



THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

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NEWSPAPER OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

FREE



Ignacio schools rock their mocs!

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Heritage dancers share culture

PAGE 24

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The Southern Ute Drum wins 10 Colorado Press Association awards



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Southern Ute Wildlife Resource Management Division Head, Aran Johnson explains how the center pivot irrigation system operates; the new infrastructure will bolster annual hay production at the Tribe's bison pasture.

WILDLIFE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Bison pasture adds center pivot for hay production

Program aims to be self-sufficient

By Jeremy Wade Shockley
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

The Tribe's Wildlife Resource Division recently acquired a center pivot for seasonal irrigation on a section

of the land it uses for ranging its bison herd. "The Southern Ute Tribe's current herd is numbered at 95 animals; 24 of those are this year's calves," Wildlife Resource Management Division Head,

Aran Johnson said. "The Bison Program aims to be self-sufficient, producing enough hay on the pasture to feed the bison herd through

Bison page 10



SU Water Resources

WCA crews are preparing to install the flared end section on the pipeline inlet.

WATER RESOURCES

Dr. Morrison Canal pipeline replacement project completed ahead of winter

By Joseph Bukosky, Soil and Water Conservationist
SOUTHERN UTE WATER RESOURCES DIVISION

The Dr. Morrison Canal, the largest canal on the Pine River Indian Irrigation Project (PRIIP), plays an import-

ant role in supporting the irrigation needs of the Southern Ute Tribe, delivering water to 3,947 acres of irrigable land.

In the fall of 2022, the Water Resources Division (WRD), assessed a pipeline near the canal's midpoint,

which services over 2,100 acres of Tribal and non-Tribal lands downstream. The assessment revealed that the nearly 1,000-foot corrugated metal pipeline was in failing condition. Severe deteriora-

Dr. Morrison page 12

SUCCM

Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum wins Community Impact Award

Reflections of Honor exhibit recognized

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM

The Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum (SUCCM) has recently won the 2024 Community Impact Award from the Association of Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums (ATALM) for the Reflections of Honor exhibit, which honors those Southern Ute Veterans who served in the Armed Forces from World War I to present day. The award is a celebration to all initiatives and programs that best exemplify community engagement and excellence within all Tribal museums, archives, and libraries in the United States.

SUCCM's Collections Manager, Tallias Cantsee, was awarded at the annual ATALM conference held in Palm Springs, Calif., Nov. 12-14 - which was hosted by the Aqua Caliente band of Cahuilla Indians. Cantsee also gave a short presentation about the mission of SUCCM and the process of the exhibit's development and impact within the community.

The extensive research on this exhibit involved the Southern Ute Veteran's Association and took inspiration from previous tempo-



Tallias Cantsee/SU Cultural Center and Museum

The Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum took home the 2024 Community Impact Award on Thursday, Nov. 14, from the Association of Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums in Palm Springs, Calif. for the Reflections of Honor Exhibit located in the museum's Permanent Gallery. The award celebrates the exhibit's excellence in community engagement.

rary Veterans exhibits and those objects showcased in those displays. The new exhibit features other items and oral histories that have also never been seen before from the SUCCM Veteran's Collection. Loaned items were also used in the exhibit plan including Vietnam era photos from Southern Ute Veteran, Rod Grove.

"The oral histories and photographs of Tribal veterans are vital part in telling the story of their experiences," said SUCCM Acting Director/Registrar & Archivist, Fabian Martinez. "It is important that we highlight these voices in this exhibit. Without those stories

and items, the experiences of those who served in these wars would be lost forever."

The exhibit's goal is to provide the Tribal member veterans a permanent, year-round, exhibit space to share their stories with the Tribal membership and public through interviews, military objects, personal wartime photography and SUCCM digitized archival military documents. The exhibit has been seen by thousands of visitors within the past year who have come to hear the oral histories and better understand the Ute people. "With this

SUCCM page 3

Thanksgiving with Barbone



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Chef Bill Barbone and Luana Herrera discuss the menu and recipes on Monday, Nov. 18 during the Cooking with Chef Bill & Carol Barbone class at the Multi-Purpose Facility. During this class, attendees learned to make breaded turkey cutlets, stuffing, cranberry infused gravy, and glazed carrots.

See more Cooking with Bill photos on page 4.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe: Run-Off Election



Linda Baker
Candidate
Tribal Council



Lorelei Cloud
Candidate
Tribal Council



James Olguin
Candidate
Tribal Council



Vanessa Torres
Candidate
Tribal Council

VOTE

Friday, Dec. 13, 2024

7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

285 Lakin St., Ignacio, CO



TRIBAL HOUSING

Ute Mountain and Southern Ute Tribes receive funding for affordable housing initiatives

Staff Report
REGION 9 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe were selected among a competitive field of applicants to each receive \$500,000 in grant funding from FHLBank Topeka's Native American Housing Initiatives (NAHI) Grants Program. This funding will directly support critical housing projects addressing essential needs within these communities.

First National Bank, Cortez, an FHLBank Topeka member, was a key partner in the application process. Cassie Alexander, Vice President and Senior Loan Officer, and Taryn Hight, Vice President and Mortgage Loan Officer, from First National Bank of Cortez, worked closely with both Tribes and Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado (Region 9 EDD) to submit a successful application.

"First National Bank, Cortez, was happy to work with Region 9 EDD and both the Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute Tribes to access and secure this funding through the NAHI," said Cassie Alexander, Vice President and Senior

Loan Officer. "The commitment and collaboration of all parties exemplifies the power of partnership in strengthening regional and Tribal housing initiatives in addition to bringing new grant dollars to Southwest Colorado."

The funds will be used by the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe to rehabilitate homes in central Towaoc, focusing on health and safety improvements for families. This initiative aligns with the Tribe's broader 2024 Community Housing and Master Plan, which includes substantial housing improvements and strategic community development.

"The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe is most grateful to the Bank of Topeka for its housing improvement grant of \$500,000," said Bernadette Cuthair, Director of Development and Planning. "This funding will help us leverage and additional \$600,000 from Prop 123 funding and will make a huge difference in the quality of lives for many of our members and their families."

"The Southern Ute Indian Tribe extends its sincere gratitude to FHLBank Topeka for this critical grant funding," said Chairman Melvin J. Baker. "This investment will directly address the urgent need for home re-

pairs among our Tribal members, ensuring their homes are safe, healthy, and secure. This grant, along with our existing programs, strengthens our commitment to providing a foundation for a thriving and resilient community."

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe will leverage its funding to expand its Rehabilitation Program, prioritizing urgent home maintenance needs for Tribal members to ensure safe and sustainable living conditions.

Through the 2024 NAHI Grants Program, FHLBank Topeka granted over \$5.3 million to Native American communities in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and Oklahoma.

Jeff Kuzbel, President and CEO of FHLBank Topeka, noted, "We are proud to continue to support Native American communities with increased funding for housing and community development. The quality and depth of the proposals we received highlight the ongoing needs within Native American communities. We are honored to expand our commitment to help these important populations thrive."

For information about the NAHI Grants Program, visit fhltopeka.com/nahi.



Damon Toledo/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

The annual Southern Ute Tribal Thanksgiving Dinner graced the Sky Ute Casino Event Center on Saturday, Nov. 22 in celebration of the holiday. Miss Southern Ute, Ellie Seibel (left) and Little Miss Southern Ute, Tauri Raines, introduce themselves to those in attendance.

This photo was first published in the Nov. 26, 2014, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Dave Brown/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

Southern Ute Tribal Chairman Howard Richards Sr. ensures the Tribe's support of a local dialysis center and nephrology medical practice by signing a commitment document. Ellen Roberts, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Mercy Medical Center waits for her turn to sign the paper during a news conference on Nov. 19 at the Leonard C. Burch Tribal Administrative Building.

This photo was first published in the Nov. 24, 2004, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



John T. Rehorn/SU Drum archive

30 years ago

Chairman Leonard C. Burch with Ute Mountain Chairperson Judy Knight-Frank during the 50th Anniversary of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI).

This photo was published in the Nov. 23, 1994, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Vida B. Peabody cutting her cake during a party honoring 21 years of being council secretary. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments. We won't be losing a Tribal employee but will be gaining another council woman.

This photo was published in the Nov. 30, 1984, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Tribal Office Closure

In observance of Thanksgiving, the Permanent Fund, Growth Fund, and SUSS offices will be closed from Thursday, November 28, 2024 to Friday, November 29, 2024.

Normal business hours will resume on Monday, December 2, 2024.

10th Annual LCB MEMORIAL WALK/RUN

December 10, 2024

SunUte Community Center

Registration: 9 a.m. • Walk/Run: 10 a.m.



The family of the late Leonard C. Burch would like to invite everyone to join them in the annual LCB Memorial Walk/Run. This event commemorates a distinguished former Tribal Chairman for his leadership and achievements on behalf of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Every December 10th is dedicated to honor Mr. Leonard C. Burch.

The first 100 adults to register will receive a free T-shirt. Children will receive a special prize.

Refreshments will be provided by Sky Ute Casino Resort & Sweet Peas Treats.

The 2024 LCB Walk is sponsored by:

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
SunUte Community Center
MBSS Attorneys
Shane Seibel Family & Colleagues



Information contact:
Leonora Burch
970-799-3498



Rock your mocs 2024!



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Ahead of the lunch hour, Ignacio Elementary Schools students gathered in the gym to showcase their moccasins and regalia during the Rock Your Mocs day event on Friday, Nov. 15 as part of the Native American Heritage Month celebrations.

Students at Ignacio Elementary School celebrated Native American Heritage Month by rocking their moccasins and other styles of regalia on Friday, Nov. 15. Students proudly represented their respective Tribes by wearing moccasins from various regions throughout Indian Country.



SUIT serves Thanksgiving dinner



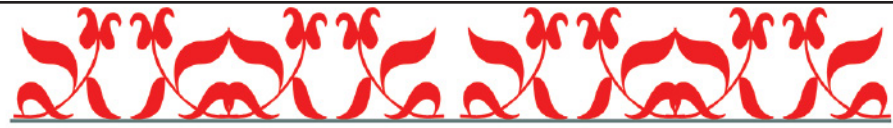
photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Members of the Southern Ute Royalty and visiting royalty joined together to deliver plates and small gifts to visiting elders during the Southern Ute Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 16 held at the Sky Ute Casino Resort.



Members of all three Ute Tribes gathered to celebrate the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday with each other on Saturday, Nov. 16, held at the Sky Ute Casino Resort. Families enjoyed music, small raffles, shared laughs, and ate a great meal.

Southern Ute Tribal member and local artist Mike Santistevan donated various gifts for the raffles held during the Southern Ute Thanksgiving Dinner, Santistevan stands with the winner of his hand-crafted star quilt on Saturday, Nov. 16.



Southern Ute Tribal Christmas Dinner

DECEMBER 14, 2024

11:00 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.

S KY UTE CASINO RESORT EVENT CENTER

Open to all Southern Ute Tribal Members & Immediate Family, Ute Mountain Ute, & Ute Indian Tribal Members

>Main Menu<

>Dessert<

Prime Rib, Ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes (gravy), | Chocolate Mousse in cups
sweet potatoes, calabacitas (corn/onion/chilies), fresh fruit, | Pumpkin pie w/ whipped cream
garden salad w/ 2 dressings, dinner rolls, cranberry sauce | Apple pie

Southern Ute Elders & Tribal Members with disabilities unable to attend in person may sign up for Home Delivery. Contact Southern Ute Elders Services @ (970) 563-2323.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

4p.m.

Enjoy Santa's favorites:

Christmas Cookies

Biscochitos

Iced cookies

Hot Cocoa



For more information contact:
TIS @ 970. 563. 2208



**1ST ANNUAL
HOLLY JOLLY CRAFT FAIR**
Saturday, November 30th
9a-4p

**Southern Ute Museum
Large Classroom**
503 Ouray Dr. Ignacio, CO 81137

Come get a jump start on Christmas shopping.
Handmade Items, Concession, Goodies,
and more.

For more information
please call Mandy
970-238-0838

**VENDOR SPACE IS
FULL!!**



SUCCM WINS IMPACT AWARD • FROM PAGE 1

exhibit, it will teach the entire community about what it is to be a Tribal veteran," wrote Howard D. Richards Sr. in a Letter of Support from the Southern Ute Veterans Association. "It also preserves and illustrates to anyone visiting the exhibit the history of the Southern Ute Veterans during wartime and peacetime."

The exhibits items will rotate in the future with new and existing artifacts within

the SUCCM Veteran's Collection to best highlight and showcase the chronology of Southern Utes role within United States wars and conflicts throughout history with the continued support of the Southern Ute Veterans Association.

"I would like to thank the Southern Ute Veterans Association for making this exhibit a possibility and sharing their stories with the community," Cantsee said. "I am

excited that the veterans are getting recognition internally from the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and externally through this ATALM award."

If any Tribal member veterans wish to contribute personal photography, interviews or loan items for future exhibit rotation and updates please feel free to contact SUCCM collections staff by phone, 970-563-2996 or by email, tcantsee@southern-ute-nsn.gov.

PUBLIC EVENT
Native American Education Program

3rd Annual ROUND DANCE & NATIVE AMERICAN ARTS MARKET

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH
12:00PM-11:00PM

MC:
Kenny Brown, N.
Arapaho/Cree/Arikara
Ft. Defiance, Arizona

STICKMAN:
Jessie Waskahat
Cree
Frog Lake, Alberta CA

SINGERS:
Lucas Ernest
Ministkwan
Saskatchewan, CA

Marcus Williams
Navajo
Hogback, New Mexico
CJ Murphy
Ft. Defiance, Arizona

Jay Aguilar
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Pearson Tahuka
San Juan Capistrano, California

PUBLIC WELCOMED // ALL SINGERS WELCOMED

Native American Arts Market: 12:00pm-4:30pm

Community Supper: 4:30pm

Round Dance & Market Continues: 5:30pm-11:00pm

DURANGO HIGH SCHOOL
2390 MAIN AVENUE

THIS IS A DRUG FREE AND ALCOHOL FREE EVENT
QUESTIONS OR MEDIA EMAIL: JFERNANDEZ@DURANGOSCHOOLS.ORG



NAPAC
NATIVE AMERICAN
PARENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE



HEALTHY RECIPES

How to cook winter squash: Spaghetti, acorn, or butternut

By Lisa B. Smith, RDN, CLC
SHINING MOUNTAIN HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Winter squash is filled with flavor and nutrients. They are rich in fiber and help control the rise in blood sugar, which is good for those with diabetes. They are also a great source of antioxidants and other nutrients including Vitamins A, C, Beta Carotene, B vitamins and minerals such as potassium to name a few.

With great nutrition and delicious taste, why not include these in your meals more often?!



courtesy nungning20/AdobeStock

Lisa B. Smith, RDN is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist with the Southern Ute Shining Mountain Health and Wellness.

Spaghetti, Acorn or Butternut Squash

Ingredients:

- 1 squash (butternut, acorn, spaghetti)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Sprinkling of salt and pepper

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cut squash in half and scoop out the seeds (and save for roasting later!).
2. Rub flesh with oil, sprinkle salt and pepper.
3. Place cut-side down on baking sheet.
4. Roast squash until the outer skin is soft and easily penetrated with a knife about 45-60 minutes. The orange flesh will be slightly browned and caramelized and very fragrant.

5. Scoop out the flesh and season according to taste (see below).

TIPS:

Spaghetti Squash: Spaghetti squash is hard to cut so place in the oven whole for about 15 minutes, then you will be able to easily cut it and remove the seeds. Rub with oil, then place back in the oven to finish roasting. Use a fork to remove the flesh and then top with your favorite sauce.

Acorn Squash: Try fresh or dried rosemary, olive oil, salt and pepper for an absolutely delicious flavor!

Butternut Squash: Try maple syrup and cinnamon for a sweet finish!

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEE HEARD: The therapeutic power of storytelling

By Tamara D. Turner
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Although we have had some fifty-degree days in November, the La Plata Mountains are showing us that winter is here. The snow and ice are looming and accumulating, while the darkness grows a few minutes longer every day.

This is the time to tell stories. This is the time to relish all that darkness brings: a time to go inward, a time to listen, a time to slow down, and welcome some healthy hibernation.

There are so many important reasons to tell stories. They are a crucial part of tradition; they transmit knowledge and values and reinforce or remind us of what can get brushed to the side in the buzz of summer and the back-to-school busyness of fall.

Humans were meant to tell stories. They always have. Stories hold life together, they give meaning, and help us navigate the world. Human brains actually understand and grasp meaning more fully when data comes in the form of a story. In fact, there are whole new careers and jobs that have emerged in the last decade around shaping product development, customer feedback, and development in the form of stories. One might say that we are hard-wired to tell stories and live by stories. In other words, there is a good reason why so many cultures utilize stories to pass on knowledge and wisdom. It seems to be part of our DNA.

Telling stories can also be deeply therapeutic. Because they shape meaning through narrative, they can focus on certain perspectives and leave others out. We tell ourselves stories about our own lives, about others, and about the world. Have you heard the phrase, “what story are you telling yourself about

that?” The phrase means that we do have choices about how we see a situation: what story we “make up” about it or how we choose to interpret it. There are so many angles and details we can include or leave out.

But I’m also talking about another kind of storytelling: sharing our stories with others as a courageous act of vulnerability. This is especially powerful because it is deeply humanizing. When we hear about others struggling, their doubts, their challenges, their fears, we are surely able to relate in some way. It helps us remember that struggle is something that binds us all.

For example, you might have noticed the Lift the Label campaign articles in the Drum and the focus on those is recovery sharing their personal stories not only of struggle, but of courage and recovery. Again, such courageous and vulnerable storytelling humanizes people we might otherwise be inclined to judge. Stories remind us that none of us are immune to life’s challenges; they simply come in a variety of forms.

The power of stories is why, at Behavioral Health, we are focusing on developing workshops in storytelling in various formats from filmmaking to podcasts. You might have come across the Native Braids podcast that also highlights the power of stories—how they stitch us together and remind us to be humble. Last week, Behavioral Health joined up with KSUT and the Youth Documentary Academy to develop some youth-focused opportunities around storytelling and filmmaking. We know that it is important for our youth to feel that their stories matter, too. Consider turning to your children, nieces and nephews or grandchildren and asking them what stories are most

meaningful to them. Ask them about the stories they would like to tell.

And there are so many additional ways that stories can be threaded into our lives and roles in the community – they help us understand each other in new ways.

We can ask ourselves “what story am I telling myself about this?” or “how would I like to tell my life story differently?”

What story does winter bring out in you? What are your favorite winter stories and why?

May you have a blessed entry into this wintry time and embrace the opportunity to go inward, light a candle (literally or metaphorically), and bundle up your resources for these months ahead.

Happy story time and here’s to your good health!

It’s okay not to feel okay

If you or someone you know has been struggling with their emotions, behaviors, or substance use please reach out to us. We can help you find appropriate tools and services that could help you overcome obstacles in your life. We are here for you. Please contact the Southern Ute Behavioral Health Division at 970-563-5700 for more information or to set up an appointment to see a counselor or therapist.

Reminder: If you need to talk to someone, please reach out

And for those interested in opioid use education, harm reduction, and support, please contact us for quick Naloxone (Narcan) training and fentanyl test strips. We can schedule individual, family, or friends training times at our Southern Ute Behavioral Health Building, or we can come to you, and the training is around 30 minutes. Please call us at 970-563-5700 to set up a training appointment.



Sign up for a FREE, healthy meal kit for you and your family with Shining Mountain Health and Wellness’s monthly program



Fall/Winter Recipe
Bison Skillet Dinner



Sign up for your meal kit now! Use the link below, or scan the QR code to quickly register in under 2 minutes!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMFallwinter2024>

Sign-up Deadline: Monday, December 2nd
Pickup Date: Wednesday, December 4th

Meal Kit Includes:
• Primary ingredients
• Recipe / Prep Tips
• Kitchen Hacks

Contact:
Lisa B. Smith 970-563-2344
*Pick-up date is firm as there will not be another opportunity later in the week.

Mammogram Luncheons



Have you had your mammogram yet this year?

Would you be more likely to go if you had a group of supportive women to go with you?

Interested?

Call Heather Sorensen, RN, Shining Mountain Health and Wellness Program Manager at 970-563-2349 for questions and eligibility requirements.

Shining Mountain Health & Wellness Program is able to provide assistance with transportation or scheduling mammogram appointments through a grant with the Colorado Cancer Prevention and Early Detection program. Financial assistance is also available for patients of Southern Ute Health Center who do not have insurance to receive breast and cervical cancer screenings.

Call 970-563-2349 or email hsorensen@southernute-nsn.gov

Chefin’ with Barbone



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Attendees of the Cooking with Chef Bill & Carol Barbone work on flipping the hand breaded turkey cutlets during the class. Chef Bill and his wife Carol visit the MPF as often as they can to visit their new and longtime friends and share delicious, affordable recipes for anyone who is interested in learning.



Vertical photo, with Cutline. MPF Admin Assistant, Stais Harlan takes over staffing duty during the Cooking with Chef Bill & Carol Barbone Class on Monday, Nov. 18 at the Multi-Purpose Facility. Harlan helped in meal prep in addition to leading the cooking class alongside the Barbones.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Caring for someone with addiction and yourself during the holidays

Staff Report
LIFT THE LABEL

Substance use disorder (also known as addiction) can be hard to navigate. It's even more challenging when you consider the stigma and shame people feel while they're struggling.

The holidays can be a tough time for anyone struggling with concerns—mental health, financial, physical health, etc. And it can be especially emotionally difficult for families and friendships that are already strained by substance use, and the conflicting feelings that may be there.

What can you do to help someone feel a little more support and hope during the holidays? Here are some ideas:

1. Language is powerful. Person-first language makes sure that a person is a person first, before their addiction. It's important to be intentional about the words we use when talking about addiction and recovery. For example, instead of calling someone an "addict" say "person with a substance use disorder" or "person struggling with addiction." The words we choose can have a big impact on someone, which can

be positive or negative. During the holidays, you may have a chance to offer someone a little encouragement, or an opportunity to help someone else find the right words.

2. Learn about options for help. One of the ways you can support someone is by learning more about addiction and different options for help and treatment. You can call the Southern Ute Behavioral Health Office at 970-563-5700 to make an appointment and talk about treatment options.

3. Be prepared with naloxone. You never know when you may need naloxone to reverse an opioid overdose. Keep some on hand for any emergencies. You can get some for free, no questions asked, at the Behavioral Health Center.

4. Be prepared with coping skills. Prepare mentally and emotionally ahead of your interactions with a family member or friend who has a substance use disorder. Coping ahead can be a great way to be self-aware and prepare yourself for interactions with loved ones. It can take a lot of energy to give love and support,

especially when there are conflicting feelings present. Set your boundaries with yourself and others ahead of time.

5. Order free Recovery Cards. Sometimes it can be tough to find the right words, but Recovery Cards has greeting cards available that you can use to write a supportive message to someone who may be struggling. Or, to write a message of thanks to someone who has supported you. Order your free cards at RecoveryCardsProject.com.

Remember, addiction is treatable, and recovery is always possible. Learn more about naloxone, addiction treatment options, and resources at LTLSouthernUte.org, or call the Southern Ute Behavioral Health Office at 970-563-5700 to make an appointment and talk about treatment options. You can also learn how individuals in your community found recovery.

If you have an immediate mental health, emotional or substance use concern, the 988 Colorado Mental Health Line is free, confidential and available 24/7. If you or someone you know is struggling, call or text 988 or live chat at 988Colorado.com.

TRIBAL HEALTH

Important notice to Southern Ute Indian Tribal members

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Effective Jan. 1, 2025, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Member Health Benefit Plan has contracted with a new Third-Party Administrator (TPA) and Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) for improved technology, service, and medical and prescription drug claims processing.

Auxiant will be the new TPA processing all medical claims incurred outside of the Southern Ute Health Center beginning Jan. 1, 2025. Auxiant has been in business since 1982 with over 30 years of Tribal Health Plan administration experience.

You will receive your new ID card in December. Please provide this card to all of your providers to ensure prompt receipt and processing of your medical and prescription drug claims. This applies to hospitals, clinics, physician offices, and retail pharmacies. A digital copy of your ID card will also be available on www.auxiant.com upon completing the member registration process for an online account or in the Auxiant Health mobile app which can be found in the App Store or Google Play on your smartphone. For any outstanding medical claims that have not been processed by your current TPA by Dec. 31, 2024, please have your provider re-submit these claims to Auxiant (PO Box 0392 Milwaukee, WI 53201-0392, Payer ID: 76079 or AUX01) for review and processing. For any questions on member eligibility/coverage verification, plan benefits, or claims status, you or your provider may also call Auxiant at 800-475-2232.

ClearScript will be the new PBM processing all prescription drug claims provided outside of the Southern Ute Health Center Pharmacy beginning Jan. 1, 2025. ClearScript is a leading Pharmacy Benefit Manager with many years of experience supporting Tribal nations and Tribal members. ClearScript will be able to answer any questions surrounding your prescription drug coverage and help you achieve the best outcomes for your prescribed medications. Please visit <https://www.clearscript.org/member> or call Member Services at 888-807-7858.

Please be sure to discard your current Medical and Prescription Drug ID card through Forest County Potawatomi Insurance Department and Silverback Rx on Jan. 1, 2025, and begin using your new ID card through Auxiant and ClearScript. Please be aware that you will also be receiving a Coordination of Benefits letter from Auxiant in January to verify if you are enrolled in any other insurance coverage outside of this plan. It is important that you respond to this inquiry timely via mail, on www.auxiant.com under AuxiantHealth Correspondence tab, or by calling Auxiant at 800-475-2232.

If you have any questions, please contact the Southern Ute Tribal Health Dept.

Auxiant
Independent Solutions • Real Results

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Members
Welcome to Auxiant!

Hello! We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Auxiant. We are your new Third-Party Administrator (TPA) effective January 1st, 2025. In this letter we will address questions that are commonly asked when changing to a new insurance company or TPA.

What is a Third-Party Administrator (TPA)?
A TPA is an entity (such as Auxiant) contracted to establish and provide administration for a health plan, such as the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Member Plan. A TPA is not an insurance company. Auxiant's primary role is to process and pay claims as instructed to by the Plan Sponsor via the Plan Document, which outlines all medical benefits.

What do I need to know about my Auxiant ID cards?
Auxiant ID cards identify all relevant information on your medical plan and contact information. Present your Auxiant ID card to all of your medical providers, including your physicians/clinics and hospitals, beginning January 1st, 2025. Auxiant ID cards will be mailed to you on December 15th. Use of the Auxiant ID card will ensure prompt claims payment when going to a medical provider. Auxiant will also be administering any claims incurred in 2024 that were not processed by your current Third-Party Administrator (TPA). Please have your provider submit any outstanding claims to Auxiant for review and processing.

How do I find healthcare providers in the Network?
This is an open access plan so there is not a PPO Network. You may go to any healthcare provider of your choosing. Plan payments will be made in accordance with Medicare-Like Rates for eligible medical claims.

Who do I call to pre-certify my hospital stay?
Admission Notification is required for inpatient hospitalizations and certain outpatient procedures. For pre-certification call 866-726-6584. It is recommended that you or your doctor call at least 48 hours in advance of a scheduled inpatient hospitalization or outpatient procedure or within 48 hours following an emergency admission.

Case Management – Auxiant is able to identify cases for early intervention through the claims and pre-certification process. A case manager may contact you to offer you guidance, education and assistance in understanding your treatment plan. Participation is voluntary.

How can I contact Auxiant?
Auxiant can be reached by phone at 800-475-2232, or by going online at www.auxiant.com. You have access to your claims and benefit information via our website.

Auxiant.com

Diabetes awareness walk



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

The 4th annual Outrunnin' Diabetes Fun Run and Walk, sponsored by the Albuquerque Area Dental Support Center and Shining Mountain Health & Wellness brought community members together for some physical activity on Thursday, Nov. 21. Participants make their way along the Bear Trail, kicking off the walk/run event on a warm autumn afternoon.

Southern Ute Legal Dept. Legal Assistant, Feather Astor signs her liability waiver ahead of the 4th annual Outrunnin' Diabetes Fun Run and Walk, Thursday, Nov. 21 at Sun-Ute Community Center.



Junior Miss Southern Ute, Leandra Litz gave opening remarks and introductions in both her Ute and Diné languages in support of the Outrunnin' Diabetes Fun Run and Walk, sponsored by the Albuquerque Area Dental Support Center and Shining Mountain Health & Wellness.

Southern Ute Tribal Health Department

will be closed

DECEMBER 5TH
8-5pm for Southern Ute Tribal Health Department training and retreat

regular hours to resume
Friday December 6th

Thank you

All phone calls to the Health Center, Optometry, Behavioral Health and Dental offices will be answered by the Triage Line. Please call (970) 563-4581 to contact the CHR's 970-563-4401



courtesy SUIMA

Families participated in SUIMA's November Family Night by learning to sew a simple Christmas stocking.

SUIMA

Pawaaghani po'okwatu – Eagle's Nest

Montessori tidbits

By Mari Jo Owens
PRINCIPAL

Most educators agree that younger children learn well from older children and siblings. In a Montessori classroom, students are given the opportunity to be taught by older students as the Montessori method has three age (grade) levels in every classroom. Each student benefits from the example of the older students and will soon be the "leader" of the class, setting the example for others to follow. Older children learn, in part, by teaching the younger ones.

Montessori students have a love of learning. This will transfer to any school setting that is stimulating and challenging. Allowing time to adjust to the new learning environment, the desire to explore new academic avenues can be met within the



Rhiannon Velasquez
Ute Language Coordinator
Southern Ute Indian
Montessori Academy

traditional classroom if the teacher is enthusiastic and provides the opportunity for learning.

There were around 250 people who came to enjoy our Thanksgiving meal – which was delicious!

School Board

The SUIMA School Board hosted a Native Heritage Day on Nov. 26 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the SUIMA dining hall. There were fun activities, good food, and a few energetic competitions.

Upcoming SUIMA events

- Every Friday: Early Release at 2 p.m.
- Dec. 2: National Special Education Awareness Day
- Dec. 9-10: Closed for Leonard C. Burch day
- Dec. 12: Swim with Santa
- Dec. 17: Parent Advisory Group (PAG) meeting
- Dec. 18: Family Night event
- Dec. 19: Education Department Film Showing
- Dec. 23 - Jan. 3: Christmas Break
- Jan. 6 – Students return



courtesy SUIMA

For Native American Heritage month, the students and staff raised the SUIMA nuughani, which sits in front of the Ute Language room.



courtesy SUIMA

Lower Elementary student, Shawnee Rizzo, completed the hundred board.

Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy

Open Enrollment

December 1, 2024 - December 11, 2024

SUIMA will be accepting enrollment

applications for new students to join us!

• A few openings - Pre-k/Kinder & Lower

Elementary

• Several openings - Toddler & Upper

Elementary

Go to our website www.suima.org to get the registration/enrollment packet or pick one up at the school.

If you have any questions, please call SUIMA

(970) 563-0253.



THE SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

GED AND ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY • WORKPLACE READINESS • ADULT EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

Tribal members and all Native Americans within a 50-mile radius are eligible for scholarships to cover program costs.

SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION CENTER
330 Burns Ave, Ignacio CO

MORE INFORMATION
(970) 536-2784
Email Andrea Schultz at aschultz@southernute-nsn.gov

JOIN TODAY AND TAKE THE NEXT STEP TOWARDS YOUR FUTURE!

Sandtray Play Therapy

Using the power of sand, container, and symbols for healing.

What is Sand Tray Therapy?

Sand Tray Therapy allows the client to express themselves by creating a safe space or world with figurines, toys, and sand in the tray. This helps them visualize their inner world and acts as a reflection of their life.



Who can benefit from Sand Tray Therapy?

Sand Tray therapy would be beneficial for those having a hard time verbalizing their thoughts, memories, traumatic experiences, or wounds such as those who have autism spectrum disorder, depression, anxiety disorders, ADHD amongst others.



DSS Family Therapist Angelina Whitehorse is Certified and Trained in Sandtray Therapy

For more information or to set up an appointment contact:

Angelina Whitehorse 970-563-2335 awhitehorse@southernute-nsn.gov

Southern Ute Education Department

After School Tutoring

Open to Southern Ute Tribal Members, 1st Descendants & JOM Students in High School

Monday - Thursday
4pm - 5:45pm

*Fridays are appointment only!

At Southern Ute Education Department High School Classroom

*Snacks will be provided

For more information please contact:

ShaRay Rock

srrock@southernute-nsn.gov

970-563-2794



IES hosts Thanksgiving meal



Krista Richards/SU Drum

Andres Richards, Junior at Ignacio High School helps serve families during the Ignacio Elementary School (IES) Thanksgiving Luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 21, in the Ignacio Elementary school cafeteria.

Hunter Frost and Kelcie Arrowchis sit with their son Redsky Jorgenson during the IES Thanksgiving Luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 21.



Southern Ute Student of the Season



Kandin Johnson
Eighth Grade
Ignacio Middle School

Kandin Johnson
My name is Kandin Johnson, my parents are Candi Valencia and Brandon Johnson and I attend Ignacio Middle School where I am an eighth grader. I have been nominated Southern Ute Student of the Season for Fall of 2024 because I have done a really good job at school this year and my teachers have noticed! I am trying hard!

My favorite subjects are math and science, and I also enjoy physical education so I can be active. My positive role models include my dad, mom, my nina and my grandma Neda. When I grow up I would like to be an engineer because I enjoy working with computers and hands-on activities.

Southern Ute Education Teacher Julie Stone nominated Johnson, and she shared her comments on his achievements, "Kandin is a joy to work with, he is fun and easy going he has made great strides in his academics this school year. He is kind, respectful, and very inventive. Kandin is a master at taking things apart and putting them back together."

Full text of the resolution available here: <https://www.hickenlooper.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Native-American-Heritage-Month.pdf>

peers, I enjoy having Kandin in class especially when he shares his laugh!"

Family comments, "We are proud of Kandin and the accomplishments he is making this year in school. Kandin is a joy to be around, he's always happy and making others laugh. Kandin, keep up the good work, always be kind and respectful. Your family is so proud of you!"

at after-school tutoring. She is excelling in both literacy and math because she approaches new challenges with a positive attitude. Zalissa is kind, helpful, and a good friend to her classmates. She has good attendance, and I look forward to her warm smile and cheerful greetings every day at school. Keep up the wonderful work Zalissa and congratulations!"

Her classroom teacher Ms. Ashika Wagner said, "I am so proud of Zalissa Johnson for being our SU Student of the Season. She possesses many qualities of being a responsible person in the classroom. Zalissa always listens attentively to instructions within our whole and small group activities. She assists others when needed and never hesitates to stop what she is doing to help others. Zalissa takes her time finishing schoolwork to ensure her work is perfect. She loves to take on new challenges and always comes to school with a smile. She is soon to be on second grade material on Lexia. Zalissa received a Bobcat Award for being our 'Writer-Cat Future Novelist' because she comes up with creative stories. She has outstanding handwriting, and she comes to school each day prepared to learn and with a positive attitude. She is a wonderful student in my class. Congratulations Zalissa!"

Family comments, "Zalissa is such a joy to be around, and she has a big heart. She is a great friend to all that she meets, she is always willing to help when needed. Zalissa continues to strive in her academics and always pushes herself to be great. She is kind, respectful and responsible. Zalissa, we are so proud of you, keep being amazing!"



Zalissa Johnson
First Grade
Ignacio Elementary School

Zalissa Johnson

My name is Zalissa Johnson, my parents are Candi Valencia and Brandon Johnson and I attend Ignacio Elementary School where I am a first grader. I have been nominated Southern Ute Student of the Season for Fall of 2024. My favorite subject is math, and I enjoy playing with my friends at school. My positive role models include my mom, dad, my brothers, aunts, and Ms. Wagner. When I grow up, I would like to be a teacher.

Southern Ute Education Teacher Denise Krispin nominated Johnson, and she shared her comments on her nomination, "I am happy to nominate Zalissa Johnson for Southern Ute Student of the Season. Zalissa works hard and stays focused on her learning at school and

STATE OF COLORADO

Resolution celebrating National Native American Heritage Month

Staff report
OFFICES OF HICKENLOOPER AND BENNET

U.S. Senators John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet, along with 44 of their fellow senators, celebrated the Senate passage of their resolution to recognize November 2024 as National Native American Heritage Month.

opportunity to consider and recognize the contributions of Native Americans to the history of the United States," wrote the senators.

National Native American Heritage Month is observed to honor the contributions of Native Americans throughout history and into the present day to the United States and recognize Native American Tribes' unique cultures and heritages.

made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the world in many fields, including agriculture, environmental stewardship, wayfinding, medicine, music, dance, language, and art," the senators continued.

Full text of the resolution available here: <https://www.hickenlooper.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Native-American-Heritage-Month.pdf>

Applications for Advanced Standing MSW Program

Students with a bachelor's degree in social work (BSW) are eligible for a one-year Masters of Social Work program through the University of Denver. The program starts summer 2025 and classes are taught in Durango. Stipends for child welfare, integrated behavioral health care are available. Native American tuition support to eligible students is also available. For more info contact Janelle.Doughty@du.edu or www.du.edu/socialwork.

Bobcats climb to the top!



photos courtesy Candi Johnson

Students celebrate alongside the Ignacio Elementary School's life-size bobcat mascot during their first-grade bobcat assembly (Zalissa Johnson is getting an award) on Tuesday, Nov. 12.



The bobcat mascot joined in on the fun at the Ignacio Elementary School's fourth-grade bobcat assembly (Amonnie Johnson is getting a reading award) on Thursday, Nov. 14.



CLOSE UP: NATIVE AMERICAN AND ALASKAN NATIVE YOUTH SUMMIT

April 27- May 2, 2025

Enrolled High School Students
Must have 2.0 GPA or Better

Five Spots Open to Southern Ute Tribal Members
Five Spots Open to Community Students

For more information please contact Dustin Weaver 970-563-2786
dweaver@southernute-nsn.gov





courtesy BGC

BGC took a field trip to the Aztec Ruins, Friday, Nov. 8, in Aztec, N.M.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Club Connect: Congrats graduates!

Staff report

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Youth of the Month

Our Youth of the Month focuses on acknowledging and making club members aware of their own unique character and abilities. As staff, we want to recognize them by their positive attributes seen in their club driven experience.

For this month of, our Youth of the Month award goes to Mariana Wolf!

Congratulations on behalf of BGCSU staff!



BGC Announcement

Welcome Loren Montoya and welcome back Cameron Orendorff, we are fully staffed!

BGC Shoutouts

Thank you SunUte staff for hosting "Bridge the Gap" for our Club members with BGC staff. Thank you

SUPD and Victim Services for collaborating on the Thanksgiving "Giving Baskets," twenty-six families received baskets of Thanksgiving meal items. Thank you, Sky Ute Casino, and to those who donated prizes for our "Elk Hunt" Raffle and

thank you to those who have purchased tickets. The raffle has a total of twenty prizes. This year's ticket holders have the best chance of winning a prize.

BGC highlights

BGC staff and Southern Ute Tribal Council liaison, Andrew Gallegos, attended the 2025 BGCA Native Summit in Chandler, Ariz.

Program Highlights

On Nov. 8, BGC took a field trip with MSI to the Aztec Ruins. They got to tour the ruins and learn a few things along the way. The kids really enjoyed their time there!

Board highlights

The Board of Directors has submitted two Tribal Council packets to appoint Randi Rock and re-appoint Amy Barry to three-year terms, and a Payroll Deduction option for Permanent Fund Employees.

Employees who donate one hour of pay each month will receive an Administrative Day to be used on or near their birthday.

The Board of Directors are organizing the Taste of Christmas Light Parade, Friday, Dec. 6 – keep an eye out for the BGC float.



courtesy BGC

BGC got to tour the Aztec Ruins and learn a few things along the way. The kids really enjoyed their time there!

Jicarilla Chieftain visit Drum



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

The Southern Ute Drum staff welcomed the Jicarilla Chieftain newspaper (Dulce, N.M.) to their Ignacio office on Tuesday, Nov. 19, sharing advice and ideas for production. Similar to the Drum, the Jicarilla Chieftain covers issues and topics important to their Tribal membership through print media. The Jicarilla Chieftain toured the office space and photo studio gaining insight to the software and equipment used by the Southern Ute Drum staff; feeling inspired, the team hopes to grow their newspaper and expand into digital content by developing a website and social media presence. Pictured left to right – Editor, Cougar Vigil; Office Aide, Mariah Martinez; Managing Editor, Treston Tafoya; and Reporter, Denton "OJ" Garcia Jr.

2024/2025 SNOW CLEARING SERVICES

12"- Roof-Raking

Our drivers do their best to serve you and many others during snow storms, please be patient as they work through their routes. It is not uncommon for work on routes to extend through the early afternoon.

If you are a Tribal Member Elder who is frail or disabled and need assistance with snow shoveling, please contact:

Tribal Housing - (970) 563-4710

5"- Tribal Members

3"- Dialysis Patients, Frail Elders, & Tribal Members with a Disability

Please call the **Tribal Hotline (970) 563-4800** for information regarding office closures, weather reports, and clinic updates.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM ADVOCATE TRAINING

This free 30-hour training certifies you as a victim advocate in the state of Colorado

Spring Training Dates:

- Ⓟ Saturday, 1/18, 9 AM - 5 PM
- Ⓟ Wednesday, 1/22, 4 PM - 7:30 PM
- Ⓟ Wednesday, 1/29, 4 PM - 7:30 PM
- Ⓟ Wednesday, 2/5, 4 PM - 7:30 PM
- Ⓟ Thursday, 2/6, 5 PM - 7:30 PM
- Ⓟ Saturday, 2/8, 9 AM - 5 PM
- Ⓟ Wednesday, 2/12, Overflow day TBA

Ⓟ In person Ⓟ Online

Please submit an application
www.durangosasao.org/volunteer

****Application DEADLINE 1/13/25****

Contact Tahleiah Begay, Communication & Volunteer Coordinator, at tahleiah@durangosasao.org for more information

Deadly Aunties Tea and earring making

December 4th from 12 - 1

SASO Office - Elhi Community Center 115 Ute Street, Room 22, Ignacio, CO

Come sip tea with us while we talk about community issues and how to solve them.

WINTER WEATHER TIPS!

As winter approaches, the Construction Services Division wants to remind you to prepare your homes. Turn heaters to a minimum of 60 degrees. Plug in your heaters at the pump house and apply heat tapes to your water lines to prevent freezing.

If you need assistance, contact Construction Services at
970-563-0260.



Cultural hunt: San Felipe



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Visiting hunters from San Felipe Pueblo visited the Southern Ute Indian Reservation on Monday, Nov. 18 to participate in a cultural hunt. Before heading off to the hills, the group visited the Southern Ute Tribal Council sharing their hopes for the hunt and their gratitude for the opportunity.



San Felipe Pueblo hunters stand alongside of the Southern Ute Tribal Council ahead of their cultural hunt on the reservation on Monday, Nov. 18.

Howe harvests deer for Laguna



courtesy Takia Martin/Laguna High School

Southern Ute Tribal member, Gerald Howe, harvested a deer for Laguna Middle School and Elementary School, Tuesday, Nov. 19. This was part of the middle school's Language and Culture class, which has incorporated deer hunting into their curriculum.



courtesy Bernadine Cheromiah



courtesy Takia Martin/Laguna High School

In gratitude, both schools presented Howe with "Give Back" baskets filled with canned goods, sugar, flour, coffee, and other essentials as a token of appreciation. The schools also prayed for Howe and his family, offering their heartfelt blessings for their well-being and that he may harvest more deer in the coming years.

Students learn Keres vocabulary related to hunting, traditional practices such as the welcoming of the deer, proper skinning and quartering techniques, and later prepare a shared community "Deer Dinner".

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2024/2025 Southern Ute Firewood Season

The 2024/2025 firewood season begins Tuesday October 1, 2024 and runs through April 30, 2025. You may place firewood orders with Forestry Division at (970) 563-4780 Monday through Friday 8am – 5:00pm.

Firewood may be picked up from the Forestry Fuels Yard Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM and 12:30 PM – 4:00 PM. Firewood deliveries for Tribal member elders residing within the exterior boundary of the Southern Ute Reservation occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the order in which they are received. No firewood pickups or deliveries will occur on Fridays.

To be eligible for the firewood program you must be a Southern Ute Tribal member 18 years and older and have a functioning firewood place or wood stove at your primary residence.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

8TH ANNUAL CHARITABLE

ELK HUNT RAFFLE

TICKETS SOLD AT SKY UTE CASINO RESORT DURING THE FOLLOWING TIMES

FRIDAYS 6PM-8PM
SATURDAYS 10AM-2PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST 10AM-3PM

TO PURCHASE TICKETS OUTSIDE OF THESE TIMES, PLEASE CONTACT BOYS & GIRLS CLUB AT 970-563-4753

DRAWING DECEMBER 1, 2024 AT SKY UTE CASINO RESORT

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

8TH ANNUAL CHARITABLE

ELK HUNT RAFFLE

\$30/ TICKET
MUST BE 21 OR OLDER TO PURCHASE

DRAWING DECEMBER 1, 2024 AT 4PM AT SKY UTE CASINO RESORT

TWO SHOTS AT A GRAND PRIZE PACKAGE & MANY OTHERS

Grand Prize (2): Hunting Trip including 1 Cow Elk tag, 2 night stay at Sky Ute Casino, & \$150 to Seven Rivers Steakhouse

- 36in Wood Burning Fire Globe
- Pendleton Blanket
- Custom Benchmade Knife
- Leupold Rangefinder
- 24qt Insulated Igloo Cooler
- ...and many more!

Hunt will take place on the Southern Ute Reservation in the Sandoval unit from Dec. 14th - 22nd, 2024. One free guest allowed. Additional guest requires an additional fee. Both require crossing permit which can be obtained from the Southern Ute Wildlife Division. Ages 12-21 will need to have their Hunters Safety license. Need not be present to win. All funds raised will benefit the Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe.

Tickets will be sold at Sky Ute Casino on Fridays & Saturdays in November or from a Boys & Girls Club administrative staff member. To purchase tickets from a staff member, call (970) 563-4753.

COLORADO TRANSPORTATION

Thanksgiving week DUI enforcement begins Thursday

Staff report
COLO. DEPT. OF
TRANSPORTATION

If your Thanksgiving plans include alcohol or cannabis, plan a safe and sober ride home – your loved ones will be thankful you did. From Nov. 21 to Dec. 4, the Colorado Department of Transportation will support the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) and 75 local law enforcement agencies for The Heat Is On Thanksgiving Week DUI enforcement period. Drivers may see saturation patrols, sobriety checkpoints and additional law enforcement officers on duty dedicated to arresting impaired drivers.

According to preliminary data, between 2020 and 2023, Thanksgiving had the second-highest average of roadway fatalities in Colorado during a holiday period. Additionally, Thanksgiving ranks third highest for impaired driving-related fatalities during holidays over this same time frame. Last year's Thanksgiving Week enforcement period concluded with 353 reported DUI arrests across Colorado. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), there were 833 impaired driving-related fatalities during the Thanks-

giving holiday period from 2018 to 2022 nationwide.

“So far this year, 181 people have died on Colorado roads due to impaired drivers,” said Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “The holidays are a time to celebrate with loved ones, not mourn their loss. Colorado law enforcement is looking for impaired drivers to ensure every seat at your Thanksgiving table is filled. You can help. Take the steps to prevent a life-changing crash by using a ride-sharing service, taxi, or public transit to get home safely.”

This Thanksgiving, The Wilhite Law Firm is offering to reimburse Uber or Lyft trips with rideshare credits to keep Coloradans safe and promote sober rides. This offer is valid for a one-way ride to your home and may be redeemed one time for the entire duration of the program (Nov. 27 to 30). You must submit your receipt for an Uber or Lyft credit reimbursement within two weeks of the last day of the program. Anyone age 21 or older who resides in Colorado with a valid ID may participate in the program. Visit www.wilhitelawfirm.com/ride-share-program/ for program information.

“Make the smart choice

and put your keys down if you've been consuming alcohol or cannabis – don't risk a DUI, crash or worse this Thanksgiving,” said CDOT's Office of Transportation Safety Director Darrell Lingk. “Make it to your gatherings and holiday celebrations safely by making sure a designated driver is part of your plans. Even if you think you're OK to drive, it's always better to call a sober friend than put yourself and other Coloradans in danger.”

The recent Halloween Weekend DUI enforcement period concluded with 179 arrests across 86 participating agencies. The agencies with the highest arrests were Colorado Springs Police Department (18), Larimer County Sheriff's Office (12) and Fort Collins Police Department (11). CSP reported 40 arrests. Following Thanksgiving Week, the next DUI enforcement period will be Holiday Parties from Dec. 12 to 25.

For yearly impaired-driving crash and fatality data in Colorado, visit <https://www.codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety/data-analysis/fatal-crash-data>. For local law enforcement agency plans, visit <https://www.codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety-reporting-portal>.

BISON PASTURE ADDS PIVOT • FROM PAGE 1



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Southern Ute Wildlife Resource Management Division Head, Aran Johnson walks the length of the center pivot irrigation system, which will bolster annual hay production at the Tribe's bison pasture, Wednesday, Oct. 23.

the winter months without having to purchase hay from outside sources,” Johnson said. “The pasture currently produces hay on about 50 acres using both gated pipe and side-roll irrigation systems and it falls a little short of producing enough hay for the herd of 95 animals. The center pivot will add about 65 acres of hay production on the pasture, and once fully producing will provide more than enough hay to feed the entire herd through the winter months.”

The total acreage of the bison pasture is 350 acres, which sits just southeast of Ignacio on Tribal land.

“This project is fully aimed at making the Bison Program self-sufficient with regard to hay production for the herd,” Johnson said. “If in the future the pivot produces surplus hay, then it may be possible to use that as a revenue source for the Tribe.”

The center pivot project is funded by a combination of Tribal funds and a USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) grant. After the Tribe pays upfront for certain parts of the project, the NRCS reimburses the Tribe for completing stages of the project. “When it's all said and done the NRCS will have reimbursed the Tribe for nearly 70% of the cost of the system,” Johnson said. “Installing the complete system (materials and labor) was contracted at \$168,000.”

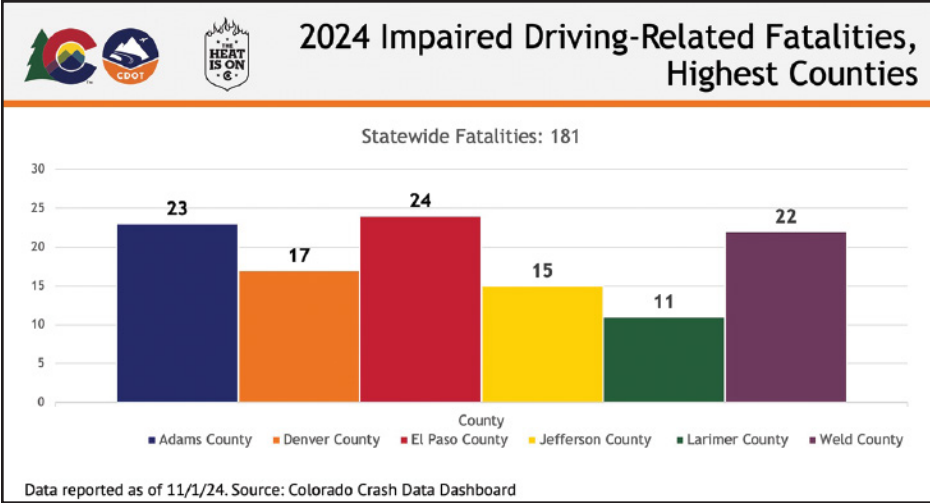


Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Technicians with Water Works Irrigation, Inc. out of Alamosa, Colo. put the finishing touches on the newly installed center pivot irrigation system, Wednesday, Oct. 23.

The contractors working to set up the irrigation system in the latter half of October were with Water Works Irrigation, Inc. based in Alamosa, Colo. “Irrigation season is generally mid-May thru September,” Johnson said. “We expect that the system will be up and running during the 2025 irrigation season and will be fully producing hay by the end of the 2027 irrigation season.”

“Adding the center pivot to the pasture will also require adding cross fencing to exclude the herd during the hay season,” he said. “Excluding the pivot and an adjacent side roll field will mean that almost 100 acres of the 350-acre total pasture will be off limits to the animals mid-May through September. Therefore, some of the smaller hay-producing fields will be converted to irrigated pasture where the herd has access year-round.”



Alternative Horizons

Join a team of dedicated volunteers. Alternative Horizons needs 15 or more volunteer advocates, including those who are bi-lingual, to staff our 24-Hour hotline. Do impactful work and build new relationships. Flexible scheduling available. AH supports and empowers survivors of domestic violence. If you'd like to make a difference in the lives of others, call the office for more information at 970-247-4374.

IGNACIO'S ANNUAL

TASTE OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 6, 2024
5PM-8PM

Light Parade | Gingerbread House Contest
Christmas Storytime & Stuffy Sleepover
Fill Your Bowl | Hot Cocoa Bar | Holiday Market
Photos with Santa | Reindeer Games
and More!

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB AND THE IGNACIO CREATIVE DISTRICT PRESENT

IGNACIO'S TASTE OF CHRISTMAS LIGHT PARADE

6TH DEC 2024 AWESOME CASH PRIZES FOR TOP 3 ENTRIES

FREE ENTRY, LINEUP BEGINS AT 4:00PM @ IGNACIO HIGH SCHOOL
GOODIES MAY BE HANDED OUT BUT NOT THROWN
SCAN TO PRE-REGISTER A FLOAT

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT US AT CASANCHEZ@SOUTHERNUTE-NISM.GOV



AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

That Farm Life: Shared experiences to benefit the beginning farmer

Manicuring the farm

By Marvin Pinnecoose
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Make your bed

Navy Admiral William McRaven once addressed the graduating class of 2014 at the University of Texas in Austin. His speech was very motivating, inspiring, and revealing. For me it revealed a need to look at how I prioritize the day and how I spend the early morning, which to a farmer, is the most important part of the day. At this point, I have adapted to getting up early in the morning to walk the fields, tackle water issues, and analyze the fence lines.

The contribution that Admiral McRaven made to me is adding in the simple concept of making my bed every single morning BEFORE I do anything else. Sounds easy enough, but it's not just the repetitive nature of doing the right thing or creating a positive habit that is being emphasized, it is the first win of your day. By making your bed every single day, you create an appreciation of having tackled an obstacle right from the onset. Doing this creates momentum for taking on other challenges. It is infectious. I guess another way to start the day out right is when you open your eyes, you count from five backwards. When the countdown is complete, you jump out of bed and stand up straight and get 'er done.

The key to counting down backward is that it creates a finish line that is easily defined and immovable. Doing these two things can change the trajectory of your day. It gives you a sense of purpose and an accomplishment that just feels good.

Optimism is a choice

So now that we feel good about the day, I like to walk the fields before going to work and see what has changed from the day before. In the spirit of keeping things nice and tidy, I like to look at what can be done in the fields to make things pleasant, visually appealing ... how can I make this bed.

I'm sure it's easy to say that mowing and manicuring the fields and fence lines is a waste of time. The focus should always be on maximizing the product, minimizing costs, and developing systems of efficient operation. This puts people in a position of sticking to the basics: seed, fertilize, irrigate, harvest, and repeat. Sure, that's the point, and to most, it's probably the most that they expect to do in the fields before moving on to other things ... part of the "good enough" mentality. For me, I seek to find a way to create an environment that makes me want to stay in the fields all day long. This led me to the idea of manicuring my ditches on the property. The beginning of the year



Marvin Pinnecoose/Special to the Drum

Satisfaction can be found in the achievement of a little bit of manual labor. No one is above the routine tasks of picking up a shovel or a pair of loppers.

power tractor and a lot of back-and-forthing down the ditch banks. It takes a while to cut approximately 5,400 feet of ditches when you are limited to six-foot swipes. The adage applies "it's a cinch by the inch". Don't think about it, just put on your favorite playlist and enjoy the scenery as the weekend toils away. The struggle begins in the first year of irrigation after first cut, we notice that it is a lot of headaches trying to trudge through the weeds and high grass. It is hard to see where the water is. It is hard to identify and clean corrugated areas. It is taxing and quite a waste of energy taking higher steps, having the weeds and willows grab the water boots with every step. This is where I often wipe out at least once per year misjudging my steps because I could not see where the dirt ends, and the ditches begin. I'm talking full tumble with no grace and no agility attached, just a man lying in the ditch rethinking life and taking a deep breath before getting up and getting back to it. It's easy enough to dry off your jeans, drain the water from the boots, and patch up your pride, but still, it makes for a rough day when visual impairment occurs. Blame what you will, but life becomes much easier when the ditches are manicured.

power tractor and a lot of back-and-forthing down the ditch banks. It takes a while to cut approximately 5,400 feet of ditches when you are limited to six-foot swipes. The adage applies "it's a cinch by the inch". Don't think about it, just put on your favorite playlist and enjoy the scenery as the weekend toils away. The struggle begins in the first year of irrigation after first cut, we notice that it is a lot of headaches trying to trudge through the weeds and high grass. It is hard to see where the water is. It is hard to identify and clean corrugated areas. It is taxing and quite a waste of energy taking higher steps, having the weeds and willows grab the water boots with every step. This is where I often wipe out at least once per year misjudging my steps because I could not see where the dirt ends, and the ditches begin. I'm talking full tumble with no grace and no agility attached, just a man lying in the ditch rethinking life and taking a deep breath before getting up and getting back to it. It's easy enough to dry off your jeans, drain the water from the boots, and patch up your pride, but still, it makes for a rough day when visual impairment occurs. Blame what you will, but life becomes much easier when the ditches are manicured.

Be proud of going the extra mile

Last, but not least, I personally believe that how you maintain your property reflects how you conduct your operations. I like visiting businesses that pay attention to being clean and professional. Sure, it's tough to keep the weeds and willows down, but I'm still a firm believer that a person can farm from the ditches

all the way up to the fences. Keeping the grasses down also helps with snake and rodent control.

At the end of the day, I just like the way it looks. It is easy to maneuver around from point to point. It is also pleasing to own, gets compliments from passing traffic (beep beep), and helps set a high bar for curb appeal.

Be the change that you want to see in the world.



Marvin Pinnecoose/Special to the Drum

Every year the density of weeds diminishes. One day, I am hoping that the entire property will only be filled with grasses and harvestable legumes.



Marvin Pinnecoose/Special to the Drum

The property looks so much better when it's been manicured. The goal is to make this the norm through the entire hay season ... April through October.

FATHERHOOD IS SACRED-MOTHERHOOD IS SACRED CLASS

December 2024



This is Native American Fatherhood & Families Association-

NAFFA's foundational program that helps strengthen families by empowering and uplifting fathers and mothers. The class teaches core principles to help strengthen them as parents.

Native people believe in the sanctity of many things; animals, mountains, burial grounds, etc., but the most sacred is our role as a father and our role as a mother.

FIS/MIS is a 6-week virtual class (Microsoft TEAMS) for those wanting to improve family relationships, prepare them to become responsible parents, reduce recidivism and substance abuse, and improve safety for our children. We have the vision to pave our way into a future where fathers and mothers will experience a truly happy family. This course is uniquely designed with culturally relevant material to teach parents the vital impact of being responsibly involved in each child's life.

December Classes begin:

12/5, 12/11, 12/12, 12/16, 12/19, 12/30, 1/2, 1/6

Each class will be from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Please contact Family Therapist Angelina Whitehorse to register at 970-563-2335 or email at awhitehorse@southernute-nsn.go



This class is VIRTUAL
Each participant needs the following to attend:

- A working email
- Solid internet connection
- A smartphone, tablet, or laptop with a mic
- Download the Microsoft Teams APP
- A QUIET SPACE
- Application Form completed

WATER RESOURCES

USDA announces investments for Tribal communities and acequias

Staff report
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced next steps and selections within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Water-Saving Commodities program to support agricultural commodity production while reducing water losses in communities across the West. USDA is announcing the preliminary selection of three Congressionally authorized Indian Irrigation Projects supported by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and a new initiative to support acequias in the Southwest through a partnership with New Mexico and Colorado associations of conservation districts.

In August, USDA announced the preliminary selection of 18 irrigation districts for the production of water-saving commodities. USDA has entered into formal agreements with all 18

districts to implement water-saving strategies across the West. With the addition of today's preliminary selections, these Water-Saving Commodities partnerships – which support irrigation organization projects and producers in using innovative water saving technologies and farming practices, while continuing to produce crop commodities in the face of continued drought – are expected to conserve up to 50,000 acre-feet in water use across 250,000 acres of irrigated land in production, while expanding and creating new, sustainable market opportunities.

“The United States is experiencing the devastating and unpredictable effects of climate change, and in the West, this often means grappling with drought and limited water availability, the staggering effects of which our agricultural communities feel first-hand,” Vilsack said. “In doing everything we can to support the health of American ag-

riculture and our natural resources, we are leveraging this effort and the expertise in the western irrigation districts, Tribes, and acequias to help not only our producers, but also the American consumer. It is paramount that we make opportunities like this accessible to all agricultural communities, including Tribal and underserved communities.”

This effort is part of a larger all-of-government approach to address drought throughout the West. In regions like the Colorado River, Rio Grande, and Deschutes River basins, this integrated approach and partnership with local farmers is important in ensuring a more sustainable and resilient future for rural communities.

Tribal communities

Reflecting USDA's priorities and goals to broaden the scope and reach of its conservation pro-

USDA page 16

DR. MORRISON CANAL PIPELINE • FROM PAGE 1



SU Water Resources

In with the new! A segment of the new 48" pipe being checked for proper grade.

tion from years of abrasion and corrosion, particularly at the pipe's bottom, had caused the pipe to completely rust through and begin collapsing. Corrugated metal pipes like this one typically have an expected lifespan of about 25 years, and it is estimated that this pipe has exceeded 50 years of use.

To address this critical issue, the WRD requested emergency funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, PRIP owner and operator, to replace the failing pipeline. With assistance from Southern Ute Lands Division, a detailed site survey was completed for the existing pipeline. Utilizing the complied survey data, pipe manufacturer Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc. developed a CAD-drawn pipe lay diagram to guide the installation of the new pipeline. After evaluating various options, WRD selected a 48-inch-diameter Dual Wall HP Storm Pipe for its durability, 100-year minimum service life, and capacity to handle varying irrigation and storm flows. Factors such as downstream ir-



SU Water Resources

The original corrugated metal pipe's poor condition as seen during a 2022 assessment performed by the Water Resources Division.

rigation demands, channel slope, flow rate, headwater impacts, were all considered in the design process.

Once funding was approved, the WRD engaged in a contract with WCA Construction, a Ute Mountain Ute owned company, for the project. Construction commenced Monday, Oct. 14, immediately following the end of the irrigation season. Despite challenges posed by weather delays, the project was completed within four weeks, thanks to thorough pre-project planning efforts and a skilled

construction team.

The successful replacement of the Dr. Morrison Canal pipeline marks another milestone in the WRD's ongoing effort to improve aging PRIP infrastructure. These projects aim to enhance water delivery efficiency and ensure the long-term sustainability of irrigation water delivery to Southern Ute lands.

For more information about this project or other current and future initiatives, please contact the Southern Ute Water Resources Division at 970-563-9482.



BLACK FRIDAY POLAR PERKS
GIVEAWAY

WIN A FRIDAY PRIZE PACKAGE + POLAR EXPRESS TICKETS!
100 POINTS PER ENTRY | FRIDAYS IN NOVEMBER | 7PM-10PM

Owned & Operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe | 14324 Hwy 172 North Ignacio, CO 81137 | skyutecasino.com

Disclaimer: Prizes are non-transferrable. There is no cash option for any of the prize packages. Ace's Club members need to earn new entries each week as drawing entries will not carry over from week to week. Sky Ute Casino Resort reserves the right to modify or cancel promotions at any time without notice. Must be 21 or older to enter the casino. Rules apply. See Ace's Club for details.

SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Bureau of Indian Affairs
Southern Ute Agency's Main
Phone Number has been updated to

970-200-8613



CANDIDATE STATEMENT

James "Mike" Olguin



Greetings,
 December 13, 2024, the Runoff election is scheduled to occur to select two candidates to fill two open council seats. We must be willing to evaluate the candidates and determine who is best qualified. Realize that there are only four actual qualifications to run for council, be an enrolled member, be at a minimum 25 years of age, live on the reservation, and have not been convicted of a felony. This is per the tribal constitution. There is no mention of education, experience, skills, or abilities to lead. It is safe to say we end up letting the minority of the registered voters decide for the majority as shown on November 3rd when less than 40% casting votes resulted in the runoff election as no one received the majority of votes cast. We need to ensure that the people get involved and

engaged in the elections, but why don't they? Only those that do not vote can answer this question. It could be they do not like any candidates on the ballot, and or do not care who is elected.

This needs to be emphasized as the people deserve the best suited, experienced, and qualified individuals to stand for and make decisions on behalf of the entire membership. Only the membership can choose those to be seated by voting. We need individuals with a vision and plans to carry out

their respective concepts.
 • I have shared with you my vision and concepts that can be implemented through plans I am developing which will be delegated appropriately if seated. Realize too, that Council will have a leading role to act on these, but only through lobbying and convincing them that they are in the best interest of the membership.

My intent is to work hard and diligently beginning on day one. I bring a work ethic that has been developed since I was a teenager and proven in the past 40 years working for the tribe.

At a minimum all I ask is that you vote, ask your family to vote, ask your neighbors to vote, ask your friends to vote for the best suited candidates to lead us forward and not be stagnant with no progression.

James "Mike" Olguin

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Vanessa Torres



Maiku Pino Nuuchi,
 My name is Vanessa Torres, I am seeking re-election on the Southern Ute Tribal Council. First, I want to thank the Tribal membership for their support and trust in me during the last three years of my term on Council. For those who may not know me, I am the daughter of the late Sam E. Pinnecoose (egape) and Georgia W. McKinley. I come from a family of five siblings, married and have a daughter.

During my first term, it was quite a learning experience to educate myself on the different entities and being able to make the best decision for the Tribe and the membership. In my term I have learned, grown, and evolved in my role as a Tribal Council member and continue to still learn. I humbly come before you to seek another term to continue to collaborate with the seated Council. There are projects and hurdles we as a Tribe need to be diverse in and be beneficial to the Tribal government and the membership. At times we need to think creatively, we have been in a stagnant era where change has been minimum. However, we need to challenge one another to be more efficient and effective with our departments and the Tribe.

Our sovereignty is especially important in how we proceed to govern our people within our Reservation boundaries. We continue to face challenges with the Federal, State, and other governmental agencies that fail to communicate with the Tribe on issues that have an impact on our people. Such as: water rights, land resources, protecting our cultural resources,

wolf restoration, Indian Child Welfare Act, energy and environmental resources and Missing & Murdered Indigenous Relatives. We must be included at the table to tell our story instead of others speaking on behalf of us. Too many times the Tribe has not been involved in decision making and continues to be an afterthought, this frame of mind needs to change, and we need to be included. We face obstacles within our own government with housing, hiring, education, policies, and procedures that need to be revised.

The Tribe's water rights have been a vital topic along the Colorado River, Animas La Plata Project and Pine River Indian Irrigation Program. The Tribe has been stepping up to utilize their own money along with available grant funding to repair the PRIIP. The Bureau of Indian Affairs needs to be held accountable for their lack of responsibility and funding in assisting the Tribe. Our Tribal members continue to pay for Operation and Maintenance fees and at times they receive no water. If we use our water in ALP, we must pay for the O&MN fees which is one of the reasons we are unable to use the water. In addition, there is

no funding for infrastructure to utilize the water for both Southern Ute and our sister Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute. Our water continues to flow downstream without the Tribe being compensated, while junior water users take advantage of the water. There have been dynamics with the Bureau of Reclamation and their thought process. We have been advocates in being involved in meetings with Bureau of Reclamation and the other Tribes along the Colorado River to utilize our voices to fight for our water rights that impacts our Tribal members. I have been involved and participated on different speaking panels along with my colleague to emphasize the voices for our Tribe.

I have represented the Tribe on the Ten Tribes Partnership, Tribal Leader's Forum, Inter-Tribal Buffalo Council and the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Relatives. As Tribal Council, we continue to work for the greater good of the Tribal membership and the Tribe. I am asking you to give me the contingency to remain on Tribal Council to be your voice. I am empathetic, willing to listen to your concerns and voicing my opinion for the benefit and success of our people. I will continue to do my best if given the opportunity to serve another term in making sure we manage and optimize our financial resources in a proper way to benefit the Tribe. I ask for your vote on Friday, November 1, 2024, to continue to work on behalf of the membership and the Tribe.

Toghoyahq, Vanessa Torres

James M. Olguin

December 13, 2024
Run Off Election

FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL

"YOUR VOTE COUNTS"

No. 0000

OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
 RUN-OFF ELECTION
 DECEMBER 13, 2024

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Notice - Vote for Two (2)

Vanessa Torres
 Lorelei Cloud
 James M. Olguin
 Linda K. Baker

NOTE: THE CANDIDATE(S) RECEIVING THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES SHALL BE ELECTED.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
 2024 Run-Off Election
 Two (2) Tribal Council Seats
 OUT GOING COUNCIL MEMBERS: Lorelei Cloud & Vanessa Torres

The Election Board has determined these are the dates for the upcoming 2024 Run-Off Election according to the Constitution and Election Code.

Notice of Election- Wednesday, November 13, 2024
 Run-Off Election- Friday, December 13, 2024, from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM
 (New) Voter Registration Deadline- Wednesday, December 4, 2024, by 5:00 PM
 Absentee Ballot Request Deadline- Wednesday, December 4, 2024, by 5:00 PM
 Emergency Ballot Request Deadline- Thursday, December 12, 2024, by 5:00 PM

The 2024 Run-Off Election will be held at 285 Lakin St. Ignacio, CO
 Contact the Election Board at (970) 563-2303/2305/2729
 Off-Reservation Tribal Members call 1-800-772-1236 ext. 2303
 or email: election@southernute-nsn.gov

VOTE

VANESSA TORRES

SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

VOTE

LINDA K. BAKER

TRIBAL COUNCIL

EXPERIENCE + EDUCATION

CULTURAL COMMITMENT

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For subscription or advertising information, call 970-563-0118.
 \$29 one year • \$49 two year

Southern Ute tribal members may receive the Drum for FREE.
 Please update your address if needed.



CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Linda K. Baker

Tuu tavay Pino Nuche!
 When you vote Friday, Dec. 13, 2024, you will be selecting two individuals to represent you and the Tribe for three years. Some have already decided where their two votes will go.



For those still contemplating who to vote for, it is important to consider a broad range of qualities needed for a broad range of decisions to be made. It means reading, comprehending, inquiring and questioning packet submissions to Tribal Council. It means being humble enough to call an individual or department to clarify or explain something not understood. It means delving into unfamiliar areas where additional research and an open mind are needed to fully comprehend a situation.

Tribal Council representation is just that - repre-

sentation. Direct representation is participation at department events, such as Behavioral Health's "End Overdose" walk or indirect participation through attendance, such as the recent Veterans Powwow; it is important to show support for the time and effort put forth for addressing issues and for good causes. Representation can be local or regional, such as Southern Ute Boys & Girls

Club or Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board; each of these organizations have direct impact and benefits by providing services needed for Tribal members. Tribal representation includes Tribal etiquette, respect and acknowledgement, qualities past leaders carried with them naturally as they moved among our people and other individuals.

Whatever the result of the election, I will continue to make contributions when and where I can for our Tribe. Recognize the bonding qualities important to you, your family, and your relatives from youngest to oldest, because this is how we survived in the past. In closing, consider who you can approach with your concerns as we move into the future.

*Toghoyaqh!
Linda K. Baker*

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Lorelei Cloud

Mayhk Pinonuchiu,
 I am humbly asking for your vote for my re-election to the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council. Serving our community has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life, and I am eager to continue advocating for our people, our culture, and our future.



When I was re-elected in 2021, I took this responsibly seriously and I have remained true to my words.

Over the past three years, I have worked diligently to advance the Southern Ute voice in water conservation and policy, particularly in the Colorado River Basin. As negotiations for the Colorado River Post 2026 Operations are underway, I have ensured that Tribal water rights are a priority. I have actively pushed for protections for No Harm to Tribal Water language in the alternatives being considered by the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and advocated for compensation for our unused water as well as accounting for the unused Tribal water that is currently sitting in both Lake Powell and Lake Mead. We were close to securing compensation until Sept. 18, when

BOR rescinded their offer, my commitment to this cause remains unwavering.

Through my advocacy, the Tribe secured \$3 million from the BOR when the BIA failed to provide funding for its own project. On Nov. 20, I received a call from the BOR Commissioner informing me that for language for No Harm to Tribal Water and accounting for unused Tribal water will be considered in 3 of the 4 new alternatives being modeled now. We must come to a consensus before the end of 2026 about the new guidelines that will affect the next 50-100 years of operations of the river.

I am fighting a system that we were never meant to benefit from in the Colorado River Basin. The laws were

written to benefit everyone, but the Indigenous peoples of this land, because we were not supposed to exist in 2024. There are those that want to continue that path and they are part of the roadblock I am battling for you. I am dedicated to ensuring we can use and will use our water that benefits us and our wellbeing. Water is everything; it is life itself.

Our past ancestors and leaders fought for us to be here, and I will continue to fight for our future. Our people are the Tribe's greatest assets. We are only as strong as our leaders and you deserve to have someone fight for you, our land and water, and more importantly to uphold our Ute culture. Being Ute is something that I have always been proud of and protecting our Ute ways is a priority. I am committed, I am dedicated, and I am devoted to making good on my promise to protect sovereignty, our Ute way of life, our land and water. I stand by you and for you and I humbly ask for your vote for the Southern Ute Tribal Council run-off election on December 13, 2024.

Lorelei Cloud

VOTE

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

RUN-OFF ELECTION

Friday, December 13, 2024 • 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
285 Lakin St., Ignacio, CO



Taste of Christmas & Fill Your Bowls for Arts

Dancing Spirit Center for the Arts and Rise & Shine Coffee and Burritos are teaming up to offer hot soup, fresh bread and a gourmet cocoa bar at our annual Fill Your Bowl 2024 fundraiser on Dec. 6 during Taste of Christmas. Make sure to stop by after the parade and pick out a unique handmade bowl and fill it with hot soup. Finish it off with cocoa topped with mini candy canes, whipped cream, marshmallows, sprinkles and more! We'll have live music, and an art show too! Can't wait to see you at our new building! 465 Goddard Ave, Ignacio, Colo.

VOTE

LORELEI

CLLOUD



SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

INTEGRITY & ACCOUNTABILITY



FORT LEWIS COLLEGE

Fort Lewis College's Art Gallery to host exhibit

Untold Stories of Wallflowers: Art/Writings

Staff report
FORT LEWIS COLLEGE
ART GALLERY

The Gallery at Fort Lewis College is pleased to announce the opening of Untold Stories of Wallflowers, an exhibition dedicated to showcasing the hidden works of artists whose creations have remained on the fringes, quietly awaiting their moment to be seen. This exhibition invites viewers to explore the silent strength, untapped beauty, and resilience cultivated in the shadows.

Through a carefully curated collection of mixed media, writing, sculpture, and other mediums, Un-

told Stories of Wallflowers sheds light on the quiet but powerful works of artists who have often gone unnoticed. Their works, just like a wallflower in a crowded room, are untold stories and reflection of deep emotions and experiences from their personal journeys. These works are rich with symbolism and meaning, offering a space for reflection on the quiet, unseen ways in which creativity grows and flourishes.

Untold Stories of Wallflowers is an exploration of how revealing art from quiet spaces serves as a testament to the untold voices waiting to be heard here. The artists featured in this exhibition were handpicked to display works that have not seen the light of day. This is their moment to shine like stars. Through these works, viewers will witness what has been hiding now emerging from the shadows.

"Untold Stories of Wallflowers" Exhibition:
A Celebration of Hidden works Shining
Reception: Thursday, Dec. 5, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Event is free and open to the public.
Refreshments will be served at the opening reception.

COLORADO TRANSPORTATION

A taste of winter ahead of Thanksgiving in several areas across the state

Staff report
COLO. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, drivers should anticipate adverse winter weather conditions particularly in the mountains and higher elevations across the state over the next few days. Motorists should use COtrip.org or the COtrip Planner app to view road conditions, closures and cameras across the state to plan their travels.

Drivers should consider adjusting travel times to avoid heaviest periods of snowfall, and make sure to be prepared for possible conditions when heading out on the road.

Travel could be challenging with a snowstorm expected to impact the mountains Monday night through Wednesday. Snow accumulations of one to two feet are expected in mountain passes with the hardest hit area in southwest Colorado. Motorists should be prepared



for adverse travel conditions on the I-70 Mountain Corridor. Light snow is expected for the Denver area and other locations along the Front Range, with heavier snow impacts along the western foothills and the Palmer Divide.

The Colorado Department of Transportation is advising motorists to be prepared:

- If possible, avoid or limit driving during the brunt of the storm; it is expected to let up before the holiday.
- If you plan to travel, know before you go by checking out the latest weather conditions and visiting COtrip.org and the COtrip Planner app

- for road conditions.
- Make sure your vehicle is winter ready with the appropriate tires for the weather and have a snow emergency kit, including ice scraper-snow brush, coat, gloves, hat, boots, portable shovel, battery, booster cables, cell phone charger, water, non-perishable food, extra blankets and a tow strap.
- When traveling, take it slow, no sudden stops and leave plenty of following distance.
- Give plows space! Stay back three to four car lengths from snow plows. Don't pass plows on the right.

LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

LPEA welcomes Chris Hansen as new CEO

Staff report
LA PLATA ELECTRIC
ASSOCIATION

The Board of Directors of La Plata Electric Association, Inc. (LPEA) is excited to announce that Chris Hansen has been selected as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective Tuesday, Nov. 12. This decision comes after a national search to fill the CEO position, succeeding interim CEO Graham Smith, who has been leading the organization since March.

"Chris' extensive experience and commitment to sustainable energy make him the ideal leader for our cooperative as we navigate the evolving energy landscape," said Ted Compton, LPEA Board President. "We were very fortunate to have Chris in our search pool and the Board seized the opportunity to bring a leader of Chris' caliber to LPEA. His energy industry background, vision for the future of electric utilities, and understanding of emerging opportunities will serve our members well."

Hansen most recently served as a Colorado State Senator and the Executive Director of the Institute for Western Energy. With over 25 years of experience in the environmental and energy sectors, he brings a strong blend of technical expertise, policy knowledge, and management experience to his role. Hansen collaborated with renewable energy, electricity companies,



courtesy La Plata Electric Association

and government agencies at all levels to enhance operational efficiency. His diverse background equipped him to tackle the challenges LPEA faces, especially during the energy transition.

"I am truly honored to lead LPEA as CEO and work alongside such a talented team," said Chris Hansen, LPEA CEO. "I look forward to building on the cooperative's strong foundation and driving innovation that delivers lasting value to our members, employees, and stakeholders. Together, we will continue to lead our industry with purpose and passion."

Hansen holds an undergraduate degree in engineering from Kansas State University, a Master of Science from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and a PhD in economic geography from Oxford University. While at Oxford, he was a research fellow at the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, focusing on solutions for bringing renewable power to underserved rural areas in India.

"Not only is Chris a visionary leader, but he is also deeply passionate about our industry and values our cooperative culture," Compton added. "We believe he will be instrumental in helping us navigate the challenges ahead. His dedication to cooperative values will ensure that LPEA continues to excel while remaining true to its roots."

With Hansen's deep experience in leadership, LPEA is confident in his ability to lead the organization into its next phase of growth and innovation. Hansen's vision for the future, combined with his proven track record of driving operational excellence and community engagement, will be instrumental in advancing LPEA's commitment to providing reliable, sustainable energy solutions to its members. The Board and the entire LPEA team look forward to working with Hansen as they continue to deliver value and foster long-term success for the cooperative and its stakeholders.

Hansen visits Tribal Council



Summer Begay/SU Council Affairs

Chairman Melvin J. Baker, the Tribal Council, and staff extended a warm welcome to Dr. Chris Hansen, the newly appointed CEO of La Plata Electric Association. A productive meeting was held to explore potential collaborations and mutual support, fostering a spirit of partnership on Friday, November 22, 2024.

Tribal Council thanked Dr. Hansen for his support during his time as a Senator in the Colorado General Assembly.



REMINDER

Driving in WinterWeather
COMING AND GOING

Slow down - It's harder to control or stop your vehicle on a slick or snow-covered surface. Increase your following distance enough so that you'll have plenty of time to stop for vehicles ahead of you.

What to Do in an Emergency - If you are stopped or stalled in wintry weather, stay focused on yourself and your passengers, your car, and your surroundings. Stay with your car and don't overexert yourself. Turn on your emergency warning lights.

Tires - As the outside temperature drops, so does tire inflation pressure. Make sure each tire is filled to the vehicle manufacturer's recommended inflation pressure.

Stock Your Vehicle - **Increase** carry items in your vehicle to handle common winter driving-related tasks and supplies/blankets you might need in an emergency.

Plan Your Route - Check your local weather and traffic reports before heading out. If your roads are not in good shape, consider postponing non-essential travel until the roads are cleared. If making a long road trip when winter weather is forecasted, consider leaving early or changing your departure to avoid being on the roads during the worst of the storm.

Plan and let Family/Friends know of your intended travel route. Use a location app as you travel, i.e., "Glimpse".

Your Safety on the road is essential for you and yours. Adhering to precautions you will be safer for it!

Stuffie Sleepover!
Beginning Friday, December 6 at Ignacio Community Library
Get ready for our most enchanting event of the year! The Stuffie Sleepover invites your child's imagination to soar as they leave their stuffed animals with us for a magical weekend adventure. Each stuffed animal will return home with a delightful photo album capturing their amazing experiences!
Drop-off times: Friday, December 6 & Saturday, December 7, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Call (970)563-9287 with any questions!



CPW hosts salmon giveaway



photos Jon Broholm/SU Wildlife

CPW staff members distributes kokanee based on the number of fish collected from the reservoir and the number of people in line. This year, fish giveaways were scheduled for Friday, Nov. 8, 15 & 22. They invite Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute tribal members to share this fish resource annually.



In association with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Animas-La Plata Association, Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW) once again conducted its annual Lake Nighthorse kokanee salmon spawning operation. This spawning operation is important kokanee management within the Southwest Region and across the State of Colorado.

CPW lets the Southern Ute and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe know about the spawning and fish giveaways each year in the late summer/fall.

USDA ANNOUNCES INVESTMENTS • FROM PAGE 12

grams to engage underserved communities, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has dedicated \$45 million specifically for Water-Saving Commodities assistance to help Tribal communities with BIA Irrigation Projects. These investments will help the selected projects strengthen their irrigation practices in places experiencing the impacts from drought, reducing water losses, while continuing agricultural commodity production.

USDA held a Tribal consultation this summer, engaged with BIA, and applied a similar criteria that was used to select the irrigation projects to target funding within the Tribal set-aside.

The BIA Irrigation Projects initially selected for funding are:

- Colorado River Indian Irrigation Project, in Arizona
- San Carlos Irrigation Project, in Arizona
- Navajo Indian Irrigation Project, in New Mexico

"The Gila River Indian Community is grateful to be working with USDA on multiple water saving strategies within the San Carlos Irrigation Project service area. This relationship is highly valued in that it supports Tribal growers seeking to reclaim their agricultural

economy and way of life. To have the opportunity to continue this partnership in a manner that benefits water conservation efforts in the Southwest and within the community while at the same furthering the goals of Tribal growers to use water as efficiently as possible is of great cultural importance," said the Gila River Indian Community. "Working together we can enhance the community's blue-green economy of being good stewards of the water resources provided by our creator and utilizing those resources in an environmentally friendly manner."

Acequia Partnerships

Similarly, USDA has dedicated \$15 million specifically for Water-Saving Commodities partnerships with two state associations of conservation districts for helping community operated irrigation systems known as acequias produce water-saving commodities. As a community, acequias are the stewards of surface waters that not only flow to their crop fields but help replenish rivers, wetlands and groundwater. These partnerships enhance existing cooperative efforts by local conservation districts to provide education, outreach, and technical services needed to keep production up while responsibly utilizing water and other

natural resources during drought conditions.

The state associations of conservation districts preliminarily selected for funding are:

- Colorado State Association of Conservation Districts
- New Mexico State Association of Conservation Districts

More Information

Visit the Water-Saving Commodities webpage for frequently asked questions, and other resources.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committed to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

Multi - Purpose Facility December 2024 Events



Monthly Event Calendar

- Senior Breakfast—Wednesday December 4, 10:00 AM—11:30 AM
- Quilt & Sew—Wednesday & Thursday, December 11 & 12, 10:00 AM—3:30 PM
- Yard Sale Saturday December 14, 9:00 AM—4:00 PM
- Tamale Class—Wednesday December 18, 9:30 AM—4:00 PM
- Sip, Chat & Chew—Friday December 20 11:30 AM—1:30 PM
- Yeast Bread Class—Monday December 23, 10:00 AM—3:00 PM

Special Events

- Holiday Bazaar Sat. & Sun. December 14 & 15, 9:00 AM—4:30 PM
- Healthy Cooking—Tuesday December 17, 10:30 AM—1:30 PM
- Youth Crafting December 30, January 2 & 3, 10:30 AM—1:30 PM

• Events are subject to change—watch for announcements

Multi-Purpose Facility 256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO 970-563-2640 - multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov

Multi-Purpose Facility Sr. Breakfast

Wednesday December 4, 2024 - 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM



Open to all Community Senior Citizens 55 years and older



256 Ute Rd. Ignacio CO 81137 970-563-2640 - multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov



Southern Ute Indian Tribe Growth Fund

SILENT AUCTION 2006 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500



Mileage: 184,018 Color: White Engine: V8 5.3L Automatic Transmission / 4WD Crew Cab Cloth Seats

BIDS NOW OPEN TO SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL MEMBERS

Submit bid by Email to Dawn Fahrion, CF Finance at dfahrion@sugf.com

Bids should be submitted in writing by Dec. 13, 2024, by 5PM and include:

1. Name, Address, Census Number, Contact Number, and Email Address
2. Bid Amount

Highest Bid will be notified December 16, 2024

Full Payment due on Dec. 20, 2024 via Cashier's Check Payable to Southern Ute Indian Tribe Growth Fund (No Cash / No Credit Card)

THIS VEHICLE IS SOLD "AS-IS". THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE GROWTH FUND MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS AS TO THE CONDITION OF THE VEHICLE OR WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR USE.



The Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County is seeking resident input to inform housing and community planning.

TAKE THIS SURVEY REALIZA ESTA ENCUESTA

Share your experiences with housing & childcare needs in La Plata County. Comparta sus experiencias sobre las necesidades de vivienda y cuidado infantil en el condado de La Plata.

YOUR PARTICIPATION WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE! ¡TÚ PARTICIPACIÓN MARCARÁ LA DIFERENCIA!

ENTER TO WIN \$100! ¡PARTICIPA EN UN SORTEO PARA GANAR \$100!



URL: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LaPlataHousing>


Need assistance with the survey or an alternative format? Contact Root Policy Research by email (cheri@rootpolicy.com) or phone 970-880-1415.

Si tienes alguna discapacidad y te gustaría pedir ayuda o utilizar un formato diferente, por favor comunícate con Root Policy Research a avilla@rootpolicy.com o al 970-880-1415 ext. 105.





POST TURKEY DAY BURN @ SUNUTE






FRIDAY, NOV. 29TH

COME BURN OFF THOSE EXTRA HOLIDAY CALORIES WITH OUR GROUP EXERCISE TEAM!

GROUP EX ROOM
 10:15AM- BODYSTEP (30MIN)
 11AM- BODYCOMBAT (30MIN)
 11:45AM- BODYPUMP (45MIN)

MOUACHE ROOM
 10:15AM- SPRINT
 10:50 AM- CORE
 11:30 AM- 30MIN. BODYBALANCE/FLEXIBILITY

SunUte Presents:
The Polar Express Train Ride
 For Southern Ute Tribal Member Families




Sign up at SunUte Front Desk.
 Family members must be listed in your SunUte household.
 (In-person Registration Only)

Trip #1:
 December 5, 2024- Train Departs at 6:30 pm
 (Deadline: November 27th @ 5 pm)

Trip #2:
 December 12, 2024- Train Departs at 6:30 pm
 (Deadline: December 4th @ 5 pm)

Cost: \$10 per ticket (regular price is \$40)
 Must specify which day you are signing up for. Space is LIMITED.

TICKETS ARE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE. IF YOU CANCEL YOUR RSVP WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THE TRIP, YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO PAYING THE FULL PRICE OF \$40 PER TICKET.

Multi-Purpose Facility Annual Holiday Bazaar

Saturday & Sunday
December 14 & 15, 2024
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Great gifts from artists, artisans, crafters bakers and candy makers.

Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Facility 256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO Breakfast Burritos & snacks will be sold at 8:00 AM Full Lunch Concession will open at 11:30 AM



Multi-Purpose Facility Tamale Workshop



Wednesday December 18, 2024
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

This is a hands-on workshop everyone will share the tamales made.

Multi-Purpose Facility 256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO
 Call for more information 970-563-2640



Multi-Purpose Facility December Quilt & Holiday Sewing Class

Wednesday & Thursday
December 11 & 12, 2024
10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Christmas Stockings and other useful Christmas items that are fun to make & gift!

Call to sign-up and for the supply list.
 Call Elise to sign up & get supply list 970-563-2641

256 Ute Rd. Ignacio CO 81137 - 970-563-2640, multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov





Multi-Purpose Facility Yeast Bread Class



Monday December 23, 2024
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Learn to make delicious Yeast Rolls with Lucy Olguin

Space is limited, call to reserve your spot
 Multi-Purpose Facility 256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO
 Call for more information 970-563-2640



Multi-Purpose Facility Christmas Sip, Chat & Chew






Friday December 20, 2024
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

The Dinner is open to members of the Ute Tribes, and their families, all ages are invited.

Sponsored by the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council

Join the Reindeer Games
 Cake Dance - Sponsored by MPF Volunteers
 Door Prize donations are welcome and appreciated

Multi-Purpose Facility 256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO
 970-563-2640 - multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov






Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Bayfield's Kieley White Thunder (13) puts up a solid block against Centauri sophomore Mikasa Gilleland (4) during Day 2 play Friday morning, Nov. 15, at the 2024 CHSAA Class 3A State Volleyball Championships. Able to deflect or deny a few of the Lady Falcons' attempts, White Thunder was the only freshman on the Lady Wolverines' Denver Coliseum-bound varsity.

VOLLEYBALL

State opens Bayfield freshman's eyes

White Thunder relishes chances off bench

By Joel Priest

SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

The Centauri that Bayfield had seen twice during regular-season action this fall, wasn't the Centauri the Lady Wolverines seemed to be seeing Friday morning, Nov. 15, as the Intermountain League rivals battled to see one – at the least – more match at the 12-team 2024 CHSAA Class 3A State Volleyball Championships.

And after having received a few minutes during 11-seed BHS' four-set loss to No. 6 Lamar the previous day, Kieley White Thunder was suddenly summoned during the third set against No. 12 CHS, with the survival struggle knotted at a set apiece.

It was a situation into which she wasn't sure she'd be utilized.

"Not necessarily," she admitted afterwards. "But I think ... just learning from the older girls – they're like big sisters, reminding me that it's going to be okay – and just (use) what I've learned. When I have such a great team, like, they build me up to go out and do my best."

Put upon the season's biggest and brightest stage after head coach Terene Foutz used a timeout with Bayfield trailing 24-18, White Thunder alone couldn't prevent Alexis Miller's Lady Falcons from soon securing a 25-21 win and overall advantage in the eliminator. But she made them think twice about switching to cruise control; after senior teammate Christiana Sutherland kept BHS alive with a kill off a block, White Thunder combined with senior Kambrie Byrd to deny Centauri sophomore Kynlei Curtis at the net and again stave off set point.

But after a CHS double-touch infraction and subsequent Miller timeout, Centauri at last gained a 2-to-1 lead when sophomore Rylie McCarroll stuffed down a straying pass attempted near the net by senior setter Tanana Owens. No matter; after CHS then went up 1-0 in Set 4, White Thunder downed a tying kill shot paralleling the line. Again, receiving not just a high- or low-five, but enthusiastic, NBA-ish shoves to her shoulders and back from her fellow Lady Wolverines, White Thunder indicated it was a rush like no other.

Especially for a freshman – the BHS varsity's only one.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Bayfield's Kieley White Thunder (13) enjoys a lighter moment on the bench with teammate Grace Barber, left, in between sets of a Day 2 match Friday morning, Nov. 15, versus Centauri at the 2024 CHSAA Class 3A State Volleyball Championships. White Thunder was the only freshman on the Lady Wolverines' Denver Coliseum-bound varsity.

"Amazing. Feels like nothing before," she said. "And I think playing like that, and feeling that feeling, is just going to make me want to play more ... practice more, and practice harder, and be better."

"Kieley was in a great group of girls who were all striving for big things this year. And she fit very well into that mindset," Foutz said. "So, when the moment came and she had her opportunity, she was ready."

"We'd beaten them every time we'd played them," White Thunder continued, alluding to BHS' slim three-set win out in Monument at the early-September Lewis-Palmer Invitational, plus later home/away best-of-five sweeps while emerging as an IML contender (ultimately finishing 5-3 in league, trailing only 8-0 Alamosa – eventually the Championships' 4-seed), "but this was really hard."

Boosted by White Thunder's early kill, Bayfield managed to build a slim 6-4 lead before Centauri tied at 7-all and proceeded to forge ahead out to 14-9. BHS rallied, however, and pulled even at 14-, 15- and 16-all en route to reaching set point first at 24-21. Back-to-back errors were costly, and Foutz used a timeout with CHS back to 24-23. Fortunately for the Lady Wolverines, junior Evelette Hollibaugh rolled an Owens tip over sophomore Kenadie Wilfong to force a tiebreaking fifth set.

Consecutive unreturnable serves by junior libero Lauren Rich helped Bayfield go up 3-1 in the race to 15, but after that lead reached 6-4 the Lady Falcons took flight and swiped the next ten points – bringing up match point at 14-6.

A net violation at last removed consistent CHS ju-

nior Joselyn McCarroll from the service line, but after BHS junior Grace Barber smacked the ensuing serve over the strings, it didn't take long for Curtis to place an off-speed roller over a double-block and into just enough empty space in the center of the Lady Wolverines' court.

"My coach(es) and my teammates helped me get to where I am – and it was all just a blur; my adrenaline was going crazy!" White Thunder said, not dwelling on the 19-25, 25-21, 21-25, 25-23, 7-15 outcome. "Everyone was screaming – it was definitely a great experience."

All told, White Thunder was part of a bunch which improved Bayfield's 6-17 record in 2023 to 16-11 in '24. And though graduation in May 2025 will rob the roster of Sutherland – whose comeback after a year spent rehabbing a badly-injured left knee certainly helped inspire the squad – plus Owens, Byrd and Audrey Knapp, White Thunder should find herself amongst a large number of returnees (including possibly seven seniors-to-be) ready to work towards another Denver Coliseum trip.

"Upon all returning ... all's then well in the universe, right?" Foutz joked. "One of the exciting things about our team is that we'll have several returning players, like Kieley – and a lot of kids who maybe our community didn't see on the floor this year, but who are also great contributors. So I'd just say that Kieley's part of a very exciting group coming back."

"Knowing that other girls are older than me, it's going to take some time," said White Thunder, about her prospects of becoming a regular next fall. "But I'm sticking with it, just being patient."

SUNUTE & FORT LEWIS PRESENTS

SAVE THE DATE

FORT LEWIS VS NAVAJO TECH

SATURDAY JANUARY 4, 2025 | **SUNUTE COMMUNITY CENTER** 390 MOUACHE DR, IGNACIO, CO 81137 | **FIRST GAME 05.30PM**

TICKET ANNOUNCEMENT TO COME - CHECK OUT SUNUTE FB PAGE | **TICKETS: FREE**

REP WARS

Date: Dec 7th
Where: SunUte Community Center

Only the strongest will rise to claim victory, earning the title of Rep Wars Champion!

REP WARS

Cost: \$20 early sign up, \$25 day of sign up per participant (Southern Ute Tribal Members Free)

- Lifters will have 4 attempts on bench press and deadlift, lifters can enter 1 or both lifts (Bench Press and Deadlift).
- Each participant will pre-select the weight for each of their attempts.
- Lifters will complete 1 rep of a pre-selected weight on the given lift.
- Changes to these selected weights can be made in competition.
- 4th attempt may have a second chance if the attempt is failed.
- Strongest lift in each weight division will be deemed the winner.

Men's Divisions	NOT ALLOWED	Women's Divisions
164.9lbs & Under (SLW)	• Sumo stance	120lbs & Under (SLW)
165lbs-190lbs (LW)	• Wrist straps	121lbs-140lbs (LW)
191bs-220lbs (MW)	• Knee wraps	141lbs-160lbs (MW)
221-250lbs (HW)	• Elbow wraps	161lbs-185lbs (HW)
251lbs+ (Open)	• Singlets	185lbs+ (Open)
	• Slingshots	

Men's Senior (55+) Open Weight | **Women's Senior (55+) Open Weight**

Date: December 7th, 2024
Weigh Ins: 7:00-9:00am
Lifters Meeting: 9:45am
Lifting Starts at 10:00am
Optional Pre Weigh In: December 6th

Preregister at the SunUte Front Desk starting November 18th or sign up the morning of the event during weigh ins.

For questions or more information, please contact:
Fitness Trainer – Jakob Box at (970)-563-2656



Tribe welcomes Kaleo



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Southern Ute Tribal member, Kaleo Graham is surrounded by parents (Shiann and Neki Graham) and immediate family in the Tribal Council chambers, Tuesday, Nov. 19, following the formal enrollment process.

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe welcomes new enrollee, Kaleo Graham during a formal enrollment presentation by Terence Whyte, Vital Statistics Clerk with Tribal Information Services. Kaleo sits for a picture outside of chambers with parents, Shiann and Neki Graham, Tuesday, Nov. 19.



EXPRESS YOUR OPINIONS

Ute Saddle Blanket

Our so-called Ute saddle blanket was donated by a senator who won this blanket in a horse race from Red Cloud in 1878.

Red Cloud was the subchief of the Ute Mountain Utes was said to be Ute. Only the Ute's didn't do this kind of work, and the Utes were warriors. They found it degrading that they'd do this kind of work.

I asked Red Cloud who made the saddle blanket, and he said Red Cloud the most famous Cheyenne Chief, plus he showed in sign language how he killed the famous Red Cloud. He also got many ponies.

Joseph Rael Jr.

EDITOR'S NOTE: ALL LETTERS PUBLISHED IN THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM ARE PUBLISHED AS SUBMITTED AND DO NOT REFLECT THE OPINION OF THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM OR THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE IN ANY WAY.

The Southern Ute Drum encourages letters from readers on any topic. We ask that letters be 500 words or less. Letters deemed to be libelous will not be published. Letters should be submitted by email to Jeremy Shockley at jshockley@southernute-nsn.gov by the end of the day Monday preceeding publication.

Southern Ute Royalty Committee

Process for Requesting Southern Ute Royalty

Greetings Tribal Elders, Tribal Membership, and the community,

The 2024-2025 Southern Ute Tribal Royalty was crowned at the 102nd Annual Southern Ute Tribal Fair and Powwow, and we are honored to hold our respective titles as we begin our duties as ambassadors for the Southern Ute Tribe.

2024-2025 Southern Ute Royalty

Miss Southern Ute – Maleina Carel
 Jr. Miss Southern Ute – Leandra Litz
 Little Miss Southern Ute – Malia White Thunder
 Little Miss Southern Ute Alternate- Olivia Watts
 Southern Ute Brave – Theoden Greany

As the newly crowned Southern Ute Royalty, we are honored to represent the Southern Ute Tribe at our cultural events and community events locally and throughout the region. To ensure we receive requests efficiently and can respond in a timely manner, we have a digital [Southern Ute Royalty Request Form](#) that can be found on the Southern Ute Royalty Committee website, or you can contact the Royalty Committee Secretary, Alyssa Nez, at suroyalty@southernute-nsn.gov. The committee recommends all organizations, and/or departments, submit the form at least two weeks in advance of your event to allow time for review and scheduling.

We look forward to visiting with everyone at our Tribal and community events!

Toghoyaqh,

Southern Ute Royalty and Southern Ute Royalty Committee



Wildlife on the Move!



Wildlife migrations are on the increase to wintering habitats unfortunately leading to higher incidents of Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions.

Be aware, drive with caution, and slow down, especially at night, when the majority of WVCs occur.

Wildlife-vehicle collisions happen year-round and 24/7.

There is always an increase during migration season and particularly during the hours between dusk and dawn.

As Colorado has an abundance of deer and elk, as well as other wildlife, that live near our urban and rural areas, motorists need to be aware that they can cross our roads without warning at most any time of day or night.

- ❖ "Slow down and stay alert when you see a highway wildlife warning sign especially between dusk and dawn.
- ❖ If you see one deer or elk, expect others...its "rutting season".
- ❖ Remember to scan ahead on the sides of the road for signs of movement and to watch for the shining eyes of animals that reflect car headlights at night.
- ❖ Most importantly, slow down and concentrate on retaining control of your vehicle.
- ❖ It is important to maintain control before, during and after a collision with an animal should one occur."
- ❖ Turn Emergency Flashers on, call for assistance and if you go outside, your vehicle, put on reflective vests and use flashlight.
- ❖ Be aware of oncoming traffic.



"AWARENESS IS KEY TO A SAFE ARRIVAL"



In The Southern Ute Tribal Court

Of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe • On the Southern Ute Reservation
 PO Box 737 #149, CR 517, Ignacio, CO • 970-563-0240

NOTICE OF PROBATE

In the Estate Of,
Corleen Gloria Rael, Deceased
 Case No.: 2024-0107-CV-PR

Notice to: Heirs, devisees, legatees, creditors and all other persons claiming an interest in said estate: The Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, Ignacio, CO: Greetings: Take notice that a petition has been filed in this cause, alleging that the above decedent died leaving certain assets, and asking for the determination of heirs of said decedent, the administration of said estate including the allowing of creditors of said decedent and for distribution thereof. You are notified that said cause will be set for hearing before the Tribal Court at the above address on **JANUARY 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM**. All persons having claims against the above estate are required to file them for allowance with the Tribal Court at the stated address on or before the time and date of said hearing, as above set forth or said claims shall be forever barred and all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear and answer said Petition and offer evidence in support of their position. The Court will proceed to hear the matter at the date and time set above, or such later time to which the matter shall be continued and to make the determination therein necessary.

Dated this 19th of November, 2024
 Elizabeth Benally, Deputy Court Clerk

ORDER TO RESET

Xispas Root, Plaintiff v.
Brandon E. Baker, Defendant.
 Case: 23-CV-122

Findings Of The Court: 1. This matter was filed by the Plaintiff on December 6, 2023, and it has been reset several times to attempt to serve the Defendant. In spite of several attempts, there is still no service or notice served on the Defendant. The Court set this case for a hearing on October 22, 2024, and the Court allowed for the Plaintiff to serve the Defendant by publication.

No party appeared for the October 22, 2024, hearing and it appeared there was no publication of the notice of hearing. 2. The Court shall reset this case for the **7th DAY of JANUARY, 2025 at 11:00 AM**. The Plaintiff may provide service to the Defendant by causing the notice to be published in the Southern Ute Drum three (3) times prior to the hearing.

It Is So Ordered This 23rd Day Of October, 2024.
 M. Scott Moore, Tribal Court Judge

NOTICE OF PROBATE

In the Estate Of,
Phillip Martinez, Deceased
 Case No.:2024-0114-CV-PR

Notice to: Heirs, devisees, legatees, creditors and all other persons claiming an interest in said estate: The Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, Ignacio, CO: Greetings: Take notice that a petition has been filed in this cause, alleging that the above decedent died leaving certain assets, and asking for the determination of heirs of said decedent, the administration of said estate including the allowing of creditors of said decedent and for distribution thereof. You are notified that said cause will be set for hearing before the Tribal Court at the above address on **DECEMBER 23, 2024 at 2:00 PM**. All persons having claims against the above estate are required to file them for allowance with the Tribal Court at the stated address on or before the time and date of said hearing, as above set forth or said claims shall be forever barred and all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear and answer said Petition and offer evidence in support of their position. The Court will proceed to hear the matter at the date and time set above, or such later time to which the matter shall be continued and to make the determination therein necessary.

Dated this 12th of November, 2024
 Elizabeth Benally, Deputy Court Clerk

SAVE THE DATE
END OF TERM Celebration
 MONDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2024
 10:00 AM | TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 356 OURAY DR, IGNACIO, CO 81137
 ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE FORTHCOMING
 LIVE STREAM VIA WEB-EX WILL BE AVAILABLE
 For more information, please contact Tribal Council Affairs at 970-563-2313

Correction

In a article published in the Nov. 15 issue of the Drum, Vietnam veteran Pete Vigil was misidentified as a Southern Ute tribal member.

Drum Deadline

Next issue:
Dec. 13

EARLY Deadline: Dec. 6

Articles, photos, advertisements, public notices, letters and greetings may be submitted in person, by mail, or by email to: jshockley@southernute-nsn.gov



THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

A biweekly newspaper owned and operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation in Ignacio, Colo.



SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$29 per year • \$49 two years
MAIN: 970-563-0100 • DIRECT: 970-563-0118
TOLL FREE: 1-800-772-1236 • ADVERTISING: 970-563-2251

MAILING ADDRESS

The Southern Ute Drum: PO Box 737 #96, Ignacio, CO 81137

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

356 Ouray Drive, Leonard C. Burch Building, Ignacio, CO 81137

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Notice and Request for Public Comment Triennial Review of Tribe's Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation

In accordance with Section 303(c)(1) of the Clean Water Act (codified at 33 U.S.C. § 1313(c)(1)) and Section 3 of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, the Tribe is required to hold a public hearing at least once every three years to review and, as appropriate, modify and adopt water quality standards as may be necessary or warranted to comply with applicable federal regulations or to meet Tribal water quality goals. This is referred to as a "Triennial Review." Pursuant to direction from the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council, the Tribe's Environmental Programs Department is responsible for administering the Tribe's surface water quality standards and for conducting the required Triennial Review. As part of the Triennial Review, the Environmental Programs Department is proposing the following amendments to the Tribe's surface water quality standards:

- 1) Removing the chronic criterion for mercury for aquatic life. EPA is working on an update to the chronic aquatic life mercury criterion. The Tribe will replace this criterion upon EPA's promulgation of a new chronic criterion for this pollutant. The acute aquatic life criterion for mercury will remain in place.
- 2) Adding criteria for two cyanotoxins within waterways with the designated use Primary Contact Recreation. These toxins can be associated with harmful algal blooms and the proposed criteria are protective of humans, pets, and livestock. The Environmental Protection Agency published these recommended values for microcystins and cylindrospermopsin under Clean Water Act section 304(a) to protect recreational uses, and for states and authorized tribes to consider as the basis for swimming advisories for notification purposes to protect public health in recreational waters:
 - a. For an assessment duration of a 1 in 10-day assessment period across a recreational season, and assessment frequency of no more than 3 excursions* in a recreational season in more than one year:
 - i. microcystins: 8 micrograms (µg)/liter (L)
 - ii. cylindrospermopsin: 15 µg/L
- 3) Correcting certain citations.
- 4) Clarifying that the Environmental Programs Department is delegated authority to administer the Tribe's WQS and is responsible for the triennial review process.

The Environmental Programs Department will hold a public comment period from November 12, 2024, to January 2, 2025, as well as a public hearing at 10 a.m. on January 16, 2025 (date/time subject to change). All comments received during the public comment period and at the hearing will be considered.

- To attend the hearing online, please register here before the event.
- To attend the hearing in-person: Large Conference Room (see enclosed map) Southern Ute Environmental Programs Department 71 Mike Frost Way, Ignacio, CO 81137

The document pertinent to the proposed revisions to the Tribe's surface water quality standards revisions hyperlinked below.

- Redline Showing Proposed Revisions to Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, October 2024

Your organization may submit comments by January 2, 2025, by either of the following methods: Email: wqs@southernute-nsn.gov. Mail: Southern Ute Indian Tribe Environmental Programs Department, Attn: Geoffrey Hensgen, P.O. Box 737 #8, Ignacio, CO 81137. Please direct any questions regarding the Tribe's standards, or requests to meet, to me at 970-563-2206, mhutsen@southernute-nsn.gov; or Geoffrey Hensgen, Water Quality Program Manager, at 970-563-2805, ghensgen@southernute-nsn.gov; or tribal attorneys Brennah Wilson, at 970-563-2146, brwilson@southernute-nsn.gov or Sam Maynes, at 970-247-1755, smaynes@mbssl.com. We look forward to receiving your comments.

* An excursion is defined as a 10-day assessment period with any toxin concentration higher than the recommended criteria magnitude. When more than three excursions occur within a recreational season and that pattern reoccurs in more than one year, it is an indication the water quality has been or is becoming degraded and is not supporting its recreational use.



Southern Ute Indian Tribe Overriding Royalty Interest Code

Proposed Code Available for Public Review & Comment. The Southern Ute Department of Energy is now accepting written comments on a proposed "Overriding Royalty Interest Code" or "ORRI Code." If adopted, the ORRI Code would appear as a new title in the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Code. The proposed ORRI Code would regulate the creation of new ORRIs on leases of non-renewable tribal energy minerals within the Southern Ute Indian Reservation by requiring the Tribe's consent before such ORRIs may be created. The proposed ORRI Code is available for review and comment at <https://www.suitdoe.com>. Comments must be received by 5PM MST on Monday, December 9, 2024.

Public Notice of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe/State of Colorado Environmental Commission Meeting

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe/State of Colorado Environmental Commission (Commission) will meet on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Justice & Regulatory Administration Building- EPD Large Conference Room located at 71 Mike Frost Way, Ignacio, Colorado 81137. The draft agenda will include Call to Order/Introductions, New Business, Tribal Air Quality Program Updates, Tribal Air Initiatives, CDPHE Updates, Open Discussion/Questions and Public Comment, and Scheduling of Next Commission Meeting. For more information on the meeting, how to attend virtually, or to obtain a copy of the meeting agenda please contact Ms. Angelina Miller, Air Quality Scientist at 970-563-2258 or visit the Commission website at: <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/departments/epd/air-quality/env-commission/>

HUD Annual Performance Report now Available

The HUD Annual Performance Report (APR) is available for review, at the Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority.

Southern Ute Utilities Division

SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND | 11/27/24

DECEMBER UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

<div style="text-align: center; background-color: #4caf50; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">TRANSFER STATION</h3> <h4 style="margin: 0;">2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE</h4> </div> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #4caf50; color: white; padding: 2px;">DEC. 9TH/10TH LEONARD C. BURCH DAY — CLOSED</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #4caf50; color: white; padding: 2px;">DEC. 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY — CLOSED</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #4caf50; color: white; padding: 2px;">JAN 1ST NEW YEAR'S DAY — CLOSED</p> <div style="text-align: center; background-color: #4caf50; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <h4 style="margin: 0;">TRANSFER STATION HOURS OF OPERATION</h4> <p style="margin: 0; font-weight: bold;">MON.—SAT. 8 AM TO 5 PM / CLOSED SUNDAY</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Tribal Members: Pick up 2024 Trash Permits—call office or contact Mr. James Red at Transfer Station Ramp. Show Tribal ID.</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center; background-color: #2196f3; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">OFFICE HOURS</h3> <p style="margin: 0; font-weight: bold;">Monday—Friday 8 AM to 5 PM</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Lobby closed 12p -1p on Fridays</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-weight: bold; color: #e91e63;">Reach a staff member by phone at (970) 563-5500</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #2196f3; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Friendly Reminders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions on your bill? Need help setting up your online payments? Call us. • Monthly Shut-offs are the first Wednesday of each month: <i>Dec. 4th / Jan. 8th / Feb. 5th</i> <div style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">Avoid Late Fees. Settle your payments before 10am on Shut-off Day</div>
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<div style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">ANNOUNCEMENTS</h3> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shut-Off Day is December 4th Pay bill before 10am on 12/04/24 to avoid late fees. Questions? Call Utilities. • During inclement weather, watch your step on the Transfer Station Ramp when disposing trash. • New Southern Ute Utility Outage Notification Alert System is active. Sign up to be notified of any outages or delays. Questions? Call Utilities Office. • Winter Preparation: Please keep access clear to your Water & Gas Meters. Do not pile snow or debris on it. Utilities Staff needs 24/7 access in case of an Emergency • Reminder: Utilities Offices & Transfer Station CLOSED on LCB Day and Christmas Day. <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #e91e63;">HAPPY HOLIDAYS!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">— Southern Ute Utilities Staff</p>	<div style="text-align: center; background-color: #2196f3; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">PAYMENT OPTIONS</h3> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online at: www.suitutil.com • Choose "Pay My Bill" tab • Utilities Drive-Up Window • Utilities Drop Box at Office • Wells Fargo Drive-Thru (Ignacio Branch) • Automatic deductions at Tribal Distribution • Mail payment made payable to "Southern Ute Utilities Division" PO Box 1137 Ignacio, CO 81137 • Phone (970) 563-5500
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UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, CALL UTILITIES OFFICE.

86 Box 1137 16360 Hwy. 172 Ignacio, CO 81137 (970) 563-5500 www.suitutil.com

Sign Up for the Tribal Member Experience

- 1
Go to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's website at <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/>
- 2
Select "Members" at the top of the screen
- 3
Select "I need an account"
- 4
Complete the Tribal Member Access Request Form & click Submit

Account holders must be enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members and 18 years of age or older.

Your request will be sent to TIS for verification. SUSS will approve your account.

The login credentials will be sent to the email listed on the form. You may then create your password.

For information, contact Tribal Council Affairs at 970-563-2313 or TIS Vital Statistics at 970-563-2248.
For technical assistance, contact SUDEP at 970-563-5555.



The Southern Ute Digital Equity Program (SUDEP) would like to inform the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Members (SUITMs) and clarify programs that are available to you. Please use the outline below to verify that you are utilizing the program and the technological opportunities.

- 1) Laptop Program Defined
 - a. Dell laptops free to all SUITMs. www.southernute-nsn.gov/SUDEP
 - b. One Dell laptop per SUITM no exceptions.
 - c. Fill out questionnaire.
 - d. If you're filling a questionnaire out for a minor (under 18) put the grade in comments section. Under 18 years of age will receive a 2-1 Chromebook.
 - e. SUDEP will call when your laptop is ready for pick up. Prompt pickup is requested.
 - f. Shipping is available for the SUITMs that live out of the area. SUDEP will contact you for shipping. Shipping will occur once all forms have been filled out and signed. Forms are sent via e-mail by SUDEP staff.
- 2) \$75 Internet Reimbursement Program (6 months only) Defined
 - a. Internet program is available to all SUITM's (one voucher per service address only.)
 - b. Steps:
 - i. Fill out internet voucher request. Forms are available by contacting SUDEP or through the Southern Ute Tribal Member Portal.
 - ii. Send a copy of your internet bill with service address and Southern Ute Tribal Members name on it.
 - iii. Send both items to: sudepservice@southernute.com.
 - iv. SUDEP will pay the internet provider directly after the completed internet voucher and internet bill have been verified and approved.
 - v. It may take up to two billing cycles for the credit to appear on your internet bill.
- 3) Router Program Defined
 - a. Must connect with local fiber through Bonfire Fiber (FTI or X Mission).
 - b. Must decide which speed of internet you are purchasing monthly.
 - c. SUDEP will reimburse the internet provider (FTI or X Mission) for the router directly.
 - d. Steps:
 - i. Fill out and sign "Router Voucher Request" - contact SUDEP for form.
 - ii. Fill out and sign the "Release Agreement" - contact SUDEP for form.
 - e. Approved voucher will be sent to Bonfire and your fiber hook up will be scheduled.
- 4) MS 365 E3 Desktop Program Defined
 - a. SUDEP received 100 MS 365 Desktop licenses for SUITMs.
 - b. Contact SUDEP to request the license and guidance to install the software on your laptop. These licenses are limited and available till gone.
- 5) Technical & Laptop Support Defined
 - a. SUDEP is available for laptop support & troubleshooting, software updates, training, education, and technical support.

Southern Ute Digital Equity Program (SUDEP)
(970) 563-5555
sudepservice@southernute.com



FINANCE DEPARTMENT NOTICE
Early Cut-Off For Minors Birthday Distributions

Requests received after the published cut off will be processed the following week – please contact Anne Flanigan, 970-563-2454, aflanigan@southernute-nsn.gov if you have questions or want to make a withdrawal.

Distribution date	Request cut-off date
• Wednesday, Nov. 27	NOON, Friday, Nov. 20
• Friday, Dec. 13	NOON, Friday Dec. 6
• Friday Dec. 27	NOON, Friday Dec. 20
• Friday Jan. 3, 2025	NOON, Monday, Dec. 30

***Unless listed the cutoff for a Friday Minors distribution is 5 p.m. on Tuesday.*

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Southern Ute Indian Tribe Proposed Revisions to Water Quality Standards

A 50-day public comment period on proposed revisions to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's water quality standards will be held from Nov. 12, 2024, to Jan. 2, 2025. These revisions have been proposed as a result of a triennial review of the Tribe's water quality standards and reflect updates as necessary to comply with applicable federal regulation or to meet Tribal water quality goals. For all interested individuals, a public hearing regarding the Tribe's water quality standards proposed revisions will be held on: Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. To attend in person: Large Conference Room, Southern Ute Environmental Programs Dept., 71 Mike Frost Way Ignacio, CO 81137. To attend the hearing online, please register at: <http://bit.ly/3NXTng7> before the event. After the event, the live online hearing will be recorded and posted to the Tribe's website. The proposed water quality standards revisions can be found on the Tribe's website at: https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/department_s/epd/public-comments/. You can submit your comments two ways: On the Tribe's website at: https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/department_s/epd/public-comments/. Or via email: wqs@southernute-nsn.gov (preferred)

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
Boards, Committees and Comissions Vacancies

COMMITTEE OF ELDERS

To All Southern Ute Elders: Tribal Council has reestablished the Committee of Elders and seeks Letters of Interest from eligible Southern Ute Tribal Elders to serve on the Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to promote a continuing and growing heritage of language and traditional way of life through collaboration with the Cultural Preservation Department to maintain the Southern Ute language, heritage, and traditions of the Southern Ute people and to convey knowledge and experience. The Committee of Elders will act in a volunteer advisory capacity that does not intervene or interfere in the administration of the Tribal organization. Qualifications: Any enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Member who is 55 years of age or older is eligible to serve, whether living on or off the reservation. The initial Committee comprised of seven (7) members will be selected by Tribal Council. An understanding of the Tribe's language and culture is preferred, but not required. Tribal Council welcomes a broad representation of the Tribal Elder membership both on and off reservation. If selected and appointed, members should attend all committee meetings and special meetings as scheduled and adhere to the Tribe's approved Code of Conduct and Ethics Code. Appointments will last 1-3 years. Letters of Interest: Must be submitted to the Tribal Council Affairs Office no later than November 29, 2024, using one of these options: Email: swhyte@southernute-nsn.gov. In-person: Tribal Council Affairs Receptionist located in the Leonard C. Burch Tribal Building: 356 Ouray Drive, Ignacio, CO. Mail to: Tribal Council Affairs, P.O. Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137. Letter should include: Full name, contact information (i.e. Address, phone number, email address), and date; Suggested details to include in your letter are: Description of why you are a good fit for the position; Explanation of your motivation to join the Committee and list relevant experience; Outline your goals for this committee or how you plan to be involved; and Disclose any other boards/committees you currently serve on. If you have questions, please contact the Tribal Council Affairs Office at 970-563-2319 or Council Member Marjorie Barry at 970-563-2304.

letter of interest explaining why the applicant wishes to be appointed to the Commission; and Applicants must undergo a background investigation. Applications may be obtained at the Division of Gaming Office – Licensing in the West Wing of the Justice Complex, 149 County Road 517, Ignacio, Colorado, 81137. Applications and letter of interest are required to be turned into the Division of Gaming Office. These positions are open until filled. If you think you might be interested, please contact the Division of Gaming at 970-563-0180.

POWWOW COMMITTEE

Open until filled – The Southern Ute Indian Powwow Committee is currently accepting letters of intent to serve as a volunteer on the committee. The purpose of the Southern Ute Indian Powwow Committee shall be to nurture and promote the positive image of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe through their dances and other activities to preserve our culture. The vacancy is Open to Southern Ute tribal members or any interested Native Americans who would like to be actively involved in planning, promoting, and executing Powwows on Southern Ute land. Must be willing to work hands on, attend all scheduled meetings and powwow events with a professional/traditional attitude towards committee members, tribal departments, and visitors. Please submit letters to: Southern Ute Powwow Committee, PO Box 737 #16 Ignacio, CO 81137 OR soute-powwow@southernute-nsn.gov.

TERO COMMISSION

Open Until Filled – The Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) is accepting letters of interest for two (2) Southern Ute Tribal member at-large Commissioners to serve on the Tribal Employment Rights Commission which are compensated positions. Southern Ute tribal member/Applicants must have the following requirements: TRIBAL MEMBER AT-LARGE: Not currently employed by the Tribal Government or the Growth Fund; Does not own or operate a certified Indian Owned Business; Experience or expertise in administrative hearing procedures; Eighteen (18) years of age or older; Good character; and Ability to observe restrictions concerning conflict of interest and confidentiality. Submit your Letter of Interest to the TERO Division or send letter to TERO Division, P.O. Box 737, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ignacio, CO 81137. If you have any questions, please call TERO, at 970-563-0117 or 970-563-0100 ext. 2291. TERO is located in the J&R Administration Building, 71 Mike Frost Way, (north of the Tribal Court building).

TRIBAL CREDIT COMMITTEE

The Southern Ute Tribal Credit Committee ("Committee") is looking for eligible tribal member applicants to serve on the Committee. The appointment is for a three (3) year term. This is a compensated Committee, and you will be considered an employee of the Tribe, per IRS guidelines. Individuals seeking to serve on the Committee must demonstrate a reputation of personal integrity, dependability, honesty, a strong work ethic, and the ability to perform in a non-biased, confidential and fair manner. They must become familiar with the objectives of the Declaration of Policies and Plan of Operation – Tribal Credit Fund and must maintain good financial standing with the Tribe. Applicants must also pass criminal background and reference check, per the Tribal Credit Committee By-laws. The primary purpose of the Committee is to evaluate and render decisions regarding Secured Home Loan applications and monitor and evaluate the Tribal Credit loan programs and make recommendations to Tribal Council. Some of the duties of the Tribal Credit Committee are: Approve loans as required by the Declaration of Policies and Plan of Operation – Tribal Credit Fund ("Declaration"); Monitor compliance with the Declaration; Monitor all approved loans for performance; Make recommendations to the Tribal Council on program revisions and updates regarding Committee operations; Maintain confidentiality, objectivity, and fairness in conducting all Committee business; Attend regular meetings and other special meetings, as needed; Coordinate the Committee's annual budget with Tribal Credit Staff. Interested Tribal Members are asked to submit a letter of interest to the Tribal Credit Committee, PO Box 737 #60, Ignacio, CO 81137 or by email to zvogenthaler@southernute-nsn.gov. The letter should include the full name and contact information of the applicant, along with a detailed explanation of their relevant experience that would aid in making credit decisions, as well as a description of why they would be a good fit for the position. If you have any questions, please speak with Zeb Vogenthaler, at 970-563-2458.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB BOARD

Open Until Filled – The Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe is currently looking to fill four (4) volunteer Board Member positions. Responsible for knowing and effectively articulating the mission, vision, core values, goals, policies, and program areas of the Club. Members of the Board must attend meetings regularly and attend applicable committee meetings on a regular basis; also attend a minimum of one Priority event and one Club event annually. Members must maintain confidentiality of sensitive information and conduct oneself as a model for children in a manner that exemplifies high character. Interested parties must pick up an application on the www.bgcsu.org website or by request and returned to Bruce LeClaire at 970-563-2694 or bleclair@southernute-nsn.gov.

ETHICS COMMISSION

Open Until Filled – The Ethics Office is accepting letter of interest from tribal members to fill One vacancy for "Alternate Member-At-Large" positions on the Ethics Commission. Qualifications are: Be a member of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe at least 18 years of age or older; Have a reputation for fairness and impartiality; Have a familiarity with tribal government; and Satisfactory completion of a background investigation for criminal history showing no convictions or guilty pleas for felonies or any misdemeanor involving dishonesty. Submit letters of interest to the Department of Justice & Regulatory, PO Box 737-MS#10, Ignacio, CO, or in person at the Justice and Regulatory Administration Building, 71 Mike Frost Way. All letters will be presented to the Southern Ute Tribal Council for their consideration.

GAMING COMMISSION

The Southern Ute Gaming Commission is seeking 1) Full time and 1) Alternate position for specified terms, must be Southern Ute Tribal Members. Applicants must possess the following attributes pursuant to the Regulation One of the Gaming Commission Rules and Regulations: Applicants must be at least twenty-one years of age; Applicants must possess a basic knowledge and understanding of gaming activities authorized on the Southern Ute Indian reservation; Applicants must have experience or expertise in regulatory matters or in administrative hearing procedures; Applicants must have the ability to observe restrictions concerning conflicts of interest and confidentiality; Applicants must submit an application form and a

Provide a voice and secure more support for our students



Johnson-O'Malley (JOM) has four vacancies to be filled.

- Committee member
- Committee member
- Committee member
- Vice-chair (to be elected by committee)

1. To be eligible to become a JOM committee member you must have a student(s) in the Ignacio and/or Bayfield School District
2. Student(s) must be registered with the JOM program
3. Write a letter of interest as to why you want to be on the committee. This position is a volunteer position to support our students. If selected, you will serve on the committee for 2 years

The committee meets on the first Monday of every month!



Contact Education Specialist, Southern Ute Education, Kaylyn LeClaire for more information: kleclair@southernute-nsn.gov OR (970)563-0237 ext. 2793

KSUT IS YOUR RADIO STATION!
 KSUT seeks one enrolled SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL MEMBER to serve on the KSUT Board of Directors.



Frances Densmore recording Blackfoot Chief, Mountain Chief, on a cylinder phonograph for the bureau of American Ethnology (1916). - photo Wikipedia (en.wikipedia.org)

The KSUT Board of Directors is seeking a Southern Ute tribal member to serve on the Board of Directors. The tribal member does not have to live in the region and may attend board meetings remotely, as needed.

As a board member you will serve a three-year term, attend monthly meetings, and perform with decision-making in the best long-term interests of KSUT and the community of listeners, and other responsibilities of serving on the board of directors.

The KSUT Board of Directors meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in Ignacio at the Eddie Box Jr. Media Center. Meetings are open to the public, unless prior notice is given to allow members to conduct confidential station business.

To apply, submit a Letter of Interest to Tami Graham, KSUT Executive Director via email: tami@ksut.org or by mail P.O. Box 737, Ignacio, Colo., 81137. Questions, call 970-563-0255.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Election Board Vacancy

The Southern Ute Election Board is seeking one (1) Alternate Board Members. The positions will be open until filled. Qualifications: 11-2-102, (1) & (3): Must be a Southern Ute Indian Tribal Registered Voter. Must reside within the exterior boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Shall not have been convicted of a felony, and shall not have been convicted of a misdemeanor involving dishonesty or fraud within five years immediately preceding appointment to the Election Board. The Election Board is a paid committee, IRS Guidelines, a Criminal Background Check is necessary. Southern Ute Employee benefits are offered, and you will be considered an Official of the Southern Ute Tribe. Please submit your letter of Intent to: Election Board P.O. Box 709 Ignacio, CO 81137. Physical location: 285 Lakin St., Ignacio, CO. Contact the Election Board at 970-563-2303 or via email: election@southernute-nsn.gov.



Southern Ute Indian Tribe • Job announcements

Visit the the tribe's website at www.southernute-nsn.gov/jobs for complete job descriptions. ALL EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE.

If you need help filling out an online application, please come the Human Resources office and we are happy to assist you on our applicant computer stations. Applicants and employees, be sure the HR Dept. has your current contact information on file. Human Resources accepts applications for temporary employment on an ongoing basis.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Human Resources • P.O. Box 737 - Ignacio, CO 81137
Phone: 970-563-0100 ext. 2424 • Fax: 970-563-0302 • Hotline: 970-563-4777

Audit Assistant (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Closes 12/6/24 – Under the general supervision of the Director of Internal Audit and other internal audit staff as assigned, the audit assistant will perform administrative tasks for the department and project level support, including introductory level audit procedures. To gain experience, duties assigned are to familiarize the employee with the more complex auditing work that is performed by an associate internal auditor. Providing support to internal auditors with audits, reviews, assessments, and other engagements. Providing administrative support for the department, including audit record retention. Pay grade N11; Pay starts at \$23.63/hour.

Auto-Mechanic I

Closes 12/4/24 – Performs routine vehicle maintenance and minor repairs on tribally owned vehicles. Pay grade N10; Pay starts at \$21.89/hour.

Community Health Representative

Closes 11/27/24 – Providing assistance and the coordination and development of activities for elderly and physically or mentally disabled Tribal members. Performs community health duties to include patient transport and monitoring, home visits, conducting classes, and providing community education on Tribal health issues. House cleaning, personal hygiene, preparing meals, and other health and wellness related activities. Pay grade N9; Pay starts at \$20.26/hour.

Lake Capote Manager Apprentice (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Closes 11/27/24 – The objective of this Apprenticeship Program is to provide the Southern Ute Tribal Member Apprentice with training, education, and hands-on experience in all phases of managing the Lake Capote Recreation Area (LCRA). The time frame for program completion is planned for 1 year, unless there are circumstances requiring an extension or reduction in the training period. Will start at 20% below the grade for Lake Capote Manager and receive quarterly evaluations and pay increases.

Animal Care Technician (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – Under the general supervision of the Tribal Ranger Sergeant, assures the care of impounded animals and other duties related to the care of the site and the animals. Pay grade N7; Pay starts at \$17.37/hour.

Bus Driver Part-time

Open Until Filled – Provides Bus driving services for the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA). Pay grade N8; Pay starts at \$18.76/hour.

Chief Judge Apprentice (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – An apprentice position for a Southern Ute Tribal member to learn all the requirements and duties of the Chief Judge position in the Southern Ute Tribal Court. Mentoring, training, and all aspects of employee supervision will be performed by the current Chief Judge or delegate in accordance with SUIT Personnel Policies and Procedures. For purposes of employment, the successful candidate shall be classified as an apprentice. The Judicial Review Committee shall also provide insight, guidance, and recommendations when needed. The length of the trainee program is two years to five years depending upon experience and individual progress. Performance will be evaluated pursuant to the requirements of the Tribal Apprenticeship Program and annually with the Tribal Judicial Committee. Will be eligible for wage increase based on performance evaluations and policies governing this position. Upon successful completion of the curriculum, incumbent will transition into the Chief Judge Lay position. Non-exempt and will start at 20% below grade E22.

Controller

Open Until Filled – Integrity and timeliness of the financial information of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Prepares financial statements for distribution for internal and external reporting, including consolidated statements. Supervision and oversight of the accounting staff in the preparation of financial information. Responsible for the offices of General Ledger/Fixed Assets, Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, Purchasing, and Contracts and Grants. Pay grade E19; the salary range begins at \$114,968/year.

Dentist (Part-time w/benefits)

Open Until Filled – Providing, clinical, health promotion and disease prevention, and educational services for the Dental Division. Pay grade E22; pay starts at \$113,890.20/year.

Director of Strategic Planning

Open Until Filled – Working with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Council to define, plan, implement, and achieve the strategic and financial plan objectives and priorities determined by Tribal Council. Researching and critically analyzing past strategies and modifying and developing those plans and strategies to address current circumstances; developing training material for Tribal Council Members regarding the Tribe's Financial Plan and other strategic plans; and communicating the financial and strategic plans to the Tribal Membership. In coordination with Tribal Council, facilitates strategic planning, including but not limited to tribal entities and tribal membership when deemed appropriate. Acts as a liaison between the Tribal Council and the Tribal Entities; accessing and gathering information as authorized by Tribal Council. Reports functionally to the Tribal Council and administratively to Tribal Council Affairs management. Pay grade E22; pay starts at \$189,817.00/annually.

Dispatcher

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Communications Manager, provides radio dispatch services for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Pay grade N10; the Pay starts at \$21.89/hour and includes a potential 3-5k DOE sign-on bonus.

Dispatcher Trainee

Open Until Filled – A trainee position for individuals interested in a career in Law Enforcement with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. While in the trainee status, the employee participates and engages in in-house training and work activities specifically designed and chosen to train and indoctrinate the individual to work an emergency communications dispatch center. Work is performed under the guidance of an experienced dispatcher. The length of this program is designed to last one (1) year but may be extended or reduced based on circumstances. Upon successful completion of training curriculum requirements, incumbent will assume the Dispatcher position. Will start at 20% below entry level for a grade N10 and be subject to quarterly evaluations and pay increases. Pay grade N10; pay will start at \$17.51/hour.

Early Childhood Teacher

Open Until Filled – A professional teaching position with the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA). Uses the Montessori philosophy to provide Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy students with a developmentally appropriate learning environment meeting the physical, social/emotional, cognitive, and cultural needs of the child. Communicating effectively with parents/guardians about their child's progress in each domain area. Pay grade N9; Pay starts at \$20.26/hour.

Economic Development Project Coordinator

Open Until Filled – Under general direction of the Economic Development Manager, will assist with projects to develop, plan, organizes and implement economic development functions from conception to completion, involving programs related to Tribal Member small business development and entrepreneurship. Promoting the small business and economic development interests of the Tribe. Pay grade E13; Pay starts at \$59,494/year.

Elementary Teacher

Open Until Filled – A professional teaching position with the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA). Uses the Montessori philosophy to provide Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy students with a developmentally appropriate learning environment meeting the physical, social/emotional, cognitive, and cultural needs of the child. Communicate effectively with parents/guardians about their child's progress in each domain area. Pay grade E12; Pay starts at \$54,086/year.

Gaming Investigator I

Open Until Filled – An entry level position located under the Southern Ute Division of Gaming (DOG). Under general supervision of the Gaming Investigator III, works in coordination with other DOG Investigators to learn and perform Law Enforcement / Regulatory duties for the enforcement of Class II and Class III gaming on the Southern Ute Reservation. Pay grade N13; Pay starts at \$28.60/hour.

Grants Financial Analyst

Open Until Filled – Working closely with Tribal staff members on all financial grant and related Tribal budget and spending matters. Responsible for assisting in monitoring programs to ensure compliance with grant or contract regulations. Pay grade E13; the Pay starts at \$59,494/annually.

Group Exercise Instructor

Open Until Filled – Provides group exercise instruction and fitness activities to members of the Sun Ute Community Center, in accordance with the guidelines established and approved by Fitness Director and/or Community Center Director. Pay grade N9; Pay starts at \$20.26/hour.

Heavy Equipment Operator

Open Until Filled – Provides routine maintenance and safe operation of heavy equipment in carrying out project assignments for the Construction Services Division. Pay grade N11; pay starts at \$23.63/hour.

HVAC Technician

Open Until Filled – Provides maintenance support, troubleshooting, and preventative maintenance on commercial heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems including machinery, boilers, hot and chilled water distribution systems, circulation pumps, steam humidifiers, cooling towers, walk-in coolers and freezers, and variable volume system located in Southern Ute Tribal Buildings. Pay grade N15; Pay starts at \$33.93/hour.

Lifeguard Full-time

Open Until Filled – Lifeguard activities at the Community Recreation Center swimming pool, in accordance with the guidelines established and approved by Fitness Director and/or Community Director. Pay grade N5; pay rate starts at \$14.90/hour.

Patrol Officer I

Open Until Filled – Patrols the Southern Ute Indian Reservation and is responsible for preserving the life and property of all citizens within the Tribal Community. Pay grade N13; the Pay starts at \$28.60/hour and includes a potential 3-5k DOE sign-on bonus.

Patrol Officer II

Open Until Filled – Patrols the Southern Ute In-

Southern Ute Agriculture Division Hay For Sale

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Agriculture Division has hay for sale to Tribal members. The hay was produced by the Agriculture Division on the Pivot Irrigation Demonstration Farm. This hay is about a 60/40 grass alfalfa mix. Small bales are approximately 65 pounds each and large bales weigh approximately 1,100 pounds each. Small bales are \$9 per bale and large bales are \$140 per bale. This hay is available on a first come first serve basis and when its gone no more hay will be available until June 2025. The maximum limit per sale is 160 small bales or 8 large bales. Contact the Agriculture Division Office at 970-563-2900 or stop by at 655 CR 517 to purchase. Cash, checks or money orders only. No cards.

For Sale

Quonset Hut: New on crate 30"x60' open front \$24,000 new, \$12,500 OBO takes. Call 970-749-3075.



SoCoCAA Job Opportunities

Visit our website to apply at www.sococaa.org or call 970-563-4517. Jobs open until filled.

Road Runner Transit:

- Bus Cleaner/Building Maintenance (Part-time) \$18.94/hr.
- Transit Driver (Part-time) \$18.94/hr.

SoCoCAA Central Administration:

- Executive/Development Director \$75,275 – \$82,638/yr., (Up to \$3,000 in relocation expenses available.)
- Program Developer (Part-time) \$32.97/hr.

Ignacio Youth Services:

- Program Coordinator (Full-time) \$17.29/hr., DOE

Ignacio Early Learning Program:

- Substitute Teacher (Part-time) \$14.42/hr.

Ignacio Senior Center:

- Head Cook (Full-time) \$17.29/hr.
- Assistant Cook (Full-time) \$14.42/hr.

Ignacio School District – Job announcements

Application/Information: 970-563-0500 ext. 221

Job info, descriptions and application: www.ignacioschools.org/employment-cdac2310

- High School Head Soccer Coach
- Route and Activity Bus Driver

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Job Announcements, cont.

dian Reservation and is responsible for preserving the life and property of all citizens within the Tribal Community. Pay grade N14; Pay starts at \$30.84/hour includes a potential 3-5k DOE sign-on bonus.

Patrol Officer Trainee

Open Until Filled – A trainee position for un-certified individuals interested in a career in law enforcement with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Will be required to attend and successfully complete an approved basic police-training course. Upon completion of the required trainings and certifications, will assume the position of Patrol Officer. Pay grade N11; Pay starts at \$23.63/hour.

Project Aware Program Manager

Open Until Filled – The Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education) Manger will lead, develop, and maintain a comprehensive plan to meet critical objectives outlined by the Tribal Education Department and Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA) Counseling program, in compliance with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the federal Substance Abuse Mental Health Services administration (SAMHSA). The Project Manager will serve as the Tribal Education Agency liaison to the State Project Director and will build infrastructure, collect and share data, create local policies, oversee the implementation of key programmatic elements, develop and maintain relationships with Tribal, school and community organizations, and increase communication with families to build ongoing wellness and resilience for students. Grant funded and continued employment is contingent on availability of funding. Pay grade E13; Pay starts at \$59,494/year.

Property Manager

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Economic Development Director, this position will manage the day-to-day operations of various Tribal properties including leasing activities, marketing, maintenance, and administrative functions. Pay grade E17; Pay starts at \$86,943/annually.

Public Health Nurse

Open Until Filled – A Registered Nurse position, providing public health nursing care and case management to individuals, families, and the community. Pay grade N15; the Pay starts at \$33.93/hour.

Scorekeeper (Part-time)

Open Until Filled – Keeps accurate scores for sporting events held by SunUte Recreation Dept. Pay grade N6; pay starts at \$16.09/hour.

Security Officer

Open Until Filled – Will provide security for throughout Tribal Campus. Duties will include patrolling and observing the activities of per-

sons in and around the Mouche-Capote building. Work involves assessing problem situations and exercising tact and judgement in bringing about their resolution. Pay grade N10; Pay starts at \$21.89/hour.

TEAM Worker (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – The TEAM program is an opportunity for enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members to find temporary employment within the various departments of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Both part-time and full-time temporary positions.

TERO Worker

Open Until Filled – Under the supervision of the TERO office. It is an opportunity for enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members and other local Native Americans to find temporary employment within the various departments of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Both part-time and full-time temporary positions.

Tribal Apprenticeship Program (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Tribe is accepting applications for SUIT Tribal Members interested in pursuing their career interests through the Apprenticeship Program. The purpose of the program is to build a career foundation for SUIT members to pursue further educational goals or career development. Apprentices may be placed within Permanent Fund departments or divisions dependent on career interests, educational level and/or length of prior relevant and appropriate work experience. The Apprenticeship Committee will review applications and assess what options may be available for applicants.

Tribal Ranger Trainee (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – A trainee position for un-certified individuals interested in a career in law enforcement with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Will be required to attend and successfully complete an approved basic police-training course. Upon successful completion of training curriculum requirements, incumbent will assume the Tribal Ranger position. Pay grade N11; Pay starts at \$23.63/hour.

Umpire/Referee

Open Until Filled – Maintains rules and regulations on the playing field and courts during Sun-Ute Recreation Programs sporting events. Pay grade N7; the Pay starts at \$17.37/hour.

Water Quality & Remediation Division Head

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Environmental Programs Director, responsible for the planning and management of Southern Ute Indian Tribal Water Quality, Brownfields, and General Assistance Programs. Pay grade E18; Pay starts at \$99,984/year.



Southern Ute Growth Fund • Job announcements

Please visit our website at www.sugf.com/jobs.asp for full job details and to apply online.
Tribal Member employment preference • Must pass pre-employment drug test/background check.
Southern Ute Growth Fund, Human Resources • P.O. Box 367 • Ignacio, CO
Phone: 970-563-5064 • Job hotline: 970-563-4777.

Maintenance Technician – Growth Fund Facilities (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 11/29/24 – Providing maintenance for Growth Fund properties serviced by the Facilities Department at the following locations: Growth Fund Office Building, Red Willow Office Building, Utilities Office and Maintenance Buildings, Fairgrounds Office Building, Quichas Hill Heights Apartments, single-family rentals, and responsible for general maintenance duties.

Assistant Accounting Manager-Real Estate – Growth Fund Accounting/Finance (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 12/13/24 – Ensuring that entries to the subledgers, general ledger and account reconciliations for the Growth Fund real estate and Growth Fund Other businesses are made on an accurate and timely basis. Will communicate and coordinate with third-party Real Estate accounting providers to provide an accurate and timely monthly close. Prepares monthly financial reporting packages, (analysis and presentation), provides annual audit support, and other duties, as needed. Supervising accounting staff, as determined necessary by the Assistant Controller. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

Assistant Accounting Manager-Real Estate – Growth Fund Accounting/Finance (Denver, CO)

Closes 12/13/24 – Ensuring that entries to the subledgers, general ledger and account reconciliations for the Growth Fund real estate and Growth Fund Other businesses are made on an accurate and timely basis. Will communicate and coordinate with third-party Real Estate accounting providers to provide an accurate and timely monthly close. Prepares monthly financial reporting packages, (analysis and presentation), provides annual audit support, and other duties, as needed. This position includes supervising accounting staff, as determined necessary by the Assistant Controller.

Lease Operator II – Red Willow Production Co. (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 12/6/24 – Managing and maintaining field operations to ensure that production proceeds safely and efficiently in compliance with all regulations, and in a manner consistent with Red Willow and Tribal priorities and concerns. Assists in collecting and maintaining accurate data related to operations including production data and equipment data. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

Lease Operator III – Red Willow Production Co. (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 12/6/24 – Field operations in areas where the company has operated assets, ensuring that production is optimized under safe, environmentally correct, and efficient conditions in compliance with all regulations and consistent with Tribal priorities and concerns. Assists in collecting and maintaining accurate data related to operations, including production, and equipment information. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

Sky Ute Casino Resort • Job announcements

Visit our website at www.skyutecasino.com to view job openings and apply online.
Human Resources • Phone: 970-563-1311 • PO Box 340, Ignacio, CO 81137
TERO-Native American Preference • All Applicants Welcome • Must pass pre-employment drug test, background check, qualify for and maintain a Division of Gaming License and be able to work all shifts, weekends or holidays. **21 years or older to apply.*

***Café Cashier (Full-time)**

Providing friendly and courteous service to all guests in a fast-paced work environment. Responsibilities include taking guests food orders, accurately totaling food and beverage purchases and collecting payments. Assists in preparing and serving all foods necessary for the Café kitchen. Prepares coffee and pizza from the hot food line in the front area of the Café. Will balance the register at end of the shift, with proper report of discrepancies and complete paperwork.

appropriate Service Standards and Facility operations/maintenance.

***Project Cleaner (Full-time)**

Cleaning all public areas including Casino floor, public restrooms, restaurant, lobby, offices, employee break rooms, and other areas as assigned. Reports directly to the Housekeeping Department and will be assigned to take on specific projects as assigned.

***Rolling Thunder Grill Server (Full-time)**

Provide an exceptional dining experience by delivering first class guest service of food and beverages to include: taking the order and delivering food and beverage items. Handle tasks in a friendly, courteous, helpful, timely and professional manner resulting in a high level of guest satisfaction. Shift covers Breakfast and Lunch only.

***Level II Facilities Staff (Full-time)**

Reports to the Facilities Supervisor on shift. Operation of equipment, environmental condition and appearance of the facility and grounds. Cleanliness, maintenance and repair of the facility, equipment, and building.

***Lead Facilities Technician HVAC (Full-time)**

Electrical and mechanical functions, operation of equipment, environmental controls and conditions, and the structural integrity and appearance of the facility and grounds. Works as the lead of a team to ensure smooth operations of the facility, equipment, and building; by providing maintenance support, troubleshooting and repair, preventative maintenance on commercial heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems including boilers, AHU's, hot and chilled water distribution systems, circulation pumps, cooling towers, walk-in coolers, and freezers. Reports to the Director of Facilities while sharing the responsibility to train and lead activities of departmental employees; technicians, shift supervisors, and facilities staff in

***Room Attendant (Full-time)**

Thoroughly cleaning hotel guest rooms and performing routine duties individually or as a pair, in a fast-paced work environment. Cleaning hotel room by wiping, washing, scrubbing, vacuuming, sweeping, and mopping all areas of the guest rooms. Requires the ability to bend, lift, stand and walk throughout the shift. Duties of this job are physically demanding and may be stressful at times, particularly during peak season periods. Cleaning an average of 16 guest rooms, and during peak season, up to 20 guest rooms per shift, depending on whether you are working as an individual or a pair. Cross training on the Casino Floor to assist with Operational Housekeeping when needed and as assigned.

**FOR RENT: SOUTHERN UTE MEMBERSHIP ONLY
60 Shadow Spirit East, Ignacio, Colorado 81137**

Tribal Housing Department has the following units available for rent:

- (1) single-story, 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom ADA unit for \$875/mo. Security Deposit \$875
- (1) single-story, 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom unit for \$875/mo. Security Deposit \$875

Please visit our website at www.southernute-nsn.gov/tribal-housing/cedar-point-townhomes to complete an application or stop by our office to pick up an application. Paper applications can be emailed to: tribalhousing@southernute-nsn.gov or hand-delivered to our drop box at 285 Lakin Street, Ignacio, CO 81137. If you have any questions, please call our office at 970-563-4710 or visit our office at 285 Lakin Street, Ignacio, CO 81137. *PLACEMENT SUBJECT TO BACKGROUND CHECK AND RENTAL HISTORY VERIFICATION.* Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Dec. 6, 2024.

Tribal Wills Clinic • Winter 2024

**Southern Ute Tribe, Ignacio, Colorado
December 27, 28, 30 & 31**

To make appointment call John Roach at 505-716-6788

Celebrate a well-lived life by making sure that your wishes are carried out by the next generation. To make sure that your wishes are respected after you pass, please consider drafting a will, either through our program or with a local attorney.

WHY WILLS?

- Federal law includes provisions that say how Indian Trust Lands pass after a Tribal Member passes on.
- Over time, parcels may have been split into hundreds of small shares as Indian Trust Land passed from generation to generation. This process is called "fractionation."
- A federal law, A.I.P.R.A., is now attempting to decrease fractionation by providing that most Indian Trust Land will go only to the one oldest descendant – unless the owner writes a will.
- To make sure that your Trust Land, and other important items of property go to the people you want to have that property, you should write a will.

The Tribal Wills Clinic is a group of volunteers including law students and licensed attorneys, who donate their time to help Tribal Members write wills.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

- Our services are entirely free.
- At a law firm in Denver, the cost for a will would be about \$2,500 and the process would take about two weeks.

HOW LONG DOES THE PROCESS TAKE?

- About two hours on two different days.
- On the first day you will talk with a law student about what you would like to have included in your documents. You will have plenty of time to ask questions.
- That night the law student will write up all of the documents, and have them checked by a licensed attorney.
- On a second day, when the documents are ready, you will come back for the signing ceremony, which will take at least an hour, as the law student goes over everything to be sure that it is right.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT FOR A WILL

- **Names of Friends and Family who will be Included in the Will** – To save time at the interview, write down the names of the friends and family you want to mention in the will. Include the birthdate, address, cellphone number, enrollment or census number for each person, if you know it.
- **Special Gifts** – What is important for specific family members to have?
- **Personal Representative** – Who should take charge to make sure your wishes are carried out after you pass on?
- **Joint Tenants or Tenants in Common** – If you want to give a piece of land to be owned by several people at the same time, you will need to decide whether you want them to own the property as **Joint Tenants** or as **Tenants in Common**.
- **Joint Tenants** means that the last person surviving will own all of the land. **Tenants in Common** means that as each person passes on, that person's share goes into his or her estate. The law student will explain more about this.

**Check out Southern Ute Drum's new multimedia features and videos on Vimeo.
<https://vimeo.com/1022663867>**

To Learn More:
Who: Southern Ute Tribal Members
When: December 2nd and 3rd, 2024
*multiple times available
Where: Southern Ute Growth Fund, Ignacio, CO and via WebEx

[Contact SUDEP to sign up for a Life Lock training session](#)
970-563-5555

Are you worried about the health of your digital life?

\$ We help protect your personal information and finances.
Your identity is valuable, regardless of what you own or how much money you make. We help protect your finances by monitoring your personal information for possible identity theft and financial fraud.

🛡️ We provide protection when you connect online.
Everybody is scrolling. How do you know if the ad you see online could take you to a harmful site? We block thousands of digital threats every minute - even before they can infect your computers, phones, and tablets.

🔧 We're here to help when you need it.
If your identity got stolen, would you know who to call? Or where to turn for support? Our U.S.-based Restoration Specialists, will personally handle your identity theft case until it's resolved.

Has your personal info been exposed in a data breach?
Try our free [Threat Detector](#) tool to uncover potential threats to your identity.

Enroll Now! <http://southernute.norton-benefits.com>

NOW HIRING

photo Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
Southern Ute Police Dept.

Position Summary: Under general supervision of the Chief of Police, incumbent provides day-to-day management over the Communications Center staff (Dispatchers) and operations including planning, developing, coordinating, and staff supervision.

Starting Pay Range: E16; \$77,627/annually

SIGNING BONUS UP TO \$5,000

Excellent Benefits. Apply online at <https://careers.southernute.com/pfund>

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Human Resources
P.O. Box 737 - Ignacio, CO 81137
Phone: 970-563-0100 ext. 2424
Hotline: 970-563-4777
<https://careers.southernute.com/pfund>

DISPATCHER
Southern Ute Police Dept.

Position Summary: Under general supervision of the Communications Manager, provides radio dispatch services for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe.

Starting Pay Range: N10; \$21.89/hour

SIGNING BONUS UP TO \$5,000

Excellent Benefits. Apply online at <https://careers.southernute.com/pfund>

Heritage Dancers perform at IMS



Heritage Dancers visited the Ignacio Middle School on Thursday, Nov. 21 to perform in recognition of Native American Heritage Month. Southern Ute Royalty leads the mini-Grand Entry performance for the students.



Catching Eagle singers of Towaoc, Colo. provided the songs for each dance performance and style. Their catchy songs had IMS students tapping their toes and clapping their hands.



Members of the Southern Ute Tribal Council also visited the school to share stories and explain the importance of Native American Heritage Month, Marvin Pinnecoose served as the emcee during the performance and Marge Barry took time to share some encouraging words with students.

Photos by Divine Windy Boy
The Southern Ute Drum



Ignacio Middle School also welcomed students at Ignacio Elementary School to join in the Native American Heritage Month celebration and each student gathered for a round dance to close out the performance.

The Southern Ute Drum's Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
		15			16					
17	18						19	20	21	22
23				24		25		26		
27			28		29		30			
			31	32						
33	34	35				36			37	38
39						40				
41						42				

Across

- 1 Morning phenomena
- 6 "Wuthering Heights" writer --- Brontë
- 11 Cancel prematurely
- 12 Kingdom of Croesus
- 13 How actors enter
- 14 What too many cooks spoil
- 15 Having equal footing
- 17 Long slender feather
- 19 "People of the place where the trails return"
- 23 Hello in Hidalgo
- 24 Bit of beer
- 26 "I'm agin it!"
- 27 John to Admiral Nimitz?
- 29 Cricket equivalent of baseball's "Ball"
- 31 Go pale
- 33 Former CIA director William ---
- 36 Shield
- 39 Fathered
- 40 Dad's dad
- 41 Apply palm grease
- 42 Short literary composition

Down

- 1 Revolutionary Chinese leader
- 2 Arabic form of "Mac"
- 3 Ignacio community improver
- 4 Large case
- 5 Lifts
- 6 "Able was I ere I saw ---"
- 7 Aromatic resin burned as incense
- 8 Common "Who wants ice cream?" reply
- 9 Drunk
- 10 Yes, in "Fargo"
- 16 Punta Gorda, to a Belizean
- 17 Tribe who originally spoke Quinault
- 18 "Cakes and ---" (1930 Maugham novel)
- 20 Mess up saga about mad nun in the Aleutian islands
- 21 Broadway's "--- Joey"
- 22 Hole puncher
- 25 Thick French soup
- 28 Doofus
- 30 Six-pack items
- 32 Robert Louis Stevenson's Doctor's evil side
- 33 Federal chemical accident investigator
- 34 Broadcast
- 35 --- Lanka (Asian island nation)
- 37 "--- Gigolo" (Cole Porter song)
- 38 Agent

Answers will appear in the December 13 issue of the Drum.

Answers for November 15, 2024 Crossword Puzzle

Across: 1 Lusts, 6 Skip, 10 On the, 11 Anna, 12 Odium, 13 Dogs, 14 Norris, 16 Coca, 18 Sneak out, 20 PPE, 23 Alb, 24 Dam, 25 Mogollon, 28 Sign, 29 Slough, 33 NCAI, 35 Idled, 36 Tugs, 37 Stand, 38 Spam, 39 Hones.

Down: 1 Loon, 2 Undo, 3 Stir, 4 Thurs, 5 Seminal, 6 Sad, 7 Knock, 8 In good, 9 Pascua, 15 Sells, 17 ATM, 19 Abolish, 20 PMs, 21 Points, 22 Eggcup, 26 Onaga, 27 Nod to, 30 Ulan, 31 Gene, 32 HDDs, 34 Ism.

Honoring our Heritage with Family and Gratitude

November is Native American Heritage Month

NOVEMBER IS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH, A TIME TO CELEBRATE THE CULTURE, HISTORY, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF PEOPLE WHO WERE THE FIRST INHABITANTS OF THE LAND NOW KNOWN AS THE UNITED STATES.



Benefits of Being Thankful:

Feeling thankful or grateful makes our hypothalamus start working. This is part of our brain that controls many body functions including our emotions and feelings. Dopamine or happy chemicals release when we express gratitude! THIS HELPS OUR BODY BE BALANCED AND STRONGER.

Activity:
Gratitude is a Native Way of Life

It's in our Indigenous culture to express gratitude daily. Many tribes share the cultural value of being thankful for the elements that Earth provides as well as the community around them. This was a critical way of life that kept one in balance or harmony with self, others, and nature. Cultural value of gratitude also includes gift giving. Neuroscience proves expressing gratitude is good for our mind and bodies.

Reflection: Think of two people to whom you would like to show gratitude and think of why you are grateful for them. Challenge yourself to honor these two people in your own way.

- What are some gifts we can give that don't cost money?
- Think of two actions or thoughts you could do that will help you feel and show gratitude.

Give thanks
for unknown blessings already on their way.
Native American Proverb



How Gratitude Helps the Brain

Benefits of Being Grateful

- Better sleep
- Have a positive outlook and attitude
- Feeling less stress or sadness
- Better heart health
- Develop resilience
- Healthier relationships with self/others
- Increase self-esteem

"Mother Earth, we thank you for giving us everything we need."

LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Friday, Nov. 29



Mostly sunny 44°F

Saturday, Nov. 30



Sunny 44°F

Sunday, Dec. 1



Sunny 46°F

Weather forecasts collected from www.weather.gov

