

Rio Dell-Scotia News

Scotia school welcomes new teachers, plans old gym demise

New first and third grade teachers are on the staff at Scotia's school this fall, encompassing varied backgrounds but a passion for the school and area. First grade teacher Janelle Freeman was raised in the small Southern California community of Camarillo and discovered Humboldt on a road trip, returning to attend college at Humboldt State where she received a bachelor's degree in Spanish education, including a study experience in Ecuador. She went on to travel in Mexico, Peru, and Belize, among other countries.

Freeman has taught middle school Spanish at Redwood Prep and substitute taught at four different schools in the area. "I love to implement Spanish language and culture in my classroom," she notes. Teaching kindergarten last year at Hydesville introduced her to that age group with which she fell in love. "I'm super-excited to be teaching first grade at Scotia!" she said, and to being a Scotia Bear.

Hobbies include hiking, backpacking, fishing, and camping; music, reading, and spending time with friends and family. Freeman recently moved to Rio Dell and considers herself "super blessed to have made some great friends in the community." Her fiancé, Jeff Dunker, is a chef at the Ivanhoe. Goals include starting a family and more travel.

Meanwhile over in the third-grade classroom, Brian Timmerman has come back home. A student from kindergarten through eighth grade at Stanwood A. Murphy, Timmerman says he is "grateful and extremely excited to have the opportunity to teach with the amazing staff" of the Scotia district.

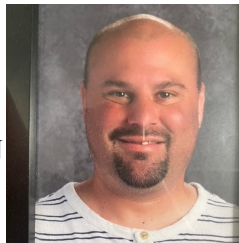
He graduated from Fortuna High and College of the Redwoods, then got his bachelor of science degree in Education from Arkansas State University. He married Nicole Paris in 2016 and worked for Agnes Johnson Elementary, a charter school in Weott, for three years and as a Special Circumstances Instructional Assistant for the past two years at Scotia.

Outside, gym site preparation is set to begin soon, according to district superintendent Amy Gossien. "It will be a long process with a great deal of work on the retaining walls prior to taking down the building," she says. Dinsmore Construction is the contractor and together with the district's architect have put together a salvage list to re-use as much of the wood from the current building as possible. Gossien notes, "The demo will be a carefully orchestrated process."

**JENELLE
FREEMAN**



**BRIAN
TIMMERMAN**



**KYMER
LINN
TAYLOR**



Area family raising funds for toddler's service dog

Rio Dell resident Deborah Jean Savio is among others who have taken to social media to raise funds to help her granddaughter, Kymber Linn Taylor, get a service dog. The child, who will be three in December, was born prematurely at 34 weeks with a rare genetic disorder that has delayed her development and was diagnosed a year ago as being on the autism spectrum. At present she receives speech, physical and occupational therapy. The dog would fulfill several safety and therapeutic roles according to Kymber's mom, Shaya Taylor of Fortuna.

Taylor explains of the role of such a dog, "Service companions can be trained to provide and receive pressure which calms and comforts. They are trained to interrupt potentially harmful behavior or outbursts and redirect focus. They provide a social and communicative bridge and can help the individual to feel comfortable interacting with the world around them. They are a source of stress reduction and unconditional love." Taylor has been busily researching the various sources of such an animal, each of which have varying costs, restrictions, and requirements, such as waiting until the child is a certain age and traveling to a location for matching with a dog and training in its use.

A gofundme page exists where donations can be made, here:
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/an-autism-service-dog-for-kymber-linn>.

**HALLOWEEN
OCTOBER 31**

KIWANIS KORNER –OCTOBER 2021

BY: CAROLE ARRINGTON, RIO DELL/SCOTIA KIWANIS

The past year and a half hit our community hard. With COVID came many hardships and casualties. Unfortunately, it appears that one of the casualties could very well be the Rio Dell/Scotia Kiwanis Club. Membership has dwindled and interest has waned and it appears that we just do not have the numbers to continue the club.

There is still time to save our local Kiwanis chapter, but it will take the commitment of enthusiastic new members. We need to elect officers for the 2022 year, and we need members who are willing to put in the time and energy it takes to make a successful club. Due to unforeseen circumstances, our club has been reduced to only four participating members. We cannot have a successful club with so few members.

If you are a member who has let your participation stagnate but are still interested in keeping the club alive, please reach out and plan to attend the next meeting. If you are interested in becoming a new member of the Rio Dell/Scotia Kiwanis Club, contact us through our Facebook page or email us at riodell.scotiakiwanis@gmail.com.

Get involved in your community – join the Chamber of Commerce board

Elsewhere in this issue are numerous calls to be involved in volunteering – the Kiwanis is seeking members to step up to keep that activity operating for the benefit of area youth, the international organization’s chief mission. And the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is looking for volunteers to help provide safety for vulnerable seniors in area nursing facilities.

The Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce also needs people to get involved, and to serve on the board. Board elections are coming up, there is an opening, and your energy and ideas are needed. For instance, the board is working on this year’s Christmas plans, among other roles discussed throughout this and other issues each month, such as the flags, the veterans salute, the holiday lighting, the historical kiosks (see the May issue, still in the works) and more. Contact the chamber at rdschamber@gmail.com, with your interest or questions.

Time to be part of Nov. 11 veterans’ salute

November 11 is Veterans Day - the next time flags are scheduled to fly on the median in Rio Dell. The chamber is planning to have the veterans display on the lawn of city hall as well, as was done for Memorial Day in May. People wanting to add their or their loved ones’ photo and information into the display still have time to do so. Get the photo, preferably the official military one (because it has the photographic quality to be enlarged to the extent needed), with that person’s name, years of service (if known), and military branch/rank to chamber vice- president Jim Brickley at brickley@sonic.net by Oct. 15.

While it is well understood that Memorial Day is a time to honor veterans who have died and Veterans Day is for all who served, the chamber is attempting to honor those locally who have served in the armed forces, living or dead, and hence developed the display to welcome all who wish to be a part of it.



SLOW DOWN FOR INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY!

By Jennifer Weis Project Coordinator, Natural Resources Services Division

Children need 60 minutes of physical activity daily to maintain good health. Walking and bicycling to school can provide a great opportunity for them to receive the exercise they need. Studies also show students that walk to school perform better on tasks that require concentration. A win-win! However, in order to walk or ride a bike to school, a safe walking and bicycling environment is a must. As the school year gets underway, students and families are adjusting to new schedules and routines that are likely busier than they’ve been since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. With increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic in the morning and afternoons, motorists can help keep local youth as safe as possible by leaving early so they are not rushed, obeying all posted signs and signals, avoiding distractions and slowing down. There are a lot more people out and about than we have seen in more than a year so it is essential to pay extra attention on the roadway, especially in school zones.

On October 6 local students will be participating in International Walk to School Day along with youth from around the world. The goal is to raise awareness and support for the health, community, and environmental benefits of regularly walking or biking to school. Due to the pandemic, students will be encouraged to walk from home if safe with their families instead of gathering as a group. As a resident, you can help support students by being a good role model whenever you are walking, bicycling, or driving. Show them you care by taking time to only cross streets at crosswalks, biking with traffic and not against, **(Continued on Page 4)**

Windows 11, The Basics

Yes, we were told by Microsoft in 2015 that Windows 10 would be the last version of Windows. However, recent news has verified there will in fact be a new version – Windows 11. So, let's take a few moments to have a look at this “new” version of Windows.

Microsoft expects to begin shipping Windows 11 on October 5 of this year. The new version will be distributed as a “free” upgrade to existing Windows 10 users, if their computers meet these minimum system requirements (subject to change):

- A modern 1GHz 64-bit dual-core processor
- 4 GB RAM
- 64 GB drive
- 9-inch display
- 1366x768 resolution
- UEFI, Secure Boot & TPM 2.0 compatible
- DirectX 12 compatible graphics/WWDM 2.x



By Billy Joe Long
PSA Computer
Services

The first thing to note is Microsoft will not be releasing a 32-bit version of the Operating System (OS). This is generally not a serious issue – 32-bit programs should continue to run as expected on the 64-bit OS.

The next thing to note is Microsoft will be limiting “officially supported” Windows 11 computers to certain Central Processing Units (CPUs). Currently, you will need to have an Intel 8th-generation or better CPU to officially run Windows 11. Microsoft has also increased the required drive storage to 64GB, up from 16GB with Windows 10. The same goes for RAM, being bumped up from 2GB to 4GB.

The greater storage and RAM requirements are probably needed to support the myriad of new features and changes that differentiate Windows 11 from Windows 10. For example, Windows 11 will feature a brand-new user interface with a new Start menu and Taskbar experience. I am not particularly thrilled about needing to retrain muscle memory for productivity, but for those of you who love constant change – this should be appealing.

Microsoft has said that Windows 11 is “built for gamers” with features such as Auto HDR, Direct Storage and DirectX12 Ultimate. These features may matter to you gaming enthusiasts, but for business users, it will make little difference.

A more useful change has to do with Microsoft “Creators” updates which came with Windows 10. Microsoft has been struggling with rolling out two major updates a year with Windows 10. There have been constant, serious, problems for end users as Microsoft engineers have struggled to meet the update release deadlines. Windows 11 will be returning to one major update per year. This should result in less data loss, time loss and frustration for end users. This is a welcome change and long overdue in my opinion.

As mentioned previously, Windows 11 will be offered as a free upgrade. Microsoft says there's no time limit on upgrading to Windows 11. That is good news indeed, but note – you will need to upgrade at some point and it may require new hardware. We'll know more about this as it is released from Microsoft.

Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) will still have to pay for a Windows 11 license. OEMs are people/companies who build computers for end users and want to ship Windows 11 on the new computer.

There is not a lot of practical information I can give you about Windows 11 at this point. Once the new OS is released, I'll be able to provide a more in-depth review. If you have questions or concerns about Windows 11, call PSA Computer Services at (707) 601-1408.

Marlene Snell, beloved garden tender, dies

Community Facebook pages broke the news that Marlene Snell, long-time tender of the flower boxes at Triangle Park adjacent to city hall in Rio Dell, had died. In the June 2016 issue of this newsletter Snell shared how she had been moved to make a Difference and was given the go-ahead at city hall, so she had gotten busy, sometimes extending her efforts to the flowers at the library as well.



Snell said at the time that she grew up in Scotia and Fortuna, and moved away while married, raising three children, and working for 30 years in retail, before moving back to the area following the death of her husband. In addition to the Wildwood garden, she maintained family plots in area cemeteries and had renovated the area behind her Sequoia Avenue home, a section at a time, from being a muddy spot that flooded, creating an oasis of plants and flowers.

OCTOBER 11 — COLUMBUS/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

Watching out for area seniors – here’s a program where you can help

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is doing important work and needs the help of caring volunteers to serve as advocates. Will you be willing to help? Created in the mid-1970’s to advocate for the rights and needs of residents of long-term care facilities, the program operates in all 50 states. In California, there are 35 local Ombudsman programs that collectively cover the state.

The mission is to advocate for the dignity, quality of life, and quality of care for all residents in long-term care facilities which locally include six skilled nursing facilities in Humboldt and Del Norte counties plus 17 residential care facilities for the elderly.

Leanne Langston of Rio Dell is the volunteer coordinator of the local program, which describes its services and need for volunteers in this newsletter’s advertising insert. She says, “We are a federal and state mandated program. Our role is to work on behalf of the residents, and only with their consent, to make sure they receive the care they deserve and are entitled to. Additionally, we are mandated to investigate suspected reports of elder abuse, whether the abuse is physical, financial, or in forms such as isolation or neglect. We serve residents in all facilities from Crescent City to Garberville.”

She adds that the work of volunteer advocates involves “establishing a relationship with the residents, as well as their family members, and getting them to trust us so we can help and assist them.” When complaints and concerns arise, “we attempt to work as a team to find a resolution that will work for all involved. We work with local law enforcement and Adult Protective Services when necessary.”

As essential workers, she and her team go into local facilities to advocate for residents even when there are active COVID cases, always following the proper infection control guidelines and getting COVID tested weekly.

If anyone is interested or knows someone that might be interested in a volunteer opportunity as advocate, call 707-269-1330. Advocates are asked to commit to 12 hours of volunteering per month which can fit around the schedules of other responsibilities. There is an initial 36+ hours of manual training which can be done at home on the computer, with follow-up meetings by phone or ZOOM. New advocates shadow more experienced ones until they are confident to work independently, following certification.

Will this be the opportunity you are seeking to make a difference in the life of a vulnerable, local senior?

The HWMA Tire Recycling Program is back!

The Hawthorne Street Transfer Station in Eureka will accept up to nine auto or light truck tires per day at no extra charge. It’s ok if they’re on rims. No business-generated tires please. This program is only for household generated tires. The program runs until next summer. This program is funded by Cal Recycle.

Call or email us for details:: 268-8680 or info@hwma.net

Humboldt Waste Management Authority

1059 W. Hawthorne St., Eureka, CA 95501

www.hwma.net



(Biking Continued From Page 2)

wearing a bicycle helmet every time you ride and being a courteous driver. Teaching and encouraging children to practice safe walking and bicycling is a gift that will serve them for a lifetime. Be a part of the solution and slow down for students on October 6. and every day.

Rio Dell-Scotia News

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