



Schools celebrate Native American heritage

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Eagle, Olguin say goodbye

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WINNER OF 22 SPJ AND 8 NAJA AWARDS IN 2013

www.sudrum.com



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio Middle School's "A" team members, including Cole McCaw (4), swarm Kruz Pardo (23) and Jaden Maez (55) to get a look at the championship plaque after three consecutive wins at the San Juan Basin League Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 7 inside Telluride High's MinerDome.

IMS BASKETBALL

Mid-schoolers manhandle all at SJBLs

IMS finishes title-taking season 16-3

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Eighteenth-century Frenchman Voltaire once said, "With great power comes great responsibility."

And therein lies the answer to outside observers' commonly-asked question of why Ignacio High School boys' basketball seems so strong year after year: Maintaining of such a reputation starts small.

Middle-school small, that is – where kids' dreams of one day wearing IHS red-and-white truly begin materializing, and where coaches are eager to bear the responsibility of shaping such dreams.

"Just get 'em in the head: Work hard, play

hard," said IHS alum Tim Velasquez, former Lamar (Colo.) Community College Runnin' Lopec and current junior-varsity coach, previously a skipper at Ignacio Junior High. "Play every second, every possession and you guys will be great. Leave it all on the floor so you'll have no regrets later."

The last chance to do so in 2013 for the current crop of middle-school Cats, on boss Johnny Valdez's "A" roster, came Saturday, Dec. 7 in Telluride at the San Juan Basin League Tournament.

And with nothing being left in reserve, nothing was left to chance. Needing just one six-minute quarter against Telluride, Mancos and Dolores Middle



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio Middle School's Kai Roubideaux (33) chooses to lead a fast break upcourt against Dolores during the San Juan Basin League Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 7 inside Telluride High's MinerDome.

schools to decisively separate – leading 18-7, 15-1 and 15-4, respectively – Ignacio Middle School left THS' MinerDome with the championship plaque.

"They really dominated every game they played, when they were prepared to play. That was about

95 percent of the games," Valdez said, looking back at a 16-3 season. "Today's games? All of the kids were ready. They were excited to play. They wanted to be the champions. They were the regular-season

Mid-schoolers page 9



Damon Toledo/SU Drum

Newly elected Southern Ute Indian Tribal Councilman Melvin J. Baker is sworn in at the Tribal Council Chambers on Tuesday, Dec. 3. Baker won 52.6 percent of votes during the general election Nov. 1.

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Baker rejoins council to work as 'team player'

By Ace Stryker
THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

Melvin J. Baker is here to listen.

That was the message from the newest member of the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council following his Monday, Dec. 2 recital of the oath of office in the Tribal Council Chambers. Baker, who after an eight-year absence from the council returns for a third term, became the first candidate in several years to win a majority of votes in a general election when he won 52.6 percent on Friday, Nov. 1.

Having first joined the council in a 1999 special election, Baker later won reelection in 2002 and served until 2005, when his term expired. Since 2009, he has served as director of the Tribal Housing Department. These days a little older and a little more seasoned, Baker said his approach to the job will not be the same as it was years ago.

"The first time I ran for council, I was younger and more gung-ho. Compared to today, I feel that I have matured, and I've learned to listen more. Listen before you speak," he said. "I'm

asking questions I probably wouldn't have asked 10 years ago."

Baker said he's not looking to tackle specific problems right off the bat, but rather to become educated on "all [issues] that have direct impacts to the membership" and, in turn, do his best to educate people about why the council makes the decisions it does.

"We do have to be good communicators among each other," he said.

Baker said the best part of his job as Tribal Housing director was the opportunity to visit tribal members in their homes and come up with plans to meet their needs.

"The great thing about it is you get to go into the homes of 200-plus tribal members, and you see the good and the bad," he said. "I've seen everything."

But the thing he's most proud to have accomplished during his time as director is saving the tribe money by defining a scope of work and comparing bids on each project, he said.

"I think we saved over a million dollars," he said.

Baker page 12

Christmas in Ignacio



Ace Stryker/SU Drum

Ignacio resident Nida Vargas has an array of jewelry and baked goods for sale. The Ignacio Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual Taste of Christmas event Friday, Dec. 6 in the Ignacio Elementary School gym. Attendees visited with Santa Claus, perused the crafts and baked goods for sale, and enjoyed free hot chocolate. **For more photos, see page 6.**

Community remembers Burch



photos Damon Toledo/SU Drum

The Burch family poses with bright smiles Tuesday, Dec. 10 as the second annual Leonard C. Burch Memorial Walk/Run concludes.

Walkers and runners bundled head-to-toe prepare for the second annual Leonard C. Burch Memorial Walk/Run outside the SunUte Community Center on Tuesday, Dec. 10. **For more photos, see page 7.**



Special election swearing-in ceremony

The new Southern Ute Tribal Council member will be sworn into office on Monday, Dec. 16. Official results will be available Monday, Dec. 16 when a certification of ballots is presented by the Election Board. The swearing-in ceremony will take place immediately following certification.





COUNCIL CORNER

Chairman Newton seeks legislative fix to irrigation issues

By Beth Santistevan
SU TRIBAL COUNCIL

In a visit to Washington, D.C., last month, Southern Ute Chairman Jimmy R. Newton Jr. and staff made a proposal for legislative action to rehabilitate the Pine River Indian Irrigation Project.

The PRIIP has evolved over time in the Pine River Valley of southwest Colorado. It serves members of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and non-Indians in the local area, including the Town of Ignacio, and is operated by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Some of the irrigation ditches that eventually served as the basis of this project were constructed by the Pine River Indian Agency in 1877. In 1895, the agency filed claims for water from the Pine River to irrigate 18,000 acres of land; local non-Indians who had filed earlier claims contested the claim.

The defining Indian water rights case *Winters v. United States* was decided in 1908 and precipitated actions throughout Indian Country to settle Indian water claims. As part of actions to resolve the question of Indian water rights on the Pine River, a comprehensive study of Indian irrigated lands was conducted and completed in 1914.

In the 1920s, in part as a response to the disputes over water rights, the Office of Indian Affairs began investigations into the possibility of storing early-season floodwaters for irrigation on almost 17,000 acres of Indian land in the Pine River Valley. At that time, concerns related to Indian irrigation rose at the national level and an investigation into Indian irrigation programs was published in 1928.

The PRIIP, then known as the Southern Ute Irrigation Project, was one of the projects studied.

The authorization of the PRIIP fell into a broader authorization in the Snyder Act in 1921, which gave the BIA authority to "direct, supervise and expend such monies as Congress may from time to time appropriate ... for extension, improvement, operation and maintenance of existing irrigation systems and for development of water supplies."

In 1930, a federal court granted the Southern Utes first water rights priority on the Pine River with a 1868 date retroactive to the establishment of the reservation. The direct diversion water rights were allocated to specific Indian canals and ditches, and were granted to the United States to be held in trust for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the non-Indian irrigators under the subject ditches.

An integral part of the water supply for the PRIIP is the Vallecito Reservoir. One-sixth of the stored water is allocated to the Southern Utes, while five-sixths is allocated to the Pine River Irrigation District, a non-Indian organization that supplies storage water to private non-Indian ditches.

Approximately 20 years after the Vallecito dam was completed in 1941, an official mapping of the project was done, which recognized that the PRIIP "was never completed." It is believed that certain facilities related to drainage were not finished.

Currently, the PRIIP has over 11,000 acres of assessed lands, with 5,000 acres more for potential irrigation if pumping and other improvements were utilized. There is an estimated 170 miles of ditch on the PRIIP.

A late 2008 study by HKM Engineering identified an additional need for necessary upgrades to the tune of \$20 million. The Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council agreed to propose potential legislative solutions to com-

plete the project.

When Newton traveled to Washington, he proposed such solutions on behalf of the Tribal Council and the Southern Ute membership.

"The tribe has always been a partner with the BIA and the non-Indian PRIIP users in the project, and in the spirit of this partnership, the tribe is willing to commit to assisting with the needed improvements," Newton said.

The proposal include three options. The tribe has agreed to support and promote legislative options that could include tribal/federal cost sharing for facility improvements and rehabilitations; tribal purchase of federal facilities, with an associated delegation of necessary operations and maintenance authority; or tribal staff and resources performing construction, rehabilitation or maintenance work.

"Of these options, we believe the second option would best serve our people's needs," Newton said.

On the trip, Newton met with representatives from the office of Sen. Mark Udall, D-Colo., who offered Udall's support and a follow-up with the BIA but expressed some uncertainty of the tribe's ability to accomplish the proposals.

Newton also met with representatives from the office of Sen. Michael Bennet, D-Colo., to discuss the tribe's proposals.

"It's important for us to make a presence at the national level, because if we as elected leaders don't speak up on these issues on behalf of our people, then we will be forgotten," Newton said, adding that water rights and irrigation rights are a priority to the people on the reservation and that he will continue, with the support of the Tribal Council, to lobby for solutions on the national level that will result in a functional PRIIP that will serve all of its users.

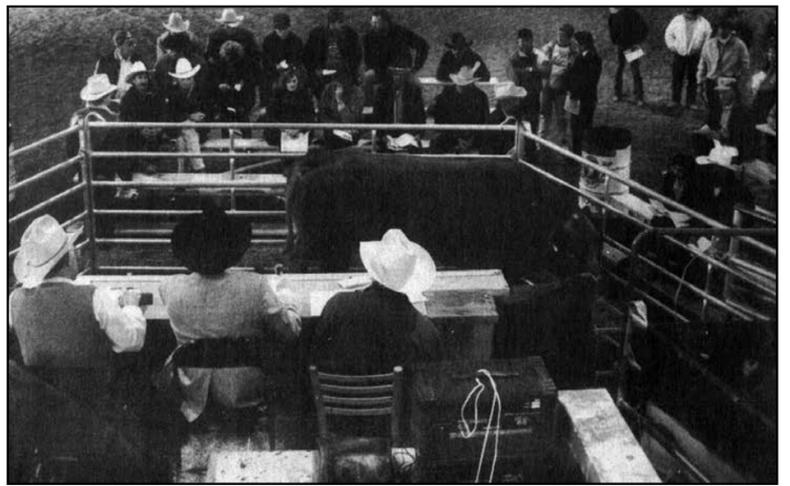


Dave Brown/SU Drum archive

10 years ago

Irene Burch and family assist Southern Ute Tribal Chairman Howard D. Richards Sr. during the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Tribal Administration Building on Dec. 1, 2003. The facility was named in honor of Burch's husband, the late Chairman Leonard C. Burch.

This photo first appeared in the Dec. 12, 2003, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



Robert Baker/SU Drum archive

20 years ago

The Curry Ranch Major "Cow Herd" Sale took place at the Sky Ute Downs. The sale drew buyers from Texas to Oklahoma, with many in attendance from the Four Corners. Bulls, cow-calf pairs and heifers sold from \$800 to more than \$1,200.

This photo first appeared in the Dec. 10, 1993, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



SU Drum archive

30 years ago

The Native American Youth Organization was formed in October 1981. It became a school-recognized organization the same year. As a group, NAYO participated in or sponsored parades, Christmas caroling, hayrides, and a youth conference and powwow. It also gave a \$100 scholarship to a 1983 graduating Native American senior, honored the eighth-grade graduates with a picnic, donated groceries to Native American senior citizens at the bear Dance Powwow, participated in numerous fundraising activities. Pictured in the back row (left to right): Eddie Box III, Wahleah Silva, Andrea Frost, Sharon Pinnecoose, Barney Pinnecoose and Barbara Chevarillo. Front row: Samantha Pinnecoose, Tommy Weaver and Patricia Taylor.

This photo first appeared in the Dec. 2, 1983, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.

Snow removal priority list is as follows:

1. Dialysis Patients
2. Tribal Elders and Disabled Tribal Members
3. All other Tribal Home Owners

When a snow storm hits, please keep this priority list in mind. The snow removal crew will get to you in the order listed.

SOON THE SNOW WILL BE FALLING -

We would like to remind homeowners of your responsibilities to assist in the snow removal process.

- ~ Please identify the areas that will need to be cleared of snow
- ~ Please inform drivers of any items in your yard such as; utilities - electrical meter boxes, phone boxes, water meters, sewer cleanouts
- ~ Please pick up all personal or valuable items PRIOR to large amounts of snow fall to insure the snow removal crews do not damage them. For example: bikes, yard ornaments, garden hoses, vehicles, toys etc.
- Please keep all road accesses that require snow removal clear so that crews can get in and out in a timely manner

****TRIBAL MEMBERS ON OXYGEN****

Contact your oxygen provider - ask them to provide oxygen canisters that do not require electricity to use in case of a power outage

Contact Numbers

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| SUPD >>> 563-4401 | Motor Pool >>> 563-0280 |
| Tribal Housing Department >>> 563-4710 | SUIHA >>> 563-4575 |
| Construction Service Division >>> 563-0260 | Custom Farms >>> 563-0220 |
| Wood Yard >>> 563-0270 | Grounds Maint. >>> 563-0272 |

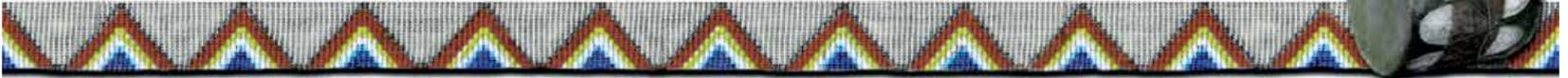
NEWS IN BRIEF

ARBOLES CRAFT BAZAAR

Craft Bazaar, Dec. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the TARA Community Center, 333 Milton Road, Arboles. There are still a few tables available for the Craft Bazaar. Interested parties should call Elaine at 946-0164 to reserve a table or for more information.

TRIBAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS

This is a notice to inform you that Transit Waste does not provide service on Christmas Day. On the Christmas holiday, Transit Waste will be one day behind the whole week. Finally for New Year's Day, Transit Waste will be on their regular routes. If you have any questions, call the Utilities Division office at 970-563-5500.



Greg Bison dances as students of Ignacio Junior High School observe during the Native American heritage assembly on Tuesday, Nov. 26.



Various groups showcased their traditional styles. Randy Doyebi Jr. (right) participates in the solo youth dance.

Schools celebrate Native American month

Dancers of all ages celebrated Native American Heritage Month in the Ignacio High School and Junior High School gymnasium on Tuesday, Nov. 26. Yellow Jacket performed as vividly clad dancers paraded in commemoration, reminding students of the importance of tradition.



Dancers welcomed students to gather on the assembly floor for a friendship dance. Hands were joined as Yellow Jacket concluded with one last song.



Amya Bison sways in her bright colors during a traditional fancy shawl dance.

Photos by Damon Toledo
The Southern Ute Drum

CULTURAL UPDATE

POWOW COMMITTEE NEEDS TWO LOGOS

The Southern Ute Powwow Committee needs two (2) new logos for the powwow posters this year. We are looking for something that represents our Powwow's, the Bear Dance and Fair Powwow.

- Artwork should be original and must be signed and dated by the artist.
- Must measure 8"x10".
- Must be in a medium that is print friendly
- Pen & ink, acrylics, oil, watercolor, gouache, (no pencils please).
- Deadline Jan. 24, 2014, 5 p.m.
- Winning artwork will be awarded \$200/per logo.
- Open to all American Indian Artists.

For more information contact Edward Box III at 970-779-8940.

CULTURAL CENTER HOLIDAY HOURS & SUNRISE SERVICE

The Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum will be closed for a holiday break Dec. 24 – Jan. 1, 2014, re-opening Jan. 2. The public is invited to celebrate the New Year at a Sunrise Ceremony on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014 beginning at 7 a.m. The museum will have free admission and a host of activities throughout the day from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. We wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season.

MUSEUM TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON

The mountains are covered with snow, and early morning brings a sprinkling of frost on the ground: a signal from Mother Earth that winter is upon us. With the winter season comes celebration, traditional stories, songs, cookies and family fun. On Saturday, Dec. 14, the Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum will have a Christmas sing-along

and traditional storytelling. The community is invited. Elders and anyone who would like to share a song or story are welcome. We will start at 6 p.m. in the large classroom. Cider and cookies will be served. Saturday, Dec. 21 is "Christmas Gifts" day. We will be making potholders, aprons and key chains. This event will begin at 1 p.m. in the large classroom. Crafts are for all ages. For more information, call 970-533-9583.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO STUFF GOODIE BAGS

The Southern Ute Culture Department will be bagging goodies for the Christmas Program on Wednesday December 18th starting at 9am. If you are interested please come join us, we have 700 bags to fill. For more information please call Tara Vigil, Events Coordinator 970-563-0100 ext. 3624.

TALENT SEARCH FOR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Southern Ute Christmas Program will be held on Dec. 21, starting at 4 p.m. at the Sky Ute Casino Resort Events Center. If you are interested or know of anybody who would like to do a 15-20 minute entertainment for the program please contact Tara Vigil, Events Coordinator at 970-563-0100 ext. 3624.

MUSEUM EXTENDS RAFFLE FOR ATV TO FEB 14

The board of directors of the Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum has extended the drawing date for the Honda ATV raffle until noon, Feb. 14, 2014. Only 2,000 total tickets will be sold at \$20 each or six for \$100. Tickets can be purchased in person at the museum front desk, from board members and staff, and by phone with a credit card by calling 970-563-9583.



Numerous dancers attended in honor of Native American Heritage Month. Ignacio High School students spectate while the dancers demonstrate their skill.

SACRED VAULT FOCUS GROUP

For Southern Ute Tribal Members.

FRIDAY JANUARY 10TH, 2014

5:00PM-6:30PM

Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum

To be held in the large classroom.



Come join SUCCM in an informative discussion on the professional storing and protection of your most valuable traditional/ ceremonial items. Our newest grant has allowed for the funding of a vault/ storage area dedicated to Southern Ute tribal members, which will provide a functional repository for cultural and ceremonial pieces when not in use. This type of cultural vault, with an emphasis on accessibility to tribal members, will be the first of its kind in any museum. Lets combine our ideas and concerns to make this sacred vault a model for tribal Museums around the world.

For more information contact: Tallas Cantsee (970) 563-9583 ext. 3608 email: tcantsee@southernute-nsn.gov



United Blood Services mobile drives Dec. 14 – 30

Dec. 16 – Monday

Pine Valley Foursquare Church
1 – 6 p.m.
1328 CR 501, Bayfield

Dec. 17 – Tuesday

Mercury Payment System – Multi-Use Room
1 – 4 p.m.
10 Burnett Court, Durango

Dec. 18 – Wednesday

Mercy Regional Medical Center –
Conference Room A & B
3:30 – 6:30 p.m.
1010 Three Springs Blvd., Durango

Dec. 19 – Thursday

Fort Lewis College – Vallecito Room
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
1000 Rim Dr., Durango

Dec. 19 – Thursday

La Plata Electric
1 – 3:30 p.m.
45 Stewart, Durango

Dec. 23 – Monday

Homewood Suites
12 – 4 p.m.
15 Girard, Durango

Dec. 30 – Monday

Pine Valley Foursquare Church
3 – 6 p.m.
1328 CR 501, Bayfield

Any donor who would like to donate please call 888-804-9913, ext. 1000 or 877-UBS-HERO to schedule an appointment or get more information. You may also sign up online at www.bloodhero.com. We wish you and your families a very Happy Holiday Season!

Tribal member-Exclusive Fitness Incentive November winners



18 years and up
Alex Pena



Third grade – high school
Mark Archuleta

Hey kids! Do you know that your chances for winning \$100 gift card is 1 in 10. Come in to SunUte, take part in some physical activity, and enter for your chance to win.

Both participants won a \$100 gift card to Sports Authority.

For information on how to win;
Call SunUte at 970-563-0214 and ask for the trainer's desk or stop by to talk to a trainer.



SUNUTE UPDATE

"To expand and improve the quality of life for the Southern Ute tribal members and surrounding communities by stimulating social, physical, emotional, mental, cultural, and spiritual growth through recreational activities."



SUNUTE HOLIDAY HOURS

Dec. 20: 6 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Dec. 24: 6 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Dec. 25: CLOSED
Dec. 31: 6 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Jan. 1: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

TRIPLE WIN PROGRAM

Southern Ute tribal members: Enter to win a gift card every month for the next 12 months. You can enter the raffle if you work out in the gym or pool, participate in noon ball, or attend group exercise classes. Ages 10 and up. Tickets can be redeemed at the trainers' desk.

Health Center holiday schedule

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------------|
| • Christmas Eve | Dec. 24 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| • Christmas Day | Dec. 25 | Closed |
| • Days after Christmas | Dec. 26-27 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. |
| • New Years Eve | Dec. 31 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| • New Years Day | Jan. 1 | Closed |
| • Days after New Year's Day | Jan. 2-3 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. |

Southern Ute Culture Department

ATTENTION: TRIBAL MEMBERS



Spot Belt

Classes held in the Small Classroom of the SUCCM

DECEMBER ADULT

Craft Classes

December 17: 5:30 - 7:45 PM

Space is limited sign-up early.



Bead Bag

December 17: 5:30 - 7:45 PM

Space is limited sign-up early.



To sign up call Joycelyn Dutchie or Darlene Frost at:

563-0100 Ext. 2306 or Ext. 3620

Don't Miss Out on the Opportunity for an Amazing Smile!



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I'll reach new heights.

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We offer the support and tools you need to be tobacco-free.

You can quit. We can help.

to learn more.



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IT CHEWS RIGHT THROUGH YOUR CASH.

An addiction to chewing tobacco can cost more than \$1,000 a year – and lead to a lifetime of medical bills. Money you spend on tobacco is money you can't spend on yourself or the people you care about. Take it back.

Quitting isn't easy, but you can do it. And we are here to help.

Get the support and tools you need to quit today.

to learn more.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The Southern Ute Education Department and staff introduced a special recognition program last year, the program for the young and the talented Southern Ute students attending Ignacio public schools. The staff will recognize two students a month for all their hard work and kindness given to others. Check the Drum each month and listen to KSUT for the announcement of the next honored students as well as an interview.



ANGELA HERRERA

My name is Angela Herrera. I attend Ignacio High School, where I am a senior. My favorite subjects in school are math, history and science.

My parents are Daphnee Washington and my grandparents are Daleen and John Washington. I like volleyball, basketball and swimming.

In addition, I want to play professional volleyball when I grow up.

Education Department teacher's comments: Angela is a dedicated student and athlete. With the effort and hard work she has put forth, she has excelled at both. Her positive attitude and drive will take her far in life and I know she will see continued success throughout the year. It is an honor to be able to recognize as our student of the month.



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

MAYA ROCK

My name is Maya Rock. I attend Ignacio Junior High School, where I am an eighth grader. My favorite subjects in school are math and science.

My parents are Elmer and Dawn Rock and my grandparents are Randy and Marlene Baker and Donald and Pricilla Rock. I like hunting with my dad and family, outdoor stuff, riding four wheelers, walking, and I really enjoy soccer with coach Oscar Cosio.

In addition, I would love to be a veterinarian when I grow up. We have horses and dogs, hounds and yorkies, welch corgi and pitbull mix. I love animals.

FLC screens doc on Utes



photos courtesy Waylon Plenty Holes/Weenuche Smoke Signals

Ernest House Jr., Ute Mountain Ute tribal member and executive director of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, speaks to attendees at Fort Lewis College's Center of Southwest Studies on Monday, Nov. 18. The center hosted a screening of "The Original Coloradans," a documentary by Rocky Mountain PBS on the Ute people.

Several members of Ute tribes also spoke to screening attendees.



Burch's daughters remember



Trennie Collins/SU Drum

Lisa Burch Frost (left), daughter of the late Leonard C. Burch, reflects on her father's achievements Friday, Dec. 6 at the Ignacio Middle School. Burch Frost was there along with her sisters, Lynette Sage (middle) and Leonora Burch (right), to talk about the second annual Leonard C. Burch Celebration of Life Art and Literacy Contest and her father's involvement in the Animas La-Plata Project.

Bobcats of the month



photos Damon Toledo/SU Drum

These Ignacio Elementary School students were honored as Bobcats of the month for their helpfulness, attitude in class and willingness to learn:
Left to right: Angela Rose Esaparza, Joellianna Rohde, Shay Vigil and Andre Thompson.

Southern Ute Education Dept. 2013/2014 Sudden Science and STEM schedules

Sudden Science (K-2)

Dec. 18 Class
Dec. 25 (Winter Break)
Jan. 1 (Winter Break)
Jan. 8 Class
Jan. 15 Class
Jan. 22 Last class

Sudden Science (Grds. 3-5)

Feb. 5 Class
Feb. 12 Class
Feb. 19 Class
March 5 Class
March 13 Class
March 19 Class
April 2 (Spring Break)
April 9 Class
April 16 Class

STEM (Grades 3-5)

Jan. 29 Class
Feb. 26 Class
March 26 Class
April 30 Last class

April 23 Class
May 7 Class
May 14 Last class

NOTE: Only STEM classes meet the last Wednesday of each month

ALL CLASSES MEET ON EARLY RELEASE WEDNESDAY

Advertise in the Drum!

Our rates are the best in the county!

Call or email today for more info!

970-563-0118

EDUCATION UPDATE

ATTENTION GED STUDENTS

If you are a GED student working toward completing your GED credential, there are some major changes you need to know about. Starting January 2, 2014, students trying to earn their GED will take the new 2014 GED test. That means that students who are testing today must finish up all five subject area tests of the, now old, 2002 Series GED Test by December 31 or start from scratch with the 2014 GED test. In other word, if you have passed some of the 5

required tests but do not complete all of them before December 31, your work will be lost. If this is you, and you don't wish to start over, do this ... Get on the GED website www.gedcomputer.com today. Register and create an account. Schedule a test time. There is not much time to save your work up to this point. If you have any questions or need help, call the Adult Education Center and talk with Dr. Jonathan Hunstiger (Adult Education Program Manager) or Renee Sage (Office Manager) at 970-563-0237.

Southern Ute Education Department Open House for the Tribal Membership

[December 16, Monday]

[10:00am—3:00pm]

[Education Building]

[330 Burns Avenue]

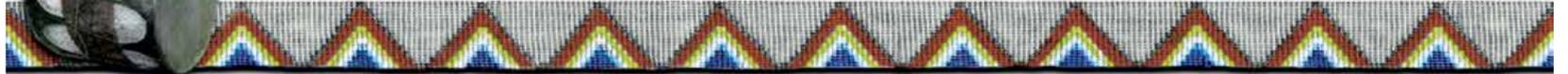
Southern Ute Tribal Families; You're Invited

To a special Open House just for you @ The Southern Ute Education Department! Come meet the staff and become more familiar with our programs and opportunities!

Tables will be set up for each Program (Adult Education Scholarship Program, Certificate Program, K-12 Tutoring Program, Youth Employment Coordinator, Elders scholarships, JOM and more) with information on programs, and their availability. Hope To See You There!!

Refreshments & Lite Lunch Provided





Ignacio chamber hosts Taste of Christmas

The Ignacio Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual Taste of Christmas event Friday, Dec. 6 in the Ignacio Elementary School gym. Attendees visited with Santa Claus, perused the crafts and baked goods for sale, and enjoyed free hot chocolate.



Michael Tom (left), a family advocate for Southern Ute Montessori Head Start, set up a booth with coworker Samuel Harrison to sell baked goods to raise funds for Christmas gifts for Head Start families in need.



Ignacio resident Sarah Gabb and daughter Zoe brought an assortment of magnets and pendants for sale.



Santa Claus set up on stage, taking photos and Christmas gift requests from area youth.

Photos by Ace Stryker
The Southern Ute Drum

SunUte Community Center & The Durango Narrow Gauge Railroad
Presents:

THE POLAR EXPRESS

A TRIBAL FAMILY FIELD TRIP

First come, first serve (Limited Space Available)

Tribal Members: Sign up your IMMEDIATE family at SunUte Front Desk. No registrations over the phone please.

Cost: **Free**. These tickets are purchased in advance, so if you RSVP on December 18th, but do not attend, you will be held responsible for the full cost of the ticket (valued at \$35.00).

Registration Deadline is December 9th @ 5pm.

We will meet at the Durango Train Station **December 21st at 4:30pm, sharp!**
Tickets will be issued at that time, train boards at 4:45pm!

Note: This field trip is targeted to children between 3-10 years old, accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Field Trip Description:
All passengers will enjoy hot chocolate and a treat served by your personal chefs who will also read the THE POLAR EXPRESS story on the way to the North Pole to pick up Santa White. Santa visits each car, your chefs will lead you in specially selected Christmas carols on the return to Durango. All the kids aboard the train will receive a special gift from Santa!

CHRISTMAS 2013

Toy Drive

Non-perishable
New Toys Under
\$10.00 ea.

12/02-12/19

Please Do Not
Drop Gifts

Drop Off Locations

- SunUte Community Center
- BGC Office
- Elementary School
- Old Jr. High
- Middle School
- High School
- The Patio
- Southern Ute Police Department
- Library
- Growth Fund

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

Annual Tribal Christmas Dinner & Program

Saturday December 21, 2013

Location: Sky Ute Casino Resort Events Center

Dinner Starts at 11:30am to 3pm

Christmas Program Starts at 4:00pm

The Southern Ute Tribal Christmas Dinner is open to Southern Ute Tribal Members & Families along with Ute Mountain and Northern Ute Members.
Head of Household sign in required.

Southern Ute Tribal Elders wishing to have their food delivered call:
Gloria Frost 563-0100 ext. 2323

Sponsored by:
Southern Ute Culture Department

Southern Ute tribal offices holiday closures for 2014

• Dec. 25	Christmas
• Jan. 1	New Year's Day
• Jan. 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
• Feb. 17	President's Day
• May 26	Memorial Day
• July 4	Independence Day
• July 14	Sun Dance Feast
• Sept. 1	Labor Day
• Nov. 10-11	Veterans Day
• Nov. 27-28	Thanksgiving
• Dec. 10	Leonard C. Burch Day
• Dec. 25-26	Christmas



Braving the cold for Leonard C. Burch Walk

The second annual Leonard C. Burch Memorial Walk/Run at the SunUte Community Center on Tuesday, Dec. 10 featured numerous walkers and runners coming out in celebration of the late chairman. Attendees gathered inside SunUte before departing for the 5K run in the chilly autumn breeze.

Photos by Damon Toledo
The Southern Ute Drum



Ula Red picks a playing card from a checkpoint. The cards are used for handing out prizes to walkers and runners with the best and worst poker hands.



Robin Duffy-Wirth leads a group of runners and walkers through an energetic post-run workout.



The chilly autumn weather didn't stop families from coming out and participating in the annual walk/run.



A Leonard C. Burch memorial sits inside the SunUte Community Center. Many walkers and runners attended, including members of the Burch family.



The memorial walk/run is an event for all ages. It is an event not held for competitiveness, but for the honoring of Leonard C. Burch and his family.



Shirelle Garcia gives a hug after winning a prize from the walk/run. Prizes included digital video players, backpacks, and iPods.



Michael Tom dances during a post-run workout inside the SunUte Community Center.



Amber Doughty walks with Diana Baker (left) hand-in-hand through the event.



IHS BASKETBALL

IHS boys do work at the Webb

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Bloomfield, N.M., head coach Devon Manning urged his team to "shoot with confidence" during an unwanted timeout quite early in their Webb Toyota/Kirtland (N.M.) Central Basin Invitational opener.

In his own mind, however, that command likely had a suffix attached: "...like that Adison Jones!"

Ignacio's junior power forward/center had already scored six of Ignacio's 10 points - achieved in only 2:49 worth of action - then cashed a three-pointer after Manning's attempted interruption, then dashed away Bloomfield's try for a long buzzer-beater ending the quarter, then opened the second with a perfect 15-footer from the wing to give his team an authoritative 18-6 advantage.

Still thinking they'd be challenging the Colorado 2A force on Day 2 the following afternoon, 1A Montezuma Creek (Utah) Whitehorse's Raiders, watching from the stands, had to be thinking the same as everyone else observing the Bobcats' outbreak: This is their first game of the season?

A lengthy second-quarter lull indicated that, yes, Ignacio had not yet faced outside competition yet in 2013, but a 24-point third quarter - rebuilding the lead from 20-14 at the half to 44-27 entering the fourth quarter - told the throng inside Bronco Arena all they'd need to know.

Led by double-figure scoring from Jones (11 points), Clayton Jefferson (11), sophomore Wyatt Hayes (14) and senior Kelton Richmond (14), nine Cats contributed points in the 62-37 rout on Day 1, and Ignacio's winning ways continued with a 53-47 win over Shiprock, N.M., rather than WHS on Day 2, then a thrilling 57-52 defeat of the hosting Class 4A team for an outstanding 3-0 start to the new season.

Shiprock (2-2), Class 3A



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Nick Herrera (35) tries to ignore the sting from a Bloomfield, N.M., defender's smack while going up for a shot during last weekend's 2013 Webb Toyota/Kirtland (N.M.) Central Basin Invitational.

State semifinalists ending '12-13 and always dangerous after a loss, had lost by a bucket on Day 1 to Las Cruces, N.M., Mesilla Valley Christian (3-1; Class 2A State semifinalists last season), putting extra pressure on Ignacio to maximize as many possessions as possible. No reminders were needed for the Saturday night showdown against Christian Mackey-led Kirtland Central (3-1).

Whitehorse, after being repaired against and losing by 23 to Bloomfield on Day 2, fell 71-30 to Shiprock in the consolation game on Day 3 (Saturday, Dec. 7) and sank to 0-3 overall. Mesilla Valley had little difficulty with Bloomfield's Bobcats in the third-place game, rolling 63-43.

Taking some of the sting out of Chieftain Hiram Gleason's game-best 19 points, Jefferson netted three of Ignacio's eight triples against Shiprock, en route to a team-

leading 13. Mackey - the only Bronco scoring 10 or more - was the high enemy in the finale with 21 points.

Next on the Bobcats' plate was their 2A/1A San Juan Basin League opener, Thursday, Dec. 12 at Telluride, but it was completed after the Drum went to print. A trip to non-league 2A Sargent was to follow on Saturday, Dec. 14, with a jaunt down to Bloomfield beyond that on Monday, Dec. 16.

UNUSUAL: A unique addition to Ignacio's schedule (at least at the time of this writing), though neither at the varsity nor even the JV level, is a C-team contest at home on Friday, Dec. 13 versus Silverton. The Miners, truly an unknown entity, have not even a mention on the Silverton Public Schools website.

But a schedule - showing prior games against the JVs of SJBL squads Ouray, Dolores and Mancos - has been posted online at maxpreps.com.

IHS BASKETBALL

JV boys start winter with a loss

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Just when it seemed, on several second-half occasions, that Ignacio had something heating up, the other Bobcats smothered it in about as many ways as a coach could conceive.

Able to string together a 20-0 run spanning the late first and nearly all of the second quarter, 3A Bloomfield, N.M., left the locals inside IHS Gymnasium stunned as they answered Ignacio's own 11-1, season-starting scoreboard burst and ran away with a 58-33 victory in junior-varsity action Tuesday, Dec. 3.

"It's hard coming back from Thanksgiving break and not having everybody here," said coach Tim Velasquez. "It kind of hurt us as a team, not being on the same page."

Early on, however, the boss's plans translated clearly to every Cat on the court. Point guard Xavier Reynolds dropped in a short jumper to get the scoring started, and power forward John House canned a three the next trip down. Bloomfield countered with a free throw, but House replied with a close-range lay-in and guard Chase Sanchez then nailed a 15-footer off the right wing for a near-automatic 9-1 lead.

Isaiah Harrison then dropped



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Chase Sanchez (2) ducks in for the steal against Bloomfield, N.M.'s Adriano Stevenson (20) during the junior varsity's season-opener Tuesday, Dec. 3 in Ignacio.

in a baseline runner, and after the visitors finally registered a hoop, Reynolds scored an easy layup after a Sanchez steal near the time line.

"We played very good," Velasquez said of his side's start.

But then, unbeknown to any of the excited athletes or their roaring rooters, the proverbial power had been quietly cut off.

Ignacio's 13-7 lead after one quarter seemed solid, but after Bloomfield took a 14-13 lead midway through the second, it was evident to any homer in the house that something was very wrong. Only a House FT, with 63 seconds left before halftime, saved the Bobcats from an unheard-of scoreless frame as Bloomfield

took a 23-14 advantage back into the locker room.

The visitors then increased it with a 7-0 spree beginning the third, before House again hit from the line with 5:40 left. Ignacio's Darian Neskahy soon cut more into the deficit, making it 33-17 with a jumper, and House (14 points) buried a trey after a Bloomfield layup to bring Ignacio (0-1) back to 35-20.

But they would get no closer; Bloomfield (1-0) closed the quarter with 10 unanswered points, drained a triple for their first points of the fourth, and never looked back.

"Our help defense was ... not the best," Velasquez said. "It's just the little things we've got to work on, and we'll be ready for our next game."

IHS BASKETBALL

IHS girls third at Shiprock tourney

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Foul-plagued in a loss to Farmington, N.M. Unfortunate to stand in against a buzz-saw called Shiprock, N.M.

Resilient against in-state 4A Montezuma-Cortez: Ignacio's Lady Bobcats not only got new skipper Shane Seibel his first win as the girls' varsity head coach on Day 3 of the 2013 Jerry Richardson Memorial/SHS Lady Chieftain Invitational presented by Cellular One, they did so inside the Chieftain Pit against a familiar San Juan Basin League face in former Dolores leader John McHenry.

Behind senior Gabriela Garcia's seven-point first quarter, Ignacio led the consolation game 10-3 after eight minutes, and were rarely tested by the young Lady Panthers in a 41-23 victory. She finished with a team-high 13 points, senior Angela Herrera added nine and sophomore Chrystianne Valdez chipped in six. JV call-up Bekah Powell also recorded her first two varsity points as Ignacio improved to 1-2 overall.

Lady Panther Junior Katrina Lee hit a pair of three-pointers for her team-leading six points, and classmate Abby Chupp dropped in four FTs. Sophomore point guard Simone Lopez was held to just three points as Ignacio led 20-10 at halftime and 30-16 through three quarters.

Against N.M. Class 3A State Championships favorite Shiprock, Ignacio hung tough through one quarter, trailing just 6-5, before Larenson Henderson's Lady Chieftains pulled away in the second to lead 24-9 at halftime en route to a no-doubt 56-20 victory.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Ellie Seibel (35) and Cloe Seibel (12) team up to tie up possession against Farmington, N.M.'s Meeya Yazzie on Day 1 of Shiprock, N.M.'s Jerry Richardson Memorial/Lady Chieftain Invitational presented by Cellular One inside Shiprock's Chieftain Pit.

Shania Harry and Aranxta Curley led Shiprock's balanced scoring attack with 11 points apiece, while Garcia and junior Sky Cotton paced Ignacio with just five points each. Sophomore Ellie Seibel scored three, Valdez, Angela Herrera and senior Cloe Seibel each contributed two, and senior Deja Herrera netted one of the Lady Bobcats' eight made free throws.

Ellie Seibel was a perfect four-of-four at the stripe in notching a team-high 10 points against Farmington, and Angela Herrera scored six points but was just two-of-six. Cloe Seibel finished with five points, Deja Herrera had four, and Cotton -

who fouled out along with a scoreless Garcia - managed just three. The Lady Scorpions, meanwhile, virtually lived at the foul line; leading scorer Meeya Yazzie was 10-of-17 herself, but did not manage one field goal before also fouling out.

Forward Shayna Carlowe booked eight points in Farmington's 37-32 win, and forward Tanisha Beetso (5-9 FT) dropped in seven.

Shiprock improved to 5-0 overall in the young season with a 76-28 blasting of their former District 1-4A rivals Farmington (2-2) on Day 3 to win the Invite undisputed, with 2A Ignacio (1-2) third and M-CHS (0-4) an undisputed fourth.



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

New Ignacio JV coach Dylaina Morelli (replacing Briana Simbeck, now the girls' varsity coach at 3A Bayfield) details a plan to Lady Bobcat Selena Cook during downtime in the team's Tuesday, Dec. 3 season opener inside IHS Gymnasium against 3A Bloomfield, N.M.

IHS BASKETBALL

Bloomfield's Lady Bobcats best Ignacio's

By Joel Priest
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

Three minutes and eight seconds was all visiting 3A Bloomfield, N.M., needed to assemble a decisive 14-0 scoring run, and blow wide open what had been only a 24-16 advantage against the Ignacio girls' junior varsity through three quarters of the teams' Tuesday, Dec. 3 season-opener.

And after having earlier scored the game's first three points - via a Bekah Powell layup and a Deja Herrera free throw - Ignacio would get no closer down the

stretch than 38-20 after consecutive Tori Archuleta baskets near the final frame's midway mark as Bloomfield (1-0 overall) prevailed 46-20 and spoiled the prep-level coaching debut of former Mancos standout Dylaina Morelli.

Trailing 7-5 after one quarter inside IHS Gymnasium, Ignacio's Roshae Weaver hit 3-of-4 from the charity stripe to put the Lady Cats (0-1) ahead with 5:58 before halftime, but the likenamed opponent closed out the second on a 13-2 blitz to double up Ignacio at the break, 20-0.

Archuleta began the third with a jumper, and Weaver provided the team's other four points in the stanza with a free throw and a late three-pointer - the last threat to the visitors' lead, as it would turn out.

Up next for the JV was a Tuesday, Dec. 10 trip to face 1A Shiprock (N.M.) Northwest's varsity, and a Thursday, Dec. 12 trip - both were completed after the Drum's deadline - to Telluride for the start of 2A/1A San Juan Basin League play. A non-league road date on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 2A Sargent then followed.



MIDDLE SCHOOL BALLERS • FROM PAGE 1

champions, but they wanted to win the tournament.”

“We had the confidence coming in as the No. 1 seed,” said guard Kruz Pardo, who officially totaled 27 points to go with an unofficial 10 assists. “Just wanted to take over our league; for us eighth-graders, we just wanted to go home league champs ... get revenge from last year.”

With 11 of his 13 Cats contributing points, Valdez saw his young men thoroughly dominate Telluride, 56-31, in their first action of the morning. Miner seventh-grader Ian Enkema’s perfect heave and swish from half-court ending the third quarter, however, set off a flurry of threes in the fourth that made the game much closer than it was; Dolores, who’d ripped Ridgway 52-17 in the previous contest, saw Ignacio outscore Telluride 18-1 in the second and then 14-8 in the third to build a 50-16 lead in just 18 minutes.

After Joel Balderrama’s Cubs then eliminated Norwood 41-19, Ignacio likewise ousted Mancos, 40-16, after opening on a 10-0 run. But the scoring similarity was almost by design: The Cats purposely slowed down in the second half to fine-tune their half-court offense and conserve energy for the grand finale, knowing 2-seed Dolores was waiting.

“We were preparing for it,” said Pardo, aware like his teammates of Dolores’s sizable seventh-grade front-liners Tristan Swaggerty and Forrest Pesja and eighth-grade backcourt leader Justin Purkat. “And we know what they run, how they play their defense; we just came out ready.”

Purkat polished off the game with a deep, confident three, but his second-quarter absence, due to a rolled right ankle, was all the Bobcats needed to inflate their first-quarter advantage into something unapproachable at halftime: 35-12, capped by eighth-grade guard Johnny Valdez’s buzzer-beating runner in the lane, off a long Kai Roubideaux outlet.

The only daylight Dolores saw in the 53-24 loss was after Ignacio began the game on a 6-0 burst, applying a solid full-court press defensively but also committing several turnovers due to



Joel Priest/Special to the Drum
Ignacio Middle School’s Kruz Pardo (23) leaps to score over a Telluride defender during the San Juan Basin League Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 7 inside Telluride High’s MinerDome.

errant passing. Balderrama, also Dolores High’s “C” team coach, called timeout to alert his team to that fact while Valdez simply restated to his side what they already knew.

“All I did was explain to them, ‘You’re doing everything right. You will get the steals; play defense with your feet – don’t play with your hands – and next thing you know, you’re going to get five or six easy steals for baskets,’” he said. “And they did; it changed the momentum of the entire game and the complexion of what they were trying to do to us.”

Ignacio’s cushion through three frames, 41-17, was comfortable enough to turn the last 360 seconds into a virtual curtain-call, with Valdez regularly rotating players in and out for ovations from their fans – all before the eyes of Telluride High head coach Mike Hughes, knowing an older, but just-as-skilled and hungry bunch of Bobcats would be coming to visit just five days later.

“The stuff we’re teaching up here at the high-school level, we’re teaching them down there at the junior-high level,” Velasquez said. “So when they’re coming in here, they’re already in the pro-

gram, ready to go in all this. We’re just trying to tell them defense ... hustling, hard work can get you there.”

Ocean Hunter led Ignacio against Telluride with 10 points, with Roubideaux, Natoni Cundiff and Marcus Chapman each scoring eight and Pardo six for the cause. Against Mancos, Pardo led with 12 and again the supporting balance was there with five points each from Johnny Valdez, Lawrence Valdez, Cole McCaw and Calvin Lovato.

And versus Dolores, Roubideaux was the high man with 11 points (to go with six rebounds and five assists). Pardo dropped nine (with five and three), Johnny Valdez scored eight, Chapman seven, Lovato six, McCaw five, Hunter four, and Lawrence Valdez three to close the book.

The meaning of all that math?

“Means that we’re the champions,” Roubideaux said. “Just feels good to win!”

“We had a great season,” Valdez said. “Started off a little shaky, had a real tough game with Bayfield at the beginning and lost. And the kids really responded well, played well all year.”

NATIONAL NEWS

NCAI addresses climate change with Obama Administration

Staff report
NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

Following the White House Tribal Nations Conference, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is pleased with the prospect of progress on addressing the challenges of climate change in Indian Country.

During the Conference, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and many government officials— including President Obama—spoke to the severe impacts climate change has had on American Indians and Alaska Natives while focusing on how the federal government can work with tribal leaders to best address these challenges.

Secretary Jewell set the tone for the conversation on climate change by remarking on the importance “of the ongoing dialogues we need to have as we work together toward tribal self-determination and self-governance and promoting prosperous and resilient tribal nations.”

Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz discussed the over 30 Alaska Native villages that are facing imminent threats from rising seas levels and how hydroelectric and other energy projects have been stymied by climate change. Further, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy encouraged inter-governmental communication by asking tribal leaders to “help us explain why Climate Change must be addressed now and why it is our responsibility” to combat it for seventh generation and beyond.

President Obama reasserted his dedication to protecting tribal lands:

“The health of tribal nations depends on the health of

tribal lands. So it falls on all of us to protect the extraordinary beauty of those lands for future generations. And already, many of your lands have felt the impacts of a changing climate, including more extreme flooding and droughts. That’s why, as part of the Climate Action Plan I announced this year, my administration is partnering with you to identify where your lands are vulnerable to climate change, how we can make them more resilient.”

The Climate Action Plan includes the President’s Executive Order “Preparing the U.S. for the Impacts of Climate Change” and his appointment of two tribal leaders to the twelve-member Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience.

It is critically important that tribal leaders are at the table because too often, Native voices are left out of federal conversations around mitigating the effects of climate change. Indian Country faces some of the most difficult challenges stemming from climate change because of the remote location of many tribal lands and, particularly in Alaska, the dependence on the land and animals for subsistence living. NCAI applauds the Administration for this effort and is hopeful that by working together, government-to-government, tribal communities will have the tools necessary to address climate change.

Also this week, NCAI joined an amicus curiae in support of young people suing the federal government for not acting to reverse climate change. Filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, the amici emphasizes the drastic effects climate change has in Native communities,

particularly Alaska, and “[t]hese communities contribute little, if at all, to the problem of climate change, and, yet, bear a disproportionately large adverse impact from climate change given their unique vulnerability.”

The brief states that “climate change ravages Native Nations, and the federal government, which includes the defendants-appellees in this case, has a responsibility to assist these Nations by rapidly reducing greenhouse gas emissions in order to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change.” The federal government has trust responsibility to tribes to lower greenhouse gas emissions and act in the best interest of tribes.

NCAI is committed to working with the Administration, Congress, and within the federal courts to ensure the voice of Indian Country is heard and tribal leaders are involved in planning and action conversations around addressing the urgent problem of climate change.

The lawsuit was filed with the help of Our Children’s Trust, an Oregon-based non-profit orchestrating a game-changing, youth-driven legal campaign in the United States and across the globe. The following organizations joined with leading climate scientists, law scholars, national security experts, government leaders, faith groups, and environmental NGOs in signing onto the amicus curiae brief:

- Akiak Native Community
- Alaska Inter-Tribal Council
- Forgotten People
- Indigenous Peoples Climate Change Working Group
- National Congress of American Indians
- National Native American Law Student Association

Corrections

In a cutline in the Nov. 27 issue of the Drum, Southern Ute Chief Judge Chantel Cloud’s name was misspelled.

In a cutline in the Nov. 27 issue of the Drum honoring the veterans, Bruce LeClaire was identified as a tribal member who was in combat. LeClaire is from the Sicangu Lakota tribe and was a combat engineer.

NEW EMPLOYEES



Jesse Vigil

Job title: Community resource officer
Job duties: Provides awareness activities to the community and serves as a liaison between the Southern Ute Police Department and the community.
Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, playing softball and hanging out with family.
Tribe: Southern Ute Indian Tribe.



Dr. Jonathon Hunstiger

Job title: Adult education program coordinator
Job duties: Administers adult education program.
Hobbies: Reading and running.

sunUte Recreation Presents: Christmas Volleyball Tournament 2013

What: 4 v 4, COED Volleyball Tournament
When: December 22nd
First serve at 9am
Prizes: 1st and 2nd + MVP & All -Tourney
Registration: November 22nd—December 18th.
Sign up: At SunUte Front Desk or call 970.563.0214

For rules and schedule of games please visit www.sunute.com
For more information contact SunUte Recreation (970)563-0214

Team Entry \$100

2 games guaranteed
6 man roster
2 women on the court at all times

THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE PROMOTES THE USE OF SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION, SALE, PURCHASE, CONSUMPTION, AND USE OF THE USE OF LEGAL DRUGS ON SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE. ON THE EVENT A QUEST IS BEING ANSWERED BY TELURIDE, THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE IS A SAFE MARKET AND MAY BE A SAFE MARKET FOR THE TRIBE. THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE IS A SAFE MARKET FOR THE TRIBE. THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE IS A SAFE MARKET FOR THE TRIBE.

Next issue
Dec. 27
Deadline
Dec. 20

Articles, photos, advertisements, public notices, letters and greetings may be submitted in person, by mail, or by email to the following address:

astryker@southernute-nsn.gov

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MAILING ADDRESS
Southern Ute Drum
PO Box 737 #96, Ignacio, CO 81137

PHYSICAL ADDRESS
356 Ouray Drive
LCB Building, 2nd Floor, Ignacio, CO 81137

STAFF EXTENSIONS & EMAIL ADDRESSES
The Southern Ute Drum (sudrum@southernute-nsn.gov)
Ace Stryker • Editor, ext. 2255 (astryker@southernute-nsn.gov)
Robert Ortiz • Composition Tech., ext. 2253 (rortiz@southernute-nsn.gov)
Damon Toledo • Reporter/Photographer, ext. 2252 (dtoledo@southernute-nsn.gov)
Trennie Collins • Administrative Assistant, ext. 2251 (tcollins@southernute-nsn.gov)
Andrea Taylor • T.I.S. Director, ext. 2250 (actaylor@southernute-nsn.gov)

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From the staff of The Southern Ute Drum
Merry Christmas



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Ignacio School District – 2011 Bond Program

Sealed proposals for renovations and additions to the Ignacio High School will be received from the following previously pre-qualified General Contractors (listed below) by the Board of Education on January 8, 2014 at 3:30 p.m.

Pre-Qualified General Contractors:

- FCI Constructors, Inc.
- HW Houston Construction Company
- Okland Construction

Bid documents may be purchased directly from Point to Point Graphics in Durango. Electronic documents may be obtained at the RTA Architects ftp site at ftp2.rtaarchitects.com (Username: isdhhschool, Password: bid) or on the District's web site at ignacioschools.org. A Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference for all submitting General Contractors is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Dec. 12, at the Ignacio School District Offices located at 455 Becker Street.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SU Indian Housing Authority – Furnish and install flooring

The Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority in Ignacio, CO is accepting proposals for a 2 (two) year contract January 2014 - December 2015 to furnish and install flooring for all Housing Authority Units on an as needed basis. The Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority in Ignacio, CO is accepting proposals for a 2 (two) year contract January 2014 - December 2015 to furnish and install flooring for all

Housing Authority Units on an as needed basis. All vinyl is a Riteway exclusive and will need to be purchased through them directly. Proposals must be submitted to the Housing Authority by December 20, 2013 at 3 p.m. by mail, P.O. Box 447, Ignacio CO, or by email rtorres@suiha.org. For additional information, please contact Rebecca Torres, at 970-563-4575.

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

In the Legal Name Change of, Case No.: 2013-0101-CV-NC

Angel Santana Ortiz

NOTICE OF LEGAL NAME CHANGE

Notice is hereby given that Angel Santana Ortiz filed an application for legal change of name, to be known hereafter as Angel Santana Burch. As

of November 25, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. no person filed an objection to the request, and therefore notice is hereby given that Angel Santana Ortiz name shall be and is hereby legally changed to Angel Santana Burch.

**Dated this 25th day of November, 2013.
Chantel Cloud, Southern Ute Tribal Judge**

TRIBAL OBITUARIES



BOX – Gregory Nick Box passed away December 10, 2013 at home unexpectedly.

Mr. Box was born Sept. 13, 1955 to the parents of Fritz and Pearl Box. Gregory was from a large family of ten children. He went to school in Bayfield, Colorado. Greg loved to play fast pitch softball where he was known for his wicked pitch. Family stated he was an avid Bronco fan and would be found on the weekends in his favorite chair rooting the Bronco's on. Mr. Box also loved the local casino on his

days off. Greg was a strong family man and loved being surrounded by them all. He was a hunter and loved providing for his family. Mr. Box was very proud of his only grandson, Nakai Clyde Richard Box, and loved spending as much time as possible with him.

Greg was proud of his Native American heritage and was a Sun Dancer. His family stated he was a very spiritual man and participated in many Sun Dances.

His survivors are Craig Box (son) and Loren Watts (son) both of Ignacio, Colo., sisters, Shirley Esparza, Ignacio, Veronica Box Tibbets, Portland, Ore., Ernie Watts, Joyce Frost and C. Karen Box- Herrera, all of Ignacio, numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

Proceeded in death by his parents, Fritz and Pearl Box, Richard Box (son), Candace Watts (daughter), siblings: Orrian Box, Clyde Box, Alvina Spencer, and Lena Box.

A wake will be held 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 15 at the family residence, 5140 CR 516, Bayfield, Colo. The funeral service will be at 10 a.m., Monday, Dec. 16 at the Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Facility, Ignacio, Colo.

HOWELL-BIGLEGGINS – Thella Beth Howell-BigLeggins, 45, enrolled member of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Pawnee, Southern Cheyenne, passed away Monday, December 2, 2013 at Mercy Regional Medical Center in Durango, Colo. A Funeral Service will be held Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at the Ignacio Maranatha Baptist Church in Ignacio, Pastor Kelly Winlock will be officiating. A wake will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Southern Ute Multi-Purpose Gathering Room. Burial will occur at Ouray Memorial Cemetery in Ignacio, Colo.

Mrs. Howell-BigLeggins was born on November 6, 1968 in Durango, Colo., the daughter of George Elton Howell, Sr. and the beloved Betty Lou Weaver Howell. Thella grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah and attended schools in Oklahoma, South Dakota, Idaho, Utah and Colorado. She graduated from Wagner High School in Wagner, S.D. in 1987, where she was in the marching band. While pursuing her higher education at the University of South Dakota, she continued to participate in the marching band. She also attended school at Oglala-Lakota College in Pine Ridge, S. D. She received her associate's degree from the Denver Technical College in Colorado Springs, Colo. during the 1990's. Later in 2012, she attended Pueblo Community College in Durango, Colo. studying Radiology.

Thella's work career began with working at a grocery store called Sioux Nation in Pine Ridge, S. D. She also worked as a medical office assistant in Colorado Springs, Colo. Upon moving to Ignacio in 1999, she was a caregiver to her mother, the beloved Betty Lou Weaver Howell, until her passing in 2008. She worked at the Multi-Purpose Facility in Ignacio from 2012 until her death.

Thella met her first husband, Calvin Monroe in 1989 in Pine Ridge, S. D. and shortly thereafter, they were married. They had three daughters together. She encouraged them all in their educational endeavors and taught them all how to traditional dance. She inspired each of them to be strong, intelligent and beautiful.

Later on in life, she met and married Roy BigLeggins. They lived in Ignacio. They enjoyed watching movies and traveling. They never liked to stay home. They went to Denver, "just for the ride" and being together was what they enjoyed doing the most.

She is survived by Roy BigLeggins (husband) of Wolfpoint, Mont., Kelsi L'u Beth Monroe (daughter), Kayleen Christyne Monroe (daughter), Jazmynn Rae Howell (daughter) all of Ignacio, Colo. George Elton Howell, Sr. (father) of Pawnee, Okla., George Elton Howell, Jr. (brother) of Ignacio, Colo., Kenneth Leroy Howell (brother) of Oklahoma City, Okla., Clarice BigLeggins (mother-in-law), Dewayne BigLeggins (father-in-law), Christopher Follette (brother-in-law) all of Wolfpoint, Mont., as well as various aunts, uncles and cousins of Colorado and other extended family in Oklahoma and Montana.

She was preceded in death by Betty Lou Weaver Howell (mother), George Howell, Jr. (grandfather), Thelma Stoneroad (grandmother), Robert Buck Weaver (grandfather), Ella Washington Weaver (grandmother), Bernice Turntoes (grandmother-in-law) and Eugene BigLeggins (uncle-in-law) and various aunts and uncles.

A wake was held at the Multi-Purpose, Dec. 4, 2013, starting at 6 p.m. Funeral Services were held at Ignacio Baptist Church Maranatha, December 5, 2013. Burial was at Ouray Cemetery. Feast at the Multi-Purpose Facility.

RAFFLE WIN A COW ELK PERMIT!

VALUE: \$150

HUNT DATES: SATURDAY, January 11, 2014 through Sunday, January 19, 2014 on the Sandoval/Mesa Hunt Unit/Southern Ute Tribal Land
Guide not provided, but optional for a fee.

TICKETS \$5 each

Purchase yours at

SUCAP Central Admin * 285 Lakin Street * 970-563-4517

Proceeds will fund our new SUCAP Childcare Facility

Drawing: Wednesday, January 8th, 2014

Winner must attend the mandatory orientation: Friday, January 10, 2014, 6 p.m. @ the Multipurpose Building by Ute Park
Must be 12 or older to hunt.

18 and younger must have a Parent/Guardian accompany them.
Ages 12 to 21 need a Hunter Safety Card.



Donated by the Southern Ute Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division

(970)563-4517

WWW.SUCAP.ORG

The Southern Ute Drum Deadlines for 2014

Deadline Dates	Federally recognized holidays and Drum office closures	Distribution & mailout
Jan. 6	New Year's Day: Wednesday, Jan. 1, offices closed	Jan. 10
Jan. 17*	Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Monday, Jan. 20, offices closed	Jan. 24
Feb. 3	Valentine's Day: Friday, Feb. 14	Feb. 7
Feb. 14*	Presidents Day: Monday, Feb. 17, offices closed	Feb. 21
March 3		March 7
March 17		March 21
March 31		April 4
April 14	Easter: Sunday, April 20	April 18
April 28	Mother's Day: Sunday, May 11	May 2
May 12		May 16
May 23*	Memorial Day: Monday, May 26, offices closed	May 30
June 9	Father's Day: Sunday, June 15	June 13
June 23		June 27
July 7	Independence Day: Thursday, July 4, offices closed	July 11
July 21	SU Sun Dance Feast: Monday, July 14, offices closed	July 25
Aug. 4		Aug. 8
Aug. 18		Aug. 22
Aug. 29*	Labor Day: Monday, Sept. 1, offices closed Grandparents' Day: Sunday, Sept. 7	Sept. 5
Sept. 15		Sept. 19
Sept. 29		Oct. 3
Oct. 13	Cultural Diversity Day: Monday, Oct. 13	Oct. 17
Oct. 27	Halloween: Friday, Oct. 31	Oct. 31
Nov. 7*	Veterans Day: Nov. 11 & 12, offices closed	Nov. 14
Nov. 21*	Thanksgiving: Nov. 27 & 28, offices closed	Nov. 26*
Dec. 8	Leonard C. Burch Day: Wednesday, Dec. 10, offices closed	Dec. 12
Dec. 19*	Christmas: Dec. 25 & 26, offices closed <i>* Denotes an early deadline or publication</i>	Dec. 24*

All content including classifieds, job announcements, display ads, letters, stories and articles, press releases, birthday and holiday wishes and greetings, submitted for publication after deadline will be considered for the following issue. Requests for design work must be submitted by 5 p.m. on the Monday preceding publication. The Drum reserves the right to edit all materials for spelling, grammar, clarity and libel.

The Southern Ute Drum • Phone: 970-563-0118 • Fax: 970-563-0391
Email: sudrum@southernute-nsn.gov • Mail: P.O. Box 737 #96, Ignacio, Colo. 81137
Physical address: 356 Ouray Dr., Ignacio, Colo. (Leonard C. Burch Building, 2nd floor, west side)

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE RUN-OFF ELECTION DECEMBER 13, 2013

SunUte Community Center
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Candidates for one Tribal Council Member seats are:
Notice: Vote for one

James M. Olguin
Joycelyn Peabody Dutchie

NOTE: THE CANDIDATE RECEIVING THE HIGHEST
NUMBER OF VOTES SHALL BE ELECTED

- Polls open at 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the SunUte Community Center.
- Voting is by secret ballot.
- Voting by proxy is not allowed.
- Persons waiting in line at 7 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

Voter Registration Deadline: Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013 by 5 p.m.
Absentee Ballot Request Deadline: Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013 by 5 p.m.
Emergency Ballot Request Deadline: Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013 by 5 p.m.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the Election Board at 970-563-0100 ext. 2303, or 2305. Off-Reservation Tribal members phone 1-800-772-1236 ext. 2303. Email is election@southernute-nsn.gov.

The Election Board is open monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Southern Ute Growth Fund – Job announcements

Please visit our website at www.sugf.com/jobs.asp to view job details and to apply online.
Human Resources • PO Box 367, Ignacio, CO 81137 • Phone: 970-563-5064 • Job hotline: 970-563-5024
Tribal member employment preference • Must pass pre-employment drug test and background check

Environmental Compliance Specialist–Air Quality – Red Cedar Gathering Co.

Closing date 12/13/13
Durango, CO. Ensuring compliance with applicable U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Tribal and State air quality regulations for all Red Cedar Gathering Company facilities.

Business Development Geologist – Red Willow Production Co.

Closing date 12/16/13
Ignacio, CO. Planning and implementing technical evaluation of Business Development projects requiring the application of advanced geologic and geophysical interpretation skills. Responsible for working both independently and leading teams and junior geologic staff to evaluate internal assets, 3rd party assets and other viable oil and gas exploration/exploitation plays resulting in the discovery of new oil and gas reserves.

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, and qualify for and maintain a Division of Gaming License.

Café Cashier (Full-time and On-call)

Closing date 12/13/13
Providing a friendly and courteous environment for all guests. Take customer food orders, accurately totaling food and beverage purchases, collecting payments and assist in preparation of food items. Must have High School diploma/GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. 1 year of cashiering and food service experience. Must have a point-of-sale cash register experience.

Multi-Games Dealer (Full-time)

Closing date 12/13/13
Deal the various games of Blackjack (Class 3), Roulette and Specialty games. Promoting positive guest relations through prompt, courteous, and efficient service. High School Diploma/GED. 2 years experience as a Table Games Dealer OR Dealer School Certification. Must pass audition demonstrating proficiency in Blackjack, Specialty Games, and Roulette.

FOR SALE

Attention tribal members and tribal employees

Get to work in 5 minutes from this 16-irrigated acres on the Southern Ute Indian Tribe reservation, 4 easy miles north from Ignacio, one full irrigation water share from the King Ditch, south sloping land growing hay, average 650 bales one cutting, w/pond, electricity at property line, entirely fenced, private, excellent access road, asking price has been reduced to \$170K but will discount \$5K to Southern Ute Tribal member or Southern Ute Tribal employee for a quick close please call Steve Williams 970-884-1326 or email questions to ljmforever53@gmail.com for more details.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE - SOCIAL SERVICES Citizen Review Panel

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is seeking two (2) Southern Ute Tribal Members to serve on the Citizen Review Panel. The Panel reviews complaints arising from and related to cases handled by the Tribe's Division of Social Services and engages in a conflict resolution process. Panel members shall receive compensation at the rate of \$25 per hour for service on the Panel. Applicants must be at least eighteen (18) years of age or older; have demonstrable personal or professional knowledge and experience with children and/or adult protection; have

no convictions for crimes of violence or involving a child victim; is not party to litigation involving the Division, or has had an active welfare case within two years; is not a Division employee. All applicants will be subject to a background investigation. Tribal members interested in serving on the Citizen Review Panel can turn in a letter of intent at the Human Resources Office. The letter should provide specific evidence of his/her qualifications. For detailed information about this volunteer position call Human Resources at 970-563-0100 Ext. 2424.

Tribal Elder Lunch
Friday, December 13, 2013
Time: 12:00pm – 1:30pm
Location:
Cultural Center - Big Class room
Menu:
Beef stew, Roast beef with roasted potatoes
Cornbread, Tortillas
Dessert:
Peaches and cookies with whipped cream
Movie: Incident at Oglala: The Leonard Peltier Story (1992)

Southern Ute Indian Tribe – Job announcements

Please refer to the complete job announcements on the Human Resources website at www.southern-ute.nsn.us/jobs. If you need help filling out an online application, please come into the HR office and we are happy to assist you on our applicant computer stations.

ALL EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS ARE SUBMITTED ONLINE

Applicants and employees, please be sure the HR Department has your current contact information on file. P.O. Box 737 - Ignacio, CO 81137
Phone: 970-563-0100 ext. 2424 • Fax: 970-563-0302 • Hotline: 970-563-4777
Human Resources accepts applications for temporary employment on an ongoing basis.

Deputy Court Clerk

Closing date 12/13/13
Provides clerical support to judges and public for Southern Ute Tribal Court matters. Pay grade 16; \$15.63/hour.

Air Quality Technician

Closing date 12/13/13
Operation and maintenance of all air quality monitoring equipment, assuring that all quality assurance objectives are successfully met. This will include data management responsibilities to include reducing data to its appropriate format, producing data reports, and maintaining the data base system. Pay grade 17; \$17.22/hour.

Property and Facilities Director

Closing date 12/13/13
Under administrative direction of Executive Officer, this position is responsible for overall supervision of Property and Facilities Management and programs for the Southern Ute Tribe Permanent Fund, including management of the Property and Facilities Department and its divisions: Motorpool, Building Maintenance, Custodial Services, and Grounds Maintenance; ensuring that quality and prompt services are provided to the Tribe and the Tribal membership. Pay grade 23; \$65,584/annual.

Trainee Distance Learning Coordinator

Closing date 12/13/13
Southern Ute tribal member only. This is a trainee position for a Southern Ute Tribal Member to assume the position of full time Higher Education/Distance Learning Coordinator upon completion of the program, under the supervision of the Director of Higher Education. Length of the trainee program is six months to one year depending upon experience and individual progression; performance will be evaluated on a 3-month basis. After six months to a year, trainee will be elevated to the entry-level wage for a grade 18 based upon successful completion of the trainee program. The goal of the program is for the Trainee to work in coordination with Tribal Organizations, Universities, Colleges, local schools, and community members to provide

long distance telecommunications educational resource information and classes for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Pay grade; 20% under minimum of pay grade 17; \$13.78/hour, eligible for quarterly increases depending upon satisfactory evaluations, up to \$17.22/hour.

Apprentice Food Distribution Manager

Closing date 12/16/13
Southern Ute tribal member only. This program is designed to meet the interests of a Southern Ute Tribal Member with a desire to learn the processes involved with the Food Distribution Program. The timeframe for this program's completion is twelve (12) months, unless there are circumstances requiring an extension or reduction. The Apprentice provides program management assistance for the Food Distribution Program to include administrative duties, eligibility determination, inventory control, distribution of commodities and management of application process. Pay grade \$13.78/hour (20% under minimum of Grade 17, eligible for quarterly increases upon satisfactory evaluation, up to starting pay of \$17.22/hour).

Culture Department Media Technician

Closing date 12/16/13
Southern Ute tribal member only. This position is open to a Southern Ute tribal member and is responsible for creating audio and video documentation of language and culture teaching and activities, creating language and culture learning technological tools, editing the material, and copying and archiving the material. Pay grade 18; \$18.80/hour.

Team Jobs Program

Continuously open
Southern Ute tribal member only. The Team Jobs positions are temporary assignments that are filled as needed from the current pool of applicants. The rate of pay is set at the minimum pay for the assignment, but not less than \$11/hour.

Temporary Umpires, Referees, Scorekeepers

Open until filled

A great new way to find out about job opportunities 24 hours a day, seven days a week! The job hotline lists the job title and closing date for both Permanent Fund and Growth Fund positions. Full job announcement including qualifications in Human Resource Department. Hotline is updated weekly.

ATTENTION: SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL MEMBERS!
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR FULL TIME PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT WITH THE SOUTHERN UTE TRIBE?
The Education Department's Distance Learning Coordinator's position is open until December 13th for an enrolled Southern Ute Tribal member. No experience required, we will train you! All you need is an associate's, bachelors or graduate degree, have a great outlook, be a team player and work for the best interest of the members and the organization!
You will gain knowledge in bringing classes, workshops, and trainings through distance learning technology, coordinate the Career Fair and the Education Banquet, do some traveling and meeting other Tribal members, and professionals at various colleges and universities.
This trainee position will help you gain valuable experience with the tribal government, you'll learn the budget process, get to know tribal council, learn more about our culture, tradition and values!
If you want an interview all you have to do is apply online with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Human Resource Department!
To learn more about the position please don't hesitate and give La Titia Taylor, Director of Education, or Renee Sage, Office Manager a call at (970) 563-0237!
We look forward to seeing your application.
Best wishes, La Titia Taylor!

FOR SALE

Brand NEW home on 1.4 acres outside Ignacio. 1540 sq-ft, 3b/2b. Owner financing available. \$269K. 970-749-6646.

Shining Mountain Diabetes Program

is seeking volunteers to record Public Service Announcements to be randomly played on KSUT. Needing Children, Adults and Elders. If interested please call us at 563-4741.

Advertise in the Drum

BEST RATES IN LA PLATA COUNTY

Call or email today for more info!
970-563-0118

sudrum@southernute-nsn.gov

Tired of the DUI merry-go-round?

We know the way off!

Peaceful Spirit is excited to announce the beginning of our new program

Prime for Life and Prime Solutions.

This is a proven effective program that reduces your chances of re-offending.

All of our counselors are trained in this innovative approach to treatment.

We believe we are the first to offer this program in our area.

Sign up by 1/10/14 To receive a **free workbook.**

Peaceful Spirit Treatment Center

Phone: 970-563-4555



FLY-FISHING

2013 was a good year for fly-fishing

By Don Oliver
SPECIAL TO THE DRUM

The other day, I was standing in a stream when, under normal weather conditions, I would have been home napping in front of the fireplace.

There was no reason for the day to be that warm. It was the beginning of winter, and it should have been cold and snowy. But it wasn't. Instead it was 55 degrees, and not a cloud in the sky.

So there I was. Four dollars into an eight-dollar cigar, casting dry flies to 12- and 14-inch rainbows, and I began to reflect on my 2013 fly-fishing season.

My memory, even though I turned 65 this year, seemed to be sharper than a new hook. I was able to recall with great clarity the places I had fished and the fish I had caught. I was truly amazed that the sizes and numbers of fish I had caught did not increase.

My travels for fly-fishing in 2013 took me to North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Florida, New Mexico, Colorado and the Bahamas. Fly-fishing in these various locations allowed me to catch everything from a 7-pound bonefish, to carp, smallmouth bass (one of which was 2 1/2 pounds), trout, redbass, and pan-fish.

On these trips I made new friends, renewed old friendships, and managed to irritate only a couple of folks. Hopefully in 2014 I won't irritate anyone.

Last Christmas, I decided to ask for fly-fishing stuff, and did, in fact, receive some



So for 2014, I want to be able to use my fly-fishing toys to help provide a great year for others. And I want someone to remind me, from time to time, that it won't happen by itself.

really great gifts. And I have truly enjoyed them as I fly-fished, especially the boat.

So now that 2014 is almost here, asking for more toys seems pretty senseless. Even though I don't have enough fly-fishing toys to make me the winner when I die, I'm close. With that in mind, I have hit on what I want for 2014.

I had friends and relatives die suddenly and unexpectedly in 2013. I want to make time to reach out to friends and relatives and ask them to

fly-fish with me for a day. Not some grand planned event, but a spur-of-the-moment phone call to head out to a stream.

I want to see fly-fishing reach out to our men and women in uniform who have taken physical and mental beatings. Let's not forget their families. They could use some of the healing effects of a boat ride.

Next, how about the men and women suffering from a seemingly endless array of horrendous diseases? There are any number of programs to help them. I want to know about them and use my toys in their programs.

And how about youngsters having problems? Just standing at the edge of a pond and showing a child how to cast my brand new fly-rod has to help. (Most likely both of us.)

So for 2014, I want to be able to use my fly-fishing toys to help provide a great year for others. And I want someone to remind me, from time to time, that it won't happen by itself.

I realize I have used the word "I" more times in this column than any editor should tolerate. But please give some thought, and actions, as to how you can use fly-fishing to make a difference for others in 2014.

So as I end the last column for 2013, I want to close with my traditional year-end salutation: I wish everyone Feliz Navidad, Happy Hanukkah, a good Eid as-Adha, and of course Merry Christmas. If none of these fits your beliefs, then whatever touches your heart with hope be with you all of 2014.

Growth Fund breaks ground



photos Trennie Collins/SU Drum

Braving the freezing weather to break ground on the new Growth Fund office building on Friday, Dec. 6 were (left to right) Gary Whalen, senior vice president of the Growth Fund's Real Estate Group Regional Division; Elizabeth Santistevan, Growth Fund Management Committee tribal member at large; Bruce Valdez, executive director of the Growth Fund; Jimmy R. Newton Jr., Southern Ute chairman; Alex S. Cloud, Tribal Council member; Mike Foutz, representative of Tierra-FCI; and Howard D. Richards Sr., Tribal Council member.

Bruce Valdez, executive director of the Southern Ute Growth Fund, thanks Matthew J. Box for his blessing at the groundbreaking ceremony of the new Growth Fund on Friday, Dec. 6.



Council members bid adieu



photos Damon Toledo/SU Drum

Ramona Y. Eagle receives a blanket during the farewell gathering. Eagle departs from the council after serving as treasurer and will continue on with caring for family and friends.



BAKER REJOINS COUNCIL • FROM PAGE 1

I think the savings should be passed on toward other housings programs that could assist in areas that need attention.

Coming back to the council, Baker said so far much is the same as it was before – with a few key differences.

"This council today is more updated with tools like computers, video conferencing," he said.

Baker said he feels like council members could waste less time traveling to distant meetings by attending the same meetings via phone or computer.

"In the past, I used to go to meetings all over ... and sometimes at those meetings, I felt that I didn't learn anything. We didn't accomplish anything," he said. "There's a lot of things that have really, really changed for the better."

Looking forward, Baker said he will be guided by the ethics of the tribe and seek to make decisions that benefit the many, not the few.

"I know there's going to be some really, really tough decisions," he said. "A person has to really get all the information they need so

that they can make that decision."

Regarding his future on the council, Baker said he doesn't see himself becoming a career politician.

"I'm looking forward to retiring down the road," he said. "I felt that I wanted to give it one more shot."

Baker also wanted to wish all tribal members good health, happiness and good luck during the holidays.

"Be safe and enjoy the time with your family, your children, your elders," he said. "I wish you the best as 2014 comes."

LOCAL IGNACIO WEATHER

Friday, Dec. 13



Mostly sunny 30°F

Saturday, Dec. 14



Sunny 30°F

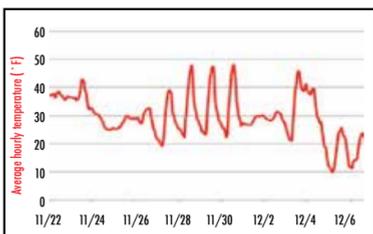
Sunday, Dec. 15



Mostly sunny 31°F

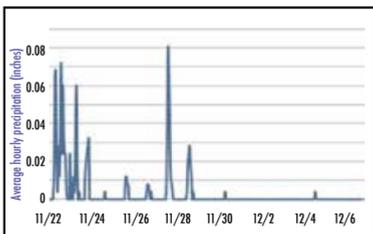


Weather data for November 22 – December 7



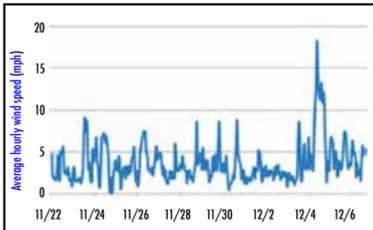
Temperature

High 48.0°
Low 9.8°
Average 29.7°
Average last year 33.9°



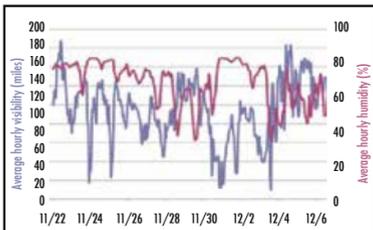
Precipitation

Total 1.184"
Total last year 0.000"



Wind speed

Average 3.6
Minimum 0.1
Maximum 18.2



Visibility & humidity

Average visibility 94.2
Average humidity 82.4%

Air quality
Good

