

A:shiwi A:wana Messenger



Special Issue 14 • May 5, 2021

Pueblo of Zuni Receives Capital Outlay Funding for Sewer Line Extension Project

Governor Val Panteah and the Zuni Tribal Council are pleased to announce the 2021 Capital Outlay awards from the 55th Legislative Session, held January 19 through March 20, 2021. During each regular session, there is a three-week window when legislators and the State review Capital Outlay requests. This session was all virtual due to the COVID pandemic.

Governor Lujan Grisham's 2021 initiatives included water, energy, and broadband. The Pueblo submitted requests for three projects: Broadband, Sewer Line Extension, and Zuni Fair Building. Of these the sewer line extension was funded for \$968,900, which will pay for design, construction and installation of the sewer line for 32

homes on septic tank systems on Shalako Drive. The New Mexico Indian Affairs Department will administer these funds.

We thank our Legislators: State Representative Lee Alcon (House District 6) and State Senators George Munoz (Senate District 4) and Joshua Sanchez (Senate District 30), along with Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. We also extend thanks to Representative Javier Martinez, who carried the Capital Outlay Bill, HB-285.

Efforts to fund broadband through the state with federal funds will be announced over the summer. The Pueblo will continue to seek funds for the Zuni Fair Building through other revenue sources.

Zuni Signs Arizona Gaming Compact

The Zuni Tribe participated in a signing ceremony on April 15 at the Heard Museum in Phoenix to mark completion of the new gaming compact amendments. On behalf of the Zuni Tribe, Governor Val R. Panteah, Sr., Lt. Governor Carleton Bowekaty, and Head Councilwoman Virginia Chavez met with Arizona Governor Doug Ducey and leaders from the other negotiating tribes.

The compact amendments are the result of five years of extensive work to reach terms to extend and strengthen the current gaming compact, while modernizing key provisions. The work was especially challenging because of the wide range of interests among the negotiating tribes and the State of Arizona. Governor Panteah commented that because of the complexity of the details and issues, the effort required careful long-term focus on key priorities, mutual respect among all negotiating parties, and, above-all-else,

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Governor Val R. Panteah, Sr., Lt. Governor Carleton Bowekaty, and Arizona Governor Doug Ducey

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persistence. Now, those efforts have paid off. The compact amendments have been submitted to the Department of Interior, Office of Indian Gaming, for approval. The Department of Interior has 45 days to review the compact amendments and issue a decision.

The new compact maintains the benefits for all stakeholders under the existing compact approved by Arizona voters in 2002. For non-tribal beneficiaries, this includes continued funding for education, emergency room care and municipalities. For the tribes, the terms preserve existing benefits and strengthen tribal exclusivity over casino gaming, expand gaming opportunities, and eliminate revenue sharing for all rural gaming tribes, among other provisions. In exchange, the compact for the first time authorizes the state to permit sports betting venues by Arizona's professional sports teams. This expansion of economic benefits will increase revenues for the state budget and for tribal governments.

For Zuni in particular, the agreement secures the revenue stream from gaming device right transfers for the term of the new compact, until 2048, so strengthens the Tribe's financial

condition for a full generation. The stability this brings will enable Zuni to focus on other initiatives for the benefit and welfare of the entire Tribe.

This achievement would not have occurred without the work from a broad coalition of committed stakeholders. Governor Panteah thanked Governor Ducey and the state team for their commitment to pushing this through even when the challenges looked insurmountable. In addition, Governor had praise and appreciation for his negotiating team and Zuni Tribal Council for guiding this process and watching out for Zuni's best interests. Governor and Zuni Tribal Council want to recognize and express their sincere appreciation for the efforts of Mr. George Hesse, who served as legal counsel to Zuni's compact negotiations. Lastly, Governor Panteah expressed appreciation for Zuni's transfer partner, the Gila River Indian Community. Governor Stephen Lewis and the GRIC Tribal Council remained committed to the partnership developed during the first compact negotiations. This successful work has only strengthened the trust and respect between the two tribes.

The new compact terms will not take effect until final Department of Interior

approval. Although approval is expected, objections are possible, so the Tribe will be ready to respond to explain the benefits and validity of the terms it made in the negotiation. This success is the foundation for future progress and development. As the final steps are completed, further updates and information will be provided.

Employment Opportunity

The following position has been posted on www.ashiwi.org. Applicants must apply online.

To view the announcement, click on the job tile below. For any questions, please contact the Human Resources Department at (505) 782-7086, or email at hr@ashiwi.org or Farrah.cheama@ashiwi.org. Please share with those who do not have access to outlook. Thank you.

- [Facility Maintenance Worker – WIC/Healthy Lifestyles Program](#)

Closing: May 10, 2021

****ALL ADVERTISEMENTS CLOSE AT 11:59 PM OF THE CLOSING DATE**

Tribal Council Updates Emergency Declaration

WHEREAS, the Zuni Tribal Council, consisting of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and six Tenientes, is declared to be the legislative authority of the Zuni Tribe by Article V, Sections 1 and 2 of the Constitution of the Zuni Tribe; and,

WHEREAS, the Zuni Tribal Council is authorized to approve, provide and to represent the tribe, and to act in all matters that concern the welfare of the tribe by Article VI, Section 1, paragraph d of the Constitution of the Zuni Tribe; and,

WHEREAS, the Zuni Tribal Council is authorized to enact ordinances, to provide for the enforcement of tribal ordinances and to provide by ordinance the orderly management of tribal affairs by Article VI, Section 1, paragraphs k, l and m of the Constitution of the Zuni Tribe; and,

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020 under Resolution No. [M70-2020-P037](#), the Zuni Tribe declared that there was a public health emergency related to the pandemic spread of COVID-19. On April 3, 2020, Governor Val R. Panteah, Sr., issued an Executive Order, a curfew within the boundaries of the Zuni Reservation between 8:00p.m. and 5:00a.m.; and,

WHEREAS, that emergency continues as there are or have been 1,198 diagnosed cases at Zuni and 52 deaths with no end in sight, this Amended Declaration incorporates and updates Resolution No. M70-2020-P037, and the Governor's Executive Order of April 3, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the Zuni Tribal Council has determined that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose an imminent threat to the health, safety and well-being of the Zuni Tribe and Community; and,

WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico has continued to report numerous confirmed cases of COVID-19, and deaths as a result of COVID-19, and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham has declared a statewide public health emergency and invoked her authority under New Mexico's All Hazard Emergency Management Act;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in addition to directions given in Resolution No. M70-2020-P037, the Tribal Council directs the following:

1. All of Zuni Community members will wear face coverings while out in public and around public places at all times or when in contact

with persons whom they are not living with in the same household. (CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) *Recommendations for Wearing Cloth Face Coverings, Help Slow the Spread of Covid-19*, Updated March 8, 2021). This directive includes Zunis participating in traditional and cultural and religious activities.

2. Meetings of 120 or more people or 150 or more vehicles are prohibited unless excepted by this Declaration. (Updated March 15, 2021 and [Public Health Order, New Mexico Department of Health and New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham 2021](#)). Exempted from this directive are traditional cultural or religious meetings / gatherings so long as all members are wearing face coverings throughout the meetings.

3. All houses of worship will continue with their services for community members only, and strictly adhere to six (6) feet or more apart from one another in or outside the building, and not to exceed 50 percent (50%) capacity ([Public Health Order, New Mexico Department of Health, and New](#)

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Zuni Youth Enrichment Project's 13th Annual Summer Camp to be Held In-Person

This week, the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project announced that it will hold its 13th annual Summer Camp in person. Registration opens May 10 for the four-week day camp, with applications available online or at Ho'n A:w'an Park.

Founded in 2009, Summer Camp was ZYEP's first program — and it remains its flagship initiative, serving 200 Zuni youth each season. While the youth project staff successfully held a virtual "safe at home" version of the camp in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, they are eager to welcome the kids back this year.

Summer Camp programming integrates education, physical activities, nutrition, gardening, and art, and it's designed to enhance participants' learning and health while strengthening their connection to

Zuni culture. During the summer, campers have opportunities to learn Zuni language, traditional gardening, art, and social dances, while exploring what makes them special.

"Our mentors blend these culturally relevant and enriching activities with a conventional camp curriculum that includes STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), nutrition, sports, games, and self-care," said Joe Claunch, ZYEP's executive director. "Over the years, we've documented significant improvements in our young people's overall wellness. Campers report eating more fresh fruits and vegetables, enjoying physical activities more, building stronger relationships with peers and mentors, and connecting more deeply to Zuni culture."

ZYEP Camp continues on page 4





Immediate Release

By the order of the Incident Command Team in consultation and support from the Governor, Tribal Council, and Zuni Public Health Officials; the Incident Command team will decrease mitigation measures based on the current COVID-19 data provided by Zuni IHS. Changes will take effect on **Friday, April 16, 2021**.

Changes:

- Checkpoints on State Road 53 **will be** lifted
 - *Note: Checkpoints will be re-established including other protective measures in the event there is an increase in COVID positive cases.*
- Nightly Curfew enforcement will remain in effect with a one-hour extension.
 - Businesses may stay open till 9:00 PM.
 - **Nightly Curfew: 10:00 pm – 5:00 AM**

REMINDER

If you have received the COVID-19 vaccine and are fully vaccinated, you are still required to wear a face mask, wash/sanitize hands and social distance when in public. There have been reported reinfections that have occurred in cases where an individual has been fully vaccinated.

Keep in mind that the use of face masks is still required at all local businesses in order to enter a business and purchase goods & services.

Refreshments!

Vital, engaging and fun!

**Zuni Housing Authority,
A:shiwi College and Career Readiness Center
& First Financial Credit Union
PRESENT:**

FINANCIAL REALITY FAIR

FRIDAY 7 MAY 2021
SESSION 1: 1:00PM-5:30PM

SATURDAY 8 MAY 2021
SESSION 2: 8:00AM-12:30PM

SATURDAY 8 MAY 2021
SESSION 3: 1:00PM-5:30PM

Are you ready to invest in yourself and your future? Learn about the importance of credit, college, and homeownership!

Topics of Discussion include:

- **Credit Basics and Homeownership Opportunities
- **Banking Accounts 101
- **The Pitfalls of Predatory Lending
- **Building Wealth through Investments
- **529 Education Savings Plan
- **The True Cost of College
- **Financial Aid 101
- **Navigating College Campus Resources

Register by May 1, 2021

Event Location:
ACCRC Campus

Use your camera and the QR Code below to Register!

Hurry! Registration is limited to 20 per session

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For questions, please call
ZHA @ 505-782-4550 or ACCRC @ 505-782-6022

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ZYEP Camp continues from page 3

Building relationships with mentors is an important part of the Summer Camp experience. Each year, a group of Zuni teens and young adults completes a robust leadership development program so they can serve as camp counselors. This program includes a four-day retreat to a culturally significant site, a week of professional development workshops, and daily group sessions.

“Through this leadership program, the counselors are developing communication, leadership, and mentoring skills,” Claunch said. “They’re also gaining valuable learning and work experiences, which allow them to pursue their own higher education and career goals going forward.”

“In that sense, Summer Camp benefits campers and counselors alike,” he noted. “Every year, our counselors tell us about their positive experiences and how they’ve personally grown.”

ZYEP will be sharing more details about its 13th annual Summer Camp in the coming weeks. For news updates, visit <https://www.zyep.org/news/>, and follow the youth project on social media: Facebook (/zuniyouthenrichmentproject), Instagram (@zuniyouthenrichmentproject), and YouTube (/ZuniYouth).



Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's Key Health metrics and tiering system, 2021).

4. All in-person meetings between members of the Zuni Community who are not members of the same household may be held if each person is wearing a face covering and standing six (6) feet or more apart from other persons in and outside public places including places where notice is placed (CDC Guidance and Tips for Tribal Community Living During COVID-19, Social Distancing and Coping During COVID-19, Updated March 7, 2021, and CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), Guidelines on How Fully Vaccinated People Can Safely Resume, Updated March 8, 2021.

5. All businesses will be closed during the evening curfews with the exception of Medical facilities. Businesses will open based on their daily business hours with an extended hour up to 9:00 p.m. (1 hour prior to the curfew now in effect at 10:00 p.m.)

6. Evening curfews will take effect from 10:00 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. daily, including weekends (the change in the curfew hours is due to

significant decline in our Covid-19 daily positivity rate per our local Health Officials. These hours shall change in the event that the positivity rate increases in increments of 5 positive cases per week).

7. The checkpoints will be temporarily suspended, and Kachini Security personnel will be redirected to local establishments, businesses and school events to ensure current CDC guidelines are adhered to by all persons patronizing these establishments, government offices, and school events.

8. The change in Curfew hours will take effect on April 16, 2021, and the community will be informed through all available media avenues.

9. Based on New Mexico's color-coded tiering system, McKinley County is at the turquoise green level. Large events such as school events can operate at 33% capacity for indoor and outdoor events, and mass gatherings are not to exceed 150 people or 200 vehicles.

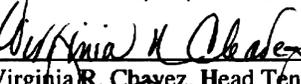
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Zuni Tribe are put on notice that violations of the above directions may cause members to be charged with Public Nuisance (4-4-120), Failure to Disperse (4-4-96), and other charges as the facts may merit.

IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Zuni Tribal Council may review and change the directives as reasonably appropriate to deal with this pandemic.

ZUNI TRIBAL COUNCIL:



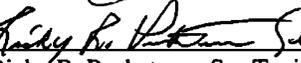
Val R. Panteah, Sr., Governor



Virginia R. Chavez, Head Teniente



Arlen P. Quetawki, Sr., Teniente



Ricky R. Penketewa, Sr., Teniente



Carleton R. Bowekaty, Lt. Governor

Vacant
Teniente



Eric Bobelu, Teniente

Absent - Excused
Arden Kucate, Teniente

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Zuni Tribal Council at a duly called meeting at Zuni, New Mexico, at which a quorum was present and the same was approved by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, 1 absent on April 12, 2021.



Tribal Council Secretary

APPROVED / DISAPPROVED


Val R. Panteah, Sr., Governor
Pueblo of Zuni

ZYEP Distributes 550 Wellness Kits to Shiwi Ts'ana Students

In March, the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project prepared 550 wellness kits for students at Shiwi Ts'ana Elementary School. On March 12 the nonprofit youth organization distributed 300 kits directly to students and delivered the rest to the school, where teachers provided them to students who were unable to attend the in-person event.

For these springtime kits, ZYEP assembled a wide variety of materials dedicated to physical activity and healthy living. Each wellness kit included a fruit infuser pod, a deck of Zuni-English flash cards with images related to agriculture and gardening, cilantro seeds for students to grow at home, information and activities focused on nutrition labels, a poster tracking the seven-week course of nutrition and agriculture lessons in which the student will participate, a bingo card featuring healthy-living activities, a hula hoop, a ball and bean bag for physical education lessons, and STEM activity cards from Explora, the science museum in Albuquerque. In addition, the ZYEP team developed a second set of Zuni exercise cards to be distributed with art class materials.

According to executive director Joe Claunch, ZYEP has delivered more than 5,000 kits to youth and community members in Zuni Pueblo in the last 12 months. Each distribution has featured its own theme and unique contents — and, he said, there are more to come.

“Our next distribution will be focused on agriculture and water conservation, as we’re heading into the new growing



season,” he noted. “We’re honored to serve our community in this way. These kits give us an important opportunity to connect with our kids, to encourage them and let them know that we are still here for them. And our assessments indicate that this is having a meaningful impact.” In keeping with ZYEP’s holistic approach, each of the 2020-21 kits

will include nutrition, physical activity, art, mental health, and cultural resources, all to encourage healthy lifestyles.

ZYEP partnered with 20 funding organizations and hundreds of individual donors to make the Wellness Kit initiative possible.

ZYEP Transforms Delap’na:we Oral History Theater Project for the Covid Era

The show must go on, even during a global pandemic. For the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project, that meant using remote learning technology, digital animation, and voice recording sessions to take its 3rd annual Delap’na:we Oral History Theater Project into an exciting virtual space for the very first time.

The virtual program had a measurable impact, with 93% of youth participants reporting increased self-confidence, and 86% reporting a strengthened connection with Zuni culture and community. These post-program numbers represent 22% and 10% increases, respectively, from the participants’ entry surveys. In addition, 100% of the program’s leaders reported feeling a greater sense of purpose.

Delap’na:we are traditional oral stories that were a form of entertainment, intergenerational bonding, and education for Zuni people in the past. ZYEP started its Delap’na:we Project in 2018, when the leader of the A:shiwi A:wana Museum and Heritage Center, Curtis Quam,

approached the nonprofit organization to find a way to bring recorded oral history to life through theatrical performance art. The first performance took place in February 2019, within the strict storytelling timeframe required to meet cultural protocols.

Last fall, ZYEP met with community partners to come up with solutions for the February 2021 performance. According to Andrea Pepin, program manager, and Tahlia Natachu, youth development coordinator, they weren’t sure how well a virtual program would work.

“This year, I was a bit nervous about losing momentum for this project, because how could we have a theater activity in the midst of a pandemic?” Natachu reflected. “But our community leaders are so brilliant and innovative; they made it possible. Not only were we able to successfully complete the program, it was done in such a meaningful, high-quality way. I am most

Oral History continues next page



Oral History continues from previous page

proud of all our participants. They took the chance and stepped outside of their comfort zones to put on a production during one of the most challenging times our community has faced.”

“Right off the bat, our leaders knew how important it was to offer this activity despite the pandemic,” Pepin said. “We were shocked at how many people signed up, knowing it would be entirely virtual.”

Indeed, 30 people signed up to participate, including program leaders and 21 youth ages 6-18. Led by director Keith Edaakie and acting directors Leanne Lee and Tiana Cachini, the program kicked off with a weekly Zoom theater camp, allowing participants to gather virtually for team building, learn about the elements of theater, and practice voice and acting exercises. Then it was time for rehearsals and voice recording sessions.

Language coaches Norene Lonasee and Coleen Vicenti handled the script, Curtis Quam served as cultural advisor, and Aidan Banteah-Yuselew supported the team as junior theater assistant. Additional support came from ZYEP staff, including Pepin, Natachu, and Kiana Etsate-Gashytewa.

“Keith Edaakie, Robin Lasiloo and Michael Owaleon Sr. produced the animations, and Shiwi Sun Productions assembled the final performance piece using all the Zoom recordings, animation clips, audio, and other materials,” Natachu said. “They are incredible.”

The Delap’na:we Project initially aired on February 25, with an encore performance

on February 27. According to Pepin, it was an enormous success on multiple levels.

“We had 220 viewers tuning in, from New Mexico but also from as far away as Ohio, New York, and Rhode Island,” she said. “We also got to witness so many kids coming out of their shells. The virtual setting seemed to create a greater sense of comfort for them, and I’m sure all of the laughter and good vibes this type of activity offers helped as well.”

Pepin also noted that the ZYEP staff was in awe of the artists who were able to bring the animations to life. These characters told the stories of “Coyote & the Badger” and “The Coyote & the Eyeball Race.”

“This form of digital art is something we had not ventured into yet at ZYEP,” she said, “but thanks to the amazing partners we work with, all of the characters came to life in ways we never could have imagined!”



Natachu said ZYEP is dedicated to increasing the amount of Zuni language spoken each year in the Delap’na:we Project. Not only is this deeply valued by Zuni leaders and culture bearers, she observed, but the youth participants thrived on it as well.

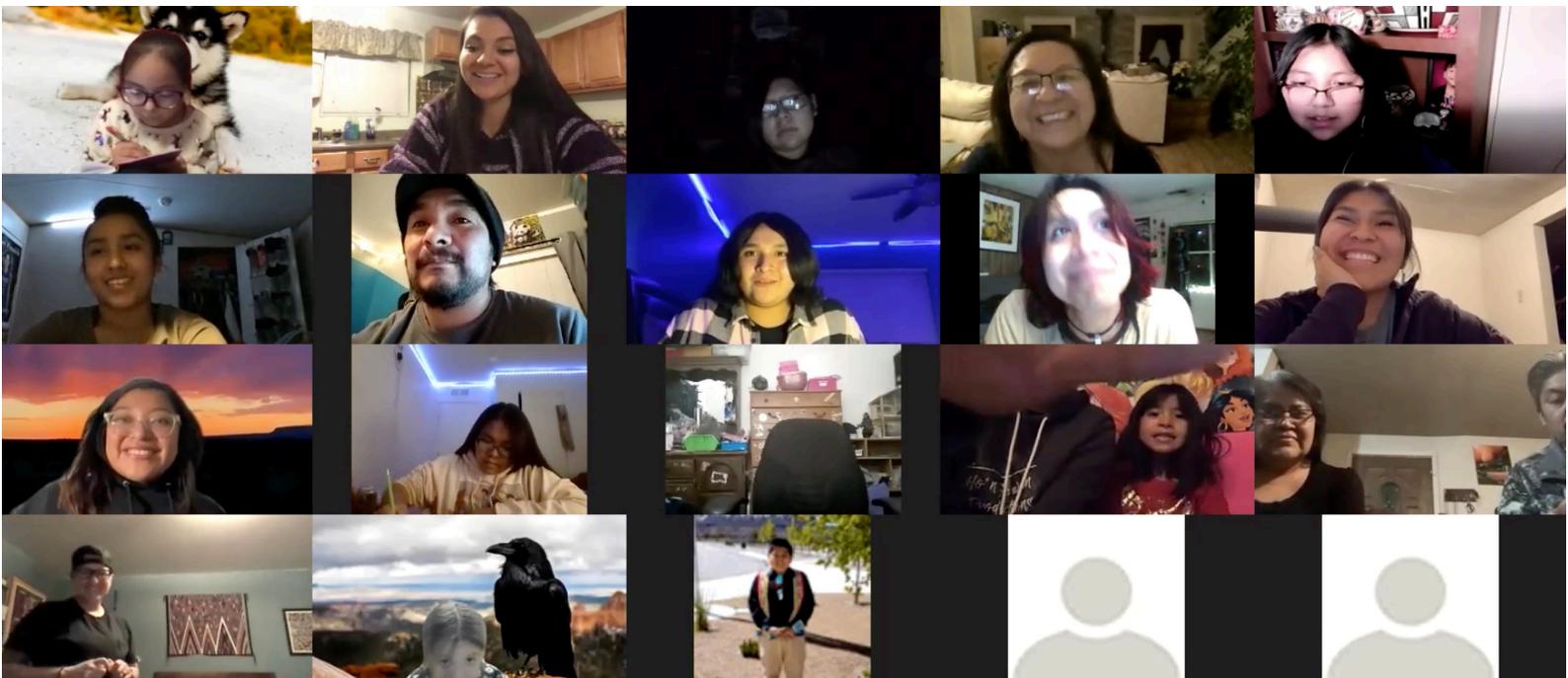
“They were so passionate about learning their language and their lines, and doing a good job,” she said. “Seeing their personalities and talents shine through was so rewarding. The group reminded me of how resilient our people are.”



“I feel incredibly blessed to have been able to work alongside our community partners,” she continued. “I want to thank them for the knowledge and skills they shared: the Zuni Tribal Council, A:shiwi A:wam Museum and Heritage Center, Shiwi Sun Productions, Shiwi Ts’ana Elementary School, Ho’n A:wam Productions, and our Zuni community.”

In addition, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), First Nations Development Institute, Colorado Plateau Foundation, and donors across the country played vital roles in bringing the Delap’na:we Project to life this winter.

“The impact that this program has had in just three years is truly incredible,” Natachu said. “I hope all who tuned in enjoyed the show, and please give a shout-out to our movie stars when you see them in the community!”



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Zuni Hospital Covid Vaccine Hotline - 505-782-7590
Pueblo of Zuni Covid Info Center - 505-782-7114
www.facebook.com/POZCovid19



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