

FREE

CC Market sees new owner



April 1
April Fools'
Day

April 12
Passover
begins at
sundown

April 20
Easter

April 22
Earth Day



A new owner took over at CC Market, 1328 Eeloa Ave. in Rio Dell last month and people reporting on Facebook are excited to see the shelves filling up fast. Bashir Khan of Fortuna, who bought the business from Gary Sigh, owns several Mountain Mike's pizza franchises. He notes this is his first venture into the grocery business, undertaken with the encouragement of his brother and friends who own similar stores in Mendocino and Sonoma counties.

He and store manager Tierra Overholt describe the changes they are hoping for, including offering more variety and trying to lower prices. Hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week, with the deli open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends. Deli orders can be called in and picked up including hot foods, meat and cheese trays, fruit platters, and salads. Homemade ranch dressing remains a favorite item which some customers order a gallon at a time.



New floors, soda and coffee machines are coming, and a rearrangement of the store. Khan wants to be active in the community and notes when more is completed, he looks forward to a ribbon cutting. Goals are to offer the best prices and products for the community, he says, asking for two months to finish filling up the shelves.

Scotia School gets grant for sensory comfort room

Scotia Elementary has received a \$5,000 grant to create a sensory calming room from the Humboldt Autism Alliance, Superintendent Amy Gossien says. The school was the first to receive such a grant from the organization and was selected out of 11 applicants. Funding was provided by a donation from the Childhood Autism Program of the California-Nevada Moose Association. Gossien says the calming room will be added to the Wellness Center opened this year.

Deadline for May newsletter is April 14th.
Call the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce
at 707-506-5081 to advertise.



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Laundromat reopening in sight

"Want to see it?" Davina Gray pops out of the laundromat at 132 Wildwood in Rio Dell to invite a visitor in to check the progress she and husband Bill were making in the process of renovating the facility. Plans call for their having the place open in the next couple months, hopefully.

The laundromat has been closed for several years, since shortly after the death of prior owners Marlene and Joe Odell. The Grays purchased the laundromat prior to the 2022 earthquake, which caused additional work to be needed to repair the building. Waiting for permits and completing other jobs in their construction business pushed back the couple's timeline until now.



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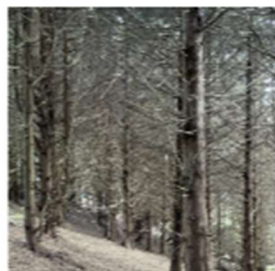
Jim Kennedy lives Scotia and operates Green Man Forest Restoration working with forests on a small scale on the north coast to promote long-term forest health. "I have a background in forestry and wildland fire, I've worked for local landowners and businesses and volunteered with various local organizations to implement forest thinning and prescribed burns," he says. "My experience has reinforced a belief that a more holistic approach is needed, one that emphasizes the resilience of our forests for generations to come. I want to explore how we can shift our perspective on forest management, not only for the trees and animals but for the people who live here."

He notes practices like thinning smaller trees allows a forest "to maintain and exponentiate board feet in the long run as well as opening up the understory for a diverse array of animals and native plants" that all work together to add to the forest's resilience to things like wildfire and drought.

Prescribed fire is our greatest tool for maintaining fuel loads once forests have been thinned, he adds, noting it also happens to be "a great way for communities to come together for the common good." One example of this approach is the Arcata Community Forest, which Kennedy says is a working park that sustains and beautifies itself via thinning which adds to the value of the forest as well as the health of the surrounding community by providing opportunity for exercise and recreation. "Something like this is possible in Scotia and Rio Dell," he says, by creating a model that benefits timber production, forest diversity, and the community.



Thinned vs. unthinned, forest thinning and prescribed burning my compnay did in Loleta.



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"This publication is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of financial assistance award totaling \$318,488 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the US Government."

DJ'S



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Rio Dell school district seeks citizen input

Lauren Byrie, dean of students at Rio Dell schools, says that in an effort to generate additional revenue, the Rio Dell Elementary School District is looking at how to better utilize many of its assets. Therefore, the district is currently forming what is referred to as a "7-11 Committee." She invites interested and qualified people to apply to be a member of the committee.

The purpose is to review and analyze real property owned by RDESD and determine what could be designated as "excess" or "surplus" because it will not be needed for school purposes. The committee will then present a report to the Board of Trustees recommending uses for the surplus property or how to dispose of it (e.g., sale, lease, etc.). This is an important task and the district is looking for highly qualified, capable, and committed individuals to be members of the committee. Applications are available in the elementary office or via email to angela.johnson@riodellschools.net.

Applications are due by April 9, 2025.

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4

