

# Rio Dell-Scotia News

## Wildwood Days is a go! See more inside

### Chamber joins effort to promote wildlife, tourism, art

The Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring an otter statue, one of 108 that were commissioned across the tri-county area in a wide-ranging program called North Coast Otters, each painted individually by a local artist. “Our” otter is moving around our communities this summer to provide an opportunity for locals as well as travelers to see it, before it and the others are sold in an online auction this fall to raise funds for environmental and other programs at Humboldt State.



Clark

Watch for signs in the windows at the Chamber of Commerce office, 406 Wildwood, as well as liking the chamber’s Facebook page, to see where the otter is each week. If you want to bring the otter to your business, call 707.506.5081 or email [rdschamber@gmail.com](mailto:rdschamber@gmail.com). The program was conceived before Covid and was paused for a year. Publicity surrounding the program is designed to bring travelers into participating businesses to see the art, shoot photos of themselves with it, and engage in the effort to protect and preserve our environment and wildlife. There’s a kids’ program and a citizen science component to the effort, and a booklet showing all 108 of the statues and their locations that people can follow on their own art crawl.

The otter statue was delivered to Rio Dell over Memorial Day weekend and first took up residence at Root 101 Nursery and Wildwood Waffles, 770 Wildwood Avenue. Our otter was painted by Augustus Clark, who grew up in Rio Dell and graduated from Fortuna High in 1991 and from UC-Santa Cruz where he majored in studio art. His studio is at 208 C Street in Eureka, open by appointment. Termed “Mr. Prolific” in a *Times-Standard* interview a couple years ago for the number of paintings he has done, Clark has also gone into other genres including animation, and his work can be seen on some utility boxes in Eureka. His website is [augustusclark.com](http://augustusclark.com).



### Scotia non-profit offers lawn-care, janitorial service to public

Reaching For Independence (RFI) has moved to Scotia and is seeking to expand its customer base and fill a couple job openings. The nonprofit provides employment support and life skill education to its clients, adults with developmental disabilities and autism. RFI purchased four units in the Scotia Mall and moved from its former Fortuna base in April of last year. It occupies three of those units and the fourth is the home of Palco Pharmacy.



Jeff Pockett

Formed in 2005, the organization has 60 clients in Del Norte and Humboldt counties doing lawn care and janitorial work for RFI customers and continues to expand, according to Executive Director Jeff Pockett. All RFI clients are paid minimum wage or higher, Pockett says. When community members or local businesses hire an RFI crew, they get a full team of up to three clients and a job coach. Crew rates for janitorial work start at \$48.75 and for lawn care, \$60 per hour. The benefits to hiring a lawn care or janitorial crew through RFI are that a customer gets up to four people working at one time.

Pockett explains how it works: “The job coach is there to provide direction and supervision, but also to assist in tasks that the client has difficulty accomplishing. When someone hires a house cleaner (Continued on Page 4.)



# NEWS AND NOTES

## KIWANIS KORNER – JULY 2021

BY: CAROLE ARRINGTON, RIO DELL/SCOTIA KIWANIS

As the world begins to open up I feel a wee bit like Rip Van Winkle must have felt waking from a long sleep! It hasn't been 20 years, but no one ever thought this would last as long as it has. All our lives have been impacted by the pandemic in some way and we will all be happy to get things back to the "new" normal, as they say. The Kiwanis Club is also operating in the new normal and we held our first socially distanced event in June. "Flicks in the Field" showed the first movie of the season in the Rio Dell ballpark on June 5.

There were some technical difficulties and things did not run smoothly, but it feels good to have held an event after being unable to do so for so long. We thank everyone who stuck it out and supported the event. "Flicks in the Field" will be held once per month through October. Everyone is welcome and the entrance is free! This is just the first of many events yet to come. The Kiwanis Club will host a pancake breakfast during Wildwood days and is planning our second annual Frulingsfest in March. We are back!! Look for the posters in local store windows for more information on the July Flick in the Field.

If you have been thinking of becoming a member of your local Kiwanis Club, it's easy to get involved. Inquiries can be made through the Rio Dell/Scotia Kiwanis Club Facebook page or email [riodell.scotiakiwanis@gmail.com](mailto:riodell.scotiakiwanis@gmail.com).

### Scotia Lodge slates opening

Watch for details as this historic icon re-opens after a several-year pause under management that has been busily opening other unique businesses in the region such as the cannabis lounge, restaurant and spa under the flagship Papa and Barkley name at the former K-Mart site in Eureka.

### Get your duck race tickets now!

The annual Wildwood Days duck race, conducted by the Scotia firefighters, is a go, taking place at the Eagle Prairie Bridge at 9 a.m. on Sunday, August 8. First place wins \$500, second place wins \$200 and third place wins \$100, in addition to other prizes. Tickets are \$5 each or a 'six quack' for \$25. Message on Facebook or call Mike Jensen at 845.4923 for tickets.

### Classic car events continue at DJ's

Summer classic car events continue this month and next at DJ's Burger Bar, 509 Wildwood Ave. in Rio Dell. Come out for classic car nights, offering food, friendship, raffles and more on Wednesdays, July 21 and August 18 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 6 is the traditional *Ernie Canaday Car Cruise* as part of Wildwood Days, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. with an all-you-can-eat barbeque for \$10, and live music by Midnight Special, until 8 p.m. Call DJ's at 764.2924 for more info.

### Chamber awards scholarships to graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders

As in the past, the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce awarded scholarships to students selected by their teachers based on their academic record and civic participation in the community. Each school received \$50 to give to one or split between two students as they chose. Rio Dell student Raul Bernal and Scotia students Allison Bartlett and Maggie Lewis received their awards at graduation exercises last month at the Bear River Recreation Center.

### New website to find how to get Covid vaccine

Covid vaccinations are open to everyone 16 and over now, and Pfizer's has been approved for those 12 to 15. A new state-wide website (replacing the one run by Humboldt County) lets you be notified of opportunities to get the shot so sign up here: [MyTurn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov). [It provides a place where those needing a ride to the site for the shot can indicate that.](#)

### Still time to be in Veterans Day salute

A salute to veterans was placed on the city hall lawn in Rio Dell over the Memorial Day weekend, a chamber of commerce project to which those with ties to living or deceased veterans submitted a photo and information. While Memorial Day nationally is an occasion to honor those veterans who died in war, this salute was an expanded effort to honor all veterans living and dead, who will again be honored on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. If you haven't located a photo of your loved one to be in this salute but would like to, there is time. Send the photo and information – spelling of name, years of service and rank/military branch to [rdschamber@gmail.com](mailto:rdschamber@gmail.com).



# You've got Spam!

By: Rebekah Long  
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Getting spam is a hassle. No argument there, but what's even worse than that? Unknowingly sending it. When fake, unverified, and potentially virus-ridden emails go out with your email address, it can look bad. And not only do you look bad, but you also have to deal with the emails that bounce back due to dead addresses.



There's one reassurance in all of this, and that is you are not actually sending out spam, and your computer and IP address are still safe. Unfortunately, there is still some bad news. If spam is being sent from your email address, your address is either "spoofed" or "hijacked." Either way the spam isn't coming from your computer, and probably not from the bad actor's computer either. It's probably being sent from someone's malware-infected PC – and they probably don't even know they've been hacked!

Spoofing an address is when someone sends out email with your address written in as the sender, even though they don't actually have access to your email account. Unfortunately, as of now, there are no remedies to spoofing. There is no way to tell who sent them, and no way to stop it from happening. Fortunately, these bad actors tend to change the email addresses they spoof often, and they will move on from your email address eventually. Your email service provider may administratively block your email address for a period of time when it notices the large amount of email being sent from your email account. If this happens, you will need to contact them to "unblock" your email address.

Hijacking can be much more devastating. In the case of a hijacking the criminal takes control of your email account. This includes that person having the ability to read your email, which can then be used to specifically target people in your contacts. When you've been hijacked, a bad actor can also lock you out of your own account. Thankfully, unlike spoofing, something can be done about hijacking. If you can still receive email, try logging into your email account on another computer or by using your internet browser's private mode. When the login fails, try the service's "Forgot your password?" or "Need help?" link. The service will email you a password reset link. You will need to get it before the bad actor. If that fails you'll have to contact your email service provider and explain the problem. If you have access to the internet then perform an internet search similar to "I can't sign into my Gmail account" or "I can't sign into my Outlook account" or the name of whatever email service you use. This should get you to a support page.

If you've been using the same password for other services you should change those as soon as possible to stop the hacker from moving onto other services you use. Once you have everything back under control, don't forget to email apologies to everyone who received spam from your email address.

Here are four things you can do to help prevent your accounts from being hacked in the future:

1. Use passwords that are 9 characters or more. Utilize upper and lowercase letters, numbers and a special character or two (if allowed).
2. Use different passwords for each different account (don't be lazy, you'll regret it later!)
3. If the account offers multi-factor authentication, use it.
4. Do not send passwords in emails .... ever!

**If you've been hacked and need help, call PSA Computer Services at (707) 601-1408.**

## Mark your calendar, Wildwood Days is back!

Wildwood Days kicks off **Thursday, August 5** with the firemen's muster and rolls on for three more days according to Lisa Wilson of the fire department's planning group. **Friday night** features kids' activities including bouncers, fire truck rides and the soap box derby, and the start of the Dennis Wendt softball tourney, as well as the Ernie Canaday car cruise, barbeque and dance (see Page 2 for more on that) and ends with a street dance featuring the Red Line band from 9 to 11 p.m. at DJ's.

**Saturday** starts with a bocce tournament at 9 a.m., the continued softball tourney, the opening of the vendors and craft fair at 10 a.m. and a book sale at the library. There's a parade at noon, and a music festival in the park at 1 p.m., a Texas Holdem tourney at 7 p.m., and fireworks at the school field at 9:45 p.m., to celebrate the event's 50th year. You can donate to the fireworks at a gofundme site on line.

**Sunday** opens with the car show and shine at 9 a.m. in front of city hall and the duck race (more on Page 2 about the ducks) and the continuation of the softball tournament, vendor fair, and book sale. The firemen's Bar-Be-Que will be at noon followed by an auction at 1 p.m.

**Scotia non-profit offers lawn-care** (Continued from Page 1) or someone to mow the lawn it may take many hours or even a couple days to complete a job. With RFI's crew that time can be cut, so customers can get more done for the money while also knowing they are helping provide employment to people with a developmental disability. It really is a win all around!

As a community-based support program, RFI works to integrate its clients into all aspects of community life, Pockett notes, adding the organization is excited about its new Scotia home and looking forward to working with local business and community members to expand the scope of opportunities for the clients it serves. .

"The Scotia Mall space was perfect for us. Everything we need is here in this beautiful town, and we really look forward to working with area businesses and being able to provide our services to members of the community."

Currently, RFI is looking for lawn care customers in the Scotia and Rio Dell area and has a few openings for people wanting to assist in providing client support and supervision.

Pockett loves the outdoors, hiking, biking, camping, and exploring Humboldt. "I have worked for RFI for 12.5 years and have been the executive director for seven years. Before moving to Humboldt County in 2008 I spent 10 years working for The Salvation Army in Southern California in youth summer camp programming and as a church and community center director," he says.

## Scotia school sees two long-term staffers retire

Two members of the Scotia school staff retired last month at the close of the school year: Sandra Close, with the district for 40 years, mostly teaching first grade, and Gayle McKnight, cafeteria managers and classroom paraprofessional with 31 years of service. Both women have been active in the Parent-Teacher Organization, and both were honored by the Humboldt County Office of Education for their dedication and service.

Close is known for her work teaching reading— not just in class but during summers, and not just to those she was assigned to, but anyone struggling, Scotia school superintendent Amy Gossien notes. She was a reading expert and a mentor to other teachers, Gossien said, and made learning fun, mixing academics with crafts, treats, and love. Close hatched chicks, butterflies, and ladybugs among other critters in her classroom; provided food for her students and their families for an annual Thanksgiving feast; and could be counted on for Grandparent Day, school carnival, and other events, and to help anyone in need. With her husband, Wally, she gave selflessly to the school and its children, Gossien said.

McKnight started the school-based cafeteria program, set up the new cafeteria, and started the breakfast service and supper programs, Gossien notes, adding that she went "above and beyond to ensure fresh, healthy food for her charges." McKnight coordinated efforts like the Harvest of the Month and the walking/running club. She secured the California Grown Fresh School Meals grant for the school greenhouse, the first grant of this kind that went to a Humboldt area school, and set up the garden which before Covid restrictions, supplied fruits and vegetables for the salad bar. The local chapter of the California Native Plant Society donated a half-dozen native plant varieties this year for a pollinator garden at the school which led to the organization bringing plants to other school gardens in the area. During the Spring, 2020 school closure, McKnight served meals to the community.



**PLEASE BE SAFE !!!!!!!**

### Rio Dell-Scotia News

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