

JAN 2026

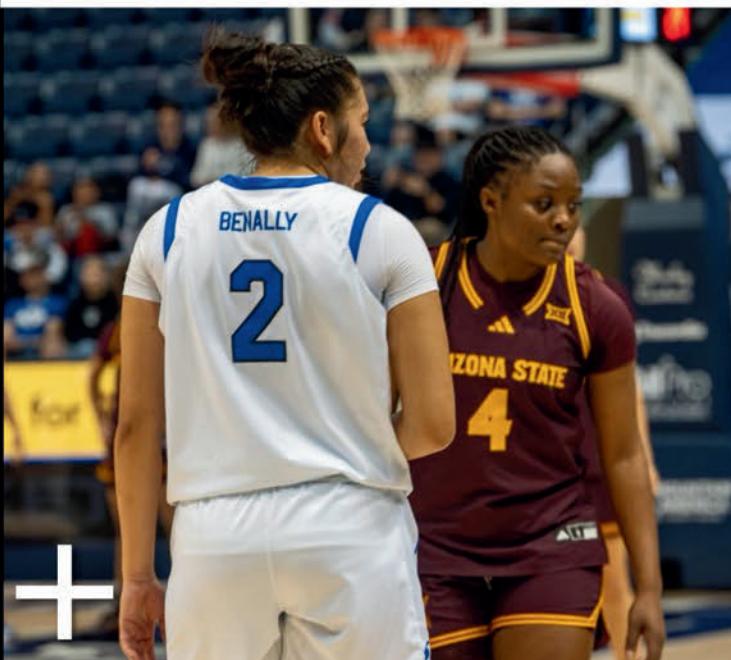
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VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

NYGREN NEWS



CLAIMING SPACE AND CLAIMING DREAMS



UPCOMING NAPI FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS FOR 2026



PRESIDENT NYGREN RINGS IN THE NEW YEAR, CELEBRATES TRADITION AT NAVAJO SHOE GAME



STAY IN THE KNOW WITH PRESIDENT BUU NYGREN

A New Year, A Steady Step Forward

Hanáánáá hai, hóldzilee' bee nináá 'didooltał



T'óó la' hodoonííł nahalingo bił hanáánááhai. Áłchíní Qobi'éétsoh yoł deideezóz dóó ólta'góó dah dadíijéé', óhoo'aah bee adínóoséél biniiyé. Amá azhé' é dóó hóyáanii nináádadeeshnish, amásání acheii t'óó hada'asííd, dóó hódahgo da'ólta' dayólta' hasht'e' ánaádadilnééh náásgóó bee náá'ooldah, hoojooba' ahwiinidzin bee yookáaljí'

The new year arrived with a sense of possibility. Children zipped their coats and headed to school, ready to learn and grow. Parents and adults returned to work with fresh determination, grandparents watched with gentle encouragement, and college students prepared to continue their journey, carrying hopes for the years ahead.

Anooséél bitah góne', diné yaa nitsékees ha'át'íí díí aniid hanáá yiiłkáníí biyi' góne' bee nihik'í naahodoolzhish. La' yee átsiji' yik'eh ánaáhoodlaah. La' t'áá ádahoolts'ísígo yee anáá'ádleeh, bee atah yá'áhoot'éehii 'anáánéidlééh, bini' bits'íís, dóó háá'áyíjh dóó bee adééhozin yee ákoniizíjh.

Across generations, people paused to think about what this new beginning could bring. Some set clear goals. Others focused on small, meaningful changes—choosing healthier habits, caring for their minds and bodies, and making time to rest and reflect.

Nínáánááhai doo t'áá' altso hadaaltée da. Bee hanáá hálzhiish át'é. Doo áká'eelwod náhgóó hódaalne', dóó bee íldzil dooleelii bich'í' oodááł, ayí dóó bikáá'jí'.

By Diné Artist:

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At a very young age I was diagnosed with autism. I grew up viewing the world in a very special way but it did not stop me from growing my passion in being an artist.

Mary-Kate Harrison

Navajo by Peter Thomas

The new year was not about being perfect. It was about starting again. Letting go of what no longer helped and working steadily toward becoming stronger—inside and out.

Bee náás hoolzhish, dabighan ahéélt'ego náás dah náádiikah, azhá ált'síígo hideez'náá' nidi, biniiyéé áhát'iinii béé hózini, díí t'áábí dóó yíł nizhónigo yee k'é ahóniigo yee yoolkálídi biyeet'í' dooleel.

Step by step, families moved forward together, understanding that even small efforts, made with intention, can shape a brighter future for themselves and for those they love.



HAPPY NEW YEAR



“As the New Year begins across Diné Bikéyah, we are reminded that, as Diné people, time moves in harmony with the land, the seasons, and the moon. Rooted in the teachings of Ghaaji, our traditional New Year of reflection and renewal, we step forward with purpose as we build a stronger future together. This is a time to unite, to lead with responsibility, and to work toward a future filled with opportunity for our children and grandchildren. On behalf of myself and First Lady Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren, may the year ahead bring balance, resilience, and continued progress for the Navajo Nation.

-Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren

2026





PRESIDENT NYGREN RINGS IN THE NEW YEAR, CELEBRATES TRADITION AT NAVAJO SHOE GAME

WINDOW ROCK — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren joined community members on December 31 to welcome the New Year at the Navajo Shoe Game, a traditional winter gathering hosted by the Navajo Nation Museum.

President Nygren greeted families, elders, and youth, took time to visit with those in attendance and observed the traditional shoe game, known in **Diné Bizaad as Késhjéé'**. Played during the long winter nights, the game brings people together through laughter, song, strategy, and friendly competition.

Rooted in Diné creation stories, the shoe game reflects the balance between day and night and carries lessons of teamwork, fairness, and patience. Using moccasins, yucca stems, songs, and clever deception, players test one another's focus and intuition while keeping tradition alive through shared experience.

"The shoe game reminds us that our traditions are meant to be lived, shared, and passed on," President Nygren said. **"It's about community, connection, and honoring the teachings that have guided our people for generations."**

Shoe games are held in communities across Diné Bikéyah throughout the winter season.

The Office of the President will continue to share information on upcoming shoe games and community gatherings across the Navajo Nation, encouraging families to participate in these important cultural traditions.



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The shoe game reminds us that our traditions are meant to be lived, shared, and passed on.





UPCOMING NAPI FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS FOR 2026



NAPI food box distributions will continue across chapters throughout the Navajo Nation in 2026. These distributions help provide families with essential food staples as we move into the winter season.

Each distribution site will be handing out:

- 50-pound bags of potatoes
- 20-pound bags of beans
- 25-pound bags of flour
- 10-pound bags of blue, yellow, and white cornmeal

This effort is made possible through the Navajo Nation Washington Office (NNWO), which secured a \$5.5 Million USDA grant to support food security across our communities. I'm grateful for the partnership with the Navajo Department of Agriculture, USDA's Local Food Purchase Program, Navajo Pride, and NAPI.

For the month of January we will have food distributions at the following locations:

<u>1/06/26</u>	<u>Cornfields Chapter</u>
<u>1/08/26</u>	<u>Ganado Chapter</u>
<u>1/09/26</u>	<u>White Rock Chapter</u>
<u>1/13/26</u>	<u>Kinlichee Chapter</u>
<u>1/15/26</u>	<u>Klagetoh Chapter</u>
<u>1/16/26</u>	<u>Wide Ruins Chapter</u>
<u>1/22/26</u>	<u>Nahata Dziil Chapter</u>
<u>1/23/26</u>	<u>Houck Chapter</u>
<u>1/27/26</u>	<u>Lupton Chapter</u>





KAYLAH YAZZIE: NATIVE AMERICAN SWIMMER AND INSPIRATIONAL ROLE MODEL

Kaylah Yazzie, a standout swimmer for the University of New Mexico, proudly represents her Native American heritage as a member of the Navajo, Comanche, and Sac and Fox tribes. Yazzie grew up in an environment steeped in tradition, strength, and resilience—qualities instilled by her parents and shaped by the ceremonies of her tribes.

She is majoring in business management, which allows her to balance academics with her athletic pursuits, while also earning her pilot's license, becoming one of the first in her family and Native American community to do so.

Yazzie chose to swim because it connects deeply with her culture and identity. In an article from the NCAA, she recalls that "the water just felt like home," embracing her as she maneuvers through it, and she views swimming as a sport that celebrates Native American people. Her journey began when her father signed her up for an advanced swim class, and she quickly developed a passion for the sport.

Swimming not only offered her athletic opportunities, such as winning state championships and competing at the collegiate level but also providing a sacred link to "Mother Water," a central element in Native American culture. Her dedication and preparation, learned through traditional ceremonies, have taught her mental toughness and the importance of intentionality and community support.

Yazzie sees herself as a positive role model and a warrior for her community, carrying the weight and privilege of representing her community in arenas where few Native Americans compete. Despite sometimes being the only Native American in these spaces, she draws strength from her heritage, family, and the knowledge that she belongs anywhere.

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We are always inspired to see our student-athletes pushing themselves, while representing their families and schools. They remind us how strong our next generation truly is and push us all to do better.



Kaylah Yazzie holds the Navajo Nation flag with pride, representing her people, culture, and identity.



PRESIDENT NYGREN ADVOCATES FOR TRIBAL PRIORITIES DURING IHS CONSULTATION



Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren joined tribal leaders from across Indian Country, on December 23, 2025 for a second round of consultation meetings on the proposed Indian Health Service (IHS) Realignment Initiative. The discussions focused on potential organizational changes and their long-term impact on healthcare delivery for Tribal Nations.

President Nygren, alongside Navajo Department of Health Executive Director Sherylene Yazzie, highlighted key priorities for the Navajo Nation, including the construction of the new Gallup Indian Medical Center, stronger accountability within IHS operations, and more efficient federal processes that respect Tribal voices.

"When Tribal Nations and IHS work closely and consistently, trust is built, communication improves, and problems can be addressed quickly before they impact patient care," said President Nygren.

The consultation provided an opportunity for Navajo leadership to stress transparency, clear timelines, and meaningful engagement as IHS considers significant structural changes. President Nygren emphasized that modernization efforts must remove barriers rather than create new ones, and that Tribal consultation must be genuine and ongoing, not symbolic.



Tribal leaders from several states echoed concerns about maintaining strong communication, protecting Tribal sovereignty, and ensuring improvements in patient-centered care. Additional issues raised included the need to fill critical IHS vacancies, safeguard Tribal data, support veterans' healthcare, and appoint permanent leadership before implementing major changes.

Executive Director Sherylene Yazzie cautioned that proposed changes affecting regional representation could limit the Navajo Nation's ability to participate in federal decision-making, speaking to the need for Tribal consent when actions directly impact their communities.

IHS officials reaffirmed their commitment to continued consultation, with more sessions planned as the process moves forward. Tribal Nations may submit written comments on the proposed realignment through February 9, 2026.



RAMAH NAVAJO COMMUNITY CELEBRATES RENEWAL WITH REOPENING OF CHAPTER HOUSE



RAMAH, N.M. — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren joined community members, chapter leadership, and regional officials on December 23 for the reopening and dedication of the Ramah Navajo Chapter House, marking a meaningful moment of renewal for the Ramah Navajo community.

The celebration drew a strong turnout from local families, chapter staff, and leaders, reflecting the chapter house's role as a central gathering place for community life.

Martha Garcia, President of the Ramah Navajo Chapter and a New Mexico State Representative, presided over the ceremony. She shared the history of the Ramah Navajo Chapter and the Ramah Navajo School Board, and expressed appreciation for President Nygren's presence and continued support for the community.

Also in attendance was guest speaker Josett Monette, Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department, who joined leaders in recognizing the significance of the chapter house to the Ramah Navajo people and its role in strengthening partnerships across the region.

The dedication ceremony included traditional blessings by a Navajo medicine man, along with prayers offered by local pastors, bringing together cultural and spiritual traditions to honor the space and its purpose.

Throughout the program, speakers emphasized unity, responsibility, and care for future generations, reminding attendees that the work done today helps strengthen the community for those who will come after. In this season of renewal, gratitude was shared for one another and for the hope ahead.

President Nygren extended his appreciation to the Ramah Navajo 638 staff, Ramah Navajo Chapter leadership, and the Ramah Navajo School Board for their dedication and hard work in restoring this important community space.



This chapter house is more than a building—it's a welcoming place for our community and visitors to gather, connect, and plan for the future

-President Nygren

KLAGETOH CHAPTER LEADERS DISCUSS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren joined Lee Ye Toh (Klagetoh) Chapter leadership on December 19 for a comprehensive development planning meeting focused on strengthening infrastructure, expanding opportunity, and laying the groundwork for long-term growth for the chapter.

Chapter leaders outlined priority projects that include renovating the equipment warehouse and chapter facilities, installing a powered solar backup system, improving emergency access, and adding security lighting and surveillance. Plans also include constructing new community assets such as a culture pavilion and a year-round gardening facility, enhancing landscaping with native plants, and upgrading the chapter's vehicle fleet. Together, these efforts reflect a coordinated approach to modernizing community facilities and supporting future development.

Discussions also highlighted ongoing challenges facing the chapter, including low water pressure, limited water and power line capacity, households still without electricity, and staffing constraints. Leaders emphasized the importance of conducting water system assessments, mapping existing utilities, and coordinating closely with relevant agencies to prioritize solutions that directly benefit residents, particularly elders.

A key focus of the meeting was the redevelopment of the former BIA compound. Chapter officials shared a vision to transform the centrally located site into a mixed-use area that could support economic development, tourism, essential services, and job creation. Cleanup, infrastructure assessments, and feasibility studies were identified as critical next steps.

I commend our chapter leadership for their collaboration and planning to ensure infrastructure investments deliver real benefits for Klagetoh families.





"RAILS TO TRAILS" VISION COULD TRANSFORM INACTIVE RAIL CORRIDOR

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren received a detailed proposal on December 18 outlining the vision for a **"Rails to Trails" project** that could transform an inactive railroad corridor into a nationally significant recreational and economic asset.

The presentation was delivered by Tom Rigenbach and Kylie Begay of Navajo YES, with representatives from the Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development also in attendance. The proposal focuses on developing a 78-mile, point-to-point rail trail along a railroad corridor that has been inactive since 2019.

The proposed trail would begin in Shonto and extend to the Page area, with development starting as an initial 16.5-mile segment and expanding in phases. **Once fully developed, the project has the potential to become the longest rail trail in the United States.** The trail would coexist alongside existing rail infrastructure, with appropriate spacing and safety measures to ensure long-term, shared use.

Plans include recreational rail bike operations equipped with pedal-assist motors, offering riders an experience of under two hours that blends outdoor recreation, tourism, and community wellness. Project leaders noted that the corridor is currently rideable for rail bikes and emphasized a strong commitment to stewardship and a "leave no trace" approach.

Discussions highlighted the importance of completing land surveys and GIS/GPS mapping as critical first steps, along with preparing a Revocable Use Permit to advance the project efficiently.

Presenters also stressed the need for inspection and maintenance of the existing railroad infrastructure, including cleaning and maintaining hundreds of culverts to prevent erosion and preserve the corridor for long-term use.

Additional amenities such as shade structures, exercise stations, and opportunities for community events were discussed, with a strong emphasis on local involvement and economic development. The project has the potential to stimulate new business activity, support tourism along Highway 160, and provide a low-carbon recreational option for families and visitors.

"This is an innovative use of existing infrastructure that positions the Navajo Nation as a leader in sustainable recreation and tourism. It shows how we can move forward thoughtfully while respecting our land," President Nygren said.

He emphasized the importance of moving forward, citing the project's potential to improve community health, create economic opportunities, and position the Navajo Nation as a leader in innovative and sustainable recreation.



"Projects like this show how innovation can create new community opportunities."



Tom Rigenbach - NavajoYES



TEESTO CHAPTER LEADERS EMPHASIZE COORDINATION AND FOLLOW THROUGH ON LOCAL PROJECTS

TEES TOH, Ariz.— Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren joined Teesto Chapter leadership on December 18 for a working meeting centered on turning project dollars into visible results, while keeping budgets clean, compliant, and easy for the community to track.

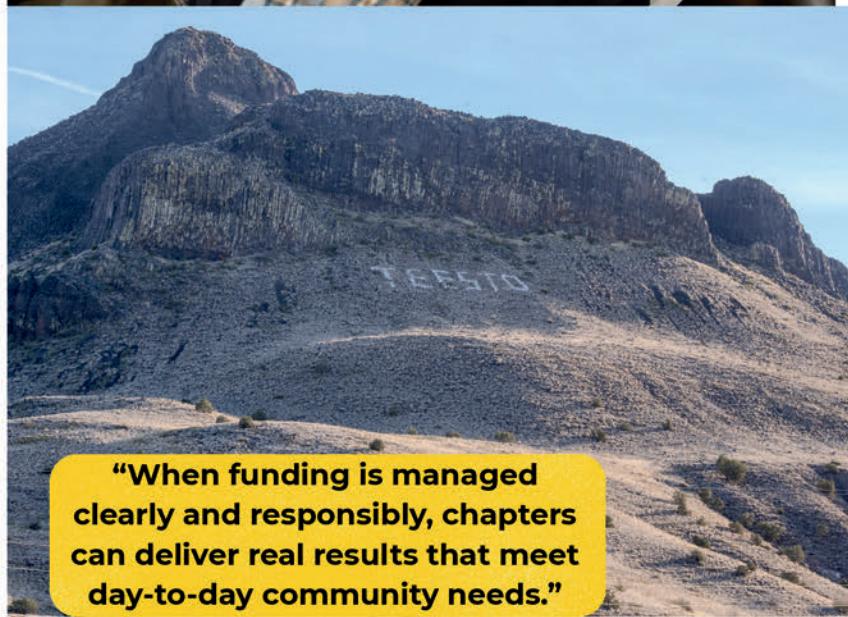
Leaders reviewed recent project allocations and discussed how funds are being managed and adjusted to better support community priorities. Teesto leadership shared that an outright purchase of a front end loader and related equipment strengthened local capacity to maintain roads, support housing work, and respond more quickly to day to day community needs. The chapter also reported continued progress assisting dozens of homes through repair and weatherization efforts, with only a small balance remaining for that portion of the work.

President Nygren and leadership also discussed challenges that many chapters are facing, including delays in receiving follow on allocations, unclear communication, and heavy equipment transfer requirements. Emphasis was placed on the importance of timely feedback and written confirmation from divisions to prevent compliance issues that can slow down local projects.

In addition, leadership raised broader community needs, including housing repair capacity, training and customer service support for chapter staff, equipment maintenance, and long term infrastructure planning. Topics such as road safety, transfer station upgrades, water system planning, and the importance of including chapters in audits, trainings, and project management support were discussed as part of a coordinated approach to keep local projects moving forward.

The meeting also elevated key infrastructure priorities such as safer roads, transfer station upgrades, and long term planning to ensure projects move forward with transparency, coordination, and a shared commitment to community progress.

Joining the discussion were Mike Halona, Division Director for the Division of Natural Resources, Candice Yazzie, Division Director for the Division of Community Development, and Lisa Jymm, Division Director for the Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Fund Office. Together, they outlined practical next steps, including updating chapter budgets to reflect approved purchases, submitting corrected action plans, and continuing coordinated follow up with the appropriate offices.





PRESIDENT NYGREN AND FIRST LADY ATTEND WORLD-REKNOWNED CHRISTMAS TABERNACLE CHOIR

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren and First Lady Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren were honored to attend the world-renowned Christmas Tabernacle Choir concert on December 11, a beloved annual tradition celebrated for its grandeur, artistry, and the uplifting spirit of the Christmas season.

Each year, this iconic performance draws audiences from around the world and is widely regarded as one of the most sought-after holiday concerts. Featuring hundreds of voices accompanied by a full orchestra, the evening delivered a breathtaking musical experience that reflected joy, reverence, and unity.

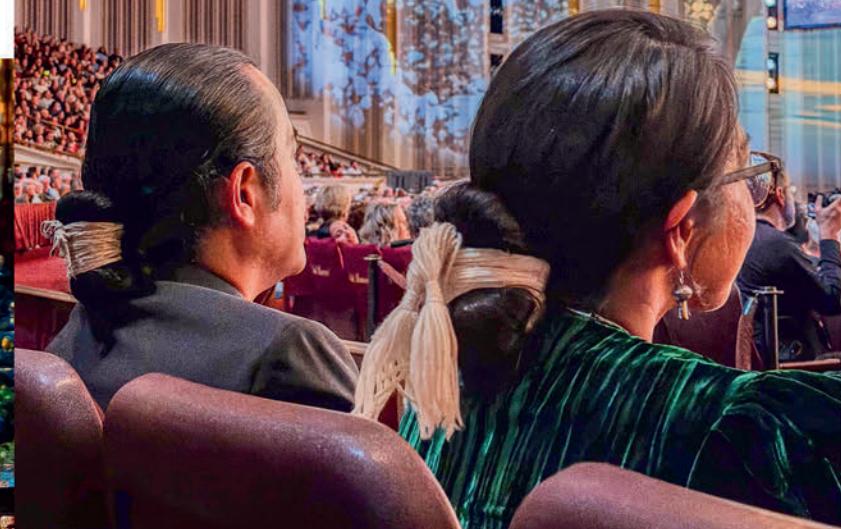
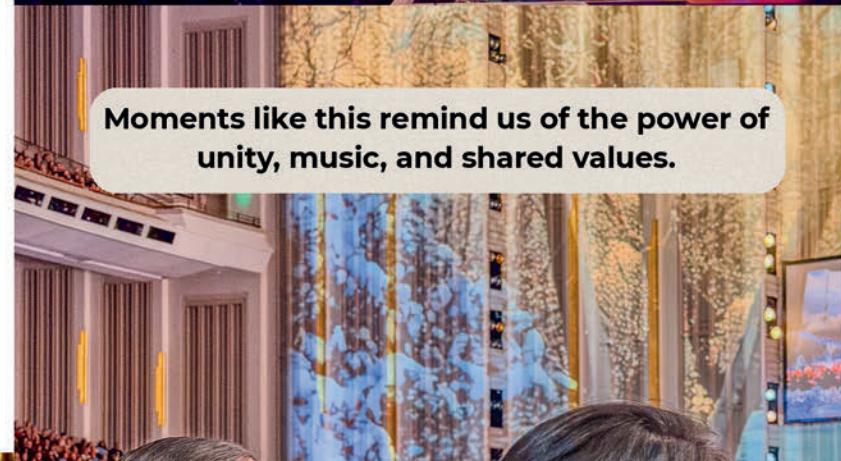
President Nygren and the First Lady were graciously invited by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, whose hospitality made the experience especially meaningful. The Church sponsored President Nygren's visit and ensured a warm and welcoming experience throughout the evening. Prior to the concert, President Nygren and First Lady Blackwater-Nygren also attended a dinner, providing an opportunity for fellowship and reflection ahead of the performance.

President Nygren shared his appreciation following the event: "I was truly honored to be invited to such a remarkable and meaningful event. I am deeply grateful to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for welcoming us with such kindness and generosity. The music and spirit of the evening were incredibly moving, reminding us of the power of coming together during the Christmas season."

The invitation reflected the strength of relationships built on mutual respect and shared values. President Nygren and First Lady Blackwater-Nygren expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to experience a cherished holiday tradition that brings people together from all walks of life, united through music, faith, and shared purpose.



Moments like this remind us of the power of unity, music, and shared values.





PRESIDENT NYGREN, FIRST LADY CHAMPION NAVAJO LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION THROUGH CHILDREN'S STORYTELLING



“Our language carries our teachings, our identity, and who we are as a Nation.”



SALT LAKE CITY, UT — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren and First Lady Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren met with Diné children's book author Janessa Parker on December 11 for a meaningful discussion focused on cultural preservation, language revitalization, and the power of storytelling. Parker, author of "I Am the Sun," shared her personal journey learning the Navajo language and her motivation to create children's books that reflect Diné identity, values, and lived experiences.

The meeting held special meaning for the First Lady, who has read "I Am the Sun" to her two children. She and President Nygren expressed appreciation for Parker's work, noting how her stories create space for Navajo children to see themselves reflected in literature while encouraging language learning at an early age.

President Nygren highlighted his Administration's ongoing efforts to strengthen Navajo language revitalization, including plans to deliver future radio addresses fully in Navajo and support bilingual Navajo-English publications. He also discussed current collaborations with Navajo language advisor Peter Thomas, who brings decades of experience in teaching and interpreting the language, and emphasized the importance of making Navajo literature more accessible to families and schools.

The conversation explored potential next steps, including translating "I Am the Sun" into Navajo and English, adding Navajo titles to the book, recording the author reading the Navajo version to support accurate pronunciation, and exploring future Navajo-English children's book projects.

“This kind of work matters,” President Nygren said. “Our language carries our teachings, our worldview, and our identity. When children can hear and see Navajo in books created for them, it strengthens who they are and who we are as a Nation.”

The informal meeting reflected a shared commitment to preserving Diné culture, uplifting Navajo voices, and ensuring the Navajo language continues to thrive for future generations.



PRESIDENT NYGREN EXPLORES ZERO-COST WELLNESS PROGRAM TO SUPPORT NAVAJO NATION EMPLOYEES



"Our workforce is the backbone of the Nation, and investing in preventive, whole-person wellness strengthens families, communities, and our future."



WINDOW ROCK — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren met with Kelly Wood, founder of Thrive Modern Wellness, on December 10 to discuss a proposed zero-cost wellness program designed to strengthen employee health, morale, and long-term well-being across the Navajo Nation.

Wood outlined how Thrive Modern Wellness provides proactive wellness programming that complements existing health benefits at no cost to employers or employees. The program, currently implemented by municipalities, schools, and businesses, operates through a compliant payroll tax structure that allows cost savings to be reinvested directly into employee wellness initiatives.

Also participating in the meeting were Haley Laughter, founder of Hózhó Total Wellness; Terra Brewer, Thrive Advocate with SBI Giving; and Sherylene Yazzie, executive director of the Navajo Nation Division of Health. Together, they discussed a holistic wellness model that combines educational programming with access to modern wellness technologies, including red light therapy, saunas, and recovery-focused services. Additional offerings include yoga, breathwork, stress-reduction sessions, and culturally grounded wellness practices designed to support employees and their families.

President Nygren expressed strong interest in the program's potential to enhance existing employee benefits while emphasizing preventive care and whole-person wellness. The discussion included strategic planning considerations, such as the possibility of establishing a flagship wellness center in Window Rock and expanding access to communities like Kayenta and Tuba City.

Participants also explored opportunities to align the program with existing Navajo Nation wellness resources, coordinate efficiently with human resources and payroll systems, and establish standardized operating procedures to ensure accountability and long-term sustainability.

"Our workforce is the backbone of the Nation," said President Nygren. "A wellness program that strengthens their health — at no cost — is an investment in their families, their futures, and our communities."

The meeting concluded with a discussion of next steps, including a phased rollout and a potential launch aligned with the start of the new year, reflecting a shared commitment to supporting employee well-being and building healthier Navajo Nation communities.



PRESIDENT NYGREN CELEBRATES DINÉ COLLEGE FALL 2025 GRADUATES



TSAILE, Ariz. — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren joined Diné College leadership, faculty, families, and community members on December 12 to celebrate student achievement during the Diné College Fall Commencement Ceremony, where he delivered the closing remarks honoring graduates' dedication and perseverance.

In his address, President Nygren thanked families and relatives for their unwavering support and acknowledged the commitment and hard work required to reach this milestone. He spoke about perseverance, reminding graduates that success is built by pushing through challenges and remaining focused—one assignment at a time. He encouraged students to pursue paths guided by passion and purpose and to serve as positive role models for their families and communities.

"Graduates, as you leave this campus, remember that you carry with you the hopes of your ancestors and the promise of future generations," President Nygren said. "The world awaits your leadership, compassion, and innovation. Whether your journey continues with further study, meaningful careers, or service to community, trust in your abilities and the wisdom you have gained here. Let your achievements light the way for others."

During the ceremony, Diné College conferred 107 degrees, with seven students earning two degrees, representing 100 graduates across a wide range of academic programs, including arts, education, business, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Founded in 1968, Diné College is the first tribally controlled college in the United States. Grounded in Diné language and culture, the institution continues to advance postsecondary education in support of the well-being and future leadership of the Diné People.

The ceremony concluded as graduates—many wearing traditional regalia—crossed the stage to receive their degrees while families and supporters cheered. President Nygren congratulated the Class of 2025 and encouraged graduates to move forward with confidence, purpose, and pride as they begin the next chapter of their lives.



Graduates, as you leave this campus, remember that you carry with you the hopes of your ancestors and the promise of future generations.





CLAIMING SPACE AND CLAIMING DREAMS

We had the opportunity to visit the Brigham Young University campus, an experience that left a lasting impression on my heart. I became so emotional witnessing Sydney Benally step confidently into this space, surrounded by the visible results of her hard work, perseverance, and big dreams. Moments like this remind us of what we pray for—that our youth can walk into spaces like these knowing they belong, that they are capable, and that their dreams are valid.

Because of young women like Sydney, and because of the many opportunities created through school programs and organizations like NABI, we have become

devoted supporters of Women's Basketball and of Native excellence in all its forms. There are so many talented athletes representing not only the Navajo Nation, but Indigenous peoples everywhere, showing the world what is possible when opportunity meets determination.

Let us continue to believe in our youth, invest in their potential, and support their dreams every step of the way. When we stand firmly behind them, we are helping shape a future rooted in confidence, culture, and limitless possibility.

Wishing Benally and the BYU Women's Basketball team all the success this season.



FROM MEXICAN SPRINGS TO THE NATIONAL FINALS



When you hear that distinctive, swaggering electric guitar riff of "Bad to the Bone," you already know Bailey Bates is backing into the roping box.

Bates roped her way into her first National Finals Breakaway Roping at the Cowtown Coliseum in Fort Worth, Texas, on December 22–23.

The Navajo Nation is home to so many little cowgirls and cowboys with big dreams, and moments like this mean everything. Bailey's qualification carries weight, it's proof that our youth belong in these arenas, that their dreams are valid, and that they can reach the highest levels of competition. Thank you to all of our professional athletes who continue to inspire and show us that we have everything it takes.

From the community of Mexican Springs, New Mexico, to the entire Navajo Nation, we are proudly behind Bailey and Reno. Thank you for representing us with heart.

Setting the Pace: Promoting Wellness Across the Navajo Nation

Our Navajo Nation Royalties are setting a strong and positive pace for the new year. Miss Navajo Nation and Miss Western Navajo came together in the spirit of unity and wellness to promote healthy living by hosting a fun run in Kayenta, Arizona.

The event brought community members, local leaders, and many students home for Christmas break together to participate and support one another. The turnout reflected the importance of coming together to encourage physical activity and positive choices for our people.

Events like this remind us that wellness is not only about physical health, but also about community, balance, and supporting one another. As we move into the new year, let us continue to prioritize our overall health and well-being. Take steps together toward a stronger, healthier Navajo Nation.



PROGRESS UPDATE HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED MOMENTUM IN NAVAJO VETERANS HOUSING PROGRAM



WINDOW ROCK — For Navajo veterans who served our country and returned home to aging or unsafe housing, progress is finally taking shape.

On December 9, Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren met with the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration (NNVA) Veterans Housing Program team to receive an update on strong staffing levels and continued progress in delivering safer, healthier homes for Navajo veterans and their families. Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration, Bobbie Ann Baldwin, was in attendance at the meeting along with representatives from The Sparrow Group.

The Sparrow Group, a Priority 1 contractor, remains a key partner in advancing this work. The company is 100% Native American owned, veteran friendly, Navajo employing, and union compliant, including the use of Union Carpenters to uphold high construction standards.

Supported by a \$10.7 million contract, Sparrow Group crews are completing critical home improvements in some of the most remote and underserved areas of the Navajo Nation while supporting veteran workforce reintegration and creating Navajo jobs.

During the briefing, the NNVA team reported that 100 home remodels have already been completed, with homes being turned over on a consistent schedule.

Despite this progress, NNVA shared that 192 veterans, surviving spouses, and Gold Star parents remain on the Home Improvement waiting list, underscoring the continued need to sustain funding and maintain strong contractor performance.

President Nygren emphasized that meaningful system improvement requires moving resources into the field, noting that funding cannot remain idle while veterans wait for safer roofs, reliable heating, and healthier living conditions. He stressed that real progress occurs when resources are actively deployed where the need is greatest.

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Renovated homes are more than construction efforts. They represent dignity, stability, and pride for those who have served



PRESIDENT NYGREN MEETS OLYMPIANS CONNOR MANTZ AND CLAYTON YOUNG



PROVO, Utah — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren and First Lady Jasmine Blackwater Nygren made a special stop on December 11 at the beloved BYU Creamery on Ninth for a memorable meet-up with two of the nation's premier distance runners and Olympians, Connor Mantz and Clayton Young.

Mantz, who competes professionally for Nike, holds the American Marathon and Half Marathon records and is one of the most respected figures in American distance running. Young, a professional athlete for ASICS, is equally accomplished as a 2019 NCAA Champion and one of the fastest marathoners in U.S. history. Both are proud BYU alumni, longtime training partners, and world-class athletes preparing for the 2026 Boston Marathon.

Over homemade ice cream, the President and First Lady had an uplifting conversation with the athletes about their journeys, training discipline, and shared interest in building meaningful connections with Navajo communities. They also discussed the possibility of Mantz and Young visiting the Navajo Nation after Boston to meet young athletes and experience the strength of Navajo running culture firsthand.

"Running is deeply tied to Diné identity—rooted in tradition, discipline, prayer, and a powerful connection to the land," said President Nygren. "For generations, Navajo people have run to greet the dawn and strengthen both body and spirit. Meeting with two of the nation's strongest runners made this moment especially meaningful."

The President and First Lady also enjoyed visiting with Sydney Benally, who stopped by before her basketball game that evening, further highlighting the pride, talent, and dedication of young Navajo athletes.

A special thank you to BYU leadership for accommodating President Nygren, First Lady Blackwater Nygren, and staff, and for helping facilitate this inspiring gathering at the Creamery. This visit reflected connection, inspiration, and the shared spirit of running.





PRESIDENT NYGREN AND ADVOCATES ALIGN EFFORTS FOR MISSING AND MURDER INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND RELATIVES

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren met with community advocates and legal representatives on December 9 to address gaps in public safety, improve interagency communication, and strengthen the Nation's response to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives (MMIWR).

Attorney Darlene T. Gomez, who represents more than 20 Navajo families seeking justice in unresolved MMIWR cases, provided an overview of the persistent challenges families face, including delayed response times, limited communication from law enforcement agencies, and inconsistent follow-up once cases are reported. Advocates emphasized the need for clearer procedures and real-time coordination between the Navajo Police Department, Criminal Investigations, and federal partners.

The group also reviewed available public-safety funding — including \$5 million previously allocated to the Navajo Nation Department of Public Safety, \$250,000 for the King Four Corners Canine Unit, and an additional \$4.7 million for public-safety needs. Streamlining the grant application process was identified as a priority to ensure departments can quickly access and deploy these resources.

"I look forward to collaborating with you," said President Nygren, who reaffirmed the importance of aligning agencies under the existing executive order that directs coordinated, real-time support for families.

Advocates presented practical tools to improve response efforts, including a three-page community toolkit for missing-person reports, standardized digital and physical case files, and USB drives containing essential child information for emergencies. These resources aim to reduce delays, ensure accuracy, and help law enforcement act swiftly when families seek assistance.

“Families deserve timely responses, clear communication, and coordinated action when a loved one is missing.”

Public awareness and national outreach were also central to the discussion. Participants proposed adding a dedicated MMIWR section to the Navajo Nation's official homepage to help families share stories, photos, and receive timely updates. Additional collaborative opportunities include potential engagement with Crime Junkie, the country's #1 true-crime podcast, as well as support from Joe Petito, who expressed interest in helping elevate visibility and accountability for missing-persons cases involving Navajo families.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to establish clear timelines with the Department of Justice, prepare for federal-level discussions with the FBI and U.S. Marshals Service, and identify coordinated actions to strengthen the Nation's public-safety response. The insights and recommendations offered will guide the next phase of collaboration, transparency, and support for Navajo families seeking justice and healing.



SCHOLARS EQUITY NETWORK: BUILDING LEGACY, LEADERSHIP, AND IMPACT



ALBUQUERQUE — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren and First Lady Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren joined Gates Millennium Scholars and national changemakers on December 5 for a powerful Scholars Equity Network gathering dedicated to uplifting and mobilizing one of the most influential scholarship communities in the country.

The event celebrated the far-reaching impact of the Gates Millennium Scholars Program, which opened doors for 20,050 scholars from low income and minority communities. Speakers reflected on how this national network continues to drive personal and professional growth, civic participation, and economic opportunity through ongoing collaboration and mentorship.

First Lady Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren shared her own journey receiving the Gates Millennium Scholarship as a student from the Navajo Nation, pursuing higher education, serving in the Arizona Legislature, and becoming Apache County Attorney. She emphasized the importance of staying connected, giving back, and reigniting a spirit of service among Gates alumni.

Other speakers, including For Kinship founder Amy Denet Deal, showcased community driven work from COVID 19 relief initiatives to Native fashion mentorship and youth empowerment. A law professor and longtime mentor emphasized the necessity of strong support systems and intentional mentorship, especially for first generation students navigating higher education.

The gathering also highlighted the “Pay It Forward Accelerator,” which received 54 applications, selected 14 finalists, and raised \$45,000 for community projects focused on diabetes care, literacy, AI coaching, mental health, language preservation, and STEM access.

President Nygren praised the program’s legacy and the powerful network it creates.

“When we invest in our scholars, we invest in the future strength of our Nations.
-President Nygren





HONORING SERVICE: NAVAJO NATION WELCOMES CLASS 61 POLICE GRADUATION

TSE BONITO, N.M. — For the Navajo Nation, every new police officer represents more than a badge — it represents a commitment to protect our families, uphold our sovereignty, and serve with honor. Class 61 stepped into that calling this week.

On December 5, the Navajo Nation celebrated the graduation of Class 61 of the Navajo Police Training Academy 5 at the Navajo Division of Transportation. Nine dedicated recruits completed an intensive 26-week program and were sworn in as Navajo Nation police officers.

“As Navajo Nation President, I was truly honored to attend this ceremony and personally present each graduate with their badge,” said President Nygren. “It represents trust, sacrifice, duty, and the responsibility of protecting our communities.”

Class 61 graduates include: Keeyan Begay (Shiprock); Najhozhoni Ben (Shiprock); Shi’son Tsosie (Shiprock); Jayroger Lizer (Window Rock); Kordell Curley (Window Rock); Iona Stevens (Window Rock); Lynette Pablo (Crownpoint); Cauy King (Tuba City); and Dominick Stewart (Crownpoint).

“These officers pushed through long days, tough training, and countless challenges. Their perseverance, discipline, and character brought them to this moment,” added President Nygren. “They now step forward not just with skills and knowledge, but with courage, integrity, and commitment to the Navajo people.”

The Navajo Police Training Academy continues to lead the way in preparing officers for the unique needs of our Nation by blending standard law enforcement training with cultural competency, Navajo teachings, and community-oriented policing. Their work strengthens public safety and builds trust between officers and the families they serve.

Recruitment is already underway for Class 62, which begins training in early January, continuing the momentum to grow and strengthen our police force.

From the Office of the President, Congratulations to Class 61. Stand proud, stay humble, and serve with honor. Your service makes our Nation stronger and safer. Congratulations, Officers. Ahéhee’.



“Every badge represents trust, sacrifice, and service to our people.”





A NIGHT OF LIGHT, LAUGHTER AND COMMUNITY



WINDOW ROCK—Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren joined families and community members on December 9 for a beautiful Christmas Tree Lighting at Veteran's Memorial Park.

The moment the tree lit up, the park glowed—its lights shimmering against the cold night air as children cheered and families gathered close.

President Nygren was grateful for the strong turnout and the joy shared throughout the Christmas Parade, especially as little ones received toys and winter jackets to keep them warm this season.

He shared a brief message with the crowd, reminding everyone:

"This season brings out the best in us—our generosity, our love for family, our goodwill toward one another, and the traditions that keep our communities strong."

Special thanks to the sponsors who made the celebration possible:

- Navajo Nation Division for Children and Family Services and Executive Director Thomas Cody for donating winter jackets
- Window Rock Police Department, providing toys through Toys for Tots

A heartwarming night that truly lit up Window Rock.



"Our traditions, generosity, and love for family are what keep our communities strong."





BUILDING SHIPROCK'S FUTURE: MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PLANS MOVE FORWARD



SHIPROCK, N.M. — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren met with development partners and local leaders on Dec 4 to advance major economic opportunities for the Shiprock community. He emphasized the area as one of the most important corridors for travel into Colorado and the Four Corners.

Joining the meeting were Principal & Lessee Representative Edwin Gausseiin, who participated via video call; Shiprock leadership representatives Sally Yabeny and Rose Morgan; President and Managing Principal, Eric Neagu; Project Manager, Arval T. McCabe; and Division of Economic Development Executive Director Sharlene Begay-Platero.

President Nygren expressed his gratitude for the ongoing work and highlighted the need for additional business site leases to fully unlock Shiprock's potential. Discussions focused on creating a vibrant destination for travelers, families, and local residents, including possible plans for a hotel and other public facilities were discussed.

A traditional Hogan-style feature was also proposed to welcome visitors and showcase Navajo culture, further strengthening Shiprock's appeal as a tourism hub. The team also reviewed complementary projects underway in Grand Lake, Colorado, and Indiana, highlighting growing national interest in partnering with the Navajo Nation.

President Nygren emphasized that economic development must keep dollars circulating within Navajo communities. "Shiprock deserves the same quality of services, jobs, and opportunities that people travel elsewhere to find," he said.

Next steps include preliminary site analysis, coordination with NTUA for necessary utility upgrades, and identifying a long-term user for the 10-acre development site within the next 12–18 months.

President Nygren ended the meeting by signing a business lease, reaffirming his commitment to move forward without delay. "Shiprock is ready. Our people are ready. It's time to build," he said.

“Shiprock deserves the same quality of services, jobs, and opportunities that people travel elsewhere to find.”

PRESIDENT NYGREN MEETS WITH NTUA AND LION POINT CAPITAL ON CLEAN ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren met with the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) and Lion Point Capital, L.P. on Dec 2, to advance a long-term development strategy focused on clean energy, manufacturing, and the development of a modern data center hub in the San Juan region.

NTUA General Manager Walter W. Haase provided updates on NTUA's plans to support energy generation, manufacturing, and the phased buildout of a data center intended to anchor new economic growth in the Nenahnezaad and San Juan Chapters.

Lion Point Capital Chief Investment Officer and Founding Partner Didric Cederholm, along with key personnel, outlined an investment model designed to keep Navajo institutions in control while attracting major corporate partners and long-term private investment.

NTUA also presented updates on land readiness and permitting, confirming that the primary tract has completed community resolutions, environmental reviews, and cultural clearances.

Additional tracts are progressing through early stages of review, with continued coordination among Navajo Nation departments identified as essential to maintaining project timelines.

Leadership from the Nenahnezaad and San Juan Chapters expressed full support for the proposed projects and the economic opportunities they are expected to bring to the region.

President Nygren emphasized the importance of building communities where Navajo families can thrive, supported by good-paying jobs, housing, retail services, workforce training, and modern infrastructure. He noted that this collaborative effort represents a generational opportunity to strengthen the local economy, bring families home, and position the Navajo Nation for future-focused industries.



“Our focus is building jobs, infrastructure, and opportunity for Navajo families.



POWERING OUT FUTURE: HISTORIC SOLAR INSTALLATION MARKS MAJOR STEP TOWARD NAVAJO ENERGY SOVEREIGNTY

THOREAU N.M. — On December 4, our Nation witnessed a truly historic moment — the first installation of the Blackbird Modular Unit, powered by Shadow Lair and integrating MOSH-1 off-grid solar technology. This system now provides 24-hour clean, reliable electricity to a Navajo family of nine who have lived without power for years.

This installation — donated in-kind — has transformed the family's daily life. No more generators. No more darkness. No more barriers to meeting basic needs. Community Representative Shar Soce learned of the family's situation and worked with Thoreau Chapter officials to help bring this life-changing moment forward.

The Blackbird unit deploys at the push of a button and delivers up to 125 kilowatts of clean power. Its advanced design can support emergency housing, medical clinics, command centers, field kitchens, and remote communities. It is quiet, emission-free, rapidly deployable, and built for families living miles beyond traditional grid access.

As President of the Navajo Nation, I want to personally thank MOSH-1 founders Shawn and Erika Bryan, Tribal Liaison Carol Stevens, Director of Workforce Development and Community Education Ashlee Velasquez, Division of Community Development Executive Director Candice Yazzie, Department Manager II Patrick Dalgai, the Thoreau Chapter leadership, and the Nez family for allowing us to share in this achievement.

This installation represents far more than a single system. It marks the beginning of a broader vision. With proper support, funding, and scale, Shadow Lair and MOSH-1 believe thousands of these units could one day deliver electricity, heat, refrigeration, and communications to as many as 30,000 Navajo community members who still live without power.

This initiative also carries the potential to create hundreds of new jobs for Navajo citizens — in fabrication, welding, transportation, installation, solar operations, and more — strengthening our workforce and our economy.

When innovation meets purpose, our families thrive, our Nation grows stronger, and our path toward true energy sovereignty shines even brighter.



“
Every family deserves safe, reliable electricity.



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COLLABORATION AND CLARITY: NAVAJO NATION, CSA DISCUSS DATA CENTER AND REGIONAL PRIORITIES

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren met with members of the County Supervisors Association of Arizona on December 2, including Executive Director Craig A. Sullivan, for a productive discussion focused on shared priorities, regional collaboration, and the future of major infrastructure initiatives across Navajo communities.

During the meeting, President Nygren also addressed ongoing public concerns regarding a proposed Navajo data center. Speakers noted the rise of anti-data center narratives and stressed the need for clear, effective public communication to counter the misinformation. The conversation highlighted that modern data centers use significantly less water for power than many traditional methods, a point often overlooked in local debates. Participants agreed that a one-field data center could be an ideal approach, less intimidating for surrounding communities while still creating jobs, improving local infrastructure, and positioning the Navajo Nation for long-term technological growth.

President Nygren also extended warm congratulations to Supervisor Alton Joe Shepherd, who was officially welcomed as the new County Supervisors Association of Arizona President during a November 20 Board of Directors meeting. With more than 17 years of elected public service experience, including leadership roles on the 22nd and 23rd Navajo Nation Councils, Shepherd brings deep experience in rural and tribal governance. His leadership will strengthen county partnerships and advance key legislative priorities statewide.

President Nygren looks forward to continued collaboration with the County Supervisors Association of Arizona and its new President to deliver meaningful progress for all communities.



"Strong partnerships and clear communication are essential to moving major projects forward."





HOOPS MADNESS IN GALLUP

GALLUP – For 50 years, the John Lomasney Invitational has brought families, student-athletes, and communities together. In Gallup, on Dec 4, that legacy was felt in every cheer, every play, and every packed bleacher.

Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren pulled up to the 50th Annual John Lomasney Invitational hosted by the Gallup Lady Bengals, to catch a high-energy showdown between Show Low and Tohatchi. From tip-off to the final buzzer, it was all-out, back-and-forth hoops — tough defense, fast transitions, and hustle on every possession.

In the end, Tohatchi edged out the win, 46–43, closing strong with a late surge that had the whole gym on its feet.

President Nygren also stayed to watch Gallup vs. Ganado to wrap up the night. Gallup capped the win, 46-33.

Ultimately the Rio Rancho Rams would go on win, 43-38, defeating the Gallup Bengals to become the Lomasney tournament Champions.

The Lomasney Invitational is a highlight on the girls' basketball calendar, the tournament brings together teams from Arizona, New Mexico, and beyond, offering early-season competition against diverse playing styles while providing valuable exposure and preparation ahead of league play. So much great basketball happening currently, let's show up and support our student-athletes!

“

When our kids take the court, they carry the pride of their families and communities, and that's what makes Navajo basketball special.



President Nygren waving to the crowd



Tohatchi vs. Show Low



Ganado vs. Gallup



SAN JUAN CHAPTER CONFRONTS NEEDS AND PUBLIC SAFETY GAPS IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT NYGREN

WATERFLOW, N.M. — With washed-out roads, limited housing infrastructure, and mounting public safety concerns weighing heavily on residents, Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren met with San Juan Chapter President Angelita A. Benally, chapter leadership, division directors, and law enforcement officials on Dec. 1, 2025, for a focused discussion on the community's most urgent needs.

Leaders detailed ongoing challenges with community and farm roads, including the need to update the Navajo DOT inventory, resolve right-of-way barriers, and move the ARPA-funded N362 chip seal project forward. Recent flash flooding has worsened conditions, damaging roads and farmland and prompting calls for improved drainage and long-term repair planning. Community members also highlighted major concerns with the irrigation canal system, noting that flood damage has weakened canal walls, slowed water flow, and impacted local farmland. They emphasized the need for visual inspections and coordinated repairs to protect agricultural operations, given the canal's importance to local farmers.

Progress on housing for high-risk elders was also shared, with five ARPA homes assigned and three now occupied. Additional bathroom renovation assessments and ARPA-funded road, housing, and warehouse projects are currently in motion. Community members further highlighted the ongoing need for additional housing resources and farm equipment to support families and local agriculture.

The chapter is preparing a land withdrawal request along N36 to support future community development and sought guidance as they advance the project.

Public safety officials reported staffing shortages, chronic speeding on N36, and rising calls for service. Community members voiced strong support for establishing a police substation to increase visibility and response times. Leaders also discussed recruitment challenges and emphasized the need to strengthen emergency response efforts and support officers who respond to domestic violence and other high-risk incidents.

President Nygren thanked the officers, the Chief, and all chapter representatives for their continued work. He also encouraged new chapter vendors to reach out for assistance as San Juan moves forward with its priority infrastructure, housing, and public safety projects.





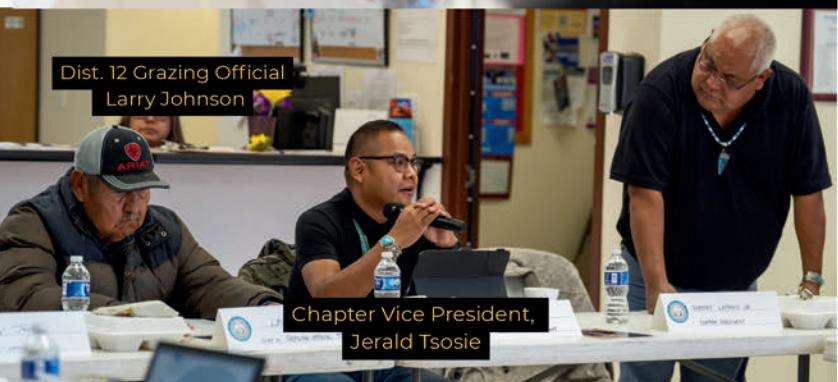
TSE DAA K' AAN (HOGBACK) CHAPTER - PENDING PRIORITY PROJECTS



Chapter President, Robert Lapahie Jr.



Division Director, Tom Platero



Dist. 12 Grazing Official
Larry Johnson

Chapter Vice President,
Jerald Tsosie



SHIPROCK AGENCY — On December 1, Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren met with Chapter President Robert Lapahie Jr. and the Tse Daa K'aan leadership team to address several high-priority projects affecting families, farmers, and elders. The discussion focused on clearing administrative delays, strengthening communication with overseeing agencies, and ensuring these long-awaited projects continue moving forward.

A major portion of the meeting centered on the irrigation pump station, a project critical for farmers who depend on timely water access for their planting seasons. The project has encountered a three-month delay after procurement was pushed from July to September. With a total project need of \$4.3 million, along with an additional \$575,000 from the State of New Mexico, Water Resources reported that construction is expected to begin this month with the goal of completing the work before the next growing season. A follow-up call with chapter officials and the Water Resources team is being scheduled this week to review timelines, establish contingencies, and confirm the selected contractor.

Leadership also discussed ARPA-funded home construction and bathroom renovation projects, including work-order restructuring and the ongoing coordination needed to deliver homes efficiently. The possibility of redirecting remaining ARPA funds originally held by NECA toward utility connections was raised to ensure homes are fully functional upon installation.

Division Director Tom Platero provided detailed updates on the washed-out culvert, explaining the steps required to advance the project, including verification of public road status, hydrology assessments, cultural clearances, and compliance considerations tied to the San Juan River. Platero also shared progress on the solar street lighting project, which is moving through compliance review before installation.

The meeting underscored the need for stronger project management, investment in community and wellness facilities, and continued support for farmers through initiatives such as the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund.

President Nygren was proactive in directing Division Directors Tom Platero, Mike Halona, and Candice Yazzie to reach out, make calls, and provide full support to Tse Daa K'aan leadership and community members in addressing the issues raised during the meeting.

KEY TURNOVER CEREMONIES MARK NEW BEGINNINGS FOR HOMEOWNERS IN THE FORT DEFIANCE AGENCY

As the Navajo Nation enters the New Year, key turnover ceremonies continue across the Nation, celebrating new beginnings for families receiving homes through the Community Housing and Infrastructure Department using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Selected recipients are receiving homes across all five agencies under various work orders administered by the Division of Community Development (DCD).

On December 30, four homes were officially turned over to new homeowners in Klagetoh and Fort Defiance. Community representatives from the Office of the President presented keys and deeds, along with a congratulatory letter from Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren recognizing this important milestone.

Earlier in December, three additional homes were turned over to housing recipients in Twin Lakes, New Mexico. Prior to the Christmas holiday, Deputy Chief of Staff and Community Representative Gary Lewis presented keys to three new homeowners in Oak Springs and Pine Springs, Arizona. Families also received holiday gift baskets and a holiday ham to celebrate together in their new homes.

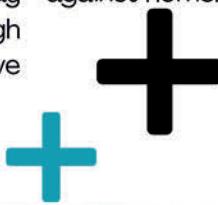
Housing recipient Theresa Etsitty shared a heartfelt reflection in honor of her late husband, who passed away from cancer: "We waited for this day to come, and although my husband isn't here to see it, my grandchildren and I will live in this house my husband and I could only wish for."

Division of Community Development staff were present at each turnover to provide homeowners with orientations, review warranty information, and offer guidance on home maintenance to support long-term success.

"Each home represents an important step forward in our fight against housing instability on the Navajo Nation," said President Nygren. "We work closely with our contractors and DCD staff every day to ensure resources are deployed where they are needed most. I look forward to seeing more families receive homes in 2026."

Looking ahead, the Community Housing and Infrastructure Department has been short-funded for Fiscal Year 2026. However, the Housing Improvement Program will begin accepting new applications in February. In the meantime, DCD staff will continue delivering homes to previously selected applicants as work progresses agency by agency. Homes have already been delivered in the Northern and Eastern Agencies. Following completion in the Fort Defiance Agency, deliveries will begin in the Chinle Agency. Additionally, the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office is coordinating with DCD to deliver homes in the Western Agency.

The Navajo Nation remains committed to continuing the fight against homelessness and housing instability in 2026.



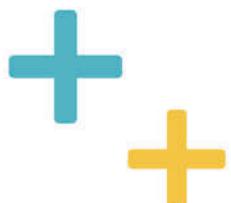


Tune-In Thursdays @ 1:00 & 5:30 PM

KNDN 960 AM | KTNN 660 AM | KGAK 1330 AM

Diné College 92.1 FM | NTU 107.3 FM

*Listen to your local Navajo radio station to hear
weekly updates given in Diné Bizaad
by President Buu Nygren*



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