



Morrison Canal sees progress

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Statements for Run-off Election

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The Southern Ute Drum, winner of 16 Native American Journalist Association Media Awards

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Southern Ute Tribal Council appoints Acting Chairman

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

The Southern Ute Tribal Council appointed Mr. Bruce Valdez to Acting Chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Mr. Valdez will assume all responsibilities of the duties of Chairman until the new tribal official is elected by tribal membership and certified by the Southern Ute Election Board.

Chairman Christine Sage's last day in office was Monday, November 30, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. According to the Tribal Constitution, the terms of office shall be three years.

The Run-Off Election will be held on Friday, Dec. 18, 2020 and the candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be elected Tribal Chairman. The Inauguration for the new Chairman and Council Members will be held on Monday, Dec. 21, 2020 at 10 a.m.

The status of the Executive Office will be forthcoming.



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum
Bruce Valdez
Acting Southern Ute Chairman



McKayla Lee/SU Drum archive

The Burch sisters: Leona, Lynette and Leora lead their mother Irene Burch and fellow Leonard C. Burch memorial walk participants during last year's annual event held at the SunUte Community Center on December 10, 2019.

SOUTHERN UTE TRIBE

In recognition of Leonard C. Burch

By Jeremy Wade Shockley
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

Leonard C. Burch Day – this day of recognition was first established on Dec. 10, 1996 by the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council and is celebrated as a tribal holiday – every December.

Burch was known for his strong cultural ties to his Ute traditions, his visionary leadership in his role as the Tribe's longtime chairman and unparalleled dedication to family, community and

the many friendships he cultivated along the way.

The Burch family introduced the annual Leonard C. Burch Walk/Run in 2011 in an effort to bring the community together, educate and recognize the accomplishments of the late Chairman Burch. He is survived by his wife Irene Burch and seven daughters, who come together each year as a family to organize the walk in honor of their father.



Leonard C. Burch Day, Dec. 10, honors Leonard C. Burch, 1933-2003.

Leonard Burch page 2

PUBLIC LANDS

Cutting your own tree for the holidays

Staff report
SAN JUAN PUBLIC LANDS OFFICE

Christmas tree permits are now on sale at National Forest and Bureau of Land Management offices and selected retail outlets in Southwest Colo. Permits come with a brochure explaining regulations and helpful tips.

National Forest/BLM offices sell maps and offer free advice on the best areas for tree harvesting, and the best species of tree to cut. Stop by one of our offices in Durango, Bayfield, Pagosa Springs or Dolores, Colo. Our friendly and knowledgeable Visitor Information Specialists can show you samples of the branches of different tree species to help you select the species of tree best for your holidays. They also have maps to point out the best places for you to get your special tree.



courtesy F.D. Richards

White Fir

CUT: White Fir ("friendly" to the touch)

White firs make for superb Christmas trees ~ they are fragrant, with soft needles and a shape made for the holidays, with a full crown and branches that are flat and strong to hold ornaments. Look for white firs at middle elevations. They have flat, flexible needles which attach separately to branches. Cones grow upwards but are usually gone by winter. Foresters highly recommend this species for use as holiday trees.

CUT: Subalpine Fir ("friendly" to the touch)

Very similar to white fir, but found at higher elevations ~ in the subalpine zone, hence the name.

CUT: Spruce (Prickly to the touch.)

This species is found at higher elevations. Spruce needles are stiff, square and sharp, and needles attach separately to branches. Cones hang down with thin, papery scales.

SELECT THE TREE BEST FOR THE FOREST

There are other species of tree which do not regenerate as easily as those above and need protection from harvest. You are not allowed to harvest the below species, because they only regenerate when certain conditions all line up at the right time, including a good cone crop, moisture, sunlight and good soil. For these reasons, southwestern Colorado

CORONAVIRUS

Polis joined by Dr. Fauci, America's top infectious disease expert

Staff report
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR POLIS

Governor Polis provided an update today on the State's response to the COVID-19 epidemic and was joined by Dr. Anthony Fauci, M.D., National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) Director.

"I was thrilled that Dr. Anthony Fauci personally shared his advice today that Coloradans save lives by wearing masks around others and reducing any social interactions. I thank Dr. Fauci for his service to our country during an incredibly challenging time," said Governor Polis. "Coloradans, I need you to hear this message: your choices could help save a life – and that life could be someone you love or even your own. Wear a mask, stay six feet from others and avoid gathering outside of your household because hope is on horizon. But first, we have to make it through these next very challenging few weeks where we all need to double down on what we know works."

Colorado is not alone with seeing a spike in cases. Dr. Fauci discussed how the country is dealing with a nationwide public health crisis and that the

virus had spread to different regions. Dr. Fauci also noted that as temperatures drop and Americans approach the holiday season he anticipates that the country could see a surge upon a surge. He pointed out that the country is looking at thirty or more days of precarious risk and encouraged people to avoid crowds, wear a mask, wash hands, and social distance.

"Instead of thinking in terms of the Thanksgiving holiday and then the Christmas holiday as two separate events, I think we are going to be looking at 30 or more days of a period of time of precarious risk," said Dr. Fauci.

Dr. Fauci also discussed the news of vaccines and thanked Colorado's front-line health care workers for their efforts. Dr. Fauci urged Coloradans to be a part of the solution to the pandemic and discussed the importance of mitigating the virus.

When discussing the COVID vaccine, Dr. Fauci added "This is a testimony to the exquisite and extraordinary scientific advances that have taken place over many years... it's quiet, meticulous science that allows you to get a vaccine that is 94-95% effective from the time the virus was recognized

in January 2020 to putting it in a person's arm in December 2020."

"We're all in this together, help is on the way and we are going to get out of this," Dr. Fauci concluded.

The Governor shared at the time of today's briefing that there are 4,405 new positive cases and 1,847 Coloradans currently hospitalized, and he noted that the state would begin to see the impacts of the Thanksgiving holiday in the coming days. He urged Coloradans who were exposed to those beyond their household to quarantine for 14 days to prevent spread.

Testing sites can be found at covid19.colorado.gov/testing

Governor Polis also announced that one-time stimulus payments of \$375 would be going out this week. This direct cash payment will go towards most of the 435,000 Coloradans who have been hardest hit and experienced unemployment during this pandemic. Coloradans who were eligible to receive weekly unemployment insurance benefits – including Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), and other programs – are eligible.

Southern Ute Tribal Offices Holiday Closures

Dec. 10 & 11 • Leonard C. Burch Day

Dec. 24 & 25 • Christmas Holiday

Jan. 1, 2021 • New Year's Day

Cutting tree page 15



LEONARD C. BURCH • FROM PAGE 1

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the Tribe’s Stay at Home order, it was deemed necessary to cancel this year’s event, which was set to take place over the Leonard C. Burch holiday weekend.

“We are on a Stay at Home order put in place by the Southern Ute Tribe and we need to keep everyone safe at this moment in time,” Leonora Burch explained. “Hopefully next year will be a bigger and better year!”

According to a statement published by the Burch family, “Mr. Leonard C. Burch served as elected to the Southern Ute Tribal Council at the young age of 32 in 1966 and served for Chairman for 28 years. Under his leadership, the Southern Ute Tribe emerged from relative poverty to become a major economic force in the Four Corners region and the largest employer in LaPlata County. Fueled principally by successful development of the Tribe’s natural gas resources, the Burch era saw countless examples of community development and improvements in education and health and social programs available to tribal members.”

These are just a few of Mr. Burch’s outstanding achievements:

Mr. Burch was invited by five separate United States Presidents to attend conferences on Indian policy at the White House.

During his tenure he appeared innumerable times before Committees of Congress on matters affecting the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Southwestern Colorado.

He successfully obtained passage of federal laws permitting the Tribe to consolidate land holdings within the reservation and address complex jurisdictional issues. The gaming compact between the State of Colorado and the Tribe and a taxation compact among the State of Colorado, the County of LaPlata and the Tribe were each negotiated during his tenure in office.

In the later years of his career, he worked closely



SU Drum archive

Southern Ute Chairman, and Navy veteran, Leonard C. Burch leads the Walk of the Warriors procession from the Veterans Park to the Bear Dance bridge, and then onto the Ouray Memorial Cemetery during the annual Memorial Day ceremonies.

with other members of the Tribal Council to establish and implement successful financial investments both on and off the reservation. The financial progress of the Tribe has been widely touted as a model for Indian tribes throughout the country.

He helped forge a coalition of Indian and non-Indian water users in southwestern Colorado to advocate for construction of the Animas-LaPlata Project, a water storage facility built by the Bureau of Reclamation as part of a settlement of the Tribe’s water rights claims. In recognition of his role in this regard, he received the Citizens Award from the United States Bureau of Reclamation.

As an Air Force Veteran, Mr. Leonard Burch was honored to lead the Walk of Warriors every Memorial Day.

He received numerous awards in recognition of his lifetime achievements and contributions, including:

The Durango Area Citizen of the Year Award (1997).

The 15th Annual Martin

Luther King Humanitarian Award (2002).

The Council of Energy Resource Tribe’s Achievement Award (2002).

“Throughout his life, Mr. Burch remained respectful of the culture and traditional ways of the Ute people,” his family stated. “He participated continuously in the Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Sundance as both a dancer and Sundance Chief and he supported programs to preserve the Ute language and the Tribe’s museum.”

Leonard C. Burch retired from his remarkable political career at the end of 2002; he passed on in August the following year. The Southern Ute Indian Tribe dedicated the newly built Tribal Administration Building in his name. Inscribing a set of bronze plaques with the inscription, “In memory of Leonard C. Burch, 1933-2003, Former Chairman, Council Member, Sun Dance Chief and Great Visionary – Thank you for your leadership, dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of your people.”

Many Moons Ago



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

The Southern Ute Montessori Head Start hosted its annual luncheon Nov. 30, bringing students and grandparents together for a family-style meal. Students performed a short sing-along before sitting down with their family members.

This photo was first published in the Dec. 3, 2010, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Dave Brown/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

Rod Grove, Austin Box and Russell Box Sr. sing an Honor Song composed by Southern Ute tribal member Tim Ryder prior to cutting down of a 65-foot Colorado Blue Spruce in the Pike National Forest near Westcreek, Colo. The Blessing of the tree was part of a send-off ceremony for the tree on Nov. 20. The tree stood on the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C.

This photo was published in the Dec. 1, 2000, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

30 years ago

“...And a Merry Christmas to all” was the title of this photo of students in the enrichment program. Students were excited to set up and sell various items in the Children’s Christmas Store set to open on Dec. 8, 1990.

This photo was published in the Dec. 7, 1990, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Southern Ute Tribal Council members pose for a photo after newly elected members Lillian Seibel and Eddie Box Sr. were sworn into office in the Council Chambers. Pictured left to right, standing: Eddie Box Sr., Lillian Seibel, John Baker Sr. and Clement Frost; sitting: Vice-Chairman Chris A. Baker, Chairman Leonard C. Burch and Secretary Vida Peabody.

This photo was published in the Dec. 5, 1980, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Southern Ute Utilities Division

SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND 9/09/20



UPDATED ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRANSFER STATION

2020

MODIFIED HOLIDAY HOURS

JAN. 20TH MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY - OPEN
FEB. 17TH PRESIDENT’S DAY - OPEN
MAY 25TH MEMORIAL DAY - CLOSED
JULY 3RD FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY - OPEN
JULY 4TH FOURTH OF JULY - CLOSED
SEPT. 7TH LABOR DAY - OPEN

NOV. 11TH VETERAN’S DAY - OPEN

NOV. 26TH THANKSGIVING DAY - CLOSED

NOV. 27TH THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - OPEN

DEC. 10TH LEONARD C. BURCH DAY - CLOSED

DEC. 11TH LEONARD C. BURCH HOLIDAY - OPEN

DEC. 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE - OPEN

DEC. 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY - CLOSED

DEC. 31ST NEW YEAR’S EVE - OPEN

JAN. 1ST NEW YEAR’S DAY - CLOSED

MODIFIED HOURS OF OPERATION:

MONDAY—SATURDAY, 8 AM TO NOON

Due to COVID-19,
Modified Hours of
Operation

Utilities Office

8AM to Noon, Mon– Fri



Transfer Station:

8AM to Noon, Mon-Sat

PAYMENT REMINDERS:

Pay your Utility Account

- = **NEW!** Online at: www.suitutil.com
Choose “Pay My Bill” tab.
- = Wells Fargo (Ignacio Branch) Drive-Thru
- = Automatic deductions at Tribal Distribution (call Utilities office for application).
- = Mail payment made payable to “Southern Ute Utilities Division” PO Box 1137 Ignacio, CO 81137



HIGHER EDUCATION

ASU is host to largest Native student population

Staff report

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Arizona State University is a national leader when it comes to support, education and graduation for Indigenous students.

It was seeing herself reflected that made the college decision for Maria Walker.

The high school senior had been all set to go to Columbia University on a full scholarship, but then Tribal Nations Tour visited her school in the White Mountain Apache community. The outreach program brings Arizona State University students to schools throughout the state with large populations of American Indian students.

That spring 2017 visit made all the difference for Walker.

“It was heartwarming to see other Native Americans from ASU, who were successful and took the time to share their stories with us,” said Walker, now a senior in ASU’s College of Health Solutions. “It made me realize that if I went to ASU, I’d be studying with fellow Native Americans and be taught by Native staff who could help me along the way.”

“I decided that I’d rather have a community at ASU rather than travel across the country and not know anyone or have the support I have now.”

Walker is part of a growing number of Native American students at ASU, which reached almost 3,500* – 2,874 undergraduate and 596 graduate students – this fall. That number appears to be the largest among U.S. colleges and universities, according to ASU Now research. ASU is also one of the nation’s leaders in degrees granted to American Indian students on an annual basis; for the 2019-20 academic year, 663 Native American undergraduate and graduate students earned 679 degrees.



Anya Magnunson/ASU Now

Miss Indian Arizona, Shaandiin Parrish, an ASU senior majoring in Political Science, talks to another student at Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Reservation on Nov. 5, 2016.

American Indian students make up less than 1% of all college students in the U.S., according to the National Center for Education Statistics, and only about 13% of all Native Americans have a college degree. Those numbers are starting to change, and ASU – whose Tempe campus sits on the ancestral homelands of many Indigenous peoples, including the Akimel O’odham (Pima) and Xalychidom Piipaash (Maricopa) – is striving to do its part.

“There is so much potential here, and indeed, potential that is already being realized in very big ways,” ASU President Michael M. Crow said. “There is unbelievable energy to be found by asking, ‘Where is there opportunity to grow in understanding?’ ASU is making it a priority to serve Native American students, and in turn, these students are enriching the ASU community.”

Sixty years ago, when ASU opened the Center for Indian Education, the university had 17 Indigenous students enrolled at the university. Peterson Zah, the last chairman and the first president of the Navajo Nation and a consultant to ASU’s Office of Tribal Relations, first attended the university in 1959. He said getting to ASU was an adventure and an education in life.

Zah packed his luggage – a brown paper sack – placed

his clothes and whatever possessions he owned in it, and hopped in the back of a pickup truck, commandeered by his uncle with his aunt riding shotgun.

“On the way down from the reservation, we stopped at a store in Payson to eat and gas up,” Zah said from his home in Window Rock, Arizona. “I could barely read or speak English, but I noticed a sign in the window that read, ‘Any good Indian is a dead Indian.’ I asked my uncle what that was about. He shrugged his shoulders and said, ‘People are just that way around here.’”

“I asked him, ‘What am I going to school for?’” Zah said.

Soon he would find out – to help build capacity for his people and other tribes. In 1995, Zah was hired and tasked by then ASU President Lattie Coor to look for innovative ways to increase the number of American Indian students at ASU, which numbered 672 at the time.

Twenty-five years later, that number is far more substantial. And consider the COVID-19 pandemic has hit tribal communities particularly hard in 2020, it makes the milestone even more remarkable.

American Indian students have historically been driven by a sense of commu-

ASU students page 15

NATIVE ARTISTS

National Museum of the American Indian presents, ‘Contemporary Artists in Conversation’

Staff report

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

The Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian brings together Native artists and artisans to explore contemporary Native American art in free virtual programs streaming on Dec. 4-6. These artists share their career experiences and thoughts on the current state of contemporary art and discuss how their new works reflect this unprecedented time.

The first program aired on Dec. 3, where acclaimed artists Kay WalkingStick (Cherokee) and Jaune Quick-to-See Smith (Confederated Salish and Kootenai Nation) joined in a conversation moderated by Rebecca Head Trautmann, the museum’s assistant curator of contemporary art. Both artists are featured in the exhibition “Stretching the Canvas: Eight Decades of Native



Painting,” co-curated by Trautmann.

Healing through Native Creativity, Dec. 4-6, brings together 15 artists and artisans from past years’ Native Art Markets. The artists share how their new pieces reflect on current events and encourage people to look forward to a future of healing and social justice.

“These conversations provide a timely opportunity to hear leading artists and artisans discuss their work in the context of past challenges, present struggles and uncertain times,” Trautmann said.

Both programs will be

available on the museum’s website, AmericanIndian.si.edu.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

In partnership with Native peoples and their allies, the National Museum of the American Indian fosters a richer shared human experience through a more informed understanding of Native peoples. The museum in Washington, D.C., is located on the National Mall at Fourth Street and Independence Avenue S.W. Connect with the museum on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and at AmericanIndian.si.edu.

UTE INDIAN MUSEUM

Schedule your gift this Giving Tuesday

CJ Brafford
UTE INDIAN MUSEUM

Giving Tuesday is an international day of giving that encourages people and organizations around the world to donate time, resources, or talents to address local challenges. One of the ways you can participate in Giving Tuesday is by scheduling your donation for Colorado Gives Day, which is next Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Each year, Coloradans come together for the largest giving movement in the state to strengthen our communities by giving to local nonprofits. Join the movement by scheduling a gift to the Ute Indian Museum. Support from donors like you will allow the Ute Indian Museum to construct

a Naturescape Park. The Naturescape Park will have play and educational components for a multigenerational participation. The completed project will serve both the community and the museum and will include:

A natural playground with public access for kids and families to connect to the Native American belief of working with and respecting Mother Nature. A simulated archeological site for an educational resource to allow the museum staff the opportunity to teach about historic preservation. A story walk developed and installed by the Montrose Regional Library; and additional educational panels will provide information on Ute history, archeology, and conservation. This unique community

resource will instill early literacy skills, a renewed interest in child-led creative play, and an invitation to exercise and learn while spending time outdoors.

Please join us again for Colorado Gives Day and consider scheduling a donation now or making a donation on Tuesday, Dec. 8. Your donations to the Ute Indian Museum will support the creation of the Naturescape Park. To donate, go to www.ColoradoGives.org/UIM.

Donations of \$250 or more to the Ute Indian Museum are eligible to receive 25% of the donation amount as a Colorado Enterprise Zone Tax Credit. Contact CJ Brafford at the Ute Indian Museum if you’re interested in more information, 970-249-3098.



Multi-Purpose Facility December Craft Project

**This month's craft project
was designed by
Evalyn Russell.**

**the ornaments were made to decorate
the "Peoples Christmas Tree" in 2012**

**Call to reserve your kit: 970-563-2640
or e-mail multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov**

**Kits will be mailed.
Kits will be available on Monday December 7, 2020**

Calling all Elders

**Do you have a skill that you would like to share
sewing, baking, beading, cooking, gardening, landscaping, etc.**

**Record yourself or call Cultural Preservation Department
for assistance**

**We are looking for activities that the community can do at home
Elders sharing their knowledge is the best way**

For more information, please call 970-563-2984





FRESH, HEALTHY & TRADITIONAL

Dear Customer,

Ute Bison Meat Company is focused on creating family-branded food products that are delicious and promote a healthy way of wellness that feeds the mind, body, and spirit.



Jerky Steak Strips	\$8.39	\$13.99	40%
Jerky Sticks 1 oz.	\$1.99	\$2.99	40%

Dawna Ross, Ute Bison Sale and Marketing Manager, will be your Sales Representative for all our meat products. Her responsibilities include establishing new accounts, servicing existing accounts, and assuring prompt product delivery. We are very proud of our team-building culture, and we are excited that you will be able to experience this first hand by introducing our Ute Bison Meat products to your customers.

Thank you for your interest in our Ute Bison Meat Products: **Heart, Mind, Body and Spirit**





HEALTHY RECIPES

Healthy holiday treats

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

Nuts have numerous health benefits. They have a combination of healthy fats, protein and fiber.

Nuts have been shown to help lower cholesterol and triglycerides, to help with weight loss, improve blood sugars and reduce inflammation. They contain antioxidants and are loaded with minerals such as magnesium, manganese, selenium and copper. They are also associated with reduced risk of heart attack and stroke.

Nuts are a filling snack and a small handful, a ¼ cup, is one serving. They also make great homemade treats!

Try this recipe for a seasonal treat to



courtesy Jax House

give away to family and friends for the holidays. We may not be together, but a baggie of seasoned nuts is easy to catch!

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

Spiced Holiday Nuts

- 3 cups mixed raw nuts (unsalted/unroasted) such as pecans, walnuts, cashews, almonds, pistachios.
- 2 tablespoons melted butter or coconut oil.
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup.
- 1 teaspoon cumin.
- ½ teaspoon cayenne.
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon.
- Cinnamon/sugar mix- 2 teaspoons cinnamon and 1 teaspoon sugar stirred together.

- 1. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2. In a large bowl combine all nuts.
- 3. In a medium bowl melt butter or coconut oil, add maple syrup and spices.
- 4. Pour over nuts and mix to coat.
- 5. Place nuts on parchment or foil lined sheet pan and bake 15-20 minutes or until golden brown.
- 6. Sprinkle cinnamon/sugar mixture over warm nuts.

Serve warm or let cool completely to place in baggies for gifts!

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEE HEARD: A resilient holiday

Precious Collins
NATIVE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

What does resilience mean? According to the dictionary, resilience means a) the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness; b) the ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity.

How do we create resilience?

Life is full of narrow and wide pathways that go up and down, and it twists and turns. Sometimes, when we set out for our adventure, we don't know what path we're on or where we're going. Sometimes we ask others for advice who are on similar paths or who are maybe taking a different route.

Let's say we want to go on a road trip. We know there's going to be some rough roads ahead, such as a mountain pass that can be steep and dangerous at certain times in the year. Even the vehicle we are driving might have something to do with how successful we are on the road trip. Are we and our vehicle prepared for the road trip ahead?

Do we call or check the internet for the condition of the road ahead? Do we print out a checklist for our vehicle to make sure we are prepared for the trip? Do we seek out advice from a friend or someone who is familiar with the mountain pass? Do we create a playlist of music to inspire us or to keep us calm so we can push on?

If you live in Colorado, you will eventually drive through snow and you know how unpredictable our seasons and weather can be. The road and other drivers can change on a dime and we know with practice and preparedness we can make it through some of the most snow packed roads. That's how we build resilience - with the right tools, support and information, we are able to make it through the challenges ahead. Then, when we make it through, we feel accomplished, confident, and courageous for our efforts and success.

add staff and finalize work on their new facility.

A vaccine is on the way; I'm sure most of you are saturated with news about COVID-19. You've probably heard about an effective vaccine hopefully arriving by Christmas. It's easy to overlook how impressive this is. Many vaccines have come along since the first one was developed in 1796 (against smallpox). Most of them have taken years, and sometimes decades, to develop. While things are not finalized and work is still to be done, the fact that we are this close to a solution in this short of a time period is truly remarkable.

That's all the optimism I have for now. Happy Holidays, stay safe, and expect more to come soon



How do we create a resilient holiday?

Now that we know what resilience means, how do we create a holiday season that will thrive in the conditions we live in today?

The story of a resilient holiday will be different for everyone. We are all different. We all react differently to situations and, depending on the tools and support we have, we get through experiences and adventures differently. So being prepared is probably the best tool in the box.

For generations, our indigenous ancestors prepared themselves for challenges ahead. For example, they knew when to move camp, where to move during the changing seasons. They did this not for the best views, but for survival. We have that ability in us to do the same thing to survive.

So how do we prepare?

A good start might be creating a checklist of things that you can do to bring happiness and joy to yourself, your family and your friends for the upcoming holiday. After creating the checklist, go through it and ask "why" and "how." Why do I need to complete this task? How am I going to complete this task?

For example, one of the tasks on your checklist might be to get a freshly cooked holiday meal to aunty and uncle. Why is this on the list? Maybe aunty and uncle would like a break from cooking. Or maybe they can't afford to cook a holiday meal. Or maybe cooking their own meal will create too much leftover food. Whatever the reason, you have planned ahead and arranged to make them a meal. Next, we want

to ask how. How am I going to get the meal to them? This depends on where they live and if you can get them the meal.

When we ask ourselves just these two simple questions, "Why?" and "How?", we are preparing ourselves to accomplish a task or overcome an obstacle. When we begin this process, we are creating our own ability to be resilient.

When you are preparing to create a resilient holiday, don't forget to think about yourself. Put some tasks on your checklist that create time and space for you to recharge, love yourself, and/or learn something new about yourself and your abilities. Maybe even share your resilient holiday story in your journal or with your family or on social media. Don't forget to keep it positive so we can inspire others to become resilient too.

The takeaway.

We all have the ability to be resilient in our lives. How we do that can differ. Maybe it's through following examples or advice from those older or more experienced. Maybe it's by being more informed about tools and tips to make it through certain obstacles in life. Whatever route we take or whichever means, it is our path. Our path to learn from. Our path to create love, joy, and happiness. Our path to create adventure and conquer obstacles.

The Southern Ute Behavioral Health Division and Native Connections Program wishes you the best on your journey through life.

Want to help and be a part of the change?

Looking for community members and youth to join the Prevention Coalition tasked to reduce youth substance usage, eliminate mental health stigma, and start the discussion around suicide and prevention.

Upcoming Prevention Coalition Meetings

We are going virtual! For more information please contact Precious Collins, Native Connections Program Coordinator for more information 970-563-2487.

Upcoming Training:

FREE online Suicide Prevention Training- Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) for Southern Ute Tribal employees, and Southern Ute tribal members. Let's all learn the warning signs and what to do if someone is experiencing a crisis. Please contact Precious Collins at 970-563-2487 or email prcollins@southern-ute-nsn.gov to sign up.

Upcoming Community Events:

The Southern Ute Native Connections Program will be hosting monthly "Acting All Some How Show" via Zoom. These shows will have guest speakers, both locally and nationally and we will be focusing on mental wellness and substance use prevention. Please contact use at 970-563-2487 to sign up for our email notifications.

TRIBAL HEALTH

Things that don't SUHC with Dr. Keller


By Dr. Keller
SOUTHERN UTE HEALTH CENTER

I am not an optimist by nature. Most doctors aren't. But it's a healthy exercise to intentionally recognize the good things in our lives, and we intend to formalize that process by giving you an update from the Southern Ute Health Center every month for the next year.

We are fully staffed with permanent providers. It has now been about a year since we last contracted with a "locum", or temporary, provider. This is the first time in 15 years this has happened! The provider you see isn't here for a month or two to fill in, but rather is employed by the Tribe with no plans to go anywhere. Being fully staffed with perma-

nent primary care providers is uncommon for a health center and it's something that has been shown to significantly improve the health of a community.

Our Behavioral Health department is expanding, dramatically; COVID-19 has undoubtedly worsened anxiety and depression along with most other mental health concerns. But even before COVID-19 came along, most areas in the country were severely underserved from a mental health standpoint. Over the past year, Mary Young and her crew have been steadily working to more than double their capacity, a massive undertaking and one likely to hugely benefit the community. Expect to hear more soon as they continue to




SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES ORGANIZATION

Join the Conversation: Sexual Violence and Homelessness

Topics of Discussion:

- Best practices when working with this population
- The ways in which homelessness increases the risk of Sexual Violence
- The community supports in Durango that help to protect individuals from Sexual Violence

Wednesday, December 16th
1pm-2:30pm
Via Zoom



For more information contact Gabby:
gabby@durangosaso.org

LOCAL RESOURCES

- **Southern Ute Health Center – Behavior Health:** 69 Capote Dr., Ignacio, CO 970-563-4581. For local Native Americans, call to schedule a counseling appointment.
- **Southern Ute Division of Social Services:** 116 Capote Drive, Ignacio, CO 970-563-2331 for local Native Americans needing assistance with child welfare needs and family support.
- **Southern Ute Police Department – Anonymous Tip Hotline:** Do you have information about a crime? Please call 970-563-4999. This "Tip Line" was designed to allow you the ability to provide law enforcement with information, anonymously if need be, regarding criminal, drug, or suspicious activity. The "Tip Line" is monitored around the clock by SUPD Investigators, but it DOES NOT replace 9-1-1 or the non-emergency police number 970-563-4401.
- **St Ignatius Catholic Church:** Pastor Cesar Arras, 14826 CO-172, Ignacio, CO 970-563-4241.
- **Ignacio Community Church:** Pastor Randall Haynes 405 Browning Ave, Ignacio, CO (currently located inside ELHI) 970-759-3633
- **Second Wind Fund of the Four Corners:** Believes that every child and youth at risk of suicide should have access to the mental health treatment they need. We match children and youth at risk for suicide with licensed therapists in their communities, 720-962-0706.
- **Women's Resource Center:** Creates personal, social, and professional growth opportunities for all women in La Plata County, 970-247-1242.

24/7 STATE OR NATIONAL RESOURCES

- **24/7 Axis Crisis Line:** Southwest Colorado 970-247-5245 or text 741741.
- **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 a 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.



Wash YOUR HANDS!

Hands that look clean can still have icky germs!

www.cdc.gov/handwashing

S.U. Vocational Rehabilitation Program

We are here and available for support via phone, fax, or email!

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Phone: 970-563-4730
Fax: 970-563-4840
Email: brosa@southernute-nsn.gov

Making Change Work for You!

CREATE YOUR FUTURE

Become a CNA

PCC Southwest in Bayfield will offer a **four-week Certified Nurse Aide** certificate program.

Program begins January 25
Classes held **Monday through Friday** from **4-8:30 pm** at the **Bayfield site, 110 E. South St.**

For more information or to apply, call **Bethany Powell** at 970.385.2098

Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request for persons with disabilities. To make a request, please notify the PCC Disability Resources Center at (719) 549-3446 or Disability.Resources@pueblocc.edu at least five (5) working days before the event.

There's lots to learn

You've got this!

with a free personal nurse that can give you the support, advice and information you need as a new mom, pregnant with your first baby.

Contact Us
CALL (970) 335-2061
TEXT (970) 317-4840
sjbpublichealth.org

SAN JUAN BASIN public health

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Health Center Hours

Due to the evolving Covid 19 Outbreak the Southern Ute Health Center has updated all operational hours, until further notice.

ALL PATIENTS ARE REQUIRED TO CALL AHEAD FOR APPOINTMENTS 970-563-4581.

- S.U. HEALTH CENTER (CLINIC):** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Daily.
Covid-19 Testing: Mon. & Fri., 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Tue., Wed., Thur., 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; **Lab hours:** Mon. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tue. – Fri., 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- PHARMACY:** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. Only window service will be offered. No Pharmacy access from inside the clinic.
- NURSING VISITS:** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. Appointment only. NO WALK-INS!
- DENTAL:** Mon., Wed., Fri., 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Emergency visits only.
- OPTOMETRY:** All Optometry visits are canceled until further notice.
- PSYCHIATRY:** Visits are no longer being offered; Patients will be treated via tele-medicine.
- All **SPECIALTY MEDICINE:** All appointments will take place via tele-medicine. SUHC staff will be calling patients to make arrangements for service.
- All **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH:** Patients are treated by phone, no in-person or group meetings at this time.

Southern Ute Social Services

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.

RECOVERY TALKING CIRCLE

FREE TO ALL IGNACIO COMMUNITY MEMBERS 18 YEARS OR OLDER.

	COPING STRATEGIES	
12-1 PM	DEC. 03, 2020	
	RELAPSE PREVENTION PLAN & SAFETY NET	
	DEC. 10, 2020	12-1 PM
	THINKING ERRORS	
12-1 PM	DEC. 17, 2020	
	SPECIAL TOPIC: NEW HOLIDAY ROUTINES	
	DEC. 30, 2020	12-1 PM

CONTACT MARVINA OLGUIN FOR ZOOM INFORMATION.

Mission Statement
It is my mission to inspire and empower other sisters and brothers in treatment and help those in recovery live a life of integrity, honesty and resiliency. Knowing that honesty is the foundation of change, if we live our lives one moment at a time and rationalize every thought before it becomes an action, WE WILL CHANGE.
You don't have to do it alone, we can do this together.
-Marvina Olguin | Peer Recovery Coach

HEALTHY MINDS. HEALTHY CHOICES.

HEALTHY UTES.

SOUTHERN UTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPT.

TO SIGN UP OR FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT MARVINA OLGUIN, PEER RECOVERY COACH @ 970-563-2359 OR MAROLGUIN@SOUTHERNUTE-NSN.GOV



PUBLIC EDUCATION

Nonprofits, schools can receive free internet service, Wi-Fi Hotspots for at-risk K-12 students

Staff report
CONNECTED NATION

Connected Nation (CN) launched an online application for the AT&T K-12 connected learning program, which is focused on closing the homework gap for at-risk students by providing free AT&T wireless internet service and mobile Wi-Fi hotspots to students nationwide. Nonprofit organizations and schools that serve at-risk youth nationwide are invited to apply.

According to the Alliance for Excellent Education, nearly 17 million public K-12 students have fallen into the “homework gap” due to COVID-19 school closures. In addition, Bellwether Education Partners estimates that approximately 3 million at-risk students may not have experienced any formal education – virtual or in-person – since March 2020.

The program is primarily focused on impacting students in the following groups:

- Students in foster care
- Students experiencing homelessness
- English language learners
- Students with disabilities
- Students eligible for the Migrant Education Program
- Other at-risk students who may be disconnected from formal education opportunities

AT&T is collaborating with Connected Nation to administer this program. Program limitations and eligibility information can be found on the application website. All applications must be submitted online no later than 11:59pm Pacific Time on January 11, 2021.

“What makes this program so unique is that it is focused on helping the most vulnerable students across our country who have been disproportionately impacted since pandemic forced schools to close in March,” said Brent Legg, Executive Vice President at CN. “AT&T’s funding commitment will help children who are literally disconnected and stand to lose months, if not years, of their education.”

In addition to free wireless internet access and mobile Wi-Fi hotspots, some awardees may also receive a new or refurbished laptop, Chromebook, or tablet learning device (based on need and subject to availability). Applicants may seek awards for up to 500 students per application. School district awards will be limited to students across no more than five schools. Awardees are expected to be announced in early-to-mid February 2021 (subject to change).

“The next few months be particularly challenging as teachers, students, parents, and communities continue to adapt to the realities of the pandemic and the ongoing need for connected learning,” said Tom Ferree, Chairman & CEO at CN. “We have a responsibility to help ensure that all kids have the opportunity to learn regardless of their circumstances, and I’m proud that we can be part of the solution to help ensure that those most vulnerable among us aren’t left behind.”



courtesy SUIMA

After research and surveying of students and staff, the school colors chosen were green and black and the mascot chosen was an eagle.

SUIMA
From the Eagle’s Nest

About our mascot and the Eagle’s Nest

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN
MONTESSORI ACADEMY

The Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy in currently in its 20th year with a few staff members still working at SUIMA since the first day the school opened its doors to students. While the staff may have grown and changed, the curriculum has not. SUIMA follows the Montessori method that was chosen before the ground was broken.

When the school began, we had no vision for school colors or a mascot. Instead, it came from the students. A handful of the upper elementary students several years ago started questioning why SUIMA didn’t have a mascot. With that inquiry, the students were tasked with the responsibly to choose a mascot and school colors. After research and surveying of students and staff, the school colors chosen were green and black and the mascot chosen was an eagle. Hence the title for this article: The Eagle’s Nest.

a sea (halo) eagle (aeetos) with a white (leukos) head.

- About half of the world’s 70,000 bald eagles live in Alaska.
- The bald eagle was chosen June 20, 1782 as the emblem of the United States of America, because of its long life, great strength and majestic looks.
- During the 1970s, bald eagles were seriously endangered.
- On June 28, 2007 the Department of Interior took the American Bald Eagle off the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened species.
- There are 1273 schools in our nation that claim the eagle as their school mascot; 64 colleges also have eagles as mascots.

Just like eagles, the SUIMA students show strength and power. It is a great time to be a SUIMA Eagle.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

For this article, we are going to spotlight staff member Judi Cole.

Judi joined the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy in 2004 as one of our reading specialists. She came to us from Bromley East Charter School in Brighton, Colo.

When Judi is not working with students, she can be found in the wilderness – camping, hiking and taking beautiful pictures.

Judi shares time with her family, which consists of her son, a daughter-in-law and two grandkids in Wyoming along with her daughter in New York.

When asked what the best part of working at SUIMA is, Judi responded “I love the students and their families. I have loved learning about the culture, and I love interacting with the staff.”

Her advice to all students, whether at our school or another school is to Be Curious – Explore - Discover – and READ!

Thank you, Judi Cole, for being part of the SUIMA family.



courtesy SUIMA

Ms. Marilyn Olguin
SUIMA Infant Guide

Master of Social Work available summer 2021

The University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work Four Corners Program is accepting applications for the Advanced Standing MSW program starting this summer 2021. Students with a bachelor’s degree in social work are eligible for the one-year program. Complete your application by January 15, 2021 and we waive the \$65.- application fee. Stipends in child welfare and opioid workforce expansion and Native American tuition support to eligible students are available. For more information, email janelle.doughty@du.edu.

Durango Learning Lab Session 2

The Durango Learning Lab is an educational community wide program with a commitment to universal access regardless of family income. Session 2 begins on Nov. 9 – Dec. 18 and registration is open at www.durangolearninglab.com. The Durango Learning Lab supports academic success and free exploration for remote, blended, and homeschool students grades 1st-12th. Cohorts of 8-12 students are organized by learning model (fully remote vs. blended) and grade level and meet one day per week during a five-week session. Students are invited to join peers for a safe workspace and a wide range of enrichment activities ranging from robotics to aerial acrobatics. Unlimited scholarship opportunities available. For more information and registration please visit www.durangolearninglab.com.

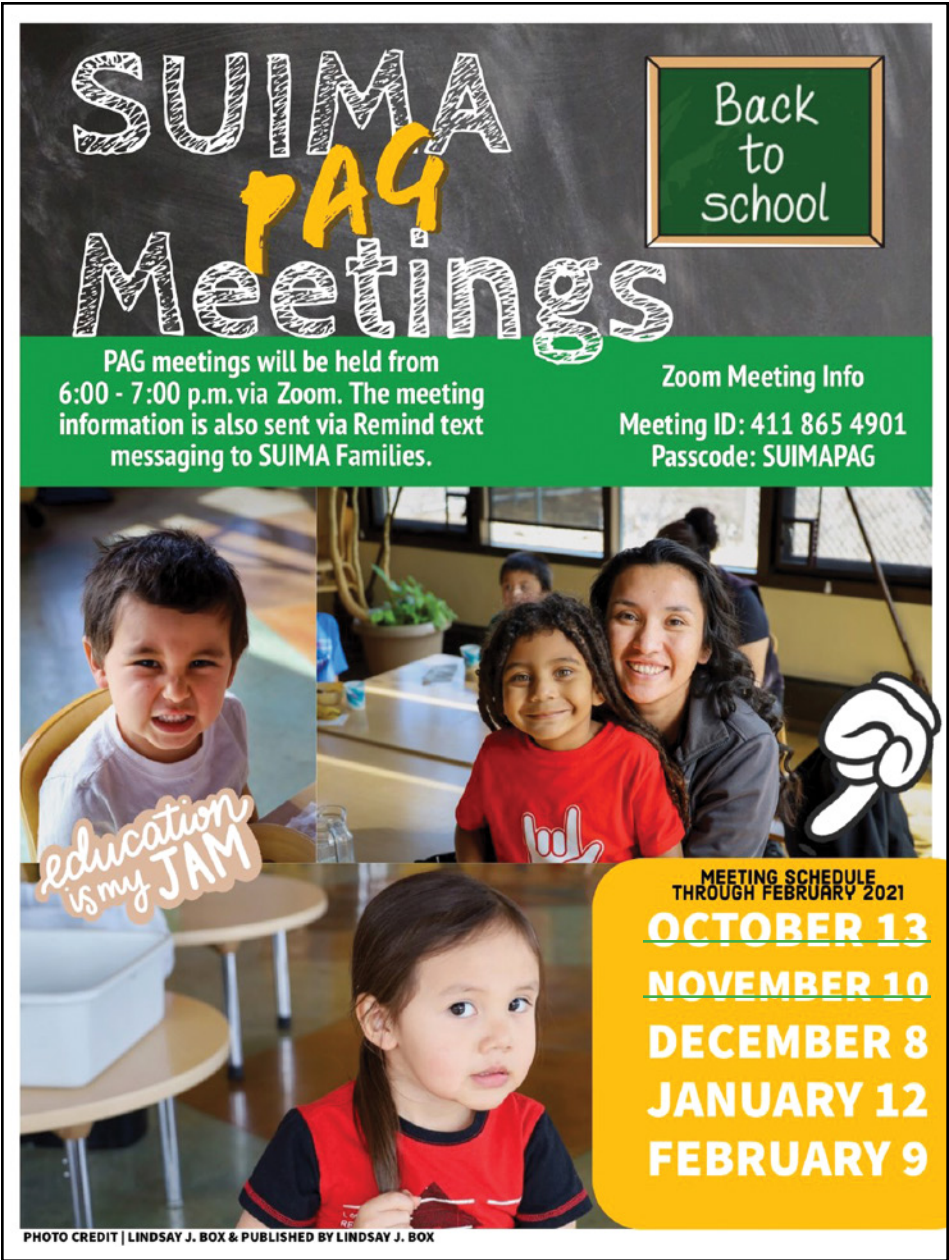


SUIMA Family Nights

+ UPCOMING SCHEDULE +

OCT 21	+ PUMPKIN CARVING
NOV 18	+ INTRO TO MONTESSORI
DEC 16	+ STOCKING DECORATION
JAN 20	+ STORYTELLING
FEB 17	+ STEM

VIRTUAL FAMILY NIGHTS WILL BE HELD FROM 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM. THE MEETING INFORMATION WILL BE SENT VIA REMIND TEXT MESSAGING TO SUIMA FAMILIES.



SUIMA PAG Meetings

Back to school

PAG meetings will be held from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting information is also sent via Remind text messaging to SUIMA Families.

Zoom Meeting Info
Meeting ID: 411 865 4901
Passcode: SUIMAPAG

education is my JAM

MEETING SCHEDULE THROUGH FEBRUARY 2021
OCTOBER 13
NOVEMBER 10
DECEMBER 8
JANUARY 12
FEBRUARY 9

PHOTO CREDIT | LINDSAY J. BOX & PUBLISHED BY LINDSAY J. BOX



CORONAVIRUS

Gov. Polis COVID-19 response update

Staff report
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR POLIS

STATE ACTION TO PROVIDE RELIEF

We know that these are challenging times for our small businesses and many Coloradans who need relief now. That’s why on Tuesday, in partnership with legislative leadership, Governor Polis announced a special session to address urgent economic issues. This session focused on providing COVID-19 relief due to the absence of federal assistance or aid.

COVID-19 TRENDS UPDATE

The United States reached a grim milestone earlier this week, with more than 250,000 Americans losing their lives to COVID-19 since the pandemic began – more than twice the number of Americans lost in World War I. In Colorado, more than 2,700 lives have been lost, and more than 12,000 people are currently hospitalized with the disease. Currently, Colorado has twice as many deaths per day as at the previous peak, as well as nearly twice the number of hospitalizations than at the previous peak.

Cases:
The latest data shows us that 1 out of every 41 Coloradans is infected with COVID-19. Not just in Denver, not just in Adams County – this is statewide. Last week, nearly 6,000 new cases were reported. Our positivity rate is over 12%. This is the highest level of transmission we’ve ever had in Colorado.

Hospitals Capacity & Hospitalizations:
Over the last two weeks, the number of facilities anticipating staffing shortages nearly tripled. We’re starting to approach nearly double the number of daily hospitalizations reported than we did in the Spring. More people in Colorado are hospitalized due to COVID-19 than ever before. In red-level counties, ICU capacity reached 87% as of last week. If the rate of increase of hospitalizations continues, we could fill our ICU capacity in Red counties this week.

This link (https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1T72QWgb4jrx-wSYyTbtW_mxHs_rjFF-9WbrMDBXzvBju0/edit#slide=id.gacbc-ba0aac_0_48) to a map of Colorado’s counties shows you a time-lapse of where we were in October, and where we are now. In the span of just one month, the

severity of our public health situation has increased rapidly and dramatically.

COVID EXPERIENCES FROM THE FRONT LINES

Today, Governor Polis was joined by two front-line healthcare workers from Garfield County as he provided an update on Colorado’s response to COVID-19. Garfield County avoided a large wave in the Spring, but is currently seeing cases and transmission rates skyrocket much like the rest of our state.

Dr. Alan-Michael Vargas, Chair of Board of Directors for Colorado Rural Health Center and Physician at the Grand River Health Clinic shared his perspective as a practicing physician: “Living and practicing medicine in rural Colorado, it would have been easy to imagine COVID as something that only plagues urban areas, but even though our neighbors can be separated by acres of land, we’re seeing it spread through our communities,” said Dr. Vargas. “I’ve spent hours of the last weeks wearing a rubber gown in our respiratory clinic. What works to prevent this is minimizing our individual risk through mask wearing and social distancing.”

Marisa Duran, Clinic Manager at Grand River Health Clinic shared her experiences as both a health care worker on the front lines of this virus, and as a COVID survivor:

“It’s very hard to say where I got COVID – the grocery store, work, a friend. My symptoms hit me really quickly, without warning. I never thought that I had COVID or that my test results would come back positive,” said Ms. Duran. “I’m a pretty healthy woman and it really took the best of me through the whole process.”

It’s critical that we remember that this virus isn’t just something you hear about on the news or read about in the paper.

Some are fortunate, like Marisa, to have fully recovered. Others are still living

with the effects of the virus months after having tested negative. And some pay the ultimate price, losing their lives to this insidious virus.

As we head into the holidays, the Governor strongly urges Coloradans to avoid personal gatherings at all costs, wear a mask, and physically distance. Let’s do these three things to protect our friends, our family members, and our front-line workers who are working every day to keep our communities safe.

URGING COLORADANS TO AVOID PERSONAL GATHERINGS

To see a change in these trends, we need a change in our behavior. Earlier this week, Governor Polis and the Colorado Department of Public Health released updates to the COVID-19 Dial in response to the rapid spread of the virus. By Sunday, 19 counties will be moving into the Red Category.

Now is the time to be extra cautious, and any activity is safest when you do it only with the people you live with.

Coloradans should not gather with anyone who does not already live in your house. This includes all activities.

Coloradans can do more to protect themselves and their families by:

- Limiting grocery store trips to one per week;
- Ordering take out from your favorite restaurant;
- Avoiding social contact with people outside of your household
- Connecting with friends and family virtually.

There are too many unknowns at this point. When we invite a couple of friends over to dinner – we invite everyone they have interacted with, and exponentially increase our risk of exposure.

Bottom line: Your social bubble is a lot bigger than you think. If you have to think about whether it’s a good idea, odds are it’s not.



CORONAVIRUS

Newest CV-19 model estimates 1 in 41 Coloradans are currently infectious

Prevalence is as high as 1 in 29 in some regions

Staff report
COLO. DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Colorado School of Public Health released an updated modeling report that shows infections and hospitalizations are continuing to increase across the state. The model estimates that currently one out of every 41 residents in the state is infected with SARS-CoV-2, by far the highest prevalence since the virus arrived in Colorado.

Over the last two weeks, many counties in Colorado moved to stricter levels on the state’s COVID-19 dial, and more are moving up over the weekend.

“Concern remains that we could exceed ICU capacity if people increase their contact with others during the next few weeks,” said Jonathan Samet, MD, MS, dean of the Colorado School of Public Health. “This is not the year to celebrate with extended family or friends – stick close to home and

spend the holiday with those in your own household.”

Keeping hospitals at or below demand capacity requires continued substantial and rapid action. Coloradans should only interact with members of their own household, avoid gatherings, stay home when they are sick, wash their hands, physically distance, and wear a mask.

The Colorado School of Public Health (ColoradoSPH) assembled the expert group that works with the state on modeling projections. The group includes modeling scientists at the ColoradoSPH and the University of Colorado School of Medicine at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, as well as experts from the University of Colorado Boulder, University of Colorado Denver, and Colorado State University.

All previous modeling reports are available on the Colorado School of Public Health’s COVID-19 website.

The Colorado modeling team began using a new “transmission control”

indicator in mid-October to describe the collective impact of all policies and behaviors on the spread of SARS-CoV-2. Transmission control captures ALL behavioral and policy changes in response to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic including mask wearing, physical distancing, improved ventilation, working from home, contact tracing (including both isolation and quarantine), moving activities outside, and any seasonal impact. This approach has the advantage of requiring fewer assumptions and increasing accuracy for the Colorado model. In technical terms, the transmission control parameter describes the percent decrease in effective contacts between infected and susceptible individuals compared to pre-pandemic behavior.

The state will continue to review data and model findings as the pandemic continues to inform policy decisions.

Continue to stay up to date by visiting: covid19.colorado.gov.



CORONAVIRUS

COVID-19 outbreak identified at Evening’s Porch assisted living facility

Staff report
SAN JUAN BASIN PUBLIC HEALTH

Through a combination of laboratory testing and epidemiological investigation, San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) has identified a COVID-19 outbreak at Evening’s Porch, an assisted living facility in Bayfield, Colo. Two residents and two employees have been confirmed as COVID-19 cases. SJBPH and Evening’s Porch management took immediate action to limit the further spread of disease. Evening’s Porch has enacted their COVID-19 containment plan, placed both residents in isolation in their rooms, excluded the positive employees from work, conducted contact tracing and tested all facility residents on Nov. 24. In addition, SJBPH is providing infection control guidance to management, which has cooperated with the outbreak investigation and is taking all appropriate measures to stop spread of the virus. The outbreak investigation is ongoing, and additional cases or contacts may be identified. As with any communicable disease, this investigation will take some time to complete. In order to protect the privacy of the individuals, identifying information and medical information about the persons involved will not

be released to the public. As of November 25, all residents who tested positive are asymptomatic. “Evening’s Porch Assisted Living is doing their best to follow the guidance of SJBPH to minimize the spread of this terrible virus,” said Melissa Swanson, Evening’s Porch Administrator. “We are extremely thankful for the guidance and support SJBPH has provided our facility. We appreciate the dedication and hard work of both Evening’s Porch staff and SJBPH staff during this trying time,” Swanson said. “For almost nine months SJBPH and the assisted living facilities in our region have worked hard to keep our most vulnerable populations safe from the virus. We’ve seen numerous outbreaks in assisted living facilities throughout the state, so we knew that this was a place to devote testing, education, and close coordination with our partners,” said Liane Jollon, executive director of SJBPH. “We hope that with quick action on the part of SJBPH and Evening’s Porch management, this outbreak will be quickly contained and resolved. With the virus so prevalent in our community, it remains critical that people take the virus seriously, stop socializing outside their household, wear a face covering in public and at work, monitor their symp-


toms, and get tested if they are feeling any symptoms of COVID-19,” Jollon said. The following precautions will be essential to containing the spread of COVID-19 through the winter holiday season:

- Stay at home as much as possible, and instruct employees to work from home, if possible.
- Practice physical distancing (at least 6 feet away from another person.)
- Gather only with members of your household. Social gatherings with people from other households is not permitted while La Plata County is in level Red: Severe Risk, on the state COVID-19 dial.
- Wear face coverings when in public; the statewide mask order is still in effect in indoor public spaces.
- Practice good hygiene (washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, etc.)
- Get tested if you have symptoms or believe you’ve been exposed through a known contact or community interaction.
- Don’t go to work, school, or social activities if you are sick or have a known or suspected exposure.

For the most up to date information, visit SJBPH’s website at <https://sjbpublichealth.org/coronavirus/>.


COVID-19: Quarantine vs. Isolation

QUARANTINE keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others.




- If you had close contact with a person who has COVID-19**
 - Stay home until 14 days after your last contact.
 - Check your temperature twice a day and watch for symptoms of COVID-19.
 - If possible, stay away from people who are at higher-risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.

ISOLATION keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home.



- If you are sick and think or know you have COVID-19**
 - Stay home until after
 - At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
 - At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
 - Symptoms have improved
- If you tested positive for COVID-19 but do not have symptoms**
 - Stay home until after
 - 10 days have passed since your positive test
- If you live with others, stay in a specific “sick room” or area and away from other people or animals, including pets. Use a separate bathroom, if available.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

Help the Wisdom Keepers keep their Wisdom.

Get health screening tests and wellness check-ups each year at your local Urban Indian Health facility.



Watch the video and learn more at ncuih.org/wisdomkeeper



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Effective Public Health Orders

Stay at Home Order

YOU CAN:



Care for Family & Pets



Buy groceries or supplies for your home.



Obtain medical supplies



Engage in banking



Go to work or get things from work



Exercise and engage in non-group activities



Get or buy educational supplies



Maintain or buy things for the household

Face Covers Required



Indoors and Outdoors when social distancing measures are not possible

Both orders remain in effect until further notice.

SOUTHERN UTE COVID-19 CALL CENTER - 970.563.0214 MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 5:00 P.M.

Designed & Published by Lindsay J. Box

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

All tribal buildings on the tribal campus are

CLOSED

to all visitors in accordance with the “Stay at Home” Order issued on March 25, 2020 which remains in effect until further notice.

Tribal members who require entry to conduct business with a tribal department must call ahead to schedule an appointment with tribal staff. If you have arrived for your scheduled appointment, please call the tribal department or staff to notify them of your arrival. Tribal staff will allow access only under these circumstances. All visitors and staff are expected to comply with the tribal public health order requiring the use of appropriate face covering while inside the building. Please practice social distancing and other public health guidelines.

TAWI NUUCHU NA-GUKWI-YANI COVID-19

“Together, we will fight COVID-19”

Designed and Published by Lindsay J. Box

The Southern Ute COVID-19 Call Center is available from Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. by dialing 970.563.0214.



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

COVID-19 Call Center

Hours of Operation

Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

970.563.0214



PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING



STAY HOME



STAY IN TOUCH



PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE

If you are sick self-isolate. If your symptoms get worse call your healthcare provider. Tribal members & Southern Ute Health Center patients can call the Health Center at 970.563.4581 to schedule an appointment.

Photo Credit | Lindsay J. Box

Designed & Published by Lindsay J. Box

WATER RESOURCES

Dr. Morrison Canal rehabilitation project underway

By *Pete Nylander*
SOUTHERN UTE WATER RESOURCES DIVISION

The Southern Ute Water Resources Division (WRD) implemented the rehabilitation of the historically problematic section of the Dr. Morrison Canal in Feb. 10, 2020.

The problematic section of the canal is perched on a hillside and has had issues with seeps and blowouts of the ditch which impaired the ability of the ditch to deliver water. The long-term fix includes piping 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 was repaired prior to the 2020 irrigation season so there would be no interruption in water delivery.

The WRD’s contractor WCA Construction Inc., began the second phase of the Dr. Morrison Canal Rehabilitation on Oct. 12, 2020. The second phase of the project is to finish installing the remaining 3,300 feet of pipe, and the permanent outlet structure for the canal.

To date WCA has installed 1,920 of the 3,300 feet needed to complete the project. The Dr Morrison Canal Rehabilitation Project will be completed before the beginning of the 2021 irrigation season.

If there are any questions from Tribal irrigators or the public, please feel free to contact the Southern Ute Water Resources Division at 970-563-9482.



Pete Nylander/SU Water Resources Division

WCA Construction Inc. setting manhole section of 48-inch pipe. The Southern Ute Water Resources Division (WRD) implemented the rehabilitation project in 2020.




Pete Nylander/SU Water Resources Division

Existing open canal before installation of pipeline on a historically problematic section of the Dr. Morrison Canal.



Pete Nylander/SU Water Resources Division

Installed 48-inch pipe prior to being backfilled. To date WCA has installed 1,920 of the 3,300 feet needed to complete the project.

A photograph of a large elk head with antlers, facing forward. The elk is brown with a dark mane.

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Big Game Hunting Season

Big Game permits will be available beginning Monday, August 17th, 2020. Please call (970) 563-0130 to make arrangements for pick-up. Due to Covid-19 we are also encouraging tribal members to have them mailed, if possible.

Big Game Season Dates:

SUIT Reservation

Deer, Elk & Fall Turkey

Early Archery Aug. 29 – Sept. 11

General Sept. 12 – Dec. 31

Brunot Area

Deer, Elk & Fall Turkey

Sept. 2nd – Nov. 22nd

Attention State Hunters

Due to the Stay-at-Home orders put in place by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the following access areas have been closed and the Lands Division will not be issuing Crossing Permits to State hunters for these areas:

- Chimney Rock/Haystack Mountain
- Washington Flats
- Turkey Creek

Please contact the Lands Division for further information at [970-563-0126](tel:970-563-0126).

The logo for the Southern Ute Tribe Division of Wildlife Resource Management, featuring a circular design with a mountain, river, and animals, surrounded by the text "SOUTHERN UTE TRIBE", "DIVISION OF WILDLIFE", and "RESOURCE MANAGEMENT".

REMINDER to HUNTERS

BIG GAME VALIDATIONS

ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL

HARVESTED BUCKS & BULLS

Please call to make an appointment:

Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00 p.m.

970-563-2416 or 970-563-2418

Or during office hours at:

Tuesday-Thursday 8:00-12:00 p.m.

970-563-0130

2021

January

Cow Hunt

Open to Local
Southern Ute
1st Descendants

\$175

JANUARY 9TH –

JANUARY 17TH, 2021

For More information and to find the link to the online store please visit the Southern Ute January Cow Hunt Website:

<https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/natural-resources/wildlife-resource-management/hunting/january-cow-elk-hunt/>

Application deadline is December 18th, 2020

For more information

call (970) 563-0130

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Community Foundation provided over \$1.25 million in COVID grants

Staff report
THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the Community Foundation has spearheaded the COVID emergency response donations in our five-county region through the Community Emergency Relief Fund (CERF). Combined granting from CERF and the Community Foundation's projects and donor advised funds has totaled more than \$1.25 million since March.

The Community Foundation has distributed CERF funds totaling \$617,514, supporting nonprofits and the broader community.

Food security has been the focus of a large portion of CERF granting, with \$187,621 distributed to nonprofits and local food producers across five counties in Southwest Colorado. The Foundation has worked to provide region-wide collaboration in food purchasing to benefit multiple food systems, while leveraging \$85,000 of other

funds, such as CARES Act dollars, to stretch CERF dollars even further. Purchases have included both non-perishable and perishable items. When feasible, the perishable food is purchased from regional small farms to support local agriculture. Some of the local ag businesses include Sunnyside Market, 550 Farms, Banger Farms, Mountain Roots, and Tap Root.

"It has been eye-opening to be a part of the team that is addressing the sharp increase in food insecurity across our region," says Briggen Wrinkle, Executive Director of the Community Foundation. "People who have never needed food assistance before are visiting our local pantries at record numbers."

In addition to CERF, the Foundation has granted \$593,180 through COVID-response donations from donor advised funds and other COVID-related projects. The Community Foundation is home to 33 donor advised funds. So far

this year, 75 percent of the Foundation's donor advised funds provided grants to nonprofit organizations.

"This has been an intense eight months," says Wrinkle. "I have not seen granting at this level in my eight years at the Foundation. When emergencies arise, our partners truly step up to make generous, impactful donations."

Grants were disbursed across numerous sectors in all five counties of Southwest Colorado. The top three sectors that received funding were human services, education, and arts & culture (see graph included below).

Since the impacts of the pandemic are expected to continue through winter and beyond, \$147,000 in CERF funds are earmarked for spending in first quarter of 2021. The CERF fund receives COVID-related emergency donations at coloradogives.org/cerf.

The Community Foundation serves Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan counties.



Tami Graham/KSUT

Solar Barn Raising installs solar panels on the south side of the KSUT Eddie Box Jr. Media Center. Once fully operational the solar panels will help KSUT offset it's electricity bill, credited back to KSUT by La Plata Electric Association.

KSUT RADIO

Solar Barn Raising completes solar installation at the new KSUT studios

Staff report
KSUT

Thanks to a great partnership with Solar Barn Raising, KSUT has installed two ground-mounted solar arrays adjacent to its new home in Ignacio. After several years of planning, designing and overcoming obstacles, including the pandemic, a fantastic crew of staff and volunteers completed the installation on Tuesday, Nov. 24.

Solar Barn Raising is a non-profit that works with a small professional staff and a cadre of community volunteers – that's the barn raising part, to install affordable residential and commercial solar photovoltaic systems in La Plata, Montezuma and Archuleta counties. They provide technical design and support, procurement of solar equipment and materials, and organize the installation activities.

Their project manager Riley Neugebauer said, "Solar Barn Raising is thrilled to work with KSUT, another community-based



Tami Graham/KSUT

Solar Barn Raising, a non-profit composed of professionals and volunteers, pose for a photo after completing the install of the solar panels at the Eddie Box Jr. Media Center.

nonprofit, to bring more clean and renewable energy to the area. This project has allowed us to combine our technical expertise with volunteer engagement in order to help power a beloved local radio station, all while educating volunteers on how to install solar."

A crew of six volunteers, including KSUT Executive Director Tami Graham, and three Solar Barn Raising staff installed 30 panels on two separate arrays, which will produce 11.4Kw of electricity into the grid. Electric-

ity produced from the arrays will be credited back to KSUT by La Plata Electric Association, on a monthly basis. Graham was thrilled to take part in the hands-on side of the project, "I loved how we used traditional community barn raising principles to convert KSUT to solar-powered public radio."

La Plata Electric Association and Three Green Assistance both provided grant support for the project.

For more information visit solarbarnraising.org.

COVID-19

COMMUNITY REPORT

CERF supports nonprofits and the broader community

\$910,726 CERF Funds Raised	
Community & Service Organizations Daybreak Rotary, High Noon Rotary, St. Columba, United Way, UU Fellowship of Durango	\$47,790
Local Corporate Donors Alpine Bank, Animas Surgical Hospital, Bank of Colorado, Bank of San Juan, First SW Bank, LPEA, McDonalds, Payroll Department, TBK Bank, United Way, Vectra Bank	\$102,732
Local Government	\$84,000
DAF/Family Foundations	\$193,750
Front Range Foundations End Hunger, El Pomar, Moniker	\$25,000
No-touch Thermometers Project Bank of Colorado	\$16,355
Individuals	\$141,099
Tech Gives Back (4 individuals)	\$300,000
\$910,726 CERF Funds Spent	
Save the Food, Feed the People	\$8,686
3 Rounds of Grants to Nonprofits	\$359,500
Food Security Distributed to nonprofits in all 5 counties	\$187,621
No-touch Thermometers Project	\$16,437
Youth Initiative	\$99,270
2021 COVID Assistance	\$147,000
Administration Costs	\$24,811
CERF Investment for Future Emergencies	\$24,000
Community Foundation Grant Management	\$43,401



49%
of CERF funds
FROM
INDIVIDUALS

LARGEST GIFT
\$190,000
from an individual

97.25%
of CERF funds
RAISED
LOCALLY

LARGEST GIFT
\$25,000
from a business
LPEA

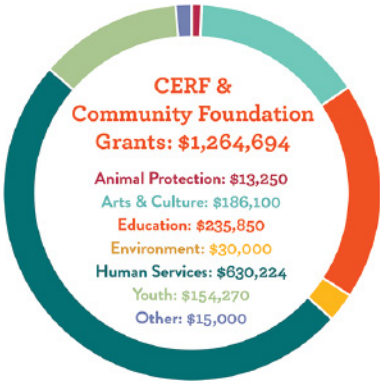
Tito's donated
\$40,000
in hand sanitizer
for nonprofits and
school districts in
SW Colorado

SMALLEST
GIFT
\$10
from an individual

\$1.25+ million in COVID rapid-response granting through the Community Foundation

Once again, we are humbled to see the community come together to support neighbors. This report shares how emergency contributions were distributed to SW Colorado through October 30.

CERF Grants: \$617,514
Donor Advised Funds & Projects: \$593,180



Tech Gives Back

A small group of technology business leaders donated \$300,000 to support the community through:

\$100,000 to Food Security

The Community Foundation purchased seven truckloads (\$64,000) of non-perishable foods to stock food pantry shelves in our five-county region. We committed another \$36,000 in perishable food purchases, leveraging these orders to spur another \$85,000 from other sources, including CARES Act money, to expand reach and deepen quantity received. A fringe benefit is supporting our regional farmers by locally-sourcing veggies and beef.

\$100,000 to Youth Employment

Supported 17 nonprofits that continued to provide quality youth employment opportunities that challenge our youth to have a deeper understanding of our community and learn real-life skills.

\$100,000 in reserve for unforeseen needs in 2021

Save the Food, Feed the People

This project's simplicity was its brilliance. Blaine Bailey, founder of In the Weeds, realized that with spring break cut short, restaurants had kitchens full of food and no customers, and chefs were out of work. Blaine worked tirelessly to employ local chefs who prepared the food on hand before it spoiled. They created healthy and delicious meals to be delivered to seniors, families, and high-risk individuals. The Community Foundation paid the chefs who prepared 600 meals a week.

School & Restaurant Appreciation

The Community Foundation rallied our Donor Advised Funds and infused \$37,000 into local restaurants to purchase a \$50 gift card for every staffer at Durango 9R School District and Animas High School, to say thank you to 733 people who have worked hard to educate our students and protect our community.

Southwest Colorado Disaster Assistance

The Community Foundation launched the SWCODA website to provide resources for nonprofits, local information about COVID protocols, and economic recovery tools. All five counties have information and resources listed on SWCODA.org.

Match Madness

Everyone loves their dollar to stretch and donations are no different. The Community Foundation spearheaded several match opportunities to maximize giving.

The Payroll Department challenged its clients to match Payroll's CERF donation of \$10,000. Total gift from the Payroll Department and their clients was \$20,000.

Animas Surgical Hospital worked with its partners on a match challenge that raised \$28,000 for CERF.

Local businesses, governments, family funds and individuals matched CERF Grant Rounds 182 to double the grants given to nonprofits.

SOUTHERN UTE UTILITIES NOTICE Payment Options

The Southern Ute Utilities Division would like to send a friendly reminder on payment options for utilities customers.

Payments can be processed in the following ways:

1. Online at <https://www.suitutil.com/pay-my-bill/>
2. Over the phone with a credit/debit card
3. Via Wells Fargo Bill Pay at the Ignacio branch.
4. Tribal Deduction through the Finance Department.
5. COVID-19 Relief Grant Program is available to the tribal membership who require assistance due to COVID-19. Please contact the Finance Department or visit the Tribal Member Portal for more information on the grant program.

The Utility office can be reached by dialing 970-563-5500. The office and Transfer Station is currently operating under the modified hours. Hours of operation have been modified due to the coronavirus pandemic. Modified hours while under the tribal "Stay at Home" Order are Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m.

Finance Department

DROP-BOX

The Finance Department has installed a mail drop-box to accommodate tribal membership needs for delivery of Finance-related documents or payments to the Finance Department. The drop-box is located at 365 Quay Drive, on the west side of the Leonard C. Burch Administration Building. Documents that can be deposited into the drop-box include:

- COVID-19 Relief Grant Program applications
- Tribal Distribution documents
- Tribal Credit loan documents
- Accounts Receivable check payments
- Other Finance-related documents
- NO CASH PAYMENTS can be put in the drop-box

The drop-box will be checked at 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. All documents received in the drop-box will be stamped with the date they are received. For payments on customer accounts, the payment will be posted to the customer account on the date it is received (if received by 5:00 p.m.), and a receipt will be mailed by US Postal Service to the customer. All documents deposited in the drop-box will be forwarded to the appropriate tribal staff for timely processing.

If you have questions for Accounts Receivable/Customer Account please contact the Cashier at 970.563.0110; if you have questions for Tribal Credit please contact Tribal Credit at 970.563.4744; and if you have questions on the Tribal Distribution/COVID Relief Grant Program please contact the GI Manager at 970.563.2443



THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
Run-Off Election • Dec. 18, 2020

Southern Ute Election Board

Emergency Deadline for Run-Off Election 2020– Thursday, December 17, 2020 by 5 P.M.

EMERGENCY ABSENTEE VOTING PROCEDURES:

11-5-107

- (1) A voter may make a written request that the Election Board provide him an emergency absentee ballot if:
- (a) He will be confined in a hospital or at his place of residence on election day because of events arising after the deadline for absentee ballot requests; or
- (b) He must be absent from the reservation on election day and the reason for such absence arose after the deadline for absentee ballot requests.
- (2) The written request shall contain the following:
- (a) The voter's name and address;
- (b) The nature of the emergency causing confinement or absence from the reservation; and
- (c) The voter's signature.
- (3) An emergency ballot may be requested any day after the day of the absentee ballot deadline but prior to the day of election. The Election Board shall review emergency requests on a case-by-case basis. If the Election Board determines not to grant the request, the voter shall be promptly notified of the denial and the reason. If the Election Board determines that the request should be granted, the Election Board shall deliver the emergency ballot at its office during regular business hours or, in the case of a medical emergency, at the place where the voter is confined.



Contact the Election Board at (970) 563-2302
Ext. 2305/2729/2728
Off Reservation Tribal Members
Telephone: 1-800-772-1236 ext.2303
Email: election@southernute-nsn.gov

Southern Ute Indian Tribe 2020 Run- Off Election

TRIBAL CHAIRMAN and TWO (2) TRIBAL COUNCIL Seats

The Election Board has determined these dates for upcoming 2020 Run-Off Election according to the Constitution and Election Code.

Run-Off Election– December 18, 2020 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
held at SunUte Community Center in Ignacio, CO

Notice of Election-	Wednesday, November 18, 2020
Voter Registration Deadline-	Monday, December 7, 2020 by 5:00 pm
Absentee Ballot Request Deadline-	Monday, December 7, 2020 by 5:00 pm
Emergency Absentee Ballot Request Deadline-	Thursday, December 17, 2020 by 5:00pm

Candidates	Council	Contact the Election Board at (970) 563-2303 Ext. 2305/2729/2728 Off Reservation Tribal Members Telephone: 1-800-772-1236 ext.2303 Email: election@southernute-nsn.gov
Chairman		
Melvin J. Baker	Lindsay J. Box	
Lorelei Cloud	Linda K. Baker	
	James M. Olguin	
	Stacey Oberly	

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Run-Off Election 2020

COVID-19 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & VOTING DAY PROCEDURES

Due to COVID-19 and winter coming up, the Election Board will be supervising and administering the **Southern Ute Indian Tribe Run-Off Election 2020** at SunUte Community Center, Ignacio CO.

- Voting will take place inside SunUte meeting rooms as in previous elections due to winter conditions
- 2 voters in the polling place at one time.
- An "X" will be located outside on the sidewalk next to the meeting room outside doors, marking every (6) feet where voters will stand when more than one voter is present.
- We ask all voters to please wear a mask. If you do not have one we will provide a disposable one for your use.
- Sanitizing of the voting booths will occur throughout the day, please be patient.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided for your use, please sanitize before coming to the election area.

The counting of the ballots will be a closed session, only the board members and personnel assisting the board in this process will be allowed for safety due to it being in an enclosed area.



For Absentee Ballot request contact Election Board at 970-563-2303 or ext. 2305/2729/2728
Off Reservation Tribal Members phone 1-800-772-1236 ext. 2303
Email: election@southernute-nsn.gov

No. 0000

OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
RUN-OFF ELECTION
DECEMBER 18, 2020

TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN
NOTICE: VOTE FOR 1 (ONE)

- ☐ Melvin J. Baker
- ☐ Lorelei Cloud

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS
NOTICE: VOTE FOR 2 (TWO)

- ☐ Lindsay J. Box
- ☐ Linda K. Baker
- ☐ James M. Olguin
- ☐ Stacey Oberly

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

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
2020 RUN-OFF ELECTION
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN AND TWO (2) COUNCIL SEATS

The Election Board has determined these are the dates for the upcoming
2020 RUN-OFF ELECTION according to the Constitution and Election Code

RUN-OFF ELECTION- Friday, December 18, 2020 7 A.M. to 7 P.M.

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE- Monday, December 07, 2020 by 5 P.M.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST DEADLINE- Monday, December 07, 2020 by 5 P.M.

EMERGENCY ABSENTEE REQUEST DEADLINE- Thursday, December 17, 2020 by 5 P.M.

THE 2020 RUN-OFF ELECTION will be held at SunUte Community Center, Ignacio, CO

Contact the Election Board at (970) 563-2303 or 2305, 2729, 2728
Off Reservation Tribal Members: 1-800-772-1236 ext. 2303
Email: election@southernute-nsn.gov

CONNECT WITH
CANDIDATES

INDEPENDENT COLLABORATION FOR CANDIDATES BY CANDIDATES.



Event is for Southern Ute Tribal Members only.

TUESDAY'S Nov. 17 & 24 | Dec. 1, 8 & 15, 2020

6 PM- 7 PM

Hosted via Zoom

Meeting ID: 825 9943 3222

Passcode: SUvote2020

Same zoom link used for all nights. Send all
questions to: SubmitQuestion4SUTC@gmail.com
or call/text 719-315-4916.

Tribal Member Portal
Account Set Up

The Southern Ute Tribal Member Portal is a resource available to only enrolled members of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Any request for access to the Tribal Member Portal will be verified. For access to the Tribal Member Portal please follow these steps:

1. Go to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's website.
2. In the header, click on "Members"
3. Under login, click on the blue highlighted link "Register New Account"
4. Complete all forms. Staff are working quickly to verify and approve new accounts while working remotely from home and while working under the tribal "Stay at Home" Order.
5. Use the login information found in your email to access the Tribal Member Portal.
6. Once you gain access you can change your password to your profile.

For assistance, please contact Ms. Lindsay Box at 970.563.2313 or via email lbox@southernute-nsn.gov



VOTE



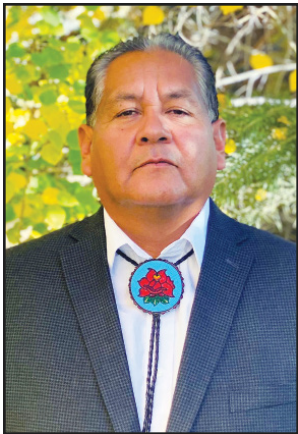
2020



Run-Off Election Candidate Statements

CHAIRMAN CANDIDATE

Melvin J. Baker



Greetings to all our Tribal Members,

I hope all is well with each and every one of you and your families who live on and off the reservation. I hope you are all taking care of yourselves and each other. Remember to do your part in regard to the Covid-19 pandemic. Please take care of our elders and children.

As you know I am a candidate in the Run-off election for the Chairman seat to be held on December 18, 2020. I have previously written articles in the past two editions of the Drum Newspaper mentioning what I would like to address if elected. There are many things to address and for me I do have concerns of how things have been handled. I feel the only way I can address those concerns for the membership is to run for the Chairman seat and work with the current Tribal Council and the two newly elected Tribal Council members. I would strive to create

a really strong working team to address issues each and every day. A good working team can get more accomplished for the membership. It may not be easy, but then again nothing is easy, but as long we are addressing whatever comes our way then we will be just fine.

If elected my plan would be to meet with the current Tribal Council to address any unfinished business that may need to be closed out. Sometimes the Tribal Council may still be waiting on certain information to make a final decision.

I would also like to meet with just the Tribal Council to discuss what we would like to address in regard to various subjects that pertain to the well being of the membership. I'm not saying tear everything down and start over but pick up where the current Tribal Council left off. Once discussions have taken place we would need to work on prioritizing, setting goals, and timeframes for completion. I believe that seven elected leaders could come up with many things we feel need to be addressed for the membership.

There are many things I feel are important to our membership:

- Our land, our language and culture.
- Various rights like hunting and fishing.
- Housing – we need to create more housing for

our tribal members. Create more scattered housing sites for our tribal members.

- Water – protect our water rights on all seven rivers that flow through our reservation. Discuss our water rights in regard to Vallecito Dam and Lake Nighthorse “ALP”.
- Employment- is always something needed for our tribal members. Discuss what is needed and how we can create job opportunities for tribal members who would like an opportunity to work for their tribe. Remember back in the day when the tribe was run by a majority of our tribal members, our parents, our uncles and aunts or other relatives. Today it is not that way as we all know.
- Casino – what is going to be the best ideas for moving forward.
- The Growth Fund – where are we currently at in regard to losses and gains, where are we going. Do we need to change course or is everything just fine?
- Permanent Fund Services – are we getting the most out the services that are being provided to the membership. Evaluate each and every Department/ Division to see if we in fact need to change certain services or not.

Melvin Baker page 14

CHAIRMAN CANDIDATE

Lorelei Cloud



Mayhk,

My name is Lorelei Cloud and I am running for Chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe.

I give thanks to my ancestors and past leaders for their commitments and labors for making it possible for our Southern Ute Tribe to be blessed with success in the modern world. Today all of us to have these riches because of them. As an example, we can see with our own eyes our beautiful building, our athletic and ceremonial parks and the new skate park. There is a place for everyone. Our children have an amazing array of opportunities to follow their dreams, be it for arts,

science, or business. They can go to anywhere in the world to pursue their education. I know no other tribe that offers this gift. I completely support these systems and when they return, they will enrich our lives in a good way. We can add to their character by celebrating our Ute traditions with them.


I must take a moment to thank and honor Leonard C. Burch for his visionary and successful plans for our tribe. His worldly experiences taught him to plan for future generations. He loved us all. We are a model for other tribes seeking to better the lives of their people. My grandmother, Sunshine C. Smith and Leonard C. Burch are my inspiration. They taught me to love our Ute ways as well as my lifelong love for Sundance, Bear Dance, singing our Ute songs as well as teaching my children to keep the Ute ways alive.

I have been on Tribal Council for the past five years and I have observed that we have been operating on a failing system causing disharmony among our people. The Tribal

Council is voted in by the Tribal People and I intend to strengthen that power for you. Power is achieved with clear communication. I will have a set schedule of monthly town hall meeting and quarterly meetings for the next three years, as well as mentorships for our members with directors and division heads. Please understand that I will always listen to your concerns.

I am committed, I am dedicated, and I am devoted to make good on my promise to encourage all members to understand and participate in our policies and actions. This beautiful reservation is our only home and I embrace the opportunity to make it a harmonious community. I will leave a legacy with a foundation of truth, innovated solutions and the pride to be a Ute. I promise with my whole being to honor every member and will be a model of care and transparency. I will stand by you and we will walk the great Red Road together with the blessing from our Great Creator.

Lorelei Cloud




VOTE MEL BAKER FOR CHAIRMAN

Put your trust in a candidate who has demonstrated leadership to the Southern Ute people throughout his career.

When you're voting for Mel, you're voting for:

- TRUSTED LEADERSHIP
- PRINCIPLES
- EXPERIENCE
- INTEGRITY
- SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE



VOTE



LORELEI CLOUD



CHAIRMAN

DEC. 18, 2020



“Together we can create the change we need for our future.”

INTEGRITY & ACCOUNTABILITY



Run-Off Election Candidate Statements

COUNCIL CANDIDATE
Linda K. Baker

Machaa Piinu-nuu-chi,
I would like to begin my Tribal Council candidate statement by thanking the individuals who voted for me on November 6. I am humbled and honored to be a run-off candidate because of your vote of confidence. Tuvuchi tog-hoy-aqh! I would also like to acknowledge the candidates from the first round of the election process, and say I appreciated the dialogue among us.

As stated in the October 23, 2020 Southern Ute Drum, I listed three general platform statements:

- Tribal identity: Language, Culture, Enrollment
- Equal opportunity: Programs, employment, Off-reservation access
- Quality assurance: Finance, Performance, Accountability.

When I think of tribal identity, I think of my grandmother, Edna Russell Baker. Much of my early childhood was spent with her until I entered kindergarten. My grandmother remained an influence in my life, teaching and showing me what identified clothing, gloves, cradleboards, and dancing as Ute. “She told me stories about Ute history and animals, tribal etiquette, songs for plants, and our particular family relationship with the people of Taos Pueblo and the Oglala Lakota



Nation. Our father, Archie Baker, began to teach Ute to his two grandsons. I have a memory of the three of them playing cards and learning and speaking Ute numbers, face cards and card suits. The only thing I remember now is that Clubs was called Cat’s Paw.
Our Ute identity needs to go beyond a memory and become a reality. We need to remember, honor, and learn as much as we can to retain our tribal identity. Identity also includes who our tribal citizens are based on enrollment. I would like us to redetermine our own tribal citizenship as an act of sovereignty. Tribal community discussions need to occur, because enrollment is a time-based issue that will undoubtedly have an impact on the future of our tribe.
Equal opportunity is about establishing programs, employment and off-reservation access. Based on what I learned as part of the Tribal

Linda Baker page 14

COUNCIL CANDIDATE
Dr. Stacey Oberly

Dear Southern Ute Tribal Membership,
I respectfully request **your vote** to serve on **Tribal Council** on Friday, December 18, 2020. When I am elected, **my leadership vision** is to serve the tribal membership with clear *Communication* to create *Unity* and *Transparency* while adhering to our traditional cultural *Ethics*. I would also like to successfully work with the membership, Council and our staff to develop these important initiatives.

EMPOWERMENT
From the comments and suggestions from numerous tribal members, our voices need to be heard. It would empowering to ensure that our members have input on the content of our General Meetings, both in person and virtual, via a survey.
To empower our membership in regard to services provided by the Tribe, the use of a ticket system, similar to the system used by Shared Services, would ensure that each request is fulfilled quickly and professionally. A **Customer Service Task Force** which consists of volunteer tribal members and staff who would monitor the ticket system, report the satisfaction levels of the membership, and make recommendations for improvements to administration.
There is a clear, resounding need for empower-



ing our tribal membership. We get to establish a comprehensive initiative which ensures that we THRIVE not just survive. A key component will provide support so that our membership develops CAREERS via **Tribal Member Empowerment Initiative**. This will ensure that our membership is able to advance into higher level positions within our tribal organization, if they decide to do so.
Additionally, we get to form a **Tribal Member Employee Retention Program**, similar to the Growth Fund’s Tribal Employee Retention program. This program will ensure that our tribal member employees are retained, mentored, and supported in a proactive and professional way.
COMMUNICATION
Knowledge is power. Listening builds trust and is necessary for healthy
Stacey Oberly page 14

COUNCIL CANDIDATE
James M. Olguin

Greetings to all,
I am James M. “Mike” Olguin and I am humbly and respectfully asking for your vote on December 18, 2020.
I have been in service of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and you, the membership, for 40-plus years. I worked my way into various managerial and leadership roles, which entailed making decisions that have benefited the Tribe and membership. Some of the decisions I was involved with may not have been agreed by some tribal members, but were made with the mindset that “the many must be served and not just the few.”
While I may not hold a college degree, my 40 years of training, experience and knowledge in our tribal government are directly in line with the Tribe’s vision and mission which can be labeled as on-the-job training. I remember when we were a poor Tribe and I have working knowledge of how we got to where we are now, as a prosperous Tribe. I have worked with Federal, State and other Tribal governments and determined if it would benefit our Tribe and the membership.
We, as the People of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe are in need of continued growth and evolution to continue building our strength and future for generations to come.



Many of you tribal members have sacrificed to help do your part to lead us to where we are today. Yet the work is not done and will always require individuals who know and understand where we came from, where we are and where we need to go. Visions of our future come in many forms and take experienced individuals who can deliver on those Visions.
Our tribal government continuously faces many challenges and we, as the membership expect our government to deliver benefits and services that are designed to bring comfort and peace of mind, that we are taken care of for our continued existence and survival. We have survived many obstacles and attacks on levels that tests our abilities to govern ourselves to ensure we protect our way of life.
I have heard some good questions being asked; one
James Olguin page 14

VOTE

LINDA K. BAKER


TRIBAL COUNCIL



EXPERIENCE + EDUCATION

CULTURAL COMMITMENT

V
O
T
E



D
E
C
18

JAMES M. OLGUIN

WISDOM

LEADERSHIP

EXPERIENCE

SERVICE

DEDICATION

KNOWLEDGE

VISION

Empowerment



Communication

Sustainability

Language

Vote for

Dr. Stacey



LINDA K. BAKER • FROM PAGE 13

Health Benefits committee, there is a need to establish an assisted living center and a tribal/community dialysis care center. Another need is to establish a tribal veteran’s program/office to address issues and services on behalf of tribal veterans.

Equal opportunity also includes employment. During my internship at the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, one of my job responsibilities was to represent the Commission at a Native focus group that was part of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (DMNS). Because of my education and museum background, I was “looped” for employment at DMNS. Based on my experience, I believe

tribal individuals who have a formal education, work experience, or a skill set can be “looped” into employment. One idea is to provide opportunities to conduct, or contribute, to innovative projects on our reservation, such as environmental, community or cultural/culturally sensitive research.

Equal opportunity also includes the establishment of an off-reservation representative or position. I believe a point of contact is needed to specifically address concerns of tribal members living outside the exterior boundaries. Having a central point of contact would also create an overall record of concerns, questions, responses and

outcome.

Quality assurance of finance, performance and accountability have one common theme: Our people, our culture, and our land are the first priority. Therefore, Permanent Fund finances and services need to be efficient and transparent, with overall accountability and focus on our cultural values and economic goals.

In closing, I am a team player who will make a commitment toward the overall well-being of our tribal citizens, our culture, and our reservation. I would appreciate your vote on Friday, Dec. 18, 2020.

*Respectfully,
Linda Baker*

DR. STACEY OBERLY • FROM PAGE 13

relationships. For this initiative, I would like to see us come together and creatively find ways to improve our communication and transparency. We need to ensure that all tribal members have access to timely and accurate information regarding issues that are important to our financial, health, and emotional wellbeing.

SUSTAINABILITY

Our success as a tribe is based on our **financial sustainability**. We need to ensure that we are fol-

lowing the Financial Plan closely. The Financial Plan has proven to be successful if followed correctly.

As stewards of the earth, we get to develop a sustainability initiative which develops **greener practices** on our reservation. This may include developing solar for not only the homes of our membership but also in our tribal buildings. We are the only tribe in Colorado that does not grow our own food, we get to develop our own food sovereignty practices as well as recycle.

LANGUAGE

With only 32 fluent Ute speakers, it is imperative that we take immediate and effective methods to document our language. This may entail establishing a department/division whose sole purpose is to focus on documentation, developing a master-apprentice program to train tribal members to speak Ute and develop multimedia Ute language learning material.

*Toghoyaqh,
Dr. Stacey Oberly*

JAMES M. OLGUIN • FROM PAGE 13

being, what are you looking for in a person to be elected as a Council Member. To me, the answer is simple, I know I look for elected leaders who work hard for us, to be ethical, knowledgeable in tribal government, have empathy, compassion, to have a passion for our tribe and our people, to lead, and NOT by a strong fist but with a hand that is reaching out to help in times of need and struggles. A person who also shares the good with all, in a manner that is beneficial, not creating dependency, but builds on our strengths and skills to be self-sufficient.

We all must realize that the Tribal leaders must work together to progress, not work against each other, as that only divides us and it slows progress when this occurs. The leadership can have individual plans and ideas of what is needed to make progress but those ideas will never come to fruition unless we can talk, discuss, debate and decide amongst ourselves for the good of our people and resources. In the past, we have for too many decades depended on others to tell us what to do. We now have the ability, capacity and capability to tell others what we want and expect, especially with our membership becoming educated, knowledgeable and experienced with a voice demanding accountability and transparency. Your voices must be heard and acted upon.

that can’t go unnoticed or unheard. As young voters, your votes do matter as to whom you elect. All I ask is that you choose wisely on who can deliver results in the position of an elected leader. I have confidence in my ability to do this.

I know many tribal members are asking for change, yet change in what direction and why, is a question that must be answered. Change is not a simple task that can be done without due consideration of the consequences and implications for “all” tribal members. Some changes can be a policy modification or development of a new one or simply eliminating some. Other changes may require legal authority to do so and may require code revisions, or development but could also involve our main authority, which is our constitution.

Change has to have a reason and purpose to accomplish a desired outcome and in order to implement change, there has to be knowledgeable and experienced individuals in tribal governmental matters to carry out any change for the entire membership. Evaluation of our constitution needs to occur utilizing our own members and experts to develop the reason. As examples: My Reason is due to the fact the Federal Government’s role in tribal government and business has become obsolete or is becoming more nonexistent. Agencies that work with tribal governments are being under funded or not funded at all. Staff recruiting and retention is becoming more and more difficult and is challenging to keep experienced staff. Expertise is being surpassed by our tribe but not all tribes are as fortunate as we are.

pretable and defensible with ability to change and revise as needed addressing the will of the people. The will of the people is the most important component of any change to the constitution. The people will be required to vote in a Secretarial Election initially, as required by our current constitution.

Another example is our Financial plan which is currently 20 years old and has had very minimal yet substantial changes over the past years. Efforts to revise and change it are currently underway and have been for at least the past 5 years, 5 years to long. I have heard many people say we need to stick to the plan, yet I wonder how many people have seen it, let alone, know what it says? In areas of the Financial Plan, there have been deviation from the plan, but for justifiable reasons, some of those reason I voted on as a councilmember. Why do we need to revise and change it? My reason is due to the fact its 20 years old and our tribe and membership have evolved and grown with different expectations of today. Our plan needs membership involvement and participation lead by Tribal Council to ensure the process is transparent where membership input is encouraged and welcomed.

The Purpose for a revision is so the plan allows future growth in a manner that takes into consideration the needs of our membership not only fiscally but service wise as well. Budget analysis is important to this process as revenues are needed in order to have the ability to spend. Our membership trends need to be in the mix of all this as the more our membership grows, not only by numbers, but by age as well, will be factors to take into consideration for plan revisions.

Outcome of a plan revision is to have a visionary component that future councils can rely on to plan and guide our future towards fiscal longevity. A plan that requires periodic planned review and adjustments to meet the needs of our people and tribe into perpetuity as originally stated.

Our tribe has accomplished so much in the past and is striving to continue to do so into the future. This responsibility is bestowed on our elected leaders and decisionmakers. Decisions that call upon those that can decide in our best interest of today, but also for our next generations to come.

Your Vote matters not only to you, but to all of us. Your Vote for me, is a vote of confidence that we will strive for continued growth, evolution, and progress while keeping close the fact that I know where we came from and what it took to get where we are today.

My career has developed my ethos as being one of Wisdom, Knowledge, Leadership, Experience, Service, Dedication, and Vision. I have developed a process of when I speak, I do so with thought and an intent to add value to the conversations and get people to think forward as to what the discussion may entail as to the decisions being made, but most importantly bringing a tribal member perspective to the table that represents all, and not just a few.

Many of you who have come to know me and how I work. A day’s work for a day’s pay has been engrained in me from when I was a young man and to do the best I can with the resources and tools I have. Those that don’t know me, I can honestly say your vote for me will bring you a person who will work hard in your best interest as a tribal member regardless of who you are.

We, as one of the older generations have to realize and accept the fact that the future existence of our people and tribe is in our younger generations. We know who we are and have known this for many generations. We know where we come from, but the question that faces us today is where do we want to go and be in the future.

I believe in our youth as building blocks for our future existence. We have a generation of young members who have dreams, desires and ideas and most importantly a voice

that can’t go unnoticed or unheard. As young voters, your votes do matter as to whom you elect. All I ask is that you choose wisely on who can deliver results in the position of an elected leader. I have confidence in my ability to do this.

I know many tribal members are asking for change, yet change in what direction and why, is a question that must be answered. Change is not a simple task that can be done without due consideration of the consequences and implications for “all” tribal members. Some changes can be a policy modification or development of a new one or simply eliminating some. Other changes may require legal authority to do so and may require code revisions, or development but could also involve our main authority, which is our constitution.

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As an example, the Constitution of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe is a document that was adopted by our past leaders and serves us still today, but is in need of changes as well. It was adopted as a U.S. government boiler plate constitution that many other tribes adopted as a means of government structure. Now changing or revising our constitution requires a lot of work and is not a simple task of just saying let’s change it.

Purpose for changing our constitution is due to the need for us as a tribe to have our own ability and action to decide for ourselves what is in our best interest outside of any Federal Oversight and delays. I see this in code development and revisions, approval of leases and rights of way (R-O-W), etc.

The discussion to start the process of evaluating our constitution and the process to involve our membership thru assigned tasks, focus groups, work sessions, document development, and legal review with intent to deliver transparency and accountability would be the starting point. The outcome I desire is a modernized document that is inter-

pretable and defensible with ability to change and revise as needed addressing the will of the people. The will of the people is the most important component of any change to the constitution. The people will be required to vote in a Secretarial Election initially, as required by our current constitution.

Another example is our Financial plan which is currently 20 years old and has had very minimal yet substantial changes over the past years. Efforts to revise and change it are currently underway and have been for at least the past 5 years, 5 years to long. I have heard many people say we need to stick to the plan, yet I wonder how many people have seen it, let alone, know what it says? In areas of the Financial Plan, there have been deviation from the plan, but for justifiable reasons, some of those reason I voted on as a councilmember. Why do we need to revise and change it? My reason is due to the fact its 20 years old and our tribe and membership have evolved and grown with different expectations of today. Our plan needs membership involvement and participation lead by Tribal Council to ensure the process is transparent where membership input is encouraged and welcomed.

The Purpose for a revision is so the plan allows future growth in a manner that takes into consideration the needs of our membership not only fiscally but service wise as well. Budget analysis is important to this process as revenues are needed in order to have the ability to spend. Our membership trends need to be in the mix of all this as the more our membership grows, not only by numbers, but by age as well, will be factors to take into consideration for plan revisions.

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Your Vote matters not only to you, but to all of us. Your Vote for me, is a vote of confidence that we will strive for continued growth, evolution, and progress while keeping close the fact that I know where we came from and what it took to get where we are today.

Light Up The Town Holiday Parade
Friday, Dec. 4, 2020 • Starting At 5:30pm

The Taste of Christmas committee came together and wanted to create an event that Covid could not touch. We are all so consumed and deeply affected by this pandemic and we felt that it was important to keep this several-decade long tradition alive ... but reimagined. The Light up the Town Holiday Parade will offer a safe holiday experience for the families in our surrounding areas. Our hope is to challenge local businesses and residents to GO NUTS with their holiday home or business décor and/or create a lit float or vehicle to drive in the parade. If you want to experience the parade from the sidelines, we encourage you to park on the streets and watch from your vehicle. KSUT Tribal Radio will be playing holiday music on 91.3 FM, and broadcasting live from the event so be sure to tune in from your vehicles! AND GUESS WHO IS COMING TO TOWN?!?! Santa will be making a special appearance and we guarantee that you will not want to miss it! A little teaser: Chop, Chop! Look to the skies and don’t hide your eyes! The parade will begin and end at the Ignacio Highschool, through Goddard, to Pine, to Browning and back up to the high school. If you would like to participate in the parade or if you have any questions, please reach out the ELHI Site manager, Allison Leath at 970-563-4100 or elhimanager@gmail.com.

Southern Ute Tribal Elder Carbon Monoxide Program

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

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

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

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

Safety Tips

Signs of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

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

Warning Signs of a Carbon Monoxide Leak

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

In the event of an Emergency

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

SUPD - 970.564.4401

Created & Published by Landay J. Box

MELVIN J. BAKER • FROM PAGE 12

There is so many things that we all feel needs to change within our Tribal Government. If elected I will do my best to work with the Tribal Council to address issues that come

before us each and every day. In closing I Humbly ask for your support on December 18, 2020.

I want to wish everyone of you and your families a Safe and Happy holiday and May

the Creator Bless and Protect us all. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call at 970-769-2763.

*Happy Holidays,
Mel Baker*

VOTE DEC. 18

CUTTING YOUR OWN TREE • FROM PAGE 1

has an inadequate number of young trees in these species. The species below play a very important role in providing wildlife habitat and will be our forests of the future.

DO NOT CUT: Ponderosa Pine

Ponderosa pines grow at lower and middle elevations. They have long, round needles in clusters of two to three. Their classic woody cones have thick scales. Please help ponderosa pine forests regenerate ~ do not cut young pines as Christmas trees.

DO NOT CUT: Douglas Fir

Douglas firs grow at all elevations, most often on moist, north-facing slopes or in deep canyons. They have short, flat, soft needles that attach separately to branches with red-pointed buds. Douglas firs are easily identified by their smallish cones with little “tails” hanging out. Cones hang downwards from branches or can be spotted at the base of the tree.

Consider NOT Cutting Pinyon Pine

This the lowest elevation pine tree in southwestern Colorado. Insect epidemics have ravaged these trees in the past few years. Please harvest only in areas where young pinyon trees are abundant. Pinyons grow with juniper trees and have two to three needles in each cluster. Cones are small, and the tree is usually short and branchy.

SELECT THE RIGHT SIZE OF TREE

Your Christmas tree permit allows you to cut a tree up to 20 feet tall. Please take the time to find just the perfect tree for your needs by choosing a tree as close to the size you want as possible. Never disfigure trees in the forest by cutting off just the top of a standing tree, or by cutting down a tree and then take only its top.

CUT IT CORRECTLY

Please try to leave no more than a six-inch stump. You can do this by taking a shovel with you so you can dig down through the snow to ground level and cut the trunk off as close to the ground as possible. Do not leave live branches on the remaining stump. This leaves the forest looking as natural as possible.

TAG YOUR TREE

Attach your permit to the trunk or branches before you move your tree. Make sure the tag is as visible as possible when you load the tree on or in your vehicle. You want the tag to be visible for forest officers to see. You can be fined for removing an untagged tree from federal lands without a permit.

General Rules – You Cannot Cut Trees:

- within 100 feet of county roads, or state or federal highways;
- within 100 feet of developed campgrounds;
- in areas designated as Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas, Special Recreation Areas, or Research Natural Areas;
- in tree plantations (where trees have

been planted) or where active timber sales are underway.

Specific Areas Where You Cannot Cut Trees:

NEAR DURANGO:

- La Plata Canyon

NEAR PAGOSA SPRINGS:

- Chimney Rock National Monument
- Williams Creek Research Natural Area
- Piedra Management Area

NEAR CORTEZ-DOLORES:

- Sage Hen Wildlife Area, McPhee and Lone Dome Recreation Areas from McPhee Dam to Bradfield Bridge, and Naraguinnep Research Natural Area
- Within 1/4 mile of West Mancos Road (FS#561) between the Forest boundary and Transfer Campground.

BE PREPARED FOR WINTER – BE SAFE OUT THERE!

- Remember – there’s often more snow and colder temperatures in the mountains than in town. Start early – winter days are short. Take advantage of the limited sunlight. Check the weather forecast before you head out.
- National Forest and BLM roads are NOT plowed for snow removal. Be prepared with 4WD, snow tires and/or chains. Even if backcountry roads are not blocked by snow, dangerous ice conditions may exist.
- Many forest roads are closed and gated once the snow gets deep. Be prepared to snowshoe or ski if you want to access backcountry locations past gates. Also don’t expect a parking area to be snowplowed.
- For road conditions, call the San Juan Public Lands Center at 970-247-4874 or visit the San Juan National Forest at: www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan.
- Realize that if you do drive up a narrow snow-packed road, there may be no turnaround area farther up, and you may have to slowly back down a narrow, twisting road to get out.
- Keep vehicles on open roads – do NOT drive on closed roads. Not only can you damage the area, you run a high risk of getting stuck.
- Carry a National Forest or BLM map of the area you plan to visit – sold at our offices and many outdoor retailers.
- Carry emergency supplies in your vehicle. For tips, go to: www.colorado.aaa.com/automotive/car_care_kits.asp
- Be prepared to hike through deep snow in cold temperatures. Wear warm clothes, gloves, a warm cap, and snow boots. Don’t go hungry or thirsty – hydrate well.
- Leave word with friends or family of your planned destination and time of return, and try not to go out alone.
- Avoid areas prone to avalanches.

ASU, LARGEST NATIVE POP. • FROM PAGE 3

nity and purpose, according to Bryan McKinley Jones Brayboy, President’s Professor, director of the Center for Indian Education and ASU’s senior adviser to the president on American Indian affairs. Native students often get a degree to pay it forward, by going back to their community and helping to strengthen and sustain it.

Students like Mariah Black Bird.

The 27-year-old is a citizen of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in South Dakota, and she is enrolled in ASU’s Indian Legal Program in the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law.

With financial burdens growing up, the death of her father when she was 14, and coming from an impoverished tribal community, Black Bird has had a lot of obstacles to overcome. But she knew education was her pathway to a brighter future.

“There were a lot of sacrifices that had to be made. I sold my car, worked summers and my mom let me borrow her car to come down to Phoenix,” said Black Bird, who is on an ASU scholarship, which she says covers about 75% of her costs. “Sometimes I don’t get to have a social life because I have to study, or I need to stick to a budget because things are tight. But I know it’s only temporary.

“I look at our history and know that even though we’re no longer battling it out at Wounded Knee or other famous sites, we’re still fighting. ... I want to try to help my tribe any way I can, and our weapon of choice has to be education.”

In the not-so-distant past, an academic recruiting trip to a reservation in the state of Arizona was almost inconceivable. The trips were long and the reservations were hard to navigate, with populations spread out over wide spaces. The barriers were great.

That mindset changed about a decade ago, said Annabell

Arizona State University
Fall 2020 record Native American enrollment

For decades, ASU has worked to make the university more welcoming to Native American students and more conducive to their success. This fall, almost 3,500 Native American students are enrolled at ASU, a number that appears to be the largest among U.S. colleges and universities.

3,470

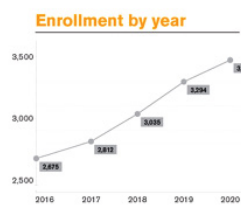
total American Indian/Alaska Native students (self-identified)

2,874

Undergraduate students

596

Graduate students



Bowen, director of American Indian Initiatives for the Office of University Affairs. That’s when her team, with the help of Zah, created the Tribal Nations Tour outreach program. Each year, the tour holds presentations on wellness, college readiness, career preparation and the pursuit of academic degrees.

“ASU can’t be viewed as invisible, and we’re not waiting for students in tribal communities to come and visit us,” said Bowen, who schedules visits to all of Arizona’s tribes and has plans to visit other states such as California, New Mexico and South Dakota. “Through these visits, Indigenous youth are able to see themselves in our students and faculty.”

In addition to the Tribal Nations Tour, ASU has built a suite of programs to recruit, retain and build a sense of community for its Indigenous students. That’s important to Native American students and their families.

“Many times, when Indigenous students come to this university to visit our campus, they are accompanied by their families,” Brayboy said. “Nine times out of 10, the parents will say to us, ‘We are entrusting you to take care of our child.’ It’s a promise and responsibility we take seriously at the university.”

Beyond creating a welcoming environment, ASU realizes that connection is a worldview in how Native Americans are brought up, and that leaving the reservation is, in a way, a loss. Staff have worked hard over the years to present experiences

of connection, belonging and shared identity.

The university has plans underway to redesign the campus to reflect Indigenous culture. Last year, the ASU Library announced its expansion of the Labriola National American Indian Data Center, which features thousands of books, journals, Native Nations newspapers and primary source materials, such as photographs, oral histories and manuscript collections. The Labriola Center now has two locations; Fletcher Library on the West campus and Hayden Library on the Tempe campus.

Future ideas include adding traditional Gila River pottery artwork to Sun Devil Stadium and building a storytelling pavilion and gathering place on campus. A “welcome wall” that includes the languages of the nearly two dozen tribes in Arizona was incorporated into the renovated Hayden Library.

Through these efforts, ASU is raising awareness of its Indigenous connection to all students, not just Native Americans.

**This number reflects students who self-identify as Native American. ASU’s enrollment according to IPEDS – the data program for the National Center for Education Statistics that is commonly used to compare institutions – is lower, because if a student identifies as both Hispanic and Native American, the Hispanic category takes precedence and the student is counted only as Hispanic.*

SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL MEMBERS
Cutting Your Own Christmas Tree

A free-use permit cutting permit may be obtained from the Forestry office (by appointment due to COVID-19) for all interested Southern Ute Tribal members that wish to harvest a Christmas tree from the reservation.

The tree species suitable for Christmas trees on the reservation include ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, white fir, and pinon pine. Ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, white fir, and pinon pine may be found on the east side of the reservation. There is also an abundance of pinon pine on the west side of the reservation.

All of the cutting regulations are attached to the permit issued by the Forestry Division and interested Tribal members may contact Forestry’s Executive assistant at 970-563-4780 to make an appointment.

Our approved office hours due to the COVID-19 pandemic are Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

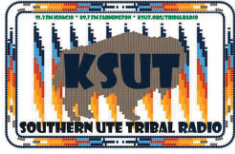


SOUTHERN UTE FORESTRY
Firewood Public Service Announcement

The 2020/2021 firewood season began Oct. 1, 2020 and will run through April 30, 2021. Firewood will only be distributed (made available for pickup or delivery) Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. during COVID-19 Phase 1 restrictions. To qualify for the firewood program, you must be an enrolled Southern Ute Tribal member 18-years or older and have a means (firewood place or wood stove) to burn firewood at your primary residence. In order to qualify for delivery, you must be a Tribal elder and live within the exterior boundary of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation (a copy of the approved procedures is available upon request from the Forestry Division). For questions call 970-563-4780.

Where to listen to KSUT Tribal Radio

- KSUT Tribal Radio 91.3 FM (Ignacio)
- KUUT 89.7 FM (Farmington/n.w. N.M.)
- KZNM 100.9 FM (Towaoc)
- www.KSUT.org (Streaming live)



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Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Cutline A two-time CHSAA Class 2A State Championships qualifier, the absence of graduated heavyweight Randy Herrera – seen competing at last season’s Butch Melton Memorial Invitational inside IHS Gymnasium – will have an impact on Bobcat Wrestling this winter.

BOBCAT WRESTLING

Wrestling schedule’s first draft released

IHS’ first official practice set for Jan. 4

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Limited by the Colorado High School Activities Association’s COVID-19 mitigation protocols to a maximum of seven duals and seven days’ worth of tournament action, Bobcat wrestlers will still have plenty of action ahead of them during the shortened 2020-21 winter season.

And to longtime head coach Jordan Larsen, any mat time is valuable mat time.

“Wrestling in our program in Ignacio requires three things: Hard work, loyalty, and guts,” he’d said during a previous interview. “Men that finished our season ... developed these things and are growing as young men of integrity as a result.”

“It is the recipe for success for any athletic program.”

Graduation claimed two-time CHSAA Class 2A State Championships-qualifying heavyweight Randy Herrera, as well as transfer and former New Mexico Activities Association State qualifier Dante Sandman (whose ’19-20 season ended with a 2A-Region I Championships sixth-place finish at 132 pounds), but Larsen’s varsity roster will hopefully still feature a pair of Pepsi Center veterans desiring returns to the renamed – as of Oct. 22 – Ball Arena.

“The two that qualified,” said Larsen, alluding to current sophomore Keaton McCoy and junior Tyler Barnes, “did so because they began to understand how to own those traits and use them every day of training. They are buying into the philosophy of the program, and inherently of myself.”

“Randy had a tough tournament,” he noted of Herrera, who progressed in said program from a winless freshman to a 16-11 senior notching one win in three 2020 State bouts, “but honestly ... developed some confidence, along with great development of his technical expertise.”

With an impressive 40 results on his rookie-year prep ledger, McCoy traveled to Denver last season at 126 pounds, and despite a 1-2 record at State ended up an outstanding 24-16 overall. On the mend from an ankle injury incurred during IHS’ 2020 cross-country season and re-aggravated during the Bobcats’ late-starting football campaign, Barnes went 0-2 at 152 but still finished 18-17 as Ignacio’s trio accumulated enough points to share 35th place in the grand finale’s final team standings.

Junior XC/FB participant Jeremy Roderick likely will be another returning veteran, having filled the 220-pound slot in ’19-20, and 138-pounder Isaac Welker could again be back in the fold along with any number of incoming freshmen having learned from Ignacio Middle School mentors – and former IHS greats – Alex Pena and Cody Haga.

According to CHSAA, weight certification could begin Nov. 1 and must be completed prior to competition – which, according to the schedule released Monday, Nov. 30, IHS will first see at a Jan. 14, 2021, triangular at non-league Del Norte. Ringing in the New Year, official practices will have finally commenced ten days before, barring further COVID complications.

Amongst some notable changes from last winter’s itinerary will be a trip to the Jan. 16 Norwood/Nucla Tournament, at which the ’Cats will begin getting looks at San Juan Basin League competition including the Mavericks and Mustangs. That will continue on the 21st as reigning circuit champs Mancos and Dolores both enter IHS Gymnasium for a 6 p.m. triangular.

The SJBL Championships, hosted this season by MHS (which took last season’s dual versus IHS, 30-24), are slated to then follow at 6 p.m. Feb. 4, and Ignacio will seek to continue building last-month momentum two days later at the Montrose Invitational – another stop replacing ultra-competitive meets like Front Range force Florence’s Mel Smith Husky Invite and Western Slope power Paonia’s Screaming Eagle Invite.

IHS’ lone regular-season journey east of the Continental Divide will be to Trinidad’s Gene Gagliardi Invitational on Feb. 13, and the Bobcats will then begin readying themselves to host the 2021 Riverside Rumble – a triangular for La Plata County bragging rights involving 4A Durango and 3A Bayfield – on Thurs., Feb. 18.

With perfect opportunity to pump up morale prior to the postseason, Ignacio will wrap up regular-season work on the 20th, hosting the Butch Melton Memorial Invitational beginning at 9:30 a.m. Like all meets, however, the popular Melton will be limited to just eight teams as per CHSAA’s COVID-altered regs.

The two-day regional tournament is presently set for Feb. 26-27, with State – reduced this season to a one-day, double-elimination spectacle utilizing eight-person brackets per weight – awaiting Sat., March 6. Of course, within the global pandemic climate, all whos, whats, wheres and whens are subject to change.

CLARIFICATION

Whereas the State Championships will employ eight-person brackets, regionals will still go with 16-person ladders, though only first and second placers per weight will qualify for State. Additionally, the first seven weight classes will compete on Day 1, with the next seven on Day 2. Wrestlebacks will only happen from quarterfinals on, and team scoring at both regionals and State will count placers 1-4.

COLORADO SPORTS

CDPHE to allow spectators at state football championships

By Bert Borgmann
COLO. HIGH SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

A maximum of 75 spectators, per team, will be permitted in the stands during each championship football game this weekend.

The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment indicated in a letter to CHSAA commissioner Rhonda Blanford-Green on Monday night that the agency, “has modified its position on spectators to allow a maximum of 75 spectators in the stands, per team, which is the limit of the outdoor seated events guidance provided in Public Health Order 20-36 COVID-19 Dial.”

This came after CHSAA had petitioned CDPHE to reconsider its amended variance last week which would have disallowed spectators at the championship games.

The distribution of tickets for Championship Weekend will be managed at the local level by individual schools.

“Our qualifying teams, school communities and staff were anxious about receiving a favorable decision,” said CHSAA commissioner Rhonda Blanford-Green. “We submitted our reconsideration request on Friday and have spent numerous days asking our stakeholders and media partners to be patient. We

are a small piece of the puzzle within the many decisions being made by state officials in these challenging times.

“We celebrate each incremental decision, even those delayed, as we continue to intentionally advocate for CHSAA schools and school communities in resuming safe and equitable participation during the disruptive impact of COVID-19,” Blanford-Green added.

Wrote CDPHE executive director Jill Hunsaker Ryan, in the letter to CHSAA: “As a public health agency, we are trying to balance mitigation of disease spread, but also acknowledge that some parents may choose to transport their children to the game.”

As a result, each team will be permitted to have 75 fans at the championship games, under strict guidelines that must be followed.

- Non-household groups must maintain 6 feet of distance;
- The groups of 75 must enter and exit through different egresses;
- They must utilize different facilities, such as restrooms, to “fully keep these two groups as separate events”;
- All spectators (along with non-active participants, coaches, officials and staff) must wear masks, without exception.

The only venue approved by CDPHE to host the state football championships is CSU Pueblo. The variance approval for this CHSAA state championship event was completed and submitted weeks ago. Without the extended variances, the season would have culminated prior to the postseason with the recent changes to the state dial.

The game schedule is as follows:

THURSDAY:

- 2 p.m. - 6-man
- 6 p.m. - 8-man

FRIDAY:

- 2 p.m. - 2A
- 6 p.m. - 4A

Saturday:

- 10 a.m. - 1A
- 2 p.m. - 3A
- 6 p.m. - 5A

CHSAA has a press conference scheduled for 12 p.m. on December 1 to preview the championship games. Each head coach of the participating teams is scheduled to participate.

CHSAA Championship Weekend will feature all seven football championship games at one location for the first time in the 100-year history of the Association. The public can view the press conference live on YouTube: https://youtu.be/XUD5yJbEn_o.

SOUTHERN UTE POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUBMIT A TIP

Anonymous Tip Submissions

Do you have information about a crime?

Please call the Southern Ute Police Department Anonymous Tip Line - (970) 563-4999. This “Tip Line” was designed to allow you the ability to provide law enforcement with information, anonymously if need be, regarding criminal, drug, or suspicious activity. The “Tip Line” is monitored around the clock by SUPD Investigators, but it DOES NOT replace 9-1-1 or the non-emergency police number (970) 563-4401.

If you prefer, you may also submit an anonymous tip online by visiting: <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/justice-and-regulatory/supd>



ATTENTION

All Tribal Parks and Playgrounds Are Closed Until Further Notice



photo: Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

To help stop the spread of COVID-19, and for your Health and Safety, By authority of the Southern Ute Tribal Council all parks are closed. Violation may result in a citation for trespassing. Southern Ute Tribal Code: Title 5; 5-1-104 Trespassing. Penalty of \$150.00 fine and/or up to 30 days in jail. Please practice social distancing.

More Bobcats Online

For complete Bobcats sports Standings and Rankings online at www.sudrum.com

Join The Powerhouse for Navajo Skies

Join The Powerhouse on Sunday, Dec. 13 from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. for a free virtual event, “Navajo Skies”, the fourth lecture in the Apollo 14 Speaker Series. Tune into @powscicenter live Facebook stream to hear from two indigenous astronomy experts, Dr. Nancy Maryboy and Dr. David Begay. Nancy and David are co-authors of “Sharing the Skies”; a book on Navajo astronomy and the unique way Navajos view the cosmos and their place in them. Q & A following the event.



VETERANS

National Wreaths Across America Day events still planned for Colo.

Staff report
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

National Wreaths Across America Day may look different, but local communities show their commitment to honoring veterans.

Wreaths Across America (WAA), is the non-profit organization best known for placing veterans' wreaths on the headstones of our nation's fallen, including at Arlington National Cemetery. However, that mission recently came into question. The question was put to rest when our nations' people spoke with unity that our veterans needed to be honored. We will be forever grateful for this outpouring of support during what we can all agree has been, a difficult year.

The organization, in total, places sponsored veterans' wreaths at over 2,500 participating locations nationwide. On the local level in Colorado, volunteers are working tirelessly with local community leaders to develop plans for the safe placement of wreaths, following local guidelines and asking the public for their support in this mission.

In Colorado Springs, Theresa Wiederspahn reminisces about the Tuskegee Airman interred at a local cemetery and what an inspiration those veterans are to men and women stationed at Air Force bases in Colorado. She's working hard to make sure that he and his fellow fallen brothers are remembered for their lasting contributions to our nation.

Also, in Colorado Springs, Jim Herstein, a member of the Patriot Guard Riders, who volunteers for both Pikes Peak National Cemetery and Fort Logan stated, "We utilize WAA's \$5 give back program to help defray the costs of internment ser-

vices for the families of fallen heroes meaning the more wreaths we can get sponsored, the more families we can help through a difficult time."

At the Linn Grove Cemetery, Wreaths Across America volunteer Chris Ruth stated "100-year-old World War II veteran Herman Rady has already pledged to make his annual pilgrimage to place wreaths this year as another volunteer, Nate McCarty who is an "essential worker" truck driver, will be volunteering behind the wheel of one of the trucks delivering wreaths this year."

At Fort Logan, Wreaths Across America volunteer Damon Henry is busy putting together his safety guidelines and procedure modifications while informing the public about safety changes to their annual tradition. Visit the Fort Logan National Cemetery page to learn about necessary modifications to this year's event or to sponsor a wreath.

At the Mountain View Cemetery in Longmont, location coordinator Delaney Dreckman said, "Thanks to the efforts of volunteers Ann Warhola, Kris Miller, Michelle Martin, and support from local businesses and organizations like Parry's Pizza, Panera, Freddy's The American Legion Post 32, and Custom Ink, we are working towards our goal of 1,565 wreaths needed to honor all the fallen heroes interned there." However, Mr. Dreckman continued,

"But the mission isn't over, we have 397 wreaths to go. Our main challenges this year (due to COVID-19) are losing face-to-face interactions with the public. We had planned a summer fundraiser, a float in the 4th of July parade, and

a float in the Veteran's Day parade, but none of these things happened this year and this was the plan to make up the difference."

Although the outpouring of support for Arlington is greatly appreciated, there is so much more work to do in the state of Colorado in preparation for National Wreaths Across America Day on Saturday, December 19, 2020.

We are hoping the public will help assist in sponsoring a wreath for \$15 to help everyone laid to rest at one or more of these very special locations.

To support a local cemetery near you by sponsoring a wreath click here.

Each sponsorship goes toward a fresh balsam veteran's wreath that will be placed on the headstone of an American hero as we endeavor to honor all veterans laid to rest on Saturday, December 19, 2020, as part of National Wreaths Across America Day.

ABOUT WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992. The organization's mission – Remember, Honor, Teach – is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in December at Arlington, as well as at thousands of veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

For more information or to sponsor a wreath please visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org.

EXPRESS YOUR OPINIONS

FROM LOUISE JACK

I would like to put this message out to SUIMA and Covid Team.

Your many postcards of thanks is heartfelt. I purchased in behalf of Finance Accounting staff 99 Halloween gift bags filled with toys, games and other fun items to bring joy and happiness to the academy students who are dealing with anxiety, depression, and solidarity from the Covid-19 pandemic. Thank you all for your kind words, peace and love to you all.

*Sincerely,
Louise Jack*

RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE.

Submitted for publication by Dedra White Eagle, St. Ignatius Parish, Native American Catholic Outreach.

By Bishop Stephen J. Berg of Pueblo
This time last year, I decided to go to Montana to visit my mother for Thanksgiving. She is 95, paralyzed, blind, and living at St. John's Assisted Living in Billings, about two hours from where she and Dad raised our family. I gathered a couple of friends who were up for a road trip and we easily made the 9-hour drive for a brief visit for some loving family renewal. On the returning trip we hit one of those terrific Wyoming blizzards which shut us down in Cheyenne for an extra day. All things considered it was an amazing Thanksgiving. So much to be thankful for.

When we look at what we did at this time last year, we see that the world has changed. What a change, indeed, with political, social, economic upheavals, you name it. Plans and dreams have been put on hold and our accustomed ways of doing things have been changed. One can only hope and pray for the health care workers and their charges, for teachers and their students, for all those caught in the coronavirus web of anxiety and fear. So many of us miss our loved ones, some in isolation, some of blessed memory who have passed away.

Yet, in story after story, within families and friends an abundance of spiritual growth is happening. Many are finding the time on their hands for deeper prayer, family time, time to reinvest in significant relationships. We hear of anxiety and depression. But for those who are finding time to pursue the spiritual goods available, this quiet time of spiritual growth comes about not in spite of, but because of our difficulties.

St. Paul said, "Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Cor 12:10) We are each of us endowed with a human spirit which is the strongest part of us. It is the part which is the last to leave our bodies when we die, and the part of us which is meant to live forever. Yet in times like this our spirit becomes weak and will be overcome if we don't spiritually reorient and refasten ourselves. Our spirit only finds

its truest purpose when it rests in the Spirit of God. And it is Jesus, the human face of God, Jesus, the Good Samaritan, who brings to our human spirit the truest sense of presence and accompaniment. That is why his disciples followed him. When our human spirit discovers Jesus, there is nothing that can stop us.

Within some communities here in southern Colorado, now, a new missionary spirit is arising. A new awareness and urgency of our people. The question of HOW will we ever get together to worship again? Is bringing forth an answer: WHEN we get back into church, LET's BRING SOMEBODY BACK WITH US. As Pope Francis says, it is time to plan our future on the footprint of the Risen Christ. There is no going back to preconditions. This time of waiting and preparation is unique for every soul, and precious to every life. Let's revisit our sacred scriptures and again, open the living words of our Bible. Let's give the Lord this time to do with us as He wills.

Within three days of this coming celebration we enter into the Christian tradition of the season of Advent. This is the annual preparation for the celebration of the Nativity, the birth of Jesus, 2000 years ago. For that prayerful month of Advent we place ourselves in the place of Israel, waiting for a Messiah for millennia, for a Savior to be born and to bring deliverance to the down-trodden. We look for the surprise of Jesus in the dark places of our lives and await his birth as a child in a less than desirable manger, in the humble town of Bethlehem. We find him when we are grateful for our small blessings, and we pray to banish ingratitude for such hidden and wonderful gifts.

Our Lord knows full well what we have been through this year. He has been with us through it all. Let's take time to prepare our hearts for his coming through the blessing of Thanksgiving, and plan for the true meaning of Christmas. There are so many things to be grateful for. I rejoice to hear the sparkle in Mom's voice when I call home, and to see the textings and zooms of my siblings. Life goes on and there is so much to be thankful for. If you don't open your eyes you are going to miss it.



*The Most Reverend Stephen J. Berg,
Fifth bishop of the Diocese of Pueblo*

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

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

NEW EMPLOYEES


Trae Seibel

Job title: Small Business Specialist

Description of duties: To develop, plan, organize, and implement economic development functions from conception to completion also involving incentive programs related to tribal member small business development.

Tribe: Southern Ute

Drum Deadline

**Next issue
Dec. 18**

**Deadline
Dec. 14**

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

MAILING ADDRESS

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

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

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Join Us in Our Mission to

REMEMBER ★ HONOR ★ TEACH

★ **December 19, 2020** ★

NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY

American Heritage Girls CO2517

To sponsor a wreath in honor of a veteran, please visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/CO0190P or scan the QR code below.

SOUTHERN UTE DRUM HOLIDAY DEADLINES

DEADLINE	ISSUE	HOLIDAY/OFFICES CLOSED
NOV. 30	DEC. 4	LEONARD C. BURCH DAY, DEC. 10 & 11
DEC. 14	DEC. 18	CHRISTMAS, DEC. 25
DEC. 23*	DEC. 30	NEW YEAR'S DAY, JAN. 1, 2021

**EARLY DEADLINE AND DISTRIBUTION*



FINANCE DEPARTMENT NOTICE Early Cut-off for Minors Birthday Distributions

Due to the upcoming **holidays** the cutoff times for requesting a Minors distribution are as follows.
Requests received after the published cut off will be processed the following week:

- Distribution Wed., Dec. 9: NOON, Friday, Dec. 4, 2020
- Distribution Fri., Dec. 18: 5 PM, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020
- Distribution Thurs., Dec. 24: NOON, Monday, Dec. 21, 2020
- Distribution Thurs., Dec. 31: NOON, Monday, Dec. 28, 2020

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE Credit Committee Member Vacancy

Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Tribal Credit Committee is looking for eligible tribal member applicants to serve on the Committee. The appointment is for up to three (3) years. This is a compensated Committee, and, you will be considered an employee of the Tribe, per IRS guidelines. The Credit Committee submits approved applicant recommendation to the Tribal Council for final appointment. Individuals seeking to serve on the Committee must demonstrate a reputation of personal integrity, dependability, honesty, a strong work ethic, and the ability to perform in a non-biased, confidential and fair manner. They must be familiar with the objectives of the Declaration and must maintain good financial standing with the Tribe. These individuals must also pass criminal background and reference checks, per the Credit Committee By-laws. Some of the duties of the Tribal Credit Committee are: Approve loans as required by the Credit Division Declaration; Monitor compliance with the Declaration; Monitor all approved loans for performance; Make recommendations to the Tribal Council on program revisions and updates regarding Committee operations; Maintain confidentiality, objectivity, and fairness in conducting all Committee business; and Hold weekly regular meetings and other special meetings, as needed; and Coordinate the Committee's annual budget with Tribal Credit Staff. Interested Tribal Members are asked to submit a letter of interest to the Tribal Credit Committee, PO Box 737 #60, Ignacio, CO 81137 or by email at dlarsen@southernute-nsn.gov. If you have any questions, please speak with Daniel Larsen, Tribal Credit Division Head, at 970-563-2458.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE Gaming Commission Vacancy

Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Gaming Commission is seeking (2) Full time and (1) Alternate positions, must be Southern Ute Tribal Members. One Full-time Gaming Commission position term is 2 years 6 months. Second Full Time Gaming Commission position 11 month term. One Alternate Gaming position is a 3 year term. Applicants must possess the following attributes pursuant to the Regulation One of the Gaming Commission Rules and Regulations: Applicants must be at least twenty-one years of age; Applicants must possess a basic knowledge and understanding of gaming activities authorized on the Southern Ute Indian reservation; Applicants must have experience or expertise in regulatory matters or in administrative hearing procedures; Applicants must have the ability to observe restrictions concerning conflicts of interest and confidentiality; Applicants must submit an application form and a letter of interest explaining why the applicant wishes to be appointed to the Commission; and Applicants must undergo a background investigation. Applications may be obtained at the Division of Gaming Office – Licensing in the West Wing of the Justice Complex, 149 County Road 517, Ignacio, Colorado, 81137. Applications and letter of interest are required to be turned into the Division of Gaming Office. These positions are open until filled. Any questions can be answered by the Division of Gaming at 970-563-0180.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE Wildlife Advisory Board Vacancy Southern Ute Tribal Members

Open until filled – The Tribe is seeking enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members to fill TWO seats on the Tribal Member Wildlife Advisory Board. The 8-member Board works closely with the Wildlife Division on planning and recommending actions related to tribal hunting and fishing programs. Board members not already employed by the Tribe receive \$20 per hour of meeting attendance. Meetings are held roughly on a quarterly basis throughout the year, and a commitment to attend and participate in all meetings is expected. Interested Tribal Members must submit a brief letter of interest that includes a description of the applicant's knowledge and experience with wildlife, hunting, or fishing, on and off of the Southern Ute Reservation. In addition, as a condition of appointment to the Board, applicants must submit a standard job application through the Tribe's Human Resources Department, as well as agree to a State of Colorado background check. Please submit letter of interest to the Southern Ute Wildlife Division at P.O. Box 737, Ignacio CO 81137. For more information, please contact the Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130.

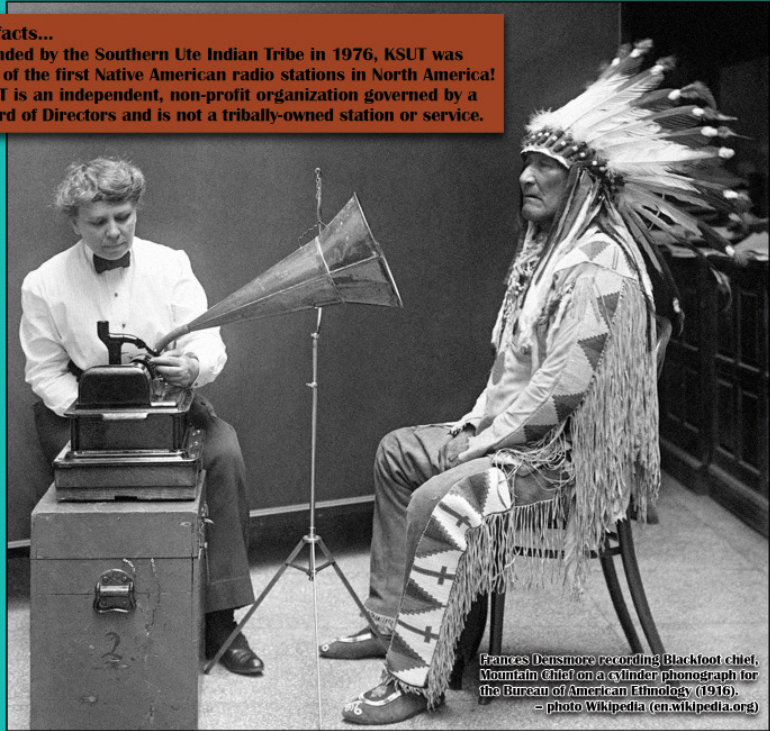
Ignacio Creative District Board Vacancy

Open until filled – Put your creativity and opinions to use in helping our community! Ignacio Creative District has an opening for a new Board Member position. Applications can be picked up and submitted at the Ignacio Community Library.

KSUT IS YOUR RADIO STATION KSUT seeks one (1) enrolled Southern Ute tribal member to serve on the KSUT Board of Directors

KSUT facts...

- Founded by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in 1976, KSUT was one of the first Native American radio stations in North America!
- KSUT is an independent, non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors and is not a tribally-owned station or service.



To apply: Submit a letter of interest to KSUT Executive Director, Tami Graham at tami@ksut.org or mail to P.O. Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137 • Questions? Call 970-563-0255

KSUT Board of Director Duties:

- Advance KSUT's mission as a community-supported public broadcasting organization serving Ignacio and the Four Corners community
- Monitor financial performance and adherence to budget
- Participate in fundraising and community events
- Serve as representatives and advocates of KSUT
- Oversee the Executive Director and execution of the strategic plan

Desired Skills: Knowledge of the Southern Ute community; Dedicated; and a Committed team player.

SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION DEPT. Johnson O'Malley Committee Vacancy

JOM has TWO (2) vacant seats that need filling. If you are interested, please submit a letter to Ellen S. Baker at the Southern Ute Education Department or if you have any question you can contact her at 970-563-0235 or by email: esbaker@southernute-nsn.gov. Requirements: Two-year term; Meet once a month as a

committee; and You must have a student(s) attending Ignacio and/or Bayfield School District K-12 (enrolled with JOM program). Write a letter of interest on why you would like to be a part of the committee. What changes do you want to see in order to help our JOM students?

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Southern Ute Indian Tribe Building Maintenance – Justice Center

Proposals requested for the construction and installation of a new backup generator & control system to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Justice Center.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Building Maintenance/Property and Facilities
970-563-0261/970-563-2945

Proposals due no later than Dec. 31, 2020

New backup generator to include all associated controls. The Southern-Ute Indian Tribe's (SUIT) Building Maintenance Division requests a written response to the Request for Proposal (RFP).

Please call Building Maintenance to schedule on site visits for building your proposals. Please email your proposals to the entire project team. All services to be provided by the selected contractor shall be in accordance and agreement with the Southern Ute Tribes contract process with specific requirements for working on the reservation. Project managers can answer questions. The selected contractor will be responsible for procurement and payment for any subcontracted services, reports, materials, surveys, documents, copies, public notices, public meetings, travel, expenses, and any other item(s) or services required to complete the scope of work.

SUIT TERO Requirements/Native American Preference/Crossing Permits

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe has adopted a Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO) Code, which is to be observed by all businesses operating on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

This RFP is an unrestricted solicitation, with Indian preference given to qualified Indian Owned economic enterprises and Indian Organizations. Firms desiring Native American preference for selection must be certified through the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's TERO Office as an Indian-Owned Business. For those firms seeking Native American preference, this is a mandatory requirement, regardless of any other registration or certification that may exist with other tribal TERO offices, agencies, or affiliations. The TERO policy must be applied to your selection of consultants and/or sub-contractors when putting together your bid proposal. For the purposes of this bid solicitation a 5% bid preference will be given to all TERO Certified Indian Owned Businesses. The firm awarded the contract will be responsible for paying a TERO fee at the end of the project which will amount to 4% of the final contract amount. This should be included in your Fee proposal. The firm awarded the contract and all subcontractors will be responsible for obtaining and paying for crossing permits for the duration of the project. This should be included in your Fee proposal. For more information about crossing permits please contact the Southern Ute Lands Division at 970-563-0126

For more information Contact TERO at; Southern Ute Indian Tribe TERO Office
970-563-0117
P.O. Box 737
Ignacio, CO 81137

NOTICE OF DRAFT TITLE V OPERATING PERMIT AND REQUEST FOR COMMENT

Notice is hereby given that an initial and a renewal Title V applications have been submitted to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Environmental Programs Division's Air Quality Program (AQP) for the following source of air pollution:

- **Applicant: Red Cedar Gathering Co.**
Facility: Midway Compressor Station
Section 23, T33N R7W, 3.5 miles southeast of Ignacio, Colorado
This source is a natural gas compression facility
- **Applicant: BP America Production Co.**
Facility: Salvador I/II Central Delivery Point
Section 28, T33N R7W, 2.5 miles south of Ignacio, Colorado
This source is a natural gas compression facility

Significant comments were received on a draft Title V renewal permit. The draft permit has been revised and the following source is undergoing public comment a second time:

- **Applicant: Red Cedar Gathering Co.**
Facility: Arkansas Loop and Simpson Treating Plants
Section 1, T32N R9W, 9.3 miles southwest of Ignacio, Colorado
This source is a production field facility

The AQP has prepared the draft Title V operating permits based on the information submitted by the applicants. The draft permits and accompanying statement of basis are available on the AQP's website at www.southernute-nsn.gov/environmental-programs/air-quality/air-permitting/, and at the Environmental Programs Division office at 71 Mike Frost Way, Ignacio CO, 81137 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit and request a hearing. Written comments and requests for hearings may be sent to the AQP in care of Danny Powers, Air Quality Program Manager, at P.O. Box 737 MS#84, Ignacio, Colorado 81137; or emailed to dpowers@southernute-nsn.gov.

Any hearing request should: 1) identify the individual or group requesting the hearing, 2) state his or her address and phone number, and 3) state the reason(s) for the request. Notice of any public hearing will be provided at least 30 days in advance of the hearing.

The AQP will consider the written public comments and requests for a hearing that are received within 30 days of this notice (November 6, 2020).

NOTICE OF RE-OPENING OF THE LA BOCA BRIDGE



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum



FOOD DISTRIBUTION NOTICE
Free Wooden Pallets

Food Distribution provides free pallets every month, the pallets are open for anyone to come and pick up and are at a first come first serve basis.



photo by Possum1500

Please call 970-563-2531 for more information.

Before the Southern Ute Ethics Commission
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Case No. 2020-07

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING
HEARING DATE: Monday, Dec. 7, 2020
TIME: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Virtual via WebEx
IN THE MATTER OF THE ETHICS COMPLAINT FILED:
COMPLAINANT:
Southern Ute Veterans Association
RESPONDENT:
Cheryl Frost,
Tribal Council Vice-Chairman

This matter came before the Ethics Commission (Commission) on October 15, 2020, for a determination as to whether there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent, Cheryl Frost, committed an ethics violation in this case and, if probable cause were found, to set the matter for hearing, pursuant to § 19-5-106. A quorum of the Commission was present with Commissioner Pearl Casias presiding due to the absence of the Chairman Eddie Box, Jr. Commissioner Raymond Baker disqualified himself due to a conflict of interest and was not in attendance. Chris Mimmack was present as Ethics Office Director, and Commission attorney Patricia A. Hall, Maynes, Bradford, Shipp & Sheftel, LLP, was present as legal advisor. The Commission, having previously been provided the Complaint, the Investigator's report, and Director Mimmack's report, inquired as to whether Ms. Frost had submitted a response and was informed she had not. At the request of the Commission, Director Mimmack then read his report, after which the Commission unanimously determined that there was probable cause to believe that the Respondent had violated § 19-2-104 (Abuse of Authority) and § 19-2-111 (Intimidation) of the Ethics Code through her communications with a Tribal employee concerning the Southern Ute Veterans Association. With regard to the allegation of violation of § 19-2-119 (Retaliation), the Commission voted to dismiss this alleged violation because any events supporting the allegation would have occurred after the filing of the Complaint and, therefore, there was insufficient evidence in the investigation submitted to support a finding of probable cause.

CITATIONS TO ETHICS CODE:
The Administrative hearing will be conducted in accordance with Article 6 and other applicable provisions of the Ethics Code.
§ 19-2-101. Abuse of Authority: No tribal official shall use or attempt to use his or her authority or position to influence the consideration of any business agreement or to interfere with the administration of the Tribe pursuant to established policies and procedures, including, without limitations, applicable personnel policies and procedures. No tribal official shall take any action or make any decisions on behalf of the Tribe unless he or she is so authorized.
§ 19-2-111. Intimidation: No Tribal official shall improperly or unduly intimidate or attempt to intimidate any person, including the use of unreasonable implied or direct threats.
§ 19-2-119. Retaliation: It shall be a violation of this Code for any tribal official to retaliate against a person.
HEARING:
On Friday, November 13 a motion was filed with the AAHO requesting a continuance for the hearing to be rescheduled. Both parties were in agreement to change the hearing date. The motion was granted by AAHO on November 13, 2020. Pursuant to § 19-6-101 (2), AAHO will preside over the hearing before the Commission, which has been re-scheduled to occur on Monday, December 7, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. at the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Court.
RIGHT TO LEGAL COUNSEL:
§ 19-6-1 06. Representation. Each party may be represented by legal counsel or other representative of their choice at their own expense.
DEFAULT FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR:
§ 19-6-110. Default. Where a respondent, after being properly notified of the hearing, does not appear for the hearing, the Commission shall hear the evidence and may enter a default against the respondent and proceed to impose penalties as prescribed in Article 7.

Date: 11/17, 2020
Chris Mimmack,
Justice & Regulatory Director
Ethics Director

Ute Mountain Ute Personnel Dept.

Attention: We prefer all applications by email Carla.Cuthair@utemountain.org or ceyetoo@utemountain.org or fax to 970-564-5528. Thank you.

Job Openings as of Nov. 30, 2020

- Finance, Full-time Switchboard Operator – Closing 12/22/20
- Public Safety, Security (3) – Closing 12/11/20
- Shelter, Full-time/Part-time House Parent – Open Until Filled
- Public Health, COVID Nurse Case Investigator – Open Until Filled
- Energy, Director – Open Until Filled
- Child Development Center, Part-time Assistant Cook – Open Until Filled
- Child Development Center, Full-time Day Care Teacher – Open Until Filled
- Diabetes Program/White Mesa, CNA/Health Technician – Open Until Filled
- Judicial Services, Bailiff – Open Until Filled
- Social Services, Case Worker I – Open Until Filled
- Social Services, Preservation Case Worker – Open Until Filled
- Diabetes Prevention, Diabetes Nurse – Open Until Filled
- Child Development Center, Family Service Manager – Open Until Filled
- Mineral Audit, Auditor – Open Until Filled
- Public Safety, Police Officer – Open Until Filled

SASO is hiring!
Join our amazing team to make a difference!
More details available on indeed.com

Cultural Outreach Coordinator II

Closes 12/10/20 – SASO is hiring an enthusiastic, team oriented, cultural outreach and advocacy staff to provide direct services to community with focus on local underserved populations including Native American, LatinX, LGBTQ+, elder, youth, homeless, etc., based in our Ignacio office. Duties include: direct advocacy to sexual assault victims, community presentations, event planning, volunteer recruiting, training, development, grant reporting and admin duties. BA or 2 years' field experience, Spanish fluent preferred. Full-time, \$18/19 hour start + benefits. Send cover letter and resume to rhonda@durangosaso.org through Dec. 10, 2020.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe • Job announcements

Visit the the tribe's website at www.southernute-nsn.gov/jobs for complete job descriptions. If you need help filling out an online application, please come the Human Resources office and we are happy to assist you on our applicant computer stations.
ALL EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE
Applicants and employees, be sure the HR Dept. has your current contact information on file. Human Resources accepts applications for temporary employment on an ongoing basis.
Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Human Resources • P.O. Box 737 - Ignacio, CO 81137
Phone: 970-563-0100 ext. 2424 • Fax: 970-563-0302 • Hotline: 970-563-4777

Senior Probation Officer

Closes 12/16/20 – Under direct supervision of Chief Probation Officer & Court Administrator represents the Tribal Court in a positive and professional manner in the provision of probation counseling to tribal members and serves as Wellness Court Case Manager. Pay grade 18; \$18.96/hour.

Air Quality Analyst

Closes 12/14/20 – Under general supervision of the Air Quality Program Manager, provides oversight and management of the Air Quality Monitoring Program and technical assistance to the Air Quality Planning and Assessment team within the Tribal Air Quality Program. Position is grant funded; continued employment is contingent on renewed funding. Pay grade 19; \$21.32/hour.

Detention Officer

Closes 12/4/20 – Under general supervision of the Detention Sergeant, maintains the safety and welfare of inmates and visitors and monitors all activities within the detention center. Pay grade 17; \$17.20/hour.

Social Services Division Head

Closes 12/14/20 – Day-to-day operation and management of the Southern Ute Tribal Social Services Division, in accordance with the guidelines (fiscal, philosophical, and programmatic) established and approved by the Tribal Council. Manages programs and services including child/adult welfare protective services, family, group, and individual therapy, BIA General Assistance, Low Income Energy Assistance Program, Title IV B –Foster Care Program, Colorado State Human Services and related Programs and Contract/Grants. Pay grade 23; \$69,597/year.

Associate Internal Auditor Trainee

Open Until Filled – Southern Ute tribal members only. A trainee position for a Southern Ute Tribal member interested in a career in Internal Audit with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Will learn how to perform beginning level professional internal auditing procedures for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe of routine difficulty involving a variety of auditing tasks that include, assessing risk and identifying control deficiencies, unnecessary spending, and inefficient operations. Length of this program is designed to last one (1) year but may be extended or reduced based on circumstances. Upon successful completion of training curriculum requirements, incumbent will assume the Associate Internal Auditor position. Position will start at 20% below entry level for a grade 20 and be subject to quarterly evaluations and pay increases.

Clinical Supervisor

Open Until Filled – A senior level position that provides Clinical Supervision to staff Caseworkers providing a full range of intake and/or ongoing social casework services for a variety of program areas such as child abuse and neglect cases, youth-in-conflict cases, and adults unable to protect their own interests. Provides clinical supervision and oversees Family Preservation and the Foster Care Program Coordinator. Pay grade 22; \$61,872/year.

Community Health Representative

Open Until Filled – Providing assistance and the coordination and development of activities for elderly and physically or mentally disabled Tribal Members. Performs community health duties to include patient transport and monitoring, home visits, conducting classes, and providing community education on Tribal health issues. Home Care may include house cleaning, personal hygiene, preparing meals, and other health and wellness related activities. Pay grade 13; \$12/hour.

Dental Assistant

Open Until Filled – Under dentist supervision, Perio-Dental Assistant is responsible for a wide range of tasks in the Southern Ute Health Center dental office including, but not limited to, providing chair side dental assistance, administrative and records duties and radiology functions. Pay grade 20; \$23.51/hour.

Detention Cook

Open Until Filled – Assisting the Food Service Coordinator to facilitate all kitchen food service preparation and cleaning duties. Pay grade 13; \$12/hour.

Detention Transport Officer

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision

of the Detention Sergeant, incumbent maintains the safety and welfare of inmates and visitors and monitors all inmate activities within and outside of the detention center. Transportation of inmates to and from other facilities, medical appointments, and court appearances. Pay grade 18; \$18.96/hour.

Elementary Teacher

Open Until Filled – A professional teaching position with the Private Education Department. An employee in this position uses the Montessori philosophy to provide Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy students with a developmentally appropriate learning environment meeting the physical, social/emotional, cognitive, and cultural needs of the child. Communicate effectively with parents/guardians about their child's progress in each domain area. Position is paid on the Education Scale.

Medical Assistant (Temporary)

Open Until Filled – A Medical Assistant position providing professional and clinical services. Pay grade 17; \$17.20/hour.

Patrol Officer

Open Until Filled – Patrols the Southern Ute Indian Reservation and is responsible for preserving the life and property of all citizens within the Tribal Community. Pay grade 19 / \$21.32/hour.

Patrol Officer Trainee

Open Until Filled – A trainee position for uncertified individuals interested in a career in law enforcement with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Will be required to attend and successfully complete an approved basic police-training course. Upon completion of the required trainings and certifications, incumbent will assume the position of Patrol Officer. Pay grade 17; \$17.20/hour.

Physical Education Teacher

Open Until Filled – A professional teaching position with the Private Education Department. An employee in this position uses the Montessori philosophy to provide Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy students with a developmentally appropriate learning environment meeting the physical, social/emotional, cognitive, and cultural needs of the child. Communicate effectively with parents/guardians about their child's progress in each domain area, primarily in the context of Physical Education. Position is paid on the Education Scale.

Physical Therapist (Part-time w/ benefits)

Open Until Filled – A professional position within the Department of Private Education. Works with Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy students in need of physical therapy services. Pay grade 20; \$23.51/hour.

Security Officer

Open Until Filled – Will provide security for throughout Tribal Campus. Duties will include patrolling and observing the activities of persons in and around the Moache Capote building. Work involves assessing problem situations and exercising tact and judgment in bringing about their resolution. Pay grade 15; \$14.22/hour.

Substance Abuse Program Lead Therapist

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Behavioral Health Manager, provides mental health, substance abuse, and dual diagnosis treatment. Will supervise day-to-day services, counselors, and therapists within the Substance Abuse program, including CAC-I / CAT and CAC-II / CAS counselors working to achieve CAC-III / CAS credentialing. Grant funded; continued employed is contingent on grant funds. Pay grade 23; \$69,597.00/year

TEAM Worker

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

TERO Worker

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

TERO Business Hours

8 a.m. – 12 noon • Monday – Friday, unless a Tribal/Federal holiday
Call 970-563-0117

If you come to the TERO office in person, wear a mask, and temperature will be taken upon entry of the department.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION NOTICE
Wasted Produce

Food Distribution wasted produce: available, open to anyone.
Please call 970-563-2531 to schedule a pick up.
Produce is great livestock or garden composting.

<https://www.usda.gov/foodwaste/faqs>



FLY FISHING

Looks and Nudges

By Don Oliver
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

The high country is snowed in, the Reservation and the San Juan River are closed, the lakes are icing over; the Animas is our fallback. And, frankly, it is a good fallback. From the Purple Cliffs upstream to the hatchery there are lots of trout to be found. Even though the water is shallow in many places, there are lots of riffles with water deep enough for fish to hide. Also, the water flowing on either side of big rocks provides great pools for trout to look for food. I have to say, finding trout in the Animas is like hunting Easter eggs. If you look close enough, you'll find them. However, catching them is an entirely different matter.

I talked with a couple of people I know, that are really good fly fishers, and they both said use a size #22-fly attached to a size 7X-tippet, and you'll catch fish. That's great for people with young eyes and enough dexterity to be an orthopedic surgeon. For those of us with old eyes, and hands as rough as the skin of a shark, those sizes won't work. To make those sizes work, us old guys would have to hire a 16-year-old seamstress to tie our flies on, and yell "strike" (older fly fishers can be hard of hearing) whenever a fish attacked our fly. However, the chances of those youngsters' parents letting them hang out with an old person whose vocabulary consists of sentences constructed of four-letter words, and likes to smoke cigars, are remote. Having that youngster



So, as you wade up and down the Animas, pay close attention to the ripples with a little depth, or the pools formed as the river flows around big rocks.

stand beside me just doesn't sound like much fun. So, I've invented a new game for us old folks that like to fly fish. It's called Looks and Nudges. To begin the game you have to tie your own fly to your leader. An exception to this rule will be made if you're legally blind, or on medication for arthritis of the hands. The leader cannot be any finer than a 5X and your fly has to be your favorite dry, size-18 or larger. Once those criteria are met it is time to move onto the water. It is permissible to have a fly fishing assistant stand beside you to help with balance. Once in the river, may

the best fly fisher win. The scoring for this game rewards points for not hooking or landing a fish. Every time you see a trout look at your fly you get one point. Every time a trout nudges your fly you get two points. If, during the looking and nudging, you hook a trout, you lose two points.

Furthermore, if you land the fish you lose five points. Using this point system your hands will stay dry and warm, and the trout will not be stressed out. This seems like a win-win contest. Imagine getting back to the truck, at the end of the day, and the winner is someone that has gone to the ultimate level of fly fishing. No net was needed, no grip and grin photos taken. Just the pure enjoyment of fooling trout to look at, or nudge your fly. Plus, using a fly you can see, is another added bonus. It's like golf on the honor system. The most convincing storyteller wins.

So, as you wade up and down the Animas, pay close attention to the ripples with a little depth, or the pools formed as the river flows around big rocks.

As this year of columns ends, I want to first thank each of you for reading them, and in some cases actually having something nice to say about them. Next, I will once again leave you with my annual politically incorrect statement. I wish everyone Feliz Navidad, Happy Hanukkah, a good Eid al-Adha and, of course, Merry Christmas. If none these fits your beliefs, then may whatever touches your heart with hope be with you for all of 2021.

GUN SAFETY

REDUCING MEANS TO SUICIDE AND HARM.

PROJECT

COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE'S NATIVE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION, WILDLIFE DIVISION AND SOUTHERN UTE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

FREE

PLEASE CALL ANY OF THESE LOCATIONS TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PICK UP YOUR GUN LOCK.

SOUTHERN UTE WILDLIFE DIVISION 970-563-0130

SOUTHERN UTE POLICE DEPARTMENT 970-563-4401

SOUTHERN UTE HEALTH CENTER 970-563-4581

FOR ALL NATIVE AMERICANS LIVING ON THE SOUTHERNUTE INDIAN RESERVATION.

For more information, please contact the Southern Ute Native Connections Program at 970-563-2487.

The Southern Ute Drum's Crossword Puzzle

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

- Across**

1 Giraffe's main feature

5 Like a swamp

10 App installer's contract

11 --- Nose, Ute thought by many to have killed Custer

13 Small songbird

14 Livestock lunch site

15 Perfectly

17 Tarry

18 Plump

19 "Buyer beware" phrase

21 Egg containers

23 Balloon polyester

27 Engrave with acid

29 It'll never get off the ground in Australia

30 The --- Caliente Band of the Cahuilla, Southern California

33 The Akimel ---, or Pima

35 Light bright chestnut horse

37 Some heavy planters

38 Lake between Como and Maggiore

39 Give up, particularly by treaty

40 Brother of Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail

41 Salver
- Down**

1 Former Southern Ute Chairman Jimmy ---

2 2nd smallest continent

3 Marine rope fasteners

4 German philosopher Immanuel ---

5 Betsy fried computer disk units

6 Poet's "above"

7 Smooth and shiny

8 Oversupply

9 Indian exercise method

12 For what

16 "It is the --- , and Juliet is the sun!" (Shakespeare, "Romeo and Juliet")

20 "If you ask me", in texts

22 Try to rip

24 Musical satirist Tom ---

25 --- Blackhorse, Navajo activist

26 California Coast Range rancheria

28 The annual --- Run, at Ignacio Middle School

30 Lipreading alternative

31 Climb

32 Exhort

34 Enclosed conduit

36 Direction from Lansing to Flint

Answers for this crossword will appear in Dec. 18 issue of the Drum.

Answers for Nov. 20, 2020 Crossword Puzzle:

Across: 1 Lad, 4 Dos, 7 Bag, 10 Ode, 11 Ure, 12 LBO, 13 Win, 14 Car seat, 16 Lei, 17 Klamath, 18 Yuma, 20 Spikes, 21 Gruel, 23 McNair, 26 Edam, 30 Iron Age, 32 Ewe, 33 Totaled, 34 Dat, 35 Eau, 36 Tog, 37 RRR, 38 STP, 39 One, 40 Ado.

Down: 1 Lowly, 2 Adieu, 3 Denim, 4 Duck, 5 Oral surgeon, 6 Serape, 7 Bleak, 8 Abate, 9 Goths, 15 Smile, 19 Agana, 22 Rialto, 23 Mites, 24 Croat, 25 Not up, 27 Dedra, 28 Award, 29 Metro, 31 Edge.



did you know?



97% of the earth's water is found in the oceans!

Source: <https://www.usbr.gov/mp/arwec/water-facts-ww-water-sup.html>

Please contact the Environmental Programs Division General Assistance Program Manager, Jeff Seebach at 970-563-2272 or jseebach@southernute-nsn.gov with any questions, comments or concerns.

Air Quality in real time!

Friendly reminder – you can visit the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Environmental Programs Division Ambient Air Quality Monitoring page to find updates on air quality throughout the Southern Ute Indian Reservation as well as real-time EPA Air Quality Index health forecasts.



The link to the Tribe's Air Quality Stations:
www.southernute-nsn.gov/justice-and-regulatory/epd/air-quality/ambient-monitoring/

LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Your weekend forecast!

Friday, Dec. 4



47°F sunny
Calm afternoon winds

Saturday, Dec. 5



51°F sunny

Sunday, Dec. 6



51°F sunny

Weather forecasts collected from www.weather.gov

