



Golden students visit Tribe

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Drum wins nine SPJ awards

PAGE 12

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Southern Ute Drum multimedia features now on Vimeo



courtesy Fort Lewis College

Heather J. Shotton, Ph.D., 11th President of Fort Lewis College stands on Rim Drive, overlooking the town of Durango and surrounding mountains.

FORT LEWIS COLLEGE

FLC appoints Shotton as FLC's next President

Shotton first Indigenous person to lead the institution

Staff report
FORT LEWIS COLLEGE

The Fort Lewis College Board of Trustees has unanimously appointed Heather J. Shotton, Ph.D., as the institution's 11th president, marking a historic milestone as she becomes the first Native American to hold the position.

Shotton, a nationally recognized scholar and higher education leader, has over 20 years of experience in academic leadership, student success, and institutional transformation.

For the past three years, she's been part of the executive leadership team at FLC. "Dr. Shotton brings a wealth of experience and a deep understanding of Fort Lewis College, our community, and our strategic priorities," Board Chair Janet Lopez said. "She has been a trusted adviser across campus and helped guide institutional strategy during pivotal moments. We are confident in her leadership and vision for the future."

"I'm profoundly honored to lead Fort Lewis College," Shotton said. "I'm inspired by the opportunity to work alongside our dedicated faculty and staff, and I'm deeply committed to building a

future grounded in belonging, access, and academic excellence for every student we serve.

"This is such a powerful moment for me personally, but also for my family, my community, our students, and our community here at Fort Lewis College. I have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of support across campus from community members and the excitement of our students. I recognize this is a historic moment for Fort Lewis College and am excited about what the future holds."

As Vice President of Diversity Affairs at FLC, Shotton has played a pivotal role in advancing a culture of belonging and enhancing student access and success. In addition to her work in diversity affairs, she serves as Acting Dean of Student Engagement, overseeing more than 70 staff members supporting student well-being and success.

Shotton, an enrolled citizen of the Wichita & Affiliated Tribes and a descendant of the Kiowa and Cheyenne Tribes, boasts a career that has included leadership roles at small liberal arts colleges and large public research universities. Before joining FLC, she served

as Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership & Policy Studies at the University of Oklahoma.

Shotton's nationally recognized scholarship has been instrumental in advancing culturally responsive practices and policies for Indigenous students. As Board President of the National Indian Education Association (NIEA), she led national advocacy efforts to strengthen educational outcomes for Indigenous communities. Her work has earned numerous accolades, including the Mildred García Senior Scholar Award from the Association for the Study of Higher Education and Educator of the Year from the NIEA.

From small town to FLC

Shotton grew up in Davis, Okla., a town of fewer than 3,000 people, and is a self-described middle child with "first-born energy."

A first-generation college graduate, Shotton said her mother instilled in her the value of education, and her father fostered a passion for knowledge and creativity. While going to college was always an expectation,

FLC Shotton page 8



Summer Begay/SU Tribal Council Affairs

Chairman Melvin J. Baker, Tribal Council, Royalty, and the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council, alongside State and Tribal leadership from the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe were in attendance with state legislators, community members, and Tribal members last week in Denver.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Ute Day at the Capitol: Ute Tribes and State of Colorado strengthen government-to-government relationship

By Summer Begay
SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFAIRS

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe were honored at the Colorado State Capitol during the annual Ute Day on Thursday, April 3, an event that celebrates the deep-rooted and enduring relationship

between the Ute Tribes and the State of Colorado.

Hosted by Governor Jared Polis and Lt. Governor Dan Claitor, Chair of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, this important gathering brought together Tribal and state leadership, youth representatives, legislators, and Tribal members to reaffirm their commitment

to collaboration, respect, and shared goals.

"The relationship between the State and the Ute Tribes of Colorado is critical to ensuring that every Coloradan, especially members of Tribal communities, can thrive," Governor Polis said. "For generations, Col-

Ute Day page 2

SOUTHERN UTE HEALTH CENTER

Spotlight on Tribal Health: Marlena Valdez

Staff Report
Southern Ute Health Center

My name is Marlena Valdez; I am a Diné from Northern Arizona. I've lived and worked in the community of Ignacio for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe since 2008. I work at the Southern Ute dental clinic as a receptionist/scheduler. I have worked for the Dental Clinic for the past five years. As a front desk person, I answer phone calls, schedule appointments for patients, check insurance, submit pre-determinations, send referrals, as well



Marlena Valdez
Receptionist/Scheduler
Dental Clinic

as build the schedule for our dentists.

My day-to-day duties ensure that our office runs smoothly, so we can provide our best, and most immediate services to patients and Tribal members that need care. I do my best to ensure that all our patients are a priority, and when they leave, they feel like superstars. I make sure our patients feel safe during the entirety of their visit, as we know sometimes visiting the dentist can feel scary. We all have a common goal here, and that's to help our

Spotlight page 5

A community Easter



Little Miss Southern Ute Alternate, Olivia Watts gives out small prizes to participants during the younger group's easter egg hunt.

See Easter Egg Hunt photo coverage on page 11.

Krista Richards/SU Drum

UNLV: Powwow for the Planet



Zuriah Baker/Special to the Drum

UNLV Powwow Princess, Amaia Marcos stands next to Southern Ute Royalty. Pictured left to right – Little Miss Southern Ute, Malia White Thunder; Jr. Miss Southern Ute, Leandra Litz; and Miss Southern Ute, Malenia Carel pose next to Tule River Powwow Princess, Neela Samoya and Jr. Miss Tule River Powwow Princess, Willow Garfield. The Powwow for the Planet was held at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, Nev.

See UNLV photo coverage on page 13.

UTE DAY AT THE CAPITOL • FROM PAGE 1



Summer Begay/SU Tribal Council Affairs

Ute Day at the Capitol was a powerful testament to the enduring legacy and vibrant culture of the Nuuchiu. This gathering not only celebrated the rich history of the Ute people, but also reinforced the shared commitment to building strong, collaborative partnerships for the future.

orado has had an open, productive, and beneficial relationship with Tribal governments, and today, we celebrate those important connections and further strengthen our collaboration. I thank the Tribal leaders and community members who traveled to the Capitol today to share experiences, collaborate on solutions, and continue our long legacy of respect and open dialogue.”

From the Tribe’s perspective, the event served as an important platform to share cultural knowledge, affirm sovereign values, and build meaningful relationships with Colorado’s elected officials.

“This day provides a valuable opportunity to foster greater understanding and

strengthen the bonds between our Tribe and the State of Colorado,” Chairman Melvin J. Baker said. “We welcome the chance for all to learn more about our Tribe, sovereignty, rich culture, and our ongoing commitment to self-determination, as we cultivate a strong working relationship with the State for the benefit of all.”

Chairman Baker and Tribal Council expressed appreciation for the opportunity to meet with state legislators to build and maintain respectful, government-to-government relationships. The presence of Southern Ute Royalty and members of the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council added significance to the day, as they represent the next generation of

leaders committed to carrying forward the legacy and strength of the Pino Nuuchiu.

Tribal leaders also extended their gratitude to local elected officials, state partners, and Tribal members who joined in the day’s events. The celebration concluded with a community lunch at History Colorado, where Tribal youth shared presentations that reflected their unique perspectives, cultural pride, and commitment to the future of their communities.

This day served not only as a reminder of the historical and present-day partnership between the Tribes and the State, but also as a testament to the power of unity, respect, and shared purpose.



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

The sixth grade Shooting Stars traveling basketball team (left to right) Avaleena Nanaeto, Monica Lucero, Jayden and Lacey Brunson, from Ignacio held a fund raiser, selling breakfast burritos, to raise money to compete in different tournaments throughout the year. The homemade burritos sold out in 20 minutes.

This photo was first published in the April 17, 2015, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Beth Santistevan/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

Bobcat senior first baseman Justin Gilbert reacts to the crack of the bat during a game against Bloomfield, Thursday, April 6 at the SunUte baseball field.

This photo was first published in the April 15, 2005, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.

Colo. Board of Veterans Affairs



photos Krista Richards/SU Drum

The Southern Ute Veterans Association posted the colors for the Colorado Board of Veterans on Friday, April 4 at the Sky Ute Casino Resort.



Yellow Jacket sang an honor song during the opening ceremony of the board meeting for the Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs.



The Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Colorado Board of Veteran Affairs board member, Howard Richards Sr., and the Southern Ute Veterans Association invited the Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs to the Sky Ute Casino, Friday, April 4 for their third meeting of the year, marking the first time the board has been to a Tribal reservation and got to hear first-hand from veterans about the problems they have.

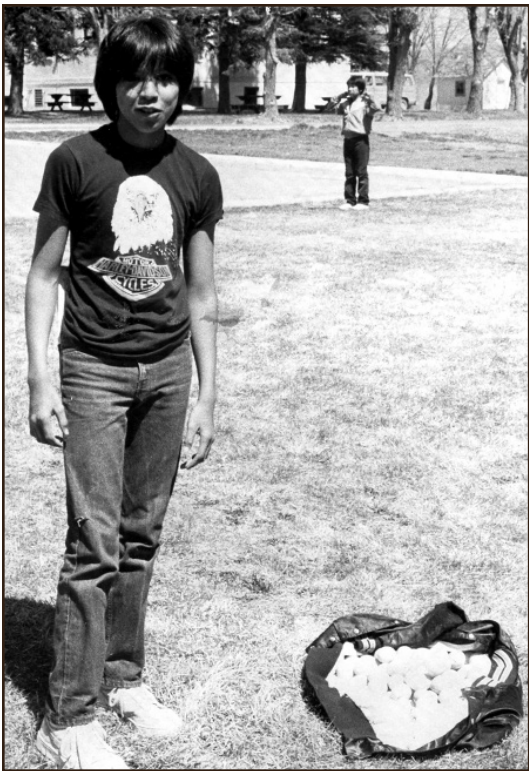
30 years ago

Council inspects Wildlife Dept. Raph Watts and Norma Rowe look on as Chairman Burch inspects a firearm. Councilors then attended a department retreat. Scott’s Pond, the bison herd, and proposed controlled burn areas were toured.

This photo was published in the April 14, 1995, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



John Rehorn/SU Drum archive



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Easter has past – but for what it’s worth, Emmet Frost found the most colored eggs in his age category. Emmet found 116 colored eggs, which was part of the Easter party held April 6 at the Southern Ute Community Center.

This photo was published in the April 19, 1985, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Bittersweet farewell for Atencio



photos Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Longtime friend and former colleague, Garrett Briggs shares heartfelt wishes for Cassandra Atencio as she transitions into a new chapter in her life, his tearful stories warmed hearts and brought out the tissues. Atencio plans to focus on her personal life and spend lots of time with her family, more specifically her grandchildren.

During her tenure in the Tribal Historic Preservation Office and Native American Graves & Repatriation Act, Cassandra Atencio has been a very knowledgeable cultural resource, she spent many years sharing Ute cultural teachings and educating many employees throughout the Permanent Fund, Growth Fund and Sky Ute Casino Resort. DOE Energy Manager, Andy Wetherell embraces Atencio and shares his gratitude for sharing her knowledge over the years.



NEW MEXICO

Nation’s leading Native Advocacy Group endorses Haaland

Staff report
NATIVE ORGANIZERS ALLIANCE
ACTION FUND

The nation’s leading Native advocacy group, Native Organizers Alliance Action Fund, a 501(c)(4) partner to Native Organizers Alliance, endorsed Deb Haaland for Governor of New Mexico. “Deb Haaland provides the kind of ethical, quietly powerful, and uniting leadership we need at this moment,” said Judith Leblanc (Caddo), Executive Director of Native Organizers Alliance Action Fund. “Her commitment to the issues that impact all of us, from the cli-

mate crisis to health equity, is so critical to protecting all who reside on these lands.”

During her tenure as Secretary of Interior, we, in Indian Country, saw the incredible impact that having representation at one of the highest levels of government can have. Under her leadership, we saw greater protections for the places we hold most sacred; heard an apology from the President for the harms caused by federal boarding schools; and saw a stronger Tribal-federal partnership, as federal agencies were ordered to do more to uphold Tribal sovereignty and strengthen the Tribal consultation process to ensure that development doesn’t happen on Tribal lands without the consent of tribes.

“Native women have always been strong leaders in our Indigenous communities,” Leblanc said. “Former Secretary Haaland follows in the footsteps of many Native women before her to provide the dedicated and caring leadership we all need. Native Organizers Alliance Action Fund is proud to endorse Deb Haaland for Governor of New Mexico. Rooted in her values of caring for our earth and all living beings, she is the kind of leader we need now more than ever.”

BEAR DANCE WORKSHOP

“Be aware. Be good to each other and do not bring any anger, hate, or jealousy to the sacred grounds.”

Bear Dance Chief, Matthew J. Box

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

10:00am - 12:00pm

Sky Ute Casino Event Center

14324 Hwy 172 North
Ignacio, Colorado 81137

Open to Tribal Members
& the Community



Questions, contact: Bear Dance Chief, Matthew J. Box | 970-563-2271
Vending, contact: Eugene Bereza | 970-563-2307

SOUTHERN UTE
BEAR DANCE

Open to the public

May 23-26, 2025

Bear Dance Grounds are located between Ute Road
and HWY 521 in Ignacio, CO

Bear Dance Corral Blessing: May 23 at 10am

Bear Dance Feast: May 26 at 12pm



Photo: History Colorado

“Be aware. Be good to each other and do not bring any anger, hate, or jealousy to the sacred grounds.”

Bear Dance Rules

No short dresses, baggy pants, or shorts while dancing.
Photography, video, and audio recording is strictly prohibited, except by members of the Ute Tribes.
No pets of any sort.
The Southern Ute Tribe will not be responsible for accidents, injuries, or theft.
The Pine River is RESTRICTED.

Questions, contact: Bear Dance Chief, Matthew J. Box | 970-563-2271
For camping/vending information, contact: Eugene Bereza | 970-563-2307

Celebrating with our Ute Sister Tribes
The Southern Ute
BEAR DANCE POWWOW
May 23 & 24, 2025

DRUM CONTEST
TOTAL PAYOUT
\$30,000
1st - 5th Place

GRAND ENTRY
Friday, May 23: 7 pm
Saturday, May 24: 1 pm & 7 pm

GOURD DANCE
Friday, May 23: 4:45 –6:30 pm
Saturday, May 24: 10 am – 12:30 pm &
5 – 6:30 pm

DANCE CONTEST
TOTAL PAYOUT
\$25,000

Sky Ute Casino Resort
Events Center
14324 Hwy 172
Ignacio, Colorado

REGISTRATION
Friday, May 23: 5 – 7 pm
Sat., May 24: 12 – 1 pm

HEAD STAFF
MC – Afrem Wall
Arena Director – Dorsey Dick
Head Judge: Hyrum Kanip
Drum Judge – Thomas Ridley
Head Gourd Dancer: Selwyn Whiteskunk
Gourd Drum Group: Southern Mountain Inter-Tribal – Alfred Wall, Jr.
Host Southern Drum: Yellow Jacket – Johnson Taylor
Host Northern Drum: Catching Eagle – Reggie Lopez

DANCE CATEGORIES

Golden Age (55+): Men & Women
Men (18-54 yrs.): Fancy, Grass, Northern & Southern Traditional
Women (18-54 yrs.): Fancy, Jingle, Northern & Southern Traditional
Teen Boys (13-17 yrs.): Fancy, Grass, Combine Southern & Northern Traditional
Teen Girls (13-17 yrs.): Fancy, Jingle, Combine Southern & Northern Traditional
Jr. Boys (6-12 yrs.): Fancy, Grass, Combine Southern & Northern Traditional
Jr. Girls (6-12 yrs.): Fancy, Jingle, Combine Southern & Northern Traditional
Tiny Tots (5yrs. & Under)

POWWOW COMMITTEE SPECIALS
• Old Ute Style – Traditional Women: \$1,000
• Old Ute Style – Traditional Men: \$1,000
Tribal Members Only & 1st Descendants

SOUTHERN UTE POWWOW COMMITTEE

• Rochelle Aguilar – Chairman: 970-759-1722
• Karen Washington – Vice-Chairman: 970-759-5880
• Carolyne Grey Eagle – Treasurer: 970-799-6268
• Kirsten Langmade – Recording Secretary: kirsten.autra@outlook.com
• Lisa Jackett – Committee Member: 970-560-1157
• Sherisa Valdez – Committee Member: 720-621-4117
• Marty Pinnecose: S.U. Councilman – Tribal Council Ex-Officio
For information contact Powwow Committee members.



DANCE AND DRUM CONTEST REQUIREMENTS
18 and up, with photo I.D. at time of registration. For payout purposes ONLY, MUST show your Social Security Card AND current valid State/and or Tribal I.D. with your address. You must also provide a current phone number.

ARTS & CRAFTS / FOOD VENDOR INFO
Registration & Fees: Sky Ute Casino Resort, Sales Dept.
970-563-3000 ext. 1753.

FREE CAMPING & SHOWERS
Sky Ute Fairgrounds 200 E. Hwy 151, Ignacio, CO 81137.
Contact: JayDee Brunson 970-563-5540.

OVERFLOW HOTEL
Sleep Inn Durango
Contact: Matt Charlie, 1260 Escalante Dr. Building A,
Durango, CO 81303, 970-844-1357
Check In: May 23, 2025 – Check Out: May 25, 2025
\$454.60. Double Queen Beds. Breakfast 6 a.m. – 10 a.m.,
Pool & Hot Tub, Fitness, Laundry Area, Walmart within
walking distance.

The Southern Ute Powwow Committee, Sky Ute Casino Resort, and Southern Ute Indian Tribe,
will not be responsible for accidents, theft, injuries, food borne illnesses or death.

Design: Robert L. Ortiz | SU Drum



MISS INDIAN BROKEN TRAIL
POW WOW

Whitehorse High School

MONTEZUMA CREEK, UTAH

MAY 2-3, 2025

MC: Mike Salabiye, Gallup, NM

Arena Director: Afrem Wall, Whiterock, UT

Head Man: Izaya Bob, Montezuma Crk., UT

Head Lady: Kolani Yazzie, Bluff, UT

Head Gourd Dancer: Andrew Frost, Montezuma Crk., UT

Host Northern Drum: Stone Creek Singers, Red Mesa, AZ

Host Southern Drum: Dził Dá Hízihi Singers, Teec Nos Pos, AZ



Color me ‘Greany’



photos courtesy Dominika Joy

Southern Ute Brave, Theoden Greany hosted a coloring contest at SUIMA on Ute Day. Although it was very difficult to select winners, there were so many artistic and creative pieces. These were the selected winners of the coloring contest: Clementine Carrillo, Rex Olguin, De’Vra Richards, and Symone Barry.



Thank you to all the students who entered the coloring contest. All of your art was beautiful. Thank you to Mari Jo and the staff at SUIMA for supporting the coloring contest and Theoden hopes to hold another coloring contest in the future.



Vietnam Veterans Powwow



photos courtesy Marie Carel

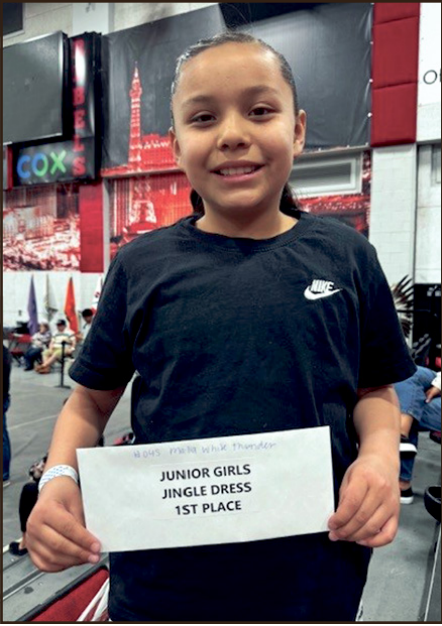
The Vietnam Veterans powwow princess pageant took place, Saturday April 5, in Fort Duchesne, Utah. Pictured are Miss Southern Ute, Maleina Carel, the newly crowned Vietnam Veterans Powwow Princess Kohlea “Bossy” Yazzie, the outgoing Vietnam Veteran’s Powwow Princess Alexzena Cesspooch, first attendant Aubrey Keeswood and the Eastern Shoshone Indian Days Queen, Malene Avila.



Miss Southern Ute, Maleina Carel and Southern Ute Veterans Association powwow princess, Jazlynn Jacket during the Saturday, April 5, Grand Entry at the Vietnam Veterans Powwow.

Miss Southern Ute, Maleina Carel with the UBIC tiny tots princess, Evanjolean Poowegup at the Vietnam Veterans Powwow in Fort Duchesne, Utah.

Powwow for the Planet winners



photos courtesy Heather White Thunder

Southern Ute Royalty attended the Powwow for the Planet at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, Nev., April 12-13. Shayne White Thunder – 1st place Junior girls traditional, Malia White Thunder – 1st place Junior girls jingle.

LET’S LEARN UTE

Mamakwanhkapu

Bear Dance

Wiaramu.

Let’s go. (dual)

’amu ’ara ’ini niaghatu?

What is your name?

’aghava kanigyetu?

Where do you live?

’amu ’ara ’ini Núuchi?

What tribe are you?



UTE LANGUAGE SURVEY

The Cultural Preservation Department is giving a Language Survey. Your feedback will be essential in guiding our future plans with the Ute language.



*Survey will close on 4/20/25

Questions, contact:
Dr. Stacey Oberly | 970-563-2986





HEALTHY RECIPES

Zucchini shrimp boats

By Lisa Smith, RDN, CLC
SHINING MOUNTAIN HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Try this easy, healthy recipe! To keep the cost down, buy what is on sale. Since the shrimp is cut up, you can use whatever size suits your pocketbook. The shrimp can be fresh or frozen.

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



courtesy Sittichai/Adobe Stock



Keiston GoodTracks-Alires/SU Drum

Alicia Rock and Adrienne Cuch proudly hold the ribbon dresses they made with the guidance of class instructor, Jennifer GoodTracks.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEE HEARD: Supporting youth through culture

By Tamara D. Turner
SOUTHERN UTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

“Culture is Prevention” is the theme of a critical federal grant that supports the Southern Ute Health Department’s Behavioral Health Division. By organizing creative, supportive and substance-free cultural events for youth, Behavioral Health aims to provide stability, encouragement – and most of all, FUN – at a time when many youth face challenges. We all remember what it was like to be a teenager – tensions with friends, maybe bullies, and peer pressure. One of the best things adults can do is give kids fun opportunities to engage their creativity, brain, and foster a sense of self-pride.

With the support from the Native Connections grant and thanks to the generous talent of Southern Ute elder, Jennifer Goodtracks, the Behavioral Health Division organized three ribbon-skirt making workshops in preparation for Bear Dance. All supplies, including high quality fabric, ribbons, and ongoing instruction, were provided free. Also helping support our events and activities is the 988 Grant through the Albuquerque Archaic Indian Health Board, who paid for all of the snacks. Each of these workshops took kids through the basics, such as how to use a sewing machine, and then supported them through the completion of their skirt. In the future, we



Keiston GoodTracks-Alires/SU Drum

Alicia Rock and Adrienne Cuch work on their ribbon dresses at the Multi-Purpose Facility.

hope to offer similar classes on ribbon shirts and shawls.

Tamara Turner, the Prevention Specialist with Behavioral Health, directing the Native Connections grant and pro-youth activities, has an arts background herself. “The arts got me through those tough times as a kid. They were a way to connect with others, express myself, and have a voice,” Turner said. “I want to make sure we provide opportunities for kids of all interests and backgrounds, not only athletics, although those are great too. With other Tribal departments such as KSUT, I’ve been working to support our youth through filmmaking workshops, hip hop and heavy metal music classes, an art mural coming up at the skate park, and more.”

Keep an eye out for future events. And please feel free to contact us with your suggestions if you have an idea to support the youth. 970-563-5700.

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.

SPOTLIGHT ON TRIBAL HEALTH • FROM PAGE 1

patients feel their best.

“Marlena fills an integral role for us at the Dental Clinic,” said Tribal Health Director, Lizette Langefels. “She not only provides kind and courteous service to our Tribal members, but she cares for and assists our staff. Marlena ensures all is in order as we move forward.”

“Marlena has great ideas, and she takes pride in her job. We look forward to growing with her in whatever way fits her best,” Langefels said.

My most memorable moment in working within the

Tribal Health Department is witnessing everyone pull together during the COVID-19 Pandemic, one of the most scariest times in all our lives. Watching everyone within the organization pull together to ensure that our patients stayed as healthy as possible, those moments gave me hope when all else seemed hopeless.

My favorite part of working within the Tribal Health Department, more specifically the Southern Ute Dental Clinic, is knowing that I have built good bonds with many patients, when I have patients who take time to

stop and talk with me for a minute to tell me about their day that is so rewarding—knowing that these patients feel comfortable with me.

I would like to give a shoutout to my husband Jeremiah Valdez and all of our babies for all their continued love and support.

Having worked for the Health Center previously, I’ve learned that having compassion, active listening, and being a shoulder to lean on gives our patients the confidence to continue their dental health care, and that is what I thrive to do. Ahe’hee’

SOUTHERN UTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PRESENTS
in collaboration with Southern Ute Vocational Rehabilitation and Tribal Information Services

3rd Annual RECOVERY RETREAT

MAY 17, 2025
8:00 am - 5:30 pm

SKY UTE CASINO RESORT
EVENTS CENTER
14324 HWY 172, Ignacio, CO 81137



GUEST PRESENTERS & ENTERTAINMENT
Lil Mike & Funny Bone
from ‘Reservation Dogs’



MikeBoneMedia.com

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Robert Ortiz

ALSO FEATURING
White Bison’s “The Hoop of 100 Eagle
Feathers & Forgiveness Staff”



FREE EVENT
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Adults 18 & Over
No childcare will be provided.
First 200 participants will receive a
free gift at the registration table.
Limited Booth space! Reserve now!

** THIS IS A SOBER EVENT! **

Looking for ways to enhance your recovery
journey or not sure where to start?

“Join us for a recovery-centered day with engaging
activities, presentations, and resources for all that
are on their recovery journey. Family and friends
are welcome as well.”

Breakfast & Lunch will be provided!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Marvina Olguin
marolguin@southernute-nsn.gov
or Preston Barry
pbarry@southernute-nsn.gov
or call 970-563-5700

Discounted room block using code:
RECOVERYRETREAT



988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE



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



Bison Irish Stew

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/SFMFMarch2025>
Sign-up Deadline: Monday, March 24, 2025
Pickup Date: Wednesday, March 26, 2025



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



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Measles case identified in Archuleta County: Staying informed and protected

By Summer Begay
SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL
AFFAIRS

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), Archuleta County Public Health Department (ACPHD), and the Silver Thread Public Health District have confirmed a case of measles in an adult resident of Archuleta County. We are sharing this information to ensure the Tribal membership is informed and can take proactive steps to protect themselves.

While measles is highly contagious, it is also highly preventable. The MMR vaccine (measles, mumps, and rubella) offers excellent protection. Two doses of

the MMR vaccine are about 97% effective in preventing measles. Vaccination is the most effective way to safeguard yourself, your family, and our community.

To make vaccination easily accessible, the Southern Ute Health Center is offering the MMR vaccine through Tribal Health. If you were born before 1957, you may already have immunity and not require the vaccine. If you are unsure about your immunity status or have any questions, please contact Tribal Health at 970-563-4581 for guidance.

We encourage everyone to be aware of measles symptoms, which can include:

- Fever
- Cough

- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash

Staying informed and taking proactive steps, such as vaccination, helps ensure our community's well-being. We are working diligently to monitor the situation and provide accurate information.

Additional Information
Archuleta County Public Health: <https://www.archuletacounty.org/776/Public-Health-Alerts>
Stay informed with CDPHE: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/diseases-a-to-z/measles>
General Information from the CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/index.html>

TRIBAL HEALTH

Zero provider turnover at Southern Ute Health Center

By Jeremy Wade Shockley
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

The Southern Ute Health Center (SUHC) currently has three full time providers and four part time providers, including a Pediatrician and an Internal Medicine provider. The SUHC has continued to maintain permanent staff of medical providers and has not staffed locum providers for the last five years. Locums are place holders, or temporary positions in the world of medical practice.

"We've had no provider leave in five years, which is exceedingly uncommon for a facility of our size," said Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Richard Keller.

Medical providers are defined as Nurse Practitioners and Physicians.

Historically the Southern Ute Health Center did have a high turnover and a large number of temp providers prior to 2020. "Our site has moved toward low turnover, as the rest of the healthcare world has gone toward higher turnover," Keller said.

SUHC has a total of seven healthcare providers on-site. This does not include physical therapy, behavioral health, dental, optometry, pharmacists, and visiting specialists.



McKayla Lee/SU Drum archive

"Everyone here has come over from Mercy, La Plata Family Medicine, Animas Surgical, most choose to be here, specifically to work here with this team at SUHC and with this group of patients," Keller said. "It creates an inertia, once you have two or three great people, you build a team."

Many providers come from urban areas, or larger medical facilities and can find themselves out of place in rural communities, such as Durango or Ignacio. "If you hire someone who already lives here, then you eliminate that variable," Keller said. "It's a great place to work and practice medicine. Our options for treatment, on site lab, X-ray and pharmacy are huge bonuses for patients and their provider."

Furthermore, if your providers are plugged into the

community, and have kids in the schools they are more likely to stick around, he explained.

Outcomes are dramatically better in places where patients receive the same person every time they come to see their provider ... additionally there is a high cost associated with physician turnover, both in terms of the financial outcomes and from a health perspective.

"A relationship of trust between provider and patient is the most fundamental piece to the healing relationships we hope to grow at the health center," Keller said when first assuming the responsibility as the Southern Ute Health Center's Chief Medical Officer in 2020.

"It takes people more than three or four years to say, 'I know and trust this person.'"

Did You Get Your Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccine?

What is the MMR Vaccine?

The MMR vaccine can prevent measles, mumps and rubella. Most people who get the MMR Vaccine are protected for life.

What is Measles?

Measles causes fever, cough, rash, runny nose and red, watery eyes. Complications can include ear infections, diarrhea, pneumonia, brain damage and death.

What is Mumps?

Mumps causes fever, headache, muscle aches, tiredness, loss of appetite, and swollen and tender salivary glands under the ears. Complications can lead to deafness, swelling of the brain and/or spinal cord, painful swelling of the testicles or ovaries, and rarely, death.

What is Rubella?

Rubella causes fever, sore throat, rash, headache, and red, itchy eyes. It can cause arthritis in half of teenage and adult women. If rubella is caught during pregnancy, it can result in a miscarriage or the baby could be born with serious birth defects.

Who should get vaccinated?

Children need 2 doses of the MMR vaccine:

- First dose: 12-15 months of age
- Second dose: 4-6 years of age

Adults who are not already immune to measles, mumps, and rubella should get at least 1 dose of MMR vaccine. Certain adults may need 2 doses. Your health care provider will help determine the number of doses needed.

For more information on MMR vaccination, please speak with your health care provider.

Keeping your Family Strong

Every family has strengths, and every family faces challenges. When you are under stress—the car breaks down, you or your partner lose a job, your child's behavior is difficult, or even when the family is experiencing a positive change, such as moving into a new home—sometimes it takes a little extra help to get through the day. Protective factors are the strengths and resources that families draw on when life gets difficult. Building on these strengths is a proven way to keep the family strong and enhance child well-being. This tip sheet describes six key protective factors and some simple ways you can build these factors in your own family.

Protective Factors and What It Means

Nurturing and Attachment:

- Our Family shows how much we love each other

Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development:

- I know parenting is part natural and part learned.
- I am always learning new things about raising children and what they can do at different ages.

Parental Resilience:

- I have courage during stress and the ability to bounce back from challenges.

What You Can Do

- Take time at the end of each day to connect with your children with a hug, a smile, or a few minutes of listening and talking.
- Find ways to engage your children while completing everyday tasks (meals, shopping, driving in the car). Talk about what you are doing, ask them questions, or play simple games (I spy).
- Explore parenting questions with your family doctor, child's teacher, family, or friends.
- Subscribe to a magazine, website, or online newspaper about child development.
- Take a parenting class
- Sit and observe what your child can and cannot do.
- Take quiet time to reenergize: take a bath, write, sing, laugh, play, drink a cup of tea.
- Do some physical exercise, stretch, dance.
- Share your feelings with someone you trust.
- Surround yourself with people who support you and make you feel good about yourself.

Measles

IT ISN'T JUST A LITTLE RASH

Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children.

MEASLES SYMPTOMS TYPICALLY INCLUDE

- High fever (may spike to more than 104° F)
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin

Measles Can Be Serious

About 1 out of 4 people who get measles will be hospitalized.

1 out of every 1,000 people with measles will develop brain swelling due to infection (encephalitis), which may lead to brain damage.

1 or 2 out of 1,000 people with measles will die, even with the best care.

You have the power to protect your child.

Provide your children with **safe and long-lasting protection** against measles by making sure they get the **measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine** according to CDC's recommended immunization schedule.

WWW.CDC.GOV/MEASLES

Protective Factors and What It Means

Social Connections:

- I have friends, family, and neighbors who help out and provide emotional support.

Concrete Supports for Parents:

- Our family can meet our day-to-day needs, including housing, food, health care, and counseling.
- I know where to find help if I need it.

Social and Emotional Competence of Children:

- My Children know they are loved, feeling they belong, and are able to get along with others.

What You Can Do

- Participate in neighborhood activities such as dinners, community events, powwows.
- Join online support group of parents with children at similar ages.
- Make a list of people or places for calling support.
- Ask Principle at child's school to host a Community Resource Night so parents can see what help your community offers.
- Dial 2-1-1 to find out about organizations that support families in your area.
- Provide regular routines, especially for young children. Make sure everyone who cares for your child is aware of your routines around mealtimes, naps, and bedtime.
- Talk with your children about how important feelings are.
- Teach and encourage children to solve problems in age-appropriate ways.

Angelina Whitehorse, Family Treatment Therapist SUIT DSS



Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy

TRANSITION CEREMONY

Soaring For 25 Years

May 23rd —2025—

8:30AM

Location: SunUte Community Center
(390 Mouache Dr, Ignacio, CO 81137)



Krista Richards/SU Drum archive

Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy's primary classroom and their families finished out their fun walk/run.

SUIMA

Pawaaghani po'okwatu – *Eagle's Nest*

Springtime at SUIMA

by Mari Jo Owens
SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN
MONTESSORI ACADEMY

Springtime has brought us blooming trees, daffodils, and rainy, sunny weather. It is a time we all look forward to. The students have been learning about plants, caring for seedlings in the grow dome, and some have been noticing butterflies.

On May 3, we invite parents to come and help us move mulch, topsoil, and sand as well as placement of playground equipment from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Food will be provided throughout the morning. Please bring wheelbarrows and tools if you are able.

With your help, we are going to enhance our playgrounds and care for our large elm tree.

Montessori Tidbits

Contrary to traditional schools, Montessori classrooms mix children from three age groups. Dr. Montessori pointed out that, with her method, the advantage of being able to teach in one room, children of different ages, provides leadership for the older students in the room. Children



Mari Jo Owens
Principal
Southern Ute Indian
Montessori Academy

are able to cooperatively work with one another as they play the roles that correspond to different social positions in the classroom community.

Additionally, the teacher and the child spend three years working together while forming a special relationship.

We view the Montessori

classroom as a community in which children of different ages cooperate instead of competing with one another. This inevitably leads to feelings of respect for each other and creates a productive work environment.

Naturally each position carries with it unique responsibilities. In general, the youngest child is the observer. The middle one has the pleasure of no longer being the youngest but is kept humble by the oldest child, who, in turn, tends to be the leader.

The multi-age classroom, therefore, sets the stage for a great amount of indirect learning. The various roles and responsibilities that the Montessori child can experience teaches them tremendous social skills. You can say, the multi-age classroom foreshadows what the child will one day experience in life.

Upcoming SUIMA events

- Every Friday: Early Release at 2 p.m.
- April 18: No school for students – staff workday
- April 22-25: Upper elementary students collaborate lessons with Natural Resources.
- April 24: PE classes will be cooking with Lisa Smith.
- May 3: Parent Workday at SUIMA.

HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

DEGREE PROGRAMS

- ASSOCIATE
- BACHELOR
- MASTER
- DOCTORATE

Available to Southern Ute Tribal Members

Full-Time Deadline: July 1, 2025

Part-Time Deadline: 30 days prior to course start date

FULL-TIME AWARD	PART-TIME AWARD	PROFESSIONAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly Living Stipend• Cost of Tuition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost of Tuition• Books• Applicable fees• Mileage Reimbursement<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Max 100 miles roundtrip	<p>For those in pursuit of a second graduate degree. Please contact the Higher Education Department for requirements</p>

APPLY TODAY

Visit the following link or scan the QR code:

<https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/education/scholarships/>

CONTACT

Michael Kirsch | 970-563-2783
mkirsch@southernute-nsn.gov

Designed by Summer Begay

SOUTHERN UTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PRESENTS:

VIRTUAL DBT GROUP

WHEN: Every Wednesday
(Starting April 30th)

TIME: 2:00PM

WHERE: Group will take place virtually on Microsoft TEAMS

AGE: Appropriate for ages 18+

For More Information & Sign-Up, Contact Bree Duran
Call: (970).563.5712
Email: WDURAN@SOUTHERNUTE-NSN.GOV

Education Department

San Juan College Campus Middle School Field Trip

Tour College and vocational programs: auto/welding, science labs and nursing programs

Open to Southern Ute Tribal Members, Southern Ute 1st Descendants and JOM Students

- 12 spots available for eligible students in 6th-8th grade.
- Lunch will be provided at SJC Cafeteria (Free to Students)
- Activity stop on the way back to Ignacio

DATE
Friday, May 16th, 2025

TIME
8:00AM Meet at Southern Ute Education -4:00PM Return to Education Center

For questions and applications contact: Julie Stone

jstone@southernute-nsn.gov

970-563-2778

Signed permission forms need to be turned in by Friday, May 9, 2025



Seniors bowl at Rolling Thunder



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Local Native high school seniors gathered at Rolling Thunder Lanes at the Sky Ute Casino Resort for a few games of bowling and lunch sponsored by the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council on Friday, April 11. Seniors from Ignacio High School, Bayfield High School, and Durango High School spent time getting to know each other as part of a joint initiative by the Southern Ute Education Department, Ignacio Title IV, Bayfield Title IV, and Durango Title IV.

FLC APPOINTS SHOTTON • FROM PAGE 1



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Fort Lewis College (FLC), President elect Heather Shotton met with the Southern Ute Tribal Council ahead of the announcement of her election results to discuss future plans for the college and to continue to build a bond between the Tribe and FLC. Shotton has officially been named the first Native American president for Fort Lewis College as of Friday, April 11 and she will assume office on Tuesday, July 1. Seated to her left is Janet Lopez and to her right Adam Red, both of whom are members of the Fort Lewis College Board of Trustees.

tation for her, Shotton said she faced challenges navigating the complexities of higher education as a first-generation student.

“Going to college was always expected, but I often lacked the tools to navigate the system,” Shotton said. “I want to make sure that our first-gen students – who make up 42% of our student population – have a different experience. My goal is to ensure they have the resources they need to succeed and feel confident and supported in their academic journey.”

Shotton earned three degrees from the University of Oklahoma, including a bachelor’s in Native American Studies, a master’s in Human Relations, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

That is where she met her husband, John – who serves as Chairman of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe – and where she developed her passion for higher education. They have two daughters: Sloan, an FLC alumna (‘24), and Sophie, a first-year student at the University of Oklahoma. The family also includes three Boston terriers: Lucy, Odie, and Lil’ Kim.

It was during a campus visit with Sloan that the Shotton family first felt a strong connection to Fort Lewis College.

“I was already familiar with the college’s work, particularly through my national involvement in Native education,” Shotton said. “But when we stepped onto campus, we all immediately felt a connection to the community, the area, and the college’s values. That was when I knew I wanted to be a part of this place.”

Student-centered leadership
Shotton’s work at FLC



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Chairman Melvin J. Baker presents new FLC President Heather Shotton with a gift from the Southern Ute Tribal Council on Thursday, April 10 during a brief meeting, introducing Shotton to members of the council.

has included advancing the reconciliation work FLC faculty and staff initiated, acknowledging the institution’s history as a federal Indian boarding school.

Known for her relational leadership style, Shotton is a visible and engaged presence on campus, from Hozhoni Days Powwow to Skyhawks athletic events.

Fort Lewis College students, faculty, and staff have been enthusiastic about the announcement of her appointment.

“I feel energized knowing that Dr. Shotton is going to be our leader,” said Rebecca Clausen, Ph.D., professor of Sociology & Human Services. “She’s the right person for this moment – a leader who understands who we are and where we want to go.”

Amiee Shanks, an FLC senior and former softball teammate of Sloan Shotton, said, “Dr. Shotton has always been involved—not just in athletics, but in our academics and student life. She really values our opinions and shows up for students. Her presidency is groundbreaking, and I know she’ll keep making this an amazing place.”

Carolina Alonso, Ph.D., associate professor of Borders & Languages, shared similar

sentiments: “When I shared the news with my class, the students cheered. Shotton is visible, respected, and deeply involved. Representation matters, and her presidency sends a powerful message.”

Looking to the future

Shotton will officially assume the presidency on July 1, 2025. A top priority will be the implementation of the 2025-30 Strategic Plan, which is focused on five interwoven strategic directions.

“I think the biggest strength of our strategic plan is that it reflects the collective vision of the campus community, what our community has said is important to us, and that we are ensuring our approach aligns with our mission of putting students at the center,” Shotton said. “I often describe this as work that can only happen in this special place—because of our location, the land, and the people. The strategic plan embraces that.”

As she prepares to lead Fort Lewis College into its next chapter, Shotton’s vision remains clear: “I’m excited to continue building on the strong foundation we have at Fort Lewis College, ensuring that our students feel supported and empowered to reach their full potential.”

EAGLE FEATHER SCHOLARSHIP FOR OUR 13 COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGES

The scholarship is awarded to CCCS students who are enrolled in any of the 574 federally recognized tribes or a state-recognized tribe. Complete one application to be considered for all CCCS Foundation Scholarships.

Apply By April 27, 2025



FOUNDATION FOR COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGES

One application, multiple opportunities!

- Awards range \$1,000 - \$5,000
- NO letters of recommendation required
- NO transcripts required
- NO resumes required
- NO interviews required
- Opportunities for ASSET students
- FAFSA application encouraged



cccs.edu/about/foundation/student-scholarships/



jessica.wallace@cccs.edu

ANNUAL ELBERT J. FLOYD AWARD NOMINATIONS



NOMINEE REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) AN ENROLLED MEMBER OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
- 2) BE ENROLLED IN ANY FORMAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
 - THIS STUDENT CAN BE OF ANY AGE
 - STUDENTS PLANNING TO IMMEDIATELY ENROLL IN SUCH A PROGRAM ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE
- 3) HAS INTEREST IN CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION
- 4) HAS INTEREST IN SERVING THEIR COMMUNITY AND TRIBE
- 5) HAS QUALITIES OF A DEDICATED STUDENT

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS DO NOT NEED TO RESIDE ON THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN RESERVATION; THEY MUST BE AVAILABLE TO RECIEVE THE AWARD IN PERSON. PRESENTATION WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN IGNACIO, CO.

NOMINATIONS MAY BE RECIEVED FROM ANY TEACHER, TRIBAL MEMBER, OR COMMUNITY MEMBER. THEY MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

SUBMISSIONS MUST BE IN WRITING STATING THE BASIS OF NOMINATION AND RETURNED TO THE SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BY 5:00 P.M. FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2025.



(970)563-0235



kleclair@southernute-nsn.gov

THE SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL APPROVE NOMINATIONS

RECIPIENT WILL BE DEETERMINED BY A COMMITTEE OF TWO MEMBERS CONSISTING OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

THIS ANNUAL AWARD IS DONE IN MEMORY OF ELBERT J. FLOYD AND IS PRESENTED BY MR. FLOYD’S CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN TO THE SELECTED NOMINEE

JOHNSON-O’MALLEY

2025 MEETING DATES:

- April 7th
- May 5th
- June 2nd
- July 7th
- August 4th
- September 1st
- October 6th
- November 3rd
- December 1st



First Monday of the Month



Time 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM



Public Education Office 330 Burns Avenue



JOIN US



(970)563-0235



Kaylyn LeClaire kleclair@southernute-nsn.gov

Golden students make annual visit to Ignacio



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Golden High School students in front of the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy’s tipi, proudly display a signed print from Russell Box Sr. to the Golden students during their tour with SUIMA Principal, Mari Jo Owens.



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Skylar “Sky” Jones, and fellow Golden students tour the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Musuem, led by Education/Outreach Coordinator, Raelynn Frauenhoff. They also heard a boarding school presentation by Interim Museum Director, Fabian Martinez.



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Cormac Donohoe inspects a tagging collar utilized by the Southern Ute Wildlife Dept. track and monitor big game movement on the reservation.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

GHS Senior Seminar students and Miss Southern Ute, Maleina Carel joined hands for a round dance during the Cultural Preservation Department presentation, students quickly learned the steps and danced in rhythm.

Golden High School students from Golden, Colo., visited the Southern Ute Reservation again for the 11th year, April 8 and 9, they have visited since 2012. Part of their curriculum includes a seminar and trip based around the cultures and people of the desert southwest. They met with various tribal departments and staff to learn about the services they each provide to the Southern Ute tribal membership. During their two-day visit, they met with Tribal Council, Growth Fund, Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy, SunUte, Southern Ute Drum, Wildlife Dept. and toured the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum. The students met with the Cultural Preservation Dept, and round danced with Southern Ute Royalty, with singing by members of the Southern Ute drum group. The students and staff were on-air with KSUT Tribal Radio’s REZ-olution Radio Hour DJ, Robert Ortiz.



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Surya Russo skakes hands with Southern Ute Tribal Councilmember, Linda Baker and other Council members during their visit in council chambers.



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Southern Ute Wildlife’s Bison Manager, Ian Doughty points eastward as he discusses improvements to the sprinkler system and management of the bison pasture. Doughty, a Southern Ute tribal member, hired in 2024, replaced long-time bison manager, Jesse Lasater.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

GHS Senior Seminar staff members takeover the air with host Robert L. Ortiz during the REZ-olution Radio Hour Takeover on Wednesday, April 9. Teacher, Sam Aschwanden gives her shoutouts to the listeners back home, seated to her left is Mike “Dozer” Mendoza, Chris Oster and to her right is Kimberly Aksamit.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Growth Fund Executive Director, Shane Seibel shares the history of the Southern Ute Growth Fund and gives insight to the business side of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe on Wednesday, April 9.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Sean Ridley jumps in and tries singing and drumming alongside Tim Ryder, Tyson Thompson and Orion Watts on Wednesday, he took no time in catching the rhythm of the drum as he also participates in a metal core band back home.

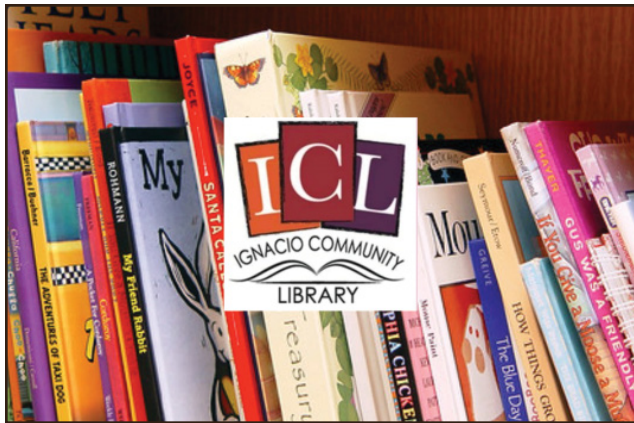


IGNACIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Adult programming at Ignacio Community Library

By Liz vonTauffkirchen
IGNACIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY

My job as Assistant Director here at Ignacio Community Library includes wearing many different hats. I am the primary driver of adult programming, I do all the digital materials processing, and I help with digital services for patrons when they have particularly difficult tech issues. I can provide readers advisory services for patrons when they want help selecting their next great read. I also support the daily library operations through various tasks that are needed each day. Our adult programming has been going really well, and many lovely patrons have been attending the events we host here. This gave me a chance to meet and interact with a range of adults in the community, which has been an absolute pleasure. In a public library serving a small community, we as library employees can cross over the typical library work divisions and help in areas not specifically within our regular duties; and last month, I had the pleasure of helping with our monthly teen night.



The teen night event last month was a taco bar followed by laser tag and it was a blast! I had a lovely time, and it was such a pleasure to meet the wonderful teens who came to the program. I am assuming that the teens who came to this event are a representative sample of a cross-section of teens from our community. Based on my experience and observation of these kids I can definitively say that Ignacio teens are wonderful people! Not only were these kids fun to be around, but they were also nice. They were nice to me, so nice to Miss Helen (coordinator of youth programming), and most impressively, they were nice to each other! If these are your

children, great job raising lovely people. If these aren't your children, they might be your neighbor or someone you know from around town. I invite you to get to know the teens in our community, as they are quite remarkable people. I look forward to helping with teen programming in the future and with our Summer Reading program, where I will have much more opportunity to spend time with kids and teens while they are here more and not at school most Mondays through Thursdays. I continue to be impressed and moved by how lovely this community is; come and see us at the library and let us know how we can serve you today!

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT OPEN TO EVERYONE!
FREE FOOD FREE FUN FREE ENTERTAINMENT

COLOR US WITH LOVE
COLOR RUN

Photo by: Jeremy Shockley | SU Drum

- Piinu Nuuchi Skate Park
- May 2, 2025
- Registration: 3-4 pm | Event Start: 4 pm

(FROM THE SHOW RESERVATION DOGS)
SPECIAL GUEST: MATO WAYUHI

- MUSIC PERFORMANCE
- SELLING MERCH!

Starts at 5:30 PM

For more information or to sign up for a color station contact:
Augusta Torres @ 970.563.2328 or atorres@southernute-nsn.gov

Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe

2025 SUMMER CLUB
June 9 - August 8
No Club June 19-20 or July 4th-11th 8 Weeks Total

Summer Fees

- \$30/week for 1st child
- \$20/week for 2nd child
- \$10/week each additional child
- \$10/week for Southern Ute Tribal Member or First Descendant Child

* For scholarship information, call (970) 563-2666 or email casanchez@southernute-nsn.gov

Ages 6-18
Limited Space Available

Attendance to ONE meeting is mandatory. All meetings will be held at SunUte Community Center. Be prepared to pay when you attend for a guaranteed spot. We can accept cash, check, or card payments.

A waitlist will be created once our summer weeks become full.

Meeting Dates

Southern Ute Tribal Member/First Descendant Children Only

- 5/5/2025 @ 5:30pm
- 5/12/2025 @ 5:30pm
- 5/14/2025 @ 12:00pm
- 5/19/2025 @ 5:30pm

Open to Everyone

For any questions, contact us at (970) 563-4753 or bgcstaff@southernute-nsn.gov

4TH ANNUAL MMIR WALK/RUN

Everyone is Welcomed!
Saturday, May 3, 2025

BEGIN: ROADHOUSE PIZZA COMPANY
6:00 A.M.
123 CO-172, DURANGO, CO 81303

OPENING SONGS AND PRAYERS

END THE WALK AT UTE PARK BY 3:00 P.M.
356 UTE STREET, IGNACIO CO

3:00 P.M. - Meal Gathering
Upon arrival of walkers and runners!

We invite you to attend the 4th Annual Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Awareness event!
Resource Booths Welcome | Set up at 1:00 | Ute Park

Bouncy House - Guest Speakers - Education

Register with QR Code

Daisy Bluestar/daisybluestar2003@gmail.com

SOUTHERN UTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PRESENTS:

YOUTH SKATEPARK MURAL PROJECT

A VIBRANT, YOUTH-DRIVEN MURAL IS SET TO GRACE THE RAMPS AT PIINU NUUCHI SKATEPARK!

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY AND ENTER YOUR ARTWORK MASTERPIECE FOR A CHANCE TO SHINE ON THIS WALL OF ENCHANTMENT.

- THE WINNING DESIGN(S) WILL BE FEATURED IN THIS COMMUNITY MURAL!!

THERE WILL BE TWO EVENTS:
BRAINSTORMING PIZZA PARTY & ART SHOW

BOTH FOR IGNACIO'S NATIVE YOUTH TO CONNECT, COMMUNICATE, AND CREATE IDEAS FOR A MURAL DESIGN AT THE PIINI NUUCHI SKATEPARK LOCATED IN IGNACIO, CO. COME MAKE ART AND LET YOUR IDEAS SOAR!!

PIZZA PARTY: FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH 12:30PM - 3:30PM
MULTI-PURPOSE FACILITY, IGNACIO

ART SHOW: THURSDAY, MAY 1ST 6:00PM - 8:00PM
MULTI-PURPOSE FACILITY, IGNACIO

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (970).563.5700

IGNACIO YOUTH SERVICES

CAMP VENTUROSITY
JUNE 9-14, 2025

TEAM BUILDING & OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH ENTERING GRADES 7-12

WHERE?
CAMP WILL BE HELD AT 100 ELK OUTDOOR CENTER IN BUENA VISTA, CO. TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM IGNACIO IS PROVIDED. PARTICIPANTS WILL STAY IN A COMBINATION OF YURTS & LARGE CANVAS TENTS.

ACTIVITIES?

- ROPES COURSE - WHITE WATER RAFTING - HIKING - ARCHERY - ZIP LINING - TEAM BUILDING GAMES - INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING - ECO-SERVICE PROJECT - SALIDA ARCADE - GAGA PIT - STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING - MT. PRINCETON HOT SPRINGS - CANOEING & KAYAKING - LAKE OR POOL PARTY - COLORADO ROCKIES BASEBALL GAME!

FREE **SIGN UP NOW!**

Call/Text: 970.759.2011

Here comes Peter Cotton Tail ...



Ignacio Community children race against one another for prizes during the annual Easter egg hunt.



The Easter Bunny greets families during the easter egg hunt at the SunUte Park.



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Southern Ute Tribal Council member, Marge Barry gave a welcome prior to Southern Ute Royalty members – Little Miss Southern Ute Alternate, Olyvia Watts and Southern Ute Brave Theoden Greany each giving their respective welcomes. Greany also said a blessing prior to the arrival of the Easter Bunny.



Preston Barry, Peer Recovery Coach with the Southern Ute Behavioral department hands out goody bags during the annual Community Easter Egg Hunt.



The 10–14-year-olds race onto the field to get as many eggs as their baskets could hold during the community Easter egg hunt.



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum

Twin brothers, Joaiden and Josiah Richards check their bounty from their easter egg hunt of the 6–9-year-old age group; the annual easter egg hunt took place at SunUte Park.



Theoden Greany hands out smaller prizes during the older kids hunt on Saturday, April 12.

The Ignacio Community Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 12, at SunUte Park. The Southern Ute Police Department and the Boys and Girls club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe hosted the hunt for the community of Ignacio. KSUT Tribal Radio's REZ-olution Radio DJ, Robert Ortiz, who played music and emceed while the different age groups were hunting eggs throughout the morning. Many vendors were also set up to sell food.

Photos by Krista Richards
The Southern Ute Drum



Mariah Thompson stands with her kids during the Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 12.



SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS

Drum wins 9 awards in Top of the Rockies journalism contest

By Jeremy Wade Shockley
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

The Colorado Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists announced the winners of the Top of the Rockies Excellence in Journalism competition on Saturday, April 5, in Denver following the SPJ 2025 Region 9 Conference. The Southern Ute Drum won 9 awards across multiple categories from excellence in newspaper design and photography to multimedia features.

This year, more than 80 news media outlets and 20

freelancers from Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico entered the contest, which was judged by the Los Angeles Press Club. In all, the contest saw more than 1,850 entries.

Reporter/Photographer, Divine Windy Boy earned three awards for excellence in photojournalism and reporting, including a first-place win in News Photography/Videography for her coverage of a Vietnam Veterans Day recognition event. “The colorful image captures the contrast of the people and the emotion,” said one contest



Robert L. Ortiz/SU Drum archive

MMIR Prayer Walk continues with support.

judge of Windy Boy’s winning photograph.

Divine Windy Boy also earned a second-place win in reporting for her education feature titled, “Education looks to the future and honors the past.”

Southern Ute Drum Reporter/Videographer, Conrad Thompson brought home a first-place win in the Social Justice Photography/Videography category for his multimedia feature titled, “End of an era for Southern Ute Boarding School.” Which another judge describes as, “An important story with a number of complex elements, expertly threaded together,

with both a variety of perspectives and a clear point of view.”

Southern Ute Drum Graphic Specialist, Robert L. Ortiz won two awards – third place for newspaper design and second place in Social Justice Photography/Videography for his coverage of the MMIR Prayer Walk to bring awareness to Missing & Murdered Indigenous Relatives.

Editor, Jeremy Wade Shockley, earned a first-place win for Sports Photography/Videography for his rodeo coverage at the 102nd Southern Ute Tribal Fair, and a second-place win in Feature Photography for

his photo essay titled, “All aboard the Polar Express.”

“Great action, and the image captures a high-energy chase showing the intent and drive in all elements,” described one contest judge in reference to Shockley’s winning rodeo photograph. Shockley also took home a third-place win in the news category for Ag and Environment.

“The competition continues to grow each year, and we are honored to highlight outstanding journalism throughout the four-state region,” said contest coordinator Deb Hurley Brobst. “These are

hard-working journalists who deserve recognition of their efforts.”

Top of the Rockies is a regional, multi-platform contest for reporters and news organizations in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. According to the SPJ website, the contest grew from a Colorado-only contest after the closure of the Rocky Mountain News in 2009 to ensure a robust and competitive field. Entries compete in four divisions based on newsroom size. This year’s awards ceremony was held at the historic Slate Hotel in Denver.



Conrad Thompson/SU Drum archive

End of an era for Southern Ute Boarding School.



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum archive

A salute to Vietnam Veterans.

Full list of 2024 Top of the Rockies awards

- 1st – News Photography/Videography: “A salute to Vietnam Veterans” – Divine Windy Boy
- 1st – Social Justice Photography/Videography: “End of an era for Southern Ute Boarding School” – Conrad Thompson
- 1st – Sports Photography/Videography: “Celebrating the 102nd Southern Ute Tribal Fair: Rodeo” – Jeremy Wade Shockley
- 2nd – Education Feature: “Education looks to the future and honors the past” – Divine Windy Boy
- 2nd – Feature Photography/Videography: “All aboard the Polar Express” – Jeremy Wade Shockley
- 2nd – Social Justice Photography/Videography: “MMIR Prayer Walk continues with support” – Robert L. Ortiz
- 3rd – Ag & Environment: News: “Wildlife agencies dedicate Cherry Creek Fish Passage” – Jeremy Wade Shockley
- 3rd – Feature Page Design: “Passing Down Traditions,” Section Front – Robert L. Ortiz
- 3rd – Feature Photography/Videography: “Honoring Veterans powwow style” – Divine Windy Boy

ADVENTURE AWAITS

GIVEAWAY

UNLEASH YOUR INNER EXPLORER!

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 & SATURDAYS IN MAY | 3PM - 10PM

BONUS ENTRIES: TUESDAY, APRIL 29 & TUESDAYS IN MAY | 9AM - 9PM

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING: MAY 31 | 10:30PM

Hourly hot seat winners will roll the dice for the Adventure Awaits Giveaway to win cash, prizes, and bonus entries! Earn one entry for every 750 slot points. On Tuesdays, multiply your tickets, Ace’s Club members playing the slots from 9AM - 9PM will earn 3x entry tickets. Be there May 31 at 10:30PM for the grand prize reveal — a \$25,000 RV voucher at Chisolm Trail RV Aztec or \$10,000 cash!



Utes represent at UNLV Powwow for the Planet



courtesy Marvin Pinnecoose

Gathering of Utes – Miss Southern Ute, Malenia Carel and Jr. Miss Southern Ute, Leandra Litz, welcome the attendees during the Powwow for the Planet on the UNLV campus. Also pictured are members of the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council, Shayne White Thunder, Amos O’John, Aug’uway O’John, Zuriah Baker and Headman Dancer, Edward Box III.



A teen category Fancy Dancer shows off his skills during competition following the first Grand Entry at the 4th annual Powwow for the Planet.



The Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Royalty and Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council (SCSYAC) stand in front of the Hospitality Hall at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, where Edward Box III is attending school. SCSYAC members and Southern Ute Royalty – Pictured left to right – Chairwoman, Zuriah Baker; Secretary, Amos O’John; Jr. Miss Southern Ute, Leandra Litz; Vice chairman, Aug’uway O’John; Little Miss Southern Ute, Malia White Thunder; and Council member, Shayne White Thunder.



Head man dancer, Edward Box III smiles with his parents, Eddie Box Jr. and Betty Box – who traveled to UNLV to support their son during the powwow.

The 4th annual Powwow for the Planet at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, Nev. was held Saturday, April 12 – Sunday, April 13. Southern Ute Tribal member, Edward Box III was the head man dancer during the powwow. Drinks and bags were given to powwow attendees and singers (drum groups) during a special to honor Edward Box III. The Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Royalty and Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council also attended this event to learn about leadership.

Photos by Zuriah Baker
Special to the Southern Ute Drum



courtesy Marvin Pinnecoose



courtesy Marvin Pinnecoose

Representing the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council, Auqu’uway O’John brings in the Southern Ute Tribal flag during UNLV’s fourth annual Powwow for the Planet in Las Vegas, Nev.



Southern Ute Tribal member, Malia White Thunder shows off her skills at the UNLV powwow this past Saturday April 12, held in Las Vegas, Nev.



courtesy Marvin Pinnecoose

Southern Ute tribal member, Zuriah Baker dances jingle dress style at UNLV’s fourth annual Powwow for the Planet in Las Vegas, Nev., Baker is Chairwoman of the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council.



KSUT TRIBAL MEDIA CENTER

Four Corners Pre-Apprenticeship sponsored by Arts2Work

Staff report
KSUT TRIBAL MEDIA CENTER

The KSUT Tribal Media Center (TMC) empowers Indigenous voices by providing media education and resources for multimedia production and distribution. TMC is committed to facilitating the distribution of Indigenous stories and building connections between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities through media arts and journalism. Together with Arts2Work, the first federally-registered Apprenticeship program in Media Arts + Creative Technologies, the Colorado Office of Film, Television and Media and Cine Fe, a non-profit incubator supporting filmmakers in Colorado – the Tribal Media Center has developed the Four Corners Pre-Apprenticeship program for emerging Native filmmakers and early-career producers, journalists, digital artists and multimedia creators.

The Tribal Media Center’s Pre-Apprenticeship Program provides foundational training and mentorship in digital media arts for residents of Southwest Colorado, with a focus on Indigenous, low-in-

come and under-employed or unemployed individuals. Focusing on career-connected professional training, the program bridges the gap between education and industry, offering paid, hands-on experience and skill development to help participants identify and launch diverse careers in media, arts, and journalism. Program trainees will explore creative collaboration and new creative technologies and will create personal media projects as well content for local and national clients.

Program Info

- Program Dates: June 4 – August 6, 2025.
- Program Schedule: 8 hours per week in-class (4 hours on Wednesdays, 4 hours on Saturdays).
- Stipends: Participants who successfully complete the program will receive a \$1200 stipend.
- Location: KSUT Tribal Media Center, 15150 Hwy 172 Ignacio, CO 81137 (hybrid program – in person/virtual).
- Eligibility: Open to individuals from traditionally underrepresented communities, especially Native youth (18

- 24) and adults. Must have demonstrated an interest in careers in media arts, content creation, and/or journalism. Residents of the Four Corners area are encouraged to apply.
- No prior professional media experience necessary!
- **GAIN** hands-on experience in media arts, content creation, and storytelling.
- **RECEIVE** guidance from industry professionals and expand your career network.
- **CREATE** culturally significant and socially impactful stories.
- **PREPARE** for apprenticeships or entry-level roles in media and creative industries.

- **DEADLINE TO APPLY:** May 1, 2025
- **LINK TO APPLY:** [https://forms.gle/dhJLh9gg3kApvRB2A]

For More Information Contact KSUT Tribal Media Center Director Colten Ashley via email at: colten@ksut.org, tribalmediacenter@ksut.org

Tribe hosts Career Fair



photos Krista Richards/SU Drum

The 23rd Annual Career Fair hosted by the Southern Ute Education Department was held, Thursday, April 3 at the Sky Ute Casino Resort in their events center. The career fair was held for students in the Four Corners area to come see and meet Tribal departments, local employers and colleges. Ignacio Middle Schooler Joseph Howell, tries his luck at the disc throw.

Red Willow Production Operations Technician III Kristi Sage gives students a chance to spin the wheel at their booth to win some swag during the Career Fair at the Sky Ute Casino Resort.




BUILD EARLY LITERACY SKILLS TOGETHER AT

FAMILY FUN NIGHT!


WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23 AT 5:30 P.M.

WE’LL HAVE DINNER, CRAFTS, STORYTIME, AND SOME GREAT TIPS FOR PARENTS.



DON'T MISS OUT!

PRIZES - FREE BOOKS - GIFT CARDS TOO!

 (970)563-9287 | ignaciolibrary.org | 470 Goddard Ave.

Mobile Market Distribution

FREE



The Care and Share Mobile Market is back at the ELHI Community Center this summer! Free, fresh food for you and your family. Don’t miss out on this amazing resource—come by, stock up, and share with your loved ones!

April 25th 1 PM-2 PM



115 Ute Street, ignacio CO. 81137
970-563-4100
www.theelhignacio.org
admin@theelhignacio.org

KSUT Tribal Media Center presents:
The Four Corners Media Pre-Apprenticeship
sponsored by Arts2Work



Application QR code or apply @
https://forms.gle/dhJLh9gg3kApvRB2A

- Applications open now until April 30
- Gain work skills
- Stipend provided
- For more info contact colten@ksut.org



Tribe bids farewell to Bex



photos Rosaleigh Cloud/SU Drum

The Internal Audit department and the Southern Ute Tribe bid farewell to Brian Bex, Friday, April 4, after six years of dedicated service to the Tribe. Executive Officer, Lindsay Box and Tribal Council Affairs Executive Office Manager, Sunshine Whyte wrapped Bex in a Pendleton blanket showing their appreciation for his commitment to the organization.

Outgoing Internal Audit Director, Brian Bex stands with his personalized Pendleton blanket after being showered with kind words, recognizing his hard work and dedication to the Tribe on Friday, April 4 in the Jimmy Newton Jr. conference room. The Permanent Fund wishes Bex the best of luck in his next endeavors!





COME CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR!

FORT DUCHESNE BEAR DANCE

MAY 9- 12, 2025 | FORT DUCHESNE, UTAH

BEAR DANCE CHIEF: SERENUS KANIP | SUB-CHIEF: JOSEPH KANIP | CAT MAN: HENRY HOWELL

ALL SINGERS AND DANCERS ARE WELCOMED

Flag Ceremony: Men & Women Veterans
Mother's Day Honoring

Vendor Contact Information: Daniel Cesspooch | 435-724-2451

Feast on Monday

Hand Game Tournament Contacts:
Carly Groves | 435-823-8890
Carlo Poowegup | 435-722-5553

DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE EVENT. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS, THEFT, INJURIES OR DIVORCES.

Tribe welcomes new enrollee



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

The Southern Ute Tribal Council congratulates new Tribal enrollee Nettie-Marie Kay Frost and her family on Tuesday, April 8 during the announcement of her enrollment. Nettie-Marie Kay Frost is the daughter of Marysa Frost.

New Southern Ute enrollee Nettie-Marie Kay Frost is greeted by Chairman Melvin J. Baker following the announcement of her enrollment on Tuesday, April 8.



Multi-Purpose Facility Traditional Sewing & Beading

Shawl Making Class with Machine Applique'

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday,
April 28, 29, & May 1, 2025

Day Session Evening Session
10:30 AM - 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Supply List:
2 Yards of Shawl Fabric , 3 yards of Fringe
Size 11 Crochet Hook , or Large Needle for fringing.
1 Wonder Under (Preferred) or Lite Heat N Bond
You are welcome to bring your sewing machine, we will use a tight zig zag (satin) stitch, using a machine you are familiar is optimal.

Space is limited, sign up is required.

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

HSC Training/Due Diligence Instruction

Cora, 970-903-4813, hscstraining.us@gmail.com

Providing First Aid/CPR/AED, Basic Life Support, SafeSitter, Safe@Home, Stop the Bleed, Eddie Eagle & CCW. Call/text to register. Classes may be scheduled for an organization at your location or ours. BLS or CPR Skills Checks: every Tues./Thur. 5-7 p.m., (by appointment). 1st Aid/CPR/AED classes: Last Sat. of each month, (by appointment). Babysitter Training: (by appointment).

Spoken Word Poetry Event

Thursday, May 1 at 5:00 p.m.

Come and share a piece of poetry with other lovers of the spoken word!

Hear from local poet and author, Burt Baldwin, as he shares from his latest book of poetry as well as other local creators!

Sign up in advance
<https://qrco.de/bfqC5h>

or drop in if we have space!

ICL
IGNACIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY

(970)563-9287 | ignaciolibrary.org | 470 Goddard Ave.

STRIDE TOGETHER

6-Week Walking & Running Challenge

MAY 5TH - JUNE 15TH

Join our most loved incentive at SunUte!
The 6-week walking or running challenge!
Weekly updates on miles to check team and individual rankings!

Fun Run Fridays:
A great way to earn BONUS miles, we'll meet every Friday throughout the challenge. There will be a two-mile course; bonus miles will be matched for the 2 miles completed.

Teams of 3 this year! Get your teams together and sign-up by May 2nd.

TEAMS OF THREE
FUN RUN FRIDAYS
REST DAY SUNDAYS
OPEN TO SUNUTE MEMBERS.

Contact Eliyah Lucero for any questions or to sign up!
elucero@southernute-nsn.gov
(970)563-2658

Multi - Purpose Facility May 2025 Events

Indoor Yard Sale—Saturday May 3, 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

Senior Breakfast—Wednesday May 7, 10:00 —11:30 AM

Bear Dance Sewing—Tuesday—Thursday May 13-15 , 10:00 AM—3:30 PM

Sip, Chat & Chew—Friday May 16, 11:30 AM—1:30 PM

Bear Dance Sewing—Tuesday –Thursday May 20-22, 10:00 AM—3:30 PM

Unfinished Projects

Day Session - 10:00 AM—3:30 PM Evening Session 5:30 PM—8:00 PM

Special Events

MPF Bear Dance Arts & Crafts Fair—Sunday & Monday May 26-27, 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

Elder Day—Wednesday May 28, 9:00 AM—7:00 PM

Events are subject to change—please watch for announcements

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



WILDFIRE MITIGATION

Hickenlooper, western senators introduce landmark bipartisan wildfire mitigation bill

Staff report
OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR JOHN HICKENLOOPER

U.S. Senators John Hickenlooper, John Curtis, Alex Padilla, and Tim Sheehy introduced the Fix Our Forests Act, bipartisan legislation to combat growing catastrophic wildfires across Colorado and the United States. The bill works to strengthen wildfire resilience by improving forest management, supporting fire-safe communities, and streamlining approvals for projects that protect communities and ecosystems from extreme wildfires. The comprehensive bill reflects months of bipartisan negotiations to find consensus on how to accelerate forest management projects, promote safe and responsible prescribed fire treatments, expand public input in assessments of wildfire resilience needs, and enhance collaboration between federal agencies, states, tribes, and stakeholders. “The growing wildfire crisis threatens our Colorado communities,” said Hickenlooper. “We need to act NOW with the speed required to mitigate wildfires and make our homes and businesses

more resilient to these disasters, and to put in place protections for our communities and the environment.” “As increasingly frequent and catastrophic wildfires in California make clear, we need durable solutions to confront the growing impacts of the wildfire crisis,” Padilla said. “This bill represents a strong, bipartisan step forward, not just in reducing wildfire risk in and around our national forests, but in protecting urban areas and our efforts to reduce climate emissions. It prioritizes building fire-resilient communities, accelerating the removal of hazardous fuels, and strengthening coordination across federal, state, and Tribal agencies, including through the creation of the first-ever National Wildfire Intelligence Center. I look forward to continuing to advance forward-thinking, practical solutions to protect our communities from devastating wildfires – and that includes pushing for sustained funding and staffing for our federal land management agencies to ensure they have the tools to get this critical work done.” “Better stewarding our forests is something we can

all agree on, regardless of party, because it helps secure a stronger economy, more resilient, healthy forests, and safer communities,” Sheehy said. The West has long been prone to wildfires, but climate change, prolonged drought, and the buildup of dry fuels have increasingly intensified these fires and extended fire seasons. Wildfires today are more catastrophic – growing larger, spreading faster, and burning more land than ever before. Colorado has seen four of the five largest fires in our state’s history since 2018. The 2021 Marshall fire was Colorado’s most destructive on record, burning over 1,000 homes. The Cameron Peak and East Troublesome fires in 2020 together burned more than 400,000 acres, the two largest fires in the state’s history. Nationwide, total acres burned rose from 2.7 million in 2023 to nearly 9 million in 2024, a 231% increase. Forest health challenges are also increasing in frequency and severity due to climate stressors like drought and fire, and biological threats like invasive species – all of which the West is particularly vulnerable to.



Shared Kitchen 101

- Do you operate a shared kitchen?
- Are you planning or considering a shared kitchen project?

This comprehensive workshop provides essential knowledge and resources for understanding, planning, and operating shared kitchen spaces.

Register here

Questions?
tyler@thefoodcorridor.com

REGIONAL FOOD BUSINESS CENTERS NORTHWEST & ROCKY MOUNTAIN

ACES AUTO & TRAILERS

DOWN WAC

BLOW OUT SALES MOVING 2024

TRACTORS TO MAKE ROOM FOR 2025

2024 **BRANSON/TYM**
2515H TLB

\$37,995

STOCK#: KE24354

2024 **BRANSON/TYM**
2515R W/LOADER

\$29,995

STOCK#: KE24408

Aces Auto & Trailers

TYM

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4218 US-64
KIRTLAND, NM 87417
505-493-7700

CORTEZ
7500 HWY 160-491
CORTEZ, CO 81321
970-565-7394

WWW.ACESAUTOCO.COM

KAVA 101

HORSEMANSHIP

PÚIPA PUKUGWATH

The Cultural Preservation Department and Sky Ute Fairgrounds will be offering Kava 101 which will provide participants the basics, including how to halter, lead, groom, and general safety around horses.

These lessons are open to all Southern Ute Tribal Members, descendants, & community members.

For planning purposes, we are requesting those interested register.

DATES: April 18th, May 9th, May 16th

LOCATION: Sky Ute Fairgrounds

TIME: Afternoon

SCAN HERE

Questions, contact:
Crystal Rizzo | 970-563-2306

SOUTHERN UTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROUDLY PRESENTS

PÍINU NÚUCHI FARMERS MARKET

SUMMER 2025

WEEKLY IN IGNACIO

NOW ACCEPTING VENDORS FOR THE 2025 SUMMER SEASON!

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CONTACT
AWALL@SOUTHERNUTE-NSN.GOV OR
970.563.2281

The Southern Ute Department of Natural Resources

has been tasked with a Comprehensive Agricultural Land Management Plan with long-term and short-term ideas for the plan that includes conceptual goals and objectives for further planning and development.

The Department would like to invite Southern Ute tribal members to participate in a survey regarding agriculture production as it relates to assigned tribal land and will assist the Department with developing the Management Plan. Input received will be implemented in the conceptual goals and objectives within the Plan.

To participate in the survey through June 30, 2025, please scan the QR code or click on the link below:
<https://forms.office.com/r/dTsv9Kj1-KCs>

The survey will be available at the Southern Ute General Meeting in April. For further information, questions or concerns regarding the survey, please call: 970-563-2237



EPD expands nature trail



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Mitch Dorsk, EPD Remediation Program Manager consults with Emma Miller, a staff scientist with Cottonwood Consulting, LLC on culvert placement along the new trail system which runs parallel to Ute Road. The nature trail will be expanded to create a loop that connects with the existing trail system, while also protecting critical waterways and wildlife corridors.

The Environmental Programs Department, in conjunction with Cottonwood Consulting, LLC are working to expand the trail network that connects Scott's Pond to Ute Road. Sam Barrett, an employee with Cottonwood Consulting, LLC moves gravel to the trail using small equipment and hand tools.



Temporary Closure of the Pine River Hiking Trail

March 31-April 30, 2025

The Environmental Programs Department (EPD) will be temporarily closing the Pine River Hiking Trail from the Ute Road and Scott's Pond trailheads from March 31 – April 30, 2025.

This project will restore and lengthen the existing trail, partially damaged by the June 3, 2022, Bear Dance Fire, by creating a loop along Ute Road where environmental remediation was recently completed. The Cultural Preservation Department collaborated with EPD and the project will include adding interpretive, educational signs about Ute culture, language, and wildlife.

We appreciate your understanding and patience during this time. Please plan accordingly and respect all posted closures.

For more information, contact the Environmental Programs Department at (970) 563-2272 or email mdorsk@southernute-nsn.gov



SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND

Southern Ute Utilities Division to perform sewer jetting

By Pooja Rao-Pennington
SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND

The Southern Ute Utilities Division would like to inform the Southern Ute Tribal membership about the upcoming sewer jetting schedule.

Utilities will be jetting this week in the Northridge residential area. There will be no jetting on Mondays or Fridays unless it is an emergency.



courtesy SUGF

WHAT IS JETTING?

Sewer jetting is a powerful technique that utilizes high-pressure water jets to effectively clear blockages and thoroughly clean pipes.

The intense water pressure dislodges obstructions

and removes debris from pipe walls, preventing future issues such as unpleasant odors, slow drainage, sewage backups, and potential health hazards.

Also known as hydro jetting, hydro scrubbing, or

water jetting, this method was first introduced in the early 1900s and has gained popularity in recent years. Sewer jetting is highly effective in removing grease, sludge, and other debris blockages from sewer lines.

Visit our website to learn more!

save the date

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

E.L.K.S.
June 10-13, 2025

Please contact the Environmental Programs Department at mdorsk@southernute-nsn.gov with any questions or comments.

NEW 2025 Programming

E.L.K.S. provides hands on and interactive science activities, demonstrations, and games, to grow environmental awareness!

TWO AGE GROUPS

- Two days for students in grades 3-5
 - June 10th + 11th
 - Games, mini fields trips, & more!
- Two days for students in grades 6-8
 - June 12th + 13th
 - Guest speakers & a raft trip!

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES DIVISION-HOME REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Application Deadline:
April 28, 2025 5:00 pm

Any questions, contact CSD at (970) 563-0260

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING AVAILABLE!

SCAN CODE BELOW FOR AN APPLICATION:

Apply @ : www.southernute-nsn.gov/tribal-housing/construction-services-division/



Consider becoming a foster parent with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe

FOSTER PARENTS CAN BE:

- >Single or Married
- >LGBTQIA+ Community Members
- >Any Race, Ethnicity or Religion
- >Families with children or not
- >Homeowners or Renters
- >Adults 18 years old and older

What is the licensing process?

- > Complete a Foster Home Application packet
- > Complete our Home Safety Inspection.
- > Submit background checks for criminal history and child abuse/neglect history.
- > Complete foster care pre-service training – 8 hours
- > Complete an in-home interview with the Foster Care Coordinator
- > Get certified in 1st Aid & CPR
- > All processed through Southern Ute Division of Social Services

Call or email
Southern Ute Social Services
(970) 563-2337
kyazzie@southernute-nsn.gov

Southern Ute Utilities Division

SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND | 3/21/25

APRIL UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRANSFER STATION 2025 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

New 2025 Trash Permits are ready—Pick up at Office or Ramp

MAY 26TH MEMORIAL DAY — CLOSED

JUNE 19TH/20TH JUNETEENTH — CLOSED

JULY 4TH INDEPENDENCE DAY — CLOSED

SEPTEMBER 1ST LABOR DAY — CLOSED

OCT 13TH INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY — CLOSED

NOV 10TH/11TH VETERAN'S DAY — CLOSED

NOV 27TH THANKSGIVING DAY — CLOSED

DEC 10TH LEONARD C. BURCH DAY — CLOSED

DEC. 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY — CLOSED

TRANSFER STATION HOURS OF OPERATION
MON.—SAT. 8 AM TO 5 PM / CLOSED SUNDAY
TRANSFER STATION FOR TRIBAL MEMBER / TRIBAL DEPT. USE ONLY

APRIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- SPRING CLEAN-UP:** April 21—25, 2025. MUST LABEL LIQUIDS such as paint, oils, solvents, etc. Limit of 4 tires per household —No exceptions!
- Alert:** Recent vandalism at HWY. 172 Water Fill Station, beware of your surroundings. Reminder: No CASH kept at Water Fill Stations.
- Natural Gas staff will conduct annual gas leakage survey thru April 2025. Crews will need access to your yard to check the service lines for leaks up to residential meter. Any concerns, call Utilities Office.
- Planning Outdoor Spring Projects? *Happy Easter* Call 8-1-1 **BEFORE** you dig!

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday 8 AM to 5 PM
Lobby closed 12p -1p on Fridays

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

Utilities Division Manager, Julian Baker
AP/AR Manager, Wahleah Frost

Monthly Shut-Off Day is the first Wednesday of each month.
April 2nd / May 7th / June 4th
Avoid Late Fees. Settle your payments before 10am on Shut-off Day

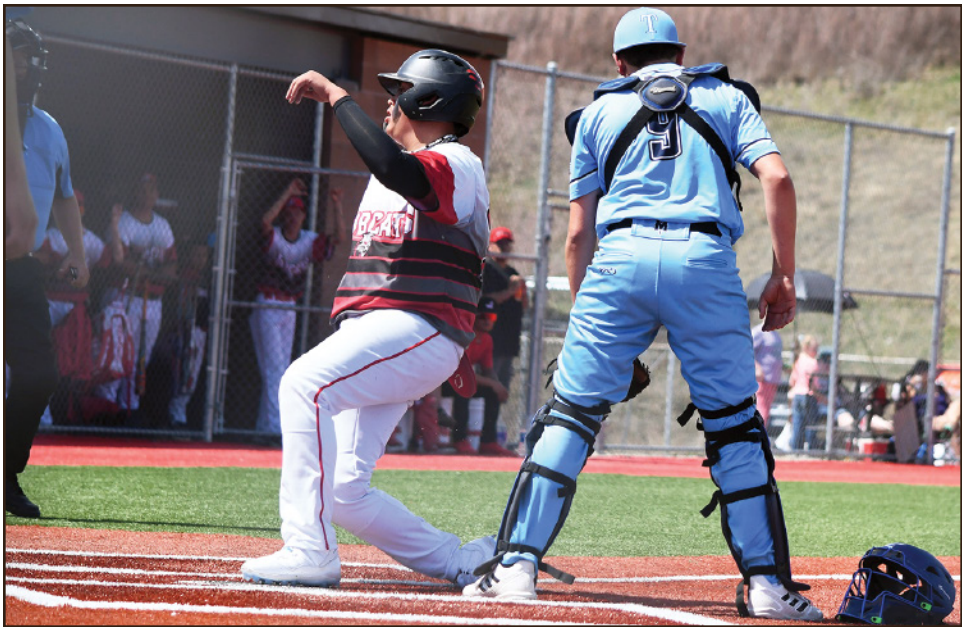
PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Online at: www.suitutil.com
Choose "Pay My Bill" tab
- Utilities Drive-Up Window
- Utilities Drop Box at Office
- Wells Fargo Drive-Thru (Ignacio Branch)
- Automatic deductions at Tribal Distribution
- Mail payment made payable to "Southern Ute Utilities Division"

Bulk Water Fill Station Users

Pre-Pay features are here!
Starting March 31st, NO CASH—NO COIN ACCEPTED
Set up your Pre-Paid Account by scanning the QR Code. Check website for updates at <https://www.suitutil.com>

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, CALL UTILITIES OFFICE.
PO Box 1137 16360 Hwy. 172 Ignacio, CO 81137 (970) 563-5500 www.suitutil.com



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Stoney White Thunder pops up to his feet after sliding into home plate and scoring a run during non-league action Saturday, April 12, against Trinidad at IHS Field. The Bobcats defeated the Miners 14-4 and 14-4.

BOBCATS BASEBALL

IHS double-dips Trinidad at home

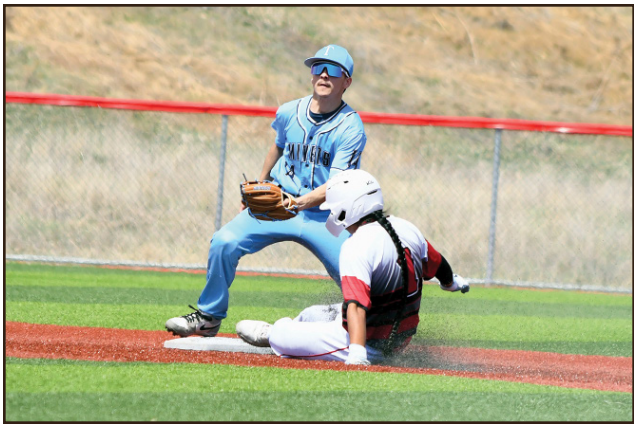
Bobcats score 14-4, 14-4 sweep

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Once the Bobcats brought out their boomsticks Saturday, April 12, there was no hope for struggling Trinidad. To be fair, the Miners, still seeking their first win in 2025, had battled well in the doubleheader's early goings and forced Ignacio to piece together two mini-rallies just to begin the bottom of the fourth inning level at 4-all with the guests. But after THS starter Andres Romero retired the first two batters he faced, he then walked Tanner Smith and leadoff man Gabe Archuleta.

Head coach Michael Peitsmeyer, sensing something was seriously wrong, wisely made a change and put shortstop Marcus Dasko on the mound. But the freshman then walked Stoney White Thunder, bringing Cole Wagner to the plate. Unable to hit, but unable to resist high heaters during his previous two at-bats, the big senior waited for something lower...and got it. Smashing Dasko's delivery into deep left-center for a double, Wagner cleared the bases and irreparably severed the tie.

"I was in my head a little bit. Got a little hungry on that high fastball," he admitted. "But when I saw that middle fastball I was like, 'That's the one I want!' Crushed it



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Sonny Flores (1) easily beats a late-coming throw and steals second base during non-league action Saturday, April 12, against Trinidad at IHS Field. The Bobcats defeated the Miners 14-4 and 14-4.

and saw everybody go – and score – and I was like, 'I did my job,' you know?" Trinidad failed to respond in the top of the fifth, and Ignacio went back to work in the bottom half with Joe Atencio, batting eighth in boss Isiah Valdez's order, singling home William Mendoza-Lechuga with one out. Dasko then plunked Smith and walked Archuleta (1-1, 3 BB, 2B, 3 R), and White Thunder (1-2, 2 BB, 3 R, RBI) singled into right, scoring Atencio and increasing IHS' lead to 9-4. And like something out of a pitcher's nightmare, Wagner again stood in with the sacks packed. A wild pitch allowed Smith to score, and another brought in Archuleta with White Thunder advanc-

ing to third. Wagner, meanwhile, received nothing hittable and walked. But Dasko's control still suffered, and a wild pitch to Ambrose Valdez allowed White Thunder to score. Valdez, however, would go down swinging and Sonny Flores then grounded out to new shortstop Romero—retiring the side and leaving Wagner (1-3, 3 RBI), ironically, again stranded at the hot corner. Having replaced Valdez (ND; 3.2 IP, 4 H, 4 R, 3 ER, 2 BB, 7 K) on the hill, White Thunder (W; 2.1 IP, 0 H, 0 R, 2 HB, 3 K) then retired Trinidad in order in the visitors' sixth, and Atencio then capped a 14-4, mercy-rule victory by doubling home Easton Smith and Men-

IHS page 24

TRACK & FIELD

Track attacks Archibeque Invite

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Denied by Mother Nature their own Abel Velasquez Invitational on Saturday, April 5, Ignacio High's tracksters resumed competition on the 11th under vastly improved conditions in Cortez. And ultimately left Montezuma-Cortez's concluded 2025 Bob Archibeque Invite with one individual event win, two runner-up results and a few more close calls. Leading the way, junior Lincoln deKay won the boys' 110-meter hurdles in a time of 16.40 seconds – or roughly half a tick ahead of M-CHS teammates Wyatt Oliver and Atticus Keel. Fastest around Panther Stadium's track in the first of two heats, IHS junior Dillon Brann's 19.82 held up for eighth place as the Bobcats grabbed 12 team points from the event. In the 800 meters, Ignacio fared even better—scoring 15 points – as sopho-

more Cayson Burcham ran a 2:06.21 and placed second, with junior Trace Crane (2:17.21) earning third, while sophomore Thunder Windy Boy (2:26.19) finished tenth. In the 1,600m run, however, Windy Boy rose to third place by clocking 5:18 flat, and sophomore Cameron Bell also earned IHS a couple team points via his eighth-place 5:38.35. And at double the distance he fared even better, posting a sixth-place 11:57.76. Junior Zane Pontine took second in the pole vault, clearing 10'6", and junior Evan Perkins was runner-up in the discus with a best throw of 101 feet, one inch. deKay finished fifth with his 91'10" maximum. Crane did well in both the 400m dash (fourth, 55.04) and the triple jump (fifth, 35'8.5"), Burcham ranked sixth in the 200m (24.64) and Brann took eighth in the 300m hurdles (50.41). deKay placed tenth in both the 200 (25.21) and 400 (58.97), and Josh

Kerrigan was tenth in the pole vault (7'6"). Leading the Lady 'Cats, junior Juliann Avila finished fourth in the high jump with a best clearance of 4'6". Only Monticello, Utah's Maron Freestone (4'8"), Bayfield's Vivien Clance (4'10") and M-CHS' Tessa Jackson (5'4") went higher. Avila also earned the Ignacio girls' other top ten finish by clocking a seventh-place 19.00 in the 100-meter hurdles. Sophomore Maliyah Martinez – a dual-sport athlete (soccer) this spring – was top-20 in the long jump (19th, 12'0"), while Avila just missed in the 100m dash (23rd, 14.97) and junior Krysten Neil ditto in the shot put (22'1.75") and discus (27th, 45'5"). Looking ahead, IHS will next see action Saturday, April 19, at Durango's Ron Keller Invitational, with the meet scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Ignacio will then attend Bayfield's Pine River Invite on the 26th.

RECREATION

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SOFTBALL
TOURNAMENT

MAY 23-25, 2025

MEN'S- WOMEN'S- CO-ED

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REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 19, 2025

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CLASSIC W

CONTACT RECREATION:
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ELIJAH- (970) 563-2655
DARNELL- (970) 563-2667

RECREATION

ATTENTION

INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN COACHING

Come out and Coach Team Southern Ute at the 2025 Tri-Ute Games July 6-10, 2025, in Fort Duchesne, Utah. Coach Athletes 9-18 years of age in Basketball (Boys/Girls), Volleyball, Golf, Archery, Bowling and Hand Games. Compete for the Inaugural Tri-Ute Games Traveling Trophy. Applications Available April 1st to May 7th, 2025. @ the SunUte Community Center. Background Checks are required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE SUNUTE RECREATION DEPARTMENT AT (970) 563-0214

TRIBAL MEMBERS

1ST DESCENDANTS

2025 TRI-UTE GAMES

ATHLETES 9-18 YEARS OF AGE

COME REPRESENT "TEAM SOUTHERN UTE" DURING AN ACTION-PACKED WEEK OF TEAM SPORTS & INDIVIDUAL CHALLENGES. PARTICIPATE IN BASKETBALL (BOYS/GIRLS), VOLLEYBALL, ARCHERY, GOLF, BOWLING, HAND GAMES AND THE UTE WARRIOR CHALLENGE. COMPETE FOR THE INAUGURAL TRAVELING TROPHY.

JULY 6-10 2025

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE APRIL 1ST TO MAY 7TH, 2025 @ THE SUNUTE COMMUNITY CENTER.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE SUNUTE RECREATION DEPARTMENT AT (970) 563-0214

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 OF LEGAL NAME CHANGE

In the Legal Name Change of,
Zahlayah Kristen Cloud, Civil Subject
Case No.: 2025-0016-CV-NC

Notice is hereby given that Zahlayah Kristen Cloud filed an application for legal change of name, to be known hereafter as Zahlayah Kristen Prairiechief-Cloud. As of April 7, 2025 no person filed an objection to the request, and therefore notice is hereby given that Zahlayah Kristen Cloud name shall be and is hereby legally changed to Zahlayah Kristen Prairiechief-Cloud.

Dated this 8th day of April, 2025.

Paul Whistler, Southern Ute Tribal Judge

2025 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 April, 2025.

Paula Trujillo, Deputy Court Clerk

NOTICE OF LEGAL NAME CHANGE

In the Legal Name Change of,
Gavin Angelito Chavez-Cloud, Civil Subject
Case No.: 2025-0017-CV-NC

Notice is hereby given that Gavin Angelito Chavez-Cloud filed an application for legal change of name, to be known hereafter as Gavin Cloud. As of April 8, 2025 no person filed an objection to the request, and therefore notice is hereby given that Gavin Angelito Chavez-Cloud name shall be and is hereby legally changed to Gavin Cloud.

Dated this 8th day of April, 2025.

Paul Whistler, Southern Ute Tribal Judge

LEGAL NOTICE.

TO: NOREEN ROCK. In the Case of SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY, Plaintiff v. NOREEN ROCK, Defendant,
Case No. 2025-0020 CV,

NOTICE OF TRIAL, Take notice that Plaintiff has filed in this Court a complaint seeking damages against you. You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of Plaintiff by filing with the Court Clerk an answer or other response to the complaint within twenty-one (21) days after service of this summons upon you, or before your hearing date of Monday, June 16, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. Service will be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the Complaint and all filings in the case may be obtained from the Court Clerk. Trial in this matter is set for June 16, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. at Southern Ute Tribal Court, 149 CR 517, Ignacio, CO 81137, 970-563-0240. If you fail to answer, or appear for said trial, the Court may grant the relief sought by Plaintiff. On the trial date, you should bring with you all books, papers, witnesses needed by you to establish any defenses you might have to Plaintiff's claims. If you wish to present a counterclaim, you must pay a fee of \$50.00. Signed David Liberman, CO Atty. Reg. No. 23284, Attorney for Plaintiff, Address and Telephone: 1099 Main Avenue, Suite 312, Durango, CO 81301, (970) 375-6265.

NOTICE OF PROBATE

In the Estate Of,
Case No.: 2025-0023-CV-PR
Cecelia Louise Ross, 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 May 20,

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is designated National Child Abuse Prevention Month in the United States since 1983. It is an annual observance in dedicating raising awareness and preventing child abuse. Former President Obama continued the tradition and in 2016, issued a Presidential proclamation stating: "During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we recommit to giving every child a chance to succeed and to ensuring that every child grows up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment that is free from abuse and neglect."

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services states that for National Child Abuse Prevention Month, communities should rededicate themselves to being supportive of families and play an active role in preventing child abuse and neglect as well as taking a positive action to promote child and family well-being.

On April 5, 2017, the late Mr. Alex Cloud (egap), former Vice Chairman, signed and designated April as, "Southern Ute April Child Abuse Prevention Month":

WHEREAS, children on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation have a right to a safe, thriving, and growing environment so they can reach their full potential and benefit their generation and the next; and

WHEREAS, child abuse, neglect and the observation of violence can create adverse childhood experiences that can lead to emotional, psychological, and physical issues that can affect a child's quality of life, and

WHEREAS, the community members can come together and create a strong healthy support system by: providing safe and nurturing homes free from violence, neglect, and abuse; providing a Helfand to children and families in need; providing safe child-friendly events and activities outside the home; and by breaking the historical trauma cycle; and

WHEREAS, violence against children can be prevented by supporting and strengthening our community and making meaningful partnerships with our families, schools, and organizations, within the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and with the Town of Ignacio; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe is committed to child abuse education and supports and recognizes the importance of dedicating a month to prevent and to raise awareness of the impacts of child abuse.

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the foregoing, the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council proclaims each month of April, from this day forward as, CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH for the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, and supports safe nurturing environments for our children to grow in. The Tribal Council encourages our community members to value the safety of our children and to give support to individuals and organizations providing services to our children and families.

The Division of Social Services invites the community and Tribal employees to demonstrate their support against child abuse for the month of April:

1. Pick up a pinwheel at the DSS office to show commitment against child abuse and hang in your office or on your lawn. In 2008, Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign. What our research showed, and what our experiences since then have reinforced, is that people respond positively to pinwheels, which represent childlike whimsy and lightheartedness and our vision for a world where all children grow up happy, healthy, and prepared to succeed in supportive families and communities.
2. Pick up a pin or keychain from DSS office to demonstrate HOPE for those who have survived child abuse.
3. Wear BLUE on Fridays to show your support against child abuse!
4. Participate in our annual CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS COLOR RUN, on Friday, May 2, 2025, at the Piinu Nuuchi Skate Park. Registration begins at 3:00 p.m., event starts at 4:00 p.m.

Pick up your free Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Items at the Southern Ute Division of Social Services office located in the MCB Building, 3rd floor.

Please contact DSS Administrative Assistant Tess: 970-563-2332



2024
Spring
Clean Up
April 21-25, 2025

Tribal Members, Tribal Departments, and any tenant of the Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority. We will not pick up for non-tribal tenants living in Tribal Member owned rental homes. All pick-ups must be within the boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation only. Please feel free to call with any questions or concerns.

ALL ITEMS MUST BE IN ONE AREA and general trash MUST BE BAGGED FOR PICK UP.

No Pickups will be made without prior scheduling with the homeowner or department. **APPOINTMENT ONLY.**

If you have tires, only 4 tires per household will be picked up. NO EXCEPTIONS.

No semi-truck or heavy equipment tires accepted. Tires only, no wheels.

We will not pull your trailer to the transfer station for you.

Tribal Elders. Please contact Elder Services at (970) 563-2323 if you need help with bagging and piling of your trash.

All vehicle disposal requests can contact Building Maintenance at 970-563-0265.

HAZARDOUS WASTE. If think your trash is hazardous waste, or you cannot identify the waste, please call Environmental Programs at 970-563-2272.

If the pickup teams suspect that your trash may contain hazardous waste, or it is not identifiable, we will call Environmental Programs. Liquids will only be picked up if in a sealed and labeled container.

LARGE SITE or DANGEROUS or HAZARDOUS WASTE testing and cleanup will be completed at the HOMEOWNER'S EXPENSE.
This will be on a case-by-case basis and scheduled dependent on program availability.

- Motor Pool, 970-563-0280, Tribal Member homes west of the Pine River except those areas listed below.
- Building Maintenance, 970-563-0265, Tribal Departments, Tribal Member homes on Cr 314, Cr 315, Cr 316, and Cr 311
- Grounds Maintenance, 970-563-0272, Tribal Departments, Tribal Member homes located in Cedar Point East & West, Ignacio Peak and the La Boca area west of the Pine River, Tribal Member tenants of Quichas Apartments.
- Construction Services, 970-563-0260, Tribal members within the Town of Ignacio and Tribal Member homes east of the Pine River.
- Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority, 970-563-4575, Southern Ute Housing Authority renters and Senior Center.

For questions or clarification, please contact the Southern Ute Property and Facilities Director, Tyson Thompson, 970-563-2945

Drum
Deadline

Next issue:
May 2

Deadline:
Apr. 28

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



THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

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



SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$29 per year • \$49 two years
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MAILING ADDRESS

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

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

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

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The Southern Ute Drum is a member of the Native American Journalists Association, the Society of Professional Journalism and the Colorado Press Association.



Specials Request
Southern Ute Bear Dance Powwow
May 23, and 24, 2025

The Southern Ute Powwow Committee is taking special requests during the Southern Ute Bear Dance Powwow of May 23, and 24, 2025, must submit in writing to the Southern Ute Powwow Committee. Specify the date and time, include a phone number, and submit to the Committee's Vice-Chairman Karen Washington at P.O.

Box 737 #16 Ignacio, CO 81137 or you can email to: soutepowwow@southernute-nsn.gov. Should you have any questions please call 970-759-5880. Deadline to submit is May 2, 2025, at 5 p.m.

Thank you,
Karen Washington
Powwow Committee Vice-Chairman

Notice Of Draft Title V Operating Permits
And Request For Comments

Notice is hereby given that one (1) renewal application and two (2) initial applications have been submitted to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Environmental Programs Department's Air Quality Division, P.O. Box 737 MS#84, Ignacio, Colorado 81137, for the following sources of air pollution:

Applicant: SIMCOE, LLC

Facility: Florida River Central Delivery Point; Section 25, T34N, R9W, 8.50 miles northwest of Ignacio, Colo. This source is a natural gas central delivery point.

Applicant: SIMCOE, LLC

Facility: Tiffany 2 Pad; Section 17, T33N, R6W, 6.00 miles east of Ignacio, Colo. This source is a natural gas well pad.

Applicant: SIMCOE, LLC

Facility: Tiffany 5 Pad; Section 20, T33N, R6W, 6.75 miles east of Ignacio, Colo. This source is a natural gas well pad.

The Air Quality Division (AQD) has prepared the draft Title V operating permits based on

the information submitted by the applicant. The draft permits and accompanying statement of basis are available on the AQD's website at www.southernute-nsn.gov/environmental-programs/air-quality/air-permitting/, and at the Environmental Programs Department office at 71 Mike Frost Way, Ignacio CO, 81137 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit and request a hearing. Written comments and requests for hearings may be sent to the AQD in care of Daniel Powers, Air Quality Division Head, at P.O. Box 737 MS#84, Ignacio, Colorado 81137; or emailed to dpowers@southernute-nsn.gov. Any hearing request should: 1) identify the individual or group requesting the hearing, 2) state his or her address and phone number, and 3) state the reason(s) for the request. Notice of any public hearing will be provided at least 30 days in advance of the hearing. The AQD will consider the written public comments and requests for a hearing that are received within 30 days of this notice (April 18, 2025).

For Sale

Quonset Hut:
New on crate 30"x60' open front.
\$24,000 new, \$12,500 OBO takes.
Call 970-749-3075.



Request for Bids
Southern Ute Bear Dance Powwow

The Southern Ute Powwow Committee is requesting bids for the Southern Ute Bear Dance Powwow on May 23, & May 24, 2025.

CLEANING CREW

Sky Ute Casino Resort – Events Center
• Friday, May 23: 6 PM to 11 PM
• Saturday, May 24: 11 AM to 12 PM
Cleaning supplies will be provided, Cleaning Crew should consist of (3) cleaning staff. Must provide One Million Dollar Insurance with the Sky Ute Casino Resort as the Insurer.

SOUNDSYSTEM

Sky Ute Casino Resort – Events Center
• Friday, May 23: 3 PM (set up) to 11 PM
• Saturday, May 24: 9 AM to 11 PM
Must provide One Million Dollar Insurance with the Sky Ute Casino Resort as the Insurer.

DEADLINE: APRIL 18, 2025 AT 5 PM

Submit bids to: Southern Ute Powwow Committee, P.O. Box 737 #16, Ignacio, CO 81137 or soutepowwow@southernute-nsn.gov Questions? Contact: Vice-Chairman: Karen Washington 970-759-5880.

Request for Bids
Porta-potty Services during Bear Dance

Attn: Eugene Bereza
PO Box 737, MS 88
Ignacio, CO 81137
ebereza@southernute-nsn.gov
970-563-2307

The Cultural Preservation Department is requesting bids for porta potty services during the Southern Ute Bear Dance on May 23-26, 2025. For consideration, the bid must contain the following information: Business name and contact information; Scope of Work; Services provided; Pricing estimate; Estimated timeline; A copy of business W-9; A copy of current business

general liability insurance. For TERO businesses, please provide a letter of good standing. Indian Preference: The Tribe's Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO) has established a preference for contracting and subcontracting to certified Indian-owned business. To receive this preference in the award of the Contract, Native American-owned companies must be certified by the Tribe's TERO office. Any Native American-owned business not certified by the due date will not be given preference. For information on certification, contact the TERO office at 970-563-2290.



LEADING EDGE DURANGO
BUSINESS COURSE

The LEADING EDGE Strategic Planning Series is an intensive and hands-on course designed to help entrepreneurs with comprehensive training on starting and operating a small business. The course will help both start-up and existing businesses in the areas of finance, marketing, management and more using the Business Model Canvas.

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- Operational: Record keeping, Controls and Risk Management
- Marketing: Market Research, Strategies, Tactics and Implementation
- Financial: Sales Forecast, Cash Flow Projections and Financial Statements

REGISTER

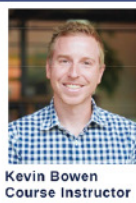
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COST

\$300
Contact Jordan at 970-903-5424
or jnoble@fortlewis.edu
with any questions.
Scholarships available



The Colorado Small Business Development Center Network is a partnership between the State of Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, the Small Business Administrations (SBA), Colorado's institutions of higher education, local economic development organizations and local chambers of commerce.



JOIN THE SOUTHWEST COLORADO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE FORT LEWIS COLLEGE CENTER FOR INNOVATION FOR THE **13TH ANNUAL SOUTHWEST COLORADO SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE**.

THE THEME THIS YEAR IS - INNOVATING LOCALLY: ELEVATING BUSINESS LEADERSHIP, STRATEGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Southern Ute Economic Development is providing scholarships that cover the cost of any Southern Ute Tribal Member or First Descendant interested in attending.

Registration includes the full-day conference, breakfast, lunch and a networking reception at the end of the day.



Wednesday

May 7, 2025



Time

08.00 AM - 5:00 pm



Sky Ute Casino Event Center
Ignacio, CO

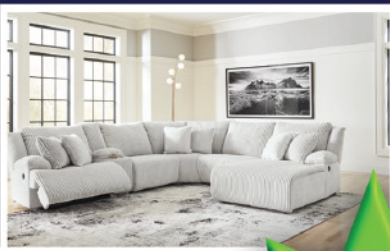
For More Details and to Register for the Conference
Contact - **Allison Wall**
Economic Development Project Coordinator
Email - awall@southernute-nsn.gov
Phone - 970-563-2281



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Southern Ute Indian Tribe/State Of Colorado
Environmental Commission

Closing 4/21/25 by 5 pm – The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is seeking applicants to fill a Commission member vacancy on the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and State of Colorado Environmental Commission. The selected applicant would serve a three-year appointment to the Commission. Determining and prescribing the types of air quality rules and regulations that should apply on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, Reviewing appealable administrative actions; and Any other duties necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the State of Colorado Concerning Air Quality Control on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

Summary of Commission Duties: Conduct public hearings pertaining to adoption of rules and regulations for the Reservation Air Program or review of appealable administrative actions, and issue subsequent orders. Determining which administrative actions are appealable to the Commission. Review and approve the long-term plan of the Reservation Air Program. Facilitate relationships between the EPA, State, County and Tribal agency liaisons and representatives. Approve and adopt fees for permits and other regulatory services conducted by the Tribe or the State. Ensure consistency and adherence to applicable standards and resolve disputes involving third parties. Request administrative or clerical assistance from tribal staff when necessary to issue orders and conduct Commission business; and Review emission inventories developed by the Tribe and State.

Preferred Commission Member Qualifications: Knowledge of Robert’s Rules of Order; Knowledge of Federal, State and Tribal air quality regulations; Ethical, strong integrity; Ability to identify conflicts of interest; Knowledge of environmental issues affecting the Reservation; Able to attend regular Commission and stakeholder meetings; and Cooperative and able to work as a team player.

Commission Member Appointment Terms and Conditions: Commission members are appointed by the Tribal Council. Commission members serve for three-year appointment terms and are not subject to term limits. Commission meetings are generally held twice per year, but more frequent meetings are possible. Stakeholder meetings occur on an as-needed basis and may require Commission participation. Meetings are to be held in person or on virtual meeting platforms. Failure to attend two consecutive Commission or Stakeholder meetings or demonstrated unethical conduct may result in appointment removal by Tribal Council. Compensation is \$100 per half-day meeting for Commission members who are not employees of the Tribe. If employed by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, a short letter or email from the employee’s supervisor approving of appointment to the Commission is required.

Meeting Location: Justice & Regulatory Administration Building, EPD Large Conference Room, 71 Mike Frost Way, Ignacio, CO 81137 or Virtual Meeting Platform.

How to Apply: Send letter of interest via email to: airquality@southernute-nsn.gov or by mail to (must be postmarked by the closing date) Air Quality Division Office, PO Box 737 MS# 84, Ignacio, CO 81137

For Questions about the Commission Vacancy or Environmental Commission: Contact Air Quality Division Head, Danny Powers at dpowers@southernute-nsn.gov or 970-563-2265 or visit the Environmental Commission Website at <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/departments/cpd/air-quality/env-commission/>

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 four (4) volunteer Board Member positions. 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 on the www.bgcsu.org website or by request and returned to Bruce LeClaire at 970-563-2694 or bleclair@southernute-nsn.gov.

ELECTION BOARD

Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Election Board is seeking one (1) Full Time and one (1) Alternate Board Members. Qualifications: 11-2-102, (1) & (3): Must be a Southern Ute Indian Tribal Registered Voter. Must reside within the exterior boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Shall not have been convicted of a felony and shall not have been convicted of a misdemeanor involving dishonesty or fraud within five years immediately preceding appointment to the Election Board. The Election Board is a paid committee: IRS Guidelines and a Criminal Background Check are necessary. Southern Ute Employee benefits are offered, and you will be considered an Official of the Southern Ute Tribe. Please submit your letter of Intent to: Election Board P.O. Box 709 Ignacio, CO 81137. Physical location: 285 Lakin St., Ignacio, CO. Contact the Election Board at 970-563-2305/2729/2730/2303 or via email: election@southernute-nsn.gov.

ETHICS COMMISSION

Open Until Filled – The Ethics Office is accepting letter of interest from tribal members to fill One vacancy for “Alternate Member-At-Large” positions on the Ethics Commission. Qualifications are: Be a member of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe at least 18 years of age or older; Have a reputation for fairness and impartiality; Have a familiarity with tribal government; and Satisfactory completion of a background investigation for criminal history showing no convictions or guilty pleas for felonies or any misdemeanor involving dishonesty. 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 1) Alternate position 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 think you might be interested, please contact the Division of Gaming at 970-563-0180.

KSUT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Open Until Filled – 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. 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: www.ksut.org/ksut-board-of-director

POWOW COMMITTEE

Open Until Filled – The Southern Ute Indian Powwow Committee is currently accepting letters of intent to serve as a volunteer on the committee. The purpose of the Southern Ute Indian Powwow Committee shall be to nurture and promote the positive image of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe through their dances and other activities to preserve our culture. The vacancy is open to Southern Ute tribal members or any interested Native Americans who would like to be actively involved in planning, promoting, and executing Powwows on Southern Ute land. Must be willing to work hands on, attend all scheduled meetings and powwow events with a professional / traditional attitude towards committee members, tribal departments, and visitors. Please submit letters to: Southern Ute Powwow Committee, PO Box 737 #16 Ignacio, CO 81137 OR soutepowwow@southernute-nsn.gov

TERO COMMISSION

Open Until Filled – The Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) is accepting letters of interest for two (2) Southern Ute Tribal member at-large Commissioners to serve on the Tribal Employment Rights Commission which are compensated positions. Southern Ute tribal member/Applicants must have the following requirements: 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; and Ability to observe restrictions concerning conflict of interest and confidentiality. Submit your Letter of Interest to the TERO Division or send letter to TERO Division, P.O. Box 737, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ignacio, CO 81137. If you have any questions, please call TERO, at 970-563-0117 or 970-563-0100 ext. 2291. TERO is located in the J&R Administration Building, 71 Mike Frost Way, (north of the Tribal Court building).

WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD – YOUTH

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 more information, please contact the Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130.

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 more information, please contact the Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130.

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 date	Request cut-off date
Friday, April 25	NOON, Friday, April 18
Wednesday, July 3	NOON, Friday, June 27
Friday, Sept. 26	NOON, Friday, Sept. 19
Friday, Nov. 14	NOON, Friday, Nov. 7
Wednesday, Nov. 26	NOON, Thursday, Nov. 20
Wednesday, Dec. 24	NOON, Friday, Dec. 19
Wednesday, Dec. 31	NOON, Wednesday, Dec. 24

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

SUDEP encourages all Southern Ute Indian Tribal Members to protect themselves from threats both digitally and financially. A 3 years subscription will be paid for by SUDEP. Enroll by April 30, 2025 to take advantage of the full 3 years. Contact us if you need help signing up with Norton. 970-563-5555

Are you worried about the health of your digital life?

\$ We help protect your personal information and finances.

Your identity is valuable, regardless of what you own or how much money you make. We help protect your finances by monitoring your personal information for possible identity theft and financial fraud.

✓ We provide protection when you connect online.

Everybody is scrolling. How do you know if the ad you see online could take you to a harmful site? We block thousands of digital threats every minute - even before they can infect your computers, phones, and tablets.

⚙️ We're here to help when you need it.

If your identity got stolen, would you know who to call? Or where to turn for support? Our U.S.-based Restoration Specialists, will personally handle your identity theft case until it's resolved.

Has your personal info been exposed in a data breach?

Try our free [Threat Detector](#) tool to uncover potential threats to your identity.

Enroll Now! <http://southernute.norton-benefits.com>

Book Your Fiber Installation Today

• Town of Ignacio

Cedar Point – Ignacio Peak EQUA

INTERNET SERVICE UPLOAD AND DOWNLOAD SPEEDS

BONFIRE FIBER INTERNET

250-2000 MBPS

PERFECT FOR GAMING!!

For this...	you need at least this.
Email	5 Mbps
Advanced Browsing	1 Mbps
Netflix & Hulu SD	1-5 Mbps
Netflix & Hulu HD	5 Mbps
Online Video Games	1-4 Mbps
Streaming Music	1-5 Mbps
YouTube & Streaming Video SD	5 Mbps

Scan the QR Codes to Learn More!



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

Air Quality Scientist I – Permitting

Closes 4/28/25 – Under general supervision of the Air Quality Program Manager – Permitting & Regulatory, coordinates, supervises and conducts technical and regulatory tasks within the Permitting Section of the Tribal Air Quality Program. Pay grade E15; Salary is \$70,570/year.

Detention Cook

Closes 4/24/25 – Assisting the Food Service Coordinator to facilitate all kitchen food service preparation and cleaning duties. Pay grade N8; Pay starts at \$18.76/hour.

Detention Officer

Closes 4/22/25 – 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 26.00/hour.

Director of Internal Audit

Closes 4/25/25 – Overall administration and technical direction of the Internal Audit Department. Oversees internal audit engagements for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe to assess governance, risk and controls, and provides recommendations that mitigate risks and promote applicable best practices. Develops and implements internal audit processes and procedures. Assesses performance management and the appropriateness of Key Performance Indicators for tribal entities, departments, divisions, and programs, and recommends improvements to business and operational processes that will promote overall efficiency, productivity, and profitability. Interfaces with the entire organization, including all levels of management and tribal leadership. Reports functionally to Tribal Council and administratively to the Legal Department Director. Pay grade E22; Pay starts at \$189,817/year.

Group Exercise Manager

Closes 4/25/25 – As Fitness Trainer, responsible for fitness evaluations, exercise prescription, personal training and fitness activities related to the Fitness component of the Community Center, in accordance with the guidelines established and approved by the Fitness Director and/or Community Center Director. As Group Exercise Manager, responsible for supervising the group exercise instructors, organizing meetings/trainings, implementing incentive programs, and maintaining monthly statistics. Pay grade E12; salary starts at \$54,086/year

Housing Project Administrator

Closes 4/24/25 – Works under the supervision of the Director of Housing to coordinate all functions and activities related to construction projects, providing oversight to projects through completion. Pay grade E16; pay starts at \$77,627/annually.

Land Specialist

Closes 4/28/25 – Management of tribal land assignments, leases, the Proposed Project Notification process (PPN – proposed surface disturbing projects on tribal lands), and the Proposed Maintenance Project process and the management of those databases. Ensures tribal members and other entities receive professional services related to general land management and proposed tribal land use. Pay grade E15; Salary is \$70,570/year.

NAGPRA Coordinator (Southern Ute tribal member only)

Closes 4/25/25 –Develops and administers procedures for determining the affiliation of Native American Remains, funerary objects, sacred objects of cultural patrimony, as well as the protection of archaeological and sacred sites. Pay grade N12; Pay starts at \$26.00/hour.

Police Sergeant

Closes 4/24/25 – Coordinates the efforts of the officers and dispatchers to achieve the objectives of the Police Department and in the absence of the Police Lieutenant will command the Southern Ute Police Department. Pay grade N16; Pay starts at \$37.32/hour.

Registered Nurse – Detention

Closes 4/25/25 – A Registered Nurse position providing professional and clinical services at the Southern Ute Detention Center. Pay grade N15; Pay starts at \$33.93/hour.

Air Quality Scientist III – Planner

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Air Quality Program Manager – Monitoring and Planning, responsible for coordinating and conducting technical, regulatory, and air quality improvement planning tasks and regulation development for the Tribal Air Quality Monitoring and Planning Program. Pay grade E17; Pay starts at \$86,943/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.

Boys & Girls Club Summer Aide

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

Chief Judge Apprentice (Southern Ute tribal member only)

Open Until Filled – 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 purposes 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 will start at 20% below grade E22.

Controller

Open Until Filled – Integrity and timeliness of the financial information of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Prepares financial statements for distribution for internal and external reporting, including consolidated statements. Supervision and oversight of the accounting staff in the preparation of financial information. Responsible for the offices of General Ledger/Fixed Assets, Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, Purchasing, and Contracts and Grants. Pay grade E19; Pay starts at \$114,968/year.

Custodian

Open Until Filled – Daily cleaning of Southern Ute Indian Tribe Buildings and offices. Pay grade N6; Pay starts at \$16.09/hour.

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.

Detention Division Head

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Director of Justice and Regulatory, plans, organizes, directs, and reviews the administrative activities of the Southern Ute Detention Program and Facility. Pay grade E17; Pay starts at \$86,943/year.

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 and includes a potential 5k DOE sign-on bonus.

Dispatcher

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Communications Manager, provides radio dispatch services for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Pay grade N10; the Pay starts at \$21.89/hour and includes a potential 3-5k DOE sign-on bonus.

Early Childhood 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. Communicating effectively with parents/guardians about their child's progress in each domain area. 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 rate is \$54,086/year.

Family Court Case Manager

Open Until Filled – Providing guardian ad litem, special advocacy, parent coordination, and mediation services as assigned through Court appointment and clinical supervisor. Psycho-social educational classes for youth as assigned by clinical supervisor. Case management activities and/or counseling services involving assigned adults and juveniles. Pay grade E13; salary is \$59,494/annually.

Grants Financial Analyst

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

Group Exercise Instructor

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

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,



Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Job Fair

The Permanent Fund Human Resources Department will be hosting a Job Fair.

The Growth Fund and Sky Ute Casino are also invited.

April 30, 2025
Sky Ute Casino Event Center
10:00AM to 3:00PM

Contact: Rochelle Aguilar – HR Career Coordinator
970-563-2990

raguilar@southernute-nsn.gov

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Job Announcements, cont.

and variable volume system located in Southern Ute Tribal Buildings. Pay grade N15; Pay starts at \$33.93/hour.

Lab Technician

Open Until Filled – Provides clinical laboratory services for the Southern Ute Health Center. Pay grade N11; Pay starts at \$23.63/hour.

Lake Capote Manager Apprentice (Southern Ute tribal member only)

Open Until Filled – The objective of this Apprenticeship Program is to provide the Southern Ute Tribal Member Apprentice with training, education, and hands-on experience in all phases of managing the Lake Capote Recreation Area (LCRA). The time frame for program completion is planned for 1 year, unless there are circumstances requiring an extension or reduction in the training period. Will start at 20% below the grade for Lake Capote Manager and receive quarterly evaluations and pay increases.

Legal Assistant I

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Southern Ute Public Defender, routine office duties, preparation of criminal, traffic, juvenile delinquency, and involuntary commitment cases for hearings, trials, and appeals. Pay grade N12; Pay starts at \$26.00/hour.

Lifeguard (Full-time & 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 Registrar and Archivist

Open Until Filled – Under the general supervision of the Southern Ute Museum Director, management, accuracy, and accessibility of the Museum's collections records and archives. Pay grade E14; salary is \$64,155/annually.

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; the Pay starts at \$28.60/hour and includes a potential 3-5k DOE sign-on bonus.

Permits & ROW Specialist

Open Until Filled – Negotiations/management of rights-of-way needed to construct ingress/egress, utilities, and surface leases for the Tribe with outside entities or persons and ensure compliance with laws, rules, regulations, and policies. Manages Crossing Permits and its database for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Department of Natural Resources. Pay grade N13; Pay starts at \$28.60/hour.

Public Health Nurse

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

Recreation Assistant

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Lake Capote Resident Manager, the Recreation Assistant will greet guests, collect fees for fishing/camping/small concessions, clean, maintain, and repair grounds, facilities, and buildings, and assist with site development and improvements. Seasonal/full time, 8-month schedule. Pay grade N8; Pay starts at \$18.76/hour.

Remediation Scientist I – Brownfields Program

Open Until Filled – Under the supervision of the Remediation Program Manager, develops and administers the Tribal Brownfields grant program and supports compliance activities throughout the Reservation. Requires knowledge of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) §128(a) Brownfields Program. Pay grade E15; salary is \$70,570/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.

Social Worker

Open Until Filled – An advanced level position that requires knowledge of the theories, principles, and concepts of social casework practice

(assessment and treatment oriented) related to all of the assigned program areas, including child and adult protection services. Pay grade E14; Pay starts at \$64,155/year.

Summer Youth Employment (Southern Ute tribal members & 1st descendants only)

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Youth Employment Program Coordinator, Youth Employment Program Aide, or Tribal Department Directors, Division Heads, or Managers, the Youth Employment Worker performs job duties as directed and participates in activities provided within the SUIT Education Youth Employment Program. This summer program is designed to provide employment from June to August 2025, with extensions available to make up hours missed due to illness or absence.

Swimming Instructor (Part-time)

Open Until Filled – Under supervision of Aquatics Manager, instructs American Red Cross individual and group swimming lessons at the Sun-Ute aquatics facility. Responsible for preparation of class, instruction of individuals, break down 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 member 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. This is for 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.

Transportation Division Head

Open Until Filled – Directs, oversees, and coordinates all functions and activities related to the Southern Ute Transportation Division for road and bridge improvements and maintenance of Tribal transportation facilities. Provides oversight and management of transportation projects from conception through completion including P.L.93-638 projects. Pay grade E17; salary is \$86,943/year.

Tribal Apprenticeship Program (Southern Ute tribal member 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. The Apprenticeship Committee will review applications and assess what options may be available for applicants.

Tribal Ranger Trainee (Southern Ute tribal member only)

Open Until Filled – A trainee position for uncertified individuals interested in a career in law enforcement with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Will be required to attend and successfully complete an approved basic police-training course. Upon successful completion of training curriculum requirements, incumbent will assume the Tribal Ranger position. Pay grade N11; Pay starts at \$23.63/hour.

Umpire/Referee

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

Water Quality & Remediation Division Head

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Environmental Programs Director, planning and management of Southern Ute Indian Tribal Water Quality, Brownfields, and General Assistance Programs. Pay grade E18; salary is \$99,984/year and includes a potential 3-5k DOE sign-on bonus.



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.

Assistant Controller – Red Willow Production Co. (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 4/25/25 – Assisting the Controller as directed in managing all accounting functions, to include establishing and maintaining accounting principles, practices, and procedures; managing monthly accounting tasks including AR, AP, general ledger management, and generation of financial statements; bank reconciliations and cash management; calculation and payment of taxes; establishing and maintaining credit records; assisting in the preparation and reconciliation of annual financial statements, and reporting as required. Supervises the joint interest billing function in the accounting department. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

Petroleum Engineer II – Chemical Emphasis – Red Willow Production Co. (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 4/25/25 – Requires advanced application of petroleum engineering skills principally in the areas of chemical program management, production surveillance, well optimization, and well intervention. As a member of a multi-disciplinary team, this position has broad responsibility associated with optimizing field performance, depletion, and asset retirement. Conducting project evaluations and supporting internal processes as-

sociated with budgeting, approvals, and post-appraisals. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

Petroleum Engineer III-Chemical Emphasis – Red Willow Production Co. (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 4/25/25 – Requires advanced application of petroleum engineering skills principally in the areas of chemical program management, production surveillance, well optimization, and well intervention. As a member of a multi-disciplinary team, this position has broad responsibility associated with optimizing field performance, depletion, and asset retirement. Conducting project evaluations and supporting internal processes associated with budgeting, approvals, and post-appraisals. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

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

Closes 4/25/25 – Supervising, mentoring, and assisting Lease Operators to ensure that oil and gas production is produced safely and efficiently, in compliance with all regulations, and in a manner consistent with Red Willow Production Company priorities and concerns. Preference will be given to enrolled and qualified Native Americans.

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.

Senior Payroll Developer – SUSS (Ignacio, CO)

Closes 5/2/25 – Development and production support of the Human Capital Management (HCM) software program and related interface to General Ledger and Accounts Payable, providing enterprise-wide Payroll technical support and consultation. Will focus on the technical view of the North America Payroll application with emphasis on the impact, implications, and functional/technical benefit of enhancements, as well as the design and implementation of customizations and fixes to the production system.

SoCoCAA Job Opportunities

Visit our website to apply at www.sococaa.org or call 970-563-4517. Jobs open until filled.

Ignacio Youth Services:

• Program Coordinator (Full-time) \$17.29/hr., DOE

Road Runner Transit:

• Clerical/Dispatch (Full-time) \$18.94/hr., DOE
• Inter-city Bus Driver (Full Time) \$22.76/hr.
• Transit Driver, (Full-time) \$18.94/hr., DOE

SoCoCAA Central Administration:

• Executive/Development Director \$75,275 – \$82,638/yr., (Up to \$3,000 in relocation expenses available.)
• Program Developer (Part-time) \$32.97/hr.

Ignacio School District – Job announcements

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

• 6th Grade Teacher
• Elementary SpEd Teacher
• Elementary Teacher Secondary Spanish Teacher
• Pre-K Teacher

• Route and Activity Bus Driver
• Secondary Secretary
• Secondary SpEd Teacher
• Secondary Science Teacher

Goff Engineering & Surveying Inc.

Full details on careers at www.goffengineering.com

Survey Manager

Seeking an experienced Survey Manager to join our team. Must have CO PLS license, 15+ years' experience, and strong leadership skills. Competitive pay and benefits.

Survey Party Chief

Immediate opening for a Survey Party Chief with 8-10 years survey experience with a minimum of 2 years Party Chief experience. Trimble Conventional and GPS experience preferred.

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.*

Bingo Staff (Part-time)

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

*Café Cashier (Full-time)

Providing friendly and courteous service to all guests in a fast-paced work environment. Taking guests food orders, accurately totaling food and beverage purchases and collecting payments. Assists in preparing and serving all foods necessary for the 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.

*Compliance/Safety Officer (Full-time)

Under the direction of the General Manager, this position assists in monitoring that the Casino departments conduct their operations in compliance with the Internal Control Minimum Procedures (ICMP) as prescribed by the Southern Ute Division of Gaming (SUDOG) and the Casino Policies and Procedures. Assists with ensuring that the Casino is in compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act, and any applicable health and safety standards and assists with monitoring gaming and non-gaming operations to ensure compliance with existing internal control regulations associate with the ICMP or any other Internal Violations.

*Count Team Staff (Full-time)

The Count Department retrieves, counts, and calculates the daily revenue produced by the gaming revenue departments. It is the job of the Count Team to pull the containers, and count or verify the funds according to the regulatory requirements and procedures set by the Southern Ute Division of Gaming's Internal Control Minimum Procedures and the Sky Ute Casino Resort.

*Deep Cleaning Staff (Full-time)

Cleanliness of the entire Kitchen as instructed by the Facilities Manager and/or Supervisor. The Deep Cleaning Staff will clean Food and Beverage facilities and equipment.

*Kitchen Utility Steward (Full-time)

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

*Laundry Attendant (Full-time)

To 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.

*Laundry Supervisor (Full-time)

Will act in a leadership and training capacity under the general direction and review of the Housekeeping Manager and/or Operations Director. The Supervisor will direct the activities of subordinate laundry staff to complete assigned tasks and goals defined by the Housekeeping Manager. Ensures all linens are clean and acceptable for hotel use, establishing, and implementing appropriate work procedures for meeting quality and production standards. Training all laundry attendants and ensuring all team members abide by Casino policies and procedures.

*Level II 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.

*Lead Facilities Technician HVAC (Full-time)

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

*Player Development Host (Full-time)

Identifies, develops and creates relationships with Sky Ute Casino Resort gaming patrons. Facilitates VIP events that enhance the overall gaming experience. Fosters an environment that results in generating gaming related revenue measured by more trips and increased spending. Assists with all facets of the Sky Ute Casino Resort Bear Club and Player's Center as needed. Reports directly to the Player Development Manager.

*Rolling Thunder Grill 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. High school diploma or equivalency preferred.

*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. Requires the ability to bend, lift, stand and walk throughout the shift. Duties of this job are physically demanding and may be stressful at times, particularly during peak season periods. You will be cleaning an average of 16 guest rooms, and during peak season, up to 20 guest rooms per shift, depending on whether you are working as an individual or a pair. Cross training on the Casino Floor to assist with Operational Housekeeping when needed and as assigned.

*Shining Mountain Line Cook (Full-time)

Work under direct supervision and support of the Sous Chef or Lead Cook. Preparation of the Al La Carte menu in the Shining Mountain Café and accountable for consistency of standardized recipes, presentation, food quality and freshness. Ensure all guidelines are followed according to the established specifications and standards in food safety and sanitation. Requires one to be an excellent team player and trustworthy.

*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.

Pueblo
Community College
Southwest
Forestry and Fire Science

Check out our upcoming offerings!

Spring 2025
Chainsaw Certification – April 21-25
Become certified in chainsaw operation and safety.

Summer 2025
Wildland Fire Academy – June 2-7
This week-long training offers the opportunity to be able to apply for a red card and work as a wildland firefighter!

LEARN MORE

Program info:
Laurel.Smerch@pueblocc.edu
Coordinator of Natural Resources
970.564.6218

Registration or financial aid info:
Mancos campus: 970-564-6201
Durango site: 970-385-2020
Email: GoZoneMancos@pueblocc.edu



FREE 2025 CAREGIVER WORKSHOPS
IGNACIO



Parenting isn't easy. Come connect with other caregivers and local professionals over dinner and learn tools to support yourself and your family. Bring a friend! Dinner and childcare provided.

INTERNET SAFETY

with La Plata Youth Services' Chris Brown

Learn supportive tools and tech tricks to improve your family's online safety in our screen-time hungry world. Learn how to recognize and track hurtful and helpful online behaviors within your family.

February 12th | 5:15-7:00pm | ELHI Community Center

BULLYING AND PEER PRESSURE

with local experts Al Wolfe and Taylor Moorehouse

Supporting your child and community in difficult situations can feel scary. Walk away from this interactive workshop with new skills to help your family navigate bullying, boundary setting, and being an active bystander.

April 9th | 5:15-7:00pm | ELHI Community Center

DE-ESCALATE CONFLICT WITH YOUR CHILDREN

with Communication Coach Rachel Turieil

Learn to de-escalate challenging situations with your child and work together to find solutions that everyone can live with.

April 30th | 5:15-7:00pm | ELHI Community Center

Gift card Drawings at every event

New this year: Free monthly, hour-long parenting Q&As with Rachel Turieil!

Can't make it? Check online for our Bayfield and Durango workshops!

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



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FLY FISHING

A change up in your retrieve can make a difference

By Don Oliver
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

My Friday fishing partner, Kim, and I decided that since spring was in the air, and the high mountain streams were still covered in snow, it would be a good day to fish at one of our favorite area lakes located on the Southern Ute Reservation, Lake Capote.

The reasons Lake Capote is one of our favorite float tube destinations are many. The park is beautiful, well-maintained, with lots of wildlife to entertain you when the fishing slows down. Most of our days on Lake Capote have resulted in our catching large numbers of bass on poppers, and lots of trout using hoppers. The keyword here is most. On arriving at Lake Capote, the weather was windless and shirt-sleeve-warm. It seemed to be perfect for lots of top water action for bass and trout.

After the first hour neither of us had had a strike. I changed my popper to a Chubby Chernobyl, while Kim went to a hopper-dropper set-up. After the second hour, and lots of casting practice, it was decided a Woolley Bugger (WB) would be the fly of choice. I chose a black WB with some



sparkle, while Kim went with purple. We resumed our casting practice. Both long and short casts were made with varying depths before a retrieve was started. We each had a strike or two, but no hookup. It was now either go home or figure this out; we chose the latter.

The only retrieval left was a “jig” retrieve. For those of you who don’t fly fish, a jig- retrieve is done by lifting your rod tip as you are retrieving your line after making a cast. Once you lift your rod tip, stop retrieving your line. Now, lower the rod tip to allow the WB to sink. Once the WB has sunk a foot or two, retrieve the line several feet. Now repeat this until the fly is back to you. Once the fly is back to you, cast it out and repeat the above sequence.

The theory says, and I think it is true, the jig-retrieve makes the fish think the WB is injured and therefore easy prey. When using a jig-retrieve, experiment with different depths and rates of retrieve. Once Kim and I started experimenting with the depth and speed of the retrieve, Kim quickly hooked a fish that was large enough to break her line. I found that being patient, difficult for me, and letting the WB sink deep before starting the retrieve and jig worked best. I further found the fish would strike the WB on the up motion of the jig, close to my float tube. I surmised that being closer to the tube the WB had a more pronounced vertical motion. Whatever the reason, my cast, retrieve, jig, retrieve helped me to catch one of the largest trout I have ever caught on Lake Capote. Kim and I also caught several small mouth bass using the jig motion.

Obviously, it took a long time for us to figure out the best way to catch fish that day. Hopefully, the next time things seem to be going slowly, we won’t be so hesitant to mend our ways. I hope this column has you reaching into your bag of tricks sooner than we did, and not just packing up and heading out.

Join CHS for a walk on 4/22/25 at 10am in front of the Mouache Capote Building.

First 25 people to join will receive a free sack of flower seeds & a reusable tote bag!

PLUS! Drop off your recyclables (aluminum cans or plastic bottles only) CHS will take them to recycling for you.

*Must drop off by 4pm on 4/22/25.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION!

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, FROM 1:00- 5:00 P.M.

Join us with the Sierra Club for an exciting event!

- Engaging displays from IHS students
- Alternative energy demonstrations
- Hands-on Maker activities
- Free books
- Planting activities
- Earth-themed videos
- Activities for the little ones

There’s something for everyone!

(970)563-9287 | ignaciolibrary.org | 470 Goddard Ave.

IHS DOUBLE-DIPS • FROM PAGE 18

doza-Lechuga (0-1, 2 BB, HBP, 3 R).

“He’s a freshman starting on varsity, and he’s got big shoes to fill over there at second base,” said Isiah Valdez, alluding to the graduated Marcus Maez, “so that was good for him, in giving him confidence moving forward.”

“The pitch came, I loaded up...threw my arms at it, and then it flew to the outfield!” Atencio (2-4, R, 3 RBI) said. “We really hit a lot better than we did in Nucla. We struggled then, but we really put the barrel to the ball this game.”

And that didn’t change in Game 2. With the Miners unable to touch starting pitcher White Thunder, the ‘Cats dashed out to an 8-0 lead through three innings – highlighted by Tanner Smith’s RBI-triple plating Atencio, and Archuleta’s subsequent single scoring Smith – against THS’ Xavier Garcia.

Trinidad finally got on the scoreboard in the top of the fourth; leadoff hitter Brett Kendall doubled off Wagner, who’d relieved White Thunder (W; 0 H, 0 R, 0 BB, 0 HB, 5 K) after 2-1/3 perfect frames, and came around via Garcia’s single up the middle. But Wagner worked out of the inning with no more damage done and then led off the bottom of the inning belting a ground-rule double off THS reliever Jeremi-

ah Romero.

Offsetting Kendall’s run, Wagner’s courtesy runner Miguel Red later scored via a wild pitch to Mendoza-Lechuga, and after the Miners managed three fifth-inning runs off Wagner (3 H, 2 R, ER, BB, 2 K) and Archuleta, the ‘Cats all but sealed the deal with a four-run reply – keyed by Easton Smith’s two-out single scoring White Thunder and Flores – in the home half.

Archuleta (2 IP, 0 H, 2 R, ER, 2 BB, 3 K) then sat Jeremiah Romero, Curtis Bueno and Colton Royball down in order, and in the bottom of the sixth Ignacio secured another 14-4 win – as well as a non-league sweep –via consecutive one-out singles by White Thunder, Wagner and Valdez (plating White Thunder).

“They didn’t really throw that hard, couldn’t really throw a lot of strikes. So we just had to swing at their strikes and that was pretty much it,” said Archuleta (1-4, BB, 3 R). “The bats woke up and that’s what we really needed.”

“Yeah, we started off kind of slow ... not too hot, as we usually do,” Wagner (3-4, sacrifice fly) said. “But then we kind of came together, started hitting ... and scoring some more runs.”

“We were timing (THS’ pitchers) up a bit faster today,” added Valdez (2-4, BB, 2B, R, RBI), “so we

just started to get back in our routine. Started hitting the ball –and fielding better.”

Reaching base in each of his four plate appearances, Atencio finished 2-for-3 in Game 2, with a walk and two runs scored. Easton Smith, Flores and White Thunder also scored two runs apiece, and Mendoza-Lechuga went 1-3 with a walk and one RBI.

At day’s end, Kendall finished a combined 2-for-4 in defeat with two walks, three runs and one RBI. Game 2 losing pitcher Garcia (3 IP, 5 H, 8 R, 3 ER, 3 BB, 3 K) also finished 2-4 offensively with a sac-fly and three RBI as Trinidad fell to 0-5 (0-0 2A Southern Peaks) overall.

Looking ahead, Ignacio (6-3, 4-1 2A/1A San Juan Basin) will host non-league Sanford on Friday, April 18, with the doubleheader against the Mustangs – set to visit THS on the 15th – slated to start at 11 a.m. The ‘Cats will then resume SJBL work on the 22nd when they host Nucla for a pair. Results from IHS’ two-fer Monday, April 14, at Dove Creek (4-5, 2-1 SJBL) were unavailable at press time.

“We’re going to kind of be limited on our pitch counts going in,” Isiah Valdez said. “But those are important league games and hopefully we can win two – and win another league title.”

LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Friday, April 18



Mostly cloudy 52°F
Rain likely, mixed with snow, 70% chance

Saturday, April 19



Mostly cloudy 49°F
Snow likely, 70% chance

Sunday, April 20



Sunny 59°F

Weather forecasts collected from www.weather.gov



BRUNOT RARE GAME PERMITS

3 Big Horn Sheep
2 Mountain Goat
2 Moose

The Wildlife Division will be accepting Brunot Rare Game Applications the month of MAY. The drawing will be held in June.

All applications will be submitted online:

<https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/rare-game-app/>

Members can also visit the Brunot Hunting website to find the link <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/natural-resources/wildlife-resource-management/hunting/brunot-area-hunting-and-fishing/>

If you have any questions, please call the Wildlife Division at (970) 563-0130