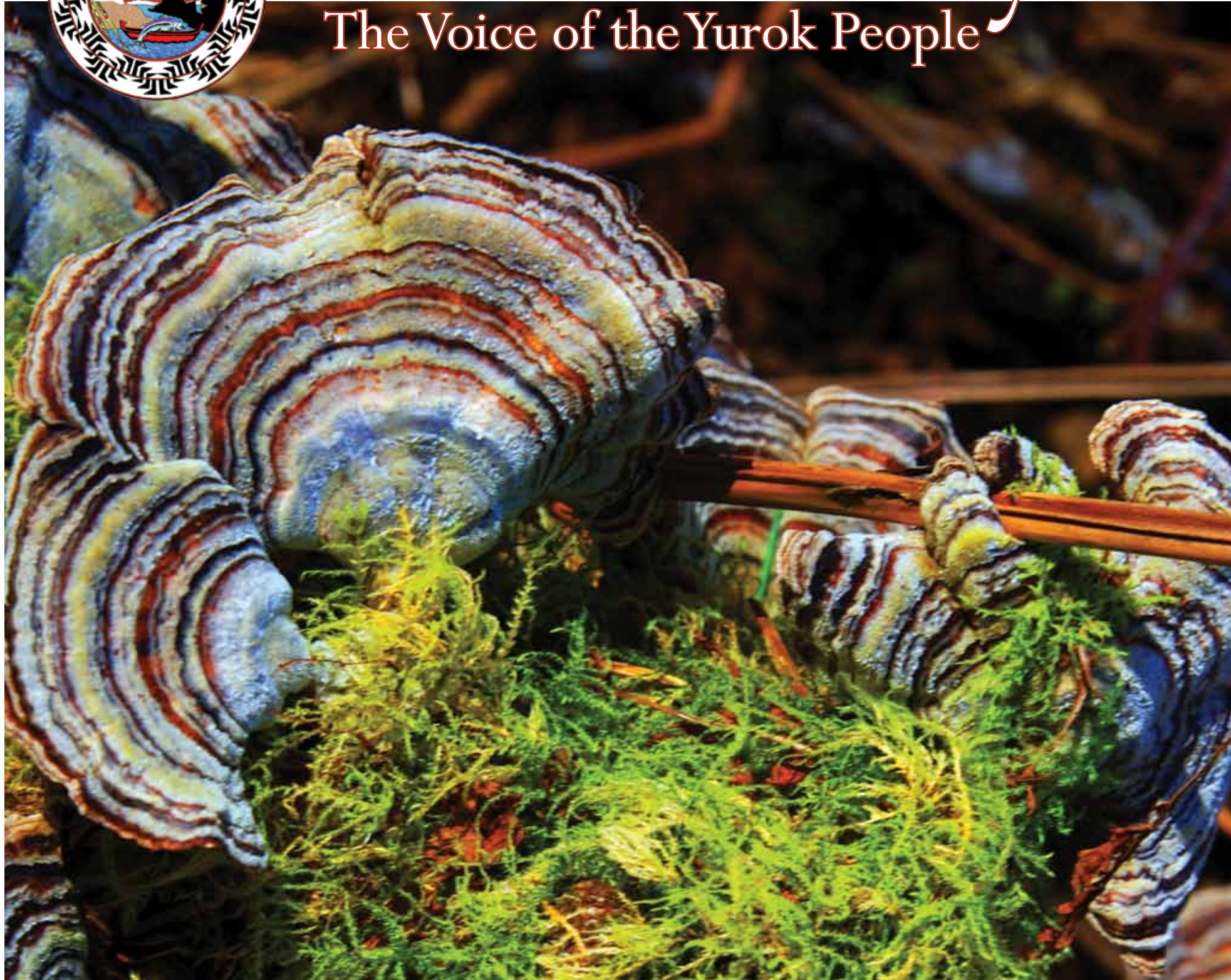


2015 ELECTION EDITION



Yurok Today

The Voice of the Yurok People



2015 TRIBAL ELECTION EDITION

Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Orick District seats up for election

• See statements on page 2



THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE 2015 ELECTION

The following candidates were certified to run for Tribal Council Seats.

CHAIRPERSON

MARJORIE DONAHUE BUCKSKIN
JAMES DUNLAP
JAVIER I. KINNEY
THOMAS P. O'ROURKE, SR.
ANTHONY TROMBETTI

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

DAVID L. GENSAW, SR.
SUSAN MASTEN
RAYMOND MCQUILLEN

ORICK DISTRICT

LARRY HENDRIX (did not submit a statement)

2015 ELECTION SCHEDULE

September 11, 2015-Mailing of Absentee Ballots

September 25, 2015 - Last day to receive an Absentee Ballot request by mail

October 13, 2015-Last day to pick up an Absentee Ballot in office

October 14, 2015 - Primary Election

October 22, 2015 - Last day to receive an Absentee Ballot request by mail

October 22, 2015 - Mailing of Absentee Ballots

November 9, 2015 - Last day to pick up an Absentee Ballot in office

November 10, 2015 - Run-Off Election

Absentee Ballots can now be dropped off at any of our Polling Locations on Election Day by any person you designate or mailed prior to Election Day. You can also pick up your absentee ballot in our office one day prior to Election Day. We will be open to the public after the Absentee ballots are picked up.

Primary Election Day is scheduled for October 14, 2015 and the Run-Off Election is scheduled for November 10, 2015.

For more information regarding the election, call the Election Department at (707) 482-1350 or the tribal website: www.yuroktribe.org.

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Page 13.....Tribal Council meets with fishers

Page 17.....Tribal members earn scholarships

On The Cover

The Turkey Tail mushroom is one of many medicinal and edible mushrooms that fruit in the fall on the Yurok Reservation.

CANDIDATES FOR CHAIRPERSON



Marjorie Buckskin

Hello Yurok Tribal Members my name is Marjorie Donahue Buckskin born and raised in Del Norte County all my life and I am running for Yurok Tribal Chairperson on October 14, 2015 and I would like your vote. I am an honest, loyal person and have a good understanding on what is going on in our Tribe. My goals are still a program to help the elders whether it be taking them to Dr. Appointments, running errands, house cleaning, whatever their needs are they need some help. Family restoration programs to help them get jobs so they can feel good about themselves for being able to care for their families. We are in need of transportations for the people who do have a job to get back and forth from Crescent City and Klamath to provide for themselves. These are just a few of the things that I have ideas about that we can all work

together on. Recently in my spare time I have been attending domestic violence advocate training, some business classes, volunteering at Pregnancy Care Center, and working for IHSS with the elderly. I know that if we all would work together for the people and remember that we all work for them and not ourselves things would be different. Missing money and missing checks should be unacceptable. We definitely need a change in office so vote for Marjorie Donahue Buckskin. Any questions you might have feel free to call me at (707) 464-6559.

Thank you
Marjorie Buckskin



James Dunlap

Aiy ya kwee,

My name is James Dunlap. I am a Cooper-Billy Descendant of the House of Tse-Kwel from the Village of Weitchpec. My Grandparents were Henry Cooper and Elizabeth Logan. I grew up in the SF Bay area and attended school at San Jose State University. I just recently attended and became part of the first Graduating Class on Tribal Leadership and Governance offered by California Tribal College.

As a Licensed Contractor, I have operated a successful business for the last 16 years. My clients have included Gottschalks Department Stores, Hilton, Marriotts, Holiday Inn, Comfort Inn and Best Western Hotels. I am TERO Certified with the Yurok, Shoshone-Bannock and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservations.

I was President of the All Indian Boarding Schools Association from 2001 until 2006.

I am Chairman of the Board of Directors for Drug & Alcohol Detox & Treatment Services. I have developed programs for high-risk kids with the Sacramento Sheriffs Department, San Juan School District, and Kaiser Hospital Chemical Dependency Treatment Program. I carry in my pocket a Chip celebrating 26 years of Sobriety.

In 2008, I founded YurokVoices.com, to get information to Tribal members that live away from the Rez. As a result, Tribal members are able to find information and activities concerning Tribal events they otherwise would not hear about. 6 years ago, I organized the first Inter-Tribal Elders Program, Salmon for Buffalo Trade, with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe.

As I began to become familiar with Tribal Affairs, my attention kept coming back to Economic Development, Fiscal Transparency and Personal Accountability. These three things are indispensable and crucial for the well being of the next and all future generations of our Tribe.

I am offering a new perspective to our problems and hardships. I am proposing new ideas for short term and long-term sustainability of our resources. And most importantly,
I will be the Single Point of Accountability.

In building for the future of Our Tribe, I will begin the Process of Providing an Opportunity for our Youth and Connecting Up-River and Down River Communities by Creating a Job/Works Program. It will begin by Developing and Re-Opening our Ancestral Trail from Watek to Klamath Glenn. A Foot Path/Bike Trail that will provide jobs for our Youth and a Sense of Pride and Accomplishment. By giving them an opportunity to participate in developing something that has long been missing. A Team will proceed from each direction, until we have one continuous Path connecting the Entire Reservation.

Transparency is the Essence of Good Government.

My goal of Accountability and Transparency will begin with the Documentation of ALL Council meetings; both Open and Closed, via the use of Digital Video and Auditory Recordings. Thus providing the Tribe with a verifiable record for Legal Protection and Future Reference, through a Member Accessible Video Archive/Library. Closed Meetings will of course remain Restricted.

During Open Council Meetings, a Live Streaming Interactive Feed to the Weitchpec and Eureka Tribal Offices will enable Tribal members to attend and participate without having to spend money on the 1 to 2 hour road trip.

Creating a Member Verified, Encrypted On-Line Access for:
The Advance Posting of the Council Agenda
Council Meeting Minutes
Continual Program Services Available



A Mandated Minimum Response/Acknowledgement Time, in which All Tribal Departments will respond to Tribal Member inquiries in a timely manner. 5 Days for a Letter, 3 days for an E-mail and 24 hours for a phone call. The creation of an Ombudsman, who can resolve conflict and reach across interdepartmental beaucrocies, is a necessity for an organization as large as we are.

As for Long Term Economical Development:
The Creation of a Separate and Independent Economic Development/
 Business Council.

Core Members of this Council shall have:
 Verified Minimum Business Related Education Requirements
 Verified Minimum Job Related Experience Requirements
 Extensive Background Investigation

The Development of a Timber Corporation. To create and manage a Small

Scale Timber Harvest, Lumber Mill, Cabinet/Funtiture Manufacturing and Bio-Waste Plant. The lumber and products, Mandated for Purchase by any and all construction projects under authority of the Tribe.

The Long Term Goals:
 Continuing Our fight to Preserve and Restore the River.
 Re-Acquisition of Hunting and Gathering Rights on Ancestral Lands
 Initiating the Process to Secure Ocean Fishing Rights

If these are Ideas and Goals you'd like to see our Tribal Government Pursue. I will put my Trust in you to Elect me as Your Tribal Chairman. I am a New Name but I come from Old Blood.

Koweescho Woklauw
James Dunlap



Javier I. Kinney

Aiy yu kwee,
 My name is Javier I. Kinney and I respectfully request your vote for Yurok Tribal Chairman. I truly appreciate the opportunity to serve in this capacity as a tribal leader and effective policy maker to usher the continued growth of the Yurok Tribe. As the Chairman, I will take action with you to achieve the following objectives:

1. Promote and ensure Yurok traditional values and principles regarding resource management, tribal businesses, and education is carried out with tribal governmental engagement in both the public and private sector.
2. Recognize and encourage the cooperation of each tribal citizen with tribal governmental objectives to protect our tribal rights and privileges at the tribal, international, federal, state and local levels.
3. Actively engage land purchasing processes and income-generating opportunities to secure Yurok Land Re-acquisition initiatives to expand the Yurok ancestral lands and jurisdiction.
4. Implement programs that address the need for traditional and contemporary educational processes to prepare Yurok people to become effective decision makers.
5. Plan, Develop and Implement income generating and grant funding initiatives that will provide a sustainable, principled, and diversified funding sources to provide direct services for the Yurok Tribe and communities.
6. Maintain, Research and Develop initiatives to promote culturally and scientific based tribal management for the Natural Resources of the Yurok Tribe and communities.
7. Coordinate programs and services instituting Yurok culture in public safety and law, community based recreational activities, leadership programs, educational opportunities, and international diplomacy and trade mission initiatives.

Currently, I am 41 years old and the father of two children, Kokonow and Jasmine Kinney. For the past 11 years, I have successfully advised tribal governments in areas of tribal governance, economic development, cultural lifeways and resources preservation, international affairs and have had specific focus responsibilities in areas of policy and legal matters. The Yurok Tribe has continued to increasingly grow in terms of capacity, budget and employees. I believe we can do more as we engage our tribal communities and our citizens, wherever they may be.

Based upon my professional and educational experiences, I have acquired the leadership skills to lead the largest tribe in California. I am running for this position because I recognize the importance of our Tribe's history and the struggles our people have had to go through to secure our rights today. I want to be part of the positive impact that will secure the legal, economic, cultural, social and political rights for our future generations for many years to come. My family has raised me to understand the importance of education as well as recognizing the importance of acquiring both traditional and life-skills based knowledge to live life in a good way.

I attended schools in the Klamath Trinity Joint Unified School District, such as Jack Norton Elementary School and graduating from Trinity Valley Elementary School and Hoopa Valley High School. My family raised me "to give back for what is given" and to pursue a higher education and return to work for the Yurok Tribe.

I went on to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Native American Studies, University of California, Davis; a Masters of Arts in Law and Diplomacy degree, from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University; and a Juris Doctorate from Suffolk University Law School. For example, we can efficiently distribute traditional foods and supporting our inherent food security by promoting our elders fish program, implement life-skills training opportunities led by Yurok Veterans and create sports leagues highlighting Yurok athletes. Additionally, we can work together to increase the scholarships/fellowships of our Yurok students by working with prospective philanthropic initiatives as well encourage





our traditional arts for individuals that may not choose to pursue a degree program.

The 4 priorities of my administration will be primarily focused on:

- *Preparing a vital and diverse Yurok workforce to obtain their educational/vocational goals and to return to work for the Yurok Tribe
- *Building a sustainable tribal economy by diversifying our tribal businesses and economic ventures.
- *Implementing actions to improve the Yurok Tribe's infrastructure such as land acquisition, building and facilities development, housing, electricity,

and technology. Each of these areas can be furthered by the Yurok Tribal government but will only be successful with a proactive approach as a tribal government.

- *Continuing to secure funding and expand services in the areas for emergency services, public safety and law.

In conclusion, during my administration we will be working on the principles of "Old School Thought with New School Action." Wok-hlew.



Thomas P. O'Rourke Sr.

Hello: My name is Thomas P. O'Rourke Sr. My father name was Richard O'Rourke Sr. AKA (Dick O'Rourke) 4/4 Irish from New York. My Mothers Name was Rena Lorraine O'Rourke. 4/4 Yurok Indian. Her fathers name was Dan Reed from Pecwan Hill. 4/4 Yurok. Her Mothers Name was Minnie Harry Reed. AKA (Morek Maddie) 4/4 Yurok. She was The last Trained Indian Doctor from the Village of Morek. I am married to Sherry Thompson O'Rourke. She is the daughter of Alta and Archie Thompson Sr. We have six Children, 3 Boys and 3 Girls. and 8 Grand Children. We reside at Tulley Creek.

I have served our people as a Council Person for almost 9

yes. 2003-2006 vice chair. 2010-2015 chairman. Since I was elected as your Chairperson in 2010 The Yurok Tribe has grown and Been successful in many areas. While under my leadership, Our Neighboring Tribes as well as Tribes across the state and Nation use Yurok as an example when it comes to being successful and moving a Tribe forward and making things happen. The Yurok Tribe is out front Blazing a Trial not only for Yurok, but for Indian Country in many arenas. I would like to Continue to serve our (Yurok) People as your Chairman. I am asking you for your on Oct. 14th 2015 Thank you.

No picture submitted

Anthony Trombetti

Aiy-yu-kwee, nech-now Anthony Trombetti.

I was raised in the military for fifteen (15) years and traveled a lot with six (6) siblings and Ora Lillian Blake Owen and (auck)Edward John Trombetti, respectfully. I attended six high schools, graduating in San Jose, CA. I have an AA degree in Business Administration, CR, Eureka, CA. Served in the U.S. Air Force for four years. My work history is in manufacturing, customer service, security officer, shipping and receiving, sheet metal mechanic, oil refinery maintenance, computer assembly, software networking, counseling, and advocacy.

For the past ten(10+) years I've worked with Yurok Tribe: Human Resources, JOM supervisor YED, Youth worker YSS, Re-Entry Case worker, Drug Court Manager, Wellness Coordinator, and currently the Family Education Advocate.

I desire to provide leadership and support in the Tribal Council to the seven (7) district council persons and the Vice-Chairperson as the Chairman.

I believe all council persons are involved in the interpretation of events for tribal members. We will all be engaged in the choice of objectives for the tribe or organization and the organization of work activities to accomplish objectives. There will also be the motivation of tribal council members to achieve the objectives and the maintenance of cooperative relationships and teamwork to enlist the support and cooperation from people outside the tribe or organization.

Leadership is what one does WITH others, not TO them.

Here are some characteristics of a leader that I will provide in the position of Chairman.

- 1.) *Honesty*- the ability to tell one's truth, to be authentic and own one's words.
- 2.) *Integrity*- to do what one says one will do, no promises...action.
- 3.) *Insight*- the ability to look inside one's self or issue.
- 4.) *Experience*- in business, relationship building, spirituality, failure, success, loss, wounds and wounding.
- 5.) *Understanding*- listening. Not just seeking to be understood.
- 6.) *Passion + Compassion = Empathy*- Passion without compassion can be damaging.
- 7.) *Respect*- Having respect for self and not seeking it from others.
- 8.) *Intelligence*- engagement of one's ability (learning by doing). Intellect alone can lead to inaction.
- 9.) *Humility*- falling and getting back up by accepting some back-up from others.
- 10.) *Knowledge*- books are great but the map is not the territory.
- 11.) *Life-long learner*- not being a pedant.
- 12.) *Love*- seeking the best for another.

Here are some examples of lessons learned having worked in five departments at the Yurok Tribal Headquarters:

- a.) Education- Learning opportunities are not all in public school. Schooling is what a group or organization does to children, not for



them. Learning can happen at school but the education is the responsibility of the student. An education is what the child reaches out to “grasp”....to get a hold of. What if we took a bigger risk and sought out other means of educating our children outside of schooling?

- b.) Alcohol and other drugs (AOD)- Mental health is key to overcoming addictions. Finding oneself inside a bag or in a pipe or in a syringe or inside a bottle is helpful in finding the way out of it. Recovery is to be about recovery of who you are (Yurok), not what you are doing. Where is our “treatment” center that can help heal the world, one person at a time?
- c.) Yurok Social Services (YSS)- Do you know what YSS does really well? What if you came to YSS and in the process gained a “friend”...one that not only distributed “services” but also distributed love, encouragement, trustworthiness, kindness, empathy, safety....etc. What if a college degree was not enough?
- d.) Recruitment- Getting a job takes less time now then when I was a recruiter in 2004. What if they interviewed all candidates at once and all could learn from each other and even vote on who

they believe is the top three (3) candidates?

- e.) Tribal Court- Healing is justice.
- Sustainability- If there is a natural disaster that limited mobility of hundreds of tribal members, where would they get food? Most all food is under lock and key. We need an Agricultural Department to teach food sovereignty. Starvation is killing many around the world, especially the ones dependent on others for food.
- Elder Council - Can there be Elders who desire to share their experience-won knowledge with the Tribal Council and engage a given issue? Can there be a **sustained** group of Elders who wish to assist/engage our youth?

Thank you for your time.

If we know more, we can do more. Let’s do more!

Wohlk-law,Wohlk-law, Wohlk-law. at

CANDIDATES FOR VICE-CHAIRPERSON

No picture submitted

David Gensaw

Hello, my name is **David L. Gensaw Sr.**, candidate for Vice Chairperson of the Yurok Tribal Council. I served as the Requa District Representative for six years. I am currently working in Tribal Transportation. My father is Awok William Gensaw II from Requa Village and my mother is Alma (Nova) Gensaw from Moreck Village. My grandparents were Bill and Bell Gensaw. I am 60 years old and for most of my years, I have lived in the Requa area, fishing, hunting and gathering on and around the River. I understand the tremendous importance of the river, ocean, mountains and forest lands to all the Yurok families. I have upheld and will continue to protect this tribal connection and responsibility our Creator made for Yurok people.

As a young man, I attended Yurok meetings and became aware of the many challenges to our tribal sovereignty. To better serve Yurok people, I graduated from college in order to understand how to protect or assert our sovereignty and expand our homelands. In the past, as the Requa District representative, I used this knowledge to fight outside the tribe for our land, river and our salmon. I also used it within the tribe to push for better service in tribal offices and for more open meetings and Tribal Council accountability.

GOOD GOVERNMENT

Tribal Council needs a **LEADER** with **VISION** who will **LISTEN** to the people and **ACT** in their best interests.

- o **Accountability, due process and transparency are keys to our prosperity as Yurok people. Tribal members should be informed and able to vote on major decisions.** All council members must

understand that we have very knowledgeable Yurok people who can and need to be involved in major decisions. I have voted no on some important issues, not because I thought they were wrong, but because they are major issues that did not have enough input from the people!

RIVER

- o The dams must come down on time.
- o We mustn’t give away the water that our salmon need.
- o **I voted against the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement and the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Act**, not because I do not believe in Dam removal – they absolutely have to come down so our salmon can survive – but Dam Removal is a Major Decision that should have gone out in a referendum so the people could have decided!

LAND

- o Maintain land acquisition activities without waiving our tribal sovereignty.
- o As Requa District Councilman, I helped make sure we paid in full all of our timber properties, and I participated in the purchase of the Weitchpec, Pekwan and Kepel lands. I worked toward buying our sacred Blue Creek Watershed.

SOCIAL SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING

What I did when I was on council:

- o Made sure Pem-Mey was making a profit.
- o Oversaw purchases of major businesses in Klamath.



- o Oversaw construction of the new Hotel, which is now doing well.
- o It is my understanding that the casino on the other hand continues to be a work in progress. However, I will now do my best to see that it succeeds, so the money we have invested in it is not wasted. I will work hard navigating through the problem areas.

We need:

- o Elder outreach and assistance programs.
- o Make sure Social Services and TANF respond to tribal member needs.
- o Provide cultural activities.
- o More opportunities to volunteer.

What council must do:

- o Get Tribal Council out of economic development and housing activities.
- o Listen to the tribal membership’s concerns and comments when council sends the Ordinances out for public hearings.
- o Obtain more funding for K-12, higher education and vocational education.

- o All levels of education should be available for all who want it.
- o Our people must be given the opportunity to rise above poverty.
- o As Vice Chair, I will have an open-door policy and provide assistance for individuals in navigating tribal programs.

I will continue to work hard for and to communicate with you. I will continue to make the best decisions based on your input as well as on knowledge, wisdom and courage. I will continue to take direct action for the good of the Yurok people based on honesty and respectfulness, from my heart. I strongly believe, as you do, that we should never give up our sovereignty, our water rights or our children’s future to exist... let us decide our future together.

I appreciate your vote for Vice Chairperson. PLEASE VOTE!

David L. Gensaw Sr.



Susan Masten

It has been my privilege and honor to serve you the Tribal Membership. Whether fighting for and protecting our water and fishing rights, accessing better housing, working for reliable health care, eradicating illegal Marijuana grows and developing economic opportunities and jobs, there is nothing more rewarding than working towards the goals and dreams of our people.

During my term as Vice Chair, many positive and tangible improvements were accomplished that will benefit our members. While I campaigned for the position of Vice

Chair, I promised to fix the Tribe’s relationship with the Yurok Indian Housing Authority. I am thrilled to report that has happened. YIHA now coordinates closely with the Tribal Council on all matters of consequence. Instead of being two separate entities with different and sometimes conflicting missions, the Tribe and YIHA now work in unison for the betterment of Yurok people.

I also promised to do everything in my power to improve the services at our two health clinics on the Reservation. Both clinics are now open for more hours and days during the week. But, there is still more work to be done to access quality health care. I will continue to work to improve access for all tribal members to timely referrals, free prescriptions and same day appointments.

I remain committed to creating services for our elders and as such we have budgeted for a senior advocate position that will work with us to develop a comprehensive program to meet the needs of our Elders starting this fall.

I also committed to improving communications with Tribal members using technological advances. I am happy to report that we will have video conferencing capabilities in our Weitchpec, Eureka and Klamath offices so tribal members can participate in council meetings and training opportunities. This will also save us money and time allowing Tribal staff to meet face-to-face rather than driving for hours for meetings. I also utilized the tribal newsletter and facebook to provide you with updates on the tribe’s activities. I will continue to identify new and additional technology to enhance our effectiveness as a government, boost our transparency and communicate more effectively with you.

I have kept my promise to you to stop the excessive use of executive sessions. Since I was elected, Council has only gone into executive session for the issues stated in our Constitution and I will continue to make sure this is adhered to now and in the future.

I have heard the concerns of our students and parents and I’m working on getting better services for our students with improved access to tutoring and scholarship dollars. I’m also looking into increasing enrollment for our children in Head Start and for child care services. Another goal I have is to expand language classes in our elementary schools and to develop and provide additional interactive computer language applications to make language more accessible to the membership.

I have always been conservative and very cautious when it comes to spending Tribal dollars, which is why I was so disappointed that the tribe became a victim of fraud in the amount of \$250,000 Tribal dollars. We provided information on this to you in a recent letter from Council. Although this transaction was approved by Council Consensus, I still feel very badly that I introduced this funding source to to Tribe. We are currently conducting an investigation into this matter and I will keep you informed as we move forward. We are also developing policies and



procedures to ensure this does not happen again.

I have always been transparent in my work for you and I continue to have an open door policy. I am just a phone call or an email away and I am happy to speak with anyone who wants to know more about the activities of the Tribe. In the many years that I have served on the Tribal Council, it has always been my primary goal to make the lives of our people easier and to create new opportunities for you - this is still high on my priority list as a continue to work for you.

No picture submitted
Raymond McQuillen

My name is Raymond McQuillen and I am asking for your support October 14, 2015 for position of Vice-Chairperson. With years of professional management, business management, and public service experience, I stand out from the other candidates because I have the skills to guide the advancement of our Tribe currently and into the future. I am committed to seeing our people succeed and attain their life goals. The Tribe should be there to assist along the way, and I am the candidate to help make that happen.

Change in our top leadership is vital if the Tribe is going to progress and move into a new age. The problems we faced three years ago continue. Little has changed other than repeated exposure to fraud and on-going wasteful spending, despite the campaign promises of the current leadership. Decisions that affect us all are not made by the Tribal membership, there is no Tribal Strategic Plan or vision, elder assistance is not consistent, the number of open meetings from member participation hasn't increased, and the number of living wage jobs did not increase with the development of the Redwood Hotel & Casino and other Tribal businesses. Instead, Tribal Council continues to meet in open session when most membership cannot attend and many of those meetings end up in closed session so Council can continue maintaining business-as-usual while ultimately keeping membership out of the decision-making process.

The new leadership needs to possess forward thinking, be skilled in management, have a willingness to be completely transparent, treat every tribal member equally, and embrace technology. All are skills that I possess and have shown throughout my professional and public career.

Without a doubt every candidate running for council wants the same things for the Tribe:

- Take Care of our Elders
- Take Care of our Youth
- Provide More Jobs
- Protect our Natural Resources
- Expand our Rights
- Preserve our Cultural and Language
- Provide Monies for Higher Ed Students, etc.

But, how do we achieve this? How many candidates come with solutions? I'm stepping up to this challenge and I have solutions. We will only become a Tribe that serves our people through strategic planning, adherence to

As a governing body, we have made many positive accomplishments in the last three years. I invite you to sit down with me to discuss recent events and the vision that I have for the coming years. You can call me at (707)951-2489 or email me at susanmasten04@gmail.com. I humbly ask for your vote.

Susan Masten

policies, focusing our energy on realistic projects, and working hard to build tribal member trust and approval of Council activities through complete honesty and transparency.

As the elected Vice-Chairperson, some of my top priorities will be as follows:

- Implement a policy giving Tribal members the opportunity to have a voice when discretionary expenditures rise above \$200,000
- Provide transparency of all financials and records
- Have meetings that Tribal Members can and want to attend
- Implement actual changes in financial management practices, eliminating the possibility of fraudulent behavior
- Hear and initiate Tribal Constitutional changes proposed by the membership
- Broadcast Council meetings to tribal members with a tribal member comment option
- Provide for Strategic Land Acquisition while developing land management plans and legislative follow-through
- Develop and add jobs for Tribal Members, giving them the opportunity for training and career advancement.
- Focus on obtaining revenue for the Tribe through solid business ventures, not just managing our current business
- Direct elder services including periodic elder distributions
- Provide service programs for tribal members that are in all income levels
- Address the drug epidemic and mental health issues plaguing all of our households

The Council and the membership need to work together to achieve the goals that we establish. Our Tribe is at a crossroads. We need to evaluate Tribal departments, Yurok Economic Development managed businesses, and the Redwood Hotel & Casino for effectiveness, profitability, and to ensure Tribal members are being served appropriately by each entity.

With your support, I will work to ensure we see our Tribe rise to a level of respect and authority within our community and by those communities around us.

Commit to Change...Vote McQuillen on October 14, 2015. Follow me on Facebook at "Raymond McQuillen for Vice-Chairperson."

Submitted by Raymond McQuillen

Tribal operation nets 55,000 illegal plants

Operation Yurok halts major water diversions, sends message to growers

For two weeks this summer, officers from the Yurok Public Safety Department and members of the Yurok Environmental Program worked from 4:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., eradicating and remediating more than 40 ecologically destructive marijuana grows.

“This year’s operation was a complete success,” said Thomas P. O’Rourke Sr., Chairman of the Yurok Tribe. “We were able to put crucial cold water back into our streams and send a clear message to the people who are destroying our lands. Illegal marijuana grows will not be tolerated on Tribal lands.”

The Operation Yurok team, headed by the Yurok Public Safety Department and the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office, was aided by as many as 75 other police officers, game wardens and soldiers from the California National Guard’s Counterdrug Unit. The summer-long operation has so far resulted in the removal of approximately 55,000 marijuana plants, nearly 1 ton of marketable buds and one butane-based hash lab. The marijuana alone was valued at more than \$110 million. The main priority of the Operation is to halt the illegal diversion of tens of millions of gallons of water from the creeks that feed the Tribe’s community water systems and keep the Klamath River cool. Environmental staff deconstructed a half dozen dams blocking the entire flow of as many creeks and springs. These water sources pour vital cold water into the Klamath River, where salmon are struggling with high water temperatures. Conservatively, these plants would have wasted 40 million gallons of water or enough to cover a 522,720-foot square with 12 inches of water. Nearly all of the 43 cultivation sites were owned and operated by non-Tribal members.

“We put a serious dent in the number of illegal marijuana grows on Tribal lands and we stopped all of the major water diversions from the steams and springs that flow into the Klamath,” said Leonard Masten, Chief of the Yurok Public Safety Department.

The operation, which will continue until the end of summer, is a massive undertaking. Executing such a large collaborative enterprise requires much more than locating and cutting down marijuana fields. Yurok Public Safety Officers, led by Chief Masten, worked well into each night, over a period of about two weeks, writing legally defensible search warrants, collaborating with a ranking officers from each respective law enforcement unit and developing action plans for safe entry into the guarded grow sites. There is clear evidence that organized crime, specifically Mexican drug cartels, has a foothold on the Yurok Reservation. The cartels are comprised of some of the most violent criminal offenders in recent world history and pose a present danger to the community and law enforcement.

While conducting Operation Yurok, police officers had to contend with a constant threat of a clash with the well-armed cartel members



Approximately 300 lbs. of drying marijuana is loaded into a truck.

and a number of additional potentially lethal scenarios, like booby traps, hazardous chemicals and wildfires. One or more people set several fires at the base of the mountain, just off of Highway 169, where the Operation Yurok team was taking down several pot plantations. The forest fires put in jeopardy several dozen family homes and those who live in them. The arson fires were likely set ablaze by growers, hoping to force the police helicopter to head back to base, so as not to interfere with CalFire’s aircraft. The quick work of a CalFire crew calmed the conflagrations before any homes or lives were lost. Given the extremely dry conditions of the forest, a result of four years drought, the wooded hillside could have rapidly turned into full blow wildfire. This desperate ruse did nothing to deter the Yurok Public Safety-led team from carrying out the mission of putting water back into the river and letting growers know that the Yurok Reservation is not the place to produce cannabis.

All of the clandestine cannabis farms were located in drainages that terminate at the river. Unpermitted ponds, dug into creek beds, were located a several properties visited by law enforcement. A representative of the California Water Board dipped a thermometer into one of the unlawful pools, fed by a large spring, and the water was 50 degrees. The cold water is especially important to salmon in low water years like this one, when the Klamath is running above 70 degrees. Also of importance to the Tribe, is stopping the use of pesticides, chemical fertilizers and rodenticides, which are a threat to wildlife and the integrity of the Tribe’s community water systems.

The Yurok Tribe conducted a similar operation last year, netting about 15,000 plants. This year, there were fewer grows on the Yurok Reservation,

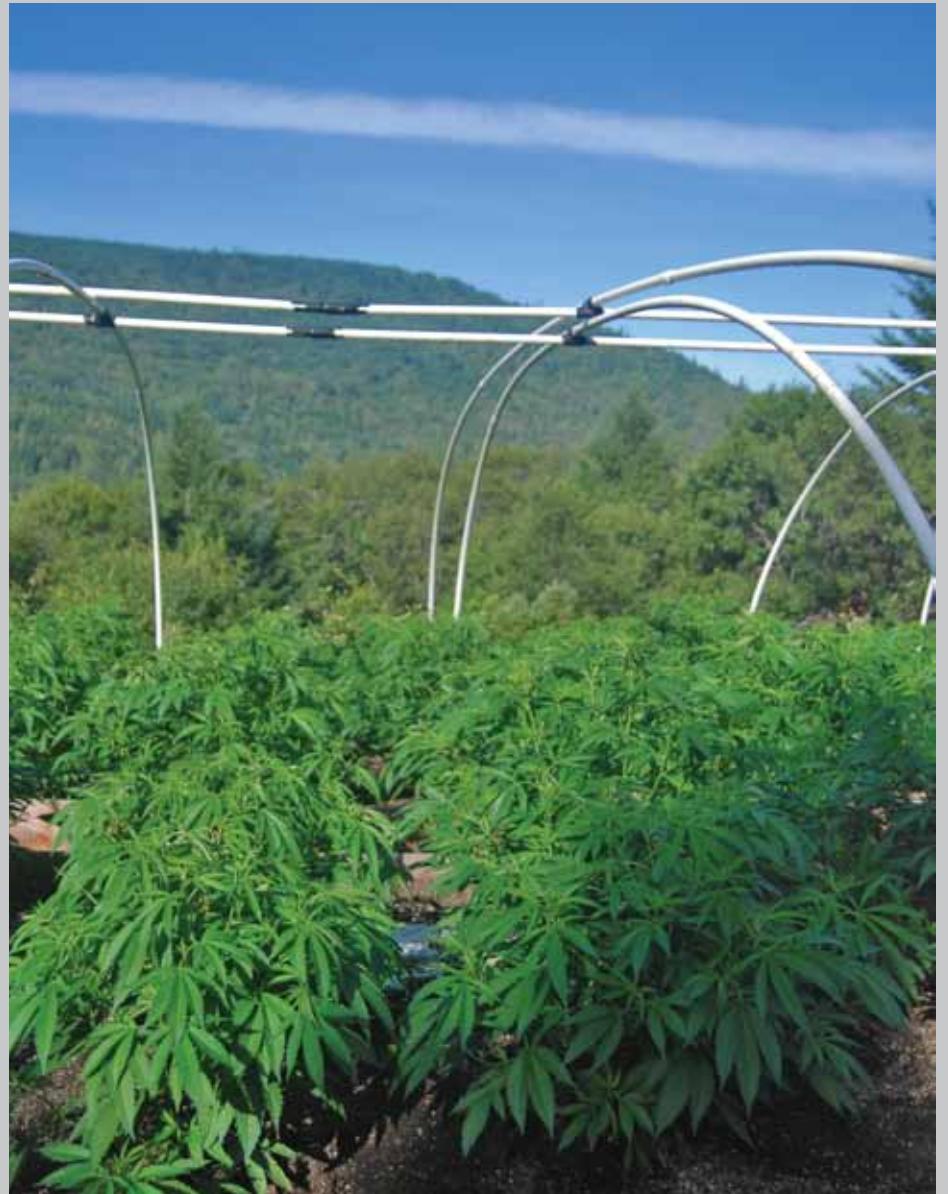
OP. YUROK CONT. ON PAGE 12

2015 KLAMATH SALMON FESTIVAL

GOOD TIMES WERE HAD BY ALL AT THE YUROC TRIBE'S 53RD KLAMATH SALMON FESTIVAL. THE THEME WAS ECOLOGY ECONOMY COMMUNITY. NEARLY 4,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE FREE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT. INTO THE CURRENT HEADLINED THE FESTIVAL FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR. THE BAND'S BEAUTIFUL BLEND OF ROCK AND REGGAE BROUGHT MANY TO DANCE TO THE POSTIVE MUSIC.



Photos from 2015 Operation Yurok



OP. YUOK CONT. FROM PAGE 9

but the pot plantations just beyond the Tribe's border were much larger, a possible result of looming legalization in the state of California. The increase in grow size might also be attributed to decriminalization in Oregon and Colorado, where supply is largely outpaced by demand, according to law enforcement officials.

This year substantially more evidence was uncovered, during the operation, indicating that Mexican drug cartels are working within and near the Yurok Reservation. For example, at three separate sites, there were shrines, decorated to varying degrees of complexity, featuring San Judas Tadeo, a favorite saint of narco-traffickers from Mexico. The miniature monuments to drug trafficking also contained other Catholic idols, candles and vases filled with flowers. Each of the sites where it is believed Mexican nationals were working, there were motion sensor-based alarm systems, which alerted them when someone was on their road.

Despite an aggressive effort in Humboldt County to encourage growers to follow sustainable agricultural practices, all of the 40-plus sites were using chemicals to either fertilize plants or control pests and/or weeds. While all of the sites were somewhat different, there were a few constants found at nearly every grow. For instance, all of them contained large quantities of the chemical forms of nitrogen, such as ammonium sulfate and urea, which are both cheap and quick-release. Also identified were large quantities of phosphorous in a soluble state. When it rains these fertilizers migrate fast from grow sites to waterways. Both exacerbate algal problems on the river, too. None of the large-scale growers had permits for water diversions, grading or medical marijuana, the last of which is moot point on the Yurok Reservation, where it is illegal.

In addition to chemical growth stimulators, Malathion-based pesticides, and large plastic, chemical containers with labels written only in Spanish,

were located at multiple locations during the operation. It is thought that the canisters likely originated in Mexico, where laws, governing the types of herbicides, pesticides and rodenticides that can be purchased, are more lax.

The ecological devastation caused by the many toxins, associated with growing marijuana, is only part of the problem. At the grow operation where the residents had set up the butane has lab, there were dozens of car, marine and ATV batteries in various stages of disrepair. The family that lived there had been dumping their household trash into a ravine, flanking the Klamath River, for an unknown amount of time. The pile of food wrappers, soil bags and other debris was nearly 40-feet long, 20-feet wide and 10-feet deep. The two men and one woman also had a plethora of cars, appliances and tires strewn around their mountainside home.

During the primary part of the operation, officer found evidence of poaching and animal abuse. A 3,000 plant grow was surrounded by torturous, inhumane animal traps, ranging from baited hooks hanging from trees to bear traps. The plants were tended by at least a dozen people, many of whom fled before law enforcement arrived. However, two elderly men of Asian descent, stayed behind. A California Fish and Wildlife warden at the scene had seen similar contraptions, while on raids in different parts of the Emerald Triangle. The warden was certain that the traps were being used to poach mammals for food. At another site, the pelt of a bobcat, killed out of season, hung from a tree.

These are just some of the many environmental atrocities witnessed during Operation Yurok. In the near future, the Yurok Public Safety Department and Yurok Environmental Program will be doing presentations at the Weitchpec and Klamath offices to give the community a more complete view of the operation. The dates for the community meetings will be announced in the coming weeks.

Here is a list of the names of those served Tribal and State warrants, during this summer's Operation Yurok. In addition to the illegal marijuana plantations on private properties, there were trespass grows on Green Diamond Resource Company and Tribal lands. Approximately 95 percent of the illegal operations were conducted by non-Yurok Tribal members.

1. Julio Rene Lamas-Lopez & Bonfilio Samuel Ramirez-Pablo
2. Ferris Property
3. Lemmon Property
4. Deborah R. Rigden
5. Ben Riggan & JBS Rentals LLC
6. Kupambazua Furaha
7. Christopher D. Davis
8. Paul N. Sokalski
9. Sullivan Resources LLC Co
10. John C. Ryder
11. Glen E. & Gayle D. Pitsenbarger
12. Jesse Stills
13. Brian Micarelli & Michael A. Platt

14. Richard Tellschow
15. Lionel E. Robitalle & Joan T. Rochow
16. Daniel D. & Charlotte G. Wild
17. Daniel M. & Matthew C. Whyte
18. Whyte Property
19. Zhecho Rusev & Tina & Stoyanov, Marin & Mari
20. Edward E. Mitchell
21. Louis Dale Mitchell Sr.
22. Pletcher Property
23. Nicole Fryer
24. Claypool Industries LLC Co
25. Green Sturgeon LLC
26. Edurado Lopez & Brandi Lynn Manjarrez
27. Vu Huynh
28. Camden Rundell
29. Peter Rigd
30. Brendan Mainville
31. Bill & Kaye Lee
32. Christopher W. Trent
33. Travis M. Anderson

Tribal Council holds meeting with fishers

Council, fishers come up with ideas to better manage commercial fishery

The Yurok Tribal Council called a special meeting for Tribal fishers on Wednesday, Sept. 2 to discuss the tensions that have sometimes boiled over during the 2015 fishing season.

About 50 Tribal members attended the hours-long meeting, which resulted in an in-season adjustment, drafted with the input from fishers, to help bring more order to the fishery.

The Tribal Council urged commercial fishers to be mindful of the Tribe's traditional practices related to personal conduct, while on the river. Yurok fishers have a cultural obligation to treat one another with dignity and respect. It is not even appropriate to raise one's voice in a threatening tone, let alone participate in a physical altercation within eye sight of the river.

Many Yurok people put their very lives at risk to make it possible for the Tribe to conduct a fishery on the Klamath. If it was not for their sacrifice and dedication, the privilege of commercial fishing would not exist.

The Tribal Council also advised commercial fishers, who find themselves in a dispute, to calmly and rationally discuss the matter until an equitable solution can be reached. Tribal fishers have an equal responsibility to ensure that the fishery is conducted in an orderly way.



Tribal Council discusses concerns about fishery with fishers.

The Creator placed Yurok people and fish together for reasons of balance and longevity. The Yurok have a responsibility for assuring the fish get up the River. These reasons are codified as Indian Law, first instructions from the Creator to the Yurok People. When the Law is not followed, the balance is not maintained and the fish do not return, the River dries up and the Yurok people dwindle away. (Yurok Culture Committee 2003)

Traditional Yurok Fishing Law is as follows:

1. Know your family relations. Know where you are related along the river. Know the River and its locations, particularly the village name that your family is from.
2. Not every Yurok family had/has a fishing place right.
3. Every Yurok has a fishing place right through permission.
4. Permission is gained by asking and being granted the right, with terms and conditions.
5. Permission given once is not permission given forever.

6. One standard condition is to offer some fish caught at the place where permission was granted.
7. Some fishing places are "open" and anyone can fish there. They are open on a first-come, first-serve basis. If someone is fishing in an open place then the latercomer informs the first party that they want to fish, and then they politely wait a day unless they have already caught enough fish, then they should make ready to leave. It is polite for the first party to provide some fish to those waiting.
8. No fighting on the River, particularly no fighting over fishing places. The River is a place to show respect.
9. Do not waste fish; do not take more than what is needed. It is not what the River will do for you, it is what you will do for the River.
10. Drift netting can occur anywhere as long as it doesn't disturb anyone else's fishing place or net set.

(Yurok Culture Committee 2003)

Tribal member accepted into Harvard

Yurok scholar conducts actionable research on the Yurok Reservation

Documenting and understanding the roadblocks to well-paying employment opportunities and the elements that turn some Tribal members toward substance abuse, especially Yurok men, drives the research of Blythe George, a Tribal member working towards her PhD at Harvard University. This project, focused on unemployment, crime, and gender will serve as her first major requirement towards the degree, to be completed in 2019.

As a teen, the descendant of Alice Spott experienced the excruciating effects of a parent addicted to methamphetamine. This drug dependence followed years of her father struggling to find work after losing his job in a lumber mill, one that he had had for over 10 years.

“Every person in our Tribe has someone in their family tree or in their immediate family who has struggled with addiction,” George said. “That doesn’t have to be a reason not to do well in school, at work, and in life.” The Sociology and Social Policy PhD candidate remembers coping with the chaos at home, caused by her father’s addiction and the added stress of poverty, by concentrating her attention on succeeding academically. George earned excellent grades all the way through high school, which opened the door to a full-ride scholarship to Dartmouth College, an Ivy League school with a top-ranking Native American Program. Fortuitously, the exceptionally quick-minded Yurok woman also won a Gates Millennium Scholarship, which helped cover tuition, books and living expenses for four years. Her Harvard education is, in part, being paid for with a Beinecke Scholarship, a prestigious private fellowship that George received as a junior at Dartmouth, and her current project on unemployment in Hoopa and Klamath is sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

While at Dartmouth, George completed a Senior Fellowship project focused on Native student achievement in the state of California. After graduating from the College in 2012, the first-generation college-graduate worked on the Yurok Reservation as a guidance counselor at the Klamath River Early College of the Redwoods. The experience she obtained there, learning the unique challenges faced by Tribal families, inspired part of the premise of her doctoral work.

The objective of George’s current project is to produce a detailed analysis exploring the interplay between crime, gender, and unemployment. This will result in a peer-reviewed article examining how the high rates of unemployment and crime on Yurok and Hoopa Tribal lands relate to cultural expectations associated with men and women. It will also identify policy solutions that will better assist Tribal parents in supporting their school-age children.

There is a large body of research into the root causes of poverty in urban areas and, to lesser extent, indigence among rural white people. The studies — similar in purpose to George’s work — are used to inform

policymakers at all levels of government. However, there are very few studies into the underlying facets of the financial hardships endured by those in Indian Country, despite the longevity of reservation poverty. George hopes to use her analysis to educate state, federal and Tribal legislators, whose decisions impact local, Tribal people.

“To me, getting this education was not so I could sit in the Ivory Tower. I want to get solutions, in a real-time way, to my own Tribal Council. I place my work’s value on what it can do for my community,” George said. Currently, George is in the process of interviewing 50 Yurok and Hoopa Tribal members, and compiling the information shared by the 35 people she has met with so far. The results of the interviews, which better resemble a casual conversation than a dry discussion, will form the foundation of George’s Master’s project, the first step towards her PhD. To encourage an open dialogue, George has gone to great lengths to ensure that all the answers respondents give remain anonymous and confidential.

“The respondent does most of the talking. I ask general questions about their life stories, with a focus on their employment histories,” George said. “I then tailor my questions based on the employment status and gender of the respondent. I follow up with questions about finding work on the reservation, and how obstacles like a criminal record, loss of a driver’s license, or meth addiction prevent employment.”

Based on the interviews with Tribal members, the burgeoning scholar posits that, prior to European contact, Yurok men bore a tremendous quantity of physically, emotionally and spiritually demanding responsibilities, a quality that served them well long after contact. Just after World War II, in which many Yurok men served, this vast well of fortitude made working in the demanding and dangerous fishing and logging jobs a natural fit. Today, those occupations are mostly nonexistent and many of the available employment opportunities aren’t nearly as rewarding, financially or otherwise. At the same time, men are held to the same high standards. Strictly speaking, there is a limited number of legitimate local outlets for men to express their many talents, and meet these elevated expectations. George’s research questions whether or not there is a link between this deep dissatisfaction and joblessness among men.

“There appears to be a divergence in the fates of men and women on both reservations. Women have had more opportunities and men, during the same time period, have seen their fates downturn,” George explained. “There is almost a generational shift in how young men and young women fare on the reservations. We are seeing the implications of this in meth use specifically, and other kinds of criminal activities.” Yurok woman, before contact, also had an overflowing list of critical duties and roles to fulfill. Today, females, more than ever before, are

better positioned to enter into a broad series of satisfying careers. It should be noted that Yuroks aren't alone in experiencing this paradigm shift, which clearly has a positive side, too. Over the last 40 years, industrial jobs have either been outsourced or rendered unnecessary by technology across the United States. This has happened just as women are participating in the current workforce at higher rates than ever before, according to U.S. Department of Labor. This diversification of the labor force happened later in Yurok Country, where logging and fishing lasted longer than the industrial economy did in urban areas, right up until the 1990s. George's first project will delve into how this upswing of employment for Yurok women and downturn for men has produced changes in the family dynamic.

George, who was raised in McKinleyville, first learned what daily life is like for the youth living on the Yurok Reservation and in the surrounding areas when she worked at KRECR in 2010 as a college intern. Similar to the findings of the True North Del Norte Organizing Project, George discovered that parent involvement went hand-in-hand with strong student achievement.

"The problems facing many of the kids in the classroom were ones that followed them from home," said George. "When they came from families where the cupboards were bare, where Mom and Dad fought over money, or grandma was the caretaker because their parents were drug addicts, these students were just lucky to make it to the classroom, let alone perform well and be happy there."

Tribal mothers and fathers, who created a stable home life, put forth a heroic effort into supporting their kids, but they were often hindered by financial stress. The economic adversity was most commonly related to one of the parents being unable to find gainful employment, due to a negligible, past indiscretion, resulting in a criminal record.

"It takes both committed parents and committed teachers, and I'm happy to say that we have many of both. Even parents who aren't working are supporting their kids in the classroom, but the added stress of poverty limits their ability to do so as much as those parents who don't deal with such stressors on a daily basis," George said. "I've set my sights on understanding the problems facing tribal moms and dads as they try to support and provide for their families. Ideally, by knowing more about the problems they face, we can better meet their needs as a tribe and community."

George's current project, expected to be finished in about a year, will also feature policy solutions that can be used to create more employment opportunities for Tribal men and women, their families, and the larger community. The final version of this analysis will be made available to the Yurok Tribal Council, and will serve as the foundation for more extensive work on reservation life for her dissertation.

"I am, first and foremost, accountable to my Tribe," George stated. "I am at Harvard for a specific reason. I am there for the betterment of the Yurok people."

After George completes her PhD in New England, she aspires to remain, part-time, back east advocating on behalf of the Yurok Tribe in Washington D.C. She has already, through Harvard University and a



Yurok Tribal member Blythe George attends Harvard University.

Photo by Molly Akin, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

previous internship, sponsored by the National Congress of American Indians, at the Urban Institutes, begun developing important contacts to make this a reality. She plans to use her research to help develop and implement policies that empower Tribal people and advance the Tribe's long-term initiatives.

"I see my role as being in DC and representing our interests there, but I will always consider Yurok Country my home," concluded George.

Tribe starts first art exhibit

The Yurok Tribe is putting on the first-ever themed exhibit, exclusively featuring Tribal member artwork.

All Yurok artists are invited to participate in the juried art show. The first theme is Yurok Culture. The parameters are wide open for submitting pieces to be displayed at the exhibit. Entrants are encouraged to create pieces that illuminate the Tribe's traditional lifeway. Artists may submit photographs, drawings, paintings (water, oil, acrylic), chalk, coal, mosaics, 3D art and modern style graffiti. If the artwork fits naturally in a frame, artists are encouraged to use one. Unfortunately, we cannot accept sculptures at this time because of a lack of appropriate infrastructure, but there may be an opportunity in the future to enter sculptures into the exhibit.

The original pieces of art will adorn the walls of the Yurok Tribal headquarters from Nov. 5 to Jan. 5, 2016. This is an excellent opportunity for Tribal artists to gain greater exposure and for the community to appreciate the Tribe's many talented members.

The deadline for submissions to the Yurok Art Review Workgroup is October 20. Please submit artwork at the Klamath Office.

The selected artist will have the option to sell copies of the submitted art during the exhibit. All selected artists and their work will be featured in the Yurok Newsletter.

*The tribe will not be purchasing the art, however artists are free to promote work while in the Exhibit.

Tribe, County and State sign pivotal agreement

Pact paves the way for Tribe to move forward on job-creating plan

The Yurok Tribe, Del Norte County and the State of California finalized an important agreement today, enabling the Tribe to expand upon an economic development plan that has already created 100 new jobs.

The three governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding, concerning "mitigation surrounding the Tribe's Hotel and Gaming Facility Project." The agreement paves the way for the Tribe to operate up to 99 Class III machines, the preferred gaming device for many casino patrons. Currently, Redwood Hotel Casino runs Class II machines.

"We would like to thank the State, and especially the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors for partnering with us on this important agreement," said Thomas P. O'Rourke Sr. "It will without a doubt bring in additional tourism dollars to the region, create more jobs and make it possible for our Tribal families to move home."

Under the terms of the intergovernmental accord, the Yurok Tribe agrees to mitigate off-reservation environmental impacts, develop an additional wastewater treatment plant and install directional signage in downtown Klamath. These improvements are already in place. The Tribe is also responsible for entering into service agreements with the Klamath Volunteer Fire Department and the Klamath Community Services District, which are also complete.

The Tribe is about to begin construction on the Klamath Gateway Project, another condition outlined in the agreement. The Gateway Project will completely transform Klamath Blvd into a well-lit, wonderfully landscaped thoroughfare. The Tribe will be adding to the well-travelled street a center median, 40 solar-powered street lights and many other aesthetically pleasing amenities.

Last summer, as part of a \$25 million economic development initiative, the Yurok Tribe opened Redwood Hotel Casino. The largely successful business is located on Klamath Blvd., which is in center of Redwood National and State Parks. The Tribe is working hard to turn Klamath, home to some of the largest trees on the planet, into an international ecotourism hub.

Recently, the Tribe opened the Abalone Bar and Grill, a fine dining establishment within walking distance of the hotel and casino. The Tribe also purchased the Klamath Jet Boat tours. Earlier this summer, the Tribe opened the new Yurok Country Visitor Center and Yurok Discovery Park. Combined, these business have generated nearly 100 new jobs.

The Yurok Tribe is the largest federally recognized tribe in California and many Yuroks have had to move away from the Tribe's reservation to find employment. In the past year, numerous Tribal members are finally able to move home. Many of those moving back to the Reservation are parents, who desire to raise their children within the Tribe's culture.

"We couldn't be more excited about creating jobs in our community and seeing our Tribal families move home," concluded Chairman O'Rourke.

Making Sense/Cents of Money Management

- Credit & Debt Issues •Goal setting •Wants vs. Needs
- Create Savings •Value Systems & Everyday Spending

FUN ACTIVITIES! DOOR PRIZES! LUNCH!

SEPTEMBER 23, 2015 10 am – 2 pm

Yurok Tribal Administration Office Community Room
190 Klamath Blvd., Klamath CA

Call 707.482.1350 Ext. 1395 to register for this FREE event!

Reservation deadline: September 16, 2015

Paid for by the Yurok Tribal Innovation Grant

Attn: Tribal Membership

The purpose of this notice is to inform the Tribal membership that the Tribal Council has taken action to loan the Redwood Hotel and Casino up to \$500,000 for operations.

Two Yuroks earn Morongo scholarships

MORONGO INDIAN RESERVATION – Three Native American students attending Humboldt State University have received \$30,000 in scholarships from the Morongo Band of Mission Indians as part of an annual scholarship program.

The 11th annual Rodney T. Mathews Jr. Scholarship is unique among tribal scholarship programs because it is open to any enrolled member of the more than 100 federally recognized tribes in California. In all, four Native American students from across California received \$40,000 in program scholarships this year.

“Native Americans continue to face challenges in acquiring a college education and they remain one of the most underrepresented groups in colleges and universities,” Morongo Tribal Chairman Robert Martin said. “Through our Rodney T. Mathews Jr. Scholarships, Morongo has provided \$380,000 to nearly 40 Indian students across California to counteract those trends. It’s especially gratifying to see so many of our past scholarship recipients returning to tribal communities to use their new skills and education to improve Native American lives.”

Each winner received a \$10,000 scholarship. The 2015 recipients are:

- Shayna McCullough of the Yurok Tribe. McCullough attends Humboldt State University. She is studying social work with a minor in American Indian education. She plans to get a master’s degree in the social work and become a youth specialist in her tribal community.
- Cara Owings of the Tolowa De-ni’ Nation. Owings attends Humboldt State University. She is studying for an MBA, and plans to work in the economic development field with California Indian Nations.
- Ish-Kaysh Tripp of the Yurok and Karuk tribes. Tripp attends Humboldt State University. He is studying to be an environmental resources engineer with a minor in Native American studies. He hopes for a career improving cooperative public/tribal lands management practices.
- Shanice Britton of the Round Valley Indian Tribes. Britton attends UC Davis. She is majoring in biological science, and aspires to become a veterinarian on her reservation.

McCullough, who attends Humboldt State, said, “Ayekwee, I would like to thank the Morongo Tribe for awarding me the Rodney T. Mathews scholarship with the help from my family and Humboldt State University’s Indian Tribal Educational Personal Program at the Native American Center for Academic Excellence. With the generous \$10,000 scholarship, I am able to further my education ... before returning to my Hupa and Yurok tribal communities to serve as a Native American youth specialist. Morongo has not only helped me but also my family, my tribe and my tribal communities. Wokhlew.”

Owings, another Humboldt State student, said the scholarship “has allowed me to make my academic dreams a reality. The continued support from the Morongo Band of Mission Indians throughout my academic

journey has provided me with the energy and encouragement that I needed to continue on with my education. Shu’-‘aa-shiir~nin-la’ Morongo, and the family of Rodney T. Mathews.”

MORONGO AWARDS \$40,000 IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Tripp, also at Humboldt State, said, “Growing up in ceremony, I have come to love my peoples’ traditions. With the right education, I can help them flourish. I very much appreciate the Morongo Band of Mission Indians’ investment in my college education and career goals, and I look forward to giving back to California tribal communities.”

“From a young age, I decided that I would graduate from college despite any obstacles, but paying for college has been the most difficult obstacle to overcome,” said Britton, who attends UC Davis. “Fortunately, the generous scholarship support from the Morongo tribe has given me the opportunity to continue my education. I will continue to work hard toward my degree and return home and help my tribal community.”

The scholarship program honors the late Rodney T. Mathews Jr., a Morongo tribal member and Hastings Law School graduate who passed away in 2004 after serving as a judge pro tem for more than a decade.

THE YUROK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
IS LOOKING FOR 2 TRIBAL MEMBERS TO BE ON THE YEDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS. BUSINESS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. PLEASE SUBMIT A RESUME TO YEDC, PO BOX 1043, KLAMATH, CA 95548. YEDC MEETS EVERY 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH. THE LOCATION IS KLAMATH, CALIF. 707-482-0657. CONTACT: TANYA SANGREY.

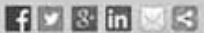
Land buy-back program info

MARION FRYE
Yurok Realty Officer

The Yurok Tribe is working in collaboration with the United States Department of the Interiors (DOI) Land Buy-Back Program toward actual participation within the next five (5) to ten (10) years. The Buy-Back Program was created to implement the land consolidation component of the historic Cobell settlement, which provided for a \$1.9 billion Trust Land Consolidation Fund to consolidate fractional trust or restricted land interests across Indian country. So far, the Buy-Back program has paid more than \$550 million to individual landowners and restored the equivalent of approximately one billion acres of land to tribal governments. The Buy-Back Program allows interested individual owners to receive payments for voluntarily selling their land. All lands sold will immediately be held in trust for the Yurok Tribe. In the mean-time, the Yurok Tribe Realty Department is actively providing informational brochure's, developed by the Department of the Interior, to help facilitate the beginning stages of communication with Tribal members regarding land consolidation. The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations A LANDOWNER'S GUIDE For You, Your Land, Your Community brochures will be available at all the tribal offices. The Tribal membership is encouraged to use the information and call the Special Trustee's (OST) Trust Beneficiary Call Center (888)678-6836, as the call center is the primary contact responsible for inquiries from the landowners regarding the Program. Land Owners, especially those on the Whereabouts Unknown list, are encouraged to inform the OST of any changes of personal information. In addition to broad outreach concerning the Buy-Back Program, the DOI will conduct more extensive communication with the Tribe once the program is active. Individuals owning fractional interests within the reservation should know that the Buy-Back Program will be actively valuing the fractionated tracts of land within the reservation and owners may be able to sell their fractional interests. The DOI will work with the Tribe to determine Tribal priorities for acquisition. Tribal priorities could be identified in a number of ways, such as by specific tract identification; geographic regions within the reservation (i.e., county; chapter; district; specific section, township, and range designations; or aliquot parts); tract type (e.g., tracts that fall within a certain land use planning area or zone); or ownership status (e.g., in which the tribe already has some ownership interest regardless of location; or other factors). The DOI is preparing to exchange maps with the Tribe to help the Tribe to identify acquisition priorities. The DOI is preparing mapping data for the reservation and will include maps in each offer package to the individual landowners. All sales will be voluntary. As landowners make contact with the Realty Department, their information will be updated and stored within the willing sellers files, contained within the Realty Department. **For further information: Please call Marion R. Frye, Realty Officer @ (707) 482-1350 ex: 1373 or by e-mail mfrye@yuroktribe.nsn.us, or by mail PO box 1027, Klamath CA 95548**



Clara Ann Dawson



Guestbook

Photos

Services

Flowers

Obituary



Clara Ann Dawson (White) of Aurora, CO passed away July 30, 2015 at the age of 92 years. She was born May 1923 in Eureka, CA to Eunice Frey White and Edward Coleman White. Her siblings, Elinor Brown Smith, Blanche Brown Blankenship, Emil White and Francis (Beeb) White, preceded her in death.

Ann received her teaching degree from Humboldt State and taught school in her hometown of Orick, CA until securing a position teaching school for the Department of Defense in Japan. While in Japan, she met Army officer Rex H. Dawson whom she fell in love with and married. Upon returning state-side after Rex's retirement, Ann taught for Aurora Public Schools until she retired in 1983.

She is survived by her children, daughters Myr (Dawson) Andrews of Las Cruces, NM, Julie (Dawson) Conner of Lone Tree, CO, step-daughter Sandra (Dawson) Conrad of Washington, IA, numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. The ever elegant, boisterous, loved-to-laugh Ann, Annie or Clara Ann will be sorely missed.

Please leave your memories of Clara Ann and your condolence messages with the family below.

Notice of Petition to Establish Guardianship Of

S. Oscar and C. Taylor
(Yurok Minor Children)

TO: Shawnene Renee Taylor

A Petition to Establish Guardianship has been filed by:

Yurok Social Services, in the Yurok Tribal Court.

A hearing on the petition will be held in the court as follows:

Friday, October 16, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Court Address: 230 Klamath Boulevard, Klamath, CA 95548

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance must be in person.

You may receive a copy of the petition. To do so, please contact the Office of Tribal Attorney whose address is listed below.

Attorney for the Petitioner:
Office of Tribal Attorney
Yurok Tribe
190 Klamath Boulevard
Klamath, CA 95548
(707) 482-1350

Tribe helps students make it to school

ANTHONY TROMBETTI
Family Education Advocate

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Thank you for taking the time out in your day to read this note from the Yurok Tribal Court. I am the Family Education Advocate (FEA) working on the "Truancy Project" for Yurok children at Margaret Keating School. The Project will advocate for Yurok child(ren) during the school year. Initially that means that if a Yurok child has more than three (3) in the school year your family will be referred to this Project. There may be absence, but truancy is an unexcused absence and we will make contact with the family, child and any other key individual to search out solutions to barriers or challenges contributing to the unexcused absences. We are looking to respond to absences early, first to insure each Yurok student has the maximum support to succeed educationally and second to avoid a referral from the district to the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB).

There have been criminal charges being brought against parents, pursuant to state law, because of truancy filed by the Del Norte District Attorney's office due to the legal mandates governing parental responsibilities and education requirements that children attend public school. We intend to respond to the truanancies prior to SARB which could then possibly lead to criminal charges being filed in the Del Norte County Superior Court.

Our response will be to meet with all parties involved... family, child and other relevant party to discuss and assess the barriers/challenges to perfect attendance. The FEA will conduct the assessment and begin the relationship that will assist in the needed course-correction to achieve the educational goal of improved attendance. The assessment is done in an interview fashion that asks three (3) questions about five (5) different supports. The results of the interview are entered into the computer database for analysis.

In addition, the FEA will have access to the attendance records to determine any patterns that may bring a better understanding of the type of response to the attendance issue.

In closing, we would like to inform you of the new laws that have been voted into effect that affect our children's education experience while attending schooling. The ones discussed above are the SARB bill (AB 1643) and the requirement of the District Attorney's office to inform the school officials about the outcomes of the truancy referrals for prosecution (AB 2141). There were two other bills signed that related to the privacy of student data: AB 1442 related to the collection and destruction of information collected about students on social media, AB 1584 related to data storage by contractors that provide digital education software.

Please receive this letter in the spirit of support. The FEA is to assist in the decision process needed to correct the "course" and not to engage in a punitive manner. We are looking for a change of direction that will lead to

the elimination of truancy in the lives of Yurok children.

Feel free to contact our office at 707-482-135 ext. 1338 if you have any questions or concerns.

Here are some additional updates on Assembly Bills that have been signed or vetoed:

AB 1584 (Buchanan) Pupil records: privacy: 3rd--party contracts: digital storage services and digital educational software:

Authorizes a local education agency, pursuant to a policy adopted by its governing board, to enter into a contract with third parties to provide services, including cloud-based services, for the digital storage, management, and retrieval of pupil records, and to provide digital educational software, provided the contract includes specific provisions about the security, use, ownership, and control of the pupil records.

AB 1840 (Campos) Pupil health: vision appraisal

Authorizes a child's vision to be appraised by using an eye chart or any scientifically validated photoscreening test. Requires photoscreening tests to be performed, under an agreement with, or the supervision of an optometrist or ophthalmologist, by the school nurse or by a trained individual who meets specified requirements as determined by the California Department of Education.

AB 2217 (Melendez) Pupil and personnel health: automated external defibrillators Allows public schools to solicit and receive non--state funds to acquire and maintain an automatic external defibrillator (AED) and provides immunity from civil damages to the employee of the school district and to the school district resulting from the use of an AED.

AB 2706 (Hernandez, R.) Schools: health care coverage: enrollment assistance Requires, for purposes of the 2015--16, 2016--17, and 2017--18 school years, a public school, including a charter school, to add an informational item to its enrollment forms, or amend an existing enrollment form in order to provide the parent or legal guardian information about health care coverage options and enrollment assistance. Repeals this requirement on January 1, 2019.

SB 1172 (Steinberg) Pupil health: vision appraisals

This bill deletes the existing vision screening requirements and instead, requires, during the kindergarten year or upon first enrollment or entry in a California school district of a pupil at an elementary school, and in grades 2, 5, and 8, the pupil's vision to be appraised by the school nurse or other authorized person.

AB 2007 (Grove) Virtual or online charter schools: average daily attendance Authorizes, until January 1, 2018, a virtual or online charter school, in specified circumstances, to claim independent study average daily attendance for a pupil who resides outside of the geographic boundaries in which the school is authorized to operate.



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Yurok Tribal member Julie Adams (second from right) completed an Indian Health Services Injury Prevention Fellowship in Washington DC. The Program provides advanced training in the following areas of expertise: community interventions, coalition building, injury epidemiology, program evaluation, presentation skills, and field work. Fellows apply this training by working on individual projects involving data collection and/or program implementation and evaluation, according to the IHS website. Adams works for the California Rural Indian Health Board.