



SMOKE SIGNALS

January 2024

A MESSAGE FROM TRIBAL COUNCIL

Munahoo neum, Tzow Kow-au-neat, good January. Happy New Year! The Tribe had an amazing turnout this year with The Winter Gathering Dinner. Thank you all for attending, there were no kids left out when it came to the coat giveaway. Big Sandy Rancheria would like to say thank you to all the sponsors that made our coat giveaway possible, Fresno County Sheriffs Foundation, Pacific Ag Insurance, Peebles & Kidder Law Firm, Dan Sigala, Friends Of The Auberry Library, and the largest donation to purchase coats, RedRum Motorcycle Club. The Tribe and community cannot express how much gratitude we feel for ensuring that all the little ones were kept warm this winter with a new coat. A New Year means new applications. If you have a current housing application in the process or are thinking about rental assistance, please contact the housing department at the Tribal office to pick up a housing application or you can call to have one emailed to your email address. The Tribe has implemented a new Tribal ID to accommodate all Tribal youth. Tribal kids can now get a Tribal ID for their Tribal discount at The Mono Wind Casino Restaurant. If you wish to obtain one please come to the Tribal office to fill out your application or call to schedule an appointment. Big Sandy Rancheria would like to say congratulations to the Tribal members that attended this last General Council meeting. This was one of the biggest quorums in the Tribe's history. That is a huge accomplishment! The next General council meeting will be March 31, 2024, here at the gymnasium at 10:00am. Hope to see you all there. Thank you for your time and energy, may you have a blessed New Year!

Council Meetings		Tribal Office Holiday Schedule	
Tribal Council	General Council	Date	Holiday
Wednesday, January 31, 2024	Sunday, March 31, 2024	Monday, January 1, 2024	New Year's Day
Wednesday, February 28, 2024	Sunday, June 30, 2024	Monday, January 15, 2024	Martin Luther King Jr.
Wednesday, March 27, 2024	Sunday, September 29, 2024	Monday, February 19, 2024	Presidents Day
Wednesday, April 24, 2024	Sunday, December 15, 2024	Friday, May 10, 2024	National American Indian Day
Wednesday, May 29, 2024		Monday, May 27, 2024	Memorial Day
Wednesday, June 26, 2024		Thursday, July 4, 2024	Independence Day
Wednesday, July 31, 2024		Monday, September 2, 2024	Labor Day
Wednesday, August 28, 2024		Friday, September 27, 2024	California American Indian Day
Wednesday, September 25, 2024		Monday, October 14, 2024	Indigenous People's Day
		Monday, November 11, 2024	Veterans Day
		Thursday, November 28, 2024	Thanksgiving Day
		Friday, November 29, 2024	Day after Thanksgiving
		Tuesday, December 24, 2024	Christmas Eve
		Wednesday, December 25, 2024	Christmas

REMINDER: The newsletter is available by email, if you would like to start receiving the newsletter through email rather than mail, please contact the Tribal Office at 559.374.0066.



Tribal Elder's
Monthly Meeting

Second Thursday of the month at 12:00pm

January 11, 2024

- Meetings are here for you to be informed about what is offered to the Tribal Elders
- Must be a Big Sandy Rancheria Tribal Elder to attend
- There will be lunch and raffle prizes

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT LEANN ANGUIANO
AT 559-374-0066.**



NEXT FOOD BANK

**Thursday, January 18, 2024
9:00am-12:00pm
Big Sandy Rancheria
37387 Auberry Mission Road
Auberry, CA 93602**

BSR General Store

**Open Everyday
6:00am-10:00pm**

559-825-6645

**37302 Rancheria Lane
Auberry, CA 93602**

REMINDER: The newsletter is available by email, if you would like to start receiving the newsletter through email rather than mail, please contact the Tribal Office at 559.374.0066.

January Birthdays

Happy Birthday

Brooke Ball
Erica Ballard
Eric Lee Barber
Ramona Barrientos
Gabriella Baty
Heather Blewett
Ashton Brown-Goodwin
Aleda Cogdell
James Cogdell Jr.
Darin Coleman
Jordyn Davis
Emilio Eason
Catalina Espinoza
Layanna Gopher
Devin Fisher
Jack Harrison
Marcus Harrison
Max Harrison

Ashleigh Huerta
Brianna Johnson
Haileigha Johnson
Adrian Johnson
William Johnson
Emily Kipp
Annie Knight
Irene Lara
Randy Lewis Jr.
Phyllis Lewis
Jimmy Llewellyn
Mitchell Llewellyn
Alexander Mancera
Alex Marquez
Brandon McFarland
Jesina Mendez
Sandra Oliver
James Oliver

Stephen Oliver
Alan Orosco Jr.
David Ortiz
Nicholas Ramirez
Michelle Reid
Morris Reid
Morgan Reid
Robert Rios
James Robertson III
Steven Samaniego
Deshba Sanchez
Juanita Stamp
Darrel Telles
Michael Vasquez
Marissa Vasquez
Raelynn Walker
Melvin Wesley Jr.
Anna Wilson

Big Sandy Rancheria Elders

Happy New Year Big Sandy Rancheria Tribal Elders! Last Month was a great turnout at The Chukchansi Hotel And Casino Resort, Christmas Outing. The Tribal Elders stayed for 3 days and 2 nights, enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner and did a gift exchange. The Tribe is blessed to be able to do this for The Elders. I hope that we continue to have fun this year and hope to see all the Elders at the monthly meetings every second Thursday of the month at 12:00pm here at the Big Sandy Rancheria Gym. At the meetings a hot lunch is provided and raffle prizes are given. If you have any question or concerns regarding the Elders, you can call the Tribal office and ask to speak with Matthew Munoz or Leann Anguiano. Matthew Munoz will be helping the Elders this year. Please stay safe and warm through the cold months.



Jane Stamp and Deborah Cunningham



Gina Mangiarelli and Aleda Cogdell



Phyllis Lewis and Deana Sample



Jeannie Valles

Elders Luncheon

Thursday, February 8, 2024
10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

*37387 Auberry Mission Rd
Auberry, California*

LUNCH - RAFFLE - BINGO

**OPEN TO THE ELDERS OF
BIG SANDY
COLD SPRINGS
AND NORTH FORK RANCHERIAS.**



California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc. - (916) 920-0285

If you have any questions, please contact:

Rachael Mae Bill, Elders Program Specialist, Ext. 2120

Deanna Quintana, Elders Program Coordinator, Ext. 2123

BSR Environmental Department January 2024

Air Quality

Did you know that air pollution is actually worse during winter months. Cold air moves slower than warm air. Cold air density traps in air pollution. Air pollution in the winter remains in place for much longer and their fore we breath it in at a much faster rate than in the summer when it is warmer. Having house plants is a good way to purify the air in your home. Not only that it is a way to produce more oxygen circulating around your home. Having house plants can reduce levels of carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, xylene, and benzene. Plus it is a good way to decorate your home.

Indigenous Plants & Native Uses

- **MILKWEED**—Treat bowel and Kidney disorders.
- **ELDERBERRY**— Bark is used as a pain killer. Crushed leaves insect repellent.
- **CATTAIL**—Can be placed directly on cuts to control bleeding.
- **GROUND PINE**—Used for stiff joints.
- **WINTERGREEN**—Tea from the leaves ease rheumatism. The oil can be used for aspirin.
- **WILD STRAWBERRY**—The leaves may stimulate appetite.

What is groundwater and why is it so important

Thinking about freshwater often brings to mind pictures of flowing steams and crystal clear lakes, but actually, almost all freshwater is ground water. Groundwater is water found underground in cracks and spaces in soil, sand, and rock. It is held in aquifers- permeable water-bearing rock and or sediment and can be extracted through wells or bubbles up naturally through a spring or discharged int lake or streams. Even though the water is underground, when it does bubble up or flow into streams, groundwater helps to replenish and maintain levels of surface water-these are bodies of water that we see as river, lakes, streams. Ground water helps keep our river flowing.

7 Types of Solid Waste

- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)
- Construction and Demolition Debris
- Industrial/Commercial
- Regulated Medical Waste
- Used Electronic Equipment
- Used Oil
- Waste Tires



For information or any questions contact:

Lori Beecher @ 374-0066 ext. 226 *lbeecher@bsrnation.com * Rebecca Riley ext. 240



HEADS UP

OVDC Big Sandy Early Head Start January 2024 Newsletter

Accepting Applications for Enrollment!

We are accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year. EHS is a comprehensive early learning program for children 6 weeks-36 months old. The

EHS program delivers early learning/education, health nutrition, and family support services.

Important Dates

- Parent Workshop: January 23rd at 3 p.m.
- Storytime with Language/Literacy Program @ 2:30 (Via Webex)

Center Closures

- January 1st (New Year Holiday)
- January 15th (MLK Holiday)
- January 26th (Half Day for Staff PD)

Reminders

Our center hours are:

**Monday-Friday
from 7:45-3:45
P.M.**

**Breakfast is from
8:30-9:00 A.M.**

**If you need any
assistance, please
contact us!**

Happy
New Year!



37190 Jose Basin Road, Auberry, CA 93602

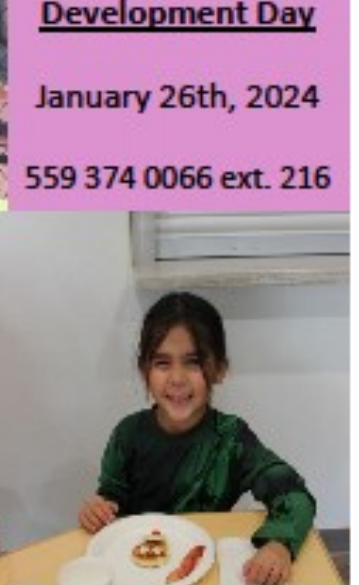
Phone (559) 855-7511, Fax (559) 855-7515

Blossom Garcia, Family/Child Service Specialist, bgarcia@ovcdc.com

Nikita Henderson, Site Supervisor, nhenderson@ovcdc.com



BSR Head Start



Special Day Reminders

Head Start Reopen:

January 2nd, 2024

Closed: MLK day

January 15th, 2024

Community Food

Bank

January 18th, 2024

Closed: Staff

Development Day

January 26th, 2024

559 374 0066 ext. 216

Big Sandy Rancheria

Social & Human Services

Department



Emergency Food Assistance Program

1 FOOD BOX PER FAMILY

1 BOX OF INFANT SUPPLIES (IF NEEDED)

1 BOX OF HYGIENE SUPPLIES (IF NEEDED)

2X A YEAR

WEEKDAYS:

8AM - 5PM

For more information you can call us at 559-374-0066 ext242 or 559-776-6322

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BSR CAP Department Community Strengthening

Community/Elder's COMPUTER LAB



Monday-Wednesday 11am-1pm

Join us at the BSR Computer Lab every week to work on your computer skills and/or catch up on school courses. We will also offer help in navigating the following:

- Excel
- Email etiquette
- Driving lessons
- DMV help



For More Info Contact Saige Riley
Phone: (559) 374-0066 X228
Email: sriley@bsrnation.com

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BIG

SANDY

Social Services



OUR SERVICES

The Social Services Department works to support BSR's Tribal Families by ensuring they have services, assistance and support. By working with each individual and family we can identify and access unique needs. Our goal is to encourage, promote and maintain the overall health and well being of Tribal Members and their families.

ICWA

The ICWA Rep will intervene in all eligible Child Dependency Cases involving Tribal Members and their children. This includes Tribal representation in court, case management, and service referrals.

EDUCATIONAL

ADVOCACY

If requested we will provide personal support during educational meetings, including but not limited to: IEP's, SST's and SARB hearings.

OTHER SERVICES

- > Victim Advocacy
- > Emergency Food/Baby/Hygiene Supplies
- > Educational Outreach
- > Assistance In Identifying/Accessing Resources
- > Additional Supportive Services

CONTACT SSAMANIEGO@BSRNATION.COM OR DESK 559-374-0066 EXT242 OR CELL 559-776-6322

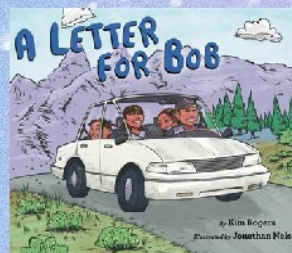
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Kow-au-neat

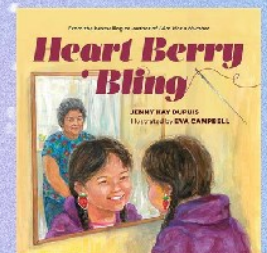
(January)



Fresno County Family Literacy Program Presents



January 11th, 2024



January 25th, 2024

Join us for a Book Read and Language Experience Activity with BSR CAP Youth Program & Community

Location: BSR Gym

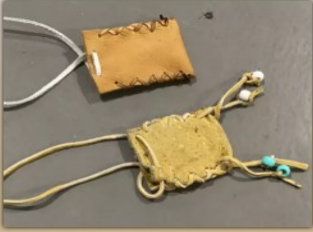
Time: 4:30 PM

For more information contact Parent Educator-Parent and Child Activity Instructor Jocelyn Saavedra at (559) 226-2880 Ext. 212 or jsaavedra@ovcdc.com / Juliana Velasquez (559) 226-2880 Ext. 206 or jvelasquez@ovcdc.com



BSR CAP Department

Mending Medicine Bags Night



January ~ Monday's
~8th, 22nd, 29th~
4:00PM-6:00PM

Join us in the BSR Gymnasium for a night of mending medicine bags with dinner provided. When finished, sage will be added with provided information about what is good medicine and why is it relevant. Bring family members and friends to learn the way of how we dealt with after life and how we prayed for our dead.

For more information please contact: Arianna Atwell,
aatwell@bsrnation.com or (559) 3740066 Ext. 207

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Come join CAP Department Community fitness

**WEIGHT TRAINING
DIET & NUTRITION
PERSONAL TRAINING**

BSR GYM 4PM-6PM

Come join us on every Wednesday to workout and light meal will be provided

for more Info contact Jimmy Llewellyn 5593740066 x288



... BSR CAP DEPARTMENT ...

TIE BLANKETS


**THURSDAYS FROM 4PM-6PM
JANUARY 4TH, 11TH, 18TH, 25TH**

Come join us at the BSR GYM every Thursday in January from 4pm-6pm to make Tie Blankets. There will be a light meal provided.


For more information contact Saige
email: sriley@bsrnation.com
phone: (559)374-0066 x228





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BSR CAP DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY TORTILLA CHALLENGE



Join us from 4pm-6pm on Friday's January 12th, 19th, & 26th, at the BSR Gym to learn and practice how to make homemade tortillas. There will be a light meal provided for participants. There will be no class on Friday, January 5th due to staff development.



For more info contact Saige Riley
Phone:(559)374-0066 x228
Email: sriley@bsrnation.com

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Community Beading Workshop



January 9th 4-6pm

Join in as we use this time to clear our minds and give ourselves a moment to refresh as we bead with friends and family.

*Contact Brandi Kelley at Bkelley@bsrnation.com
-559-374-0066 ext.206*



BIG SANDY

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SAMHSA

Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration



JANUARY 2024

SATURDAY THE 13TH & 27TH 10AM-2PM

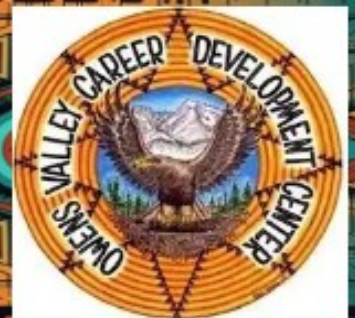
**REGALIA
MAKING CLASS
POSITIVE LEADERSHIP**

Must be dedicated to coming to classes to finish regalia.
Classes will be held 2 times a month January 13th & 27th,
February 10th & 24th and March 9th & 23rd.

LEAD BY WILLIAM JOHNSON AKA LIL BEAR
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT BRANDI KELLEY 559-374-0066



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Big Sandy Rancheria



**SEEKING BASKET WEAVERS, BASKET DESIGNS, BASKET PHOTOS
& STORIES.**

If you are a BSR basket weaver, have photos of baskets, have baskets we can photograph, or any suggestions please let us know.

CHRISSY ATWELL-VALLE

monogirl02@yahoo.com

559-359-1053

FB Messenger

@Chrissy Atwell



Located in the Admin House



**BIG SANDY
RANCHERIA**

RONDII NIETO

rondii@yahoo.com

559-361-7242

FB Messenger

@Rondii Nieto Bonilla



January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 NEW YEARS DAY ALL OFFICES CLOSED	2 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	3 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Fitness 4:00-6:00pm	4 Tie Blankets 4:00-6:00pm	5 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY NO CAP PROGRAMS	6
7	8 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Medicine Bag Making 4:00-6:00pm	9 TULE RIVER FOOD DISTRIBUTION 10:30-12:00PM Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Beading Workshop 4:00-6:00pm	10 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Fitness 4:00-6:00pm	11 ELDERS MEETING 12:00PM Book Read 4:30pm Tie Blankets 4:00-6:00pm	12 Fall Baking 6:00-8:00pm Community Tortilla Challenge 4:00-6:00PM	13 Regalia Workshop Orientation 10:00-2:00pm
14	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY ALL OFFICES CLOSED	16 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	17 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Fitness 4:00-6:00pm	18 FOOD BANK 9:00-12:00PM Tie Blankets 4:00-6:00pm	19 Fall Baking 6:00-8:00pm Community Tortilla Challenge 4:00-6:00PM	20
21	22 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Medicine Bag Making 4:00-6:00pm	23 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	24 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Fitness 4:00-6:00pm	25 Tie Blankets 4:00-6:00pm Book Read 4:30pm	26 Community Tortilla Challenge 4:00-6:00PM	27 Regalia Workshop 10:00-2:00pm
28	29 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Medicine Bag Making 4:00-6:00pm	30 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	31 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Fitness 4:00-6:00pm			

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Dream Catcher Class 4:00-6:00pm	2 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY NO CAP PROGRAMS	3
4	5 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Leather Crafts 4:00-6:00pm	6 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	7 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Cardio Workout 4:00-6:00pm	8 CIMC ELDERS LUNCHEON 10:00-2:00PM Dream Catcher Class 4:00-6:00pm	9 Healthy Relationships Event 6:00-8:00pm	10 Regalia Workshop 10:00-2:00pm
11	12 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Leather Crafts 4:00-6:00pm	13 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	14 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Cardio Workout 4:00-6:00pm	15 FOOD BANK 9:00-12:00PM Dream Catcher Class 4:00-6:00pm	16 Family Baking 4:00-6:00pm	17
18	19 PRESIDENTS DAY ALL OFFICES CLOSED	20 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	21 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Cardio Workout 4:00-6:00pm	22 Dream Catcher Class 4:00-6:00pm	23 Family Baking 4:00-6:00pm	24 Regalia Workshop 10:00-2:00pm
25	26 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Leather Crafts 4:00-6:00pm	27 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	28 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Cardio Workout 4:00-6:00pm			

Big Sandy Rancheria Transportation Services



We will be reducing transports to one day a week. Please make sure that you schedule your transport as soon as possible. To schedule an appointment please contact:

BSR CAP Department:
Saige Riley @ (559)374-0066 ext. 228
You can also stop by the gym in the CAP OFFICE

YOUR APPOINTMENT MUST BE MADE AND VERIFIED WITH THE CAP DEPARTMENT *BEFORE* YOUR SPOT CAN BE RESERVED FOR THE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES. SCHEDULE APPOINTMENTS *ONLY WITH SAIGE RILEY* 24 HOURS PRIOR FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTS AND 1 WEEK IN ADVANCE FOR FRESNO TRANSPORTS.

The transporter will wait 15 minutes after your scheduled departure. If you do not arrive on time, your appointment will be canceled and can be rescheduled *with Saige Riley only*. There are new rules for the transportation services, please call the transporter for a copy of revised rules. Transportation services are for Big Sandy Rancheria Tribal Members.

The transporter cannot transport kids to school that have missed the bus. All CVIH appointments are to be scheduled with CVIH transporter. If the CVIH transporter is unable to transport you, they will need to reschedule your appointment. This applies to all medical, dental, nutrition & referral appointments.

ATTENTION ALL TRANSPORTATION PARTICIPANTS

Big Sandy Rancheria will be requiring updated signatures for transportation rules and regulations.



Big Sandy Rancheria

37387 Auberry Mission Rd

P.O. Box 337

Auberry, CA 93602

