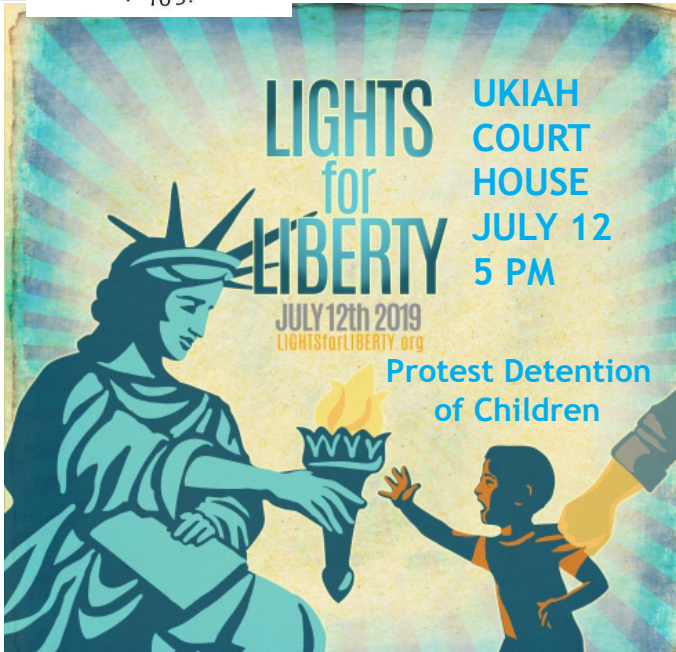




# MEC NOTES

Mendocino Environmental Center updates from our environmental and social justice community

JULY 2019



*Note: There's a second move to protest the camps on July 2, but this emerged well after the July 12 Ukiah event was organized - and 7/12 remains the big protest here.*

## SAVING RAINBOW RIDGE



Rainbow Ridge tree-sitter, with the forest named Rook, peers at the camera while taking a selfie. Protesters charge that Humboldt Redwood Company sawed off branches above and near the tree sit, threatening Rook. There were multiple arrests during June, some with injuries.

Logging in Humboldt County's Rainbow Ridge by Humboldt Redwood Company began in early June. Forest protectors call it the last remaining unprotected intact Douglas-fir/hardwood forest in coastal California.

Rainbow Ridge, located about 25 miles south of Eureka, has been the scene of resistance to old-growth logging  
-Cont. on Page. 4

## MEASURE 'V' AGAINST HACK AND SQUIRT AND DEAD STANDING TREES PASSED BY VOTERS - BUT....

Citizens representing environmental, social justice and climate change groups have asked the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors in public comment to urge the immediate enforcement of Measure V, now an Ordinance --- or know the reason why.

Voters passed Measure V in 2016 by 63%, prohibiting the intentional leaving of dead standing trees for more than ninety days. The timber industry, which uses large amounts of herbicides to kill trees, leaving them standing, lobbied heavily against Measure V. So the Board of Supervisors requested an opinion from State Attorney Xavier Becerra, before commencing enforcement of the new law. But after almost 3 years, there is no response.

"What on earth is going on in Sacramento that this kind of thing can happen? What is the relationship between the County and the State? Why does the public have to initiate

-Cont. on Page 6



## SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE SUMMER IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

Wednesday, July 17, Arena Theater  
music at 7:30 pm; show starts at 8:00 pm, admission \$20  
Thursday, July 18, Todd Grove Park, Ukiah  
music at 6:30 pm; show starts at 7:00 pm, FREE

Suffering from Fourth Reich fatigue? Never fear, the Mime Troup is here! And their mission has never been more urgent.

This year the SFMT turns 60 years old - 60 years of speaking truth to power and making the people think and laugh.

## LETTER FROM THE OUTGOING MEC PRESIDENT

Dear Beloved MEC Community,

This is my final letter to you as President of the MEC Board. I have been hired as the Program Director at KZYX & Z, Mendocino County Community Broadcasting, and will need to step down from the helm at the MEC and KMEC. It has been an unforgettable almost two years as Prez, and I will definitely stay involved through the transition while we find a new president. I love the MEC, and our Low Power FM eco/social justice radio station here on Standley Street, and I will continue to care for it and champion it, just not as a member of the Board of Directors.

This weekend, for my last project as president, I spent time tabling for the MEC and KMEC at the Kate Wolf Music Festival at Black Oak Ranch in Laytonville. We didn't have snazzy merch to sell, or a glossy display of our year's photogenic projects. When people wandered over to our booth, I proudly told them the MEC is a local grassroots resource center in Ukiah that provides support to activists and groups working for social and environmental justice in Mendocino County. That we operate a Low-Power FM radio station at our Standley Street storefront, provide a monthly newsletter to amplify the work of local organizations, and offer meeting space and outreach support for local organizing efforts. And isn't that what really changes the world, local people joining together to build grassroots movements?



*MEC stalwarts are among the elders protesting logging at Rainbow Ridge. Ellen, Naomi, and Marggy face off deputies.*

There is no doubt in my mind that the MEC will become more and more necessary over the coming months and years, from the urgent action needed to avert climate change catastrophe, to the need to stand in solidarity with families terrorized by immigration injustice, to the many future assaults on decency, democracy and the planet germinating in the White House today. The MEC is needed as a grassroots hub for Ukiah and all of Mendocino County to help us connect to each other and advocate in solidarity.

And as it enters this new transition, the MEC also needs you.

First and foremost, the MEC could use some new energy on the Board as I transition out of my role as president, and we also bid farewell to Bill Durham and Margy Chandler who have generously served as Board Members. I am grateful to KMEC DJ Kim Sheperd, who has stepped forward to become the new Treasurer of the board, putting us in good hands on the numbers front. KMEC-LP is always welcoming new radio show hosts as well, both for music and public affairs programming. And the MEC constantly needs loving care in the form of office maintenance, phone answering, and all the other daily tasks that keep the ship afloat.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to keep the MEC alive. I'll see you all Friday July 12th at the Lights for Liberty demonstration at 5pm on the Courthouse Steps, and I look forward to continuing to work locally with you to raise the voices of environmental and social justice activism in Mendocino County as I enter a new chapter. I am grateful for all of your support.

Farewell and thank you,  
Alicia Littletree Bales



# THE MENDOCINO ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

MEMBERSHIPS \$40/YR

106 WEST STANDLEY ST - UKIAH ACROSS FROM THE COURTHOUSE

BOARD MEETINGS THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 5:30 PM



## WHAT'S WORSE THAN TWO HOSPITALS MERGING? TWO RELIGIOUS HOSPITALS MERGING

St. Joseph, a Catholic hospital system that discriminates against LGBTQ people and denies reproductive health care based on religious doctrine, is planning to merge with Adventist Health, another large health entity. This merger would create an even more restrictive system that could further block patients' access to care in Northern California, and have impacts statewide.

Attorney General Xavier Becerra is seeking public input, and needs to hear from every concerned Californian. Over the next two weeks, there will be meetings in the six counties most impacted by the merger: In Mendocino County, it will be Tuesday, July 2, 10 am, at the Willits Community Center, 111 E. Commercial St.

If it is too late a notice to attend, you may connect with the American Civil Liberties Union and sign their petition to the Attorney General:

<http://action.aclu.org/petition/cn-st-josephs-adventist>

If this merger goes through, there must be robust and enforceable conditions to protect the community.



Friday evening Peace vigilers June 21, in front of the Ukiah Courthouse. - Foto Mauri Fox



Northern Aggregates (NA) won their case before the Board of Supervisors in June, to be fast tracked past the Planning Commission for review of the Harris Quarry. 14 neighbors spoke against it, and no one unrelated to Harris Quarry spoke for it. Keep the Code members, including Dorie Kramer pictured here, argued against special treatment. Speakers mentioned that the asphalt plant-rock quarry is not in an industrial zoned area where it belongs - but in an 'overlay' that modifies the zoning - and it should be located where there is other industry instead of homes.

It is in Supervisor Haschak's district. But he recused himself on advice of Counsel. David Drell has challenged that call, noting that Haschak's property is only one of many near the Quarry and would not affect his property values more than any others. However, the recusal left only Ted Williams to question why Northern Aggregates (NA) should be treated differently.

NA argues that they bring special benefits to the County because of their product, needed for emergency highway repairs. Supervisors Brown and McCowen argued that the asphalt plant associated with the Quarry had been through years of battle over the location, so more delay was unnecessary. NA said that if they had to go back to the Planning Commission, they would have to close their needed services and lay off workers in July. Supervisor Williams pointed out that they would have to close in July anyway, because what they are building would not be ready in July. Well, the attorney answered, this would keep them from being shut longer.

Williams made a motion to deny the end run around the Planning Commission, which died for lack of a second. McCowen moved to approve the recommended action (fast track) and it was seconded by Gjerde. The motion was approved 3 to 1 with Williams dissenting and Haschak recused.



Environmental Protection Information Center hosts this picnic celebration of two recent court victories for the trees on Sunday, July 21, from 12 to 4 pm at the Day Use Picnic Area of Richardson Grove State Park. Bring utensils and food to share. Carpools encouraged - State Park fees are \$8 per car.

-Cont. from Page 1

## ...SAVING RAINBOW RIDGE

since 1990. Lawsuits, blockades, and tree-sits have kept much of the forest standing.

The remote area is the home to numerous threatened and endangered species, including Golden Eagle, Northern Goshawk, and Northern Spotted Owl and is the headwaters for the wild Mattole River stocks of Coho and Chinook salmon. Despite negotiations between HRC and Mattole citizens groups (Lost Coast League, Mattole Restoration Council, Mattole Salmon Group) and other environmental organizations on the North Coast,



Activists at Monument Gate, Rio Dell block logging of Rainbow Ridge - Rally at the Gate July 3, 10 am.

HRC has refused to allow the groups to achieve permanent protection for these Mattole watershed lands. They lie adjacent to Humboldt Redwoods State Park, home to the largest contiguous stands of virgin Coast Redwood in the world and habitat for many endangered species.

When logging appeared imminent in 2018, the Lost Coast League (LCL) challenged HRC's "green" sustainability certification under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) by filing a formal complaint. FSC's auditors (SCS Global Services) found the complaint had merit in two areas: lack of a plan to designate and protect High Conservation

Value Forests, and lack of a plan to phase out the widespread use of herbicides HRC uses routinely.

LCL was assured by SCS Global's founder, Dr. Robert Hrubec, that logging would not happen until HRC completed its plans as required by SCS Global and delivered them to LCL for evaluation. Neither document has been delivered to the LCL.

"We are shocked and disappointed that HRC would rush in to log these trees without fulfilling the promise of their FSC 'sustainability' audit," said Michael Evenson, Vice President of LCL. "Violating the terms of the audit should call into question the certification of their operations. This is an irreplaceable natural treasure."

Excerpt from article by Michael Evenson of the Lost Coast League



**Santa Rosa-based author and artist Brian Fies will be at the Mendocino Book Company on 102 S. School Street in Ukiah Thursday, July 11th. 6 - 7:30 pm.**

Fies and his wife were among the thousands of Californians evacuated from their homes in the middle of the night of October 8, 2017. His firsthand account is an honest, unflinching yet entirely journalistic depiction of their personal experiences, including losing their house and every possession that didn't fit into the back of their car.



One Rainbow Ridge arrest involved a spectacular Mono-Pole Sit blocking the loggers

### ADOPT- A - PARK Community Clean Up

July 20 - Vinewood Park  
August 17 - Vinewood Park  
September 21 - Orchard Park

9 am - 11 am Volunteers of all ages welcome

In the days that followed, as the fires continued to burn, Brian hastily pulled together A Fire Story and posted it online—it immediately went viral. His book is an expansion of that original webcomic to include environmental insight and the fire stories of his neighbors and others in his community, his words enhanced by his own artwork in the form of a graphic novel. Brian's book and his presentation are emotional, yet celebrate individual and community resilience.

## THIS YEAR'S AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT SPIRIT RUN FINALE AT COYOTE VALLEY



*Coyote Valley Tribal elder Priscilla Hunter hosted the gathering and presented the certificates to the runners, with veteran runner and youth counselor John Malloy.*

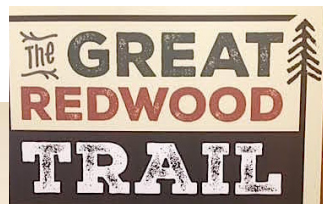
The California 500 Mile Spirit Run began in 1978, inspired by Dennis Banks and the tradition of Native American runners. It is a multicultural group with the principal message that "All Life is Sacred".

The group runs and trains together in different locations about once a month. In June there is the run across California in an annual 500 Mile Spiritual Marathon. It's a non-competitive relay where teams of runners participate in a running prayer by carrying a sacred staff. There are environmental and social justice themes - and this year the run focussed on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women. At the end of each day, the teams gather in a circle to drum, sing songs, participate in ceremony and share stories.

The marathon run has come to Mendocino since the struggle to save sacred sites from the Willits bypass. Local AIM leader Fred Short and Coyote Valley host.



*Sisters Running for Sisters - Women and girls were in the forefront this year with the emphasis on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women. Photo above by Morning Star Gali. Below, Marlena, sister of murdered San Francisco woman Jessica Alva, was held close by the participants.*



State Senator Mike McGuire held a community meeting in Ukiah in June to talk about progress on the rail trail. "The Great Redwood Trail" is slated take over the unused tracks from Mendocino north to Humboldt Bay and connect to the south with the northern Bay Area. It is seen as an 'economic driver' for our area - especially Willits, which has been sidelined by the bypass.



*Hopland Fire Captain Robin Lampson pleaded for train tracks to connect as far north as Willits, conceding that it would not be feasible farther north than that. McGuire said that they approached three rail owners and could not find anyone interested in doing that. Although they are still open to it, McGuire said that, frankly, he doubts it will happen.*

McGuire vowed to meet with adjacent property owners who were concerned about vagrants near their homes. He cited other trails, showing that problems were actually reduced with the construction of trails from abandoned tracks.

Cathy Malone talked about the need to develop the path with sensitivity to native plants, particularly the milkweed growing there that supports Monarch butterflies.

A farmer with adjacent property wanted to know what would happen if he sprayed his crops and then a hiker comes along and camps in the same place. McGuire said that there would be rules in place to close the trail at those times. People wanted access to the river, and there will be some linkages from the trail for river use.

Most of the rest of the comments were enthusiastic about the potential of the trail. McGuire said that he will meet with anyone interested in the issue and keep an email list for just the trail issues for people who want to be updated on the latest progress.

-Cont. from Page 1

# ---WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MEASURE V?

these laws in the first place, only to have them ignored?" asked Rosamond Crowder, environmental advocate from Willits.

Recently elected 3rd District Supervisor John Haschak and 5th District Supervisor, Ted Williams, have brought renewed attention to the issue but still, no answers. In late April, the two traveled to Sacramento to deliver an official letter of inquiry from the Board as a whole, to ferret out information as to the Ordinance's current status—and were again told to wait another sixty days for a response, a deadline that elapsed on June 4th.

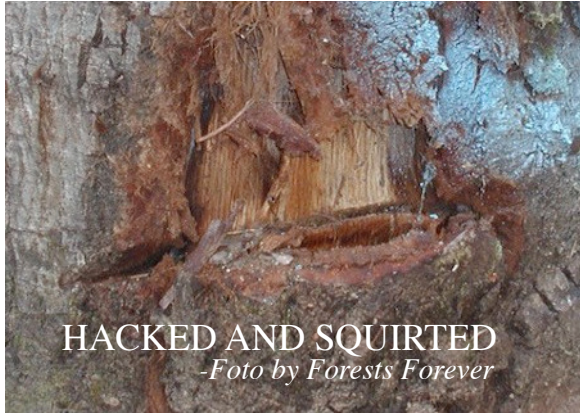
Members of SEIJ (Social, Environmental and Indigenous Justice), and the Mendocino Environmental Center thanked the Supervisors' for their efforts but express frustration with being stonewalled at the State level and having the democratic will of the people ignored. "Voting is the bedrock of democracy", said Ellen Faulkner of Redwood Valley. "It feels like justice delayed is justice denied".

Naomi Wagner, a member of SEIJ, introduced forest herbicide use data derived from the Mendocino County Ag Department. Since passage of Measure V, the combined years of 2017 and 2018 show 1,328 applications totaling 19,043 gallons of herbicides were used across thousands of acres of forestland, stretching from Gualala to Ft. Bragg, Comptche, Ukiah, Willits and Leggett.

Mendocino Redwood Company (MRC) is by far the largest herbicide user, applying the cell disruptor Imazapyr by injecting it into an open cut in the bark, a process known as hack and squirt, as well as glyphosate (Roundup) across 109,593 acres of MRC forestlands in the County over the past eighteen years. Environmentalists have called MRC's lucrative sustainable certification label into question over the companies' failure to "phase out" herbicide use, as required under Forest Stewardship guidelines. "Herbicides are a cheap way of killing living vegetation and noncommercial trees", said Wagner, "and, as vegetation dies, it dries, adding to the fuel load. Increasing acres of dead, standing trees is the last thing we need in these times of catastrophic fires associated with climate change."

Since Measure V's enactment some timber companies have voluntarily refrained from using hack and squirt to kill noncommercial species, primarily tan oak, observing that the law is unsettled and choosing to err on the side of caution. This creates a competitive advantage for those companies who choose to ignore the law. There is irony in efforts to save tan oaks from natural pathogens causing Sudden Oak Death (SOD) while allowing their intentional killing with lethal chemicals. The tan oak species is in triple jeopardy from SOD, hack and squirt and climate change.

-Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters - see website at [headwaterspreserve.org](http://headwaterspreserve.org)



HACKED AND SQUIRTED  
*-Foto by Forests Forever*

**PRESTON SAFEWAY** **SAT. 7/20**  
and the **A.V. GRANGE, PHILO**  
**MERCHANTS OF GROOVE** **Plus Cousin Ted**  
**MOTOWN DANCE PARTY**  
**SoulFood Potluck**  
**6-7 Music @730**  
Benefit for **'Not So Simple Gathering'**  
+ **Forest Reciprocity Group (FRoG)**  
SPONSORED BY **CLOUD FOREST INSTITUTE**

**NOT-SO-SIMPLE GATHERING**  
A weekend of hands-on workshops and demonstrations celebrating rural living and homesteading skills  
**JULY 26-28, 2019**  
GROUNDSWELL COMMUNITY & RETREAT CENTER, YORKVILLE  
Small is Beautiful • Keynote Address • **Jim Tarbeil**  
TICKETS INCLUDE WORKSHOPS, MEALS AND CAMPING  
WEEKEND PASSES \$130-200  
(some full weekend non camping tickets available)  
LIMITED CAPACITY!  
Pre-sale Tickets and Full Schedule at [WWW.NOTOSIMPLE.INFO](http://WWW.NOTOSIMPLE.INFO)  
or call 707-895-3243  
SAVE THE DATE: **JULY 20**  
Morrow is the Party at AV Grange  
MOTOWN RECIPROCAL AND SOUL FOOD POTLUCK  
Sponsored by **CLOUD FOREST INSTITUTE**

**WHITE DEER LODGE GARDEN OPENING CEREMONY**  
**Saturday, July 20th, 4:00pm - 7:00pm**  
**White Deer Lodge 16680 US-101 Willits, CA 95490**  
*Gardens Project and The Alliance for Community Endeavors invite you to attend. The garden is almost finished - it has been developing as a community garden at The White Deer Lodge, a small affordable housing development in Willits where residents will share the garden and greenspace.*

# PG&E DOESN'T DESERVE IT'S CORP STATUS

Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) has already (before the fire disasters) been nailed for "speeding"—ignoring laws that require them to operate in a way that's safe—and people have already died, on multiple occasions.

\*PG&E was found guilty for the 2010 San Bruno pipeline explosion that injured more than 50 people and killed eight. They were fined \$1.6 billion and are on probation now.

\*Two years ago, the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California noted in a public statement that the company had continued to break that same law. "The jury found PG&E guilty of six felony counts—five willful violations of the Pipeline Safety Act and one count of corruptly obstructing the federal investigation..." As an additional penalty, they were ordered to perform 10,000 hours of community service, pay a \$3 million fine, and another five years was added to their "probation."

\*In 2017 alone, PG&E's failure to properly maintain and operate their equipment and rights-of-way caused 17 fires in California; while investigators referred 11 of those cases to prosecutors for code violations, so far there have been no new indictments.



-Russell Hodin

\*In December of 2018, PG&E was again busted by the California Public Utilities Commission for not only refusing to mark and warn people of the locations of their gas pipelines in a timely fashion, but, as CNN noted, they "[P]ressed workers to falsify data..."

-Thom Hartmann

## Creaciones Rosy - Rosa Lopez is one of the local entrepreneurs you will find at South Ukiah's new Community Market/Mercado Comunitario.



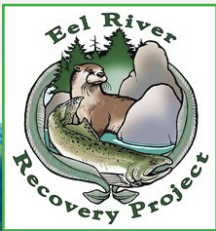
First Sunday of the month, through summer, from 10 am to 2 pm - 1640 South State Street Grace Hudson School

Sunday, July 7/Sunday, August 4/ Sunday, Sept. 8

## A NICE BIG BOX IS STILL A BIG BOX

The Co-op Natural Food Store reports that although it is still making a profit and is on line to expand food services and wages, the membership organization has been taking in less money since the opening of Costco in July 2018. Meanwhile, the Co-op made loans to local farmers under a program to increase local food production. EAT LOCALLY

## EEL RIVER RECOVERY PROJECT'S WILD OUTINGS FROM JUNE -- -- YOUR NEXT CHANCE FOR ADVENTURES IN JOYOUS BIOLOGY IN MID-AUGUST



ABOVE - Eel River Recovery Project field trip attendees on June 15 at Hippy Rock on the Eel River between the Potter Valley Project dams. The next Upper Eel River Salmon Parkway field trip is on August 17. Check out [www.eelriverrecovery.org](http://www.eelriverrecovery.org) or ERRP Facebook page for more info.

BELOW - Upper Eel River Salmon Parkway field trip attendees check out breath-taking view on June 15 Eel River Recovery Project field trip. The next opportunity will be on Saturday, August 17.

Call Pat Higgins for more info (707 223-7200) or check out [www.eelriverrecovery.org](http://www.eelriverrecovery.org) or on ERRP Facebook.



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-15-19

**WHEREAS**, in the early decades of California's statehood, the relationship between the State of California and California Native Americans was fraught with violence, exploitation, dispossession and the attempted destruction of tribal communities, as summed up by California's first Governor, Peter Burnett, in his 1851 address to the Legislature: "[t]hat a war of extermination will continue to be waged between the two races until the Indian race becomes extinct must be expected"; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California's laws and policies discriminating against Native Americans and denying the existence of tribal government powers persisted well into the twentieth century; and

**WHEREAS**, despite these wrongs, California Native Americans resisted, survived and carried on cultural and linguistic traditions defying all odds; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California and California Native Americans have never jointly formally examined or documented their relationship for the express purpose of acknowledging and accounting for historical wrongs committed by the State of California toward California Native Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California has never formally apologized for historical wrongs tolerated, encouraged, subsidized and committed by State actors against California Native Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California seeks to more closely explore the historical relationship between the State of California and California Native Americans in the spirit of truth and healing through the establishment of a Truth and Healing Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California intends that the work of the Truth and Healing Council be done respectfully and in collaboration and consultation with California Native American tribes pursuant to this Executive Order and Executive Order B-10-11.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM**, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue the following order to become effective immediately.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. The State of California hereby:
  - a. recognizes that the State historically sanctioned over a century of depredations and prejudicial policies against California Native Americans;
  - b. commends and honors California Native Americans for persisting, carrying on cultural and linguistic traditions, and stewarding and protecting this land that we now share;
  - c. apologizes on behalf of the citizens of the State of California to all California Native Americans for the many instances of violence, maltreatment and neglect California inflicted on tribes; and



## WITH THE TRIBES, GOVERNOR CREATES TRUTH AND HEALING COUNCIL TO ACKNOWLEDGE GENOCIDAL ACTIONS AGAINST INDIANS

- d. reaffirms and incorporates by reference the principles outlined in [Executive Order B-10-11](#), which requires the Governor's Tribal Advisor and the Administration to engage in government-to-government consultation with California Native American tribes regarding policies that may affect tribal communities.
2. The Governor's Tribal Advisor shall establish the Truth and Healing Council to bear witness to, record, examine existing documentation of, and receive California Native American narratives regarding the historical relationship between the State of California and California Native Americans in order to clarify the historical record of this relationship in the spirit of truth and healing. The Truth and Healing Council shall be led and convened by the Governor's Tribal Advisor and shall include representatives or delegates from California Native American tribes, and may include relevant state and local agencies, as well other relevant non-governmental stakeholders.
3. The Truth and Healing Council shall consult with California Native American tribes to shape the overarching focus and develop the work of the Council and shall endeavor to accurately represent the diversity of experience of California Native Americans within the State of California.
4. The Truth and Healing Council shall: (i) report draft findings to the Governor's Tribal Advisor on an annual basis beginning January 1, 2020 and (ii) produce a final written report of findings regarding the historical relationship between the State of California and California Native Americans on or before January 1, 2025.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order shall be filed with the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice shall be given to this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 18th day of June 2019.

GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor of California



**COYOTE VALLEY  
CALIFORNIA**

*23th Annual*

# BIG TIME

*Celebration*

**SATURDAY, JULY 6 | 4PM**

*In Memory of Delma Eyle*

**Traditional Salmon Feed • Native Dancers**

**Craft & Food Vendors • Swimming Pool | Jumperz**



**COYOTE VALLEY**  
*Band of Pomo Indians*

*18th Annual*

**TOM RAMOS MEMORIAL  
STICK GAME TOURNAMENT**

**2-5 Player Team**

**REGISTRATION • 11AM - 1PM**

**TOURNAMENT • 2PM**

**\$4,500 PRIZE MONEY | NO ENTRY FEE**

Alcohol and Drug Free Event Please