



SMOKE SIGNALS

February 2026

A MESSAGE FROM TRIBAL COUNCIL

Munahoo Neum,

Tzow Pa-Si-Kwa, meaning, Good February. Happy Valentine's Day to all our relations. If you don't have any plans already the tribe will be having a Healthy Relationship dinner on Feb 13th from 5-7p.m. here at the BSR GYM. Come and join us for an evening of good food and company. It's Pow-Wow time, and we have our next potential princess, or brave is out there somewhere. Royalty applications will be on the BSR website or you can pick one up at the tribal office. We wish everyone the best of luck, and if you see them out there selling tickets, please help and support these upcoming royalty contestants. As an addition to this, the vendor applications will also be online, it's first come first serve no spots are reserved. The tribe is also very happy to announce that we have a new General Manager at the Mono Wind Casino. His name is Albert Menchaca, he comes with a lot of experience in the gaming industry. Our next general council meeting will be March 29, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. here at the BSR GYM. These meetings are important and are for tribal members only no significant others, children or non-tribal may attend. Hope to see you all there and like always thank you for your time and energy and may you and your family have a blessed rest of your month, To-Ghee(That's it); End).

Council Meeting		Tribal Office Holiday Schedule	
Tribal Council	General Council	Date	Holiday
Wednesday, February 25, 2026	Sunday, March 29, 2026	Monday, February 16, 2026	Presidents Day
Wednesday, March 25, 2026	Sunday, June 28, 2026	Friday, May 8, 2026	National American Indian Day
Wednesday, April 29, 2026	Sunday, September 27, 2026	Monday, May 25, 2026	Memorial Day
Wednesday, May 27, 2026	Sunday, December 16, 2026	Friday, June 19, 2026	Juneteenth
Wednesday, June 24, 2026		Friday, July 3, 2026	Independence Day
Wednesday, July 29, 2026		Monday, September 7, 2026	Labor Day
Wednesday, August 26, 2026		Friday, September 25, 2026	California American Indian Day
Wednesday, September 30, 2026		Monday, October 12, 2026	Indigenous People's Day
Wednesday, October 28, 2026		Wednesday, November 11, 2026	Veterans Day
Wednesday, November 25, 2026		Thursday, November 26, 2026	Thanksgiving Day
Wednesday, December 16, 2026		Friday, November 27, 2026	Day After Thanksgiving
		Thursday, December 24, 2026	Christmas Eve
		Friday, December 25, 2026	Christmas Day

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 12:00 pm

February 12, 2026

- 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, February 19, 2026

10:00am-12:00pm

Big Sandy Rancheria

37387 Auberry Mission Road

Auberry, CA 93602

BSR General Store

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.

February Birthdays

Happy Birthday

Julie Adkins
Autumn Bates
Howtzah Beecher
Gilbert Beecher
Ahkakowah Beecher
Rudy Colmenero
Stephanie Coston
Autum Davis
Robert Davis
Brieanna Gillihan
Robert Harlan
Rebecca Hodges
Saphirah James
Logan Johnson

Teresa Johnson
Nadiah Johnson
Rayetta Lara
Constance Lewis
Kristine Lewis
Joseph Marquez
Kevin McDaniel
Michael Minihane
Winstin Moore
Phillip Moore
Zachariah Oliver
Naomi Orosco
Giovanni Patty-Gallo
Jonathon Reid
Douglas Riley
Fabian Riley Jr.
Virginia Riley

Annie Riley
Robert Robertson
Quintin Rodriguez
Larissa Rodriguez
Samuel Samaniego
Shaniah Samaniego
Michael Sandoval
Grant Sewell
Theodore Stankewitz
Michael Turner
Paul Valles
Felix Vela
Abriyah Villanueva
Theresa Williams - Lundy

Hello BSR Elders

I hope you're all doing well and staying warm. Last month at our Elders Luncheon, we had a couple of special guests. Jeannine Welton, Vice President of Community west Bank, did a presentation on Identity Theft. As elders we are a target. Jeannine went over, warning signs of Identity Theft, Red Flags and what to look for, Traits of Phishing Emails, and ways to avoid a scam. The Bank will never ask for your personal information, never give out your bank account number or your Social Security number. This was very informative for all our elders. If you would like more information we have folders at the reception office. Albert Menchaca our General Manager of Mono Wind Casino, joined the elders for lunch. It was a nice surprise. Albert introduced himself to the elders, helped serve them lunch. Albert is very friendly and has an open-door policy with the tribe and community. There is a very nice article in the Indian Gaming Magazine, you can google indiangaming.com and read the article. We are very happy to welcome Albert to Big Sandy. CVIH will be having their Annual Eagle Walk at Millerton Lake on Wednesday, March 25th registration is at 9:00am. You will need a flyer to get into Millerton Lake for free. If you have any question about the Eagle Walk you can contact Leann Anguiano (559) 917-1674 or Mika Fisher at CVIH (559) 299-2578 Ext. 1619. The next Elders Luncheon is on Thursday February 12th @ 12pm. There will be a hot meal served with raffle prizes, drinks and a dessert. Remember this is an elder only luncheon. If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact Leann Anguiano (559) 917-1674), languiano@bsrnation.com

BSR ECE DEPARTMENT

February is going to be an exciting month for the BSR ECE department! There are lots of fun and educational activities planned through out the month. Our first sports jersey day will be a fun day for students and families to express their enjoyment for their favorite football teams.

Smokey bear will be on site to teach the students about fire safety for his annual visit.

On the day of our Valentine's card exchange, students will be able to bring a card and or candy to give to their friends. Students will decorate a bag at school to store their goodies to be enjoyed at home.

This year we will not be taking our traditional Mid-winter break at the same time as Sierra Unified School District, instead it will be the week after. All our staff will be going to a literacy institute in language that covers cognitive, motor, social, and emotional development.

Parents please remember that drop off time is between 8 am and 8:30 am. If you are going to be later than 8:30 am please call the Head Start or Early Head Start at 374-0066 ext.216 so the teachers know to expect your child for breakfast. Head Start has a required 85% attendance policy, which is typically an absence of a day or two a month.

Smart Limits

1. **Take charge:** Children crave limits and boundaries. It helps children manage the world without confusion. 2. **Discipline is not punishment:** Enforcing limits is really about teaching children how to behave in the world. This helps them to become caring, in control, and learn important skills. 3. **Pick your battles:** Kids cannot absorb too many rules. Focus on the things that really matter -- such as not hitting.

Special Day

Reminders

Super Bowl Jersey

Day:

February 6th, 2026

Valentine's Day

Card Exchange

February 13th, 2026

Centers Closed:

Presidents' Day

February 16th, 2026

Smokey Bear Visit

February 18th, 2026

Community Food

Bank

February 19th, 2026

Center Closed: Staff

Training week

February 23rd to
27th, 2026

559 374 0066 ext.216

BSR Environmental Department February 2026

Solid Waste

Solid waste means any discarded, unwanted or useless material. The term “solid waste” might make you picture piles of garbage, but it is far more than just trash. The United States produces nearly 292 million tons of solid waste each year. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to be categorized as a solid waste material the description is: Abandoned (disposed of, burned, incinerated or sham recycled).

Nearly everything we do generates waste, and if you're a consumer, this begins with understanding the different types of solid waste you generate and ensuring its proper disposal.

BSR Community Swap Meet and Earth Day

When: April 4, 2026 8am—12pm

Where: 33041 Oakview Terrace Complex, Auberry, CA. 93602.

For information or vendor forms contact:

Lori Beecher or Rebecca Riley
@ (559) 374-0066.

Why is it difficult to clean Polluted Groundwater

Polluted groundwater is hard to clean because it's deep underground, moves slowly, and contaminants stick to soil, making detection and removal difficult, expensive, and time consuming.

Key Challenges

- **Inaccessibility:** It's located deep underground, making it hard to reach.
- **Slow Movement:** Groundwater moves very slowly, so contaminants persist and spread gradually, taking years to flush out.
- **Contaminant Adsorption:** Pollutants bind to soil and rocks, meaning after pumping out water, the aquifer material remains contaminated and can re-release toxins.
- **Large Volume & Dispersion:** Contamination spreads across rocks and sand, making it difficult to treat the entire affected volume.
- **Cost & Time:** Remediation is incredibly expensive and can take decades or longer, with some cleanups deemed technically infeasible.

BSR Community Clean-up

March 30th through April 3rd

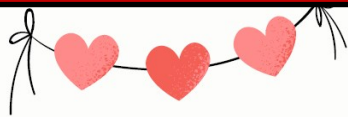
A roll off will be available at the transfer station the week of March 30th to April 4th. All items need to be put inside of the roll off bin. Do not leave items next to roll off. Items that cannot be dumped; motor oil, flammable liquids, and tires. Mattress drop off will also be available. Open to BSR residence ONLY!



For information or any questions contact:

Lori Beecher @ 374-0066 or Rebecca Riley @ 374-0046.





BSR EHS STORYTIME & LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE

Zoe and the Fawn



Join us for Storytime & Language Experience w/ BSR EHS Class

FEBRUARY 10TH

Time: 11:00am
Location: BSR EHS Classroom

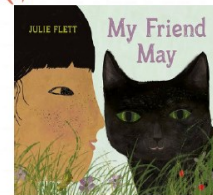
For more information contact:
Jocelyn Saavedra at 559-226-2880
or jsaavedra@ovcdc.com



Fresno Family Literacy Program

BSR Head Start Storytime & Language Experience

FRIENDSHIP DAY



Join Us for Storytime & Language Experience w/BSR Head Start Class

Feb. 10th

TIME: 11:30 AM
LOCATION: BSR HEAD START CLASS



PASI-KWA
(FEBRUARY)



FRESNO COUNTY FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM PRESENTS



FEBRUARY 12, 2026



FEBRUARY 26, 2026

JOIN US FOR A BOOK READ AND LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE ACTIVITY WITH BSR CAP YOUTH PROGRAM & COMMUNITY

LOCATION : BSR GYM
TIME: 4:00PM

for more informaton contact Parent Educators : Jocelyn Saavedra at jsaavedra@ovcdc.com or Juliana Velasquez at jvelasquez@ovcdc.com. phone # (559) 226-2880



February

Fresno Family Literacy Waga Corner

Book of the month coloring page



scan to hear the story



"In essence, "Still This Love Goes On" is a song that beautifully captures the essence of enduring love, the cyclical nature of life, the connection between nature and human emotions, and the significance of cultural identity. It is a poignant reminder that love and cultural heritage persist despite the changing seasons of life. Buffy Sainte-Marie's lyrics evoke a sense of nostalgia, resilience, and a deep appreciation for the enduring aspects of our existence.

OVCDC Fresno Site . Ph.# (559)-226-2880 , jvelasquez@ovcdc.com



BSR Cap Department

Let's learn about Mental Health

BEADED HEART HOOPS



February on Mondays
2nd, 9th and, 23rd

6:00-8:00 pm

For more information contact Aurelia Rios
bsrcap3@bsrnation.com 559-374-0066 x207
37387 Auberry Mission Rd

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FEBRUARY

Join the CAP Department at
the BSR GYM for
RESIN CRAFTS

*While also learning about Life Skills
with your partner*

6:00-8:00 PM Every Tuesday



2-3-26
2-10-26
2-17-26
2-24-26

Contact Valery Burt @
bsrcap2@bsrnation.com or
559-374-0066

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FEBRUARY

BASKETBALL NIGHT

Team work and
communication

WEDNESDAY'S
AND
FRIDAY'S

DATES
2-4, 2-11, 2-18
2-20, 2-25, 2-27 6:00-8:00PM

location: 37387 Auberry Mission RD 93602

For additional details contact niki.smith at
bsrcap@bsrnation.com or call (559)-374-0066

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Big Sandy Rancheria
CAP Department

Sweetheart Treats



Please come and join us every
Thursday in February from
6:00 - 8:00pm. We will be
making a different sweet treat
every class.

Big Sandy Rancheria GYM
37387 Auberry Mission Rd
Auberry, CA 93602





MATTRESS RECYCLING FOR BSR

Big Sandy Rancheria and the Mattress Recycling Council are working together to provide free recycling services of old mattresses and box springs for the BSR residents.



Dates:
February 25th
8:30 am-4:30 pm

*BSR HAS RECYCLED OVER
74 MATTRESSES FROM THE
START OF THIS PROGRAM!



Mattress Recycling Council[®]
Stacking Up Success Since 2015

For any questions, please contact Rebecca Riley @ (559) 374-0046



BIG SANDY RANCHERIA

Youth Advisory Council

Join the BSR CAP and Environmental Department as youth leaders in your community. Participate in key prevention and environmental issues. Meetings are held on the last Friday of every month at the BSR Computer Lab building. Ages 14-22 welcome.

February Date:
2/26/26 @4pm.

For questions, please contact:
Rebecca Riley or Brandi Kelley @
(559) 374-0066 ext. 240 or 206



Clovis Community College
SPRING 2026

EARN COLLEGE CREDIT

Class held on sight at the Big Sandy Rancheria Computer Lab
For High School and Adult Education Students

When?

March 16th – May 20nd
Big Sandy Rancheria
Mondays & Wednesdays

Interdisciplinary Studies 50

College Success
INTDS 50 – 80689
3 Unit Course

- This class is transferable for Area E CSU GE credit INTDS-50 will prepare you for academic success throughout your college journey.
- Explore personal responsibility, critical thinking, self-awareness, self-motivation, and effective communication.
- Build relationships with Clovis Community College faculty, staff, and support services.
- 3 transferable units to CSU's and UC's

Questions? Please Contact

Nate Saari: nate.saari@cloviscollege.edu / (559) 776-8281

Rebecca Riley: (559) 374-0066 Ext. 240



**CONTACT
SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENT
OFFICE
559-374-0049**

TRIBAL NUTRITION PROGRAM

Big Sandy Rancheria Social Services Department is excited to announce that we are taking Food Assistance applications for our Tribal Nutrition Program.

What to Expect:

The Tribal Nutrition Program is designed to address food insecurity. By completing this application, social services staff will work with you to address these insecurities in three program options:

1. FOOD VOUCHERS

available for local grocery stores
(VOUCHERS AVAILABLE BASED ON FUNDS)

2. FOOD BOXES

3. REFERRALS FOR FOOD RESOURCES

An application must be completed and submitted for review. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Adults and Elders join us in some

Dance Therapy

COUNTRY

Line Dancing

BEGINNER FRIENDLY



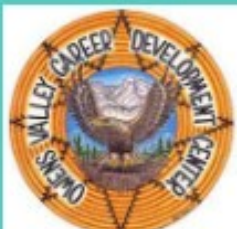
February 6th, 10am-12pm

Location: BSR GYM 37387 Auberry Mission Rd Auberry CA, 93602



Big Sandy Rancheria
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FUN-MUSIC-MEMORIES





Healthy Relationships

Dinner and Dessert

Come and join us for dinner and setting healthy boundaries. Enjoy each others company and create a beautiful memorie as we make a pressed flower collage.

**13TH OF
FEBRUARY**



5PM -7PM

Location: 37387 Auberry Mission Rd. Auberry CA 93602

For more information: Contact Brandi Kelley at bkelley@bsrnation.com



BREAD BOX GIVEAWAY

We're giving away FREE bread boxes to
support our Tribal members! (1 per family)
Stop by and pick up a box while supplies last

Date: 2/24/26

Time: 10 AM-12PM

What will be included-

- Assorted bread
 - Eggs
 - Milk

If you have questions contact:
Jazmine Garcia (559)374-
0066 EXT:215

Please Note:

- Limited quantities available
- First Come, First Served

This Event Is Sponsored By our Tribal Nutritional Program.

BSR Gym-37387 Auberry Mission Rd, Auberry, CA 93602

Central Valley Indian Health, Inc. Annual Eagle Walk

Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Time: Registration 9:00 am

9:30 am Walk Starts

Location: Millerton Lake, South Shore (Fresno County side), 5290 Millerton Rd Friant,
CA 93626

Meet: Grange Grove Picnic tables at Boat Ramp #3



Free to All CVIH Patients & Family

Please bring this flyer as your parking pass. If assistance is needed, please let us know prior.

Dress in warm layers. Bring binoculars. Sandwiches will be provided. You are welcome to bring your favorite side-dish to share.

For more information please contact: Mika Fisher, RDN at (559) 299-2578 Ext. 1619



Central Valley Indian Health, Inc.

March 27th 5:00-7:00pm

Big Sandy
Family & Community
Egg Coloring

Bring the family and join us in a bonding activity. Being creative and spending time having fun. Eggs will be provided along with a dinner. For more information contact Brandi Kelley at

bkelley@bsrnation.com or 559-374-0066

Location: BSR Gym 37387 Auberry Mission Rd. Auberry CA, 93602





Big Sandy

Spring Gathering

Community Bonding Event

11:00-2:00pm

Egg Hunt . GAMES . FUN . FOOD

March **28** | Big Sandy Pow Wow grounds

For more information contact Brandi Kelley at
bkelly@bsrnatn.com or 559-374-0066



Big Sandy Rancheria

Community Swap Meet

When: April 4, 2026

8 am—12 pm

**Where: 33041 Oakview Terrace
Complex**

Reduce - the waste

Recycle - the present

Reuse - the old

BSR Environmental Department would like to invite you to join us for our semi annual swap meet at the BSR Oakview Terrace complex.

Individuals actively contribute to reducing their environmental impact by engaging in these events. Items finding new homes mean less clutter in landfills and a decreased carbon footprint associated with manufacturing new goods.

For information please contact:

Lori Beecher or Rebecca Riley @ 374-0066 ext. 240 and ext.200



SAVE the DATE
25th Annual
Big Sandy Rancheria
Pow Wow & Gathering
MAY 16 & 17, 2026

Saturday: 11am Gourd Dancing, 12pm Grand Entry.
2pm Hand Game Tournament-Registration 1pm.
5pm Hand Drum Contest.
6pm Gourd Dancing, 7pm Grand Entry.

Sunday: 11am Gourd Dancing, 12pm Grand Entry.

Dance Competitions- 1st, 2nd & 3rd place cash prizes for
each categories: Men/Women/Teen Girls & Boys/JR Girls
& Boys.

Vendor "FREE" Booths!!!!

Alcohol/Drug Free Event

POW WOW Committee will update on Head Staff confirmations
and Vendor Booth Application in February 2026.

37802 Jose Basin Rd.,
Auberry CA 93602

www.bigsandyrancheria.com





FEBUARY 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Beaded Heart Hoop making 6:00pm-8:00pm	3 Resin Crafts 6:00pm-8:00pm	4 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	5 Sweetheart Treats 6:00pm-8:00pm	6 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY ALL CAP PROGRAM CLOSED Adults & Elders Line Dancing 10:00-12:00pm	7
8	9 TULE RIVER DISTRIBUTION 10:30-12:00PM Beaded Heart Hoop making 6:00pm-8:00pm	10 Family Literacy Book Read EHS—11:00am HS—11:30am Resin Crafts 6:00pm-8:00pm	11 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	12 ELDERS LUNCHEON 12:00PM Literacy Program 4:00pm Sweetheart Treats 6:00pm-8:00pm	13 HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS 5:00PM-7:00PM	14
15	16 PRESIDENTS DAY ALL OFFICES CLOSED	17 Resin Crafts 6:00pm-8:00pm	18 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	19 FOOD BANK 10:00AM-12:00PM Sweetheart Treats 6:00pm-8:00pm	20 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	21
22	23 Beaded Heart Hoop making 6:00pm-8:00pm	24 Bread Box Giveaway 10:00am-12:00pm Resin Crafts 6:00pm-8:00pm	25 BSR Mattress Recycling 8:30-4:30pm TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING 11:00AM Youth Advisory Council 4:00pm Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	26 Literacy Program 4:00pm Sweetheart Treats 6:00pm-8:00pm	27 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	28



MARCH 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Hand Made Crochet Blankets 6:00pm-8:00pm	3 6:00pm-8:00pm	4 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	5 Cinema Film Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	6 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY ALL CAP PROGRAMS CLOSED	7
8	9 Hand Made Crochet Blankets 6:00pm-8:00pm	10 6:00pm-8:00pm	11 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	12 ELDERS LUNCHEON 12:00PM Cinema Film Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	13 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	14
15	16 Earn College Credit 5:30-7:00pm Or 6:00-7:30pm Hand Made Crochet Blankets 6:00pm-8:00pm	17 6:00pm-8:00pm	18 Earn College Credit 5:30-7:00pm Or 6:00-7:30pm Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	19 FOOD BANK 10:00AM-12:00PM Cinema Film Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	20 Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	21
22	23 Earn College Credit 5:30-7:00pm Or 6:00-7:30pm Hand Made Crochet Blankets 6:00pm-8:00pm	24 6:00pm-8:00pm	25 Eagle Walk Registration 9:00am TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING 11:00AM Earn College Credit 5:30-7:00pm or 6:00-7:30pm Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	26 Cinema Film Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	27 FAMILY EGG COLORING 6:00PM-8:00PM	28 SPRING GATHERING 11:00AM-2:00PM
29	30 Earn College Credit 5:30-7:00pm Or 6:00-7:30pm Hand Made Crochet Blankets 6:00pm-8:00pm	31 6:00pm-8:00pm				

Big Sandy Rancheria Transportation Services



****Transportation is for Elders only until further notice****
We apologize for the inconvenience.

BSR CAP Department:
Brandi Kelley @ (559)374-0066 ext. 206
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 BRANDI KELLEY 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 Brandi Kelley 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.



Big Sandy Rancheria

37387 Auberry Mission Rd

P.O. Box 337

Auberry, CA 93602

