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The Hopi Tutuveni

December 16, 2020

Volume 28

Number 24



52° / 31°
Sunny

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

Hopi Tutuveni Office Severely Impacted by 2020 COVID 19 Pandemic Moves – Office Re-opened with Limited Capacity and Transitions into 2021

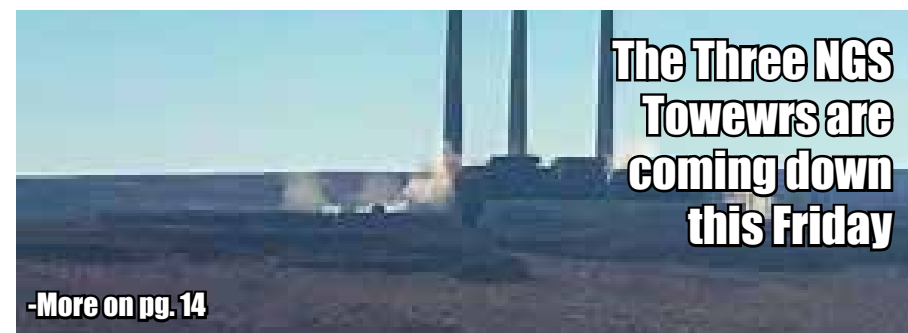


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Hopi Tribe, Hopi Tutuvni office with desks on the outside of the building (photo by Romalita Laban/HT)

HOPI TUTUVENI
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The Three NGS Towewrs are coming down this Friday

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Hopi Tutuveni Office Severely Impacted by 2020 COVID 19 Pandemic Moves – Office Re-opened with Limited Capacity and Transitions into 2021



Exterior of the Tutuveni office (Pic by Romalita Laban/HT)

Public Service Announcement by Romalita Laban,
Managing Editor

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – As of Monday, December 14, 2020, the Hopi Tutuveni staff and Editorial Board requests the public's attention to this announcement in response to the Hopi Tribe's Carpet Removal Project scheduled to be completed at the Hopi Tribal Complex. The Hopi Tribe's one and only newspaper office has re-opened but with limited capacity until further notice.

All publications for 2020, including the last one on December 16, 2020 have been published and distributed however due to the limitations being placed on the office, beyond our control, advertisements will be a priority for placement in early 2021.

The Hopi Tutuveni staff was informed in October 2020 that the Risk Management Building, where the Tutuveni office is housed, would not be impacted by the project. Staff was also informed by the Facilities and Risk Management Department staff that the carpet in the building would not be removed until January 2021.

With no further updates or notices since then, Hopi Tutuveni staff went to report to work at the office on November 25th and found both offices emptied of all furniture, archive files and newspapers, office equipment, cameras, keys and deposits.

Computer equipment was left on the front porch of the building unattended while facilities staff was going back and forth from the building to building on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 afternoon. No further information about where computer equipment and files were being stored was provided to the Managing Editor.

Upon meeting with Facilities Department staff on Monday, November 30, 2020 an estimated date of when



Interior of the Tutuveni office (Pic by Romalita Laban/HT)

Tutuveni staff might be able to return to the office was slated for Monday, December 7, 2020 but that did not occur.

As of Monday, December 14th most, if not all of our equipment and files had been returned. However, like any unplanned moves, damage has occurred to computer equipment and furniture - some of which was left in front of the building in the cold, wet weather conditions.

Because not all Hopi Tutuveni staff has been allowed to return to the offices and because Facilities staff is strapped for time and physical energy, we will not know the full extent of losses or damages until the move is entirely completed. Hopi Tutuveni staff desks remain lying on its sides while staff has not received any updates on when the move will be fully complete, nor how damaged equipment and furniture will be replaced.

There is no doubt that the COVID 19 pandemic has severely impacted the Hopi Tutuveni with damages to equipment, loss of effective work time and energy and impacts to the availability to the public.

Hopi Tutuveni staff sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause readers and the Hopi public who look to the newspaper as a source of information and updates about what is occurring on Hopi and in particular with the Hopi Tribal government itself.

The public is also being notified that an announcement about the closure would have come much sooner, if the Hopi Tutuveni staff and Editorial Board had been informed and had a place in the decision-making arena resulting in such an impactful outcome.

Unfortunately, like a number of programs, departments and organizations, the powers that be are challenged with keeping open communications with Hopi Tutuveni, with reasons left unknown. At times, Hopi Tutuveni staff has



Desks of the Tutuveni office (Pic by Romalita Laban/HT)

been excluded from decision-making meetings and discussions.

Hopi Tutuveni staff has made numerous requests for both staff to be listed as Essential Employees to only be denied time and time again and which impacts the amount of information being shared with the public. We will strive to continue asking the questions that need to be asked in keeping our public informed and updated.

Persistence by Tutuveni staff to get responses and aid in getting equipment and furniture set up to work before the December 16th publication was due, is what has ensured readers received the publication and updated COVID 19 related information.

Until the Hopi Tutuveni office is fully ready for continued occupancy by all staff, patrons and the public can leave voice messages for Romalita Laban, Managing Editor at (928) 734-3281 and emails can be sent to rlaban@hopi.nsn.us. Voice messages can be left for Carl Onsae, Assistant Editor at (928) 734-3283 and emails can be sent to consae@hopi.nsn.us. Normal office hours have resumed for Hopi Tutuveni with the Managing Editor who is listed as an Essential Employee, is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Payments for ads can still be taken at the Treasurer's Office by credit or debit card by calling (928) 734-3124. Check or money order payments can still be sent to: Attention - Hopi Tutuveni – Hopi Tribe P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039.

We ask for Hopi Tutuveni supporters' and the public's patience and prayers, as we transition through these challenging pandemic times. We are still here, we are Hopi and we are strong. Askwali/Kwa kwa for your continued patronage and support throughout 2020 and going into 2021, as well. Pasningwu.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

November 25, 2020

Dear Hopi Tutuveni Editor,

Due to the increase in coronavirus cases and the number of deaths, we have a suggestion.

The increase in coronavirus cases and deaths is due to a number of things however one of the primary reasons are that there is often too many people and/or multi-generational families living under too small a roof.

This means that if one person in a household is corona positive then usually everyone in the household will also become positive and it's usually so'o or kwa'a that dies.

The source of this problem is that there is no place to quarantine coronavirus positive Hopi people.

I would respectfully suggest the Hopi Tribe, with support from both Coconino

and Navajo county members of the state legislature, approach the Arizona State Governor who could involve the Arizona National Guard in coming to Hopi and who would be equipped to do the following:

1) Send a medical team to Hopi.

2) Using existing facilities, either the civic center or the hotel to set up a medical quarantine center staffed by National Guard physicians and nurses.

3) In lieu of using existing facilities, the National Guard is also equipped to build a temporary facility if needed.

Something must be done to stop the spread of and deaths due to this terrible virus before all of our elders are gone.

Janice and Joseph Day

Tsakurshovi

Songòopavi Village

PO BOX 234

Second Mesa, AZ 86043

928-734-2478

Deb Haaland a lead contender for Interior secretary



Rep. Deb Haaland (AP Photo/Juan Labreche, File)

Associated Press and Indian Country Today

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Deb Haaland is a lead contender to become President-elect Joe Biden's Interior secretary, despite Democratic worry that her departure would leave them with a perilously thin majority in the House.

Haaland, vice chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, is from New Mexico's Pueblos of Laguna and Jemez. She would make history as the first Native American to lead a Cabinet agency.

The Interior Department employs 70,000 people and is tasked with protecting the nation's natural resources and honoring the government's federal trust responsibilities. The agency manages America's vast public lands and coastal waters while overseeing prominent departments such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education.

Discussions with Haaland about the position are ongoing, according to a person familiar with the circumstances who was not authorized to publicly discuss the matter and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday.

Retiring Sen. Tom Udall, another New Mexico Democrat, has been among the

other front-runners. And former Interior Department official Michael Connor, Taos Pueblo, is among other Native Americans believed to be under consideration.

Many tribal officials and others are solidly behind Haaland, pushing back at suggestions of a different Native American candidate for the Interior Department.

More than 130 tribal leaders collaborated to write letters to Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, citing Haaland's bipartisan leadership. Native organizations including NDN Collective and IllumiNative created online campaigns, and celebrities like Mark Ruffalo have offered support via social media.

Many of Haaland's colleagues also have rallied behind her. In mid-November, more than 50 House Democrats penned a letter to the Biden transition team backing her for the post.

Haaland has been cited saying she would accept a nomination as Interior secretary, including in an October interview with Indian Country Today.

"I think it's nice that people are thinking about me. And of course, if I ever had an opportunity to step up and do good work for this district, for the state of New Mexico, for our country, I would always be proud to do that," Haaland said.

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2020 Highlights of the Year throughout the Hopi reservation



2020 Highlights of the Year throughout the Hopi reservation





Larry's Corner

Level 10 of this crazy ride

We made it people! We made it to level 10 on this wild ride that I like to call “But Wait, there’s More...” At first, I didn’t believe that there was even a pandemic, and most people didn’t notice either. On Hopi, we didn’t riot, we didn’t loot, and we didn’t kill anyone for food like in the movies. Most people just sat back in their expensive office chairs and stuck their noses in the air and said, “This is Hokey Pokey, this will never happen in the USA.”

So, most of us went about our business by telling some employees they weren’t “Essential” doing things as normal as we could. But then, people started to get sick, and started to die, we needed to protect ourselves from the sickness. People were angry that the government did nothing to tell us that this was a “PANDEMIC.” Mass hysteria started to set in, then all of sudden, riots and looting happened, it was the end of days for most people. For some people, being in the pandemic added more to the already-present tension of having their lives threatened and taken by inhumane force, because of the color of their skin. But for others, some had already been preparing for this type of event way before 2020.

In the Hopi legend it was said that around 200 years or so, a sickness was brought to the Hopi mesas and killed more than half the population of the Hopi people. No one at the time knew what this sickness was; all they knew was that it was lasting years. People started to get sick with red dots and started to hallucinate which was followed by death. So, the healthy Hopis started to protect themselves by locking away the mongwiit (chiefs of the villages and chiefs of the different societies), in their homes so they wouldn’t get sick. The healthy Hopis started to

wear cloths over their faces to protect themselves from this new sickness.

Some village peoples living in and around the Hopi mesas knew that sickness is not something you want to mess with, so some village peoples built special houses for their sick. They placed the sick people in this special house and locked them in there to die. One village could not keep up with burying their dead so they found a cave on the side of their village and started to throw their dead in the cave, they soon buried the cave with large rocks sealing off the cave to anyone and so no one would open it revealing the sickness. Some even buried the sickness in a spot where everyone knows it is to stay and to never open that spot again.

Years later when almost half of the population of Hopis perished with this sickness, they learned that a plague or pandemic is very real and it should not be taken lightly.

Yes, I know that we have modern vaccines for the different types of sickness but this a new type of sickness and it is totally different. So what we learned from the past and the stories that were told to us is that we are struggling to survive because we forgot that we are still vulnerable, just like we were in the past.

This year, joy and happiness would have come to the Hopi mesas in the form of spirits, but this year, no spirits came to the Hopi mesas. Although, they did not forget about us, some Hopis seemed to have started to forget about them because they were reminiscing out loud and writing about them on this new thing called “social media” where we have learned a lot about each other during these pandemic times. Some forgot that those spirits, although, not visiting us physically are in the wind, the trees, the

animals, the clouds and even in each of us.

Now some of you out there reading this will say, “I haven’t forgotten about the spirits that help and protect us.” And you are right; the spirits are there to protect us even if we don’t see them. But for most young Hopis, all they see is what’s in front of them and not what’s inside of them.

This sickness has become our normal now, the road blocks, the weird curfews, the cloths over our faces, the money being thrown at this disease and coveted by some for prize projects, we are now becoming used to the idea that this might be the new normal for years to come. Even though, there might be a vaccine for this new sickness, the Hopi people will have to change how they conduct ceremonies, gatherings, and of course BINGOS.

So, my question to you is have we forgotten our Hopi way? Or have we just simply put our Hopi way aside to deal with this disease from another land.

Now, don’t get me wrong, I cannot speak for all of the Hopi reservation, when I say “This disease is mocking our Hopi religion and is trying to stop our Hopi ways.” I can say that Hopi religion has gone through many changes throughout the decades and even through the centuries, but we still practice our Hopi religion every day, every month and every year.

So, my advice to you is that, even if this whole entire “thing” is becoming our new normal, don’t be afraid to keep practicing our Hopi culture, principles and religion because that is what separates us from everyone else. But if you want to go fishing like a white man without a face covering, that’s ok too.



UNDERSTAND COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

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

- 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

Call the Hopi Health Care Center, if:

- You develop worsening symptoms
- You have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19
- You have other symptoms that are concerning

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CDC.GOV OR
CALL THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
(928) 734-3401 OR (928) 734-3402



**The Hopi Tutuveni Staff would like
to encourage everyone to stay
home and to keep safe during
these uncertain times.
also
have a safe and wonderful
holidays**

Covid-19: Safety

Keep Kids Safe From Medicines Around the House This Cold and Flu Season

(StatePoint) During the cold and flu season and amid the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be more medicines in homes being used to treat all kinds of symptoms. It is important to remember that you can keep curious kids safe by keeping medicine up and away and out of sight and reach.

Approximately 50,000 young children are brought to the emergency room each year because they got into medicines left within reach, according to recent statistics published in the Journal of American Medical Association. This cold and flu season could present some additional hazards.

“Families with their curious children are spending more time at home together to help stop the spread of COVID-19. It’s imperative that all medicines are kept up and away and out of sight and reach to avoid accidental ingestion and an unnecessary trip to the emergency room,” says Anita Brikman, executive director of the Consumer Healthcare Products Association Educational Foundation.

The Up and Away campaign, an initiative of PROTECT, in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Consumer Healthcare Products Association Educational Foundation, aims to prevent accidental ingestion of medicine by educating families about how to safely keep medicine out of the sight and reach of young children. They’re advising parents and caregivers to follow these tips this cold and flu season and beyond:

- One-half of exposures involve children accessing medications that had previously been removed from original packaging,

according to a study published in the Journal of Pediatrics. Whether you’re at home or away, keep medicines in child-resistant containers. If you must put medicines in other containers, such as pill organizers, only do so if they’re child-resistant.

- Never leave loose pills on the counter or tables and keep medicines in child-resistant containers until right before taking them. To a young child, pills can look like candy, and it’s important to keep them out of children’s reach and sight.

- Keep young children safe by putting all medicines carried with you, including those in purses, bags, pockets, or pill organizers, out of their sight and reach.

- More than 80% of grandparents say they keep their medication in the same place as usual when their grandchildren visit their house, and 72% keep them in their purse or bag when they visit their grandchildren, according to a University of Michigan poll. Whether you’re a grandparent or another visitor to a home with children, don’t be shy about asking for a safe place to put your medicines (including those kept in purses, bags or pockets) that’s out of reach and sight of curious young kids.

- Save the Poison Help number: 1-800-222-1222, in your home and cell phones so you’re always prepared. Make sure that babysitters, older children and frequent family visitors have the number too in case there’s an emergency when they’re in charge.

For more medicine safety tips, visit UpandAway.org.

This cold and flu season and year-round, keep children safe by always putting medicine out of sight and reach.



Hopi Tribe Department of Health and Human Services

Covid-19 Emergency Response December 14, 2020 Report

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – December 14, 2020 — The Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) reported 91% of all ICU beds and 90% of all inpatient beds in Arizona were in use Monday, with 49% of ICU beds and 43% of non-ICU beds occupied by COVID-19 patients. The number of patients hospitalized statewide for known or suspected COVID-19 cases were at 3,702 on Monday, a record high. The highest number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized in a single day during the summer surge was 3,517 on July 13. Arizona's average rate of new cases in the past week ranks among the highest in the nation, behind only Rhode Island, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana and North Dakota, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In general, the pandemic is worsening both statewide and nationally, and public health experts expect the virus to spread further because of Thanksgiving and upcoming holidays. A report released on November 19, 2020 by Arizona State University predicted that hospital capacity in Arizona will be exceeded in December and that, without additional public health measures, holiday gatherings are likely to cause 600 to 1,200 additional deaths from COVID-19 in Arizona by February 1 beyond current-scenario death projections. The state on Monday reported the second-highest daily tally of new cases since the start of the pandemic, with 11,795 new COVID-19 cases, shy only of last Tuesday's 12,314 reported cases. A team of University of Arizona researchers wrote in a memo to the state Health Department that a statewide shelter-in-place order could help avert a "catastrophe" in Arizona hospitals.

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

As of this date – December 14, 2020

The United States now has approximately 16.32 million confirmed positive cases with 204,748 new cases and over 300,032 deaths reported.

Over 424,382 confirmed positive cases now exist in Arizona. Of those, close to 9,911 are in Navajo County alone.

The Hopi Health Care Center has tested over 6,396 patients to this date. Over 753 of those tests at Hopi Health Care Center came back positive with 504 from Hopi Tribal members. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation reported 104 positives for Hopi Villages with a combined number of 608 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 608+ 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.

COPING WITH STRESS DURING COVID-19

It's normal to feel sad, stressed, confused, scared, or angry. Talking to people you trust can help.

MAINTAIN A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

as best as you can with proper diet, adequate sleep, and exercise, and social interaction with loved ones at home or online.



SEEK PROFESSIONAL HELP

for physical and mental health needs instead of using smoking, alcohol, or drugs to cope.



GATHER FACTUAL INFORMATION

from credible sources to help you accurately determine your risk and take reasonable precautions.



AVOID BAD MEDIA

Lessen the time you and your family spend watching or listening to media coverage of news that you find upsetting.



REACH OUT FOR ASSISTANCE

if you need a little help when facing life's adversities, please don't hesitate and call us.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

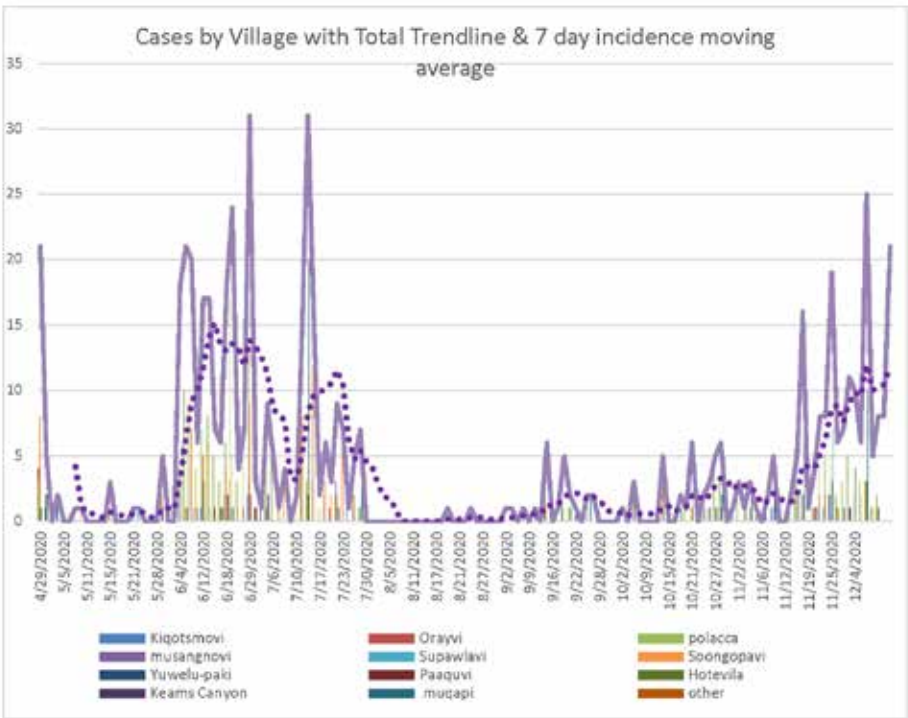
(928) 737-1800 or (928) 734-3401 or (928) 737-6342

*Hopi Tribe Department of Health and Human Services
Covid-19 Emergency Response December 14, 2020 Report,
Cont.*

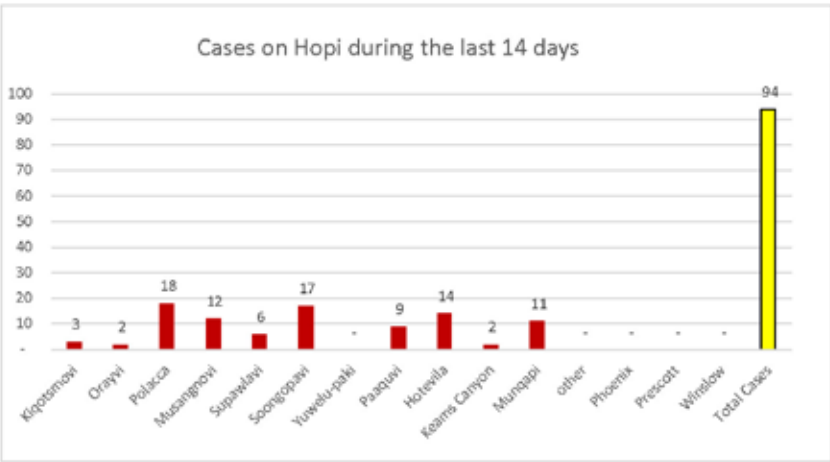
Hopi COVID-19 Reported Cases by Hopi Health Care Center Cases* December 14, 2020					
	Number Tested Today	Cumulative Number Positive	Cumulative Number Negative	Total Number in Process	Total Tested
	6	753	5,584	24	6,396

Note: These data include newly added testing results from the Abbott iD NOW machine since April 20, 2020.

Number of Cases per Village as of December 14, 2020	Reported by HHCC	Reported by Tuba City Regional Healthcare Corporation	Total
Kiqötsmovi	30	6	36
Orayvi	11		11
Polacca (Walpi-Sitsom'ovi-Tewa)	196	7	203+
Musangnuvi	26		26
Supawlaví	24		24+
Soṅgoopavi	140		140+
Yuwelu-paki	6		6
Paaqavi	13		13
Hotvela	32	12	44(+)
Keams Canyon	19	6	25
Munqapi	1	73*	74*
Phoenix	1		1
Winslow	4		4
Prescott	1		1
TOTAL	504	104	608



This graph demonstrates that cases per day stratified by village with a total case line and rolling seven-day incidence graph over the top. This graph gives the total of positive cases for the day in yellow, while the bar graph is color coded with each village. The bar graph shows each village's daily total and together they equal the yellow line chart. The dotted purple line is the moving 7-day incidence average and demonstrates the general trend of Covid-19 of the community.



This graph demonstrates the active cases and is stratified by village. Currently there are 94 active cases are defined as, persons that have had a positive test result or symptom onset in the last 14 days. In this graph, the Total cases bar is all villages combined and should be excluded from the remainder of the graph. This graph demonstrates that majority of the active cases reside inside of Polacca and Soongopavi; however, due to all villages having cases there is widespread community transmission. This graph is useful in isolating where the virus is most active at the current moment.

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



Protect Our HOPI/TEWA PEOPLE

STOP the SPREAD of COVID-19

Itam nawus it hikwis'utstuyat sôöwu'ytoynayani

STAY HOME
STAY SAFE
SAVE LIVES

Uma haak umüukikly ang sun huruyese' naavaasye' hakimuy qatsiyamuy ayo' o'yanl.

STAY INFORMED

The Hopi Tribe Look for announcements and educational materials at www.hopi-nsn.gov

KUYI Listen to **KUYI Hopi Radio 88.1** for regular updates

DO:

- Stay home
- Watch a movie
- Plant a garden
- Read a book
- Call a friend on the phone
- Take this time to learn something new about Hopi values.
- Learn our language
- Sew a homemade mask for yourself.
- Follow social distancing rules and stay 6 feet apart.

USE CAUTION:

- Grocery shopping
*Try not to go at peak hours
Send only ONE family member*
- Picking up medications
- Exercising in public spaces
- If you **MUST** go out, wear a mask or face-covering.
Wash your hands as soon as possible or use hand sanitizer.



DON'T:

- Take your entire family to the store
- Visit crowded places
- Hang out in groups
- Hold family gatherings – don't risk their health or yours
- Gather in groups at the basketball court
- Go to your boyfriend/girlfriend's house
- Visit/invite others from another community

Remember Our Hopi Traditional Ways
Some of our traditional practices and ceremonies that involve larger groups may have to be put on hold for a while but remember, our traditions are always with us.

Hopi Emergency Response Team | Emergency Operations Center

KEY CONTACT INFORMATION
Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. MST (928) 734-3661 and (928) 734-3663
After hours | Weekends: after 5:00 p.m. MST (928) 205-7295
Indian Health Services Hotline: (928) 737-6188

Covid-19: Education

Burdens of COVID Hit Hardest Among Marginalized Students

(StatePoint) Students are the greatest hope for the future, but for many, their plans are threatened due to burdens posed by COVID-19. Here are just a few of the issues students and families face today, and steps being taken to address these concerns:

- The digital divide: Recent images of two Latino children doing their online schoolwork in a Silicon Valley restaurant parking lot calls attention to the deepening digital divide in the COVID-19 era. Nationwide, 16.9 million lack the home internet access necessary to support on-line learning. A phenomenon known as the “homework gap,” this issue disproportionately impacts students of color. According to the Alliance for Excellent Education, one out of three Black, Latino, and Native American/Alaska Native households doesn't have access to a home internet connection and one in six doesn't have access to a computer or device.

- Housing insecurity: For students in the LGBTQ community, campus closures have sometimes meant the loss of in-school counseling and the support of like-minded, accepting peers. When “home” is an unwelcoming or even unsafe environment, students can be at a greater risk for depression, anxiety, abuse and homelessness.

- Educational barriers: Distance learning creates new educational hurdles. With parents taking on an unprecedented instructional role, language barriers for non-English speaking parents can prove significant, like for Asian and Latino immigrants. What's more, certain programming for students with disabilities, including speech and physical therapy, can be tough, if not impossible, to provide virtually. Lastly, certain learning disabilities can make virtual lessons especially difficult to follow.

- Military family and school options: Continued access to quality education has always been a concern for military fami-

lies, who often have no choice but to send their children to the nearest public school, whether it's the right fit or not. Today, this problem has grown in severity, as the level and quality of remote instruction can vary wildly among school districts.

- Lack of financial resources: Despite the economic disruption caused by the pandemic, colleges and universities are largely maintaining or increasing their tuition costs, leaving financially struggling students and families in a lurch.

Efforts to Help

In the face of today's many unprecedented challenges, help is on the way. New emergency grants are being provided by organizations like UNCF, Thurgood Marshall College Fund, APIA Scholars, Point Foundation for LGBTQ youth, American Indian Graduate Center, Hispanic Scholarship Fund and Scholarship America for military veterans and people with disabilities. Career sites like Zippia offer annual scholarship lists for students such as this curated list for LGBTQ college students: zippia.com.

Additionally, organizations like Wells Fargo recently completed their new Wells Fargo Student Impact Scholarship in September 2020 to help students impacted by COVID-19. This initiative will provide 200 students with \$5,000 each in funds, which could help them cover various costs for their instruction and potentially make the difference in being able to continue their education. Since 2010, Wells Fargo has provided more than \$87.8 million across all higher education programs and sponsored events. For additional resources, visit the Beyond College Webinar Series for online training modules for students and recent graduates at collegesteps.wf.com.

While the hardships of the COVID-19 era can make it incredibly difficult to be academically successful or even continue school at all, new efforts are helping close the gap during this difficult time.

Simple Reminders from the CDC to Keep Safe

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.

Find the English words for the Hopi words.

Across

3. Tukpu
5. Haaki
6. Tso'omti
7. Nuva
9. Kiihu
11. Sisvi
13. Poyo
14. Ööva
16. Muki
17. Tuwi
18. Paati

Down

1. Moosa
2. Yokva
4. Mansaala
8. Qöötsa
10. Taavi
11. Sipala
12. Titapta
14. Lolma
15. Kwisto

Answers for December 2nd edition

Across

2. Snow, 3. Peach, 5. Apple, 6. Warm, 8. Deer, 9. Knife, 11. Children, 12. Full, 13. Bite, 14. Defeat, 16. Harvest

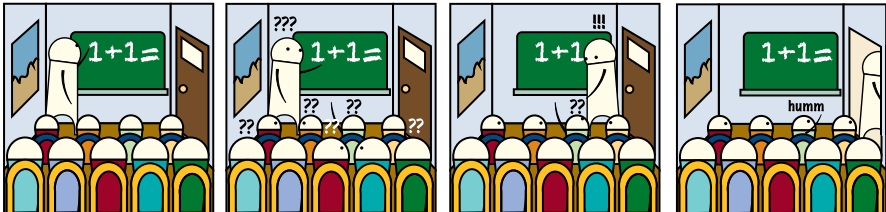
Down

1. Bag, 2. Shade, 3. Pumpkin, 4. Bat, 7. Belly, 10. Bracelet, 11. Cut, 12. Father, 14. Star

Answers in next issue

Are you into drawing COMICS?

New Perspective - Education



by: Carl Onsae

Submit your comics to
consae@hopi.nsn.us
Or
Call 928-734-3283
To find out more information.

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.

HOPILAVIT - CHRISTMAS

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

Find the Hopi Words

HOPi WORDS

Pas Pay – About to
Kyaptsiyma – Abide
by law

Awaptu – Afford
Hisat – Ago (Long)
Sipältuva – Almond
Mansaala – Apple

Tukpu – Bag
Pono – Belly
Maqa – Bestow a gift
Tiitiwa – Born (Be)

Kyenti – Candy
Poksoö – Chimney
Kyesmis – Christmas
Kyesmistaawi – X-mas
Song

Santiki – Church

Atsa – False

Salavi – Fir (Douglas)
Noova – Food
Kuna – Funny

Tayawinpi – Gift
Nima – Go home
Awtavi – Hand over
Tunglayta – Hope

O'kiwa'at – Humble-
ness
Lepena – Icicle
Suutokihag – Midnight

Lakapa – Mistletoe
Qaavo – Next day
Ölentsi – Orange
(Fruit)
Sowi'ngwa – Rein-

deer

Lestooni – Ribbon

Kis'ovi – Roof top
Possaltaapalo – Shawl
(Heavy)

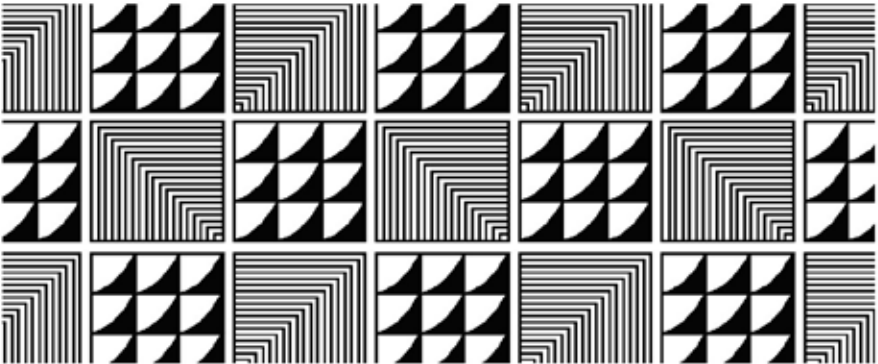
Lalaytuwiki – Sheep
Herder
Talvi – Slippery

Nuva – Snow
Tal'upta – Sparkle
(Stars)

Aasala – Spread
SooHu – Star
Aw – To
Somatsi Taaqa – Wise-
man

Mokyàata – Wrap

Sunat-Tsiot – 25



ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

SEARCH FOR
HOPI ARTISTS

HTEDC is in the process of building the TAAWAKI INN on the New Lands at the I40 Twin Arrows exit. The hotel is being created to highlight Hopi and their artists and is anticipated to open late 2021. The interior of the hotel will be featuring several types of Hopi art created by Hopi hands. Listed below are the types of art and the number of each that are needed to complete the interior.

Any Hopi artist that is interested in being considered to have their artwork displayed in the hotel and potentially included in a book "The Artists of the Taawaki Inn" are asked to send a sample of their work along with the Application Form to the HTEDC Flagstaff office. Several artists will be selected for each style of art based on the volume that is needed. Interested artists can request an application by emailing smejia@htedc.net. The application and art sample can be dropped off at the Flagstaff office weekdays, between 8 am to 5 pm.

All samples (no specific size required) would need to be at our office by January 31, 2021 to be considered. The Interior Designer will form a committee to select the artists whose art will ultimately be placed throughout the hotel. The artwork will be placed in the lobby, meeting room, guest rooms, hallway and café. The selected artists will be notified and a meeting will be set in February to meet the Interior Designer and learn more about the project. This is an opportunity to have your art displayed to hundreds of people who stay at the hotel and has the potential of increasing the sales and recognition of your artwork. If selected, the final artwork will need to be completed and ready for display by September 1, 2021.

STYLE OF ART NUMBER NEEDED NUMBER
OF ARTISTS SELECTED

Woven Belts 12 Up to 12
Baskets (various sizes) 48 Up to 24
Pottery (20" x 20")-4-4
Kachina Dolls
Flat back 69 Up to 30
3-dimensional 22 Up to 15
Large Paintings 36" x 60"-2-2
36" x 48"-11 Up to 11
Tiles-64-4

For further information and/or questions about the art search, please calling the Flagstaff office at 928-522-8675 or email csmith@htedc.net

REQUEST FOR RFQ'S

Hopi Health Care Center
Renovation project
Request for Qualification (RFQ)

The Hopi Tribe located in Kykotsmovi, Arizona is requesting Qualifications from companies to provide Construction services inclusive of commissioning and construction phase services for proposed renovation and expansion to the existing Hopi Health Care Center facility, located in Polacca, AZ.

The health care programs and services affected by this project are the Outpatient clinic, the level-V Emergency

Department, Pharmacy, Laboratory, and Administrative programs. The preliminary gross size of the renovation is 11,170 sf of existing space and 15,200 sf of new construction. The total building project is approximately, 26,370 sf with the construction to include selective demolition, Landscaping, Parking and Sidewalk Improvements and miscellaneous Site Utility work.

A digital packet of the Request for Qualifications may be obtained at the Hopi Tribe, Office of Financial Management upon request after October 27, 2020. All complete qualification proposals must be received at The Hopi Tribe PO Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039, attention Cheryl Tootsie, Contracting Officer, 928-734-3000, x3351,CTootsie@Hopi.nsn.us, no later than 4:00 PM

MST, on December 22, 2020. The Hopi Tribe reserves the right to reject any or all Request for Qualifications received.

JOB OPENINGS

Job Opportunity working with
small animals

The Hopi Department of Health & Human Services - Small Animal Control Program (SACP) is seeking a Lead Animal Control Officer. Those interested can access the position description for Job# 1020-07 and the application by visiting the Hopi Tribal website at <https://www.hopi-nsn.gov/tribal-services/human-resources/job-listings/>. Submit application through one of the following methods.

Email: HumanResources@hopi.nsn.us, Fax: (928) 734-6611 or Mail: Office of Human Resources - P.O. Box 123 - Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039. The position is open until filled. For questions, call (928) 497-1967 or (928) 734-3402.



The Hopi Tribe P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039
Ph: (928) 734-3281 • Ph: (928) 734-3283

Editorial Board of the Hopi Tutuveni

Kyle Knox, Gary LaRance, George Mase

Hopi Tutuveni Staff

Managing Editor - Romalita Laban

RLaban@hopi.nsn.us

Assistant Editor - Carl Onsae

Consaes@hopi.nsn.us

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, Keams Canyon Store.



Coping with Stress During Infectious Outbreak

YOUR BEHAVIOR: ▯

An increase or decrease in your energy and activity levels ▯

An increase in your alcohol, tobacco use, or use of illegal drugs ▯

An increase in irritability, with outbursts of anger and frequent arguing ▯

Having trouble relaxing or sleeping ▯

Crying frequently ▯

Worrying excessively ▯

Wanting to be alone most of the time ▯

Blaming other people for everything ▯

Having difficulty communicating or listening ▯

Having difficulty giving or accepting help ▯Inability to feel pleasure or have fun ▯

KEEP YOURSELF HEALTHY: ▯

Eat healthy foods, and drink water. ▯

Avoid excessive amounts of caffeine and alcohol. ▯

Do not use tobacco or illegal drugs. ▯

Get enough sleep and rest. ▯

Get physical exercise ▯

USE PRACTICAL WAYS TO RELAX: ▯

Relax your body often by doing things that work for you—take deep breaths, stretch, meditate, wash your face and hands, or engage in pleasurable hobbies. ▯

Pace yourself between stressful activities, and do a fun thing after a hard task. ▯

Use time off to relax—eat a good meal, read, listen to music, take a bath, or talk to family. ▯ Talk about your feelings to loved ones and friends often ▯



If you need help:

- Hopi Behavioral Health Services Weekdays 9 AM—5 PM (928) 737-6300
- Hopi Police Department: (928) 734-7340 or call 911

Hotline Numbers:

- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
- Northern Arizona Crisis Hotline: 1(877)-756-4090
- Teen Lifeline (800) 248-8336
- Trevor Lifeline (866) 488-7386
- Stronghearts, Native Helpline 1-(844)-762-8483
- Crisis Text Line: 741-741
- The Disaster Distress Helpline 1(800) -985-5990 or TEXT TalkWithUs to 66746

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857 Toll-Free: 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727) Email: info@samhsa.hhs.gov SAM-HSA Store: <https://store.samhsa.gov>





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928-734-3283

JOB VACANCY



HOPI TRIBAL HOUSING AUTHORITY JOB VACANCY

ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: Development Director

DEPARTMENT: Development

POSITION OPEN: 12-02-2020

CLOSING DATE: 12-16-2020

CONTACT:
Sherry Lomayestewa, HR Generalist
928.737.2800
Visit our website at www.htha.org for more detailed information regarding this vacancy announcement.

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Wilfred Gaseoma, Tribal
Treasurer

Violet Sinquah, Sergeant-
At-Arms

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Phillip Quochoytewa, Sr.
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Herman G. Honanie

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Rosa Honanie
Alverna Poneoma
Dennis Koeyahongva

Village of Mishongnovi
Craig Andrews
Ronald Humeystewa
Merwin Kooyahoema
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First Mesa Consolidated Villages
Albert T. Sinquah
Dale Sinquah
Wallace Youvella, Sr.
Wallace Youvella, Jr.



Cleveland MLB Team to Drop Indians Name

BY LEVI RICKERT

CLEVELAND — In what looks as if two victories in one year for American Indians opposed to the misappropriation of Native-themed images, The New York Times reported on Sunday night the Cleveland Major League Baseball (MLB) team will drop its name. In July, the Washington Football Team dropped its racist name.

An excerpt from The New York Times article:

"Following years of protests from fans and Native American groups, the Cleveland Indians have decided to change their team name, moving away from a moniker that has long been criticized as racist, three people familiar with the decision said Sunday.

The move follows a decision by the Washington Football Team of the N.F.L. in July to stop using a name long considered a racial slur, and is part of a larger national conversation about race that magnified this year amid protests of systemic racism and police violence.

Cleveland could announce its plans as soon as this week, according to the three

people, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly on the matter."

The fight to have the "Indians" name dropped by the Cleveland baseball franchise started over 50 years ago by the Cleveland American Indian Movement (AIM) in response to the wishes of the local Native community, elders and leaders in the Nations, according to the organization's website.

"I am not quite sure who the Native groups are that are mentioned in The New York Times article. The franchise has not reached out to us. And, we have been on the front line protesting this for a half-century," Cleveland AIM Executive Director Sundance said to Native News Online on Sunday night. "We are pretty connected and we have not heard of one Native group the team has talked to about this. Right now, it is all speculation on what is going to happen."

Editor's Note: This is a developing story and will be updated when an official announcement is made by the Cleveland MLB team.

The Three NGS Towers Are Coming Down This Friday



picture by original poster

By Mike Reilley
LakePowellLife.com

The landscape to the east of Page and the north of Lechee will change forever this Friday morning. At around 8:30 Friday, December 18, the three towers at the former Navajo Generating Station will be brought down together by explosives.

That was the word Monday afternoon (Dec. 14) from George Hardeen, the long-time spokesperson for the Salt River Project (SRP), owner of NGS as it ceased to produce electricity in November of last year.

Mr. Hardeen told us that SRP that due to COVID-19 concerns they are not holding any kind of event with the bringing down of the towers.

"The site itself will be completely closed, including to all contractors," said Hardeen.

The indications are that this will be a pretty loud explosion. But, depending on where you might be standing, you could see the explosion before you actually see the towers react because light moves much quicker than sound.

The time the towers will fall is scheduled for "around" 8:30. But, according to Hardeen, it could be a little before that.

"There's going to be people around the site with walkie-talkies, and everything is going to be checked," he said. "If everything is in order, they can do it within minutes prior to that."

It was about six weeks ago that the original three smokestacks at NGS were brought down by explosives. But they had been trimmed to just about 200-foot years ago. They were replaced in the 1990's by the three tall stacks coming down Friday. They stand at 775-foot tall.

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Hopi Behavioral Health Services (HBHS) – Partnerships for Success (PFS)

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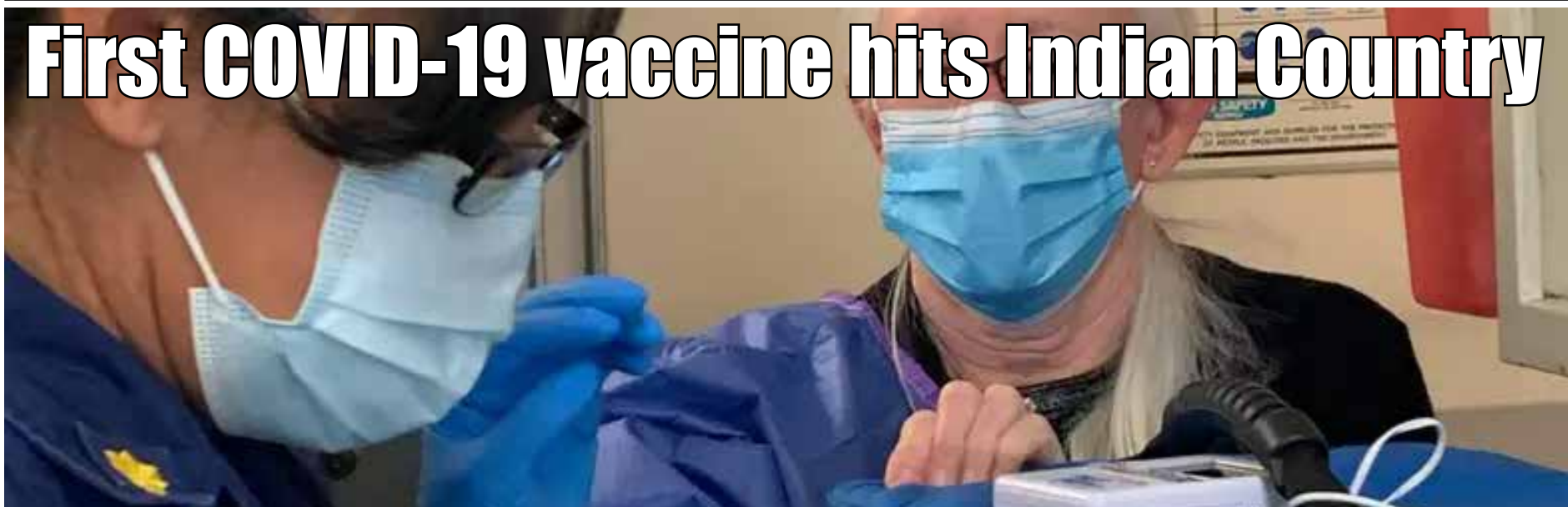
- Hopi Behavioral Health Services - (928) 737-6300
- AZ Drug Addiction Helpline - (866) 576-4147
- Health Choice AZ Crisis Hotline - 1-877-756-4090

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) Toll Free 1-877-726-4727



Helping Others with Prevention Initiatives

First COVID-19 vaccine hits Indian Country



U.S. Public Health Service Lt. Cmdr. Erica Harker, IHS Navajo Area pharmacy consultant and a member of the Zuni Tribe, and Gallup Indian Medical Center Chief of Pharmacy Vicky Chavez prepare COVID-19 vaccines to be redistributed from GIMC to other health care facilities on the Navajo Nation, December 14, 2020. (Photo courtesy of the Indian Health Service)

Dalton Walker
Indian Country Today

The first Indian health system facility to receive the COVID-19 vaccine was a hospital in northern Minnesota on Ojibwe land.

The Cass Lake Hospital on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation received the distribution on Monday, and health care staff were expected to begin to receive the vaccination immediately, according to Indian Health Service.

The hospital is the first to receive some of the roughly 22,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine dedicated to the federally run agency under Health and Human Services. The Food and Drug Administration approved the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine last week and could approve a Moderna vaccine this week.

In a social media post Monday, Indian Health Service Director Michael Weahkee, Zuni Pueblo, said protection of health care personnel is critical to “preserving capacity to care for our patients.”

“The IHS is well prepared and positioned to begin #COVID19 vaccinations, and our ultimate goal is to ensure that vaccines reach #IndianCountry as quickly and equitably as possible,” Weahkee said.

The vaccine distribution comes when the country hits approximately 300,000 deaths in total from COVID-19, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz said Monday that the Cass Lake Hospital, an IHS direct-service facility, was one of four facilities in the state to receive vaccine shipments. The others aren’t affiliated with Indian Health Service.

“This is an exciting day for Minnesota,” he said in a statement. “The first vaccines are here. They are safe, and they will be ready to go soon. The sun is coming up, Min-

nesota.”

It’s unclear how the Cass Lake Hospital was determined to be the first to get the vaccine.

The hospital received 10 doses on Monday, five dedicated to health care professionals and five for tribal elders, Leech Lake interim Health Director Vince Rock said.

Before the vaccines, the tribe held a small ceremony. Elders Mike Myers and Birdie Lyons were two of the first to receive the vaccine on Leech Lake, Rock said.

The hospital will receive 100 doses by Friday and the tribe will also get 100 doses as part of this first allocation, which will go to elders wanting the vaccine, Rock said.

Rock attributes a successful flu vaccine campaign earlier this year in conjunction with Indian Health Service to stick with the health service for the vaccine rollout instead of opting to go with the state. Multiple flu vaccine events were held throughout the campaign.

It’s unclear how many tribal citizens will volunteer for the COVID-19 vaccine when its readily available for everyone, but Rock said he has heard from more people lately asking to be placed on a vaccine list.

“I think it goes a long way to have some of these public events that create trust,” he said.

The Gallup Indian Medical Center in New Mexico also received a vaccine distribution, and it will be redistributed to other facilities on the Navajo Nation, according to Indian Health Service. Cherokee Nation received 975 doses on Monday and priority is given to frontline health workers, first responders, elders and Cherokee speakers, according to Cherokee Nation spokesperson Julie Hubbard.

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe posted 47 active cases on Monday and 261 recoveries, according to its Facebook page. As of Monday, the Cass Lake Hospital has tested 3,721 with 422 testing positive. A request for comment

from tribal leadership and tribal health officials was not immediately returned.

The Cass Lake Hospital provides care for 12,265 patients and staffs 160 employees, according to Indian Health Service.

The hospital falls under the Bemidji Area Office, which includes Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and a part of Indiana. As of Saturday, the Bemidji Area Office has reported 7,560 positive cases of the coronavirus, according to Indian Health Service.

Eleven of the 12 IHS regions will receive allocated vaccines. Alaska opted for state distribution of the vaccines.

The shipment includes 11,700 doses allocated by the Indian Health Service to Alaska tribes, according to the Associated Press. The state is working with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium to coordinate shipment of the vaccine, including to rural villages.

Other tribes are in line to receive the vaccine. The Osage Nation Health Services in Oklahoma is expected to receive the Pfizer vaccine on Tuesday and the Moderna vaccine next week, according to Gaylord News.

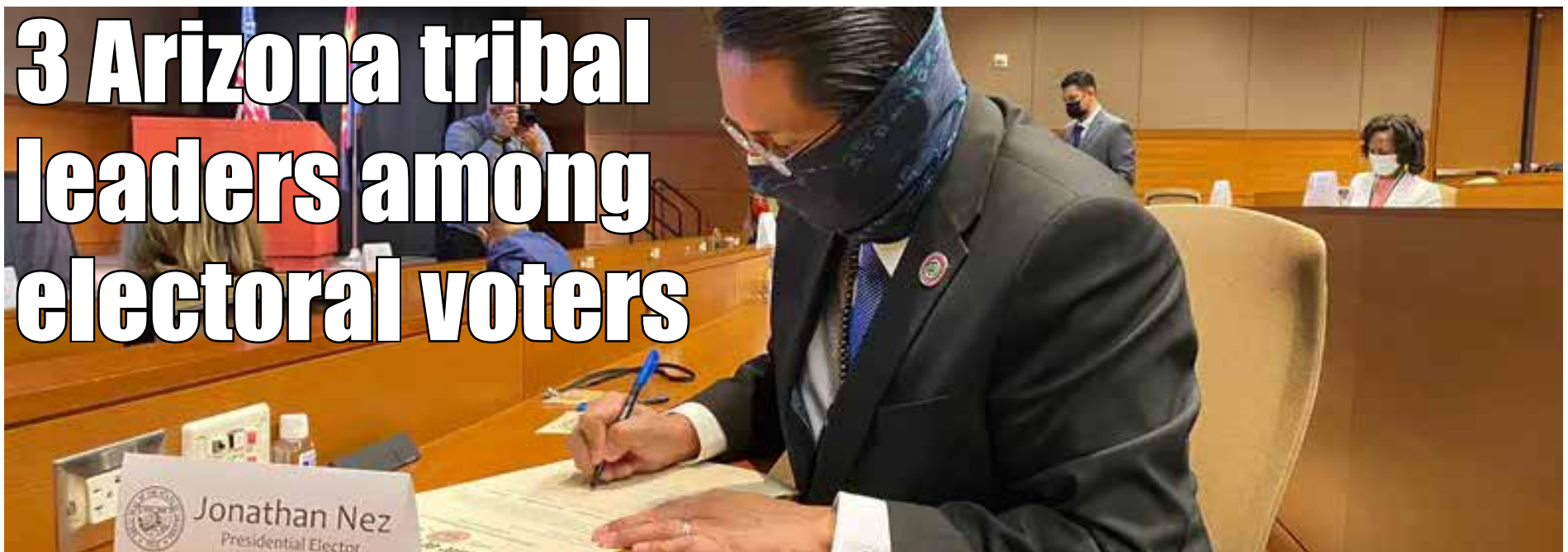
The Pfizer vaccine is recommended for those aged 16 and older and is administered in two doses, with the second one coming 21 days after the first.

IHS is expected to initially receive 22,425 doses of Pfizer vaccine and 46,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine, according to Indian Health Service.

IHS has requested 2,044,513 vaccines, but that number is updated weekly based on distribution preferences and updates from health facilities, according to Indian Health Service.

As of Dec. 12, IHS counts a total of 120,879 positive COVID-19 cases in its 12 IHS regions throughout the country.

3 Arizona tribal leaders among electoral voters



Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez was one of three tribal leaders who cast Arizona's Electoral College votes Monday. (Photo courtesy of Nez via Twitter)

Calah Schlabach
Cronkite News

WASHINGTON – In what a former Arizona elector called a "sweet irony," the slate of 11 Democratic presidential electors who cast Arizona's Electoral College votes Monday included three tribal leaders.

Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Ned Norris Jr. joined eight other Democrats to cast the state's votes for President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris.

While it may have been a sweet irony, however, it was no accident.

Arizona Democratic Party Chair Felecia Rotellini said she wanted to choose electors who would "represent the diversity of Arizona, and the diversity of Arizona voters, as well as Arizona Democratic voters." That included the three tribal leaders with "deep roots to our state."

"The three leaders of the tribes that we selected are also great partners with the Arizona Democratic Party in terms of helping us to promote candidates that reflect the values that we all believe in – the values that were on the ballot in this election," Rotellini said. "Without their leadership, we wouldn't be where we are today."

Norris did not respond to requests for comment, and Lewis declined. But Nez called being chosen an elector is a "big honor."

"I'm overjoyed, and happy to cast the Navajo electorate vote for Joe Biden and Kamala Harris," he said.

The role of elector is largely symbolic, said Andrew Gordon, an elector in 1996, the last time Arizona voted for a Democratic president.

"Most people obviously don't know they exist," he

said, even though it's the electors who Americans actually cast ballots for when they vote in a presidential election.

The symbolism of this particular slate of electors is not lost on Gordon, especially in Arizona which has a "real serious disenfranchisement problem, particularly with the Native American population ... So I do think there is a very sweet irony that we've got such a high representation."

Sen. Jamescita Peshlakai, D-Cameron, said the state's 22 tribes, which hold "25 percent of the landmass in Arizona" need more input in all aspects of governance. She said Native Americans too often are "invisible to those that we elect in office," but their high turnout and overwhelming support of Democrats this year proves they have an impact.

"People only come out during the campaigning time and promises are forgotten after people win their office," said Peshlakai, who is Arizona's first Native American woman senator. "So it's important to have more Indigenous people in every capacity and then as electors as well, to, to keep the pressure up on those that we support."

Nez, who was a featured speaker at the Democratic National Convention, said he has been reminding Democrats since the beginning of this election not to take the Native American vote for granted.

"I think it's really a strong belief of the party that Native Americans continue to contribute and have contributed to this country," Nez said. Native Americans "are key to the success of the Democratic Party, and also, the future of the party itself."

Rotellini said it made sense to choose tribal leaders as electors because they have contributed to the state in a multitude of ways, including economically, spiritually and socially. Moreover, she said, the three tribal electors' values align with the party's on issues like affordable, ac-

cessible healthcare, good public education, environmental protection and protection of elders.

Gordon commended Rotellini for naming an overall diverse slate of electors, noting that being party chair can be "just an awful" job.

"This is one of the very few little goodies you get is to name the electors, and she was very conscientious about" making sure it was a diverse group, Gordon said.

Rotellini said she "tried to represent the constituencies across the state from the southern border to the northern border and, yes, it was difficult." She said she aimed to include as many constituency groups as she could: labor, LGBTQ, different ethnic groups, women leaders, as well as community activists, rural and urban residents and, of course, tribal leaders.

"It's my chance to acknowledge their partnership and their contributions, not only in the individual electors, but the communities that they represent," she said.

The other electors are: Rotellini, Maricopa County Supervisor Steve Gallardo, Luis Alberto Heredia, Constance Jackson, Arizona Corporation Commissioner Sandra Kennedy, James McLaughlin, Tucson Mayor Regina Romero and Fred Yamashita.

"It's high time that we spend more time emphasizing the contributions – social, economic, spiritual – that our Native American communities provide to the quality and fabric of Arizona, and the quality and fabric of – and culture of – the United States," she said.

Nez said the party's recognition of tribes was important for turning out the Native vote this year, and it will matter for the future.

"I think in two years, there may be an opportunity for a Native American to run for statewide office," he said. "That would be extraordinary."