



Museum shares art of beading

PAGE 3



Hot streak for Ignacio Lady 'Cats

PAGE 14

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Winner of 10 Colorado Press Association & five Indigenous Journalists Awards in 2023



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Newly elected Chairman Melvin J. Baker completes his oath to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe marking the beginning of his second term in office on Monday, Dec. 18 during the Southern Ute Tribal Council Inauguration Ceremony. Held at the Sky Ute Casino, friends, relatives, and visiting dignitaries gathered to celebrate the inauguration of both Chairman Baker and newly elected Councilman Marty Pinnecoose.

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Baker leads Tribe into second term with new council

Staff Report  
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe welcomed Chairman, Melvin J. Baker and Council Member, Marty Pinnecoose during the Inauguration Ceremony at Sky Ute Casino Resort, Monday, Dec 18. Surrounded by family, tribal members, and visiting dignitaries, the ceremony marked a momentous occasion for the Tribe as it embraced Council Member Pinnecoose for his first term and Chairman Baker for his second term as Chairman.

Chairman Melvin J. Baker, a dedicated advocate for

tribal sovereignty, brings a wealth of experience to his new term. Baker previously served four terms on Tribal Council. With a commitment to preserving and enhancing the resources, tradition, and identity of the Pino Nuuchiu, Chairman Baker is poised to lead the Tribe with vision and resilience. “Your faith in my leadership is truly inspiring. I am deeply grateful for your unwavering support and the privilege of serving as Chairman for another term,” Baker said.

Council Member Marty Pinnecoose looks forward to beginning to his first term on Tribal Council. Pinneco-

ose had a multi-faceted career that included working as a journeyman ironworker, actor, teacher, role model, businessman. “I would like to thank the tribal membership for their vote of confidence, I am eager to learn, to listen, and to grow alongside you. This is not my seat alone, it is a shared space built on trust and collaboration,” Pinnecoose said.

Chairman Baker has selected Lorelei Cloud to serve as his Vice Chairman. The appointment for the Executive Office will be announced in the coming days.

For more information, please contact Tribal Council Affairs at 970-563-2319.

Introducing the Tribal Council



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Introducing the newly elected Southern Ute Tribal Council for 2023-24, pictured left to right: Andrew Gallegos, Marty Pinnecoose, Vice Chair Lorelei Cloud, Chairman Melvin J. Baker, Marge Barry, Treasurer Marvin Pinnecoose, and Vanessa Torres in the Hall of Warriors. The Southern Ute General Election was held Friday, Dec 3, followed by a run-off election on Friday, Dec. 15 for the Chairman and remaining council seat. The newly elected council members include Chairman Baker for a second term in office, Gallegos and Pinnecoose serving their first terms as members of the Tribal Council.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Thriftway to get full makeover, Sinclair branding

New Piinu Nuuchi Travel center to undergo renovations



courtesy SU Economic Development

The Tribe negotiated a \$2 million renovation of the Thriftway gas station, which will be rebranded as the Piinu Nuuchi Travel Center, including a full renovation of the existing building and paved parking areas.

By Jeremy Wade Shockley  
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

Ignacio’s iconic Thriftway gas station and mini mart has already begun to take on a newer, more modern look in recent weeks. Aging fuel pumps have already been replaced with state-of-the-art touchscreens and the familiar green and white Sinclair branding. This is just one facet of a \$2 million overhaul of the entire facility that will take place over the course of the four

to five months, including a full renovation of the existing building and paved parking areas.

“The Tribe negotiated a new long-term lease and Thriftway did put forth the proposal to invest in the facility in exchange for a longer lease,” said Colton Black, the Tribe’s Economic Development Manager for the Permanent Fund. “[The Tribe negotiated for a] 1.8-million-dollar renovation of the interior, basically the whole store is get-

ting gutted and remodeled.”

The initiative came from the Tribe’s Economic Development office who worked closely with Mead Harbison, Business Development Specialist from the Southern Ute Growth Fund, Senior Tribal Attorney, James Washinawatok with the Tribe’s Legal Department and Bob Moss, President of Thriftway.

“They [Thriftway] originally pitched it as a Dino

Thriftway page 2

SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND

GF Properties announces Mulvany as president

Morrissey retires, leaving strong legacy at GF

Staff report  
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

GF Properties Group, a company owned and operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Growth Fund, announces the retirement of Patrick Morrissey as President/COO and company’s new leadership under Brian Mulvany. GF Properties is a leading real estate firm, managing a diverse portfolio across 15 states, encompassing 37 assets, including multifamily industrial, land development, and other property types. Known for its strategic expertise in asset management, the company excels in acquiring income-producing properties and optimizing returns, continually growing its portfolio.

Under the leadership of Morrissey, GF Properties has increased the market value of the real estate portfolio by 102%, doubling the company’s worth.

Morrissey began his career with the Growth Fund in 2007, becoming President/COO in January 2018. “I am deeply honored by the trust and opportunity given to me by the Southern Ute Indian



Brian Mulvany  
President/COO  
Growth Fund Properties

Tribe to lead GF Properties for the last six years. This journey has been such an incredible experience. As I pass the leadership to Brian, I am confident in the company’s continued success,” Morrissey said.

“The Growth Fund is incredibly grateful for Mr. Morrissey’s visionary leadership, under which GF Properties has achieved remarkable growth,” said Shane Seibel, Executive Director for the Growth Fund. “We are thrilled to embark on the new chapter with Brian Mulvany at the helm, confident that under his guidance, GF Properties will not only uphold its legacy of success but explore new

horizons and opportunities in the real estate sector.”

The Growth Fund recently selected Mulvany as the new President/COO. Mulvany has dedicated 12 years to GF Properties and the Growth Fund, working his way up from Assistant Asset Manager/Financial Analysis to Senior Vice President. Throughout his employment, Mulvany has successfully negotiated multiple acquisitions in various markets, expanding the portfolio’s geographic footprint and market value.

Mulvany brings 12 years of real estate investment experience and received his MS (Real Estate and Construction Management) and MBA from the University of Denver and a BA (Environmental Studies) from the University of Colorado. In his downtime, he enjoys playing golf and retreating to the mountains to enjoy skiing/snowboarding, hiking, and mountain biking. His office will remain in Denver where he resides with his wife, Sandra, and son Aiden (14).

“I am honored to be selected as the next Presi-

Building page 2

So. Ute hosts Christmas dinner



Divine Windy Boy/SU DRUM

Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA) students sing Christmas Carols during their performance at the Southern Ute Tribal Christmas Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 16. Families from all three Ute tribes gathered at the Sky Ute Casino Resort to enjoy a holiday meal and listen to the SUIMA students sing carols in the Ute language, students performed a series of songs and skits for the visitors.

See more Christmas photo coverage on page 11.





BUILDING ON SUCCESS • FROM PAGE 1



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Patrick Morrissey retires as President/COO of GF Properties Group, leaving behind a legacy of outstanding leadership in his 16 years with the Southern Ute Growth Fund. Morrissey began his career with the Growth Fund in 2007, becoming President/COO in January 2018.

dent and COO of GF Properties Group and I truly appreciate the support of the Growth Fund Management team and Patrick Morrissey,” Mulvany said. “I look forward to leading the team in this new role as we continue to strive to maximize benefits to the Tribe for many years to come.”

Southern Ute Indian Tribe

The Ute people are the oldest continuous residents of what is today the state of Colorado. Historically a loose confederation of ten bands, the Mouache and Caputa bands make up the present-day Southern Ute Indian Tribe. In the 1950s, natural gas was discovered on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

Nominal royalty payments collected from the 1950s through the 1980s did little to support tribal members. In the 1980s, in pursuit of economic and cultural self-determination, the Tribe created its own gas production company. From that initial investment, the Tribe has grown and diversified its holdings across multiple industries. Today, the Tribe is the largest employer in La Plata County. The Tribe maintains a Triple A credit rating and oversees a thriving investment port-



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Chairman Melvin J. Baker and Council Member Marge Barry wrap Pat Morrissey in a Pendleton, Wednesday, Dec. 20, expressing a deep gratitude for all he has done for the Tribe.

folio with assets in 14 states and the Gulf of Mexico.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Growth Fund

Established in the late 1990s and headquartered within the Southern Ute Indian Reservation in southwestern Colorado, the Southern Ute Growth Fund manages the business investments of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. The Growth Fund holds the Tribe’s diverse array of operating businesses and investment entities engaged in on- and off-reservation oil and gas exploration, production and gathering, carbon-neutral energy infrastructure and innovation, commercial and multifamily real estate acquisition, and

development, private equity fund of funds, and direct private equity investments.

Growth Fund Properties

GF Properties is a versatile real estate investment company specializing in a wide range of real estate sectors, including land development, multifamily apartments, and commercial buildings across the United States. Renowned for its expertise in development, construction, and asset management, the company is focused on acquiring and managing income-producing properties to emphasize sustainable growth and value creation. For information, visit <https://www.gf-propertiesgroup.com>.

Many Moons Ago

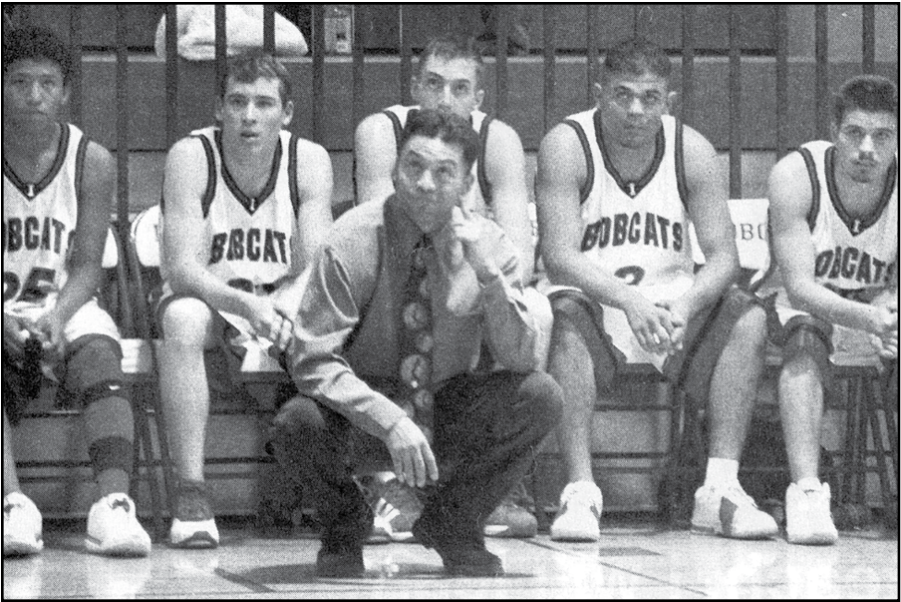


Ace Stryker/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

Members of the Ignacio School District administration and school board cut the ribbon at the new Ignacio School District Administration Building on Thursday, Dec. 12. The building is located just west of the Ignacio High School.

This photo was first published in the Dec. 27, 2013, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Brandon Cruz/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

Coach Valdez looks on as the ‘Cats win vs Aztec, Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Ignacio High School.

This photo was published in the Dec. 12, 2003, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.

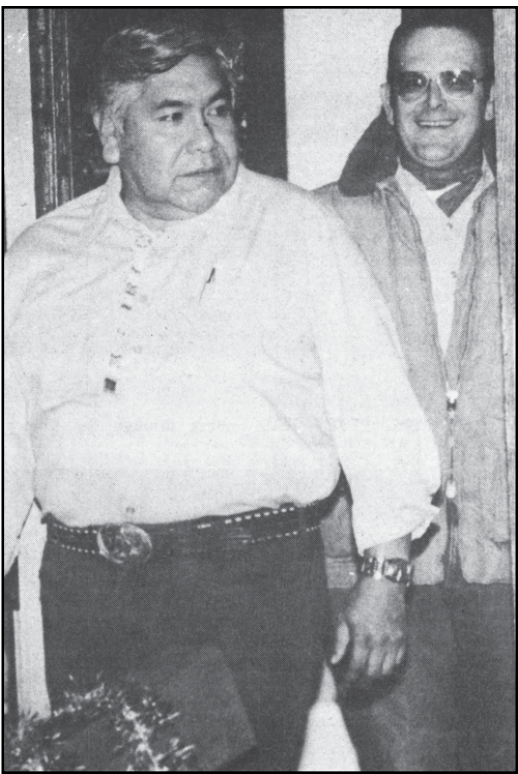


SU Drum archive

30 years ago

Vida B. Peabody won a seat on the tribal council. Peabody was appointed Vice-Chair once again by Chairman Leonard C. Burch. The swearing-in ceremony was held at the Sky Ute Bingo Hall with a reception following.

This photo was published in the Dec. 24, 1993, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Chairman Burch caught by surprise – The tribal staff decided to give a birthday surprise to Vice-Chairman Chris Baker and Chairman Leonard Burch. Acting Superintendent Jim Formea was in on the surprise. He had the Chairman thinking that there was an important meeting being held in the council chambers.

This photo was published in the Dec. 30, 1983, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.

THRIFTWAY GETS FULL MAKEOVER • FROM PAGE 1



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

The iconic Thriftway logo will soon be a distant memory as the Sinclair brand will now adorn the renovated Piinu Nuuchi Travel Center in Ignacio. The first phase of the \$2 million renovation is the installation of modern fuel pumps, which feature full length (Tamper proof) touch screen displays with added security.

Mart, but the Tribe wanted a more culturally representative look to the facility – we asked them for a few design options, which were then vetted through Culture,” Black said. The Tribe’s Cultural Preservation Department also requested that the gas station now be named the Piinu Nuuchi Travel Center, with a more traditional spelling of Pino Nuche.

“For the most part Thriftway has moved most of their marketing to Sinclair – nationwide,” Black said.

“There may be some closures, including interior closures,” he said referring to the construction and paving, which will be completed in phases to continue offering services to customers throughout the renovation project.

Some of the new amenities include: Larger modern multi-stall restrooms, a walk-in beer cave, improved food offerings, and new seating areas. The modern fuel pumps feature full length (Tamper proof) touch screen displays with added

security. Parking areas will be completely repaved, following the installation of new underground fuel tanks in the spring, which will be the final step.

The Sinclair, situated on tribal property, is just one of two fueling stations in the Town of Ignacio and immediate vicinity. Fuel pricing at this location will remain tied to the market price, based on regional trends. The renovation project was approved by Southern Ute Tribal Council via resolution on July 25, 2023.





Hand Game instruction



courtesy Raelynn Frauenhoff/SUCCM

In honor of Native American Heritage month in November, the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum hosted Hand Game classes for adults and children within the community. Instructed by Waynoka Whiteskunk, the month-long program introduced the fundamentals and basic strategies of the traditional Hand Games. The Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum will host another class for new and continuing participants Tuesday, Jan. 9, from 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. in the Large Classroom at the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum, the class is open to all that are interested.

Pictured left to right, Southern Ute Brave, Henry Whiteskunk II, Daisy House Eagle, Katrina Baker, and Cassandra Atencio won their first Handgame Tournament at the Ute Mountain Ute Community Center in Towaoc, Colo. on Sunday, Dec. 10.



courtesy Linda Eagle

Santistevan teaches looming



Rosaleigh Concepcion/SU Drum

Yllana Howe creates a design during the loom workshop that was held, Tuesday, Dec. 12. Howe was trying to decide if she wanted to use the designs that were provided by Dale Santistevan or if she wanted to use one of her own designs.



Dale Santistevan demonstrates how he plans out his loom designs on a lined paper to the class held on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at the museum. The class, led by Santistevan, was a workshop to learn how to loom.



Dale Santistevan demonstrates different loom projects he completed over the years, Wednesday, Dec. 13 during the loom workshop at the Southern Ute Museum. Santistevan also demonstrated two different stitching styles he had used.

ROYALTY REPORT

Maleina Carel

Jr. Miss Southern Ute

Mique,  
My name is Maleina Carel and I'm currently the Jr. Miss Southern Ute for 2023- 2024.

I'm 16 years old and I'm currently in the 10th grade. My bands are Moache Capote and Weeminuche. My maternal grandparents are Hardy Joy Sr. and the late Anna Weaver. My great grandparents on my paternal side are James Price Sr. and Linda Lopez of Towaoc, Colo. My paternal grandparents are the late Vernest Carel and Marlene Price Carel. My parents are Marie Joy (Carel) and Vern Carel. I have an older sister, Rhianna Carel.

I would like to share my quarterly report of my travels and the events that I have attended this year during my reign that started on Sept. 8, 2023.

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 8-10, Southern Ute Fair - I was crowned and started my reign as the Jr. Miss Southern Ute for the 2023-2024.
- Sept. 15, I attended the Ms. Indigenous Pageant held at the San Juan College in Farmington, N.M. and supported my older sister Rhianna Carel. She was one of the contestants participating and representing the Southern Ute Tribal Nation for the Ms. Indigenous San Juan College Royalty.
- Sept. 16, I attended the Southern Ute Tribal Rodeo.
- Sept. 20, I attended Yellow Nose: Ute Dog Soldier with Orland Joe Sr., Southern Ute Artist and founder of the Yellow Nose Warrior Ute Historical Society. This was held at the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum.
- Sept. 23, I attended the 2023 Miss Indian New Mexico Pageant In Albuquerque, N.M. I was there supporting the outgoing Miss Indian New Mexico LIV Alysia Coriz-Kewa Pueblo and I had the honor to watch and welcome the newly reigning Miss Indian New Mexico LV Kelsey Quintana-Jicarilla Apache Nation.
- Sept. 29, I participated in the Bear Dance presentation for the N7 Fort Lewis lady soccer game held at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo.
- Sept. 30, I represented the Tribe in the Durango Cowboy Parade in Durango, Colo. and attended the



Maleina Carel  
Jr. Miss Southern Ute  
2023 – 2024

18th Annual Totah Drums of Fall Powwow at the Lions Wilderness Amphitheater in Farmington, N.M.

OCTOBER

- Oct. 11, I attended the Annual Red Ribbon Campaign that the DEA, the Southern Ute Department of Education's Montessori Academy (SUIMA) held for the month of October.
- Oct. 17, I participated and walked in the Breast Cancer Awareness Walk held by Shining Mountain Health and Wellness and Sun Ute Community Center.
- Oct. 9, I attended the Gourd Dancing in Towaoc, Colo.
- Oct. 21-22, I participated at the Moab Red Canyon Powwow in Moab, Utah.
- Oct. 31, we had a Halloween booth for the Halloween carnival at the Sky Ute Casino.

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 2, I was in attendance for the Breast Cancer Awareness dinner which was held at the Sky Ute Casino Resort.
- Nov. 2, I participated and was part of a live dancing presentation in honor of the Native American Heritage month. I danced with other head staff as part of my head girl duties. These are the following five different schools in Aztec that we performed for: Aztec High School, C.V Koogler Middle School, Mc Coy Elementary, Park Ave. Elementary and Lydia Rippey Elementary.
- Nov. 3, I was in attendance at the meet and greet for the Fort Lewis College boys' and girls' basketball team.
- Nov. 4, I was head girl for the Kinteel Bi Ot Ta Powwow held at the Aztec High School in Aztec, N.M. I also participated in a dancing performance during the Aztec High School halftime football game along with the other head staff. This was my very first time being asked to be head girl and it was an honor to represent the Southern Ute Tribe and Royalty.

tec, N.M. I also participated in a dancing performance during the Aztec High School halftime football game along with the other head staff. This was my very first time being asked to be head girl and it was an honor to represent the Southern Ute Tribe and Royalty.

- Nov. 11, I attended the Southern Ute Veterans Powwow at Ignacio High School.
- Nov. 14, I participated and walked for the 3rd Annual "Out Runnin' Diabetes" fun run and walk. This event was held by the Shining Mountain Health & Wellness and Albuquerque Area Dental Support Center.
- Nov. 15, I attended Rock your Moccs event to celebrate unity of our unique cultures during Native American Heritage Month which was held in the Hall of Warriors. On this same day I was in attendance for the Reflections of Honor, the grand opening of the Veterans Exhibit at the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum.
- Nov. 16–29, I participated in the dance presentation for the following schools for the month of November in honor of the Native American Heritage month: Primary School in Bayfield, Colo., Sunny Side Elementary School in Durango, Colo., Ignacio Middle School and Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA).
- I also attended the Adoption Day Celebration about Adoption and how Indigenous societies have survived and raised Strong; Resilient People held by the Southern Ute Social Services Department.
- The last event I attended for the month of November was our Southern Ute Thanksgiving Dinner at the Sky Ute Casino.

This is all I have done so far this year and I hope you all have enjoyed my report and my participation. It's been a busy half of the year and I'm looking forward to the upcoming events. I want to wish the elders, the membership, and people of the community – Happy Holidays and Blessings for the New Year.

Tog'oiok,  
Maleina J. Carel  
Junior Miss Southern Ute  
2023-2024

New Year's Spiritual Walk

The family of Saa-Swanis Hiswags (R. Buckskin) will be having our annual New Year's Day spiritual walk on January 1, 2024. It will start at 8 a.m. from the Southern Ute Veterans Memorial Park. Please dress warm.



Jenny Gummersall/SU Drum archive

Participants of the Buckskin Family's annual "Spiritual Walk for Alcohol Free American Indian Communities" walk on County Road 321 on the morning of Jan. 1, 2000. Each year since 1990, a mile was added, making the walk a 20-mile trek on the Y2K New Year's morning.

New Year's Eve Celebration

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

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

Contact : Alex Cloud (970)-442-1013





HEALTHY RECIPES

Black bean and butternut squash chili

By Lisa B. Smith, RDN, CLC  
Shining Mountain Health & Wellness

Try this twist on your chili. Loaded with nutrients, fiber and protein, this can be made vegetarian or vegan and is gluten free!

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



courtesy Eating Well

Black Bean Butternut Squash Chili

Ingredients:

- 1 teaspoon oil
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, seeded and diced
- 1 butternut squash, peeled, seeded and cut into cubes
- 3-4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 1 15oz can diced tomatoes
- 4oz can diced green chilies (optional)
- 2 cups broth, no added salt (vegetable or chicken)
- 2- 15.5oz cans prepared black beans (or 3 cups cooked black beans)
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

1. In a large pot or Dutch oven, heat oil to medium-high.
2. Add diced onions and sauté for 2 minutes.
3. Add diced green pepper and sauté for

- another 2 minutes.
4. Add cubed butternut squash, garlic, chili powder, cumin and stir to combine, about 1 minute.
5. Add tomatoes, green chilis and broth. Bring to a boil, then reduce to simmer for 20 minutes or until squash is tender.
6. Add black beans and continue to simmer for an additional 5-7 minutes.
7. Salt and pepper to taste.
8. Serve with your favorite toppings such as shredded cheese, chopped green onion, plain Greek yogurt, cilantro.

TIP: You can make this in your instant pot-place all ingredients in the instant pot and set on high for 3 minutes. For a crockpot, place all ingredients together and set on low for 4-5 hours.

Servings: 8

Nutrition per serving: 330 Calories, 20g fat, 39g carbohydrates, 13g Fiber, 10g Protein

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEE HEARD: The Red Road to Wellbriety

By Tamara D. Turner  
SOUTHERN UTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Recovery is a process, not an event. This is one of the key ideas that guides the White Bison Wellbriety movement. According to one of the key White Bison books, "The Red Road to Wellbriety," the process "is a journey of hope and healing for Native Americans seeking recovery from addictions."

It is a journey in a spiritual, emotional, mental and physical way.

The Medicine Wheel and 12 steps

The movement "draws on the philosophies and practices of Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous – especially the 12-step process. Native elders say that the Twelve Steps originally compiled by Alcoholics Anonymous have much in common with traditional Native ways – especially if they are viewed in a circle."

For example, the Medicine Wheel structures the entire process. Steps one through three located in the East of the Medicine Wheel involve finding the Creator; steps four through six in the South require finding yourself; steps seven through nine in the West guide finding your relationship with others; and steps ten through twelve in the North support you in finding the wisdom of the elders. All the steps are connected and support the other steps. They are organized in a way to build a foundation of trust and hope through the wisdom of the elders.

Each step on the Medicine Wheel takes two weeks with the complete program lasting 26 weeks. However, the group meetings are continuous so anyone can join at any point – you don't have to wait until it starts over again.

flourish and thrive; we just have to make that choice.

Law Two states that no development happens without a Vision. That's because we move towards and become like that which we think about.

The third law is "A great learning must occur" which means everyone in the community must come together and grow as a whole.

Finally, the Fourth Law says, "you must create a healing forest." Again, Kateri explains that if you remove and heal a sick tree from a sick forest but replant it there, it will become sick again. Therefore, healing the individual is not enough. The healing forest means that we are all in this together, all responsible for each other, and all accountable to rise and reclaim whole health as a community. This means healing the youth, elders, and family structures too. In other words, if you're a person in recovery or thinking about taking that journey, please remember that you don't have to do it alone. We can do it together as a community, as peers who have gone through it and still work on it.

The Wellbriety movement was originally brought to Ignacio by Robert Bucksin Saa-Swanis Hiswaqs. Robert had formerly worked at Peaceful Spirit as a counselor and ran all of the White Bison groups. His work was well known for supporting fathers and the annual family New Year's Day Sobriety Walk.

As the new year approaches, consider recommending any family or friends in need of recovery support to join us at Southern Ute Behavioral Health.

Marvina Olguin and Preston Barry run regular groups for the community and also offer one-to-one support. Each step requires two

weeks although the groups are revolving so anyone can join at any point. Monday afternoons from noon-1p.m., you can join a virtual Warrior Down Talking Circle, a component of peer recovery support. Thursday evenings, you can join the in-person Medicine Wheel 12 STEP from 5:30-7p.m. at the Southern Ute Cultural Center (Large Classroom). Please contact Marvina Olguin at marolguin@southernute-nsn.gov or Preston Barry at pbarry@southernute-nsn.gov for information. If you plan on attending, please call SU Behavioral Health at 970-563-5700 to RSVP.

Starting in the new year, we will also be offering Mending Broken Hearts groups for grief and loss.

Here's to your good health!

It's okay not to feel okay

If you or someone you know has been struggling with their emotions, behaviors, or substance use please reach out to us. We can help you find appropriate tools and services that could help you overcome obstacles in your life. We are here for you. Please contact the Southern Ute Behavioral Health Division at 970-563-5700 for more information or to set up an appointment to see a counselor or therapist.

Reminder: If you need to talk to someone, please reach out. And for those interested in opioid use education, harm reduction, and support, please contact us for quick Naloxone (Narcan) training and fentanyl test strips. We can schedule individual, family, or friends training times at our Southern Ute Behavioral Health Building, or we can come to you, and the training is around 30 minutes. Please call us at 970-563-5700 to set up a training appointment.

Wellbriety and the Four Laws of Change

In addition, Wellbriety is based on Four Laws of Change. The first law states that all permanent and lasting change comes from within. One of the deeper explanations of this transformation is that every creature has innate knowledge of its wellbeing and is born with a blueprint to thrive and flourish. As Kateri Cohyis, the Executive Director of White Bison explains, the salmon knows how to swim upstream and lay its eggs. Humans also know how to

Multi-Purpose Facility

Healthy Cooking

With Lisa Smith

Tuesday January 9, 2024

10:30 AM - 1:00 PM



Lisa will teach healthy soups and delicious dishes that you will enjoy with your family this winter.



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

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Dial 988

for mental health emergencies.

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

#WeNeedYouHere



Shining Mountain Fresh



January

Sign up for a FREE, healthy meal kit for you and your family with Shining Mountain Health and Wellness's monthly program



Chicken Noodle Soup



Meal Kit Includes:  
• Primary ingredients  
• Recipe / Prep Tips  
• Kitchen Hacks

Contact:

Lisa B. Smith (970)-563-2344

\*If you need to schedule a different pickup time/date, please reach out to Lisa\*

Sign up for your meal kit now! Use the link below, or scan the QR code to quickly register in under 2 minutes!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMFreshJan24>

Sign-up Deadline: Monday, January 29, 2024

Pickup Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024

San Juan Basin Public Health is permanently closing December 31, 2023.

Find out more about the transition to Archuleta and La Plata County public health departments, opening January 1, 2024:



SAN JUAN BASIN public health  
[sjbpublichealth.org/changes](http://sjbpublichealth.org/changes)





# Hey Gorgeous, Let's have lunch together!

**RSVP's are Required**  
This is a FREE event is open to ANYONE  
Scan the QR code to RSVP, or  
use the link below!  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/CervicalCancerLuncheon\\_2024](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CervicalCancerLuncheon_2024)

Join Shining Mountain Health  
and Wellness for a "lunch and  
learn" in honor of cervical cancer  
awareness month

**Time:**  
12-1pm

**What:**  
Free Lunch

**When:**  
Friday,  
January 19<sup>th</sup>

**Where:**  
LCB Building / Buckskin  
Charlie Room

Contact: Heather Sorensen (970)-563-2349

# Breastfeeding and Parenting Support Class

January 11, 2024  
Downstairs in MC Building  
12pm-1pm

## Native American Cultural Awareness in Perinatal Care

Join us for an informational presentation and  
healthy lunch!

**Presented by:**  
April Sandman, SWCAHEC  
PH Training Associate

**Shawmarie Tso, RN, Shining  
Mountain Health and Wellness**

Southwestern Colorado  
**AHEC**  
Area Health Education Center

Shining Mountain  
Health & Wellness

# 2024 HAPPY NEW YEAR

SunUte Community Center will  
be closing early December 31st  
@ 2:00pm and will be closed  
January 1st for New Years  
Day!  
We will be open January 2nd,  
see you all next year!

24/7 access will be available

From SunUte Community Center

## Southern Ute Indian Tribe

### POSITIVE INDIAN PARENTING

Honoring our Tradition by Honoring our Children

Positive Indian Parenting (PIP) has been used for over 35 years and remains popular today because the teachings are timeless. Historically, we had rich teachings that helped children grow up safe with strong families. Colonization threatened those teachings—our Native families were being separated and traditional practices were at risk of being lost. PIP was developed in the 1980s to fill this void and was designed to help parents and families remember our traditional teachings and apply them in the modern world.

In part one of each session we will discuss examples of traditional practices and teachings from several different tribes. Instructors also share teachings from local areas and communities. Part two of each session discusses how to apply those teachings and values today. Complete all 8 sessions to receive a certificate.

**WHERE:** Online – Virtual sessions –  
Download the “Microsoft Teams” App for access  
**WHEN:** Tuesdays and Thursdays in January 2024  
January 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>  
12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Call Kellie at Southern Ute Division of Social Services  
to sign up (970) 563-2337

## Employee Spotlight

**Holly Dodd**  
Instructor since 2023

**Favorite Hobbies:**  
Yoga, Sketching, Reading, Apothecary, Mushroom Foraging, Gardening & Polar Plunging.

**Can't Live Without:**  
The Peace and Hope I have from my faith in Christ.

**Favorite Music:**  
Andrew Bird, Yaima, Of Monsters and Men & Lighthouse and the Whaler.

**Dream Vacation:**  
International Yoga Retreat

**What do you love most about teaching Group Fitness:**  
I love sharing my passion for yoga through guiding others on their mats allowing them to explore all the different asanas together. Yoga opens and balances the body, cultivating body awareness and mindfulness. I find joy in giving people a safe place to release their physical tension and also their mental strain from stress. Yoga adds years to your life, and life to your years.

**If you could choose to do anything for one day, what it be?** Drive to the top of a snowcapped mountain that is home to a lake and immersing in the ice cold water with my husband building me a fire and having hot tea waiting for me to retreat to.

**What is the best gift you have ever received?** My family

**SunUte Member Nick Van Vonne has this to say about Holly:**  
Holly runs a great class! She is a very kind and attentive person who genuinely cares about the class. The class was moderately difficult and the variety of poses allowed for a wide variety of conditioning. I look forward to taking more class with Holly in the future.

## Employee Spotlight

**Koel Phelps**  
Instructor since 2021

**Favorite TV Series to Binge watch:**  
Yellowstone

**Guilt Pleasure:**  
Red Wine

**Favorite Holidays:**  
Christmas

**Dream Vacation:**  
Italy

**What do you love most about teaching Group Fitness:**  
I love the participants and their dedication to their personal fitness. It's a great day when you see those familiar faces at a 6:15 a.m. class. Nobody is really awake, and yet there they are ready for a workout. The Tenacious Team!

**What is something about you that most people don't know?**  
I have a love/hate relationship with gardening. I love eating homegrown veggies, but so does my underground rodent.

**Who has been your role model or role models in life?**  
My mother, she's such a hard working and caring person. She loves helping others. Her strength and resilience has inspired me to never give up.

**SunUte Member Heather Steele has this to say about Koel:**  
Joining Koel's smiling face for RPM class is a great way to begin your morning. As a new member she helped me feel welcome by remembering my name after meeting only one time.  
You'll burn plenty of calories in her class!

# Foster Love, Foster Life

Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
is recruiting families who  
have a stable home,  
energy and LOVE to  
share.

## BECOME A FOSTER PARENT.

For more information call Southern Ute Social Services: 970-563-2337 – Kellie





SUIMA, Christmas goodies



Krista Richards/SU Drum

The Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA) Upper elementary students held a bake sale in the Hall of Warriors in the Leonard C. Burch building on Wednesday, Dec. 20. The students are fundraising for their end of the year field trip.

SUIMA coffee fundraiser



photos Rosaleigh Concepcion/SU Drum

Upper Elementary SUIMA students with Primary Teacher Maethalia Yazzie on their final fundraiser day selling coffee, hot chocolate, cookies, and other goods on Thursday, Dec. 14.



Upper Elementary SUIMA students prepare hot chocolate during the last day of the coffee fundraiser on Thursday, Dec. 14. The funds they earned during the fundraiser will go to their end of the year trip.

Sharing a Cajun Christmas



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Students of the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy sit and listen to the book "Cajun Night Before Christmas," on Wednesday, Dec. 20, a deep south classic and childhood favorite of SUPD Chief Michael Barrow. Spoken in a Cajun accent-Barrow speaks of Saint Nick guiding his flying alligators through the Bayou.

SUIMA Primary students view a map and learn about the region in which the story "Cajun Night Before Christmas" takes place. SUPD Chief Michael Barrow visited multiple classrooms to read the story aloud to students, on Wednesday, Dec. 20



Police Chief Barrow gained full attention with the Christmas story, which was new to many of the students and the faculty on Wednesday, Dec. 20, Barrow also shared that the book he read from has been in his family for generations.

ACTIVE KID CARE!!

Sign-up for a 3-, 6-, or 12-month membership during the month of January 2024 and receive Active Kid Care FREE for 3 months! Open to new and current SunUte Members!

Promotion period: January 2nd - January 31st, 2024. The free 3-month AKC period will start the day of the new membership or when a current member activates the free 3-month AKC promotion. Promotion must be activated before January 31st, 2024 to be valid. For more information, please contact: Abel Velasquez - Fitness Director at 970-563-2651 or abelvelas@southernute-nsn.gov



ATHLETICS UPDATES OVER BREAK

DEC 22- JAN 6, 2023

- 1.8 Monday- School Board Meeting @7pm
- 12.29 Friday - IHS Winter Sports Voluntary Practice
- 12.30 Saturday- IHS Winter Sports Voluntary Practice
- 1.5 Friday - IHS Boys Wrestling Quad at Dolores w/ Monticello & Cortez
- 1.5-6 Friday - Saturday IHS Girls Wrestling Border Battle Tournament
- 1.6 Saturday IHS Boys Wrestling at Pagosa IHS B&G Basketball Away at Monte Vista



Southern Ute Shared Services | 14929 HWY 172 | Ignacio, CO. 81137

The Southern Ute Digital Equity Program (SUDEP) would like to wish you and your family a happy holiday season.

SUDEP would like to remind Southern Ute Tribal Members that we have Dell Laptops available. If you have not received your "Free" laptop (18+) or Chromebook (under 18) we still have some available. We will ship to those members who live out of the local area. Visit: [www.southernute-nsn.gov/SUDEP](http://www.southernute-nsn.gov/SUDEP) once the questionnaire is completed and submitted SUDEP will process your laptop request in the order its received. If shipping is required for your laptop a member of the SUDEP team will reach out to you for shipping confirmation and tracking information. For questions or technical support please reach out to the SUDEP team at 970-563-5555 or [sudepservice@southernute.com](mailto:sudepservice@southernute.com)

Sincerely, Southern Ute Shared Services Team







# Santa visits Ignacio students



photos courtesy Ignacio Early Learning Program

The children at the Ignacio Early Learning Program could hardly contain themselves when Santa Claus made his appearance on Wednesday, Dec. 20. All the staff at IELP would like to thank Edward Box III for “bringing” Santa Claus to our preschool.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years from all our staff and students! Reminder: Our center will be closed for Christmas Break starting Friday, Dec. 22 – Friday, Jan. 5. We will return to school Jan. 8 and cannot wait to see all these smiling faces in the New Year!



We appreciate the community support from all who have donated materials and time to our program and who continue to make every day leading up to the holidays such a magical time for our littles.



Marvin Pinnecoose/SU Tribal Council

The Intertribal Agriculture Council opening ceremonies gave energy to the upcoming topics that were up for discussion across Indian Country.

## TREASURER’S REPORT

# Notes from the road: Intertribal Agriculture Council tackles issues from various angles

By Marvin Pinnecoose, Treasurer  
SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

There are many issues that are coming together. Each of these issues are huge in how they will affect Indian Country and individual tribes. Natural resources are being depleted, the human population is growing, and the world is changing. The elephant in the room is overpopulation. The toll that it takes on land and water is creating tension with the public and among Indian tribes.

As a tribal nation, we tackle this from multiple angles. We have our departments and leaders who focus on the Colorado River and the intensifying fight that is escalating every month between people who want more and more water. We have trespassing and land disputes over allotments and assignments from residents in the area. We have land that belongs to people who do not have the means to put it to use either financially or due to the complexity of multiple beneficiaries assigned to any given assignment or allotment.

That last issue was a strong point that I brought up during the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) conference. It was met with echoes of similar frustration from other tribes. The public and private citizens do not understand how our trust land, fee land, assignments, and allotments work. They see land that is not being used on the reservation and assumptions are made. Some land is tied up very

heavily among many beneficiaries that multiply over each generation. A person passes away and maybe that land is passed down to several children and grandchildren. The problem is that there are so many people entitled to the use of the land, but there is no specific detail of the plan on how it stays in production. Because the ownership or assignment of that property is divided (fractioned) so heavily, it makes it extremely difficult for any one given person to utilize the land for agriculture, let alone make a business from it.

Another issue that was brought up from this conference is a call for the Bureau of Indian Affairs to really look at their staffing across the country. For months, Indian tribes have been listening to how hard it is for the government to staff the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Tribal leaders at this conference agreed that there has not been a sense of urgency for area offices and reservation offices to staff up. I remember growing up, I was working in the summers while going to high school and the Tribe was maybe paying seven to eight dollars for laborers. I took a job with the BIA in the Roads department and at that time, it paid somewhere around \$11.50. This was a significant difference, and it showed the commitment of the U.S. Government to fill and reward their employees. I’m not sure what the pay looks like now, but sentiments explained by different leaders illustrated a relaxed approach to hiring and retaining BIA employees. It makes it difficult to talk about the federal Indian trust responsibility and the services to the reservations when so many tribes are all saying that it’s hard to get anyone to simply pick up a phone or to handle issues in a reasonable amount of time.

There were many more important issues brought up during this conference and many tribes are networking to handle these among ourselves and with the support of the Intertribal Agriculture Council.

The last point that I want to highlight in this article is the inclusion of our Southern Ute Tribal youth. There is an Intertribal Agriculture Council youth conference that runs concurrently with the IAC annual conference. This being my first year, I will be looking into getting some of the various ways I think our can youth can get involved. The young folks also carried tribal flags into the opening ceremonies, and it was a wonderful sight. I will also be getting our Southern Ute flag onto that stage next year. There is an essay contest, and the finalists are invited to present their essays in front of all the tribes during the first day of the conference. I am working with our regional representative to create a list of executables and opportunities for our Southern Ute youth to become interested and participate in Agriculture as we proceed into 2024 and to participate in next year’s annual IAC conference.



## ISD Students, Parents & Staff

If Ignacio School District decides to call a snow day, there will be a mass notification sent around 5:30 a.m. The message will be sent via simultaneous phone call, text message and email to staff and students’ primary contacts.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION IS CORRECT!**

Please go into Infinate Campus and confirm your information so you will receive these important alerts.

Notice will also be sent out on social media and the local television and radio stations.

# FLC GAME DAY

JANUARY 2, 2023  
STARTS AT 5 PM



FORT LEWIS

VS



NAVAJO TECH

**FREE TO NATIVE AMERICANS  
AND IGNACIO COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS**  
(AI/AN BRING TRIBAL I.D. OR C.I.B.)

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COMMUNITY &  
UTE MEMBERS,  
COME FIND A  
SUNUTE STAFF  
MEMBER FOR A  
FREE SLICE OF  
PIZZA!!!**



WHALEN GYM, FORT LEWIS COLLEGE.

MORE INFORMATION :  
CALL FRONT DESK  
@ (970) 563-2661  
KELSEY F. X2660;  
ELIJAH W. X2655;  
BIRD R. X2664;  
DARNELL M. X2667

# THE SUNSHINE CLOUD SMITH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

SCSYAC is looking for new council members, tribal members aged 11-17

Needs to be enrolled in public, private or home school program and maintain a 2.0 GPA

The youth council meets twice a month for regular meetings



Contact Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council  
Coordinator | Dustin Weaver 970.563.2786  
dweaver@southernute-nsn.gov





courtesy CDOT

US 160 newly paved, west of Pagosa Springs, Colo.

COLORADO TRANSPORTATION

# US 160 newly paved, west of Pagosa Springs

Staff report  
COLO. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

The Colorado Department of Transportation completed the US Highway 160 surface treatment project west of Pagosa Springs. The project improved approximately six miles of US 160 on the west side of the town from County Road 139 (Boyles School Road) to S. 10th Street, mile points 135-141, as well as another section less than a mile long on the east side of town from the San Juan River Bridge to the US 160/US 84 junction, MP 144-144.5. “This resurfacing project was a regional priority for CDOT, the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County,” said Julie Con-

stan, CDOT regional transportation director. “We are pleased that US 160 on either side of Pagosa is now improved. The well-maintained roadway is essential to the quality of life and safety for residents, employers, and visitors to Pagosa and the southwest region.” Contracting partner, Four Corners Materials of Durango, milled the existing asphalt, paved with new asphalt, installed rumble strips, replaced guardrail, replaced a culvert and performed final striping. The new asphalt will add approximately 10 years of life to the highway, provide a smoother road surface and will add durability by increasing the resistance of ruts and road damage. Ad-

ditional work included sign and delineator replacement, conduit installation, seeding and mulching. “CDOT appreciates the partnerships developed with the Town of Pagosa Springs, as we continue to improve US 160 near and in the town,” added Constan. “Residents may note that during this resurfacing project, no work took place through a one mile stretch of downtown Pagosa from South 10th Street to the bridge over the San Juan River. That downtown portion of highway is set for concrete reconstruction next year. The 2024 downtown project will help us achieve our top priorities identified for the Pagosa community.”

COLORADO TRANSPORTATION

# Colorado to offer streamlined process for broadband connectivity

State to utilize CDOT property along roadways

Staff report  
COLO. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

Colorado communities and service providers looking to improve broadband access will have a new, accelerated, and discounted option to help expand high-speed internet access throughout the state. The Colorado Transportation Commission approved a fee schedule to facilitate access to CDOT rights of way - the land owned by the state alongside its roadways - for the purpose of third parties installing fiber and expanding broadband.

This adopted fee schedule, more than 90% lower than the version initially proposed, makes CDOT property available for broadband development in accordance with Gov. Polis’s 2022 Executive Order to accelerate broadband in Colorado and ensure people have access to the internet in every corner of the state. The fee schedule - the lowest of Colorado’s surrounding states and southwestern neighbors - comes after months of engagement with local governments, industry members and community members, and is aligned with the bipartisan Senate Bill 22-083, sponsored by former Senator Don Coram and State Representatives Marc Catlin and Susan Bird.

“Just as our transportation system creates vital connections for all Coloradans, we all need the modern connectivity of broadband to fully access opportunities and services,” said Transportation Commission Chair Karen Stuart. “The Transportation Commission has heard the perspectives of local communities throughout the state as well as industry concerns, and the proposal that we approved today offers greater opportunities for broadband development, competes favorably with our neighboring states on costs, and meets the state’s



existing legal obligations to care for the public land under our responsibility.”

The new fee schedule charges an annual property use surcharge as well as a one-time upfront fee to cover permitting costs, set as low as possible to only cover some administrative costs. This follows the methodology used by the United States Forest Service for access to federal lands, which means that Colorado’s structure uses a setup that is familiar to the broadband industry. This will also make access costs in Colorado lower than in neighboring states. In scenarios modeled by CDOT staff, the costs for broadband companies to access similar amounts of land for fiber optic lines are less than 1/10th of the cost in Colorado compared to Arizona and New Mexico, 1/50th of the cost compared to Utah, and less than or equal to costs in Nevada.

“Underserved communities have an urgent need for improved broadband access, and today’s access fee plan offers another option for high-speed internet development throughout Colorado. CDOT’s right of way offers critical access to many of these communities, and so it is particularly important for this access proposal to move forward and offer these options as soon as possible. The fee structure works to strike a careful balance that reduces private sector costs and preserves assets owned by taxpayers, and we are committed to supporting these objectives so that more Coloradans can

access broadband,” said Transportation Commission Vice Chair Terry Hart.

The approved proposal followed an extensive public process throughout 2023. Thanks to extensive feedback and dialogue, CDOT made substantial revisions to its initial draft proposals, ultimately resulting in a fee schedule that is more than 90% lower than initial estimates. CDOT’s Fiber Optic Development staff delivered public briefings to the Transportation Commission in February, March, April, May, and November, and the commission convened a fiber committee that held meetings from May through August. CDOT staff also briefed the state legislature, presenting to the Joint Technology Committee on August 28 and the Joint Budget Committee on Dec. 8. Those public meetings, along with numerous meetings with private industry throughout the year, led to the updated access fee schedule’s public release in early November, ahead of its approval today.

The fiber access fee schedule offers internet service providers an option in addition to the existing option under Colorado’s Public-Private Initiatives Act. Under this state law, CDOT may consider unsolicited proposals that allow non-exclusive use to CDOT right of way and/or leasing of excess CDOT dark fiber (dark fiber is an industry term that refers to fiber optic strands that are not currently in use).

## Pagosa Junction Bridge Now Open

Good afternoon Tribal Members and community. This is to inform you that the Pagosa Junction Bridge along Cr500 is now open. Please see attached photos for clarification on the available route you can now take for travel or hunting. Tribal Planning thanks you for your patience while this project was underway. If you have any questions, please contact Tribal Planning at 970-563-2283.



# ALL IN ICE FEST

Southern Ute youth are invited to attend Ice Climbing Essentials!

Hot Springs | Ice Climbing

January 5-6, 2023

Ouray Ice Park

280 Co Rd 261, Ouray, CO 81427

For more information, contact SunUte Recreation 970-563-0214



**Southern Ute Digital Equity Program (SUDEP)**

**“Tribal Member Experience Portal Training and Laptop Signups”**

Date: January 16, 2024, 10am - 2pm  
Date: January 17, 2024, 8am - 12pm

Location: Southern Ute Growth Fund  
14929 HWY 172  
Ignacio, Colorado, 81137

All Southern Ute Indian Tribal Members are welcome to attend. SUDEP staff will be answering all technical questions, helping tribal members sign into their tribal member experience accounts, password resets and helping sign up those individuals who have not received their free Dell laptop from SUDEP ([www.southernute-nsn.gov/SUDEP](http://www.southernute-nsn.gov/SUDEP)).

Contact:  
970-563-5555 for questions or technical support  
[sudepservice@southernute.com](mailto:sudepservice@southernute.com)





REMINDER – 4 SECOND RULE



Driving in Winter Weather

The Basics...Speed and Your Safety Cushion

Slow down. It's harder to control or stop your vehicle on a slick or snow-covered surface. We have all experienced this. Every year, there are thousands of police-reported crashes that occur on wintry conditions and undoubtedly resulted in serious harm to occupants. **We should get a taste of weather tonight and tomorrow.**

On the road, increase your following distance enough so that you'll have plenty of time to react and stop to prevent a mishap. Use the **4 Second Rule** [Smith Driving Method] as you follow the vehicle in front of you. Practice makes perfect and it'll become second nature to you while driving.

As the vehicle in front of you passes an object in front of you (road marker, road sign, etc.) count:

*One Thousand-One, One Thousand-Two, One Thousand-Three, One Thousand-Four. As you hit the same marker, safe distance will be achieved when your reach the One-Thousand-Four count. If you hit a count sooner than Four...you are too close...back off a bit and do a recount. This works with any speed. During adverse weather, obviously increase count time to One-Thousand- Eight. Otherwise... double the count. Your Safety Cushion on the road is essential for you and yours and you will be safer for it!*

We all see these potential mishaps in front of us. Please use this step process as a measure to protect yourself and yours.

Risk Management/National Safety Council  
12-13- 2023

COLORADO TRANSPORTATION

Prepare for winter driving conditions across Colorado

**Staff report**  
COLO. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

Travelers must be prepared for winter driving conditions, especially if you are headed to the mountains. Your trip begins with planning. Check the weather and road conditions by going to [COTrip.org](http://COTrip.org) before heading out. Make sure you are equipped for the drive. Tires with at least 3/16" of an inch of tread are essential. A well-maintained vehicle and an emergency kit with extra clothing, water, food and other essentials are critical to mountain driving in the winter. Once you are out on the road, take it slow, no sudden stops and leave plenty of following distance. Give plows space! Stay back three to four car lengths from snowplows. Should the weather get severe, there is the possibility of road closures.

Colorado Department of Transportation crews are out in advance of and throughout the winter storms to clear and treat roads.

**Chain and Traction Laws**  
When weather conditions warrant, CDOT will activate the Traction Law. If weather conditions deteriorate, CDOT will activate Chain Laws for passenger and commercial vehicles. Motorists will be alerted to an active Traction or Chain Law by highway signage, [COTrip.org](http://COTrip.org) and traffic/roadway condition alerts. For more information on the Traction Law and Passenger Vehicle Chain Law requirements, visit [codot.gov/travel/winter-driving/traction-law](http://codot.gov/travel/winter-driving/traction-law). To learn more and view helpful tips for winter driving, visit [winter.codot.gov](http://winter.codot.gov).

**COTrip.org and COTrip Planner app**  
Motorists are urged to visit [COTrip.org](http://COTrip.org) and download the COTrip Planner app ahead of traveling. Motorists are now able to sign up for travel alerts through [COTrip.org](http://COTrip.org) to see if there are any highway closures or impacts along their favorite routes. The COTrip Planner app also offers a "Trip Planner" feature that allows motorists to map out their routes and receive updates about road closures or incidents along the way. Motorists can turn on the "Hands-Free, Eyes Free" feature to receive these alerts via voice notifications and avoid routes with impacts.

CDOT is also pleased to offer motorists the opportunity to track CDOT snowplows on the app and website, and can even follow some of our "celebrity" plows that were named by elementary school students last year. Using the snowplow tracker allows motorists to see where our plows have been and even see what the road conditions look like by viewing the cameras in the area of the plows. CDOT plows have thousands of miles of roadway to maintain, so motorists are asked to please be patient and are reminded to never pass a plow on the right or while in echelon formation. It is always safer to stay behind a plow.

Services Guide  
Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
2023 Edition

The Southern Ute Services Guide 2023 Edition is now available for Southern Ute tribal members.

The Services Guide will be mailed to Southern Ute elders, and additional copies will be made available at the Southern Ute Tribal Information Services, at 398 Ouray Drive, Ignacio, CO, 81137. Please call 970-563-2208 to request a guide to be mailed or to stop by and pick up.

The Services Guide provides the tribal membership information on all the services offered to them by each Tribal Department.

Tribal Departments have listed all the services that can be utilized by the tribal membership. Please take your time to look through the guide to learn about what services are available to you along with contact information, tribal campus locations, and hours of operation.

The guide was designed with you in mind, so please utilize this guide to your benefit. If you have any more questions concerning services provided, please feel free to contact the individual departments at the numbers that are listed or contact Tribal Information Services at 970-563-2208 or 970-563-2250.

Please call the Southern Ute Tribal Information Services office if you would like a copy.

Fahrenheit  
32°F  
Water Freezes

**Attention Tribal Membership:**

The Construction Services Division would like to remind everyone that it's that time of season once again. Plug in your Heaters at their pump house and heat tape their water lines to prevent any freeze-up on your home this winter.

Please contact Construction Services at 970-563-0260 if you need assistance.

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visit our website or library to fill out an art form!  
[ignaciolibrary.org](http://ignaciolibrary.org) | 470 Goddard Ave.

Sky Ute CASINO RESORT  
Owned and Operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe

A TIME TRAVELER'S BALL  
NEW YEAR'S EVE 2023

PREPARE FOR A JOURNEY THROUGH  
TIME THIS NEW YEAR'S EVE!

Embark on an evening filled with excitement and adventure as we journey through the ages, from the future and back again. Our gala guarantees a delightful dinner, a dance party that transcends eras, an opulent cash bar, and an exhilarating costume contest to crown the night's ultimate time traveler.

As the clock approaches midnight, be part of the celebration by raising a glass to the new year with a champagne toast and party favors that resonate through the corridors of time. Space is limited. Don't miss your chance to be part of this time-traveling extravaganza—get your tickets today!

SKY UTE CASINO RESORT EVENTS CENTER

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM | DINNER AT 6:30PM | DANCE AT 9:00PM  
DINNER TICKETS: SINGLE \$100.00 | COUPLE \$175.00

AVAILABLE ONLINE AT  
[SKYUTECASINO.COM](http://SKYUTECASINO.COM)





# Southern Ute inaugurates council members



Southern Ute Tribal Council stands alongside Jicarilla Apache Nation dignitaries following the Tribal Council Inauguration Ceremony on Monday, Dec. 18.



Jicarilla Apache Nation President, Edward Velarde shares words of encouragement to both newly elected Councilman Pinnecoose and Chairman Baker nearing the end of the event on Monday, Dec. 18.



Yellow Jacket singers sing an honor song for newly inaugurated Chairman Baker and Councilman Pinnecoose during the Inauguration Ceremony on Monday, Dec. 18.



Newly elected Councilman Marty Pinnecoose raises his right hand and takes his Oath of Office on Monday, Dec. 18 during the Southern Ute Tribal Council Inauguration Ceremony. This event marks the beginning of his first term on the Southern Ute Tribal Council.

Photos by Divine Windy Boy  
The Southern Ute Drum

**Visiting dignitaries, family members and friends gathered at the Sky Ute Casino Resort to celebrate the Southern Ute Tribal Council Inauguration Ceremony for both Chairman Melvin J. Baker and Councilman Marty Pinnecoose. On Monday, Dec. 18, Chairman Baker and Councilman Pinnecoose completed their oath of office in front of a large crowd overseen by Honorable Judge Scott Moore. Following the presentation of colors by the Southern Ute Veterans Association and the honor songs provided by Yellow Jacket Singers, Chairman Baker and Councilman Pinnecoose gave their initial address to all in attendance. The event was wrapped up with words of encouragement provided by Southern Ute Royalty and from visiting dignitaries.**

VISIT

DURANGO

COLORADO

WE NEED

Your Input!

TAKE THE RESIDENT SENTIMENT SURVEY AT ENGAGE.DURANGO.ORG OR SCAN THE QR CODE!





# Southern Ute Celebrates Christmas

## Ugly sweaters rule!



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Sponsored by Tribal Information Services, employees of the Southern Ute Permanent Fund compete in the Ugly Sweater Contest on Friday, Dec. 22 in the Hall of Warriors. All participants and attendees enjoyed light refreshments before the contest, spreading holiday cheer before Christmas day.

Dressed as a decorated tree, TIS Receptionist Marie Carel won the Ugly Sweater Contest overall on Friday, Dec. 22 in the Hall of Warriors. Carel hand made her sweater, decorated with bows, wrapping paper, and tinsel garland.



## Southern Ute Christmas dinner



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Miss Southern Ute, Autumn Sage greets all visitors who attended the Southern Ute Tribal Christmas Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 16 at the Sky Ute Casino Resort. Following her welcome, the remaining members of Southern Ute Royalty take turns addressing the visitors.

Mr. And Mrs. Santa Claus also attended the Southern Ute Tribe Christmas Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 16 at the Sky Ute Casino. The pair take time to visit individual families, taking photos and spreading Christmas cheer with attendees.



## Christmas caroling



photos Krista Richards/SU Drum

Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy's Elementary level students went around the Southern Ute Tribal Campus to sing Ute Christmas songs for different tribal departments on Thursday, Dec. 21.

Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy students sang to tribal employees in the Hall of Warriors in the Leonard C. Burch building, Thursday, Dec. 21 — helping to spread Christmas cheer ahead of the holiday weekend.



## Santa makes a splash at SunUte



photos courtesy/SunUte

Before the students hit the water, SunUte Lifeguards, rather Santa's helpers, take a moment to meet with Santa and share their Christmas wish lists with him. Santa's helpers worked hard to keep swimmers safe during Swimming with Santa on Thursday, Dec. 14.



SUIMA student Kairi Ruybal sits with Santa before she jumps into the pool. Santa visited with SUIMA students and other community children ahead of the holiday weekend.



SUIMA student Enrique Silva sits on Santa's lap before his swim at SunUte Community Center, Silva shared his wishes with Santa during the Swimming with Santa event.

## “to the North Pole, of course!”



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Jessica and Weston Anthony along with their children Kara, Kaden, Kenzi, and Kalia ride on the Polar Express Train Ride on Monday, Dec. 18. SunUte Community Center and Tribal Information Services collaborated to offer Southern Ute tribal members and their families the opportunity to experience this ride at a reduced rate. For two days families dressed in their warmest pajamas and made their way to the Durango Depot to ride the Polar Express steam train.





courtesy Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining Safety, Inactive Mines Program

The West Sorpis coal refuse reclamation project, Las Animas County, Colorado, stabilized coal refuse causing sedimentation into Trinidad Lake. With the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds, states and tribes will be better able to update the AML problems stored in the enhanced Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System.

ENVIRONMENT

# \$8M to states and tribes to update Abandoned Mine Land Inventories

Staff report  
SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION  
AND ENFORCEMENT

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement recently announced an \$8 million investment through President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for states and tribes to update their abandoned mine land inventories, to support future remediation efforts. The enhanced Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System, commonly known as e-AMLIS, is the publicly available central database for all AML problems and reclaimed sites.

Eligible states and tribes will each receive nearly \$300,000 to improve data collection processes, as well as data integrity, accuracy, reliability, and standardization. Funds may also be used for field reconnaissance activities and the use of new technologies to efficiently collect and manage AML information.

President Biden’s Investing in America agenda delivers the largest in-

vestment in tackling legacy pollution in American history, including a \$11.3 billion investment to remediate abandoned mine lands, which is enabling the remediation of the majority of currently inventoried abandoned mine lands.

“E-AMLIS is a crucial tool for informing OSMRE and the public about the legacy coal mine pollution that still needs to be addressed,” said OSMRE Deputy Director Glenda Owens. “This financial assistance will help our state and Tribal AML partners update their inventories of AML problems and upgrade their existing processes to report on reclamation funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the traditional AML fee-based grants.”

States and tribes use e-AMLIS to report information such as location, problem type, extent of AML impacts, and reclamation costs. Projects inventoried in e-AMLIS are eligible for funding through the traditional fee-based AML program as well as the Bipartisan In-

frastructure Law, which allocates \$11.3 billion over 15 years to accelerate the cleanup of dangerous environmental conditions and pollution caused by historic coal mining.

OSMRE has modified the fiscal year 2023 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law NOFO so that states and Tribes can request to receive BIL e-AMLIS funding. The following states and tribes are eligible for e-AMLIS grants: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, the Crow Tribe, the Hopi Tribe, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, the Navajo Nation, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

For more information on applying for the BIL e-AMLIS grant funds, visit Grant Solutions. For more information on e-AMLIS, visit [www.osmre.gov/programs/e-amlis](http://www.osmre.gov/programs/e-amlis). For more information on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, visit [www.osmre.gov/bil](http://www.osmre.gov/bil).

TRIBAL PLANNING

# Local byway receives grant

John Porco  
TRACKS ACROSS BORDERS  
SCENIC AND HISTORIC BYWAY  
COMMISSION

The Tracks Across Borders Scenic and Historic Byway Commission (TABB) has been awarded a Destination Development Mentor Grant by the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO). The grant provides consulting services from a tourism expert and is valued at approximately \$10,000. The Byway is relatively new, having been designated in 2015, so it is not well known locally and regionally. Therefore, the TABB Commission plans to use the grant to develop a robust marketing plan which will include an expanded outreach to organizations and tourism-related businesses along and near the Byway. The goal is to expand travel on the Byway, thereby boosting tourism revenues for the counties and towns along the Byway route.

TABB is a 126-mile Byway from Chama, N.M. to Durango, Colo. through Archuleta, LaPlata and Rio Arriba Counties. It is one of 26 Byways in Colorado and an equal number in New Mexico, officially designated by the respective State Transportation Departments.

The Byway closely fol-



lows the route of the old narrow-gauge Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad (D&RGW) that ran from Chama to Durango, abandoned in 1969, with a short side trip to Chimney Rock National Monument. The railroad was an important driver of economic development for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, with a depot on the southern end of Ignacio.

In addition to Chama and Durango, towns along the Byway include Dulce in New Mexico and Arboles, Allison, Tiffany, Ignacio, and Oxford, along with the “ghost” towns of Juanita and Pagosa Junction in Colorado. In addition to Chimney Rock, highlights of the Byway include the the Jicarilla Apache Cultural Center in Dulce, N.M., Navajo State Park, the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum and the Sky Ute Casino in Ignacio, and numerous attractions is Durango, Colo.

At either end of the Byway are two operating segments of the same D&RGW rail line, the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad and the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.

In addition to the past tracks of the old D&RGW, the Byway celebrates other tracks as well – the tracks of the wildlife that inhabit the area, of Native American trails, of Spanish missionaries in the 1600s, of oxen on the Old Spanish Trail in the 1800s, and of the wagons of pioneers. A drive on this backcountry Byway allows travelers to step back in time and see the untouched western landscape and learn about the deep, rich history and culture of this part of the old American West.

More information on the Byway can be found on the web at [tracksacrossborders.org](http://tracksacrossborders.org) and a Facebook page. Questions can be directed to [tracksacrossborders@gmail.com](mailto:tracksacrossborders@gmail.com).

## Spring 2024 BGC Registration

Starting  
**Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Southern Ute Tribal Members/  
First Descendant Club Members

Starting  
**Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Open to the General Community

As of **Sunday, December 31, 2023** all Boys & Girls Club memberships will expire.  
Spring 2024 memberships will be due by **Friday, January 12, 2024**.

Starting January 15<sup>th</sup>, any members with an expired membership will not be able to attend Club until memberships are renewed. You can receive all paperwork at the Boys & Girls Club office or on-line. Payments can be made on-line with a card or in person with cash or check.

Registration will be capped and a wait-list will be created, so it is recommended to register early.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Boys & Girls Club at (970) 563-4753.

**\$5 Fee for So Ute Tribal  
Members/First Descendants**



**\$10 Fee for General  
Community**

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF THE  
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF THE  
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

DECEMBER/JANUARY

# BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

schedule

~~DEC 11 CLUB CLOSED FOR LBG DAY~~  
~~DEC 25 CLUB CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS~~  
~~DEC 26-29 ALL DAY CLUB~~  
JAN 1- CLUB CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS  
JAN 2-5 ALL DAY CLUB  
JAN 15 CLOSED FOR MLK JR DAY

We will have All Day Club every Friday except Jan 19

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF THE  
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

# Updated Boys & Girls Club Fees

Beginning Spring 2024

Spring Registration

- Covers January-May
- \$5/Southern Ute Tribal Member & First Descendant
- \$10/ General Community
- Registration will begin mid-December

Summer Registration

- Covers Summer Program
- \$10/week Southern Ute Tribal Member & First Descendant
- \$30/week General Community, \$20/week second child, \$10/week each additional child
- Registration will begin mid-April

Fall Registration

- Covers Start of school-December
- \$5/Southern Ute Tribal Member & First Descendant
- \$10/ General Community
- Registration will begin early August

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF THE  
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

(970) 563-4753    [bgcstaff@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto:bgcstaff@southernute-nsn.gov)





Ute tribes break bread



Summer Begay/SU Tribal Council Affairs

The warmth of the season was radiating at the Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Facility's December Sip, Chat, and Chew! Southern Ute Tribal Council was happy to serve tribal members from the three sister tribes and their families on Friday, Dec. 22.

Multi-Purpose Facility staff hand out seat prizes to visitors during the Sip, Chat, Chew event on Friday, Dec. 22. All visitors had the opportunity to win a variety of free raffle prizes all while enjoying each other's company and a meal.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Tamale time!



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

The Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Facility hosted a tamale making class on Wednesday, Dec. 20 in the facilities' main gathering room. Attendees worked to spread masa and meat filling in the corn husks, following the assembly process each participant took home tamales.

Hilda Burch spreads masa all over her corn husks helping assemble tamales on Wednesday, Dec. 20 during the tamale making class at the Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Facility.



Participants fill trays with tamales during the tamale making class, they learn the steps for making tamales and get to take home their hard-earned tamales at the end of the class.

Multi-Purpose Facility  
January Senior Breakfast



Wednesday January 3, 2024  
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Open to all Community Senior Citizens  
55 years and older

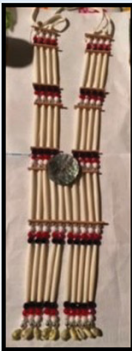


256 Ute Rd. Ignacio CO 81137  
970-563-2640 - multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov

MULTI-PURPOSE FACILITY  
Youth Crafting

Wednesday January 4, 2024

10:00 AM - 2:30 PM



All youth 7 years old—17 years old  
Parents and Grandparents are welcome to attend with their children.  
Lunch will be provided.  
Please call to sign – up.  
Three crafts to choose from:  
• Bone breastplate  
• Bone choker  
• Beaded keychain



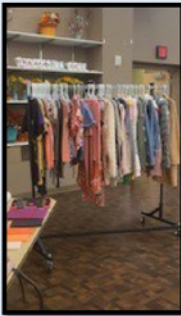
Multi-Purpose Facility 256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO  
Call for more information 970-563-2640

Happy Holidays  
MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE FILLED WITH PEACE, WARMTH, AND HAPPINESS.  
MAY THE CREATOR BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY THIS SEASON.  
TOCHOVAQH, TRIBAL COUNCIL

Multi-Purpose Facility  
January Indoor Yard Sale

Saturday January 6, 2024

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



No Admission Fee No Set-up Fee Doors open 8:00 AM

Make and Take Crafting  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO  
Call the MPF to reserve your table 563-2640  
e-mail multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov



Multi-Purpose Facility  
December Quilt & Sewing Class

Wednesday & Thursday  
January 10 & 11, 2024

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Stars over Santa Fe Quilt is for intermediate level quilters.

Colorful and beautiful, we will make a lap size blanket.



Call Elise to sign up & get supply list 970-563-2641

256 Ute Rd. Ignacio CO 81137 - 970-563-2640, multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov







BOBCATS GIRLS BASKETBALL

Lady 'Cats enter holidays on hot streak

IHS wins third straight, 46-20 at Sargent

By Joel Priest  
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Recording their third consecutive win to close out the year, Ignacio's Lady Bobcats traveled Friday, Dec. 15, to Sargent and blighted the underclassman-heavy Lady Farmers 46-20 – the fewest points scored against IHS yet this winter.

Energized by the previous night's thrilling 35-30 home win over former 2A/1A San Juan Basin League rival Mancos, the Lady 'Cats (4-3 overall, 0-0 3A/4A Intermountain) notched their second win in three tries against 2A/3A Southern Peaks opposition, having previously won at Del Norte on the 9th after a home loss to Sanford the evening before.

"Our team has no quit in them. At all," Ignacio head coach Trae Seibel had said after the victory over MHS. "They want to fight to win, but now we're just putting those little things together and getting them to realize that ... when our guards are going downhill, our post players are crashing the boards, our help defense is good ... it puts together a win."

Statistics for the Lady Bobcats had not been fully tabulated and reported as of press time.

Freshmen Kandace Pargin and Makenzie Consaul paced SHS with five points each, while senior Bailey Asbell and freshman Tami Torgler each scored four and freshman Kimmy Pargin two as the Lady Farmers (2-



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Solymar Cosio (44) catches air while guarding a 5A Durango player during 'foundation game' action Monday evening, Dec. 11, inside Fort Lewis College's Whalen Gymnasium. The unofficial contest served as an opportunity for both teams to build their skills, and though IHS lost to the Lady Demons, the experience quickly paid dividends; the Lady 'Cats resumed action on the 14th with a home win over 2A Mancos, then notched a road win at 2A Sargent the following evening.

3 overall) dropped their third straight prior to resuming play in 2024 at home versus 1A SPL member San Luis Centennial on Friday, Jan. 5.

IHS, meanwhile, will next see action on the 6th at Monte Vista, with the Lady Pirates standing 5-1 overall after closing out '23 winning 44-22 Tues-

day, December 19, at 3A IMLers Bayfield. The Lady 'Cats will then get into their IML work hosting 4A-level members Alamosa and Pagosa Springs on the 12th and 13th, respectively.

"I hope they carry in," said Seibel, "that they've got to fight every single time they step on the court."



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

deKay most recently closed out the 2023 half of the Bobcats' schedule competing at 150 pounds and placing first at Walsenburg's Pete & Ina Gomez Invitational, Saturday, Dec. 16.

BOBCATS WRESTLING

Wrestlers rank top-five in Walsenburg

deKay wins, three 'Cats place second

By Joel Priest  
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Eight IHS wrestlers wrapped up the 2023 portion of the team's winter schedule Saturday, December 16, in Walsenburg.

Five closed out the Pete & Ina Gomez Invitational ranking top-five – helping the team do likewise.

Not a bad way to ring in the holidays.

Led by sophomore Lincoln deKay's championship victory at 150 pounds, the Bobcats piled up a competitive 112 points and placed a strong fifth out of 31 scoring squads. Coming in fresh off a home dual on the 14th versus Metro Area city rival Lakewood, 4A Bear Creek

racked up a winning 156.5, and 2A Swink (137.5) claimed runner-up honors in what ended up being the last-ever sporting event held inside old John Mall H.S. Gymnasium.

With its varsity competing at the 12/15-16 Reno, Nev., Tournament of Champions, 3A Alamosa's junior varsity finished third at the Invitational with 117.5 points – just 1.5 ahead of 4A Monument Palmer Ridge (which decided against competing at the 84-team Northern Colorado Christmas Tournament in Greeley) and 5.5 ahead of 2A Ignacio.

After pinning 3A Lamar freshman Alex Aguilar Salcedo in just 59 seconds, following a first-round bye,

deKay then scored a slim 6-5 win over 2A Ellicott senior Jedrek Howarth in the weight's semifinals and then closed out the tournament sticking 5A Colorado Springs Pine Creek JV entrant Miguel Sanchez, a junior, 1:42 into the second two-minute period.

Steadily working himself back into wrestling shape while recovering from a knee injury suffered early in IHS' football season, senior heavyweight Kyle Rima placed second – pinning two opponents, but then losing by second-period pin in the final round to Swink junior Lincoln Tomky.

Pinning two foes, one

Wrestlers page 20



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

With head coach Chris Valdez visible at center and assistant Clay Seibel to his left, Ignacio's boys prepare to face Durango in 'foundation game' play Monday night, Dec. 11, inside Fort Lewis College's Whalen Gymnasium. After the unofficial contest – serving as an opportunity for both teams to build their skills in a game setting (a 35-second shot clock was even used) – against the 5A Demons, the 3A Bobcats closed out the 2023 half of their winter schedule losing at home to 2A Mancos on the 14th, but then winning at 2A Sargent on the 15th.

BOBCATS BOYS BASKETBALL

Bobcats roll into holidays with road win

IHS' fast start leaves Sargent little chance

By Joel Priest  
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Racing out to a 20-10 lead after one quarter of play Friday night, Dec. 15, the Ignacio Bobcats increased their advantage to 33-17 at halftime, forcing 2A Sargent to play from behind on their home court.

And though the Farmers, undefeated going into the non-league game, fought back after intermission, the 3A 'Cats did enough to win the third quarter 21-18 and then more or less coasted through the fourth to score a solid 64-48 road win.

Certainly impressive, considering IHS had lost 67-42 at home to 2A Mancos the night before.

With IHS getting contributions offensively from its regulars as well as its reserves, senior center Gabe Cox was credited in the scorebook (which contained irregularities, compared to the aforementioned by-quarter totals reported by SHS personnel) with 14 points, and senior guard Trajan Garcia sank two three-pointers in registering 11. Senior guard Phillip Quintana also hit two threes and finished with ten points, senior guard Devante Montoya booked nine points and sophomore Trace Crane eight.

"We're playing a lot more players than we usu-



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

ally do because they've got to learn," Ignacio head coach Chris Valdez had said after the loss to MHS, "and I've got to find out who can play and who can't. It's kind of a new group ... but I can't just sit there and play one group of kids; I've got to figure out who we've got and who's going to be able to help us

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Bobcats page 20

# JOIN THE 2ND ANNUAL NEW YEARS BUCKET BASH

SUNUTE RECREATION CENTER

6-7 JANUARY 2024

MENS & WOMENS BBALL TOURNAMENT

REGISTRATION FEE \$350

\$100 DEPOSIT

DEADLINE REGISTRATION JANUARY 3RD

For more information contact  
Bird Red 970 563 2664  
Kelsey Frost 970 563 2660  
Darnell Muniz 970 563 2667  
Elijah Weaver 970 563 2655





OBITUARY



**FROST** – Raymond (Greenman) Frost Jr. (61) died Friday, Dec. 22, 2023. He was surrounded by his family at the time of his passing. Raymond Frost Jr. was born Oct. 15, 1962 to Raymond Frost Sr. and Mary Ellen in Durango, CO.

Raymond graduated from Ignacio High School and was an enrolled member to the Southern Ute Tribe. Raymond joined the Air Force after high school. He was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base San Antonio, Texas, then Chanute Airforce Base Rantoul, Illinois and then finally in Kadena Airforce Base Okinawa, Japan.

Raymond was a Sundancer. He loved hunting, fishing and just loved being out-

doors, he also loved Harley Davidson motorcycles. He was a die-hard Pittsburgh Steelers, Pittsburgh Penguins, and San Antonio Spurs fan. Throughout his life he worked in different departments for the Southern Ute Tribe. He had a wonderful and teasing sense of humor. Raymond was a fun, loving, free spirit, whose joy came through with a big laugh and a quick playful comment.

Mr. Frost is survived by his wife Gloria Frost; children: Niko Frost & Max Frost, Snowbird Frost, and Springwind Frost, Faith Frost; stepchildren: Geneva Gomez (Kenneth), Derrick Watts (Leigh), Marietta Watts-Soto (Abel), all of Ignacio, CO; siblings: Lena Melrose, Raxanne Frost, Emmett Frost, Heather Frost, Rodney Red, Robert Jack and Glen Frost all of Ignacio, CO; Yvonne Phillips of Houston, TX; Conrad Kingstey and Carl Hamlen, both of Towaco, CO; adopted brother and sister: Stan Little Boy and Jonie Bull Bear of Porcupine, SD; 9 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews and enrolled family members.

Raymond is preceded in death by his mother Mary Ellen Washington; sisters: Audrey Frost, Jeanette Frost, Marion Frost, Bernendene Frost; brothers: Dale Frost and Nathaniel Jack and niece Samantha Rock.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 29, 2023 at the Southern Ute Memorial Chapel in Ignacio. Burial to follow at La Boca Cemetery.

COMMUNITY GREETINGS

**Happy Birthday, Katrina M. Baker!**

My New Year's Baby, I can remember when you were born, so little. Today, you're this Strong Ute Woman whose resilience resonates through the hardships you have overcome. May you continue to gain Strength, Knowledge and Love, – through your faith, yourself, your family and your culture and traditions,- as you make your way around Grandfather Sun and Grandmother Moon on your path of life guided by Creator of All of Things. You are part of his beautiful Creations!

May you the Spirit of this Winter Season, which you were born, shine through.

Love Mom.

EXPRESS YOUR OPINIONS

**Chavez expresses appreciation**

Maykh,

I am grateful for all who offered their support in this election, it truly has been an experience and a pleasure to be a part of our elective process. Your faith in my campaign is inspiring and very humbling, togwayak.

Congratulations to our newly elected members of the tribal council, may they be blessed with many successes during their terms.

Most of all, Congratulations to the People of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Your choices have been heard and seated to represent you, best wishes moving forward!

Tuvuuch togwayak!  
Cedric Chavez

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

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

Dedicated to the Preservation of Tribal Sovereignty, the Responsible Management of Tribal Resources, and Strengthening the Integrity of the Tribal Government for the People of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe!

Tuvuuch Togiozyak!  
Cedric Chavez

Vigil family rides Polar Express



courtesy Tara Vigil

Following the Polar Express train ride – grandchildren of Tara Vigil; Orion and Ollyvia Watts, Zayla and Raphael Herrera, and Zitayvius Richards sit with Santa Claus on Tuesday, Dec. 19 at the Durango Railroad Depot.

Cruz tags Christmas elk



photo courtesy Andrew Gallegos

Christmas came early for Mr. Michael Cruz on his first ever elk harvest. Cruz participated in the Tribe's first descendant cow elk hunt through the month of December. Harvested on Monday, Dec. 25, in Deep Canyon using a 300 Remington Ultra Mag. at 200 yards.

NEW EMPLOYEES



**Fabian Martinez**

**Job title:** Museum Registrar & Archivist

**Description of duties:** Manage archive, maintain records and fulfill requests.

**Hobbies:** Photography, reading, lego building, vinyl collecting, playing video games, historical research.

**Family:** Phillip Martinez (Father), Maria Trujillo (Mother), Victoria Trujillo-Weaver (Sister)

**Tribe:** Southern Ute

Drum Deadline

Next issue: Jan. 12

Deadline: Jan. 8

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

**THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM**

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

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$29 per year • \$49 two years**  
**MAIN: 970-563-0100 • DIRECT: 970-563-0118**  
**TOLL FREE: 1-800-772-1236 • ADVERTISING: 970-563-2251**

**MAILING ADDRESS**

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

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS**

356 Ouray Drive, Leonard C. Burch Building, Ignacio, CO 81137

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(sudrum@southernute-nsn.gov)

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**Rosaleigh Concepcion** • Media Archivist, ext. 2274 (rconcepcion@southernute-nsn.gov)

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

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**SEAL OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE**  
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE  
IGNACIO, COLORADO

*Happy New Year*

**Tribal Office Closure**

In observance of New Year's Day, the Permanent Fund, Growth Fund, and SUSS offices will be closed on Monday, January 01, 2024.

Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, January 02, 2024.





REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
Southern Ute Tribal Housing

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe (Tribe) Tribal Housing Department is requesting a written response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for consideration to enter into a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) to provide regular landscape maintenance services for irrigated and unirrigated areas at the following properties:

1. Townhome property located at 60 Shadow Spirit East, including its park and landscaping maintenance for a second park located at the intersection of Shadow Spirit East and Lodge Pole Way in Ignacio, Colorado. Including as-needed landscaping maintenance and/or weed mitigation at other locations within the Ignacio, Colorado, area as directed by Tribal Housing.
2. Periodic weed mitigation in hardscaped landscapes at residential housing located
  - a. Buckskin Charlie Drive, Ignacio, CO:
    - i. House numbers: 58, 68, 80, 96, 108.
  - b. Fry Bread Avenue:
    - i. House numbers: 38, 81, & 103
3. Subdivision Park(s) located at:
  - a. Piwood, Ignacio, CO
  - b. Tamuche, Ignacio, CO
4. Weed maintenance (mowing, trimming, and spraying) around residential home(s) located at:
  - a. 664 J Road, Ignacio, CO
  - b. 248 Dry Creek Rd, Ignacio, CO

Colorado Commercial Pesticide applicator licenses are preferred.

For inquiries and a copy of the detailed RFP, contact the SUIT Tribal Housing Department:

**Mail Delivery:** Southern Ute Indian Tribe Tribal Housing Department Attn: Mandy Brown, PO Box 737-24, Ignacio, CO 81137 mbrown@southernute-nsn.gov

**Hand Delivery:** Southern Ute Indian Tribe Tribal Housing Department 285 Lakin Street, Ignacio, CO 81137

Proposals will be received through January 18, 2024.

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) has established a preference for contracting and subcontracting to certified Indian-owned businesses.  
For information on certification, contact TERO at 970-563-0117.

Notice of Tribal Council Adoption of Revised  
Criminal and Criminal Procedure Codes

By Resolution No. 2023-212, the Tribal Council adopted **revised Title 4 – Criminal Procedure Code and revised Title 5 – Criminal Code**. The revised codes will supersede and replace all previous versions of these codes on **March 1, 2024** when the revised codes become effective. The Bureau of Indian Affairs approved both codes on November 28, 2023.

By Resolution No. 2023-212, the Tribal Council established **March 1, 2024** as the effective date for both the Criminal Procedure and Criminal Codes.

The current and revised Criminal Procedure and Criminal Codes can be found online at: <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/tribal-code/>

Printed hard copies of the codes may be obtained from the Tribal Information Services Department at:

**Email:** TIS@southernute-nsn.gov  
**Mail:** Southern Ute Indian Tribe, P.O. Box 737, 356 Ouray Drive, Ignacio, CO 81137  
**Phone:** 970-563-2208  
**Website:** <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/tribal-code/>

**For further information please contact:** Amy Barry, Tribal Information Services Department, abarry@southernute-nsn.gov, 970-563-2250.

FOR RENT: SOUTHERN UTE MEMBERSHIP ONLY  
60 Shadow Spirit East, Ignacio, CO, 81137

The Tribal Housing Department has a unit available for rent: (1) Single-Story 3-Bedroom, 2-bathroom unit for \$1,000/mo. Security Deposit \$1,000. No Pets allowed. For more information and an application, visit our website at [www.southernute-nsn.gov/tribal-housing/cedar-point-townhomes](http://www.southernute-nsn.gov/tribal-housing/cedar-point-townhomes). Feel free to call or stop by our office at 970-563-4710, 285 Lakin St. Ignacio, CO. Applications can be emailed to: [tribalhousing@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto:tribalhousing@southernute-nsn.gov) or hand-delivered to our drop box at 285 Lakin St. Ignacio, CO. **PLACEMENT SUBJECT TO BACKGROUND CHECK AND RENTAL HISTORY VERIFICATION.** Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on January 16, 2024.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**Proposals requested for the removal and replacement of the existing TRANE AIR COOLED CGAM CHILLER CH-1 AT THE CULTURAL CENTER BUILDING.**

- The Scope of work is for the Removal and Replacement of the existing Cultural Center Trane Air Cooled CGAM Chiller CH-1, located at 503 Ouray Drive in Ignacio, Colorado.

**Proposals requested for the removal, replacement and retrofit of the existing AIR COOLED RTAA ROTARY CHILLER CH-1 AT THE LEONARD C. BURCH BUILDING.**

- The Scope of work is for Removal, Replacement & Retrofit of the existing LCB Air Cooled RTAA Rotary Chiller CH-1, located at 356 Ouray Drive in Ignacio, Colorado.

Specific details and scope of work are available by request from Southern Ute Building Maintenance and Building Maintenance will manage on site inspection and scheduling to accommodate proposal needs. (Please reach out to Building Maintenance and speak to Chuck Mallett for info and scheduling.)

**Southern Ute Building Maintenance**  
970-563-0260, PO BOX 737 MS45, Ignacio, CO 81137  
[cmallett@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto:cmallett@southernute-nsn.gov)

Projects to be completed before end of September 30, 2024.  
Proposals due no later than January 12, 2024.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
Audit Services

The Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority (SUIHA) is requesting proposals from qualified firms and individuals for providing audit services. Interested parties must submit written proposals to the SUIHA. Proposals will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on March 22, 2023. Proposals received after this time will be considered non-responsive and returned to the sender. Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted.

**BACKGROUND:** The Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority is the Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) for the Southern Ute Tribe. Our primary sources of income are rental income and Federal financial assistance received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Indian Housing Block Grant program.

SUIHA currently uses Aliba and HDS software. SUIHA has 115 Low Rental Units. The SUIHA receives an annual Indian Housing Block Grant of approximately 1.4 million.

**SCOPE OF SERVICES:** The audit services to be provided will be for the twelve-month period ending September 2024. The audit shall be completed and submitted to the Federal Audit Clearing House by December 27th, 2024. With onsite visit being done week of October 28, 2024. We expect an exit conference at the end of the audit fieldwork to discuss any findings, questionable costs, reportable conditions and adjusting journal entries. The audit shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements described in the Single Audit Act and the audit must be in compliance with the Uniform Administrative Guidance at 2 CFR Part 200.

The audit services to be provided will be for the twelve-month period ending September 2025. The audit shall be completed and submitted to the Federal Audit Clearing House by December 26th, 2025. With onsite visit being done week of October 27, 2025. We expect an exit conference at the end of the audit fieldwork to discuss any findings, questionable costs, reportable conditions and adjusting journal entries. The audit shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements described in the Single Audit Act and the audit must be in compliance with the Uniform Administrative Guidance at 2 CFR Part 200.

**CONTENT OF THE PROPOSALS:** In selecting the firm or individual who will best serve the needs of SUIHA we will be reviewing the experience of the respondent(s) along with reviewing the expertise and qualifications of the individual(s) who will be providing the services. To meet these objectives, the proposal must contain a resume of all individuals who would be performing the services, with special attention to the experience related to Indian Housing Authorities or similar organizations. Four (4) copies of the proposal shall be submitted.

**EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS:** Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated based on a 100 point system with the proposal receiving the most points being determined the most responsive. The cost of conducting the audit will be the main criteria used in evaluating the proposals. The SUIHA Board of Directors will make the final selection and the successful firm or individual will be notified shortly thereafter so that the audit process can begin as soon as possible. SUIHA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals if it is in the best interest of the SUIHA.

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

The criteria for evaluating the proposals will include points given in the following areas: Qualifications of firm or individual to conduct Federal audits in accordance with 2 CFR 200 (0-10 points); Ability of firm to conduct the audit in a timely manner (0-30 points); Experience and knowledge of Indian Housing Authorities (0-15 points); Cost (0-45 points); Indian Preference (0 or 10 points if proposal includes proof showing that the firm is at least 51% Indian owned).

Responses shall be addressed to  
Eric Spady, Executive Director,  
P.O. Box 447, Ignacio CO 81137  
E-Mail: [espady@suiha.org](mailto:espady@suiha.org)

Notice Of Draft Title V Operating Permit  
and Request For Comment

Notice is hereby given that a Title V renewal application have been submitted to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Environmental Programs Department's Air Quality Division, P.O. Box 737 MS#84, Ignacio, Colorado 81137, for the following sources of air pollution:

**Applicant: Public Service Company of Colo.**  
Facility: Tiffany Compressor Station  
Location: Section 4, T32N R6W, 12 miles SE of Ignacio, Colorado  
Permit Action: Renewal

**Applicant: SIMCOE, LLC**  
Facility: Four Queens Central Delivery Point  
Location: Section 26, T33N R11W, 30 miles WSW of Ignacio, Colorado  
Permit Action: Renewal

**Applicant: Northwest Pipeline**  
Facility: La Plata B Compressor Station  
Location: Section 35, T34N R9W, 16 miles W of Ignacio, Colorado  
Permit Action: Renewal

**Applicant: Transwestern Pipeline Co., LLC**  
Facility: La Plata A Compressor Station  
Location: Section 35, T34N R9W, 14 miles W of Ignacio, Colorado  
Permit Action: Renewal

The Air Quality Division (AQD) has prepared the draft Title V operating permits based on the information submitted by the applicants. The draft permits and accompanying statement of basis are available on the AQD's website at <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/departments/epd/air-quality/air-permitting/>, and at the Environmental Programs Department office at 71 Mike Frost Way, Ignacio CO, 81137 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit and request a hearing. Written comments and requests for hearings may be sent to the AQD in care of Danny Powers, Air Quality Division Head, at P.O. Box 737 MS#84, Ignacio, Colorado 81137; or emailed to [dpowers@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto:dpowers@southernute-nsn.gov). Any hearing request should: 1) identify the individual or group requesting the hearing, 2) state his or her address and phone number, and 3) state the reason(s) for the request. Notice of any public hearing will be provided at least 30 days in advance of the hearing. The AQD will consider the written public comments and requests for a hearing that are received within 30 days of this notice.

SKY UTE FAIRGROUNDS  
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Pick your Storage Size

- 1) 13' X 31' = \$200 / month
- 2) 12' X 35' = \$225 / month
- 3) 14' X 35' = \$250 / month



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7 Years in business

Terms possible.

Call 970-398-0123

Upcoming Tribal

Holiday Office

Closures

Monday, Jan. 1

New Year's Day

Monday, Jan. 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Happy New Year

from the staff of The

Southern Ute Drum

ANNOUNCEMENT

REMINDER TO ALL TRIBAL

MEMBERSHIP

Prep your Home for Winter Weather

Construction Services Division would like to remind everyone with the weather getting colder to plug in your Heaters at your pump house and to heat tape your water lines to prevent any freeze-up on your home this winter and maintain your chimney.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please contact us at 970-563-0260 if you need assistance.

Southern Ute Utilities Division

SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND

12/14/23

UPDATES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRANSFER STATION

2023 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

DEC. 24<sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS EVE

CLOSED

DEC. 25<sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS DAY

CLOSED

DEC. 31<sup>ST</sup> NEW YEAR'S EVE

CLOSED

JAN. 1<sup>ST</sup> NEW YEAR'S DAY

CLOSED

TRANSFER STATION HOURS OF OPERATION

MON.—SAT. 8 AM TO 5 PM / CLOSED SUNDAY

Tribal Members: Pick up Trash Permits—call office or contact Mr. James Red at Transfer Station Ramp. Show Tribal ID.

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 8 AM to 5 PM

Reach a staff member by phone at (970) 563-5500

Friendly Reminders

Questions on your bill? Call us to help you better understand.

Monthly Shutoffs are the first Wednesday of each month: January 3rd / February 7th March 6th

Settle your payments before 10AM

DECEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important! No Water Haul Delivery on Christmas Day. Please call Utilities office to make alternative delivery arrangements.

NEW 2024 Trash Permits are available! Pick up from the Utilities Office starting January 2nd!

Please update your contact information with the Utilities Office. This will ensure you receive billing, notices, and announcements from the Utilities Division.

Utilities Lobby CLOSED for lunch every Friday, 12p—1p.

Reminder: OFFICE & TRANSFER STATION CLOSED on DECEMBER 25th. Regular business hours resume on Tuesday, December 26, 2023.

Merry Christmas

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Online at: [www.suitutil.com](http://www.suitutil.com)

Choose "Pay My Bill" tab

Utilities Drive-Up Window

Utilities Drop Box at Office

Wells Fargo Drive-Thru (Ignacio Branch)

Automatic deductions at Tribal Distribution

Mail payment made payable to "Southern Ute Utilities Division" PO Box 1137 Ignacio, CO 81137

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, CALL THE UTILITIES OFFICE.

PO Box 1137 16360 Hwy. 172 Ignacio, CO 81137 (970) 563-5500 [www.suitutil.com](http://www.suitutil.com)

2024 SOUTHERN UTE DRUM DEADLINE

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

\*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

[www.sudrum.com](http://www.sudrum.com) • 970-563-0118

Email: [sudrum@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto: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)

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE  
Boards, Committees and Comissions Vacancies

**APPRENTICE PROGRAM COMMITTEE**  
Open until filled – The Southern Ute Indian Tribe (Tribe) and Apprentice Program Committee has two (2) vacancies. The Committee shall include 5 members which shall be appointed by Tribal Council. Include employees of the Permanent Fund who have a level of expertise and familiarity with the goal of Tribal member mentoring and employment in order to make a positive contribution to both the Committee and to the objectives of the Program. A majority of the Committee shall be Tribal members. The Permanent Fund Apprenticeship Committee (Committee) shall be appointed to administer the Apprenticeship Program (Program) which provides higher education, training, on-the-job experience, and mentoring to eligible Tribal members employed in the Permanent Fund. All interested Southern Ute tribal members, currently employed with the Tribe, who would like to serve on this committee are urged to submit a letter of intent to the Human Resources Dept. at PO Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137, or in person at the Leonard C. Burch Tribal Administration Building.

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB BOARD**  
Open Until Filled – The Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe is currently looking to fill two (2) volunteer Board Member positions. 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](http://www.bgsu.org) website or by request from Mr. Bruce LeClaire at 970-563-2694 or [bleclairc@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto:bleclairc@southernute-nsn.gov). Applications must be returned to Mr. LeClaire.

**ELECTION BOARD**  
Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Election Board is seeking one (1) Alternate Board Member. 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 709, 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](mailto:electionboard@southernute-nsn.gov)

**ETHICS COMMISSION**  
Open Until Filled – The Ethics Office is accepting letter of interest from tribal members to fill One vacancy for “Alternate Member-At-Large” positions on the Ethics Commission. Qualifications are: Be a member of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe at least 18 years of age or older; Have a reputation for fairness and impartiality; Have a familiarity with tribal government; and Satisfactory completion of a background investigation for criminal history showing no convictions or guilty pleas for felonies or any misdemeanor involving dishonesty. Please submit letters of interest to the Department of Justice & Regulatory, PO Box 737-MS#10, Ignacio, CO, or in person at the Justice and Regulatory Administration Building, 71 Mike Frost Way. All letters will be presented to the Southern Ute Tribal Council for their consideration.

**GAMING COMMISSION**  
Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Gaming Commission is seeking 2 Full time and 1 Alternate positions for specified terms, must be Southern Ute Tribal Members. Applicants must possess the following attributes pursuant to the Regulation One of the Gaming Commission Rules and Regulations: Applicants must be at least twenty-one years of age. Applicants must possess a basic knowledge and understanding of gaming activities authorized on the Southern Ute Indian reservation. Applicants must have experience or expertise in regulatory matters or in administrative hearing procedures. Applicants must have the ability to observe restrictions concerning conflicts of interest and confidentiality. Applicants must submit an application form and a letter of interest explaining why the applicant wishes to be appointed to the Commission; and Applicants must undergo a background investigation. Applications may be obtained at the Division of Gaming Office – Licensing in the West Wing of the Justice Complex, 149 County Road 517, Ignacio, Colorado, 81137. Applications and letter of interest are required to be turned into the Division of Gaming Office. If you are interested, contact the Division of Gaming at 970-563-0180.

**JOHNSON O'MALLEY COMMITTEE**  
Open Until Filled – JOM has TWO (2) vacant seats that need filling. If you are interested, please submit a letter to Ellen Baker at the Southern Ute Education Dept. or if you have any question you can contact her at 970-563-0235. Email: [esbaker@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto:esbaker@southernute-nsn.gov).

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

**KSUT BOARD OF DIRECTORS SEEKING SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL MEMBER**  
Open Until Filled – The KSUT Board of Directors is seeking a Southern Ute Tribal member to fill one of three Southern Ute seats on the board. The open seat can be filled by any enrolled Southern Ute tribal member, even if the member does not live in the KSUT broadcast signal area. For information, contact Tami Graham at 970-563-5780 or at [tami@ksut.org](mailto:tami@ksut.org)

**POWWOW COMMITTEE**  
Open until filled – Mąykh! The Powwow Committee is currently accepting letters from community members to serve as volunteer membership for the Southern Ute Powwow Committee. This committee is open to all Southern Ute Tribal members and direct descendants as well as any Indigenous community member who would like to be actively involved with planning, promoting and executing Southern Ute Powwows. This will also require said member to represent the Southern Ute Tribe and promote traditions and culture through the Powwow circle and throughout Indian Country. Meetings are conducted bi-monthly, or when needed, it will also require working with multiple tribal departments throughout the Southern Ute, Northern Ute, and Ute Mountain Tribes. This committee is responsible for maintaining services needed for Powwows and will require hands-on work, as well as critical and traditional thinking. We would like to promote any active Powwow dancers, drummers, singers, or elders who would like to engage with the Powwow Community to apply. So please bring your good medicine and come help us plan a good year of powwows. Accepting letters of intent to: Southern Ute Powwow Committee, PO Box 737 #16 Ignacio, CO 81137, and at [soutepowwow@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto:soutepowwow@southernute-nsn.gov).

**SO. UTE INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY**  
Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority (SUIHA) is seeking an individual to serve on the SUIHA Board of Directors. The Board adopts policies and enacts resolutions of the SUIHA. Individuals interested in serving as a Board Member should submit a letter of intent to SUIHA stating their qualifications and why they would like to serve on the Board. All letters of intent need to be submitted to SUIHA, P.O. Box 447, Ignacio, CO 81137, emailed to [rtorres@suiha.org](mailto:rtorres@suiha.org), or hand deliver to the SUIHA office located at 760 Shoshone Avenue, Ignacio, CO. Proof of Southern Ute Tribal Member required.

**TERO COMMISSION**  
Open Until Filled – The Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) is accepting letters of interest for two (2) commissioners; A person with Tribal Regulatory knowledge and experience and; Southern Ute Tribal member at-large to serve on the Tribal Employment Rights Commission which are compensated positions. Southern Ute tribal member/Applicants must have the following requirements: Tribal Regulatory Knowledge and Experience; Does not own or operate a certified Indian Owned Business; Experience or expertise in administrative hearing procedures; Eighteen (18) years of age or older; Good character; Ability to observe restrictions concerning conflict of interest and confidentiality. Tribal Member At-Large: Not currently employed by the Tribal Government or the Growth Fund; Does not own or operate a certified Indian Owned Business; Experience or expertise in administrative hearing procedures; Eighteen (18) years of age or older; Good character; Ability to observe restrictions concerning conflict of interest and confidentiality. Submit your Letter of Interest to the TERO Division or send to TERO Division, P.O. Box 737, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ignacio, CO 81137. If you have any questions, call TERO, at 970-563-0117 or 970-563-0100 ext. 2291. TERO is located in the J&R Admin. Bldg., 71 Mike Frost Way.

**WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD: YOUTH ALTERNATE**  
Open Until Filled – The Tribe is seeking an enrolled Southern Ute youth wishing to fill a special youth-only seat on the Tribal Member Wildlife Advisory Board. The 1-year position may only be filled by a Tribal Member between the ages of 14 and 18, and the position may be renewed annually, by request, until age 19 is reached. The Wildlife Advisory Board works closely with the Wildlife Division in planning and recommending actions related to Tribal hunting and fishing programs, both on-reservation and within the Brunot treaty area. This special youth seat provides an outstanding opportunity for a young tribal member to learn about wildlife management, including traditional Ute and contemporary scientific perspectives. Meetings are held several times throughout the year, and a commitment to attend and participate in all meetings is expected. The participant is eligible to receive \$20/hour compensation for meeting attendance provided he or she is not already employed by the Tribe. Interested tribal member youth must submit a brief letter of interest to the Southern Ute Wildlife Division at P.O. Box 737, Ignacio CO 81137. For information, please contact the Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130.

Zia Pueblo Requesting Deer/Elk Hides

The Zia Pueblo Tribe is seeking donations for deer or elk hides for cultural purposes. If any Tribal Members would like to donate a hide, please call the Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130 to arrange the donation.





## Southern Ute Indian Tribe • Job announcements

Visit the the tribe's website at [www.southernute-nsn.gov/jobs](http://www.southernute-nsn.gov/jobs) for complete job descriptions. ALL EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE.

If you need help filling out an online application, please come the Human Resources office and we are happy to assist you on our applicant computer stations.

Applicants and employees, be sure the HR Dept. has your current contact information on file.

Human Resources accepts applications for temporary employment on an ongoing basis.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Human Resources • P.O. Box 737 - Ignacio, CO 81137 • Phone: 970-563-0100 ext. 2424 • Fax: 970-563-0302 • Hotline: 970-563-4777

### Air Quality Scientist II – Permitting

Closes 1/2/24 – Under general Supervision of the Air Quality Program Manager – Permitting & Regulatory, the Air Quality Scientist II – Permitting coordinates, supervises, and conducts technical and regulatory tasks within the Permitting Section of the Tribal Air Quality Division. Pay grade E16; Pay starts at \$77,627/year.

### Detention Transport Officer

Closes 1/3/24 – Under general supervision of the Detention Sergeant and Lieutenant, incumbent maintains the safety and welfare of inmates and visitors and monitors all inmate activities within the outside of the detention center. Transportation of inmates to and from other facilities, medical appointments, and court appearances. Pay grade N13; pay starts at \$28.60/hour.

### Lead Maintenance Technician

Closes 12/29/23 – Provides maintenance support, troubleshooting, and preventive maintenance services for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Building Maintenance Division. Collects and categorizes information on systems and equipment. Tracks preventive maintenance, work orders, time, and materials for select Division operations. Directs and supervises work of day-to-day activities of maintenance technicians as well as special projects. Assists Division head and other managers in project planning as needed. Pay grade N12; Pay starts at \$26/hour.

### Loan Program Manager

Closes 1/4/24 – Under direction of the Tribal Credit Division Head, the Loan Program Manager is responsible for administering or supporting the administration of all Tribal Credit loan programs, including the Tribal Line of Credit Program, the Secured Home Loan Program, and other loan programs as developed. Pay grade E15; pay starts at \$70,570/year.

### After School Program Leader

Open Until Filled – This is a regular full-time position that provides education and physical activities for the After-School program to meet the needs of children ages 3 through 13 years. Pay grade N6; Pay starts at \$16.09/hour.

### Boys & Girls Club Aide Part-time

Open Until Filled – Assists in the implementation, planning, and supervision of activities provided within the Boys & Girls Club (BGC) program. Pay grade N5; Pay starts at \$14.90/hour.

### Clinical Supervisor

Open Until Filled – A senior level position that provides Clinical Supervision to staff Case-workers 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 E17; Pay starts at \$86,943/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 N9; Pay starts at \$20.26/hour.

### Construction Services Repairman

Open Until Filled – Assists in home repair to Tribal Home Rehab Programs, Elders Maintenance Program, Tribal Member and Elderly/Handicapped Emergency Repair, and Tribal Rental Units. This job is a grade N10; pay starts at \$21.89/hour.

### Dentist (Part-time w/benefits)

Open Until Filled – Providing, clinical, health promotion and disease prevention, and educational services for the Dental Division. Pay grade E22; pay starts at \$189,817/annually.

### Detention Officer

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Detention Sergeant and Lieutenant, maintains the safety and welfare of inmates and visitors and monitors all activities within the detention center. Pay grade N12; Pay starts at \$26/hour.

### Director of Strategic Planning

Open Until Filled – Working with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Council to define, plan, implement, and achieve the strategic and financial plan objectives and priorities determined by Tribal Council. Researching and critically analyzing past strategies and modifying and developing those plans and strategies to address current circumstances; developing training material for Tribal Council Members regarding the Tribe's Financial Plan and other strategic plans; and communicating the financial and strategic plans to the Tribal Membership. In coordination with Tribal Council, facilitates strategic planning, including but not limited to tribal entities and tribal membership when deemed appropriate. Acts as a liaison between the Tribal Council and the Tribal Entities; accessing and gathering information as authorized by Tribal Council. Reports functionally to the Tribal Council and administratively to Tribal Council Affairs management. Pay grade E23; pay starts at \$235,373/annually.

### Dispatcher

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Communications Manager, provides radio dispatch services for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Pay grade N10; Pay starts at \$21.89/hour.

### Dispatcher Trainee (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – A trainee position for a Southern Ute Tribal member interested in a career in Law Enforcement with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. While in the trainee status, the employee participates and engages in in-house training and work activities specifically designed and chosen to train and indoctrinate the individual to work an emergency communications dispatch center. Work is performed under the guidance of an experienced dispatcher. Length of this program is designed to last one (1) year but may be extended or reduced based on circumstances. Upon successful completion of training curriculum requirements, will assume the Dispatcher position. Will start at 20% below entry level for a grade N10 and be subject to quarterly evaluations and pay increases.

### Education Department Assistant

Open Until Filled – Under the direction of the Executive Assistant, the Education Program Assistant will assist the Education Staff in the teaching and tutoring responsibilities for K-12 Tribal students. Will provide the employee with direct teaching experience through student contact in the public schools and in after school tutoring programs, opportunities to participate with professional teaching staff in the public schools and within the SUIT Education Department and other experiences relative to a career in the teaching field. Will also assist the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council "Youth Council" Coordinator and with summer enrichment programs. Pay grade N9; pay starts at \$20.26/hour.

### Elementary Teacher

Open Until Filled – A professional teaching position with the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA). Uses the Montessori philosophy to provide Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy students with a developmentally appropriate learning environment meeting the physical, social/emotional, cognitive, and cultural needs of the child. Communicate effectively with parents/guardians about their child's progress in each domain area. Pay grade E12; Pay starts at \$54,086/year.

### Gaming Investigator I

Open Until Filled – An entry level position located under the Southern Ute Division of Gaming (DOG). Under general supervision of the Gaming Investigator III, incumbent works in coordination with other DOG Investigators to learn and perform Law Enforcement/Regulatory duties for the enforcement of Class II and Class III gaming on the Southern Ute Reservation. Pay grade N13; Pay starts at \$28.60/hour.

### Grants Coordinator

Open Until Filled – Planning, writing, editing, and preparing grant applications, conducting prospect/foundation/federal agency research, and working closely with Tribal staff members on grant application matters for the Environmental Programs Department. Assisting in monitoring programs to ensure compliance with grant or contract regulations including financial and budget reporting. Pay grade E14; Pay starts at \$64,155/annually.

### Grants Financial Analyst

Open Until Filled – Working closely with Tribal staff members on all financial grant and related Tribal budget and spending matters. Assisting in monitoring programs to ensure compliance with grant or contract regulations. Pay grade E13; Pay starts at \$59,494/annually.

### Group Exercise Instructor

Open Until Filled – Provides group exercise instruction and fitness activities to members of the SunUte Community Center, in accordance with the guidelines established and approved by Fitness Director and/or Community Center Director. Pay grade N9; Pay starts at \$20.26/hour.

### Health Center Support Services Manager

Open Until Filled – Supervision and management of front office operations within the Southern Ute Health Center to include reception, registration, scheduling, medical records, and referral services. A key focus will be to always establish and maintain superior customer service communications and support. Pay grade E14; Pay starts at \$64,155/year.

### HVAC Technician

Open Until Filled – Provides maintenance support, troubleshooting, and preventative maintenance on commercial heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems including machinery, boilers, hot and chilled water distribution systems, circulation pumps, steam humidifiers, cooling towers, walk-in coolers and freezers, and variable volume systems located in Southern Ute Tribal Buildings. Pay grade N15; pay starts at \$33.93/hour.

### Medical Assistant (Part-time w/benefits)

Open Until Filled – A Medical Assistant providing professional and clinical services. Grant funded; continued employment is contingent on grant funding. Pay grade N10; pay starts at \$21.89/hour.

### NAGPRA Technician (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – Assists NAGPRA Coordinator(s) with new and on-going projects, including, but not limited to, duties such as: technical data entry, records management, research, and other duties as assigned. Must be organized and able to maintain a complicated work and deadline calendar for new, on-going, short term, and long-term projects by providing timelines to NAGPRA Coordinator(s) to participate in

The Cultural Preservation Department

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## CONSERVATION LEGACY Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps Individual Placement Program Manager

**Starting Salary Range:** \$55,300 - \$57,000. Location: Any ALCC office location (Acoma, Albuquerque, Gallup, Hopi, Zuni). Partially Remote Eligible. Status: Full-Time, Exempt. Benefit Eligible: Full benefit eligible per Personnel Policies. Reports to ALCC Individual Placement Program Director

**Program Summary:** Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps (ALCC) is a program of Conservation Legacy (CL). ALCC provides conservation service opportunities for Indigenous youth, young adults, and recent-era military veterans in Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona and works with other Native American communities and conservation corps across the country to provide similar opportunities. Our vision is to lead our Nations back to ecological and cultural well-being and we do this by empowering individuals to positively impact their lives, their communities, and the environment. ALCC's crews are supported from operational bases in Acoma Pueblo, Albuquerque, Zuni Pueblo, Gallup, Kykotsmovi (Hopi), and Isleta Pueblo, and operates an Individual Placement (IP) program placing participants across the country.

**Position Summary:** The ALCC Individual Placement Program Manager interacts primarily with ALCC Individual Placements (members), ALCC IP Program Coordinators, the ALCC Individual Placement Program Director, other ALCC staff, and partners. The Program Manager works with tribal, federal, state, local, and non-profit partners to develop impactful IP projects, ensures all assigned positions are successfully recruited and on-boarded before their term starts, and refines and implements efficient tracking systems. The Program Manager will help design and implement a programmatic recruitment strategy, regularly engaging in recruitment and outreach activities to local communities including Indigenous and other underrepresented groups.

The Program Manager also supports general administration and systems management of the IP program and ensure that it is providing a positive impact to our participants, lands, partners, and communities.

**Minimum Qualifications:** Exhibits the ability to effectively work on diverse teams or with a variety of populations, including those underrepresented at our organization and those of BIPOC communities. Minimum of 3 years of experience working with Indigenous communities. Minimum of 1 year of experience working in an administrative role. Experience with leading diverse groups of employees to achieve common goals. Flexibility, adaptability, and capacity to work in a fluid, changing work environment. The ability to communicate effectively, manage complexity cultivate innovation, drive and influence results of oneself and others. Familiarity with Microsoft Office programs and applications, or similar platforms. Valid Driver's License and Insurable Driving Record. Must be able to pass the organization's criminal history check requirements.

**Preferred Qualifications:** Bachelor's Degree or equivalent work experience required. Previous experience with a Corps or youth serving organization. One (1) year or more of experience in youth development or conservation corps fields.

**Other Competencies Desired for this Position's Success:** Manage Complexity, Resourceful, Effectively Communicate, Cultivate Innovation, Drive and/or Influence Results, Plans & Aligns.

We also consider qualified applicants regardless of criminal histories, consistent with legal requirements. If you need assistance and/or a reasonable accommodation due to a disability during application or recruiting process, please send a request to the hiring manager.

## Southern Ute Indian Tribe Job Announcements, cont.

consultations in face-to-face consultations or teleconferences. Assists with consultation with tribal, state, and federal consultations under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) when needed. Pay grade N10; Pay starts at \$21.89/hour.

### Patrol Officer I

Open Until Filled – Patrols the Southern Ute Indian Reservation and is responsible for preserving the life and property of all citizens within the Tribal Community. Pay grade N13; Pay starts at \$28.60/hour.

### Patrol Officer II

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 N14; Pay starts at \$30.84/hour.

### Public Health Nurse

Open Until Filled – A registered nurse providing public health nursing care and case management to individuals, families, and the community. Pay grade N15; pay starts at \$33.93/hour.

### Receptionist – Tribal Information Services

Open Until Filled – Performs reception duties for the Southern Ute Tribal organization, including, but not limited to, operation of the telephone switchboard, greeting visitors, providing information about the Tribal government, and referring callers or visitors to the appropriate office for assistance. Performs clerical duties for the Tribal Information Services Director and other Departmental Divisions as needed, including mail processing and distribution. Pay grade N6; pay starts at \$16.09/hour.

### Scorekeeper (Part-time)

Open Until Filled – Keeps accurate scores for sporting events held by SunUte Recreation Dept. Pay grade N6; pay starts at \$16.09/hour.

### Special Needs Aide (Part-time w/benefits)

Open Until Filled – Assists Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy disabled and special needs students with educational, physical, emotional, and social growth and development under direction of a certified guide or specialists. Assists with life skills, academic success, and meeting IEP (Individual Education Plan) objectives. Pay grade N6; Pay starts at \$16.09/hour.

### TEAM Worker (Southern Ute tribal members only)

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

### TERO Worker

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

### Tribal Apprenticeship Program (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Tribe is accepting applications for SUIT Tribal Members interested in pursuing their career interests through the Apprenticeship Program. The purpose of the program is to build a career foundation for SUIT members to pursue further educational goals or career development. Apprentices may be placed within Permanent Fund departments or divisions dependent on career interests, educational level and/or length of prior relevant and appropriate work experience. After your application is submitted, you will receive an email asking for detailed information about your career interests. The Apprentice Committee will review applications and assess what options may be available for applicants.

### Tribal Attorney – Prosecutor

Open Until Filled – Under the supervision of the Legal Department Director, attorney will serve as a member of the Tribe's Legal Department, with principal responsibility for the effective, efficient, and fair prosecution of violations of the Tribal Code to include criminal, gaming, and wildlife cases. In addition, the attorney will represent the Tribe in other matters that require the Legal Department's attention, including code review and drafting, civil litigation, contract review, employment matters, and the consideration of social services cases. A strong command of Tribal jurisdiction, and understanding of tribal sovereignty, and an ability to provide accurate legal advice in a fast-paced environment is essential. Pay grade E19; Pay starts at \$114,968/annually.

### Tribal Health Department Director

Open Until Filled – Must have a MA/MS in Health Care Administration or related field and 7 years of experience in an administrative capacity in a health services/medical related field OR BA/BS in Health Care Administration or related field and 9 years of experience in an administrative capacity in a health services/medical related field.

### Umpire/Referee

Open Until Filled – Maintains rules and regulations on the playing field and courts during Sun-Ute Recreation Department sporting events. Pay grade N7; Pay starts at \$17.37/hour.





Sky Ute Casino Resort • Job announcements

Visit our website at [www.skyutecasino.com](http://www.skyutecasino.com) to view job openings and apply online.  
Human Resources • Phone: 970-563-1311 • PO Box 340, Ignacio, CO 81137  
TERO-Native American Preference • All Applicants Welcome • Must pass pre-employment drug test, background check, qualify for and maintain a Division of Gaming License and be able to work all shifts, weekends or holidays.

\*AV Tech Assistant (Full-time)

Engaging in the set-up, breakdown, support, and repairs of all AV equipment within hotel rooms, equipment rooms, conference rooms and special events by the direction of the Audio and Video Technician. Will interface directly with customers, both internal and external, daily.

Bingo Staff (Part-time)

Servicing guests during Bingo games including selling additional special games and pull tabs, instructing customers in Bingo play, calling Bingo games, beverage service and other duties promoting guest satisfaction and play. Verifying winning Bingo cards and making payouts accordingly.

\*Bowling & Rec Counter Clerk (Full-time)

Multi-tasks and thrives in a fast paced and high energy environment. Is the initial point of contact for customers, always providing superior and friendly customer service. Proactively builds customer relations through soliciting feedback and addressing and resolving customer complaints. Continuously improves operational execution through attention to detail. Reports to the Bowling and Recreation Manager.

\*Bowling Mechanic I (Full-time)

An entry level position to allow mechanically oriented, but less experienced individuals an opportunity to get familiar with pinspotter machines. Will improve operational execution through attention to detail and experience. Follows the direction and trainings of the Lead Technician. Bowling mechanics are responsible for repairing automatic pin spotters and related bowling equipment.

\*Bowling Manager (Full-time)

Cultivates a team environment within the Recreation staff that provides exceptional guest service while ensuring all staff members perform at a consistently high level. Tracking budgets and expenses, as well as making sure that all financial goals are met. S/he oversees all operations of the Rolling Thunder Lanes (including pin spotters, all back of house equipment, shoe rental, pin-setters, automatic scoring machines, lanes, personnel, leagues, private events, and parties), the Arcade, Party/Billiard room, POS, Miniature Golf, Casino playground and all family activities associated with these venues. Reports to the General Manager.

\*Buyer (Full-time)

Compiles information and records to prepare orders for the procurement of material, including all food and beverage products. Will research and evaluate products to be purchased for the Casino, making it cost efficient, and maintains and regulates cost for Casino operations. Verify Classification and specifications of all purchase order requests, search inventory records and/pr warehouse to determine if materials on hand are in sufficient quantify. Maintains vendor database in inventory management software and handles all incoming invoices.

\*Café Cashier (Shining Mountain Cashier) (Full-time)

Providing friendly and courteous service to all guests in a fast-paced work environment. Taking guests food orders, accurately totaling food and beverage purchases and collecting payments. Assists in preparing and serving all foods necessary for the Café kitchen. Prepares coffee and pizza from the hot food line in the front area of the Café. Will balance the register at end of the shift, with proper report of discrepancies and complete paperwork.

\*Casino Housekeeping Staff (Full-time)

Cleaning all public areas including Casino floor, public restrooms, restaurant, lobby, offices, and employee break rooms. All areas must be disinfected, swept, mopped, vacuumed, and dusted.

\*Deep Cleaning Staff (Full-time)

Cleanliness of the entire Kitchen as instructed by the Facilities Manager and/or Supervisor. Will clean Food and Beverage facilities and equipment.

\*Director of Human Resources (Full-time)

Ensuring that all Human Resources functions for the Sky Ute Casino Resort are accomplished in a legal and professional manner. Functions include but may not be limited to the following: Compensation and Benefits, Employee Relations, Unemployment Insurance, Internal Investigations, Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) Compliance, Performance Evaluations, Training and Development, Policies and Procedures and Employee Handbook Management, and Human Resource Strategy. Will ensure compliance with the Casino's policies and procedures and applicable Gaming regulations. Will maintain a high standard of guest service (both internal and external customers) within the HR department and actively promotes positive guest and employee relations by ensuring that excellent guest service is continually provided.

\*Event Staff (On-Call)

Assisting in set-up, serving, tear down, clean-up, and re-set of events in all Banquet areas. In this position you will act as a guest service representative at Banquets and related events. Requires that you achieve and maintain the highest level of guest service as well as maintaining professional interactions, safe working conditions, and teamwork.

\*Executive Director (Full-time)

Under the supervision and direction of the General Manager. Responsible for the overall day-to-day operations for the Food and Beverage Departments, Facilities Department, Slot Operations, Sales Department, and Hotel Operations for the Sky Ute Casino Resort. Set-

ting financial policy and direction for the departments. Will develop and maintain internal controls to safeguard assets and ensure compliance with established laws, regulations, policies, and procedures. Assists the General Manager in directing and coordinating business activities of the Sky Ute Casino Resort to maintain maximum operating efficiency, profitability and organizational growth opportunities and masking recommendations as appropriate. Will collaborate with the General Manager and analyze potential expansion of business and growth opportunities for financial viability.

\*Facilities Staff (Full-time)

Operation of equipment, environmental condition and appearance of the facility and grounds. Cleanliness, maintenance and repair of the facility, equipment, and building. Assists in repair and maintenance of equipment within the facility. Cleanliness of kitchen areas and equipment, facility equipment, carpets, building and grounds. Shuttles Hotel guests to and from the airport as needed.

\*Facilities Tech (Full-time)

Electrical and mechanical functions, operations of equipment, environmental controls and conditions, and the structural integrity and appearance of the facility and grounds. Works as part of a team to ensure smooth operations of the facility, equipment and building by providing maintenance support, troubleshooting and repair, preventative maintenance on commercial heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.

Front Desk Staff (Full-time)

Providing quality guest services that include reservations, registration and check-out, PBX operations, mail, and message service for hotel guests. Responds to telephone and in person inquiries regarding reservations, hotel information and guest concerns. Assistance with guests include but is not limited to luggage assistance, directions/maps, driving guests to/from the airport.

\*Grounder Supervisor (Full-time)

Daily ground's maintenance of all areas at the Sky Ute Casino Resort. Maintaining all roads, grounds, landscaping, plan, assign, and review work activities of assigned grounds personnel as directed by the Facilities Manager.

\*Kitchen Steward Supervisor (Full-time)

Training, supervising, and working with utility staff to provide a clean and safe working environment, exceeding all health and sanitation requirements from the county and state. Ensures proper receiving, storage, and rotation of food products; schedules utility staff with proper coverage; and adheres to control procedures for cost and quality.

\*Kitchen Utility Steward (Full-time)

Will perform multiple tasks and duties within the entire kitchen as instructed by Food and Beverage Management and/or Supervisor. Washing dishes, cleaning facilities and cooking in several capacities.

\*Laundry Attendant (Full-time)

Perform the required operations with laundry equipment; ensuring products are clean and acceptable for hotel use. Maintaining laundry for the hotel rooms and other departments as needed. Operate flatwork ironers, laundry equipment, iron, and fold linens by hand, and inform supervisor of any equipment malfunctions or problems with safety mechanisms of equipment.

\*Lead Facilities Technician HVAC (Full-time)

Electrical and mechanical functions, operation of equipment, environmental controls and conditions, and the structural integrity and appearance of the facility and grounds. Works as the lead of a team to ensure smooth operations of the facility, equipment, and building; by providing maintenance support, troubleshooting and repair, preventative maintenance on commercial heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems including boilers, AHU's, hot and chilled water distribution systems, circulation pumps, cooling towers, walk-in coolers, and freezers. Reports to the Director of Facilities while sharing the responsibility to train and lead activities of departmental employees; technicians, shift supervisors, and facilities staff in appropriate Service Standards and Facility operations/maintenance.

\*Line Cook (Full-time)

Works under direct supervision of the Lead Cook. Preparation of the menu and accountable for consistency of standardized recipes, presentation, food quality and freshness.

Multi-Games Dealer (On-Call)

Deals blackjack (Class 3), three card poker, roulette and specialty games while providing a positive guest experience through accurate, prompt, courteous and efficient service. Reports to the Table Games Manager or as otherwise designated.

\*Restaurants Manager (Full-time)

Under the direction of the Director and Food and Beverage. Oversight in staffing, training, scheduling, ensuring high quality service and resolving guest issues. Ensures that the highest standards are maintained in all phases of guest service, as well as unexpected demands by other departments. Supervise and direct the activities of restaurant supervisors, hosts/hostesses, servers, baristas, bartenders, cocktail servers, and bussers. Hiring, schedules, disciplinary actions, coordinating terminations with Human Resources, conducts performance evaluations, and plans employee development.

Southern Ute Growth Fund • Job announcements

Please visit our website at [www.sugf.com/jobs.asp](http://www.sugf.com/jobs.asp) for full job details and to apply online.  
Tribal Member employment preference • Must pass pre-employment drug test/background check.  
Southern Ute Growth Fund, Human Resources • P.O. Box 367 • Ignacio, CO  
Phone: 970-563-5064 • Job hotline: 970-563-4777.

Senior Associate – Kava Equity Partners (Denver, CO)

Closes 1/12/24 – Will actively participate in sourcing, underwriting, structuring, and closing lower middle market private equity investments. As part of a small investment team, will be expected to take a proactive approach and participate in every aspect of the investment process including acquisitions, portfolio management, and divestments. Work closely with the Managing Director but is also expected to be able to work independently with a high degree of autonomy.

Joint Interest Audit Manager – Red Willow Production Co. (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 1/5/24 – Managing, planning, and conducting revenue and joint interest audits in accordance with relevant contracts and joint operating agreements.

Division Order Analyst III – Red Willow Production Co. (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 1/5/24 – Obtaining and maintaining orderly and accurate land and division order records, including all related documents and contracts, for all Red Willow interest properties, both operated and non-operated. Advises

all other departments of changes related to Red Willow holdings. Works with landmen and partners to obtain and maintain accurate records. Works independently, follows existing processes with minimum supervision and provides a wider scope of support to senior Land staff.

Land Data Specialist Supervisor – Red Willow Production Co. (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 1/5/24 – Obtaining and maintaining orderly and accurate land and division order records, including all related documents and contracts, for all Red Willow interest properties, both operated and non-operated. Advises all other departments of changes related to Red Willow holdings. Works with landmen and partners to obtain and maintain accurate records. Works independently, follows existing processes with minimum supervision and provides a wider scope of support to senior Land staff.

Payroll Specialist – Red Cedar Gathering (Durango, CO)

Closes 1/10/24 – Managing and maintaining accurate timekeeping records, completes bi-weekly reports, and other related payroll tasks. Assists with clerical functions within the Accounting Department.

SoCoCAA Job Opportunities

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Ignacio Early Learning Program:

- Substitute Teacher \$15.79/hr. – Open Until Filled

Multisystemic Therapy (MST):

- Community Based Therapy \$51,917/yr. - \$56,950/yr. – Open Until Filled (MA degree or within one year of finishing master's degree in social work, counseling or other behavioral health related field required. Up to \$5,000 in relocation expenses available.)

Road Runner Transit:

- Transit Driver \$18.94/hr. – Open Until Filled
- ICB Operator \$22.76/hr. – Open Until Filled
- Bus Cleaner/Building Maintenance \$18.94/hr. – Open Until Filled
- Transit Division Director \$62,483 – \$75,275/yr. – Open Until Filled (Up to \$5,000 in relocation expenses available.)

Sky Ute Casino Resort Job announcements, cont.

\*Rolling Thunder Grill Busser (Full-time)

Perform multiple tasks and duties within the restaurant and kitchen as instructed by supervisor and management. Clearing off and sanitizing tables for next group guests, disposing of trash and other waste and keeping the restaurant stocked with adequate supplies such as plates, glasses, silverware, and napkins. Will help cooks, servers and dishwashers perform small tasks as needed.

\*Rolling Thunder Grill Server (Full-time)

Provide an exceptional dining experience by delivering first class guest service of food and beverages; taking the order and delivering food and beverage items. Handle tasks in a friendly, courteous, helpful, timely and professional manner resulting in a high level of guest satisfaction. Shift covers breakfast and lunch only.

\*Room Attendant (Full-time)

Thoroughly cleaning hotel guest rooms and performing routine duties individually or as a pair, in a fast-paced work environment. Cleaning hotel room by wiping, washing, scrubbing, vacuuming, sweeping, and mopping all areas of the guest rooms. Must be able to bend, lift, stand and walk throughout the shift.

\*Security Officer (Full-time)

Safeguarding the assets of the Sky Ute Casino Resort and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Ensures that all company policies and internal control procedures are followed. Guest and employee safety on property. The first identifiable representatives of the Casino whose conduct and customer service skills must be of the highest quality. Must present themselves professionally assisting and helping customers with their problems and concerns.

\*Seven Rivers Line Cook (Full-time)

Works under direct supervision of the Executive Chef, Executive Sous Chef, and/or Kitchen Manager. Preparation of the A la Carte menu in Seven Rivers and is accountable for consistency of standardized recipes, presentation, food quality, and freshness.

\*Specialized Facilities Technician (Full-time)

Maintaining the electrical and mechanical functions, operation of equipment, environmental controls and conditions, and the structural integrity and appearance of the facility. Works as a professionally trained individual with the team to ensure smooth operations of the facility. This individual is trained and certified or holds a license that is construction/maintenance specific.

\*Slot Operations Floor Person (Full-time)

Providing excellent guest service to all slot guests and ensures that all gaming devices are monitored on a continual basis for full capacity operation. Will at times require the employee to work without direct supervision. Job knowledge and the ability to "self-start" are essential. Reports to the Slot Floor Manager or designee, ensures guest relations through prompt, and assists guests with slot machine usage, educating them regarding play, wagers, and pay tables.

\*Slot Technician II (Full-time)

Day-to-day maintenance, repair, installation, and relocation of slot machines and related devices. Ensure a positive guest experience by maintaining optimal gaming device performance. Reports to the Slot Technician Supervisor. Performs preventative maintenance, cleaning, and testing on all gaming devices. Assists with the installation, removal, break-down, relocation, set-up of relocated slot machines and trouble shoot defective equipment.

\*Surveillance Agent I (Full-time)

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

\*Surveillance Video Tech (Full-time)

Installs, repairs, and performs preventative maintenance on all surveillance CCTV systems and related equipment to industry and internal standards.

*\*Must be 21 years of age or older.*

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FLY FISHING

Being quiet and slowing down

By Don Oliver  
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

The vast majority of people with whom I fly fish are usually in a hurry to get on the water and start casting. They are certainly fun to fish with. But my favorites are the ones who walk slowly, stop at the edge of the water, survey what's going on around them, then tie a fly on. I learned this from another guide, who admonished me for being in a hurry and making too much noise. As I recalled that friendly lesson, I thought of the number of air-breathing animals I've had experiences with by being quiet and slowing down.

While taking my time booting and suiting in a parking lot at Yellowstone National Park, a herd of bison slowly walked past me on the way to who knows where. You don't want to spook these animals, so sitting quietly and enjoying my morning cigar was a good idea. The next event occurred in the same park. I was fly fishing a nice pool when a cow elk appeared on the bank. I remained quiet and witnessed an amazing sight. The elk liked my pool and decided to make it hers. She waded in, got shoulder deep, then rolled in the pool to cool off. She climbed out on the other bank, shook off, then laid down to watch me cast.

Bears, whether in Alaska or Lime Creek, are always interesting. Once, while approaching one of my favorite areas of Lime Creek, I witnessed a truly amazing bear incident. A bear was bobbing for apples that were coming downstream from a truck



full of Granny Smith apples that had missed a turn and dumped its entire load into Lime Creek. I stayed quiet and enjoyed watching the bobbing bear. He eventually saw me, got on the bank, and gave me a look that said, "Don't even think about bobbing in this spot."

By staying quiet I've had moose, north of Silverton, slowly walk across the river heading for a shade tree to lie under. In the same area, while casting in a beaver pond, I had a beaver swim to within five feet of me. Once he saw me it was amazing how quickly he headed in the opposite direction.

Ponds and small lakes are always fun to watch air-breathing wildlife when fly fishing. While fishing on a small pond in Tennessee, I had a small turtle swim up to my fly, then took it. He didn't stay on long but had a good pull. On a lake north of Durango I was fishing close to a mother duck and her ducklings. I wasn't paying much attention to them when suddenly a duckling bolted from the pack, made a bee line to my fly, and ate it. He quickly spit it out and swam back to mom. I can

only imagine the lecture she delivered to the duckling about eating strange food.

Birds, in general, can provide great entertainment. I've told you the story of a Camp Robber sitting on my rod as if it were a tree branch. Again, had I been in a hurry, the bird would not have been able to land on my rod. Birds in large numbers, in flight, swooping to eat bugs on the water and in the air are entertaining to watch. They'll also point to where the fish are.

One day, on the San Juan River, I was fly fishing with both of my children. My daughter, while making a cast, had a swallow eat her fly. He didn't spit it out. She began yelling at my son and me to come help her land the bird, but we were laughing too hard to help.

I've saved the best story for last. While standing on the bank of a river in Tennessee, trying to figure out what to tie on, I noticed a heron standing about ten feet from me. I didn't think much of it, made a few casts and caught a fish. Suddenly the heron left the bank and swooped right to my fish. He hit it, but didn't knock it off. He then landed on a log across the river and watched me fish. I caught another fish, but kept the rod low so the bird couldn't get it. The bird left the log, flew right at me, missed me by two feet, then sat down on the bank to see if I landed it. I did and quickly put it back in the water.

Fly fishing is the greatest sport I can think of. When you are quiet and slow down, what you see can be amazing.

BOBCATS ROLL INTO HOLIDAYS • FROM PAGE 14



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Phillip Quintana (10) dribbles past Mancos' Kail Wayman during non-league action Thursday night, Dec. 14, inside IHS Gymnasium. The 3A Bobcats lost to the 2A Blue Jays, but quickly regrouped to win at 2A Sargent the next night – and thus enter the holiday break on an important high note.

during the season."

SHS junior Fernando Venzor reportedly netted eight three-pointers and racked up a team-leading 24 points. Junior Lucas Garcia (13 points) joined him in double figures, and senior Trenton Paskett (9 points) was close. Senior Hayden Lester scored only two points but pulled down a reported 13 rebounds (11 defensive).

Having improved to 4-3 overall (and, including a

win at Del Norte and a home loss to Sanford, 2-1 against teams from the 2A/3A Southern Peaks), IHS will next see action on Saturday, January 6, at Monte Vista before then beginning Inter-mountain League work on the 12th and 13th – versus 4A-level members Alamosa and Pagosa Springs, respectively.

Also, a SPL member, MVHS improved to 4-3 overall just before the holiday break with a last-min-

ute 56-51 road win Tuesday, Dec. 19, over 3A-level IMLers Bayfield, coached this season by former Ignacio assistant Damon White Thunder and assisted by former 'Cats Bryce Finn and Dylan Labarthe.

"We've got Ignacio next," said Monte Vista head coach Presley Garcia, "a great program with all their history. So, we've just got to take this and ride the momentum. Keep going, one day at a time."

Look for complete BOBCAT Sports coverage online at [www.sudrum.com](http://www.sudrum.com)

WRESTLERS RANK TOP-FIVE • FROM PAGE 14

in just 27 seconds, sophomore Aven Bourriague finished 3-1 – losing only in the championship to 2A Crowley County (Ordway) sophomore Derreck Buford by 13-3 major decision – and placed second at 113 pounds. Also placing second for the 'Cats was sophomore Zane Pontine, who went 3-1 at 144. Defeated 10-7 in the weight's finale by 2A Walsenburg's Giovanni Aldretti, Pontine pinned his first opponent and then advanced to the championship via a five-point, then a four-point win.

Kendrick Nossaman also earned top-five status by finishing 3-2 at 175 pounds. The junior pinned his first two opponents before losing 12-8 to Palmer Ridge senior Conor Fry in the semis. Alamosa sophomore A.J. Joshua then pinned Nossaman in 44 seconds, but Nossaman rebounded to stick PRHS sophomore Max McNett 58 ticks into the second period with fifth place at stake.

Sophomore 132-pounder Dillon Brann did not place but earned one win – an 11-9 sudden-victory result over 2A Del Norte senior Colby



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio sophomore Aven Bourriague tries to stick Bayfield's Hunter Mars (Bourriague won on points, 6-2, rather than via pin) during action inside BHS Gymnasium earlier this season. Bourriague most recently closed out the 2023 half of the Bobcats' schedule competing at 113 pounds and placing second at Walsenburg's Pete & Ina Gomez Invitational, Saturday, Dec. 16.

Gandy. Competing at 120, sophomore Joshua Kerrigan also went 1-2 at the meet – logging a 6-1 decision over PCHS freshman Noah Hurlbert – but freshman Judah Ashley went 0-2 at 126, despite lasting the full six minutes in each bout.

When competition resumes after the New Year, Ignacio will first see action Friday, Jan. 5, at a quadrangular hosted by Dolores. Also slated to attend are Montezuma-Cortez and Monticel-

lo, Utah, with action presently set to start at 4p.m. Jordan Larsen's gents will then travel to Pagosa Springs the next day for PSHS' Rocky Mountain Invitational, beginning at 10 a.m.

On the girls' side of things, skipper Aimee Larsen's Lady Bobcats will next compete Jan. 5-6 in Grand Junction at the G.J. Central-hosted Border Battle. Day 1 action is slated to start at 2p.m., and the Saturday session at 9a.m.

LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Friday, Dec. 29



Mostly sunny 44°F  
Afternoon winds becoming calm

Saturday, Dec. 30



Mostly cloudy 46°F  
Afternoon winds becoming calm

Sunday, Dec. 31

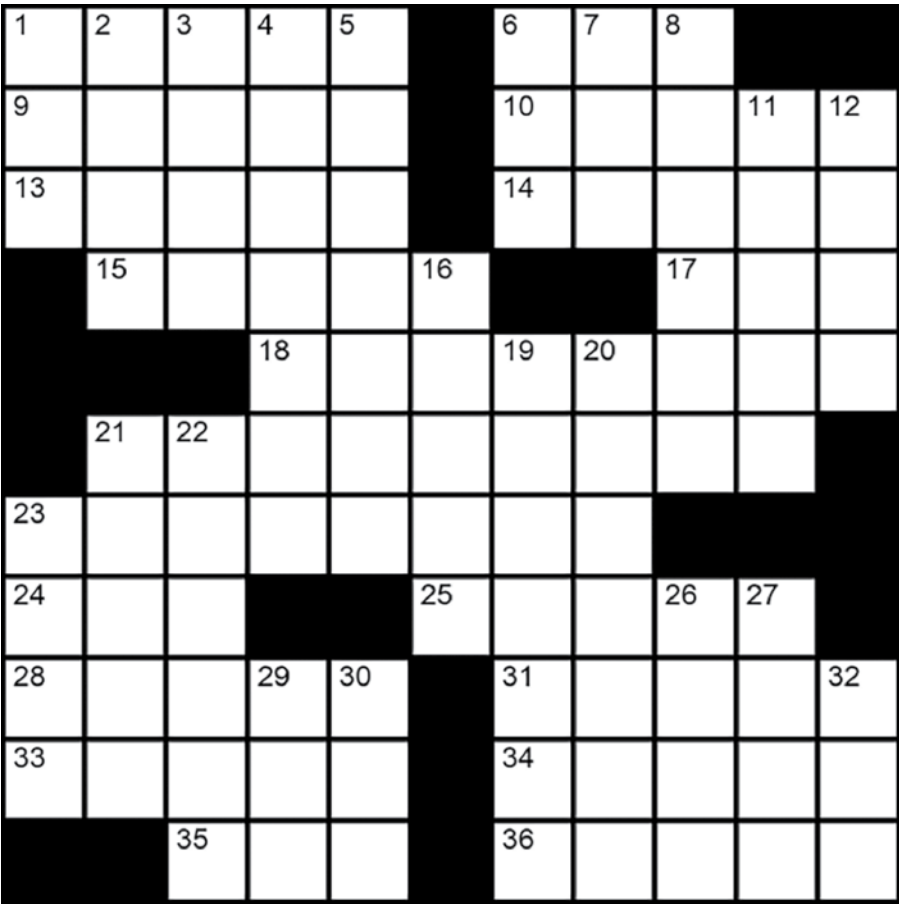


Mostly sunny 44°F

Weather forecasts collected from [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)



The Southern Ute Drum's Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Smash
- 6 Hillbilly negative
- 9 Travesty
- 10 Kills
- 13 Twist into deformity
- 14 Traditional Native American watercraft
- 15 --- Bella, an island in Lake Maggiore, Italy
- 17 Pull hard
- 18 Napoleonic battle in Russia
- 21 Inventing
- 23 It can't be helped
- 24 Governing group in Cape Town
- 25 Braided hair
- 28 Little fighter in "Lord of the Rings"
- 31 Loose hemp or jute fiber
- 33 Money in electronic form
- 34 Flexible willow twig
- 35 Some X-ray scans
- 36 Fixes

Down

- 1 Sophie's 24-foot-tall friend
- 2 Rajah's wife
- 3 Like Early and Late Basketmaker II
- 4 Gymnast
- 5 Will Keith ---, cereal maker
- 6 Advisory group initially formed by HST
- 7 In the style of
- 8 Wish to be part of this
- 11 Chief Walker's opponent
- 12 Sacred lily
- 16 Hilarious
- 19 Small type of apartment
- 20 Ailment
- 21 Bond type
- 22 Northeastern Woodlands First Nations people
- 23 White ---, a sacred herb
- 26 Body covering
- 27 Took to court
- 29 Waterborne tank carrier
- 30 Christogram
- 32 A number of men, or one woman, perhaps

Editors Note: Due to the unavailability of the Crossword Puzzle for the Dec. 29 issue of the Drum, the crossword puzzle from Dec. 15 is republished.

Answers for both the Dec. 15 and Dec. 29 will appear in the Jan. 12 issue of the Drum.

Answers for December 1, 2023 Crossword Puzzle

**Across:** 1 Pits, 5 Macaw, 10 Rohe, 11 Elicit, 13 Ewer, 14 Recode, 15 Salamis, 17 Moa, 18 Snap at, 19 Hawk, 20 Shook up, 22 Nets, 24 Rebuff, 27 Cam, 28 Sincere, 29 Aristo, 31 Abel, 32 In lieu, 33 Plot, 34 Setts, 35 Sons.  
**Down:** 1 Press, 2 Iowan, 3 The last mile, 4 Seraphs, 5 Meritorious, 6 Ales, 7 C-I-C, 8 Acoma Pueblo, 9 Widow, 12 Teak, 16 Mao, 19 Hub caps, 21 Ken, 22 NCAL, 23 Earns, 25 Freon, 26 Felts, 28 Stet, 30 Sit.