

North Fork Chamber of Commerce to Host Dedication Ceremony for Impressive North Fork Monument

June 4, 2008, North Fork, CA

The North Fork Chamber of Commerce and The Grizzly Century Committee are proud to announce the dedication of a hand carved grand-scale monument celebrating the cultural heritage of the Mono People as a gift to the North Fork Community. On Monday, June 9th, at noon, Mike Nolen of The Grizzly will perform the dedication and a special Mono blessing will be offered.

This impressive 14 foot structure was installed on May 12, 2008 at the intersection of Roads 274 and 225 on a foundation that has long been awaiting its showpiece. The monument is crafted out of single log, and represents the cultural ideology of the Coyote and Eagle Clans of the Mono People, as designed by Lynne Wells and interpreted by chain saw artist Giovanni Dalpoggetto. Giovanni was excited to accept the project and worked hard to ensure the monument presents a "WOW" factor that will stop passersby to take a closer look. The monument offers visitors directional signs to the many points of interest surrounding the North Fork community. The recent unpublicized monument installation attracted people by the dozens to watch the artist complete the finishing touches on his creation, including an impromptu field trip of children from North Fork Elementary.

The North Fork Monument is a community beautification project promoted by the North Fork Chamber of Commerce to stimulate greater interest to the region. The monument was developed in cooperation with the North Fork Rancheria and sponsored in part by The Grizzly Century, a 100-mile scenic bicycling event held annually in the North Fork area. The success of The Grizzly promotes the Sierra Vista Scenic Byway and provides funding to many North Fork community improvement projects. Steve Cook, Chamber President, acknowledges, "We are deeply grateful to Mike Nolen and the rest of The Grizzly Committee for continuing to believe in and financially support the vision we have for our community." The project spanned a period of 18 months and was completed with the help from many community volunteers and local tradesmen.

The Monument is another example of North Fork Chamber of Commerce projects designed to attract tourists to explore the unique charm of the community. The first project was an exterior beautification project for the [Sierra Mono Museum](#). The Mono People's culture and history defines North Fork uniquely from surrounding communities, and the museum is a gem. The [Sierra Vista Scenic Byway](#) route, truly a magnificent journey, begins at the community of North Fork.

North Fork is an easy drive of 45 miles north east of Fresno and Clovis, bordering Bass Lake south and is a wonderfully scenic alternative to the more traveled mountain destinations. It is the home to the North Fork Mono People, has a rich logging history and unique local charm. To learn more about North Fork visit www.north-fork-chamber.com.

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