



Red Rocks Reporter

MARCH 2016

In This Issue

From the Governors	1
Community Notice.....	2
Tribal Council Report	3
Fire Safety	4
NRD Spring Updates.....	4
Water Monitoring.....	4
Housing	5
Veterans Association.....	5
Financial literacy class.....	5
JCDC Board Member Needed ...	5
Tribal Enrollment	6
Job Opportunities.....	6
Repairing Roads and Bridges	6
Jemez Valley Credit Union.....	7
Ride the Rail Runner.....	7
Red Rocks Arts & Crafts Show ..	7
Call for Artists.....	7
Senior Center	8
MoGro	9
Parenting Classes.....	9
Job/College Fair	9
Intergenerational Dinner	9
Disabilities Awareness	
Conference	10
Social Services.....	10
Teen Dating Safety	10
HRSA award Extended.....	11
RSV Health Alert.....	11
Welcome Mat	12
Warrior Girls Take the Title	13
Solving the Plastics Problem....	13
Head Start in Hawaii.....	14
SDRCS News	16
Reinforcing Our	
Towa Language	16
Jemez Valley Public Schools....	17
Middle School Scores Soar.....	18
Model Good Sportsmanship	18
Moiety scholarship	19
Summer Internships	19
Voters Information	20

FROM THE GOVERNORS

January and February have been extremely busy months for the new tribal leadership. We made a concerted effort to meet with all tribal programs individually to learn about the services they provide our community and the challenges they are facing that may require our assistance to resolve. We learned a lot and are continuing to learn from the various programs.

We also visited all the schools on the pueblo, as well as the Jemez Valley Public Schools and Santa Fe Indian School, to address our Jemez Pueblo students. We received very warm welcomes at all the schools and wish to thank the schools for making time for us. We encouraged the students to do well in school, stay in school, study hard, stay away from drugs and alcohol, and, for the high school students in particular, to take advantage of educational opportunities and scholarships, and to start planning for college, vocational schools, etc. We emphasized the importance of a good education.

American Indian Day

On Feb. 4, 2016, the leadership attended American Indian Day at the state legislature. As is the norm, all 19 Pueblo Governors were introduced in the House of Representatives and Senator Benny Shendo also introduced the Jemez tribal leadership on the Senate floor including Governor Yepa, First Lt. Governor Armijo, Second Lt. Governor Ward Yeppa, Fiscale Cyrus Lucero and Lt. Fiscale Elston Yepa. Indian tribes, and especially Jemez Pueblo, are very fortunate to have Senator Shendo and Representative Roger Madalena in the state legislature as our advocates. They have done very good work on behalf of Indian tribes and on behalf of Jemez Pueblo. Tribal leadership commends them for their hard work.

Tribal Administration

On administrative work for the Pueblo, the Governors have been focused on a number of issues, including establishing a core committee that will address how the Jemez Springs property (Handmaids of the Precious Blood) will be utilized for health care purposes. The committee will include representatives from Jemez Health & Human Services, tribal administration and tribal members who have volunteered to serve on the committee.

The tribal leadership, through approvals from Tribal Council, appointed new members to the Jemez Health Board. Alan Toledo is an attorney and served as a tribal judge at a number of other pueblos. In addition, Tribal Council appointed Kurt Mora, who has an accounting background and a masters' degree from New Mexico State University in business administration, and Stephanie Pecos-Duarte who has many years of engineering experience with the Indian Health Service. Other members of the Health Board include Kathleen (Romero) Hongisto, Lupe Bryan, Ramona Yepa and Paul S. Chinana from Tribal Council. The Health Board is now at full capacity.

Continued on page 2



2016 TRIBAL GOVERNORS

David R. Yepa
Governor

Hilario R. Armijo
First Lt. Governor

Ward L. Yeppa
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

José Pecos

David M. Toledo

José Toledo

Michael Toledo, Jr.

Paul Tosa

Vincent A. Toya, Sr.

Red Rocks Reporter March 2016 Edition

All photos and images are used with permission. Editorial content is intended for informational purposes only. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this publication is as current as possible at press time.

The Red Rocks Reporter is distributed to box holders in the 87024 Zip Code. If you want to receive this newsletter and do not have an 87024 P.O. Box, please contact the editorial office at erica.kane@jemezpueblo.us.

Published by Pueblo of Jemez,
NM 87024.

FROM THE GOVERNORS

From the Governors, *Continued*

We also successfully negotiated with Windstream for compensation to the Pueblo for the expired rights-of-way traversing the Pueblo.

Grazing on the Valles Caldera

The Pueblo met with the National Park Service that now runs the Valles Caldera about this summer's grazing program on the Preserve. For the past three years, the Jemez Pueblo Livestock Association have been grazing cattle on the preserve. Unfortunately, the transition of the Valles Preserve from the Valles Caldera Board of Trustees to the National Park Service has created some obstacles for the 2016 grazing program.

We invited field representatives from our congressional delegation to our meeting with the NPS. Congressman Ben Ray Lujan, Senator Udall, Senator Heinrich and Michelle Lujan Grisham's field representatives all attended our meeting. We are hopeful that NPS will allow Jemez Pueblo Livestock Association to graze their livestock on the preserve this summer.

Governors' Meetings

Governor Yepa has been attending the All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG) meetings where the 19 Governors talk about issues common to all of the Pueblos. In addition to APCG meetings, the Governors attend the Ten Southern Governors Council. At the first Ten Southern Governors meeting, Governor Yepa was elected to serve as vice-chair for this organization.

Community Notice: Stray Horse Round-up

Saturday, March 19, 2016 8 a.m.
West Side Community Corral

The Jemez Pueblo Livestock Association will hold a stray horse round-up on Saturday, March 19. Horses, ATVs and manpower will be needed.

The round-up will address the safety issues along roadways and will keep stray horses out of the village. All stray horses will be penned. The horses will be sold unless their owners come forward to reclaim them. Fees will be assessed at the time the owner makes the claim.

If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan C. Romero at Jonathan.C.Romero@jemezpueblo.org, Sherwin Sando, JPLA President, or Matt Gachupin, Jr., JPLA Vice-President.

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Tribal Council Report

Pueblo of Jemez departments, programs and tribal administration submitted the following resolutions to be presented by the Governors for approval by Tribal Council.

February 16, 2016

Tribal Council approved the following resolutions:

- ***Tribal Council Resolution 8:*** Appointed Alan Toledo to the Jemez Health Board to serve a two-year term effective Feb. 16, 2016 and expiring Feb. 16, 2018.
- ***Tribal Council Resolution 9:*** Accepted the letters of resignation of Hilario Armijo, Michael Sando and Roger Madalena from the Jemez Health Board; Hilario Armijo was appointed First Lt. Governor for 2016 and has been delegated the Interim Tribal Administrator duties, which includes serving as co-director for JHHS. Tribal Council appointed Stephanie Pecos-Duarte to a two-year term on the Jemez Health Board, expiring Feb. 16, 2018, and appointed Kurt Mora to serve a three-year term, expiring Feb. 16, 2019. Councilman Paul S. Chinana was appointed as Tribal Council representative to serve a four-year term expiring Feb. 16, 2020. Ramona Yepa was re-appointed to the Jemez Health Board for another two-year term, expiring Dec. 31, 2017.
- ***Tribal Council Resolution 10:*** Accepted the 2015-2016 fiscal year Traffic Safety Citation budget and modified dispersal formula. Revenue generated by the Traffic Safety Citation Program will follow the dispersal of funding based on the 2014 agreed percentage with a modification adding three percent from the Safe Driver Program, thus eliminating the Safe Driver Program dispersal. This budget is based on the fiscal year 2014-2015 revenue and expenditures.
- ***Tribal Council Resolution 11:*** Authorized the Handmaids of the Precious Blood property located in Jemez Springs to be taken into trust. The Pueblo purchased the property in December 2014 and holds fee title. As fee lands, the property is subject to local property taxes and state and local regulatory, legislative and adjudicatory jurisdiction, and does not fall under the Pueblo's or the federal government "Indian Country" jurisdiction.

The Pueblo has the right to put this property into trust status per 25 USC §465, thus making it Indian Country subject to the Pueblo's full sovereign governmental authority, subject to all applicable federal laws, and place it outside state and local governmental authority and taxing jurisdictions. Tribal administration is directed to prepare and submit an application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs requesting that this property be taken into trust, and to
- take further actions in coordination with the Pueblo's legal counsel to secure the requested trust land transfer.
- ***Tribal Council Resolution 12:*** Approved and authorized the immediate payoff of the existing loan from US Bank National Association for the purchase of the Handmaids of the Precious Blood property using third party revenues held by Jemez Health and Human Services and/or presently pledged as collateral for the loan. Tribal Council has previously authorized (Resolutions 2014-44 and 2014-48) the use of third party revenues generated by JHHS to purchase this property and pay for developing expanded health care facilities programs on the property, and for certain interim financing arrangements with US Bank National Association to implement those decisions.
- ***Tribal Council Resolution 13:*** Approved a policy to compensate the outgoing Governors with a meeting stipend for the purposes of transitioning the incoming leadership. This policy will be incorporated into the Pueblo of Jemez Personnel Policies and Procedures by the Human Resources Director. This compensation does not apply to Governors and/or Lieutenants who, prior to their appointments, are tribal employees and who resume their regularly assigned duties at the end of their terms.
- ***Tribal Council Resolution 14:*** Acknowledged and approved that, during Mr. David Yepa's tenure as Governor, the law firm of Van Amberg, Rogers, Yepa, Abeita, Gomez and Works, LLP, in which he was a partner, will continue to represent the Pueblo. Governor Yepa will leave the law firm as partner and become "of counsel" to the law firm.
- ***Tribal Council Resolution 15:*** Consented to and approved Windstream Communications Southwest, LLC ("Windstream") payment to settle the Pueblo's trespass claims and Windstream's payment for a 20 year renewal of all Windstream rights-of-way that includes compensation for a right-of-way to accommodate the new Ponderosa Fiber Optic Line. As part of this agreement, Windstream has committed to fund and construct to the Pueblo's satisfaction, the new infrastructure necessary to provide fiber optic service to the San Diego Riverside School, the Jemez Pueblo government offices, and the Jemez Day School. Tribal Council requested that the Secretary of the Interior grant easements to Windstream for the above described rights-of-way.

NATURAL RESOURCES

FIRE SAFETY: *Burn Debris Safely*

HELP PREVENT WILDFIRES!

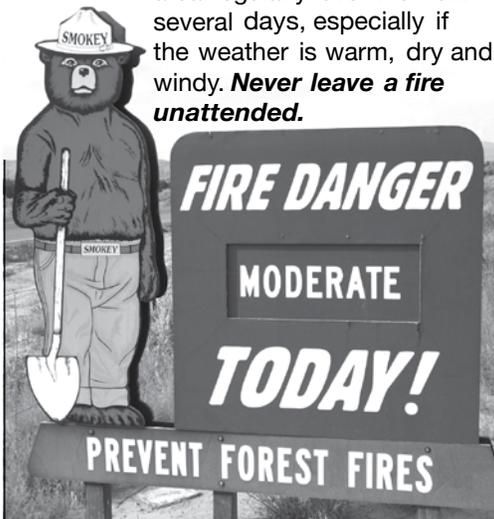
Check The Weather Forecast
Weather fluctuations, such as a sudden gusts of wind, could turn your debris burn into a wildfire.

Burn Permits
Contact the NRD for a burn permit. Permits are free but they are **required** before any burn.

Choose a Safe Location
A safe site is far from power lines, overhanging limbs, buildings, vehicles and equipment. It must have vertical clearance at least three times the height of the pile, as heat from the fire extends far past the actual flames that you see.

Prepare the Site Correctly
The ground around the burn site should be surrounded by gravel or soil for at least ten feet in all directions. Keep the surrounding area watered down during the burn.

Stay With Your Fire
Stay with your fire until it is completely out. To ensure the fire has been completely extinguished, drown the fire with water, turn over the ashes with shovel and drown it again. Repeat several times. Check the burn area regularly over the next several days, especially if the weather is warm, dry and windy. **Never leave a fire unattended.**



Fire, Water, Tractors and Hunting ... **It Must be Getting Close to Spring!**

Submitted by Paul Clarke, Department Director

As we begin to enjoy warmer weather, it's time to make plans for cleaning up those brush piles, lining up tractor work, clearing the irrigation ditches and, yes, even planning for next year's hunt. Here's what you need to know...

Burn Permits

Ready or not, fire season is here. **Burn permits are required for burning brush or refuse on the Pueblo.** Burn Permits are free but must be picked up at the NRD office. Permits are valid for one month and require the location of your planned burn as well as your name and contact number. Burning restrictions are listed on the Permit along with some helpful burn management tips. If you have questions about Burn Permits, call the NRD office at (575) 834-7696 or Jose Tenorio at the Southern Pueblo Agency's Fire Prevention office at (505) 563-3655.

Tractor and Farm Implement Services

NRD's Agricultural Assistance Program has tractor and farm implement services available for all Pueblo of Jemez community farmers. Farm services

available include plowing, discing, bordering, tilling and ripping. Costs are based on acreage (and are low!) Call the NRD office at 834-7696 to schedule your farm services. NRD plans to begin tractor work in April.

Here Comes the Water

The pueblo's 50 year-old irrigation system is getting a bit of a facelift, one backache at a time. The NRD's irrigation field crew has been focusing on replacing the worst of the broken ditch lining as well as repairing siphons and head-gates. NRD is trying to keep up with all the repairs but understand that our "to-do list" is getting longer and longer. Please help us more effectively repair our irrigation system by keeping a cleared area of 16 feet from the ditch center line and let us know if you have issues or recommendations.

Big Game Draw Applications

In anticipation of possible Pueblo of Jemez Tribal Big Game Draw permits, you must apply through New Mexico Department of Game and Fish by March 18. More information is at the state's web site at www.wildlife.state.nm.us.

Monitoring Water Quality

Submitted by Tammy Belone

Bacteria in Water

Escherichia coli (*E. coli*) is a rod-shaped bacteria commonly found in the gastrointestinal tract and feces of warm-blooded animals. *E. coli* numbers in surface waters such as streams and rivers are evidence of fecal contamination from warm-blooded animals. In the Pueblo's case, the counts of *E. coli* in the Jemez River are probably due to the horses, cows and dogs that defecate in the river.

The NRD's Water Quality Program staff collects water samples at six locations on tribal land, including the Jemez River and Vallecitos Creek. *E. coli* analysis is conducted in-house utilizing the IDEXX system. In general, bacteria are grown, then the bacteria colonies are counted. The higher the bacteria count, the higher the probability of *E. coli* in the sampled water.

The Water Quality Program is committed to monitoring the Pueblo's water resources. For more information, call the Natural Resources Department at (575) 834-3207.

WALATOWA VETERANS ASSOCIATION

HOUSING

Respecting the Flag

The Walatowa Veterans Association respectfully requests anyone disposing of old or worn out flags, both full size and hand held, to please take them to the WVA office. There is a proper disposal procedure that honors the flag's symbolism. There are reports that flags have been found at the Transfer Station. The WVA plans to hold a proper flag disposing ceremony. Thank you for honoring the flag of our country.

The Walatowa Veterans Association office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Civic Center. They are available to assist veterans with health and pension benefits.

The Veterans Service Officer visits the office monthly. Call the office to make an appointment or e-mail to gail.madalena@jemezpueblo-wva.org.

National Access Stand Down

The New Mexico VA Health Care System (NMVAHCS) participated in the VA's nationwide "Stand Down #2: Road to myAccess" on Feb. 27. Unlike a traditional stand down offering clothing and basic services for veterans, this event is a nationwide effort being undertaken by the Veterans Health Administration at VA medical centers to focus efforts to reduce the number of patients currently waiting the longest for care, and foster a culture of continuous improvement in the VA's health care system.

A team of clinical leaders and administrators at the Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center in Albuquerque focused on trimming the backlog in dermatology and mental health. The goal is to reach out to all veterans identified as having the most important and acute needs to make sure the NMVAHCS is meeting their health care needs through timely scheduled appointments.

The Murphy VA Medical Center will continue to conduct some clinics on weekends. Once the Access Stand Down is finished, the VHA will conduct an after-action review to identify successes, find gaps and see how those insights can be applied to future actions to improve access.

Access Stand Down efforts have been underway within the NMVAHCS for several months. They continue to improve the system to better serve the health care needs of those who need help the most.

BOARD MEMBER NEEDED

The Jemez Community Development Corporation (JCDC) needs to fill a vacant position on its Board of Directors. Interested individuals should contact Tanya Trujillo at the Jemez Visitors Center at (575) 834-7235.

HOUSING UPDATES

The Pueblo of Jemez Housing Department continued progress with the rehabilitation of 21 homes in the community. The expected completion date is April 2016.

Roof repairs to over 40 homes severely affected by the rains of September 2013 under FEMA have been completed. Force account will address interior items approved by FEMA beginning late March 2016.

Housing completed the 2014 ICDBG Mold Remediation grant project, which included 17 homes, seven more than what was proposed, within the budget of \$425,000 and timeline. Completing 17 rehabs within eight months is a tribute to all the Housing staff involved in the project. Eligible participants must remain within low to moderate income levels under IHBG requirements.

After completing major rehab projects, participants are required to maintain homeowners' insurance for up to five years to protect their renovated homes as well as the Housing Department's investment in the home. The department pays Amerind Insurance in advance for the homeowners, who then repay the department through nominal monthly payments.

Pueblo Place Infrastructure Project

The Housing Department is heavily involved with the Pueblo Place Infrastructure Project for the future housing subdivision of 84 lots. AUI, Inc., the general contractor, began construction on Feb. 15, 2016. The total contract value is \$3,044,647 with about roughly \$200,000 remaining for contingencies. Our next task is to pursue additional funding to complete all bid alternates. This involves the concerted effort of all involved tribal departments.

The initial construction phase is to connect the sewer line along Broken Arrow Drive, which will be completed by March 18. Thereafter, construction activity will be to the South Tank water mainline extension, up to April 17.

After that time, construction will be on-site at the planned subdivision, east of Highway 4. This progressive schedule facilitates starting subdivision construction immediately east of Highway 4 and ending further east into the valley.

Community members should expect heavy equipment traffic and signage to indicate construction activity, and possible disruption of traffic in the area. Some road changes and alternate routes will be needed during construction to avoid road closures.

This project involves joint efforts from several tribal departments including Housing, Public Works, and Planning and Development. All will be assisting the engineer and general contractor to complete this project.

Financial Literacy Class

The Housing Department will offer a Financial Literacy class on Wednesday, March 23 at the CRC from 6 to 7 p.m. Call (575) 834-0305 for more information.

ENROLLMENT

ENROLLMENT UPDATES

Effectively Immediately: The costs for CIBs (Certificates of Indian Blood) and laminated identification cards have increased due to the volume of requests and to help cover costs.

CIBs: \$2.00; \$1.00 if you just need a copy of a CIB already on file.

Laminated ID Cards: \$3.00.

Picture ID cards will remain the same at \$10.

Expiration dates will be included on picture ID cards; this is normal procedure but has not been done in the past.

Please remember that all CIBs and laminated cards must be paid in advance before processing. Allow at least two days to accommodate the Governors' schedules for final signatures.

If you have questions, contact the Enrollment office at (575) 834-0056.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Repairing Roads and Bridges

The Planning and Development Department completed debris removal at Owl Springs in February; a total of 803 cubic yards of debris was cleared.

Four more FEMA projects are scheduled to be completed by April of 2016:

- ♦ Holy Ghost Area: Road repair on Service Rd. 96
Arroyo and culvert placement on Service Rd. 96
- ♦ Dam replacement along Service Rd. 961 at the Red Rock Dam (east of Highway 4.) The breached dam will undergo fill and replacement of pipes.



Clockwise from Top:

September 2013 storm.

The day after the storm.

Completed project.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION

Pueblo of Jemez
Job Opportunities**Tribal Administration**

Tribal Administrator
Accounting Supervisor
IT Systems Specialist
Systems Technician

Education

Education Services Manager

Planning and Development

Director, Planning & Development

Public Works

Director, Public Works

Tribal Court

Court Administrator
Supervisory Probation Officer
Probation Officer
Tribal Judge

Health & Human Services

Director, Health and Human
Services
Medical Director
Financial Analyst
Business Office Supervisor
Technical Writer
Nurse Manager
Behavioral Health Therapist
Peer Support Worker, Certified
Manager, Senior Center Program
Cook
Prevention Coordinator

General

Laborers, Temporary, On-Call As
Needed
Customer Service Specialist, On-Call As
Needed

To learn more about a job or the recruitment process, stop in to the Human Resources Department to speak with Fran and review our vacancy announcements for more details.

For more information, call (575) 834-7359 or visit the web site at www.jemezpuablo.org.

NEWS YOU CAN USE



Strength In Members

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

JVCU offers two \$750 scholarships each year. Scholarships are available to Jemez Valley High School, Walatowa High Charter School, and Jemez Valley school district home-schooled students who graduate in 2016.

Application deadline is Friday, April 1 at 4 p.m.

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

JVCU now has scholarship applications available to undergraduate and advance degree students.

Application deadline is Friday, May 27 at 4 p.m.

FREE FINANCIAL COUNSELING

Jemez Valley Credit Union offers FREE financial counseling.

All information discussed is strictly confidential.

Saturday appointments can be arranged.

For more information, contact Tina Trujillo at (575) 829-3366 or tina@jvcu.org.

Ride the Rail Runner Express!

New Mexico Rail Runner Express is offering special rates to help travelers experience the art, culture and beauty of New Mexico this Spring.

\$1 One Way: Saturdays in March

Passengers traveling between any two Rail Runner stations can ride for just \$1 each way after 1 p.m. every Saturday during the month of March. Tickets for this special promotion will only be available from the ticket agents on the train. Ticket agents accept cash, debit and credit cards (except American Express.)

Free Senior Wednesdays

The New Mexico Rail Runner Express invites seniors age 62 and over to ride free on Wednesdays. All trains after 8 a.m. will be free for seniors. Just show the onboard ticket agent a valid photo ID that shows your birth date. If you want to make a connection to an ABQ RIDE, Santa Fe Trails or Rio Metro bus, ask the ticket agent to print out a free bus transfer.



26TH ANNUAL JEMEZ RED ROCKS ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

**Celebrate Memorial Day Weekend at the Red Rocks
May 28-30, 2016, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

The Annual Arts & Crafts Show brings hundreds of people to the Jemez Red Rocks to celebrate and honor the brave men and women who have died while serving in the United States military. "This is why we have a holiday: it is to honor and remember those that have passed on during war time," says Marlon Magdalena, Vice President of the Jemez Arts and Crafts Association, formerly the Towa Arts & Crafts Committee. "We celebrate this American holiday the best way we can, with authentic Native American art, food and dance."

Native American artisans, representing over 20 nations, will display and sell their work. There will also be authentic Native foods, local dance groups and performers.

The Jemez Arts & Crafts Association aims to help Jemez artists, as well as artists from other indigenous communities. We plan to provide venues and events like the Red Rocks Arts & Crafts Show to sell their work so they can provide for themselves and their families.

Call For Artists! All Native American artists are invited to apply for a space as soon as possible. Vendor booths are \$125 and \$150; price is for all three days of the event. Artists will need to bring their own tables and chairs. Applications are available online at www.jemezartsandcrafts.com or call (505) 220-5639 or (505) 249-3577; or e-mail to tacc@jemez pueblo.com. Visit them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/jemezartisans.

Call for Artists! Trash Transformed Art From Recycled Materials

Jemez Fine Art Gallery

April 5 - 28

Trash Transformed is a juried show of art works using recycled materials. A team of art professionals will jury and judge the show. All media and collaborative works are accepted. Cash prizes, plus the People's Choice; separate award for students.

\$25 for the first entry, \$5 for the second entry. High school students: \$5 per entry. A portion of the entry fees will go to Jemez Sustainable Solutions, a nonprofit organization supporting recycling efforts in the Jemez Valley. Artists are invited to increase donations; the gallery takes no commission on sales.

Entry forms are at www.jemezfineart.com. Entries are due by March 18. Send high quality digital images to contact@jemezfineart.com or mail to PO Box 148, Jemez Springs, 87025. The Jemez Fine Art Gallery is at 17346 Highway 4, just south of the Jemez Springs Village Plaza.

SENIOR CENTER

News from the Jemez Senior Citizens Program

Submitted by Joseph Fragua

New Staff Member

Brandon Chinana is the new assistant driver to help David Gachupin with driving duties. He has prior experience with transporting elders as a driver for the Canyon Senior Citizens Program. We welcome Brandon to our team!

Sandoval County Senior Olympics

The Sandoval County Senior Olympics have started with 36 Jemez elders who have committed to compete against others in the region. They will compete in 8-ball pool, team bowling, singles bowling, doubles bowling, shuffleboard, races (5K and 10K,) basketball shoot, archery, swimming, track, field events (shot put, pole vault, discus, javelin, long jump), horseshoes and hauchas. The events are scheduled into May. Senior Citizens staff is transporting elders who need transportation.

All Indian Game Day events are scheduled for March 16 and 17 at Isleta Pueblo. All Indian Game Day special events include opening ceremony, parade of athletes, arts and crafts, Easter egg hunt, health fair and a spirit athlete banquet. Elders will compete in 14 events, plus activities such as sports clinics, wellness track, game shirt, tribal awards and ribbons.

Elders who are successful in their events at the Sandoval County games will qualify to compete in the State Senior Olympics in Roswell scheduled for July 13 – 16, 2016.

John Tabor from the Community Wellness Fitness Center along with fitness instructors Felipita Loretto, Dave Gachupin, Monica Toya, Karen Toya and others are helping our elders prepare for the events. Preparations for the Senior Olympics last year was a tremendous success and we want to continue the collaboration between the Fitness Center, Public Health Programs and the Senior Citizens Program.

To prepare for the Olympics, John has a plan with four progressive stages. Each stage has both a fitness and a nutritional focus. The program is designed to benefit those who want to improve their current fitness levels. Classes are open to registered participants from Monday to Thursday at 1:30 p.m.

**Good Luck To All The Seniors At Senior Olympics!
Bring Home The Gold for Walatowa!**

Valentine's Day Outing

On Feb. 12, the Senior Citizens Program celebrated Valentine's Day with a special outing. Forty elders enjoyed a festive meal at the Thur Shan Buffet at the Sandia Casino. Social outings provide opportunities for the elders to get out of the house and socialize. Social isolation can contribute to poor mental and physical health. One therapy is getting elders together to develop social skills and experience emotional support from another person.

Elders Get Together: Positive Thinking

The Senior Citizens Program hosts *Elders Get Together: Positive Thinking* on the second Tuesday of the month. We know that we all tend to lose our focus and think negatively in difficult situations. In the group, elders support each other with encouragement to change negative thinking into positive thinking.

Caregiver Support Group Meeting

On Feb. 18, the Senior Citizens Program hosted the Caregiver Support Group meeting. It was good to see new faces at the meeting. The meeting's focus was to reflect on who we are. We did an exercise on the "Big Five" personality traits. The Big Five personality traits, also known as the Five Factor Model, is a theory used by some psychologists to describe the human personality and psyche. The five factors are: openness to experience (*inventive/curious* vs. *consistent/cautious*), conscientiousness (*efficient/organized* vs. *easy-going/careless*), extraversion (*outgoing/energetic* vs. *solitary/reserved*), agreeableness (*friendly/compassionate* vs. *analytical/detached*), and neuroticism (*sensitive/nervous* vs. *secure/confident*).

Caregivers received a list of 48 phrases that best describe them to help determine their personality traits. More caregivers fell under the "extraversion" and "neuroticism" domains, but at the end, "agreeableness" was the dominant personality trait for our caregivers. Caregivers joined groups to discuss their personality traits and what they mean to them. At the end of the night, we departed knowing we are not alone when we face difficult challenges, but we have support from each other. We know that we are gifted and we appreciate who we are.

Caregiver meetings will be held the third Thursday of every month; the next Caregiver Support Group meeting is on Thursday, March 17. We welcome all caregivers to attend.

Spring Celebration

Our Spring Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt will be Tuesday, March 22 at the Plaza in collaboration with the Head Start, and Childcare Programs. Elders and children will walk together to the Plaza. Prizes will be awarded to the lucky egg hunters.

The Senior Citizens Program is always seeking more seniors to participate in our many services. We welcome everyone over 55 years of age to be part of our team. If you have questions about our events, please contact the office at (575) 834-9168. The Monthly Activity Calendar lists scheduled events. If you would like a copy of events e-mailed to you, contact Joseph Fragua at joseph.fragua@jemezpuablo.us.

"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more.

If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." Oprah Winfrey.

SENIOR CENTER



Grandparents and Grandchildren Dinner

The Senior Center Grandparents and Grandchildren dinner continues each month where the generations can eat together. The meal is delivered at the same time to home-bound elders.

The menu on Feb. 29, 2016 featured barbecued pork ribs, coleslaw, sweet potato fries, applesauce, corn and bread. Ada Toya and her great-granddaughter Aleyana were among the guests enjoying their meal. Aleyana says she had a good time eating with her great grandmother and that she was full.

A huge *thank you* to our cooks for their hard work; their meals are always delicious. Not many Senior Citizen Programs in our state offer dinners to their elders. Dinner nights provide an opportunity for our Jemez elders and their grandchildren to enjoy meals and share stories, talk and laugh. They can nourish their bodies and spirits together.



PUBLIC HEALTH

Visit MOGRO!

Get your organic fruits and vegetables at MoGro at the Jemez Health Clinic. Sign up online, or visit the Public Health Program to place your order.

MoGro will deliver to the clinic once or twice a month. Pick up a box of produce and other items for only \$20! You'll get 10 different organic fruits and vegetables from local and regional farmers. Plus MoGro offers 50% off when you pay with SNAP so you can double your food bucks!

Contact Rebecca at mogro@santafecf.org or (505) 670-8741, go to the Public Health office at the clinic, or call (575) 834-7207 for more information.



EAT HEALTHY +
save on gas, time & energy!

Shop at: mogro.deliverybizpro.com
505-216-8611
[facebook.com/mogrotruck](https://www.facebook.com/mogrotruck)



Expecting?

Prenatal/Childbirth Classes

Classes are held Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. in the Towa Board Room at the Jemez Health Clinic. Participants will learn about:

- March 1: Physical and Emotional Changes During Pregnancy
- March 8: Labor and Delivery
- March 15: Breastfeeding
- March 22: Newborn Care
- March 29: Newborn and Car Seat Safety

Fathers, partners are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Mildred Baca at (575) 834-7207, ext 354.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION EDUCATION

Job/College Fair

Presented by the Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation Program and Education Department

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2016

WALATOWA YOUTH CENTER

10 a.m.-12 noon: Employability Skills Training

12 noon -3 p.m.: Job/College Fair

Open To The Public

For more information contact the Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation Program at (575) 834-0012.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

SOCIAL SERVICES



**18TH ANNUAL
DISABILITIES AWARENESS
CONFERENCE**
*Balancing Life for
Self-Empowerment*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16 9 AM – 2 PM

Walatowa Youth Center

The 18th Annual Disabilities Awareness Conference will be held Wednesday, March 18 at the Walatowa Youth Center. In addition to the speakers, the conference will also offer door prizes, digital stories, disability bingo and more. Vendors will sell their arts and crafts. Lunch will be served to registered participants. The conference is open to anyone age 12 and over.

Keynote speaker Marc Espino is the Program Director of the Sycuan Inter-Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program. Marc is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation and brings unique knowledge due to his education, clinical training and diverse cultural background. As a Master's Level Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor in both California and Arizona, he has extensive clinical experience working for private, public and governmental agencies. Marc has been providing mental health evaluation and psychotherapy services in San Diego, CA since 2011. He has many years of experience working with vocational rehabilitation programs and people with disabilities and plans to continue to support the needs of the individuals and communities he serves.

Please join the JVR program in celebrating and becoming more aware of disability issues in our community so we can all work together.

To register, contact the Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation Program at (575) 834-0012.

FITT FUN RUN/WALK

**Tuesday, March 15
Pueblo Plaza**

**Registration starts at 5 p.m.
Run/Walk begins at 5:30 p.m.**

In collaboration with the JHHS Public Health Programs

Talk with Your Teen About Healthy Relationships

Submitted by Cheryl Chinana, Outreach Specialist

Dating and Violence Should Not Be a Couple

What is dating violence?

Dating violence is when one person in a romantic relationship is abusive to the other person. This includes emotional, physical and sexual abuse. It can happen in same-sex or opposite-sex relationships.

Both boys and girls can be unhealthy or unsafe in relationships. Sometimes both partners act in unhealthy or unsafe ways. It's important to talk to all kids about how to have respectful, healthy relationships.

Who is at risk for dating violence?

Dating violence can happen to anyone. Teens may be more at risk of being in unhealthy relationships if they:

- ❖ Use alcohol or drugs.
- ❖ Are depressed.
- ❖ Hang out with friends who are violent.
- ❖ Have trouble controlling their anger.
- ❖ Struggle with learning in school.
- ❖ Have sex with more than one person.

What are the warning signs of dating violence?

It's common for teens to have mood swings or try out different behaviors. But sudden changes in your teen's attitude or behavior could mean that something more serious is going on. Good parenting includes taking action to learn more about your teen and get help if needed.

Source: www.healthfinder.gov

For more information, please contact Cheryl Chinana, Outreach Specialist, at (575) 834-7117

Women's Wellness Conference

THURSDAY, MARCH 17 5 – 8:30 P.M.

Community Resource Center (CRC)

For ages 14 years old and up

Child care will be provided at the Social Services Building

Save the Dates! April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Child Abuse Prevention Fun Run/Walk & Children's Fair

(Dates and Times to be announced.)

Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Conference

Wednesday, April 13

Volunteers Needed!

Join the Community Intervention Response Team (CIRT) to respond to families in crisis. Must be empathetic with good listening skills, open-minded, non-judgmental and able to work 24/7 while on call. Training is provided.

Contact Carol Vigil at (575) 834-7117.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Health Alert: Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) has been increasing in New Mexico over the past several weeks. The state's largest laboratory reported an increase from 47 during the third week of January to 104 in the second week of February 2016. Hospitalizations for RSV-related disease increased from 11 in the third week of January to 35 in the second week of February. This illness is caused by a specific virus; it is not an influenza virus and a flu vaccination will not prevent it.

RSV is a common respiratory virus that infects the lungs and breathing airways causing cold-like symptoms. RSV can be serious, especially in infants and older adults, causing severe lung infections that can result in hospitalization or death. Those who are at higher risk for severe infection include:

- Premature babies.
- Children younger than two years old with chronic lung disease or certain heart problems.
- Adults 65 years and older.
- People with weakened immune systems, such as from HIV infection, organ transplants, or specific medical treatments like chemotherapy.

RSV in Infants: Infants with RSV typically have a runny nose and a decrease in appetite before other signs or symptoms appear. Cough usually develops one to three days later. Soon after the cough develops, sneezing, fever and wheezing may occur. In very young infants, irritability, decreased activity, and apnea may be the only signs of infection.

Most children hospitalized for RSV infection are younger than six months. Most otherwise healthy infants who are infected with RSV do not need hospitalization. Those who are hospitalized may require oxygen, intubation, and/or mechanical ventilation. Most improve with supportive care and are discharged in a few days.

RSV in Adults. RSV infections usually lasts less than five days, and symptoms are consistent with an upper respiratory tract infection (runny nose, sore throat, cough, headache, fatigue and fever.) Some high-risk adults, such as those with certain chronic illnesses or immunosuppression, may have more severe symptoms, such as pneumonia.

Treatment: There is no specific treatment for RSV infection. Treatment is primarily supportive.

Transmission: People infected with RSV are usually contagious for three to eight days. However, some infants and people with weakened immune systems can be contagious for as long as four weeks. Children are often exposed to and infected with RSV in school or day care. They can then transmit the virus to other family members.

Direct and indirect transmissions of virus usually occur when people touch an infectious secretion and then rub their eyes or nose.

RSV can survive on hard surfaces such as tables and crib rails for many hours. RSV typically lives on soft surfaces such as tissues and hands for shorter amounts of time.

What You Need to Do

No RSV vaccines are available. However, you can help prevent the spread of RSV. The preventive measures for RSV are the same as for flu and cold season: Specifically, people who have cold-like symptoms should:

- Cover their coughs and sneezes.
- Wash their hands frequently and correctly (with soap and water for 20 seconds.)
- Avoid sharing cups and eating utensils with others.
- Avoid kissing others.
- Clean contaminated surfaces (such as doorknobs) to

help stop the spread of RSV. Parents should pay special attention to protecting children at high risk for developing severe disease if infected with RSV: premature infants, children under 2 years old with chronic lung or heart conditions, and children with weakened immune systems.

As always, careful, frequent hand washing for adults and children is the best way to protect yourself and your family from contagious diseases.

For more information, visit the New Mexico Department of Health web site at <http://nmhealth.org>.

HRSA Award Extended

The US Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has awarded Jemez Health and Human Services a continuation grant in the amount of \$943,893 annually for the next three years. These HRSA funds will enable JHHS to continue the expansion of services to the community: expanded hours to include nights and Saturdays; increased medical and dental staff including a pediatrician; increased optometry services and increased outreach and enrollment services.

"I want to thank all the staff who assisted in submitting the Service Area Competition application required to continue this grant for the next three years," says Dr. David Tempest, Medical Director. "Jemez Pueblo continues to be a leader in the area of self-governing health services in Native American communities."

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Welcome Mat



Lena Gachupin, MSW, LISW, is the new program manager for the JHHS Behavioral Health Program. She had been with mental health and substance abuse programs in the Indian Health Service for 31 years. She also coordinated the equine therapy program at San Felipe Pueblo and was a counselor at Zia. Part of the Gachupin and Fragua families, Lena grew up in Zia and speaks Keres.

"I'm very excited about being here in Jemez," Lena says. "I've always loved Jemez and wanted to come home and get to know the community, the culture and my relations here." She is looking forward to bringing her experience and expertise to the program.

Rebecca Holland has returned to the Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation Program as manager after a 10-year hiatus. She served as program manager from 1998 to 2006 when she and her husband won a Healthy Marriage grant from the US Department of Health & Human Services. The program, which she brought to Jemez for three years, offered relationship education, premarital counseling and family interventions. When the grant ended, it was time to return.

One new initiative will be to extend transition services for youth with disabilities. She's also introducing a wellness component to the program, starting with the staff. "We've noticed that clients are returning to the program, and often their disabilities have progressed, not improved," Rebecca observes. "Often this is due to lifestyle factors such as diet and exercise."

JVR is teaming up with the Public Health Programs to create adaptive exercise programs for clients with mobility issues. "We're starting with our staff. All of us are enrolled in the Endurance Challenge, and we're learning to improve our diets, one step at a time. It's our job to model a healthier lifestyle."



Roberta Arellano is one of the Medical Billing Specialists for Jemez Health & Human Services. A Ponderosa resident, she worked up the road at the Presbyterian Health Clinic in Cañon before coming to Jemez. She launched her medical billing career after the housing finance crisis forced downsizing at the mortgage company where she had worked.

"Many people here in the community are friends," Roberta says. "I'm happy to be able to work to help people I know."

Brandon Chinana is now helping with transportation duties at the Senior Center. He previously worked at the Sandoval County Senior Center. He's happy to be in a "busier" job.

"The seniors go to a lot of interesting places and it's fun to go with them," Brandon says



Public Health Programs

Penny Vigil, Medical Assistant, has joined the Public Health Programs to work at San Diego Riverside Charter School, Jemez Day School, Head Start, Child Care and Walatowa High Charter School. After graduating with honors from Pima Medical Institute, she worked at the Children's Psychiatric Hospital of University of New Mexico Health Sciences complex. She then moved to the labor and delivery unit of Presbyterian's Hospital's downtown location before going to Rust Medical Center when it opened.

"I'm very happy to be able to come back to Jemez," Penny says. "I've worked nights for many years, and I'm just getting used to being at work in day light!" She has wanted to be nurse since third grade and plans to get her

nursing degree in the future.

Steven Mora is a new Health Advocate. The recent Stanford University graduate took honors in human biology studies.



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Welcome Mat, Continued

“I want to get a different perspective on health care delivery,” says Steve, who plans to become a physicians’ assistant. “I want to engage with the community outside a clinical setting. I’m interested in learning which strategies can make communities healthier. Jemez is not the only tribe with the same health issues. This experience will help me learn how to improve the health of whole communities, not just individuals.”

Alyssa Yeppa is another new Health Advocate with Public Health. The full time University of New Mexico student is majoring in health education.

“I want to help my community,” Alyssa says. “It’s all about making changes to improve health.”



Angelica

Trancosa is a Fitness Trainer with Public Health. She holds a bachelor’s degree in exercise science from UNM and spent three years as a health and wellness coordinator with the Notah Begay III Foundation.

“I’m passionate about health, wellness and fitness and helping others in the community,” Angelica says.



Warrior Girls Take the Title



Jemez Valley High School Girls Basketball team defeated Mountainair 61-45 to take the District 2A Championship on Feb. 26.

Photo by Robert Borden, courtesy of The Jemez Thunder

What Can We Do? Solving the Plastics Problem

Submitted by Margaia Forcier-Call, Jemez Sustainable Solutions

You can help mitigate the plastics problem that Jemez Sustainable Solutions has focused on since September. Remember: every little bit counts... Each one of us counts...

Reduce and Substitute:

- ✦ Avoid using plastic bottled water and drinks. Drink from glass containers or water fountains when possible. Use water filters if necessary. Get a BPA-free water bottle you can re-fill at home and use it.
- ✦ Find alternatives: Replace disposable plastic plates and cups with paper (not styrofoam – it’s non-degradable.) Better yet, buy an expensive set of plastic, metal or bamboo plates, cups, bowls and cutlery and keep them with you in the car or at the office.
- ✦ Use glass or metal food storage containers.
- ✦ Buy fresh “non-packaged” produce when you can. Support MoGro, farmers markets and other places where you can buy loose produce.
- ✦ Buy bulk foods and produce with the least packaging.
- ✦ Bring your own cloth or paper shopping bag and your own refillable containers.
- ✦ Bring your own mug for coffee; get one with a lid.
- ✦ Refuse single serving packaging, excess packaging, straws, lids and other disposables.
- ✦ Use reusable lunch bags instead of plastic sandwich bags; a thermos instead of juice cartons; waxed paper instead of plastic wrap.
- ✦ Choose cardboard cartons for milk and juices.
- ✦ Choose long-lasting metal or wood toys for children rather than plastic ones. Books, too!

Reuse:

Whatever plastic bags and containers you have, wash them, and use them again and again. When you need new ones, find alternatives to plastic.

Recycle:

The Jemez Valley Recycle Center – in the same location as the Sandoval County Trash Transfer Station, but to your right as you reach the top of the hill – takes all plastics except furniture, bins and toys too large for the plastic crusher. One exception: small prescription pill bottles and bottle caps including water-bottle caps; they jam the crusher.

Want to do more?

Volunteer to work once every few months at the Recycle Center! Contact Margaia at mfc@windstream.net or (575) 829-3617.





Early Childhood Program Staff In the Hawaiian Islands!

Submitted by Lana Toya, Early Childhood Program Manager

Aloha from Walatowa Head Start Language Immersion Program! During the week of Feb. 6-13, 2016, our entire staff visited the Hawaii Language Immersion schools on the Big Island of Hawaii and the island of Oahu to learn about a seamless language immersion program from infant/toddler to kindergarten through high school. The beautiful campus housed both *Aha Punana Leo*, an infant/toddler and pre-k school, and *Nawahi Schools*, kindergarten through twelfth grade. The programs work together to create a language learning environment supportive of Hawaiian culture.

The visit was funded by a WK Kellogg grant awarded to Walatowa Head Start Language Immersion Program in April 2015. The Punana Leo and the University of Hawaii are also Kellogg grant recipients. The Foundation's goals include encouraging their grantees to share and expand their work, reach out and impact each other, and develop unique models of education responsive to tribal communities.

We learned a lot from observing and conversing with Hawaiian staff on teaching topics such as math, science, cultural knowledge, transitions, parent engagement, and so much more. We saw a demonstration on the many ways Hawaiians use coconuts besides as a food source. Children used coconut fibers to make a rope for fishing!

Children sang welcome chants and songs, presented us

with leis, and greeted us with open arms. Each day, we witnessed children speaking in Hawaiian with each other and their teachers and actively participating in their learning. Students in their junior year served as tour guides, and they too shared their passion for speaking their language and carrying on their traditions. Absolutely no English is spoken on their premises. In fact, we were taken to a separate room or outside for questions, as it is their school policy to provide a safe space for non-Hawaiian speakers where they can speak English away from the children's learning environment. This safe space protects the Hawaiian language, since English is a dominant language and has the power to wipe out an entire language.

Each afternoon, we held debriefing sessions where staff reflected on what they observed and what impacted them. We concluded with recommendations on how to improve our program's practices as well as their own teaching methods. Many of the teachers came to realize that we must be steadfast in our own daily usage of Towa in the classroom and at home.

This valuable opportunity sparked a passion in us all to continue our journey toward full language immersion. This work is challenging, but one we are committed to. We need the full support of our families as well as our community. Please be patient as we make program changes and improvements for the promotion of our Towa language.



Head Start staff at the Polynesian Cultural Center.

EDUCATION

Head Start News, *Continued*

Language Immersion Contracts

Johnny Sandia and Joseph B. Toledo will be providing language and culture education through singing, dancing, and culturally-based, age appropriate presentations in each of the classrooms.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers Needed! Help us reach our 20% non-federal share match!

Volunteers are needed to assist in the kitchen and classrooms.

The program is also seeking tribal members to provide classes for parents on Jemez history, making head dresses and other dance regalia, as well as traditional arts and crafts. Parent and community volunteers are also needed on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the Towa, Corn Maiden and Adobe classrooms.

Alternative Licensure: Jemez Language and Culture Instructors

Interested tribal members can contact the Jemez Department of Education at (575) 834-9102 or come by the office located in the Jemez Civic Center to apply for consideration as a Jemez language and culture instructor. This process was developed by the Jemez Language Team working in collaboration with each successive leadership and Tribal Council to certify instructors to go into the schools to teach Jemez language and culture-based content and curriculum.

Individuals who meet all criteria will be supported by a letter from the standing Governor to the New Mexico Public Education Department; they will receive alternative teaching licenses as Certified Jemez Language and Culture Instructors which will be recognized by the schools.

Teaching Staff

Mrs. Andrea Chinana completed the Associate of Arts degree program in Early Childhood Education at SIPI in Dec. 2015. She will be co-teaching with Ms. Joslin Sandia in the Kiva Room.

Having qualified teachers in our program is a priority. Bertha Gachupin, Pauline Tafoya-Armijo and Jacqueline Magdalena are currently enrolled in school working toward obtaining their AA degrees.

New Early Release Schedule

A new early release schedule is now in effect. Early Release Days will be every Friday, except the first Friday, which is designated for program planning. This change was approved by the Policy Council on Jan. 19, 2016. Revised calendars reflecting this change have been distributed to all families. Calendars are available on request. This change aligns our early release days with the surrounding schools and accommodates alignment, joint professional development and training initiatives.

The first Friday of every month is

designated as our program planning day. Everyone is most welcome to join us and to learn more about what we will be doing in the months and years to come. The program will also be creating a documentary of our visit which will be available to our children, families and the community.

Dates to Remember

March 4 - 11: *No school.* Staff will attend the annual Native American Child and Family Conference in Albuquerque.

March 16: *PCC Meeting*

March 18: *Early Release*

March 24 - 25: *Easter Break (No School)*

March 29: *Spring Pictures*

March 30: *Graduation Pictures*

Reminder to Parents

Written requests for changes or updates to your child's transportation plan, a list of authorized persons and phone numbers can be submitted to Arlan Lucero, Transportation Coordinator or Danielle Sando, Family Services Coordinator or e-mailed to HeadStart@jemezpuablo.org.

We look forward to working with all of you as we strengthen our Towa Language!



“Together may we give our children the roots to grow and the wings to fly.”

EDUCATION

Reinforcing Our Towa Language

In conjunction with program staff, Policy Council, and the Jemez Department of Education, the following Language Enforcement Program will be implemented program-wide as part of Head Start's conversion to becoming a full Towa Language Immersion program. The program will continue to work with parents and the community in providing information on how you can support our children who are learning Towa. The implementation plan, effective Monday, Feb. 22, 2016 includes the following:

- ◆ Points of contact: All points of contact with parents, staff, children, visitors and community members, which includes bus pick up locations, front desk office, telephone conversations and throughout the facility/grounds, will be conducted in Towa.
- ◆ The English language is not permitted in any of the four classrooms where children are learning Towa. However, there are three areas that will be designated as safe spaces where English speakers can go to communicate their needs

and concerns: the coordinator areas, the front desk area and the portable next to the school. If a child is present in these safe spaces, speaking English will not be allowed until the child has left the area.

- ◆ The program will promote our Towa language through informational meetings, articles, memos and other forms of media to inform our parents, community members and tribal administration of our conversion.
- ◆ The program will work with English-speaking parents to ensure that their needs and concerns are addressed promptly and are welcome in our program.

We thank you for your attention to these matters and for taking the time to speak with your child and family members about our program strategies being implemented to protect our Towa language. Together, we make our language and community strong! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lana Toya at the Walatowa Head Start Language Immersion Program at (575) 834-7366.

SDRCS News

Submitted by Mike Toledo

Mustang Round-Up was a huge success! We want to thank the schools who participated; without them there would be no round-up. All teams demonstrated great sportsmanship and teamwork. And we want to give a big *thank you!* to all friends and families who donated and supported the games. It was wonderful to see such a large turn-out. Proceeds will go towards end-of-year field trips and other student-based events.

February included Valentine Flowers Sale and Jump for Heart. Fifth through eighth graders heard from an actual heart transplant patient and saw her failed heart. This motivated them to go out and collect donations for such a good cause. Thank you all for your support.

The eighth grade sponsored a Valentine's Dance and everyone had a good time. The month ended with a movie night with a dinosaur theme. So much fun!

Save the Dates!

March 14 – 18: Scholastic Book Fair. Enjoy shopping for books and other fun items.

Monday, March 21: Last day of school for students in March.

Tuesday, March 22 and Wednesday, March 23: Parent/Teacher Conferences.

March 24 through April 1: Spring Break

When students return, we will be fully into PARCC testing. It will take the whole month of April to get grades three through eight tested, so *please do not make any appointments during the month of April*. Also, be sure your children get plenty of rest so they are performing at their best. We so appreciate families working with us through this testing time. Before you know it, another school year will be behind us!



EDUCATION

Jemez Valley Public Schools

Submitted by Joline Cruz-Madalena

JVPS Mobile Food Pantry

Jemez Valley Public Schools, in partnership with the Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico, is offering a new food distribution program. The JVPS Mobile Food Pantry (MFP) will serve our students and their families in need of extra help, and will distribute food including meat, dairy products and fresh fruits and vegetable on a monthly basis.

Participation

- Limited to 100 families per distribution month.
- "First call" registration basis: families will be added to the distribution list in the order in which they contact the JVPS school counselor or school social worker.
- A waiting list will be created if needed.

Distribution

- Third Thursday of the month (March 17, April 21 and May 19,;) 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
- JVPS Mobile Food Pantry (in the portable building next to elementary school playground)
- Pick-up by appointment only.

Pick-Up

- Food must be picked up during the scheduled appointment time. This will ensure food distribution within fixed hours and maintain traffic safety within the parking lot.
- "No Shows:" food will be distributed to a family on the waiting list.
- Food may be picked up by a family representative.
- Families must bring their own boxes, baskets, etc. to carry 50 pounds of food.

MFP Registration Contacts

School Counselor, Sharon Palma: (575) 834-7393, ext. 314.
School Social Worker, Barry Levine: (575) 834-7393, ext. 512.

Countdown to PARCC

PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) is an annual assessment of English Language Arts and math for students in grades 3 through 11. PARCC replaces the SBA in the same subject areas. Federal and New Mexico laws require that all eligible students take the annual assessments. If high school students do not participate in PARCC or do not pass PARCC, it could potentially jeopardize their ability to obtain high school diplomas. While there

are alternate ways to demonstrate competency that can permit students to qualify for graduation, students must first exhaust their opportunities to pass the SBA or PARCC before these alternate ways can be considered. In some instances, an alternate way may be more difficult and demanding of the student than the PARCC test. Third through eleventh grade students will take PARCC in April 2016.

JVHS Spring Sports

The Jemez Valley Public Schools' projected athletic budget for the 2015-2016 season has decreased significantly. The reasons include minimal athletic concession revenue and multiple long distance travels for varsity boys and girls basketball tournaments. Concessions during athletic events were shared between the Athletic Department and various school organizations, including clubs and classes. Cancelling the high school's participation in the tournaments was nonnegotiable because the district would be monetarily penalized in an amount equal to or exceeding the tournament travel expenditures. Therefore, the JVPS Athletic Department is making necessary changes to help continue the athletic program into the spring season. Your cooperation and understanding are greatly appreciated.

Track & Field Invitational Meet

Saturday, March 12: \$1 entrance fee for spectators. Proceeds will be used toward the purchase of pole vault equipment required by NMAA.

Softball & Baseball

Entrance fees for spectators: \$4 per student/elder, \$5 per adult, and \$7 per carload of four or more people. Proceeds will be used to cover athletic expenditures such as new baseball and softball uniforms, officials and travel costs.

Spectator Reminders

- Model exemplary spectator behavior while attending sporting events.
- Acknowledge effort and good performance of athletes regardless of the outcome.
- Honor the rules of the host and the host facility.
- Children must be supervised at all times for their safety.

FREE Dental Services

Provided by *NM Smiles GO* on the campus of Jemez Valley Public Schools in April 2016.

All students of Jemez Valley Public Schools are eligible and encouraged to participate.

Continued on page 18

EDUCATION

Jemez Valley Schools, *Continued*

- No income requirements.
 - Dental services provided are **FREE**.
 - Please provide your student's Medicaid or dental insurance information on the permission form for billing purposes. Parents/guardians will not receive bills and will not have co-pays.
 - If your student does not have Medicaid or dental insurance, please initial the permission form for a free dental exam.
 - Dental Services Permission Form is **REQUIRED**. (**Forms will be mailed to addresses on file.**) Services cannot be provided without a completed form.
 - Please complete and return the form by March 18, 2016.
 - **Dental services included:**
 - ◆ Exam
 - ◆ Cleaning
- If needed:
- ◆ X-Rays
 - ◆ Fluoride: *new* fluoride is available for major tooth decay that helps prevent further decaying while the individual waits to receive services.
 - ◆ Sealants
 - ◆ Small fillings *without* anesthetic
 - ◆ Referral for other services

If you have questions, please contact Nurse Luzzi at (505) 373-0053.

MODEL GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

As we cheer on our players and teams, let's remember that we have youth and children who are very impressionable at the games. They observe and learn from our actions and words. As the competition gets tougher, the games get more exciting and stressful.

- * Keep your cool and ask others around you to do the same. Referees are only human and make mistakes as we all do. Please be respectful to them: they don't have an easy job.
- * Let's show visiting teams that we are great fans: respectful, courteous and appreciative of the talents and abilities of all the student athletes. When we travel to host sites, respect and honor the rules of the host sites and their facilities.
- * Be sure to **constantly** supervise your children or designate another adult or older youth to watch them. No one wants a child to get hurt on the court or in the stands.

***Good sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility—
players and fans alike.***

Making the Grade: JVPS Middle School Soars

Jemez Valley Middle School jumped two levels to achieve a 'B' rating in the most recent Public Education Department ratings of schools. The B rating gives the school new access to opportunities such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs. "This is an amazing transformation," says Principal Deneen Bair. "It's very rare for a school to jump two grades in a single year. This is confirmation of how hard our students and our staff have been working."

Staff has gone "above and beyond" in their efforts to improve the school's status, including volunteering lunch and after-school hours to support our students. "The teachers volunteer their time to make sure our students succeed," she says.

Another factor has been the mandatory requirement that all student athletes maintain a C average. This is a higher standard than required by the New Mexico Athletic Association. Students who get 'Fs' cannot participate and must get tutoring to improve their grades before returning to their teams. "We want our kids to understand that they must be students first and athletes second."

To further improve the quality of education as well as student expectations and career readiness, Principal Bair has introduced AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) principles to the school, although she stresses that the school's B grade was achieved before the AVID program. AVID is a global nonprofit organization with one guiding principle: Hold students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and they will rise to the challenge. AVID's system brings research-based curriculum and strategies to students that develop critical thinking, literacy and math skills. The program promotes proven best practices that teachers can adopt in their classrooms. "Our focus is the students: How can we help them grow academically, socially and emotionally?" Ms. Bair explains.

"We have high expectations for our kids," concludes the veteran of more than 28 years of experience in the New Mexico school system. "Our kids have the same abilities as those in any other quality middle school. Our task has been to show them they can do it – and they can!"

EDUCATION

Moiety Scholarship

Last spring, the Moiety Scholarship was introduced to the Jemez Pueblo community. The scholarship helps Jemez students seeking post secondary education. The purpose of Moiety Scholarship is to instill the meaning of "moiety" with our tribal members and to honor the memory of Jimmy Shendo. As Jimmy Shendo stated, moiety means "Each of two social groups in which people are divided but made whole." In Jemez Pueblo culture, we live in a moiety society where we live in harmony as one, and we hold strong traditional and cultural values that we intend to keep. Before Jimmy Shendo died in 2009, he was passionate about unity through moiety and the importance of keeping strong cultural and traditional values.

During Memorial Day weekend 2015, the family of Jimmy Shendo and volunteers hosted a basketball tournament at the Walatowa Youth Center. The "Memorial Day Weekend Shootout" raised money for the scholarship fund. With huge help of family and volunteers, the tournament was successful and raised enough money to start the fund. Teams from Jemez Pueblo, Cuba, Albuquerque, San Carlos AZ, and other local tribes participated.

The Moiety Scholarship Fund is partnering with the Pueblo of Jemez Education Department. In the fall of 2015, Moiety Scholarship awarded two \$1,000 scholarships. Jessica Tsosie attends Central New Mexico Community College to pursue a degree and work as an athletic trainer. Byron KJ Yepa is pursuing a degree from the University of New Mexico in geography with a minor in Native American Studies.

To apply for a Moiety Scholarship, please visit the Pueblo of Jemez Education Department or call them at (575) 834-9102.



2ND ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SHOOTOUT

**Walatowa Youth Center
Men's and Women's Double
Elimination**

**ENTRY FEE: \$180 for
10 Player Roster
Deadline: May 22, 2016**

The Moiety Scholarship organizers are looking forward to our 2nd Annual Memorial Day Weekend Shootout. We hope to raise more funds to help students in our Jemez community. We gladly accept donations and appreciate any volunteers who are able to assist.

For more information, please contact TY Fragua at (505) 382-3192 or Jr Fragua at (480) 415-8906 or e-mail to MoietyScholarshipfund@gmail.com

HIGHER EDUCATION

BLM-Anasazi Heritage

The BLM-Anasazi Heritage Center (BLM-AHC) in Dolores, CO offers a curation internship for Summer 2016. The internship is 40 hours per week for 12 weeks. Housing is provided, plus a \$12 per hour stipend. This position offers broad exposure to the curatorial operations of a federal curation repository. Duties include cataloging archaeological artifacts; assisting with repackaging, reorganizing and inventory projects; assisting with researchers and public tours. For more information, go to the National Council for Preservation Education web site at <http://preservenet.cornell.edu/employ/ncpe.php>. Other internships through the Department of the Interior are available. The deadline for the summer internship is March 11, 2016.

The Advisory Council On Historic Preservation

Internships for undergraduate or graduate students and individuals early in their careers. The ACHP in Washington, DC oversees the historic preservation review process for federal projects and conducts programs dealing with community preservation, climate change and sustainability, Native American interests, economic development, diversity, youth engagement, promoting public appreciation of cultural heritage, national preservation policy, and legislation. Candidates come from a variety of disciplines.

Internships are flexible. Specific assignments will be developed based on interns' skills and interests. Interns are volunteers, though a small stipend will be provided. Projects can be tailored so academic credit can be awarded. ACHP professional staff members supervise all interns.

For more information, visit www.achp.gov, www.preserveamerica.gov, and www.preservation50.org. Application deadline is March 31, 2016.

Native American Fish & Wildlife Service

The NAFWS Southwest Region will award four scholarships to enable Native American students in the region pursue studies in natural resource management, including fisheries and wildlife biology, general biology, forestry, soil and range management, environmental and related earth sciences, and conservation law enforcement. **Application deadline is June 17, 2016. Eligible Applicants:**

- Must be an enrolled member of a federally-recognized tribe or Alaska Native.
- Must be a current full-time student in good standing at an accredited institution of higher learning pursuing a degree in a field of natural resources.
- Must be legal residents of the Southwest Region of the NAFWS at the time of application (New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Nevada and southern California.)

For more information, contact Elveda Martinez at (775) 773-2002 or elvedamartinez@yahoo.com; Darren Talayumtewa at (928) 734-3606 or DTalayumtewa@hopi.nsn.us; or the Education Department at (575) 834-9102.



Pueblo of Jemez
4417 Highway 4
Box 100
Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024

Presort Standard
US Postage Paid
Albuquerque NM
Permit No. 1741

Boxholder
Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024

VOTERS' INFORMATION

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Tuesday June 7, 2016

7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The General Election is Nov. 8, 2016

Precinct 15: Walatowa Youth Center

Precinct 77: Community Resource Center

EARLY VOTING SITE

Jemez Pueblo Civic Center

May 23 and 24 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

2016 ELECTION CALENDAR

- March 8: Filing Day for all other offices (non-pre-primary designation candidates)
- May 10: Voter registration closes.
- May 10: Absentee voting begins
- May 21: Early voting begins
- June 4: Absentee and early voting end.

If you are 18 years old and older, please register to vote today. Your vote counts!

For more information and assistance, contact Peter Madalena at the Civic Center at (505) 934-8826 or the Sandoval County Clerk's office at (505) 867-7477.

STAY INFORMED! US PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES

Democratic	Mar. 9	9 p.m. ET	Univision/ Washington Post
Republican	Mar. 10	TBD	CNN
Republican	March	TBD	Fox News
Presidential Debate	Sept. 26	TBD	Wright State University
Vice Presidential Debate	Oct. 4	TBD	Longwood University
Presidential Debate	Oct. 9	TBD	Washington University
Presidential Debate	Oct. 19	TBD	University of Nevada/Las Vegas

VOTE YES on the MIL LEVY that supports funding of Rust Hospital and Sandoval Regional Medical Center. Your "Yes" means more funds are made available to help the operation of Sandoval County hospitals. Support our County by VOTING!