



# SMOKE SIGNALS

August 2024

## A MESSAGE FROM TRIBAL COUNCIL

Munahoo Neum,

Twoz Wayawee, Good August. First, I would like to start off by saying thank you to all our tribal members and their families who attended the Wild Waters trip last month. It was a huge success and can't wait to do it again next year.

Currently here on the Rancheria the housing crew has been very busy with fixing tribal members broken utilities such as sinks, toilets, and water coolers. If you have any leaking water appliances or notice any broken water pipes around your house, please let the tribe know, and we will get it fixed as soon as possible. As an addition to this they just finished installing a brand-new freezer and refrigerator system in the new Emergency Supply Warehouse. This will now allow the tribe to store perishable foods from the monthly food banks. The Natural Resource Forestry crew have been creating a fire fuel break barrier around the Rancheria due to it being fire season. This fuel reduction process will ensure the safety of the tribal members and the community.

School is coming back into session, meaning we will be having our Back-to-School Educational Fair. It will be this August 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm - 7:00pm at the BSR GYM serving all youth K-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Also, just a reminder about Back-to-School night the child or children must be present to receive their backpacks and school supplies. Some other exciting news is the general store has new hours are 6:00am-10:00 pm. The Broken Arrow bar and grill is also open now daily from 8:00am-8:00 pm.

Gaming Compact update- as of now our Gaming Compact is in the current state since last month. As California's State Legislation comes back from their summer recess and will be back in session during September. Hopefully after August we will have a better report. Like always, thank you so much for your time and energy, have a blessed rest of your month.

Council Meetings		Tribal Office Holiday Schedule	
Tribal Council	General Council	Date	Holiday
Wednesday, August 28, 2024	Wednesday, August 28, 2024	Monday, September 2, 2024	Labor Day
Wednesday, September 25, 2024	Sunday, September 29, 2024	Friday, September 27, 2024	California American Indian Day
Wednesday, October 30, 2024	Sunday, December 15, 2024	Monday, October 14, 2024	Indigenous Day
Wednesday, November 27, 2024		Monday, November 11, 2024	Veterans Day
Wednesday, December 18, 2024		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**

**August 8, 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, August 15, 2024  
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.

## August Birthdays

# Happy Birthday

Michael Adkins  
Gabriel Atwell  
Angela Ayala  
Monique Bailey  
Peter Ballard  
Azeneth Barajas  
Isabella Barrera  
Shelby Baty  
Gladys Beecher  
Lori Beecher  
Lisa Beecher  
Naiara Berry  
Jude Berry  
Rochelle Bonillas  
Serena Brown  
Dorothy Campos  
Mia Cano  
Max Cano  
Wiley Carpenter  
Shyanna Contreras  
Rebeka Cruz

Joshua Davis  
Nathaniel Espinoza  
Adrianna Garcia  
Audria Garrison  
Mia Gonzales  
Carrillo Guevara-Phelan  
Nayeli Hodges  
Mathis Jackson  
Celeste Johnson  
Elizabeth Kipp  
Emily Lara  
Brittney Jawne Lavell  
Jessica Lewis  
Mileena Lewis  
Wanbli Lewis  
Kimimila Lewis  
Jeffery Marquez  
Christopher Martinez  
Jeff Marvin  
Michael Marvin  
Neisha Marvin

Travis McFarland  
Miracle Oliver  
Carl Oliver  
Esperanza Perches  
Robert Perez  
Tahnoni Perez  
Diana Reid  
Maxwell Richards  
Michael F. Richards  
Kayla Riley  
Victor Rios  
Amber Robertson  
Isaiah Rodriguez  
Elijah Rodriguez  
Melanie Sandoval  
Micah Sandoval  
Sammy Santillan  
Julian Segovia  
Gabriel Segovia  
Howard Stamp  
Benjamin Valles  
Davis Wilson

## Big Sandy Rancheria Elders

**Hello Elders,**

**Just a reminder if you would like to know what's happening or be involved in the Elders trips and Events please attend the monthly meetings at 12:00pm every second Thursday of the month at the BSR Gym. Julys Elders luncheon was cancelled due to the Elders trip. We had 25 Elders sign up and go to the HARD Rock Casino. Also in July Leann took the Elders to Shaver to beat the heat but unfortunately there was only one Elder who attended.**

# HEADS UP

## OVDC Big Sandy Early Head Start August 2024 Newsletter

**Accepting Applications for Enrollment! Both TANF and Tribal members now have priority placement with new OHS guidelines! Contact the site for an application!**

Applications for the school year continues to be accepted throughout the 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

**August 1-30th: Program Closed to Children**

**August 19-23: Preservice Training for Staff**

**August 26-30: Home Visits for 2024-2025 School Year**

**Come Join our Team!**

**Employment Opportunities**

**-Teacher**

**Open Until Filled**

**Apply online @ [ovcdc.com](http://ovcdc.com)**

### 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@ovcdc.com](mailto:bgarcia@ovcdc.com)

Nikita Henderson, Site Supervisor, [nhenderson@ovcdc.com](mailto:nhenderson@ovcdc.com)



# BSR Head Start

## Big Sandy Rancheria Tribal Head Start Program

Applications for the fall are being accepted until the 16<sup>th</sup> of August. If you have any questions concerning Head Start please call 559 374 0066 EXT. 216 or stop by and talk to Teacher Edwina or Johanna.

Returning Head Start students will receive calls the first week in August to update files for the upcoming school year.

Head Start graduates be on the look out for information regarding Aeries and the 1st day of school. Parents make sure all required documents have been submitted to the school district.

Remember Sierra Unified will start on August 14th. Check your mail for a reminder for back to school night.

### Helping with first day jitters:

Anxiety in children can take different forms depending on their personalities, as parents and guardians we know our children the best. Anxiety can look like tantrums and sleeping problems: not wanting to sleep alone or refusing to sleep.

Maintaining strong relationships within the family and try hard to create a stable home environment will give your children the resilience and the ability to adapt.

It is crucial for parents to model calmness, be honest, and caring. Try hard not to pass your own fears onto your child and do not hesitate to reach out if you need to talk.

## Special Day

### Reminders

#### Sierra Unified begins

August 14th, 2024

#### Community Food

##### Bank

August 15th, 2024

#### Closed: for Training

August 14th thru  
16th, 2024

#### Head Start

#### Applications Due

August 16th, 2024

#### Closed: Preservice

##### Training

August 26th to 30th,  
2024

#### 1st Day of Head Start


Sept. 3rd , 2024



# August 2024

**BSR Computer Lab**  
**Monday language**  
**class 10:00am-11:00am**  
**Tuesday and**  
**Wednesday's**  
**11:00am-1:00pm**

- GED Services
- Work Development Services
- Online Services
- Update or Make a Resume



Transportation for Elders,  
please Contact Brandi Kelley@  
374-0066 ext.206



# **BSR ELDERS TRIP TO SHAVER LAKE & HARD ROCK CASINO**



**Aurelia Rios & Jane Stamp**



**Jane Stamp**



**Jane Stamp & Leann Anguiano**



L - Samuel Atwell, Wylenna Atwell, Theresa Williams-Lundy, Connie Lewis, Rodger Lewis, Tiffany Lewis, Tamara Riley, Loretta Sylvas  
R- Phyllis Lewis, Jeanett Sample, Jude Berry, Mae Berry, Pearl Hutchins



**Brian Sample**



## Social Services

**Social Services Department Update-** Hi BSR from the Social Services Department. Feel free to reach out if you have questions about a particular program or event to either our Social Services Coordinator, Stephanie Casillas, at [sscoord@bsrnation.com](mailto:sscoord@bsrnation.com) 559-374-0066, ext. 242 or 559-787-4115 or Kip Bowmar, the Director of Planning and Development at [pddirector@bsrnation.com](mailto:pddirector@bsrnation.com) 559-374-0066 ext. 225 or 559-955-1163. 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 their unique needs and help access resources to address them. Specific programs include:

**ICWA-** BSR will intervene in eligible child dependency cases involving Tribal Members and their children. This includes Tribal representation in court, case management, and service referrals.

**Victim Advocacy-** This includes connecting people with resources and helping them connect with culturally appropriate services available through BSR as part of the healing process.

**Educational Outreach-** Presenting information at BSR and other community events to let BSR members know of services available to them.

**Tribally Approved Homes-** Federal law allows Tribes to approve or license their own foster homes. BSR has been active in advocating for child welfare and recognizes the need for appropriate tribal foster and adoptive homes. Families or individuals who would like to learn more can attend the seminar on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Flexible Family Supports-** For families and individuals that are already approved as foster care homes, there are additional resources available to cover expenses like respite care, participation costs for children in enrichment activities including sports and arts that benefit the child's development, and activities that are designed to support a successful placement.

**Substance Use Disorder Services-** Counseling, both one-on-one and in group sessions from a certified counselor for substance use disorder is now available at the Auberry Community Center located at 33041 Auberry Road. The program is operated in partnership between Fresno American Indian Health Project (FAIHP) and BSR. Call 559-320-0490 ext. 605

**Partnership with Community Allies-** In addition to partnering with FAIHP, BSR is also partnering with FAIHP in the Medicine Wheel 12 Step Classes that are held every other Tuesday from 12-1 and the Sacred Circle every other Tuesday from 2:00 to 5:00. Both classes are offered at the Community Resource Center 33041 Auberry Road. There is additional information about each program in the newsletter.

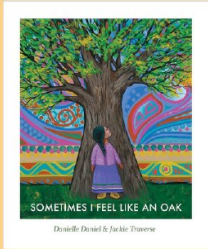




FRESNO FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM

# BSR HEAD START STORYTIME & LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE

Join us for Storytime & Language Experience  
In-person w/ BSR Head Start Class



Date: August 13, 2024  
Time: 11:30am  
Location: BSR Head Start Class



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



# SACRED CIRCLE

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY 2:00PM-5:00PM

Join us at the BSR Community Resource Center for Sacred Circle, an ongoing weekly community recovery event where traditional practices like smudge, song, drumming, and crafting will be used as medicine for the people. Heal with us!

DATES:

AUG 13th + 27th	

Gathering of Men & Women staying connected to the circle of life, spiritual, mental, physical. The healing within we all need to self heal to live a focused life to the Red Road of recovery day by day.

All My Relations Are Welcome  
to the Sacred Circle

BSR COMMUNITY  
RESOURCE CENTER  
33041 AUBERRY  
ROAD



Facilitated by Delaine  
Bill FAIHP Cultural  
Support Specialist



# MEDICINE WHEEL 12 STEP CLASSES

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY 12:00-1:00PM

Join us for a meeting of W.H.E.N: Wellbriety Healing Every Nation. Come put the well into sobriety with this bi-weekly meeting.

1st Tuesday:

Open Meeting

2nd Tuesday:

- Talking Stick
- Step Study
- Birthday

AUG 27th	

BSR COMMUNITY  
RESOURCE CENTER  
33041 AUBERRY  
ROAD

Questions:  
559-320-0490 Ext. 501  
mjimenez@faihp.org



Led by Michael Jimenez  
FAIHP Peer Support  
Specialist, CADC

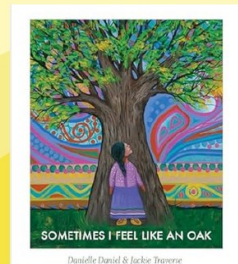


# Way-a-wee

(AUGUST)



Fresno County Family Literacy Program  
Presents



August 22, 2024

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



Location : BSR Gym  
Time: 4:30 pm

For more information contact Parent Educators Jocelyn Saavedra  
(jsaavedra@ovdc.com) or Juliana Velasquez (jvelasquez@ovdc.com)  
at (559) 226-2880

# MEAL PREP RECIPE IDEAS



**Mondays in August  
4-6pm!**

**Keto meal prep for beginners! At the BSR Gym! Lets get healthy! Recipes, a keto meal and prep containers will be available.**

For more information contact the CAP dept. 559-374-0066 ext.206



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**August 2024**

**Cultural Sharing and Learning**

**Community Beading  
Workshop Tuesday 13th  
and the 27th from 4-6 pm**

All materials are provided!!

Contact Brandi Kelley to sign up or need more info. [Bkelley@bsrnation.com](mailto:Bkelley@bsrnation.com)

559-374-0066 ext.206



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**BSR GYM  
FITNESS  
WEDNESDAYS  
IN AUGUST**



**6-8PM**

CONTACT CAP STAFF FOR MORE INFO.  
559-374-0066 EXT.206

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**BSR CAP Department  
Family bonding**

**August 2024**  
15th, 22nd, & 29th

Come join us every  
Thursday to make  
hand drum  
light meal will be  
provided  
at the BSR GYM  
4:00PM-6:00PM

For more info contact  
Jimmy LLewellyn  
(559)374-0066 X228




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BSR CAP DEPARTMENT  
Family Bonding

# BACK

to

# School

## EDUCATIONAL FAIR



Students and families, join us at the BSR Gym to receive your backpacks and school supplies for the new school year. Backpacks and school supplies will be given to children grades K-12. CHILDREN MUST BE PRESENT! Dinner will be provided as well.



**FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2024**  
**5:00PM-7:00PM**  
**AT THE BSR GYM**

For More Info Contact  
Brandi Kelley  
Email: [bkelly@bsrnation.com](mailto:bkelly@bsrnation.com)

Raffle  
Prizes

Lunch  
Provided

# Tribally Approved Homes Seminar

Come and learn how you can open your home to a native child in need, an informational seminar event at:

Thursday,  
22 August 2024

33041 Auberry Rd.  
Auberry, CA 93602

Time  
11 AM-1 PM



**BIG SANDY**  
RANCHERIA

Registration now open!  
Call (559) 374-0066 Ext. 242  
or Email  
[www.sscoord@bsrnation.com](mailto:www.sscoord@bsrnation.com)

# **Big Sandy Rancheria**

## **Community Swap Meet**

**When: September 21, 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**





# AUGUST 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY ALL CAP PROGRAMS CLOSED	3
4	5 Language Class 10:00-11:00pm Keto Meal Prep 4:00-6:00pm	6 Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	7 Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Hand Drum Making 4:00 - 6:00pm Basketball Night 6:00 - 8:00pm	8 ELDERS LUNCHEON 12:00PM  SUMMER PROGRAM CLOSED	9 BACK TO SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL FAIR 5:00-7:00PM	10
11	12 Language Class 10:00-11:00pm Keto Meal Prep 4:00-6:00pm	13 Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm BSR HS Story Time 11:30am Sacred Circle 2:00pm - 5:00pm Community Beading 4:00 - 6:00pm	14 Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Hand Drum Making 4:00 - 6:00pm Basketball Night 6:00 - 8:00pm	15 FOOD BANK 10:00-12:00PM Hand Drum 4:00-6:00pm	16	17
18	19 Language Class 10:00-11:00pm Keto Meal Prep 4:00-6:00pm	20 Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm	21 Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Hand Drum Making 4:00 - 6:00pm Basketball Night 6:00 - 8:00pm	22 Tribally Approved Homes Seminar 11:00am-1:00pm Story Time 4:30pm Hand Drum 4:00-6:00pm	23	24
25	26 Language Class 10:00-11:00pm Keto Meal Prep 4:00-6:00pm	27 Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Community Beading 4:00 - 6:00pm	28 TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING 10:00 AM Computer Lab 11:00-1:00pm Hand Drum Making 4:00 - 6:00pm Basketball Night 6:00 - 8:00pm	29 Hand Drum 4:00-6:00pm	30	31



# SEPTEMBER 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <b>LABOR DAY</b>  <b>ALL OFFICES CLOSED</b>	3 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm	4 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm  Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	5 Dreamcatcher Class 4:00pm-6:00pm	6 <b>STAFF DEVELOPMENT ALL CAP PROGRAMS CLOSED</b>	7
8	9 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm Fall Craft 4:00 - 6:00pm	10 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm Beading Class 4:00-6:00pm	11 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm  Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	12 <b>ELDERS LUNCHEON 12:00PM</b> Dreamcatcher Class 4:00pm-6:00pm	13	14
15	16 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm Fall Craft 4:00 - 6:00pm	17 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm	18 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	19 <b>FOOD BANK 10:00-12:00PM</b> Dreamcatcher Class 4:00pm-6:00pm	20	21
22	23 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm Fall Craft 4:00 - 6:00pm	24 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm Beading Class 4:00-6:00pm	25 <b>TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING</b> Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm Basketball Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	26 Dreamcatcher Class 4:00pm-6:00pm	27 <b>CA AMERICAN INDIAN DAY</b>  <b>ALL OFFICES CLOSED</b>	28
29 <b>GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING</b>	30 Computer Lab 11:00am-1:00pm Fall Craft 4:00 - 6:00pm					

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## 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

