

Tattoo artists convene in Ignacio
PAGE 12



Tribe gets outdoors for EAD
PAGE 14

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID Ignacio, CO 81137 Permit No. 1	Subscription or advertising information, 970-563-0118 \$29 one year subscription \$49 two year subscription
September 5, 2025	Vol. LVIII, No. 18

The Southern Ute Drum wins 13 media awards from Colorado Press Association



Jeremy Wade Shcokley/SU Drum

Paul Faucher with AcuVac Remediation, monitors vapor levels at the spill site using a zero-emission process, Thursday, May 8. The spill released a now estimated 97,000 gallons of gasoline near County Road 219 and Riverview Ranch Road, south of Durango in December of 2024. The state is now leading remediation oversight in coordination with the Tribe and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

CDPHE and Tribe announce updated Enterprise Pipeline spill estimate

Reaffirm commitment to transparency

By Summer R. Begay
TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFAIRS

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Southern

Ute Indian Tribe are providing this update on the gasoline pipeline release that occurred in December of 2024 on private fee land within the exterior boundaries of the

Southern Ute Indian Reservation. The state is leading remediation oversight in coordination with the Tribe and

CDPHE page 15

SOUTHERN UTE HEALTH CENTER

Spotlight on Tribal Health: Aly Seibel

Staff Report
SOUTHERN UTE HEALTH CENTER

Fueled by empathy and resilience, Aly Seibel is a guiding light within her community. In her fast-paced role as Administrative Assistant, she exceeds the boundaries of her title by coordinating schedules, managing transportation, handling communications, and supporting her team with the same certifications as the CHRs she works alongside. Her commitment to showing up fully for her department is evident in all she does.

One of Seibel's standout contributions is her coordination of the annual Tribal Health Fair, now in its third year. The event brings the community together around health, wellness, and connection, and continues to grow under her leadership. She embraces each year's challenges as opportunities to improve and expand the fair's impact.



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Alyssa Seibel, Administrative Assistant, Tribal Health.

Outside of work, Seibel is pursuing a doctorate in sociology with the goal of becoming a clinical sociologist for at-risk youth. She's passionate about helping children feel seen and supported, especially those facing adversity. She is also an advocate for Native American communities, using her voice to raise awareness and push for stronger support systems for tribal youth.

In addition to her professional and academic pur-

suits, Seibel is a published author, a mental health advocate, and a proud mother of two. Despite her demanding schedule, she has built a life centered on compassion and purpose, believing that even small acts of kindness can make a meaningful difference.

Whether behind the desk, organizing an event, or lending a listening ear, Aly Seibel continues to lead with heart, and hopes to inspire others to do the same.

SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION

Baker and Litz study abroad in Denmark

Tribal students explore Scandinavian culture

By Divine Windy Boy
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

Tribal youth explore a foreign country; Southern Ute tribal members Zuriah Baker and Leandra Litz participated in the study abroad program overseen by Southern Ute Education Department. This summer the pair traveled across the ocean to Denmark, enhancing their educational journey, gaining unique cultural experience, and broadening their global perspective. This once in a lifetime opportunity gave Baker and Litz long lasting memories, and they hope more students will try the study abroad experience in the future.

Earlier this year, in January, the Southern Ute Education Department announced an opportunity for high school aged, Southern Ute tribal members to study abroad, in collaboration with AFS Intercultural Programs and Open Horizon. This once in a lifetime opportunity gave students the chance to immerse themselves in a new culture, learn from diverse educational systems, and develop skills to benefit their future endeavors. Baker and Litz were ideal candidates for the program.

Zuriah Baker is currently in her senior year at Bayfield High School (BHS), she is also Chairman of the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council, inducted in the National Art Honor Society, NAPAC Native American Student Representative at BHS and currently works as an intern for The Southern Ute Drum. "The Study Abroad program gave us the chance to become international students – you get to go live in a different country, experience new cultures, and get to leave your comfort zone. You learn about new people, traditions, and



courtesy Leandra Litz

Southern Ute tribal student, Leandra Litz captures photos of the architecture in Denmark during her visit to the country as a part of the five-week, study abroad program offered by the Southern Ute Education Department. Students complete summer lessons in the country, while learning about the different cultures.

make lifelong friends along the way." Baker said. "We first learned about the program through the ad in the Southern Ute Drum, later we worked with ShaRay [Rock] at Southern Ute Education and had to submit two letters of recommendation, we also wrote an essay sharing how this trip will be influential in our education and personal lives."

"After completing that, we were later contacted by AFS Intercultural Programs to select our destination – we were presented with a long list of options; a lot of South American countries, Middle East, a few in Africa like Egypt, Kenya, Ghana." Baker said. "Then there were three selections in Europe, that persuaded me to choose Denmark."

"I am always interest-

ed in politics and history; I have always wanted to work in government and right now my goal is diplomacy – with this program it was specifically focused on what diplomacy is, which is being ambassadors for our country and teaching others about our personal culture and experiences. It was definitely special for us considering the fact that we're Indigenous coming from a small tribe of roughly 1500 members." Baker said. "This educational trip made a huge impact on my life, I was enrolled in classes and it was five weeks; I got to learn about the Danish language, experience their culture, and understand how other people viewed Americans es-

Baker page 7

Veterans Run graces Ignacio



Conrad Thompson/SU Drum

Chairman Melvin Baker exchanged handshakes with members of the Veterans Association out of Durango, Colo. The annual Durango Veterans Poker Run started in Durango before arriving at the Southern Ute Veterans Memorial Park in Ignacio for a picnic lunch, provided by Dome Sage, Friday, Aug. 29. Riders were scheduled to finish up their event at VFW Post 4031 back in town.

White Mesa Mamakwanhkapu



Divine Windy Boy/SU Drum

Dancers jam out on the last day of the White Mesa Bear Dance – Mamakwanhkapu in White Mesa marks the end of Bear Dance season each year. On Labor Day weekend, Friday, Aug. 29 through Monday, Sept. 1, members of the three Ute sister tribes traveled to be with their Weeminuche relatives in the annual celebration. Despite the heat, dancers and singers brought their best to corral during the White Mesa Bear Dance.



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Tribe rescinds Stage II Fire Restrictions

Stage I Fire Restrictions remain in effect

Staff report

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Due to recent rain and moderating fuel conditions, Stage II fire restrictions will be rescinded for all trust lands throughout the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Stage I fire restrictions will remain in place until conditions further improve as there is still a threat from wildland fire. Everyone on the Res-

ervation is still asked to be cautious and use common sense with fire.

This fire season has been long and challenging with several large fires occurring within the area and two impacting Southern Ute Reservation lands. The Ute 63 (550 acres) and the Rim Road (97 acres) fires required incident management organizations yet were suppressed successfully. All other fires (38 to-

tal fires) were kept under 10 acres with no injuries or accidents.

For a copy of the fire restrictions or more information regarding fire restrictions, please visit Southern Ute Agency Fire Management at 575 County Road 517, Ignacio, CO 81137.

Stage II Restrictions will be rescinded at 6 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025. STAGE I RESTRICTIONS REMAIN IN PLACE.



SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND

The 2025 Southern Ute Growth Fund General Meeting is around the corner

By Pooja Rao-Pennington
SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND

You are invited to the upcoming Southern Ute Indian Tribe Growth Fund General Meeting. This General Meeting is for the enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Membership and will be held on Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025. The meeting will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sky Ute Casino Resort Event Center. Breakfast will be served starting at 8:30 a.m.

Attendance options:

1. **Attend in person** – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 18, at the Sky Ute Casino Resort Event Center.
2. **Join us online via Webex** – The event will be

streamed via Webex for the tribal membership only. To ensure this information is only shared with the appropriate individuals, tribal members must register for the Webex event separately. Scan the barcode via your smart device to take you directly to the registration page. You can also register by following the link on one of these locations. Tribal Member Experience (TMX), tribal social feed (Instagram, Facebook), and the Southern Ute Drum's website. Registration is required, if you want to gain access to the Webex event. Webex Registration Link (case sensitive): <https://bit.ly/2025sugfgm>

Before the Webex Event, it is advisable to visit the following help site to test your browser and connection: <https://bit.ly/3e7p7Ne>. Should you have additional technical problems, don't hesitate to get in touch with the SUSS helpdesk at 970-563-5050.

If you are not able to attend, the recording will be available on Tribal Member Experience (TMX). As a friendly reminder, this is a closed meeting for the Southern Ute tribal membership only. We hope you will join us.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Jymmy Haddon, Executive Assistant, at 970-563-5025 or jhaddon@sugf.com



Trennie Collins/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

Southern Ute EPD and members from the Environmental Protection Agency discuss the cleanup process of the Gold King Mine. The EPA hopes to get the mine sturdy enough to enter, so they can figure out where the current flow of water is coming from.

This photo was first published in the Sept. 4, 2015, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Dave Brown/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

Southern Ute Tribal Vice Chairman, Joycelyn Dutchie welcomes U.S. Representative John Salazar (D-Colorado) to Tribal Council Chambers on Friday, Aug. 19. The congressman was here to meet with Tribal Council and learn of tribal concerns.

This photo was first published in the Sept. 2, 2005, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



Monica Lujan/SU Drum archive

30 years ago

First graders Amber Albo and Shelenia Porambo took advantage of the pre-school enrichment program at the Education Center recently. Both girls are ready to start school in Bayfield and Ignacio Sept. 5th.

This photo was published in the Sept. 1, 1995, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

40 years ago

Norman Harlan III – placed 3rd in his category. Only five Ute archers participated; Little War Evensen, Zach Rock, Sherman Valdez, Sylvian Valdez, and Norman Harlan III.

This photo was published in the Sept. 6, 1985, issue of The Southern Ute Drum.



2025 Southern Ute Indian Tribe Growth Fund General Meeting

You're Invited

Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025
Time: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Location: Sky Ute Casino Resort Event Center

Can't join us in person this year? Connect online via Webex.
Scan the QR Code or visit the link below to register: <https://bit.ly/2025sugfgm>

The meeting agenda will be available to Tribal Members via TMX prior to the event. This is a closed meeting for the Southern Ute Tribal Membership only.



www.sugf.com • 14929 Highway 172, P.O. Box 367, Ignacio, CO 81137 • Ph: (970) 563.5000

PRESERVATION THROUGH PRINT WORKSHOP

Preserving Indigenous Cultures and Histories
through Affordable Self-Publishing Projects

Sponsored by the



UTE INDIAN MUSEUM
Saturday, September 13, 2025
9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

PLEASE RSVP: 970-249-3098

Interactive Workshop Presented by

Vickie Leigh Krudwig,
Award-Winning Author and
Self-Publishing Consultant

Books should not only be a teaching tool but also a means to preserve and protect the history of indigenous cultures for future generations. Historical books presented from a tribal perspective offer native children an opportunity to gain and retain knowledge about their ancestral history, culture and traditions. We believe it is critical that indigenous children are able to identify with their ancestral roots and realize the importance of their power and presence in the world today. This workshop is geared to inspire and to help tribal educators grow young leaders through creative and innovative written materials and lessons through a native point of view. Help children learn how to tap into the ancient wisdom of their ancestors and their deep understanding of the land and its resources. Create lessons based on science, math, language, art, storytelling, songs, poetry, and nature, all from a tribal perspective.

Learn how to assess your ideas and turn them into viable resources for young indigenous children and their families. Learn how to get started, work with collaborators, and get support from community members. Find out what steps are needed to produce a book and how to manage the project once it is in motion. Learn how to utilize electronic printing or print on demand for books.

The Ute Indian Museum (History Colorado) is a perfect location for our one-day workshop. It has established a successful STEM program for students, teachers, and visitors, and shows them Ute Indians have applied science, technology, engineering, and math to survive and thrive in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. After the workshop visit the Native Plants garden across from the museum to learn about Colorado's native plants beneficial to the Ute and other indigenous tribes. Stop by our outdoor classroom designed to connect children to the land and the Ute history. Our outdoor classroom also features Shavano Ute rock art like the rock art found in the Shavano Valley.

Price for the workshop is only \$25.00!
Includes light refreshments, lunch and workshop materials.

Read more about the Preservation Through Print Workshop on
<https://www.harmonyhousestudio.com/events>

Questions? Email Vickie at harmonyhouseartstudio@gmail.com
Or call The Ute Indian Museum at (970) 249-3098



NATIVE LENS

Native Lens presents free screening of short Indigenous films during Pino Nuche Art Market

Staff report
NATIVE LENS

Native Lens, in partnership with the Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum (SUCCM) and the Pino Nuche Indigenous Art Market, invites the public to an afternoon of storytelling through Indigenous-made short films. The free screening will take place on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 12 - 2 p.m. at the Sky Ute Casino Resort's Event Center (14324 CO-172, Ignacio, CO 81137).

The showcase brings together a diverse collection of short films that uplift Indigenous voices, traditions, and contemporary issues through visual storytelling. Featuring emerging and established Native filmmakers, the screening highlights the beauty, resilience, and innovation of Indigenous cultures.

"Native Lens is rooted in the Indigenous Communities of the Four Corners Region, and we're excited to bring these powerful films to the Southern Ute community during the Pino Nuche Indigenous Art Market," said Native Lens Project Producer Colleen Thurston. "These films are acts of cultural preservation and Narrative Sovereignty. Showing them will be an enjoyable way to celebrate Indigenous storytelling during a weekend focused on Native arts and culture."

Featured films include:

- **My Message to You** (Dir. 'Wáats'asdiyei Joe Yates)
A touching message in the Haida language by six-year-old Nayak'aq Yaahl reminds us to stay connected to our ancestors during difficult times.

- **Wíichku Paa Tukwa Puni Wuni (Stand, Looking Toward the Future)** (Dirs. Sommer Lopez, Tonya Tolino, Evan Smith, Ellyse Fredericks)
Southern Ute Royalty explore the intersection of leadership, tradition, and the Circle of Life.
- **Cut Knife Creek** (Dirs. Beric Dean Manywounds, Alanna Bluebird-Onespot, Ben Pipes-tem, Ryan Von Hagen)
A gripping supernatural tale of seven Tsuut'ina men who encounter dark omens and a fateful Cree camp.
- **Titration** (Dir. Michael Q. Ceballos)
A critical look at how the Manhattan Project's legacy still affects Native lands and communities.
- **Adziil** (Dir. Natalie Benally)
A joyful exploration of dance, identity, and rediscovering one's passion for life.
- **Poetic Sovereignty** (Dirs. Kimey Begay, Jaycherie, Leland Collins Jr., Leander Collins)
Esther Belin, Diné poet and educator, teaches how poetry, land, and language intertwine.
- **Will Flowers?** (Dir. Kay Chan)
Inspired by Kokum's text message, this poetic film imagines futures rooted in cultural resilience.
- **Culture Within the Ice** (Dirs. Laelah Jaye-Kiz-zia, Shannon Spencer, Israel Duran)
A Ute elder mentors youth through the challenges of ice climbing, emphasizing self-love and community strength.
- **Native Lens: Darrah Blackwater**

(Dir. Darrah Blackwater)
A law school graduate speaks out about the lack of internet access in rural Indigenous communities.

• **Paddle Tribal Waters** (Dirs. Paul Robert Wolf Wilson, Rush Sturges)
A group of Native youth train to be the first to paddle the restored Klamath River, post-dam removal.

• **Tony** (Dir. Christian JA Bryant)
A personal reflection on growth, accountability, and healing through life's challenges.

• **Setting The Table** (Dirs. Kyle Bell, Tanaya Winder)
From survival to cultural resurgence, this film shows how Native peoples have reclaimed identity and strength.

Plus: Surprise short films to be announced!

From survival to cultural resurgence, this film shows how Native peoples have reclaimed identity and strength.

Plus: Surprise short films to be announced!

NATIVE LENS

Native Lens is a collaborative film and video storytelling project hosted by KSUT Tribal Radio and Rocky Mountain PBS, dedicated to amplifying Indigenous voices from across North America. A platform for connection and storytelling, Native Lens has grown into a community-driven training center, fellowship program, and digital platform stewarded by Indigenous creatives. Native Lens showcases film and media pieces produced by Native storytellers and filmmakers and is committed to celebrating the depth, diversity, and richness of Indigenous perspectives. Admission is free and open to the public. Seating first come, first served.



SOUTHERN UTE
Cultural Center & Museum



SHORT FILM
SHOWCASE!

Hosted by NATIVE LENS in collaboration with
Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum (SUCCM)
and Pino Nuche Indigenous Art Market

WHEN:
Saturday, September 6th, 2025 12pm-2pm

WHERE:
Sky Ute Casino Resort's Event Center

Glowforge class: Leather engraving & cutting

Learn the art of cutting patterns in leather and engraving with this great library tool! With the glowforge, you can bring your creative ideas to life and craft personalized products or memorable gifts. Don't miss out on this opportunity! Sign up with ron at 970-563-9287 and choose from one of our convenient class times: 2 p.m., 3:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., or 5:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Sept. 10. Transform your creative vision into reality!

PINO NUCHE INDIGENOUS ARTIST MARKET & JURIED SHOW
EVENT SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 5 • 6 • 7
SKY UTE CASINO RESORT EVENT CENTER

SEPT 05 Friday	9:00 am	SET UP
	10:00am	MARKET OPEN
	1:00 pm	WOOD BURNING DEMONSTRATION - LENAYA TSO
	3:30pm	COOKIE BREAK
	5:00pm	MARKET CLOSES

SEPT 06 Saturday	8:00am	MARKET OPENS
	10:00am	LEATHERWORK DEMONSTRATION - REGGIE LYNCH
	12:00pm - 2:30pm	NATIVE LENS - PRESENTATION
	3:00pm	BASKET DEMONSTRATION - CINDY BADBACK
	5:00pm	MARKET CLOSES

SEPT 07 Sunday	8:00 am	MARKET OPENS
	10 am	AWARD CEREMONY
	2pm	MARKET CLOSES



SOUTHERN UTE RODEO

Sept. 19 & 20, 2025
7 pm & 2 pm

Sky Ute Fairgrounds
Ignacio, Colo.



Adults \$15
Children (6-12) \$10
5 and under FREE

EVENTS (Open)	ENTRY FEE	ADDED
Saddle Bronc	\$100	\$1,000
Ranch Bronc	\$100	\$1,000
Bull Riding	\$100	\$3,000
Novice Bull Riding	\$100	\$1,000
Tie Down Roping	\$100	\$1,000
Team Roping -w/ #9 Incentive	\$100	\$1,250
Ladies Breakaway	\$100	\$1,000
Ladies Barrels	\$100	\$1,000
Jr. Barrels	\$60	\$250
Jr. Bull Riding	\$60	\$250
Steer Riding	\$60	\$250
Mutton Busting	\$25	

PRIZES
100% Payback,
\$11,000 Added!
Pendleton Blankets,
Champion Buckles!

103RD ANNUAL SOUTHERN UTE FAIR
Horsing Around Events:
Open to all!
Chicken Pull \$1500
Watermelon Race \$750
Best Hand Painted Horse \$500
(Three age groups, 1st, 2nd, 3rd)
Sky Ute Fairgrounds, Saturday, 12 PM

Contestants may enter two times, entries must be paid one hour prior to Rodeo.
Please text your entry info to: (505) 860-7191.

Flyer by Divine Windy Boy

Logo by Araleena Nanaeto



Vying for Southern Ute Royalty



Outgoing Southern Ute Royalty – Miss Southern Ute, Maleina Carel; Jr. Miss Southern Ute, Leandra Litz; Little Miss Southern Ute, Malia White Thunder; Little Miss Southern Ute Alternate, Olyvia Watts and Southern Ute Brave, Theoden Greany stood with visiting royalty at this year’s Southern Ute Royalty Pageant.

The Southern Ute Royalty Pageant was held at the Sky Ute Casino and Resort Event Center on Thursday, Aug. 21 with the invocation done by Southern Ute Tribal Elder, Hanley Frost. Southern Ute Councilmembers, Marge Barry and Linda Baker welcomed everyone to a night of traditional knowledge, talents, public speaking and dance styles from the young tribal members running for Southern Ute Royalty. Those royalty titles include Miss Southern Ute, Little Miss Southern Ute and Southern Ute Brave. The contestants will know the results of the pageant at the 65th Annual Southern Ute Tribal Fair Powwow on Friday, Sept. 12 at the Sky Ute Fairgrounds.

Photos by Krista Richards
The Southern Ute Drum



Autumn Sage, Rhianna Carel and Zuriah Baker dance their styles during the dance styles portion of the pageant; all three are running for Miss Southern Ute.



Zuriah Baker shows off her sewing craftsmanship. Baker is running for the title of Miss Southern Ute and was showing attendees her talent in ribbon skirt making.



Kailanii Graham and Starlitt Greany were asked tribal history questions during the questions portion of the pageant. They are both running for Little Miss Southern Ute.

Ute language listening session



Conrad Thompson/SU Drum

The Southern Ute Cultural Preservation Department hosted a Ute language listening session, led by Stacy Oberly, in the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum’s large classroom, Wednesday, Aug. 27. Community input is needed for the planning and development of the Southern Ute Language Revitalization Plan.

Watts gives welcome



courtesy Jalisa Paul/SU Drum

Little Miss Southern Ute Alternate, Olyvia Watts poses for a picture after giving a welcome for the Tribe’s Employee Appreciation Day, which was held at Purgatory Resort, Friday Aug. 22.



Western Slope
Native American Resource Center

2nd ANNUAL UNCOMPAGHGRE
POW WOW

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025
MONTROSE COUNTY EVENT CENTER / 11A.M. TO DUSK
1036 N 7TH ST, MONTROSE, CO 81401



Hosted by the Western Slope
Native American Resource Center and the
Ute Indian Museum in Montrose, Colorado.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
HEALTH PLANS
A UnitedHealthcare Company

DANCE CONTEST
CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED

DANCE CATEGORIES:

TINY-TOTS: 0-6 yrs

JR. GIRLS: 7-12 yrs / Fancy, Jingle, Traditional

JR. BOYS: 7-12 yrs / Fancy, Grass, Traditional

TEEN GIRLS: 13-17 yrs / Fancy, Jingle, Traditional

TEEN BOYS: 13-17 yrs / Fancy, Grass, Traditional

ADULT WOMEN'S: 18-49 yrs / Fancy, Jingle, Traditional

ADULT MEN'S: 18-49 yrs / Fancy, Grass, Traditional

GOLDEN AGE WOMEN'S: 50+ / Fancy, Jingle, Traditional

GOLDEN AGE MEN'S: 50+ / Fancy, Grass, Traditional

VENDORS:

10x10 vendor spaces are available for \$200 each.
Food vendor spaces are \$300 each.
There will be limited space for food vendors, so please sign up early!
Vendor Sign Up: wsnarc.org/2025-uncompahgre-pow-wow-vendors

SPONSORSHIPS:

TITLE SPONSOR \$25,000 | GOLD SPONSOR \$15,000
SILVER SPONSOR \$5,000

You may also sponsor any of the individual dance categories.
Sponsorship information: wsnarc.org/pow-wow-sponsorships

Please visit wsnarc.org/2025-uncompahgre-pow-wow
or call 970-773-4765 or 970-249-3098 for more information.

Colorado peach bruschetta

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place cut baguette on a baking sheet. Bake for 10-15 minutes or until lightly toasted, turning halfway through. Remove from oven.
2. In a large bowl, place the peaches.



Shining Mountain Fresh

Shining Mountain
Health & Wellness

September 2025



Black Bean and Sweet Potato Skillet

Sign-up Deadline: Monday, September 22nd
Pick-up Date: Wednesday, September 24th



Lisa B. Smith 970-563-2344

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

2025 ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR

**REGISTER
HERE!**



 970-563-0154

 [Check out our website!](http://www.pearsoned.com)



Come out for a mural painting at the skatepark!

Reminder: If you need to talk to someone, please reach out

988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

Presented by Southern Ute Behavioral Health

SKATEPARK MURAL
PAINTING

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER
06
2025

MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT
TAMARA TURNER
AT 970-563-2487

**PARTICIPATE IN
PAINTING A
MURAL DESIGNED
BY SOUTHERN
UTE YOUTH**

9 A M - 4 P M

9AM PAINTING BEGINS
11AM LIVE BAND - THE BLISSINS
12PM SKATEBOARD DECK PAINTING
LUNCH PROVIDED
1PM LIVE BAND - ILLEGAL ALIENS
2-4PM SKATEPARK COMPETITION WITH DJ

**MATERIALS
PROVIDED**

Piinu Nuuchi Skatepark,
Ignacio, CO

Shining Mountain Breastfeeding and Parenting Class

**Childhood Immunization:
When and Why & Correct Dosage of
Tylenol**

Date: September 18, 2025
Time: 12:00 to 1:00 pm
**Location: M/C building-near lactation
room-downstairs**

Join us for education and lunch

Questions:
Shawmarie, RN, CLC 970-563-2163; smtso@outhernute-nsn.gov
Lisa, RDN, CLC; -970-563-2344; lismith@southernute-nsn.gov





SEPTEMBER
2025



POSITIVE INDIAN PARENTING

HONORING OUR CHILDREN BY HONORING OUR TRADITIONS
ALL PARENTS & CAREGIVERS ARE WELCOME

Positive Indian Parenting (PIP) has been used for over 35 years and remains popular today because the teachings are timeless. Historically, we had rich teachings that helped children grow up safe with strong families. Colonization threatened those teachings—our Native families were being separated and traditional practices were at risk of being lost. PIP was developed in the 1980s to fill this void and was designed to help parents and families remember our traditional teachings and apply them in the modern world. In part one of each session, we will discuss examples of traditional practices and teachings from several different tribes. Instructors also share teachings from local areas and communities. Part two of each session discusses how to apply those teachings and values today. Complete all 8 sessions to receive a certificate.

This class is VIRTUAL

Please call/Social Service to sign up (970) 563-2337

Each participant needs the following to attend:

- A working email
- A solid internet connection
- A smart phone, tablet or laptop with a mic
- Download the Microsoft Teams App

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 12:00 PM TO 2:00 PM

September 2, 2025

September 4, 2025

September 9, 2025

September 11, 2025

September 16, 2025

September 18, 2025

September 23, 2025

September 25, 2025



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



Brain Health

Did you know...

Omega-3 fatty acids may preserve brain health and enhance cognition. Scan the QR code for Chia Seed Pudding. A recipe high in Omega-3 fatty acids.



If you have any questions please contact the Southern Ute Tribal Health Public Health Nurses at: 970-553-0917 or ckellymiller@southernute-nsn.gov

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy Training

Begin your journey of becoming a victim advocate for survivors of sexual violence in your community by submitting your application now!

Sept. & Oct. 2025

Saturday	9/20/25	9AM - 5 PM
Tuesday	9/23/25	5 PM - 7:30 PM
Wednesday	9/24/25	5 PM - 7:30 PM
Thursday	9/25/25	5 PM - 7:30 PM
Tuesday	9/30/25	5 PM - 7:30 PM
Wednesday	10/01/25	5 PM - 7:30 PM
Friday	10/03/25	5 PM - 7:30 PM
Saturday	10/04/25	9AM - 5 PM

In Person
Zoom



APPLY TODAY

www.durangosaso.org/volunteer



Contact Tahleiah Begay, CVC, at tahleiah@durangosaso.org for more information



Consider becoming a foster parent with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe

How do we get licensed?

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

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

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

HEALTH WITHOUT BARRIERS



INVITES FAMILIES WITH TEENS (AGES 11-19) TO PARTICIPATE IN A WELLNESS PROGRAM

- Interactive health and wellness education
- Hands-on cooking and nutrition classes
- Teen and sibling physical activity
- Teens learn healthy coping skills for navigating stress

Your family can learn skills to feel Happier and be Healthier

Next session:

Begins September 9, 2025

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

5:30-7:45pm

6-week program

Pine River Senior Center
Bayfield, CO

No Cost | Siblings of all ages welcome | Dinner provided

Interested in learning more?
Scan the QR code or reach out to us:
Elvia: 970-286-1866
equitablefamilywellness@colostate.edu
<https://bit.ly/HWB2025>



An equal access and equal opportunity University <https://col.colit023>

Deadly Aunties Tea and earring making

September 17th 12-1pm

SASO Office - Elhi Community Center 115 Ute Street, Room 22, Ignacio, CO



Come sip tea with us while we talk about community issues and how to solve them.



JOHNSON-O'MALLEY

2025 MEETING DATES:

September 9th
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
kleclaire@southernute-nsn.gov

BAKER AND LITZ STUDY ABROAD • FROM PAGE 1

pecially Native Americans it was really eye opening for me – this opportunity was very influential and I’m going to remember this trip for the rest of my life.”

Leandra Litz is a junior at Ignacio High School, she is the current reigning Jr. Miss Southern Ute, serves on the Colorado Youth Advisory Council, Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council and the Ignacio High School Native American Club, she also competes in basketball at IHS. “This trip was a learning experience for me; it helped me gain a different perspective on how other people with different cultures, from all over the world, lead their lives,” Litz said. “I hope to become a district attorney one day, or even work in the medical field, so it is important that I understand to accept people for who they are and that not everyone will be the same.”

“I really enjoyed meeting people from all around the world – I made a friend; her name is Natalia Loreen Anne Wilson she is from Jamaica, but had moved to the Bronx [New York City], and she was one of my best friends on our trip too, I miss her and hope to go visit her in the Bronx soon,” Litz said. “This whole experience will be unforgettable, but it was most fun because Zuriah and I were together.”

Open Horizon supports AFS Intercultural Programs, Executive Director D’Lynn Jacobs approached the Southern Ute Education Department with the idea of offering a study abroad program to Southern Ute tribal students. With finalization of the logistics, the notice of the program went out earlier this year in January.



courtesy Zuriah Baker

Leandra Litz and Zuriah Baker explore beaches in Hirtshals, a town of Vendsyssel, Denmark. The pair journeyed together in the study abroad program this year, they both selected Denmark as their destination of choice.

Baker and Litz successfully completed the five-week programming this summer and the Southern Ute Education Department has plans to continue the program next year. During an interview with ShaRay Rock and Michael Kirsch they expressed that they hope to see additional students take part in this opportunity.

“I am really proud of [Baker and Litz] for being role models to others, having them come back to tell their stories and sharing their experiences with everybody is inspiring,” Rock said. Kirsch added “Zuriah and Leandra have the makings of leaders, and that’s what it takes to go beyond

your comfort zone and go out there to experience these great opportunities,” Kirsch said. “They got out there and represented not just themselves, but also their tribe – I am so impressed by these young ladies and with what they have accomplished. I am excited for this next round, I am hoping to get a couple more students in the program.”

Further information on the next round of the Study Abroad Program will be announced in the future; Southern Ute tribal students are encouraged to get involved and reach out to the Southern Ute Education Department.

“To the youth of our Tribe, I would highly recommend that you take every opportunity that the Tribe provides – I have participated in a lot of programming through the Tribe and it has taken me so far in my journey, don’t be afraid to take on the challenge of traveling across the world. Just know you have people back home who are cheering you on, myself included.” Baker said. “Take advantage of every opportunity you can – for yourself, your family, your community, your Tribe and your country.” Litz added, “It may be scary at first, but it’s important to push yourself in order to gain these new experiences and more knowledge.”

Baker and Litz share their gratitude to everyone who was involved in making this opportunity happen. “We would also like to thank the Southern Ute Tribal Council, Southern Ute Education, Dr. Joe Claunch, ShaRay Rock, Michael Kirsch, Heather White Thunder, Dustin Weaver, AFS, D’Lynn Jacobs and Open Horizon – everyone who supported us and helped us get to Denmark.”



courtesy Zuriah Baker

Views from the country of Denmark. This photo captured by Southern Ute tribal student, Zuriah Baker, was taken during her travels as part of the Southern Ute Education Department’s study abroad program this summer.

RESOURCE Ignacio School District CENTER

- 1 **INFINITE CAMPUS**

Infinite Campus is where parents can find updates on classes, grades and attendance. School District communication is also done through here. Make sure your contact information is up to date and download the app.
- 2 **CLASS DOJO**

Class Dojo is where elementary teachers directly communicate with parents about assignments, homework and more. This is a great resource for questions and seeing what is happening in class.
- 3 **FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM**

Ignacio School District along with all schools and athletics are active on social media. Be sure to follow these pages to see big news and happenings each week in the district and in the schools.
- 4 **CALENDARS**

Head over to ignacioschools.org and add calendars to yours! This is a great way to keep those important events saved and it will automatically update if there are any changes made.
- 5 **ATHLETICS - BAND APP**

All of our athletic teams & clubs use the Band app. This is a great way to connect with your team and fellow parents and stay up to date on practice and travel times.
- 6 **BUS ROUTES**

Be sure your student is signed up for the appropriate bus and bus stop. This includes after school activities. Safety is our top priority, please help us ensure students are getting where they need to be.
- 7 **ACTIVITY FRIDAY / TUTORING**

One Friday a month activity Fridays are offered to all elementary students to have some educational fun in the school and community. Tutoring is also offered on Fridays in the middle and high school.
- 8 **COMMUNICATION**

Here are direct lines for each school. They should be able to help you access the all tools listed above.

High School - (970) 563-0515
Middle School - (970) 563-0600
Elementary - (970) 563-0675
IELP - (970) 563-0681
Administration - (970) 563-0500

TOGETHER WE ARE BOBCATS



**MANCOS SHALE DEVELOPMENT TOWH HALL
TRIBAL MEMBERS INVITED**

**SAVE THE DATE
09.30.25**

**GROWTH FUND BUILDING, FLOOR 1
CONFERENCE ROOM 103 (DINNER WILL BE SERVED)**

www.sugf.com • 14929 Highway 172, P.O. Box 367, Ignacio, CO 81137 • Ph: (970) 563-5000



3rd MMIR Ride rolls at Sky Ute Casino



Ute members sing a prayer song – joined by Native Love Board members – after Bailey Cotonuts gave a blessing for the riders prior to their departure from the Sky Ute Casino parking lot.



David Lucero pulls out of the Sky Ute Casino parking lot enroute to Bayfield before proceeding to the Navajo State Park for prayers and testimony.



Councilwoman Marjorie Barry gave a welcome and blessed the food upon the riders arrival from their trek, before enjoying a tortilla burger and Jemez pies and cookies.



AntonieX and DJ Jermatik pose for a photo after their set, to close out the MMIR Ride. A day of prayer, bikes, music, food – in unison to bring awareness to the MMIR movement.

Photos by Robert L. Ortiz
The Southern Ute Drum

The MMIR Ride rolled out from the Sky Ute Resort, through Southern Ute lands, before ending with food, live music and prayers, Sunday, Aug. 31. About 150 riders left the casino, in unison and prayer as part of the Four Corners Motorcycle Rally. Hosted by Native Love, Rider Justice, the Sky Ute Casino Resort, and many others, the annual ride brought riders from across the nation in support of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives epidemic affecting Native communities nation wide. A proclamation passed by the Southern Ute Tribe was read by former councilwoman and Native Love board member, Vanessa Torres. A blessing was given by Bailey Cotonuts and a prayer song by Ute members. The riders proceeded to the Navajo State Park for prayers and to hear testimony from families afflicted with missing and murdered relatives. A meal was prepared and served by the Armijo and Cajero families. The day's events ended with live performances by Sten Jodi and AntoineX.

Domestic Violence is NOT a Native American Tradition

StrongHearts advocates can help by providing culturally appropriate support and advocacy.



Call or Text
Chat Online

844-7NATIVE (762-8483)
www.strongheartshelpline.org



STRONGHEARTS
Native Helpline

This advertisement was produced by StrongHearts Native Helpline with Grant No 15POVC-23-GK-01582-TVAG, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this ad are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Important Notice from the Town of Ignacio:
Candy and swag can be handed by walkers to individual spectators, but NOTHING is to be thrown from the floats

SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR PARADE

Parade entries will be judged on the adherence to the theme.
· Float Categories include Service/Nonprofit Organization, Commercial, & Family

Float Prizes: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100

· Best Native Dressed (Male/Female)

Prizes:1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100

· Best Native Group

Prizes: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100

· Best Royalty Float

Prizes: Trophy (must be current title holder)

· Best Car

Prizes 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100

Horse Categories: (Only allowed to enter one category)

· Best Dressed Indian Rider: (Male & Female)

Prizes: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100

· Best Dressed Cowboy & Cowgirl

Prizes: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100

Chairman and Executive Officer Award (TBD)

Contact Dept. Natural Resources (970) 563-2237

KIDDIE PARADE

Kiddie Parade open to all children 12 years and younger.

· Youth Group

Prizes: 1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$75

· Best Bicycle/Wagon

Prizes:1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$75

· Best Native Dressed (Male & Female)

Prizes: 1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$75



970-563-2237

cvalencia@southernute-nsn.gov

Time: 7:00 a.m.

(Parade Line-up & Registration)

Location: Ignacio High School

Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Fair Theme: "Blooming Creations"

IGNACIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Strategic planning turns focus to community

By Marcia R. Vining
IGNACIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY

If you’ve ever heard the term strategic planning, you may cringe when you start this article. But let me take a moment to allay your discomfort. ICL is working on our strategic plan for the next few years. And we’re doing it in a different way than we’ve done before.

At one time in the past, strategic plans were long, involved documents detailing plans and goals for every aspect of an organization. They tended to be cumbersome, long winded and often not particularly useful. More recently, strategic planning efforts have involved community meetings, surveys and often only reflected the thoughts of the folks who were actively involved with that organization. “Stakeholders” were relied on to supply information and direction, and, while their input is often valuable it still distances the organization from the people that we’re trying to serve.

This time around we’re trying out another option. We’re going to people where they work or live or asking them to stop by



the library and visit with us. We have a simple interview process, limited to a few short questions focusing more on the community and less on the library. After all, it’s not the community’s job to determine what the library can or should offer. It’s our job to find out what the community needs and wants and determine what aspects of that we can provide. By the end of this process, we hope to have four to six goals that we can work on over the next few years that will improve our service to Ignacio and the surrounding community and help us to better meet the needs of our citizens.

So far, we’ve conducted about a dozen interviews and let me say, they’ve been enlightening. Folks have

shared their thoughts on what a perfect community would look like, what challenges and needs are facing Ignacio right now, and how they view the library’s role in the community.

While I can’t say I was eagerly anticipating this process before we started, I can truly say that I’m enjoying meeting with people and hearing their thoughts and stories about this wonderful corner of the world.

If you’ve been contacted to help us with strategic planning, yay! If not and you would be interested in offering your input, please get in touch: 970-563-9287 or email Marcia at mvining@ignaciolibrary.org. We want to hear from everyone! And yes, that means you, too.

Calling all
Volunteers
September 13, 2025



We need help with:

- Parade Judges
- Registration sign up
- Set up/tear down booth
- Category placement
- Pace/flow management
- Tallying of votes for parade entries

September 20, 2024 by [Jeremy Wade Shockley](#) |
[The Southern Ute Drum](#)

Do you need community service hours or just enjoy volunteering? This is the perfect opportunity to give back to the community!



For any questions and to sign up to volunteer contact
Candi Valencia at:
email: cvalencia@southernute-nsn.gov
telephone: 970-563-2237

SOUTHERN UTE FAIR EXHIBIT

VOLUNTEER
JUDGES
NEEDED

- 15 JUDGES NEEDED
- CATEGORIES FOR JUDGING INCLUDE:
 - CRAFTS, BAKING, HOMEMAKING
- JUDGES SHOULD HAVE INTEREST IN THE 3 CATEGORIES
- JUDGING WILL OCCUR AT 6:30PM:
 - WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10
 - THURSDAY, SEPT 11
- JUDGES MAY NOT BE A SU TRIBAL MEMBER
- FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED



TO SIGN UP, CONTACT:
COVEN WHITE
970-563-2985

Thinking of becoming a member of
Tribal Council?
Come pick up your Statement of
Intention packet from the Election
Board!
**The Statement of Intention
deadline is Monday, Sept. 08,
2025, at 5:00 p.m.**
The Election Board office is located at 285 Lakin
St. Ignacio, CO. Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri.
8am-5pm.

IT'S YOUR VOTE ✓ • IT'S YOUR TRIBAL COMMUNITY ✓
Southern Ute Election Board • P.O. Box 709 • Ignacio, CO 81137-0709

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
2025 General Election
Two (2) COUNCIL MEMBER SEATS
Out Going Council Members: Marjorie Barry & Marvin Pinnecoose

General Election-	Friday, November 07, 2025, 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
General Election Residency Deadline-	Saturday, August 09, 2025, by 5:00 P.M.
Statement of Intention Deadline-	Monday, September 08, 2025, by 5:00 P.M.
Determined Eligibility Deadline-	Tuesday, September 23, 2025, by 5:00 P.M.
Notice of Election Deadline-	Wednesday, October 08, 2025, by 5:00 P.M.
(New) Voter Registration Deadline-	Wednesday, October 29, 2025, by 5:00 P.M.
Absentee Ballot Request Deadline-	Wednesday, October 29, 2025, by 5:00 P.M.
Emergency Absentee Ballot Request Deadline-	Thursday, November 06, 2025, by 5:00 P.M.

The 2025 General Election will be held at 285 Lakin St. Ignacio, CO
Contact Election Board (970)-563-0100 ext. 2303/2305/2729/2730
Off-Reservation Tribal members phone 1-800-772-1236 ext. 2303
Email: election@southernute-nsn.gov



103RD

SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR

BLOOMING CREATIONS

SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2025 • IGNACIO, CO

CONTACT KELSEY FROST @ (970) 563-2660

103rd So. Ute Fair

Softball Tournament

SEPT. 12th-14th, 2025

ENTRY FEE: \$375

\$100 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT DUE
AUG. 29TH, 2025

MEN'S-WOMEN'S-CO-ED

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
SEPT. 8TH, 2025

USSSA 240 Bats CLASSIC M or PRO M
CLASSIC W or PRO W

PATRICK SILVA MEMORIAL SOFTBALL FIELD IGNACIO, CO

103RD SO. UTE FAIR

EMPLOYEE SOFTBALL
CHALLENGE

-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH
-PATRICK SILVA MEMORIAL SOFTBALL FIELD
- FIRST GAME BEGINS @ 9AM
-CO-ED TEAMS MUST CONSIST OF 12 PLAYERS; 8 PLAYERS MUST BE
EMPLOYEES
FROM THE FOLLOWING TRIBAL ENTITIES:
PERMANENT FUND, GROWTH FUND, SKY UTE CASINO, SUSS, OR BIA
(REMAINING PLAYERS, CAN BE FAMILY/FRIENDS OF EMPLOYEES)

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT REC @ (970) 563-0214

2025

SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR
KICK-OFF MEAL

Friday, September 12, 2025

11:00am - 2:00pm

Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Facility

Open to all Southern Ute Tribal
Members & their families, and
Southern Ute Staff (Permanent,
Growth, & Casino)

Fair shirts will be available
for pick up for everyone
who attends

Questions, contact:
Eugene Bereza 970-563-2307

103RD ANNUAL SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR & POWWOW

NATIVE REZ-OLUTION
YOUTH CONCERT XV

SAT., SEPT. 13, 2025 • 4 PM • SKY UTE FAIRGROUNDS • IGNACIO, CO

FLAME & FIRE

AWAKE THE DAWN

OROKUSKI

WIEDEKAT

ECOTONE

GUEST MC: FRANKIE ROMERO

FREE ADMISSION • ALL AGES • NO DRUGS/ALCOHOL • FIREWORKS @ DUSK
INFO: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NATIVEREZOLUTION

103RD ANNUAL SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR

XXIII ANNUAL
JALAPENO EATING CONTEST

SAT., SEPT. 13, 2025 • SKY UTE FAIRGROUNDS (SUFG)
CONTEST STARTS AT 2 PM

OPEN TO EVERYONE!
MEN & WOMEN CATEGORIES (18+)

OVER \$1000 CASH PRIZES!
\$300 Grand Champion + Prizes!

First to Eat 5 Jalapenos Wins!

Cash Prizes 1st-3rd & more!

Sign Up Begins After Parade at SUFG

ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK! MUST READ & SIGN
WAIVER BEFORE COMPETING, NO EXCEPTIONS!

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Cultural Preservation Dept., Event Coordinator, Sky Ute Fairgrounds
& Staff Are Not Liable for Injuries, Illnesses, Pain or Suffering Resulting in Participation in Contest.

Coordinator/Info: Robert Ortiz 970-903-0346

INITIAL CONCEPT DESIGN : SAVANNAH ELK



SunUte and the Vigil Family Present:
The Vigil Family & Veterans Memorial
Run and Walk.

Saturday, 9/13/25
Registration: 6:30am
Run/Walk: 7:00am

In Honor of:
Eldred Vigil Jr. – Marines
Glenda Vigil – Army
Elroy Vigil – Marines
Rueben Vigil – Air Force

SunUte Park
FREE!!!

First 50 participants will receive a free t-shirt!
For more information, please contact Abel Velasquez, Fitness Director at (970)563-2651

SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Scramble Format

Saturday, September 13, 2025

Dalton Ranch Golf Club
11:50am (First tee-time)

-\$400 PER TEAM OF 4
-INCLUDES 18 HOLES, GOLF CART, CUSTOM GOLF BALLS, BREAKFAST, & MORE
-LIMITED TO 10 TEAMS

PRIZES: 1ST, 2ND, 3RD PLACE & LONGEST DRIVE, LONGEST PUTT DEADLINE TO REGISTER/PAY: 9/2/2025
FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER, CONTACT: 970-563-2307

"BLOOMING CREATIONS" 2025 DINO RUN

103RD SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR & RODEO

Registration Starts Immediately Following Parade
North Lawn Fairgrounds ◊ Races Start at 5pm
Agatha Bison-Sponsor
970-317-3618 aggieb80@gmail.com
Race Logo Courtesy of Brooke McCoy-Davis @ Dapple Print Shop

103rd annual Southern Ute Fair
Skate Park Competition
Saturday, September 13, 2025
5:30pm @ Piinu Nuuchi Skate Park

Age groups:
*13 and under
*14 and up
*35+ and up (skateboard only)

Events:
*BMX Bikes
*Skateboards
*Scooters

Open to everyone
FREE EVENT

Prizes for top 3 per age group per event.

Anyone under the age of 18 must have a liability signed by a parent/guardian
If you have any questions contact SunUte Community Center at (970)563-0214

65TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL FAIR
POW W O W
DANCE CONTEST: \$95,500 • DRUM CONTEST: \$56,000 (split)

SEPTEMBER 12, 13, 14, 2025
SKY UTE FAIRGROUNDS
200 E. Highway 151, Ignacio, CO

GRAND ENTRY: Fri. 7 pm; Sat. 1 & 7 pm; Sun. 1 pm
GOULD DANCE: Fri. 5 pm; Sat. 11 am & 5 pm; Sun. 11 am
REGISTRATION: Fri., 5-7 pm; Sat., 12-1 pm. No exceptions!

POW W O W HEAD STAFF
• Master of Ceremonies: Eugene Blackbear, Jr.
• Co-Master of Ceremonies: Stair Harlan
• Arena Director: Francis Sherwood
• Head Drum Judge: Merle Eagle Speaker
• Head Gourd Dancer: Dewayne C. Richards
• Host Gourd Drum: Yellow Jacket
• Host Northern Drum: Ho-Chunk Station
• Host Southern Drum: Yung Bux
• Headlady Dancer: Miss Southern Ute
• Head Man Dancer: Picked Daily

POW W O W COMMITTEE SPECIAL
Old Ute Style – Traditional Men & Women
\$500 – Men and \$500 – Women
Tribal members only & 1st descendants with ID (18+ yrs.)

DANCE CONTEST CATEGORIES
• Tiny Tots (5yrs. & Under)
• Jr. Boys (6-12): Fancy, Grass, Combined Traditional
• Jr. Girls (6-12): Fancy, Jingle, Combined Traditional
• Teen Boys (13-17): Fancy, Grass, Northern Traditional and Southern Traditional
• Teen Girls (13-17): Fancy, Jingle, Northern Traditional and Southern Traditional
• Jr. Men (18-34): Fancy, Grass, Northern Traditional and Southern Traditional
• Jr. Women (18-34): Fancy, Jingle, Northern Traditional and Southern Traditional
• Sr. Adult Men (35-59): Fancy, Grass, Northern Traditional and Southern Traditional
• Sr. Women (35-59): Fancy, Jingle, Northern Traditional and Southern Traditional
• Golden Age Men (60+): Combined
• Golden Women (60+): Combined

VENDOR INFO: Arts & Crafts: Rochelle Aguilar (970-759-1722); Food: Sky Ute Fairgrounds (970-563-5541)

SOUTHERN UTE POW W O W COMMITTEE
Rochelle Aguilar, Chairman (970-759-1722), Karen Washington, Vice-Chairman (970-759-5880), Alfreda Armstrong, Treasurer (405-764-4198), Sherisa Valdez, Secretary (720-621-4117), Lisa Jacket, Hilda Burch, Edward Box III, Marty Pinnecoose (Southern Ute Tribal Council Ex-Officio).

Southern Ute Powwow Committee: Sky Ute Fairgrounds, Cultural Preservation Dept., or the Southern Ute Tribe, will not be responsible for accidents, theft, injuries, food-borne illness, or death.

SUNUTE ARCHERY RANGE: 256 UTE RD, IGANCIO, CO 81137

103RD SO. UTE FAIR
3D ARCHERY SHOOT
SUNDAY, SEPT. 14TH
FREE EVENT

REGISTRATION: 7:00AM
SHOOT START AT 7:30AM
CATEGORIES: TRADITIONAL & COMPOUND
AGE DIVISIONS: 6-12, 13-17, & 18+
PRIZES: 1ST, 3RD
CONTACT SUNUTE @ (970) 563-0214

Pancake Breakfast

Time: 8am - 11am
Location: Sky Ute Fairgrounds, Exhibit Hall
Contact: Trae Seibel 970-764-8098

Benefits the Ignacio Varsity Girls Basketball Team
Cost: \$7
Menu: Pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee, & orange juice

TIPI-RAISING CONTEST

TIME: 9:00AM
LOCATION: SKY UTE FAIRGROUNDS, INFIELD
CONTACT: BYRON & ETTA FROST 970-946-4061
PRIZES: 1ST, 2ND, 3RD (TBD)
NO ENTRY FEE | REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS EVENT | 3 MEMBER TEAMS

TIPI-RAISING JUDGING CRITERIA:
-CONTESTANTS WILL USE THE TRIBAL TIPI PROVIDED
-FASTEST TIME TO ERECT TIPI
-EACH TEAM WILL BE GIVEN 45 MINUTES MAXIMUM TO ERECT THE TIPI
-TECHNIQUE OF ERECTING TIPI
-EACH TEAM WILL HAVE ONLY ONE CHANCE TO ERECT THE TIPI

GREASED POLE CLIMB

Time: 10:00am
Location: Sky Ute Fairgrounds, Infield
Contact: Nathan Strong Elk 970-553-0623
Prizes: Cash

Categories:
-Individual: Adult 13 years & older
-Kids: 12 years & younger
-Teams: Adults only 13 years & older

Greased Pole Guidelines:
-All age participants must sign a waiver
-18 years and younger need a parent/guardian signature
-Team category will consist of 5-person teams, must include one female
-Individual category must reach the top of pole for the envelope

FRYBREAD CONTEST

Time: 11:00am
Location: Sky Ute Fairgrounds, Infield (North end)
Contact: Lisa Burch 970-799-2056
Prizes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd
Frybread will be judged on color, texture, & taste

Categories:
Singles: 15-17 years | 18 years & older
2-team: 14 years & younger

20-minute time limit:
Build fire, prepare dough, fry two (2) breads to be judged (may swap two (2) of your best within the 20 min. time period)

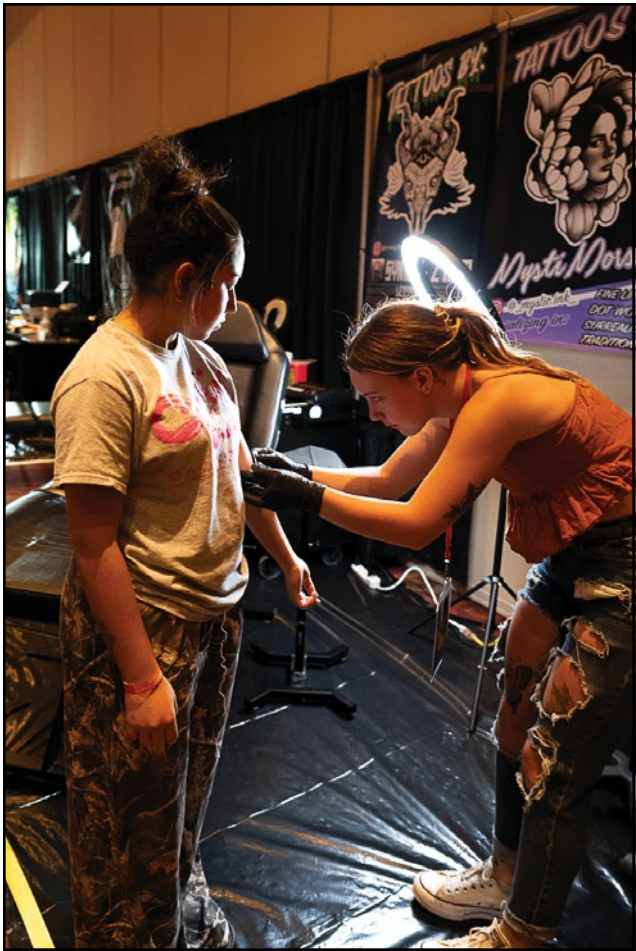
Rules:
-Open to all Natives
-Flour, salt, baking powder, shortening, & water will be provided
-Must bring own utensils, bowls, potholders, etc.
-3 matches will be provided for each contestant to start fire
-No paper may be used to start fire, no outside help
-NO PRE-MADE DOUGH WILL BE ALLOWED
-NO OUTSIDE HELP
-NO INTERFERENCE WITH JUDGES



Celebrating Ink at Sky Ute Casino



Artists of Obsidian Tattoo Studio stand before their banner at their booth, (Left to Right) Tim Essary, Southern Ute tribal member Sergio Cloud, and Victoria Martin.



Alyssa Atencio gets stenciled and prepared for a new tattoo, done by artist Mysti Morse. Morse is an artist at Headhunter Tattoo in Durango, Colo.



Southern Ute tribal member, DJ Hendren gets a new tattoo from artist and owner of Aspired Ink, Alberto Valladares.

Ink lovers, artists, and enthusiasts gathered at the Sky Ute Casino Resort this past weekend on Friday, Aug. 29 through Sunday, Aug. 31 for the inaugural Four Corners Tattoo Convention. This event featured live tattooing, vendor booths, art prints, piercings, and daily tattoo contests, and more, offering various activities for tattoo connoisseurs to curious first timers. Top tattoo artists from across the nation gathered for the region's premier event celebrating body art, culture, and creativity.

Photos by Zuriah Baker
The Southern Ute Drum



**JOIN TODAY,
PLAY TODAY!**

UNLOCK EXCLUSIVE PERKS LIKE SKY UTE LOOT, DINING CREDITS, AND ENTRIES INTO EXCITING GIVEAWAYS — ONLY WITH ACE'S CLUB.

Start earning points as soon as you sign up and use them for Sky Ute Loot at any slot machine, redeem at any dining outlet at Sky Ute Casino Resort or at our hotel, and receive a special 21st birthday reward. You'll also get access to special members-only promotions, giveaways, and events!

Sky Ute Casino Resort — The #1 Entertainment Destination in the Four Corners.



**SIGN UP
FOR FREE**
and start
earning points!





Bear Dancing in White Mesa



Singers sit before the dancers, telling stories and sharing their songs.



Growlers are unique to each singer, but they all are used to create songs to be shared with all in attendance.

Mamakwanhkapu (Bear Dance) in White Mesa, Utah marks the end of Bear Dance season each year. From Friday, Aug. 29 through Monday, Sept. 1, dancers and singers journey to the other side of the Sleeping Ute Mountain to join our Weeminuche relatives in the annual celebration. Dancers filled the corral and kicked up dust in the late summer heat, on the final day of the White Mesa Bear Dance.

Photos by Divine Windy Boy
The Southern Ute Drum



Dancers swing and sway to the sounds of the Fort Duchesne singers on Monday.



Pairs of dancers line up ahead of a song on Monday, Sept. 1.



Malene Avila Miller shows off her best moves at the White Mesa Bear Dance.



Southern Ute tribal member, Keifer GoodTracks-Alires guides his dance partner through the corral on Monday.



Dancers search for their favorite dance partners throughout the weekend, leading up to the last song.



Bear Dancers enjoy the sounds of growlers as they fill the corral.



Ethan Rohde O'Leary learns the ropes of Cat Man on Monday at White Mesa Bear Dance.

Employees kick back at Purgatory Resort



Employees from the Permanent Fund take a break from activities to gather at Purgatory Resort for a group photo on the ski hill.



Permanent Fund employees greeted each other throughout the morning, eager to enjoy the slate of outdoor activities during Employee Appreciation Day at Purgatory Resort.



For all who attended Employee Appreciation Day at Purgatory Resort, Colorado's natural beauty was on full display to enjoy.



Mother and Daughter, Marleen and Yolanda Vigil wore big smiles on Purgatory's chair lift ride through the mountains on Employee Appreciation Day.

Photos by Conrad Thompson
The Southern Ute Drum

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe had their Employee Appreciation Day, Friday, Aug. 22, to honor the hard work and dedication of its Permanent Fund staff. Employees enjoyed a fun filled day of activities, fantastic views, generous smiles, and great company at this year's event, held at Purgatory Resort north of Durango, Colo. The attendees were treated to numerous events and activities such as the alpine slide, a poker walk in the mountains, and an outdoor luncheon. The Tribe would like to say thank you to all who attended and appreciates the hard work and dedication of those that help make the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Permanent Fund successful.



Members of the Permanent Fund's HR Department, along with Executive Officer Lindsey Box, and TIS Director Amy Barry took a break from hosting duties to pose with Little Miss Southern Ute Alternate, Olyvia Watts.





FREE LAPTOP BAG

SUDEP is providing a laptop bag to Southern Ute Tribal Members who have received a laptop through the program. You can choose from five different styles. Supplies are limited. Only one per Tribal Member.

NEW LAPTOPS HAVE ARRIVED

If you have not received your free Dell laptop from SUDEP there are more available to Southern Ute Tribal Members.

If you have questions or would like a laptop bag, Dell laptop or need technical assistance, please contact SUDEP at 970-563-5555 or fill out the forms online at: <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/SUDEP>



CDPHE AND TRIBE ANNOUNCE • FROM PAGE 1



Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

Sonic drill rigs were deployed on properties neighboring the initial spill area as part of the remediation process, near County Road 219 and Riverview Ranch Road, where the pipeline failure occurred. Enterprise Products LLC has reported recovering more than 20,000 gallons of gasoline from the subsurface using soil vapor extraction technology.

the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Enterprise Products LLC, which owns and operates the pipeline that failed, has revised its estimate of the release. After questions from the state and the Tribe regarding the accuracy of the original estimate, Enterprise determined it had underestimated the size of the spill and increased its estimate from approximately 23,000 gallons to nearly 97,000 gallons of refined gasoline. This figure remains an estimate and may be revised further. The updated estimate underscores the seriousness of the incident, which is now estimated to be the largest refined gasoline pipeline spill in Colorado since CDPHE began tracking such releases in 2016.

The state, in collaboration with the Tribe, is requiring Enterprise to follow a corrective action plan that includes additional steps to ensure a comprehensive and protective cleanup.

Requirements include:

- Expanded monitoring of groundwater and soil to track the spread of contamination.
- Installation of additional groundwater and soil treatment systems.
- Enhanced protections for

residents, such as providing cisterns and water deliveries, and installing point-of-entry treatment systems in affected homes.

- Safeguards for natural resources, including a survey and monitoring of seeps and springs near the Florida Mesa to prevent potential impacts to the Animas River.
- Transparent reporting to ensure state, tribal, and local leaders, as well as the public, have accurate and timely information.

“As the original caretakers and conservationists, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe calls upon Enterprise and CDPHE to act with urgency and accountability in fully remediating the spill. The Tribe expects timely action and robust safeguards to protect the Animas River and our tribal membership. Anything less would be a failure to uphold the standards our community and environment deserve,” said Chairman Melvin J. Baker of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe.

“CDPHE is honored to work alongside the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in responding to this spill,” said Jill Hunsaker Ryan, Executive Director of CDPHE. “We share their commitment to protecting commu-

nity health and safeguarding the environment, and will continue to support strong measures to ensure Enterprise meets its obligations.”

Enterprise has reported recovering more than 20,000 gallons of gasoline from the subsurface using soil vapor extraction technology. Under the corrective action plan, remediation will continue until monitoring data confirms that all regulatory standards have been met and contamination no longer poses a risk to human health or the environment.

The Tribe and CDPHE remain in close communication with residents, La Plata County, and state leadership. Weekly meetings with Enterprise and its contractors are used to review the latest data and determine next steps. Both CDPHE and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe will provide regular updates as new information becomes available and take all necessary actions to ensure the health and safety of Reservation residents and the environment.

For more information:

- Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Environmental Programs Dept. webpage
- CDPHE’s La Plata County gasoline spill incident webpage



courtesy Damarion GoodTracks

The Boys & Girls Club collaborated with Mountain Studies Institute and went to Lemon Reservoir for a field trip, Friday, Aug. 15; Club members use nets to capture insects in the water.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Club Connect: Congrats graduates!

Staff report

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

BGC highlights

On Thursday, Aug. 21, the Boys & Girls Club CEO, Bruce LeClaire and Administrative Assistant, Crystal Kelly attended Resolutions 101 training.

On Friday, Aug. 22, the Boys & Girls Club staff attended the Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Permanent Fund Employee Appreciation Day at Purgatory Resort.

Program Highlights

On Friday, Aug. 15, the Boys & Girls Club collaborated with Mountain Studies Institute and went to Lemon Reservoir.

Board Highlights

Boys & Girls Club CEO, Bruce LeClaire and Board President, Amy Barry at-



tended a hybrid Boys & Girls Clubs of America Advanced Leadership Development Program (virtual meetings Aug. 5 and 13, in person program Aug. 25, 26, 27). Other attendees included the Boys & Girls

Clubs of La Plata County, San Luis Valley, Pueblo, San Juan County, and Santa Fe, N.M.

There are currently three board vacancies (1 tribal member and 2 community members).



courtesy Damarion GoodTracks



Crystal Kelly/SU BGC

Club members walk in the water trying to find different insects that live in the river stream near Lemon Reservoir, Friday, Aug. 15.

The Boys & Girls Club staff attended the Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Permanent Fund Employee Appreciation Day at Purgatory Resort, Friday, Aug. 22.

Multi - Purpose Facility
September Events

Yard Sale Saturday September 6, 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

Fair Open Sewing—Monday & Tuesday September 8 & 9, 10:00 AM—8:00 PM

Sip Chat & Chew—Saturday September 13, —After the Parade

Quilt & Sew Class—Star Quilt (lap size) Tuesday—Thursday,
September 16—18, 10:00 AM—3:00 PM & 5:30—8:00 PM

Traditional Sewing—Tuesday—Thursday September 23—25,
Day Session - 10:00 AM—3:30 PM Evening Session 5:30 PM—8:00 PM



Special Events

Haunted House Food Sale Wednesday September 24, 11:30 AM—2:30 PM

Haunted House Volunteer Meetings Tuesday September 7, 4:30 PM –6:30 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

Keep in the Know:
Air Quality Alerts



- The Air Quality department (AQD) sends out Air Quality alerts when smoke reaches potentially unhealthy levels.
- Be sure to check TIS social media and emails for the latest conditions.

*Check out the SUIT Ambient Monitoring Website for more information.





Veterans rally through Rez on annual bike run



This year's group of motorcycle riders took time out from the annual event to pose for the annual group picture in the Southern Ute Veterans Memorial Park in Ignacio.



Southern Ute Veterans Association Commander, Howard Richards Sr., Bruce Valdez and Raymond Baker received keepsakes from their fellow veterans.

Bikers rallied, kick stands up at 10 am, Friday, Aug. 29, on a rainy overcast day in the Four Corners. The full day ride started in Durango, Colo. before arriving at the Southern Ute Veterans Memorial Park in Ignacio for the annual Durango Veterans Poker Run, aptly named "Remembering All." Riders were scheduled to finish up their event at VFW Post 4031 back in Durango. Attendees in Ignacio received hotdogs, chips, drinks, and watermelon all donated by Dome Sage, while listening to welcoming remarks from Tribal Council and the Southern Ute Veterans Association recognizing the sacrifices made by all veterans past and present.

Photos by Conrad Thompson
The Southern Ute Drum



Riders got a chance to see Dome Sage in his element, playing cool music and working the sound for the annual event.



During a moment of reflection, sitting down and enjoying the day, Robert Jack and Norman Lansing share stories of past rides.

Multi-Purpose Facility Canning Workshop



Friday September 5, 2025
Rescheduled for
10:00 AM - 3:30 PM
a later date in September -
Green Beans, Corn, Squash & Tomatoes

Class is limited to six participants - Call to sign up.

970-563-2640

Thank you

Multi-Purpose Facility
256 Ute Rd. Ignacio CO



Multi-Purpose Facility Indoor Yard Sale

Saturday September 6, 2025
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM



No Admission Fee - No Set-up Fee - Open to the Public
Doors Open 8:00 AM



Make & Take Crafting
With Sandy
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Call 970-563-2640 to reserve your space.



256 Ute Road, Ignacio CO
970-563-2640 - e-mail multipurpose@southernute-nsn.gov

BOBCATS VOLLEYBALL

Volleycats log first win of new season

IHS starts '25 splitting two home matches

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Giddy about her team's chances for success at the upcoming Denver Christian Invitational, at the time more than a week away, Ignacio Volleyball head coach Jennifer Seibel knew any and all momentum her varsity could generate for itself leading into the anticipated trip to Lakewood would only improve the squad's odds.

And though the Volleycats' 2A/1A San Juan Basin League opener Tuesday evening, Sept. 2, at Mancos had gone final after the submission deadline for the 9/5 Drum, they nonetheless hit the road for the important early-season showdown still riding high after having secured their first victory in the young 2025 season just a few days earlier.

"We're getting game-prepped for that. We've got practice tomorrow, practice Monday, and we are just focused on our game, as always, and just preparing to play our best," said Seibel, speaking after IHS' four-set win Thursday afternoon, Aug. 28, over visiting Del Norte. "We have that anticipation of (facing MHS junior standout) Bailey (Beh), you know; it's always fun to play against her, and she offers such great competition for my girls."

"They've also got a pretty solid libero, and a new setter – a freshman – so we'll see how it pans out. But we're excited."

"Last year ... they won one, we won one, so I'm excited to see how we do. If we play like we did tonight, I think we have a good chance," junior Laine Bradley said. "But it's still going to be a good game."

"I'm excited to play them. Start league off well," said junior libero Tarah Baker.

Bouncing back well from a season-opening 15-25, 12-25, 25-18, 19-25 loss on the 26th inside IHS Gymnasium to 3A Montezuma-Cortez, Ignacio shook off a second-set setback two days later and ultimately



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Alyssa Atencio sends over a defensive, rally-prolonging free ball during the Volleycats' season-opening match Tuesday night, Aug. 26, inside IHS Gymnasium against Montezuma-Cortez.

ly dealt DNHS its first loss this fall. Having knocked off both perennial Class 1A force La Veta and 2A Rocky Ford the previous weekend, the Lady Tigers couldn't keep pace during the third and fourth sets against IHS as the 'Cats prevailed 25-20, 17-25, 25-17, 25-11.

"It was a game of momentum, like all volleyball. We had some really, really big ups and got momentum on our side, but when we lost that momentum, we never got it back," said second-year Del Norte head coach and former Sanford basketball star Chance Canty. "And Ignacio capitalized on that, so kudos to them for how well they competed on every single ball."

"Just a completely different team than what we were on Tuesday," Seibel said. "They had just so much more energy and cohesion on the court; there was just, like, a comforting ... familiarity between my players that, really, allowed them to play with no fear. Really came out strong offensive-

ly and not afraid to swing – just played with a lot more confidence."

After dropping Set 1, DNHS bounced back to nearly go wire-to-wire in Set 2, taking a 3-2 lead and never letting IHS get closer than three points before evening the match when Bradley bashed an attempted kill long. But the 'Cats (1-1 overall, 0-0 SJBL) came right back and never let a 4-3 edge in Set 3 degrade before, on IHS' fourth crack at set point, Bradley attempted a back-row kill which DNHS senior setter Nayelie Velasquez couldn't control.

And in Set 4, Ignacio junior Lily Quintana checked in from Seibel's bench and, after receiving no court time in the loss to M-CHS, Quintana made up for 'lost' time with a set- and match-breaking six-point stay on serve, with four fast floaters causing immediate breakdowns in the guests' plans and helping rapidly

Volleycats page 18



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio senior Gabe Archuleta (21) snares Denver Manual's KeArre Watson in mid-air to make a highlight-reel tackle during the teams' mutual 2025 season-opener Friday, Aug. 22, at IHS Field. On offense, Archuleta caught two touchdowns and flirted with 150 yards receiving in a wild 62-36 non-conference loss.

BOBCATS FOOTBALL

'BEAR' MARKET: Bobcats fall to Bruins

deKay rushing TDs bookend 50-22 loss

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Let the sunshine, let the sunshine in...

It was almost as though the repeated line of The 5th Dimension's 1969 No. 1 song was being subconsciously belted out by all Bobcat backers in attendance Friday evening, Aug. 29, as Brandon Blevins slid into a developing scrum, seeking to regain Ignacio one last possession late in the team's first road game of 2025.

Just a couple seconds earlier, senior Gabe Archuleta

had tackled CHS running back Landen Taylor in the backfield from behind and stripped the ball out of the sophomore's right hand. And after Bobcat freshmen Zackariah Loudenburg and Phillip Velasquez couldn't come up with the fumble, Blevins – nicknamed 'Sunshine' (stemming from a past resemblance to the player portrayed on-screen in 'Remember the Titans') – beat CHS freshman RB Tony Scartezina to the bottom of the fast-forming dogpile.

"Oh, it was really cool to me," Blevins said. "I mean,

that was the first time I was ever able to do that, and it just brought joy and motivation back."

Proper celebration of the takeaway, however, would have to wait until afterwards; working against a running clock, the 'Cats – or at least those not already on the field as part of IHS' defensive unit – hurried into offensive mode after being set up at the hosting Bruins' 30-yard line with 3:06 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Often rocked by hard

Bear page 18

BOBCATS CROSS-COUNTRY

IHS harriers do work at the Warrior

Three crack 20 mins. at Metro mega-meet

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Making his 2025 debut after not competing Saturday morning, Aug. 23, with his teammates at Dolores' Boggy Draw Bear Chase, Ignacio senior Trace Crane not only paced the Bobcats in the top division of a super-sized meet not even a week later, but managed a top-100 result.

Clocking a time of 18 minutes, 24.8 seconds, Crane ended up 93rd overall in the 'Varsity Boys' race at 5A Arapahoe's Warrior Invitational, held Friday evening, Aug. 29, in Centennial. Hampered by a nasty side cramp at the season-opening Chase, junior Thunder Windy Boy was more or less back to his regular self and crossed the finish line in a 139th-place 19:29.9. Senior James Martin took 149th in 19:47.7, junior Judah Ashley placed 163rd in 20:25.6 and freshman Matthew Maestas (186th, 22:05.9) completed IHS' score-5 squad.

All told, 210 individuals finished as more than 1,300 harriers took part in the multi-race spectacle, first held back in 1966, and heading up the Varsity Boys division were Colorado Springs Coronado teammates Oliver Horton and Xzavier Campos. Horton, a junior, completed the deKoven Park course in a blistering 14:47.8 and the senior Campos crossed the finish line in 15:23.5. Monument Lewis-Palmer senior Noah Thompson (15:53.2) came in third, followed by Highlands Ranch ThunderRidge senior Ryder Jay (16:02.5)



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Matthew Maestas (578) runs during the 2025-opening, Dolores-hosted Boggy Draw Bear Chase – in which he placed 41st, clocking a time of 24:08.65 (the Bobcat boys placed seventh as a team) – on Saturday, Aug. 23. IHS' second appearance in the new season was at the massive Warrior Invitational, held on the 29th in Centennial, Colo. and hosted by in-town 5A Arapahoe.

and Golden sophomore Jackson Ferguson (16:03.5).

Earlier in the afternoon, IHS freshman Ireland Cates ran in the Warrior's 'Freshman/Sophomore Girls' open race and, by finishing in 35:34.1, placed 250th out of 261 individuals.

Winning in a time – which would have ranked fourth in the Varsity Girls event – of 18 minutes, 31.7 seconds was Aurora Cherokee Trail freshman Madison Lange, and Littleton Heritage sophomore

Scout DeStefano followed in 18:47.7 as the only other entrant breaking 19 minutes (only 11 even broke 21 minutes).

Next for Ignacio will be the historic Joe I. Vigil Open, hosted by Adams State University on Saturday, Sept. 6, at Cattails Golf Course in Alamosa. The meet's high-school girls' race is scheduled to start at 9:40 a.m., and the high-school boys' at 10:15. The 'Cats will then compete on the 13th at the Bayfield Invitational.

SunUte Recreation Center

VOLLEYBALL

CO-ED LEAGUE

REGISTRATION \$350 DEADLINE 09-05-2025

SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2025
Monday & Thursday Nights

COME JOIN THE SUNUTE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR OUR ANNUAL VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE. WE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGE ATHLETES, FROM ALL AROUND, TO SIGN-UP AND HAVE A GREAT SEASON.

For more information:
Kelsey Frost (970) 563-2660
Elijah Weaver (970) 563-2655
Aaron Henry (970) 563-2667

VOLLEYCATS LOG FIRST WIN • FROM PAGE 17

And after junior Shane Smothers intercepted Pon-



Dead-on with his first four passes (all completed to Archuleta), Pontine managed to recover a failed Sanders option pitch at the Bobcat 45 with 6:31 left, but then threw his fourth interception of the half when Brooks snared an under-thrown ball intended for senior Aven Bourriague. Set up at their own 25 with 5:31 remaining, the Bruins covered the 75 yards in six plays and 2:24, with

After facing Olathe, IHS will then welcome 2A Bayfield the following Friday for a 7 p.m. showdown.

“That day’s the Southern Ute Fair,” Seibel said, “so they’re using (Ignacio High’s) parking lot to get ready for the parade – which makes sense.”



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio libero Tarah Baker comes up with a dig during the Volleycats' season-opening match Tuesday night, Aug. 26, inside IHS Gymnasium against Montezuma-Cortez.

Multi-Purpose Facility Fair Open Sewing



Monday & Tuesday September 8 & 9, 2025
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Open sewing to complete & prepare your Fair entries.

The Sewing Room will be open from 10:00 AM– 4:00 PM and 5:00–8:00 PM. You are welcome to bring your projects and prepare them for entry into the Fair, or to wear for the Fair. Open sewing rules apply during these sessions.

Call the MPF for more information.

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



EXPRESS YOUR OPINIONS

Two Sisters and a Farm Stand

Hello, my name is Holly and I'm part owner of Two Sisters and a Farm Stand, located in Arboles, Colorado.

My sister and I run the business together. Our farm stand store is located on our farm and we carry locally produced items: produce, pastured eggs (both chicken and duck), local USDA beef from Timberline Bovine, local coffee from Freedoms Fire, cottage food items, fresh cut flowers, jewelry from Fabulously Funky, natural skin products from Byers Ranch Apothecary, goat milk lotions, soaps & beard oil from Udder Indulgence, candles from Clean Aura Candles, woodwork from a local Veteran and many other handcrafted products from local artisans including our own products: goat milk soap, salves & lip balms.

My sister and I live on the farm together. We raise dairy goats and a variety of poultry. Our dream of a small farmstead started in 2017 when I found 17 acres of raw land in Arboles. In 2020 my sister moved out to Colorado (along with our parents who live just a few miles down the road) and who have been our greatest supporters. Last year

we received a USDA grant to bring more locally grown produce and pastured eggs to our community. We were able to use the money to build our farm stand store which is run on solar.

Our inventory continues to grow as does our passion of bringing local products into our area.

- We opened this past Mother's Day.
- We accept SNAP, cash and credit cards for purchases.
- We are open every Sunday 9-5 throughout the year.

Our address is 1868 CR 975 Arboles, CO but GPS is 1868 CR 975 Ignacio CO. We are located about a mile from lake Navajo and welcome all weekend travelers to stop by our store.

Our Facebook page is: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552625469642&sk=about

We hope you find our story and store worth a mention in your paper. We would greatly appreciate your help in getting the word out about the wonderful products we carry.

Thank you!
Holly and Danielle

EDITOR'S NOTE: ALL LETTERS PUBLISHED IN THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM ARE PUBLISHED AS SUBMITTED AND DO NOT REFLECT THE OPINION OF THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM OR THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE IN ANY WAY. The Southern Ute Drum encourages letters from readers on any topic. We ask that letters be 500 words or less. Letters deemed to be libelous will not be published. Letters should be submitted by email to Jeremy Shockley at jshockley@southernute-nsn.gov by the end of the day Monday preceeding publication.

Horses graze alongside McElmo



Zuriah Baker/SU Drum

Wild feral horses graze on the roadside in McElmo Canyon just past the reservation boundaries of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, going westbound to White Mesa, Utah. Southern Ute Drum Intern, Zuriah Baker captured this photo on the way to White Mesa Bear Dance on Friday, Aug. 29.

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 PROBATE

In the Estate Of,
James M. Jefferson, Deceased
Case No.: 2025-0068-CV-PR

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 **SEPTEMBER 23, 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 29th of July, 2025.
Elizabeth Benally, Deputy Court Clerk

Correction

In a photo published in the Aug. 22 issue of the Drum, Raquel Taylor's name was misspelled.

WE ARE
MOVING

We are moving the Farmers Market
to the Sky Ute Casino (lot B)
Our first market there will be
Wednesday, August 13th 11-2pm
See you then!



Sky Ute Casino (lot B) Ignacio, Colorado

For More Information
awall@southernute-nsn.gov

Call Us
(970) 563-2281



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE SOUTHERN UTE
INDIAN TRIBE

Our Mission

The Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe will provide a safe and nurturing environment that guides each young person on their path to developing good character, a respect of culture, diversity, academic excellence, and development of a healthy mind, body, and spirit.

Thank You!

Permanent Fund Employees that invest
in our youth through Payroll Deduction!

Boys & Girls Club provide a safe, welcoming and positive environment in which kids and teens have fun, participate in life-changing programs, and build supportive relationships with peers and caring adults.

When School is out, Club is in.
We transport Club Members from School to Club, provide them with a snack, then implement High Yield Activities. We have "All Day Club" on Fridays and during breaks.

Our Reach
Snacks Served: 8,046
After School Program – 852 hours
Summer Program – 370 hours
1,222 Club Hours
Planned Activities: 1,585
111 Registered Members + 1,132 Youth Served Through Community Outreach
= 1,243 Youth Served

We hope you enjoyed
your Administrative
Day off on your
Birthday!
Your support is
greatly appreciated

Bruce LeClaire, Chief Executive Officer
and Board of Directors



Drum
Deadline

Next issue:
Sept. 19

Deadline:
Sept. 15

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



THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

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



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

MAILING ADDRESS

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

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

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

STAFF EXTENSIONS & EMAIL ADDRESSES

The Southern Ute Drum

(sudrum@southernute-nsn.gov)

Jeremy Wade Shockley • Editor, ext. 2255

(jshockley@southernute-nsn.gov)

Krista Richards • Administrative Assistant, 2251

(krichards@southernute-nsn.gov)

Divine Windy Boy • Reporter/Photographer, 2252

(dwindyboy@southernute-nsn.gov)

Robert Ortiz • Graphic Specialist, ext. 2253

(rortiz@southernute-nsn.gov)

Rosaleigh Cloud • Media Archivist, ext. 2274

(rocloud@southernute-nsn.gov)

Conrad Thompson • Reporter/Videographer, ext. 2241

(cotompson@southernute-nsn.gov)

The Southern Ute Drum does not assume responsibility for unsolicited material and does not guarantee publication upon submission.
Published biweekly and mailed 1st class from Ignacio, Colo.
Printed by The Santa Fe New Mexican in Santa Fe, N.M.
The Southern Ute Drum is a member of the Native American Journalists Association, the Society of Professional Journalism and the Colorado Press Association.



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	Request cut-off date
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.

Public Comment Period
Proposed Amendments to Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Severance Tax Code

The Southern Ute Department of Energy is now accepting written comments on proposed amendments to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s Severance Tax Code, Title 21 of the Southern Ute Tribal Code. Among other proposed amendments to the Code, the proposed amendments to Section 21-2-108 would establish index-based values as the primary method of valuing minerals for purposes of the tax. The proposed amendments are available for review and comment at <https://www.suitdoe.com>. Comments must be received by 5PM MT on Monday, October 6, 2025.

SOUTHERN UTE POWWOW COMMITTEE
Seeking Community Service Volunteers

The Southern Ute Powwow Committee is seeking Community Members who would like to be a Volunteer or needing Community Service hours or Graduating credits can get those by helping during the Southern Ute Fair Powwow at the Sky Ute Fairgrounds September 12, 13, and 14, 2025. Various hours. If you are interested, please contact Rochelle Aguilar at 970-563-2990 or email: raguilar@southernute-nsn.gov

Notice Of Draft Ambient Air Monitoring
Annual Network Plan And Request For Comment

Notice is hereby given that the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Environmental Programs Department’s (EPD) Air Quality Division (AQD) has prepared the calendar year 2025 draft Ambient Air Monitoring Annual Network Plan. Under 40 CFR 58.10 (relating to annual monitoring network plan and periodic network assessment), air quality monitoring agencies must adopt an annual air monitoring network plan and make the plan available for public inspection for at least 30 days prior to final submission to the EPA Regional Administrator. This public comment period is open for 30 days from the date of this notice (August 22, 2025), ending on September 21, 2025. The draft plan is available for review on the EPD’s public comment website: <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/departments/epd/public-comments/>. Any interested person may submit written comments on the plan via email to airquality@southernute-nsn.gov.

Request For Bid
Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority: Ignacio Peak &
Northridge Houses Painting & Repair Project #2025-03

The Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority is requesting bids for Ignacio Peak & Northridge Houses Painting & Repair project for 12 Houses on the Southern Ute Reservation. The bid should include the cost of labor and materials in completing this project. A project specification packet can be obtained at the Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority office at 760 Shoshone Ave, Ignacio CO. Monday – Friday. 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You may also request a Bid Packet by emailing rtorres@suiha.org. A mandatory site walk through is required. You may reach Rebecca at (970) 442-6353 to schedule a walk through before September 4, 2025. Bid deadline September 10, 2025 @ 12:00 p.m. Bids must be sealed and labeled. Bid opening is September 10, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. All bids must adhere to the Southern Ute Indian TERO Ordinance and the Federal Indian Preference Statutes. 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Davis-Bacon Wage Rate for LA Plata County are in effect. Uniform Builders Code to be followed. Tribal Crossing Permits must be obtained. Bidders who are not responsive and responsible will be rejected.

NOTICE OF DRAFT TITLE V OPERATING PERMITS
AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Notice is hereby given that five (5) renewal 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, Colo. 81137, for the following sources of air pollution:

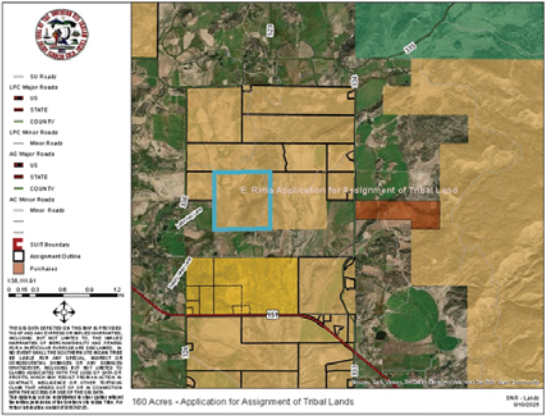
Applicant: Red Cedar Gathering Co.
Facility: Bondad Compressor Station. Section 24, T33N, R10W, 14.00 miles west of Ignacio, Colorado. This source is a natural gas compression facility.
Applicant: Red Cedar Gathering Co.
Facility: Ponderosa Compressor Station. Section 7, T33N, R6W, 5.00 miles east of Ignacio, Colorado. This source is a natural gas compression facility.
Applicant: Red Cedar Gathering Co.
Facility: Pump Canyon Compressor Station. Section 11, T32N, R8W, 7.00 miles south of Ignacio, Colorado. This source is a natural gas compression facility.
Applicant: Red Cedar Gathering Co.
Facility: Sambrito Compressor Station. Section 3, T32N, R6W, 9.25 miles southeast of Ignacio, Colorado. This source is a natural gas compression facility.
Applicant: Red Cedar Gathering Co.
Facility: Spring Creek Compressor Station. Section 31, T33N, R6W, 6.50 miles southeast of Ignacio, Colorado. This source is a natural gas compression facility.
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 <http://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 permits 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 (August 8, 2025).

45-day Notice of Comment and Objection
Assignment Application Request
Esther Rima

SUITC – Title 29, Land Assignment Code 29-2-105(1)...the department shall publish and post...notice of a proposed assignment for comment and objection. The notice shall include the applicants name, a description of the property for which an application for assignment may be filed, and a description of the use to be made of the land... 29-2-104(3) If, after review by the department...the land is determined to be available for assignment, the department shall publish and post notice of availability...

August 18, 2025



October 2, 2025

The Department of Natural Resources recently received an application from Esther Rima for an assignment of tribal lands in the E2NE4 of Sec. 11, and the W2NW4 of Sec. 12 in T33N, R7W, N.M.P.M., La Plata County, Colorado, Southern Ute Indian Reservation. The land applied for is a 160-acre parcel that has been maintained under an improvement lease for the last ten years. The easement for this land will be incorporated as part of the proposed parcel, thereby granting access to the existing parcel.

SUITC – Title 29, Land Assignment Code 29-2-106. Objections to and Comments on Assignments. (1) Within the 45-day posting period described above, any tribal member may file with the department a written objection or written comments on the land assignment. (2) An objection shall include the name and mailing address of the party objection, a description of the assignment objected to, a short and plain statement of reasons why the land should not be assigned or should be assigned only in a modified form, and any suggested conditions which should be included in the grant of assignment.

Tribal members wishing to submit comments or objections regarding this assignment request may do so by mail or email to the Department of Natural Resources—Lands Division, P.O. Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137, or sluzar@southernute-nsn.gov, on or before **October 2, 2025**.



STAY CONNECTED EVERYWHERE

Our Internet Service Provider (ISP) will be walking around the community this week.

FIBER NETWORK AVAILABLE NOW

For FTIWIFI assistance, call 970.564.1824 or 970.442.3400
For general questions, contact Delbert Cuthair at 970.563.5627



2025 SW Colorado Demystifying Entrepreneurship Launch Your Idea - Entrepreneurship 101 Work Shop

with the
Leeds School of Business
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Take Your Business to the Next Level

- Learn from entrepreneurs and award-winning professors
- Develop the framework to turn your idea into a business
- Network with other local business owners
- Learn to create value, avoid common pitfalls and get funding to turn your idea into a reality
- Innovation and design thinking exercises
- Special guests sharing insights on the entrepreneurial path



Monday, September 22nd 5:00pm-7:00pm Welcome Reception Sky Ute Casino Resort (Appetizers & Drinks Served)	Tuesday, September 23rd 8:00am-4:00pm Full Day Workshop Sky Ute Casino Resort (Breakfast & Lunch Provided)
--	---

For more information please reach out to Allison -
awall@southernute-nsn.gov (970) 563-2281



REGISTRATION LINK: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2025-sw-colorado-demystifying-entrepreneurship-tickets-1564332864709?aff=ODDTDCREATOR>



TRIBAL WILLS CLINIC
WINTER 2025
Southern Ute, Ignacio, Colo • Dec. 17 – Dec 20, 2025

To make appointment call: John Roach 505-716-6788

WHY WILLS?

- Federal law includes provisions that say how Indian Trust Lands pass after a Tribal Member passes on.
- Over time, parcels may have been split into hundreds of small shares as Indian Trust Land passed from generation to generation. This process is called “fractionation.”
- A federal law, A.I.P.R.A., is now attempting to decrease fractionation by providing that most Indian Trust Land will go only to the one oldest descendant – unless the owner writes a will.
- To make sure that your Trust Land, and other important items of property go to the people you want to have that property, you should write a will.

Celebrate a well-lived life by making sure that your wishes are carried out by the next generation. To make sure that your wishes are respected after you pass, please consider drafting a will, either through our program or with a local attorney
The Tribal Wills Clinic is a group of volunteers including law students and licensed attorneys, who donate their time to help Tribal Members write wills.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

- Our services are entirely free.
- At a law firm in Denver, the cost for a will would be about \$5,000 and the process would take about a month.

HOW LONG DOES THE PROCESS TAKE?

- About two hours on two different days.
- On the first day you will talk with a law student about what you would like to have included in your documents. You will have plenty of time to ask questions.
- That night the law student will write up all of the documents, and have them checked by a licensed attorney.
- On a second day, when the documents are ready, you will come back for the signing ceremony, which will take at least an hour, as the law student goes over everything to be sure that it is right.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT FOR A WILL

- **Names of Friends and Family who will be Included in the Will** – To save time at the interview, write down the names of the friends and family you want to mention in the will. Include the birthdate, address, cellphone number, enrollment or census number for each person, if you know it.
- **Special Gifts** – What is important for specific family members to have?
- **Personal Representative**—Who should take charge to make sure your wishes are carried out after you pass on?
- **Joint Tenants or Tenants in Common**—If you want to give a piece of land to be owned by several people at the same time, you will need to decide whether you want them to own the property as **Joint Tenants** or as **Tenants in Common**.
- **Joint Tenants** means that the last person surviving will own all of the land. **Tenants in Common** means that as each person passes on, that person’s share goes into his or her estate. The law student will explain more about this.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
TRIBAL CREDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER
VACANCY

The Southern Ute Tribal Credit Committee (“Committee”) is looking for eligible tribal member applicants to serve on the Committee. The appointment is for a three (3) year term. This is a paid Committee: IRS Guidelines and a Criminal Background Check are necessary.

Individuals seeking to serve on the Committee must demonstrate a reputation of personal integrity, dependability, honesty, a strong work ethic, and the ability to perform in a non-biased, confidential, and fair manner. They must become familiar with the objectives of the Declaration of Policies and Plan of Operation – Tribal Credit Fund and must maintain good financial standing with the Tribe. Applicants must also pass a criminal background and reference check, per the Tribal Credit Committee By-laws.

The primary purpose of the Committee is to evaluate and render decisions regarding Secured Home Loan applications and monitor and evaluate the Tribal Credit loan programs, and make recommendations to Tribal Council. The Committee has scheduled weekly meetings.

Some of the duties of the Tribal Credit Committee are:

- Approve loans as required by the Declaration of Policies and Plan of Operation – Tribal Credit Fund (“Declaration”)
- Monitor compliance with the Declaration
- Monitor all approved loans for performance
- Make recommendations to the Tribal Council on program revisions and updates regarding Committee operations
- Maintain confidentiality, objectivity, and fairness in conducting all Committee business
- Attend regular meetings and other special meetings, as needed
- Coordinate the Committee’s annual budget with Tribal Credit Staff

Interested Tribal Members are asked to submit a letter of interest to the Tribal Credit Committee, PO Box 737 #60, Ignacio, CO 81137, or by email to zvogenthaler@southernute-nsn.gov.

The letter should include the full name and contact information of the applicant, along with a detailed explanation of their relevant experience that would aid in making credit decisions, as well as a description of why they would be a good fit for the position.

If you have any questions, please speak with Zeb Vogenthaler at 970-563-2458.

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 bleclaire@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

The KSUT Board of Directors currently has two openings, including a community-member-at-large and a seat for a Southern Ute Tribal Member OR a first descendant of a tribal member. Board meetings occur on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm. For more information or to submit a letter of interest, contact KSUT Executive Director Tami Graham at tami@ksut.org or by calling 970-563-0255. KSUT was founded in 1976 by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and now has two distinct signals – KSUT Tribal Radio and Four Corners Public Radio. KSUT became an independent non-profit organization in 1986 and an NPR-affiliate in 1988.

POWWOW COMMITTEE

Open Until Filled – Two vacant positions. 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 dance

es 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

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is seeking enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members to fill two seats on the Tribal Member Wildlife Advisory Board. The 8-member Board works closely with the Wildlife Division on planning and recommending actions related to tribal hunting and fishing programs. Board members not already employed by the Tribe are compensated \$20 per hour for meeting attendance. Meetings are held roughly on a quarterly basis throughout the year, and a commitment to attend and participate in all meetings is expected. Interested Tribal Members must submit a brief letter of interest that includes a description of the applicant’s knowledge and experience with wildlife, hunting, or fishing, on and off of the Southern Ute Reservation. In addition, as a condition of appointment to the Board, applicants must submit a standard job application through the Tribe’s Human Resources Department, as well as agree to a State of Colorado background check. Please submit letters 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

Open Until Filled – The Tribe is seeking an enrolled Southern Ute youth wishing to fill a, Alternative Position 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.

SoCoCAA
Seeking Board Members for Board of Directors

If you’re passionate about making a difference in the community, SoCoCAA is currently seeking Board Members for their Board of Directors. This is a fantastic opportunity to engage with valuable programs that support our community. The Board meets every other month, making it a manageable commitment. For more information about our organization and the programs we offer, please visit our website at www.sococaa.org. If you’re interested in applying, please reach out to Nita Emerson at 970-563-4517 or request an application by emailing nemerson@sococaa.org. Join us in making a positive impact in Southern Colorado!

Committee of Elders Announcements

The Committee of Elders (COE) would like to announce our meeting dates and a Logo Contest we will be having.

Meeting Dates: Our meeting dates are first Monday of each month, held at the Museum library at 9 a.m. We invite all elders to attend.

Logo Contest: We are sponsoring a Logo contest for the COE. The submissions will be accepted from Southern Ute enrolled tribal members; the contest will run for an additional two months. The winner will receive a monetary amount yet to be determined.

If you have any questions, please call 970-946-4061, Byron Frost, Chairman of the Committee of Elders.

MULTI-PURPOSE FACILITY
September Sip, Chat & Chew

Saturday September 12, 2024
After the Fair Parade

The Dinner is open to members of the 3 Ute Tribes,
and their families, all ages are welcome

Prettiest Ribbon Skirt / Ribbon Shirt Contest
Wear your best.

Arts & Crafts vendors are welcome limited space available \$25
Ute Members no charge. Call 970-563-2640 to reserve your space

Door Prize donations and side dishes are welcome

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





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

After School Program Leader

Closes 9/5/25 – A regular full-time position that provides education and physical activities for the After-School program to meet the needs of children ages 3 through 13 years. Pay grade N6; Pay is \$16.09/hour.

Agriculture Division Head

Closes 9/12/25 – A skilled, professional Southern Ute agricultural management position responsible for duties to include, but not limited to, administering agricultural programs, managing the agricultural custom farm services, administering agricultural land leases and fence agreements; and coordinating agriculture cost share programs. Pay grade E18; \$99,984/annually.

Assistant Cook

Closes 9/5/25 –Assisting the Head Cook and Food Service Manager to facilitate all kitchen food service preparation and cleaning duties at the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy. Pay grade N5; Pay is \$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. 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.

Communications Manager

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Chief of Police, provides day-to-day management and oversight to the Communication Center operations staff (Dispatchers) including planning, developing, coordinating, supervising, and reviewing all aspects of the work of employees. Pay grade E16; \$77,627/annually.

Community Health Representative

Open Until Filled – Providing assistance and the coordination and development of activities for elderly and physically or mentally disabled Tribal members. Performs community health duties; patient transport and monitoring, home visits, conducting classes, and providing community education on Tribal health issues. May include house cleaning, personal hygiene, preparing meals, and other health and wellness related activities. Pay grade N9; pay rate is \$20.26/hour.

Construction Services Repairman

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

Controller

Open Until Filled – Responsible for the 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. Responsible for the 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; \$114,968/year.

Detention Division Head

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Director of Justice and Regulatory, plans, organizes, directs, and reviews the administrative and operational activities of the Southern Ute Detention Program and Facility; ensures compliance with all applicable laws, policies, and procedures; develops and implements Division policy and programmatic changes as required. Pay grade E17; Pay starts at \$86,943/year.

Dispatcher

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

Farm Supervisor

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Agriculture Division Head, ensures Custom Farm services are provided for Tribal members in a prompt efficient and effective manner. Pay grade E14; \$64,155/annually.

Gaming Director

Open Until Filled – Acts as the administrative head of the Division of Gaming. Attends meetings of the Gaming Commission or Tribal council. Annually prepares and submits to the J&R Director, for approval, a proposed budget for the succeeding fiscal year. Takes such action as may be determined by the Gaming Commission or J&R Director to be necessary to protect the security and integrity of gaming. Monitors and oversees gaming on the reservation to ensure compliance with the Tribal/State compact and the National Indian Gaming Commission. Oversees the licensing and background investigation of individuals and companies involved in gaming. Pay grade E17; \$86,943/annually.

Gaming Investigator I

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

Gaming Investigator II

Open Until Filled – Under general supervision of the Gaming Investigator III, incumbent regulates and controls Class II and Class III gaming on the Southern Ute Reservation. Pay grade N14; Pay is \$30.84/hour.

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.

Housing Project Administrator

Open Until Filled – 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; \$77,627/annually.

HVAC Technician

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

Land Surveyor

Open Until Filled – Conducts all administrative surveys and surveys as a licensed Professional Land Surveyor, needed to meet the needs of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Pay grade E15; \$70,570/annually.

Lifeguard (Part-time)

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

NAGPRA Coordinator (Southern Ute tribal member only)

Open Until Filled – 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.

Patrol Officer I

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

Physician

Open Until Filled – Providing comprehensive medical services and primary care to the patients at the Southern Ute Health Center (SUHC). Pay grade E23; \$235,373/annually.

Public Health Nurse

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

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.

General Accountant – Red Willow Production (Ignacio, CO)

Closing 9/26/25 – Provides general accounting support, to include preparation of journal entries, coding review and reconciliation of selected General Ledger accounts monthly. Reconciliation of bank statements to the General Ledger and providing support for monitoring ongoing cash activity. Supports the monthly close process.

Senior Engineering Design Technician – Red Cedar Gathering (Durango, CO)

Closing 9/12/25 – Developing and maintaining hydraulic models and flow assurance related models for pipeline gathering systems, compression, and treating facilities to support ongoing commercial and engineering business needs. Assists the Commercial and Engineering teams with development of new drawings for Red Cedar Gathering Company facilities, to include generation of process flow diagrams, piping and instrument drawings; site layout drawings; development of conceptual drawings; review of detailed project drawings developed by third parties engineering firms. Maintain and manage existing drawings and drawing database for engineering and operations teams.

Quichas Apartment for Rent

3BR/2.5 BA. \$1,320/mo + utilities. No Pets. Southern Ute Tribal Member Preference. Must pass credit and background checks and have excellent references from previous landlords. Applications are available by email at kmorris@sugf.com. Use the subject line Quichas Application. You can also pick up an application in person at the GF Properties Group office: 65 Mercado Street, Suite 250, Durango, CO, 81301 during working hours Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. All applications must be filled out completely and legibly and submitted by 5 p.m. Sept. 18, 2025. You must complete a new application even if you have filled one out in the past.



Southern Ute Utilities Division

SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND | 09/01/25



SEPTEMBER UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



TRANSFER STATION 2025 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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



SEPTEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Shut-Off Day is Wednesday, Sept. 3rd. Payments must be received **before 10am**.
- New rate sheets will be mailed out early September. Look out for the mailing. Call office and update your account with any changes to your mailing address.**
- Southern Ute Fair Parade, Sept. 13th:** Look out for the Utilities Division Float — staff will be handing out goodies & candy along the parade route!
- September 18th General Meeting for Growth Fund: Look forward to the Utilities Division Update
- Upcoming Projects: Sewer Line Rehabilitation Project at Northridge & Sunset Circle Housing area to commence in **November**. More information and proper notification will be given in advance to residents.
- Transfer Station Reminders
 - Make sure all trash is bagged and securely enclosed in the polycarts
 - Any liquids or chemicals need to be properly labeled before dropping off



OFFICE HOURS

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

Reach a staff member 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.

Sept. 3rd / Oct. 1st / Nov. 5th

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—Ignacio Branch
- Automatic deductions at Tribal Distribution
- Mail payment made payable to "Southern Ute Utilities Division"
- Phone **(970) 563-5500**

Southern Ute Tribal Members

Tour the Tribal Water

Treatment Plant

October 23, 2025

10am

RSVP at (970) 563-5500 to

confirm spot.

Learn how your water is treated and tested!

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, CALL UTILITIES OFFICE.

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



Southern Ute Indian Tribe Job Announcements, cont.

Registered Nurse – Detention

Open Until Filled – A Registered Nurse position responsible for providing professional and clinical services at the Southern Ute Detention Center. Pay grade N15; Pay starts at \$33.93/hour.

Scorekeeper (Part-time)

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

Special Needs Aide

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

Swimming Instructor (Part-time)

Open Until Filled – Under supervision of Aquatics Manager, instructs American Red Cross individual and group swimming lessons at the 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.

Teacher Aide

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

TEAM Worker (Southern Ute tribal members only)

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

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 PL.93-638 projects. Pay grade E17; \$86,943/year.

Tribal Administrative and Operations Director

Open Until Filled – Supports the fiscal and operational management of the Permanent Fund, aligning its functions with the Tribe's long-term strategic goals and vision. Key responsibilities include assisting the Executive Officer and tribal leadership in shaping policies, procedures, and strategic initiatives that foster sustainable growth, operational efficiency, and enhanced outcomes for tribal members. Assists the Executive Officer and serves as a liaison between Department Directors, tribal membership, tribal entities, and tribal leadership. Assists with identifying and creating innovative, efficient, and effective programs and services within established program policies, procedures, and approved budgetary limitations. Pay grade E23; \$235,373/annually.

Tribal Apprenticeship Program (Southern Ute tribal members only)

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

Umpire/Referee

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





SOUTHERN UTE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

24TH ANNUAL CAREER FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

MARCH 4, 2026

9AM-1PM

SKY UTE CASINO EVENT CENTER

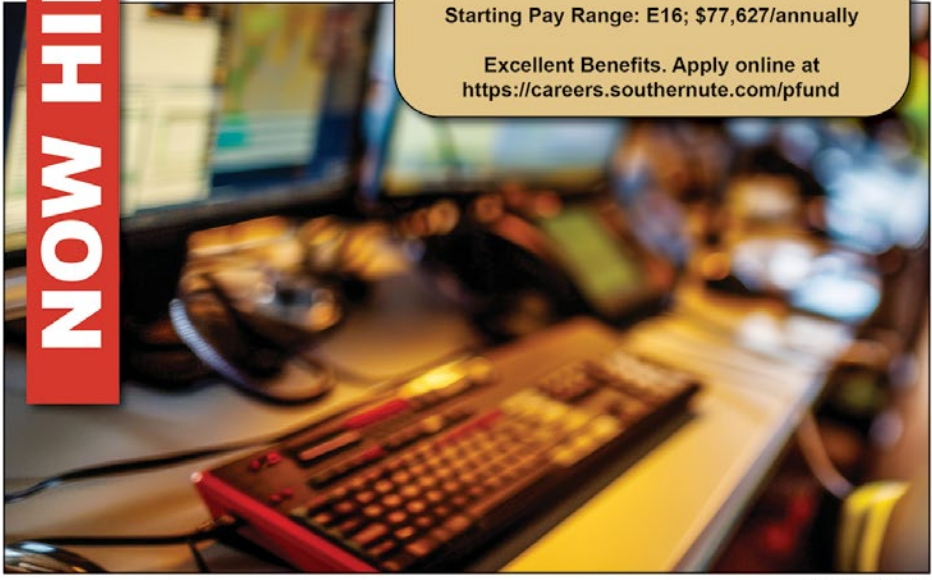

For more information please contact
Andrea Schultz
aschultz@southernute-nsn.gov

Goff Engineering & Surveying, Inc.
970-247-1705 x00 • www.goffengineering.com

Structural Engineer (PE-1 or PE-2 Level)
Goff Engineering & Surveying is seeking a Structural Engineer to serve as a Project Engineer in its Durango, Colorado office. The ideal candidate will have a BS in Civil Engineering, 5 – 10 years of experience in structural engineering design, and will be responsible for the design, documentation, and delivery of diverse engineering projects. View our careers page on our website for details and to apply: www.goffengineering.com

Project Civil Engineer (PE3)
Goff Engineering & Surveying is seeking a Civil Engineer to serve as a Senior Project Engineer III/Project Manager (PE-3) in its Durango, Colorado office. The ideal candidate will have a BS in Civil Engineering, 10+ years of experience in civil engineering, project management experience, with strong leadership skills. View our careers page on our website for details and to apply: www.goffengineering.com

NOW HIRING



COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
Southern Ute Police Dept.

Position Summary: Under general supervision of the Chief of Police, incumbent provides day-to-day management over the Communications Center staff (Dispatchers) and operations including planning, developing, coordinating, and staff supervision.

Starting Pay Range: E16; \$77,627/annually



Excellent Benefits. Apply online at
<https://careers.southernute.com/pfund>

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Human Resources
P.O. Box 737 - Ignacio, CO 81137
Phone: 970-563-0100 ext. 2424
Hotline: 970-563-4777
<https://careers.southernute.com/pfund>

For full position information and how to apply:
Visit the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's job vacancy website at
<https://careers.southernute.com/pfund>

Hiring qualified applicants shall follow those preferences set forth in the TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS CODE ("TERO CODE") in order of priority (the TERO preferences).



Detention Division Head
Southern Ute Detention Center
Southern Ute Indian Reservation

Closing Date: Open Until Filled
SALARY: \$ 86,943

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
AA Degree in Criminal Justice OR related field OR progressive experience in law enforcement and/or detention with combination of education, training, supervisory, and leadership experience. Must have 6 years in Criminal Justice, 3 years must be in Detention. Must demonstrate 3 years of progressive supervisory experience in Criminal Justice or related area. Must pass a thorough background check.

TASKS:
Under general supervision plans, organizes, directs, and reviews the administrative and operational activities of the Southern Ute Detention Program and Facility; ensures compliance with all applicable laws, policies, and procedures; develops and implements Division policy and programmatic changes as required.

For full position information and how to apply:
Southern Ute Permanent Fund Human Resources
P.O. Box 737 - Ignacio, CO 81137
Phone: 970-563-0100 or 970-563-4777
<https://careers.southernute.com/pfund>

Hiring qualified applicants shall follow those preferences set forth in the TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS CODE ("TERO CODE") in order of priority (the TERO preferences).

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.*

- Beverage & Cocktail Server (On-call)**
Must maintain the highest level of guest service while providing cocktail and beverage service to Casino guests. Will prepare beverages prior to serving and will be required to lift and move up to 60 pounds regularly and will be responsible for monetary transactions.

***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 the food necessary for the Café kitchen. Prepares coffee and pizza from the hot food line in the front area of the Café. Will balance the register at the end of the shift with a proper report on 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 associated with the ICMP or any other Internal Violations.

***Cage Staff (Full-time)**
Provides fast, accurate, and friendly service to all internal and external customers while providing full compliance with all regulatory controls.

Cage Staff (On-call)
Provides fast, accurate, and friendly service to all internal and external customers while providing full compliance with all regulatory controls.

***Deep Cleaning Staff (Full-time)**
Cleanliness of the entire Kitchen as instructed by the Facilities Manager and/or Supervisor. Will clean Food and Beverage facilities and equipment.

***Director of Human Resources (Full-time)**
Ensuring that all Human Resources functions for the Sky Ute Casino Resort are accomplished in a legal and professional manner. Compensation and Benefits, Employee Relations, Unemployment Insurance, Internal Investigations, Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) Compliance, Performance Evaluations, Training and Development, Policies and Procedures and Employee Handbook Management, and Human Resource Strategy. Will ensure compliance with the Casino's policies and procedures and applicable Gaming regulations. Will maintain a high standard of guest service (both internal and external customers) within the HR department and actively promotes positive guest and employee relations by ensuring that excellent guest service is continually provided.

***Director of Marketing (Full-time)**
Reports to the General Manager and is responsible for overseeing the Marketing Manager and the Guest Services Manager as well as the overall operations of the Marketing Department including but not limited to, promotions, sales, entertainment, advertising, and player development program. Carries out responsibilities in accordance with the organization's policies and procedures. Manages all areas of database analysis to target the areas of player data to enhance and retain the gaming market and is responsible for all marketing expenses.

***Executive Chef (Full-time)**
Oversee all functions of the main kitchen, including production, food safety, staff training and development, and product management. Ensures the highest quality and consistency as it relates to food handling, sanitation, food quality, service in the dining room, and food presentations. Supervising, training and development of all kitchen personnel.

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

***Housekeeping Staff (Full-time)**
Cleaning all public areas including Casino floor, public restrooms, restaurant, lobby, offices, and employee break rooms. All areas must be disinfected, swept, mopped, vacuumed, and dusted.
- *Housekeeping Staff (Part-time)**
Cleaning all public areas including Casino floor, public restrooms, restaurant, lobby, offices, and employee break rooms. All areas must be disinfected, swept, mopped, vacuumed, and dusted.

***Entry Level I Facilities Staff (Full-time)**
Entry level position that reports to the Facilities Supervisor on shift and will be responsible for supporting the operation of equipment, environmental condition, and appearance of the overall facility and grounds. Responsible for the cleanliness, maintenance and repair of the facility, equipment, and building.

***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.

***Project Cleaner (Full-time)**
Cleaning all public areas including Casino floor, public restrooms, restaurant, lobby, offices, employee break rooms, and other assigned areas. Cross training on the Casino Floor, in Laundry, and as a Room Attendant to further assist the housekeeping department when needed and as assigned. Reports directly to the Housekeeping Department and will be assigned to take on specific projects as assigned.

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

Rolling Thunder Grill Cashier (Part-time)
Greet guests in a friendly manner, take and deliver orders, calculate checks, and receive payment for the Bowling Grill Window and Restaurant.

***Rolling Thunder Grill Server (Full-time)**
Provide an exceptional dining experience by delivering first class guest service of food and beverages to include: taking the order and delivering food and beverage items. Handle tasks in a friendly, courteous, helpful, timely and professional manner resulting in a high level of guest satisfaction. Shift covers Breakfast and Lunch only.

Seven Rivers Bartender (On-call)
Provide an exceptional fine dining/lounge experience by delivering first class guest service of beverages and cocktails. Possess an extensive knowledge of mixed drinks and wine. Mix and serve alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks and interact with guests. Handle tasks in a friendly, courteous, helpful, timely, and professional manner resulting in a high level of guest satisfaction. Provide beverage and cocktail service to bar patrons and restaurant guests.

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

***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.

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

- District Mechanic
- High School Assistant Volleyball Coach
- Middle School Assistant Football Coach
- Middle School Science or Math Teacher
- Route and Activity Bus Driver

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

Ignacio Early Learning Program:

- Teacher Assistant (Full-time) \$15.79 – \$20.76/hr.

Ignacio Senior Center

- Assistant Cook (Full-time) \$14.81/hr.

Ignacio Youth Services:

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



FLY FISHING

31 years of experience proves to be no help

By Don Oliver
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

My Friday fishing partner, Kim, and I decided a trip to Lime Creek to fly fish for brook trout would be fun. We had not fished it in a long time and thought it would be pretty, not crowded, and an easy way to catch lots of fish on dry flies. We were right on pretty and not crowded. After enduring the Old Lime Creek Road, from the north entrance, we arrived at our usual starting point. Before I regale you with our experience, I want to present a solution to speeders in, and around, Durango. Have the city and county road engineers design and install roads similar to Lime Creek Road. I guarantee you traffic will slow to ten miles an hour. Back to my story.

When we arrived at Lime Creek, we found it to be at an all-time slow-moving low. It appeared to be about four inches deep. In my 31 years of fly fishing professionally I failed to remember one critical item, Durango is in a record drought. Had I remembered the Animas is at an all-time low, along with its feeder streams, Kim and I would have made a better decision.

However, we were there. The decision was made to make the most of it and put off driving Old Lime Creek Road as long as we could. We strung our rods up with a Royal Wulff on mine, and a Royal Coachman on Kim's. As we stepped into the water, we were reminded that brook trout in 4-inch



es of water see and hear everything. Since we did not have Harry Potter's invisible cloak, adjustments on our part had to be made.

When in this situation, the first thing you should do is move away from the water. Truly, any movement in water that shallow will be seen and felt by the fish. Once you step away from the stream, note where the sun is. If it is causing your shadow to move onto the water, you won't be catching anything. The next item that needs to be addressed is your tippet size. I normally use a 4X or 5X-tippet. However, I soon added three feet of 6X-tippet to my leader. If you are new to fly fishing, trust me when I tell you trout can see your tippet. The longer and finer it is when fishing small shallow streams, the better chance you have of catching fish.

Lastly, you want your fly to land on the water as if it were a butterfly with sun-burned feet. Any splash will send the trout into their hiding places. To avoid the splash, try stopping your rod

a little sooner on the forward cast. Also, a gentle roll cast works well.

After Kim and I made these adjustments, I discovered Kim's Royal Coachman was attracting more fish than my Royal Wulff. I, of course, did not have a Coachman, and Kim was upstream and not able to loan me one. I switched to a foam ant when we found a small pool that had rising trout. Using the above techniques, and casting into the shade provided by the bushes, I managed to catch lots of very weary brook trout. Not as many as Kim with her Coachman, but a respectable number.

I won't bore you with a very memorable drive out to the south end of Old Lime Creek Road, taking about an hour and a half. The time lapse did allow Kim and me to decide on a game plan for the next week, that would ease the pain of this week's forgetfulness.

The next Friday we took our float tubes and went to Lake Capote. We remembered everything. There we lost count of the number of 8 and 9-inch small-mouth bass caught. I caught all of mine on a turquoise bass popper, while Kim used a variety of flies. We both caught several 14-inch trout, and I landed a large panfish. Again, mine on the popper, with Kim still using multiple flies. For this day, leaders, presentations, shadows, or noise, did not make any difference. Proving, with or without forgetfulness, fly fishing has a way of always being fun.

Internet-Based
Hunter Education Class

Saturday October 4th, 8 AM - 2 PM
SunUte Community Center
390 Mouache Drive, Ignacio CO

Course fees: \$34.95 for the online course and \$10 for the conclusion class

The major portion of this course must be completed online, before attending class on October 4th.

Class size is limited to 20 students. The suggested minimum age for students is 12. Parents of younger students are encouraged to attend with their child.

Pre-registration is required; register online at register-ed.com/events/view/233734

Please contact the Southern Ute Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130 with any questions.



LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Friday, Sept. 5



Partly sunny 78°F
Afternoon showers/thunderstorms

Saturday, Sept. 6



Partly sunny 76°F
50% chance of precipitation

Sunday, Sept. 7



Mostly sunny 80°F
Slight chance of precipitation

Weather forecasts collected from www.weather.gov



ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBER HUNTERS

Laguna Pueblo Hunt Opportunities Available

Please contact the Wildlife Division for more information

(970) 563-0130



ELK



Pronghorn



Tahr



AGRICULTURE DIVISION
HAY FOR SALE!



The Southern Ute Tribe's Agriculture Division has hay for sale to Tribal Members ONLY.

SMALL BALES:	\$9.00/BALE	70#
LARGE BALES:	\$160.00/BALE	1500#
21 BALE BUNDLER:	\$180.00/BUNDLE	1260#

Hay is available FIRST COME FIRST SERVE.

Contact the SUIT Agriculture Division at (970) 563-0220 for more information.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Division of Wildlife Resource Management

Let us work together to protect our wildlife and our community



Be Bear Aware – Cedar Point & Ignacio Area

As summer rolls on, black bear sightings are on the rise—especially around the Cedar Point neighborhood. Even with a good natural food season, bears are still venturing into neighborhoods looking for easy meals.



Human Food = Bear Trouble

Feeding bears, even unintentionally, puts both the animals and our community at risk. Bears that get used to human food lose their natural fear of people and can become aggressive when food isn't available.



Help Keep Bears Wild and Our Neighborhoods Safe:

- Store trash in bear-proof containers or keep it inside until pickup day.
 - Tribal Members: Contact Tribal Utilities at 970-563-5500 to upgrade to bear-proof trash cans for a small monthly fee.
- Bring pet food indoors at night.
- Take down bird feeders in the evening.
- Clean grills and store them inside.
- Pick ripe fruit and remove fallen fruit from the ground.



If You See a Bear:

- Stay calm.
- Back away slowly – do not run
- Avoid eye contact.
- Speak softly.
- If attacked, fight back.



To Report Bear Activity Contact

Tribal Rangers	Wildlife Resource Management	SUPD Dispatch
970-563-0133	970-563-0130	970-563-4401

Model Rocket Contest at ICL

Unleash your creativity and join our exciting model rocket competition! We have three age categories: 9 and under, 10 to 17, and 18 and older. You can choose to enter in one of two divisions: commercial models or homemade models. Our expert judges will evaluate rockets based on design, construction difficulty, finish, and presentation, so be sure to showcase your best work! Don't miss your chance to shine-submit your entries by October 1 at 5 p.m. The winners will be celebrated on Oct. 4, during the thrilling Observe the Moon Night. Get ready to launch your ideas sky-high!

Observe the Moon Night

Join us for an exciting hands-on event. Enjoy an evening filled with displays, fun activities, telescopes for stargazing, and thrilling rocket launches. Delicious food and beverages will also be available. Don't miss out-head to Shoshone Park starting at 7 p.m. for an unforgettable night under the stars!