



**GRAND OPENING OF THE HISTORICAL KAWAIISU PRESERVE IN BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2017**

**2:00 PM—Traditional Kawaiisu Invocation by Kawaiisu Elder Luther Girado at the Preserve  
3:00 PM—Cultural Arts Association *Insights* Reception at Oak Tree Country Club**

The new *Historical Kawaiisu Preserve* in Bear Valley Springs will be opening to the public on October 22, 2017. BVS' newest amenity, the Preserve is located at the corner of Sunset Way and Stirrup Way, just off Jacaranda Drive. Kawaiisu Elder Luther Girado will commemorate the Preserve with a traditional Kawaiisu invocation. Afterward, the BVS Cultural Arts Association is hosting a celebratory reception at OTCC. Refreshments will be served, and presentations will be offered describing the significance of this new BVS destination. Among the speakers will be well-known archaeologists/anthropologists David and Tamy Whitley, residents of Bear Valley Springs and professional consultants to the Kawaiisu Preserve project. Other speakers will include popular Tehachapi News columnist Jon Hammond, an expert on Kawaiisu history and culture, and Tehachapi Heritage League president Charles White.

The unique *Historical Kawaiisu Preserve* is an area that was occupied for perhaps thousands of years by the Native American people who were the first inhabitants of the Tehachapi area. The site is notable for the large number of *pa-haz*, or acorn "grinding holes" that are scattered throughout a field of large granite boulders and mature valley oaks. The Preserve has been developed with a light hand on the natural setting, and includes a number of informative signs that describe key aspects of original Kawaiisu society. There is a parking area at the base of the site along Stirrup Way that has space for six vehicles. *Since parking is very limited, visitors to the opening ceremony should consider car pooling. Most parking will be along either Stirrup Way or Sunset Way.* The trailhead to the meeting site is located at the upper right of the parking area.

For reservations contact Linda Turco (phone: [661-821-1505](tel:661-821-1505); cell: [310-739-3772](tel:310-739-3772); e-mail: [LSTURCO1@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LSTURCO1@GMAIL.COM)) or leave a message stating the names of all those in your party, and whether you will need a gate pass (your contact information would also be appreciated). Directions to the Preserve are available on request. This event is free to the greater Tehachapi community. Refreshments will be served, and wine will be available for a nominal fee.