

Cooking matters with family

PAGES 5



Clifford attends book fair

PAGE 6

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SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Tribe increases safety measures and issues ‘Stay At Home’ order



McKayla Lee/SU Drum

Southern Ute Emergency and Risk Manager, Donald Brockus helps brainstorm ways to best operate the Southern Ute Permanent Fund during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

The Southern Ute Indian Tribal Chairman, Tribal Council, and Incident Management Team (IMT) are replacing the advisory issued on March 23, 2020 with a ‘Stay at Home’ Order effective today, Wednesday, March

25, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. Because it is crucial to slow down the spread of COVID-19, the Tribe is requiring all tribal members to stay at home unless it is essential.

The Order is based on Tribal Council’s continuous assessment of

At home page 8

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

So. Ute Food Distribution: Serving the community in a time of need

By Jeremy Wade Shockley
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Food Distribution program has seen an uptick in demand from the local community, and increasingly, younger families are benefiting from the service. This was before the COVID-19 crisis increased needs for food supplies throughout the country; especially true in rural communities where resources are often limited. The Southern Ute Food Distribution program continues to provide nutritious and healthy food choices to the community during the crisis under the direction of program manager and Southern Ute tribal member Deanna Frost.

“My participation rate went up since January; we served one hundred more participants in February, to-



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

Food Distribution Program Manager, Deanna Frost emphasizes a healthy diet with the program’s goals of providing more fresh produce, including fresh farm eggs. While demand for food is on the rise, the program’s commitment to providing for the community is unwavering.

taling 343,” Frost said. “Our tribal member participation rate has gone up tremendously. We started enrolling

younger families, from age 19 to mid-30s.”

“New tribal elders have also enrolled in the pro-

gram, seeing that it is not how it used to be; we have

Food distribution page 9

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Tribe continues core services for tribal membership during Covid-19

Staff report
HUMAN RESOURCES

In response to the rapidly developing events surrounding COVID-19, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Permanent Fund government will modify the programs and services to ensure the protection and safety of tribal members, tribal employees, and our community.

The identified operations have been modified in accordance with the recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) which includes guidelines for social distancing and restrictions on congregated groups no larger than 10 people, and at least six feet apart. Social distancing also includes limits on person-to-person contact, group meetings, and other social activities.

The non-essential functions have been identified and a comprehensive list of modified services and hours of operations are detailed below.

TRIBAL COURT

The Southern Ute Indian Tribal Court will be held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Hearings are held from 1:30 p.m. until all hearings have concluded. The court will accept filings as usual; however, any motions or pleadings can be submitted by email (tribal court will be accepting filings by email given the current circumstances and the filing fee should be mailed), mail, or fax. The court will only set cases on an emergency basis and will be resetting previously set matters for a later date when the environment is safer for all parties. Currently, Web/Video Conferencing capabilities are being evaluated for potential implementation for Court operations.

Child Support: No child support will be available for pick-up at the tribal court. All child support checks will

be mailed to the recipients by the Finance Department.

Probation Office: Probation will maintain services but will be contacting probationers by phone.

Family Court Support Office: The Family Court Support Office will be available by phone only for emergency situations.

FINANCE

The processing of monthly tribal distribution payments will continue as normal, including communications with membership for changes to method of payment (check /direct deposit), any other changes, and answering questions. All checks/advices will be mailed. Checks will not be available for pick up at the tribal offices. Minors trust account services will continue. All checks/advices will be mailed.

Tribal Credit: The policy that limits loan draws to \$1,000 has been waived. Applications will be taken over the phone and will not require tribal member signature. Final loan documents will still require tribal member signature, but not require a notary. Signed documents may be received through email, fax, or regular mail. The deadline for submitting applications will be Tuesday at 3 p.m. each week; applications received after that time will be processed the following week. Loan checks/advices will be mailed Friday of each week.

Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable (AP/AR): The cashier window will be closed. Accounts Payable will process as normal. Someone from AP/AR will be in the office on an as-needed, emergent basis to process rush medical emergency checks when needed. Accounts Receivable will process as normal but remotely. Signed repayment agreements may be received through email, fax,



courtesy SunUte Community Center

SunUte employee, Divine Windy Boy answers calls at Southern Ute COVID-19 Call Center. The call center will remain active, and can be reached at 970-563-0214.

or regular mail.

Purchasing: Purchasing will process as normal remotely.

Contracts and Grants: All aspects of contracts and grants management will continue as normal.

Budgeting and Planning: All aspects of FY2021 budget planning will continue.

CULTURAL PRESERVATION

The Cultural Preservation Department staff will be working remotely, but available via phone to respond to questions about cultural events, upcoming tribal fair, and any other related matters.

EDUCATION

SUIMA: The Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy is closed and staff will work remotely providing on-line instruction and monitor student process through on-line programs, emails, phone calls, and texting. Families will have access on the SUI-MA website for daily Ute Language lessons (<https://www.suima.org>).

Higher Education: Higher Education will work remotely advising student through email, regular mail, and phone calls. GED and Adult Education lessons will be provided through emails and phone calls.

Public Education: Public Education will work remote-

ly providing tutoring and student support through emails, text, and phone calls. There is partial funding available if students need assistance with technology and other educational needs.

HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Staff will work remotely and on an on-call and emergent basis. All major electrical, plumbing, sewer, gas, and HVAC systems will be addressed by staff. Staff may ask the tribal membership to leave the home or isolate in a spare room while work is taking place. Staff will respond to emergency requests at the Cedar Point Townhomes. Rent payments and processing will continue and must be post marked by the fifth of the month. There is currently some emergency housing available at the townhomes and J Road. Office phones will be forwarded to staff who can walk the membership through some basic repair tasks.

JUSTICE AND REGULATORY

The Southern Ute Police Department will continue to provide law enforcement services, radio communications (911), criminal investigations, and victim ser-

Core services page 7

CORONAVIRUS

Chairman Sage restricts tribal operations to limit COVID-19 exposure

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Southern Ute Chairman, Christine Sage along with Southern Ute Tribal Council, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Incident Management Team (IMT) and tribal entities, ordered the Southern Ute Indian Tribe to modify tribal government services and business operations.

The Southern Ute Tribal Permanent Fund, Southern Ute Growth Fund, Southern Ute Shared Services and positions within the Sky Ute Casino Resort have been directed to work remotely unless otherwise communicated. Critical functions have been revised and only critical tribal staff must report to their workstations.

This became be effective Monday, March 23, 2020.

THE DIRECTIVES ARE AS FOLLOWS

- Identified tribal staff who reside in the State of New Mexico** will be required to work remotely beginning, Monday, March 23, 2020 with exception Southern Ute law enforcement agencies and tribal staff in some operations within the Southern Ute Growth Fund and key Southern Ute Shared Services infrastructure staff.
- According to a public service announcement issued from the IMT sent on Friday, March 20, 2020, all tribal staff who voluntarily travel outside of the identified safety area (including San Juan County, N.M.) will be placed on a 14-day self-quarantine symptom watch period.



- If symptoms arise, and/or COVID-19 is suspected,** the employee is required to consult their primary healthcare provider for COVID-19 screening or access telemedicine consultation services from Anthem found here (<https://livehealthonline.com>).
- Tribal members who have traveled outside of a 50-mile radius** are strongly encouraged to self-quarantine for 14 days for their own health and safety as well as that of members of their household and the tribal community.
- Staff from the Southern Ute Permanent Fund** are not expected to report to their workstations. All staff needed to perform critical operations will began working remotely on Monday, March 23, 2020. Exceptions include designated tribal personnel from the following departments: Tribal Information Services, Clean Team, Grounds Maintenance, Food Distribution, Legal Department, Southern Ute Police Department, Southern Ute Detention Center, Division of Gaming, Southern Ute Tribal Rangers, Southern Ute

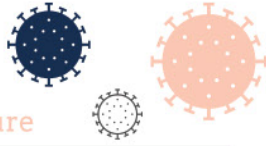
Operations page 8

Southern Ute Indian Health Center COVID-19 Testing Tent Procedures



Photo Credit: Jeremy Wade Shockley / The Southern Ute Drum

COVID-19 Symptoms



Symptoms can develop 2-14 days after exposure

Fever

Cough

Shortness
of Breath

Seek medical
care if your
symptoms are
severe.

All patients who have any type of respiratory illness will be seen in the tent erected behind the health clinic. This is not a drive-thru facility.

There will be no walk-in appointments. Call for an appointment at 970.563.4581. Clinic hours are 7:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Respiratory Appointments

All respiratory appointments will be conducted in the tent behind the Southern Ute Health Center. When you arrive, please park in the designated parking area. Spaces will be partitioned off with placed traffic cones. Follow these next steps.



STEP 1

...

Call into the clinic, to inform them you have arrived
970.563.4581

STEP 2

...

Stay in your car, staff will escort you to the tent to be seen by a RN & Dr.

STEP 3

...

Answer questions on symptoms and travel. Exam conducted

STEP 4

...

Provider will discuss diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up

STEP 5

...

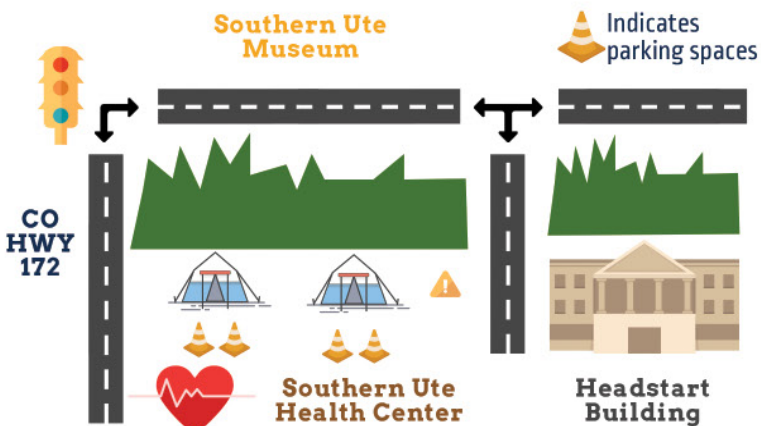
You will be asked to return to your car & wait to be discharged

STEP 6

...

Nurse will bring out any ordered medications. Please be patient

SUHC Tent Protocol Illustration



Respiratory Appointment Protocol

- 01. Make an Appt**
Call SUHC at 970.563.4581 to make an appointment
- 02. Park behind SUHC**
Park in designated spaces and call upon your arrival.
- 03. Stay in your vehicle**
Stay in your vehicle until staff instructs you to exit

Aerial View Behind SU Health Center



Photo Credit: Jeremiah B. Valdez

If you are exhibiting symptoms



- 01. Isolate yourself**
- 02. Call your primary health care provider or call the Southern Ute Health Center at 970.563.4581**

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-19 Call Center will be available from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., 7 days a week.

For updated information please follow the Tribe's social media; visit the Tribe's website and the Southern Ute Drum website & social media.



@southernute



@suit_tribalcouncil



@SUIT_Council



www.cdc.gov
www.southernute-nsn.gov

Designed & Produced by Lindsay J. Box



Many Moons Ago



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

Lights dimmed in the Denver Coliseum during the Saturday night Grand Entry as attendees celebrated tribal veterans with an Honor Song. The ceremony was repeated five times over three days at the Denver March Powwow. Thousands of representatives from tribes across the United States convened at the annual event to participate in traditional dance, song, storytelling and other activities. This photo first appeared in the March 12, 2010, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



Jenny Gummersall/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

The Denver March Powwow, the first major powwow of the season, attracted its usual huge crowds March 17-19, 2000. Lindsay Box Jr., Miss Indian Colorado/Little Miss Southern Ute, and Marcy Herrera, Miss Indian Colorado, were part of the Grand Entry, with special honorees leading the dancers into the arena. This photo first appeared in the March 24, 2000, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

30 years ago

The 1990 Hozhoni Days Powwow was held at Whalen Gym on the Fort Lewis College Campus on March 23-24, 1990. Pictured here are members of a Southern Ute drum group. This photo first appeared in the March 30, 1990, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Head table of the Hozhoni Days Powwow, Master of Ceremonies Rev. Allen Neskai keeps things rolling at the powwow. This photo was published in the March 28, 1980, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



FOR THE CHILDREN POWWOW

SAT. APRIL 4 2020



- Teen/Junior Dance Categories: Cash Prizes!
- Hand Drum Contest: 1st-3rd Place
- Committee Specials
- Games & Prizes!

Booth Fee: \$25 inside/\$50 outside (food)

ALL DRUM GROUPS WELCOME!

Youth Drum Groups: Members must be under 18 years old, with 2-3 mentors, 18 and over, while at the drum.

Hosted by: Daughters of the Red Road and Supporting Community Members

Information: Call 970-799-7036

Email: daughtersofredroad@yahoo.com

Dancer photo: McKayla Lee / SU Drum • Flyer design: Robert L. Ortiz / SU Drum

SUNUTE RECREATION CENTER
390 Mouache Cr., Ignacio • CO

11 a.m. – 10 p.m.

POTLUCK DINNER
4 – 5 p.m.



SOUTHERN DRUM
"av piischiu" Boys



HOST NORTHERN DRUM
Iron Colt

Theme: MMIW
Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women



HISTORY COLORADO

All History Colorado museums, Ute Indian Museum are closed

Staff report
HISTORY COLORADO

Out of care for our communities, volunteers and staff, all History Colorado museums, including the Ute Indian Museum, are now closed to the public for at least the next three weeks in response to COVID-19. Updates about our operations will be posted on this page as they become available, along with any further information we can provide. All events and programs have been cancelled.

We remain hard at work behind the scenes, and you are most welcome to con-

tact our museums with any questions you might have.

Please know that we will continue to bring our mission and museums to you while we are closed. We are eager to connect with you even as we must distance ourselves to limit the spread of this virus. We invite you to keep enjoying your interests in history that we so passionately share. Here are some of our digital activities and resources available to you any time:

Our podcasts, including the critically acclaimed first season of Lost Highways: Dispatches from the Shadows of the Rocky Moun-

tains, are available here.

- Forward, History Colorado's blog, features both quick and in-depth articles.
- You can search and browse our permanent collection online here.
- We also offer these Online Exhibits & Digital Badges.
- Our social media channels, where we offer history with both brevity and levity.

Thank you for your understanding and support, and for taking good care of yourself and each other. We are eager to welcome you back soon!



courtesy Ute Indian Museum

Southern Ute Indian Tribe

BEAR DANCE HANDGAME TOURNAMENT



Entry Fee
\$125.00

May 22, 2020

Registration 11:30 AM-1:30 PM
Tournament starts at 2:00 PM
SunUte Community Center

CASH PRIZE
1st-4th Place

For more information contact:
Lela Buckskin at (970) 560-6830 OR
Nena Lopez(970) 560-3905

Southern Ute Bear Dance

May 22-25, 2020
Ute Road & HWY 521 in Ignacio, CO

Bear Dance Chief-Matthew Box

Bear Dance Corral Blessing
10:30 A.M. Friday, May 22, 2020

Bear Dance Feast
12:00 P.M. Monday, May 25, 2020

•No short dresses or baggy pants while dancing

•Photography, video & audio recording is prohibited; **except by members of the Ute Tribes.**

•The Southern Ute Tribe will not be held responsible for accidents, injuries, or theft.

•The Pine River is **RESTRICTED.**

•For information on vending, contact
(970) 563-2983
Created by Kree Lopez



2020 SOUTHERN UTE BEARDANCE POWWOW

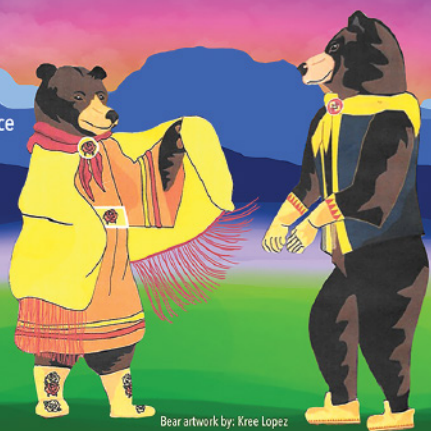
Ignacio, CO
May 22nd & 23rd

Headstaff
Head Lady: So, Ute Royalty
Head Man: Picked daily
Aena-Director: Henry Howell
MC: Chasen Coby
Host Drum: Buffalo Hill
Drum Judge: Keno White Sr.

Drum contest up to 5th place

Dance Categories

Men & Women Golden Age (55+)
Mens (18-54) Northern & Southern
Traditional, Grass, Fancy
Womens (18-54) Northern & Southern
Traditional, Fancy Shawl, Jingle
Teen Boys (12-17) Northern & Southern
Traditional, Grass, Fancy
Teen Girls (12-17) Northern & Southern
Traditional, Fancy Shawl, Jingle
Jr. Boys (6-12) Northern & Southern
Traditional, Grass, Fancy
Jr. Girls (6-12) Northern & Southern
Traditional, Fancy Shawl, Jingle
Tiny Tots 5 & under



Bear artwork by: Kree Lopez

SunUte Rec Center
Grand Entry 7pm Friday
1pm & 7pm Saturday
Registration begins 6pm until
end of powwow Friday night

Powwow Committee Members:

Dona Frost 970.553.9291
Davidson Lopez 970.553.0671
Mikki Naranjo 970.317.1740
Jalisa Paul 970.426.9692
Rochelle Aguilar
Kayla Armstrong
Patricia Leroy
Tylla Frost
soutepovwow@southernute-nsn.gov

The Southern Ute Powwow Committee and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe will not be held responsible for any accidents, injuries, theft, or food borne illnesses.

SOUTHERN UTE BEAR DANCE WORKSHOP



May 6, 2020

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Sky Ute Casino Event Center

OPEN TO TRIBAL STAFF & GENERAL PUBLIC

For more information contact
Bear Dance Chief, Matthew Box at (970) 759-7038



2020 UTE NATION DAY HONORING PAST UTE CHIEFS & HEADS MEN OF THE UTE NATION

Thursday, May 21, 2020
9:00 A.M. to 12 P.M.

Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Facility
Lunch will be served.



For more information contact Event Coordinator,
Tara Vigil at (970)563-2985



HEALTHY RECIPES

Try a meatless meal this week

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

Why not try a meatless dish this week? If you have had trouble finding meat at the grocery store, you can prepare a dish using alternative ingredients. You don't need to eat meat to get protein.

Plants are a good source of non-animal protein and there are many benefits to eating meatless once or twice a week. These include reducing risk of lifestyle induced diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, obesity and some cancers. Meatless proteins are also less expensive and are budget friendly.

There is also an environmental benefit to eating less meat. These include reducing greenhouse gasses, its impact on the environment, as well as improving animal welfare. Eating meatless a few times a week can be a beneficial change, so give it a try!

Some plant sources of protein:



courtesy My Recipes.com

- Beans, peas, lentils: Such as black beans, Anasazi beans, chickpeas (garbanzo beans), red lentils
- Whole grains: Such as quinoa, oats, buckwheat, amaranth, brown and wild rice (paired with beans)
- Nuts and seeds: Such as almonds, peanuts, chia seeds, hemp seeds, pumpkin and sunflower seeds, nut butters
- Soy products: Such as tofu, tempeh, edamame, soymilk
- Vegetables (these have small amounts of protein): Such as broccoli, kale, mushrooms

Three Bean Chili

Ingredients:

- 2 Tablespoons olive or vegetable oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 1 red bell pepper, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 2 teaspoons dried oregano
- 1 (28 ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 2 cups black beans (or 1 15.5 oz. can)
- 2 cups kidney beans (or 1 15.5 oz. can)
- 2 cups pinto beans (or 1 15.5 oz. can)
- Water or broth (chicken, beef or vegetable) as needed to desired consistency
- Sour cream, shredded Cheddar cheese, fresh cilantro leaves (optional)

Directions

1. Heat oil in a heavy 6-quart pot over medium heat. Cook onion, bell peppers, jalapeno, garlic, and salt, stirring frequently, until tender, for approximately 10 minutes.
2. Stir in chili powder, cumin, oregano and tomatoes, simmer over medium-low heat for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.
3. Add beans to mixture and simmer over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally, for approximately 20 minutes.
4. Add water or broth as needed for desired consistency.
5. Top each serving with plain Greek yogurt, cheese, and/or cilantro.

MENTAL HEALTH

Easing mental health in the face of COVID-19

By Trennie Collins
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

With the uncertain times lingering upon us in dealing with COVID-19, mental health is still important, if not more important, in these times of social distancing. Especially for those with preexisting mental health conditions.

Trying to flatten the curve in the spread of COVID-19 has made us all aware of our part in how this disease is transmitted, and how fast it reaches communities, even those that are rural, like the

Southern Ute Reservation. Community responsibility to protect the elderly and people with medical conditions, bringing us back to a warrior mentality by creating a guarded culture and helping those who need us the most.

“Warriors are not what you think of as warriors. The warrior is not someone who fights, because no one has the right to take another life. The warrior, for us, is one who sacrifices himself for the good of others. His task is to take care of the elderly, the defenseless, those who can

not provide for themselves, and above all, the children, the future of humanity,” once said Sitting Bull, a Hunkpapa Lakota leader.

Mental health includes our emotional and mental wellbeing; it affects everything from how we feel, to how we handle how we feel and cope. Everyone has mental health; mental health problems are common, and many people can recover from them. Examples of some mental health problems in-

Mental health page 5

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEE Heard: Emotional wellbeing in isolation

Staff report
NATIVE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

How to cope while in isolation?

The Suicide Prevention Lifeline which is funded by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has put out many great coping and strategy tips on how to cope while in isolation. According to Mental Health America, over 21 percent of Native Americans and Alaskan Natives have been diagnosed with a mental illness in the past year (2014). Many factors play a role as to why Native Americans experience a mental health illness, but we won't get into that in this article. Instead, we're going to talk about how to cope with today's stresses. For more information check out their website at www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Coping Techniques

First off, let's limit the amount of news we watch and see on the social media. Too much news can be over-



whelming at this time. Secondly, get your endorphins up by staying active and making sure you get enough sleep at night. How do you get your endorphins up? A walk down your driveway, eating chocolate or chili peppers, meditating or even laughing. Nuchu are good at finding ways to laugh.

Other coping techniques include: Connecting with loved ones and talking with them about how you feel, getting accurate health information from a reputable source and integrate traditional healing and spiritual practices into your routine.

For more coping strategies, check out www.vibrant.org

Citation: Mental Health Disparities: American Indians and Alaskan Natives

Local Resources

- **So. Ute Health Center:** Behavior Health 69 Capote Dr., Ignacio, CO, 970-563-4581. For local Native Americans. Call to schedule a counseling appointment.
- **So. Ute Social Services:** 116 Capote Dr., Ignacio, CO, 970-563-2331 for local Native Americans needing assistance with child welfare needs and family support.
- **St. Ignatius Catholic Church:** Pastor Cesar Arras, 14826 CO-172, Ignacio, CO 970-563-4241.
- **Ignacio Community Church:** Pastor Randall Haynes 405 Browning Ave., Ignacio, CO (currently located inside ELHI), 970-759-3633.
- **Second Wind Fund of the Four Corners:** Believes that every child and youth at risk of suicide should have access to the mental health treatment they need. We match children and youth at risk for suicide with licensed therapists in their communities, 720-962-0706.
- **Women's Resource Center:** Creates personal, social and professional growth opportunities for all women in La Plata County, 970-247-1242.

24/7 State & National Resources

- **Colorado Crisis Line:** 844-493-8255 or Text "TALK" to 38255. You'll immediately be put in contact with a trained counselor, ready to text with you about anything.
- **The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** Has both an online chat and 24/7 phone line at 1-800-273-8255 if you are thinking of suicide or need help for a loved one.
- **The Trevor Project:** Seeks to serve LGBT youth, has a 24/7 suicide prevention line at 866-488-7386.

[Fact sheet]. (2014). Retrieved July 12, 2015, from American Psychiatric Association website: <http://www.psychiatry.org/american-indians-alaska-natives>

MY3 APP

If you or someone you love suffers from suicide ideations, there is an app called MY3 available for download free of charge from Apple App Store or Google Play. You can create a support system made up of people you feel you would like to talk to when your having thoughts of suicide, you can also build your own safety plan, access important resources, get support at times of greatest risk and you will have access to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 24/7 directly from the app.

Remember: there is hope and a life to look forward to, even in your darkest moments. MY3 can help you get through your most difficult times.

Want to help and be a part of the change?

Looking for community members and youth to join the Prevention Coalition tasked to reduce youth substance usage, eliminate mental health stigma and start the discussion around suicide and prevention. Upcoming Prevention Coalition Meeting: Until further notice no meetings are being scheduled. Contact Precious Collins, Native Connections Program Coordinator for more information 970-563-2487.

Upcoming Trainings:

Until further notice no trainings are being scheduled.



As advised by the CDC, the Southern Ute Tribal Council encourages

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Stay Home Only leave home for essential needs.

Avoid Contact Stay at least 6 feet away from others.

If you have questions, please call the SUIT COVID-19 Call Center at 970.563.0214



HISTORICAL TRAUMA

Giacci helps us heal from our past

By Trennie Collins
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

The Ute Mountain Victim Support Services hosted a Historical Trauma Training at the Ute Mountain Ute Casino March 10 -11. The training was presented by Elena Giacci, Anti-Sexual and Domestic Violence Training Specialist out of Albuquerque, N.M.

Giacci has been an advocate for American Indian and Alaskan Native peoples for 31 years and is the Chair of the Albuquerque Mayors Domestic and Sexual Violence Task Force and Faculty Leader of Native Project 2.0. Giacci, a Dinè woman, who herself has felt the forces of historical trauma and knows what it takes to try to understand this historical journey.

Giacci is not a stranger to this area, she was in Ignacio, Colo. in 2013 and gave the presentation, "Kindness," to help individuals overcome historical trauma and now



courtesy K. Pinnecoose/Weenuche Smoke Signals

Elena Giacci, the instructor for the 2020 Historical Trauma Training held at the Ute Mountain Ute Casino Tuesday, March 10 – Wednesday, March 11, gathers envelopes from participants before getting started on a group activity aimed at teaching the importance of consent.

calls New Mexico her home.

"We can't call it historical trauma when it's still going on," exclaimed Giacci. "Pretending it didn't happen doesn't mean it didn't happen."

Giacci is hoping to bring forward the past while trying to heal from injustice that is still going on in Indian Country.

"We are free to take care of ourselves in any way we want to," Giacci explained.

This training really was about being able to look into the past and try to see the future with a brighter light. Things that were touched upon are: MMIW Movement, colonialism and

Giacci helps page 5



Cooking, it matters



Chef Karlos Baca watches as tribal elder, Linda Eagle grinds handfuls of blue corn, so the Cooking Matters class could make fresh pressed tortillas for quesadillas and salsa.

Photos by McKayla Lee
The Southern Ute Drum

The seasonal Cooking Matters class was held on Wednesday, March 4 in the Southern Ute Education Department Kitchen. These classes help the community learn about proper food handling techniques and ensure healthy food options for families. Chef Karlos Baca led the latest class with the help of Shining Mountain Health and Wellness staff members. Together the class made blue corn quesadillas with a mango habanero salsa.



Jeff Jefferson, watches as chef Karlos Baca demonstrates how to cut vegetables safely.



Shining Mountain Health and Wellness Diabetes Patient Coordinator, Shaw Marie Tso peels and dices up squash.



Chef Karlos Baca teaches Shining Mountain Health and Wellness program manager, Morgann Box how to press fresh blue corn tortillas.

EASING MENTAL HEALTH • FROM PAGE 4

clude depression, anxiety, eating disorders and personality disorders.

There is no one cause why people experience mental health problems. There are many risk factors that can play a part in why or when someone experiences a mental health crisis, such as biological factors, traumatic life experiences, or family history of mental health problems.

While the Center for Disease Control (CDC) suggest staying at home if you're sick, making sure you cover your coughs and sneezes and making sure you disinfect and clean; how can we stay mentally fit? How do we self-care while social distancing, and what does that look like?

For some, social distancing might not be such a big deal – and for some – this changes their whole daily routines and structure. These changes can create a range of emotions for individuals and can also force us to become creative in ways we connect with people. For example, some people have started up singing by hosting watch parties and viral powwows on social media, since all the powwows and social gatherings are being cancelled. Some are taking walks together around their neighborhoods, while dis-

tancing themselves six feet apart. However you decide to engage with each other is up to you, but the key is to try to not socially and physically disengage from everyone and everything.

One way we can prepare ourselves for these changes is to notice your own emotional health first by accepting how you feel and by creating a plan on what to do when you feel this way. Talking to your family members, friends or our housemates about how you feel is a good thing, and maybe you can also be a part of their plan when they start feeling down or even frustrated with social distancing.

“Acknowledge your feelings and remember feelings come and go and they will pass,” said Angelina Whitehorse, Southern Ute Tribal Social Services Family Therapist. “That’s what we have to remind ourselves when we are feeling anxious during this time.”

How to make a plan. When you notice yourself feeling sad, mad, frustrated and maybe angry, what do you do? Do you have a space in your home you can go to so you can pray or maybe take a few breathes, clear your mind and maybe even bless yourself off? Or maybe taking a walk or jog works for you, or putting on your headphones and turn-

ing on some of your favorite music. Whatever works for you, write it down. It helps to write out what you will do when you start feeling the effects of social distancing. Writing down when you feel a certain way; you will try to do an activity to change those feeling. If this doesn’t work, maybe write down who you will call to talk to about how your feelings.

Remembering that we are resilient Indigenous people who have dealt with trauma and going back to what our elders taught and have passed down through the generations.

If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed with depression, anxiety or sadness you can call Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA’s) Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746. If you or someone you know is having a mental health crisis you can call the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273-8255 or go to their website at suicidepreventionlifeline.org or call 1-844-493-TALK (8255) or text TALK to 38255 for free, confidential and professional support. For local support call the Southern Ute Behavior Health Division at 970-563-4581 or in case of emergency call 911.

GIACCI HELPS US HEAL • FROM PAGE 4

conquest, Indian Child Welfare Act, how to be an advocate in today’s world and consent in our communities along with learning how to communicate your story.

“How do you feel? What can you share? What did you learn? How did you heal?” asked Giacci.

Before colonization, violence to Native American women was rare. Many tribes would handle these matters within their own communities and such punishments were given: shunning, banishment, loss of rights to fishing or hunting and even death. It was up to each tribe on how to protect and honor their women. Now our indigenous women are one of the most highly victimized groups in the world. According to the Indian Law Resource Center in the United States, violence against indigenous women has reached unprecedented levels on Tribal lands and in Alaska Native villages. More than four in five American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence and more than one in two have experienced sexual violence.

Regardless of how far we as a society have come, American Indian women are still being unjustly disregarded. The lack of data on the amount of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women is alarming. The U.S. Attorney’s Office in 2011 indicates that just under 37 percent of all Indian Country submissions for prosecutions were declined. That means that 1,041 of 2,840 of the cases that were submitted to the U.S. Attorney’s Office were not accepted and turned away for prosecution, leaving local and Tribal governments reeling for justice for these women within their own communities.

Still Tribal governments face discrepancies when it comes to jurisdiction within their own reservations. In 2003, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) started a Task Force on Violence Against Women, and then in 2005, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) created a long-awaited relationship between the American Indian Tribes and the United States, which expired in 2011. In 2013 President Obama signed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act which ended in 2018 and is now pending reauthorization under the current congress.

Still a major factor is, how does tribal jurisdiction effect non-Native perpetrators? When enacted, VAWA would allow Tribal governments and court systems to prosecute non-Native perpetrators in domestic violence cases. Without it being reauthorized, Tribal governments or court systems will have no power over those cases, leaving American Indians all over the United States vulnerable to the hand that abuses them.

With all this trauma that continually aggravates American Indians not only as tribes or people, but individuals, we must ask – what exactly happened in the American Indian history books?

Wikipedia explains historical trauma as a cumulative emotional harm of an individual or generation caused by a traumatic experience or event. Historical Trauma Response (HTR) refers to the manifestation of emotions and actions that stem from this perceived trauma.

When we as people think about historical trauma a lot of times, we think of the boarding school era. American History books often overlook other genocidal tactics that were used against Native peoples, but there are many other instances that constitute genocide against the American Indian people.

Involuntary sterilization was one tactic used by the U.S. Government; which over 25 percent of the Indigenous women of the U.S. were unknowingly or pressured to get sterilized or even have their babies taken away, unaware that they were even still alive, and given to predominantly white families.

Physical violence was also used against indigenous people as well. During the Sand Creek Massacre, conflict between the Cheyenne and Arapaho people by the United States Army occurred in November of 1864. It is estimated that 500 people from their tribe were killed, most of them women and children. The Sand Creek Massacre happened what is now the southeast part of Colorado.

Trail of Tears, American Indians being forced to relocate from their ancestral lands. The Indian Removal Act in 1830 was the start of this, leaving approximately 60,000 Southeastern Native Americans homeless and exposed to disease and starvation while heading to what we now call reservations in present day Oklahoma.

Long Walk of the Navajo also known as the Long Walk of Bosque Redondo which happened in 1886, when the U.S. Federal Government attempted an “ethnic cleanse” of the Navajo people and forced them to walk from what is now Arizona to eastern New Mexico.

Closest to home was Meeker Massacre also known as “Ute War.” In September of 1879, Utes attacked an U.S. agency, ultimately killing Indian Agent Nathan Meeker along with his employees. U.S. Major Thomas Thornburgh and his troops were also killed, continuing the conflict. Resulting in the removal of Uncompahgre and White River Utes from Colorado and reduction of Southern Utes’ land holdings within Colorado.

“What we really have to do is reconnect people,” said Giacci. “How can we create a narrative for ourselves as communities and individuals.”

Overall, Giacci revealed hope for Indigenous people who are now finding hope of survival through traditional practices, group support, speaking out about their experiences and taking the time to heal and build up resiliency in their own way. To understand is to believe that we as a people can overcome all adverse effects the past has held over us.

“You have to look deeper, way below the anger, the hurt, the hate, the jealousy, the self-pity, way down deeper where the dreams lie, son. Find your dream. It’s the pursuit of the dream that heals you,” American Indian Olympic Gold Medalist, Billy Mills said.

Due to the evolving Covid 19 Outbreak and the Potential for Transmission in the Four Corners Region

The SUIT Health Center, including Dental and Optometry will be operating on reduced hours beginning on March 16, 2020, until further notice.

Only Scheduled Urgent Care Type appointments will be accepted from 7:30 am – 11:30 am ONLY

Nursing Visits from 12:30 – 4:30 pm ONLY

No Walk ins Accepted

ALL PATIENTS ARE REQUIRED TO CALL AHEAD FOR APPOINTMENTS

****All Suspected Covid 19 patients will be evaluated in the Back-Parking Lot as currently required****

For all other patent care visits, call your provider for alternate arrangements

All Specialty Medicine (psychiatry, rheumatology and nephrology) Visits will Occur in the **Maouche Capote Building** – please check in with the receptionist as required

Pharmacy Hours will be from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm – **Only Window** service will be offered, there will be no pharmacy access in the clinic building

All Behavioral Health Patients remain on the same schedule – No Sick Patients to Behavioral Health, please call your therapist for a phone consultation



SUIMA hosts family night



photos McKayla Lee/SU Drum

The Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy hosted the annual Scholastic Book Fair on Thursday, March 12. Students, parents and teachers filled the Dining Hall to watch student led skits and then spent the evening searching for new books. The books and activities provided the students with an opportunity to enrich their learning — and to have some fun while doing it. SUIMA student, Olyvia Watts performs a play with her classmates for parents and teachers to watch while attending the annual Book Fair on Thursday, March 12.



Khloe Rock and her brother Credence Rock find books to take home during the Book Fair on Thursday, March 12.

Aeden Richards reads from his script with the help of his teacher Danielle Burns.

SUIMA

From the Eagle’s Nest

Helping your child cope with at home isolation

Staff report
SU INDIAN MONTESSORI ACADEMY

With SUIMA being closed during this time due to COVID-19, here are recommendations about how to help your child cope with so much time isolated at home.

1. Be honest and factual. Children deserve clear, accurate information at their level. Reassure them, but you also don’t want to hide anything.
2. Be calm. Avoid talking to your child in a spirit of anxiety.
3. Answer questions honestly.
4. Teach preventive measures. Use the Montessori method of modeling and then encourage your child to practice these things:
 - a. Cough or sneeze into your elbow.
 - b. Wash your hands
 - c. Give those around you their space
5. Routines are important. Help your child get out of bed, have breakfast, take time to read or do schoolwork that has been sent home, have lunch, etc.
6. Establish screen time guidelines. Going to on-line academic programs such as FRECKLE, LEXIA, ABCmouse, and ab-



courtesy SU Indian Montessori Academy

Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy Ute Language Guide, Shawna Steffler gives a Ute language lesson in Toddler Room 3.

cya can be worked into the daily routine, but limit other types of online program such as Minecraft, Fortnite, etc.

7. Take time to build your Ute Language skills together, by accessing lessons on the SUIMA website.
8. Have your child help with household chores. Have your child decide what chores they can do and help them make a chart to keep track of what was accomplished.
9. Keep up on academic skills, but also have fun. Playing cards or dice can be a way to review math skills. Cooking offers opportunities to work with fractions.
10. Make time for reading and writing. Children can read to a sibling,

read directions to a board game, or read to you. They can even write a letter to the school principal (hint, hint – she will write back!)

11. Have fun! Build a fort. Have an indoor picnic. Take a walk. Create playlists. Have a dance party in the kitchen. Write funny tweets about how hard this is.

In a world where children often feel over-scheduled and overwhelmed, try to frame this time as a break from the stresses and pressures children face. Offering children opportunities to go outside or experience unstructured play are valuable opportunities. “Play,” Montessori argues, “is the work of the child.”

SUIMA Events and Activities

- SUIMA is closed until further notice. Be safe. Be Healthy!

The Powerhouse Respond to the Coronavirus

The Powerhouse is joining local schools and other organizations in taking precautions to slow the potential spread of coronavirus. Out of consideration for our visitors, staff, and community we will temporarily close our facility and cancel upcoming public programs. Beginning Saturday, March 14, the Science Center and MakerLab will be closed to the public, and intend to remain closed until Durango 9-R School District deems it appropriate to reopen public schools.

Canceled activities include:

- Toddler Time (March 18)
- Trivia Night (March 19)
- Seven Rivers Winter Farmers Market (March 19)
- Home School Chemistry Workshop (March 27)

We regret the hardship this closure will cause families, especially during a time when schools are not in session. The Powerhouse remains committed to sparking curiosity and powering exploration through providing daily at-home STEM activities to engage parents and students in shared learning. Follow us on Facebook (@powscicenter) for The Powerhouse at Your House.

Our implemented enhanced safety protocols will remain in place when we return to regular operations:

- Removing small, difficult to clean activities from the gallery.
- Cleaning frequently touched surfaces daily and additionally as needed.
- Adding additional hand sanitizing stations throughout campus.

The Southern Ute Education Department Scholarship Program website is now available.

<https://sites.google.com/view/scholarship-program/home>

- Updates and Resources for students in higher education
- including links to news, academic resources and higher education department programming information.
- The site will be updated as new information and resources become available.



did you know?



The air we breathe is
78% nitrogen and only
21% oxygen.

Source: <https://climate.nasa.gov/news/2491/10-interesting-things-about-air/>

Please contact the Environmental Programs Division General Assistance Program Manager, Alexandra Ratcliff at 970-563-2256 or aratcliff@southernute-nsn.gov with any questions, comments or concerns.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Due to recent health concerns and for the safety of our club members, club families, and staff, the Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe will be **closed until further notice**. We will continue to monitor the changes and recommendations from local, state, and national health professionals. From there, we will determine a date to proceed with programming.

In the meantime, keep an eye on our Facebook page for cool activity ideas and resources for kids to do at home. Thank you for your understanding and teamwork to keep our community healthy!



COUNCIL CONNECT SCHEDULE

LISTEN TO COUNCIL CONNECT ON KSUT TRIBAL RADIO FROM 02:30-03:00 PM ON THE FOLLOWING DATES. SHOWS WILL COVER SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL INITIATIVES, CHANGES ON TRIBAL, STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS THAT IMPACT TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP, COUNCIL BUSINESS TRIP UPDATES, AND UPCOMING EVENTS.

JANUARY
6 & 27

FEBRUARY
10 & 24

MARCH
9 & 23

APRIL
6 & 27

MAY
11

JUNE
8 & 22

TUNE IN ON THE SOUTHERN UTE RESERVATION AT 91.3 FM, IN THE FARMINGTON, NM AREA AT 89.7 FM AND ON THE WEB AT KSUT.ORG



Land assignment awarded



Fabian Martinez/SU Drum

One lucky winner was chosen for the 2.45-acre land assignment that was advertised by the Lands Division on Tuesday, March 17 in the Tribal Council Chambers. John E. Baker Jr.'s card was pulled in the drawing for the land assignment by Chairman Christine Sage. Another 45-Day Notice and subsequent drawing will take place at a later date for an assignment on Highway 550.

Visit the Southern Ute Tribe's website, www.southernute-nsn.gov, and The Southern Ute Drum's website, www.sudrum.com, for updates and information.

CORONAVIRUS

Statement from Chairman Sage

By Christine Sage
SOUTHERN UTE CHAIRMAN

The health, safety, and welfare of the entire tribal membership is of utmost importance to me as we navigate our way through the growing concerns related to the coronavirus disease 2019 or COVID-19. While there are no presumed nor confirmed cases on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, I have tasked the tribal organization to proactively prepare for the spread of this virus. In the last few days and at my request the tribal staff have thoroughly reviewed potential impacts to the tribal membership including health care services, accessibility to programs and direct services, tribal business, and most importantly the concerning health of our tribal elders and high-risk populations.

In an effort to reduce the exposure of the tribal membership and impacts to the tribal organization, I have restricted all employee business travel effective immediately as well as prevented outside contractors and business to be conducted on the reservation. I have made this decision out of an abundance of caution for the Tribe, the tribal membership, and most importantly the tribal elders in hopes to reduce the exposure and contraction of COVID-19. I truly believe our tribal elders should be cared for and looked after; the CDC has identified elderly and those with weakened immune systems are at a higher risk. Any loss to the tribal membership is devastating, and we risk losing our traditions, language, and culture if we do not make every effort to protect our tribal elders.

With tribal members residing both on and off-reservation, the Tribe is preparing to assist the tribal membership during this time. Assistance can vary depending on location, household, health conditions, etc., and in order to provide the best customer service to the tribal membership, requests should be specific.

Please continue to look for updates on the Tribal Council social media, in the Southern Ute Drum, and on KSUT Tribal Radio, in your mail, and on the tribal websites.

If you are concerned about your symptoms, please contact your primary health care provider or call the Southern Ute Health Center at 970-563-4581 to speak to a health care professional.

Christine Sage,
Chairman, Southern Ute
Indian Tribe

TRIBE CONTINUES CORE SERVICES FOR TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP • FROM PAGE 1

vices during this time.

Division of Gaming: Division of Gaming investigators will provide tribal building security patrols on and off campus, extra patrols of Casino, and assist tribal court with required paper service.

Southern Ute Detention Center: The detention center will continue to provide services for inmates. Effective immediately, all visitation is suspended. This includes all contact and non-contact visits. Education, PBT breath samples for courts and probation have been suspended. Food and supply deliveries will be dropped at the Sally Port behind the kitchen. The driver will not enter the facility as trustees and staff will bring supplies into the kitchen. Office supplies will be dropped at the main administrative entrance. No one will be allowed access to the facility other than SUDC staff that is scheduled to work that day. SUPD, SUSS, Los Pinos Fire Protection District, and maintenance are allowed to enter the facility on an as needed basis. SUDC will continue to house contract inmates but will not be accepting new contract inmates at this time. Bail bondsman will be permitted into the Sally Port but will not enter the facility. Anyone who enters the facility including bondsman in the Sally Port will be asked if they have exhibited any symptoms of COVID-19.

Tribal Rangers: Tribal Rangers will continue to patrol the reservation and serve as first responders. Animal Control Officers will continue to provide services for the community.

Environmental Programs Division: Environmental Services will work remotely with the exception of monitoring stations for air quality and water quality within the boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

PROPERTY & FACILITIES

Custodial Services: Custodial Services is one of the most vital departments operating at this time and will continue to provide cleaning and sanitation of only the spaces where critical staff and IMT are operating.

Motor Pool: Motor Pool will cease all services to vehicles except for emergency service vehicles and other needs for critical tribal operations.

Building Maintenance: Building maintenance will

work remotely and respond to major repairs as necessary and continue monitoring building maintenance needs.

Grounds Maintenance: Grounds maintenance will address trash pick-up and maintenance throughout the tribal campus and only in the spaces where critical staff and IMT are working.

TRIBAL HEALTH

Tribal Health Services is the most critical department providing services to the tribal membership during this time. Please continue to call the Southern Ute Health Center prior to your arrival; this practice is for the health and protection of both the patients and health care providers.

Tribal Health Center: The Health Center will be open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. for urgent appointments and pharmacy only. Respiratory ailment screenings will be conducted in the tent located behind the Southern Ute Health Center beginning at 8 a.m. All specialty medical clinics are postponed.

Dental Clinic: The dental clinic is closed.

Optometry: Optometry services will be ceased until further notice.

Behavioral Health: Behavioral health staff will be reaching out to patients, providing services and how to cope during stressful times. Providers are addressing the possibility of utilizing tele-medicine.

Public Health Nurse & Community Health Representatives (CHR): The public health nurse and CHR's will provide medication deliveries, non-emergent medical transport, home visits, and case management as needed. Dialysis transports will continue.

Shining Mountain Health and Wellness: The Shining Mountain Health and Wellness staff will temporarily modify their scope of work to assist the Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-19 Call Center. Staff are identifying the program capacity to provide weekly cooking and other related information.

TRIBAL INFORMATION SERVICES

Administration: TIS staff will work with limited staff continue to process mail for the tribal government, answer and transfer incoming calls to tribal departments, and provide modified services.

Vital Statistics: Vital

Statistics will continue to process enrollment applications, certificate of Indian blood (CIB), tax exemption forms, and notary public services. This will be available on Monday – Wednesday – Friday from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. in the Central Receiving building.

The Southern Ute Drum: The Southern Ute Drum will continue to maintain production and provide special coverage on the COVID-19 outbreak and other current issues.

Mail service remains available. We will continue to meet the needs of tribal departments who have crucial tasks that involve postage. The schedule created to address tribal government mail delivery and mail pick up will be, Monday – Wednesday – Friday 8 am – 12 pm, First mail run at 8:30 am and the last one at 10:30 am. The only exception would be if the last day of the month or first day of the month falls on a Tuesday or Thursday, we will come in to do the postage and deliver the mail to the post office in the morning.

TRIBAL SERVICES

Emergency Family Services (EFS): EFS is encouraging clients to utilize the online application and submission process to limit the in-office exposure. EFS is working with Farmers Fresh and Grocery Store to accept applications from EFS online through email so tribal members can receive food vouchers at the store. All clients must call ahead to request funds available to them. Clients will need to contact EFS through the phone located at the front desk of the Mouache-Capote building. EFS will be working in collaboration with Elders Services to provide applications to/from Tribal Elders and/or disabled clients for assistance. EFS is also temporarily modifying services for off-reservation tribal members by providing the option of receiving \$200 or \$100 for grocery, as long as funds are available.

Elders Services: Elders Services will continue normal operation hours of Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., however limited service for medical, grocery and household necessity delivery, and emergency services will be provided. Medical transport will be provided only for doctor appointments sched-

uled as of Friday, March 18, 2020, as well as medical emergencies. Staff will continue to deliver medication, groceries, bill pay, and post office runs within the approved safety zones. Elders Services has the right to refuse medical transport based on approved screening questions and a Doctor's recommendation. Staff will implement safe contact practices with tribal elders by phone. In-person visits must adhere to the tribal policy and practice of social distancing based on recommendations from the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Incident Management Team. Elders Services staff will work with other programs within the Tribal Services Department to coordinate services for Tribal Elders/Members with disabilities.

Food Distribution: Food Distribution is encouraging people to apply online. Staff are currently developing an online, pdf-fillable application and, upon completion, will be placed on the tribal website. Home delivery orders will be taken over the phone. Priority will be given to the elderly and disabled tribal membership. Participants will call in food orders and receive a time to pick-up their order. Entry will be through the back gate, guests will review the order in the loading area, sign in receipt of food, and exit through the front gate.

Vocational Rehabilitation: Vocational Rehab. will provide consumer meetings via phone or email and collaborative meetings with local vendors and resources via conference call, Zoom, and other technology services.

Social Services: Social Services will provide immediate response to client calls, emergencies, and continued collaboration with the Southern Ute Police Department. The tribal hotline for child abuse and neglect will continue to be available. Therapy sessions will be provided over the phone, through Facetime or Skype, and home visits as needed.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The Department of Natural Resources will provide ongoing duties that are essential for continuity of operations and maintaining the Tribe's business interests. The department will consider emergency meetings only.

GIS: GIS will work remotely to continue to provide map support services

to the tribal membership as well as the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Incident Management Team as requested.

Lands: The Lands Division will work remotely and continue to provide land assignment administration and commercial crossing permits on an emergency basis.

Agriculture: Agriculture will continue to provide custom farm and agriculture support services including pest management.

Water Resources: The Water Resources Division will continue to provide irrigation support services and water administration.

Range: The Range Division will continue to provide emergency gas well spill management response and oilfield onsite inspections only when critically necessary.

Forestry: The Forestry Division will continue to provide emergency firewood services only, IMT planning, and forestry contract administration.

Wildlife Resources: The Wildlife Resources Division will continue to provide bison heard management, hunting/fishing licenses tribal member only, and Lake Capote dam early warning system monitoring. Bison meat will be available to the tribal membership, schedule for pick-up is forthcoming.

Lake Capote: Open only for SUIT members and immediate family only on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday; shoreline and dock fishing only; lakeside restrooms are open – campground facilities closed but camping allowed; limited bait shop sales through window. For Lake Capote questions, please call the Lake Manager at 970-883-2273 or The Southern Ute Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Department staff will work remotely and available by email and phone for assistance with employee benefits and employee questions/support. Risk Management continues to be involved in the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Incident Management Team and the COVID-19 response efforts.

INTERNAL AUDIT

The Internal Audit department will work remotely to assist with the continuity of government operations and meet with Tribal Council regarding on-going projects.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

The Boys & Girls Club is closed during this time. There will be no direct services provided, but Club staff will be offering programming, activity supplies and virtual support to families remotely.

TRIBAL PLANNING

The Tribal Planning Department will work remotely, continuing to plan functions on current projects.

SUNUTE COMMUNITY CENTER

The SunUte Community Center facilities are currently closed during this time.

LEGAL

The Prosecutor will attend court hearings as scheduled by the tribal court. The legal department will be available for child and elder protection services for the Department of Social Services and can be contacted by phone.

SOUTHERN UTE MUSEUM

The Southern Ute Museum is currently closed but will work remotely and continue the caretaking of exhibits, collections, and archives.

PERMANENT FUND INVESTMENTS

The Permanent Fund Investments will work remotely to continue to manage the Tribe's investment capital.

SO. UTE COVID-19 CALL CENTER

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-19 Call Center will remain active through the duration of the modified government services being provided. Tribal members can reach the call center by dialing 970-563-0214. Calls regarding medical concerns should use extensions 2651 and 2654; calls with general questions or concerns should use extensions 2652 and 2667. Call center hours of operation are 6 a.m. until 10 p.m., 7 days a week until further direction is mandated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe (IMT).

In addition to fielding calls, the call center will be making proactive calls to tribal elders, the disabled and high-risk tribal membership.

If you are a tribal member and concerned about your symptoms, please contact your primary care provider or call the Southern Ute Health Center at 970-563-4581 to speak with a health care professional.



CORONAVIRUS

Tribe implements travel restrictions

Staff report

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

As the nation, the state of Colorado, and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe continue to assess the number of positive cases of COVID-19, the Southern Ute Tribal government is continuing to restrict all employee business travel for all business and governmental entities.

Tribal employees returning from personal travel who have any reason to believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 or who have symptoms of respiratory illness must self-report to their immediate supervisor by telephone at the start of their next shift or sooner if at all possible.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Permanent Fund

Human Resources Department has been in collaboration with the Incident Command Team and developed a flowchart as attached to assist and clarify any concerns or questions related to travel at this current time.

The current directives, being issued by the Southern Ute Tribe’s COVID 19 Incident Command Team are designed to protect the

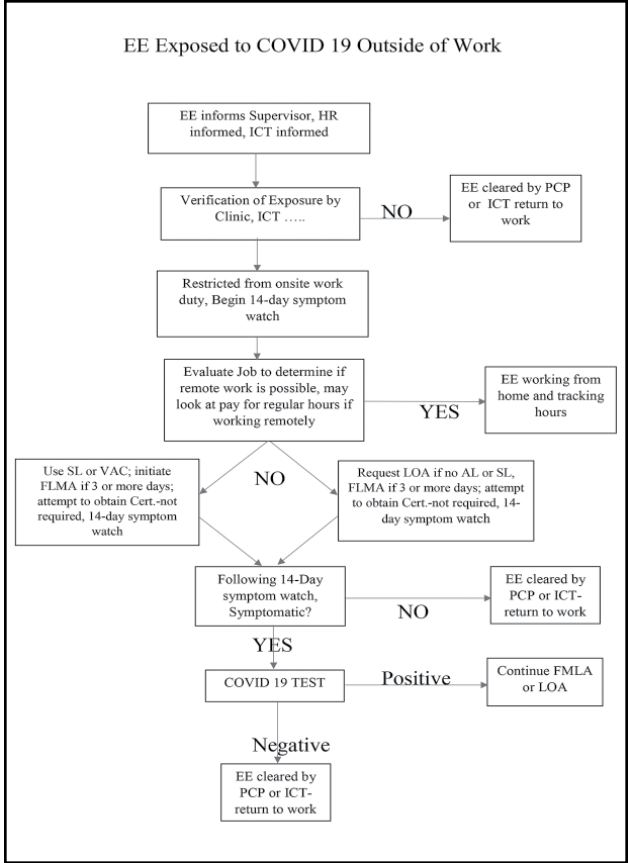
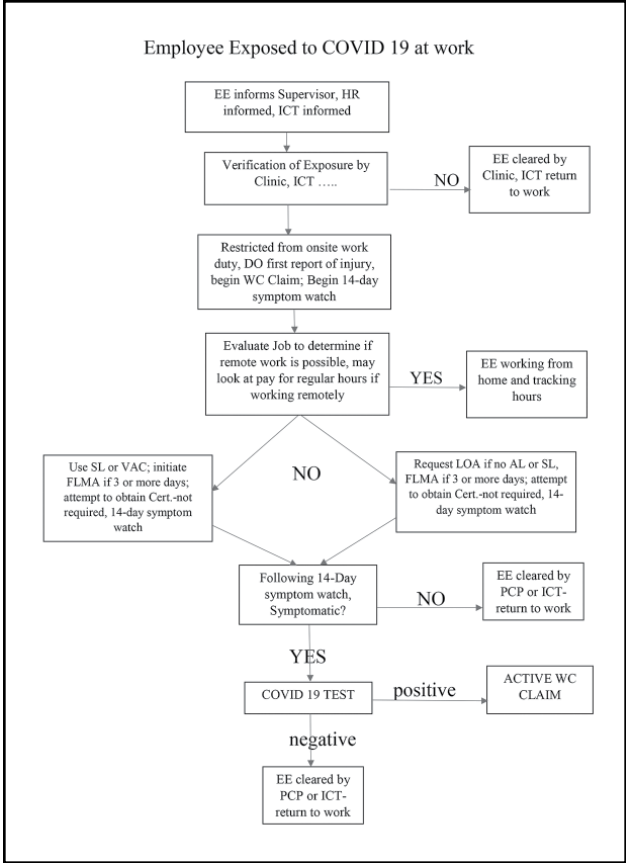
elderly, those who are classified in the high-risk population for susceptibility, the tribal community and to maintain continuity of operations for our tribal government. We all share those responsibilities equally, and ask your cooperation, support and assistance in making these protective measures successful.

Beginning Monday, March

16, 2020, Tribal staff who may have medical questions or need clarification on symptomatic concerns can call the Southern Ute Health Center 970-563-2362. For tribal members who may have medical questions or need clarification on symptomatic concerns following the return from traveling to exposed areas can call the Southern Ute Health Center

at 970-563-2363.

If further clarification is needed for staff regarding the travel stipulations, business restrictions, and/or return to work protocol, staff will be directed to contact Mr. Don Brockus, Risk Manager, for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe at 970-563-2449 or via email at dbrockus@southernute-nsn.gov.



Updated Employee Travel Restrictions

La Plata County is now experiencing community spread of Covid-19. In consultation with San Juan Basin Health Department, the Incident Management Team has decided that the restriction of travel to New Mexico is outdated. Please be aware that the Tribe and State have issued Stay at Home Orders. The relaxation of travel restrictions to New Mexico does not mean that employees should travel any more than necessary abiding by the stay at home orders.

Sincerely,

Southern Ute Indian Tribe – Incident Management Team



CHAIRMAN RESTRICTS OPERATIONS • FROM PAGE 1

- Health Center, and;
- **SunUte Community Center** (operating as the Southern Ute COVID-19 Call Center; SunUte facilities will be closed otherwise.)
- **Staff from the Southern Ute Growth Fund** are not expected to report to their workstations and began working remotely on Monday, March 23, 2020. Exceptions include designated tribal personnel from the following operations: Southern Ute Utilities, essential operations/maintenance personnel related to natural gas production and mid-stream operations, and critical support staff as needed. Growth Fund personnel shall implement the required health screening prior to entering a Growth Fund location.
- **Staff from the Southern Ute Shared Services** are not expected to report to their workstations and instead began working remotely on Monday, March 23, 2020. Exceptions include designated critical I.T. infrastructure staff.
- The **Sky Ute Casino Resort** ceased all operations on Monday, March 23, 2020 at 3 p.m. The hotel, all dining operations, gaming operations, and bowling alley will be closed. All events will be postponed.
- All staff needed to perform critical services and work remotely that need additional resources should notify their immediate supervisor who will work with the chain of command, SUSS, and the IMT to resolve all logistical issues. This is especially applicable to computer needs and remote connectivity.
- All staff identified for IMT operations and meetings must be available to assist the IMT when requested.
- All Tribal buildings will be on lockdown with no public access.
- This will remain in effect

until further notice.

A summary of continuing core services for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe during the COVID-19 outbreak can be found on the tribal websites, tribal social media, with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-19 Call Center, on KSUT Tribal Radio, and by mail.

SUIT COVID-19 CALL CENTER

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-19 Call Center will remain active through the duration of the modified government services being provided. Tribal members can reach the call center by dialing 970-563-0214.

Calls regarding medical concerns should use extensions 2651 and 2654; calls with general questions or concerns should use extensions 2652 and 2667. Call center hours of operation are 6 a.m. until 10 p.m., seven days a week until further direction is mandated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe (IMT). In addition to fielding calls, the call center will be making proactive calls to tribal elders, the disabled and high-risk tribal membership.

TRIBAL STAFF SELF-SCREENING PROTOCOL

Southern Ute Tribal staff identified to report to their workstations are required to take their temperature with a thermometer to accurately provide symptom information. If you can answer “yes” to any of these questions, including COVID-19 symptoms, staff must call their supervisor and consult their primary healthcare provider for COVID-19 screening or access the telemedicine consultation services from Anthem found here (<https://livehealthonline.com>) If your response is “no” to all questions and symptoms, staff are required to report to work.

Exposure-related Questions

- Have you traveled in the last two weeks, if yes, where?
- Has any member of your family traveled anywhere in the last two weeks, if yes, where?
- Have you or a family member been in contact with a COVID-19 positive patient?
- **Are you currently experiencing any of the following symptoms?**
- Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Abnormal fatigue

“As the Tribal Chairman, I hold the lives of the tribal staff, tribal membership, and their families, as well as the tribal resources in my hands. Making the decision to modify tribal services and business operations to an even greater degree was made by prioritizing the health, safety and welfare of the entire tribal membership and tribal staff. We each have a responsibility to attempt to limit the exposure of COVID-19, especially to the tribal elders and the high-risk population of the Southern Ute tribal membership and our community. Modifying tribal services and business operations and asking tribal staff to work from home will help “flatten the curve”, thereby reducing the risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19, and putting additional stress on the healthcare system. Please stay home, take this time to enjoy your loved ones. This time can be spent sharing our traditions and culture with those in your household,” stated Chairman Sage.

If you are a tribal member and concerned about your symptoms, please contact your primary care provider or call the Southern Ute Health Center at 970-563-4581 to speak with a health care professional.

TRIBE ISSUES STAY AT HOME ORDER • FROM PAGE 1

this rapidly-changing and serious public health emergency. The Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council urges all tribal members to listen for radio announcements, check the Tribe’s official social media and website, or call the COVID-19 Call Center at 970-563-0214 for the most up-to-date information. The Tribe will make every effort to keep the membership informed.

At the time of this release, there are no presumptive cases of COVID-19 on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Tribal members may leave their residence only to perform essential activities.

Essential activities consist of the following:

- Care for elders, minors, dependents, people with disabilities or other vulnerable people.
- To buy food, pet supplies and essential household products for themselves, a household member, a family member, an elder, person with disabilities, or other persons in need of immediate assistance.
- To obtain medical supplies or medication or to visit a health-care professional for yourself, a family member, a household member, an elder, person with disabilities, any other person in need of immediate assistance, or a pet.
- To care for a family member or pet in another household.
- To engage in banking or other financial transactions or services.
- To go to work in an essential or critical business activity or service as determined by their employer or a governmental authority.
- To engage in outdoor activities like walking, running, fishing, hunting, or walking a dog, as long as they maintain a safe social distance from others. Group sports are prohibited.
- To provide for the funeral arrangements of a family or household member.

- Travel required by law enforcement or court order or as necessary for participation in a legal proceeding.
- Going to or from educational facilities to support distance learning or to get meals or related services.
- To get supplies to work from home.
- To perform other necessary household functions to maintain cleanliness of the home and to ensure the health and safety of the membership and their families, including for purposes of disposing of trash and using laundry services.
- To engage in other essential activities as authorized in writing by the Executive Office after consultation with the Tribe’s Incident Command Team.

The order also restricts the following:

- All public and private gatherings of five or more people.
- All visitors on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation (“Reservation”) located on Tribal or Trust land are directed to return home. For purposes of this order a visitor is a person who is not a tribal member, is not an invited guest of a tribal member, does not maintain his or her permanent home on tribal or trust land on the Reservation, or who is not an employee of the Tribe.

No visitors will be allowed to come on the Reservation, other than to pass through on a county, state, or federal highway, except for the following purposes:

- To provide medical or home care.
- To provide emergency services.
- To provide and allow for the continuation of essential and critical government services as determined by the Tribe.
- To provide/deliver of water.
- To provide deliveries of

- oil, natural gas, and other fuel for personal and tribal use.
- To provide for delivery of food, pharmaceutical products, and any other essential personal and household products.
- To provide for essential household and building maintenance, safety, and sanitation.
- To provide for vehicle maintenance.
- To participate in legal proceedings in the Southern Ute Tribal court.
- For public transportation such as taxis and other private transportation providers providing transportation services necessary for purposed expressly authorized in this Order.
- For the delivery of mail by the postal service and other shipping services.
- For the delivery of groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences or other businesses.
- To provide professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally necessary activities such as representation in court or preparation of estate planning documents.
- To provide any additional essential services to tribal members and authorized residents on Trust or Tribal land.

Any individual who exhibits symptoms must isolate themselves.

The Call Center has modified its hours to 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., 7 days a week. The Call Center is strictly an information gathering and dissemination resource for the tribal membership during this time.

If you are a tribal member and concerned about your symptoms, please contact your primary care provider or call the Southern Ute Health Center at 970-563-4581 to speak with a health care professional.



CENSUS 2020

Civil Rights advocates respond to Census operational changes in the wake of COVID-19

Staff report
CIVIL RIGHTS

The co-chairs of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights’ Census Task Force – Arturo Vargas, CEO of NALEO Educational Fund; John C. Yang, president and executive director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC; and Vanita Gupta, president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights – issued the following statement in response to the U.S. Census Bureau’s decision to suspend 2020 Census field operations until April 1, 2020.

“Temporarily suspending field operations for the 2020 Census is the right decision for now. Our organizations are leading outreach in order to protect our communities, and our role as trusted messengers is more important than ever.

We are helping to inform shifts in strategy and operations and we urge the Census Bureau to be transparent with stakeholders, partners, and Congress about where it is facing operational challenges, the changes it is making to its planned operations, and where it needs additional support. We need everyone to take part in the census because essential rights, funding, resources, and political power are at stake.

Thankfully, communities around the country can continue to count themselves at home by going online, calling the Census Bureau, or filling out the paper form. We encourage all households to respond and be counted.”

Policy Statement from The Leadership Conference Census Task Force Co-Chairs: We understand that the success of the 2020 Census is in peril given the current public health crisis and that the Census Bureau is making operational changes in response, includ-

ing the suspension of field operations until April 1. At the same time, state and congressional leaders, along with some organizations, have begun calling for the census response period to be ‘extended’ or ‘delayed,’ due to concerns about the potential impact of the health emergency on the count.

There are numerous and difficult consequences to delaying census operations, and significant implications for data quality and the accuracy of the results. Moreover, because households can self-respond until July 31, it is too soon to know whether such action is necessary. Accordingly, we have not yet taken a position on whether the Census Bureau should extend the nonresponse follow-up (NRFU) and self-response period. We believe all stakeholders must fully consider the implications for data quality and census accuracy of extending operations, before urging such action. And we worry about the impact on self-response these early calls for an extension might have. We believe these issues must be fully discussed, understood, and considered by Congress in consultation with the Bureau, stakeholders, and experts.

We support shifts in timing of certain operations. The Census Bureau is adjusting strategies in real time, and we are working diligently to help inform these decisions. However, there is a difference between these types of shifts and proposals to ‘delay’ or ‘extend’ the census. We urge the Census Bureau to be transparent with stakeholders, partners, and Congress about where it is facing operational challenges, the changes it is making to its planned operations, and where it needs additional support (such as appropriations). This will allow

stakeholders and partners to respond appropriately and effectively to promote participation.

The Census Bureau already has flexibility on extending the enumeration timeframe, which it had planned to conclude on July 31 under normal circumstances. The self-response period (which is still in effect during NRFU) will provide the Census Bureau and stakeholders with information on how much additional time beyond July 31 may be needed. However, the further away from Census Day, April 1 (the reference date that is set in law), data are collected, the greater the impact on data quality and consistency, so these decisions must be made with consideration for the consequences.

We encourage Congress to consult with the Census Bureau to see what resources it might need to expand the NRFU operation as soon as the Bureau can safely resume field operations. We are also urging Congress to closely monitor the progress of the census to determine if the Census Bureau will be able to meet the statutory deadlines of December 31, 2020 for the reporting of the final apportionment count, and April 1, 2021 for the transmission of the redistricting files to the states. Congress may well need to consider adjustments to these deadlines once it has sufficient information on the status of the 2020 Census operations. This issue has deep and broad implications, primarily political and conceivably partisan. It must be approached carefully and knowledgeably for those reasons.

The Census Bureau needs our support and cooperation at this time more than ever, just as much as we must continue to insist on a fair and accurate census.

SKY UTE CASINO RESORT

Tribe announces temporary, closure of Sky Ute Casino

Staff report
SKY UTE CASINO RESORT

Citing the recommendations of various public health experts regarding the virus known as COVID-19, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe today announced that it would close all of Sky Ute Casino Resort’s operations including the hotel and its restaurant, Willows Café Bistro. The temporary closure of the hotel and restaurant begins March 23, 2020, at 3 p.m.

“As always the health and wellbeing of our guests, employees and community is of utmost importance,” says Chairman, Christine Sage, of The Southern Ute Indian Tribe. “In an effort to

help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, this is the appropriate decision at this time.”

The temporary closure applies to all Sky Ute Casino Resort operations and amenities: Casino, Hotel, Willows Café Bistro, Seven Rivers Steak Seafood Spirits, Shining Mountain Café, Rolling Thunder Grill, Seven Rivers Bingo Hall, and Rolling Thunder Lanes.

Tribal leaders will monitor developments regarding the virus to assess the exact reopening date.

“Although there have

been no known cases of COVID-19 at Sky Ute Casino Resort or the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, we are suspending all operations to promote the social distancing practice recommended by public health officials,” continues Chairman Sage, “Our continued best wishes are with those directly affected by this virus.”

This information is being released in conjunction with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Incident Management Team Public Information Officer (PIO), Amy Barry.



Notice from The Southern Ute Drum

NOTE, DUE TO COVID-19: The print edition of the newspaper will be temporarily suspended due to closures and circumstances surrounding public safety, and the welfare of our staff. The newspaper will continue to be published electronically, and will be available as an e-Edition (PDF <https://www.sudrum.com/eEditions/>) and online: www.sudrum.com. The Southern Ute Drum will adhere to the publication schedules and deadlines for 2020, in order to get relevant news and information out to the Southern Ute tribal membership, tribal departments and community in the best, and most efficient, way possible going forward!

Thank you,
Jeremy Wade Shockley, Editor/Media Manager
The Southern Ute Drum



How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond



Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Nearly every household will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census from either a postal worker or a census worker.

95% of households will receive their census invitation in the mail.



Almost 5% of households will receive their census invitation when a census taker drops it off. In these areas, the majority of households may not receive mail at their home’s physical location (like households that use PO boxes or areas recently affected by natural disasters).

Less than 1% of households will be counted in person by a census taker, instead of being invited to respond on their own. We do this in very remote areas like parts of northern Maine, remote Alaska, and in select American Indian areas that ask to be counted in person. (This is separate from our follow-up efforts; census takers will visit all households that were invited to respond on their own and haven’t.)

Note: We have special procedures to count people who don’t live in households, such as students living in university housing or people experiencing homelessness.

What to Expect in the Mail

When it’s time to respond, most households will receive an invitation in the mail. Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Depending on how likely your area is to respond online, you’ll receive either an invitation encouraging you to respond online or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire.

Letter Invitation

- Most areas of the country are likely to respond online, so most households will receive a letter asking you to go online to complete the census questionnaire (or to respond by phone).
- We plan on working with the U.S. Postal Service to stagger the delivery of these invitations over several days. This way we can spread out the number of users responding online, and we’ll be able to serve you better if you need help over the phone.

Letter Invitation and Paper Questionnaire

- Areas that are less likely to respond online will receive a paper questionnaire along with their invitation. The invitation will also include information about how to respond online or by phone.

WHAT WE WILL SEND IN THE MAIL	
On or between	You’ll receive:
March 12-20	An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)
March 16-24	A reminder letter.
If you haven’t responded yet:	
March 26-April 3	A reminder postcard.
April 8-16	A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.
April 20-27	A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.

We understand you might miss our initial letter in the mail.

- Every household that hasn’t already responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- It doesn’t matter which initial invitation you get or how you get it—we will follow up in person with all households that don’t respond.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION • FROM PAGE 1

progressed so much!” The program also delivers to tribal elders and disabled. A variety of food items are available, including fresh produce, frozen meats, in addition to shelf stable canned goods, dry goods and boxed cereals.

All of Deanna Frost’s employees are tribal members, many of them are younger, and she attributes some of the new-found community interest in the program to her employees. As the word gets out with the younger generation, many of whom are now the heads of households in their own families, people are signing up.

“We usually only get one shipment. This month we got two because of the virus, people are in need of food. It is just something that happened, so USDA allowed us to order a second shipment in one month’s time. I would expect the demand for food to continue,” Frost stated.

The Southern Ute Food Distribution program is not affected by the Tribe’s recent government closures, as their team is providing a core service to the membership. The Food Distribution

center is still open from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The staff is now taking extra precautions, which include a deep clean at the end of each day, and some extra set up each morning. Frost asks that community members picking up their food orders accommodate this modified workflow.

“Today is the first day after our big shipment. The front desk phone is usually busy because our admin is taking food orders,” Frost explained. “I am encouraging everyone to call my direct line at 970-563-2531.”

“Our warehouse is fairly small, we can’t store a lot of food. So, it is a relief that we got the second shipment of food in. I do foresee our participant rate raising more.”

Usually customers would simply walk in, but due to precautions surrounding the coronavirus, now no one is allowed inside but staff. “Now we are trying to develop a plan that is appointment based. We still have those that do come, but we encourage people to set up an appointment because it makes it easier for us — and safer for everyone.”

“We’re adapting, but it is

a process. I would like the membership to know that we are still adjusting and evolving to the current situation. Please bear with us and be patient. Eventually we will get it to run as smooth as possible,” she reiterated. “We have a big white dry erase board outside [with instructions], we will deliver the food to the car and fill out the issuance form.”

Because of the high demand, new enrollments are limited to tribal members and Native American families from a recognized tribe. The program will continue to serve non-native families from inside the Southern Ute Reservation who are already enrolled in the program. Frost is currently trying to tie their program into the USDA Foods Disaster Assistance, which would allow the Tribal program to order more, in an effort to feed a broader community base.

“I would like to thank my staff for having the courage to come in everyday throughout this virus — working and doing a great job!”

The Food Distribution center is located in downtown Ignacio, at 740 Goddard Ave.



UTILITIES

LPEA delays rate increase, allocates \$90,000 to support community during COVID-19

Staff report
LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

The La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) Board of Directors today approved a rescue package to support its members and community during the COVID-19 pandemic. LPEA, which already announced it will suspend disconnects for non-payment for its residential and small-commercial members until further notice, will now also delay its rate increase three months, and allocate \$90,000 in unclaimed capital credits to utility bill assistance and local emergency response programs.

“LPEA is a not-for-profit electric cooperative, which means it is owned and operated by its members at cost,” said Bob Lynch, LPEA Board President. “We, the board and LPEA employees, are a part of the communities we serve, and we want to do what we can to help our neighbors in this time of need. We do not take these decisions lightly, as they will put additional financial and administrative pressure on the organization, but we feel strongly that this is the right thing to do.”

The LPEA COVID-19 rescue package includes the following three elements:

- 1. Delay of rate increase:**
The 2020 rate increase was unanimously approved by the board in January to

generate the funds needed to update and improve LPEA’s electric infrastructure, improve reliability to members, and keep up with the cost of inflation. Delaying the effective date of the rate increase from April 1st to July 1st will cost the utility roughly \$1 million. To offset this loss, the board approved a withdrawal from LPEA’s emergency rate stabilization fund, which was created in 2019 to safeguard business operations in emergency situations. The board views the creation of this fund as fortuitous, because it can now be used to help LPEA members in this time of great need.

2. Allocation of \$90,000 in unclaimed capital credits:

As LPEA is a not-for-profit utility delivering service to its members at cost, any payments made by members in excess of the cost required to provide their electric service are placed into a patronage capital account in each member’s name, usually referred to as “capital credits”. When the cooperative is able, capital credits are “retired” and returned to members as bill credits or by check. If these checks are not cashed after three years, they are considered to be “unclaimed”. Unclaimed capital credits are traditionally assigned to community causes, and in this spirit, LPEA will assign \$90,000 to assist those in its service area as follows:

\$50,000 will be allocated to assist LPEA members who cannot pay their bills due to job loss and business closure; \$25,000 will be allocated to the Community Emergency Response Fund; and \$7,500 each will be provided to the Community Emergency Action Coalition and the Pagosa Outreach Coalition.

3. Suspension of disconnects for non-payment:

As previously announced, LPEA had suspended all disconnects for non-payment until further notice. While no residential or small-commercial utility services will be disconnected during the suspension, this is not a debt forgiveness program. LPEA members are still expected to pay their bill when they are able, either through a flexible payment plan or funding assistance. Members should contact LPEA at 970-247-5786 for more details.

LPEA is a member-owned, not-for-profit, electric distribution cooperative serving La Plata and Archuleta, with segments of Hinsdale, Mineral and San Juan counties. LPEA is the fifth largest cooperative of 22 in Colorado, and aims to provide safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost to its approximately 34,000 members. For additional information, contact LPEA at 970-247-5786 or visit www.lpea.coop.

UTILITIES

LPEA implements Continuity of Operations Plan amidst growing coronavirus concerns

Staff report
LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

From 8 a.m. on Monday, March 16, La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) will modify its operating procedures to proactively respond to the growing novel Coronavirus pandemic. Under its Continuity of Operations Plan, LPEA will prioritize the continuation of reliable electric service to its more than 46,000 meters while also protecting the safety and health of its employees and members.

“Given LPEA’s essential mission to power the lives of our communities, it’s vital that we proactively address all potential threats that would prevent us from achieving that,” said LPEA CEO Jessica Matlock. “We’ve been closely monitoring the ongoing situation with the novel Coronavirus. While there are still no confirmed cases in La Plata or Archuleta County, we believe it’s LPEA’s civic duty to be proactive and act before we must.”

Under the new plan, LPEA operations will change as follows until further notice:

- Main lobbies in Duran-

- go and Pagosa Springs are closed to the public. Drive through options are available at each office and phones remain open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 970-247-5786.
- In-home energy audits will not be conducted. Members can still call LPEA for remote assistance at 970-247-5786.
- LPEA meeting facilities are closed to all public events. Existing events will be cancelled or postponed.
- Board meetings, beginning with the March 25th meeting, will be held remotely via video conference. The public will be able to participate virtually, and meetings will be recorded for later viewing. Access details will be made available at: <https://lpea.coop/board-directors-meeting-agendas>
- LPEA’s Annual Meeting, currently scheduled for May 16, 2020 at Pagosa Springs High School, may be postponed.
- Staff are cancelling non-essential travel and conducting meetings virtually.
- LPEA has instituted pro-

- cedures to reduce the risk within its buildings, including enhanced cleaning and sanitizing.
- LPEA is encouraging members to pay their bill from home. Members can receive their bill via email, make energy payments using a credit card, or pay from a checking account through the LPEA SmartHub App. The Pay-by-Phone automated system is also available 24 hours per day. For more information on payment options, members should call 970-247-5786.
- LPEA will resume normal operations as soon as is safely possible. For more information and updates from LPEA, members should visit <https://lpea.coop/coronavirus>
- LPEA is a member-owned, not-for-profit, electric distribution cooperative serving La Plata and Archuleta, with segments of Hinsdale, Mineral and San Juan counties. LPEA is the fifth largest cooperative of 22 in Colorado, and aims to provide safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost to its approximately 34,000 members.

UTILITIES

Temporary suspension of utility disconnections, late fees

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE UTILITIES

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Southern Ute Utilities Division Management has decided that, effective immediately, there will be a temporary suspension of utility disconnections, including a waiver of late fees for the following utility services provided, which include:

- Solid Waste (Trash Collection)
- Sewer
- Water
- Natural Gas

We will NOT shut off any utility services for residential utility accounts with balances considered past due during the billing periods of April and May 2020. This timeframe may be extended dependent on COVID-19 circumstances in the near future – official notification will be released

at a later date. Customers that are able to make payments on their accounts on time are strongly encouraged to do so. Payment methods include and are accepted Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. – Noon:

- Payment over the phone at 970-563-5500 by credit card (highly recommended)
- Payment at Wells Fargo Bank (Ignacio Branch): Have your account number and/or your utility bill readily available
- Payment by mail: Please mail statement stub with your check or money order (made payable to Southern Ute Utilities Division) to PO Box 1137, Ignacio, CO 81137
- Credit card, money order, cashier’s check, or cash – Walk-in or Drive-up at Utilities Office.

As a reminder for tribal member customers, you can arrange monthly payments to your utility account directly from Tribal Finance. We strongly encouraged this automatic payment arrangement to remain current on your account. Please contact Utilities Office 970-563-5500 to arrange for an application to set up voluntary deductions to avoid large arrears in payment balances. You may call Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. – Noon. It is our highest priority to provide and maintain critical services to the Southern Ute Tribal membership and community during this pandemic. Safety is our number one priority for our employees and our customers. Contact Information: Hayes Briskey, Utilities Manager 970-563-5502; Julian Baker, Assistant Manager, 970-563-5515; or Emergency – SUPD, 970-563-4401

PUBLIC SAFETY

Avoiding coronavirus scams and price gouging

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Hand sanitizer at \$67 a bottle. Toilet paper at \$15 a roll. Unfortunately, we have seen instances of this in our stores and on the internet. As with any public crisis, when concerns over the coronavirus increase, there will be some people who prey on people’s fears for their personal financial advantage. But what can we do about it?

First, if you see someone price gouging, report it. The Colorado Attorney General’s Office is collecting information on individuals and stores that are taking advantage of people’s fears through overcharging the public for necessary products. You can reach the At-

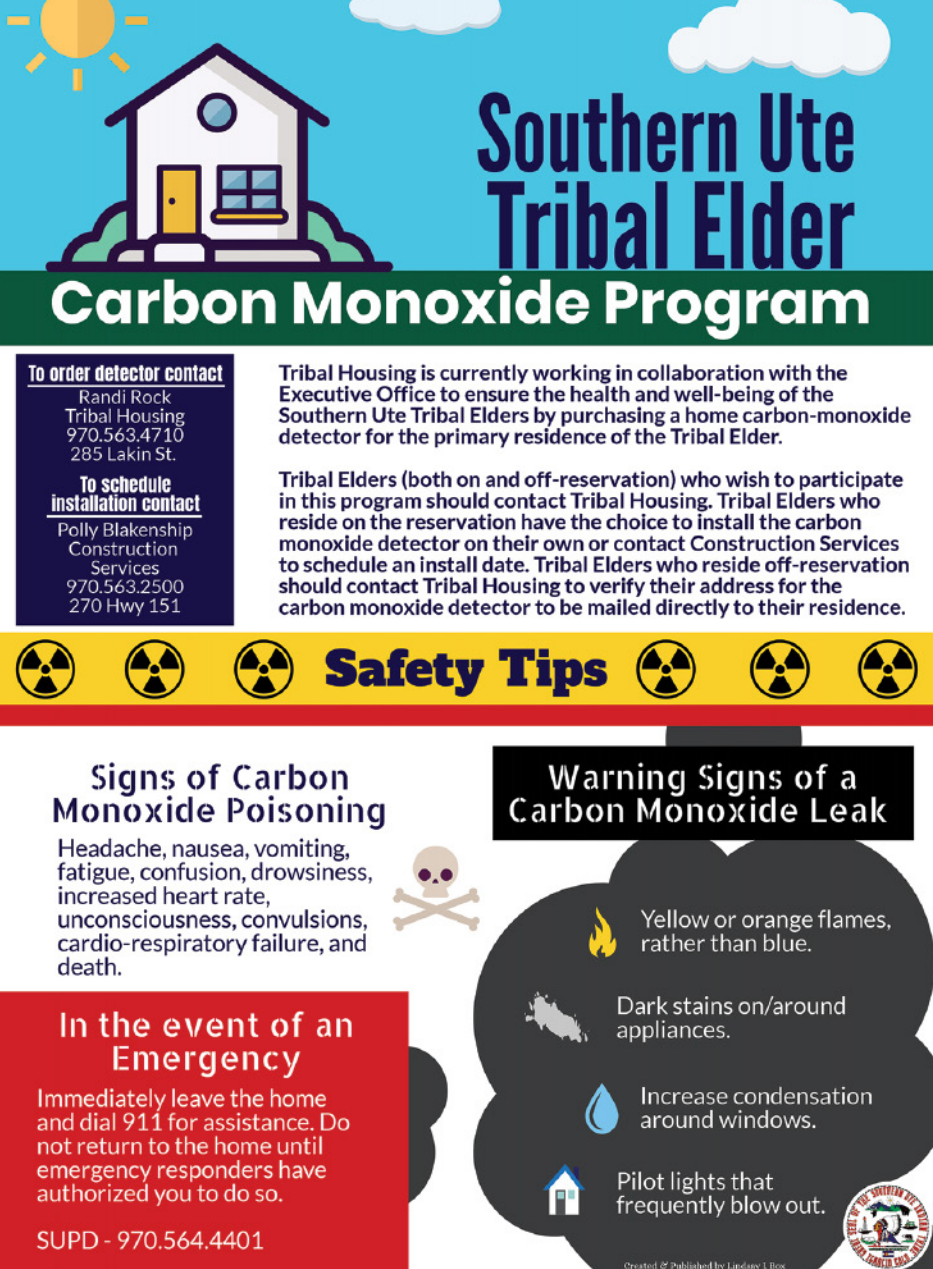
torney General’s office by phone at 1-800-222-4444 or go online to report the incident at stopfraudcolorado.gov. In addition, you can contact the Southern Ute Legal Department at 970-563-2141 and they can assist you in reaching out to the Attorney General. The Department of Justice also has a division to investigate Disaster Fraud. You can reach the Disaster Fraud at 1-877-720-5721, or online at justice.gov, or email disaster@leo.gov. Second, beware of scams. Now that more and more people are confined to their homes, we are seeing an increase in telephone and computer scams. Often these are promising treatments for the coronavirus for a price. Currently there

are no medical treatments for the virus and any promised treatments over the phone or internet are fake. Like the incidents of price gouging, if you see or experience this, report it to the Attorney General or the Legal Department. Finally, be careful with emails that claim to be from the World Health Organization or other group promising a vaccine or test for the virus. Delete it. This is what is called a phishing scam. If you click on the email, the person who sent it will try to gain access to personal information on your computer. As always, if you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact a member of Tribal Council, the Executive Office, or the Legal Department.



THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

Advertise in your newspaper! 970-563-0118



Southern Ute Tribal Elder Carbon Monoxide Program

To order detector contact
Randi Rock
Tribal Housing
970.563.4710
285 Lakin St.

To schedule installation contact
Polly Blakenship
Construction Services
970.563.2500
270 Hwy 151

Tribal Housing is currently working in collaboration with the Executive Office to ensure the health and well-being of the Southern Ute Tribal Elders by purchasing a home carbon-monoxide detector for the primary residence of the Tribal Elder.

Tribal Elders (both on and off-reservation) who wish to participate in this program should contact Tribal Housing. Tribal Elders who reside on the reservation have the choice to install the carbon monoxide detector on their own or contact Construction Services to schedule an install date. Tribal Elders who reside off-reservation should contact Tribal Housing to verify their address for the carbon monoxide detector to be mailed directly to their residence.

Safety Tips

Signs of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Headache, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, confusion, drowsiness, increased heart rate, unconsciousness, convulsions, cardio-respiratory failure, and death.

Warning Signs of a Carbon Monoxide Leak


- Yellow or orange flames, rather than blue.
- Dark stains on/around appliances.
- Increase condensation around windows.
- Pilot lights that frequently blow out.

In the event of an Emergency

Immediately leave the home and dial 911 for assistance. Do not return to the home until emergency responders have authorized you to do so.

SUPD - 970.564.4401

Created & Published By Lindsay J. Box





ON-RESERVATION HUNTING SEASON • FROM PAGE 13

DESIGNATED HUNTING

Designating Enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members

Enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members over the age of 12 may designate another enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Member who meets the hunting permit eligibility requirements to hunt for them during the regular hunting season. Southern Ute Tribal Members who wish to designate another Southern Ute Tribal Member must pick up and sign their own permits, and the Division of Wildlife Resource Management will place the name of the designated hunter on permits at that time. Designated hunters will only be allowed to harvest female deer and elk, or turkey of either sex during the general fall hunting season. Designated hunters will not be allowed for any other form of hunting.

Designating Division of Wildlife Resource Management

The Division of Wildlife Resource Management will provide designated hunting services to enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Member elders (55 years of age or older), single women, or physically disabled individuals. Requests must be made to the Division of Wildlife Resource Management, and all animals will be harvested during the regular Southern Ute Tribal Member hunting season.

TAGGING AND VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS

Tagging Requirements

All big game must be tagged by the person who harvested the animal. The hunter must physically notch (cut) the Month and Day of harvest on the tag, and sign the permit in Ink immediately after harvesting the animal. The hunter must then remove the tag from its backing and affix to the carcass. All big game animals must be securely tagged with the carcass tag prior to transportation. If numerous trips are required to remove the carcass from the field, the tag should remain attached to the portion of the carcass left in camp or in a vehicle. There is an additional “Antler Tag” attached to the carcass tag. This was developed for Tribal Members to be able to have proof of legal harvest on both a set of antlers (or horns) and on a carcass if the two are separated. The antler tag should be affixed to antlers kept at a residence or brought to a taxidermist. Validation is the inspection of a harvested animal and may or may not be required depending on the species or hunt type. Part of the validation process may also require the hunter obtaining a validation tag as proof of inspection prior to the hunter leaving the reservation with the harvested animal. For further information regarding validations and validation tags, please contact the DWRM.

Validation Requirements

Depending on the season and species hunted, validation of harvested animals may be required. Guidelines vary and are given in detail by species and hunting season below.

- Early Archery mule deer, elk, and turkey: **Mandatory Validation.**

- Buck Deer and Bull Elk: **Mandatory Validation.** Tribal member hunters are required to have mule deer bucks and bull elk validated within 5 business days of harvest. Please call the DWRM to make arrangements.
- Spring and Fall Turkey: **No Validation Required.**
- Doe mule deer and Cow elk: **Mandatory Validation Exception.** Hunters planning to pick up a second doe tag or a second or third cow elk tag must have their doe or cow validated prior to picking up additional tags.
- Mountain Lion: **Mandatory Validation.** Validation must take place within 24 hours of the kill. Contact the Division of Wildlife Resource Management or Southern Ute Tribal Rangers during regular business hours or contact Southern Ute Dispatch outside of regular business hours to arrange validation.
- Upland game birds, waterfowl and small game: **No Validation Required.**

EVIDENCE OF SEX REQUIREMENTS

Evidence of the sex of harvested mule deer, elk, wild turkeys, and mountain lions must remain naturally attached to carcasses while transporting animals from the field, while in camp, or until the animal is validated (if necessary). Evidence of sex for mule deer and elk include the head and/or the testicles or udder. Evidence of sex for wild turkeys is the beard (for males). For mountain lions, the reproductive organs of both males and females must be left attached for sex identification purposes.

GUIDING AND OUTFITTING

Guides and outfitters must be permitted by the Division of Wildlife Resource Management before operating on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. To obtain a guiding and outfitting permit or to acquire a list of permitted guides and outfitters, contact the Division of Wildlife Resource Management. Illegal guiding and outfitting on the reservation is a serious offense with consequences for both the hunter and the person providing the guiding or outfitting services. Please contact the Wildlife Division immediately if you suspect illegal guiding and outfitting is taking place on the reservation.

ACCOMPANY CROSSING PERMITS

The Division of Wildlife Resource Management issues crossing permits to non-Southern Ute Tribal Members to accompany permitted hunters while hunting. Persons holding crossing permits may not hunt or carry a firearm of any type while accompanying a permitted hunter. Persons holding a crossing permit may not provide specialized guiding and outfitting-type assistance to permitted hunters. Contact the DWRM for more details on crossing permits or to have crossing permits issued. Non-Southern Ute Tribal Members who are not in the immediate family of a Southern Ute Tribal Member hunter must acquire a crossing permit so that they may accompa-

ny the permitted Southern Ute Tribal Member while hunting. Non-Southern Ute Tribal Members who are in the immediate family of a permitted Southern Ute Tribal Member hunter may accompany the hunter without obtaining a crossing permit. For the purposes of accompany crossing permits, immediate family is considered a spouse, mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandparent, grandchild, son in-law, daughter in-law or legal guardian of the permitted Southern Ute Tribal Member hunter. Note that a maximum of two permittees at a time are allowed per Southern Ute hunter and the crossing permit will be valid for 30 days or until the end of the hunt season, whichever comes first. Cost for crossing permits will be \$20 per permittee, and each permit is valid for accompanying a single specified Tribal member hunter.

OPEN AND CLOSED AREAS FOR HUNTING ON THE RESERVATION

Open Areas

Open areas for huntable species shall include all lands within the exterior boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. For private, assigned and allotted lands, hunters must first obtain written access permission from the landowner. For USFS lands and Navajo State Park lands contact the respective agencies for information pertaining to access restrictions.

Closed Areas

Closed areas shall include all grounds immediately surrounding the Lake Capote Recreation Area including the campground. For precise boundaries contact the Wildlife Division.

ADDITIONAL HUNTING REGULATIONS

A complete listing of regulations pertaining to hunting on the Southern Ute Indian reservation is contained in Title 13: Wildlife Conservation Code. Contact the DWRM for a current copy of Title 13 or visit our website: <http://www.southernute-nsn.gov/wrmweb/>. Additionally the Division has a limited number of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Wildlife Laws Handbook 2008 available to Tribal hunters. Please ask about them in the Wildlife office.

Failure to wear Daylight or Fluorescent Orange or Pink Garments

During the big game hunting season, it is unlawful to hunt mule deer and/or elk with a firearm unless the person hunting is wearing a head covering and an outer garment above the waistline, both of solid daylight fluorescent orange or pink color, totaling five hundred (500) square inches or more of clothing. Penalties include a \$50.00 fine and 5 points towards permit revocation. Persons specifically hunting for fall turkey, or specifically hunting for mountain lions when big game seasons are running concurrently are not required to wear blaze orange but are encouraged to do so for their own safety in the field.

Failing to Tag Wildlife Properly

It is unlawful for any person to fail to tag wildlife properly. In its simplest form, tagging means to sign and punch the dates on your tag and affix it to the animal’s carcass. Penalties include a \$100 fine and 10 points towards permit revocation.

Shooting from a Motor Vehicle

It is unlawful for any person to shoot any type of firearm from a motor vehicle to take wildlife. Penalties include a \$300 fine and 15 points towards permit revocation.

Wastage of Game Meat / Abandoning a Carcass

It is unlawful to abandon any edible portion of wildlife or permit it to go to waste. Penalties for big game include a \$1,000 fine and 15 points. Other wildlife includes a \$250 fine and 15 points towards permit revocation. Additionally, it is unlawful to take any wildlife and abandon the carcass or take wildlife only for the head, claws, teeth, hide, antlers, horns, tusks, or organs with the intent to abandon the carcass or to mutilate any living wildlife. Penalties include fines ranging from \$25 - \$20,000 and 25 points towards permit revocation.

Closure of Lake Capote Recreation Area

The Lake Capote Recreation Area will be closed to all hunting. Hwy 160 borders the closure area on the north and Hwy 151 on the west. The range fence directly south of the lake (running east/west) defines the southern boundary and the east boundary will follow the eastern bank of Stollsteimer Creek running north.

Off-road Travel on Tribal Lands

It is unlawful to travel off of established roads and two-tracks with any vehicle while on Tribal lands. This includes ATVs. Penalties include a \$100 fine and 5 points towards permit revocation.

Schedule of Civil Penalties Connected to Poaching Convictions on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation	
Big Game: Mule Deer	
Trophy Buck (24" or greater inside spread)	\$10,000 + 15 Points
Buck	\$5,000+ 15 Points
Doe	\$1,000+ 15 Points
Big Game: Elk	
Trophy Bull (6 + points on one antler)	\$10,000+ 15 Points
Bull	\$5,000+ 15 Points
Cow	\$1,000+ 15 Points
Mountain Lion	\$5,000+ 15 Points
Shed Antlers	\$2,500+ 15 Points
Additional penalties associated with poaching convictions often include point accrual and revocation of hunting and fishing privileges on the Southern Ute Indian reservation for 2 – 5 years	

AUTHORITY

These hunting regulations are approved by the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council under authority as outlined in Title 13, • Article 1, Section 13-1-106, Subsections (1) through (3); • Article 2, Section 13-2-101, Subsections (1) through (5); • Article 2, Section 13-2-104; Article 2, Section 13-2-105, Subsections (1) through (3); of the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Code revised and amended by Tribal Resolution No’s. 89-34, 01-69, and 02-215.





Scoring Night


Friday, April 3rd
Sky Ute Casino Event Center
6:00pm

Official Scoring & Trophies
will be on hand to
score your trophy!



CANCELLED
To Be Rescheduled



Southern Ute Division of Wildlife Resource Management
(970)563-0130



Closure



Due to COVID-19, access to Lake Capote at this time is open only to enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members and their immediate family.

All visitors must check-in at the Baitshop window for permitting. Please continue to practice social distancing while visiting Lake Capote and stay 6 feet away from others. Also, please note the following:

- Fishing has been restricted to shoreline and docks. No boating allowed at this time.
- Camping is permitted but restrooms/showers are not available, but lakeside outhouses are open.
- The Baitshop is closed to foot traffic, but limited sales are available through the window.

Modified Schedule Until Further Notice
Thursday - Friday - Saturday - Sunday
Baitshop Service Hours: Sunrise to Sunset

If you have questions, please call the Lake Manager at 970.883.2273 or the Southern Ute Wildlife Division at 970.563.0130. Thank you for understanding.



BRUNOT AREA HUNTING & FISHING SEASON • FROM PAGE 13

Hunters are required to have validated any **mountain lion, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or moose** harvested from the Brunot Area. Validation is the physical inspection of the animal by staff of the Tribal Division of Wildlife staff are not available for weekend validations; therefore, animals must be validated during regular business hours (Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. -12 p.m., 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.). **For mountain lion**, the carcass must be inspected within 48 hours of the harvest. The hunter must present the carcass with skin attached. **For bighorn sheep, mountain goat and moose** the carcass must be inspected within five business days of the harvest. The hunter must present the carcass as well as the head with horns or antlers and skull intact. The carcass may be quartered in the field. If the harvested animal is a ram bighorn sheep, the Tribal Division of Wildlife will affix a permanent mark (plug) to the horn as proof of legal harvest.

Mountain Lion Hunting

Mountain lion hunting in the Brunot Area is divided into four separate units, and each unit has an associated harvest quota. The mountain lion season is open either until the season end-date or until the unit quota is filled, whichever occurs first. If the quota for a unit is filled, the season will immediately close for that unit. A Brunot Area lion permit is valid for hunting in all units that have not reached the designated harvest quota. Please refer to the mountain lion unit map in this Proclamation for the location of each unit.

The lion harvest quotas, by unit	
Lion Unit	Harvest Quota
L1	7 lions or 4 females
L2	1 lion either sex
L3	2 lions either sex
L4	2 lions either sex

Lion hunters should be aware that Lion Unit 1 (L1) encompasses both the Southern Ute Indian Reservation and a portion of the Brunot Area. Even though L1 is a combination of Reservation and Brunot lands, lion hunting on the Reservation portion requires a reservation permit, while lion hunting in the Brunot portion requires a Brunot permit. The lion permits for both areas are not interchangeable.

Important Mt. Lion Hunting Information

- A mountain lion telephone information line is available for hunters to call to check on the status of the quotas in each unit. It is the hunter’s responsibility to call the harvest quota information line IMMEDIATELY BEFORE hunting to check the status of harvest quotas and unit closures. Call 970-563-0130 at any time for quota status.
- It is unlawful to kill mountain lion kittens or female mountain lions accompanied by kittens. Kittens are defined as mountain lions exhibiting visible spotting of the fur. Female mountain lions accompanied by kittens are defined as female mountain lions that have kittens traveling with them or dependent on them.
- Trained hunting dogs may be used to hunt mountain lions.

Upland Gamebird Hunting

Hunting for Upland gamebirds is allowed within the Brunot Area. Upland Gamebirds includes dusky (blue) grouse, ptarmigan, pheasant, and chukar partridge. Columbian Sharp-tailed grouse and Gunnison Sage Grouse may occur within the Brunot Area also; however, populations of these birds are very low and hunting of these species is not allowed. Trained hunting dogs may be used to hunt upland game birds.

Waterfowl and Migratory Gamebird Hunting

Hunting for Waterfowl and other migratory gamebirds is allowed within the Brunot Area. Waterfowl includes various species of ducks, mergansers, coots, dark and light geese, snipe, and rails (Virginia and Sora). Migratory gamebirds include doves (mourning, white winged and collared) and band-tailed pigeons. Because waterfowl and migratory gamebird seasons and bag limits are set by the federal government, the Tribe does not currently have the ability to set its own season dates and bag limits for these species. Therefore, Tribal Member hunters pursuing these species must abide by season dates and bag limits set by the State of Colorado. The Brunot Area encompasses parts of both the Central and Pacific Flyways. Most of the Brunot Area is within the Pacific Flyway, while the Central Flyway portion is a

much smaller area located east of the Continental Divide Please note that, under Federal law, all waterfowl hunters are required to purchase and possess a Federal Duck Stamp. A Duck Stamp can be purchased at a local Post Office.

Trapping of Small Game

Trapping of small game is a special harvest methodology that is highly regulated at the State level and is similarly regulated by the Tribe within the Brunot Area. The purpose of the regulations is to minimize the potential impacts of trapping on non-target wildlife, especially rare, threatened, or endangered species. For the Brunot Area, the species of concern with trapping are the Canada lynx and river otter, both of which are the subject of major re-introduction efforts and are protected from take throughout the San Juan Mountains region. Trapping is allowed year-round, per the established Small Game season, and a trapper must obtain a Small Game permit to engage in any trapping of wildlife in the Brunot Area. Wildlife that may be trapped are those species covered under the Brunot Area Small Game permit, including bobcat, coyote, fox, all weasels (except river otter), ringtail, raccoon, prairie dog, beaver, muskrat, rabbit/hare, marmot, and tree squirrel. All trappers must comply with the following tribal trapping regulations:

- **Trapper Notification & Reporting.** A trapper must provide at least two weeks advance notice to the Tribal Division of Wildlife of any planned Brunot Area trapping effort. The notice must include approximate location of traps, number and type(s) of traps to be used, and approximate timeframe for operating the traps. Within two weeks of completing the trapping, the trapper must have traps completely removed from the field and report to the Division the trapping results (i.e., identify all target and non-target species captured, animals retained or harvested, and all non-target mortalities).
- **Trap Attendance.** Any individual operating a trap within the Brunot Area is required to physically inspect the trap at least once every 24 hours. Note that this is not a “once daily” requirement; a trapper cannot inspect a trap on one morning and return in the afternoon the next day, as this would be in excess of 24 hours.
- **Trap Types Allowed.** Only live traps may be used for trapping in the Brunot Area, which includes any non-lethal cage, box, or Sneed-design colony traps. All other methods of trapping are prohibited, including, but not limited to, all types of legholds, snares, and instant kill traps.
- **Bait Restrictions.** Visual lures, fresh meat baits, fish oil, and anise oil lures meant to attract felids are not permitted due to the risk of injury or mortality for Canada lynx.
- **Target and Non-Target Captures.** All captured target species must be killed on-site when the trap is checked. All captured non-target species that are un-injured must be released. Accidental mortality of non-target animals must be reported to the Wildlife Division, per the trapper reporting requirement. Canada lynx and river otter that are captured but un-injured must be immediately released. Accidental capture of these species must be reported within 12 hours of discovery to the Tribal Wildlife Division.
- **Interference with Traps.** It is unlawful to interfere with, disturb, remove or otherwise molest any trap lawfully set by a trapper, or for a non-operator of a trap to remove any animal from said trap.

OTHER HUNTING REQUIREMENTS

- **Hunter Safety Requirements.** All hunters under the age of 21 years must have successfully completed a hunter safety education course prior to issuance of permits. Hunters under age 21 must be able to present their hunter safety education card when acquiring permits and must carry the card with them while hunting. Both the Tribe and Colorado Parks and Wildlife offer hunter education classes and should be contacted for more information.
- **Hunters Under Age 18.** Hunters under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult while hunting.
- **Daylight Fluorescent Orange or Pink.** For non-archery hunters hunting mule deer, elk, or moose within the Brunot Area, it is required that the hunter wear a head covering and an outer garment above the waistline of solid daylight fluorescent orange or pink color, totaling 500 square inches or more of clothing. Penalties include a \$50 fine and penalty points toward suspension of hunting/fishing privileges.
- **Loaded Firearm in Vehicle.** It is un-

- lawful for any person, except those authorized by law, or by the Tribe’s Department of Justice and Regulatory, Enforcement Division, or Wildlife Management Division, to carry or possess any firearm other than a pistol or revolver in or on any motor vehicle, unless such firearm is unloaded. For purposes of this section, a rifle or shotgun shall be considered unloaded if it is unloaded in the chamber; a muzzle-loader shall be considered unloaded if it is not primed, and, for such purpose “primed” means having a percussion cap on the nipple, a primer in the breech, or flint in the striker and powder in the flash pan; and a bow shall be considered unloaded if an arrow is not nocked on the string. Penalties include a \$300 fine and penalty points toward suspension of hunting/fishing privileges.
- **Shooting from Road.** It is unlawful for any person to shoot any type of firearm from or across or onto any maintained public road. “Road” shall mean the area extending 50 feet on either side of the center line of the roadway. Penalties include a \$250 fine and penalty points toward suspension of hunting/fishing privileges.
- **Shooting from a Motor Vehicle.** It is unlawful for any person to shoot any type of firearm from a motor vehicle to take wildlife. Penalties include a \$300 fine and penalty points toward suspension of hunting/fishing privileges.

FISHING REGULATIONS

Presented in this section are the Tribal-approved seasons and regulations pertaining to fishing within the Brunot Area for 2020. The fishing season is the calendar year, January 1st through December 31st. Except as noted under Special Management Fisheries, standard angling methods and daily bag limits apply to all Brunot Area fishing by Tribal anglers.

Important Note: Numerous creeks and rivers with sport fisheries cross over the Brunot Area boundary. It is important for anglers to remember that, upon leaving the Brunot Area, Brunot fishing permits are no longer valid; State permit requirements and regulations apply outside of the Brunot Area. When entering the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, reservation requirements apply.

Standard Angling Methods

Game fish may be taken by hook and line, as well as by bowfishing (see Bowfishing). Fishermen are allowed up to two fishing rods at a time per angler. For bait fishing, one line may be used with up to two single baited hooks attached. For lure fishing, one line may be used with one artificial lure attached. Artificial lures may have up to two hooks (single, double, or treble) attached. For fly-fishing, one line may be used with up to two flies attached.

General Fishing Restrictions

- **Legal Fishing Hours/Duration.** Fishing may occur 24-hours a day, unless the daily bag or possession limit is met. Once the daily bag or possession limit is met, the angler must discontinue fishing.
- **Illegal Fishing Gear/Methods.** Use of the following gear or methods to catch fish is prohibited on all Brunot Area waters: all net types (excluding hand-held landing nets), trotlines, traps, explosives, poisons, guns, or any other gear or method not specified in the Standard Angling Methods section.
- **Chumming.** Chumming, or placing in the water any type of fish attractant for

the purpose of catching fish, is prohibited in all Brunot waters. Chumming does not include the use of bait, lures, and flies as specified in the Standard Angling Methods section.

- **Bait.** Permitted baits are worms, insects, crayfish, vegetable matter, artificial salmon eggs, PowerBait, fish (dead only) and amphibians (live or dead), provided that fish and amphibian species used for bait must be non-native to the Brunot Area. Check with the Wildlife Division on native species prohibited from use as bait. Bait restrictions still apply in certain Special Management Fisheries identified herein.
- **Planting Fish.** It is unlawful to release or move into any Brunot Area waters any fish from aquaria, ponds, bait buckets, or any other external fish source.
- **Fishing Pole Attendance.** Anglers must attend their fishing pole (be within 50 feet) at all times.
- **Minnows.** It is unlawful to take, possess, transport, or sell live minnows anywhere within the Brunot Area.

Bowfishing

Bowfishing is allowed for northern pike and carp at all times in all Brunot Area waters. Bowfishing is also allowed for kokanee salmon concurrent with times and locations designated for salmon snagging. See Salmon Snagging for specific locations and timing. Legal equipment for bow fishing shall include recurve, compound or longbows with reels and arrows attached with fishing line. Arrows must have barbed heads and be equipped with a safety slide keeping the line in front of the bow at all times.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits

The Daily Bag Limit is the maximum number of game fish you can take in one day. The Possession Limit is the number of fish you may have in your possession at any one time, including in your creel, ice chest, vehicle, camp, or home. The possession limit for all game fish is no more than one daily bag limit (single species or in aggregate), as indicated in the Daily Bag and Possession Limits table. Bag and Possession Limits do not apply to those species where “Unlimited” take is indicated.

The Daily Bag and Possession Limits for trout, bass, sunfish, crappie, walleye and saugeye are IN AGGREGATE, meaning that the limits for each group of fish consist of one species or a mix of the different species indicated.

Special Management Fisheries

Special Management Fisheries are specific streams and lakes within the Brunot Area where closures and/or special harvest and tackle restrictions are in place to protect or enhance the local fish population. These locations include: Trophy Trout Waters, Cutthroat Conservation Waters, Trophy Bass Waters, Spawning Waters, and Salmon Snagging Waters. All anglers must comply with the special regulations in place for these designated waters.

- A. Trophy Trout Waters.** For the waters listed below, anglers may use artificial flies and lures only, with no bait fishing allowed. Unless otherwise noted, only two trout 16 inches in length or longer may be kept, per day.
- **Animas River.** From Lightner Creek to the south Brunot Area boundary located at Rivera Crossing Bridge.
- **Bear Creek.** From headwaters downstream to the Dolores River.

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Daily Bag and Possession Limits		
Game Fish		Limit (All Water Types)
Trout* (Rainbow, Brown, Cutthroat, Splake, Golden, Lake, Brook over 8")		4
Brook Trout (under 8")		10
Kokanee Salmon		10
Northern Pike		Unlimited
Common Carp		Unlimited
Yellow Perch		Unlimited
Bullhead		Unlimited
White Sucker		Unlimited
Game Fish		Limit
	Lakes/Reservoirs	Rivers/Creeks
Channel Catfish	10	Unlimited
Bass (Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted)*	10	Unlimited
Sunfish (Bluegill, Green, Redear, Pumpkinseed)*	20	Unlimited
Crappie (White and Black)*	20	Unlimited
Walleye and Saugeye*	5	Unlimited
Tiger Muskie	1 fish, 36" or larger	Unlimited



BRUNOT AREA HUNTING & FISHING SEASON • FROM PAGE 14

- **Dolores River.** From McPhee Dam downstream to the west Brunot Area boundary, near Lone Dome State Wildlife Area.
- **Emerald Lakes (Big & Little).** Located 10 mi northeast of Vallecito Res.
- **Lake Fork (of Gunnison River).** From High Bridge Gulch downstream to the north Brunot Area boundary.
- **Los Piños River.** From headwaters downstream to the Weminuche Wilderness boundary.
- **Piedra River. CATCH & RELEASE ONLY** from USFS Road 631 bridge downstream to the lower boundary of the Tres Piedra Ranch (1.5 miles above US160). All trout must be returned to the water immediately.
- **Rio Grande River.** From the lower boundary of River Hill Campground (near Rio Grande Reservoir) to the east Brunot Area boundary, just west of Creede, Colorado.
- **Vallecito Creek.** From headwaters downstream to the Weminuche Wilderness boundary.

- B. Cutthroat Conservation Waters** are streams and lakes within the Brunot Area that are managed to conserve pure-strain Colorado River and Rio Grande cutthroat trout. Anglers may fish these waters with artificial flies and lures only, but all fish must be returned to the water immediately. Cutthroat Conservation Waters include:
- Big Bend Creek (8 mi southwest of Durango Mtn. Resort)
 - Clear Creek (6 mi northwest of Hermosa)
 - Cooper Lake (10 mi southwest of Lake City)
 - Deep Creek (6 mi west of Telluride)
 - Elk Creek (10 mi west of Telluride)
 - Hermosa Creek, East Fork (at Durango Mtn. Resort)
 - Hermosa Creek (headwaters to confluence with East Hermosa Cr.)
 - Piedra River, East Fork (15 mi northwest of Pagosa Springs)
 - Rio Lado (10 mi southwest of Rico)
 - Sloan Lake (10 mi northeast of Silverton)
 - Spring Creek (8 mi west of Rico)

- C. Trophy Bass Waters** include two reservoirs where harvest is restricted to a smaller number of fish and/or specific size ranges in order to promote healthy reproductive bass populations.
- **McPhee Reservoir.** All bass (either smallmouth or largemouth) between the sizes of 10” and 15” must be immediately returned to the water. The Daily Bag and Possession Limit for bass from McPhee Reservoir is 5 fish.
 - **Totten Reservoir.** Located near Cortez, anglers may only keep smallmouth and largemouth bass that are 15 inches in length or longer. Anglers must also refrain from fishing along the north shore of the reservoir from March 1 through May 31 in order to protect nesting waterfowl.

- D. Spawning Waters** are streams and lakes within the Brunot Area that are inhabited by spawning populations of kokanee salmon and/or wild trout. In order to conserve these important fisheries and ensure successful reproductive cycles, special seasonal fishing closures are necessary. The Brunot Area Spawning Waters and corresponding closures are listed below.
- **Big Emerald Lake Inlet Creek (CLOSURE).** All fishing is prohibited in Lake Creek inlet for ½ mile above Big Emerald Lake from April 15 thru July 15.
 - **Grimes Creek (CLOSURE).** All fishing is prohibited in Grimes Creek from September 1 thru November 14.
 - **Groundhog Reservoir Inlet Creeks (CLOSURE).** All fishing is prohibited in Nash Creek and Groundhog Creek inlets for 1/2 mile above Groundhog Reservoir from April 15 through July 15.

- E. Salmon Snagging** or using hooked devices to snag salmon in parts of their bodies other than the mouth, is only allowed for kokanee salmon in designated waters during certain times of the year. Standard daily bag / possession limits for kokanee and gear restrictions for lure fishing apply to snagging.
- **Florida River (above Lemon Reservoir).** Snagging of kokanee salmon is permitted above Lemon Reservoir from September 1 thru December 31.
 - **Grimes Creek (upstream of Vallecito Res. water line).** Snagging of kokanee salmon is permitted above Vallecito Reservoir from November 15 through

December 31. All kokanee salmon caught before November 15 must be returned to the water immediately.

- **Vallecito Creek (CR501 upstream to Weminuche W.).** Snagging of kokanee salmon is permitted above Vallecito Reservoir from November 15 through December 31. All kokanee salmon caught before November 15 must be returned to the water immediately.

PROTECTED FISH & WILDLIFE

In order to ensure the long-term conservation of many rare and protected species that occur within the Brunot Area, the Tribe does not allow harvest of certain fish and wildlife by Brunot Area hunters and anglers. These include all species protected from take under the various Federal wildlife laws (e.g., Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act); those species protected under State of Colorado Title 33, and designated wildlife populations that are the subject of special research or re-introduction efforts.

For the Brunot Area, the protected wildlife species most likely to be encountered by hunters include: Canada lynx, river otter, Gunnison sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, all raptors (eagles, hawks, falcons, owls), and all songbirds. The protected fish species most likely to be encountered by anglers include: Colorado River and Rio Grande cutthroat trout (designated pure populations), roundtail chub, flannelmouth sucker, and bluehead sucker.

None of these protected fish and wildlife species may be harvested by Tribal Brunot Area hunters or anglers. For a complete list of protected species, please contact the Tribal Division of Wildlife.

In addition to the protected species identified above, the Tribe has also designated black bear as a protected, culturally sensitive species that shall not be subject to harvest by Brunot Area hunters under a Southern Ute Tribal-issued permit. Tribal hunters, however, retain the option of obtaining a State permit for harvesting black bear.

OPEN AND CLOSED AREAS, PRIVATE PROPERTY, AND INDIAN LAND

Open Areas

Open Areas for hunting and fishing shall generally include all public lands within the Brunot Area boundary, which consist of most Federal government and State of Colorado-owned lands (e.g., National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands, State Wildlife Areas, State Parks, State school sections). Certain exceptions apply on some Federal and State-owned properties, or portions thereof; see Closed Areas below.

Closed Areas

Closed Areas are those lands within the Brunot Area where hunting and/or fishing is not allowed by the Tribe for (1) public safety reasons, or (2) sensitive resource protection reasons. These areas include:

- all properties within the limits of any Brunot Area town or municipality;
- all properties or areas closed by local government (i.e., city or county) for public safety reasons;
- any place in close proximity to campgrounds, boat ramps, marinas, trailheads, occupied buildings, private residences, and any other facilities where hunting presents an undue risk to users, residents, and/or the facilities;
- any areas closed by Federal or State agencies to protect archaeological, wildlife, or other sensitive natural resource sites;

Note: Additional fishing-related closures are also specifically identified in the Spawning Waters section of the Brunot Area Fishing Regulations.

Private Property represents a substantial portion, approximately 25%, of the entire Brunot Area. Although permitted Brunot Area hunters and anglers are authorized to take game species on private property, the hunter or angler must always obtain access permission from the landowner prior to entering private land. It is always the hunter’s or angler’s responsibility to know where private land occurs, even if land boundaries are not clearly marked in the field. Hunters and anglers should carefully review maps provided by the Tribe, as well as those published by State and Federal lands agencies. Always seek knowledgeable help if in doubt about land status.

Indian Land within the Brunot Area is a small portion of the Ute Mountain Ute (UMU) reservation extending to south of

Cortez, Colorado and west of Mesa Verde National Park. For purposes of Brunot Area hunting by Southern Ute Tribal Members, UMU land should be considered private property and not huntable without the expressed permission of the UMU Tribe.

LAND USE REGULATIONS

Virtually all of the public lands within the Brunot Area – whether federal, state, or locally controlled – are subject to a wide range of land use regulations, some of which are not exclusively directed to fish and game matters. Common examples include, but are not limited to, restrictions on: open fires, recreational shooting, overnight camping, wood cutting/collecting, boating, livestock use, and especially off-road vehicle use (e.g., 4x4 trucks, ATV’s, motorcycles, mountain bikes, snowmobiles). One of the more significant land use regulations affecting hunters is a vehicle ban in certain areas. Within State Wildlife Areas, federal wilderness and research areas, and specially-designated portions of National Forest, vehicle access is commonly banned either seasonally or year-round. The purpose of those regulations includes public safety and the protection of natural resources from public over-use and abuse.

The Tribal Council recognizes that requiring compliance with nondiscriminatory federal, state, and local land use regulations in the Brunot Area as a matter of Tribal law may limit or interfere somewhat with the exercise of the Tribe’s Brunot Agreement rights by tribal members, but the Tribal Council finds that requiring compliance with such regulations as a matter of Tribal law is an advisable exercise of Tribal sovereignty in the interest of comity and to:

- Avoid the applicability of such regulations to Brunot Area hunting and fishing from being determined in federal or state court;
- Avoid potential litigation with an uncertain result;
- Avoid potential intergovernmental conflicts.

Such regulations, therefore, shall apply to Tribal Member Brunot Area hunting and fishing as a matter of Tribal law. The Tribal Council reserves the right to create exceptions to the general applicability of such regulations to Tribal Member Brunot Area hunting and fishing.

It is the responsibility of Tribal Member Brunot Area hunters and anglers to know and understand the various land use regulations that are in place and enforced within the Brunot Area. Violations of the regulations are not only violations of Tribal law, but also may constitute violations of state and/or federal law, and, therefore may be prosecuted in Tribal, state, or federal court. In a state or federal prosecution for violation of such regulations, therefore, it may be an ineffective defense to assert that the Tribal Member was exercising Brunot Agreement rights, since those regulations are applicable as a matter of Tribal law. Hunters and anglers should contact the Tribe’s Wildlife Management Division or other appropriate management agencies for more information on applicable land use regulations (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Parks, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, etc.).

GUIDING & OUTFITTER

A “guide” or “outfitter” is a person who accepts compensation for (1) guiding, leading, packing, protecting, supervising, instructing, or training persons in the take or attempted take of wildlife; or (2) providing facilities (e.g., tents, cabins, camp gear, food, or similar supplies, equipment, or accommodations), equipment or services for hunting activities, including but not limited to the transportation of individuals, equipment, supplies, or wildlife by means of vehicle, vessel, or pack animal.

The guiding and outfitting of a Tribal Member Brunot Area hunter requires special authorization of the guide/outfitter from either the Tribe OR State and Federal authorities, depending on (1) the SUIT member status of the guide, or (2) whether the hunter is hunting under authority of a Tribal or State hunting permit.

If a hunter with a Tribal Brunot hunting permit wants to utilize the service of a Tribal Member guide/outfitter, this guide/outfitter must first be permitted by the Tribe, per Tribal permitting requirements, and the guide/outfitter must comply with the Tribe’s established guiding and outfitting rules and regulations. More information on these requirements and regulations is available through the Tribe’s Division of Wildlife office.

If the hunter wants to utilize the service of a non-SUIT member guide/outfitter, OR if the hunter is hunting under the authority of a State hunting permit, the guide/outfitter must comply with all applicable State and Federal permitting requirements and regulations pertaining to guiding and outfitting. The Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) and/or the U.S. Forest Service should be contacted for more information.

The terms “hunting” and “fishing”, as they relate to guiding and outfitting, are used interchangeably.

Things to ask to be sure your guide/outfitter is legal

- Do you have the appropriate Tribal/State /Federal Permits?
- What are your permit and/or registration numbers?
- Will we be hunting on public lands at any time?
- Do you have a Bureau of Land Management or U.S. Forest Service Permit?

Indications of an illegal outfitter

- The outfitter does not provide you with a written contract
- The outfitter counsels you not to talk to state or federal officers or asks you to say you’re just friends or family hunting together.

Verify an outfitter as legal

Contact the SU Wildlife Division for information on Tribal guides and outfitters. Contact the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies to verify a non-Southern Ute Tribal Member guide or outfitter. www.dors.state.co.us/outfitters Contact the Colorado Outfitters Association www.coloradooutfitters.org

If you suspect illegal guiding and outfitting contact the Southern Ute Wildlife Division immediately for assistance. Illegal guiding and outfitting is a serious offense and can have severe consequences for you and the guide/outfitter involved in the activity. The above information is provided to keep you safe and legal while hunting on and off the reservation.

INCORPORATION OF ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS BY REFERENCE

The following sections of the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Wildlife Conservation Code, as amended and published as of the date of adoption of this Proclamation, are adopted by the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council and incorporated by reference into this Brunot Area Hunting and Fishing Proclamation. The purpose of the incorporation is to provide for the applicability of the incorporated sections to Tribal Member Brunot Area hunting and fishing notwithstanding any on-Reservation applicability limitation that may be expressed or implied in those sections. All Tribal Members who wish to hunt or fish in the Brunot Area must comply with the requirements set forth in the incorporated sections. The regulations contained in this Proclamation shall govern in the event of any conflict with the requirements contained in the incorporated sections.

Article 1 (except for §13-1-106) Definitions, Organization, Regulations

- **Section 13-2-105:** Denial, Suspension and Revocation of Permit Privileges
- **Section 13-2-106:** Administrative Appeal
- **Section 13-2-107:** Judicial Review
- **Article 3:** Offenses
- **Article 4:** Penalties and Procedures
- **Article 5:** Evidence and Additional Penalties

JURISDICTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Tribe and State of Colorado have a shared responsibility for establishing appropriate hunting and fishing regulations for the hunters and fishermen under their respective authorities in the Brunot Area, as well as for enforcing those regulations. It is the Tribe’s intent to provide a law enforcement presence in the Brunot Area utilizing Southern Ute Tribal Rangers.

Tribal hunters and anglers are likely to encounter both Tribal and State law enforcement officers while in the Brunot Area and should be prepared to show appropriate identification and permits, if requested by any law enforcement officer. In general, if a violation of a Tribal wildlife regulation has been committed by a Tribal-permitted hunter or angler, that hunter or angler shall be subject to Tribal citation and prosecution in Tribal Court.

Tribal hunters and anglers are required to carry with them their Tribal identification cards as proof of Tribal-enrolled status.

BOBCATS GIRLS BASKETBALL

IHS girls denied chance to earn State win

Virus fears truncate tourney after day one loss

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Initially informed her squad had battled the CHSAA Class 2A Girls' Basketball State Championships' No. 2 seed evenly on the Budweiser Events Center scoreboard from the floor, Ignacio head coach Justa Whitt's seventh-seeded Lady Bobcats actually outscored Holyoke 29-27 in that respect.

Also able to out-gun the Lady Dragons 5 to 3 from three-point land on Day 1 of the three-day tournament, it would have appeared the underdog was more than capable – and worthy – of pulling off a 'Great Eight' upset Thursday, March 12.

But Whitt and all red-and-black backers were forced to witness helplessly a horrifying coincidence unfold during the last eight regulation minutes, which ultimately denied the program a first-ever State triumph.

Having strung together an impressive 15 consecutive wins over foes great (including 3A Pagosa Springs and 2A-Region VIII Tournament championship opponent Rocky Ford) and small (such as regular 2A/1A San Juan Basin League rivals Mancos and Telluride) before journeying to distant Larimer County, the Lady 'Cats were undone as they'd been the previous time they'd come up short: from the free-throw line.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

With practically no crowd behind them – due to restricted entry policies enacted in hopes of preventing possible COVID-19 exposure – the Ignacio Lady Bobcats listen to senior captain Makayla Howell's final pre-game pump-up phrases prior to playing Holyoke in the Class 2A State Championships' 'Great Eight' round Thursday night, March 12, inside the Budweiser Events Center in Loveland, Colo.

Awarded only two free-throw chances during the fourth quarter, and just four during the whole second half, Ignacio fell 47-34 as HHS went 12-of-16 from the aptly-dubbed charity stripe during the final frame, 19-of-26 after intermission, and a decisive 20-of-31 from start to finish compared to IHS' 5-of-12.

"We definitely had a breakdown in the fourth quarter, and unfortunately, the foul situation hurt us," Whitt said afterwards. "You can't win a game when 20 free throws are made, and we only get a shot at four."

Called for eight infractions, many of the baffling, head-scratching variety, during the closing eight minutes alone, the Lady 'Cats were unable to mount the sort of comeback which had nearly snatched victory

from seemingly predestined defeat Jan. 16 at non-league 2A Del Norte.

The Lady Tigers – also able to qualify for the Championships and seeded fourth – had prevailed 53-50 that afternoon, going 23-of-35 from the foul line while Ignacio, which sank seven treys to DNHS' zero, ended up 5-of-6.

Ill-fated on a weekend featuring both Friday the 13th and the Shakespeare-fabled Ides of March about two days after that, and playing with the COVID-19 specter hanging over the mostly-empty (aside from essential game-day personnel working at the venue, each player/coach was allowed up to four guests) building, the Lady Bobcats fell behind 12-4 after one quarter

Girls denied page 20

BOBCATS BOYS BASKETBALL

Curtailed by COVID: Boys' season cut short

Bobcats' State run ends with quarterfinals loss

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Following his boys' second game of the 2019-20 season back in early December, Ignacio head coach Chris Valdez commented on not only the Bobcats' ability to go toe-to-toe with – and defeat – a State-caliber opponent, but also on a relative inability to silence that opponent's top gun.

"We had different people on him all game," he said, speaking of Limon junior Kory Tacha, who shot over, around and through the 'Cats for a game-best 23 points, barely a week after rushing for two touchdowns and catching another to power the Badgers past Strasburg in the CHSAA Class 1A State Football Championship. "And ... everybody did a good job. But he's always been ... a great shooter; that [number] 23's a monster."

Fast forward to Thursday, March 12 – Day 1 of the Class 2A State Basketball Championships' 'Great Eight' – when it looked as though an entire Monsters, Inc., still might not be enough to help the double-elimination bracket's No. 2 seed eventually deny the No. 1 the title which eluded them last winter.

And unfortunately, after LHS withstood 7-seed Peyton's second-half rally earlier in the evening, No. 8 Ignacio was first to face voracious Highland and show to all what would likely happen to any crew not as motivated.

Fairly familiar with the Ault-based Huskies and their brothers Bassire (senior Tate and junior Jase) from a 65-54 loss in the 2018 tournament's fifth-place game, Valdez couldn't help but be even more impressed by HHS' non-stop onslaught – ultimately producing an 80-35 victory – in the '20 quarterfinals.

"We've never seen a team like [Highland], and none of our teams in our area play anything like that," he said. "Not with the speed, aggressiveness and physicality. Defensively, we never



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

With fellow senior Ocean Hunter (32) also flocking to the ball, Ignacio's Bird Red (23) swoops in to ultimately block the shot of Ault Highland's Colton Pettit (22) during the teams' Class 2A State Championships 'Great Eight' showdown Thursday night, March 12, inside the Budweiser Events Center in Loveland, Colo. It was one of relatively few defensive highlights in an 80-35 defeat.

see that ever."

"Highland is 30 points better than us," Valdez conceded, "and we fell apart at times. There were times where if we played our game we could've made it more respectable, but we came out and turned the ball over too early and too often."

"That kind of threw everything off from there," said junior Bryce Finn. "It could have got a lot worse, to be honest."

Four IHS giveaways within the opening 60 seconds helped Highland break out to a 9-0 lead, with junior guard Jesse Vasa driving the lane for two baskets and Tate Bassire burying the first of his four – and HHS' nine – three-pointers. Valdez quickly called a timeout, but the deficit would grow to 15-0 before Bobcat senior Ocean Hunter managed to work inside for a close-range hoop with 4:03 left in the first frame.

En route to scoring ten first-quarter points, Jase Bassire responded by rac-

ing end-to-end for two points, and the Huskies would also establish 6'5" junior Bowen Tolle in the paint; his first six points helped Highland's lead reach a jaw-dropping 30-6.

Amazingly, the canines actually failed to score during the stanza's last 1:07, but treys by Jase Bassire and Tate Bassire keyed a crippling 12-2 run starting the second quarter, and the Huskies (24-1 overall) would go into halftime 4 minutes, 40 seconds later in complete control, 52-16, after a Jase Bassire right-wing triple with 0:01 left.

"That was the same thing the last time we came up here, we got off to a really slow start," said Valdez, alluding to IHS' 65-44 loss to Byers on Day 1 of the '18 tourney, in which the Bulldogs began on a 12-0 run and held a 25-12 lead after just eight minutes. "Got punched in the mouth and never recovered, really."

Junior Holden Morgan's

Boys season page 20

CHSAA

Prep sports paused until at least mid-April

CHSAA extends coronavirus cancelations

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

With the worldwide coronavirus' spread aggressive enough to warrant canceling NCAA 'March Madness' on basketball courts and Major League Baseball Spring Training games on diamonds throughout the United States, as well as potentially jeopardize the upcoming 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, the Colorado High School Activities Association initially took a wait-and-see approach.

Originally hoping to restart sanctioned sports and other events around April 6, CHSAA released an update Tuesday, March 17, just five days after the State Basketball Championships were suddenly terminated as a precaution against spread of and exposure to the COVID-19 scourge – stating the stall will continue even longer.

"In light of Governor Jared Polis' announcement Monday, March 16, where new restrictions were mandated to slow the advance of the virus, narrowing the minimum standards for public gatherings, we are announcing that the Association will follow the guidelines that went into effect at 8 a.m. today and will remain in effect for 30 days," CHSAA Commissioner Rhonda Blanford-Green was quoted in the e-mailed update as saying.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Colorado High School Activities Association Assistant Commissioner Justin Saylor commences removing event-specific chair-back covers late Thursday night, March 12, inside the Budweiser Events Center in Loveland, following CHSAA's decision to terminate the State Basketball Championships – not just in Class 2A, but all classifications – due to precautions taken against the spread of/exposure to the global coronavirus outbreak.

"This media and school advisory is to keep the membership apprised of the latest decisions from the CHSAA office."

These updates include extending CHSAA's Spring Sports moratorium through April 18, and the Association encourages schools to set stricter standards on student gatherings outside of its member high schools.

Additionally: all CHSAA Music events have been canceled for the remainder of the 2019-20 calendar; the 4/14 CHSAA Hall of Fame induction ceremony has been canceled; the 4/15 CHSAA Legislative Council meeting has been postponed pending changes in the public-gathering restrictions; the State Speech Tournament and Student Leader-

ship Advisor U. events have been postponed, also pending changes to public-gathering limitations.

Located in Aurora, the CHSAA office will also remain closed until March 30, with staff working remotely from home. The Association will, according to the e-mailed bulletin, recognize individual State Basketball Championships participants with a memento in the coming weeks to recognize their leadership and resolve during that ill-fated week.

As most sports fans know, national and state decisions related to COVID-19 are changing daily, sometimes hourly. Further updates can be found online at CHSAANow.com and will also be communicated via e-mail to schools and media.

CHSAA

CHSAA COVID-19 Update

By Bert Borgmann
COLO. HIGH SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

The Colorado High School Activities Association, following the most recent recommendation of state and federal health officials, has announced changes in the spring sports and activities schedules.

"In light of Governor Jared Polis' announcement Monday, March 16, where new restrictions were mandated to slow the advance of the COVID-19 virus narrowing the minimum standards for public gatherings, we are announcing that the Association will follow the guidelines that went into effect at 8 a.m. today and will remain in effect for 30 days," CHSAA Commissioner Rhonda Blanford-Green said. "This me-

dia and school advisory is to keep the membership apprised of the latest decisions from the CHSAA office."

These updates include:

- The Spring Sports moratorium is extended through April 18. CHSAA encourages schools to set stricter standards on student gatherings outside of the high school.
- All CHSAA Music Events have been cancelled for 2020.
- The CHSAA Hall of Fame, scheduled for April 14, has been cancelled.
- The CHSAA Legislative Council meeting, scheduled for April 15, has been postponed pending changes in the public gathering restrictions.
- The State Speech Tour-

nament and Student Leadership Advisor U have been postponed until later in the spring pending changes in the public gathering restrictions.

• The CHSAA office will remain closed until March 30, with staff working remotely from home.

The CHSAA will recognize individual participants from the CHSAA State Basketball Championships with a memento in the coming weeks to recognize their leadership and resolve during that week.

National and state decisions related to the COVID-19 virus are changing daily, even hourly, so new updates will be posted on CHSAANow.com and communicated via email to schools and media.



STARWHEELS

Horoscopes by “The Star Lady”

♈ ARIES (March 21 – April 20)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ARIES. APRIL has a variety of planetary influences all sandwiched between Fools Day and the 30th. First up is VENUS gliding into the sign of GEMINI on the 3rd. She wants to talk, and talk. MERCURY connects with NEPTUNE on that same day. Don't make important decisions, they could change. Sensitive issues might erupt, and carry over into the 4th. A rare JUPITER/PLUTO match up opens the door to new possibilities on the 4th. Later, on the 20th the MOON moves into ARIES and stays through the 21st igniting your ARIAN fire, and stoking your persistence. Patience is in short supply.

♉ TAURUS (April 21 – May 20)

Your sign ruler VENUS will be waving good-bye when it transits into GEMINI on the 3rd. Conversations tend to focus on money matters. A JUPITER/PLUTO connection works in your favor on the 4th. MERCURY will enter the assertive sign of ARIES on the 10th. It may lack some of the usual ARIES power of persuasion. It's better to rely on your diplomatic skills. Later, on the 19th the SUN returns to your sign and shifts the focus back to more personal goals. Plan, organize, and implement.

♊ GEMINI (May 21 – June 21)

A welcomed visitor enters your sign on the 3rd. It's VENUS, and she is leaving her TAURUS home to venture forth into fresh territory, your sign GEMINI. If current virus conditions prevail, stay balanced, and informed. The MOON in your sign on the 25th and 26th strengthens your confidence. Believe in yourself, and your personal power. While we all may be social distancing, you have a first-rate opportunity to learn something new. Avoid “the know it all” people. They don't know EVERYTHING!

♋ CANCER (June 22 – July 22)

These are changing times MOON KIDS. Options may be limited. JUPITER, and PLUTO will launch their month long marriage on the 4th. The last time these two joined their planetary hands was in 2007. Our best choice is to adapt to the adjustments we are making, and then set fresh goals for a more productive future. Please keep in mind that PLUTO is the planet of regeneration. JUPITER is the planet of positive new growth. Add JUPITER'S colors to your surroundings, royal purple, and mixed reds.

♌ LEO (July 23 – Aug. 22)

Now that MARS and SATURN are in your opposite sign of AQUARIUS, you may find it harder to get your point across to others in the household. JUPITER and PLUTO are still in command of the house of work and health. Do your best to maintain safe and healthy routines. These are unusual times Lions. You might want to add a few healthy snacks to the Easter baskets along with the candy. APRIL is gifting us with a SUPERMOON on the 7th. If the night sky is clear, you will see LUNA in all her shining glory.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23 – Sept. 23)

A supportive trine from VENUS and SATURN on the 4th might arouse a desire to become more organized. Where to begin is the next big question. An opposition between the MOON and NEPTUNE on the 5th could add to the fog of confusion. It's ok VIRGO, as long as you don't act in haste chances are you will figure it out. You have a natural instinct for organization. However, there are also VIRGO'S who don't give a hoot about any of that. No matter, the MOON and JUPITER have your back on the 19th.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23)

We can't have everything all of the time. You may have to settle for less things some of the time. MARS and SATURN have settled into lively AQUARIUS. Take note LIBRA, MARS will square off with the planet URANUS on the 7th, both you and the young ones will be anxious to do something entertaining. A more inventive energy arrives on the 6th and 7th when the silvery MOON enters your sign. Weather permitting, it's SUPERMOON brilliance on the 7th might have us gazing in awe at the heavenly sight.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22)

Between VENUS in chatty GEMINI, and JUPITER in your communication section, your conversations are certain to be numerous. JUPITER'S influence puts an optimistic perspective on your words. This is NOT the time to perpetuate negativity SCORPIO. PLUTO your planetary ruler has been living in the sensible sign of CAPRICORN who's domain is WISDOM. Spread that around instead. It would be more helpful to others. Try to be a cheerleader, not a jeer leader. Times like these require assurance.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21)

Regardless of the MOON'S passage through the sign of harmonious LIBRA, a determined challenge between MARS and URANUS might tempt you to give a heated response to someone in your presence. Think first. Words spoken in haste can't be taken back. MERCURY enters the sign of ARIES on the 10th and 11th. It sets up a busy weekend. No doubt some of you will be filling up Easter baskets, and some of you will be sampling their delightful contents. Marshmallow Bunnies, chocolates, Jelly beans anyone?

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20)

VENUS launches the month with a pleasant link to SATURN on the 4th. With the exception of Aliens from outer space coming here for a visit, there are other enjoyable days to follow. JUPITER and PLUTO (both currently in your sign) are influenced by the MOON in a pleasing manner on the 6th. After you have polished off all the EASTER candy, a majestic SUN will be rolling into the earthy sign of TAURUS on the 19th. Get comfy CAPRICORN. This is likely to be a satisfying weekend, do what pleases you.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 – Feb. 18)

Since last month when the giant ringed planet SATURN entered your sign, it's possible that you began to experience some major changes. This planet is the 'BIG BOSS' of the Solar System. What he says goes. Expect to be tested AQUARIUS. But if it's any consolation you won't be the only one taking the test. In some way or another we will all be making adjustments to our lifestyles. Tap into your memory reservoir. Whenever SATURN visits, the question is, are we living up to the commitments we have agreed to.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19 – March 20)

Howdy PISCES people. MERCURY'S happy passage through your sign ends on the 10th as it zooms into the energy driven sign of ARIES and adds an element of importance to your actions. Tempers may flair on the 7th when MARS challenges URANUS. Thanks to MERCURY'S attempts to tone things down a much friendlier atmosphere arrives later in the afternoon and evening. The FULL MOON in peace loving LIBRA on the 7th, soothes away irritation, and allows a calm and tranquil atmosphere to take over.

Carole Maye is a Certified Astrology Professional with over 30 years of astrological study and practice. Private horoscope consultations can be arranged by appointment, via email: starwheels2@comcast.net

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Recognizing Vietnam Veterans Day

Staff Report
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
STATE LEGISLATORS

Vietnam Veterans Day commemorates the sacrifices of Vietnam veterans and their families and is part of a national effort to recognize the men and women who were denied a proper welcome upon returning home more than 40 years ago.

The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act, signed into law in 2017, designates March 29 of each year as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

Most states celebrate “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day” on March 29 or 30 of each year. Though there is some debate, March 29 is generally viewed as a more appropriate date. On that day in 1973, the last combat troops were withdrawn from Vietnam and the last prisoners of war held in North Vietnam arrived on American soil.

On March 28, 2017, the President signed into law: S. 305, the “Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017,” which encourages the display of the U.S. flag on March 29, National Vietnam War Veterans Day.



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Southern Ute Veteran Rod Grove gives a brief history of the Vietnam memorial in the Southern Ute Veterans Memorial Park on Tribal campus, emphasizing the impact that the Vietnam War has had on many returned veterans — many who lost their lives at home due to the effects of Agent Orange, PTSD, alcoholism and drug abuse.



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Southern Ute Vietnam Veteran and former association commander, Howard Richards Sr. gave opening remarks to attendees honoring Vietnam veterans in 2017.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Los Pinos Fire Protection District cancels mill levy election

Staff report
LOS PINOS FIRE DEPT.

Even with overwhelming support from area home and business owners that the District staff has met with for a mill levy increase, Tony Harwig, Fire Chief of the Los Pinos Fire District, along with 100 percent support of the Board of Directors have voted to postpone the mill levy election scheduled for May 5, 2020. The crews and administration are currently focused 100 percent on the Covid-19 pandemic response along with answering the regular emergency calls. We also have concerns for the people that would be working as election judges and staff along with the postal service personnel and printing companies. Everyone's safety and wellbeing are and always will be our priority.

It's the right thing to do under the current situation in the area and world.

Yes, this will be difficult financially for the district, but we are all in difficult times. We can stretch our savings out a little longer just like everybody is currently having to do. As the economy and the job market for the people we protect gets better we will approach the taxpayers again for the needed assistance.

The district is dipping into reserves at nearly one million dollars a year to run the current minimum staffing levels from just the one station in Ignacio, leaving the other four without staffing. The district is making plans to dip into savings even deeper as the Covid-19 pandemic advances by possibly adding non-EMS certified operators as needed for the ambulances so we can spread out the trained

medics to several currently understaffed backup ambulances. We are looking into any, and all options to do the best we can to respond to the public's needs during this serious situation.

Many, many hours of hard work over the past half a year went into the election by all involved and we so much appreciate all of you. Thank you to everybody that has supported this effort by attending presentations and giving valuable input.

Please give thanks to all the doctors, nurses, scientists, dispatchers, grocery workers, truck drivers and the countless others working so hard behind the scenes to keep this country protected and moving forward. Let's all work hard and do our part to defeat this horrible virus and come out of it with a renewed appreciation of our freedom and love for one another.

A Request from Los Pinos Fire Dept.
Chief Tony Harwig

The Los Pinos Fire Department requests that if the public has any questions or concerns about the Corona Virus, that they contact San Juan Basin Public Health. Their website is www.sjbpublichealth.org. Phone numbers for updated information include: 303-389-1687 and 877-462-2911. If you believe you have symptoms, call your doctor to receive further instruction and to see if you meet the criteria for testing. If you do not have a doctor, call San Juan Basin Public Health's front desk at 970-247-5702, option 1. Los Pinos Fire is here to serve for emergency medical and fire protection calls.

SunUte: About NAIG 2020

Attention Team Colorado athletes, parents, and coaches, due to the recent COVID-19 situation and how it changes by the hour. The decision was made by the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) Council and the NAIG 2020 Host Society to postpone the game set for July 12-18, 2020.

We will host a meeting as soon as the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted to go over what is going to happen next. As always if you have any questions, please free to contact SunUte's Recreation Coordinator Kelsey Frost at 970-563-2660.

WE HOPE TO
SEE YOU IN 2021



Drum
Deadline

Next issue
April 10

Deadline
April 6

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

THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

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Payroll & Tribal Distribution Checks Notice

With the closure of the Sky Ute Casino Resort due to COVID-19, the tribal membership and tribal staff will be unable to utilize the Casino's Cashier Window to cash checks. The Tribe has confirmed that the local **Wells Fargo bank will be open from 9:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.** to provide this services to tribal members and tribal staff, even if they do not bank with this financial institution. Wells Fargo has modified their operation to **drive-thru banking only**. Staff will need to provide two forms of identification to perform these types of transactions. **Please make appropriate plans for payroll and dividend distributions.** The Sky Ute Casino Resort management would like to offer their apologies for this inconvenience, but believes the health and safety of the tribal membership and tribal staff is best served by this decision.



Before The Southern Ute Ethics Commission Southern Ute Indian Tribe

Case No. 01-2019
Notice:
IN THE MATTER OF THE ETHICS
COMPLAINT FILED AGAINST:
Esther Rima
PO Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137

This matter came before the Ethics Commission for a hearing on October 30, 2019. A quorum of the Commission was present. The Commission's legal counsel, Steven Boos, was present. Hearing Officer David Gomez presided over the hearing and ruled on matters within his authority. The Ethics Office was present through its acting Director, Phil Drake, and its attorney, Michael Santo. The complaining party, David Smith, was present and gave testimony. The Respondent, Esther Rima, and her legal counsel, Lisa Shellenberger, did not appear at the hearing and provided no testimony or other evidence to the Commission. Consequently, the decision in this matter was based solely on the testimony and evidence submitted by the Ethics Office. The Commissioners who were present at the hearing met on November 5, 2019 for the purpose of full deliberation and unanimously adopted the Decision of November 7, 2019, which is incorporated by reference in this Order. The Decision found that at the time of the acts that are the subject of the complaint in this case, the Respondent was an official of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and her acts as an official of the Tribe were subject to review and sanction pursuant to the Ethics Code, notwithstanding her later resignation. The Decision also found that there was clear and convincing evidence that the acts described in the Findings constituted a violation of § 19-2-101 of the Ethics Code (Abuse of Authority) by the Respondent. As sanctions for these violations, the Decision then ordered that the Respondent be disqualified from seeking or holding appointed tribal office for a period of three years from the date of the Decision, pursuant to § 19-7-101(l)(a)(iv) of the Ethics Code. This disqualification was ordered to run consecutively with, and following, the two-year disqualification agreed to in the settlement of Case No. 06-2018 so that the Respondent would be disqualified for a total of five years. The Decision further ordered that within 30 days of the date of the Decision, as a corrective action pursuant to § 19-7-101(5) of the Ethics Code, the Respondent send written letters of apology to Lorelyn Hall and to the Legal Department. Copies of these letters were ordered to be provided by the Respondent to the Ethics Office and to the Commission.

The Respondent subsequently appealed the Decision to the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Court. *Esther Rima v. Southern Ute Indian Tribe Ethics Office and David Smith*, No. 19-AP-171. On March 6, 2020, the Court entered its *Findings and Order on Appeal from the Southern Ute Indian Ethics Commission (Findings and Order)*. The *Findings and Order* upheld the Decision of the Commission in all but one respect: The Court determined that the sanctions ordered by the Commission were in excess of the authority of the Commission. When a case concerns an Executive Officer, such as the Respondent, the Commission may only recommend sanctions to the Chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and it is within the exclusive authority of the Chairman to impose those sanctions. The *Findings and Order* therefore reversed the Decision insofar as the sanctions and remanded that sole issue to the Commission. The *Findings and Order* are incorporated by reference in this Order. The Commission met on March 10, 2020 to consider the issue of sanctions, as remanded to the Commission by the Tribal Court. A quorum of the Commission was present. The Commission agreed to recommend the following sanctions to the Chairman: Esther Rima be disqualified from seeking or holding appointed tribal office for a period of three years, pursuant to § 19-7-101(l)(a)(iv) of the Ethics Code. This disqualification shall run consecutively with, and following, the two-year disqualification agreed to in the settlement of Case No. 06-2018 so that the Respondent is disqualified for a total of five years. Within 30 days, as a corrective action pursuant to § 19-7-101(5) of the Ethics Code, the Respondent shall send written letters of apology to Lorelyn Hall and to the Legal Department. Copies of these letters shall be provided by the Respondent to the Ethics Office and to the Commission. The sanctions recommended by the Commission were forwarded to the Chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe on March 11, 2020. The Chairman approved the sanctions recommended by the Commission on the same day and sent a copy of the signed Order back to the Commission. On March 13, 2020, the Ethics Commission met and made a final order in this case entering the sanctions approved by the Chairman into the record of this case. Because of the extensive nature of the documents referenced in the Order of March 11, 2020, any person wishing to see the original Decision of the Ethics Commission or the Findings and Order of the Tribal Court may obtain copies at the J&R administration building upon request.



Tawi Nuuchu Niivanni

"We, Ute will all be counted"

On March 12 - 20, 2020, households will begin receiving official Census Bureau mail with detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 census online, by phone, or by mail.

For more information go to www.2020census.gov

United States
Census
2020

Photo Credit: Thomas Collins | Southern Ute Drum Credit: Published by Lindsey J. Kim



Recovery Talking Circle

FREE TO ALL IGNACIO COMMUNITY MEMBERS
18 YEARS OR OLDER

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

12-1 PM

March 1, 2020

SANCTUARY RELAPSE PREVENTION PLAN

March 11, 2020

12-1 PM

TRIGGERS

12-1 PM

March 18, 2020

SELF CARE

April 1, 2020

12-1 PM

IGNACIO COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

APRIL 11, 2020

CANCELLED

(FIELD BEHIND SOUTHERN UTE COMMUNITY CENTER)

Games, Fun and Tons of Prizes!

IGNACIO COMMUNITY CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION FUN COLOR RUN

APRIL 29, 2020

IGNACIO MIDDLE SCHOOL

REGISTRATION: 1PM

WALK/RUN START: 2PM

ALL AGES AND ABILITIES
WELCOME.

SCHOOL BUSES WILL
RUN AFTER EVENT

WEAR MASKS

CANCELLED

PARENTS, DON'T JUST ACT LIKE A SUPER HERO!
DRESS LIKE ONE FOR THE COLOR RUN!

If you or someone you know is being abused, please contact 911 or the Southern Ute Tribe's Division of Social Services at 970-563-2339.

ATTENTION

PINE RIVER INDIAN

CANCELLED

SPRING WATER USERS MEETING

@ SKY UTE CASINO

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1, 2020

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY

BUREAU OF THE INDIAN AFFAIRS

FOR MORE INFO CALL (970) 563-9484



100th Annual Southern Ute Fair Theme & Logo Contest

The deadline for the Southern Ute Fair Theme and Logo Contest deadline will remain for April 3 at 5pm.

The Special Events Coordinator will ONLY be in the office on April 3 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. to accept any submissions if you would like to drop it off at the Southern Ute Cultural Preservation Department.

You may still mail in your entries to:
Cultural Preservation Department
Attn: Tara Vigil
PO Box 737 #88
Ignacio, CO, 81137

Please ring the Cultural Preservation doorbell which is located next the Museum Big Classroom entrance. For any questions please call the Special Events Coordinator at 970-563-2985.

REQUEST FOR BIDS Southern Ute Powwow Committee

The Southern Ute Powwow Committee are accepting bids for the upcoming Southern Ute Bear Dance and Southern Ute Tribal Fair Powwows. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 970-553-9291 or at donalfrost331@gmail.com

Bear Dance weekend: May 22-23

- Porta Pots
- Security staff
- Cleaning staff
- Sound system

Tribal Fair weekend: September 18 – 20

- Porta Pots
- Security staff
- Cleaning staff
- Sound system

House for Sale • Asking \$174,000

3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, Cedar Point, Sagebrush Ave., Ignacio, CO. Living room has laminate wood floor, carpet in bedrooms, back yard fenced, one shed with electric hook up, sprinkler system works for front yard. Serious inquires only, leave message 970-563-3161.

In The Southern Ute Tribal Court

Of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe • On the Southern Ute Reservation
PO Box 737 #18, 149 CR 517, Ignacio, CO • 970-563-0240

NOTICE OF PROBATE In the Estate Of, Case No.: 2020-0041-CV-PR Roberta Scott, Deceased

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 **APRIL 28, 2020 at 4:00 PM.** All persons having claims against the above estate are required to file them for allowance with the Tribal Court at the stated address on or before the time and date of said hearing, as above set forth or said claims shall be forever barred and all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear and answer said Petition and offer evidence in support of their position. The Court will proceed to hear the matter at the date and time set above, or such later time to which the matter shall be continued and to make the determination therein necessary.

Dated this 17th of March, 2020.
Paula Trujillo, Deputy Court Clerk



2020 Annual Spring Clean-Up

Southern Ute Property and Facilities

Tyson Thompson, Director
970-563-2045

Cancelled

April 13-17, 2020

Tribal Departments, Tribal Members and tenants of the Southern Ute Housing Authority only. We will not provide clean-up for non-tribal tenants living in Tribal Member owned rental homes. All pick-up requests must be within the boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation only. Please feel free to call with any questions or concerns.

ALL ITEMS MUST BE IN ONE AREA and general trash **MUST BE BAGGED FOR PICK UP.** No Pickups will be made without prior contact with the homeowner or department.

If you have tires, only 4 tires per household will be picked up. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

We will not pull your trailer to the transfer station for you.

Tribal Elders. If you need assistance with bagging and piling of your trash, please contact the TERO Department at **970-563-2291.**

All vehicle disposals please call **Building Maintenance at 970-563-0265**

HAZARDOUS WASTE. If think your trash is hazardous waste, or you cannot identify the waste, please call **Environmental Programs at 970-563-0135** prior to your request being made.

**** Large site or dangerous HAZARDOUS WASTE testing and cleanup will be completed at the homeowner's expense**

Motor Pool, 970-563-0280, Tribal Member homes west of the Pine River except those listed below.

Building Maintenance, 970-563-0265, Tribal Departments, Tribal Member homes on CR 314, CR 315, CR 316 & CR 311. **ALL VEHICLES.**

Grounds Maintenance, 970-563-0272, Tribal Departments, Tribal Member homes located in Cedar Point East & West, Ignacio Peak & the La Boca area west of the Pine River, Tribal Member tenants of Quichas apartments.

Construction Services, 970-563-0260, Tribal members in Ignacio city limits & Tribal Member homes east of the Pine River.

Southern Ute Housing Authority, 970-563-4575, Southern Ute Housing Authority renters & Senior Center occupants are to contact the Southern Ute Housing Authority.

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: 970-563-5024.

Administrative Assistant (part-time) – Dept. of Energy (Ignacio, CO)

Closing 4/3/20 – A part-time position that is responsible for assisting with office, clerical, and accounting duties for staff of the Department of Energy (DOE). Maintains a positive and effective working relationship with coworkers, supervisors and the general public. Minimum Qualifications: Must be an enrolled Southern Ute Indian Tribal Member. High School diploma or equivalent is required and one year of clerical experience is required. Must have experience with typing, general filing, copying, and scanning of documents. Must have, or be able to obtain, an understanding of the processing of legal documents. Must have, or be able to obtain, knowledge and understanding of the process of organizing and updating land records for all energy projects of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Must have knowledge and skill using Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, MS Outlook, and Internet Explorer and be willing to learn database software currently used in Energy Department. Must have strong organizational skills. Must have willingness to take initiative, assist others, learn new skills, and participate in a productive team-oriented environment. Must be able to obtain Federal Security Clearance in order to work with energy revenue and auditing records. Must have valid driver's license for state of residency and be insurable under the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Growth Fund vehicle insurance policy. Must pass criminal history background check and pre-employment drug test.

Southern Ute Shared Services • Job announcements

Please visit our website at www.southernute.com/careers 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: 970-563-5024.

Chief Information Officer – SU Shared Services (Ignacio, CO)

Closing 3/31/20 – Operations of the Tribe's Shared Services organization (SUSS). SUSS is responsible for serving as the shared information technology service provider for the Tribe's Permanent Fund, Growth Fund, and Sky Ute Casino Resort. This position reports directly to the SUSS Committee, composed of the Permanent Fund Executive Officer, the Growth Fund Executive Director, and the Casino General Manager. Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in MIS, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering or related field and fifteen years diverse experience in the Information Technology industry, ten of which must be supporting: accounting, human resources or ERP systems. Must have five years supervisory experience. Must have five years experience in senior Information Technology management. Must have five years experience managing information technology systems in a business environment. Must have experience with budget preparation and compliance. Must have experience with enterprise network infrastructure and security design and industry best practices in a hybrid cloud environment. Must have experience with computer operations and help desk management. Experience in a Microsoft 365 and Azure environment. Must have knowledge of common Operating Systems such as Windows 10, Windows 2016 and Windows 2019. Must possess strong leadership and communication skills. Must have strong computer-based data management and analysis skills and troubleshooting skills. Must be willing to assist others, learn new skills, and participate in a productive team-oriented environment. Must be able to obtain a Southern Ute Indian Tribe Gaming Support License and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) Certification. Must have valid driver's license for state of residency and be insurable under the Growth Fund vehicle insurance policy. Must pass a pre-employment drug test and criminal history background check.



UNIVERSITY of DENVER

STURM COLLEGE OF LAW

Tribal Wills Project

Ute Mountain Ute, Towaoc, Colo., March 23-26

To make an appointment call the Univ. of Denver Wills Lab 303-871-6790

The **POSTPONED** until further notice. The University of Denver Sturm College of Law is postponing its Tribal Wills Project until further notice. The project was originally scheduled for March 23-26, 2020, in Towaoc, Colorado. The project was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will be rescheduled at a later date. The University of Denver Sturm College of Law is committed to providing this service to the Ute Mountain Ute and Towaoc communities. We will continue to work with the communities to ensure that the project is completed as soon as possible. We will provide further notice when the project is rescheduled.



SOUTHERN UTE UTILITIES DIVISION

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

March 23, 2020



Friendly Reminder from Wastewater Operations:

**PLEASE FLUSH ONLY
TOILET PAPER!**



shutterstock • 150968030

DO NOT FLUSH THE FOLLOWING:



Tissue or Kleenex



"Flushable" Wipes & Baby Wipes



Paper Towels



Facial Wipes



Rubber Gloves or
Cotton Gloves

These items do not breakdown and dissolve correctly!

Flushing anything but TOILET PAPER can result in sewage problems like BLOCKAGES and lead to EXPENSIVE HOME REPAIR.

Questions? Call the Utilities Division Office at (970) 563-5500. - Thank you!



SOUTHERN UTE UTILITIES DIVISION

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

March 25, 2020



ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS:

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY,
THE TRANSFER STATION HOURS ARE
MONDAY – FRIDAY
8 AM TO NOON**

CLOSED SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Note: This notice is for use of the Transfer Station located at the Utilities Division. Those tribal members who utilize Transit Waste trash services, will continue to have their trash picked up according to their normal trash schedule. Please have your polycarts out by **6 AM** on your designated pick up day.

In response to COVID-19 prevention efforts:

- Utilities Staff appreciates your understanding of the necessity to modify hours of operation.
- It is our highest priority to provide and maintain critical services to the Southern Ute Tribal membership and community during this pandemic.
- Safety is our number one priority for our employees and our customers.

Questions? Call the Utilities Division Office at (970) 563-5500.

Be Safe – The Utilities Division Staff



IHG GIRLS DENIED CHANCE • FROM PAGE 16

as Holyoke sophomore Lauren Herman knocked down two triples during the last two minutes.

Howell nailed Ignacio’s first three with 5:59 left in the second quarter, cutting the deficit to 12-7, but Holyoke (23-1 overall), motivated by senior point guard Emily Jelden’s first four points, were able to rebuild a 19-11 halftime lead despite IHS sophomore Avaleena Nanaeto draining a corner three with 1:33 left before the break.

Still, the Lady ‘Cats were relatively unshaken, having held HHS sophomore center Kristen Vieselmeyer to just five points and senior forward Shianne Willmon – who’d signed on March 4 to play fast-pitch softball at Columbus, Neb.-based Central Community College – to only two, as the duo combined to go just 1-of-5 in the free-throw department.

“We knew that we were going to be playing girls ... bigger than us; we knew we really had to shut out the inside,” said Howell, “so we were fronting the girls as much as we could, hoping to push them out. That was our major goal.”

“I think it was nerves at the beginning of the game, and that always happens up here,” Whitt said. “We went in the locker room, the girls regrouped and were ready to fight. They did, and it was awesome.”

Awesome to the extent that after Lady Dragon senior Sarah Razo hit a three-ball to put HHS up 24-14 with 5:42 left in the third quarter, it took just 2:25 of clock time for IHS to rally as close as 25-24 after threes by senior Larissa Gallegos and junior Jayden Brunson sandwiched a harmless Jelden FT.

“In past games we’ve slowed down in that third quarter, which really kills us,” Brunson said. “And we knew coming out strong, pushing it really hard, making sure we scored in that quarter was going to be really crucial.”

But Vieselmeyer would hit a free throw with 2:57 left, and Holyoke closed out the quarter rebuilding a 31-24 lead mostly from the stripe; Jelden went 5-of-6 during the third and Vieselmeyer 2-4, with Herman adding a key two-point hoop.

Having ended Ignacio’s 2017-18 season with a 45-35 win in the Championships’ consolation-bracket semifinals (HHS went 20-of-26 from the stripe during that Day 2 action; IHS went 6-of-15), John Baumgartner’s bunch started the final frame on a 5-0 scoring burst, and still held a double-digit lead, 40-29, after Jelden sank two FTs with



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Leaving Holyoke’s Sarah Razo (left) and Victoria Race (44) helpless defensively, Ignacio sophomore Avaleena Nanaeto (35) spins quickly to the basket during the Class 2A State Championships’ ‘Great Eight’ round Thursday night, March 12, inside the Budweiser Events Center in Loveland, Colo.

4:07 left.

Sophomore Monika Lucero became the seventh Ignacio player to score in the clash, hitting a three-pointer, but with Vieselmeyer (15 points) and Herman (12) each going 4-of-4 from the foul line during the fourth quarter and Jelden (12) 3-of-6, Holyoke was able to pull away.

Wearing No. 1 on her jersey, Howell fouled out with, fittingly, 1:01 remaining and six points to her name. Finishing with four fouls, Nanaeto would also book a half-dozen while junior Ebonee Gomez, who sparked IHS’ third-quarter recovery with back-to-back layups, totaled a team-best eight points while also playing with four personals. Incredibly, Lucero and junior Charlize Valdez (three points) also battled with four fouls apiece, and Gallegos ended up saddled with three.

Brunson (five points) and Lucero combined to win Ignacio the game’s bench-points category, 8-2 over HHS senior Victoria Race, who’d scored four points in the teams’ previous engagement (Willmon and Razo also were varsity Lady Dragons in ’17-18, but neither scored against IHS).

Due to intensified concerns regarding the aforementioned coronavirus, CHSAA decided later that night to cancel the next two days’ play, leaving the Lady Bobcats with a finalized 18-6 record and no chance to bounce back for senior regulars Howell and Gallegos, plus reserves Elizabeth Valdez, Bella Pena, Bela Torres and He-

laina Taylor.

“Throughout the process of communicating our plan regarding the state basketball tournaments in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have maintained that the tournaments would be played unless a state agency or a host venue made a decision affecting that status,” CHSAA Assistant Commissioner Bert Borgmann said in a mass e-mail sent just before 11:30 p.m.

“On Thursday evening, the CHSAA office was informed by the University of Denver that the school would no longer be able to host the Class 3A tournament. With uncertainty at all additional sites, including a state-of-emergency declaration by the city of Denver, the difficult decision has been made to cancel the remainder of all tournaments in all classes.”

IHS would have next faced 3-seed Rye (24-1), shocked 46-31 earlier on Day 1 by No. 6 Sanford, in the consolation semis. Meanwhile, after downing No. 5 Wray (17-8) in the Championships’ very first contest, 63-46, Del Norte (21-3) would have next faced 1-seed Limon (24-1) in the ‘Final Four’ with SHS (16-7) and Holyoke also to square off.

“In the face of this unprecedented public health emergency, we are compelled to discontinue play in all tournaments,” Commissioner Rhonda Blandford-Green was quoted in the e-mail as saying. “We want to thank those who have supported us through the difficult decisions in these uncertain times.”

IHS BOYS SEASON CUT SHORT • FROM PAGE 16

five third-quarter points complemented well Tolle’s four, and HHS would go into the fourth quarter seated atop a comfortable 68-25 cushion and ready to polish off a sort of mercy-rule devastation often seen inside IHS Gymnasium during 2A/1A San Juan Basin League play.

Junior Joe Garcia buried a three-pointer during the home stretch and finished with six points off the bench for Ignacio. Fellow junior reserve Dylan Labarthe totaled five points, and combined with Garcia for 6-of-12 free-throw accuracy (the ‘Cats ended up 8-of-18; the Huskies went 7-of-8).

Finn was held to just five points, all before intermission, while Hunter and fellow starters Triston Thompson and Brady McCaw each booked four points along with sophomore reserve Gabe Tucson.

Slowed by foul trouble early, senior Keegan Schurman managed to net three points.

Able to cash three three-pointers – all during the second quarter – Jase Bassire racked up 25 points for Highland.

“He was all over the place,” Finn said, “just ended up in the right spot all the time.”

Tolle (16) and Tate Bas-sire (12) joined him in double figures, while Morgan totaled nine points and Vasa six.

Not long after the game – played before a relative skeleton crowd, limited to essential game-day personnel and up to four family members or guests per player/coach due to enacted COVID-19 prevention measures – it was announced by CHSAA that the Championships’ remaining contests would be canceled, in hopes of curbing possible exposure to the rampant virus.

Disappointed by the hand dealt them, the Bobcats nonetheless concluded an excellent bounce-back season – finishing 18-5 overall after going an uncharacteristic 10-10 in ’18-19 (down from 20-6 in 2017-18).

“We’re in a situation where we got knocked down,” said Valdez, “but I know we can get back up again.”

Denied at least one more game in IHS varsity togs were Hunter, Schurman and vital reserve Bird Red.

“What I want of these kids is that ... this isn’t going to be the biggest moment of their life,” Valdez said, speaking of – and at – a senior class also including reserve post John-

athon Whitt, inactive for the game but in attendance and participating as a team manager for girls’ head coach and mother Justa.

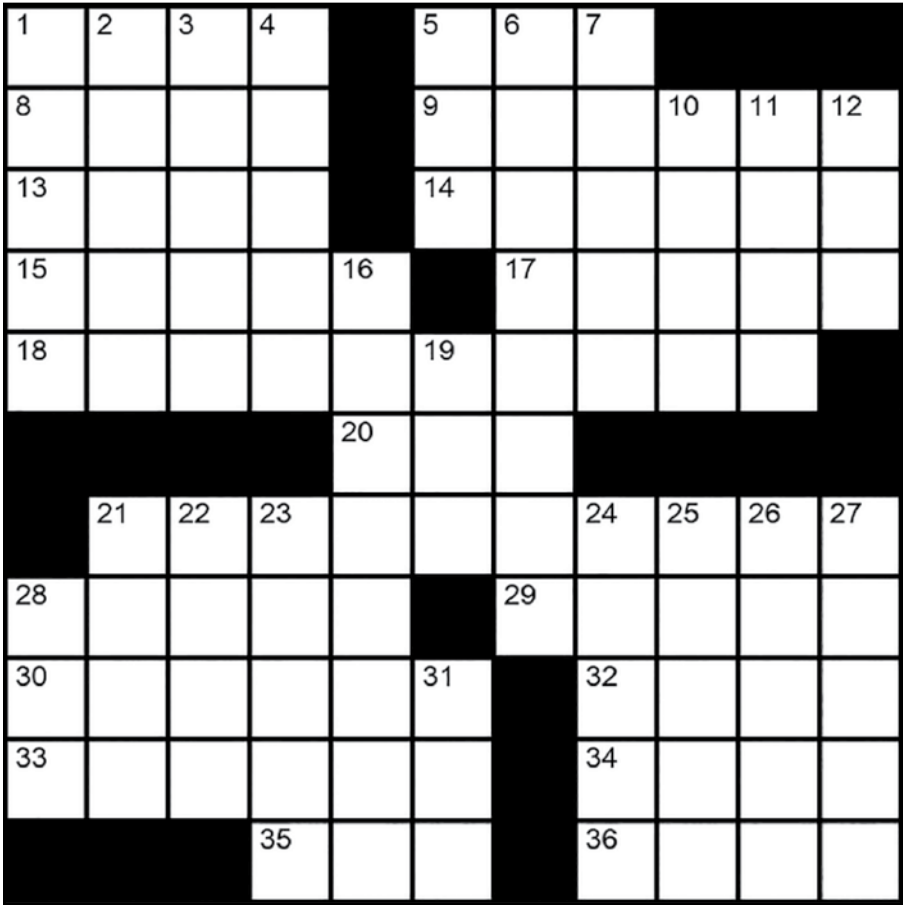
“When they went above and beyond, were unselfish, and helped each other up. Those times make those kids who they are, and those are the memories I’m going to take from ‘em.”

“You’ve got a lot of great things that’ll happen,” he continued. “Be excited, take some great memories from this and move on; don’t make this the best thing that ever happened to you. And thank you for ... giving me everything you have.”

Definitely a matchup sure to re-energize southern Colorado fans, as it had in postseasons past, Ignacio’s opponent in the consolation semifinals on Day 2 would have been 4-seed Sanford (20-5), toppled 49-36 early on Day 1 by No. 5 Wray; the Eagles (19-6) would have next challenged – or tried to – Highland in the ‘Final Four.’

Joining them in the other winners’ semi would have been Limon (23-2) and 3-seed Yuma (21-3), fortunate to edge No. 6 Fowler on Day 1, 55-51. The Grizzlies (22-3) would have next met Peyton (19-6) in consolation-semifinal action.

The Southern Ute Drum’s Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Fundamentals
- 5 Disposed
- 8 Baggy type of suit
- 9 Native American hockey variety
- 13 Melody
- 14 Pith helmets
- 15 Pelted with cackleberries
- 17 Flake or chip of stone
- 18 A Rockette, for example
- 20 It can be super at elections
- 21 The Principal People, a k a Cherokee
- 28 Eat greedily
- 29 Cereal fungus
- 30 Arbitrate
- 32 Evils
- 33 Ship
- 34 Drag
- 35 “Hands off!”
- 36 Tofu bean

Down

- 1 Mesoamerican people overthrown by the Conquistadores
- 2 Tree branch
- 3 Second longest African river
- 4 Bullock
- 5 Puerto Rico setting
- 6 Chemical warfare gas used in WWI
- 7 “The Birds” actress --- Hedren
- 10 Stingy
- 11 “The Old Curiosity Shop” orphan
- 12 Big fashion letters
- 16 Like some airport shops
- 19 Myanmar leader Aung San --- Kyi
- 21 Pinnacle of perfection
- 22 Afternoon ZZZs
- 23 Celtic whiskey
- 24 Habeas corpus and certiorari
- 25 Inuit white house?
- 26 What you become when 15 Across
- 27 Bewildered
- 28 Cherokee, for example, on wheels
- 31 --- Parker, first Native American Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Answers for this crossword will appear in April 10 issue of the Drum.

Answers for March 13, 2020 crossword puzzle:

Across: 1 Cults, 6 Dahl, 10 Pre-op, 11 Idea, 12 Adena, 13 Smirk, 15 Sure, 16 Odessa, 17 Decanter, 19 PHs, 22 Chi, 23 SNL, 24 Diegueno, 27 Farrar, 28 Spew, 32 Steed, 33 Calle, 34 Unto, 35 Ogens, 36 Sear, 37 Debut.

Down: 1 CPAs, 2 Urdu, 3 Leer, 4 Toned, 5 Spa, 6 Disdain, 7 Admen, 8 Heists, 9 Larsen, 14 Karl, 16 Ocher, 18 Ecuador, 19 PDFs, 20 Hiatus, 21 Serene, 25 Greta, 26 Osage, 29 Pleb, 30 Elnu, 31 West, 33 Cod.

LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Your weekend forecast!

Friday, March 27



44°F partly sunny
Snow showers, 50%

Saturday, March 28



48°F sunny

Sunday, March 29



52°F partly sunny

Weather forecasts collected from www.weather.gov

