

August 29,2025

To: Humboldt County Public Works

Re: Dedication of the new Honeydew Bridge to Vernon Edward Shinn

Please see enclosed

To: Humboldt County Department of Public Works

My name is Robert Vernon Shinn. I am submitting this letter and attached petition in favor of dedicating the new Honeydew Bridge to my father Vernon Edward Shinn, known to most as "Bob". He was born April 18th, 1920. He was a lifetime resident of Honeydew, with the exception of his Military service in World War II. He was a wounded Navy Veteran. He is the grandson of Restore Shinn, 1815-1887, who was Upper Mattole Valley's second settler. Vernon Edward Shinn was raised in the Shinn family inn on Honeydew Creek, which was a wedding present from Emile and Minnie Etter to his mother Mary Etter Shinn and husband Vernile Shinn in 1910. The first Honeydew School was built on Shinn property around 1913. The Shinn's also offered property to build the new Honeydew School in its current location.

My father was a Mattole Grange Member and Upper Mattole School Board Officer. I stated earlier that I believed he was the Board President because of old photographs I have of him presenting diplomas to graduating students. The only documentation I found stated that he was an officer and up for re-election at the time of his death in 1967. He was also a member of the State and Local Woolgrowers and Cattlemen's associations.

In 1951 Vernon Edward married Joy I Killingsworth. She was a granddaughter of Alfred A. Hadley, 1830-1907, and his wife Mary Anne who is a documented Native American. Alfred and Mary were Upper Mattole Valley's first settlers.

The Honeydew Store was built in 1923 with a post office added on in 1926. It is also the location of the old and new bridge. Both have been maintained, improved, and had the taxes paid for well over 100 years, beginning with Emile Etter in 1861-1943 and his wife Millie Etter 1867-1945 they passed it down to Mary Etter Shinn 1888-1977. From there it went to Vernon Edward Shinn 1920-1967. After his death it stayed in my family and still is to this day. The Honeydew Store and Post Office have been a life line to the Mattole Valley and still are to this day. Since its construction, it has hosted County Government meetings and many memorials.

I believe your legacy is more than can be encrypted on a headstone. I found this definition: "the moral and material inheritance passed down from one generation to the next; encompassing values and teachings that influence future generations." With that being said, I was born in 1957. I have lived in Honeydew the majority of my life, with the exception of leaving for employment. I am the co-founder, along with the late Dan Trower, of the Honeydew Volunteer Fire Company in 1983. I am also the first landowner to grant property access to the Coast Headwater Association to begin restoration of the Mattole River Watershed in 1984.

My son Weston and I have continued that work through Vs ConstructShinn and the Mattole Restoration Council. As of August 1, 2025 my wife Jeanette and I have owned and operated the Honeydew Store for 31 years. We will be leaving the store and post office property to our son, Weston Vernon Shinn and his Son Benjamin Vernon Shinn to continue seven generations as stewards of the Mattole Valley.

It is my sincere hope that the new bridge be dedicated to my father Vernon Edward Shinn and his past, current, and future family's contribution to our country and the Mattole Valley.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Shinn

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert V. Shinn". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.



WE THE UNDERSIGNED SUPPORT THE DEDICATION OF the new Honeydew Bridge to
 V.E. SHINN, a lifelong rancher and resident of Honeydew, CA, a World War II Wounded Navy
 Veteran as well as being School Board President for Mattole Valley School.

Born 1920 - Died 1967

NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
STERLING McWHORTER	<i>Sterling McWhorter</i>	BOX 710 PERDUE, CA. 95550
Cindy McWhorter	<i>Cindy McWhorter</i>	"
Linda Larsen	<i>Linda Larsen</i>	PO Box 1381 Ferndale CA 95536
MICHAEL FERGUSON	<i>Michael Ferguson</i>	PO BOX 332 FORTUNA
Kelly O'Day	<i>Kelly O'Day</i>	495 Pleasant Point Rd Ferndale, CA 95536
Gianna O'Day	<i>Gianna O'Day</i>	495 Pleasant Point Rd Ferndale, CA 95536
Troy Davy	<i>Troy Davy</i>	567 SCENIC DR LOLETA CA 95551
Ken Ferguson	<i>Ken Ferguson</i>	213 W Delmont St
Seth Aguirre	<i>Seth Aguirre</i>	3825 East Eureka St 95503
Al Cooper	<i>Al Cooper</i>	1601 Chester Ave Arcata 95521
Lindsey Swanson	<i>Lindsey Swanson</i>	1447 Anwick Ln Arcata CA 95521
Cheryl Swanson	<i>Cheryl Swanson</i>	1899 Golf Course Rd. Bayside CA 95574
Hans Swanson	<i>Hans Swanson</i>	1899 Golf Course Rd Bayside CA 95524
Greg Zanotti	<i>Greg Zanotti</i>	4015 Noah Ave, McKinleyville CA 95579
LISA WHITTEN	<i>Lisa Whitten</i>	10433 Hwy 36 Carlotta, CA 95528
DAVID WHITTEN	<i>David Whitten</i>	" "
WILLIAM DAVIE	<i>William Davie</i>	319 A St. FERNDAL CA 95536
JF BEAL	<i>Jimmie Jay Beal</i>	P.O. Box 86 FERNDALE CA
CHARLES MATTILA	<i>Charles Mattila</i>	P.O. Box 86 FERNDAL, CA 95536
Janis Bertelson Coelha	<i>Janis Bertelson Coelha</i>	102 Fairview Dr. Ferndale CA 95536
Sharon Hansen	<i>Sharon Hansen</i>	89 Stafford Rd. Scotia 95565
Mary Etter	<i>Mary V. Etter</i>	Honeydew
Glenn Cook	<i>Glenn Cook</i>	P.O. Box 2843 Petaluma, CA 94953
Robert Langer	<i>Robert Langer</i>	10511 VANDUZER Rd Mad River
William (Cowboy) Langer	<i>William (Cowboy) Langer</i>	"
Cheyenne Alfred	<i>Cheyenne Alfred</i>	547 Pst Fortuna CA 95540
Lori Smith	<i>Lori Smith</i>	3984 Loop Ct. Fortuna, CA 95540
Sachew Alfred	<i>Sachew Alfred</i>	547 Pst. Fortuna, CA 95540
Raylynn Landregh	<i>Raylynn Landregh</i>	715 Barry Ave Fortuna CA 95540
Levi Nissen	<i>Levi Nissen</i>	149 Kingston Rd Feildbrook CA
David Kilbingsworth	<i>David Kilbingsworth</i>	4064 D St. Eureka CA 95503

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Born 1920 – Died 1967

NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
Dora Miyake	<i>[Signature]</i>	1 Wilder Ridge Rd
Tom Cook	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 321 Ferndale CA 95536
Arul Chingcho	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 36
Isnan Aguilar	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 412
IAN SIGMUND	<i>[Signature]</i>	42354 MATTOLE PETROLIA, CA 95558
David Smith	<i>[Signature]</i>	15 Burnell Rd. Honeydew CA
Edgar Dominguez	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 412
JOEL SKAGGS	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. 126
Mara Goodheart	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 2 Honeydew, CA
Deborah Embry	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. BOX 60 Honeydew CA
Betty Crowder	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 32 Honeydew
JOE EHMAN	<i>[Signature]</i>	1025 Meaux Rd Honeydew
Branchey Randa	<i>[Signature]</i>	29615 Mattole Rd. Petrolia
Dylan Kelly	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 55
Rick Finkler	<i>[Signature]</i>	37300 Mattole Rd Petrolia
Matthew Jones	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 145 95545
Byron McBeth	<i>[Signature]</i>	5757 Wilder Ridge Rd
Karla Knapel	<i>[Signature]</i>	41726 Mattole Rd, Petrolia CA 95558
Brent Knapel	<i>[Signature]</i>	41726 Mattole Rd. Petrolia CA
CURTIS LONN	<i>[Signature]</i>	50525 Mattole Rd Honeydew
Rachel Lonn	<i>[Signature]</i>	2575 ALLIANCE ARCA CA
BOB REEDE	<i>[Signature]</i>	2575 ALLIANCE ARCA CA
Stephanie Snow	<i>[Signature]</i>	740 Applewood Rd Honeydew
Amy Becca	<i>[Signature]</i>	50525 Mattole Rd Honeydew, CA
Lars Samuels	<i>[Signature]</i>	125 Old Windley Ranch Rd Honeydew
Michelle Miyake	<i>[Signature]</i>	2480 Panther Gap Rd. Honeydew, CA
TR Killingsworth	<i>[Signature]</i>	1 Wilder Ridge Rd.
Cindy Killingsworth	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 1152 Ferndale CA 95536

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NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
Wally Coppini	Wally Coppini	375 061e Rio Dell CA 95562
Anthony Leonardo	Anthony Leonardo	190 Ridgeview Court Fortuna Ca,
ANDY WESTFALL	Andy Westfall	1234 ROSE AVE, FERNDALE CA.
Sandy Westfall	Sandy Westfall	1234 Rose Ave, Ferndale, CA
Maci Branstetter	Maci Branstetter	539 Shaw Ave Ferndale CA 95536
LEE BRANSTETTER	Lee Branstetter	1879 Branstetter Ln Capetown CA
Cyrle Simerca	Cyrle Simerca	280 CRAIG STREET FERNDALE
Roy W. NIZENHAUS	Roy W. Nizenhaus	3400 EAST COLLEGE FORTUNA CA
Brad Chamberlain	Brad Chamberlain	3430 Rockersville Rd Fortuna
KEVIN DEMIELLO	Kevin Demiello	3539 Transit St Fortuna Ca
Ryan Manfredonia	Ryan Manfredonia	98 Painter St. Rio Dell CA.
Ron Brown	Ron Brown	1677 Thelma St Fortuna CA
John Buenafe	John A Buenafe	2189 Riverwalk Dr Fortuna CA
Jesse Biggel	Jesse Biggel	302 Woodland Ave Rio Dell CA 95562
Christian Bowley	Christian Bowley	2340 Newburg Rd 95540
Miguel Meras	Miguel Meras	45 Bellevue Ave Rio Dell CA 95562
Andy Titus	Andy Titus	5457 Grizzly Bluff Ferndale, CA 95536
Jerry Stahl	Jerry Stahl	3007 College St Fortuna Ca
Terry Nelson	Terry Nelson	3565 Glen St Eureka CA 95503
JACK L. SMITH	Jack L. Smith	402 EMERSON LN FERNDALE 95536
JOANNE SMITH	Joanne Smith	402 EMERSON FERNDALE CA 95536
Tracy VanEmmerik	Tracy VanEmmerik	305 LINCOLN AVE - FERNDALE
ERIK VAN EMMERIK	Erik Van Emmerik	305 LINCOLN AVE., FERNDALE
Jared Sousa	Jared Sousa	1776 California St, Ferndale
TERRY COOK	Terry Cook	2404 Elk River Rd EUREKA CALIF
George W Cook	George W Cook	1701 Whippoorwill Ct Modesto CA 95354
Sam Cook	Sam Cook	" " " " " " " "
Renee Alameda	Renee Alameda	230 Sage Rd. Ferndale 95536
Rich Leonardo	Rich Leonardo	2360 Shamrock Dr Fortuna
Kevin FREY	Kevin Frey	690 Herbert St, Ferndale CA 95536
Francis Cook	Francis Cook	639 Summer St Fortuna, Ca, 95540

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NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
BILL KLATT	Bill Klatt	665 NICHOLLY AVE FERNDALE
MARTIN	Mt M	859 Washington St Bldg Bluff
Terry Melcher	Terry Melcher	2022 Shamrock Dr Foster
Clint M. Chock	Clint M. Chock	1404 AMBROSINI LN FERNDALE
MICHAEL MARR	Michael Marr	111 COPPER CA SEANAPLE
George Taste	George Taste	890 Dillon Rd Ferndale Ca.
Jackie Wright	Jackie Wright	141 Tobacco Rd Petrolia, CA
Tim Spier	Tim Spier	2592 Pineview Dr. Fortuna CA
Jodie Rollins	Jodie Rollins	2592 Pineview Dr Fortuna
Tina Taste	Tina Taste	890 Dillon Rd Ferndale
Bub Moghi	Bub Moghi	614 Williams Ln Rd Ferndale
Stale Rosenberg	Stale Rosenberg	7160 LONDON DR EUREKA 95503
Scott Shick	Scott Shick	614 Willows Creek Ferndale
Darren Hansen	Darren Hansen	530 Harbor Lane Ferndale USA
PATTI MOGNI	Patti Moghi	45 Meridian Rd. Fern 95536
TOM CULBERT	Tom Culbert	1289 RONALD FORTUNA, CA 95540
Nancy Culbert	Nancy Culbert	1289 Ronald Ave, Fortuna, Cal
Shawn Leonardo	Shawn Leonardo	1124 5th St Ferndale, CA
Kate Olsen	Kate Olsen	1124 5th St Ferndale CA
Norm Setomay	Norm Setomay	151 Shaw Ave Ferndale CA
SHAWN GRIEBS	Shawn Griebs	1292 AMBROSINI LA FERNDALE CA
GRACE FINNERS	Grace Finners	1292 AMBROSINI LN FERNDALE CA
Jason Cooke	Jason Cooke	2800 Highland Dr Fortuna CA
Ken Farley	Ken Farley	855 Ferndale, Calif 95536
Berin Farley	Berin Farley	124 Main St Fortuna, CA 95536
Jhanna Redoni	Jhanna Redoni	875 Stafford Rd. Scotia CA 95565
Lisa Lopez	Lisa Lopez	3465 Diana Dr Hydabulla CA 95547
Karen Hower	Karen Hower	278 Bellevue Ave Rio Dell CA 95562
Harriet Hassel	Harriet Hassel	99 Church Lane Ferndale
Michael Thrope	Michael Thrope	99 Church Lane Ferndale Ca.

