



SMOKE SIGNALS

March 2024

A MESSAGE FROM TRIBAL COUNCIL

Munahoo Neum, Tzow I-Sad-U-Wah, Meaning Good March. Big Sandy Rancheria Tribal Council would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter! There will be a Spring Gathering on Saturday, March 23rd from 11:00-2:00 p.m. at the BSR pow-wow grounds. There will be games the families can play, the exciting Easter egg hunt, food, and much, much more. Hope to see you all there and make sure to bring your friends and family. Here is a update on what's been happening here on the rancheria and around the community. Big Sandy Rancheria and California Indian Manpower Consortium hosted an Elder's luncheon. Elders came from all the surrounding tribes! It was great to have just over 80 elder's attend, and visit with each other. In collaboration with Fresno American Indian Health Project, BSR held the 1st " Cub GONA" at our new Social Services Building. This Gathering Of Native Americans (GONA) was a fun filled event that offered many cultural classes. The Cub GONA is mainly for the Native American school aged children. However, this event was only for the children ages 7-11 years old. There were a lot of fun activities for the kids, traditional stories were shared and there was hand game songs, making pine nut necklaces and clapper sticks, just to name a few. We would like to thank everyone who participated in this event. The next General Council meeting will be on March 24, at 10:00 a.m., due to the Easter Holiday. Hope to see you all there and like always thank you for your time and energy and may you have a blessed rest of your month.

Council Meetings		Tribal Office Holiday Schedule	
Tribal Council	General Council	Date	Holiday
Wednesday, March 27, 2024	Sunday, March 24, 2024	Friday, May 10, 2024	National American Indian Day
Wednesday, April 24, 2024	Sunday, June 30, 2024	Monday, May 27, 2024	Memorial Day
Wednesday, May 29, 2024	Sunday, September 29, 2024	Thursday, July 4, 2024	Independence Day
Wednesday, June 26, 2024	Sunday, December 15, 2024	Monday, September 2, 2024	Labor Day
Wednesday, July 31, 2024		Friday, September 27, 2024	California American Indian Day
Wednesday, August 28, 2024		Monday, October 14, 2024	Indigenous People's Day
Wednesday, September 25, 2024		Monday, November 11, 2024	Veterans Day
Wednesday, October 30, 2024		Thursday, November 28, 2024	Thanksgiving Day
Wednesday, November 27, 2024		Friday, November 29, 2024	Day after Thanksgiving
Wednesday December 18, 2024		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

March 14, 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, March 21, 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.

March Birthdays

Happy Birthday

**David Ballard
Haley Ballard
Marion Barrios
Michael Baty
Kammie Baty
Gabriel Beecher
Maddox Bewick
Natalie Colmenero
Bethany Costa
Leniah Edd
Aiyana Furr
Lisa Garcia
Miriam Garza
Alizabeth Huerta
Tyler Hughey
Robert Hutchins
Arcie Jackson**

**Jarilyn Jeff
James Johnson
Noelani Lara
Aarya Lara
Layla Lara
Dawn Lavell
Jason Lewis
Christopher Martinez
Ashleigh Marvin
Richard Marvin
Brent Merrick
Justin Moore
Maryah Muldrew
Rogelio Oliver Cinco
Alana Orosco
Adrian Ortiz
Mark Pacheco
Mikaela Perez**

**Leslie Perez
Michelle Perez
Michael J. Richards
Anthony Riley
James Robertson Jr.
Dillion Rodriguez
Emmitt Sample
Dayle Sarabia
Fayla Gene Smith
Ernie Soto Jr.
William Stankewitz
Rodney Stankewitz
Detryona Stevenson
Adonis LizardoTravis
Alexis Valle
Monte Villanueva
Weayaya Walker**

Big Sandy Rancheria Elders

Munahoo Elders,

There was just over 80 elders that attend the gathering on February 8th. What a great turnout! Everyone enjoyed a good time with food, raffles, bingo, and the best part was rekindling old friendships. Thank you elders that were able to show up. Big Sandy Rancheria would like to say thank you to CIMC Elders Program, who was the funding agency who put this gathering on. Our next elder's luncheon will be on March 14, 2024, at 12:00pm. Hope to see you all there!

2024 CIMC Elders Luncheon



2024 CIMC Elders Luncheon



HEADS UP

OVDC Big Sandy Early Head Start March 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.

Come Join our Team!

**Cook/Aide
Open Until
Filled.**

Please visit ovdc.com for more information.

Center Closures

- **March 1st: Staff Appreciation Day**
- **March 27th-29th: Spring Break**



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!**



37190 Jose Basin Road, Auberry, CA 93602

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

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

Nikita Henderson, Site Supervisor, nhenderson@ovdc.com



BSR Head Start



Big Sandy Rancheria Tribal Head Start Program

Parents please remember that drop off is between 8 am and 8:30 am. If you are going to be later than 8:30 am please call the Head Start, so the teachers know to expect your child for breakfast.

Nutrition and Your Child:

Preschool children are at an age when nutritional habits are formed. It is essential that the whole family is on board in order to establish healthy eating habits.

1) Make it a point to eat as a family when possible. Remember to keep the television and personal devices from the table. 2) Frozen and canned fruits and vegetables are just as healthy as fresh. Look for frozen and canned foods that say “no added salt or sugar” or packed in water. 3) Have water, fat free, or 1% milk with every meal. 4) Preschoolers need snacks. Try to limit snacking to fruit, veggies, and low sugar yogurts.

And most importantly every food is good in moderation!

Special Day Reminders

Closed: Staff Development Day

March 1st, 2024

Community Food Bank

March 15th, 2024

Easter Egg Hunt:

March 22nd, 2024

Spring Break:

March 19th thru April 1st, 2024

Head Start Reopens:

April 2nd, 2024

559 374 0066 ext. 216



BSR Environmental Department March 2024

Benefits of recycling abandoned vehicles

Old vehicles that are no longer in use account for a substantial part of our environmental waste. Recycling these vehicles is beneficial to the environment, it reduces the emission of greenhouse gases. Recycling old vehicles provide enough steel to produce almost 13 million new vehicles every year and saves an estimated 85 million barrels of oil each year. Recycling your old parts can save retail customers about 50% when purchasing used parts over new parts. By recycling old unwanted vehicles it will reduced 62% of waste and reduced landfill by 35%. These are some benefits of recycling old vehicles. Not only are you putting money in your pocket, you will be protecting our ecosystem and wildlife. If there are any vehicles on the Rancheria that you would like to get rid of. Contact: Lori @ (559) 374-0066 Ext. 226

Climate Change Water Conservation

Climate Change impacts the world's water in many ways. Warmer air can hold more moisture than cool air. As a result, in warmer weather, the air will suck up more water from the oceans, lakes, soil and plants. In drier conditions the air will have an impact on our drinking water, water supplies, agriculture, and farm animals.

Every year, U.S. landfills are filled with 139.6 million tons of waste, including:

- 30.63 Million tons of food.
- 26.82 Million tons of plastic.
- 18.35 Million tons of paper and Paperboard.
- 13.8 Million tons of metals.
- 12.14 Million tons of wood.
- 8.65 Million tons of yard trimmings.

What is Composting

Composting is an easy way to turn you waste into useable material. Brown + green = material like leaves straw and shredded wood along with grass and vegetable scraps combined with water air and high temperatures creates, environment for materials to break down. It enriches our soil helping to retain moisture. Reduces the need for chemicals

BSR Community Swap Meet Earth Day

When: April 20, 2024 8am—12pm

Where: 33041 Oakview Terrace Complex

Auberry Ca. 93602

For information or questions:

Contact: Lori Beecher @ 374-0066 ext.226



For information or any questions contact:

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



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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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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FRESNO FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM BSR EARLY HEAD START STORYTIME & LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE



JOIN US IN-PERSON FOR STORYTIME & LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE W/ BSR EHS CLASS

**TUESDAY,
MARCH 12TH**

TIME: 11:00 AM

LOCATION

BSR EHS CLASSROOM

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT:
JOCELYN SAAVEDRA AT
559-226-2880 EXT. 212 OR
JSAAVEDRA@OVDC.COM

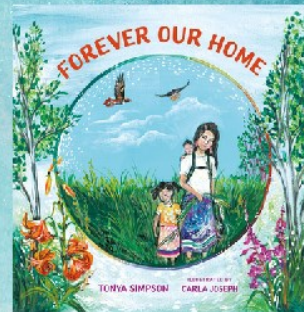


I-sad-u-wah

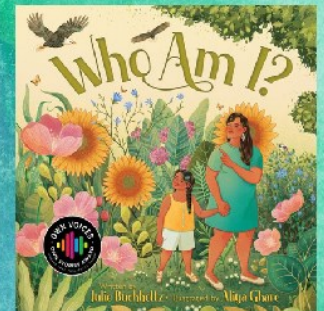
(March)



Fresno County Literacy Program Presents



March 14th, 2024



March 28th, 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 Jocelyn Saavedra at 559-226-2880 Ext. 212 or jsaavedra@ovcdc.com, Juliana Velasquez 559-226-2880 Ext. 206 or jvelasquez@ovcdc.com

Community & Elder's COMPUTER LAB

Monday's, Tuesday's & Wednesday's in March

11am-1pm

At the computer lab you can work on the following topics:

- Complete School work, GED, classes, etc.
- Driver's Training, including practice tests
- Strengthening Computer Skills

There will be Driver's training curriculum provided. Come out and practice until you feel confident enough to pass the Drivers Test

For More Info Contact Saige Riley
Email: sriley@bsrnation.com
Phone: (559)374-0066 X 228



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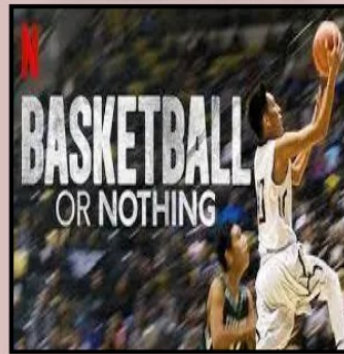
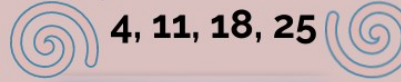
EDUCATIONAL FAMILY+FRIENDS FILMS NIGHT



Day of the Month

4, 11, 18, 25

ENJOY A NIGHT OF
HOMEMADE DINNER AND
MOVIES PROVIDED BY THE
CAP STAFF AT THE BSY GYM!



MARCH, MONDAY
4:00-6:00PM

COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP

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

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BSR CAP DEPARTMENT
FAMILY FITNESS

DODGE BALL

Wednesday's in March

3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27
4pm-6pm at the BSR Gym

There will be a light meal provided. If you would like to participate in this activity, you must be 13 years or older.

For more info contact
Jimmy Llewellyn
Phone:
(559)374-0066X228



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COMMUNITY SAFETY

MARCH

BSR CAP DEPARTMENT

7TH, 14TH, 21ST, 28TH
4PM-6PM AT THE BSR GYM

HOUSEHOLD SAFETY

FIRE • WILDERNESS • CAR

& More!

Join us as we discuss and provide helpful tips on community safety there will be a light meal provided.



For more info contact Saige Riley
Phone: (559)374-0066 X228
Email: sriley@bsrnation.com

MARCH 2024

SATURDAY THE 9TH & 30TH 10AM-2PM

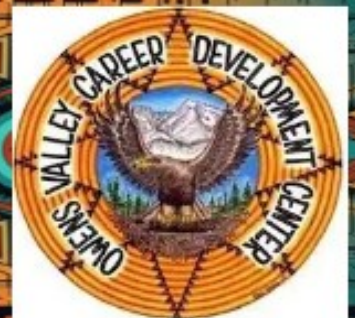
REGALIA MAKING CLASS POSITIVE LEADERSHIP

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 & 30th..

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



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Community Beading Workshop



March 12th 4-6pm

Join us as we share our skills and knowledge. Come together with community, friends and family.

Contact Brandi Kelley at Bkelley@bsrnation.com

-559-374-0066 ext.206



BIG SANDY

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BSR CAP DEPARTMENT

EGG COLORING EVENT

PAINT • DYE • CREATE
FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND

JOIN US AT THE BSR GYM FROM 6PM-8PM TO COLOR EGGS WITH YOUR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY, ALL EGGS WILL BE USED AT OUR SPRING GATHERING EVENT.

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT SAIGE RILEY
PHONE: (559)374-0066X228
EMAIL: SRILEY@BSRNATION.COM**



BSR CAP DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING

Spring Gathering

FOOD | GAMES | MUSIC | EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD
11AM-2PM

Join us at the BSR Powwow
Grounds for a funfilled
community strengthening
event there will be lunch
provided as well as games
for all ages. we hope to see
you there!



For more info contact Saige Riley
Phone: (559)374-0066X228
Email: sriley@bsrnation.com

BSR CAP Department
Family Bonding

Fresno Chaffee Zoo Family Trip

This is a Family Bonding event, we are asking that parents/guardians attend with their children.

Sign-ups are limited! Call us ASAP to guarantee your spot on the list.

Date: March 29, 2024
Arrival Time: 9:30am

 **894 W Belmont Ave**
Fresno, CA 93728



For more info contact Saige Riley

(559)374-0066X228

sriley@bsrnation.com

Big Sandy Rancheria

Community Swap Meet

When: April 20, 2024

8 am—12 pm

Where: 33041 Oakview Terrace Complex

Auberry Ca 93602

Reduce - the waste

Recycle - the present

Reuse - the old

BSR Environmental Department would like to invite you to join us for our community Swap Meet at Oakview Terrace complex. The purpose of these events is to educate people on how to prevent unnecessary waste.

For information or any questions contact:

Lori Beecher @ 374-0066 ext. 226





Daniel & Doris
Lewis



Mae Sample



Ned Joe



Albert & Ellen
Moore



Melba Beecher

Elders

Honor Our Elders

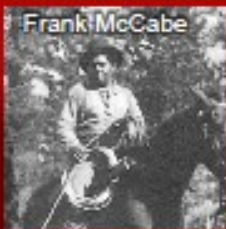
Past & Present History Project



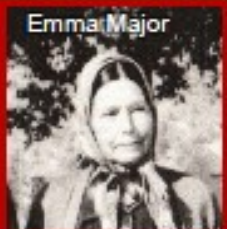
Wilshire & Lottie
Alec



Clarence
Marwin



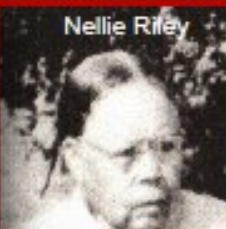
Frank McCabe



Emma Major



Maggie Marvin



Nellie Rife



Wilber Beecher



Minnie Bob

Original Distributees



Steve & Emma
Cheepo

We are excited to announce we are approaching the end of our BSR Project. We currently need Elder summaries and additional information regarding the history of BSR. Please call if you have photos, or information to include.

SUGGESTED PHOTOS & INFORMATION:

- Original Distributees
- Photos 2023 Elders
- Your Family Tree
- Your Story
- Grinding Rock Stories & Photos
- Baskets & Basket Designs
- Untold Stories
- Culture
- Making Acorn Mush
- Mono Hike/Trade Hike
- 1st Baptist Church
- Growing up at BSR
- Medicine Plants
- Wild Flower Names
- Traditional Foods
- Hunting/Fishing
- History of Twins
- What do you want those who come after you to know about the tribe?
- Anything you can think of to preserve your history.

CHRISSY ATWELL-VALLE
monogirl02@yahoo.com
559-359-1053



RONDII NIETO
rondii@yahoo.com
559-361-7242

Located: Educational Complex /Computer Lab, 37151 Jose Basin Road, Auberry, CA 93602

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 STAFF DEVELOPMENT NO CAP PROGRAMS	2
3	4 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Educational Family & Friends Film Night 4:00-6:00pm	5 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	6 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Dodgeball 4:00-6:00pm	7 Community Safety Nights 4:00-6:00pm	8	9 Regalia Workshop Orientation 10:00-2:00pm
10	11 TULE RIVER FOOD DISTRIBUTION 10:30-12:00PM Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Educational Family & Friends Film Night 4:00-6:00pm	12 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Book Read At BSR EHS 11:00am Community Beading Workshop 4:00-6:00pm	13 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Dodgeball 4:00-6:00pm	14 ELDERS MEETING 12:00PM Community Safety Nights 4:00-6:00pm Book Read 4:30pm	15	16
17	18 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Educational Family & Friends Film Night 4:00-6:00pm	19 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	20 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Dodgeball 4:00-6:00pm	21 FOOD BANK 9:00-12:00PM Community Safety Nights 4:00-6:00pm	22 Egg Coloring Event 6:00-8:00pm	23 SPRING GATHERING POW WOW GROUNDS 11:00-2:00PM
24 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING 10:00AM	25 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Educational Family & Friends Film Night 4:00-6:00pm	26 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	27 TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING 10:00AM Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Dodgeball 4:00-6:00pm	28 Community Safety Nights 4:00-6:00pm Book Read 4:30pm	29 FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO FAMILY TRIP 9:30AM	30 Regalia Workshop 10:00-2:00pm
31 EASTER SUNDAY						

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Keto Cooking Class 4:00-6:00pm	5 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY NO CAP PROGRAMS	6
7	8 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Cultural Paint 4:00-6:00pm	9 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Beading 4:00-6:00pm	10 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Walking With The Community 4:00-6:00pm	11 ELDERS MEETING 12:00PM Keto Cooking Class 4:00-6:00pm	12	13 Regalia Workshop 10:00-2:00pm
14	15 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Cultural Paint 4:00-6:00pm	16 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	17 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Walking With The Community 4:00-6:00pm	18 FOOD BANK 9:00-12:00PM Keto Cooking Class 4:00-6:00pm	19	20 BSR Community Swap Meet And Earth Day At Oakview Terrace 8:00-12:00pm
21	22 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Cultural Paint 4:00-6:00pm	23 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Beading Workshop 4:00-6:00pm	24 TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING 10:00AM Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Walking With The Community 4:00-6:00pm	25 Keto Cooking Class 4:00-6:00pm	26	27 Regalia Workshop 10:00-2:00pm
28	29 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Cultural Paint 4:00-6:00pm	30 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	31 Community & Elders Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Walking With The Community 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

