Home smashed: Home smashed: For one family, Hurricane Laura the 3rd strike

Tribes, Lawmakers seek pause on New Mexico drilling plan

Little Colorado River Adjudication Public Service Announcement

Public map of LCR wash (credit reserved)

HOPI TUTUVENI
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Hopi Junior Senior High School to Begin School Year with all new Online Courses
More on Pg. 6

85˚/ 63˚ Sunny

Hopii Tutuveni
~Est. 1987 • OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE HOPI TRIBE • NEWS SOURCE FOR THE HOPI PEOPLE~

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Public Safety Director’s Response to Alleged Animal Abuse

COLUMN
LARRY’S CORNER
“Like a Hurricane on the Hopi reservation”

COLUMN
Hopi Junior Senior High School to Begin School Year with all new Online Courses

Legend
- Reservation Boundary
- Historically/Presently Irrigated Land
- City, Town, or Village
- River, or Wash
- Sub-basin Flowline
- Major Basin Boundary
- Wash in Study

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- More on pg. 16
Hopi Tutuveni Requests Presence at Hopi Tribe CARES Act Committee Meetings for Sake of Transparency

Romalita Laban, Managing Editor

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – Friday, August 21, 2020 and after receiving a press release from the CARES Act Committee (CAC), Hopi Tutuveni was reminded that readers and tribal members alike have been asking why the one and only local Hopi newspaper is not doing articles on the committee’s work, so a request to be present at the CAC meetings was sent on that date.

Hopi Tutuveni readers and community members have been expressing to the Managing Editor that they wish there was more content and substance in the CAC press releases.

The CAC press releases are being provided in this September 2nd Hopi Tutuveni for readers information, as well.

Perhaps Hopi Tutuveni readers and the public are not aware that the Committee determined that the media should not be allowed at the meetings. Readers may recall that Hopi Tutuveni reported about attendance at the Initial Committee meeting held on July 9, 2020 which was included in the July 15th Hopi Tutuveni publication.

The newly formed CAC members reported to Hopi Tribal Council the next day on July 10, 2020 during which Council requested a written weekly report about the committee’s progress.

Since the August 21st request was submitted a reply from the CAC was dated and received at Hopi Tutuveni on August 24, 2020 which read in part, “The CARES Act Committee has discussed your request and regret to inform you your request has been denied.”

In addition to notifying that the committee has a Public Relations Person, who assists in helping keep the public informed the response also read in part, “At present, the Committee is discussing sensitive information in review of individual applications being submitted and does not feel the need for that information to be shared with the public.”

No other information was provided to the Hopi Tutuveni as to whether sensitive information has been considered for discussion during any Executive Sessions, either.

This article and report out to the public ensures our readers are being notified that the Hopi Tutuveni staff is doing our best to bring vital and important information to the Hopi public. Not only have we been trying to access information about the CARES Act funding, we have been reporting since before the pandemic and throughout these very critical times of mitigating, responding, preventing and preparing for any further disasters which may impact the Hopi people. We have even dedicated the middle insert specifically for the Hopi Emergency Operations Center’s information and reach to the public.

We can only do so much to remind others that the one and only Hopi newspaper is part of a democracy where open communication is vital to the public we all serve. That very same public is impacted by decisions being made about federal funding, such as the CARES Act funding, which was meant for the public’s use.

Building Capacity for Hopi through CARES Act Funding

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CARES Act Committee – Hopi Tribe

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – On August 21, 2020 the Hopi CARES Act Committee (CAC) has made progress in support of efforts to address the impact of COVID-19. The committee continues to review, develop and refine the process to distribute the CARES Act funds that maximize opportunities and build capacity on the Hopi Indian Reservation. Much deliberation and consideration is made with input and feedback from CAC members and community.

Awards of CARES Act Funding;
Date of Approval - August 17, 2020
Amount - $14,000,000.00
Recipient - Hopi Utilities Corporation (HUC)

Date of Approval - August 19, 2020
Amount - $7,604.04
Recipient - Hopitutuqaiki

Village CSAs met to confirm projects with HUC on August 18, 2020.
Projects submitted to the CARES Act Committee may call for Hopi-Tewa community input and written Village land use assignment(s) and authorization(s). Community input allows for the Negotiation of Benefits for Hopi villages and members if a project(s) require BIA-approved Lease(s), Right-Of-Way(s), or other Easement(s). Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act along with archaeological/cultural resource and biological surveys may also be required.

The Hopi-Tewa community input is important in finalizing new construction projects and should be provided by village stakeholders through their respective Hopi-Tewa Village representatives.

The CAC will submit an Action Item to Hopi Tribal Council in support of a General Welfare Ordinance (GWO) of the Hopi Tribe. The GWO will guide the establishment of an application process to provide direct assistance to enrolled Hopi tribal members who have incurred financial loss or hardship.

For questions or more information, please call the Hopi Tribe; Office of the Treasurer (928) 734-3121, Office of the Executive Director (928) 734-3202.

Webinar Announcement: CARES Act Fund Overview

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CARES Act Committee – Hopi Tribe

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – On August 21, 2020 the CARES Act Committee announces a public webinar titled, CARES Act Fund Overview, to be presented by Walker & Armstrong, LLP on Monday, August 31, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The general public is invited to tune in to 88.1 FM KUYI Hopi Radio for a live broadcast of this webinar.

The CARES Act Fund Overview webinar is developed in support of a response to the general questions of the Coronavirus Relief Fund applications and additional guidance for the process.

•General overview of CARES Act Funding purpose & requirements
•Eligibility & Requirements of applicants
•Thresholds requiring a DUNS number
•Broad Categories of Funding
•Justification for direct impact of COVID-19
•Application Categories

All members, businesses and organizations who plan to apply for the Hopi Coronavirus Relief Fund are encouraged to attend. A portion of the webinar time will be allotted for question and answer. Questions can be submitted prior to the webinar to gpovatah@hopi.nsn.us by Thursday, August 27, 2020.

For questions or more information, please call the Hopi Tribe; Office of the Treasurer (928) 734-3121, Office of the Executive Director (928) 734-3202.
LITTLE COLORADO RIVER ADJUDICATION
Public Service Announcement

Water & Energy Committee – Hopi Tribe
Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – As of August 25, 2020, the Water & Energy Committee of the Hopi Tribe announces that the Little Colorado River Adjudication “Virtual Trial” of the Hopi Tribe’s water rights claims will begin Monday September 14, 2020, at 9:00 am, with Opening Statements by the Tribe and the parties opposing the Tribe’s water rights claims. Opening Statements summarize legal positions and evidence that will be presented at trial to support those positions. The trial is expected to last into January 2021.

September 2020 LCR Trial Calendar
September 14, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. Opening Statements
September 15, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. US Expert Witness John Ward (Overall Hydrology) Direct and Cross Examination, Time Estimate - 6 hours
September 16, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. US Expert Witness Gretchen Greene (Population) Direct and Cross Examination, Time Estimate - 7 hours
September 17, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. US Expert Witness Paul Hamai (DCMI) Direct and Cross Examination, Time Estimate - 7 hours
September 21, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. US Expert Witness Edward Lucero (Livestock Carrying Capacity) Direct and Cross Examination, Time Estimate - 6 hours
September 22, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. US Expert Witness John Ward (Power Plant Hydrology) Direct and Cross Examination, Time Estimate - 5 hours
September 23, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. US Expert Witness Paul Hamai (Power Plant Design) Direct and Cross Examination, Time Estimate - 4 hours
September 24, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. US Expert Witness Jacob Bass (Power Plant Economic Feasibility) Direct and Cross Examination, Time Estimate - 6 hours
September 29, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Hopi witness testimony will continue through October and into November, 2020. 16 members of the Hopi Tribe are scheduled to testify between Tuesday October 27, 2020 and Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Trial calendars for future months will be published at a later date.

Hopi-Tewa Community Members are encouraged to call in and listen to the Proceedings. You will not need to say anything while on the phone. You may simply call in and listen. For public access to the court proceedings, on Monday, September 14, 2020 or any subsequent trial day at 9:00 a.m.
Please call: 1-855-506-9695 (toll free long distance)
Enter passcode 357264#
If disconnected for any reason, repeat instructions above.

The Court is aware of problems that were experienced with the call-in line during the August 28, 2020 pre-trial hearing. We expect that the problems will be corrected. Please provide feedback about your experience using the Court’s public line, or questions you have about the LCR Adjudication, by emailing Thayne Lowe at tlowe@omlaw.com.

For questions of more information, please call the Hopi Tribe; Office of the Chairman at (928) 734-3102, OR Office of the Vice Chairman (928) 734-3113.

HOPI TRIBAL COUNCIL
Fourth Quarter Session September 1, 2020 AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS
1. Action Item #068-2020 - To obtain authorization to apply for Bureau of Indian Affairs FY 2020 Tribal Energy Development Capacity (TEDC) grant in order to fund a comprehensive feasibility study focused on formation of a Hopi Tribal Utility and purchase of APS power infrastructure – Author/Carroll Onsae, General Manager, Hopi Telecommunications, Inc.
2. Action Item #069-2020 – To approve PH 20-V55, Lower Sipaulovi Water Storage Tank Replacement – Author/Joshua Van Vleet, PE, Engineer Consultant, Office of Environmental Health & Engineering
3. Action Item #071-2020 – To approve Memorandum of Agreement for IHS Project PH 20-V69 – Author/Joshua Van Vleet, PE, Engineer Consultant, Office of Environmental Health & Engineering
4. Action Item #073-2020 – To authorize formation of Chaco Heritage Tribal Association to receive and administer funds received by the United States for the benefit of the Hopi Tribe and other Pueblos and Tribes for the Performance of a Cultural Resources Investigation to assess Tribal Cultural Resources and Practices in the Greater Chaco Region – Author/Stewart B. Koyiyumptewa, Program Manager, Hopi Cultural Preservation Office
5. Action Item #074-2020 – To request Hopi Tribal Council to formally accept BIA funding under the Tribal Resilience Award in the amount of $14,820.00 – Author/Jarrett Calnimptewa, Program Manager, Water Resources Program
6. Action Item #076-2020 – To approve Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation’s Special Use Land Assignment Agreement in the amount of 40+ acres to develop on Hopi Indian Trust Lands in consistent with the I-40 Feasibility Study for Twin Arrows Parcel 2 – Author/Lucinda Smith, Chief Executive Office, Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation
7. Action Item #078-2020 – To allocate $3,500,000 to each of the 12 Villages/Community from the CARES Act funds to allow the Villages/Community to prepare, prevent and/or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic – Author/Alfred Lomahquahu, Jr., Community Service Administrator, Village of Bacavi
8. Discussion – Letter dated August 22, 2020 from Arlene Honanie, regarding Village of Hotevilla – Albert Sinquah, Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages
10. Discussion – Tribal Council’s representation at the LCR Litigation Trial – Albert Sinquah, Tribal Council Representative – First Mesa Consolidated villages

If you have a story to submit or want a story to be featured in the Hopi Tutuveni
Call or email us and tell us your story.
If you have a question on submitting content or pictures call: 928-734-3283 or consae@hopi.nsn.us
WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe is a sovereign tribal nation, responsible to its villages, citizens and members of the general public to employ strategies and provide direction for the health and safety of all under the current state of emergency in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe has evaluated the impact of COVID-19 within the capacity of the emergency response and unmet need across the expansive land base of the Hopi reservation; and

WHEREAS, most of the Hopi villages are served by one primary healthcare facility to respond to COVID-19 related health conditions, which requires tribal members facing serious health conditions or life-threatening emergencies to be transported to off-reservation health care facilities, including Flagstaff Medical Center located approximately 100 one-way miles away from the Hopi Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe is facing the Coronavirus, COVID-19 pandemic with limited resources to respond to the public health emergency and is fully aware of the dangers of opening up the community too fast prematurely; and

WHEREAS, although recent data reflects a downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of documented cases over a 14-day period; and a downward trajectory (or near-zero percent positive) of positive tests as a percentage of total tests over a 14-day period, we still need to be cautious as we move forward with government re-opening and a phased return to work approach; and

WHEREAS, overall, cases in Hopi people and communities appear to be possibly decreasing and should be watched carefully, as of August 27, 2020, in the last 30 days since July 27, 2020, we have seen 4 positive cases of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe recognizing the imminent and immediate threat of a surge in positive COVID-19 cases in Hopi villages, aims to continue to support the respective Village Orders issued to protect the health and safety of their respective community members; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe is continuing to face the Coronavirus, COVID-19 pandemic with limited resources to respond to the public health emergency and under the Hopi Code.

4. During restricted curfew hours, the Hopi Law Enforcement Services are authorized to establish checkpoints to make reasonable inquiries of occupants about their safety while traveling during reservation-wide curfew hours and to provide information and education about COVID-19.

5. The Hopi Law Enforcement Services will coordinate with village leaders and village security officers to allow for welfare checks.

6. Exceptions to the curfew shall include travel to obtain food and other essential supplies, access medical care, or do work essential to the functioning of tribal government and society. All unnecessary travel to, from, and across the Hopi Reservation shall cease.

7. The Hopi Law Enforcement Services shall provide data on the number of issued warnings to the Office of the Hopi Tribal Chairman and Vice Chairman.

SO ORDERED this 28th day of August 2020.

EXECUTIVE ORDER #003.3-2020 Hopi Reservation Curfew Restriction - Extension Declaration of State of Emergency

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe is facing the Coronavirus, COVID-19 pandemic with limited resources to respond to the public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe is a sovereign tribal nation, responsible to its villages, citizens and members of the general public to employ strategies and provide direction for the health and safety of all under the current state of emergency in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, although recent data reflects a downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of documented cases over a 14-day period; and a downward trajectory (or near-zero percent positive) of positive tests as a percentage of total tests over a 14-day period, we still need to be cautious as we move forward with government re-opening and a phased return to work approach; and

WHEREAS, overall, cases in Hopi people and communities appear to be possibly decreasing and should be watched carefully, as of August 27, 2020, in the last 30 days since July 27, 2020, we have seen 4 positive cases of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe recognizing the imminent and immediate threat of a surge in positive COVID-19 cases in Hopi villages, aims to continue to support the respective Village Orders issued to protect the health and safety of their respective community members; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe is continuing to face the Coronavirus, COVID-19 pandemic with limited resources to respond to the public health emergency and

Under the current state of emergency in response to COVID-19, the Court now extends the adjusted Court conduct business at the Hopi Tribal Court, but following all CDC safety guidelines, methods of payment and filing before proceeding to the Court.

738-5171 or 928-205-3742.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Court at 928 738-5171.

To find out more information.

Submit your comics to consae@hopi.nsn.us

Or Call 928-734-3283

Are you into drawing COMICS?

New Perspective - Education

by Carl Onsae

Drawing comics is a great way to show your drawing skills and your side of Hopi Humor.

If you have the skill and the humor to draw comics for the Hopi Tutuveni

DISCLAIMER: Comics submitted will become property of Hopi Tutuveni. Name of artist will be displayed and not edited when submitted. Hopi Tutuveni has the right to publish submitted comics.

To find out more information.

Public Information from the Hopi Tribal Courts

To ensure the safety and well-being of all Court Staff and the general public that conduct business at the Hopi Tribal Court, the Court now extends the adjusted Court services to September 30, 2020.

The Court will be open to the public, but following all CDC safety guidelines, for business Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and will be closed Tuesdays and Fridays.

All non-emergency hearings scheduled through September 30, 2020 will be continued.

All Court business shall be conducted at the Court Annex aka Court Room II building. The Main Court building will remain closed to the public.

If you have filings, motions, payments, etc., please contact the Court for information and instruction regarding proper method of payment and filing before proceeding to the Court.

All probation/pre-trial check-ins will continue through telephone contact at 928 738-5171 or 928 205-3742.

If you have any questions, please contact the Court at 928 738-5171.

Submit your comics to consae@hopi.nsn.us

Or Call 928-734-3283

To find out more information.

Submit your comics to consae@hopi.nsn.us

Or Call 928-734-3283

To find out more information.
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 002.7-2020 Amending Executive Order No. 002.6-2020 to extend the Stay at Home Order for all residents of the Hopi Reservation

WHEREAS, the Constitution and By-laws of the Hopi Tribe, ARTICLE VI-POWERS OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL, SECTION 1 (a) and (b) respectively, authorizes the Hopi Tribal Council to represent and speak for the Hopi Tribe in all matters for the welfare of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Hopi Tribe implemented a Stay at Home Executive Order effective through April 17, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on April 14, 2020, Hopi Executive Order No.002.1-2020 was issued extending the Stay at Home Order to May 9, 2020, to control COVID-19 spread on the Hopi Reservation; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2020, Hopi Executive Order No.002.2-2020 was issued extending the Stay at Home Order to May 31, 2020, to limit potential exposure of the general public on the Hopi Reservation to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2020, Hopi Executive Order No. 002.3-2020 was issued extending the Stay at Home Order to June 19, 2020, to build on comprehensive efforts to control the COVID-19 spread and protect the general Hopi public; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2020, Hopi Executive Order No. 002.4-2020 was issued extending the Stay at Home Order to July 3, 2020, to contain the COVID-19 community spread through ongoing case tracking, increased testing, and aggressive preventive precautions; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2020, Hopi Executive Order No. 002.5-2020 was issued extending the Stay at Home Order to July 31, 2020, to mitigate the COVID-19 community spread through increased isolation and quarantine support, public health awareness and education, and other containment measures; and

WHEREAS, on July 31, 2020, Hopi Executive Order No. 002.6-2020 was issued extending the Stay at Home Order to August 31, 2020, to focus on the COVID-19 community spread through comprehensive and targeted containment and mitigation efforts, especially within three Hopi villages/communities; and

WHEREAS, although recent data reflects a downward trajectory (or near-zero incidence) of documented cases over a 14-day period; and a downward trajectory (or near-zero percent positive) of positive tests as a percentage of total tests over a 14-day period, we still need to be cautious as we move forward with government re-opening and a phased return to work approach; and

WHEREAS, overall, cases in Hopi people and communities appear to be possibly decreasing and should be watched carefully, as of August 27, 2020, in the last 30 days since July 27, 2020, we have seen 10 positive cases of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribe is continuing to face the Coronavirus, COVID-19 pandemic with limited resources to respond to the public health emergency and is fully aware of the dangers of opening up the community too fast prematurely; and

WHEREAS, continuation of the Stay at Home Order is necessary for public compliance with efforts to contain the COVID-19 spread across all villages and communities; and

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that it is REQUIRED that the public OBEY the following preventive precautions:

1. Hopi Reservation Residents are required to stay home and undertake only those outings absolutely necessary for their health, safety or welfare

2. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

3. Wear a face covering in public places when practical or feasible.

4. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing or having been in a public place. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

5. Avoid touching high-touch surfaces in public places. Use a tissue or sleeve to cover your hands or fingers if you must touch something.

6. Avoid touching your face, nose, eyes, etc. 7. Clean and disinfect your home to remove germs: practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.

8. Avoid crowds in Social and Ceremonial Setting and adhere to Social Distancing Standards (for example: not shaking hands, standing at least 6 feet away from other people)

9. Avoid all non-essential travel.

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribal Chairman is authorized pursuant to Section 7-701(2) of the Hopi Emergency Response Plan to provide the necessary direction to preserve the peace and order of the Hopi Tribe.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chairman of the Hopi Tribe directs that Executive Order 002.6-2020 shall be extended beyond August 30, 2020, and shall remain in effect through September 30, 2020, unless modified, extended or rescinded. 

SO ORDERED this 28th day of August 2020.

Public Safety Director’s Response to Alleged Animal Abuse

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Hopi Law Enforcement Services

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. - August 21, 2020
On August 17, 2020, Public Safety Director, Jamie Navenma, was alerted to a YouTube video titled, Animal Abuse on Hopi, published by Hopi Farmer on August 11, 2020. Mr. Navenma immediately initiated a review of this matter in coordination with Hopi Law Enforcement Services (HLES).

The following information has been provided to the Public Safety Director;

On August 5, 2020, farmers in the north Oraibi range unit called and filed reports of cattle eating their cornfields. HLES responded and the bovines were moved back over the fence. The bovines were found in an extremely malnourished state. The fence line was inspected for breaks or downed fence lines.

On August 7, 2020, a farmer called HLES to report that the cattle were again in the (north Oraibi) fields where four cornfields were destroyed. HLES responded to impound a total of 21 bovines. HLES has confirmed that the bovines were not fed on two days, August 10, 2020 and August 11, 2020. They are working to ensure this oversight does not happen again. No active complaint was on file for the colt placed in the corral by the Office of Range Management on August 6, 2020.

The Second Mesa Sales Corral serves as the official livestock impoundments location for Hopi Law Enforcement Services and allows for Hopi Tribe programs to temporarily keep animals there. HLES assigns officers to maintain the water supply and once daily feeding & watering. The Public Safety Director will complete a full review of this matter. Any formal actions or directives will adhere to the personnel policies of the Hopi Tribe.

Any questions or concerns of public safety, including animal neglect or abuse, should be reported to the Hopi Law Enforcement Agency at (928) 734-7340 or (928) 734-7344.

For questions or more information, please call the Office of Public Safety at (928) 497-1487.
Some of Hopi Solid Waste Management Current Vehicles

Photos courtesy from Hopi Tutuveni

Advertise in this 6 column x 1” for only $80 FULL COLOR!
CALL TODAY TO RESERVE THIS BANNER AD
928-734-3283
GREETINGS CUSTOMERS!

Due to the Covid-19 Virus and Extended Hopi Tribal Government Shutdown, the HSWMP office is currently operating on limited services. Information on customer accounts are only available by calling HSWMP office until further notice. Payments are still being accepted through mail and by card to the Treasurer’s office. REMINDER, Treasurer’s Office does not provide account information (Account #’s or balances). Refuse collection services by Field Crew are still being done weekly throughout the community. Customer patience and understanding with services due to the current situation is greatly appreciated.

All customers, due to the Covid-19 Virus, Field Crew will no longer be picking up extra yard or bulk bagged waste that are placed near bins. The purpose is for the safety of our Field Crew who are only allowed to collect HOUSEHOLD waste which must fit inside containers and bins. Please do not add to the waste by cleaning garages, closets, sheds, etc. All other waste is the customer’s responsibility to dispose to Landfill or other collection service. Reminder that Field Crew is documenting any containers/bins that are overfilled and customers will be billed extra for any overfill of containers/bins.

Bulk estimates and collection services are currently on hold until further notice. However, our Landfill is open during the week for disposal of extra waste to the public. No Cash payments will be accepted at the Landfill. Only card payments will be accepted or customer will be mailed an invoice of charges. All customers are required to provide an address when taking waste to landfill. No Exceptions

All customers please help protect yourself and our staff by securely tying up garbage bags. Please do not use grocery bags. Washing hands before putting your waste containers out for collection. Sanitize or wipe handles and lids to further reduce exposure. Make sure all disposable masks and gloves are bagged properly. The Virus may survive for up to 24 hours on cardboard and two to three days on plastic.

DRIVER ROUTES

Regular scheduled routes are Monday through Friday, however, routes are subject to change dependant on the amount of Work Orders, weather, and recognized holidays. Contact the Hopi Solid Waste office for more information regarding updates and/or questions on routes. Contact HSWMP office as soon as possible if your container has been missed. Daily routes are logged by Field Crew. “Turn Around” fees added if household has been already picked up.

LANDFILL UPDATES

HOURS OF OPERATION: 9AM – 3PM, MON – WED & 9AM – 2PM THURS. & FRIDAY

The Landfill NO LONGER accepts TIRES & TV’S. For a list of Unacceptable Items, contact HSWMP office. For electronics, contact your local BestBuy or Place of Purchase to obtain information on “Buy Back” or Recyling Programs.

NAVAJO COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS in HOL-BROOK & FLAGSTAFF TRANSFER STATION on Wednesdays accept TIRES. Contact Info: NCPW – (928) 524-4100. FTS – (928) 762-9708 (WED)

Construction Debris can be collected by NAVAJO SANITATION. Contact number (928) 871-4395.

Participating AUTO PARTS stores accept MOTOR OILS for disposal. Contact local location for more information.

TREASURER’S HOURS (TILL FURTHER NOTICE) MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM TO 3PM

Payments can only be made with card by calling (928) 734-3124 or 3122. Money Order by mailing to Hopi Solid Waste Management Program Attn: Treasurer’s Office P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, Arizona 86039. Main office window is closed to the public till further notice. No Cash Payments.

Payments are currently still being collected, however, late fees are not being applied due to the extended executive order until further notice. Payments must still be made by the end of current billing months. Failure to do so will result in repossession of containers/bin.

ALL CUSTOMERS! Account numbers are required at time of payment to avoid confusion or missed payments. Account numbers are located below the address on each statement. EX. (Location) ABC-1234. You may contact Hopi Solid Waste Office for any account information. Treasurer’s office DOES NOT provide account information, only payments.

Family members, friends and Shared Account Customers must provide correct account information including name of primary account holder to ensure payments are posted to the correct account.

Changes in household and/or address information is customer’s responsibility to report to HSWMP. Failure to update contact information may result in missed payments and/or delinquency, both in which customer will be held liable. Updated contact information is vital to ensure invoices are being received. Changes to accounts need to be submitted to the program by the Primary Account holder in letter form.

Contact Us:

HOPI SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 123
KYKOTSMOVI, ARIZONA 86039
(928) 734-3452 / (928) 734-3453 / (928) 734-3454
5 Back-to-School Projects to Spruce Up Classrooms and Workspaces

(StatePoint) Back-to-school season is upon us once again, but this year’s circumstances are far from normal. Many parents and educators alike are still unsure what the coming months will look like, and their district plans and policies could change overnight, even after classes are underway.

Whether you’re a parent preparing your kids to resume learning virtually at home or a teacher working to create a safe and welcoming environment for those returning to the classroom, there is a cost-effective secret weapon that can be used for countless projects: shelf liner. Here are five fun and useful ways to use shelf liner this back-to-school season:

1. Dress up classrooms or workspaces. From sprucing up a classroom’s desks and shelves to personalizing storage areas in a home learning space, shelf liner can help you add fun pops of pattern to your décor while protecting surfaces from damage and messes. Use coordinating colors to tie the whole room together.

2. Laminate with liner. Don’t have a laminating machine handy? Protect name tags, emergency contact cards, health information and other classroom resources by applying Duck Brand clear adhesive laminate liner to the front and back of the item. This simple DIY laminating process creates a water-resistant barrier and helps prevent damage in little ones’ backpacks and desks.

3. Contain dirt and grime in high-traffic areas. Prepare for back-to-school messes with a shelf liner featuring antimicrobial protection, which prevents the growth of odor-causing mold and mildew on the liner. Line a small section of the floor near your entryway to create a designated “drop zone” for dirty backpacks, shoes and sports equipment.

4. Protect desks and workstations. Students taking part in virtual learning are bound to take their studying into new places around the home. Use clear liner to catch rings or condensation from drinks, as well as other spills or messes in your home office and other living spaces. Similarly, use liner to protect desks, shelves and other classroom surfaces at school.

5. Label supplies. It’s more important than ever before that students keep their personal items separate from the rest of their classmates. Clear liner can help organize each child’s items around the classroom or home learning space with fun, colorful labels. Simply draw their name or cut out letters from construction paper, then use liner to easily adhere the DIY labels.

For more information about all of the ways you can use clear adhesive liner during back-to-school season, visit www.duckbrand.com.

As you do your back-to-school shopping, consider versatile supplies that can simplify the task of preparing for the year.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keams Canyon, Ariz. – August 23, 2020, the governing board for Hopi Junior Senior High School approved a partnership with Chandler based digital learning solutions company, StrongMind, to provide online courses for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year. Around 450 Native American students, grades 7-12, living on the Hopi reservation in northeastern Arizona will begin school fully online on September 8th to limit risks of COVID-19.

The decision to partner with StrongMind was not only a response to short term health and safety concerns, but an effort to provide long term opportunities to students. “Although school will look a bit different than it did last year, our students still deserve a quality education,” said Hopi Principal, Lynn Fredericks.

StrongMind brings two decades of experience providing digital curriculum and education services to schools across the country. “This is what digital learning is all about, reaching students wherever they are and no matter what they are going through to deliver a high-quality education,” said Mary Gifford, President of StrongMind.

StrongMind partners with schools to provide solutions that enhance student performance, engage and retain students, and optimize school operations. From an award-winning, high-quality digital curriculum with data-driven engagement strategies to a premiere partner success team who supports training, implementation, and growth, StrongMind is the trusted source for innovative digital learning.

Questions can be directed to Alban Naha, Interim Superintendent at (928) 738-5111 or anaha@hjshs.org
(StatePoint) This year, going back to school may mean attending class physically or virtually, with states and districts deciding on a case by case basis. Wherever your child attends school this fall, eye exams are essential for a successful academic year. Here’s what to know:

• When should I get my child’s eyes checked? The American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend having vision checked regularly, starting in infancy.

Not only will an eye exam help provide the clear vision necessary for a child to see the blackboard and work on digital devices without straining, but this essential visit can also detect a broad range of issues related to eye health and overall wellness.

Kids -- and adults for that matter -- don’t always know they are experiencing a vision problem. As a result, they may be compensating for vision issues by turning their head to the side, squinting or holding reading material up close or far away.

• What information should I share at the appointment? Be sure to share any behaviors or symptoms with your child’s doctor that could be related to eye health. You should also mention all the activities and sports your child participates in which may be impacted by vision.

• Are contacts right for my child? Contact lenses may give the wearer a full field of clear, focused vision and many eye care professionals believe that children who demonstrate responsibility are excellent candidates for them. With many teens preferring contact lenses over glasses, this upcoming eye exam may be a good time to get your child fitted. And it makes sense in the current environment, as contact lenses can be a great alternative for glasses that fog up with a face mask.

  Contact lenses that provide comfortable vision when working for long hours on digital devices can also prove to be beneficial. Research has shown that half of teens are almost constantly online -- between smartphone usage, video games, and school work -- it’s important to know that digital devices can contribute to reduced blink rates, which can lead to dryness. Ask your eye doctor about lenses that have a high moisture content, feel comfortable throughout the day and are easy to insert, like Biotrue ONEday contact lenses from Bausch + Lomb, which maintain nearly 100 percent of their moisture for a full 16 hours. The brand’s daily disposables are also a great choice for first-time wearers, as there is no need to clean and store the lenses after removal, just dispose of them and start with a fresh new pair each day. For more information, visit, BiotrueONEdaylenses.com.

Make the most of the back-to-school season by scheduling an eye exam for your child. With healthy eyes and good vision, you can set your child up for a successful academic year.
Pastor Andy - Discussing Fear

This is Pastor Andy in Bacavi. In this article we will deal with daily fear. All human beings feel fear. I will endeavor to give you Bible verses to help calm the heart and spirit. We will also give a few practical pointers to help calm ourselves. Sometimes physical ailments can exacerbate fear in bodies making us quite a bit more susceptible to it. I myself know what it is to have to deal with intense fears and have to calm the body and mind.

For those that have decided (this is your choice, no one can make you do it) to trust in Jesus and His death, burial, and resurrection as payment for your sins you have many promises in scripture at your disposal. The Bible says in John 14:27, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” One very important note about fear is that it is voluntary. We either let ourselves be troubled and afraid, or we don’t let ourselves. There are some medical conditions that just cause involuntary fear or anxiety, but you can calm those too. Fear can be a good thing. God gives it to us to protect us, to warn us if we need the adrenalin. We can let this involuntary fear or anxiety, but you can learn to trust all of God’s promises, we can calm each fear. Did you know that God says many times in Scripture to fear not?

We can choose not to fear by changing what we think about. Philipians 4:8 says, “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report: if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.” When we only put into our mind that which we are afraid of, it will cause continual fear. Don’t think on wicked things, but change what your mind dwells on to quiet the fear. Turn the news off. Do not search for it online. Read a wholesome book and get engaged in the plot. When you talk to your friends, do not talk about what you fear. If there is a family emergency and you have to know then go ahead and discuss what you fear (Covid-19, etc). Other then that, skirt the subject. Think of things you wish to do with your family that are pleasant. Set goals for the garden or house work and concentrate on that. Listen to calm music. If you listen to music that matches your mood, or music that talks about a lot of the same things you went through in life, it will magnify fears or bad feelings. This can include heavy metal, blues, and country music to name a few. Remember, you want to change what you are thinking about. Keep the beat soothing as well, not just the words. Of course, ideally this would be soothing Christian music. Wholesome audio books will work as well. Also, along these lines would be memorization. The Bible would be best, especially encouraging passages or promises. However, the principle will work for a wholesome poem or quote from a favorite book.

Count the good things in your life. If we always dwell on the bad, life will seem so glum. Make yourself see the good in things. The body naturally wants to be negative; don’t let it. Psalms 27:13 says, “I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.” We can see good things all around us. As long as we have breath, we can praise the Lord. All of humanity has struggles; don’t let those struggles become your focus.

God has not abandoned us. It is important to remember that God is in control. There is a lot that could be said on this subject so I will keep it very brief. People that we know passing away brings us face-to-face with our mortality. God can use this so that we stop our busy lives and think about Him. He also wants us to know that He has a plan for our life and that He loves us. Unfortunately, sin brings death to all. Remember that Christ died so that we can have eternal life even after this mortal existence. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” We can never understand everything, but God does and we just have to trust Him. One of the greatest promises the Christian has is the promise of eternity with everyone else who has trusted Christ. How much sweeter that promise is when it includes your own family members who have passed on!

It is okay to be cautious. All of this is to help us to start learning how to control our fear. It does not mean that if you are susceptible to this disease that you should not take precautions. If you are elderly or have pre-existing health problems you should be cautious with Covid-19. Everyone should be taking their vitamins and keeping their body strong. If you think the virus could seriously hurt you, try to not be around those who might have it. There are many things that you can do to be safe. Just remember that fretting does not keep you safe. Fear often cripples; it does not enable. If you or a loved one is struggling with Covid-19, please feel free to let us know and we will pray for you/them. We have prayed for the Hopi nation and individuals during this time and our prayers will still be with you.

I have a Facebook page where I post a Bible verse almost every day during this time. If you wish to be encouraged in this way, feel free to friend me (Andrew Magnarella). If you do not have internet or Facebook, you are welcome to text me. I will save your number and text you the verses every day if you request it (928-206-7811). I live in Bacavi. If anyone would like to do a phone counseling session, or short Bible studies for encouragement, feel free to contact me in any way and we will set a time. www.bbcetkd.com is my website.

Pastor Andy
Please if you are sick, stay home, except to get medical care. Even if you are not sick please remember to:

• Keep at least six feet between you and other people and don’t go to--or host--parties or other group events.

• Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when you are around others or when you go out in public.

• Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if you can’t use soap and water.

• Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – August 26, 2020 — A recent survey shows that baby boomers, one of the groups of people most likely to experience complications from COVID-19, are also the least likely to worry about contracting the virus. STAANCE, an information aggregating organization based in San Francisco, performed a survey and discovered that most baby boomers (those born generally in 1946-1964) are the most resistant to changing their habits. According to the poll, baby boomers were least likely to worry about contracting the virus, with 43 percent saying they were concerned about it as opposed to 53 percent of millennials and 54 percent of Gen X members.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is continuously updating its guidelines and list of recommended practices to help guide communities. The measures put out by the CDC include a strong emphasis on protecting the vulnerable population, for people in at-risk categories, such as older people and people with underlying health conditions. No matter what age, you have to be aware of the impacts of COVID-19. Staying home is the safest practice. Wearing a face covering in public is critical.

Here is a quick overview of the COVID-19 statistics on a national, state, and local level:

As of this date – August 26, 2020

The United States now has over 5.7 million confirmed positive cases with 37,086 new cases and over 177,759 deaths reported.

Over 199,459 confirmed positive cases now exist in Arizona. Of those, close to 5,529 are in Navajo County alone.

The Hopi Health Care Center has tested over 3,688 patients to this date. Over 431 of those tests at Hopi Health Care Center came back positive with 312 from Hopi Tribal members. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation reported 48 positives for Hopi Villages with a combined number of 360 positive Hopi Tribal members.

The information below provides a glimpse of the current numbers in those respective villages.

* The information by villages presented above is released by the Hopi Department of Health & Human Services, and the data shown reflects patients tested at the Hopi Health Care Center and at the Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation specifically on Hopi tribal members. The data from Lower and Upper Munqapi is consolidated until specific data can be re-verified. (+) number decreased due to individual being identified from another village. The community of residence for one Hopi Tribal member who tested positive at HHCC is in the Phoenix metropolitan area. The community of residence for four Hopi Tribal members who tested positive at HHCC is in Winslow. The data here does not include all state-wide data from other facilities such as Flagstaff, Winslow, Phoenix or other hospitals.

** A total of 360 individuals who tested positive are members of the Hopi Tribe.

+ Includes Village member(s) retested positive

Prevention:

Watch for symptoms. People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Or at least two of these symptoms:
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Repeated shaking with chills
  - Muscle pain
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell

Children have similar symptoms to adults and generally have mild illness.

This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

For questions of more information, please call the Hopi Tribe, Office of the Chairman at (928) 734-3102 or Office of the Vice Chairman (928) 734-3113.
COVID-19 Emergency Response – August 17, 2020

| Hopi COVID-19 Reported Cases by Hopi Health Care Center Cases* August 26, 2020 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Number Tested Today | Cumulative Number Positive | Cumulative Number Negative | Total Number in Process | Total Tested |
| 14 | 431 | 3,223 | 14 | 3,688 |

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<th>Number of Cases per Village as of August 26, 2020</th>
<th>Reported by HHCC</th>
<th>Reported by Tuba City Regional Healthcare Corporation</th>
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**TOTAL** | 312 | 48 | 360
FAMILY LIVING

How to Make Kids’ Birthdays Special While Social Distancing

(StatePoint) While some of the traditions of a typical birthday are not possible these days, parents can find new ways to celebrate these important milestones. Here are a few ideas for making your child’s upcoming birthday feel special:

• Host a Virtual Party: Use video conferencing tools to host a party for your child. Consider picking a theme or activity for the event. Start with a meet and greet and then dive right in -- from painting and pottery to sing-alongs and science projects, there are many fun themes that work well from a distance. Remember to tell all your guests in advance what they will need to participate or even drop off pre-made goody bags with supplies and snacks to celebrate.

• Plan a Drive-by Birthday Parade: These days, drive-by celebration parades are all the rage for graduations, birthdays and more -- and this is for good reason. What better way to honor a special occasion than by seeing everyone you love? Tell friends and family what time to drive by, encouraging participants to use signs, music, balloons and banners to make a splash.

• Request Cards: Make a secret request to friends and family asking them to send cards in the mail. Kids love receiving mail, especially on their birthdays. Alternatively, ask loved ones to create video greetings or other electronic messages.

• Give Fun Gifts: Don’t forget the presents! Colorful, interactive toys will brighten the occasion, making your child’s birthday and year to come special. Consider Myla’s Sparkling Friends from VTech, a new collection of interactive toys that talk, sing and light up with a kaleidoscope of colors. With flapping wings and tail feathers that wag, colorful accessories and unique songs and sayings, this line -- which includes Mia the Unicorn, Ava the Fox, Penny the Peacock and more -- is packed with value at a great giftable price.

• Take an Outing: Parents comfortable doing so might consider planning a socially distanced picnic in the park. Bring your child’s favorite foods, treats and games for a fun-filled day.

Birthdays may look a bit different this year, but that doesn’t mean your family can’t celebrate. Virtual parties, gifts and special greetings can give your child a sense of normalcy and make them feel special on their birthday.
Like a Hurricane on the Hopi Reservation

Disclaimer: This is a re-publication of Larry's Corner done in September 2019. Larry felt that now is a very good a time to remind Hopi Tutuveni readers of how "Life is like a Hurricane" pandemic or not and in a time where we are living a "new normal." So, if you are reading this, please be aware that these are Larry's opinions and observations and may not necessarily reflect your opinion. Thank you.

Growing up on the reservation has taught me that everything out here is very hard to accomplish. And by that I mean actually living on the reservation...life is hard. You would have to work for everything from food to education and everything in between. But when I was growing up, I don't think I ever paid attention to how life was for me at that moment in time. When you're a mush head kitten, it seems you really don't pay attention to the bad things in your childhood. Of course we all have scars in a way, but look at us now, we're completely "NORMAL" whatever that means. When you're a mush head kitten you don't think about the bad things in the "now" REZ life, like drugs and alcohol. Back then, life, as a simple kitten was easy. All you had to do was just wait till your parents called you into the house. Or, you just simply could eat at someone's house and they would take you home afterwards...simple. As kittens we knew that there were drugs and alcohol in the village, but it was never a bother, because it was frowned upon. We would make fun of the village drunks and they would cower in shame for what they did. But nowadays the entire village seems to be one big drunk person. And it's so easy to be one big drunk person be-cause you can buy alcohol and drugs on the reservation. All you have to do is go next door and simply ask. It seems even the "grandma" next-door will say "$20 for a bottle"...it's that easy. It's kind of strange, because in a short amount of time drugs and alcohol has shaped the Hopi community drastically, kind of like how a hurricane would impact Arizona, if we had ocean front property. The drunks we use to make fun of that covered in shame seem to have no shame at all. When did that change? Now we don't make fun of them anymore we just simply say, "Da'ha is drunk again"...and we go back to our daily business. Younger kids already know what a drunk person looks like even before their first birthday. It's like we have ingrained drugs and alcohol into our Hopi culture now and we simply accept that its part of our everyday tradition. With drugs and alcohol now seeming to be part of our culture, killing and stealing acts seem to also be followed closely. See when I was growing up, I thought that killing and stealing were only on TV or in the big city. I would have never thought that those types of words would ever be used on the reservation because it was never part of our vocabulary. When I was growing up. But now we hear that every day in the community and in Facebook. Of course we have a legal system that tries to improve our "problem" but when you have the entire reservation full of drugs and alcohol, the problem will simply just grow from generation to generation. So how can we solve this reservation wide problem? That is one question I don't have a solution to. It's like trying to solve our no-rain problem. We cannot solve it, but that doesn't mean there isn't a solution. It just means that this problem is something that the entire reservation has to come up with and not just a single person or group, but as a whole. Of course in schools we teach our children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol by showing them what could happen to them if they do "go down that path." And it seems somewhere down the road, they will eventually try drugs and alcohol and some will become addicted and others will not, but I guess it's how we are all raised. Do we accept that drugs and alcohol are part of Hopi culture now? Or do we simply put a "WALL" at our borders to not allow any drugs or alcohol in our community. When I think of the word "STEAL" it seems that it is always being used on Facebook. Every time I read it, it will say something like, "Someone stole my Hopi belt" or "Someone stole my grandma’s walker". We are getting to the point where “BIG CITY” problems are become our problems. Why don't we do anything about it? Well I say it's because we know that person's grandmother or grandfather or relative and they are good people. To accuse someone of stealing is something we are all scared of, because of the “thought” of what might happen if we accuse someone of stealing. I'm pretty sure that a long time ago when a Hopi person was caught stealing it was dealt in a village setting where the person who stole something would do something to work off their debt to the community. Or that person would be shamed into not stealing anymore by having their behavior corrected by the village and not just an individual. But it's not like that anymore; we are a close community but yet we are miles apart from one another because it is like we don't know who our neighbors are anymore. Of course we have several groups who educate the community about the dangers about drugs and alcohol, and I applaud them for that. At least they are trying to make a change for our Hopi people. But when you have just a simple group trying to make a change it is not enough to actually make a dent, but they try, and they will continue to educate the Hopi community about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Every Hopi family here on the Hopi reservation has a person who drinks that lives with them and it seems that we are forced to accept them, as they are. So let me ask, is it ok to do that? Is it ok to treat them like this is part of our culture now? So what can we do? I guess that's something we have to “individually” come up with as a solution. Sometimes we will try to come up with solutions like rehab centers, or more P.S.A about the “DANGERS OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL”...but are they working? How can we keep the dangers of drugs and alcohol away from kids? My advice to you is that drugs and alcohol are touchy subjects on the Hopi reservation. Some will simply not want to look at the truth of this epidemic and some will try to improve the problem. Educating our younger generation about these problems is one thing. Eventually they will not be mush heads anymore so they will have to be the ones to come up with their own solution to this problem. All we can do is just try to make sure we are all adults and show our younger generation that there is still hope in this Hopi world of ours and one without so much of an impact from drugs and alcohol, if we could just choose to not use either one, even for one day at a time.

Want a FREE Larry sticker? - Email me and I will send one your way

Want to ask Larry something? Email him: meowatlarry@gmail.com • Write a Letter to Larry: PO BOX 123 Kykotsmovi AZ, 86039
Indian Country Today

The Trump administration is moving forward with names for the president’s proposed National Garden of Heroes. The list at this point is largely political; only Republican governors have submitted names for consideration.

And one possibility is Donald J. Trump. The administration is leaving open the possibility of a statue of Trump himself in the Trump-created statue park after receiving what it said were “multiple nominations” of the president.

Trump ordered up the statue park during a Fourth of July speech at Mount Rushmore, and set up a task force on a 60-day deadline to get the idea going. He also mused in a tweet that it would be a “good idea” to carve his own face into that memorial.

The task force charged with executing Trump’s vision – with all of the publicly listed members white — says it sent out thousands of requests to state and local officials for suggestions, both for possible sites around the country and for heroes to honor. Its findings are due to be given to Trump by Tuesday.

Tribes, lawmakers seek pause on New Mexico drilling plan

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A coalition of tribes and members of New Mexico’s congressional delegation is asking federal officials for more time to consider a proposal that would govern oil and gas drilling and other development near Chaco Culture National Historical Park.

The UNESCO World Heritage Site has served as a rallying cry for environmentalists and pueblos that have been trying to stop drilling in the San Juan Basin. They say there are culturally significant sites outside the park’s boundaries that could be compromised if more development is allowed.

The Interior Department earlier this year agreed to extend the comment period by 120 days and another round of virtual meetings was held this week, with the first session dedicated to the Navajo Nation, which has jurisdiction over much of the land that surrounds the park. The checkeredboard also includes federal, state and private land.

The Navajo Nation has come out in support of creating a permanent buffer around the park, albeit smaller than what the pueblos and environmentalists are calling for since royalties from development on tribal land and parcels owned by individual Navajos are an important source of revenue.

A meeting also was held Thursday with the pueblos and other tribes. The sessions will wrap up Saturday with one for the general public.

Bart Stevens, the Navajo regional director for the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs, said the goal has been to provide the tribes and others with more information on the alternatives under consideration for managing resources in the San Juan Basin, which spans much of northwestern New Mexico.

The All Pueblo Council of Governors during Thursday’s virtual meeting called for the U.S. Interior Department to pause all activities and deadlines related to the proposed management

Who's a hero in the Trump era? Possibly Wilma Mankiller, Will Rogers, Jim Thorpe, Sacagawea

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Many of the nominations stand in stark contrast to the list the Trump administration came up with, which mandated inclusion of a few dozen mainstream and conservative figures, from John Adams to the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.
Tribes, lawmakers seek pause on New Mexico drilling plan, Cont.

plan until the coronavirus pandemic ends. The organization was among those to make a similar request in February when the plan was first released, saying COVID-19 has hit many tribes hard and all of their resources have been aimed at dealing with the health emergency.

The situation still remains dire, the council said in a statement issued Friday. Leaders pointed to closures or partial closures of non-essential tribal government operations and the challenges of working remotely with limited internet access.

The pueblos also are challenging the federal agency's scheduling of inspections in the region.

Within the boundaries of Chaco park, walls of stacked stone jut up from the canyon floor, some perfectly aligned with the seasonal movements of the sun and moon. Circular ceremonial subterranean rooms called kivas are cut into the desert, surrounded by the remnants of what historians say was once a hub of indigenous civilization.

The congressional delegation, in a letter sent Wednesday to Interior Secretary David Bernhardt, said the pandemic continues to affect the lives of New Mexicans and their ability to participate in a public process that will have consequences for the economy and way of life in the northwest corner of the state.


A number of Native Americans were reportedly submitted to the Interior Department.

"We have so much history in Montana and our country," said Yellowstone County Commissioner John Ostlund, a Republican, talking about his board's decision to nominate revered Crow Tribe leaders as well as cowboys, famous explorers and others.

"It was a conscious decision to include all sides of our history. All of the history ... I don't want to erase anything," Ostlund said.

Suggestions from many Republican governors, by contrast, were heavy with civil rights leaders, while many local officials pushed for a broader definition for what it means to be a hero.

The summer protests also spun off a debate over statues around the country honoring slave-holders and Confederates. Trump deployed federal forces to protect those monuments from protesters, embracing their defense as a law-and-order issue as he seeks reelection.

Floyd and the others “have shaped the future of America by finally bringing the systemic racial injustices present in our policing to the forefront of politics,” Zanelli wrote.

Most governors, including almost every Democrat, dismissed the Trump administration’s request for suggestions, according to the Interior Department's website on Friday afternoon. It’s the latest example of governors ignoring White House requests — ranging from statues, to school openings to nursing homes testing — amid the coronavirus pandemic.

“I haven’t given it a moment’s thought,” Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly told The Associated Press. “I have other things to do.”

Some were highly critical of the effort as an ill-timed political stunt.

“We would encourage the White House to spend their time on the response to the coronavirus,” said Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf’s spokeswoman Lyndsay Kensinger.

The Trump administration said it received “robust, bipartisan responses” from around the country.

“It’s a shame that some governors are unwilling to celebrate and recognize the significant achievements of their own residents who have heroically impacted our nation’s history,” Interior Department spokesman Ben Goldey said.

Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt recommended three Native Americans and two Black Oklahomans as national heroes who should be considered for inclusion in a new National Garden of American Heroes.

The first-term Republican governor made the suggestions in a letter sent to the Trump administration this month. President Donald Trump signed an executive order on rebuilding public monuments and asked governors for their input on who should be included and where such a monument might be located.

Among Stitt’s recommendations were former Cherokee Nation leader Wilma Mankiller, early 1900s humorist Will Rogers, both citizens of the Cherokee Nation, and Olympic athlete Jim Thorpe, a Sac and Fox/Pottawatomi citizen. He also suggested John Hope Franklin, the grandson of a freed Chickasaw Nation slave and a native Tulsa; Ada Louis Sipuel Fisher, who fought to become the first Black student at the University of Oklahoma College of Law; and aviator Wiley Post.

"The Oklahomans on this list embody the history, spirit, resiliency and strength of our state and people," Stitt said. "They each left a legacy that has far extended past state lines and impacted our world for the better."

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. said he was unaware but pleased that Stitt recommended two members of his tribe for consideration.

“They’re Cherokee citizens, but in many ways they belong to the world in terms of the efforts they’ve put forth in their careers,” Hoskin said of Mankiller and Rogers. "The fact that they're Cherokee, of course, is very important to me, and it reflects an effort to add some diversity to those sort of public monuments. I think that's a wonderful thing."

Stitt has spent more than a year locked in a messy legal dispute with tribal leaders in Oklahoma over how much the tribes pay the state for the right to operate casinos. The feud has strained relations between several tribes and the governor's office, but Hoskin remained optimistic about the relationship moving forward.

"I think the governor's actions have caused and will cause some enduring harm between the governor's office and the Cherokee Nation, but it's nothing that can't be repaired," Hoskin said. "And it's nothing that can't be repaired within Gov. Stitt's remaining time in office."

Stitt also recommended two possible locations in Oklahoma for the Trump administration to consider for the garden: Lake Thunderbird State Park in Norman and Lake Keystone, just west of Tulsa.
Fans hope Marvel's 'Indigenous Voices' boosts representation

Past portrayals of Native American or Indigenous comic book superheroes would often follow the same checklist — mystical powers, an ability to talk to animals and a costume of either a headdress or a loincloth.

"Poor research was done. They were just going off from some tribes' storytelling traditions. It's rare, for instance, to see Native superheroes talk in their own language. Incorporating some language would be an opportunity to educate non-Natives and promote tribes — many of which are struggling to preserve their language for younger generations," said Verland Coker, 27, a comic book fan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Oklahoma, who calls Marvel’s endeavor a step in the right direction but says comic books could go further.

"Whenever I think of super Native women, they’re all mothers — my mom, my grandma. They’re the first heroes in all of our lives," Evans said. "It would be really interesting to have a modern Indigenous mom living and being a superhero."

"I don't want to speak for all Native folks, but I think there's a visual acuity and storytelling sense that aligns perfectly with the comic book medium," Francis said. "Not only words and writing, but this visual storytelling that harks back to our own stories and petroglyphs — rock art — ties it back to our ancestors."

Racist stereotypes found their way into the medium because comic book artists often relied on what they saw in movie and TV Westerns, Francis said. And before Westerns, political cartoons dating to the 1700s demonized or ridiculed Native people.

Growing up reading comic books on his tribe's land outside Seattle, Verege related more with non-Native heroes like Iron Man or Spider-Man. Now, he's "living a dream," overseeing a Marvel comic book about Native stories told by Native people.

Marvel Comics announced this month that it's assembled Native artists and writers for "Marvel Voices: Indigenous Voices #1," an anthology that will revisit some of its Native characters. It's timed for release during Native American History Month in November.

Native comic book fans hope it's a new start for authentic representation in mainstream superhero fare. Marvel says the project was planned long before the nation's reckoning over racial injustice, which has prompted changes including the Washington NFL team dropping its decades-old Redskins mascot.

"It's correcting a problem that started a long time ago," Verege said of the comic book project.

Verege, who has drawn more than 100 covers for Marvel and other major comic book publishers, was a natural fit to lead the project. In February, he wrapped up an exhibit at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in New York City. "Of Gods and Heroes" was his interpretation of Marvel protagonists like Black Panther and Thor, integrating shapes and lines inspired by tribal art styles.

"You want to make sure people recognize the characters themselves, but I also want them to see it's a Native voice behind that," Verege said.

Lee Francis IV, owner of Red Planet Books & Comics in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and an independent publisher of Native comics, helped find up-and-coming Native artists to join the Marvel anthology. An organizer of an annual Indigenous Comic Con who's descended from the Laguna Pueblo, Francis said comic books aren't far off from some tribes' storytelling traditions.

"You want to make sure that mainstream "heroes from every place else had actual costumes," while Native characters weren't represented well.

Growing up reading comic books on his tribe's land outside Seattle, Verege related more with non-Native costumes.

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For so long in comics, Native Americans have either been the villain or the stoic sidekick. It's frustrating when a genuine "Indigenerd" sees "everybody else gets span-dex and you get a headdress," Francis said.

Dezbah Evans, meanwhile, always identified with Marvel's "X-Men." The series about young mutants struggling with powers while being persecuted by society seems to parallel how America treats Indigenous communities, said Evans, a 24-year-old comic book fan and cosplayer from Tulsa, Oklahoma, who's Navajo, Chippewa and Yuchi.

She's looking forward to the Marvel book because it will feature one of her favorite mutants — Danielle Moonstar, a Cheyenne heroine who conjures illusions based on people's fears.

"It’s very validating that these are my peers, these are people I see at conventions and I’ve had relationships with," Evans said of the writers and artists creating the book. "I’m really proud they’re able to get to this level."

She hopes it's the beginning of an expansion of the comic book world — not just the Marvel Universe. Mainstream pop culture still has far more Native male superheroes than female ones.

"Whenever I think of super Native women, they’re all mothers — my mom, my grandma. They’re the first heroes in all of our lives," Evans said. "It would be really interesting to have a modern Indigenous mom living and being a superhero."

Verland Coker, 27, a comic book fan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Oklahoma, calls Marvel’s endeavor a step in the right direction but says comic books could go further.

"My worry is that we can occasionally lean into the monolith myth, and while any representation is great, we often only get a select few tribes," Coker said via text. "I just would like to see more Native artists on mainstream products."

That may not be far off based on the reception Verege gets. When he meets children on the reservation where he grew up or at comic book conventions, their parents like to point out his work for Marvel. It’s an interaction he takes seriously.

"I get to tell kids: 'I grew up on this reservation, too. You can do this, too,'" Verege said. "I know who I’m representing. ... I carry them wherever I go."
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**Job Vacancy**

SEEKING Board of Director Member (HTEDC)

The Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation (HTEDC) in Flagstaff, AZ, is seeking applications to fill a position of its Board of Directors.

The HTEDC is a federally chartered corporation wholly owned by the Hopi Tribe. The HTEDC is established under federal charter provisions making it distinct and separate from the Hopi Tribe. A board of seven (7) directors governs the HTEDC. Board members are appointed by the Hopi Tribal Council, representing the sole shareholder.

Currently there are 2 (two) vacancies, both are three-year term positions required to be filled by Hopi Tribal Members only. One term begins October 1st, 2020 and the second term begins November 9th, 2020.

**Job Description:**

All Directors must meet the required qualifications as set forth in the HTEDC By-Laws and must pass a mandatory full background check.

Information for prospective board members may be sent via email or USPS mail. The packet includes information about the HTEDC and its mission, as well as information about the roles and responsibilities of a Board of Director member.

If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Stephanie Mejia, Administrative Assistant at 928-522-8675 or smejia@htedc.net.

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**Hopi Tutuveni**

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**ARTICLES:**

The Hopi Tutuveni welcomes original articles reporting on local, state and national news items on issues related to Hopi or of interest to Tutuveni readers. We are especially interested in articles reporting on issues impacting the Hopi community or on events and activities involving members of the Hopi Tribe. Articles should not exceed 750 words and should follow Associated Press (AP) style and formatting. The Managing Editor reserves the right to edit articles for style, length and clarity. If significant editing is required, the Managing Editor will communicate with the author prior to publication.

**PRESS RELEASES:**

Press releases must be submitted on official letterhead and include the name of the organization, contact person, telephone number and email address. Press releases should not exceed 500 words and submissions may be edited for length and clarity at the discretion of the Managing Editor.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:**

Letters should not exceed 250 words and must include the name of the author and complete contact information (address, phone number or email address) and the headline and date of the article on which you are commenting. Anonymous letters and letters written under pseudonyms will not be published. The Tutuveni Editorial Board reviews all submissions and reserves the right not to publish letters it considers to be highly sensitive or potentially offensive to readers, or that may be libelous or slanderous in nature.

**OPINION EDITORIALS:**

Submissions must be exclusive to Hopi Tutuveni and should not exceed 1,000 words. Include with your submission your name and complete contact information, along with a short 2-3-sentence bio.

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:**

All press releases, articles, letters to the editor and Opinion Editorials electronically as a Word document or as plain text in the body of an email to the Managing Editor, Romalita Laban. Articles, press releases and editorials that include photographs must be in high resolution, 300dpi or more and must be your own. All photographs must include photo credit and a caption for each photo listing the names of all persons included in the photo and description of what the photo is about. (call 928-734-3283 for deadline schedule).

**CIRCULATION**

The Hopi Tutuveni is published twice a month, with a circulation of 2,500 copies throughout the entire Hopi Reservation. The paper is delivered on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month to the following locations: Moenkopi Travel Center, Moenkopi Legacy Inn, Hotevilla Store, Kykotsmovi Village Store, Tribal Government Complex, Hopi Cultural Center, Hopi Health Care Center, Polacca Circle M, Keesans Canyon Store.
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https://www.smds.k12.az.us/Employment

Vida J-Golaway, Human Resources, at Second Mesa Day School (928)737-2571, x 4212.
Cross Word Puzzle

Find the English words for the Hopi words.

Across
2. Momo
4. Qoñsi
6. Qoñta
7. Maskiisi
9. Maasi
11. Tsóóviw
13. Kwewa
14. Mokingspu
15. Mansaala
16. Qómv

Down
1. Paalangpu
2. Sakwa
3. Paakiw
4. Sakuna
5. Tasikpu
6. Sikaagpu
9. Naala
10. Tsorongpu
11. Aanu
12. Angwusi

Answers in next issue

Hopilavit - Kachina Ceremonies

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

Hopi Words

Tuhisa - Ability
Tuwi’yta - Able
Yuku - Accomplish
Hintsakpi - Activity
Awàmata - Add to
Yaapti - Advance
Nakwha - Agree
Teeep - All day
Qahinta - All right
Peep - Almost
Nana’waqta - Alternate
Qana’öna - Ambitious
Pupri - Analyze
Pa’angwa - Assist
Tuwanta - Attempt

Kwangyavi - Bathroom
Naat - Before
Tiyo - Boy
Anihoya - Capable
Paasi - Care
Aapiyta - Carry on
Payak - Casually
Tuwi’va - Catch on
Qe’ti - Cease
Alöngta - Change
Kùpina - Chatter Box
Yuuyunya - Cheat
Awpôota - Check
Hopi - Civilized
Nanap’oya - Classify
Suyan – Clear

Tayawna - Complement
Naawini - Copy
Taalö - Day
Yuki - Decision
Pö’a - Defeat
Haakta - Delay
Tunatya - Desire/Hope
Öqala - Determined
Lavàyutuveni - Dictionary
Sikis tutuqaywisa - Friday
Mana - Girl
Näälós tutuqaywisa - Thursday

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Hopi Tutuveni September 2, 2020
GAMES AND PUZZLES

TICK-TACK-TOE
Bradley Beard wipes his face as he rests while he searches in vain for his water shutoff valve, next to his heavily damaged home and the destroyed trailer home of his daughter Nicole in Hackberry, La., in the aftermath of Hurricane Laura, Saturday, Aug. 29, 2020. “This is too much for a 62 year old man,” he said. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

**Home smashed: For one family, Hurricane Laura the 3rd strike**

HACKBERRY, La.— Bradley Beard calls Hurricane Laura his third strike. In 2005, Rita pushed a foot of floodwaters into his white, wooden home in Hackberry, Louisiana, a tiny Cameron Parish community 15 miles (24 kilometers) from the Gulf of Mexico.

Next came Ike in 2008, which pushed water up to the floor of the long mobile home where his daughter and two granddaughters live on the same property.

Laura outstripped them both. It tore his house entirely off its foundation and dropped it a few feet away. The trailer where his daughter, Nicole, lives with her two daughters was torn apart, the walls demolished to reveal a mix of clothes, belongings, and wooden planks. About the only things still in their place were a cane and a garbage can, tied to a steel grill buried in the ground.

A retired welder who worked at many of the refineries that dot the Louisiana coast, the 62-year-old Beard climbed through the debris, laboring with two artificial knees. After several minutes working to turn off the property’s water lines, he sat on a fallen log and wiped the sweat from his brow. “I got no other place,” he said. “This is all I got.”

Across Cameron Parish, the coastal parish where Hurricane Laura crashed ashore early Thursday, residents dug through what was left of their belongings, covered now-stripped roofs with tarps, and took stock of the damage.

The Category 4 storm packed 150-mph (240-kph) winds and a storm surge that Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards said was as high as 15 feet (4.5 meters). Louisiana officials reported two additional deaths on Sunday, bringing the total number of deaths attributed to the storm in Louisiana and Texas to 18; more than half of those were killed by carbon monoxide poisoning.

The deaths reported Sunday include a 57-year-old man in Calcasieu Parish who suffered a head injury after falling from a roof, the Louisiana Department of Health said. Another Calcasieu Parish resident died from carbon monoxide poisoning.

As of Sunday morning, roughly 460,000 customers were still without power, according to the Edison Electric Institute, the association of investor-owned electric companies in the U.S. President Donald Trump visited Louisiana and Texas on Saturday to show his support and assess the damage.

Edwards called Laura the most powerful hurricane to strike Louisiana, a shocking assessment in a state where Hurricane Katrina made landfall on Aug. 29, 2005. Out in western Louisiana it is the storm that came ashore a month after Katrina — Hurricane Rita — that evokes strong memories.

The damage wrought by Laura reminded many residents of Rita, which made landfall in the parish and wiped out many communities entirely, leading to one of the largest evacuations in American history.

Nicole Beard had her second daughter by cesarean section two weeks before Rita hit. “I evacuated for Rita with a newborn baby and stitches in my stomach,” she said.

Many people never returned to Cameron Parish, whose population fell 30% in the 2010 census, the first taken after the 2005 Katrina made landfall. The Beards’ next-door neighbors left for good. But the Beards stayed.

Most people in Cameron Parish said they got out ahead of Laura, a storm that forecasters warned was “unsurvivable.”

Robert Holmes, 67, was one of the very few who decided to ride out the hurricane on Gulf Breeze Beach, on the Cameron Parish shoreline. Standing on her deck overlooking the Gulf of Mexico on Saturday, Holmes described sitting in a red leather recliner next to a window facing the water. She was confident that the home rebuilt after Rita was strong enough to withstand this storm.

Her home ended up suffering just minor damage, though the storm did uproot two palm trees she planted in front — which she christened “Rita” and “Ike.” “I knew what it would take to survive,” she said.

Now that the floodwaters have receded, Highway 27 leading from Lake Charles into Hackberry and the other small towns closer to the Gulf was a bustle of activity as utility workers and people pulling trailers or boats drove back and forth. The shelves were largely bare at Brown’s Grocery Store, across the street from the Beards’ property, and there’s been no electricity to pump the gas. Not far away is a sprawling liquefied natural gas facility that Trump visited in 2019. The Beards weren’t sure yet how they would rebuild. Bradley Beard lives on Social Security, and Nicole Beard works at a local alligator farm that ships hides internationally.

She has applied for federal aid and is hopeful that volunteers and faith groups that ordinarily respond to disasters will be able to help them clear the wreckage.

For now, they are sifting through their jumbled belongings for whatever can be salvaged, leaving food for their cat who has so far refused to come out from under the rubble. Nicole’s daughters filled a garbage bag each with clothes. She found her high school graduation tassel inside the trailer, her class year of 1999 shining in gold against the blue thread.

Her daughters insist that they stay in Cameron Parish. But she said: “I don’t know how many times you can restart from scratch.”
Trump Administration Disregards Tribal Sovereignty, Harmony and Tradition with Mitchell Execution

By Levi Rickert
For Native News Online

OPINION. On Wednesday evening at 6:29 p.m. local time, Navajo citizen Lezmond Mitchell, the only American Indian on death row, was put to death by a lethal injection of pentobarbital as he lay inside the pale-green death chamber of the federal prison in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Shortly afterwards, the Navajo Nation emailed a press release to the media, calling Wednesday “a sad day for family members, relatives, and friends of two Navajo families and for the Navajo Nation as a whole.”

Mitchell’s execution was the first time in modern history that the United States federal government executed an American Indian.

The Navajo Nation never disputed the guilt of Mitchell, who along with an accomplice, committed the grisly 2001 murders of 63-year old Alyce Slim, a Navajo woman, and her nine-year old granddaughter, Tiffany Lee on the Navajo reservation.

Ironically, Mitchell was not executed by the federal government for murder, even though he was convicted of murder. Instead, he was put to death for carjacking resulting in death. That’s because the Federal Death Penalty Act requires a tribal nation to approve of the capital punishment for most crimes committed on tribal land, including murder. Since the Navajo Nation chose not to opt-in to the death penalty in Mitchell’s case, the federal government found a workaround.

John Ashcroft, the U.S. Attorney General at the time, insisted Mitchell be sentenced for the carjacking crime so the federal government could ask for the death penalty.

The Navajo Nation, a sovereign tribal nation, historically has opposed capital punishment on cultural and religious grounds. Because of its cultural belief system opposing the death penalty, the Navajo Nation has all along opposed the execution of Mitchell. Instead, Navajo Nation wanted him to remain in prison for the remainder of his natural life without the possibility of parole.

Lenny Foster (Navajo), who served as the director of the Navajo Nations Correction Project until his retirement in 2017, told Native News Online on Wednesday afternoon that Mitchell’s impending execution had been on his mind all day long.

“Our teachings tell us all lives are sacred. Because of that, the death penalty is not acceptable,” Foster said. “We have to continue to exercise our sovereignty in order to have access to our traditional practices.”

In the traditional Navajo way, restitution was done by paying back the victims’ families. It could have been through livestock, cattle or money, according to Foster.

“In our culture, ceremonies are done between the perpetrator and the victim’s family members as a way to restore harmony,” Foster said.

Both President Donald Trump and U.S. Attorney William Barr support the death penalty. This past week—coincidentally, the same week the Republican National Convention convened—the execution of Mitchell was one of two federal executions that took place. Last month, there were three. Perhaps, putting people to death is an effort by the Trump administration to project an image of being strong on law and order.

The Navajo Nation’s request for clemency was supported by members of Congress, tribal nations, national tribal organizations and Native Americans. Their collective voices were ignored on Wednesday evening.

“We don’t expect federal officials to understand our strongly held traditions of clan relationship, keeping harmony in our communities, and holding life sacred. What we do expect, no, what we demand, is respect for our People, for our Tribal Nation, and we will not be pushed aside any longer,” Navajo Nation officials said Wednesday’s press release.

“Even if the federal law seemingly attempts to absolve the U.S. from considering the Native Nation’s position, there are stronger government-to-government concerns that the U.S. must always consider,” Shannon Keller O’Loughlin (Choctaw), executive director and attorney, Association for American Indian Affairs commented on the Mitchell case to Native News Online. “To do otherwise is just another symptom of institutional racism, and the failure of our political system to deal with the needs and interests of Native governments equal to their own.”

Mitchell’s execution came about a month after the historic Supreme Court decision of McGirt v. Oklahoma. That decision, in the eyes of most legal scholars and lawmakers, gave more teeth to tribal sovereignty.

Trump and Barr must have missed the memo. Mitchell’s execution over the objections of the Navajo Nation ignored and totally disregarded the sovereignty of tribal nations.

And, this fact should not be ignored in November.
PHOENIX — Four Directions, a national American Indian voting rights organization, assisted six Navajo citizens in filing a voting rights complaint last week in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona in order to secure equal access to absentee voting by mail.

The complaint was filed on behalf of plaintiffs Darlene Yazzie, Caroline Begay, Irene Roy, Donna Williams, Leslie Begay and Alfred McRoye against Arizona Secretary of State Katie Hobbs.

In the complaint, the plaintiffs allege Arizona’s requirement that Vote By Mail ballots be received—not postmarked—before 7:00 pm on November 3, 2020 to be counted is an unconstitutional burdens on Plaintiffs’ right to vote at Navajo Nation as applied during the COVID-19 pandemic and United States Postal Service reorganizational issues.

Four Directions maintains Navajo Nation residents have 40 to 70 percent fewer days to cast their ballots after they receive them than other non-Indian Arizona voters. Data compiled by Four Directions shows that many Navajo Nation citizens who request an absentee ballot on October 23 (which is their right under Arizona law) will not receive it in time to consider, mark, and mail it back, and have it in the possession of the county recorder’s office by 7:00 pm on Election Day, as per the current law.

“Compare especially Navajo Nation Members utilizing the postal provider in Dinéhoheto, Ariz. Certified first-class mail takes 10 days (20 days roundtrip) to reach the county recorder’s office. Secretary Hobbs has said that Arizona voters have 27 days to vote by mail. For Native voters using the Dinéhoheto location, they have only seven days to consider, mark, and return their ballot via the mail—if they requested a ballot prior to October 7,” Four Directions Executive Director OJ Semans said.

Four Directions has assembled a litigation team to assist Navajo Nation citizens in their request of Secretary Hobbs for a simple and costless remedy—by accepting absentee ballots postmarked on or by Election Day and received by the close of business on the 10th day after the election.

Big Fire Law and Policy Group, a 100 percent Native-owned law firm, is serving as legal counsel for the complaint. Four Directions is financing the lawsuit.

“We believe that the unequal access to vote-by-mail is an unlawful abridgement of the right to vote of Navajo Nation Members, as per Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. While we are disappointed that Secretary Hobbs failed to communicate with Attorney McClure, we remain hopeful that she will move quickly to bring Arizona into compliance with the Voting Rights Act,” Semans said.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — On Friday, the Navajo Department of Health, in coordination with the Navajo Epidemiology Center and the Navajo Area Indian Health Service, reported 14 new COVID-19 positive cases for the Navajo Nation and one more death. The total number of deaths has reached 500 as of Friday. Reports indicate that 7,032 individuals have recovered from COVID-19. 94,099 COVID-19 tests have been administered. The total number of COVID-19 positive cases is 9,780, which includes 165 additional cases that were recently identified that occurred between April 6 and Aug. 12.

Navajo Nation COVID-19 positive cases by Service Unit:
- Chinle Service Unit: 2,320
- Crownpoint Service Unit: 803
- Ft. Defiance Service Unit: 906
- Gallup Service Unit: 1,562
- Kayenta Service Unit: 1,300
- Shiprock Service Unit: 1,494
- Tuba City Service Unit: 932
- Winslow Service Unit: 457

* Six residences with COVID-19 positive cases are not specific enough to place them accurately in a Service Unit.

The Navajo Nation will have a 32-hour weekend lockdown beginning Saturday, Aug. 29, at 9:00 p.m. until Monday, Aug. 31 at 5:00 a.m.

“Our people are carrying on the same strength that carried our ancestors for many generations in today’s fight against COVID-19. Resilience is within us and tells us to keep going. Our fight against COVID-19 is far from over, and to combat the virus we need to continue to stay home as much as possible, wear masks, wash hands, social distance, and avoid large crowds,” Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez said.

On Friday, the state of Utah reported 391 new cases of COVID-19, the state of Arizona reported 519 new cases, and New Mexico reported 126.