

# Rio Dell-Scotia News

## Have a safe and happy July 4! Two murals underway in Rio Dell



Two murals are being created in the downtown area of Rio Dell, each funded in part by the city's Façade Project which encourages various types of projects to enhance the business district. One, shown in two sections above, was described in the April issue of this newsletter, and is sponsored by the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce. It is being produced by Julia Rose Forsdyce.

That mural, which salutes the people who settled in Rio Dell and shaped the community it became, wraps two sides of the building housing the Rio Dell Community Resource Center at 99 Wildwood, spanning 800 square feet. To fund the balance of the expense, the chamber is offering people the chance to be "part of the big picture" by paying to have their likeness included in the collection of loggers, townspeople and others.

Go to the artist's website at [juliafordyce.com/riodell](http://juliafordyce.com/riodell) to see the full image and how you can participate.

Meanwhile across Monument Rd a mural is being created on the building owned by Margro Consulting. Artist Blake Reagan says he is celebrating the environment with "Under My Wing," the depiction of a spotted owl flying above other local species that benefit from the owl's status as an endangered species.

Reagan grew up near Weaverville and moved to Eureka after high school. He lives now on Table Bluff and looks forward to the Rio Dell project as allowing him to be in the Eel River valley, a change of pace from his recent work in Eureka. He has studied at Shasta College and graduated from College of the Redwoods but says he is self-taught and driven by his passion.

While he has worked in a variety of art forms from painting to sculpture, Reagan likes doing large images on buildings which takes a lot of energy to create but can spruce up a neighborhood. He started in this genre with the utility box project in the City of Eureka and participated in the Eureka Street Art Festival, both of which led to his getting mural jobs. "I like to make art for everyone, not just for people who go to galleries," he notes.

For six years he has done a temporary art installation at Burning Man, the week-long festival in the Nevada desert. Work he has done in Eureka includes the Speakeasy Bar, murals on 6<sup>th</sup> and E streets, the Jefferson Community Center, and behind Café Brio. He collaborated with Lucas Thornton in a mural on the county courthouse. His website is [blakereagan.weebly.com](http://blakereagan.weebly.com).



## Wildwood days is coming August 5-7

## KIWANIS KORNER, JULY, 2022

By: Carole Arrington, Rio Dell/Scotia

The Kiwanis Club of Rio Dell and Scotia will once again be hosting a pancake breakfast on Saturday during Wildwood Days. We will be serving from the elementary school kitchen and will be open from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. August will also see the return of "Movies in the Park." Watch for more information on our Facebook page and posters located in the windows of local businesses. The club is still meeting the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Scotia Lodge main dining room. Attend a meeting as a guest to see what Kiwanis is all about! For information on Kiwanis and how to join or just volunteer to help at any of our events, check out Kiwanis Club of Rio Dell-Scotia Facebook page.

### Wildwood Days seeks fireworks donations

The annual community event, again set for the first weekend in August, is returning with many of the traditional events according to Lisa Wilson. Some are still being finalized, and a big push at this time is raising money for the fireworks show that was begun last year. Boxes to accept donations are out at stores including DJ's Burger Bar, Mingo's, The Pizza Factory, Root 101, Proper Wellness, and at both CC and Hoby's markets. The goal is to raise \$15,000. Events including a bingo night last month with another this month are being planned to raise additional funds.

### Wildwood Days parade names grand marshal, theme

The chamber of commerce is once again managing the Wildwood Days parade, the theme of which is a salute to first responders of all types – doctors, nurses, police, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and Cal Fire members. Long-time business owner Jim Rich is being honored as grand marshal for his years of service to the community in capacities including leadership in community organizations, co-founding the Little League, generously supporting activities with donations, and nearly a quarter century as a school board member.



Want to join the parade? Go to [riodellscotiachamber.org](http://riodellscotiachamber.org) to download and fill out an application that describes your entry for the emcee to announce and come to the line-up area on Center Street by 11 a.m. on Sat., Aug. 6 to be eligible for judging.

### Join the chamber monthly board meeting

The meetings takes place at noon on the first Friday of the month, July 1 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.

### School lunches ongoing

Lunches will be served to students inside (vs. drive-thru/brown bag) the Rio Dell school weekdays from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. thru August 5.

### Scotia house sales are in Phase 3

Mary Bullwinkel, residential real estate sales coordinator for the Town of Scotia, notes that the sale of homes in that community is in what is called Phase 3, with the completion of Phases 1 and 2, in which 114 houses as well as the former Catholic and Union churches were sold. There are 270 homes in Scotia, so 156 are in Phase 3, with sales typically coming quickly upon their posting to the Multiple Listing Service. "Very exciting times here in Scotia!" she noted, citing a situation with eight homes in escrow at once, half bought by tenants currently living in them, and half by people from outside the community.

In addition to homes, many commercial sales have also taken place. Those already discussed in this newsletter include the Scotia Lodge, the former Scotia Hospital, and space in the former Scotia Shopping Center now occupied by Reaching for Independence and the former hardware store, undergoing transformation to house the medical center operated by Trinity Health Services. Also sold is the building housing Hoby's Market and the post office complex, home to the new store Rustic Whimsey, introduced in last month's newsletter, along with other businesses.

### 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. With July 4 around the corner and being a time of fireworks across many communities, it would be a good idea to get 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.

(Note and News continued on Page 3)

# What Is Cyber Extortion?

By Billy J Long, PSA Computer Services

The news is constantly reporting cyber-criminal activity and the devastating consequences of those who are compromised. This article will define what cyber-extortion is, and some steps you can take to make it less likely that you will fall prey to these criminal schemes. I will also lay out a vital step to help recover in the event you are compromised.



So, what is cyber-extortion? A network/internet crime where an individual or group demands money or some other response to discontinue whatever criminal activity they are enacting against you or your business. In one type of cyber-extortion the attackers compromise a device on the victim's network and then attempt to install malware known as "ransomware" on the device. If successful they will then inform the user of the situation and demand payment for the user to regain access to their data.

How are we so easily compromised? Email. Email has become a serious problem with the sheer volume of spam that most of us receive. Cyber-criminals know most people are dealing with large volumes of junk email every day and are likely to click on a link in an email if the email looks legitimate to the user in some way. So, these attackers expend quite a lot of effort to custom craft emails to closely resemble authentic ones from companies most of us are very familiar with. Embedded in these counterfeit emails are links to malware and phone numbers to hack groups. Once the link is clicked or the number is called you are well on your way to full compromise and at their mercy.

What can we do to help avoid this situation? First step: don't trust any email. You must exercise restraint and common sense. Let me give you an easy example. You receive an email stating that you just won a million dollars. All you have to do is click this link to start your claim. We now apply common sense and mark the email as Spam and then Delete it. Why? Because you did not just win a million dollars and if you click that link to claim it, you're going to get something you'll regret for a long time.

Easy, right? Let's try a harder one. You receive an official looking email stating that your payment of \$1,200 has been successfully processed and will deduct from your account within the next 3-5 business days. The email then goes on to thank you for your payment and for being one of their valued customers. At the very bottom of the email, where you would expect it to be, is the statement: if you did not initiate this payment please click this link to cancel the payment.

What do you do? Take a careful look at the return address for the email – does it make sense? Now hover over the link they are directing you to – **without clicking on it!** Does the link make sense? With some training and skill, you'll be able to identify these scam emails and avoid a lot of trouble. If after examining the email you still can't determine whether it's legit or not, contact your IT service provider. They will look at the email for you and let you know if it's legit.

What can you do now to help minimize the pain if you do become compromised? Backups. Backup, backup, backup. You hear it all the time, but are you doing it? Are you doing the right kind of backups? If not, you are in store for some serious heartache. With a proper backup system these compromises become less painful. If for some reason you or your business becomes the victim of a cyber-extortion group, it can be mitigated without paying them a dime and with minimal down-time by restoring the system (or systems) to a previous state.

In this article I have attempted to raise your awareness to the ongoing issue of cyber-extortion and cyber-criminals. These crimes are not just happening to corporations or down in the city, they're happening to local businesses and our neighbors. Knowledge is power – if it is used correctly! I hope you will take what you have learned here and use it as a starting point for your own research into how to protect yourself and your friends from cyber-criminals.

**If you have questions concerning cyber-crime, email, backup systems or any other issues give us a call.**

## **(Notes and News from Page 2) -Scotia Band slates July performances**

Scotia Band has three scheduled public performances in July. See the performance at Clarke Square in Eureka, July 4, noon to 1 p.m. This will be the band's first full concert since December 2019 and is free.

The band is participating in the Fortuna Rodeo Parade July 16 riding on a float provided by Cory Nunes Construction and on July 17 will perform at the Humboldt Botanical Gardens near College of the Redwoods from 1 to 3 p.m. as part of the garden's summer concert series. Go to [hbgf.org](http://hbgf.org) for more information. An entry fee to the gardens is required. Band manager Sharon Holt reports of these events, "We will be wearing our updated uniforms, have several new members, and lots of new musical selections."



## Local archaeologist sets sights on Macedonia



**Photos of Heraklea Lyncestis (the ruins)**

Nick Angeloff, Rio Dell archaeologist, spent a week in May in Macedonia, a country in southeastern Europe bordering Greece, as part of a team setting research priorities that will determine future sites of excavations.

One was a Macedonian garrison overrun by the Romans after 40 years of war. Research will focus on what it took to supply the garrison to make it self-sufficient and why it was so successful at holding off the Romans for such an extended period.

Another involves excavating an ancient necropolis – a burial area – before it is turned into a mine. “It’s a poor country,” Angeloff said of the need to bring in the money the mining project offered. Once the land changes hands, archaeologists will have 100 days to remove any remains and artifacts before mining efforts start.

Angeloff described becoming involved with the project, noting that in 2018 he briefly visited the area while vacationing in Greece, and got a tour from the head archaeologist. “He mentioned that they needed research done, I said I’d be happy to do so!” Before anything went further Covid hit. “In December 2021 I received a call from a client that a friend who is Macedonian wanted to get into Humboldt State, would I help her navigate the system?”

Turns out her grandfather had discovered the site in the 1920’s that Angeloff visited, and that her uncle was the one who gave him the tour. “She put us back in touch and I was back in Macedonia developing a research project through Cal Poly Humboldt,” he notes. It’s a beautiful country, a cross between Alps and Napa Valley, he described, famous for its food and fruits, and for making wine for 2,400 years.

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### SCOTIA LODGE



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### Rio Dell-Scotia News

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