Indigenous MMA fighters battle in the cage
- More on pg. 14

Navajo Nation pushes for radioactive waste remnants to be removed
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COLUMNS
LARRY’S CORNER
A day in a life of a stink bug
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Hopi Tribe
Enrollment updates

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Hopi Board of Education is Sworn in on October 22, 2021

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Braves bring chop to World Series
- More on pg. 15
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Submitted by: Dr. Noreen E. Sakiestewa

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – Friday, October 29, 2021. Five members of the Hopi Board of Education (HBE) were sworn in by Judge Delfred Leslie of the Hopi Trial Court at a ceremony at the Moenkopi Legacy Inn, Munique, Ariz. on Friday, October 22, 2021. The five HBE members are:

• Robyn Kayquoptewa (At Large Member)
• Merwin Kooyahoema (Second Mesa Day School)
• Sophia Quotskuyva (Hopi Day School)
• Le Roy Ned Shingoitewa (Moencopi Day School)
• Ronya Talayumptewa-Peshlakai (Hopi Junior Senior High School).

The HBE will now begin its work of creating a comprehensive and unified Hopi School System and promoting collaboration, consistency, and accountability among all schools and educational programs on the Hopi reservation.

The five HBE members were appointed by the Hopi Tribal Council (HTC) on October 5, 2021 by a unanimous vote with one abstention. This appointment process was approved by the HTC on June 8, 2021 after two attempts to hold the HBE election were made last year but not enough candidates applied to make the elections viable.

“…the transition process will now be able to move forward with this critically important step of a seated HBE to provide leadership and build the foundation for the new unified Hopi School System and to provide an education that is culturally relevant and contribute to the wellbeing and development of our Hopi students.”

As the HBE is intended to be a nine-member board, the Hopi Tribe Education Transition Team is also seeking additional candidates to fill the remaining four seats on the HBE. The Transition Team is a team of over 40 professionals, teachers, parents, and school administrators who in the Hopi Education Code are charged with facilitating and implementing the transition from the current organization of Hopi’s Tribally Controlled Schools to the unified Hopi School System.

The remaining four positions on the HBE are for the following attendance areas: First Mesa Elementary School, Keams Canyon Elementary School, Hotevilla Bacavi Community School, and an At-Large member representing the entire Hopi Reservation.

Throughout this entire process, the Hopi Health and Education Committee have supported the transition to a unified Hopi School System. The Committee’s Chairman, Mr. David Talayumptewa, stated that “…it is very important that each school Attendance Area has every opportunity to put forth their unique needs and goals on the HBE, and so I encourage all who are interested to apply for these remaining positions and contribute to this important and historic development in Hopi education.”

HBE Election Team Lead, Sam Tenakhongva stated, “Self-nominations for appointment are accepted and nominations can also be made by school boards, parent committees, villages, and community members.”

The Transition Team is looking forward to accepting applications for these important positions. Dr. Noreen E. Sakiestewa, Director of the Hopi Department of Education and Workforce Development, stated “I encourage all those who would like to give their time for our children and help create a truly Hopi school system anchored in the principles and values of the Hopi way of life.”

A virtual public “Information Session on the Appointment of the Hopi Board of Education” will be held on November 17, 2021, 5:30 p.m., at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994912528 or by phone at 346-248-7799, Meeting ID 819 9491 2528. This Information Session will provide an opportunity to learn more about the HBE qualification requirements, application processes, and to ask questions. The HBE application due date is November 30, 2021, 5:00 p.m. The HBE Candidate application and other information can be found at https://www.hopi-nsn.gov/tribal-services/department-of-education/, or by contacting Dr. Noreen E. Sakiestewa at NSakiestewa@hopi.nsn.us or at 928-734-3501.
Hopi General Election Set for November 11, 2021

Hopi Elections Office Issues Email – Updated Early Voting Information

Romalita Laban - Hopi Tutuveni

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – October 29, 2021, Karen Shupla, Registrar Hopi Elections Office notified recipients on the Hopi Tribe’s “All list” and others, via an October 28th email with Subject: Early Voting Extended- Hopi Elections Office about the latest updates regarding the Hopi Tribe’s Early Voting opportunities being rescheduled due to closure of the office “the last few days” referring to October 26–28, 2021.

Just two days prior on the afternoon of Tuesday, October 26, 2021, Cianna Sakeva, Hopi Elections Assistant notified all Hopi Tribal Workers via email that, “The Hopi Elections Office will be closed for the remainder of the day today (10/26) and all day tomorrow (10/27) due to exposure in our office. We are taking the necessary precautions with sanitization which will take place immediately.”

In Shupla’s email notification she explained, “…due to unforeseen circumstances the Hopi Elections Office had to be closed for a couple of days, Early Voting was scheduled during this time. Normal business hours will continue beginning tomorrow Friday, October 29, 2021…8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m…. “ Further information also included, “…the Office will be open to continue the Early Voting cycle. Early Voting will be [extended] through November 1, 2, and the 3rd due to the closure of the office the last few days. This will allow those to come and vote if they had tried to come to the office during the time of closure…For more information, you may contact the Hopi Elections Office tomorrow, Friday, October 29, 2021, at 1-928-734-2507/2508 or email Kshupla@hopi.nsn.us. Thank you for understanding.”

Today, October 29, 2021, Shupla sent out another email notification with the Subject: Early Voting Extension – Hopi Elections Office and included a general information flyer noting the same information as that listed in the above paragraph.

Although neither Shupla nor the Hopi Elections Board has submitted the information for advertising or in a press release, Hopi Tutuveni is including the information in the November 3rd publication for the benefit of ensuring information is shared with the eligible Hopi voters. The information is being included, as a courtesy from Hopi Tutuveni, in this democratic process of voting in the 2021 Hopi Tribal General Elections.

General Election is set for Thursday, November 11, 2021, and the Hopi Elections Office will require those who have Absentee Ballots to have them mailed in to the Kykotsmovi Post Office, where Hopi Elections Office receives its mail. In a general email notification sent October 11, 2021, Shupla noted, “IMPORTANT DATE: November 10, 2021, is the date the Hopi Election Board will be collecting the remaining Absentee Ballots from the Kykotsmovi Post Office. November 11, 2021, is a National Holiday and the post office will be closed. Canvassing will be held on November 11, 2021, beginning at around 7:30 p.m. at the Peace Academic Center, Kykotsmovi, [Arizona].”

Tutuveni has been providing updates and information regarding the upcoming 2021 Hopi Tribal Elections for Chairman and Vice-Chairman by making contact with the Hopi Elections Office staff and providing opportunities for press releases and ad placements. The Hopi Elections Office has foregone submitting any press releases or requests to advertise since March 2021 when a lengthy press release was submitted but was then abruptly pulled. Hopi Tutuveni staff made phone contact with the Hopi Elections Office on Thursday, October 28, 2021, to inquire about updated vote counts and information about Early Voting being rescheduled. No staff was available however a message requesting a return was left on the voice mail. No calls have been received as of October 29, 2021. However, information received on Friday, October 22, 2021, from Cianna Sakeva, Hopi Elections Assistant, that counts were being updated on the Hopi Tribe’s website on the Hopi Elections Office page was confirmed on October 26th. Below is what is depicted on the page as of October 29, 2021, and which has not changed since October 26th:

### 2021 General Elections Early Voting

**Updated: October 22nd, 2021 4:00pm**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polacca (Circle M)</td>
<td>October 18, 2021</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Second Mesa (Secakuka Store)</td>
<td>October 19, 2021</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kykotsmovi (Kiisonvi Parking Area)</td>
<td>October 20, 2021</td>
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<td>Hotevilla (Community Building)</td>
<td>October 21, 2021</td>
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<tr>
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<td>October 22, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>113</strong></td>
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**Updated: October 26th, 2021 8:30am**

Due to the coronavirus pandemic the Hopi Elections Board determined “EARLY VOTING SITES” for the Hopi Reservation as another opportunity for the general public to get votes in. It hasn’t been determined as of late, if those efforts brought in more or less voters during the recent Primary Election as compared to previous election years, when there weren’t pandemic concerns present.

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**2021 General Elections Early Voting**

**Updated: October 22nd, 2021 4:00pm**

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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Hopi Tutuveni wants your AD’s
Call or email us to get a quote TODAY!
928-734-3283 or rlaban@hopi.nsn.us
Is Your Child Equipped to Succeed in Their Classes?

(StatePoint) Educational success goes beyond just making good grades. It also means loving the learning process and having the right tools can be a game changer. Here are five learning tools to consider:

• Better notetaking: Making sense of newly-introduced material when it comes to study can be challenging when one is working with regular pen and paper. Smart pens however feature built-in audio recording functionality and the ability to record and save every pen stroke, giving students multiple options for taking thorough notes and revisiting them.

• An intuitive calculator: Many students become bored or frustrated when they move beyond basic math. Often, it’s because they’re not properly equipped to succeed in higher-level classes. While you probably already know that a scientific calculator is necessary for high school and college-level math (and even middle school in some cases), not every model is easy to use or designed to actually aide comprehension of mathematical concepts. Being able to visualize calculations can make learning more interesting and keep your student’s head in the game.

To that end, consider the Casio FX-991EX. It has a large, high-resolution LCD screen, for easier use of applications such as spreadsheets and 4x4 matrix calculations, as well as Natural Textbook Display for two-dimensional templates of fractions and other mathematical formulas. With a comprehensive set of advanced calculations for integration and differential calculus, along with vector and inequality calculations, it’s an intuitively-designed calculator that can carry your student through many years of course instruction, studying and test-taking.

• New language tools: Sometimes foreign language classes leave students with an expansive vocabulary but not the conversational skills to use it. Make studying a new language more useful and fun by encouraging your child to make use of apps that focus on grammar, real-world conversation, and storytelling.

• A beginner’s keyboard: When it comes to the world of musical instruments, the piano is fundamental. However, if you’re looking to introduce the instrument to your budding musician affordably and in a way that will keep him motivated and inspired to practice, consider a keyboard designed with the beginner in mind. Portable and lightweight, Casiotone keyboards are first-class and offer a range of features designed to aide instruction. Pre-programmed, illuminated keys help novices learn songs quickly, representing a visual learning system based on the latest findings in music education. Also suitable for beginners are keyboards with a USB-to-device interface. This offers the possibility to connect the instrument to a storage medium device, so players can control their progress and stay motivated.

• An up-to-date prescription: Has your child ever complained that school is boring or tiring? It could be a vision problem that’s causing them to feel that way. Nearsightedness can make seeing the blackboard a struggle and farsightedness can turn the simple act of reading a book into a headache. Have your child’s vision checked annually to ensure their glasses or contacts prescription is up-to-date.

Educational tools can make learning easier, paving the way for your child to embrace school subjects and succeed.

Elevate Holiday Cooking With Quick and Easy Tweaks

(StatePoint) Holiday cooking and entertaining don’t have to be overly complex to impress. Here are quick, simple ways to elevate your meals for memorable experiences your friends and family will love:

Balanced Seasoning

Are your go-to family recipes in need of an update? Enhance the flavor profile of savory holiday dishes by swapping out salt and pepper and instead, reaching for Livia’s Seasoning Salt, an all-natural, pre-blended seasoning of kosher salt, coarse-ground black pepper and garlic.

“Livia’s is good on just about everything, which is why it’s the not-so-secret ingredient in a lot my creations,” says Peter Hoff, executive chef and partner, NOLO’s Kitchen & Bar.

You can use Livia’s in a number of ways during meal preparation and table-side to give holiday dishes something extra:

• Add flair to appetizers by shaking it into the yolk mixture of deviled eggs or using it to season baked brie.

• Season the outside of your turkey with olive oil and a few liberal shakes of Livia’s, or even create your own brine that will become a treasured recipe of its own.

• Season hams and roasts with it.

• Add it to stuffing and mashed potatoes.

• Update morning egg bake recipes to wow overnight guests.

• Include it on your holiday table so that guests can season their food to taste.

For more information, visit liviasseasoningsalt.com.

Add Pizzazz to Desserts

With a few updates, you can give your standard dessert line-up a touch of elegance. Use fresh ginger in your gingerbread cookies. Create your own crumbs for sprinkling on top of cakes. Garnish slices of pie with a mint or basil sprig or a cinnamon stick. Melt your favorite chocolate and drizzle it on anything.

Up Your Tablescape Game

A holiday feast is the perfect time to create a special atmosphere. And you can do so easily by breaking out your best dishes and utensils, as well as by adding a few natural elements to the tablescape, such as poinsettias, holly, evergreens and pinecones. Ditch the overhead lights and use candles or other warm lighting to create a soft, convivial glow.

You don’t need to overhaul your entire menu to make your holiday feast special. Make quick, simple tweaks and additions to your existing recipes and entertaining traditions to elevate the occasion.
Early Signs of Diabetic Hypoglycemia and What You Need to Know

Submitted by: Ms. Sandra Ovah, Program Coordinator, Hopi Wellness Center For Hopi Tutuveni
Kykotsmovi, Ariz. - October 20, 2021, Diabetic hypoglycemia occurs when someone with diabetes doesn't have enough sugar (glucose) in his or her blood. Glucose is the main source of fuel for the body and brain, so you can't function well if you don't have enough.

Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) is defined as a blood sugar level below 70 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL), or 3.9 millimoles per liter (mmol/L).

Pay attention to the early warning signs of hypoglycemia, and treat low blood sugar promptly. You can raise your blood sugar quickly by eating or drinking a simple sugar source, such as glucose tablets or fruit juice. Tell family and friends what symptoms to look for and what to do if you're not able to treat the condition yourself.

Symptoms

Early warning signs and symptoms
Initial signs and symptoms of diabetic hypoglycemia include:
• Shakiness
• Dizziness
• Sweating
• Hunger
• Fast heartbeat
• Inability to concentrate
• Confusion
• Irritability or moodiness
• Anxiety or nervousness
• Headache

Nighttime signs and symptoms
If diabetic hypoglycemia occurs when you're sleeping, signs and symptoms that may awaken you include:
• Damp sheets or night clothes due to perspiration
• Nightmares
• Tiredness, irritability or confusion upon waking

Severe signs and symptoms
If diabetic hypoglycemia isn't treated, signs and symptoms of severe hypoglycemia can occur. These include:
• Clumsiness or jerky movements
• Inability to eat or drink
• Muscle weakness
• Difficulty speaking or slurred speech
• Blurry or double vision
• Drowsiness
• Confusion
• Convulsions or seizures
• Unconsciousness
• Death, rarely

Symptoms can differ from person to person or from episode to episode. Some people don't have any noticeable symptoms. It's also possible you won't have any symptoms of hypoglycemia, so it's important to monitor your blood sugar levels regularly and keep track of how you're feeling when your blood sugar is low.

When to see a doctor
Severe hypoglycemia can lead to serious problems, including seizures or unconsciousness that requires emergency care. Make sure your family, friends and co-workers know what to do in an emergency.

If you're with someone who loses consciousness or can't swallow due to low blood sugar:
• Don't inject insulin, as this will cause blood sugar levels to drop even further
• Don't give fluids or food, because these could cause choking
• Give glucagon — a hormone that stimulates the release of sugar into the blood — through injection or nasally
• Call 911 or emergency services in your area for immediate treatment if glucagon isn't on hand

If you have symptoms of hypoglycemia several times a week or more, see your doctor. You may need to change your medication dosage or timing, or otherwise adjust your diabetes treatment regimen.

Causes

Low blood sugar is most common among people who take insulin, but it can also occur if you're taking certain oral diabetes medications.

Common causes of diabetic hypoglycemia include:
• Taking too much insulin or diabetes medication
• Not eating enough
• Postponing or skipping a meal or snack
• Increasing exercise or physical activity without eating more or adjusting your medications
• Drinking alcohol

Blood sugar regulation
The hormone insulin lowers blood sugar levels when blood sugar is too high. If you have type 1 or type 2 diabetes and need insulin to control your blood sugar, taking more insulin than you need can cause your blood sugar level to drop too low and result in hypoglycemia.

Your blood sugar can also drop too low if, after taking your diabetes medication, you eat less than usual (most of the body's glucose comes from food), or if you exercise more than you normally do, which uses extra glucose. Maintaining the balance between insulin, food and activity isn't always easy, but your doctor or diabetes educator can work with you to try to prevent low blood sugar levels.

Risk factors
Some people have a greater risk of diabetic hypoglycemia, including:
• People using insulin
• People taking certain oral diabetes drugs (sulfonylureas)
• Young children and older adults
• Those with impaired liver or kidney function
• People who've had diabetes for a longer time
• People who don't feel low blood sugar symptoms (hypoglycemia unawareness)
• Those taking multiple medications
• Anyone with a disability that prevents a quick response to falling blood sugar levels
• People who drink alcohol

Complications
If you ignore the symptoms of hypoglycemia too long, you may lose consciousness. That's because your brain needs glucose to function. Recognize the signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia early, because if untreated, hypoglycemia can lead to:
• Seizures
• Loss of consciousness
• Death

Take your early symptoms seriously. Diabetic hypoglycemia can increase the risk of serious — even deadly — accidents.

Prevention
To help prevent diabetic hypoglycemia:
• Monitor your blood sugar. Depending on your treatment plan, you may check and record your blood sugar level several times a week or multiple times a day. Careful monitoring is the only way to make sure that your blood sugar level remains within your target range.
• Don't skip or delay meals or snacks. If you take insulin or oral diabetes medication, be consistent about the amount you eat and the timing of your meals and snacks.
• Measure medication carefully, and take it on time. Take your medication as recommended by your doctor.
• Adjust your medication or eat additional snacks if you increase your physical activity. The adjustment depends on the blood sugar test results, the type and length of the activity, and what medications you take.
• Eat a meal or snack with alcohol, if you choose to drink. Drinking alcohol on an empty stomach can cause hypoglycemia. Alcohol may also cause delayed hypoglycemia hours later, making blood sugar monitoring even more important.
• Record your low glucose reactions. This can help you and your health care team identify patterns contributing to hypoglycemia and find ways to prevent them.
• Carry some form of diabetes identification so that in an emergency others will know that you have diabetes.
• Use a medical identification necklace or bracelet and wallet card.
Native American/Alaskan Heritage Month

Submitted by: Bernadean Kachin-hongva, Mentor - Hopi Substance Abuse Prevention Center
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Kykotsmovi, AZ – October 27, 2021 the month of November is National Native American and Alaskan Heritage Month. Native American Heritage Month first started as an effort to gain one day of recognition. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 “National American Indian Heritage Month.” Similar proclamations are under various names including “Native American Heritage Month” and “Native American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.” The HOPI Substance Abuse Prevention Center (HSAPC) encourages all Natives to embrace their lineage and culture, as a form of strengthening themselves. As Native Americans, our ancestors have struggled to keep our identity strong. We encourage all individuals to embrace and continue learning about their own heritage and values. Native Americans and Alaskan Natives work to have their voices heard and presence known, even after the many atrocities they have survived. However, some of our Native cultures and languages are slowly diminishing or have been completely lost. Trauma amongst all people of diverse backgrounds is slowly coming to light across the country. Natives are well aware of these injustices and live with the effects from generation to generation. It’s because of these injustices; historical trauma is evident in many of our people today. There is an understanding that alcohol was introduced to Native Americans as a way to impair their cognitive awareness. We see this in our work at the HSAPC with our participants as many continue to turn to substances. HSAPC continues to strengthen our people by implementing Hopi culture and values in our prevention programming.

Historically, some Native American nations aren’t recognized by the federal government or didn’t meet the criteria. While on the other hand, some choose not to be affiliated with the federal government. These circumstances have impacted the non-federally recognized nations in many ways, however, they’ve learned to adapt. HSAPC would like to recognize the non-federally recognized nations as well during National Native American and Alaskan Heritage Month. Continue to embrace your ancestors, teachings, culture, and language. HSAPC mentors work to remain open-minded in learning about our teachings as well as other nations. We recognize the impact of colonialism, trauma, and substance abuse on Native Americans and the increase of substances in our communities. HSAPC is proud to be a part of the Trauma Informed Substance Abuse Prevention Program (TISAPP) from the Arizona Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith, and Family. We encourage you to embrace your healing with traditional medicines, ceremonies, Creator/Higher Power and to find strength and resilience in your culture. If you would like further information on HSAPC services, you can call our office at 928-734-0300.

The Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program
WOOD HARVEST
HART RANCH
ENROLLED HOPI TRIBAL MEMBERS ONLY

<table>
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<td>Friday-Sunday, November 12-14 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday-Sunday, January 21-23 2021</td>
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Last Vehicle in at 2:00 pm NO EXCEPTION!!!!
DIRECTIONS:

FROM FLAGSTAFF:
From Flagstaff the Hart Ranch is approximately 20 miles east on I-40. Exit at the Twin Arrows Exit (Exit 219).

From Winslow:
From Winslow the Hart Ranch is approximately 40 miles west on I-40. Exit at the Twin Arrows Exit (Exit 219).

Harvesting sites are located approximately 5.5 miles south of the exit.

WEMP staff will be stationed at the main entrance to check you in and direct you to the different sites.

ITEMS TO BRING:
Your Tribal Enrollment Card and/or ID.
A spare tire, tools, chainsaw, food and plenty of water.

**NOTE**
A special Hopi Tribal Wood Hauling Permit will be issued to you at the main entrance before you leave the Hart Ranch.
For more information, you may contact the Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program at (928) 497-1014.

Hopi Tutuveni wants to know how we are doing.
Call or email us to tell us if we are doing a good job. We need your feedback
928-734-3283
KYKOTSMOVII, AZ – October 27, 2021

This data is updated on the Hopi Tribe’s website “COVID-19 Response and Resources” page.

Hopi Health Care Center – Community Vaccination Information:

COVID-19 vaccines are available every Tuesday’s for the month of November for those 18-years and older for Pfizer and Moderna only. Call (928) 737-6049/6081/6148.

Appointments are required.

COVID-19 Testing Drive Up Testing Remains Open Monday – Friday from 8 am to 9:30 am. Enter at the west entrance & drive around back. Wear a mask & stay in your vehicle. For more information about other testing options please call (928) 737-6233.

Moenkopi residents Tuba City Regional Health Care will have a Pfizer vaccine community drive-up vaccine clinic now available for individual’s 12-years and older. Call 1-866-976-5941 to schedule your appointment.

As of October 27, 2021 the United States now has approximately 45,571 million confirmed positive cases with over 737,990 deaths reported.

Over 1,156 million confirmed positive cases now exist in Arizona. Of those, close to 21,284 are in Navajo and 23,026 in Coconino Counties.

The Hopi Health Care Centers most recent data report indicates over 11,797 patients tested as of October 26, 2021. Over 1,608 of those tests at Hopi Health Care Center came back positive with 1,168 from Hopi Tribal members. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation reported 316 positives for Hopi Villages with a combined number of 1,500*** positive Hopi Tribal members.

*Note: Data include all state-wide data from facilities such as the Hopi Health Care Center, Flagstaff, Winslow, Phoenix or other hospitals. + Includes Village member(s) re-tested 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 2-10 days after exposure to the virus. Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19. Older adults and people who have severe underlying medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness.

### Village Most recent case

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Most recent Case</th>
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<tr>
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<td>October 26</td>
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<td>Flagstaff</td>
<td>August 27</td>
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<td>Tuba City</td>
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<td>Winslow</td>
<td>October 19</td>
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<td>YuWehlo Pahki</td>
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### Vaccination Data as of October 20, 2021

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<td>61.72%</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hotevilla</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>63.71%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kykotsmovi</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>80.01%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moshongovi</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>45.36%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moenkopi</td>
<td>1,146</td>
<td>805</td>
<td>70.24%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orayvi</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>104.85%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shungopavi</td>
<td>1,013</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>69.69%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sipalwavi</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>55.25%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polacca</td>
<td>1,908</td>
<td>1,199</td>
<td>62.84%</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total*</td>
<td>7137**</td>
<td>4,667</td>
<td>65.39%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This Table looks at both cases per capita for the Tribe and persons that have received at least one dose of the vaccine since the beginning of the pandemic. The village populations were calculated from the enrolment data from the tribe and is simply a rough estimate.

*Excludes the vaccines from Keams Canyon, Spider Mound, and those calculated as Second Mesa. The three groups combine for another 436 Hopi Tribal members who have received at least the first dose of the vaccine.

Total reservation percent vaccinated ~71.50%  Eligible population vaccinated ** ~79.27%

**Eligible population is 6437, population older than 12
**HOPI H.E.O.C UPDATES**


### Hopi COVID-19 Reported Cases by Hopi Health Care Center Cases*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hopi Health Care Center</th>
<th>Number Tested Today</th>
<th>Cumulative Number Positive</th>
<th>Cumulative Number Negative</th>
<th>Total Number in Process</th>
<th>Total Tested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hopi Tribe Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1,608</td>
<td>10,095</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11,797</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<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>Keams Canyon</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>346 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopi</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oraibi</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>142 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oraibi (Walpi-Sitsomovi-Tewa)</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>348 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oraibi</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>108 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supai</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>71 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuba City</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>237 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuba City (Walpi-Sitsomovi-Tewa)</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>348 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supai</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>64 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopi</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keams Canyon</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>63 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flagstaff</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muniapi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>139*</td>
<td>140*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2***</td>
<td>2***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Window</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6***</td>
<td>6***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuba City</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tesnok</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,168</strong></td>
<td><strong>316</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,484</strong>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This graph demonstrates the active cases and is stratified by village (includes tribal residing off-reservation). Currently there are 21 active cases that are defined as persons that have had a positive test result or symptom onset in the last 7 days. In this graph, the Total cases bar is all villages combined and should be excluded from the remainder of the graph. This graph is useful in isolating where the virus is most active at the current moment.

---

**14 day active cases**

---

**Total cases and seven day moving average**
Hopi Tutuveni November 3, 2021

Cross Word Puzzle
Find the English words for the Hopi words.

HOPILAVIT - FALL RELATED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Mansaana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Hochu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Qasvo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Piva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Honani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Lavayi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Hiliko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Wuwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Sáaqá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Nopna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Yöngösona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Lolma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Nuva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sóosoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Kyaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Wipho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Ishö</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Tumala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Hohcyi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Atwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Yckva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Súmala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Tuiskwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Nevota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Pusukinpí</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answers for October 6 issue
Across
Down

Call 928-734-3933 for hints or answers

Hopilavit - Fall Related

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Huk.yala - Abate (of wind)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Nitiwpu - Abundance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Aniwna - Achieve or Accomplish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Aptsiwta - Adequate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Natwanpi - Agricultural Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Qana'ona - Ambitious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Maqsoni - Arduous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Tuho'os - Autumn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Paapu - Beans (Pod)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Siyahahtiko - Beans (Y. Lima)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Pasqalalni - Boundary (Crop)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Patomełooni - Canteloupe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Hōkni - Corn (Harvested)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Tuupevu - Corn (Pit)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Hopi Words

- Huk.yala - Abate (of wind)
- Nitiwpu - Abundance
- Aniwna - Achieve or Accomplish
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- Pasqalalni - Boundary (Crop)
- Patomełooni - Canteloupe
- Hōkni - Corn (Harvested)
- Tuupevu - Corn (Pit)

Hopi Treats

- Níktiwta - Exclamation! (Horror)
- Àasa'ta - Fearsome
- Angwusi - Crow
- Mangwni - Corn Leaves
- Kyàasòmkwí'í - Creamed Corn
- Huyú - Corn (Roasted)
- Mąmqási - Fear
- Nuktsel'eway - Fearsome
- Sàmì - Fresh Corn
- Nàstì'p - Friend

Hopi Quarries

- Wàntsì - Steam (Husk)
- Tsepi - Corn (Pit)
- Tsáowá - Haul (Harvested)
- Wàntsì - Steam (Husk)
- Wàntsì - Steam (Husk)

Hopi Time

- Nàstì'p - Friend
- Nàstì'p - Friend
- Nàstì'p - Friend
- Nàstì'p - Friend

Hopi Games

- Wàntsì - Steam (Husk)
- Wàntsì - Steam (Husk)
- Wàntsì - Steam (Husk)
- Wàntsì - Steam (Husk)

Hopi Words

- Huk.yala - Abate (of wind)
- Nitiwpu - Abundance
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- Siyahahtiko - Beans (Y. Lima)

Right Answer:

A. Huk.yala - Abate (of wind)
B. Nitiwpu - Abundance
C. Aniwna - Achieve or Accomplish
D. Aptsiwta - Adequate
E. Natwanpi - Agricultural Practice
F. Qana'ona - Ambitious
G. Maqsoni - Arduous
H. Tuho'os - Autumn
I. Paapu - Beans (Pod)
J. Siyahahtiko - Beans (Y. Lima)

Answers in next issue

TICK-TACK-TOE
Ahhh…the stink bug, no one knows much about the stink bug, other than the fact that when you bother him, he sticks his butt up and sprays you with his stink, hence the name “Stink Bug.”

Although the stink bug may be a well-known pest to us Hopi cats, it is rarely discussed in Hopi folklore.

The stink bug is also known in some places as the clown beetle because of how he sticks his butt in the air to spray you with his stink as a defense mechanism. The stink bug is not an invasive bug, but it may strike your curiosity when you see it around your house. The stink bug does not hurt anyone and seems to be minding its own business as it is out and about or just lying flat on its back wiggling to get back on all fours.

I sometimes think about the stink bug because it is rarely talked about and there are few stories told about the stink bug in Hopi folklore. So, a question that comes to mind when I do see one is why does it exist? Does it have a purpose in this world? Why would life create something that has little to no purpose, in my mind, at all? I often think about the stink bug when I see it wandering around outside, but except for that, we don’t care for it.

Although I have not heard of any Hopi folklores about the creature, I have heard some Hopis call this bug a’ hoyani or “bug that comes back” and while it typically doesn’t bother you, if you get lucky to have it spray its stink at you, I would think you would not want it to come back.

So, when you don’t want Mr. Stinky to come towards you and spray you with his stink, you flick with your finger and he goes flying off into space. And by some miraculous events, he will come back towards you, hence the name a’ hoyani.

Now another thing that I find interesting about Mr. Stinky is that he doesn’t bother anyone. He minds his own business and does what he needs to do to achieve his daily quota. The only time we call him a pest is when he seems to bother us because when we flick him, he starts to come back to us, AGAIN, that’s when we get annoyed and call him a pest. I know it may seem harsh to the people who like bugs. I know it may seem to mean but I like to think maybe he was going to an important meeting and you were in the way of his route and that’s why he always tries to walk the same path you are in.

So why don’t we like him, he probably has a job, a family, or maybe his wife is pregnant and he must work overtime to provide for his family…I don’t know. If I spoke stink bug talk and got his side of the story, maybe this column wouldn’t be so one-sided.

So, you’re probably wondering why I chose to talk about the common stink bug, right? Well, for one thing, he must be here for a reason otherwise Hopis wouldn’t have a unique name for him, and I wouldn’t be writing about him at this very moment.

See in life sometimes we are forgotten by others and by “we” I mean Native Americans. And we are only remembered because we become open with our “uniqueness” and Hopi and Native Americans are no different from the stink bug…well my sisters are the stinky ones…but I digress.

See America has forgotten about us, we don’t exist in the minds of their “idea of life” at one point they called us “pests” but we just kept being and in some instances kept coming back to our homelands and kept strong with our way of life. And just like the stink bug, which is resilient and persistent to its purpose, surroundings and thrives in any climate, I can see a comparison to how Hopis or Native Americans seem to live and carry on in that a’ hoyani spirit.

So, what sort of lesson can we take from this? Well for one, he doesn’t mind being called a stink bug or clown beetle, even though he may have a cool name like “Blarg the Destroyer” or something like that because of his tough outer shell. Another thing is that he probably has a family to feed so he is out and about trying to provide for his family, and so he must have a commitment. Another thing is that he leaves no trace, he’s not wasteful, he’s not messy, and he only takes up one inch of space.

So, does he live his life like how I imagined and assumed? I don’t know, but then again, I’m a cat looking at a bug and wondering if it’s safe to eat…in some cultures stink bugs are considered a delicacy because they are full of nutrients and they are easy to obtain. But whatever the reason why the stink bug exists is still much a mystery to me.

So, my advice to you is that a stink bug can be more than just a stink bug, he protects his surroundings, he eats other harmful beetles or bugs, and he does protect crops from maggots and other little pests. He is not messy and I don’t think he has any diseases. So, when you see a stink bug call him by his real name if he tells you his real name, but otherwise say “Hi” to him and he will be on his way. We can learn a thing or two from him. He may be wise like an old storyteller and probably has a lot of stories to tell you, so just listen to him he may surprise you…or he may just spray you with his stinkly butt.

So, my advice to you is that a stink bug can be more than just a stink bug, he protects his surroundings, he eats other harmful beetles or bugs, and he does protect crops from maggots and other little pests. He is not messy and I don’t think he has any diseases. So, when you see a stink bug call him by his real name if he tells you his real name, but otherwise say “Hi” to him and he will be on his way. We can learn a thing or two from him. He may be wise like an old storyteller and probably has a lot of stories to tell you, so just listen to him he may surprise you…or he may just spray you with his stinkly butt.

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Notice of Request for Proposals
Market Survey

The Hopi Credit Association is requesting proposals from qualified marketing companies or individuals for development of a market survey.

Company Background/Introduction
The Hopi Credit Association is a certified Native Community Development Financial Institution Loan fund located on the Hopi Reservation in Northern Arizona. Our mission is “to enhance the quality of life by providing lending, financial education, and training opportunities for our Hopi Senom to become informed consumers”. We provide a variety of lending products and financial education to Hopi Tribal enrolled members.

Project Objectives
The objectives of this project include:

• Develop, administer, and analyze a market survey to understand who potential clients are and what current and future needs are.
• Provide executive summary to report findings of the market survey.

Target Geographies
Hopi Credit Association’s target market is Hopi Tribal enrolled members residing on the Hopi Reservation. We would also like the market survey to reach Hopi Tribal enrolled members residing in the State of Arizona to understand needs off the reservation.

Project Timeline*
Final Project Due: March 31, 2022.
Submission Requirements*
Proposals must be received by December 3, 2021.

Contact Information
Please contact for full Request for Proposal:
Alissa Charley
lisa@hopicredit.us or 928.738.2205

Hopi Credit Association reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for budgetary, conflict of interest, past performance, federal contract disbarment, or other reasons; to reissues this notice and to award the contract on a partial bases if in the best interest of the Hopi Credit Association.

Request for Proposals

Hopi businesses and individuals with expertise in developing, hosting and maintaining websites are invited to respond to a Request for Proposals for website development, hosting and maintenance for the Hopi Tourism Association. Qualified respondents should request a copy of the RFP by emailing ld@buildingcommunities.us. The deadline for proposals is November 23, 2021.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

**2021 Child Find**

**FREE DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING FOR:**
- BIRTH to 3 years of Age for the Early Intervention Program.
- Age 3 to 5 years of age for the Hopi Head Start Program.

**How Is Your Child Developing?**
- Communication
- Gross Motor
- Fine Motor
- Problem Solving
- Personal-Social

**To Schedule an Appointment for a Screening You May Contact the Early Childhood Education Program at:**
(928) 613-8618

This number is a work cell phone.

We do have incentives to give once a screening is complete.

Sponsored by: Hopi Early Intervention Program
Office of Early Childhood Education
Hopi Tribe Department of Education

**Hopi Tribal Council**
Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma, Chairman
Clark W. Tenakhongva, Vice Chairman
Judith Youvella Tribal Secretary
Wilfred Gaseoma, Tribal Treasurer
Violet Sinquah, Sergeant-At-Arms

Village of Upper Moenkopi
- Robert Charley
- Philton Talahytewa, Sr.
- Hubert Lewis, Sr.
- Michael Elmer
- Dwayne Secakuku
- Clifford Qotsaquahu
- Velma Kalyesvah

Village of Kyakotsmovi
- David Talayumptewa
- Phillip Quochytewa, Sr.
- Danny Honanie
- Herman G. Honanie

Village of Sipaulavi
- Rosa Honanie
- Alverna Poneoma
- Raymond Namoki
- Delores Coochyamptewa
- Panuy Edmo
- Mervin Yoyetewa

First Mesa Consolidated Villages
- Albert T. Sinquah
- Dale Sinquah
- Wallace Youvella, Jr
- Ivan L. Sidney.

**Hopi Family Assistance Program (TANF Program)**
**Public Comment Period**

The Hopi Family Assistance Program is currently conducting a 45 day comment period on the new Hopi Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Plan. Then Hopi/Tewa people are encouraged to provide their comments regarding the new plan. Hopi Tribal members can request a copy of the new TANF plan by calling the Hopi Family Assistance Program at 928-734-2202. All Hopi/Tewa tribal members are encouraged to provide their comments by mailing to the Hopi Family Assistance Program, P.O. Box 123, Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039 no later than November 24, 2021.
Indigenous MMA fighters battle in the cage

Carina Dominguez
Indian Country Today

PHOENIX — It was a rowdy Saturday night for Indigenous MMA fighters who entered the cage at Celebrity Theatre in Phoenix, with one winning his retirement fight.

Shannon Ritch, Choctaw, stepped into the cage for his last time and won his pro headliner match up against Samson Guarro via submission, in the first round, with a rear naked choke.

He said as soon as Guarro turned, “I was like, ‘I got him!’”

Ruff, Puff and Rumble attendees witnessed two knockouts, one technical knockout and seven fights that went the distance.

Ritch had a couple recent scares that made him believe his retirement fight might not take place.

First, his initial opponent, Aaron Brink, dropped out of the fight days before it was set to take place, then his new opponent, Guarro, struggled to turn in the proper medical documents in a timely manner.

“If he gets them turned in, we have a 50/50 chance that we're going to fight,” Ritch said at the weigh-in at Golden Margarita on Friday.

Fortunately for Ritch, it was the happy ending he was anticipating for his career. He had a huge turnout from his hometown Coolidge, Arizona.

“I'm 51 years old, making my last fight in front of my hometown and for a Native promotion, this is a dream come true,” Ritch said.

Ritch had his first MMA fight in 1991 when it was still called No-Holds-Barred.

“I would go across the border, Nogales. We'd fight, Plaza de Toros, and they would have the chicken fights, the dog fights, then the people would fight,” Ritch said.

He was the first Native American world champion MMA fighter.

“I fought in New Mexico and it was for a Native promotion, and they had the first Native American championships for mixed martial arts. And I won and I went through the tournament and won three fights in a row in one night. And I got the belt,” Ritch said.

Now that he's tapped out after 237 professional fights, the most out of any MMA fighter, he'll be exploring acting full-time.

“I got my SAG card. So now I'm an actor, stuntman,” Ritch said.

He has a movie coming out with Mickey Rourke and Michael Jai White in January called “The Commando” and another coming out with Bruce Willis.

Indigenous MMA fighters battle in the cage and on pay-per-view

He says he does a lot of stunts but his upcoming roles will have more lines. He also works for a private security company and has worked for celebrities and politicians, like Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice.

Ritch shared a message for kids.

“Just because you're from a small town, doesn't mean you are small town. You can do anything you want to do, dream big because dreams come true,” he said.

Deran Martinez, Gila River, won his amateur title, 265 pound, matchup against George Sopi, Samoa from Nānākuli, Oahu.

“I’ve talked about this, you know, coming and fighting under a big card and I'm just pursuing it,” Martinez said.

He won the Indigenous title fight, taking home a belt with the Man in the Maze engraved on it and is looking forward to sharing his next steps.

“I'm excited for everyone to know, I'm excited to reach a new level,” Martinez said. “I just want to thank (the) Gila River Indian Community, again, all the rez boys and rez girls. I'm going to do my best to go out and be a light for everybody. And I'm excited.”

RUF Nation is a mixed martial arts league in Arizona and owners Joel Lopez, Adrian Romo and Anthony Loso are from the Tohono O’odham Nation and take great pride in their culture.

“There's a lot of values involved with fighting, but most of all, the values of being O’odham we carry them into our business as far as respecting everything and everybody. Himdag called our ways. Some of that is spilled into our company too, building relationships. So again, respect and it's tough to do that in this business, you know,” Lopez said.

Ruff, Puff and Rumble was a first of its kind event.

RUF Nation collaborated with Trap Culture Promotions to host a cannabis expo before the MMA fights.

Lopez encourages therapeutic driven approaches to healthcare because his grandmother was a Sobadora and used it as a medicine, soaking it in alcohol and applying it topically to clients she would massage.

The expo was in the parking lot of Celebrity Theatre before the pay-per-view fights were underway.

“RUF Nation has grown and is growing. And it's multiplying, with audience, with fans, with fighters. We can't keep up with fighters anymore,” Lopez said.

After the fights many celebrated at the Golden Margarita, including UFC fighter Nate Diaz who showed support for Ritch and the other RUF Nation fighters.

For those who missed it, RUF Nation is offering access to the Ruff, Puff and Rumble “replay”.

Ruff, Puff and Rumble was a cannabis friendly MMA event out of Celebrity Theatre in Phoenix, Arizona. (Photo by Carina Dominguez, Indian Country Today)
Braves bring chop to World Series

Charles Odum
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — As the World Series shifts to Atlanta, some TV viewers may be offended to see Braves fans still chopping and chanting in force.

After teams in the NFL and Major League Baseball have dropped names considered racist and offensive to Native Americans the last two years, the Braves chop on — with the support of baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred.

What matters most to Manfred is the Braves have the support of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, based in North Carolina about three hours from Atlanta.

"The Native American community in that region is wholly supportive of the Braves program, including the chop," Manfred said Tuesday. "For me, that's kind of the end of the story. In that market, we're taking into account the Native American community."

Manfred's decision to accept input from only one Native American group doesn't sit well with the Oklahoma-based Muscogee Nation.

"I think on a subject like that and when you're dealing with Indian country you have to look at it as a whole instead of one or two specific places," Jason Salsman, press secretary for the Muscogee Nation, told The Associated Press on Thursday.

"You have to look far and wide and how all Indian nations feel."

Richard Sneed, principal chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, would like to see more outrage about what he says are far bigger issues facing Native Americans, including poverty, unemployment, child abuse, sexual assaults and suicide.

"I'm not offended by somebody waving their arm at a sports game," Sneed told the AP on Tuesday. "I'm just not. If somebody is, that's their prerogative, it's their right. They can be offended. ... I don't know very many, maybe one or two, from my tribe who say, 'Yeah, I don't like that.' But at the end of the day, we've got bigger issues to deal with."

Sneed said the problems with crime and poverty remain largely ignored when the national attention has been on team names and the tomahawk chop.

"There's just so much happening and the frustrating part for me as a tribal leader is when the only issue that seems to be discussed is ... 'How offended are you by the chop and should the Braves change their name?' ... Really, it's the least of our problems, I guess is what I'm saying."

There is no indication the Braves plan to change their name or discourage the chop, which has been a tradition for their fans since the early 1990s. Former Braves outfielder Deion Sanders is credited with bringing the chop, which was part of his college football background at Florida State, to Atlanta.

Sanders, now Jackson State's football coach, declined an interview request from the AP.

The Braves are following the lead of Florida State and the minor league Spokane Indians in nurturing relationships and developing support from local Native American groups.

The Braves temporarily attempted to deemphasize the chop in the 2019 NL Division Series against St. Louis after Cardinals reliever Ryan Helsley, a member of the Cherokee nation, said he found it insulting.

Following Helsley's complaint, the Braves stopped distributing the red foam tomahawks used by fans doing the chop during the series. They also stopped having the accompanying music played to encourage the chant.

The coronavirus pandemic emptied stadiums and took attention away from it.

Now fans have returned and the chop is fully revived, complete with drumbeats, stadium music and the tomahawk images posted on video boards around Truist Park.

From Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp to University of Georgia standout defensive tackle Jordan Davis to Braves fans, there is widespread local support for the chop.

Kemp wrote "Chop On, and Go @Braves!" on his Twitter account after Atlanta beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in the NL Championship Series.

Davis, asked Monday if he was pulling for the Braves, said: "Definitely. Chop on Braves. We're definitely rooting for them."

Braves fans even brought the chop and chant to Houston. A small number of fans began doing the chop when the Braves took an early lead Tuesday night in Game 1 and remained in the stadium to pick up the chop again following a 6-2 win.

No dissenting opinion on the chop could be found from a line of fans who were waiting to buy World Series tickets Tuesday morning at Truist Park.

"It's freaking awesome," said Sarah Oldham. "I think it's part of our winning strategy, making all that noise at the stadium. It's like voodoo going on. I'd be afraid."

Said Caleb Godfrey, who works near Truist Park: "I like it. I love it," when asked about the chop.

"I understand both sides of the argument for it and against it, but I also don't feel like it's a racial slur scenario where it's offensive," Godfrey said.

The Braves declined to comment on their renewed support of the chop.

The NFL's Washington Football Team dropped the R-word name. MLB's Cleveland Indians have announced Guardians as their new name. The NFL's Kansas City Chiefs face pressure to discontinue the chop chant by their fans.

Sneed said R-word was "the only name I felt was derogatory. Yeah, that's offensive. The rest of them never really bothered me and still don't bother me to this day."

The Braves dedicated their July 17 game against Tampa Bay to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The team said the night will be an annual event designed in part to educate fans on the history and culture of the group.

The Braves have placed a "We are still here" display in their stadium's Monument Garden. The display is designed to educate fans on the EBCI's history.

Sneed said the Braves have "really been instrumental and really a trailblazer in setting an example for using their platform because it is a national platform and in some cases international."

Manfred also praised the Braves, saying "they've done a great job with the Native Americans" in the region.

"The Native American community is the most important group to decide whether it's appropriate or not and they have been unwaveringly supportive of the Braves," Manfred said.

The Harrah's Cherokee Resort and Casino in Cherokee, North Carolina, is a Braves sponsor.

"That's separate from what we do on the governmental side," Sneed said, adding he and other elected officials on the tribal council "don't have any input or any say in that."

The casino generates funds "so we have the resources to really help our people, especially when dealing with things like substance abuse, mental behavioral issues and so forth," Sneed said. "So we're fortunate."

"But I'm also very cognizant of the fact there are a lot of tribes that still live in abject poverty with extremely high rates of unemployment."

Sneed said he sees the relationship with the Braves "as one where it gives us a platform to be able to discuss the issues that are really important to Indian Country and that need to be addressed."

"They're not new issues for us. They're things that tribal nations have dealt with really since government intervention and the Indian Removal Act and tribes being forced off their reservations."

The support of Sneed's group means everything to Manfred, who didn't waver when pressed on the Braves' chop.

Might other Native Americans be offended by the chop?

"I don't know how every Native American group around the country feels," Manfred said. "I am 100% certain that the Braves understand what the Native American community in their region believes and that they've acted in accordance with that understanding."
Navajo Nation pushes for radioactive waste remnants to be removed

The Northeast Church Rock Mine in October 2009. (Photo from the U.S. EPA)

Arylssa Becenti
Source New Mexico

GALLUP – Navajo Nation continues to hold strong on its stance against radioactive waste being dumped near its lands, while also pushing for the waste to be removed completely.

The Church Rock uranium mill site is owned by United Nuclear Corporation, and in 1979 this site is where 93 million gallons of radioactive tailings were released into the Pipeline Arroyo and Puerco River. This is the biggest radioactive spill in U.S. History.

It’s well-documented how this spill has impacted the Navajo people, poisoning the water and land. But this is not a devastation of the past, because waste remnants still exist. Where to dump those remnants is the issue before the Navajo Environmental Protection Agency and the Red Water Pond Road Community Association today.

Dariel Yazzie is the supervisor at Navajo Superfund Program within the Nation’s EPA. He said they are asking the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to come back “and make more of an effort to convey at a higher level to the community what is in the draft environmental impact statement.”

The corporation that owns the site asked to amend its source material license for its former uranium mill northeast of Gallup. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission prepared an environmental impact statement as part of its review of this request. If the license is amended, that would allow the corporation to transfer about 1 million cubic yards of mine waste from its northeast mine to a location that’s less than a mile from the uranium mill site and still on Navajo Nation trust land just south of the reservation.

The Church Rock uranium mill site is licensed by the commission — and it’s a Superfund site identified and listed by the United States’ EPA.

The U.S. EPA defines the northeast mine as the highest priority for cleanup out of the abandoned uranium mines in the area because of its size and how close it is to the community.

The Red Water Pond Road Community sits between the northeast Churchrock mine and the Kerr-McGee Quivira mines. Those are additional abandoned uranium mines just a few steps away from the United Nuclear Corporation’s mill site.

There are about 524 abandoned uranium mine sites on the Navajo Nation, and the tribe’s EPA says there are likely more. Of these mines, 219 of them have available funds for cleanup and remediation efforts, leaving 305 unaddressed sites that pose severe environmental and health dangers to surrounding areas and people.

“The Navajo people have endured decades of radiation exposure and contamination caused by uranium mining and production, and continues to impact the health of individuals, families and communities,” said Navajo President Jonathan Nez during a recent meeting with the Red Water Pond Road Community Association. “We strongly oppose the proposed amendment that would allow the transfer of uranium mine waste and contamination just a short distance from the Navajo Nation and the homes of our Navajo people.”

Red Water Pond Road Community and many other Navajo communities have been severely impacted by the legacy of uranium mining on the Navajo Nation. The draft environmental impact statement finds there were serious effects on groundwater, public and occupational health, and historic and cultural resources from past uranium activities at the Northeast Church Rock Mine and the corporation’s mill site, Nez said in his April 2021 letter to the John Tappert, director of the Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery and Waste Programs at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

In April, the commission held a radio forum on KTNN, the radio station that serves the Navajo people, to inform communities about the license amendment. Dumping costs spurred the request to leave the waste near the Navajo Nation. It’s cheaper to transfer the waste down the road at $44 million than to transport it to the nearest off-reservation facility at $293 million.

“The U.S. EPA noted in its decision that the community and the Navajo Nation government had supported the transfer to a licensed repository further away from the Navajo Nation,” said Ashley Waldron, environmental project manager for the commission during the radio forum. “The U.S. EPA said it was not able to select this option under Superfund criteria for its decision, which included cost.”

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has failed to provide what the Navajo Nation has needed during this comment period, said Yazzie from the Navajo Nation EPA. He said the NRC used the pandemic as an excuse not to make more of an effort to visit Navajo Nation and talk with the communities, and this was seen as problematic. Also, the person the commission identified as a tribal liaison was clarified later on to actually be an administrative liaison, and what exactly this individual’s job entailed was never specified to Navajo Nation.

He never got their definition of the role this liaison was supposed to be playing, he said. “To me the liaison should’ve been the person packing all the draft EIS comments around, knocking on doors, making sure people know what’s in the draft EIS. That didn’t happen.”

If waste were to be transferred to the Church Rock mill site, it would be transported by dump trucks. The roads used to get the waste to the mill site would be inaccessible to the public, except for one crossing at Highway 566, Waldron said.

Regardless, people dislike the plan. “The community still feels they don’t want the waste to go across the highway,” Yazzie said.

But that may not be of concern to the U.S. federal government, he added, because after a May meeting, the community was told that if they don’t support the license amendment then they will have to wait another 10 years to get the ball moving again on waste removal.

“We felt from the Navajo Nation that was inappropriate,” Yazzie said. “To say you won’t be able to get anything done for 10 years, that felt more like a threat to the community. The community is frustrated it’s taken this long.”

Navajo Nation will continue to discuss the proposed plan and license amendment with the Red Water Pond Community Association.