

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, reading "Robert V. Shinn". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

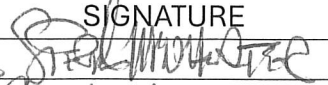
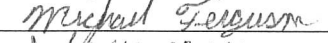
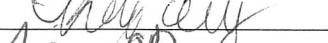
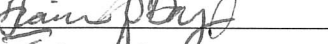
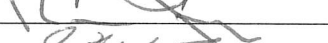
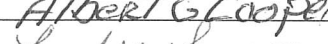
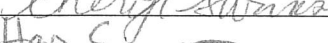
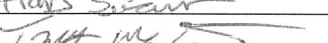
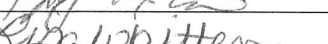
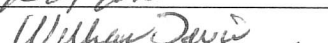
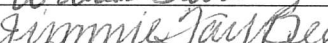
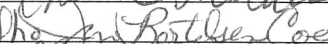
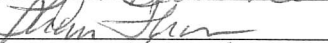
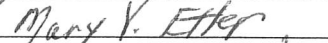
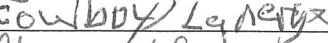
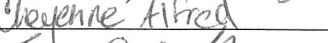
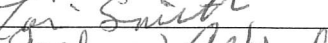
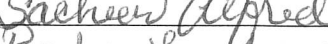
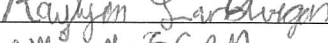
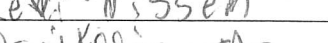
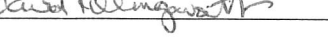


WE THE UNDERSIGNED SUPPORT THE DEDICATION OF the new Honeydew Bridge to

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

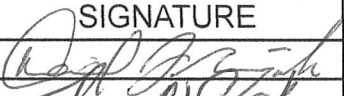
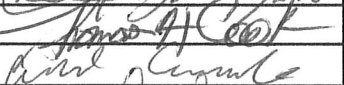
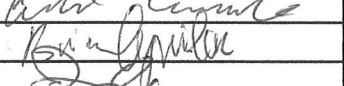
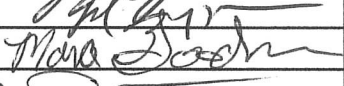
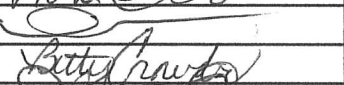
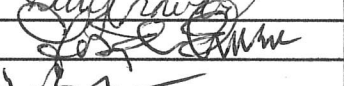
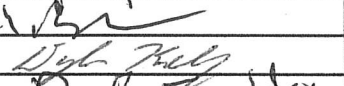
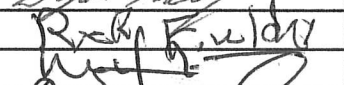
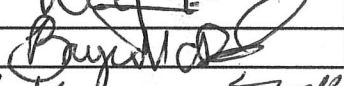
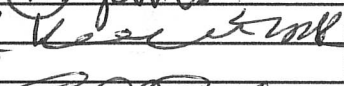
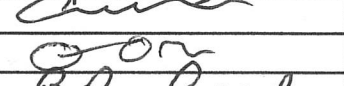
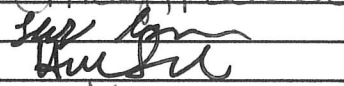
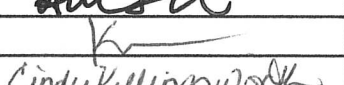
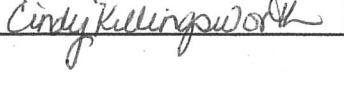
NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
STERLING McWHORTER		Box 210 PERCULIA, CA. 95550
Cindy McWhorter		"
Linda Laren		PO Box 1381 Ferndale CA 95536
MICHAEL FERGUSON		PO BOX 332 FORTYUNA
Kelly O'Day		495 Pleasant Point Rd Ferndale, CA 95536
Gianna O'Day		495 Pleasant Point Rd Ferndale, CA 95536
Troy Dawy		567 SCENIC DR LOLETA CA 95551
Ilen Ferguson		213 W Delmont St
Seth Aguiar		3825 East Eureka St 95503
Albert G. Cooper		1601 Chester Ave Arcata 95521
Lindsey Swanson		1447 Anwick Ln Arcata CA 95521
Cheryl Swanson		1899 Golf Course Rd. Bayside CA 95574
Hans Swanson		1899 Golf Course Rd Bayside CA 95524
Greg Zanotti		4015 Noah Ave. McKinleyville CA 95579
LISA WHITTEN		10433 Hwy 36 Carlotto, CA 95528
DAVID WHITTEN		" "
WILLIAM DAVIE		319 A St. FERNDAL CA 95536
JF BEAL		P.O. Box 86 FERNDALE CA
CHARLES MATTILA		P.O. Box 86 FERNDALE, CA 95536
Janis Bertelson Coelho		102 Fairview Dr. Ferndale CA 95536
Sharon Manges		89 Stafford Rd. Scotia 95565
Mary Etter		Honeydew
Glenn Cook		P.O. Box 2843 Petaluma, CA 94953
Robert Langer		10511 VANDUZER Rd Mad River
William (Cowboy) Langer		"
Chespenne Alfred		547 Pst Fortuna CA 95540
Lori Smith		3984 Loop Ct. Fortuna, CA 95540
Sachew Alfred		547 Pst. Fortuna, CA 95540
Raylynn Landreghn		715 Barry Ave Fortuna CA 95540
Levi Nissen		149 Kingston Rd Feildbrook CA
David Killingsworth		4064 D St. Eureka CA 95503

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Born 1920 – Died 1967

NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
Dan Miyake		1 Wilder Ridge Rd
Tom Cook		PO Box 321 Ferndale CA 95536
Arul Chingcho		PO Box 36
Brian Aguilar		PO Box 412
IAN SIGMUND		42354 MATTOLE PETROLIA, CA 95558
David Smith		45 Burnell Rd. Honeydew CA
Edgar Dominguez		PO Box 412
JOEL SKAGGS		P.O. 126
Mara Goodheart		P.O. Box 2 Honeydew, CA
Deborah Embry		P.O. BOX 60 Honeydew CA
Betty Crowder		PO Box 32 Honeydew
JOE EHMAN		1025 Meaux Rd Honeydew
Beauchamp Randal		29615 Mattole Rd. Petrolia
Dylan Kelly		P.O. Box 55
Rick Finkbe		37300 Mattole Rd Petrolia
Matthew Jones		PO Box 145 95545
Bryan McBeth		5757 Wilder Ridge Rd
Karla Knappe		41726 Mattole Rd. Petrolia CA 95558
Brent Knappe		41726 Mattole Rd. Petrolia CA
CURTIS LOWN		50525 Mattole Rd Honeydew
Rachel Lown		2575 ALLIANCE ARCA CA
BOB REEDE		2575 ALLIANCE ARCA CA
Stephanie Snow		740 Applewood Rd Honeydew
Amy Becca		50525 Mattole Rd Honeydew, CA
Lars Samuels		125 Old Windley Ranch Rd Honeydew
Michelle Miyake		2480 Panther Gap Rd. Honeydew, CA
TR Killingsworth		1 Wilder Ridge Rd.
Cindy Killingsworth		Box 1152 Ferndale CA 95536

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NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
Wally Coppini	Wally Coppini	375 Ogile 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 Smera	Cyrle Smera	280 Craig Street Ferndale
Roy W. NICKLAUS	Roy W. NICKLAUS	3400 EAST COLLEGE FORTUNA CA
Bird Chamberlain	Bird Chamberlain	3430 Rohrerville 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 Wappawall 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 McKittrick AVE FERNDALE
MARTIN	Mt. M	859 Washington St Bldg Bldg
Terry Melcher	Terry Melcher	2022 Shamrock Dr Fortuna
CLINT M. CHOR	CLINT M. CHOR	1404 AMBROSINI LN FERNDALE
ALAN M. MARR	ALAN M. MARR	111 COFFEY CA FERNDALE
George Taste	George Taste	890 Dillon Rd Ferndale Ca.
Jackie Wright	Jackie Wright	141 Tobacco Rd Petrolia, CA
Tim Grier	Tim Grier	2592 Pineview Dr. Fortuna CA
Jodie Rollins	Jodie Rollins	2592 Pineview Dr Fortuna
Tina Taste	Tina Taste	890 Dillon Rd Ferndale
Paul Moghi	Paul Moghi	614 Williams Ln Rd Ferndale
Steve Rosenberg	Steve 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
Kristen Olsen	Kristen 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 FINCKS	GRACE FINCKS	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. Santa CA 95565
Lisa Lopez	Lisa Lopez	3465 Diana Dr Hydrellia CA 95547
Karen Hower	Karen Hower	278 Bellevue Ave, Rio Delo CA 95562
Harriett Hassel	Harriett Hassel	99 Church Lane, Ferndale
Michael Thrope	Michael Thrope	99 Church Lane Ferndale Ca.

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