

I'm forwarding this message to all of the Supervisors on behalf of Ms Raybee

PG&E \$ to Redwood Valley Grange

I was not only disappointed, but quite shocked to see that your plan to distribute the PG&E Disaster Settlement funds had nothing in it for the Redwood Valley Grange! The RV Grange has been a central connecting point for a century for residents in the area. During the evacuation and destruction of the Redwood Complex Fire, the Grange was the very CENTER of the community in so many ways. People met there to connect and hear the news, to be given free food provided by the Grange, by many of its members (myself included), so their children could play and be watched in a safe environment as they attended to collecting information, filing papers, using the computers generously provided and so much more.

The Grange serving the community during and for an extended period after the fire, was what made it possible for me not to throw out so much of the lamb I'd raised and had in my freezer while all of Potter Valley was evacuated and the electricity was off. As soon as I was able to go home, I made many casseroles and brought them to the Grange, knowing there were many families there in need of food and comfort.

It was during one of those visits that Nori Dolan, who had lost her home in the fire, and I connected over the subject of finding broken bits and holding free mosaic workshops for others who'd lost their homes; an opportunity to rebuild and connect artfully. When we did hold those very healing workshops, we also built a mosaic mural, with the involvement of any fire survivors who wanted to participate, to honor firefighters, thank neighbors and other active community helpers and memorialize those who'd lost their lives in the Redwood Complex Fire. Hundreds of hands were involved. Several buildings were considered when deciding where to mount the mural. The Redwood Valley Grange was chosen because it was SO CLEAR that they had been the center for community help of all sorts during and for a long time after the fire.



Elizabeth Raybee