

**AROUND THE CAPITAL**

**TMC Covid-19 Shot Clinic**

The Tsehootsooi Medical Center Covid-19 Shot Clinic will be administering vaccines today, Jan. 4, to individuals ages 12 and older, at the TMC Rotunda Area from 1-6 p.m. Information: Siona Willie, 928-729-8490 or Cdr. Leah Earl-Begay, 928-729-8477.

**TMC Mobile Health Clinic schedule**

The Tsehootsooi Medical Center Mobile Health Clinic announces its January schedule:

- Jan. 4, Family Practice Clinic, Window Rock fairgrounds.
  - Jan. 8, Teen Clinic, Window Rock High School.
  - Jan. 9, Family Practice Clinic, Cornfields Chapter.
  - Jan. 10, Family Practice Clinic, St. Michaels Association for Special Education (students only).
  - Jan. 11, Family Practice Clinic, Sawmill Chapter.
  - Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, no clinic.
  - Jan. 16, Family Practice Clinic, Kin Dah Lich'i'i Chapter.
  - Jan. 17, Family Practice Clinic, Houck Chapter.
  - Jan. 18, Family Practice Clinic, Red Lake Chapter.
  - Jan. 22, Family Practice Clinic, Steamboat Chapter.
  - Jan. 23, Family Practice Clinic, Crystal Chapter.
  - Jan. 24, Family Practice Clinic, Bashas', Sanders, Ariz.
  - Jan. 25, Family Practice Clinic, Fort Defiance Chapter.
  - Jan. 29, Teen Clinic, Window Rock High School.
  - Jan. 30, Family Practice Clinic, Greasewood Chapter.
  - Jan. 31, Family Practice Clinic, Wide Ruins Chapter.
- Clinic hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome. Information: 928-729-8000, 928-205-5921, or www.fdihb.org/mobilehealth.

**Cornfields Farm Board meeting**

**CORNFIELDS, ARIZ.** — Cornfields Farm Board will meet for a regular meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 9, at Cornfields Chapter at 9 a.m. The Land Use Permittes Training session is scheduled Thursday, Jan. 11, at Cornfields Chapter at 9 a.m. Basic gardening design will be discussed during the training. Information: 928-755-5912.

**Houck Chapter January events, meetings**

**HOUCK, ARIZ.** — Houck Chapter announces the following events and meetings:

- Jan. 4, planning meeting, 9 a.m.
- Jan. 6, Fort Defiance Agency Council meeting, 9 a.m.
- Jan. 7, Houck Veterans Organization meeting, 1 p.m.
- Jan. 12, free coal distribution, 1 p.m.

Houck Spring Student Financial Assistance Applications are due Feb. 5 by 5 p.m. Information: 928-688-2734.

**Mariano Lake Chapter meeting**

**MARIANO LAKE, N.M.** — Mariano Lake Chapter will host a regular meeting Friday, Jan. 5, at 9 a.m. Information: 505-786-2180.

# Four Corners Detox Center expands services with new grants

BY DONNA WICKERD  
NAVAJO TIMES

**GALLUP** — The Four Corners Detox Center in Gallup is gearing up to expand its services for unsheltered residents thanks to several new grants to provide mobile outreach and harm reduction strategies.

One key grant from the New Mexico Department of Health will allow the center's outreach team to offer rapid testing for sexually transmitted diseases like Hepatitis C, HIV, and syphilis. This initiative, aligning with a recent push from Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham, empowers peer support workers to test individuals within minutes and immediately link them to necessary services or refer them to other organizations.

"Harm reduction fits right into the mission of our outreach team," explains Maura Schanefelt, the operations manager of Four Corners. "It's about minimizing the harms associated with substance use, regardless of someone's stage in recovery."

This focus on harm reduction is evident throughout the center's offerings. The outreach team provides support, including case management, food, clothing, hygiene kits, and "comfort kits" with essentials like blankets and beanies. Additionally, Four Corners offers medication-assisted treatment for detoxing, residential and



Outreach team members Kye Manuelito, Vivienne Begay and James Lange pose with operations manager Maura Schanefelt in their office Jan. 2.

nonresidential addiction recovery services, counseling, group therapy, and Narcan distribution and training. The latest grant funding will

further bolster this comprehensive approach. A mobile van equipped for basic medical assistance and rapid STI testing will allow the team to connect

directly with vulnerable populations who might not otherwise seek these services. "The mobile services will be an entry point into treatment

for people who might not know they are carrying something," said Dr. James Besante, the chief medical officer for Santa Fe Recovery, the parent company of Four Corners. "It's a great opportunity to get services to those who need it most."

Beyond harm reduction, the center fosters a welcoming and supportive environment for all individuals struggling with substance abuse, homelessness, mental health issues, or other hardships.

"We're offering, first and foremost, a safe place," outreach worker James Lange explains. "We understand our clients' needs because we are also in recovery."

This sentiment is echoed by team members Vivienne Begay and Kyle Manuelito, who emphasize the importance of non-judgmental support and inclusivity. "We get down to their level," Begay said. "We don't judge them."

Manuelito adds, "We work towards inclusiveness and help our clients get a better understanding of themselves and form an identity. We let them know they are not alone."

With these new grants and a renewed commitment to comprehensive outreach and harm reduction, Four Corners Detox Center is positioned to significantly impact the lives of unsheltered residents in Gallup and beyond.

COURTESY | KYLE MANUELITO

## ► DENIED

FROM PAGE A1

him that her school would send her official transcript to the chapter's email.

That same day, Yazzie called the chapter to follow up on her application and transcript and confirm if her application was completed. Jones reviewed her application while he was on the phone and told her, "Yes, I see your transcript was sent.

Everything is turned in." Yazzie shared a screenshot confirming her official transcript was sent to the chapter.

But is that enough proof to justify that both students, and possibly others, turned in their application packets on time but were still denied?

According to the ASC office, they are working with those who were denied and are offering to assist them with their Spring semester applications in person.

However, scholarship mishaps in the chapter are not uncommon. Yazzie was denied last year with a similar experience when the chapter told her

they lost her voter registration card, so she was not funded for that semester.

### Delays and miscommunication

According to Jones, the chapter was jam-packed when asked why students were not notified regarding the budget.

"Like I said, they are adults. And we are very busy here at St. Michaels Chapter," Jones said. "Like I said, the students are all grown adults, and this world is not all completely fair."

Jones reiterated that the students had three months for the

scholarship application period and said it was up to the students to make sure they turned in all documents.

"We can't be calling them up, chasing them down, asking them for all these documents they didn't turn in because they didn't meet it on the deadline date," Jones said. "They should have turned in all their documents with a complete application. They would've gotten their award."

Amidst delays and miscommunication about completed packets, the ASC office claims it would be unfair to students who did submit completed packets

on time to fund those that were denied, which they advised the denied applicants to submit their applications for the Spring semester as soon as possible.

In a forwarded email from Begay to Charley, Begay states, "Students were denied due to incomplete applications by the due date. There was a reconsideration for the fall. However, the chapter is currently accepting applications for the spring semester. The students who were denied for fall have the opportunity to apply now. It is unfair to the students who complied with the policies and were awarded."

# Israeli occupation of Palestine compared to U.S. invasion of Dinéyah

MARLEY SHEBALA  
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

**WINDOW ROCK** — It's been more than 11 days since the K'é Infoshop, a local Diné mutual aid non-profit organization, urged Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren to call for a permanent ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war. The death toll of Palestinian civilians, primarily children, has risen from 18,787 to at least 22,185.

Nygren informed the group of young Diné adults from the K'é Infoshop that he needed 10 days to educate himself about the Israel-Hamas war, which would include a meeting with Biddah Becker, the president's chief legal counsel, and the Navajo Nation Department of Justice before he would issue a statement in support of a permanent ceasefire.

The K'é Infoshop representatives suggested to Nygren that he could better understand the decades of history of the Israel-Hamas war by remembering the U.S. occupation of Diné ancestral homelands and the forced removal of thousands of Diné families, which started when the Diné resisted non-Indigenous settlers encroaching on Diné territory.

### Scorched-earth policy

The representatives added that the U.S. military used the scorched-earth policy, which was the torching of hogans, corrals, farms, and orchards and the slaughter of livestock to starve the Diné families into surrender.

Nygren recalled, "And our elders went to Hwéeldi. Our elders died. Our elders suffered genocide."

Janene Yazzie, who was part of the K'é Infoshop group to meet with Nygren on Dec. 15, said she is a member of The Red Nation, a coalition of Native and non-Native activists, educators, students, and community organizers advocating Native liberation. The group has supported Palestine for years and is working with K'é Infoshop.

### Resisters villainized

The K'é Infoshop members emphasized, "As a people who have taken up arms to resist the colonial encroachment of our lands, we understand that the colonized masses who pointedly resist their colonizers are villainized, to the widest extent."

### Biden not negotiating ceasefire

The Hill reported that President Joe

Biden said he did not ask Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to negotiate a ceasefire in the country's war with Hamas during a call Saturday, despite rising pressure to do so.

The Hill also reported that in a United Nations vote last week, just eight countries joined Israel and the U.S. in voting against a ceasefire resolution, and the U.S. abstained on a U.N. Security Council vote on Gaza aid after negotiating for days to water down the measure.

The Hill also reported that many Congressional lawmakers are urging the Biden administration to change its Israel policy. A half dozen moderate Democrats urged the administration to step up pressure on Israel to end its all-out ground offensive on Gaza in a letter to the president.

USA Today reported that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised on Christmas to continue the war until Hamas is defeated: "Whoever talks about stopping — there is no such thing. We are not stopping. The war will continue until the end, until we finish it, no less."

But The Hill reported that American support for military aid to Israel among the public has also waned since the start of the war in early October.

### 'State-sponsored genocide'

NDN Collective, an Indigenous non-profit group building the collective power of Indigenous peoples, communities, and nations to exercise their inherent right to self-determination, also issued a statement of support for Palestine.

"As Indigenous peoples who carry hundreds of years of state-sponsored genocide on our backs and who have been dispossessed of our lands, languages, cultures, and identities by nation-states, we know that settlers fight with both weapons and words," the NDN Collective stated. "They spread insidious narratives to trick people into believing that state violence is both necessary and justified. We must reject these lies at every turn. We must center humanity and harness the moral strength to hold multiple truths at one time."

The Collective emphasized, "We cannot be complicit in the dehumanization and genocide of Palestinian peoples. We ask our fellow Indigenous, Alaska Native, Native American, Black, Asian, Latinx, LGBTQ2S+, and all our relatives and partners who have been impacted by U.S. settler colonialism to raise your voices to decry the genocide of Palestinian peoples. We cannot remain silent in times like these, for our silence serves only the oppressors."

Coffee & Pastries Reception

# BOOK Signing

With Ruth Bitsui

**Junction RESTAURANT**  
CHINLE, ARIZONA

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024  
11:30AM - 1:30PM

BOOK WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE (\$15.99 CASH ONLY)

Available at amazon

MORE INFO: [HTTPS://TRAUMATICBRAININJURYACAREGIVER.GODADDY.COM](https://traumaticbraininjuryacaregiver.godaddy.com)

**When someone can't advocate for themselves.**

It's Our Responsibility.

Abuse, neglect, and exploitation can happen to anyone, but your voice can save lives.

[speakupaz.org](http://speakupaz.org)

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR KATIE HOBBS

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

AHCCCS

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

**You belong here!**

Experience San Juan College.

On-campus housing available!

**Apply Today!**

SAN JUAN COLLEGE  
Success Matters

[sanjuancollege.edu](http://sanjuancollege.edu) or 505-326-3311