January 11, 2021, on the corner of Arizona Highway 264 and Indian Route 2 a new convenience store and gas station was being surveyed for construction to begin by Eiffel Construction, Inc. for the KEB.

Photo by: Romalita Laban, HT Managing Editor
Location, Location, Location - the Corner of Any Successful Business Storefront

February 2, 2021, with Old Oraibi in the background, passersby can get a good look at the daily changes occurring with construction of a new convenience store and gas station going up in the Village of Kykotsmovi, Ariz. Photo by: Romalita Laban, HT Managing Editor

February 2, 2021, on the corner of Arizona Highway 264 and Indian Route 2 a new convenience store and gas station is being constructed by Eiffel Construction, Inc. for the KEB Photo by: Romalita Laban, HT Managing Editor

Romalita Laban, Managing Editor

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – February 2, 2021 was a great day to get a peek at new construction of the Kykotsmovi Enterprise Board (KEB) Convenience Store & Gas Station to Open Fall 2021. Pictures were taken and contact made with the KEB with a story on the project to be continued in February 17th Hopi Tutuveni.

Hopi Tutuveni Office Re-opened as of Monday, February 1, 2021

Public Service Announcement by Romalita Laban, Managing Editor

February 2, 2021, Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – As of Monday, February 1, 2021, the Hopi Tutuveni staff and Editorial Board requests the public’s attention to this announcement and update that the Hopi Tutuveni Office has been re-opened by the Managing Editor.

In addition to many other Hopi Tribal employees who have had to quarantine due to contact with others testing positive, Romalita Laban, Managing Editor had to quarantine until January 29, 2021 according to Royce Jenkins, Public Health Authority. Although Laban tested negative on Saturday, January 16, 2021, current Hopi Tribal protocols and procedures require individuals in contact with someone testing positive to quarantine a minimum of fourteen days.

As of January 19, 2021, Hopi Tribal employees were notified that the Risk Management Building where Hopi Tutuveni Office is located, along with the Vice Chairman’s temporary office, was closed until further notice. The latest update received from the Vice Chairman on the evening of January 19, 2021 was that sanitizing had been completed and he would be returning to the building on Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

Laban teleworked while on quarantine until January 29, 2021. Carl Onsae, Assistant Editor completed the newspaper distribution which last occurred on January 20, 2021 ensuring Hopi Tutuveni readers and the public received the publication. The online publication was also made available via Laban’s telework assignment.

Hopi Tutuveni staff awaited reply from the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary about rotating Onsae in as an Essential Employee to cover other duties while Laban was in quarantine. At press deadline on January 19, 2021 and to date, no replies were received from either office. Hopi Tutuveni staff has made numerous requests for both staff to be listed as Essential Employees for circumstances such as this and to reduce burnout.

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 and now having staff out on quarantine with no allowance for support staff to be allowed in the office by Tribal Leadership.

Since testing negative, once again, on Saturday, January 30, 2021 Laban has returned to the Hopi Tutuveni office. Although the main office is still in disarray since the Hopi Tribe’s Carpet Project was started, staff has been fully ready to clear through files and equipment for continued work and occupancy. Patrons and the public can leave voice messages for Romalita Laban, Managing Editor at (928) 734-3281 and emails can be sent to rlaban@hopi.nsn.us. Voice messages can be left for Carl Onsae, Assistant Editor at (928) 734-3283 and emails can be sent to consae@hopi.nsn.us. Normal office hours have resumed and the Risk Management building was opened for Hopi Tutuveni. The Managing Editor, who is listed as an Essential Employee, is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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

We ask for Hopi Tutuveni supporters’ and the public’s patience and prayers, as we transition through these challenging pandemic times. We are still here, we are Hopi and we are strong. Askwali/Kwa kwa for your continued patronage and support throughout 2021. Pasningwu.
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 on the Hopi Reservation, giving rise to an ongoing declared state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Reservation continues to see an overall rise in the number of positive COVID-19 cases in every village and community, with a positive test rate of 25.6% and 115 active cases over the last 14 days; and

WHEREAS, the main contributor to this increase is the mobility of our own Hopi community members, who continue to move throughout the villages and not adhere to the mitigation strategies, in traveling off the reservation; and

WHEREAS, the state of Arizona currently has the highest per-capita rate of new COVID-19 infection in the world, with 92.1 cases per 100,000 people over the past seven days; and

WHEREAS, Hopi currently has a 95.5 daily case rate per 100,000 which is the highest in the United States; 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 previously issued 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, under Section 13.3.6 of the Hopi Code non-compliance with certain provisions of issued Executive Orders and other Emergency declarations constitutes a criminal offense; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi community has been adequately informed, over the past several weeks, of the penalties associated with this non-compliance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 7-701 (2) of the Hopi Emergency Response Plan (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, the previously issued Reservation-wide Lockdown Order is hereby extended beyond February 1, 2021, and shall remain in effect through 5 a.m., March 1, 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., which will be strictly enforced.

3. Additionally, a reservation-wide 57-hour weekend curfew will be implemented on the following dates, and will be strictly enforced:
   a. February 12, 2021 beginning at 8 p.m. ending on February 15, 2021 at 5 a.m.
   b. February 19, 2021 beginning at 8 p.m. ending on February 22, 2021 at 5 a.m.
   c. February 26, 2021 beginning at 8 p.m. ending on March 1, 2021 at 5 a.m.

4. A Hopi Tribal Government shutdown will be implemented beginning February 8, 2021 and ending February 15, 2021. Essential personnel who will be designated as such and are needed to maintain the continuity of operations for the essential services and infrastructure of the Hopi Tribal Government will continue to operate.

5. 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 celebrations with extended family and relatives.

7. 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.

8. 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 and/or live-stock.
      1v. Gathering hay and feed for livestock and pets.
      1v. Procuring wood, coal or propane for household heating purposes. (Wood harvesting activities will require a tribal issued wood permit and adherence to COVID-19 safety protocols and guidance issued by the Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program).
      9. 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.
      10. 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. (Operations will be mandated to cease during the aforementioned 57-hour weekend curfew, although fuel pump transactions may continue).
          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. (Operations will be mandated to cease during the 57-hour weekend curfew).
          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, limiting persons on site to no more than 10 people at any given time, and possession of essential vendor or contractor documentation.

9. For purposes of this Order, critical 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.

11. Further, nothing in this Order shall prohibit any individual from performing or accessing Essential Governmental Functions. Essential Governmental 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.

12. 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 criminal penalties.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect through March 1, 2021 unless otherwise modified. Additional advisories and Orders will follow as warranted, SO ORDERED THIS 1s T DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021.
The Hopi Education Endowment Fund opens the Hopi Higher Education Emergency Fund (HHEEF) for Hopi College Students

HEEF FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kykotsmovi, Ariz.- January 27, 2021. The Hopi Education Endowment Fund (HHEEF) has opened their Hopi Higher Education Emergency Fund (HHEEF) for the Spring 2021 semester. The HHEEF was created to help Hopi college students purchase technology needed for online learning. The pandemic has changed how students learn forcing them to be placed into a new learning environment and for some it has been a challenge. Majority of students are still attending their classes online, as a result the HHEEF has reopened their emergency funding to ensure that students are equipped to successfully complete their courses.

This grant will only be awarded one-time and new applicants are encouraged to apply. New this year, the eligibility criteria include part-time students that have a minimum of 6 credit hours for the Spring semester. Eligibility criteria:

- Enrolled member of the Hopi Tribe,
- Currently enrolled full-time or part-time (6 credit hours or more) at a regionally accredited college or university
- In good academic standing at the institution attending.
- To ensure that all Hopi students have the opportunity to be considered for funding, all past recipients from 2020 are not eligible to re-apply.

The HHEEF is excited to reopen this funding opportunity. Executive Director, Dr. LuAnn Leonard states “This will be our third time opening the application and we have seen a huge success with past students who have applied. It is our hope that more students will apply this year. This is one way we have been able to help Hopi college students with their academics during this challenging time.” The HHEEF has awarded over 60 students thus far through their emergency funding.

Students seeking to apply for HHEEF can find the application online at www.hopieducationfund.org/emergency-fund.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT: February 12, 2021.

In addition, there will be scholarship opportunities that will become available beginning February 1, 2021. Students are encouraged to visit the HEEF website at www.hopieducationfund.org/scholarships to find out more information.

For questions call 928-734-2275 or email Deanna Machuca, Non-Profit Assistant, dmachuca@hopieducationfund.org.

Hopi Foundation's Hopi Emergency Relief Fund Team Continues Weekly Village Food Distributions

The HERF Relief Site (PAC) in Kykotsmovi

For Immediate Release
Ryan Tofoya, The Hopi Foundation

Kykotsmovi, AZ – February 1, 2021, since April of 2020, The Foundation’s Hopi Emergency Relief Fund (HERF) has carried out relief operations at the Peace Academic Center (PAC) in Kykotsmovi. These operations include distributing food, water, hygiene items, household cleaning products, and PPE to Hopi community members and villages. Last October, the HERF team began holding their food distributions at an on-site location for the village they were serving that week.

After holding open distributions (which included pet food, books, and other items) for six months, the HERF crews have served all villages and communities individually at least once, including Yuwehloo Pahki and the Walpi and HSJHS housing communities. So far this year, they have served Kykotsmovi, Bacavi, Songoopavi, and Hotevilla.

Initially, the HERF relief site operations were carried out by volunteers, including Hopi Foundation staff members but they now have a full-time staff. HERF’s relief efforts have also been successful due to partnerships with multiple donors, funders, and organizations. For several months the HERF team partnered with Ancestral Lands-Hopi for logistical, staffing, and operational support. HERF continues to partner with Navajo & Hopi Families Covid-19 Relief Fund, who provides most of the food as well as other distribution items.

For the first part of this year, crews will continue to do onsite village distributions. Their current operations also include PPE kit distributions at local stores, as well as isolation kits for COVID-positive patients who are at home in quarantine. Isolation kits will be available for pick up at the PAC and will need to be picked up by family or friends providing care. The HF’s Relief Fund Team plans to continue these operations at least until June of 2021.

The following is a schedule for upcoming village distributions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village/Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Distribution Site</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upper/Lower Moencopi</td>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 3</td>
<td>Moenkopi Community Center</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misungnovi Village</td>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 10</td>
<td>Sipaulovi Community Building</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sipaulovi Village</td>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 17</td>
<td>Sipaulovi Community Building</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oraivi Village</td>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 24</td>
<td>Bus Loading Area</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuwehloo Pahki</td>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 24</td>
<td>Yuwehloo Pahki Community Bldg</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walpi &amp; HSJHS Housing</td>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 24</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Village distribution, dates, times, and locations are subject to change. For questions or more information, please contact Derick Lomayokva, HERF Relief Site Manager, at 928-299-1992. To learn more about The Hopi Foundation and the Hopi Emergency Relief Fund and how you can support their efforts, visit HopiFoundation.org.

Want to Advertise with the Hopi Tutuveni?

YOUR BUSINESS NAME HERE

Are you confused on how to advertise in the local newspaper? The Hopi Tutuveni can help you. With our friendly staff to help you with your advertisement, advertising is now made Easy! Call or email today.
Call: 928-734-3283
The Shaquille O'Neal Foundation and Icy Hot® Award 23 High Schools Get Game Ready Grants to Support a Safe Return to Sports Programs Hit Hard By COVID-19

By The Shaquille O’Neal Foundation;

LAS VEGAS, Jan. 27, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- Today, The Shaquille O'Neal Foundation and longtime Shaquille O'Neal partner Icy Hot® announced the 23 U.S. high schools being awarded Get Game Ready grants, closing out the program launched in September 2020 to help high school athletic programs financially burdened by the pandemic. Between Sept. 25 and Oct. 31, 136 Title I U.S. public high schools from across the country applied requesting varying amounts of money for a wide range of needs, including personal protective equipment (PPE), uniforms, reusable water bottles, transportation costs and sports gear.

The 23 high school recipients of Get Game Ready grants are:
Ashland High School — Ashland, Miss.
Bay High School — Panama City, Fla.
Bonanza High School — Las Vegas, Nev.
Booker T. Washington High School — Atlanta, Ga.
Carver High School — Atlanta, Ga.
C.E. Murray High School — Greeleyville, S.C.
Coliseum College Prep Academy — Oakland, Calif.
Desert Pines High School — Las Vegas, Nev.
Dougherty Comprehensive High School — Albany, Ga.
Galena High School — Galena, Mo.
Hancock Central High School — Sparta, Ga.
Hopi Junior Senior High School — Keams Canyon, Ariz.
John D. O’Bryant School of Mathematics and Science — Roxbury, Mass.
Lower Lake High School — Lower Lake, Calif.
McDonough High School — McDonough, Ga.
Miramar High School — Miramar, Fla.
Mountainair Public School — Mountainair, N.M.
Pateros High School — Pateros, Wash.
Phineas Banning High School — Wilmington, Calif.
Rancho High School — Las Vegas, Nev.
South Atlanta High School — Atlanta, Ga.
Woodland Hills High School — Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Shaquille O'Neal Foundation and Icy Hot were inspired to create the Get Game Ready initiative after witnessing COVID-19 take a terrible toll on youth sports across the country, including the athletic programs of several severely impacted high schools in Atlanta, Ga and Las Vegas, Nev.

Putting sports on hold eliminated crucial revenue from game ticket sales and deprived scores of student-athletes of critical physical activity, structure and camaraderie. Schools in rural communities face extra challenges when it comes to getting students to and from games. To comply with social distancing requirements, they need to increase the number of vehicles transporting students.

"For student-athletes, sports are a vital physical, mental and social outlet, and it's devastating to have something that fundamental taken away. We know how crucial athletics are, which is why we are so honored for the opportunity to work with Icy Hot and give back to schools and students," Shaquille O'Neal said. "I really feel for all the kids who have had to cope with that challenge on top of the stress and isolation caused by the coronavirus pandemic, which is why I wanted to do something to help."

In addition to funds, the awardees will be given access to expert guidance from the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA). They will provide overall safety and prevention best practices as well as COVID-19 guidelines, consultation and support. For those schools without an athletic trainer, NATA will offer expertise and connection resources which could assist them in hiring one, a crucial component of keeping student athletes safe and healthy.

"Increased risk for injury due to reduced physical activity, mental health concerns and pandemic protocols are all new challenges that student athletes are likely to face when they are able to return to sport," said NATA President, Tory Lindley, MA, ATC. "It is critical that schools have appropriate resources and athletic trainer-led health care ready to help student athletes, coaches and parents navigate an uncertain but vital time. We are proud to work alongside The Shaquille O'Neal Foundation, supported by Icy Hot, to help provide schools with resources imperative for a safer return to sport."

Icy Hot helped fund Get Game Ready grants by donating $1 (up to $400,000) to The Shaquille O'Neal Foundation for every box of Icy Hot sold, helping a total of 23 schools across the country. The grant committee considered a number of factors when selecting recipients and determining individual award amounts, including the collective impact on the students, the specific ask and overall need, the total budget available and the various regional COVID-19 protocols. Get Game Ready grants were distributed before December 31, 2020, and school recipients must use the funds for eligible expenses associated with their next active high school sports season.

To learn more about The Shaquille O'Neal Foundation, visit ShaqFoundation.org. For more information about the NATA, visit NATA.org. To learn more about the Get Game Ready grant program, visit IcyHot.com/GetGameReady.
UNDERSTAND COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

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

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

Call the Hopi Health Care Center, if:
- You develop worsening symptoms
- You have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19
- You have other symptoms that are concerning

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

HEALTH

Fighting Flu and Staying Healthy All Year With Medicaid and CHIP

(StatePoint) Each year, millions of Americans get sick from “seasonal influenza” (“the flu”). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 38 million people got sick with the flu during the 2019-2020 flu season. The flu is more dangerous than the common cold and children are at higher risk for developing serious complications. More than 12 million children under the age of 18 were diagnosed with flu last year, and of those children diagnosed, more than 52,000 were hospitalized. However, there are preventive steps parents can take to protect their children and family from the flu.

Flu viruses change each year, so the best way to keep your kids and teens healthy is to make sure they get their yearly flu shot. The flu is a serious illness, but getting the flu shot helps lower the number of hospital visits and deaths. Remember, even healthy kids can get sick from the flu and spread it to family and others.

This year, it’s more important than ever for children 6 months and older, as well as adults, to get a seasonal flu shot. The CDC recommends getting a flu shot early in the season, but getting it at any time during the flu season can help.

Medicaid offers free or low-cost health insurance for eligible kids up to age 21; the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) covers eligible kids up to age 19. Medicaid and CHIP covers vaccinations for children, like the flu shot, but also other services like preventive care, well-child visits, dental and vision care, and mental and behavioral health care. Eligibility varies by state and depends on your household size and income. On average, a family of four earning up to $50,000 a year or more may qualify for Medicaid or CHIP. Enrollment is open all year, but you have to renew your health coverage yearly.

Catch Up on Missed Care

This is also a good time to catch up on other care and necessary preventive services your child may have missed because of COVID-19, like routine well-child visits and vaccinations. Routine well-child visits help health care providers ensure children are growing and developing normally, including meeting important developmental milestones and provide age-appropriate counseling and immunizations to keep children healthy. With Medicaid and CHIP coverage, parents can schedule preventive visits for their children. Your provider will tell you how to be safe and how to get important care to protect your kids’ health now and for the future.

Preventive care can keep you, your family and community healthy. Get covered with Medicaid and CHIP and catch up on care to prevent disease. Don’t forget to schedule your child’s yearly flu shot and protect your child’s health.

To learn more about Medicaid and CHIP, visit InsureKidsNow.gov or call 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669) to speak with an enrollment specialist and get covered today.

Information provided by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
Hopi Tribe leaders on Monday extended the reservation’s lockdown and curfew orders through March 1 in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The lockdown, which was first issued on Dec. 24, was previously extended from Jan. 11 to Feb. 1 at 5 a.m.

The order said the Hopi Reservation has continued to see a rise in positive COVID-19 cases in every village and community, with a positive test rate of 25.6% and 115 cases over the last 14 days, according to an executive order from the tribe shared on KUYI Hopi Public Radio’s Facebook page.

According to a report shared by the tribe’s radio station on Tuesday, family and cultural gatherings continue to serve as a hot spot for COVID-19 transmission.

In the most recent report shared Monday, the Hopi Tribe Department of Health and Human Services said the reservation has had a total of 1,141 Hopi Tribal members test positive.

Approximately 120 Hopi Tribal members have died due to COVID-19 complications, according to the station.

Widespread community transmission is reported in all villages, said the radio station’s post.

Major hot spots on the reservation included the Third Mesa area of Hotevilla, Bacavi and Oraibi with 8.7% where the population was actively infectious, Moenkopi with 3.36% and Kykotsmovi at nearly 3% as of Jan. 25.

According to the executive order by the Hopi Tribe, the lockdown requires masks to be worn at all times. A daily reservation-wide curfew extends from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.

A 57-hour weekend curfew will be in effect for three consecutive weekends beginning Feb. 12, extending from Friday at 8 p.m. to Monday at 5 a.m. The Hopi Tribal Government will shut down from Feb. 8 to Feb. 15.

Residents may only leave their homes to travel to and from work, seek medical care, care for an elder or resident needing assistance, and perform essential travel and activities like grocery shopping, hauling water, gathering hay and feed and procuring household heating supplies.

All businesses on the reservation except for defined essential businesses and services must cease all activities, said the order, and essential businesses must comply with social distancing requirements.

All residents are restricted from gathering with individuals they do not live with. Secular gatherings and celebrations are prohibited, but cultural and religious activities are strongly encouraged to be conducted with guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services.

The tribe’s official COVID-19 dashboard was last updated on Dec. 21, when it said there had been 692 total positive cases among tribal members, and 825 total.
**Childhood Traumatic Grief: Information for Parents and Caregivers**

**How do children grieve?**

Children of all ages grieve after the death of a family member, friend, or other important person. Grieving children can show a range of emotions and reactions. Sometimes they appear sad and talk about missing the person. Other times they play, interact with friends, and do their usual activities. In addition to intense sadness, children may show changes in behavior (e.g., be less interested in usual activities, be irritable, have changes in sleeping or eating), changes in their social interactions (e.g., be more withdrawn), and/or question their faith. When adjusting to the loss, children typically are able to participate in “tasks” considered helpful to the grieving process:

- Understanding the person cannot come back
- Coping with feelings about the person and the death
- Adjusting to changes in life without the person
- Talking about memories and what that person meant to them
- Committing to relationships with new people
- Continuing on a healthy developmental path

In Childhood Traumatic Grief, children have traumatic stress reactions to a death which interfere with their ability to accomplish the tasks of bereavement. When this happens, even happy thoughts and memories of the person remind children of the distressing way the person died. A younger child may be afraid to sleep alone at night due to nightmares about a shooting that she witnessed, while an older child may avoid playing on the school baseball team his father used to coach because it brings up painful thoughts about his father’s death in a terrible car accident. These children get “stuck” on the traumatic aspects of the death and cannot process their grief successfully. When children with Traumatic Grief have scary thoughts, upsetting memories, and negative feelings related to how the person died. They may also have uncomfortable physical symptoms. To control and minimize the unpleasant feelings and reactions, they try to avoid the scary memories; avoid talking or thinking about anything related to the person or way the person died; and also avoid people, places, or things that trigger upsetting thoughts and feelings. These reactions and the fear of stirring up scary reminders make it difficult to remember positive things or to talk about the person and what the person meant to them.

Most children recover and adjust to the death of a family member, friend, or other important person. But a smaller number will develop Childhood Traumatic Grief, which can occur following a death from sudden, unexpected causes such as a homicide or suicide, mass shooting, disaster, accident, or an unexpected medical condition such as a heart attack. However, children can also develop symptoms even if the death was due to natural causes, advanced age, or a terminal illness such as cancer, especially if the child was surprised or scared by the death or was witness to complex or frightening medical procedures.

Grief related traumatic stress reactions may include the following:

- Intrusive reactions such as upsetting thoughts, images, nightmares, memories, or play about the frightening way the person died
- Physical or physiological distress such as headaches, stomachaches, symptoms mimicking the way the deceased died, jumpiness, trouble concentrating
- Avoidance reactions such as withdrawal; acting as if not upset about the death; or avoiding reminders of the person, the way the person died, places or things related to the person, or events that led to the death
- Negative mood or beliefs related to the traumatic death such as anger, guilt, shame, self-blame, loss of trust, believing the world is unsafe
- Increased arousal such as irritability, anger, trouble sleeping, decreased concentration, dropping grades, increased vigilance, and fears about safety of oneself or others; self-destructive or risk-taking behaviors (e.g., substance abuse, suicidality)

Parents or other important caregivers play a key role in helping children or adolescents with Traumatic Grief. The following are some ways to support a child who may have Traumatic Grief:

- Allow time for children to talk or to express thoughts or feelings in creative ways. Listen carefully and ask questions in a non-judgmental manner to understand how they are doing. Encourage open communication with children when they are ready, without forcing them to talk when they don’t want to.
- Practice calming and coping strategies with your child.
- Take care of yourself, model coping strategies for your child, and seek out supportive people.

Keep in mind the signs of Traumatic Grief. Seek out guidance from a professional when troubling reactions seem to go on too long, interfere with school work or relationships with friends or family, or if you are unsure of how your child is doing. Children with Traumatic Grief and their parents or caregivers may benefit from professional counseling with a therapist trained to treat childhood trauma and grief issues.

Currently two treatment models have scientific evidence of helping children recover from Childhood Traumatic Grief:

- Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) for children ages 3-18 years and their parents or primary caregivers provided in 12-15 individual or group sessions. More information is available here: [https://www.nctsn.org/interventions/trauma-focused-cognitive-behavioral-therapy](https://www.nctsn.org/interventions/trauma-focused-cognitive-behavioral-therapy)
- Trauma Grief Components Therapy for Adolescents (TGCT-A) for teens ages 13-17 years, provided in groups. More information is available here: [https://www.nctsn.org/interventions/trauma-and-grief-component-therapy-adolescents](https://www.nctsn.org/interventions/trauma-and-grief-component-therapy-adolescents)
A few important FAQs about vaccines

Duane Humeyestewa
Chairman’s Staff

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – February 1, 2021

and what can do now to help protect myself from getting COVID-19 until I am able to get a vaccine?

To protect yourself, follow these recommendations:
· Wear a mask over your nose and mouth
· Stay at least 6 feet away from others
· Avoid crowds
· Avoid poorly ventilated spaces
· Wash your hands often

Get more information about these and other steps you can take to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

If I have already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that reinfection with COVID-19 is possible, you should be vaccinated regardless of whether you already had COVID-19 infection. If you were treated for COVID-19 symptoms with monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma, you should wait 90 days before getting a COVID-19 vaccine. Talk to your doctor if you are unsure what treatments you received or if you have more questions about getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Experts do not yet know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. The immunity someone gains from having an infection, called “natural immunity,” varies from person to person. It is rare for someone who has had COVID-19 to get infected again. It also is uncommon for people who do get COVID-19 again to get it within 90 days of when they recovered from their first infection. We won’t know how long immunity produced by vaccination lasts until we have more data on how well the vaccines work.

Both natural immunity and vaccine-induced immunity are important aspects of COVID-19 that experts are working to learn more about, and CDC will keep the public informed as new evidence becomes available.

Do I need to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others if I have gotten 2 doses of the vaccine?

Masks and avoid close contact with others to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Experts need to understand more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide in real-world conditions before making that decision. Other factors, including how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities, will also affect this decision. We also don’t yet know whether getting a COVID-19 vaccine will prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to other people, even if you don’t get sick yourself. CDC will continue to update this page as we learn more.

While experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, it will be important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic.

To protect yourself and others, follow these recommendations:
· Wear a mask over your nose and mouth
· Stay at least 6 feet away from others
· Avoid crowds
· Avoid poorly ventilated spaces
· Wash your hands often

Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC’s recommendations for how to protect yourself and others will offer the best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19.
KYKOTSMOVI, AZ — February 1, 2021 — For most of January, Arizona has had the highest rate of new COVID-19 cases in a nation that has led the world in its number of positive cases and deaths. And Arizona has also had one of the highest weekly rates of new COVID-19 deaths in the country, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). During the first wave of the pandemic from March through late summer, Arizona also briefly topped the nation and the world for its COVID-19 case rate. A second surge of illness was anticipated and normal for the course of the pandemic, but some critics argue it was not inevitable for Arizona to lead the nation in case rates for most of the past month.

The Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) says a new, more infectious variant of COVID-19 has been confirmed in Arizona. The variant was first identified in the United Kingdom late last year and arrived in the U.S. in December. So far, Arizona agencies have reported three positive samples. According to the CDC Arizona continues to have the highest rate of new infections in the country and second-highest rate of deaths in the U.S. COVID-related hospitalizations and the state’s seven-day rolling averages of new known daily cases and daily deaths have slowed recently, but hospital officials this week urged Arizonans against becoming complacent about mask wearing and social distancing. On Friday AZDHS reported more than 5,000 additional known cases. In all, more than 748,000 Arizonans are confirmed to have been infected since the pandemic began.

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

As of this date – February 1, 2021

The United States now has approximately 25.92 million confirmed positive cases with 141,559 new cases and over 438,035 deaths reported.

Over 762,145 confirmed positive cases now exist in Arizona. Of those, close to 14,565 are in Navajo County alone.

The Hopi Health Care Center has tested over 8,295 patients to this date. Over 1,279 of those tests at Hopi Health Care Center came back positive with 907 from Hopi Tribal members. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation reported 234 positives for Hopi Villages with a combined number of 1141 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 1141+ 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.
### Hopi COVID-19 Reported Cases by Hopi Health Care Center Cases*
#### February 1, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hopi COVID-19 Reported Cases by Hopi Health Care Center Cases*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number Tested Today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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 February 1, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Reported by HHCC</th>
<th>Reported by Tuba City Regional Healthcare Corporation</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kiqotsmovi</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otayvi</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polacca</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Walpi-Sitsom’ovi-Tewa)</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>258+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musangnuvi</td>
<td>87</td>
<td></td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supalavii</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td>48+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sóngoopaví</td>
<td>204</td>
<td></td>
<td>204+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuvelu-pakí</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paaqavi</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotvela</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>159+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keams Canyon</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munkapi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>154+</td>
<td>155+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winslow</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>907</strong></td>
<td><strong>234</strong></td>
<td><strong>1141</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This graph demonstrates that cases per day stratified by village with a total case line and rolling seven-day line. This graph gives the total of positive cases for the day in a blue bar graph. The red line is the moving 7-day incidence average and demonstrates the general trend of Covid-19 of the community.

#### Cases on Hopi during the last 14 days

This graph demonstrates the active cases and is stratified by village. Currently there are 115 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 Hotvela and Munkapi; 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.
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.
Cross Word Puzzle
Find the English words for the Hopi words.

Across
1. Honmaqta
2. Saaca
3. Qoto
4. Ivayi
5. Kuuskong
6. P'ala
7. Tablypi
8. Tupko
9. Peena
10. Wunima

Down
1. Raana
2. Piqesa
3. Navota
4. Wumaqa
5. Aari
6. Tsatsayom
7. Malati
8. Aahu
9. Gunma
10. Maynak

Answers for January 20
Across
Down

Answers in next issue

Hopi Lavayi - Clans and Places
T A L A S T I M A Z I W U T A A P Q T A P I
A F O T O P S I K Y A F D W U Y A A U P A W
A N N T E P N G Y A M B G X L F L W W I A K
W U G M A Y G N S U W G N A P Q A I A I Q U
A V T W M A Y G N P O K O O K A V N S A T
N A U K U M A Y G N E E L D K L A P G A P U
G N P Z B S M A Y G N P I P A A K I Y M N U
Y G Q L E B N G Y A M X W V T N Y O A B G T
A Y A I M M A Y G N A N O H S G E K M Q Y M
M A S N G Y A M Y A R M D I Y E O A M A A
T M A Y G N K O T A O S B W N A K U Y A M Y
A K W A A N G Y A M M C N V N M Y N G Y A G
P I I K Y A S N G Y A M U G G R E G N Q N
N B D I P W A H A H E S T O Y B K Y N N Y L
G C P A A I S N G Y A M R C A A D A O U U O
Y X M A Y G N S O Q I P C D M Z M H S T V
M M A Y G N R A Y K Y E L N G Y A M H X U O
K O O K Y A N G W N G Y A M A Y A O O Q S P

Clans
Honangyam (Badger)
Honngyam (Bear)
Piqösngyam (Bear Strap)
Awatngyam (Bow)
Poovolngyam (Butterfly)
Piikyasngyam (Young Com)
Isngyam (Coyote)
Atokngyam (Crane)
Angwusngyam (Crow)
Kwaangyam (Eagle)
Kookopngyang (Fire)
Tapngyang (Grease-wood)
Leengyang (Flute)
Hongyam (Juniper)
Katsinnyang (Kachina)
Masngyang (Maa-
saw)
Asngyang (Mustard)
Kyarrngyang (Parrot)
Tapngyang (Rabbit)
Paaqangyang (Reed)
Tuwangyang (Sand)
Tsungyang (Snake)
Nuvangyang (Snow)
Kyeelngyang (Sparrow Hawk)
Kookyangwngyang (Spider)
Taaawangyang (Sun)
Qalangyang (Sun Forehead)
Pipngyang (Tobacco)
Paaisngyang (Water Coyote)

Clan Words
Movi (Female Inlaw)
Qo’oya (Matriarch)

Places
Alavakyekye (Albuq. NM)
Paatwi (Big Mt. or Black Mesa)
Suntuyqa (Balakai Mesa)
Talastima (Blue Canyon)
Morova (Burro Spring)
Yot.se’hahawpi (Chevelon Buttes)
Qawinpi (Gray Mt.)
Masiipa (Shonto Spring)
Ongtupqa (Grand Canyon)

Are you into drawing COMICS?

New Perspective - Education

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

Drawing comics is a great way to show your drawing skills and your side of Hopi Humor. If you have the skill and the humor to draw comics for the Hopi Tutuveni.

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

Advertise your legals with the Hopi Tutuveni! Call or email to advertise as your legal. Pricing is available upon request for black and white legal advertisements Call: 928-734-3283 or email: ads@hopi.nsn.us

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

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

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

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

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:
All press releases, articles, letters to the editor and Opinion Editorials electronically as a Word document or as plain text in the body of an email to the Managing Editor, Romalita Laban RLaban@hopi.nsn.us

CIRCULATION

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

Job Title: Maintenance Technician
Department: Maintenance
Location: Walpi Housing

Reports to: General Manager/Maintenance Manager
How to apply: www.htedc.com; Fill out the online application or download the application and return to Walpi Housing

GENERAL PURPOSE

The Maintenance Technician is responsible for the general repairs and daily preventative maintenance of the entire property.

KEY TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

• Establishes and maintains a professional, positive attitude with management, co-workers and general public
• Provides excellent customer service at all times
• Maintains a neat and clean professional appearance
• Identifies and reports all maintenance/repair issues to management
• Ensures all areas of the facilities and grounds are kept in a clean and organized manner
• Rotates and stocks all products in both stores and restaurant cleaning closet Completes all daily work orders
• Provides continual communication with the front office and/or supervisor
• Performs other duties as assigned by immediate supervisor and/or general manager
• Fulfills guest/customer issues in a timely manner

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Possess a high school diploma or GED

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

• Minimum 6 months of maintenance experience
• Knowledge in carpentry, plumbing electrical preferred
• Ability to operate electrical power tools

CORE COMPETENCES

• Ability to work with minimal supervision
• Ability to communicate effectively with management and clients
• Ability to understand written and verbal work orders
• Ability to pass a background check and driver's abstract
• Possess a valid Arizona driver's license
• Demonstrate ability for time management

WORKING CONDITIONS

• Must be able to stand for long periods of time
• Must be able to bend and twist on a regular basis
• Must be able to lift between 30-50 lbs.
• Must be able to tolerate working in both hot and cold weather conditions

PAY RATE

• DOE
• Full time

Visit our website at www.hthta.org for more detailed information regarding this vacancy announcement.
Around this time on the Hopi mesas, we get excited for the New Year, and what it holds in store for us. We’re excited for the ceremonies that will be happening, and men will be excited for planting season in a couple of months. Women will start preparing a list of needs for the ceremonies that will be happening in the New Year so she can be prepared for whatever comes her way.

But this year it feels like we are confused now. Sure we understand this virus now, but we can’t figure out why it’s not leaving us alone. Most of us want to be happy again like in the past, where we saw all sorts of happy events and most of us want to feel that happiness once again.

When I was a young kitten, ceremonies meant that we would have to work extra, like clean the house, clean the yard, and actually wash our hands…and as a young kitten I used to hate all of that. I wanted to play with my friends and I wanted to just have fun. When the main event was happening, we paid no attention to it. If folks talked to each other it was for a quick second to say “Hey what’s up?” then leave without having any more conversation with each other.

This new normal is training us to be anti-social more and more each day. But can you say that’s a good or bad thing? As I had my cat gloves on and my face mask on, I went into the store to grab my essentials. As I was checking out, I noticed that the candy stand was full. Normally the candy stands are usually empty due to the kids always wanting candy. But since the store’s policy is to have no kids under the age of 16 enter, it occurred to me that for one; I forgot how people smile at each other when just in public and two; How come candy is not on sale? I mean kids aren’t getting candy anymore so why is it still $3.00 for a candy bar? I demand that candy should go on sale ‘cause the candy racks are still full!! But I digress…

Sometimes when I do go to the local store to get what I need, I forget that we don’t see our friends anymore. I forgot how to give a hug and I forgot how a hug feels like. I’m not a big hugger but it sure would feel nice to get a hug, because we lost that connection now, but I’m sure it will come back, I’m sure we will have empty candy bins again, and I’m sure we will feel what a hug feels like once again, we just need to be virtuous and have patience.

My advice to you is to never give up hope even when all else fails and you’re thinking it’s the end of the world. Never give up on people, because you never know if that person will save someone’s life or your life. Never give up on structure, it was made for us in mind even when it seems silly and you think it may not apply to you. You may never know when it might come in handy and never give up on yourself. We will see the sun shine again and we will see a new tomorrow even if it bothers us to not want to see a new tomorrow. Just keep in mind that someone or something wants to see you in a new tomorrow. Then again, I can’t afford expensive candy…so I’ll just stick to cat treats under the table or whatever my owner drops from his mouth…
Health care workers clapped their hands and held signs. Others cheered behind their masks.

The celebration this week was spurred by 4-year-old Stella, a Diné COVID-19 survivor, who was able to leave the University of New Mexico Hospital for the first time in eight months.

“To be honest with you … I have not seen a child leaving with a big ceremony like this. She was the first,” said Dr. Senan Hadid, who was one of Stella’s doctors.

While Stella made a full recovery from the virus itself, the kind-hearted young girl is expected to live with complications from her infection for many years to come.

Stella now has a condition called acute transverse myelitis, which has left her paralyzed.

The condition happens when the immune system attacks the spinal cord as a reaction to an infection. In this case, it happened as a reaction to a coronavirus infection.

In addition, Stella recently lost her father, Stanford Martin, who was also Navajo, to COVID-19.

Her mother, Cassandra Yazzie, says in April, Stella ran up to her saying her back was hurting. Then Stella’s body went limp.

The child was quickly driven to a local hospital but had to be airlifted nearly 200 miles away to Albuquerque for more immediate medical attention.

Stella is a little girl who loves Baby Yoda, “Star Wars” and unicorns. During her time in the hospital, she even frequently reminded her nurses that she loves them.

“She tells everybody she loves them,” her mother said. “You could be the meanest person in the world, but she’ll break you down and say, ‘I love you.’”

Now her family is one of many across Indian Country whose lives have been changed from the dangerous virus. Stella’s father, who passed away last year, is among nearly a thousand Navajo citizens who have died, according to data from the nation.

Cassandra Yazzie says the care her daughter received at the University of New Mexico Hospital was “very, very good.”

The facility is New Mexico’s only dedicated children’s hospital, treating more than 60,000 kids each year.

The care Stella received was intensive and included neurology, immunology and cardiology teams, her doctor said. It also included care for her emotional well-being because it left Stella “deeply saddened” to wake up and realize she no longer had mobility.

“We tried our best, not only with the medical part of things, but with entertaining and interacting with her,” Hadid said. Nurses and staff kept her busy by bringing her toys, games and even an iPad so she could listen to songs from her favorite movie: “Frozen.”

Stella even made friends in the children’s hospital, her mom remembers. She would frequently say hello to another patient who walked past her room. One day, she gave him a bracelet.

This spirit is what made the hospital staff very fond of Stella.

“She felt like a child to me, like my own child, not a patient anymore,” Hadid said. When the time came for Stella to go home, he had the honor of pushing her in her wheelchair to the elevator.

“I would say half the staff from the UNM pediatrics department were there on that day. They were so happy to see her getting out of here finally.”

Stella’s mom says she hopes her daughter gets up, “starts walking and proves everybody wrong.”

“Whatever is out there, we’re still gonna be positive,” Yazzie said. “She’s only four years old, and she’s inspired so many people already.”

Her mother has set up an Instagram account for Stella to document her journey.

Her advice for other parents is to be really cautious with their kids.

“COVID is not a joke … and it does affect kids in so many different ways,” Yazzie said. “And even if COVID wasn’t going on, cherish your kids. They are very, very precious. That’s what my dad always told us.”

Hadid advises everyone to follow the precautions set out by health officials, including properly wearing a mask, washing your hands, social distancing and traveling only for absolute emergencies.

He added that Stella is a patient he will remember, leaving her with a message: “Stay strong and come back only to visit us. You’re not allowed to get sick again.”

Stella’s family has set up a GoFundMe account to pay for medical bills.
Joe Biden halts drilling in Arctic refuge

President Joe Biden put a hold on oil and gas drilling in the Arctic just hours after being inaugurated.

He signed an executive order Wednesday placing a temporary moratorium on all federal activities related to oil and gas leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Just the day before, nine leases had been signed by the Trump administration, well ahead of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act’s 2024 deadline requiring two lease sales in the refuge.

Biden’s executive order raises questions about the permitting process for the leases, saying, “in light of the alleged legal deficiencies underlying the program, including the inadequacy of the environmental review required by the National Environmental Policy Act …”

The order directs the Interior secretary of to redo a major step to “as appropriate, conduct a new, comprehensive analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the oil and gas program.” It notifies courts that the incoming attorney general may ask courts to put a hold on litigation related to oil and gas leasing in the refuge.

Biden also reinstated an Obama-era order withdrawing areas in Arctic waters and the Bering Sea from offshore oil and gas drilling and establishing the Northern Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge encompasses calving grounds for the Porcupine Caribou Herd, which includes some 200,000 animals. Pregnant females annually trek to the coastal plain of the refuge to give birth to as many as 40,000 calves.

The Gwich’in Athabascan people call the caribou calving grounds “Iizhik Gwats’an Gwandaii Goodlit,” meaning the sacred place where life begins.

The Gwich’in Steering Committee represents Canadian and Alaskan Gwich’in. Committee Executive Director Bernadette Demientieff said, “Mashi’ Choo, President Biden, the Gwich’in Nation is grateful to the President for his commitment to protecting sacred lands and the Gwich’in way of life.”

Kaktovik, the only village within the refuge, and the other villages on the North Slope of Alaska, are predominantly Inupiat.

North Slope oil and gas development has been a boon for them and other local residents. North Slope Borough property tax revenues subsidize government services that would otherwise be beyond the reach of village economies. Borough services include search and rescue, water and sanitation, housing, wildlife management and Inupiat history, language and culture.

A handful of for-profit Native corporations, Inupiat and Athabascan, have voiced support for drilling in the refuge, saying it will provide much needed jobs and reduce U.S. dependence on oil imports.

The Arctic Slope Regional Corporation’s Executive Vice President of External Affairs, Richard Glenn, Inupiat, stated, “Together with the other organizations of our region, we are working to assess the meaning and magnitude of the recent Executive and Secretarial Orders.

“We continue to advocate for the responsible development of resources in our region – a position that has never changed,” Glenn said. “When we have assessed the orders and their impacts, we intend to work with the Biden administration in a way that best represents our tribes, communities, and shareholders.”

The refuge is home to other wildlife, including polar bears, moose, marine mammals, fish and more than 200 species of migratory and resident birds.

Adam Kolton, executive director of the Alaska Wilderness League, issued a statement saying, “our national nightmare of environmental carnage ends today… Today’s executive order to stop the plundering of this national treasure is a critical first step toward what we hope will one day be the permanent protection of one of the last great expanses of untouched wilderness areas in America.”

President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation Collin O’Mara, said in a press release, “We applaud President Biden for taking these critical first steps on our long journey to rebuild our economy, revitalize frontline communities, improve our health, reduce pollution, renew our public lands, respect Indigenous communities, and protect our wildlife heritage.”

Alaska’s Congressional delegation and governor, all Republicans, criticized Biden’s actions in a prepared statement.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski said, “at a time when the United States, and especially Alaska, is struggling to deal with the impacts of COVID-19, I am astounded to see that the Biden administration’s ‘day one’ priority is [to] put our economy, jobs, and nation’s security at risk.”

Sen. Dan Sullivan said, “… in his inaugural address, President Biden called for national unity and healing. However, just hours earlier, his administration took their cues from radical environmentalists in issuing punitive and divisive actions against Alaska, many other resource development states, and whole sectors of our economy.”

Alaska Rep. Don Young called Biden’s action “not surprising, though no less disappointing, that …by reviewing federal rules that Alaska benefits from, and by placing a moratorium on energy development in ANWR, President Biden has surrendered to his party’s environmental extremists.”

Alaska Gov. Mike Dunleavy also stated he wasn’t surprised.

“As a candidate Joe Biden campaigned on stopping oil and gas development on federal lands. Make no mistake about it, President Biden appears to be making good on his promise to turn Alaska into a large national park,” Dunleavy said in a statement.

The president’s executive orders call for review or a halt to other federal actions of import to American Indians and Alaska Natives. He revoked the permit for the Keystone XL oil pipeline, which the Oglala Lakota say threatens their drinking water source. Biden called for review of a rule that opens the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska to logging, and for a look at the boundaries of the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments in Utah and of Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument.
Tribal consultation is also crucial when it comes to the pandemic.

“This builds on the work we did last week to expand tribes’ access to the Strategic National Stockpile for the first time, to ensure they receive help from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, to fight this pandemic,” Biden stated Tuesday.

On Jan. 21, Biden announced that FEMA would make financial assistance available to tribal governments at 100 percent of the federal cost share.

When the COVID-19 pandemic was declared a national emergency, it activated eligible tribal, state and local governments to access FEMA emergency funding, Washburn said. The federal cost share was 75 percent, and tribes were responsible for 25 percent of the cost.

“It has been something the tribes have been asking for, for a long time, and there has been legislation pending in the House and Senate on it,” Washburn said.

The funding can be used for safe openings, operations of schools, childcare facilities, health care facilities, shelters, transit systems, and more.

Another ask by the tribes: access to the Strategic National Stockpile. And granted by the administration on Jan. 21.

The public health supply chain executive order states that the “Secretary of Health and Human Services shall consult with Tribal authorities and take steps, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, to facilitate access to the Strategic National Stockpile for federally recognized Tribal governments, Indian Health Service healthcare providers, Tribal health authorities, and Urban Indian Organizations.”

Fawn Sharp, Quinault, president of the National Congress of American Indians, said the administration’s first week demonstrated that the needs of tribal nations are a priority.

“I am both excited and encouraged that the Biden Administration is taking so many meaningful and significant steps towards Tribal Nations’ priority issues -- respect for sovereignty, racial equity, urgent action on climate change, protection of sacred sites and ancestral ecosystems, and the commitment to meaningful Tribal consultation,” she said. “There's immense work still to be done, but we celebrate that the first steps President Biden has taken towards truth and reconciliation with Tribal Nations are so responsive to our needs and aligned with our values and principles.”

Since Day One, the Biden administration has gone full speed on taking presidential actions that affect tribal nations.

Hours after taking his oath, Biden revoked the permit for the Keystone XL pipeline, placed a temporary moratorium on all oil and gas activities in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and signed another executive order on “advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the federal government.”

“I think it's exciting and it shows that things are going to be front and center for him and his entire administration,” Washburn said, adding that includes hiring more Native people across the board.

In addition to New Mexico Rep. Deb Haaland’s nomination for Interior secretary, Washburn said, “President Biden, he promised during the campaign that tribes would have a seat at the table at the highest levels of federal government and a voice throughout the government, and I think that he’s really showing in the early beginning days of his administration that he is going to make sure that happens.”

And down to what is in the Oval Office. Washburn pointed out that a painting of Andrew Jackson, a strong proponent of Indian removal, was removed from the Oval Office. The “Swift Messenger” sculpture by Allan Houser, Chiricahua Apache, now sits on a bookcase, reported the Albuquerque Journal.

As for land acknowledgments, that’s an ongoing conversation.

“It is something that we are talking about, so I think we will talk about it and really, I'd like to talk to Deb Haaland about it as well, and once she's confirmed it's something that I think will become a focus,” Washburn said.

This story has been corrected to show Tuesday, Jan. 26 was the day the executive order was signed.
Study: 75 percent of Natives would get vaccinated

Birdie Lyons received the COVID-19 vaccine on Monday, at the Cass Lake Hospital on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation in northern Minnesota. (Photo courtesy of Vince Rock)

Updated: Correction noted at the end of this story

American Indians and Alaska Natives are willing to get vaccinated at rates above the national average to prevent COVID-19 — despite safety concerns about the vaccines. Many are motivated by a desire to protect their community.

That’s according to the first national study of Native American and Alaska Native attitudes toward, knowledge of, and beliefs about COVID-19 vaccines.

The Urban Indian Health Institute posed 49 questions in an online survey between Dec. 11 and Dec. 30, 2020. It received responses from 1,435 American Indians and Alaska Natives in 46 states and representing 318 tribal affiliations.

The Seattle-based tribal epidemiological center issued the results Thursday. The institute said the goal was to gather information such as individuals’ willingness to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, and hurdles they face in accessing healthcare and resources.

The survey found that 75 percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native participants would be willing to get vaccinated. A different study shows 64 percent of the U.S. general population is willing to get the shots.

However, 75 percent of the respondents were also concerned about potential side effects.

“Willingness to receive a vaccine and hesitancy are not mutually exclusive,” said Urban Indian Health Institute Director Abigail Echo-Hawk, Pawnee and Athabascan.

“Fear and distrust of government and medical systems still exists in our community, which are hurdles that we have to overcome.” The study notes “…historic distrust, rooted in the legacy of colonialism, genocide, and medical experimentation may contribute to vaccine hesitancy.”

“The data indicates that most Native people willing to be vaccinated feel it is their responsibility for the health of their community,” Echo-Hawk said. “This shows what motivates our community when it comes to decision-making.”

Other key findings

- 74 percent of participants said getting vaccinated is their responsibility to their community
- 72 percent of participants wanted evidence of the vaccine’s current and long-term safety
- 39 percent of all participants reported difficulty traveling to their clinic for an appointment
- Two-thirds of participants willing to get vaccinated were confident COVID-19 vaccines were adequately tested for safety and effectiveness among Native people
- 75 percent of participants willing to get vaccinated had concerns about potential side effects
- 25 percent of participants were unwilling to receive a COVID-19 vaccine
- 90 percent of participants unwilling to get vaccinated recognized COVID-19 as a serious disease
- 89 percent of participants unwilling to get vaccinated had concerns about potential side effects

“This data will be important to all organizations conducting COVID-19 vaccine education efforts,” Echo-Hawk said. “Native communities have unique challenges and needs that usually are not considered in public health campaigns.”

Echo-Hawk hopes the report will increase understanding of the unique perspectives of Native people.

Recommendations

- Based on the survey results, the institute recommends: Tailoring and centering vaccination campaigns on the cultural values of Native peoples
- Supporting tribal and urban Indian health clinics in leading COVID-19 vaccination efforts, given their position in the community as a trusted, safe, and familiar spaces, with cultural knowledge and expertise.
- Utilizing effective ambassadors, such as healthcare providers, elders, and tribal leaders, to provide accessible and clear information about the COVID-19 vaccines, including the process of vaccine development, vaccine safety and effectiveness, potential side effects, cost, and personal and community benefits of vaccination.

Acknowledging how historic and current harms perpetrated by healthcare institutions and the U.S. government have contributed to skepticism of vaccines. This could be done by a public form.

Grounding vaccination campaigns in community participation and community voice to ensure vaccine messaging is culturally relevant.

Recognize that vaccine acceptance is a spectrum and those unwilling to get vaccinated may change their opinions once concerns of safety, effectiveness, and accessibility have been addressed. Conversely, acknowledge vaccine acceptance does not mean hesitancy is not present, as those willing to get vaccinated voiced similar concerns around safety for Native people.

Disproportionate impacts

Studies show American Indian and Alaska Native people continue to be disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Their numbers of cases and deaths are 3.5 and 1.8 times that of non-Hispanic Whites.

“These inequities are also the result of structural racism produced by policies and practices sanctioned by various levels of government and built into economic systems and societal norms,” the report states. It also points to disparities in opportunities in health literacy stemming from Western education. “However, as Native people we recognize that traditional Indigenous knowledge systems will continue to sustain us as we build thriving communities grounded in our traditional ways.”

The institute is one of 12 tribal epidemiological centers across the country working to strengthen the health of American Indian and Alaska Native communities. It conducts research such as a recent study of the impacts and needs of urban Native direct-service organizations due to COVID-19. It promotes health, collects and analyzes data, and provides disease surveillance and resources.

Correction: 72 percent of participants wanted evidence that the vaccine is safe right now and in the long term. An earlier version of this story included a different number.