

## Introduction to Proxy Servers

By: Billy Joe Long

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You may not know it, but every time you visit a website or connect with someone online, your internet connection gives your “computer address” to the site or person you’re connecting with. This is done so the site or person knows how to get the requested information back to your computer. This “computer address” is technically known as your public Internet Protocol address or simply your “public IP address.” Without it, you wouldn’t be able to do any online activity and other people and services online wouldn’t be able to reach you either. IP addresses are how the online world connects to one another.

### Where does your IP address come from?

Your public IP address comes from your Internet Service Provider or ISP. In our area the most common ISP’s are Suddenlink, AT&T, 101Netlink, or Frontiernet. Whomever you pay for Internet service is responsible for assigning your public IP address, as well as for your Internet connection. Your smart device also uses an IP address when you’re browsing the web or using an app.

Most of us are happy to ignore the details of how all of this Internet stuff works, but there are a few concepts and security concerns about public IP addresses that we should be aware of as responsible Internet citizens. For example:

- Your IP address identifies where you are in the world.
- It links your name and home address to your IP address. Your name and information are used to purchase the Internet service, and the service provider gives you your public IP address thereby creating a direct link to you.

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# Rio Dell-Scotia News

## New massage business opens in Rio Dell

**Melissa James** opened Melissa’s Massage at 371 Wildwood in April, next to the former location of the Phat Rabbit Boutique. After careers that took her up the management ladder in government service and retail, she “fell in love with massage,” and studied with a private masseuse, Samantha Cavatio of Eureka, and others. She became certified by the state in 2012 and in 2016 added certification in Reiki massage, which she describes as chakra energy renewal.

“I love this field,” notes James, a long-time area resident, because it lets her keep learning and applying her knowledge to healing the community. Her clients include those suffering from Parkinson’s, Tourette Syndrome, post traumatic stress disorder, cancer, arthritis, restless leg syndrome, irritable bowels and more, whom she has helped achieve fewer symptoms and less pain.

Those wishing a massage or to learn more may call or text to book an appointment at 496-3831, reach her through Melissa’s Massage Practice on Facebook, email [humboldthonney@gmail.com](mailto:humboldthonney@gmail.com) or follow her on Instagram.



## Meet a Silver Member of the Chamber: Dayle’s Diesel and Generator

**Dayle Lawrence** moved his business to the Scotia industrial park two years ago after outgrowing his former location, on the property of Whitethorn Construction in Whitethorn, which had been his base for 20 years. He now uses 30,000 square feet of the cavernous yellow building shared with Hall’s Sheet Metal, Eel River Brewing and Aqua Dam to house the rows of portable generators of the kind you tow behind a truck, that he has for sale.



Construction companies are a major customer base, he notes.

Lawrence employs four people to sell and fix generators, who travel to “wherever I’m paid to go,” as he says, to fill a need. That has taken him to Orick, Laytonville and Whale Gulch among other off-the-track places.

He moved to the area from the Sacramento Valley in 1993 and relies on word of mouth, Craigslist and a phone book ad to let people know about his services. With one year left on a three-year lease at his present location, he fears he might need to move as the Scotia properties are sold. “I bought a house here in Scotia so I’m not going far,” he notes. As a silver member of the Chamber of Commerce, he is helping the area by supplying funds towards projects the chamber undertakes, such as the expanded lighting of the area at Christmas and the Wildwood Days parade.

*Happy Mother’s Day*



### Resource Center names new staffer !

**Meri Black** is the new assistant program coordinator at the Rio Dell Community Resource Center. A graduate of the Humboldt State program in social work, she has completed internships such as at Two Feathers Native American Family Services in McKinleyville and will be in charge of the community garden and commodities food program locally. She's excited to be working in this area, which she terms beautiful, and to be in a more rural community than her Southern California roots.

### Get your community garden spot !

The Community Resource Center in Rio Dell has only a few plots still available in the community garden. 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. Applications for a plot can be picked up and returned to the Rio Dell Community Resource Center at Wildwood and Monument.

### 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 at [www.cyourself.com](http://www.cyourself.com).

### Art, Brew & BBQ set

The first Eagle Prairie Arts District community event for 2018, the annual Art, Brew and BBQ, will take place on Sat., May 12 at the Winema Theater in Scotia. Bands playing will include Layla Dias, Under the Influence, and AC Miles. Advance tickets will be \$20 or \$35 for couples, and \$25 and \$40 at the door. Kids 12 and under get in free. BBQ will be provided for sale by South Side Mike's BBQ. There will be a live auction and vendors. All funds raised go to benefit the Eagle Prairie Arts District and its free community events.

### Scotia school news

The Parent-Teacher Organization meets May 2 at 1:15 p.m., and the PTO Fun Run is May 4 at 1 p.m. The open house is May 9, 6 to 7 p.m. The school board meeting is May 10 at 7 p.m. and Memorial Day, May 28, there is no school.

### Mother's Day breakfast slated

The annual Mother's Day pancake breakfast put on by the Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department will be on May 13 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children.

### Rio Dell slates clean-up day

The annual spring clean-up day will be May 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Eagle Prairie Elementary School, 95 Center Street, in Rio Dell. This is a time to dispose of old furniture, yard trimmings, scrap wood and metal, old appliances, and more. Not accepted are tires, e-waste, hazardous waste and household trash. Those bringing material to dispose of will need proof of residency, such as a photo ID with address, or utility bill. The event is sponsored by the City of Rio Dell and Recology Eel River.

*Happy Memorial Day*

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Many people are not comfortable with their personal information being so readily available on the Internet. If it bothers you as well, there are a few things you can do to make it more difficult to directly link your public IP to your other personal information. A solid first step is to use a proxy service or proxy server.

### So what is a "proxy server"?

The word proxy means "substitute." In computer networks, a proxy server is a server that acts as an intermediary for requests from clients seeking resources from other servers. It works like this: a client (you) uses a web browser to visit the psa-2.com support website, and your browser is set up to use a proxy server. After you type psa-2.com into your browser address bar, the request is sent to the proxy server. The proxy server then sends the request on to my server where psa-2.com is hosted. The homepage of my website is returned to the proxy server which then returns my homepage to your browser for viewing. This results in my website seeing the proxy server as the visitor, not you.

### What Are The Benefits?

Now that you know the basics of how a proxy service or proxy server works, let's see what the benefits are for you. Proxy servers can hide your IP address (if they are set to do this), can send a different user agent so that your browser is not identified and can block cookies or accept them but not pass them to your PC or device. Therefore, when using a proxy server, you can be a lot more anonymous than when using a direct connection to the Internet.

Proxy servers may also have a role in improving security, especially when used in business networks. They can be set to block access to malicious websites that distribute malware and they can also provide encryption services so that your data is not easily mined by third parties.

### Fair Warning

Using proxy servers is not all about benefits and good stuff. They can pose problems as well, such as:

- When using unencrypted connections, the proxy server can alter the responses you receive, both in good and bad ways. For example, an infected or malicious proxy server can be used to load malware into your browser or redirect you to a phishing website.

- A proxy can alter the requests you make to a website or service on the Internet to generate results that meet someone else's intentions.

- A proxy server monitors and logs your activity. Therefore, it stores lots of information about you that can be used for identification at a later date.

- Depending on how it was configured, a proxy server can provide unencrypted data where encrypted data was previously provided by the website or service you are using. This can expose you to network sniffing and having others monitor what you are doing on the Internet.

**Continued at right.**

## Bridge painting continues while businesses express concern

Painting of the Eagle Prairie bridge between Rio Dell and Scotia, which started in mid-March, continues while area businesses seek to mitigate what they fear will be damage to their traffic flow this tourist season as a result of the bridge closure to vehicular traffic. Cal Trans staffers acknowledged that the standard process for informing a community in advance of such a project was not followed, catching business owners by surprise and without a chance to weigh in on options.



Cal Trans staff members have sought to help offset the predicted damage to the bottom line of businesses dependent on tourist traffic, with signage and a speeded-up completion timetable. Meeting with area businesses individually as well as at chamber of commerce events, and with the Rio Dell City Council April 3, several Cal Trans officials have received recommendations from businesses on how to more effectively place signs to lead travelers into town and into the business area. Some business owners are also considering other options such as applying for funding available from Cal Trans to mitigate lost business, which many are already noting they have experienced, dating from the time of the bridge closure. Noting that several new businesses have opened in the area only to be hit with this set-back, several in the business community have predicted that not all the current businesses will weather the season.

Cal Trans meanwhile has looked at possibilities to speed up the six-month closure time initially anticipated for the bridge project, noting that keeping one lane open, as was done when the bridge was last painted over a decade ago, a move which the businesses favored, did not prove feasible financially or for safety considerations. The process would extend the project to more than a year and cost \$2 million additionally, while creating potential danger if travelers become impatient waiting for their turn to cross the single-lane bridge, and made unsafe choices, which led to a couple injuries when the bridge was last painted.

## Billy Joe Long Continued from column at left

### Conclusion

As you can see, proxy servers can be very beneficial, but if not careful, they can also be problematic. It all depends on how they are configured, how they are secured and by whom they are administered. A proxy server may provide all the benefits mentioned above or none of them. It all depends on how it was set up and why it was set up.

If you are thinking about utilizing a proxy service or proxy server, I would encourage you to contact your IT guy or gal for their input. "There is wisdom in a multitude of counselors."

## Rio Dell-Scotia News

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Call the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce at

506-5081 to advertise.

St. Joseph Health   
St. Joseph · Redwood Memorial

## 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 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.

**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! .

**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.

## Gold-Level chamber member moves office to Wildwood

**Archaeological Research and Supply Company**, a gold-level member of the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce, has opened an office at 440 Wildwood Avenue in Rio Dell, a space which formerly housed Linda Barsanti's hair salon. The business, operated by chamber president Nick Angeloff, does archaeological site studies for



property owners needing a cultural resource survey of their land. Such work is required for projects such as the excavations done in Scotia to install or upgrade utility lines, and is also part of the permitting process for cannabis producers.

Angeloff and his crews of up to 10 archaeologists conduct the research and on-site work necessary to produce the required reports. Formerly, Angeloff worked out of his home in Rio Dell or the chamber of commerce office at 406 Wildwood, just south of the new location. See the company website at [www.archaeologicalsupplycompany.com](http://www.archaeologicalsupplycompany.com) for more information

*Rio Dell painter Jim Brickley readies the new office for Nick Angeloff's archaeological research business.*