

Rio Dell-Scotia News

Stand by for the chamber's Christmas celebration plans, being formulated now

Home-based cookie biz launched

Frosty'z Bakery by Jaeden is a custom cookie business launched by Jaeden Wilson of Rio Dell, the name a play on the word "frostings." Inspired by the work of a local baker who made the cookies for her own high school graduation party in 2019, she decided to make cookies for a friend's party a few weeks later.

"I ordered everything I needed, watched countless YouTube videos and finally gave it a go," she reports. "I worked on that set of only a dozen cookies for about nine hours straight, it was definitely harder than I expected."

But she decided to pursue her dream, practicing during spare moments while in her freshman year of college, and launching an Instagram account to show her work, which helped gain a following. "After about seven months of practicing, I received my first customer order!" she recalls, and then more and larger orders followed. "Before I knew it, I was running my own business!" she notes.

A year in, her enthusiasm hasn't waned and she cited practice (practice, practice, practice) as the way to hone her skills as she continues to learn. "Trial and error is a big part of this and it was all about finding out which techniques and tricks worked for me," she says. (Continued on Page 3.)



Jaeden Wilson



Vote! If you haven't done so yet, here's what to do

If you haven't voted yet for the Nov. 3 election, there is still time to turn in your ballot. You can mail it – as long as it is postmarked by Nov. 3 at midnight, it will be accepted at the county elections office. And you can leave it in a drop box (the nearest is at Ray's in Fortuna) for delivery to the elections office – you can do this until 8 p.m. on Nov. 3 at which time it will be sealed.

If you want to vote in person (or drop off your ballot in person) there will be no physical voting locations in either Rio Dell or Scotia, as noted in this newsletter last month. The closest "voter assistance center" will be at the Veterans Building on Main Street in Fortuna (a location change since the newsletter last month was written). Voting will be daily, on Sat., Oct. 31; Sun., Nov. 1, and Mon., Nov. 2 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tues., Nov. 3, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. In addition, there will be a 'pop-up' location at the fairgrounds in Ferndale on Election Day only.

Social distancing and masks will be required at in-person voting and a long line is anticipated, so Registrar of Voters Kelly Sanders encourages alternate means of casting a ballot if possible.

Those voting in person should bring the ballot mailed to their homes to drop it off or be issued a new one (if spoiled). Otherwise they will need to vote a provisional ballot which takes longer to use, because of different procedures and paperwork to account for these ballots, and to count.



KIWANIS KORNER – November 2020

BY: CAROLE ARRINGTON, RIO DELL/SCOTIA KIWANIS

As we enter the holiday season let us all give thanks for our blessings while we look forward to brighter days. 2020 has been a year for the history books, and although many people were impacted by the fallout of the COVID 19 pandemic, Kiwanis continued to work to make a difference in the lives of children and families across the globe. Many Kiwanis club members were negatively affected by COVID 19 as well, but they looked beyond themselves and continued to find ways that they could make a positive contribution in their neighborhood, community or around the world. Kiwanis clubs everywhere have been helping to mitigate the negative impact that the Corona virus had the potential to create. Our local Rio Dell/Scotia club has focused on small events to try and bring joy to an otherwise joyless situation. We all can be looking around us and paying attention to how we can bring a small bit of joy to someone's life, be it in our neighborhood, community or nation. We have heard it before, but it continues to ring true, -we ARE all in this together, let's make sure we come out of it together, stronger, smarter and better than we were before.

If you are looking for a way to give back, the Kiwanis club is always looking for new members. The moment is urgent, the need is high. Kids need Kiwanis. Will you help? Inquiries can be made through the Rio Dell/Scotia Kiwanis Club Facebook page.

Food distribution sites to offer information on self-care and suicide prevention

The county's Department of Health and Human Services will provide information on specific topics in conjunction with the Food For People produce give-away on the second Thursday of the month at the fire hall in Rio Dell which takes place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and on the third Thursday of the month at the food commodities program at the Journey Church on Belleview, from 9 to noon.

November's topic will be self-care and suicide prevention, and December's topic will be staying healthy in the winter. DHHS staff will be on hand with information for the first two hours at each of these two monthly events – 10 a.m. to noon at the fire hall and 9 to 11 a.m. at the Journey Church.

New staffer at the Community Resource Center

Meryllene Guiala is the new AmeriCorps member assisting this year at the Community Resource Center in Rio Dell. Her focus is working with families to promote child abuse prevention, and helping community members connect to resources. A student at Humboldt State majoring in social work and focusing on child welfare, she lives in Eureka. "Everyone calls me Lynne," she says. Noting that she's proud to be a Filipino-American, she is originally from Corona, a city in Southern



California's Riverside County. She sought the AmeriCorps opportunity to broaden her skills on how to engage with community members, and expand her knowledge of local resources as well as to work with a rural community.

"I just want to help the community receive basic human rights," she says, noting everyone is entitled to the resources the center provides. "I believe what they're doing for the community is a blessing. I'm overjoyed that I was given this opportunity so I can help at a larger scale. Ultimately, I'm excited to meet more of the residents of Rio Dell and become part of this community."

Teacher re-joins Scotia school

Jamie Elsmore joined the school staff at Scotia this year. Originally from Anaheim, she grew up next to Disneyland, went to a local community college and then transferred to Humboldt State where she majored in kinesiology and got her teaching credential in physical and health education.

As a newcomer to the community, she notes she was hired about eight years ago to teach physical education through a grant the Scotia school received, and also worked in the after school program. "They needed me to be an instructional aide in the 5th grade class," she says. "After being there for a school year, I decided to get my multiple subject credential. I left Scotia six years ago to work at a local charter school. I was mostly working with high school students. I am so happy to be back working at Scotia. There is a true family feeling here and the students are great. Everyone has been very welcoming and it feels like I never left."

Elsmore has been coaching girls' basketball at Ferndale for seven years. She has twin daughters who are very involved in sports. "As a family, we love camping and going to lakes to fish," she says.



(Home-based cookie biz launched Cont. from Page 1)

She does everything herself, from baking to decorating, and loves it so much she doesn't think she will ever quit. She has social media accounts and encourages people interested in ordering to visit her website: (<https://www.frostybakerybyjaeden.com>) to fill out an order form.

Wilson, 19, is in her second year of college, studying early childhood education at Santa Rosa Junior College with the goal of becoming a teacher. She notes that she comes home often from Sonoma County to visit her parents (Shane and Lisa Wilson) and with her classes online right now, she has a very flexible schedule which leaves her free to fill cookie orders.

NEWS AND NOTES CONTINUED

Community garden sees donated produce, looks ahead to next year

Looking for a holiday or other gift for a local friend or family member who likes being outdoors? Maybe a community garden plot membership for 2021 would fill the bill – keep the money local, avoid the holiday rush of shopping, and provide a gift of fresh air, exercise, friendship with other gardeners, and healthy, fresh food. Managed by the Community Resource Center, the garden, next to the Baptist Church in Rio Dell, has seen a busy season, with chamber president Nick Angeloff among the folks tending plots this past season, roto-tilling, putting down weed matting and making improvements to the watering system. He was aided by the seven archaeologists who work for him and in addition to supplying themselves with produce they've been able to donate surplus veggies to seniors in the community. Angeloff promises to return next season and encourages others to do the same. Putting the watering on a timer and planting flowers around the edges are among the upgrades he hopes to do.

Goat statue adorns Wildwood

Humboldt County artist Dan McCauley installed his sixth sculpture last month as a continuation of a collaborative plan to display art along Wildwood Avenue in Rio Dell. McCauley worked with and received support from the city, chamber and Eagle Prairie Arts District to realize his vision. The sculpture depicts a goat and follows the format of other displays installed over the past three years. The art program was made possible by generous donations from Pacific Gas & Electric, The Headwaters Fund, McLean Foundation and Root 101 Nursery.



Bulb donation to brighten flower beds, more

Flower bulbs donated to the chamber through WinCo Foods in Eureka have been made available for local efforts at beautification. Both Rio Dell and Scotia schools and the Reaching For Independence non-profit organization that recently re-located from Fortuna to Scotia, as well as Marlene Snell of Rio Dell who maintains the triangle park near city hall, have been encouraged to use the bulbs in their local beautification and gardening efforts. Have a public beautification plan? Contact the chamber for some remaining, free bulbs.

Want to get more involved in how things are done? Opportunities are here

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors establishes advisory boards, commissions, and committees to represent and make recommendations to the supervisors. Go to the web page humboldt.gov/455/Clerk-of-the-Board to see the qualifications, time commitment and other requirements for the various upcoming openings and if interested, contact Tracy D'Amico at 476-2390 for more information. The committees (not all of which are accepting new members from our geographical area) include:

Assessment Appeals Board
Aviation Advisory Committee
Behavioral Health Board
Blue Ribbon Task Force-DHHS
Cannabis Micro-Grant & Loan Advisory Com.
City Selection Committee
Community Task Force
Eel-Russian River Commission
First 5
Fire Safe Council
Fish & Game Advisory Commission
Forestry Review Committee

Headwaters Fund Board
Housing Authority Commission
Housing Trust Fund & Homelessness Sol.
Human rights Commission
In-Home Supportive Services
McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Com.
Measure Z Citizens Advisory Committee
North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA)
Planning Commission
Public Property Leasing Corporation
Resource Conservation District
Williamson Act Committee

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Call the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce at 506-5081 to advertise.



A GLIMPSE BACKWARD

Ed. Note: This reflection on early days is the first of an occasional series by Rio Dell resident Carole Arrington.

In the late 1800's Rio Dell was known as the "Florida of Humboldt" and was a major destination for summer travelers who came to lounge and relax at the resort hotel, Rio Del House, opened and operated by Lorenzo Painter, an early settler credited with converting the isolated Eagle Prairie into the cohesive town of Rio Dell. Lorenzo advertised his hotel as a "summer and pleasure resort" which worked to attract affluent visitors from both north and south. The resort offered mineral springs believed to improve health, and a saloon that was a very popular meeting place for vacationers and locals alike. His resort was located on what is now Pacific Avenue and overlooked a stretch of undeveloped farm land which would later become the town of Wildwood.

Painter first arrived in Humboldt County in 1870 and by 1874 he had acquired 500 acres on Eagle Prairie which he immediately went to work transforming from a small collection of individual farms, into an organized township. Painter was a natural leader and a generous benefactor. He built the first school house on his land, maintained the public roads, and established voting precincts and the post office. Lorenzo was appointed the town's first postmaster by President U.S. Grant, himself. Painter subdivided 320 acres of his land into 13 blocks and laid out Main Street, now Pacific Avenue; Rigby Avenue, Painter Street, and Center Street, forming a town center that would become the heart of Old Rio Dell. His wife, A.P. Painter, also played a large role in the development of Rio Dell, becoming the first woman in the county elected to public office.

Sadly in October 1892, Lorenzo Painter took his own life by drowning himself in the Eel River. Plagued by financial losses, he had sold off most of his personal holdings and in his suicide note he is quoted as saying, "I would rather pass into the spiritual world than live to see all of my Sadly in October 1892, Lorenzo Painter took his own life by drowning himself in the Eel River. Painter was laid to rest on his property in Rio Dell, but his exact burial site is lost to time.

Rio Dell's Memorial Park - what's the story with that?

A couple years ago this publication did a 'caught doing good' piece on the efforts of Tim Marks of Rio Dell to refurbish the name plaques in Memorial Park which had become weathered. City Clerk Karen Dunham dug into the files at the time to share the history of the park, which is being reprinted here in response to recent reader questions.

Dunham explained that in 1982 the city's Parks & Recreation Commission decided to plant 13 trees in the area now called Memorial Park; to raise the needed funds, people could pay \$50 each and have a memorial plaque placed on a tree to honor a community member who had made a notable contribution to the community. The following year, work began, with \$1,000 of funds received; Gino Bianchi, a city councilmember at the time, volunteered his time and materials to make signs for the park, and other community members pitched in; along the way the initial plan was changed to put the plaques on posts instead of directly on the trees, and a process was never completed to determine what notable contributions a person must make to be so honored. The chamber of commerce initially took care of the park, and turned it over to the city in 1999; a year later, room was made for additional plaques. As of 2012, the cost to purchase a plaque was \$90, which covered its manufacture and installation.

