

# Karuk Tribe

64236 SECOND AVE. • HAPPY CAMP, CALIF. • 96039 • (800) 505-2785



WWW.KARUK.US

||| ishvaav (Winter) 2014-2015



THE KAHTISHRAAM WELLNESS CENTER

# Breaking Ground

Story • Page 5



Covered California PAGE 8

Your Natural Resources PAGE 10

Flags-A-Flyin' PAGE 14

# AYUKÛ Greetings From Your Tribal Council



RUSSELL ATTEBERY  
HAPPY CAMP  
CHAIRMAN  
TERM: NOV. 2011-NOV. 2015



ROBERT SUPER  
YREKA  
VICE-CHAIRMAN  
TERM: NOV. 2014-NOV. 2018



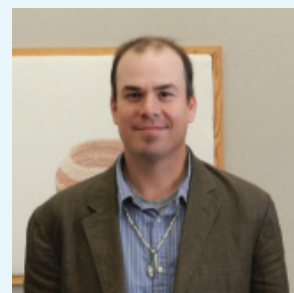
JOSEPH WADDELL  
HAPPY CAMP  
SECRETARY/TREASURER  
TERM: NOV. 2011-NOV. 2015



ALVIS JOHNSON  
HAPPY CAMP DISTRICT  
MEMBER AT LARGE  
TERM: NOV. 2012-NOV. 2016



ELSA GOODWIN  
HAPPY CAMP DISTRICT  
MEMBER AT LARGE  
TERM: NOV. 2012-NOV. 2016



JOSH SAXON  
ORLEANS DISTRICT  
MEMBER AT LARGE  
TERM: NOV. 2013-NOV. 2017



RENEE STAUFFER  
ORLEANS DISTRICT  
MEMBER AT LARGE  
TERM: NOV. 14-NOV. 15



ARCH SUPER  
YREKA DISTRICT  
MEMBER AT LARGE  
TERM: NOV. 2013-NOV. 2017



SONNY DAVIS  
YREKA DISTRICT  
MEMBER AT LARGE  
TERM: NOV. 2014-NOV. 2018

We hope you enjoy reading about your tribe. If you would like to submit information to the newsletter, please call our Human Resources office for instructions or email [jphelps@karuk.us](mailto:jphelps@karuk.us). We look forward to reading about your successes and triumphs.

# AYUKII

Ayukii huut kich Tribal Members,

I would like to remind all Tribal Members to frequent our website [www.karuk.us](http://www.karuk.us) for any information or questions they may have about our programs and projects. Our newsletter will have useful information. If you need further help you can always call (530) 493-1600 and ask for the Chairman or Vice-Chairman.

## Casino Update

We are currently in arbitration with Siskiyou County. We are projecting that construction will start some time later this year.

## Education in Indian Country

Earlier this year President Obama declared Education in Indian Country to be in a state of emergency. On June 2014, President Obama embarked on his first presidential visit to Indian Country. He and Mrs. Obama visited Standing Rock Reservation. They witnessed the tale of two America's. Like many other Indian Country communities, social, economic and educational problems are creating a crisis for our most vulnerable population—Native Youth.

Native youth have a special role as citizens of Tribal Nations in defining the future of this country, and also in leading Native cultures, traditions, and governments into the next century. However, they experience significant institutional and intergenerational challenges in reaching their potential. Native children are far more likely to grow up in poverty, to suffer from severe health problems, and to face obstacles to educational opportunity.

The United States has a unique nation-to nation relationship with and owes a trust responsibility to Indian Tribes. Yet despite these agreements, statutes, court decisions, and executive orders, there is a history of deeply troubling and destructive federal policies and actions that have hurt Native communities. Repeating these actions has had a devastating effect on education for our youth and their culture. Despite advances in self-governance and determination, the opportunity gaps remain:

- More than one in three American Indians and Alaska Native children live in poverty.
- The American Indian/Alaska Native high school graduation rate is 67%, the lowest of any ethnic group across all schools.

Here are some recommendations for change:

Strengthen Tribal control of education. Tribal Nations are in the best position to address the unique needs of their students because they know their own children and culture best. Increasing Tribal control is also likely to lead to greater development of curricula that include languages, cultures and values.

Provide community-based student support and strengthen the integration of Native cultures and languages into school climate and classrooms. Strengthening Tribal language and culture is at the core of our trust relationship with Tribal nations. It bolsters a healthy sense of individual identity and belonging, while improving self-esteem.

Support highly effective teachers and school leaders. Promote 21<sup>st</sup> century technology for Tribal education.



*Continued on page 4...*

*...From page 3*

Access to high-speed broadband and adequate learning facilities are key to student learning and success.

“The future of Indian Country rests on ensuring American Indian children receive a world-class education that honors their cultures, languages and identities as Indian people”—Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell

Suggestions or comments from Tribal members are always welcome. I will focus on a different program each newsletter. Please follow Karuk website for youth activities and booster club events.

“Follow your children and be active with your children”.

*Yootva kura suva nik*  
*Chairman Attebery*

RUSSELL “BUSTER” ATTEBERY  
KARUK CHAIRMAN  
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EMAIL: BATTEBERY@KARUK.US

## AYUKÛ



Ayukii, members of the Karuk Tribe. I want to thank every voter for voting in our most recent election!

We have been busy working for our people; traveling to secure funding for our healthcare; looking for dentists; and more healthcare providers to better serve you at our clinics. Our clinics have all be shorthanded for a very long time. We are also working very hard on our casino. We’re off to a great start!

We hope to break ground this spring, possibly sooner if weather permits.

We are moving forward with much accomplished and much yet to do.

*Thank you.*  
*Suvanik*  
*Joseph Jody Waddell*



## AYUKÛ

My name is Renee Stauffer, newly elected Orleans Representative to the Tribal Council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for the overwhelming support to me in the last election. I am honored to represent you.

Since I have been sworn in, the Tribal staff has been friendly and extremely helpful in making me welcome and settled.

In the two months I have had the opportunity to observe the staff and Council on the job and come to fully appreciate their dedication and hard work. I am excited to become part of this team and will dedicate myself to fulfilling my duties as your Representative.

The committees I’ll be involved in are Indian Child Welfare Act Committee, KRAB, Education Committee, Youth Leadership Council, Yav Anav Pa Wellness Form, and the NCIDC Board. Please feel free to contact me at [rstauffer@karuk.us](mailto:rstauffer@karuk.us).

*Yootva*

# KARUK HOUSING BUILDS FOR THE FUTURE

## Construction Project Updates

*By Sara Spence, Executive Assistant  
Steve Mitchell, Inspector  
Richard Black, Construction*

It has been a busy year for the construction staff of the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority! Several projects that have been in the pre-construction stage are beginning; there are several phases prior to construction.

Prior to taking any action, staff and Board members must determine what the scope of the project will be, look at the site, check current zoning limitations if the land is not in trust, evaluate waiting list data, and then decide what the project will include, including future development. This includes things like the total number of units to be built, types of units (apartment, single family home, duplex, modular, stick built), and the size(s) of units.

The next phase is the Environmental Review which can take anywhere from 30 to 90 days depending on the complexity and scope of the project. This is a federal mandate for all NAHASDA expenditures. Sometimes these are quick and straightforward; other times they are more complex with environmental concerns that must be mitigated limiting negative impacts on the surrounding environment, and to ensure that the home site will be a suitable location for a residence.

These types of projects require legal notices and public comment periods before the funding can be released.

The next phase includes the architectural and engineering site designs which determine the placement of the units and necessary infrastructure such as water, sewer, electricity, gas, and roads. This requires coordination with local agencies to ensure appropriate routing for all utilities and applicable local and state permits and clearances.

The next phase is the design of the units to be constructed. This is the fun stage where the homes begin to take shape and can be visualized.

Following all of these stages, we advertise for the construction phase(s). Sometimes the site and construction work are done together, other times they are advertised separately. It is the Housing

Authority's goal to hire local contractors and divide projects into smaller phases where possible to promote hiring small businesses if possible. The reason for this is that all construction projects over \$100,000 require bonding for the bid, performance, and payment. These can be expensive for small companies to obtain.

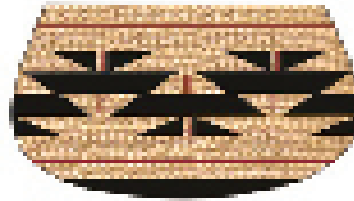
When reviewing bids for construction projects there must be competitive bids, meaning more than one. Because of our rural location, there is often only one bidder in the first, second, and sometimes third round. This leads to several rounds of advertising and an extensive amount of time to award a project so work can begin. Additional delays result when the bids exceed the budget available and the project must be modified to get it under budget.

Projects currently in the planning phase include as many as 15 single family homes on three sites in Happy Camp and 5 single family homes in Orleans.

*Continued on page 6...*



# KARUK TRIBE HOUSING AUTHORITY



Projects currently in a pre-construction phase include 1 home replacement in Fort Jones, design of 6 single family units in Happy Camp, replacement of the Happy Camp Maintenance Shop, design of a Happy Camp Resident Center, 8 single family homes in Yreka, 2 fire damaged home replacements in Orleans, and 1 fire damaged home rehabilitation in Yreka.

Projects currently in the

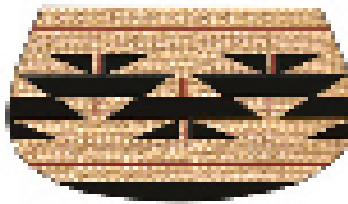
active construction phase include 1 home replacement in Happy Camp, 1 HIP home replacement in Happy Camp, site work for 2, 2 bedroom duplexes in Happy Camp, fence construction and replacement in Orleans, solar panel installation in Yreka to reduce energy costs, 1 Lease Purchase home in Orleans, and our largest project to date, the Kahtishraam Wellness Center.

The Groundbreaking Ceremony (on the cover) for the Kahtishraam Wellness Center was held on September 10 in Yreka. This is a 2.9 million dollar project that is being constructed on Kahtishraam Street in Yreka by DT Builders. It will include a commercial kitchen and multi-sport gymnasium complete with locker rooms and showers. There will be office space in the building allowing us to continue to provide and expand

affordable housing activities to the residents of the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority, Tribal membership, and the communities we serve. We are eagerly anticipating the installation of a LIVE webcam on the project site allowing anyone who is interested to monitor the project's progress as it takes shape. The web link will be posted when it is up and running, scan our QR code to jump straight to our website!



# KARUK TRIBE HOUSING AUTHORITY



## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

KTHA is now administering the Bureau of Indian Affairs Housing Improvement Program for the Karuk Tribe.

The Housing Improvement Program (HIP) funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), is a grant program that addresses the housing needs of those Indians who cannot qualify for housing assistance from any other source. It can be used for repair and renovation of existing housing or the construction of a new home. The applicant must have ownership of the land which the house is to be built on or repaired. If the home is a leasehold interest, the lease must be for no less than 25 years, and title to the property must have a clear title report, and be free of any liens or encumbrances. **Applications for this program are due January 31, 2015. Please see below for information on how to obtain an application form.**

**Other Programs KTHA offers include:**

Low Income Rental Program  
Lease Purchase Program  
Elder Community Homes  
Emergency Housing Program  
First-Time Homebuyer Program  
Down Payment Assistance  
Elder/Temporary Voucher Program  
Student Rent Voucher Program  
Home Replacement Program  
Rehabilitation & Weatherization Home Improvement Grant/Loan Program



For more information or application forms, visit our department website [www.ktha.us](http://www.ktha.us) or contact:

Ashlee King  
Karuk Tribe Housing Authority  
P.O. Box 1159  
Happy Camp, Ca 96039  
1-800-250-5811, Extension 3108  
Email: [aking@karuk.us](mailto:aking@karuk.us)



# QUESTIONS ABOUT ENROLLING IN COVERED CALIFORNIA PLANS

## Information Provided by Covered California for American Indians

*Submitted by Debbie Bickford*

*Karuk Tribe Outreach and Enrollment Coordinator, 530-493-1600, ext. 2105*

- 1. How will I benefit from having health insurance?** Contract Health Services (CHS) does not have enough money to meet all the needs, so there is a priority list and sometimes CHS runs out of money. If you have health insurance, you can get the health services you need even if it is not high on the CHS Priority list and even if CHS is out of money. Health insurance will pay for things that your Tribal or Urban program does not provide, such as medical specialists, tests, emergency room visits, and hospital care.
- 2. I am eligible for Indian Health Service (IHS), so why do I need to have health insurance?** The Indian Health Service is funded at only about half the level of the need, and Tribes only get about half the funding they need from the Indian Health Service. Your Indian health clinic must get the other half of funding from other sources, such as billing insurance. Health Insurance is optional for American Indians and Alaska Natives. There is no penalty if you choose not to enroll in a Covered California Health insurance Plan if you are a member of a federally recognized tribe; or have received health care from a Tribal or urban Indian health program.
- 3. How can I get help to enroll in Covered California plans?** You can visit the Covered California website ([www.coveredca.com](http://www.coveredca.com)) that simplifies the eligibility and enrollment process. Or you can contact your Indian health clinic. The local Karuk Tribe Outreach and Enrollment Coordinator is Debbie Bickford. You can reach her at (530) 493-1600, ext. 2105 to set up an appointment. She may refer you to a different worker, depending on your location. We can also assist with the new expanded Medi-Cal applications.

## NEED TO APPLY FOR MEDICAL OR COVERED CALIFORNIA?

**It's as easy as 1 – 2 – 3 !**

OPEN ENROLLMENT IS NOV. 15, 2014 – FEB. 15, 2015



1. Make an appointment with Debbie at (530) 493-1600. ext. 2105
  2. Bring proof of income, proof of address, social security numbers and birthdates for all family members.
  3. Spend 30 minutes completing the online application for Covered California in Debbie's office. If you qualify for Medi-Cal, the computer will automatically send your application to the Yreka Office. If you qualify for Covered California, you will have several options to choose from.
- Yes, it's really that easy.



## AYUKÛ

My name is Charron "Sonny" Davis. I want to thank the Karuk People in all the districts for voting for me to be your Yreka Representative on the Tribal Council. The spoken language that was passed on to me from my parents and their parents before them, I want to pass on to our young people. The sad part is I heard our language all the time, but I never spoke it until I heard my mom lay my father to rest. I believe in the Prayer, which involves All People.



I am excited and looking forward to our future. The casino will help improve the lives of all Karuk People. If I can help you with anything, please call me. (530) 643-0448.

## 40 UNDER 40

### Jessaca Lugo, 38

Jessaca Lugo was selected as one of 20 North State individuals under the age of 40 (out of 70 nominations) who demonstrate leadership, initiative and innovation in their professions and their communities. A member of the Karuk Tribe, she grew up in the small Siskiyou County community of Happy Camp. Youth sports were the lifeblood of the community, she says. She played volleyball, basketball and softball, and says some of her can-do attitude likely grew out of sports participation. She is currently the community and economic development manager for the City of Shasta Lake. Congratulations Jessaca!



# INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

## Play A Part in Our Native Children's Future

Deadline: Open Until Filled

The Karuk Tribe is currently accepting applications for consideration from tribal members to serve on the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Committee. This committee makes decisions along with tribal social workers and plays a major role in how the tribe exercise's its right to intervene and make recommendations on foster care and other child related cases throughout the United States. The ICWA Committee was created for the purpose of protecting the best interests of the child and of the Karuk Tribe and its Indian families by fully exercising the Tribe's rights under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.

The Committee meets once each month (currently in Happy Camp). Members are expected to travel as necessary to attend meeting, training, and conferences. Members are compensated with \$50 stipends for their time at meetings. Mileage is paid if the meeting location requires travel. Currently we are in great need for committee members in the Orleans/Somes Bar/Humboldt areas. We can try to work with individuals to help meet their personal needs to be a part of this committee. Please feel free to call our Child and Family Services office in Yreka if you have further questions about this or about our work with children and foster care children at (530) 841-3141.

Applications are available online at [www.karuk.us](http://www.karuk.us). Please contact the Human Resources Department with any quesitons. Thank you.

Please mail your application to:  
Human Resources, PO Box 1016, Happy Camp, CA 96039;  
Fax to: (530) 493-5322, ATTN: Human Resources; or  
Email to: [jphelps@karuk.us](mailto:jphelps@karuk.us)

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

*By DNR Staff*

Many changes are underway here at the Karuk Department of Natural Resources, true to our decades-long history of qualitative and quantitative expansion, re-organization, and outreach. As always, we continue to strive to meet our mission to protect, promote, and preserve the cultural and natural resources and ecological processes upon which the Karuk People depend. With headlines and airwaves filled with the latest “natural” and man-made disasters, the traditional Karuk land management practices for which we have long advocated are beginning to find more and more political, as well as financial support.

With a wave of nostalgia, DNR staff said goodbye to the very first building that served as incubator for what would eventually become the Department of Natural Resources: the old green Fisheries trailer, acquired from the USFS as surplus government property, and located on a piece of land that was originally acquired through the fundraising efforts of the Orleans Karok Council in 1975. This property was originally taken into and held in Trust for the “Orleans Half-Blood Karok Indians,” and served as a base from which to launch the campaign for federal acknowledgement. And while extra space is clearly a real need due to the continuing expansion of DNR programs, the old trailer was no longer fit to serve as storage space.

We are very proud to have new employees added to our growing Tribal Department. Not only do we hope to have a new Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and GIS



**The first home of the Karuk Tribal Fisheries Department and the birthplace of DNR: the old Fisheries trailer on its way out of town. Photo by Romnay Beck.**



**Lessons about Native Plants in the Daryl “Day Pay” McCovey Memorial Park. Photo by Lisa Hillman.**

## WELCOME DONALENE

My name is Donalene “Sissie” Griffith, I’m the new Administrative Operations Manager for the Department of Natural Resources in Orleans. I’m a Yurok Tribal Member and descendent of the Karuk Tribe. I’m the granddaughter of the late Lucinda Jo Griffith and Earl Griffith Sr. I have spent the last 25 years working for the Hoopa Valley Tribe for the Hoopa Fire Department as their Office Manager. I’m excited to be working the Karuk Tribe and getting to know some of my relatives.



Specialist/Data Steward by the time you read this article, we now have an Administrative Operations Manager to assist in coordinating and streamlining our many projects and resource divisions: Donalene Griffith (See bottom left).

Following below are a number of highlights from the past half year at the Department of Natural Resources:

**Watershed Restoration:** The 2014 Field Season began the first week of June when we mobilized into the Camp Creek Watershed west of Orleans to decommission roads which threaten downstream water quality and salmonid habitat. During the 2014 Field Season we are removing unstable fill at stream crossings, swales, springs, seeps and reestablishing the natural hill slope drainage pattern along roads scheduled for decommissioning.

### Watershed Restoration Programs

During the decommissioning process stream crossings and swales are being excavated to original width, depth, and slope exposing the natural channel. Unstable fill material with high failure potential is excavated to reduce erosion. The excavated material is being relocated to stable road locations in accordance to our treatment specifications and the professional judgment of our site supervisor. Treatment specifications are designed with tentative grades and dimensions, which provide the basis for estimates of excavated volumes. As the work progresses, the site supervisor determines the final grades and dimensions. The final grades and dimensions provide the basis for determining actual volumes excavated. While excavating, the equipment operators adjust the excavation's grade, alignment, and bank dimensions to preserve latent boundary conditions, such as: original topsoil, natural channel armor, bedrock outcrops, or tree stumps. Post project erosion and sediment control measures include but not be limited to vegetated rock armoring where appropriate, hand seeding of native bunch grasses, and lop and scatter of native mulch material over exposed soils.

*-Submitted by Earl Crosby, Watershed Restoration Programs Coordinator*

### Food Security Project

The July community based mapping workshop and a youth camp, both held in Orleans and focusing on Native plant specimen identification and preserving, were successful with a strong Tribal presence. The fall Seasonal Youth Camp, Native Food Workshop, and the canning workshops in Happy Camp, Orleans and Yreka found positive resonance. Our Food Crews and Cultur-



**From left to right: Theodora LongWolf, Forrest Davis, Reginald Stanshaw, Keith Belcher, Robyn Reed and Ron Reed at a training session on Community-Based Mapping techniques. Photo by Lisa Hillman**

al Biologist have been active each week providing opportunities for volunteers to learn about resource management, site conditions assessments, and processing harvested Native foods. For the Sípnuuk Digital Library and Archives, continued foundations are being built to secure Karuk Intellectual Property Rights and to learn techniques for digitizing materials in preparation for the launching of the Digital Library sometime in late 2015, early 2016. The K-12 Native Food System Curriculum Development is moving forward on the fast-track: The Board of Trustees for Junction Elementary School District passed a unanimous vote of support for the Karuk Tribe's developing K-12 Native Food System curriculum lesson plans last June, and the Happy Camp Elementary School was awarded a grant to help pilot K-2 lesson plans this fall. Pilot lessons at Junction, Seiad and Happy Camp Elementary School have been taught this fall in grades 1 – 3. These and future lessons will help children learn about the Karuk People, our culture and food system, and teach reading and math skills within the context of our tribal culture.

*– submitted by Lisa Hillman, Food Security Project Coordinator*

### Upcoming Food Security Project events with dates subject to changes:

#### Seasonal Youth/Food Camps:

**February 6-7, 2015: Native Foods in Oral Traditions (Happy Camp),**

**April 17-18, 2015: Indian Potatoes, Medicinal Plants (Yreka)**

#### Native Foods Workshops:

**April 22, 2015: Early Greens Workshop (Happy Camp)**



**The Klamath River seen from the Orleans Bridge colored a pea soup green due to a toxic algae bloom of *Microcystis aeruginosa* on 8/7/2014. Photo by Karuk Water Quality staff.**

### Water Quality:

The extreme drought and hot temperatures this summer had a real impact on water quality in the Klamath Basin. In particular, blooms of toxic algae have started earlier than normal. You might have noticed that the Klamath River turned a pea soup green color around July 30th. This was toxic algae discharging out of Iron Gate Reservoir and moving through the mid and lower Klamath River. The Regional Water Board posted health advisories for toxic algae on the Klamath River below Iron Gate on July 25th and then all the way to Weitchpec on July 30th. See the attached sign for more information on how to avoid health effects from toxic algae blooms.

The dominant kind of toxic algae we see in the mid-Klamath is called *Microcystis aeruginosa*. It is a blue-green algae that produces a toxin called microcystin. Microcystin is a liver toxin that can cause skin and eye irritation and, if ingested, can cause nausea, diarrhea, fever, and liver damage. This toxic algae likes calm, deep, warm nutrient-rich water in which to grow. Copco and Iron Gate Reservoirs provide the perfect habitat for this toxic algae. The toxic algae blooms start in Copco and Iron Gate Reservoir in June or July and last through October or November, depending on the year. The toxin levels in the reservoirs have exceeded the California Recreational Use Guidelines by over 9,000 times. The toxic algae then discharges from the reservoirs into the mid and lower Klamath River and causes blooms generally in August and September. The levels in the Klamath River have exceeded the California Recreational Use Guidelines by over 200 times.

The Karuk Water Quality Program monitors the Klamath River for toxic algae every year starting in June. We watch for algae scums and take samples that we send to labs to get levels of toxic algae and toxin. We work with the Klamath Blue-Green Algae Workgroup to make sure the data gets to the appropriate agencies to protect public health and water quality. The best way to be informed about current conditions of the toxic algae blooms is to look at the Klamath Blue-Green Algae Tracker <http://www.kbmp.net/maps-data/blue-green-algae-tracker>. You can also look for Public Health Advisories posted at recreational areas along the river or at the Toxic Algae Level board in Orleans.

- submitted by Susan Corum, Water Resources Coordinator.

### Kaavichvaans Project:

The DNR organized and hosted the BIA funded Kaavichvaans Project during the month of July. Fifteen Karuk and Native American Youth responded to the job offer as a Kaavichvaan, or “worker.” From Bend (OR), Montague, Yreka, Happy Camp, and Orleans, youth traveled to the Orleans camp site Monday mornings and returned late Thursday evenings. In addition to hands-on training through the Water Quality Department, the Youth traveled for professional development training with a focus on water systems taught from the US Geological Survey, the US Forest Service, College of the Siskiyous, and Tribal Mentors from the evening of the 8th through the morning of the 11th. During this two day training at the Weed College Campus, Youth learned about the water cycle, watersheds, and factors that affect water quality.

Each of the four divisions of the Karuk Tribe’s Natural Resources Department, namely Forest Management, Fisheries, Water Quality, and Watershed Restoration, committed to hosting Tribal Youth for one month of a four-day week for educational employment activities. Through this three-dimensional view of the Department of Natural Resources, Tribal youth gained a better understanding of and deepened the ties to the natural resources that define their home lands and traditional and modern management practices. The feedback we received throughout the program substantiated our hopes: “I want to become a biologist,” reported Forrest Davis. Moreover, the weekly increase in work ethic, dedication, and interest was an inspiration to us all. Of the eight final Youth, all showed interest in continuing their employment as “on-call” Kaavichvaans for the duration of the fiscal year.

- Submitted by Lisa Hillman, Food Security Project Coordinator.

# NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY UPDATE

## California's Prop. 1 provides \$250 million for Klamath Dam removal

*By Craig Tucker, Ph.D.  
Natural Resources Policy Advocate*

Recently California voters approved a \$7.5 billion dollar bond that aims to improve water conservation, build additional water storage, and fund restoration efforts including the Klamath Restoration Agreements. The Proposition provides the \$250 million dollars California pledged to contribute for the removal of the lower four Klamath River dams.

The Proposition was crafted to meet the political needs of every side of California's never ending water war. Not surprisingly, fisheries and environmental groups were divided on the measure as were fiscal conservatives and irrigators. However, in the end, drought weary Californians approved the measure by a wide margin, with over 66% in favor.

As California moves forward with potential projects that the bond could fund, the Karuk Tribe and others concerned about fisheries and clean water will have to work hard to fight environmentally destructive projects while advocating for projects that improve fisheries and water quality.

In regards to dam removal, the bond funding complements the \$200 million PacifiCorp is obligated to con-



Sunset on the Klamath River at Orleans./Photo by Ken Malcomson

tribute. These funds are being collected through a small surcharge on customers' power bills. Over \$80 million has already been collected. Although many resent being charged extra for dam removal, the Public Utility Commissions of California and Oregon found that the cost of the dam removal surcharge was far less than the alternative costs of relicensing the aging dams which would require new fish ladders and water quality mitigations. Still, for dam removal to happen, congress must approve legislation to implement the Klamath Agreements. The Karuk Tribe, in collaboration with Yurok, and Klamath Tribes, and a host of conservation groups and irrigation interests are urging congress to act as soon as possible.

## DO YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

If you have news, articles, events or announcements you wish to submit for publication in the Karuk Newsletter, please send the information to [jphelps@karuk.us](mailto:jphelps@karuk.us). Submissions are preferred in digital format, however hard copies are accepted by mailing to News Articles, P.O. Box 1016, Happy Camp, CA 96039. All submissions must include your name and address. No anonymous articles will be accepted. We hope you enjoy your newsletter! Yootva!

# FLAGS-A-FLYIN'

## Youth Gather for Football Fun

*By Alma Mendoza*

This past weekend was the end of the year jamboree for The Karuk Tribe Youth Flag Football league. The league ran through the early part of October through the middle of November. The youth were divided into two age groups, 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The youth also participated in a "Punt, Pass, Kick" competition, consisting of the total yardage of a kick off of the kicking tee, a punt, and a throw of the football, with medals being awarded to first, second, and third places.

This year the main focus of the league was to promote sportsmanship and a positive attitude while also learning the fundamentals of teamwork. As Nicknekich Hillman, a member of the Somes Bar team, said, "It was fun. I learned that our team worked together and we didn't yell at each other." Nick's Somes Bar team, coached by his parents Molli and Frankie White were awarded the Sportsmanship Award for the older division this year. They not only worked hard in their preparations for the games, they did a fantastic job of helping others. As for the young division the winner of the award was the youngsters from Seiad Valley, Coached by Marsha Jackson. Even those teams who were not given the Sportsmanship Award certainly did not make the decision easy for those making the decisions. These youth took a step forward in learning the essentials to becoming successful; as Ihaan Albers, a member of the Orleans team, says, "Teams need to work together and listen to each other. And do the plays," certainly advice we can all take.

The "Punt, Pass, Kick" Competition was a success for the first year, though many of the kids were new to many of the concepts they were very eager to learn and succeed. For the younger division the awards were earned by Tuekwe I. F. Hunsucker, 3<sup>rd</sup> place with a total of 51 yards, Ihaan Albers, 2<sup>nd</sup> place with a total of 53 yards, and Kade Whitecrane, 1<sup>st</sup> place with 77 total yards. The older division went Kalob Haas with a total of 105 yards, Myles Haas with 109 yards, and Kohl Williams with 117 total yards.

The league had great support this year from many of the parents and family members of the youth participating. Phil Albers, a parent and coach of both his Orleans



team but also stepping in to coach a team from Happy Camp, said it perfectly. He states, "I think it's important that our culminating event, the tournament, was a very positive and enjoyable event. The players were friendly yet competitive throughout the year and the tournament was the same. We played ball and then we ate together and hung out together during the punt, pass, and kick competition. We are proud of the players for such a good league."

It would not have been possible if it were not for those who organized and were there for support throughout. A special thank you goes out to Marsha Jackson and Jesse Valenzuela, coaches of the two Seiad Valley teams,

Frankie and Mollie White, Coaches for the Somes Bar team, Phil Albers, dedicated parent as well as coach for Orleans and a Happy Camp team. Alma Bickford, the head of The Karuk Tribe Education department and organizer of the program, Ashlee King, dedicated parent/coach, Russell (Buster) Attebery, Tribal Chairman, along with the Karuk Tribe Boosters club, Karuk Tribe TANF program, and thank you to The Karuk Tribe Community Services and Development block and the support from the 7<sup>th</sup> Generation Mentoring Program, as well as all those who were willing to step in whenever necessary. It definitely is a positive experience for our youth and once again taking from Ihaan Albers, "It was awesome. I hope we do it again!"



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# CONSTRUCTION WORKERS JOB FAIR HELD JANUARY 13-14

*By Dion Wood*

The Karuk Tribe TERO and the Northeastern California Building & Construction Trades Council proudly held a Job Fair on January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the Job Fair was to identify construction workers eligible for employment in a union for the construction of the much anticipated Casino.

The first event held at the Yreka Housing Authority offices was a huge success with over 125 tribal members and descendants attending. Participants were greeted by TERO Director, Dion Wood and comments were given by Chairman Attebery. A prayer was offered by Council Member Sonny Davis and Council Member Alvis Johnson talked a few moments about his time in a union. Andrew Meredith, Building and Construction Trades President introduced the various trade representatives that were there and then all in attendance were able to consult with the trade representative of their choice to discover what opportunities were available.

The second event was held at the Miners Inn Convention Center in Yreka and all members of the community and outlying areas of Siskiyou County were invited. Over 120 community members attended and the event followed the format of the previous evening. Vice-Chairman Robert Super gave comments and Council member Sonny Davis gave a beautiful prayer in native Karuk. Council Member Elsa Goodwin spoke on the need for women to partake of this opportunity and requested those in attendance to get women involved. Council Member Jody Waddell reiterated the desire to have the proposed casino benefit all members of the community. It was made clear to all that the Tribe wants to provide jobs and opportunities to all members of the community. Andrew Meredith did a great job introducing the trade representatives and communicating to the attendees that the will of the Council was to provide opportunities for everyone with the casino project.

Both events were considered a huge success and surpassed expectations. It is clear that there are many individuals both tribal and non-tribal that have an interest in going to work on the casino project. Many "Yootvas" ("Thanks") to the Karuk Council for making this opportunity happen! Be sure to register with the TERO Department by contacting Dion Wood at the tribal office in Happy Camp. Stay tuned for more information!



**It was standing room only at the Yreka Tribal Council Chambers.**



**Councilmembers: Sonny Davis, Elsa Goodwin, Robert Super, Bud Johnson (front row), Russell Attebery, Arch Super (back row).**



**Union Representatives meet with Tribal Members.**

# EMERGENCY SERVICES

*By Tom Fielden and Rachel Lent*

Ayukii, winter is upon us and we have gotten some rain to help replenishing our mountains with much needed water and snow, but we still need to stay mindful of our water use. Please continue to conserve water. Over the past summer we have been working with Indian Health Services to start upgrading the Orleans Water System at Perch Creek and some of the Happy Camp systems.

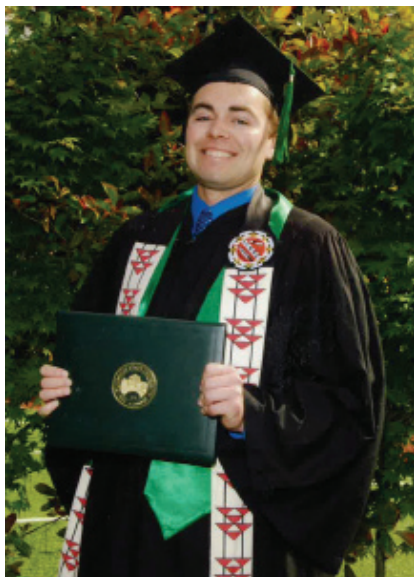
We have also secured funding for water storage tanks for Tribal members or descendants who meet low income standards who have private wells or springs not within any of the community water districts. So far three systems have been installed. Unfortunately we are

only authorized to take applications for Siskiyou County Tribal residents as Humboldt county had not declared a Drought Emergency at the time the grant was written. Our Grants and Compliance Department is working diligently to request a grant amendment to include Humboldt County, but there is no guarantee. Please see the Tribal web page for any updates on the water tanks.

Please make sure that you have your winter tires on and your emergency car kit is up to date with extra food, water and some warm blankets. You never know when you'll face traffic delays on the river roads. Be safe and have a great winter.

## AN HONOR DAWN "DUSTY" NAPIER

Karuk tribal member and the great-great granddaughter of Cheniff Pepper, Dawn "Dusty" Napier, was recently elected as a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) District Commander. She has oversight responsibility of 9 VFW Posts that are located in Humboldt, Del Norte and Trinity counties. She also serves as a Post Commander for the VFW in Willow Creek, CA, as the Women Veterans Chairwoman for the VFW Department of California, and as a Legislative Committee member at the National level of the VFW. As a Legislative Committee member she travels to Washington D.C. twice a year to visit California's Congressmen/women and the two state Senators, advocating for veterans rights and benefits. She retired from the U.S. Navy after 20 years of service in 1994.



## CONGRATULATIONS

*2014 HSU Graduate*

## SEAN BERRY

**Sean Berry graduated from Humboldt State University on Saturday, May 17, 2014 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Native American studies. Sean's family is very proud of his achievement and all of his hard work. We wish him well and good luck with his new job with the U.S. Forest Service in Lassen National Forest. Congratulations to Sean and all of the class of 2014!**



## CONGRATULATIONS

### MICHELLE HAUPRICH

**Michelle Hauprich graduated from Officer Candidate School Fort Benning, Georgia. Michelle will be stationed in Baumholder, Germany with her husband Steven. Michelle has been training in Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal for the past four years. Michelle is the daughter of Kelly and Gerri Fletcher and granddaughter of Nola Ferris. Thank you to the Karuk Tribe for helping Michelle graduate Sonoma State with a degree in chemistry.**

## *In Loving Memory...*

GARY ALAN PIERCE  
FEBRUARY 16, 1962 - APRIL 1, 2014

Gary Alan Pierce passed away at his home in Guerneville, California on April 1, 2014. He was born in Santa Rosa on February 16, 1962 to Gerald and Shirley Pierce, Nee McNeal.

He also leaves a brother Kevin Pierce, sister Diane Westcott and many relatives from Santa Rosa, Sonoma, Yreka, Sawyers Bar, Chico and Oroville. He was predeceased by his father, his partner Gordon, and his grandparents Bud and Alice McNeal of Etna. He was a member of the Karuk Tribe and he proudly displayed a framed copy of his family tree, compiled by the Karuk tribal enrollment officer, on a wall in his home.

Gary worked in many varied trades during his short life. He didn't hesitate to try anything new. He worked for many years as a caretaker of vineyard properties in Napa and Sonoma Counties. He spent time learning the jewelry trade as a jeweler's helper and became quite interested and proficient in that trade. He also

worked for a time as a pet groomer. He loved all animals and had two dogs of his own to nurture. They received the best of care as evidenced by his eldest dog named Angus who is 20-plus years old.

Gary is remembered and missed by his many friends for his help when they needed him.

His family and friends will forever miss his distinctive laugh. Everyone knew Gary was around when they heard that laugh, and he could make us all feel so good upon seeing that big smile when he entered the room.





## Karuk Tribe

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# Do You Want to Work at the NEW CASINO?

TERO is ready to take your resume and skills bank application if you are interested in working on our Casino project. Both the construction phase and the operations phase. If you are interested in the construction phase of the project we will be holding a job fair for recruitment with the construction unions that we have an agreement with to build our facility. If you have previously registered a skills bank application you will be notified in addition to the advertising we will do to recruit workers. The construction unions are a great place to build a career for yourself and your family. As we get closer to opening and beginning operations we will hold job fairs for recruitment for operations positions with our developer who is facilitating all the training. We will be recruiting those with the best customer service skills so work on your smile and brush up on your communication skills! Think about how you would want to be greeted and proceed from there! Those that already have training in various casino related jobs will have a good advantage. Please contact the TERO office if you have any questions. The skills bank application is available on the Tribe's website on the TERO page or contact TERO to obtain one. **Contact TERO Director, Dion Wood at 800 505-2785 extension 2030.**