

# The Southern Ute Drum

WINNER OF FOUR NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION AWARDS INCLUDING GENERAL EXCELLENCE IN 2011

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photo Ace Stryker/SU DRUM

Students from the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy helped the tribe's Water Quality Program and Wildlife Division stencil messages near storm drains surrounding Veterans Park on Wednesday, Oct. 12.

### Academy students remind community: 'Keep it clean'

By Pete Nylander

Southern Ute Water Quality Program

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Water Quality Program and Wildlife Division partnered with Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy students on Oct. 12 to stencil labels on storm drains around Veterans Park.

Water Quality's 319 program, which addresses non-point source pollution on the reservation,

showed the academy students a watershed model to demonstrate the influence of storm runoff and other pollution on water quality. After the in-classroom demonstration, the students helped with the stenciling of nine storm drains around Veterans Park and the tribal campus.

The project aimed to raise awareness about sources of pollution and

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### Elders meeting scheduled for Oct. 25

A meeting to discuss Southern Ute tribal elders' concerns has been scheduled for 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25 at the Multi-Purpose Facility by Dixie Naranjo. For more information, call the Multi-Purpose Facility at 970-563-4784.

### Bobcat ladies pretty in pink



Ignacio's seniors played their final home match at Pink Digs for the Cure V on Tuesday, Oct. 11 against Mancos. Pictured (above, left to right): Shauni Troup, Brittney Benavidez, Rylie Jefferson and Abeth Okall. The MHS-IHS matches, Stage 2 of 4 in 2011's series, pushed the 2011 fund-raising over \$14,000 toward a goal of \$30,000.

Ignacio's Cloe Seibel (left) leaps to spike from long range against Mancos during Pink Digs for the Cure V on Tuesday, Oct. 11 inside IHS Gymnasium. The Volleyscats' varsity took Set 1 from the Lady Jays, 25-21, in San Juan Basin League action but then fell in the next three (12-25, 17-25, 15-25).

photos Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

### Learning about healthy choices



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

Health Educator Julie Olexa uses visual aids to explain health benefits from different food groups to Charlize Valdez, Marisa Carmenoros, and Samara O'John during the annual Kids Health Fair on Friday, Oct. 14 in the SunUte Community Center's gym.



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

The newly formed Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council (above) stands for a formal portrait following an introduction to the Southern Ute Tribal Council. Pictured (left to right): Vice Chairman Mike Olguin, Serena Fournier, Sage Rohde, Kelsey Frost, Chairman Pearl E. Casias, Council Lady Marge Borst, Brianna Goodtracks-Alires, Keiston Goodtracks-Alires and Keifer Goodtracks-Alires.

## Tribal Council welcomes young counterparts

By Ace Stryker  
The Southern Ute Drum

The Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council met for the first time Wednesday, Oct. 12 with its new youth-oriented counterpart, the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council.

The youth council is composed of six members — they're currently seeking a seventh — as follows: Kelsey Frost, chairperson; Sage Rohde, vice chairperson; Brianna Goodtracks-Alires, secretary; Keiston Goodtracks-Alires; Keifer Goodtracks-Alires; and Serena Fournier, the current Jr. Miss Indian Colorado. Their role is to inform the Tribal Council of issues relevant to tribal youth, said adult coordinator McKean Walton.

Council Lady Marge Borst thanked the council members for their willingness to serve and praised their group's namesake.

"She was a wonderful, excellent model of a person that never stopped, never faltered," Borst said. "You are the ones that are going to take us forward."

Vice Chairman Mike Olguin said the youth council can play an important role in informing the Tribal Council of the interests and concerns among younger tribal members.

"We need the youth's help to ensure that we're not missing the



Chairman Pearl E. Casias personally welcomes members of the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council to Tribal Council Chambers following their introduction.

component that you see," he said. "We want to make sure we're connected with you."

Olguin urged the younger council members not to be afraid to make recommendations to the Tribal Council.

"There's an opportunity ... to really create the future," he said.

Chairman Pearl E. Casias said she felt honored and humbled to be visited by the first youth advisory council.

"I read all of your letters of intent, and I was very impressed," she said. "When I get to be an older elder, I hope to see you in these positions up here [on the Tribal Council]. ... There's no reason why there can't be seven of you up here."

Executive Officer Andrew Frost also congratulated the new council members and invited them to "make it a good experience."

The young council made a request for financial aid to travel to the National Congress of American Indians' national convention Oct. 30 – Nov. 4 in Portland. Each Tribal Council member present expressed support for the idea, but Casias suggested they bring forth a request when the entire Tribal Council would be present to weigh in.

The youth council is still seeking a seventh member. Interested tribal members between 13 and 19 may contact Walton at 970-563-0100 ext. 2314 for more information.