



Yurok Today

The Voice of the Yurok People

Tribe kicks off hotel/casino build

Resort is part of greater economic plan for Yurok Reservation

SEE STORY ON PAGE 2





Hotel/casino construction begins

Tribe buys Klamath Jet Boat Tours, will build Visitor's Center, Cultural Knowledge Park and Amphitheatre

Construction has begun on the Yurok Tribe's first ever hotel and casino project. The tribally owned destination resort in the redwoods marks the start of the Tribe's plan to revive the economy on the Yurok Reservation.

"This is an historic day for the Yurok Tribe," said Yurok Chairman Thomas O'Rourke Sr. "We are looking forward to this economic development."

This spring, in addition to completing the Yurok Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Casino project, the Tribe is slated to build a Yurok Visitor's Center and a Cultural Knowledge Park and Amphitheatre. The Tribe also recently purchased the Klamath Jet Boat Tours, which fits perfectly into its plan to reinvigorate the local economy and put people back to work. These new businesses will offer a unique opportunity for vacationers to learn in a culturally appropriate way about the Tribe's relationship with the Klamath River, the old-growth redwood forest and the powerful Pacific Ocean as well as the Tribe's role in the history of the region.

"These projects are the result of careful planning, hard work and a commitment to best serve the tribal membership," Chairman O'Rourke said. "It's exciting to think about how many jobs that will be created through

these economic development endeavors. I truly believe hard working Yuroks will make these new businesses succeed. Additionally, when the Tribe does well, so does Del Norte County and the surrounding community."

The hotel and casino is situated in between the northern and southern boundaries of Redwood National and State Parks and will be the only lodging of its kind in such proximity to the internationally renowned National Park.

The Yurok Tribe custom-designed the gorgeous, three-story Holiday Inn Express Hotel to reflect the natural beauty of the redwood-studded coast and traditional Yurok architecture. It will include: 60 rooms, an indoor swimming pool, a gift shop, a breakfast space, exercise room, meeting room and high speed internet. The modest casino, located a few short steps away from the hotel, will house 99 slot machines, a 50-seat restaurant with a sports bar and an outside patio.

The Tribe's hotel and casino will be a fantastic family getaway spot, located across the highway from the Wild and Scenic Klamath River. Year round, there is something fun and exciting happening on the Yurok coast including: kayaking the Klamath in the summer, fishing for a giant chinook

“ THIS IS AN HISTORIC DAY FOR THE YUROK TRIBE. ”

THOMAS O'ROURKE SR. • YUROK CHAIRMAN

Contents

Page 6.....Tribe stages protest on HSU campus

Page 8.....Photo spread of historic cultural burn

Page 10.....Yurok student wins competitive award

On The Cover

The Yurok Tribal Council takes part in a groundbreaking ceremony for the Tribe's new hotel and casino.

Photo Courtesy of the Del Norte Triplicate

salmon in the fall, whale watching in Spring and getting a glimpse of many thousands of magnificent migratory birds in winter, not to mention world-class steelhead fishing.

The resort/casino will provide the perfect place to spend days on the river or in the rugged coastal forest and return to the hotel for delicious meal and retire to clean and cozy room.

The Yurok Tribe's goal is to create a thriving economy where all Yurok people have an opportunity to raise a family in a financially stable and secure community. There is an extreme level of unemployment on the Yurok Reservation. On the lower Reservation it is approximately 30 percent and the upper section the rate of unemployment is close to 80 percent. In Del Norte County, which neighbors the Reservation, the unemployment rate has been in the double digits for more than five years.

The large-scale construction that will take place during the coming year will create hundreds of jobs. In the years to come the economic development ventures will provide steady employment for more than a hundred Yurok men and women and others in the local community.

Please contact the Yurok Tribe's TERO Office at (707) 482-1350 if interested in construction, hotel and casino or visit www.yuroktribe.org/resort ✧

WWLOC ignites burn plan

Long-term plan includes lasting, systemic change as it relates to cultural fires



Yurok Wild Land Firefighters Mike Obie (with propane torch) and Andrew Lamebear (with propane can) ignite a prescribed, cultural burn on the Yurok Reservation.

A group of Yurok and non-tribal people are living proof that dedicated and disciplined individuals have the power to make long-term, sustainable and systemic changes.

By this time 2015, Yurok basket weavers will have an ample supply and revived source of straight and sturdy hazel sticks, thanks to the hard work of several resident leaders who are part of the Weitchpec/ Wo-tek Local Organizing Committee. The WWLOC brought together a diverse stakeholder group to accomplish a controlled cultural burn on the Yurok Reservation, which took place on April 30.

The partnership consists of the following groups: the Yurok Tribe, the, The Building Healthy Communities Initiative of The California Endowment, Cal Fire inmate crew, California Conservation Corps and several committed community members. Yurok Captain Clyde Trimble Sr. and firefighters Mike Obie, Andrew Lamebear, Lawrence Tracy and Brodie Richardson, conducted the actual prescribed burn.

The WWLOC is guided by the national community organizing model, "People Improving Communities through Organizing," (PICO). The group of resident leaders of both tribal and non-tribal lineage ignited the plan to burn a 5-acre hazel patch less than a year ago.

"If the elders that have passed on could see what we are doing for our people, for the preservation and continuance of our culture, I know they would be so proud," said Yurok Elder Bertha Peters, who is an accomplished weaver and member of the WWLOC. "I am really happy that this happened and we are going to have enough hazel materials for our community classes."

There was a celebration to commemorate the historic event on Saturday, May 11, 2013 at the Libby Nix Community Center in Weitchpec.

The five-acre controlled cultural burn occurred in the Weitchpec area near Martin's Ferry Bridge. The prescribed burn plan, developed over the past few months, went off without a hitch. The residents, who helped



create the blueprint for the cultural burn, also participated in the physical labor. Community members, along with the Yurok Watershed Restoration Program's crew, Yurok Forestry Program and the C.C.C. crew cut down the hazel to a manageable size. Fire lines were cut as a required safety precaution. On the day of, the Yurok Wildland Fire crew used propane torches to ignite the prescribed cultural burn, while CalFire inmate crews stood close by with fire hoses at the ready to hold the fire lines.

"The community should be commended for the hard work, dedication and effort they put into making the cultural burn and long-term burn plan a reality," said Yurok Chairman Thomas P. O'Rourke Sr. "This is the first of many planned, prescribed fires to come. Controlled, cultural burns benefit the entire ecosystem. Bringing fire back to the landscape offers too many benefits to list. I'd say the top three include: creating strong and healthy supply of basket materials, disrupting the life-cycles of harmful insects, and providing fresh grasses to feed the animals we hunt for subsistence and ceremony."

The Yurok Reservation, where tribal and non-tribal families live, is surrounded by a forest torn apart by previously unregulated logging operations. The lack of proper forest management has hindered basket weavers' ability to collect the resources they need to carry on the indescribably important tradition. The fractured forests are also a root cause of the drastic decrease of wildlife and fish populations, and are highly susceptible to out-of-control wildfire.

A cultural burn is the most reliable, expedient and effective tool in recovering the health of this ecosystem. The federal government and many states have put up roadblocks to using fire as resource stewardship tool, however, slowly but surely this is changing. When local community leaders learned, and utilized the PICO model to create long-term, sustainable and systemic changes in Weitchpec, California, it marked the first solid step towards reviving one of the most sophisticated land management systems to date, traditional land and resource management, puts them on the cutting edge in the coming era of, "bioneers," according to the WWLOC.

"I am so thrilled to be a part of this movement that will affect generations to come. As the Indian Education Director for the Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District, I'm looking forward to our students being able to learn about the traditions of gathering and weaving," said Margo Robbins.

PICO is a national network of faith-based community organizations working to create innovative solutions to problems in urban, suburban and rural communities. Since 1972 PICO has successfully worked to increase access to health care, improve public schools, make neighborhoods safer, build affordable

housing, redevelop communities and revitalize democracy, according to its website.

Through the sometimes tenuous process of building relationships, through 1 to 1 purposeful conversations, the WWLOC members collectively decided where would be the best location to accomplish their first burn. The WWLOC intentionally picked a patch located near the highway in order to make it easier for weavers to access this important material and pass on this critical cultural practice. Yuroks have been burning and harvesting hazel at this particular site for millennia. However, it had not been burned for quite a few years. The site is absolutely one of the best places to apply fire. It likely contains one the densest stands of hazel on the Yurok Reservation.

Without fire, hazel stands turn into a dry, dense mess, prone to insect problems, and are impenetrable to large game and birds of prey. When traditional fire practices are applied the hazel patches produce strong and straight shoots. Fire disrupts the lifecycle of the filbert worm which is detrimental to hazel nuts and acorns. The traditionally treated areas also rejuvenate other plant species, which large game animals like to eat. In turn, the deer deposit natural compost that keeps native shrubs, grasses and trees fertilized.

Hazel like most all life has a memory of sorts. If it is burned it has the power to remember and change molecularly, to become stronger and more resistant to pests and diseases. Modern science is just catching up with many traditional natural resource management techniques and fire is one of the primary tools in creating healthy communities throughout California, according to Skip Lowry, a Community Organizer for the WWLOC.

Hazel is used in everything from baby baskets to eel baskets, which need to be made with strong material. Hazel nuts and milk are both important traditional foods, which contain an extraordinary amount of protein and plenty of essential vitamins and minerals.

The fires rejuvenate grasses consumed by large mammals like deer and elk. They kill bad fungi that infect important nut trees like oak and hazel. There are types of good fungi, like the morel mushroom, which only produce fruit after a fire.

The Weitchpec/Wo-tek Local Organizing Committee, formed in April of 2012 in Weitchpec, Ca, represents more than 80 families from the villages of Weitchpec to Wo-tek. The WWLOC started its effort with a nine-month "listening campaign" to learn from residents what changes should summit the priority list. A burn plan was the community's most pressing concern because burns will bring back wildlife and keep the community safe from catastrophic wildfire.

Yurok people have practiced controlled burns since the dawn

of time. Every year, just before the start of Spring, Yuroks would set small fires for the benefit of wildlife and to maintain several types of woodland habitat. An out-of-control wildfire was nearly impossible because the trees were large and healthy, the grasses fresh and full of moisture and the shrubs new and green.

The WWLOC plans to continue to create systemic, sustainable and long-term change which includes many more cultural burns. The WWLOC would like to see legislation at both the state and federal level that institutionalizes the use of fire, and includes prescribed burning as a "best practice" for land management and wildfire prevention.

Over the past two decades various groups have attempted, without success, to kindle a far-term burn plan in Yurok ancestral territory.

"I would like to see this relationship between the community, the Yurok Tribe and CalFire become a catalyst to conduct more burns. It is the perfect platform to develop a resident-leader driven burn plan to promote cultural resources and stop dangerous wildfires," concluded Skip Lowry, a Community Organizer for the Building Healthy Communities Initiative of The California Endowment, who is work is guided by the PICO model.

The Weitchpec/Wo-tek Local Organizing Committee intentionally integrates tribal and non-tribal people of all ages to reflect the shared land and the traditional Yurok value of inclusion. Committee members who participated in this victory include: Toby Vandlandingham, Sunny Cosce, Harlan Alvarado, Carole Lewis, Bertha Peters, Margo Robbins, Walt "Black Snake" Lara Sr., and Yurok Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer Robert McConnell. The organizing and resident leadership development is supported by Skip Lowry, a staff community organizer with the Building Healthy Communities Initiative of The California Endowment.

The California Endowment believes that health happens in neighborhoods, schools, and with prevention. As such, the Endowment has embarked on Building Healthy Communities (BHC), a ten-year campaign to improve the health of people residing in vulnerable, at-risk communities through stronger and innovative prevention approaches. ✨

• See photo spread on page 6

Salmon Festival logo contest starts June 5

The Yurok Tribe's 51st Annual Salmon Festival logo contest begins on June 5, 2013.

The artwork should capture the theme of this year's salmon celebration: "Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Yurok Constitution."

The deadline for entries is July 2, 2013 at 5pm. It is preferred that all artwork is submitted as a high resolution, digital file. If creating a digital file is not possible, Salmon Festival organizer, Matt Mais, will work with the artist, so that his or her submission can be considered. Please do not submit artwork larger than 11" by 17". The artwork can be mailed, emailed or dropped off. Please see contact information below.

The winner of this year's poster contest will receive \$250 and a t-shirt with the logo on it. The winning logo art will become property of the Yurok Tribe.

The Yurok Tribe's 51st Salmon Festival will take place on Saturday, August 17, 2013.

To submit entries via regular mail, please send it on a Compact Disc or fortified envelope to PO Box 1027, Klamath, Ca 95548 – Attn. Matt Mais. Entries can be emailed to mmais@yuroktribe.nsn.us or dropped off at the Yurok Tribe's Klamath office, located at 190 Klamath Blvd. Klamath, Ca 95548.

NOTICE YUROK TRIBAL COURT

To THARREN BROWN, SR. Last known address in Klamath is undeliverable.

A HEARING REGARDING YOUR FAMILY IS SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS;

Hearing will be held:

DATE: June 28, 2013; 10AM
PLACE: Yurok Tribe Council Chambers
190 Klamath Boulevard, Klamath, CA

Please contact immediately: The Yurok Tribal Court: P.O. Box 1027, Klamath, CA 95548. Phone (707) 482-1350 regarding your rights.

Tribe forced to protest cuts at HSU

The University may cut programs proven to help all Native American students

On May 10, more than a hundred Native American tribal members protested in the Humboldt State University Quad in order to bring attention to the University's effort to eradicate services critical to Native student success.

"Humboldt State is failing in its attempt to become 'exemplary partners' with tribal nations," said Yurok Chairman Thomas P. O'Rourke Sr. "We asked that HSU honor the goals lined out in the institution's Strategic Plan, one of which is to 'expand the curriculum to reflect the region's interests and needs.'"

In the summer of 2011, the Northern California Tribal Chairmen's Association and Humboldt State formed the NCTCA HSU Workgroup. HSU President Rollin Richmond charged the Workgroup with reallocating the existing \$1.1 million budget for Native programs, which includes Native American Studies. The University President instructed the group to restructure, with a focus on student success, the University's Native student support and community outreach programs. The special group was also tasked with aligning the students, faculty and program objectives with the needs of the communities in the region.

The Northern California Tribal Chairmen's Association is comprised of the leaders of 11 tribal nations and represents nearly half of all Native American's in the state. The NTCA advocates for Native American issues at the local, state and federal level.

The main programs at risk, some of which have been operating for more than 25 years, include: Indian Tribal Education Personnel Program (ITEPP), Indian Natural Resources, Science and Engineering Program (INRSEP), Center for Indian Community Development (CIDC) and the Office for Indian Economic Development and Community Development. Countless Native students have benefited from the programs and have gone on to contribute positively to both tribal and non-tribal communities.

"These programs provide an invaluable service to Native American Tribes across the United States and should not be dismantled," Chairman O'Rourke Sr. said. "Many of the Yurok Tribe's employees, who currently occupy leading roles in the Tribe's government, have used one or all of these versatile, time-tested programs."

The NCTCA HSU Workgroup is comprised of six tribal and six university officials appointed by Richmond, and is jointly chaired by a representative from each group. In good faith, the stakeholder group put in more than a thousand hours developing a detailed plan to better meet the needs of the Native student population



Yurok Education Director Jim McQuillen gives an impassioned speech on the HSU campus.

and the local community. The group completed the painstaking work of reorganizing the programs — complete with new job classifications and an organizational chart. Within the new plan, the group also made several recommendations including: consolidating existing services, creating a tribal liaison position, providing more recruitment and support services for Native students, continuing to protect the substantial native language collections and cultural archive and making these more accessible to the students' and putting all the programs under one roof. Currently, the programs are located in various parts of the HSU campus.

"HSU President Richmond flat out ignored the workgroup's reorganizational plan and recommendations," Chairman O'Rourke Sr. said. "This plan would have greatly increased our students' ability to succeed, at a time when Native American enrollment at the University is in a freefall because of how it treats indigenous people. We worked hard to come up with a cogent process to transform the university into a place that embraces the diversity tribal people bring to the institution, in exchange for preparing our people for the tribal workforce."

American Indians, as a sub-group, currently have the lowest six-year graduation rate for all sub-groups at Humboldt State University. As the largest tribe in California, the number of Yurok tribal members attending HSU has been on a steady decline over the past few years. Yurok students are choosing Sacramento State, Southern Oregon

University and other universities in far off locations, according to statistics compiled by the Tribe's Education Department.

When Yurok students choose campuses that are far away, it creates more hardships on tight-knit tribal families, due to the additional financial expenses and travel time. At other colleges, tribal students do not get the tribal nation building curriculum and tribal natural resources courses available at HSU.

Additionally, having a four-year university so close to tribal nations is important to tribal people because it allows Native students to continuously live cultural lives and pursue educational goals. Achieving a balance between practicing culture and participating in higher education is a proven route to long-term success for Indian people.

During the past few years, the Native support and community outreach programs have been operating in a state of limbo. They are currently suffering from a hiring freeze, and the programs are unable to hire new employees. With no clear guidance from the Richmond Administration, the programs have become fragmented and are not serving students at the level they deserve. New potential native students don't have a clear sense of what is being offered to them at HSU.

HSU should and can be a university that is a model of service to the native tribal communities, as its mission statement clearly states: "Our region is unmatched in the number and size of vibrant indigenous Native American cultures." ✧

Pel'Son'mehl Ney-puy" (Big Doings with the Salmon)

Yurok Reservation, Klamath
June 21st 5:00-8:00pm,
June 22nd 9:00am to 8:00pm,
June 23rd 9:00am to 4:00pm

Indigenous Peoples' Conference Series focuses on Traditional Knowledge. This year we are highlighting Salmon. The gathering will include exchange of traditional methods, preservation practices and methods, spiritual and cultural relationships and ceremonial practices related to salmon and rivers and discussion of revitalizing traditional trade routes and exchange between Indigenous "Salmon Peoples". 1) Community workshops, using the cultural indicators on food sovereignty as a tested framework, to encourage, guide and facilitate community-based discussions about using traditional foods systems and knowledge for adaptation and mitigation to climate change; 2) Gathering and sharing input from Indigenous communities, with their agreement about the value and practical applications of traditional food based knowledge, practices and bio-cultural sources to adapt to and mitigate impacts of climate change; and 3) Coordinating presentations and other input for the Food Sovereignty Thematic Area at the Rio +20 Indigenous Peoples Forum and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (May and June 2012 and May 2013) and other international conferences tba (@ 4 – 5 during 2 conference years) .

For Information: Monique Sonoquie (Coordinator) 805-403-6744, sonoquie@hotmail.com

Send SUBMISSIONS/REGISTRATION to Rochelle, IITC 2940 16th Street, Suite 305, San Francisco, CA 94103-3664, iitc@treatycouncil.org, (415) 641-4482, www.treatycouncil.org,



Yurok Today
The Voice of the Yurok People

Dam Deal Done!

See story on page 3



Place your AD here

Yurok Today is now selling advertising. Yurok Today reaches more than 2,900 Yurok Tribal households and is available online. Please contact Matt Mais for rates at (707) 482-1350 or mmais@yuroktribe.nsn.us





1. Yurok Wild Land Firefighter Lawrence Tracy ignites a prescribed cultural burn on the Yurok Reservation.
2. Yurok Wild Land Firefighters Mike Obie (w/ propane torch) and Andrew Lamebear (with propane can) ignite a prescribed cultural burn on the Yurok Reservation.
3. Yurok Wild Land Firefighter Mike Obie holds a propane torch.
4. Yurok Wild Land Firefighter Brodie Richardson carries a propane torch up to the burn area.
5. A Cal Fire firefighter ignites a test burn.
6. Two members of the Cal Fire inmate crew stand guard to make sure the fire stays within the designated area.
7. The controlled fire burns low and slow.

Yurok student wins rare award

Manuel Mattz will use his Gates Scholarship to become a medical doctor

Yurok tribal member Manuel Mattz's drive to become a medical doctor is rooted in his desire to make people's lives better.

"I like people," said Mattz, a Hoopa Valley High School senior. "You can help a lot of people as a doctor."

The 17-year-old recently removed a barrier on the path to his long-term goal of becoming a general practitioner. He pursued and was named a Gates Millennium Scholar. The nonprofit, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, selects only 1,000 students a year. The highly competitive scholarship is open to all high school graduates in the United States. The Gates Millennium Scholarship covers tuition, fees, books and living expenses throughout the recipient's college career — up to and including a doctorate degree.

"It was an awesome feeling," Mattz said of receiving the phone call telling him he secured the scholarship. "It felt unreal the first day. The next day when I woke up and realized it wasn't a dream I was so happy."

The young Yurok man attributes his success in part to participating in traditional Yurok ceremonies, specifically learning the complex processes each dance follows, which helped him get to where he is today.

"I found that the dances have taught me cooperation and dedication," Mattz said. "You have to be dedicated to learn all of the dos and don'ts. It took a lot of practice."

Mattz will be attending Lewis and Clark College where he will major in Biochemistry. He will also be playing football at the NCAA Division III school. The university is nationally regarded for its science programs, which are required for medical school.

"They have a great science program. It's a green campus and beautiful place. There are a lot of trees everywhere, which is similar to Hoopa," said Mattz, who was born in Arcata and raised in Hoopa. "One of the reasons I selected Lewis and Clark was because I like having face time with teachers. The class sizes are small at the university, which makes it easier to learn."

Mattz was inspired from an early age by his grandmother Betty A. Mattz — who was a registered nurse for many years at K'ima:w medical center—to become a doctor.

"My grandmother instilled in me the values of taking care of other people and having compassion," Mattz said.

The very articulate young Yurok man likes to dance to music, read



and go for the occasional jog. Currently, he is enrolled in Advanced Placement Calculus and Physics, which are his two favorite areas of study.

"I have a real interest in the sciences because I like learning about the world around me. I like mathematics because I like a challenge," Mattz explained.

This summer Mattz will be interning at K'ima:w Medical Center in Hoopa where he will be shadowing administrators, x-ray technicians, nurses and doctors.

"I want to get a really good idea of what goes on in a medical institution," Mattz said.

Mattz is looking forward to football training at Griswold Stadium and working to become a general practitioner. On the gridiron, Mattz plays on the offensive line and that's where Lewis and Clark wants him to play.

"I can play anywhere they need me on the line," Mattz concluded. ❖



Q and A with Employee of the Assistant Planning Director **Mandy Mager**.

1. How long have you been working for the Tribe? **13 years**
2. Why did you decide to work for the Tribe? **I received my degree in Native American Studies from Humboldt State University; I started working in the Planning Department for the Yurok Tribe in 2000 and quickly learned that the Tribe was in the process of moving forward with a number of major initiatives. It was really exciting to think that I could be part of something that really had the ability to make positive changes and impacts to individuals and communities.**
3. What does your job entail? **As the Assistant Planning Director I have the opportunity to not only manage specific infrastructure development projects, but to also work with our Planning team, the Council, and other departments to holistically plan for future development projects.**
4. What is the most satisfying part of your job? **The most satisfying part of my job is working with my fellow team members to bring positive infrastructure development to the Yurok communities.**
5. How does your position serve the tribal membership? **I'm very lucky in that the projects that my team works on have instant, tangible results; whether that's constructing a new fire station, community center, child care center, power line, water system, road improvement, or economic development project; the results are instantaneous.**
6. What do you do outside of work? **Outside of work I love to spend time with my family exploring the great outdoors. I love to hike, bike, fly fish, camp and spend time on the river. I love photography and any type of competitive sport. As the mother of a three year old I'm also learning to love dinosaurs.**
7. What are your plans for the future? **As a planner you would think that I would be able to easily answer that question; but I have to say that I like to live for the moment and enjoy things as they come. I'm grateful for each day that I have and the opportunities that I'm given. As far as work goes, the list of projects is on-going and ever changing; I can say that we are working diligently on the Klamath Re-Development Plan, the new hotel, casino and restaurant project, the new Tribal Justice Center, and an up-river power line extension project, to name but a few. The future looks very bright and exciting and I'm grateful to be part of such a wonderful vision.**

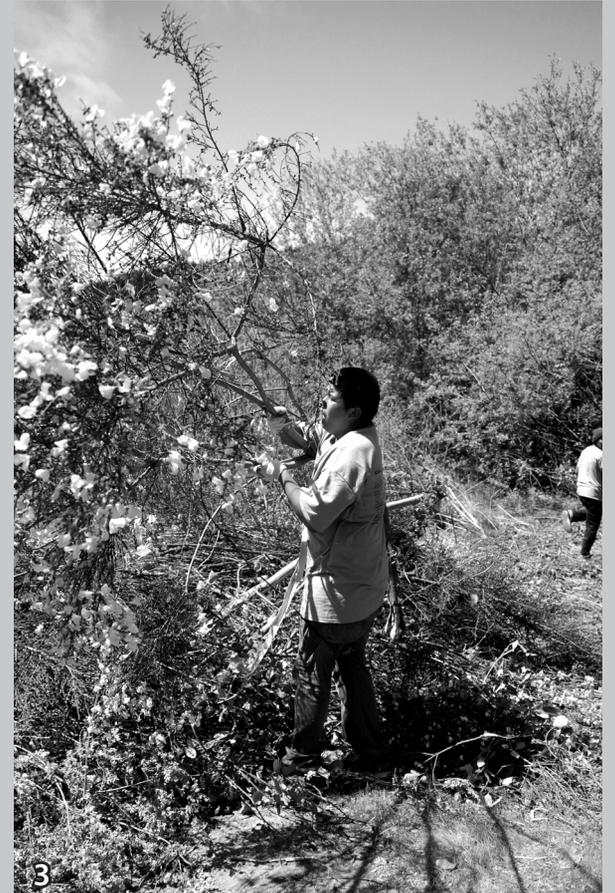
Yurok Today now offering free birth notices and obituary service

Yurok Today is now publishing birth notices and obituaries. The cost-free feature includes a notice comprised of 400 words or less.

Yurok Today is also offering space for a 3.5' by 5' photo to be published along with both birth notices and obituaries, also at no cost. The notices must be written by the participant. The deadline is the 10th of each month and will be published the following month. For example, if a notice is submitted on May 10, it will run in the June edition of Yurok Today.

Yurok Today is sent to nearly 3,000 households and is published online at yuroktribe.org. To participate in the free service contact Matt Mais by email at mmais@yuroktribe.nsn.us or by phone at (707) 482-1350.

11th Cleanup beautifies Reservation



1. **Ro-tah Shorty smiles at the 11th Annual Klamath River Cleanup**
2. **Yurok Environmental Specialist Joe Hostler loads a portion of the 40 yards of trash that was removed from the Reservation. In addition to the trash, Cleanup participants were responsible for disposing of the following items: 25 tires, 1 washer, 1 dryer and 3 refrigerators were picked up during the Cleanup.**
3. **More than 15 yards of invasive species, such as the Scotch broom shown in this picture, were removed from the Lower Klamath River.**

Offensive photo shoot occurs in cultural spot

Photography Co. ignores warning from the Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer

The Yurok Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer Bob McConnell sent the owner of TreeSpirit Project® Jack Gescheidt, a letter explaining how culturally offensive it would be to conduct a nude photo shoot on Strawberry Rock. Gescheidt went ahead with what was clearly a publicity stunt anyway. The column below, submitted on behalf of the Tribe, was published in the Times-Standard.

We write this in response to “ ‘Creating a sacred ceremony’ ” (Times-Standard, May 12, Page B1). The article features “TreeSpirit Project” founder Jack Gescheidt and his exploitation of a local issue involving a Yurok traditional cultural property now named Strawberry Rock. Mr. Gescheidt speaks very eloquently about his life experience and how he came to found the TreeSpirit Project. Individuals behind the April 27 protest at Strawberry Rock have stated the purpose of the contrived event was to make beautiful art and have an adventure while raising awareness for the forests and wildlife surrounding Strawberry Rock.

This was after the Yurok Tribe wrote Mr. Gescheidt a letter on April 18 explaining to him that “This rock, and the trees you are ‘protecting’ are spiritual beings to Yurok, and you need to respect those values without question while within our homeland. In addition, actions are underway that will ensure the area is recognized for what it is to the local Trinidad community and Yurok culture.”

Our letter further described an ongoing effort involving several local groups to establish a conservation easement surrounding the rock and trail leading to the rock.

The letter finished by stating: “We respectfully ask that you reconsider your actions and recognize that this event is an insult to the area and the people who utilize it for cultural purposes.”

The Yurok Tribe and Heritage Preservation Office are charged with protecting cultural resources throughout our ancestral territory, and have to do so while carefully balancing the privacy of the cultural practitioner with the need to know of the public and or land manager. There are times when it is OK to divulge information about sites, in other cases it is not. In most cases, however, divulging information will lead to someone experiencing a loss. When that happens, it almost always ends up being the native practitioner. Yurok culture, like tribal cultures everywhere, has been and is under constant attack.

In this case, Yurok culture once again is the victim when Mr. Gescheidt convinced more than 70 people to take their clothes off and stand on this spiritual rock, so he could take their picture and advance his cause. Make no mistake, we do not object to his theme of protecting trees, the objection is to bringing his outside viewpoint to the North Coast and forcing that viewpoint on Yurok culture. The North Coast can and will take care of itself. Yurok people have been here since time immemorial and will continue existing here long after individuals like Mr. Gescheidt have come and gone.

The Yurok Tribe and our membership are committed to a peaceful and hopefully harmonious relationship with our north coast neighbors. Anything that happens here is something we will have to live with, unlike Mr. Gescheidt, who can retreat to wherever he lives without receiving any consequence for his actions.

When discussing this issue with elders before it happened, trying to prevent it from happening was not a subject on anyone’s mind. A reaction is what was sought by the TreeSpirit Project, so Yurok chose not to engage. Sorry Mr. Gescheidt, we will not join in your effort, now or in the future. It is unfortunate because we share some of the same ideals; we just disagree on the end justifying the means. It wasn’t enough for Mr. Gescheidt to follow through with his intended actions at Strawberry Rock; he then glorifies his actions in the Times-Standard with an article called “ ‘Creating a sacred ceremony.’ ” Taking your clothes off and standing naked while being photographed is a SACRED CEREMONY?! How would this same action be viewed had they gone to the Vatican to conduct the photo shoot? Let us state here that Yurok people did not ask for your help with our issue, Mr. Gescheidt, and we do not appreciate how you have conducted yourself in this matter. Do not come here and attempt to “help” without first asking if it is wanted and needed. This is the same as spitting on Yurok culture.

As stated in the letter, the Yurok people and cultural practitioners have been insulted by the action of Mr. Gescheidt and his partners. Within Yurok culture, this means a debt is owed to us. However, in this case, there may not exist a way to accept any form of payment that can erase the memory of this action.

Yurok Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer Bob McConnell and Yurok Chairman Thomas P. O’Rourke Sr. co-authored this article. ✨

Birth Announcement



Raylan Jacob Danel was born at Mercy Medical Center in Redding, CA on January 15th at 9:28am. Raylan weighed 6 lbs, 8 ozs and was 19 inches long. He was welcomed by his parents Justin and Angie Danel and sister Isabelle. Maternal grandmother is Carolyn Lewis of Hoopa. Paternal grandparents are Lonnie and Cathy Danel of Willow Creek.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PETKEEPER

Aye-yu-kuee'

Hello, my name is Mae and I am on a committee concerning animal control on the Yurok Tribe Reservation. I am on the Community Disaster Committee to help take care of the dogs, cats, and any other pets if a disaster happens in our community.

My position is to help teach our children how to take care of animals, explain what to do if something happens, and how to act around animals. The goal is to keep your pets safe, healthy, and at home.

I would like to gather information on our community's pets through an Annual Animal Census which is a questionnaire that provides me with important information about your pet that can be utilized if a disaster hits the community. The questionnaire will also provide us with medical information that can help us track any needs your pet(s) might have.

This information will also be used if you leave home and lose your pet. We can help find them and bring them home.

I am available to help with capturing loose animals and help provide temporary shelter. I am also gathering recycled items where the proceeds can be used to help cover some pet care needs for elderly and disabled people in our area.

Our Animal Education & Outreach Committee (AEO) is looking for community volunteers to help with emergencies, lost & found, and any other area where extra help may be needed.

Please contact me at 707-951-3843 if you want to volunteer or if you have any questions, comments and/or concerns.

OBITUARY

Bobby Jones 4/27/47 to 3/27/13

He was born in Flatrock, Alabama. He was preceded in death by his lovely mother Nancy Spivy, stepfather Ellis "Snooks" Spivy. Bobby was beloved father and best friend of his sons Bobby Ellis Jones, and David Gene Charles. He grew up on the Klamath River and loved hunting and fishing with his Native American friends and in-laws. He attended school here in Del Norte and served his county in Vietnam before starting his own family.

He was loved by many and will be missed by us all. Look for him in the sky and when you least expect it he will be there.

Grand Children include: Ashley Jones, Devin Jones, Blake Jones, Bobbie Jean Jones Jason Ford, and Haley Charles.

He has one cousin who is Roy Spivy.

To our understanding he left behind his third wife Nancy Fowler Jones and her two grown children.

His friends met May 25 at the Requa Inn to celebrate Mr. Jones life. His ashes were spread from Blue Creek to Requa.

2013 YUROK TRIBE ELECTION NOTICE

TO ALL YUROK TRIBAL MEMBERS WHO WOULD
LIKE TO RUN FOR THE:

**EAST DISTRICT
PECWAN DISTRICT
SOUTH DISTRICT**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR ELECTION
AS A REPRESENTATIVE (*MUST BE AT LEAST 25 YEARS
OLD*) ON THE YUROK TRIBAL COUNCIL.

YOU MAY PICK UP NOMINATION PAPERS BEGINNING
JUNE 17, 2013 AT THE YUROK TRIBAL OFFICE IN
KLAMATH. THERE IS A \$25 FILING FEE WHEN YOU
PICK UP THE NOMINATION FORMS.

THE NOMINATION PERIOD CLOSSES **JULY 19, 2013**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE
ELECTION DEPARTMENT AT (707) 482-1350.

YUROK TRIBE 2013 ELECTION SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 9, 2013	PRIMARY ELECTION
NOVEMBER 6, 2013	RUNOFF ELECTION
<hr/>	
JUNE 17 (8:30AM)	FIRST DAY TO ISSUE NOMINATION PAPERS FOR COUNCIL OFFICE
JULY 10 (5:00PM)	LAST DAY TO REGISTER WHEN MOVING INTO A DIFFERENT DISTRICT (90 DAYS)
JULY 19 (5:00PM)	LAST DAY TO FILE NOMINATION PAPERS
AUGUST 9, (5:00PM)	LAST DAY TO FILE INITIATIVE(S)
AUGUST 9	PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF ELECTION (54 DAYS)
AUGUST 14	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FOR THE SAMPLE BALLOT (250 words) AND NEWSLETTER (750 words)
AUGUST 23	LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR PRIMARY ELECTION (47 DAYS)
AUGUST 26-28	ELECTION BOARD CERTIFICATION OF NEW REGISTRANTS
AUGUST 30	MAIL OUT SAMPLE BALLOTS TO REGISTERED VOTERS (40 DAYS)
SEPTEMBER 13	MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS (26 DAYS)
SEPTEMBER 19	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST BY MAIL (14 DAYS)
OCTOBER 2	LAST DAY TO PICK UP ABSENTEE BALLOT IN OFFICE (5 DAYS)
OCTOBER 9, 2013	PRIMARY ELECTION
OCTOBER 18	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST BY MAIL FOR RUN OFF (14 DAYS) <i>ONLY IF YOU DID NOT REQUEST AN ABSENTEE FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION</i>
OCTOBER 18	MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR RUN OFF (19 DAYS)
OCTOBER 30	LAST DAY TO PICK UP ABSENTEE BALLOT IN OFFICE FOR RUN OFF (5 DAYS)
NOVEMBER 6, 2013	RUNOFF ELECTION

**2013 VOTING DISTRICTS
EAST DISTRICT, PECWAN DISTRICT AND SOUTH DISTRICT**

You are needed
Save our Cultural Values and Traditions
Become a Foster Parent

Native American Children become lost in the foster care system and are forced to live with families who do not share our Cultural Values or Traditions. You as a tribal member and family member can make a difference in the life of a Native American child.

Please contact the Social Services Department to find out how you can make a difference. 707.482-1350

A special thank you from Elizabeth Davis

Thank you to the Weitchpec/Tulley Creek staff for all their support during my absence and bereavement. It's nice to know I work with caring, hardworking, and compassionate individuals. Also a big thank you to Lisa Sanderson for stepping into the Weitchpec office and doing such a great job. Elizabeth Davis, Admin Specialist Weitchpec Office.



Yurok Tribe

Office: (707) 482-1350
mmais@yuroktribe.nsn.us
www.yuroktribe.org

Yurok Today
190 Klamath Blvd.,
Klamath, CA 95548

Address Service Requested

Presort Standard
US Postage
PAID
Eureka, CA
Permit No. 76

2013 ● JUNE ● Yurok Tribe



The salmonberries are coming on strong on the lower portion of the Yurok Reservation. Salmonberries, called err-wern in Yurok, can exhibit a red, yellow and salmon color when ripe. The traditional spring food is full of vitamin C and E. Salmonberries also contain a significant amount of manganese.



Everyone on this list does not have a current address with the Yurok Tribe as of March 25, 2013.

If your name is on this list please contact the Yurok Tribe's Enrollment Department (see below).

If you know anyone on this list, please have them submit a corrected address in writing to the Enrollment Department.

(707) 482-1350.

Abbott, Benjamin Michael-George	Charles, Duncan Lloyd
Abbott, John Warren	Charles, Jordan Lewis
Abbott, Monika Dawn	Charles, Leona Mae
Albers, Donna Marie	Charles III, Stacy Lee
Albers, Shantel Lee	Charles Jr., Stacy Lee
Albers, Te-geen Lee	Childs, Joyetta Jane
Alder III, Robert Ray	Claggett, Lawrence Eugene
Alvarado, Diane M.	Close Jr., James Eugene
Amen, Cha-ska Cold Arrow	Close, Triston Joleen
Ammon, Isaiah MackLee	Cochran, Don Allan
Anderson, Alexis Marie	Coddington, James McKenzie
Aubrey, Enrico Valentino	Colegrove, Hunter Francis
Aubrey, Sabrina Ann	Colegrove, Nolan Eugene
Bacon, Joseph Kenneth	Coleman, Deja Dolores
Bain, Leilene Renee	Coleman, Eugene Dale
Baker, Gina Marie	Cooke, Jacoby Lynn
Basey, Shontay Edith	Curry, Christina Ann
Bates, Richard Jay	Cushman II, Justin Lee
Berry, Draco li'ni Ryan	Daniels, Alexis Rose
Black, Cedric Wellington	Daniels, Dominic Tyler
Blanes, Jim Karl	Davis, Ciara Rayne
Blanes, Logan Peter	Dawson, Susan Desired
Blickenstaff, Malaina Amber	Dean, Allyana Kweys-Chin
Bolton, Amber Lynne	Dean, Leah Springwater
Bonnet, Sean Charles	Dewey, Michelle Evon
Box, Shawn Allen	Dials, Heather Marie
Brennan, Blue Tallon	Donahue, Jordan Per-gon-gish
Brown, Aaron Arthur	Donahue, River James
Brown, Destannie Elizabeth-Rose	Dotson, Denise Elaine
Brown, Jasmynne Marie-Tye	Drake-Schlueter, Gabrielle Ellaine Louise
Brown Sr., Tharren Reece	Dungan, Izabel Daisy
Burhus-Mc Covey, Thunder Cher-er-ie	Earhart-Stokes, Scraigon James
Cameron, Tarquin Jerome	Eisele, Alan Courtney
Campbell, Garrett Alec	Eisele, Anthony James
Campbell, Sean Wayne	Eldredge, Leona Lee
Campbell, Tyler Sabastian William	Eldredge, Sandra Ann
Canez, Kee wu nos chaywin Walt	Evenson, Thomas Edward
Carlson IV, Thomas William	Evenson-Gunterman, James Jay
Castro-Fox, Brenda Lee	Fain, Luke Alan
Cavanaugh, Steven Arthur	Feicco, Daniel Anthony

Fendrick, Jayna Rose
Fiester, Damien Michael
Fillmore-Mendez, Sequoya Lynn
Finlayson, Cleo Jolene
Fletcher Jr., Raymond Lee
Frank, Thomas Joaquin T70257
Frank Jr, William Barney P83218
Frank-Guerrero, Adamay Ethel
Frank-Guerrero, Candace Mae
Frazier, Steel Eugene
French, Ethan Michael
Garcia, Bonny Sue
Garrett, Amanda Rachael
Gauna, Ezekiel Jadyn
Gauna, Joshua Avery
Gensaw, Alvretta Rose-Werper
Gensaw, Ashly Inez
Gensaw Jr, Henry Grant
Gensaw Sr., Henry Grant
Gensaw Jr., Raymond Giant
Gentry, Darin Edwin Robert
George, Christal Micheal
George, Laura Elaine
George, Linda Pearl
George, Marilyn Cathryn
Gillespie Jr., Darrell Arden
Gilreath, Crystal Lynn
Gines, Kylie Elizabeth
Gomes, Angelica Mae
Gomes, Donna Mae
Gonzales, James
Gonzalez, Nakai Dominique
Graham, Lillianna Michelle
Guinn, Perseus Tohali Pen
Guyatt, Claire Rose
Haigh, Christopher Ellis
Haigh, Dawn Andrea
Haigh, Ki-s^ n Amira
Hanes, Michelle Catherine
Hanson, Salena Helen Rose
Harris, Angela Marie
Harris, Michelle Lynna
Harris, Neal Edward 15477193
Harris, Penelope Sue
Harris, Tara Lynn
Hedrick, Brianne Elizabeth
Hedrick, Taran Dale
Henderson, Jarich Gregory
Henderson, Tyberious Cobb

Hendon, Brenda Jane
Henry, Nas Che Wen Hey-Gon Casey
Hernandez, Delilah Selena Mia Bella
Hernandez, Joseph Andres
Hersey-Henry, Isaiah Thomas
Hill, Christopher Allen
Hodge, Gary Ray
Hodges, Wade Nelson
Hodges, William Leonard
Holsworth, Christie Marleene
Huape, Richard Mahach
Hulleman, Jeremy Allen
Hutchinson, Weyk-seyr Cale Trevor
Inong-Hutchinson, Wai-se-now Pyake-Chenni
Jake, Peckwan Chak'Chem
Jameson Jr., Victoria Renee Roxanne
Jones, Bobby Ellis
Jones, Denise Myranda Rosanna
Jones, Hannah Lynn
Jones, Michael Dean AF-7440
Jones, Nathan Ray Lopez
Jordan, Cory Taylor
Jordan, Daisy Ann
Kaler, Denise Renee
Keisner Jr., Delmer Malin
Keisner, Eros Isidro
Keisner, Frederick Allen
Keisner, Magnolia Alvina
Keisner, Nico Lornie
Keisner, Sephira Vicki
Keisner, William Wayne
Kelsey III, Michael Robert
Kerwin, Tabitha Lyn
Kibby-White, Kae-Gaet Wauteck James
Kice, Kindall Lin
Knapp, Laylah Rayne
Koi, Lorena Rose
Kretz, Francis Aryan Joyce
Kretz, Leighla Isis
Lake, Wind-Wolf
Lara Jr, Corbett Maxwell
Larson, Julie Ann
Latham, Dustin Scott
Laurie, Charles Michael 1005823
Lehto, Trevor Allen
LeRoy, Zackory Michael
Lewis, Gary Dean
Lewis, Howard Henry
Lewis, Nora Jean

Lewis, Samuel Patrick
Licon, Priscilla Rose
Lievsey, Da-Ltshun Cyrus
Lievsey, Ethen Hawk
Lievsey, Johnny Ray
Lindgren, Emily Eliza
Lindgren, Tyler Ray
Lindley, Sharon Elizabeth
Lopez, Dewayne Walter
Loureiro Jr., Ronald Willie Frank Joshua
Loureiro, Ruby Cheryl
Lowery, Nichole Victoria
Mac Neill, Anna Maria
Madrey, Dusti Rose Anne
Manuel, Chaa-nuueks Joni
Manuel Jr., Lorenzo
Margason, Clayton Uriah
Markussen, Vernon Lewellen
Markussen Jr., Vernon Russell
Marshall, Gilbert Ramond
Marshall, Joseph Eugene
Martinez, Joseph Dasan
Martinez, Joseph Paul
Martinez, Xavior Anthony
Marye, Marie Louise
Mason- Nelson, Dylan James
Masten Jr., Robert Francis
Masten Sr, Robert Francis K93539
McClenny, Adam Norris
McConnell, Marisa Eva
McCovey VI, Charles Alfred
McCovey, Dorothy Marie
McCovey, Farron David
McCovey, Harwood Francis
McCovey, Howard Duane
McCovey, Isaac Keaton Phillip
McCovey, La'Dayle Holly Ta'Neshah
McCovey, Lila Larae
McCovey Jr., Terrance Arthur
McDowell, Raylene Dexter
McGain, Nekka Yvonne
McKinnon, Alexandria Iris
McLaughlin, Audrey Jane
McLaughlin, Eric Paul
Medina, Vincent Frank
Meyer II, Ronnie Theodore
Meyer, Tobias Noah
Miller, Tiffany Ann
Milota, Edward Gene

Mitchell, Eugene Louis
Moon, Darrell Kenneth
Moon, Robert James
Moon-Batt, Arnez Agnes
Moore, Gregory Alan
Moore, Justin Alan
Moore, Taya Anne
Morris Jr., Gary Douglas
Morris, Shan Lee
Moser, Shane Rene
Motschman, Richard Aaron
Myers, Araya Lynn
Myers, Dre`dan Michael Wayne
Myers, Laney Navaeh
Myers, Philip Daniel Smoker
Myers, Ronald Lee
Myers, Spegi Evert
Nace, Thommy James 599397
Nelson, Gary Duane
Nelson Jr., Nels Lavern
Nix, Katherine Anne
Norris, Hunter Blane
Norris, Talon Leroy
Norris-Robinson, Letha Louise
Nova, Dawn Valerie
Nova, Dylan Joseph-Elder
Nuss, Sativa Olivia
Oakhurst, Albert Quinton
Obie, Dominic Leon
Obie-Brown, Marcus Gregory
O'Neill, Cory Eliza
Ortiz, Chanupa Felipe 1258084
Painter, Natasha Leanne
Parker, Ronald Allan
Pasion, Charlene Marie
Perkin-Aguilar, Jager Evan
Perry, Aymee Rose
Peters, Dara Jo
Peters, Pook-A-Yamch
Pogue, Buddy Dwane
Pole, Jeffrey D.
Pool, Michael Marie
Portillos, Stephanie Ann
Powell, Linda Lou
Proctor, Brandon Jon G47499
Proctor, Taos
Quinn, Susan Irene
Raymond, Arnold Wayne V01144
Raymond, Teo La Rue

Read, Tony Bradley
Reece-Ledbetter, Laura Beth
Reed, Devon Dale
Reed, Gregory Jonathan
Rhoades Jr., Arthur Daniel
Roberts, Hannah Jean
Robinson, Danyell Markee
Robinson II, Kenneth Vernon F83388
Robinson, Sandy Cole
Robinson, Thunder Drey
Rodriguez, Alex Michael
Rodriguez, Desirae Meghan
Rodriguez, Josiah Lee
Rodriguez, Shalla Angela
Rojas, Mariah Precious
Roubidoux, Ronald Raymond
Salerno, Victor Venchenzo Paul
Sandholm, Melvin Arvid
Schamehorn Jr., Aaron Lee
Schamehorn, Taylor Jean
Schamehorn, Tyler John
Sharp, Cole Jackson
Sharp, Leigha Marie
Sharp, Lucie Allie
Sharp, William Robert
Shira, Mekiila Lariangelic
Shreve, Daryl Paul
Siler, Adam James
Simonsen, Stevi Lee
Simpson II, John Denton G-53760
Sims, Heather Marie
Simurdak, Larisa Marie
Sittingdown, Susie Mae
Skaufel, Robert Tommingo
Slaughter, Sharp Sterling
Smith, Dominick Eugene
Smith, Joseph Wayne
Smith Jr., Joseph Wayne
Smith, Kristi Joy
Smith, Marie Lynn
Smith, Orion Ashki-asta Hudson
Smith, Phoenix Helen Ki-San
Smith, Vickie Lynn
Sorrell, Courtney Lee
Sorrell, Jordan Elaine
St. John, Halona Jolene
Stallings-Hunsucker, Bruce Jason
Steele, Edward Two Feathers Chirery
Stevens, Rylie Clark

Stewart, Gerald Eugene
Stickler, Shaunana Leeann
Stokes III, Durward David
Stone, Briana Marie
Sylvia, Tony Joel
Taggart, Jonathan Daniel
Tapia, Tenoch David
Tatum Jr, Bobbylee Whitefeather
Taylor, Chloe Alexandria
Taylor, Kevin Gene
Thompson, Neil Hugh
Thresh, Jennifer Ann
Timmons, Jayda Elizabeth
Timmons, Trenton Shane
Tony, Lucille Anne
Torrez, Felicia Rose
Tracy, Vincent Walter
Trippo, Joeseff Douglas
Trippo Jr., Vernon Raymond
Turner, Anthony Miguel
Turner, Jamin Christopher
Turner, Mallory Sable
Wade, Billye Renee
Waggoner, Cierra Lea
Waggoner, Jacquelyn Jai
Waggoner, Trent Patrick
Ward, Melina Renee
Watkins, Brian Lee
Watson, Judith Dee
Wells, Tisha Lee Anne
West, Dee Ann
Westman, Kristopher Brice
Wetherell, Yolanda Monica Belle
Whipple Jr., Andrew Richard
White, Cha'keni Pa-gerk
Whitehurst, Aiyana Nicole
Williams, Falcon Hachtichaskor
Williams, Victoria Rosalyn
Willis Jr., Carol
Wilson, Katrina Marie
Wilson, Noah Linwood
Woods, Justin Edward



Yurok Tribe

Office: (707) 482-1350
mmais@yuroktribe.nsn.us
www.yuroktribe.org

Yurok Today
190 Klamath Blvd.,
Klamath, CA 95548

Address Service Requested

Presort Standard
US Postage
PAID
Eureka, CA
Permit No. 76

2013 ● FEBRUARY ● Yurok Tribe