COMMUNITY UPDATE

Nihitahgó Adahooníligíí Baahane'

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

October 2026
Ghááji'

Díí naltsoos biyi' baach'ida hwiit'aah

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Nił béé hoziníshii...

Did You Know...

Dr. Taylor McKenzie was the first Navajo medical doctor, graduating from the Baylor University School of Medicine in 1958.

Key Details About Dr. Taylor McKenzie

- Birth and Education: Born on January 31, 1931, he graduated from Wheaton College in 1954 before earning his medical degree in 1958 under heart surgeon Dr. Michael DeBakey.
- Medical Career: He worked with the Indian Health Service for more than 30 years, including serving the community in Shiprock, New Mexico.
- Leadership: He served as the Vice President of the Navajo Nation from 1999 to 2003 and became the first Navajo Nation Chief Medical Officer in 2006. He passed away on April 13, 2007.

T'áán náhah bikeh ndahoo'aah

Events:

October: Bini'anit'ą́ą́ts'oh - Big Harvest

October 7: Navajo New Year's Day
October 11: Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 31: Halloween

November: Nilch'its'osi - Small Winds

November 3: Election Day
November 11: Veteran's Day
November 26: Thanksgiving Day
November 27: Navajo Nation Family Day

113th Northern Navajo Fair Celebrates Diné Culture, Community and K'é

NORTHER NAVAJO FAIR WEBSITE

SHIPROCK, N.M. — Four days of tradition, family gatherings and community pride brought the Four Corners together for the 113th Annual Northern Navajo Fair, held October 1–4 at the Shiprock Fairgrounds. As the oldest and most traditional of the Navajo Nation's fairs, the annual gathering once again provided a place for Diné families to reconnect with their heritage, celebrate their accomplishments and pass cultural knowledge to the next generation.

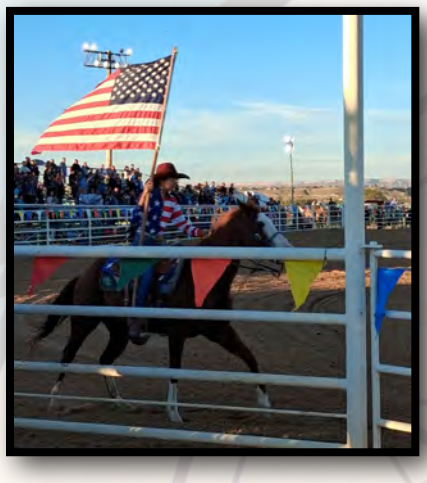
This year's theme, *"Rooted in Tradition, We Rise Together in K'é,"* reflected the importance of kinship, cooperation and shared responsibility. Representing communities throughout the Shiprock Agency, the fair brought together generations of Diné through cultural activities, traditional songs and dances, rodeo competition, pageantry and family entertainment.

A Celebration for Every Generation

The fairgrounds came alive with activities designed to bring people of all ages together. Youth Day offered games, contests, prizes and informational booths, while Elder Fest provided a day of fellowship, meals, music, traditional singing and dancing, and activities honoring older generations. These gatherings emphasized the value of spending time together and preserving the relationships that strengthen Navajo communities.

The cultural program included intertribal powwow dancing, Navajo social song and dance, and the Four Directions Trail Ride. The rodeo and junior rodeo also gave competitors opportunities to demonstrate their skills and continue the strong horse and livestock traditions found throughout the region. The fair's exhibit hall, food vendors and carnival added to the atmosphere, creating a gathering place for families, visitors and community members.

Celebrating Leadership and Accomplishment



NORTHER NAVAJO FAIR WEBSITE

One of the weekend's highlights was the Miss Northern Navajo Pageant, where young women demonstrated their talent, cultural knowledge and poise. Leshaunie Hadley of Shiprock was crowned Miss Northern Navajo for 2026–2027, succeeding DeaShondria Dee. The pageant and teen royalty program recognize the next generation of leaders and cultural ambassadors. More Photos at: Turkeyboy Photography Facebook page:

Saturday's parade brought spectators to the streets of Shiprock, where marching bands, community entries and participants represented the pride and diversity of the region. Children gathered along the route for candy and treats as families cheered on the procession. The weekend also featured the intertribal powwow, bringing dancers, singers and visitors together in a celebration of Indigenous culture and fellowship.

Keeping Tradition Alive

More than a seasonal celebration, the Northern Navajo Fair serves as a reminder that Diné traditions remain an active part of everyday community life. Through language, song, dance, horsemanship, food, family connections and the recognition of elders and youth, the fair helps carry cultural teachings forward.

NORTHER NAVAJO FAIR WEBSITE

As the 113th Northern Navajo Fair came to a close, its theme offered a lasting message: strong families and strong communities grow from knowing where we come from, caring for one another and working together. Rooted in tradition and guided by K'é, the people of the Northern Navajo Nation continue to build connections that will sustain future generations.

NORTHER NAVAJO FAIR WEBSITE

NEAVAH BEGAY, MISS EVE B. STOKELEY PRINCESS

Read more at https://bit.ly/4hX0y6l

NAVAJO TIMES

2026 Western Navajo Fair Celebrates Culture, Tradition, and Community

TUBA CITY, ARIZONA – The 58th Annual Western Navajo Fair brought families, friends, and visitors together from October 8–11, 2026, for four days of cultural celebrations, entertainment, and community activities. With this year's theme, “The Beauty of Our People and Culture,” the fair highlighted the traditions, talents, and strong community spirit of the Navajo people.

Known as the grand finale of the Navajo Nation fair season, the Western Navajo Fair featured a variety of activities, including the annual parade, rodeos, traditional song and dance, powwow competitions, cultural performances, carnival rides, and arts and crafts.

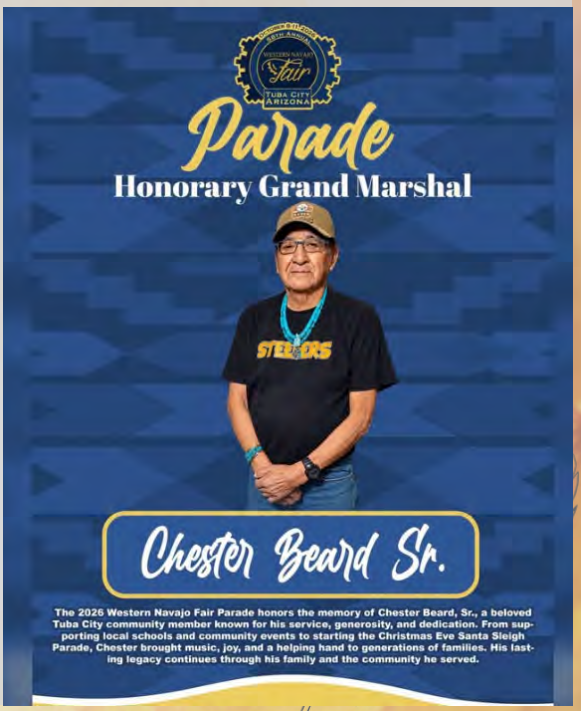
Special events such as Kids Day and Elder Fest provided opportunities to celebrate both the younger and older generations. The annual parade on October 10 brought the community together along the streets of Tuba City, continuing one of the fair's most cherished traditions.

Keely Welch, Miss Western Navajo 2026-2027

Jana West, Miss Western Navajo Teen 2026-2027

Evening entertainment featured country music artist Lorrie Morgan, along with Britnee Kellogg, Sierra Spirit, and rapper Tech N9ne. Local and Indigenous performers also contributed to the celebration, showcasing the diversity of talent throughout the region.

Beyond the entertainment, the Western Navajo Fair continues to serve as an important gathering place where families reconnect, local businesses and vendors share their products, and communities celebrate their heritage.



The 2026 Western Navajo Fair was another opportunity to honor Diné culture, recognize our elders, encourage our youth, and celebrate the traditions that continue to bring our communities together. {All photos posted on instagram link below}

READ MORE: https://www.instagram.com/westernnavajofair/

CHID Update

Get to Know
MELVIN OWENS JR.

Melvins Clans are:
Kin Yaa'aanii nishłį́
Ta'neezahnii bashishchiin
Tábąąhá dashicheii
Táchii'ni dashinalí

CAREER JOURNEY

- Ganado High School, graduated 2019.
- **2019:** Began construction career with Suntec Concrete as a carpenter form setter and earned OSHA 30 certification.
- **2019–2021:** CS Construction, concrete form setter, building construction is structural preparation and field coordination.
- **2021:** Apache County District 2, Road Maintenance employee. Trained on the CAT 440 backhoe and M Series graders (140/150); gained experience with heavy equipment hauling and early CDL training.
- **2022–2026:** NECA, Carpenter II, refining carpentry, framing, and renovation abilities.

WHY MELVIN'S EXPERIENCE MATTERS

His experience in residential and infrastructure-related construction will support CHID's renovation and restoration programs across all 110 chapters. His skills will help mobilize materials, support renovation projects, navigate rural terrain across the Nation, strengthen safer homes and communities, and improve living conditions for Navajo families.

His background reflects the strength and resilience of our people, and CHID is honored to have him join our workforce.

The Community Housing & Infrastructure Department is proud to welcome Melvin Owens Jr. as the newest member of our team. Melvin brings a strong foundation in construction, heavy equipment operations, and hands-on field experience that will support CHID's mission to improve housing conditions across the Navajo Nation.

By Jeffrey Goodluck
Construction Supervisor
Community Housing & Infrastructure Department
Division of Community Development (CHID/DCD)

Bulletin Board

Tsineeshjíí' Naaltsoos Bídadiiljeehí

Catalyzing the community: Chemists, Navajo leaders educate on clean water

By pairing water quality research with community engagement, scientists and tribal leaders help residents identify safe drinking water sources

Reports and Proceedings

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

CHICAGO, Aug. 26, 2026 – Many Native American communities in rural areas rely on well water, but the quality and safety of that water can vary significantly. So, researchers led by Jani C. Ingram measured the levels of heavy metals in well water on tribal lands in a community partnership with the Navajo Nation. After compiling their water quality data, the researchers and tribal leaders developed best practices for distributing educational resources about safe drinking water to residents of Navajo reservations.

The researchers will present their results at the fall meeting of the American Chemical Society (ACS) during the "Community Engagement as a Catalyst for Clean Water Quality Management" symposium in McCormick Place. ACS Fall 2026 is being held August 23-27.

"It became clear that no one was monitoring these wells. Everyone on the reservation in that situation is on their own to find a water source for their households. – Jani C. Ingram

During the Cold War, Navajo Nation tribal lands in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah were heavily mined for uranium, a heavy metal found in rocks that is necessary for nuclear weapons and nuclear power. Ingram remembers hearing stories from relatives who worked in the uranium mines. Her mother is a member of the Navajo Nation.

"I didn't really know the extent of the abandonment of those mines," says Ingram, an Analytical Chemist and Chair of the chemistry and biochemistry departments at Northern Arizona University. "I think you assume people clean up their messes, and that didn't happen."

The abandonment of these mines led to uranium and other heavy metals entering nearby water resources. Although efforts are underway to clean abandoned uranium mines, many have had the potential to contaminate the wells that supply drinking water for people and livestock. Negative health effects result from consuming water with elevated levels of uranium, including compromised kidney function.

Most of the U.S. population has access to regulated clean water in their homes because of the Safe Drinking Water Act. But on Navajo lands, up to 30% of homes rely on private well water, which is not regulated by that act.

"It became clear that no one was monitoring these wells," says Ingram. "Everyone on the reservation in that situation is on their own to find a water source for their households."

This led Ingram to work with Navajo Nation tribal leaders to investigate potential water contamination. They worked to identify and measure the amount of uranium and other heavy metals in Navajo water wells.

IMAGE: AN UNREGULATED, LIVESTOCK WELL IN WESTERN NAVAJO NATION USED BY HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT INDOOR PLUMBING.
CREDIT: JANI C. INGRAM

Because many of the wells were on rural lands that are difficult to reach, Ingram relied on members of the Navajo Nation and students to accompany her and locate wells from which to retrieve water samples from. She and her collaborators found uranium levels in some of the wells above 30 parts per billion, the upper limit for safe drinking water set by the U.S Environmental Protection Agency. Uranium mining may also increase people's exposure to other harmful substances, such as arsenic and manganese, which Ingram also found elevated levels of in the well water samples Ingesting arsenic and high amounts of manganese can lead to negative health effects, including cancer and neurological disorders, respectively.

Ingram's team and her Navajo Nation collaborators designed and distributed educational materials identifying which wells were considered safe for sourcing drinking water. They attended tribal community meetings on Navajo reservations, spoke to community leaders, and identified the most culturally appropriate ways to share their findings with community members.

Ingram also provided data to other community organizations working to educate residents on safe water sources. For example, the data is accessible on a website built by the University of New Mexico that maps wells that have been tested on the reservations.

"You can see where your community is on the website map, and you can click on a well and get information about it. We've provided them our data on those wells," Ingram says.

Ultimately, Ingram's goal is to provide peer-reviewed water quality data to the Navajo Nation. Then the community members can use that data to support their requests for improved infrastructure on reservation lands.

"Having this data is really good for the community," Ingram says. "If they request that a new well be dug, it tends to be that the deeper the well, the cleaner it is. Or they request a filter system on a regulated well. Our data gives them another tool to help make those arguments."

The research was funded by the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the Environmental Protection Agency, the American Cancer Society, the Native American Research Centers for Health, and the U.S. Department of Energy.

READ MORE AT: https://tinyurl.com/ymfen4f5

Bulletin Board

Tsineeshjíí' Naaltsoos Bídadiiljeehí

Charles-Newton withdraws from Council race after nearly eight years

By Donovan Quintero and Krista Allen

Navajo Times

WINDOW ROCK

Council Delegate Eugenia Charles-Newton has submitted a letter withdrawing from the race for the 26th Navajo Nation Council after the San Juan County Clerk's Office accepted her declaration of candidacy for magistrate judge in northwestern New Mexico.

Charles-Newton, who represents Shiprock and chairs the Law and Order Committee, will remain in office through the end of her term on the 25th Council.

In a handwritten letter dated Sept. 27, Charles-Newton asked the speaker's office and election office to remove her name from the Council ballot. She later announced the decision publicly.

Her decision came after she received a letter from the San Juan County Clerk's Office confirming that her Aug. 25 declaration of candidacy had been accepted. The letter stated that her name will appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot as the Democratic candidate for magistrate judge in Division 2. https://bit.ly/4dKWdCD

Charly Edsitty joins Arizona's Family KTVK 3TV and KPHO CBS 5 Phoenix

By mikemcguff.com October 1, 2026

Charly Edsitty is returning to Phoenix, where her television career began, to take on a new role as a morning anchor at Arizona's Family KTVK 3TV and KPHO CBS 5 after leaving ABC13 KTRK Houston.

Here is what Edsitty said in her announcement: LocalNews Reporting

"Hey, Arizona!

I am excited to share that I'll be joining the very talented team at Arizona's Family on October 12th! I am elated to finally be back home in Arizona and just down the road from my family.

I am even more excited to share the anchor desk with Colton Shone every weekday morning from 4:30 to 6 a.m.!

I will see you on the air soon …

It was a long drive from Houston to Phoenix and thank you so much to everyone for your prayers/well wishes.

I miss Houston, but it feels so good to be back home again!"

She takes over for Simone Cuccurullo, who left Arizona's Family in early September.

Arizona's Family also announced the hiring of Christine Stanwood from KJRH 2 News Tulsa, Oklahoma, as an "On Your Side" consumer investigative reporter to work with Susan Campbell.

Edsitty left her anchor role with ABC13 on September 24, 2026. LocalNews Reporting

Edsitty joined ABC13 in 2018 as a multimedia journalist after beginning her broadcast career at 12 News KPNX in Phoenix. She was promoted to ABC13 weekend morning anchor in 2023.

During her time in Houston, Edsitty also expanded her national profile through work with ABC News. On July 4, 2026, she was part of ABC's coverage surrounding the nation's 250th anniversary as the network presented its 24-hour "Disney Celebrates America" programming marathon.

Edsitty's work has also earned national recognition. In 2025, she received a Gracie Award for her work on "Reclaimed: The Lifeblood of Navajo Nation" through ABC Audio. She previously appeared in the documentary "Our America: Indigenous and Urban," returning to the Navajo Nation in the Four Corners region, where she spent much of her childhood.

Edsitty began her television career at KPNX in 2013 as a planning producer for "12 News Today," where she booked guests and scripted segments. After a year, she moved in front of the camera as a reporter for the station's Northern Arizona bureau in Flagstaff.

While based in northern Arizona, Edsitty covered wildfires, snowstorms and Indigenous communities before eventually becoming a general assignment reporter in Phoenix.

Her journalism career began in print, where she focused on Native American issues, including tribal politics, sports mascot controversies and questions surrounding identity. A member of the Navajo Nation, Edsitty has made Indigenous representation and storytelling a central part of her journalism career.

Born in Farmington, New Mexico, and raised in Glendale, Arizona, Edsitty considers the Phoenix area her hometown. She spent much of her childhood traveling with her family to visit her grandparents, William and Hannah, on the Navajo Nation. She has credited her grandparents with helping instill a strong connection to her Diné heritage and a love of storytelling. ArizonaLocal News

Edsitty graduated from Cactus High School in Glendale before earning a degree in print journalism from Baylor University in Waco, Texas.
Her early journalism experience included internships with CBS News and the White House. She also graduated from the Gannett Talent Development Program and the Freedom Forum's American Indian Journalism Institute. Edsitty is a member of the Native American Journalists Association.

Watch At: https://bit.ly/4ibslle

Bulletin Board

A memorable visit with Navajo weaver Sarah Natani in Shiprock NM

By Kate Poss October 7, 2026

The October 7, 2026, article by Kate Poss in This Is Whidbey celebrates the life, artistry, and cultural contributions of Sarah Natani, a respected Navajo weaver, teacher, potter, and cultural bearer who lives near Shiprock, New Mexico. Approaching her 90th birthday, Natani continues to share her knowledge, stories, and traditions with people from different backgrounds.

Natani learned weaving from her father and developed her skills through persistence, experimentation, and a lifelong commitment to traditional arts. She became an accomplished weaver and educator, teaching Navajo weaving, wool spinning, and natural dyeing to students in New Mexico and beyond. Her work took her across the United States and to Peru, where she connected with Indigenous weavers. Her friendship with fellow artist Mary Black also led to years of teaching classes on Whidbey Island in Washington, where she introduced students to Navajo weaving techniques, traditional plants, and aspects of Navajo life.

The article also highlights Natani's resilience and willingness to embrace new opportunities. Despite receiving only a third-grade education at boarding school, she went on to teach at a Navajo college and receive an honorary doctorate. Her experiences reflect a lifetime of learning, creativity, and cultural exchange. She also appeared in the Netflix film Fry Bread Face and Me, which explores the experience of young people reconnecting with Navajo culture and reservation life.

A central theme of the article is the importance of preserving and passing on Diné cultural knowledge. Natani emphasizes the value of teaching Navajo youth their language and traditions, while her work with wool, fiber, and clay demonstrates how traditional arts can sustain creativity and personal well-being. Her daughter, fellow weaver Tahnibaa, shared that Natani received the 2026 Jennifer Easton Community Spirit Award from First Peoples Fund in recognition of her contributions as a culture bearer.

Overall message: Sarah Natani's story is one of perseverance, cultural pride, lifelong learning, and generosity. Through her weaving, pottery, teaching, and relationships with students and fellow artists, she has helped preserve Navajo traditions while sharing their beauty and meaning with the wider world. Her legacy demonstrates how cultural knowledge remains alive when it is practiced, taught, and passed from one generation to the next

READ MORE AT: https://bit.ly/4hNRj8N

Twin Arrows to unveil life-size gingerbread hogan Nov. 5

Doreen Holtje Navajo-Hopi Observer Oct 6, 2026

FLAGSTAFF — Pastry chefs at Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort are building a life-size, walk-through gingerbread hogan for the holiday season, combining a familiar holiday confection with a structure rooted in Diné (Navajo) culture.

The hogan is expected to stand about 10 feet tall and measure 18 feet, 9 inches in diameter. The resort plans to display it in its grand lobby and submit it to Guinness World Records as the world's largest gingerbread hogan. An opening ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 5.

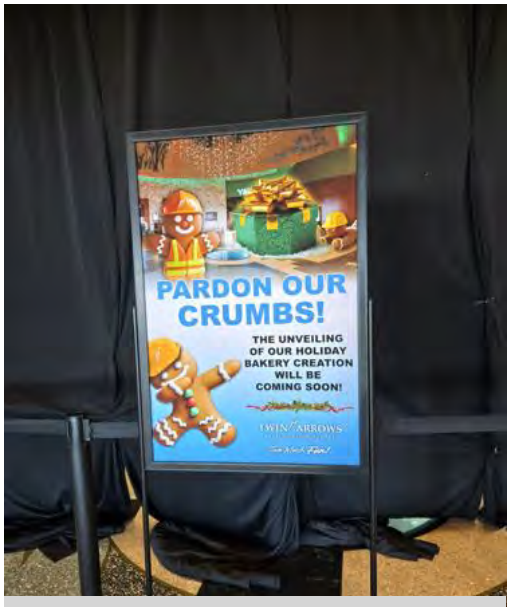
Pastry Chef Rahul Prajapati said the team began making the gingerbread from scratch in June, working in small batches. Baguette molds helped shape the curved shingles.

The project's ingredient list includes 10,000 pounds of flour, 3,000 pounds of sugar, 1,500 pounds of butter and 2,500 pounds of molasses, as well as spices, royal icing and gum balls. Prajapati said the team put in about 900 labor hours on the gingerbread.

The hogan's interior will include traditional decorations. Prajapati also described a loom being made for the space: "There's a lady who is making a real loom where she does her threads out of natural colors. So she is making that just for us." Visitors will also be offered ginger cookies.

A hogan is more than a home in Diné culture; it is connected to architecture, ceremonial life and ideas of harmony with the natural world, according to the resort. Traditional hogans are generally made of wood poles or logs covered with earth, mud or other natural materials. Their east-facing entrances allow residents to greet the rising sun.

"Sharing Diné culture is at the heart of our mission at the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise," CEO John James said in the resort's announcement. "The gingerbread hogan offers the Twin Arrows team a creative way to celebrate a beloved holiday tradition while inviting others to learn more about the rich history and traditions of the Navajo people."



A curtain and a "Pardon Our Crumbs" sign keep a little holiday magic behind the curtain at Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort ahead of its Nov. 5 unveiling. (Doreen Holtje/NHO)

PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD Open Positions

Naanish aą 'idaat'éhigíí

TITLE

Administrative Services Centers

Ft. Defiance ASC

Accounts Maintenance Specialist	Ft. Defiance, AZ	$36,164.16	10/20/2026
Accounts Maintenance Specialist	Window Rock, AZ	$36,164.16	10/21/2026

Shiprock ASC

Community Service Coordinator	Red Valley, AZ	$46,562.40	10/22/2026
Accounts Maintenance Specialist	Red Valley, AZ	$36,164.16	10/27/2026

Tuba ASC

Accounts Maintenance Specialist	Cameron, AZ	$36,164.16	11/02/2026

Capital Projects Management Department

Project Manager	Window Rock, AZ	$55,979.28	10/20/2026
Project Manager	Window Rock, AZ	$55,979.28	10/21/2026

DCD Administration

Senior Accountant	Window Rock, AZ	$56,000.16	10/30/2026
Senior Programs & Projects Specialist	Window Rock, AZ	$68,569.92	11/02/2026

(OUF) Open Until Filled
(S) Sensitive Position (subject to background check)
Closing Dates may change

For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM's website at https://apply.navajo-nsn.gov/

Quote of the Month
Saad Bąą Nitsáhakeesigíí

Comic of the Month
Baa Dlohasinigíí Naashch'ąą'

Halloween: October 31, 2026

October 08, 2026

Press Release Number: CB26-FF.08

Halloween is a festive celebration characterized by activities like carving pumpkins and donning masks and costumes to trick-or-treat. Some trace the spooky tradition to the festival of Samhain among the Celts of ancient Britain and Ireland. When large numbers of Irish and other immigrants came to the United States beginning in the mid-19th century, they brought their Halloween customs with them. In the 20th century, Halloween, celebrated October 31 (the night before All Saints' or All Hallows' Day), became a favorite pastime, especially among kids.

The following facts are possible thanks to the invaluable responses to U.S. Census Bureau surveys. We appreciate the public's cooperation as we measure America's people, places and economy.

Trick or Treat!

132.7 million

The number of occupied U.S. housing units – potential stops for trick-or-treaters – in 2024.

Source: 2024 American Community Survey 1-year estimates

72.0 million

The estimated number of U.S. children under the age of 18 (read: potential trick-or-treaters) as of July 1, 2025.

Source: Vintage 2025 Population Estimates

56.6 million

The number of occupied U.S. housing units with steps that trick-or-treaters had to climb to collect their treats – or tricks – in 2023.

Source: 2023 American Housing Survey

Spooky-Sounding Places

Source: City and Town Population Totals 2020-2025*

- Devils Lake, N.D. (2025 population: 7,333).
- Seven Devils Town, N.C. (2025 population: 314).
- Slaughter Beach, Del. (2025 population: 255).
- Spirit, Wisc. (2025 population: 303).
- Spirit Lake, Idaho (2025 population: 2,485).
- Slaughters City, Ky. (2025 population: 191).
- Sleepy Hollow, Ill. (2025 population: 3,122).
- Dead Lake Township, Minn. (2025 population: 534).
- Truth or Consequences, N.M. (2025 population: 5,949).
- Yellville, Ark. (2025 population: 1,095).

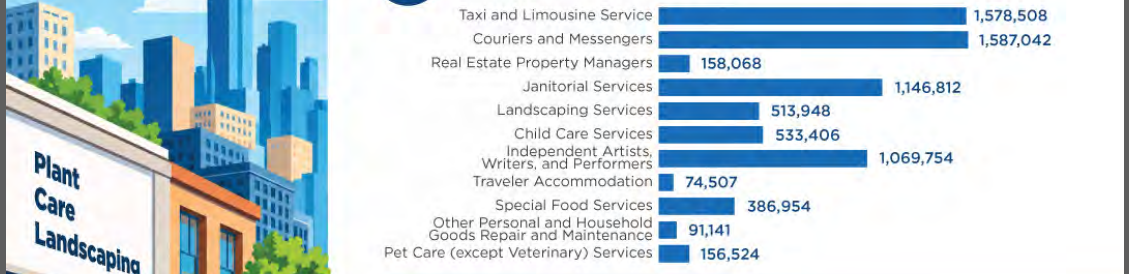
Boo! Who Lives There?

Population of U.S. Places With Eerie-Sounding Names: July 1, 2025

The Gig Picture

2024 Nonemployer Statistics Provide Insight Into the Gig Economy

Number of Individual Proprietorships in Selected Industries



Receipts for Individual Proprietorships in Selected Industries

(In thousands of dollars)

Note: The industries shown reflect 2022 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) definitions and were selected because individual proprietorships classified in these industries are likely to have some portion of their receipts attributed to gig activities. The portion of receipts attributed to gig activities is unknown because this information is not available in the administrative data used to produce nonemployer statistics. NAICS codes listed in the order they appear above include 4853, 492, 53131, 56172, 56173, 62441, 71151, 7211, 7223, 81149, and 81291. For more information on methodology, including disclosure avoidance methods, visit <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nonemployer-statistics.html>.

United States® Census Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2024 Nonemployer Statistics.

Community Land Use Planning Website

A platform for community-driven land use planning resources.

- Community land use planning orientation video!
- Community land use palnning documents:
  - Community Assessment Surveys
  - CLUPC requirement listings
  - Title 26 of the NN Code, Section 2004; Community Based Land Use Plan; Land Use Variations
- Resources:
  - Census 2020 Website
  - Map Request
- Community Land use Powerpoint
- Technical Assistance Request Link

Community Land Use Planning Kéyah Binahat'a'

Visit our website today!

REVIEW TITLE 26 – LOCAL GOVERNANCE ACT

§ 2004. Zoning; Community Based Land Use Plan; Land Use Variations

The Navajo Nation Local Governance Act specifies that political subdivisions known as Chapters may establish **community based land use plans**, adopt their own **zoning ordinances**, and **enforce those ordinances**.

ORDINANCE PROCESS

Per 2001 Ordinance Procedure

1. Draft Ordinances have seven (7) requirements such as having a number, title, preamble, rules and regulations governing enforcement of the ordinance, etc.
2. Ordinance is read in both English + Navajo at two (2) consecutive chapter meetings.
3. Voting on the zoning ordinance occurs at the 3rd Chapter Meeting.
4. Ordinance must be posted for a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the vote.
5. Approval requires a simple majority of the votes cast at a regular or special chapter meeting.

Some ordinances require a ballot vote but zoning ordinances **do not require a ballot vote.**

COMMON ZONING DISTRICTS

RESIDENTIAL (R):
Areas designated for single-family homes, apartments, and other housing types.

COMMERCIAL (C):
Districts for businesses, retail shops, offices, and other commercial activities.

INDUSTRIAL (I):
Zones for manufacturing, warehouses, and other industrial operations.

MIXED-USE (MU):
Areas that combine residential and commercial uses to create walkable neighborhoods with different functions.

CLAN CLUSTERS:
Clusters of homes in one area.

Gallup ASC and DCD Senior Planner hosts the **Zoning and Ordinance orientation** for LGA Certified Chapters.

6 **CHAPTERS ATTENDED the session at BACA CHAPTER.**

For more information please contact:
Senior Planner, L. James
ljames@nndcd.org

(505) 863-7544
Navajo Nation Division of Community Development

KEEP IT CLEAN, KEEP IT GREEN

Working together for a cleaner,healthier community

RECYCLING TIPS: SMALL ACTIONS, BIG IMPACT

Reduce waste. Recycle right.
Protect our land for future generation.

Recycling is one of the easiest ways we can all help protect our environment, conserve natural resources, and keep our communities clean and beautiful. By following a few simple tips, every household can make a big difference.

TOP RECYCLING TIPS

CLEAN AND DRY RECYCLABLES
Rinse containers and let them dry before placing them in the recycling bin. Food and liquid can contaminate other materials.

FLATTEN CARDBOARD BOXES
This save space in you bin and helps during transportation

RECYCLE PAPER PRODUCTS
Newspaper, magazines, office paper, and cardboard are recyclabe. Keep paper dry and free from food.

RECYCLE PLASTIC BOTTLES AND CONTAINERS
Check with your local program about accepted plastics. Remove caps if required.

RECYCLE ALUMINUM AND STEEL CANS.
Rinse cans and place them in the recycling bin.

RECYCLE GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS.
Recycle glass when accepted. Do not include broken glass unless allowed.

KEEP RECYCLABLES LOOSE.
Do not put recyclables in plastic bags unless your local program allows it.

REDUCE BEFORE YOU RECYCLE

USE REUSABLE ITEMS
Use reusable shopping bags, water bottles, and coffeecups

BUY WISELY
Choose products with minimal packaging.

REPAIR OR DONATE
Fix items when possible or donate gently use items instead of throwing them away

REUSE WHEN YOU CAN
Reuse containers for storage, organizing or community projects

DID YOU KNOW?

Recycling 1 ton newspaper saves:

- 17 Trees
- 7,000 gallon of water
- 380 gallons of oil
- Enough energy to power a home for 6 months

SAY NO TO ILLEGAL DUMPING

Illegal dumping harms ourland, pollutes our water, and puts our health at risk. It also costs our communities money that could be used for important programs and services.

It hurts wildlife and destroys habitats.

It pollutes our soil, water, and air.

It lowers property values and affects our quality of life

WHAT GOES WHERE

YES RECYCLE THESE

NO! DO NOT RECYCLE THESE

NAVAJO NATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CYBERSECURITY ALERT

IF YOU DID NOT EXPECT IT — DO NOT CLICK IT. Do not click links, attachments, QR codes, phone numbers, or "Join/Accept" buttons in suspicious messages or calendar invitations.

1. STOP — DO NOT INTERACT

If a suspicious email, link, or calendar invitation appears: do not click it, open attachments, scan its QR code, call a number in the message, or accept/decline the invitation. Take a screenshot if safe to do so.

2. DISCONNECT A SUSPECT COMPUTER

If a user clicked the link, entered a password, downloaded a file, or the computer is behaving unusually, disconnect it from Wi-Fi/Ethernet immediately. Do not reconnect it "to see if it is fixed." Leave the computer powered on unless IT instructs otherwise so evidence may be preserved.

3. REPORT IT TO CHAPTER IT / DCD IT

Report the incident immediately. Include the affected email address, computer/user, approximate time, screenshot, sender address, and the suspicious message or calendar invite. Do not forward the malicious link to other users.

4. SECURE THE ACCOUNT

If credentials were entered on the suspicious site, change the password from a known-clean device. Use a unique password and enable MFA. IT should review sign-in activity, revoke active sessions/tokens where appropriate, and check for suspicious mailbox rules or forwarding.

5. REMOVE THE THREAT — IT HANDLES THIS

Do not attempt to "clean" a suspected infected computer by repeatedly clicking links, running unknown cleanup tools, or deleting evidence. IT should isolate the device, run approved endpoint/security scans, inspect browser extensions and startup items, apply updates, and determine whether reimaging is required.

6. CHECK FOR SPREAD

The chapter should identify other users who received the same message/invite and any computers where the link was opened. Treat multiple affected users as a security incident, not as separate isolated problems.

7. CALENDAR INVITE RULE

Unexpected calendar invitations can be phishing. Do not use Accept, Decline, Join, or links inside the invitation. In Outlook, report the associated message as phishing/junk when available and delete the invitation without sending a response. Microsoft recommends reporting suspicious messages and avoiding suspicious links.

8. PREVENTION

Keep Windows, Microsoft 365/Outlook, browsers, and security software updated. Use MFA. Never reuse passwords. Verify unexpected requests by calling the person using a known phone number—not a number in the message. Hover over links before clicking when appropriate.

IMPORTANT: This flyer treats the activity as a potential phishing/account-compromise/malware incident. A suspicious link or calendar invite does not by itself prove that malware is installed. IT should confirm the cause and scope before labeling a device infected.
Guidance: Microsoft Support — phishing protection and reporting; CISA — phishing and incident response guidance.

Ghááájí

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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