

Bear River Band of  
Rohnerville Rancheria

# Bear River Bulletin



## Tribal Council

### Chairman

William Sand

### Vice-Chairman

Dakota McGinnis

### Secretary

Aileen Meyer

### Treasurer

Brenda Bowie

### Members-at-Large

Barry Brenard

Edwin Smith

John McGinnis

July/August 2015

## Tribal Membership Annual Picnic

**Saturday, July 25, 2015**

**1:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

- Traditional BBQ Lunch featuring Tri-Tip and Chicken and all the fixings.
- Honoring of the Elders.
- Raffle Prize Drawing for Adults
- Tribal Children will each get a surprise.
- Activities include: tug-of-war; three-legged race; doubles horseshoe tourney; poker tourney; 3-0n-3 youth and adult basketball tourney; karaoke contest; and ping pong tournament.
- Three small bounce houses will be set up along with the traditional face painter and the balloon guy.



**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP COOK AND SERVE  
FOOD AND TO MAN THE BOUNCE HOUSES.**

Teresa McGinnis  
Communication Director  
Phone: 707-733-1900  
Fax: 707-733-1723  
www.brb-nsn.gov



For more information contact Brenda Bowie (707) 733-1900 ext. 316

## Economic Development Report



### Loleta Cheese

There is no final determination yet on the Chapter 11 Bankruptcy. The Chapter 11 Judge has set a Trial date for September 2, 2015 in McKinleyville Federal Court House. Mr. Lafranchi prior to trial date is required to release a plan for reorganization to unsecured and secured creditors. It is also important that after the formal plan for reorganization is released then all of the creditors are allowed to speak to one another. There may be an opportunity to negotiate a settlement at that time, however, we expect, given the approach that Mr. Lafranchi has taken to date, that this will go to trial.

### Tribal Loans

There are 81 active loans at this time. 14 loans are in default. Tribe has collected \$55,529 in interest and fees through June 2015. The loan program has an annual limit of \$250,000 to loan out and have obligated \$237,588 through June 2015 leaving \$12,412 available to loan.

### Micro-Green

Bear River has learned there is a substantial amount of equipment that is being sold off. Even though Bear River is a small portion of the overall debt, we are talking to other shareholders about our legal options for recovery of some of our investment from the sale of equipment and other property of Micro-Green.

### Ultra-green

Nothing new to report at this time. We do have a conference call this month to get a status update.

**20/20 GeneSystems**

Bear River received a portion of the tax incentive from Montgomery County, MD in the amount of \$6,551.12. We have communication from the State of Maryland that the processing of the remaining tax incentive distributions is in the works, but essentially bogged down in the bureaucracy of the tax office. The Company itself continues to operate with strong management and the product continues to be received well with modest sales growth over the past three months.

**Billboard**

April rental income \$6850

May rental income \$6850

June rental income \$7350

June will advertise Hops in Humboldt

Donated a spot for Humboldt County Fair for July & August

**611 I street**

This property continues to perform well with long term tenants Humboldt County Association of Governments and Manhard Consulting and Engineering as tenants on long term leases. We will continue to explore opportunities to keep our tenants long term.

**Tobacco Traders**

This business continues to improve from month to month. Net sales have continued to increase April 2015 net sales was \$106,315 for May 2015 it reached an all time high of \$114,000 and June 2015 it stayed on the same pace with \$111,527 with an average currently of \$3,700 net sales a day.

**Morgan Stanley**

Initial Investment-\$1,500,000. Current Value \$1,542,691.00. Conservative risk profile as determined by consultation between the Tribal Council and the investment bankers. The investment did drop about 30k was at \$1,573,000 at end of May. This is primarily as a result of market fluctuations from the global concerns related to the uncertainty coming out of Greece in recent weeks.

**JLM Energy**

Solar panels have been ordered. Should be under construction on July 13, 2015.

Dakota McGinnis



**Bear River Charitable Fund**

Positions are open for the Bear River Charitable Fund. It is a volunteer unpaid committee. Interested Members please contact Ms. Cindi Petrusha, Tribal Council Executive Secretary, on or before July 17, 2015 in order to be considered for appointment by the Tribal Council.

**General Council Meeting**

Saturday, July 25th, 2015  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
Tish Non Community Center

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**Prop 84 Grant**

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) 2015 Proposition 84 Grant Program received 57 applications last month, including one from Bear River. The focus of the grant priorities, was to select projects that were designed to help alleviate the statewide drought conditions. Our project ranked 7th and was approved for funding of \$558,000. DWR only approved funding for 25 of the 57 projects.

Bear River's project consists of using reclaimed water from our new wastewater treatment plant, now under construction. Re-

claimed water (purple pipe) will then be used to water the wetland area in the dry season, instead of using potable water.

The project will also connect to the reclaimed water tank behind the Casino parking lot, to be used for irrigation and fire flow. This project will connect the existing sewer system to the new plant as well.

The project also calls for a walking trail to be built along the wetland area and educational signs to be installed. This will allow elementary, high school and college students to tour

the area and learn about the environmental impacts of the ecosystems.

Edwin Smith was on the review committee along with many other water managers from other facilities. Several tribal applications were in the running this year, as it was very competitive process, but not all were approved for funding.

Bear River's project was the only reclaimed water project, out of the 57 project submitted, which is one reason it ranked so high. Construction will hopefully begin later this summer.

*Submitted by Michael Flockhart*

## Housing Report

**No New Housing Construction 2015:** We applied for FY 2014 Indian Community Development Block Grant for construction of three single family homeownership units on Carroll Road at Tish Non Village Spring of 2015. We did not pass the (Program/Project-Specific) Threshold Requirements. After participating in the debriefing from HUD about the missing requirements, we will be preparing for FY2015 ICDBG, IHBG for an 8 unit multi-family structure at Tish Non Village.

**Tish Non Village:** Application deadline August 1, 2015 for two HUD homes; one- 2 bedroom 1 bath and one – 3 bedroom 2 bath. HUD income requirements apply. Contact Housing Department for more information (707) 733-1900 Ext. 231.

**Basayo Village Court:** Vacant units are available and Tribal members are encouraged to apply. Over income families can now apply. Remember we are also accepting Priority 2 applicants (non-Tribal parents of Tribal children) and Priority 3 applicants (other Native American Indian), but these will only be served after all Priority 1 (Tribal head of household) applications are placed in units.

**On Site Rentals:** Now Accepting Applications for one- 2 Bedroom 2 Bath 2 Car Garage home located close to Bear River Casino and amenities. For further information contact Housing Department (707) 733-1900 Ext. 231.

**Charmin Bailey, Housing Director**

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## Tribal Transportation Safety Forum

When: Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Time: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Where: 266 Keisner Road, Loleta CA, 95551, Tish-Non Community Center

Why: Tribal/Community Member Input for Transportation Safety Plan

Greetings:

You are invited to bring your comments and concerns to the table to be included in the development of the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria Tribal Transportation Safety Plan.

Our goal is to take the information we already know and combine it with your input to create a safer environment for vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle traffic. As our community grows with more families in the residential area and more tribal enterprises across the street we must be mindful that traffic will increase. With the increase in traffic it is very important to always put safety first.

We look forward to seeing you at the forum and getting your input.

Sincerely,

Bear River Transportation Department, Roads Department and Administration

# Bear River School Backpacks



**Pick up Date: August 12<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**Time: 9:00 am-12:00 pm**

**@ Tish Non Community Center  
266 Keisner Road, Loleta CA. 95551  
Service Request Form required**

**Are you are interested in receiving a back to school backpack this 2015/2016 FY?**

- Make sure you complete a Bear River Service Request application to guarantee being placed on the list. **Application deadline July 31, 2015**

**Is your child starting Kindergarten this 2015/2016 "FY"?** Enclose Kindergarten verification with the Service Request Form.

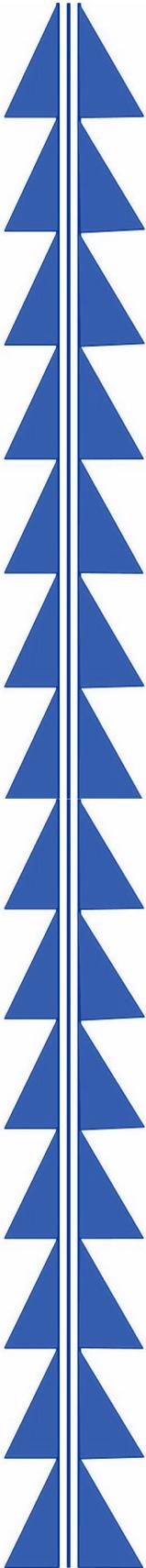
**The Bear River Service Request application must be filled out completely**

If you have any questions please contact Elizabeth Varelas

@ 733-1900--Ext. 209, please leave a message

**For School Age Children ONLY\*\*\*\*\*Kindergarten thru 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Serving Humboldt County members--We do not mail Backpacks or supplies!**



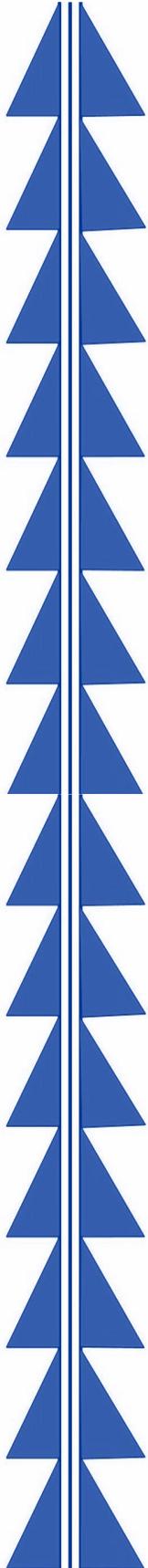


The community garden harvest event was on June 18.



The community cleanup day was on June 27, we collected 100 pounds of trash





# Hazardous Waste

**Throwing away household hazardous waste can lead to**  
dangerous chemical reactions  
with other materials  
and environmental pollution

- \*Pressurized tanks
- \*Automotive products
- \*Cleaning products
- \*Lawn and Garden Products
- \*Paints, adhesives, solvents
- \*Fluorescent light bulbs
- \*Batteries
- \*Propane tanks
- \*Oil
- \*Pest poisons
- \*Aerosols
- \*and more\***

**TO PROPERLY DISPOSE  
OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE:  
VISIT HUMBOLDT WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY.  
CALL THEM AT 441-2005 FOR AN APPT. OR VISIT  
THEM ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH,  
BETWEEN 9AM-2PM.  
1059 WEST HAWTHORNE ST, EUREKA**

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**\$5 FOR UP TO 15 GALLONS OR 125 LBS PER  
RESIDENTIAL TRIP, [CITY OF FORTUNA RESIDENTS  
PAY \$5/GALLON OR \$7/LB]**



**AMERICANS GENERATE 1.6  
MILLION TONS OF HOUSEHOLD  
HAZARDOUS WASTE PER YEAR**

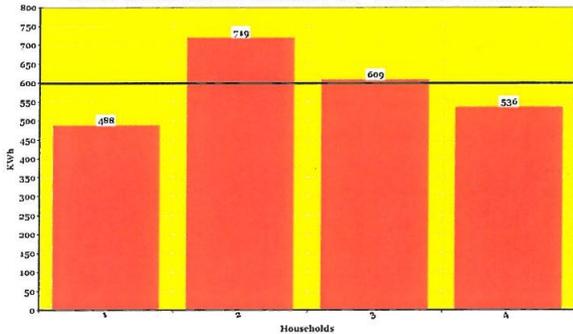


For more information contact Kayla San Filippo

# Solar Energy

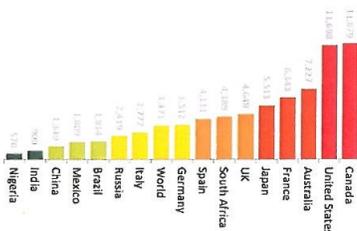
THE AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD IN CALIFORNIA USES 600 KWH EACH MONTH

KWH GENERATED IN JUNE BY YOUR NEIGHBORS



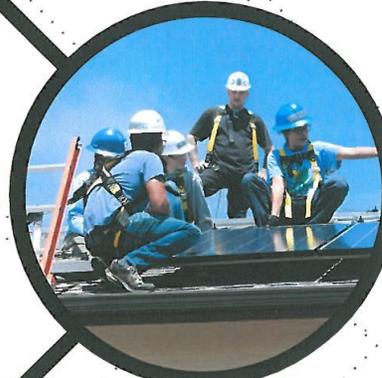
Each bar represents four different households that report usage

Household Electricity Consumption (kWh/year)



Note: Figures are 2010 average for electrified households. Source: Enerdata via World Energy Council. [Shrink That Footprint](#)

This graph compares different countries yearly average household consumption rates



Photos from the last two solar panel installs

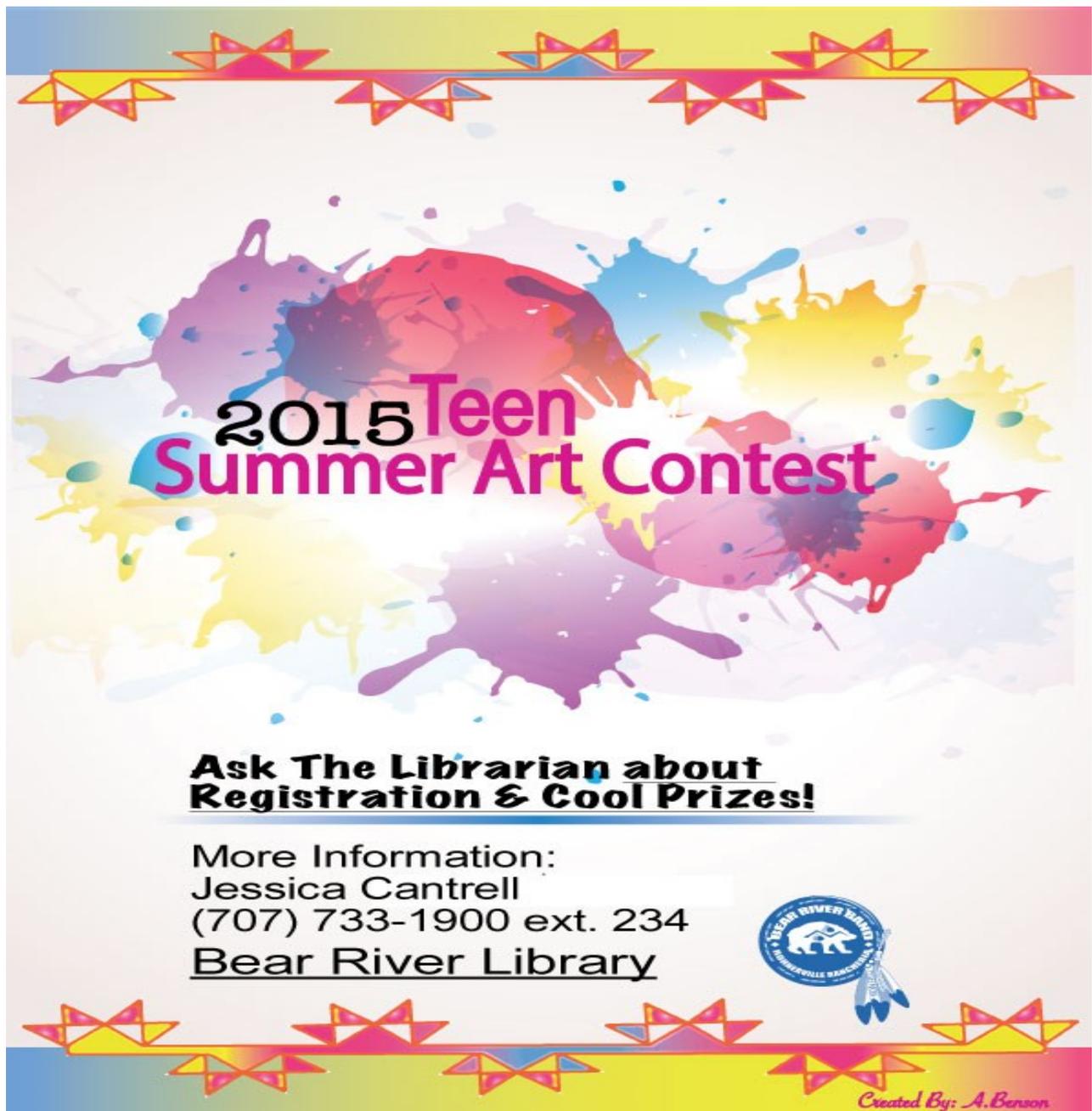
There is currently no more funding for these panels, however we will certainly be looking for more!

Feel free to call Kayla San Filippo, ENR Assistant, for questions or if you would like to be put on a list so that I may contact you if/when we receive more funding. 733-1900 ext. 119

The amount of solar energy that hits the earth each day would be enough to provide for worldwide energy consumption for 27 years.

## Bear River Library

The summer reading program is in full swing and we have Indigenous foods every Wednesday at 3pm. Everyone is welcome to come and learn but the kids will be preparing and eating the food. We also have our Teen art contest going on. The grand prize is a Kindle fire and a \$25 amazon card to purchase books with. Ages 13-18 are welcome to join. If you would like to request books/DVD's or for a full schedule of events or any questions please don't hesitate to call Jessica at (707)733-1900 ext. 234



The poster features a vibrant, abstract background with splashes of purple, red, yellow, and blue. At the top and bottom, there are decorative borders with colorful geometric patterns. The central text is prominently displayed in a mix of black and pink fonts.

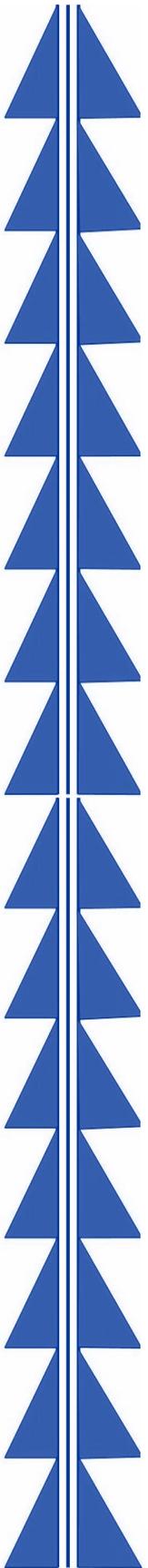
# 2015 Teen Summer Art Contest

**Ask The Librarian about  
Registration & Cool Prizes!**

More Information:  
Jessica Cantrell  
(707) 733-1900 ext. 234  
Bear River Library

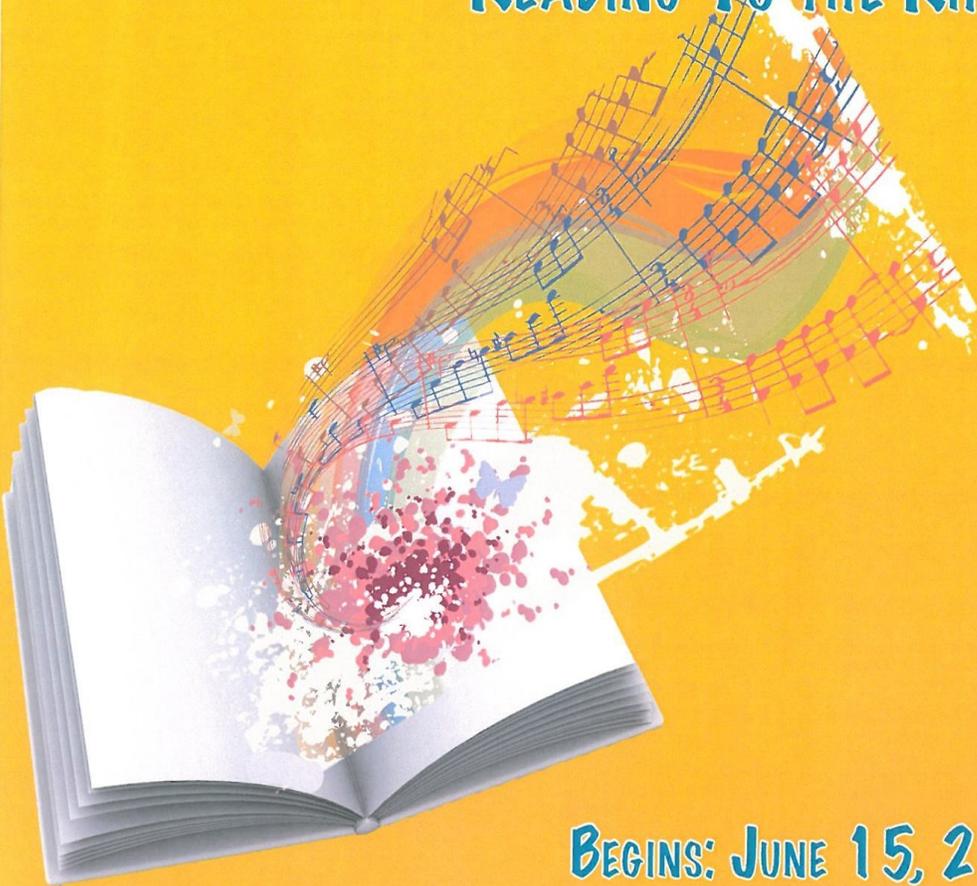


*Created By: A. Benson*



# SUMMER READING PROGRAM

## READING TO THE RHYTHM



**BEGINS: JUNE 15, 2015**

**Ask The Librarian  
about Fun Activities & Cool Prizes!!!**

More Information:

Jessica Cantrell

P: (707) 733-1900 ext. 234

Bear River Band Library

## Summer Meal Programs



Meals for Children When School Is Out

## Tish Non Community Center

Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015-

Friday August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Meal Times are 11:00AM-12:00PM

Monday-Friday excluding holidays

Questions regarding this program please contact Josefina at  
(707)733-1900 EXT. 189

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# Second Annual California Indian Day

## 3 on 3

Enjoy  
1st and  
2nd Place  
Prizes

3 point  
shoot out  
contest  
\$5 entry



# Youth Tournament

September 19th, 2015

**Tish Non Community Center, Loleta, CA**

**Must have one Native American on the team**

3rd-5th grade co-ed, 6th-8th grade boys, 6th-8th grade girls, JV Boys, JV Girls, Varsity Boys and Varsity Girls

4 players max, One Native must be on the team, Double Elimination

Alcohol & Drug Free Event

Sponsored by Bear River Casino Hotel & Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria

Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, 266 Keisner Road, Loleta, CA 95551 (707) 733-1900

# BEAR RIVER BAND OF ROHNERVILLE RANCHERIA

PRESENTS

## OPEN DIVISION MEN'S OUTDOOR 3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT DOUBLE ELIMINATION

SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2015

TISH NON VILLAGE, LOLETA, CA

\$100 ENTRY FEE

Guaranteed 1ST PLACE \$200

2nd Place t-shirts



**BEAR RIVER**  
CASINO ♦ HOTEL



Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, 266 Keisner Road, Loleta, CA 95551 (707) 733-1900



**Taking the Pulse: A Bear River Band Community Health Assessment**

In April 2015, the Bear River Social Service Department was awarded a research grant from Humboldt BRIDGES to increase the integration of mental health services in Humboldt County. After receiving approval from the Bear River Tribal Council, surveys were mailed on July 7 and July 8 to all adult tribal members who live in Humboldt County. The purpose of the survey is to gather information about the needs of the community and to ask for opinions on how to better serve and support tribal members.

We are hopeful that, through this research project, Bear River Social Services can collaborate with local mental health providers to improve services in ways that will ultimately lead to an increase in tribal members accessing those services.

Because this is so important, we are hoping you will spend a few minutes (about 20 minutes) telling us about your personal history and experiences you have had using services. ***Your opinions are greatly valued and will help us improve existing services and shape the creations of new services aimed at making life better for everyone!***

This survey is strictly **confidential** and only Bear River Social Services case workers will have access to the surveys. **No identifying information will be used in any reports given to any agency**, including Bear River Tribal Council, Humboldt BRIDGES, DHHS, mental health service providers, or local school districts. So please "tell it like it is."

If you have any questions about the survey, its purpose, or the management of any information, you may contact Elizabeth Rienzi, the lead researcher and Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator ([elizabethrienzi@brb-nsn.gov](mailto:elizabethrienzi@brb-nsn.gov)), (707) 599-7965, or Liana Whiteley, Social Services Director ([lianawhiteley@brb-nsn.gov](mailto:lianawhiteley@brb-nsn.gov)), (707) 599-0578.

We very much appreciate your help with this study and have included a small token of appreciation in each survey packet for you to keep as a way of saying thank you.

Every completed survey that is returned will also be entered to win one of two raffle prizes, each worth \$250 as a special thank you for helping to make life at Bear River better every day.

**THANK YOU!!**

## Healthy Families Updates:

### **May 2015:**

The May Healthy Families Class held at the Tish-Non Community Center was great fun and created closeness and good feeling for all family members!

Over 20 people (elders, parents, children, and babies) came out to decorate picture frames for Father' Day or any special occasion! Conversations flowed and hugs and warm smiles were freely given!

We still have some finished frames that are waiting to be picked up; if they are yours, please call Social Services!

Thank you everyone for bringing your bright and shining selves to this class and sharing in

the good times!



### **June 2015:**

The June Healthy Families Class at the Tish-Non Community Center was a great success with both returning faces and new ones too! We would like to extend a thank you to Barry Brenard for dedicating his time and energy in leading an art therapy class of painting your spirit animal. Community members of all ages painted alongside one another, sharing stories and laughter. If you have not picked up your painting from the class, they are available with Elizabeth Rienzi. Thank you again to all returning attendees and for those who came out for the first time!



### **July 2015:**

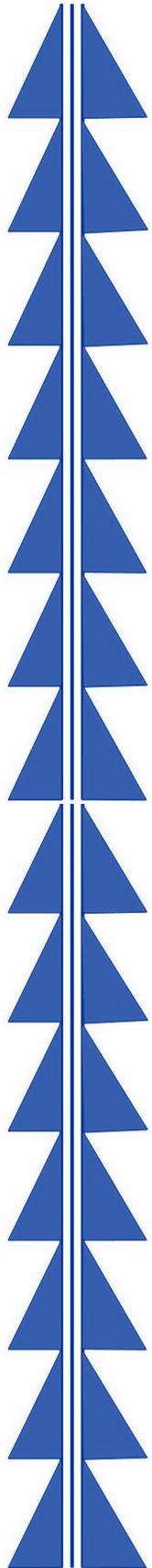
The Social Services Department is currently collaborating with **Yurok Tribal TANF** to schedule a **“From Darkness to Light”** presentation for the July Healthy Families Class at the Tish-Non Community Center. Because of the sensitive nature of the topic and the extended time period for this class, we ask for **Adults Only** this month. *Food, beverages, and **EXTRA** raffle prizes will be provided!!*

***We hope to see returning faces and more new ones as well!***

For more information or transportation, please contact Elizabeth Rienzi in the Social Services Department at (707) 733-1900 ext. 292 or (707) 599-7965.

Please look on the **Social Services Department Bulletin Board** outside of the Department offices for **July’s Healthy Families class flyer** and for future event details.

***We Hope to See You!!***



Jiu Jitsu



Cultural Days



Field Trips



Sports



Swimming

### **Bear River's Summer Sports Camp is off to a great start!!!**

We have 9 youth employed and 23 kids signed up and actively participating! So far we have been lucky enough to partner with our cultural department to braid bear grass, bead necklaces for the community, and learn about traditional dances.

Our kids have also been rocking it in Jiu Jitsu and have learned important anti-bullying techniques. We have also gone on various field trips, including an Avenue of the Giants nature walk, swim lessons at the Arcata Community Pool, and a community service trip to the Ma-le'i Dunes for a clean-up day with some other youth the Wiyot Tribe.

Our Youth Mentors who are an important part of the staff have gained work and leadership skills by planning sports days, a special camp highlight. The six Youth Mentors planned each activity and facilitated each sport which has given them great experience related to leadership, planning, and other work related skills.

We are all very much looking forward to the remaining couple of weeks of camp! We have more great activities planned for the young people, including cultural tours in Hoopa and in Redwood Creek as well as Kayaking in Big Lagoon and workshops done by Planned Parenthood and United Indian Health Services.

A big thank you to everyone involved and to Tribal Council for making this camp fun and a great success thus far!

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### **New Employee**



Hello, my name is Althea Jones and I'm your new ICWA advocate. I recently graduated with my MSW from Humboldt State and I'm looking forward to putting my education and prior work experience to work on behalf of your community.

My delight in working with children and youth began early, as I grew up in a licensed family day care home. The combination of day to day intimate involvement in working with children, and my passion in social justice issues led me to pursue my bachelors in early childhood education with an emphasis in family services.

I have worked in Humboldt County for the last 8 years in various social service settings including school social work, county mental health and the Betty Chinn Center. On the weekends, I nurture my spirit by connecting with nature and spending time with my family. Please come see me at the social services department or call me at (707) 502-7626.

**RTS Schedule**

Tish Non-Village				
<b>SOUTHBOUND</b>				
College of the Redwoods	8:31	10:31	3:31	5:31
Scenic & Loleta Dr	8:43	10:43	3:43	5:43
Tish Non-Village	8:55	10:55	3:55	5:55
Fernbridge	8:57	10:57	3:57	5:57
Palmer Blvd	9:00	11:00	4:00	6:00
Fortuna - 11th & N Streets	9:04	11:04	4:04	6:04
<b>NORTHBOUND</b>				
Fortuna - 11th & N Streets	7:19	9:18	4:20	6:24
Palmer Blvd	7:23	9:22	4:24	6:28
Fernbridge	7:26	9:25	4:27	6:31
Tish Non-Village	7:33	9:32	4:34	6:38
Scenic & Loleta Dr	7:40	9:39	4:41	6:45
College of the Redwoods	7:52	9:51	4:53	6:57

*Tish Non-Village service operates Monday - Friday*

The Humboldt Transit Authority Redwood Transit System now is running their bus to Tish Non Village as of July 6th, 2015. For more information please contact Wendell Freeman.

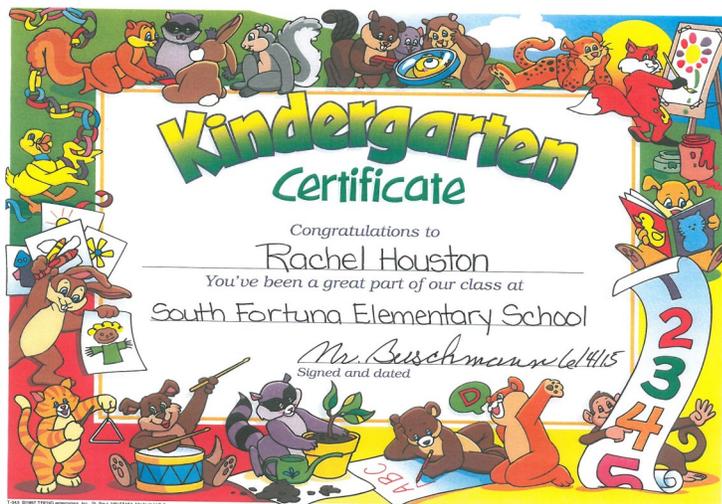


**New Baby Announcement**



Brenda Bowie is now a grandmother to Austin Kenneth Warner. Austin was born June 6, 2015. He weighed in at 8 lbs. 1.4 ounces.

Here is a picture of Austin meeting his mom Maggie Wells.

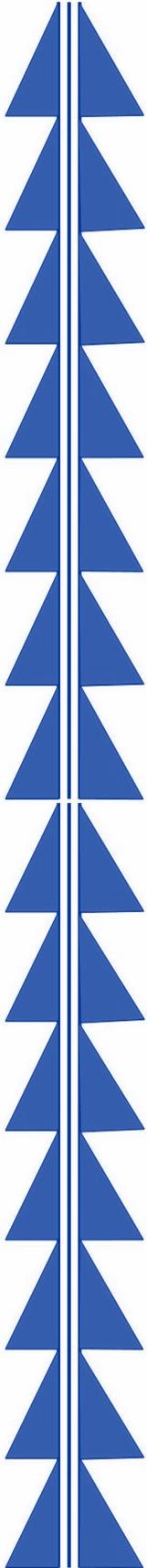


**Congratulations Graduate**

Rachel Houston graduated Kindergarten from South Fortuna Elementary School. Good job, Grandma is proud of you!

*Submitted by Aileen Meyer*





**Tribal Member Submissions**

*I would like this submitted for the News letter please*

*Thank you Very Much Sparky*

*from Tending the Wild*

**A KINCENTRIC VIEW OF NATURE**

Although native ways of using and tending the earth were diverse, the people were nonetheless unified by a fundamental land use ethic: one must interact respectfully with nature and coexist with all life-forms. This ethic transcended cultural and political boundaries and enabled sustained relationships between human societies and California’s environments over millennia. The spiritual dimension of this ethic is a cosmology that casts humans as part of the natural system, closely related to all life-forms. In this view, all non-human creatures are “kin” or “relatives,” nature is the embodiment of the human community, and all of nature’s denizens and elements—the plants, the animals, the rocks, and the water—are people. As “people,” plants and animals possessed intelligence, which meant that they could serve in the role of teachers and help humans in countless ways—relaying messages, forecasting the weather, teaching what is good to eat and what will cure an ailment.

This view of other life as related, equal, and highly intelligent is what Enrique Salmón (Rarámuri) calls a “kincentric” view of the world.<sup>40</sup> In this vision of the world, nature is not to be treated as a separate entity “out there” that you do not touch or interact with, or labeled as a “scene” that is only to be viewed through a lens or shaped by the stroke of a paintbrush. *Homo sapiens* are full participants in nature, and they share mutual obligations and intricate interactions with many other forms of life.

Reflecting this belief, plants and animals throughout California were greeted with familiarity, as if one were visiting with old friends. The Mihi-

*Submitted by Donald Brenard*

Trusting that respect and understanding would come through relationship, native people believed that animals—birds, toads, lizards, bears—could become familiar with, even grow accustomed to, the ways of *Homo sapiens*. Thus, we see many examples of indigenous groups living and interacting with potentially dangerous animals. When a man or a woman of the Pass Cahuilla met a California grizzly bear in the mountains, he or she called the latter *piwil* (“great-grandfather”) and talked soothingly to him, saying, “I am only looking for my food, you are human and understand me, take my word and go away.”<sup>45</sup>

As part of treating other life with respect, California Indian cultures shared an ethic that prohibited needless killing. One old Paiute man said, “I have never shot anything in my life but what is good to eat.” Ishi attributed the cause of Saxton Pope’s bad luck in deer hunting to his needlessly killing a rattlesnake on the trail. Pope said of Ishi, “He respected these reptiles, and always preferred to walk around a snake, wishing him well and leaving him unharmed.”<sup>46</sup> In *Ecologies of the Heart*, the ethnobiologist Eugene Anderson writes, “[A] properly socialized individual had a powerful sense that the wild world was feeding him, and he ought to be as grateful and as anxious to act decently as he would to any human who fed him out of sheer kindness. Naturally wanton killing was virtually tantamount to murder, and ungrateful murder at that.”<sup>47</sup>

Native people reconciled the killing of their plant and animal kin by following certain rules when hunting and gathering (e.g., do not waste or overharvest) and by sharing the bounty with needy relatives and friends. They believed that the necessary sacrifice of some creatures is made for the good of all creatures. “The killing and eating of other beings,” writes the human ecologist Paul Shepard, “is understood by most tribal peoples as part of a larger gift of life rather than a victory over nature.”<sup>48</sup>

Recognizing the impact of killing other creatures for food, California Indians in various tribes were careful to restore harmony through acts of reciprocity: offerings, prayers of thanks, special ceremonies, and management of habitats to benefit the plants and animals not taken. Thus, California Indians were predators of deer, antelope, and tule elk but also their benefactors. Clara Charlie, a Chukchansi/Choynumni (pers. comm. 1989), explained how animals were helped by regular burning: “My husband’s family . . . burned to keep things clear. They also burned for the animals—the deer, bear, rabbits, and squirrels. The new growth the following spring gave them better and higher-quality foods such as buck brush.”

*Submitted by Donald Brenard*

**Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria**

266 Keisner Road  
Lolita, CA 95551

