

# Public gets chance to see vintage trailers

Events

By KIMBERLY WHITE

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FELTON — The campsite already full, Debbie Lennen was busy Thursday, registering the early arrivals for this weekend's Trailers in the Trees. The event is one of only a few RV rallies in Northern California each year.

Trailers in the Trees been held since 2006 at Felton's Smithwoods RV Park, drawing RV enthusiasts from around the state for a weekend of camaraderie. But during a four-hour window Saturday, they'll also get the chance to show off, opening up their intricately restored RVs for public tours. Though the campsite is full, up to 30 vehicles can be accommodated at the site during the open house, said Lennen, one of the park's managers.

As of late Thursday morning, owners have registered 42 vintage trailers for the event, twice the number that showed up at the rally's first year. It's the brainchild of Santa Cruz resident Penny Cotter and her husband, who in 2006 restored the 1962 Shasta Airflyte that they'll bring to the show this weekend. They spent about \$2,000 to restore the trailer, but kept costs down by doing the work themselves. But "some people get them professionally restored and pay \$20,000 and \$30,000," Cotter said.

Smithwoods has been fam-



KEVIN JOHNSON/SENTINEL

**Marti Domyancic of Chico steps out of her restored 1960 Shasta trailer at Smithwoods RV Park in Felton on Thursday. Domyancic will be participating in the Trailers in the Trees event on Saturday.**

ily owned and operated since 1920, according to the park's website. Through the years, subsequent generations have taken the reins, and it's now operated by the original founders' granddaughter and her great-grandsons.

Because Smithwoods is relatively small, the number of participants has held steady in recent years at about 40 trailers. But at the next Northern California RV rally, held in Petaluma in early October, organizers hope to double that number.

Cotter also operates a web-

## IF YOU GO

### TRAILERS IN THE TREES

**WHEN:** Friday-Sunday; public tours of the trailers are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday (\$5 parking fee)

**WHERE:** Smithwoods RV Park, 4770 Highway 9, Felton

**INFORMATION:** 335-4321 or [www.smithwoodsrvpark.com](http://www.smithwoodsrvpark.com)

site that's geared toward vintage RV enthusiasts and aims to "promote and preserve vintage trailers and motor coaches through gatherings and information exchange."

To view a list of upcoming rallies, go to [www.tincantourists.com](http://www.tincantourists.com).

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