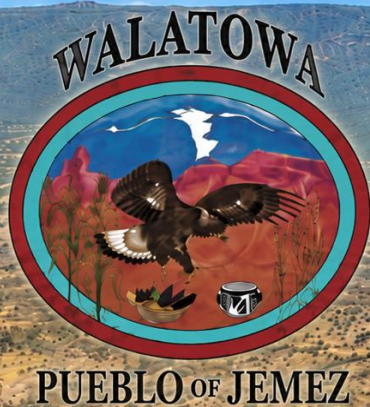




THE

Walatowan

JULY 2026

What's New in Tribal Court.....	1
What is a QR Code?.....	2
Tribal Official's Monthly Message.....	3
Sun Safety Health Observance.....	3
Employment Opportunities.....	4
New World Screwworm: What You Need To Know.....	5
Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network.....	6
Head Start Application.....	8
Animal Control Update.....	8
SRCS Unveils Mural.....	9
Meet the JVR Program.....	10
JHHS Dental Clinic Updates.....	11
Housing Opportunities	12
JDOT Update.....	13
EMS Summer Safety Message.....	17
2026 Irrigation Schedule.....	18
POJ Department of Education Update.....	19
Nursing Update.....	21
Back to School Bash.....	22

Pueblo of Jemez 2026 Tribal Leadership

Governor John Galvan
1st Lt. Gov. Matthew Gachupin Jr.
2nd Lt. Gov. Thurman Loretto

What's New in Tribal Court

JURY DUTY – In 2025, the Pueblo of Jemez Tribal Council mandated the creation of jury rules and procedures for the Tribal Courts regarding Jury Trials [Rule 16]. On May 2, 2025, the Tribal Judge issued Administrative Order No. 2025-AO-0001 adopting jury rules and procedures.

On May 8, 2025, Tribal Council amended Rule 16 setting eligibility requirements for jurors. To be eligible to serve as a juror, a person: (i) must be an enrolled tribal member, a spouse of a tribal member residing on Jemez Pueblo lands and/or a non-member permanent resident of the Pueblo of Jemez, (ii) must be 18 years of age or older, (iii) must have never been convicted in any court of a felony and must not be a registered sex offender, (iv) must not be a member of the religious supreme council, heads of the hunt and warrior societies, head of the women societies, a member of the secular Tribal Council, (v) must not be a person serving in an annually appointed tribal official position for the Pueblo of Jemez during his term, (vi) also ineligible to serve are the Tribal Administrator, Assistant Tribal Administrator, court staff, law enforcement officer, and any person who is a witness or a party in the matter before the Court. If you believe you cannot serve on the jury due to physical or mental illness or infirmity, or due to extreme physical or financial hardship, you must contact the Court in writing.

PENALTY: Unless you receive notice from this Court granting your requested temporary excuse, or the Court notifies you in writing or by phone to report at a different time, you must attend as directed in the Summons. Failure to obey this summons may be punishable as Contempt of Court by fine of up to \$500.00 and/or imprisonment of up to 90 days.

Juror Payment and Reimbursement: You will receive an attendance fee of \$15.00 an hour for each hour you are present if you are not a Jemez Pueblo employee. If you are a Jemez Pueblo employee, you will be paid your hourly rate for the time you served as a juror, but you must provide your supervision with a copy of your summons and proof from the Court of the hours you served as a juror.

DOCKET AND CODES ON WEBPAGE – In order to comply with **TITLE I – GENERAL PROVISIONS, Section 1-1-7 Copies of Laws** “The public shall have access to the Pueblo of Jemez Tribal Code during regular business hours at the office of the Tribal Court, copies of this Code and any amendments thereto plus copies of all laws or rules which are incorporated by reference into this Code. This Code shall also be made available on the Pueblo’s Website: www.jemezpuueblo.org/government/tribal-court/.”

The Court is now posting the Weekly Court Docket on the Tribal Court Webpage to comply with the July 2024 Tribal Court Assessment from Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). (Continued on page 2.)

By posting the Weekly Court Docket it ensures that the Pueblo has public trials as required in the **Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968: Section 1302. - Constitutional Rights (a) (6)** states that “No Indian tribe in exercising powers of self-government shall - - deny to any person in a criminal trial the right to a speedy and public trial.”

Change in Jails Used by Pueblo – April 3, 2026, an agreement for detention services between the Pueblo of Jemez and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Office of Justice Services (OJS), District IV was enacted. In this agreement the Pueblo agrees to house up to the time of arraignment arrestees locally at Sandoval County Detention Facility, or the Cibola County Detention Facility until the arrestee can be arraigned in Tribal Court.

After arraignment, and if the arrestee is not released, the Pueblo shall exchange custody of detainee at designated locations and the detainee shall be remanded to BIA-OJS custody until trial, in accordance with a lawfully issued order from the Pueblo of Jemez Tribal Court.

Upon the conclusion of the trial and in accordance with a judgment of conviction and sentencing order from the Pueblo of Jemez Tribal Court, an adult or juvenile prisoner shall be remanded to the custody of the BIA-OJS to be incarcerated at BIA-OJS determined facilities. These facilities are currently Ute Mountain Chief Ignacio Justice Center, Towaoc, Colorado, Lincoln County Adult Detention Center in Carrizozo, or any of 12 facilities in Oklahoma. All BIA-OJS facilities are at no cost to the Pueblo of Jemez.

Duty to Report Child Abuse – The Court, Police, and Social Services want to remind everyone that in **TITLE XI of the CHILDRENS CODE - SECTION 11-4-3 DUTY TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT** states:

Any person who knows or has probable cause to suspect that a child has been abused or neglected shall report the suspected abuse or neglect to the Jemez Social Services and/or Law Enforcement.

Mandatory Reporters required to report suspected child abuse or neglect:

1. Physicians, nurses, dentists, optometrists, and other health professionals;
2. School principals, schoolteachers, and any other school officials;

3. Child day care center workers and other childcare staff, including foster parent(s) and residential care, or institutional personnel;

4. Counselors, therapists, social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists, and other mental health professionals;

5. Peace officers and other law enforcement officials;

6. Judges, Jemez Pueblo court counselors and clerks, and other judicial system officials;

7. Employees of Jemez Community Development Corporation;

8. Employees of the Jemez Pueblo Public Library; and

9. Employees of the Pueblo of Jemez in any Jemez Pueblo governmental program.

Any mandatory reporter failing, neglecting, or refusing to report a suspected case of child abuse or neglect shall be guilty of a fine of not less than \$500.00 and/or jail time of not more than ninety (90) days.

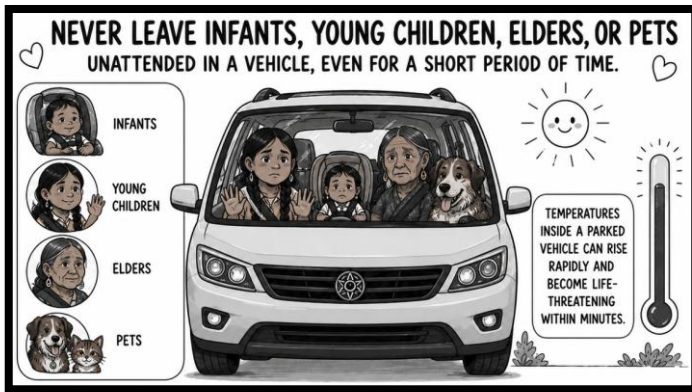


Sheriff Towan Toledo & Tribal Officials' Monthly Message

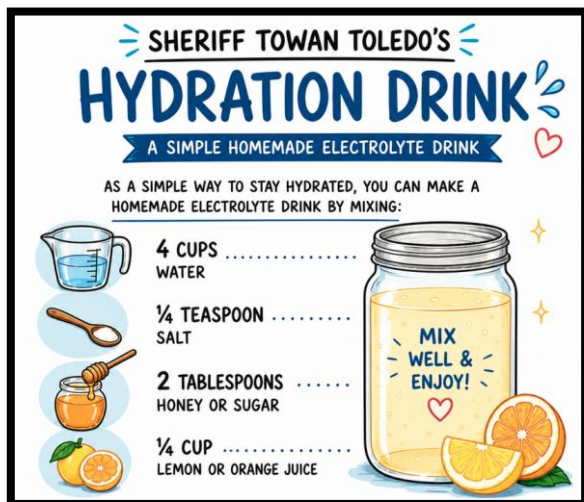
Summer Heat & Hydration Reminder

As temperatures continue to rise across our community, we encourage everyone to take extra precautions to stay safe and healthy during the summer months. The strength of our community comes from looking out for one another.

Sheriff Towan Toledo reminds us, "Please take a moment to check on your elders, family members, neighbors, and those working outdoors or in the fields." A simple act of kindness and concern can prevent serious heat-related illnesses and help keep our loved ones safe throughout the summer season.



Our elders are particularly susceptible to heat exhaustion and dehydration. Encourage them to drink plenty of fluids regularly, even if they do not feel thirsty. Staying hydrated is essential during hot weather, and beverages containing electrolytes can help replace important minerals lost through sweating. Likewise, those working outdoors should take frequent breaks, seek shade whenever possible, and drink water often to prevent heat-related illnesses.



By taking a few extra precautions and checking on one another, we can help ensure a safe, healthy, and enjoyable summer for everyone in our community. These summer safety recommendations are supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which encourages communities to take proactive steps to prevent heat-related illnesses

July Health Observance: Sun Safety Awareness

Adapted From CDC Sun Safety Facts

<https://www.cdc.gov/skin-cancer/sun-safety/index.html>

As Sheriff Towan Toledo reminded us in his summer safety message, protecting ourselves from the heat begins with looking out for one another. Whether it is checking on elders, ensuring children stay hydrated, or supporting those working outdoors in the fields, caring for our community also means protecting ourselves from the sun.

Spending time outdoors is an important part of life in the Pueblo of Jemez. Whether you are farming, gardening, participating in cultural activities, gathering with family, or enjoying time near the river, outdoor activities contribute to our physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. However, enjoying the outdoors safely requires taking steps to protect both your skin and your body from the effects of heat and sun exposure.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "Most skin cancers are caused by too much exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light." UV rays are an invisible form of radiation that come from the sun and can damage skin cells over time. In fact, skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. Many people assume they are safe from UV exposure on cloudy or cooler days, but the CDC notes that UV rays can penetrate clouds and reflect off surfaces such as water, sand, concrete, and snow. This means that sun protection is important year-round—not just during the hottest summer months. UV exposure is generally strongest between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., making these hours especially important for taking precautions.

The CDC encourages everyone to practice a combination of sun-safe behaviors, including seeking shade, wearing protective clothing, using sunscreen, and protecting the eyes with UV-blocking sunglasses. Wide-brimmed hats provide additional protection for the face, ears, and neck, while lightweight long-sleeved clothing can help shield the skin from harmful UV rays.

PROTECT YOUR SKIN

from the Sun

UV RAYS CAN DAMAGE YOUR SKIN ALL YEAR LONG.
The best protection is a combination of sun-safe habits.

- 1 SHADE**
 Whenever possible, seek shade under trees, umbrellas, or other shelters—especially from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, when UV rays are strongest.
- 2 CLOTHING**
 Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and skirts made of tightly woven fabric to protect your skin from UV rays.
- 3 HAT**
 Wear a wide-brimmed hat that shades your face, ears, and neck. If you wear a baseball cap, protect your ears and neck with sunscreen or clothing.
- 4 SUNGLASSES**
 Sunglasses that block both UVA and UVB rays offer the best protection. Most sunglasses sold in the United States, regardless of cost, meet this standard. Wrap-around sunglasses work best because they block UV rays from sneaking in from the side.

LOOK FOR 100% UV PROTECTION
 Blocks both UVA & UVB rays
- 5 SUNSCREEN**
 Put on broad spectrum sunscreen that filters out both UVA and UVB rays and has an SPF of 15 or higher before you go outside. Don't forget to put a thick layer on all exposed skin. Get help for hard-to-reach places like your back. Sunscreen works best when combined with other sun protection.

Sunscreen is not recommended for babies who are 6 months old or younger.
 Keep infants out of the sun during midday and use protective clothing if they must be outside.

UNDERSTANDING SUNSCREEN

SPF (SUN PROTECTION FACTOR) Sunscreens are assigned a sun protection factor (SPF), which is a number that rates how well they filter out UV rays. Higher numbers indicate more protection. Use a broad spectrum sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher.	REAPPLICATION Sunscreen wears off. Put it on again if you stay out in the sun for more than 2 hours and after swimming, sweating, or toweling off.	EXPIRATION DATE Check the sunscreen's expiration date. Sunscreen without an expiration date has a shelf life of no more than 3 years. Its shelf life is shorter if it has been exposed to high temperatures.
---	--	---

Employment Opportunities

The Pueblo of Jemez is currently accepting applications for a variety of positions across multiple departments, including Tribal Administration, Health & Human Services, Public Health, Education, Public Works, Natural Resources, Law Enforcement, Community Wellness, and Senior Services.

Current openings include:

- Clinical Lead Provider
- Clinical Operations Officer
- Infection Control Nurse
- Medical Director
- Director, Jemez Health & Human Services
- Tribal Caregiving Program Manager
- Physician
- Staff Pharmacist
- Optometrist (PT)
- Optometrist
- Public Health Agricultural Technician
- Assistant Tribal Administrator
- Tribal Administrator
- Forestry Laborer (Temporary – Full Time)
- Water Resources Manager
- Environmental Program Specialist
- JNET Director
- Grant Accountant
- Senior HR Generalist
- Custodian (Temporary – Full Time)
- Montessori Guide/Spanish Immersion Teacher
- Child Care Provider
- Educational Assistant
- Certified Police Officer
- Senior Center Program Manager
- And more!

You can explore job openings by scanning the QR code below. A QR code is a type of barcode that you can scan using your cell phone camera. Simply open your camera, point it at the QR code, and tap the link that appears. You will be guided to the POJ Tribal website careers page.

Scan me!



For questions about the application process or available jobs, please contact the Human Resources Department at (575) 834-6333.

New World Screwworm (NWS): What You Need to Know

Adapted from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

What is New World Screwworm?

New World screwworm (NWS) is a species of parasitic fly that feeds on the flesh of warm-blooded animals and people. NWS flies lay eggs in wounds and body openings. The eggs hatch into maggots (larvae) that eat live tissue, causing a worsening, often painful, and foul-smelling wound.

Signs and Symptoms

You may have a New World screwworm infestation if you experience:

- Feeling maggots move or seeing maggots within a skin wound or sore, or in the ears, nose, eyes, mouth, or genitals.
- Painful skin wounds or sores that worsen within a few days.
- A foul-smelling odor from the site of the infestation.
- Bleeding from open sores.

Wounds caused by New World screwworm maggots may also become infected with bacteria, which can cause additional symptoms such as fever or chills.

Risk Factors

You may be more likely to get NWS if you are in areas where the flies are present and:

- Spend a lot of time outdoors during the day;
 - especially if sleeping outdoors or unable to keep flies away.
- Have contact with warm-blooded animals.
- Have any open wounds or sores, no matter how small.

Prevent NWS

If you are in an area where NWS is present:

- Keep open wounds clean and covered, no matter how small or where they are located on the body.
- Sleep indoors with closed or screened windows.
- If outdoors, sleep under a bed net or in a screened tent.
- Protect your skin from insect bites by:
 - Using an EPA-registered insect repellent.
 - Treating clothing and gear with 0.5% permethrin.
 - Wearing loose-fitting clothing that limits exposed skin.

Protect Yourself and Your Family

Early detection and treatment are important. Check wounds regularly, seek medical care if you notice maggots or worsening wounds, and take precautions to prevent fly exposure when traveling or living in areas where New World screwworm is present.

Source: Adapted from information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New World Screwworm (NWS) educational materials.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For any cases report to the JHHS clinic at
575-834-7413
and the other respective agencies.

 **For Human Cases:**
NMDOH 1-833-796-8773
(1-833-SWNurse)

 **UNMH PALS Line:**
(505) 272-2000

 **For Animal Cases:**
NM Livestock Board
(505) 841-6161

 **For Companion Animals:**
NMLB (Office of the State Veterinarian)
(505) 841-6161

Adapted from the CDC

How NWS Spreads

NWS infestations begin when a female fly lays eggs on open wounds or other parts of the body in live, warm-blooded animals. Most infestations occur in animals like livestock, pets, or wildlife, but they also occur in people. Eggs hatch into maggots that burrow into and eat living flesh. After feeding for about 7 days, larvae drop to the ground, burrow into the soil, and emerge as adult screwworm flies.



New World screwworm maggot (left) next to a nickel, for size comparison. Image courtesy of Mark Fox, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



The New World screwworm flies have orange eyes, a metallic blue or green body, and three darker-shaded stripes along their backs. Image courtesy of Denise Bonilla, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Treatment

- If you see or feel maggots in or on a wound or other area of your body, contact a healthcare provider immediately. Tell them if you have recently traveled to Central or South America, the Caribbean, or Mexico.
- Your healthcare provider will remove each maggot, sometimes surgically.
- Do not try to remove any maggots or egg masses yourself. If any fall out of the wound, place them in a leak-proof container with rubbing alcohol to kill them. Bring them with you to your healthcare provider.



Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network

In today's digital world, high-speed internet is no longer a luxury - it is an essential service that supports education, healthcare, employment, communication, and economic development. The internet has become a critical utility that connects people to opportunities and resources that were once out of reach. An important benefit of high-speed internet is access to education. Students of all ages rely on the internet for research, online assignments, virtual classrooms, and educational resources. Adults also benefit through online training programs, certifications, and college courses to develop new skills and pursue career advancement. High-speed internet is also playing a vital role in entrepreneurship, career opportunities and modern healthcare

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a survey revealed that 80% of the homes in our Jemez community lacked home internet access. Those who had internet were paying up to \$400 per month for that access. Unfortunately, Jemez lacked the physical infrastructure (fiber lines, towers, equipment, maintenance systems, etc.) to ensure reliable service, faster speeds and coverage of all households. Hence the inception of JNET.

In Jemez, JNET stands for the Jemez Pueblo Tribal Network. It is a tribally owned and operated internet service provider (ISP) created by the Pueblo of Jemez in 2020 to bring broadband internet service to homes, tribal departments, businesses, and community programs.

JNET's initial goal was to establish a wireless broadband network during the COVID pandemic. It has since modified that goal to establishing a major fiber-optic network. In addition to internet service, JNET also runs digital literacy and technology assistance programs. Its Digital Navigators help



Pictured above: Kraiglyn is connecting the fiber line to the Network Interface Device (NID) and

community members learn how to use internet-connected devices, set up home internet service, and develop digital skills, often teaching in the Towa language.

Initially, the Pueblo of Jemez and JNET focused on establishing the physical infrastructure needed for high-speed internet. Our Tribal Council authorized use of tribal funds to construct and install the tribe's own fiber optic line alongside the E-Rate fiber lines installed from Albuquerque to Jemez for educational purposes. That additional fiber line, which is owned by the tribe, now serves the Pueblo of Jemez tribal offices and community residences. Additional infrastructure constructed included the building of a 100-foot fixed wireless tower at Bear Head Canyon Road and installation of eleven wireless access points throughout the community to provide wireless internet to residents. This enabled installation of fixed wireless systems in Jemez community homes that provided internet at speeds of 25Mbps download and 4Mbps upload. Although acceptable, faster speeds were possible through high-speed fiber connected directly into homes. Fortunately, state and federal funds were becoming available for such projects. A goal was set to provide homes with high-speed internet through fiber-optic service.

In 2023, JNET applied for grant funding from Connect New Mexico, a program associated with the State of New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansion. This program provides funding and coordination for building internet infrastructure. The grant would be used to fund a project in which the goal is to provide fiber broadband directly to 670 homes, businesses and tribal departments & programs in the Jemez community. The total project cost would be \$15 million.

The grant application was successful, Connect New Mexico awarded JNET \$8.56 million, the remaining balance was committed by the Pueblo of Jemez to ensure project completion. This funding is making it possible for JNET to upgrade every home from fixed wireless to Fiber-to-the Home (FTTH) technology. FTTH involves fiber-optic transmission of data using light signals, specialized networking equipment and optical network terminals (ONTs) installed at customer locations.

Basically, what this means is there is an actual fiber optic cable contained in a conduit run to each home by trenching. The fiber is connected to a network interface device located in a gray box which is installed on an outside wall of the home. Inside this box, JNET techs splice a fiber optic connector. From the connector another fiber optic cable is spliced, and this cable is run into the home. Inside the home two different Adtran components are installed. On the inside wall an Adtran ONT is installed, which converts the light signal on the fiber into an ethernet signal. From the ONT an ethernet cord is plugged into an Adtran router, which creates the home's wi-fi network. JNET provides a surge protector to plug in both components.

The Jemez FTTH Project is being deployed in four phases. These phases are as follows:

- Phase 1 - Buffalo Hills / Pueblo Place - total of 96 homes
- Phase 2 - South end of the village to Head Start Arroyo - total of 115 homes
- Phase 3 - Head Start Arroyo to South side of the Plaza - total of 209 homes



Pictured above; Keoni and Luke working at the fiber cabinet, which serves as the central distribution point connecting homes to the main fiber network.

- Phase 4 - Northside of the Plaza to North end of the village - total of 194 homes

Initial deployment started October 2025, the project is expected to be completed in September 2026.

FTTH technology is the latest, most effective internet access technology that has been developed, it is primarily used in large, metropolitan areas in the US. The FTTH fiber optic network has improved internet access speed significantly and the connections are stable. Once installed, this technology provides internet at speeds of 200Mbps download /200Mbps upload. For the Pueblo of Jemez and JNET to bring that technology to our tribal community is a BIG deal and a great accomplishment. At the New Mexico Infrastructure Finance Conference held in November 2025, the Pueblo of Jemez was honored with the 2025 Project Excellence Award for this broadband project. In accepting the award on behalf of Jemez and JNET, Governor George Shendo, Jr. stated, "We are honored to be recognized by the Department of Finance and Administration for its inaugural broadband Project Excellence Award. We are excited to fully realize all the opportunities our broadband project will bring to current and future generations in Jemez and the surrounding communities."

If you have any questions on the deployments, equipment or your JNET internet service, please give us a call at 575-834-6500. JNET offices are located at 139 Bear Head Canyon Road, Unit D in Jemez Pueblo.



HEAD START REGISTRATION IS HERE!

For the 2026-2027 School Year

Now Enrolling!
Complete Your WECLC
Head Start Application Today!



WECLC will be using PROCARE, a web-based platform used by schools to help parents, teachers, and childcare providers manage log notes, child records, and communication. Each parent will receive login information to access the parent portal once a child has been accepted into the program.



Enrollment is ongoing. Children become age-eligible throughout the year as they turn 3 years old, and would be placed on a waitlist.

New Families - Must Upload The Following:

✓ Birth Certificate ✓ Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) <i>(may include Pending Letter or Notarized Lineage Statement)</i> ✓ Homelessness Statement <i>(if applicable)</i> ✓ Foster Care Documents <i>(if applicable)</i>	✓ Diagnosed Disability (IFSP/IEP) <i>(if applicable)</i> ✓ Public Assistance (TANF/ SNAP/ SSI) <i>(if applicable)</i> ✓ Proof of Unemployment Benefits <i>(if applicable)</i>
--	---



Questions or concerns, contact Melacia Fragua,
Family Services Coordinator at 575-834-7366
or melacia.fragua@mescalero-nsn.gov



FOREVER HOMES FOUND!



Jemez Animal Control Program



We are excited to share that **two abandoned puppies** have been successfully adopted into separate loving homes!

♥

**BEFORE ADOPTION,
BOTH PUPPIES RECEIVED:**

- ✓ First puppy vaccines
- ✓ Oral deworming treatment
- ✓ Flea and tick treatment

Thank you to the families who opened their hearts to these deserving pups! 🐾





HOT WEATHER PET SAFETY REMINDER

As temperatures rise, keep your pets safe!



PROVIDE FRESH WATER
at all times.



ENSURE ACCESS TO SHADE
and shelter from the sun.



PROTECT FROM EXTREME HEAT
Check pets frequently during hot weather.



NEVER LEAVE PETS IN VEHICLES
Not even for a few minutes.

Pet owners are responsible for providing adequate care, water, and shelter. Failure to protect animals from extreme heat may result in a citation under the Jemez Animal Control Ordinance.

♥

*Help keep our pets safe, healthy,
and happy this summer! 🐾*

San Diego Riverside Charter School Unveils Seasonal Mural

San Diego Riverside Charter School is proud to announce the unveiling of a stunning new mural that beautifully illustrates the changing seasons, a vibrant testament to student creativity, collaboration, and dedication. This remarkable art installation, now a centerpiece of the school's campus, was brought to life through the hard work and imagination of our talented students. Each brushstroke reflects not only the beauty of nature's cycles but also the creativity and perseverance that define our school community. From the fresh blossoms of spring to the rich colors of autumn, the mural captures the essence of each season in a way that inspires and uplifts all who see it. The project was led by Mr. John Toya, whose guidance and passion for the arts helped students turn their vision into reality. This initiative was made possible thanks to funding provided by the New Mexico Public Education Department's Out of School-Time (OST) grant. The grant supports engaging enrichment opportunities beyond the traditional classroom.



Pictured above: The mural project featuring Joe Dan M. Lovato, Executive Director/Principal, alongside San Diego Riverside staff and students. Pictured Below: The mural project showcases colorful representations of Pueblo culture through the changing of the seasons.



Meet the Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation Program

What is Vocational Rehabilitation?

The Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation (JVR) Program helps Native Americans with disabilities prepare for, obtain, maintain, or regain employment. Many individuals who seek services have previous work experience but are no longer able to continue in their current occupation because of a physical, mental, or behavioral disability. JVR works with participants to identify career goals and develop pathways to meaningful employment that support their abilities and long-term well-being.

Who Are Eligible?

- Are a Native American enrolled with a federally recognized tribe (ages 14 and older)
- Live within an 80-mile radius of the Pueblo of Jemez
- Have a documented physical, mental, or behavioral disability
- Experience a substantial barrier to employment because of your disability
- Can benefit from vocational rehabilitation services leading to successful employment or self-employment

Want to learn more? Contact or visit our office. Our staff are available to answer questions and help determine whether JVR services may be right for you.



Meet the JVR Staff



Marlenia Chee
Program Manager



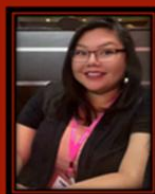
Lisa Madalena
Administrative Assistant



Joyce Tsosie
Vocational Rehabilitation Coordinator



Natisha Toya
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor



Alana Chinana
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor



Zandra Lucero
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor



Yolanda Toya
Career Development Coordinator

Jemez Dental Clinic Updates

Meet Your Dental Team

The Jemez Dental Clinic is proud to provide quality dental care to our community. Below is a list of all JHHS Dental staff.

Dentists

- Dr. Bruce Lamond, Supervisory Dentist
- Dr. Rahul Shamapanth, Staff Dentist

Dental Hygienists

- Tenise Fragua, Lead Dental Hygienist & Infection Control Coordinator
- Calvin Waquie
- Roylynda Johnson

Dental Assistants

- Nicole Romero
- Antoinette Chavez
- Myra Toya

Dental Records Clerks

- Eileen Toya
- Loretta Madalena

Antibiotic Prophylaxis Prior to Dental Procedures AKA “Pre-medication”

Antibiotic prophylaxis is the use of antibiotics to prevent an infection before it occurs. Antibiotics may be used before certain dental procedures because some procedures can allow bacteria that normally live in the mouth to enter the bloodstream, these bacteria can potentially cause serious infections elsewhere in the body.

Some patients are advised by their primary care provider (PCP) or another medical provider to take antibiotics one hour before dental procedures for specific medical reasons. Dental staff are often not provided with pertinent documentation from a patient's medical provider explaining the reason for antibiotic prophylaxis and the recommended duration of treatment.

Effective immediately, please request antibiotic prophylaxis refill prescriptions from your PCP or the medical provider who originally recommended the medication. To ensure patient safety and appropriate medical oversight, our dentists will no longer issue refill prescriptions for antibiotic premedication solely at a patient's request.

This change also provides an opportunity for your medical provider to reassess your current health status and determine whether antibiotic prophylaxis be discontinued or continued for an extended period of time.

Consent of Dental Treatment of Minors

The Jemez Dental Clinic requires that all patients 17 years of age and younger be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult. The accompanying adult must remain in the dental waiting area or be available in the dental operator during the appointment.

A parent or legal guardian is the preferred person to accompany a child to a dental appointment. We understand, however, that this may not always be possible. If a parent or legal guardian is unable to attend, written authorization must be provided designating another responsible adult to accompany the child.

This authorization grants the designated adult permission to make decisions related to the child's dental care on behalf of the parent or guardian, as well as to complete and update required medical history and consent forms during the appointment.

A parent or legal guardian may authorize a designated adult to accompany and act on behalf of their child(ren) at dental appointments for a period not to exceed six months. This authorization requires the completion and signature of an official Consent for Treatment of Minors in Parent/Legal Guardian Absence form, which must be submitted to the dental office prior to treatment.

In the event that a child requires urgent same-day emergency dental care, written authorization may not be required. However, it is strongly recommended that the parent or legal guardian be available and maintain communication with the dental office regarding the child's treatment and care.

Please contact our office at (575) 834-7413 if you have any questions regarding dental services, appointment scheduling, antibiotic pre-medication requirements, or consent forms for minors.

Housing Opportunities Available Through the POJ Housing Authority

The Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority offers a range of housing programs, including our Rental Program, Lease Purchase Program, Rehabilitation Program, and Down Payment Assistance Program. Below our Mission Statement, Vision Statement, a description of all the options available for community members, and a list of POJHA staff members including job vacancies within the Housing Authority.

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide affordable housing and assistance to low and moderate income individuals and families, in a safe, desirable, non-discriminatory community setting, while promoting economic independence and self-sufficiency to help improve the overall quality of life for all our community members.

VISION STATEMENT

Building Walatowa today, tomorrow, and beyond through community empowerment and economic sustainability.

SERVICES OFFERED

Rental Program: Our Rental Program provides affordable housing options for tribal members who are not ready to purchase a home. Through this program, families and individuals can rent housing units on annual terms and conditions. Monthly payments are calculated at no more than 30% of the household monthly income. Thus, allowing families to live comfortably while they work towards future homeownership goals.

Lease Purchase Program: The Lease Purchase program offers a unique pathway to homeownership. Participants enter into a lease agreement for a home, with the option to purchase it over a period, typically spanning up to 30 years. This program is designed to assist families in establishing stability while preparing for the transition to full ownership.

Rehabilitation Program: The Rehabilitation program is dedicated to preserving and enhancing existing housing stock within our community. Through this program, we provide support for essential repairs and upgrades, ensuring the homes remain safe and habitable. This program is vital for maintaining the quality of housing infrastructure and preventing deterioration.

Down Payment Assistance: For many individuals, the foremost obstacle to homeownership is the initial down payment required for a new home. Our Down Payment Assistance program offers financial assistance to eligible applicants seeking to purchase a home within the boundaries of the Pueblo of Jemez reservation. This assistance helps alleviate financial burdens and enables tribal members to make a meaningful investment in their purchase of a new home.



**WE ENCOURAGE
ALL INTERESTED
COMMUNITY MEMBERS**
to apply for our housing programs
that may meet their needs.

We sincerely appreciate your patience
and understanding as we strive to
address the housing needs within
our community.

For more information,

-  **VISIT OUR WEBSITE**
www.pojha.org
-  **EMAIL US**
applications@pojha.org
-  **STOP BY OUR OFFICE**
4773 Highway 4

Application Process: Interested community members must apply for these housing programs by completing an application and submitting all necessary documentation. It is important to update applications in the event of any changes within the household. Applicants shall update all information on an annual basis. Failure to recertify will result in determination of ineligibility or loss of services.

The importance of a Housing Program Waiting List: A housing program waiting list is an essential aspect of our housing initiative. It enables us to manage demand effectively and prioritize applicants based on their needs, ensuring that our resources are allocated to those who require assistance the most. Furthermore, the waiting list establishes a transparent and organized framework for tracking applications and anticipating future housing requirements.

By maintaining this waiting list, we can enhance our support for the housing needs of our tribal community. It allows us to plan for future developments, allocate resources more efficiently, and assist community members in securing adequate housing.

Meet the Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority Team

A group photo of four POJHA staff members standing against a blue background. Three women and one man are wearing blue polo shirts with the POJHA logo, while one woman is wearing a grey polo shirt.

POJHA STAFF

Greta Armijo – Executive Director
Wilma Gachupin – Accounting Specialist
Danielle Sando – Operations Manager
Jarrick Shendo – Maintenance Supervisor

JOB VACANCIES

Housing Counselor
Executive Assistant
Maintenance Technician

Planning, Development & Transportation Updates

Tribal Administration Renovation Project:

The Tribal Administration Building Addition and Remodel Project include additions and interior remodel that will create additional office space, additional restrooms, and improved work areas with upgraded furnishings to better support staff operations and departmental needs. Once completed, the project will provide a more functional, efficient, and welcoming environment for staff and community members alike. Completion is expected by end of 2026.



Land Use & Infrastructure Center

The new Land Use & Infrastructure Center (LUIC) project construction is underway and expected to be completed by the end of 2026 or early 2027. The project includes phased construction of a 13,000 sq ft office complex, three maintenance buildings and equipment yards, and a new transfer station. The LUIC will house the Natural Resources, Public Works, Realty, and Planning, Development and Transportation Departments. The departments look forward to welcoming community members to the new complex, where staff will be available to assist with a wide range of services.



Youth Outdoor Education & Bicycle Safety Program

The 2026 Youth Outdoor Education and Bicycle Safety Program celebrated a very successful second year with Jemez Pueblo middle and high school students, combining hands-on bicycle skills with outdoor learning and community connection. All participants received training on bicycle operations, maintenance, and safety, along with lessons on sun safety, dog bite prevention, traumatic brain injury, helmet use, including our watermelon helmet demo. Students completed a 5.2-mile ride through the Pueblo and along the Hemish Path to Wellness. Along the way, they learned cultural teachings on the history of Jemez Pueblo and our connection to the valley – offering time for reflection and appreciation of our lands and community. The day ended with a sandwich bar lunch and lots of smiles. Students were able to take home a free helmet and REI mountain bike. A heartfelt thank you to Jemez PD, EMS, Animal Control, Public Health, Social Services, NRD-THPO, JDOT, IHS, Sandoval Regional



Medical Center, Center for Southwest Culture – Story Riders, and our funder NM Outdoor Rec for making this program possible!

Hazardous Building Removal Project Update

The Hazardous Building Removal Project is progressing, with demolition activities scheduled to take place throughout the remainder of the year. The project includes asbestos abatement and demolition of abandoned or dilapidated residential structures and several former Tribal Administration buildings to improve community safety and prepare the sites for future development of residences and other infrastructure. Pueblo of Jemez residents have received notifications regarding upcoming construction and demolition activities. For more information, please reach out to the Planning, Development & Transportation Department at (575)834-0094.



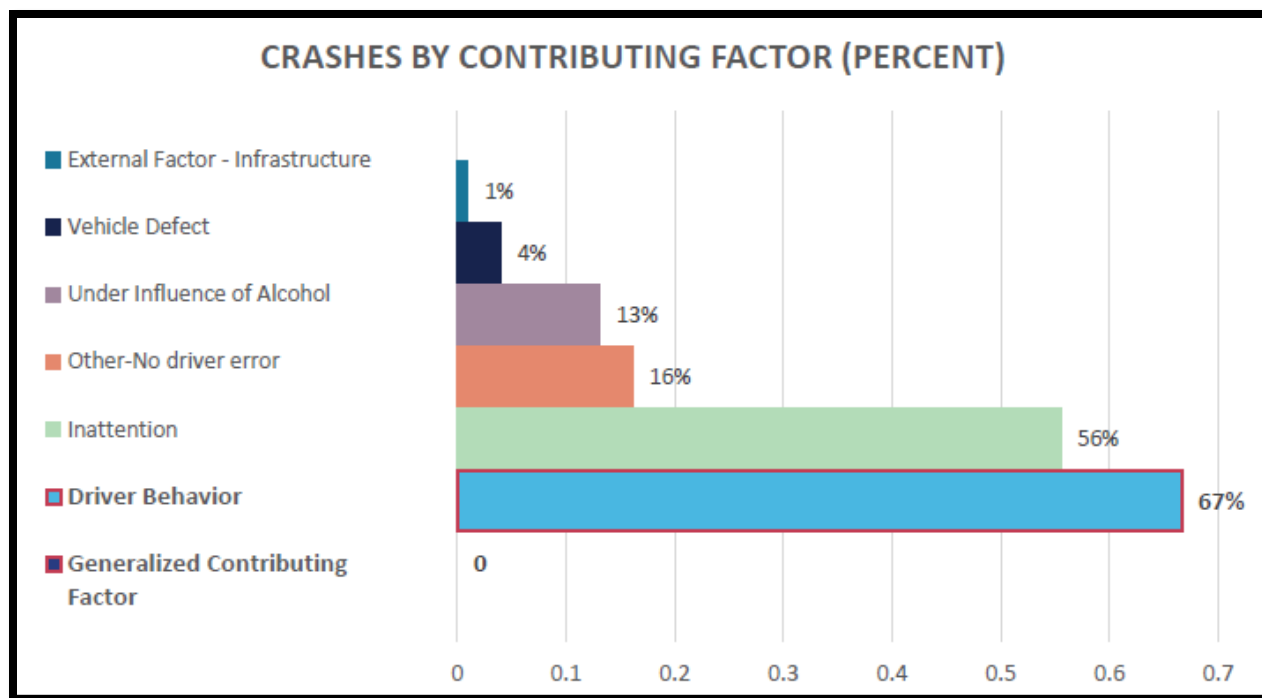
Understanding Road Safety in Our Community: 2020–2023 Crash Data Analysis

As part of ongoing transportation safety planning efforts, the Planning, Development & Transportation Department recently completed an analysis of crash data collected between 2020 and 2023. The data was gathered from the Pueblo of Jemez Police Department, NMDOT Traffic Records office crash reports, and Jemez Pueblo Emergency Management incident reports, and provides a valuable snapshot of where and how crashes occur within our community.

How Crashes Are Happening

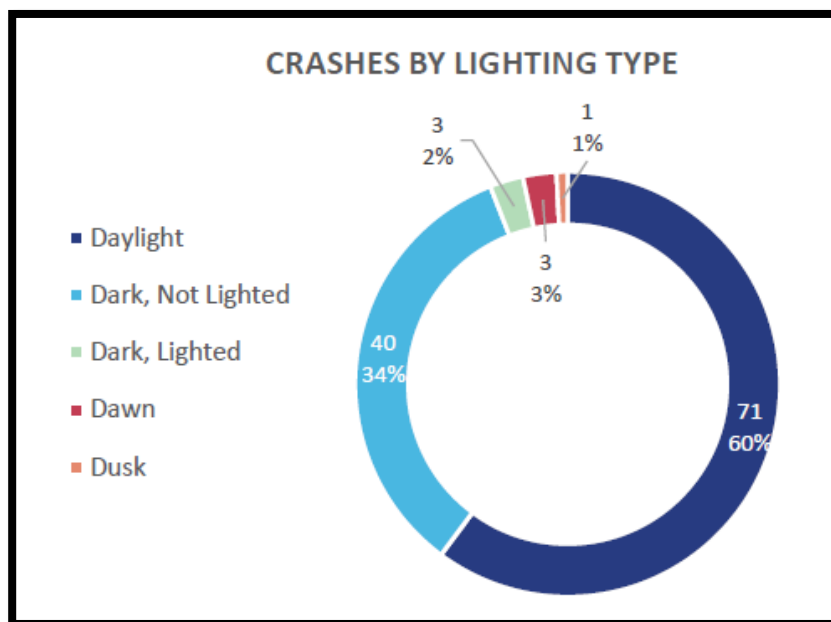
Driver behavior and inattention were the leading contributing factors across crashes in the Pueblo, collectively accounting for the majority of incidents. Specific behaviors included improper driving, improper backing, improper turns, and crossing the center line. Excessive speed and alcohol impairment were also significant inattention-related factors. While some crashes occur purely due to driver error, many can be prevented or reduced through physical roadway improvements — better markings and signage, dedicated turn lanes, medians, and traffic calming measures — alongside targeted education and awareness campaigns.

Looking at crash types, the three most common were collisions with a fixed object (30%), collisions with another vehicle (22%), and collisions with a parked vehicle (16%). These patterns point to potential challenges in roadway design, signage, and parking management in several areas of the Pueblo, and reinforce the need for the infrastructure improvements described above.



Lighting Is a Critical Issue

One of the most significant findings from the analysis involves nighttime lighting. While most crashes occurred during daylight hours, 34% of crashes happened in areas that were dark and unlit — compared to only 2% in areas that were dark but lighted. This is a stark difference. The highest concentration of dark, unlit crashes occurred along the Green Acres roadway near the NM 4 intersection on the southern end of the Pueblo. Improved street lighting, roadside reflectors, and vegetation management are among the solutions being considered to address this safety gap.



What's Being Done

The Planning, Development & Transportation Department has already begun implementing safety countermeasures throughout the Pueblo, including improved signage, road striping, radar speed feedback signs, lighting installations, traffic calming measures, and pedestrian infrastructure, with additional improvements such as guardrail, planned in the coming years. The Department is also working directly with NMDOT on targeted countermeasures along NM 4, US 550, and NM 290 — the three state

highways that carry the highest volume of traffic through the Pueblo and account for a significant share of crashes. These efforts are directly informed by the crash data analysis findings and are aimed at systematically reducing risk for all road users — residents, visitors, and our most vulnerable travelers. For more information, contact the Planning, Development & Transportation Department at (575) 834-0094.

Summer Safety with Jemez EMS

Summer is here and everyone is participating in outdoor activities, whether it's taking a stroll on the bike path, biking, tending to your gardens or summer recreation. When we are not responding to 911 calls, we are helping with extra-curricular activities, last month we helped with the National Walk and Roll to school day with the Jemez Day school students. The students were excited and received some nice swag for walking to school and getting their morning exercise. Currently EMS is participating in the POJ Youth Outdoor Education and Bicycle Safety Program, ensuring that all participants enjoy the outdoors and have a safe and enjoyable ride from start to finish. As we enter the summer months, we would like to stress the importance of safety while being outdoors. Here are a few safety tips to get you through the summer months:



1. Keep a basic first aid kit with you if you plan on being outdoors with your family. With a basic first aid kit you will be able to treat scrapes, scratches, and insect bites with what you have in this kit. These kits are sold at Walmart, Walgreens and CVS.
2. Stay hydrated – With temperatures rising mid-day and you plan on being outdoors make sure you are drinking an adequate amount of water to replace the water you are losing through sweating. If you start to feel dizzy or faint stop what you are doing and find shade or return home to cool your body off. If you have kids with you or your kids are in summer rec, make sure they are also staying hydrated.
3. Protect your skin – Statistics show that UV rays can damage your skin in as little as 15 minutes. In addition to sunscreen, you can also wear a hat, sunglasses and long sleeve shirts. Long sleeve outer wear that is breathable and can help to protect against UV rays are sold at places like big R or Walmart.
4. Driving- School is out and kids are soaking in all the free time. Kids will be exploring the outdoors so be cautious of these little people who may be walking to the library, a friend's house, summer rec, or taking a stroll. We don't want anyone getting hurt because of careless driving so pay attention.

What is going on inside the walls of EMS? EMS continues to respond to 911 calls within the Jemez Corridor. If you need an ambulance, PLEASE call 911! We cannot stress this enough! Here is the reasoning behind calling 911 vs. calling our office or calling someone who works within EMS.

- Time is a huge factor even though it may not seem like it when you are talking to dispatch. As soon as dispatch gets the pertinent information we are dispatched while you are still on the line with them.
- We (Jemez EMS) may not be in our quarters; we may be on another call or participating in an event within the Pueblo. Should we be on another call the closest unit, which is Sandoval County will be dispatched to you.
- When you call our office or someone who may work with EMS, after hanging up with you we still call dispatch to notify them that we received a 911 Emergency call. This takes time away from responding to you in a timely manner. Dispatch needs to know where we are for safety reasons so, please dial 911.

We continue to learn and stay up to date with all the new equipment that we have as well as the changing guidelines within Emergency Medicine. Trainings and meeting are held quarterly for the staff with our Medical Director. We are always looking to see how we can better serve the community and how we can make a difference. Please have a safe summer!

2026 NOTICE OF IRRIGATION ROTATION FROM THE GOVERNORS

This will serve as notice that the following irrigation rotation will go into effect within the Jemez River Basin and within Jemez Pueblo **IMMEDIATELY**: The Rotation Schedule will remain in effect for the rest of the season unless otherwise notified by Leadership.

- **Please irrigate your fields during the six (6) day Pueblo irrigation period (beginning Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. and ending Monday 8:30 a.m.). The water will be available for our use during these days. Please follow the internal tribal member rotation schedule below.**

SPECIAL NOTE FOR INTERNAL TRIBAL MEMBER ROTATION:

Irrigation priority will be given to the Cacique Field; farmers will be notified on the Cacique Field irrigation days.

- **Water will be diverted into the East Ditch and the Pecos Ditch on Tuesday through Thursday.**
- **Water will be diverted into the West Ditch (Upper & Lower) on Friday through Sunday.**
- **Priority for irrigation shall be given to food crops, such as chili, corn, and other vegetables.**
- **Alfalfa and pastures can be irrigated, but only after your neighboring farmers have irrigated their food crops. Please cooperate with your neighbors in sharing the water.**
- **No Water shall be left unattended overnight in alfalfa and pasture fields. The shortage is already severe enough that rationing our water resources will be a priority.**
- **Tribal Officials, in their appointed duties, will take action as Mayordomos (Ditch Bosses) to shut off unattended water in fields. Violators may be cited.**
- **Non-Indians users upstream of Jemez Pueblo will only be allowed to irrigate one day out of the week. They will irrigate their fields between 8:30 a.m. on Mondays to 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays. They will shut their diversion gates at 8:30 a.m. every Tuesday and remain shut for six (6) days to allow the water to pass downstream for our use.**

If rainfall conditions improve and the ditches are restored to adequate levels, the Governor's Office will send out communication rescinding this rotation. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

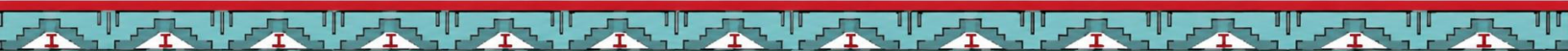
East Ditch - Fiscale Jacob Toya: 505/695-6386

West Ditch - Sheriff Towan Toledo: 505/366-7102

Pecos Ditch - Assist. Fiscale Leander Loretto: 505/934-8268

Office of the Governor

4471 Highway 4, Box 100 • Jemez Pueblo • New Mexico • 87024
(575) 834-7359 • Fax (575) 834-7331



Education Programs Celebrate Summer Success and Prepare for the New School Year

As summer unfolds, educational programs continue to provide meaningful learning opportunities for students of all ages while preparing for another successful school year. From cultural immersion experiences and internship placements to scholarship opportunities and early childhood education services, our programs remain committed to supporting student growth, achievement, and community connection.

Hemish Language Immersion School Summer Camp Concludes Successful Season

The Hemish Language Immersion School recently concluded its summer camp, themed "Back to Our Roots." The camp provided students with enriching cultural and educational experiences designed to strengthen their connection to community, history, and the natural world. The summer began with Montessori timelines that introduced students to the history of life on Earth. Through these lessons, students explored the origins of our planet while developing a sense of gratitude for Mother Earth and the ancestors who have passed down knowledge and traditions through generations.

Throughout the camp, students visited important cultural sites within the Pueblo and learned about local history and cultural traditions from community members. Participants attended Earth Day activities hosted by the Natural Resources Department, visited local petroglyph sites, and learned a variety of traditional skills, including making bluebird catchers, bowguards, blue corn patties, and cross-stitch projects.

Students also planted chili and corn, cared for garden and hoop house plants, created their own fishing rods for river and ditch fishing activities, and learned to make traditional male undergarments used in ceremonial practices. Every activity was thoughtfully integrated into lessons incorporating history, mathematics, geography, biology, and journal writing, creating a well-rounded educational experience rooted in culture and tradition. The success of the "Back to Our Roots" summer camp reflects the dedication of staff, families, and community members who continue to support cultural education and lifelong learning.

Summer Internship Program Underway

The Education Department is pleased to report that the Summer Internship Program is now underway. This year, 39 student interns have been placed across various Education Department programs and other Tribal departments. The internship program provides students with valuable hands-on work experience, professional development opportunities, and exposure to career pathways within the Pueblo and Tribal government. Interns will remain in their placements through the end of July, gaining practical skills while contributing to programs that serve our community.

Fall 2026 Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

The Education Department is currently accepting scholarship applications for the Fall 2026 semester. Scholarships are available for both full-time and part-time students enrolled in four-year degree programs, two-year degree programs, certificate programs, and vocational training programs. The application deadline is **July 1, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.**

Students and families should note that slight updates have been made to the scholarship application. To ensure you are using the correct and most current version, please visit the Jemez Pueblo website or stop by the Education Office to pick up an application packet.

To assist students through the application process, scholarship office hours are being offered every Thursday through June 30. These sessions provide an opportunity for applicants to receive guidance, ask questions, and receive support with completing their applications. For additional information or assistance, please contact the Scholarship Program at scholarships@jemezpueblo.org.

The Education Department is also seeking three community members to serve on the Scholarship Committee. Interested individuals must be community members who have completed a degree or certificate program. Those interested in serving are encouraged to submit a letter of interest and resume to kalei.vepa@jemezpueblo.org.

Welcome Our New Interim Program Manager

The Walatowa Early Childhood Learning Center is pleased to welcome **Alice Pecos** as Interim Program Manager. Alice has begun familiarizing herself with her new responsibilities and is actively learning the performance standards and regulations that guide the Head Start program. In her new role, she will oversee both the Head Start and Child Care Centers, working closely with staff, children, and families to ensure the delivery of high-quality early childhood education and services.

Please join us in welcoming Alice to the team. We look forward to her leadership and support as we begin a successful and rewarding school year together. Welcome, Alice, and best wishes for a great school year! As we celebrate the accomplishments of our summer programs and prepare for the year ahead, we thank all of our students, families, educators, and community members for their continued commitment to education, culture, and community success.

Jemez Adult Community Language Classes



The adult language program is happening weekly on **Wednesday nights from 6pm to 8pm**. A weekly average of 25 adult learners are learning the way of life as Hemish people led by local Native American Language and Culture certified instructors and local traditional language speakers/volunteers. Alongside the seminar-style classroom model, the program organizes classes according to students' Towa language proficiency levels, with separate beginner, intermediate, and advanced groups. The latest seminar-style class was the telling of the Jemez emergence and migration story led by Chris Toya. Over 50 participants were engaged throughout the entire class session in learning about the origins of our Hemish identity. In this two-hour session, the class felt short, and the students had many questions. The class session could have lasted for days in telling the story if we were given the opportunity. We acknowledge the importance of learning the foundations of who we are as Hemish, and we thank Chris for his wisdom and expertise in our cultural preservation efforts. The Language Program staff also recognizes the complexity and richness of the Towa language and the unique responsibility of teaching it in a setting that differs from traditional ways of learning. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to creating a safe, supportive, and respectful environment where learners can develop their knowledge of Towa. Our goal is to help ensure that the Towa language continues to thrive as a vital part of our identity, remaining deeply connected to our culture, values, and way of life as Hemish people. We invite tribal members to join us on Wednesday nights and experience our classes, "With One Heart and One Breath; We Speak Hemish".

New to the Jemez Language Program



Joseph Fragua Jr. is new to the team as the Language Program Manager. Joseph was born and raised in Jemez Pueblo and is the proud son of Joseph (Bill) & Andrea Fragua. He comes with a career background of working with non-profit organizations for over 25 years. His most recent involvement with the Jemez Language Program is volunteering in assisting with program development and lesson planning. His educational background includes a B.A in Psychology and M.A in Educational Psychology from the University of New Mexico. Joseph finds the greatest reward in serving the people of Jemez. Throughout his career, he has remained committed to supporting his community, whether through direct service or in roles that indirectly benefited his people. Joseph is honored to return to work in Jemez and is excited to take on a greater leadership role. He welcomes the opportunity and responsibility of advancing the Education Department's mission to strengthen, preserve, and promote our traditional language, culture, and values for future generations. For information about Jemez Language Programming, you can reach Joseph at 575-834-9102 or email at joseph.fragua jr@jemez pueblo.org.



Congratulations to the 2026 Jemez Master's Cohort for receiving your MAs in Indigenous Language and Culture Education at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. (*Tamara Colaquer, Racheli Lucero, Eleanor Tafoya, Melissa Yepa, Aaron Cajero Sr., & Anita Cajero*). Each cohort member shared research rooted in community-driven, applied Indigenous education — highlighting the Jemez language movement and connecting to global Indigenous language revitalization efforts. Thank you for all of your dedication to continuing the initial partnership with the University of Hawaii at Hilo and helping support the movement to strengthen Jemez language and culture education for future educators.

Nursing Update: Head Start Wellness Days Continue!

The JHHS Nursing Team is excited to continue leading PE Head Start Wellness Days this summer, helping our youngest learners stay healthy, active, and ready for school.

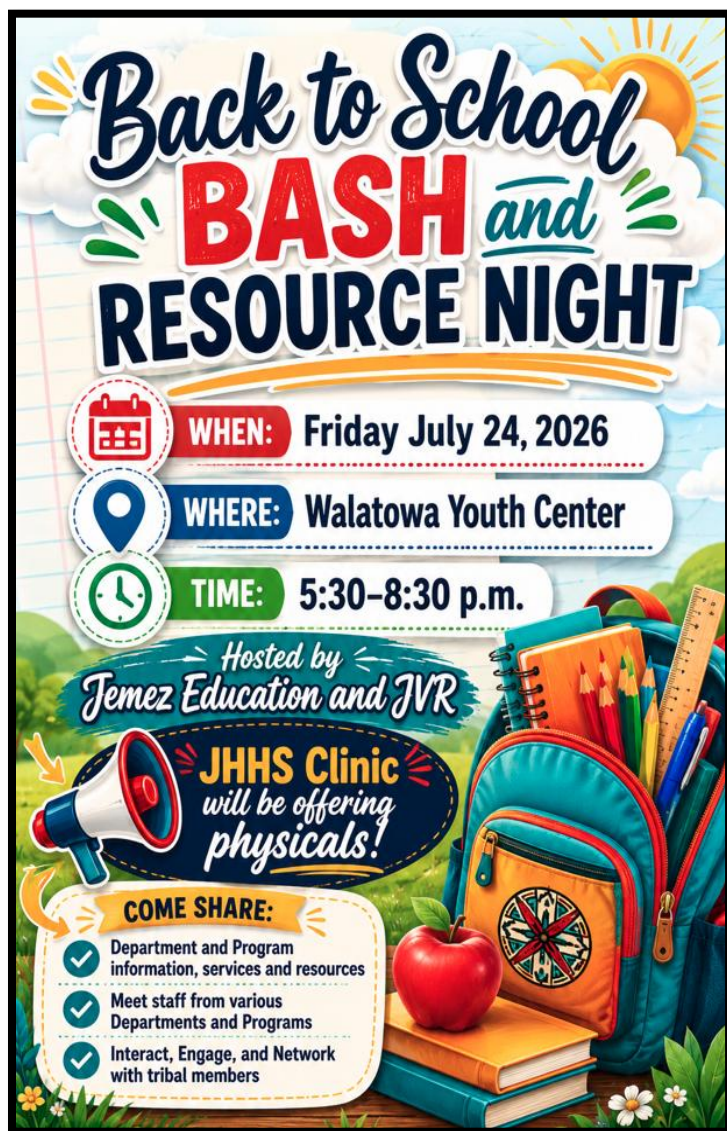
Families can look forward to interactive activities, wellness screenings, and opportunities to promote healthy habits in a playful and encouraging environment.

PH HEAD START WELLNESS DAYS:

JUNE 4	JULY 9	AUGUST 6
-------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------------

This year's theme is **ZOOTOPA!**

We look forward to seeing our Head Start families at each event as we work together to support healthy beginnings and lifelong wellness!



Back to School
BASH *and*
RESOURCE NIGHT

WHEN: Friday July 24, 2026

WHERE: Walatowa Youth Center

TIME: 5:30–8:30 p.m.

Hosted by
Jemez Education and JVR

JHHS Clinic
*will be offering
physicals!*

COME SHARE:

- ✓ Department and Program information, services and resources
- ✓ Meet staff from various Departments and Programs
- ✓ Interact, Engage, and Network with tribal members



WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM
You!

Do you have ideas on how we can improve this newsletter?
Your feedback helps us continue to grow and improve.

Please share your thoughts by emailing
Dr. Jillian Cambridge
jillian.cambridge@jemezueblo.us

*Thank you for helping us
continue to grow and improve.*

WALATOWA

Our Beautiful Homeland

