

Complete Census online **PAGE 11**



IHS girls named to All-State

PAGE 12

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WILDLIFE

Ospreys arrive at Lake Capote for 2020 nesting season

New webcam location gives viewers a better look at nest

Staff Report SOUTHERN UTE WILDLIFE DIVISION

Just in time to provide another entertainment option for those sheltering at home, a pair of ospreys arrived at Lake Capote in late March. The birds have begun rebuilding their nest, and all the activity can be seen via the Osprey Webcam at www.lakecapote.com/osprey-cam/

Wildlife Division staff and Osprey Cam fans were happy to see the pair and are hoping to see a successful nesting season. Last year was in some ways a disappointment: a nesting attempt began in early April 2019, and a single egg was laid. However, due to a fatal injury to the female, this nesting effort failed. A new osprey pair took over the nest shortly thereafter, and two eggs were laid, but incubation and hatching failed. As a result, no osprey chicks

Ospreys page 9 the background.



courtesy Southern Ute Wildlife Division

Aran Johnson and Jon Broholm of the Southern Ute Wildlife Division adjust the microphone on the osprey nest pole in February, before the birds' arrival from their migration. The webcam has been moved to a new, second pole, seen in

COVID-19 RELIEF

Can'd Aid and Oskar Blues Brewery team up to fill water need in the Southwest

Sending over 98,000 cans of water to local communities

Staff report Can'd Aid

As underserved and rural communities across the country prepare for necessity shortages and income losses, Can'd Aid and friends distribute water to families and communities in need.

In an effort to offer immediate assistance to areas in need during the COVID-19 outbreak, Can'd Aid and partners Oskar Blues Brewery, Ball Corporation and Coyote Logistics sent 48,000 cans of water to the Food Bank of the Rockies and another 50,400 cans to the Navajo & Hopi COVID-19 relief initiative.

"The communities that are especially susceptible at this time have a high number of people with underlying health issues caused by abandoned uranium mines," says Jessica Stago, Director of Native America Economic Initiatives at the Grand Canyon Trust.

"They live in very rural areas making it difficult to access healthcare and basic necessities and they rely on water resources that are used community wide, increasing the risk of exposure. We are trying to deliver food and water to these families to reduce these risk factors and stop the spread COVID-19 Relief Fund) of COVID-19."

proximately 180,000 people shelter-in-place orders, but



Can'd Aid and partners Oskar Blues Brewery, Ball Corporation and Coyote Logistics sent 48,000 cans of water to the Food Bank of the Rockies and another 50,400 cans to the Navajo & Hopi COVID-19 relief initiative.

and only one grocery store on Hopi land to serve 3,000 people. These communities also have high numbers of elderly, diabetic, and cancer-afflicted high-risk individuals. (Navajo & Hopi

Furthermore, the Navajo The Navajo Nation and Nation reported its first two Hopi Reservation are ex- coronavirus cases on March treme food deserts with 17. As of March 26, there only ten grocery stores on have been 69 reported cas-Navajo land to serve ap- es. The reservation is under

thousands of people must regularly leave their houses for necessities such as water. (NPR)

"We believe there's never been a better time to practice and demonstrate empathy. Can'd Aid is adjusting to this new normal by finding impactful and authentic ways to do people-powered good and increase connection, even if it is virtual,"

Can'd Aid page 10

CORONAVIRUS

Southern Ute Tribe recommends face coverage for health safety

Staff report SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

The Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council, in collaboration with the San Juan Basin Public Health collaborative response to COVID-19 and recommends covering one's nose and mouth when leaving home for essential travel to the grocery store, doctor, or pharmacy. Individuals could practice extra precaution by using a bandana or homemade facemask coverings. It is important to reserve healthcare grade personal protective equipment (PPE) for the healthcare professionals.

Individuals who need to leave their homes are able to use a face covering over their nose and mouth as a precaution. Symptoms of COVID-19 have a long incubation period and individuals who leave their home for necessary reasons could contact the virus or unknowingly spread COVID-19 to others. "The spread of the virus occurs primarily through droplets from an infected individual, which fabrics can filter. A face covering helps lessen the risk for a healthy individual to breathe in droplets as well as spread from one who may not realize they are sick, or their symptoms are mild," stated the SJBPH press release New San Juan Basin Public Health Recommendation: Cover Your Face.

Face coverings convey the seriousness of this pandemic, as well as serving as a reminder to practice safe hygiene including washing your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20

Make sure you can breathe through it Wear it whenever going out in public Make sure it covers your nose and mouth Wash after using DON'T: Use if under two years old Use surgical masks or other PPE intended for healthcare workers cdc.gov/coronavirus

Face Covering Do's and Don'ts:

seconds, restricting touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and sneezing or coughing into your elbow or a tissue then throwing the tissue away.

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe issued a 'Stay at Home' Order on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 and encourages the tribal membership to stay home and practice social distancing, through these best practices we can flatten the curve and help stop the spread of COVID-19.

The San Juan Basin Public Health has shared the following tips:

How to safety adhere a face covering

- Tie long hair back.
- Secure the face cover- Southern Ute Indian Tribe mouth.

• Wash your hands well.

- face or the face covering. If you do, sanitize your hands thoroughly.
- Leave the covering on until you can safety re-

Remove your face covering immediately if it becomes wet or if you feel you've been in contact with someone who is sick.

How to safely remove a face covering

- Wash your hands.
- · Grab the face covering by the area that goes over your ears.
- Take the covering off, keeping the outside of it away from your face, and place directly in the washing machine or a site where you will appropriately sanitize.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

To find updates from the ing over your nose and on COVID-19, please observe the tribal social me-• DO NOT touch your dia accounts. Tribal websites, and by calling the Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-10 Call Center at 970-563-0214 which will operate from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., 7 days a week.

CORONAVIRUS

Southern Ute Tribe confirms two positive cases of COVID-19

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Two employees of the Southern Ute Indian Tribal government have tested positive for COVID-19. They are in self-quarantine and we wish them the best in their recovery. All appropriate steps are being taken to identify anyone who may have been exposed for notification to self-quarantine and self-monitor for symptoms of the disease.

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (DCPHE) are providing assistance during this investigation. Anyone who is contacted by SJBPH and CDPHE are encouraged to cooperate to assist them in protecting the health and welfare of our Southern

Ute tribal membership and

government.

It is important to know that, by definition of the Centers for Disease Control, you have not been "exposed" unless you have had close contact with a person who has tested positive.

The definition of close contact is: "being about six (6) feet (approximately two (2) meters) from an infected person or within the room or care area of an infected patient for a prolonged period while not wearing recommended PPE.

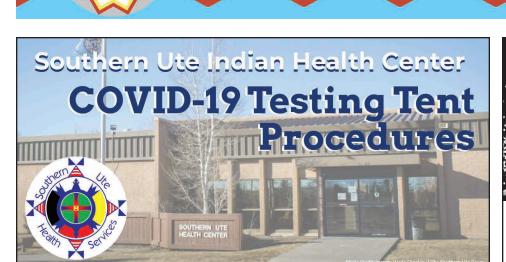
Close contact also includes instances where there is direct contact with infectious secretions while not wearing recommended PPE. Close contact generally does not include brief interactions, such as walking past a person."

All previous advisories about how to protect yourself, self-monitor and avoid exposing others to any illness you may have are doubly important now. In addition to all precautions already in effect being maintained the following new procedure will take effect immediately:

Any staff reporting to work at any tribal facility in Ignacio must report to the screening facility at the SunUte Community Center before proceeding to their work location. Employees will be screened and cleared to work that day by Health Center staff if they have no fever or other symptoms of COVID-19.

The only exception to this rule is law enforcement personnel who will be screened upon arrival at the Justice Center.

Please remain calm and vigilant. Protect yourself and protect others by staying at home if you are ill. We knew this day would come, but we will overcome this in due time.



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 &

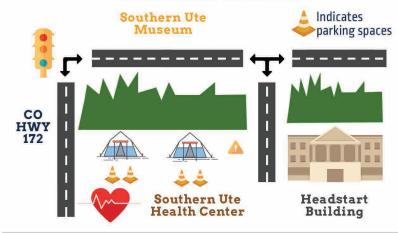
wait to be

discharged

Nurse will bring out any ordered medications Please be patient

STEP 6

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



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



www.cdc.gov www.southernute-nsn.gov Designed & Produced by Lindsay J. Box



Many Moons Ago

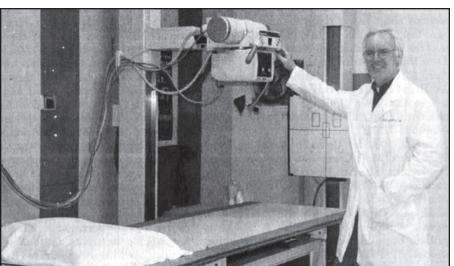


Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

Alaskan Native Jennifer Bennis was crowned Miss Hozhoni 2010-2011 on March 27 during the 46th annual Hozhoni Days PowWow, a two-day event capping off a week of cultural celebrations at Fort Lewis College in Durango. Emotions ran high as the reigning Miss Hozhoni, Seratha Largie, passed on her title and gave a welcoming embrace to Bennis, her successor. Bennis is a Fort Lewis college student from Dillingham, Alaska, and an Alaskan Native of the Curyung Tribe.

This photo first appeared in the April 9, 2010, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

20 years ago

X-ray Technician John Schiffel stands next to the Clinic's new x-ray machine. This machine replaced the 1976 model. It is dedicated to the health of the members of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, funded by the Southern Ute Tribal Gaming Commission and approved under the administration of Tribal Chairman Clement J. Frost in Nov. 1999. This photo appeared in the April 7, 2000, edition of The Southern Ute Drum



30 years ago

The Native American Youth Organization (NAYO) hosted their annual powwow on May 5, 1990, and invited everyone to attend. Pictured left-right, front row: Sky Baker, Lori Valdez, Laurene Burch, Ronald Baker, Sophilia Ashley, Dorena Wing, JoGenia Red, Sheila Ryder, Michael Santistevan; second row, Lynette Burch, JoGenia Thompson, Bo Watts, Thomas Weaver, Carlos Herrera, Sophia Wilson and Charlene Whyte; standing, Conrad Thompson, Erica Howe, Richard Hudson, Robert Howe and Cleone Pinnecoose. This photo was published in the April 13, 1990, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

For those who haven't seen the new "Sky Ute Lodge" sign, this is how it looked 30 years ago. The motel enterprise is still under "Pino Nuche Purasa" which opened in May 1980.

This photo was published in the April 11, 1980, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.

HISTORY COLORADO

Making history every day



courtesy Matt Chmielarczyk/History Colorado

Producers and hosts Noel Black and Tyler Hill, both veterans of public radio - and Coloradans - bring high standards and authentic voices to Lost Highways.

"History is new, my friends, and we are, all of us, making it all the time, you get through with a fresh together." - John Green, batch of entertaining, inforauthor and host of The Anthropocene Reviewed Bisons Lean into this #MuseumMomentofZen to watch some bison enjoy a snack.

You don't need History Colorado to tell you times. Settle in.

The choices we each make today will define this shared moment in time. People of keep us safe, or heal us, or the future will look to us keep us supplied, thank you. for wisdom and guidance -

Staff report not to do – as they face their HISTORY COLORADO own challenges. We're here to help you capture this history in the making.

> We're also here to help mative, and inspirational (entermational!) offerings newly minted as the

"Best of Denver" by Westword - that you can enjoy at a safe distance from others.

To those of you doing this, but: These are historic your part by staying home, thank you. To those of you who can't stay home because you're working to

Making history page 8

GATHERING OF NATIONS

Official statement regarding the cancellation of the 2020 Gathering of Nations Powwow

Staff report GATHERING OF NATIONS

It's been one week, and it is still very surreal and unimaginable. Like many other large events, we have learned that not only is it difficult to produce an enormous event, it is even more difficult to cancel it. This is a devastating time for us all, for our support staff, dancers, singers, artisans, food vendors, musicians, dance groups, horse riders, contracted services, Expo New Mexico and for independent events & conferences that have been planned around Albuquerque during "GON week."

The ordered and swift postponement of all large events by the Governor of New Mexico (on State of New Mexico property) due to COVID-19 concerns was effective immediately which we all agree was the right thing to do. When the news broke it was and still has been impossible to communicate individually with everyone on their concerns and questions, and we understand this has caused disappointment and frustration. Through social media we also are aware there were questions about processes



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

Head Dancers stand together for the Victory Song as the Gathering of Nations Powwow comes to a close in Albuquerque, N.M. The annual event was cancelled this year due to COVID-19, but will return to EXPO New Mexico in the spring of 2021.

however we, as with other large events, needed to create official statements and

put new processes in place. The primary decision last week was if this would be a postponement or a cancellation. At the time no one can realistically reschedule due to the uncertainty and uncontained rapid spread of COVID-19. As a part of creating new processes, the decision was then made to cancel and shift gears and plan for April 22-24, 2021. A couple of days later, it

was then announced this health concern has officially become a global pandemic, very frightening and once again confirming cancellation was the right decision. Like yourselves, this whole situation has hit us hard and shaken us to the foundation as individuals and as event organizers. We immediately thought of the hundreds of people who help make Gathering of Nations and it's programs; Miss Indian World, Stage 49, Indian

Traders Market (and more)

what they are ... extraordinary and special and we are thankful to you all.

Because Gathering of Nations is unique and in the large international event category, the cancellation ripple effect has taken its toll and continues to do so. We feel for other Native events that also have had to cancel. We are a powwow, and also have festival activities ... we are also a part of our Native communities

Gathering page 7





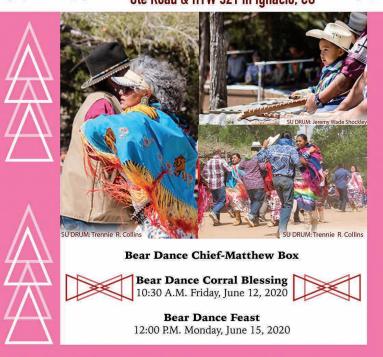


Southern Ute Bear Dance due to the COVID-19 Virus



June 12th - 15th, 2020

Ute Road & HYW 521 in Ignacio, CO



Bear Dance Rules

•No short dresses or baggy pants while dancing

Photography, video & audio recording is prohibited; except by members of the

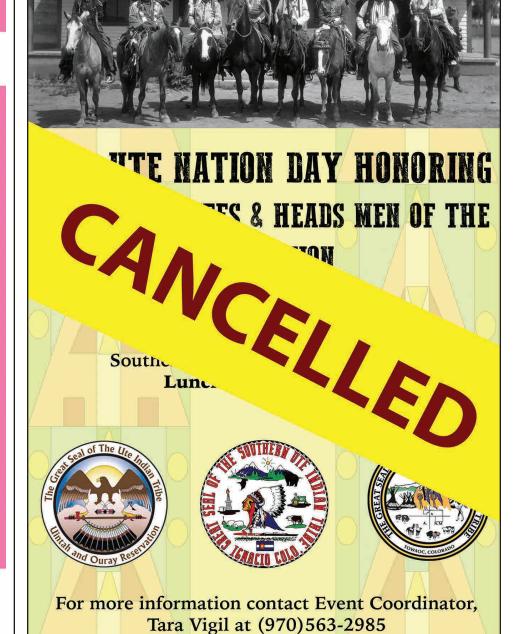
•The Southern Ute Tribe will not be held responsible for accidents, injuries, or theft.

•The Pine River is RESTRICTED.

•For information on vending, contact (970) 563-2983

Please be advised the Southern Ute Bear Dance is subject to cancellation.

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



HEALTHY RECIPES

Healthy snacking at home

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

Do you find yourself wandering around your kitchen looking for something to eat more often now that we are staying at home?

Try making these healthy snacks and employ the kids to either help or prepare on their own.

Yogurt Parfaits

Layer the following in a clear cup and

- 2-4 T yogurt: Try plain Greek or Greek vanilla
- 1 T Granola
- 2 T fruit: Try frozen berry mixture, bananas, raisins or any desired fruit
- 1 T nuts and/or seeds: Try pumpkin or sesame seeds, pistachios or walnuts or any desired nut



courtesy Simply Home Cooked

Rainbow Wraps

Layer the following and roll up: 1 Whole wheat tortilla

1 tsp. mustard, mayo or cream cheese

2-4 slices of deli turkey, ham or roast beef (without added nitrates or nitrites) Add a variety of veggies: pepper slices (red/yellow/ orange), shredded carrots, spinach, other lettuce, shredded red cabbage, chopped tomatoes, black beans or garbanzo beans



Place all ingredients together and mix to combine.

- 1 1/4 cup oats
- 1/2 cup nut butter (peanut or almond) 1/4 -1/3 cup honey or maple syrup
- 2 T ground flaxseed (optional)
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup mix-ins (chocolate chips, peanuts, raisins, coconut. Be creative, use one or combination, add your own ideas)



courtesy Divas Can Cook

• If dough is too wet, add oats, if too dry, add honey or maple syrup. Refrigerate for 20-30 minutes and then roll into balls. Keep in an airtight container:

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Bee Heard: How to help someone who is suicidal

Staff report SOUTHERN UTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health First Aid: Suicide Prevention. If you suspect someone you know is considering suicide, Mental Health First Aid teaches you to follow the ALGEE action steps.

- 1. ASSESS for risk of suicide or harm: The best way to find out if someone is considering suicide and determining the urgency of the situation is to ask them:
- Are you having thoughts of suicide?
- Do you have a plan to kill yourself?
- · Have you decided when you'd do it?
- · Do you have everything you need to carry out your plan?

IMPORTANT NOTE: Some people believe that mentioning suicide might cause someone to consider suicide for the first time. This is not true, so do not be afraid of this outcome. You're much more likely to help someone feel less alone if they were considering it.

If they have a plan and are ready to carry out that plan, call 911 immediately. How you respond to other answers will depend on the situation, but always call 911 if you're unsure. It's better to be safe than for someone to lose their life.

Additionally, not having a plan doesn't mean they're not in danger. All thoughts of suicide must be treated

If you think the person is fact be in crisis, return to the in danger, you need to keep the person safe. Stay with them for as long as you can, because an actively suicidal person shouldn't be left alone. If you can't stay, find someone who can until help arrives.

If you determine the person is having suicidal thoughts but there's no immediate danger, engage in conversation with them if possible.

2. LISTEN nonjudgmentally: If the person does not appear to be in a crisis, encourage them to talk about what they're thinking and how they're feeling. It can be hard to hear someone you know is experiencing distress, but when you listen and genuinely care, you can have a calming, positive impact on them, and you can start to learn more about suicidal thinking.

You may not fully understand what they're going though, and that's OK. you're accepting of what they're saying, acknowledge it and genuinely try to imagine what it might be like for them. Staying patient and respectful can make a world of difference.

If, while you're listening,

Local Resources

So. Ute Health Center: Behavior Health 69 Capote Dr.,

Ignacio, CO, 970-563-4581. For local Native Americans.

· 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.

Ignacio Community Church: Pastor Randall Haynes

405 Browning Ave., Ignacio, CO (currently located

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

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.

· St. Ignatius Catholic Church: Pastor Cesar Arras,

Call to schedule a counseling appointment.

14826 CO-172, Ignacio, CO 970-563-4241.

inside ELHI), 970-759-3633.

La Plata County, 970-247-1242.

you discover they may in

ASSESS step in No. 1.

3. GIVE reassurance and **information:** Reassurance is crucial, as people having suicidal ideation may not have much hope. Clearly state to them that suicidal thoughts are often associated with a treatable mental illness, and if you feel comfortable, you can also offer to help them get the appropriate treatment. You can also tell them that thoughts of suicide are common, and that you don't have to act on them.

4. ENCOURAGE appropriate professional help: If you are concerned for the person's immediate safety, call 911.

If you're concerned, but it's not an immediately urgent situation, make sure the person has a safety contact what is at the root of their available at all times; whether it's a loved one or mental health professional. Another great resource is the National Suicide Prevention Hotline: What's important is that 1-800-273-TALK. 1-844-493-8255 or Text "TALK" to 38255. If you're in La Plata County, you can also call 970-247-5245.

> If the crisis has passed, or the person wasn't actively suicidal but has suicidal thoughts, encourage the appropriate psychological or medical help. If you want to provide further assistance, offer to call medical professionals if they don't already have one to schedule an appointment, or do any of the other legwork required to get them help. Remind them that recovery is possible with treatment.

> 5. ENCOURAGE selfhelp and other support **strategies:** Ask the person to think about what has helped them in the past. Perhaps a particular therapist, family member, friend or spiritual leader has given them support, or maybe a particular community, like a church or club, has been there for them. They should tap into their support system as much as possible during this time.

These steps don't have to necessarily go in order. Apply them in whichever way makes sense for you and the person you're addressing. To learn more support strategies, take Men-

Bee Heard page 5

How **YOU** can help **STOP** the spread of the COVID-19 Virus

SAN JUAN BASIN public health



STAY HOME

courtesv Yummly

By staying home and removing exposure for yourself and to the public, the virus is denied the



WASH HANDS

The virus can live on surfaces for varying amounts of time. PROPERLY WASHING HANDS helps to protect you and those around you.



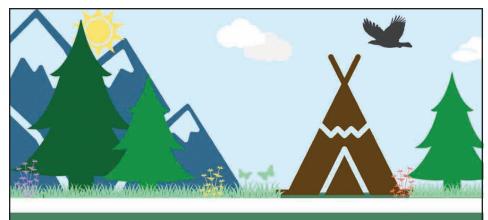
KEEP DISTANCE Keeping at least a 6 FOOT DISTANCE from all



COVER NOSE AND MOUTH

SURGICAL MASKS TO BE SAVED FOR USE ONLY BY HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND THE SICK HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND THE SICK If you MUST go out, a homemade cloth mask combined with a 6 foot distance can further reduce the risk of transmission to and from you. Ensure you SAFELY place and remove the mask and WASH IMMEDIATELY AFTER EACH USE.

It is possible to carry and transmit the virus without knowing and without having any symptoms. By consistently engaging in the behaviors above, you will help to prevent the virus from being transmitted to you, as well as preventing the virus from being transmitted from you to other family and community members.



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

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Stay Only leave home Home

for essential needs.

Avoid Stay at least 6 feet away from others.

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





Child Abuse is paramount during this time, if you need to make a child abuse report please call Southern Ute Social Services at 970-563-KIDS (5437). You can also reach Social Services through Southern Ute Dispatch at 970-563-4401.

> We also understand mental health is important, if you need to speak to a licensed therapist, please call social services main line 970-563-2339.

Health

Feeding friends, with food



Pine Rivers Shares group, Friends with Food, hand out fresh veggies and toothbrushes to Ignacio community members at Ignacio High School Tuesday, April 7. Pine River Shares hands out available food to the Ignacio Community on Tuesdays from 11 am - 12 pm in an effort to ease potential shortages in the community due to COVID-19.

BEE HEARD • FROM PAGE 4

tal Health First Aid. The huge difference in somecourse will teach you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health or substance use issues. For more information nute-nsn.gov

practice self-care after a suicide and prevention. crisis situation. These types Contact Precious Collins, of encounters won't be easy Native Connections Profor you, but your confidence gram Coordinator for more and support can make a information 970-563-2487.

one's life.

Want to help and be a part of the change?

Looking for communiabout Mental Health First ty members and youth to Aid, please contact Precious join the Prevention Coali-Collins at 970-563-2487 or tion tasked to reduce youth email at prcollins@souther- substance usage, eliminate mental health stigma and Always remember to start the discussion around

Upcoming Prevention Coalition Meeting: Until further notice no meetings are being scheduled.

Upcoming Trainings: Until further notice no trainings are being scheduled.



PUBLIC SAFETY

How seniors can protect health, finances during the pandemic

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, health officials have been clear and consistent in their message to seniors: While anyone can fall victim to COVID-19, those who are 65 and older are in an especially high-risk group.

That's why older Americans need to be especially careful and - in the case of the very elderly - family members may need to step in to make sure they are taking the right precautions, says Chris Orestis, the president of LifeCare Xchange who is known as the "Retirement Genius."

"As with just about everyone, coronavirus is touching all areas of the lives of seniors, from health to finances to how they socialize," Orestis says.

He offers a few tips on things seniors and their families can do:

Prioritize healthy practices. Follow health guidelines. Wash your hands, avoid touching your face, and sanitize surfaces. "Social distancing and staying in place have become important new additions to our lifestyle because avoiding contact with infected people is the surest way to prevent contracting the virus," Orestis says. "Grocery stores and retailers have set up senior-only shopping hours, and seniors should take advantage of those. In addition, food delivery services can bring take-out meals or groceries to your home."

Trust nursing homes. "Despite the tragic deaths that occurred at Life Care Center's nursing home in could be even more sus- ment over a decade ago.

LIFECARE XCHANGE ing home industry has been says. "Be on the lookout for working around the clock in every community to protect their residents," Orestis says. Nursing homes are always vigilant for influenza, pneumonia, and other viral outbreaks. "If you have a loved one in a nursing The coronavirus is gethome, do not go visit," Or- ting round-the-clock news estis says. "Stay in touch remotely through a cell phone, the information coming computer, or the staff to from reliable sources is a help the nursing home avoid flood of misinformation. contamination."

> Know what financial resources are available. "We've experienced a stock market drop, but it is important at times like this to not 'panic sell' and lock in your losses," Orestis says. He points out there are still safety nets and even financial opportunities that can help seniors. For example, the passage of the CARES Act will pump \$2 trillion into the economy. Social Security income, Medicare, and Medicaid payments remain unchanged. Income from an-

nuities remains guaranteed. For owners of permanent life insurance policies, Orestis says, there are a couple of options to get liquidity from this asset. If the owner wants to keep the policy in force, they can take out a policy loan for upwards of 90 percent of the cash surrender value. If the policy owner wants to stop paying premiums, they could use a life settlement to sell the policy under tax-favorable conditions to receive a percentage of their death benefit as a lump-sum today.

Beware of scams. Seniors often are prime targets term care industries, and is of scams, and with their credited with pioneering the heightened level of distress, Long-Term Care Life Settle-

By Chris Orestis Kirkland, Wash., the nurs- ceptible than usual, Orestis such things as emails from imposters of the CDC asking you to open a link or download a list telling you where positive cases are in your area," he says.

Vet your news sources. coverage. But mixed into "Fact-check information by reading statistics from the websites of reliable medical resources and verified news organizations," Orestis says. "Don't fall for conflicting statistics or attempts to minimize the severity of the outbreak by comparing it to car accidents, the flu, or other outbreaks. The danger is people can be lulled into underestimating the danger and let their guard down."

"No one is sure how long this crisis will last or what the outcome could be," Orestis says. "But the most vulnerable members of our population can protect themselves by following smart health practices, avoiding unwise financial decisions, taking advantage of financial safety-nets, and being on the lookout for scams and bad

About Chris Orestis

information."

Chris Orestis, known as the "Retirement Genius," is President of LifeCare Xchange and a nationally recognized healthcare expert and senior advocate. He has 25 years experience in the insurance and long-

Southern Ute Health Center Notice

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 Mouache Capote Bldg. – check in with the receptionist as required

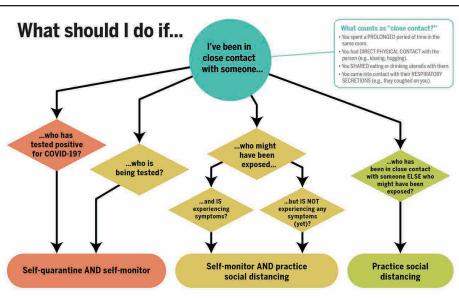
Pharmacy Hours will be from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm - Only Window service will be offered, there will be no pharmacy access in the clinic building

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

La Plata County Dept. of Human Services in need of foster home/parent(s)

La Plata County Department of Human Services is in need of a local foster home/parent(s) for a 14-year-old male.

You would be responsible for meeting this teen's basic needs, transportation to school and necessary appointments, as well as providing close supervision for him. As a foster parent, you will be compensated \$1,105.95 per month to provide for the needs of this youth, who is on Medicaid. For more information about helping this teen, or becoming a DHS foster parent for other children in need, please contact Charmaine Summers at 970-382-6157.



How do I...

...self-quarantine?

STAY HOME for 14 days. **AVOID CONTACT** with other people DON'T SHARE household items.

Learn more at edical.mit.edu/HowTo#self-quarantine

...self-monitor?

BE ALERT for symptoms of COVID-19, ecially a dry cough or shortness

TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE every

morning and night, and write it down. CALL your doctor if you have trouble breathing or a fever (temperature of

DON'T seek medical treatment without calling first! dical.mit.edu/HowTo#self-monitor

...practice social distancing?

STAY HOME as much as possible. **DON'T** physically get close to people; try to stay at least 6 feet away. DON'T hug or shake hands. **AVOID** groups of people and frequently

Learn more at medical.mit.edu/HowTo#distance

MIT Medical • rev. 2020-03-16

And practice great hygiene! WASH your hands frequently • AVOID TOUCHING your face • WIPE DOWN frequently touched surfaces regularly

What if I have symptoms?



If you experience symptoms, such as fever, dry cough, or difficulty breathing, call MIT Medical's COVID-19 hotline: 617-253-4865.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-19 Information Update

Tribal Health (Dental & Optometry)

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe has closed the Dental Clinic and the optometry healthcare services provided by the Southern Ute Health Center. All regular, non-emergent appointments have been rescheduled for a later date when the risk of exposure has dissipated.

For Tribal Members and other local natives who are patients of the Southern Ute Health Center and have dental or eye emergencies, the Southern Ute Health Center will be collaborating with two Durango healthcare providers to address emergent needs while the closures are in place. For all dental emergencies, patients will be referred to Comfort Dental in Durango and for eye emergencies, referrals will be made to the emergency department at the local hospitals. Referrals and payments will be managed using the existing tribal process.

Prior to arriving to the office, please call the provider office first. Providers might ask to conduct a self-screening in order to protect the health and safety of the staff and other patients who are in these offices. Both providers are only seeing true emergencies, all routine work has been rescheduled for a later date. Below are the office numbers for both dental and eye emergencies:

Optometry Mercy Medical Center

1010 Three Springs Blvd. Durango, CO 81301 970.247.4311



Comfort Dental 1125 S. Camino del Rio, #300C Durango, CO 81301 970.259.4324

Tribal Member Health Benefits

Information Tribal Members should take their Tribal Member Health Benefits card with them to the appointment for payment of health services provided. For questions related to Tribal

970.563.2211 eatencio@southernute-nsn.gov

Member Health Benefits, please contact the staff below:

Elizabeth Gallegos 970.563.2203 egallego@southernute-nsn.gov

Created & Published by Lindsay J. Bo



IGNACIO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ignacio School District is actively monitoring the impact of COVID-19

By Rocco Fuschetto, Ed. D. IGNACIO SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Ignacio School District is actively monitoring the impact of COVID-19 in Colorado. We have been in regular communication with county and state agencies. As you may know there are active cases in La Plata County including Durango and Ignacio.

Our goal is to keep students and staff health and safety as one of our highest priorities. As of now as per the mandate "Stay at Home" by Governor Polis schools are closed until April 17, 2020. This date could change any time.

I would like to show my appreciation to all staff members that are being very flexible with our students and parents by keep providing our educational

programs for all students. Many teachers are dedicating many extra hours to keep looking for different ways to provide instruction that is easier to follow in this uncharted territory of online teaching. Every building had virtual staff meetings to share many different ideas on how to support our students and themselves during these uncertain times.

Kudos go to the Food Service Department and the Transportation Department



Damon Toledo/SU Drum archive

Ignacio School District Superintendent, Rocco Fuschetto, Ed.D. addresses attendees at a Back to School BBQ.

for making sure our students get lunch and breakfast every day. They are serving more and more meals every day. Please visit our website for a sign up form at www. ignacioschools.org

Many students that need a Chromebook will be issued one this week. The building principal will send details on when and how the Technology Department will distribute the devices.

access to internet at home, the district will continue providing packets with assignments. The Transportation Department will deliver packets at four different locations: High School by the Library, Allison Community Church, Oxford and local health agencies. Grange and Fire Station #3 on Road 318. These locations will have packets available or students can

same time of meal distribution 11 - 11:30 a.m. as follows: Tuesday - Ignacio Elementary School; Wednesday - Ignacio High School and Thursday - Ignacio Middle School.

All extra curricula are cancelled until April 17, 2020 as per CHSAA directive. They will evaluate the Spring sports season in the near future.

All buildings are closed to Students that do not have outside entities for practices or meetings until further notice. Our maintenance and custodial staff have done a great job cleaning every building.

> Please continue practicing good hygiene and follow the recommendations by state

> I ask that you be patient and flexible during this period. The health and safety of our students and staff is our number one priority.

From the Eagle's Nest

Supporting students by providing remote lessons

Staff report SU INDIAN MONTESSORI ACADEMY

Education should no longer be mostly imparting of knowledge, but must take a new path, seeking the release of human potentialities.

– Maria Montessori, Education for a New World

While SUIMA may be closed at this time due to the COVID-19 crisis, the staff is still hard at work. They are all supporting the students by providing remote lessons, doing Zoom meetings, making phone calls, sending home-learning packets home, and checking in with the parents. Everyone is adjusting to this new [temporarvl normal.

In this time of uncertainty and fear of the unknown, enjoy your family. Get out a board game. Bake a delicious batch of cookies. Run some laps outside around your house. Throw a ball of frisbee in your yard. Dig a hole just for fun. Plant a garden. Climb a tree. Play hideand-seek!

Thank you to the many people who make up the schools in our community: from the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy, to and to the Ignacio School and to the doctors and nurs-



courtesy SU Indian Montessori Academy

Ute and English signage points the way on the campus of the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy.

District – THANK YOU!

are the first line of defense in this fight. To the COVID checkpoints, to the First Responders and

es who make up Ignacio Thank you to those who Family Medicine and the SUIT Health Clinic.

We are all in this togethstaff who are manning the er and together, we will all come out stronger.

All events and activites the SUIT Education Center, EMT's at Los Pinos Fire are currently suspended until further notice.

CORONAVIRUS

COVID-19 in rural communities

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS with our daily lives.

In early March, many rural Coloradans initially as- has one of the highest they are rural or not. sumed they would be safe per-capita incidences of crowded cities, huge, over- in Crested Butte and Gunlines at the grocery store. Pitkin and Parlin, and those We wanted to be immune. living miles from anyone.

return their packets at the

Staff Report We wanted to just continue The county has closed itself off, limiting entrance Then we couldn't ignore to only those with essential needs, like groceries or gas. Gunnison County now The virus does not care if

It has taken a while for from COVID-19; the tele- COVID-19 in the state. It nearby areas to feel the efvision coverage showed has affected people living fect, but now every county in Colorado has someone flowing hospitals and long nison, the small towns of who is either being tested or

COVID-19 page 14

Ignacio schools feed students



Trennie Collins/SU Drum

Ignacio School Resource Officer, Preston Rea hands sack lunches through a car window to community members. The Ignacio School District provided the takeout lunches, Tuesday, April 7. They are serving more and more meals every day. Please visit the IHS website for a sign up form at www.ignacioschools.org

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

 The site will be updated as new information and resources become available.



information.



The earth rotates on a tilted axis around the sun which gives us



Source: https://www.weather.gov/lmk/seasons

different seasons.

Please contact the Environmental Programs Division General Assistance Program Manager, Alexandra Ratcliff at 970-563-2256

April 2020



Southern Ute Education Department

The Southern Ute Education Department has compiled an abundance of online education resources for you, the membership! We have organized a variety of resources for adult learners, youth, parents and even wellness. Resources will be updated and added every Wednesday.

Please use this resource to learn while you and your family are at home. Take the opportunity to strengthen your knowledge in financial literacy, business writing, GED math, or resume writing. Use this resource to connect your student to educational games, literacy, math and social studies resources. Or, look at the wellness resources to manage stress during an uncertain time.

You can access these resources on our website under "Online Resources" here:

https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/education/

Thank you, and we hope this supports your education at a distance.



STATE OF COLORADO

Sales Tax deadline extension for businesses

On Friday the Governor issued an executive order temporarily suspending the requirement for businesses to remit sales tax for 30 days. The executive order is listed below in the Email to the businesses that subscribe to business news from the Department.

Please read the following publication on the Departments website for taxpayer filing information.

Sales Tax Deadline Extension: One-Month Extension for Filing and Remitting State and State-Administered Local Sales Tax

Colorado retailers that are required to file a sales tax return and remit sales tax on April 20, may extend their filing and remittance deadline to May 20. This is a one-time extension of the April 20, filing and remittance deadline for state and state-administered sales taxes. The extension does not apply to self-collecting home-rule taxing jurisdictions.

The Department will waive penalties and interest that may accrue retailers that file their return and remit the full amount of state and state-administered sales tax due April 20, 2020 on or

before May 20, 2020. However, a retailer that does not file the return and remit full payment on or before April 20, 2020 will not be able to retain their vendor/service fee. The vendor fee is a percentage of the sales tax collected that a retailer is allowed to retain in order to cover the expenses incurred by coltax remitted and is capped at \$1,000 per filing period.

For more information, see the Governor's Executive Orders web page. See also C.R.S. § 29-2-106; C.R.S. § 39-26-105; C.R.S. § 39-26-

Staff report 109; C.R.S. § 39-26-105(1) IGNACIO CHAMBER OF (c) and (d); and C.R.S. § 39-COMMERCE 26-118(2)(a) in the Colorado Revised Statutes.

> The Department is continually monitoring evolving COVID-19 situation, and responding in real-time to address the questions and concerns of Coloradans. To help keep the public informed, CDOR has set up a COVID-19 page where we will post all updates and changes related to taxes, deadline extensions, services and penalties. Please visit the COVID-19 Updates web page for more information.

This same information can be found at this link: https:// www.colorado.gov/pacific/ tax/sales-tax-deadlines.

Below is the Email that went out to businesses the subscribe to our notifications on business related taxes:

Businesses Have 30 Extra Days to Remit Sales Tax - Extension defers penalty and interest

On Friday the Governor issued an executive order temporarily suspending the requirement for businesses to remit sales tax for 30 days. The executive order reads:

"Retailers that are required to file a sales tax return on April 20, 2020 pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 29-2-106, 39-26-105 and 39-26-109 may extend their April 20, 2020 filing and remittance deadline to be filed and paid in full on or before May 20, 2020. This is a one-time extension of the April 20, 2020 filing and remittance deadline for State and State-administered sales taxes. However, a retailer that does not file lecting and remitting state the return and remit full sales tax. The vendor fee payment on or before April with any questions you is currently 4% of the sales 20, 2020 will not be permitted to retain the vendor fee described in C.R.S. § 39-26-105(1)(c) and (d) and the vendor fees described in the statutes, ordinances, and resolutions that apply to the State-administered sales

taxes. I also direct the Department of Revenue to promulgate and issue emergency rules to extend the April 20th filing and remittance deadline to May 20, 2020."

The executive order is a deferment of the requirement of retailers to remit sales tax for 30 days, penalty and interest free, for the period of Monday, April 20, 2020 to Wednesday, May 20, 2020. The retailer however, forfeits their ability to retain the vendor fee if they take advantage of this 30 day extension. The extension applies to all state-administered local sales taxes but does not apply to self-collecting home-rule cities.

The vendor fee is a percentage of the sales tax collected that a retailer is allowed to retain in order to cover the expenses incurred by collecting and remitting state sales tax. The state vendor fee is currently 4% of the sales tax remitted and is capped at \$1,000 per filing period. Local vendor fees varv.

The Department is continually monitoring evolving COVID-19 situation, and responding in real-time to address the questions and concerns of Coloradans. To help keep the public informed, CDOR has set up a COVID-19 page where we will post all updates and changes related to taxes, deadline extensions, services and penalties.

Please visit www.Colorado.gov/Tax/COVID-19-Updates for more information.

Colorado Dept. of Revenue · 1375 Sherman Street · Denver, CO 80261 · www. colorado.gov/revenue

The local government section is here to assist you may have as a result. We would ask you to Email our local government Email box with any questions you may have, dor_localgovsupport@state.co.us. Milo Hay, Local Government Support. Ph:303-866-4908

HUMANE SOCIETY

The Humane Society: Corona virus (COVID-19) FAQ

OF THE UNITED STATES

We at the Humane Society of the United States are reeling from the changes happening in the world outside, as we know you are. We're thinking about the people out there who are anxious, homebound or sick-and all of your animals too. We're also working to continue to provide services where we can, including making sure that you have good and practical information about how this virus may impact you and your family, including its animal members. We'll be updating this page as frequently as warranted. Please stay safe!

What is the Humane Society of the United States doing to address this crisis?

We assembled a toolkit for animal shelters to help them respond to the needs of the communities that they serve and are in close contact with our Shelter and Rescue Partners to share information. Our Pets for Life program, which supports pet owners in underserved areas, has delivered additional supplies to senior and immobile clients and is modifying spay/neuter and veterinary appointments to maintain those valuable services within guidelines. Client visits by Pets for Life teams are shifting to phone outreach and delivery of food and medications to avoid close contact for atrisk clients.

The staff and volunteers at our animal care centers remain committed to ensuring the animals have no gap in care. Society may be on hold, but our work for animals in critical need is not. clude: Rest assured, the proper diet and care of these animals ber or friend who can care ple. On a related note, in earwill never be compromised. We are fully committed to our sanctuary residents. They came from cruel situations and we will not let them down now or ever. Our sanctuaries already practice excellent standards of disease prevention and we're prepared for necessary changes in supply chains and staffing. While our staff continue full steam ahead to

who rely on us receive the dosages and administering highest quality care, they continue to update their wishlist of supplies.

What is being done at the state level?

Our state directors all across the country are asking emergency managers and other officials to ensure that critical animal needs, such as the care of animals in various settings and the ability for animal care personnel to perform their duties, are addressed in emergency orders.

Many are working with local pet food banks by encouraging donations, helping with delivery and posting resources online. Find your state and follow along on social media! State Facebook pages are being updated several times daily about the need for fosters and pet/human COVID-19 facts, plus what people can do to help shelters and each other with pet needs. State Directors are also responding to inquiries from shelters and ACOs regarding management during this crisis and reaching out to shelters to assess what the most urgent needs are.

Should I have a preparedness plan for my pet(s)?

In the event of a crisis or disaster, we urge everyone to have a preparedness plan in place. And, get the word out! Remind community members that having a plan for pets is critical; individuals who become sick or require hospitalization will need to have someone to take their animals. If you can, please endure the current situation from the safety of your own home.

Identify a family memfor pets if someone in the ly April, the Bronx Zoo conhousehold becomes too ill firmed that several of its big to care for pets.

extra supplies on hand for movement and relocation of pets if necessary.

Keep all animal vaccines up to date and have copies Animal Veterinary Associaof those records available in tion) Global Veterinary Comthe event that boarding becomes necessary.

Ensure that all medica-

Staff report make sure that the animals tions are documented with directions. It's a good idea to include the prescription from your veterinarian with the medications and your pet's to-go bag.

> Pets should have proper identification: a collar with ID tag and a microchip with current, up-to date contact information.

We understand not everyone has a personal support system or the financial means to meet the above recommendations. When experiencing difficulty in creating a preparedness response, please reach out to local shelters and animal service agencies to find out what support is available. During this crisis, there may be options of temporary housing for pets, donated supplies, subsidized veterinary services and more available to help people care for and stay together with their pets.

Can my pet **COVID-19?**

People confirmed have COVID-19 (or who are symptomatic or believe themselves to have been exposed) should avoid contact with other people as well as with pets, avoiding not only all contact but also sharing any food. If a sick person must care for animals during their illness, it's important they practice good hygiene; they should wash their hands before and after any interactions with their pet. For more information, see the Center for Disease Control and Pre-

The CDC and the World Organization for Animal Health have issued advisories saying there is no evi-Some steps to take in- dence at this time that companion animals can spread the COVID-19 virus to peocats became ill and one of Have crates, food and its tigers tested positive for the virus, likely after being exposed to a zoo employee who was shedding the virus.

vention's guidelines.

The WSAVA (World Small munity - an association rep-

Humane Society page 13

970.769.9123

GATHERING OF NATIONS • FROM PAGE 3

and the Powwow Circle ... event may be more personal and emotional for many derstanding this and we understand your point of view

responding quickly enough. ple who support GON, do so ing of Nations weekend, our keeping the happiness, com- current Miss Indian World's munity, and empowerment of the people, especially elders and youth, in mind. We ap- Indian Traders Market onpreciate and are thankful for line page with vendor inthe outpouring of support that formation and announcing we've received (even the crit- the Stage 49 Entertainers. icism as this can become pro- Throughout this situation, ductive ways to improve) and we must all keep the larger it has been both overwhelm- perspective, unite, support ing and humbling.

is step by step, and we are health of loved ones and hureceiving advice and support as we sort out the very long lists of needed tasks. For updated and official information please refer to and updated here: https:// our website and official so- www.gatheringofnations.

will be added as available. cancellation of any Native While we're still working on organizing the detailed path forward, we like other and we thank you for un- powwows and events will keep hopeful and plan for 2021. Additionally, we are too when it feels we aren't creating online programming during what would We, and the dedicated peo- have been the 2020 Gatherreign has been extended to 2021, we are creating an each other and do what is Everything right now necessary to protect the mankind in general.

To our 2020 ticket holders, we appreciate your patience. Information will be shared cial media, the information com/2020-ticket-credit.

aspx. Although the ticketing policy has always been no refunds, due to this unprecedented situation, we are offering the following: Your ticket will be good though 2021 and 2022 and you will be sent an electronic gift card (e-gift) for the amount of your ticket purchase (minus processing fees). You will receive an email with detailed information.

Gathering of Nations is especially keeping other powwows in mind as they tackle their processes and sends encouragement to all. Lastly, we send our prayers for spiritual and physical healing and protection to all. Thank you to our leaders, medicine people, people in the health fields. Take care of each other, please practice social distancing, stay home and enjoy your families. We will look forward to the time we can all gather together again and share our Powwow songs





Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-19 Information Update

Regional Veterinary Services

Most local veterinarian services are currently open for business, but emergencies only no routine visits. Most are onboard with vaccinations and prescriptions.

Veterinary Office	Phone	Hours	Status
Animas Animals	970.385.7787	M-F; 8-5	Emergencies only
Kindness Animal Hospital	970.259.3788	M-F; 8-5	Emergencies only
Riverview Animal Hospital	970.247.8545	M-F; 8-5	Emergencies only; rabies shots okay
Durango Animal Hospital	970.247.3174	M-F; 8-5:30 Sat 9-4	Normal & routine services. No surgerie
Home Sweet Home	970.385.4700	M-F; 8-5	Emergency only
Aspen Tree Animal Caring Center	970.382.0100	M-F; 8-5	Curbside service, emergency only
Apline Animal Hospital	970.247.5771	M-F; 8-5	Emergencies only; rabies shots okay
Southwest Veterinary Services	970.247.9414	TBD	Emergencies only
Baker's Bridge Veterinary Clinic	970.247.4701	MWF 8-12:30 and 2:30-5 T&Th 12-5	Emergencies only
Durango Horse Vet	970.946.4550	TBD	Pager # 970.385.7115
Harry Baxtrom	970.884.2617	TBD	Emergencies only. Health certs, coggins and vaccines okay.

TRIBAL INFORMATION SERVICES NOTICE VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE

Tribal Membership - I hope you are all testing will be processed based on the staying safe, healthy, and in good spirits. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Southern Ute Vital Statistics office has modified how services are provided to the membership. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. I will also be available on Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Monday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. via email and voicemail only. Information contained in this letter will provide you with a list of available services you may request by calling my direct line, via email, or mail.

Please include your full name, census number and birthdate with all requests.

Address Changes be sure to include all tribal dependents and Tribal Members residing at the address and indicate whether you would like to receive Tribal Council minutes. Please take this time to update your physical, mailing, and email address as well as your emergency contact and phone numbers.

Verification Letters please include your current physical and mailing address.

Vehicle Tax Forms when requesting tax forms please include your current physical and mailing address, the year, make, model, and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).

· Tax forms are not required for mobile home purchases.

Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB)

Sales Tax Exemption Form/Letter are available for large purchases delivered to the reservation.

Descendancy Letters will be issued after receiving birth certificate(s) proving lineal descendancy of Tribal Member parents or grandparents.

Enrollment Requests applications will be made available via email and mail. You may return original notarized applications to the Central Shipping & Receiving building, mailbox #17, during designated business hours or through regular mail. Please complete entire application, incomplete applications will be returned. Applications requiring DNA availability of the testing facility.

Notary Public Services please call prior to your arrival and wait in your vehicle, notary services are available during designated business hours.

Tribal Identification Cards Tribal IDs will not be issued in person and all fees must be paid prior to issuing a new ID. If you do not have a photo on file or need to update an existing photo, please email a photo with your request. All requests will be processed, and IDs issued and mailed during designated business hours. The first Tribal ID card is free with each replacement card increasing in \$10 increments. Please leave a number to be notified of your fee. Payments may be made by cashier's check, money order or by calling 970-563-0110, the cashier is available to assist you from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., Wednesday and Friday.

Copies of Birth Certificates/Social Security cards all requests will be emailed, faxed, or mailed during designated business hours.

Please include your full name, census number and birthdate with all requests.

The safety of the Tribal Membership is our highest priority and we strive to maintain and provide necessary services during this time. We ask that you please take all necessary precautions to further prevent exposure to our members and communities. Please take care of each other during these times and may creator continue to protect and bless you in the coming days.

Additional info: Heather Frost, Vital Statistics Clerk, P.O. Box 737 #17, 398 Ouray Dr., Ignacio, CO 81137 Ph: 970-563-2248; Fax: 970-563-4823 hefrost@southernute-nsn.gov







Making history every day • from page 3

some good reading, unwind with a podcast, or put the kids in front of a Hands on History @ Home broadcast and, as Westword says, "Feel the indoor hours melting away."

HISTORY IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT

You're making history. You. Right now. And we century ago. want to hear about it.

How is the pandemic **NEED SOME** changing your daily life? What will you and your kids remember about this moment? Once you're done binge-watching TV and are happily back to the grind, what will you want the next generation, and the next and the next, to know about life (and love) in the time of coronavirus? We have simple ways for you to share your story for the good of the future.

Leave us a message, send us a video, keep a journal, or request a call from one of our volunteer oral historians, and help us capture this history in the making.

ON THE MOVE WITH **LOST HIGHWAYS**

We're all feeling the pinch of our limited freedom. But what was it like for the mobility impaired before Denver's "Gang of 19" took to the streets to make public transportation and other places accessible to all?

Be among the very first to give a listen to the first episode in Season 2 of our Lost Highways podcast, which just garnered a "Best of Denver" nod from Westword, no big deal just a #humblebrag. See the whole "Best of" issue right here. Page 20 says we're the best way to enjoy Colorado history while cooped up at home – but you LOVE THY NEIGHBOR already knew that.

SOUND SMART AT YOUR NEXT VIRTUAL **GATHERING**

Wherever you are, we your next virtual happy hour is the Best Overall Essay hope you can settle in with or coffee klatch. Check out in our inaugural Emerging The Denver Post's Sunday Historians Award contest. cover story, featuring our If you're a graduate or unown Sam Bock alongside dergraduate student and a some of our other favorite top-notch writer like Jake historians sharing perspectives on what lessons the winning a thousand bucks), 1918 pandemic might have show us your stuff! This for us today. Pair it with this year's deadline is June 1. in-depth look from the Colorado Sun at how Colorado ICYMI (IN CASE YOU confronted that pandemic a MISSED IT)

INSPIRATION?

We all need a little reminder that hope and hard work pay off. And there's nothing more inspiring than the tiny town of Yampa rallying around an old mercantile building and transforming it back into the heart and soul of a community. From bake sales and burritos to Big Head Todd concerts and preservation grants, Yampans rolled up their sleeves judge you.) and never looked back. Watch the story right here, WE CAN'T DO IT along with four more Colo- WITHOUT YOU! rado success stories.

CAN'T LEAVE YOUR CAVE?

Feeling a little low? Try getting underground. The latest episode of Rocky Mountain PBS's "Colorado Experience" takes you down into a member. You complete us. some actual caves, namely the Fairy Caves outside Glenwood Springs with some of their earliest explorers. Then **DISTANT** on Thursday Hands on History @ Home takes you into the mines with Angel Vigil, Colorado's official State Storyteller (the best title anywhere), to tell the kids about "The Legend of the Tommyknockers." Somewhere down there you might glimpse the light at the end of the tunnel.

New Mexico instead of Col- ublications@state.co.us. orado? It almost happened. Read about a turf battle MAKING OUR WORK of the 1870s, then be glad POSSIBLE SINCE 1879 Suddenly everyone's an we're living in a time when expert on the 1918 "Spanish people never disagree and Flu" pandemic, right? Make nothing ever goes wrong. sure you have your facts Jake Swisher's "Were They straight when it comes up at Mexicans or Coloradans?"

(and you like the sound of

The Colorado Symphony performed Beethoven's Ode to Joy in true stay-athome fashion. We dare you to watch without tearing up. "Beethoven's Ninth Symphony is a true hymn to humanity expressing universal ideals of brotherhood, peace, and freedom for all," says concertmaster Yumi-Hwang Williams. "This crisis has made it all the more important to hold dear to these values." (If you do tear up, it's OK: You're at home where no one will

We always love our members, but we're especially grateful these days for their support. This week, we celebrate Patricia Hueni, who recently enjoyed her first anniversary as a History Colorado member. Join Patricia as

STAYING CLOSE WHILE SOCIALLY

This week, give your loved ones a call (or set up a virtual happy hour). It's important to stay close even as we remain socially distant. We'd love to hear from you too. Let us know how you're liking all these entermational ideas! If you have any feedback, suggestions, or questions we might be able to answer, Tweet us, send us a The Great Sand Dunes in DM on social, or email us at

You made it to the end! You know you love us. Please consider showing us a little of that love.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Tribe's Water Quality Program status under stay at home order

In a continued effort to cation of native fish. monitor and improve the water quality on the Reservation, the Water Quality Program has developed a plan to track nutrient loading in the Pine River during storm and high runoff events. This will involve the use of specialized monitoring equipment to accurately measure the flow in the Pine River and its major tributaries and allow us to correlate concentrations of nutrients like Nitrogen and Phosphorus with changes in river flows.

Administering this project will provide many benefits to the Tribe. It will allow the Water Quality Program to more closely monitor the amount nutrients in the Pine River system, this is important because excessive nutrient in a river essentially acts like a fertilizer. This can lead to unsightly blooms of algae

SOUTHERN UTE WATER very pleasant to look at or QUALITY PROGRAM smell), suffocation of native vegetation, and suffo-

> flow will allow the water quality program to implement effective remediation projects to help reduce nutrient flow into the Pine River. This project will also give the Water Quality Program a chance to develop an accurate system for measuring water flow in the tributaries (small streams) of the Pine River and develop a stage discharge rate curve. A stage discharge rating curve will provide a better understanding of water flow in the tributaries, and potentially prove to be a useful tool in future high-water events, similar to what we experienced during the summer of 2019.

> In addition to special projects, the Water Quality Program staff continue to track the overall health of surface waters within tribal boundaries by assess-

Staff report (mucky green rivers aren't ing water chemistry, metal concentrations, bacteria, and by collaborating with surrounding agencies and Tribes to create a large uni-Understanding nutrient fied database of water quality across the nation. Water quality data continues to be uploaded for public access and can be found at https:// www.waterqualitydata.us.

> Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Environmental Programs Division, Water Quality Program has temporarily suspended groundwater testing services to Southern Ute tribal members until social distancing guidelines are lifted and Tribal Council has lifted the stay at home order. The Water Quality Program continues to serve and inform the membership to the best of our ability from home.

> For more information about the Tribe's Water Quality Program visit: https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/justice-and-regulatory/epd/water-quality/.



courtesy SU Water Resources

Dr. Morrison Canal trench with pipe bedding and geotextile fabric.

WATER RESOURCES

Dr. Morrison Canal rehabilitation project update

By Pete Nylander SOUTHERN UTE WATER RESOURCES DIVISION

The Southern Ute Water Resources Division's (WRD) contractor WCA Construction has completed the first phase of work to address the current failure and to rehabilitate a historically problematic section of the Dr. Morrison Canal with a long-term permanent fix.

The long-term fix is to pipe approximately 4,100 feet of the Dr. Morrison Canal with two 48-inch pipes to eliminate canal blowouts and seepage issues. The initial 800 feet of failed ditch has been repaired and the Dr. Morrison Canal can now



courtesy SU Water Resources

Dr. Morrison Canal pipe being backfilled.

carry water for the 2020 irri- September 30th. If any irgation season.

The remaining 3,300

rigators or the public have any questions, please feel feet of the project will be free to contact the Southern completed at the end of the Ute Water Resources Diviirrigation season around sion at 970-563-9482.



courtesy SU Water Resources

Dr. Morrison Canal pipe being installed,



courtesy SU Water Resources

Completed Dr. Morrison Canal inlet structure.

OSPREYS ARRIVE AT CAPOTE • FROM PAGE 1

were produced in 2019.

Wildlife Technician Jon Broholm said the staff and the birds got a little extra help this year. "Tribal members Sam Maez and Alyas Maez met us at the base of the nest pole earlier this year, and performed a blessing to ask the Creator to watch over the birds and our staff who are working on the project," Broholm said. "We were very grateful good start this Spring."

Other assistance this year pole the nest is on. "This al- on the livestream adds a lot." lowed us to get a much wider

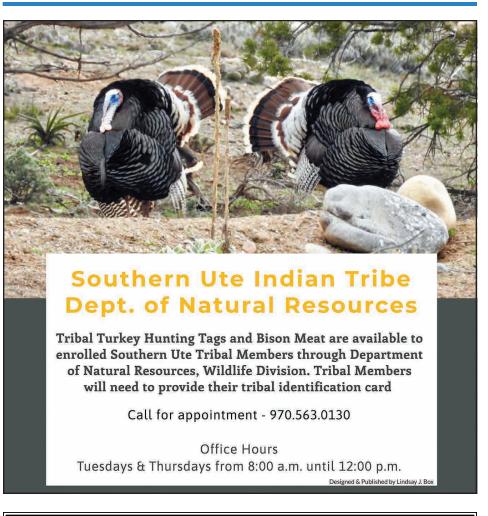


courtesy Southern Ute Wildlife Division

for that, and we are off to a A pair of osprey are seen in this April 2 image from the livestream, working on rebuilding their nest for the season.

installation," Broholm said. of the Tribe's response to that's going on."

came from La Plata Electric "We kept the microphone COVID-19, Lake Capote is association, in the form of on the nest pole, though. open to Southern Ute tribal a new pole for the camera, Ospreys are pretty talkative members only until further about 30 feet away from the birds, so having the sound notice. "Ospreys don't keep up with the news," Broholm The ospreys will have joked, "so we hope they'll view of the nest, while great-less competition for fish - at just do their thing and not ly simplifying the camera least for the moment. As part worry about anything else



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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

- 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.

STATE OF COLORADO

Gov. Polis requests extension of work permits for DACA recipients

Staff report COLORADO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Gov. Jared Polis today urged the Acting Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security requesting automatic extensions of work authorizations for all Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients whose grants expire in 2020.

"Coloradans face unprecedented challenges to their economic and social lives, Colorado have been able to and this extension would provide some needed stability to and contribute to the counour businesses and residents who benefit from opportunities that DACA provides," Secretary Wolf.



continue their studies, work, try they call home.

"About 15,000 DACA the Governor wrote to Acting home, and many of them are employed in key industries Since DACA was es- and critical occupations, tablished in 2012, nearly such as health care practi-15,000 Dreamers living in tioners and support occu-

pations, that help Colorado face our current challenges. Facing a global pandemic takes all Americans, and all Coloradans, and this includes those residents who currently are able to contribute to help us in our shared challenges because of their ability to apply their education and training to our workforce in these unprecedented times through the DACA program," the letter continued.

Governor Polis signed legislation ensuring DACA recipients could qualify for financial aid in Colorado and appointed the first recipients call Colorado DACA recipient to serve on a state board or commission. While serving in Congress, then-Congressman Polis was a cosponsor of the DREAM Act.

FEDERAL FUNDING

President approves major disaster declaration for Colo.

FEMA announced that federal emergency aid has eligible local governments been made available for the and certain private nonprofit state of Colorado to supplement the state, tribes and local recovery efforts in the areas affected by the Coronavirus Disease 2019

Staff report ginning on Jan. 20, 2020 and by COVID-19 at a federal FEMA continuing.

Federal funding is available to the state, tribal and organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency protective measures (Category B), including direct federal assistance under Public As-(COVID-19) pandemic be- sistance, for all areas affected

cost share of 75 percent.

Lee dePalo has been named as the Federal Coordinating Officer for federal recovery operations in the affected area. Additional designations may be made at a later date if requested by the state and warranted by the results of further as-

CORONOAVIRUS

Gardner requests COVID-19 testing for Colorado tribes

Staff report U.S. STATE SENATE

U.S. Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO) is requesting Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provide additional COVID-19 testing kits to the Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute Indian Tribes in Colorado and ensure they have the testing capabilities necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"There have already been two confirmed positive cases on the Southern Ute Indian reservation, and the Indian Health Service expects an increase in positive cases amongst all tribes in the coming weeks. The federal government needs to fulfill its trust responsibility to tribal governments and ensure they have access to the resources they need," wrote Senator Gardner. "It is crucial that FEMA provides a sufficient amount of testing kits both to the state of Colorado and to our tribal communities in order to ensure that they are able to respond to the grave threat that COVID-19 poses."

The full text of the letter is available here:

Dear Administrator Gay-

I am writing to express

availability of COVID-19 testing kits for Colorado's two federally recognized tribes, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe in Towaoc, Colo. and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in Ignacio, Colo. I urgently request that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) work with the state of Colorado to provide additional testing kits to the Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute Indian Tribes in Colorado in order to ensure that our tribes have the robust testing capabilities they need to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The total number of enrolled members in these two tribes exceeds 3,600 in Colorado, and the public health threat remains high in these communities. There have already been two confirmed positive cases on the Southern Ute Indian reservation, my concerns about the and the Indian Health Ser-

vice expects an increase in positive cases amongst all tribes in the coming weeks. The federal government needs to fulfill its trust responsibility to tribal governments and ensure they have access to the resources they need.

It is crucial that FEMA provides a sufficient amount of testing kits both to the state of Colorado and to our tribal communities in order to ensure that they are able to respond to the grave threat that COVID-19 poses. Supporting these tribal communities in the midst of this global pandemic is essential in order to provide a path back to prosperity after this national emergency is behind us.

I request your urgent consideration to this matter and a response with an update on the availability of testing kits. Thank you for your continued work, and I look forward to continuing to serve as a collaborative partner on this effort.

Cory Gardner is a member of the U.S. Senate serving Colorado. He sits on the Energy & Natural Resources Committee, the Foreign Relations Committee, the Commerce, Science, & Transportation Committee, and is the Chairman of the Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity



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Ignacio, CO 888.842.4180 SkyUteCasino.com

YOU'RE A STAR IN OUR SKY!

Can'd Aid • From Page 1



courtesy Can'd Aid

Can'd Aid and Oskar Blues Brewery team up to help provide water to the southwest.

Aid Executive Director. "By remaining true to our roots during these unprecedented times, we are able to quickly and effectively aid those in need of basic life securities, while, at the same time, lessening the impact of single-use plastics on our already taxed environment."

Food Bank of the Rockies expects food and water insecurities to increase in the coming weeks, as many nity go without wages.

& Hopi communities today.

Thank you to Oskar Blues Brewery, CANarchy Craft Brewery Collective and Coy-

says Diana Ralston, Can'd ote Logistics for donating supplies, time and services.

ABOUT CAN'D AID

Can'd Aid spreads people powered do goodery through towns, tunes, treads & trails and love yur mama efforts nationwide. Core programs develop healthy and whole humans capable and inspired to nurture a healthy and whole planet. Since its inception in 2013, more than more people in the commu- 1.7 million cans of water have been shipped post-di-One truckload of Can'd saster, over 4,000 bikes and Aid canned water was deliv- 600 skateboards have been ered to the Food Bank of the built for underprivileged Rockies last week. The other youth, 2,100 instruments was delivered to the Navajo have been donated and the equivalent of 66 million cans recycled. To donate, join the do-goodery or find out more, please visit candaid.org.





Advertise in your newspaper! 970-563-0118



CENSUS 2020

Census Day is here: It's time to respond

Staff report last month. U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Responding to the 2020 Census is easy, safe, and important. It has never been easier to respond without having to meet a census taker. Help Shape Your Future and Your Community's Future - April 1 was Census Day, the day that determines who is counted in the 2020 Census and where they are online and be counted!

When completing the census, include everyone living in your home on April 1, 2020. You can respond online in one of 13 languages and find assistance in and why it's important that many more.

RESPOND NOW. **SHAPE YOUR FUTURE:**

Responding to the census is important because it helps inform funding for key public services for your community like education programs and schools, hospitals and healthcare, roads and bridges, and emergency and disaster response. 38.4 percent of households across the nation have responded to the 2020 Census since invitations began arriving in mailboxes

Here are some key resources to get started:

- Quick Guide to Re-
- sponding Online
- Who to Count
- See a List of Questions
- Language Support
- Gray Divider

Make It Count! Help counted. But you can still go us spread the word about the 2020 Census. We have made it easy to tell everyone – your friends and family, your neighbors, and your co-workers – that you will complete the 2020 Census they respond too.

> Share This – 2020 Census Operational Updates:

> Based on continuing assessments of guidance from federal, state and local health authorities, the U.S. Census Bureau is suspend-

erations for two additional weeks to April 15, 2020.

About the 2020 Census:

The U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years. The 2020 Census will count everyone who lives in the U.S. as of April 1, 2020. Census statistics help determine the number of seats each state holds in the U.S. House of Representatives and how billions of dollars in federal funds will be allocated by state, local, and federal lawmakers every year for the next 10 years.

If you've already responded or no longer want to receive 2020 Census response reminders, click here and we'll remove you from future reminders.

Stay connected with us! Join the conversation on social media.

Shape our future **START HERE >**





Tawi Nuuchu Niivanni

"We, Ute will all be counted"

Our people, our nations, and our futures depend on each one of us to complete the census form!

For more information go to www.2020census.gov

2020

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



PAYROLL PROTECTION

Support resources for Colorado businesses during COVID-19

COVID-19's impact on Coleconomic interruption.

Last week, the U.S. Congress passed a \$2 trillion these forgivable loans is to economic stimulus package prepare the materials necescalled the CARES Act. It sary to apply. That includes includes resources to help confirming your eligibility, Colorado's small businesses gathering the necessary reexperiencing economic harm. cords (payroll, rent, utilities, A key portion of this Act is tax and bank records), and es-

help small businesses, inde-My Fellow Coloradans, pendent contractors, and nonprofits meet payroll and rent orado has been widespread needs. Businesses can begin and its effects on the Colo- applying for the loans on Frifound. Many businesses are I strongly encourage you to com/covid19 faced with finding ways to review this federal program es in the face of this major economic resource can help your business.

the Paycheck Protection Pro-timating the eligible amount

By Jena M. Griswold gram, which allocates \$349 of your forgivable loan. For SECRETARY OF STATE billion in forgivable loans to more resources, including information on SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans, SBA Express Bridge Loans, Small Business Emergency EIDL Grants, Small Business rado business community day, which will be given on a Debt Relief, and much more, have been particularly pro- first-come, first-served basis. please visit: choosecolorado.

To access the Paycheck pay employees and expens- to see how this important Protection Program application, click here. Small Business Development Center The first step in accessing representatives are available to answer your questions through the COVID Economic Hotline at 303-860-5881.

Everyone at the Colorado's Secretary of State's Office is committed to keeping you informed and connected as we face this shared challenge.

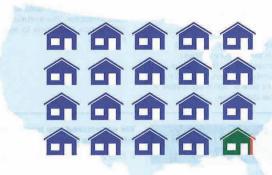




Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

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

(This is separate from our follow-up efforts; invited to respond on their own and haven't.)

ask to be counted in person.

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.

INDIAN LEADERSHIP **CIRCLE**

0 4 / 0 9 / 2 0 2 0

2020 CENSUS SELF RESPONSE RATES

Area	Self Response
Denver, CO	49.6%
Colorado Springs, CO	54%
Salt Lake City, UT	51.3%
Dallas, TX	40.2%
Southern Ute Indian Tribe (CO)	20.5%
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe (CO)	5.7%
Paiute Tribe (UT)	19.4%
Goshute Tribe (UT)	5.1%
Uintah/Ouray (UT)	8.2%
Wind River (WY)	19.3%
Colorado State	50.2%
Utah State	52%
Texas State	42.2%
Wyoming State	37.5%
	46.70/

public health officials to determine when it is safe to resume UL.

2020 Census delivered a census packet to about 10 percent of households in Update Leave (UL)

before we had to stop due to

Began UL March 15.

Originally scheduled

Stopped all fieldwork

In 3 days, we delivered

730,000+ addresses, or about 10 percent of the

through April 17.

March 18.

workload. 2020 Census is consulting with

CLICK HERE for map to view UL

Shadana.M.Sultan@2020Census.gov 720-891-2415

*Only able to track AIAN response via Tribal Land Tracts, so Urban /State rates are for Total population.

HAVE YOUR COUSINS AND AUNTIES COMPLETED THEIR CENSUS?

National Response

WWW.2020CENSUS.GOV



What to Expect 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.

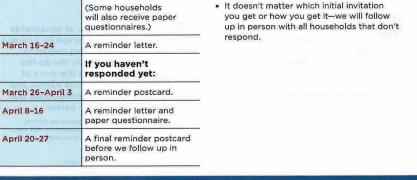
Letter Invitation and Paper Questionnaire

 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.

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.			
Africab swift of the prints of	If you haven't responded yet:			
March 26-April 3	A reminder postcard.			
April 8-16	A reminder letter and			

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.





BOBCATS BOYS BASKETBALL

Three 'Cats collect All-League recognition

Juniors McCaw, Finn also bag All-2A titles

By Joel Priest SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

For as much as Elijah Knepper loves being a head coach in the 2A/1A San Juan Basin League, he's as much a fan at heart, particularly when it comes to the sort of high-energy play his Mancos Blue Jays and Ignacio presented to near-capacity crowds not once, not twice, not even three times ... but on four epic occasions during both crews' 2019-20 runs.

"There's no love lost, I can tell you that!" he laughed, reflecting via phone Saturday afternoon, April 4, of MHS' 2-2 mark this winter against the revitalized Bobcats. "There is that mutual respect, don't get me wrong, but in terms of competing against each other ... the side that wins, enjoys the winning."

"And ... for people that don't get to see it and maybe think, 'Well that's that southwest corner' or whatever, they're definitely underestimating," he continued, speaking more of the SJBL as a whole. "A lot of good players ... and I'd like to think - good coaching, good play, and it's big-time in atmosphere."

Virtually the circuit's undisputed champ year to year in that last department, IHS enjoyed the greatest suc-2A-level members this season, posting an 18-5 overall record and qualifying - at MHS' expense in the 2A-Region IV Tournament finale - for the CHSAA Class 2A State Championships in Loveland, Colo.

Unable to nominate himers for either SJBL Boys' Coach-of-the-Year or Player-of-the-Year, Knepper had little hesitation voting for members of the Jays' rivals; Mancos chose Ignacio's Chris Valdez for COY, and junior guard Brady McCaw for POY.

"Respect, more than anything," the eventual COY (via a 4-2-1-1 vote over,



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio junior Triston Thompson (11) attempts to tear a rebound away from 2A Del Norte junior Logan Cestone (2) during non-league action this season inside IHS Gymnasium. Thompson was recently named Second Team All-SJBL for his contributions to the State-qualifying 'Cats.

respectively, Valdez, 1A Dove Creek's Ty Gray and 1A Ouray's Adam Trujillo) winner explained. "I could have thrown my vote somewhere else but I felt like us and Ignacio were the two teams there at the top of the league the entire year."

"Valdez ... he's been the cess amongst the SJBL's Coach-of-the-Year however many years he's been in the league, with as many held scoreless just once league titles as he has ... and rightly so; he deserved it as much as I did," stated Knepper. "He got it last year, I got it this year; I'm sure he wasn't too wrapped up in that."

self nor any of his play- "How much I respect making for an average of him as a coach and as a slightly more than 12 per competitor. He was able to receive my vote."

Meanwhile, Ignacio ultimately nominated Knepper and voted MHS senior center/forward Caden Showalter for POY distinction, which he earned via a 5-1-1-1 result over McCaw, 1A Nucla junior Tyler Wytulka and OHS

senior Channing Green.

"Best player on the best team or best on the second-best, whatever it was," Knepper said, alluding to the sides' two-game regular-season split atop the standings (MHS held the point-differential tiebreaker). "McCaw deserved recognition somehow, someway."

All told, McCaw was - by, appropriately, Mancos in the teams' second regular-season showdown - during the Bobcats' 23 outings, and posted a solid 16 double-digit efforts en route to totaling 277 points, game. Showing improvement in just about every aspect of a two-way player, McCaw was also one of 31 CHSAANow.com/ColoradoPreps.com/MaxPreps. com Honorable Mention All-2A recipients following the nomination/voting

Cats page 16

BOBCATS GIRLS BASKETBALL

Howell, Nanaeto IHS girls' top postseason picks

Senior, sophomore score statewide 2A salutes

By Joel Priest SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Relied upon to be a frontcourt force by three head coaches in four years, a CHSAA Class 2A Girls' Basketball State Championships participant three times during that stretch, and the cornerstone of a senior class which compiled an outstanding 71-25 overall varsity record, it was no surprise Ignacio senior post Makayla Howell was recently named the 2A/1A San Juan Basin League's Player-of-the-Year.

Also a clear-cut First Team All-SJBL selection, Howell suited up for all 24 of the Lady Bobcats' games (including a forfeit win over Mancos) this winter and totaled 185 points in 23 contested outings - an average of slightly more than eight per.

Should that figure seem low for a POY pick - in any league or classification there was good reason: She didn't have to shoulder the scoring load to lead. And opposing skippers took notice.

"They've got like six, seven awesome seniors," Ouray boss Craig Kaminsky said, following his 1A Lady Trojans' unsuccessful Feb. 15 invasion of IHS Gymnasium (Ignacio cruised, 48-10). "The number-one thing why I love coming down to play Coach [Justa] Whitt and her teams, even though we don't give them the game that they deserve - we're just not on their talent level, or experience level – is that she puts pressure on you."

"Forces you to learn to handle pressure correctly, or fail," emphasized the circuit's chosen Coach-of-the- tivation to get after it." his colleagues while Whitt and 1A Dove Creek's Julie Kibel each received two and 2A Telluride's Timothy Halliday one (Howell was a 5-3 POY choice over DCHS junior Grace Hatfield).

"It was good to see everyone get ... a little piece of the action," said Whitt. "With the league that we're in, I was in a struggle over who I was going to start! I'd been going by stats, especially on the guards; they're all so very even that, you know, we've got to have something that ... gives them a little mo-



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Beaming after being announced during pre-game Senior Day (Feb. 15) introductions, Ignacio senior Makayla Howell would go on to make a third trip to the CHSAA Class 2A Girls' Basketball State Championships in March and ultimately be named both First Team All-SJBL as well as SJBL Girls' Player-of-the-Year.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio sophomore Avaleena Nanaeto (35) manages to, without leaving her feet, block the shot of Telluride's Katija Kramer (5) during this season's 2A-District 3 Tournament action at neutral Montezuma-Cortez. Nanaeto's work at both ends of the court yielded a First Team All-SJBL nod.

'Cat nobody needed tell twice to 'get after it,' whether in half- or full-court settings, it was sophomore Avaleena Nanaeto. Never one to let a possible defensive steal escape her, the First Team All-Leaguer registered most of her offensive production (161 points; 7.0 ppg in 23 games played) by either driving hard to the basket, or from the free-throw line, or often times both.

All-SJBL nods were junior any one game as IHS finguards Charlize Valdez and Ebonee Gomez. Also active

for all 23 of Ignacio's actual Year, awarded three votes by And if there was one Lady games, Valdez totaled 163 points (7.1 ppg) and Gomez 132 (5.7) while favoring the same aggressive defensive approach as Nanaeto.

All told, Howell logged nine double-digit scoring performances during the 2019-20 campaign, while Nanaeto and Valdez each booked six and Gomez three. Members of Ignacio's honored quartet were held scoreless just five times combined, but no more than Earning Second Team one player was blanked in

Howell page 16

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

IHS alumna Gomez honored for sportsmanship

Seldom seen on or off the basketball court without her trademark smile, former Ignacio High School standout guard Avionne Gomez was saluted in late March by the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference as one of 34 total student-athletes named to its 12th Annual Winter All-Sportsmanship Teams.

According to information provided by the Lawrenceville, Ga.-based, NCAA Div. III circuit, each head coach – in men's basketball, women's basketball, men's swimming/diving, women's swimming/diving - was to elect one member from his or

her respective squad whose

'good sportsmanship' and

By Joel Priest 'positive on-court attitude Special to the Drum and demeanor' was prominent, start to finish, during the 2019-20 campaign.

Grinning through even a trying 4-21 (4-14 SCAC) season, and establishing herself in Denver-based Johnson & Wales University's starting lineup, Gomez was selected by JWU head coach Bob Kintzel to cop the award. Earning even more playing time as a true sophomore than she'd already received in '18-19, Gomez was a first-five inclusion for all 25 of the Wildcats' games, and averaged 7.5

points, 5.1 rebounds and 1.9 assists per. All told, ten different players – including two First Team All-SCAC performers – com-

prised the All-Sportsmanship Women's Basketball Team,

while the SCAC 2019-20 Winter Women's Basketball Team Sportsmanship Award went to Colorado College (which also earned the award in men's basketball).

The awards were voted on by each member institution's coach and/or SCAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representative, with each individual sport group ranking its top three teams. Points (five for a first-place vote, three for a second-place nod and one for a third-place) were then totaled to select the overall winner.

The SAAC instituted the award prior to the 2016-17 academic year to help honor the team best portraying good sportsmanship and fair play - regarding both players and coaches – during the season.





OBITUARIES



WILLIAM - Vonestine J. William passed away Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at Mercy Medical Center. She was 79 years old. Vonestine was born May 20, 1940, to Roy William and Mary Bean William. She was a lifelong resident of Ignacio.

She attended schools in Ignacio and Santa Fe, NM and college in Albuquerque, NM. She eventually returned to Ignacio to work and raise her family. Vonestine enjoyed playing slots at the casinos and taking small trips to other casinos in the area. Her family was paramount in her life, she loved and cherished her grandchilAdren and great-grandchildren. She enjoyed listening to country music and especially music by Elvis. One of her fondest memories was visiting Graceland in Memphis, TN.

She is survived by her children: Chandler, Kelly and Val Herrera; Stepchildren: Alan, Stewart, Melva and Monica Herrera; sister: Mary Santistevan; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and extended family. She is preceded in death by her parents; and siblings: Eileen Weaver, Mary Suazo and Kenneth Burch, Sr.

A Graveside Service was held Friday, April 10, 2020, at 11 a.m., at Ouray Memorial Cemetery, Ignacio. Guests are limited in number, extended guests are encouraged to distance, but may attend at their discretion.

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

Humane Society: FAQ • From Page 7

this crisis?

resenting more than 200,000 the evidence strongly indicates that COVID-19 cannot

said, "At this time there more information. is nothing that shows pets can spread COVID-19 and there's no reason to think pets might be a source of infection. It is always good for people to practice careful hand washing after handling a pet and after picking up and disposing pet waste. When possible, have another member of your household care for your animals while you are sick, so you and your pet can get the best very important and positive role in our lives."

The coronavirus has introduced a good deal of uncertainty into our lives, but being prepared can make a world of difference. Watch this video to hear a veterinarian answer questions about pets and the coronavirus.

How can I keep my home clean AND safe for my pets?

Some cleaners that help prevent COVID-19 aren't safe for your pets.

Keep pets out of rooms where you're using cleaners that contain bleach, alcohol and other powerful chemicals.

Don't leave cleaners out where your pets could stick like human food banks. their paws into them.

structions - some cleaners need to sit for a bit to be effective, but surfaces can then be rinsed to avoid burning tender paws.

If your pet needs a bath, only use products intended for bathing pets. Other cleaners can hurt them.

What can I do to help an- our work at this critical time! veterinarians – also states that imals and shelters during

Now is a great time to be contracted from pets. The adopt a pet to reduce the are more important than ever association does, however, potential strain on shelters caution that there is still much and to offer to foster in families and people working we don't know and updates case shelters start receivwill be provided as new in- ing an increase in requests formation becomes available. for foster care of pets for and no paid time off from Dr. Gail Hansen, DVM, seriously ill or hospital- work. Currently, and in the MPH of our affiliate, the ized people. Please reach coming months, there will Humane Society Veteri- out to shelters and rescue be additional financial strugnary Medical Association, groups in your area for

> Fosters can also be lifesavers for pets who can't adapt to shelter life, those who need to be nursed back to health and orphaned animals who need someone to step in for their mom (or whose needs are beyond what busy shelter staff can often provide).

This uncertain and stressful time is also a wonderful opportunity to unify behind a common love of animals. COVID-19 does not discrimcare. Our pets provide a inate; people from all backgrounds and communities will be impacted. A deep connection to animals transcends socio-economic, racial, ethnic and geographic boundaries and honoring that bond with compassion, not judgement, is a very simple yet impactful way to contribute positively in your community during this crisis.

Offer support and supplies Check with your local

shelter or rescue to see how you can support them during this crisis. Your generosity will be gratefully accepted, particularly during this stressful time. Consider donating supplies, both through your local animal shelter and other agencies

TIP: Amazon recently an-Follow the product in- nounced that they will "temporarily prioritize household staples, medical supplies and other high-demand products." While placing orders, shop on AmazonSmile and select the Humane Society of the United States as your preferred charity so a portion of your purchase supports

For people living in poverty and underserved communities, pet support services during this crisis. Low wage hourly wage jobs are being hit hard with loss of income gles and barriers for large numbers of people in accessing resources and affordable care and supplies for pets, and therefore a huge demand on these service agencies. Check in with your local animal shelter and ask how you can become involved in supporting the community.

Other Ways to Help Your **Local Shelter or Rescue**

We also encourage suspension of fees and fines (return-to-owner, licensing, etc.) similar to the way companies and municipalities are suspending late fees and utility turn-offs. With kindness, compassion and flexibility, we can work toward all pets and the people that love them staying together during this crisis.

What about small businesses that serve the needs of pet owners?

If necessary, we will work with state governments to encourage authorities to define veterinary services, animal control and access to pet food and supplies as essential services that must remain open if additional business closures are ordered.

Check out "Coronavirus and your pets" on our podcast.

The Humane Society of the United States is registered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions to the HSUS are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. The HSUS's tax identification number is 53-0225390.

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

Watch for shoulder work on US 160 south of Cortez

Highway improvements to be completed near Towaoc

Staff report work areas. Work is expect-Colo. Dept. of ed to be completed by the Transportation end of the month.

TRAVEL ADVISORY

CDOT to complete final phase of U.S. 160 improvement project south of Cortez, near Towaoc. Final work items include: shoulder work, earth work, seeding and mulching

The Colorado Department of Transportation and contractor Oldcastle SW Group resumed work this week, to complete final earth work, soft shoulder work, seeding and mulching along U.S. Highway 160 south of Cortez, near Towaoc. Through April, weather permitting, motorists can expect some intermittent, single-lane closures and/ or shoulder closures where roadside work areas are present, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Travel delays are anticipated to be very minimal. Motorists are urged to go "Slow for the Cone Zone," and avoid all distractions

Project Details

Major reconstruction of U.S. 160/U.S. 491 began **COVID-19** in the spring of 2019, to provide safety features and widen the highway north of Towaoc, adding two passing lanes, shoulder improvements, vehicle turnouts and access improvements. In March 2018, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe a \$2 million TI-GER grant to help pay for the \$11.2 million project.

Project Contacts

Those with questions or comments can write to us 160. activities. 491 passing lanes@gmail. com or call 970-749-3579. The project web site is www. codot.gov/admin/projects/us-160-491-passing-lanes.

Connect With CDOT

Sign up for CDOT project or travel alerts: bit.ly/ COalerts. See CDOT's scheduled lane closures: while driving through the codot.gov/travel/sched- more efficiently and safely.

uled-lane-closures.html

Connect with CDOT on Twitter (@coloradodot) and Facebook (facebook.com/ coloradodot)

Safe transportation infrastructure is essential for emergency first responders and freight drivers as Colorado navigates the COVID-19 pandemic.

With that in mind, construction continues on CDOT projects with social distancing and other measures to reduce COVID-19 exposure on the worksite.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment announced guidelines for construction

Gov. Polis issued an emergency, temporary stay-athome order for all of Colorado, which went into effect Thursday, March 26. With this order, the public is urged to join the campaign for #Doing-MyPartCO and avoid all nonessential travel. With fewer vehicles on the roads, CDOT crews will be able to work

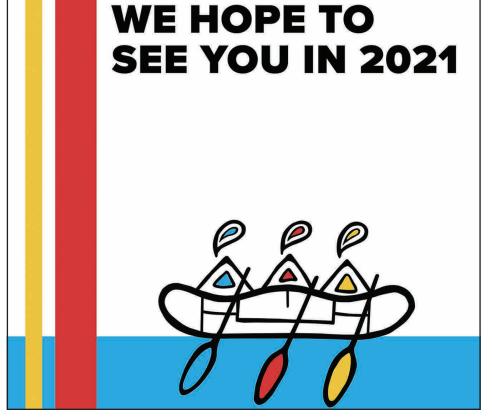
A Request: Los Pinos Fire Dept. Chief Tony Harwig

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 guestions. please free to contact SunUte's Recreation Coordinator Kelsey Frost at 970-563-2660.



Drum Deadline

Next issue April 24

Deadline April 20

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

THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$29 per year • \$49 two years PHONE: 970-563-0100 • DIRECT: 970-563-0118

TOLL FREE: 1-800-772-1236 • FAX: 970-563-0391

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

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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(1)(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-lOl(l)(a)(iv) of the Ethics Code. This disqualification shall run consecutively with, and following, the twoyear 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 Commis sion 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.

COVID-19 IN RURAL COLO. • FROM PAGE 6

diagnosed. Per capita, the impact on rural Colorado is just as dramatic as it is elsewhere.

Rural issues are different than the urban versions. Our hospitals are stretched thin even during healthier times. Many do not have ICU rooms or have a limited number of ventilators. Their staffs are capable, but small. Bed space is scarce, and additional resources, such as more staffing and more personal protection equipment, are difficult to find.

When people in Hinsdale County get sick, they can be seen at their Lake City Area Medical Center, but if their symptoms are serious, they are taken to Grand Junction, 160 miles away, or to the Gunnison Valley Health Hospital, which is at capacity.

The Public Health Departments in Southwest Colorado are utterly remarkable. Not only are they doing everything they can to organize, treat patients, and advocate for more testing, supplies and medical professionals, they also communicate regularly with their communities about the current situation.

Communication in the rural areas can be difficult, at best. In Durango, many homes receive only New Mexico news, unless they are on DISH or DirectTV; getting any information from Denver about what's going on in Colorado is necessary, but challenging. We are told to get our information and testing locations online, but we can only do that if we are equipped with broadband.

The testing, of course, like all of Colorado, is not sufficient. Most of us suspect there are a lot of people who have COVID-19, and anyone with symptoms should self-isolate. Everyone in Colorado is being asked to wear facemasks out in public, whether they feel well or not.

Some people, particularly ranchers and farmers, do not have the luxury of staying inside, away from others. They need to be working constantly outside, meeting people when they go in to town for supplies, but are facing a dwindling demand from farmer's markets, restaurants, schools and universities. Prices are falling. So many consumers are losing their jobs, and may be buying less when the markets open again.

The mountain counties have lost their tourism base, affecting every aspect of their economy, while also having a high number of coronavirus cases, likely brought in by their international visitors. The Colorado Tourism Board is ramping up promoting resort areas this fall, where people can drive, but with a slowing economy, the recovery could be more sluggish than in urban areas.

What happens if you live in a rural area, and your grocery store runs out of food? Or toilet paper? We just suffer a little. Many of us do not have an alternative store to visit but, because we live in smaller towns, we generously share our resources with others. We make do.

Since all students are now out of school, the rural districts are emailing work, mailing packets to students, having students pick up work outside the schools or, in some cases, teachers are driving miles to personally drop materials off at front doors.

The federal and state governments have taken special note of rural Colorado, offering help with housing, rent, small business loans, utilities, some debt retirement, and financial assistance to individuals, counties and cities. Visit http:// www.sba.gov or http:// www.covid19.colorado.gov for updated information

Rural Colorado is alive and mostly well, and though we face different struggles than other parts of Colorado, we haven't lost our sense of neighborhood or endurance.

ATTENTION SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL MEMBERS 45-Day Notice of Availability

Under Section 29-2-105 of the Land Assignment Code, public notice is being given that the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Department of Natural Resources is accepting applications from Southern Ute tribal members eligible for a tribal-land homesite assignment. The land is described as a tract of land located n near the La Plata County Airport in Sec 20, T. 33 N., R. 8 W., New Mexico Principal Meridian, La Plata County Colorado, containing 2.27 acres, more or less.



Posting Period: Start: March 17, 2020; End: May 1, 2020

Eligibility Requirements: Tribal Members who 1) are eligible under the Land Assignment Code and 2) submit an application with a home-site development plan. Selection Process: The selectee for this tract of tribal land will be determined by a "Drawing". Cards will be provided at the department, which will include the name, address, and contact number of the Tribal member. Applications shall be reviewed by the Lands Division to ensure that the Tribal members requesting an assignment

After the 45-Day Posting period has expired, a date for the drawing will be requested and scheduled, before Tribal Council, as soon as possible. A "primary name" and a secondary name will be drawn. The secondary name will be drawn in the event the "primary" Tribal member declines the land at any time after the drawing. The "primary's" documents formalizing the assignment will be presented to Tribal Council as soon as possible to approve the resolution granting the assignment.

Tribal members submitting comments or an objection over this land being made available for assignment may do so by mail to the Dept. of Natural Resources - Lands Division at PO Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137. All comments or objections must include your name and a date. Staff is available by appointment to accompany interested applicants who wish to view the land. For further information related to the posting or the land, please call the Lands Division at 970-563-0126. The Tribal Housing Dept. is available for assistance in drafting a homesite development plan at 970-563-2720.

SOUTHERN UTE UTILITIES DIVISION

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT March 30, 2020



ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS:

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY & UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE THE PAYMENT WINDOW IS CLOSED AT THE UTILITIES OFFICE.

Utilities will continue to bill customers and expect payment, however, there will be NO SHUT-OFF's or LATE FEES during billing periods of April & May 2020.

Please pay utility bills using one of the following methods:

- 1. Pay over the phone with a credit card, call (970) 563-5500. 8AM—Noon.
- 2. Mail check, money order, or cashier's check made payable to Southern Ute Utilities Division to PO Box 1137, Ignacio CO 81137
- 3. Tribal Finance Automatic Deduction. Call Utilities Office to have an application mailed to you.
- 4. Wells Fargo Bank—Ignacio Branch (Drive-up only). Have your account number and/or utility bill readily available.

Thank you for understanding the priority and protection our customers and front-office employees during the coronavirus pandemic. Questions? Call the Utilities Division Office at (970) 563-5500.

Stay Healthy and Safe — The Utilities Division Staff

2020 Annual Spring Clean-up



Southern Ute Housing Authority



Tribal Departments, Tribal Members and tenants of the Southern Ute Housing Authority only. We will not provide clean-up for non-tribal enants 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

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

meet the eligibility requirements.

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

Classifieds



100th Annual Southern Ute Fair **Theme and Logo Contest**

Due to the COVID 19 social distancing enactment the Southern Ute Cultural Preservation Department will not be able to accept any Southern Ute Fair Theme and Logo submissions in person. The submission date will be extended to April 30, 2020.

Please mail your submissions to: Southern Ute Cultural Preservation Department PO Box 737 #88 Attention: Tara Vigil, Special Events Coordinator

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact 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 2020 Southern Ute Tribal Fair Powwow. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Dona Frost at 970-553-9291 or at donalfrost331@gmail.com

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.

UTILITIES

Temporary suspension of utility disconnections, late fees

Southern Ute Utilities at a later date.

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

Staff report notification will be released

Due to the current make payments on their accounts on time are strongly encouraged to do so. Payare accepted Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. – Noon:

- Call 970-563-5500, pay with credit card (highly recommended)
- Bank (Ignacio Branch): Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. Noon. Have your account numbill readily available
- Payment by mail: stub with your check or money order (made Ute Utilities Division) and our customers. to PO Box 1137, Ignacio, CO 81137
- **cash** Walk-in or Driveup at Utilities Office.

As a reminder for tribal member customers, you can Customers that are able to arrange monthly payments to your utility account directly from Tribal Finance. We strongly encouraged this ment methods include and automatic payment arrangement to remain current on your account.

Please contact Utilities • Payment over the phone: Office 970-563-5500 to arrange for an application to set up voluntary deductions to avoid large arrears in pay-• Payment at Wells Fargo ment balances. You may call

It is our highest priorber and/or your utility ity to provide and maintain critical services to the Southern Ute Tribal mem-Please mail statement bership and community during this pandemic.

Safety is our number one payable to Southern priority for our employees

Contacts: Hayes Briskey, Utilities Manager 970-563-• Credit card, money or- 5502; Julian Baker, Assistant der, cashier's check, or Manager, 970-563-5515; or Emergency - SUPD, 970-563-4401.



SOUTHERN UTE UTILITIES DIVISION



March 23, 2020

Friendly Reminder from Wastewater **Operations:**

PLEASE FLUSH ONLY **TOILET PAPER!**



DO NOT FLUSH THE FOLLOWING:



Tissue or Kleenex





"Flushable" Wipes & Baby Wipes

These items do not breakdown and dissolve

Facial Wipes

Rubber Gloves or **Cotton Gloves**

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 ~ Thank you! at (970) 563-5500.

SOUTHERN UTE UTILITIES DIVISION



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 Vtilities Division Staff

Southern Ute Carbon Monoxide Program Tribal Housing is currently working in collaboration with the

To order detector contact
Randi Rock
Tribal Housing
970.563.4710
285 Lakin St. To schedule tallation contact Polly Blakenship Construction Services 970.563.2500 270 Hwy 151

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.

















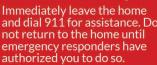


Signs of Carbon **Monoxide Poisoning**

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

In the event of an Emergency

Immediately leave the home and dial 911 for assistance. Do not return to the home until



SUPD - 970.564.4401





SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE Stay at Home Order







PRACTICE SOCIAL **STAY HOME** DISTANCING

PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE

If you are sick, call ahead to your healthcare provider. Tribal Members & Southern Ute Health Center patients can call the Health Center at 970.563.4581 to schedule an appointment.

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe COVID-19 Call Center is available daily from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. by dialing 970.563.0124.

Designed & Published by Lindsay J. Box

FLY FISHING

It's a serious mess

By Don Oliver SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

This is certainly not the column I had planned on writing. I was suppose to be in Tennessee fly fishing for bass. And, for the price of ice cream cones have three-quarters of the Wild Bunch tell me what a great person I am. The other quarter is in Montana, but he is already learning that Grumps is the best.

With the Covid-19 establishing itself in the Southwest, and our governor, along with other governors, issuing stay-at-home directives, Juan County, Colorado is on many of us are now hunkered record that all non-county down at home. That includes residences should stay away. fly shop owners, sales staff, and guides. I know many people are trying to figure out how to adhere to the new rules, but legally go fly fishing. To buy gear or licenses you can go online. If you are gong to buy gear online, I suggest you call the Nafirst check if your favorite tional Forests offices to see fly shop has online shopping. Many do, and I know they'll appreciate the extra effort on your part. These are going to

going fly fishing. People are still allowed to go outside, go for walks, and go fly fishing. Just be in groups fewer than ten, and stay six feet apart. Not a problem for anyone that fly fishes. However,



and the reservation is closed to all non-tribal members. So their great streams and rivers cannot be fished. San The New Mexico side of Navajo Lake, along with much of the San Juan River are closed. Since many of the rivers in National Forests are still snowed-in, even if legal to fish you can't get to them. what is and isn't accessible for fishing.

So, what is open?

To start with, grocery be challenging times, but not stores, liquor stores, and my favorite cigar shop are open. The stay-at-home rules do Therefore, once you find not preclude anyone from a location to fly fish, your basic needs can be meet. I checked with the Colorado Department of Wildlife, and was told the waters owned by the state are open, sort of. Many of the Colorado rivers flow through state parks that some areas are closed, to just may be closed. The best way about everything. I checked to find which parks are open with the Southern Ute tribe, or closed is go to the Colo-

rado Department of Wildlife's website. I checked with the DOW and they told me, in our area, wherever you can legally access the Animas, Pine, and Florida Rivers, are open for fly fishing. Other fishing also, I just don't like to talk about that. I have been on both the Animas and Florida Rivers, and can happily say, they are fishing great. And frankly as it gets warmer there will be more dry fly activity. I'm already seeing big moths around my house. Also, as the ice comes off the area reservoirs fly fishing from the shoreline can produce lots of fun and excitement.

Since many of us are home, use this time as an opportunity to take a friend or family member fly fishing. Time on a river or lake with a family member or friend is wonderful. The rivers are at a great flow, and shouldn't be intimidating. Once the runoff starts head for area ponds and lakes. Who knows, you might find a new secret place. But, be sure and follow he suggest-

ed separation guidelines. When you take the time to get out please keep our area retailers in mind. They can't open their doors to be of assistance to you. Once they can, be the first through their doors. I've never meet a retailer, working in the fly fishing business, that wasn't more than happy to help someone out.

Be positive; this mess will pass.

HOWELL, NANAETO TOP PICKS • FROM PAGE 12

ished 18-6 overall.

"They're the best basketball ... program in the SJBL," stated Kaminsky. "Coach Whitt, and the Coaches Seibel (Trae, Shane) before. They run great programs and have great kids."

Topping everything off, Howell and Nanaeto were two of 37 CHSAANow. com/ColoradoPreps.com/ MaxPreps.com Honorable Mention All-2A recipients. Which was a fitting achievement considering the Lady 'Cats held their own against not only All-1A Honorable Mentions Hatfield, Audrey Gibbs (junior, OHS) and Emme Rushing (junior, Nucla) in regular-season SJBL action, but ten total First Team, Second Team or HM All-2A or All-1A talents – including the five First Team All-2A picks, one being POY Kendra Parra of non-league Del Norte - from inside Colorado's borders.

And for a second consecutive season, IHS threatened to stun powerhouse Limon and '19-20 Class 2A Coach-of-the-Year Bart O'Dwyer inside the nonleague Lady Badgers' den.

"With the run they made to State," said Kaminsky, referring to IHS' undefeated regular-season romp through the league, followed by 2A-District 3 and Re-



Ignacio junior Ebonee Gomez (23) leads a Lady Bobcat rush towards the offensive end after recording a steal against Dolores during regular-season action inside IHS Gymnasium. Gomez was recently named Second Team All-SJBL after helping the team qualify for the CHSAA Class 2A Girls' Basketball State Championships.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio junior Charlize Valdez (12) disrupts a pass from Mancos sophomore Rhiley Montoya (13) to junior Tia Imel (5) during this season's 2A-District 3 Tournament action at neutral Montezuma-Cortez. Valdez was recently named Second Team All-SJBL for her contributions to the State-qualifying Lady Bobcats.

gion VIII Tournament titles breaking that they couldn't - resulting in the trip to the get a chance to finish it off Budweiser Events Center in ... before all the start of the

Loveland, Colo., "It's heart- pandemic 'adjustments."

CATS COLLECT ALL-LEAGUE • FROM PAGE 12

Finn. A forward/center feared for his ability to shoot aging 10.4 per contest.

versus MHS, as he and six efforts of 10-plus points. McCaw each totaled 50

SJBL Girls Basketball

All-League Teams

FIRST TEAM ALL-SJBL GIRLS:

IGNACIO - HOWELL, NANAETO;

Telluride - Morgan Watkinson, Margaux Lovely; Dolores - McKenzy Howerton;

Ouray - Gibbs; Dove Creek - Hatfield,

Cassie Gatlin; Nucla - Rushing, Lilli

Parrino. SECOND TEAM: IHS -

VALDEZ, GOMEZ; THS - Kyra Levan;

DHS - Samantha Castillo; RHS - Lily

Harrington; OHS - Haley Kunz; DCHS

- Kobie Beanland; NHS - Jessica

Barkemeyer. HONORABLE MENTION:

DHS - Allie Kibel; MHS - Madi Hale;

RHS - Anza Connaughton; OHS - River

Manley. FIRST TEAM ALL-2A: Sidney

Hines, Limon; Toni Lopez, Limon; Kendra

Parra, Del Norte; Abi Snyder, Rocky Ford;

Kristin Vieselmeyer, Holyoke. POY -

Parra; COY – O'Dwyer.

points – including separate Another was First Team season-high outputs of 24 All-SJBL junior Bryce points – against the talented Jays, who finished 19-4.

"They brung confidence the three-pointer as well to everybody," observed juas sneakily operate in the nior guard Triston Thomp-

that strong so that's why we've gone with Ocean (senior center/forward Hunter; 9.4 ppg in 19 games played) in the high post and Bryce hitting from in the corners," Valdez noted. "Speed will paint, Finn logged 13 dou- son, a Second Team All- outlast post play as long ble-digit efforts (he, too, SJBL choice who, despite as you utilize it properly was blanked just once) and missing five games, still we tried to open the floor racked up 239 points, aver- registered 159 points (8.8 up, penetrate the gaps and ppg) and was never held kick, so that it would negate That figure rose to 12.5 scoreless while recording (opponents') big guys and make them have to jump out

> FIRST TEAM ALL-SJBL BOYS: IGNACIO - FINN. MCCAW: Telluride -Kaden Katz; Mancos - Caden Showalter, Connor Showalter; Ouray - Green, Liam Miller; Dove Creek - Hayden Gray, Kade Hankins; Nucla - Wytulka. SECOND TEAM: IHS - THOMPSON; THS -Tommy Wells; MHS - Christian Cova, Evan Sehnert; RHS - Robert Beserra: OHS - Judah Preston, Stuart Owens; DCHS - Chorbin Cressler; NHS - Cael Spangler. HONORABLE MENTION: THS - Dillon Sheehan; DHS - Will Swagerty; RHS - Kaden Forrest. FIRST TEAM ALL-2A: Tate Bessire, Ault Highland; Jase Bessire, Ault Highland; Val Leone, Fowler; Clay Robinson, Yuma; Camden Smithburg, Limon. POY - Tate Bessire; COY - Pete Freeman, Ault Highland.

"Bryce, sometimes, isn't and help." SJBL Boys Basketball All-League Teams

LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER











The Southern Ute Drum's **Crossword Puzzle**

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

Across

- Suicidal African queen
- Theater award since 1956
- General who formed good relations 3
- with Chief Ouray 10 Outer covering
- Old Japanese-made Plymouth auto 5
- 12 King lives round about
- Inquire of
- Sidespin at pool Turkish title of respect 17
- "--- , Brute!" 18
- 19 Explain
- Cinderella's horses, after midnight
- 24 Document duplicates
- 25 Silliest
- 27 Fellow
- 30 Battery type

34 Toke, **35** Hey, **36** Soya.

- Clement ---, former Chairman Goddess on 2012 Olympic medals
- 34 Lubricated
- 35 Secure 36 Staffs

Down

- USN officers
- Action taken impetuously 2
- Comic --- Philips
- --- Speedway, Race of Champions home
- "Fifty-four Forty or Fight" state
- Assigned quarters
- Ask over
- --- Natchez-Kusso tribe of South Carolina
- Baseball league below the Majors
- 13 " ... --- the frumious Bandersnatch!" (Lewis Carroll)
- 16 DEA agents
- People of the Dawn Land
- "New World" Symphony key 19
- A cloud's might be silver Gum arabic 21
- 22 Represent
- 26 Paradise
- San Juan Mountain find which led to
- the loss of Ute land 28 Employs
 - January 1st to now, financially
- 32 City overlooked by Christ the Redeemer

Answers for this crossword will appear in April 24 issue of the Drum. Answers for March 27, 2020 crossword puzzle:

Across: 1 ABCs, 5 Apt, 8 Zoot, 9 Shinny, 13 Tune, 14 Topees, 15 Egged, 17 Spall, 18 Chorus girl, 20 Tue, 21 Aniyunwiya, 28 Scarf, 29 Ergot, 30 Umpire, 32 Ills, 33 Vessel,

Down: 1 Aztec, 2 Bough, 3 Congo, 4 Steer, 5 AST, 6 Phosgene, 7 Tippi, 10 Near, 11 Nell, 12 YSL, 16 Duty-free, 19 Suu, 21 Acme, 22 Naps, 23 Irish, 24 Writs, 25 Igloo, 26 Yolky, 27 At sea, 28 SUV, 31 Ely.