

## Body found near child-care center

Written by gallupsun  
Monday, 29 October 2018 13:06

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### Staff Reports

A body was discovered Oct. 27 just north of Christian Child Care Home, 220 W. Jefferson Ave. in Gallup. The cause of death is still unknown.

Gallup Police Department Captain Marinda Spencer told the *Sun* Oct. 29 the partially decomposed body was found by a person taking a walk in the area, who initially thought the deceased was sleeping and continued on their walk.

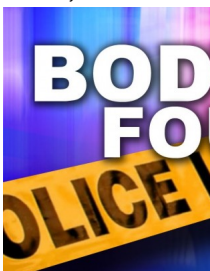
Spencer said the walker went back to the scene later in the day “to see whether the person had left,” but the body was still there in the same position, so the walker took a closer look.

The body, which Spencer said has been identified as a Native American male, showed obvious signs of being deceased, and the walker called dispatch around 5:25 pm.

Detectives responded to the scene, which Spencer said, was about 60 to 100 yards north of Christian Child Care Center, up in the hill area, near the base of a cliff.

The Office of the Medical Investigator was also called.

At the scene, an ID was recovered “from the body but because of the stages of decomposition, [detectives] weren’t able to confirm visually that it was the same individual,” Spencer said.



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The cause of death does not appear to be suspicious based on the scene, she said, though this and a formal identification await OMI. This is an ongoing investigation.