



Sweetheart powwow held in Ignacio

PAGE 9



Welcoming Emmalena Baker-Valdez

PAGE 15

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The Southern Ute Drum unveils new website design at sudrum.com

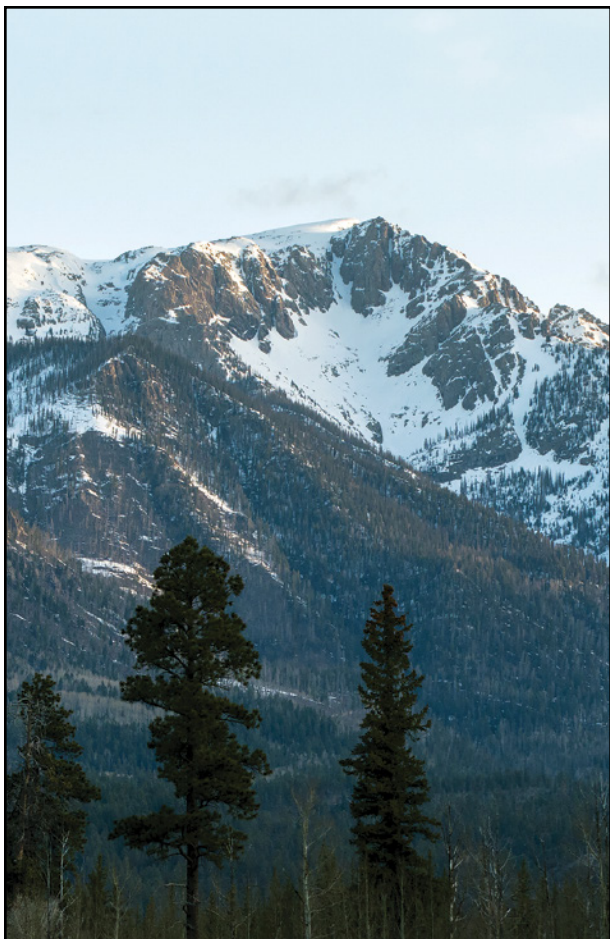
TREASURER'S REPORT

Winter snow, forest health, fire suppression, economic impacts

By Marvin Pinnecoose,
Treasurer
SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

Russell "Buster" Attebery is Chairman of the Karuk Tribe located in Northern California. The reservation is near the town of Happy Camp, right on the California and Oregon border. This is a mountainous town with lots of trees sitting at high elevation. During the Native American Finance Officers Association meeting in 2023, Chairman Attebery had the opportunity to talk about a great disaster that occurred on his reservation and his tribe's response to it. The reason I bring this up in an issue of the Drum is to expand the message and impact. It's one thing to not know tragedies before they happen, but it's quite another to have the knowledge and be wiser to the situation.

Wiitus ... A long time ago ... there was an understanding between the Karuk Tribe and mother nature. Lightning strikes would burn and thin the upper elevations of the mountains and they would be monitored, but no action would be necessary until there was a threat to communities and structures that were in the lower areas. The wildfires had a way of eliminating the underbrush and crowded trees. Entire areas would be cleaned and



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum archive

The craggy peaks of Sheridan Mountain and Amhurst loom over the Vallecito Valley to the north, blanketed by winter's snowpack.

washed by the rains. The ash would serve as nutrients for new growth and the cycle would continue.

In the lower areas, the Tribe had cultural and prescribed burns that would do the same. Thinning the forest was natural. Over time, government intervention discouraged and prevented

productive wildfire and red tape and bureaucracy complicated efforts to maintain forests on the reservation.

The Slater Fire occurred on Sept. 8, 2020. It consumed 157,000 acres; and 440 buildings were destroyed. The entire town

Winter page 2



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Avid skateboarder, snowboarder with a passion for extreme sports. Naranjo is a Southern Ute tribal member from Ignacio, Colo.

INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVE

Exploring 'The New Radical'

By Jeremy Wade Shockley
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

The New Radical is a skiing series that questions the line between the version of radical that is celebrated by our sport and the version of radical that is criticized by contemporary media and politics. We are here to show just how close and how far these concepts are to one another, states Connor Ryan, one of the film's Director/Producers in the video introduction.

In episode one, Lakota pro skier Connor Ryan is joined by Bird Red and Cyrus Naranjo as he skis on their traditional Ute homelands with local Lakota skier, Napayshni Kills Enemy. This little day in the mountains serves a big metaphor for a re-education on what is radical.

"The New Radical is any exploration of how Indigenous perspectives and values can change the way people see skiing and the outdoors," Ryan said. "It's my hope that we can make the sport more inclusive of the people who have always been on these lands that are appreciated by so many."

According to Ryan's YouTube Channel, SacredStoke — This series is for everyone who finds a way to do what is radical, for themselves, for their community, and for our planet. This series is for everyone who has learned to live a more radical life from their relationship to the mountains.

"As a Lakota skier I've



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Indigenous rap artist, musician and songwriter who goes by the name Cousy (Coo-zee). Red is Southern Ute and hails from Ignacio, Colo.

always been aware that all the mountains we ski on here in Colorado are the homelands of the Ute people," Ryan said. "Ute people like Bird, Cyrus, Lorelei Cloud, and Regina Whiteskunk Lopez, have taught me a lot about how to honor these places and make sure that Ute people and traditions are present now and in the future of how we recreate in the mountains."

Bird Red is a Southern Ute first descendent, with strong ties to his culture. He is an

Indigenous rap artist, musician and songwriter who goes by the name Cousy (Coo-zee). Red first worked with Connor Ryan during the filming of the Spirit of the Peaks, a 43-minute documentary film that was released in 2022. Spirit of the Peaks is centered around Indigenous skier Connor Ryan (Hunkpapa Lakota), the film dives deep into the struggles of identity that comes with being stuck between two

Exploring page 2

Battle of the Guards



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Southern Ute Veterans Association treasurer, Bruce LeClaire (U.S. Army), brings in the Eagle Staff during Grand Entry at the 51st annual Seminole Tribal Fair and Powwow in Hollywood, Fla. — the powwow brought Native Color Guards from across Indian Country for the "Battle of the Guards" contest special on Saturday, Feb. 10.



Carrying the colors — Southern Ute Veterans Association members, Bruce Valdez (U.S. Army) brings in the Southern Ute tribal flag, and Gordon Hammond (U.S. Marines), brings in the Ute Mountain Ute tribal flag ahead of Grand Entry, Saturday, Feb. 10.

See more Color Guard photos on page 11.

Honoring seniors & parents



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio senior Elliott Hendren greets family after being introduced Saturday afternoon, Feb. 10, to fans during IHS' Senior/Parent Appreciation Day festivities preceding varsity action against Centauri.

See more Senior Recognition photos on page 13.

EXPLORING THE NEW RADICAL • FROM PAGE 1



courtesy Connor Ryan

Cyrus Naranjo catches some serious air in the backcountry of the San Juan Mountains.

worlds. In the film’s synopsis, Ryan says his mission is to connect the Ute people with the mountains that they were displaced from and work towards restoring balance through his own reciprocity.

Ryan first connected with Red through his music back in 2018, and the two have been collaborating ever since. Red then introduced Ryan and his crew to Southern Ute tribal member, Cyrus Naranjo — an avid skateboarder, snowboarder from Ignacio with a passion for extreme sports.

“Bird told Connor about me like being a skateboarder, native, and being indigenous, being in the same tribe as Bird, and he wanted to do a video with me,” Naranjo said. “And I was super

stoked. Like, I didn’t know what to say ... like I’m about to go snowboarding with someone famous who was also indigenous.”

“We planned a date to go backcountry snowboarding, which I have never done before,” Naranjo said. “I was so used to like, you know, snowboarding up at Purg where the runs are like groomed and everything, this was a new experience for me.”

Red sees this as just the beginning for what they can accomplish with The New Radical. Red sees himself as a mentor and hopes that these films will give Indigenous youth some perspective on what is possible, to help them see beyond any barriers that might be holding them back.

“Another role that I think

I play is being a young Native man who is really trying to do things that you would never think you would do... know what I mean?” Red said. “I would like to hope that kids see me in that video and be like, ‘I can’t believe he’s there. Like, he’s doing that. I know him. I’m gonna ask him, you know, or like, yeah, I can do that, too!’”

The New Radical, Episode 1, “What is Radical” is directed by Isaiah Branch-Boyle and Connor Ryan; produced by Connor Ryan and Bryan Cole; and Executive Producer Cody Townsend.

Direct link to view The New Radical, Episode one on You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7J-X5Fzm5Ek>

WINTER SNOW • FROM PAGE 1

of Happy Camp, Calif. was obliterated, and two people lost their lives. In the months and years leading up to the event, there was always concern about the increasing amount of over-crowded trees, underbrush, and ground cover. Chairman Attebery said, “We had never seen a fire move so fast.” A mix of dry wood, cluttered brush, natural rummage of leaves, needles, and sticks littered the forest floor. This created a recipe for a wild-fire to flourish, and so it did. The fire worked quickly and could not be contained. It ran through trees, houses, structures, and vehicles. In the blink of an eye, the landscape was changed, and we are reminded of our humbleness compared to the rage of nature.

With so many people displaced and homeless, eyes were turned to leadership. Belongings and housing were decimated in a matter of days. The Kurok Tribe did what they could with what they had. They looked out for the people. Happy Camp was evacuated, and the Tribe focused on food and shelter. This was also during the peak of COVID-19, so the Tribe used hotel rooms to get people situated until the Red Cross arrived. It wasn’t ideal, but it worked in the short term and helped avoid people being in large groups.

The fire also took place late in the year, and it was just a matter of time until the snow would arrive. Using money that was right in front of them, the Karuk Tribe directed \$2.9 million in CARES Act money to buy almost 100 travel trailers as a means of temporary housing. This was not what CARES Act money was allocated for, but the immediate need put before them put them into a position to “do what’s right” and explain the process and situation later. A laundry trailer was purchased, and supplies were provided so that people could wash their clothes. A food bank was established

which provided free food, hot meals, and sack lunches. The Karuk Tribe also set up donation centers to provide clothes, hygiene products, bedding, and such. Both new and used items were welcomed because there was so much need. These were the efforts that helped in the short term. For the long term, ARPA funds were used to rebuild homes for both employees and tribal members. The efforts of rebuilding and recovering has been a slow road for the Karuk Tribe.

An important element of having restricted and unattended forest mitigation is that it affects the snow’s ability to reach the ground ... to touch the dirt. When too many trees, bushes, shrubs, dead leaves, and ground cover are present, the snow will collect on those branches and leaves. As soon as temperatures warm or when rain comes, it will immediately melt that snow. Snow that is on the ground will help to freeze the ground and insulate the natural vegetation. That snow creates snowpack and that snowpack, in turn, is what takes time to melt and fill the ditches and streams. This is good snow. This is the snow that covers mountains well into June and July. Snow that collects on trees and bushes will melt immediately and you will have instant flooding, erosion, and all the hydration from the winter will be gone in a matter of days.

There are many lessons learned from this example that impact economic decisions and some that were created on the spot as a reaction to situations no one could have prepared for. Had there not been CARES Act funding and ARPA funding at the time, none of the short term or long-term purchases would have been possible. Neither of these funding sources were intended for fire recovery and disaster relief, but the leadership chose to make the decision in the moment and figure out the logistics later.

Regardless of where you live, if you have mountains, forests, snow, and experience water issues, this story will apply to you. The idea that snow needs to reach the ground and create snowpack is essential to keep streams, rivers, and reservoirs replenished steadily over months and not through flash flooding which overwhelms dams, triggers landslides, and escalates erosion. We need to look around our reservation and ask ourselves if we are in a similar situation. Can we help mitigate wildfires through more aggressive thinning and forest management practices?

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has had a hard time filling forestry positions over the years, this affects not just the fire season, but the ability to clear, plant, transplant, and thin the forests here on our reservation. What are the options to do these jobs and what are the costs associated with those options? Could an option be brought forward to thin the forest with the idea that trees go to lumber use, commercial timber contracts, or local entrepreneurs who can benefit from firewood and lumber product sales? When contractors (BIA or Tribe) thin, harvest, and plant, this would be a good time to partner those efforts with road repair and culvert analysis. It takes more than what we are doing now; it requires vision from people who specialize in this or a new way of looking at this from our Tribe.

In the case of the Karuk Tribe, a silver lining from all this tragedy was that they are now venturing into wood pellet production and the funding from that enterprise is helping to recover unexpected costs to the Tribe. The impact of the story told by Chairman Attebery extends far beyond the boundaries of his own reservation. He tells his tale so that others can look inward and self-evaluate their own situation. Message received.

Many Moons Ago



Damon Toledo/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

Members of the Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe spent their Valentine’s Day with good company and pie inside Ignacio’s The Patio Restaurant on Friday, Feb. 14. Emily Meisner, owner of the restaurant, showed support for the club by selling Valentine’s Day hearts to customers in an effort to raise money. She succeeded in raising a total of \$862.

This photo was first published in the Feb. 21, 2014, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Beth Santistevan/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

The fourth- and fifth-year classes at the Southern Ute Indian Academy built a mock rover of the one that is currently on the planet Mars. This project was in conjunction with Mrs. Pat and Ms. Ann’s class’s lesson on Mars.

This photo was published in the Feb. 20, 2004, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Obbie Box/SU Drum archive

30 years ago

The overweight prevention program, help (Holiday Eating Learning Project) completed a 12-week program with 16 participants last week. T-shirts were presented to Betty Box, Isabell Hewwy, (pictured), Jennifer Goodtracks and Yvonne Tree (not pictured).

This photo was published in the Feb. 4, 1994, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Basketball Queen Kelly Herrera being crowned by basketball captain Adrian Lucero with father Jay Herrera on the left.

This photo was published in the Feb. 24, 1984, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Multi Purpose Facility March Community Pow Wow Save The Date

**Head Staff
to be Announced**



**Vendor Space
Available**

Saturday March 9, 2024
256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO

Gourd Dancing 3:00 PM - Dinner Break - 5:00 PM - Grand Entry - 7:00 PM

Confirmed Head Staff

Host Southern Drum: KCA Delvin Bennett Lead Singer

Host Northern Drum: The Horses, Window Rock AZ

Head Lady: Miss Aliyah Jacket, Miss Ute Mountain Ute

Vendors contact Stais Harlan: 970-563-2642



Contact info: Elise Redd, 970-563-2641 or the MPF 970-563-2640

email: multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov

Winter stories near end



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Jr. Miss Southern Ute, Maleina Carel shares the Ute Creation Story during the final night of the Ute Storytelling event held on Monday, Jan. 29. Like previous sessions, guest story tellers gathered at the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum to share cultural stories with attendees.



Miss Southern Ute, Autumn Sage shares stories from her Diné cultural background during Ute Storytelling on Monday, Jan. 29 at the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum. Sage was a featured speaker among Jr. Miss Southern Ute, Maleina Carel and Southern Ute tribal elder, Cassandra Atencio.

2024 Easter Gourd Dance

Towaoc, CO

March 30, 2024

Where: Ute Mountain Rec. Center

Time: 12 pm – 8 pm

All Gourd Societies welcome

Supper Break: 4 pm – 5 pm

Closing of Gourd Dance 5 pm – 8 pm

Head Staff

MC: Rusty Cozad – Kiowa – Anadarko, OK

Head Gourd Singer: Kevin Sovo – Comanche - Lawton, OK

Head Gourd Dancer: Afrem Wall – Ute Mountain – Towaoc, CO

Arena Director – Val Uentillie – Navajo – Kirtland, NM

Vendors Welcome

Egg Hunt for the Kids

Potluck style supper break

All Royalties welcome

Contact person: Willa Whiteskunk (970) 560-4338 or (970) 844-3082

UTE MOUNTAIN TRIBE AND GOURD DANCE COMMITTEE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR: ACCIDENTS, THEFT, INJURIES, OR AND NO SOLICITORS. THIS EVENT IS A DRUG AND ALCOHOL-FREE EVENT.

S.U. Brave Alt. on the road



photos courtesy Domika Joy/SU Drum

Southern Ute Brave Alternate, Theoden Greany doing his introduction alongside Jicarilla Apache Royalty and Jr. Miss Southern Ute, Maleina Carel, at the Jicarilla Days Powwow in Dulce, N.M.



Theoden during grand entry for the 13th annual Adams 12/Aipac Powwow held, Saturday, Feb. 17, at Rocky Top Middle School in Thornton, Colo.

Southern Ute Brave Alternate, Theoden Greany poses with members of the Ute Mountain Ute Royalty at the Valentine's Day round dance in Towaoc, Colo.



VIETNAM VETERANS POWWOW
APRIL 5-6th 2024

HOST DRUM BAD CANYON
MC TYSON SHAY FT HALL, JOHNS CEDAR CITY, UTAH
ARENA DIRECTOR ADRIAN EAGLE HAWK OGALEALA, SOUTH DAKOTA

GOLDEN AGE MEN & WOMEN
1st. \$500 || 2nd. \$400 || 3rd. \$300

MEN & WOMEN
1st. \$500 || 2nd. \$400 || 3rd. \$300

TEEN BOYS & GIRLS
1st. \$300 || 2nd. \$200 || 3rd. \$150

JR BOYS & GIRLS
1st. \$300 || 2nd. \$150 || 3rd. \$100

DRUM CONTEST
\$6,000 \$2,000 \$1,000

SPECIALS
WOMEN'S CLOTH DRESS ONLY FOR THE OUT GOING VIETNAM VETERANS PRINCESS 16+ WINNER TAKE ALL

OTHER SPECIAL TBH

MISS VIETNAM VETERANS

POWWOW INFO: RAENSA RIDLEY 435.901.5182

7723 SMALL LOOP RD., FORT DUCHESNE, UT 84026



HEALTHY RECIPES

When was the last time you cooked lentils?

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

Lentils are packed with protein and fiber and make a nice addition to your winter meal rotation. An easy recipe that can be done on the stove, crockpot, or instant pot.

This makes a hearty meal that even meat lovers will enjoy but costs a lot less! As with any cooking, particularly soups and stews, try various additions or substitutions to make it your own.



courtesy Eating Well

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

Lentil stew

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 large carrots, diced
- 2 celery ribs, diced
- 2.5 cups lentils (1lb package)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2-32oz low sodium broth (vegetable or chicken)
- 1-28oz can crushed fire roasted tomatoes
- ½ teaspoon each of basil, oregano, thyme (or ½ tablespoon of Italian seasoning)
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- ½ teaspoon paprika (smoked is preferred),
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Water as needed for desired consistency

Directions:

1. Heat half the olive oil in a large pot over medium-high heat.
2. Add onions, sauté for 3 minutes.
3. Add the remaining olive oil and then the carrots and celery, sauté for an additional 5 minutes.
4. Add remaining ingredients: lentils, garlic, broth, tomatoes, and spices. Stir to combine.
5. Bring to a boil, then turn down to simmer for 30 minutes or until lentils are tender.
6. Add water as needed for desired consistency, salt and pepper to taste.
7. Serve with a whole grain crusty bread!

Servings: 6 Nutrition per serving: 260
Calories, 2.5g Fat, 44.5g Carbohydrates,
15.6g Fiber, 14g Protein

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEE HEARD: Habit stacking

Staff Report
NEW MEXICO CRISIS AND
ACCESS LINE

As we proceed into the new year are you finding it difficult to change existing habits or introduce new ones? Finding an effective technique for building, breaking, and keeping habits can be challenging because habit-building is hard. The neuronal connections in our brains are strongest for those behaviors we already practice, and weak (or non-existent) for those we don't (yet!). We are wired for what we're used to, already good at, or familiar with. But just because something is hard does not mean that you cannot change.

Out of all the helpful tips and tricks out there, there's one brilliantly simple and effective technique you may not have heard of yet: habit stacking. It involves "stacking" the new behavior you're trying to adopt onto a current behavior to help you remember to do it and/or perform it with less mental effort. It utilizes the strong synaptic connections we already have.

You probably have very strong habits and connections that you take for granted each day. For example, your brain is probably very efficient at remembering to take a shower each morning or to brew your morning cup of coffee or to open the blinds when the sun rises ... or thousands of other daily habits. When you are trying to accomplish goals, you can take advantage of these strong connections that you already do on a daily basis and use them to build new habits.

How? You can use the connectedness of behavior to your advantage. One of the best ways to build a new habit is to identify a current habit you already do each day and then stack your new behavior on top. This is called habit stacking.

Habit stacking is a special form of an implementation intention. Rather than pairing your new habit with a particular time and location, you pair it with a current habit.

Do you want to start a journal? Meditate? Cook dinner at home every night? Take 10 minutes for yourself? Tackle a looming work project? The possibilities are endless! Try out the habit stacking formula:

After/Before [CURRENT HABIT], I will [NEW HABIT].

- For example:
- After I brush my teeth, I will floss.
 - After I floss, I will meditate for 10 minutes.
 - After I meditate, I will stretch for 15 minutes.
 - After I stretch, I will review my to-do list for the day.

Again, the reason habit stacking works so well

is that your current habits are already built into your brain. You have patterns and behaviors that have been strengthened over years. By linking your new habits to a cycle that is already built into your brain, you make it more likely that you'll stick to the new behavior.

Once you have mastered this basic structure, you can begin to create larger stacks by chaining small habits together. This allows you to take advantage of the natural momentum that comes from one behavior leading into the next.

How to start habit stacking your way to a better you

1. Start small – the smaller the better.

Research shows that consistency of practice is more effective than the duration of practice in helping us make changes in our lives. Doing something every day for five minutes is more likely to result in sustainable change than practicing something once a week for 30 minutes. With that in mind, it's easier to be consistent when the goal or task is attainable. The existing habit can be as seemingly insignificant as, "When I get out of bed, I will ..." In fact, this is a great one – you have to get out of bed every day (in theory). The new habit, too, should be small: "While my coffee brews, I will delete five emails." The more realistic, the more likely you are to do it, feel successful, do it again, and so on, until you're a pro – and maybe even ready to stack on another habit or make the challenge slightly harder.

2. Consider all your options.

When first getting started, to get a sense of all your cue options, James Clear recommends making two lists: one of things you do every single day (drink coffee, eat dinner, listen to a news podcast), and another of events that occur or things that happen to you every day (the sun rises, the phone rings, you get hungry). Now you can choose the best building block on which to stack another one.

3. Be extremely specific.

If either your new goal or current cue (or both) are too vague, you'll struggle. If you tell yourself you're going to take a 10-minute walk outside every day during your lunch break, it would be helpful to decide exactly when you'll go outside – right after you end the session with your client? Five minutes after you finish lunch? And don't forget to make contingency plans, like what you'll do if the weather's bad or you're feeling pressure to work through lunch.

4. Choose a realistic cue.

To set yourself up for success, select your current habit wisely, taking in-

to account the realities of your life. For instance, you want to read 10 pages every night after you brush your teeth. Sounds great. But if you tend to fall asleep immediately reading at night, or your children have inconsistent bedtimes that affect your bedtime routine, choosing nightly teeth brushing as the cue may not be optimal. You'll want to go back to your list of existing habit options to think of a better anchor.

5. Give yourself a timeline.

It's not totally necessary, but it's helpful to set yourself a concrete window of time. It could be arbitrary (one week, one month, until your birthday) or an actual deadline for an event (the race you're training for, when a work project is due). "When goals are too open-ended you can feel less motivated to work on them. Like SMART [Specific; Measurable; Achievable; Relevant; Time-Bound] goals, establishing a timeline helps reinforce the commitment you're making to work on this new habit. Plus, setting a time limit can feel less daunting because it's more of a short-term commitment with an end in sight. It also creates an excellent moment for you to pause and reflect on your progress. Did you successfully meditate for three minutes after taking your morning vitamins for the entire month? Celebrate that! Or did you drop off after a few days? Ask yourself why, modify the goal, or consider choosing a different old habit to link to.

*Article reprinted with permission from the New Mexico Crisis and Access Line

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.



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



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/SMFreshFeb24>
Sign-up Deadline: Monday, February 26
Pickup Date: Wednesday, February 28

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



REASONS TO ADD COLOR

Colorful, delicious and nutritious foods help keep our bodies and minds healthier, longer.

1.

Lots of the Good

Fruits and vegetables provide many beneficial nutrients. Add fruits and vegetables to meals and snacks for a nutritional power boost.



2.

Less of the Bad

Fruits and vegetables are typically free of trans fat, saturated fat and sodium. Load up!

3.

Won't Weigh You Down

Fruits and vegetables are low in calories. They fill you up thanks to the fiber and water they contain, which can help manage your weight.



4.

Super Flexible Super Foods

All forms of fruits and vegetables — fresh, frozen, canned and dried — can be part of a healthy diet. They are among the most versatile, convenient and affordable foods you can eat. Choose those with little or no added salt or sugar.

5.

A Whole Body Health Boost

A healthy eating plan full of fruits and vegetables can help lower your risk of many serious and chronic health conditions, including heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure, diabetes and some types of cancer. They're also essential to your everyday health.



EAT SMART MOVE MORE BE WELL

heart.org/HealthyForGood

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In the event the Southern Ute Health Center's phone lines are down. Patients may use the RefillPro App to order prescriptions/refills.

How to Use the RefillPro App

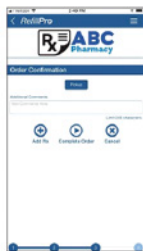
1. Download the RefillPro app from your smart phone's app store, available on Google Play Store and Apple Store.
2. Enter the pharmacy's phone number and select continue. When a match is found, the RefillPro home screen is displayed. Pharmacy phone number is 970-563-4781.



3. Enter the prescription number or scan the vial barcode and select continue. Add your next prescription by pressing "Add Rx" at the bottom of the screen. Select "continue" when finished.



4. Enter additional comments on the order confirmation screen, if applicable, and select complete order.



If you have any questions, feel free to call us at 970-563-4781.



Behavioral Health Presents:

MENDING BROKEN HEARTS



In-person group focused on culturally based healing for Grief & Loss and Intergenerational Trauma

It is our mission to inspire and empower other sisters and brothers in treatment and help those in recovery live a life of integrity, honesty, and resiliency. Knowing that honesty is the foundation of change, if we live our lives one moment at a time and rationalize every thought before it becomes an action, We Will Change.

Facilitators:


Peer Recovery Coach: Marvin Olguin
Peer Recovery Coach: Preston Barry
Substance Abuse Counselor: Jay Hayes

Group starts on: Tuesday, February 20th
• Occurring every Tuesday evening from 5:30PM-7:30PM

For more information, please contact: (970)-563-5700



FEBRUARY AMERICAN HEART MONTH



Take care of your body

The art of movement can work wonders!
Enhance the flow of life within you.

Get your loved ones involved!
Try out a group exercise class, or personal training session together!


AS LITTLE AS 60 MINS/WEEK MODERATE-INTENSITY AEROBIC EXERCISE

30 MINS/DAY 5X/WEEK = 150 MINS

DO what you LOVE
Play with the children in your life!
Enjoy the outdoors.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY=TAKE CARE OF YOUR HEART, BODY AND MIND!

CONTACT THE TRAINERS TO START TAKING CARE OF YOUR HEART TODAY!
ELIYAH OR JAKOB (970)563-2658



Healthy Heart, Healthy Brain...

The River of Life Flows Through the Heart, Protecting the Mind and Body

5.7 Million Americans have Alzheimer's disease

1 in 10 People age 65 and older has Alzheimer's

1 in 3 American Indians over 65 develops dementia, including Alzheimer's

Elders with heart disease, high blood pressure, or diabetes have a much higher risk of developing Alzheimer's or other dementias.

Make an appointment with your doctor today to talk about how to keep your mind and heart healthy.



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courtesy Camp Abilities Four Corners

Camp Abilities Four Corners, a sports camp for blind and visually impaired youth, held in Northern Arizona. As these youth are typically not included in physical education at their schools, we would so greatly appreciate your organization giving us exposure to help locate student athletes for our next camp in June, 2024.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

Camp Abilities Four Corners: Sports, recreation and arts camp

By Vicki Numkena, President
CAMP ABILITIES FOUR CORNERS



courtesy Camp Abilities Four Corners

Camp Abilities Four Corners is a sports, recreation and arts camp for blind and visually impaired (VI) youth held in Northern Arizona. We provide opportunities for VI youth to enjoy recreational activities and sports, which they are often excluded from at school. We are excited to report that we are busy planning our next camp, scheduled for June 10 through June 15, 2024.

Our Camp is based at the Cameron Trading Post. Student athletes will participate in various activities, including basketball, Blind Soccer, Taiko drumming, yoga, golf, wrestling and boxing at a gym, swimming lessons at a pool, and hiking around Flagstaff and at the Grand Canyon. Student athletes also

Student athletes will participate in various activities, including basketball, Blind Soccer, Taiko drumming, yoga, golf, wrestling and boxing at a gym, swimming lessons at a pool, and hiking around Flagstaff and at the Grand Canyon.

get a chance to socialize and make friends and meet other young people with a similar condition. Check out our Facebook page or our website at <https://campabilities-fourcorners.org> for fabulous photos from our 2023 Camp.

If you know of a young person between the ages of 9-17 who is interested in attending,

please go to our website and click on the Student Registration tab. Scroll down a bit and look for and fill out the "interest form" and email it to campabilitiesfourcorners@gmail.com. Registration is open until May 1, 2024. We so appreciate your help in reaching as many blind/VI young people as possible.

Important Notice for Tribal Members Receiving Medicare Reimbursements

This notice is to clarify the Medicare Premium Reimbursement program policy administered by the Tribal Health Department. The Social Security Administration (SSA) sends out a statement with the monthly premium amount due each calendar year. The Tribal Health Department policy (THD.RS.6.2) requires a copy of the SSA statement be submitted to the Tribal Health Department Benefits Coordinators to have the reimbursement processed. It is important that Benefits Coordinators receive this information to continue the process of monthly reimbursements in a timely manner. The SSA 2024 statement should have been received by participants between October 2023 and January 2024. If the Benefits Coordinators have NOT received a copy of the 2024 SSA statement, monthly reimbursements will discontinue until the 2024 SSA statement is provided. The deadline to provide SSA statements to the Benefits Coordinators without interruption of reimbursement is January 31, 2024. If you should have any questions, or need clarification, please contact the Tribal Health Department's Benefits Coordinators, Ms. Lori Herrera at 970-563-2371 or Ms. Phyllis Rhodes at 970-563-2211.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Behavioral Health present...

LOOKING FOR HELP IN APPLYING FOR EMPLOYMENT?

1:00-4:00PM

OCCURS THE LAST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH BEGINNING FEBRUARY 23 AT THE BH BUILDING

A representative from Voc Rehab will be here to help with job applications, resume writing, etc.
No appointment needed. Just drop in!

VR'S MISSION IS TO PROVIDE DEDICATED, QUALITY AND CULTURALLY SENSITIVE SERVICES TO NATIVE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES RESIDING ON OR NEAR THE SOUTHERN UTE RESERVATION IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THEIR VOCATIONAL POTENTIAL AND INDEPENDENCE.

4101 CR 222, Durango, CO 81301
970-563-5700



courtesy Daisy Blue Star/SUIMA

This is only a fraction of the coats, boots and winter clothing that were collected by the SUIMA upper elementary students. The donated items will be sent to students in Pine Ridge, S.D.

SUIMA

Pawaaghani pe’ekwatu – Eagle’s Nest

SUIMA holds coat drive for Pine Ridge community

By Daisy Bluestar,
Ute Language Coordinator
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN
MONTESSORI ACADEMY

In February, SUIMA Upper Elementary students held a winter Coat Drive. This coat drive is to support and benefit the students in Pine Ridge, S.D., known as the Thorpe’s. Pine Ridge is the home of the Oglala Lakota People. The conditions of Pine Ridge have been poorly supported by the U.S. Government, therefore leading to high crime, drug, and alcohol rates. It has been noted that the Pine Ridge Reservation is amongst the most impoverished places in the country.

While understanding what this coat drive was going to do to assist in our fellow Indigenous Relatives, many families, community members, dignitaries, and children came together through the outreach of SUIMA Up-

per Elementary students, to assist in providing clothing, shoes, boots, coats, and winter gear for Pine Ridge students K-12.

In our vision statement, SUIMA is providing an environment that creates future tribal and world leaders who appreciate and support their culture, family, and lifelong learning.

As Indigenous People, we teach our children to be respectful and lend a helping hand where it is needed. This is a way of giving back, not only to the people of the land, but to Creator. When we help one another do good things, it brings strength to all people. This was also a way to show our students that no matter where you are in the world, you are always able to show support and get involved in matters that uplift many.

The Southern Ute Montessori Academy and Upper Elementary students would

like to thank everyone who helped in this cause. May Creator bless your homes and your relatives. May blessings come to our families and our community.

SUIMA School Board

The School Board is currently updating policies and procedures. If you’d like to bring something to their attention, you can find a tab on our school’s website (www.suima.org) to submit your concern. A board member will get in touch with you.

Reminders

Conference week is coming up! Please plan on attending to learn how your child is doing academically, socially, and emotionally.

Spring Break is March 18-22.

Parent Advisory Group

The next PAG meeting will be March 26 from 6 – 7 p.m. via Zoom. These meetings are typically held every third Tuesday of the month.

Family Night group

The date for our March Family Night has not been set at this time.

HIGHER EDUCATION

PCC Southwest offers free programs in forestry, wildfire mitigation

Staff report
PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Pueblo Community College Southwest will offer two no-cost certificate programs in forestry, wildfire mitigation, and natural resources starting this year.

The programs were made possible by a \$429,140 Forestry and Wildfire Mitigation Workforce Development grant PCC Southwest recently received from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education.

There is a limit of 20 students for each program. The courses are open to anyone high school age or older. Students can pursue an entry-level wildland fire certificate through PCC’s wildland fire academy or enroll in a two-semester certificate program in forestry and wildland fire.

The wildland fire academy, a one-week course, will be held the first week of June in Pagosa Springs. Registration details are be-

ing finalized. On completing the academy, participants can apply for an incident qualification card, known as a red card, or pursue a career as a junior wildland firefighter or member of a front-line fire crew.

The forestry and wildland fire certificate program will be offered beginning in August. This certification will equip students to begin careers in areas such as logging, forest thinning operations, the forest product/timber industry and more. Registration will open Monday, March 11.

Each curriculum offers hands-on practice and field experience. Students will learn essential workforce skills such as communication, teamwork, and critical thinking. In addition to firefighting, potential career paths include positions in community engagement, conservation, education, and land stewardship.

PCC Southwest also plans to offer a two-year

degree in forestry and natural resources soon.

Those interested in receiving information about the programs can contact Perry Pepper, regional director of academic services, at Perry.Pepper@pueblocc.edu or 970-564-6205, or Heather Houk, agriculture program coordinator, at Heather.Houk@pueblocc.edu or 970-564-6230.

Pueblo Community College

Founded in 1933, Pueblo Community College is a premier teaching institution focused on providing academic and service excellence, without discrimination, to help its students acquire the 21st-century skills needed to better their lives. An educational and technological leader, PCC fosters economic development and utilizes strong partnerships in the communities it serves through its Pueblo, Fremont and Southwest campuses.

Dancing Spirit takes shape



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Progress is visible in downtown Ignacio as the walls and roof trusses take shape on the Dancing Spirit Center for the Arts building where contractors from Sherman Construction work to meet projected timelines, Monday, Feb. 12. The Arts Center is estimated to be completed later this year and will serve the community of Ignacio in their brand-new space on Goddard Ave.

Sherman Construction works in tandem with Head Crane service out of Bayfield, Colo. to set trusses on Monday, Feb. 12 — rescheduled from the previous week due to winter weather conditions.



IGNACIO COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024
10:00AM
SUNUTE PARK
(FIELDS BEHIND COMMUNITY CENTER)

AGES CATEGORIES
0-4 YEARS 5-8 YEARS 9-14 YEARS

STOP BY THE WRISTBAND BOOTH FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A GRAND PRIZE

COME MEET THE EASTER BUNNY!
PLUS FOOD VENDORS, GAMES, & TONS OF OTHER PRIZES
BRING YOUR OWN BASKET FOR HUNTING

FOR MORE INFORMATION, BOOTH INFO, OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
DON FOLSOM AT (970) 563-2893 OR JASPER ABEYTA AT (970) 563-2808

CALLING ALL PARENTS

Parenting isn't easy. Come connect with other caregivers and local professionals over locally-catered dinner and learn tools to support yourself and your family.

RSVP below to let us know your food and childcare needs!

LOVE AND LOGIC: FEBRUARY 28
with Ignacio School District's Bree Duran

Utilize a balanced, loving approach that puts parents back in control and teaches children of all ages to be responsible and prepared to live in the real world.

INTERNET SAFETY: MARCH 27
With La Plata Youth Services' Chris Brown

ATTEND ALL THREE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN THE GRAND PRIZE: \$200 GIFT CARD

Learn supportive tricks for your family's online safety in our social media infused world! Learn how to recognize and track hurtful and helpful behaviors within your family.

CHALLENGING CONVERSATIONS: APRIL 24
with Communication Coach Rachel Turiel

learning practical tools to create more honesty, trust and openness around challenging conversations with your children.

PRIZE DRAWINGS: restaurant and grocery gift cards, activity passes, gas cards, and more! Prizes at every event

Scan or visit unitedway-swco.org/workshops to register

QUESTIONS? EMAIL CAROLINEH@UNITEDWAY-SWCO.ORG

FOURTH WEDNESDAYS FROM 5:15-6:45PM AT SUNUTE COMMUNITY CENTER

DINNER AND CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



Striving for good attendance



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Students enjoy their lunch hour with the special guest teacher Mrs. Stanley as part of this month’s attendance awards. The Ignacio Elementary Attendance Committee continues to work towards growing attendance within the school, students with 95% or better attendance get to wear their most comfortable clothes and wear hats. Ignacio Elementary actively engages in awarding students for their continued participation in all aspects of schooling.

Ignacio Elementary student Meadow Tracy enjoys her school lunch during a special celebration of good attendance held on Wednesday, Feb. 9. Each grade had the opportunity to enjoy their lunches in a separate decorated room while watching cartoons of their choice, this incentive highlights students with 95% or better attendance each month.



EDUCATION

The Powerhouse receives \$100,000 capacity-building grant

Staff report
THE POWERHOUSE

The Powerhouse has been chosen as a recipient of the Nonprofit Infrastructure (NPI) Grant through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. NPI is a statewide grant program for small, community-based nonprofit organizations that provide services to communities that have historically been underrepresented, underserved, or under-resourced to assist in post-pandemic recovery.

The grant request of \$100,000 was fully funded and will be allocated to three organizational objectives. These include hiring a museum planning consultant for a 9–16-month partnership that would develop a comprehensive museum exhibit plan, funding professional development for Powerhouse staff members, and purchasing an electric truck to help implement outreach programs for the organization.

“We are ecstatic to be receiving this funding from DOLA,” Sydnie, Director of Community Engagement states. “This grant will allow us to continue growing our gallery, staff knowledge and capacity to serve kids. We look forward to expanding the impact we have in supporting STEAM education in Southwest Colorado, and continuing to help build a community of curious, capable, and science-literate



problem solvers.”

The awarded funds will be instrumental in creating a comprehensive exhibit plan that will allow for a renewal of The Powerhouse’s gallery space. With this plan, The Powerhouse will begin working on updating the museum with STEAM-focused exhibits, enhancing the visitor and member experience. Full time staff members will be given the opportunity to attend a national children’s museum conference, igniting vision for future organizational programming through networking and professional knowledge sharing. Finally, an electric outreach vehicle, named the “STEAM-Roller” will help reduce operating cost, modeling climate mitigation efforts, and providing sufficient capacity to bring exhibits and classroom materials to regional events.

The Powerhouse

The Powerhouse is Southwest Colorado’s STEAM engine empowering curious young learners through interactive experiences, dis-

covery, and play. The exhibit gallery space provides an engaging year-round space for exploration, student enrichment, and family-friendly programs, while the STEAM focused educational programming inspire and equip the next generation of science-literate leaders. The Powerhouse is dedicated to removing barriers for full participation to all members of the community through culturally sensitive, affordable, and accessible spaces and programs.

The NPI Grant

Community Shares of Colorado along with the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), are working together to administer infrastructure grants to small community-based organizations that have a track record of providing effective, culturally responsive, and relevant programs and services to communities who have historically been underrepresented, underserved or under-resourced in Colorado.

IGNACIO Rodeo Club

Practices every Friday

For beginners and experienced competitors

Sign up

Must have your own basic equipment

Camille Lindsay in Counseling or Lea Leggitt- lleggitt@ignacioschools.org

TURN ON NOTIFICATIONS!

To get the latest updates on all things Ignacio Bobcats

@ignacioschooldistrict

Hunter Education Course - Internet-Based

Date: Saturday March 9th, 2024
Time: 8am – 2pm
Location: Sun Ute Community Center, 390 Mouache Drive, Ignacio

The Southern Ute Wildlife Division is offering this Internet-Based Hunter Education Course. Students will earn their Colorado Hunter Education Certificate and be eligible to purchase hunting licenses in Colorado and elsewhere.

Pre-registration is required at register-ed.com/events/view/207867

Course fee: Total \$39.50 (\$29.50 for the online course and \$10 for the conclusion class)

Class size is limited to 20 students.

Minimum age requirement is 12 or older. Parents of younger students are encouraged to attend with their child.

The major portion of this course must be completed online at hunter-ed.com/colorado/

Students must complete the online portion before the class meets on March 9th.

Class time on Saturday is 8am-2pm with a lunch break. In addition to the online course, students must attend the class, and pass written and live fire tests.

Do not bring any firearms or ammunition to class; all supplies will be provided.

For more information, please call the Southern Ute Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130.

Youth Hunter Outreach & Scoring Night

Thursday, March 14th
1:00 p.m. to about 7:00 p.m.
Sky Ute Casino Event Center

Please join us to meet with the
Tribal Member Wildlife Advisory Board
& The Wildlife Division Staff to
talk about and learn more about your Wildlife Resources

Official B&C Scorers from the Jicarilla Apache G&F will be on hand to score your trophies.

Please call (970) 563-0130 for more information



BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Club Connect: BGC to assist SUPD with annual Easter Egg Hunt

Staff report

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Youth of the Month

Our Youth of the Month focuses on acknowledging and making club members aware of their own unique character and abilities. As staff, we want to recognize them by their positive attributes seen in their club driven experience.

For this month of January, our Youth of the Month award goes to Robert Archuleta.

Congratulations on behalf of BGCSU staff!



Robert Archuleta
BGC Youth of the Month

Club Member Birthday Shoutouts

- Shayne WhiteThunder – Jan. 10
- Zaliyah Bluestar – Jan. 8
- Natalia Salas – Jan. 9
- Eliana Huerta – Jan. 7
- Zitayvius Richards – Jan. 6
- Osias Velasquez – Feb. 7
- Nathan Velasquez – Feb. 11
- Stoney Bluestar – Feb. 7

BGC Announcement

BGC is helping SUPD with the annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 23. We are asking for prize donations for ages 0-4, 5-8 and 9-14. Prize examples bubbles, jump ropes, board games or outdoor games. Prizes can be dropped off with Tristany at BGC or Jasper and Don at SUPD. Prizes are due Monday, March 11 by 5 p.m.

BGC highlights

CEO, Bruce LeClaire, attended the Boys & Girls Clubs in Colorado Legislative Summit in Denver, Feb. 5-6. Agenda items included CEO Round Table, 2023 Kids Count Data Report, Juvenile Justice Trends & Prevention Strategies, Colorado Testing Data and Academic Trends, Attorney



courtesy BGC

Family members of Robert Archuleta, left to right, Randi Rock, Samara O'John, Robert Archuleta, Lillianna Baker, Nicholas Sanchez, Brandi Archuleta, and Gabe Archuleta.



courtesy Bruce LeClaire/BGC

Bruce LeClaire, CEO for Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, attended the Boys & Girls Clubs in Colorado Legislative Summit in Denver, Feb. 5-6. LeClaire is pictured with Colorado Senator Cleave Simpson (R-Alamosa), and Vaughn Morris, CEO for Boys & Girls Club of La Plata County.

General's Office Priorities, Out-of-School Roundtable in partnership with Governor Polis's Early Childhood and K-12 Advisor, Community Engagement Efforts and CEOs meeting with Elected Officials.

RESERVATION ECONOMIC SUMMIT

2024 'Native American 40 Under 40' class announced

Awardees will be honored in Las Vegas, Nev.

Staff report

NATIONAL CENTER FOR AMERICAN INDIAN ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development is proud to announce the 2024 Class of Native American 40 Under 40 Award Winners. Nominated by members of their communities, this prestigious award is bestowed upon American Indians (including Canadian First Nations), Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians who are under the age of 40 and have demonstrated leadership, initiative, and dedication while making significant contributions in their professions and communities. This year's class includes an Oscar nominee, a White House advisor, and tribal government and business leaders, attorneys, a journalist, and several working in Native American food

and agriculture. "Recipients of the Native American 40 Under 40 awards are no longer just our future; they are leaders in their respective fields," said Chris James, President, and CEO of The National Center. "From the silver screen to the farm, 2024 awardees are deserving recipients who will continue to make Indian Country proud and our world a better place. I look forward to celebrating their achievements at RES 2024 and welcoming them to the growing and influential community."

Now in its 15th year, the 40 Under 40 awards program is one of the primary ways The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development recognizes and cultivates young leaders. 40 Under 40 awardees will be honored at the upcoming Reservation Economic Summit

(RES), taking place from March 11-14 in Las Vegas. To learn more and register, please visit [res.ncaied.org](https://www.ncaied.org).

"It is my pleasure to announce the 2024 class of Native American 40 Under 40 Award recipients," said Lillian Sparks Robinson, Vice Chair of The National Center's Board of Directors and head of the 40 Under 40 selection committee. "Selecting this year's class was no easy task for the Board, but the awardees are truly the cream of the crop – across Indian Country and beyond. I look forward to honoring them next month at RES and following their achievements for years to come."

The full list of Native American 40 Under 40 Award Winners for 2024 can be found online: <https://www.ncaied.org/40-under-40/>



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: 12 to 3 p.m., Tues. and Thurs. in March 2024

March 5th, 7th, 12th, 14th, 19th, 21st, 26th, 28th,

Call Kellie at Southern Ute Division of Social Services to sign up

(970) 563-2337

The Southern Ute Education Department, Public Education

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

Oceanside Exploration Trip

Want to take a trip to California?

THE SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS RECRUITING 10 RISING 8TH GRADE THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR A 5-DAY TRIP TO OCEANSIDE, CALIFORNIA.

JUNE 24TH-28TH, 2024

THE TRIP WILL ALLOW SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL MEMBER YOUTH TO EXPLORE GROWTH FUND PROPERTIES AND DISCOVER FUTURE CAREER PATHS.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024 AT 4:00PM

EMAIL OR DROP OFF APPLICATIONS AT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

SCAN FOR APPLICATION:

For Questions: CHASITY BEAN CBEAN@SOUTHERNUTE-NSN.GOV JULIE STONE JSTONE@SOUTHERNUTE-NSN.GOV

Southern Ute Education Department

Multi-Purpose shares the love on Valentines



Krista Richards/SU Drum

Red Sky Mills and Lucas Rael participate in the Gourd Dance sessions alongside other gourd dancers at the Multi-Purpose Facility's Valentine's Day Powwow on Saturday, Feb. 10.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Southern Ute Veterans Association members Howard Richards Sr. and Rod Grove bring in the colors during Grand Entry of the MPF Valentine's Powwow.

The Multi-Purpose Facility shared the love during the Valentine's Day Powwow on Saturday, Feb. 10. In celebration of the global holiday, the event featured a free meal, gourd dance, two-step, and potato dance. Head staff included Austin Jacket, Miss Southern Ute Autumn Sage, and Hunter Frost. Master of ceremonies Reffel Kanip, apprentice emcee Stais Harlan, and arena director Micco Wesley. Songs provided by Southern Defiance singers and Red Spirit singers as well as three other visiting drum groups.



Krista Richards/SU Drum

Head Gourd Dancer, Hunter Frost gifts Multi-Purpose Facility's OP Manager and tribal elder, Elise Redd a Pendleton blanket — thanking her for everything she does for the community and for his family during the giveaway session of the gourd dance.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Southern Defiance singers of Ft. Defiance, Ariz. provide the Victory Song during the Grand Entry of the MPF Valentine's Powwow.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Celebrating love, family, and friendship, the event featured a variety of couple's dances including the potato dance. Partners hold a potato in between each other's foreheads attempting to hold the vegetable until all other pairs have dropped their potato. Terena Hight and Christen Heart placed second in this special competition.



Krista Richards/SU Drum

Friends, family, and fellow gourd dancers honor tribal member Hunter Frost as he was selected as the Head Gourd Dancer for the MPF Valentine's Day Powwow.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Miss Southern Ute, Autumn Sage served as the Head Woman for the Valentine's Day Powwow, she was honored by her family members and all attendees of the event for her contributions to the community in her service as Miss Southern Ute.



SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Community Foundation welcomes new team members

Staff report
Southwest Community Foundation

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado is happy to welcome several new team members with the addition of two staff, four new members to the Board of Directors, and four new members to the Finance Committee. The Foundation’s hiring and board recruitment process includes comprehensive vetting to find committed individuals who will bring unique talent and skills to the team.

“Our staff and board members are committed to enhancing our mission of expanding the culture of giving in our community,” says Briggen Wrinkle, Executive Director of the Community Foundation Serving Southwest Colorado. “Their diverse experiences and perspectives will serve the Foundation and the nonprofit community well.”

Rachel Rosenthal joined the Foundation’s staff in December to serve as the Community Outreach Manager. She was born and raised in Durango, Colo. and attended Fort Lewis College where she received a B.A. in English. She taught special education in area schools for 13 years and



was a freelance marketing content writer and editor before joining the Community Foundation.

Amy Moody joined the Foundation’s staff in September to serve as the Financial & Operations Director. Prior to this role, Moody was part of the Community Foundation’s Board of Directors and Finance Committee. With a strong background as a certified public accountant, financial analyst, and corporate controller, she brings a wealth of knowledge to the team. She is also an alumna of Fort Lewis College.

Dave Smiley now serves as the Treasurer of the Board of Directors for the Community Foundation. In his career, Smiley has worn several hats, including senior scientist and financial planner/investment advisor.

Dave Albrechta is one of the Community Foundation’s new board members. He and his wife opened a law firm in Durango in 2015

where he practices employment law and represents employees in civil rights, discrimination, and other employment related claims.

Karen Sheek is a retired middle school educator and business owner. In 2011 she was chosen to serve out the term of a departing Council member and went on to be elected to two four-year terms, as Mayor of Cortez.

Wilson Warmack is an entrepreneur with a finance degree from the University of Texas. After buying, managing, and selling over a dozen software companies he retired and relocated to Durango in 2020.

The Finance Committee welcomes Trent Andrews of Alpine Bank, Rachel Bell of R. Bell and Associates, Brett Bronson of McDonalds, and Rachel Kuss of Kennebec Wealth Management.

For info on expanding the culture of giving to meet the needs of our region, visit swcommunityfoundation.org or call 970-375-5807.



SUNUTE FLOOR RESURFACING PROJECT

PHASE I

SunUte is undergoing a major floor resurfacing project, please see below important route and procedure changes

DATES: 2/26-3/3



Front Desk access will be located through the exterior Capote Room doors on West side of building



ACCESS POINT: CAPOTE ROOM
ENTIRE FACILITY




UPSTAIRS BATHROOMS WILL BE ACCESSIBLE AS NORMAL

24/7 WILL BE ACCESSIBLE - ELEVATOR IS ACCESSIBLE

Native film at Durango Independent Film Festival

Join Native Lens and the Colorado Office of Film, Television and Media on March 2 at 5 p.m. at the Durango Arts Center for a special showcase of Native film at the Durango Independent Film Festival. This free screening includes the premieres of the 2024 Native Lens Media Fellowship films, and the COFTM Film Exposure Program’s short documentary “A Place to Explore.” A reception at Sorrel Sky Gallery, 858 Main Ave. in Durango will precede the screening at 3 p.m. The screening and reception are free and open to the public.






Owned and Operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe

JANUARY

MULTIPLIER MONDAYS

RECEIVE 10X POINTS EVERY MONDAY!

MONDAYS IN JANUARY | 9AM - MIDNIGHT



14324 Hwy 172 North
Ignacio, CO 81137
skyutecasino.com

Disclaimer: Bonus points will automatically be added to all Ace's Club accounts via the Aristocrat Bonus Points module. Points are non-transferrable. Sky Ute Casino Resort reserves the right to modify or cancel promotions at any time without notice. Must be 21 or older to enter the casino. Rules apply. See Ace's Club for details.

SAVE THE DATE

2024 TRIBAL EVENTS

BEAR DANCE

MAY 24 - MAY 27

SUN DANCE

JULY 19 - JULY 22



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
SHERISA VALDEZ | 970-563-2988

CALLING ALL SOUTHERN UTE ARTISTS

102ND ANNUAL SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR LOGO & THEME CONTEST

Open to all Southern Ute Tribal Members

Artwork shall be no bigger than 8.5in x 11in. Selected artwork will be featured on all items involved with the 102nd Annual Southern Ute Tribal Fair.

DEADLINE
MARCH 8, 2024

For questions, please contact:
SHERISA VALDEZ | 970-563-2988



Pagosa Junction Bridge Open

Good afternoon Tribal Members and community. This is to inform you that the Pagosa Junction Bridge along CR 500 is now open. Tribal Planning thanks you for your patience while this project was underway. If you have any questions, contact Tribal Planning at 970-563-2283.



Southern Ute Veterans Association members — Raymond Baker (U.S. Navy Retired), Bruce Valdez (U.S. Army), Gordon Hammond (U.S. Marines), Bruce LeClaire (U.S. Army), the Association served alongside other Color Guards throughout the weekend during Florida's largest annual powwow.

Photos by Jeremy Wade Shockley
The Southern Ute Drum

Seminole hosts Native Color Guards



Bruce LeClaire (U.S. Army), leads the Southern Ute Veterans Association in the Battle of the Guards, where the veterans payed homage to the point man as they bring their wounded back to safety. Bruce Valdez (U.S. Army) and Gordon Hammond (U.S. Marines), providing cover with reproduction M16 rifles during their color guard presentation.

The 51st annual Seminole Tribal Fair and Powwow was held at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Hollywood, Fla. – the powwow brought Native Color Guards from across Indian Country for the “Battle of the Guards.” The contest special was held in recognition of the late Stephen Bowers of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, who served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and as the leader of the Seminole Tribe’s Color Guard in the decades that followed. The Seminole Tribal Fair and Powwow took place from Friday, Feb. 9 – Sunday, Feb. 11 and included a Native arts market and cinema showcase.



The Seminole Tribe's Color Guard also competed in the Battle of the Guards.



Dancers make their way into the arena during the 51st annual Seminole Tribal Fair and Powwow, Friday, Feb. 9 at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Hollywood, Fla.



Raymond Baker (U.S. Navy Retired), represents the Southern Ute Veterans Association in Hollywood, Fla., carrying the Eagle Staff during an intertribal at the 51st annual Seminole Tribal Fair and Powwow.



Mitchelene BigMan (U.S. Army) is the President and Founder of The Native American Women Warriors Organization, the first ever recognized all Native American women color guard. As a veteran and advocate, she leads The Native American Women Warriors in full regalia, while also advocating for MMIR during their groups color guard presentation.



Randy Medicine Bear, dressed in full regalia, stands in with the Southern Ute Veterans Association on day one. Medicine Bear has served as an arena director for numerous powwows over the years, and calls Loveland, Colo. his home.



KSUT TRIBAL MEDIA

Second Native Lens Media Fellowship to take place in Ignacio

By Colten Ashley, Coordinator
KSUT TRIBAL MEDIA CENTER

The KSUT Tribal Media Center is holding the second Native Lens Media Fellowship from Sunday, Feb. 25 to Saturday, March 2. There were over 70 applicants with nine fellows being chosen to make up the cohort.

2024 Native Lens Fellows

Sommer Lopez:



tives for generations to come.

Tyler Socé:



in filmmaking since I was a young adolescent. I love to create stories that leave an impact in the minds of others through writing, music, and film. Having an opportunity to collaborate with other Indigenous creatives in the process of filmmaking is truly a blessing, and I can't wait to begin working with everyone.

Sierra Buffalohead:



ist; painter, sculptor, creative writer, slam poet, photographer, videographer, graphic designer, and regalia sewer. I have a passion to tell the stories of our people through filmmaking and different media.

Ellyse Fredericks:



Fort Lewis College. I enjoy watching films because I enjoy analyzing the narrative structure and studying the camerawork. The fellowship appealed to me to create my own visual storytelling and learn new skills of filmmaking. Askwahi (Thank you).

Tonya Tolino:



especially with seeing how impactful it can be for showing the beauty and diversity that exist in Indigenous communities around the world.

Evan Smith:



since I was a child and some of my favorite films are Paris Texas, Ali: Fear Eats the Soul, Godzilla (1954), and American Splendor.

Nika Arce:



favorite way of combining all different art mediums to engage in storytelling.

Eva Bear:



er it's photography or videography – has always been a hobby of mine. Though I haven't been able to explore it too much yet, I enjoy indulging in my passions when I can! I love documentaries because I think learning from films can be very useful and people love to watch things too!

Jules Joe:

Hello! I'm an Anthropology student in my final year at Fort Lewis College, and I'm from Gallup, N.M. My passions lie in cultural preservation and education, there is so much knowledge and value in simply documenting culture as it grows and adapts. I consider myself a creative and I want to be part of making media that represents a Native perspective that needs to be shared. Accessibility and equity have always been very important to me as a person with Autism and a person with disabled family/friends. (Jules requested no photo).

Native Lens Fellowship Public Screening

The films created during the Fellowship will be part of a public showcase of films from Native Lens and the Colorado Office of Film, Television, and Media sponsored by the Durango Independent Film Festival. The showcase screening will be at the Durango Arts Center on Saturday, March 2. The screening will start at 5 p.m. and admission to the event is free.

Preceding the showcase will be a reception for the public to meet the fellows. This reception will be at Sorrel Sky Gallery from 3 to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, March 2. Non-alcoholic drinks and light refreshments will be available and free to the public.

Native Lens

Native Lens is a film & video project collaboration between Rocky Mountain PBS, KSUT, and the Colorado Health Foundation to amplify and empowers Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and First Nations people – through grassroots, first-person, narratives.

Native Lens fosters the production and distribution of dozens of stories from individuals since 2020. The success of this program, combined with the launch of the Tribal Media Center in Ignacio, has allowed Native Lens to expand its mission by offering hands-on media training – like the Native Lens Fellowship – in the Four Corners and beyond.

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Our Club serves local community youth.
We APPRECIATE your support.

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|---|----------------------------|
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| Rolling Thunder Grill at Sky Ute Casino | Sky Ute Casino Gift Shop |
| Southern Ute Police Department | Sun Ute Community Center |
| | Tribal Information Service |

Any questions please contact the Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe at 970.563.2254

Multi-Purpose Facility

March Senior Breakfast

Wednesday March 6, 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

February Beading & Traditional Sewing Class

"Ribbon Shirts & Vests"

Tuesday & Thursday, February 27 & 29, 2024

Two Day Sessions: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Two Evening Sessions: Tuesday & Wednesday 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

The class will focus on Shirts and Vests, if you need help with an another beading or traditional sewing project, bring it with you.

Space is limited call to sign-up.

970-563-2640 or 970-563-2641
email: multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov

Multi - Purpose Facility

March 2024 Events

Indoor Yard Sale—Saturday March 2, 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

Senior Breakfast—Wednesday March 6, 10:00—11:30 AM

Quilting Class—Tuesday— Thursday March 19—21, 10:00 AM—3:30 PM

Traditional Beading & Sewing—Tuesday—Thursday March 26 & 28,
Day Session - 10:00 AM—3:30 PM Evening Session 5:30 PM—7:30 PM

Easter Sip, Chat & Chew—Friday March 29, 2024—11:30 AM—1:30 PM
(Special Ute Bingo at the Sip Chat & Chew)

Special Events

Community Pow Wow—Saturday March 9, 2024

Youth Easter Craft Day—Saturday March 30, 2024 10:30 AM—2:30 PM

Elder Easter Craft Day Wednesday March 27, 1030AM—3:00 PM

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



BOBCATS GIRLS BASKETBALL

M-CHS goes wire-to-wire in Ignacio

Lady 'Cats drop regular-season finale, 58-44

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Montezuma-Cortez varsity rookie Milah Begay's first three-pointer – a first-quarter bank shot – Thursday evening, Feb. 15, simply made the guests' good start even greater, upping M-CHS' initial 6-0 lead on Ignacio to 13-4.

Her next trey however may have swayed, if not saved, the day.

IHS junior Marissa Olguin had closed out the opening eight minutes with a three-pointer bringing the home team back to 13-9 before the Lady Panthers then began the second stanza rebuilding their lead to 18-9 with 6:40 left until halftime. But with 5:53 to go, the Lady Bobcats were back to 20-14 after another Olguin triple – made directly in front of M-CHS head coach Brad Wright, whose expression alone asked the question of how one of IHS' top guns was left a loose cannon.

Senior Darlyn Mendoza-Lechuga then made three free throws in four attempts, halving Montezuma-Cortez's lead down to a shaky 20-17. Begay answered with her second three-ball, though, and the Lady Panthers then surged ahead to a 29-21 advantage keyed by a fortuitous 2-and-2 with 1:11 remaining.

Senior Markylla Jones scored a basket inside, was fouled and went to the charity stripe for the 'and-one' bonus try. She missed, but junior Kalea Ogo won the rebound and quickly dished off to sophomore Sariah Jackson for, essentially, an Ignacio-irking four-point play.

The Lady 'Cats managed to enter intermission down just 29-24, but after M-CHS junior Taylor Whited began the third



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio senior Solymar Cosio (44) tries retracting a rebound with her fingertips during the Lady Bobcats' 58-44 home loss Thursday evening, Feb. 15, to Montezuma-Cortez. It was the last regular-season game for both teams.

quarter with a steal, the margin re-grew to 31-24 after the ball was zipped ahead to – you guessed it – Begay for a layup.

"Huge – and she's just a freshman," Wright beamed afterwards, when asked if Begay was M-CHS' x-factor. "But those threes in the first half were monstrous; that's what really kept the momentum going for us."

"I think we did a really good job of ... every time they got one, we got one back," he added. "So, the girls' shot selection was excellent tonight; I don't feel like we forced anything."

After IHS senior Solymar Cosio converted a Mendoza-Lechuga feed with 1:11 left into two points keeping Ignacio within seven, 37-30, Begay was hit with her fourth personal foul, but the La-

dy Panthers nevertheless started the fourth quarter up 39-33 despite yet another Olguin bomb.

And just 20 seconds into the final frame, the writing was on the wall for the Lady 'Cats; Jackson grabbed back-to-back offensive rebounds, netted a basket off the second one – and drew a foul, resulting in a FT make widening the scoreboard gap to 42-33. Whited then capitalized upon the re-found energy with a three-pointer, and Ogo followed with a layup – created by her leaping interception of a pass meant for Mendoza-Lechuga – increasing M-CHS' lead to 47-35 with 5:49 left.

Olguin cashed her game-high fourth trey with 2:39 remaining, but with Ign-

M-CHS page 20

BOBCATS BOYS BASKETBALL

Crazy comeback crushes 'Cats, 45-40

M-CHS erases 10-point pad in fourth

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Following one of the lowest scoring first halves in recent memory Thursday night, Feb. 15, inside a confused IHS Gymnasium, a boys' basketball game finally broke out after halftime.

"I told them at halftime, it's a baseball score up there!" Ignacio head coach Chris Valdez recalled afterwards with a laugh. "But we were holding them down on defense; that's what we needed to do. And if we could score some points, you know, in the second half, and continue to play good defense ... we could win!"

"He had his team ready to go," said Montezuma-Cortez skipper Michael Hall, equally amazed that in the teams' regular-season finale his Panthers trailed Valdez's Bobcats 11-9 through 16 regulation minutes. "They were playing good defense, locked us up pretty hard. We couldn't get a couple buckets to fall, but you've got to give Ignacio some credit; their defense was phenomenal – and that's what happens."

But what happened after the break ultimately left one side of the seats roaring and the other reeling.

The only Panther to really produce any sort of offense during the first half, recording seven points, M-CHS junior guard Tay Wheat made a free throw with 6:04 left in the third quarter, and after rebounding Wheat's missed second try, senior Easton Hartsoe netted two points nabbing Montezuma-Cortez a 12-11 advantage. Wheat then sank two more FTs with 5:45 left, but IHS junior Coty Webb canned a tying three-pointer. Hartsoe countered with a go-ahead free throw, but after a Valdez timeout, the 'Cats were ready to go big plus tell the guests to go home.

Sophomore Ambrose Valdez received the inbounds pass restarting play, innocently dribbled towards the top of the three-point arch, then flat-passed a perfect lob near the rim where only senior big Gabe Cox could reach it ... and coolly dunk it home, to the home fans' delight.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio senior Gabe Cox (21) jams down a lob pass from teammate Ambrose Valdez (22) for an intimidating two points Thursday night, Feb. 15, versus Montezuma-Cortez. It was the last regular-season game for both teams.

Striking while the iron was hot, Webb then followed the two-handed jam with a butter-smooth three, and Cox then increased Ignacio's promising lead to 21-15 after grabbing two offensive boards on one possession and then netting a put-back of the second.

With 2:53 left, Hall wisely called a timeout, but despite M-CHS finishing out the quarter with five needed points, IHS put up another seven, with the last two coming via a Cox-assisted baseline layup by freshman Cayson Burcham.

"We were being way too soft," Hall said, "and then in the fourth quarter they finally got a little momentum under them and got going."

But not before the Bobcats began the final frame with junior Charley Pargin receiving a Cox pass in the corner and sinking his second three-ball in the contest – inflating Ignacio's pad to a fairly-comfortable 30-20. Considering the 'Cats had also limited M-CHS freshman talent Trey Hall to just one third quarter free throw up to that moment, victory

seemed in the cards.

Until the Panthers apparently snuck in a stacked deck.

Keyed by efforts from sophomore reserves Trace Hartsoe and Wyatt Oliver, Montezuma-Cortez went on a 10-2 run cutting the deficit down to 32-20 with 4:03 still left on the clock. Pargin responded well, converting a pass from senior Devante Montoya into his third triple – putting Ignacio back up by five points – but Oliver offset its effects with his own first strike from downtown.

"That shot Wyatt hit? That was incredible," said Hall. "I have all the faith in the world in those kids (Oliver and Hartsoe) when they come off the bench. And they today did exactly what we've always told them to do and what they're capable of doing."

Wheat soon finished a successful three-point play, produced by a hard drive to the basket and Montoya foul, re-trimming Ignacio's lead down to 37-36, and

Comeback page 20

Bobcats recognize Seniors



photos Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

From left, Ignacio seniors Elliott Hendren, Phillip Quintana, Gabe Cox, Devante Montoya, and Trajan Garcia await their introductions to fans on Senior/Parent Appreciation Day Saturday afternoon, Feb. 10.



Ignacio senior Trajan Garcia stands with his mother after being introduced to fans inside IHS Gymnasium Saturday afternoon, Feb. 10.

Ignacio senior Gracelynn Thompson greets her family after being introduced to fans inside IHS Gymnasium Saturday afternoon, Feb. 10, during the Lady Bobcats' Senior/Parent Appreciation Day festivities prior to varsity action against Centauri.

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BOBCATS WRESTLING

Bourriague, deKay place fourth at State

Lady 'Cat Espinosa also ends on podium



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Aven Bourriague introduces Sedgwick County-Fleming's Cooper Edson to the mat during Class 2A, 106-pound consolation-bracket action Saturday, Feb. 17, inside Ball Arena in Denver. Bourriague lost by ultimate-tiebreaker and concluded the 2024 CHSAA State Championships placing fourth at the weight.

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

They'll be back next season. And after how the 2023-24 wrestling season ended Saturday afternoon, Feb. 17, for Ignacio talents Aven Bourriague and Lincoln deKay, they'll have not just chips on their respective shoulders but super-sized spuds motivating them up the podium.

Scrapping against Sedgwick County-Fleming freshman Cooper Edson with third place at state in Class 2A's 106-pound division, Bourriague found himself tied 3-3 after three regulation two-minute periods. The bout would essentially go into triple overtime and Bourriague

— who'd initially lost in the second-day winners' semifinals — was penalized a point for an apparent stall-style disengage, gifting Edson a 4-3 ultimate-tiebreaker victory inside Denver's Ball Arena.

His first State loss a 6-0 verdict in the winners' semifinals against eventual State Champion Miguel Franco, a Pueblo Dolores Huerta Prep senior, Bourriague (who'd defeated Edson by 16-7 major decision in the quarters) concluded his second winter in Bobcat colors standing 35-7 overall.

The last of five Bobcats to qualify for the three-day spectacle, deKay actually had a small advantage going into his third-place test at 150; he was pit against Man-

cos junior Brandon Vannest, whom he'd already defeated (7-5 sudden-victory) in the winners' quarterfinals. Unfortunately, his fellow San Juan Basin Leaguer turned the tables in the rematch, grinding out a 2-1 win in regulation — not long after deKay, whose first loss had come in the semis against eventual State Champion Tripp DuVall of Holly, had edged Greeley Dayspring Christian junior Logan Clark 1-0 in the consolation semis to survive.

All told, deKay (40-3 overall) went 3-2 at the 2024 CHSAA State Championships and Bourriague ditto, helping IHS tally 38 points and place 17th in 2A's 55-team standings. At the top of the



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Escorted off the mat by Lady Bobcat head coach Aimee Larsen, Ignacio's Larissa Espinosa celebrates her win over Colorado Springs Vista Ridge's Kaylyn Yutzy during girls' 190-pound consolation-bracket action Saturday, Feb. 17, inside Ball Arena in Denver. Espinosa finished the 2024 CHSAA State Championships with a sixth-place 3-3 record.

stack was Meeker; the Cow-boys' 150 points bettered runner-up Cedaredge's 145 and third-place Wray's 129, with Buena Vista (96.5) and Hotchkiss North Fork (84.5) following.

Vannest and MHS — the highest-placing SJBL squad — ended up tying Wiggins for ninth place; each team scored 61 points. Nucla (49) came in 15th, Dove Creek (13) 33rd, and Norwood (1 point) ended up sharing 48th with Weston Primero. Dolores had zero qualifiers and thus was not represented.

Additionally for Ignacio, senior Kyle Rima (28-10) went 1-2 at heavyweight, pinning initial opponent Dayton Blok of Rye with only four ticks left in the second period before then being pinned by Meeker's Noah LeBlanc and Rocky Ford's Omar Ocana. Sophomore Zane Pontine (35-12) went 1-2 at 144 pounds, pinning first consolation-round foe Josiah Mackintosh of Merino 36 seconds into the sec-

ond period before then being eliminated on Day 2 by Mancos senior Levi Martin. And at 165 pounds junior Kendrick Nossaman (27-17) lost by pin in 24 seconds on Day 1 to Wray's Casey Midcap, but recomposed himself to stick Las Animas' Caleb Mobley in an elapsed 2:19 before going out in 1:28 versus BVHS' Carter Stromer.

Lady 'Cats Finish 38th

Led by sophomore Larissa Espinosa's sixth-place finish at 190 pounds, IHS' girls totaled 16 points and tied Woodland Park and Craig-based Moffat County for 38th (out of 77 represented schools) in the all-classification tourney's standings.

Starting well with a second-period pin of Wiggins' Mackenzie Steinbar, Espinosa was then relegated to the consolation bracket by Centennial Arapahoe's Madison McKee, who prevailed by pin in 1:06. Es-

pinosa, however, bounced back strong and pinned both Colorado Springs Discovery Canyon's Melanie Marin Lopez and Colorado Springs Vista Ridge's Kaylyn Yutzy to guarantee herself a place on the podium.

Where she stood would be determined after Espinosa (22-17 overall in '23-24) was pinned in the consolation semis by Grand Junction Central's Adalee McNeil and then defeated 4-0 by McKee in the fifth-place bout.

Lainee Bradley (8-8 overall) went 0-2 at 125 pounds, while senior Soriah Perez (11-21) went 1-2 at 235 — pinning first consolation-round opponent Ruth Worknhe of Aurora Overland 1:57 into the second period — but also did not place.

Piling up 135.5 points, Arvada Pomona narrowly won the team title over G.J. Central (129), with Loveland (93.5), DCHS (78) and Castle Rock Douglas County (71) filling out the top five.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Lincoln deKay clashes with Mancos' Brandon Vannest during Class 2A, 150-pound consolation-bracket action Saturday, Feb. 17, inside Ball Arena in Denver. Victorious over his fellow San Juan Basin Leaguer early in the 2024 CHSAA State Championships, deKay lost the rematch 2-1 and placed fourth at the weight.

Save The Date!
Saturday, May 11th, 2024
SunUte Fitness Presents:
REP WARS 2.0

SunUte, in collaboration with Fort Lewis, Presents:

Nawa' Yuchikay
"Together We Soar"

FLC Volleyball Camp

Who and how much?

- Girls & boys ages 8-17
- \$5 per participant

When and Where?

- Date: Mar. 8th, 2024
- Location: SunUte Community Center
- Time: 4:00pm-6:00pm (pizza to follow)

SKYHAWKS
FORT LEWIS COLLEGE

For info contact Recreation @ (970) 563-0214
Kelsey ext. 2660
Bird ext. 2664
Elijah ext. 2655
Darnell ext. 2667

2024 SunUte Co-Ed Volleyball League

Games will be played 5 v 5

\$250 Registration Fee
8 Player Max Per Team

Registration Deadline: Fri. March 29, 2024
Games start: Wed. April 3, 2024

For More Information, Call Front Desk @ (970) 563-0214
Kelsey F. x2660; Elijah W. x2655; Bird R. x2664



OBITUARY



WEAVER – Life-long resident Arthur Johnny Weaver passed away peacefully at home on Feb. 12, 2024, at the age of 70. He was born July 23, 1953, at Taylor Hospital in Ignacio, Colorado to Arthur and Sylvia Alire Weaver.

John was an athlete in school, which included basketball, baseball, and football. After graduating from Ignacio High School in 1971, he immediately joined the U.S. Army. While in the Army, he was stationed in Germany and was assigned as a tank crew member and trained as a driver of the tank. He received the National Defense Service Medal and was a marksman of the M16. John was honorably discharged May 17, 1974, but remained on active reserve until May 26, 1977. Once he was discharged, he moved

to Denver to attend an auto mechanics school. He then relocated to Phoenix, Arizona for a few years. John eventually moved back to Ignacio and began employment with the BIA Roads Department, Southern Ute Tribal Fish & Game, Tribal Police Department, and Tribal Custom Farm. Eventually he retired with the Tribe in 2010.

John lived life like he was on fire and loved joking around with family and friends with whom he enjoyed spending time. He was a farmer, hunter, and avid Denver Broncos fan. John married Renee Sage on Dec. 27, 1978, which later ended in divorce, but they remained on good terms and spent most of their time together including holidays and special occasions alongside their family.

John is survived by Renee; son, Nicholas (Gogi); son, Dustin; daughter, Jasmine; daughter, Victoria; two sons in Germany; grandchildren, Marcus, Dominique, Krystyn, Lucas, Amethyst, and Bianca; sisters, Lena (Fred), Dee (Mike), Lida Sue (Frank); brother, Bill; foster brothers, Roland Norris and Rudley Weaver.

John is preceded in death by his mother, Sylvia; father, Arthur; siblings, Gina and Joel.

A visitation was held prior to a Rosary on Feb. 17, 2024 at St. Ignatius Church in Ignacio, Colo. A Rosary for Arthur was held with Mass of Christian Burial following. A reception was held following Mass at the Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Room. Cremation for Arthur will take place after services.

COMMUNITY GREETINGS

To John Bradley Washington III

Happy Birthday my son, Jb.

I love you very much and wish you the best year ahead.

You always bring joy, laughter, and love.

Our times together are the best and full of life's experiences.

Continue to enjoy what life brings and pray to keep you safe and sound.

Your mother,
Carolyn Grey Eagle

Weaver family appreciation

The family of Arthur Johnny Weaver expresses their heartfelt appreciation to all who assisted in John's last days. The organizations included, the Los Pinos Fire Protection District; Southern Ute Police Department; Southern Ute Rangers; LaPlata County Coroner; Hood Mortuary; St. Ignatius Catholic Church; Yellowjacket Drum Group; Southern Ute Veterans Association; Veterans of Foreign War, Post #4031; Southern Ute Casino Resort; and, the Southern Ute Multi-Purpose staff. This appreciation also extends to the

Pallbearers who escorted John. Another thank you to pallbearer, veteran and foster brother Rudley Weaver who returned to Durango with John, one last time, after the church services.

John was a special individual and having family, friends as well as dedicated personnel, made grieving a loved one a little easier, with the assistance and support that was provided. John will be profoundly missed by all who knew him.

Thank you again.
Family of Arthur Johnny Weaver

Tribe welcomes new enrollee



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Southern Ute Tribal Council gather with the family of new enrollee Emmalena Baker-Valdez in the Hall of Warriors on Tuesday, Feb. 20 following the announcement and approval of her enrollment during the Tribal Council Regular Meeting. Baker-Valdez is joined by mother Amber Baker-Valdez and grandmother Dorene Baker.



SUIT Risk Management is giving away one Emergency Go Kit per Southern Ute Tribal Member Elder (55 y/o or older), while supplies last. The Go Kit comes readily stocked in a convenient, easy to carry dry bag and includes:

water, an energy bar, hygiene kit, first aid items, emergency blanket, tissue, face mask, natural disaster handbook & reference guide, flashlight & whistle. You can also add other personal items as necessary.

Call Risk Management today at: 970-563-2449 for more information.

**GIVEAWAY
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2024 TRI-UTE GAMES

Save the Date: Summer 2024 — Exact dates to be announced ASAP
For Questions Call: 970-563-0214

Sporting Events Include:

Basketball, Co-Ed Volleyball, Archery, Swimming, Skateboarding, Golf, Wrestling and Traditional Hand Games
Participate in the Tri-Ute Ultimate Challenge

Packets due: Friday, May 03, 2024!!!

Who: For Enrolled Tribal Members and/or 1st Descendants with CIB (Certificate of Indian Blood)

For: Boys and Girls Ages: 9-18

We are looking for Athletes & Coaches for the upcoming Tri-Ute Games to be held in Ignacio this year! Come and be a part of Team Southern Ute as a Player or Coach.

For more information or questions on Player/Coaches packets stop by the SunUte Community Center and/or contact the SunUte Recreation Team at 970-563-0214.

Darnell x2667; Elijah x2655; Kelsey x2660 or Bird x2664.

"The Purpose of the Games is for Our Youth to Come Together, To Get to Know One Another, and to Foster Friendships between the Ute Indian Tribe, Southern Ute Tribe, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe."



Drum Deadline

Next issue:
Mar. 8

Deadline:
Mar. 4

Articles, photos, advertisements, public notices, letters and greetings may be submitted in person, by mail, or by email to: jschockley@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.



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Request for Bids
Southern Ute Bear Dance Powwow Services

The Southern Ute Powwow Committee is requesting bids for the 2024 Southern Ute Bear Dance Powwow for the following services:

CLEANING CREW

Sky Ute Casino Resort – Events Center
Friday, May 24 – 6 to 11 p.m.
Saturday, May 25 – 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Cleaning supplies will be provided.
Must provide One Million Dollar Insurance with the Sky Ute Casino Resort as the Insurer.

SECURITY

Sky Ute Casino Resort – Events Center
Friday, May 24 – 6 to 11 p.m.
Saturday, May 25 – 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Must provide One Million Dollar Insurance with the Sky Ute Casino Resort as the Insurer.

SOUND SYSTEM

Sky Ute Casino Resort – Events Center
Friday, May 24 – 5 p.m. (set up) to 11 p.m.
Saturday, May 25 – 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

DEADLINE SUBMISSION

April 19, 2024 at 5 p.m.
Please submit bids to: Southern Ute Powwow Committee, PO Box 737 #16, Ignacio, CO 81137 or soutepowwow@southernute-nsn.gov

For questions please contact:

- Rochelle Aguilar: 970-563-2990
- Valerie Armstrong: 970-317-3585

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

2024 Home Rehabilitation Program

The Construction Services Division is accepting applications for the 2024 Home Rehabilitation Program. The deadline for applications to be considered for this year is April 26, 2024. All applications received after April 26th will be considered for the 2025 selection. If you have previously submitted a Home Rehabilitation application and were not selected, you will need to submit a new application to be considered again. Applications do not automatically roll-over to the next year.

You must meet all the eligibility requirements and fill out the Home Rehabilitation application to be considered. This program is offered to all Southern Ute Tribal members. (those who reside within AND outside of Southern Ute Indian Tribal land). Once the selection panel meets and makes its decision, you will be notified in writing if you were selected for the 2024 Home Rehabilitation Program.

Please contact Construction Services Division for applications. If you have any questions, you can email us at dabeyta@southernute-nsn.gov or call 970-563-0260.

Thank you, Construction Services Division

Southern Ute Digital Equity Program (SUDEP)

“Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI)”

Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024
Time: 9am – 5pm

Southern Ute Growth Fund
14929 HWY 172
Ignacio, CO, 81137

Call: 970-563-5555 to sign up. Seating is limited and open to Southern Ute Indian Tribal Members.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

*This one-day course will provide you with the fundamentals of AI, how AI learns from data on the web, AI Ethics, the impact AI has on humans and the environment around us. Training taught by San Juan College.

DURANGO FILM
DURANGO INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL
escape. expand. explore.

19th Annual Durango Independent Film Festival
February 28 - March 3
durangofilm.org
970.375.7779



FREE EVENTS | NO PASS REQUIRED

Wednesday, February 28
FREE MOVIE NIGHT | 6:30 & 7pm
Durango Arts Center & Gaslight Twin Cinema | Seating is first come, first served.

sponsored by
BALLANTINE COMMUNICATIONS

Saturday, March 2
NATIVE LENS RECEPTION | 3-4:30pm
Sorrel Sky Gallery | 828 Main Ave. | Beverages; light appetizers by Farm to Fingers Grazing.

sponsored by
ROCKY MOUNTAIN PUBLIC MEDIA
RM PBS KUNOJAZZ THE ROCK

NATIVE LENS MEDIA FELLOWSHIP +
FILM EXPOSURE PROGRAM SHOWCASE
5pm Durango Arts Center | 802 E. 2nd Ave.



Native Lens, Vision Maker Media, and the Durango Independent Film Festival welcome the 2024 Native Lens Media Fellows: Jules Joe, Nika Arce, Eva Bear, Ellyse Fredericks, Evan Smith, Sommer Lopez, Tonya Tolino, Sierra Buffalohead, Tyler Socé.

The Native Lens Media Fellowship is a month-long series of workshops for American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians aged 18-24 who are interested in learning the crafts of video production and digital storytelling. Join the Fellows for the premiere of their short films followed by a screening of Indigenous documentaries from Native Lens and the Colorado Office of Film, Television and Media's Film Exposure Program.

The Film Exposure Program is a workforce development program that trains high school students to write, produce, film and edit a short film. "A Place to Explore" was created by Southern Ute youth filmmakers Elliott Hendren, DeWayne Hendren and Nathan Hendren in the summer of 2023.

We have 12 films in our Native Cinema Program. You can purchase passes at www.durangofilm.org, at Four Leaves Winery 2/26-3/2, or tickets at the theater (Durango Arts Center & Gaslight Twin Cinema).



Passes & Film Schedule at durangofilm.org

SOUTHERN UTE DIGITAL EQUITY PROGRAM (SUDEP)

Reminder: SUDEP has "Free" Dell Laptops (18+) & Chromebooks (under 18) for Southern Ute Tribal Members.

Visit: www.southernute-nsn.gov/SUDEP to receive a laptop. Once the questionnaire is completed and submitted - SUDEP will process your laptop request.

QUESTIONS OR TECHNICAL SUPPORT

970-563-5555

If shipping is required for your laptop a member of the SUDEP team will reach out to you. SUDEP requests that you pick up your laptop in a timely manner.



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

NOTICE TO PROBATE
In the Estate Of,
Case No.: 2024-0003-CV-PR
Kenneth Frost, Deceased

Notice to: Heirs, devisees, legatees, creditors and all other persons claiming an interest in said estate: The Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, Ignacio, CO: Greetings: Take notice that a petition has been filed in this cause, alleging that the above decedent died leaving certain assets, and asking for the determination of heirs of said decedent, the administration of said estate including the allowing of creditors of said decedent and for distribution thereof. You are notified that said cause will be set for hearing before the Tribal Court at the above address on **MARCH 19, 2024 at 9:00 AM**. All persons having claims against the above estate are required to file them for allowance with the Tribal Court at the stated address on or before the time and date of said hearing, as above set forth or said claims shall be forever barred and all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear and answer said Petition and offer evidence in support of their position. The Court will proceed to hear the matter at the date and time set above, or such later time to which the matter shall be continued and to make the determination therein necessary.

Dated this 8th of February, 2024.
Paula Trujillo, Deputy Court Clerk

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE
In the Legal Name Change of,
Aubrey Thompson, Civil Subject
Case No.:2024-0014-CV-NC

Notice is hereby given that Krislynn Thompson on behalf of Aubrey Thompson has filed an application for legal change of name, to be known hereafter as Aubrey Alivia-Rae Romero. Any person desiring to object to the granting of the petition may do so by filing an

objection in writing with the Clerk of the Court no later than **MARCH 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM**. If no objection is made, the Court will grant the legal name change.

Dated this 9th day of February, 2024.
BY THE COURT, Elizabeth Benally, Court Clerk

ORDER OF SERVICE OF PUBLICATION
Lillie Munoz, Authority, Plaintiff
v. Jose D. Lucero, Jr., Defendant
Case No.: 23-CV-124

This matter came before the court for a hearing on February 5, 2024, in the above-captioned matter. The Court hereby finds and orders:
1. Plaintiff Lillie Munoz appeared in court February 5, 2024. Defendant Jose D. Lucero, Jr. did not appear. However, Mr. Lucero had not yet been served with service of process.
2. Based on the statements made by Plaintiff and Bailiff Jack Frost, Jr. that Defendant Lucero, Jr.'s whereabouts are unknown, and the attempts to serve made by the bailiff, the Court FINDS reasonable efforts have been made to serve Defendant Lucero, Jr., but personal service has not been possible.
3. Therefore, the Court hereby ORDERS Defendant Jose D. Lucero, Jr. shall be served by publication pursuant to Southern Ute Indian Tribal Code ("SUTC") 52-1103(2)(d). Plaintiff shall cause notice of the complaint and exhibits, with notice of the next court hearing, to appear in the Southern Ute Drum, a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of the Defendant's last known address for three (3) consecutive publications, and shall return proof of such publication on or before the next hearing date.
4. This matter is set for hearing on **MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.**
Done and signed this 5th day of February, 2024.
By the Court, Paul W. Whistler, Tribal Court Judge

2024 FINANCE DEPARTMENT NOTICE
Early Cut-Off For Minors Birthday Distributions

Requests received after the published cut off will be processed the following week – please contact Anne Flanigan, 970-563-2454, aflanigan@southernute-nsn.gov if you have questions or want to make a withdrawal.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Distribution: Friday, March 25 | NOON, Friday, March 22 |
| • Distribution: Friday, June 21 | NOON, Friday, June 14 |
| • Distribution: Wednesday, July 3 | NOON, Friday, June 28 |
| • Distribution: Wednesday, Nov. 20 | NOON, Friday, Nov. 15 |
| • Distribution: Friday, Dec. 20 | NOON, Friday Dec. 13 |
| • Distribution: Friday, Dec. 27 | NOON, Friday Dec. 20 |

***Unless listed the cutoff for a Friday Minors Distribution is 5 p.m. on Tuesday.*

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



The KSUT Board of Directors is seeking a Southern Ute tribal member to serve on the Board of Directors. The tribal member does not have to live in the region and may attend board meetings remotely, as needed.

As a board member you will serve a three-year term, attend monthly meetings, and perform with decision-making in the best long-term interests of KSUT and the community of listeners, and other responsibilities of serving on the board of directors.

The KSUT Board of Directors meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in Ignacio at the Eddie Box Jr. Media Center. Meetings are open to the public, unless prior notice is given to allow members to conduct confidential station business.

To apply, submit a Letter of Interest to Tami Graham, KSUT Executive Director via email: tami@ksut.org or by mail P.O. Box 737, Ignacio, Colo., 81137. Questions, call 970-563-0255.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
Boards, Committees and Comissions Vacancies

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 website or by request from Mr. Bruce LeClaire at 970-563-2694 or bleclair@southernute-nsn.gov. Applications must be returned to Mr. LeClaire.

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. 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

The KSUT Board of Directors is seeking a Southern Ute tribal member to serve on the Board of Directors. The tribal member does not have to live in the region and may attend board meetings remotely, as needed. As a board member you will serve a three-year term, attend monthly meetings, and perform with decision-making in the best long-term interests of KSUT and the community of listeners, and other responsibilities of serving on the board of directors. KSUT Tribal Radio, www.tribalradio.org, is an affiliate of NativeVoice1, and can be heard in Southwest Colorado at 91.3 FM (Ignacio) and 100.9 FM (Towaoc), and in Northwest New Mexico at 89.7 FM. KSUT Four Corners Public Radio, www.ksut.org, serves 14 communities in the Four Corners, including Durango at 90.1 FM, Cortez 106.3 FM, Farmington and northern New Mexico at 88.1 FM, Pagosa Springs at 88.1 FM and Silverton at 91.1 FM. Both KSUT stations air news, eclectic music, entertainment, storytelling, and documentary programming, and are an affiliate of NPR, the BBC, American Public Media, and Public Radio International. The KSUT Board of Directors meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 5:30 P.M. at KSUT, 15150 Colo. Highway 172 in Ignacio. Meetings are open to the public, unless prior notice is given to allow members to

conduct confidential station business. If you are a Southern Ute tribal member and are interested in serving on the KSUT Board of Directors, submit a letter of interest to KSUT Executive Director, Tami Graham. Letters can be emailed to tami@ksut.org or mailed to PO Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137. Seat is open until filled. More information on the KSUT Board of Directors, including a current board list and recent board minutes can be found at: <https://www.ksut.org/ksut-board-of-director>

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.

TRIBAL CREDIT COMMITTEE

Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Tribal Credit Committee (“Committee”) is looking for eligible tribal member applicants to serve on the Committee. The appointment is for a three (3) year term. This is a compensated Committee, and you will be considered an employee of the Tribe, per IRS guidelines. Individuals seeking to serve on the Committee must demonstrate a reputation of personal integrity, dependability, honesty, a strong work ethic, and the ability to perform in a non-biased, confidential and fair manner. They must be familiar with the objectives of the Declaration of Policies and Plan of Operation – Tribal Credit Fund and must maintain good financial standing with the Tribe. Applicants must also pass criminal background and reference check, per the Tribal Credit Committee Bylaws. The primary purpose of the Committee is to evaluate and render decisions regarding Secured Home Loan applications and monitor and evaluate the Tribal Credit loan programs and make recommendations to Tribal Council. Some of the duties of the Tribal Credit Committee are: Approve loans as required by the Declaration of Policies and Plan of Operation – Tribal Credit Fund (“Declaration”); Monitor compliance with the Declaration; Monitor all approved loans for performance; Make recommendations to the Tribal Council on program revisions and updates regarding Committee operations; Maintain confidentiality, objectivity, and fairness in conducting all Committee business; Hold regular meetings and other special meetings, as needed; and Coordinate the Committee’s annual budget with Tribal Credit Staff. Interested Tribal Members are asked to submit a letter of interest to the Tribal Credit Committee, PO Box 737 #60, Ignacio, CO 81137 or by email to chudgens@southernute-nsn.gov. If you have any questions, please speak with Christine Hudgens, CFO, at 970-563-2444.

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.

FREE
Table Games
Dealer School

Tuesday, February 27 - April 4, 2024
3:30PM - 7:30PM
Classes: Tues, Wed and Thurs each week
Games taught will be Shoe Blackjack,
Three Card Poker and Roulette
Contact David Oelschlaeger to Register
970.749.6257 or david.oelschlaeger@skyutecasino.com
Must be registered prior to February 27!
Must be 21 years of age or older. Students who successfully complete the course will receive a dealer certificate, however, no employment is guaranteed for completion. Must complete full course to receive certificate.



The Southern Ute Election Board
is seeking two (2) Regular Board Members and
two (2) Alternate Board Members

The Election Board is a paid committee that follows IRS guidelines, and eligibility for Southern Ute Employee benefits are based on hours. A criminal background check is required and as an appointed official of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, you are subject to the Code of Ethics.

- 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
 - Shall not have been convicted of a misdemeanor involving dishonesty or fraud within five years immediately preceding the appointment

Please submit your Letter of Intent to:
Human Resources, PO Box 737 Ignacio, CO 81137
Physical Address: 356 Ouray Dr. Ignacio, CO 81137

Closing Date: Open until Filled

For more information, please contact Tribal Council Affairs at 970-563-2319 or email whyte@southernute-nsn.gov

- To apply please submit a Letter of Intent with the following:**
- Full Name
 - Contact Information (i.e. address, phone number, email address)
 - Date
 - It is suggested and helpful to include one or more of the following details:
 - Description of why you are a good fit for the position
 - Explanation of your motivation to join the Committee
 - List relevant experience
 - Outline ideas of how you can improve this committee
 - Disclosure of any other Boards/Committees you currently serve on



Southern Ute Indian Tribe • Job announcements

Visit the the tribe's website at 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

Assistant Cook

Closes 2/23/24 – Assisting the Head Cook and Food Service Manager to facilitate all kitchen food service preparation and cleaning duties at the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy. Pay grade N5; Pay starts at \$14.90/hour.

Associate Internal Auditor

Closes 2/29/24 – Under general supervision, performs beginning level professional internal auditing procedures for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe of routine difficulty involving a variety of auditing tasks that include, assessing risk, and identifying control deficiencies, unnecessary spending, and inefficient operations. In order to gain experience in the practical application of program auditing and government accounting, duties assigned are to familiarize employee with the more complex auditing work found at the next higher level; performs related work as assigned. Reports to the Director of Internal Audit and other internal audit personnel as assigned. Pay grade E14; Pay starts at \$64,155/annually.

Building Maintenance Technician

Closes 2/29/24 – Provides maintenance support, troubleshooting, installation, preventative maintenance, and repairs, including correcting safety hazards, in the Southern Ute Tribal Buildings. Pay grade N11; Pay starts at \$23.63/hour.

Chief Judge Apprentice (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Closes 2/23/24 – An apprentice position for a Southern Ute Tribal member to learn all the requirements and duties of the Chief Judge position in the Southern Ute Tribal Court. Mentoring, training, and all aspects of employee supervision will be performed by the current Chief Judge or delegate in accordance with SUIT Personnel Policies and Procedures. For purpose of employment, the successful candidate shall be classified as an apprentice. The Judicial Review Committee shall also provide insight, guidance, and recommendations when needed. The length of the trainee program is two years to five years depending upon experience and individual progress. Performance will be evaluated pursuant to the requirements of the Tribal Apprenticeship Program and annually with the Tribal Judicial Committee. The trainee will be eligible for wage increase based on performance evaluations and policies governing this position. Upon successful completion of the curriculum, incumbent will transition into the Chief Judge Lay position. Non-exempt and starts at 20% below a grade E22.

Teacher Aide

Closes 2/23/24 – Supporting the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA) through a variety of duties including providing classroom coverage and supervision of children in the After-School Program, being assigned to differing duties on an as-needed basis. Pay grade N4; Pay starts at \$14.67/hour.

Air Quality Scientist II – Enforcement

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Air Quality Division Head, the Air Quality Scientist II – Enforcement prepares, coordinates and tracks air quality enforcement order packages and provides subject matter expertise on technical and regulatory tasks within the Enforcement Section of the Tribal Title V Operating Permit program and Tribal Minor New Source Review program. Pay grade E16; Pay starts at \$77,627/annually.

Air Quality Scientist II – Permitting

Open Until Filled – 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/annually.

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.

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. Pay 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.

Deputy Court Clerk (Part-time w/benefits)

Open Until Filled – Provides professional clerical and program support to the Court system in a professional manner. Pay grade N10; Pay starts at \$21.89/hour.

Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – Under the general supervision of the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, performs a variety of complex and specialized work to preserve and protect Southern Ute Tribal resources and materials to include, but not limited to, cultural sites/lands, artifacts, funerary and sacred objects, and human remains. Completes all work in accordance with the Southern Ute Tribal Historic Preservation Plan and all associated process, procedures, and relevant codes and law. Pay grade E13; Pay starts at \$9,494/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.

Detention Transport Officer

Open Until Filled – 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 and 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.

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 E22; Pay starts at \$189,817/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. The length of this program is designed to last one (1) year but may be extended or reduced based on circumstances. Upon successful completion of training curriculum requirements, incumbent will assume the Dispatcher position. This 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/annually.

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.

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/annually.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCY

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS: SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY

Forestry Technician (Fire) GS-06/07

Apply online at USAJobs.gov:

Search for “Forestry Technician” in the Keywords text box and enter “Ignacio, Colorado” in the Location text box.

You may also scan the QR code:



Ignacio School District – Job announcements

Application/Information: 970-563-0500 ext. 221
Job descriptions and applications: www.ignacioschools.org/employment-cdac2310

- Title VI Native American Studies Teacher 2024/2025
- Secondary Aide
- Secondary PE Teacher 2024/2025

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Job Announcements, cont.

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.

Lands Technician Trainee (Southern Ute tribal members only)

Open Until Filled – A trainee position for a Southern Ute Tribal Member. The trainee will learn how to provide technical and clerical support to the Lands Division and provide general information to the Tribal Membership and public regarding land status issues, Crossing Permits, and general land management related issues. The length of this program is designed to last one (1) year but may be extended or reduced based on circumstances. This position will start at 20% below entry level for a grade N8 and receive quarterly evaluations and pay increases to assure that key goals are met. Upon successfully completing the training curriculum, the incumbent will assume the Lands Technician position.

Lifeguard (Part-time)

Open Until Filled – Lifeguard activities at the Community Recreation Center swimming pool, in accordance with the guidelines established and approved by Fitness Director and/or Community Center Director. Pay grade N5; Pay starts at \$14.90/hour.

Museum Director

Open Until Filled – Leading overall operations, and day-to-day management of the museum. Plans, develops, coordinates, implements, and evaluates all aspects of the museum's activities and operations, including public relations, marketing, and promotional aspects. Primary responsibilities including following the Museum's statement, strategic planning, implementing policies, developing programs, budget management, and identifying new funding sources. Pay grade E18; Pay starts at \$99,984/annually.

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 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.

Project Manager – Construction

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Housing Department Director, incumbent assists in the management and coordination of all functions and activities required to initiate, manage, and complete all phases of construction related and other various projects. Will assist the Department in delivery of professional project management and support services to the Tribe. Pay grade E19; Pay starts at \$114,968/annually.

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.

Swimming Instructor (Part-time)

Open Until Filled – Under supervision of Aquatics Manager, instructs American Red Cross individual and group swimming lessons at the SunUte aquatics facility. Preparation of class, instruction of individuals, breakdown of equipment, and all documentation associated with SunUte individual swimming lessons and the American Red Cross. Pay grade N7; Pay starts at \$17.37/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; Salary 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 SunUte 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 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. *21 years or older to apply.

*Café Cashier – Shining Mountain (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 Cafe 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.

*Event Set Up (Full-time)

Assisting in set-up, serving, tear down, clean-up, and re-set of events in all Banquet areas. Will act as a guest service representative at Banquets and related events. Achieve and maintain the highest level of guest service as well as maintaining professional interactions, safe working conditions, and teamwork.

*Facilities Staff Level II (Full-time)

Reports to the Facilities Supervisor on shift. Operation of equipment, environmental condition and appearance of the facility and grounds. Cleanliness, maintenance and repair of the facility, equipment, and building.

*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. 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.

*Ground 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.

*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.

*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.

*Retail Staff (Full-time)

Opening, operating, and closing the Gift Shop and Tix System. Provides excellent customer service to Casino guests and customers. Maintains a well-stocked, clean, and attractive retail environment.

*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.

*Senior Facilities Staff (Full-time)

Reports to the Facilities Supervisor on shift. Operation of equipment, environmental condition and appearance of the facility and grounds. Cleanliness, maintenance and repair of the facility, equipment, and building.

*Slot Floor Person/Attendant (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.

Southern Ute Growth Fund • Job announcements

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

Natural Gas Operator – Southern Ute Growth Fund Utilities (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 3/1/24 – Operation and maintenance of the Southern Ute Natural Gas system and assists with the day-to-day operation of other Utilities tasks.

Senior Project Engineer – Red Cedar Gathering Company (Durango, CO)

Closes 3/1/24 – Providing engineering and project management related to the planning, design, cost estimating, detailed scheduling, AFE development, procurement specifications, and construction handover packages of new facilities. Optimization of existing Company facilities for the gathering, compression, treating, and processing of natural gas while working closely with the Operations staff to help ensure existing facilities are safe, in regulatory compliance, efficient and reliable.

Project Engineer – Red Cedar Gathering Company (Durango, CO)

Closes 3/1/24 – Providing engineering and project management related to the planning, design, cost estimating, detailed scheduling, AFE development, procurement specifications, and construction handover packages of new facilities. Optimization of existing Company facilities for the gathering, compression, treating, and processing of natural gas while working closely with the Operations staff to help ensure existing facilities are safe, in regulatory compliance, efficient and reliable.

Joint Interest Billing accountant II – Red Willow Production Co (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 3/8/24 – Performs assignments pertaining to the review and recording of transactions into the general ledger that pertain to outside operated properties and the joint interest billings for partners in Red Willow’s oil and gas exploration operations.

Joint Interest Billing accountant III – Red Willow Production Co (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 3/8/24 – Reviewing and recording transactions into the general ledger that pertain to outside operated properties and/or prepare the joint interest billings for partners in Red Willow’s oil and gas exploration operations. Must have a working knowledge of the joint interest process and be able to apply analytical skills to complete complex accounting assignments.

Financial Business Technology Analyst – GF Accounting & Finance (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 3/8/24 – Will administer, develop, maintain, and provide all aspects of the Growth Fund’s financial planning software; Provides financial planning systems expertise for the department and other Growth Fund entities as needed.

Financial Reporting Accountant – GF Accounting & Finance (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 3/22/24 – Assisting in the monitoring, compliance, and implementation of applicable issued accounting, reporting, and auditing pronouncements. Assists in the research and compilation of written technical accounting positions related to complex accounting issues and transactions (according to FASB, and generally accepted accounting principles). Supports the planning and reporting processes related to the monthly management reporting, and the annual external and internal audits.

Financial Reporting Manager – GF Accounting & Finance (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 3/22/24 – Supports all aspects of routine and non-routine accounting, auditing, and reporting processes and projects; reviews and analyzes FASB accounting pronouncements, and determines the impact on Growth Fund business entities; serves as an accounting expert in advising Growth Fund management, Controller and business entities on complex accounting issues. Assisting in the development of Growth Fund accounting policies.

Southern Ute Shared Services • Job announcements

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

Network Administrator – So. Ute Shared Services (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 3/8/24 – Enterprise network maintenance, troubleshooting, and issue resolution. Add/move/changes in all voice and voice mail systems. Assists network group and Senior Network Administrator with managing information systems, servers, routers, and other network infrastructure appliances.

Ute Mountain Ute Personnel Dept.

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

Employment Announcements as of Feb. 16, 2024

- Tribal Parks, Secretary – Closes 3/1/24
- Child Development Center, Child Care Development Fund Administrator – Closes 3/1/24
- Brunot Wildlife, Animal Control Officer – Open Until Filled
- Brunot Wildlife, Wildlife Officer – Open Until Filled
- Child Development Center, Education Manager – Open Until Filled
- Diabetes, Diabetes Nurse – Open Until Filled
- Energy, Director – Open Until Filled
- Higher Education, Adult Education Instructor – Open Until Filled
- KCA, Elementary Teacher (1) – Open Until Filled
- KCA, Ute Language and Culture Teacher – Open Until Filled
- Public Health, Director – Open Until Filled
- Public Health, Community Health Nurse – Open Until Filled
- Public Health, Community Health Representative – Open Until Filled
- Public Safety, Security Officer – Open Until Filled
- Public Safety, White Mesa – IPA Police Officer – Open Until Filled
- Public Safety, EMT Paramedic/ Fire Fighter I / I & II– Open Until Filled
- Public Safety, EMT-B IV/ Fire Fighter – Open Until Filled
- Public Works, Director – Open Until Filled
- Public Works, P/T Relief Propane Delivery Driver – Open Until Filled
- THPO, Contract Administrator – Open Until Filled
- Tribal Parks, P/T Maintenance Worker – Open Until Filled
- Ute Counseling, Director – Open Until Filled
- White Mesa Education, Public School Lead Liaison – Open Until Filled

SoCoCAA Job Opportunities

To apply now, visit our website at www.sococaa.org or call 970-563-4517.

Ignacio Early Learning Program

- Substitute Teacher: \$15.79/hr., Open Until Filled
- Teacher: \$18.94 – \$20.76/hr., Open Until Filled

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)

Multisystemic Therapy (MST)

- Community Based Therapy: \$51,917 – \$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.)



JOIN OUR TEAM

Do you have experience providing quality customer service? Do you thrive under pressure? If you're looking for a rewarding role with great benefits, this is the career for you.

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- ✓ Paid Holidays, PTO, and Retirement
- ✓ Employee Assistance & Wellness Programs



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durangoco.gov/jobs



The 2024 Southern Ute Calendar, now available for purchase while supplies last!



Wildlife of the Nuche



2024 Southern Ute Calendar

Come into the Southern Ute Tribal Information Services or The Southern Ute Drum offices to purchase the 2024 calendar, \$10 each, while supplies last! Contact TIS at 970-563-2208 or the Drum at 970-563-0118 for more information.

COMEBACK CRUSHES 'CATS • FROM PAGE 13

Trey Hall then put M-CHS up 38-37 with 2:32 remaining. Valdez used a timeout, but ten ticks later Ambrose Valdez fouled out – a certain blow to the boss' backcourt configuration.

"Late in the game ... that's when you go to your seniors who can handle the ball – like they did," Chris Valdez said, alluding to M-CHS' reliance upon Wheat and Easton Hartsoe, enhanced by Trey Hall's sudden eight-point impact during the fourth quarter. "They spread us out late in the game and they were able to go one-on-one against us, beat some of our younger kids, and ... we were pushing the pace when we didn't have to, doing things that we don't have to do."

After Valdez's exit, Wheat fed Hall cutting through the paint for an easy layup and 40-37 lead, and Montezuma-Cortez all but secured a road win with only 34.6 ticks left. After Hall swatted away a Phillip Quintana three-point try, Wheat came to possess the rock at the other end of the court and draw a foul while shooting. Making his first FT but missing the second, Wheat outthustled all to collect the rebound for a deuce swelling the Panthers' lead to a sufficient and shocking 45-38 before IHS clipped it to a final 45-40.

"We got a lead we should be protecting ... and making them come to us," Chris Valdez said. "That's going to create one-on-ones for Cox ... and we didn't do that. Threw some bad passes here and there, I made some decisions I probably shouldn't



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio senior Devante Montoya (11) dribbles low to maneuver around Montezuma-Cortez's Tay Wheat (4) Thursday night, Feb. 15. It was the last regular-season game for both teams.

have, personnel-wise – we all took parts of the responsibility, and we're going to move on."

7-of-11 from the charity stripe, Wheat ended up totaling a game-high 22 points. Hall finished with nine, Oliver and Easton Hartsoe each booked five and Trace Hartsoe four as M-CHS improved to 7-12 overall, 4-6 in 3A/4A Intermountain League action after sweeping the scheduled home-and-home with Ignacio (7-12, 2-8).

Cox scored 13 points in defeat while Pargin ended up with nine, Webb six, Burcham and Quintana five each, and Montoya two as the Bobcats will go into the IML District Tournament on an unlucky three-game slide.

"Most likely we'll be playing Bayfield," said Valdez, pondering a pigtail-game pairing, "unless something happens, and we stay ahead of Cortez in the RPI – I can't really imagine that happening. We've got to figure out a way to make

sure we play until the end of a game."

Indeed, the Bobcats were to host the Wolverines on Tuesday, Feb. 20, but results were unavailable at press time. Bracket play in the IML District Tournament will begin Friday the 23rd inside BHS Gymnasium. The Panthers, meanwhile, will next play there on the 23rd at 6:30 p.m. versus postseason inclusion Crested Butte, normally of the 3A/2A Southern Peaks League.

"Early on in league we got thumped a little bit, then the second half of league we've played a lot better against the bigger schools ... competed with them," Hall said, assessing his team's play-off readiness. "And we've beat (both) Bayfield and Ignacio twice, and that's been here at the end – so I think momentum is in our favor. And I told the boys, if we can start peaking at the end of the season things will be good for us. You know, I'm pretty excited how things are right now."

M-CHS GOES WIRE-TO-WIRE • FROM PAGE 13



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio junior Marissa Olguin (left) tries keeping the ball safely away from Montezuma-Cortez's Trenity Tillahash (5) during IHS' 58-44 home loss Thursday evening, Feb. 15. It was the last regular-season game for both teams; Olguin's 15 points paced IHS offensively.

cio still trailing 49-38 it was just too little, too late for the Lady 'Cats in their regular-season home finale. Begay would net one more two-pointer, senior Kayce Tom was accurate on two mid-range jumpers, and Whited nailed her third three in helping the visitors prevail 58-44.

"One of the things we'd worked on the past couple days is execution," said Wright. "We've been without (injured senior) Savannah Haselroth – she leads us in so many things on our team, as well as composure – so for the girls to pull together and actually execute, play the game ... I'm really proud of them."

Whited finished with

15 points for Montezuma-Cortez (10-9 overall, 6-4 3A/4A Intermountain), equaling Olguin's count for tops in the contest. Held scoreless in the first quarter, Jones then tallied eight in the second en route to totaling 14 points, and Begay ended up with an even dozen. Tom booked eight points, Jackson five and Ogo four.

Ever problematic in the paint, Cosio managed to also reach double figures for Ignacio (7-12, 3-7 IML) by logging 12 points. Mendoza-Lechuga scored seven, and junior DaLaney Wesner ended the game banking in a running mid-range shot from the right wing, giving her six points.

Senior Lauren deKay and sophomore Alyssa Atencio each chipped in two as the Lady 'Cats – minus senior Maci Barnes, out due to a recent gruesome finger injury – suffered a fourth straight setback.

"We still didn't do a very good job of handling Soly; she was a bear!" Wright said. "And then once they'd get it into Soly, we'd collapse but they're really good at kicking it out – and they've got great shooters."

Up next for both IHS and M-CHS will be the IML District Tournament, to be held Feb. 23-24 in Bayfield. And as it turns out, the crews will go head-to-head on Day 1 of the event at 5 p.m.

We need a little ICL Dewey appreciation

Have you seen our Library on the Move, out and about? Catchup with him this Wednesday around the TARA Community Center 10 – 12 p.m., Spring Creek Hall area 1 p.m., and Quich Apartments area around 3:30 p.m.

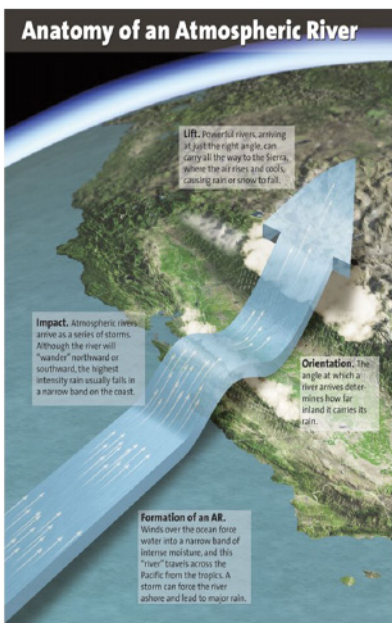


Did you know?

An atmospheric river is a plume of moisture, or water vapor, that moves from the tropics and is dumped over a region as heavy rain or snow. These powerful rivers of water vapor can carry twice as much moisture as the Amazon River and extend for hundreds of miles. Once they cross land, their accompanying storms can trigger flashfloods and mudslides.

The most recent Atmospheric River snowfall event (Feb. 7th-11th) swept through Southwest Colorado, which left measured snow totals up to 36 inches on Wolf Creek, 18 inches in Silverton, and 6 inches in Durango. Several mountain passes, such as Red Mountain, Wolf Creek, and Lizard Head pass were shut down for avalanche mitigation throughout the snow storm event.

Source & Image: Atmospheric River.pdf (weather.gov)
Source: <http://durangoweatherguy.com>



LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Friday, Feb. 23



Sunny 52°F
Calm afternoon winds

Saturday, Feb. 24



Mostly sunny 54°F
Light afternoon winds

Sunday, Feb. 25

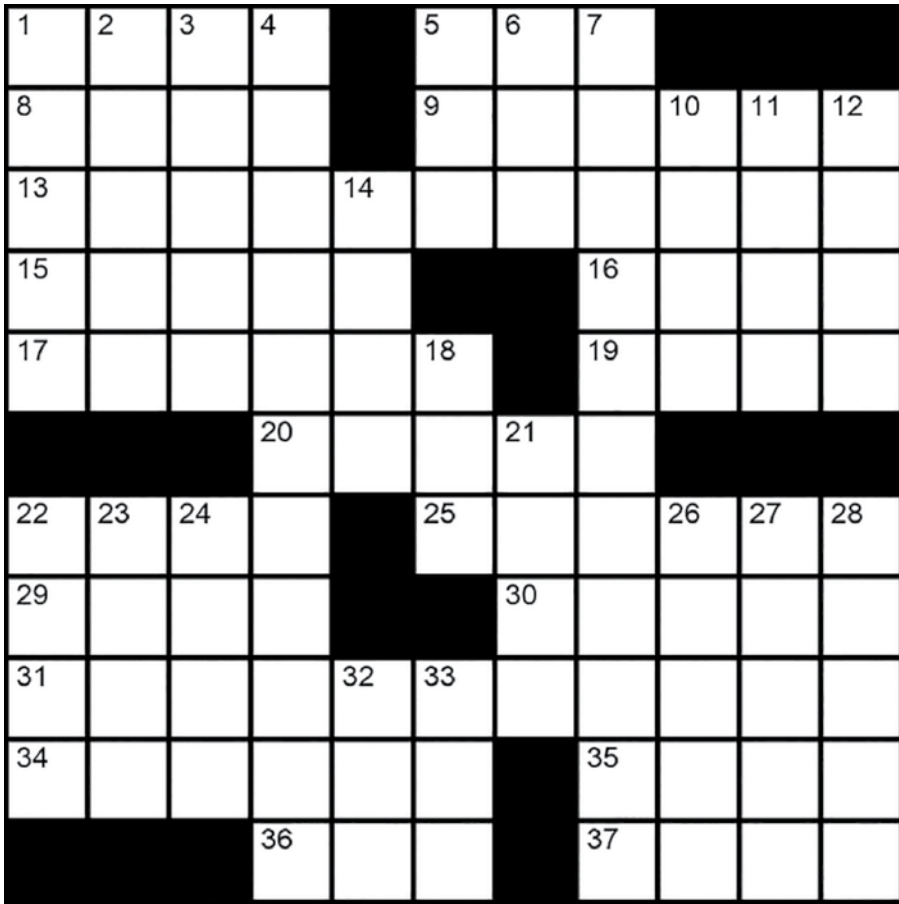


Partly sunny 57°F

Weather forecasts collected from www.weather.gov



The Southern Ute Drum's Crossword Puzzle



Across

- "Two Mules for Sister ---" (Clint Eastwood classic)
- Spanish spouse
- At a distance
- AOL nut runs amok in the largest state
- Seven-mile-long community area on the Chicago waterfront
- Mutual promise to marry
- Bandit's take
- Member of graduating class
- "... take arms against --- of troubles" (Hamlet)
- Crazy Horse, for example
- Montreal Protocol concerns
- Eponymous massacre man
- Israeli flag-carrier
- Naomi goes mad in the Arabian Peninsula
- Teacher's homework
- Conical quarters
- Escaping fluid
- Digital payment
- "Lord of the Rings" tree people

Down

- Sodium chloride and others
- Hot, hot, hot
- Talked nonstop
- Native Association, north of 58 ~ degrees N
- George Carlin was its first host in October 1975
- Series of shows
- Assertive woman
- Penlight batteries
- Correct
- Sooner State
- "I sense bad news"
- Outer edge
- Federal body aiming to ensure fair and inclusive workplaces
- "Dead ---" (Dick Francis novel)
- Run off
- Short sleeveless cloak
- "Raiders of the Lost Ark" actress --- Allen
- Go on until
- Insurers cover them
- Football official
- Hanoi holiday

Answers will appear in the March 8 issue of the Drum.

Answers for Feb. 9 Crossword Puzzle

Across: 1 Etc, 4 Chad, 8 Palm, 10 Head up, 12 Irae, 13 Ossify, 14 Cordova, 16 Our, 17 Stainer, 18 SSE, 19 Apnea, 21 AMC, 24 Awatovi, 28 SEO, 29 Tenures, 30 Ampere, 32 Rill, 33 Post-op, 34 Nome, 35 Seal, 36 Nat.

Down: 1 Epics, 2 Tarot, 3 Clara, 4 Cesarean, 5 Has, 6 Adios, 7 Dufus, 9 Media, 10 Hovenweep, 11 Pyre, 15 On patrol, 20 A turn, 21 Asap, 22 Memos, 23 Copse, 25 Orion, 26 Velma, 27 Islet, 31 ETA.