

Hopilavayi Pas Himu



Hopi language proficiency examination (Picture provided by Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa)

By **DARYN MELVIN, OFFICE OF THE VICE CHAIRMAN**
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KYKOTSMOVI, AZ – In the 2002 Hopit potskwani’at, The Hopi Tribal Council directed the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office and the Hopi Office of Education and Workforce Development “to promote and preserve the Hopi language by developing a total cultural immersion program”. While the dream of a total cultural immersion program has not yet been realized, one of the key aspects of this directive was the teaching of the Hopi language and the assurance that “instruction in the language would be made available to students of all grade levels, in all Hopi schools serving the Hopi nation.” Additionally, in resolution H-010-2006, The Hopi Tribal Council recognized a series of Language survival

goals drawn from the Hopit potskwani’at which included “Teacher training and certification in Hopi language and culture.”

To this end the Hopi Department of Education and Workforce Development, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office and the Hopi Office of the Vice-Chairman, have recently made substantial progress toward fulfilling these two particular directives by developing a Hopi Language Proficiency Exam. The exam, administered for the first time on December 7, 2018 to a pilot group of 13 Hopi educators seeking certification, is slated to be conducted on a quarterly basis.

“In order to ultimately provide instruction in the Hopi language to students of all grade levels, in all Hopi schools serving the Hopi reservation, we must first ensure that we have educators certified to teach the Hopi language.” Said Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa, Director of the

Hopi Department of Education and Workforce Development.

Impetus to create such an exam also came from a 2012 State Board of Education ruling regarding Native American Language Certification in which a certificate would be “issued to individuals qualified to teach only a Native American language in Grades pre-K-12.” However, one particular requirement of this certification was that “proficiency shall be verified on official letter head by a person, persons, or entity designated by the appropriate tribe.”

Therefore, as the manner in which Hopi language proficiency is verified is left to the Tribe’s discretion, the Hopi Department of Education, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office, and the Hopi Office of the Vice-Chairman aimed to develop a proficiency exam that would serve as an unbiased yet quantifiable measure

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Discussions Continue on Recommendations & Outline for the New Hopi Education Code at the Hopi Board of Education Level



Hopi Board of Education listen to speakers about the TED grant (Photo by Romalita Laban/Hopi Tutuveni)

By **ROMALITA LABAN**
HOPI TUTUVENI

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., - The Hopi Board of Education (HBE) held its Regular Meeting on December 19, 2018 held at the Northern Arizona University Campus in Flagstaff, Ariz. to a room filled audience which included local Hopi school Community School Administrators, Hopi School Board members, Hopi community members, and various University professionals with Hopi

Tribe decent.

The HBE achieved quorum and after getting the agenda approved was provided an update by

Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa, Director, Department of Education & Workforce Development (DEWD) - Hopi Tribe under the “Reports, 1) Tribal Education Department (TED)” section. Regarding an overview of the current Hopi Education Code, Sakiestewa described it as being written in the 80’s when all Hopi schools were Bureau of Indian Agency op-

erated. She went on to describe all Hopi schools as currently being PL-297 Tribally operated and provided brief history of that status and how the continued work on the Ordinance 36 Project is covered under the 2015 TED grant. Sakiestewa also informed those present that the work on the Ordinance 36 Project is slated for completion in June 2019 and about plans for hiring a Project Coordinator, who would work with the Hopi communities in bringing awareness about the project to

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Open Letter to Arizona Congressional Leaders

By **The Office of the Chairman**
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. - On behalf of the Hopi Tribe, we urge you to work with Congressional leadership to immediately end the partial government shutdown. This shutdown violates the trust obligations of the United States government to our Hopi-Tewa people.

Agencies such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Service and other federal agencies that provide critical government services to our Hopi-Tewa people are caught up in unrelated politics over funding for a southern border wall. As the unnecessary and heedless shutdown drags on day to day, the well-being of our Hopi-Tewa people hangs in the balance. It is unconscionable that our people should suffer because of the failure of the Congress and the President to enact an FY2019 appropriation. America’s longstanding, legally mandated obligation, to tribal nations should be honored no matter the political quarrels of the moment over a border wall.

The Hopi Tribe relies heavily on federal funding to provide key tribal government services, including but not limited to health care, public safety, housing, nutrition and food distribution, and social welfare services. This government shutdown destabilizes programs causing unnecessary fear and anxiety not only among our Hopi-Tewa people but others who reside and are employed on the Hopi Reservation.

The long-term effects of this shutdown will ripple throughout our villages and communities for months or even years following the reopening of the government. We implore the President and the United States Congress to end this stalemate and fulfill the special trust responsibilities and legal obligations of the federal government to the Hopi Tribe.

EDITORIAL

RED FEATHER’S HEATING TIPS...

Read about how to heat your home healthy.

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COLUMN

LARRY’S CORNER “Under Control”

Read why Larry has everything under control

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COMMUNITY

“Rumble in the Mountain V and AfterShock”

Read more about the benefit concert for the sacred peaks

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PUBLIC

Hopi Youth Partake in Empowerment Conference

Read more about the youth learning.

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Open Letter to Arizona Congressional Leaders, Cont

of one’s linguistic abilities. To do this the Hopi Proficiency Exam was structured to assess one’s proficiency in four fundamental areas: Comprehension, Reading, Speaking and Grammar. These four fundamental areas were meant to correspond with the Hopi language instruction requirements also set forth by the Hopi Tribal Council resolution H-010-2006, which stated that “Hopi language instruction shall include to the greatest extent practicable...speaking, comprehension, reading and writing skills and study of the formal grammar of the language”

“One of the biggest misconceptions regarding language is that fluency is purely about speaking the language, when in reality, learning how to speak is only part of the process,” said Dr. Sakiestewa, “in academic terms, Linguistic Proficiency is the ability of an individual to demonstrate adequate mastery of the language in a range of skills and applications, which is why we

endeavored to develop an assessment that took into consideration as many of the key areas of language as possible.”

“It is important to understand that Language is a living thing and it always takes place within a relative context,” said Stewart B. Koyiyumptewa, Manager of the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office, “fluency is not an absolute status and the use of language constantly changes, matures, and grows, and while this exam is meant to be a tool for assessing one’s language proficiency, it can also be a great motivator for Hopi people to perfect their language abilities and take their Hopi language skills to the next level.”

“Being able to teach and utilize a language in an academic setting is often very different from the casual everyday use of the language, even for a fluent Hopi speaker,” said Vice-Chairman Clark Tenakhongva, “so it is unfair to place teachers or paraprofessionals,

without proper assessment and excellent preparation, in situations where teaching conventions and students’ expectations may be quite different from their earlier experiences.”

Ensuring a quality education for Hopi students and promoting the use of the Hopi Language have been top priorities for the Office of the Vice-Chairman, and have been priorities that he and his staff have worked on diligently with other tribal programs and departments since the start of the current administration.

“By establishing consistent protocols to test language proficiency, we are not only being considerate of the welfare of both the teachers and the students that will learn from them,” said Vice-Chairman Tenakhongva, “we are also establishing the foundation on upon which we can build a comprehensive Hopi language program and curriculum in the future.”

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – At press submission deadline, Hopi Tutuveni was informed that the January 11, 2019 Open Letter to Arizona Congressional Leaders was sent to all nine of the Arizona representatives. Those individuals are:

Kyrsten Sinema, Senior Senator, Martha McSally, Junior Senator, Tom O’Halloran, 1st District, Ann Kirkpatrick, 2nd District, Raul Grijalva, 3rd District, Paul Gosar, 4th District , Andy Biggs, 5th District, David Schweikert 6th District, Ruben Gallego, 7th District, Debbie Lesko, 8th District, Greg Stanton, 9th District

Discussions Continue on Recommendations , Cont.

them at Hopi. Sakiestewa continued with mentioning the goal to expend TED grant funds by 2019 and that there were no major changes to the grant however the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) did announce that more funds would be expected to be “rolled out” if an excess was available, as well. She continued on the subject of more funding by reminding those present that currently the Hopi Tribe has received approximately \$200K through the TED grant and hopes to receive that same amount in the next three years or so. Sakiestewa mentioned if the Tribe is allowed anything over \$60K in the future, those amounts would have to be approved and accepted by Hopi Tribal Council on behalf of the Tribe.

Members of the audience presented questions regarding the possibility of opting out of accepting funding from the BIE in the future. Dr. Sakiestewa clarified that she didn’t see that as an option since the Hopi Tribe has been receiving funds for the TED grant for the past three years. When members of the audience pressed for a response as to whether the Tribe still has that option, none was given. Members also mentioned that the meeting they were in attendance for was the HBE meeting. They then requested that the HBE be allowed to finish meeting about the Agenda topics and any presentations regarding the Ordinance 36 Project be presented “at home.” Dr. Sakiestewa reminded the audience members that the information was being presented to the HBE because they requested the presentation.

After ending with the “Reports” section, the HBE was then provided an update by the TED grant consultant, Angelina Okuda-Jacobs. The HBE Vice President reminded Okuda-Jacobs that the presentation was being made to the HBE and to keep that in mind while presenting. Okuda-Jacobs provided a PowerPoint presentation along with the seventeen-page ‘December 14, 2018 Report, Recommendation, and Outline for new Hopi Education Code’ which included an Executive Summary, some of which is in the following excerpt: “...This “Report, Recommendation, and Outline for the new Hopi Education Code...summarizes the Public Works Feasibility Study and my findings. My examination has found that each Hopi school is essentially operating as its own unified school district. Each is required to undertake all the roles and responsibilities of a school district. This overburdens administration personnel, and does not allow the schools to achieve cost savings and economies

of scale. The CSAs, teachers, and other stakeholders are in general agreement that centralized support would benefit many of the schools’ needed services. Their greatest concern is the loss of local autonomy and overreach by the Tribal Council or a superintendent. At the same time, there is a need for greater accountability and administrative support for Hopi schools. The proposed Hopi Education Code seeks to balance all these needs and considerations.

Based on the Feasibility Study’s findings and recommendations, my findings from Hopi site visits, and my analysis of tribal education codes and education law and policy, it is my recommendation that the Hopi Tribe adopt an Option 4 Unified School District Model that is tailored to the Hopi school system. I also recommend that Hopi develop a Comprehensive 10-year Hopi Education Plan. This Report includes:

- Part A -- a summary of the Feasibility Study’s key findings and recommendations.
- Part B -- my findings and recommendation for the Hopi school system.
- Part C -- an outline, table of contents, organizational chart, and other supporting documents to show how the new Hopi Unified School District would be established. The Hopi Education Code will be completed no later than June 2019. Once it is adopted by the Hopi Tribal Council, the project will enter a Planning phase during which stakeholders will plan the detailed structures and procedures of the new Hopi school system. Once Planning is completed, the project will enter the Implementation phase to transition to the new Hopi Unified School District. While some aspects of the new Hopi Education Code will begin as soon as the Code is adopted, the entire transition process will likely take 1-2 years.”

Audience members had questions and comments throughout the Consultant’s presentation with some being presented with regard to the recently completed Feasibility study in mind. To give readers a sense of how this all ties together it is helpful to remind all that in 2015, the U.S. Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) awarded the Hopi Tribe a “Tribal Education Department” (TED) grant, for the development and operation of the education department. In 2017, Tribal Council approved the use of the TED grant funds to hire Public Works LLC to evaluate the current educational structure and determine (1) whether it was “feasible” for the Tribe to develop a “coordinated educational program” on the reservation,

and, if so, (2) how the Hopi Tribe should structure the governance and build leadership capacity to facilitate a “comprehensive and coordinated” education system.

In accordance with information included in the report, the report began with governance because it was both the motivating factor for the TED grant and the commissioning of the feasibility study, which is still a highly-debated subject within the Hopi community. Further explanation in the report provided that there is a broadly shared conclusion that the current “system” isn’t working. The report included detailed evidence that locally controlled schools need more support and assistance. However, according to the report, the Tribal government lacks the financial ability or administrative capacity to provide that support, while many stakeholders have voiced concerns over losing their autonomy to the Tribal government.

Conversations regarding the Feasibility study have been occurring throughout 2018 and at HBE meetings, as well. Further discussion during the HBE meetings have included updates from Dr. Sakiestewa on the response and directive received from Council regarding the governance Options. Sakiestewa has been providing letters to Hopi Tribal Council requesting guidance and has reported to the HBE about said letters. Sakiestewa also expressed to the HBE, the CSA’s, school boards and stakeholders that she would be including visuals and that the Feasibility Study is still available online at the DEWD website and that copies could be provided to parents if requested.

Since September 2018, Okuda-Jacobs’ plans for meeting with Hopi Tribal Council (Council) in October 2018 did not come to fruition as Council did not reach quorum. Meetings throughout October 2018 did get completed with the Community School Administrators (CSA), some School Board members and a few community stakeholders which included two teachers and 2-3 students for some schools.

For questions about the Feasibility report, information on how to obtain a copy of the report and those provided by Okuda-Jacobs, please contact Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa at (928) 734-3501 or Judy Youvella at (928) 734-3503 or JYouvella@hopi.nsn.us. The Feasibility report can also be found at the Hopi Department of Education’s website where it can be acquired online from <https://www.hopi.nsn.gov/tribal-services/department-of-education/>.

New Breath, New Life



Michael Adams (Photo by Romalita Laban/Hopi Tutuveni)

By **ROMALITA LABAN**
HOPi TUTUVENI

POLACCA, Ariz. – On December 27 and 28, 2019; not only was Hopi preparing for its last winter storm, those in the local community were gearing up to learn of and experience a personal, transformational event meant to spark a new breath and new life, as well.

Like a lot of local events, word about the event came by way of fliers and posts on Facebook which Tutuveni staff got wind of. Because of the season and talk around this time of “hiksii” also referred to as “breath” the event got our attention.

In the flier a reminder being asked by the “Next Wave Warrior” to those who may have declared to themselves that they wanted “2019 TO BE THE YEAR...” in which their chosen dream would come true, or they wanted to create or transform something in their lives, the event was meant for them. That was enough to generate interest in our staff, so off to Polacca I ventured.

In the setting of the Tewa Community Building was Michael Adams, MNLP, who was presenting about what New Breath New Life meant to him and how he used his teachings to go after many of his

current dreams of owning his own business while creating. If you haven’t met Adams, he is one of the calmest yet motivating a young Hopi-Tewa man who is also a very talented artist. Adams continued to present about how he earned his Master’s in the Neuro-linguistic Program and how he intended to use that training to help those in his community learn about moving forward towards their dreams and goals.

Participants had the chance to ask questions and interact with one another throughout the two-day event. Information about forgiving, visualizing and positive methods for creating was shared with participants and by the end of the event they were able to “break” through any obstacles which they envisioned to be in a board approximately 9” X 11” in size.

Adams did a great job of listening to and reflecting what his audience shared with him. The event turned out to be exactly what I was searching for in setting the tone for 2019. If you have questions about New Breath New Life, more can be found at <https://www.nextwavewarrior.com/pl/54968> emailing nexwavewarrior@gmail.com and/or by calling (209) 691-0053.

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COUNCIL’S CORNER

HOPI TRIBAL COUNCIL First Quarter Session December 1, 2018
AGENDA Amendment # 3 – Month of January COMPLETED ITEMS
CERTIFICATION OF TRIBAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

1. Village of Bakabi

2. Village of Kyakotsmovi

3. First Mesa Consolidated Villages

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Action Item #064-2018 – The Village of Bacavi requests to receive its carryover funds held by the Hopi Tribe – Author/Catherine Wright, Community Service Administrator – **WITHDRAWN**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Action Item #084-2018 – To approve a new five year lease between the Hopi Tribe and Swan Farms for 142 water toll acres of the Hopi Cibola Farms in Blythe, CA. – Author/Clayton Honyumptewa, Director, DNR **APPROVED**

2. Action Item #085-2018 – To approve Consulting Agreement: Arizona Psychology Services – Author/Laverne Dallas, Hopi Behavioral Services - **Time Certain –December 5, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. **APPROVED**

3. Action Item #086-2018 – To approve modification to Cooperative Agreement between the Hopi Tribe and Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to extend Agreement through December 31, 2019 – Author/Ken Lomayestewa, Director, Office of Renewable Energy **APPROVED**

4. Action Item #087-2018 – To approve release of FY 2005 allocation to Village of Walpi, which was retained and transferred to the Hopi Tribe’s Village Contingency Fund Account – Author/Wilber Kaye, CSA, Administrator, Village of Walpi - **Time Certain December 3, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. **APPROVED**

5. Action Item #089-2018 – To approve Barton Associates: Locum Tenens Agreement to provide clinical services at BHS – Author/Laverne Dallas, Hopi Behavioral Services - **Time Certain –December 5, 2018 10:00 a.m. **DEFEATED**

6. Action Item #001-2019 – To adopt the suspension of the Annual Leave Policy and Compensatory Time Off Policy Cash out with an effective December, 2018 – Author/Lisa Pawwinnee, Director, Office of Human Resources **DEFEATED**

7. Action Item #002-2019 – To approve Site Development-Residential Use Permit to Hopi Tribal Housing Authority for placement of a mobile home in the Village of Bacavi – Author/Fred Shupla, Community Planner, Office of Community Planning & Economic Development **APPROVED**

8. Action Item #003-2019 – To approve submission of letter of intent to I.H.S. regarding HAMP and PL 93-638 Construction Contract – Author/Carroll Onsae, President/General Manager, Hopi Utilities Corporation **APPROVED**

9. Action Item #004-2019 – To approve District Six 2019 – 2023 Grazing Allocations Using 2015 – 2016 Range Inventory – Author/Priscilla Pavatea, Manager, Office of Range Management - **Time Certain December 5, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. **APPROVED**

10. Action Item #005-2019 – To approve Appropriations request from the Contingency Fund to purchase a new tribal vehicle for the Office of the Vice Chairman – Author/Clark W. Tenakhongva, Vice Chairman, The Hopi Tribe **APPROVED**

11. Discussion/possible action regarding November 2, 2018 Confidential Memo re: Update on NGS – Theresa Thin Elk, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel - **Time Certain – December 3, 2018 @ 3:00 p.m. **COMPLETE**

12. Hopi Tribal Housing Authority Board of Commissioners Interviews **Time Certain - December 27, 2018 **COMPLETE**

13. Discussion/Update – Memorandum dated November 30, 2018 from Carlene Tenakhongva, Office of General Counsel Re: Request for Time Certain – Office of General Counsel Administrative Issues – Representative Honani, Village of Sipaulavi **Time Certain December 4, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. **COMPLETE**

14. Discussion/Possible Action – Letter dated November 30, 2018 from Michael D. Goodstein Re: Hopi Tribe v. Arizona Snowbowl Resort Limited Partnership, et al., CV-18-0057-PR**Time Certain December 4, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. **COMPLETE**

REPORTS

1. Annual Report – Hopi Education Endowment Fund – LuAnn Leonard, Executive Director, Office of Hopi Education Endowment Fund **COMPLETE**

2. Quarterly Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP) Update – Alex Litofsky, Office of Environmental Health & Engineering - **Time Certain December 6, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. **COMPLETE**

Red Feather’s Healthy Heating Tips




Photo by: www.freestockphotos.biz

By: Joe Seidenberg
Red Feather

January 2019 and it is cold out there. It is also time to cuddle up with blankets around the heater and get out your three shirts to wear all at once. It would be good to ask yourself the following questions, so please put this at the top of your list of things to do, as well:

•Are you ready with a fire safety plan?

•Have you talked to people in your home about how to get out in case of fire?


•Do you have working fire alarms and CO2 detectors?

•Have you moved items away from your stove?

Before you light up the fire make sure your homes are safe and check on your friends, neighbors and elders, too.

If you have questions about heating your home safely and efficiently this winter try contacting Red Feather – a non-profit that believes everyone deserves a healthy home at (928) 440-5119.

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Rumble on the Mountain V and AfterShock

Benefit Concert



Ryon Polequaptewa (Photo provided by Ed Kabotie)



Ed Kabotie (Photo provided by Ed Kabotie)

By **ED KABOTIE**
PRESS RELEASE

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. - In response to recent assaults on lands held sacred by Arizona tribes on both federal and state levels, two ‘edutainment’ (a combination of education and entertainment) events will be held in Flagstaff on January 19, 2019. Rumble on the Mountain V, ‘The Ongoing Legacy of Uranium Mining on the Colorado Plateau’ will take place at the Coconino Center for the Arts from 1pm-5pm. The show will combine traditional dances, cultural voices, and musical performances with educational presentations that explore links between uranium mining and the illegal shrinkage of the Bears Ears National Monument. Talents and voices to be featured at Rumble on the Mountain V include Vernon Masayesva, Lyle Balenquah, HaulNo, Davona Blackhorse, Ed Kabotie, The Havasupai Youth Ram Dancers, Hopi Dance Group, Ryon Polequaptewa, and World Champion Hoop Dancer, Derrick Davis. There will be an exhibit of current works from the Rumble Arts Collective, and proceeds from a raffle for

live art by Jerrel Singer will go to support HaulNo. Rumble on the Mountain V, ‘The Ongoing Legacy of Uranium Mining on the Colorado Plateau’, will be an experience of music, art, and education about sacred and threatened lands of the Plateau. \$15 Adults, \$10 students. 12 and under Free. For more information contact Ed Kabotie @ 505.274.6822, Alicyn Gitlin @ 520.491.9528 or 928.774.6514 or visit flagartscouncil.org

Following Rumble on the Mountain V on January 19, 2019, the AfterShock will take place at The Green Room. The ‘Aftershock’ is a response to the Arizona State Supreme Court’s recent failure to support the Hopi Tribe in their lawsuit regarding cultural and environmental threats posed by the use of reclaimed water on the San Francisco Peaks. A film by local author, Sarah Weatherby, and performances from Sage Bond, Ed Kabotie, and Nammy Award winning duet, Sihasin will be features of the show. Flagstaff Reggae Rock band, Tha ‘Yoties will also perform and re-release their live cd, ‘A Celebration of Water’, from Rumble on The Mountain I (2015) which includes music and presentations in opposition to the use of reclaimed

water on the Peaks. Most proceeds from a fine art raffle at the show will go to support the Black Mesa Trust’s Hopi Water Filtration Project. Doors open at 7:30pm. Show from 8pm-Midnight. All ages until 10pm. \$5 admission, 12 and under free with paid adult, also free for attendees of Rumble on the Mountain V. For more information contact Ed Kabotie at 505.274.6822 or visit flagstaffgreen-room.com

Organizer Ed Kabotie says, “The purpose of Rumble on the Mountain V and AfterShock is to remind us that we’re in a fight for the sacred lands of the Colorado Plateau. The fight is not against individuals or institutions, but rather, against the paradigms and philosophies that motivate our consumer habits. Anyone who flicks a switch or turns a faucet is part of the problem. The Rumble on the Mountain V and AfterShock are cries for a conscious awakening in our hearts and minds about how our modern lifestyles affect the health and lives of the indigenous people and lands of this world.”

Hopi Youth Partakes in Empowerment Conference



Children stand and hold hand to shoulder as a way to connect to one another and as a way to unify the community (Photo provided by Joyce Hamilton/CHR)

By **Hopi Community Health Representative Program Staff**

On Thursday, December 27, 2018, the Hopi Community Health Representative (CHR) program hosted their second annual youth empowerment conference titled, “Protecting our Youth to Strengthen our Community” for youth between the ages of 8 to 18 years old. The Youth Empowerment conference was held at the Peace Academic Center, formerly known as Hopi Mission School, and was the perfect establishment for the conference. The goal was to address the struggles and temptations that our youth are facing today and to provide the tools needed to overcome any life-threatening obstacles. With over one hundred participants in attendance, the day was successful for everyone.

The conference kicked off with light breakfast snacks and an energetic welcome by artist Duane Koyawena. Participants were in awe by Koyawena’s courageous journey of sobriety as they viewed photos of his artwork and learned of his recent skateboard painting that was sent to London for the one and only Wonder Woman, Gal Godet. His message to the youth was, “Never give up, no matter how hard life gets, and ask for help.” Duane also happily donated his time and participated in events throughout the day as he generously gave numerous youth t-shirts that displayed his artwork. Duane was a true celebrity by the day’s end as youth requested his autograph and took photos with him.

Other highlights of the day included presentations from Hopi Behavioral Health staff that used a “Jeopardy” themed game to educate the youth on important information on suicide. The Hopi Lavayi exercise cap-

tured their attention, as the youth were eager to shout out answers in Hopi. The Hopi Tewa Women’s Coalition staffer, Amber Poliveyouma covered the topic of Cyber Bullying; sharing that bullying occurs on social media every day and encouraged youth to be mindful of their behavior and to limit their time while on social media.

Indian Health Services Physician Assistant, Amber Perry, shared “Need to Know” information about puberty. The youngest attendees, ranging in age 8 – 10 year olds, asked many questions about what will happen to their body, as they get older. Answers provided by Perry made the students giggle at the realization that someday the girls will have menstrual periods and the boys’ voices will be changing in the very near future. Most youth were shy to talk openly about a subject that affects them all, but Perry’s extensive knowledge definitely left them with an everlasting knowledge that will help them make healthier choices.

The youth also were able to create a less stress self plan with Steward Health Choice Arizona’s Cultural Competency Administrator, Holly Figueroa, as well as practicing some breathing techniques when they feel stressed. They learned various tips on how to manage and handle stress, such as engaging in some form of physical activity, singing out loud in the shower, and most importantly, finding a friend or relative they trust so they can share and vent their feelings, rather than bottling them up and keeping it to themselves.

Hopi Behavioral Health Services and other generous donors provided lunch. During the lunch hour, Jessica Quamahongnewa, from the Special Diabetes Program, shared different options for healthier eating. Youth were able to try new, nutritious snack alternative to “Hot



The day started as they listen to their guest speaker, Duane Koyawena (Photo provided by Joyce Hamilton/CHR)

Cheetos” or pork rinds, by tasting delicious homemade dried apple chips and sweet corn balls.

At the end of the session, an empowering message was delivered by Studio13seven’s Chris Hawk and wife, Desiree. They created a strong visual message showing how in our day-to-day lives we encounter various darts from bullying, social media, alcoholism, drug use, peer pressure, domestic violence and other forms of stress that can overshadow us on a daily basis. The positive and empowering message, “Through Unity, Love and Respect, there is Power; the Power to pull through and conquer the daily stressors of life,” amped all in attendance to repeatedly chant in unison, “Through unity, love and respect, there is power!” The conference concluded by Studio13seven guiding all conference participants to gather together in way which formed a huge flower shape while stating, “We are all connected, and through unity, we can be resilient to push forward for a successful and happy life.”

Hopi CHR Program staff sends gratitude to Lance Polingyumtewa, the school grounds keeper, who spent many days cleaning up the school from recent break-ins. The space provided for our youth to learn the tools needed to live a happier and healthier life. Additionally, gratitude is sent to Behavioral Health Services and donors for providing lunch and snack items. Most of all, gratitude is extended to the youth for coming; for spending one day of your holiday break building new friendships and learning the tools to help you maintain healthy relationships in your everyday encounters. You are our future, our hope; with gained knowledge, you stand strong and courageous.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

December 27, 2018

TO: Employees of Hopi EMS – Past and Present

SUBJ.: Open Letter

I would like to thank and acknowledge all the past and present employees of Hopi EMS for their unwavering dedication and perseverance, sometimes under some unsurmountable odds, but still providing the highest level of emergency care, so Hopi and Tewa people, you should all be proud of these individuals. I also want to encourage those of you who are, or wanting to advance yourselves in the EMS field- GO FOR IT! I wish you success in all your endeavors.

Mr. Anthony Huma, you have done an exceptional job of directing Hopi EMS into the 21st Century, I wish you and the staff continued success.

To all of you, thank you! Kwak-Kwah, for all my years with you and the Hopi Tribe, and as Tony said, “It has been a very good run,” an opportunity to serve our people and all people.

You are who you are Hopi EMS – The Healing Hands for All People! You all are my second family and I will truly miss all of you. Kwak-Kwah.

Respectfully Submitted,
NW Quotshinma
Nathaniel W. Quotshinma
"Wings"

MONEY

Tips for a Smooth Tax Season

(StatePoint) Though Tax Day happens every year, it still seems to take many Americans by surprise. This year, don’t miss the deadline or let this crucial to-do loom large over your head.

To have a smooth tax season, consider the following:

- **Getting Started Early:** If you can, get a head start on your taxes. Filing early is a good tactic for anyone, but particularly those with evolving or complex financial circumstances. Not only will doing so help you prevent the anxiety that comes with procrastination, you’ll receive your refund early -- if you’re due one -- or give yourself time to prepare to pay any owed taxes.
- **Relying on Old Tricks:** When it comes to tax preparation, sometimes, using old-school methods is the best way to go. Whether you are just getting started on crunching those numbers or you’re finalizing all the information, a printing calculator like Casio’s HR-170RC includes features that can aid in tax preparation and submission. This model also has some newer tools, like a built-in tax feature that lets you store a frequent-

ly-used rate and pull it up at-will, slicing your calculation times by an impressive margin. Other functions include: a re-print key, a check function to scroll up to 150 steps of previous calculations, a grand total function for quick correction of mis-entries, currency exchange calculations and cost/sell/margin calculations.

- **Doing Research:** The list of what is tax deductible is more extensive than you might realize, so do your research. Keeping good records throughout the year of your expenditures can help you take advantage of these opportunities.
- **Having a Refund Plan:** Don’t just let your checking account absorb your tax refund only to spend it on an impulse buy. Whether you invest the money in your retirement, sock it safely away for a rainy day or put it towards the purchase of a big-ticket item, such as the down payment of a house, having a plan for your tax refund can help you make the most of the money.

This year, have a fuss-free tax season. With a little planning, you can file your taxes efficiently, without headache and at the greatest benefit to your finances.

HEALTH

3 Ways to Stand More and Sit Less

(SPM Wire) Most people know by now that too much sitting is bad for your health. Indeed, regularly spending long hours off one’s feet is associated with a higher risk of dementia, certain cancers, diabetes, deep vein thrombosis, weight gain and more.

To stand more and sit less, consider the following tips.

- **Change it up:** Ideally, your work environment is one that gives you opportunities to be active. If your work is largely sedentary, consider requesting a sit-to-stand convertible desk or workstation. As more HR departments recognize their potential to improve employee health,

this may be an easy sell.

- **Try new things:** Take stock of your favorite hobbies. Are they largely conducted while seated? If so, add new activities to the mix that will get you up and walking around. From bird watching to ballroom dancing, there are plenty of hobbies to try that will have you off the couch and on your feet.
- **Set a timer:** Set a timer that reminds you throughout the day to stand up. There are many free apps available that will do this for you, even offering simple exercises or stretches you can do to make the most of your break.

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Winter Weather Tips

For our Four-Legged Friends



Be Prepared

- Use pet safe de-icing products
- Prepare a disaster/ emergency kit that includes your pet’s needs

Prevent injuries and poisoning

- Check underneath you car, bang on the hood and honk on the horn before starting your car or truck
- Clean up any antifreeze spills quickly
- Check your dog’s paws frequently for signs of cold weather injury or damage
- Wipe down or wash your pet’s feet legs and belly to remove de-icing chemicals


Know the limits

- Be aware of your pet’s tolerance for the cold
- If your dog has a short coat or seams to be bothered by the cold dress your dog in a sweater to dog coat
- Consider using dog booties for extreme cold outside
- Outdoor cats and dogs deserve to be inside on very cold nights

Provide shelter

- We don’t recommend keeping any pet outside for long periods of time, but if you are unable to keep your dog inside during the cold, provide them with a warm dry solid shelter against the cold.

For more information about pet safety call:
Rick Nasafotie Small Animal Control 928-401-7697
Or Pam Lalo, Hopi veterinarian’s office at 928-738-5251



PSA brought to you by the Small Animal Control Program and Hopi Tutuveni

HEALTH

Resolve to Boost Health With These Breakfast Tips

(StatePoint) Looking to make a change to your nutrition in the new year? Start by examining what is often referred to as the most important meal of the day; breakfast.

Here are some fast facts about breakfast from Kelly Springer, MS, RD, CDN, and president of Kelly’s Choice, a collective of registered dietitians, nutritionists and educators that offers customized nutrition coaching programs for schools, workplaces, medical facilities, athletes and individuals.

- **Don’t Skip It:** Breakfast is not only essential to weight maintenance, it can help ensure you avoid nutritional deficiencies, so don’t avoid it.
- **Think about bonfires.** If you don’t add wood to the flames, the fire will go out. Metabolism works the same way. If you don’t add food as fuel to your body, your metabolism will slow down,” says Springer. “To maintain a healthy diet, you need to eat regularly scheduled meals. Breakfast is particularly important because your metabolism slows during a night of sleep.”
- **Skiping breakfast** has also been proven to be linked to nutrient deficiencies, points out Springer.
- **Breakfast provides essential nutrients** that can’t be made up for later in the day,” says. “A good breakfast will provide protein, b vitamins, fiber, calcium and iron.”
- **Include Protein:** Protein helps to maintain blood sugar levels, keeps you

fuller longer and provides the building blocks for skin, hair, nails and muscle. But because protein can’t be stored as protein in the body, it needs to be consumed throughout the day.

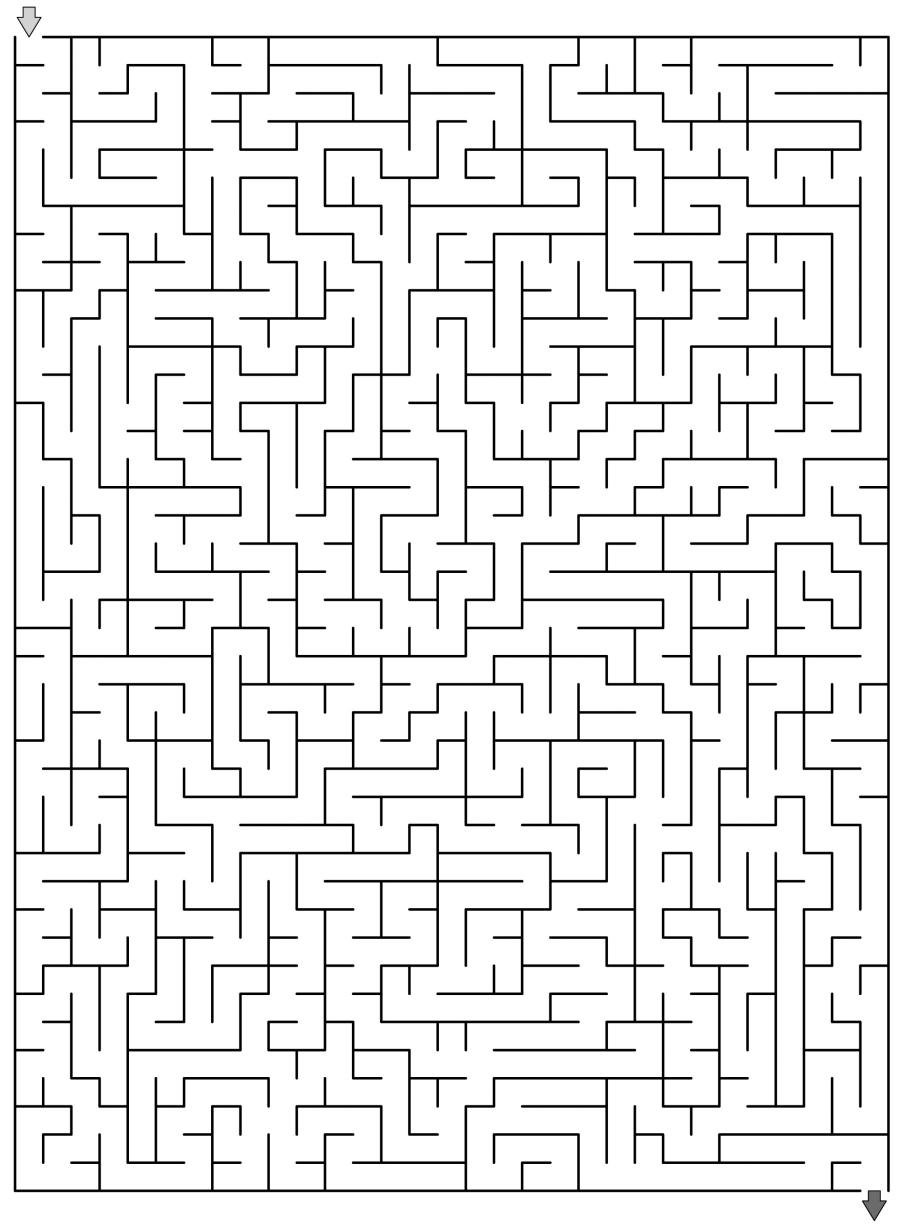
“Be sure your first meal includes protein. You don’t have to search hard to do so. Some of your favorite breakfast items are already a great source,” says Springer.

Did you know that a bagel at Einstein Bros. Bagels has between 9 and 17 grams of protein? This is more than or as much protein as one large egg, three slices of turkey, one cup of 2 percent milk or two tablespoons of creamy peanut butter.

- **Include Carbohydrates:** Many new diets encourage you to skip carbohydrates, but carbs are the number one source of energy for the body and brain food to boot. Carbohydrates convert to glucose in the body -- and our brain, one of the most demanding organs in the body, cannot function without glucose.
- **Streamline:** Habits are most successfully formed when they are easy to adopt. To that end, consider streamlining your breakfast by seeking out one location for your morning cup of joe as well as your protein-rich, meal, such as Einstein Bros. Bagels, which offers a full breakfast menu.
- **A nutritious day** all starts with a balanced breakfast. Start 2019 off on the right foot by giving your breakfasts a makeover.

PUZZLES & GAMES

Find the Exit...



Cross Word Puzzle

Find the English words
for the Hopi words.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

1. Râana

2. Saaqa

3. Piqosa

4. Navota

5. Wuuhag

6. Aârilti

7. Tsaatsayom

11. Malatsi

13. Aahu

15. Wunima

Across

1. Honmaqtö

2. Saaqa

4. Qötö

8. lavayi

9. Kiisongvi

10. Pi’ala

12. Talwiipi

14. Tupko

15. Peena

16. Pisa

Down

1. Râana

3. Piqosa

4. Navota

5. Wuuhag

6. Aârilti

7. Tsaatsayom

11. Malatsi

13. Aahu

15. Wunima

Answers in next issue

Answers for December 4th edition															
Across															
3.	Eight	6.	Two	7.	Cost	8.	Dance	10.	Thank you	11.	Go home	13.	School	14.	Back
Down															
1.	Give	2.	Leg	4.	Twenty	5.	Strength	7.	Cloudy	9.	All	11.	Gather	12.	Clown

HOPILAVIT - NUMBERS, COLORS AND DIRECTIONS

N A A L O Y O U P G P O K U R A N J X H D N
A L V P K S U N A T Q O O T S A W K P O V U
N P E G N A S T P Z P A K P J E Q W B O K I
A O O S A J P E O Y O Q J A G T G M C P Z V
L R O Y A A P C V L K I K N B A N R N B W O
X D S W Q A P O O H U V E G S T A K P X Q A
C T O V I S T E O U U M G A A Y V A O U A Y
O Z B P O A U U S P S O K Q Y A A W K P Y K
Y W Q A Y K T A T T A Q I A A M A E U G N U
O P A K W T R O O K O P I P V S T S Y A I T
O N U V M A S O O M O K S O A B D T A A N A
L U P A A P T S I V O T I K N Y W I P K I V
S U P G N A L A A P K C W E E N I M A I W U
K W I N I N G Y A B F A G N A V A A T S K N

Find the Hopi Words	Tatkyaqw (SE)	6. Navaya
HOPi WORDS	Hoopaqw (NE)	7. Tsange’
Kachina Home	Colors	8. Nanal
Kawestima (NW)	Sikaagpu (Yellow)	9. Pept
Nuvatukya’ovi (SW)	Sakwa (Blue-Green)	10. Pakwt
Weenima (SE)	Paalangpu (Red)	11. Pövö’ös
Kiisiw (NE)	Qöötsta (White)	12. Öösa
Punctive	Qomvi (Black)	13. Pangaqap
Kwiningya (NW)	Ko’moosa (Purple)	14. Pööpap
Taavang (SW)	Numerals and	15. Paaptsivot
Tatya (SE)	Counting	16. Suukop
Hoop (NE)	1. Suukya’	17. Rookop
Ablative	2. Lööyö’	18. Payukop
Kwininyaqw (NW)	3. Paayo’	19. Narukop
Taavangqw (SW)	4. Naalöyö’	20. Sunat
	5. Tsivot	



Larry’s Corner



Photo by <https://imgur.com/gallery/vBRPf>

Under Control...

By **LARRY WATAHAMAGEE**
The Hopi Tutuveni

“New year, new me.” – Everybody’s favorite saying at the start of every New Year. 2019 is no different; a New Year seems like the year before, the only thing that changed is that now we have to start writing 2019 on all of our projects for the “New Year.”

Every year my parents and I had this tradition to stay up and watch “Dick Clark’s New Year’s Rocking Eve” and drink apple cider before the clock strikes 12:00 midnight, because my dad would fall asleep before midnight.

As a kitten, I always thought that New Year’s Eve was about partying, rocking til’ the “New Year” and creating a resolution for the New Year. And every year, my resolution would be to be a better person, to help others, to listen, to learn, and to save money.

But as we make a New Year’s resolution at the start of the New Year, it seems like we never stick to any of what we promised ourselves. But that’s ok, it’s life, we can make promises and we can break promises, it’s not like there are “Promise Police” out there waiting to give you a fine every time you break a promise. I myself have broken promises and had promises broken to me on occasion, but that never stopped me from becoming who I am today.

Here on the Hopi reservation, it seems that “all” of our promises are broken; whether they come from our tribal government saying they are going to create jobs for the Hopi people or promising the Hopi people a “new economic outlook”, and that seems to be occurring since the 1940’s when the Hopi tribal government was still being established. Yet every year the Hopi tribal government will say, “We will support the Hopi community to establish jobs and economic value here on the reservation!” And even our tribal government leaders would campaign “MORE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT!” when they are speaking to win our votes. But, when the New Year comes around, and there are no jobs they promised the Hopi people that is when the Hopi people start to loose faith in their own tribal government. Hence the bad talk about the Hopi tribe.

Now, I am not saying that the Hopi tribal government does not know how to run any business, nor am I saying that the Hopi tribal government gives all the cool jobs to the non-Hopi. I’m simply saying that the mission of the Hopi tribe is a bit lacking. I read somewhere on one of the Hopi tribal entity websites, in their mission statement, there is a section where it has “Core Values” and in those values it reads: Trust, Integrity, Creativity & Innovation, Accountability, Respect, and Ensure that Hopi’s money is spent mindfully. Now you may be like me and asking what is with the last statement “Ensure that Hopi’s money is spent mindfully?” Are we not aware that Hopi’s money wasn’t spent mindfully? Or are they making sure they don’t get back-talk from the community about the money. I would have loved to sit at that meeting when they came up with the last statement. It’s like one person at the meeting said, “We need to make sure that the Hopi people believe that we aren’t just being ‘willy-nilly’ while spending Hopi’s money, so let’s put ‘MINDFULLY’ in that last statement.” I’m pretty sure they had their reasons, but words are words and doing something about it is what really counts, right?

Another example is that the Hopi tribe established an economic board of some sort, but they are so secretive it’s like they are working on some sort of “Manhattan Project,” where no one is to know what they are doing behind closed doors. I have no clue what they are thinking or building. For all I know they are making something ‘cool’ like another Wal-Mart or a Bashas’ so the people on the reservation can have some sort of income other than resorting to selling burritos, drugs, bootlegging or stealing because there aren’t enough jobs to go around...but that’s just my wishful thinking.

Yes...our Hopi economic development system lacks in giving hope to the “small” people here on the Hopi reservation. It seems that the economic development specialists believe that if they create jobs on the out skirts of the Hopi reservation, the Hopi people will automatically make a drastic lifestyle change and follow the “Hopi-Tribe-Made-Jobs” off the reservation.

Now, don’t get me wrong, our tribal economic system is making revenue off the reservation, but most of that is because of tourism or the sparse tourism and because out here on the Hopi reservation everyone is so greedy with their land. It’s hard to set up a McDonald’s because someone’s grandpa’s peach orchard used to be there so they might build on that land “someday.” Or when someone comes to offer up some land the local community folks find a way to shut the project down because according to them, they were not “consulted.”

So let me ask, do we have our economic system under control, or are we just blind to the economic values here on the Hopi reservation? I say, we are very strong with our culture and our core values, but when it comes to running a business here on the Hopi reservation, all we do is set up another art gallery with no promise of a fruitful art market here on the reservation, while many of us continue to be starving artists here on the Hopi reservation.

My advice to the economic development specialists is, if you want to create more jobs here on the reservation establish housing first, next establish a trade school of some sort in addition to the local community college - Northern Pioneer College here on the Hopi reservation. Then establish a reserved land to make office space for the community to start their businesses, but that’s just my opinion, I’m just a cat.

Want to ask Larry something? Email him: meowatlarry@gmail.com

Guest Column: A Tribute to Those Who Always Imagined Native Women in Congress



At noon, Jan. 3, Rep. Sharice Davids, D-Kansas, and Rep. Deb Haaland, D-New Mexico took office. (Photo via Twitter and Indian Country Today)

By: Mark Trahant
Indian Country Today

WASHINGTON — Jan. 3 was all about Rep. Sharice Davids, D-Kansas, and Rep. Deb Haaland, D-New Mexico, the first two Native American women to be elected to the Congress of the United States.

But this story needs to start a few pages back.

My friend, the late Wilma Mankiller, was the first elected chief of the Cherokee Nation. She loved telling a story about when the United States first sent a treaty negotiation team to meet with the Cherokees. One of the first questions to the United States was: “Where are your women?” Mankiller said Cherokee women often accompanied their leaders at important ceremonies and negotiations. The logic is flawless: How can any society negotiate (or govern) with only half its people, half its logic, half its humanity?

Yet we do that. “We” as in citizens of tribal governments. “We” as in Americans. And, “we” as humans. According to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, only three countries have legislatures that are more than fifty percent female, Rwanda, Cuba, and Bolivia. (That’s out of 193 countries.)

So, as much as this new Congress is celebrated for its diversity and inclusivity, the fact is that the House of Representatives has reached a historic high by electing 102 women, or 23 percent. The Senate now has 25 women in that body, 25 percent. And in a country that’s incredibly diverse, the Congress is made up of 317 members who are white, 55 members who are black, 44 are Hispanic, 15 members are Asian, and 4 are Native American. And eight representatives identify as LGBTQ+, including Davids.

Congress has a long way before it becomes a representative body. The four Native Americans in Congress total two-thirds of one percent. Parity with the population would be about seven members in Congress and two in the Senate.

Women, and Indian Country, do a little better in representation in state legislatures across the country. The most recent figures from the National Conference of State Legislatures shows that approximately 2,107 women will serve in the 50 state legislatures in 2019. It says: “Women will make up 28.5 percent of all state legislators nationwide. This represents a significant increase from the 2018 session’s ratio of 25.3 percent, and the most

women elected at one time.”

Indian Country sends more women to state legislatures than the general population. In this last election, 55 new members were elected and 26 were women or 47 percent. That is up from 40 percent two years ago.

And in tribal governments, from figures from April 2017, women accounted for 25 percent of seats on councils and other tribal governing bodies. About the same as the Senate and slightly better than the House.

Yet today is historic, and it’s a required step before we reach any sort of parity in the body politic. Today there are so many women standing next to Davids and Haaland as they take their oaths of office. Both in the past and in the future.

You really see the “what’s next?” When the candidates meet with young people. Think about this: The next generation of Native American girls will grow up knowing that being a member of Congress is a possibility, even a career path. This is the new normal.

The legacy of women in politics
And the past? Every generation has contributed to this story. One chapter that comes to mind was the work of Helen Peterson, Cheyenne and Lakota. Most people remember her as the longtime executive director of the National Congress of American Indians. But that was sort of her second career. Before that, she was an expert in Latin America, promoting human rights for farm workers and other Latin Americans. (A wonderful context for today’s immigration and border debates.) In 1949 she represented the United States at an international conference in Peru. She was a friend of Eleanor Roosevelt, who encouraged her to move to Washington, D.C. And she did so because she wanted to join the fight against termination.

“The Indians are their own best spokesmen, their own best diplomats; but they can exercise these roles effectively only in proportion to their opportunities to exchange information and to use their combined strength and concerted voice,” she wrote in an article calling for more participation by Native people in elections.

Her son, Max Peterson, put Helen Peterson’s career in perspective when she died. “During those times, there were no women in power, really,” he said in the Denver Post. “Her accomplishments don’t sound like much now because a lot of women are doing the same things,

but back then, doing those things were a big deal. She went to Washington as a lobbyist. That was an exclusively male area, and she managed to do a great job on behalf of Indian legislation and Indian rights.”

Two years ago, Denise Juneau made history in Montana. She had already won two statewide offices, the first Native woman to do so in any state. Then she took on and lost, a bid for Congress.

“I’m disappointed we lost,” she told me later. “But I don’t feel bad about it because we did everything we were supposed to. We just lost. That’s actually a really good space for me. Every time another Native woman steps up to run for any office, whether that be the state legislature, city council, U.S. Congress, it sort of paves the way. There’s sort of a pipeline, which is really awesome right now, that there’s never been a path for Native women to just really step up. I believe right now, we’re in a time and space where we see that happening,” Juneau said. “There will be a first at some point.”

And that path is wider today than ever. This last election two Native American women ran for governors of states, Paulette Jordan in Idaho, and Andria Tupola in Hawaii. Both lost, but paved the way for those who run next.

There will be a first at some point
Four Native women ran for lieutenant governor of a state; Anastasia Pittman, Seminole; Deb Call, Dena’ina; Donna Bergstrom, Red Lake; and Peggy Flanagan, White Earth. Flanagan was elected. (Val Davidson, Yupik, left office last month as Alaska’s lieutenant governor.)

Flanagan will be an interesting official to watch. She plans on setting a new standard for what a lieutenant governor can do while in office. “I think my role will be to be Gov. Walz’s top adviser and to work on issues around public engagement, family economic security, some of those issues that I focused on in the Legislature,” she told Minnesota Public Radio. “It’s the life experience of an indigenous woman, single mother and a leader who has established herself around the same core values I believe as myself but from two very different worlds. It’s really good to have your top advisor who can bring a new perspective to issues you care about.”

There have been at least fourteen Native women to have run for Congress. The first (that I have found, anyway) was Jeanne Givens, Coeur d’Alene, in 1988.

She had served two terms in the Idaho Representatives (as did Paulette Jordan) before challenging an incumbent, then Rep. Larry Craig. She lost by some thirty points but ran again two years later. She lost the primary, but one interesting twist is that state’s chapter president, Bonnie Sharp, of the National Organization for Women said that the Democrat who won the nomination (and later the race) undermined Givens’ credibility. “He has succeeded in getting a few members of the press to ‘buy into’ his approach. Why? Because of their predisposition against women candidates. This is a classic strategy for running against women candidates, and women all over the state are appalled.”

Indeed that was the challenge for many of the first Native women running for Congress. The gender issues were as complex as the tribal ones.

Ada Deer, Menominee, ran for Congress in Wisconsin in 1982. Her race, like those of today, earned some national media. She told Scott Simon on the NBC Saturday Today show. “We need to understand the severe underrepresentation of women in the Congress. There are two senators out of 100, there are 29 women out of 435. And all of us will bring diversity of perspectives, diversity of experiences, and with my election, we will get a woman, an American Indian, an educator, a social worker, a leader, an activist. And we all have perspectives on the issues.”

She told Simon, “We must understand that American Indians are the smallest minority in the society and we’re the last people to be given citizenship. The Indian Citizenship Act was passed in 1924 and it’s taken time for people to become informed and to become involved. And it would be a very historic opportunity here in this election process.”

That payoff, that historic opportunity unfolds today. Kalyn Free, Choctaw, was a congressional candidate in 2004 in Oklahoma. “I am glad I ran, it was the experience of a lifetime. I do believe that folks like Ada Deer, Denise, did a lot of education not only about Indians but donors.” Free said all of these candidates set the stage for this week’s swearing-in of Davids and Haaland. She said she will be at the celebrations in Washington. “I am absolutely thrilled. I have wept tears of joy multiple times over these women winning,” Free said. “There’s no place I’d rather be than DC.”

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