

Hi, I'm Rod, substituting for Erin with a Community Comment here on KINS. Erin is out on rehab after knee surgery a few days ago. As far as I know the procedure went well and her knee will be much less painful from now on. No, it was NOT a Fortuna Rodeo Injury! Erin's not a cowgirl. Interestingly, although I very frequently hear about people leaving Humboldt county to have this kind of thing done in a place where there is either better access or more access to medical care, Erin actually had this taken care of right here at home. Likewise my wife Susan is undergoing surgery today in fact, a shoulder procedure called rotator cuff tear repair, and also is having it done here at St Joes. Interesting that the surgery is done here but she had to go down to the bay area for the MRI that told the doctor she needed the surgery! Anyway these two ladies are both relying on local medical care for these important procedures and I wonder if our access to and quality of medical care is finally improving behind the redwood curtain. Could it be easier to find a primary care physician now than it was a year or two ago? I hear Mad River Community Hospital advertising their doctors looking for patients right here on the radio. My wife and I used to be patients at Redwood Family Practice. A year or two after we jumped ship to Eureka Family Practice, Redwood decided to close and was picked up by Open Door. Now we see that Eureka Family Practice is becoming part of St. Joes. So we're seeing merging and consolidation in this primary care industry locally. I hope that's a good thing. Speaking of Open Door, WOW that organization has mushroomed - they have 13 locations now and their latest project is going up in Fortuna! The construction of Open Door's new Fortuna Community Health Center is well underway even as the fundraising for the project continues. You can check it out and make a much needed donation at [fortuna health center dot com](http://fortunahealthcenter.com), that's [fortuna health center dot com](http://fortunahealthcenter.com). I understand it will be a dental clinic as well as medical and boy do we need that! I also understand that Open Door is collaborating with St Joseph Health on a residency program for doctors which is in the works. Just really hoping and praying that all this bodes well for the future now that I'm old! Speaking of the future, as a board member at Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods, I want you to know that the club doing very well with improving the future of our community through professionally led programs for Club Kids of all ages. Save the dates for the CRUZN Eureka car show Sept. 7th through the 9th and the Bids for Kids Dinner & Auction September 30th and join us in supporting them.

I'm Rod, substituting for Erin with community comment on KINS and I'll see you this weekend at Auto Xpo in Fortuna!