

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Division of Community Development Newsletter

JANUARY 2023

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Did You Know...

Navajo string games are only played in the winter defined as first snowfall to first thunder of spring when spiders hibernate.

Events:-

January: Yas Nilt'ees - "Layers of Melting Snow"

January 1: New Year's Day

January 10: Navajo Nation Inauguration Day

January 16: Martin Luther King Day

February: Atsá Biyáázh - "Baby Eaglets"

February 2: Groundhog Day

February 14: Valentine's Day

February 20: Presidents' Day

Youngest Navajo president sworn in



By Donovan Quintero | Jan 10, 2023 | FORT DEFIANCE

The youngest Navajo Nation president has officially taken the helm.

Buu Nygren, who turned 36 on Christmas, took the oath of office at 12:06 p.m. at the Bee Holdzil Fighting Scouts Events Center in Fort Defiance.

Nygren smiled throughout the oath as his wife, former Arizona state Rep. Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren stood behind him with their daughter.

His grandmother Marilyn Slim held a Navajo basket with the Bible, which Nygren used to take his oath.

Nygren, who's never held a political office, spoke to the crowd as they cheered for him and opened his speech by thanking his supporters.

"I just want to thank you so much to each and every one of you," he said to a cheering crowd.

Nygren told the people he was ready to begin working with the 25th Navajo Nation Council, which convened to conduct its first-order business and elect a Speaker Pro Tem.

"One of the things I've always said as a united Navajo Nation, leadership is going to be strong. It's going to move things forward," Nygren said. "We can start talking about the basic needs of our Navajo people."

As the Nation's president, Nygren faces a gauntlet of challenges. He said he'd tackle the social ills impacting the tribe once he took office.

January 2023

“We campaigned on how do we combat the everyday things that hurt and go up against our people like poverty, hunger, thirst, sickness, old age, greed, jealousy, and laziness,” he said.

Having never served in any political position, Nygren and his Vice President Richelle Montoya, the first woman to hold the Nation’s second highest office, made no promises but said their administration would begin working toward bettering life for the Navajo people.

“We have one mission: let’s get basic services to the Navajo people,” he said. “We need water; we need roads; we need public safety. So, as your next Navajo Nation president, I will not hesitate. I will do whatever it takes to make sure that our people have a chance.”

His predecessor, former President Jonathan Nez and his former Vice President Myron Lizer, sat with his wife in the crowd. Nygren acknowledged and thanked them.

Nygren released the names of his cabinet on his Instagram page.

They are Department of Justice Attorney General Ethel Branch, Division of Human Resources Executive Director Debbie Nez Manuel, Division of Public Safety Executive Director Michael Anderson, Division of Economic Development Executive Director Tony Skrelunas, and Division of Natural Resources Executive Director W. Mike Halona.

Kimberly Yazzie will head the Navajo Department of Health as the executive director.

Other members of his cabinet include Division of Community Development Executive Director Calvin Castillo, Environmental Protection Agency Executive Director Stephen B. Etsitty, Division of General Services Executive Director Shawnevan Dale, Division of Transportation Executive Director Garrett Silversmith, Division of Social Services Executive Director Thomas Cody, Washington Office Executive Director Justin Ahasteen, Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office Executive Director Raymond Maxx, and Telecommunications Regulatory Commission Office Executive Director Tico Charlee.

READ MORE AT: <http://bit.ly/3WYNf9f>



MESSAGE FROM THE DCD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Hello, My name is Calvin Castillo, the new DCD director under the Nygren/Montoya administration. My clans are Todich'ii'nii, Bitahnii, Ta'chii'nii and Tlizi łani. I'm looking forward to working with all the 24 Navajo Nation Council Delegates and the 110 chapter officials. My background is in civil engineering, project management, construction management and program management. I was with the Bureau of Indian Affairs Transportation - Navajo Region for 29 years. My goals for the program is to get the FRF and COP projects out before the deadlines of these funding. I have inherited a wonderful staff and I'm looking forward to creating a clear vision of the program with them. May our paths cross and for us to build relations to serve the Nation.

January 2023

Heavy Equipment Updates

Heavy Equipment Policies and Procedures now available on nndcd.org website and you can click--> [HERE](#)

January Delivery:

1/11 Bahastl'ah Chapter -40' ft Trailer



Congratulations Bahastl'ah!



NABJN-18-22 was passed. It amends CJA-01-21 and NABIS-36-21 to extend the Sihasin Heavy Equipment Purchase funds until 12/2023

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CENTER

Opportunities for collaboration between community health and community development

The Administrative Services Center (ASC) Department has been assisting with a declaration of a state of emergency for the Navajo Nation due to severe winter snow storms. The Division of Community Development (DCD) plays a critical role in the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The operational period covers current and potential impacts from heavy snow, high winds, mud and flooding events from recent and forecasted weather followed by single-digit overnight temperatures.

During this Navajo Nation emergency declaration, the ASC Department was identified as branch of the EOC Operations Section due to the direct administration and technical assistance provided to all 110 local Navajo Chapters. "An emergency declaration identifies opportunities for collaboration between community health and community development," states Sonlatsa Jim, ASC Department Manager. "When we worked the COVID-19 Emergency operation, it brought together public health and community development professionals together to respond to the pandemic."

With the 2023 Winter Storm Emergency operation, the ASC Department is coordinating operations with the Community Health Representatives (CHR) Program again. Emergency management at the 110 local Navajo Chapters requires communication and coordination with local resources and public health partners. Sonlatsa Jim commends the team leaders with the CHR Program, Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program, Health Education Program, DALTICS Senior Centers, Office of Environmental Health (OEH), and the Food Distribution Program for assisting their local Navajo Chapters and working with the chapter employees, Chapter Officials and ASC Staff in the field.

"We are making the case, through emergency operations, that to improve both health and community development outcomes for Navajo communities we are more effective when we invest in public health," states Jim. The ASC Department encourages Navajo Chapters staff to support public health practitioners as they continue to research, identify, and advocate for strategies to address health disparities and improve community health broadly especially during Emergency Declarations.

ASC Department Manager extends her appreciation to the emergency operation teams, ASC field staff, and local incident command posts and shelters for the Winter Storm 2023!

Resources contacts:

Qeturah Anderson, Navajo CHR Outreach Program, Navajo Department of Health

Email: qranderson@navajo-nsn.gov

Sonlatsa Jim, ASC Department, Division Community Development

Email: sjim-martin@nndcd.org





Administrative Service Centers

5 Tips for Winter Wellness

1

EXTRA SLEEP

Adequate sleep helps the body to operate at optimal levels and aids in preventing inflammation and infection.

2

EXERCISE OUTSIDE

Here are some surprising benefits to exercising in colder temps: your heart doesn't have to work as hard and you sweat less. With proper stretching and the right layers, you can enjoy physical activity year-round.

3

STAY SOCIAL

Winter months naturally cause people to turn inward and be more isolated. Make a date with friends or family at least once a week to keep spirits high.

4

FRUITS & VEGGIES

It's more important than ever during winter to get a wide variety of fruits and vegetables every single day. Think, "Eat like a rainbow" when shopping.

5

MAINTAIN HEALTHY OUTLOOK

Our bodies are naturally regulated by the sun. When days get shorter, our moods and energy can be thrown off. Make the effort to monitor your mental health and boost your spirits.



Navajo Nation Health
Education Program

Navajo Nation Special
Diabetes Program

Bulletin Board

Code Talker John Kinsel turns 106

Jan 26, 2023 By Ruth Kawano

Editor's note: Bazhnibah (Ruth Kawano) is a retired U.S. Air Force flight nurse. She is a photographer and a writer based in Window Rock.

How does one become a Navajo Code Talker, go through so much chaos on battlefields, and maintain sanity after being discharged from a military war?

John Kinsel Sr. turned 106 over the weekend as we celebrated his birthday in the middle of winter. About 30 relatives and friends attended the celebration in Lukachukai, Arizona.

It was a beautiful day. The mountains and hills were white and blanketed with snow. Inside the log cabin, he built after the war was a wood stove keeping us warm and cozy. With abundant food and friendship, we reveled in this man's celebration.

I watched him and wondered how at the young age of 6, he had the foresight to attend school so early. Without a father, he managed to care for his young sisters and brother. After graduating from St. Catherine's High School in Santa Fe, he was 21 years old when he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, then trained as a Navajo Code Talker in a communications company.

Soon after, he was off to battlefields in several islands – Bougainville, British Solomon Islands, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima Volcano Islands, and Guam, in the Pacific. In Guam, he sustained a broken ankle from an artillery or mortar blast and had to be transported back to Hawaii, then onto the mainland. After a month's rest, he returned to San Diego, California, carrying on non-war duties.

Sitting in the dimly lit one-room cabin on a rocking chair, he was not capable of rocking as he was tired. He wore a red Pendleton shirt charmingly with a traditional Navajo turquoise yoo' and a necklace with a round silver medallion, and blue denim jeans.

Someone mentioned that he had this shirt for over 50 years. He wore his usual red Navajo Code Talker

association cap. People chattered and laughed around him. When the food came, he ate hungrily. I spoon-fed him carefully with soft foods, and he sipped his coffee. He sat there in silence in between his bites.

He seemed content sitting there with his eyes closed. Still, as someone approached him, he would gesture the sign of the cross by touching his forehead with the right hand, middle of the chest, the left shoulder, and right shoulder as if to recite the phrase, "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" as he did at the Catholic schools he attended in St. Michaels, Arizona, and in St. Catherine's in Santa Fe, New Mexico. It was touching to see him do this with closed eyes. He even blessed his gifts as he was handed each one.

I could not help but look at him as he sat there, and I wondered what he was thinking. He was calm even with all the people and their conversations and seemed to be at peace with everything. I think of his time at war, running around communicating codes in Navajo, helping others to win the war on battlefields, places he never thought he would be on – green fields and rice paddies, thousands of miles away from Dinétah, arid and wide open.

He's seen blood and body parts that young men should not see. He's seen what munitions were like and how damaging they can be. He's seen the devastations and what war can do to people and Nations.

Years ago, he would talk non-stop about his war experiences, but today at age 106, he just wanted to sit and rest. Maybe he wanted to lie down and just nap, but he wanted to stay up. Everyone ate, surrounding him.

His huge cake was brought to him, and he again blessed it with hand gestures. He ate some of his cake which was served to him with coffee. He did this while his eyes would momentarily open. Then his gifts came. Clothing, tableware, a throw blanket, and a black and white photograph by Kenji Kawano. When asked who the person was in the photo, he stated, "me." The photographer was thrilled that he could still see and recognize people.



When Navajo elderly talk about aging, typically, they say that their goal is to get to 102 years old or S. I wondered what happens when they pass 102 years of age. I could not get an answer, but I cherished the man who could be a U.S. Marine, a Navajo Code Talker, and still be humble and experience peace within himself. John Kinsel may be the oldest Navajo man today, and we celebrated the many achievements in his lifetime.

We look forward to more days with him.

Mr. John Kinsel has also agreed to support and likes having a U.S. Postal Navajo Code Talker stamp in their honor. A group has been identified to conduct this endeavor. Anyone interested in this campaign can contact Bazhnibah at bazhnibah@gmail.com or rkawano@citlink.net. The group needs at least a million letters/postcards sent to the U.S. postmaster general asap to request a stamp be created for the Navajo Code Talkers.

Two other living Navajo Code Talkers are Peter MacDonald (6th Marine Division, Occupation Duty-North China) and Thomas H. Begay (5th Marine Division, served as Navajo Code Talker in Eniwetok Atoll, Saipan, Tinian, Guam, and Iwo Jima) according to records established by Kenji Kawano for his book, "Warriors, the Navajo Code Talkers."

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3wJNWcc>

Bobbie Ann Baldwin named veterans administration director

WINDOW ROCK, Navajo Nation – On Tuesday, Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren announced Bobbie Ann Baldwin's appointment as the next executive director for the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration (NNVA).

The president met with the nine members of the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council (NNVAC) Tuesday afternoon to complete her selection from a total of 10 applicants for the job. The council's majority vote with three abstentions was accepted by the president.

"We are keeping our promise to Navajo veterans," said President Nygren. "Bobbie Ann Baldwin's selection comes after an extensive recruitment and interview process that included the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council—we're moving forward under their consultation and

advisement."

Baldwin served in the U.S. Marines from 1996 to 1999, followed by civilian service with the Navajo Nation Department of Justice, Division of Human Resources, Arizona Child Protection Services and Arizona Department of Economic Security Administration. Baldwin also most recently served as a veterans service officer for the NNVA for five years and policy analyst for the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission.

Chief of Staff Patrick J. Sandoval will meet NNVA program staff in Window Rock to introduce Baldwin on Wednesday.

READ MORE AT: <http://bit.ly/3HIXyic>

Bulletin Board

Navajo high school of just 30 students puts together basketball team (Jan 23, 2023)

SAN JUAN COUNTY, Utah – Utah's most remote high school is on a portion of the Navajo Nation most accessible through Arizona.

It's so small they can't always field a basketball team. In fact, they haven't since 2017. But that changed this year.

Meet the Navajo Mountain Jaguars.

A whole lot of high school classes have more students than all of Navajo Mountain High School. So in order to have a basketball team, they don't hold try-outs – they work to convince enough students to try it out.

Erec Neeley is one of the more experienced members of the team, having played basketball since third grade.

"I do want to point out that Erek, our freshman point guard here, is really the jump in the driving force between making this team happen," assistant coach Tony Anderson said.

The Navajo Mountain Jaguars junior varsity team can build around their freshman point guard – which is good, because there aren't a lot of options.

Anderson says there are just 30 students between the 9th and 12th grades. And with 15 boys in the whole high school, this squad is more than half of the male student population.

READ MORE AT: bit.ly/3JqEuSt



Dilkon Chapter Kicks off Major Broadband Project Using Funds Awarded from NTIA



The Dilkon Chapter, in the southwestern part of the Navajo Nation, has just launched a major broadband project, thanks to a funding injection of \$33.2 million from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The project, which was submitted on behalf of the District Seven Chapters, has been a long time in the making and is being seen as a major step forward in

bringing high-speed internet connectivity to this rural area of the Navajo Nation.

At the launch event, which took place on January 20th, 2023, former Council Delegate Elmer Begay and newly elected Council Delegate Cheryl Yazzie were among the notable guests and speakers in attendance. The funding was secured following a detailed consultation process conducted by Aquila Cubed Consulting, LLC, a Native American and women-owned business, who helped the District Seven Chapters identify their infrastructure needs. Margie Barton, Dilkon Chapter Manager, led the team from the Navajo Nation side.

The broadband project is expected to bring many benefits to the communities of the District Seven Chapters, including increased access to online services, improved educational opportunities, and increased economic development. High-speed internet connectivity is increasingly seen as a basic necessity in the 21st century, and the Dilkon Chapter is leading the way in bringing this vital resource to its residents.

The project is a major undertaking, and the funds received from NTIA will go a long way in ensuring its success. The residents of the District Seven Chapters can look forward to a brighter future, with improved internet connectivity opening up new opportunities and providing a foundation for continued growth and development.

Overall, the launch of the Dilkon Chapter's broadband project is a positive development, and it serves as a reminder of the important role that technology can play in transforming rural communities. The Navajo Nation can be proud of the steps it is taking to bring high-speed internet connectivity to its residents, and the Dilkon Chapter should be celebrated for its leadership in this area.

Bulletin Board

Crystalyne Curley elected to serve as Speaker of the 25th Navajo Nation Council



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — On Monday, the 25th Navajo Nation Council convened for the opening day of the Winter Council Session and elected Council Delegate Crystalyne Curley, to serve a two-year term as the new Speaker and head of the Legislative Branch. This marks the very first time a Navajo woman has been selected to serve in the role of the Speaker. "I extend my appreciation to my colleagues of the 25th Navajo Nation Council for having the confidence in me to lead the Legislative Branch and to serve as the Speaker of the Council.

We have many challenging issues to address and I look forward to working collectively with my colleagues and the other branches of government to make progress for our people and communities across the Nation. Through dedication, hard work, and prayer, the 25th Navajo Nation Council will remain committed to positive changes and accountability as we move forward together," said Speaker Curley.

The newly-elected Speaker is Tsenjikini and born for To'aheedliinii. Her maternal grandfather is Kinyaa'aanii and her paternal grandfather is Dzil t'aadi Kinyaa'aanii. She is originally from the community of Fish Point, Ariz., located within the Tsélaní/Cottonwood Chapter and she is fluent in the English and Navajo languages.

During the presentation of her platform, Speaker Curley said that she strives to be a voice for Navajo people living in remote areas without basic infrastructure and amenities, which she attributed to growing up in a rural community. Despite the challenges of living in such conditions, Speaker Curley earned two Bachelors Degree from Arizona State University and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of New Mexico.

She previously served as a policy analyst with Diné College and the Navajo Government Development Office. In addition, she served as a Legislative District Assistant and Sr. Public Information Officer for the Office of the Speaker and Office of the President and Vice President before being elected to the Council this past November, representing the communities of Tachee/ Blue Gap, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tselani/Cottonwood, and Low Mountain. From 2011-2012, she served as Miss Navajo Nation.

During Monday's session, four members of the Council were nominated and given 15 minutes to present their respective platform. Among others nominated were Council Delegates Eugenia Charles-Newton, Carl R. Slater, and Otto Tso. Following a run-off election, Speaker Curley received 13 votes and Delegate Tso received eleven 11 votes.

Pursuant to its authority under Navajo Nation law, the Council confirmed the Honorable Crystalyne Curley to serve as Speaker of the 25th Navajo Nation Council for a two-year term with all powers and duties delegated by Navajo Nation law. Speaker Curley was joined by her spouse, daughter, and mother as Navajo Nation Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne administered the Oath of Office.

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/3RkYUy1>

Branch appointed as 13th Attorney General of Navajo Nation

Ethel Branch has been appointed by President Buu Nygren as the 13th Attorney General of the Navajo Nation.

Branch is Biji Bitoodnii (Deer Springs Clan) born for the Naakai (Mexican People). She was born in Tuba City and was raised on her family's ranch 10 miles south of Leupp. She previously served as the Navajo Nation's 11th Attorney General.

Most recently Branch co-founded and served as the Executive Director of Yee Ha'ólní Doo, which does business as the Navajo & Hopi Families COVID-19 Relief Fund. In March 2020 she mobilized a crowdfunding effort to bring COVID relief to Navajo and Hopi reservation-based families. The effort became a top 5 GoFundMe campaign. Her team provided COVID relief



to almost half a million Navajo and Hopi people and opened community centers in Monument Valley (Navajo Nation) and Sheep Springs (Navajo Nation) focused on making Navajo communities pandemic proof for the long term by rebuilding local Navajo food, social, and small business economies and ensuring language and culture transmission to the next generation. Ethel was recognized as one of the 7 unsung heroes of the pandemic by Bill Gates.

As the Navajo Nation's 11th Attorney General, Ethel worked on a broad range of issues that impact Indian Nations. Specifically, she

Directly oversaw and coordinated the legal and public relations work associated with the Navajo Nation's response to the Gold King Mine Spill, Wells Fargo's unfair business practices on the Nation, President Trump's attempted revocation and replacement of the Bears Ears National Monument, and abuses by opioids manufacturers and distributors to tribal members.

Defended the voting rights of Navajo citizens in state and local elections.

Provided guidance and leadership to a litigation team that prevailed in opposing certiorari petitions to the U.S. Supreme Court in two significant Indian law cases.

Secured positive rulings in numerous federal courts of appeal and district court cases.

Developed documents, delivered a rating agency presentation, and marketed bonds to investors for the Nation's first Limited Public Offering.

Led the effort to strengthen the Nation's public safety system through better coordination of limited resources and elimination of administrative barriers through reform of the Nation's Criminal Code and Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Launched and oversaw the Nation's Public Integrity Task Force that focused on developing partnerships, processes, and law and policy changes to allow the Nation to respond more quickly and effectively to reports of white-collar crime and corruption.

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/3RBzi0h>

Bulletin Board

Navajo Technical University creating engineering and manufacturing opportunities on Navajo Nation

CROWNPOINT, NM – On a vast reservation of desert and mountains, a place where 30 to 40 percent of residents don't have running water, Navajo Technical University is home to arguably the best advanced manufacturing lab in New Mexico, apart from the Los Alamos and Sandia national defense laboratories.

There, in a 5,500-square-foot steel building known as the fabrication lab, students learn to operate cutting-edge manufacturing and analytical equipment and conduct research alongside faculty and graduate students from larger universities who are drawn to the fabrication lab's unique capabilities and the expertise of Navajo Tech's staff and students. Through this lab and related degree programs, Navajo Tech is expanding access to engineering fields for Native Americans, building crucial high-tech capacity for the Navajo Nation, and changing the economic outlook for the families of graduates employed by the lab, allowing them to stay close to home without compromising their ambition.

While several Tribal colleges and universities (TCUs) offer associate degrees in engineering, only Navajo Tech offers engineering bachelor's degrees to date. But the university's success demonstrates one type of pathway—among many that are needed—to make careers in science accessible to more Native American students.

Nationally, a mere 360 American Indian or Alaska Native students earned bachelor's degrees in engineering in 2018, a number that barely budged from the 345 recipients who earned degrees a decade earlier. In a rapidly growing field, that means that American Indian and Alaska Native representation among B.A. recipients in engineering dropped from 0.5 percent to just 0.3 percent.

Recent graduates and students from Navajo Tech have been hired for jobs and internships with an array of top employers, including NASA, Los Alamos National Lab, Sandia National Laboratories, Intel, and contractors for NASA and Marshall Space Flight Center.

Yet while Navajo Tech is one of the largest Tribal colleges, only a handful of its students earn degrees or credentials in STEM fields each year—far fewer than the university would like. This situation is rooted in the lack of funding available for Tribal colleges, as well as the struggle for college success faced by students who grow up in rural communities with high poverty.

The hope is that the lab will inspire a new generation of future Navajo engineers and scientists.

Marcie Vandever is a 2022 graduate now working in New Mexico at an outpost of the Department of Energy's Kansas City National Security Campus. After gaining more experience, she wants to return home to teach on the Navajo Nation. In fact, seeing Navajo Tech inspire young people is what led her to enroll at the university after she was hired one summer to help with a 3D printing camp run by the fabrication lab.

"These kids, their excitement, the shock and surprise of what they created, this is why I do what I do," she said.

A university rises in the desert

Navajo Tech's main campus is located two hours

northwest of Albuquerque in Crownpoint, New Mexico, a high-desert town of 3,000 people. What would become the university was founded as the Navajo Skills Center in 1979, conceptualized as a vocational school that complemented the educational offerings at Diné College, which the Navajo Nation had established a decade earlier as the first Tribal college in the country—two hours away and over state lines in Arizona.

Over time, the skills center grew into a college, as it added degree programs while maintaining an emphasis on workforce-oriented offerings, making the Navajo Nation—which has the largest reservation in the United States—unique today among American Indian nations in having two Tribal colleges serve its people. Today, Navajo Tech is still growing; the Diné culture, language, and leadership program is developing what would be its first doctoral program. ("Diné" is what the Navajo people call themselves in the Diné language.)

Among the university's strengths are an award-winning culinary arts program that helped cater the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City and a veterinary technician program that prepares students to be the equivalent of nurses in veterinary care or go on to become veterinarians—especially important in this community, where sheep are a staple of life and the Tribal government leases land to cattle ranchers. And in October 2022, Navajo Tech broke ground on a new environmental lab in Chinle, Arizona, that will support efforts to clean up toxic uranium mining sites that have devastated the Navajo people for generations, leading to high rates of cancer and contaminating 85 percent of homes today.

Serving a remote reservation with poor internet access, Navajo Tech had to be inventive when COVID-19 first hit—particularly because in the early days, the Navajo Nation had the worst outbreak in the country. For instance, the university convinced the Tribal government to let it broadcast wireless internet over additional towers, and it launched a delivery service for printed homework that some likened to the Pony Express.

3D printers and Indigenous methods

H. Scott Halliday, a 59-year-old former mason from Maine, took a job at Navajo Tech two decades ago running a certificate program in computer-aided drafting. It's fair to say that the success of the Center for Advanced Manufacturing, which he now directs—often while sporting a tie-dye lab coat—has something to do with his knack for grant writing and, on a deeper level, his uncompromising belief in what American Indian students should have available to them.

"Because you grow up on a reservation doesn't mean you [shouldn't] get the same opportunities as someone who goes to Penn State or Texas Tech," he said.

Halliday leverages every grant for the next and holds government funders and corporate and philanthropic donors fast to their commitments to supporting minority-serving institutions, which have a long legacy of inadequate funding.

Navajo Tech's work in engineering and advanced manufacturing grew out of an initiative between NASA



and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, which helped fund the creation of the fabrication lab, with support from the National Science Foundation. The university now has Bachelor of Science degree programs in four engineering disciplines and two related Bachelor of Applied Science degree programs, including one in advanced manufacturing engineering technology. These are in addition to an array of associate degree and certificate programs in related fields. Notably, in 2015, Navajo Tech's electrical and industrial engineering bachelor's degree programs earned ABET accreditation, which is seen as a gold standard, a must for many top-flight employers when considering students for jobs or internships.

The fabrication lab specializes in additive manufacturing—3D printing, if you will—and its equipment includes a rare metal additive manufacturing machine for which a staff member had to undergo seven months of training in Nebraska to use. The lab also boasts analytical equipment such as CT scanners and a powder analyzer, and it recently received an award from the U.S. Department of Defense for a new scanning electron microscope.

Halliday's goal is for students to follow their curiosity and discover their abilities and interests as they do, iterating over and over, a method that is natural to both STEM inquiry and Indigenous approaches to education.

Frequent research partners at the lab include Drexel University, the University of Nebraska, and New Mexico State University, where researchers have found both equipment and analysis skills in the fabrication lab that they lack on their own campuses. Last year, for example, the lab hosted a summer workshop for undergrads from Navajo Tech, New Mexico State University, and Prairie View A&M University—a historically Black university in Texas.

As extraordinary as the lab is, however, staff and students still run into some of the painful realities of life at a TCU. Halliday has found that grant funding is much more readily available for equipment than people; grants rarely cover more than a fraction of the salary of a faculty or staff member. That, paired with a lack of state funding and low enrollment numbers, has made it very hard for the institution to hire the staff that would help it realize its goals, which is particularly challenging in fields such as engineering, where specialized faculty are crucial to building a competitive degree program.

Limited staffing means the university can't keep the fabrication lab open into the evening, as universities typically do, resulting in students sometimes having to wait for a turn on the equipment they require.

READ MORE AT: <http://bit.ly/3HJa5MT>

PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD OPEN POSITIONS

POSITION TITLE	LOCATION	PAY RATE	CLOSING DATE
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Administrative Service Centers

Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Forest Lake, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Rough Rock, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Alamo, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Mesa, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Kaibeto, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coalmine Mesa, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Navajo Mountain, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tolani Lake, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Community Service Coordinator (S)	Navajo Mountain, AZ	40,778.64	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Teecnospos, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tohajiilee, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Standing Rock, NM	28,897.92	02/20/2023
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Thoreau, NM	28,897.92	02/06/2023
Community Service Coordinator (S)	Round Rock, AZ	40,778.64	02/01/2023
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Huerfano, NM	28,897.92	02/01/2023
Community Service Coordinator (S)	Nageezi, AZ	40,778.64	02/09/2023

Capital Projects Management Department

Registered Architect (S)	Window Rock, AZ	69,217.20	OUF
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Community Housing & Infrastructure Department

Senior Office Specialist (S)	Window Rock, AZ	34,264.08	02/21/2023
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Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Fund - Division of Community Development

Accountant (S) (3 Pos.)	Window Rock, AZ	45,555.68	OUF
Programs and Projects Specialist (S) (5 Pos.)	Window Rock, AZ	43,555.68	OUF

(OUF) Open Until Filled

(S) Sensitive Position (subject to background check)

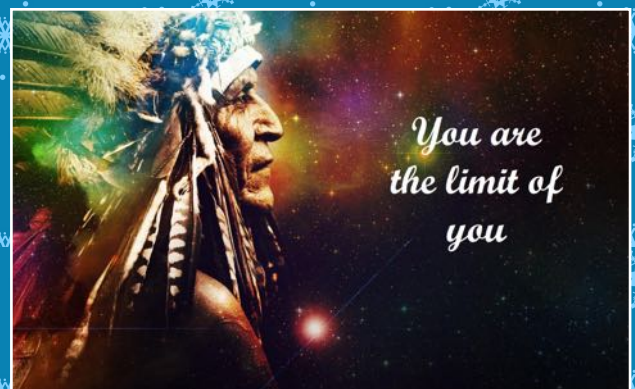
Closing Dates may change due to temporary reduction in non-essential Navajo Nation government services

For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM's website at
<http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html>

Comic of the Month



Quote of the Month



U.S. Population Estimated at 334,233,854 on Jan. 1, 2023

December 29, 2022

Written by:

Derick Moore

As our nation prepares to ring in the new year, the U.S. Census Bureau projects the United States population will be 334,233,854 on Jan. 1, 2023.

This represents an increase of 1,571,393, or 0.47%, from New Year's Day 2022, and 2,784,573, or 0.84% since Census Day (April 1) 2020.

In January 2023, the nation is expected to experience 1 birth every 9 seconds and 1 death every 10 seconds. Meanwhile, net international migration is expected to add 1 person to the U.S. population every 32 seconds.

The combination of births, deaths and net international migration increases the U.S. population by 1 person every 27 seconds.

The projected world population on Jan. 1, 2023, is 7,942,645,086, an increase of 73,772,634, or 0.94%, from New Year's Day 2022. During January 2023, 4.3 births and 2.0 deaths are expected worldwide every 1 second.

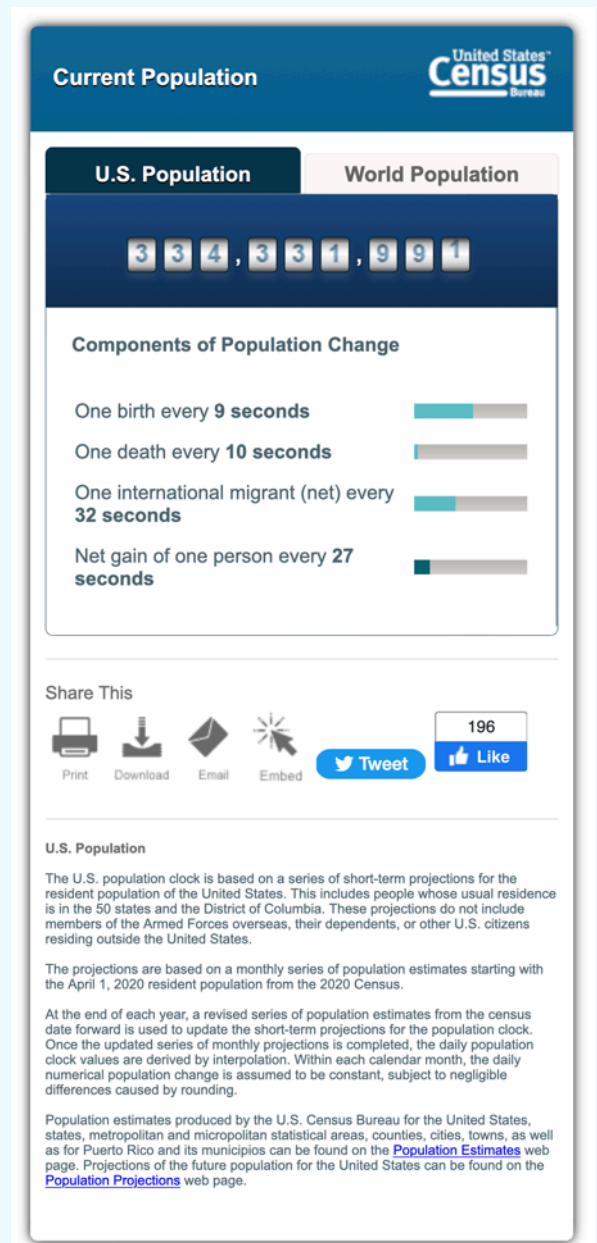
Population Estimates From the U.S. and World Population Clock

The Census Bureau's Population Clock displays simulated real-time growth of the U.S. and world populations. The U.S. clock shows the population by age (0 to 100+) and sex, and the most populous and highest density states, counties and cities. The world clock shows the most populous countries, as well as the top U.S. export and import partners.

Population Projections From the International Database

Created in the 1960s, the Census Bureau's International Database (IDB) now produces projections for 227 countries and areas with populations of 5,000 or more. Population size (by single year of age and sex) and components of change (fertility, mortality and migration) are available for each calendar year through 2100 (through 2060 for the United States).

In 2025, the IDB Trends (see the Population chart) show India passing China in total population (around 1.42 billion each) to become the world's most populous country. The United States will still be third. However, Nigeria is projected to surpass it in 2045 and become the world's third-most populous country with about 388 million people.



READ MORE AT: <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2022/12/happy-new-year-2023.html>

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

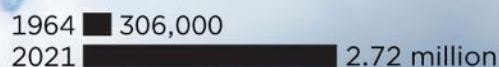
Changes in the Nation's Black or African American Population Since 1964



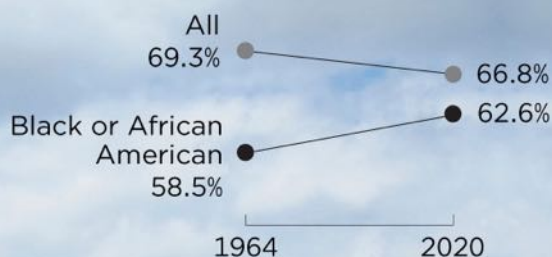
Percentage of Black or African Americans completing high school



Number of Black or African American college students



Percentage of citizen population voting in the United States



Happy New Year!

2023

New Year's Day
U.S. population:

334,233,854

World population:

7,942,645,086



NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Schedule Now!

Community Land Use Planning Orientations & Trainings

Topics

- Review the *Title 26 Local Governance Act - Zoning & Community Based Land Use Plans*
- Provide overview of Land-Use Planning for Navajo Chapters
- Review the CLUPC certification process
- Strategic Planning assistance
- Community assessment collection tools & methods
- Introduction of land use planning topics
- Technical Assistance
- Solid Waste Management

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AVOID A VISIT TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM THIS WINTER SEASON

- **Get vaccinated.**
- **Wear a mask indoors and in crowded areas.**
- **Wash your hands with soap and water.**
- **Be aware of our surroundings.**

January 2023



The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

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