

THE

Walatowan

MARCH 2021

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State of New Mexico Indian Affairs Department Congratulates the Pueblo of Jemez as They Connect to Broadband Internet



Pueblo of Jemez Governors meet with the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Cabinet Secretary, Lynn Trujillo.

In 2016, the Pueblo of Jemez began building the Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network (JPTN). The goal was to connect fast broadband internet to its schools, library, tribal government departments, programs, and residents. The Pueblo of Jemez secured Educational Rate (E-Rate) funding from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which provided the JPTN the opportunity to connect Fiber for high-speed internet at the Jemez Library, San Diego Riverside, and Walatowa High School Charter Schools.

According to a press release shared from the State of New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD), the state provided “\$1.3 Million in Capital Outlay and an additional \$1.4 Million from the state’s allocation of CARES Act funds for this project. The Pueblo of Jemez leveraged state, federal and private donations to fully fund this initiative.” The press release also shared thoughts from tribal leaders, “The Pueblo of Jemez has worked diligently to develop the Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network to provide Broadband - high-speed connectivity through fiber-optic connections and wireless networks to ensure our people have the tools necessary to address pandemic issues and pursue further education and career opportunities,” said Pueblo of Jemez Governor Michael Toledo, Jr. (State of New Mexico Indian Affairs Department, 2021)

Continued on page 2



2021 Tribal Governors

Governor
Governor Michael Toledo, Jr.

1st. Lt. Governor
Michael Chinana

2nd. Lt. Governor
Kurt Mora

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
David M. Toledo
José Toledo
Michael Toledo, Jr.
Paul Tosa
Joseph A. Toya
Vincent A. Toya, Sr.
David R. Yepa

The Walatowan 2021 March Edition

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State of New Mexico Indian Affairs Department Congratulates the Pueblo of Jemez as They Connect to Broadband Internet Continued...

On Friday, March 5, 2021, the Pueblo of Jemez Governors met with the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Cabinet Secretary Lynn Trujillo. They toured the Bigbyte.cc Corp data center, which is JPTN's signal distribution frame located in Albuquerque, NM. This frame is mirroring a smaller piece of equipment at Jemez Pueblo.

With the assistance of i9 Technologies, which helps with the program's engineering and deployment, the Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network is currently online, though not available to all Tribal members at this time. Homes are being brought online in phased groups, and individual households will be notified when service has been activated. Please note that there may be intermittent outages as they continue to work to activate all services fully. The Jemez Pueblo Education Department Director, Kevin Shendo, recently thanked the community via email for their continued support and dedication to this overall tribal effort. "This is only the beginning, and there is much more to be realized. We hope you can champion the efforts put forth this year. To support the expansion and further development of the Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network," said Kevin.

The Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network (JPTN) team launched a website with updates on the network status at <http://www.jemezpueblo.net>. Please refer to page 4 for further details on network home installation and troubleshooting.

Reference List

State of New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (2021, March 5). Indian Affairs Department Congratulates the Pueblo of Jemez as Broadband Internet goes Live. [Press Release] <https://www.iad.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/JemezBroadbandBigByte-pr.pdf>

Pueblo of Jemez Governors tour Jemez Pueblo's main distribution frame at Bigbyte.cc Corp located in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



LAW ENFORCEMENT

Pueblo Woman Making Strides in her Community

Officer Marlinda Pecos



Walatowa tribal member Marlinda Pecos becomes one of the first certified female officers for the Pueblo of Jemez Police Department. Her parents are Mark Pecos and Virginia Fragua. Marlinda grew up in Walatowa with a passion for serving her community. She attended elementary in Jemez and attended Santa Fe Indian School. She received a scholarship for cross country at New Mexico Highlands University and was a softball team member. Marlinda received a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology from New Mexico Highlands University and is currently employed by the Pueblo of Jemez Police Department. To become a certified officer, Marlinda dedicated her time to become physically and mentally fit. She attended the Indian Country Police Officer Training Program in Artesia, NM, for 14 weeks.

As a certified officer of the Jemez Police Department, Officer Pecos serves the Jemez Pueblo jurisdiction. When asked what made her want to become a Police Officer, Marlinda expressed the following:

“I wanted to serve my community in the hope of motivating the youth and females to pursue a career in law enforcement. My mom has always instilled in me that if you set your mind and heart to a goal, it will come. She tells me to take it day by day. Coaching the Walatowa Running Club has also had a deep influence on who I am today. Preaching to the youth about success, determination, pride, commitment, and patience made me want to choose a career that only a few can pursue. Practice, practice, practice is what I would tell the kids. The kid’s endless stories about someday wanting to become a coach made me want to set the goal higher. I was once told that we live on a ladder. You set your goal and make your way to the top. My goal was to get a bachelor’s degree. But the overall goal can be to get a master’s or doctrine degree. Determination will help get you to where you want to be. I encourage everyone to keep striving... Why not? The sky is the limit.”

Officer Pecos shares some insight to females who might be embarking on a path similar to hers, “I would say challenge yourself. Many women are going into congress, and women can be just as successful.”

JEMEZ PUEBLO TRIBAL NETWORK**Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network (JPTN)****Home Internet Installation**

Please note: For the next few weeks there may be intermittent service interruptions as JPTN continues to refine the infrastructure that services each home. Additionally, as they finalize the network configuration, the JPTN team may have to visit homes in the future to fine-tune items such as alignment to the towers which provide wireless service. Excuse the dust!

Technicians have installed a small Wireless radio outside each home and have brought a cable inside the house. Attached to this cable is a small router called an “AirCube,” which looks like the device shown below.



The AirCube powers the outdoor wireless radio and provides Wireless Connectivity (Wifi) into your home. On the bottom of this AirCube, there is a label that looks similar to the following:



Your SSID (The network name you should connect to) will be “AirCube-XXX,” where “XXX” represents the last three alpha-numeric (Letters and Numbers) of the MAC portion of this label. The Wireless Password that should be used to connect your laptops and phones will be the letters and numbers to the right of the “WPA2” label. Note that the password is CASE SENSITIVE. This means that upper-case and lower-case matter!

Important: Do not use that literal “XXX” as your AirCube SSID (Network Name) when connecting your devices. The Last three letters or Numbers of the Mac address located on the bottom of the AirCube under the line that begins with “MAC:” is the proper value to use when connecting each in-home network. It will not be “XXXXXXXX.”

Basic Information / General Troubleshooting.

1. Please ensure you leave the Aircube plugged throughout the day and evenings as the JPTN teams work to stabilize the network (Engineers are working around the clock and need to ensure that disconnections are kept at a minimum). Please note that these devices consume very little electricity.
2. If you choose to unplug your AirCube, please ensure that the Ethernet Patch Cable (the network cable from the jack on your home to your AirCube router) remains in the same pot/jack it was when the installer left your home. On your Air Cube, the cord from the wall should go into the “WAN” port (Also labeled 24V PoE OUT). It should have a blue outline, as shown in this photo.
3. Once the client has been notified that their service has been activated and subsequently experienced connectivity problems, please try to reboot the AirCube before calling for additional assistance. Rebooting may be accomplished by unplugging the round connector shown in the above picture (power cable) for 30 seconds, then plugging the power cable back into the AirCube Unit.

Speed of internet is 25Mbps download / 3Mbps upload.

Internet service is free of charge during these COVID times.

For troubleshooting and updates, see JPTN website at <http://www.jemezpuablo.net>

JPTN Network Operations Center Support (505) 318-1915

FROM THE GOVERNORS

Memorandum on Burning Permits

To: All Pueblo of Jemez Community Members

Starting immediately and extending through June 30, 2021, no formal burning permits will be required to burn agricultural waste associated with field clearing. In keeping with the Public Health Emergency for the Pueblo of Jemez and the safety and well-being of our tribal members, we are temporarily lifting burn permits to meet the agricultural field preparation needs. This will minimize person-to-person interactions in tribal offices and any associated risks of spreading the Covid-19.

We understand the need for everyone to prepare their planting fields. Providing for our families and traditions through our crops is important. It is paramount that all burning be done with extreme care. It is important to note that firefighting resources are scarce due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

While this memo temporarily allows tribal members to burn without a burn permit, all agricultural and ditch burning must adhere to the following rules while burning:

- Do not burn on windy days. Weather fluctuations such as sudden gusts of wind or changes in direction can quickly turn an agriculture/ditch fire into a wildfire.
- The ground around the burn site should be surrounded by gravel or minimal soil (dirt) for at least five feet in all directions. Clear all vegetation before burning.
- A safe site should be far from power lines, gas lines, telephone boxes, buildings, automobiles, equipment, and overhanging tree limbs. It should have vertical clearance at least three times the pile's height, as heat from the fire extends far past the actual flames.
- For larger areas, make a disk around the field to create a fire break before burning.
- Remain with your burn at all times. Watch the direction of your smoke. Smoke can create a hazard when blowing across roads or highways by limiting driver's visibility, which could cause a vehicle accident.
- Attend your burn until it is entirely out. To ensure the fire has been completely extinguished, douse the fire with water or turn over the ashes with a shovel. Repeat several times. Check the burn area regularly over the next several days, especially if the weather is warm, dry, or windy.

Penalties for violation:

In keeping with Jemez Tribal Code Section 3-2-48, whoever shall violate the above shall be deemed guilty of the offense and upon conviction thereof be sentenced to jail for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days or to a fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or both.

Tribal Council Resolutions

TRIBAL COUNCIL

2021- 01 - Approval for filing a joint complaint with the Pueblo of Laguna Against the Federal Government, with Legal Assistance from New Mexico University Law Clinics, Objecting to Proposed Rule Changes to the Clean Water Act.

2021- 02 - Authorizing the adoption of title XVII Pueblo of Jemez Residential leasing code as modified.

2021- 03 - Authorizing the adoption of title XVI Pueblo of Jemez Residential leasing code as modified.

2021- 04 - Approving reappointment of a tribal resident to the pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority board of commissioners.

2021- 05 - The Pueblo of Jemez assumes environmental responsibilities under 24 C.F.R Part 58.

2021- 06 - Amending the Pueblo of Jemez Tax Ordinance Title IX, Chapter 3 - Gross Receipts Tax

2021- 07 - Authorizing a cooperative tax agreement with New Mexico taxation and revenue department.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION

Pueblo of Jemez Job Opportunities

Health and Human Services

PNN Nurse Supervisor	Full-Time
Victim Services Officer	Full-Time
EHR Supervisor	Full-Time
Medical Assistant Floater COVID testing	(PRN)
Community Health Medical Assistant	Full-Time
Clinical Operations Officer	Full-Time
IT Security Officer	Full-Time
Behavioral Health Therapist	Full-Time
Training Coordinator	Full-Time
Technical Writer	Full-Time
Office Manager at Facilities	Full-Time
Lead Pharmacy Technician	Full-Time

Emergency Management

EMT - Paramedic PRN- As Needed

Finance

GL Accountant Full-Time

Law Enforcement

Police Officer Full-Time
Two Police Officer Part-Time

Applicants are encouraged to visit our website at www.jemezpueblo.org to apply.

For any further information contact HR at (575) 8334-7359x121 or Victoria.Acosta@jemezpueblo.org

JEMEZ EMERGENCY SERVICES

Volunteers needed for the Jemez district



Members of the Emergency Services Department team. Pictured from left to right: Marlon Gachupin and Antonio Blueeyes. The volunteer fire department is looking for volunteers interested in training opportunities with the Emergency Management Services (E.M.S) team through the Jemez District under Sandoval county.

For further information on the volunteer positions, any interested individual can apply online at sandovalfire.org or call the E.M.S station and leave a phone number.

Jemez Emergency Services Department

(575) 834-7628

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Behavioral Health Resources for COVID-19

NMPED Support Document Adapted

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic can cause New Mexicans of any age to feel overwhelmed, scared, anxious, or make it harder to cope with mental health conditions they struggled with before the pandemic.

Below you will find resources to help yourself, your family, and your loved ones.

Remember, even when things feel overwhelming, there is hope, and there is help.

To help combat strong feelings like anxiety, staying informed is essential. The NM.gov website will continue to be updated regularly, so use that as your one-stop information source for New Mexico.

As hard as you work to stay healthy, remember your emotions, thoughts, faith or spirituality, and relationships are just as meaningful in staying healthy as washing your hands.

Please reach out to the mental health providers or faith and community leaders in your area to learn more about available services.

There is no avoiding the concern over the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) or the extent to which it could impact the physical health of our communities,

families, and ourselves.

As COVID-19 (Coronavirus) spreads and confusion over this public health crisis grows, we must stay connected with our families, friends, and communities. Together, we can help one another stay physically, spiritually, and emotionally healthy.

Together, we will thrive.

NM Connect

The state of New Mexico has launched an app called NMConnect. This new phone app provides free 24-hour crisis and non-crisis support and access to behavioral health professionals who can text or talk via phone with individuals needing a listening ear or referrals to longer-term support. The app links users to the New Mexico Crisis Access Line (NMCAL), which provides safety net services statewide. NMCAL is still available via phone 24/7 toll-free by calling 1-855-NMCRISIS (1-855-662-7474).

<https://www.newmexico.gov/2020/04/14/new-mexico-unveils-app-for-behavioral-health-support/>

Jemez Comprehensive Health Center Behavioral Health Services and Contact Information

Jemez Comprehensive Health Center Behavioral Health Department Services include: Substance use treatment services, outpatient treatment services, and partial hospitalization/day treatment.

Mailing

**Address 110 Sheep Springs Way
Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico, 87024
PO Box 279**

Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico 87024

Phone

(575) 834-7413 ext 228



JHHS

JHHS Transportation Services Program

Submitted by: Anita Cajero, Program Manager

The JHHS Transportation Services Program is for non-emergency Medical Appointments such as Specialty Medical Care, Dialysis, Physical/Occupational Therapy, Eye Appointments, etc.

How can I get a ride to my Dr.'s appointment? Follow the steps below.

1. **Call the Jemez Health Clinic at (575)834-7413:** to request your medical transportation through **Purchased and Referred Care (PRC): ask to speak to PRC staff.**

Patient's Last name-beginning Initial

A – M

N – Z

PRC Staff

Vanessa Toya

Kathleen Drennan

- If the above staff are not available, ask to speak to another PRC staff.
 - Call 24-48 hours before your appointment date within Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, and Bernalillo areas.
2. **Local medical transports to the Clinic:** Call the Transportation office at (575) 834-1001, One-hour before your appointment time. (pick-up time is always 15 minutes before your appointment).
 3. **Cancellations of all transports:** Call one hour before your pick-up time.

For more information and Transportation Scheduling, please call:

Office Phone: (575) 834-1001

Transportation Services Staff:

Cell phone numbers:

Anita Cajero, Program Manager

505-264-5225

Leslie Baca, Administrative Assistant

505-252-7197

Alex Tosa, Driver

505-250-0713

Dena Reid, Driver

505-263-3499

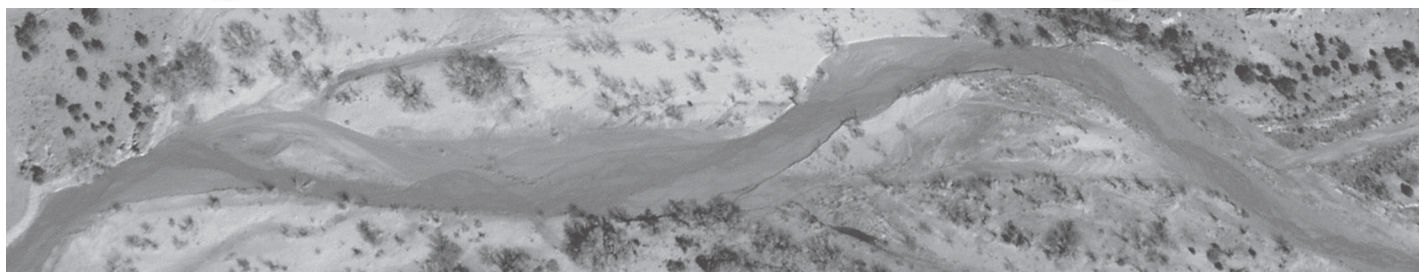
Janice Gachupin, Driver

505-288-4753

Regina Casiquito, Driver

505-681-4249

- **Early morning cancellations, please call staff on their cell phones.**



Specialty Care Tribal Fund

JEMEZ ENROLLED PATIENTS RESIDING OUTSIDE OF SANDOVAL COUNTY ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR PRC COVERAGE!

In coordination with the Jemez Pueblo Tribal Council and Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), this coverage is now eligible for Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) coverage for your medical care.

These criteria need to meet:

- You must reside within the State of New Mexico.
- You must be enrolled as a Jemez Tribal member and have an updated CIB which shows $\frac{1}{4}$ degree Jemez blood.
- If you have not been to the Jemez Health Clinic within the last five years, your patient record needs to be updated for the clinic staff to process the referral and payments.
- If you have an Emergency visit/Urgent Care Visit, please notify Marina Toya @ 575 834-3172 within 72 hours of your visit. If you do not inform PRC, your bill will not be covered under this fund, and you will be financially responsible for your medical bills.
- If further care is needed after your emergency visit, please schedule with our providers, and they will initiate the specialty referral if required.
- JHHS Medical providers must initiate all referrals.

Contact the Jemez Health Center (PRC Department) at 575 834-3006

Jemez Health and Human Services Expansion and Modernization Updates

Construction continues for the Jemez Health and Human Services Center. The Jemez Pueblo Comprehensive Health Team thanks the community for their patience and understanding during this construction and transition time.



March Construction Update photos credit: Patrick Aspaas

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Melissa Stone at (575) 834-3055, Hilario Armijo at (575) 834-3028, (505) 692-5568, or Patrick Aspaas at (505) 635-0652.

REALTY OFFICE

Realty Office Electrical and Sanitation Hook Up Procedure *Submitted by: Jesirae Lucero, Realty Assistant*

Important information from the Realty Office regarding Electrical/Sanitation hook up to new and existing homes or structures. If you or anyone you know would like the Jemez Mountain Electric Cooperation (JMEC) to connect electricity or the Indian Health Services (IHS) to hook up water or sewer lines to a new or existing structure, please call the Realty office. The Pueblo of Jemez Realty office has a set procedure when working with JMEC and IHS; before a connection can happen, all proper documentation must be in place.

Realty has had a few cases where tribal members did not come to the office to obtain proper documentation, and this caused a delay in their services. To cut down on wait time and to better assist you, Realty should be informed as soon as possible of utility connections.

If you would like more information on the Request for Utility form, please call Realty Office at 575-834-1205, or for further questions about the procedure, call the Public Works Director, Todd Loretto, at 575-834-7942. If no one answers, please leave a voice mail, and we will get back to you as soon as we can. Please be mindful of the Pueblo's current stance on COVID-19 precautions. These safety protocols have the Realty Office closed to walk-ins. We are only accepting appointments set in advance or the capabilities of GoToMeeting or Zoom meetings.

Thank you! Realty Staff

NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING RIGHTS PROGRAM REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Voter Registration Eligibility Requirements

To register and vote in New Mexico, an applicant must be:

- A resident of New Mexico
- A citizen of the United States
- 18 years or older at the time of the next election
- The individual has not been denied the right to vote by a court of law due to reason of mental incapacity
- The voter has not been convicted of a felony. In that case, they must have completed all of the terms and conditions of parole or supervised probation or have had the conviction overturned on appeal.
- Have a current or expired New Mexico state I.D. (like a driver's license). The voter can register for the first time or make changes to their registration—like name, address, or party affiliation—easily using the online system.
- If a voter changes their name or moves, they must fill out a new voter registration form and submit it to their local County Clerk's Office or the Secretary of State's Office. They must also fill out a new form if they want to change their party affiliation.
- Suppose a person doesn't have a state-issued I.D. or would prefer to register by mail. In that case, they can pick up a voter registration application form or print the national form online, fill it out, then mail it to the New Mexico Secretary of State's Office or the local County Clerk's Office. For more information on where to send forms, please look it up on the website or call 1.800.477.3632.

Voters can now register and update their registration online at

<https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/WebPages/InstructionsStep1.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

For any questions or further information, please contact the Native American Voting Rights office at (505) 934-8826 or Sandoval County Clerk's Office (505) 867-7577.

WALATOWA CONVENIENCE STORE

Virginia Sandia Retires from Walatowa Convenience Store

Thank you for your many years of service!



Virginia Sandia and her sister.

Virginia Sandia began working at the Walatowa Convenience Store in 1998. She worked as a cashier and an assistant manager. During her time as an assistant manager, she recalls diligently working to pass inspection. She had to ensure that the gas tanks and credit card systems were in order and the store and property were clean. The company would perform random inspections every month. They would often send in secret shoppers as part of a contest to ensure employees met their standards. Virginia explained that during two of those secret shopper visits, the store won! She won two trips, one to Alaska in 2006 and one to Hawaii in 2008.

During her trip to Skagway, Alaska, she got to ride to the rugged mountains' tops. The tour guide took them to where they could see Russia. While visiting the Islands of Hawaii, she snorkeled in the ocean with her daughter-in-law Marie Sandia and traveled through the Maui, O'ahu, and Kauai islands.

Virginia would like to thank everyone she has worked with, those who shared gifts with her during her drive-through retirement party at the Walatowa Visitors Center, and the community. She is thankful for all the opportunities working at the local convenience store provided her, and appreciative that she was able to work close to her community "we are so lucky the Walatowa Convenience Store is just up the road. It is a great place to work." (Sandia 2021)

In a phone conversation, Virginia expressed her gratitude for serving the community with good customer service. She would like to thank all the customers and community for being so nice to her all the time. Virginia had a great time meeting so many people from different parts of the world and locally. She says, "Life is awesome, and we are so blessed, get up happy, go to work, show your motivation, and just keep working because time goes quickly." (Sandia 2021)

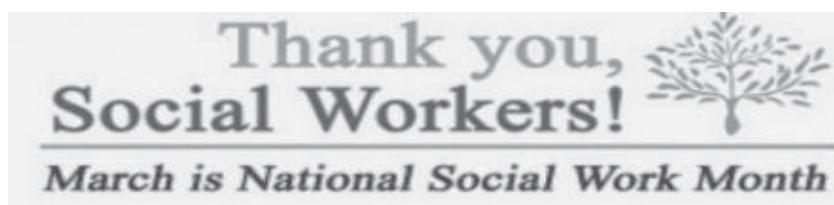
SOCIAL SERVICES

Submitted by: Carol Vigil, Social Services, Family Advocate



Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28, which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982, as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women's History Week." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, presidents have issued a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as "Women's History Month." These proclamations celebrate the contributions women have made to the United States and recognize the specific achievements women have made throughout American history in various fields.

For more information, please visit: [Nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org](https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org)



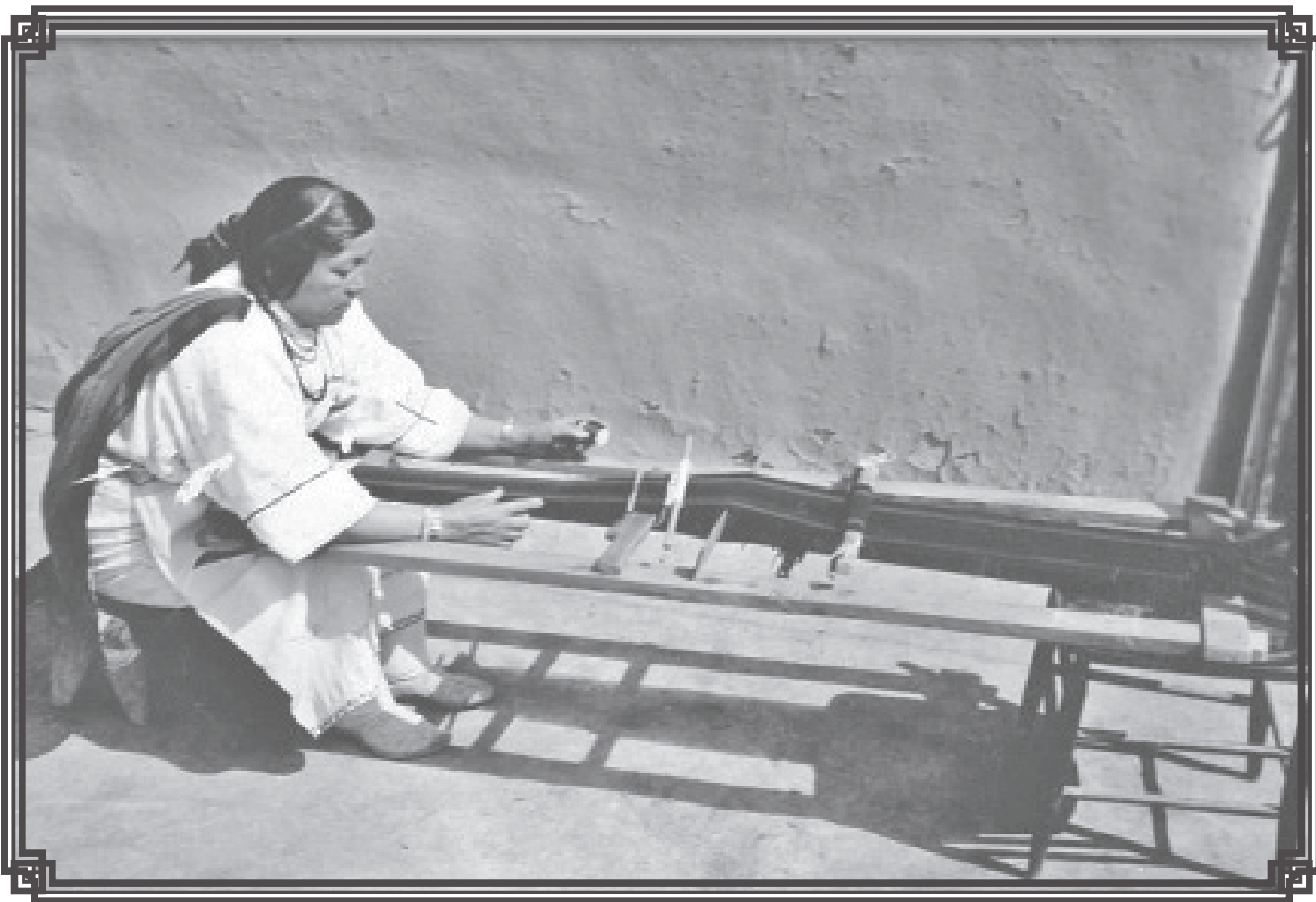
Social Work Month is in March, and this year's theme is SOCIAL WORKERS ARE ESSENTIAL! Each day, more than 700,000 social workers nationwide make life better for others. They empower people, giving them the skills and encouragement they need to overcome life's challenges. They also link clients to resources they may need to live more fulfilled lives.

Social workers are everywhere. They work in schools, helping children get the services they need to get the best possible education. They are in mental health centers and private practices, assisting people to overcome mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety and substance use disorders. They protect children from neglect and abuse and help form new families through adoption. Social workers are in hospitals, assisting patients in getting the best possible care not only while in treatment but when they return to their families and communities. They help those cope with the loss of loved ones. Social workers also play a vital role in community organizations and local, state, and federal governments, helping create programs and policies that help make our society a better and more equitable place for all. This year's theme for Social Work Month is "Social Workers are Essential." Social workers are woven into the fabric of our society, although they are often unsung heroes. As our nation recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, economic uncertainty, and racial unrest, social workers are needed more than ever. We appreciate SOCIAL WORKERS for all the work that they do for their communities. They are extraordinary individuals, and they will go out of their way to assist their clients after hours or even on weekends. Social Workers do their best to reunite families. We applaud all Social Workers. Keep up the excellent work.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.socialworkers.org/News/Social-Work-Month>

SOCIAL SERVICES

Submitted by: Carol Vigil, Social Services, Family Advocate



**Ladies, COME AND JOIN US FOR THE
VIRTUAL WOMEN'S WELLNESS CONFERENCE
"Intergenerational Wellness: Bridging the Generation Gap"
Thursday March 25, 2021
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Conference
For ages 14 years and older**

Please join meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/966695997>

You can also dial in using your phone.

(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.)

United States: +1 (312) 757-3121

One-touch: tel:+13127573121,,966695997#

Access Code: 966-695-997

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/966695997>

For more information, contact Carol Vigil at (575) 834-7117 ext, 3114

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority Updates

Submitted by: Greta Armijo

The Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority (POJHA) recognizes the pandemic's incredible challenges, which results in examining our housing challenges our community faces. The POJHA is in the process of conducting a Housing Needs Assessment to help us plan and understand the housing needs and challenges in our community. The assessment will help us strategically plan for short- and long-term goals. Our assessment data will help seek potential funding sources to meet our housing needs and challenges. Please be on the lookout for more information on our housing assessment.

Financial Management Classes

The POJHA has successfully launched our virtual financial literacy series of classes titled "Life on My Terms: A Path to Financial Well Being." The virtual classes cover the following topics:

1. Calculating income and Debt Income Ratios
2. Budgeting and work on Debt
3. Credit and Credit report
4. Accessing Credit
5. Section 184 Native American Home Loan
6. A Path to Homeownership
7. Post Purchase Tips

POJHA will offer a series of classes throughout 2021 via Zoom. All participants are encouraged to attend all seven sessions to understand the process of achieving homeownership fully. Please contact our office at (575) 834-0305 or email applications@pojha.org to enroll in our next series of classes.

Spring Maintenance

It is that time of the year again – Spring Cleaning! As a responsible homeowner or tenant, we must perform spring maintenance and clean on an annual basis. If you are like most people, spring cleaning can be a difficult activity to start, as most of us are busy with work, school, kids, and other activities that we would rather do than clean. However, spring maintenance is one of the most critical aspects of keeping your dwelling in good condition.

Before beginning any maintenance activity, please take all necessary safety precautions when performing any maintenance type around your dwelling. Here are some areas to keep in mind when it comes to spring cleaning:

- Clear clutter, gutters, leaves, and debris that build up during the winter months.
- Check for signs or indications of a pipe burst.
- Visually inspect the roof for any signs of damage or repairs needed.
- Inspect any damages near or around windows and doors.
- Check weather stripping, caulking, and repair or replace, as necessary.
- Inspect the home for any rodents or bug infestations.
- Clear any obstacles or obstructions from entry areas for ease of entry and exit in emergencies.
- Clean and organize your cabinets or pantry areas. Discard any expired or unwanted items.
- Assess your electrical outlets to ensure they are working properly.
- Clean and flush your water heater. If you are uncertain how to clean your water heater, please contact us, and we can provide recommendations.

CARES Act Funding

POJHA has CARES Act funding available to assist with minor rehabilitation to eligible households. The minor rehabilitation services may include but are not limited to the following: water heater, exterior door, weatherstripping, kitchen sink or bathroom lavatory, toilet, grab bars, and plumbing issues. This list is not all exclusive, so please contact our office for more information. POJHA requires an application to be completed for eligibility purposes prior to scheduling an assessment and work. Our staff is available to assist in completing an application. Contact our office at (575) 834-0305 or email applications@pojha.org for further assistance.

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority Continued.....

Housing Participant Corner

The POJHA transitioned from tribal operations in November 2019. As part of our transition, POJHA is reconciling our tenant account ledgers to determine pay-off balances and conveyance to all our homeowners under the Lease Purchase program. We kindly ask you for your patience as we complete our reconciliation process. POJHA will notify each homeowner for further discussion on their account upon completing our review process and address any questions that may arise.

If your household has been financially impacted by COVID-19 and needs assistance with your monthly house payment, please contact Estevan Sando at (575) 834-0305. We will work with you to modify your monthly house payment.

A friendly reminder to all our housing participants to submit the Self-Certified inspection forms to our office as soon as possible. These inspection reports will assist us in planning our maintenance activities for 2021. If you lost your form, please contact us, and we will gladly provide you another form.

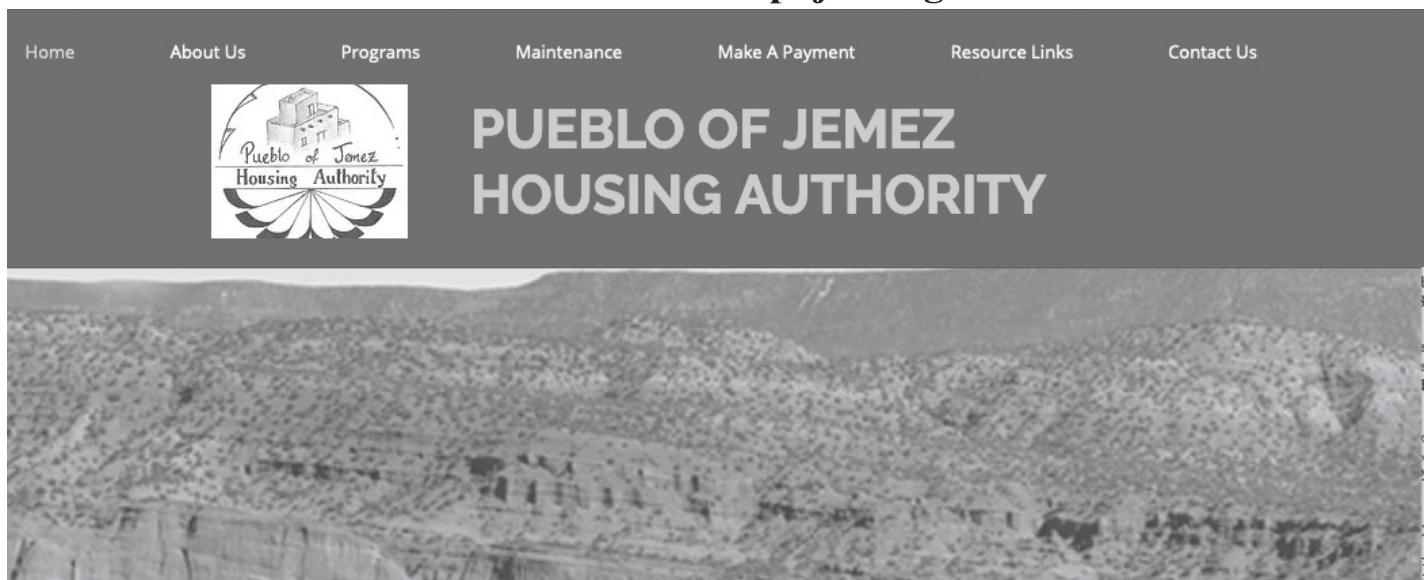
Limited In-Person Services

We want to continue our efforts in keeping our community safe during these challenging times. To help prevent the spread of the coronavirus, POJHA has reduced its in-person services. Our offices remain open for business 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and closed for lunch from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. We can be reached by telephone at (575) 834-0305 or for emergencies (505) 239-6861.

POJHA Contact Information

Staff Name	Position	Phone	Email
Greta Armijo	Executive Director	(505) 239-6861	Greta.Armijo@pojha.org
Donovan Vicenti	Finance Manager	(575) 834-0305	Donovan.Vicenti@pojha.org
Estevan Sando	Housing Counselor	(575) 834-0305	Estevan.Sando@pojha.org
Charmaine Chinana	Administrative Assistant	(575) 834-0305	Char.Chinana@pojha.org

Website – www.pojha.org



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Planning, Development and Transportation Department Updates

Submitted by: Sheri Bozic, Department Director



The Planning Development and Transportation Department (PDTD) is working on numerous infrastructure improvement projects. Below are the project status updates.

NM-4 Multi-use Pedestrian Trail

The NMDOT awarded a \$4.7 Million Grant to the Pueblo to design and construct a multi-use pedestrian trail along the NM-4. The project entails planning, designing, and creating a 1.9-mile pedestrian trail between the Pueblo Place Housing Subdivision and Bear Head Canyon Road. This project will provide safe pedestrian passage between many community services and residences located along the NM-4. The preliminary engineering is currently in progress.

Please join us for one of the virtual community meetings to share information about the project and accept public comments.

Virtual Community Meeting #1 - NM-4 Multi-use Pedestrian Trail Project

Thu, Mar 25, 2021 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (MDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/341764949>

You can also dial in using your phone.

(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.)

United States: +1 (408) 650-3123

- One-touch: tel:+14086503123,,341764949#

Access Code: 341-764-949

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/341764949>.

Virtual Community Meeting #2 - NM-4 Multi-use Pedestrian Trail Project

Thu, Mar 25, 2021 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (MDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/122576693>

You can also dial in using your phone.

(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.)

United States: +1 (872) 240-3412

- One-touch: tel:+18722403412,,122576693#

Access Code: 122-576-693

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/122576693>.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**Planning, Development and Transportation Department Updates Continued....****Tribal Administrative Complex Parking Lots/Sheep Springs Way**

The project will construct the following improvements:

- Grading, paving, and striping all parking lots and the Sheep Springs Way entrance at the south intersection with NM-4,
- Widening Sheep Springs Way to two lanes,
- Installation of a retaining wall on the west side of the clinic,
- Installation of detention ponds east of NM-4 and south of the clinic, and
- Installation of landscaping and lighting.

The project will also add additional parking spaces, ensure ADA compliance, improve traffic flow, and increase pedestrians' and drivers' safety. Construction is underway and will be completed in spring 2021. Alternative parking areas are located at the Senior Center and the Pueblo Place Housing Subdivision, with a daily shuttle service at Pueblo Place in the mornings and evenings.

Emergency Modular Buildings

The project will design and construct seven emergency modular buildings west of the Jemez Community Wellness Center to conduct COVID-19 testing, facilitate distance learning, and improve employees' telework capabilities during a public health emergency. The site work was completed, and the buildings are currently being manufactured and installed. The project will be completed in spring 2021.

Road Maintenance

The road maintenance team works diligently to improve roadway and parking lot conditions throughout the Pueblo. The team has completed or is currently working on the following projects:

- Conducting routine road maintenance on village roads,
- Grading irrigation ditch roads,
- Installing speed humps,
- Clearing snow and ice,
- Patching potholes with asphalt, and
- Replacing damaged signage.

For questions regarding road maintenance, please contact Vincent Toya, Heavy Equipment Supervisor, at (505)500-5336.

Construction Tip – Call Before You Dig

Please call 811 or 1-800-321-2537 at least two working days in advance before you start any digging project. Whether you plan to do it yourself or hire a contractor, smart digging means calling 811 before each job. The 811 representatives will record the location and other information about your project and notify the appropriate utility companies to mark all buried lines so you can dig safely around them! For more information, visit <http://call811.com/map-page/new-mexico>.

FREE Vehicle Removal!

Do you have an abandoned or unwanted vehicle on your property that you want permanently removed? Atlas Towing will take all cars that are damaged, wrecked, totaled, salvaged, or scrapped, running or not, FREE of charge. Call Atlas for more information or to schedule a pickup at (505)445-9104. Atlas Towing staff will be cautious, wear PPE, and practice social distancing when entering the village.

If you have questions, please contact Sheri Bozic, Director, at (505)382-3299



JEMEZ VALLEY WARRIORS

Jemez Valley High School Cross Country Seniors End the Season With A Virtual 5K Run



Jemez Valley Warriors cross country team seniors at the Jemez Valley Track field with Coach Danny Chinana.

A dedication 5K run was organized by parents for the Jemez Valley High School Cross Country team seniors Lawrence Aragon, D'Yanni Medina, and Jenessa Tafoya. The virtual run took place on the Nike Running App on February 22-28, 2021. Although COVID-19 changed the cross country season, these three student-athletes have had an amazing High School career. The families of the 2021 cross country team seniors would like to thank everyone for supporting them and appreciate those who participated virtually in the event.

Graphic Art by Monique Yepa



EDUCATION

Local School Updates

Local schools prepare to set Hybrid learning safety protocols for the new hybrid systems they have decided to use. Some schools will remain virtual, and students will have different hybrid systems depending on their schools.

San Diego Riverside - Virtual: San Diego Riverside Charter School will remain in Remote Learning in compliance with Jemez Pueblo Stay At Home Orders as issued by the Jemez Pueblo Governors. SDRCS expects to stay in Remote Learning for the remainder of the 2020-21 School Year.

Find more information at <http://sdrjvps.sharpschool.com/>.

For any more questions or concerns, call at Telephone: (575) 834-7419 or Fax: (575) 834-9167.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 99 Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024.

Jemez Day School - Virtual: The student support team supports students and families at Bureau-operated schools with technical difficulties with the remote learning environment. The BIE Student Support Desk is currently working through email. Send an email with your Name, School, and describe your issue at dlhelp@customms.com to create a support ticket. One of our technicians will respond to your request when the Support Desk is reopened.

For any more questions or concerns call at Telephone: (575) 834-7304.

Jemez Valley Public Schools - Virtual: Parents and families will have an opportunity to network, get support, and access resources during the final workshop of the "Parents as Virtual Partners" series. The workshop is in partnership with Central New Mexico Community College and CNM Ingenuity.

Event dates are below.

Middle & High School Families

March 23, 6:30-8 p.m.

All Ages

April 6, 6:30-8 p.m.

For more information, visit <http://www.jvps.org/>

Cuba - Hybrid: Remote Learning Structure: Student Attendance Every Day Between 8:00 am and 9:00 am. Call Daphnie Sanchez at 505-290-4282 for Student Check-In.

Find more information visit http://cuba.k12.nm.us/schools/cuba_high_school.

Rio Rancho - Hybrid: Rio Rancho Public Schools is currently in the planning phase to prepare for full re-entry. There is some vital information needed from parents to ensure the plans are safe for staff and students and meet their needs.

Find more information, visit <https://sites.google.com/rfps.net/ramsnewsannouncements>

Bernalillo - Hybrid: Bernalillo School Board will decide soon whether or not we will stay in remote learning or whether we will begin to integrate back into hybrid and face-to-face instruction for the Spring Semester. Your opinion is appreciated and will be shared with the Board to help in their decision. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BPSJanuary2021>

Santa Fe Public- Hybrid:

Educational Services Center

610 Alta Vista Street

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Tel. 505-467-2000

Email: asksfps@sfps.k12.nm.us

Santa Fe Indian School - Virtual:

Find more information at <https://www.sfis.k12.nm.us/> or call: (505) 989-6300

Albuquerque Public Schools - Virtual:

Find more details at <https://www.aps.edu/> or contact APS Administration: (505) 880-3700 or

Student Service Center: (505) 855-9040, servicecenter@aps.edu.



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March 2021

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Dr Nilla H. Vallo

EDUCATION

Submitted by: Lana Garcia



Dr. Nilla H. Vallo, PhD., was a special and important lady who shared many memories with people in Walatowa. She earned her Ph.D. in early childhood education from the University of New Mexico in 1988. She mentored teachers guiding young children in daycare settings, Headstart, schools, and New Mexico and Arizona colleges. She advocated for bilingual teaching, native-cultural literacy and pioneered learning via interactive video. She helped administer early childhood education programs in the Pueblo of Jemez before retiring. She settled in Walatowa in the 1970s with her husband, MSGT Lawrence J. Vallo, a retired USAF pilot [Walatowa-Acoma]. She moved to Rio Rancho in the 2000s after his death. She is survived by three adult children and spouses, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, as well as her many other children whose lives she touched in her personal and professional life. Her family reported her passing peacefully on February 3, 2021, from natural aging. She was 90 yrs old. A virtual memorial service has been conducted.

Any donations may be sent for scholarships "Advancing Young Women in STEM" at NMOST.org.

Condolences may be sent in the care of doanzi.dee@gmail.com or

D. Hilborn at PO Box 9378 Albuquerque NM 87119.

If you wish to share a special memory, please email headstart@jemezpuueblo.org.

Headstart staff will send her family the compilation of memories.