring and support of the community, said Nick Angeloff, chamber president. Additional locations are being discussed for more flags, and the Scotia Community Services District expressed interest in having flags in a similar display at its meeting June 18.

### **Kiwanis corner by Carole Arrington, Secretary**

What a weird and wonderful world in which we live. We are all witnessing and experiencing historical events that are sure to change the world. Race has always been a controversial topic in the United States and the Kiwanis organization is no exception. For over 50 years Kiwanis members were all white and all male. In 1965 a club in Oxford, Indiana welcomed its first African American member, Art Miller. When Mr. Miller was inducted into the club, many members resigned, including two past presidents who went on to form a Rotary Club. Other clubs began allowing African American members after that, with some not welcoming non-white members until as late as the early 1980s. Birmingham, Alabama did not see its first African American member until 1984. It does not appear that there was a club mandate that changed the “rule” for African American inclusion; it seems that after the first African American member was inducted, membership evolved naturally until all clubs became racially inclusive. However, it wasn’t until 1987 that women were allowed to join.

We are all connected. We might look different on the outside but we are all the same on the inside and we should make sure that our hearts and minds are open to all. Learn to not judge others’ “differences” but embrace, celebrate and learn from them. This is how we grow as the HUMAN RACE. One race, one world, one love. Join your local Kiwanis Club and help us celebrate diversity in our community.

# **PROGRAMA DE ALMUERZO DE**

**Ahora hasta el 14 de agosto**

**LUNES-VIERNES 12:15 —1:45 PM**

**ESTACIONAMIENTO DE EAGEL PRARIE**

**Escuela Primaria**

**95 Center St., Rio Dell**

**BOLSA DE ALMUERZO GRATIS PARA**

**NIÑOS MENORES DE 18 AÑOS**

**¿PREGUNTAS? LLAME AL RIO  
DELL COMMUNITY RESOURCE  
CENTER A 764-5239**

