



Southern Utes continue Covid testing

PAGE 5



Real estate smart move for SUGF

PAGE 9

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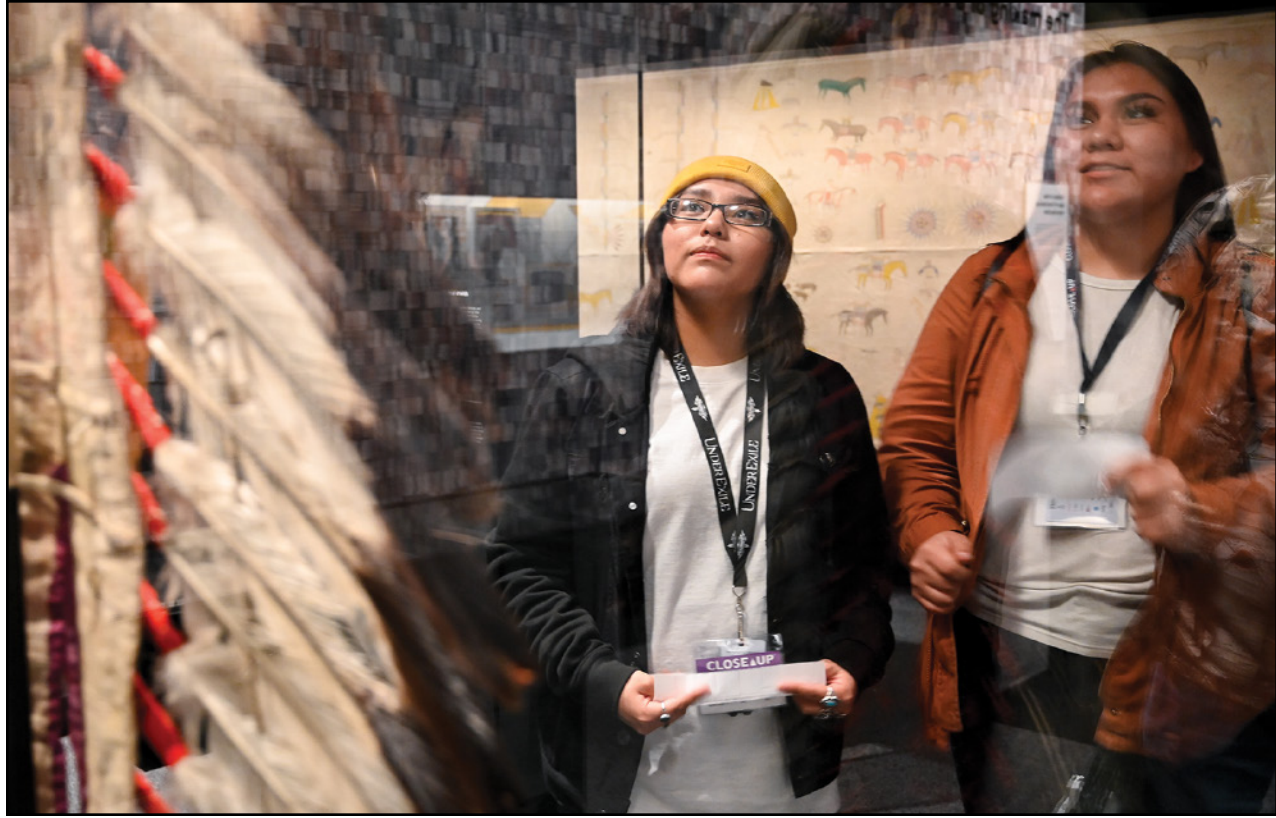
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January 15, 2021

Vol. LIII, No. 1

2020: A Year in Review

YOUTH COUNCIL IN D.C.



McKayla Lee/SU Drum archive

While 2020 got off to a good start, the pandemic quickly shifted our everyday lives, and priorities as a community. The past twelve months will be remembered as a time in history where hardship was met with resiliency. The Southern Ute Tribe addressed the pandemic head on, putting protocols in place for the health and benefit of the tribal community. Before the country went into lock down, the Drum travelled to DC for the Native Youth Summit and Denver’s Capitol, where Gov. Polis signed a House Bill in support of more inclusivity for tribal youth. Schools got creative in honoring their graduates and tribal departments took advantage of the stay-at-home order, to get big projects underway, such as the revitalization of the historic La Boca Bridge. See more highlights on pages 10-11.

COLORADO YOUTH COUNCIL



Trennie Collins/SU Drum archive

A HISTORIC GRADUATION



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum archive

LA BOCA BRIDGE REPAIRED



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Chairman Baker selects Olguin to lead Permanent Fund

Staff report

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Southern Ute Tribal Chairman Melvin J. Baker has appointed James M. “Mike” Olguin as the Executive Officer over the Southern Ute Permanent Fund.

“The role and responsibility of Executive Officer is vast and requires an individual with exceptional communication, time management, conflict resolution, problem solving skills while also working as a liaison between the tribal membership, tribal departments, and the tribal leadership,” stated Chairman Baker. “As we begin the new year under a new Chairman and Vice Chairman, I also wanted to begin with sharing my appointment of a new Executive Officer. It is important to me to take the necessary time to select the right individual for this role.”

The prominent position provides administrative support and guidance to Tribal Departments in accordance with Tribal Policies and Procedures and legal requirements as delegated by the Tribal Chairman; ensuring that the tribal membership receive quality services in an equitable manner and within established program guidelines and approved budgetary limitations. The office must also work to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the Department plans and programs to ensure that they are achieving the purpose for which they were intended.



James M. Olguin
Executive Officer

ing the purpose for which they were intended.

Olguin enters the office with a large amount of experience. He served on Tribal Council for a total of nine years, including three years as Vice Chairman and two years as Treasurer, and has served twice as Executive Officer under Chairman Leonard C. Burch and Chairman Clement J. Frost.

“I take this appointment with great honor and humbleness with a clear drive and motivation to serve the people of our tribe in administering and managing the affairs of the Permanent Fund to the level of expectations of the Chairman, and Tribal Council, utilizing the work of the professional staff and their charge in carrying out the duties that serve the membership,” stated Olguin. “It is my intent to ensure we have an administration that is progressive, yet accountable in its day-to-day functions and tasks. I look forward to the challenges but know there are a lot of hard-working teams that will assist me in carrying out my duties.”

ward to the challenges but know there are a lot of hard-working teams that will assist me in carrying out my duties.”

Olguin has also worked as the Vice President of Regulatory Management for Sky Ute Sand and Gravel, Director of Natural Resources, and as Supervisor for the Wildlife Conservation Office. Olguin also brings a plethora of experience from serving on the following tribal committees: Growth Fund Management Committee, Red Cedar Gathering Company Management Committee, Permanent Fund Budget Committee, Southern Ute Indian Tribe Audit Committee, Growth Fund Tribal Member Employment Advisory Committee, and Permanent Fund Credit Committee among others.

“I believe Mr. Olguin will work alongside Tribal Council and my office in the best interests of the tribal membership and the tribal organization. His experience makes him an ideal candidate for the role as Executive Officer and provides him with both the knowledge and ability to implement my vision of progress,” expressed Chairman Baker. “I would also like to thank Mrs. Barbara Scott-Rarick and her commitment to a smooth transition as well as an extension of her appointment while I pursued a successor.”

Chairman Baker will appoint a second Executive Officer in the coming weeks.

CORONAVIRUS

Understanding the Covid-19 vaccine

By Dr. Mark Saddler
DURANGO NEPHROLOGY ASSOCIATES

The Covid-19 pandemic has been a catastrophic event which has affected all aspects of our lives. There have been 1.9 million deaths from this infection worldwide, with 373,000 deaths in the United States. At this time, the pandemic is not under control and there are currently about 4,000 deaths per day in the U.S. due to

Covid-19 page 5



courtesy NIH/NAIAD

Dr. Anthony Fauci, NIAID Director, gives the thumbs up sign after receiving the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at the HHS/NIH COVID-19 Vaccine Kick-Off event Dec. 22, 2020.

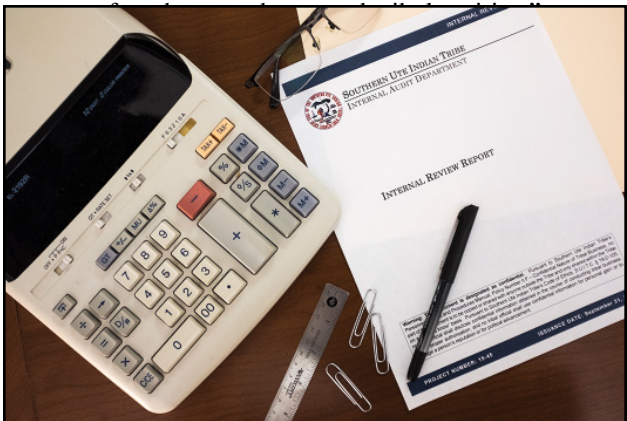
INTERNAL AUDIT

Tribe consolidates Internal Audit, seeks associate internal auditor trainee

By Brian Bex
SOUTHERN UTE INTERNAL AUDIT

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe recently consolidated its internal audit function. Prior to the consolidation, both the Permanent Fund and Growth Fund had their own internal audit departments. Under the reorganization, the consolidated Internal Audit Dept. reports directly to Tribal Council and works closely with each of the tribal divisions, including the Permanent Fund, Growth Fund, Southern Ute Shared Services, and Sky Ute Resort Casino.

The realignment of the internal audit function will assist Tribal Council, as the governing body of the Tribe, with ensuring accountability across the organization and promoting good gov-



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

assurance, advisory, and non-audit services. Tribal Council approves these audit engagements each year as part of an audit plan.

Carolyne Washington, Southern Ute tribal member and auditor within the department, said, “I believe that this Department is an essential component for our government

services include activities such as assisting, facilitating, or performing agreed-upon activities with process owners in order to achieve organizational objectives, or to improve efficiencies and effectiveness.

Internal auditors carefully document results in

Internal Audit page 2



courtesy Colorado State Senate

Hickenlooper took the oath of office alongside his wife, Robin and son, Teddy.

STATE OF COLORADO

Hickenlooper sworn in as U.S. Senator for Colorado

Staff Report
COLORADO STATE SENATE

U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper issued the following statement today after taking the oath of office to serve Colorado in the U.S. Senate:

“It’s an honor to be sworn in today to represent the great state of Colorado in the United States Senate.

I’m grateful for the trust and faith Coloradans have placed in me, and looking forward to bringing your voices to Washington to tackle our country’s most pressing issues. The challenges ahead are grave, but with hard work, common sense, and collaboration we can move forward together and emerge from this pandemic more resilient. We’re

excited to get to work and deliver for Coloradans in every corner of the state.”
Hickenlooper – A former Colorado governor, Denver mayor, small businessman and geologist – has spent the last twenty years bringing people together to find solutions to challenges facing Colorado and is excited to continue that work in Washington.

ICL welcomes new sign



photos Fabian Martinez/SU Drum

Library Staff Member, Ron Schermacher; Volunteer, Bruce Adams; Contractor, David Vining and Volunteer Andrew Vining stabilize the new sign so it can be installed properly. The new sign will feature library events, updates for the Ignacio community and will highlight those services the library provides during the COVID-19 pandemic.



The sign sits directly across from Farmers Fresh Market on the corner of Goddard Ave. and Pioneer Street in good view of traffic coming through Ignacio.

Volunteer, Andrew Vining and Contractor, David Vining carry half of a new electronic sign for the Ignacio Community Library on Thursday, Jan. 7. The Ignacio Community Library received a grant in January of 2020 from the USDA and the El Pomar Foundation to construct a canopy that can be taken down seasonally as well as the new sign.

INTERNAL AUDIT SEEKS TRAINEE • FROM PAGE 1

a written report that is presented directly to the Tribal Council. Each audit report includes a description of the work performed plus specific findings and recommendations. After the completion of each audit, the department performs a follow-up to verify whether recommendations to address each finding have been implemented.

The department is currently seeking a Southern Ute tribal member to become an Associate Internal Auditor Trainee. The trainee will learn how to per-

form beginning level professional internal auditing procedures. The position is currently being advertised.

Because of the magnitude of these responsibilities, employees of the department adhere to a stringent code of ethics by incorporating independence, objectivity, integrity, and confidentiality within each audit activity performed.

In addition, auditors in the department must adhere to the professional standards of the Institute of Internal Auditors, an international organization. The responsi-

bilities of an internal auditor include maintaining ethical behavior and transparency, evaluating practices, assessing operational results, ensuring accuracy, reviewing policies and procedures, and when appropriate, investigating whistle-blower allegations.

Tribal members are encouraged to apply for the Associate Internal Auditor Trainee position. For further information regarding the position, please contact the Director of the Internal Audit Department, Brian M. Bex at 970-563-0100.

Many Moons Ago



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

Ignacio drum group, 12 Gauge, sings during the New Year's Celebration Powwow on Dec. 31, 2010 in the High School Gymnasium.

This photo was first published in the Jan. 14, 2011, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.

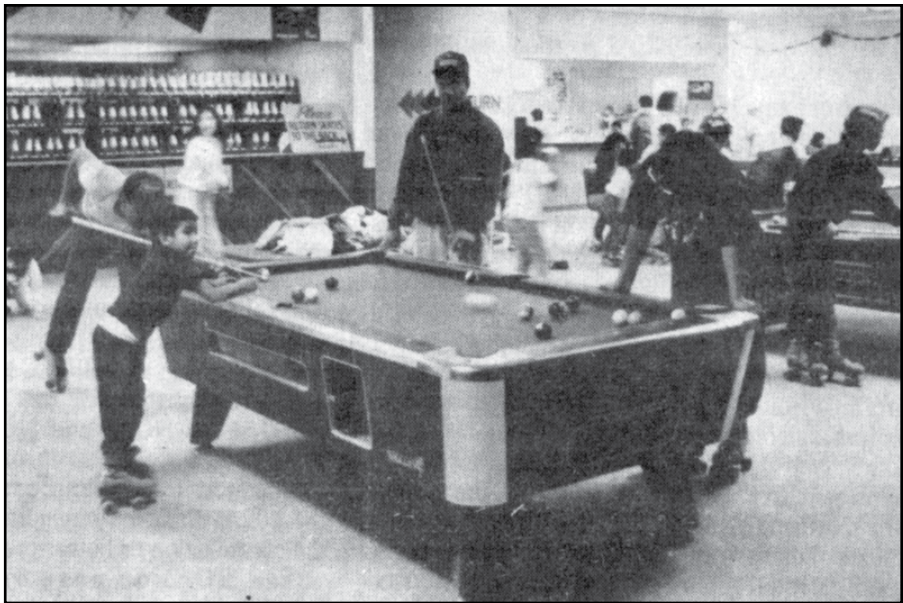


courtesy Gail Pena/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

Youth Alcohol Prevention Specialist, Sonya Keller (left) and BIA Highway Safety Coordinator, Gail Pena are all smiles as they pose with some of the candy stockings that were handed out to the many motorists who came through the DUI Safety checkpoints on the night of Dec. 22, 2000.

This photo was published in the Jan. 12, 2001, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

30 years ago

Shooting the “Eight Ball” in a game of pool was the fancy of several young tribal members who participated in the Josten's Learning Lab activities during the Christmas, New Year's school break. From left to right are T.J. Herrera, Chaperones Brian Frost and Robert Howe, and Tyson Thompson.

This photo was published in the Jan. 11, 1991, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Members of the Tribal Health Services Personnel completed their basic CHR training in Talihina, Oklahoma. Pictured (left-right) are Karen Pinnecoose; Stanley Frost; Tribal Health Services Coordinator, Mrs. Albert Esparza; temporary secretary, Dusty Baker; Bertha Snow and Kenneth Burch.

This photo was published in the Jan. 16, 1981, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Multi-Purpose Facility January Quilt Project

Quilt as you go, Inspirational Mug Mats



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

Kits will be mailed to the first 12 people
Kits will be available on Monday January 25, 2021

Multi-Purpose Facility January Craft Project



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

Kits will be mailed.

Kits will be available on Monday January 18, 2021

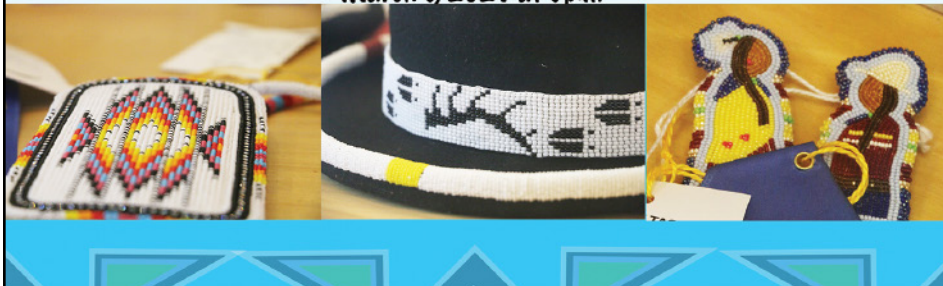
Announcing Virtual Fashion Show

March 29 - April 2, 2021

The Cultural Preservation Department and the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum is hosting a Virtual Fashion Show which is open to all Ute members and descendants. The Virtual Fashion Show is NOT a contest.

Those interested in participating may submit a maximum of five (5) photos of Ute Traditional hand-made items or regalia by mail to the Cultural Preservation Department, Special Events Coordinator Tara Vigil at PO Box 737 Ignacio, CO 81137 or email photos to tvigil@southernute-nsn.gov. Photos need to be sent in a JPG format. Along with the photo(s) please add a description, your name and if you would like, you may add your address, phone number and names of any individual(s) that model your item.

The Virtual Fashion Show will be on display March 29th - April 2nd, 2021 on the Southern Ute Tribal Website. The Deadline for submissions will be March 5, 2021 at 5pm.



For more information contact:
Event Coordinator Tara Vigil at (970) 563-2985 or
Education Outreach Coordinator for SUCCM, SkyDawn Moceasin-Flower
email sflower@southernute-nsn.gov

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ENERGY

Indian Energy honored as 2020 Native American Business of the Year

Staff report
INDIAN ENERGY LLC

Indian Energy LLC was honored by Native Business as the inaugural recipient of the Native Business of the Year Award. The award was presented at the recent Native Business Virtual Summit. The awards program celebrated Native American-owned companies and entrepreneurs who demonstrate courage, innovation and commitment to economic self-sufficiency and prosperity.

"Indian Energy is demonstrating innovation in the energy sector at an unprecedented scale by creating energy storage and microgrid solutions for Tribal Nations and Department of Defense clients, and ultimately playing a vital role in advancing the U.S.'s energy sovereignty," said Cherokee Nation's Gary Davis, the founder, publisher and CEO of Native Business.

"I am delighted – and

grateful – to see Indian Energy viewed as an influential and change-making Native business within North America's exceptional tribal community," said Allen G. Cadreau, the Company's CEO. "We are honored to be recognized by Native Business, an organization whose mission includes the advancement of Native American business and economic development. Through hard work and innovation, Indian Country's talented entrepreneurs have long been advancing, delivering and achieving across all industries, and we hope this honor for our company will further promote and inspire the ongoing development and acknowledgment of the tribal community."

Indian Energy, a 100% Native American-owned utility-scale microgrid development and systems integration firm, was developed in response to an overwhelming desire for sustainable energy independence among

our tribal nations. Founded in 2009 from the wish of a handful of Tribal Nations to pursue a utility-scale power plant, the company, aptly nicknamed "two guys and a dog," grew into an advanced renewable energy development firm. Since this humble beginning, Indian Energy's mission has been to empower Tribal communities with the technical support needed to own and operate energy infrastructure that serves their own citizens. Now certified as a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) and a Minority-owned Business Enterprise (MBE), Indian Energy is rapidly expanding to develop projects and sell renewable energy to military organizations and off-reservation communities in the Southern California region.

The Native Business Virtual Summit presented five awards to recognize businesses and individuals who rose above challenge and circumstance in an extraordinary year.



Attention Tribal Members

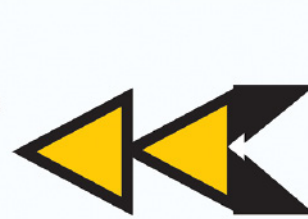
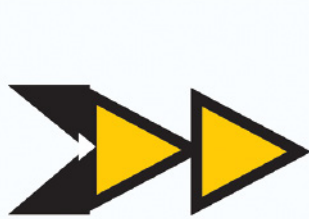


The Southern Ute Cultural Preservation Department is recruiting members for the Mentor's Circle. The member should have the following:

Knowledge of the Ute Language

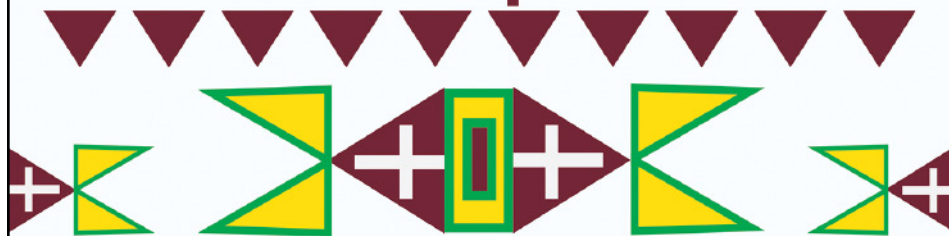
Have experience in working with the Ute Language

The Mentor's Circle will assist in various activities around preservation and revitalization of the Ute language under the ANA grant project initiatives.



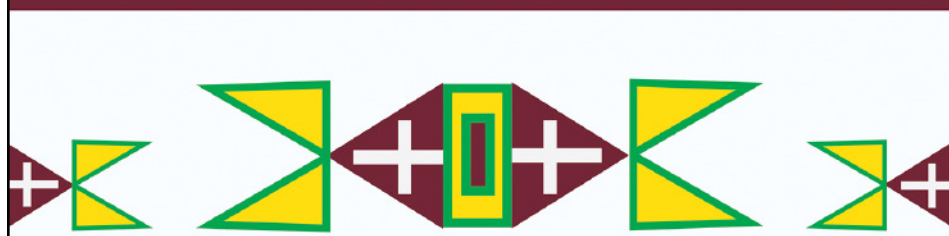
If interested please, contact
Dedra White Eagle, Culture Education Coordinator, at 970-563-2306
or Shelly Thompson, Culture Director, at 970-563-2984.

Attention Southern Ute Tribal Elders and Ute Speakers



The Southern Ute Culture Department is recruiting Tribal Elders and Ute speakers to participate in the ANA Ute Language Initiative

We are recording, audio and video, of Ute words and phrases being spoken



If you would like to participate, please contact
Dedra White Eagle, Culture Education Coordinator
970-563-2306
or Shelly Thompson, Culture Director 970-563-2984



HEALTHY RECIPES

Add fiber and minerals with veggies

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

We know adding vegetables can provide you with additional fiber, vitamins, minerals and other healthful nutrients. Using the vegetable itself as your serving dish is a fun way to serve your meal! Try this twist on the traditional stuffed pepper. Get creative and use your imagination!

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



courtesy Mom's Dish

Mexican Stuffed Peppers

Ingredients:

- 4 bell peppers (any color), cut in half lengthwise, stem cut out and seeded.
- 1 teaspoon olive oil.
- 1 lb. ground chicken or lean turkey.
- 1 tablespoon chili powder.
- 1 teaspoon cumin.
- 1 clove chopped garlic or 1 teaspoon garlic powder.
- 1 teaspoon oregano.
- 1 teaspoon salt.
- 10 oz can green chili and tomatoes (or 4oz green chili and one cup diced tomatoes.)
- 1 1/2 cups cooked brown rice.
- 1 cup 2% shredded Mexican style cheese (Monterey Jack or cheddar, etc.)

- 4. Add chili powder, cumin, garlic, oregano and salt, continue until cooked through, about 5 minutes. You can drain any fat at this point.
- 5. Stir in green chili and tomatoes, simmer another 5 minutes.
- 6. Add rice and toss to combine.
- 7. Fill each pepper half with an even amount of mixture.
- 8. Bake for 15 minutes, top with cheese and bake another 15 minutes.
- 9. Top with any of the following: Salsa, Greek yogurt, fresh cilantro, avocado, green onion.

Servings 8
Nutrition per serving: 218 Calories, 11.3 g fat, 6.4 g Carbohydrates, 1.2 g fiber, 24.3 g Protein

Directions:

- 1. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2. Place peppers in pan, open side up.
- 3. In a large pan, heat olive oil and cook chicken for 5 minutes, stirring to break up.

For a vegetarian dish, use a 15 oz can of black beans instead of meat. Ground elk, buffalo or lean ground beef works great, too!

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEE HEARD: New year, new hope

By Precious Collins
NATIVE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

Welcome 2021!
Well, 2020 came and left in what seems to be a blink of an eye, or as quickly as an eagle flapping its wings. We've had one heck of a year and people across Mother Earth have had to experience life with a global pandemic. Indigenous Peoples have also experienced the ups and downs of the times and have also found resiliency and hope in our culture, traditions, and storytelling. A new light has been lit. More than ever, we as Indigenous People are remembering how resilient we are, how important our stories are, and how important balance is in our lives. The hope we instill in ourselves right now helps to lay down a strong foundation for future survival and our ability to overcome future



obstacles. This is especially important for our youth and their ability to become resilient and hopeful adults. With that said, let's jump into what hope is and how important it is in our lives. What is hope? According to Merriam-Webster: Hope means to cherish a desire with anticipation; to want something to happen or be true; a desire with expectation of obtainment or fulfillment or desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment. We live our lives making decisions based on hope. We shower in hopes of not hav-

ing body odor or in hopes of cleaning our body. We eat healthy in hopes of living a healthier life. The work we do and get paid for, in many cases, is in hopes of changing and improving something. We watch how much alcohol or substance we use in hopes of not becoming addicted or harming our bodies and minds. Hope plays a big role in how we live our lives, decisions we make, and oftentimes helps us avoid pain and suffering.

Why is hope important? Hope is a wonderful word. Even when we feel like we can't move forward, and we can't see that light at the end of the tunnel. Hope tells us there is light at the end of that tunnel, even if we can't see it. When we hope something, we also acknowledge a belief. We can believe that hope exists and that having hope in our lives is important. Now I can't tell you what to believe in or that my hopes are your hopes. That's what's beautiful about this. We can make hope whatever we want it to be and use it when we need it. So, think about a time when someone told you that something was possible and maybe you didn't believe them. What they were really saying is that they have hope for something they wanted to happen. We can adopt that way of thinking and do the work to make it come true.

With that said, 2021 is full of hopes for love, happiness, connection, and whatever else you may want. It's all possible. And yes, there might be bumps in the road and maybe the road gets a little hard to follow at times, but the hope is still there. Please keep moving forward and know that it's okay to talk to someone about your feelings, about your hopes and maybe lack of hope. There are people

BEE Heard page 5

LOCAL RESOURCES

- Southern Ute Health Center:** Behavioral Health Division 69 Capote Drive, Ignacio, CO 970-563-4581. For local Native Americans. We are here to support mental health, substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery. Please call to schedule an appointment to talk to someone.
- 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.
- 24/7 Axis Health Care Hotline:** Durango, CO You're not alone. With our 24/7 crisis services, help is on the way. Your health. We're in this together. 970-247-5245.
- 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

- 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:** Which seeks to serve LGBT youth, has a 24/7 suicide prevention line at 866-488-7386.
- We R Native:** Join the movement by liking them on Facebook (www.facebook.com/weRnative), signing up for the text messaging service (text NATIVE to 24587).



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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**

Pueblo Southwest Community College

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.



COVID-19 VACCINE • FROM PAGE 1

Covid-19; to put this in perspective, the 2001 9/11 attack resulted in a total of 2,977 deaths. In La Plata county to date there have been a total of 2,445 cases resulting in 30 deaths.

Covid-19 disease is caused by a Corona virus; its scientific name is SARS CoV 2. Some people who become infected with this virus develop few or no symptoms. These asymptomatic carriers are an important source of ongoing infection, many of whom don't know they are infected while they transmit the disease to others. People at highest risk of developing severe illness from Covid-19 infection include the elderly, and patients with underlying health conditions such as hypertension, heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease and immunosuppression.

One critically important way to control this disease is through vaccination.

Historically, vaccines are known to be extremely effective and safe. Historically, effective vaccination programs have enabled eradication of some infections (for example small-pox) and control of others such as measles, mumps, influenza, tetanus, diphtheria, meningitis, and many others. It's easy for us to forget that these illnesses were at one time frequent killers of young and old people; now we often take for granted that they rarely pose a threat, thanks to effective vaccines.

The development of a vaccine against Covid-19 has been a triumph of medical research. The first Covid-19 vaccines are now available, only about a year since the identification of the new Coronavirus. There has never before been such a rapid development of any vaccine; however, the development of these vaccines has still been subject to the usual FDA requirements to ensure their safety.

At the time of writing, there are two Covid-19 vaccines available. These are generally known as the Pfizer vaccine and the Moderna vaccine. These two mRNA ("messenger ribonucleic acid") vaccines are similar to each other in many ways. They both use a novel but well-established vaccine delivery system which allows a person's own cells to manufacture viral "spike" protein. This spike protein is not by itself harmful to the body. It stimulates the person's immune system to produce antibodies: proteins which protect against future infection by real Coronavirus. The mRNA and spike protein are quickly eliminated by the body and there is no lasting effect other than the antibody production which is persistent and

provides long lasting protection. We don't yet know for sure how long this protection will last. These vaccines both require two doses separated by 3 to 4 weeks. It is important to get both doses of this vaccine for full protection.

HOW DO WE KNOW THESE VACCINES ARE SAFE?

There are three phases of testing prior to these vaccines being approved by the FDA. In the final phase for the Pfizer vaccine, 18,566 volunteers received the Pfizer vaccination in a clinical trial (about the same number received a placebo shot of saline which did not contain any vaccine). Some of these volunteers noted soreness at the injection site, generalized muscle pain and headaches, but these effects were not severe. These types of side effects are similar to what is seen with other vaccinations and occur at similar rates. There have also been very rare instances of allergic reactions to the shot; these have been effectively treated at the vaccine administration sites without difficulty. A similar rate of side-effects was seen with initial trials of the Moderna vaccine, which included roughly the same number of volunteers.

At the time of writing, I personally have just received my second dose of Pfizer vaccine, and I have some minor muscle aches, but these symptoms are not severe, and I am very happy to have received protection against future infection with Covid-19!

HOW EFFECTIVE ARE THESE VACCINES?

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccine both showed about 95% effectiveness in their clinical trials. This means that, compared with the placebo shot described above, the volunteers who received the vaccination were protected from 95% of infections. And the very small number of infections which did occur in the vaccine recipients were not severe infections. So, we can be confident that these shots provide effective protection from Covid-19 infection.

The goal of any vaccination program is to protect both individuals who receive the vaccination and the community at risk. Community protection is achieved by reaching a state where enough people are vaccinated that there is limited or no further transmission of the virus, a state known as "herd immunity."

Despite the efficacy of the vaccination, it is still strongly advised to wear

a mask, wash hands frequently, and practice social distancing, even after receiving the vaccine.

There are recent new variants of the Covid-19 infection: small mutations in the virus which change its protein structure slightly. These variants appear to make the virus more transmissible: easier for it to spread from person to person. Initial data suggests that this mutation has not changed the virus' susceptibility to the vaccine. So now it is even more important to be vaccinated before further spread of this highly contagious virus occurs.

If you have had minor reactions to another vaccine in the past (including fever, muscle aches, headache), it is still safe to receive Covid-19 vaccination. Only in very rare instances of severe allergy to specific types of vaccines should Covid-19 vaccination be avoided. It can be used in pregnant and breast-feeding women, though this should be discussed with your provider. Patients on immunosuppressive medicines (for example transplant patients) may also receive the vaccine. In fact, vaccination is strongly recommended in this group of patients because of their risk of severe complications of Covid-19 infection.

FUTURE VACCINES BEING DEVELOPED

It is likely that different types of Covid-19 vaccinations will become available in the near future. Several are in the final stages of development and testing. These will be different from the current mRNA-type of vaccinations described above which are now available, and some will contain a non-harmful type of live virus. These newer vaccines may have different side effects, efficacy, and may not be suitable for certain groups of patients. Specifically, it may not be safe to give these newer vaccines which contain a type of live virus to immunosuppressed patients. We will learn more about these vaccinations in the next few weeks to months.

So, I strongly encourage everyone to get the Covid-19 vaccination! It is safe and effective, and is our best chance to protect ourselves, our families and our community from the terrible effects of Covid-19. Hopefully with this vaccine we can eventually move back towards a more normal existence. And in the meantime, please remember to wear your mask, socially distance and avoid large gatherings.

My best wishes to everyone for a happier and healthier 2021!

Tribe conducts CV-19 testing



Lindsay Box/SU Council Affairs

Southern Ute Chairman Melvin J. Baker stops to receive testing information from Heather Frost, Vital Statistics Clerk and Incident Management Team PIO, before getting tested at the January Voluntary Drive-thru Viral Testing Event. The event was a success, testing over 550 individuals were tested including tribal members, tribal staff, and community members with the help of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and Veteran's Affairs of Western Colorado.

TRIBAL HEALTH

Prescription Benefits of the Southern Ute Tribal Health Dept.

By Erika Atencio
TRIBAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Greetings Southern Ute Tribal Membership, The Tribal Health Department would like to continue the effort to help individuals understand the sometimes-complex world of health. This article will cover some, but not all basic information of the prescription coverage within the department.

All enrolled Southern Ute tribal members have a prescription benefit plan that covers many typical prescription medication expenses. This plan is administered by Silverback RX; their contact information is located on your medical benefit card. Your card can be utilized at any retail pharmacy when picking up your prescribed medications. You can also receive your medications through

mail order by calling Silverback's help desk number listed on your card.

It is important to remember that not all prescription medications are covered under the Tribal Member Health Benefits Plan and there may be out-of-pocket expenses associated with certain medications that are not reimbursable by the Tribal Health Department. We encourage you to communicate with your prescribing physician's office and Silverback's customer service to determine whether a medication is covered under your plan.

Over-the-counter supplements are not covered under the plan; they are an out-of-pocket expense for the member and not reimbursable by the Tribal Health Department. If you have any questions about your benefits and the Tribal Health Department is unavailable during

normal business hours you may also contact the Silverback RX help desk line by dialing 1-855-311-4570 or going to their website at www.silverbackrx.com.

Thank you for your time and please look forward to the next article where we will be discussing the Tribal Member Health Benefits Plan Third Party Administrator, Forest County Potawatomi Insurance Department. The THD Benefits Team is continuing to work through the tribally issued "Stay at Home" Order. Office phones are forwarded to assist the tribal membership from 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. — Monday through Friday.

We hope that each and every one of you are continuing to stay safe and follow the public health orders issued to help slow or stop the spread of COVID-19.

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:** CLOSED UNTIL JAN. 2, 2021. No appointments.
- **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.

BEE HEARD: NEW YEAR • FROM PAGE 4

here to help you throughout your journey in life.

The Southern Ute Behavioral Health Division and the Native Connections Program would like to stress that mental health is health. Just as we have our yearly check-ups and even when we experience a toothache or medical emergency, we see a doctor to make sure we are staying healthy. Mental health is the same

thing. Maybe we just need someone to talk to, just to check in or we've just lost a loved one or we're noticing anxiety or stress in our life. Mental health applies to everyone no matter the age. We encourage you to seek out someone to talk to even if it's every now and then. We are here if you need us.

So, let's start this 2021 creating and feeding hope, not only in our lives but in our

family's and friends' lives, and especially in our youth. Stoke the flames of hope and help light others' paths along the way. Let's make the best out of this new year!



Stay up to date with the Coronavirus and the Southern Ute Tribe online at www.southernute-nsn.gov and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/southernute



EDUCATION

LPEA accepting applications for nine college scholarships

Virtual information session slated for Feb. 4

Staff report
LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) is now accepting applications for nine scholarships for graduating high school seniors – including GED graduates – in its service territory. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$28,000 and can be used at any accredited school in the United

States. Applications are due March 1, 2021 and must be submitted online. Students and parents with questions are invited to join LPEA’s virtual information session on Thursday, February 4th at 6 p.m. Registration details, along with scholarship information and online application forms, are available at: lpea.coop/scholarships

Funds for the LPEA,

LPEA/John Voelker Memorial, and Lineman scholarships come from LPEA’s unclaimed Capital Credits. Each year, the co-op endeavors to find “missing” members who are due a share of retired Capital Credits. Those funds unable to be returned to members are then put back into the community – in this case, into college scholarships.

“One of my favorite things about being a non-profit electric cooperative is how much we get to give back to our community,” said LPEA CEO Jessica Matlock. “Every year these scholarships help local students continue their education, either in academic institutions or in trade schools. Many of them have gone on to bright futures, including right here at LPEA.”

Former scholarship recipients currently employed at LPEA include Vice President of Grid Solutions Dan Harms, Systems Engineer Jake Wills, and Energy Resource Engineering Manager Rachel Schur.

LPEA is a member-owned, not-for-profit, electric distribution cooperative serving La Plata and Archuleta, with segments of Hinsdale, Mineral and San Juan counties. LPEA is the fifth largest cooperative of 22 in Colorado, and aims to provide safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost to its approximately 34,500 members. For additional information, contact LPEA at 970.247.5786 or visit lpea.coop.

Scholarship details

- **LPEA Scholarship (2):** LPEA will award two, four-year scholarships for students attending any college or university in the U.S. beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year. The LPEA Scholarship covers tuition, books, and fees (at \$7,000/year over four years) given the students maintain minimum qualifications.
- **LPEA/John Voelker Memorial Scholarship (2):** LPEA will award two, two-year scholarships for students attending any accredited vocational school, technical school, or community college in the U.S. beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year. This scholarship covers tuition, books and fees, and supplies (at \$5,000/year over two years) given the students maintain minimum qualifications.
- **LPEA Lineman Scholarship (2):** LPEA will award two, one-year scholarships to two students attending an accredited institution, including a vocational school, technical school, community college, or university in the U.S. majoring in an electrical line worker program. This one-year scholarship (\$12,000) covers tuition, books, fees, and supplies given the students maintain minimum qualifications. Any scholarship overage, following payment of tuition and fees, can be applied to the purchase of tools and supplies required in the trade.
- **Basic Electric Scholarship (1):** Basin Electric Power Cooperative, a generation cooperative affiliated with LPEA, offers one non-renewable \$1,000 scholarship for students attending any college or university in the U.S. for the 2021-2022 academic year.
- **Tri-State Scholarship (2):** LPEA’s power supplier, Tri-State Generation & Transmission, Inc. offers two, one-time \$500 scholarships for students attending any college or university in the U.S. beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year.

First-ever Parent Advocacy Network

Dear superintendents and principals,

As part of the CASE legislative strategy this year, we are partnering with the Colorado Rural Schools Alliance, the Colorado Education Association (CEA) and the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) to convene our first-ever Parent Advocacy Network. We believe that activating the parent voice will be critical to our success in this legislative session and see a clear need to be purposeful about engaging parents in K-12 advocacy issues.

The 2021 session promises to be busy and challenging as lawmakers grapple with funding issues associated with COVID-19, along with other priorities we expect to see each year. CASE, along with our partner organizations, are excited to be playing offense on several legislative priorities this year and initiating legislation on topics that include state assessment, state accountability and the READ Act. The purpose of the new Parent Advocacy Network is threefold:

- Listen to better understand and learn what parents want for our schools
- Educate parents on critical needs of our public schools and connecting parents with our legislators
- Activate parent voices to help legislators

understand that our network’s proposals have widespread support from Colorado parents

As a united coalition, parents who get involved our Parent Advocacy Network will know that the positions we are taking are consistent with the values and priorities of a majority of administrators, school board members, and teachers in schools across our state.

Here is what we need from you. To build this network, we need you to go to some of your best supporters. You know who they are. They are the parents who are ready to learn, eager to take action and consistently respond when you need assistance. Share with them this sign-up form and let them know that the education community needs their voice in the legislative process this year.

They will have the opportunity to receive presentations on our education bills this session. They will hear from the experts in each topic area and learn how to advocate on behalf of these

exciting initiatives that will directly impact their local communities and kids.

The Parent Education Network will convene at least once a month for one-hour virtual meetings. Please find the schedule of meeting dates below.

Please take time to recruit parents for our Parent Advocacy Network. We cannot get our critical bills through the legislature this session without the support of a large and diverse parent network. Please share the sign-up form with your best supporters, and more importantly, follow up with a personal touch encouraging them to take part in this effort. If any have questions you can’t answer, please send them my way at b miles@co-case.org.

Thank you so much for all you are doing in your schools and districts. I know it is an incredibly heavy lift right now, and it’s an honor to work with you.

Sincerely,
Bret Miles
CASE Executive Director

Parent Education Network one-hour virtual meetings

- Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021, 5 – 6 p.m., Zoom
- Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021, 5 – 6 p.m., Zoom
- Thursday, Feb. 26, 2021, 5 – 6 p.m., Zoom
- Thursday, Mar. 11, 2021, 5 – 6 p.m., Zoom
- Thursday, Apr. 1, 2021, 5 – 6 p.m., Zoom
- Thursday, Apr. 15, 2021, 5 – 6 p.m., Zoom
- Thursday, Apr. 29, 2021, 5 – 6 p.m., Zoom

SUIMA

From the Eagle’s Nest

Get your children organized!



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

Students from the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy’s upper elementary program; Grades 4, 5, and 6 spent the spring months working on a moccasin making project in 2017. Under the guidance of Southern Ute elder Willette Thompson, the students hand stitched the leather shoes and added ornamental beadwork to each set of moccasins. Students finished their crafts project just in time for spring Bear Dance.

Staff report
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN
MONTESSORI ACADEMY

It’s January – the time of the school year that can bring doldrums, frustration, and havoc to a young child. One way to help your son or daughter get through the next few months of school is to get them organized. With the holidays over and new toys in the house, purging and giving away older, less used items can be the beginning of helping your child to get organized.

Getting organized can make life easier for kids with learning and thinking differences. It might take some effort in the beginning, but it’s worth it in the long run. When it comes to day-to-day organization and on-campus or online learning, here are a few tips to assist in these days of winter.

Break tasks, school projects or household chores into smaller, more manageable steps. This will show your child that each project has a beginning, middle and end, which can make projects feel less overwhelming. For example, if your child’s nightly chore is to clear the table, explain first she should scrape leftovers into the garbage, then load the dishes into the dishwasher, then wipe the counters.

Make checklists and to-do lists. Once your child knows all the steps involved with a task, help him add it to an overall to-do list. Include regular homework and chores on the list. Encourage him to keep the list in a place where he’ll see it often and to check off accomplishments as he goes. He might write it on a dry-erase board in his bedroom or print out a list to post on the refrigerator, checking it throughout the day.

Teach calendar and time management skills. Encourage your child write down

important tasks in a digital calendar or on a paper one. Then help her estimate how much time each task will take. After she completes the tasks, ask whether the time estimate was accurate or not. If needed, suggest adjustments for next time. It may also help to have your child write the due date directly on school assignments.

Establish daily routines. Creating a regular schedule can help your child learn what to expect throughout the day. Use picture schedules, clocks and other time management strategies.

Use color-coding. Assign colors to each school subject. For example, green folders and notebooks may be for English and blue for math. Use brightly colored pocket folders for items that need to be signed and returned. Suggest that your child use colored pens to help shift from the role of writer to the role of self-checker and editor. Create an organized workspace. Set aside a space at home where your child can work without interruption. It might work best if this is somewhere near you for times when he needs your assistance. Keep school supplies and technology such as calculators, tablets or laptops nearby.

Help your child think ahead. Before bedtime, review plans for the next day with your child. This can make her feel more secure. Together you can plan how to handle things if a change comes up in the schedule.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

For this edition of the Drum, the SUIMA staff spotlight is on Kathy Overman, a teacher in the primary level.

Ms. Overman has worked at the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy for a total of 10 years, previously working at Cotton-

wood Montessori School and as well as the Southern Ute Head Start.



Kathy Overman
Primary Teacher

Growing up in Gallup, New Mexico surrounded by educators, Kathy’s family includes two sisters, who are also teachers, her mom, a retired teacher, and her dad, a retired principal.

As Ms. Overman has worked in the early childhood field for many years, her favorite book is, “The Very Hungry Caterpillar.” When Kathy is not working with children, she enjoys tending gardens, hiking, hunting and reading. As a teacher, her tips to stay organized is to prioritize and to keep To-Do lists.

When thinking of the work she does, Kathy says the best part of working at SUIMA is the children and the love of the curriculum that is used – the Montessori method.

One of her favorite quotes “Patience, persistence, and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success” by Napoleon Hill. To all children, young and old, who are reading this, her advice to you is to – never stop learning.

Thank you, Kathy, for being part of the SUIMA family.

SUIMA events

- No School, Mon., Jan. 18 – Dr. Martin Luther King Day

IGNACIO HIGH SCHOOL

Letter to Parents & Students

Once again thank you for your due diligence during this time at Ignacio High School. Starting, Jan. 13, all classes at Ignacio High School will be going remote through Friday, Jan. 15.

We will resume in classes on Tuesday, Jan. 19. In addition, athletics and activities will be cancelled and resume on Jan. 19 as well.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact the high school. Thank you for your concern on this matter.



Best Regards,
Eric R. Arpelar,
Principal, Ignacio High School

315 Ignacio Street, Ignacio, CO 81137
Phone: 970-563-0516 ext. 262 • email: earpelar@ignacioschools.org



CORONAVIRUS

State releases updated public health order

Staff report
COLO. DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) released an amended public health order that provides updates to the COVID-19 dial framework. The new changes are effective, Monday, January 4, and will expire in 30 days unless extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing.

The main changes include:

- Adding the 5 Star State Certification Program to the order. The program requires businesses to implement safety measures beyond what is already required by public health orders and guidelines to help slow the spread of COVID-19. In doing so, certified businesses are able to expand operations.
- Depending on the county’s level and metrics, certified businesses may be eligible for less restrictive capacity limits. A 5 Star certification reassures employees and customers that businesses are adhering to enhanced guidance in other areas. The program is completely voluntary for local governments.

- Counties that moved from the Red to Orange levels this week will need to maintain a 7-day Orange Level average incidence trend in order to operate under Yellow Level restrictions. Counties must engage in a consultation process with CDPHE, which may entail moving to a more restrictive level, when they are out of compliance with any of the metrics for more than seven days.
- 5 Star certified businesses currently in Orange Level counties may be eligible for less restrictive capacity limits outlined in Yellow Level, after engaging in a consultation and approval process with their local public health agency.
- Additional flexibility for professional performing arts in Level Red.
- Increases the capacity restrictions for gyms, aligning with restaurants.
- Review the summary of changes.

The Colorado COVID-19 dial is a tool that allows Colorado to balance the urgent need to contain the virus with the need for localized guidance during the pandemic. Learn more about the dial and continue to stay up to date by visiting covid19.colorado.gov.

CORONAVIRUS

SJBPH collaborates to address equity in testing and vaccinations

Staff report
SAN JUAN BASIN PUBLIC HEALTH

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) would like to highlight the collaborative efforts put forth by several partners in the region to ensure equitable access to COVID-19 testing and vaccinations.

SJBPH has worked closely with Animas Surgical Hospital (ASH) and Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) to provide COVID-19 vaccine to phase 1A recipients including residents and staff of long-term care facilities. These facilities were designated to be vaccinated through the federal government’s Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program, but when it became clear that this program was delaying its start in the region, SJBPH, ASH, and PSMC worked quickly to provide COVID-19 vaccine to individuals in this high-risk population ahead of the federal program launch.

PSMC has administered the first dose of vaccine to all patients and staff desiring vaccine in the long-term care facilities in Archuleta County. Similarly, by Saturday, January 9th, all residents and staff who are eligible for first doses of vaccine in long-term care facilities in La Plata County will have received vaccinations. In total, over 300 staff and residents in both counties have been vaccinated.

“SJBPH is so grateful for the strong partnership with Animas Surgical Hospital and Pagosa Springs Medical Center in providing both COVID-19 testing and vaccination support,” said Liane Jollon, executive director of SJBPH. “They have been extremely

responsive to rapidly changing needs during this pandemic and are committed to providing crucial services for all community members,” she said.

As limited supplies of vaccine arrive in Southwest Colorado, SJBPH is emphasizing the need to continue following public health precautions including individuals getting tested if sick or potentially exposed to COVID-19. Transportation limitations and lack of access may prevent some community members from getting tested. SJBPH’s COVID-19 testing of priority populations works to address these barriers by working with community partners to provide this service to people who might not otherwise get tested.

Since early May, SJBPH has performed over 600 COVID-19 tests at 14 pop-up testing locations including Purple Cliffs, Manna Soup Kitchen, The Volunteers of America Shelter, Hilltop House, and others. SJBPH is collaborating with several partners such as Compañeros, Manna Soup Kitchen, and The Family Center to ensure that all community members have access to COVID-19 testing. SJBPH continues to expand COVID-19 testing to populations that may face barriers, as necessary.

Asymptomatic individuals are estimated to cause over 50 percent of COVID-19 transmission making testing and contact tracing vitally important to stop the spread of the pandemic. SJBPH’s targeted testing reaches community members disproportionately affected by the pandemic including minority and low-income populations, those living in congregate housing, people experiencing homelessness, older adults,

and those with disabilities.

“Resources need to be distributed equitably in order to slow the spread of this virus,” Jollon said. “We know drive-thru testing doesn’t work for everyone. By working with partners in our community to meet people where they are with resources like testing, we can better protect the health of all of our community members.”


SJBPH will continue to collaborate with community partners to provide COVID-19 testing and vaccination opportunities to ensure that all community members have access to these crucial tools to control the spread of the virus.

SJBPH continues to urge everyone to follow these important public health precautions:

- Wearing face masks.
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet.
- Avoiding nonessential indoor spaces, and gatherings with others not in your household.
- Getting tested if you are symptomatic, think you’ve been exposed, or if you work in a high-contact position.
- Avoiding travel.
- Washing hands well.
- Getting the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available.

For the most up to date information to take precautions against the spread of COVID-19, visit SJBPH’s website: sjbpublichealth.org/coronavirus/.

For information on vaccine and to share contact information to receive vaccine notifications visit: sjbpublichealth.org/covid-19-vaccine/.



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

COVID-19 VACCINE GUIDANCE

As we near the holiday season and witness a new year on the horizon, we are met with continued uncertainty about our future. We have been center stage to an unprecedented viral pandemic, one that has not been seen in over one hundred years. We have seen, and some have experienced, tragic illness and loss throughout our community. As the year draws to a close, two biotech companies have developed and launched a vaccine against the virus, bringing much needed hope.

Both Pfizer and Moderna have been granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). An EUA provided by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) allows the use of a new medical product during the time of a public health emergency. Both vaccines developed by two separate biotech companies have proven to be highly efficacious (both over 90%). The Southern Ute Tribal Council has chosen to work with Indian Health Services (IHS) to secure and administer the vaccine as it becomes available, rather than with the State of Colorado.

Types of Vaccines


Vaccines comes in three forms

- **Live** – which is a weakened virus
- **Inactivated** – which is often a killed virus
- **Genetically Engineered Vaccine** – this type of vaccine uses genetically engineered RNA or DNA that has instructions for making copies of the viruses’ surface proteins. These copies prompt an immune response to the virus.

The COVID-19 is a genetically engineered vaccine.

What is the COVID-19 Vaccine?

Both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines use bits of genetic code to cause an immune response and is called an mRNA vaccine. It does not alter human cells, but merely presents the body with instructions to build immunity to Covid. The mRNA codes for a protein that triggers an immune response to your body – it tricks your body into thinking it is being invaded by a foreign substance that may cause harm.



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

COVID-19 UPDATE

(As of January 13, 2021)

Southern Ute Health Center Cases

158	Positives
107	Recovered
6624	Total Tests

Southern Ute Tribal Member Cases

61	Positives
40	Recovered
2	Deaths

Current Vaccination Phase

Phase 1 (c)


1(a) Front-line healthcare

1(b) Essential workers Ages 75+

1(c) Essential workers Ages 65+ High-risk

Vaccines Available Call SUHC for appointment

TAWI NUUCHU NA-GUKWI-VANI COVID-19 “TOGETHER, WE WILL FIGHT COVID-19”



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

COVID-19 VACCINE GUIDANCE


Who will be vaccinated first?

Vaccine dissemination is divided into four phases.

- **Phase 1a** – only those that reside in long term care or assisted living facilities
- **Phase 1b** – police officers, congregate setting staff in jails and detention centers, teacher, other essential workers, and persons aged 75 years and older
- **Phase 1c** – persons aged 65–74 years, high risk persons aged 16–64, and essential workers
- **Phase 2** – elderly and those with chronic disease are considered to be high risk
- **Phase 3** – wider distribution to general public
- **Phase 4** – routine vaccination county wide.

Where are we now?


The Tribal Health Department (THD) has received Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. Vaccination of all frontline healthcare workers has been completed. We are currently in Phase 1b, vaccinating essential workers and SUHC patients and tribal members aged 75 and older.



Tawi Nuuchu Na-gukwi-vani COVID-19
Together we will fight COVID-19

For tribal members who reside off-reservation or not within driving distance to SUHC:

If you are a healthcare worker or essential staff, you will be vaccinated soon. For everyone else, Elders will be given precedence followed by adults ages 16 and older. Please call your local health department or PCP and ask about their process. You must schedule your vaccination directly with your PCP. For tribal members residing in a long-term care facility or assisted living, if you or a loved one has not been vaccinated, please call the THD at 970.563.2400.



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE


TRIBAL MEMBER COVID-19 VACCINE SURVEY

The Southern Ute Incident Management Team and Tribal Health Department would like to solicit participation in the Tribal Member COVID-19 Vaccine Survey to determine the level of participation of the membership as well as the questions and concerns that might exist.

The survey collection will begin on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 and conclude on Friday, January 23, 2021. Tribal Members can participate in the survey in the following ways.

1. **Via Survey Monkey** (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LVQMMXD>) – a link to the Survey Monkey can be found on the tribal social media, Tribal Member Portal, and on Southern Ute Drum website.
2. **COVID-19 Call Center** (970.563.0214) – share responses directly with Call Center staff who will collect your survey results. Membership can also request a hard copy survey to be mailed via the Call Center.
3. **Tribal Council Comment Line** (970.563.4705 ext. 7902) – Please leave your responses in numerical order.

For questions or for more information, please contact Ms. Lindsay J. Box, Tribal Council Communication Specialist at 970.563.2313 or via email at lbox@southernute-nsn.gov



Vaccine Town Hall

with SUHC Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Richard Keller

Dr. Richard Keller will host a virtual town hall for the tribal membership to share information and participate in a Q&A on the COVID-19 vaccines that will be available to the tribal membership and patients of the Southern Ute Health Center (SUHC).

January 27 & 28, 2021
5:30 until 6:30 p.m.
<http://bit.ly/SUITc1928>
Web-Ex Event will also be streamed via Facebook.



In observance of the federal holiday , the Permanent Fund, Growth Fund, and SUSS offices will be closed Monday, January 18, 2021 for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Modified business hours under the COVID-19 Modified Tribal Operation will resume on Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

The SUIT COVID-19 Call Center will be CLOSED on Monday, January 18, 2021. Normal hours will resume Tuesday, January 19, 2021. You can reach the call center by dialing 970.563.0214.



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”

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

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.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Office of the Chairman



Please tune in to KSUT Tribal Radio every Friday morning at 9:00 A.M. to hear tribal COVID-19 and other tribal updates live with Chairman Melvin J. Baker. The show will re-air on Friday evening at 7:00 P.M.



OFFICE HOURS

Monday
Wednesday
Friday
8am – 12pm

CURBSIDE SERVICES AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Mail run – 10:30 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

PLEASE BE COURTEOUS AND ALLOW THE POST OFFICE AMPLE TIME TO DISTRIBUTE MAIL

AVAILABLE BY EMAIL/PHONE
Monday-Friday
8am-5pm

TIS is not responsible for the content of distributed information

ALL TRIBAL BUILDINGS ARE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

PLEASE BE ADVISED: THE STAY AT HOME ORDER REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

EDNA FROST
TIS Director
efrost@southernute-nsn.gov
970-563-2250

HEATHER FROST
Vital Statistics Clerk/IMT PIO
hefrost@southernute-nsn.gov
970-563-2248

VICTORIA FROST
Administrative Assistant
vfrost@southernute-nsn.gov
970-563-2208

ADELLE HIGHT
Receptionist/Mail Clerk
ahight@southernute-nsn.gov
970-563-2249



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.

GROWTH FUND

Smart investing though real estate



courtesy SU Growth Fund Properties Group

Portside Industrial Buildings – Vancouver, Wash.

Staff report
GROWTH FUND PROPERTIES GROUP

Twenty years ago, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe created the Southern Ute Growth Fund to organize and manage its business activities. A key aspect of this initiative was diversification of the Tribe’s investments to include real estate holdings as another source

of income beyond its oil and gas operations. It was a smart strategic decision. Real estate has been used as an investment tool for centuries because it is a stable and dependable business that is easy to value. It generates reliable cash flows through stable income properties such as multifamily apartments and commercial buildings where tenants pay monthly rent, the buildings

become more valuable over time, and can ultimately be sold for a profit.

Real estate also includes land development projects which generate revenue from lot sales to home and commercial builders. Additionally, real estate is a core component of a diversified business portfolio, serving as an inflation hedge and as a buffer for other investment types during times of

economic recession.

The Tribe’s real estate portfolio was launched in the early 2000’s. Back then, the assets were concentrated mainly in single tenant office buildings and included the Three Springs master-planned land development project in Durango, Colo. Over subsequent years, the Tribe expanded its portfolio and began investing in development projects such as: Belmar (a 1 million square foot mixed-use project in the Denver area); Candelas (a large master-planned land development project also in the Denver area); and The Spire (a Denver condominium project), along with multifamily apartments primarily in Texas.

In 2013, following the Great Recession, the Tribe consolidated all of its real estate companies under GF Properties Group (GFPG) and began to reduce its concentration in development projects and invest in a higher percentage of income properties across a greater number of geographic mar-



courtesy SU Growth Fund Properties Group

Pearl Woodlake Apartments – Houston, TX

kets to reduce risk and maximize revenues. In 2010, the Tribe owned real estate assets in just seven U.S. markets, of which 72% were in Colorado and nearly 60% concentrated in development and mixed-use projects, which tend to be more sensitive to economic downturns than income properties.

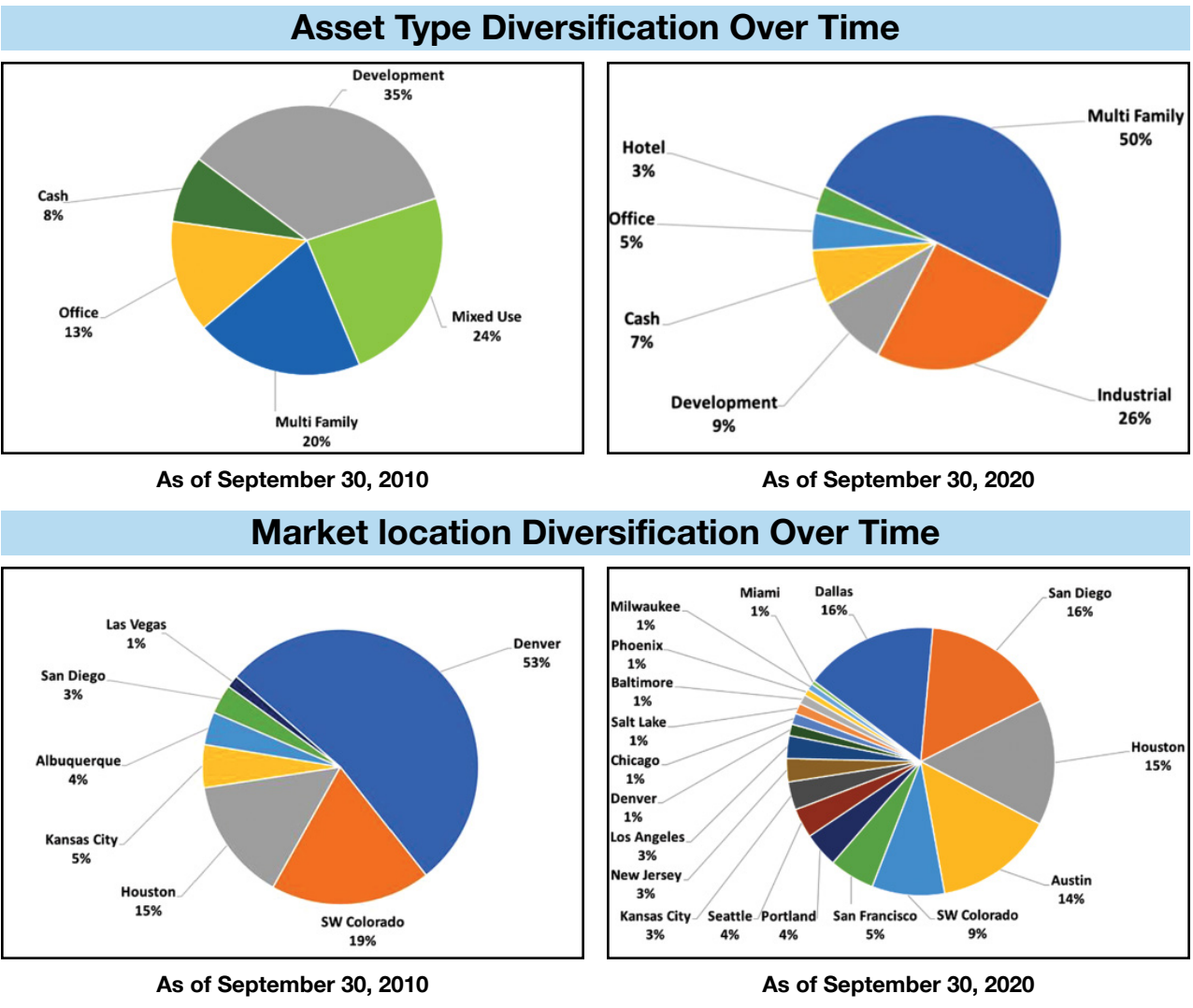
Now in 2020, the GFPG portfolio looks much different with properties in 18 U.S. markets coast to coast. The portfolio includes 14 industrial properties, nine multifamily apartment projects, two office buildings, two master-planned communities, and one hotel. Over 80% of these assets are income properties that generate stable revenue for the Tribe year over year. This stability has been demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic with minimal disruption to earnings and cash flow.

GFPG currently has targeted an asset allocation of 60% Multifamily; 30% Industrial; and 10% “Other” in major growth markets. This asset allocation is preferred because of the risk profiles of each asset class. Multifamily apartments are attractive because, as demonstrated during past recessions, the length and severity of the downturn in multifamily apartments are typically lower than other asset types. This sector tends to be less sensitive to changes in overall economic activity because people always need a place to live. Industrial assets complement multifamily apartments because industrial users typically sign longer term leases. The industrial

asset class is projected to outperform all other classes over the next five years due to a continuing shift in consumer product distribution from traditional retail stores to next-day or two-day home delivery.

Another important aspect of real estate investment is the strategic use of conservative and inexpensive mortgage debt to enhance returns. Mortgage debt allows GFPG to own more assets which leads to greater diversity, less risk, more earnings and ultimately improves returns.

GFPG also sells properties from time to time. The primary goal when selling a property is to maximize investment returns. Some of the common reasons to sell are: 1) trends of local market economies; 2) realize full appreciation in an asset; 3) generate cash flow for new investments and further diversification; 4) new long-term lease is signed which creates strong value; and 5) trading up to newer asset(s). Over the years, GFPG’s philosophy on how best to invest in real estate has been shaped by careful research and analysis of market trends and changing demographics. By remaining vigilant over the forces that impact the performance of its property assets, GFPG will continue to make sound strategic decisions on where, when, and how to invest. Ultimately, real estate investment is a smart and profitable means of generating consistent income for the Tribe and represents an important component of the Tribe’s diverse businesses.





The Southern Ute Drum presents

Tribe addresses Coronavirus



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

The Tribe worked in partnership with International Medical Relief out of Loveland, Colo. whose staff worked over the summer months to administer the COVID-19 viral tests each day on the Southern Ute Reservation.



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Councilwoman Marge Barry was among the tribal volunteers on hand to check in participants and keep things moving throughout each day of testing at the Sky Ute Casino Resort's parking lot in Ignacio, Colo. During the drive through testing events. Southern Ute tribal elders were given priority for testing at the start of each day.

KSUT moves into new building



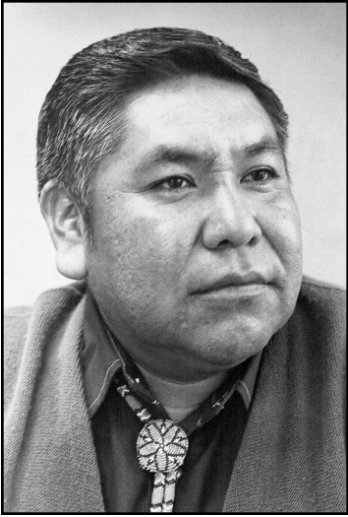
courtesy Tami Graham/KSUT

Southern Ute elder, Eddie Box Jr., speaks with KSUT Tribal Radio Station Manager Sheila Nanaeto live in-studio, Monday, Oct. 19, which was simulcast on both KSUT Tribal Radio and KSUT Four Corners Public Radio. Box said a prayer and gave a 'virtual welcome.' Box spoke briefly of the history of KSUT and thanked those involved in the process of getting KSUT into the new building – the Southern Ute Tribe, KSUT staff, KSUT Board and the listeners. The new building bears his name as the Eddie Box Jr. Media Center.

County recognizes LCB Day



SU Drum archive



SU Drum archive

The La Plata County Commissioners met on Tuesday, Dec. 8 to hear a proposal brought forth by County Commissioner Julie Westendorff to recognize Dec. 10, as Leonard C. Burch Day throughout La Plata County. Westendorff set the mood of the virtual Zoom meeting by naming the various endeavors and accomplishments of Leonard C. Burch, not only as Chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, but as a community member and resident of La Plata County. The La Plata Board of Commissioners approved the proclamation to recognize Dec. 10, 2020 and subsequent years as Leonard C. Burch Day.

Utes observe Bear Dance



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Aislinn Ryder and Jakob Box dance together in an otherwise empty corral during the spring Bear Dance celebration ceremony held by the Bear Dance Chief, Matthew Box on Friday, June 12. The Bear Dance Chief wanted to see all the important aspects carried out, the things that need to happen in order to hold a Bear Dance ceremony under normal circumstances. Social Distancing was respected throughout the small Bear Dance ceremony, by dancers and singers alike.

KSUT broadcasts from Ute Mtn.

After three years of work, KSUT has realized the dream of connecting the two sister tribes of Southwest Colorado through Tribal Radio, with a new FM signal broadcasting off of Hermano Peak on Ute Mountain. The signal went live on Thursday, May 14 at 100.9FM. KSUT would like to sincerely thank the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe for their cooperation and support in allowing KSUT Tribal Radio to broadcast from Ute Mountain.



courtesy Tami Graham/KSUT

Skatepark rolls to completion



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Members of the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council (SCSYAC) join the Southern Ute Tribal Council for the official groundbreaking ceremony of the new skatepark at SunUte park. SCSYAC members: Elijah Weaver, Nate and Elliot Hendren and Lexy Young join Southern Ute Chairman Christine Sage and Councilman Cedric Chavez, to hold ceremonial golden shovels on the site of the new skatepark. Chairman Sage and Councilman Chavez offered words of praise and support during the groundbreaking ceremony, Friday, June 26.



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

The SunUte skate park, located east of the SunUte Community and adjacent to the SunUte Park rolled towards the Thanksgiving completion date. The Artisan Skateparks construction crew worked on the skate park, building forms, assembling rebar and pouring concrete; various sections of the skate park are nearly complete.



2020: A Year in Review

Chief draws controversy



Jeremy Wade Shockley/Colorado Sun

The large “Chief” sign stands adjacent to the railroad tracks in historic downtown Durango, Colo., an advertisement for the Toh-Atin Gallery across the street. The sign depicts a Native American man, clad in blue jeans and vest, which many see as a caricature perpetuating harmful racial stereotypes. The debate over the future of the “Chief” is now in the community spotlight due to a set of petitions circulating on change.org; one in favor of keeping the historic sign, and other signaling that the “Chiefs” time is up — asking for its removal. The sign dates back over half a century, when it was first commissioned to advertise The Chief Diner on North Main Ave. In the 1980s the sign was purchased by Jackson Clark, owner of the Toh-Atin Gallery, and moved to its present location.

Box beading project



courtesy Edward Box III

The project tagged #BeadYourState was an online challenge launched by Kooteen Creations. Once all selections were finalized, the individual pieces of beadwork were merged together to create a colorful and unique beaded image of the United States and Canada.



courtesy Edward Box III

Southern Ute artist, Edward Box III beaded the State of Colorado, while also incorporating Ute symbolism into his design, for the #BeadYourState challenge. Voting took place online on the Kooteen Creations Facebook page.

Saving the hot springs



courtesy Glenwood Springs Citizens' Alliance



SU Drum archive

Many Ancestral sites connected to northern Ute Bands are located in and around the Roaring Fork Valley. While many are known by Ute people descendant from the Subuagan, Parianuche, and Yampa, which were passed down through oral history, others are recorded, documented, and managed by federal land management agencies, including the United State Forest Service and BLM. The Mid-Continent Limestone Quarry is located north of Glenwood Springs, Colo., on a slope behind Iron Mountain, which is in close proximity to sacred Ute heritage sites, such as Yampa Hot Springs and Vapor Caves. Eddie Box Sr. (left) speaking at United Ute Summit in 1993.

Conserving Sam Ray murals



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Rachel Burch, Project Manager and Wall Painting Conservator works with Kiernan Graves, Wall Painting Conservator, together they will use all the written and photographic information gathered during the project to advise on which conservation treatments are recommended for the future preservation of Sam Ray's historic murals.

SunUte hosts MMIW event



Joel Priest/SU Drum archive

Voices of Our Sisters, including, IHS Girls' Basketball volunteer assistant coach Maria Rivera (far left) and Lady Bobcat JV/varsity swing player Helaina Taylor (second from left), perform a special Honor Song during the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women awareness event at the Ignacio High School Bobcats basketball games against Nucla, Saturday, Feb. 1, in the SunUte Community Center.

Conservation crew

A chainsaw crew from the Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) was contracted by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Mountain Studies Institute to help remove two invasive tree species, Russian olive and tamarisk, along the Animas and La Plata Rivers. Corinna Mokotoff runs a chainsaw, cutting out Russian olive trees in the dense thickets along the Animas River, Tuesday, Sept. 22.



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Drum brings in Media Archivist



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Fabian Martinez signed on with The Southern Ute Drum to take on the responsibilities of organizing and archiving the newspaper's decades old collection of printed newspapers, negatives and historic black and white photographs, which date back to the inception of the tribal newspaper in 1969. Martinez has a unique understanding of the Drum's newspaper history as a tribal publication. His years of research starting with his first Drum internship, has provide him with in-depth knowledge of the newspaper archives.



BOBCATS FOOTBALL

Ignacio senior RB flings TD in Florida

Garcia's group takes Tiki Bowl, 24-0

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

There was certainly a look-good-play-good vibe about the Ignacio gridders before they wrapped up an abbreviated 2020 football campaign decimating visiting Del Norte on Senior Night. “Oh yeah,” concurred Joe Garcia, speaking after the 40-0 conquest about the CHSAA Class 1A squad’s brand-new uniforms unveiled not long before kickoff. “Coach [Alfonso Garcia] brought the seniors in, we changed real quick, then went out and showed the rest of the team Everybody was pumped up about it!”

One could therefore imagine how pumped the senior running back/linebacker was to have received his 2021 Hawaii Tiki Bowl togs, and thus amplify his attitude accordingly when it came time to shine amidst



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio’s Joe Garcia (34) shows his first-place award to family, friends and fans following a 24-0 win at the 2021 Hawaii Tiki Bowl—played Jan. 7 inside Orlando, Florida’s Camping World Stadium, a relocation necessitated by COVID-19 precautions. Not used so much for his ball-carrying ability, Garcia still contributed greatly in the victory, completing a trick-play halfback-option pass for Team Laulima’s third – and last – touchdown against Team Lokahi. “You’re told to give a hundred percent, never making up excuses for what you’ve got to do,” he said later that night via phone. “The game was a different experience for me, from the morning until the end. And this gold medal ... it’s really heavy.”

Indigenous 20 Something Project Gathering

January 19 - 20, 2021 Online via Zoom

Registration Fee: FREE For 20 somethings!

About the Training: The Indigenous 20 Something Project (I20SP) is a movement to end intergenerational trauma with their generation (those in or around their 20's). The movement started three years ago when 17 young leaders of the Native Wellness Institute gathered to talk about wellness and healing and what it meant for their generation. They talked about personal accountability and how it's their work and commitment and responsibility to themselves, their nations and future generations to end things like lateral oppression, addictions, chronic negativity, violence, poverty, victim mentality, public shaming and guilt, absent parents, cultural loss, people taking their own lives and so much more. They are tired of Natives having the highest rates of this and the lowest rates of that. They want to see positive change and they want to help others in their generation better understand how trauma impacts current day behavior and strategies for healing. Where there has been trauma, healing is the answer.

The Native Wellness Institute is partnering with the Center for Native American Youth and W R Native and together, we are “calling in” all Indigenous young people who are in their late teens through your early 30's, to come join this unique collaboration where we will gather young people virtually to learn, share, connect and strategize ways to help our generation let go of things that no longer serve us in a good way and how to better live a life of balance. Come invest in yourself and join us!

Training Schedule: Pacific Time Zone 9 – 11 a.m., 12 – 2 p.m., 3 – 4 p.m.

Training Topics

- Historical and intergenerational trauma
- Living in Balance
- Building Team and Trust
- Self care
- Strategies to deal with addiction, lateral oppression, violence and more
- Support Circles
- Elder Wisdom
- Resources

work’ or ‘cooperation’) employed trickery to effectively subdue Team Lokahi (‘unity’) and close out the day’s tripleheader. Taking a shotgun hand-off from 6’4”, 216-pound quarterback Jordan Manley of 6A Winchester, Ky., George Rogers Clark, Garcia scrambled right ... then threw toward the near sideline at Brandon McClendon, Jr., with 11:54 left in the contest. A Kentuckian representing 2A Covington Holy Cross – coached by former Cincinnati Bengal center Bruce Kozerski – McClendon snagged the throw at the 11 then tip-toed to pay-dirt, putting Laulima up 20-zip before K/DE Conner Ramthun (of Minnesota State High School League Class AA Lewiston-Altura) cashed his third point-after kick in as many attempts.

“I got more scared than I should have,” Garcia said with a laugh. “Because at first when I threw it, it looked like I overthrew it out of bounds, but the kid I threw it to ... he had three touchdowns and an interception! So, I threw it to the right kid!”

“It was very competitive here,” he continued, alluding to the week-long experience as a whole. “The coaches talked, the teams talked, we ran scrimmages during the practices – it was really a different atmosphere for me, and definitely a first All the kids were hyped to play and it was ... ecstatic there at the practices. You had to bring it to stand out.”

Doing exactly that in the grand finale, McClendon caught the game’s first TD – a 37-yarder from 5A Nampa, Idaho, Skyview’s Clayton Franssen – as the opening 12-minute quarter expired, on a play initially faked to Garcia in the backfield.

Following a timeout late in the second stanza, Team Laulima struck again with 1:12 before halftime when McClendon split two defenders up the far sideline to haul in a perfect 38-yard rainbow from 6’4”, 220-pound Adrian Stringer – who’d been Laulima’s starting QB – of 4A Madisonville (Ky.) Hopkins County Central.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio’s Joe Garcia (front row, fifth from right) listens to post-game exhortations following Team Laulima’s 24-0 triumph over Team Lokahi at the 2021 Hawaii Tiki Bowl – played Jan. 7 inside Orlando, Florida’s Camping World Stadium, a relocation necessitated by COVID-19 precautions.

Garcia again found himself on the field as part of the PAT crew as Laulima entered intermission up two scores. Having missed an ice-breaking 35-yard field goal with 5:05 left in the first quarter, Ramthun would later ice the game with a straight-on 30-yard try and just 6:17 remaining until the coaches received surprise ‘Gatorade baths’ when the clock zeroed out. McClendon’s Tiki-torching of Team Lokahi’s defense warranted MVP consideration, though in post-game interviews streamed online, Colorado standout receiver/tight end Cole Walker (5A Broomfield Legacy) was praised in a postgame interview for multiple possession-sustaining catches, many via Stringer throws.

2A Woodland Park WR/DB Tyler Baldus, Legacy guard/long snapper Austin Stallan, plus 1A (8-man) Dove Creek’s Gauge Thompson also represented the Centennial State under Laulima mentors Zach Crissup (named in Sept. 2020 the head coach at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College) and Trent Hosick (a former QB at University of Missouri, Arizona Western College and Youngstown State University – after de-committing from Brigham Young University – in Ohio).

“I was actually surprised when – I was kneeling on the ground – I heard ‘Dove Creek,’” recalled Garcia. “I looked behind me like ‘Who

said that?’ Then I was like, ‘You’re from Dove Creek?’ (Thompson) said, ‘Yeah.’ I said, ‘Dove Creek, COLORADO?’ He was like, ‘YEAH!’ Even more crazy ... he was on my team too!” “I met quite a few kids down there, kids from Idaho, Kentucky, California, Oklahoma, Oregon,” he added, “just kids from all over. We got to ride the bus ... to the stadium, and we got out, went straight to the locker room – the locker rooms were all nice – and were just treated like royalty.”

And why not? The 2020 FBC Mortgage Cure Bowl had been played December 26th at CWS, with 23rd-ranked Liberty shocking No. 12 Coastal Carolina 37-34 in overtime, and school colors of Auburn and No. 14 Northwestern – pit New Year’s Day in the 2021 Vrbo Citrus Bowl, won 35-19 by the highly-rated Wildcats – were still painted and prominent in the end zones.

But in Joe Garcia’s mind, that wasn’t really the ultimate point of being a Tiki Bowl-er – even a victorious one. In the end, it was still mostly about carrying himself in a manner befitting his school, which had in the past produced players seeking out destinations such as Australia for the Down Under Games’ own showcase-style action.

“I take great pride in that,” he said, of bringing IHS’ banner east to the Sunshine State and, more or less, west to the String of Pearls. “When I was asked,

it was such an honor and I wanted to go so bad. And I try to stay humble about it; I didn’t really, like, brag about it. I just wanted to ... go show everybody little Ignacio and what can happen when you’re from there. Just wanted to make everyone in Ignacio proud.”

“Dealing with college coaches, being around kids who know the game of football and love it that much – or as much as me – was just a great experience. Everything we did this week You’ve just got to want it; it’s about who wants it more,” he emphasized. “And it was definitely worth it. My first time ever coming down to Florida, and I loved it – me and my mom were talking about planning another trip down!”

DID YOU KNOW

Had Ignacio skipper ‘Ponch’ Garcia made the World League of American Football Orlando Thunder’s final 1991 roster he’d have played at CWS regularly, though the historic venue was known then by its more familiar ‘Florida Citrus Bowl’ name – in 1983, the Florida Department of Citrus had become the site’s title sponsor for \$250,000; recreational-vehicle industry heavyweight Camping World acquired naming rights on April 27, 2016. “He [Ponch] encouraged me to go and was pretty excited,” said Joe Garcia. “Can’t wait to get back to school and tell him about it!”

More Bobcats online at www.sudrum.com

ATTENTION: All Tribal Parks and Playgrounds are closed until further notice

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 fine and/or up to 30 days in jail. Please practice social distancing.



TRIBAL OBITUARIES



4th grade. Anyone who met Albie loved him and people would who knew him would always ask about him. Albie worked various jobs around Durango, like Albertson's and City Market. He was loved by the communities in lived and worked in. Albie also participated in the Special Olympics in Centennial, CO.

He is survived by his brother Wesley Vigil and family of Dulce, New Mexico and Levi Vigil, numerous nieces and nephews and other relatives in Ignacio, CO, Fort Duchene, Utah, Towaoc, CO and Dulce, NM.

He is preceded in death by his mother LaVeta W.; father Eldred Sr.; siblings, Eldred Jr. Glenda, Elroy and Rueben Vigil; nieces Patricia Vicenti and Kyleigha Vigil; grandparents, Ella Weaver, Fred Pinnecose, Lindo and Bessie Vigil, along with numerous other relatives.

I, Wesley Vigil would like to thank The Southern Ute Tribe, Community Connections, The Connolly House, Four Corners Rehabilitation Center, Hospice of Durango and particularly Hood Mortuary and Staff.

Cremation has occurred and a private burial will take place at Ouray Cemetery in Ignacio, Colorado, due to COVID-19 restrictions, no gathering will be allowed. A memorial service will be held later in 2021 when it is safe to do so.

Mass was held on Jan. 7, 2021 at 9 a.m. at St. Ignatius Catholic church with Fr. Cesar officiating followed by interment of ashes at Ouray Cemetery.

VIGIL – Albie Lino Vigil (56) was born on May 23, 1964 and passed away on December 15, 2020 at the Hospice House in Durango, Colorado.

Albie was born to LaVeta W. Vigil and Eldred A. Vigil Sr. in Durango.

He liked the Denver Broncos and loved to bowl at the Rolling Thunder Bowling Alley at Sky Ute Casino in Ignacio. He also loved the Dukes of Hazzard show, particularly Boss Hogg (Sorrell Booke) whom he met and Luke n Bo. He cherished his General Lee car and would play with it so much, it would get worn out and thus he was gifted another one.

Albie went to school in Ignacio until

EXPRESS YOUR OPINIONS



SAINT IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH WISHES EVERYONE:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

May the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ bring Consolation and Hope to all those strained by illness, to families experiencing challenges, to our youth, those who have lost their jobs and those living moments of grief and loss due to the pandemic.

We take this opportunity to thank all who, in the different areas of social, civil, religious, health and economic responsibility, are working vigorously to alleviate and resolve the dramatic situation we are living.

May the New Year of 2021 be for all of us a time of commitment, courage, and personal renewal. May we place the old behind and look at the future with hope and an open heart to recognize the Creator's presence in our daily life.

Be assured of our prayers through this year of 2021.

Fr. Cesar Arras, C.R.



BIA/BLM/ONRR/BTFA Oil and Gas Individual Indian Mineral Owner Question and Answer Session

The next joint BIA/BLM/ONRR/BTFA oil and gas individual Indian mineral owner question and answer session will be a Call-In meeting on **Wednesday, Jan. 27, from 1 to 2 p.m. (MST)**. Please let me know as soon as possible if you, or if someone in your office would be available to call in for this meeting with us and I will send the leader passcode. Also, if you have any suggestions and/or contact information of advertising companies such newspapers, radio, bulletins, etc., for any places you believe that would be a good place to advertise this allottee Q&A session, please let me know.

A little about this meeting:

The leaders of the meeting will be given a leader passcode and will be unmuted the entire call. We will send out a separate participant passcode to individuals through our regular outreach advertising methods (mail, newspaper, radio). Individuals that call in will be in listen only mode but will have the ability to press a button to ask a question to the leaders. On **Monday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. (MST)**, we will have a pre-meeting to discuss who will be attending and go over updates that we would like to mention/discuss at the Q&A session, if any.

9 Week Adult Pottery Class at ELHI

Join potter, Margie Coates, at Dancing Spirit Community Arts Center for a 9-week adult pottery class each Wednesday at 10 a.m. Classes cost \$20 per session plus a one-time \$35 materials fee. Students will learn the expressive potential of hand-building with clay through pinch, coil, and slab construction and will be introduced to the potter's wheel, for beginning and intermediate students. Basic throwing skills will be taught, as well as design and decorative techniques for functional pottery forms. Individual interests and skills will drive the class.

2021 BGC Membership NOW OPEN!

Club is currently closed and will remain closed until further notice. Your registration will allow participation in virtual programming opportunities and reserve a spot for in person programming when we open back up.

As of Thursday, December 31, 2020 all BGC memberships expired, meaning EVERYONE will need to submit new paperwork.

For Club Members who were registered for year 2020:

Step 1: Download the Club Member Application under the "Join" tab on our website bgcsu.org

Step 2: Email completed form to bgcstaff@southernute-nsn.gov. (2020 fees will roll over to 2021)

For New Club Members or Members not registered for year 2020:

Step 1: Download the Club Member Application under the "Join" tab on our website bgcsu.org

Step 2: Email completed form to bgcstaff@southernute-nsn.gov.

Step 3: Pay annual registration fee on-line at bgcsu.org. Click on the "Donate" tab and add "Annual Registration Fee" to your cart. Add a note with your child's name and age. Registration fee for Southern Ute Tribal Members is \$5.00. All other members pay a \$15.00 annual fee.

You will receive a confirmation email when we receive all required components of your registration. We can only accept on-line payments at this time. We apologize for any inconvenience. We will need to cap registration, so it is recommended to register as soon as possible.

For questions or more information:
(970)563-4753 or casanchez@southernute-nsn.gov



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

2021 The Southern Ute Drum Deadlines

DEADLINE	PUBLISH DATE	FEDERAL & TRIBAL HOLIDAYS	OFFICE CLOSURE
Jan. 11	Jan. 15	New Year's Day (Jan. 1)	Jan. 1
Jan. 25	Jan. 29	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Jan. 18)	Jan. 18
Feb. 8	Feb. 12		
Feb. 22	Feb. 26	President's Day (Feb. 15)	Feb. 15
Mar. 8	Mar. 12		
Mar. 22	Mar. 26		
Apr. 5	Apr. 9		
Apr. 19	Apr. 23		
May 3	May 7		
May 17	May 21		
May 28*	June 4	Memorial Day (May 31)	May 31
Jun. 14	June 18		
Jun. 28	July 2		
July 12	July 16	Independence Day (July 4)	July 5
July 26	July 30		
Aug. 9	Aug. 13		
Aug. 23	Aug. 27		
Sep. 3*	Sep. 10		
Sep. 20	Sep. 24	Labor Day (Sep. 6)	Sep. 6
Oct. 4	Oct. 8		
Oct. 18	Oct. 22		
Nov. 1	Nov. 5		
Nov. 15	Nov. 19	Veterans Day (Nov. 11)	Nov. 11 & 12
Nov. 29	Dec. 3	Thanksgiving (Nov. 25)	Nov. 25 & 26
Dec. 13	Dec. 17	Leonard C. Burch Day (Dec. 10)	Dec. 10
Dec. 23*	Dec. 30	Christmas (Dec. 25)	Dec. 24

* Denotes Early Deadline

NOTICE: All content, including classifieds ads, display ads, RFP/RFB notices, job announcements, stories and articles, press releases, letters, birthday greetings and holiday wishes must be submitted by the posted deadline. Anything submitted **AFTER DEADLINE** will be considered for the next issue. Requests for design work must be submitted by 5 p.m. on the above posted deadline dates. The Drum reserves the right to edit all materials for spelling, grammar, clarity and libel.

THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM • 970-563-0118 • www.sudrum.com
Email: sudrum@southernute-nsn.gov • Mailing: PO Box 737, #96, Ignacio, CO 81137
Physical Address: 356 Ouray Drive, Ignacio, Colo. (Leonard C. Burch Building, 2nd floor)

Drum Deadline

Next issue
Jan. 29

Deadline
Jan. 25

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

THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$29 per year • \$49 two years
PHONE: 970-563-0100 • DIRECT: 970-563-0118
TOLL FREE: 1-800-772-1236 • FAX: 970-563-0391

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

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



**BEFORE THE SOUTHERN UTE ETHICS COMMISSION
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
Case No. 2020-007
IN THE MATTER OF THE ETHICS COMPLAINT FILED**

COMPLAINANT
Southern Ute Veterans Association

RESPONDENT
Cheryl Frost,
Tribal Council Vice Chairman

DECISION

This matter came before the Ethics Commission for hearing on December 7, 2020. Commission Chairman Eddie Box, Jr.; Pearl Casias; Lena Atencio; and Bertha Box were present, constituting a quorum. Patricia A. Hall of Maynes, Bradford, Shippis & Sheftel, LLP, was present as legal counsel to the Ethics Commission. Complainant, the Southern Ute Veterans Association (SUVA), was present through its Treasurer and member, Bruce LeClaire, who served as an advisory witness to SUVA's legal counsel, Bobby Duthie. The Respondent, Cheryl Frost, was present representing herself. The Ethics Office was present through its Director, Chris Mimmack, represented by Legal Department attorneys David Smith and Anthony Maestas. Hearing Officer David Gomez presided over the hearing, which was conducted virtually due to restrictions in place caused by Covid-19. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Commission set a date for deliberations and then adjourned. The Commissioners who were present at the December 7, 2020, hearing reconvened virtually on December 9, 2020, for conducting a discussion of the evidence and their deliberations. Prior to any discussion of the evidence, Commissioner Lena Atencio asked if she should disqualify herself from participation in the meeting due to the Respondent's having presented testimony at the hearing concerning a pending personnel matter. Because the personnel matter referenced directly involved Commissioner Atencio and because Respondent apparently believed it was relevant to the allegations in the Ethics Complaint, Ms. Hall thanked Commissioner Atencio and advised that, since there would still be a quorum without Commissioner Atencio's participation, disqualification would be prudent. Commissioner Atencio then exited the meeting and did not participate in the deliberations or decision.

After hearing the testimony of members of the SUV A, Ethics Investigator Hal Koenig, and Respondent Cheryl Frost, and after reviewing the exhibits admitted into evidence, the Ethics Commission finds, by clear and convincing evidence, as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Complainant in this case, SUVA, is an all-volunteer group of veterans, which has been active since the mid-1980s, providing tribal representation at local events and details at veteran funerals.
2. Veterans are highly regarded and respected among Southern Utes and by all Native American cultures because of their service to our country.
3. The SUVA Board is appointed by the Tribal Council and works with the Executive Office within the Tribal Administration; Co-Executive Officer McKean Walton served in this administrative capacity at the time this Complaint arose.
4. There is a chain of command required by Southern Ute Tribal policy, and following the established chain of command is also an essential component of military service.
5. Respondent Cheryl Frost was an elected Tribal Council member and served as Vice-Chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe at all times relevant to the Complaint.
6. At all times relevant to this Complaint Bruce LeClaire was a Permanent Fund Tribal employee, serving as the Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Ute Boys and Girls Club; Mr. LeClaire was also a member of SUVA, serving as the organization's treasurer.
7. On May 28, 2020, Respondent Cheryl Frost sent an email from her official tribal email account to Bruce LeClaire at his tribal employee email address and copied it to the Tribal Chairman and both Executive Officers, McKean Walton and Barbara Scott-Rarick. The email stated that "your Southern Ute veterans' group" had omitted her grandfather's name on the SUVA's Memorial Day information and further stated: "I would like to think there's a small iota of brains in yours and others head (sic) but I see no evidence." The

email concluded with "you all do a lousy job." (Exhibit 1)

8. Bruce LeClaire replied to Respondent Cheryl Frost with an email addressed to "Councilwoman Frost," referring her concern up the SUVA chain of command and copying the SUVA Commander and Vice Commander. Mr. LeClaire also copied the Tribal Chairman and both Executive Officers, as Respondent Cheryl Frost had copied them on her email to Mr. LeClaire. (Exhibit 2)
9. Bruce LeClaire testified that, as a tribal employee and a non-Southern Ute, being Lakota, he found Vice-Chairman Cheryl Frost's email upsetting because his supervisor, who does his evaluations, was copied; this caused him concern for his job. Mr. LeClaire felt he had done his best to build his professional reputation and that of the Southern Ute Boys and Girls Club; he considered the email he received a personal attack. Given the circumstances, Bruce LeClaire's reaction was reasonable.
10. Respondent Cheryl Frost, as a Tribal official and Vice-Chairman, should have known and followed the chain of command by contacting Co-Executive Officer McKean Walton if she had concerns about SUVA.
11. Respondent Cheryl Frost sent an email, using her tribal Vice-Chairman email, to a tribal employee, an email that officers of SUVA considered derogatory and disrespectful. The SUVA members as a group then voted to bring the Vice-Chairman's conduct to the attention of the Ethics Office because it was directed to Bruce LeClaire, a tribal employee; used the words "you" and "your" throughout; and caused Mr. LeClaire to feel intimidated and in fear of suffering adverse consequences. (Exhibits 3 and 5)
12. In her testimony Respondent Cheryl Frost admitted she should have used her personal email instead of tribal email and that she was "guilty of abuse of power."

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. At all times relevant to the Complaint in this case, Respondent Cheryl Frost was a member of the Tribal Council and, therefore, an "Elected Tribal Official" pursuant to § 19-1-104 (17).
2. Respondent Cheryl Frost abused her authority and position as Tribal Vice-Chairman in violation of § 19-2-101 of the Code of Ethics.
3. Respondent Cheryl Frost violated § 19-2-111 of the Code of Ethics by transmitting a derogatory and intimidating email from her official tribal email to a tribal employee and copying his supervisor, the Co-Executive Officer and the Tribal Chairman.

ORDER

The Ethics Commission, having determined that Respondent Cheryl Frost violated the above stated provisions of the Code of Ethics, imposes the following penalties:

1. A written reprimand will be issued to Cheryl Frost, which will become part of her permanent record.
2. Within 20 days of this Decision, as a corrective action, Cheryl Frost shall provide a written apology to the SUV A for her derogatory and disrespectful email.
3. Within 20 days of this Decision, as a corrective action, Cheryl Frost shall provide a written apology to Bruce LeClaire for her derogatory and intimidating email.
4. As restitution and costs of the proceedings, Cheryl Frost is required to pay the following:
 - a. Investigative costs of \$3,282.50;
 - b. Hearing Officer costs of \$4,545.25;
 - c. SUVA attorney fees in an amount to be determined; and
 - d. Ethics Commission attorney fees for Commission proceedings in the amount of \$1,962.68.
5. Attorney fees for SUV A shall be submitted by Mr. Duthie, counsel for SUV A, within ten days for review by the Commission.
6. This Decision of the Ethics Commission shall be published in the Southern Ute Drum.

Dated this 17 day of December, 2020.
Eddie Box, Jr.,
Chairman, Ethics Commission

**BEFORE THE SOUTHERN UTE ETHICS COMMISSION
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
Case No. 2020-007
IN THE MATTER OF THE ETHICS COMPLAINT FILED**

COMPLAINANT
Southern Ute Veterans Association

RESPONDENT
Cheryl Frost,
Tribal Council Vice Chairman

DECISION

This matter came before the Ethics Commission on January 7, 2021, for a review of Complainant's attorney fees and a determination on assessing them against Respondent as a penalty. Commission Chairman Eddie Box, Jr.; Pearl Casias; and Bertha Box were present, constituting a quorum. Raymond Baker and Lena Atencio were absent, having disqualified themselves from this case. Patricia A. Hall of Maynes, Bradford, Shippis & Sheftel, LLP, was present as legal counsel to the Ethics Commission. The Ethics Office was present

through its Director, Chris Mimmack, and Executive Assistant, Jessica Anthony.

After reviewing the itemized billing submitted by Bobby Duthie, attorney for the Southern Ute Veterans Association (SUVA), and discussing the rights of the parties to be represented, the Ethics Commission finds that the legal fees are reasonable, especially in light of the discounted hourly rate charged, and that these fees should be assessed against Respondent Cheryl Frost as a penalty for her violations of the Ethics Code.

Therefore, it is ordered that Respondent Cheryl Frost pay the amount of \$5,500.00 to SUVA as reimbursement of its attorney fees incurred in this case.

Dated this 7 day of January, 2021.
Eddie Box, Jr.
Chairman, Ethics Commission

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

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB BOARD

Open until filled – The Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe is currently looking to fill volunteer Board Member positions. A majority of the committee shall be tribal members. The Board of Directors is responsible for knowing and effectively articulating the mission, vision, core values, goals, policies, and program areas of the Club. Members of the Board must attend meetings regularly and attend applicable committee meetings on a regular basis; also attend a minimum of one priority event and one Club event annually. Members must maintain confidentiality of sensitive information and conduct oneself as a model for children in a manner that exemplifies high character. Interested parties must pick up an application available on the www.bgsu.org website or by request from Mr. Bruce LeClaire at 970-563-2694 or bleclaire@southernute-nsn.gov. Applications must be returned to Mr. LeClaire.

CREDIT COMMITTEE

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.

ELECTION BOARD – ALTERNATE BOARD MEMBER

The Southern Ute Election Board is seeking one (1) Alternate Board Member. The closing date is Friday, Jan. 29, 2021 at 5 p.m. Qualifications: 11-2-102, (1) & (3): Must be a Southern Ute Tribal Registered Voter. Must reside within the exterior boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Shall not have been convicted of a felony, and shall not have been convicted of a misdemeanor involving dishonesty or fraud within five years immediately preceding appointment to the Election Board. The Election Board is a paid committee, IRS Guidelines, a Criminal Background Check is necessary. Southern Ute Employee benefits are offered, and you will be considered an Official of the Southern Ute Tribe. Please submit your letter of Intent to: Southern Ute Indian Tribe-Election Board P. O. Box 737 #32, Ignacio,

CO 81137. Physical Location: 285 Lakin St., Ignacio, CO 81137. Contact the Election Board at 970-563-0100 ext. 2303/2305 or via email: electionboard@southernute-nsn.gov

GAMING COMMISSION

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.

JOHNSON O'MALLEY COMMITTEE

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?

WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD FOR 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.

IGNACIO CREATIVE DISTRICT

LOGO COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS INTERESTED IN:

- *Community outreach and marketing
- * Developing submission guidelines
- *Judging logo submissions
- *Regular committee meetings

Applications available at:

The IGNACIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY
470 GODDARD AVE. IGNACIO COLORADO

DEADLINE TO APPLY: 1.20. 2021
IgnacioCreativeDistrict@gmail.com

THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

Advertise in your newspaper call 970-563-0118!
And be sure to check out our website at
www.sudrum.com



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 Jan. 8, 2021

- Gaming Commission, Licensing Agent – Closing 1/15/21
- Administration, Chairman's Secretary – Closing 1/20/21
- RRI, Program Assistant (Part-time) – Closing 1/22/21
- RRI, Advocate (Full-time) – Closing 1/22/21
- RRI, OVC Apprentice – Closing 1/22/21
- Child Development Center, Day Care Teacher (Full-time) – Until Filled
- Child Development Center, Assistant Cook (Part-time) – Until Filled
- Child Development Center, Paraprofessional (Full-time) – Closing 2/5/21
- Child Development Center, Family Service Manager – Until Filled
- Counseling and Treatment, CAC II Counselor – Until Filled
- Diabetes Prevention, Diabetes Nurse – Until Filled
- Judicial Services, Bailiff – Until Filled
- Mineral Audit, Auditor – Until Filled
- Public Safety, Police Officer – Until Filled
- Public Works, Propane Driver – Until Filled
- Public Works, Relief Propane Driver – Until Filled
- Public Safety, WM – Security – Until Filled
- Shelter, House Parent (Full/Part-time) – Until Filled
- Social Services, Case Worker I – Until Filled
- WM-Recreation, Director's Assistant (Part-time) – Until Filled

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

Assistant Facilities Operations Manager

Closes 1/26/21 – Assists SunUte Director with the operations and internal coordination of SunUte Community Center activities. Assists with the development of marketing, special events, special projects and public relations. Oversees and supports staff, operational procedures, facility set-up/breakdown, scheduling of activities and inventory management. Will have managerial responsibilities guiding and scheduling employees. Pay grade 18; \$18.96/hour.

Custodian

Closes 1/21/21 – Daily cleaning of Southern Ute Indian Tribe Buildings and offices. Pay grade 12; \$10.91/hour.

Farm Heavy Equipment Operator

Closes 1/21/21 – Under general supervision of the Field Supervisor provides routine maintenance and safe operation of farm equipment in carrying out tasks and work orders related to custom farming for the Agriculture Division. Position may require an employee to be placed on a winter furlough period of at least two months per year, but not more than four months. Pay grade 16; \$15.65/hour.

Language & Culture Educator (Part-time)

Closes 1/19/21 – Southern Ute tribal members only. Assists Tribal Members, staff, clients, and the community in reaching the goals and objectives of the Cultural Preservation Department. Teaching the Ute history, culture, and folklore through the language and culture curriculum and instruction. Pay grade 17; \$17.20/hour.

Public Education Tutor (Part-time/Temp)

Closes 1/19/21 – Guiding students to improve their academic performance through extended lessons, creative teaching, and interactive materials. Will work one-on-one or with small groups of students. Position pays \$30/hour.

Air Quality Analyst

Open Until Filled – 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. This position is grant funded; continued employment is contingent on renewed funding. Pay grade 19; \$21.32/hour.

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, but are not limited to, 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, will assume the Associate Internal Auditor 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 Officer

Open Until Filled – 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.

Family Court Caseworker

Open Until Filled – Providing guardian ad litem, special advocacy, parent coordination, and mediation services as assigned through Court appointment and clinical supervisor. Psycho-social educational classes for youth as assigned by clinical supervisor. Case management activities and/or counseling services involving assigned adults and juveniles. Position is both Tribal funded and grant funded. Full time status is contingent on grant funding. Pay grade 20; \$48,898/year.

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 Therapist (Part-time w/benefits)

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

Plumber

Open Until Filled – Installation, repair and maintenance of mechanical and plumbing equipment to include gas, water and sewer, piping and fixtures. Must be capable of both small and large scale work and have the dexterity to maneuver in small spaces. Pay grade 19; \$21.32/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. Position is grant funded; continued employment is contingent on grant funds. Pay grade 23; \$69,597/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. This is for both part-time and full-time temporary positions.

TERO Worker

Open Until Filled – Position is 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. This is for both part-time and full-time temporary positions.

Southern Ute Growth Fund • Job announcements

Please visit our website at www.sugf.com/jobs.asp for full job details and to apply online. Tribal Member employment preference • Must pass pre-employment drug test/background check. Southern Ute Growth Fund, Human Resources • P.O. Box 367 • Ignacio, CO
Phone: 970-563-5064 • Job hotline: 970-563-5024.

Offshore Subsurface Manager – Red Willow Production Co. LLC (Houston, TX)

Closing 2/10/21 – Under the general direction of the Executive VP, this position is responsible for leading an integrated team of geoscientists, reservoir engineers and technicians in ongoing exploration, development, and production related assignments. Evaluates the overall effect of opportunities on the organization's performance. Responsible for executing all phases of the exploration and production business in the Deepwater Gulf of Mexico; leveraging off a sound technical and economic understanding of all opportunities. Understands the impact of commodity pricing to long term plans and strategy. Leads team that generate economic and strategic evaluations of current and future investment and divestment opportunities and makes appropriate recommendations. Minimum qualifications: Master's degree in Geology and ten years of relevant work experience in oil and gas exploration, OR a Bachelor's degree in Engineering and fifteen years of experience in oil and gas exploration. Must have at least 5 years of oil and gas exploration and production in the Deepwater Gulf of Mexico or other Deepwater areas. Must have strong knowledge of offshore operations. Must have experience managing technical staff. Must have strong business acumen, understanding of oil and gas economic drivers, and decision making ability. Must have strong computer-based data management and analysis skills, including the ability to oversee the running of project economics. Must have a willingness to assist others, learn new skills, and participate in a productive team-oriented environment. Must have valid driver's license for state of residency and be insurable under RWPC's vehicle insurance policy. Must pass a pre-employment drug test and criminal history background check

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, wear a mask, temperature will be taken upon entry.

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.**



2021 Trash Permits HAVE ARRIVED

Tribal members should request a permit to be mailed by contacting the Southern Ute Utilities Division at 970.563.5500, M-F from 8 am to 12 pm. Please verify the address on file. Permits are required to dump waste.

Permits are for enrolled Southern Ute tribal members only.



YOU ARE INVITED!

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INDIAN MINERAL OWNER TELEPHONE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

WHERE: Join us by phone from the safety and comfort of your home! Just call the number on the right and follow the prompts. Feel free to come and go as you like!



WHEN: January 27, 2021
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. MST
PHONE NUMBER: 1-888-566-7708
PASSCODE: 6124439

WHAT TO HAVE READY: Any specific documents you would like to discuss.

Representatives from various Federal Agencies responsible for managing trust minerals will be available to answer your mineral ownership and/or royalty questions regardless of where your allotment is located.

We are still available Monday through Friday to answer any questions about your mineral royalties. Please contact the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) at 1-800-982-3226.

ONRR now has short videos available to answer your frequently asked questions! Go to [Youtube.com/user/ONRRChannel](https://www.youtube.com/user/ONRRChannel)

Southern Ute Tribal Offices will closed

Monday, Jan. 18 in observance of

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Covid operational hours will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 19.



Have You Checked This Out Yet?

Ignacio Community Library is pleased to share with you the digitization of the IGNACIO CHIEFTAIN newspapers from the years 1931 to 1970. This has been made possible by a grant through the Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection, which is a service of the Colorado State Library.

Gain access to this to find information, explore the area's history, and more at www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org



SOUTHERN UTE FORESTRY
Firewood for Southern Ute members

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.



did you know?!



A cubic foot of snow contains
between 1 and 2 million
individual snowflakes.

Source: https://www.weather.gov/wrn/winter_hazard_infographics

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, Jan. 15



46°F sunny
Calm morning winds

Saturday, Jan. 16



47°F mostly sunny

Sunday, Jan. 17



45°F sunny

Weather forecasts collected from www.weather.gov



INTERNET
connectivity
ISSUES?

Collecting data is
important to the Tribe to
evaluate where service
needs to be implemented
and/or improved!



Photo Credit | Lindsay J. Box

The Tribe needs your help collecting data about your internet connection and speed. This data will be used to evaluate where internet service can be improved in order to keep you connected to your school, work, and healthcare providers. The Tribe is applying for grant funding in order to build the infrastructure required to increase internet availability and usability across the Reservation and surrounding areas.

IF YOU DO HAVE INTERNET

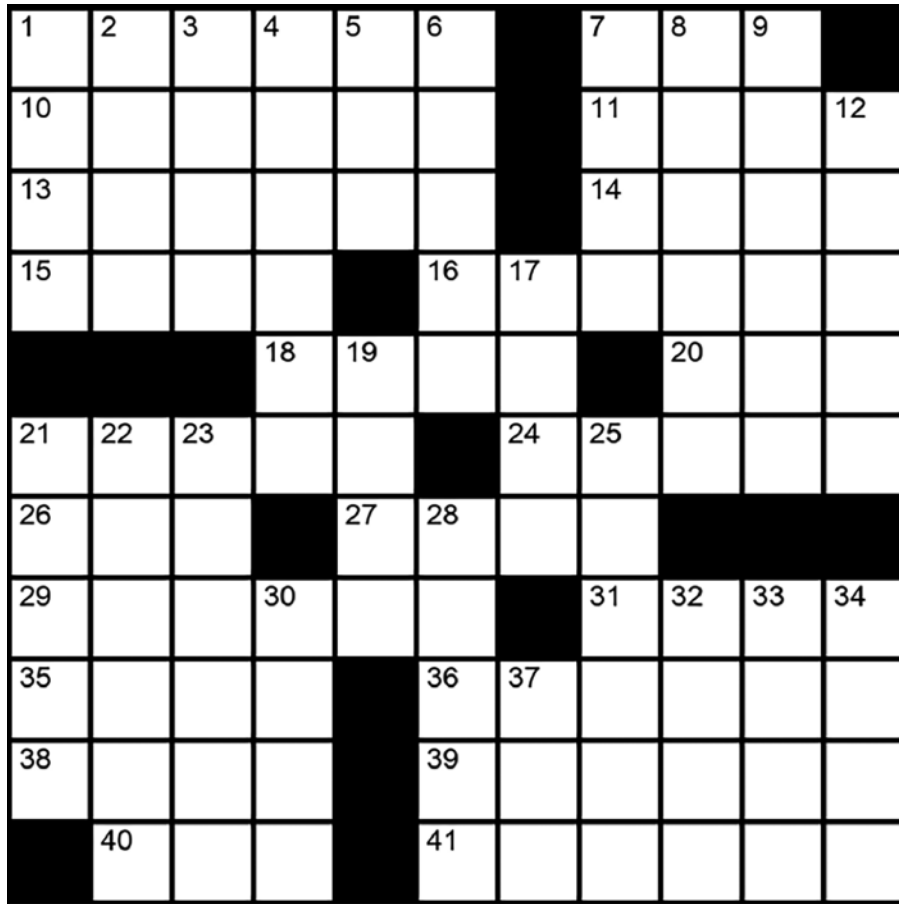
If you live on the reservation, or near its borders, please visit this site from home to conduct this test:

<https://bit.ly/20SUbST>

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET

If you do not have access to the internet where you live (not including cellular data), please contact the SUSS Help Desk at 970.563.5050.

The Southern Ute Drum's
Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Like Ouray's father
- 7 Class
- 10 Put down again
- 11 Dignitary's spot
- 13 De menthe and de cacao, for example
- 14 Spoils or plunder
- 15 The Admiral Graf ---, scuttled at Montevideo in 1939
- 16 Punching combination
- 18 Comedienne and actress --- Fey
- 20 Familiar saying
- 21 Disorder
- 24 Grinch inventor
- 26 Boat propeller
- 27 19th century Northern Paiute leader Pony Blanket
- 29 Confusion alerts one on the roof
- 31 "Rendezvous with ---" (Arthur C Clarke novel)
- 35 Sir --- Belch (Shakespearean character in "Twelfth Night")
- 36 Actors' remarks to the audience
- 38 What the connected have
- 39 Buckskin Charley
- 40 Poker bullet
- 41 Fort Fred ---, whose soldiers entered a Ute reservation in 1879

Down

- 1 Curves
- 2 Police word for criminal
- 3 On the sheltered side of a ship
- 4 Awoke
- 5 Go quickly, old-style
- 6 Pele's first name
- 7 Doing nothing
- 8 Founder of Taoism
- 9 Red River attackers
- 12 Stashes away
- 17 They have ideas far above the rest of us
- 19 "That explains it"
- 21 Spanish land by the sea
- 22 Zuni homeland --- Idiwan'a
- 23 Language of the Koran
- 25 Punier mixture isn't ready to eat
- 28 The Battle of the Greasy ---
- 30 Daly of "Cagney & Lacey"
- 32 As straight as ---
- 33 Ground-up corn
- 34 Arthur --- Stadium
- 37 Posed

Answers for this crossword will appear in Jan. 29 issue of the Drum.

Answers for Dec. 30, 2020 Crossword Puzzle

Across: 1 Olmecs, 7 Prep, 11 Height, 12 Holt, 13 Margie, 14 USMA, 15 Splits, 17 Rip open, 20 ILS, 23 Irene, 24 Sana'a, 26 Baa, 27 Weeping, 29 Fiance, 31 N-COs, 33 Dumbled, 37 Tawa, 38 Oraibi, 39 Halt, 40 Went by.
Down: 1 Ohm, 2 Lea, 3 Mir, 4 Eggs on, 5 Chippewa, 6 Steele, 7 Phut, 8 Rossini, 9 Elm, 10 P-TA, 16 Insecure, 17 Rib, 18 Ira, 19 Peafowl, 21 LAN, 22 Sag, 25 Apeman, 28 Endow, 30 Is At, 31 Nth, 32 CAA, 34 Bit, 35 Ebb, 36 DIY.