



# Red Rocks Reporter

DECEMBER 2011

## FROM THE GOVERNORS

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*Greetings Community Members,*

*The holiday season will be a busy and exciting time for everyone here in our village. We want to extend our best wishes to all for a peaceful, blessed Christmas season and a happy, healthy, prosperous New Year.*

*As we celebrate, please remember the importance of keeping our community safe for our families and neighbors:*

*\*\* No firearms are allowed within residential areas. Shooting guns to celebrate can create an unwanted tragedy in an instant.*

*\*\* No fireworks are allowed.*

*Let us celebrate this special time with joy and peace for all.*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*



*Michael Toledo, Jr.*  
Governor

*George Shendo, Jr.*  
First Lt. Governor

*William Waquie*  
Second Lt. Governor

The Pueblo of Jemez Education Department hosted a troupe of dancers from Hawaii at Walatowa Head Start on Oct. 23. The students from a Hawaiian charter school share similar goals of language and culture preservation with Walatowa schools. Group leaders Nalei Kahakalau and Dr. Ku Kahakalau presented a traditional Hawaiian greeting to Governor Michael Toledo, Jr. before the group performed several traditional Hawaiian dances. Head Start children then honored the visitors by performing the Butterfly Dance.



## TRIBAL COUNCIL

**2011 TRIBAL GOVERNORS**

Michael Toledo, Jr.  
Governor  
George Shendo, Jr.  
First Lt. Governor  
William Waquie  
Second Lt. Governor

**TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Joe Cajero  
Paul S. Chinana  
Raymond Gachupin  
Frank Loretto  
J. Leonard Loretto  
Raymond Loretto, DVM  
José E. Madalena  
Joshua Madalena  
J. Roger Madalena  
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José Pecos  
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José Toledo  
Michael Toledo, Jr.  
Paul Tosa  
Vincent A. Toya, Sr.

**TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR**

Vincent A. Toya, Sr.

*Red Rocks Reporter*

December 2011 Edition

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## Tribal Council Report

The Tribal Council Report is published at the direction of the Governors to keep the community well informed.

**Nov. 10, 2011.** Governor Michael Toledo, Jr., First Lt. Governor George Shendo, Jr. and Second Lt. Governor William Waquie proposed the following resolutions which were approved by the Tribal Council:

**Authorized** the Pueblo of Jemez to conduct the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) type survey with a grant from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative. Surveys will be developed with the New Mexico Department of Health that focus on physical activity, nutrition and tobacco. The Pueblo of Jemez will retain exclusive rights to and ownership of all data.

**Authorized** the transfer of the Walatowa Childcare Program from the Pueblo of Jemez Education Department to the Jemez Community Development Corporation to operate as a for-profit entity.

**Approved** the first amended intergovernmental agreement between the Pueblo of Jemez / Pueblo of Jemez Tribal Gaming Enterprise and Doña Ana County regarding lands proposed to be acquired for Indian gaming.

**Authorized** a Congressionally mandated pilot study by the US Department of Justice National Institute of Justice Violence Against Indian Women Phase II Pilot Study and authorized and assigned the Jemez Social Services Program and the Jemez Behavioral Health Program to assist the contracted researchers.

**Supported** the grant award from the US Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services Office to address public safety, criminal and juvenile justice, and victimization issues to improve the well-being of tribal members. The award will go to increasing the number of officers, provide training and development, working collaboratively with the Pueblo's indigenous officers, and providing all officers and officials with adequate equipment and technology.

## Election News

Tribal members: The 2012 primary election is just around the corner!

**ELECTION CALENDAR**

**Circulation of nominating petitions begins**

**Governor issues per proclamation**

**Filing day for write-in candidates**

**Filing day for all other offices**

**Absentee voting begins**

**Voter registration closes**

**Early in person voting begins**

**Early in person voting ends**

**Primary election day**

**Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011**

**Monday, Jan. 30, 2012**

**Tuesday, March 20, 2012**

**Tuesday, March 20, 2012**

**Tuesday, May 8, 2012**

**Tuesday, May 8, 2012**

**Saturday, May 19, 2012**

**Saturday, June 2, 2012**

**Tuesday, June 5, 2012**

Please register today and vote: "Let your voice be heard!" Why register and vote? For our people and our community. Our tribal programs receive federal, state, county and local funding to help support our children, the elderly and all tribal members. Some of the resources we get include health care, transportation, education, road maintenance, etc.

If you are 18 years old, or if you are going to be 18 by Election Day, you can register. Anyone over 18 who is not yet not registered can register at the offices listed below.

For more information, contact the Native American Voting Rights Office (Jemez Civic Center) at (505) 934-8826, Bureau of Elections Office (Sandoval County) at (505) 867-7577, or the NM Secretary of State's Office at (800) 477-3632.

## TRIBAL ENROLLMENT

# Applications for Pueblo of Jemez Tribal Enrollment

Tribal Enrollment is now into its fourth year of the new membership process. **Any Jemez person whose name was listed on the BIA census and was born after Jan. 1, 1976 must apply for Jemez tribal membership.** Since the Membership Ordinance was adopted and passed in August 2008, numbered membership applications have been issued and the office has processed the returned applications.

The individuals on the list below either have membership applications out and or have incomplete application packets. Semi-annual letters are sent, but as time goes on, people often forget them again.

Andrew, Darren (Xavier)	Fragua, Justin, Melecia and Joel	Mora, Jackie (Clifton and Clayton)	Smith, Anthony
Armijo, Candice (Marissa, Craig)	Fragua, Titus and Joseph	Naranjo, Jolene (Katherine)	Tafoya, Bryson
Armijo, Christina	Gachupin, Amanda and Marlo	Nevels, Deshawn	Tafoya, Cameron
Armijo-Tosa, Jonathan, Timothy	Gachupin, Charles and Lambert	Ortiz, Renee (6)	Tafoya, Darryl
Archuleta, Tina	Gachupin, Eugene	Paez, Jaimen and Jada	Tafoya, Tyron
Baca, Amber (Landon)	Gachupin, Kateri D.	Padilla, Maria Faustina	Toledo, Alexander
Baca, Brittney (Kendra)	Gachupin, Kayla and Helena	Padilla, Quinn and Naloni	Toledo, Derrick and Zachary
Beasley, Jacob, Jada and Tessa	Henderson, Galen	Padilla, Raelyn	Toledo, Fernandez and Francesca
Benalli, Curtis and Germaine	Hyder, Dawn (4)	Padilla, Randy	Toledo-King, Janice
Benalli, Mary Elizabeth	Ingersoll, Charles H.	Panana, Cristino	Toledo, Kevin, Tia, Jennifer and Katherine
Cajero, Francesca	Largo, Raymond, Jr and Ray III	Panana, Marcus	Toledo, Reyanne L.
Cajero, Teri	Lesensee, Darlene (5)	Panana, Pete	Toledo, Scott and Thomas Romero
Candelaria, Keith and Luwanna	Leyba, Treva (3)	Parrish, Kiyannah	Toledo, Zachary and Lindsey
Casiquito, Clifton, Justin	Long, Ambrosia	Pecos, Luke	Tosa, Brianna, Eilan
Casiquito, Dominique, Jonathan and Brandon	Loretto, Abraham, Matthew and Alex S.	Pecos, Tahnee	Tosa, Cecelia and Tanyon
Casiquito, Justin and Joseph	Loretto, Adrianna, Emmett and Angelina	Reano, Renea (Deshawn and Athina)	Tosa, Thomas
Casiquito, Simona, Quinn	Loretto, Brianna	Reynolds, Michael	Toya, Annica
Celo, Katherine and Natalia	Loretto-Yepa, Eric	Roman, Joyce (3)	Toya, Antoinette, Elsie and Liam
Chama, Javin	Loretto, Jillian	Romero, Jolon and Kyran	Toya, Barbara and Wayne
Chama, Maria M. (4 children)	Loretto, Miriam and Bradley	Sabaque, Loren	Toya, Brennen
Charlie, Brian	Loretto, Robin, Nathan and Matty	Sabaque, Lynnora and Byron	Toya, Darren A.
Chavez, Antoinette (2 children)	Loretto, Shaylene, Jaiden and Jaislyn	Salazar, David, Jr., Autumn and Irma	Toya, Darryl and Eusebio III
Chinana, Charmaine (Jordan)	Lovato, Marie and Daisy	Sandia, Coral and Nicolas	Toya, Evangeline (3)
Chinana, Cheryl (Delonte and Justine)	Lucero, Clare (Joseph)	Sandia, Jacoby, Jarren and KC	Toya, Gerald
Chinana, Cheryl (Trent, Tyler, Twins)	Lucero, Delray	Sandia, Jarriel	Toya, Garrett A.
Chinana, Darrell Anthony	Lucero, Denise and Sherice	Sandia, Julian C.	Toya, Lynell
Chinana, Elijah	Lucero, Rachel E.	Sandia, Maelene	Toya, Richard and Ronald
Chinana, Garren, Alana and Holly	Lucero, Randall	Sandia, Rachel (6)	Tsosie, Derrick
Chinana, Garrick, Kamiyah	Lucero, William (4)	Sando, Ilana and Cheyenne	Tsosie, Tsosie C.
Chinana, Lynyrd, Lee and Orrin	Lucero, Zandra, Antuane and Raekwon	Sando, Lamell	Toya, Jonathan, Andon and Layla
Chosa, Marla, Twila and Mario	Madalena, Alleyna (Derek)	Sando, Martin (Myles)	Toya, Jr. Joseph R.
Colaquer, Tamara	Madalena, Amanda (Kraylon)	Sando, Martina	Toya, Lana (Ava)
Coonsis, Davin J.	Madalena, Kevin, Sofia and Arceli	Sando, Nanette (3)	Toya, Myra, Anthony and Dory, Jr.
Dahl, Aleena and Lylana	Madalena, Verlynn (Cenecia)	Sando, Rebecca	Toya, Myra, Anthony and Dory, Jr.
DeVore, Dina	Magdalena, Carmen, Lorenzo and Triston	Seonia, Ashley, D'Yannia	Toya, Shawna (Tania)
DeVore, Reyes (Bryant)	Magdalena, Charlene and Brayton	Seonia, Caroline and Ayden	Wagner, Sage
Danielson, Jonathan, Jaime (3)	Magdalena, Sharlene and Kaleigh	Shendo, Austin, Cody and Jacqueline	Waquie, Jr. Augustine P
Fragua, Aaron	Mora, Devin and Ryan	Shendo, Durrent G.	Waquie, Calvin E.
Fragua, Alexandria (Darius)	Mora, George	Shendo, Eileen A. (4)	Waquie, Lorenza, Theodore
Fragua, Angelina and Ava		Shendo, Joseph	Waquiu, Eric and Krystal
Fragua, Jonathan and Lonny		Shendo, George T.	Yepa, Gavin
		Shendo, Maurice	Yepa, Kaitlyn, Felix
		Shendo, Victoria (Terrell)	Yepa, Johnny, Jr. and Byron

Please report any changes to your household to the Enrollment Office. The Enrollment Office works for the Governors and it is their job to inform them of changes that come through the office.

People who meet the one-quarter Jemez blood quantum requirement can enroll for Jemez membership. Membership applications are available at the Enrollment Office. If possible, please plan on completing the application at the office so you don't lose or misplace it. Applications are numbered so the office can track them.

Thank you very much for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call either Alberta Sando or Matilda Shendo at (505) 8t34-0056.

## NATURAL RESOURCES

# The Las Conchas Fire and the Impact on Jemez Lands

Submitted by John Galvan

The Las Conchas Fire was detected on June 26, 2011 at 1:08 p.m. During the initial attack phase, the fire made an impressive 40,000-plus acre run, exhibiting extreme fire behavior and long-range spotting. Joe Reinartz's Southwest Incident Management Team (IMT) was assigned to the fire on June 26 and formally assumed command the following day. Due to the size, complexity and risk levels, two additional Type 1 Incident Management Teams (Hughes and Morcom) and an Area Command Team (Oltrogge) were assigned.

The fire was eventually divided into three zones. By July 13, the Las Conchas Fire had burned approximately 149,241 acres. Of that, 18,829 acres are Indian Trust lands: 2,238 acres on Jemez Pueblo, 16,587 acres on Santa Clara Pueblo, 4 acres on Santo Domingo Pueblo. In addition, the burn area included 76,634 acres on USFS Santa Fe National Forest; 20,810 acres on National Park Service Bandelier National Monument; 133 acres on Department of Energy (DOE) Los Alamos National Laboratory; 1,704 acres on state land; 27,781 acres on Valles Caldera National Preserve; and 3,352 acres on private lands.

The largest fire in New Mexico history, the Las Conchas fire was considered a Type I fire. Firefighting included cat lines, hand lines, back burning, bucket drops, aircraft retardant drops and mop up. The fire was 100 percent contained on August 1 and the National Incident Management Team (NIMO) turned over and demobilized on August 3.

### Long-Term Impact

Recognizing the potential for downstream flood impact, tribal representatives contacted the Southwest Tri-Regional Burn Area Emergency Response (BAER) coordinator and the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) for assistance with emergency stabilization planning.

Representatives from tribes and BIA agency resource managers and superintendents conducted the initial assessment of emergency stabilization issues. They determined that the nature and complexity of the situation justified mobilizing the national BAER team. The BAER team included a team leader and deputy team leader, as well as experts in forestry and vegetation, hydrology, geology, soil science, cultural resources, wildlife biology, environmental compliance, and information, documentation and geographic information systems. The team met with regional directors and staff from the Division of Forestry and Wildland Fire Management; Environment, Safety and Cultural Resources; and National Resources.

From July 6 through July 20, the BAER team conducted aerial and ground reconnaissance of the fire area and areas at risk downstream. Completing assessments and developing treatment prescriptions included frequent contacts with numerous federal, state and county agencies, as well as tribal officials and employees and local residents. Tribal members and staff directly assisted the BAER team throughout the assessment and planning process. Emergency treatment implementation started almost immediately

to protect life and property from potential flooding.

Rehabilitation measures included an integrated team of resource specialists, in consultation with Pueblo of Jemez leadership and other tribal members, that identified the central issues to the wildfire rehabilitation effort. The team wanted to know how the fire impacted each issue, and what kinds of stabilization or rehabilitation work were necessary to mitigate the wildfire impact. The central issues are those where the fire impact threatens the Pueblo of Jemez' goal for that resource. The following issues were identified as central to rehabilitation efforts:

- ▶ cultural resources.
- ▶ forest health.
- ▶ income and employment.
- ▶ potential for soil movement and sediment delivery to streams.
- ▶ threatened and endangered species.

These issues are not mutually exclusive. Soil movement affects forest health and future income. A healthy forest provides habitat for threatened and endangered species. Cultural resources touch on all aspects of the natural world.

Cultural resources are always at the top of any issue-identification exercise on the Pueblo of Jemez. The Pueblo of Jemez (PoJ) does not limit its definition of cultural resources to things such as archeological sites, or traditional food production areas. The PoJ considers anything that has the potential to push the natural environment outside of its historical range of conditions to be cultural threats. Under this concept, forest stripping, noxious weed invasion, and soil erosion all threaten PoJ cultural resources.

Livestock grazing and deer and elk populations are two important PoJ resources that were discussed and considered to be minor with respect to this rehabilitation proposal. There are standard mitigating measures included in all PoJ forest management projects that will address these resources.

### Las Conchas Fire and Jemez Lands

USFS Rd 266 that enters POJ lands was the only safe containment line. The impact on Cañada de Cochiti land grant was devastating. From severe (stand replacing) to light (cool understory) burn areas, the negative impact includes safety concerns, threats, hazards and other issues that will continue for several years. Therefore, entrance into the fire scar area is prohibited and gates are locked for non-authorized personnel. The following concerns must be considered for safety and resource protection.

**Safety:** With no ground cover vegetation, root base or structure to hold the soils in place, the land is extremely unstable. With heavy rainfall, extreme runoff and debris flows are expected on the unstable hillsides, including drainage washouts, flash floods and rolling debris and rocks. Roads may be degraded and become inaccessible rapidly, causing concerns for public safety.

With extreme stand-replacing fires, it is likely that root systems of standing scar trees are unpredictable: the root systems are shallow and the trees are broken. Strong winds may cause severe blow down and threaten life and property from falling trees.

## NATURAL RESOURCES

### The Las Conchas Fire, *continued*

Burned debris (wood, piles, leaves, duff, needles, rocks, etc.) may cover the ground surface in areas that have been burned over. Hidden stumps and holes can be serious safety issues for people walking on burned surfaces.

Due to the remoteness of the area, accessibility is severely damaged and will continue to be dangerous. In an emergency, evacuation will take a long time, and there is no cell phone reception or early warning detection systems. **These issues make the area an eminent danger to the public.**

**Resource Protection.** Since fire rehab efforts are in progress, restrictions are in place to keep non-authorized personnel out of the burned areas. Only authorized personnel are allowed for post-fire activities to mitigate the immediate stabilization efforts in burned areas. Teams are making every effort to protect life and property from all post-fire affects and gather damage assessments. Eliminating traffic in the area will:

- ▶ prevent mishaps due to erosion runoff.
- ▶ minimize road damage.
- ▶ prevent the spread of noxious weeds.
- ▶ allow a natural revegetation process' with enough time to recover naturally.
- ▶ protect public safety.

- ▶ reduce the impact on wildlife and allow them to return to natural habitats and recover their populations.

#### Firewood Permits

In the winter season, we want to try to stay warm using natural, renewable resources such as firewood.

In 2010, tribal administration approved the increase of firewood permits to \$20. The reason for the increase is the high demand for road use and resource depletion. The permit's cost increase will cover some improvements to haul routes, inventory fuel wood harvesting and other administrative issues that federal funds cannot support under the permit use.

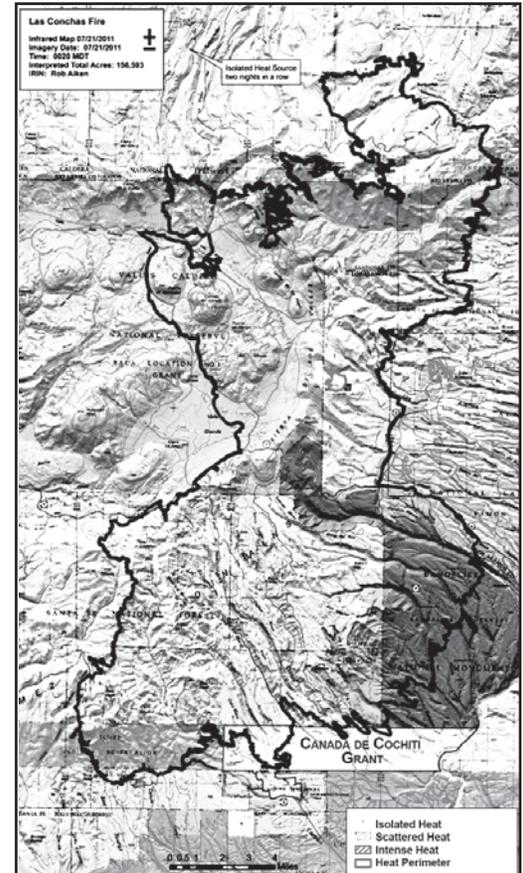
Illegal activities by the public on other nontribal lands have impacted the Pueblo in accessing those areas. Please be legal in everything that requires a permit. Please be respectful of our tribal permit system and abide by all rules stated.

#### Firewood Areas

**BLM:** Closed.

**USFS:** Open fuel wood areas under permit.

**Pueblo of Jemez:** Due to posted fire safety concerns, Cañada de Cochiti Land grant is closed until further notice. The other two land grant areas are open.



Darkened areas show sections of the Canada de Cochiti affected by the Los Conchas Fire.



Congratulations to Jonathan Smith, the lucky winner of a Walatowa C-Store prize pack that included Conoco Phillips merchandise and goodies from the store. Jonathan was our first customer to fill up using our new dispensers on Thursday, Nov. 3, at 8:45pm. The new dispensers pump fuel faster, have a better filtration system, and have all required PCI compliance software and hardware to protect our customers against credit card fraud.

#### Holiday Shopping at the Walatowa Visitor Center

The Walatowa Visitor Center is the perfect place for all your holiday shopping! They have new items in stock, from new Walatowa jackets and vests to ornaments and lotions. Remember, tribal members and tribal employees receive 20 percent off purchases (some exclusions may apply.) They also offer payroll deduction payments for your convenience.

## VISITOR CENTER

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

# Safety Tips for the Winter Months

Submitted by Ray Ashley, Safety Officer and Freddie Sabaquie, Maintenance Supervisor

Keep yourself and your family safe this winter!

## FIRE SAFETY

- \*\* Install smoke detectors and test batteries monthly
- \*\* Use electrical items safely.
- \*\* Do not overload power outlets.
- \*\* Do not run extension cords under carpets or rugs.
- \*\* Do not use extension cords as a permanent source for electricity
- \*\* Do not daisy-chain extension cords



## Fire Evacuation Plan

- \*\* Be sure your family has a fire evacuation plan.
- \*\* Choose a safe place to meet outside the house to confirm that everyone is safe.
- \*\* Practice fire evacuation drills twice a year with all household members, including children.

## When using space heaters

- \*\* Make sure they are three feet away from anything that can burn (furniture, pets, curtains and people.)
- \*\* NEVER leave space heaters unattended.
- \*\* Turn off space heaters before going to sleep.



## CARBON MONOXIDE: THE SILENT KILLER

### Install a Carbon Monoxide (CO) monitor and install fresh batteries

- \*\* CO is a colorless, odorless gas which can kill or cause permanent damage at high levels.
- \*\* Do not use grills or generators in homes and garages.
- \*\* Know the symptoms of CO poisoning: dizziness, nausea, confusion, faintness and shortness of breath.

## If a CO monitor sounds

- \*\* Evacuate everyone from the house; open all doors and windows (if you can); get to fresh air. Contact EMS or the Fire Department by calling 911 from a neighbor's home.

## If you experience symptoms of CO poisoning

- \*\* Check to see if others in the home have similar symptoms. If so, evacuate everyone, open all doors and windows (if you can), turn off sources of CO (if you can.) **Everyone in the home should get emergency medical care and mention possible CO poisoning.**

## SAFETY ON SNOW AND ICE

Be aware of the hazards and potential for injuries caused by snow and ice. One distracted moment could cause sprains, broken bones, even head injuries.

- \*\* Before leaving home, check on the expected weather conditions both at home and at your destination.
- \*\* Parking lots and sidewalks that are wet from the previous day will be very icy early in the morning. Be careful!
- \*\* Wear boots or overshoes with grip soles. Slick leather and plastic soles increase the risk of slipping.
- \*\* Keep your hands out of your pockets so you can use your arms for balance if you do slip.
- \*\* Take short, shuffling steps in icy areas. Bend your knees a bit and take slower steps to reduce the chance of falling.
- \*\* Don't carry or swing heavy loads, such as large boxes, cases or purses, that can shift your balance when you are walking.
- \*\* Don't step on uneven surfaces, such as curbs, that are covered with snow or ice.
- \*\* Put your full attention on walking. Wait to dig around in your purse or backpack or use your cell phone.

## Winter Driving

- \*\* Be aware of forecast weather conditions. Winter storms can turn dangerous quickly.
- \*\* Keep your vehicle properly maintained, fueled and equipped. Keep the gas tank at least half full.
- \*\* Carry a cell phone and a car charger for emergencies.
- \*\* Allow extra driving time, slow down and keep a safe distance between vehicles.
- \*\* Completely remove all snow and ice from the front and back windshields and the side view mirrors.



## Be Prepared

- Keep emergency supplies in your vehicle, especially if you are going on a long trip. A little planning can keep you comfortable and safe if you get stranded on the road.
- \*\* **Blankets.** Hypothermia can kill. A blanket can help keep you warm until help arrives.
- \*\* **Warm clothing.** A hat, gloves and scarf will help you stay warm. Take a pair of boots with you, even if you don't think you'll need them.
- \*\* **Food.** Dry food like granola, cereal, candy bars and protein bars will be your source of energy if you have to stay in your car until a road is cleared. Bring fresh water with you when you travel; frozen water won't help much.
- \*\* **Cat litter** can give you the bit of traction you need to get back on the road if you slide off.
- \*\* **Small shovel** so you can dig your car out of a ditch.
- \*\* **Salt** is handy for melting ice and snow.
- \*\* **10,000 lb. tow strap.** Other drivers will be more able to help get you if you have your own tow strap.

## SOCIAL SERVICES

## Long-Term Effects of Domestic Violence

Submitted by Carol Vigil, Family Advocate

Battered women suffer physical and mental problems as a result of domestic violence. Battering is the single major cause of injury to women, more significant than auto accidents, rapes or muggings combined. In fact, the emotional and psychological abuse inflicted by batterers may be more costly to treat in the short-run than physical injury.

Many physical injuries sustained by women seem to cause medical difficulties as they age. Arthritis, hypertension and heart disease have been identified as directly caused or aggravated by domestic violence suffered early in their adult lives.

Other serious long-term effects of domestic violence include:

Battered women lose their jobs because of absenteeism due to illness as a result of the violence. Absences caused by court appearances also jeopardize women's livelihoods. Battered women may have to move often to avoid violence, which is costly and can interfere with job continuity. Battered women often lose family and friends as a result of the battering. First, batterers isolate them from family and friends. Battered women then become embarrassed by the abuse they endure and withdraw from support people to avoid embarrassment.

Some battered women are abandoned by their churches when separating from their abusers, since some religious doctrines prohibit separation or divorce regardless of the severity of abuse.

Many battered women have to give up financial security in divorce proceedings to avoid further abuse. As a result, they are impoverished as they grow older.

One-third of children who witness the battering of their mothers show significant behavioral and/or emotional problems, including psychosomatic disorders, stuttering, anxiety, fears, sleep disruption, excessive crying and school problems.

Boys who witness their fathers' abuse of their mothers are more likely to inflict severe violence as adults. Girls who witness maternal abuse may tolerate abuse as adults more than girls who do not. These negative effects may be diminished if the child benefits from intervention by the law and domestic violence prevention programs.

**Have a SAFE Christmas Holiday Season!  
Protect yourself and the children from abuse.**

## Recognizing Teen Dating Abuse

Submitted by Dominic Gachupin, Family Advocate

### What Type Of Relationship Are You In?

#### Does your boyfriend or girlfriend:

- ? Communicate openly with you when there are problems?
- ? Give you space to spend time with your friends and family?
- ? Act supportive and respectful?

If you answered yes to these questions, it is likely that you are in a healthy relationship. Trust your own instincts about your relationship to keep yourself safe and comfortable.

#### Does your boyfriend or girlfriend:

- ? Control where you go, what you wear, or what you do?
- ? Try to stop you from seeing or talking to family or friends?
- ? Call you derogatory names, put you down, or criticize you?
- ? Threaten or scare you?
- ? Hit, slap, push or kick you?
- ? Force you to do something sexual when you don't want to?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, your health and safety may be at risk. If you think you may be in an abusive relationship, there are people you can talk to and resources that can help.

**Remember... asking for help is a sign of strength!**

**IF AT ANY TIME YOU FEEL THAT YOU ARE  
IN IMMEDIATE DANGER, CALL 911.**

National hotlines can help you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

**National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline:** (866) 331-9474; (866) 331-8453 TTY; [www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)

**National Domestic Violence Hotline:** (800) 799-SAFE (7233); (800) 787-3224 TTY; [www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org)

**Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) Hotline:** (800) 656-HOPE (4673); [www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)

Local shelters, domestic violence and sexual assault agencies, teen programs, and family violence support groups are available that can help you stay safe.

Source: [www.futureswithoutviolence.org](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org)

For more information, contact the Pueblo of Jemez Domestic Violence Program at (575) 834-7117

**Women's Support Group meet Thursday, Dec. 8 and 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Social Services Conference Room.  
If you have any questions, please call (575) 834-7117.**

## Letter to Our Community

We are pleased and honored to share with you great news about Emmet Trevor Yepa, Jr., who is a proud tribal member and represents the Pueblo of Jemez and surrounding communities as well as the state of New Mexico. The White House has selected him as a "Native American Youth Champion of Change," which is part of President Obama's Winning the Future initiative.

The White House launched a Native American Youth Challenge in early July. Hundreds of young people across Indian Country submitted their stories of leadership and service in their communities. Only 11 exceptional Native youth community leaders were selected and invited to the White House on Dec. 1 and 2, 2011, in conjunction with activities of Native American Heritage Month. Emmet was chosen because of his exceptional motivation to continue to help his community. Emmet's submission letter follows:

*"Greetings, President Obama, my name is Emmet Yepa, I'm 17 years old and a citizen of Jemez Pueblo. The Pueblo of Jemez is a federally recognized tribe with approximately 3,500 tribal members who reside in a village known as 'Walatowa.' We are the only Towa speaking tribe in the world.*

*The world's environmental issues have changed drastically over the past 100 years. These issues concern me; I want to find solutions to educate my people and future generations about the importance of recycling. Creating the program took a lot of courage and leadership because there had never been a recycling program in my Pueblo before. The Walatowa Green Stars Recycling Group was formed in 2010 and consists of four youth members. Getting approval through the Tribal government was a tedious process. Having the motivation to succeed helped me overcome these barriers; I'm determined to preserve and keep our ancestral lands beautiful. Our first attempt at recycling for our annual Pueblo feast day turned out to be a great success: I was able to achieve my goal. I knew my people appreciated it and it made me believe in myself and strive for my ultimate goal. Since 2010, Walatowa Green Stars have been recognized with numerous awards and given opportunities to speak at local and national conferences. The Green Stars educate students at local schools and have implemented recycling bins in designated areas within our Pueblo. My ultimate goal is for my tribe to eventually have its very own Recycling Center."*

Emmet was pleased and honored to accept the invitation from the White House, where they will be featuring Native American Young Leaders like Emmet who are committed to serving their communities. The 'Champions of Change' event was held Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011, in the White House complex. The event was broadcast live on the US government web site at [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov).

Emmet was also invited to the 2011 White House Tribal Nations Conference on Dec. 2, 2011 at the Department of the Interior. This conference gives leaders from the 565 federally recognized tribes the opportunity to interact directly with the President and representatives from the highest levels of his administration. Each tribe was invited to send one representative to the conference.

A portion of Emmet's expenses have been graciously covered by the National Congress of American Indians. However, there are remaining expenses for the trip. We, the family, will host some fundraisers and post notices and locations in the near future!

We would also like to ask if you or your business would kindly help with any monetary donations toward making this a successful and memorable trip. Any amount of your contributions will help and will be gratefully accepted. We could contact you to discuss the possibility of your support.

We thank you for your time and consideration. Please send any donations to PO Box 112, Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024.

For additional information or questions, please contact:

Emmet Trevor Yepa at (505) 249-8493

Adrianna Loretto (mother) at (505) 250-6667 or

Flo Yepa (grandmother) at (505) 220-5639

***On behalf of Emmet and his family we thank you very much;  
many blessing to you ten times unfold!***



## COMMUNITIES PUTTING PREVENTION TO WORK



## The Runners' Edge: Revitalizing Our Jemez Running Tradition

Submitted by Cornell Magdalena and Vernon Tosa, Communities Putting Prevention to Work

### MICHAEL VIGIL

#### Q. Why do or did you run?

I got interested in running because I was always with my grandpa, Santiago Vigil. He always talked about running and how there were many men in the village who were good runners. My grandpa Santiago was a great runner. He always taught me about running – where to run, when to run, and how to mentally prepare to run long distances. He used to train day and night. When I was with my grandpa back in the late 50s into early 60s, he told stories of the days when he used to run up in the east side of the mountains towards the Rio Grande River to swim. Because of Santiago's stories, I started to run when I was young during elementary school at the Jemez Day School. In 1965-66, I ran for the Jemez Valley Cross Country team in the junior division. Then I transferred to Albuquerque Indian School.

#### Q. What motivated you to run?

My grandpa Santiago was my motivator. He taught me everything I need to know about how to train and become a fast and strong runner. He told stories of his running days and those stories were so inspiring that it made it easier for me to get into running. I wanted to show him that I wanted to follow his footsteps by becoming a great competitor. Joe Cajero made a big impact on my running. He coached us when we were growing up. He coached us to be good runners. Another motivator was a talented runner from Laguna, Mike Antonio. He encouraged me to not give up running. We competed together at Albuquerque Indian School.

#### Q. What are your major accomplishments?

- **1964-1965.** Ran for Jemez Day School
- **1967.** Ran for Jemez Valley High School Cross Country team. Freshman year qualified for NM State Cross Country meet held in Bernalillo, NM.
- **1968.** Del Norte High School Cross Country team
- **1969-71.** Ran at Albuquerque Indian School, AIS Cross Country Team; became state champions in 1970. I placed sixth during my junior year. Ran track in 880-yd. and two-mile. All four years in high school, I lettered in cross country, football, baseball and track.
- **1970s.** Participated in the annual Jemez Father's Day track meets (ran half-mile and two-mile events.)

- **1982-1995.** Coached 14 years at Santa Fe Indian School Middle/High School Cross Country and Track as an assistant under Coach Mike Gorospe.
- Participated in the traditional footraces held in the harvest season.

#### Q. What accomplishments are you most proud of?

My major accomplishments were passing on the teachings from my grandfather, Santiago, to many of my nephews and nieces. And to share and coach the experiences of running to many Jemez runners and other natives.

#### Q. What is one thing you would share with the younger generation about keeping the running tradition alive?

Encourage them to keep the tradition alive. I would like to see our youth talk to many of the runners who ran before and ask questions about the basics of running. Jemez is well known for its running tradition and we need to keep that alive. Run up in the mountains. Run in our backyards. There are so many places we can run, all that open space.

One of the important things that I learned about our running tradition is keeping it in the family. Many runners are either born to run or they learn to train and practice hard to become great runners. As an example, I learned from my grandpa, passed it down to another generation of runners to my nephews and nieces, and hopefully, they will pass it on to the next generation, and so forth.



Continued on page 10



## The Runners' Edge: Revitalizing Our Jemez Running Tradition

Continued from page 9

### Q. What are some challenges we face in keeping our running tradition alive?

There are television shows that come on after school that are geared towards our children. They get hooked on those shows that becomes a routine for many kids to come home and just watch television. Or they get on their video games, cell phones, or other gadgets that prevent them from playing or exercising. We need to tell our children to go outside and play with other kids. Our parents used to chase us outside to play or go out into the foothills of Jemez and just be kids. That does not happen anymore. Even as adults, we get into our vehicles and drive to our destinations; when we were kids, we used to walk a lot. Times have changed in many ways. We need to tell our young ones to play, exercise, participate in sports at their schools, and to listen to many of our elders who have stories of their childhood experiences or running tales.

### ANTHONY R. ARMIJO

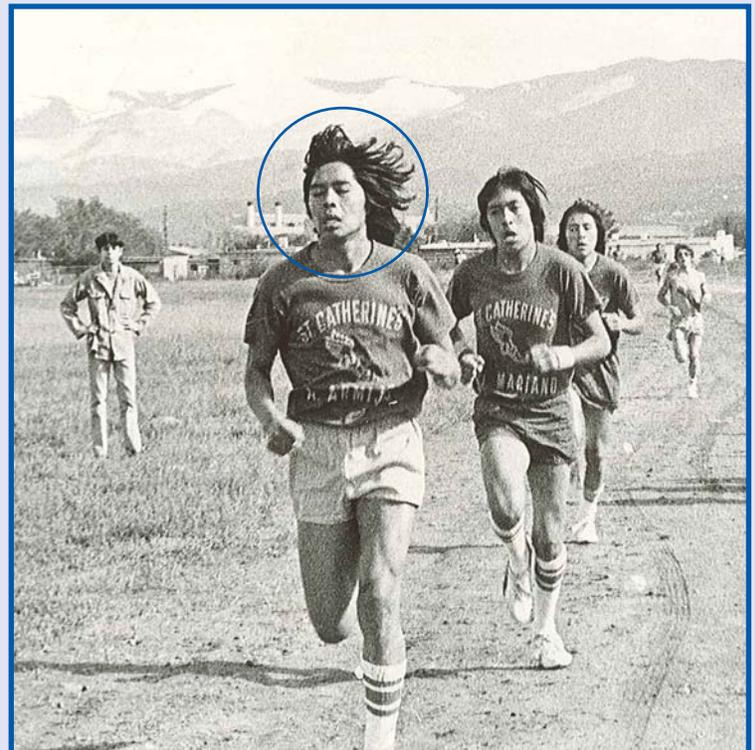
I would like to thank the staff assigned to *The Runner's Edge* for asking me to contribute my story. I don't get the chance to remember back and share these experiences very often. But I only hope that these thoughts and remembrances will help bring attention to our proud Jemez running tradition. – *Anthony R. Armijo*

### Q. Why do or did you run?

I think it was the late Joe Sando who once said that it was every Jemez youngster's desire to be a champion long distance runner and a buffalo dancer. I was no different. When my generation was growing up, we ran a lot – we ran to school in the morning, we ran home for lunch and we ran back after lunch. Our culture instilled in us that there is honor in keeping the running tradition strong and they earned special blessings as they took part in traditional harvest and winter races. Our father would tell me and my brothers how he and his brothers were strong and successful runners. This was evidenced by the carefully kept medal he was awarded in state competition. I was hooked; I knew I wanted to follow in their footsteps. There were also many role models outside the immediate family we could look to to show us the way – there was Pa-shuh, a man in his sixties and still committed to daily training runs, there was Steve Gachupin, remaining unbeaten in Colorado and Sandia mountain races; there were the dominant cross-country and track teams at Jemez Valley, St. Catherine, and other schools made up of individuals from Jemez. These were my heroes.

### Q. What motivated you to run?

As stated above, to be part of and to carry forward our rich running tradition was a duty and an honor. Our fathers and grandfathers told the old stories of Jemez going against elite Hopi and Taos runners and holding their own. The men in meeting halls told of their match races among themselves, run from distant mountain peaks to Jemez Pueblo. When I was in the eighth grade, I attended and observed as a spectator the New Mexico State High School Track Championships



Cross-country meet at Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe.

in Albuquerque. It was very inspiring for me to witness the state's finest track athletes in action. I saw a young man from Zia representing Jemez Valley place in the top five in the two-mile run. And as I witnessed an Acoma Pueblo eighth grader and his older brother sweep all the distance events, I knew then

## COMMUNITIES PUTTING PREVENTION TO WORK

what I wanted to do. My goal from that evening forward was to make it to this state meet and compete at this level. The pursuit of this goal helped motivate me to endure the stresses and pressures of training and competition.

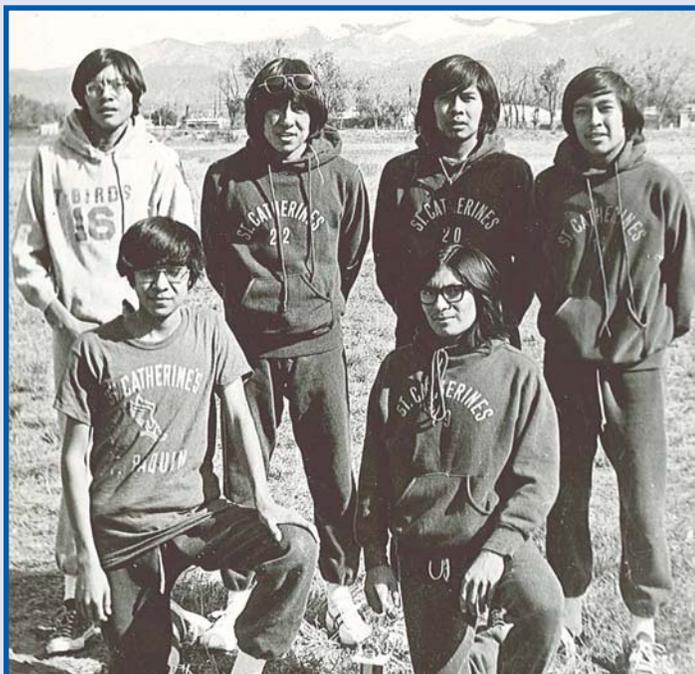
As we know, the training required to achieve success is hard work. One needs to be consistent – training once or twice daily; challenge oneself in distance and speed work. However, I found that this work can be enjoyable and rewarding, too. There is a sense of accomplishment after workouts. You find solitude in the running trails especially in the early morning or late afternoon. And you find strength in the energy of our rugged hills, valleys and arroyos which comprise the training grounds.

### Q. What are your major accomplishments?

The sport helps to develop your mind and body. You won't realize how strong you are unless you challenge yourself. And so, to be competitive you obviously need to develop your talents. During the season, we had strict training regimens – distance work, speed work and if we missed three practices within the season, we were let go from the team. Making it through the season was an accomplishment in itself.

The following lists my highlights:

- State Cross-Country Meet (sophomore year.) Ninth place.
- State Cross-Country Meet (junior year.) Second place; team: second place.



St. Catherine's teammates: (clockwise starting bottom right) Alvin C. Yepa (Jemez), Tom Paquin (Laguna), Andrew "Andy" Solomon (Jemez), Phillip Riley, Jr. (Laguna), Anthony R. Armijo (Jemez) and Delbert Mariano (Laguna.)

- State Cross-Country Meet (senior year.) Fifth place; team: second place.
- State Track Meet (junior year.) Mile run: first place; mile relay: second place.
- State Track Meet (senior year.) Mile run: first place (4:22 record); two-mile run: first place; team: second place.

### Q. What accomplishments are you most proud of?

In looking back to those days, I remember most vividly is the journey – the days, months and seasons spent with the team and coaches as we spent time in practice, traveling to and from meets. We created strong bonds of friendship and respect among the team members and rivals that endure to this day. I find pride in the celebration of our team's accomplishments with team members, coaches, friends, school mates, parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters. It helped bring honor to our schools, community and family.

### Q. What is one thing you would share with the younger generation about keeping the running tradition alive?

It is so important for young people to be active and involved in community and school related activities. This not only keeps youngsters out of trouble, but it teaches good skills and qualities that are needed throughout a person's lifetime. A good way to be active is through athletics – running and other sports. We live in a beautiful, unique and high elevation setting that is ideal in producing champion runners – arroyos, hills and mountains. Let them be your challenge.

### Q. What are some challenges we face in keeping our running tradition alive?

Today's youth are consumed with computers, I-pods, cell phones and game boys. And so they tend not to be as physically active as my generation. Although these may be important and necessary, we need to find time to explore the outdoors and explore running.

I think that as an individual grows and matures, the goals should be refined or new goals established to continue growth and development. And also, we should not be afraid to seek help from others who are successful or who we admire. With a little coaching, encouragement and effort, you may surprise yourself with running success.

## Did You Know?

*Taking a 15-minute ice bath after a particularly hard workout or race can speed muscle recovery and reduce swelling and soreness.*

## RUNNING EVENTS

**Sunday Dec. 11, 2011**  
**RUN RUDOLPH RUN**  
 Albuquerque [www.active.com](http://www.active.com)

**Sunday Jan. 1, 2012**  
**EGG NOG JOG**  
 Albuquerque [www.active.com](http://www.active.com)

**Sunday Dec. 18, 2011**  
**RUN RUDOLPH RUN 5K COMPETITIVE RUN/WALK**  
 Jemez Pueblo Plaza

**Saturday Jan. 7, 2012**  
**SANTA FE SNOW SHOE CLASSIC**  
 Santa Fe [www.active.com](http://www.active.com)

Moccasins for overall male & female winners! Several age groups  
 Register by Dec. 9 No Fee!  
 Warm-up: 8:45 a.m. Race begins promptly at 9 a.m.  
 Registration Forms at the Fitness Center

**Sunday Jan. 8, 2012**  
**1 IN 8 FOUNDATION 5K**  
 Albuquerque [www.active.com](http://www.active.com)

## Walk a Mile with a Smile Senior Walks

**TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 10 A.M.**

(Weather permitting; walk in the Jemez Senior Center gymnasium on bad weather days.) *Join the road to living a healthy lifestyle!*  
 If you have questions, call Cornell Magdalena, CDC/CPW office, at (575) 834-3091, or the Jemez Senior Center at (575) 834-9168

## PUBLIC HEALTH

### Community Outreach Programs: *Healthy Lifestyles*

The JHHS Public Health Programs (PHP) celebrated National Diabetes Awareness Month in November with activities including daily fitness walks, lunch hour FITT rides, cooking classes, blood sugar/blood pressure screenings, fun run/walks and a STOP Diabetes Celebration.

On Tuesday, Nov. 15, Program Manager Kristyn Yepa, RN, BSN, and the PHP staff offered a Community Outreach Program on healthy lifestyles. Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) staff member Vernon Tosa and Kristyn described some of the health challenges, issues and strategies in Walatowa today. "Public health is about creating healthy environmental, social and economic conditions to help populations thrive," Kristyn explained.

The CPPW Program is focused on

preventing and addressing obesity in our community. The primary goals are to:

- ★ Increase healthy eating behaviors.
- ★ Increase physical activity among children, youth, adults and elders.

"More than half of our community is overweight or obese," Kristyn says. "Childhood obesity is increasing for almost all ages; by eighth grade, over half of our kids are already overweight or obese."

"What can happen if we don't live healthy lifestyles?" Kristyn asked. "Chronic diseases like heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and depression are all linked to being overweight."

The programs address these issues by:

- ★ Collecting accurate, complete data to measure progress.
- ★ Increasing access to fresh produce.
- ★ Creating structured nutrition programs in the schools.
- ★ Encouraging breast-feeding by providing space and privacy for nursing mothers in the workplace
- ★ Increasing opportunities for exercise.
- ★ Including nutrition and exercise policies in the schools, workplace and community.
- ★ Emphasizing traditional foods over contemporary processed foods.
- ★ Reinforcing the Jemez running tradition.

- ★ Teaching healthy lifestyles.

Some strategies include:

- ★ Working with the Association of American Indian Physicians to evaluate current interventions; completing the Youth Risk Behavioral Survey by AIHB Tribal Epidemiology Center; implementing the Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System survey as required by the CDC.
- ★ Increasing the number of fun run/walks, exercise classes, fitness classes and other fitness activities.
- ★ The farm-to-school program that delivers fresh Community Garden produce to local schools.
- ★ The Jemez Farmers' Market.
- ★ The "Mustang Bucks" Healthy Eating Challenge in schools.
- ★ Clearing trails to encourage more Jemez runners of all ages.

After the presentation, Vernon and Cornell Magdalena showed their Digital Storytelling productions. The Digital Storytelling project helps tribal members record their stories, memories and photos.

Participants separated into four groups to discuss their personal perspectives on health and wellness issues in Walatowa, and offer suggestions and solutions. The responses will provide a platform for new programs and services for the community.



Audrey Madalena, Vernon Tosa and Kristyn Yepa enjoy the ice-breaker game at the COP presentation.

## MEDICAL SOCIAL WORK

# ABOUT YOUR BENEFITS

### Social Security Announces COLA Increase

Monthly Social Security (SS) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for more than 60 million Americans will see a cost-of-living (COLA) increase of 3.6 percent in 2012. The Social Security Act determines how the COLA is calculated.

SS recipients will see the adjustment in January 2012. Higher payments to more than 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin Dec. 30, 2011. For some beneficiaries, their SS increases may be offset by increases in Medicare premiums.

Other changes that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that figure, the maximum earnings subject to SS taxes will increase to \$110,100 from \$106,800. Of the estimated 161 million workers who will pay SS taxes in 2012, about 10 million will be affected by this increase.

To read more, go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/cola](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/cola). Information about Medicare changes for 2012 is at [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov).

### 2012 Medicare Part B Premiums Lower Than Expected

Medicare Part B premiums in 2012 will be lower than previously projected, and the Part B deductible will decrease by \$22. Earlier this year, the Department of Health and Human Services announced that premiums paid for Medicare's prescription drug plans would remain basically unchanged.

Medicare Part B covers physicians' services, outpatient hospital services, certain home health services, durable medical equipment, and other items. In 2012, the "standard" Medicare Part B premium will be \$99.90. This is a \$15.50 decrease from the 2011 premium paid by new enrollees.

Most people with Medicare have paid \$96.40 per month for Part B since 2008, due to a law that freezes Part B premiums in

years when beneficiaries do not receive SS COLA increases. In 2012, these people will pay the new standard Part B premium of \$99.90, which is a monthly increase of \$3.50. However, this increase will be offset for almost all beneficiaries by the additional income they will receive from the COLA adjustment. The Medicare Part B deductible will be \$140, a decrease of \$22 from 2011.

### Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plans

People who have had a hard time finding health insurance because of pre-existing conditions, or who have been turned down for insurance coverage now have new choices. They may now be eligible for a new government program – *the Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan* – created by the Affordable Care Act.

This transitional program is available for children and adults in all 50 states and the District of Columbia who have been locked out of health insurance because of pre-existing conditions. In 2014, Americans, regardless of their health status, will have access to affordable health insurance when the nation transitions to a new marketplace.

Under this program, enrollees can get insurance coverage for a wide range of medical benefits, including physician services, hospital care and prescription drugs. All insurance benefits are available, even to treat pre-existing conditions. Individuals won't be charged higher premiums because of their medical conditions and eligibility is not based on income. Like standard health insurance plans, people may be required to pay monthly premiums, deductibles and some cost-sharing expenses. Premiums may vary depending on residence, age and chosen plans.

For more information about Medicare premiums and deductibles for 2012, please contact Lisa Maves at (575) 834-3059 or Thelma Shendo at (575) 834-3040.

## Applause

JHHS physician Elizabeth Top Sky, MD, was elected to the Executive board of the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP). AAIP's mission is *"to pursue excellence in Native American health care by promoting education in the medical disciplines, honoring traditional healing principles and restoring the balance of mind, body, and spirit."* AAIP offers education, services and activities to encourage Native American students to pursue careers in the health professions and/or biomedical research. AAIP also fosters forums where modern medicine combines with traditional healing to enhance health care delivery, and provides leadership in health issues affecting Native Americans like diabetes, HIV/AIDS, domestic violence and substance abuse.

As part of her duties on the Executive Board, Dr. TopSky will represent AAIP on the National Diabetes Education Program's strategic Pplanning group. "I am thankful that JHHS is allowing me to participate on AAIP's Executive Board," Dr. TopSky says. "The Association has always been a great support to me and other Native Americans as we made our way through medical school and our professions. I look forward to giving back to the organization and helping to further the AAIP mission."

## VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### Christmas Gift Ideas

Stumped for something special to give for Christmas? Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation (JVR) consumers have a variety of hand-crafted gift items on display at the JVR offices. Choose, jewelry, wood crafts, hand-sewn clothing, and more.

Find great gifts at great prices, and help support your friends and neighbors at the same time! The office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, behind the tribal administration building.

### SAVE THE DATE!

JVR's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Disabilities Awareness Conference will be held Wednesday, March 21, 2012 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.



## WHCS Students Explore Dangers of GM Corn

At Walatowa High Charter School, students are given the tools to speak out and become leaders of their community.

After reading an article about how the pollen from genetically modified (GM) corn has polluted native Mayan crops in Central America with a gene that causes the corn to release a toxic insecticide, students became concerned and wanted to learn more. Students wrote essays and poems and made posters warning about the potential dangers of GM corn.

### GMOs or Jemez Corn?

By Jensen Fragua

Green cornfields fill the landscape with tall white mesas in the background. A small pueblo stands in the center of it all. What is this magnificent sight? It's Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico, a reservation known to few, surrounded by mountains and trees filling the outlines with bright colors. Irrigation ditches swerve and curve throughout the pueblo, Jemez people wave hello to those who pass by. The cornfields shine with a bright green that catches your eye, swaying in the wind. You must stop to observe.

You pull off an ear of corn, and when you grasp it there is firmness that store-bought corn does not have. You pull away the husk and then you see the kernels, white and oh so big, rows and rows of corn with these ears, bountiful and plentiful. Some ears are big, but yet some are small. Some are even a different color, with blue or red kernels. Here corn is more than just a food. Corn serves a purpose, to be used in more than one way.

Corn has been a part of the community since its arrival with traders onto the Colorado Plateau 4,000 years ago. Corn was first used in Central America by Mayans and neighboring

tribes. Around 1,500 BCE, corn was brought to the Southwest and Pueblos found corn to be useful and began to plant. The agriculture technique has been passed down, keeping to the old ways. Even today our agricultural techniques have changed very little, sticking to our original roots.

Meanwhile, corporations are inventing their own corn, using scientists to create varieties of corn to be used in many different things. This corn is genetically modified and is very different from original, traditional corn. GMOs are created by taking DNA from one organism and placing it into another. This is an invasion of the organism. GMOs could have a negative effect on the human body. Because they are a new type of food, the body has not adapted to the substances given off by the new, mutant corn. Traditional corn is grown naturally and contains nothing that could be hazardous. Indigenous Mayans, the first people who developed corn, are finding their ancient seed stock is becoming contaminated by this GM corn through cross pollination. We would not want this to happen here.

Corn is sacred to Jemez. It's used in many ways, especially in religion. The corn is ground up into cornmeal and used for prayers. During a baptism, corn is given to the baby along with an Indian name. Another use for corn is food. It can be baked into bread and placed into stews. Blue corn can be made into a drink. The corn is used in so many ways, and it's very important to the Jemez people. If our corn were to become polluted by genetically-modified pollen, or if Jemez young people were to give up on farming altogether, maybe there would be a second option, but our culture would fall apart, many foods wouldn't be made, some different traditional aspects wouldn't be around anymore.

Corn is the heart of Jemez. It has been around for about 4,000 years and has many uses among the people. Without the corn many different parts of the tradition would not be the same. Corn holds the tradition together. Corn is life among the Jemez, it is food, it is tradition and the planting process will kept to the traditional ways, so that we don't lose their roots.



Barbara Toya, Kaleb Saiz, Alonzo Peralta, E. Jensen Fragua, Alea Dahl are among the Walatowa High Charter School students concerned about genetically modified corn.

EDUCATION

*Corn*

By Jenna Calabaza

She is our mother.  
 She watches us,  
 protects us from harm,  
 guides us through childhood,  
 and stays with us till we are gone.

She is so meaningful  
 to tradition and religion.  
 Without her we would be nothing.  
 We wouldn't believe in what we do.  
 Nothing would really matter at all.

How could you alter  
 our sacred mother,  
 splice her genes in underground labs  
 Causing people to get sick?  
 Not having corn grow  
 in its natural way  
 causing allergies, cancer risks and  
 hurts the soil.

Without corn we can't pray  
 to the spirits and get guidance.  
 Where would we be without our  
 mother?

Lost, confused and trying  
 to find a way.

From the day we are born  
 She is there with us.  
 As we are raised to the sun  
 for Him to greet us  
 She is there

She is with us every day  
 helping us with struggles  
 and through hard times,  
 making every day simple.

She is our mother.  
 She watches us,  
 protects us from harm,  
 guides us through childhood,  
 and stays with us till we are gone.

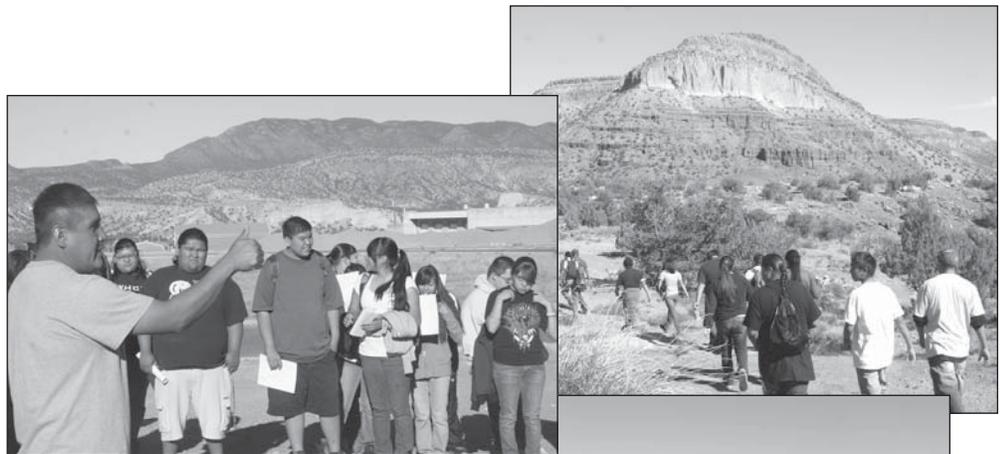


# Genocide Week at Walatowa High Charter School

October 10 was the first day of a somber week at Walatowa High Charter School. While other high school students around the nation took Columbus Day off as a 'holiday,' WHCS students and staff used the day to remember all the human beings who died as a result of the cultural conflict that began as Spanish ships first reached the shores of the Caribbean in 1492.

Students participated in the national One Million Bones project in art class, creating bones out of clay to represent all the people who have died as a result of genocide. These will join a million other bones on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. We also made a trip to the Genocide Museum in Albuquerque. Walatowa High students came to understand the meaning of the term 'genocide', and to look at how this dark aspect of history and humankind is still playing out in the world today in places such as Darfur, Myanmar and the Congo.

To pay tribute to ancestors who lost their lives in the struggle to preserve and protect their culture, students made the hard, steep climb up San Diego Mesa. It was an historic event, as Jemez, Zia and Hispanic students gathered in peace and friendship in a place where the three groups clashed over 300 years ago.



*Photos from top:*

Walatowa High Charter School students heading up San Diego Mesa.

Chris Toya of the Natural Resources Department explains the Towa word for San Diego Mesa (*the top of the thumb*).

Elston Yepa gives a history lesson.

Javier Guzman and Donovan Toledo sing a traditional song to honor their ancestors.

Photos by Kathleen Phelan

## EDUCATION

# Walatowa Head Start News

Submitted by Lana Toya

Walatowa Head Start (WHS) has been extremely busy since the beginning of school! Besides the daily routine activities that take place, teachers also provide holiday arts and crafts activities for you to enjoy at home. I am very pleased with all the hard work of everyone involved.

Although, the WHS program has a long history in our community, I want to share some information about the program. WHS is a comprehensive child development program serving 68 children, ages 3-5, and their families through a culturally-relevant, age-appropriate curriculum, coordination of health services, services to the child's family, and therapy for identified special-needs children. Supplemental services, including vision and hearing screenings, nutrition education, and speech and physical therapy are obtained through cooperative agreements with Jemez Valley Public Schools, the local education agency and tribal programs such as JHHS Public Health, Social Services, Behavioral Health, Community Wellness Programs, Jemez Community Library, SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids), and the Injury Prevention Program. Presentations are given to all students in each classroom, as well as to our Head Start parents during monthly Parent Center Committee meetings. Jemez Valley Public Schools, (the Local Education Agency [LEA]) provides ancillary services to students with disabilities.

Walatowa Head Start continues to be a place for the entire family. This year saw the beginning of the Fatherhood Initiative Program, designed for fathers and those who represent father figures, like grandfathers or uncles, in the lives of current Head Start students. Presentations deal with issues around fathering and have included *Roots of Fathering* by Pastor Chayo Perez; *Fathering Without Violence & Fear* by Dominic Gachupin, Family Advocate; and *Father Nurturance and A Father's Responsibilities in a Traditional Family System* by Stuart Gachupin, Behavioral Health Therapist. Fatherhood Nights continue through the school year on the last Thursday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m., with dinner served at 5:30 p.m.

Fatherhood Nights continue to make an impact and we are seeing more participation. We thank the following men who have attended Fatherhood Nights:

Javin Chama	David Loretto	Alex Tosa
Kalsey Chavez	Jason Loretto, Sr.	Calvin Toya
Lance Chinana	Delrey Lucero	Tyson Toya
Tyler Chinana	Bernard Madalena	Vincent Toya
Winfred Chinana	J.P. Romero	Jim Upshaw
Anthony Chosa	Juan Shendo	Donovan Wanya
John Gachupin	Myron Shendo	Jose Yepa
Phillip Gallegos	Paul Toledo	Nicholas Yepa
		Nicholas Yepa, Sr.

Parent Involvement is important to us at Walatowa Head Start and we provide plenty of volunteer opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education. As of August 2011, we have received over 250 hours of volunteer services from our HS parents! Thank you to all who have taken the time to help in our offices, classrooms, and on bus routes. I also want to recognize the following parents and community members who donate their time and serve as officers on the Policy Council (PC) and Parent Center Committee (PCC) meetings for the 2011-2012 school year:

Ralph Gachupin, PCC President  
 Chris Toya, PCC Vice President  
 Monica Toya, PCC Secretary  
 Bernard Madalena, PCC Activities Coordinator  
 Joline Cruz, PCC Activities Coordinator

Doreen Yepa, PC Parent Representative  
 Paula Gachupin, PC Parent Representative  
 Alex Tosa, PC Parent Representative  
 Rita Toledo, PC Parent Representative  
 Maxine Toya, PC Community Representative  
 Yvonne Chinana, PC Community Representative

I also want to acknowledge Dr. Raymond Loretto, Tribal Council Liaison, for joining us for the monthly PC meetings for the past two years. He was appointed by Tribal Council to attend these meetings to ensure effective communication between the Walatowa Head Start Program and Tribal Council. We thank him for taking time to be part of our Head Start community and provide input toward program improvement.

### Help Wanted!

I encourage community members who specialize in a traditional arts or crafts, such as pottery, moccasin and drum making, or singing to visit our center and share your special talents with our children.

Walatowa Head Start is also seeking the following donations for items we use daily:

- Kleenex
- Baby wipes
- Paper plates, small and large
- Storage bags, quart and gallon
- Chlorox wipes
- Paper towels

The Walatowa Head Start Program belongs to the Jemez community. I encourage everyone to visit our program for breakfast or lunch. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to stop by or call any time at (575) 834-7366.

Thank you for your support of our Walatowa Head Start Program. We hope to see you soon!

## EDUCATION

# New Mexico School Superintendents: Focus on Intervention Rather than Retention

Submitted by David Atencio, Superintendent, Jemez Valley School District

After the 2011 legislative special session, New Mexico Department of Education Secretary Designate Hanna Skandera asked the NM School Superintendents' Association (NMSSA) to help provide language for a bill addressing the goal that all students read at grade level before leaving third grade.

Bills introduced during the 2011 regular and special legislative sessions called for mandatory retention of third grade students who are not proficient in reading, with or without parental input. As our districts' education leaders, we cannot support mandatory retention without parental input and without first assuring that students have been provided every intervention to help achieve reading proficiency, and without providing intensive, embedded professional development in teaching reading for teachers.

Recent forecasts indicate increases in state revenue. Before our state spends money elsewhere, it must restore funding to New Mexico schools to at least the 2008-09 levels. This additional revenue will allow districts to fund early intervention programs for children in kindergarten through third grade and intensive professional development in teaching reading.

The NMSSA submitted the following suggestions to help students read at grade level before they leave third grade.

- Rename the new proposed bill an "Early Intervention" bill.
- Require and fund intensive intervention and remediation before students reach third grade.
- Mandate and fund grade-appropriate reading assessments at the beginning and end of the first semester of grades K-3.
- Mandate and fully fund screening/assessment of reading readiness skills for students entering kindergarten in the spring before they enter. Students who are below proficiency will receive up to 20 days of instruction before school begins.
- Develop intervention plans for all children in grades K-3 who are not proficient at the time they are given these assessments.

In addition, NMSSA supports a bill further defining and funding these interventions that will require additional state funding through the funding formula. NMSSA will help develop the template to gather information from districts to more accurately assess costs. We recommend the following interventions:

- Each school will be funded to hire at least one instructional coach and one reading specialist to serve teachers and students in grades K-3. Larger schools may need more than

one teacher.

- Intensive professional development for teachers in the teaching of reading. Districts will be provided additional funding to implement summer reading literacy institutes or the equivalent number of hours during the school year. These additional days are to be compensated.
- The PED will provide an approved list of reading assessment tools from which districts can select. In addition, districts may request approval to choose other valid, reliable assessments.
- The school year will be extended by up to 20 days or equivalent number of hours using extended school days or Saturday school days for students who are not proficient in reading at the end of grades K-3. (Based on the original funding formula study, each day of instruction in grades K-3 statewide costs about \$6,000,000.) Other costs associated with extending the school year/day must be factored into funding, including transportation, food services and administration.
- Increase funds to purchase alternative/supplemental instructional materials to support these interventions.
- Decisions about how to best implement student interventions and professional development are left to local superintendents, per statute granting such authority to superintendents as the CEOs of school districts.

## Retention

Retention decisions should begin in kindergarten. Although research shows that retention does not benefit students in the long run, there is some agreement that if students are retained, it should happen before third grade. We believe that if these interventions are provided, if teachers receive training to improve skills, and when communication with parents is ongoing, parents will agree if and when educators recommend a child be retained.

The law permits retaining students under certain circumstances with parental consent. This law should stay in place so retention remains an option in grades four and above if holding a child back will be academically beneficial. The laws should be clarified to specify that students above grade three can be retained for academic reasons only, and not for disciplinary, social or other non-academic purposes.

*The family of Tom Lucero wants to express our gratitude and appreciation to our community, friends and co-workers for your support, prayers and the help you all gave so generously. Tom will be missed, but we will continue our lives and remember his teaching and preaching. Thank you and God bless you all.*

*The family of Tom Lucero*

## EDUCATION

# Jemez Valley Public Schools

## Jemez Valley High School

Submitted by Brad Parker Principal

As I write this, Jemez Valley High School is flush with the boys' basketball team's first win of the season on its first game! Coach Harlyn Francisco's team played hard against Foothill High School all four quarters, handily winning with a score of 55-41. The spirit is back in Warrior Sports! Come on out and see your Warriors play.

### Events and Activities

**Dec. 1 - 3.** Our boys' and girls' basketball teams will compete in the Tohajiilee basketball tournament. We wish them the best of luck as the Warrior Spirit goes with them.

**Dec. 6.** The boys play Foothill again at home at 5 p.m.

**Dec. 8.** Both the boys and girls basketball teams go to Menaul for games starting at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

**Dec. 8.** Fine Arts Night at the high school. Having been the principal of both the elementary and middle school in past years, I know that if you come that night, you're in for a real treat! It's usually the most well-attended event of the year (with the exception maybe of graduation!) We can expect memorable performances from our precious pre-kindergarteners all the way to our middle schoolers. If you like smiling and laughing and having a great time, this is the place for you. Our high schoolers will set up for the show and make sure all the invitations go out and the programs are made.

**Dec. 9.** Homecoming game with Walatowa Charter High School.

The girls' game starts at 5 p.m., the boys' start at 6:30 p.m.

Our homecoming dance for high schoolers directly follows the boys' game at the high school Performing Arts Center.

**Dec. 15-17.** Our basketball teams will compete in the Menaul basketball tournament. Tack on a game at Tse Yi Gi on the 20<sup>th</sup> and the New Mexico Indian Classic Tournament Dec. 28 to 31.

**Dec. 23.** Winter break begins; students return for classes Jan. 9.

### Yearbooks

We will have a district-wide yearbook this year. The prices for the yearbook have yet to be determined, but you can bet that the sooner you purchase it, the less it will cost! As well, please know that **you must order a yearbook to get one.** We are only ordering prepaid books this year to ensure that we can pay for them. One thing I will ask of all parents is to make sure that when your students bring home photo permission slips to sign, please do so and indicate that it is okay for us to use your students' photos in the yearbook. It will help us ensure that no student is left out of the yearbook.

Our students as well as the teachers are working hard to make our school a success. I am proud to be a part of this endeavor. Thank you for the opportunity.

## Scholarship Opportunities

### 2011-12 Ellis & Ellis Scholarship

This scholarship provides college tuition assistance to qualified students from the Pueblos of the Southwest, including Zuni and Hopi.

**Eligibility criteria:** Graduate student enrolled in a New Mexico institution; commitment to tribal community service. Fields: humanities, culturally-based economic development, indigenous language preservation, environmental studies, education, community development, health, law and justice, leadership, tribal governance, business or related fields.

**Application package must include the following documentation:**

- ✦ One full-page essay explaining your purpose for attaining a Master's degree and its relation to your commitment to tribal community service.
- ✦ Certificate of tribal affiliation.
- ✦ Copy of official transcript from most recent completed semester/term. Transcript may be issued to student and/or mailed to Eight Northern Indian Pueblos (ENIP), Inc. Higher Education office.

**Note:** *There is no application; include contact information in a header or footer on your essay page.*

**Scholarship details:** The scholarship consists of two awards of \$800 (\$400 for Fall 2012 and \$400 for Spring 2013.) This fund was established with an initial contribution from Dr. Florence Hawley Ellis, UNM Professor Emeritus, and her daughter Andrea Ellis, and is held by the National Ghost Ranch Foundation, Inc. Other contributions are invited. All contributions will be considered part of the principal and will be invested or held in interest-bearing accounts. Only the earnings on principal will fund scholarships.

The Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc. helps the National Ghost Ranch Foundation administer this scholarship through its ENIPC Higher Education Program. Forward any questions to the ENIPC Education Program at (505) 455-1800.

### Tribal Energy Program Summer Internship Program

**Application Postmark Deadline: February 17, 2012**

**Location: Sandia National Laboratories Albuquerque**

**Internship Duration: 12 weeks**

The Tribal Energy Program promotes tribal energy sufficiency, economic development and employment on tribal lands through renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies.

**Eligibility:** Current college upper-classmen and graduate students who are familiar with Native American culture and tribal issues are needed to support the Tribal Energy Program efforts with technical project tasks. Students will assist a cross-disciplinary team to perform specific tasks. Interactions will be with Sandia's renewable energy staff, Native American tribes interested in renewable systems and Sandia's American Indian Outreach Committee. Instant immersion in these activities is offered in working directly with experienced and internationally recognized peers. Travel will be required, including field visits to renewable energy projects.

**Requirements:** Applicants must be US citizens and Native American, defined as a member of a federally-recognized tribe, Alaska village or Alaska corporation (not state-recognized, bands or groups; or first peoples of Guam

## EDUCATION

# NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

Submitted by Wilmur Toya, AmeriCorps Vista Volunteer

This year's Annual National Indian Education Association (NIEA) convention and trade show held Oct. 27-30 in Albuquerque was a huge success. NIEA is committed to increasing educational excellence, opportunities and resources for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students while protecting cultural and linguistic traditions.

The convention brings together Native leaders, Congressional representatives, educators, students and school administrators to teach best practices, connect with others who are passionate about educating Native students, and pursue solutions to education issues that affect Native communities. Each year, participants learn about the local tribal cultures and languages through various events. Resolutions for yearly legislative priorities are also determined at this event, and the organization's board of directors is chosen.

Several Pueblo of Jemez departments,

including the Education Services Center, JHHS CDC/CPW, Senior Center and Community Wellness Programs, collaborated with NIEA to organize the convention.

The convention began Wednesday, Oct. 26 with US Department of Education workshops, the tribal leaders' summit on Indian education, and the NIEA board candidate orientation. The day concluded with the president's welcome reception.

Opening ceremonies started the first general assembly in the traditional native way. The Jemez Pueblo Senior Program sang traditional songs. CDC/CPW program staff assisted at the health and fitness booth with registration for the 5K run/walk and bike ride. The Native Language Revitalization forum was also held in the afternoon. A Culture Night offered plenty of dances and activities for the evening program.

Many NIEA participants were at Albuquerque's Tingley Beach to partici-

pate in the 5K fun run/walk at 6 a.m. Friday morning. The day also included elections for NIEA board members, the high school student strand and youth day luncheon. A pow-wow with over 500 spectators and dancers ended the day.

Saturday started with a Health and Fitness Bike Ride at Tingley Beach. The day-long college/university symposium was free to college and high school students and teachers. NIEA also held a Native/English oratory contest for students who wanted to speak their minds. The NIEA annual awards banquet honored people and organizations for their involvement within Native communities and their support of NIEA initiatives.

This year's NIEA convention was very successful and entertaining, offering many workshops, forums and the trade show for people to learn about different teaching methods or learn new perspectives on Native American education. For more information on the event, visit [www.niea.org](http://www.niea.org).

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Continued from page 18

or Hawaii.) Specific interest in renewable energy is required. Applicants must pass pre-employment security checks (local/federal law enforcement, driver's history, references, education, credit and employment checks.)

### Application Instructions:

- ✦ Apply before the deadline to the address below.
- ✦ Apply with a resume including GPA (3.2 bachelors', 3.5 masters', 3.7 PhD) and all relevant work experience and outside activities. Include phone number and e-mail address.
- ✦ Include all college transcripts (official copies are required.)
- ✦ Complete the questionnaire and essays are requested.

### Salary & Relocation Expenses:

Salary commensurate with number of hours completed by the end of the 2012 Fall semester in an appropriate technical major. Sandia will pay relocation expenses (mileage and *per diem* or round-trip airfare) for a school site more than 50 miles from Albuquerque.

Apply to Sandra K. Begay-Campbell, Sandia National Laboratories, PO Box 5800, MS-0734, Albuquerque, NM 87185-0734; (505) 844-5418; e-mail [skbegay@sandia.gov](mailto:skbegay@sandia.gov).

## College 101 Workshop

### Open to High School Parents and Students

Sponsored by the Pueblo of Jemez Department of Education

Topics covered in workshop:

College Admissions

Financial Aid

Learn more about the college admissions process and get information about financial aid. Any high school parent and student are welcome to attend.

Tuesday, Dec. 6

6-8 p.m.

Community Resource Center (CRC)

