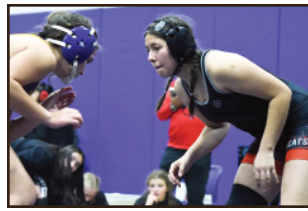




Ignacio's Taste of Christmas

PAGE 12



Bobcats take it to the mat

PAGE 17

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Subscription or advertising information, 970-563-0118

\$29 one year subscription
\$49 two year subscription

December 13, 2024

Vol. LVII, No. 25

The Southern Ute Drum wins 10 Colorado Press Association awards

Celebrating a decade of the LCB Walk



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Leon Burch holds a staff belonging to the late Leonard C. Burch as he leads his family and attendees during the start of the LCB Memorial Walk/Run. The 10th Annual Leonard C. Burch Memorial Walk/Run took place on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at the SunUte Community Center.

See more LCB photo coverage on page 9.

CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Dr. Oberly announced as new Ute Language Program Manager

Staff report
 SOUTHERN UTE CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM

The Southern Ute Cultural Preservation Department is pleased to announce that Dr. Stacey Oberly has joined our team as the Ute Language Program Manager. Dr. Oberly brings an impressive academic and professional background spanning three decades as a renowned Ute language, endangered languages, and Indigenous cultural activist. Her work is rooted in the belief that linguistic and social justice is a means to building proactive and protective cultural identity and spirituality within and for Indigenous communities.



Dr. Stacey Oberly
 Ute Language Program Manager
 Southern Ute Cultural Preservation Dept.

Dr. Oberly holds a Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Arizona and has taught linguistics at the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, and Fort Lewis College. She has also made significant contributions to the field of Southern Ute language studies through her numerous publications, extensive research, and presentations.

As the Ute Language Program Manager, Dr. Oberly will lead the development and expansion of the Cultural Preservation Department's language programs and resources. Dr. Oberly shared she, "feel[s] very blessed to be able to manage our Ute language program in a way that best honors our ancestors and brings Ute language to our babies yet to come."

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Stacey Oberly," said Crystal Rizzo, Director of the Cultural Preservation Department. "Her expertise and passion for the Ute language will be invaluable as we work to revitalize and preserve this critical part of our heritage. We are confident that under her leadership, our language program will flourish."



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

LaTitia Taylor shares a speech during her retirement event on Thursday, May 30, sharing her experiences throughout her 32-year career. During her speech, she acknowledged her various mentors and colleagues who showed support throughout her journey. Throughout her career, Taylor has demonstrated dedication, initiative, stability, and continuous improvement within the community, to many she has been an inspiration.

SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION

Education looks to the future and honors the past

Part I

By Divine Windy Boy
 THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

Forty years ago, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe signed the Education Proclamation, recognizing the importance of education and committing to "excellence in education," encouraging all Tribal members to fully participate in the process. Today the Southern Ute Education Department actively upholds those ide-

als and expectations, assisting the membership in pursuing their collegiate education as well as offering other types of educational opportunities. Southern Ute Tribal member LaTitia Taylor has participated in the Southern Ute Education Program for many years as a student, educator, and director, with the assistance of the program she has developed outstanding professionalism and achieved ma-

ny of her educational goals. In her early years, Taylor attended Ignacio public schools and was a talented athlete, eventually she had multiple colleges reaching out in hopes for her enrollment. Facing challenges in her reading skills, Taylor was unsure of pursuing a higher education degree however after receiving an offer from both Haskell Ju-

Education page 6

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Southern Ute Tribal Offices will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 25 for Christmas. Normal business hours will resume Thursday, Dec. 26.

Offices will be closed Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 for New Year's Day. Normal business hours will resume Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025.

All aboard the Polar Express



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Kyle Rock and his family receive magic bells from Santa Claus during their ride on the Polar Express themed train ride Thursday, Dec. 12, a special event hosted by the SunUte Community Center. The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad draws in visitors each winter for this holiday tradition.



Kairi Ruybal reads pages from the Polar Express, during the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad's Polar Express Train Ride, Thursday, Dec. 12. The Polar Express is an award-winning book by Chris Van Allsburg, that tells the story of a child's Christmas Eve journey.

See more Polar Express photo coverage on page 13.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Run-Off Election

Friday, Dec. 13, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m., 285 Lakin St., Ignacio, Colo.



Linda Baker
 Candidate
 Tribal Council



Lorelei Cloud
 Candidate
 Tribal Council



James Olguin
 Candidate
 Tribal Council



Vanessa Torres
 Candidate
 Tribal Council

End of Term Celebration



photos Krista Richards/SU Drum

Southern Ute Tribal Council Affairs expressed, "Our sincere gratitude to the Tribal Membership, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Jicarilla Apache Nation, and local dignitaries who joined us yesterday for the End of Council Term Celebration honoring Vice Chairman Lorelei Cloud and Council Member Vanessa Torres. Their tireless efforts to raise awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) and to secure Tribal water rights in the Colorado River Basin have made a significant impact on our community, region, and state. We are grateful for their leadership, advocacy, and service."



Chairman Melvin J. Baker gives words of gratitude to his outgoing Vice-Chairman, Lorelei Cloud, before those who gathered in the Tribal Council Chambers for the End of Term Celebration, Monday, Dec. 2.

Outgoing Tribal Council member, Vanessa Torres is wrapped in a Pendleton blanket in recognition of serving in her first term on the Southern Ute Tribal Council. Among those who spoke were her mother, Georgia McKinley and her daughter, Raelynn Frauenhoff.

Many Moons Ago



10 years ago



Damon Toledo/SU Drum archive

The new Growth Fund headquarters is now eyeing its opening date to be as early as May 2015. Construction on the building has progressed smoothly without any setbacks.

This photo was first published in the Dec. 12, 2014, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Beth Santistevan/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

The Southern Ute Veterans helped dedicate a flagpole for the playground at the Southern Ute Academy on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2004. The veterans raised the flag and the students recited the Pledge of Allegiance before councilman Jimmy Newton Jr., and a handful of young drum proteges sang a Flag Song.

This photo was first published in the Dec. 9, 2004, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.

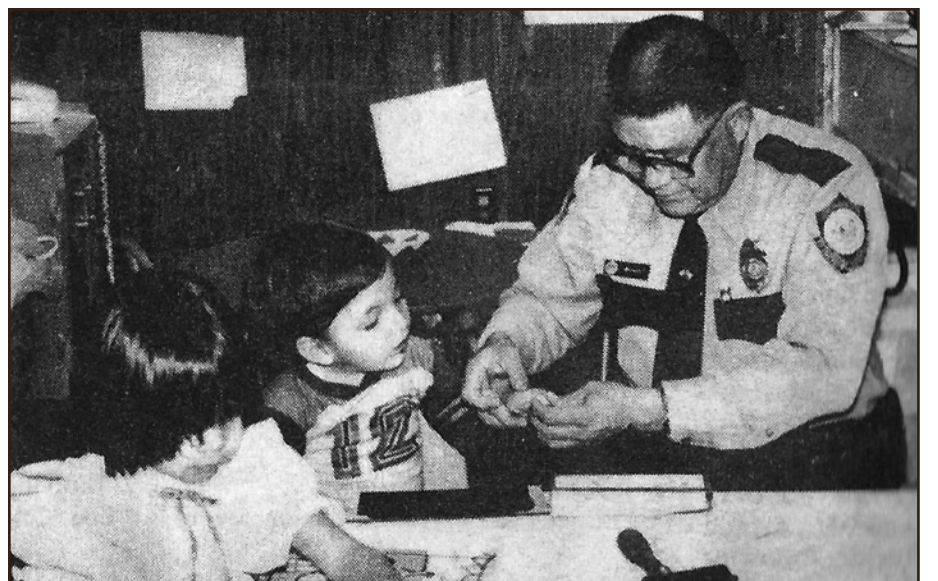


John Rehorn/SU Drum archive

30 years ago

A Southern Ute Christmas. The Tribe gave craftspeople of the Golden Sinew their commission, to make 500 original Christmas stockings for children who attend the Tribal Christmas Program, Dec. 21, 1994, at the Sky Ute Downs indoor arena. Pictured are Lynda D'Wolf and Dorothy Wing.

This photo was published in the Dec. 9, 1994, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Southern Ute Children Center, Classroom 4 and Head Start children had their fingers printed by the Southern Ute Police Dept. The purpose was for the child protection measures for the parents and to acquaint the children with law personnel. Clayborn Scott Jr., looks on as Chief, Arthur Weaver prepares to press the fingers onto the ink pad.

This photo was published in the Dec. 14, 1984, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.

Tribal Office Closure

In observance of Christmas, the Permanent Fund, Growth Fund, and SUSS offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 25, 2024.

Normal business hours will resume on Thursday, December 26, 2024.



ROYALTY QUARTERLY REPORT

Miss Southern Ute

Malenia Carel

Maykh' My name is Maleina Carel and I'm currently the Miss Southern Ute for 2024-2025.

I'm 16 years old and currently in the 11th grade this school year. My bands are Mouache-Capote and Weenuche.

My maternal grandparents are Hardy Joy Sr. and the late Anna Weaver. My great grandparents on my paternal grandparent side are James Price Sr. and Linda Lopez of Towaoc, Colo. My paternal grandparents are the late Vernest Carel and Marlene Price Carel. I have one older sister Rhianna Carel.

I also serve on the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council.

I would like to share my first quarterly report of the events that I have attended and participated as my reign as the Miss Southern Ute for 2024-2025 started on Sept. 6, 2024, where my Jr. Miss Southern Ute reign for 2023-2024 ended and I was then newly crowned as the Miss Southern Ute for 2024-2025 at our 64th annual Southern Ute Tribal Fair & Powwow.

September

I attended the Southern Ute Tribal Fair Rodeo. I gave an introduction and welcomed everyone in attendance and helped with honoring the past rodeo queens, I traveled to Montrose, Colo. and attended the Uncompahgre Powwow, I attended the Ms. Indigenous Pageant at San Juan College in Farmington, N.M. I supported and welcomed the newly crowned Ms. Indigenous San Juan College 2024-2025, Keena Jim and my last event that I attended for the month of September was the Drums of Fall Powwow at McGee Park Coliseum in Farmington, N.M.

October

I attended the Open House



Malenia Carel Miss Southern Ute 2024-2025

here in Ignacio, Colo. held at the Ignacio High School, the Veterans Community Brunch held at the Multipurpose Facility, Wanbli Ota Social Dance at the Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo. The Southern Ute Tribal Thanksgiving dinner held at the Sky Ute Casino Resort Events Center, I attended dance performances for the following schools for Native American Heritage Month: Ignacio High School, Ignacio Middle School, Bayfield Primary and Intermediate School, Park Elementary Assembly and we supported a former royalty at her school at Florida Mesa Elementary and joined her in a dance performance, I attended Sip, Chat and Chew at the Multi-Purpose Facility and helped serve the elders and enjoyed the company of everyone in attendance, I attended Native Fun in honor of Native American Heritage Month held at the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy where the royalty did a dance performance and lastly, I traveled to Fort Duchesne, Utah to attend and participated in the Thanksgiving Powwow held at the Fort Duchesne gym. It was nice to spend the Thanksgiving weekend with our Ute sister Tribe.

November

I was asked to be Head Women for the Intertribal Powwow San Luis American Center on Nov. 2 held at the Boys & Girls Club in Alamosa, Colo. It was an honor to be asked to be Head Women for this Powwow and I held a Northern Traditional Cloth special. It was a nice little powwow, and the head staff were very welcoming and very accommodating.

I attended the Veterans Day Community Powwow

here in Ignacio, Colo. held at the Ignacio High School, the Veterans Community Brunch held at the Multipurpose Facility, Wanbli Ota Social Dance at the Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo. The Southern Ute Tribal Thanksgiving dinner held at the Sky Ute Casino Resort Events Center, I attended dance performances for the following schools for Native American Heritage Month: Ignacio High School, Ignacio Middle School, Bayfield Primary and Intermediate School, Park Elementary Assembly and we supported a former royalty at her school at Florida Mesa Elementary and joined her in a dance performance, I attended Sip, Chat and Chew at the Multi-Purpose Facility and helped serve the elders and enjoyed the company of everyone in attendance, I attended Native Fun in honor of Native American Heritage Month held at the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy where the royalty did a dance performance and lastly, I traveled to Fort Duchesne, Utah to attend and participated in the Thanksgiving Powwow held at the Fort Duchesne gym. It was nice to spend the Thanksgiving weekend with our Ute sister Tribe.

This concludes my events and participation in my quarterly report. I hope you have enjoyed reading and seeing all the events that I have been to so far. I have enjoyed traveling and I'm looking forward to many more events. I want to wish you all Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas. May the Creator watch over every one of you and send blessings to you and your families.

Tog'oiak' Maleina J. Carel Miss Southern Ute 2024 - 2025

ROYALTY QUARTERLY REPORT

Jr. Miss Southern Ute

Leandra Litz

Mayqkh Pinonuuchiu puan, Greetings my name is Leandra Litz, I am the 2024-2025 Jr. Miss Southern Ute.

My Ute name is Thunder Cloud Young Lady given to me by my auntie Hilda Burch. I am Southern Ute and Diné. I come from the Mouache and Capota bands. My Diné clans are Mexican Clan (mother's clan) and Zuni Edge Water Clan(maternal grandfathers clan). My mom is Alyssa Nez and my dad is Leandro Litz. I have 3 little brothers Dwight, Leandro Jr and Tavach. My paternal grandparents are Nicole Lansing and the late Randall Litz. My paternal great-grandparents are Judy Burch Lansing, the Late Dwight Lansing, Alethea Gunn and the late Gilbert Litz. My maternal grandparents are Fannie Yazzie and Darrell Nez.

I am very grateful to be in this position as it is one of the many things I am passionate about. I go to school at Ignacio High School and I'm in the 10th grade. I am on Student Council and the Yearbook Committee. I like to draw and write on my own time. I enjoy playing sports. I currently play for Ignacio's girls Varsity and JV basketball team. I have also played soccer and volleyball for my school. I enjoy spending time with my family, friends and my cat. I like to attend cultural events on and off the reservation. I also like to go back home to my Diné side to help my grandpa and spend time with my horse.

I am currently serving a two-year term on the Colorado Youth Advisory Council (COYAC) where I represent this district and the



Leandra Litz Jr. Miss Southern Ute 2024-2025

Southern Ute Tribe. I look forward to learning as much as I can in this position. I am honored to be given this opportunity to be an ambassador once again. I will continue to represent the Southern Ute Indian Tribe with honor and respect. As the months get colder don't forget to check on elders. Have a fun and safe holidays, full of love and laughter.

Here's a list of events I have attended so far.

September

- 9-6 Southern Ute Fair & Powwow(I was crowned 2024-2025 Jr. Miss Southern Ute)
9-7 Southern Ute Fair Parade
9-7 Sip, Chat and Chew. (Greeted our sister tribes)
9-13 Southern Ute Fair Rodeo
9-14 Southern Ute Fair Rodeo
9-21 Miss Indian New Mexico Farewell Event, Dulce, NM

October

- 10-5 Cowboy parade, Durango, CO
10-5 Northern Navajo Nation Fair Powwow,

- Shiprock, NM
10-9 Southern Ute Education Center, Open House, Ignacio, CO
10-17 Ignacio High School Homecoming parade, Ignacio, CO

November

- 11-2 San Luis Valley Powwow, Alamosa, CO
11-9 Community Veterans Powwow, Ignacio, CO
11-10 Community Veterans Powwow, Ignacio, CO
11-14 Wanbli-Ota Social Dance, For Lewis College, Durango, CO. I got interviewed during this event.
11-16 Southern Ute Tribal Thanksgiving Meal, Ignacio, CO
11-20 Ignacio High school Native American Heritage Month event. Ignacio, CO
11-20 Juniper School Native American Heritage Month event. Durango, CO
11-21 Ignacio Middle School Native American Heritage Month event. Ignacio, CO
11-21 Out running Diabetes run/walk, Ignacio, CO
11-21 Bayfield Primary School Native American Heritage Month event. Bayfield, CO
11-21 Bayfield Intermediate School Native American Heritage Month event. Bayfield, CO
11-22 Park Elementary School Native American Heritage Month event. Durango, CO
11-22 Sip, Chat and Chew. Ignacio, CO
11-27 Utes got Talent Show. Towaoc, CO

Togoyakh, Leandra Litz Jr. Miss Southern Ute 2024 - 2025

ROYALTY QUARTERLY REPORT

Southern Ute Brave

Theoden Greany

Maykh Nuuchiu, Hello, and Happy Holidays to each and every one of you!

My name is Theoden Greany. I am the Southern Ute Brave for 2024-2025. I'm six years old and I attend school at the Southern Ute Montessori Academy.

My mother is Dominika Joy, my father is Bryan Greany. My siblings are Starlitt Greany and Mykel-Zain Greany. My grandma is Ella Ramos. My Great Grandma was the late Ann Weaver. My Great grandpa is Hardy Joy. My Paternal Grandpa was the late Clifton "Butch" Greany. My father's lineage comes from the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe of Oklahoma.

September

I was selected on Sept. 6, 2024, for the title Southern Ute Brave 2024-2025 at the Southern Ute Fair Powwow. Sept. 13 - 14: I attended and participated in the Southern Ute Tribal Rodeo, where I rode my very first mutton in honor of my late great grandmother Ann Weaver.

- Sept. 15: I attended the Jicarilla Apache Nation Annual Go-Jii-Ya powwow in Stone Lake, N.M. (Where I placed 1st in a Jr Boys combined special.)
Sept. 21: I attended the Uncompahgre powwow in Montrose, Colo. (Where I placed 2nd in Jr



Theoden Greany Southern Ute Brave 2024-2025

Boys Fancy

- Sept 27 - 29: I attended the Morongo 33rd annual Thunder and Lightning powwow in Cabazon, Calif. (Where I placed 4th in Jr Boys Fancy.)

October

- Oct. 5: I participated in the Durango Cowboy Parade alongside fellow royalties Jr Miss Southern Ute-Leandra Litz, Little Miss Southern Ute-Malia White Thunder, and Little Miss Southern Ute Alternate- Olyvia Watts (Where we won best youth entry.)
Oct. 9: I attended the Southern Ute Education Open House
Oct. 11: I attended and supported SUIMA staff at one of their fundraising events.
Oct. 13: I attended the

Xavier Elias Sutton-Reed memorial dance in Concho, Okla. (Where I placed 1st in a Jr boys fancy special and in a Jr boys grass special)

- Oct. 17: I attended the Shining Mountain Breast Cancer awareness walk.
Oct. 17: I participated in the Ignacio Homecoming Parade.
Oct. 18: I attended the Sip, Chat and Chew at the MPF. Where my SUIMA class and I were able to say the blessing.
Oct. 19 - 20: I attended the Red Canyon Powwow in Moab, Utah (Where I placed 1st in Jr Boys Fancy)
Oct. 22: I attended the Shining Mountain breast cancer awareness dinner and survivor celebration. (Where I was able to hear some very emotional survival testimonies)
Oct. 25: I attended the Grand Opening of Dancing Spirit. (I was very excited that it was finally open!)

November

- Nov. 2: I was extremely thankful to have been invited to dance in the Denver Nuggets Halftime show in honor of Native American Heritage month at Ball Arena in Denver.
Nov. 9 - 10: I Attended the Veterans Day community powwow in Ignacio, Colo. Where I was able to

SU Brave page 8

Winter Words in Ute infographic with illustrations of people and a snowman, and Ute words for winter items like 'uwarikayaqh. It's cloudy.', 'aghavaa t'ut'amu? Where is your coat?', 'Siya'ing. I am cold.', 'Nuvwa'uwayaqh. It's snowing.', 'kaachoghopu hat', 't'ut'aa coat', 'nuvwata'wachi snowman', 'nuvwavu snow'.

Southern Ute Tribal Offices Closure Southern Ute tribal offices will be closed, Wednesday, Dec. 25 in observance of Christmas. Normal business office hours will resume, Thursday, Dec. 26.

HEALTHY RECIPES

Quick and healthy skillet dinner

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

Who doesn't want to have dinner ready fast, and be tasty and healthy? This one skillet dinner fits the bill.

It can be adjusted to meet the needs and tastes of your family.

This basic recipe has ingredients that can be part of your stocked pantry: black beans, fire roasted tomatoes, instant brown rice.



courtesy Chanyapat/AdobeStock

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

Healthy Skillet Dinner

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 pound ground bison
- 1 onion, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 1 can whole black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can fire roasted tomatoes, do not drain
- ¾ cup water
- 1 cup instant brown rice, uncooked
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

1. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium. Add bison and break up with a spatula, stirring to brown, about 4 minutes.
2. Add diced onions and green peppers, cook an additional 2 minutes, stir frequently.
3. Add black beans, tomatoes, garlic and oregano, stir to combine.

4. Add water and instant brown rice, stir to combine.
5. Increase heat to a boil over medium/high. Then reduce heat to low, cover and simmer until rice has softened, about 10-15 minutes.
6. Remove from heat, let sit for 5 minutes to absorb any remaining liquid.
7. Serve with your favorite garnish; try fresh parsley or shredded mozzarella.

Tips:

For Mexican flavors, try adding cumin and green chilies.

You can use lean ground beef or turkey in place of bison.

The protein and fiber in this dish are very satisfying and go a long way.

Serves 4-6

Nutrition per serving: 360 Calories, 11g Fat, 34.5g Carbohydrates, 6.5g Fiber, 28g Protein.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEE HEARD: Light in the darkness

By Tamara D. Turner
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The days continue to grow shorter and darker as we approach the end of the month when, finally, we will tip toe into the winter solstice and, minute by minute, honor the ever-so-slow return of the sun. Nevertheless, December is the darkest month of the year, and, in that darkness, we can find meaning. It is in that darkness – a black that is so black it is almost blue – that we also can most clearly see the stars and the moon, a soft and silvery light. Think about that silvery moonlight on snow and the way the snow crystals flicker. That's what this month can be too: full of little bits of sparkle that mean more in the deep of winter than any other time of the year.

In the darkness we can find gifts if we look in a different way. Maybe we're not looking with our eyes in the dark so much but looking with our other senses. I think about stumbling around in the dark at night and how our eyes adjust. We have to open up our senses more to feel our way in the dark. We might as well embrace it.

I try to embrace it by waking up early and lighting candles, sitting there in the flickering light and slowly greeting the day with my coffee in hand, taking little sips at a time. With every sip I give thanks for something. I call it a "coffee meditation" in the dark and I swear that coffee tastes even better in the dark. In that quietness and stillness, before anyone else is awake, I love to let that darkness enfold me like a blanket. It can even feel like a friend.

Not all darkness is difficult and painful. Some darkness can be like that blanket we wrap around ourselves. It is a darkness in which we can close our eyes and rest. It is

a darkness that asks us to be grateful and thankful. In the darkness, we can breathe. We can go inside ourselves and rest. Be that little seed in the ground waiting. Be quiet and speak more softly: shh, Mother earth is sleeping.

What kinds of small acts or healthy habits feel good to you in the darkness of winter?

In this month of darkness we have other gifts of light as well.

December may mean all kinds of things to you and your family. It might immediately bring to mind Christmas and all the sparkle and glitter that goes with that holiday. Of course, Christmas celebrates the "light of Jesus."

And if this month is especially difficult for you or your family, we encourage you to think of any flicker of light that offers hope. Sometimes the small things are especially beautiful in these moments like one person's smile or the sound of crunching snow. Little bits of light are enough because when things are quite dark, it doesn't take much light to light up a space. If your heart is strong to be a light for others, count yourself lucky. If not, look for that light wherever you can find it.

There is always, somewhere, a blessing for you of light in the darkness.

Happy Holy Days (holidays)!

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.

Multi-Purpose Facility Shining Mountain Health & Wellness Healthy Cooking Class

With Lisa Smith

Tuesday December 17, 2024 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Alternative (Healthy & Delicious) Holiday Sides

Roasted Root Vegetables Wild Rice Stuffing Cranberry Salsa

Call 970-563-2640 to sign-up.

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

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Dial 988

for mental health emergencies.

Text **INDIGENOUS** to 741741
for free, 24/7 support.

#WeNeedYouHere

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.

SOUTHERN UTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PRESENTS:

MENDING BROKEN HEARTS

In-person meetings will begin on
Tuesday, January 21, 2024
from 5:30 to 7:30PM

So. Ute Cultural Center & Museum
Large Classroom.

Light snacks will be provided
*Please note the group will close after the third session.

Facilitators:
Marvina Olguin, Peer Recovery Coach
marogluin@southernute-nsn.gov
Preston Barry, Peer Recovery Coach
pbarry@southernute-nsn.gov

Please call 970.563.5700 for more information

MERRY
Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

**We wish everyone safety,
warmth, and peace this season!**

**Consider
becoming a
foster parent
with the
Southern Ute
Indian Tribe**

Call or email
Southern Ute Social Services
(970) 563-2337
kyazzie@southernute-nsn.gov



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

Task force: Research on Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women

Recent appointment of Tami Truett Jerue

Staff report
STRONGHEARTS NATIVE HELPLINE

The leadership of StrongHearts Native Helpline applauds the appointment of Tami Truett Jerue to the Task Force on Research on Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women. Jerue is the Executive Director, Alaska Native Women's Resource Center (AKNWRC) and a sitting member of StrongHearts Native Helpline's Board of Directors. As such, Jerue understands the root causes of domestic and sexual violence against Indigenous people across the nation but especially in her home state of Alaska.



Tami Truett Jerue
Executive Director
Alaska Native Women's Resource Center

Catherine Edwards of the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska on the Task Force, bringing forward the voices and priorities of Alaska's 229 federally recognized Tribes in shaping national policy on tribal jurisdiction and gender-based violence.

StrongHearts Native Helpline is a culturally appropriate, anonymous, confidential helpline dedicated to serving American Indian and Alaska Native survivors, concerned family members and friends affected by domestic and sexual violence. Call or text 1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483) or click on the chat now icon at strongheartshelpline.org.

StrongHearts Advocates are available 24/7 and offer peer-to-peer support; information and education, crisis intervention; assistance with safety planning and referrals to Native-centered domestic and sexual violence service providers.

StrongHearts Native Helpline serves all individuals who reach out for services regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other factor protected by local, state, or federal law.

cates across the nation."

The Task Force, authorized by Section 904(a)(3) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Pub. L. No. 109-162), provides advice and recommendations on the development and implementation of a program of research that examines violence against Indian women in Indian Country and Alaska Native villages, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, murder, and sex trafficking, and evaluates the effectiveness of federal, state, Tribal, and local responses to these crimes.

Jerue will serve alongside

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Strength in reaching out for help

Staff report
LIFT THE LABEL

Behavioral health (also commonly referred to as mental health), is an individual's mental and emotional well-being and actions that affect their overall well-being.

When talking about behavioral health concerns and issues, the topics of mental distress, substance use disorder (addiction), and suicidal thoughts and behaviors commonly come up.

Symptoms of emotional and behavioral health distress can include:

- Eating or sleeping too much or too little.
- Anger, feeling edgy or lashing out at others.
- Overwhelming sadness.
- Pulling away from people and things.
- Not connecting with others.
- Lack of energy or always feeling tired.
- Feeling like you have to keep busy.
- Having unexplained aches and pains, such as constant stomach-aches or headaches.
- Feeling helpless or hopeless.
- Excessive smoking, drinking, or using drugs, including prescription medications.
- Worrying a lot of the time; feeling guilty but not sure why.
- Thinking of hurting or killing yourself or someone else.
- Having difficulty adjusting to home or work life.

Behavioral health issues can be very hard to experience. Oftentimes, people may try to ignore them to make them go away, or they may get so bad that it can be very difficult to get help. However, it's important to remember that behavioral health issues are much more common than you might think, and that you or your loved one is not alone. According to the 2023 Colorado Health Access Survey, more than one in four people reported poor mental health.

It's also important to remember that help is available! And it is completely normal to reach out, even if you may feel vulnerable. Asking for help does not mean there is anything wrong with you or your loved one. In fact, it shows strength that you are prioritizing health so you and your loved ones can live your best possible lives. Reaching out for support isn't a sign of weakness – it's a step toward healing. And it's ok not to be ok.

There is a whole team at the Southern Ute Behavioral Health Office who deals with these issues all day, every day. The team includes counselors, peer recovery coaches, a physician who treats addiction with medication, a psychiatrist, a prevention specialist, and a care coordinator. Care is available in-person, by telemedicine, and over the telephone.

You can call them at 970-563-5700 to make an appointment to talk through resources and options. They offer support for many different issues, including family stress, general stress, mental health problems, and substance use.

A crisis can feel different for everyone, so do not be afraid to reach out.

The Behavioral Health team are professionals who are trustworthy, who maintain patient privacy, and who have a lot of experience guiding people through behavioral health issues. The team has had comprehensive training and approaches every situation with empathy and without judgment. They are there to provide compassionate support, no matter the situation. Every contact will be treated as confidential, and everything shared stays between the patient and the provider unless there is a concern about hurting yourself or others.

Your mental and behavioral health and the mental and behavioral health of your loved ones are as important, if not more important, as your physical health. As the saying goes, "there is no health without mental health." Everyone deserves to have full care for their mental well-being so they can live a full and healthy life.

Learn more about addiction treatment options and resources at LTL.SouthernUte.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.

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

What you'll learn:

- Advocacy 101
- Understanding systems of oppression
- Forensic exams and hospital advocacy
- And MORE!

Volunteer Options:

- 24/7 Support Line
- Event tabling/outreach
- Prevention education
- Cultural Outreach

Please submit an application
www.durangosaso.org/volunteer

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

Contact Tahlelah Begay, Communication & Volunteer Coordinator, at tahlelah@durangosaso.org for more information

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.gov

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

All Parents & Caregivers Are Welcome

POSITIVE INDIAN PARENTING

Honoring Our Children By Honoring Our Traditions

Positive Indian Parenting (PIP) has been used for over 35 years and remains popular today because the teachings are timeless. Historically, we had rich teachings that helped children grow up safe with strong families. Colonization threatened those teachings—our Native families were being separated and traditional practices were at risk of being lost. PIP was developed in the 1980s to fill this void and was designed to help parents and families remember our traditional teachings and apply them in the modern world. In part one of each session, we will discuss examples of traditional practices and teachings from several different tribes. Instructors also share teachings from local areas and communities. Part two of each session discusses how to apply those teachings and values today. Complete all 8 sessions to receive a certificate.

This class is VIRTUAL

Please call Social Service to sign up (970) 563-2337

Each participant needs the following to attend:

- A working email
- A solid internet connection
- A smart phone, tablet or laptop with a mic
- Download the Microsoft Teams App

JANUARY 2025

Tuesdays & Thursdays

12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

- January 7, 2025
- January 9, 2025
- January 14, 2025
- January 16, 2025
- January 21, 2025
- January 23, 2025
- *January 27, 2025
- *January 31, 2025

*Denotes Monday and Friday Sessions

SOUTHERN UTE
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL OR EMAIL KELLIE
(970) 563-2337
kyazzie@southernute-nsn.gov

THE SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

GED AND ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES



courtesy SUIMA

Using their food safety skills, upper elementary students, Lawrence Santistevan, Jr., Destiny Valdez, and Matthew Carrillo get some help from SUIMA staff member, Jared Ruybal, as they prepare a stew for the school using fresh venison from the Doe Field Dressing activity.

SUIMA

Pawaaghani po'okwatu – Eagle's Nest

Montessori tidbits

By Scott Halsband

COORDINATOR OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND NUTRITION

A big THANK YOU to Chairman Baker, Tribal Council, and Executive Officer Box for the fun, oversized, and delightful Santa and Minion for our dining hall.

Season's greetings and happy holidays to all! The holidays are a time when family and friends gather to celebrate. For many that means potlucks, which are great because you get to try all kinds of different foods, and you only need to bring one dish to share! While the intention is to contribute something delicious, everyone needs to do their best to prevent a food borne illness outbreak. Every year in the U.S. the USDA reports around 48 million cases of food borne illnesses including 3000 deaths. Safe food handling and preparation practices can help prevent food borne illnesses and help ensure guests leave feeling full, happy, and healthy. Here are some helpful food safety tips to keep in mind.

Hand Hygiene

The most common way food borne illnesses are spread is from handling/preparing foods with contaminated hands. Proper hand-washing technique involves using soap and warm running water, combined with vigorous scrubbing of hands for 15-20 seconds before touching any food items. Remember to always wash hands after:

- Restroom visits.
- Working with raw red meats, poultry, fish, or eggs.
- Touching any items that could contaminate your hands.
- Touching your hair or face, sneezing, or coughing.

Time and Temperature

- Controlling food temperatures and the amount of time food is left out at room temperature will help keep your food in the safe zone.
- Foods needing refrigeration need to be kept at or below 41° F until ready to be used or served.



courtesy SUIMA

Along with Tribal Council, Executive Officer Lindsay Box, provided some joyful Holiday Season decorations for the SUIMA students. Much to the delight of the children, the Minion dances and sings while Santa holds the lantern up high and bright.

- Do not leave perishable foods out at room temperature for longer than two hours. Get leftover items back into refrigerator as soon as possible.
 - Beware of the temperature "Danger Zone" which ranges between 40°F-140°F. Bacteria grow rapidly between these temperatures, potentially doubling in number in just 20 minutes.
 - Keep hot foods hot (above 135°F) and cold foods cold (below 40°F).
- Cross-Contamination and Proper Cooking Temperatures**
- Be sure to keep ready-to-eat items separated from raw meats and eggs. Use separate designated cutting boards and utensils to prevent raw meat juices or raw eggs from coming in contact with other food items/ingredients. Be sure to wash cutting boards and utensils after each use if you do not
 - have more than one.
 - Cooking raw foods to proper internal temperatures will ensure all bacteria have been killed before serving. Use a probe thermometer to check that proper internal temperatures have been reached. Minimum internal temperatures: Beef, Pork, Veal, Lamb steaks, chops, roasts 145° F; Ground meats 160°F; Ground Poultry 165°F; Ham, fresh or smoked (uncooked) 145°F; Fully cooked ham (to reheat) 140°F if USDA inspected, all others 165°F; All poultry and stuffing 165° F; Eggs 160°F; Fish & Shellfish 145°F; Leftovers 165°F, Casseroles 165°F. More information can be found @ Health and Safety | USDA
 - Remember Do not prepare food for other people if you are experiencing a gastro-intestinal illness including diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal cramps.

Upcoming SUIMA events

- Every Friday: Early Release at 2 p.m.
- Dec. 14: Tribal Christmas Program
- Dec. 16: Elementary level music recitals
- Dec. 17: Parent Advisory Group (PAG) meeting
- Dec. 18: Family Night event
- Dec. 19: Education Department Film Showing – IHS auditorium
- Dec. 23 – Jan. 3: Christmas Break
- Jan. 6, 2025: Students return

Dancing Spirit Center for the Arts Ignacio Colorado Community Gathering

Woohoo! Our first art classes in the new building are up and running! (Technically these aren't classes as they are for experienced builders looking to become a part of a community of potters, but the wheels are spinning and the kilns are firing!) If you have experience with pottery, please call or stop by to learn more about how you can be a part of these open studio hours. Info: phone 970-563-4600, email programs@dscac.org

Rise & Shine Bobcats!



photos Krista Richards/SU Drum

Ignacio Elementary School students and their mascot, Bobcat, gather on stage for the Rise and Shine Assembly, Tuesday, Nov. 2; the event was Emceed by Oscar Cosio.

V.I.P. (Very Important Parent) awards go to ... Carlie Hight, Pedro & Rose Vigil, Ellen Baker and Leila Baker at the IES Rise and Shine Assembly held Tuesday, Nov. 2.



EDUCATION LOOKS TO FUTURE • FROM PAGE 1

nior College and the Oklahoma Christian University to play volleyball, she was able to compete for a walk on spot at the Oklahoma Christian University in 1984. With the help of her professor, Dr. Exendine, Taylor excelled in reading, boosting her skills to a college sophomore reading level. She later went on to the University of Central Oklahoma where she received her bachelor's degree in biology.

Finding a passion in plants and fungi, Taylor continued into graduate school at the Southwest Texas State University completing a summer program collecting plants for the USDA and then completing her thesis on the anatomical and morphological features of the leaf organ on four water lily species. Part of her research took place in Malaysia and The British Museum where she later discovered both aquatic and terrestrial characteristics in a plant that is supposed to be aquatic. Taylor later traveled the state of Texas to present her thesis at five different universities.

After completing college, Taylor returned to the Tribe to work as a field technician aide, then the agriculture extension agent and later the Southern Ute Agriculture Dept. division head, which began her journey as a permanent employee with the Tribe. In an interview with The Southern Ute Drum, Taylor shared "Chairman Burch and my dad are two Ute men that really inspired

me in education," she said. "Be a hard worker, be honest and truthful, have integrity, have pride, and remain humble – my dad and Chairman Burch said, 'always carry yourself well and be proud of where you come from.'"

Taylor was approached by the Tribe and Lee Briggs with a position to become one of three education directors for the Southern Ute Education Program alongside Arnold Santistevan and Diane Millich. At the end of 1999, then Education Director, Lee Briggs wanted to split the department into three divisions; higher education, public education, and private education. The three then went to Tribal Council to ask them to use the Constitution and appoint them, with Councils' approval Taylor went on to serve as the Higher Education Director for the Tribe. For her first task, she established an academic advisory position to assist Tribal students preparing for college and current collegiate students. That was just the beginning, Taylor spent many years leading the Department and introducing new resources to benefit the membership and its prospective students, staying true to the values of the Education Proclamation. Most notably the MOU with the University of Colorado, SILDI Program, reaccreditation of SUIMA, and national recognition for the Tribe's scholarship program.

Education Program has done a dang good job at growing, in the year 2000 there were probably only 35 tribal members with some type of higher education, now there are hundreds of us," Taylor said. "We are seeing master's and doctorate level students, which is so nice to see, it makes me feel so proud."

LaTitia Taylor is a distinguished scholar within the community and has helped to develop the Southern Ute Education Department over the years alongside many other talented educators. This year marked the end of her long-time career with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe after retiring in the summer, she had worked for 32 years in the organization with most of her time spent paving the way for Indigenous students to achieve academic excellence. To many she has been an inspiration, including the new Education Director, Dr. Joseph Claunch.

"I am extremely thankful for everything that LaTitia has built here at the department," Claunch said. "We continue to honor all the hard work that went into this and all the people who came before us who sacrificed a lot to develop this department—thank you for everything LaTitia, we have a strong foundation to stand on, we stand on the shoulders of giants."

"Education has made me resilient," Taylor said. "I have something that no one can take away from me."

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



Chris Richards/University of Arizona

Graduates listen to speakers at the University of Arizona's 2022 convocation ceremony for Native American Student Affairs.

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

NOAA, American Indian Higher Education Consortium

Works to advance Indigenous Knowledge

Staff report

NOAA COMMUNICATIONS

NOAA and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) signed a formal memorandum of understanding (MOU) to advance Indigenous Knowledge, science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, and workforce training opportunities for Tribal communities with the goal of building climate resilience.

"NOAA is excited to team up with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium to accelerate information-sharing aimed at building climate resilience, adaptation and co-production of knowledge in communities across the United States and Tribal nations," said NOAA Administrator Rick Spinrad, Ph.D. "Indigenous Knowledge has made it possible for Indigenous Nations to persist and thrive for millennia. These knowledge systems are needed more than ever to inform NOAA and our nation's approach to environmental stewardship."

"The American Indian Higher Education Consortium is honored to partner with NOAA to collaborate on shared goals and issues," said Ahniwake Rose, AIHEC President & Chief Executive Officer. "This collaboration will create opportunities for our faculty and students, combine Indigenous Knowledge with western science to achieve strong climate resilience for our Tribal nations and across the country and empower our Tribal colleges and universities to be leaders in the ongoing response to climate change."

Recognizing the common goals of making the U.S. and Tribal nations more re-

silient to the risks of a rapidly-changing climate, the new MOU is designed to identify opportunities for collaboration, including:

- Identifying western science and Indigenous Knowledge priorities for the AIHEC, an organization that provides leadership and influences policy for 35 accredited U.S. Tribal colleges and universities.
- Building a network of faculty and students from Tribal colleges, universities and NOAA climate leaders and scientists that will facilitate information exchanges, identify projects of interest and enhance student learning opportunities.
- Creating opportunities for NOAA to learn from faculty and students from Tribal colleges and universities through coordinated partnerships that promote co-learning and co-development of knowledge, include community-driven research to advance NOAA's mission to build a Climate-Ready Nation, as well as shared AIHEC-NOAA objectives.
- NOAA sharing with AIHEC any publicly available opportunities for faculty, students, interns and fellows, funding solicitations and board and committee opportunities with the goal of enhancing the capacity of Indigenous and Tribal communities to respond to climate change. In turn, AIHEC will share these educational and leadership opportunities through communication channels within tribal colleges and universities.
- The AIHEC identifying for NOAA the training and educational needs of

faculty and students at Tribal colleges and universities to advance climate literacy and capacity for climate resilience.

- NOAA and the AIHEC working together to develop strategies to improve how NOAA's student learning opportunities, climate services, funding solicitations and community engagement can best be tailored and sensitive to the needs of Tribal nations and communities.

The MOU also calls for NOAA and AIHEC to meet at least annually to discuss priorities, review progress and discuss ways to improve the implementation of the MOU. NOAA and the AIHEC will jointly prepare a plan of activities to improve communication and coordination each year or as needed. NOAA and the AIHEC may, where appropriate, share and jointly develop educational and outreach materials, best practices or tools including websites, video archives or data management systems. The MOU encourages meetings of NOAA and AIHEC to take place at tribal colleges and universities.

American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) provides a support network to the nation's accredited Tribal colleges and universities (TCUs) and works to influence public policy on American Indian and Alaska Native higher education issues through advocacy, research, and programmatic initiatives; promotes and strengthens Indigenous languages, cultures, communities, lands, and Tribal nations; and through its unique position, serves member institutions and emerging TCUs.

BOBCAT BULLETIN

Ignacio High School has much to celebrate

By Alisha Gullion
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

As we approach the end of the first semester, Ignacio High School has much to celebrate and look forward to. Here are some highlights from this semester and our plans for the next.

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) program has been bustling with activity. One of the biggest projects currently underway is the construction of a chicken coop and pump house shed by Ms. Klinger's Agricultural and Mrs. Turner's Wood Manufacturing classes. These structures are expected to be operational by spring, marking a significant milestone for the program.

Additionally, six students recently attended the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. The convention, held at Lucas Oil Stadium, drew over 71,000 FFA members and included tours of various agricultural operations. This experience was invaluable for our students, offering them a unique glimpse into the world of agriculture.

Mrs. Turner's program is also contributing to the community by finishing three playhouses for the Ignacio Early Learning Program and Ignacio Elementary School. Moreover, Woods I students have embarked on their OSHA 10 training, while two advanced students are pursuing their OSHA 30 certifications. In a significant boost to safety and industrial hygiene, the program was awarded an \$8,000 AWI Education Foundation Grant for the second consecutive year, enabling the purchase of industry-grade equipment to enhance air quality and dust control in the shop. The Middle School CTE Exploration class for 8th graders is also in its second rotation,



Alisha Gullion
Principal
Ignacio High School

year in October, showcasing the significant growth of our music program under the direction of Mr. Perrotti and Ms. Walker. Their exceptional leadership has instilled a passion for music in our students. The next concert is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m., featuring a combined performance with the drama department led by Ms. Farrow. If you haven't attended a performance this semester, there will be several opportunities next semester.

Our student senate, led by Mr. Gillin, successfully organized this year's Homecoming celebration. The Senate is now planning the Snow-Coming festivities for February, with a primary goal of increasing school spirit through various activities, including multiple pep rallies throughout the year.

Looking ahead to the next semester, we are excited to announce that our students will be attending the La Plata County Futures Fair. This event will connect students with professionals from diverse fields such as nursing, hospitality, trades, outdoor adventure guiding, parks and wildlife management, clean energy, emergency response services, and the arts. The fair aims to foster meaningful interactions between students and industry partners, providing valuable insights into potential career paths.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work our students have put into their studies and the dedication of our staff. As we move into the second half of the year, we remain committed to supporting our students and families in every way possible. Have a wonderful holiday season, and as always, please contact the school with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your continued support.



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



Southern Ute Education

FILM Showing FUNDRAISER

Thursday, December 19, 2024

For more information contact:
Dustin Weaver 970-563-2786
or
ShaRau Rock 970-563-2794

FUNDRAISER DINNER!!

Southern Ute Student Film-Making Projects:
"A Place to Explore"
"Tri-Ute Games"
& "The Basket Lady"

Ignacio High School Auditorium
Dinner starts 5:30pm
Showing 6:15pm

Proceeds will assist SUIMA staff to attend National Montessori Conference/Training

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.

Ute Royalty in Ft. Duchesne



courtesy Marie Carel

Maleina Carel, Miss Southern Ute, Yampa Ridley, Miss Ute Tribe and Timber Manning, Miss Ute Mountain assemble during the annual Ute Indian Tribe's Thanksgiving Powwow in Fort Duchesne, Utah.

Round dancin' the night away



The Durango Native American Education Program hosted its third annual Round Dance on Saturday, Nov. 7 at the Durango High School, students of the district and surrounding community members gathered to enjoy a night of singing and dancing.



Little Miss Southern Ute, Malia White Thunder greets attendees at the third annual Round Dance hosted by the Durango Native American Education Program on Saturday, Nov. 7. Little Miss Alternate Olyvia Watts and the Southern Ute Brave Theoden Greany also took time to greet attendees.

SOUTHERN UTE BRAVE • FROM PAGE 3

hold an Elder Giveaway. (Thank you again to the Blackbird family, Elise and the committee for giving me that opportunity.)

- Nov. 14; I attended the Wanbli Ota & AIBL Fall Social Dance at FLC in Durango, Colo.
- Nov. 16: I attended our annual Tribal Thanksgiving dinner.
- Nov. 20: I participated in a heritage performance at the Juniper School in Durango, Colo.
- Nov. 21: I participated in

- a heritage performance at the Ignacio Middle School.
- Nov. 21: I participated in a heritage performance at the Bayfield Primary School in Bayfield, Colo.
- Nov. 21: I participated in a heritage performance at the Bayfield Elementary School in Bayfield, Colo.
- Nov. 22: I participated in a heritage performance at Park Elementary in Durango, Colo.
- Nov. 26: I attended the SUIMA Native Fun Event

- Nov. 28 – 30: I attended the Thanksgiving Powwow in Fort Duchesne, Utah.

I'm very excited for my reign as the Southern Ute Brave 2024-2025 and I will do my best to continue to represent my Southern Ute people all over Indian Country.

Happy Holidays to all my Southern Ute Membership!

*Theoden Greany
Southern Ute Brave
2024-2025*

New Year's Eve Celebration

Come start your New Year's off in a good way
Join us with a Potluck dinner followed by
Singing and Blessing into the New Year

Multipurpose Facility
December 31st 6PM-1AM
256 Ute Road Ignacio, Co 81137

Contact : Neida Chackee (505)-686-8728



Faustino Joy and Ella-Marie Ramos competed in the potato dance contest during the third annual Round Dance on Saturday, Nov. 7, during the evening there was also a cake walk contest and an ugly sweater contest.



Pictured left to right - Malcolm Murphy, Shawn Yazzie, Marcus Williams, and Jaron Yazzie sing during the third annual Round Dance on Saturday, Nov. 7. Singers from many communities were invited to sing and share their songs.

Photos by Divine Windy Boy
The Southern Ute Drum



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<

Prime Rib, Ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes (gravy),
sweet potatoes, calabacitas (corn/onion/chilies), fresh fruit,
garden salad w/ 2 dressings, dinner rolls, cranberry sauce

>Dessert<

Chocolate Mousse in cups
Pumpkin pie w/ whipped cream
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



SAVE THE DATE

New Year Prayer and Sobriety Walk

January 1, 2025

Saa-swaan's hiswaqs, also known as the late Robert Buckskin began this walk in 1990. His intentions were to help our community with an option to celebrate sobriety, without judgement, but with prayer for healing and hope.

Life doesn't get easier or more forgiving; we get stronger and more resilient.

NATIVE LOVE

In memory of Saa-swaan's hiswaqs Buckskin e-gap

10th Annual Leonard C. Burch Walk and Run



Daughters; Leonora Burch, Leona Burch, Lena Gallegos, Lisa Burch, Leora Lucero, Laurena Burch, and Lynnette Sage, gather for a photo, while holding a photo of their late parents following the LCB Memorial Walk/Run on Tuesday, Dec. 10.



Carol Baker and Lena Gallegos exchange laughs during the 10th Annual Memorial LCB Walk/Run.



Attendees do a brief warm up led by SunUte trainers Eliyah Lucero and Jacob Box, ahead of the annual LCB Memorial Walk/Run

The 10th Annual Leonard C. Burch Memorial Walk/Run took place on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at the SunUte Community Center; Burch's seven daughters and family members organized the event in memory of the late Leonard C. Burch and his many accomplishments. First established in 1996, Leonard C. Burch Day is celebrated as a Tribal holiday and is recognized by the county and the State of Colorado. This year community members walked or ran a 1-mile or 3-mile course alongside the family, followed by refreshments provided by Sky Ute Casino Resort and Sweet Peas Treats. The event was sponsored by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, SunUte Community Center, MBSS Attorneys along with the family of Shane Seibel & colleagues.

Photos by Divine Windy Boy
The Southern Ute Drum



The Burch Sisters do "high knees" before leading attendees on the LCB Memorial Walk/Run course Tuesday, Dec.10 at SunUte Community Center.



Participants walk behind the SunUte Community Center near the Bear Dance grounds and the Multi-Purpose Facility.



Melanie and Shane Seibel complete the Leonard C. Burch Memorial Walk/Run on Tuesday, Dec. 10.



Chairman Melvin J. Baker greets attendees and reflects on his time working alongside the late Leonard C. Burch, council members Marge Barry and Andrew Gallegos also took time to share their memories and words of encouragement to the family.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

MOLAS scholarship application now available

Staff report

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
SOUTHWEST COLORADO



The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado has opened the application for a significant scholarship opportunity for first-generation college students, with a deadline to apply by March 2, 2025. The MOLAS Scholarship (Meaningful Opportunity through Learning and Advancement Scholarship) is a need-based scholarship for La Plata County students – including nontraditional students. To be eligible, an individual must be a rising first-year college student in the fall of 2025.

this scholarship will get up to 85% of their tuition and room and board covered at any Four Corners or Colorado public college, university, trade school or vocational school. The MOLAS Scholarship is renewable for up to four years.

“This is the third year we have offered this impactful scholarship for students who otherwise might not be able to pursue their ed-

ucational aspirations,” said Briggen Wrinkle, Executive Director of the Community Foundation. “We encourage people to share this life changing opportunity with any eligible students in their lives.”

The deadline to apply for the MOLAS scholarship is Sunday, March 2 and decisions will be announced in early April. The 2025 scholarship winner will be a La Plata County resident.

The online application can be accessed on the Community Foundation’s website, swcommunityfoundation.org/scholarships. Please review eligibility requirements and call Rachel at 970-375-5807 ext. 3 if you have any questions.

Paving finished ahead of winter



photos Conrad Thompson/SU Drum

FCI crews work diligently, Friday, Nov. 15, setting forms and paving the new parking lot that sits in the lot of the former Southern Ute Vocational School-Head Start building.

An aerial view captures the progress of the new parking lot located beside the Lenard C. Burch building. Paving, striping, and additional sidewalk ramps are scheduled for completion in December.



Workers with FCI use machinery to lay down asphalt during the construction of the new parking lot located where the former Southern Ute Vocational School-Head Start building used to sit on Tribal Campus.

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.



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



2024/2025 SNOW CLEARING SERVICES

- 12”- Roof-Raking**
Our drivers do their best to serve you and many others during snowstorms, 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.



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.



Jicarilla inauguration



photos Treston Tafoya/Jicarilla Cheiftain

Two Jicarilla Nation councilmen, Avery Tafoya and Shane Valdez, were inaugurated on Friday, Dec. 6 in Dulce, N.M. They now occupy the seats once held by President Adrian Notsinneh and Vice President Jimmy Garcia. The inauguration was held at the Dulce Community Center; attendees included Southern Ute Tribal Chairman Melvin J. Baker and Councilman Marty Pinnecoose representing the Southern Ute Tribe. Other dignitaries included the Ute Mountain Ute Vice Chairman, Alston Turtle.

IGNACIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY

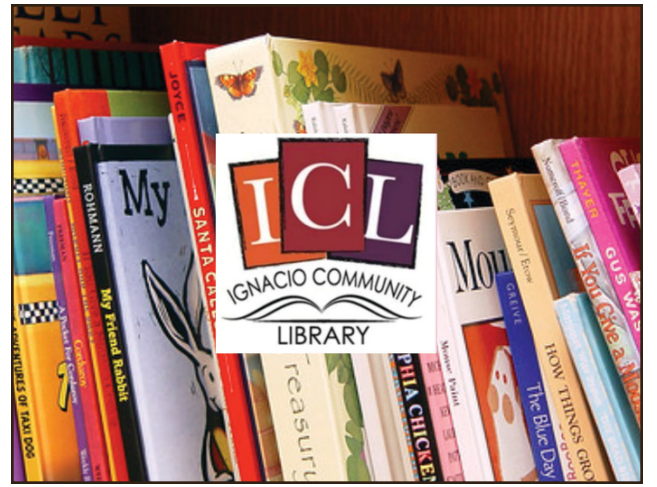
ICL offers eBooks and eAudiobooks for checkout

By Liz vonTauffkirchen
IGNACIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Here at the Ignacio Community Library (ICL) we are careful to ensure our materials are available to our patrons in a variety of formats. This is because everyone's information needs are different, and sometimes the same patrons have varying format needs depending on the circumstances.

There was a time when libraries housed only physical books (and mostly only hardcovers, as they are so much more resilient under the stress of multiple circulations). That time is far in the past. According to the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences, 90% of public libraries offer electronic collection materials, such as eBooks and eAudiobooks for checkout. In 2020, eBook sales in the United States surpassed \$1.1 billion in revenue, and worldwide eBook sales are projected to surpass \$17 billion by 2025 (Litner, 2024).

Personally, I grew up with physical books and always carried my current book on my person for many years. I largely switched over to eBooks back around 2008 when I purchased my first eReader (a Nook). But I continued to read all the book formats, usually based on which copy became available first to me through my local library. For example, when I first wanted to read *The Martian* by Andy Weir, I checked out the CD audiobook version (back



then, I had a car with a CD player in it); this version was unavailable from Libby, the library eAudiobook app, so that's why I checked out the physical audiobook version. I loved it.

I ended up checking out the physical hardcover book so my husband could read it, too, as that was his preferred format at the time (I ended up reading that, too, because it was there and such a great story). About a year or so after that, I ended up recommending *The Martian* to a patron and that made me want to read it again, so I checked out the eBook from Libby and purchased the eAudiobook through Audible. I was so excited to discover that the eBook version came with a bonus short story and interview with the author! Interestingly, the Audible version had a different narrator than the CD audio version (Wil Wheaton vs. Ray Porter) so that was a new version which hit me slightly differently, so it was a new experience entirely. I share

this story to illustrate how one patron can be served by multiple formats, depending on the circumstances.

ICL's current available formats include physical books and materials (hardcover and softcover books, CD audiobooks and Playaways, DVDs, and Library of Things items), digital items (eBooks and eAudiobooks through Libby and CloudLibrary, videos through Kanopy), Wonderbooks and Bookpicks (physical books with physical audiobooks included), Launchpads and multimedia kits (tablets, backpack kits, and Great Courses packs). Having this wide range of available types of materials ensures that we can meet the needs of the greatest range of patrons.

If you haven't tried eMaterials, download the free Libby and/or CloudLibrary app today, sign in with your library card, and enjoy! Pop into the library if you need assistance with this process and our staff will be happy to help!

Multi-Purpose Facility Youth Activities

All youth 6 - 17 years old are welcome to attend, Parents & Grandparents are encouraged to attend, younger children are welcome and must be with parent or guardian.

Healthy Cooking with Lisa Smith & Ute Bingo Thursday December 30, 2024 - 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Participants will learn to make healthy snacks and drink.

- Hands on learning experience with Lisa and her staff.
- After preparing the food participants will enjoy tasting & sharing.
- Ute Bingo after lunch.



Jerky and Drying Class & Tortilla Making Thursday January 2, 2025 - 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

- Participants will learn to season meat for drying, using a dehydrator.
- Pound jerky into fine powder,, learn how to prepare it to eat.
- Learn traditional uses for dry meat, hear stories shared by Ute Elders.
- Youth will learn to make flour tortillas and frybread.



Craft Projects for Youth Friday January 3, 2025 - 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Crafts projects

- Bone & Bead Breastplates and chokers, Ojo, Dream Catcher.
- Miniature light up Ti Pi.
- Projects are easy and fun for the whole family.
- Hot Chocolate, cookies & Story telling.



Please call 970-563-2640 to sign-up.
Call 970-563-2641 for more information.
Multi-Purpose Facility 256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO



All holiday hands on deck



photos Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Crew members from the Southern Ute Grounds Maintenance team assemble to replace the Christmas lights on the trees that line Ouray Drive east of the Leonard C. Burch administration building, Tuesday, Dec. 3.



Southern Ute Grounds Maintenance crewmember, Michael Cruz braves the heights atop the cherry picker to string the lights at the tops of the trees on the northside of the Leonard C. Burch Building, Wednesday, Dec. 4.

SAVE THE DATE

MMIR AWARENESS PRAYER WALK

Saturday May 3, 2025



Photo credits: Southern Ute Drum
Robert Ortiz and Krista Richards



CONTACT US

mmirtaskforceco.com

mmirtaskforceofco.com

Ignacio's Taste of Christmas Light Parade



The Boys and Girls Club (BGC) of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe had a chance to shine bright with huge smiles – BGC club members wave to the crowd during the light parade held as part of the annual Ignacio Taste of Christmas event. BGC also organized this year's event.



KSUT Tribal Radio Hour's Rez-olution Radio Hour DJ, Robert Ortiz is seen pictured with his sister, Melinda Ortiz. They stand next to the KSUT Rez-olution Radio Hour float that took the third-place spot in this year's light parade.

Spectators had the chance to see Santa riding with the Los Pinos Fire Department as the Grand Marshal of the light parade during this year's annual Taste of Christmas event, which took place in Ignacio, Friday, Dec. 6. The event hosts a holiday market offering attendees a chance to purchase gifts for their loved ones to help celebrate Christmas. Vendors offered a variety of homemade goods, beverages, handcrafted goods, and holiday cheer to area residents. Santa Clause welcomed the children to share in the holiday magic as they asked him for special wishes of joy and good cheer for their family and friends.



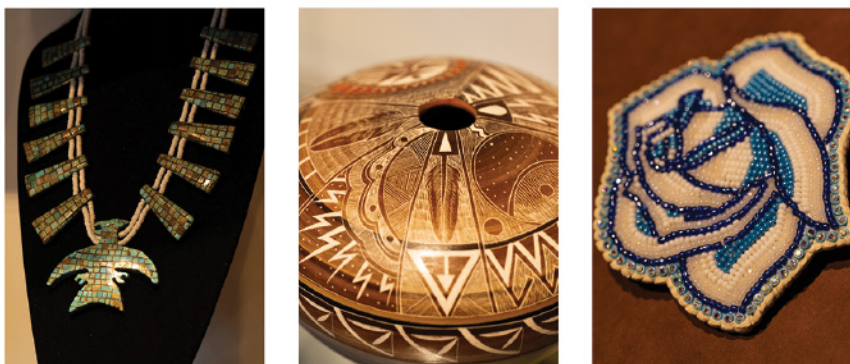
The Los Pinos Fire Department was selected for Grand Marshal at this year's light parade during the Ignacio Taste of Christmas event.



Southern Ute Tribal members, Daisy Bluestar and Cynthia Buckskin greeted guests during the event at the Native Love booth where they sold goods to benefit the MMIR group.

Photos by Conrad Thompson
The Southern Ute Drum

CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP SALE



25% off sale for the month of December
Sale excludes B. Yellowtail merchandise, books, hides, and hand drums.

WE ARE UTE



SOUTHERN UTE
Cultural Center & Museum



503 Ouray Drive • PO Box 737 • Ignacio, CO 81137 • 970.563.9583
EMAIL | museum@southernute-nsn.gov
IG | southernute_museum_sum
WEB | southernutemuseum.org



Sky Ute CASINO RESORT TRUCK OR BUCKS GIVEAWAY

Win up to \$2,500 Cash or a
New Toyota Tundra

Saturdays in December
6PM-10PM



**GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY
FOR A BRAND-NEW TOYOTA TUNDRA SR5:
DECEMBER 28 AT 10:30PM**

* Vehicle shown may vary in style and/or color than actual giveaway vehicle.

Every Saturday in December, hit the slots and get 1 entry for every 100 points you earn.

**WE'LL DRAW A WINNER EVERY 30 MINUTES
TO SPIN THE PRIZE WHEEL FOR THE CHANCE TO
WIN CASH, FREE GIVEAWAY ENTRIES OR SKY UTE LOOT!**

Sky Ute CASINO RESORT



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

Disclaimer: Prizes are non-transferable. Grand Prize winner will choose to take the truck or a cash option. All drawing entries earned and won will carry over 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.



Christmas Crafts



We've got all the supplies for you to
enjoy some holiday crafts!
All ages are welcome to participate!

Monday, Dec. 23 at 10:00 AM
at Ignacio Community Library | (970)563-9287

The magic returns on the Polar Express



The Polar Express is an immersive experience aboard the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. Passengers are drawn into the story as the Polar Express chefs serve up hot chocolate and perform songs and segments from the Polar Express book as the train rolls north into the night.



The conductor keeps a sharp eye on passengers at the train depot, which bustles with activity during the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad's Polar Express Train Ride, many don their pajamas for the trip to the North Pole as part of this fully immersive experience.



Bird Red and Elijah Weaver hand out train tickets and goodie bags to Southern Ute Tribal member families ahead of the Polar Express train ride in Durango, Colo. on behalf of the SunUte Community Center, Thursday, Dec. 12.



Using her finger, Zalissa Johnson etches a snowman into the frosty glass window of the historic rail coach on the return trip from the North Pole, Thursday, Dec. 12.



Young Keara Ruybal peers into the winter wonderland from aboard the Polar Express, where passengers are treated to a trip to the North Pole and back again, Thursday, Dec. 12.

The Polar Express is a popular event during the winter months and an annual holiday tradition for many who travel to Durango, Colo. to experience the magic of this storybook adventure for themselves. Based on the award-winning book by Chris Van Allsburg, the Polar Express tells the story of a child's Christmas Eve journey. Each winter during the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad's Polar Express Train Ride, families don their pajamas for this enchanted fairytale adventure to the North Pole.

Photos by Jeremy Wade Shockley
The Southern Ute Drum



Brothers, Amonnie and Kandin Johnson ride to the North Pole aboard the Polar Express. Santa made a special trip through each of the train cars, handing out the first gift of Christmas to passengers. Amonnie rings his bell, and tells himself, "I believe," three times – the story goes that you can only hear the bell if you believe.



James M. Olguin

December 13, 2024
Run Off Election

**FOR
TRIBAL
COUNCIL**

“YOUR VOTE COUNTS”

VOTE

**VANESSA
TORRES**




SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

VOTE

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
RUN-OFF ELECTION

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



**VOTE
LINDA K. BAKER
TRIBAL COUNCIL**



**EXPERIENCE + EDUCATION
CULTURAL COMMITMENT**

VOTE 

**LORELEI
CLOUD**



SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

INTEGRITY & ACCOUNTABILITY



SOUTHERN UTE VICTIM SERVICES & BOYS & GIRLS CLUB PRESENT

Winter Wish Exchange

FOR IGNACIO AREA FAMILIES IN NEED OF EXTRA HOLIDAY CHEER

DEADLINE TO DONATE
MONDAY
DECEMBER 16

CHOOSE TO GRANT A WHOLE FAMILY'S WISHES OR INDIVIDUAL WISHES

HOW TO DONATE
CONTACT JASPER TO CHECK OUT ORNAMENTS WITH WISHES ON THEM. RETURN THE ORNAMENTS AND ITEMS BY THE DEADLINE ABOVE. IF YOU'D PREFER, WE WILL ACCEPT MONETARY DONATIONS AND DO THE SHOPPING FOR YOU.

JASPER- JABEYTA@SOUTHERNUTE-NSN.GOV

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

Multi - Purpose Facility December 2024 Events

Monthly Event Calendar

- 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

The December Yard Sale is canceled

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

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 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

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



"If you know someone struggling with addiction, let them know that there's always a safe place for them to go."

Marie | In Recovery
Southern Ute Member

Recovery from addiction is always possible. Find support and resources at LTSouthernUte.org.

LIFT THE LABEL 





Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Zane Pontine plants Bayfield's Cade Grover into the mat during 157-pound action Saturday, Dec. 7, at BHS' Wolverine Classic. Pontine pinned all five of his foes to place first at the weight.

BOBCATS WRESTLING

IHS grapplers get going in Bayfield

Boys place seventh, girls fifth at first meet

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Included in the 'Others receiving votes' section of the preseason CHSAANow.com Class 2A Coaches' Poll, only five Bobcats were needed to show why Ignacio should be a force this winter.

Two of them began the 2024-25 season winning individual titles Saturday, Dec. 7, at Bayfield's Wolverine Classic, and a third came close as IHS' boys amassed 70 points and placed seventh out of 11 teams.

Junior Zane Pontine pinned all five of his opponents in placing first at 157 pounds, with the clincher coming 39 seconds into the second period against 2A San Juan Basin League rival Dolores' River Wickstrom. Pontine then polished off his perfect start to the 2024-25 season by sticking BHS' Cade Grover in just 1:12.

Junior Aven Bourriague also went 5-for-5, beginning with a 20-5 technical fall over Kirtland, N.M., Central's Tristan Silver, and also including a forfeit win over Farmington, New Mexico's Tabyr Gonzalez and, finally, a 9-5 win over Bayfield's Connor Martindale in the weight's finale.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Marlene Martinez-Perez, right, sizes up Bayfield's Lucy Porter during 140-pound action Saturday, Dec. 7, at BHS' Wolverine Classic. Martinez-Perez went 3-2 on the day with three pins (including against Porter) and placed third at the weight.

At 165 pounds, junior Lincoln deKay went 4-1, losing only to KCHS' Nathan Tom. And that bout was close; Tom prevailed 6-2 after each put in the six hard minutes of work. Closing out his day, deKay pinned BHS' Justin Westbrook 1:53 into the second period.

Dillon Brann went 2-2 at 144, losing his first match 13-6 to eventual weight champ Coan Naranjo of Bayfield, but then pinning Aztec, New Mexico's Dylan Dansie and ultimately pulled out a 20-17 overtime win against KCHS' Kaleb Shondee. And at 126 Josh Kerrigan went 2-3 with one pin, but finished his day losing to Gunnison's Cody Casebolt via pin in 54 seconds.

Racking up 123 points, 1A Monticello, Utah, captured the Classic's team championship. FHS (116) wasn't far behind, while GHS (Class 3A's preseason No. 7 crew) tallied 104 and placed third, ahead of the hosting Wolverines (91.5).

On the girls' side of the tournament, Ignacio - which received votes in the preseason Class 4A Girls' rankings - scored 48 points and placed fifth, with Bayfield (40) right behind in sixth. Durango earned the team title with 88 points, Gunnison (77.5) came in second and M-CHS (77) settled for third in the eight-team standings - which included 2A Antonio's first-year squad (eighth place, 18 points).

Three Lady 'Cats notched runner-up finishes, led by Madison Egger's 4-1 (all wins via pin) work at 100 pounds. Laine Bradley went 3-1 and took second in the combined 130/135 division, and Larissa Espinosa went 0-2 at 235 but ended up second to Pagosa Springs' Laykyn Baxstrom.

Marlene Martinez-Perez earned third at 140 pounds but along the way pinned teammate Krysten Neil, who placed fifth.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Aven Bourriague, right, looks up to see if he's pinned Gunnison's Malchijah Perez during 120-pound action Saturday, Dec. 7, at Bayfield's Wolverine Classic. Not awarded the stick, Bourriague instead won on points, 10 to 4, and went on to finish with a 5-0 tourney record.

PRESEASON CHSAANOW.COM CLASS 2A (BOYS) COACHES' POLL

1.Wray, 2.Cedaredge, 3.Meeke, 4.Buena Vista, 5.Hotchkiss North Fork, 6.Ault Highland, 7.Rocky Ford, T-8.Center & Monte Vista, 10.Sedgwick County/Fleming. Others Receiving Votes - Fowler, Mancos, IGNACIO, Walsenburg, Lyons, Burlington, Holly, Wiggins, County Line (Cheyenne Wells/Eads/Wiley/McClave), Pueblo Dolores Huerta Prep.

PRESEASON CHSAANOW.COM CLASS 4A (GIRLS) COACHES' POLL

1.Pueblo Central, 2.Cañon City, 3.Bennett, T-4.Fort Lupton & Gunnison, 6.Alamosa, 7.Thornton Skyview, T-8.Lamar & Yuma, 10.Hotchkiss North Fork. Others Receiving Votes - Severance, Denver West, Fort Morgan, Berthoud, La Junta, Moffat County (Craig), Olathe, Walsenburg, Wiggins, Fort Collins Liberty Common, Denver Mullen, Edgewater Jefferson, Strasburg, Calhan, IGNACIO, Sedgwick County/Fleming, Brush, Las Animas.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio junior Ambrose Valdez (22) attempts a three-pointer during the second half of the Bobcats' Friday, Dec. 6 game in Durango, Colo. Valdez scored 15 points in defeat, giving him 32 in IHS' first two contests of the 2024-25 season.

BOBCATS BOYS BASKETBALL

Bobcats bomb Bears, pressure Demons

Boys' first two outings satisfactory overall

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Despite trailing 5A Durango just 30-27 through two competitive quarters Friday night, Dec. 6, inside the DemonDome, Ignacio still needed something extra to truly put the home team's feet to the fire and turn the early-season showdown into the battle expected by most.

It came in the form of the Bobcat with perhaps the freshest legs on the court.

"Didn't see a minute in the first half," recalled IHS head coach Trae Seibel, "and then I looked at him and he was ready to go! Angelo Frost, he came off the bench...and knocked 'em down. He went 100 percent today, didn't miss a shot. Made, I think, two threes...really sparked our second-half run when we took the lead by two."

With the senior draining both his treys during the third quarter, and totaling eight of his 12 points, Ignacio completed a comeback started early in the game, though DHS - seeing its first action of the 2024-25 season - would regain a slim 47-43 advantage before the fourth and final frame.

"It was a heck of a hole we climbed out of," Seibel stated. "In that first half we



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's D.J. Hendren guards Durango's Kingston Kerlin (0) as closely as possible during the second half of the Bobcats' Dec. 6 game at DHS. Offensively, Hendren scored ten points in defeat, giving him 14 in IHS' first two contests of the 2024-25 season.

were down 13 at one point, and the boys weathered the storm. It started with our defense; everyone locked up and we went on a heck of a run that third quarter."

Durango, however, turned up their own defensive heat in the fourth, and with 5:34 remaining the 'Cats found

Bobcats page 18

Save the Date poster for basketball game between Sunute & Fort Lewis and Navajo Tech. Includes date Saturday January 4, 2025, location Sunute Community Center, and time 05.30PM. Tickets are free.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio junior Gabe Archuleta (21) trots into the end zone during road action this season at Trinidad. Having emerged as IHS' No. 1 receiver, Archuleta was recently named First Team All-Conference for his offensive, and defensive, contributions in 2024.

BOBCATS FOOTBALL

Bobcats bag up gridiron awards

Four named First Team All-Conference

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Having officially ended the regular season with a forfeit win over the toothless Del Norte Tigers, Ignacio finished 2024 standing a third-place 3-2 in Southern Peaks play and 4-5 overall. Three of the Bobcats' losses – at Denver Manual (5-4 overall, 2-2 League 6), versus Cedaredge (6-3, 3-2 Western Slope), and at Bayfield (4-5, 1-4 2A Intermountain) – however, came by a combined 15 points, meaning that with just a little luck IHS could have ended up in the Class 1A State Playoffs.

Though again left on the

outside looking in, it was the sort of near-miss campaign which didn't go unrewarded.

And after the conference's two postseason representatives met early demises in mid-November, the All-SPC Team was released, with a total of eight 'Cats selected.

Juniors Lincoln deKay, Gabe Archuleta and Zane Pontine were all named First Team All-SPC, along with sophomore Cayson Burcham. Seniors Charley Pargin and Kendrick Nossaman each received Second Team status, as did D.J. Hendren, while freshman Miguel Red earned Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Able to dethrone reigning conference king Centauri by a

36-26 margin in the much-anticipated 11/1 showdown, Monte Vista was given the No. 10 seed in the Playoffs' opening Round-of-16. Sent to No. 7 Meeker, however, the Pirates were unceremoniously eliminated at Starbuck Stadium, 44-34, and ended up 5-0 in conference but an unfulfilled 7-3 overall.

Defensive Player-of-the-Year Azariah Hurtado, a ball-hawking junior defensive back/wide receiver, was a First Team All-SPC selection along with seniors Alex Marquez, Jacob Pacheco, Kaden Madrid, Jeremiah Baumgardner and junior Zach Gallegos. The fi-

Bobcats page 24



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio sophomore Kelly Sirios jump-sets at the net during 2A-Region I action against Colorado Springs St. Mary's out in Simla. She was named First Team All-SJBL for 2024.

BOBCATS VOLLEYBALL

'Cats collect All-League recognition

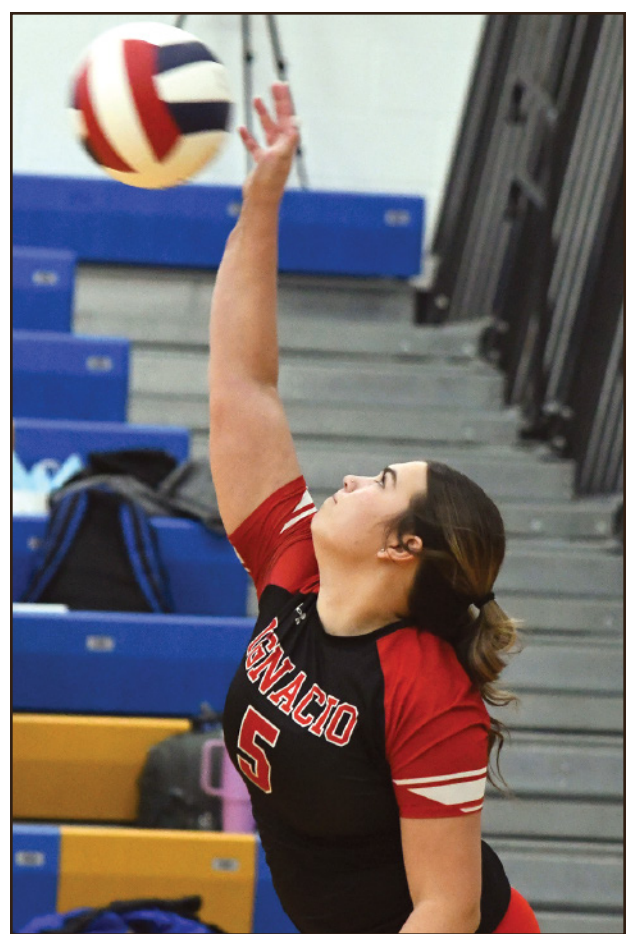
First Team pick Sirios heads chosen trio

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Her 1,000th prep-level assist documented and now well behind her, Kelly Sirios will begin the yet-distant 2025 volleyball season knowing she will likely be the 2A/1A San Juan Basin League's top returning setter.

Following the conclusion of the '24 CHSAA State Championships, the All-SJBL Team was revealed with Ignacio's sophomore distributor one of two awarded First Team All-League distinction. And even more recently – meaning Sunday, Nov. 24, just days before Thanksgiving – Sirios also received Honorable Mention All-2A for helping IHS go 7-1 in 2A SJBL play, 10-2 in all official SJBL matches, and 15-10 overall after a loss to Simla in the 2A-Region I finale.

Dove Creek senior Hannah Barry was the other setter tabbed First Team All-League, after the Lady Bulldogs reached the aforementioned Championships in Class 1A. But after defeating Cheraw in five sets, DCHS then fell in five to Idalia – all on Thursday, Nov. 14, inside the Denver Coliseum – and was eliminated the next morning in three by Seib-



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio senior Marissa Olguin (5) smacks a serve during 2A-Region I play out in Simla. She was recently named Second Team All-SJBL for 2024.

ert-based Hi-Plains.

Picked to play in the Colorado Coaches of Girls' Sports All-State Games' Class 1A feature the morning of the 24th at Fossil Ridge H.S. in Fort Collins, senior outside hitter Taylor Barry was also named First Team All-SJBL – as was se-

nior Ralynn Hickman – after first-year skipper Erin Barry's bunch (11-0 SJBL, 6-0 1A SJBL) finished an outstanding 24-3 overall.

Mancos sophomores Bailey Beh and Aubree Wyatt each received First Team

'Cats page 24

BOBCATS PRESSURE BEARS • FROM PAGE 17

themselves again down 13 points, 56-43. Back-to-back Frost baskets from close range trimmed the deficit down to 58-47 with 4:07 to go, and Seibel used a timeout to try revving his players up to make a final push.

Unfortunately, it failed to materialize; IHS went scoreless the rest of the way while the Demons increased their margin of victory only slightly to 62-47.

"We made too many turnovers in the fourth," said Seibel, "and we can't win big games with that many. But those are things we can fix. And it's an honor to come play against the big boys from down the road; it shows us what we have to work on. Right now the team is ... cohesive, and they're playing with urgency and heart. The ball just didn't fall our way in the fourth."

"We didn't really dictate the tempo of the game. Maybe in that first quarter we dictated it a little, but we kind of got complacent and comfortable on the offensive end – started settling for shots and stopped pushing in transition," longtime Durango head coach Alan Batiste said.

"But credit Ignacio," he continued. "I mean, Trae prepared those guys to play hard and they gave us a good punch in the mouth. We just needed to respond and do what we needed to do as a team."

All told, 6'4" senior Noah Miles racked up a game-high 18 points for DHS (1-0, 0-0 5A/6A Southwestern), with senior Ethan White (12 points) and sophomore Kingston Kerlin (12) joining him in double digits. Senior Marcus Cullum came close with his eight points, and 6'6" senior Otto Aaland



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio senior Angelo Frost (21) guards Durango's Ethan White (15) during the second half of the Bobcats' Friday, Dec. 6 game at DHS. Offensively, Frost netted 12 points, giving him 18 in IHS' first two contests of the 2024-25 season.

chipped in six.

"Call it an ugly win or call it a good win, or whatever else, but it's the first game of our season and we've still got a lot of work to do," said Batiste. "We've only focused on defense for seven weeks, so...offensively we knew we'd have to struggle. But overall, we'll take it for a first win."

For Ignacio (1-1, 0-0 3A/4A Intermountain), junior Ambrose Valdez went 9-of-10 from the free-throw line and ended up with a team-leading 15 points. D.J. Hendren, who fouled out with 52 ticks left, joined he and Frost in double digits by scoring ten points. Sophomore Cayson Burcham managed five points, junior Trace Crane three and junior Sonny Flores two.

"I think a lot of teams we play in the future will key on Ambrose; he's a great scorer, and...really had some great plays throughout the whole game," Seibel said. "But I'm proud of my team; they came to play tonight."

The Bobcats' early-season road swing will continue Friday and Saturday, December 13-14, at Center's

C-Town Showdown. Results from IHS' 12/10 trip to 2A Mancos (0-3 overall) were unavailable at press time.

EXPLOSIVE OPENER

Beginning the new season on the third at 2A Dolores, Ignacio hit the hardwood running. And running and running even more en route to a thorough 71-23 win.

Valdez booked ten second-quarter points and ended up with a game-high 17. Junior Stoney White Thunder chipped in six second-quarter points and totaled ten, and Burcham followed up his successful football debut season with eight points. Flores booked seven points and Frost six, while Hendren, Crane, and senior Marquis Cibrián each chipped in four. Junior Rance Rathjen drained a fourth-quarter three-pointer for good measure.

The Bears (0-1 overall) got nine points – all after halftime – from sophomore Koby McClellan, and four points from both senior Trayton Traweek (2-9 FT) and junior Michael Rantz (2-8 FT).

Sunlute Community Center

Early Closure
7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Building Closed
24 / 7 GUEST ACCESS AVAILABLE

DECEMBER 24TH TUESDAY
DECEMBER 25TH WEDNESDAY

Merry Christmas

NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS WILL RESUME DECEMBER 26TH THURSDAY



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY ITEMS FOR SALE REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS

The Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority is accepting sealed bids on the following items.

1. Snowplow: Fisher 8' comes with frame & wire harness – came off a 2011 F350. Minimum bid \$1,000
2. Snowplow: Meyer 8' comes with frame & wire harness – came off a 2010 F350. Minimum bid \$1,000
3. 2004 Husqvarna GTH2548 attached plow. Minimum bid \$200

**All items are sold as is and will go to the highest bidder (Cash or checks, no cards). You may reach Rebecca Torres at 970-442-6353 or Ken Richards 970-749-7534 with questions and schedule an onsite inspection. Bids must be sealed and labeled per item with name, phone number and which item you are bidding on. Sealed bids are due by noon on January 3, 2025.



1. Fisher 8' blade



2. Meyer 8' blade



3. 2004 Husqvarna

COMMUNITY GREETINGS



Citizenship award
On behalf of my ancestors and relatives, I want to honor my son in the Southern Ute Drum. He was one of the students receiving a citizenship award for positive behavior. I am proud of him and all the teachers that serve our young people. Nathan Strong Elk III is a former Montessorian and attends the Southern Ute Indian Montessori School. Wishing him the best future and that he walks in our Southern Ute traditions as a first descendant. He Bear Dances, loves soccer and basketball. He is pictured with Mr. Rob Stafford, Bayfield Middle school counselor and one of the administrators.

Humbly,
Nathan and Meyannie Elk

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,
Michael Gerard Tom, Deceased
Case No.: 2024-0153-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 **FEBRUARY 3, 2025, at 9:00 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 5th of December, 2024
Elizabeth Benally, Deputy Court Clerk

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

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Sky Ute Fairgrounds & RV Park

Winter Break
for our
Ice Vending Kiosk

Drum Deadline

Next issue:
Dec. 27

EARLY
Deadline:
Dec. 20

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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The Southern Ute Drum does not assume responsibility for unsolicited material and does not guarantee publication upon submission.

Published biweekly and mailed 1st class from Ignacio, Colo.
Printed by The Santa Fe New Mexican in Santa Fe, N.M.
The Southern Ute Drum is a member of the Native American Journalists Association, the Society of Professional Journalism and the Colorado Press Association.



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, mhutson@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@mbssllp.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.



DECEMBER UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRANSFER STATION 2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

DEC. 9TH/10TH LEONARD C. BURCH DAY — CLOSED
DEC. 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY — CLOSED
JAN 1ST NEW YEAR'S DAY — CLOSED

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday 8 AM to 5 PM
Lobby closed 12p -1p on Fridays
Reach a staff member by phone at (970) 563-5500

TRANSFER STATION HOURS OF OPERATION

MON.—SAT. 8 AM TO 5 PM / CLOSED SUNDAY
Tribal Members: Pick up 2024 Trash Permits—call office or contact Mr. James Red at Transfer Station Ramp. Show Tribal ID.

Friendly Reminders

- Questions on your bill? Need help setting up your online payments? Call us.
- Monthly Shut-offs are the first Wednesday of each month:
Dec. 4th / Jan. 8th / Feb. 5th

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
— Southern Ute Utilities Staff

Avoid Late Fees. Settle your payments before 10am on Shut-off Day

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- 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

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, CALL UTILITIES OFFICE.
PO Box 1137 • 16360 Hwy. 172 • Ignacio, CO 81137 • (970) 563-5500 • www.suitutil.com



Southern Ute Digital Equity Program (SUDEP)

DEADLINE: for the Internet Reimbursement and Router Voucher Programs for Southern Ute Indian Tribal Members

- **Router Voucher Program:** Have you recently hooked up with internet Fiber with either FTI or XMission and want your router paid for by SUDEP? Please contact SUDEP for required documents that need to be filled out. We cannot pay for the router without the completed documents.
- **Internet Reimbursement Program:** If you signed up with FTI or XMission and you requested a voucher for the internet reimbursement program and have not provided your first bill from FTI or XMission the deadline to submit your first bill is 12/13. If we haven't received a copy of your bill by the deadline, your \$75 will not be paid to FTI or XMission until SUDEP receives the bill. Deadline for January is 1/10/25.

Questions? Please contact SUDEP at 970-563-5555
All forms must be filled out completely to access any SUDEP sponsored program.

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



The Forestry Division wishes you and your family a Merry Christmas and would like to inform the Southern Ute Tribal Membership of the requirements to cut a Christmas tree on the reservation. You may cut a Christmas tree on the reservation for your family free of charge. The Forestry Division does request that you obtain a Free-use Forest Product/Firewood Permit (permit) from the Forestry office before doing so.

A permit must be obtained if non-Southern Ute Tribal Members accompany you to cut a tree on the reservation. Please be prepared to provide your Southern Ute census number, vehicle information (year, make, model, color, and license plate), and the names of the individuals that will be accompanying you while cutting your Christmas tree.

Again, the permit is free to all Southern Ute Tribal Members and can be obtained from the Forestry office Monday – Friday from 8AM – 12PM and from 1PM - 5PM. The Forestry office is located at 575 CR 517 and may be contacted at 970 563-4780.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
Boards, Committees and Comissions Vacancies**

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 bleclaire@southernute-nsn.gov.

ELECTION BOARD

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.

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 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 soutepowwow@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.

**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
• Friday, Dec. 27	NOON Friday Dec. 20
• Friday, Jan. 3, 2025	NOON Monday, Dec. 30, 2024
• Friday, March 28	NOON Friday, March 21
• Friday, April 25	NOON, Friday, April 18
• Wednesday, July 3	NOON, Friday, June 27
• Friday, Sept. 26	NOON, Friday, Sept. 19
• Friday, Nov. 14	NOON, Friday, Nov. 7
• Wednesday, Nov. 26	NOON, Thursday, Nov. 20
• Wednesday, Dec. 24	NOON, Friday, Dec. 19
• Wednesday, Dec. 31	NOON, Wednesday, Dec. 24

***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)

HUD Annual Performance Report now Available

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



Committee of 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. The initial Committee comprised of seven (7) members will be selected by Tribal Council.

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.
- An understanding of the Tribe’s language and culture is preferred, but not required.
- 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.

Please submit your Letter of Intent:

- Email: swhyte@southernute-nsn.gov.
- In-person with the Tribal Council Affairs Receptionist located in the Leonard C. Burch Building; 356 Ouray Drive, Ignacio, CO.
- Mail to Tribal Council Affairs, P.O. Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137.

To apply please submit a Letter of Intent with the following:

- Full Name
- Contact Information (i.e. address, phone number, email address)
- Date
- It is suggested and helpful to include one or more of the following details:
 - Description of why you are a good fit for the position
 - Explanation of your motivation to join the Committee
 - List relevant experience
 - Outline ideas goals for this committee/ how you plan to be involved
 - Disclosure of any other Boards/Committees you currently serve on

Closing Date: December 31, 2024

For more information, please contact Tribal Council Affairs at 970-563-2319 or Council Member Marjorie Barry at 970-563-2304



Southern Ute Indian Tribe • Job announcements

Visit 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

Administrative Assistant II

Closes 12/13/24 – Performs administrative, secretarial, and clerical support for the Economic Development office. Assists the Economic Development Manager and Transportation Division Head with monitoring and compiling reports, statistics, and budgets. Pay grade N9; Pay starts at \$20.26/hour.

Detention Cook

Closes 12/20/24 – Assisting the Food Service Coordinator to facilitate all kitchen food service preparation and cleaning duties. Pay grade N8; Pay starts at \$18.76/hour.

Receptionist (Part-time)

Closes 12/20/24 – Assuring an efficient entry and exit point for members of the Community Center, to include providing reception duties to the public by telephone and in person, greeting, screening, and assisting customers, monitoring member access control, and maintaining class registration. Pay grade N6; Pay starts at \$16.09/hour.

Transportation Division Head

Closes 12/13/24 – Directs, oversees, and coordinates all functions and activities related to the Southern Ute Transportation Division for road and bridge improvements and maintenance of Tribal transportation facilities. Provides oversight and management of transportation projects from conception through completion including P.L.93-638 projects. Pay grade E17; Pay starts at \$86,943/year.

Animal Care Technician (Southern Ute 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.

Audit Assistant (Southern Ute members only)

Open Until Filled – 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. The secondary responsibility is providing administrative support for the department, including audit record retention. Pay grade N11; Pay starts at \$23.63/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 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, 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.

Custodian

Open Until Filled – Daily cleaning of Southern Ute Indian Tribe Buildings and offices. Pay grade N6; Pay starts at \$16.09/hour.

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.

Detention Transport Officer

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Detention Sergeant and Lieutenant, incumbent maintains the safety and welfare of inmates and visitors and monitors all inmate activities within and outside of the detention center. Will be responsible for transportation of inmates to and from other facilities, medical appointments, and court appearances. Pay grade N13; pay starts at \$28.60/hour and includes a potential 5k DOE sign-on bonus.

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. Responsibilities also include 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/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, 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, organize 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. 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 SunUte 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 sys-

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>

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

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Job Announcements, cont.

tems, 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.

Lake Capote Manager Apprentice (Southern Ute members only)

Open Until Filled – 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.

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 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 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 – 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). 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, 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 persons in and around the Moache-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 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 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. 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 Apprentice Committee will review applications and assess what options may be available for applicants.

Tribal Ranger Trainee (Southern Ute 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. The trainee 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 Department 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.

Benefits Manager – GF Human Resources (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 12/20/24 – Administration of health and welfare benefits for employees of the Southern Ute Growth Fund companies and departments and Southern Ute Shared Services. Provides support and back up to the VP of Human Resources. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

Training and Development Coordinator – GF Human Resources (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 12/20/24 – Assisting with the oversight and development of educational training programs and processes associated with the organizational and professional development of Growth Fund employees and provides support to the HR Department. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

Assistant Accounting Manager-Real Estate – Growth Fund Accounting/Finance (Ignacio, CO & 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. Supervising accounting staff, as determined necessary by the Assistant Controller. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

Asset Manager – GF Properties Group, LLC. (Durango, CO & Denver, CO)

Closes 12/13/24 – Effectively performing a variety of real estate functions for a regional portfolio of mixed-use, multi-family, and development projects. Will support the asset management, property management, and construction management functions including financial analysis, project management, contract negotiations, budgeting, and forecasting. Assist with special projects and ad hoc analyses and will have the opportunity to support the national portfolio team on an as-needed basis.

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

Closes 12/13/24 – 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.

SoCoCAA Job Opportunities

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

Road Runner Transit:

- Transit Driver (Part-time) \$18.94/hr.

Ignacio Youth Services:

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

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 Early Learning Program:

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

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.

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.

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.**

*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 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.

*Laundry Attendant (Full-time)

Perform the required operations with laundry equipment; ensuring products are clean and acceptable for hotel use. Maintaining laundry for the hotel rooms and other departments as needed.

*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. Will be 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.

*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.

*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.

*Surveillance Agent I (Full-time)

Ensuring a safe and secure environment for Casino customers and employees by observing, reporting, and recording gaming and non-gaming activity using surveillance equipment to abide by all procedures, gaming regulations, and policies and protect the Southern Ute tribal assets from illegal and questionable activities.

*Event Coordinator (Full-time)

Leading special events and promotions from conception to post event follow up. Working closely with the Marketing team on design work and copywriting, as well as implementing the marketing strategy while maintaining the highest level of customer service and guest interaction. Communicating with outside vendors to coordinate all Marketing assets for events and promotions. Reports directly to the Marketing Manager.

*Marketing Coordinator (Full-time)

Reports to the Marketing Director. Supports the Marketing team in all phases of advertising and promotional administrative operations. Requires strong interpersonal skills, customer service skills, telephone skills, computer skills and attention to detail.

Piinu Nuuchi Park Temporary Closure

Dear Tribal Members and Staff,

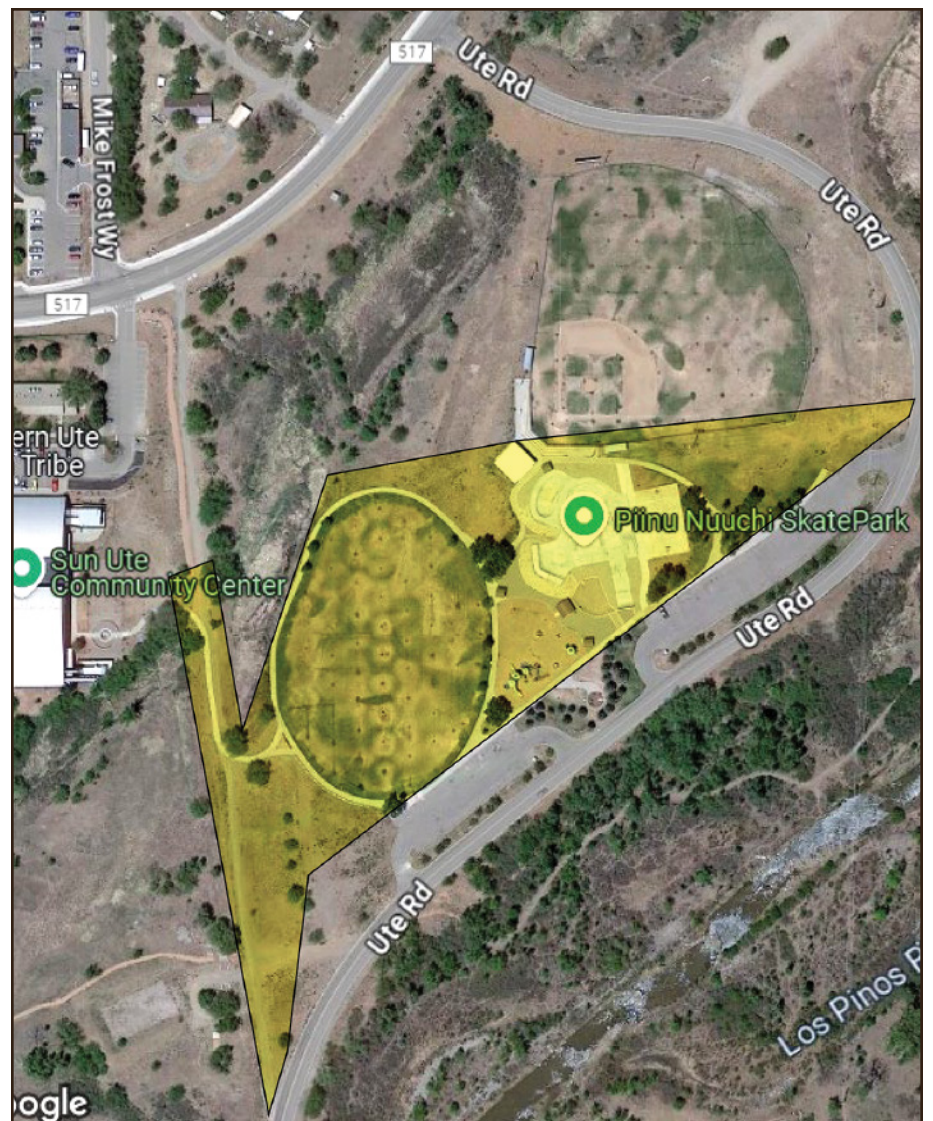
Starting Wednesday, Dec. 11, and ending approximately Jan. 10, of the New Year, there will be construction teams installing new solar-powered light poles around Piinu Nuuchi Park.

This work will require temporary closures of sections of the park for the safety of both park users and construction teams. At times, these closures will prevent access between the SunUte Community Center and the Park and will also include intermittent closures of the skate park. We ask that you please respect these temporary closures for the safety of all. The map attached depicts the extent of the areas that will be closed at times.

We appreciate your patience as these teams work, and we look forward to unveiling the new nighttime lighting in the New Year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly.

Derrell Lindsey
Construction Project Manager
Tribal Housing, Construction & Project Management



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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.

FLY FISHING

Fly fishing a new location

By Don Oliver
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

fish a bobber and nymphs. We compromised with a

the new spot I did manage to land a couple more trout, not brooks. It was at this location that I made a startling discovery about the trees in the park, they are magnetic. I have been fly fishing a long time, and I don't mind saying I am an above average caster. So having my flies tangled in trees has never been a problem. However, on several occasions, my flies were magnetically pulled into the overhanging tree branches. It was the darnedest thing I've ever experienced.



dry-dropper rig and headed out to the park. This was going to be a great day. Once in the park we booted and suited in a completely empty parking lot. I lit a fresh cigar, grabbed my 3-weight rod, and headed to the small stream. It was appropriately named Little River. As we approached our first fishing location, I saw a fish rising to something to eat. I thought this was also going to be a good day of catching. It wasn't.

Being new residents of Tennessee has given SWM-BO and me the opportunity to see, and fly fish, a large number of areas new to us. One of the new areas we recently visited, and fly fished, was the Great Smokey Mountain National Park. If you have never been to this wonderful national park, put it on your bucket list.

Great Smokey Mountain National Park is located on the border of Tennessee and North Carolina. It was established on June 15, 1934, and consists of 522,427 acres. It is open 24/7 and in 2023 was visited by 13 million people. Within all the acreage are 2,900 miles of streams, of which 1,073 miles are fishable. Needless to say, all that wilderness is home to all kinds of wildlife. I discovered along with all the usual wildlife, my favorite trout, brook, is a native fish. It just doesn't get much better.

We started our stay in Gatlinburg, Tenn. Gatlinburg is a busy tourist town located at the north boundary of the park. The weather went from cloudy, cold, light rain, some snowflakes, then sunny, all in the same day. I hired a guide, Chad, through Smokey Mountain Anglers, for a half day of fly fishing. We meet at the shop at nine where I explained to Chad that I didn't want to

Even with a fish rising, the first area proved to be a no-catch area. Since the river was void of people, finding new locations to fish was not a problem. As we moved up-and-down the river I did manage to catch a couple of small rainbows. Chad thought an entirely different area might be better, so we loaded up in the truck and headed back towards the park entrance. At

Even with the low fish count, and the mysterious magnetic trees, I was just grateful to be fly fishing a new area with a new friend. I now have a better understanding of where to go, and how to fly fish the Great Smokey Mountain National Park. Regardless of where you live, get out and explore new areas to fly fish. SWM-BO and I are planning on heading back to this new area, finding brook trout, and enjoying a really great national treasure.

Now, I will once again leave you with my annual politically incorrect statement. I wish everyone Feliz Navidad, Happy Hanukkah, a good Eid al-Adha, and, of course, Merry Christmas. If none of these fits your beliefs, then may whatever touches your heart with hope be with you for all of 2025.

'CATS COLLECT ALL-LEAGUE • FROM PAGE 18



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio senior Ollyvia Howe extends to receive an incoming ball during regular-season action this fall inside IHS Gymnasium. She was recently named Second Team All-SJBL for 2024.

honors along with junior Brooke Jabour, the lone libero selected, plus junior Delia Noel – also named Honorable Mention All-2A with Beh, Wyatt and Jabour, and Taylor Barry, Hannah Barry and Hickman in 1A – of Telluride (14-11 overall; 8-4 SJBL, 5-3 2A SJBL).

Based on statistics currently reported into the MaxPreps database, Noel ranked sixth in 2A in kills, one spot ahead of Wyatt but four behind Beh and five behind leader Lauren Johnson, a junior at San-

ta Fe League force Fowler. Dolores (8-14 overall; 4-8 SJBL, 2-6 2A SJBL). Honorable Mention All-SJBL went to NHS senior Amber Bockrath, another vital cog helping the Lady Mavericks win their final four matches and finish 4-2 in 1A SJBL play, 6-5 in all league action and 10-12 overall. Sophomore Lant-ry Galley of Nucla (5-17; 2-9 SJBL, 2-4 1A SJBL) also received an Honorable Mention nod along with junior Brooke Edder of Ouray (1-18; 0-11 SJBL, 0-6 1A SJBL).

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BOBCATS BRAG UP GRIDIRON • FROM PAGE 18

nal opposing skipper to deliver a post-game handshake to Ignacio's retiring Alfonso 'Ponch' Garcia, MVHS' Manny Wasinger was named Coach-of-the-Year.

CHS, meanwhile, was gifted the Playoffs' No. 4 seed and a first-round home game versus Holyoke. Incredibly, the Falcons (4-1 SPC, 8-2 overall) also were swiftly bounced out, as the 13-seed Dragons pulled off a 33-30 upset in overtime – ending the high-school careers of several Centauri seniors, including senior running back/linebacker Parker Buhr, the conference's Offensive Player-of-the-Year. Classmates Jace Creel and Jace Haslett were also First Team picks, as were juniors Spencer Smith and Sean Jarvies.

Able to conclude the '24 campaign crushing Trinidad 41-24 at home, Center finished 2-3 SPC and 2-7

overall behind senior Noah Swanson, senior Angel Rios and sophomore Caden Ruggles – each a First Team All-Conference recipient. THS (1-4 SPC, 2-6 overall), meanwhile, had sophomore Andrew East and junior A.J. Bowman receive First Team distinction.

Beginning with a forfeited non-conference game Saturday, Sept. 14, at Western Slope member Carbondale Roaring Fork, Del Norte ended up with one official varsity game – a season-opening 46-7 home loss to Olathe on August 30 – in 2024 and finished with an unfortunate 0-5 (all forfeits) conference mark and 0-9 overall record.

Reports indicated only 15 players were on the team – which ultimately played a JV-caliber schedule – prior to hosting OHS, with a great number being freshmen.

TOUGH ACT(S) TO FOLLOW

After shocking the SoPeaks' best, neither Meeker nor Holyoke fared even remotely as well in their next outings; 5-seed Buena Vista hammered HHS (2-3 North Central, 4-5 overall) 35-7 in the quarterfinals, while the Cowboys (5-0 Western Slope, 8-3 overall) crumbled 41-0 at No. 2 Arvada Forge Christian.

The Fury then logged a sixth straight shutout by stunning third-seeded (and 2023 State Champion) Limon 37-0 in the semis, before losing the State Championship to No. 1 Wray on Saturday, Nov. 30, inside Dutch Clark Stadium in Pueblo. Earning WHS its first crown since conquering Class 3A in 1993, the Eagles prevailed 48-21 to polish off an undefeated 13-0 season; FC slipped to 12-1.

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				

Across

- Like pond scum
- Cell system now becoming obsolete
- Mesa ---, Ancestral Puebloan site
- "Here comes trouble!"
- Wahbememe (White Pigeon), who ran 150 miles and then died
- Landfill problem
- Class of pain-killing drugs
- Atmospheric blight
- Lean forward
- Idiot boxes
- Home for "Babe"?
- One, in Mexico City
- Assembler of another manufacturer's components
- Meninas, Velazquez masterpiece
- Pieces of mosaics
- Puppy's barks
- Metal sacred to the Hopewell Culture
- Not cordial
- Southern Nevada Paiute reservation
- Frosty coating
- Farm measures
- But he that entereth --- the door is the shepherd ... (John: 10:2)
- Meek types

Down

- "The company for women" sloganeer
- Betty Grable's were highly prized
- Cheap restaurant
- Let in
- Take a partner for a dance
- Gunk
- Postgraduate qualifications
- In possession of too big a house?
- Tuesday before Ash Wednesday
- Seattle hoopster, once
- He only scored 17 electoral college votes in 1972
- Picasso's daughter and others
- Crafty
- Graceful exercise routine
- Several ages
- Concrete section
- Dueling weapon
- Croaking voice
- Humorously sarcastic

Answers will appear in the December 27 issue of the Drum.

Answers for November 27, 2024 Crossword Puzzle

Across: 1 Algal, 6 GPRS, 10 Verde, 11 Ohoh, 12 Ogema, 13 Odor, 14 NSAIDs, 16 Smog, 18 Stoop, 20 TVs, 21 Sty, 23 Una, 24 OEM, 25 Las, 26 Tiles, 28 Yips, 30 Copper, 33 Cold, 35 Moapa, 36 Hoar, 37 Acres, 38 In by, 39 Sheep.

Down: 1 Avon, 2 Legs, 3 Greasy spoon, 4 Admit, 5 Lead out, 6 Goo, 7 Ph Ds, 8 Room to spare, 9 Shrove, 15 Sonic, 17 GSM, 19 Palomas, 21 Sly, 22 Tai Chi, 27 Epoch, 29 Slab, 31 Epee, 32 Rasp, 34 Dry.

LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Friday, Dec. 13



Mostly sunny 43°F
Breezy/light morning wind

Saturday, Dec. 14



Mostly sunny 47°F

Sunday, Dec. 15



Mostly sunny 50°F

Weather forecasts collected from www.weather.gov

