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NAVAJO TIMES | CYRUS NORCROSS

Craig Bahe waves at the parade judges in the City Market parking lot at the end of the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade on Dec. 16.

Chaco store accused of food-stamp fraud

Isolated community worried about food, services

BY KRISTA ALLEN
NAVAJO TIMES

KINTEEL CH'INÍLÍNÍ, N.M. – Chaco Trade Center is no longer a SNAP retailer and a propane supplier.

“It’s had a huge impact on our community and our business,” said Dennis Buckman, owner of Chaco Trade Center in Pueblo Pintado.

SNAP, or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly referred to as food stamps, account for much of the store’s annual sales.

And because the store no longer accepts EBT, the electronic benefit transfer cards, it’s taken a hard sales hit.

“We had lost just about all the capital we’ve accumulated within the last ten years,” Buckman explained.

However, he kept his staff and

hasn’t fired anyone.

“We kept our crew intact,” he said. “At this point, we’re in a cycle where we’re just not keeping up, and the business perspective – we either sell or close.”

This means getting rid of the propane dock refilling station to maintain his business, which didn’t bring in any money.

“Which is unusual,” Buckman said. “And at the same time, we weren’t making money in our grocery store, which was also unusual.”

What happened?

Buckman said he lost his store’s SNAP permit in March after a male contract worker from the U.S. Department of

SEE FRAUD | A3

Crotty drops emergency bill for Hardship payments

BY RIMA KRISST
NAVAJO TIMES

WINDOW ROCK — In a bold move, last Friday Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty dropped an emergency bill that would allocate \$207 million of ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds to provide a second round Hardship Assistance payments to the Navajo people.

“The Hardship can’t wait,” Crotty told Navajo Times.

“ARPA was signed in March. We got the money in May. The people need relief.”

Crotty’s bill essentially peels off the Hardship proposal from the executive branch ARPA bill that would allocate \$1.16 billion for infrastructure projects, including water (\$301 million), electricity (\$200 million), broadband (\$208 million), housing (\$100 million), and bathrooms

(\$150 million), plus hardship assistance (\$207 million).

This comes on the heels of another Naabik’iyáti’ two-day work session with the executive branch to review its proposal (No. 257-21) that once again left the status of the bill up in the air amid numerous unanswered questions and concerns raised by delegates.

“It has been 283 days since President Joe Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act,” said Crotty. “The Navajo people need immediate assistance now during this pandemic and the Navajo government must meet their requests.”

Crotty said hearing from constituents who are in different, unique situations, the similar thread that runs through is

SEE BILL | A7

Merry Kéeshmish



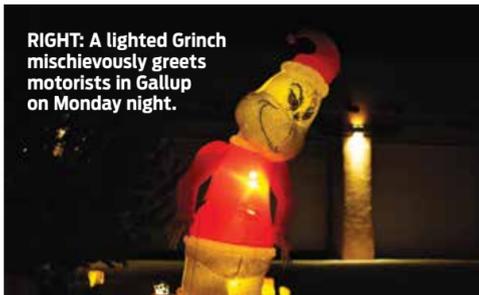
NAVAJO TIMES | CYRUS NORCROSS

Sammy Ahkeah dresses up as Dr. Suess’s the Grinch for the 2021 Shiprock Rock ‘n’ Roll Christmas Parade on Dec. 16. Ahkeah says he dressed up as the Grinch to be funny for the kids.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

A tall Christmas tree stands lit in front of the Navajo Nation Council Chamber in Window Rock on Monday night.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

RIGHT: A lit-up Grinch mischievously greets motorists in Gallup on Monday night.

Giving thanks, giving back

Richardson delivers shoes for Native students

BY COLLEEN KEANE
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

ALBUQUERQUE – Following in their fathers’ footsteps, three Native American women leaders joined efforts with former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson last Friday to give back to tribal communities.

They are Ahtza Chavez, Diné/Kewa, April Hale, Diné, and Laura Harris, Comanche.

“All our fathers, at one time worked with Governor Richardson,” Hale said.

Chavez said, “He made meaningful relationships with my father, April Hale’s father, and a number of other leaders and he felt the need to give back to the first peoples of the United States.”

“I think he has a true (desire) to help Native people in a mutual aid effort,” Chavez said.

Chavez, executive director of the NAVA Education Project, is eldest daughter of the late former Kewa Pueblo Gov. Everett Chavez.

Harris, the head of Ameri-

cans for Indian Opportunity, is the daughter of the late former U.S. senator from Oklahoma, Fred Harris.

And Hale, owner of a public relations firm, A. Hale PR Inc., is the daughter of the late Navajo Nation President Albert Hale.

To mention some of Richardson’s work, during his tenure as New Mexico governor and serving in the U.S. Congress, he led efforts to protect tribal self-governance, religious freedom and water rights while supporting internet access for

tribal families.

“He is a good friend to all our families,” April Hale said.

Richardson continued to express his friendship even after his time in office.

“You don’t see a lot of folks continue to give back, and continue and to foster a relationship (with tribes),” Chavez said.

In a 2016 interview, Richardson said that he has a lot for which to thank Native commu-

SEE SHOES | A4



PHOTO BY JOSEPH LEON

Former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, center, stands with Native American Community Academy students who have just received top-of-the-line shoes.



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Christmas cheer

Shiprock's elementary school royalty wave at the crowd during the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade on Dec. 16.

AREA BRIEFS

Nation seeks applicants for Fiscal Recovery Fund jobs

WINDOW ROCK – The Navajo Nation needs workers to help spend the more than \$1.16 billion received from the American Rescue Plan Act.

The new Fiscal Recovery Fund Office is seeking applicants for several positions listed under “job openings” on the Navajo Nation Department of Personnel Management’s website (<http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov>).

The office was established on Oct. 4 and Tom Platero was appointed interim executive director.

Applications for deputy executive director and program manager are due on Jan. 3, 2022.

Applications for other positions are due on Jan. 4, 2022.

“The executive branch worked with the legislative branch to develop legislation to provide Hardship Assistance and infrastructure funds for our people and communities,” President Jonathan Nez said.

“Once legislation is approved,” he said, “the Fiscal Recovery Fund Office can move forward with fully implementing the funds.”

The Fiscal Recovery Fund Office will be a clearinghouse for ARPA-related activities including educating the public, collaborating with departments and offices, reviewing and approving projects, overseeing projects and ensuring compliance with provisions of ARPA and Navajo Nation laws.

The office also established a website to share information with the public (<http://www.frf.navajo-nsn.gov>).

Unit to specialize on Indigenous crime victims

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Prosecutors in New Mexico’s busiest judicial district and the state Indian Affairs Department are teaming up to create a special unit to focus on investigating cases of missing or slain Native Americans.

State Indian Affairs Secretary Lynn Trujillo and Bernalillo County District Attorney Raúl Torrez announced a memorandum of understanding Dec. 16 to form the investigative team.

Under the agreement, the unit within the district attorney’s office will help a statewide task force with analysis, case investigations and interventions.

Officials said New Mexico has the fifth-largest Native American population in the U.S. but the highest number of Indigenous people who have been killed or are missing in the country.

Native American women in New Mexico experience the highest rate of homicide among all racial and ethnic groups, officials have said, and Torrez characterized the situation as an epidemic.

“It is clear that steps need to be taken to help bring resources to the victims, families and communities affected by this crisis,” he said in a statement. “Working with Native communities and law enforcement to collect actionable data is crucial to moving these cases forward and preventing future violence.”

Trujillo said a previous report by the Urban Indian Health Institute showed New Mexico had some of the highest numbers of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and that Albuquerque and Gallup were among top 10 cities nationwide. As a result, New Mexico created a task force in 2019 to begin addressing the crisis.

A report issued by the task force suggests that between 2014 and 2019, there were 660 Native Americans reported missing in Albuquerque, of which 287 were women.

Navajo Nation Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty was among those at the signing ceremony. She leads the Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives task force that is developing a framework for a proposed data institute and a missing persons toolkit for communities.

“It is clear that our Indigenous women are plagued by high rates of violence and in response, there continues to be a lack of government support to meet the growing needs of our families,” she said.

Crotty added: “In order to restore harmony and begin the healing process, criminal cases must fully be prosecuted and our Indigenous relatives must be found. The lives of our missing Navajo relatives are sacred and their stories must be told.”

States bordering Nation report 1st Omicron cases

SANTA FE – On Dec. 13, the New Mexico Department of Health announced that the first identified case of the COVID-19

Omicron variant has appeared.

The case was identified on Sunday, Dec. 12, and is a female adult in Bernalillo County.

The individual reported recent domestic travel to a state with reported cases of Omicron.

In Arizona, the first case of the Omicron variant was detected on Dec. 8, state health officials said.

The case was confirmed in Yavapai County, according to the Arizona Department of Health Services.

The Utah Department of Health confirmed the state’s first case of the Omicron variant on Dec. 3.

The person who tested positive for the virus is an older adult who lives within the Southwest Utah Public Health District and recently returned home to Utah after traveling to South Africa.

Omicron has been identified as a variant of concern by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC describes a variant of concern as “A variant for which there is evidence of an increase in transmissibility, more severe disease (for example, increased hospitalizations or deaths), significant reduction in neutralization by antibodies generated during previous infection or vaccination, reduced effectiveness of treatments or vaccines, or diagnostic detection failures.”

The Omicron variant has been confirmed in at least 30 states and the District of Columbia, as well as more than 60 countries. Omicron appears to be spreading faster than the currently-dominant Delta variant.

Health officials remind everyone that the best way to protect themselves and their loved ones continues to be vaccination. Everyone age 5 and over is eligible for vaccine, and everyone 16-plus is eligible for a booster shot.

BOR awards \$76M for Navajo-Gallup water pipeline

FARMINGTON – U.S. The Bureau of Reclamation awarded a \$76.1 million contract to SJ Louis Construction of Rockville, Minnesota, for construction of the next portion of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project.

Called the Navajo Code Talkers Sublateral, the project will advance the pipeline’s goal of delivering clean water to tribal and rural communities in

northwestern New Mexico.

The work will be located along New Mexico State Highway 264 between Yah-Ta-Hey, New Mexico, and Window Rock. The project will include the installation of 17 miles of 24- to 30-inch diameter pipe and one water storage tank.

Work will begin in January 2022 and is expected to last approximately two years.

Camille Calimlim Touton, reclamation commissioner, said, “This will mark another step towards meeting the United States’ obligation to the Navajo Nation under the Nation’s water rights settlement agreement on the San Juan River Basin in New Mexico, where over a third of households still haul drinking water to their homes.”

The pipeline consists of two main systems – the San Juan Lateral and Cutter Lateral – and is intended to meet the current and future demands of more than 43 Navajo chapters, the southwest area of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation and the city of Gallup.

When the full project is completed, it will include approximately 300 miles of pipeline, two water treatment plants, 19 pumping plants and multiple water storage tanks.

NAU professor's run on 'Jeopardy' ends

FLAGSTAFF – Northern Arizona University professor Marti Canipe’s run on TV’s “Jeopardy” ended Tuesday night.

Competing in the semifinals of the “Professors Tournament,” Canipe had \$2,200 in “Final Jeopardy” and went all in. She got the question wrong and finished in third place.

Even though she didn’t win the tournament, she leaves with \$10,000.

The show was taped in October and Canipe had to stay quiet and not tell anyone what she was doing or how she did.

Indigenous survey open for submissions

TULSA, OKLA. – Native Americans are invited to participate in a survey about critical issues impacting them and their communities.

The Indigenous Futures Survey will be used to make changes on the priorities and needs of Indian Country.

The 2021 reports and research data were used to inform Congress on the impacts of COVID-19 on Indigenous com-

munities and on issues such as civic engagement, identity and culture.

The survey is hosted by IllumiNative, Native Organizers Alliance, and Research for Indigenous Social Action and Equity.

The inaugural Indigenous Futures Survey was the largest and most comprehensive study ever conducted in Indian Country, with over 6,460 participants representing 401 tribes from all 50 states.

Crystal Echo Hawk, Pawnee, founder and executive director of IllumiNative, said, “Native and Indigenous peoples deserve to be seen and heard. For so long, we have been forgotten or worse, deliberately excluded from research and data collection.”

The survey is open for Native peoples to participate until Jan. 31, 2022.

Information: <https://indigenousfutures.org>

Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Day

PHOENIX – The 27th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day is set for Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022, according to the Governor’s Office on Tribal Relations.

The office extends an invitation to pay tribute to the history and culture of Native Americans and their contributions to not only the United States but the state of Arizona.

Registration will be capped. The deadline is Jan. 7, 2022. Early registration is encouraged.

On the morning of Jan. 12, perspectives will be shared by tribal leadership followed a community luncheon (with registration) on the Senate Lawn.

The event ends with a workshop by Youth youth called Native Native Know where John Herrington, former NASA astronaut, and other special guests will speak. In-person attendance is limited to youth groups with a live video stream for virtual guests.

Information: Carmen De Alba Cardenas, 928-848-6637.

Intermountain reunion raffle winners

GALLUP — The winners of the 2020 Intermountain School Family Reunion Committee Benefit Raffle are as follows.

1. Ryan Dodson, Fort Defiance, Pendleton shawl and robe set.

2. Wilford Yazzie, Teec Nos Pos, Arizona, five bales of hay and five bags of grain.

3. Jerry Kee, Ganado, Arizona, women’s traditional outfit.

4. Lionel Nelson, Vanderwagen, New Mexico, sheepherder’s special.

5. Titus Nelson, Gallup, coffee-maker.

6. Lorina Antonio, Salt Lake City, set of dishes.

7. Harold Williams, Window Rock, electric griddle.

8. Ed Seaton, Kayenta, necklace/earring set.

9. Quanet Nelson, Gallup, pottery.

10. Harry Nez, Sheep Springs, New Mexico, set of pillows.

11. Bobby Begay, Page, Arizona, dog and cat food.

12. Penelope Cole, Page, necklace.

13. Shane Antonio, Salt Lake City, nickel silver bolo.

14. Kim Mayes, Window Rock, beaded eagle earrings.

15. Marsha Peterson, Window Rock, air pods.

16. Harry Nelson, Gallup, men’s wristwatch.

17. Laverne Nez, Ganado, quilt.

18. Leonard Tabaha, Houck, Arizona, toaster.

19. Shane Antonio, Salt Lake City, comforter.

20. Brenda James, Page, electric chainsaw.

21. Chasity Antonio, Salt Lake City, Intermountain cap.

22. Cordell James, Page, Intermountain T-shirt.

23. Lorina Antonio, Salt Lake City, Intermountain T-shirt.

24. Nyla Begay, Page, Intermountain sweat jacket.

25. Velda Begay, Page, large tote bag.

26. Azha Dodson, Fort Defiance, Bluebird pillow set.

27. May Hoskie, Page, basket-ball.

28. Bry Nelson, Gallup, PSA Superheroes set.

29. Lorraine Pablo, Yah-Ta-Hey, New Mexico, candy wrapper jewelry set.

30. Shane Antonio, Salt Lake City, friendship bracelet.

31. Torvino Yazzie, Teec Nos Pos, Arizona, colored scarf with fringe.

32. Art McCabe, Window Rock, fashion bouquet.

33. Lorina Antonio, Salt Lake City, ladies watch.

34. Penelope Cole, Page, ladies watch.

35. Laverne Nez, Ganado, Duster Buster.

Thank you all for donating, buying and selling our benefit raffle books.

To claim prizes, call Lorraine at 505-879-9622.

FRAUD

FROM PAGE 1

Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service notified him that his store had violated SNAP regulations.

FNS then initiated action to revoke the authorization for the store to accept SNAP benefits.

Buckman said the man, against all reason, bought toilet paper, plastic spoons, and sponges with an EBT card.

"And we don't have integrated point of sale," Buckman said. "My two oldest, most trusted clerks who've done this for years rang up a sale with non-food items and then ran (the contract worker's) card."

Buckman said his old-fashioned cash registers ran the transaction, and the man swiped his card through the terminal, on which one must physically select "EBT" for payment processing.

"This is the kind of thing we train people not to do," Buckman said. "There were two clerks and three transactions when I figured out what happened. That was a horrible mistake. We know better. There was no financial gain for them.

"The money went into the register," he said. "There was no profit motive for that. It was just a mistake."

The same guy later caught Buckman in the parking lot and asked him if he wanted to buy a case of Red Bull he had purchased at a Sam's Club store with his EBT card.

"(Against) my better judgment, I did," Buckman said. "In his report, he wrote that I approached him, directed him to make that purchase so I could give him a discounted cash amount. That's called food-stamp trafficking, and it's a real federal crime.

"But that's not how it went," he said.

SNAP customers must use their SNAP EBT benefits to buy SNAP-eligible foods or drinks, including fruits and vegetables, meat, poultry and fish, dairy products, breads and cereals, snack foods, non-alcoholic beverages and seeds and plants that produce food for the household.

It's against the law to give customers cash for SNAP EBT benefits, and this is trafficking, according to FNS.

It's also against the law to buy store inventory from customers who buy it for someone with their SNAP benefits. This is indirect trafficking, and it includes buying cases of energy drinks, soda, or other items from people who offer to sell it for a low price.

Retailers who trade SNAP EBT benefits directly or indirectly will lose their SNAP permit.

Worried he would pay a hefty penalty or face criminal charges, Buckman said he and his family hired a lawyer, who advised them not to worry and that the parties involved in the situation would conduct the matter by email.

"Sure enough, that's what happened," Buckman said. "When it was all said and done, we lost an appeal. We lost the initial appeal, we lost a second appeal, and we didn't have the financial ability or the time to go to the next level, which is a federal lawsuit."

Store for sale

Buckman and his family are selling Chaco Trade Center, established in 1985. Their asking price is \$1.3 million, or the best offer.

It's a fully equipped, 3,200-square foot store, and the land it sits on is included.

Chaco Trade Center was built on the legacy of pioneer wagon traders.

Last year, the store generated \$1.5 million in gross revenue, which generates \$82,000 in cash flow, according to the business

listing on LoopNet.

Sales increased – as people stayed home – during the first year of the coronavirus pandemic. The listing includes a coin-op laundromat, mailboxes, and a gas station.

"We've seen 13 percent revenue growth in the last four years with a corresponding 30 percent increase in gross profit over the last four years as both the population has increased and our program has drawn more profitable streams of revenue," Buckman wrote on the sale listing.

A second location in western Bernalillo County is also part of the listing. The second location, a 3,000-square foot metal building, equipment, and out-buildings, is on 20 acres of land. The buildings and the land are valued at \$500,000.

"We've been working to sell our store, and I'm hopeful that we have a buyer," Buckman said. "So, there is a chance we have a resolution to this relatively soon, but the nature of the persecution is heavy-handed on one side."

Buckman said the situation affects his entire family because if they do sell the store, much of the proceeds would go into a file because of this action. That's insulting, said Buckman.

What happens next?

Buckman said he posted a petition on a counter in his store. The petition drew signatures from the community, but it may not be practical, said Buckman, who submitted the petition to his lawyer.

To accumulate more signatures, he also worked with Torreon-Star Lake, Pueblo Pintado, and Whitehorse Lake chapters.

"And we turned all that in and went through the demographics of our community," Buckman said. "We had people who walked to our store.

"We are in the most technical definition of a food desert you can find in America with some of the poorest people in a very poor area," he said.

Buckman and his family also contacted New Mexico Congresswoman Theresa Leger Fernández's office for help.

Her office staff was generous enough to arrange a meeting between high-level parties because they saw it as an offense against the Pueblo Pintado community.

Buckman said the Department of Agriculture representatives told Fernández and her representatives the same thing they told him: no.

"No, just no," Buckman said. "Not 'no, there might be a hope of a compromise.' No explanation. Just no.

"And there's nowhere to go," he said. "They (agency) got a hold of us and said, 'We're going to have to close this out.' It's a good example of bureaucracy and a government agency that doesn't answer to anyone. And it has been heavy-handed."

Buckman added: "I know there's a lot of fraud in these programs. I've been in (the grocery store business) for 30 years. There is a lot of fraud but the nature of what has been done to us is the fraud in this case."

Online petition

Edwinna John, who lives in the community, said SNAP and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, help most people here afford groceries in a typical month.

And some rely on the Social Security Administration's benefits, such as retirement, disability, and supplemental security income.

"The whole community, that's what they all have," John said. "Not everyone has a job.

"Some (people) are caregivers, and they get paid every two weeks," she said. "And they don't get paid well, doing their job."

Pueblo Pintado has a population of about 388. It's a community with economic pain – the

unemployment is high.

Some people here say it's as if the community is experiencing the Great Depression. And there's only one store – Chaco Trade Center – here between Crownpoint and Cuba.

"The only jobs people would have here are at the school," John said. "But the only thing is that the people who do work here, they're mostly people who travel out from Crownpoint and work in Pueblo Pintado."

John late last month started an online petition on Change.org, asking the Department of Agriculture to restore SNAP participation at Chaco Trade Center. Her petition drew over 7,600 signatures as of Dec. 22.

John hopes the agency will rescind the store's SNAP disqualification because food is a basic need that many community members struggle to afford.

She, along with others, said many people here are on fixed incomes, living with disabilities, and there are households with children likely struggling to put food on the table. It was because of SNAP and WIC that many people were staying afloat.

"There are single mothers who have babies and toddlers, and they have WIC," John said. "It's so hard because one would be crying for formula (in the store) and can't purchase it.

"My husband and I (usually) purchase (items) for them. I get suckered in with helping people," she said. "And some people here have transportation issues. Some don't."

She added, "It's a community where you can drive a vehicle and most of them aren't registered because they all live five to ten minutes from the store. Those are the ones who are barely getting by. It's a pretty small community. Everyone knows everyone."

An isolated community

Alvina Harrison, who works at Chaco Trade Center, said people here don't have to travel two to three hours to Farmington, Gallup, and to Albuquerque for groceries and other things because the store has just about everything.

Harrison said outsiders might not understand people living in rural Diné communities like

Pueblo Pintado, and perhaps don't care about stories here.

But people here fight every day to survive, through fear and upheaval, and to provide for their families, so having a local store is essential.

"It does affect a lot of people," Harrison said. "It's convenient and has to stay open. (Don't) judge us from a distance. It's like saying to us, 'We don't care about you guys.'

"Even the Navajo Nation president, he hasn't come out this way," Harrison said in frustration. "This has been going on for almost a year!

"It's not just affecting the store," she said, "it's also affecting the Navajo Nation, and he (Jonathan Nez) hasn't come out this way. I don't think he looks at us to see how his own Diné is being affected by this stuff."

Harrison said while the pandemic is hard enough, this SNAP situation is even harder, especially when angry customers want to know why they can't use their SNAP benefits at the store.

"We've (store employees) been trying, on our end, to do all that we can," Harrison said.

"But there's only so much we can do."

And the situation is taking a toll on her mental health as she and her coworkers are trying to handle the problem.

"It is a lot," she said. "Who wants to go to work like that? Some people would have quit a long time ago.

"(People) don't understand what we have to deal with," she said, "especially if you're the cashier standing in front of people, and you have to explain it to them. Now, it's not having the propane."

Harrison added, "I grew up here. And throughout all the years I've lived here, I've never seen a Navajo Nation president out here. Now, with this going on, with the pandemic and everything else, it's nothing. No help whatsoever."

Presidential visits

Nez told the Navajo Times on Wednesday he has visited all 110 chapters, including the community of Pueblo Pintado

SEE FRAUD CONT'D | A4

AHÉHEE, NAVAJO NATION FOR PROTECTING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR PEOPLE.

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FOLLOW US ON

Home factory slated for NGS property

BY KRISTA ALLEN
NAVAJO TIMES

LICHÍ'II, ARIZ. – Factory-built steel-frame housing could soon be built on a section of the Navajo Generating Station.

The steel-frames would be made to the exact specifications of shipping containers made by ZenniHome LLC, a new manufacturer that was licensed by the Arizona Department of Housing last year.

ZenniHome manufactures two stackable models of homes that can be used as an accessory dwelling unit, a stand-alone home, or a multi-family product that can stack up to 10 stories, said Bob Worsley, founder of the company.

The finishing inside the steel frame housing is high quality, smart, green and robotic. This would eliminate the need for single

purpose rooms and allow “living large in smaller spaces,” he said.

That’s a great idea, but there are so many issues in every direction, said Coconino County District 5 Supervisor Lena Fowler, who on Monday attended a meeting to discuss ZenniHomes.

“You don’t have water, you have to haul water,” Fowler said in an interview. “Generator, power.

“They have a building (warehouse at NGS), and they have to reconfigure the building,” she said. “They have to bring water in, and they have to have power, they have to have internet, they have to have phone service. They have to fill everything.”

ZenniHome on Dec. 15 announced its partnership with the Navajo Nation and the finalization of an emergency operating agreement so that the company would begin man-

ufacturing eco-friendly homes on a portion of NGS.

Representatives from ZenniHome and the Nation are negotiating a long-term lease agreement.

JT Willie, executive director for the Nation’s Division of Economic Development, told the Navajo Times on Wednesday that the agreement was signed and authorized on Dec. 10.

“This is a two-year lease for expansion into a permanent business-site lease,” Willie said. “The use of a sitting warehouse at NGS has been put into place instead of the building becoming deteriorated.

“The handover was quick due to time, but all the requirements have been met to move the (agreement) forward,” he added. “The company will begin their build-out and manufacturing process.”

Willie said division representa-

tives will closely observe operations as Navajo jobs are created and the output of homes is developed.

Vice President Myron Lizer told the Times that the Nation is in the grips of an escalating housing affordability crisis.

“What if we could build better, faster, and with 30 percent less waste?” Lizer asked. “Especially with rising housing materials cost, now is the time to think outside the box.

“ZenniHome offers the Nation the ability to participate quicker, putting our highly-skilled Diné workers back to work in that region that lost those well-paying jobs with the closing of the NGS,” he said.

“The quick work done by our (Navajo DED) on this project with ZenniHome (CEO Bob Worsley) was crucial in bringing this endeavor to a quicker than normal yes,” he said.

‘They have a building (warehouse at NGS), and they have to reconfigure the building. They have to **bring water in, and they have to have power, they have to have internet, they have to have phone service.** They have to fill everything.’

Lena Fowler
Coconino County District 5 Supervisor

► SHOES

FROM PAGE 1

nities.

“When I was elected to Congress in 1982, I won by a narrow victory because of the Navajos,” he said.

As the COVID-19 pandemic broke out in 2020, he worked with community groups to get supplies like masks, gloves, medical kits, gowns, food and water quickly to Navajo and Hopi families through the Richardson/Zah COVID-19 Relief Fund.

Then last Friday, he turned his attention to youth, focusing on students attending the Native American Community Academy in Albuquerque.

Acknowledging the NACA students for their strength and endurance throughout the pandemic, he gifted them with 100 pairs of top-of-the-line athletic shoes.

Another 400 pairs will be given out to Native urban youth in January.

“I had the honor of delivering (these) special gifts to Native students who are the future of their people,” Richardson said in a statement. “It’s one way we can help them come back strong.”

April Hale, who was the MC for the event at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, said, “The NACA students were definitely happy to get new shoes. I talked to each of the students after they got their shoes and they were excited to show them off. It was a great day to celebrate our Native youth.”

The giveaway reminded Chavez of her own high school

days.

“This stuck out for me because I played sports,” she said. “Coming from a family that couldn’t buy (expensive shoes), I would work a lot of odd jobs to buy my own shoes.

“It gave me a lot of confidence,” she said, “it made me feel good about myself. When I saw (Richardson’s effort), I really wanted to help.”

Chavez said her organization, the NAVA Education Project, donated more than 200 pairs of shoes.

Thinking back to her high school days, she said, “I love the personal connection for me. It felt special to me to be able to hand these kids shoes they would be proud to wear at school.”

Twenty NACA students were on hand to accept the shoes. They offered thanks to Gov. Richardson, donors and leaders, followed by a Lakota song of gratitude by student Adriano Begay, according to a press release from Hale’s office.

“The honor song was amazing, really, really heartfelt,” Chavez said.

Prior to Friday’s shoe giveaway, Richardson also delivered shoes to schools in Shiprock, Crystal, Manuelito, Fort Defiance, Sawmill and Crownpoint.

Also supporting Richardson’s efforts, Hale said her company contributed to shoes that went to students at the Dream Diné School in Shiprock, and to urban youth in Albuquerque.

In addition, Americans for Indian Opportunity provided support for the Richardson’s shoe giveaway.

Taking a photo with Hale, Chavez and Harris, Richardson acknowledged the new generation of gifted leaders.

“It is these strong women here who are continuing the work of their parents,” he told Chavez.

On behalf of the NACA students, Zane Rosette, NACA’s executive director, said they were thankful for the gifts and appreciated leaders thinking of them.

Information: The Richardson Center for Global Engagement (216 Washington Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501), 505-989-7955 or richardsonondiplomacy.org

► FRAUD CONT'D

FROM PAGE A3

more than once.

He said he helped with food and personal protection equipment-supply distributions in the community.

Nez said his last visit to Pueblo Pintado was on Aug. 30 when he helped at a backpack giveaway event for students at Pueblo Pintado Community School.

‘The state of New Mexico oversees SNAP licenses and they have the sole authority to revoke the licenses.’

He also visited the Pueblo Pintado Health Clinic where he heard from health-care workers fighting the pandemic.

Nez added that he meets with Eastern Navajo chapters such as Ojo Encino and Pueblo Pintado. His last visit with those chapters was on Jan. 4. The chapter leaders presented their priorities for the American Rescue Plan Act.

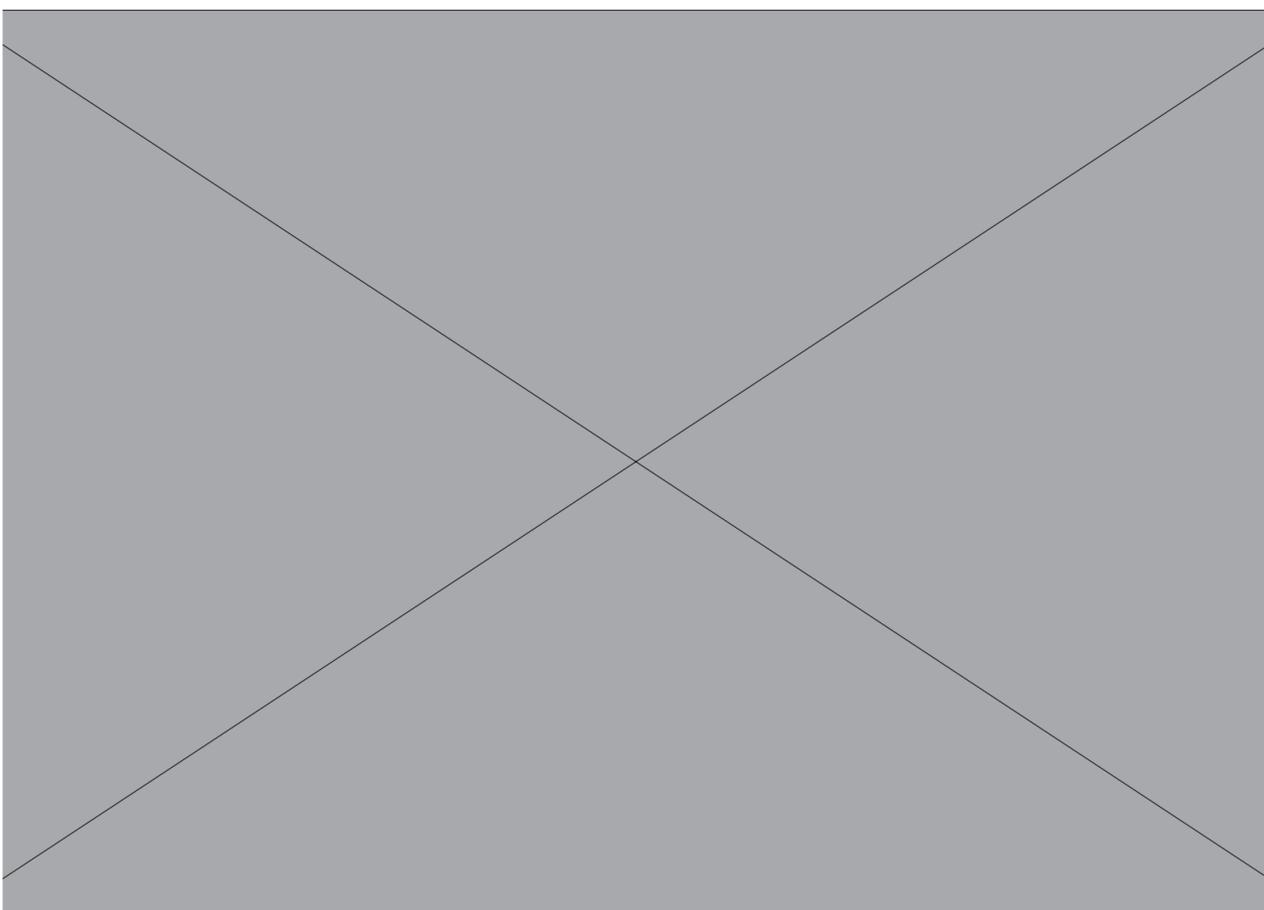
“The state of New Mexico oversees SNAP licenses and they have the sole authority to revoke the licenses,” said Jared Touchin, spokesman for the president’s office.

Merry Christmas, everyone!



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

A Corvette completely decorated in red Christmas lights sits parked outside a home that is embellished with Christmas lights in Gallup on Monday night.



NAVAJO TIMES | CYRUS NORCROSS

Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Department employees check their float before the start of the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade on Dec. 16.



NAVAJO TIMES | CYRUS NORCROSS

Miss Shiprock High School Audrey Atcitty plays a saxophone prior to the start of the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade on Dec. 16.



NAVAJO TIMES | CYRUS NORCROSS

Participants set up their float for the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade on Dec. 16. The parade started at the Shiprock Chapter House and ended in the City Market parking lot.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

A vehicle sits parked outside its home that lights up the night sky with Christmas lights in Gallup on Monday.



NAVAJO TIMES | CYRUS NORCROSS

Shiprock residents decorate their vehicles to participate in the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade on Dec. 16.

Be happy, safe, healthy this holiday season

BY TOMMY ARVISO JR.
NAVAJO TIMES

GUEST COLUMN



Tommy Arviso Jr.

fun times. I do not know whatever happened to Mr. Lee after we all left Window Rock Elementary after completing 4th grade and then transferring to Fort Defiance. He could also play other instruments like the harmonica, guitar and banjo and he was always smiling.

Mr. Lee always made our music class exciting and invigorating, especially at Christmas time. I remember him well.

That is what good Christmas music is all about. It brings back memories of past Christmas events, family gatherings, school performances and lots of snow and colorfully wrapped presents.

More importantly, it brings back happy and joyous feelings of being among all of the special people in your life like your parents, brothers and sisters, grandparents, cousins, nieces and nephews and best friends.

Today, as parents and grandparents, we proudly include our children and grandkids, too.

I remember Christmas Eve and Christmas morning at our house in Window Rock, and opening presents from under our decorated Christmas tree. Growing up, my parents didn't have a lot of money but they always found a way to make Christmas spe-

cial for us kids.

Those holiday years were well before there were home computers, electronics, video games and cell phones. Our Christmas gifts were simple things like books, toy soldiers and dolls, footballs and basketballs, socks and underwear.

My grandparents used to send us socks they bought from Navajo Shopping Center or Fed Mart with \$2 or \$3 stashed in them and it was like getting a \$100. These were special gifts from a loving family.

This is what the Christmas music brings to my mind and heart now as I travel down the road in my truck singing along to "Blue Christmas" with Elvis. The music allows me to travel back in time and reflect in a good way about the loving, caring relationships with family and friends who are no longer here on Mother Earth.

My mom and dad are both gone now as are my grandparents, and lots of my aunts and uncles, cousins and friends. If there is a sad side to Christmas and other holidays, is that you are missing the love, laughter and company of family members and friends that have passed on.

I get sad and emotional when I think about them because I do miss the fun times we had when our families would get together at Christmas time and there would be lots of laughter, food and playing outside in the snow.

I can still hear my parents, aunts and uncles laughing away at the dinner table while us kids played with the new toys and board games that we got

for Christmas.

Those are great, special memories. I also know that those past memories are being replaced by the new good times that I share today with my kids, grandkids, family members and close friends. Together we are creating our own special memories.

It is real easy to be sad and lonely during the Christmas holidays as many people do. I encourage you to flip that sadness and focus your energy on being as positive and happy as possible. Your loved ones would want you to remember them and the special times you shared in a happy, momentous way.

I know that thought is easier said than done but it is something I wish and pray for - for all of you who are missing loved ones this Christmas. This is especially hard if it's the first time in your lives that your particular family or friends are not here for the holidays.

Believe me that they are in a better place and are feeling happy and healthy. So, you should try and do the same when it comes to your emotions and reflections.

I have had some close friends pass on this past week and while I am saddened by their deaths, I feel especially bad for their spouses, kids and grandchildren, and their families. Losing a loved one at Christmas time is a tough situation to deal with. I send special prayers and blessings to all those who are experiencing this kind of tragic loss.

If at all possible, I encourage you to seek comfort, reason and strength through prayer and spirituality. As Diné, our prayers and songs over past

generations have helped us to survive, endure and live. It has brought us healing and peace of mind and heart. It can do the same for you if you give it an honest chance.

So, as I listen to my holly, jolly Christmas music, I want all of you to be happy, safe and healthy this holiday season. Take time for yourself and think sincerely about all of the positive things that you have going for you in your life today. Put the negative people, emotions and events on the back-burner and allow the good blessings that you have take priority in your life.

As I have done in past years, I also want all of us to remember all of our loved ones and fellow people who are going through a rough time during this Christmas holiday. Let us remember to send blessings and prayers to our sick and needy, our lonely and homeless, our military, and our brothers, sisters and children who are incarcerated.

Let us remember and bless all those folks who are not as fortunate as we are during this Christmas, and each and every day. May the Almighty Creator bless them with safety, warmth and protection, and peace of mind and soul.

Merry Blessed Christmas everyone! Sing along loudly with your favorite Christmas song or carol, and perhaps you will inspire someone else to do the same.

Have a wonderful Christmas with your loved ones and families, be safe, and create some new, fun holiday memories to be cherished by our current and future generations!

50 YEARS AGO

Positive national attention follows 2 Diné

BY BILL DONOVAN
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

As 1971 ended, two prominent Navajos received good news giving them more power and prestige.

The first was Dr. Taylor McKenzie, who was probably next to Peter MacDonald and Raymond Nakai the most revered member of the Navajo Tribe. And unlike the two tribal leaders, McKenzie was well liked by both political factions.

It's hard to explain today just how revered McKenzie was in 1971. He was the first Navajo to become a doctor at a time when few Navajos were even taking courses to become a nurse.

McKenzie would bring this up pointing out that teachers on the reservation in the 1950s, most of whom were non-Navajo, very seldom pushed their students to seek degrees in medicine and law.

But McKenzie was fortunate in getting teachers at the Navajo Methodist Mission School who recognized his potential and pushed him to take advanced classes. This pushing persuaded him go to the Baylor University School of Medicine. And to top it off, he spent an extra two years learning how to be a surgeon.

By 1971, he had been a surgeon for the Indian Health Service for seven years as an officer in the Public Health Service, serving stints at Kayenta and Tuba City before he was appointed in July 1970 to be director of the Shiprock facility.

He learned in December 1971 that he was being promoted to the director level at the PHS, which is comparable to being a full colonel in the Army.

Even at this level, however, he would be making less than half what he would make in the private sector. And with nine children, the extra money would have made life a lot easier for his family.

When his promotion was announced, McKenzie received national attention from the news media, and he said one of the questions was why he didn't take advantage of his position and go into private practice.

"Most of our people can't afford the high costs of private medical

treatment," he said. "I felt I could do my people more good by working for the Public Health Service."

This position would cause him problems seven years later when he decided to run for tribal chairman against MacDonald and Nakai. MacDonald campaign officials privately worried that a general election having MacDonald and McKenzie on the ballot for chairman would be a toss-up.

So, the campaign actively tried to reduce McKenzie's popularity in the primary by pushing the position that McKenzie was more needed as a doctor than as a tribal leader. It apparently worked because McKenzie ended up third in the primary even though he was expected not to have any problem getting more votes than Nakai.

2nd Diné

The second Navajo who received good news this month was Daniel Peaches, who was director of the tribe's public affairs office.

Arizona Gov. Jack Williams announced that, beginning in 1972, Peaches would be named to the Arizona Commission on Indian Affairs, an advisory body that had a lot of influence in getting the state Legislature to pass laws ending discrimination against Native Americans and providing them with the same benefits as non-Indians.

MacDonald was the first tribal chairman who had someone in charge of public information. Previous chairmen saw no need for the position because no media organization seemed to care enough to report what was going on in the tribal government. Past chairmen let this function be handled by delegates of the Navajo Tribal Council who were expected to provide updates when they gave their monthly reports at chapter meetings.

News reporting did not have a good name in Navajo society with the Navajo word for newspapers referring to them as gossip, which could be viewed as the Navajo equivalent of "fake news."

But when MacDonald took office that changed as national publica-

SEE 50 YEARS CONT'D | A7



JACK AHASTEEN
EDITORIAL CARTOONIST



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Go after the physician, not the vaccine

This letter is in response to your "Teesto family says death of loved one linked to vaccine" (Dec. 9, 2021).

Reading the story struck a familiar chord with my own loved one. You see, when my late sister was 12, she was constantly suffering from dizziness, nausea and intermittent vision loss for months.

By the time her pediatrician realized it was a brain tumor, the damage was irreversible, and she lost her sight permanently and only lived another 10 years.

After being referred to neurologists, they would often ask my mother why it took so long to diagnose my sister. She

didn't have an answer then, but I have one now - systemic racism.

The concept of systemic racism in health care is basically when a physician doesn't listen to a patient's complaints and concerns in a very patronizing way, as if you were a child or a simpleton.

You could be in agony, and they nod then tell you to go home and take aspirin or antacids. The statistics on systemic racism mortality in health care are staggering. We are human beings, not some subspecies. We don't have higher pain tolerances or some other nonsense. We deserve quality care.

If I could, I would tell the Dickson family it would be so easy to place blame for

his death on the COVID vaccine, but it sounds like Randolph Dickson's healthcare provider is to blame.

Reading through the article, it appears that Randolph Dickson's doctors are negligent and failed to address his symptoms. There are doctors out there who care about their patients, but there are also doctors who don't listen to patients' complaints and concerns because you are a minority.

So please listen when I tell you to go after the physician, not the vaccine.

Germaine Martinez
Standing Rock, N.M.

SEE LETTERS CONT'D | A7

Navajo Times

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LETTER POLICY

Readers may submit opinions and statements about any news story or on any other subject. Length should be about 600 words, although letters of any length are accepted, and all are subject to editing.

Letters must include your full name, place of residence and a phone number. Letters are accepted for publication in our print edition and online.

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Nez-Lizer wish Diné a safe and Merry Christmas

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer wish all Navajo families, elders, and youth a safe and Merry Christmas, and encourage everyone to take precautions to reduce the spread of COVID-19 as they celebrate the holiday.

Nez said as we gather to celebrate the season, and the birth of Jesus Christ, we wish you and your family a joyful and peaceful Christmas. As this modern-day monster known as COVID-19 continues to impact our loved ones and our communities, our people remain strong and resilient.

Together, we continue to demonstrate the strength and determination of our elders, which has helped us to reach a 72% vaccination rate, and 85% for our elderly population.

GUEST COLUMN

As we approach Christmas and a New Year, we also thank and pray for our frontline warriors, who are putting themselves at risk to keep us safe and save lives. This holiday season, please help our health-care workers and first responders by taking precautions to keep yourself and your loved ones safe and healthy.

During the month of December, the Nez-Lizer administration has distributed turkeys, hams, toys, clothing, and other items to families in need and special needs students. The Navajo Department of Health has also led the way to inform the public about COVID-19 cases, vaccination rates, to caution people about the growing spread of the new Omicron variant,

and provide safety guidelines and protocols to keep families safe.

This holiday season, we ask you to get vaccinated and those vaccinated to now take the booster shot. And with that, our thoughts from our administration, we wish you a Merry Christmas and hope 2022 brings you and your family hope, healing, and kindness.

Lizer said Christmas is a joyful time for families across our Navajo Nation, but we must also remember those who are facing challenges and perhaps the loss of a loved one. Please pray for them and offer your love and support to one another.

As you safely gather with your family during the holidays, let us also pray for those serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and their families, for our police officers, firefighters, emergency responders, and all that work through

the holidays to keep us safe. This week, as we celebrate Christmas in our homes and churches, among family and friends, let us accept and share the gifts of joy, peace, and love.

To our Navajo people, from our family to yours, Merry Christmas. May you each enjoy a safe and blessed holiday season.

Phefelia Nez and Dottie Lizer also offered holiday greetings and messages for Navajo families, youth, and elders.

Phefelia Nez said as we celebrate Christmas, we are thankful for the gift of faith and compassion. The best Christmas gift we can give each other is to share our faith, compassion, and love with loved ones, friends, co-workers, and neighbors.

Our world, nation and homes are faced with hardship, grief and challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic,

but by loving each other as profoundly as God loved us by sending us his son, we can begin to heal and rejoice. With God, anything is possible.

Our family wishes peace and blessings to all Navajo families during the Christmas season.

Dottie Lizer said we would like to take a moment to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas. We will be celebrating hope, peace, love, and joy during this season. We pray that all these four blessings will fill your home and life in every way this Christmas.

We are grateful to God because he is the reason for Christmas. Without Christ's presence among us, we would be lost. We are being healed, transformed, reconciled, and made whole through God's presence. I pray that you and your family have a fantastic Christmas.

GUEST COLUMN

Blessings capture joy of Kéeshmish

BY SETH DAMON

Yá'át'ééh Kéeshmish. This season we rejoice in the blessings provided to us and reflect upon the long journey we traveled this year.

During this time, we are reminded of our strength as one Navajo Nation to overcome this pandemic. We have seen unprecedented levels of community support for one another through our food distribution drives, wood-hauling events, and all of us simply working together to help our neighbors.

It is through our traditional songs, ceremonies, and our protection prayers that sustains us as the largest sovereign nation in the United States. Our compassion and devoted faith are the shining strength and beauty of the Navajo people.

We treasure the lessons the last two years have taught us and that is to remain resilient.

We come safely together as family and friends during the Christmas holiday to share appreciation for those we love and care for. Use this time hugging our elders, holding our children in love, enjoying mutton stew, playing Navajo Ten card games, and gathering safely in fellowship with your loved ones.

The Navajo Nation Council is sending military care packages with essential items to be delivered to our active-duty service members who cannot return home before Christmas.

We send prayers of peace to all our warriors around the world. It is through the distinguished service of our men and women in uniform serving overseas today that allows us to have our freedoms.

Let it be remembered for generations the contributions of our warriors to all foreign conflicts and the honor our Navajo Code Talkers bring to the history of this country.

We now give thanks to the Holy People for safeguarding our land, the air, water, and all living beings during the wintertime on Mother Earth - Nihim?? Nahasdzáán.

May the Creator provide us guidance and blessings into the next year, and protect us as one Navajo family.

We wish you a blessed Merry Christmas and a more prosperous New Year.

SETH DAMON is speaker of the 24th Navajo Nation Council and represents Bááháálí, Chééh'iltah, Manuelito, Tsé ?ichíí', Rock Springs and Tsayatoh.

► BILL

FROM PAGE 1

that COVID is still impacting Diné communities.

"Navajo leaders continue to hear directly from people who are displaced, suffering and vulnerable," said Crotty. "Our intention for this emergency legislation is to provide direct winter relief to families to pay for water and electric bills, groceries, and more."

Since last year at this time, the numbers have doubled in terms of losses to COVID-19, she said, and others are still suffering from long COVID symptoms.

"COVID is still here and creating chaos in families," said Crotty. "There's still a strong need to help at a every individual, household level and this funding allows for that. I know it's a challenge, because we also need infrastructure, but we need to make sure that our people have a sound well-being."

'Financial devastation'

In a press release on Sunday, Speaker Seth Damon thanked Crotty for her "advocacy and leadership" by introducing emergency legislation to address the "urgent needs of the Navajo people."

Her bill states that the "financial devastation" on the Navajo people by the COVID-19 pandemic "has risen to emergency levels," which makes it vital that they be provided "immediate financial assistance."

According to the speaker's office, the emergency bill will likely be considered in a special session next week, after the Christmas holiday.

"It is in the best interest of the Navajo people to enact the (Hardship Assistance plan) ... to counteract limited access to direct services necessary to recover from the devastation cause by the COVID-19 pandemic and mitigate exposure to future variants," states the bill.

Crotty said a recent national survey reported that 72% of Native Americans are feeling mental health distress when it comes to COVID, which also needs attention.

She said the federal government specifically provides for the Navajo ARPA funds to directly help Navajo households.

"This money must be used to assist our communities' recovery," she said. "A second allocation of Hardship Assistance payments directly to our families will allow them to purchase critical winter supplies like gasoline, firewood, and food."

According to the ARPA, funds are specifically intended to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts, provide premium pay to eligible frontline workers, provide government services to disproportionately impacted communities and make necessary investments in infrastructure that protects people from the impacts of COVID-19, such as running water.

Costs for ARPA projects and services must be incurred or obligated by Dec. 31, 2024, and projects must be completed by Dec. 31, 2026.

Crotty said if her bill passes, individuals who applied for the CARES Act Hardship program will not have to reapply and check disbursements will follow the financial process previously approved by the controller's office.

"If they're in the system, they are automatically eligible to receive future funding that's being allocated through the Council," she said.

Those individuals who have yet to apply for assistance will be able to do so through the OOC online portal, the speaker's office said.

"Our people have been through a lot the last two years and they need our immediate help," said Delegate Eugene Tso. "These Hardship Assistance payments are long overdue and the Navajo Nation Council must take action to help our grandmas and grandpas, and our most vulnerable families."

Tso said this issue is no longer debatable because communities are suffering now.

"As Navajo leaders it is our responsibility to assist our people," he said.

'A comprehensive approach'

In August, the Navajo Nation Council approved a resolution (No. CYJ-41-21) that set a 10% cap on Hardship Assistance, which amounts to \$207 million, but Crotty's bill could be amended to waive the cap and increase the amount.

In fact, that is likely to happen since delegates such as Eugenia

'This money must be used to assist our communities' recovery. A second allocation of Hardship Assistance payments directly to our families will allow them to purchase critical winter supplies like gasoline, firewood, and food.'

Amber Kanazbah Crotty
Delegate

Charles-Newton and Vince James have been advocating for larger payments for months.

The \$207 million would provide approximately \$600 per person.

On Saturday, the Northern Agency Council unanimously approved a resolution supporting Crotty's bill and recommended increasing the allocation of \$207 million to \$621 million, which would triple the amount paid to each individual.

Crotty said while the \$207 million for hardship was a good starting point, it never should have been considered the only amount provided over the life of ARPA funding.

The issue facing delegates is that if hardship is increased, then funds

for ARPA projects would decrease.

However, Crotty said there is an additional \$622 million "non-FRF" ARPA funding (in addition to the \$2 billion) that is coming down separately to different Navajo Nation programs, which can support some funding needs.

For example, the Navajo Housing Authority and the Division of Social Services have received funds to provide immediate rental assistance for college students, single parents, and elders.

Crotty said it is also still unclear what projects included in the executive branch bill could be funded through other sources, such as the Indian Health Service, the Biden administration's new infrastructure bill, or the Build Back Better Act.

"This is why it's so important for delegates to know the totality of what's coming down the pipeline," said Crotty.

While Crotty said last week's work session was the first time delegates got more detail about what is included in the executive branch proposal, they still need more information and a comprehensive plan that includes explanation of how the bill specifically addresses COVID-19 response as well as timelines for completion of projects and services.

She said delegates learned that some of the projects would take two years to even get off the ground.

"That doesn't look acceptable," she said.

"I'm asking questions, and I'm still not getting answers," said Crotty. "I think we've given enough grace time to the different programs to provide a way to streamline the projects, but we're just not there yet. The people should not suffer while the system tries to catch up."

Crotty said delegates weren't invited to be part of the conversation on the executive branch plan, although Speaker Seth Damon was involved.

"This is really the executive's plan and there's nothing from judicial," she said.

Public safety is missing and the public health COVID response and Hardship payments should be at the forefront, she said.

"We need a comprehensive approach," she said. "That's where we're at and that's the frustration and that's why I think there needs to be more shared discussion."

In the meantime, Crotty said the Navajo Nation Council appreciates all of the community health representatives, senior center staff, and public health officials who are on the frontlines fighting the pandemic.

If Crotty's bill is approved by the Navajo Nation Council's special session next week, Speaker Seth Damon has 10 days to certify the legislation then President Jonathan Nez has 10 days to approve or veto the bill.

Crotty is encouraging people to comment on the bill, which can be viewed at <http://dibb.nnols.org/publicreporting.aspx>

"Comment periods are open during the life of the legislation until final action is taken," said Crotty. "The public can comment anytime."

GUEST COLUMN

Holiday reminder: DUI is never acceptable

BY DAVID CLOUSE

I first want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

With the holidays coming up, and an increase of people driving on Arizona's roadways, I would like to remind everyone that driving under the influence is never acceptable. This includes both alcohol and drug-related impairment. Not only is impaired driving illegal, but it is also very dangerous. In 2020 alone, there were 4,506 alcohol-related crashes in Arizona and almost 18% of them resulted in death.

In addition to being extremely dangerous, impaired driving is also very expensive. The economic impact of collisions involving an impaired driver in Arizona is in excess of \$2.4 billion dollars.

DUI charges are very serious. A first-time DUI offender could face up to 10 days in jail, \$2,500.00 in fines and court costs, \$500.00 in court-mandated counseling or classes, \$1,000.00 to install and maintain an Ignition Interlock Device, and an increase in your automobile insurance of around \$3,000.00 per year.

Your driving privileges will also be suspended for 90 days to a year.

It is a priority of the Navajo County Sheriff's Office to remove impaired drivers from our roads and keep the public safe. As the holidays approach, law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona - including Navajo County - will be cracking down on impaired drivers.

There are two active multiagency DUI task forces here in Navajo County; the Route 66 DUI Task Force and the White Mountain DUI Task Force. These task forces will be active now throughout the end of the year.

If you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and you drive, you will be caught.

If you choose to consume alcohol this holiday season, please do it responsibly. Call a sober friend/family member, call for a ride service, or better yet, plan ahead and designate a responsible, sober driver.

It takes only the slightest bit of impairment to take a life. Please be safe - not only for you, but for those you share the road with.

Don't become one of Navajo County's statistics! Your actions do have consequences.

Drive safely. I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season!

DAVID CLOUSE is the Navajo County sheriff.

50 YEARS CONT'D

FROM PAGE A6

tions found their readers were interested in what was going on in Indian Country. The Gallup Independent even established a bureau on the reservation which had for many years two reporters writing stories from the reservation.

Peaches was perfect for this job. For

many years he was featured regularly in the Times' letters-to-the-editor section giving his thoughts and opinions on various issues affecting the Navajo people and government.

As public information director, he was tasked with the responsibility of making sure the local media reported everything his boss was doing for the Navajo people. He did this by releasing several press releases weekly and en-

couraged papers to meet not only with MacDonald but others in the government as well in their coverage of the reservation.

To do this, he formed friendships with many area reporters by being available seven days a week to answer any questions. He also answered questions from the national press.

As part of this responsibility, he often called up regional and national

publications when they printed inaccurate information about the tribe.

For example, in 1972 or 1973, the Christian Science Monitor, which had a national readership, reported how much money was in the federal budget for building new homes on the reservation.

One statement the article said 60% of homes on the reservation consisted of traditional teepees. To show rugs,

the paper included a photo of a teepee on the reservation. The photo was of a teepee put up temporarily for a Native American Church Ceremony.

Peaches immediately sent a letter to the newspaper pointing out their error. He also put out a press release to local media using this as an example of national reporters not making any effort to make sure their reporting on Native Americans is accurate.

LETTERS CONT'D

FROM PAGE A6

One percent class doesn't know how to act

It is clear that members of the 1% class do not know how to act responsibly with their tens and hundreds of

millions of dollars in yearly disposable income. They invest in large corporations rather than small businesses.

They invest in American companies who have moved their operations to China. They impose usurious interest rates on the working poor.

They invest in news media con-

glomerates that distort reality, and food conglomerates that sell harmful products and services. They invest in energy companies that do little during the climate crisis.

The luxury class invests in industries that are popular with Americans, but destructive to democratic charac-

ter, like professional sports, superficial entertainment, gambling, vaping, social media and video gaming.

They fail to invest in public education, having no need for it. Instead, they use private schools and later pay bribes to get their children into private universities.

They resist investing in public health care, welfare, and criminal justice programs, because they have their own exclusive world of services to care for them apart from the rest of society.

Kimball Shinkoskey
Woods Cross, Utah

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Session 1:

December 28, 2021
2:00 - 3:30 PM MST
"Historical and Intergenerational Trauma"

Session 2:

December 30, 2021
2:00 - 3:30 PM MST
"The Impacts of Trauma"

Session 3:

January 12, 2022
2:00 - 3:30 PM MST
"Building Resilience"

Session 4:

January 14, 2022
2:00 - 3:30 PM MST
"Faith, Belief & Hope"

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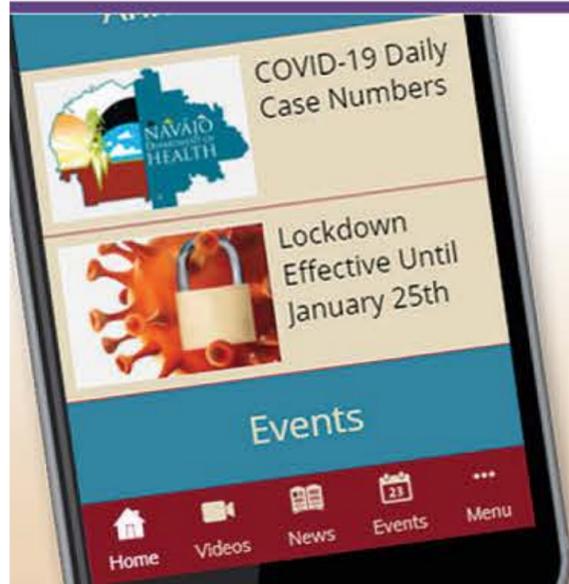
KHAC 880 AM
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Native jewelry artists adapt

Sellers navigate online sales due to the COVID-19 pandemic

BY HANNAH JOHN
NAVAJO TIMES

WINDOW ROCK – Rebecca Jones (she/they) and Cody Fetty (they/them) are Native jewelry artists who have been navigating the sale of their art online through Instagram during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jones (moongrrl666 on Instagram) is Totsohnii, born for Ashiihi. Her maternal grandfather is Ma'ii Deesh-giizhnii and her paternal grandfather is T'abaahi. She is from Tsehootso.

Cody Fetty (glitteringworldgal on Instagram) is Kinyaa'aanii, born for Bilagaana. Their maternal grandfather is T'izi lani, and paternal grandfather is Naakai dine'e. They are from Big Mountain.

Jones and Fetty said they have had more positive impacts than negative running their businesses on Instagram.

One positive impact when during the summer of 2020 when the Black Lives Matter movement took place, they decided to do virtual mutual aid work.

"A lot of the funds and the crowd-funding was directed to Black-led organizations and Black-trans organizations," Fetty said. "My jewelry account got a lot of attention in that way."

"Just like making pieces to auction off and then whatever was made from the auction would be directly donated to those organizations," they said.

Selling online has its downfalls and one is the lack of in-person events at which to sell.

Jones said with online selling they do not meet people and must charge for shipping and handling. This involves more labor than in-person selling.

"Taking pictures, then posting online, and then selling online, I feel like it does take a lot out of you because you're staring at your screen for like a couple hours or more," Jones said.

However, since this past summer, Jones has been transitioning back into doing in-person sales in the Albuquerque area.

"After getting vaccinated and also just following the COVID precautions here in Albuquerque, I've been able to do more in-person events, which has been nice because I miss talking to people, seeing people, and people can see the jewelry in person," they said.

Fetty, on the other hand, has not sold much in person and prefers to sell online.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rebecca Jones set up at a pop-up market earlier this year. She has recently started to sell her resin jewelry and said she missed meeting and talking to people which she gets to do when selling in-person.

"I like to make my jewelry the most accessible to people, especially out on the rez, they can't come to like Flagstaff just for a craft bazaar because they have to think about gas, mileage, and just have to plan their whole day around it," they said.

However, one of the negative impacts Fetty has experienced with online selling is many people who live on the rez do not have access and reliable internet.

"People who still live on their rez, who want to purchase jewelry online, either their message is still pending, or it just doesn't get sent because they don't have clear access to the internet," Fetty said.

Despite the downfalls to selling

jewelry virtually, both Jones' and Fetty's businesses have benefitted since they've been doing great, revenue wise.

Another positive impact the pandemic has had on their businesses is they feel like they have been given more time to create.

"With COVID, I've been able to exercise my creativity a lot more," Jones said. "I was furloughed at my regular job, so I was working less hours and with that I was able to just focus a little bit more on being more creative with my jewelry, with my music."

Fetty said they feel like they have been able to produce more jewelry because of the pandemic which has been good for financial stability.

Jewelry making plays an important part in both Jones' and Fetty's lives, however, it shows in different ways.

Jones said it's important because she can network, share her ideologies and political views, and connect with other Indigenous people across the world through her jewelry.

"I like sending the medicine jewelry to other relatives across the whole world, to other Indigenous people," Jones said. "I feel like that's super important and with the pandemic."

"There's been a lot of Diné folks or folks in the Southwest who utilize our medicines down here who are living in Portland and New York and they're really thankful to get a piece of jewelry that has like cedar in it which makes

me happy," she said.

Fetty uses jewelry making to connect with their grandma and mom. They said both their mom and grandma have been making jewelry since they were a baby.

Their grandma used to work at a bead store in Flagstaff before retiring and making jewelry full time.

"I remember her telling me as I was getting older that I can make jewelry as something to fall back on," Fetty said. "My grandma had like really great confidence in me that I could do it, so I think that why it's (jewelry making) important to me is that generational connection."

Jones said the best way to support Native artists right now is to shop local flea markets, craft fairs, and pay the prices artists ask. Fetty expressed the same thoughts and said the ultimate takeaway is buying Indigenous when it comes to supporting Indigenous businesses.

"From my experience, doing sales here in Albuquerque versus doing sales in the rez, sometimes I see a lot of Native artists kind of sell themselves short," Jones said. "They do really great craftwork but then they sell it at a price that they have been selling it for like 20 years and I feel that our prices should be competitive with each other because there's inflation everywhere."

She feels all the "flea market aunties" should work together and be competitive with their prices to the point where people should expect to pay a certain amount for jewelry.

"As far as the customers go, we should also be paying those prices as well because we're supporting Native people, we're supporting Native entrepreneurs, Native families, and so I definitely think that buying local helps," she said.

Fetty holds the same opinion and said they often see other Native jewelry makers express gratitude when they receive a big following on Instagram and sell their art.

"And they (jewelry makers) tell them (customers) that this inventory just paid my light bill, this inventory just put food on the table," Fetty said.

"It's really not just treated as a commodity," they said, "it's really like a give-and-take situation in a community aspect way – you're supporting your community and you are helping them financially especially in Native households."

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Congressman Tom O'Halleran

Fighting for Indian Country

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

WATER:

- Tom worked to secure **\$3.5 billion for Indian Health Service Water and Sewer** for the planning, design, construction, modernization, improvement, and renovation of IHS water, sewer, and solid waste sanitation facilities.
- He also fought to ensure the bill provides **\$2.5 billion for Indian Water Rights**, and a measure that gives priority to projects that respond to emergency situations involving access to clean drinking water.

BROADBAND:

- O'Halleran boosted funding for the **Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program** by \$2 billion.
- In addition, Tom secured a **\$75 per month discount** for tribal families on their internet bills to ensure that tribal households can access high-speed broadband for work, school, and telehealth.

ROADS:

- The law O'Halleran passed includes **\$50 million for Bureau of Indian Affairs** road maintenance programs to make driving and commuting safer for all living in Indian Country.



ELECTRIC GRID:

- Tom made sure the law addresses long-overlooked electric grid issues, investing **\$27 billion in grid infrastructure**, ensuring tribal families have reliable power.

URANIUM MINE CLEANUP:

- O'Halleran fought for the bill to include **\$3.5 billion boost to the funding available for the EPA's Superfund program**, which facilitates the cleanup of sites in contaminated communities like many on tribal lands near abandoned uranium mines.



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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!

At the holiday season, our thoughts gratefully turn to those that have made our progress possible. Each year we look forward to this festive season to say "Thank You" to all our loyal service providers, partners, and the many businesses across the Navajo Nation. More importantly, we say "Thank You" to our customers and communities in which we provide daily services to. Your support and patron at any of our nine shopping center location is a blessing to us. May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours; and, the coming New Year be filled with happiness.

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ARPA office hiring for multiple positions

BY RIMA KRISST
NAVAJO TIMES

WINDOW ROCK – The Navajo Nation American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Fund Office announced on Monday that it is seeking applicants for 18 new jobs, including program management, administrative support, communications, accounting and payroll positions.

"Under the leadership of interim Executive Director Tom Platero and his team, the (office) is operational and making progress," President Jonathan Nez said in a Dec. 20 press release. "We hope to draw many applicants for these positions to help fully implement the American Rescue Plan Act funds."

The FRF Office is a clearinghouse for ARPA-related activities including educating the public, collaborating with Navajo Nation departments and offices, overseeing projects and ensuring compliance with Fiscal Recovery Funds provisions of ARPA and Navajo Nation laws.

"The (office) is strongly encouraging our Navajo people

to apply for positions that are now posted on the Department of Personnel Management's website," Executive Director Tom Platero said. "The majority of these jobs will be four-year assignments."

Under a resolution approved by the Navajo Nation Council (No. CJY-41-21), the executive and legislative branches were allocated \$207 million to cover administrative expenses and other costs to implement the spending.

"These funds are being used to create jobs that provide Navajo professionals an opportunity to provide services, but also opportunities for people to gain and learn new skills," Platero said.

Platero said the ARPA/FRF administrative support positions include entry to very technical level jobs.

"The wide range of job openings will allow individuals with diverse backgrounds to become an integral part of our efforts to bring about positive change to the Navajo Nation," Platero said.

Platero said he anticipates a total of 200 new positions will

be established to run the office and to manage ARPA projects and deliver services.

"Navajo Nation ARPA/FRF administrative support funded programs continue to work to open up job opportunities," Platero said. "It is an exciting time to join the Navajo Nation workforce."

Once fully staffed, the office will have a team dedicated to central support, infrastructure delivery support and regulatory support.

"This is an opportunity for our Navajo professionals to serve our Nation and to be a part of the change and long-term improvements that are to come," Vice President Myron Lizer said in the release. "We strongly encourage our people to learn more and to apply."

Applications for the positions of deputy executive director and program manager are due by Jan. 3, 2022. Applications for all other positions currently posted are due by Jan. 4.

Information: Department of Personnel Management website or www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov or www.frff.navajo-nsn.gov or 928-871-6022.

History of run-ins with law ends with robbery, murder charges

BY BILL DONOVAN
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LOS ANGELES – Back in 2012, then 17-year-old Amber Yazzie stabbed a man because he was wearing gang colors, and began a life filled with incarcerations and arrests that ended earlier this month with new charges filed in state and federal courts dealing with an armed robbery and murder.

Yazzie, now 27, has been charged in state court with an open count of murder, one count of armed robbery, four counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, and one count of shooting at a dwelling.

Last week, federal charges of interference of commerce by threats and use of a firearm during a crime of violence were also filed against her.

Between 2017 and now, she had been arrested more than four times and at the time of the armed robbery and murder had failed to show up for a hearing held in state court stemming from assault charges filed against her in 2019.

Her contact with law enforcement began in April 2012 when she was arrested for the stabbing of Jesse Padilla. The incident led to deliberations in state court over whether she should be tried as an adult or a juvenile.

McKinley County District Attorney Karl Gillson urged the court to try her as an adult and put her away for 20 years because the killing showed a total disregard for human life.

According to the prosecution, Yazzie was walking east from the Rio West Mall when she met Padilla for the first time. She spent a little time with him and then stabbed him to death.

She later said she did it because he was wearing the

wrong gang colors. The prosecution argued that he was not part of a gang.

She was originally tried as an adult, but she agreed to plead guilty to voluntary manslaughter as a juvenile offender. She was placed in the juvenile system with plans for release when she turned 20 years old. She was later kept a year longer because of her behavior during the first three years of her incarceration.

In May 2018 she was convicted of one count of battery on a police officer and was sentenced to six months in prison.

Her most recent problems with the law began on Dec. 8 when Gallup police received a report of an armed robbery – at the C & R Insurance Company – committed by a female and two males.

One of the employees of the company later told FBI agents that she was helping a customer about 1:30 p.m. when she heard a pop and heard a female yelling at everyone to put their hands up and give her their money. She said the female then asked where the money was and the employee pointed to the cash drawer.

Video cameras at the company showed the three coming in wearing masks. The female was the only one who did any talking. One of the male suspects then took a bag out of his clothing and then began opening the drawers and putting the money in the bag. Once this was done all three ran out of the building.

Company officials said the robbers made off with more than \$4,000. The FBI was told that Yazzie's mother was a customer.

Yazzie became a prime suspect in the robbery when the cameras picked up a tattoo on the right hand of the female

robber. The tattoo was clearly visible and the FBI agent who handled the case said he recognized the tattoo as one he saw on Yazzie's hand when he interviewed her four months before on a different matter.

A warrant was issued for her arrest by a federal court judge. By the next day, however, Yazzie was being named as a person of interest in the killing of Russell Shark, 50, who was shot in the head during an argument with a female at his apartment.

At the time, witnesses at the scene of the killing said they saw Yazzie in the area but no one witnessed the actual shooting.

During the next three days, Gallup police and the FBI received tips from people who saw Yazzie in the area. In the early morning hours of Dec. 10, police received a tip that Yazzie was seen in a car with her brother, Gregory, 25.

This led to a high-speed pursuit by Gallup police, McKinley County sheriff deputies, Navajo Police, and state police.

Two attempts were made to use stop sticks to end the pursuit but the Yazzie vehicle was able to go around the sticks. A third attempt north of Gallup was successful.

The car turned north on Jack Johnson Road about 12 miles north of Gallup and then crashed. Police said Amber Yazzie then began running from the car and was captured after a brief pursuit.

Gregory Yazzie was arrested for fleeing from a police officer and now faces state charges. Amber Yazzie is currently in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service in Albuquerque.

The expectation is that she will be tried in federal court on the armed robbery charges and for murder in the state court.

CAPITAL BRIEFS

Interior to host tribal consultations

WASHINGTON – The Department of the Interior announced Tuesday nation-to-nation consultations with tribes on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The consultations are Jan. 26 to 28 and are closed to the public. Tribes are also invited to submit written comments to consultation@bia.gov by Feb. 4, 2022.

These sessions will focus on tribal climate resilience, water infrastructure and drought resilience, water rights settlement, wildfire resilience, ecosystem restoration, legacy pollution and U.S. Geological Survey infrastructure.

The law invests more than \$13 billion in tribal communities across the country to bolster community resilience, replace aging infrastructure, expand access to clean drinking water and help ensure access to high-speed internet.

Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said, "Tribal leaders know

best the needs of their people. It is critical that tribes continue to be at the decision-making table as we implement this historic opportunity."

The Interior Department received a \$466 million investment for the Bureau of Indian Affairs for infrastructure projects and climate resiliency initiatives, as well as an investment of \$2.5 billion to help fulfill pre-existing settlements of Indian water rights claims in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The law also made tribal communities eligible for additional department programs to support building resilience to wildland fire and drought, restoring ecosystems, enabling fish passage and addressing legacy pollution from abandoned mine lands and orphan oil and gas wells.

U.S. Treasury gives tribes more time to spend CARES Act dollars
WASHINGTON – On Dec. 16,

the U.S. Treasury issued new guidance that allows federally-recognized tribes an extra nine months to spend Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security, or CARES, Act dollars.

This administrative change will give tribes greater flexibility in spending CARES Act funds, requiring them only to obligate their funds by Dec. 31, 2021, and to spend the funds by Sept. 30, 2022.

On Dec. 8, the House of Representatives passed a bipartisan bill that would extend the deadline by one year, from Dec. 30 of this year to Dec. 30, 2022.

The CARES Act was signed into law on March 27, 2020, and allocated \$8 billion to tribes under the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

The Navajo Nation received \$714 million.

However, tribes did not receive any funds until May 5, 2020, well after the bill's

SEE CAPITAL CONT'D | A11

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Kathleen R. Cook



KINLICHEE, ARIZ. — Funeral services for Kathleen Rena Cook, 66, of Fort Defiance, will be held Friday, Dec. 31, at 11 a.m., in Kinlichee, Arizona. Kathleen was born June 20, 1955, in Fort Defiance, into the Lók'aa' Dine'é (Reed People Clan), born for Tábaqahá (Water's Edge Clan). Her náli is 'Ashjihí (Salt People); cheii is Tódič'ii'nii (Bitter Water). She passed away

Dec. 5, 2021, in Clearfield, Pennsylvania. Kathleen enjoyed taking walks, doing puzzles, knitting, crocheting, cooking, and listening to oldies and country music with the likes of Waylon Jennings, Loretta Lynn and Conway Twitty. Kathleen is survived by her husband, Anderson Cook of Arizona; daughters, Georgina Graham (husband David) of Pennsylvania, Adrienne Buze (husband Kevin) of Alabama, and Roxanne Cook-Severson (husband Mitchell) of Oklahoma; mother, Elsie (Gatewood) Sandoval; brother, Kevin Johns Jr. (wife Virginia) of New Mexico; sisters, Julia Grove (husband Tom) of Oklahoma, and Katherine Paz of Arizona; and eight grandchildren. Kathleen is preceded in death by her father, Henry Johns Sr. A reception will take place at the Kinlichee Seventh-Day Adventist Church, following burial of urn, from 12:30-3 p.m.

Anna C. Yazzie

(JUNE 11, 1940 - APRIL 13, 2021)

ST. MICHAELS, ARIZ. — Funeral mass for Anna Catherine Yazzie was held April 29 at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church with Father Steven A. Kunzel officiating. She was laid to rest May 7, 2021, at the St. Michaels community cemetery in St. Michaels, Arizona, with Father Edgardo Diaz officiating. Anna passed away peacefully at home on April 13, 2021, in Phoenix, of natural causes. Anna graduated from St. Michaels Indian School in 1962. Upon graduation, she worked at NAPA auto parts supply company and Damon Freight Line trucking company. Basketball was Anna's favorite sport. She was a member of an independent women's team where they participated in many tournaments. Anna later moved to the Valley, earned a degree in accounting and was employed by the Phoenix Area Indian Health Service. She worked in accounting management for 32 years, retiring in 2012. She had strong work ethics and held great respect for colleagues. Anna was a beautiful gentle soul. She loved and lived her Catholic faith encouraging family and friends to do likewise. She was gifted with creative talents and abilities, which she generously shared. Anna enjoyed crafting, knitting, embroidering, and sewing. She was the family seamstress and chauffer. She was well-traveled and treasured her family and friends. Anna is survived by her son, Aaron Joseph Tsosie; sisters, Annie Marie Davis and Stephanie Veronica Tsosie; brother, Benson Tsosie; maternal aunt, Eunice Yazzie; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Anna is preceded in death by her husband, Ruben Nick Yazzie; parents, Joe and Glenmae Tsosie; and 10 siblings. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Michael Indian School, in memory of Anna Catherine (Tsosie) Yazzie, at www.StMichaelsIndianSchool.org. Thank you to everyone who reached out to us with tender thoughts and prayers as we celebrated our loved one's life, a life that touched many with gifts of kindness, caring and love. We are very grateful to everyone that helped with monetary donations, food, time, and energy. Our thankfulness is extended to the priests, physicians, and all professional staff that assisted with Anna's end-of-life care, coordination of funeral arrangements and services by Abel's Funeral Services and Cope Memorial.

Harry B. Stewart Jr.

FORT DEFIANCE — Funeral services for Harry Benjamin Stewart Jr., 46, of Fort Defiance, were held Dec. 17 at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in Fort Defiance, with Father Blaine officiating. Interment followed in Fort Defiance. Harry was born July 10, 1975, in Fort Defiance, into the Tódič'ii'nii (Bitter Water Clan), born for Naaneesh't'ézhi Táchi'ii'nii (Charcoal-Streaked Division of the Red Running Into the Water Clan). He passed away Dec. 10, 2021, in Longmont, Colorado. Harry graduated from Saint Michael Indian School in 1993 and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps serving two years. He worked for various construction businesses doing carpentry in the local area. Harry was a hard worker who enjoyed camping, fishing, spending time with family, and

Malcolm P. Dalton



FORT DEFIANCE — Memorial services for Malcolm (Mickey) Paul Dalton, 83, of Fort Defiance, will be held Monday, Jan. 17, at the Arizona Community Church in Tempe, Arizona. Arrangements to present the service virtually are pending for those who cannot attend (link will be provided by family members the week before the service). Burial will follow

in Fort Defiance for the immediate family at the Watchman family plot. Mickey was born Sept. 3, 1938, to George and Martha Gatewood into the Dibéłzhíni (Black Sheep Clan), born for T'ááshchí'i (Red Bottom People Clan). For a major part of his young life, Mickey resided in Ganado, Arizona, with his adoptive parents, Karl and Etta Dalton. He acquired his primary education in Ganado, and then went to Anadarko, Oklahoma, for his secondary education through his junior year in high school. He returned to the Navajo Reservation to graduate from Ganado Mission High School in 1956.

In the fall of 1956, Mickey enlisted in the U.S. Army 101st Airborne Division. He served for four years rapidly escalating to the Intelligence Unit. Serving as a paratrooper in the Army was also a fulfillment of his family tradition; four of his older brothers served in the Army as paratroopers. After Mickey's tour of duty, he took various jobs in the Window Rock/Fort Defiance area, which ultimately prepared him for his niche — the utility business. He started his career from the basic job as a lineman/electrician with Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., which coincidentally was hired by the Navajo Nation to provide construction services.

In 1964, Mickey began his long career with the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority. He initially started as an electrical lineman quickly ascending to a branch manager in Kayenta, and concurrently in Chinle. He served in the capacity as the general manager for 26 years where he achieved his major accomplishments that have been vast, successful, and even in some cases, unimaginable.

Under Mickey's leadership there were numerous accomplishments to serve the Navajo people. To name a few notable ones: in 1975 NTUA established a 100% company-funded retirement program; in 1981 Rural Electrification Administration approved a \$9.3 million, 35-year loan to NTUA, which was the first secure source of income for electrical systems; in 1988 NTUA adopted a first-ever water and wastewater apprenticeship program in addition to the current ones, including the implementation of the Electronic Meter Reading Program; in 1994 NTUA implemented a scholarship program for students pursuing bachelor's degrees in fields related to the utility industry; at the same time NTUA constructed a 4-inch gas line to the Standing Rock community; and in 1998 just before his retirement, NTUA completed the construction of the 42-mile 115KV electric transmission line from Coalmine to Burnside, Arizona.

On a personal level, Mickey regarded his greatest assets were his three children, including their spouses and their remarkable accomplishments, and finally as a grandfather. He took great pride or admiration in the success of five outstanding grandchildren.

Mickey is survived by his wife, Marilyn (Watchman) Dalton; daughters, Tara Lynne Coggins (John) and Valerie J. Bribiescas (Henry); son, Malcolm Christopher Dalton (Valerie); brothers, Henry (Buddy) Gatewood, David Gatewood, Virgil Gatewood, and Richard Gatewood; sister, Mary Alice Abeita; and five grandchildren.

Mickey is preceded in death by his parents, Karl Dalton and Etta Johnson; sisters, Karletta (Joseph) Dalton and Maryann Gatewood; and brothers, George (Jack) Gatewood, Clarence Gatewood and Robert Emerson.

watching rodeos and the Pittsburgh Steelers. Harry is survived by his daughter, Britney Rose Marie Stewart; father, Harry Benjamin Stewart Sr.; brother, Kyle Tee Stewart; sisters, Sheila Renee Stewart and Charlene Tara Stewart; and one grandchild, Jamier Hashke Haswood Allston. Harry is preceded in death by his mother, Evelyn B. Stewart. Pallbearers were Casey Stewart, Randy Stewart, Mike Stewart, Kevin Stewart, Gilbert C. Arviso Jr., Chance Arviso, Jayson Bahe, and Harrison Billie Jr. Honorary pallbearers were Harry B. Stewart Sr., Franklin B. Stewart Sr., Kyle Stewart, Ronald Brown, Kenneth Keyannie, and Jamier H. Allston. Silver Creek Mortuary oversaw arrangements.

CAPITAL CONT'D

FROM PAGE A10

statutory deadline. During this time, the Navajo Nation became the most concentrated COVID-19 hotspot in the nation.

The bill was introduced by Rep. Tom O'Halleran, D-Ariz., and Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska.

Delegate, aging staff deliver food to elders

WINDOW ROCK — On Dec. 13, Delegate Mark Freeland, chapter officials and Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support staff delivered food to 15 elders and their families in the Nahodishgish and Standing Rock chapters.

Crews delivered the packages in the Christmas spirit and as the Navajo Nation prepares for a cold winter.

The food was donated by the Rotary Clubs of Del Norte and Del Sol of Albuquerque.

Freeland said, "My chapters send their appreciation to the Rotary Club members for being great partners as we deliver food and essential items to our most vulnerable families on the Navajo Nation.

"We thank Mr. Emerson Tully and our (Division of Aging) staff for being on the frontlines to assist our grandmas and grandpas," he said. "Working hand in hand, we will overcome this pandemic."

The speaker's office reports that over the last two years, delegates of the Navajo Nation Council have worked with their chapters to deliver personal protective equipment, hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies, and food packages to the people.

Speaker Seth Damon said since July Freeland has worked with chapter officials and community programs to haul more than 50 truckloads of firewood for elders.

NFR recognizes Navajo Code Talkers

WINDOW ROCK — On Dec. 11 during the final go-round of the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, the Navajo Code Talkers were honored by the Wrangler National Patriot Program in front of over 170,000 fans and 8 million viewers on live television.

The speaker's office said it worked with Wrangler and the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association to coordinate the NFR recognition.

Former Navajo Nation Chairman Peter MacDonald, the Navajo Code Talker Association's president, joined nine-time National Finals Rodeo qualifier Derrick Begay and Army Sgt. First Class Christopher Bullis in the honoring ceremony on Saturday night at the Thomas and Mack Center.

Fort Defiance Delegate Wilson Stewart said, "My community was honored Saturday night because we have two grandfathers who served as Navajo Code Talkers — Mr. Jimmy C. Begay and Mr. James C. Begay — from Fort Defiance, Arizona."

Delegate Jamie Henio said, "Rodeo is a way of life for many of our Navajo families who ranch and raise livestock. The Navajo Nation applauds our own NFR athletes — Derrick Begay, Erich Rogers, and Danielle Lowman — who are amazing role models for our

young people." The Navajo Nation Council, he said, appreciates the National Finals Rodeo for recognizing the proud history of the Navajo Code Talkers and the sacred Navajo language.

LA crews work with NTUA to connect homes

WINDOW ROCK — Work crews from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, working with Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, are extending powerlines to homes in Chilchinbeto, Kayenta, Chinle, Kaibeto and Coppermine.

As of Dec. 9, the president's office reports, the partnership connected 29 homes since crews arrived from Los Angeles in late November. The goal is to connect as many homes as possible within six weeks.

The LA department is field training work crews to build powerlines in remote communities in bad weather and with rugged terrain.

LA is paying for the costs of labor, equipment and travel. NTUA is providing materials, labor and meals.

Chilchinbeto resident Wilson Big said he is excited to finally store food in his refrigerator, host family and friends, and watch television.

Another nearby resident said that his wife, who is diabetic, can now store medication in their refrigerator and not have to rely on a generator.

President Jonathan Nez said the LA partnership builds upon the CARES Act, which allowed more than 700 Navajo families to receive electricity, among many other projects.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Navajo Times
DINE BI NAALTSOOS

The Navajo Times Publishing Company is seeking a qualified person for a Press Operator position in Window Rock, Arizona. All applicants must submit in person, by email or by mail, their original completed and signed application, current resume, letter of interest and any supporting documents such as diplomas or certificates. Please email application packets to: tarviso@navajotimes.com; or mail applications to: Tom Arviso Jr., Navajo Times; P.O. Box 310, Window Rock, AZ 86515. An application can be downloaded at: www.navajotimes.com. For more information, contact Tom Arviso Jr., CEO/Publisher, at (928) 871-1130.

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This position will be open until filled with the right, qualified person.

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following positions are currently open with the Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation, **these positions require additional Navajo Nation Law requirements and please call our office for additional information**, these positions are currently designated **Open Until Filled**:

POSITION	POS.	SALARY	LOCATION	CLOSING DATE:
District Court Judge*	000000	\$79,615.44 -	Navajo Nation	Open Until Filled

The following position are currently open with the Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation, please submit all employment application to the Judicial Branch Human Resources Office by **5:00 p.m.** on or before the closing date:

POSITION	POS.	SALARY	LOCATION	CLOSING DATE:
Bi-Cultural Training Manager	240818	\$67,713.84	Window Rock, AZ	Open Until Filled
Court Administrator	209574	\$63,496.08	Crownpoint, NM	Open Until Filled
Custodian	241221	\$26,141.76	Tuba City, AZ	Open Until Filled
District Court Clerk	909569	\$39,379.68	Pueblo Pintado, NM	Open Until Filled
District Court Clerk	241795	\$39,379.68	To'hajilee, NM	Open Until Filled
District Court Clerk	909563	\$39,379.68	Tuba City, AZ	Open Until Filled
District Court Probation Officer	209524	\$45,434.88	Dilkon, AZ	Open Until Filled
District Court Probation Officer	212950	\$45,434.88	Tuba City, AZ	Open Until Filled
Human Resources Specialist	244523	\$48,065.76	Window Rock, AZ	Open Until Filled
Judicial Hearing Officer	243992	\$71,827.20	Chinle, AZ	Open Until Filled
Office Technician	241232	\$39,379.68	Aneth, UT	Open Until Filled
Traditional Dine' Researcher	234694	\$43,973.28	Window Rock, AZ	Open Until Filled
Traditional Program Specialist	240878	\$45,539.28	Aneth, UT	Open Until Filled
Supreme Court Law Clerk	924813	\$103,084.56	Window Rock, AZ	December 30, 2021
Staff Attorney	234781	*DOE	Chinle, AZ	Open Until Filled
Staff Attorney	234987	*DOE	Kayenta, AZ	Open Until Filled

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Apache County Attorney's Office

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Michael Whiting and the Apache County Attorney's Office are sending a heartfelt thank you to all the teachers who encouraged their students to participate this year in the 13th annual "Stop the Bully Poster Contest."

Presents the 13th Annual K-12

STOP THE BULLYING POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

ALPINE - Tobe - Mrs. Coffeen 8th Grade

HOZHO - Blake - Mr. Tom 3rd Grade

TSAILE - Brody - Mr. Fritzgerld 5th Grade

MANY FARMS - Kaitlyn - Ms. Chee 5th Grade

CONCHO - Liliyani - Mrs. Molck 4th Grade

PINE SPRINGS - Ryan - No teacher listed

ROUND VALLEY - Cassidy - Mrs. Udall 7th Grade

ST. MICHAELS - Miles - Ms. Singer 7th Grade

ST. JOHNS - Kyiss - Mrs. Greer Kindergarten

TSEHOOTSOOI - Cambree - Ms. Jim 4th Grade

WHITE RIVER - Amber - Kimsey 8th Grade

WIDE RUINS - Trinity - Mr. Gonnies 5th Grade

VERNON - Paige - Mrs. Medina 6th Grade

ALPINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Mrs. Rihs Kindergarten
Mrs. White 1st & 2nd Grade
Ms. Crowther 3rd & 4th Grade
Mrs. Bennett 5th & 6th Grade
Mrs. Coffeen 7th & 8th Grade

HOZHO ONLINE ACADEMY
Life skills 10th Grade
Mr. Tom 3rd Grade

TSAILE PUBLIC SCHOOL
Ms. McClanahan 2nd Grade
Mr. Tom 5th Grade
Mr. Fritzgerld 5th Grade

MANY FARMS COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Ms. Totsomi 2nd Grade
Ms. Perry 2nd Grade
Ms. Angal Mark 3rd Grade
Ms. Chee 4th Grade
Ms. Descheeny 5th Grade
Ms. Williams 5th Grade
Ms. Erkman/Ms. Lee 5th Grade

CONCHO SCHOOL
Mrs. Rea 4th Grade
Mrs. Molck 5th Grade

PINE SPRINGS DAY SCHOOL
Mrs. Puente 1st Grade

ROUND VALLEY SCHOOL
Mrs. Morriss 5th Grade
Mr. Mcgaughey 5th Grade
Mr. Blair 6th Grade
Mr. Lozoyu 6th Grade
Ms. Erb 8th
Mrs. Udall 7th Grade
Mrs. Kruger 7th Grade
Mr. Sherwood 7th Grade
Mrs. Gillespie Kindergarten
Mrs. Hamblin 1st Grade
Mrs. Ramsey 3rd Grade
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ST. MICHAELS INDIAN SCHOOL
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Mrs. Greer Kindergarten

TSEHOOTSOOI DINE BIOLTA
Ms. Jim 4th Grade
Ms. Jim 5th Grade

WHITE RIVER CANYON DAY JUNIOR HIGH
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Ms. Orcales 6th, 7th & 8th Grade
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Mrs. Tsosie 6th Grade

VERNON ELEMENTARY
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Mrs. Medina 6th Grade

Thank You For Your Participation



Crownpoint Eagle Taye Harvey (2) tries to knock away the ball from Hot Springs Tiger Dominic Padilla (14) on Saturday in Fort Wingate. NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Eagles nab first title at Wingate tourney

BY QUENTIN JODIE
NAVAJO TIMES

FORT WINGATE — Free throw shooting has been a strength for Crownpoint junior Tyrell Archie. The power forward made 4-of-7 in the championship game of the 17th Annual Wingate Holiday Classic. His final two were his biggest ones yet as Archie's two free-throws earned the Eagles a hard-fought 48-46 win over Hot Springs on Saturday night. "I just relaxed, like you're supposed to," said Archie, who was tabbed the tournament's MVP. "I have the same routine and I just followed through, and I made my free throws." His trip to the charity line with one-tenth of a second stemmed from a defensive breakdown from Hot Springs. With less than five seconds left in the contest, Crownpoint inbounded the ball from half-court and point guard Tylon Tsosie (six points) drove it inside the paint and split the defense before dishing it off to

Archie (eight points). "It's bittersweet," said Crownpoint coach Thale Goodluck, whose team improved to 8-2 overall. "I have a lot of confidence in my players, and if they need to, they'll step it up and finish strong." "Tonight was Tyrell's night and he knew the pressure was on him," he added. "He had to finish at the free throw line, and he did." Hot Springs coach Derek Bean said some calls could have gone either way in the games' final minutes as his team was assessed two offensive charges. Nevertheless, he credited the Eagles for tripping up his defense. "It was quick breakdown," he said. "We've been stressing all weekend about being disciplined on defense and staying on the floor." "We might have some calls go the other direction but kudos to Crownpoint," he added. "They came and they fought hard."

The visiting Tigers were

SEE TITLE | B10



Crownpoint Eagle Tyrell Archie (24) is fouled by Hot Springs Tigers teammates Ethan Flores, left, and Randin Gossett on Saturday at the Wingate Bears Holiday Classic in Fort Wingate. NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

6-year-old wins two world titles in Las Vegas

BY DAVID SMITH
NAVAJO TIMES

WINDOW ROCK — Earlier this month, Klay Tohsonii of Montezuma Creek, Utah, won two world competitions for dummy roping. He took the gold for the 2021 Six-and-Under Stetson Country Christmas World Championship Dummy Roping for Kids and the 2021 Six-and-Under Rope Smart World Championship for kids. Both events took place in Las Vegas. Klay has always been interested in roping, said his parents. Most of his family are rodeo athletes and he and

the other kids of the family are already following in their footsteps. Klay is a very energetic boy who enjoys playing basketball, golfing, roping, going fishing, hunting, and riding horses. His father, Nick Tohsonii, always took his son out and do these activities together. "He (Klay) shows that all the hard work truly paid off and when everybody, like the local community and even the Navajo Nation president recognizes him, it's just a bonus," Nick said. "But I'm very happy and

SEE TWO | B7



Klay Tohsonii (left) of Montezuma Creek, Utah, won two world titles for dummy roping. He is pictured with his mother Chassity Benward and sister Ensley. SUBMITTED

'Heart of a lion'

Diné to represent Arizona at Special Olympics USA Games

BY DAVID SMITH
NAVAJO TIMES

WINDOW ROCK — Out of 55 participants, Darnell Moore of Tucson was selected for one of

six open slots for the Arizona Unified Basketball team. The team will represent Arizona at the Special Olympics USA Games in Florida next year. Darnell is 20 years old, has autism, and is part Navajo, part Akimel O'odham of the Pima, and part Shoshone-Bannock from Fort Hall, Idaho. His father Dennis Moore is from Názlíni, and his mother Rache-

SEE ARIZONA | B7



Darnell Moore of Tucson was selected to compete on the Arizona Unified Basketball team. The team will represent Arizona at the Special Olympics USA Games in Florida next year. SUBMITTED

Positive mindset fueling MV wrestlers

BY QUENTIN JODIE
NAVAJO TIMES

FORT DEFIANCE — Even with a yearlong pause the Monument Valley wrestling program is looking to have a marvelous season. MV coach Clyde McBride said he's excited about the talent he has despite not having a season last year due to the pandemic. "I got a good group of sophomores," he said. "They didn't get the 50 matches they would have gotten as freshmen but we're going to get after it." With good attitudes, McBride said his team is improving each week. "We're trying to play catch-up, but I have a really talented team," he said. "We just got to get them some more mat time." At last weekend's 7th Annual Veteran Memorial Invitational, the Mustang boys placed sixth out of 21 teams with 318 points. The girls, meanwhile, took 11th with 132 points in the 23-team tournament. "I think our outlook is looking positive," McBride said.

The Mustang boys had six wrestlers earn medals at the Window Rock event headed by the second- and third-place finish from sophomore Joseph Rodriguez (126) and junior Cauy Betoney (120), respectively. Rodriguez lost his championship bout to Bloomfield's Adan Benavidez in a fall while Betoney pinned Gabriel Horton of Bloomfield in his third-place match. MV also had sophomore Devin Salt (145) place fifth, sophomore Jaron Anagal (138) at seventh, Alcott Aaron (113) at eighth and senior Adrian Nelson (150) at eighth. McBride said Betoney and Rodriguez are two wrestlers to look out for. In addition, he's looking forward to the progress of Matthew Curley, who placed ninth at 113 on Saturday. "He's going to drop to 106 and I think he's going to be dominating," McBride said of junior wrestler. The MV coach was also

SEE MINDSET | B2

Striking Eagle set to start on Tuesday

WINDOW ROCK — The 10th Annual Striking Eagle Native American Invitational will feature 16 teams in the high school division for both boys and girls. The annual event will start on Tuesday and it will be held at Johnson Gymnasium on the University of New Mexico campus in Albuquerque. The three-day tournament will also have 16 middle school teams and eight elementary teams competing. The event will conclude on Dec. 30 with the championship games.

Admission is \$10 for adults (\$5 re-entry fee) and \$5 for students/elders (\$3 re-entry fee). A three-day event pass of \$25 will be sold on the opening day, Dec. 28. Outside food and drinks will not be allowed but concession will be available onsite during the SENAI tournament. Facemasks will be required to enter Johnson Gym and it must be worn all times for student-athletes, coaches, staff and spectators. For more info: facebook.com/SENAI2021/.

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Miyamura X-C alumna excelling at Trinidad

BY BARBARA BOXLEITNER
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

GALLUP — Kaleia Vicenti was a valuable contributor to the Trinidad State College women's cross-country team.

The Miyamura High School graduate competed in all six fall meets. The freshman placed fourth among the Trojans — and 14th overall — in an October 5K and fifth on the team at a September 5K. She was sixth among the Trojans in three races and seventh in one.

"Getting the opportunity to run collegiately is the biggest blessing," she said. "I've seen myself excel way past the limits I had in high school."

Though she had offers from other schools, much farther away too, Trinidad State in Colorado became her first choice

because of the interest shown by head cross-country and track and field coach Lauren Masterson and assistant coach Kyle Masterson.

After initially emailing the coaches, Vicenti said, she received an email response within a day. When she emailed questions, she said, "They would email me very quickly."

She visited the campus in January.

"I met the team. I saw the dorms. I saw the campus," she said. "It has really small classes. That made me comfortable."

She said she was offered a scholarship within weeks.

"I feel like home," she said. "It's my home away from home."

Her comfort level fueled consistent performances.

"I was pleased with the way that Kaleia adjusted to college

training," head coach Masterson said. "She is a hard worker and determined to achieve her dreams. She showed up every single day and gave her best."

"Kaleia was able to run her best because she believes in her teammates, us as coaches, and herself. Belief is the most powerful tool," the coach said.

Vicenti's obligation to perform well for her team provided an incentive for her to tolerate the hardship that comes from distance running.

"Getting comfortable with the pain," she said. "I was out there hurting."

Racing techniques, such as surging, allowed her to trim her times.

"For 10 to 15 seconds, you pick up the pace, then go back to regular," she said, adding that she would surge four to five times a race. "I didn't want to do too

much or too little."

She typically competed alongside freshman teammate Kianna Quintana.

"Kaleia's race strategy was to sit in the middle of the pack and try to pass as many people as she could through the last half of the race," Masterson said. "Kaleia's strength is her endurance."

They pushed each other and finished close in the results. At the National Junior College Athletic Association Region 9 5K, for example, Quintana finished 19th and Vicenti 20th, seven seconds apart.

At the NJCAA Division I 5K, she was sixth among the Trojans, five spots behind Quintana, as both set personal bests.

They ran together during the NJCAA Half Marathon Championship, Vicenti's first half marathon.

"It was an amazing experience," she said. "It was a very fun experience."

"It was very hard in the beginning. We were going a little slower," she said.

At the six-mile mark, when they had to turn back for the return leg, they saw the runners from the men's race approaching.

"The boys started 20 minutes after us," she said. "They were starting to catch up."

So, she and Quintana made their move and passed about 15 runners on the way back, said Vicenti.

"The half marathon is very tough," she said. "My legs were so numb, probably the last two miles."

Vicenti will compete during the indoor track season.

"I'm very excited because I've never done indoor," she added.

- GIRLS BASKETBALL**
MONDAY, DEC. 27
- Grants at Farmington at 8 a.m.
 - Shiprock at Las Cruces at 3 p.m.
- TUESDAY, DEC. 28**
- Alchesay, Blue Ridge, Chinle, Cibecue, Ganado, Holbrook, Monument Valley (Ariz.), Morenci, Page, Payson, Red Mesa, Round Valley, Sanders-Valley, Snowflake, St. Michael, Window Rock, and Winslow at the Epic Tourneys New Year's Classic presented by Chandler Prep at Higley High School.
 - Bloomfield at Belen at 2:30 p.m.
 - Clovis at Laguna Acoma at 5:30 p.m.
 - Escalante at Gallup at 5:30 p.m.
 - Mescalero Apache at Cuba at 12:30 p.m.
 - Navajo Prep at Dulce at 3 p.m.
 - Ramah at Whitehorse at 5:30 p.m.
 - Wingate at Socorro at 1 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29**
- Quemado at Wingate at 3 p.m.

- BOYS BASKETBALL**
THURSDAY, DEC. 23
- Crownpoint at Kirtland Central at 7 p.m.
 - Escalante at Dulce at 7 p.m.
 - Farmington at Aztec at 7 p.m.
 - Mora at Native American Community Academy at 1 p.m.
- MONDAY, DEC. 27**
- Gallup and Piedra Vista at the Hobbs Tournament.
 - Shiprock at Las Cruces at 3 p.m.
- TUESDAY, DEC. 28**
- Bloomfield at Goddard at 7:30 p.m.
 - Chinle, Ganado, Morenci, Sanders-Valley, Show Low, and St. Johns at the Blue Ridge Timber Mesa White Mountain Classic.
 - Cuba at East Mountain at 11 a.m.
 - Farmington at Carlsbad at 6 p.m.
 - Gallup and Piedra Vista at the Hobbs Tournament.
 - Newcomb at Native American Community Academy at 4 p.m.
 - St. Pius X at Rio Rancho at 3 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29**
- Gallup and Piedra Vista at the Hobbs Tournament.
 - Quemado at Wingate at 4:30 p.m.

Farmington grapplers claim two titles

BY QUENTIN JODIE
NAVAJO TIMES

FORT DEFIANCE — Farmington coach John Mason didn't expect to win two team titles at the Veterans Memorial Invitational.

The fourth-year coach said winning the girls' team title over two-time state champs Miyamura was a huge surprise.

"Miyamura is the program that has set the standard," Mason said. "Our girls are young, but it was different scoring system that made a difference."

The Farmington girls brought 14 girls to the event, and they finished with a team score of 306 points while Miyamura tallied 289 with 10 wrestlers.

"I can't explain the scoring system, but we came out on top," Mason said. "But it's great for our girls. They're exciting and it gives them something to work for."

The Lady Scorpis had three wrestlers finish as the reserve champion with Katrina Henry (107), Ebony Smith (132), and Lilly Delegrito (165) making the championship match in their respective brackets.

The Farmington boys, on the other hand, dominated the competition with 595 points as the seventh edition of the VMI attracted 23 teams.

Bloomfield finished a distant second with 503.5 points.

The Scorpis had 14 of their 16 wrestlers make the medal rounds with four of them winning their respective weight classes.

Junior Wycolt Henry claimed the title at 165 followed by junior Ivan Smith (175), senior



Farmington Scorpion wrestler Wycolt Henry hooks his hands together as he prepares to pin Kirtland Central Bronco wrestler Zakk Thomas to the mat on Saturday in Fort Defiance.

Ezequiel Borunda (190), and senior Kioni Benally (285).

The Scorpis also had Julian Juarez (120), Logan Cambridge (150), Nathan Sanders (157) and Victor Borunda (215) place second while Sterling Allison (132), Danny Duarte (138) and Daxton Allison (144) took third.

"It's December," Mason said

when asked to comment about his team's first-place win. "Everything is glorified practices until February."

In the meantime, Mason said they're going to work out the cobwebs and find the team's new identity as they look to defend their 5A state title.

"Last year's accomplishment

don't pay for today's bills," the Farmington coach said. "We have to do our own work this year."

Farmington veteran Ezequiel Borunda concurred.

"February is where it's all at," Borunda said. "We can win all these tournaments, but it doesn't matter unless you get

the blue trophy.

"These tournaments help us out, like this Window Rock tournament looks and feels like a state tournament," he added. "It preps us for the state tournament in February. We're just trying to wrestle one match at a time, and we want to peak at the right time, which is February."

MINDSET

FROM PAGE 1

enthusiastic about Jennifer Alcott as the senior pinned Miyamura's Amber Gutierrez in the opening period for the 100-pound title.

"She's 13-0 right now," McBride said. "She hasn't been out of the first period yet."

At 145, senior Lorilee Begay took ninth, losing her first match of the season to Aztec's Princess Altisi, the eventual champion, in the opening round.

"She was a state placer and she looked really tough," McBride said of Begay. "She just happened to hit a New Mexico state champion here. And once again, getting that one year behind hurts."

Other placers at the VMI included junior Meki Yazzie (152) third, freshman Kandilra Speck (145) sixth and Stanley Amemia (235) seventh.

With the talent he has, McBride said he's looking to get 10 boys and five girls to state.

Looking at the 3A North, the MV coach said all the teams are solid.

"Page, Tuba and Chinle are looking alright," he said. "Ganado has some good ones too. Wrestling has improved in the opening round."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Patrick Keryte, Diné, took first the 220-weight class at the Kent County Wrestling Tournament Dec. 17 and 18 in Maryland.

Diné wins 220 title at Kent County Wrestling Tourney

KENT ISLAND, Md. — Home away from home, a Diné student, Patrick Keryte, took first place in the 220-weight class at the Kent County Wrestling Tournament Dec. 17 and 18.

Keryte is a senior at Richard Montgomery High and one of the team captains for the wrestling team.

His parents are Selina Keryte of Manuelito, New Mexico, and Ronald Keryte of Isleta Pueblo,

New Mexico. The family lives in Rockville, Maryland.

Patrick dedicated his win to his late uncle, Alvin Thomas, of Manuelito. Patrick said Thomas had always encouraged him.

Ramah's Lewis leads Highlands with 18 points

NDNSPORTS

CHADRON, Neb. — Ramah's Jordyn Lewis drained a 3-pointer going into the fourth quarter for New Mexico Highlands but the Cowgirls fell short to Chadron State, 68-63.



Jordyn Lewis

Her three increased Highlands' lead to 52-47 and another Lewis 3-point with 1:48 left cut Chadron's lead to 63-61. But that's as close as Highlands would get.

Lewis led the Cowgirls with 18 points and 4 rebounds and 3 assists.

The Cowgirls are off until Dec. 31 when they return home to take on Westminster.

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SPORTS ADVERTISEMENT

Winter Classic basketball tourney

GALLUP — The 8th Annual Winter Classic open men and coed basketball tournament is scheduled Dec. 30 to Jan.

2 at Gallup Catholic (Hozho). Entry fee is \$225 for both divisions with a \$50 deposit. Awards to first through third place, all-tourneys and MVP. Information: Shell, 505-979-8685.

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Navajo Times

'The sky's the limit'

Winslow girls victorious, MV boys win

BY DAVID SMITH
NAVAJO TIMES



Monument Valley Mustang Roberto Flores flies through the air and aims the ball for the basket as Window Rock Scout Marcus Nelson (24) looks on in Fort Defiance on Tuesday night.

NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

WINSLOW — On Saturday, Winslow welcomed Monument Valley to a basketball game where both schools walked away with a victory.

The Lady Bulldogs were able to overcome Monument Valley with a huge lead that helped the girls regain some lost momentum while the Mustangs pulled off a win against the Winslow boys.

The girls' game started with Lady Mustang Sheridan Curley making the first steal and then the first basket. Lady Bulldog Kylie Begay retaliated immediately with a basket. Winslow took the lead and Monument Valley followed close behind.

Locking down the Mustangs

Shyra Shorty made Monument Valley's first 3-pointer and brought the team a basket away from a tie, but the Lady Bulldogs found its rhythm and pushed forward while successfully locking down the Lady Mustangs. Thanks to the Lady Bulldogs' shooting, it took the first quarter 21-10.

In the second half though, the Lady Mustangs put it into high gear and chased down Winslow. Kierra Johnson made two 3-pointers and two baskets, Shorty made one basket and one 3-pointer and Aiyanna Nash made a 3-pointer for the Lady Mustangs.

For Winslow, Begay made two 3-pointers and two free throw shots, and teammate Shaelene Singer made a 3-pointer. Monument Valley made explosive gains, but thanks to Winslow large lead, the Lady Bulldogs won the first half of the game leading 36-32.

In the third period, Jaci Gonnie made four baskets and

one 3-pointer, and Begay scored five points through free throws. For Monument Valley, Angel Holiday made one 3-pointer and her team made baskets as well, but Winslow held on to a 52-43 advantage.

In the final period, Lady Mustang Skylynn Flores made two free throws, and her teammates brought up the score with

three baskets, but Winslow's defense prevented them from making any more shots. Begay made one 3-pointer and two free throws and Holiday made two free throws as well. With the Lady Bulldog's defense and superb shooting, they won the game 68-63.

Winslow girls coach Jerron Jordan thanks Monument Val-

ley for coming out and giving the girls a game and for putting up a good fight. Jordan said the Lady Mustangs are well taught.

Jordan says he's proud of the team, which adjusted whenever Monument Valley launched an attack, mixed in the goals, and made shots when it pressed in. He credits the team's cohesion that helped seal the win, credit-

ing Anysa Tso, Janessa Myers, and Tiuriah Tsosie, finding Kylie Begay and Jaci Gonnie open for shots.

"We hit a bit of a road bump coming out of the Pepsi tournament, got hit with a couple of injuries, but we regrouped with two really good teams this week," Jordan said.

"I think our season is going well, we're probably the number one streak the schedule and there's no off night," he said, "you got to play hard every night and my kids know that so I'm proud of them for that."

Mustang Coach Jason Franklin said he was proud of the team's effort and energy, saying too many turnovers and giving up offensive rebounds hurt them that night.

Still, he commends the whole team for their performance and the girls on the bench who came out and held their own like Shannon Holiday on defense and Kiera Johnson on offense, saying they're progressing well.

"I think we're progressing well," Franklin said. "We're still kind of feeling our way around and trying to kind of establish ... who we want to be both offensively and defensively."

"But the girls are picking things up quick," he said. "Their level of effort, especially on the defensive side is a little bit better every single game."

Franklin added, "But I think that if we stay on the trajectory that we're on right now we'll be in good shape toward the end of the season, which is where we want to peak so I think we'll be good."

Dominating the floor

The boy's game started with Bulldog Kasey Monroe making the first basket and Mustang Andrew Sheppard making the second, starting the first period with a tie.

The Mustangs quickly dominated the floor with Uzziel Flores making the first 3-pointer and Sheppard making three baskets and one free throw.

For Winslow, Monroe made the first 3-pointer for his team, but the quarter ended in the Mustangs' favor with 18-5.

In the second quarter, Monument Valley continued its drive with Sheppard making two free throws and two baskets, followed by Flores who also made two free throws and one basket. Winslow was able to break through the Mustangs defense and Bulldog Isaac David made two free throws and a basket, and Blaine Begay made a 3-pointer. The Mustangs took the first half with 36-15.

At the start of the second half, Uzziel Flores and Roberto Flores each made a 3-pointer, and Stephan Hale and Salelea Sheppard each made two baskets.

The Bulldogs were able to rally and score some points. Lythel Baker led the team with a 3-pointer, two free throws, and two baskets. Monument Valley secured the period with 54-30.

Mustangs' onslaught

In the final quarter, the clock started running as the Mustangs continued its onslaught.

Andrew Sheppard led MV's score with a 3-pointer and two baskets. Bulldog Baker made one free throw and David made the last two free throws for Winslow before Mustang Cash Blackrock made the final basket of the game. The final score was 68-33 for the Mustangs.

Mustang coach Randolph Gilmore said he is glad for the win though his team needs improvement on some aspects like communicating. However that night, they successfully executed the plays, played offense and defense, and improved in running the plays.

He said the whole team did great, but credits Andrew Sheppard for being a team leader and Roberto Flores for successfully executing plays and being where he needs to be.

"We had we lost two games earlier in the season," Gilmore said. "But I think that helped us in a good way because it helped us to work harder than before."

"So, we are working harder and because we want to continue to get better," Gilmore added. "I told them, 'The sky's the limit for us,' like there's no limit on how good we can get, so we try to get better."

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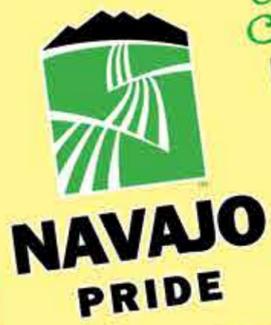
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NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Monument Valley Mustang Albrandon Byjoe (24) passes the ball over guarding Window Rock Scout Owen Mitchell (5) on Tuesday night in Fort Defiance.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Monument Valley Lady Mustang Angel Holiday (11) goes after the ball as Window Rock Lady Scout Desiree Nelson guards her on Tuesday in Fort Defiance.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Monument Valley Lady Mustang Sheridan Curley (2) loses her balance while guarding Window Rock Lady Scout Shiryl Yazzie, white jersey, on Tuesday in Fort Defiance.

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Wingate Holiday Classic



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO
Whitehorse Raider Tyrell Benally (13) knocks the ball away from Crownpoint Eagle Lawrence Charley (5) on Dec. 16 during the Wingate Bears Holiday Classic in Fort Wingate.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO
Whitehorse Raider Weston Manygoats, white jersey, and Crownpoint Eagle Kordell McMillan (10) look at the ball as it flies through the air on Dec. 16 at the Wingate Bears Holiday Classic in Fort Wingate.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO
Wingate Bear Jordan Wagner (23) aims for the basket as Navajo Pine Warrior Dylan Keeto (30) looks on at the Wingate Bears Holiday Classic in Fort Defiance.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO
Whitehorse Raider Weston Manygoats (12) reaches up and attempts to block a shot being made by Crownpoint Eagle Taye Harvey (2) on Dec. 16 at the Wingate Bears Holiday Classic in Fort Wingate.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO
Wingate Bear LaShane Wyaco (21) looks to pass the ball to teammate Seth Henderson as Navajo Pine Warrior Tyren Wheeler (15) closely guards him on Dec. 16 in Fort Wingate.

ARIZONA

FROM PAGE 1

al is from Fort Hall.

Darnell is a hardworking, fun-loving young man who was always interested in sports since he was young. He competes in bowling, tennis, and track and field, but basketball is his favorite.

"I like the competition, my teammates, making new friends, and meeting new coaches," Darnell said. "I also like dribbling and shooting."

He's enrolled at Amphitheater High School and is in a job-training program with the University of Arizona, where he works on campus and gets hands-on experience. He enjoys working at the McKale Memorial Center where he works close to sports.

"Special Olympics opened him to communicating and working with people," Racheal

said. "He's been involved with different sports, and he has had a lot of opportunities with Special Olympics."

Heart, attitude, and fundamental skills

Darnell has been participating in Special Olympics for almost eight years. His participation earned him recognition and found friends.

Last year he was the AIA Unified Sports Athlete of the Year. He also made an appearance in a commercial for the Special Olympics as well. A few weeks ago, he got to meet Phoenix Suns player Devin Booker.

He also keeps in touch with his Native American roots by participating in powwows and playing the drums with his father, uncles, and grandfather.

Darnell was the first to hear about the opening on the Arizona Unified Basketball team and asked his parents if he could do it – a decision that they fully supported.

In July he met his coach, Mary Roberts, a retired police officer who has worked with Special Olympics as a basketball coach for years.

She remembers Darnell being shy when they first met in the summer. Now he greets her with a hug.

Roberts said she has a criterion when it comes to selecting players for the Unified team and Darnell checks all of them.

"It's very important not only for fundamental skills, but you can see that they have the basics, and we just need to fine-tune them," she said, "but what I look for is heart and attitude."

"And I'm telling you Darnell shined through with everything," she said. "Heart, attitude, and basic fundamental skills, the young man can shoot the lights out."

Playing as one

Roberts explained that the Unified basketball team is meant to promote inclusive-

ness, understanding, kindness, knowledge, and awareness.

There are six athletes with intellectual disabilities on the team and four without, but they all play together, and they play as one. Disregarding disability, race, age, or sex, it doesn't matter because they all play together.

Roberts also stresses that the athletes on her team are the best in all of Arizona and that alone is an accomplishment. Her team becomes like a family and sometimes they go to schools and see special-needs kids, showing them that their dreams and accomplishments are possible.

Roberts gives credit to Darnell's family for being supportive of their son.

'A growl'

Every Saturday the family will drive from Tucson to the center of Phoenix so that Darnell can make it to practice. The Moores' youngest son Derek is also

starting to play basketball and Darnell is helping him train.

"During practice, Darnell has a heart of a lion," Roberts said. "He gets frustrated with himself, but you can see that he just let out a growl and I say, 'Stay in it, Darnell, go hard and do this,' and he listens."

"He tries so hard, and he accomplishes," Roberts said.

Roberts said that the team would be playing like any other basketball game, with the same rules and regulations as any other team. To play without following the rules would be a disservice to her team.

The Moore's love and are proud of their son for his accomplishments and for becoming a fine young man.

"He's proud to represent the Native American community and all the tribes he's affiliated with," Dennis said. "I also want to thank everyone, friends, and family, for all the support over the years."

"Ever since he's been in Special Olympics he had a lot of

support," Dennis added.

Darnell is looking forward to the USA Games this coming year, saying he feels nervous but excited. He hopes the team will win so that they can go to the world championships next.

Roberts is happy to work with Darnell, seeing he has made a lot of improvement since coming and having a positive effect on those around him.

"He gets out of his parents' truck, runs to us, gives me a hug, and says he can't wait to get on the court," Roberts said. "He loves his teammates, and he is so proud, you can see it in his smile that melts your heart."

"He has come so far, and this is what Special Olympics is all about," Roberts added, "you can see the pride in this young man and I tell you, it's working."

The family has created a GoFundMe account on behalf of Darnell Moore and Special Olympics Arizona. To donate visit the website: <https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/3626598>.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Bloomfield Bobcat Adam Benevitez, top, works on pinning Monument Valley Mustang Joseph Rodriguez to the mat on Friday in the 126-pound category in Fort Defiance.

Five Bloomfield wrestlers take top spot at Veterans Memorial Invite

BY QUENTIN JODIE
NAVAJO TIMES

FORT DEFIANCE — The Bloomfield Bobcats put six wrestlers in the finals of the Veterans Memorial Invitational on Saturday.

Five of those grapplers emerged as champions during the Window Rock High tournament that featured 24 teams.

The Bobcats dominated the middle-weights with junior Adan Benevitez starting a string of victories for the Bloomfield squad.

The junior grappler earned a fall over Monument Valley's Joseph Rodriguez in the first period for the 126-pound title.

"I still need more work on top," Benevitez said. "It's something that I need to improve on to make myself better."

With his pin, Benevitez improved his record to 17-0 in his new weight class. Last year, he won the New Mexico 4A state crown while wrestling at 120.

"I want to win another state title," the Bloomfield junior said.

At 132, Elias Johnson joined Benevitez atop the podium as he also pinned his opponent.

It took nearly two periods for Johnson to get the best of Texas wrestler Hector Frausto as the El Paso Del Valle High senior tried to overpower the Bloomfield freshman.

"My opponent was really strong but, in my opinion, it doesn't matter what's on the outside," Johnson said. "It's the inside that counts and I think it's my mental mindset that's winning my matches."

Johnson said he had to work his tail off to outmaneuver his opponent, especially down the stretch when he placed a half nelson pin.

"I had nothing to lose, and I just believed in myself," he said.

At 12-2 overall, Johnson said he's looking forward to the rest of the season. His goal is to improve on his fourth-place finish at state last year.

"Most likely, I'm going to stay at 132," he said. "I feel real comfortable at this weight. I just hope to do well at state."

The Bobcats continued its dominance with Matthias DeHerrera capturing gold at 138. The Bloomfield senior ran his record to 13-0 after pinning Round Valley's Morgan Orona in the second period.

At 144, Bloomfield's Samuel Eveland earned a 10-3 decision over Winslow's Bryn Larsen to keep the streak going.

The Bobcats added one more first-place finish with Diego Snell-Martinez winning



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Del Valle Conquistador wrestler Hector Frausto lifts Bloomfield Bobcat wrestler Elias Johnson and prepares to throw hi to the mat on Friday during the 132-pound category in Fort Defiance.

the 157-pound weight class over Nathan Sanders of Farmington.

The Bobcat senior pinned Sanders in the early going of the second period.

At 285, the Bloomfield team settled for a second-place finish from Robert Williams as he was pinned in 32 seconds against

Farmington grappler Kioni Benally.

In the team standings, Farmington finished first with 595 points while Bloomfield took second with 503.5 points.

Rounding out the top five included Winslow (447), Miyamura (404.5), and Aztec (373.5).

TWO

FROM PAGE 1

hopefully he'll continue down the road with more success."

Klay's mother, Chassity Benward, said she is proud of her son for not only having so many hobbies but also for doing well in school. She said Klay asks his teachers lots of questions and gets along well with his fellow students.

All-around cowboy

"He's all-around, just very outgoing, adventurous, curious, funny, and happy, he really enjoys a lot of other hobbies," Benward said. "He's just an all-around little guy, we love him very much."

He was 4 years old when he started entering competitions and showing his talent for roping, winning multiple prizes in the past two years.

The kindergartner has traveled to six different states for competition and is also the current titleholder for the INFR 2021 Kids Dummy Roping Championship.

"What I like about roping are the kids, talking and competing and the challenges and having fun," Klay said.

He enjoys meeting new people, making friends, and traveling to new places.

Canceled competitions, winning title

The past year was difficult for him when the COVID-19 pandemic struck and deeply affected the family.

All competitions were canceled, and he was left asking when the competition would start again. He missed roping and seeing his friends. He was very happy when school and competitions started. He was excited to rope again, especially when he went to the world championships.

On Dec. 9, Klay competed against many opponents in the Stetson Country Christmas World Championship. He hung in there until his last throw, roping his target 13 feet away and winning the title.

He won a custom headstall and a beast collar, a saddle pad, a classic rope bag, a smarty dummy, and a personalized trophy buckle.

A few days later, he was in the 2021 Rope Smart Championship. This time he roped his target at 10-feet of distance and won the title on Dec. 11. He won another rope bag, ropes, gift certificates, a RopeSmart dummy, a world championship saddle, and a second custom buckle.

"He has come a long way from practicing, being committed, being dedicated," Benward said, "all his hard work has paid off and he's still going."

"His gift is God's talent and we're blessed to have him," she said.

Future success

Benward encourages other mothers across the Navajo Nation to be supportive of their children as that support can lay the foundation for their children's future success.

After witnessing all that was a loss in the past year of COVID, opportunity, and loved ones, she stresses that family is more important than ever.

"I feel like we should reflect on these complicated years and really be supportive of one another and love one another, especially our children," Benward said. "They grow up so fast and before you know it, they're out of the house and on their own."

"I love Klay and my daughter Ensley, and I'd do anything for them no matter how much it costs, how far it is or how challenging it is," she added. "As a mother, I'll do anything for my children. Having their backs and giving them the support they need."

Nick is proud of how far his son has come and hopes it will have a lasting impact.

"For young kids," Nick said. "I truly would like Klay to inspire the young kids so that they see anything is possible if you put in the hard work and the dedication and see how far you can go."

Klay is already getting ready for his next competition on Jan. 1, 2022, and he's looking forward to more fun and meeting new potential friends in the coming new year.



SUBMITTED

Klay Tohsonii was a double winner in Las Vegas, capturing two world titles in dummy roping. He is pictured here with his dad Nick Tohsonii.

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Gallup drains 10 treys in latest win over Piedra Vista

BY QUENTIN JODIE
NAVAJO TIMES

GALLUP — In a 12-game stretch, the Gallup girls' basketball team has won 11. The defending 4A state champs have a packed resume, which includes wins over 5A schools Hobbs and Piedra Vista.

The Lady Bengals have also beaten four teams at the 4A level, earning Gallup the No. 1 ranking.

"This stretch that we just played is probably more difficult than the stretch we played last year," Gallup coach Todd McBroom said of the abbreviated 2020 schedule, which was played in just over a month this past spring due to the global pandemic.

"It was a tough stretch and, you know, it was (against) better competition," he said. "And the girls responded, and they've come out with some big wins."

Five of those wins were without senior forward Jordan Joe. The Pima Community College signee got hurt during the Santa Fe Capital Armendariz tournament two weeks ago.

McBroom said losing one of your top players "is not easy to adjust to" but the Bengals have found other ways to win.

"We've had a good stretch without her, but the thing is we kind of go with 'next man,'" he said. "The kids have stepped up. They've played minutes and they've played well doing it."

On Saturday, the Bengals picked up its latest win by downing Piedra Vista for the second time this season.

The Gallup team bombarded the visiting Panthers with 10 treys as they won every quarter except the fourth when they



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO
Gallup Lady Bengal Dalayah Morris (22) shoots the ball from the three-point line as Piedra Vista Lady Panther Christian Smith attempts to block her shot on Saturday in Gallup.

were outscored 17 to 16.

Nonetheless, they came out victorious with a 57-49 win as senior Michaela McCurtain poured in a game-high 26

points.

McCurtain, who hit five treys, got things rolling for Gallup, scoring 11 of her team's first 18 points.

"I just came out with a clear mindset, knowing that whatever happens tonight I wanted to go out and play my hardest," the Gallup guard said. "And with Jordan out too, someone has to step up."

McCurtain's second trey at the 5:27 mark gave the home team a 9-4 cushion.

"My confidence really went up after I made those two shots," she said. "Sometimes my shots don't go in but I'm glad that I had a nice shooting night."

PV, which lost the first contest by 27 points, pulled within 18-14 after back-to-back buckets from senior Lanae Billy.

In the second, Gallup pushed its lead to as much as 11 as Mc-

Curtain scored seven straight for a 27-16 cushion with 6:02 left until halftime.

The Lady Panthers got two baskets from freshman point guard Shishawna Begaye to get within 30-22 at the break.

With PV limiting McCurtain in the third, Gallup had others pick up the scoring slack with senior Trinity Juan, Cheyenne John, and junior Yanibah Begay nailing a trey each.

Juan's buzzer-beater at the end of the third quarter gave Gallup a 41-32 advantage.

PV got as close as 54-46 late in the fourth but Gallup closed out the game by hitting 3-of-4 free-throws for the eight-point win.

In that final frame, McCurtain came up with seven points

to lead all scorers.

"She's been really consistent all year," McBroom said of his senior guard. "I mean, this is by far her best year that she's had, and she's had some good years."

"It's just not on the offensive end, she's doing a great job on the defensive end," he added. "I'm really proud of her on the defensive end and her shooting has improved a lot. She's driving to the basket, and she's a hard one to guard."

Juan added nine points and senior post Hailey Long chipped in eight for Gallup.

Billy, who put in 20, led Piedra Vista. Senior Doniah Gruber and Harper added nine points each.

'This is a big step'

Ganado wrestler wins gold at VMI

BY QUENTIN JODIE
NAVAJO TIMES

FORT DEFIANCE — A first-place finish at the Veterans Memorial Invitational reassured Cauy Curley that he's on the right path.

As the lone Ganado wrestler to make the finals, Curley stuck to his technique to take gold in the 106-pound weight class.

He defeated Winslow's Michael Romero by a 6-2 decision. "This is a big step, a boost in confidence," the Ganado grappler said following his win.

Curley hopes this victory will lead to more success down the road as he aspires to win a state title.

"My goal is to be a state champion," he said. "This is a stepping stool to where I need to be, but I know there are still things I need to work on."

Nothing came easy for the Ganado wrestler as he beat wrestlers seeded higher than him, including No. 2 Romero in the finals.

"He made me work for it," he said of his opponent. "I mainly wrestle with technique, and today I had to push through it."

Curley, who improved to 10-2 overall, felt that he had a chance to win gold leading up to the event.

"This is what I've been working on since last week," he said. "It's been my main focus, so it's a great feeling to win this."

Curley said he's one of the more seasoned wrestlers on the team despite not having a high school season last year due to the pandemic.

"I was training through the pandemic," he said.

Other medal winners for Ganado include Austin Kee's fifth-place finish at 106 and Jerome Peshtony's seventh-place finish at 150.

On the girls' team, Miya Jensen placed fourth at 126 while Lyndsay Thomas (132) and Rolonda Crank (145) finished eighth.

Tuba City

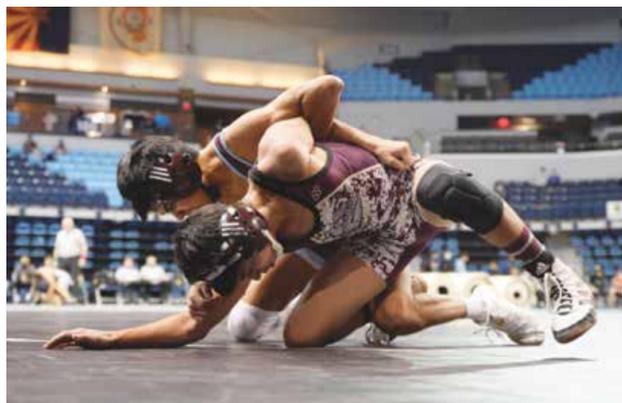
The Tuba City Warriors put six wrestlers on the podium, headed by the fourth-place finish from Rias Merino (113) and the fifth-place effort from Damon Yellowman (126).

The Warriors also had Matthew Polacca (175) take sixth while Kodi Nez (120), Dominic Sewestewa (144), and Caleb Saganitsa (190) earned seven-place honors.

Tuba City coach Ben Nez said Rias Merino, Kodi Nez, and Hunter Merino (132) are his top wrestlers.

"I hope to have them at state," he said.

Tuba City had one female



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO
Winslow Bulldog Michael Romero, foreground, attempts to prevent Ganado Hornet Cauy Curley from pinning him on Saturday in the 106-pound category in Fort Defiance.

wrestler compete in the tournament, with senior RainEagle Begaye placing third in the 114-pound weight class.

Begaye lost in the semis to eventual champ Mckayla Slivers of Miyamura in the semis.

In the third-place match, she picked up a 4-3 decision over Piñon's Jozannah Cooch-

yumptewa.

Her record now stands at 13-5 overall.

"She's been wrestling for all these years, and she's doing good in the Arizona standings," the Tuba City coach said. "She made state two years ago, and she lost out, so she wants to make it back again."

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Miyamura senior takes 113-pound title at Veterans Memorial Invite

BY QUENTIN JODIE
NAVAJO TIMES

FORT DEFIANCE — Miyamura senior George Piestewa has spent hours and hours on the mat to improve his craft.

That extra time has helped Piestewa to a 19-0 record as he claimed the 113-pound title at the Veterans Memorial Invitational on Saturday.

"It's very exciting," Piestewa said. "I've wrestled in this arena for three years. Last year COVID messed things up, and I was really disappointed."

In addition to Piestewa, the Patriots also had Rhys Sellers take gold as the senior won the 120-pound weight class.

Piestewa earned a 6-0 decision over Mingus High Racer Uhler in his finals.

"For the past week, I've been working my butt off to be where I'm at today," Piestewa said. "I always believed in myself. I'm doing everything I can to make it a great year."

Coupled with those two individual titles and 10 medal winners the Patriots placed fourth overall in the team standings with 404.5 points.

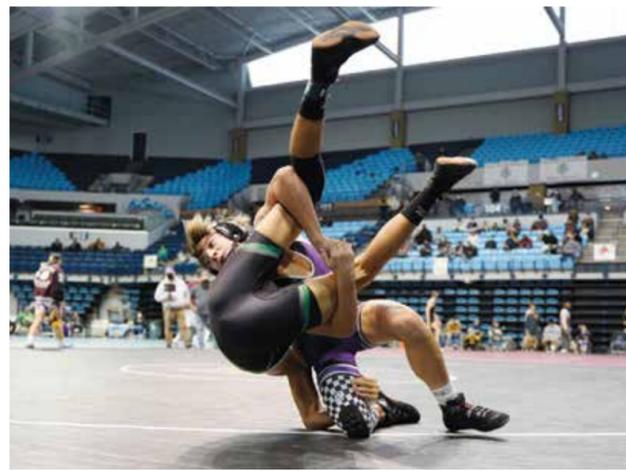
They finished behind Farmington (595), Bloomfield (503.5), and Winslow (447).

Miyamura had four wrestlers take fourth as Sebastian Olivas (150), Christian Ortiz (175), William Weaver-Slivers (215), and Hector Hernandez (285) lost their consolation matches.

"We're just trying to constantly get better," Miyamura coach Nate Sellers said. "We're evaluating our mistakes, and first and foremost, we have to hold ourselves accountable and fixing them. We just have to get better."

With this being its fourth competition, the Patriots have plenty of matches under their belts as they head into the Christmas break.

"We have a lot of film to watch and evaluate ourselves," he said. "We're going to hit that brick running, and we're going to work hard."



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Miyamura Patriot Rhys Sellers flips Farmington Julian Juarez over as he wrestles him in the 120-pound category on Saturday in Fort Defiance.

Sellers said most of the team members are returners, and most of them have been with him for a few years.

"I have about 60 kids, so I have huge team," he said. "I have a full JV and C team, so I have some up-and-comers in the program."

Girls

The Patriots sent 10 wrestlers to the VMI on the girls' team, and they took second overall behind Farmington.

The Lady Patriots finished with 289 points to Farmington's 306 markers as the Scorpions brought in 14 wrestlers, filling nine of the 12 brackets.

Miyamura had three wrestlers win individual crowns, with Lorianna Piestewa (107), Makayla Slivers (114), and Hannah Mariano (185) taking gold.

The Patriots also got a second-place effort from Amber Gutierrez (100) and Taniel Espinosa (120), and a third-place finish from Gabriella Garcia (126).

"We're running with one senior, and the rest are underclassmen," Sellers said of the girls' squad. "We have some

talent coming out of here, and we have some hard workers."

Sellers said Piestewa, who is 14-0 overall, is one of the top returners as she is looking to defend her state crown.

"She's just a little fireball at 107," he said of his pupil. "She's lost one match in her whole high school career."

"She was a state runner-up her eighth-grade year, and she was state champion last year," he added. "This year she's on a tear, so she's going to be definitely ranked in the country this year."

Sellers also expects Espinosa and Mariano to do well this season.

"Taniel Espinosa is an up-and-comer, and there is no reason why she shouldn't win state this year," he said.

As for Mariano, Sellers said she's "tough as nails."

"She goes out there and leaves it all on the mat," he said. "She has a lot of heart."

Despite finishing second to Farmington on Saturday, Sellers said his girls are looking for a three-peat at state this year.

"We have a great cohesion, and that's what makes this team so great," he said.

TITLE

FROM PAGE 1

also clutch at the free-throw line as the team made 8-of-10 in the final quarter, including the last four from sophomore Dominic Padilla.

Padilla (14 points) completed a 3-point play with 34.1 seconds to pull the Tigers within 44-43.

The Eagles shaved off 13 seconds off the clock before Hot Springs put Tsosie on the line with 21.9 seconds left.

The Crownpoint junior nailed both for a 46-43 cushion.

At the other end, Padilla was fouled while attempting a three-point shot.

Those who made free throws with 6.7 seconds tied the contest for the third time in this wire-to-wire contest.

"Those free-throws were huge in a big-time moment," Bean said.

Admittedly, Goodluck said he called one of his timeouts to ice Padilla to no avail. He called his final one when the Eagles advanced the ball to midcourt.

"That gave us better positioning," Goodluck said while noting that whoever got the ball had the green light to create something on their own.

"He drove it in, and he gave it to our big man," the Crownpoint coach said of Tsosie.

The Eagles faced an early 8-2 deficit, but a three-point shot from junior Tave Harvey (14 points) started a quarter ending 9-3 run.

Harvey added a two-point basket before Archie entered the last four as both teams scored the second quarter tied at 11-11.

After missing its initial three shots, the Eagles made 5-of-6 to build a 23-19 cushion following Kordell McMillian's 3-pointer with 2:08 left to go until the half.

Hot Springs got two free throws from junior Victor Munoz to end the break with the Eagles leading 23-21.

At the start of the second half, Crownpoint's defensive pressure helped the Eagles open a 31-21 cushion behind a pair of steals.

McMillian, who finished with 12, scored five straight and Harvey added a 3-pointer to cap an 8-0 run with 6:10 left in the third.

Bean said his team came out of the half a little flat, but they answered the call as they cut



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Hot Springs Tiger Dominic Padilla (14) shoots the ball over defending Crownpoint Eagle Tyrell Archie (24) and Quincy Benally (33) on Saturday at the Wingate Bears Holiday Classic in Fort Wingate.



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Crownpoint Eagle Quincy Benally (33) commits a charging foul on Hot Springs Tiger Ethan Flores (32) while shooting the ball for the basket on Saturday at the Wingate Bears Holiday Classic in Fort Wingate.

the Eagles lead down to 39-32 at the end of the third.

After trailing 43-36, the Tigers scored six straight to make

it a one-possession ballgame with 3:22 left.

A free throw by Harvey upped Crownpoint lead to 44-40 to set up the final sequence

"We came back and got back in the game, but Crownpoint is just tough," Bean said. "They're gonna be a tough team to follow down the road."

The championship win was Crownpoint's first title at the Wingate tournament and they hope this is a start of something good.

"It's been years since Crownpoint has had a good team," Goodluck said while adding that the core players have been together since they were in elementary school.

"My boys are well-balanced," he said. "And they're above average size, so we got some size advantage."

"Our team is pretty solid," McMillian chimed in. "We have some shot blockers, and people who can shoot and people who can finish."

"I feel like we can do well at state," he added.

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Going for two



Monument Valley Mustang Nahvonnie Gray (3) aims and releases the ball for the basket as Window Rock Scout Marcus Nelson reaches up to try and block it on Tuesday night in Fort Defiance.



Window Rock Scout Marcus Nelson, white jersey, shoots ball as Monument Valley Mustang Stephan Hale guards him on Tuesday in Fort Defiance.



Farmington Scorpion Cody Bassar-Steen (22) goes for a layup against the Gallup Bengals during the Marv Sanders Memorial Invitational on Dec. 18. The Scorpions came out victorious against the Bengals 72-55 maintaining its undefeated record.



Monument Valley Lady Mustang Sheridan Curley (2) looks at the basket as Window Rock Lady Scout Caitlin Belone (32) closely guards her on Tuesday in Fort Defiance.



Gallup Bengal Khohanon Atzhoon (23) drives the ball forward to attempt a layup against the Farmington Scorpions on Dec 18. The Bengals was defeated by the Scorpions 72-55.



Farmington Scorpion Patrick Shay (3) passes the ball to a teammate against the Gallup Bengals on Dec. 18 during the Marv Sanders Memorial Invitational. The Scorpions won the game against the Bengals 72-55.

The Commission was established to collect data regarding discriminatory acts against citizens of the Navajo Nation by private citizens, businesses, organizations and foreign governments within and outside the Navajo Nation.

How to file a complaint with the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission

How and where to Obtain a NNHRC complaint form?

You can download the complaint form at: www.nnhrc.navajo-nsn.gov or contact the office and request a complaint form and NNHRC Form 1A to be mailed to you.

Complete the complaint form and form NNHRC 1A

Complaint forms need to be filled out completely. They must contain the name and address of the person filing and the party who alleged discrimination with a detailed description of what occurred and how the persons human rights were violated. Include supporting documents, names and contact information of eyewitnesses.

Sign the complaint form and form NNHRC 1A

Complaint form need to be signed and dated by the client. After the documents are signed, it authorizes the NNHRC to review and investigate the complaint if needed.

Reviewing the Complaint

The Executive Director and NNHRC Staff reviews the filed complaint and determines if an investigation is necessary after initial intake meeting.

Investigation on all alleged discrimination

When the office deems it necessary the complaint is opened for investigation, NNHRC works closely with Federal, State, County, City and other agencies to administratively address the issue. NNHRC staff members sends a letter to the client and gives a report to the Commissioners about the investigation and the outcome.

Referring Complaints

If the office determines the complaint should be addressed by another Navajo Department it will be referred to the appropriate department.



The Office of the Commission is open from Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Due to Covid-19 the Karigan Building is closed to the public until further notice. The NNHRC Staff is taking steps to ensure we address your complaint efficiently. Intake meeting will be done by teleconference. In person meetings are dependent on individual circumstances and NNHRC Staff would need to meet with you outside of the Karigan building under CDC Guidelines.



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BY RIMA KRISST
NAVAJO TIMES

WINDOW ROCK – In this season of uncertainty, when traditional Diné ceremonies have largely ceased due to COVID-19, appreciation for artist David John's paintings that depict them has grown deeper.

John says the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic has made many Diné pause and reflect upon their culture.

"They had to slow down in order to go back to their prayers, their songs and their teachings," he said. "I know a lot of Navajos like the way I'm painting and it brings them back to their life growing up."

People thank him for sharing his paintings of the Yé'ii and the blessings, he said, which he believes can help them cope with what's going on in their lives and remember traditional ways.

"They get that positive light from my paintings when they see it," said John. "That's what I try to express – something good, something positive so people don't get stressed out ... there's a way out and there's good things ahead."

In Navajo teachings everything has a negative and positive and you have to keep everything in balance, said John.

"That's where the ceremony comes in," he said. "That's how you get to the good side, the Beauty Way. That's how you balance life."

That's also how John views the impacts of the pandemic. "Maybe the Holy People are telling us, look, you guys need to slow down," he said. "You need to go back to your culture. Think about yourself and where you come from."

Because of COVID-19, people have stayed close to home, he said.

"What COVID did is bring us back together with people spending time with their family at home when we had the lockdowns and all that," he said. "They appreciate family again instead of being at work all of the time. They appreciate their relatives and grandmas and grandpas."

John said for Navajos there is always a reason for things that happen, and that applies to COVID-19 too.

"It's kind of put us back to where we came from and what we're supposed to do," he said. "In that sense, a lot of people are realizing they're missing their way of life, their ceremonies, their songs. They're hungry now. They want to have these ceremonies and learn more about it."

Early years

When John was just a boy, he became one of the primary caretakers of his family's traditional homestead in Jeddito/Keams Canyon, Arizona, where he was steeped in the teachings and stories of his elders.

"I stayed mainly with my great grandma and grandpa," said John. "I helped around the house, took care of the livestock, herded sheep, and took care of the horses."

His great-grandfather, John Slim Nez, a medicine man, also had a major influence on John and foresaw Navajos moving to the cities and losing their traditional ways.

"He knew what was ahead," said John.

When his great-grandfather conducted ceremonies, young John often watched, helped out and absorbed the teachings.

That was just the way of life, said John.

Then he entered Toyey Boarding School and went on to study art and commercial illustration at Ridgefield High School in Utah when his talents first garnered attention.

He started selling his work, entering art shows and winning awards and scholarships.

"My art teacher encouraged me to continue with art," he said.

After high school, John attended the Institute for American Indian Arts in Santa Fe where he was inspired by Native artists from other tribes.

"A lot of the people there were creating paintings of their traditional culture," he said.

He went on to study at Brigham Young University and Southern Utah University, where he earned a bachelor's

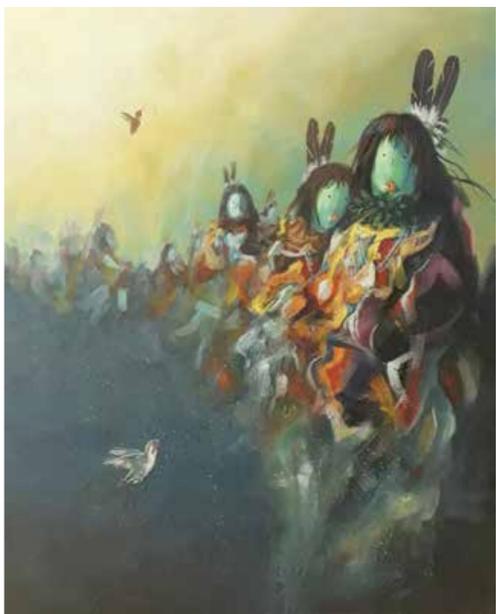


COURTESY PHOTO | DAVID K. JOHN

Artist David K. John stands in front of a mural he painted called "White Buffalo Medicine," commissioned by the Kayenta (Utah) Arts Foundation last March.

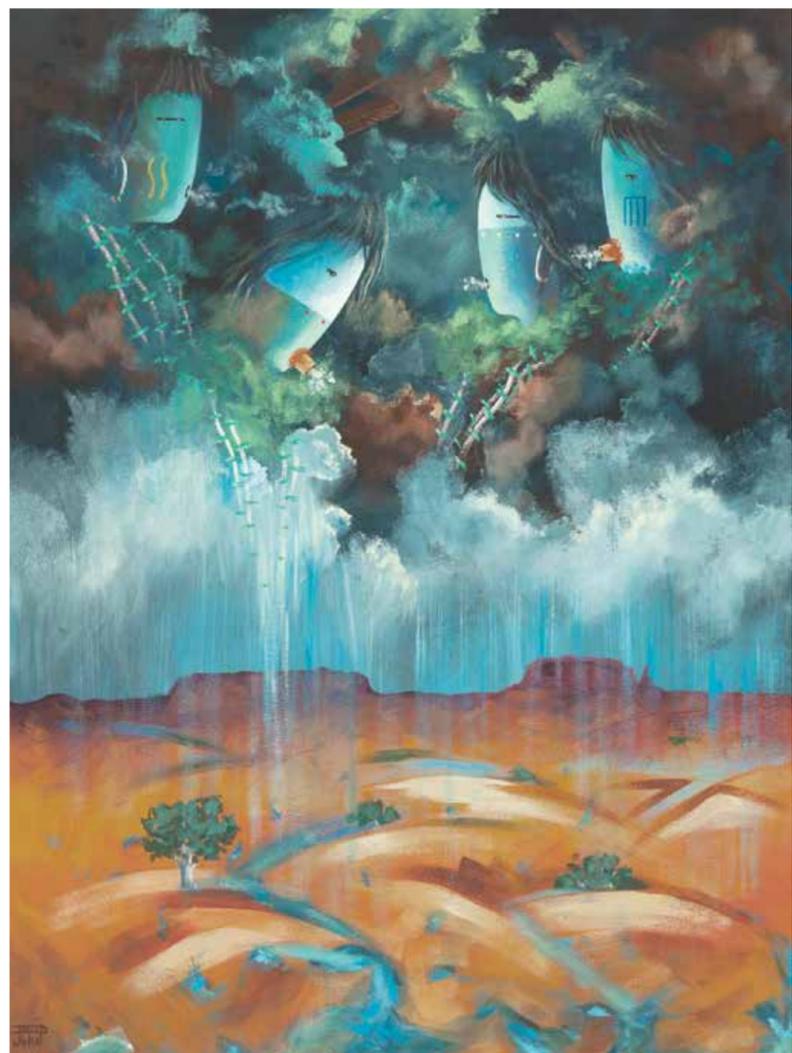
'SOMETHING GOOD, SOMETHING POSITIVE'

Diné painter David K. John expresses beauty of culture



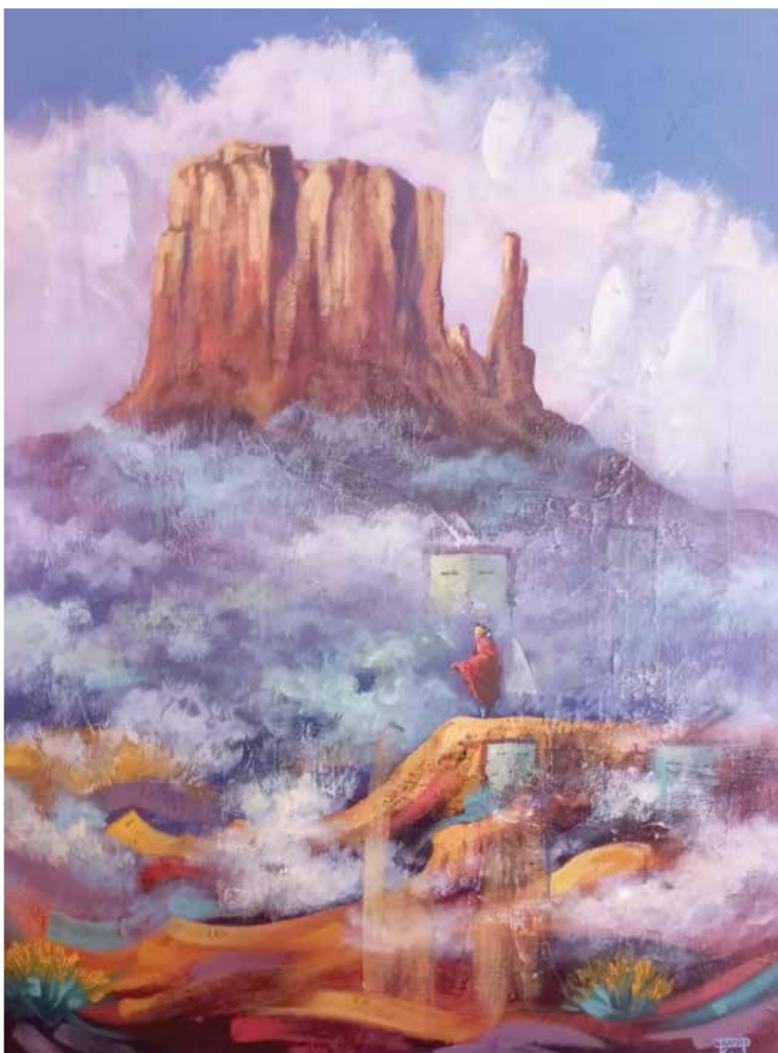
COURTESY PHOTO | DAVID K. JOHN

"Ceremonies Return," a 36x24 acrylic on canvas by David K. John.



COURTESY PHOTO | DAVID K. JOHN

"Cleansing," a 40x30 acrylic on canvas by David K. John.



COURTESY PHOTO | DAVID K. JOHN

"Monument Valley," a 30x40 acrylic on canvas by David K. John.

PEOPLE

Diné nominated for Calif. judgeship

WINDOW ROCK – Sunshine Suzanne Sykes, an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, was nominated by President Joe Biden to become the judge for the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Sykes, from Tuba City, if confirmed would be the first Native American federal judge in California, the first federal judge from the Navajo Nation, and the fifth Native American judge serving in federal courts in the U.S.

Since 2013, Sykes served as California Superior Court judge in Riverside County.

She earned a law degree from Stanford Law School in 2001 and a bachelor's from Stanford University in 1997.

From 2001 to 2003, Sykes was a staff attorney for California Indian Legal Services. From 2003 to 2005, she worked as a contract attorney for the Juvenile Defense Panel at the Southwest Justice Center.

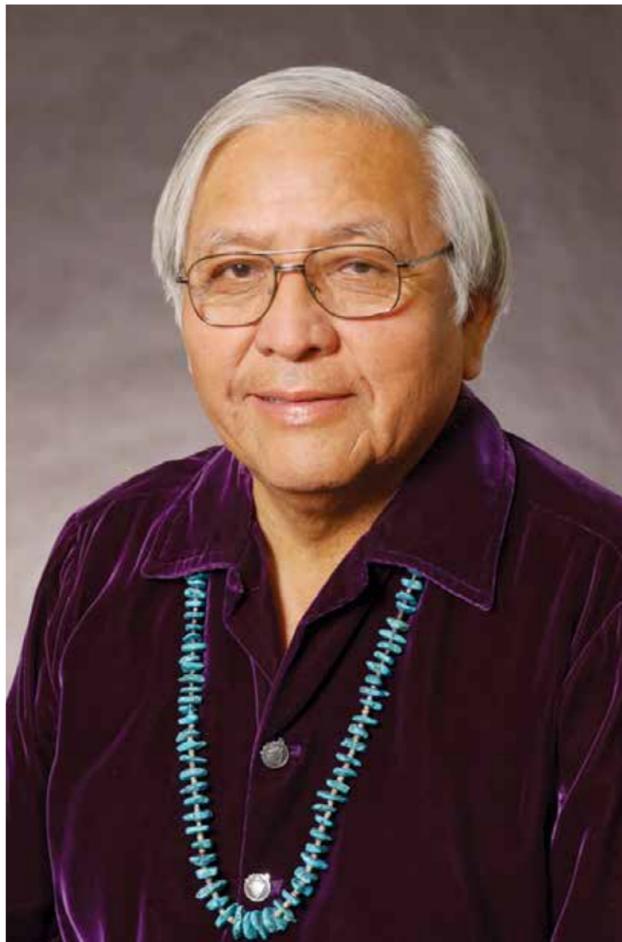
From 2005 to 2013, she served as deputy county counsel for Riverside County.

Doreen McPaul, Navajo Nation attorney general, said, "Native American representation on the bench is critically important because it makes us feel like we are also full participants within the federal judicial system."

"Her accomplishments also demonstrate to Native law students that it is possible to achieve your ambitions in the justice system," McPaul said. "Yéigo Judge Sykes."



Sunshine Suzanne Sykes



Peterson Zah

Zah to receive Grand Canyon Trust's Lifetime Achievement Award

FLAGSTAFF – The Grand Canyon Trust will give its Lifetime Achievement Award to Peterson Zah, former Navajo Nation chairman and president, on Jan. 11 in a Zoom event.

Born in 1937 in Keams Canyon, Arizona, Zah devoted his life to service of the Navajo people.

At the age of nine, he was taken from his family and sent to the Phoenix Indian School. After graduation in 1960, he attended Arizona State University on a basketball scholarship. He earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1963.

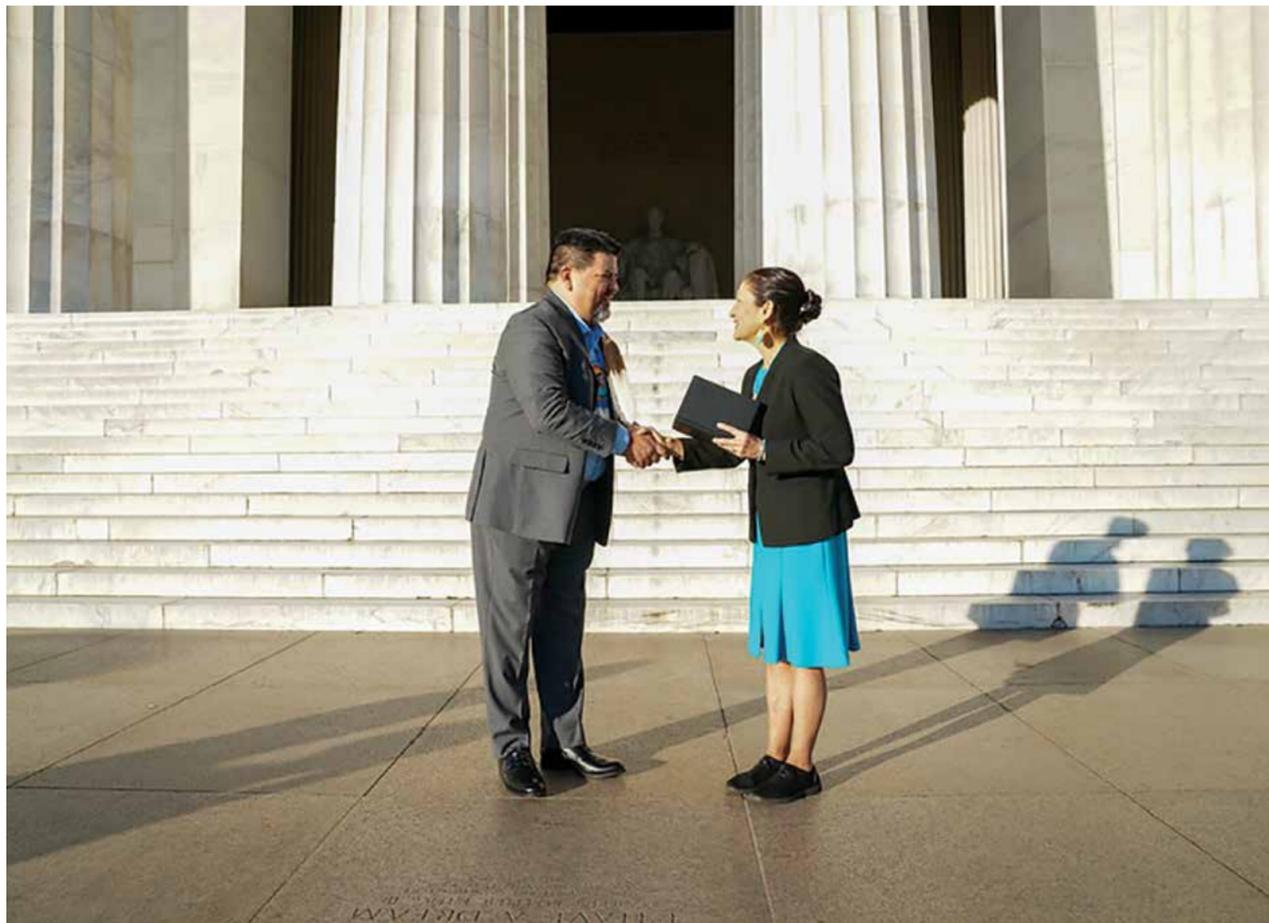
Zah worked in Phoenix until 1967 when he became director of Dinebeiiina Nahiilna Be Agaditahe (DNA), or "Lawyers Who Contribute to the Economic Revitalization of the People," People's Legal Services.

During the 10 years he served with DNA, his lawyers took several cases that strengthened tribal sovereignty to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Zah served on the first all-Navajo school board at Window Rock and became its president in 1973. He hired more Navajo teachers and restored knowledge of tribal history. He pushed to have the Navajo language taught in all classes.

He served as chairman of the Navajo Tribal Council from 1983 to 1987. From 1990-1994 Zah served as the first elected president of the Navajo Nation.

In 1995, he became an advisor to the president on American Indian Affairs at Arizona State University and led efforts to



Charles F. "Chuck" Sams III with Interior Secretary Deb Haaland after his swearing-in ceremony.

increase enrollment, retention and graduation rates of Native students. His leadership and accomplishments were recognized with the award of an honorary doctorate from the university.

Grand Canyon Trust is a non-

profit that works to safeguard the Grand Canyon and the Colorado Plateau, while supporting the rights of Native peoples.

To access the Zoom event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83197071336>

For telephone (audio only): 1-602-753-0140 or 720-928-9299 (Webinar ID: 831 9707 1336).

The event will be recorded and shared on the Grand Canyon Trust's Facebook page.

Haudley appointed to CACTIS Foundation board of directors

PHOENIX – The CACTIS Foundation on Dec. 14 announced the appointment of Charlinda Haudley, Ph.D., to its board of directors.

Haudley is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and currently works in the office of Sen. Mark Kelly, D-Ariz.

Prior to her current position, she worked in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at the

University of Arizona.

Haudley earned a doctorate in higher education in May 2021 from UA. She also holds a master's in education from the University of California-Los Angeles and a bachelor's from UA.

In 2020, Haudley was honored with the 40-Under-40 Award from the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. In 2019, she received the Maria Teresa Velez Diversity Leadership Award for her commitment to furthering diversity in education, higher education, and the community at large.

"In recruiting and naming Dr. Chaudrey to the CACTIS board, consideration was given to certain priorities, particularly CACTIS' commitment to diversity and inclusion," said

Dr. Hirsch Handmaker, chairman and CEO of the CACTIS Foundation.

The CACTIS Foundation is a community-based nonprofit that works on traumatic brain injury, or concussions, and advancing the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease through research-based pre-clinical and clinical programs, early phase trials and Continuing Medical Education.

Charles Sams III sworn in as National Park Service director

WASHINGTON — Charles F. "Chuck" Sams III was ceremonially sworn in as director of the National Park Service by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland on Dec. 16.

Sams is the first tribal citizen to lead the agency, which has been without a Senate confirmed leader for nearly five years.

Sams said, "I have no doubt that together, we'll be able to expand access to the outdoors, protect America's public lands, and upgrade our nation's infrastructure system through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law."

A U.S. Navy veteran, Chuck is an enrolled member, Cayuse and Walla Walla, of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Oregon, where he lives with his wife and four children.

Chuck has worked in state and tribal governments and the nonprofit natural resource and conservation management fields for more than 25 years.

He holds a bachelor's in business administration from Concordia University-Portland and a master's in legal studies in Indigenous peoples law from the University of Oklahoma.

At his swearing-in ceremony, Haaland said, "Everyone should have access to the outdoors no matter where they live, how much money they have, or what their background is."

"Chuck Sams understands the importance of connecting people to nature, and I am thrilled to work with him as the Interior Department works to make our national park system accessible to all Americans," she said.

Vision Maker Media honors Hull with Frank Blythe Award

LINCOLN, Neb. — Capping off its 45th anniversary year, Vision Maker Media has presented the 2021 Frank Blythe Award for Media Excellence to Ron Hull, Nebraska Public Media special advisor.

The award honors the contributions of individuals or organizations that empower Native storytellers in public media.

In 2006, Blythe, Eastern Cherokee/Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota, executive director of Vision Maker Media, announced his retirement after serving as the organization's first executive director for 30 years. The award was then established that year.

Blythe said, "Ron Hull was one of the early supporters and always a good advocate for Vision Maker Media to Nebraska Public Media."

Hull was a charter member and the first treasurer of the Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium, founded in 1976. The NAPBC was renamed Native American Public Telecommunications in 1995 and became Vision Maker Media in 2013.

Mark Leonard, general manager, Nebraska Public Media said, "Ron Hull has been at the beginning of so many great things in public broadcasting, including the creation of NAPBC in 1972, now known as Vision Maker Media."

"His passion for history, culture and arts has infused all of Ron's work in public media," he said.

Bob's BASEBALL Tours

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ARTIST

FROM PAGE C1

degree in arts.

When he was still in college, his artwork was chosen for the 1990 Census poster, which was distributed all over the United States and won a marketing award.

"That's the first time I went to Washington, D.C., and they unveiled the poster next to the White House," he said.

After that, John's artistic career took off. He was accepted into Santa Fe Indian Market and was represented by the James Ratliff Gallery in Sedona, where he exhibited for more than 30 years.

Preserving way of life

After completing his education, John missed his family and longed to be back on the reservation, so he returned home to Keams Canyon.

It was at that time in his mid-twenties that he started doing representations of ceremonial life, with permission of his grandfather Smith Bahe, a Yé'ii Bi Cheii dancer, who said it was alright for him to depict Yé'ii as long as he didn't copy the exact designs.

He also started making ceramic Yé'ii masks out of clay.

"After my grandpa passed, I started doing more of the Yé'ii remember him by, and remember all of the grandmas and grandpas – the traditional people," he said.

John also realized many of the children were losing their cultural teachings and ceremonies.

"I wanted to do that kind of work to pass it on to the younger generation," he said. "I thought, when I'm gone, when they see my paintings, they can ask other people what that represents..."

John paintings come from his own internal vision, interpretation and expression of Navajo mythology and history, he says, often leading to dreamlike, timeless abstractions embellished with ancient symbols.

At 57, his ubiquitous, award-winning artwork can be found in galleries and museums across the country and he is followed by many admirers, collectors and aspiring artists.

However, he still participates in the arts market circuit and enjoys sharing and talking about his work.

"A lot of artists like to see what I paint," said John. "They come up to me and ask me all these questions. I found out that most of them want to do something similar but they don't really understand."

John said it can be hard for them because they didn't grow up the way he did.

"They never learned about the ceremonies, or grew up herding sheep around grandma and grandpa," he said. "I tell them you have to live it."

"I went to ceremonies, I listened to the songs, participated," he said. "It's hard to do spiritual paintings if you don't really understand it, but if you live it, they can express that feeling."

John said his generation is bridging the gap between the traditional elders and the youth, the old and the new, and Navajo and English.

"Many of the elders are leaving us, and they're leaving with their traditional teachings, and a lot of these teachings aren't being recorded," he said. "They're just being lost."

He said a lot of songs are being lost too.

"If you listen to the songs – it's a story, it's a history..." he said.

'The good way'

John said even though some of his art themes are similar, his work is always changing and evolving.

For example, when his mother passed on about five years ago, John began adding hummingbirds to his paintings.

"They say the hummingbird is a holy bird that can fly to the heavens, a messenger between this world and the spirit world," he said. "The hummingbird coming to you is a sign of good things and good luck."

John's use of vibrant colors, mixed with earth tones and Navajo designs, is singular and unique, bringing depth, texture and movement to his works.

"That is my style – I'm known for that," he said. "It comes from the Navajo culture, the teachings. I use red to represent mother earth, blue is father sky, and yellow is for the sunshine."

John says his use of bright colors comes from the teaching of the Hózhóji, the Blessingway. "I wanted to have my painting

based on the good way, the blessing ceremony," he said. "That's what it represents. I try to use colors to bring positive things and healing."

People can feel those things when they look at the paintings, he said.

He said the images he paints come to him in a variety of ways, whether from memory or experience.

Other times, he doesn't have a specific idea, but just starts putting paint on the canvas and allows it to take on a life of its own.

"Once I put the paint on there, an image will appear, like a Yé'ii, or basket, or a bird or an animal," he said. "From that it comes and I go with it and create the piece."

He also incorporates dynamic Dinetah landscapes and sketches into his painting, drawn together to a focal point by the long horizon.

"I put Yé'ii in the clouds sometimes – rain spirits or rain deities pour water on the land," he said. "For us Navajos, everything has spirits – animals, plants, air, trees..."

The coronavirus is also a spirit, he said, which is making people realize that in our fast-paced society, we have been neglecting Mother Earth.

"We have to go back and respect all of these things in order for it to go away," he said.

In that way, the virus itself is a teaching, he said.

"It's part of life," he said. "We're treating our Mother Earth not the way it's supposed to be treated. It's alive. It has spirit. The Earth and the Sky – we're the kids in-between, and they take care of us."

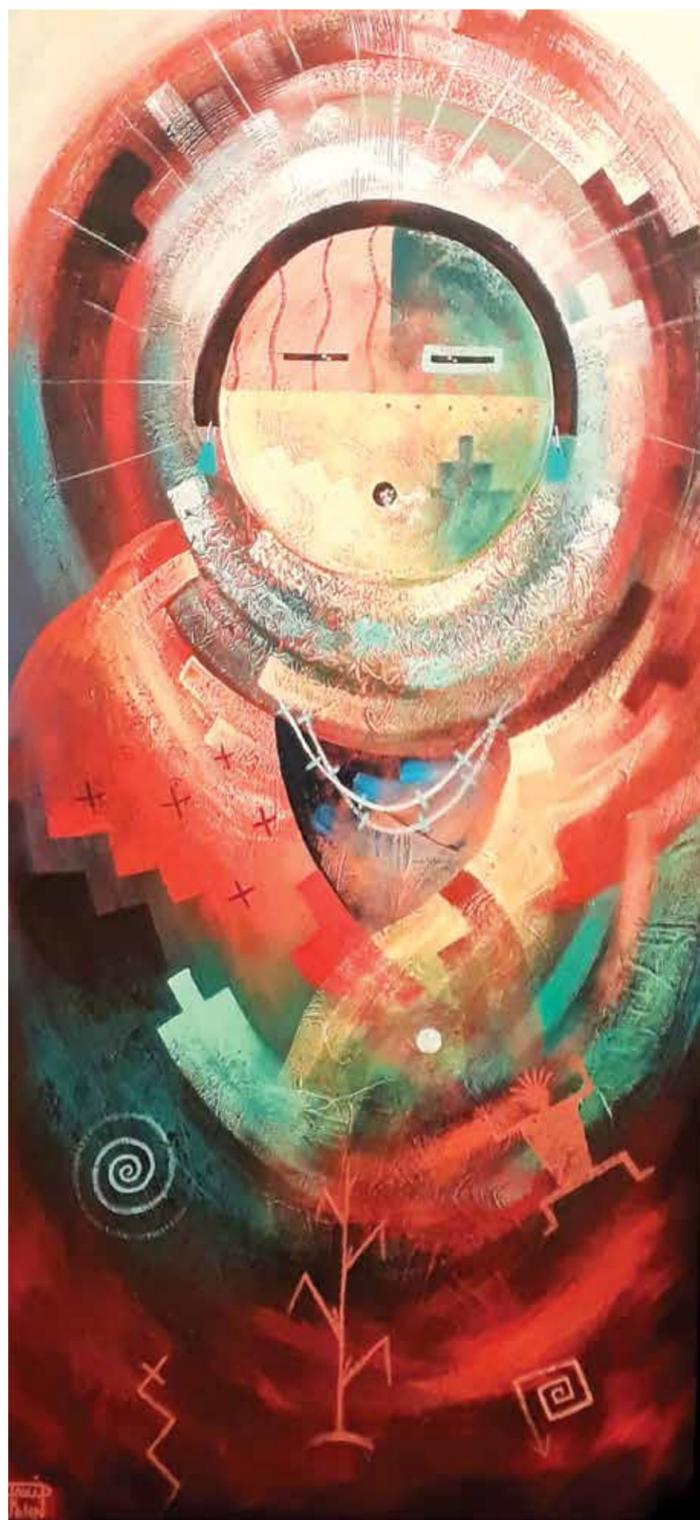
No doubt, John's dynamic communication with the natural world, animated on canvas through his imagination and artistic mastery, brings to life the blessings of the spirit world.

Once the virus is gone, people will go back and do the Hózhóji, the Beauty Way ceremony, and everything will be brought back into balance, said John.

"It will be good again," he said.

David K. John currently resides in Kayenta with his wife Kathleen. His clans are Mexican (Nakaii Diné), born for Black Streak (Tsinajinni). His maternal grandparents are Edge Water (Tabaha), and paternal are Towering House (Kinyaanii).

Information: davidkjohn1@gmail.com



"Earth Mother," a 20x40 acrylic on canvas by David K. John.

COURTESY PHOTO | DAVID K. JOHN



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1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Pfizer Vaccine | Age 5-11

Sacred Peaks Health Center

Walk-in
No Appointment Needed

Monday – Friday
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Pfizer Vaccine | Age 5+
Ages 5-11 by appointment
Moderna | Age 18+
Booster Shot | Age 16+

Tuba City Regional Health Care

Vaccine Clinic has moved to the Health Promotion/Diabetes Center
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8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Pfizer Vaccine | Age 5+
Moderna | Age 18+
Booster Shot | Age 16+

Mobile Health Unit • Locations and Times

Our Mobile Health Unit schedule is available at WWW.TCHEALTH.ORG.

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
December 21	Cameron Laundromat	8:15 am - 4:00 pm
December 22	Dinnebito (Rocky Ridge Boarding School)	8:45 am - 3:00 pm
December 28	LeChee Health Center	8:45 am - 11:00 am
December 29	Coppermine (Monkey Ridge)	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
December 30	Bodaway/Gap Store	8:15 am - 4:00 pm

ALL SITES OFFERING

- Pfizer Vaccine | Age 5+
- Moderna | Age 18+
- Boosters | 16+
- Flu Shot | 6 mos & older



No appointment needed. If you have any questions, please call Mobile Health Program at 928-283-2607.

Drive-Up COVID19 Vaccine for Pediatrics

1st and 2nd doses for 5-11 years old

December 28 • 1:00 – 4:30 pm • Lechee Health Facility



TUBA CITY
Regional Health
Care Corporation



Letters to Santa from Many Farms 4th graders

MANY FARMS, Ariz. – Below are Christmas letters written by Ms. Harrison's fourth grade class at Many Farms Public School.

A good time with family

Dear Santa,

I like your deer, but I do not know what their names are. So, I do not know which one is which. I do not know how much you have. I like your sled because it is gold and red and it can carry a lot of toys with stuff like a toolbox. I like that you can go really fast with your sleigh like the Flash.

I would like a fast toy car. And a lot of fun times with my cousins because I only see them once a month or two. I would like a lot of time with my aunt, with my big cousin. I want my mom, my dad and my brothers to all have a good time with family.

What are your deer's names? Am I on the nice list or the bad list?

Love,
Olin Yoe

I was helpful to my grandma

Dear Santa Claus,

Hi, my name is Shania Segay. I am 9 years old. I was helpful to my grandma. I was good all year and it was fun to be good. December is fun to have a joyful winter. I think I can get a gift because I was nice and kind all year. I hope it is a nice winter and it snows. Because it is fun to play outside and play in the snow. And to spend time with my family and it is the right time to spend with family.

I like you because you are not mean. It is nice to have a Santa because you are joyful. It is fun to have Santa because you are nice to give gifts to open. It was fun to put up the Christmas tree and to make a snowman and it is nice to put up Christmas lights and to look at. It is fun to watch a Christmas movie and do Christmas stuff. And it is fun to have family over

because you might not see that person in a long time. That is why I like Christmas stuff.

I think I will get the gift I want to have because I helped my family with stuff. I think I would get the thing I want. It is a slime kit.

Love,
Shania Segay

I hope everyone gets a good rest

Dear Santa,

I want everyone to get what they want for Christmas. I hope everyone survives COVID and they do not get sick. Help my grandma and my uncles. I also need school supplies for my work. I want me and my entire family to get a big surprise. Help my family to wake up early in the morning. I also need my own room so I can sleep well in it. We deserve it because me and my family help each other.

I hope everyone is happy with what they get. I hope everyone gets a good rest on Christmas. I want everybody to be nice to each other. I hope everyone is safe, not sick and OK. I hope next year it gets better. Also, I hope COVID stops sooner.

We need to help the animals so they can live forever. I want to have a fun and great Christmas. I hope this Christmas is better than the last time. I hope everything gets easy on Christmas or in 2022. I hope nobody is on the naughty list on Christmas. I hope days go faster in 2022. I hope we all survive thru 2021 and 2022. Save everyone in the U.S. I hope everyone has a good Christmas and a good year.

Sincerely,
Urijah Tino Hadley

Some cold milk to help you stay up

Dear Santa,

Hello Santa. I hope that you are working hard at the North Pole. I hope that all kids get at least hundreds of presents. I know that every single kid gets some presents. For me I just

want a laptop for Christmas to watch. Because I have been good all year.

I love to just wake up on Christmas day and see lots of presents under the tree. I think that other kids would love that too. My siblings don't like dressing up during spirit week that much. But I like to dress up for spirit week. Other kids would or would not. Since you work so hard to be up all night delivering presents, I will make you some cold milk to help you stay up. All kids will be happy for presents under their tree.

Also, what is your favorite color? For Christmas I will be happy and grateful for whatever I get under the tree. This is a new year for everybody to celebrate Christmas. I also am amazed on how you stay up all night.

I think the reindeer I like would be Rudolph. Because he loves his nice red nose on him. He has a red nose so that you could see in the dark. The other reindeers could not use their nose to see. That's why you put Rudolph on the team to fly. That's why I like Rudolph. He is cute, funny, and silly. Have a Merry Christmas, Santa and Mrs. Claus as well.

Love,
Makaila Claw

I go to my grandma's house everyday

Dear Santa,

I have kind of been good this year and it is kind of fun. The thing I want for Christmas is some shirts, stylish ripped jeans, and a jacket. A little bit of hairstyles so I could do my hair. A Nike socks that is the color white and black. A new Jordan shoes in the color white and black. That is it for my Christmas gifts. Happy Christmas.

I'm in fourth grade in Ms. Harrison's class. I'm 10 years old and 4 feet tall. I'm nice to everybody and my friends too. I loved to play basketball when I was younger. I go to my grand-

SEE LETTERS | C6

NAVAJO SAFE WATER

Protecting You and Your Family's Health



The Navajo Nation is providing safe water from water points for in-home use to residents living in homes with no piped water during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

ATTENTION:
RESIDENTS LIVING IN HOMES WITHOUT RUNNING WATER



EACH MEMBER IN THE HOUSEHOLD CAN RECEIVE 1 5-GALLON WATER CONTAINER



WATER HAULERS LIVING IN HOMES WITH NO PIPED WATER SUPPLY CAN FILL AT NO COST ANY SIZE WATER CONTAINER AT TRANSITIONAL WATER POINTS AND PERMANENT WATER POINTS LOCATED AT MOST CHAPTER HOUSES



VISIT
WWW.NAVAJOSAFEWATER.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

- WATER POINT LOCATIONS

- OPERATING HOURS

- SMALL WATER CONTAINER AVAILABILITY

- MORE PROGRAM INFO

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL

NAVAJOSAFEWATER@NNDCCD.ORG OR CALL (928) 871-6855 OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER.

Fees may apply for water haulers living in homes with piped water access and for water hauled for livestock and agricultural uses as these are not covered by the Navajo Safe Water Project.

Getting ready for the parade



Thomas Arviso, a musician, sets up lights on a float. He and a band performed on Dec. 16, before the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade.



Bashas' employees set up their float for the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade on Dec. 16.

You better watch out!
DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

A Holiday Message brought to you by:

LETTERS

FROM PAGE C5

ma's house everyday. I love my family so much and they love me too. I was sick last week. Now I'm kind of feeling better now.

I love Christmas. I dress up every year. I went to a Christmas light show for Christmas. I draw Christmas stuff at home for fun. I went to the Wildcat Den to watch the game. I go to town on the weekends. I like to go to in-person school and it is fun. Today you have to wear a Santa hat. I want to know what you are doing now.

You love Christmas. And the deer too. I love Christmas because I look at all the colors. Santa is everywhere in December, when it is about to be Christmas. Blue, red, green are all colors for Christmas, and some can go on the Christmas tree. The last thing I want for Christmas is a blonde hair dye for my hair.

Love,
Kishayna Claw

I help my mom and my sister

Dear Santa,

I have been very nice this year. I help my mom and my sister, so I hope I'm on the nice list. I have been tired because I've been getting my grades up, so I hope I'm on the nice list.

What I want for Christmas is a bike because one day my bike broke. So, I want a new one. I want a cat because I love cats. Me and my sister love cats. I want one with blue eyes because blue eyes are so pretty. I want everyone to have a great time on Christmas Day. I love Christmas and my birthday is close to Christmas.

What do you bring for Christmas? Oh, the bike has to be pink and blue, but I don't mind whatever color I get. It was so much fun for me and my sister to put up the Christmas tree. Oh, I want a new Pop It notebook. I want that and it has to be rainbow. I don't want a game because I don't like games. I really hope I get it.

For Christmas I want a Pop It notebook, a bike and a cat with

blue eyes. I hope it comes true.
Love,
Marie Clark

I helped my auntie to catch four goats

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa. My name is Pristine. I wonder if you drink coffee or milk. Have I been good this year? What I did well was clean up the house. I helped my auntie to catch four goats. I helped my sister to bring in wood. I've been nice to my brothers. My mom and I were cleaning up the goat's gate. I try to finish my homework. I did a drawing for Miss Tah. I clean the cars and trucks.

I hope it will snow this Christmas because I love to sled around. Then I would make a snowman. I like cookies and milk, like you. I ask before I take a cookie out of the jar. I love warm milk because it makes me sleepy. I love coffee because it keeps me wide awake. So, I won't fall asleep while I am in classroom or anywhere.

I wonder if you get any day off of work. How many elves work for you? Why do you have a nice list or bad list? What do you eat?

Love,
Pristine Begay

I hope I am not on the bad list

Dear Santa,

You are a good man. Your outfit is great. Santa, you think jolly. Your outfit makes me want to wear one today. I want some more presents from you. My mom says I can only put three things on my Christmas list. So, I want a drone, something that rides on two wheels, a new game for my Nintendo Switch.

I think you're not real, but my mom says, "He is real." One day I woke up there were presents under my family's tree. So, I said he is real. I hope I am not on the bad list because I've been mean to my brothers. I always pick on my brothers and sisters. I always think Santa is watching me. So, I stop and listen to whatever someone says.

I wish Christmas was in the summer. It is already Christmas. When you bring the presents, I always want to know

what's inside of them. I wish all of them were mine.

Some of my brothers get better stuff than me. I just want to steal them, but Santa is watching me if I do mean stuff. I can't wait for my presents, so I ask my mom and dad if they want to buy the stuff for me right now. My mom says no, and I get mad. My brothers are not mean and get their presents before me.

Sincerely
Raideen Bahe

Is it fun to fly with deer?

Dear Santa,

My name is Cooper. How are you doing Santa? Is it fun to fly with deer? Do you like kids or animals and do you deliver a lot of gifts to one house or not? What do you give to a naughty kid? Do you give them coal or not? Are you cold Santa when you are at the North Pole? Do you deliver big gifts and what is the biggest gift you deliver? How do you deliver gifts? Do you put it in one big bag? When you drop a gift do you put the gift back in the bag or does it follow you and put itself back in the bag?

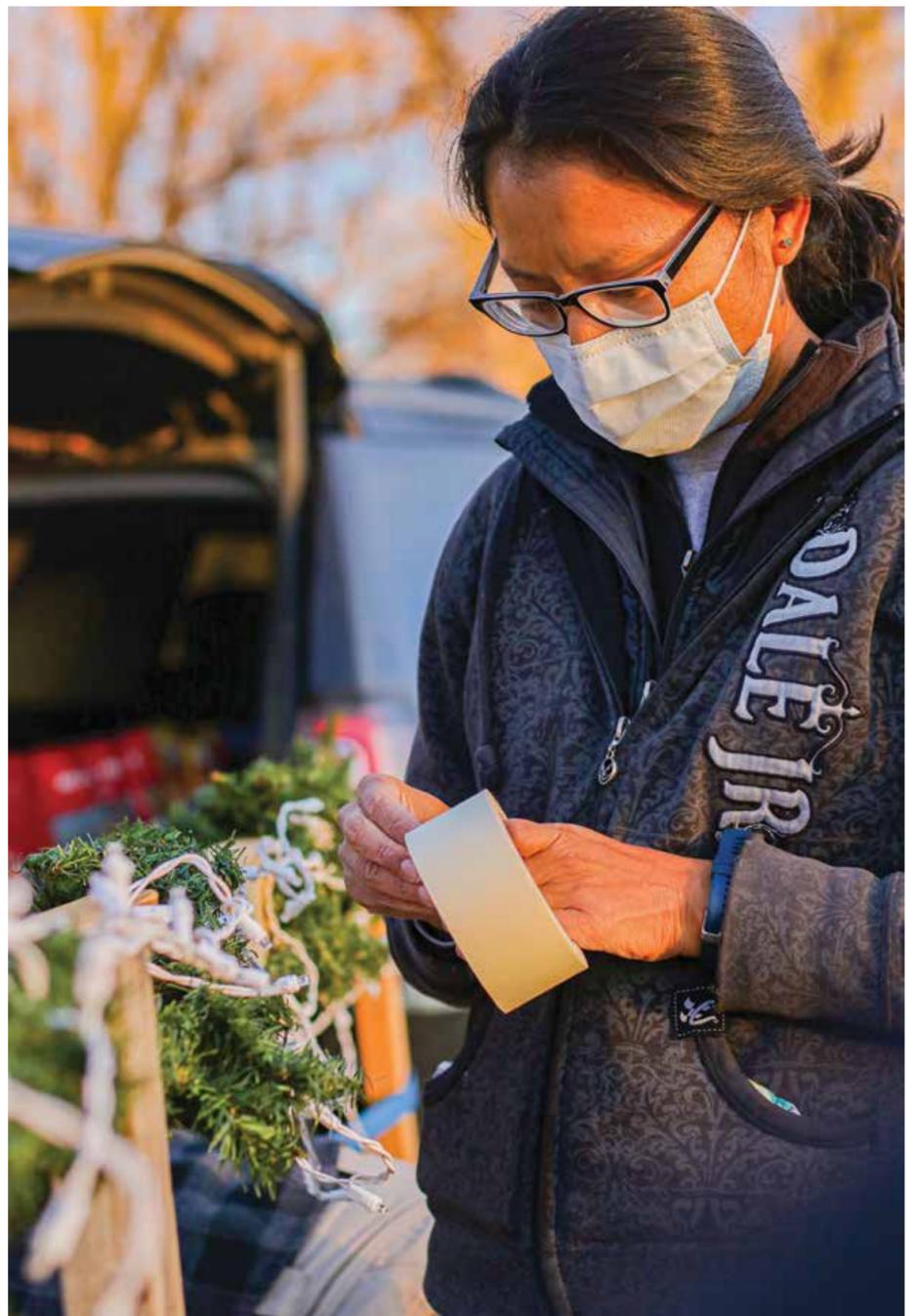
Do you give a lot of coal to the naughty ones or not? Has someone ever been mean on Christmas Day? Do you have a real car or a small fake one or do you have deer that fly with a sled? How big is your sled? Do you like cookies and milk or do you like sweets? Have you helped anybody like your elves?

I should get what I want because when my brothers were sick, I did my brother's chores, and I did mine too. I do my very best on my schoolwork and I help my friends and my little brother helps me. My brothers should get what they want not just me. I clean sometimes at my home that is why I should get what I want.

I love my mom, grandma, brothers, and my papa. I also love my pets. I do well in school. I like school. I like my home. I like having friends.

I got cool toys from you. What do you wear Santa? Christmas is the best month of the year. Santa, bring gifts for the good kids not the bad kids. We have to have a tree for Christmas. You have deer to pull your sled. You are the best. You have kids,

SEE LETTERS CONT'D | C7



NAVAJO TIMES | CYRUS NORCROSS

Fine-tuning lights

Jennifer Zahne helps tape up Christmas lights for the Mesa Elementary School float on Dec. 16, prior to the 2021 Shiprock Rock 'n' Roll Christmas Parade.



JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE NAVAJO NATION

Hashkééji Nahat'á

INFORMATION ON APPLICATIONS FOR PROTECTION ORDERS

The Navajo Nation courts are operating during the public health emergency due to COVID-19, but there is minimal staff in the buildings and the doors are closed to the public until further notice. In the meantime, the courts continue to offer essential services, which include providing applications for and processing petitions for orders of protection.

When a petition is filed, the motion for temporary protection order is either approved or denied without notice to the person whom the protection order is filed against (respondent). Whether approved or denied, the petition for Domestic Abuse Protection Order is addressed by the Court when service of process is made upon the respondent within the 15 day timeline. The courts are guided by the Domestic Abuse Protection Act in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code and the Navajo Rules for Domestic Violence Proceedings adopted by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court.

HOW TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FOR PROTECTION FROM DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SERVICE OF PROCESS

There is an "Application for Protection from Domestic Abuse and Service of Process" that may be downloaded from the www.courts.navajo-nsn.gov website.

If you are unable to download and print an application, please call your local Judicial District Court for assistance in obtaining an application form during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Emergency Temporary Protection Orders outside of regular court business hours may

be obtained through the Navajo Nation Police Department.

HOW TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTS

The application can be filed during court business hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. The applications are normally accepted by email, fax, U.S. mail, and/or in the drop box located outside the court. Any documents filed outside the court's operating hours are received the next business day.

If you email the courts from a non-Navajo Nation email address, please make sure to verify your email address by following the instructions sent back to you by email. This will allow for your email to go through to the intended recipient.

If sending documents by email or fax, the public is asked to contact the court by telephone to ensure the email or fax is received.

Applications can also be placed in the drop box outside the court houses. The court houses with drop boxes are indicated with asterisks in the contact information to the right.

If you need further assistance, please contact the local district court. As a reminder, the Pueblo Pintado Circuit Court is operating from the Crownpoint Judicial District Court facility until further notice. Please be patient as only a limited number of staff are working in order to protect the health and safety of the public and employees.

For information on court closures, please visit our website at www.courts.navajo-nsn.gov.

JUDICIAL BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Window Rock District Court *
P.O. Box 5520, Window Rock, AZ 86515
Telephone: (928) 206-7469 or (528) 871-6626
Fax: (928) 871-7560
Email: nwrcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Chinle District Court *
P.O. Box 547, Chinle, AZ 86503
Telephone: (928) 674-2070
Fax: (928) 674-2089
Email: nncourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Shiprock District Court *
P.O. Box 1168, Shiprock, NM 87420
Telephone: (505) 368-1270
Email: nnsccourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Crownpoint District Court & Pueblo Pintado Circuit Court *
P.O. Box 6, Crownpoint, NM 87313
Telephone: (505) 786-2072
Fax: (505) 786-2086
Email: nnpccourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Kayenta District Court *
P.O. Box 2700, Kayenta, AZ 86033
Telephone: (928) 697-5541
Fax: (928) 697-5546
Email: nkycourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Tuba City District Court *
P.O. Box 725, Tuba City, AZ 86045
Telephone: (928) 283-3140/3157
Fax: (928) 283-3158
Email: ntccourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Ramah District Court *
P.O. Box 309, Ramah, NM 87321
Telephone: (505) 775-3218
Fax: (505) 775-3399
Email: nrmccourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Dilkon District Court *
HC 63 Box 787, Winslow, AZ 86047
Telephone: (928) 551-2385
Fax: (928) 857-8146
Email: nndkcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Aneth District Court *
P.O. Box 320, Montezuma Creek, UT 84534
Telephone: (435) 651-3545
Fax: (435) 651-3546
Email: anethcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Alamo Court *
P.O. Box 5458, Alamo, NM 87825
Telephone: (575) 854-2668
Fax: (575) 854-2660
Email: nnaicourt@navajo-nsn.gov

To'Hajilee Court *
P.O. Box 3101-A, To'Hajilee, NM 87026
Telephone: (505) 908-2817
Fax: (505) 908-2819
Email: nntocourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Dzil Yijin District Court *
P.O. Box 129, Pinon, AZ 86510
Telephone: (928) 725-3781
Fax: (928) 725-3786
Email: nndycourt@navajo-nsn.gov

Supreme Court
P.O. Box 1779, Window Rock, AZ 86515
Telephone: (928) 871-6763
Fax: (928) 871-7016
Email: nnsupremecourt@navajo-nsn.gov

PEACEMAKING PROGRAM

Central Peacemaking: (928) 797-1329
Alamo Judicial District: (928) 797-1329
Aneth Judicial District: (928) 797-1371
Shiprock Judicial District: (928) 797-1367/1373
Crownpoint Judicial District: (928) 797-1378
Dilkon Judicial District: (928) 797-1379/1380
Kayenta Judicial District: (928) 797-1368
Ramah Judicial District: (928) 797-1316
Shiprock Judicial District: (928) 797-1382/1317
To'Hajilee Judicial District: (928) 797-1321
Tuba City Judicial District: (928) 797-1322
Window Rock Judicial District: (928) 797-1325/1327

PROBATION SERVICES

Central Administration (928) 871-5625, (523) 429-1208
Aneth: (435) 315-2038
Chinle: (505) 609-8693, (505) 609-8530, (505) 675-0766
Crownpoint: (505) 393-5481, (505) 862-9064, (505) 567-0563
Dilkon: (928) 657-8135, (505) 456-0655
Dzil Yijin: (928) 613-2114
Kayenta: (505) 787-0865
Pueblo Pintado (505) 398-5481
Ramah: (505) 862-9250
Shiprock: (505) 696-6330, (505) 609-8278, (505) 750-4640
To'Hajilee/Alamo: (505) 280-2186
Tuba City: (928) 614-1409
Window Rock: (505) 901-9840, (505) 862-9747

OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

P.O. Box 520, Window Rock, AZ 86515
Telephone: (928) 797-1493
Fax: (928) 871-6862
Email: mlincoln@navajo-nsn.gov
Applications: applyBHR@navajo-nsn.gov

*Has drop box outside Court for document drop off

LETTERS CONT'D

FROM PAGE C6

you are muscular, and you are a boy not a girl. I got a phone and a lot of gifts from Santa. I wear nice clothes. Every day is a good day.

I hope I can get what I want. I made this letter. I should get what I deserve.

Love,
Cooper Anagal

I hope my family stays safe

Dear Santa,

My name is Caron Begay. I hope you don't put me on the naughty list. I've been nice. I help my family with things around and inside the house. I've been good lately.

I just hope that I get what I want for Christmas. So, I can feel happy this year on Christmas. I love Christmas because I make snowmen and sled on hills with snow on it. Then play snowball fight. I like this month of yours. But it's cold and snow can be deep and hard or low and soft.

So, I love this month because it is the time we can get what we want and what we been waiting for. Then spend time with our aunts and have a wonderful day with them on Christmas Eve.

I get things for them and they might get something for me for Christmas. I will let you eat cookies and I hope that I get what I want for Christmas. Will you get me what I want for Christmas? I hope my family stays safe. I love them because they are my family.

Sincerely,
Caron Begay

I help my mom clean the house

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Julia. I am 9 years old, and I am from Chinle, Arizona. I really want slime.

You have to make it yourself. I was very good this month. I help my mom clean the house. I help my dad fix the car.

What do you do with your elf? Do you also ride with your elf? I made you a chocolate cookie and white milk. I love the way you smile. I was very nice. Someone dropped their phone and I picked it up.

I hope you enjoy your white milk. And Merry Christmas. I like all the Christmas songs like, "I wish you a Merry Christmas."

Which one do you like? They make me feel happy. I hope you get back to your shop safe and sound. Merry Christmas. I will see you when I turn 10. Bye.

Love,
Julia Jon Lowley

I will have cookies and milk for you

Dear Santa Claus,

Hello Santa. My name is Marvin Etsitty. I am 9 years old. I am always helpful. I help everyone in my family. I was good every year.

For Christmas I want a pet guinea pig. I want a guinea pig because they are nice. Guinea pigs are also so small. I always have wanted to get my own pet. I also want to get a remote-controlled Dodge Challenger toy car. I want it because it is my favorite car. They also look nice. And I have always wanted one. They are also very fast.

If you bring the gifts, thank you. And Santa I will have cookies and milk on the table for you. Also, you can put me on the good list if you think I am good. I also want a new bike. Because my bike right now is all filthy and I like brand new bikes straight from the store.

Sincerely,
Marvin Etsitty

If you are coming there is no chimney

Dear Santa,

I have been really good this year. What I want for this Christmas is L.O.L. dolls, cat noir, Barbie clothes, Barbie van, and Legos.

If you are coming this year, my house is light blue, darkish blue roof, and a train made of lights and inside the house

there should be a white dog sleeping. Also, if you are coming there is no chimney, but you can use the door.

I also have some questions. How do your reindeer fly? How are the elves doing? Are you done with my present yet?

I do have some Christmas jokes: What do gingerbread men put on their bed? A cookie sheet! Ha-ha! And what did one snowman say to the other? Is it just me or do I smell carrots! This one is for you, Santa. Who is the meanest reindeer? Rude-off. Ha-ha. Merry Christmas Santa.

Love,
Kayley Elliott

I want Nerf guns to play with my sister

Dear Santa,

I want Nerf guns because I want to play with my sister. She has a mini gun that can shoot a lot of Nerf bullets and I want one like that too.

I want a drone so I can help them. I want a drone so I can watch people to see if they are OK and if anything goes wrong to people.

I want colored pencils so I can color for my siblings and my grandma and grandpa. Or for my mom or dad. Maybe I can draw one for myself. I will find designs. Every pencil that I have is going to have a design that is for every holiday.

And that is what I want for Christmas.

Love,
Riley Harrison :)

Do you like being in the North Pole?

Dear Santa,

I hope I get good presents this year. How are you? My name is Ricardo. What are you doing right now? Can I see you? Why do you go when it is Christmas? Do you like being Santa? What home is the best? What do you sing to?

Do you like being in the North Pole? Who is on the good list? How does it feel to be Santa? When it's Christmas do you like giving presents to kids? How is rooth (Rudolph)? Is it good at the North Pole? Is it fun at the North Pole? How many presents do you give to people? When

you run out of presents what do you do?

I like to play football. I like to play outside, and I like running sometimes. My favorite food is spaghetti. I like to color and walking. I like doing and making art.

Sincerely,
Ricardo Perez

You have to go through a lot of chimneys

Dear Santa,

I wish to be on your good list not on your bad list. I wish you and your elves are working hard. I wish people make good cookies and the milk tastes good for you.

I wish you have a good time delivering all of those presents. To, like, New York, New Mexico, New England, Paris, or Phoenix. Those are a lot of houses and it's at nighttime. It's a good thing one of your reindeer has a red nose and it glows.

I help my mom and dad by cleaning my room, doing the dishes and I clean our yard. I clean our bathroom. But your work is harder. You have to go through a lot of chimneys. Then you have to put down all the presents for that family and have to go out of the chimney again.

Your sled is so cool with your reindeer in front of it. I wish your elves can do the presents good so kids can have what they want or deserve. When it's almost Christmas people can't wait so they start getting ready for it.

When its Christmas Eve people go to bed fast so it can be Christmas for them faster. So, when they wake up presents will be there for them. You make everyone happy on Christmas. Also, people have cookies with milk before they open presents.

Love,
Bruno James Clark

How do you deliver a lot of presents?

Dear Santa,

My name is Makai Etsitty. I am 9 years old. I live in Many Farms, Arizona. I hope I am not on the naughty list. I hope I am on the nice list. I wonder how it is to fly in the sky at night with

reindeer. I wonder what you see in the night.

How do you deliver a lot of presents in one night? How do you know who is naughty or nice? How can you tell whose gift it is? Do you go through the door or the chimney? How do you know where to put the presents? Do you really eat cookies? How many toys do the elves make in two days?

I love Christmas. Christmas is fun. On Christmas you can do a lot. You can make a snowman because there is a lot of snow. On Christmas there is snow on the trees. You can put up a tree. Santa I am good on all days. I clean up. I sometimes play games. When my mom tells me to get off the game, I get off the game. I would like to see you.

Sincerely,
Makai Etsitty

I want you to have a great Christmas

Dear Santa,

My name is Shiloh. I am 9 years old. I have a big family. I go to school at Many Farms Public School. My mom works at Speedway. Santa, for Christmas I want a scooter because I been good this year and I have been listening.

Santa, I have a question for you. How can you fly to all of the houses in one night? Is it magic or because of your reindeer? Santa, am I on the nice list? Are there really elves in the North Pole? Santa, I want you to have a great Christmas. Tell your elves to not work hard.

Green and red are Christmas colors. I see your suit is red. You're the best Santa in the whole world. I am thankful to have you as Santa Claus. Santa, have a good Christmas with your elves. Christmas is my favorite holiday. Santa, I like your reindeer. Reindeer are cute and pretty. Santa, my favorite color is red, and I love glitter because it is sparkly. I love snow because it is white. White is also my favorite color.

Santa, don't work too hard. Merry Christmas.

Certainly,
Shiloh Villanueva

Do your elves do hard work?

Dear Santa,

How are you? I'm Hosea. I'm 9 years old. I live in Many Farms.

It is great. Santa, is it cold at the North Pole? I hope you have a great day and a great Christmas. You are the best and you are cool.

Do your elves do hard work on the toys? Do your elves make a lot of toys? For Christmas can you get me a PS5 and an iPhone 13? How do the elves make toys? How many toys do the elves make in two days?

I love Christmas. Christmas is fun. On Christmas you can do a lot. You can make a snowman because there is a lot of snow. On Christmas there is snow on the trees. You can put up a tree. Santa I am good on all days. I clean up. I sometimes play games. When my mom tells me to get off the game, I get off the game. I would like to see you.

On Christmas you can give a gift to people. On Christmas it's cold and icy outside. You can play in the snow, and it will not hurt. I work hard. On Christmas everyone is happy. People think Christmas is fun. People put gifts under a tree. Some people put a star on the top of a tree. Christmas is the best. I wish I can ride on the sled.

Love,
Hosea Halwood

I want the virus to end

Dear Santa,

I want a dinosaur toy and Godzilla toy for Christmas. I want the virus to end. Who is your favorite reindeer?

Sincerely,
Lydianian Begay

My favorite reindeer is Rudolph

Dear Santa,

I want roller skates and a green bag and gloves for Christmas. My favorite reindeer is Rudolph. Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,
Preaura Harrison

I want a new video game

Dear Santa,

I want a new video game called Minecraft for Christmas. I want T'akis too.

Sincerely,
Starlaya Harrison

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*Starting October 1, 2021, the USPS will implement the use of trucks and existing surface network to move the mail, relying less on air transportation. This will affect First Class mail and Periodicals with a delay in delivery time.
*Starting October 1, 2021, the USPS began changing First-Class and Periodical mail time frames which may result in the mail taking longer to arrive.

Got Questions?

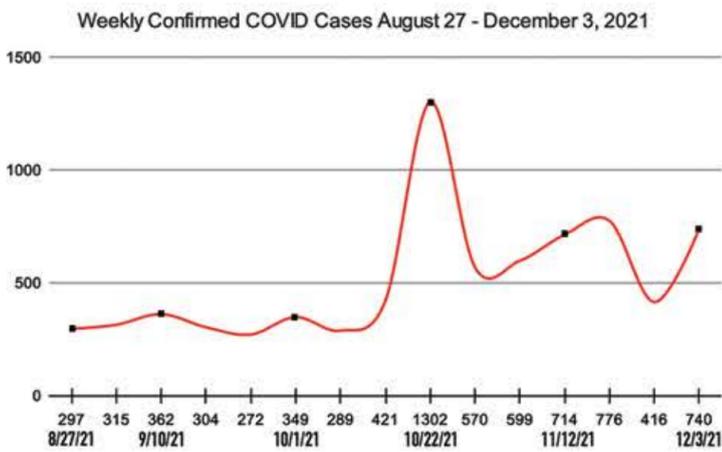
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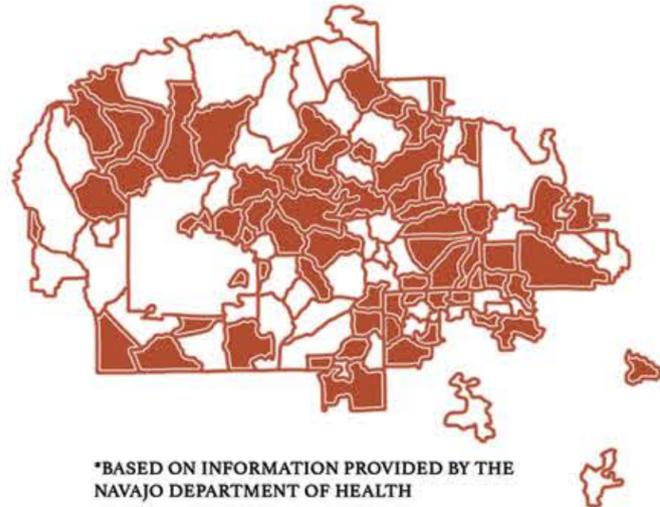
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IT IS UP TO YOU TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID

DELTA IS SURGING ON THE NAVAJO NATION



38 CHAPTERS HAVE UNCONTROLLED SPREAD OF COVID*



A NEW OMICRON VARIANT HAS BEEN DETECTED IN 45 STATES INCLUDING UTAH, NEW MEXICO, AND ARIZONA. IT IS BELIEVED TO BE DRAMATICALLY MORE TRANSMISSIBLE THAN PREVIOUS VARIANTS. ACCORDING TO THE CDC, OMICRON CASES HAVE INCREASED SEVENFOLD WITHIN THE PAST WEEK. INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE FULLY VACCINATED AND HAVE RECEIVED A BOOSTER SHOT ARE BELIEVED TO BE LARGELY PROTECTED AGAINST SEVERE ILLNESS AND DEATH FROM OMICRON*.

*BASED ON ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN THE WASHINGTON POST AND THE NEW YORK TIMES: WWW.WASHINGTONPOST.COM/HEALTH/2021/12/14/OMICRON-US-SPREAD; WWW.NYTIMES.COM/INTERACTIVE/2021/HEALTH/CORONAVIRUS-VARIANT-TRACKER.HTML

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- **VACCINES REMAIN OUR BEST PROTECTION AGAINST COVID-19.**
- **ONLY 58% OF THE NAVAJO POPULATION ARE FULLY VACCINATED.**
- **ONLY 66% OF CHILDREN AGES 12-19 ARE FULLY VACCINATED.**
- **SINCE MARCH 2020, THERE HAVE BEEN 434 SCHOOL EXPOSURES.**
- **MASK WEARING REDUCES TRANSMISSION BY 30% OR MORE.**

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POLICE REPORT

Navajo Co. sheriff's report - Dec. 5 to Dec. 11

HOLBROOK – The Navajo County Sheriff's Office reports the following activity from Dec. 5 through Dec. 11.

On Dec. 6, Andrea Chaney, 46, of Heber, was arrested for disorderly conduct/domestic violence.

On Dec. 6, Chelsea Vance, 29, of Snowflake, was arrested for disorderly conduct, assault, and criminal damage.

On Dec. 7, at a traffic stop on State Route 260 and State Route 277, Troy Williams, 61, of Overgaard, was arrested for possession of danger drugs and open container.

On Dec. 9, James Oldham, 63, of Showlow, was arrested for aggravated Assault-Choking/Domestic Violence, Assault/Domestic Violence, and Disorderly Conduct/Domestic Violence.

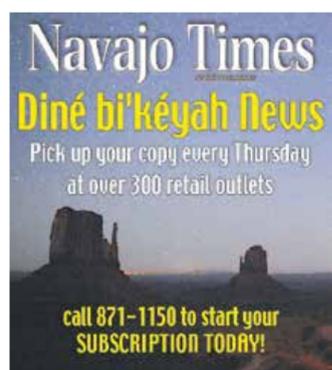
On Dec. 11, Christina Pulido, 48, of Phoenix, was arrested for disorderly conduct/domestic violence.

On Dec. 11, Scott Colvin, 47, of Snowflake, was arrested for assault, criminal damage and disorderly conduct.

On Dec. 7, a domestic incident was reported in Lakeside and Cody Baker, 26, of Lakeside, was arrested a for criminal damage, and disorderly conduct/domestic violence.

On Dec. 8, 2021, for a report of threatening was reported in Pinetop and Victor Rico, 68, of Pinetop, was arrested for aggravated assault/domestic violence and assault/domestic violence.

On Dec. 10, a report of a disorderly subject led to Kyle White, 24, of Glendale who was arrested for disorderly conduct/domestic violence.



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Man pleads guilty to St. Michaels murder

BY BILL DONOVAN
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LOS ANGELES – Jeremiah Cleveland has pledged guilty to second-degree murder for a 2018 killing of a St. Michaels man.

Cleveland, no age listed, was arrested in November 2018 after Navajo tribal police began investigating the death of M.K., who was listed in court records as a resident of St. Michaels Housing.

In a plea agreement, Cleveland said he and M.K. had gotten into an argument which led to Cleveland pulling out a handgun and shooting him twice, once in the leg and once in the chest. He later died from his injuries.

Cleveland was charged originally with first-degree murder but agreed to plead guilty to the lesser charges which carries a maximum life sentence. But because he accepted responsibility for his actions and showed remorse, federal prosecutors have agreed to recommend a cap of 20 years when he goes before a judge for sentencing.

There is no date set for his sentencing which will take place in the federal court in Prescott.

Before he agreed to the plea agreement, he had filed a motion to have the charges dismissed because of claims that his sixth amendment rights have been violated by the federal government.

He claimed that between March to November 2020, he had been held in prison without any updates to his trial, no visits from his defense attorney and no court dates. During this time, he said he was constantly exposed to the COVID-19 virus.

Because of the threat of the virus, the federal court had canceled all of its hearings which Cleveland said caused him great anxiety.

He said this violated his sixth amendment rights to a speedy trial. The court rejected this argument.

Curley pleads guilty to murder, robbery
Shawnvon Curley last

week agreed to plead guilty to second degree murder and robbery of an adult and a child in federal district court in Prescott.

In his plea agreement, he admitted that he, along with Armondo Whiterock and two juveniles participated in a home invasion within the Arizona portion of the Navajo Reservation.

"We coordinated, worked together and aided and abetted each other to threaten and attack the family," he said.

The home invasion occurred on Sept. 19, 2019. Curley said he and the others broke inside while the family was sleeping. They carried bats and used the bats on the five members of the family. He admitted using the bats and participating in the attack and telling members of the family to "stay down or they would be kept killed."

Curley admitted hitting M. W., who died of his injuries. He said he hit him in the head, chest and legs while others also used their bats on him and kicked him to prevent him from getting up from the floor. M. W. would later die of trauma to the head.

"My accomplices and I stole items of value, including a vehicle, a firearm, a pellet gun and a cell phone," Curley said, adding that he was the one who drove the vehicle away from the residence.

As part of the agreement, the federal government agreed to dismiss multiple charges ranging from kidnapping and assault with a deadly weapon. He was facing a maximum life sentence but by signing the plea agreement, the prosecutors agreed to recommend a prison sentence of no more than 30 years.

Court records state the home invasion occurred in Sweetwater, south of Red Mesa. The attack occurred before 6 a.m. when the house was occupied by the parents, one adult daughter and two teenage sons.

Those who were injured were taken to the San Juan Medical Center. The daughter had a puncture wound to her lower back. One of the teenage boys had a laceration to his right hand.

Shortly after taking the vehicle, Curley crashed it. He was taken into custody after a brief foot pursuit near the victim's home. One of the juveniles was arrested near the wrecked vehicle. Whiterock and the other juvenile were arrested within the next couple of days.

Police said when Curley was arrested, he was carrying a blood-stained aluminum bat. The juvenile who was arrested by the wrecked car made a spontaneous statement to police saying "they" had turned on him and tried to kill him.

P.W., the wife of M.W. told FBI agents later that the break in occurred between 4:15 to 4:30 a.m. She said she heard the attackers come in through the front door. Two of them had metal bats while a third had a machete.

The attackers wed first interviewed the bedroom of the two teenage boys. When she went to protect them, she said she was hit twice on the left side of the head. She said she then began bleeding and was thrown on the bed.

She said she will win messed her daughter and husband being beaten and one of her sons, who had tried to hide in a closet, being stabbed. She said after the attack was over and the attackers were preparing to leave the house, she smelled smoke and heard Whiterock say they were going to burn the house down.

She estimated the attackers were in the house for 90 minutes as they searched the entire house for valuables. She said during that time they destroyed the house and things inside the house.

She said she had no doubts who the attackers were because she knew all four of them. She said she thought the attack was retaliation for an incidence where their grandfather was killed.

Two days after the attack, FBI agents interviewed Curley who had a noticeable limp. H said after the car crash, he ran away down a cow trail and stepped on a bush, injuring his knee. After that he got on a nearby road and flagged down a car not realizing it was a police vehicle.

He said he day before the invasion, he and one of the juveniles were talking to Whiterock who told them he had been threatened. He said the people who threatened him lived in the house they broke into the following day.

The person who was making the threats was listed as Q in the police report. They knew Q stayed the over at that house now and then. However, on the day of the break-in, he was not there.

He said when they broke in, they asked for Q and told the occupants not to mess with them. But some of the occupants got mad and tried to defend themselves. He said when they first entered the house, he went to the bedroom where he thought Q would be located but instead a man and woman in the room attacked him.

He said he left the room where a man and a woman were lying on the bed. He then went into the living room where he told the other three, they needed to leave because Q was not there. He said he kind of blacked out then and didn't remember anything until he got into the vehicle to drive away.

He said he did not know who the vehicle belonged to. He said he could not remember who

was driving. He also said he had had no plans to go inside the house. He only planned to yell from the outside.

He said when the others broke down the door, he went inside only to protect them from Q and to get items that Q had stolen from him. He said he fought the family first only with his fists until he discovered a bat inside the house.

Whiterock, who had signed a plea agreement with federal prosecutors last summer, said H was listening to music the day before the break-in when the other three showed up at his house. They then went to the home of a nearby bootlegger where they stole several bottles of 40-ounce beer bottles.

They continued to drink throughout the night until they decided to go to where they thought Q lived to get him to return the things he had stolen from them. He said all four carried bats. He added that when they broke in, he began searching the house for the items Q had stolen. He said he could hear fighting going on in other parts of the house.

He admitted fighting with one of the teenage boys over a bat and he then using it to strike the boy three times.

Whiterock is also waiting to be sentenced.



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Navajo Area IHS vaccine schedule

ST. MICHAELS — The Navajo Area Indian Health Service continues to have COVID-19 vaccines available at the following chapter houses, schools and health facilities.

COVID-19 vaccinations are now recommended for everyone 5 years and older.

- Bloomfield — Dziłth-Na-O-Dith-Hle Health Center (drive-thru) will be administering the Pfizer vaccine for youth ages 5-17 today, Dec. 23, and Dec. 27-30 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Target groups include students from DZ Grant School, Bloomfield Schools, Lybrook School, Hanaa Dli Community School, and other local area schools. Flu vaccines will also be available for children ages 3 and older.

Adult vaccines will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 5. For appointment, call 505-960-7819.

- Bloomfield — Dziłth-Na-O-Dith-Hle Health Center Pediatric Vaccine Drive (drive-thru) will be administering the first/second Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5-17 by appointment only (505-960-7819) on Wednesday, Dec. 29, from 1-3 p.m. Adult vaccines will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 5.
- Chinle — Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility Pediatric Outpatient Clinic will be administering the first/second Moderna vaccine for individuals, ages 18 and older, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Check in at the pediatric clinic (closed for lunch from

12 p.m. to 1 p.m.). First/second Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5 and older, and booster vaccine for ages 16 and older are also available. Drive-thru available Saturday and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- Crownpoint — Crownpoint Healthcare Facility conference room (indoor event) will be administering the first Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5-11, first/second Pfizer vaccine for youth ages 12 and older, Pfizer booster for ages 16 and older, and first/second/booster Moderna vaccine for ages 18 and older, on Tuesday, Dec. 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Crownpoint — Crownpoint Healthcare Facility (drive-thru) will be administering the first

Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5-11, first/second Pfizer vaccine for youth ages 12 and older, Pfizer booster for ages 16 and older, and first/second/booster Moderna vaccine for ages 18 and older, on Saturday, Jan. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Gallup — Gallup Indian Medical Center Public Health Nursing, Building F (drive-thru) will be administering the Moderna/Pfizer vaccine Monday through Friday for children, ages 5 and older, from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., by appointment only (505-722-1753 or 505-722-1805). Closed for lunch from noon to 12:35 p.m. Patients can make appointment in person to stop appointment (stay in vehicle).
- Hogback, N.M. — Tse Daa K'aan Chapter House will be administering the first/second vaccine for children ages 5 and older, Pfizer booster vaccine for youth ages 16-17, and Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and older, on Friday, Jan. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon. Flu vaccine is also available for ages 3 and older.
- Inscription House, Ariz. — Inscription House Health Center (outdoor tent) will be administering the first/second Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5 and older, first/second Moderna vaccine for adults 18 and older, and Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and older on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Wednesdays from 1-4:30 p.m.
- Kayenta — Kayenta Health Center will be administering the first/second Moderna vaccine for adults 18 and older, first/second Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5 and older, and booster vaccines for patients who meet CDC criteria and adults 18 and older, on Wednesday, Dec. 29, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Vaccines are also available in the Outpatient Clinic, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., by appointment only (928-697-5170).
- Naschitti, N.M. — Naschitti Elementary School will be administering the first/second vaccine for children ages 5 and older, Pfizer booster vaccine for youth ages 16-17, and Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and older, on Wednesday, Jan. 5, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Flu vaccine is also available for ages 3 and older.
- Piñon, Ariz. — Piñon Health Center (drive-thru and outpatient department) will be administering the first/second Moderna vaccine for individuals 18 and older on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30-11:30 a.m., and 1:30-4:30 p.m., and Thursdays from 1:30-4:30 p.m. First/second Pfizer vaccine for children, ages 5 and older, and booster vaccine for ages 16 and older are also available.
- Pueblo Pintado, N.M. — Pueblo Pintado Clinic will be administering vaccines by appointment only at 505-655-3254.
- Rock Point, Ariz. — Rock Point Clinic will be administering vaccines on Tuesdays by appointment only (928-724-3639) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Sanostee, N.M. — Sanostee Chapter House will be administering the first/second vaccine for children ages 5 and older, Pfizer booster vaccine for youth ages 16-17, and Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and



NAVAJO TIMES | DONOVAN QUINTERO

Stop the spread

To help stop the spread of germs and COVID-19, a hand sanitizer spray is in place for visitors inside the Bee Hózdil Fighting Scouts Events Center in Fort Defiance on Dec. 13.

Rock Point Community School Presents THE 40TH ANNUAL DINE SONG & DANCE FESTIVAL

RPCS Elementary Gymnasium, Rock Point, AZ
January 26th & 27th, 2022

Nihizaad dóó nihe'é'él'í' sin bee hataál dóó azhish bee náás yilleyéel dooleet hwiindzin. T'áá altso noosé'í da'ó'tta'ígíí bá bit náhoo'aahgo hoolzhish. Nihaanádajilkah!

To maintain our Diné language and Diné ways of knowing and doing, this event is held for students to express language and culture through singing and dancing. All schools are invited! All are welcome to watch (dependent on COVID-19 situation).

Divisions:	Events:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary (Kdg. through 3rd Grade) • Intermediate (4th – 8th Grade) • Secondary (9th – 12th Grade) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ T'áásahí Hojitaat (Solo) ◦ Nizhdil'ée'go Hojitaat (Duet) ◦ T'áádíkwída Jil'ée'go Dahojitaat (Group) • Dancing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Yé'li Bicheli ◦ Ahizhnidááhjí Azhish (Fire Dance) ◦ Nidáá'jí Azhish • Song Act (Combined Categories): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Késhjéé' (Shoe Game) ◦ Ak'áá'jí (Corn Grinding)

Schedule:

- January 26, 2022 – Intermediate
- January 27, 2022 – Primary & Secondary
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days

Participant registration required. Register at www.nizhonihei.com. School sponsors must register their participants. Registration deadline is January 21, 2022. Rules and regulations apply. Free Registration. Lunch may be purchased through our business office if desired. For more information please call Florian Johnson or Carol Ashihi at (928) 659-4611.

NOTE: This will be an in-person event dependent on Navajo Nation COVID-19 situation. Event may be modified accordingly.

older, on Monday, Jan. 3, from 10 a.m. to noon. Flu vaccine is also available for ages 3 and older.

- Sheep Springs, N.M. — Too Haltsoo Chapter House (Sheep Springs) will be administering the first/second vaccine for children ages 5 and older, Pfizer booster for youth ages 16-17, and Moderna/Pfizer booster for adults 18 and older, on Wednesday, Jan. 5, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Flu vaccine is also available for ages 3 and older.
- Shiprock — Shiprock High School (drive-thru) will be administering the first/second vaccine for children ages 5 and older, Pfizer booster vaccine for youth ages 16-17, and Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and older, on Wednesday, Jan. 2, from noon to 3 p.m. Flu vaccine is also available for ages 3 years and older.
- Shiprock — Northern Navajo Medical Center (drive-up trailer) will be administering the first/second vaccine for children ages 5 and older, Pfizer booster for youth ages 16-17, and Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and older, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Flu vaccine is also available for ages 3 and older.
- Shiprock — Eva B. Stokely Elementary School will be administering the first/second vaccine for children ages 5 and older, Pfizer booster vaccine for youth ages 16-17, and Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and older, on Thursday, Jan. 6, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Flu vaccine is also available for ages 3 and older.
- Teec Nos Pos, Ariz. — Four Corners Regional Health Center will be administering the first/second Pfizer vaccine for youth ages 12 and older, first/second Moderna vaccine for adults 18 and older, Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and older, and first Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5-11, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thurs-

days, and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Wednesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are appreciated (928-656-5400).

- Thoreau, N.M. — Thoreau Clinic will be administering vaccines by appointment only at 505-862-8761.
- Tohatchi, N.M. — Tohatchi Health Center will be administering Pfizer vaccines on Mondays for youth ages 12 and older from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Moderna vaccines on Wednesdays for adults 18 and older from noon to 3 p.m., by appointment only (505-733-8403).
- Tsailie, Ariz. — Tsailie Health Center Outpatient Department will be administering the first/second Moderna vaccine for ages 18 and older on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursdays from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. First/second Pfizer vaccine for children, ages 5 and older, and booster vaccine for ages 16 and older are also available. Appointment preferred (928-724-3639), but walk-ins are welcome.
- Upper Fruitland, N.M. — Upper Fruitland Chapter House will be administering the first/second vaccine for children ages 5 and older, Pfizer booster vaccine for youth ages 16-17, and Moderna/Pfizer booster vaccine for adults 18 and over, on Tuesday, Jan. 4, from 1-3 p.m. Flu vaccine is also available for ages 3 and older.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CUSD public hearing

CHINLE — Chinle Unified School District announces a public hearing Wednesday, Jan. 12, to discuss the Fiscal Year 2023 Impact Aid application and Indian policies and procedures of the district. The public hearing will take place in the CUSD governing boardroom at 6 p.m. Information: Priscine Jones, 928-674-9632.

Digital series workshop

GALLUP — Join Octavia Fellin Public Library for a workshop "Grow with Google: Create a Career Plan to Get the Job You Want" on Zoom or in person on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 3 p.m. Learn to identify strengths, take inventory of unique skills and experiences, and start a plan to reach long-term professional goals. Information: 505-863-1291.

Library Advisory Board meeting

GALLUP — The public is invited to attend the Library Advisory Board monthly meeting on Thursday, Jan. 13, at 5 p.m. Join the Zoom meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86946788988> (Meeting ID: 869 4678 8988). Information: 505-863-1291.

Bullet journaling workshop

GALLUP — Octavia Fellin Public Library will host a Bullet Journaling Workshop on Wednesday, Jan. 12, at 4 p.m. The workshop will help attendees organize their tasks and stay productive. Keep track of favorite books, water consumption, binge-worthy TV shows, and more. Supplies will be available at the workshop. Information: 505-863-1291.

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REGION BRIEFS

Eagle chosen Southern Ute vice chairman, Torres wins 2nd term on Tribal Council

SOUTHERN UTE RESERVATION, Colo. — Southern Ute Chairman Melvin J. Baker selected Council member Ramona Eagle to serve as vice chairman of the tribe.

Eagle was elected to Tribal Council in 2019. Since her election, Eagle has served on the Growth Fund Management Committee, Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy School Board as ex-officio member, Johnson O'Malley Committee, Ignacio Creative District, and worked to re-establish the Committee of Elders.

Previously, she served as vice chairman two times under chairmen Clement J. Frost and Matthew Box.

"With a full Council, we are prepared to work on the Tribal Council priorities which benefit the tribal membership," Eagle said.

She is the daughter of the late Clifford and Annabelle Eagle. She is a sister to Linda Eagle and mother to the late Sadie R. Frost, Theodosha Frost and Rhonda Wilbourn. She has 13 grandchildren.

"This is a historic moment," Baker said, "to serve with an all-female Council."

And Vanessa Torres won the Southern Ute Tribe run-off election on Dec. 17, receiving the majority of votes cast.

The Southern Ute Election Board confirmed the election results, which show Torres with 125 votes and W. Bruce Valdez with 115.

This will be the second term on the Tribal Council for Torres. In previous work, she advocated for tribal water rights on



COURTESY PHOTO | NORTHLAND PIONEER COLLEGE

New officers who took the oath of office on Dec. 9 are, left to right, class supervisor Sgt. Jason Spear, officers Ryan Larson, Ramon Mercer, Joseph Montemayor, Jon Rosser, McTevious Victor and training Officer Terry McCarthy.

the Ten Tribes Partnership. She also led projects identified as Tribal Council priorities.

"I would like to thank the tribal membership for allowing me to be your voice for this next term," Torres said. "The experience I have gained in my first year will be a steppingstone towards building a stronger foundation on the many issues the tribe and membership face."

She is married and has one daughter.

USDA \$19.3 million investment includes NTUA projects

PHOENIX — Two Navajo Tribal Utility Authority projects are included in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's investment of \$19.3 million to build and improve infrastructure in rural Arizona, the USDA announced Dec. 17.

This announcement follows the recent passage of President Biden's historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The NTUA projects are:

- NTUA Wireless LLC will use a \$1.8 million Community Connect grant to build a 30-mile fiber-to-the-premises system.

This system will expand access to economic, educational, health care and public safety opportunities for 913 people and 12 community sites in the Teec Nos Pos area.

- NTUA will use a \$3.3 million grant to improve a wastewater treatment plant. Upgraded equipment and technology will provide significant support to its users in Apache County.

Other projects include the Painted Desert Demonstration Projects Inc., which will use a

\$153,000 grant to support the STAR School Water Technical Assistance and Training Program for the Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribe.

The STAR School will host community workshops to assist participants with water and wastewater loan and grant applications, and to provide training for improved management, operation, and maintenance of facilities.

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona Inc. will use a \$1 million grant to provide technical assistance, training, and tribal operator certification services to small, rural tribal communities in Arizona. This ITCA will use an additional \$82,200 grant to help tribes manage and mitigate solid waste.

Arizona State University is receiving a \$160,559 grant to design recycling programs which allow rural regions to offer recycling services with effective outreach programs.

The Arizona communities to be engaged include Bisbee, Tombstone, Pirtleville, Huachuca City, St. David, Pinetop-Lakeside, Heber-Overgaard, White Mountain Lake, Springerville, and Whiteriver.

Five new peace officers sworn in

SNOWFLAKE, Ariz. — Five new peace officers were sworn in Dec. 9 after completing the 21-week Arizona Peace Officer Standards for Training at Northland Pioneer College's Northeastern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy.

Navajo County Superior Court Judge Michala Ruechel administered the oath to new

Holbrook Police Department Officers Ryan Larson and Joseph Montemayor; Snowflake-Taylor Police Department Officer Ramon Mercer; White Mountain Apache Police Department Officer McTevious Victor; and Globe Police Department Officer Jon Rosser.

Anyone interested in becoming a certified Arizona peace officer can contact the agency they would like to work for to begin the process, which can take four to eight weeks. The next class is scheduled to begin Jan. 24.

Mescalero project included in nationwide celebration

ALBUQUERQUE — U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development State Director Patricia Dominguez on Tuesday presented a certificate of congratulations to the Mescalero Apache Telecom Inc. as part of a nationwide celebration.

The celebration was held to honor entities that are receiving \$5.2 billion to upgrade infrastructure projects. The projects include electric and communications upgrades and water and wastewater projects.

At Mescalero, New Mexico, the funds will complete the expansion of the telecommunication system serving the Mescalero Apache Reservation.

Bluewater Lake temporarily closed to boating

PREWITT, N.M. — Bluewater Lake is temporarily closed to boating and ice-fishing due to recent winter weather conditions that created unsafe lake surface conditions.

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, State Parks Division announced the lake is closed to all watercrafts including canoes, kayaks, inflatables and all types of motorboats.

Park staff will continue to monitor ice conditions for ice fishing.

While boat ramp access is closed, the park remains open for day-use and camping. Hiking trails remain open at the park.

Information: the park's website or 505-876-2391.

NATIVE NEWS BRIEFS

Native American KU students want a say in criminal cases

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Some Native American students at the University of Kansas want a say in criminal cases involving vandalism and thefts at the "Native Hosts" art exhibit.

The Lawrence Journal-World reports that members of the First Nations Student Association have asked the Douglas County District Attorney's Office to include them in processing of the criminal cases.

Doctoral student D'Arlyn Bell said the crimes made Native American students feel "targeted."

Two students have been charged with stealing part of the art exhibit titled "Native Hosts," by artist Hock E Aye Vi Edgar Heap of Birds. It is installed outside the Spencer Museum of Art.

The theft happened around Sept. 29, more than three weeks after two unidentified people damaged four of the pieces.

No charges have been filed in the vandalism.

Town votes not to restore Native American nickname for teams

GLASTONBURY, Conn. (AP) — A school board in Connecticut has rejected a proposal to revive a Native American nickname for its high school sports teams, a week after a meeting to discuss that idea ended with a board member being punched.

The Glastonbury Board of Education finished its meeting online Monday night, voting 7-1 not to change the name from Guardians back to Tomahawks. The town changed the name earlier this year.

"The Tomahawk mascot no longer seems to be a symbol that signals a vision of strength and unity at Glastonbury High School, but instead seems to sow division and discord in our community," board member Evan Seretan said at Monday night's meeting.

Last Tuesday's in-person meeting ended after an argument erupted during a break between a board member and a resident.

The board member can be seen on a video pushing the man, who then takes a swing at the board member, striking him and causing him to fall backward.

FBI: Artifacts stolen from museums in 1960s, 1970s returned

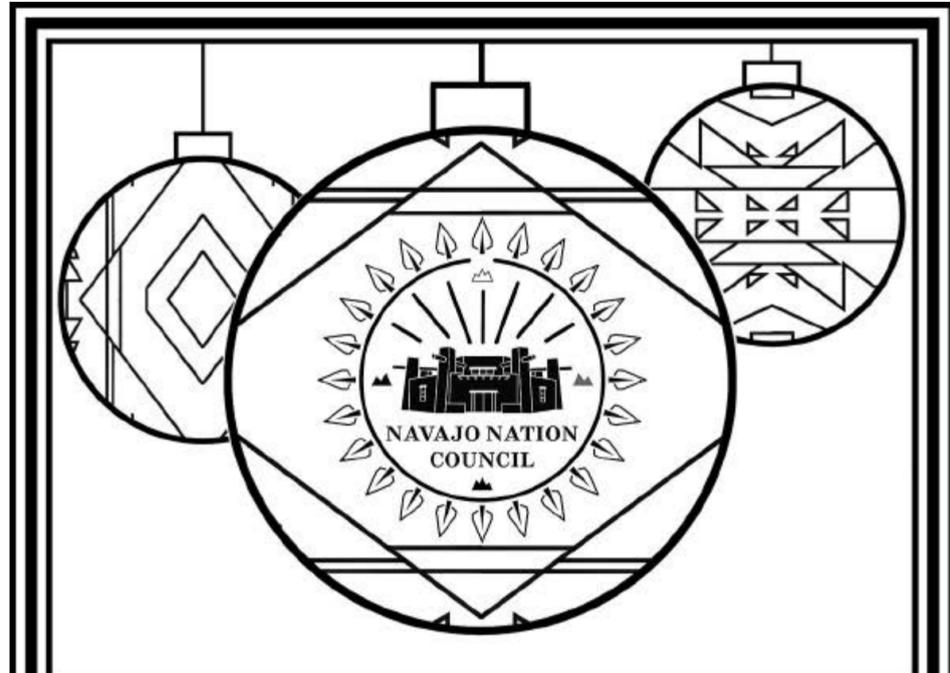
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Federal authorities say 15 historical artifacts stolen almost a half-century ago from a number of Pennsylvania museums have been returned to the institutions.

The FBI art crime team and other law enforcement agencies repatriated the 18th- and 19th-century rifles and pistols as well as a Native American silver concho belt in a ceremony Dec. 17 at the Museum of the American Revolution.

FBI art crime agents and detectives from the Upper Merion Township Police Department recovered the artifacts as part of an investigation into the 1971 theft and 2018 sale of a rare 1775 rifle made by Pennsylvania master gunsmith Christian Oerter, officials said.

Receiving the repatriated items were the American Swedish Historical Museum, the Hershey Story Museum (formerly the Hershey Museum), the Landis Valley Museum (formerly the Pennsylvania Farm Museum), the Mercer Museum, the Museum of the American Revolution, and York County History Center.

"We are incredibly grateful," Valerie Seiber, The Hershey Story's senior manager of historical collections and exhibitions, told PennLive.com. "It's pretty amazing that after 50 years, these items have been recovered and returned. We're very happy to have them back in our collection." She said the items will be assessed, catalogued and stored but will not be put on display for the time being.



Yá' at' ééh Késhmish

In the spirit of the season, we join you in the many blessings our Creator has provided. On behalf of the 24th Navajo Nation Council, continue to be safe and have a joyful Holiday season.

Nizhónígo Nihéédadoohah

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Navajo Times

DINE BI NAALTSOOS

Reporter

FULL TIME, PERMANENT POSITION

Navajo Times Publishing Company, Inc. is looking for a full-time Reporter to join the news staff. We are seeking a motivated, creative and dedicated reporter who can think and perform in the newsroom and in the general public. The best person for this job will have proven knowledge and experience covering a range of news events and people, local governments, schools, communities and public affairs. Reporter should be a self-starter who can handle a variety of beats and assignments and file articles and photos by set deadlines.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Contribute as an active member of the editorial team, and the Navajo Times company.
- Meet set deadlines with articles and photos that are ready for editing and publishing.
- Consult daily with the editor and reporters on story ideas, breaking news and news tips.
- Work a 40-hour week, including some late evenings and weekend shifts.
- Contribute online content to the Navajo Times website - navajotimes.com.
- Consistently produce articles that are honest, balanced and complete.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

The reporter will possess excellent communication and writing skills, and have knowledge of journalism ethics, morals and responsibilities. Reporters who speak and understand the Navajo language and are familiar with the people, tribal customs and the terrain of the Navajo Nation are preferred. The reporter should thrive in a team-based environment and be willing to assist other staff members when necessary, and work well under deadline pressure. A Bachelors degree in Journalism, Communications, English or related field plus three years progressive work experience in reporting for news media is required. You must have a valid driver's license.

SALARY IS BASED ON OVERALL EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE.

This reporter's position will be open until filled with the right, qualified person.

Please send application, cover letter, resume and examples of your work for consideration to Navajo Times, attention Tom Arviso; P.O. Box 310; Window Rock, AZ 86515 or email to tarviso@navajotimes.com. To download an application, please go to www.navajotimes.com. For more information, telephone the Navajo Times office at (928) 871-1130.

NTPC, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer and enforces the Navajo Preference in Employment Act.

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE
 Find Kid Scoop on Facebook
 © 2021 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 27, No. 1

SANTA'S SCRAPBOOK

Take a peek inside the big guy's personal scrapbook to find out what this year has been like for Santa Claus.

Reindeer Names

Each year, new reindeer are born. But learning to fly takes a lot of practice. Follow the path from each young reindeer to its name.

Factory Fun

Like anyone, new elves need training and practice. This year's new hires got a few toys mixed up on their first few days on the job. Draw the missing parts on each toy robot. They should look like the one at right.

Icy Art

About the only thing elves like better than making toys is making amazing ice sculptures. Floyd won this year's ice sculpture contest. Can you find his two identical ice sculptures?

Standards Link: Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

VACATION TIME!

After the rush of the Christmas season, Mrs. Claus and I spent a relaxing week at one of my favorite places. Use the code to discover the answer.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Birthday Surprise

Everyone around the workshop threw me a big surprise birthday party this year. Look at the photos from that day and number them in the correct order.

Standards Link: Sequencing: Place events in order.

Silly Toys

Look through the newspaper and cut out parts of people, critters and things. Glue these different parts together to design a new toy for Santa to make!

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Use a variety of media to communicate ideas.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Mrs. Claus is decorating her Christmas tree. She knows just where she wants each ornament to go. Do the math and then draw a line from each ornament to its place.

Standards Link: Number Sense: Calculate differences.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

SCRAPBOOK
 REINDEER
 PERSONAL
 CONTEST
 PHOTOS
 ELVES
 PARTY
 HIRES
 ORDER
 SANTA
 CLAUS
 TOYS
 RUSH
 BORN
 JOB

A J P T S U A L C E
 K O O B P A R C S L
 R Y R B S O E H C A
 S N D A B L I O S N
 O L E O V R N S A O
 T C R E E T D R N S
 O N S S E A E P T R
 H R U S H J E O A E
 P Y T R A P R K E P

Standards Link: Letter Sequencing: Recognize identical words; skim and scan reading; recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

Reindeer Fitness

Comet Kicks
 Kick your legs up as high as you can! (Make sure you have plenty of space!)

Blitzen Bend
 Stand with your feet slightly apart. Raise your arms over your head and then slowly bend backward as far as you can.

Dancer Twist
 Play one of your favorite songs and do the twist!

Dasher Dash
 Run in place for one to two minutes.

Standards Link: Physical Education: Use a variety of basic and advanced movement forms.

Write On!

Santa Memories

Pretend you are Santa and have a special memory. Write a paragraph describing that memory.

THIS FEATURE PROUDLY SPONSORED BY COCINA DE DOMINGUEZ

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DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS

RIBEYE & T-BONE STEAK SPECIALS

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APPLY @ www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov



The Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc., has the following job openings:

- Middle School Teacher
- Elementary Teacher(s) K-5
- Gifted & Talented Teacher K-12
- Counselor K-6
- Substitute Teacher(s)
- Dean of Students
- Bus Driver(s)
- Administrative Services Director
- Controller
- Security Officer (Temporary)
- Clinic Nurse (Part-time)
- Board Operator (Closing Date 1/07/21)

All positions are Open Until Filled unless otherwise stated.

Applicants must successfully complete and pass a pre-employment criminal background check, character investigation, and drug screening

Interested and qualified applicants may call or write for additional information to:
 Ramah Navajo School Board Inc.
 Human Resource Department
 P.O. Box 10 Pine Hill, New Mexico 87357
 Telephone (505) 775-4150
 FAX# (505) 775-3799

Official Website for current vacancies may be found at: www.rnsb.k12.nm.us/employment
 The Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc., is a Navajo and Indian Preference Employer

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HELP WANTED

OLD SPORTS CARS/ CONVERTIBLES: Porsche, Mercedes, Jaguar, Triumph/MG, Ferrari, Corvette & others! 1973 & OLDER! ANY condition! TOP \$\$\$ PAID! Call/Text: Mike 520-977-1110. I bring trailer & cash! (AzCAN)

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tion. (M-F 8am-6pm ET) (AzCAN)

ALLIED POWER performs construction and maintenance work at **Four Corners power plant in NM.** Allied has planned and unplanned temporary work for non-manuals year-round. Interested applicants should apply at www.alliedpwr.com/careers EEO employer with Navajo preference.

experience. Arizona Fingerprint Clearance card (Level 1), valid Arizona driver's license, be (21 years of age)

For more information and to apply, please visit our Terros Health career page at <https://www.terroshealth.org/careers/>

Partitions & Accessories Company is taking applications for the following positions: Locations: Chinle, AZ

Specialty Installer
 Experience - Minimum of 5 years experience in the installation of Toilet Partitions and Bathroom Accessories.

Specialty Installer Foreman
 Experience - Minimum of 5 years experience in leadership and the installation of Toilet Partitions and Bathroom Accessories. Able to work required construction schedule to meet deadlines, with punctuality and dependability a requirement. Please call David Borelli to schedule a phone interview.

David Borelli
 Operations Manager
 Partitions & Accessories

Company
 1220 S. Pasadena St.
 Mesa, AZ 85210
 (480) 969-6606 Office

NANNY NEEDED
 We are looking for a fun and reliable nanny for two girl children: 3 years and 4 months old in Piñon.

Responsibilities: Follow child's schedule, light meal prep, light housekeeping, Indoor & outdoor play
Hours: full time 730- 530 pm, 5 days a week, at our house in piñon.
 Salary: negotiable
Contact Kimberly at 856 745 4022 or email: pierrekd33@gmail.com

Network Technician II Sacred Wind Communications is seeking to hire a Network Technician II in Yatahey, New Mexico. Please visit our website at www.sacredwindcommunications.com under "About" page and "Career Opportunities" option to see how to apply and view qualifications. The position will be open until filled. Sacred Wind is an equal opportunity employer. Navajo Employment Preference Applicable.

The Grand Canyon Trust is accepting proposals through January 14, 2022 for an **Event Planner** for the inaugural Emergence Intertribal Economic Summit at Grand Canyon National Park in August 2022. Details: <https://www.grandcanyontrust.org/request-proposal-event-planner>

Looking for Diné students/chaperones who signed 1990 letter left at Fort Sumner Historic Site. Please call/text **Anne 510.289.5656**

ST. MICHAELS ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION Special Education Teacher

- Small classes = small caseload
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- Teacher Contract from August to May
- Supervision and management of a self-contained classroom
- AZ Department of Education Special Education Teacher Certification for Moderate to Severe disabilities
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- Salary Negotiable based on educational qualifications/experience
- SMASE Housing available free to first hired candidate

Submit Employment Application (available at www.smase.org), resume and documents to Human Resources Manager, (928) 871-2807; email: rhubbell@smase.org. Navajo Preference in Employment

Open Positions

Navajo Transitional Energy Company, Cordero Rojo Complex in Gillette, Wyoming, has the following open positions. Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years or older.

- Manager Human Resources
- Mechanic
- Manager Production
- Production Technician – Haul Truck
- Trainer Representative
- IT Technical Support Specialists

If you are interested, please submit an application at www.navenergy.com and apply using the Careers tab.



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 Apply Online
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ST. MICHAELS ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION Information Technology Specialist Manages technology utilizing special education and related services environment; responsibilities;

such as connectivity, back-up, troubleshooting, web, software and equipment needs; experience in operating systems, services, software/hardware, software and middleware. Other duties as assigned. Contact Human Resources at rhubbell@smase.org on job description and experience or call **871-2807**. Application available at www.smase.org. Navajo Preference in Employment

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 Fiscal Manager - Window Rock, AZ
 Fiscal Specialist - Window Rock, AZ
 Fiscal Technician - Chinle, AZ
 Grants Analyst - Window Rock, AZ
 Housing Technician - Pine Hill, NM
 Housing Technician - Tuba City, AZ
 Legal Advocate - Window Rock, AZ
 Maintenance Supervisor - Ganado, AZ
 Maintenance Supervisor - Tohajiilee, NM
 Maintenance Technician - Fort Defiance, AZ

Apply Online <https://www.navajohousingauthority.org/employment>
 Upload Resumes and Transcripts

NHA Human Resources Department
 PO Box 4980, Window Rock, AZ 86515
 Ph: (928) 729-6623
 Fax: 928-729-6391
 M/D/V/Life/AD&D/401K;
 NHA is an EOE/AAV/NP/IF Employer

2021 FISCAL YEAR

NAVAJO HOUSING AUTHORITY
 MAY 1, 1963

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF DETERMINATION ACT OF 1996 (NAHASDA) ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT (APR)

Pursuant to 24 CFR § 1000.518, the Navajo Housing Authority (NHA), as the Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE), hereby informs the public that the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Performance Reports of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) of 1996 grant is now posted on the NHA website: www.hooghan.org for public review and comments.

The APR can also be viewed and comments dropped off at the Navajo Housing Authority, Grants Management Department on Morgan Boulevard, Window Rock Arizona. Written comments can be mailed to NHA Grants Management Department, P. O. Box 4980, Window Rock, Arizona 86515, no later than 5:00 PM, December 23, 2021.

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 est. 1972

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The CCRC, Inc. organization is actively hiring professional caregivers who strive to deliver a higher standard of care to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Contact an HR team member at (505) 735-2261 or visit our website www.ccrn.org to fill out an online secure application.

Full-time Jobs Available:

1. Finance Manager (Management) – Full Time (exempt)
2. Transportation/Facilities Manager (Management) – Full Time (exempt)
3. Community Living Manager (Management) – Full-time (exempt)
4. Maintenance Assistant – Full Time (non-exempt)
5. Case Manager(s) – Full-time (non-exempt)
6. Caregivers – FT Nights and Weekend Shifts (Location: Twin Lakes, Coyote Canyon, Yahtahey, Crownpoint areas)

Exceptional Employee Benefits: Vision Service Plan insurance, Guardian Dental Insurance, Term-Life \$50k Insurance. Plus to help you save for your future, CCRC, Inc. offers 100% match contribution to your 401k Savings Plan. CCRC, Inc. provides 50 hours of paid online training to all Caregivers to guide and prepare you to provide quality supports.

For management positions, submit letter of interest, application and resume to the CCRC, Inc. HR Manager, Angelee James at ajames@ccrcnm.org. All listed jobs available are open until filled.

CCRC, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer and complies with the Navajo Preference in Employment Act.

Posted 12/15/2021; ajames

LEGAL NOTICES

THE FAMILY COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF KAYENTA, ARIZONA
IN THE MATTER OF:
 Clark, Mathius
 MINOR CHILD,
AND CONCERNING:
 Clark, Dawny Mother
 RESPONDENT/PARENT,
AND:
 THE NAVAJO NATION,
 PETITIONER.
 No. KY-FC-220-2021 (AN)
LEGAL NOTICE
 To: Dawny Clark, DOB: 12/31/1980, last known residence, 1/4 of a mile west of Monument Valley High School, Monument Valley, Utah, 84536.

A Petition for Adjudication of Dependent Child, pursuant to 9 N.N.C. § 1002(G) has been filed against you in the Family Court of the Navajo Nation by the Office of the Prosecutor, Kayenta, Arizona c/o Charmaine James, telephone (928) 697-5593.
 This publication in the Navajo Times serves as Legal Notice to you. You shall appear for the Preliminary Hearing on the January 12, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
 You shall also have thirty (30) days from the fourth and last publication of this Legal Notice to answer this notice and submit your answer to the Family Court of the Navajo Nation, the Judicial District of Kayenta, Arizona, and file a copy of your answer with the Office of the Prosecutor.
 If you fail to appear for the hearing, do not contact the Prosecutor's Office or do not submit your answer within in thirty (30) days, the Petitioner may be granted relief pursuant to their petition, the Court may issue an interlocutory order making findings on the Petition and legal custody and placement for your child. If you do not appear before the Court within 6 months of January 12, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., that interlocutory order will become a final judgment.
 You have the Right to be represented by an attorney.
 /s/ Clerk, Family Court of the Navajo Nation Kayenta, Arizona
TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE NAVAJO TIMES December 02, 09, 16, 23, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SANITIZING, DECONTAMINATION, AND RISK MITIGATION FOR COVID-19
BID NO. 21-10-2597LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide sanitizing, decontamination, and risk mitigation for Covid-19 and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061 or via email to Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst at lavineroan@nndode.org or Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 29, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES December 02, 09, 16, 23, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Pest and Rodent Control
BID NO. 21-10-2598LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide pest control and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061; Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst via email at lavineroan@nndode.org or 928-871-7090; Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst via email at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 29, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES December 02, 09, 16, 23, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Solar Lights
BID NO. 21-09-2577LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide solar lights and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061 or via email to Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst at lavineroan@nndode.org or Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 30, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 09, 16, 23, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Waste Management Services
BID NO. 21-10-2599LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide waste management services and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061; Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst via email at lavineroan@nndode.org or 928-871-7090; Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst via email at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 30, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 09, 16, 23, 2021.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF CHINLE, ARIZONA
 In the Matter of the Guardianship of LELI BIA
 A Minor.
 No. CH-FC-244-21
30-DAY CIVIL SUMMONS
TO: Leonard Bia, Jr.
ADDRESS UNKNOWN
 1. An Amended Petition for the Appointment of a Guardian of the Estate of a Minor has been filed in this Court regarding your minor child.
 A COPY OF THE PETITION IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS.
 2. You have thirty (30) days from the date the officer or process server hands you this document, or the date on which you accept service, to file a response to the Petition. You can prepare a written response on your own and file it with the Court within 30 days, or you can hire an attorney to help you prepare a written response and file it with the Court within 30 days.
 3. If you want to participate in this case in any way, you must file a written response with the Court within the 30 days and provide a copy to GEICO's attorney, whose name appears at the top of the Petition.
 4. You may represent yourself in this action, or you may hire an attorney.
 5. If you do nothing and choose not to file a response, the Court will proceed with consideration of the Petition without hearing from you as to its disposition.
 Date: November 30, 2021 By: Court Clerk, District Court of the Navajo Nation.
NOTE: Please bring this Summons and Amended Complaint with you to Court.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES December 09, 16, 23, 30, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS HVAC Services - Shiprock & Crownpoint District
BID NO. 21-12-2621LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide HVAC Services and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061 or via email to Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst at lavineroan@nndode.org or 928-871-7090 Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 30, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 09, 16, 23, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Solar Lights
BID NO. 21-09-2577LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide solar lights and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061 or via email to Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst at lavineroan@nndode.org or Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 30, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 09, 16, 23, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Waste Management Services
BID NO. 21-10-2599LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide waste management services and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061; Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst via email at lavineroan@nndode.org or 928-871-7090; Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst via email at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 30, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 09, 16, 23, 2021.

located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061 or via email to Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst at lavineroan@nndode.org or 928-871-7090 Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 30, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 09, 16, 23, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS HVAC Services - Tuba City District
BID NO. 21-12-2623LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide HVAC Services and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061 or via email to Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst at lavineroan@nndode.org or 928-871-7090 Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 30, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 09, 16, 23, 2021.

NAVAJO HEAD START REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS HVAC Services- Ft. Defiance & Chinle District
BID NO. 21-12-2622LE
 Navajo Head Start (NHS) invites qualified firms to submit bids to provide HVAC Services and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with a responsible and qualified independent contractor.
 Detailed instructions and minimum requirements for the bids may be obtained from Navajo Head Start located Southwest of US Hwy 264 & Indian Route 12 Suite #2A, Window Rock, AZ or by calling 928-871-7061 or via email to Lavine J. Roan, Principal Contract Analyst at lavineroan@nndode.org or 928-871-7090 Darlene Begay, Senior Contract Analyst at darlenebegay@nndode.org To obtain bid packet, go to www.nnooc.org link.
 All bids must be received by December 30, 2021 at 4:00pm (MST). No faxed or emailed proposals will be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted; however the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act will be applied.
 Published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 09, 16, 23, 2021.

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF KAYENTA, ARIZONA
 In the Matter of the Estate of: FRANCIS MEYERS, C#305,808
 DOB: 01/10/1964.
 DOD: 08/23/2020
 Decedent,
 PHYLLIS ROSE LITTLEFOOT, C#301,535
 Post Office Box 385
 Tonalea, Arizona 86044
 Petitioner.
 NO. KY-FC-007-2021 (CV)

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Administratrix PHYLLIS ROSE LITTLEFOOT has filed the First and Final Inventory and Proposed Distribution in the above entitled case, and the Final Hearing of the matter is set for March 28, 2022 at the hour of 10:00 a.m.
 ANY heir or other interested party having any objection or claim adverse to Petitioner's First and Final Inventory and Proposed Distribution should file such objection with the Clerk of the Kayenta Family Court, Post Office Box 2700, Kayenta, Arizona 86033, at any time prior to the date set for Final Hearing. If no one appears to oppose the final report the Court may sign an order approving at the final hearing without a hearing.
 DATED this 2nd day of December, 2021.
 /s/ CLERK, Navajo Nation Family Court
 To be Published in The Navajo Times December 16, 2021 and December 23, 2021.

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF CHINLE, ARIZONA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
 Sarah Descheny, C#20,177,
 DOD: 08/02/2016,
 Decedent,
AND CONCERNING:
 Ellen A. Tsosie, C#126,790,
 Petitioner.
 NO. CH-FC-167-19
NOTICE FOR LEGAL PUBLICATION
TO ALL CREDITORS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, Petitioner, Ellen A. Tsosie, C#126,790 has petitioned this Court to Probate the Estate of Sarah Descheny, C#20,177. A hearing will be held on the Petition on the 13th day of January, 2022, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., at the Chinle Family Court in Chinle, Arizona.
 If you wish to object or intervene in this petition, you must file an answer to the Petition and serve a copy on Petitioner, Ellen A. Tsosie: P.O. Box 91, Rock Point, Arizona 86503. You may obtain a copy of the Petition from Petitioners. If you do not file an answer to the Petition, your answer and claims may be barred from being heard.
ISSUED this 8 day of December, 2021.
 /s/ Navajo Nation Family Court Clerk
TO BE PUBLISHED ON:
 December 16, 2021
 December 23, 2021

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
 Fort Defiance, Apache County Arizona
NAVAJO TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY
INVITATION FOR BID
2022 FLEET VEHICLES
 Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) is hereby contacting qualified vendors to provide fleet vehicles that include the following:
 • 2022 (2) Each ½ Ton 4WD Extended Cab Short Bed Pickup
 • 2022 (3) Each ½ Ton 4WD Regular Cab Short Bed Pickup
 • 2022 (11) Each ¾ Ton 4WD Extended Cab Short Bed Pickup
 • 2022 (1) Each ¾ Ton 4WD Extended Cab Short Bed Pickup w/Diesel Fuel Cell Tool Box/Combo. (TRANS.)
 • 2022 (2) Each ¾ Ton 4WD Regular Cab Long Bed Pickup
 • 2022 (2) Each 4WD Full Size SUV
 • 2022 (1) Each All-wheel Drive Mid-Size SUV
 • 2022 (10) Each ¾ Ton 4WD Extended Cab Chassis with Specified Utility Body (MSO)
 • 2022 (2) Each 1 Ton 4WD Extended Cab Chassis with Specified Utility Body (LINE)
 • 2022 (2) Each 1 Ton 4WD Extended Cab Chassis with Specified Utility Body (GAS)
 • 2022 (2) Each 19,500 GVWR Extended Cab Chassis with Specified Flatbed Body (LINE)
 • 2022 (2) Each ¾ Ton 4WD Extended Cab Chassis with Specified Utility Body (ELECTRICIAN)
 • 2022 (1) Each ¾ Ton AWD Cargo Van with Specified Accessories

Instructions and Scope of Work can be obtained from Alvester B. Chee, Contract Administrator, at (928) 729-6249 or by email AlvesterC@ntua.com or at the NTUA Purchasing Department, North Navajo Route 12, Fort Defiance, Arizona. Each bid response shall be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked "DO NOT OPEN - 2022 Fleet Vehicles" and received by January 11, 2022; 3 PM (MST). No late, facsimiled, or electronic mailed bids will be accepted. To ensure delivery by the due date and time, all bids should be addressed to:
PHYSICAL ADDRESS:
 Navajo Tribal Utility Authority
 ATTN: Alvester B. Chee, Purchasing Department
 North Navajo Route 12 (Fed Ex/UPS)
 Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504
 Preference will be applied in accordance with the Navajo Business and Procurement Act (12 N.N.C. § 1501 et seq.); the Navajo Nation Procurement Act (12 N.N.C. § 301 et seq.); the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act (5 N.N.C. § 201 et seq.) and other applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. Proposers must submit evidence of their Preference Priority

Certification if applicable.
 To be Published in the NAVAJO TIMES December 16, 23, 2021.

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF CHINLE, ARIZONA
 In the Matter of the Estate of Sadie M. Buckner, C#65,547
 DOB: 09/06/1932,
 DOD: 04/03/2020,
 Deceased,
AND CONCERNING:
 Eileen Foster, C#111,852,
 Petitioner.
 No. CH-FC-109-21
LEGAL NOTICE
TO: ALL CLAIMANTS, CREDITORS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:
 Notice is hereby given that a Petition for the Administration of an Estate with No Will has been filed with this Court on April 22, 2021. The Petitioner is Eileen Foster, and she petitions this court to probate the estate of Decedent Sadie M. Buckner. A hearing will be held on this petition on the 20th day of January 2022 at the hour of 10:00 a.m. at the Chinle Family Court in Chinle, Arizona.
 If you wish to object or intervene in this petition, you must file an answer to the petition and serve a copy of your answer/claims to Petitioner's legal counsel, David R. Jordan/Sandra Taylor, The Law Offices of David R. Jordan, P.C., PO Box 840, Gallup, NM 87305. If you do not file an answer to the petition, your answer, claims or objections may be barred from being heard.
 Issued this 16 day of September 2021.
 /s/ Family Court Judge
 Chinle Family Court
TO BE PUBLISHED ON: December 16, 23, 30, 2021

Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) Procurement Department
INVITATION FOR BID
ADVERTISED IFB #542
EXTERIOR REPAIRS ON PUBLIC RENTAL UNITS AT NM15-531 IN LAKE VALLEY, NM
 The Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) (Hereinafter called the "Owner") invites all qualified Licensed General Contractors to bid on Exterior Repairs on Public Rental Units. Detailed information may be obtained via email to Lorencia Salabye, Procurement Specialist, isalabye@hooghan.org and requesting for Advertised IFB #542 Exterior Repairs on Public Rental Units at NM15-531 in Lake Valley, NM. The Owner will receive Sealed Bids until 2:00PM (MST) on January 11, 2022 via email to isalabye@hooghan.org. Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud immediately after the specified closing time. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.
 This invitation is unrestricted; however, preference shall be given to Navajo Organization and Navajo Owned Economic Enterprises in accordance with 24 CFR 1000.48, 1000.50 and 1000.52.
 To be Published in the Navajo Times on December 16, 23, 30, 2021 and January 06, 2022.

Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) Procurement Department
ADVERTISEMENT - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP# 540 Design Build for Renovation Repairs of Homeownership Units
 The Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) is request for proposals from Design Build Firms for renovation repairs of homeownership units. Sites visits to be held December 17-22, 2021 site at various locations. Detailed information may be obtained from the NHA Procurement Department, Lorencia Salabye, Procurement Specialist via email to: isalabye@hooghan.org and requesting for advertisement RFP# 540 Design Build for Renovation Repairs of Homeownership Units. All Proposal submissions must be received by the NHA Procurement Department by Due Date/Time, January 11, 2022 at 4:45PM MST. Email proposals will only be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted. Preference shall be given to Navajo Organizations and Navajo Owned Economic Enterprises in accordance with 24 CFR 1000.48, 1000.50 and 1000.52.

Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) Procurement Department
ADVERTISEMENT - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP# 540 Design Build for Renovation Repairs of Homeownership Units
 The Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) is request for proposals from Design Build Firms for renovation repairs of homeownership units. Sites visits to be held December 17-22, 2021 site at various locations. Detailed information may be obtained from the NHA Procurement Department, Lorencia Salabye, Procurement Specialist via email to: isalabye@hooghan.org and requesting for advertisement RFP# 540 Design Build for Renovation Repairs of Homeownership Units. All Proposal submissions must be received by the NHA Procurement Department by Due Date/Time, January 11, 2022 at 4:45PM MST. Email proposals will only be accepted. This invitation is unrestricted. Preference shall be given to Navajo Organizations and Navajo Owned Economic Enterprises in accordance with 24 CFR 1000.48, 1000.50 and 1000.52.

To be Published in the Navajo Times on December 16, 23, 30, 2021 and January 06, 2022.

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF CHINLE, ARIZONA
 In the Matter of Quiet Title of: Grazing Permit
 Belonging to:
 Peter Deswood, Jr., C#51,592,
 DOD: 02/15/2016,
 Decedent,
And concerning:
 Sandra Maria Deswood, C#503,665,
 Petitioner.
 No. CH-FC-314-21
NOTICE FOR LEGAL PUBLICATION
TO ALL CREDITORS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, Petitioner, Sandra Maria Deswood, C#503,665, has petitioned this Court to Quiet Title the Grazing Permit of Peter Deswood, Jr. A hearing will be held on the

Petition on the 28th day of January, 2022, at the hour of 9:00 a.m. at the Chinle Family Court in Chinle, Arizona.
 If you wish to object or intervene in this petition, you must file an answer to the Petition and serve a copy to Petitioner, at Post Office Box 314, Lukachukai, Arizona 86507. You may obtain a copy of the Petition from Petitioner. If you do not file an answer to the Petition, your answer and claims may be barred from being heard.
ISSUED this 2nd day of December, 2022.
 /s/ Navajo Nation Family Court Clerk
TO BE PUBLISHED ON:
 DECEMBER 16, 2021
 DECEMBER 23, 2021

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
 Modular Building Provision
 Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation (TCRHCC) invites Proposals from qualified firms for the provision of a Modular Building to TCRHCC, located in Tuba City,

Navajo Nation, Arizona. Invitations are open to all qualified firms. The selection of the firm for the RFP shall be made in accordance with the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act, 5 N.N.C. § 201 et seq., and the selected firm(s) shall comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations of the Navajo Nation. Proposals for this RFP must be received by TCRHCC at 167 North Main Street, Administration Building, Finance Department, on or before 5:00 p.m. M.S.T., January 7, 2022. Proposals submitted via electronic mail are due on the Due Date and Time. The full RFP shall be requested via e-mail to: Crystal McCabe, Contract Specialist
 Finance Department
 Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation
 E-mail: Crystal.McCabe@tchealth.org
 To be Published in the NAVAJO TIMES December 23, 30, 2021 and January 06, 2022.

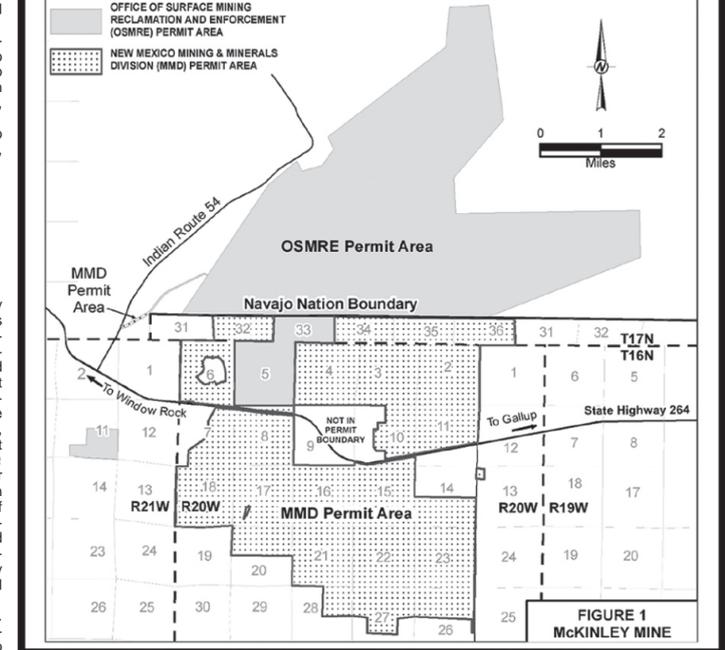
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
 Modular Building Provision
 Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation (TCRHCC) invites Proposals from qualified firms for the provision of a Modular Building to TCRHCC, located in Tuba City,

Chevron Mining Inc. (CMI) has applied to the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) in Santa Fe, New Mexico for renewal of Permit No. 2016-02. The new permit number will be 2021-02. The renewal application is pursuant to New Mexico Surface Coal Mining Regulations 19.8.13.1302 of the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC).

- The name and business address of the original permittee is:
 Chevron Mining Inc., headquarters are located at 6001 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94583-2324.
- The McKinley Mine is located approximately 23 miles northwest of Gallup, NM and 3 miles east of Window Rock, AZ on NM State Highway 264 and within the following USGS quadrangle maps: Twin Lakes, Zith Tusayan Butte 4 NE, Hunters Point, Gallup West, Tse Bonita School and Samson Lake. The portion of McKinley Mine to be permitted under Permit No. 2021-02 is located in Townships 16 North and 17 North, Ranges 19 West, 20 West, and 21 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, McKinley County, New Mexico immediately south of the 1880 Navajo Indian Reservation boundary. The permit-renewal area is shown on the map that accompanies this notice (Figure 1).
- Locations where copies of the permit renewal application for Permit 2021-02 are available for public review and/or inspection are:
 New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division
 1220 South St. Francis Drive
 Santa Fe, NM 87505
<https://www.emrnd.nm.gov/mmd/public-notices/>
 Contact James R. Smith by phone at (505)690-8071 or by email at JamesR.Smith@state.nm.us to make arrangements to review the renewal application.

County Clerk
 McKinley County Courthouse
 201 West Hill Avenue
 Gallup, New Mexico 87301

- Written comments or requests for an informal hearing shall be submitted to Director, Mining and Minerals Division, 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505, within 30 days of the fourth and final publication of this notice.



NAVAJO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Navajo Technical University (NTU) is seeking proposals for the following services and/or goods:

Reissue RFP-2022-02-Development of Institutional Salary Schedule Consulting Services
Submission Deadline: Friday, December 30, 2021 at 5:00 PM (MST)

NTU observes the Navajo Business Opportunity Act and reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informality in the best interest of the University. NTU only seeks proposals at this time and is in no way arranged to engage in direct purchasing.

For additional information, please contact Shawna Ramone at sramone@navajotech.edu

Proposals may be sent electronically to E-mail: finance@navajotech.edu

Any proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted and will be returned to the sender. No faxed proposals will be accepted.

To be Published in The Navajo Times: December 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021.

Coconino County Sheriff's Office: Job Vacancies
 Coconino County – Where opportunities are as vast as our landscapes.
 Coconino County Sheriff's Office is hiring for a

Correctional Nurse: \$66,313.00 - \$76,260.00 Annually
 The ideal candidate will have experience as an RN in a Correctional environment, positions available for evening and night shifts. Must possess a current Arizona RN license, and current CPR certification; OR, any combination of education, training and experience which demonstrates the ability to perform the duties of the position. **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:** Must not have a felony conviction within previous ten years or dishonorable discharge from the military. Must not have a misdemeanor conviction involving domestic violence within previous five years. Must not have used marijuana within twelve months of hire or dangerous or narcotic drugs in the past five years for more than experimentation. There is a sign-on Bonus at hire of \$500 with the potential of \$1000 additional upon completion of requirements.

Licensed Practical Nurse: Depends on Qualifications
 The ideal candidate will be an LPN with adult nursing experience with a great knowledge base and experience with medications, diabetes and hypertension; will have experience as an LPN in a Correctional environment, and a team player who is able to work days, evenings and/or weekends. Must have current license to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse in the state of Arizona and have one year of experience as an LPN and graduated from an accredited school of Practical Nursing

Must successfully pass a background investigation and polygraph examination. We look forward to seeing your application! **Apply online** at <http://www.coconino.az.gov> or call (928) 679-7100. EOE.

NAVAJO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Navajo Technical University (NTU) is seeking proposals for the following services and/or goods:

Request for Proposals
 1. Architectural or Engineering Firm – NTU Water Storage Tank

NTU observes the Navajo Business Opportunity Act and reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informality in the best interest of the University. NTU only seeks proposals at this time and is in no way arranged to engage in direct purchasing.

For additional information, please contact: Arlena Benallie at abenallie@navajotech.edu

Any proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted and will be returned to the sender. No faxed proposals will be accepted.

To be Published in The Navajo Times: December 23 and 30, 2021

CERTIFIED
 (2) Math Interventionist
 (2) Reading Interventionist
 (1) Instructional Assistant (Grades 4-6)
 (1) Mental Health Specialist
 (1) 21st Century Coordinator (Part-Time)

CLASSIFIED
 (1) Cook
 (1) Bus Driver (SPED)
 (1) Maintenance Mechanic Worker
 (1) Traditional Counselor (Short Term)

Please visit our website for detailed information
<https://www.mfcsaz.org/human-resources>

NAVAJO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Navajo Technical University (NTU) is seeking proposals for the following services and/or goods:

Request for Proposals
 1. Architectural or Engineering Firm - Conceptual Design – NTU Health Sciences Building
 2. NTU Campus Signs (Crownpoint and Chinle)

NTU observes the Navajo Business Opportunity Act and reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informality in the best interest of the University. NTU only seeks proposals at this time and is in no way arranged to engage in direct purchasing.

For additional information, please contact: Robert Chase, Director of Support Services at rchase@navajotech.edu

Any proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted and will be returned to the sender. No faxed proposals will be accepted.

To be Published in The Navajo Times: December 23 and 30, 2021

Open Positions
Navajo Transitional Energy Company, Spring Creek Mine has the following open positions. Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years or older.

Accountant
 Manager Human Resources
 Temporary Mechanics
 Trainer Representative

If you are interested, please submit an application at www.navenergy.com and apply using the Career Center.

Navajo Transitional Energy Company
 Navajo Transitional Energy Company is an equal opportunity employer.
 No phone calls please.

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF CHINLE, ARIZONA

In the Matter of:
 Alroy Begay, C# 507,344
 DOB: 09/10/1969,
 TO BE CHANGE TO:
 Myron Thomas Begaye, C# 507,344
 DOB: 09/10/1969,
 Petitioner.
 No. CH-FG-334-21

NOTICE FOR LEGAL PUBLICATION TO ALL CREDITORS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, Petitioner, Alroy Begay, DOB: September 10, 1969 has petitioned this Court to change his name and to be exclusively known as Myron Thomas Begaye. A hearing will be held on the Petition on the 27th day of January, 2022, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., at the Chinle Family Court in Chinle, Arizona.

If you wish to object or intervene in this petition, you must file an answer to the Petition and serve a copy on Petitioner, at: Post Office Box 1707, Lukachukai, Arizona 86507. You may obtain a copy of the Petition from Petitioner. If you do not file an answer to the Petition, your answer and claims may be barred from being heard.

ISSUED this 30th day of November, 2021. Navajo Nation Family Court Clerk
 To be published in the NAVAJO TIMES on December 23, 30, 2021.



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2021/2022



CERTIFIED (10 Month)

- Teacher (Academic)
- Counselor (Academic/Residential)
- Librarian (Academic)

CLASSIFIED (12 Month)

- Business/Human Resource Clerk

CLASSIFIED (10 Month)

- Residential Advisor(s)

SUBSTITUTE POSITION

- Teacher
- Residential Advisor
- Food Service

Closing Date: Positions open until filled.

In accordance with P.L. 101-630, P.L. 101-647 & 25 CFR 63, Applicants must successfully complete and pass a criminal background check and character investigation at own expense prior to hire. All positions require a valid driver's license. Naa Tsis'Aan Community School, Inc. is a Navajo Preference Employer. For more information contact the Human Resource at (928) 672-2335 or email hr@ncswarriors.org for application submission.

NOTE: All applicants **MUST** submit all items below to be considered for desired job positions.

1. Complete Employment Application
2. Current Resume
3. Letter of Interest
4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendations
5. Personnel Security Consultants Inc. for Federal FBI Background Check
6. Current Navajo Nation Background Check (10 years) - current backgroundcheck within the past 3 months. This can be obtained at the Window Rock Police Department in Window Rock, AZ. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. \$15.75 money order payable to the Navajo Nation.
7. AZ DPS Fingerprint Clearance Card
8. Motor Vehicle Report (5 years)
9. Certificate of Indian Blood or Form 4432
10. Copy of University/College Degree, High School Diploma or GED Certificate
11. Official College and/or University Transcripts
12. First Aid and CPR Certificates

Contact: NaaTsis'Aan Community School, Inc., PO Box 10010, Tonalea, AZ 86044
 Phone#: (928) 672-2335 Fax#: (928) 672-2609

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FRANK HALE, JR., DOB: 2/12/1952; C# 095,443; DOD: 12/08/2016, Deceased. AND CONCERNING: AILEEN HALE-CHEE, DOB: 11/05/1955, C# 102,353 Petitioner.

No. WR-FC-591-21
 LEGAL NOTICE
 To: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, Notice is hereby given that Petitioner, Aileen Hale-Chee, C# 102,353, has filed a Petition for Probate of the Estate of Frank Hale, Jr., DOB: 2/12/1952 and DOD: 12/08/2016 in the Window Rock Family Court, P.O. Box 5520, Window Rock, Arizona 86515. The probate includes Grazing Permit No. 18-01-06 for use in District 18. You have thirty (30) days from December 23, 2021 to respond to the Petition in writing and file it with the Court. You can answer the petition yourself or seek legal counsel to assist you. If you do not respond within 30 days after the first date of publication, a judgment may be entered in favor of the Petitioner. You, or if you have retained legal counsel, your legal counsel can contact the Petitioner's attorney Marcella King at P.O. Box 3882, Yatahey, New Mexico 87375. The Final Probate Decree entered upon a final hearing will be considered final and binding. Clerk, Family Court of the Navajo Nation.

To be published on the following dates: December 23, 2021 and December 30, 2021.

MISCELLANEOUS

LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 855-535-0917 (AZCAN)

SATELLITE

DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-855-722-2290 (AZCAN)

DIRECTV for \$69.99/mo for 12 months with

CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news & entertainment anywhere. One year of HBO Max FREE. DirecTV is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power & Assoc.) Call for more details! (some restrictions apply) Call 1-844-244-7498 (AZCAN)

Open Positions

Navajo Transitional Energy Company, Antelope Mine in Gillette, Wyoming, has the following open positions. Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years or older to apply.

- Electrician
- HME – Rolling Stock Mechanic
- DDS Mechanic and / or Welder
- Plant Utility 2
- Production Technician – Haul Truck

If you are interested, please submit an application at www.navenergy.com and apply using the Career Center.



Navajo Transitional Energy Company
 is an equal opportunity employer.
 No phone calls please.

KIN DAH LICH'I' O'LT'A'
P.O. Box 800, Ganado, AZ 86505

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Position
Computer Teacher*
Special Education Teacher*
Substitute Teachers
Bus Drivers**

All positions are open until filled
 **\$2,500 Recruitment Bonus
 **\$2,000 Recruitment Bonus

Per P.L. 101-630 and 101-647, a background check and character investigation will be conducted of applicants who have regular contact or control over Indian children. Applicant will bear cost of background investigation. Kin Dah Lich'i' O'lt'a', Inc., is a Navajo/Indian Preference Employer.

For more information, contact Personnel Technician at (928)755-3430, kdlo-hr@kdlo.net or visit school website at <http://www.kindahlichii.org> for application and position description. Employment application packet may be submitted to kdlo-hr@kdlo.net.



CANONCITO BAND OF NAVAJOS HEALTH CENTER INC.

VACANT POSITIONS

- Registered Nurse
- IT Technician
- Medical Social Worker
- Dental Assistant
- Medical Assistant

CBN Health Center offers a competitive salary, benefits package and a great team environment. The hours of operation are Monday – Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

CBN Health Center is a Navajo Preference/Native American Preference Employer

To Apply:

Mail a letter of interest and resume to: Human Resources, CBN Health Center, Inc. P.O. Box 3338, To'Hajiilee, NM 87026

Or send via e-mail to: humanresources@cbnhc.org
 Use Position Title in the Subject Line

Deadline: Open Until Filled
 Website: cbnhc.org

We Are Hiring

SHIPROCK ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS, INC. – VACANT POSITIONS –

Certified

- Elementary Teacher (K-3rd)*
- Elementary Teacher (Dine Language & Culture)*
- F.A.C.E Adult Educator*
- NWHS Principal*
- Interventionist*
- Registered Nurse*
- College & Career Specialist* (Grant Funded)
- ABCS Counselor / Social Worker

Classified

- Bus Aide/Food Service*
- Groundskeeper*
- Special Maintenance Worker*
- Bus Driver(4) *
- Custodian*
- I.T. Technician*
- I.T. Specialist*
- Residential Monitor (2 Male & 2 Female)*

*Open until Filled (OUF)

Requirement:

- o Applicant must successfully pass a Federal, State, and Navajo Nation background check at own expense if recommended.
 - o All personnel recommendation are school board approved.
- To apply, submit the following:**
- o Employment Application Available online at www.sasischools.net
 - o Resume, Letter of Interest, and Three (3) Letters of Recommendation
 - o Copy of Transcripts from Accredited College/ University (unofficial are accepted)
 - o NM Licensure are required where applicable.

Application packets is considered complete with the requested documents. Application submitted other than the applicant will not be accepted.

CALL HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICE TODAY WITH ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS!

(505)635-0332 | hr@sasinm.com

Shiprock Associated Schools, Inc. is a Navajo Employment Act Employer



EXTERNAL-JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT SCHOOL YEAR 2021 - 2022

Hunters Point Boarding School, Inc.

CERTIFIED

- Teacher
- Counselor
- Instructional Coach

CLASSIFIED

- IT Specialist
- Administrative Assistant
- Human Resource Technician
- Support Service Director
- Bus Driver

Closing Date
 Position open until filled.

HPBSI offers competitive salaries, employer paid medical, dental, vision insurance, 401k retirement plan, and more.

To apply, please submit application packet available online or in person.

In accordance with P.L. 101-630, P.L. 101-647 & 25 CFR 63, applicants must successfully complete and pass a criminal background check and character investigation, at own expense prior to hire.

For more information, call 928-871-4439 or visit www.hpbs-az.org for application requirements and submission. Hunters Point Boarding School, Inc. is a Navajo Preference Employer.

Hunters Point Boarding School, P.O. Box 99 Route 12 South Lupton Rd, St. Michaels, AZ 86511
www.hpbs-az.org T: 928-871-4439 F: 928-871-4435

TSÉHOOTSOOÍ NAHATA'DZIIL NIHI DINE'É BÁ
MEDICAL CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS INVITATION TO APPLY

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Advanced Practice Clinician (NDHC)
- Advanced Practice Clinician II (Primary Care)
- Certified Nurse Midwife II
- Chief of Radiology Services
- Clinical Care Coordinator (PCC)
- Clinical Psychologist
- Coding Manager
- Dental Assistant (Pediatrics)
- Deputy Chief of Pediatrics
- Environmental Services Technician (Housekeeping Aide/Laborer)
- Environmental Services Technician (Housekeeping Aide)
- Fitness Specialist
- Grant Writer
- HIM Coder (Outpatient)
- Infection Preventionist
- Inpatient Pharmacy Supervisor
- Inpatient Respiratory Therapist
- Mental Health Technician (Adolescent Care Unit)
- Native Connection Grant (NCG) (Coordinator, Social Worker)
- Optometrist (Clinical)
- Outpatient Respiratory Therapist
- Overnight Staff Pharmacist
- Patient Experience Liaison
- Pharmacy Technician
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Physician Assistant (Orthopedic Clinic, Surgical Services)
- Psychiatric Registered Nurse (ACU)
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Public Health Nurse II
- Purchased Referred Care Clerk
- Radiologist
- Radiology Technologist
- Registered Nurse - New Graduate (MSU)
- Registered Nurse (ED, ED-Observation Unit/Fast Track, ICU, MSU, OB/GYN)
- Resource Registered Nurse (OR/PACU, PCC)
- Security Officer
- Special Education Teacher
- Staff Pharmacist
- Staff Physician (Emergency Medicine, NDHC, Nocturnist, Pediatrics, Primary Care)
- Surgical Technician
- Temporary Patient Sitter
- Ultrasound Technologist
- Utility Systems Repair Operator

Apply Today!
www.fdihb.org

For more information:
928.729.8138

NAVAJO PREFERENCE EMPLOYER

Our Mission Statement: "To provide Superior and Compassionate Healthcare to our community by raising the level of Health, Health and Quality of Life." Fort Defiance Indian Hospital Board, Inc. - CORNER OF ROUTES 7 & 12 - P.O. Box 69, Fort Defiance, AZ 86504



Navajo Tribal Utility Authority

NTUA is seeking talented, motivated and dedicated individuals to fill the following positions:

- Applicant Pool Only – Administrative Assistant
- Applicant Pool Only- Contact Center Agent I
- Applicant Pool Only – Engineer
- Applicant Pool Only – Line Maintainer Helper
- Applicant Pool Only – Wireless Sales Consultant
- Applicant Pool Only – W/WW Operator in Training; W/WW Level 1; W/WW Level 2; W/WW Level 3; W/WW Level 4
- Construction Project Foreman – FD
- Customer Care Agent – FD
- Line Maintainer Foreman – SR
- Natural Gas ECO Manager (Exempt) – FD
- Network Engineer (Exempt) – SR
- Renewable Engineer – FD
- SCADA Technician – FD
- Senior Civil Engineer (3 positions) (Exempt) – FD
- Temporary Field Agents (2 positions) – FD
- Temporary GIS/GPS Analyst – FD
- Wastewater Treatment Operator 3 – FS
- Wastewater Treatment Operator 3 – Northern Edge – SR
- Wastewater Treatment Superintendent (2 positions) (Exempt) – FD
- Water Distribution Operator 1 (2 positions) – SR
- Water Treatment Operator IV Supervisor (Exempt) – SR
- Water Treatment Superintendent (2 positions) (Exempt) – FD

Apply online at www.ntua.com
 For more information please contact 928.729.6252.

Navajo Preference
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS INVITATION FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS

DEADLINE: By 4:00 P.M. MDT on Thursday, January 13, 2022

The Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Company (NNOGC) is seeking qualified individuals interested in filling three vacancies on NNOGC's Board of Directors, two (2) of which must be filled by enrolled members of the Navajo Nation. All candidates must meet the minimum qualifications set forth in NNOGC's Federal Charter of Incorporation, including having substantial knowledge, understanding and competency in the oil and gas industry and meeting minimum educational requirements. NNOGC is a for-profit integrated oil and gas company wholly owned by the Navajo Nation. A majority of Board members are required to be Navajo tribal members and all candidates must submit to a background check. The full advertisement, with deadlines, minimum qualifications and the required documents are listed and/or available for download at www.nnogc.com. Interested parties can call 928-871-4880 for more information.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF KAYENTA, ARIZONA

In the Matter of Correction of: Robert Crank, C# 117,633 DOB: 12-12-1958 TO BE CORRECTED TO: Robert Bruce Crank, C# 117,633 DOB: 08-17-1958

Petitioner, No. KY-FC-349-2021 (CV) LEGAL NOTICE

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Robert Bruce Crank, C# 117,633 has petitioned this Court for a Petition for Correction of Record. A hearing is scheduled to be heard on the 07th day of March, 2022 at the hour of 10:30 o'clock A.M. at the Kayenta Family Court. If you wish to object or intervene in this petition, you must file an Answer with the Kayenta Family Court at: Post Office Box 2700, Kayenta, Arizona 86033. You may obtain a copy of the petition from the Kayenta Family Court. If you do not file an Answer to the petition, your subsequent Answer and claims may be barred from being heard.

ISSUED this 13th day of December, 2021. /s/ Clerk, Kayenta Family Court TO BE PUBLISHED ON: December 23, 2021 December 30, 2021

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Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation
JOB OPPORTUNITIES
www.tchealth.org

OPEN UNTIL FILLED
Pandemic Public Health
Clinical Nurse (Per Diem)

Nursing
Director of Care Coordination
Director of Emergency Services
Director of Intensive Care Unit
Director of Pediatric Acute
Director of Surgical Services
Lead Clinical Nurse (ACU, OR)
Licensed/Certified Nursing Assistant (ACU, Peds)
Clinical Nurse (ACU, ER, ICU, OB, OR, PACU)
Clinical Nurse II (Oncology)
Clinical Nurse Educator I/II
Clinical Informatics Nurse
Nurse Case Manager
Public Health Nurse
Public Health Nurse Manager
Risk Manager

Allied Health
Cardiopulmonary Therapy Manager
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
Diabetes in Pregnancy Case Manager
Echocardiographer/Sonographer
Lead Medical Technologist
Medical Technologist
Physical Therapist I/II
RD/Diabetes Case Manager
Respiratory Therapist (Per Diem)
Respiratory Therapist I/II

Medical Staff
Chief Nurse Midwife
CRNA Nurse Anesthetist
Dental Hygienist
Endodontist
Nurse Practitioner – (Bodaway/Gap)
Ophthalmologist
Optometrist
Physician - (Family Medicine, Emergency)
Physician/NP/PA – (Per Diem) Emergency
Psychiatrist/Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner
Rheumatologist
Staff Dentist

Positions Close on 12/24/2021
Accounts Receivable Specialist I/II
Administrative Assistant (Community Health, HLC)

Applicant Tracking System Assistant
Application Support Analyst
Cancer Support Community Program Manager
Certified Medical Assistant (Tuba City, Sacred Peaks)
Certified Pharmacy Technician I/II (Tuba City, Sacred Peaks)
Charge Entry Specialist
Client Services Technician (Tuba City, Sacred Peaks)
Clinical Informatics Analyst
Data Analyst
Dental Assistant
Dental Assistant – Expanded Functions (Sacred Peaks)
Director of Staff Development
EHR Application Support Analysts
Environmental Services Technician
Executive Assistant
Foundation Manager
Helpdesk Manager
Helpdesk Technician
HRIS Analyst
IT Security Officer
Laboratory Assistant
Lead Respiratory Therapist
Lead Screener/Greeter
Medical Laboratory Technician
Medical Reconciliation Pharmacy Technician
Patient Access Specialist II (Tuba City, Sacred Peaks)
Patient Benefit Coordinator
Patient Benefit Coordinator – Outreach
Physical Activity Specialist
Physical Education Specialist
Purchase Referred Care Specialist
Provider Enrollment Specialist
Revenue Cycle Super User & Staff Instructor
Revenue Integrity Analyst
RN Case Management Care Coordinator
Safety Officer
Screener/Greeter
Security Officer
Social Media Specialist
System Administrator
Traditional Practitioner

Positions Close on 12/31/2021
Accounts Payable Technician I/II
Cook
Data Entry Specialist
Phlebotomist – Tuba City
Certified Medical Assistant

Paper application are no longer accepted, to apply online please visit www.tchealth.org/careers
For more information contact Human Resources at (928) 283-2432 or trchchr@tchealth.org.

TCRHCC is a Navajo/Indian Preference Employer.
Final candidates selected will be subject to a favorable adjudication background investigation.

Dzilth-Na-O-Dith-Hle Community School

Going towards Albuquerque, we are located 40 miles from Farmington and 25 miles south of Bloomfield. The school is near the base of Dzilth-Na-O-Dith-Hle mesa.

35 Road 7585 Box 5003 • Bloomfield NM 87413
Phone 505-960-0356 • Fax 505-960-8563

Vacancy
School Year 2021-2022

OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Certified
Requires N.M. Licensure
Elementary Teacher
English Language Arts Teacher
Math Teacher
Navajo Language Teacher
School Counselor/Social Worker
Special Education Teacher

Classified
Administrative Assistant
Custodians
Residential Advisors
Secretary

DCGS Is a Navajo/Indian Preference
School Website: <http://dzilth.net>
**Background check required
Updated December 9, 2021

LUKACHUKAI COMMUNITY BOARD OF EDUCATION, INC.

PO BOX 230, NAVAJO ROUTE 13, LUKACHUKAI, ARIZONA 86507
PHONE: (928) 787-4404/4408 FAX: (928) 787-2311

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
CERTIFIED POSITION

* TEACHER (10 MONTHS)
* MUSIC TEACHER (10 MONTHS)
* SCIENCE TEACHER (10 MONTHS)
* SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER (10 MONTHS) (2 Positions)
COUNSELOR (10 MONTHS)

CLASSIFIED POSITION

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK (12 MONTHS)
PROCUREMENT CLERK (12 MONTHS)
PROPERTY & RECEIVING CLERK (12 MONTHS)
BUSINESS MANGER (12 MONTHS)

*REQUIRES AZ DEPT. OF EDUCATION TEACHER CERTIFICATION
OPEN UNTIL DECEMBER 23, 2021, THURSDAY, 4 PM.

REQUIRED with application: (1) current resume, (2) Cover Letter, (3) Three Letters of Recommendation, (4) official college transcripts in sealed envelopes, (5) copy of degree/s, (6) ORIGINAL certified 5-year Motor Vehicle Report, (7) ORIGINAL current 10-year Navajo Nation background check report, (8) AZ DPS Fingerprint Clearance Card, (9) Federal Fingerprint Clearance – inquire with HR to complete (10) CIB if claiming Navajo/Indian preference, (11) copy of CPR/1st Aid training certificates, (12) Food Handlers Card, (13) Driver's License, (14) Social Security Card, and (15) Applicable Certifications for the position for which you are applying. You may download an application at the www.lukaschool.org or call the Human Resource Office at (928) 787-4404 or Principal at (928) 787-4418. Qualifications will be evaluated on the requirements listed on the position description. If any documents are missing your application will be considered incomplete, please make sure you have everything submitted in your packet. *You may hand carry your application and drop it off at the Business Administration Office – or – have it postdated on the day of closing, if you are going to be mailing your packet.*

Employment Benefits include: Health/Life Insurance, 401(K) Retirement Plan and Housing Available.

Lukachukai Community School is an Equal Opportunity Employer and gives Preference in hiring qualified Navajos and Native Americans. Must have favorable background check and successfully pass a criminal & character background investigation in accordance with Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act.

Posted: Dec. 13, 2021

Navajo Transitional Energy Company
Navajo Mine

JOB VACANCIES
AT NAVAJO MINE

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Reports to: Operations Manager Department: Production

Description:
Must take a personal and active approach to health, safety and environment and understand and follow all state, federal and company health, safety and environmental requirements applicable to the work area and tasks assigned.

Summary of Position:
The Production Manager will be responsible for the overall management and performance of the draglines, drill & blast, truck shovel, load & haul, and special projects activities, through effectively utilizing personnel, equipment, and other resources in a safe, reliable, efficient, environmentally sound, and cost-effective manner in support of the business unit's performance measures.

Essential Duties/Responsibilities:

- Provide leadership necessary to define and achieve Production goals and targets.
- Ensure employees have a clear understanding of expected safety performance and perform risk assessments as needed.
- Direct the production budgeting process.
- Manage the multimillion-dollar production department budget.
- Establish department goals and objectives that align with site and corporate strategies.
- Determine the staffing needs of the production department in order to achieve mine plans while meeting overtime and cost goals.
- Work with other departments to understand short, intermediate and long-term planning goals and develop strategies to achieve goals.
- Prepare reports, analyze data, and make recommendations for improving production operations and solving production-related problems.
- Communicate regularly with all production employees, both individually and as a group, to ensure good two-way communication concerning maintenance issues.
- Maintain and update operating and training manuals for the production department.
- Review the operation of equipment and systems constantly, to minimize unplanned downtime, anticipate and solve problems in a timely manner, and to identify opportunities for improvement.
- Initiate and carryout projects that improve efficiency and/or reduce operating costs.
- Direct, maintain, and enforce the safety program for the production department; review safety records to uphold standards of maximum safety for all production employees.
- Develop priorities for the AFE process and drive the completion of the process for each year for the production department
- Assist in the implementation of engineering plans by working closely with all departments to ensure goals are prioritized and completed in a timely fashion.
- Ensure work areas and employee activities comply with all company and regulatory safety policies and procedures.
- Identify and support the Business Improvement Process projects.
- Provide monitoring data feedback to operators from various sources.
- Other duties and responsibilities may be expected based on operational and departmental needs.

Qualifications:
Knowledge and Relevant Experience

- Bachelor's degree in related field and 8-10 years' experience or any equivalent combination of education and experience that provides the requisite knowledge to successfully perform the job
- Three years or more of management experience with production/maintenance in a mining environment
- Three years or more of experience working with mine customers and vendors
- Expert knowledge of technical and operating processes relevant to mine planning and scheduling

Skills:

- Sound business acumen and well-developed assessment, judgment and critical thinking abilities
- Strong conflict management skills to include resolution of complex employee relations issues
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Strong customer service orientation
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Strong negotiating skills and experience as well as strong presentation skills

Leadership/Management:

- Ability to build relationships and work well across functions
- Must be able to manage competing demands, accept criticism and constructive feedback, while being extremely adaptable and flexible
- Demonstrate ability to organize priorities in order to reach the goals and deliverables.
- Demonstrate competence in key areas of management and leadership expertise including: relationship management, communication, staff direction and motivation, financial planning and control, quality management, risk management, and the

Interested candidates should apply by submitting a cover letter, resume, at least three professional references, supporting documents (copies of degrees, certifications, etc.) and proof of Navajo Nation membership (if applicable) to Sandra.Carson-Hill@NavEnergy.com

ENGINEER

Reports to: Engineering Supervisor Department: Engineering

Description:
Must take a personal and active approach to health, safety and environment and understand and follow all state, federal and company health, safety and environmental requirements applicable to the work area and tasks assigned.

Summary of Position:
The role of the Engineer will be to provide technical expertise in the development and implementation of mine plans/design which are economically viable and meet all environmental and regulatory requirements.

Essential Duties/Responsibilities:

- Planning and optimization for mining activities such as dragline, truck/shovel or drill/blast.
- Mentor Interns.
- Begin to provide support and guidance to others.
- Continue developing agency relationships.
- Support budget and forecasting process.
- Support/conduct capital justification process.
- Understand Mining Permit/Environmental constraints.
- Understand geotechnical design of mine and provide guidance, i.e., ground control.
- Other duties and responsibilities may be expected based on operational and departmental needs.

Qualifications:
Knowledge and Relevant Experience

- Bachelor's degree in Mining Engineering or related discipline.
- Minimum of four years relevant mining industry experience.
- State Surface Foreman Certification preferred.
- Licensed Professional Engineer preferred.

Skills:

- Excellent communication skills: written, oral and presentation formats.
- Ability to interface and communicate with operations personnel.
- Ability to multi-task and prioritize effectively under general supervision.
- Time management and the ability to meet deadlines.
- Proficient in project management methodology.
- Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Word, PowerPoint).
- Expert use of Design Software i.e.AutoCAD, SurvCAD, MineScape, Vulcan.
- Proficient use of Runge Scheduling Software.

Leadership/Management:

- Must be assertive, take initiative and be able to analyze and promote more effective alternative strategies.
- Set and lead teams.

Interested candidates should apply by submitting a cover letter, resume, at least three professional references, supporting documents (copies of degrees, certifications, etc.) and proof of Navajo Nation membership (if applicable).

Closing date to apply is December 31, 2021
EEO/M/F/disability/veteran

You must meet the specific minimum requirements listed above to be considered a qualified applicant.
This Position is subject to the preference requirements in the Navajo Preference in Employment Act, 15 N.N.C. § 601 et seq.

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