



Yurok Today

The Voice of the Yurok People



Yurok Tribe Sponsors MMIP Day of Action

Tribes from across California convene at State Capitol



JANUARY 2022 PUBLIC NOTICES



YUROK TRIBAL COURT
 PO Box 1027 / 230 Klamath Blvd.
 Klamath, CA 95548
 (707) 482-1350 phone
 (707) 482-0105 fax

Court File Number: CV22-027
 Case Type: FAMILY CODE

FILED
 YUROK TRIBAL COURT
 OCT 10 2022

BY: KAS
 YUROK INDIAN RESERVATION

In re Troy Allen Rogers
 (Write current name of person's to be changed)

**NOTICE OF PETITION for
 Change of Name**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

- PETITIONER:** Troy Allen Rogers has filed a petition with this court for decree changing a name as follows:
 - Present Name: Troy Allen Rogers
 - Proposed Name: Troy Allen Myers
- THE COURT REQUIRES** that all persons interested in this request shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least three (3) court (business) days before the hearing date and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.
- HEARING DATE, TIME AND PLACE** (At least 90 days from filing date):
 - Date: 1/26/2023
 - Time: 10:00 AM
 - Location: Yurok Tribal Court
- NOTICE:** A copy of this NOTICE of PETITION for Change of Name shall be published in TWO (2) consecutive issues of the Yurok Tribe Newsletter.
- ISSUED:**
 Clerk of the Court: Mari Shon...
 Date: 10/10/2022



YUROK TRIBAL COURT
 PO Box 1027 / 230 Klamath Blvd.
 Klamath, CA 95548
 (707) 482-1350 phone
 (707) 482-0105 fax

Court File Number: CV23-001
 Case Type: FAMILY CODE

FILED
 YUROK TRIBAL COURT
 JAN 19 2023

BY: WED
 YUROK INDIAN RESERVATION

In re Shannon Nelson
 (Write current name of person's to be changed)

**NOTICE OF PETITION for
 Change of Name**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

- PETITIONER:** Shannon Nelson has filed a petition with this court for decree changing a name as follows:
 - Present Name: Shannon Nelson
 - Proposed Name: Shannon WhiteWolf
- THE COURT REQUIRES** that all persons interested in this request shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least three (3) court (business) days before the hearing date and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.
- HEARING DATE, TIME AND PLACE** (At least 90 days from filing date):
 - Date: April 20, 2023
 - Time: 10:00 AM
 - Location: Yurok Tribal Court
- NOTICE:** A copy of this NOTICE of PETITION for Change of Name shall be published in TWO (2) consecutive issues of the Yurok Tribe Newsletter.
- ISSUED:**
 Clerk of the Court: Mari Shon...
 Date: 1/19/2023



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*Yurok Tribe Sponsors MMIP Day of Action
 Tribes from across California convene at State Capitol*

Weaving Circle Keeps Tradition Alive

Weaving Instructors and Cultural Mentors Pass on Knowledge

Here are photos of the Weitchpec Weaving Circle that has been meeting on Saturdays at the Libby Nix Community Center in Weitchpec. The weaving circle is sponsored by Yurok TANF Prevention Services and is led by Cultural Mentors and Weaving Instructors Bertha Peters and Dorothy Sylvia. The class welcomes a broad range of weavers from beginners to advance. The Weitchpec Weaving Circle will continue to meet on Saturdays from 1-5pm for the month of February. If you are

interested in participating or have questions, please contact Dorothy Sylvia Prevention Coordinator Yurok Client Services Department at dsylvia@yuroktribe.nsn.us #WeitchpecWeavingCircle #CultureIsPrevention



Vuunsip E-kor braiding Beargrass during basket class.



(left) Bertha Peters Cultural Mentor and Weaving Instructor giving guidance to Elaina O'Rourke.

Begay & Maranger Appointed to Board

Yurok Indian Housing Authority and Alliance CDFI Gain Board Members

Carmeli Begay was appointed to the Yurok Indian Housing Authority's Board of Directors. Michael Maranger joined the Yurok Alliance CDFI's Board of Directors. Both bring a diversity of professional experience to the advisory boards.

The Yurok Indian Housing Authority provides affordable and safe housing to lower-income tribal members. YIHA's affordable housing services include, but are not limited to, rental and homeownership programs serving to increase housing opportunities within our communities. Yurok also offers supportive services and resources to residents and community members to better enable their individual and group ventures toward self-sufficiency, health, stability and improved lifestyles. For more information - <https://www.yurokhousing.com/>

The Alliance CDFI is a non-profit organization of the Yurok Tribe. Community Development Financial Institutions were created to provide access to capital and financial services in underserved communities. As a Native CDFI, The Alliance focuses its efforts on providing services to the native community to help promote economic growth and support local entrepreneurs. For more information:

<https://yurokalliancecdfi.org/>



Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James and Yurok Indian Housing Authority Board Member Carmeli Begay.



(left) Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James and Yurok Alliance CDFI Board Member Michael Maranger.

Tribes Participate in MMIP Day of Action

California Tribes Seek Support for Tribe-Centered Solutions to End the MMIP Crisis

At 10am on Tuesday, February 7, the Yurok Tribe and Tribes from across the state gathered for the first-ever MMIP Day of Action at the California State Capitol to advocate for tribally proposed solutions that address the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous

people. The solutions include two important pieces of legislation and a regional funding request for Northern, Central and Southern California tribes, which have long been excluded from many state and federal programs. "California tribes have united to combat the MMIP crisis, which has weighed heavy on the hearts of every Native person in the state for far too long. The time for action is now," said Joseph L. James, the Chairman of the Yurok Tribe. "We are asking the state legislature to support a series of solutions that will help us prevent MMIP cases and keep our children safe."

"The devastating issue of MMIP has caused untold tragedy that often becomes long lingering ripples of grief and further tragedy. We can reduce the number of cases through greater collaboration by law enforcement, tribal communities, mental health and other service providers to ensure that victims and their loved ones receive the support and attention they need to overcome these

acts of violence. This issue remains a priority for me and others in the Native American Legislative Caucus; we want California at the forefront in confronting this issue," added Assemblymember James C. Ramos.



Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James addressing the crowd.

Hundreds of tribal leaders, Native American advocates, affected families and tribal community members attended the first MMIP Day of Action in state history. The MMIP Day of Action began with light refreshments at 10am and a news briefing at 10:30am. Speakers include: California Assemblymember James C. Ramos, Yurok Tribe Chairman Joseph James, Assemblymember Robert Rivas, Wilton Rancheria Chairman Jesus Tarango, Jamul Indian Village Chairwoman Erica Pinto, Paskenta Band of the Nomlaki Indians Chairman Andrew Alejandro, Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians Chairwoman Janet Bill, Senator Scott Wilk,

Assemblymember Marie Waldron, Assemblymember Eloise Gómez Reyes, Director of the California DOJ's Office of Native American Affairs Merri Lopez-Kiefer, MMIP Survivor Joanna Saubel, Marlena Alva, MMIP family member, Foster youth Olivia Shortbull, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Youth Raven

Casas, and Indigenous Justice Executive Director and MMIP Advocate Morning Star Gali. The news briefing will be followed by an MMIP walk, cultural demonstrations and community engagement activities.

Most, if not all California tribes are contending with MMIP crises. Tribal leaders across the state are calling for an historic investment of \$200 million to build programs and services that prevent girls, women and people from becoming missing or murdered and meet pressing needs in tribal communities. The proposal will bolster tribally led response plans, law enforcement and public health programs in Northern, Central and Southern California. It also calls for legislation to change broken laws and policies.

Building on the recent passage of the Feather Alert and Department of Justice Law Enforcement Assistance bills, the first piece of legislation is AB 44 (Tribal Public Safety). Introduced by California Assembly Member James C. Ramos, the bill seeks to grant tribal police state peace officer status. The bill will give qualified tribal police officers parity with state law enforcement as well as the ability to enforce all state laws and file cases in state courts. It will also provide tribal law enforcement and tribal courts access to the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS). The computer network contains FBI and DMV-administered databases, criminal histories and many other essential records. The bill will benefit all California residents by increasing the number of highly trained peace officers available to protect and serve communities.

The second bill, also introduced by Assembly Member Ramos, AB 273 (Protecting and Locating Foster Children Missing from Care) will require counties and courts to notify Tribes, key family members and attorneys when a child is missing from foster care. It will also require a judicial hearing when a child or non-minor dependent in foster care is missing, to ensure the child is located and returned to a safe and appropriate environment. Native children in the foster care system are disproportionately more at risk of becoming MMIP victims.

“The Yurok Tribe strongly encourages the state legislature to pass both bills,” said Chairman James.

In the US, California ranks in the top 10 in terms of the quantity of MMIP cases that occur in the state on an annual basis. The Golden State also has 110 federally recognized tribes and the largest Native American population of any state in



Taralyn Ipiña, Yurok Tribe Chief Operations Officer

the country.

“Within rural tribal and inner-city communities, there is a dire need across the state to invest in women, girls and gender non-binary/non-confirming peoples potential, advance their rights, and address the epidemic of missing and murdered indigenous peoples (MMIP). We are committed to working for structural change and transformation of the dominant narratives in which our stories are told, narratives that blame and further marginalize system impacted Indigenous peoples,” said Indigenous Justice Executive Director Morning Star Gali.

In October of 2022, the Yurok Tribe hosted the 1st Annual Statewide Tribal Summit on MMIP. The summit served as a catalyst to unite California’s tribal leaders, justice systems, MMIP survivors and Native American advocates around MMIP. Within days of the watershed event, tribal leaders started meeting on a monthly basis to develop and implement coordinated action plans to confront facets of the MMIP crisis. The funding proposal and MMIP Day of Action are an extension of this work.

Yurok Tribal Court Receives \$350k

Hiring an Investigator will increase the Yurok Tribe's capacity to confront MMIP crisis

The Yurok Tribal Court received a \$350,000 grant from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians to support an ongoing initiative to bring justice to Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) and their families.

The grant will enable the Tribe to hire a full-time professional investigator dedicated to solving MMIP cases. The investigator will conduct inquiries into current and cold MMIP cases. The grant will also support the deployment of canine handlers, human remains detection dogs and ground-penetrating radar in the investigation of MMIP cases. The Tribal Court will be able to offer financial assistance to families of MMIP victims so they may participate in search efforts.

“On behalf of the Yurok Tribe, I would like to sincerely thank San Manuel for investing in our effort to end the MMIP crisis in Northern California,” said Joseph L. James, the Chairman of the Yurok Tribe. “The investigator and ancillary resources will significantly increase our capacity to address existing and future MMIP cases.” “There is an urgent need to hire a permanent investigator, who is solely focused on MMIP,” said Yurok Tribal Court Director Jessica Carter. “The Yurok Reservation is in a rural, economically

disadvantaged area, where there are extremely limited resources for the investigation of current MMIP cases, not to mention those that have gone unsolved for long periods of time. We are hoping to fill this critical position as soon as possible.”

The grant provides resources to establish a database to analyze patterns in missing persons cases and identify potential

perpetrators. Also, a portion of the San Manuel award will be invested in billboard space to raise awareness about specific cases.

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Tribal Youth and MMIP advocate Raven Casas says the Tribe remains dedicated to the MMIP issue, which the group of youth advocates will continue to support.

“Countless lives have been lost at the hands of those who do not value

Native lives. We are encouraged that the Yurok Tribe is continuing the path towards justice for MMIP victims.”

The new investigator will be housed within the Yurok Tribe's Office of the Tribal Prosecutor. The investigator, in coordination with the tribal prosecutor, will lend support to and supplement efforts of local law enforcement.

“This grant could not have come at a better time. We are extremely grateful for the assistance from the San Manuel Band of



Attorney Jessica Carter, a Yurok citizen, is the Director of the Yurok Tribal Court.

Mission Indians,” said Tribal Prosecutor Rosemary Deck. “These funds will strengthen our ability to hold perpetrators accountable and bring closure to the families of MMIP victims and survivors.” The need for a specialized MMIP investigator in Northern California stems from multiple factors. The first is Public Law 280. The antiquated law applies in only 16 states, including California, and gives states jurisdiction on tribal lands. However, PL 280 states do not receive additional funding for law enforcement to cover larger areas. Also, tribes in PL 280 states receive far fewer dollars for criminal justice and public safety. This problem is compounded in Northern California, where law enforcement is chronically underfunded. Additionally, the Bureau of Indian Affairs employs only one special investigator for all of California. In December of 2021, the Yurok Tribal Council declared an emergency due to a series of MMIP cases, including the disappearance of Emmilee Risling, who was last seen on the Yurok Reservation. The declaration mobilized a multidisciplinary team, comprised of the Yurok Tribal Court, Tribal Police, Office of the Tribal Prosecutor, Yurok OES, and Yurok Health and Human Services, to address the many aspects of this complex crisis. Since the declaration, the Tribe has increased its capacity to confront certain elements of the issue. The Tribe established the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor to improve outcomes in MMIP, domestic violence and related cases. A justice policy lead was hired to work on legislative solutions to fix longstanding systemic barriers that prevent tribes from resolving certain elements of the crisis. For example, tribal justice systems do not have access to the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS). Unable to use CLETS, tribal police and courts cannot review or input court orders, such as orders of protection. However, California Assembly Member James C. Ramos recently introduced a bill to grant tribal police departments access to CLETS. If passed, the Yurok Tribe-supported bill will also allow tribal police to maintain peace office status in California. Tribes across California and throughout the US are experiencing MMIP crises. In 2020, the most recent year for which data is available, 9,575 Native Americans were reported missing, according to the FBI’s the National Crime Information Center. The Golden State has the fifth highest number of MMIP cases in the US. In California, most cases occur in the northern half of the state, in rural areas between San Francisco and the California/Oregon border.


Earlier this fall, the Yurok Tribe hosted the first-ever tribally led statewide policy summit on MMIP, which brought together nearly 300 tribal leaders, law enforcement officials and judicial

experts as well as state and federal lawmakers, academic researchers and victim advocates from every corner of the state to identify solutions to stop the crisis. Since the landmark summit, tribal leaders have been meeting on monthly basis to determine the best approach to the MMIP crisis.

On February 7, 2023, the Yurok Tribe put on an MMIP Day of Action at the California Capitol. The purpose of the event was to unite tribal and state government efforts to resolve the crisis. To learn more about the Yurok Tribal Court’s MMIP work, please visit <https://yuroktribalcourt.org/>

»»» **MARCH 2023**

YEDC UPDATE



Tribal Member Fuel Discount

YEDC Board approved an increase to the discount tribal members receive on fuel purchases. Previously, tribal members were eligible for \$.05 discount per dollar spent and now they will receive \$.07 per dollar spent on fuel.

Job Opportunities

- CASHIER PEM-MEY FUEL MART
- CASHIER PEK-TAH FUEL MART
- COMPLIANCE OFFICER
- GAMING COMMISSIONER

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS: WWW.VISITYUROKOUNTRY.COM

Board Vacancy

DO YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT? DO YOU WANT TO HELP GUIDE YEDC IN CURRENT AND FUTURE BUSINESS ENDEAVORS? PLEASE SEND A LETTER OF INTEREST AND YOUR RESUME TO: SBARBOUR@YUROKTRIBE.NSN.US

UPCOMING EVENTS

YEDC Board Meetings

FEBRUARY 27

MARCH 27

APRIL 24

YEDC Board meetings are held on the 4th Monday of every month, at 10:00 am. Please contact our office for a link to join!

sbarbour@yuroktribe.nsn.us

YUROK
COUNTRY

2023 YUROK TRIBE CORPO



Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James



Per-geesh Construction Corporation CEO Pamela Ames



Yurok Vice Chairman Frankie Myers



Raymond Bacon, Yurok Economic Development Corporation Executive Director

RATIONS ANNUAL MEETING



Kori Cordero, Authorized Representative for the Yurok Tribe Telecommunications Corporation



Tribal Elder Elisabeth (Betty) Jean Owen



Linda Cooley, Mad River Brewery and Tap Room CEO



Tribal Elder Jacqueline Winter

SF Village Hailed as National Model

Yurok Tribe, Friendship House partner on healthcare infrastructure projects



Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James

San Francisco, CA – The Village SF, a six-story development in the heart of San Francisco, was celebrated as a national model for creating a community and support system for urban Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

Mayor London Breed (D-SF) was joined by Harold Mitchell, a member of the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council and founder of the ReGenesis Institute, Congresswoman Pelosi's Chief of Staff Dan Bernal, Supervisor Ronen, and Yurok Tribal Chairman Joseph L. James for a celebration of Friendship House's the Village SF. As an organization of experts and leaders focused on helping frontline communities achieve environmental justice and climate resiliency, the ReGenesis Institute has identified The Village SF as a "demonstration model" for the country.

"On January 27, President Biden established the Justice40 Initiative to commit 40% of federal infrastructure spending to support disadvantaged communities overburdened by pollution and other environmental impacts," said Mitchell. "Justice40 is a call to action, and Friendship House and the city of San Francisco, by working in partnership, are answering that call."

The ReGenesis Institute recognized the work of Mayor Breed and Friendship House in a proclamation honoring their joint commitment to supporting the Justice40 Initiative and creating a model for environmental and social justice. Congresswoman

Pelosi also presented Friendship House with Special Congressional Recognition for the organization's significant contributions to the city of San Francisco.

The oldest and largest Native-led organization serving American Indians in San Francisco, Friendship House has launched a citywide initiative to address environmental, social, and economic injustice through green infrastructure development, and supporting strong cultural connections and community-wide prosperity.

"San Francisco's strong leadership on climate action, its collaborative partnership with the Friendship House and the city's American Indian community, and the availability of "shovel-ready" projects make our city an ideal location to demonstrate the transformative impact of President Biden's Justice40 Initiative," stated Mayor Breed.

The Village SF is an initiative aimed at reclaiming and rebuilding community for urban Indians, many of whom were displaced from their homelands by federal relocation policies and racist policies that starved reservations of resources.

"Friendship House has always been a safe place for San Francisco's urban Indians looking for a place they feel welcome," said Dauwila Harrison, project lead for the Village SF. "The Village SF starts with a building for services, cultural gatherings, youth and elder programming, a health clinic, affordable housing, and treatment and recovery. But our vision is that this is just the beginning of building a larger community for our relatives."

The Village SF represents a systemic, community-based approach to achieve lasting solutions to California's environmental and public health issues. The Village SF Initiative includes a partnership with the Yurok Tribe, the largest tribe in California. Friendship House is providing technical assistance to the Yurok's treatment and recovery center; while the Yurok are collaborating with Friendship House and the City to develop affordable housing for Native families in San Francisco.

"We are proud and honored to work with Friendship House and Mayor Breed to better serve our people living in both urban and rural communities," said Yurok Tribal Chairman Joseph L. James. "Together, we are building a stronger community for Native peoples wherever they live."

“Today we celebrate President Biden’s historic Justice40 commitment and The Village SF being recognized as a demonstration model for the rest of America, but I want to go further,” said Mayor Breed. “The City and County of San Francisco is ready to create oversight for shovel ready projects like the Village SF and stand proud as a ‘demonstration city,’ assuring maximum benefit to all San Franciscans.”



Model of The Village SF



San Francisco Mayor London Breed

Ruling in Favor of Klamath Basin Tribes

Klamath Irrigation Project Must Comply with Endangered Species Act

San Francisco, CA - A federal district court reconfirmed that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation must comply with the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) in operating the Klamath Irrigation Project. [Link to the ruling.](#)

“Once again, the courts unequivocally rule that the ESA is the law of the river,” stated Yurok Vice Chairman Frankie Myers. “Protecting the fisheries we depend on for culture and subsistence comes first when making water allocation decisions.” Under the ESA, water must be released from the project to provide Klamath River flows to sustain salmon that are on the endangered species list. But irrigators who obtain water from the project have long argued in court that distributing water for irrigation is outside the scope of the Endangered Species Act. Federal courts have consistently rejected the irrigators’ argument, the 9th Circuit Court holding as long ago as 1999 (*Klamath Water Users Protective Ass’n vs. Patterson*, 204 F.3d 1206 (9th Cir. 1999)) that the ESA applies to the project and overrides irrigators’ rights to water.

The irrigators then turned to Oregon state courts. They convinced a state court to order the Oregon Water Resources Department to enforce state water rights, even if that meant violating the ESA. In 2021, the Oregon Department issued an order prohibiting the Bureau of Reclamation from releasing water to the Klamath River to sustain salmon that are on the Endangered Species Act. That order led instantly to this litigation.

The United States, joined by the Yurok Tribe, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations, and Institute for Fisheries Resources, asked the federal district court in San Francisco to rule on which laws take precedent. Today, the federal court invalidated that state agency order and ruled that the Oregon order "conflicts with the the ESA, at least because it poses an obstacle to the accomplishment and executions of Congress' purpose and objective in enacting the ESA: protecting and restoring Endangered Species."

"This decision helps bring peace and resolution to the Klamath Basin by clarifying the interplay of federal and state laws as applied to the Klamath project," noted Yurok attorney Amy Cordalis, also a Tribal member.

"This is a major victory for salmon and all the people who depend on salmon for their cultures and livelihoods," said Glen Spain, for the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations (PCFFA) and the Institute for Fisheries Resources (IFR), both co-Plaintiffs in the lawsuit. "But really it just reaffirms the existing 'Law of the River' that state water rights cannot be used to block the water needs of ESA-listed fish."

This ruling comes as work to remove four dams on the Klamath River begins. "Dam removal will provide a much-needed boost to salmon runs, but the fish still need water," concludes Myers



Tribe Receives Grant For Youth Center

\$7.9 million facility will be built near Weitchpec office

The Yurok Tribe received a \$7.9 million grant from the California Department of Healthcare Services to construct a much-needed Yurok Youth Center in Weitchpec.

“The new facility will serve as a one-stop location, where our youth will have access to the culturally informed services and self-empowering support they need to lead healthy, productive lives,” said Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James. “I would like to thank California Governor Gavin Newsom and the California Department of Healthcare Services for investing in the future of the Yurok Tribe. This cutting-edge center will strengthen our youth, our families and our community for many generations to come.”

On the first floor of the three-story, 4,320-square-foot building, there will be a calming space for youth, a pantry and an area for group events and classes. The second floor will consist of a private intake kiosk and several office spaces for Yurok Behavioral Health staff, professional therapists and external service providers. The top floor will include: a cultural classroom, game room, a computer station for virtual medical appointments as well as space for mutual support groups and parenting classes. An amphitheater and traditional sweathouse will be constructed outside of the youth center.

The conveniently located Yurok Youth Center will offer a wide variety of culturally centered services for local youth between 12 and 23-years-old. The services include: clinical services, outpatient treatment for substance use disorder, tutoring and school-linked healthcare services, such as individual and family therapy. Yurok Health and Human Services and other tribal departments will put on culturally relevant community wellness events and youth prevention activities at the center too. The Tribe has found that culture is a potent form of prevention and it will be embedded into all of the center’s operations. The building will also contain a legal clinic and a foster care office staffed by personnel who can help youth navigate the justice or foster care systems.

The youth center will be built adjacent to the Libby Haripop Nix Community Center in Weitchpec, the most populated part of the upriver side of the Yurok Reservation. Hundreds of families reside in close proximity to the future facility. Currently, the only youth-serving centers are in Eureka, which is a two-hour drive from Weitchpec under ideal conditions. In the dark, rainy winter

months, when depression and suicide risks increase, travelling to one of the Eureka healthcare sites can take much longer as a result of poor driving conditions.

Due to several interrelated factors, such as intergenerational and modern-day trauma, limited access to healthcare services and economic inequities, young members of the Yurok Tribe and many other tribes across the United State experience behavioral health conditions far more frequently than their non-tribal counterparts. To begin addressing this issue, Yurok Health and Human Services (YHHS) Suicide Prevention Program Manager Shoshoni Gensaw-Hostler and former YHHS Clinician Alita Redner, in 2021, applied for and received a \$150,000 grant from the California Department of Healthcare Services’ Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) to start developing plans for the youth center project. In a few short months, they completed a feasibility study, obtained stakeholder feedback, identified a site for construction and developed the initial concepts for the facility. With guidance from the Yurok Tribal Council, Yurok Planning and Community Development Department Grant Writer Ray Moisa and Gensaw Hostler completed the concept design for the new facility and secured the competitive \$7,975,438 BHCIP award for the construction of the green-built center. Yurok tribal youth participated in every part of the decision-making process to ensure the project meets their unique needs. The advisory group will continue to be consulted on all center functions, ranging from the development of childcare services to individual case planning.

“It is extremely important for youth to have a meaningful say in the decisions that affect their lives. We want to empower local teens and young adults to become resilient, independent and successful adults,” Gensaw-Hostler said. “For many years, we have needed a youth center in the Weitchpec area and I’m so grateful it is finally going to be a reality.”

In the spring, the Yurok Tribe’s Per-Geesh Construction Corporation will begin building the new facility. The green building will be constructed with natural materials that are representative of the Tribe’s culture.

The Yurok Youth Center funding originated from California Governor Gavin Newsom’s \$480.5 million investment in 54 projects to improve California’s behavioral health infrastructure

for children and youth. Administered by the California Department of Healthcare Services' Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program and part of Governor Newsom's Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health, this "historic investment provides

grant funding to construct new facilities and expand existing facilities that help children, youth, transition-age youth, and perinatal individuals with a mental health and/or substance use disorder."

Star Athlete Plays in Indigenous Bowl

Davis selected to play football at the home of the Minnesota Vikings

Darvin Davis IV, a senior at Hoopa Valley High School, is the first Yurok Tribal Member to be selected to play in the 5th Annual Indigenous Bowl at the U.S. Bank Stadium, home of the Minnesota Vikings. The special game was livestreamed at 10am on Sunday, December 11.

Davis is the son of Jess and Salena McLaughlin and the late Darvin Ervin Davis III (Bud), the grandson of Etta Norris, the late Darvin Ervin Davis Jr., the late "Smidge" and the great grandson of Betty Brown.

"This opportunity means a lot to me. I'm so proud to be able to represent my school, my tribe and my family. This has been my dream since I was a young guy. I appreciate all the support from my parents, the whole community, my coaches, the school and my teammates," said Davis.

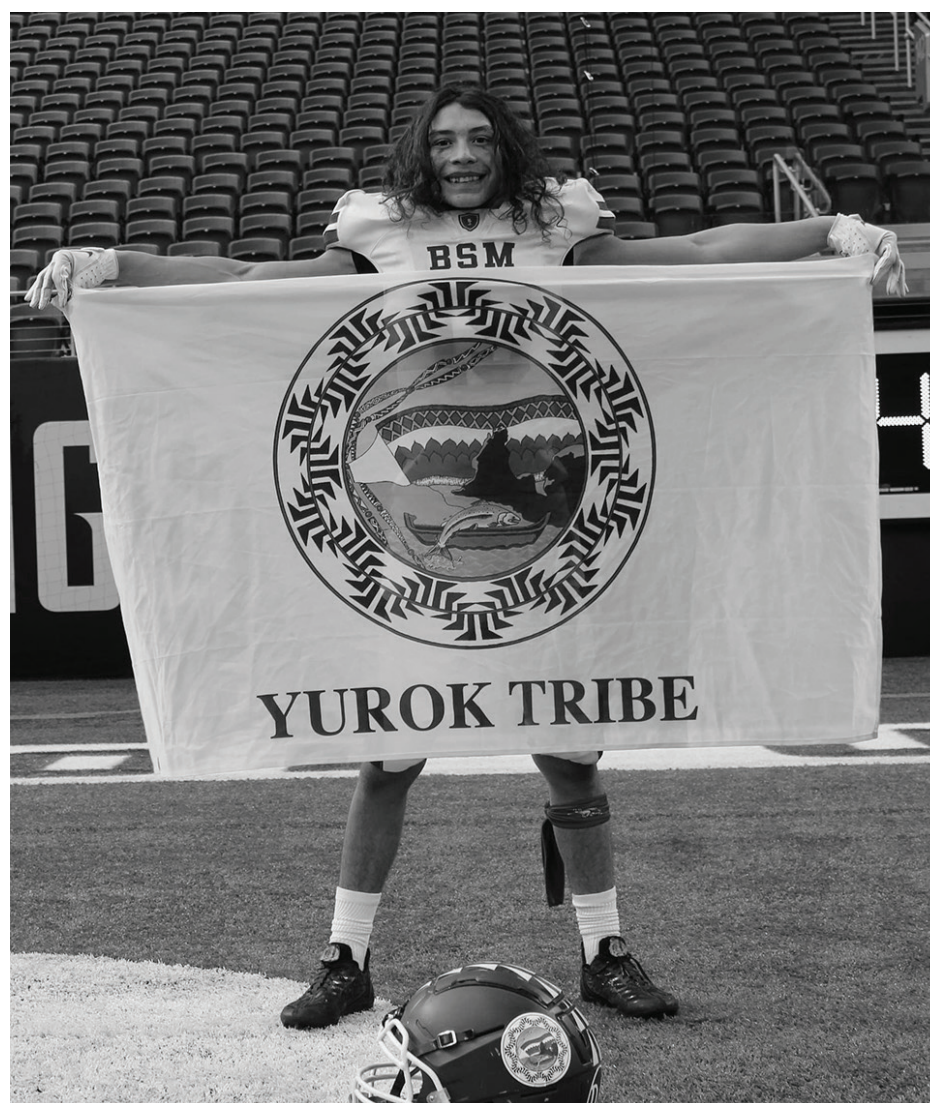
The star athlete has been playing football since he was 8 years old and has received All County in his sophomore, junior and senior year. In addition to football, Davis is also a basketball and baseball player. Davis received Honorable Mention for All County for baseball in his sophomore and junior year and played on the Eagles All Star traveling baseball team. When Davis isn't playing sports and striving for academic excellence, he spends his time hunting, fishing, eeling, participating in traditional stick games and the Yurok ceremonial dances.

"Don't ever let anyone tell you who you are. If you have a goal achieve it and if you have a dream chase it," concluded Davis.

The 7G Foundation, in partnership with the Minnesota Vikings and the NFL, are sponsoring the 5th Indigenous Bowl.

The first Indigenous Bowl was played in 2017 and is open to High School seniors of American Indian descent who have not yet enrolled in college. The event is an opportunity for young, Native athletes to showcase their talent on the football field, work with professional coaches and mentors, and develop the skills necessary to move to the next level of competition. This event furthers the

goal of the 7G Foundation by molding the next 7 generations of Native leaders through education, athletics, culture and real-world support.



Darvin Davis IV proudly holding a Yurok flag

College Sophomore Named All Conference

Hutchinson Has an Impressive Football Season With the Corsairs

Yurok Tribal Citizen Weyk-seyr' Hutchinson was the only sophomore on the team this year and had an impressive season playing on the offensive line at left guard. He stepped up into a leadership position and helped lead the Corsairs as team captain. Hutchinson was awarded an All Region award, as well as a unanimous All Conference selection. The Corsairs ended the season with a record of 7-4.

"I had fun and I'm so glad that College of the Redwoods brought back the football program. Everything turned out really good and I loved it," said Hutchinson. "I encourage all of our local youth to try for it, try for the next step. Work with what you have and try for the best. Keep holding on each day and it will work out. I wasn't striving for it at first but I'm so glad I did."

Hutchinson graduated from Hoopa Valley High School in 2019 and played two years of football as a Hoopa Warrior. With encouragement from his High School coaches he perused his higher education at College of the Redwoods and started playing football for the Corsairs that same year. After the season concluded the football program at College of the Redwoods was suspended for a season due to budget constraints. In 2022 the football program was reinstated and Hutchinson was the only player on the roster that continued from 2019.

Weyk-seyr' Hutchinson is the son of Gloria Inong and the late Trevor Hutchinson, the grandson of Rudy and Kay Inong and one of three siblings. He plans to graduate from College of the Redwoods this year with his AA in Communications. After CR he plans to continue his educational goals at a four year University and pursue football at the next level. His hope is to play for a university in Oregon so that he can remain close to his family. In his spare time he enjoys going up the hill, eeling, working on his car and sending time with his family.

"I would like to thank the coaching staff at College of the Redwoods and my Hoopa High School coaches. My high school coaches pushed me to do this and it worked out for the best," added Hutchinson.



Obituary

Wayne Amos Cooper, Sr.

Wayne Amos Cooper, Sr. passed away peacefully in the early hours of Thursday January 12, 2023, in Tucson, AZ at the age of 80. He was born on June 22, 1942, in Hoopa, CA to Winifred (Cripe) Marshall and Amos Cooper. He was a proud member of the Yurok Tribe.

He spent most of his childhood on the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation. His lifelong passions were fishing and hunting. Other pastimes that he enjoyed were softball, carpentry, and gardening.

He graduated from Arcata High School in June 1960. On September 20, 1960, he joined the United States Navy. He met and married Genevieve Ellen Semanski on November 18, 1961, in El Cerrito, CA. They have six children together.

He had many different duty stations including the USS Coral Sea, USS Stanley, USS Enterprise, and USS Coronado. He was a radio operator, an air traffic controller, and a Navy recruiter. During his naval career, he received numerous medals and commendations to include the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Expert Marksmanship Badge. He retired honorably from the United States Navy on October 31, 1985, at Little Creek Naval Base, Norfolk,



VA.

Upon his retirement, he moved to Arizona to be with his family. He came to faith in Jesus as an adult, and was ordained as a minister in 2001. He wholeheartedly served his community and is now resting in peace with his Savior.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Janice Tripp and brother Robert Marshall.

Wayne is survived by his wife Genevieve Cooper of Willcox, AZ. Also survived by his children Tama (Tim) Atwell of Sunsites, AZ, Wayne (Carol) Cooper Jr. of Cochise, AZ, Mary (Felipe) Murrieta of Tucson, AZ, Julie (Todd) Barnes of Virginia Beach, VA, Peter (Jeannie) Cooper of Tucson, AZ, and Lisa Lewis of Nortonville, KY. He is survived by 14 grandchildren, and 15 great grandchildren, and his siblings Patricia (Richard) Bonacci of Redding, CA, Jeanie (Terry) Ramos of Brentwood, CA, Stephanie (Jack) Whittington of O'Brien, FL, John (Marylou) Marshall of Hoopa, CA, and James (Julie) Marshall of Vancouver, WA., and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He will be laid to rest at the Yurok Veterans Cemetery in Weitchpec, CA with a celebration of life sometime in August or September.



Yurok Tribe

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www.yuroktribe.org

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Redwood Empire Wrestling Association

covers: Arcata, Crescent City, Eureka, Fortuna, Hoopa, and surrounding areas. Contact Nicholas McKnight Director

707-834-1330 or nich316@suddenlink.net

Redwood Empire Wrestling Association

Weight-ins: Pee Wee/Bantam 7 to 8 am. All others 10 to 11 am

Note: Coaches need to display credentials to coach.

"Once you've wrestled, everything else is easy."

-Dan Gable,
Olympic Gold Medalist
and two-time NCAA Champion



March 11th, 2023

Klamath Trinity Wrestling Club
Hoopa High School
11400 State Hwy 96
Hoopa CA 95546
Contact Meagan Baldy
Email: meagen18@gmail.com

March 18th, 2023

Arcata High School
1720 M Street
Arcata, CA 95521
Contact: Chelsa Perrigo
707-362-7887
Email: cperrigo25@yahoo.com

March 25th, 2023

Ninja Wrestling Club
Eureka High School
1915 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Contact: Jaime Hansen
707-498-9066
Email: jhansen0807@gmail.com

April 1st, 2023

Del Norte Wrestling Club
Del Norte High School
1301 El Dorado
Crescent City, CA 95531
Contact: Clint Schaad
(707) 954-8154
Email: cschaad@dnco.org

April 15th, 2023

McKinleyville High School
1300 Murray Road
McKinleyville, CA 95519
Contact: Virgil Moorehead
(707-839-8627
Email: vmoorehead@earthlink.net

April 22nd, 2023

Eureka High School
1915 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Contact: Jeanette Detherage
707-444-8105
Email: detherageroofing@aol.com

April 29th, 2023

Fortuna High School
379 12th Street
Fortuna, CA 95540
Contact: Nick McKnight
707-834-1330
Email: nich316@suddenlink.net

**BUILD A BRIGHTER,
STRONGER FUTURE
FOR YOUR CHILD**

Yurok Tribe Child Care Program

Need financial assistance with child care???



Serves eligible parents who are working or attending school

Families may choose the Yurok Tribal Child Care Centers for children ages 0 - 5, (ages vary per site) or you can receive a limited voucher for a provider of your choosing for children ages 0-12.

You do not have to live on the reservation to receive this assistance but you must live within THE CHILD CARE SERVICE AREA of Humboldt and/or Del Norte County

COMPLETE APPLICATIONS must be received by the Yurok Tribe Education Department before services start.



Child Care applications can be found at www.YurokTribe.org

For questions or to request an application contact Arianna Kartaltepe at the Yurok Tribe Education Department at (707) 444-0433 Ext. 1900 or akartaltep@yuroktribe.nsn.us

