



T'epot'aha'l

The People of the Salinan Tribe

Vol. 26 No 6

June, 2026

Summer Solstice

June 21st 2026



Gate opens at 10am, The Celebration starts at noon.

This years Summer Solstice is the 20th Anniversary of ascending Lesa'mo', happening on Father's Day weekend, we will be having a Tri Tip BBQ potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share as we celebrate this awesome event. Bring your own chairs as none are provided and a great big smile as we enjoy this beautiful day.

Contact Bruce Flood @ 805-903-3089 If you have any questions, comments or would like to volunteer for anything, or you can contact the Tribal Office and leave a message. @ 805-464-2650

Submitted By: Council Member Bruce Flood



Indian Cemetery Work Day

At Mission San Antonio

Next work day at San Antonio Mission, on Indian cemetery Adobe walls is Saturday, **June 6th**, 8 am. To 11 am. Early Saturday, May 9th mother and son enjoyed a peaceful warm quiet morning at the Indian cemetery at mission San Antonio. Sitting listening to a soft breeze viewing a panoramic view of mountains and trees. Talking about the animals that live with over two thousand resting ancestors, rabbit, lizards, and squirrels. Happy Mother's Day.

Contact Bruce Flood @ 805-903-3089 If you have any questions, comments or would like to volunteer contact the Tribal Office and leave a message. @ 805-464-2650

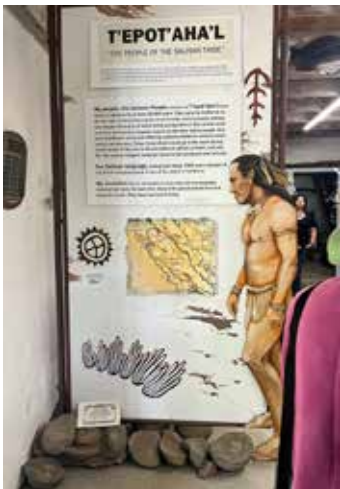
Submitted By: Council Member Bruce Flood



Rio Caledonia Adobe

The Salinan Tribe, Guests, and Friends of the Adobes, enjoyed a beautiful day at Rio Caledonia Adobe, as the new Salinan Tribe panels were unveiled. Very well done, we give thanks to all who were involved. Panels are now available for all to view at the museum. We met with the artist, Steve Kalar, and toured the grounds. As we gathered to eat, a yellowtail hawk circled above, and a rainbow ring was seen around the sun. Thank you to the all whom helped set up, brought food and supplies, said prayer, and contributed to this wonderful day.

Submitted By: Council Member Yvonne Davis

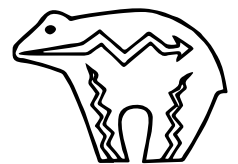
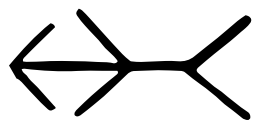


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**Mark your Calendars
for coming Events**

More information will be included in future newsletters.

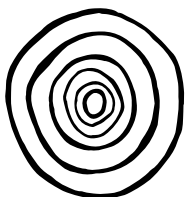


Nacitone Museum and Sol Treasures

519 Broadway St., King City, CA

The Salinan Exhibit in the Nacitone Museum started May 1st 2026 was not included in the May newsletter. The exhibit runs from May 1st - June 30th 12:00pm to 5:00pm, so you can still enjoy visiting the Nacitone Museum, to see the exhibit through the eyes of two of their descendants.

You can find full information online at www.salinantribe.com on the front page and also in Events on the website.



Maritime Explorers

A summer program for Kids Ages 8-12
June 15 through August 10 2026 Mondays 10am to 12pm & 1 to 3pm
Morro Bay Maritime Museum.



Salinan Language Revitalization Continues at Breath of Life

June 1-6 2026, Shaunie Briggs and Jessica Rodgers will travel to University of California, Berkeley to attend Breath of Life alongside Allison Herrera and Marina Gutierrez as part of an ongoing movement to restore and strengthen Salinan language and cultural knowledge.

The Breath of Life Archival Institute for Indigenous California Languages (AICLS) is a week-long workshop hosted by the UC Berkeley Linguistics Department and the Advocates for Indigenous California Language Survival. The program brings together community researchers and linguists to study archival recordings, field notes, songs, word lists, and historical documents connected to California Indigenous languages that no longer have fluent speakers.

Shaunie first attended Breath of Life in 2024, returning home inspired to begin developing a Salinan language nesting program centered around everyday life — bringing language into cooking, land stewardship, gathering, storytelling, songs, plants, animals, and family interaction. Rather than treating language as something locked away in books or archives, the goal is to make it living, practical, and naturally woven back into community life. This year's team will continue building curriculum, teaching materials, and immersive learning experiences designed to help reconnect people to the sounds, meanings, and worldview carried within the Salinan language. Seen here in the archives with teacher Zachary O'Hagan, the group is helping plant seeds for future generations to hear and speak the language once again across Salinan homelands.

California was once one of the most linguistically diverse places on Earth, with hundreds of Indigenous languages spoken across the region. Efforts like Breath of Life help bring awareness back to that truth while reminding people that Native languages, cultures, and communities are not history — they are still here, growing, adapting, and continuing forward.

Submitted By: Tribal Member Shaunie Briggs



Shaunie & Jessica working with UC Berkeley Linguist Zachary O'Hagan in the archives at UC Berkeley.



Shaunie Briggs & Linguist Julia Peck having fun at Bancroft at Breath of Life 2024

Social Services

At this time the Salinan Tribe has no Social Service program, if you are in need of help regarding health, Food, or any other issues related to social service needs you can access California Dept of Social Services (CSSD); housing, Elder/Parent /Child Abuse/ Neglect and/or family law?

There is a link to the Food Bank on the Tribal website under the TANF tab.

Elder Education

1. **Education Department:** Elder Family Group Chart project: The term '*family elders*' within our Tribe's General Council refers to any 65 year + old Salinan culturally affiliated person with their membership application on file in Salinan Tribe of Monterey & San Luis Obispo Counties.
 - 50 Elder request mailers went out early May. The input requested=*'family elders'* to write out their generation of Salinan (theirs & sibling) names (deceased or live). Next, add in names of their children, their grandchildren, on down thru 2026. Return stamped envelopes have been included where to mail their approved information.
 - Two volunteer Elders will draft family elder/FAMILY name GROUP charts . These will have a symbol noting (if Salinan by blood tie). **Our biggest setback is NOT receiving current Elder contact information.**
 - When a 'family-elder' dies they become Ancestors". Many times "we" make an assumption- the family they left has another family-elder who has stepped in to ensure Cultural Wisdom is shared. With distance, that is not always true. We hope to change that assumption; ensuring EVERY GENERAL MEMBER within our tribe has the choice to pick a "**Salinan Tribal Elder**" they want access to for Elder Wisdom-a basic principal within Sovereign Native American Nations. Once '*family-elders*' are named, and we have current contacts, we make the family group charts.
 - Each 'family-elder' group will decide who could be their FAMILY GROUP's **TRIBAL ELDER-** If they accept Tribal Elders are the Connectors between family group lines and Elder Representatives; while all family elders and Tribal Elders make up our Tribe's Elder Council.
 - **Elder FAMILY GROUP Posters:** What I have focused on currently while bringing up an Education Department: Elder Council Structural/ Communication and Connection "C/C" TOOLS, that will be shared INSIDE our tribe with all General Council once finalized.
 - The Elder Family Group Posters can help each "Salinan Tribal Cousin" strengthen relationships with their cousin family-lines=this tool has been proven successful, especially in a time where 1/3 of our Elders live outside California; 1/3 live too far way to attend functions in our Heartland territory; and leaves 1/3 who live close enough to gather together. In our newsletter "photos of our tribal cousins appear to be the 'same ones over and over'-YES-only 1/3 is seen...Until we broaden our ideas on how to **connect** our longer-distance cousins with their Cultural Wisdom expression, practices to all inside our tribe, using multiple **communication** methods. Elders, please share...

Elder Education Department volunteer-Bonnie Pierce

- ELDERS, we ask you to write or call **Elder Bonnie Pierce** @ 36686 Sondra Avenue, Sterling Alaska 99672; or leave a text with your name to Bonnie Pierce @ 907-394-1362, texting your current address and phone (with message) information. She partners with our "**Confidential Enrollment/Membership Officer (Tribal Council seat, Yvonne Davis)**. **Thank you,**



Salinan Tribe
OF MONTEREY & SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTIES





Willow
Posxe't

Laurel
Mopa'k

Salinan Words of the Month

Guide to sounds

ts – sound at the end of cats
tr – make a t but curl your tongue (almost sounds like a ch)
' – sound in the middle of uh-oh (glottal stop)

P' t' k' ts' ch'
consonants said at the same time as a glottal stop ('); they make a strong, emphasized pop!
x – guttural throaty h sound

a father
e get
l beat.
o hope
u due

ay pie
ow mow
oy toy



double vowels (**aa, ae**) are the same sound but longer in length



Quotes from Native Elders

I believe that ancient tribal cultures have important lessons to teach the rest of the world about the interconnectedness of all living things and the simple fact that our very existence is dependent upon the natural world we are rapidly destroying.

Wilma Mankiller,
First woman elected
Cherokee Deputy Chief, 1991

Speak only the truth and do right always, You are what you say . . . and what you say needs to be honest, forthright, and of your own personal belief. Without truth you cannot achieve inner balance---balance within yourself, with other beings, with Mother Earth, and with the Creator.

Good words do not last long until they amount to something.

Chief Joseph
(Hin-mah-too-yah-lat-kekt), Nez Perce,
1840-1904

Notice !!!

Remember the Newsletter will be ONLINE ONLY.
Contact Kenneth Pierce at editor@salinantribe.com with your email address to receive a Newsletter online or pick one up at the Tribal Office.

We have a new T-Shirt design and it will be available at the general meetings it will also be on the website soon for viewing.

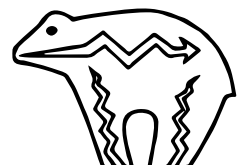
SalinanTribe
OF MONTEREY & SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTIES

The following sizes are available,
Women's – Sm, to 3xl

sweatshirts size sm to 4xl

Men's – Sm, Med Lg, xLg, xxLg, xxxLg

We also have hooded sweatshirts



**NEW
ADDITIONS**

**In women's t-shirts we have size small to 3xl.
And we have have sweatshirts sizes small to 4xl.**

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 www.salinatribe.com

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6 Cemetery WorkDay at Mission San Antonio 9 am - 3 pm
Nacitone Museum and Sol Treasures May 1st - June 30th 12:00pm to 5:00pm more information on Our website						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Tribal Business meeting 6:00pm	18	19	20
21 Summer Solstice 12 noon	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

Tribal business meeting is on the 3rd Wednesday of each month

**THERE ARE NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED AT ANY TRIBAL EVENT.
 PLEASE USE INFO@SALINANTRIBE.COM TO EMAIL THE OFFICE**

→ TRIBAL COUNCIL ←

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T'epot'aha'l The People of the Salinan Tribe

REMEMBER TO PRAY TO kensha:nel (CREATOR) TO keeheak (PROTECT) ALL lu wa' (MEN) AND lets'e (WOMAN) WHO ARE SERVING OUR COUNTRY. AND BRING THEM Ta'ma (HOME) SAFE.

Vision of the Salinan Tribe

We, as the Salinan Tribe, follow the way of our ancestors as we walk the path of our heritage toward becoming complete individuals. We exercise our rights as a sovereign entity. We continue to reawaken our culture. Each and every tribal member has an equal voice.

We, as the Salinan Tribe, commit to honoring the rights of each and every tribal member to practice our spiritual, individual, or religious beliefs. We remember and honor our ancestors, elders, and children now and for all generations to come.

We as the Salinan Tribe, continue to gather as a tribal family.



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