

**COLUMN**

**LARRY'S CORNER**

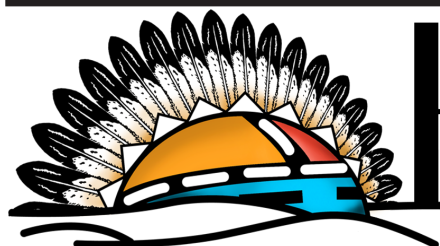
*The Year of Weird Things read more about how weird it gets*

[More on Page 16](#)

**COMMUNITY**

Read Clark Tenakhongva's message about the New Year, with a special Hopi Submission

[More on Page 3](#)



# Hopi Tutuveni

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

January 7, 2021

Volume 29

Number 1



42° / 31°  
Sunny



Modular units set to house various Hopi Tribal DNR Departments and Programs (photo by Romalita Laban/HT)



Hopi Emergency Response Team Quarantine units.(photo by Romalita Laban/HT)



Shared Community space in Quarantine Units.(photo by Romalita Laban/HT)

**Story on Page 2**

HOPI TUTUVENI  
PO BOX 123  
KYKOTSMOVI, AZ 86039  
1110-01600-7460

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED





## Hopi Tutuveni Office Impacted by 2021 IT Consultant Work – Office Re-opened with Limited Capacity

Public Service Announcement  
by Romalita Laban, Managing Editor

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – Tuesday, January 5, 2021, the Hopi Tutuveni staff and Editorial Board thought it would be a typical and usual day of submitting the upcoming Wednesday's publication scheduled to be distributed on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. However halfway through the day technical difficulties began to occur.

Hopi Tutuveni staff and Board request the public's attention to this announcement in response to the Hopi Tribe's Consultant Flagstaff IT (FIT) work being done on IT issues. Prior to today, no other notices or communication about the work was provided to Hopi Tutuveni.

Most notably, on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, the Outlook email system began displaying delays in sending out messages. Messages began showing in the Outlook file where they sat for the remainder of the day and into the next morning on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, when staff returned to office workstations.

On Tuesday, the Managing Editor made an Executive decision of contacting the Hopi Tutuveni Editorial Board garnering support to push the publication back by one day to Thursday, January 7, 2021. This would allow for more time to troubleshoot from other Internet connections sites, to contact the Hopi Tribe Management Information System Department staff and IT Helpline of the Tribe. Hopi Tutuveni Board supported the decision allowing staff to fully complete the first publication of Hopi Tutuveni in 2021. Therefore, the already scheduled publication date of Wednesday, January 5, 2021 had to be temporarily changed for the first publication of Hopi Tutuveni in 2021.

Readers may recall that the Hopi Tutuveni had been previously displaced due to the Tribe's Carpet Removal Project scheduled to be completed at the Hopi Tribal Complex. The Hopi Tribe's one and only newspaper office had re-opened but with limited capacity. As it stands desks in the main Hopi Tutuveni office remain standing on its sides with no further updates on when the movement or replacement of broken furniture and/or equipment will be completed. The public was notified that all

publications for 2020 had been published and distributed with placement of advertisements being a priority for early 2021 publications.

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, now because of IT technical difficulties.

Hopi Tutuveni staff sincerely apologize 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 delay would have come much sooner, if the Hopi Tutuveni staff and Editorial Board had been informed about the technical difficulties.

Persistence by Tutuveni staff to get the first publication of 2021 complete is what has ensured readers will receive the publication and updated COVID 19 related information only one day late.

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](mailto:rlaban@hopi.nsn.us). Voice messages can be left for Carl Onsaie, Assistant Editor at (928) 734-3283 and emails can be sent to [consae@hopi.nsn.us](mailto: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/Kwakwa for your continued patronage and support going into 2021. Pasningwu.

## Newly Developed Hopi Tribal Complex Located by Navajo Hardrock Community



Hopi Emergency Response Team Quarantine units.(photo by Romalita Laban/HT)

Romalita Laban  
Hopi Tutuveni

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – January 6, 2021 is here as we continue into 2021, we have witnessed much in the past year of 2020.

While the Hopi Tribe experienced up to seven different Executive Orders, including the latest EO No. 007-2020 Reservation-wide Lockdown, it also experienced a Carpet Removal Project, disbursement of thousands, if not millions through the General Welfare Assistance Program to Hopi Tribal members, disbursement of millions of dollars to the Hopi villages for projects and Hopi Tribal Council approvals of various Special Land Use Assignments, including a most recent one addressed on Monday, January 4, 2021. During the January 4th session, Hopi Tribal Council addressed and approved Action Item #007-2021 and 008-2021 for the Utility Scale Solar Array Development, to name a few.

In addition to the above mentioned projects, a newly developed Hopi Tribal Complex also went up on Hopi Tutskwa, next to the Navajo community of Hardrock, Ariz. located approximately fourteen plus miles, north of the Hopi Cultural Center located on the Hopi reservation on Second Mesa, Ariz.

Much to the surprise of Hopi Tutuveni staff who visited the site on Wednesday, December 30, 2020, a walk-through tour of the complex was provided and bits of information about the modular buildings

and site were shared by Chuck Howe, Project Superintendent and Project Manager/Owner of C2 Environmental LLC. Some of the buildings are to house the Hopi Emergency Response Team quarantine units, the Hopi Solid Waste Department, Hopi Public Safety Department, Department of Natural Resource Programs and Departments and the biggest modular housing the Hopi Behavioral Health and Social Services Departments. Also on site is a large warehouse with plenty of protective fencing and lighting. Expectant dates for water to be pumped in were described as perhaps as early as during the first week of January 2021.

It is expected that a report out about the newly developed complex will be provided to Hopi Tribal Council on Thursday, January 7, 2021 or after, when Council resumes its session after being out on recess.

Scheduled on the Council's Agenda in Section XII. REPORTS, is item "13. Report – Monthly Oral and Written Comprehensive reports from the Hopi CARES Act Committee" and item "14. Report from Tribal Employment Rights Office on Contractor Fees and Hopi Employment" were added to the Agenda by motion of Herman G. Honanie, Village of Kyakotsmovi Representative on Monday, January 4th.

The Hopi public is sure to learn a lot more about the newly developed complex by tuning into Tribal Council's session, scheduled to air on the local Hopi radio station, KUYI at 88.1 on the FM dial.

# A New Year's message to the Hopi and Tewa People: Special Submission from Clark W. Tenakhongva – Hopi Tribal Vice Chairman



Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – January 4, 2021

Puhuyáasangwtiqw itam sòsoyam sùtsepngwat kyaananvotya. Peetu kyaananvotpit akw qa hàaláyiwuy aw öki, pu' kyaysiwqam sivahaqni'yyungwa, pu' nanap itàaqatsi a'ni alöngti.

Hiihiimu yasveq it wukotuyat yayngwangaqw alöngto-ti: itàaqatsi itàakitsokiniqw itàahopihintsakpi.

Noq angsakis puhuyáasangwvaqw itam yasmiq ahoy wuuwayaniqey qeniptuyangwu. I' itamuy u'nanani, naap hiita lavayit angqw itwat lavayit kwakwhániiqat sushimuniqat'a. Nu'paniqw oovi as sinmuy susmòopeq tumala'yyüngqamuy, ngatwi'yyüngqamuy, solaawamuy pu' qatuvostumala'yyüngqamuy amumi kwakwhatani. Ima naatatamit akw naaqavo aqwhaqami hopituskwanawit Hopisinmuynit Teewasinmuy amungem tumala'ywisa. Tumala'am antsawat pas himu. Noq tumalayamuy akw angsakis qöniltiqw itàaqatsi suytsepngwat naatuwa'yma. Pu' piw naat himu, nu' enang kikiy ang huruyesqamuy amumi kwakwhatani; taq yan unahinyüngqamuy tuutuwalaniquey pa'angwantotaqe hakiy pay kwàyyaqamuy qa hàaláyiwuyamuy angqw kyaysiwqamuy ayó' nōngaknani.

Kyaysiwqam it wukotuyat akw hopituskwanawit hin'unangwtoti, tsaatsawna, pu' unangwmok.yaqw oovi pas hapi pùutsemokqw, naasùutokqw, tuu'ovelaqw qa hinta. Hapi ason itamùpe qenini, itam it hikwis'ùutstuyat ep sòsok hiita ang yoyrik.yaniqat pu' itàahintsakpiy pávantotaniqat. Noq pu' tis itam sòsoyam pavan nahongvitotani, it wukotuyat pu' sòsok hiita aw toonawataq ángwutotaniqey oovi.

Pu' tsivot.sikip sunat pu' lööp sunat pakwt siikya'yyüngqam hopituskwanawit hikwis'ùutstuyat na'palya. Kur pas piw ahoy i' tuuya itamùusalíwmaq itam oovi put sōöwu'ytoynayaniqey oovi antsatotani. Yaniqw oovi puhumaqastutavo pu' hisat yukilti. Noq sunat.sikis taalat ang hisnentiqw itam sòsoyam it kyaptsi'ywisni.

Naamahin kya kiy ep huruqtuwtaqw qatuvosi; i' suusustiniqey, naawuwaniqey hakiy qenitoynani. Pu' piw naat himu, itam hakim hopiit yan itàakikiy ang huruyesniqey natuwi'yyungni; taq pan hak tiiqatsiwuy hintsakmangwu. Noq oovi itam nawus yàasat tiiqatsiwuy an tsaatsak-

wmuy amungem nangu'i'ykyàakyangw qa kwiikwivit-niikyàakyangw pu' hapi nawuko'nangwa'yyungni.

Pu' itam sòsoyam yaayantsaktiwise' itàa'okiwhimuy aqw ahoy taywisni; nit hin itam kur it hiniwqat aw áhoy-totaqey akw naavitsni'yyungni. Noq itamutpikniiqam itakw laväytotini, hopiit pu' yesqam pas hapi hisatyesqamuy amun hōhongvitniqat, naat itam hopituwitnit hopituvot ang hong.yaniqat.

Itam qa naap itàahiniwtipuy.sa akw hopiitniqey akw naavitsni'yyungni; noq pu'niiqatnit naatoniqat akw piw. Ura angsakis itam sòsoyam suupwa'iyungqw, pu' imuy sopkyawatuy sinmuy amungem angsakis suvotumala'yyungqw ep hapi hopiqatsi sushongvi'iwatani.

Noq oovi naamahin itam naat kyaananvotya; nu' suyanniqw itam ayoqhaqami qale'ykinique oovi pas pep a'ni yesni.

Kwakwhá

Clark W. Tenakhongva

We enter the New Year during what is an increasingly difficult time. A time which has brought grief to some, financial difficulties to many, and enormous changes to each of our lives.

Much has changed in the past year, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic – the world around us, our villages, our homes, and our communal and cultural activities.

But the arrival of a new year gives us all an opportunity to reflect on the previous year and reminds us that the most important words in any language are thank you. Thank you to everyone on the front lines, our healthcare workers, our law enforcement, and those carrying out essential roles, who selflessly continue their day-to-day duties throughout the Hopi Community on behalf of the Hopi and Tewa people. Your efforts are genuinely appreciated, and every hour of your hard work brings us closer to a return, to more normal times. We must also thank those who are staying at home thereby helping to protect the vulnerable and sparing many families the pain already felt by those who have lost loved ones.

Indeed, life amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic has

sparked fear, frustration, and anxiety all around and it is easy for distractions, criticism, and stress to set in. There will be an appropriate time to debrief, to look carefully at all aspects of this pandemic, to learn and rethink our approaches. But now, more than ever, we must focus all our efforts on overcoming this pandemic and the challenges associated with it.

Currently, there are approximately 150 active COVID-19 cases within the Hopi community with a positive test average of nearly 16%. We are clearly in a new phase of this pandemic and additional effort and diligence is needed to reverse this trend. It is for this reason that a new 20-day Reservation-wide lockdown has been issued.

We recognize that staying at home can be disruptive, but it presents an opportunity for each of us to slow down and reflect on the situation at hand. Furthermore, for many Hopi such a 20-day period of seclusion carries special significance, as it is a familiar practice observed by many Hopi mothers following the birth of a child. Now, as during the period of tiiqatsiw, this situation requires that we exercise restraint, self-discipline, humility and resolve for the future.

If we can effectively demonstrate these qualities now, each of us will be able to look back on this time and take pride in how we responded to this challenge, and those who come after us, will be able to say that the Hopi of this generation, were as strong as any, that the traditional Hopi values, and characteristics prized and utilized by our ancestors are still followed and part of our lives today.

Remember that the pride in who we are as Hopi people is not merely a part of our past, it defines our present and our future, and the moments when Hopi people stand united and work together for the collective benefit of all is when the Hopi way, and tradition are most alive.

Therefore, may we take comfort in the fact that while we may have more still to endure, in time we will recover, and better days will return.

Kwakwhá

Clark W. Tenakhongva



# Hopi Tribe's Gaming Committee Issues Gaming Survey

Romalita Laban, Managing Editor  
Hopi Tutuveni

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – January 5, 2021 Hopi Tutuveni staff attempted to attend the Hopi Tribal Council Gaming Committee meeting occurring Thursday, September 3, 2020 and arrived after 9 a.m. Staff checked in at the Security Check Point at the Legislative Building and after hearing loud voices coming from Chambers, asked if there was a council meeting in session.

The Security Guard, said, "Yeah the Gaming Committee is having a meeting" and was asked if the public was allowed and he said, "Yeah, they don't have their sign out so you can go in, go on in."

After going down the hall and double checking for signs outside the Hopi Tribal Council Chambers and on the door, and since there were none, Tutuveni staff entered the Chambers.

Besides Craig Andrews, Hopi Tribe's Gaming Committee Chair/Mishongnovi Village Representative, Herman Honanie, Kyakotsmovi Village Representative, Dennis Koeyahongva, Sipaulavi Representative, Berdella Nasingoetewa, Tribal Secretary Staff and the newly hired attorney, Travis Hyer were in Chambers.

After a couple of minutes of sitting while taking a couple pictures of slides on the teleprompter and listening to Sarah Works, Hopi Tribal Gaming Attorney on speaker, Tutuveni staff was approached by Ms. Nasingoetewa who said, "Craig said you need to leave." Staff asked, "Oh are you all in Executive Session?" She replied, "I don't know, he just asked me to tell you to leave."

After sitting there a minute or two, Tutuveni staff then asked Mr. Hyer, Hopi Tribe General Counsel staff member if the group was in Executive Session to which he said, "I don't know, I just came in, too."

Mr. Andrews, Gaming Committee Chairman then called out to those on the phone and said, "Chair [Hopi Chairman], the Tutuveni lady is here and she is taking all kinds of pictures, so I need to know what the committee feels about that."

No one answered for a bit before Wallace Youvella, Sr., First Mesa Consolidated Villages Representative said,

"Chair, I just need to let you know that I need a copy of the Power Point packet because I didn't get one." That was all he said and didn't say anything further.

Dennis Koeyahongva said, "Well, nothing against Hopi Tutuveni but I think we have to be careful about what we share because we don't want to get in trouble sharing something we're not supposed to." No one else said anything.

Mr. Andrews then asked Ms. Works, Hopi Tribe's Gaming Attorney what she thought. Ms. Works said, "So far, what has been shared is ok but if we get into other topics we might want to disclose that some information is for attorney client privilege before going on."

Tutuveni staff raised their hand to be acknowledged while Mr. Andrews began talking. He seemed to be trying to avoid the request to be acknowledged, so staff continued holding their hand up and waved for his attention, to which Andrews then he finally acknowledged the staff to speak.

Tutuveni staff introduced them self to the group and thanked them for allowing time to speak. The group was then informed that procedures for out checking in with Security, and his allowing entrance to the Chambers were followed. It was also explained there is an understanding that all Committee meetings are open to the public unless in Executive Session. It was also shared that Tutuveni staff was aware the Committee had already been sharing information with the public on the radio and for the record staff didn't just barge into the meeting without getting permission. And if there is something they didn't want in the paper to let the staff know. Since Mr. Andrews seemed perturbed with their presence, staff decided to leave after being there for about 10-15 minutes at the most.

That is the last Gaming Committee meeting attended in person.

Since that time the Hopi Tribe's Gaming Committee, via Sarah Works, Gaming Committee Attorney has issued the following message to Hopi Tribal Members via the Hopi Tribe's Secretary Staff email on Wednesday, December 16, 2020:

"Dear Hopi Tribal Members:

Please click on the internet link below to take a brief survey about an Indian gaming development proposal. We understand that the Hopi Tribal Council will be voting on this matter in early January. The purpose of this survey is to let the Hopi Tribal Council know how you all feel as Hopi Tribal Members.

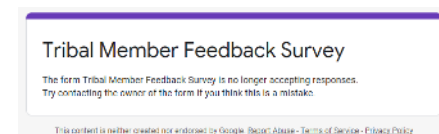
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdA4gpkel0A4Yo3FaNtcpDvPGQP59JMhts2pv7WUtbMLqV-vGw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdA4gpkel0A4Yo3FaNtcpDvPGQP59JMhts2pv7WUtbMLqV-vGw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

If you have any questions or any trouble filling out this survey, please contact Craig Andrews, Chairman of the Hopi Gaming Committee, cell phone (928) 419-0029

The survey was to the point of asking survey takers if they supported gaming for Hopi or not and in addition to requiring takers provide a Hopi Tribal enrollment number prior to submission.

The survey had been posted on the local KUYI Hopi Radio's Facebook page which resulted in many comments and questions about the survey.

As of today, January 5, 2020 the survey is no longer accessible. (See below)



We would like to attend and/or call into the Gaming Committee meetings and other Committees meetings, as well, however due to the Tribal Government Executive Order 007-2020 – Lockdown – 20 Day Curfew and Secretary Staff not providing the Zoom meeting information for Hopi Tutuveni staff, we cannot attend to provide a report out to the public. We will keep requesting access in 2021 and for the public's information and need for transparency.

Due to limited onsite scheduling, technical difficulties in the Tribe's information technology and delays in sending the January 6th publication files, we sincerely apologize for Hopi Tutuveni not being able to make contact with the Hopi Tribe's Gaming Committee, prior to publication deadlines for the January 7th publication.





## Updated public information from the Hopi Judicial Branch

Effective December 21, 2020, the Court Offices will be open for business on Monday and Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Courts will be closed for business on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. This is necessary due to the continuing increase in COVID cases.

The Court will hear in-custody criminal cases and emergency cases by telephone only. All other cases will be continued to a later date. For more information about services and hearings, call the Court at 928-738-5171.

Filings and motions can be emailed to hopicourtclerk@gmail.com.

For payments, etc., please contact the Court for information and instruction regarding proper method of payment and filing. Criminal and Civil traffic fines may be paid online at WWW.CITEPAY-USA.COM or mailed to HOPI TRIAL COURTS, P.O. Box 156, Keams Canyon, AZ 86034.

Probation/Pre-Trial check-ins will continue through telephone contact at 928-738-5171 or 928-205-3742.

## HOPI TRIBAL COUNCIL First Quarter Session December 1, 2020 AGENDA Month of January 2021

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Action Item #061-2020 – To approve the settlement agreement in the Hopi Tribe v. United States of America, No. 06-0941 (Fed. Ct of Claims) – Author/Fred Lomayesva, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel - TABLED

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Action Item #007-2021 – To approve and grant to the Hopi Renewable Energy Office, a Special Land Use Assignment in the amount of 814± acres for the construction of a Utility Scale Solar Array Development at the Buffalo Range

Road on the Hopi Hart Ranch – Author/Edison Tu'tsi, Manager, Office of Hopi Lands Administration

2. Action Item #008-2021 – To approve and grant to the Hopi Renewable Energy Office, a Special Land Use Assignment in the amount of 402± acres for the construction of a Utility Scale Solar Array Development at the Meteor Crater Road on the Hopi Hart Ranch – Author/Edison Tu'tsi, Manager, Office of Hopi Lands Administration

3. Action Item #009-2021 – To accept award 2020-TW-AZ-0024 from Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women on behalf of the Hopi Domestic Violence Program – Author/Maude Yoyhoema, Director, Hopi Domestic Violence Program



## LETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

## NOTICE TO THE HOPI COMMUNITY

## We are still in a State of Emergency. Hopi Lives Matter.

•On March 18, 2020 the Hopi Tribe declared a State of Emergency and activated the Hopi Emergency Response Team (HERT) due to the presence of the COVID-19 Coronavirus in the surrounding areas.

•The presence of COVID-19 continues to exist giving rise to an ongoing declared state of emergency.

•The number of daily new COVID-19 cases on the Hopi reservation have risen substantially; and demands more effective enforcement of and compliance with the critical public health and safety measures.

•This unprecedented public health emergency requires full coordination and cooperation between the sovereign village administrations and the Hopi Tribal Government to avoid waste of resources and to minimize any increased risk of exposure to the COVID-19 Coronavirus.

•In response to concerns raised by the public regarding non-compliance and enforcement of the Stay-at-home Executive Order as well as the implementation of a

reservation wide curfew, an amendment to the Hopi Code was made and approved by the Hopi Tribal Council. The amendment to Section 13.3.6 of the Hopi Code made non-compliance with certain provisions within issued Executive Orders and other Emergency declarations a civil offense under this code.

In order to preserve the public health and safety of the residents of the Hopi Reservation and to support and reinforce the independent precautionary measures taken by the various Hopi villages to mitigate the risk of infection there shall be a RESERVATION-WIDE LOCKDOWN ORDER for a period of 20 days, from December 23, 2020, through January 11, 2021 starting at 8 p.m. on December 23, 2020 and ending at 5 a.m. on January 11, 2021.

Citations will be issued per the Executive Order No 007-2020 for non-compliance.

STAY HOME. SAVE LIVES. STAY HOPI STRONG.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Roma & Staff,

Thank you for publishing information to us while we stare at each other every day with this stay at home times.

I'd like to publicly express much gratitude to those people for their caring thoughts and generosity for everyone to have plenty of food during these hard times; The Hopi Foundation, Navajo and Hopi Families Covid-19 Relief, Ancestral Lands-Hopi and Hopi Relief.

I'm sure everyone (Hopi people) appreciated and enjoyed keeping healthy and strong while at home.

On behalf of all, we wish you "Many happy returns and happy holidays with families".

Sincerely,

*Evangeline Nuvayestewa*

Evangeline Nuvayestewa and Family

## HART/DRYE ranch wood harvest Covid-19 safety protocols

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEMP

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – January 4, 2021, To ensure we provide a safe environment and follow COVID-19 requirements, the Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program (WEMP) requests you adhere to the following guidelines:

- Please remain in your vehicle. Each vehicle will check-in with WEMP staff, with minimal contact. Please have your Hopi Tribal Census Card or Census Number and Driver's License ready to provide to the staff.

- During check-in, we request all individuals in each vehicle wear masks and all individuals are from the same household and keep to their group while harvesting wood.

- Once checked-in, you will proceed to harvest your wood and upon completion of loading your wood, please check-out and you will be issued a Hopi Wood Hauling Permit. The permit will be your validation to haul the wood to your destination.

- All individuals will be required to wear a face mask, covering your nose and mouth when you are within 6 feet of other individuals. Although this is an outside activity, we require each individual to wear your mask, especially when you are near other individuals outside of your group.

- Please stay away from other groups and practice the 6 foot social distancing. We request you stay with your group to minimize contact with other groups.

- Please use hand sanitizer or wash your hands with soap and water, if possible.

- aWEMP Staff will be monitoring the areas to ensure we have compliance, please cooperate with staff and follow their requests.

- PLEASE PACK OUT YOUR TRASH. We ask that you take your trash and make sure you police up the area for your trash.

- Upon leaving for home or your destination, PLEASE make sure to strap down or secure your load. We do not want you to cause any damage or cause an accident on the highways.

- We understand the need to stop for gas and other necessities, however we ask you minimize your time in local border towns, mask up and hand sanitize and/or wash your hands with soap and water and take other preventative safety measures.

Although this is an outside activity, we require you follow these simple protocols to ensure the Hopi WEMP can continue to offer the Hopi Hart/Drye Ranch Wood Harvest for the remainder of the year. We thank you for your cooperation and please feel free to take advantage of this opportunity. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (928) 734-3671/3673 or at (928) 497-1010/1011/1014.

## Hopi Law Enforcement Services Public Service Announcement Update

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hopi Law Enforcement Services continues to have limited administrative services available to the public. The HLES facility is vacated and Patrol and Dispatch services are working out of the main administrative building at the Hopi Tribe (no public access).

The following services are impacted:

- Property & Evidence - NO Services
- Records and requests for information - NO Services

- HSORT (SORNA) - NO Services

Telephone lines to reach HLES will be limited to:

- 911
- 928-734-7340
- 928-734-7341

We will notify of our return to full service.

Please continue to follow the CDC guidelines, practice social distancing, wear a mask and wash your hands often. HLES wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful New Year.

## PUBLIC NOTICE Schedule of Hopi Non-Commercial Wood Permits Essential Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wildlife & Ecosystems Management  
Program Department of Natural  
Resources

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – January 4, 2021 As we continue to provide Hopi Tribal Wood Permits during the current pandemic and closure of Tribal Operations, the Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program (WEMP) will continue to provide Non-Commercial (Personal) Wood Permits to Tribal members and residents of the Hopi Reservation, who includes: Navajo AA residents and Non-Native in-

### 2021 JANUARY SCHEDULE:

January Dates	Hours of Operation	Location
January 13, 2021	11 am to 1 pm	Outside the Honahni Building
January 20, 2020	11 am to 1 pm	Outside the Honahni Building
January 27, 2020	11 am to 1 pm	Outside the Honahni Building
February 3, 2021	11 am to 1 pm	Outside the Honahni Building

WEMP staff will be stationed outside of the Honahni Building to provide Hopi Wood Permits. To ensure we expedite the process, please have your Hopi Tribal Enrollment number, the location you plan to harvest wood from, and your old/expired permit.

WEMP will only issue permits to those who will actually be harvesting the wood and we will not issue a permit to anyone to harvest wood, on your behalf. This ensures the permitted individual complies with all laws, ordinance and regulations.

dividuals who reside on the Hopi Reservation, as essential services. Due to changes in Hopi Tribal operational hours, as a result of the current pandemic, and inclement weather, the following change in operational hours to provide these services will remain in effect until further notice.

The schedule will MANDATE all individuals to wear a mask, follow social distancing guidelines and other pertinent safety requirements. If you are feeling sick or have an above normal or high temperature, PLEASE stay home.

Due to changes in inclement weather and any changes in the COVID-19 Pandemic cases, the schedule is subjected to cancellation and change in location at the Hopi Tribal Complex (PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR NEON GREEN SIGNS) at any time, in the best interests of public health and safety. Please call on the day of the schedule date or check the Hopi Tribe's Website for any changes.

Any questions, please feel free call (928) 497-1014 or (928) 497-1010.



**Want to Advertise with the  
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# PUBLIC NOTICE

## 2021 Hart/Drye Ranch Wood Harvest

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wildlife & Ecosystems Management  
Program Department of Natural  
Resources

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – January 4, 2021 As we continue to provide essential services for our Hopi Tribal members, the Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program (WEMP) will continue the opportunities to access the Hart/Drye Ranch, to harvest dead and down, and dead stand-

ing wood to heat their homes, during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Hopi WEMP will implement the schedule below to allow our Hopi Tribal member’s access to the Hart/Drye Ranch. Hopi Tribal members may make multiple trips during the four day event Hopi Hart/Drye Ranch Wood Harvest. The schedule will remain in effect until all resources are harvested from the designated area or until the last scheduled date.

**2021 Hart/Drye Wood Harvest Schedule:**

Dates	Hours of Operation
January 15 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup>	8 am to 4 pm (Last vehicle check-in at 2 pm)
January 22 <sup>nd</sup> to January 25 <sup>th</sup>	8 am to 4 pm (Last vehicle check-in at 2 pm)
January 29 <sup>th</sup> to February 1 <sup>st</sup>	8 am to 4 pm (Last vehicle check-in at 2 pm)
February 5 <sup>th</sup> to February 8 <sup>th</sup>	8 am to 4 pm (Last vehicle check-in at 2 pm)
February 12 <sup>th</sup> to February 15 <sup>th</sup>	8 am to 4 pm (Last vehicle check-in at 2 pm)
February 19 <sup>th</sup> to February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8 am to 4 pm (Last vehicle check-in at 2 pm)

WEMP staff will be onsite to monitor and check-in vehicles and issue permits upon completion of wood harvest. WEMP staff will follow CDC guidelines and follow social distancing guidelines, and keep immediate interaction at a minimum. We will require individuals to wear a mask during the check-in and check-out process. If you are sick or have a high or above normal temperature, please stay home. A flyer of the Hart Ranch COVID-19 Pandemic will be provided and advertised in

the Tutuveni.

The designated Hart Ranch Wood Harvest area will be a new location and is accessible from I-40. Please exit I-40 at Exit #219 and make a right and proceed to the roundabout and enter the gate at on the west side. Check-In with staff and stay within designated area.

Any questions, please feel free to call WEMP staff at (928) 497-1012 or (928) 497-1014.

# Navajo and Hopi Statements on the demolition of smokestacks at largest coal plant in the West

## *Razing brings an end to the painful era of coal for tribes; opens the door to healing and building new sustainable economies*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PAGE, Ariz. – At 8:30 a.m. on Friday morning, explosions rocked the base of the first of the three massive smokestacks that have dominated the horizon on the western edge of the Navajo Nation for a half century. In slow motion, the towering stack came crashing down in a thundering cloud of dust, followed in succession by the other two as part of Salt River Project’s demolition of the largest coal-burning power plant in the West.

The demolition of the three 775-foot-tall smokestacks at Navajo Generating Station (NGS) is hugely symbolic. It marks the close of a painful chapter for thousands of Navajo and Hopi whose lives and families have been impacted by coal. Until it closed last November, the 2,400 MW power plant generated electricity for Phoenix, Tucson, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and other cities, insultingly bypassing Navajo and Hopi homes and businesses. The plant also pumped the massive amounts of water that has allowed Phoenix to grow into the fifth largest city in America, all while thousands of Navajo and Hopi homes also lack access to running water.

“The demolition of the smokestacks at NGS is a solemn event,” said Nicole Horseherder, executive director of the Navajo grassroots group Tó Nizhóní Ání, which has worked for 20 years to move the Navajo Nation past coal. “It’s a reminder of decades of exploitation subsidized by cheap coal and water from the Navajo and Hopi. Coal provided jobs and revenue to the Navajo Nation, but Navajo ranchers and farmers, who depended on the land that was mined and the water that fed the mine and power plant, shouldered the cost. While miners were provided safety gear as they worked, hundreds more living near the coal industrial complex had

to endure asthma and other health issues without any recourse.

“That chapter is now closed,” Horseherder continued. “But the work is far from over. We have to make sure Kayenta Mine is cleaned up. We have to secure water and electricity for many communities that lack access to both. We have to replace the millions of dollars in lost coal revenue from the abrupt closure of the plant and coal mine. And we have to make sure investment flows back into building a more sustainable economy for the Navajo and Hopi.”

“We’re hopeful that this marks the continuation of our transformation into a sustainable economy that is built on fundamental Navajo and Hopi respect for air, land and water and that will have direct, measurable benefits for our communities, not exploit them,” said Carol Davis, executive director of the Navajo grassroots group Diné CARE. “We hope the incoming Biden Administration follows through on commitments it has made to Native American tribes and assists us in addressing the many problems left behind by 50 years of over-dependence on coal.”

“So far, the federal government has failed to meet even its most basic trust responsibilities to the Navajo and Hopi,” said Ben Nuvamsa, a former chairman of the Hopi Tribe. “The massive coal pits and piles that stretch across thousands of acres at Kayenta Mine remain as they were when the mine closed more than a year ago. Billions of gallons of pristine water were pumped from the Navajo Aquifer and I’m not sure if it will recharge in our lifetime. There must be accountability for cleaning up this mess, for restoring vital groundwater that was taken from us and for returning the countless artifacts and burial sites that were removed for the mine.”

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legals into the Newspaper?**

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## Hopi Executive Order No. 007-2020: Reservation-wide Lockdown for All Residents of the Hopi Reservation to limit and control the Spread of the COVID -19

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 18, 2020 the Hopi Tribe declared a State of Emergency and activated the Hopi Emergency Response Team (HERT) due to the presence of the COVID-19 Coronavirus in the surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the presence of COVID-19 continues to exist giving rise to an ongoing declared state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the number of daily new COVID-19 cases on the Hopi reservation have risen substantially; and demands more effective enforcement of and compliance with the critical public health and safety measures; and

WHEREAS, the degree of contact with contagious individuals and the subsequent degree of exposure is unknown and continued person-to-person spread throughout the surrounding areas, as well as spread within the Hopi reservation itself, is posing an extensive and substantial Public Health risk; and

WHEREAS, the conditional probability, in light of the number of active cases on the Hopi Reservation, demonstrate that any gathering of individuals greater than 10, will have a 1 in 7 chance of being a super spreader event; and

WHEREAS, the likelihood of gathering is increased due to the approaching Christmas and New Year's Holiday; and

WHEREAS, each of the thirteen (13) Hopi villages and Communities are autonomous, and a majority of this total have exercised their inherent aboriginal sovereignty on behalf of the health, safety and welfare of their members by closing their villages to all non-residents; and

WHEREAS, this unprecedented public health emergency requires full coordination and cooperation between the sovereign village administrations and the Hopi Tribal Government to avoid waste of resources and to minimize any increased risk of exposure to the COVID-19 Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, in response to concerns raised by the public regarding non-compliance and enforcement of the Stay-at-home Executive Order as well as the implementation of a reservation wide curfew, an amendment to the Hopi Code was made and approved by the Hopi Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the amendment to Section 13.3.6 of the Hopi Code made non-compliance with certain provisions within issued Executive Orders and other Emergency declarations a civil offense under this code; and

WHEREAS, "Indian Tribes possess civil jurisdiction over non-members and non-Indians who enter into con-

sensual relationships with the Tribe or its members; and"

WHEREAS, in the event their presence or conduct violates COVID-19 public health measures and/or threatens the political integrity, the economic security, or the health and welfare of the community, the Hopi Tribe possesses the inherent right to exclude non-members from tribally owned lands; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 7- 70 1 (2) of the HERP, the Hopi Tribal Chairman is authorized 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 issues the following emergency directives:

1. In order to preserve the public health and safety of the residents of the Hopi Reservation and to support and reinforce the independent precautionary measures taken by the various Hopi villages to mitigate the risk of infection there shall be a RESERVATION-WIDE LOCKDOWN ORDER for a period of 20 days, from December 23, 2020, through January 11, 2021, starting at 8 p.m. on December 23, 2020 and ending at 5 a.m. on January 11, 2021.

2. All previously issued precautionary measures mandated by the Hopi Tribe remain in place, including, but not limited to, the following:

a. The requirement that masks be worn at all times in public.

b. A daily reservation-wide curfew between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m.

3. Essential personnel who are currently designated as such and are needed to maintain the continuity of operations for the essential services and infrastructure of the Hopi Tribe will continue to operate.

4. During the Reservation-wide Lockdown, all residents are restricted from gathering with individuals with whom they do not normally reside. This restriction applies to secular gatherings and holiday celebrations with extended family and relatives.

5. All cultural and religious activities are strongly encouraged to be conducted in accordance with guidance issued by the Department of Health and Human Services regarding Cultural Activities for the duration of this order.

6. For the Duration of this order, individuals may leave their homes or places of residence only under the following circumstances:

a. Traveling to or from work (with proof of employment).

b. Obtaining or seeking medical care.

c. Essential Travel and Activities as defined below:

1. Attending or Providing Care for an Elder or Resident needing assistance

11. Picking up groceries for the household by 1 person

only

111. Hauling water from the watering points for the household

1v. Gathering hay and feed for livestock and pets

v. Procuring Wood, Coal or propane for household heating purposes.

7. All businesses within the Hopi Reservation, except Essential Businesses and Services as defined herein, are required to cease all activities. To the greatest extent feasible, Essential Businesses shall comply with the Social Distancing Requirements.

8. Essential Businesses:

a. Health Care Operations, Essential Governmental Functions and Essential Infrastructure (e.g. courts of law, medical providers for urgent care, public utilities, and critical school operations such as nutrition programs).

b. Gas stations, auto-supply, auto-repair, and related facilities (with reduced hours of operation).

c. Businesses providing mailing and shipping services.

d. Businesses that provide, ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services to residents or other businesses of the Hopi Reservation (with reduced hours of operation).

e. Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children. Residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, and children.

f. Residential and commercial construction sites may otherwise continue to operate so long as it is in compliance with this Order in reference to Social Distancing Requirements and

Limiting persons on site to no more than 10 people at any given time.

g. For purposes of this Order, all first responders, emergency management personnel, emergency dispatchers, court personnel, law enforcement personnel, and others working for or to support Essential Services are categorically exempt from this Order.

9. Further, nothing in this Order shall prohibit any individual from performing or accessing

Essential Governmental Functions. Essential Government Functions means all services needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies and provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public. All Essential Governmental Functions shall be performed in compliance with Social Distancing Requirements to the extent possible.

10. All provisions of this Order should be interpreted to effectuate this intent. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Order constitutes an immediate threat to public health and renders one subject to civil penalties.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect through January 11, 2021 unless otherwise extended. Additional advisories and Orders will follow as warranted, SO ORDERED THIS 23 DAY OF DECEMBER 2020.



## Hopi Tribal Treasurer Staff Member Retires After 25 Years



Sarah Tawayaoma celebrating her last day at the Hopi Tribe (Photo by Romalita Laban/HT)

Romalita Laban  
Hopi Tutuveni

Kykotsmovi, Ariz – At the end of 2020, Hopi Tribal Employees received an announcement of a special colleague reaching a significant milestone in her career with the Hopi Tribe.

On Thursday, December 31, 2020, Wilfred Gaseoma, Hopi Tribal Treasurer sent out the following message to Hopi Tribal Employees about Sarah Tawayaoma, Hopi Tribal Treasurer Office staff member:

*"Today we celebrate the retirement of Ms. Sarah Tawayaoma, she has been an exceptional asset serving the Hopi/Tewa*

*People for over 25 years in the Office of the Tribal Treasurer. She has been a loyal employee that has persevered and contributed her knowledge and skills through the years, she has definitely been the heart of our office. We will surely miss her. We wish her well in her retirement. Thank you very much Sarah!"*

If you have ever made a payment at the Hopi Tribe Treasurer's Office, you were bound to meet Sarah and received a smile with her service. We wish Sarah Tawayaoma much happiness, great health and continued goodness in 2021, during her retirement and beyond

The Hopi Tutuveni wishes  
Sarah Tawayaoma all the  
best with her retirement

WIC is still

Open



All services available remotely via phone



Hopi WIC Program  
**928.737.6362**

Hopi Health Care Center  
Hwy 264, Mile Post 388  
Polacca, AZ 86042

[itcaonline.com/WIC](https://itcaonline.com/WIC)

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# Hopi Tribe Department of Health and Human Services Covid-19 Emergency Response January 5, 2021 Report

KYKOTSMOVI, AZ – January 5, 2021 — For the second time during the entire pandemic, since March 2020, Arizona is leading the world with the highest seven-day average of COVID-19 infections per capita. According to the COVID Tracking Project and data from John Hopkins University, Arizona currently has the highest COVID-19 per capita rate of any region in the world. The COVID Tracking Project is a collaborative volunteer-run effort to track the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. It maintains a regularly updated database of a variety of types of state-level information related to the outbreak, including counts of the number of positive and negative test results obtained in each state, hospitalization and outcome data for cases, and the racial and ethnic demographic breakdowns of cases and deaths. Arizona has been in this position once before. The state posted a 52.8 on July 7 at the height of the summer peak in this same metric, which was higher than any other tracked jurisdiction at the time. While Arizona is sitting at the top of the states today, it is still far behind North Dakota’s record setting rate of 184.8 cases per capita that was recorded on November 19, 2020. The past seven days has seen a surge of reported positive tests in Arizona which would account for the per capita rankings. It is no different here on Hopi, with a continued increase in cases throughout all villages on the reservation. The implications of higher case counts carries over to an increase in hospitalizations and higher potential for fatalities as COVID-19 spreads throughout the community.

Here is a quick overview of the COVID-19 statistics on

a national, state, and local level:  
As of this date – January 5, 2021  
The United States now has approximately 20.73 million confirmed positive cases with 173,915 new cases and over 352,464 deaths reported.  
Over 567,474 confirmed positive cases now exist in Arizona. Of those, close to 11,991 are in Navajo County alone.  
The Hopi Health Care Center has tested over 7,456 patients to this date. Over 1,013 of those tests at Hopi Health Care Center came back positive with 696 from Hopi Tribal members. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation reported 152 positives for Hopi Villages with a combined number of 848 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 848+ 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.



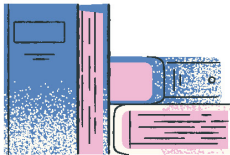


### SEEK PROFESSIONAL HELP

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

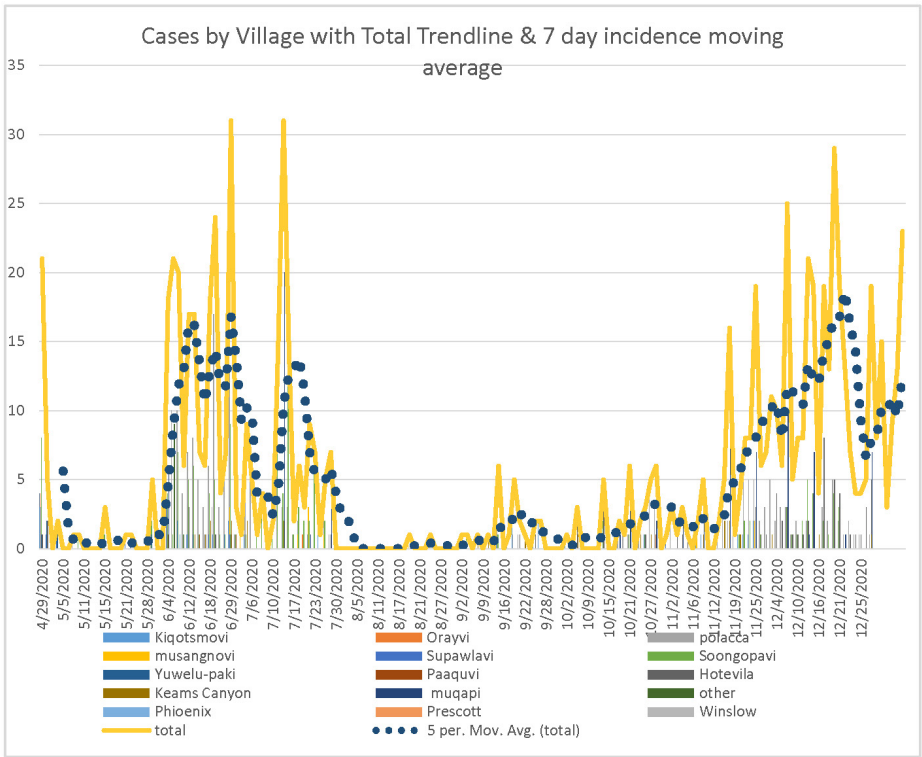


Hopi Tribe Department of Health and Human Services  
Covid-19 Emergency Response January 5, 2021 Report,  
Cont.

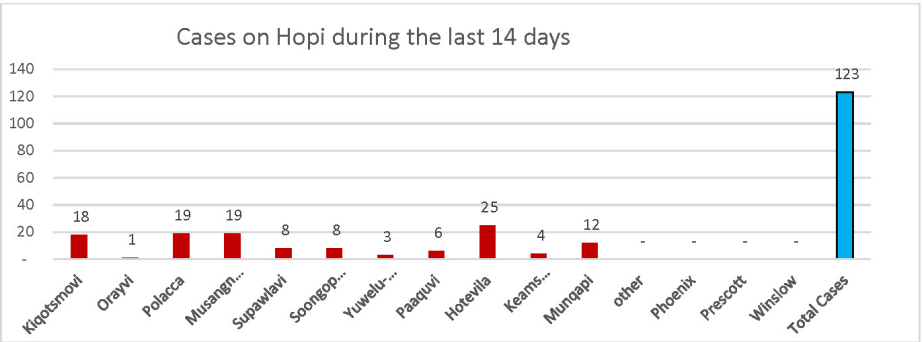
Hopi COVID-19 Reported Cases by Hopi Health Care Center Cases* January 5, 2021					
	Number Tested Today	Cumulative Number Positive	Cumulative Number Negative	Total Number in Process	Total Tested
	144	1,013	6,284	117	7,456

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 January 5, 2021	Reported by HHCC	Reported by Tuba City Regional Healthcare Corporation	Total
Kiqötsmovi	48	11	59
Orayvi	12		12
Polacca (Walpi-Sitsom'ovi-Tewa)	227	7	234+
Musangnuvi	77		77
Supawlavi	40		40+
Söngoopavi	162		162+
Yuvelu-paki	11		11
Paaqavi	20		20
Hotvela	70	20	90(+)
Keams Canyon	22	9	31
Munqapi	1	105*	106*
Phoenix	1		1
Winslow	4		4
Prescott	1		1
TOTAL	696	152	848



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 blue 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 123 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 Musangnovi, Hotevila, and Polacca; 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.



Protect Our  
**HOPI/TEWA  
PEOPLE**

**STOP the  
SPREAD  
of COVID-19**

**Itam nawus it  
hikwis'úutstuyat  
sööwu'ytoynayani**

**STAY HOME**

**STAY SAFE**

**SAVE LIVES**

**Uma haak umükikiy ang sun huruyese' naavaasye' hakimuy qatsiyamuy ayo' o'yaní.**

**STAY  
INFORMED**

**The Hopi Tribe** Look for announcements and educational materials at [www.hopi-nsn.gov](http://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 translation provided by Daryn Melvin.



**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



## 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.**

## Covid-19: Community

# Unmet Demand for Afterschool Programs Reaches All-Time High

(StatePoint) Parents of children enrolled in afterschool programs are happier with their participation than ever before, according to a new study. At the same time, there aren't nearly enough programs available, and students from low-income families are the most likely to lack access. For every child in an afterschool program today, three more are waiting to get in.

Commissioned by the nonprofit Afterschool Alliance, and conducted by Edge Research, "America After 3PM 2020" builds on household surveys conducted in 2004, 2009 and 2014 and offers a pre-pandemic snapshot of how youth spend their afternoons that has significant implications for the post-pandemic world.

The study finds that the families of 24.6 million children -- more than ever before -- are unable to access afterschool programming, with many reporting cost as a barrier. It also exposes significant inequities, with Black and Latinx children and low-income households disproportionately affected.

"Quality afterschool programs are essential to student success in school and life. If we want to emerge from this pandemic strong, we need to provide all youth access to the important enrichment opportunities and resources afterschool programs provide. We're far from doing that now," says Jodi Grant, executive director of the Afterschool Alliance.

To further understand the state of U.S. afterschool programs today, consider these core findings from the report:

- **Unmet demand is soaring.** Demand has grown 60% since 2004, from 15.3 million children waiting to get into a program in 2004 to 24.6 million children in 2020.
- **Barriers to participation grow.** Sixty-one percent of low-income parents report that cost is a barrier to enrolling their child in an afterschool program, up from

50% in 2014. Access, such as a lack of a safe way for their child to get to and from a program, is a barrier for 58% of respondents.

- **Inequities persist.** These barriers especially affect low-income families. The number of children from low-income households in afterschool fell from 4.6 million in 2014 to 2.7 million in 2020, while the number of higher-income children in afterschool fell by just under 450,000.

- **Public support is strong.** Eighty-seven percent of parents support public funding for afterschool programs in communities that have few opportunities for children and youth, support that crosses demographic and political divides. This may in part be due to the growing recognition of the benefits programs provide. Eighty-three percent of respondents agree programs give working parents peace of mind, 81% agree programs help parents keep their jobs, and 76% agree programs help children gain interest and skills in STEM.

For low-income families, the survey reveals that programs address additional needs, such as providing children snacks and meals and offering them skill-building workshops, as well as connecting families to valuable community resources.

To view the full report, visit [afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM](https://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM).

"It's unacceptable that the parents of nearly 25 million students are struggling to find or afford an afterschool program," Grant said. "Every parent should have access to an affordable, quality afterschool program that will keep their child safe, supervised and learning. We need more federal, state, local, business and philanthropic support to meet the needs of students and their families after school."





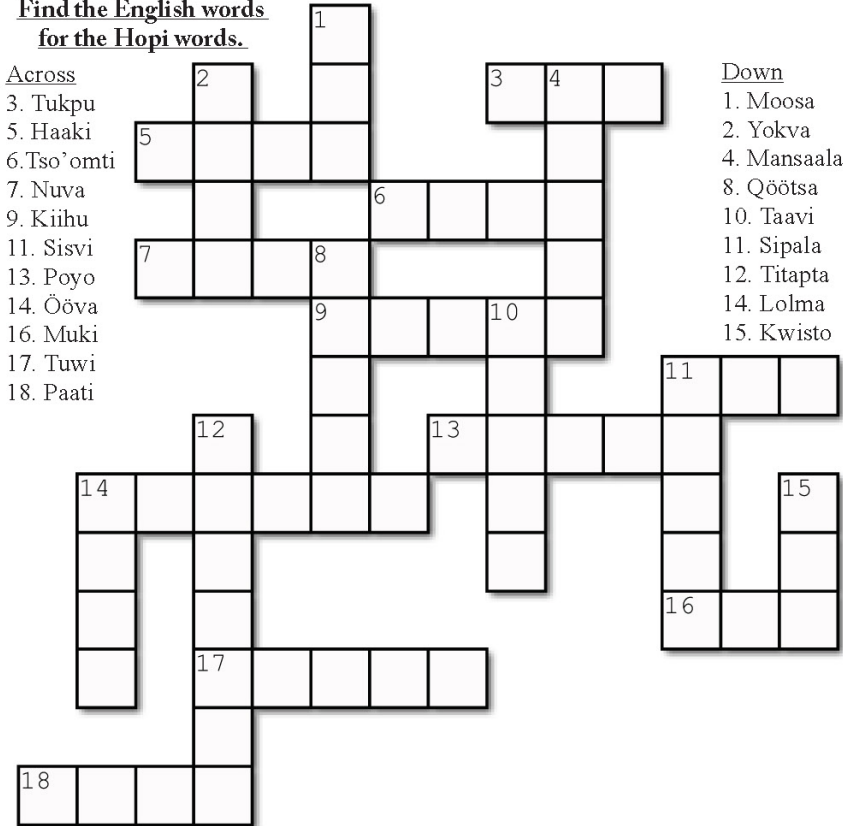
Find the English words  
for the Hopi words.

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 in next issue

Answers for December 4th 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

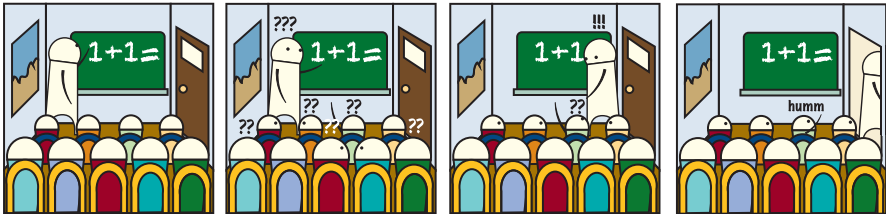
# Hopi Lavayi - Animals and Food

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

- |                                |                             |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Pavatya<br>(Tadpole)           | (Bear)                      | Wakaasi<br>(Cow)                                 |
| Pahona<br>(Beaver)             | Tokotska<br>(Black Bird)    | Hospowi<br>(Roadrunner)                          |
| Sikwi<br>(Meat)                | Tsili<br>(Chili)            | Tsiro<br>(Small Bird)                            |
| Samii<br>(Fresh Corn)          | Wutaga<br>(Corn Gruel)      | Kwaahu<br>(Eagle)                                |
| Noqkwivi<br>(Corn & Meat Stew) | Mooro<br>(Burro)            | Paakwa<br>(Frog)                                 |
| Kowaako<br>(Chicken)           | Moosa<br>(Cat)              | Piki<br>(Blue Corn Bread)                        |
| Leetayo<br>(Fox)               | Pooko<br>(Dog)              | Toosi<br>(Sweet Corn Meal)                       |
| Pat Ga<br>(Squash - Pumpkin)   | Mosayru<br>(Bison, Buffalo) | Qaao<br>(Corn)                                   |
| Koyongo<br>(Turkey)            | Qomi<br>(Sweet Corn Cake)   | Tumna<br>(Potato)                                |
| Kokowe'e<br>(Rooster)          | Tootolo<br>(Grasshopper)    | Pikami<br>(Wheat & Sweet Corn Pudding)           |
| Isaw<br>(Coyote)               | Yongosona<br>(Turtle)       | Somiviki<br>(Blue Corn Flour, Sweet Tamale)      |
| Hekweepu<br>(Brownish Lizard)  | Toho<br>(Mt. Lion)          | Piklapkutuki<br>(Roasted & Salted Crumbled Piki) |
| Hootsoko<br>(Small Eared Owl)  | Sowiyngwa<br>(Deer)         |  |
| Hoonaw                         | Hohomitst<br>(Pocket Mice)  |  |

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# 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

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- Hopi Behavioral Health Services Weekdays 9 AM—5 PM (928) 737-6300
- Hopi Police Department: (928) 734-7340 or call 911
- Hotline Numbers:**
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- Northern Arizona Crisis Hotline: 1(877)-756-4090
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- Trevor Lifeline (866) 488-7386
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- Crisis Text Line: 741-741
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**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



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## Larry's Corner



# 2020-The Year of Weird Things

I'm back! Yes, I know I haven't written anything new in a while, but it's a new year and I am ready to tackle anything now.

We made it!! The year 2020 was the year to talk about. It started out with joy and happiness, ringing in the New Year, people were saying, "2020 is the year where nothing will go wrong!" Boy, were we wrong about that. Around mid-March or so, things went south, and each month after, we had some very shocking moments. Some people even thought that this virus was just a hoax and that it wouldn't hurt us. Most Hopis believed that we live in such a remote area, sickness wouldn't find us, but sickness knows no boundaries.

"We're American!" some people shouted, but the virus didn't care who you were, what race you were, how important you were, the sickness does not care who you are. So, some US continued to do as we normally do. Some forget about laws, and talked down on everyone or anything we come into contact with. And we have to give some understanding and credence to that reaction, because part of why they reacted that way was because some of US were not communicating either, which led others to make judgments and decisions based on not having all the necessary information one needs to function in a pandemic state. Fear drove many – fear of an unknown disease, fear of how it would affect us individually, fear of not knowing how long it would last, fear that leaders were not sharing all the facts with us and fear of losing our jobs in an already strapped economic downturn on Hopi. One thing that this virus has taught me is that, we need to be humbler, have more humility and overall be more Hopi and to be open with one another about the truth. Communication is key, they say, and I have to agree.

By mid-August we saw numbers rise as more and more people got sick of this virus. We heard of our loved ones in hospitals and we couldn't even go see them and had to remember them how they were from the last time we saw them. Even our connections with fellow colleagues were impacted the same way. Who would've thought we would be functioning in this manner? We longed for our "normal" in this abnormal time and way. Laws created

by our own government were created in hopes of making it so we didn't get sick. It seemed to some of US that others didn't care because they continued to go fishing, they continued to go to casinos and have parties and they threw away the laws to protect us. Our lives and conditions were about US and them and we pointed fingers at each other, accused each other of not being honest about our whereabouts and we didn't communicate with each other even more. We gave the sickness a deadline of one year. But the sickness does not tell time nor does it keep time, but we put it on a timeline, anyway.

By mid-October we wanted to tell the sickness to stop for one night so we can have fun for just one night and be back in our "normal" for longing of happier times. We found out that the sickness does not celebrate holidays, and it even seemed to go full force and seemed satisfied when we gathered. We continued to enjoy our holidays as planned hoping the virus wasn't at "our" party. We were wrong about that too, we gathered in large numbers to celebrate thinking that if we partied hard enough, we can forget about the sickness and it will go away. Instead the sickness just partied alongside with US; my cat theory is that the sickness does not care for parties anyway. You know us cats, and our counterparts – the dog have certain senses about sickness and diseases that our owner might not even realize. I can even sense when my owner may be a little glum...I digress.

By the end of November, we were exhausted. This sickness took so many loved ones from US. We couldn't figure it out why this sickness was still around. We finally gave into the government's plan on keeping us safe... well some of US. We didn't want to party anymore, we didn't want to get sick anymore. Hopis were finally realizing that this sickness is here to stay. Some of US realized that the Hopi government's "Laws" were to keep us safe. Many of us celebrated Thanksgiving in our homes, by ourselves, eating distribution box turkey. We complained it was not the same. We missed gathering in large groups even for our annual cultural "doings" during this time. No "ifs, ands or buts" we just had to bite that turkey leg and get through it. We were finally accepting our new "normal."

By December, we were in submission to 2020. We didn't care for parades, school plays, end of the year luncheons, or for gathering in large groups. We just wanted to survive the year. We finally learned that it's not about gathering in large groups but gathering with immediate family that is important. It seems with all our losses of those near and dear to us that we started to become kinder and humbler. We finally realized that we don't need big celebrations to make us happy. We were finally seeing that being Hopi is to have humility in this world. We are the keepers of the peace. We are makers of the rain. We have mysteries that only Hopi holds. I say this as a Hopi cat and I know my owner has shared these thoughts with me, too, in our quiet-time. We, Hopis and Hopi cats, too have forgotten about that in the past years, but now we are finally seeing where the error of our ways may need to be redirected. Remember, this sickness is not done with us yet. There are still lessons we need to learn and there are stories we still need to tell.

Some of US have forgotten how to be Hopi. We forgot how to do Hopi "things." We became what we swore we would not be. We started to become "commercialized." We started sharing our culture to those who are not Hopi and we started to make our tradition bigger. Hopis don't need to be big, they don't need to share it all, and that's what makes Hopi a mystery – a special gift meant for US. That's what makes our tradition strong. But this sickness is a sort of a teacher in a way, to make us think more about what we might lose, about what we have lost and what we are going through.

My advice to you is that Hopi is a mysterious culture and we have jeopardized and destroyed some of the essence by writing books, selling our Kachina dolls to collectors, making music CD's for the masses to hear our stories and songs. We forgot that if we sell out our culture, we are no better than any corporate executive. I say we need to go back to our roots to become one with the earth, to reclaim our clanship and to believe in Hopi a little more. But if that does not work, I can settle for a pizzeria on the Hopi reservation...at least I can eat pizza and sing Hopi songs.





Trump supporters try to break through a police barrier Wednesday at the Capitol in Washington. (AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

Lisa Mascaro and Mary Clare Jalonick  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Angry supporters of President Donald Trump stormed the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday in a chaotic protest aimed at thwarting a peaceful transfer of power, forcing lawmakers to be rushed from the building and interrupting challenges to Joe Biden's Electoral College victory. Trump issued a restrained call for peace but did not call on his supporters to leave.

The ordinarily mundane procedure of certifying a new president was always going to be extraordinary, with Republican supporters of Trump vowing to protest results of an election that they have baselessly insisted was reversed by fraud.

The deliberations inside were still in their early stages when they were overcome by raucous demonstrations outside, as protesters who clashed with police entered the building, shouting and waving Trump and American flags. They abruptly interrupted the proceedings in an out-of-control scene that featured eerie official warnings directing people to duck under their seats for cover and put on gas masks.

With the crowds showing no signs of abating, Trump tweeted, "Please support our Capitol Police and Law Enforcement. They are truly on the side of our Country. Stay peaceful!"

Senators were being evacuated. Some House lawmakers tweeted they were sheltering in place in their offices.

Demonstrators fought with Capitol Police and then forced their way into the building, not long after a huge rally near the White House during which Trump egged

them on to march to Capitol Hill.

Lawmakers had convened for an extraordinary joint session to confirm the Electoral College results.

New Mexico Rep. Deb Haaland, Laguna and Jemez Pueblos, and Kansas Rep. Sharice Davids, Ho-Chunk, tweeted later that they were safe in the building.

"We will stay put until they tell us it is safe to go out," Haaland said from her office.

Rep. Markwayne Mullin, Cherokee, of Oklahoma, also was among those inside the Capitol and was reported to be safe, a staffer told Indian Country Today.

Rep. Yvette Herrell, Cherokee, of New Mexico tweeted that she was safe and added that the "violence at the Capitol is unacceptable." She urged protestors to allow Congress to continue their work.

Rep. Kai Kahele, Native Hawaiian, also tweeted that he was safe. The status of Rep. Tom Cole, Chickasaw, wasn't immediately clear.

Though fellow Republicans were behind the challenge to Biden's 306-232 Electoral College victory, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell sought to lower tensions and argued against it. He warned the country "cannot keep drifting apart into two separate tribes" with "separate facts."

McConnell declared, "The voters, the courts and the states all have spoken."

But other Republicans, including House GOP leaders among Trump's allies were acting out the pleas of supporters at his huge Wednesday rally up Pennsylvania Avenue outside the White House to "fight for Trump."

"We have to fix this," said Rep. Steve Scalise of Louisiana, the GOP whip.

The last-gasp effort is all but certain to fail, defeated by bipartisan majorities in Congress prepared to accept the November results. Biden is to be inaugurated Jan. 20.

Still, Trump vowed to he would "never concede" and urged the massive crowd to march to the Capitol where hundreds had already gathered under tight security.

"We will never give up," Trump told his noontime rally.

Vice President Mike Pence was closely watched as he stepped onto the dais to preside over the joint session in the House chamber.

Pence has a largely ceremonial role, opening the sealed envelopes from the states after they are carried in mahogany boxes used for the occasion, and reading the results aloud. But he was under growing pressure from Trump to overturn the will of the voters and tip the results in the president's favor, despite having no legal power to affect the outcome.

"Do it Mike, this is a time for extreme courage!" Trump tweeted Wednesday.

But Pence, in a statement shortly before presiding, defied Trump, saying he could not claim "unilateral authority" to reject the electoral votes that make Biden president.

Despite Trump's repeated claims of voter fraud, election officials and his own former attorney general have said there were no problems on a scale that would change the outcome. All the states have certified their results as fair and accurate, by Republican and Democratic officials alike.

Arizona was the first of several states facing objections from the Republicans as Congress took an alphabetical reading of the election results. Then the chaos erupted.

# Navajo casinos lay off more than 1,100



This 2018 photo shows the Navajo Nation's Twin Arrows Casino, east of Flagstaff, Arizona. (AP Photo/Felicia Fonseca, File)

Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — Casinos run by the Navajo Nation have temporarily laid off more than 1,100 workers because of prolonged closures caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The tribe's Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise announced the decision Thursday night, saying it was left with no choice but to move ahead with the layoffs because of lack of revenue caused by the closures.

"Due to the extended closure, since March 17, 2020, our business operations have been severely impacted and as a result, we must make very difficult financial and personnel decisions," Brian Parrish, the tribal casino operation's Interim CEO, said in a statement. The layoffs took effect on New Year's Day.

The tribe operates four casinos in Arizona and New Mexico, and together they employ more than 1,200 people, including more than 775 tribal members. The Gaming Enterprise plans to keep 165 employees on the payroll to ensure essential functions are maintained at the casinos.

Officials had repeatedly warned that layoffs would become necessary if the

casinos weren't allowed to reopen at least with limited capacity.

But officials also warned Thursday that permanent closure of the entire operation is possible by the end of January if casinos are not allowed to reopen or if more funding isn't allocated to keep the operation running. The tribe allocated nearly \$25 million in federal virus relief funding to the casino operation in August but that money has run out.

The tribe invested \$460 million in the casinos and that would be lost if they closed. Closure would also lead to ongoing yearly losses of about \$220 million in revenue and economic activity, Parrish said. He said he believes it's possible to safely reopen with reduced capacity even amid the pandemic.

"The Nation's vision took years to build but the Nation has been successful," Navajo Gaming Board Chairman Quincy Natay said. "If it allows its gaming industry to fail, a permanent closure will cause a long-term setback for Navajo economic development, even if it eventually reopens."

The Navajo Nation spans parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

## FOOD

# Delicious Ideas for Big Game Sunday

(StatePoint) With just a grill and a bit of smoke, your menu will be the real MVP of the Big Game.

"The key to making snacks and appetizers more flavorful is with hardwood pellets, which can add rich, wood-fired flavor to just about anything. And, with a few modifications, you don't even need a pellet grill to achieve that delicious wood-smoked flavor," says Ben Madden, product manager at Bear Mountain BBQ Woods, crafter of gourmet, hardwood pellets.

Below, Madden shares his winning tips and game-day recipes.

## Smoked & Roasted Wings

From classic Buffalo hot sauce to sweet teriyaki, chicken wings are always a crowd-pleaser, especially on game day. Take their flavor to the next level with this recipe for Smoked and Roasted Chicken Wings:

Prep time: 5 min

Cook time: ~ 2 hours depending on size and amount of wings

Ingredients:

- Essential BBQ Rub or poultry seasoning
- Chicken wings
- Sauce of choice
- Bear Mountain's Savory BBQ Craft Blends pellets

Preparation:

1. Lightly coat wings in seasoning.
2. Arrange wings on smoker or grill at 225 degrees with at least 2 inches of space between.
3. Smoke for 1 to 1.5 hours.
4. Turn up grill to 350 degrees to finish. Start brushing on sauce and turning wings periodically.

5. Once wings hit an internal temperature of 165, remove from the smoker or grill and toss in a bowl with remaining sauce. Then they're ready to serve!

No pellet grill or smoker? Try using Smoke 'Ems wood pellet packets in this recipe in the following way:

- On one side of grill, turn burner to medium-high heat or fire up charcoal and place Smoke 'Ems packet directly over heat until it starts smoking.

- Place wings on other side of grill over medium heat until Smoke 'Ems has stopped smoking. Note: For more smoke

flavor, use a second packet after first has been used.

- Increase temperature under wings and continue with Step 4 above.

## Beer Cheese Dip

Bring your appetizer game to a new level with this delicious recipe for Beer Cheese Dip with Pretzel Ring, from Bear Mountain BBQ ambassador, Jennifer Danella:

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups cheddar cheese grated
- 1/2 cup gruyere cheese grated
- 8 ounces cream cheese softened
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1/2 of a 1-ounce Hidden Valley Ranch Packet

- 2 tablespoons green onions chopped.
- 1/4 cup German lager beer
- 2 tablespoons baking soda
- 1 can biscuits
- 1 large egg, mixed with 1 tablespoon water, for brushing biscuits
- 12-inch cast iron skillet
- Bear Mountain's Bourbon BBQ or Savory BBQ Craft Blends pellets

Preparation:

1. Preheat pellet grill to 350 F.
2. In large bowl, combine 1 cup cheddar, gruyere, cream cheese, Dijon mustard, Hidden Valley Ranch seasoning, beer and 1 tablespoon green onions. Mix evenly.
3. Cut biscuits in half. Roll each half into a ball, then slice an X across top.
4. Boil 2 cups water in medium saucepan. Once boiling, add baking soda and mix immediately.

5. Add biscuits in batches and cook until puffy, approximately 1 minute. Remove and transfer to skillet, forming ring along inside edge.

6. Brush biscuits with egg wash. Sprinkle with salt.

7. Transfer dip to center of skillet. Sprinkle with remaining cheddar.

8. Bake until biscuits are golden and dip is bubbly, 30-35 minutes.

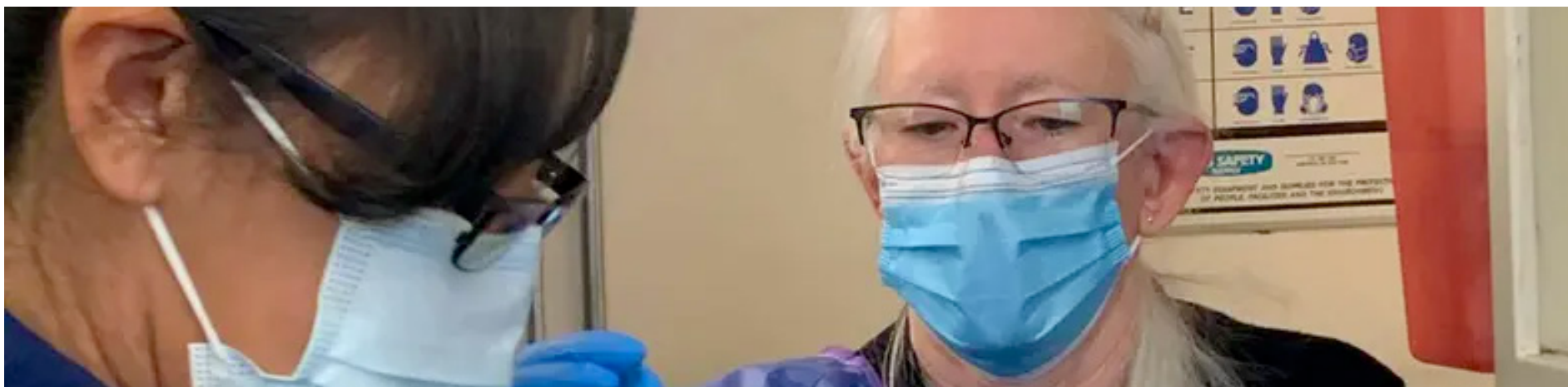
9. Garnish with remaining green onions. Serve!

For more recipe ideas and grilling tips, visit [bearmountainbbq.com](http://bearmountainbbq.com).

By adding smoke to your Big Game playbook, you will score big long before kickoff.



# Tribes work to shield elders, knowledge from virus



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, on Dec. 14. (Photo courtesy of the Indian Health Service)

Christine Fernando  
Associated Press

As Monica Harvey watched, crowds flocked to a Sam's Club in northern Arizona where she works, picking shelves clean of toilet paper and canned goods. Seniors couldn't move fast enough, and Harvey saw their faces fall when they reached empty shelves.

The Navajo woman wanted to help tribal elders get household staples without leaving their homes and risking exposure to COVID-19, so she started Defend Our Community, a group that delivers supplies.

Tribes across the nation are working to protect elders who serve as honored links to customs passed from one generation to the next.

"When you lose an elder, you lose a part of yourself," said Harvey, who lives in Leupp, Arizona, east of Flagstaff. "You lose a connection to history, our stories, our culture, our traditions."

Harvey remembers her own grandfather explaining the stories behind Navajo songs and teaching her Navajo words from the songs. She often listened to her grandparents speaking Navajo while she practiced the words under her breath.

In Oklahoma, the Cherokee Nation has increased food distributions to elders and offered financial aid to those who were struggling to pay rent or utilities. Concern for elders is also apparent in the tribe's COVID-19 vaccine-distribution plans.

Participants and workers in the tribe's elder program are first in line for the shots, along with hospital workers and first responders. Next are those whose first language is Cherokee and others considered "tribal treasures," an honor given to members who keep Cherokee art, language and other culture alive through their work.

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is prioritizing vaccine distribution to those who speak Dakota and Lakota lan-

guages.

An effort among the Blackfeet in Montana is helping the tribe's members connect with elders who need support. And Connecticut's Mashantucket Pequot Nation is providing its citizens with masks and telemedicine, delivering meals to their doors and organizing home visits to give flu vaccines.

"Elders are like libraries. Losing one is like a library burning down," said Loren Racine, creator of a Facebook page offering help in the Blackfeet community.

Roy Boney Jr., who manages a Cherokee language program, said the vast majority of Cherokee speakers are elders. They make up a small pool of people the program relies on to teach the language he calls the "beating heart" of Cherokee identity.

"For decades our language has been taken from us through forced assimilation," Boney said. "Elders hold our history and culture but also our language. ... Our elders are precious."

Almost half of the Cherokee who received care from the tribe's health services but died from the coronavirus were fluent Cherokee speakers. Losing even a handful of speakers can be devastating for language preservation and other cultural practices, Boney said.

"With them goes so much information in terms of language knowledge, dialect, specialized knowledge of medicine and traditional practices," he said. "All these things we're trying to revitalize and save, they're the heart of all of it."

Mashantucket Pequot elders shifted to a virtual format for the intergenerational gatherings where they tell traditional stories. An elders council also helps to organize Pequot language bingo nights and Schemitzun, the annual Festival of the Green Corn.

"When we heard how COVID-19 was spreading, we were immediately concerned for our elders and how losing them would affect the tribe, so we immediately start-

ed working to protect them," said the tribe's chief medical officer, Setu Vora.

The tribe has no known COVID-19 deaths.

Pequot elders play an important role in the effort to revive the tribe's language, which is no longer widely spoken. Elders still remember relatives who spoke the language and can verify the definitions and context of certain words. A handful of the tribe's 2,000 members are becoming somewhat proficient in Pequot as they research and reclaim new words, Vora said.

Karen Ketcher was among 28 Cherokee Nation elders who have died from the coronavirus. She was weeks shy of her 71st birthday and had decades of experience working for the tribe and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Her knowledge was unmatched and invaluable, said her granddaughter, Taryn King.

"There's so much at stake when this virus hits our communities," said King, 31, of Stilwell, Oklahoma. She described elders as "the glue that holds our communities together."

At work, Ketcher was affectionately called "Granny." She was the go-to person for questions about Cherokee policies, tribal governance and how to apply for grants. She also was the first stop for snacks, help mending holes in sweaters or questions about community relations.

One co-worker, Kamisha Hair, went into Ketcher's office shortly before the tribe temporarily closed it in March because of the pandemic. She assured Ketcher things would be OK and implored her to pray.

The two hugged and said they loved each other. Ketcher died in April.

Relatives held a small outdoor service for her. When they returned to town, other Cherokees had lined the streets to pay their respects.

"Losing an elder like Granny is like losing a piece of your identity," Hair said. "It dies with them, and you can never get it back."

# Vaccine trials' fast rollout reveals distrust

Felicia Fonseca  
Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — The news came during a hopeful time on the country's largest reservation.

Daily coronavirus cases were in the single digits, down from a springtime peak of 238 that made the Navajo Nation a U.S. hot spot. The tribe, wanting to ensure a COVID-19 vaccine would be effective for its people, said it would welcome Pfizer clinical trials on its reservation spanning Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

Right away, tribal members accused their government of allowing them to be guinea pigs, pointing to painful times in the past when Native Americans didn't consent to medical testing or weren't fully informed about procedures.

A Navajo Nation review board gave the study quicker approval than normal after researchers with Johns Hopkins University's Center for American Indian Health made the case for diversity. Without Native volunteers, how would they know if tribal members responded to vaccines the same as others?

"Unfortunately, Native Americans have effectively been denied the opportunity to participate in these clinical trials because almost all of the study sites are in large, urban areas that have not done effective outreach to Native Americans," said Dr. Laura Hammitt of Johns Hopkins.

About 460 Native Americans participated in the trials for the vaccine by Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech, including Navajos. The enrollment reflects a growing understanding of the role that people of color play in vaccine development and the push to rapidly deploy it to curb infections among populations that have been disproportionately affected by the virus.

Yet, few of the country's 574 federally recognized tribes have signed on for the studies, a hesitation often rooted in suspicion and distrust. Many tribes also require several layers of approval for clinical trials, a challenge researchers aren't always willing to overcome and don't face in the

states.

While vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna Inc. roll out across Indian Country, others are being studied.

In the Pacific Northwest, the Lummi Nation and the Nooksack Indian Tribe plan to participate in a vaccine trial from another company, Novavax Inc. A Cheyenne River Sioux researcher plans to enroll Native Americans and others in South Dakota in the Novavax trial and another by Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline.

On the Navajo Nation, Arvena Peshlakai, her husband, Melvin, and their daughter Quortnii volunteered for the Pfizer trials.

Arvena Peshlakai said the rumors were rampant: Navajos would be injected with the virus, and researchers would use plasma from people who got COVID-19.

She was assured that wasn't happening and let the words of her parents and grandparents guide her: Don't let our struggles be your struggles, begin with our triumphs.

"What else am I supposed to do? Just sit back and say, 'No, I don't trust them' and not try something new to see if we can find a breakthrough?" Peshlakai said. "We have to do something, we can't just sit by and wait and hope and pray."

She overcame her fear of needles to get the doses and keeps track of her well-being daily on an app. As trial participants, the family can get the vaccine if they initially received a placebo.

The Pfizer trials among the Navajo and White Mountain Apache tribes enrolled 275 people, about 80 percent of them Native American, Hammitt said. It wasn't as many as researchers had hoped for, but she said it's enough to compare immune and antibody responses in Native patients to others.

Vaccine trials nationwide have been moving quickly, which doesn't always align with tribal guidelines on considering research proposals.

"It must be done with respect for tribal sovereignty and knowing that each individual has truly been given informed consent," said Abigail Echo-Hawk, director

of the Urban Indian Health Institute in Seattle.

It helped that Johns Hopkins has a decadeslong history with the Navajos and Apaches, including other clinical trials. Hammitt said the Navajo Human Research Review Board was receptive to a quick review of the vaccine trials because of the devastating impact of the pandemic.

In South Dakota, the Cheyenne River Sioux tribal health committee initially pushed back on Dr. Jeffrey Henderson's proposal for trials of the Novavax vaccine. Henderson, a tribal member, was sent into the community to gauge support.

He expects to get approval from a newly seated tribal council but for now, plans to set up a mobile unit outside the reservation.

"We refuse to do this type of research or any research within the boundaries of a tribe without having explicit approval from the tribe," Henderson said.

In Washington state, the Nooksack tribe is set to begin enrolling volunteers in the Novavax trials Monday, said Dr. Frank James, the tribe's health officer.

"I expect a slow start to it, and we have to get a few brave people who are comfortable with it and then people to follow," he said.

The nearby Lummi Nation is moving forward with a three-part review and approval process for the Novavax trials.

Initial hesitation among the tribe stemmed from a researcher who took photos of Lummi children years ago to develop a tool to diagnose fetal alcohol syndrome but didn't offer any ways to address it, said Dr. Dakotah Lane, executive medical director of the Lummi Tribal Health Clinic.

"I had already known and was aware of certainly some distrust with any kind of research within our community," Lane said. "But I also knew the only way out of this pandemic was with access to vaccines."

Other stories about the sterilization of Native American women, noted in a 1976 federal report, and military testing of radioactive iodine on Alaska Natives have

bred distrust.

The Havasupai Tribe also settled a lawsuit a decade ago that accused Arizona State University scientists of misusing blood samples meant for diabetes research to study schizophrenia, inbreeding and ancient population migration without the tribe's permission.

That case came to mind when Annette Brown, a Navajo woman, heard about her tribe's willingness to participate in COVID-19 vaccine trials.

"There's this historical distrust when it comes to any type of experimenting," she said. "It's just experience, I don't know that there are many families out there who haven't been touched by some sort of experimentation (or) biological attacks on tribal communities."

Brown has mixed feelings because she previously participated in a vaccine trial with Johns Hopkins.

It was related to research that determined the first generation of vaccines for bacterial meningitis was less effective among Navajo and Apache children 6 months and younger, Hammitt said. The rate of the disease used to be five to 10 times higher among those children than the general population.

Researchers and doctors in Native American communities also have found that standard doses for medications like blood thinners weren't always the best fit for tribal members.

For Marcia O'Leary, helping with a study that indirectly discovered HPV vaccines don't protect against a strain that's a leading cause of cancer among Native American women in the Great Plains shows the importance of having more Native researchers and being involved in clinical trials.

"We can't wait for this to trickle down," said O'Leary, director of Missouri Breaks, a small Native American-owned research group on the Cheyenne River Sioux reservation. "It seems like in Indian Country, we keep chasing the ball of health and we never get ahead of it."